

# Elwald to Elliot

This is going to show how Elwald became Elliot.

Elwald also of similarity Elwold, Ellwood, and Elwand.

What Elwald, Elwold, Elwand, and Elliot have in common is the *El/Ell* which is a unit of measurement;

## CHAP. I. Of the Mensuration of Lines and Angles.

A Line or length to be measured, whether it be distance, height, or depth, is measured by a line less than it. In Scotland the least measure of length is an inch: not that we measure no line less than it, but because we do not use the name of any measure below that of an inch; expressing lesser measures by the fractions of an inch: and in this treatise we use decimal fractions as the easiest. Twelve inches make a foot; three feet and an inch make the Scots *ell*; six *ells* make a fall; forty falls make a furlong; eight furlongs make a mile: so that the Scots mile is 1184 paces, accounting every pace to be five feet. These things are according to the statutes of Scotland; notwithstanding which, the glaziers use a foot of only eight inches; and other artists for the most part use an English foot, on account of the several scales marked on the English foot-measure for their use. But the English foot is somewhat less than the Scots; so that 185 of these make 186 of those.

Lines, to the extremities and any intermediate point of which you have easy access, are measured by applying to them the common measure a number of times. But lines, to which you cannot have such access, are measured by methods taken from geometry; the chief whereof we shall here endeavour to explain. The first is by the help of the geometrical square.

“As for the English measures, the yard is 3 feet, or 36 inches. A pole is sixteen feet and a half, or five yards and a half. The chain, commonly called *Gunter's Chain*, is four poles, or 22 yards, that is, 66 feet. An English statute-mile is fourscore chains, or 1760 yards, that is, 5280 feet.

“The chain (which is now much in use, because it is very convenient for surveying) is divided into 100 links, each of which is  $7\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch: whence it is easy to reduce any number of those links to feet, or any number of feet to links.

“A chain that may have the same advantages in surveying Scotland, as *Gunter's chain* has in England, ought to be in length 74 feet, or 24 Scots *ells*, if no regard is had to the difference of the Scots and English foot abovementioned. But if regard is had to that difference the Scots chain ought to consist of 74 English feet, or 74 feet 4 inches and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of an inch. This chain being divided into 100 links, each of those links is 8 inches and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of an inch. In the following table, the most noted measures are expressed in English inches and decimals of an inch.”

	English Inch.	Dec.
The English foot, is	12	000
The Paris foot,	12	788
The Rhindland foot measured by Mr Picart,	12	362
The Scots foot,	12	065
The Amsterdam foot, by Snellius and Picart,	11	172
The Dantzic foot, by Hevelius,	11	297
The Danish foot, by Mr Picart,	12	465
The Swedish foot, by the same,	11	692
The Brussels foot, by the same,	10	828
The Lyons foot, by Mr Auzout,	13	458
The Bononian foot, by Mr Cassini,	14	938
The Milan foot, by Mr Auzout,	15	631
The Roman palm used by merchants, according to the same,	9	791
The Roman palm used by architects,	8	779
The palm of Naples, according to Mr Auzout,	10	314
The English yard,	36	000
The English <i>ell</i> ,	45	000
The Scots <i>ell</i> ,	37	200
The Paris aune used by mercers, according to Mr Picart,	46	786
The Paris aune used by drapers, according to the same,	46	680
The Lyons aune, by Mr Auzout,	46	570
The Geneva aune,	44	760
The Amsterdam <i>ell</i> ,	26	800
The Danish <i>ell</i> , by Mr Picart,	24	930
The Swedish <i>ell</i> ,	23	380
The Norway <i>ell</i> ,	24	510
The Brabant or Antwerp <i>ell</i> ,	27	170
The Brussels <i>ell</i> ,	27	260
The Bruges <i>ell</i> ,	27	550
The brace of Bononia, according to Auzout,	25	200
The brace used by architects in Rome,	30	730
The brace used in Rome by merchants,	34	270
The Florence brace used by merchants, according to Picart,	22	910
The Florence geographical brace,	21	570
The vara of Seville,	33	127
The vara of Madrid,	39	166
The vara of Portugal,	44	031
The cavedo of Portugal,	27	354
The ancient Roman foot,	11	632
The Persian arith, according to Mr Græves,	38	364
The shorter pike of Constantinople, according to the same,	-	-
Another pike of Constantinople, according to Messrs Mallet and De la Porte,	27	920

PRO-

The Scottish used the *el/ell*, for measurement, and the English used a yard, but they also had an *el/ell*. The Scandinavian countries used

*ells.*

“ They who measure land in Scotland by an **ell** of 37 English inches, make the acre less than the true Scots acre by  $593 \frac{4}{17}$  square English feet, or by about  $\frac{1}{17}$  of the acre.

