

Earl Marischal

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(Redirected from Marischal of Scotland)

The title of **Earl Marischal** was created in the peerage of Scotland for William Keith, the **Great Marischal of Scotland**.

The office of “Marischal of Scotland” (*marascallus Scotie* or *marscallus Scotie*) had been held heritably by the senior member of the Keith family since Hervey (*Herveus*) de Keith, who held the office of Marischal under Malcolm IV and William I. The descendant of Herveus, Sir Robert de Keith (d.1332), was confirmed in the office of “Great Marischal of Scotland” by King Robert the Bruce around 1324.

Robert de Keith’s great-grandson, William, was raised to the peerage as Earl Marischal by James II in about 1458. The peerage died out when George Keith, the 10th earl, forfeited it by joining the Jacobite Rising of 1715.

The role of the Marischal was to serve as custodian of the Royal Regalia of Scotland, and to protect the king’s person when attending parliament. The former duty was fulfilled by the 7th earl during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms, who hid them at Dunnottar Castle. The role of regulation of heraldry carried out by the English Earl Marshal is carried out in Scotland by the Lord Lyon King of Arms.

The separate office of Knight Marischal was first created for the Scottish coronation of Charles I in 1633. The office is not heritable, although it has been held by members of the Keith family.

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Marischals and Great Marischals of Scotland

- Hervey de Keith (d. c. 1196)
- Philip de Keith (d. c. 1225)
- David de Keith (co-jointly with his brother above and nephew below)
- Hervey de Keith (d. c. 1250)
- John de Keith (d. c.1270)
- William de Keith (d. c. 1293)
- Robert Keith (d. 1332)
- Robert Keith (d. 1346)
- Edward Keith (d. c. 1351)
- Sir William de Keith (d. c. 1410)
- Robert de Keith (d.c. 1430)

Earls Marischal (c. 1458)

- William Keith, 1st Earl Marischal (d. 1463)
- William Keith, 2nd Earl Marischal (d. 1483)
- William Keith, 3rd Earl Marischal (d. 1530)
- William Keith, 4th Earl Marischal (d. 1581)
- George Keith, 5th Earl Marischal (c. 1553 – 1623)
- William Keith, 6th Earl Marischal (c. 1585 – 1635)
- William Keith, 7th Earl Marischal (1614 – 1671)
- George Keith, 8th Earl Marischal (d. 1694)
- William Keith, 9th Earl Marischal (c. 1664 – 1712)
- George Keith, 10th Earl Marischal (c. 1693 – 1778) (*forfeit 1715*)

Some sources use different numbering, so that the final earl was the 9th Earl Marischal and not the 10th.^[*citation needed*]

See also

- Baron Keith
- Lord Altrie
- Earl of Kintore
- Clan Keith
- Marischal College
- Keith Marischal
- Dunnottar Castle

References

- Balfour Paul, Sir James-*The Scots Peerage Vol. VI*. Edinburgh 1909
- Taylor, James (1887). “The Great Historic Families of Scotland: The Keiths” (<http://www.burkes-peerage.net/articles/scotland/esnews/es0502a.aspx>). Retrieved 2007-08-31.

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