

THE BASICS OF HERALDRY FOR ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE.....

.....YOUR DESCENDANT HERITAGE

Part I: What is Heraldry?

Part II: What Are the Basics of Heraldry?

Compiled by

Mrs. Florence Hutchison

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FOREWORD

"The contractor must gather together the bricks, the boards, the sand and cement that will go to the construction of the building; -- and that is what the student of heraldry must do, too. He has to muster the material, the menagerie, the agricultural and botanical specimens that are the elements of the art, -- but the alchemical magicianship in the skilled combination of these makes the labour of their garnering, and the conformation to the discipline of their geometry, a very cheap purchase price for an intrinsic and eternal treasure." Julian Franklyn, *Heraldry*, p. 22; 1971 ed.

Your President voluntarily contracted to gather the "bricks, board, sand and cement" - representing the Basics of Heraldry, so that the members of our Jacksonville Area Genealogical Society would have a good foundation upon which to enter into that fantastic realm of knowledge and understanding of our ancestral achievements and history that evolves around heraldry. I want to stress the close connection between heraldry and genealogy so strongly that each member will be inspired to "try his or her hand" at trying to understand its complicated design and language.

I have laboured many hours of many days, after my initial lecture at the November meeting which was so very well received, striving "to put it all together". It has been very difficult and time consuming. It has required the application of a lot of art techniques, as well as a lot of composing, and re-composing in order to make the language as "tight" as possible - yet clear - a workbook that tries to answer a beginner's question "What is Heraldry?"

I quite agree with Franklyn that the magicianship required in the skilled combination of these, has made "the labour of their garnerings," and "the conformation to the discipline of their geometry" a cheap price for such an intrinsic and eternal treasure that is mine - the tremendous knowledge that I now have on the subject of heraldry, after so much research.

It is a pleasure to present the members of our Society with this unique illuminated outline of the A B C's of Heraldry. There is none other like it, because the ones in libraries are all written by professional men who are presenting technical knowledge. While they do explain some basics, they are not aiming it toward beginners in genealogy. I hope that "my" beginners will force themselves to read every word of it - even if it seems beyond understanding. Now, a dark looking-glass; one that will happily clear with Time.

It will be like Alice in Wonderland who took that long adventure with all those peculiar characters on the other side of her looking-glass, only to find that after that wonderful trip she was right back in her own home beside her own familiar fireplace - but what fantastic experiences she had in the meantime!

I envy those of you away from here who are close to magnificent libraries where you will be looking at interesting heraldry books not within my reach. How I enjoyed my afternoon at Southern Illinois University Library, Edwardsville campus, on December 3rd - the 155th anniversary of Illinois statehood. It was my pleasure to present two lectures on "The Flags of the United States and Illinois" to two Social Studies classes there. Then I spent a happy afternoon in the Lovejoy library. There were numerous books on heraldry in the Reading Room, and many more in the stacks I did not get to see.

Take my advice - keep your dictionary at your fingertips, and look up any word you can't pronounce, spell, etc. Soon you will be as conversant with the subject of heraldry, as you are of your family worksheets! Remember? you were once a beginner in genealogy too! Happy ancestor hunting, Mrs. Florence Hutchison, President of the Jacksonville Area Genealogical Society. P.O.Box 21, Jacksonville ILL 62650 December 1973.

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Good luck with your ancestral arms hunting -- your heritage!

WHY STUDY HERALDRY?

FLORENCE HUTCHISON

"It is in and through symbols that man consciously or unconsciously lives, moves, and has his being. Those ages, moreover, are accounted the noblest which can best recognise symbolical worth and prize it at the highest."

--Carlyle.

Why study heraldry? The simple answer --- it is recorded genealogy under a legal system of transmittal to qualified descendants. It is a rich source of ancestral knowledge for you to explore. It is the heritage of your descendancy.

Who should study heraldry? YOU - a family history seeker - the beginner in genealogy.

Why? Heraldry is historic - at least 800 years - with basic and specific rules for composition, usage, and reproduction. It is an international code system of those early centuries, which language can still be read and interpreted today. It is at once:

1. A science
2. An art for composing meaningful design for historical and genealogical reference
3. A set of social practices of the European nations (and since it was virtual slavery for the masses, was the reason many persons escaped the social system by coming to the New World)
4. A way of registering men who fought for their country in olden times
5. A device for honoring men who fought valiantly for their country, or gave other honorable service to their nation
6. A legal device for identifying family of noble birth and Royal descent
7. A genealogical device for tracing ancestral lineage,
8. A "footprint on the Sands of Time", as a monument to the deceased, his accomplishments, or standing in society.

These heraldic devices are to be found not only on cemetery tombs, but in cathedrals, official palaces, ancestral homes, houses of government, on official documents, in published family histories, on family pictures, and in unpublished family collections passed down from generation to generation. Wherever a shield is found it represents a man who lived - and passed a name on for a future genealogist to discover.

One of the best reasons for studying the principles and practices of heraldry, and a closely related subject - Christian art symbolism - is for European travel enjoyment of the art and architectural design you will be viewing in Cathedrals and government buildings, and in cemeteries.

Heraldry is a fascinating discipline, and a very important facet of genealogy. It might be employed as a useful tool whereby a family-seeker may research and find his ancestral lineage in a foreign country, once he makes the break-through past his present two or three generations to pre-American Revolutionary times. Through this method he may then be able to identify to

to the original European country from whence his ancestors emigrated. One of the reasons for this timing is that the eldest son usually inherited the family estate, and right to his father's coat-of-arms. Younger sons tended to emigrate in order to find new land to build an estate for themselves and their posterity. They could use their father's arms, but with "differencing", depending upon the order of their birth, as heraldry provides a special sign for each one.

The reason more beginning family historians have not considered this facet of research is that heraldry is shrouded in mysterious descriptive language, peculiar design, and weird latin mottoes, all foreign to our present way of life and speaking. The only familiar thing is the surname we share with some one out of the past, which is attached to a particular design we come across, either in a published family history, a heraldry book, or from some skilled painter who sends us information that he can supply us with a coat-of-arms for our family name for a specified price. But you will note that he never guarantees that it is yours "proven".

Is there anything wrong with hanging an heraldic device on our walls?
- or possessing it?

To listen to the comments of more-advanced genealogists who oppose the purchasing of such devices, one draws the conclusion that it must be a bad practice. But aren't these genealogists being like the ostrich who traditionally (but not in fact) "hides his head in the sand" when he comes upon a situation with which he cannot cope nor explain satisfactorily for the masses to understand. Yes - legally, it is "against the law" for any person to usurp the coat-of-arms of any registered heraldic device for which he is not heir, just as it is against the law for anyone to usurp any design that has been patented in the United States Patent Office.

However, there is no law against collecting such devices for a collection for further study. J. A. Reynolds states a more realistic view: "As a matter of fact, you have a legal right to put anything on your walls, especially if it is properly labeled. You might, if you wished, hang up the arms of the King of Siam; or ...". (*Heraldry and You*, Chapter II, p. 45; 1961). Did you know that you carry the coat-of-arms of the United States around with you from day to day? This highest heraldic symbol of our nation is on the back of your one-dollar bills, as the Great and Lesser Seals of our nation.

There is no law against collecting surname coats-of-arms for study; in fact genealogists should be encouraged to collect all the data about registered coats-of-arms that they can - pertaining to the surnames they are seeking. They should also carefully copy down the blazoning or description of the design, and the historical data available pertaining to it. In order to keep their records straight they could divide the collection into three parts, and so label them:

1. Family Arms - Proved. (Ones to which they are "heir"?)
2. Family Surname Arms Suspect - Not Yet Proved
3. Family Surname Arms for Reference - Not Yet Proved

Above all, please carefully note your references for each "find", for future reference. Read the qualifications of the author of the book in the foreword. Those who are Lyon King of Arms, Pursuivants and Heralds publish the arms authentically.

One of the reasons for the stricter view is that "no registered heraldic device belongs to any person, except the man for whom it was created." No heraldic device was ever created for a woman, unless she be a royal queen.

True, you will find women possessing arms - which she might marshal with her husband's, but one must understand the severe rules and regulations of the country of its origin, to learn the reason for this possession. Women of noble birth, who have registered arms, inherited them - with specific differences - from her father - under her maiden name - never from her husband.

