



# SCOTTISH TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA

## Origins of the Scottish Terrier

By Janet Tomlinson

We are lucky that there are so many wonderful books on the Scottish Terrier that preserves their history, which is rich with stories describing their loyalty to their master, their sense of humor and their extreme intelligence. The accounts of their love of the hunt, which includes determination, speed, and veracity of character are many. It is interesting to note that references to dogs similar in appearance to the Scottish Terrier can be found as far back as 600-500 B.C.

Scotland's dog history produced many terriers known today. These breeds include the Dandie Dinmont, the Cairn Terrier, the West Highland White Terrier, and Skye Terriers, all with prick ears. Early illustrations of these breeds give us an idea of the early versions of the Scottish Terrier and there is little doubt that several of these strains went into the making of the Scottish Terrier and visa-versa.



Scotland's landscape is a rough surface in many areas. The Scottish Terrier breed was established in Scotland and becoming one with its surroundings, being a tenacious hunter of vermin and going to ground to hunt.

Photo to left is a drawing by James Robertson, 1835, of Scotch terriers at work in the West Highlands of Scotland.

The Scottish Terrier breed was virtually unknown outside of the highlands until the late 1870's when English Army Captain W.W. Mackie imported to England the first dogs described as "Scottish Terriers."

I believe author and Scottie lover, Dorothy Gabriel's writing tell it best. The following is an excerpt from her treatise written at her kennel, Santa Kennels, in Epsom Downs sometime prior to 1928:

"In 1879 at the Alexandra Palace, the kennel Club's Show catered for two classes, one for each sex, and here they were desired as Hard-haired Scotch Terriers. The dog class produced nine entries and the bitch class six. Considering there were nine exhibitors, two only coming from Scotland, and the breed then was but little known in England, this was a good entry.

"At the Scottish Kennel Club Show in 1881 they were described as the Scottish Terriers, and in January, 1882, at the Scottish Metropolitan Show held at Waverley Market, Edinburgh, they called them Scotch Terriers. It would appear, therefore, that in the early eighties the name "Scotch Terrier" was more or less set and has been adhered to ever since.

"These game little terriers were bred for work in the Highlands and, strictly speaking, were on more workmanlike lines than as we know them today. The heads were shorter, more skully and snipey in muzzle, the backs were longer and the fronts not straight, indeed, the continuous cry for straight fronts is of fairly recent growth.

"The colors then were brindle of all shades to wheaten, but gray or iron brindle was the more sought after, the black which is so popular today being a made color and in no wise the original. White markings, except for a small patch on the chest (and this is not desirable) have always been taboo, though even to this day isolated cases of "white toes" do appear.

"In the past small dark eyes were not so imperative nor considered so acutely desirable. Light eyes and even eyes inclined to be full, were not condemned as they are today.

"The idea of character has not deviated and the keen, alert and sporting dog is as much desired now as it was forty years ago.


"One of the earliest dogs to make real history and to whom the majority of our best dogs of the present day could trace back their pedigrees is Roger Rough, owned by Mr. Adamson. He was without a pedigree and his date of birth is uncertain. His first win was at the Crystal Palace in 1880, followed by several wins at other shows. This dog was great-great-grandsire to the

Champion Rascal, who in turn was great-great-grandsire to Champion Seafield Rascal, whilst a history-making bitch, Splinter II, (By Comus ex Nimble), appears five times in the fourth generation behind Champion Rascal. Combined in the blood of Champion Rascal is Bonaccord, who being mated to Splinter II produced Rambler. Rambler in turn sired among others, Ashley Charley, Ch. Alister, Ch. Dundee, Florence (Dam of Highland Chief), Ch. Alisa II.

"Another dog in the early history who left his mark was Tartan, who mated to Splinter II, sired Worry, the dam of Ch. Dundee; thus any present-day breeder owning dogs in direct line to Ch. Seafield Rascal can know that their pedigrees go back in straight and clean line to these old and practically original pillars of the breed. It would appear that Ch. Seafield rather struck out a line for himself, inasmuch as he was of somewhat different type

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**ALBOURNE WHAT HO.** Facing page 16  
By Ch. ALBOURNE ARTHUR Dam ALBOURNE BUTTERS-COTCH

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from his forebears and built more on the lines of the present-day dogs. We can take it therefore that the type of the modern Scottish Terrier more or less originated with this dog, his influence on the breed being so strong that he set a lasting type. Seafield was reasonably inbred, his dam and grand dam in tail mail being own sisters. These two bitches carrying the St. Clair prefix rather stamped the small dark eyes and other good points on the breed, but it was said that a great deal of shyness came from them, therefore it is possible that to this day the unhappy trait, which alas! So often appears, may be traced back to these bitches. Although ancestresses of Ch. Seafield Rascal, no trace of shyness showed in him – a trim, bold, masculine dog teeming with terrier character.

“To bring history to our time (Somewhere before 1928) among southern-bred dogs – Ch. Seafield Rascal was sire of Bonaccord Jock (a dog too big to do much winning, even in the days when one Challenge Certificate made a Champion). Bonaccord Jock sired Laindon Lockhart, who in turn sired Laindon Lore and Laindon Laddie. Laindon Lore mated to Scricciolo (By Brockwell Jack ex Madre Tordo) sired Waterford Wagtail and Lorehart, this latter being the sire, among other winners, of Ch. Bobbie Burcott.


“Waterford Scricciolo, and among the Tattenham Treasure and Treasure was then mated and produced Miss Ardlui Alert. Among the Laindon Lore (who was day) were Paravane, Ch. Albourne Plaid, Santa

“Laindon Laddie and Laindon Loyal.

“The grand dam in tail female of Laindon Lore was Bonaccord Jewe by Camowen Laddie, whose sire was Seafield. Camowen Laddie mated to Carter Jean produced that great dog Ch. Ems Chevalier.

“A word must be said about Ch. Bapton Norman, who ranks amongst the greatest winners in Scottish Terriers. He was sired by Ch. Claymore Defender (by Claymore ex Mohr Dhu) out of Ch. Bonaccord Nora, a great and well-known bitch by Ch. Seafield Rascal ex Undercliffe Rosie. Bapton Noble, brother to Ch. Bapton Norman, was the sire of Bapton Minstrel, who, mated to Abertay Jessamine, produced Abertay Brigadier, sire of Ch. Laindon Luminary. Laindon Loyal (by Laindon Laddie), already mentioned sired Laindon Linn, who was the grandsire of Ch. Albourne Beetle from whom in straight line came Ch. Albourne Andy, Ch. Albourne Young Lochinvar and Ch. Albourne Arthur.

“It is quite impossible to be exhaustive in the matter of pedigree, but I have quote some well-known names of present day English dogs to show how directly they are bred from what may be termed the root – Roger Rough and Splinter II.”



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(by Ch. Laindon Luminary) ,, £1 : 11 : 6

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Wagtail was mated to his own dam, well-known progeny sired was Ch. Ch. Tattenham Treat. Ch. Tattenham back to her grandsire, Laindon Lore, Langton's Tattenham Truant, sire of Ch. many other well-known dogs sired by one of the best-known Stud Dogs of his Santa O'Shanta and Santa Fe (dam of Scarab and Santa Quest).  
sire Shanty (sire of Ch. Rothesay Shanty)