



## Baird Heritage

### Archival Home of Clan Baird of Scotland

(Baard, Baird, Bard, Barde, Beard)

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## Baird / Bard is a Lowland Family or Clan

by Karen Baird Vierra, 2013, last updated 15 March 2021

- 1314                      Bannockburn  
Neither Baird nor Bard is found among the Highland names listed by the sources.  
Source: *The Scottish and Welsh Wars, 1250-1400 (Men-at-arms)*, 1984, C. Rothero; *Celtic Warriors, 400 B.C.-1600 A.D.*, 1986, by T. Newark; via Dr. Bruce Durie, *What is a Clan?*
- 29 July 1587            Scottish Parliament  
This Act features the first mention of “clan” by the Scottish Parliament. It was written for the “quieting and keeping in obedience of the disorderit subjectis, inhabitantis of the bordouris, hielandis and ilis.”  
Neither Baird nor Bard is found among any of the lists.  
Source: Act of the Scottish Parliament 29 July 1587, [www.rps.ac.uk](http://www.rps.ac.uk), [1587/7/1587]
- 1908, 1934            *The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands*  
Neither Baird nor Bard is named as a Highland Clan  
Source: *The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands*, by Frank Adams
- 2019                      Dr. Bruce Durie  
“Of course, Baird isn’t a Clan, but a Lowland Family”  
Tertiary Source: Email dated 20 January 2019 from Dr. Bruce Durie, Shennachie to The Council of Scottish Clans and Associations, Inc.
- 2020                      Wikipedia  
Baird is listed as a Lowland Clan  
Tertiary Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Scottish\\_clans#cite\\_ref-3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Scottish_clans#cite_ref-3)
- 12 June 2020            Lyon Court  
Lord Lyon views clans as two types or categories. Sir James Baird, 11<sup>th</sup> Bt. of Saughtonhall stated Baird was a Lowland Clan. Russell Hunter, Solicitor, Lyon Clerk and Keeper of the Records, agreed and stated that Lord Lyon views them differently to Highland clans.  
Source: Email 12 June 2020 between Sir James and Russell Hunter, Solicitor, Lyon Clerk and Keeper of the Records, The Court of the Lord Lyon

#### Notes:

- I have yet to find a Baird / Bard document to indicate that any of the various early families who share our surname ever considered themselves a Highland Clan; or organized their family and tenants in a Highland hierarchy; or kept their own warriors. Nor have I ever found a governmental document that named Baird / Bard as a Highland Clan.
- I have yet to find an original Baird / Bard document that revealed a Baird / Bard family used the Gaelic language other than those words that may have been in the common vernacular of their district and time period.
- Disclosure: Clan Baird, being a Lowland Family is supported by Petitioner to the Chiefship, Sir James Baird, 11<sup>th</sup> Bt. of Saughtonhall; However, Commander Holman-Baird, supports the claim that, “Bairds themselves consider that they are both, an amalgamation of highlanders and lowlanders,” as expressed on his website [clanbaird.org](http://clanbaird.org) > Bairds > Memorial of Baird, p.4.
- See “Clan Baird Fact Sheet” on the Home page of BairdHeritage.com As always, Baird Heritage is open to receiving source documentation that may differ with the information provided herein.