Heraldic devices are a useful tool for genealogists, because every lineage is proved by a strict "birth-brief" on file with the particular College of Arms from which it was granted, and denotes descendancy by male blood lineage. A daughter inherits them from a father who has no sons alive at his demise. Refer to Innes, Sir Thomas, of Learney, Lord Lyon King of Arms, *Scot's Heraldry*, Chapter IX, "Succession to Arms"; 1956.

The rules and regulations pertaining to composing arms, crests, badges, and seals of families, cities, nations or governmental branches, varies from country to country. One must study the heraldic books of the country from which his ancestors emigrated. Registering Coats-of-Arms has been going on for about 300 years in Great Britain, with the most complete and well-established being those from Scotland. The earliest known Scottish armorial bearings were those issued to Allan, High Steward of Scotland about 1177, and to Patrick, Earl of Dunbar, about 1182. The best source, locally available at the Jacksonville Public Library, is *Scot's Heraldry* cited above. You will also find the standard book generally referred to as Burke's Armorial Registry, and several other good references on the Reference Shelf, and several in the stacks for check-out. There are heraldry books both at MacMurray and Illinois College libraries. There are numerous good ones at the State Library, third floor, Centennial Building which one may check out for Reference only. There are several at the Illinois State Historical Library, also in Springfield.

In your search for family arms, "*Virginia Heraldica*", for example, you will notice a phrase referring to "Visitation of 1619". Visits were made to certain key points in various years by the Registrar of Arms from England, so that their subjects could register their arms, or the Official could "erase and cast down unwarranted, or illegal arms", (p. 239, *Scot's Heraldry*).

Therefore, this indicates that our ancestors who lived on our eastern shores also had their own registered arms, which you can discover and treasure as your family heirloom. To the writer's way of thinking, collecting coats-of-arms engraved with surnames of your ancestors, whether yours proven, or not, could be a valuable source of family history, and a very interesting artistic hobby. Eventually, it may lead you to find the printed genealogies of your European ancestors. While you may never want to go to the expense to claim your legal rights to the arms, at least you should know how to proceed with the matter. You can pass the information on to your children, who may choose to do so in the future. Then they would have the necessary information and legal data. The interest in heraldry is growing by leaps and bounds in recent years, just as genealogy interest is increasing. Present-day people realize they must record their family history if the continuity is to survive for future generations. It is even more necessary for people without children to preserve their past, so that other relatives could more easily trace the root families. Many maids and bachelors inherited the family properties and Bible records. We should urge them to bring the records up to date, and to give the pictures and other data to some nearby library, if they have no relatives who are presently interested in preserving them. By labeling the pictures they would be doing future genealogists a good deed, and be preserving the history of their lineage. It might be added here that a good genealogist tries to preserve the records of all families he comes in contact with - not just his.

Part I - page 4: Why Study Heraldry?

A way you can find family arms which you might "inherit" or treasure, is to look in the various heraldic books and Registers of Arms available in all libraries you come across:

1. Look in library index card files under "heraldry" and "Genealogy". The section on "Christian Art Symbolism" will also help one understand the meaning of design.
2. Where you are permitted to see "the stacks" of books, look under the section numbered 929 through 929.9. Some libraries use another numbering system. Some heraldry books may be in the 700 Art section.
3. Look for bibliographies in the heraldry books, for references for the proper resource books. A good source to check is Filby, P. Wm., *American and British Genealogy and Heraldry*; 1970.
4. Zerox any bibliographies, if possible, for your reference in other libraries, or start a card file. Use a carbon paper under your library request form in order to duplicate it for your records.
5. Make notes on these pages, or cards, where you can find each book.
6. Start making a collection of arms, crests and badges of families with similar surnames. Do not forget to copy the descriptive language, or blazoning, with accuracy, and setting down any mottoes used.
7. Collect, also, governmental coats-of-arms for the city, county, shire, or boroughs where these people lived, when possible.
8. Collect maps, both new and old, of the area involved with a particular family. If you can't use it yourself, maybe you can share information with a fellow genealogist some day.

A Registration of Arms, or Certificate of Arms is a statement of heraldic fact. It may, at the discretion of the Office of Arms, in a given country, be issued to an individual whose established ancestor had received a grant or confirmation. This arms design may then be used by him, legally, in any way he sees fit, and he may pass it on to his posterity, by marking each with the proper labels of the first-born, second-born, etc. It may be passed on to the females in the prescribed heraldic forms. (See the section on cadency marks, or "differencing" in any of the heraldic books.)

The cost of these services varies with the country concerned. It may have changed since the 1961 quotes here given, as noted by Reynolds, *Heraldry and You*, pp. 108-10. In Ireland, for instance, the fees are as follows:

- | | | |
|--|---------------|----------|
| 1. Certificate of Arms £ (Lbs.) 16 | approximately | \$ 50.00 |
| 2. Confirmation of Arms, including Registration £ 30 | | 85.00 |
| 3. Grant of Arms, including Stamp Duty and Registration £ 65 | | 185.00 |

All of the foregoing include an emblazonment of the arms on vellum. Either a grant or confirmation may be made to the applicant and to the other descendents of a particular ancestor -- a father or grandfather, for example.

In Scotland, the costs (1961 quotes, *ibid.*):

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. The Matriculation of Arms costs about 18 guineas, approx. | \$ 55.00 |
| 2. Letters Patent (a grant of arms) about £ 48 | 135.00 |

In England:

- | | | |
|---|---------------|----------|
| 1. Letters Patent cost about £ 105 | approximately | \$300.00 |
| 2. The Registration in your own name of existing arms in established descent (and properly differenced) will cost somewhere between one and three guineas (approx. \$3.00) for adding the intervening generations down to yourself. | | |

The following addresses, alphabetically arranged by countries, is a list of those Offices of Arms, semiofficial organization, or approved Societies in various European countries to which you may write for further information. (Ibid., pp. 109-11; 1961.)

If the country of your ancestor's origin is not represented here, a letter addressed to the Embassy of that country (and to the attention of the Cultural Attaché in Washington D.C. should normally elicit the address of the comparable office or organization in a particular country you desire.

- AUSTRIA Oesterreichische Staatsarchiv
Wien 1, Minoritenplatz 1, Austria
- DENMARK Dansk Genealogisk Institut (Danish Genealogical Institute)
Peblinge Dossering 26B
Copenhagen N, Denmark
(This institute is not an official branch of the Danish government.
It controls its own fees, and they will be quoted upon request.)
- ENGLAND College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London E.C. 4, England
- FRANCE Monsieur le Conservateur aux Archives, Nationales
President de la Société française d'Héraldique
et de Sigillographie
60, rue des Francs-Bourgeois
Paris 3e, France
- GERMANY Zentralstelle für deutsche Personen- und Familiengeschichte
Abteilung internationale genealogische Forschung
Berlin-Zehlendorf West
Goethestrasse 39, Germany
- IRELAND Chief Herald and Genealogical Officer
Officer of Arms
Dublin Castle
Dublin, Ireland
- NETHERLANDS, THE (Holland)
Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie
Nassaulaan 18
The Hague, The Netherlands
- NORWAY Head Archivist
Ri Riksarkivet
Bankplassen 3, Oslo, Norway
- SCOTLAND Court of the Lord Lyon
H. M. Register House
Princes Street, Edinburgh, Scotland
- SWEDEN Riksarkivet (The National Archives)
Arkivgatan 3, Stockholm 2, Sweden
- SWITZERLAND Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Familienforschung
Zentralstelle
Rietstrasse 25
Erlenbach
Zurich, Switzerland

Many of the old Heraldry books from the European countries are now being reprinted - in color- and distributed by the Genealogical Book Company, Baltimore, and the Heraldry Publishing Company, Baltimore. Once you find your surname to whom the grant of arms was made, perhaps you can trace your ancestry to that person. Who knows which one it might be? By collecting all armorial devices with your surname, and trying to identify it with the nation of its origin, you may have some valuable clues as to the point of emigration of your own forbears. While it may not be your direct lineage, it might be of brothers, or sister, uncles, aunts, cousins, etc., which would lead to the root family you are seeking.

We probably all have the experience of receiving a letter asking if we would like to have a family coat-of-arms for \$2.00. The writer purchased one of these a few years ago, and put it on file. In the historiograph there were several Hutchison's named. None of them meant anything. But recently, while wandering in southwest Missouri a few miles from the "old home place" we came upon a person the same name as my husband. The relative was deceased, but his wife had the old Family Bible, and the names back to the first one in Virginia about 1760. Again referring to the historiograph on the surname sheet there is one mentioned who is possibly the father, or grandfather, of the person we now know to be a great-great-grandfather. The information is now meaningful. That is why a collection of surname arms could be considered useful.

Usually coats-of-arms published in most expensive family histories are authenticated by the researcher before publishing, or from a reliable source. If you can trace your family to that published heraldic device, then you can make inquiry from the College of Arms from a particular country to verify its authenticity (for a price).

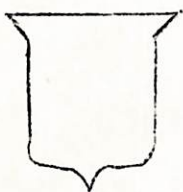
Nations have basic shapes for their shields. Here are some of them - not absolute - but in general¹: (There are variations in each country).

FORMES DE L'ECU DANS LES PAYS ETRANGERS

(Shapes of Escutcheon in Foreign Countries)



Allemand
German



Anglais
English



Espagnol
Spanish



Italien
Italian



Polonais
Polish



Suisse
Swiss

If you do not want to go to the expense of registering your own coat-of-arms, learn the basics of putting the various components together. Select those designs that appeal to you from an heraldic book of design, and just for fun, be artistic enough to make up one to suit your own fancy. It is recommended that you do not use the basic shapes of the national shield, as shown above, but diversify the shapes into another fanciful pattern of your own creation. If you know where your people came from, use the basic shape

¹ Rietstap, J. B., *General Illustrated Armorial*. Lyon: Sauvegarde Historique. (At Illinois State Historical Library). A French book on heraldic designs.

of the county, shire, or borough from which they came. At least you can create a lovely bookplate in this manner.

Should you thus create your own heraldic design, please sign it as an artist does his fine painting - in an ingenious, but inconspicuous, spot. This would let persons of the future know that it was not an official arms design, but only an heirloom picture, just as our foremothers created embroidery samplers and genealogical pictures to pass on to posterity.

Unregistered heraldic creations are referred to as "spurious design" by the College of Arms, are frowned upon, officially, and are considered illegal. But this is natural, in that they receive no money to fill their coffers. On the other hand, their duties are just as legal and rigid as our court records in the United States. In fact, the Lyon King of Arms and other Heralds are also public officials, usually as Judges in the Royal Courts. For interesting uses of heraldic designs, read Chapter IV of Reynold's *Heraldry For You*, pp. 72-96.

With this introduction of the "ins and outs" of the subject, let us now, family-history seekers, learn "to enjoy the science and art of heraldry, as well as its brave forms and brilliant colors" (Ibid., dedication page.)

Since the shield (or escutcheon) is the basic and important part of an heraldic device, we will consider all those elements of design and color relevant to its surface, or field. We will omit, at this time, all heraldic data concerning crests, mottoes, supporters, coronets, wreaths, helmets, mantling, compartments, etc., which are attributes of the arms of nobility and royal birth. This will be the subject of a later lecture. You have enough "brain-stretching" to do to wade through just the basic rules of heraldry here presented.

Let our "budding heraldists" first master the points of reference on a shield, the tinctures, ordinaries, sub-ordinatires, lines, quarterings and common charges, and the "differencing" marks of inheritance. Marshaling of arms will be discussed later. It will be necessary to consider the universal rules used for blazoning arms, so that we genealogists can read its peculiar language with proper understanding and enlightenment.

"BLAZONING THE ARMS" is the legal verbal description of a coat-of-arms, so precise that the device may be reproduced in full color and proper heraldic design, or be engraved for printing in black and white.

"EMBLAZON" refers to the process of depicting arms in color.

Terms which are correct and interchangeable in usage for arms are:

1. Coat-of-arms
2. Armorial bearings (a person bearing arms is "armigerous")
3. Achievement, or atchievement
4. Shield, or escutcheon

A "CREST", and its attendant Latin motto, is only one part of an achievement, but it should be noted here for our beginning heraldists that recorded family crests and mottoes may be legally assumed without appointment by the College of Arms. One of the best texts on this subject is a reprint of the last and best British edition of Fairbairn's *Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland* compiled by James Fairbairn. Two volumes are in one. 759 pages, plus 314 full-page Plates of Crests. Reprinted: Baltimore, 1968, as revised by Laurence Butters. (The writer of this article found a copy at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville Campus).

This is a great book for genealogists to peruse for family surnames. The main body of the text contains an alphabetically arranged listing of about 40,000 names, with a full description of the crest for each, and reference to the plate on which it is illustrated. A person could zerox the design for his family surname, and enlarge it for a crest for use on stationery if he so desired. Part II of Fairbairn's Crests is a most valuable reference for those who cannot interpret Latin mottoes. There are about 5,000 Latin phrases with English translation, and a list of the families who used a particular motto. The Dictionary of Terms included, serves as a valuable glossary of words and subjects. Not only that, but in the section containing the family names, it often tells where the family came from. This might be a valuable clue for the avid genealogist. Pertaining to the book, the following review is appropriate:

Since 1859 Fairbairn's book of crests has been a recognized work of reference in the field of heraldry. ... Fairbairn is in great demand by researchers, artists and designers; and it is therefore indispensable in public libraries and in all libraries and museums with art collections. LIBRARY JOURNAL, Vol. 88, No. 20.

The Preface from the *Magazine of American Genealogy*, Vol. 1, 1929, as found in the Illinois State Historical Library, is quoted here to show that heraldry study has long been advocated as a valuable tool for genealogists. Unfortunately, only the first five volumes of this book are at the ISHL Library. They contain hundreds of surnames, and their ancestors, and run from A to Battey in the five volumes. Could a person find a complete set of this "Magazine", he would have a rich source of information. For instance, there are hundreds of Bakers listed, alphabetically by given name, with the given names of their father, grandfather, etc., as far back as was known in 1929. Many official coats of arms are also shown in simple form so that one could accurately trace the design, should he desire, and illuminate it with paint. The following information is quoted, in part, from the Preface:

Because heraldry is so closely related to genealogy, and the interest in it appears to be almost co-extensive with interest in genealogical research, this section (III), of "The Magazine of American Genealogy" will be devoted to an alphabetical list of the coats of arms, illustrated and blazoned, as found applied to American genealogy.

The fact that a majority of the several thousands of printed family genealogies include the coat of arms said to have been granted to, or borne by, an ancestor of the immigrant subject ... is evidence of the widespread interest in this subject. ...

It may be stated that there is no such thing as a FAMILY coat of arms; that is, a coat of arms which any person of a certain family name is entitled to use because it was granted to a person of the same surname.

Since there is no American law on the subject, and since the English law of primogeniture does not prevail in America, the right of an American to the use of a coat of arms rests with his proof of descent from the ancestor to whom the coat of arms was originally granted.

One of the greatest heraldic authorities was Sir Bernard Burke, who produced the monumental work, *General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales*, which is still regarded as the standard on this subject. But in order to understand these splendid books, the beginner in heraldic discovery must first understand the Basic Rules of Heraldry; hereby presented as Part II.

WHAT ARE THE BASICS OF HERALDRY?

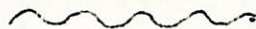
Part II

"Above all, take the SHIELD of Faith, with which ye shall be able to quench all of the fiery darts of the wicked." Eph. 7:16

The "fiery darts of wickedness" can be ignorance. If we fail to appreciate the beauty and significance of heraldry, it is because we do not understand its deeper meanings. Ignorance will be no excuse if you follow through on the upcoming lessons on "the basics of heraldry."

The "going gets a little rough" dear reader, if you have never studied heraldic language before - but don't give up at this point. You have a challenge. Your writer has taken the hard part out of it by wading through numerous books, pulling out an outline of the standard things you must know - in the beginning:

- A. Reference Points of a Shield
- B. Quarterly Divisions of a Shield
- C. Blazoning
- D. Tinctures
- E. International Hatching Code
- F. "Tricking"
- G. Hatchment
- H. Lines of Direction and Ornament
- I. Lines of Field Partition
- J. Honourable Ordinaries
- K. Seme, Goutte, Crusilly
- L. Sub-ordinaries
- M. Common Charges
- N. The Ancestral Beasts of England

The wording may seem strange - like a foreign tongue. In reality it is. French was the international language of the Middle Ages, and Latin the language of the Church ritual. Most heraldic terms are of Old French origin, and after having evolved through other languages - notably Old English (which we genealogists find hard to read today) - we note many variations for each word; e.g., undē, ondē, vndy, wavy = a wavering line, thusly 

Mottoes, for the most part, will be in brief Latin phrases or sentences. Two ancient Hutchison (Scotland) mottoes recently found in Fairbairn's *Crests* are "Sursum" - "Upward", and "Scientioe laborisque memor" - "Mindful of knowledge and labour". (And am I ever mindful of the labour of love this heraldic adventure is leading me!) Back to mottoes -- what's yours?

