

# Suspecting the First Cowie

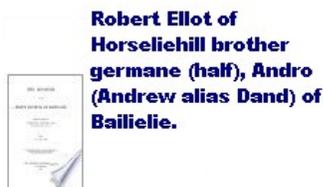
A lot of stories seem to have a beginning and an end. There may be a reason the Cowie story got it's start.

Started taking a look at my family line, and we find an Andrew (Andro alias Dan), which is said be in on the slaughter of a Hugh Douglas, and was hid out in Baillillie by the Scot family.

2. William, 5th laird of Horsleyhill, of whom hereafter.

3. Andrew (alias Dan) was, as we have seen, involved in the murder of Hugh Douglas in about 1547. On 1st July 1551 his father settled on him the lands of Baillillie, though reserving the life-rent to himself.<sup>1</sup> Andrew was dead by February 1563/64.

THE ELLIOTS The Storey of A Border Clan A Genealogical History  
by The Dowager Lady Elliott of Stobs and Sir Arthur Elliott, 11th Baronet of Stobs  
SEELE SERVICE & CO LTD 1974



The Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, Volume 1  
By Scotland. Privy Council, John Hill Burton, David Masson, Peter Hume Brown, Henry Paton, Robert Kerr Hannay

Dand Ellot germane

**William, Robert and Andro alias Dand Ellot of Horsliehill 1563-4**

Apud Edinburch, xxiiij<sup>o</sup> Februarii, anno, etc. lxxiiij<sup>o</sup>.

Sederunt. Dicti Domini.

The Quenis Majeste, undirstanding that at hir speciale directioun and command, Henrie Bischope of Ross, Maister James M<sup>c</sup>Gill of Nethir Rankelour Clerk of Registri, and Richart Maitland of Lethingtoun Knycht, callit befor thame William Scot of Tuschelaw, and Walter Scot his sone, on that ane part; and Robert Ellot in Horslehill bruther germane of umquhile Andro, alias Dand Ellot, thair, on that uther part,—for the allegit wrang done be the saidis William and Walter in taking furth of the landis of Bailyelie of of scheip perteneing to the said umquhile Andro; and the said mater being befor thame, hard, ressonit, and undirstand, thai, be thair ordinance, ordinit the saidis gudis to be restorit agane to the hirdis of the saidis landis of Bailyelie, to remane in thair handis quhill it wes kuawin to quhame the samyn suld pertene, as thair ordinance maid thairupoun beris. And becaus the samyn wes not obeyit be the saidis Williame and Walter, the said Robert obtenit lettres of the Quenis Majeste, and thairwith causit

*Robert Ellot of Horslehill is bruther germane (half) of umquhile (deceased) Andro (Andrew) alias Dand Ellot... William (Scot) and Walter (son) in taking furth of the landis of Bailyelie (Baillillie)..*

**William and Robert Elliot  
of Horsliehill are brothers**



**Walter Scot Sr &  
Jr receiving the  
lands of Dand  
Ellot of Braidly**

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**William, Robert and  
Andro alias Dand Ellot  
of Horsliehill**