**DSL – DOST** Ell, El, *n.* Also: **elle, yell.** [ME. *elle* (15th c.), reduced form of *ellen*, *eln*(e **ELN**(E.)) **A fall shall have six ell**

**1.** An ell, esp. of cloth. Also comb. *ell-braid*, *ellwide*. (1) The rude [sal contene] xl. fallis. The fall sall hald vi ellis; *Acts* I. 387/1. The quhilk hail croft extendis ... to the quantite of a feilde rude and sex ellis; **1491** *Ayr Friars Pr. Chart.* 63. At thair be halff ane ell of breyd on euerylk syd off the marche stanyis to be free wnlawboryt for euer; **1528** *Cal. Chart.* (Reg. H.) Suppl. He commandet the wal of Abircorne to be erected agane of viii els thik, xii els hiche; *DALR.* I. 208/24. Ane cleik and ane cheinzie ane ell lang; **1629** *M. Works Acc.* XXI. 31. With ... my bandeleire, My 7 yells of Flanders matche, And my sheiring suord; **1640** *Bk. Pasquils* 103. Ane aiker and eighteen ellis of land; **1666** *Bamff Chart.* 307. (2) Five thousand ellis zeid in his frog Of hieland pladdis of haire; *Crying of Play* 39. ix ellis of ell braid claitht; **1526** *Carnwath Baron Ct.* 30. Ane el crammessy satyne to be [the] bawby Jhesus of the Senyis ane coit; **1527** *Treas. Acc.* V. 301. Ten servitouris of ell braid lynnyng; **1564** *Prot. Bk. T. Johnsoun* 138. Four ellis zallow tauffateis, ... at xxiiij s ... a ell; **1570** *Soc. Ant.* VI. 52. Four ellis of ellbraid linning cloath; **1640** *Brechin Test.* V. 291.

In Scottish measurements there are *six el/ell (ellis) to a fall*.  
Land is shown as measured in *el/ell (ellis); eighteen ellis of land*.

### CHAP. III. *Of the Surfaces of Bodies.*

THE smallest superficial measure in Scotland is a square inch ; 144 of which make a square foot. Wrights make use of these in the measuring of deals and planks ; but the square foot which the glaziers use in measuring of glass, consists only of 64 square inches. The other measures are, first, the **ell** square ; secondly, the fall containing 36 square ells ; thirdly, the rood containing 40 falls ; fourthly, the acre, containing 4 roods. Slaters, masons, and pavers, use the **ell** square and the fall ; surveyors of land use the square **ell**, the fall, the rood and the acre.

The superficial measures of the English are, first, the square foot ; secondly, the square yard, containing 9 square feet, for their yard contains only 3 feet ; thirdly, the pole containing  $30\frac{1}{4}$  square yards ; fourthly, the rood containing 40 poles ; fifthly, the acre, containing 4 roods. And hence it is easy to reduce Scotch superficial measures to the English.

“ In order to find the content of a field, it is most convenient to measure the lines by the chains described above, p. 671. that of 22 yards for computing the English acres, and that of 24 Scots ells for the acres of Scotland. The chain is divided into 100 links, and

The above shows the *Scots use ells for acres of Scotland.*



# Elwand;

## The Border Elliots and the Family of Minto

By George Francis Scott Elliot

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THE BORDER ELLIOTS

[APPENDIX NO. I

l and n in other names, as Ballantine and Bannatyne, Colvill and Colvin, Melvill and Melvin. The Rev. James Melvill in his *Diary*, published by the Bannatyne Club, writes his name indifferently either way, and even in the same page it is found spelt both *Melvill* and *Melvin* (e.g. at pp. 87 and 238). In the same way the Master of Hailes, writing about the Elliots in 1518, first spells their name 'Elwandis,' and in the next line 'Ellotis.' See Armstrong, i. 211. 'Elwand' never became one of the forms in common use, but the chief of the clan is called 'Robert *Elwand* of Redheuct' in 1508,<sup>1</sup> and other instances of its occurrence might be given.

