

Auchmuty Family Lineage

The Auchmutys were lowland not Highland Scots and therefore had no tartan or hereditary chieftain. They do have a family coat of arms that family tradition says was given by James I of Scotland in 1436 at the Battle of Roxburgh. The motto taken from the works of Theocritus is "Dum Spiro Spero", While I breath, I hope.

Lineage

The name is believed to be derived from the Scottish lands which they possessed:

- AD 1334 Florence Auchmoutu, or de Admuty de Eodem owned lands of Auchmoutu, in Fife
- 1450 Auchmoutu of that ilk married 2nd daughter of Sir John Boswell of Balmuto, widow of James Halket of Pitferran
- 1466 David Auchmuty of that ilk owned lands of Auchmoutu with Richard, Abbot of Dumfermling
- 1517 Alexander Auchmoutu part of a jury for the valuation of the sherifdom of Fife
- 1535 Henry Auchmoutu, son and heir of the foregoing, had charter of his lands of Auchmoutu
- 1544 David Auchmoutu served Sir Wemyss
- 1606 Obit Johannes Auchmuty, married Isabel 5th daughter of Sir David Wemyss
- 1650 Obit Sir David Auchmuty, married Janet Lindesay, 2nd daughter of John Lindesay of Balcarras, ancestor to the Earl of Balcarras
- 1669 Obit Sir David Auchmuty married Margaret Gibson, daughter of Sir Alexander Gibson of Durie, Fife by whom he had in 1648,
 - Alexander, his eldest son
 - Charles
 - Colin, married to Janet Sinclair.

Alexander is supposed to have been amongst those who fell on King Charles's side in the fatal battle of Worcester.

Another branch of the family, Achmuty of Gosford, were in East Lothian:

Achmuty of Gosford married the 2nd daughter of Sir Patrick Murray, 1st Lord Elibank.

Sir John Achmuty of Gosford married Eliza, only daughter of Patrick Murray, 2nd Lord Elibank by whom he had Sir Alexander Achmuty, who sold the lands to Peter Wedderburn, to discharge a fine levied on him by the parliamentary forces for his malignancy.

Sir James Achmuty, gentleman of the privy chamber to King Charles II m Sophia, wife of Sir William Drummond of Hawthornden, son of the celebrated poet, William Drummond.

Isabella married to Sir John Byres of Lothian

Sir Alexander's eldest son was John Achmuty.

The Auchmuty's served the Scottish royalty in various capacities from 1502 to 1714. In 1566 James VI of Scotland was baptised by Robert Auchmuty, Vicar of Stirling, in an elaborate Catholic ceremony (while a William Auchmuty is recorded as being a Presbyterian minister.) Many members of the Auchmuty family served James both in Scotland and in London when he became James I of England. They served as Master of the Wardrobe (responsible for all property but the Royal jewels) of the King's Scottish households. Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh is mentioned particularly and several members of the family were knighted.

In 1610 John and Alexander Auchmuty received a grant from the Crown of 2000 acres of land in the county of Cavan in the southern part of the Ulster Plantation. Alexander went to Ireland, sold this land and purchased more in co. Longford.

In 1652 Cromwell imposed on Scotland a parliamentary union with England and in 1654, Sir John Auchmuty, Lord of Gosford, was among the 72 Scotsmen included in the so-called Act of Grace and fined £1000 for his loyalty to the House of Stuart. This was reduced on appeal in 1655 to £250. Likewise, Sir David Auchmuty, the Laird of Auchmuty, was also in considerable financial difficulty from earlier loans by his father that went unpaid and from heavy fines imposed upon him. In 1660 Charles II was restored as King and Sir David received many significant, but unpaid, appointments. To escape his creditors, in 1669 he fled across the border into England and sold his Scottish land to John, 7th Earl of Rothes who took as some of his minor titles that of Lord Auchmuty.