1563-4

and executorials, to pas thairupoun in forme as efferis ; like as **Williame Ellot of Horsliehill, and Robert Ellot thair, his bruther,** desirit the samin to be insert in the saidis bukis to the effect abone rehersit, of quhilk the tennour followis:—**We, Williame Ellot of Horsliehill, and William Ellot, thair, my bruther, and Maister Johne Prestoun, burges of Edinburch, cautioun for us ; forsamkill as I, the said Robert, am be act of Secrete Counsale ordinit to find sufficient cautioun and souirte that ane sufficient nowmer of scheip, takin be Williame Scot of Tuschelaw and Walter Scott, his sone, furth of the landis of Bailyerie, pertenyng to umquhile Andro, alias Dand, Ellot, sall remane upoun the grund of the saidis landis of Bailyeile saiffie and suirle, unintromettit or awaytakin be ony maner of personis, thevis, or uther wayis disponit, except be traik of deid alanerlie, to be furthcumand to all party or partiis havand interes thairto as law will, as at mair lenth is contenit in the said act. Heirfore we band and obliss us, conjunctlie and severalie, that the saidis scheip sall remane upoun the grund of the saidis landis of Bailyerie, saiffie and suirle, unintromettit with or awaytakin be ony maner of personis, thevis, or utheris, or uther wayis disponit, except be traik of deid alanerlie, to be furthcumand, to all party or partiis havand interes thairto as law will, conform to the said ordinance. And we, the saidis Williame and Robert, obliss us to releif the said Maister Johne of the premissis at all handis, havand interes thairto, as said is, and are content that thisoure oblissing be actit and registrat in the bukis of Secreit Counsale, and decernit to have the strenth of ane act and decreit of the Lordis thairof, with lettres and executoriallis to pass thairupoun, as**

It should be noted that Robert and Willaim are brothers and half brothers to Andrew.

2. William, 5th laird of Horsleyhill, of whom hereafter.

3. Andrew (alias Dan) was, as we have seen, involved in the murder of Hugh Douglas in about 1547. On 1st July 1551 his father settled on him the lands of Baillillie, though reserving the life-rent to himself.<sup>1</sup> Andrew was dead by February 1563/64.

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So above it should be noted William 5<sup>th</sup> laird of Horsleyhill, and Andrew (alias Dan), are brother germane (half brothers).

For William;

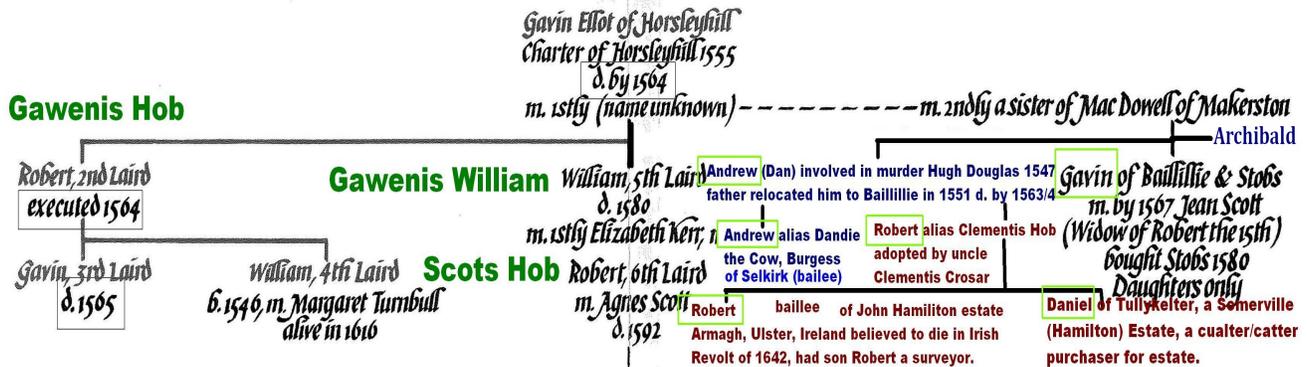
846. **ELLIOT, William.** A chevron between two stars in chief and a stag head in base. Ornament at top and flowers at side of shield. *Legend (Caps.): . . . VILELMI · ELLOT.* Diam.  $1\frac{7}{16}$  in. Cavers Ch. A.D. 1574? Armstrong's *Hist. of Liddesdale*, etc., 178, fig.