'Elwald,' with slight deviations, continued to hold its own as the most ordinary spelling till towards the middle of the sixteenth century, when considerable changes began to appear. The English, who had been in the habit of using 'Elwold' as well as 'Elwald,' now adopted the form 'Elwood,' which became the usual one with them. In Scotland, about the same time, or a little later, 'Ellot' began to take the place of 'Elwald,' and soon obtained the predominance.<sup>2</sup> But the older form was not entirely superseded. It is not infrequently found alongside the newer one, and even quite at the end of the century—in the year 1597—the names of three 'Elwalds' appear.<sup>3</sup> At this time, however, 'Ellot' or 'Elliott' was the spelling almost universally adopted, with only slight variations, such as *Ellett*.

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Those above mentioned were distinct and recognised forms of the name. Each of these in its turn was subjected to variation and distortion at the hands of writers ignorant of orthography—a process that resulted in producing the surprising number of different ways of writing the same name shown in Mr. Armstrong's list (*ante*, p. 21).

At the beginning of the seventeenth century the great variety just spoken of had disappeared. 'Ellot,' with no greater divergence than 'Ellett' or 'Ellat,'<sup>4</sup> was the general spelling till the final change was made, and the name assumed its present form of *Elliot*. This change dates from the middle of the century, and in a short time it was generally adopted. It is well marked in the *Retours*, where down to 1647 'Ellot' is the form used, then appears 'Elleet' in 1655, and 'Eliot' in 1662, after which this spelling (or 'Elliot,' 'Eliott') is adhered to. It is not improbable that the fame of Sir John Eliot, the Parliamentary leader, who flourished shortly before this time, may have had something to do with the Border families assimilating their name to his, and thus suggesting a kinship of which they would feel proud. They were strong partisans on the same side of politics. This brings to a conclusion the history of the Border name, which now exists only under two forms, namely, 'Elliot,' which is used by the Minto family

1897

<sup>1</sup> *Scotts of Buccleuch*, ii. 114. Again in 1550 his successor signs his name (but not with his own hand) 'Rot Eluand of Reidheuch.'—*Ibid.* ii. 199. John Elnwand was Dean of the Chapel Royal in 1501.—Armstrong, i. 179 note.

<sup>2</sup> An instance of this form 'Ellot' as early as 1518 has just been quoted, but it did not become common till some time after.

<sup>3</sup> *Scotts of Buccleuch*, ii. 255.

<sup>4</sup> Robert of Redheugh, 1637, spelt his own name 'Ellat' (*Book of Carlaverock*, ii. 101.), while in the letters of his brother-in-law, Lord Annandale, it is spelt 'Ellett.'—*Scotts of Buccleuch*, ii. 346-7. Gilbert of Stobbs in 1616 spells his name 'Ellet.' See his signature, *ante*, p. 251.



In the instances given above it will be observed that the name is spelt 'Elwald' or 'Elwalde,' and (in one case) 'Elwolde,' and in early times this spelling is pretty uniform, except that the form 'Elwand' is occasionally found. During the sixteenth century the spelling varied greatly. In the Scottish records and writings the name

<sup>1</sup> *The Douglas Book*, by Wm. Fraser, iii. 86.

<sup>2</sup> Armstrong, *Liddesdale*, i. 144 note; and Appendix No. xi.

## The Border Elliots and the Family of Minto

### By George Francis Scott Elliot

One of the earliest and most curious variants of the primitive 'Elwald' was *Elwand*.<sup>3</sup> There are examples, however, of a similar interchange of the letters

<sup>1</sup> Elwold and Elwood are still found as surnames in England. Robert Elwald was Mayor of York in 1539.—*Letters and Papers of Henry VIII.* (Gairdner and Brodie), vol. xiv. part i. p. 306.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Armstrong's list of the different spellings is given *ante*, p. 21 note.

<sup>3</sup> It appears as early as 1502.—*Criminal Trials*, i. 32\*.

