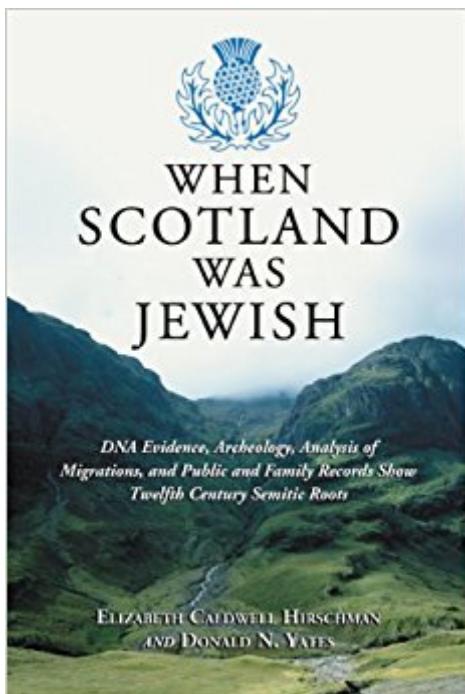


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# When Scotland Was Jewish: DNA Evidence, Archeology, Analysis Of Migrations, And Public And Family Records Show Twelfth Century Semitic Roots



## Synopsis

The popular image of Scotland is dominated by widely recognized elements of Celtic culture. But a significant non-Celtic influence on Scotland's history has been largely ignored for centuries? This book argues that much of Scotland's history and culture from 1100 forward is Jewish. The authors provide evidence that many of the national heroes, villains, rulers, nobles, traders, merchants, bishops, guild members, burgesses, and ministers of Scotland were of Jewish descent, their ancestors originating in France and Spain. Much of the traditional historical account of Scotland, it is proposed, rests on fundamental interpretive errors, perpetuated in order to affirm Scotland's identity as a Celtic, Christian society. A more accurate and profound understanding of Scottish history has thus been buried. The authors' wide-ranging research includes examination of census records, archaeological artifacts, castle carvings, cemetery inscriptions, religious seals, coinage, burgess and guild member rolls, noble genealogies, family crests, portraiture, and geographic place names.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Intriguing! There is a wealth of objective evidence and the authors' wry humor illuminates the discussion with wit and style. Hirschman and Yates' talents, learning, and specialized skills come together in a brilliant synthesis proving once again that the world we think we know is still very much terra incognita. -- Good ReadsMeet Lord Anthony Ashley-Cooper, the English crypto-Jew whose secretary was the philosopher John Locke...the Scottish princess Maud de Lens who combined several lines of Davidic ancestry and was one of the richest women in Europe...and the Clan Douglas warrior who removed the heart of Robert the Bruce to have it buried in

Jerusalem.--TeaserFascinating! The DNA evidence may be the clincher. --Ancestry Worship Genealogy "'Brazen'...blatantly contradicts established notions of Scottish history; and that is precisely the intent...deliberate, serious...extensive bibliography." --Reference & Research Book News

Elizabeth Caldwell Hirschman is a professor of marketing at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey and a professor at the University of Virginia-Wise. She has written widely on genealogy and ethnic identity. Donald N. Yates is an American genealogist, cultural historian and DNA investigator. He lives in Phoenix.

Fri., Dec. 2, 2016. 2:10 p.m. PST. At first, you will view the book's title as a Jewish comedian's first-liner. But take the author seriously. Ms. Hirschman's exhaustive studies and book, Scottish clan by Scottish clan, will leave you with NO DOUBT that those with Jewish DNA, of Jewish religious affiliation and practices, and engaged in Jewish social/cultural experiences and identification, integrated into and assimilated into what is now Scotland, Scottish culture and Scottish religious activities, and likely instilled Jewish characteristics into the fabric of Scottish culture. Ms. Hirschman uses geographic movement, circumstantial evidence, DNA testing, physical appearance, literature, similarities and self-reporting about participation in Jewish culture and religious activities to support her theories of Jewishness in Scottish life. She does show a bias or preference for labelling what she studies as "Jewish" when certain issues and the facts about them could easily be interpreted as Jewish or not. For instance, I'm not convinced that having an aquiline nose establishes that one is Jewish or that it is a standard or classical Jewish feature. This is a fun read and tells those of Jewish background a great deal about their roots. It also tells those of Scottish background how and why some aspects of Scottish life are so like Jewish ones. I recommend you read it.

I thought the book was highly entertaining and thought provoking. The authors do a thorough job of documenting their hypothesis (including official admission from the royal family that their ancestors are Davidic...is it just wishful thinking?), though historical survey, family genalogy, DNA analysis, and other circumstantial factors. Taken individually, none of these sources would be suggestive, but not too convincing. However, the authors do a good job of putting the various sources together to try to weave a comprehensive story. In the end, it is still in the domain of hypothesis with some intriguing evidence (perhaps cherry-picked in places, and not as rigorous as it could be). But for me, that is exactly what makes the book interesting. Though not a proven theory, this potential link

between Scotland and Jews is certainly fascinating. Scotland, which in it's golden age produced Maxwell, Napier, Adam Smith, Alexander Graham Bell, and many other great thinkers, could have been a safe haven for Jews to come and get an education during the middle ages. It might very well have been the only place in Europe that did not expel or persecute the Jews. And isn't it interesting that some Scottish names even sound a lot like Jewish names...Cowan, Hepburn, Stein... Should we be drinking Scotch whisky on Jewish holidays, rather than Manischewitz?

Quite apart from the research, of which much has been written, after the first couple of chapters, this book reads like an appendix and ceases to entertain. The authors were so intent to put out a thesis that they degenerated into long lists of names on gravestones, losing my interest both as a Jew and as a woman who has lived in Scotland.H

This book is an excellent read, full of information not readily available elsewhere. I say it's ground breaking because as DNA evidence is coming in from Scotland, Wales and England, the information in its pages is being corroborated. Many Scottish, Welsh and English families are finding out that many Jews came with William the Conqueror, and that they left a strong footprint in the most illustrious of families in Britain and in the foundation story of America.

This book was fascinating and appears to explain a number of discrepancies which appeared when they began conducting Melungon DNA.

When you open a book, only to find it its a complete story about your past ancestors, you become passionately attached. Especially, when it matches your DNA testing, family genealogy, and research. Dr. Elizabeth C. Hirschman is a great researcher. I believe and follow her ideas on how many came from the Iberian Lands and then up into the Isles. It matches my family history well. For some, these concepts of a "Jewish Scotland" may be hard to grasp, yet, the signs are in front of your eyes for those who believe. Very Much Appreciated, Dr. Ibrahim - "Brown Clan" of Scotland

I'm a descendant of one of the profiled families. This is a strange story, and I'm not sure I buy the entire premise, but it's interesting, to say the least. We've uncovered some truly strange chapters digging into our genealogy, and by now, nothing should surprise us. I hope other family members will read it, and will also get their dna analyzed. It's certainly food for thought.

Very interesting, but some sloppy research, e.g. map of Scotland, Bute, mull and Skye are islands, not part of mainland.

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