

FOREWORD

This series of historical booklets was quite specifically developed to provide an authoritative briefing for all who seek to enjoy the heritage of what were the medieval baronial lands of Prestoungrange and Dolphinstoun. They are complemented by learning guides for educational leaders. All are available on the Internet at www.prestoungrange.org the Baron Courts' website.

They have been sponsored by the Baron Courts of Prestoungrange and Dolphinstoun which my family recently re-established when we gained access to the feudal baronies in 1998 where my paternal great-grandfather, James Park, worked as a miner at the beginning of the 20th Century. But the credit for the scholarship involved in these books, and their timeous appearance, are entirely attributable to the Scottish historians who work with the Baron Courts now led by Annemarie Allan, and the myriad authors concerned.

This title in particular has as its author an outstanding individual. Surrounded by genealogical controversy he may be, but his skill in crafting this most readable addition to our series is greatly appreciated.

We were at the outset confident that this series would find a welcoming readership and so it has transpired. But it has done much more than that for it is now providing the historical bases for the Arts Tourism programmes conducted by the Baron Courts through their own Arts Festival Society and in particular the insights required for the murals now being painted.

We thank the authors one and all for their contributions and for a job well done. It is one very practical contribution towards helping visitors and tourists to the town of Prestonpans towards a better understanding of the lives and ambitions of those that went before us all. For better and for worse we stand on the shoulders of our ancestors as we in turn craft our futures and tomorrow's world for our children. So often we see in the pages of history that the cast of characters most certainly changes but the issues that matter and get argued about remain the same.

Dr Julian Wills
Baron of Dolphinstoun
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About the Author

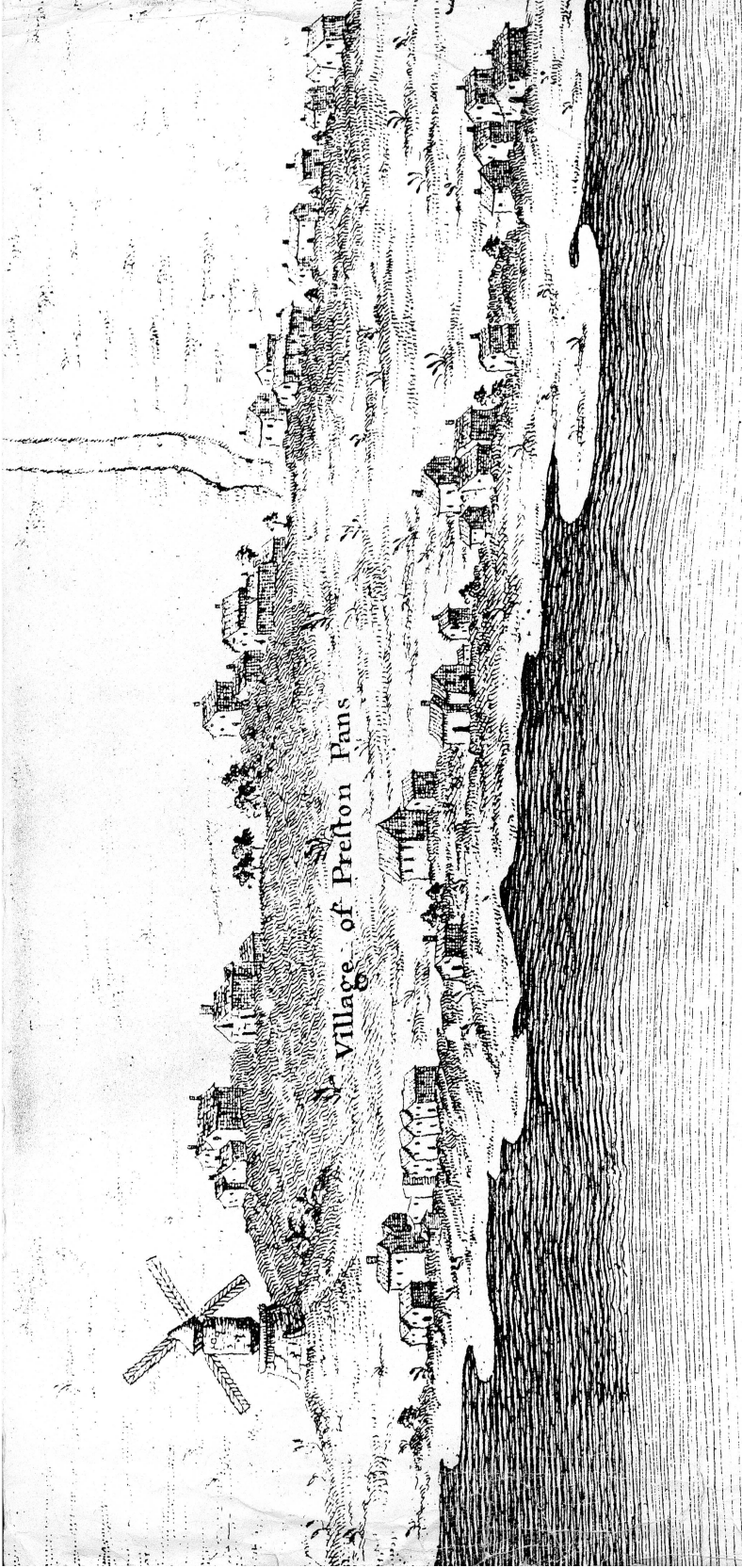
HRH Prince Michael of Albany was born in exile in Belgium and came home to Scotland in 1976 aged 18. He asserts that he is Head of the House of Stewart, the legitimate Royal House of Scotland. Several eminent genealogists have challenged that claim but none doubt his tenacity in the Stewart cause nor his abilities as an interested researcher.

He holds office as President of the European Council of Princes and represents the interests of Scotland and its heritage around the world at conventions and gatherings of Scottish people and their descendants. He campaigns for the reinstatement of Scotland's Written Constitution and in all his acts is consistent with the political values 'Bonnie' Prince Charles Edward demonstrated in 1745 as recounted here.

His book *The Forgotten Monarchy of Scotland – The True Story of the Royal House of Stewart and the Hidden Lineage of the Kings and Queens of Scots* was on the Scottish and US Best Seller Lists for months when published in 2002 by Vega, London ISBN 1–84333–275–2. This is not surprising because, as well as telling the tale of the House of Stewart from 1371, he characterises his return to Scotland as being the first sustained abode here of the Stewarts since 1689 when his ancestor King James VII fled from London on the arrival of his usurping brother-in-law William of Orange and his own sister, Mary, with a very substantial army. Certainly in 1745 King James VIII was proclaimed by Lord Lyon in Edinburgh and King Charles III was crowned in Holyrood Palace, but Bonnie Prince Charlie's sojourn here was cut short at Culloden.

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Village of Prestonpans 21st September 1745 – battle field to the left of the picture immediately below the mill (Meadow Mill)