

Paterson

Hamish Constable

1890 - 1955

His Life

James Constable Paterson was born on 1st February 1890 in Moniaive, Glencairn Parish, Dumfriesshire. He was always known as Hamish.

His father was James Paterson (1854 - 1932), a landscape and portrait painter.

His mother was Eliza Grier Ferguson (born 1856 Crossford, Lanarkshire)

The family lived at Killniess, Moniaive.

In 1901, his parents were still in Moniaive but Hamish and his brother Quentin were boarding pupils at Ryley's School, Alderley Edge, Cheshire.

In 1905 and aged 15 he left school and was working for an architect in Edinburgh.

By 1910 he was working for J. Ballantyne, a stained glass window designer, but also attending Edinburgh College of Art.

When war broke out, he enlisted in the 11th Royal Highlanders (The Black Watch). He sustained severe injuries to his hands and by the end of the war he was Private 2164 serving with the 9th Royal Scots. After the war, despite his damaged hands, he still painted and he had an exhibition of his paintings in Bond Street, London. He then lived in France for some time concentrating on painting landscapes.

He became an accomplished portrait painter and was in demand from wealthy families.

In the 1920s he visited Gatehouse when his friends, the authoress Dorothy L. Sayers and her husband Mac Fleming, were staying at the Anwoth Hotel. Mac Fleming, Hamish, and another artist friend, Alick Sturrock were known for their loud parties in the Anwoth. Even with damaged hands, Hamish managed to play the piano for their singalongs. He lived at 38 St Cuthbert St. Kirkcudbright at this time.

He painted a picture of the Anwoth Hotel and in 1932 gave Greta and Ralph Stark, who lived across the road from the Anwoth Hotel, in Bridge House, a portrait of Great that he had painted.

In 1950 he married Isabella Mackenzie Campbell at Morningside, Edinburgh.

In 1953 he was living in Moniaive.

Hamish C. Paterson died in Dumfries in 1955.



Hamish in Black Watch uniform



Self Portrait : ex National Galleries of Scotland

His Work

The links below lead to websites which contain biographical details and paintings by this artist. When you have viewed the contents, remember to use your browser's "back" button to return to this page.

[In the Artist's Footsteps](#)

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Greta Stark



The Duchess of Atholl : ex Perth & Kinross Council



“Ardwell Island” : ex Hunterian Museum

N.B. This painting is of Ardwall Island which is near Carrick Bay, Ardwell is in Wigtownshire.