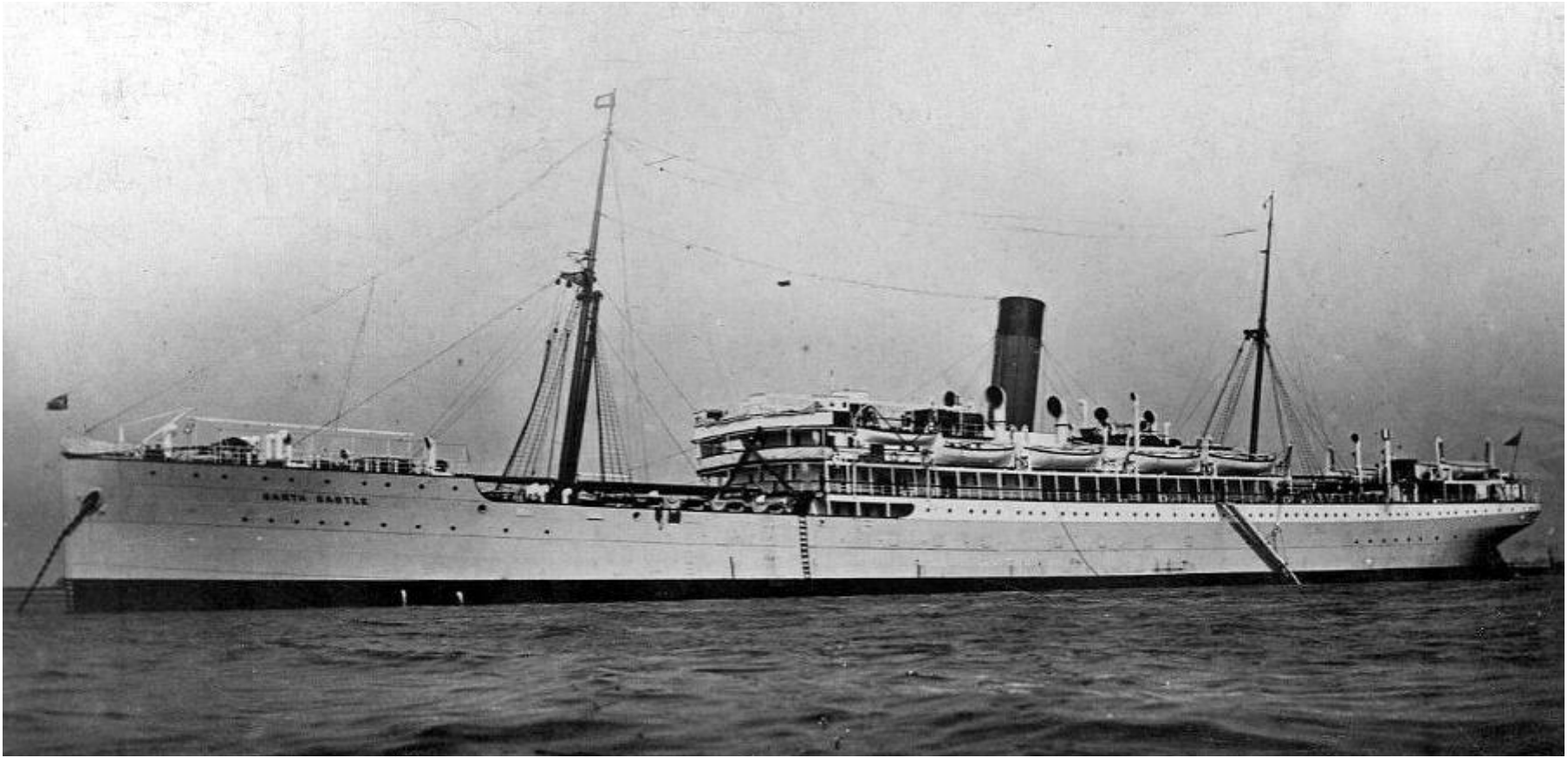


LINKLATER FAMILY OF GARTH



GARTH CASTLE was built in 1910 by Barclay, Curle & Co. at Glasgow with a tonnage of 7612grt, a length of 452ft 7in, a beam of 54ft 4in and a service speed of 13 knots.

Sister of the *Grantully Castle* she spent most of her career on the Intermediate service.

In 1915 she was requisitioned by the Royal Navy for use as a supply ship and moving naval personnel to places like Scapa Flow where they would join their ships.

She was later used as a hospital ship and on 24th June 1917, during a fleet inspection, the surgeons and nursing staff were presented to HM King George V.

She was broken up in 1939 .

David Linklater, Boatswain, H.M. Hospital ship *Garth Castle*. Garth, South Nesting.

William Linklater, Seaman, R.N.R. *HMT Loch Broom*. Garth, South Nesting.

George Linklater, Gunner, Royal Garrison Artillery. Garth, South Nesting.

Their parents were James Linklater and Elizabeth Williamson. They had four sisters (one of whom died in August 1893 aged 12), and two other brothers, the oldest son died in February 1900 aged 22 and another died in May 1900 aged 14.



A pair of 8-inch howitzers of the Royal Garrison Artillery, 1917

From 1914 when the army possessed very little heavy artillery, the RGA grew into a very large component of the British forces on the battlefield, being armed with heavy, large-calibre guns and howitzers that were positioned some way behind the front line and had immense destructive power.

The 8-inch howitzer had a range of about 12,300 yards (11.24 km), and fired a 200-lb (90.8kg) shell. Most heavy artillery weapons were used by units of the Royal Garrison Artillery, whereas the Royal Field Artillery tended to use lighter guns that were mobile.