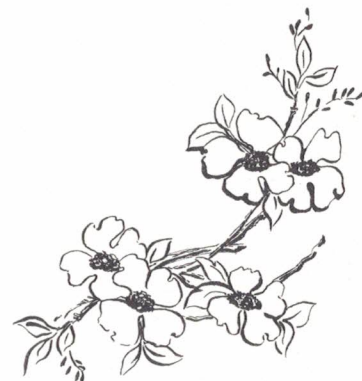


The Missing MacNaberries

**Typed descriptions from
Tom Flett/ Elizabeth Sutorius/ Hugh Thurston and others**

***T05 Double Sword Dance
For Two Dancers***

Intro + Strathspey + Reel



MARY ISDALE MACNAB

SCOTLAND
1889

CANADA
1966

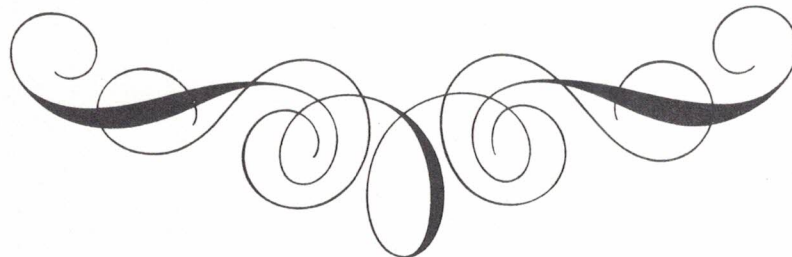
Mary Isdale MacNab, born in Glasgow, Scotland, came to Vancouver, B.C. Canada in 1907 with her family. She began teaching Highland dancing in 1910 and was still actively teaching within two months of her death in November, 1966. She trained hundreds of dancers during her career, among them many, many champions. She will be best remembered for her more recent accomplishments.

A number of dances from her collection of Ancient Highland Dances were presented by her group of dancers, the B.C. Highland Lassies of Vancouver, Canada, at the Edinburgh Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle in 1964. The girls then appeared as featured dancers with the Columbia Festival Royal Marines on their tour of the United States and Canada in 1966, and performed in Ottawa, Canada, in 1967 during the visit of H. M. Queen Elizabeth. These performances of the dances from this collection led to further acclaim and recognition for the dances, the collector and the Lassies.

Mrs. MacNab's dances were collected over fifty years of research. She explored historical records and challenged the memories of friends and acquaintances in Scotland. She continued her search as she probed into recollections of descendants of the Scottish Highlanders who had emigrated to the United States and Canada. In this way she was able to bring these dances back. Without her diligent search over the years, these dances would have been lost to us.

It had been only in this decade that Mrs. MacNab was persuaded to compile her notes for publication. We are indebted to Dr. Hugh Thurston, of the University of British Columbia, an authority on the dances of Scotland, for his help. His untiring efforts, as he worked directly with Mrs. MacNab and carried on after her death, have made the reproduction of these dances possible. We are grateful too, to Miss Joan Frazer, the present spokesman for the B.C. Highland Lassies, for her help and theirs in the preparation of these dances for print.

Mrs. MacNab left all records, rights and title to her collection of dances to her niece, Mrs. Elizabeth Sutorius, of San Diego, California, who intends to make the dances from this famed collection available to teachers of Highland dancing throughout the world, thus establishing a living memorial to this wonderful lady.



Scottish Dance Teacher's Alliance
Notes from December 1969

Double Sword Dance may not be attributed to Mary MacNab

THE BROADSWORDS OF LOCHIEL, collected by Mary MacNab of Vancouver Canada was also demonstrated by Miss Strathern and Miss C. Robertson. Mrs. MacNab's collection of Scottish Dances were left to her niece and are now in print. Obtainable from Mrs. E. Sutorius, 5020 Hawley Blvd., San Diego, California 92116, U.S.A.

DOUBLE SWORD DANCE

Lecturer - Miss E.G. Strathern.

A dance for two over double hilts, dancers standing at top and bottom facing each other.

Music - Gillie Chaluim

Introduction and Bow.

1st Step: 1st Step of the Sword Dance "Addressing the Swords."

2nd Step: Top dancer does 2nd Step of the Sword Dance at positions 1 and 3 whilst second dancer does 6 Pas de Basque prior to Spring Point Turn. At positions 2 and 4 first dancer executes the 6 Pas de Basque whilst the second dancer executes the 2nd Step of the Sword Dance. At last Spring Point make 3/8th turn by right ready for next step.

3rd Step: 3rd Step in Sword Dance, inside hands joined and raised. Finish with High Cuts, facing each other.

4th Step: 4th Step of the Sword Dance, finishing ready for Open Pas de Basque.

QUICK TEMPO: Dancers join inside hands and dance the 1st Quick Step of the Sword Dance but substituting 4 Spring Points over blade in the 4th Bar. On last Bar, either dance outwith 4 Backsteps or 4 High Cut