Fortunately, many knowledgeable men have published reliable books on the science of heraldry, and so the genealogist who seriously studies this fascinating art and science today will derive much pleasure from pursuing the subject. He may locate a whole new set of ancient ancestors he never dreamed of "owning". The rewards are many - stay with me, please.

"He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous; He is a SHIELD to those who walk uprightly." Prov. 2:7.

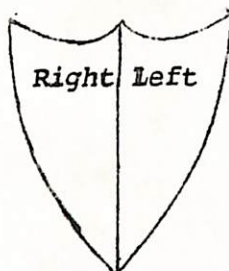
Always remember - the shield (escutcheon) is the foundation of every

heraldic achievement. So in the following pages, we will consider how to mark off certain areas of its field, and decorate them with meaningful, colorful design. Every single kind of line (Ordinary) or decoration (Charge) has a specific name which you will read about - and must memorize - in order to understand the legal description (blazoning).

Three important points to learn "right off the bat":

1. How to distinguish right and left of the shield or design.

It is the same as "Stage right", or "Stage left", as far as the observer is concerned



a. Dexter means RIGHT

b. Sinister means LEFT

c. You determine this by imagining yourself as being "the man behind the shield"

The shield was his armor and protection - and represented God, or Divine Providence, to Christians and persons of other religions. He usually prayed: "The Lord is my rock, ... my strength, ... my shield, ..." Ps. 18:2

2. Tinctures - the correct word in reference to colours on a field

It refers, however, to 3 different items of decoration of shields

a. Metals -- Gold and Silver

b. Colours - Red, Blue, Green, etc.

c. Furs ---- Ermine (the royal fur), Erminois, Vair, etc.

3. Silver and Gold have special names you must memorize, in order to "make sense" out of the blazoning rules:

a. Silver = ARGENT

b. Gold = OR


Every time you see the word OR in a blazon, think GOLD!

(This will make you feel richer - in wisdom - not money)

"And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven;"
Matt. 16:19

Well - maybe not to heaven - but to heraldry. It is a well-organized ancient discipline based on the laws of Royal descent and government. There are standard key words which you need to understand. You will not learn the meaning of these words unless you read them over and over - and use them - pronounce them out loud. Look them up in a good dictionary.

Soon you will notice that many of the words are the same root word used in different ways, as we talk about the POINTS of the Shield, its ORDINARIES, and their DIMINUTIVES. This refers to the use of the large design or field, and its break-down into smaller units, for example:

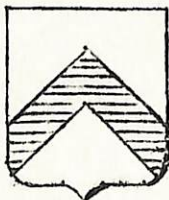
CHEVRON --- two diagonal lines or stripes meeting at an angle, 
the point up, unless otherwise specified

PARTY PER CHEVRON - a line parting the field chevronwise

Party - to partition, part with lines, divide into sections

CHEVRONY -- divided into more than 1 chevron; also, chevronny, cheverony

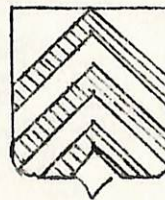
CHEVRONEL - a diminutive - a narrow chevron; also, cheveronel



"Argent a
chevron
azure"



"Argent
chevronny
of two
gules"



"Argent
three
chevronels
vert"

The CHARGES are numerous kinds of designs selected from the geometric, astronomical, inanimate, vegetable, and animal kingdoms, etc., and their DIMINUTIVES. You will have a host of designs to learn names for, because each one has its own descriptive language used in blazonry. It is so specific, however, that a knowledgeable person can combine the proper designs himself from reading the blazoning, and making use of a good design reference.

A good book that would make an excellent addition to the home dictionary, for an avid genealogist, or traveler, would be that of James A. Parker, *A Glossary of Terms Used in Heraldry*, 1970; \$7.50 - a nice gift idea. A copy is on the Reference Shelf of the Jacksonville Public Library.

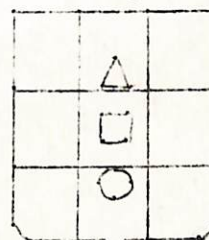
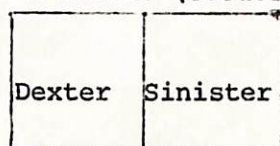
One should read the splendid and comprehensive section on "Heraldry" in Volume 11 of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. There are many other splendid encyclopedias which contain interesting knowledge on the subject, one of them being Nicholson's. One can scan these possibilities in the Reference Reading Room, 3rd floor Centennial Building, of the State Library, a building next to the Archives and Museum. Look in the card indexes for the "Heraldry" section. The attendant librarians will bring out any books you choose to read there, but you cannot check these out. They also have many references on Christian Art Symbolism, which is a closely-related subject to heraldry, and "must-reading" for those who plan European travel.

Don't become discouraged at the numbers of designs - you will soon be able to recognize a given charge and call it by its correct name - like an old friend. Should you come across a name - and wonder what in the world it is - and do not have an heraldry book on hand - you can find these words in a good dictionary, sometimes with illustrations. Make use of it - often!

But before you try to understand the Charges, or smaller designs, let's first master the A B C's of the BASICS OF HERALDRY, starting with:

A. REFERENCE POINTS OF A SHIELD (escutcheon):

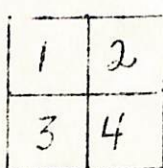
1. Dexter
2. Sinister
3. Chief
4. Fess
5. Base
6. Three Honour Points - Collar, Fess, Nombril



- △ Honor or Collar
- Fess
- Nombril (Navel)

B. QUARTERLY DIVISIONS OF A SHIELD, for the purpose of receiving arms; a few divisions illustrated:

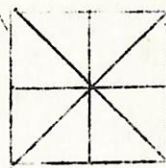
1. Quartered (4 parts; also 8; 16 = grandquartering)
2. Crosswise quartered (4 parts)
3. Gyronny (8 parts)
4. Tierced in pale (3 parts perpendicularly)
5. " " fess (3 " horizontally)
6. " " bend dexter (3 " diagonally)
7. " " bend sinister (3 " diagonally)



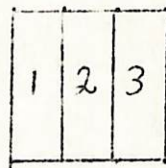
Quartered



Crosswise-quartered



Gyronny



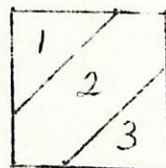
Tierced in Pale



Tierced in Fess



Tierced in Bend-dexter



Tierced Bend-Sinister

C. BLAZONING. The reader has, by now acquired a sufficient number of the ringing, exciting heraldic words to realize that a familiarity with them is worthy of cultivation.

"The fact is, mastery of the art of blazon makes the Heraldist"[and a more efficient genealogist]. "A man may visualize hundreds of coats of arms in use in the 13th century, and know the family history attached to each achievement, but if he cannot express them in proper terms he has nothing, for knowledge that is not generously shared can but poison the mind that imprisons it", is the expressive language of Julian Franklyn in his book *heraldry*, p. 41, 1971 ed.

1. Definitions of the important term Blazon:

- a. It means to make public; publish far and wide
- b. It refers to a Coat of Arms, or armorial bearings; heraldic devices
- c. It usually refers to the written description of heraldic or armorial bearings in proper technical language

2. A Blazon analyzed:

"ARMS: Argent on a bend gules three crescents of the first"

- a. ARGENT - silver or white field of the shield
- b. ON A BEND GULES - a dexter band on shield
- c. THREE CRESCENTS OF THE FIRST - the first color mentioned was argent; therefore, the three crescents across the red band are silver (white)



3. Definition of the term Emblazon:

- a. To inscribe or adorn with heraldic bearings or devices
- b. To deck in bright colors
- c. To display sumptuously

4. Emblazonment of the FIELD of the shield:

- a. One Tincture - the basic Field-tincture (a metal, colour, or fur)
Every Blazon (description) starts with the Tincture of that Field, e.g.,
 - 1) "Argent, an eagle displayed sable ..."
 - 2) "Gules, a lion rampant argent ..."
- b. Semé of the Field - small Charges or designs of one colour, sprinkled or Powdered upon the basic Tincture of the Field, previous to placement of the Ordinaries, e.g.,
 - 1) "Azure, semé-de-lis Or ..."
 - 2) Or, semé of hearts gules; ..."
- c. Two Tinctures of the Ordinary - if the field is parted (per party), with one of the standard designs of an Ordinary, then there are two tinctures given, first stating the Ordinary used, e.g.,
 - 1) "Per fess argent and azure ..."
 - 2) "Per saltire azure and sable ..."
- d. Semé of the Ordinary - the small Charges of one colour may be sprinkled or Powdered upon the Ordinary instead of the basic Tincture, e.g.,
 - 1) "Per fess argent and azure, semé-de-lis or ..."
 - 2) "Per saltire azure and sable, semé of bezants ..."