**Scottish Armorial Seals**  
**By William Rae Macdonald**



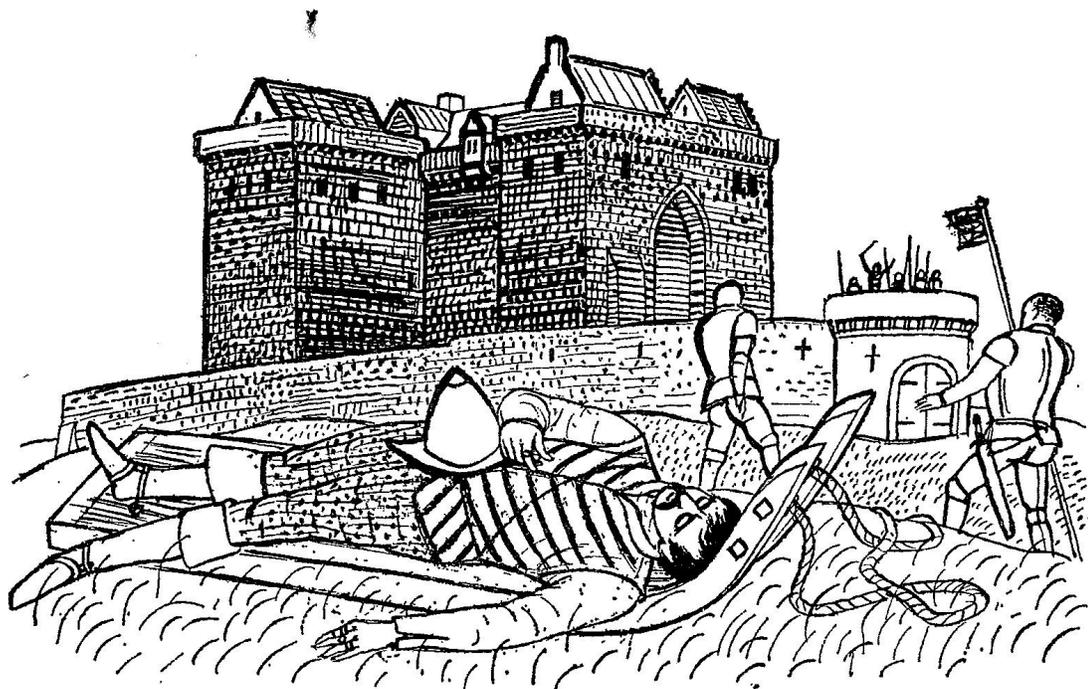
## The Elliots of Horsleyhill

Descendants of William Elliot of Laniston, the 2nd son of Robert the 11th of Redheugh William, who was alive in 1515, was said to have married the heiress of Horsleyhill



It is felt Clement's Hob was raised by uncle Clement Crosar of Stobs, and lived with his uncle Archibald (Archie Kene), both in Goranberry/Gorrenberry, afterwards.

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Bothwell wounded before Hermitage Castle

ROBERT the 16th of REDHEUGH was very young when his father died and for the next nine years the Clan was led by his great-uncle, Martin Elliot of Braidley. As Braidley was in Teviotdale, Martin moved to Redheugh where his authority as acting Chief could be more easily maintained. It was as well that he did so for almost immediately the Clan was involved in one of the greatest and most ferocious feuds known on the Borders, a feud so violent that 'all Teviotdale was laid waste' for nearly three years.

The events leading up to this dispute are somewhat obscure but, even before Robert the 15th's death, trouble had been brewing between the Scotts of Hassendean and the Horsleyhill Ellots who occupied the Middle Mains of Hassendean called Horsleyhill Wester. On the 18th October 1654 this ill feeling culminated in the murder of David Scott, the laird of Hassendean, by the Horsleyhill Ellots. The Scotts immediately retaliated by causing eight Ellots and a Scott to be apprehended and taken before the Privy Council for trial, at which the young Buccleuch aged 15 acted as Queen's Advocate. Although the verdict was not

arrived at quickly, the Lords sitting until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the sentences were severe. Robert Elliot, laird of Horsleyhill, his bastard son William, and James Scott, son of Walter Scott of Hassendean, were beheaded that very night on the Castle Hill by torchlight; William, brother of the laird of Horsleyhill, William of Larriston and Gavin's Willie of Falnash were banished; only Horsleyhill's brother Gavin was acquitted and his brother Archie being but a boy'.