## The Border Elliots and the Family of Minto

### By George Francis Scott Elliot

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**DSL – DOST** Elwand, Elvand, *n.* Also: ell-, allwand, elvaind, elvan(e, elven. [ME. (rare) *elle wande* (c 1440), *elwonde*, var. of *elenwand* ELN(E)WAND.]

1. An ell-measure. (a) Howbeit your elwand be to scant, Or your

*Elwand* according to The Dictionary of the Scottish Language DSL, means; *an ell-measure*.

So the *el/ell*, part of the name in Scotland means; *measured*.

## A measured; *wald*, *wold*, *wood*, and *lot*.

**Wald** has usage in the border region of Scotland, and here it had meaning. It should be noted that from about 1320-1600, Scotland and England were two different countries with their own languages. The English used the *yard*, and the Scottish used the *ell*.

### *Wald*;

en.wiktionary.org/wiki/wald
<div>Old High German</div>
<div><b>Etymology</b></div>
Proto-Germanic <i>*walþuz</i> , whence also Old English <i>weald</i> , Old Norse <i>vǫllr</i>
<div><b>Noun</b></div>
<div>wald <i>m</i></div>
<div>1. forest</div>
<div>Old Saxon</div>
<div><b>Etymology</b></div>
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<div><b>Noun</b></div>
<div>wald <i>m</i></div>
<div>1. a forest</div>
<div><b>Descendants</b></div>
<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Middle Low German <i>wolt</i></li><li>Low German <i>wold</i></li></ul></div>

**Wald** is used with Germanic-Saxon origins for forest. So **Elwald** derived from a Saxon-Saintly name of King/Saint Elwald buried at Hexam Abbey, means a measured forest, a forest stead (lot).

www.sorensenfamilyhistory.org/genealogy/danish\_names\_genealogy.htm



Susa Young  
Gates, Editor &  
Compiler,  
Surname Book  
And Racial  
History, Salt  
Lake City, 21  
September  
1918, pages  
262 to 273.

middle classes in the cities, and finally the surname habits were augmented from Germany; thus the German surname examples naturally solidified.

wald

1 of 1

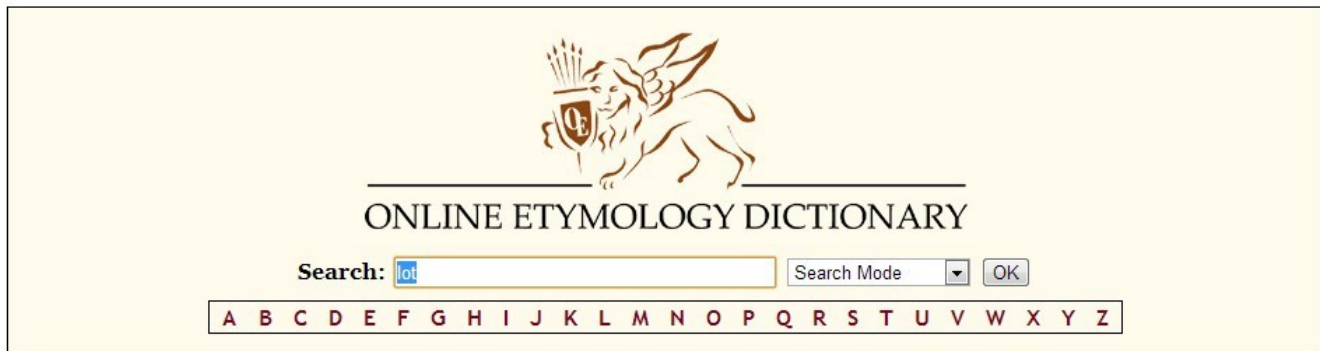
We have in Denmark German names of all kinds: Names signifying avocation, such as Kruger (inn-keeper), Fischer (fisher-man), Richter, Becker, Schröder, (tailor), Kramer (peddler), Bodtcher, Kaufmann (merchant); surnames such as Hahn, Wulff, Schwartz (black), Weis (white); abbreviated names, such as Lutken and Willken of Ludvig; town names such as Rostock, Berlin; and personal denominations which have grown out of names of places such as Hamburger and Kehlet. Endings, such as -mann (man), -ner, -est, -baum (tree), -ban, -born, -thal (dale), -garten (garden), -felt (field), -dorff (town), -hoff (court), -stein (stone), -mark (field), -stedt (place), -wald (wood), etc., suggest nearly always German origin, or at least German modifications, and perhaps it can be truthfully said that most of the Danish citizen bourgeoisie family names are of German origin.

