

**60. Stewartdale Cemetery, near Wycocomagh, Nova Scotia, Canada**  
Allison McKinnon

The Stewartdale Cemetery is located in a rural area near the town of Whycomagh, Inverness County, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. It is a historic cemetery with a memorial to pioneers of the area, among whom were several people from Tiree. The pioneer memorial at the cemetery bears a plaque in Gaelic and English, which reads: *To the Glory of God. Worship Site and Burial Ground of Pioneers of the Area. In Tribute and Gratitude.* The cemetery is the site of the MacLean Church, built in 1856 and burnt in 1960.

**Images:** [Cemetery entrance](#)    [Pioneer Memorial](#)    [MacLean Church site](#)

- 60.1 **John MacKinnon** was born in Tiree c.1798. He was living in Balephuill when he married Elizabeth MacLean, also of Balephuill, on 3 March 1818. They emigrated to Nova Scotia, Canada, around 1820.

J.L. McDougall in his *History of Inverness County, Nova Scotia* (1922) wrote: *The first settler to come to that part of the district of Wycocomagh whereon the village is built was John MacKinnon of Tyree, Scotland, who came in the spring of 1821. He was the progenitor of the Wycocomagh MacKinnons and took up 400 acres of land, a goodly portion of which is now covered by the village. He was married to Elizabeth MacLean, also a native of Tyree, with issue: Allan, Hugh, Peter, Sandy, Neil, Flora, Katie, Effie and Ann.*

John MacKinnon, his wife Elizabeth MacLean, and their daughter Annie are all buried in the Stewartdale Cemetery near Wycocomagh. The inscription on their shared cemetery stone reads:

John MacKinnon, A Native of Tiree Argyle-Shire Scotland,  
Died at Wycocomagh, Aged 85 Years.  
Also His Wife Elizabeth MacLean, Died Jan. 1884, Aged 95 Years,  
And their Daughter, Annie, Died October 1882 Aged 60 Years.

- 60.2 **Elizabeth MacLean** was born in Tiree c.1789. In 1818 she married John MacKinnon (60.1) in Tiree. They emigrated to Nova Scotia around 1820 and settled in the district of Wycocomagh. Elizabeth died in January 1884 aged 95 and is buried with her husband and daughter Annie in Stewartdale Cemetery (see above).

**Images:** [Gravestone](#)    [Inscription](#)

- 60.3 **Ronald MacDonald**, son of Hugh MacDonald & Christy Ann Campbell of Cornaigmore, was born in Tiree, on 9 February 1812, as recorded in the Tiree Parish Register. He emigrated with his parents and younger brother John to Nova Scotia around 1820, it is thought as passengers on the ship *Economy*. In *MacDonald and MacKinnon Families (A Biographical Sketch)*, Dr Hugh N MacDonald wrote that *Ronald, born in Tiree, was twice married (1) Sarah Macdonald, issue four sons and three daughters. (2) Sarah MacKinnon, issue four sons and one daughter. Lived to an old age and passed at his home at Ashfield.* He died on 9 November 1889, aged 77. The inscription on his gravestone reads:

In Loving Memory,  
RONALD MACDONALD,  
Born in Tyree, Scotland, July 10, 1812.  
Died at Ashfield, Whycomagh, Novr 9 1889

[the gravestone birth date differs from that recorded in the Tiree Parish Register]

**Image:** [Gravestone](#)

- 60.4 **Neil Carmichael**, son of John Carmichael, fisherman, and Isabell McCallum, was born at Gortendonell, Tiree, on 4 January 1816. He emigrated to Canada and in the 1891 Canadian census was listed as a 75-year-old farmer living at Whycocomagh. He died on 17 April 1896 and is buried in Stewartdale Cemetery near Whycocomagh. His gravestone is lying on the ground and is cracked and difficult to read where it is damaged:

IN MEMORY OF  
 NEIL CARMICHAEL  
 A NATIVE OF TIREE SCOTLAND  
 DIED APRIL 17, 1896  
 AGED 81 YEARS.  
 ALSO  
 MARGARET HIS WIFE  
 DIED APRIL 7, 1885  
 AGED 44 YEARS  
 ALSO THEIR TWO CHILDREN  
 .... IN INFANCY  
 BLSSSED .... THE DEAD

**Image:** [Gravestone](#)

Neil Carmichael was a brother to John Carmichael ([2a](#)) with whom he emigrated from Tiree. John is buried in the Carmichael family plot at Little Narrows, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.