The trial itself appears to have been a fair one, those speaking on behalf of the Ellots all being closely related by marriage to the Horsleyhill branch—the laird of McKerstoun, William Douglas of Cruch, the young laird of Edmonstoun, Alexander McDougal of Steidrig and Mr. Geo. Douglas.<sup>1</sup> But the litigation of a modern society had little place in the Scotland of the 16th century and the bringing of a clan dispute, even one involving assassination, before a Court in Edinburgh was almost unknown in the Borders. There is no doubt that, in the eyes of Martin and of the Ellots, the execution of the laird of Horsleyhill was regarded as judicial murder. According to the Border code the honour of the Clan was at stake and the only recourse was by deadly feud with those who had brought the case, however disastrous the consequence to both participants.\*

The outbreak of the feud with the Scotts faced Martin with the uncomfortable prospect of a war on two fronts: to the North stood the Scotts supported by their Teviotdale adherents, to the South just across the border lay the English, ever ready to attack at any sign of weakness in Liddesdale. In these circumstances Martin's first step was to gain the agreement of the English Warden to a truce from raiding.<sup>2</sup> This, after some negotiation, he succeeded in obtaining, the English in reality being only too content to see these redoubtable clans at each other's throats. Having achieved protection for his rear in this way, Martin was ready to let loose the full fury of the Ellots. The first large engagement was an attack on Buccleuch's lands by 300 Ellots who burned and spoiled over an

\* Disruptive as feuds of this kind may have been, they were a part of that protection which the clan system provided in a lawless age, injury to one member of the clan being held an injury to all. The threat of deadly feud gave members of the clan a security which would otherwise have been entirely lacking and was indeed responsible for the fact that the frontier war carried on between Scotland and England was confined in the main to the reiving of cattle and sheep and the ransoming of prisoners and did not extend to indiscriminate slaughter of the inhabitants.

It should be noted that the Williams seem to survive, and the Gavin of Horsleyhill, Baillillie and Stobs, and his younger brother Archibald survive. It is felt since Andrew is half brother to Robert and William (laird of Horseleyhill), are his half brothers, and Andrew was deceased at time, it is felt that Andrew is the older brother to Gavin, and Archibald.

### Slaughter of the Laird of Hassindene,

Oct. 21.—WILLIAME **ELLOT** of HORSLEHILL, Robert, Gawane<sup>1</sup> and Arche,<sup>2</sup> Williame Elliot, bastard sone to vniq<sup>3</sup> Robert Elliot, James Scot, sone to Walter Scot in Hassindene, delatit of the Slaughter of vniq<sup>3</sup> DAVID SCOT OF HASSINDENE; committit vpoun xviii day of October instant.

judge Buck? PERSEWARIS, The Laird of Balcluche, (The Queenis Advocattis.)

Scot PRELOCUTORIS for the Persewaris.

The Gudman of Thirlstane, Tho<sup>s</sup> Scot of Edene, Walter Scot of Edschaw, Tho<sup>s</sup> Scot of Hanyng, The Gudman of Tufchelaw. prosecutors

Douglas PRELOCUTORIS for the Pannall.

The Laird of M<sup>r</sup> Kerstoune, W. Douglas of Cruik, The young Laird of Edmiftoune, Alex. M<sup>r</sup> Dowgall, of Steidrig, Mr George Dowglafs. defense

My Lord Justice Clerk askit instrumentis, that the pannall aboue writtin defyrit thair persewaris to be putt vpone thair Affyise; becaus thair knew befor the tryell of the cryme thair wer delatit of: And proteffit, that albeit the Justice depute, be awyise of his Assessoris, for the present tyme consentit heirto, that the same in tyme cuming fuld be na preparatiue.—VERDICT and SENTENCE. ‘Fylit—Decollat.’<sup>3</sup>

It should be noted that Buccleuch age 15, is brother-in-law to Gavin who was acquitted, and uncle to Gavin's step-father to Gilbert of a Robert of Redheugh an Jean Scot. Maybe there was a bias by judge Buccleuch towards acquitting Gavin, and his younger brother.

