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Images from Lyon & Turnbull: <https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/vu5K0k010J>

TRUST CONFIRMS CULLODEN PIECES SAVED FOR NATION

Conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland is adding a cannonball and two silver beakers to its collection at the Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre, after successfully bidding for them at auction.

The items were part of Lyon & Turnbull's recent Scotland Collected sale which took place in August.

Thanks to the support of a generous donor, the National Trust for Scotland bought the iron cannonball which is set with a silver collar with moulded rim and engraved in script 'Ogilvy Culloden 16th April 1746' for £18,900.

The charity also purchased a pair of French silver stacking beakers, featuring the coat of Arms of Ogilvy, with Earl of Airlie marked to the base and an engraved armorial for Colonel David, Lord Ogilvy, a member of Prince Charles Edward Stuart's privy council, for £17,640.

The pieces were owned by the Earls of Airlie who not only fought at the battle but have long links to the conservation charity.

The news comes as the charity's Annual General Meeting takes place in Inverness on Friday 19 September.

The National Trust for Scotland's Curator for the Highlands and Islands, Rosalyn Goulding said: "This was an exceptional opportunity to secure some exciting additions for the Trust's collection at Culloden. These pieces are very special and thanks to the support of a generous donor, we were able to secure them at auction and save them for the nation."

Specialists in Edinburgh are currently preparing the cannonball and beakers for display. They will then feature in an exhibition at Montrose Museum, about Angus and the Jacobites, before going on permanent display at the Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre in winter 2026.

Operations Manager Gail Cleaver said: "These fantastic pieces with their incredible connection to the Battle of Culloden will help us tell the story of Culloden in an even more compelling way. Visitors are always fascinated by any item that was on the battlefield. And coming from the Earls of Airlie, in Angus, it reminds us that it was not just those from the Highlands and Islands who were involved in the fighting, but that many from all over Scotland, and beyond, played a part in this pivotal battle."

David Ogilvy (1725–1803), 6th Earl of Airlie, supported the Jacobite cause and joined the standard of Prince [Charles Edward Stuart](#) in 1745. After [Culloden](#), he escaped to Scandinavia, then served in the French army. He was pardoned in 1778 and thereafter allowed to return to Scotland. His wife Margaret joined the Jacobite camp at Glasgow and shared all the dangers of the campaign with her husband until just before Culloden. She was taken prisoner at Inverness, and sent to Edinburgh, but managed to escape in November 1746 and join her husband in France.

David Ogilvy, 13th Earl of Airlie, served as the President of the National Trust for Scotland from 1997–2002. During his tenure, the conservation charity added some sites of great beauty to its portfolio, including [Crarae Garden](#) and [Mingulay, Pabbay & Berneray](#).

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Notes to Editors:

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About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.