In Low German, for **wald** it is **wold** and in English it is **wood**, and in American English it is **woods**.

In times past not all land was measured (survey), so an **elwald**, **elwold**, **elwood/ellwood**, meant a measured piece of **forest** which can be owned, as opposed to common or shared forest which at the time was not measured.



# Lot;



## lot (n.)

Old English *hlot* "object (anything from dice to straw, but often a chip of wood with a name inscribed on it) used to determine someone's share," also "what falls to a person by lot," from Proto-Germanic *\*khlutom* (cf. Old Norse *hlutr* "lot, share," Old Frisian *hlot* "lot," Old Saxon *hlot*, Middle Dutch, Dutch *lot*, Old High German *hluz* "share of land," German *Los*; Old English *hleotan* "to cast lots, to foretell"), of unknown origin. The object was placed with others in a receptacle, which was shaken, the winner being the one that fell out first. Hence, to *cast lots*. In some cases the lots were drawn by hand. The word was adopted from Germanic into the Romanic languages (cf. *lottery*, *lotto*). Meaning "choice resulting from the casting of lots" first attested c.1200.

Sense of "plot of land" is first recorded 1630s (distribution of the best property in new *settlements* often determined by casting lots), that of "group, collection" is 1725, from notion of auction lots. The generalized sense of "great many" is first attested in 1812. To *cast (one's) lot with* another is to agree to share winnings.

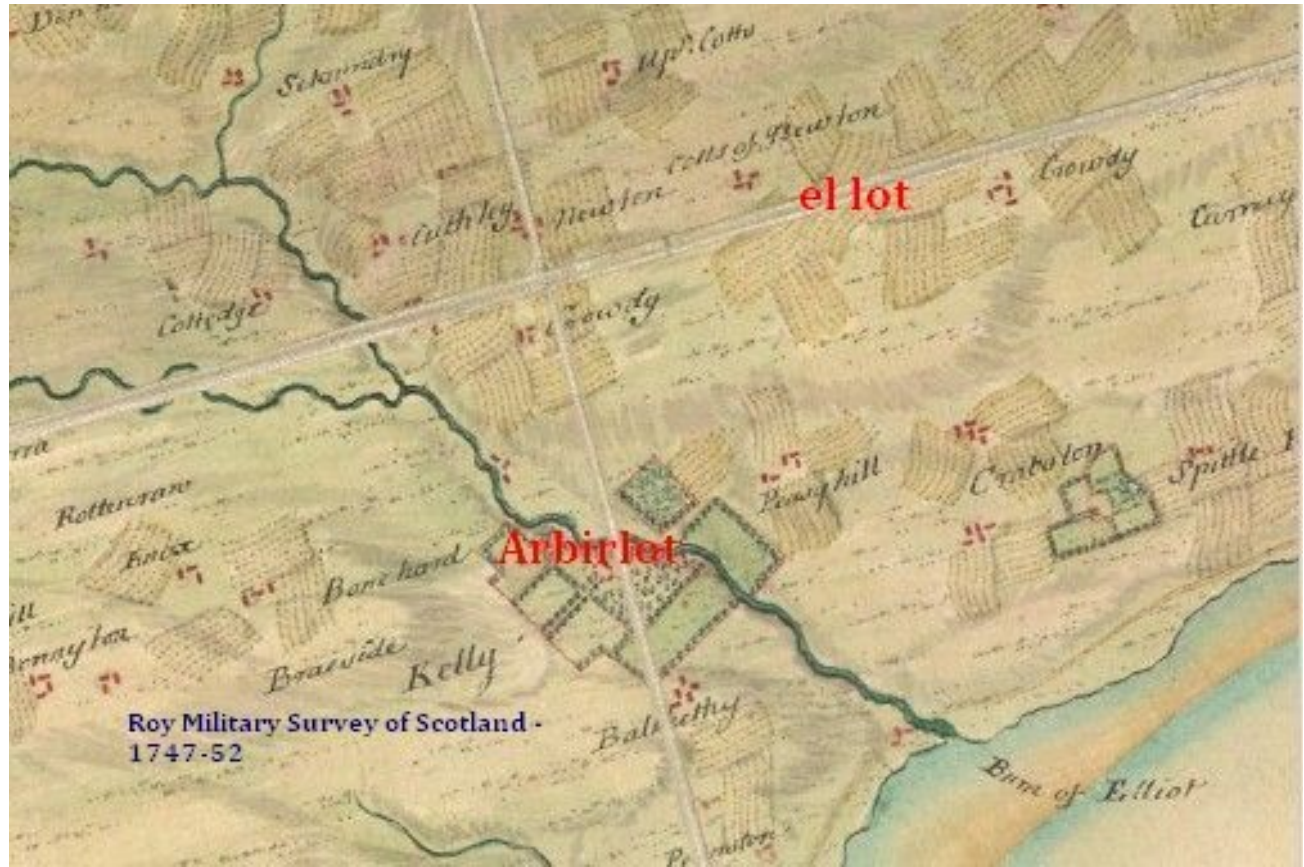
Old High German *lot* "share of land"