Sketches of the Olden Times in Perthshire  
By Robert Scott Fittis

Dalkeith Palace  
of the Buccleuch

till he be relieved.” Again, on the 17th May, 1574, the Regent, writing to Stewart from Holyrood House, intimated that Rob Billie, pledge for the gang of Gorramberry, was now relieved by the entry in his place of the bearer, “named Archie Elliot, called Archie Kene,” whom Stewart was “required to receive and keep in sure firmance, because no surety has been found that he shall keep his word.” Farther, the Regent, on the 4th June, 1576, wrote from Dalkeith to the Captain

Archie Elliot (Ellot), called Archie Kene (wise), is associated with Goranberry, and Dalkeith (Buccleuch).

**Acta 1577-79.** younger, of that ilk, and Will Scot in Montbernger, plegis and souirteis conjunctlie and severalie to have enterit Johnne Elliot, callit of the Dewisleis, and Andro Elliot, callit the Wowaris Andro, befoir our Soverane Lord and his Regent for the tyme, within a certane space of lang tyme bigane, under the pane of ane thowsand pundis; Martine Elliot of Braidley, and Robert Elliot of Reidheuch, plegis and souirteis conjunctlie and severalie, that Archie Elliot, deliverit as plege in keiping to George Ramsay of Dalhoussy, sould not eschaip nor eschew, under the pane of thre thowsand merkis; Martine Elliot of Braidley, Will Elliot, callit Eldar Will, umquhile Johnne Elliot of the Park, Adame Elliot, callit Cowdais, Hob Elliot of the Heucous, umquhile Hob Elliot, callit Clemmentis Hob, plegis and souirteis, conjunctlie and severalie, to enter Johnne Elliot of the Heuchhous, and Hobbie Elliot, sone to Eldar Will, to Johnne Cockburne of Ormestoun, and Williame Lawder of Haltoun, within thair awin strenth, quhen they sould be requirit on aucht dayis warning, under the pane of foure thowsand merkis money of this realme." [In connection with the foregoing, see *ante*, pp. 41, 42, 43, 62, 63, and vol. ii. pp. 43, 44, 45, 118, 120, 272, 372, 514, &c.]—These being the facts, the complaint is that, "nevirtheles, the said Lang Andro Armstrang hes brokin and eschakit furth of his said ward; the said Hob Elliot, callit Scottis Hob, hes not re-enterit agane in ward with the said Lard of Caprintoun; the said young Clemmy Crossar hes not re-enterit in ward with the said Lard of Nether Pollok; the said Archie Kene hes not re-enterit agane within the said Castell of Doun in Menteith; the said Adie Elliot

Hob Elliot callit Clemmentis Hob, is Clement Crosar adopted by him nephew deceased by 1578-9.

young; son of Archie Kene (wise), beginning to think; younger brother to Gavin of Stobs.

It should be noted that Andrew (*Andro alias Dan*), was

[home-2.tiscali.nl/cb002201/ellot\\_clan.htm](http://home-2.tiscali.nl/cb002201/ellot_clan.htm)

#### THE ELLIOTS in SELKIRK

(follows the Elliots of Wolfelee)

In 1688 said to be 'of the ancient kind' (i.e. descended from Redheugh)

James Elliot of Bridgehaugh stated to be a "a brother's son of the Laird of Horsleyhill".

Disentangling all the Elliots concerned to their exact descent and relationship would be a major undertaking.

Instead all the Elliots recorded as BURGESSES, BAILLIES and COMMISSIONERS of SELKIRK have been listed.