5. Emblazonment of the shield with Sub-Ordinaries and Common Charges will be discussed in further detail in sections L and M.

And now, dear Genealogist, are you beginning to understand the "weird language" of the Blazon?

- D. TINCTURES. The Tinctures used in English and Scottish armory are few and simple. They consist of Metals, Colours, and Furs. The two Metals are Gold (Or) and Silver (Argent). In colour, they are represented as bright Yellow and White.

This is the reason we have bright yellow fringe on flags - it represents the most precious metal of honor - gold. (It took the writer, a flag historian, a long time to find this bit of information.)

Below is an outline of the principal Metals, Colours and Furs traditionally used in heraldic achievements:

1. METALS:

Or.....Gold
Argent....Silver

2. COLOURS:






Or.....Bright Yellow
Argent....White
Gules.....Red
Azure.....Blue
Sable.....Black
Vert.....Green
Purpure...Purple
Sanguine..Bloodcolour
Tenné.....Orange, Tawny Orange
Proper....Natural coloring of object, animal, or person

3. IRREGULAR COLOURS, not usually included in lists; used more in Crests and Supporters, not on Shields

Ash	Brown	Earth	Russet
Bay	Carnation*	Grey	White - as color, not metal

*"In old heraldry they sometimes employed the word 'car' for flesh colour". Julian Franklyn, *Heraldry*, p. 65, 1971 ed.

4. FURS as represented in heraldic design: See books on Heraldry for the shield designs, as they are too complicated to present here.

Ermine.....white field - black spots 
Ermines....black " - white "
Erminites..white " - red hair each side of black spots
Erminoise...golden " - black spots (brown marten*)
Peau.....black " - golden spots
Vair.....a parti-colored fur (squirrel) of blue & silver;
pieces are cut in form of an inverted shield 
Counter-vair..two "shields" together, top to top 
Potent.....fur is cut in crutch-shaped pieces 
Counter-potent..two crutch-shaped pieces together 

Ermine (fr. *hermine*) the fur of royalty, is from a small white animal called *Ermine* (*mus Armenicus*), and is found in the woods of Armenia. The black spots used in heraldic symbolism supposedly represents the tails of ermines, sewed to the white fur for enrichment.

Stoat - any of various weasels that have a black-tipped tail. Stoats have a brown coat in summer.

*"Brown marten is the municipal and professional fur, as instanced by the most ancient Lord Provost's robes, e.g., Aberdeen." Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, *Scot's Heraldry*, p. 53, 1934 ed. Jacksonville Public Library.

Erminette is rabbit fur processed to simulate ermine. (This could be used as an American heraldic fur - being plentiful! F.H. note).

E. INTERNATIONAL HATCHING CODE.

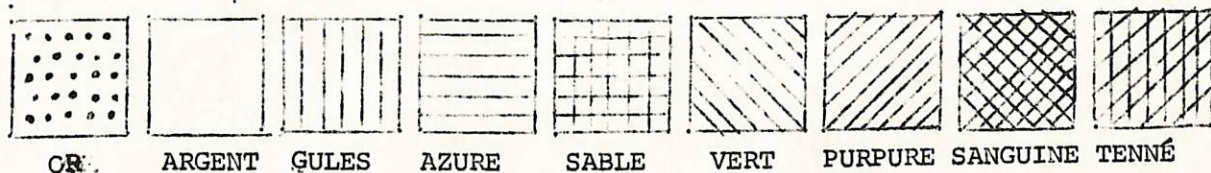
1. History: About the middle of the 17th century a system of Hatching was selected by an Italian Jesuit, Fr. Francisco Di Petra Sancta, from a number of systems which had been used to represent the tinctures in black and white illustrations of arms. This method became standardised, recognized internationally, and still in effect.
2. Definition: "Hatching" is the engraving or drawing of fine lines in close proximity to each other chiefly to give an effect of shading, or to indicate color by the direction of the line - as used in heraldry. Do not confuse it with another similar-sounding word - "Hatchment", which has a completely different meaning, and will be discussed under Section G.
3. Lines of Direction for International Hatching Code:
Or.....dots
Argent....plain surface - white
Gules.....perpendicular lines
Azure.....horizontal lines
Sable.....perpendicular & horizontal lines
Vert.....diagonal lines in dexter bend
Purpure...diagonal lines in sinister bend
Sanguine..dexter & sinister diagonal lines
Tenné.....perpendicular & sinister diagonal lines

Tenné is in dispute. The above directions seem most likely to be correct as they are used by the Lyon King of Arms of Scotland; but another heraldist stated that it was "horizontal & sinister diagonal lines ..."

A spear may be said "to be sanguinated", which means that it has dark red blood on its point. Sanguine may be abbreviated in a blazon thusly: "...guttée d'sang between ..."

Sanguine and Tenné are rarely-used colors on the field of shields. These two colours are included here because the hatching information is hard to find, or to interpret from small drawings.

If you can memorize at least the first 7 of these tinctures and hatching lines, you will have a valuable tool for copying heraldic designs, or taking notes in a library or European cathedral,



You will find that a pad or package of graph paper will be of great assistance in copying shield patterns, and practicing hatching. The lines are made coarse above for clarity in printing. Most graph paper bought in "10-cent stores (?) is 8 x 10½ inches. Book stores carry a professional variety which is 8½ by 11 inches. Some is 8 squares per inch, some 10 squares per inch, etc. The latter follows the new metric system.


Carry a small ruler along with this, and you will find that you "lay out" a nice symmetrical shield with this equipment. The graph paper makes a nice surface for writing the essential data pertaining to the surname arms, and this difference in paper from your usual notebook, makes your shield designs distinguishable in your stack of paper. Who doesn't have such a "stack?"


F. TRICKING. This can be a very useful method for the genealogist who wants to sketch the arms of a surname family from a library reference book.

1. Definition: *Trick, Tricking, In Trick, or Tricking In* - heraldic expressions used when arms, instead of being emblazoned in the ordinary way, are roughly sketched with the Tinctures, Ordinaries and Charges being noted by abbreviations, signs, numbers and recognized symbols. Tricking was used by the Heralds during their Visitations to record the arms of those being registered.
2. Usage. A genealogist should adopt this method of recording arms in his collection, then other persons using the notebook will understand them. A good reference is *A Glossary of Terms Used in Heraldry* by James Parker who revised his father's 1894 edition. See *Trick* p. 588-9. The 1970 edition is on the Reference Shelf of the Jvl. Public Library.


3. Abbreviations and Symbols


O, Or...gold, yellow (better use Or - you might mistake O for a Charge)
A, Ar...silver, white
B.....azure, blue (Heralds use B for blue because of confusion with Ar)
G, Gu...gules, red
V.....vert, green
S.....sable, black
P.....purpure, purple
Er.....ermine
Ppr.....proper, natural coloring of object
Car.....carnation, flesh colour


ermine (fur)

vair (fur)

potent (fur)

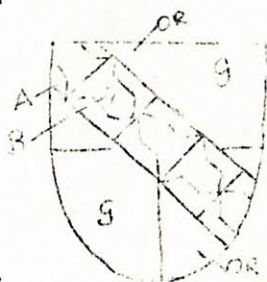
Peane (fur) (with dots for gold)

counter-

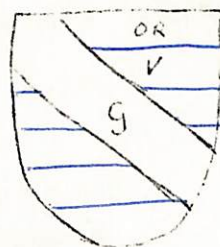
counter-potent (fur)

4. Examples of Tricking:

The accompanying figures are taken from a copy made by Nicholas Charles in 1606 [Harl MS. No. 6589, fol. 5 and fol. 6 verso] of a Roll of Arms temp. Ed. I. (Ibid., Parker, p. 589). Parker says: "Besides copying the blazon, he has also here and there added the coats of arms in trick. It will at once be seen how simple the system is."



