

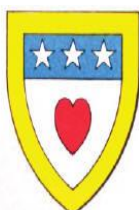
## Douglas - Sheriffs of Roxburghshire (Teviotdale) - Early 1300's to 1747



### Sir James Douglas, Lord of Douglas



7. Douglas of Cavers



8. Douglas of Cavers



9. Douglas of Cavers

### Douglas of Cavers



10. Douglas of Bonjedward



### Douglas of Bonjedward



## Earls of Angus (Douglas line)

### The Sheriff of Roxburgh –

“The Sheriff of Roxburgh was historically the royal official responsible for enforcing law and order in that area of Scotland. Prior to 1748 most sheriffdoms were held on a hereditary basis. From that date (until) 1745, the hereditary sheriffs were replaced by salaried sheriff-deputes, qualified advocates who were members of the Scottish Bar”. [Wikipedia]. I wonder who was above the sheriff-depute?

Although not a Douglas, the first known Sheriff of Teviotdale (Roxburgh) was ‘Gospatric the Sheriff’; in about 1120 or 1121, 1123 or 1124 or as early as 1114. He is mentioned in the Foundation Charter of Selkirk Abbey. Gospatric the Sheriff witnessed a grant by David, by King of Scotland, to Durham Cathedral Priory, sometime between April 1126 and March 1127. [Wikipedia].

### Douglas Sheriffs of Roxburgh –

Early to – the mid 1300’s – Sir James Douglas, Lord of Douglas  
 Mid 1300’s – Sir William Douglas, Knight of Liddisdale. He was also known as ‘the Flower of Chivalry’. He Constable of Roxburgh Castle as well as being the Sheriff of Teviotdale.

The Sheriffship of Roxburgh and the Barony of Cavers was with George Douglas 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Angus until his death in the late 1300s’. They were then

inherited by George's sister Isabella Douglas of Mar along with a whole string of estates and ownerships.

From 1412 the Sheriffs of Roxburgh were mostly from the Douglas of Cavers family. (Grant by James 1).

Around 1438 – Archibald Douglas, Laird of Cavers [Caledonia]. He was about the 1<sup>st</sup> Laird of Cavers.

Soon after 1438 – William Douglas of Cavers, son of Archibald Douglas [Caledonia]

1464/1465 – Archibald Douglas [National Archives of Scotland]

### **The Douglas family from 1488 until 1747 (exclusively) as Sheriffs of Roxburgh –**

1488 – Sir Archibald Douglas, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Angus [Wikipedia]

1508 to 1509 – George Douglas of Bonjedward was the Sheriff

1513 – Douglas of Cavers was the Sheriff at the time of the Battle of Flodden [The Battle of Flodden – Forgotten Books].

1513 – George Douglas of Bonjedward was the sheriff later in 1513 and was also involved in the Skirmish at Sclaterford (Bridge) in 1513. The skirmish was with a large army from England. George Douglas was one of the leaders for the Scots army. The Sclaterford Bridge was at Fodderlee Burn in the Rule Valley near Jedburgh.

1514 – George Douglas of Bonjedward was the Sheriff

1545 – William Douglas of Bonjedward was the Sheriff. In was in part a Commission by Queen Mary. In 1545 “Commission by Mary Queen of Scots appointing Rothsay Herald, William Douglas of Boneiedburgh, and Adam Ruthifurd, burgess of Jedburgh, her sheriffs of Roxburgh... Given under the quarter seal at Linlithgow, 2 October 1545”. [Historical Manuscripts Commission 7th Report – Appendix to 7th Report no 34 pages 730 and 731].

1558 to 1589 – Sir William Douglas. He ‘was the sixth Cavers to have inherited the office in direct descent’. His son James Douglas presided over the sheriff courts at Jedburgh from 1590 to 1612, and James's son William, feuar at Cavers, took over officially in 1610. “All the sheriffs were significant local landholders and linked into wider allegiances in their shires through kinship and alliance. All of them, too, used members of their own kindreds or alliances to carry out their duties. The Cavers sometimes employed their own sons as deputies, but they also relied on the good burgesses of Jedburgh to preside over the sheriff courts there... William Douglas, a bailie

in Jedburgh, was deputy in 1691, as was a James Douglas in Cavers in 1602..." [The Scottish Middle March – Anna Groundwater].

1624 – William Douglas of Cavers who had been a depute. [The Scottish Middle March – Anna Groundwater].

1631 – George Douglas of Bonjedward was the sheriff. In 1631 it is mentioned that "George Douglas" was the sheriff of Teviotdale. [Calendar of the House of Lords Manuscripts].

In the period 1633 – 1639 – Sir William Douglas, sheriff of Teviotdale. [Calendar of State Papers. British History online]. He was likely of Cavers.

1645 to about 1650 – Sir William Douglas of Cavers. He was about 9<sup>th</sup> of Cavers.

1645 – 'Sir William Douglas of Cavers, sherrefe of Taviotdail' [Edinburgh 7 January, 1645 – Parliament of Scotland].

1698 – Archibald Douglas of Cavers, son of Sir William Douglas of Cavers who was not a Sheriff of Roxburghshire. Archibald's father William "had been deprived of the hereditary sheriffdom on account of his opposition to the court..." [The History of Parliament – British]. Archibald Douglas was 13<sup>th</sup> of Cavers.

### **Douglas, Lairds of Cavers to 1747/1748 [Hay Genealogy] –**

Date of Sucession	Order	Name	Born	Died	Age
1406	1	Sir Archibald Douglas, 1st of Cavers	1370s	~1435	
~1435	2	William Douglas, 2nd of Cavers	~1400	1464/1/8	
1464	3	Sir Archibald Douglas, 3rd of Cavers		1486	
1486	4	Sir William Douglas, 4th of Cavers		1506/10/26	
1506	5	Sir James Douglas, 5th of Cavers	~1500	1545/9/28	

1545	6	Sir James Douglas, 6th of Cavers	~1530s	1568/7	
1568	7	Sir William Douglas, 7th of Cavers			
	8	Sir James Douglas, 8th of Cavers		1612	
1612	9	Sir William Douglas, 9th of Cavers	~1591	~1658	
~1658	10	Sir Archibald Douglas, 10th of Cavers		~1669	
~1669	11	Sir William Douglas, 11th of Cavers	~1640	1676/12	
1676	12	Sir William Douglas, 12th of Cavers	~1665	1698/2	-OPRs 1696
1698	13	Sir Archibald Douglas, 13th of Cavers	~1667	1741	
1741	14	Sir William Douglas, 14th of Cavers	~1690s	1748	

Sally E Douglas

23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2018