#### DATES RANGING BETWEEN

Andrew (alias Dandie, or Dandie of the Cow) 21/3/1565 - 2/5/1591

William 21/7/1621 - 18/2/1627

James 3/8/1627

William 4/9/1629 - 12/7/1631

James 6/3/1634

James, William & David 20/11/1634

James (wife Isabelle Shaw) & William 8/9/1635

William 18/6/1633 - Jan 1645

Francis 17/9/1656 - 26/1/1659

James, David & Christian, Robert 19/5/1659 - 19/11/1661

James of Bridgehaugh 20/3/1678

James & William 25/1/1686

<b>Elder</b> , Alexander, in Stane of Benholme in the Mearns	17 Dec. 1576
<i>See also</i> <b>Jellie</b> , Christiane ; <b>Carnegie</b> , Elspeth ; and <b>Lundie</b> , Marjorie.	
" Alexander ; and Jonet Park, his spouse, in Cuthill-Gourdie, par. of Orwell, sher. of Perth	7 Nov. 1594
" Bessie, sometime spouse to James Broun, in the Kirktoon of Erroll	6 Nov. 1581
" Christiane, sometime spouse to Adam Young, in Muretoun of Brethirtoun, par. of Benholme, sher. of Kincardine	14 Jan. 1600
" Edward, in Wester-Bayth. <i>See</i> <b>Lyell</b> , Katherine.	
" Gilbert, skinner, burges of Perth	5 July 1581
" John, skinner, burges of Perth	14 July 1586
" John, tavernour, burges of Perth	9 Jan. 1597-8
" John, in Cuthill-Gourdie. <i>See</i> <b>Couper</b> , Christiane.	
" John, burges of Perth. <i>See</i> <b>Scott</b> , Christiane.	
" John, flesher, burges of Perth. <i>See</i> <b>Mylne</b> , Margaret.	
" Jonet, alias Richardson, in Wester-Kepet	12 July 1575
" Jonet, sometime spouse to James Wilson, merchant, burgess in Edinburgh	22 Nov. 1578
" Katherine, relict of Gilbert Young, in the Stane of Benholme	26 Feb. 1576-7
" Margaret, sometime spouse to umquhile John Carnegy, in Galraw in <b>Angus</b>	17 Jan. 1578-9
" Marjorie, pupil, lawful daughter to Alexander Eldar, in Stane of Benholme in the Mearns	11 July 1597
" Mathew in Woodend of Carnwath. <i>See</i> <b>Millar</b> , Jonet.	
" Patrick, burges in Perth	25 July 1577
" Robert, in Clene, par. of Kinfaunis, sher. of Perth	15 July 1591
<i>See also</i> <b>Alison</b> , Margaret.	
" William, in Stane of Benholme	27 Mar. 1577
<b>Elge</b> , Jonet, sometime spouse to John Pennycook, portioner of Dulgarthill	19 Jan. 1580-1
<b>Ellem</b> , David, of Rentoun. <i>See</i> <b>Galbraith</b> , Isobel.	
" Gilbert, of Rentoun. <i>See</i> <b>Hume</b> , Jonet.	
<b>Ellis (Eleis)</b> , Andro, merchant, burges of Edinburgh	10 Dec. 1594.
<i>See also</i> <b>Fyldar</b> , Margaret ; and <b>Richardson</b> , Agnes.	
" Jonet, sometime spouse to William M'Fadzeane, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh	3 Feb. 1591-2
" Thomas, merchant in Perth	18 Dec. 1576
" William, merchant, burges of Edinburgh	21 Apr. 1586
no Elliot, but <b>Elliot</b> , Andro, alias Dandie <b>Cow</b> , burges of Selkirk	24 Jan. 1591-2
" Jonet, sometime spouse to Symon Dick, in Eister-Banchrie, par. of Blair in <b>Gourie</b>	18 July 1583
" William, cordiner, burges of Edinburgh. <i>See</i> <b>Broun</b> , Christiane	9 May 1588
<b>Elmas</b> , Helen, sometime spouse to Walter Bald, in Eister	

brother to Archie Kene, and father to Clementis Hob, but hiding away in Baillillie. If he went down to Goranberry, does to visit brother, and son, do you thing he may make sounds, and be described as Cowie. After all it is felt that his first son was an Andrew (Andro; Dan the Cow).