Andreio de SAKEVILLE
Quarterly or and G.,
a bend verry [vair].



Michael de POYNINGS
Barry 6 or and vert,
a bend gules.

Every student of heraldry begins to make drawings of shields. Many a person who thought he could not draw, has found that there is great fun and satisfaction to be had in "doing" coats of arms using the Tricking method.

F. Tricking (continued):

5. Caution and advice to the genealogist who copies surname Arms.
 - a. No book should have pencil marks put upon the shields, as one would mar them by copying the design using a carbon.
Anybody can make a rough pencil sketch free hand!
 - b. In this day and age it is relatively simple to zerox the desired page.
 - c. Then one can copy the desired family surname arms from the zerox by using a good grade of tracing paper over the design. If you wanted to make two copies at one time, place carbon on white typing paper, and insert this packet under the zerox, tracing paper on top of zerox. As you trace the design on transparent paper, it will also be making a second copy underneath. (Buy several sheets good pencil carbon.)
 - d. Then you have a zerox copy to file with your collection, a tracing upon which you can Trick In the tinctures, and a white page which you can color with colored pencils, or crayons, as you please.
 - e. Crayons are good. When filling in a space, use the same directional lines as given for the International Hatching Code. This will give you experience in using it. After completing the design, put a cloth over it, and rub with a quite warm iron to smooth out and blend the colors. You will have a lovely emblazonment.





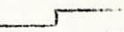
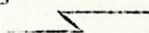

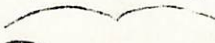
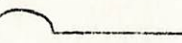
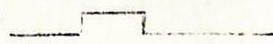
G. HATCHMENT. Don't confuse the word "hatch" and "hatchment".

1. Definition. Hatchment - a panel having the shape of a square placed cornerwise bearing the coat of arms of a deceased person.
An hatchment is a specially designed funeral escutcheon put in front of houses, in churches, or elsewhere, setting forth the rank and circumstances of a distinguished armigerous person who has just deceased. This is much like our custom of putting a wreath of flowers or black ribbon on the door of the house to indicate the death of a family member.
2. When the deceased was the last of his line, a "death's head" (skull) may be found placed over his arms instead of, or besides the crest.



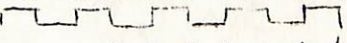
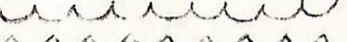
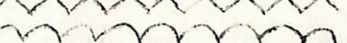
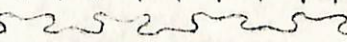
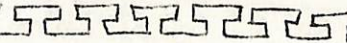

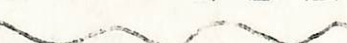

Should a genealogist see an arms with a death's head crest, he will know that the person had no heirs. Blazon #106, p. 91, *Heraldry*, by Franklyn, describes such a crest: "Upon a wreath of the colours a death's head transfixt with a spear in bend sinister, point downward, all proper."

H. LINES OF DIRECTION AND ORNAMENT. These basic lines can be used either to partition the field, or to border most of the Ordinaries, and some of the Sub-Ordinaries. Each of the Ornamental Lines has its own standardized name, and it would be wise for the genealogist to have a working knowledge of their basic name and direction so that he will be able to recognize them in a blazon, a flag, or Christian art masterpiece.

1. DIRECTIONAL LINES:

Perpendicular 
Horizontal 
Diagonal dexter 
Diagonal sinister 
Angled 
Beviled 
Arched 
Souble arched 
Nowy 
Escartele 

2. ORNAMENTAL LINES:

Dancette 
Dovetailed 
Embattled 
Engrailed 
Indented 
Invected 
Nebuly 
Potent 
Raguly 
Wavy 

We have thus far divided the shield many ways - perpendicularly, horizontally, diagonally, quarterings of many specifications, etc. Having just considered the basic Lines of Direction and Ornament that applies to all art we are now ready to start thinking through the processes of applying tinctures (metal-colour-fur) in a meaningful pattern, under specific rules that have been in operation internationally more than 800 years, evolved as a way to identify individuals.

While we in this day have our "one person one vote" law under our democracy, Royalty had its "one honoured man one shield" law. So far, our divisions of the shield, through which we have "waded", have been for the purposes of being able to locate any area that a blazon describes, since each Blazon is the legal representation of that "one man per shield" - his to pass on legally with his estate to his heirs.

Now we must consider the aspects of surface adornment. Take an example from our present lives - we consider surface embellishment when we wallpaper or paint a room in our homes. We take the raw structural surface of lath, and cover it with plaster. Then we decide upon the color and texture, as a suitable background for the rest of our decor and style of furniture.

In heraldry this background traditionally has three elements for color and texture - metals - colours - furs. We do not put fur on our walls. They are too spacious. Fur was the first background used for shields, as this was in the day of primitive man when his only protection was to tan the skins of the beasts he killed for food, stretch a portion of it upon a frame, and let it dry hard and firm. This was protection from wind, charging animals, and the stones of his adversaries. Later, as man developed skills and metals, he added this as reinforcement. Colours were used - not for protection - but for identification of one leader's cohorts, from those of his enemy.

One of the confusions which arises for the beginner in heraldry is - when does the background design end, and the surface adornment by Charges begin? This arises because the standard Ordinaries which have developed throughout this long period of shieldry, are sometimes classified as background, and at other times as Charges, or decor in the foreground. You may say "I don't care as to when it begins or ends!" But it is an important factor for understanding the Blazon which ordinarily has no commas to set off the different elements.

The shield must be divided into two components for its embellishment - background, and foreground:

1. BACKGROUND tinctures:

- a. Basic tincture - one metal, one colour, or one fur - never mixed
- b. Bi-tinctures which are created when the field is parted by the lines of one of the standard Ordinaries, e.g.,
 - 1) Pale; 2) Fess; 3) Bend; 4) Saltire; 5) Chevron, etc.

2. FOREGROUND decor - referred to as Charge - in the order in which they are applied to the background tincture(s):

- a. Ordinary - if one basic tincture is used as background
(In simple two-color shields, the Ordinary becomes the Charge)
(In complex decor, the Ordinary is considered as background)
- b. Ordinary with its Diminutives
- c. Sub-Ordinary with its Diminutives
- d. Common Charges

And now, it is time to consider the Lines of Partition from which evolves the Honourable Ordinaries and Charges as surface embellishment of the shield, described by a particular blazon. What now seems so complicated to you will

will soon make heraldry simple to understand. Believe it or not! The pleasure to read a Blazon and Trick a family surname Shield will soon be yours!

I. LINES OF FIELD PARTITION. The basic Lines of Partition and Equal Space Partition for shield backgrounds, as listed below, are illustrated next page in the upper two rows of shields of Design Plate No. 1. Note endings of root words which indicate a different design:

1. LINES OF PARTITION:

Per pale
Per fess
Per bend
Per bend sinister
Per saltire
Per chevron
Quarterly

2. EQUAL SPACE PARTITION:

Paly
Barry
Bendy (dexter usually not specified)
Bendy sinister
Gyronny
Chevronny
Checquy, or checky

J. HONOURABLE ORDINARIES. The basic background design of a shield is made by a combination of the Lines of Partition and Ornamental Lines. The Ordinaries and Sub-Ordinaries are geometrical figures which are commonly used as Charges on the shield to differentiate one man's arms from another's. They have been in use from the earliest days of heraldry (about 1100 in Scotland). Both have diminutive (smaller) forms, each with its special name. The list varies according to the Herald writing his book, and the spellings of the word according to the dialect. A beginner has to learn what the root word means no matter how it is spelled.

