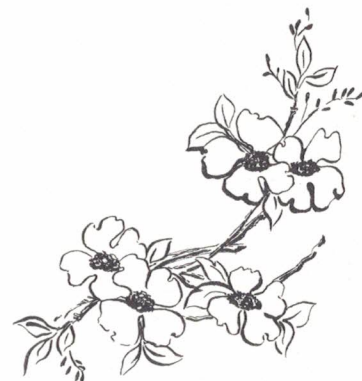


## **The Missing MacNaberries**

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

***T14 Waltz Cotillion  
For Four Couples in a Square Set***

***(32+3x80b) Waltz***



**MARY ISDALE MACNAB**

SCOTLAND  
1889

CANADA  
1966

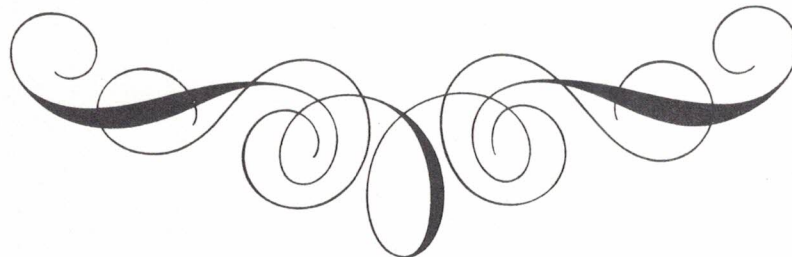
Mary Isdale MacNab, born in Glasgow, Scotland, came to Vancouver, B.C. Canada in 1907 with her family. She began teaching Highland dancing in 1910 and was still actively teaching within two months of her death in November, 1966. She trained hundreds of dancers during her career, among them many, many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



WALTZ COTILLION

- Music: Any waltzes.
- Formation: Four couples in a square, as for the eightsome reel.
- Step: Pas-de-valse except where otherwise indicated.

FIGURE I

- Bars 1-2 Each woman dances to the man of the couple on her left,
- 3-4 and they balance,
- 5-8 and turn *with both hands*.
- 9-16 Each woman repeats these movements with her own partner.
- 17-32 Each couple waltzes anticlockwise round the set. At the end, partners acknowledge each other with a slight inclination of the head.

FIGURE II

- Bar 1 The first couple, with nearer hands joined, dance a pas-de-valse forward (the man starting with his left foot, the woman with her right),
- 2 and, turning towards each other and changing hands, dance another pas-de-valse. They finish this in the centre of the set facing their original place.
- 3 Each steps back on the free foot (beat 1) and closes the other to it (beat 3).
- 4 As bar 3.
- 5-8 Repeat bars 1-4 back to places.
- 9-16 They dance forward through the opposite couple. They let go hands, and the man dances anticlockwise round the opposite woman, while the woman dances clockwise round the opposite man. They join nearer hands and dance (forwards) back to place.

Waltz Cotillion

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- Bars 17-64 Couples 2, 3, and 4 repeat this.  
65-80 As Figure I, bars 17-32.

FIGURE III

- Bars 1-4 Each man, taking his partner's left hand in his right, hands her into the centre of the set, where she faces him.
- 5-8 The women, letting go of their partners, join hands in a ring, facing out, and dance round clockwise until each faces the man on her partner's right.
- 9-12 Each woman dances clockwise round the man she is facing and
- 13-16 turns him with two hands, ending beside him in the square.
- 17-64 Repeat this three more times.
- 65-80 As Figure I, bars 17-32.

FIGURE IV

- Bars 1-16 Couple 1 face couple 2 and they dance the first 16 bars of "Waltz country dance". Meanwhile the others do as much.
- 17-20 Everyone joins hands in a ring and dances towards the centre and back.
- 21-24 Releasing hands, each man turns the woman on his left with both hands so that he changes places with her.
- 25-32 Repeat bars 21-24 three more times.
- 33-48 As Figure 1, bars 17-32, but finishing by each dancer acknowledging the dancer on the other side of him from his partner. (Dancers finish this figure in their original places.)

Waltz Cotillion

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- 49-64 All dance a grand chain, starting by giving right hand to the person just acknowledged.
- 65-80 As Figure 1, bars 17-32, but ending with a formal bow and courtesy to partner.

(Dance collected by Mary Isdale (Mrs. Allan McNab) of Vancouver, B.C.)