*Ellot*, and *Arbirlot* named above ca 1580 previous to the Union of the Crowns, when the Scots began adopting English units of



measurement.





## Listing #688 - 13.81+ **Acre lot** with an AWESOME VIEW of the Mountains In 16th century Scotland?



What today is referred to as an *acre lot*, when the Scots measured in *el* it is referred to as an *el lot*.


ar·bo·re·tum  **noun** \ä-r-bə-rē-təm\

*plural* **ar·bo·retums** or **ar·bo·re·ta** 

### Definition of ARBORETUM



: a place where trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes

 See [arboretum](#) defined for English-language learners »  
See [arboretum](#) defined for kids »

### Origin of ARBORETUM

New Latin, from Latin, **plantation of trees, from arbor**

First Known Use: **1838**



*Arbir (arbor) lot* is a predecessor to *arboretum*.

**DSL – DOST** *Arber (arbeir)*, *n.* [ME. *arber* (15th c.), earlier *erber*, *herber*, L. *herbārium*.] Agarden or orchard; an arbour. — I saw thre gay ladeis sit in ane grein arbeir; *DUNB. Tua Mar. W.* 17 (M). I all prevely past to a plesand arber [*M. arbeir*]; *ib.* 525.

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When the *Ellot Burn* was named in the sixteenth century Angus, Scotland, it meant the river traveled through measured land. In this region an *ellot* would be a *farm lot*, *farmland* or *farmstead*, of measured area in *el/ell*.

*Abirlot* was named after orchard, or a tree garden, in among the *ellot*.

It is in the region of the Scot, and Elwald in which Elwald became Elliot. So what did Elliot meaning measured land mean in this region. The word *elwald* in this area meant measured forest, with saintly origins.

.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/lot

**4 a** : a portion of land

**b** : a measured parcel of land having fixed boundaries and designated on a plot or survey

In the area of the Scot and the Elliot what kind of land was there.

