

## **The Landrum Family of Fayette County, Georgia.**

The Landrum Family of Fayette County, Georgia (Joel P. Shedd, Washington D.C., Moore & Moore Inc., 1972) provides excellent background on the general history of the Lendrum family as well as a detailed history of the Landrum family in the United States. The author, Joel Shedd, concludes (at page 53) that Landrum is a variant spelling of Lendrum which was adopted after emigration to north America from Britain in the late seventeenth century.

In Chapter 4, 'Pre-American Origin of the Landrum Family', Joel Shedd makes several references to the Fyvie branch of the Lendrum family and speculatively concludes that the progenitor of the Landrum family of Fayette County, Georgia, was a member of this branch (in the last paragraph on page 56). Therefore I thought it worth offering the following corrections to and comments on Joel Shedd's text, some of which must cast doubt on his conclusion. In the following notes, the words in quotation marks are from 'The Landrum Family of Fayette County, Georgia'.

Page 50: 'It appears that the Fyvie Lendrums left Aberdeenshire prior to 1696, as they were not listed in the Aberdeen Poll Book of 1696.' The reverse was probably the case, that is, the Lendrums are not recorded in the Aberdeenshire Poll Book because they arrived after 1696. Church records confirm that the Lendrum family were present in the parish from 1731 until 1861. I have found no record of Lendrums in Fyvie before 1731.

Page 51: 'Unlike the Lendrums of Ellon who were strong Presbyterians, the Lendrums of Fyvie were staunch Episcopalians.' and page 55: '...we know that the Lendrums of Fyvie were Episcopalian...' It is not clear that the Fyvie Lendrums were always adherents of the Episcopalian church, even though three members of the family in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries became Episcopalian ministers.

Page 52: Joel Shedd states that the letter written by Mary Clarke (1816-1905), which is quoted above, '..shows a connection [between the Lendrums of Ireland and]...the Lendrums of Fyvie..' I think that Joel Shedd places undue significance on the fact that a member of the Fyvie Lendrum family met with the head of the Magheracross Lendrum family to reach his conclusion that there was a connection between the families. Mary Clarke's letter states that the meeting occurred when her uncle was "visiting friends in Ireland", giving the impression that the meeting was incidental. A more likely explanation for the meeting is that two individuals possessed the same unusual name.

Page 52: '[Mary Leslie Clarke] was a sister of Rev. Alexander Lendrum, a high church Episcopalian minister, who had two sons that were Episcopalian ministers in England.' Only one of Alexander Lendrum's sons, Alexander George Hope Lendrum (1854-1929), was a church minister.

Page 54: 'It well could be that the Landrums who settled in Essex County, Virginia, the Lendrums who left Fyvie for another part of Scotland and the Lendrums who settled in Ireland, all left Aberdeenshire at about the same time and for the same reason.' The time that Joel Shedd refers to is the end of the seventeenth century. The inclusion of the Fyvie Lendrums in this statement appears to rest upon the misinterpretation of the Aberdeenshire Poll Book of 1696, referred to on page 50 (see above). I have found no evidence of Fyvie Lendrums having left Fyvie at the end of the seventeenth century, rather, the records suggest that the family lived in Fyvie only after 1731.

Page 55: 'In view of the numerous American Landrums who were ministers of the gospel and the large number of clergymen among the ex-Fyvie Lendrums and the Irish Lendrums...' I am aware of three clergymen in the Fyvie branch of the Lendrum family: Alexander Lendrum (1811-1890), Alexander George Hope Lendrum (1854- 1929) and James Herbert Reginald Lendrum (1886-1918).

Page 57: 'my examination of microfilms of [the] parish of Monquhitter records of births, baptisms and marriages from the commencement of such records down to past 1700 did not show any Lendrum...' For the benefit of future researchers, it is worth recording that the latest IGI records for the parish of Monquhitter show the baptism of five children, James, Elspet, Margaret and two named Alexander, born to James Lendrum between 1685 and 1694 (Source: IGI online (familysearch.org), citing Batch C112232, Film number 0993345). In addition, the Aberdeenshire Poll Book of 1696 records 'James Lendrum, weaver, and his wife' living at Mill of Achry in the 'Paroch of Montwhiter' (Source: photocopied pages from a published transcript of the Aberdeenshire Poll Book, provided by the Aberdeen and North East Scotland Family History Society in 1998, page 365). Almost certainly, James the weaver is the parent of the five children whose baptism is recorded in the parish register for Monquhitter.

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via. link: Lendrum of Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland