



## CLAN MACCALLUM - MALCOLM SOCIETY

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### Duntrune Castle

Poltalloch Estate, Kilmartin, Argyllshire, Scotland

Duntrune Castle, at Kilmartin, is the home of our Chief, Robin Malcolm. It is one of the few surviving examples of Norman-influenced stone castles that first appeared in Scotland in the 12th Century. Parts of it have been rebuilt over the past 800 years, but its ground floor of the keep and the massive crenellated curtain walls providing its outer defenses date from that period.



The castle stands isolated on its rocky promontory, commanding what was once an important sea route from the Western Isles

to the central Highlands. Its position is dramatic, rising almost sheer from the sea and looking out across the Sound of Jura. The castle walls are often battered by storms, and there is a well-known pipe tune, *"The Sound of the Waves Against the Walls of Duntrune."*

Early historians make no mention of who built the original castle, or when. Duncan Campbell, whose father had supported King Robert the Bruce, received a royal charter to "Duntroon" and it remained in Campbell hands until it was purchased by the Malcolms in 1792, when the owner faced bankruptcy.

Duntrune Castle is claimed to be the oldest continually-lived-in castle in Scotland. Its location at Kilmartin places it in one of the most interesting parts of the country, historically and archaeologically. This is the center of the area first colonized by the Scoti from Ireland; the Hill of Dunadd where their first kings were crowned is a short distance from Duntrune. Ancient standing stones, burial cairns, etc., dot the surrounding countryside.

Approved by Robin Malcolm, November 2006