At this point we will try to learn the names of the major Ordinaries, its Diminutives, and smaller units. Some of these are illustrated on Design Plate No. 1, next page, in rows three and four:

1. Major ORDINARIES:

Pale
Fess
Bend, dexter & sinister
Saltire
Chevron
Chief
Flanches
Roundel (1 large circle)
Pall (fr. *pairle*)
Pile (fr. *pointe*)

a. La pile chausse; b. La point chape; c. Embrasse; e. Mantele

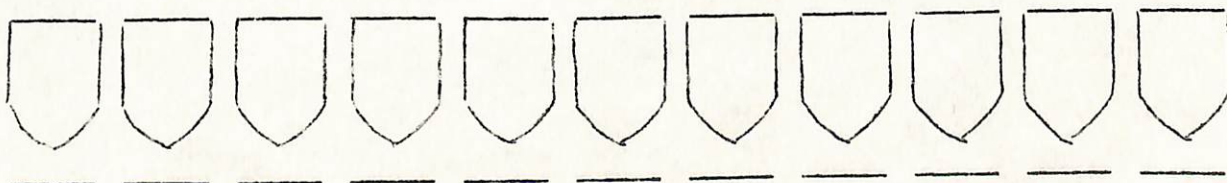
2. DIMINUTIVE ORDINARIES:

Pale endorsed
Fess cotised
Bend cotised, dex. & sin.
Chevron cotised
Chief with fillet

3. SMALLER UNITS:

Pallet
Bar
Bendlets
Chevronel
Comble

Practice drawing the Ordinary you desire below, and label in space provided:



DESIGN PLATE NO. ____

SHIELD FIELD-DIVISION -- lines of partition



Per Pale



Per Fess



Per Bend



Per Bend
Sinister



Per Saltire



Per Chevron



Quarterly

SHIELD FIELD-DIVISION -- equal space partition for Tinctures



Paly



Barry



Bendy



Bendy
Sinister



Gyronny



Chevronny



Chequy or
Chequy

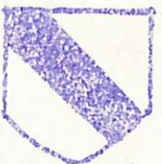
HONOURABLE ORDINARIES -- basic charges (design)



Pale



Fess



Bend



Bend
Sinister



Saltire



Chevron



Chief

HONOURABLE ORDINARIES -- diminutive charges (design)



Pale
Endorsed



Fess
Cotised



Bend
Cotised



Pile



Roundels









Flanches



Chief with
Pillet

K. SEMÉ; GOUTTE, CRUSILLY.. These are specific designs used in an all-over design (as is wallpaper on your wall), used as background or Charge decor:

1. Definition of Semé, Semée, Semy; also referred to as Powdered:
 - a. Having an ornamental pattern consisting of disposed objects or groups of small figures - as flowers, stars, hearts, etc.
 - b. In heraldry - having a pattern of small scattered charges
 - c. Powdered, or sprinkled with small design
2. Rules pertaining to Semé objects on a shield:
 - a. Objects are small and numerous, no specific number being given in the blazon, and may be defaced at edge of shield.
(Small Charges of similar design are whole, and numbered)
 - b. Semé may be used:
 - 1) As basic tincture of field background, edge to edge of shield
 - 2) On the principal design called an Ordinary, when the field is parted perpendicularly, horizontally, diagonally, etc.
 - 3) On Charges of decor, and their diminutives
3. Special kinds of Semé designs and their Blazon:
 - a. Bezant -- a flat disk is a Roundel
Semé of bezants referred to as Bezanté, Bezanty
 - b. Billets - an upright rectangle
Semé of billets referred to as Billeté, Billey
 - c. Flory, fleury - sprinkled with fleur-de-lis
" " of a cross - having ends of arms broadening out into the heads of fleur-de-lis
Semé of fleurs-de-lis referred to as Semé-de-lis
 - d. Plate --- a Roundel of silver
Semé of plates referred to as Plates, Platty, Platy
4. Definition of Goutte, Gutté, Guttée, Gouttee, Goutty - a drop:
 - a. A field covered with pear-shaped drops of liquid
 - b. Gutté is used to describe such a field, followed by the type of drops; e.g.,
"Argent, guttée d'armed ..."
5. Special kinds of Gutté designs:
 - a. Gutté d'or.....gold drops
 - b. Gutté d'eau.....silver drops, water, icicles
 - c. Gutté de sang.....bloodred drops
 - d. Gutté de larmed.....blue drops, tears
 - e. Gutté d'huile.....green drops, oil; also gutté d'olive
 - f. Gutté de poix.....black drops, pitch
6. Usage of Semé, Goutte and Crusilly Charges:
 - a. The word semé is not included in the blazon when describing Goutte and Crusilly charges
 - b. Semé's, Goutte's and Crusilly's may become the basic tincture used on the field, e.g.,
"Sable gutté d'eau; ..."
 - c. May be used on the Ordinary (as the Chevron); e.g.,
"Sable, a chevron embattled counter-embattled argent, guttée d'sang between ..."
 - d. Some heralds call an upside-down goutte an icicle; e.g.,
HARBOTTLE, BRECON. Azure, three icicles bendwise in bend sinister or.

K. Seme, Goutte, Crusilly (continued)

7. Definition of Crusilly:

- a. Cross-crosslets - a cross with a crossbar near the end of each arm
- b. Crusilly - sprinkled with cross-crosslets
Seme of crosslets referred to as Crusilly
(the word Seme usually not used in blazon); e.g.,
Blackenham. "Azure, crusilly three bars or."
- c. Fleury of a cross - heads of fleurs-de-lis projecting from the ends of the cross; e.g.,
"Argent, on a cross flory gules between four pommés ..."



L. SUB-ORDINARIES. The next classification under Charges, the decor placed upon the field of the shield, are the numerous Sub-Ordinaries. They are figures peculiar to heraldry, and are used as identifying marks to distinguish the shield and birthright of one person from that of another.

1. Differences between Ordinaries and Sub-Ordinaries:

a. ORDINARIES:

- 1) Generally considered to be simple forms bounded by straight lines
- 2) They arise as a natural consequence of parting the field with perpendicular, horizontal, diagonal, and restricted wavy lines
- 3) The lines extend from edge to edge; exception - Pile; some Herald's place this one with sub-ordinaries
- 4) Ordinaries are generally considered to be a part of the background of shield; however in simple bi-tincture emblazonments, they become the Charge of identification

b. SUB-ORDINARIES:

- 1) They seem to combine straight lines with more ornamental lines and curves
- 2) They encroach upon the field in specific forms, and are considered as Charges or marks of distinction, not field background
- 3) While some lines may stretch from edge to edge, most of the designs are within the confines of the shield
- 4) Their larger areas form the background, however, for additions of Diminutive or Common Charges.
This is like the artistic methods used to create depth - by superimposing layer upon layer. In the case of shieldry, it is design upon design, each described accurately in the blazon.

2. Charges usually noted as Sub-Ordinaries:

Annulet	Gyron	Roundels (more than 1)
Billet	Inescutcheon	Rustre
Bordure	Label	Tressure
Canton	Lozenge	Shakefork (a coupé pairle)
Flanches	Mascle	(You can zerox these out of a reference book. Most heraldic books have them)
Fret	Orle	

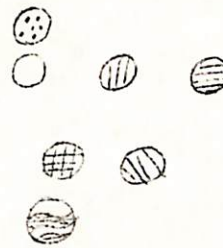
3. Roundles, Roundels - a flat disk, with a specific name for each of the tinctures - given here for reference when a genealogist comes across the word in a blazon:

(continued next page)

L. Sub-Ordinaries (continued)

3. ROUNDLIES, (sometimes Pellets) continued:

Gold roundles are called	Bezants
Silver " " "	Plates
Gules " " "	Torteaux
Azure " " "	Hurts
Sable " " "	Pellets or Ogresses
Vert " " "	Pommes
Argent & Azure Wavy "	Fountain



M. COMMON CHARGES. These are all those figures which appear in arms, other than the Ordinaries and the Sub-Ordinaries. Almost every conceivable object from the heraldic lion to a railway engine seems to have been incorporated in arms at one time or another.

Many of them may be representative of the trade of the family head. A genealogist needs to consider this angle when he finds a surname arms.

A detailed list makes tedious reading, until one starts looking for a specific symbol, so few will be given here. In particular, see the splendid and detailed outline in James Parker's *A Glossary of Terms Used In Heraldry*, and Col. Roger's *The Pageant of Heraldry*, (Jvl. Pub. Lib.)

1. COMMON CHARGES IN BRIEF - numerous variety are in following categories:

- The Human Figure and Human-like Monsters
- Beasts and Beast-like Monsters
- Bird and Bird-like Monsters
- Fish, Reptiles and Insects
- Vegetation
- Heavenly Objects
- Inanimate Objects
- Many other categories too numerous to mention here

The Monsters are fascinating, and when you study them you can soon learn their differences, and be able to call them by name. They are an extra-ordinary collection of mythical creatures, apparently. Most of them seem to owe their heraldic origin to travellers' tales, and were the result of the artist's attempts to reproduce the verbal descriptions of either actual animals which the travellers had seen, or else imaginary beasts whose existence had its basis in antiquity, heroic deeds of honor, legend, or folklore.

