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INTERNET ARCHIVE

Summary

Source: Records of the Scots Colleges
Assisted by: Claude AI
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RECORDS OF THE SCOTS COLLEGES · PRINTED SOURCE SUMMARY

Archibald Fleming at Douai, 1725

Son of Archibald Fleming and Elizabeth Hamilton; later Brother Bruno, Carthusian at Nieuport

Record details

Source	Records of the Scots Colleges at Douai, Rome, Madrid, Valladolid and Ratisbon, vol. I (Aberdeen: New Spalding Club, 1906)
Section	Douai Diary: the register of students admitted to the Scots College at Douai
Entry	No. 605, under the year 1725, page 74
Date of entry	8 August 1725
Language	Latin
Online	Internet Archive scan (catalogued there as Cosmo Innes, Memoir of Thomas Thomson)

The entry as printed

74 SCOTS COLLEGES.

605. 8 Aug. **Archibaldus Fleming,** ex patre Archibaldo et matre Elizabetha Hamilton, 12 annorum. E rhetorica circa Pascham 1731 factus est Carthusianus apud Anglos Neoporti, frater Bruno dictus.

Records of the Scots Colleges, vol. I, p. 74 (detail from the Internet Archive scan).

Transcript

Copied from the printed page with its line breaks, spelling and abbreviations. The name is printed in bold type. The year heading 1725 stands on page 73, above entry no. 603.

605. 8 Aug. **Archibaldus Fleming**, ex patre Archibaldo et matre
Elizabetha Hamilton, 12 annorum. E rhetorica circa Pascham
1731 factus est Carthusianus apud Anglos Neoporti, frater
Bruno dictus.

Translation

605. 8 August [1725]. Archibald Fleming, son of Archibald [his father] and Elizabeth Hamilton [his mother], aged 12. From the class of rhetoric, about Easter 1731, he became a Carthusian among the English at Nieuport, called Brother Bruno.

Summary

- **Who:** Archibald Fleming, son of Archibald Fleming and Elizabeth Hamilton.
- **Admitted:** to the Scots College at Douai on 8 August 1725, aged 12, so born between about August 1712 and August 1713.
- **Studies:** the humanities course up to rhetoric, its highest class. He would have been about 18 when he left.
- **Vocation:** about Easter 1731 he became a Carthusian monk with the English community at Nieuport (Nieuwpoort) in Flanders, taking the name Brother Bruno after St Bruno, founder of the order.

As far as is known, the English Carthusians of Sheen were settled in exile at Nieuport from the 1620s until their house was suppressed in 1783. That is general background, not part of the entry.

Details that may help identify him

The register does not say “of Ferme” or name a baronet, so the identification below rests on the names and dates.

- ex patre Archibaldo et matre Elizabetha Hamilton: Sir Archibald Fleming, 3rd baronet of Ferme, married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir George Hamilton of Binny, by contract of 3 August 1692 (Sigma, Notes and Queries, 7th S. i. 116).
- 12 annorum on 8 August 1725: born about 1712-13, shortly before Sir Archibald's death on 14 April 1714.
- Archibaldus: under the usual Scottish naming pattern the eldest son took his paternal grandfather's name (William) and the second son his father's (Archibald). That fits Sir William, 4th baronet, as the elder son and heir, and Archibald as the younger.
- Douai: the Dinwiddie manuscript says “The youngest son went to France”. Douai had been French since 1667.

- Carthusianus apud Anglos Neoporti, frater Bruno dictus: his name in religion, Brother Bruno, and his community, the English Carthusians at Nieuport, are the leads for any later record of him.

Points to check

- **The America story:** Sigma reported from the Dinwiddie manuscript that this son settled in America and left descendants. A Carthusian lived enclosed and celibate, so unless Archibald later left the order, that story probably belongs to someone else or is a family embellishment.
- **Religion:** the Scots College at Douai was for Catholic boys. A son of a Protestant Glasgow baronet being sent there the year after his father's death suggests Catholic connections on his mother's side, or among whoever had charge of the children. The entry says nothing of religion or guardians.
- **Profession and death:** “factus est Carthusianus” records his entry into the order. It does not say when he made his vows or when he died.
- **The date of leaving:** “circa Pascham 1731” is approximate, “about Easter”.

Where to look next

- Records of the English Carthusians at Nieuport, for his profession and death. Some have been published, for example by the Catholic Record Society.
- The Douai Diary's introduction in the same volume, for how and by whom entries were made.
- Other Flemings in the volume's index: Abbot Placid Fleming of Ratisbon, an Earl of Wigtown (p. 10), and a Charles Fleming of 1689 (p. 60).

Source

Records of the Scots Colleges at Douai, Rome, Madrid, Valladolid and Ratisbon, vol. I (Aberdeen: New Spalding Club, 1906), Douai Diary, no. 605, p. 74. Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/memoirthomastho01innegoog/page/n91/mode/2up?q=fleming

Transcribed and translated from the printed volume, 12 October 2026. The original Douai register has not been examined.