

June 4, 1740 Land Grants in North Carolina to Scottish Highlanders

Source: An Historical Account of the Settlements of Scotch Highlanders in America by J. P. MacLean

These were the first so appointed. The petition was first heard in the upper house of the legislature, at Newbern, and on January 26, 1740, the following action was taken:

"Resolved, that the Persons mentioned in said Petition, shall be free from payment of any Publick or County tax for Ten years next ensuing their Arrival.

"Resolved, that towards their subsistence the sum of one thousand pounds be paid out of the Publick money, by His Excellency's warrant to be lodged with Duncan Campbell, Dugald McNeal, Daniel McNeal. Coll. McAlister and Neal McNeal Esqrs., to be by them distributed among the several families in the said Petition mentioned.

"Resolved, that as an encouragement for Protestants to remove from Europe into this Province, to settle themselves in bodys or Townships, That all such as shall so remove into this Province. Provided they exceed forty persons in one body or Company, they shall be exempted from payment of any Publick or County tax for the space of Ten years, next ensuing their Arrival.

"Resolved, that an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor to desire him to use his Interest, in such manner, as he shall think most proper to obtain an Instruction for giving encouragement to Protestants from foreign parts, to settle in Townships within this Province, to be set apart for that purpose after the manner, and with such priviledges and advantages, as is practised in South Carolina."

The petition was concurred in by the lower house on February 21st, and on the 26th, after reciting the action of the upper house in relation to the petition, passed the following:

"Resolved, That this House concurs with the several Resolves of the Upper House in the abovesd Message Except that relateing to the thousand pounds which this House refers till next Session of Assembly for Consideration."

At a meeting of the council held at Wilmington, June 4, 1740, there were presented petitions for patents of lands, by the following persons, giving acres and location, as granted:[25]

Name.	Acres.	County.
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Thos Clark	320	N. Hanover
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James McLachlan	160	Bladen
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Hector McNeil	300	"
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Duncan Campbell	150	"
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James McAlister	640	"
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James McDugald	640	"
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Duncan Campbell	75	"
Hugh McCraine	500	"
Duncan Campbell	320	"
Gilbert Pattison	640	"
Rich Lovett	855	Tyrrel
Rd Earl	108	N. Hanover
Jno McFerson	320	Bladen
Duncan Campbell	300	"
Neil McNeil	150	"
Duncan Campbell	140	"
Jno Clark	320	"
Malcolm McNeil	320	"
Neil McNeil	400	"
Arch Bug	320	"
Duncan Campbel	640	Bladen
Jas McLachlen	320	"
Murdock McBraine	320	"
Jas Campbel	640	"
Patric Stewart	320	"
Arch Campley	320	"
Dan McNeil	105, (400), 400	"
Neil McNeil	400	"
Duncan Campbel	320	"
Jno Martileer	160	"
Daniel McNeil	320	"
Wm Stevens	300	"

Dan McNeil	400	"
Jas McLachlen	320	"
Wm Spei	160	Edgecombe
Jno Clayton	100	Bladen
Sam Portevint	640	N. Hanover
Charles Harrison	320	"
Robt Walker	640	"
Jas Smalwood	640	"
Wm Faris	400, 640, 640	"
Richd Carlton	180	Craven
Duncan Campbel	150	Bladen
Neil McNeil	321	"
Alex McKey	320	"
Henry Skibley	320	"
Jno Owen	200	"
Duncan Campbel	400	"
Dougal Stewart	640	"
Arch Douglass	200	N. Hanover
James Murray	320	"
Robt Clark	200	"
Duncan Campbel	148	Bladen
James McLachlen	320	"
Arch McGill	500	"
Jno Speir	100	Edgecombe
James Fergus	640	"
Rufus Marsden	640	"

Hugh Blaning	320 (surplus land)	Bladen
Robt Hardy	40 Beaufort	
Wm Jones	354, 350	