There is no record that John or Alexander ever lived in Ireland – it was **Arthur Auchmuty** 1599-1698, their half-brother, who is first mentioned as being of Ballymacbrian (which became Brianstown). Arthur arrived in Ireland

about 1620 when he was 21 yrs old and built a small house at Newtownforbes. He was a military man who distinguished himself at the 9 month siege of Castle Forbes in 1641, the neighbouring seat of Sir Arthur Forbes, where Plantation settlers (known as 'English', even if, as in the case of the Forbes and Auchmutys, they were Scots) fought against the local Irish inhabitants. Arthur Auchmuty and his descendants were faithful servants of the Crown and retained in Ireland the Anglican religion. Arthur had loaned £800 to the original Arthur Forbes and when the latter received his crown grant in co. Longford, the Forbes family built the mansion at Brianstown as repayment. Sir Forbes was created a Baronet in 1618 and died in 1641, so Brianstown was probably built around 1630. Arthur prospered in local affairs, his property extended beyond co. Longford into co. Leitrim and he became Sheriff of Longford in 1663. He m Martha

Indenture between Arthur Aghmuty and others dated 1st May 1696

This Indenture witnesseth that I **Arthur Aghmuty** esq for the yearly rents and covenantes hereafter mentioned hath demized sell and to farne sell unto **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** the two cartrons of the **Lower Killmore** now lyeing and being betweene **Foyoges** and the **Upper Killmore in the County and Barrony of Longford** for the tyme terme and space of sixteene yeares commencing the first day of May in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred ninety and six to have and to hold unto them the s'd **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** theyre heires or assigny for theyre propper use and behoofe they yeildeing and payeing theyre rent yearly for the first three yeares and every yeare of the afores'd three yeares the sume of tenn poundes sterling for each cartron and for the next ensueing twelwe yeares of the s'd terme they are to pay yearly and for every yeare for each cartron eleven poundes sterling and for the last yeare of the s'd terme they are to pay tenn poundes tenn shillings sterling for each cartron and the s'd yearly rents to be payde at two equall moyeties or termes of payment viz

at ? or ye first day of November the other moyetie at or upon the first day of May yearly and if it happen that any parte of the s'd rent or rents by behinde or unp'd at the s'd termes or dayes of payment afores'd or within fourteene dayes after that then it shall bee lawfull for the s'd **Arthur Aghmuty** esq his heires executors or assignes into the s'd demized premisses to enter or any parte thereof and distrayne and the distresses there found to leave drive and carry away and thereof to dispose according to law and if it shall happen that noe sufficient distresses can be had or found in or upon the s'd premisses that then and from hence forth it shall be lawfull for the s'd **Arthur Aghmuty** esq his heires executors or assignes to reenter into all and singular the s'd demized premisses and the same to repoesse and ? as his or theyre former estate they the s'd **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** payeing all country taxes and charges whatsoever which shall become due upon the s'd lands dureing the s'd terme **Kings Rent** onely exception

and during the s'd terme shall keepe in sufficient repayre the buildings or ediffices which and or shall be built thereon and at the end of the s'd terme leave them ? ? and then yeilde up the quiett and peaceable possession thereof and alsoe dureing the s'd terme shall grind all theyre corne grayne and grice at the mill or mills of ? the **Mannor of Castleforbes** and yearly come with men and horses and assist in repayreing the s'd mill damm and alsoe doe suite and service at the **Courte Leete and Court Barron** ? the s'd **Mannor of Castleforbesse** as shall of them be reasonably demanded and alsoe that the s'd **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** or any of them shalle not sell theyre interest without lycence from the s'd **Arthur Aghmuty** esq his heires or assignes and or his or theyre hand and sealle first had and ?

And lastly the s'd **Arthur Aghmuty** esq for himselfe his heires executors and assignes doth promise and agree with the s'd **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** theyre heires or assignes performeing the covenantes herein contayned that they shall at all tymes hereafter during the s'd terme quietly and peaceably ? and possesse the s'd premisses without any trouble from or by the s'd **Arthur Aghmuty** esq his heires executors or assignes from him or them or theyre ? or consent.

In witsesse whereof the s'd **Ralph Foster, William Moffet, John Rawlins, James White and William Morray** have interchangeably set theyre hands and seales this first day of May one thousand six hundred ninety and six being present at signeing sealeing and delivery

(Wilts & Swindon RO)