**DSL – DOST** Hamlot(t, Hamelott, Hammi(l)lot(e, *n.* Also: hamlote, –loit; ham(m)elot(e; hammy(l)lot(e; hem(b)lot(e.

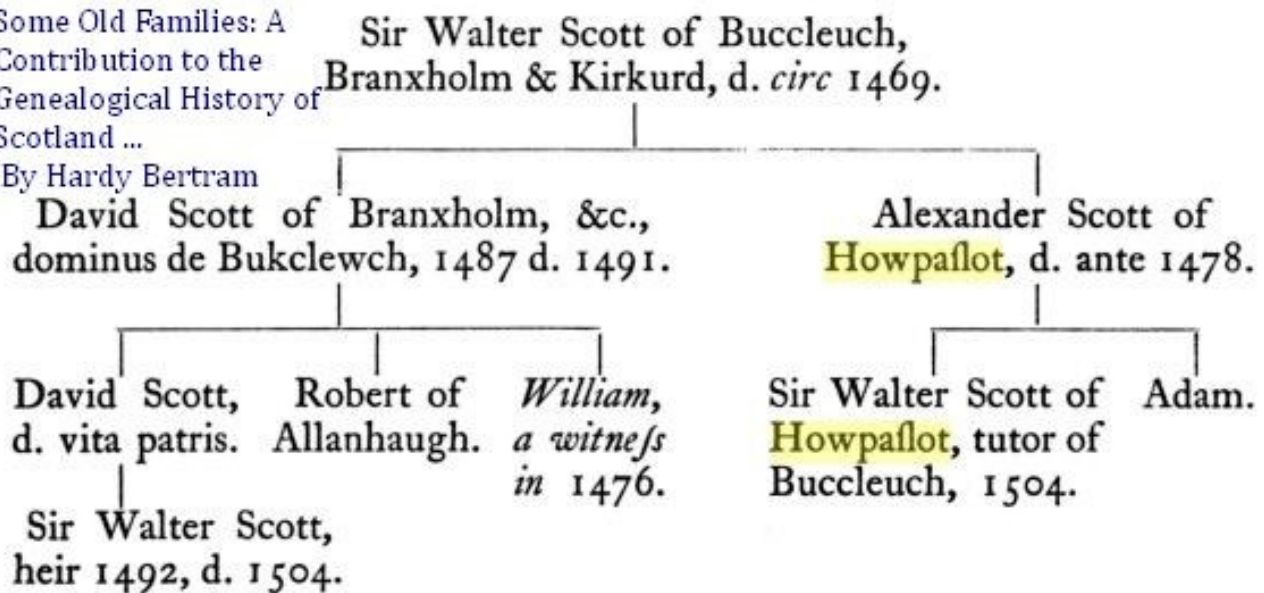
[Etymology obscure.] In the Ettrick Forest (Yarrow and Tweed): A holding amounting to a quarter of a forester–stead (see FORESTAR *n.* 1 b). —

Frequent in various forms (see above) and in Latin contexts in the Exchequer Rolls from 1457 to 1514, e.g VI. 31, 443, 554, VIII. 267, IX. 186, X. 401, XIV. 563.

The Elliot and Scot were of the Ettrick Forest, and in this region it is a *forest stead*, or *forest lot*.

Some Old Families: A  
Contribution to the  
Genealogical History of  
Scotland ...

By Hardy Bertram



It can be seen, that a Sir Walter Scoot, of Howpaslot, (hollow pass through a lot containing trees), is a tutor of Buccleuch 1504.

\* The *Tutor of Buccleuch* was more or less of a maurader. By the records of the High Court of Justiciary, it appears, that upon the 21st November 1493, "Walter Scot of Howpaslot" was allowed to compound for *treasonable bringing in* William Scot, called Gyde, and other "traitors of Levyn," to the "Hereschip of Harehede." *Item*, for theftewously and treasonably resetting of Henry Scot, and other traitors of Levyn; *item* for the treasonable stouthrief of forty oxen and cows, and two hundred sheep, from the tenants of Harehede. Upon the 11th December 1510, Walter Scot of Howpaslot, the laird of Cranstoun, and thirty-four others, were convicted of destroying the woods in Ettrick-Forest, and fined in 3 pounds each; among the culprits were the Hoppringills of Smalham, Ker of Yare, John Murray the Sheriff, &c. Walter of Howpaslot, however, was not always the offending party. In the year 1494 James Turnbule, brother of the laird of Quithop, produced a remission before the High Court for art and part of the stouthrief of iron windows, (*fenistrarum ferrarum*) doors and *crukis* furth of the Tower of Howpaslot, pertaining to Walter Scot.

History of the  
Partition of the  
Lennox  
By Mark Napier

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Walter Scot of Howpaslot was convicted of destroying the wood in Ettrick-Forest. So in this region elwald, and ellot had the same meaning, but elwald was related to a saint, and saintly names were



changed by the Elwald family near the time of the Reformation, when the family dropped the saintly religion of The Church of Rome.

So Elwald was changed to Elliot in the Ettrick Forest Region, in retention of the same meaning, but dropping the saint.

It should be noted that the name *Ellot*, *lost meaning* when the Scots dropped the *el/ell* for the unit of area and went towards English Imperial measurements of *yard* (square yard) and *acre*, after The Union of the Crowns. The name seemed to be changed to a form of an *e* replacing the *o*, as *Ellet* for *Ellot*, then became *Elliot* by inserting an “*i*”.

Mark Elliott

5/29/2013