

# IONA

## The ancient ecclesiastical capital of Dalriada and of the 'Royal Family of MacDonald', 1200 - 1500.

THIS IS A THOROUGHLY CLAN DONALD CENTRIC ACCOUNT.

AS IT OUGHT TO BE.

- ❖ HIBERNIA'S 'SCOTTI' WERE THE FUNDAMENTAL FOUNDATION TO DALRIADA, IONA, CLAN DONALD and the CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND CHRISTIANITY OF 'ALBA'
- ❖ BUT, A FOUNDATION IS NOT A VIABLE CONTINUUM WITHOUT THE MANY BUILDING BLOCKS AND STRONG, INDIVIDUAL CORNER STONES THAT MAKE UP THE UNIQUE NATIONAL IDENTITY OF TODAY'S SCOTLAND.
- ❖ FROM 1207 TO 1493, THE EARLY CLAN DONALD AND ITS CHIEFS, THE LORDS OF THE ISLES WERE ENTIRELY CENTRAL TO IONA ABBEY'S WHOLE MEDIEVAL EXISTENCE, DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICS. IN ALL BUT NAME, ST MARY'S WAS CLAN DONALD'S CATHEDRAL OF THE ISLES, c.1480.
- ❖ THIS ENDURING MACDONALD PHASE EQUALS THE 300 YEAR PERIOD OF PRIMARY COLUMBAN MONASTICISM. IT IS PARAMOUNT IN PROVIDING THE SOLE WITNESS TO IONA'S EXTANT ARCHITECTURE AND IS A PRINCIPAL WITNESS TO THE SURVIVING MONUMENTS.
- ❖ THE CULT OF SAINTS, BODY PART RELICS, THE DOCTRINES OF PURGATORY AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER (AND EVISCERATION, "HEART BURIAL") WERE TO PROFOUNDLY SHAPE THE BURIAL RITES OF THE CLAN DONALD LORDS OF THE ISLES – OF THE 'BODY POLITIC.'

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