

McTAGGART

Over the past centuries this surname has been spelt in several ways and it was also "anglicised" in the 19th century.

1688 The original surname "Ma-an-sageirt" means "son of the priest". The succession of William and Mary who were monarchs after the fall of King Charles II saw religion change to Presbyterianism suddenly.

The name then became McTagart, McIntaggart, McIntagrit, McIntagairt or MacTaggart as registrars struggled to write English which had begun to displace the native Gaelic language in the Highlands.

However, People who left Argyll for the early settlements in America changed their Gaelic surname McTaggart and were known as PRIEST in North Carolina and New York State.

1819 An old letter shows this -
"I married Flory McIntaggart who came over last year. The ship took 250 souls from Crinan. Her brother John Priest and his mother are well."
(Extract from Blue letter).

The McTaggarts were famous in Kilcalmonell Parish at Achnacarnan north of Clachan. Many went to Canada and later settled in America. Grave stones in old part of TARBERT BURIAL GROUND.