

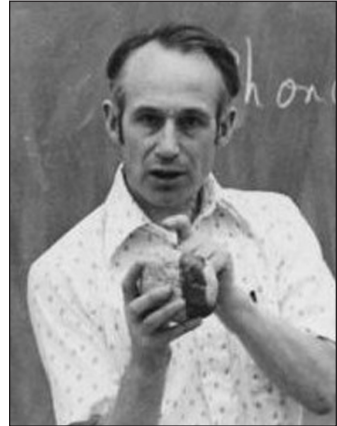
# Memorial to Donald Bertram McIntyre (1923–2009)

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Donald McIntyre died on 21 October 2009 at Scone, near Perth, Scotland; he was 86. Donald was born in Edinburgh on 15 August 1923 the son of Reverend R.E. McIntyre, a minister in the Church of Scotland, and Mary Darling McIntyre. Donald received his elementary education at George Watson's College, Edinburgh, and at Grantown Grammar School in the Scottish Highlands. His interest in geology was certainly stimulated by living, as a teenager, close to the Cairngorm Mountains and through his involvement in mountaineering, especially with the famous climber W.H. Murray.

Donald attended Edinburgh University and was granted a BSc (hon) in geology in 1945, going on to earn his Ph.D. in 1947 and a DSc in 1951. At the university, he came under the influence of the renowned professor Arthur Holmes, now recognized as one of the most influential British geologists of the twentieth century. Holmes, noting Donald's talents, gave him the opportunity to study for a year at the University of Neuchâtel with professor C. Eugene Wegmann. Wegmann's work on the structure of the Alps further educated Donald for his work on the Scottish Highlands.



Donald was a lecturer in petrology at Edinburgh from 1948 to 1954 when he was enticed to Pomona College in Claremont, California, to begin his new career in the New World.

In 1957, Donald was married to Ann Alexander of Moffat by Donald's father at Morningside High Church in Edinburgh. To this union was born Ranald Ewen McIntyre in 1961.

At Pomona, Donald advanced from associate professor to professor in 1957, then to a Wig Distinguished Professorship in 1978, and to the Seaver Professor of Science in 1986; from 1955 to 1984 he was chairman of Pomona's outstandingly well-equipped geology department. With background from his studies in Switzerland and his studies on the origin of granite, Donald's interests were diverse but focused mainly on global tectonics, structural geology, geochemistry, and the use of computers in geology and the history of geology. Donald became the biographer and authority on the Scottish geologist James Hutton, founder of modern geology. Donald chronicled Hutton's life and times and thoroughly enjoyed escorting visitors to Hutton's classic localities.

Donald was an excellent teacher, receiving several teaching awards at Pomona College, and was also named California Professor of the Year by the governor in 1985. He was never happier than when he was teaching a student or collaborating with colleagues.

As a speaker he had no equal and was in high demand. He gave more than 100 lectures (mostly invited) all over the world from Australia to the United States. He was on the lecture circuit for several geological and computer organizations. He gave all of these invited lectures and keynote addresses in addition to his regular teaching at Pomona.

Donald's publication record speaks for itself. He wrote on a gauntlet of subjects from computer languages and programming to geology and history. Many of these results were made possible through support from research scholarships and fellowships including the Cross Research Fellowship that funded his year in Neuchâtel (1948); the Daniel Pigeon Award from the Geological Society of London (1951); the Fulbright Award at the University of California, Berkeley (1952); and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, Edinburgh (1969–1970). His career progressed through field geology to the application of quantitative methods and computers to the history of geology.

Donald was active in several organizations and served on many committees and panels. He was a fellow of the Geological Society of America, Royal Society of Edinburgh, California Academy of Sciences, Edinburgh Geological Society, and American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was a member of the New York Academy of Science, Geologists' Association (London), Sigma Xi, International Association for Mathematical Geology, National Association of Geology Teachers, Association for Computing Machinery, and an Honorary Life Member of the British APL (A Programming Language) Association.

He was recognized for his contributions and received several awards during his active career. In addition to scholarships, fellowships, and teaching awards, he received a medal from the Geological Society of China, and the Kenneth E. Iverson award from the ACM SIGAPL (Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on A Programming Language).

In 1989, Donald retired at Pomona College and returned to Scotland. His family made their home first at Kinfauns, Perthshire, and then moved to Beaumont House in Perth. In retirement he was made an honorary fellow at both the University of Edinburgh and the University of Saint Andrews and took leadership roles in several local civic organizations including, appropriately, becoming the honorary archivist of the Scottish Mountaineering Club.

Donald is survived by Ann, his lifelong companion and supporter, and their son, Ewen, of Perth, Scotland. A few days before Donald died, a piper played him the tune, "Professor Donald McIntyre" that had been composed in his honor some years before—a long lasting and farewell tribute.

Donald McIntyre was a geologist, scholar, writer, lecturer, computer expert, mountaineer, and piper; he truly was a renaissance man. He will be missed by his family, friends, and colleagues.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I want to thank Ann McIntyre for additional information and for clarifying some of my remembrances.

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