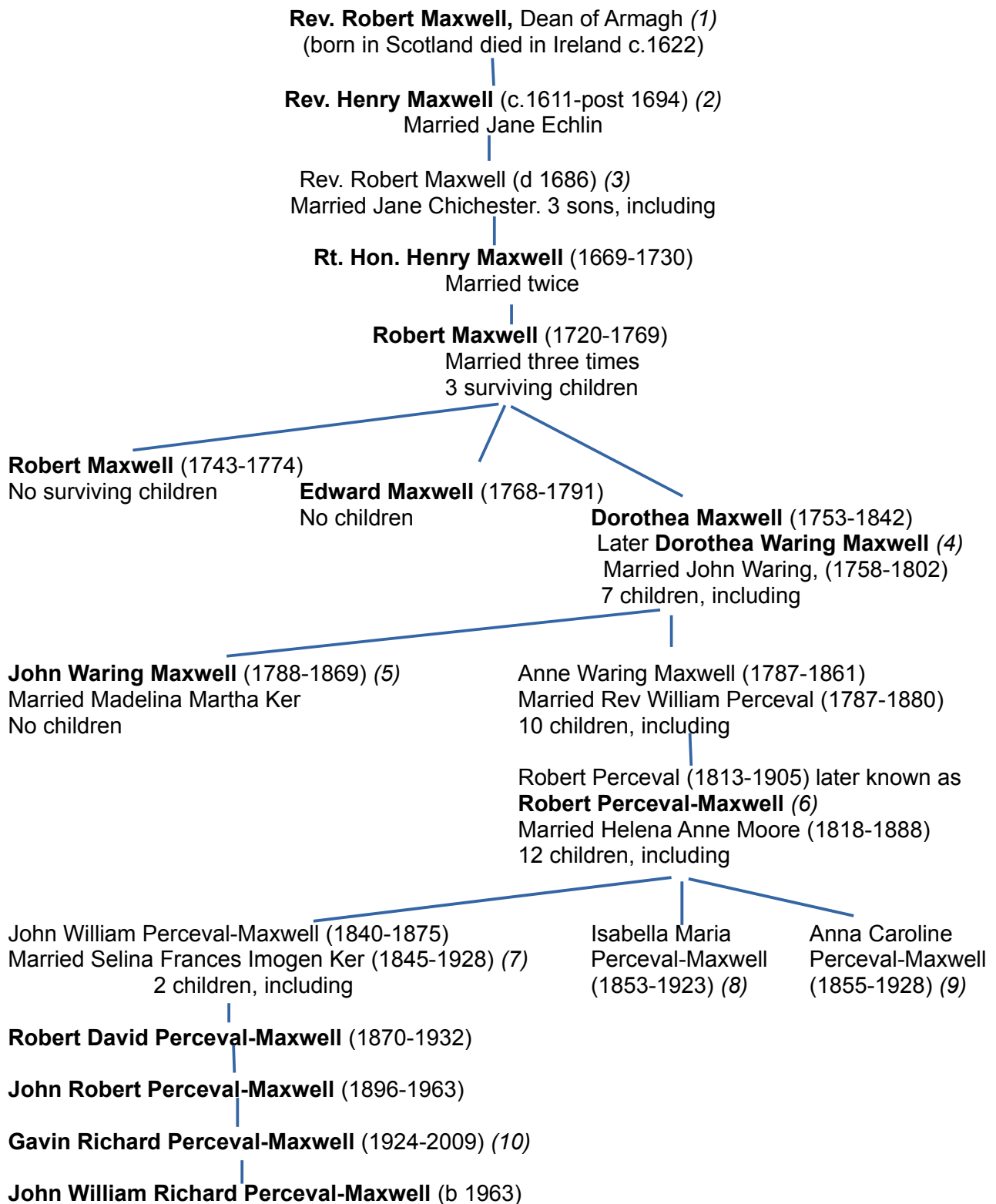


# The Maxwell / Waring Maxwell / Perceval-Maxwell family

## Simplified Family Tree / Line of Succession



The names of those in the line of succession are shown in **bold**.  
Numbers (x) are referred to in the notes.

## Notes

1 Rev. Robert Maxwell (d c.1621) was a younger son of Sir John Maxwell of Calderwood in Lanarkshire. He was to advance the “interests in Ireland” of King James VI of Scotland. He lived in the English Pale (probably County Meath) in the latter years of Queen Elizabeth’s reign.

2 In 1633, Thomas Cromwell, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Ardglass, granted John Echlin, of Inch, a mortgage-cum-lease of the four townlands of Inch, Ballyrennan, Dunnanelly and Mageracranmoney (2,593 acres). Sometime between 1633 and 1640, Echlin, who had moved to Ardquin, near Portaferry, assigned the mortgage to Rev. Henry Maxwell, along with the adjoining townland of Finnebrogue. The mortgage was to have been paid off by 1694 but Maxwell paid it off in 1680. Finnebrogue House was built in the 1660s.

3 In 1674, Rev. Robert Maxwell (d 1886) purchased over 4500 acres of land in the Barony of Ards from Henry Hamilton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Clanwilliam. The eight townlands purchased were Groomsport, Balloo, Ballycroghan, Ballyholme, Ballymaconnell, Ballymagee, Ballygrainey and Gransha. This land was more than half of the land the Maxwells owned in County Down. Robert Maxwell was survived by his father. Robert’s son, Henry, inherited the Groomsport estate from his father, Robert, and the Finnebrogue estate from his grandfather, when he died.

4 Dorothea Waring (née Maxwell) (1753-1842) succeeded her brothers, Robert and Edward Maxwell, in 1792. The Waring family name was informally changed to Waring Maxwell at that time and formally, by royal licence, in 1803.

5 John Waring Maxwell (1788-1869) contributed to the development of Groomsport. He provided the land for the building of Groomsport Church in 1842 and contributed to the cost of the building and he built Groomsport House in 1849. John Waring Maxwell was also instrumental in having a lifeboat based at Groomsport and he provided the land for the Boathouse.

6 Robert Perceval changed his name, by royal licence, before his marriage in 1839, to Robert Perceval-Maxwell recognising that, as the heir of his childless uncle (John Waring Maxwell), he would inherit the Maxwell estates. The Perceval-Maxwell surname was used by all his children and by all the children of his sons.

He lived in Groomsport House from about 1849 until he inherited the estates in 1869 and moved to live at Finnebrogue. In 1856 he caused controversy by attempting to build a wall that would prevent the public using the coastal path that passed Groomsport House.

He built the Maxwell Hall in 1893 and gifted the harbour to Down County Council in 1901.

7 Selina Perceval-Maxwell was the widow of Robert's eldest son, John William, who died in 1875. From the 1880s, until her death in 1928, she lived in The Lodge, opposite the Parish Church.

8 and 9 Two of Robert's unmarried daughters – Isabella Maria and Anna Caroline – lived in Groomsport House, at least from 1905 until their deaths in 1923 and 1928, and were known as “the Misses Perceval-Maxwell”. They took an active interest in village life and were the Trustees of the Maxwell Hall.

10 Gavin Perceval-Maxwell was the last member of the family to live in Groomsport House before it was sold in 1968. Finnebrogue House and estate were sold in 1996.

Peter Gibson  
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