

Battle of Littleferry



Memorial Dedication Ceremony

Ferry Road, Golspie
Friday, 15 April, 2022
at 3:00 pm



Battle of Littleferry
15th April 1746
IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO
FELL THAT DAY

Battle of Littleferry

15 April, 1746

The Battle of Littleferry was fought on the 15th April 1746. Early that day companies of Cromartie's Regiment, less the 3rd Earl of Cromartie and most of his officers, left Dunrobin Castle heading to join Prince Charles Jacobite army near Inverness. Shortly afterwards, the earl and his officers were ambushed near St Andrew's Church in Golspie by elements from the "Golspie Company" of the 17th Earl of Sutherland's Militia; Cromartie and his officers retreated back to the castle where they were surrounded. Elements of Cromartie's Regiment sought to return along Ferry Road to their Earl's aid, but were met by the bulk of the "Golspie company" and hostile villagers. There was confused fighting before Cromartie's Regiment started to retreat towards Littleferry; some sought to escape by boat from Fishertown.

As the straggling column passed a point near this memorial, the "Clyne Company" and the "Dornoch, Creich and Lairg Company" of the 17th Earl of Sutherland's Militia were seen in three, well spaced divisions advancing rapidly from Culmailly towards the Ferry Road across the moor. The surprise achieved by this attack was the "decisive act" of Littleferry. Cromartie's men broke and started to flee towards Littleferry. There was a running fight along the whole road and at Littleferry there was chaos. A short stand was made before the Regiment surrendered but by then many Jacobites were dead or dying and some had drowned. Those fit to march were then taken back to Dunrobin Castle and from there into captivity. The militia too had casualties but they were slight. By a clever ruse, Cromartie and his party were made to surrender at the castle that evening.

The Battle of Littleferry was over.

Welcome

Ian Sutherland
Chairman, Golspie Community Council

The Memorial

Maj.Gen. Patrick Marriott CB CBE DL
Chairman, Battle of Littleferry Project

Dedication

Reverend Eric Paterson

The Fallen

Mr Kenny McAulay
Golspie Branch, Royal British Legion Scotland

Wreath Laying

Dr Monica Main, Lord-Lieutenant of Sutherland
Mr Donald Rowe, Chairman,
Golspie Branch, Royal British Legion Scotland
Mr Ronald Munro Ferguson, descendant of Lieutenant Hector Munro,
"Golspie Company", Government Militia
Mrs Margaret Openshaw, descendant of Ensign George Mackenzie,
Cromartie's Regiment, Jacobite Army

Two Minutes Silence Initiated by a Cannon Shot

Mr Angus McCall, on whose land we stand

The Lament

Mr Malcolm Paton, on whose croft the stone was found

Concluding Remarks

Mr Ian Sutherland, Chairman Golspie Community Council

A new pipe tune, "The Battle Of Littleferry", will be played before the Marching Party departs. It was composed by Miss April Sutherland, a pupil at Golspie High School and Pipe Major of the Sutherland Schools Pipe Band