ROUGH DATA ON SOME FINTRY PARISH (FTY) PLACE-NAMES + GLENBOIG (formerly *Nentbolg*) KILLEARN PARISH (KLN) with bibliography and references.

For Abigail Lightbody

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**FINTRY PARISH**

Introduction

The medieval parish of Fintry (FTY) was in Glasgow Diocese, Lennox Deanery.

‘Both parsonage and vicarage were annexed to the provostry of the collegiate church of Dumbarton in 1453-4 at the instance of its founder, Isabel, duchess of Albany and countess of Lennox. The revenues remained so appropriated, while the cure was evidently a vicarage pensionary (*CPL* x, 623; *RSS* iii no. 1774; NLS MS, 31.3.13, 12; *RPC* i, 615)’ Cowan 1967, 66.

For an early (1208 x 1214 ) description of the boundary between Fintry and Campsie see *Glasgow Reg.* no. 103 ( p. 88) (quoted *OPS* i, 42). For full details of this boundary description, see Drummond 2014, 179-80.

The parish is not mentioned in Shennan 1892, which means that its boundaries remained unchanged after the 1891 reorganisation.

For other names in Fintry see *Lennox Cart.* 34, with marches 13th c. Also ibid 53-4 (both mention *Nentbolg*). NB *Nentbolg*  is now Glenboig KLN.

**FINTRY** FTY PS

Adam de *Fintref* 1175 x 1199 *Paisley Reg.*, 157

a parochia de *fyntre* 1208 x 1214 *Glasgow Reg.* no. 103

magistri Michaelis de *Fyntryf* 1208 x 1234 *Lennox Cart.*, 34

terr<a> de *Fyntryf* 1208 x 1234 *Lennox Cart.*, 34

apud *Fyntrie* 1208 x 1265 *Lennox Cart.*, 26

apud *Fyntrie* 1239 *Lennox Cart.*, 31

domino Donaldo rectore ecclesie de *Fyntrie* 1333 x c.1364

G *fionn* + Brittonic \**trev*

‘White farm’. It would appear to be a Gaelic adaptation of a Brittonic name containing \**trev* ‘a farm, a settlement’ (often found as the first element in names such as Tranent and Traquair). See Watson 1926, 364

**KILLUNAN** FTY S NS607872

*Kille<u>nan* 1654 Blaeu (Pont) [note also *Kille<u>nan b<urn>* misplaced to s.w.]

MORE EARLY FORMS NEEDED

Note also the Killewnan Burn, which flows past Killunan, and forms march between FTY and Killearn KLN along all of its course. For the suggestion that the earlier name for the burn was *Gyndhame*, see under Glenboig KLN (Not mentioned in *OPS* i (42-3). Not in *RMS* v, vii.

MacDonald, A(idan) 1979 [Gaelic *Cill* (*Kil(l)-*) in Scottish Place-Names’, *Bulletin of the Ulster Place-name Society*, series 2, vol.2, 9-22], 11: *Kilewnan* FTY STL ‘is the only other probable occurrence [of an Adamnán dedication besides Killeonan ARG] known to the writer’.

**KILLEARN PARISH**

**GLENBOIG** KLN S NS602875 1

illam dimidiam arrachar de *Nentbolg* 1234 x c.1270 *Lennox Cart.* 34 [‘that half arrachar[[1]](#footnote-1) of Nentbolg which is nearer to the land of Fintry’ (que propinquior est terre de *Fyntryf*)’; with marches; date from Watt, *Graduates*, 189 (‘probably early in period’)]

illam quartariam terre que vocatur *Nentbolg Ferdane* 1333 x c.1364 *Lennox Cart.* 53 [‘that quarter of land which is called Nentbolg *Ferdane* lying between *Carsbethrune* on one side and *Culbachane* on the other’ (jacentem inter *Carsbethrune* ex parte una et *Culbachane* ex parte altera)]

*Enbulg* 1473 Fraser, *Lennox* ii no. 64 p. 95

in 5 mercatis terrarum de *Eister Glenboig* alias *Eneboig* 1615 *Retours* STL no. 80 [’5 merklands of Easter Glenboig alias Eneboig with mill and the office of coroner of sherriffdom of Stirling’ (Dominus Jacobus Edmestoun de *Duntraith* miles haeres Willielmi Edmestoun de *Duntreath* patris - in 5 mercatis terrarum de *Eister Glenboig* alias *Eneboig* cum molendino et officio coronatoris vic. de *Striveling*)]

terras de *Glenboig* 1627 *Retours* STL no. 123 [the lands of Glenboig with mill and the office of coroner of Stirling with advowsen of churches’ (cum molendino et officio coronatus *Stirling* cum advocatione ecclesiarum)]

*Glen Bog* c.1750 Roy

*Glenboig* 1817 Grassom [where Easter Glenboig shown on later OS maps; in Kilearn parish]

*Glenboig* 1864 OS 6 inch 1st edn [on later OS maps this is marked as Easter Glenboig]

*Glenboig* 1899 OS 6inch 2nd edn [on later OS maps this is marked as Easter Glenboig]

The first element is Brittonic \**nant* ‘a valley’. The second element is that of a water course, mentioned as ‘the burn which is called *Bolgy*’ (rivulus qui vocatur *Bolgy*) which is the western march of the half arrachar of Glenboig (*Nentbolg*) given and confirmed by Maldonich earl of Lennox to Luke son of Master Michael of Fintry (*Fyntryf*) (1234 x c.1270 *Lennox Cart.* 34). The eastern march of this division of Glenboig is ‘a burn called *Gyndhame*’ (rivulus qui appellatur *Gyndhame*). Both flow into the Endrick (*Annerech*), with the Endrick between the point where the two burns join it forming the other boundary. Given that the part of the land of Glenboig in question is that part ‘nearer the land of Fintry’, we can assume that the *Gyndhame* is an earlier name for the Kilewnan Burn, now the parish boundary between Fintry FTY and Killearn KLN). The burn called *Bolgy* is from Brittonic \**bolg* ‘a bag’, which in burn- and river-names probably refers to one distinguished by pot-holes. It is found, for example, in Bogie (river and strath) by Huntly ABD. It can, however, also mean a rounded hill (like a belly or upturned bag), but this cannot be the meaning here. The related Gaelic equivalent, also *bolg*, later *balg*. The name *Bolgy*, which forms the western march of the half arrochar, is probably the Balglass Burn, which joins the Endrick at NS557881.

For the identification of Nentbolg, later *Enbulg* then *Eneboig* see *Retours* STL nos. 80 (1615), which has *Eister Glenboig* alias *Eneboig*. Note that *Eneboig* is alias of *Glenboig* as a whole, it is not an alias just for Easter Glenboig. See also Fraser, *Lennox* ii, 95 [ref. still to check].[[2]](#footnote-2) It should also be noted that what is now Easter Glenboig is shown on all maps up until 20th c. simply as Glenboig. Glenboig Mill in on the Endrick north-west of Glenboig. We can assume that nearby Overton and Netherton are divisions of the lands of Glenboig.

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1. An arachor is the Lennox equivalent of a carucate or ploughgate i.e very approximately 130 acres. For more on the arachor, see Barrow 2003 [1974], 246-7. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Contrary to Watt, *Graduates*, 189 (under **Fintrif, Michael de**), who states that is appears to be Easter Glenboig. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)