Modern dwellers on earth, however, should be reminded that this earth was inhabited eons ago by living monstrosities, as now evidenced by the finding of bones of the mastodons, dinosaurs, etc., even in our own immediate vicinity.

No doubt the Piasa Bird, engraved and painted on the bluffs near Alton, a long time ago by the Indian inhabitants, was the image of a living reptilian "bird" known as the pterodactyl. With our recent finds at the Koster Site we now know these people were living here 8,000 to 10,000 years ago.

When heraldry and chivalry was at the height of its glory in Europe and Asia at the dawn of Christianity, there were many of the smaller monsters still living and causing human suffering. So I urge those studying heraldry at this time, to think about the possibilities that similar animals did exist, and had their images preserved in this way - most of them on the achievements of royalty as supporters of the shield. Many of them are chained, as though the animals were in captivity - which they might well have been - just as people keep so-called wild animals in their homes today.

However, many of these figures were made peculiar in form because the heraldic designer took parts of one animal or bird, and transposed them over, or

M. Common Charges (continue!)

or he combined them with other parts to indicate a union of arms, or as a "differencing" method. In the marshaling of one family's arms with another's, we find half animals, etc., in which two shields are halved perpendicularly and put together. In the case of the combination of arms of a male and female, the man's arms are dexter side.

These, and many other figures peculiar to heraldry, used as identifying marks of an individual, may assist the genealogist to locate his European ancestors. While the Charge distinguishes one person from another, it also identifies descendancies within a family also.

When a genealogist locates numerous blazons in an heraldic reference in which similar Charges are upon several surname shields, but slightly different form, he might assume that the families are perhaps related, and should note down the residence that might be listed, and collect maps of that particular country - the older ones probably be more valuable for reference than modern ones.

When blazons are entirely different, he might assume that they are not immediately related. On the other hand, he should keep an open mind, and still make the surname a part of his collection. They may eventually prove to be the same root family generations further back, whose family members split up and moved to different parts of the country, or to another kingdom.

Not every man had a coat of arms. Keeping the surname arms and its location may indicate the residence of non-armigerous relatives in the same area. Also, when arms were registered under different Heralds, the Charges assigned might be entirely different. As to whether these shield designs are by choice of the assignee, or was left to the discretion of the Officer of Heraldry, we do not presently know. There has been no reference on this point from any of the numerous books which have been consulted in preparing this illuminated outline of the Basics of Heraldry.

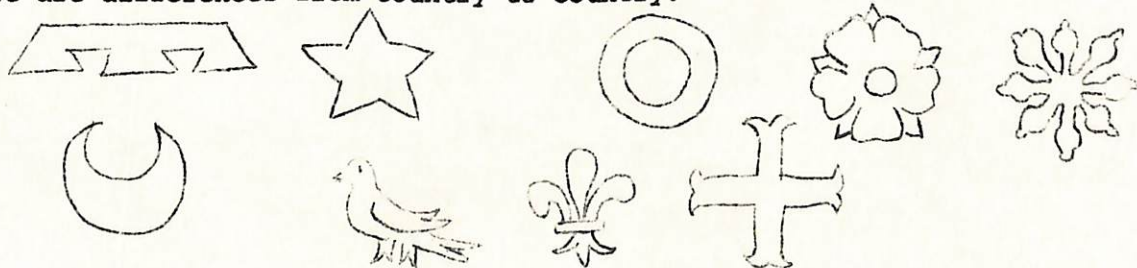
You will note that a few Charges are used to indicate genealogical relationships of the sons of the family - called cadency, or "differencing" marks. They are special charges put in miniature form upon a father's arms to indicate the order of their birthright.

The one called the "Label" is used in silver for royalty to indicate that a person is a son or daughter of royal birth. Daughters of commoners have no mark of any kind indicating their standing in the line-up of children.

2. DIFFERENCING CHARGES - English marks of cadency - order of birth of sons:

Label.....1st son	Fleur-de-lys.....6th son
Crescent.....2nd son	Rose.....7th son
Star.....3rd son	Cross-moline.....8th son
Martlet.....4th son	Octofoil (dbl. quatrefoil)..... 9th son
Annulet.....5th son	Baton in bend sinister...illigetimate son

One cannot depend upon these differencing marks prior to the sixteenth century, until these above listed became standardised in English armory; and there are differences from country to country.



M. Common Charges (continued)

Old writers provided meanings for the different symbols. The Label of three points was to signify that the eldest son was the third in precedence, following his father and mother. His own eldest son was allotted a Label of five points.

The second son's Crescent showed that he should increase the family by adding to its estate and repute.

The Mullet, a five-pointed star, or spur rowel (star with hole in center), of the third son, was to incite him to chivalry. Do not confuse the geometrical star of 5 points with the Estoile, or star that has six points and wavy.

The fourth son's Martlet indicated that he would inherit little land to rest upon, and would have to rely on the wings of his own endeavors. Please note that this bird has no feet - indicating densely feathered legs and feet, an outstanding feature which will help you identify a martlet from other birds used on emblazonments.

The Annulet, as a symbol of great actions, was a similar encouragement to the fifth son, to find his own way.

The Fleur-de-lis was allotted to the sixth son "to put him in mind of his Country and his Prince".

The seventh had a Rose in order that he should try and flourish like it. The eighth son's Cross Moline, known as an "anchoring cross", was to remind him "to grip when he can fasten, seeing he has nothing else to which he may trust".

The Double Quatrefoil of the ninth carried the unkind reminder that there were eight brothers between him and the succession!

These cadency marks were originally intended as purely temporary distinctions to be used by sons during the life of their father, or until they married and started houses of their own, when they would be granted a properly differenced coat. There were many methods of differencing arms in order to ensure that all members of the same house should have their own distinctive coats. A lot might depend upon the location of the son's home, no doubt.

Scottish armory is different from the cadency marks of England, but the subject is too complicated to discuss here. Good references will be found in books already cited, particularly that of Col. Rogers and Sir. Thomas Innes.

N. THE ANCESTRAL BEASTS OF ENGLAND. For some excellent Arms of England showing the ancestral beasts, and a very interesting genealogical chart of the royal family with their adopted beasts used as supporters to their Arms, between 1327 and 1714, read the book by H. Stanford London, *Beasts in Heraldry*, 1952. There is a copy in the MacMurray Library. The beasts shown are;

1. Twelve Ancestral Beasts of Great Britain:

- The Lion of England
- The Griffin of Edward III
- The Falcon of the Plantagenets
- The Black Bull of Clarence
- The White Lion of Mortimer
- The Yale of Beaufort
- The White Greyhound of Richmond
- The Red Dragon of Wales
- The Unicorn of Scotland
- The White Horse of Hanover

There are many interesting stories pertaining to each of these beasts, but there is no time and space to elucidate further here. Sorry!

Any genealogist who is searching for European ancestors, should read an account of the history of each nation, and the inter-relationships of the kings and queens, studying the arms of each. There may be a connection between the surname arms of an individual and his king or queen. One of the ancestral beasts of a certain royal birth may indicate the area from which he came, and other men "who served his Prince" may have such an emblem upon his arms in miniature.

A good reference is the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Look in the index under the nation desired: For example,

Britain	Ireland	Scotland
England	Ireland, Northern	Wales
English History	Ireland, Republic of	

There are genealogical tables of the many houses of royalty of the various European nations I have found and listed for your reference. It is the 1968 edition from which these are listed below. However, one can look in the index under the name listed, and find them in other editions.

Look under:	Vol.	Page
Leopold III of Babenburg	2	945
Henry IV (French King)	4	18-21
James I (Grt. Brit.)	8	481
Mary (of Teck)	8	501
Mary (of Modena)	10	1094-8
Hohenzollern	11	581-5
Lancaster (House of)	13	637
Plantagenet	17	1171
Stewart (Stuart of Scotland)	21	241-2
Tartan - Scottish clan and regimental tartans, plus 2 color plates of plaids	21	709-10
York (House of)	23	897-900

"The contractor must gather together the bricks, the boards, the sand and cement that will go to the construction of the building;" and that is what I have attempted to do in structuring an outline of Heraldry for my readers. This information came from about 12 heraldic books of reference, dug out bit by bit. Nowhere has there been a workable outline of the basics of heraldry for beginners to use, such as the one here presented.

If I am in error on any part of this "lecture", please write and send reasons and proofs of items that need correction. However, please bear in mind that "the authorities" are not always in agreement on their classifications; that word-spellings are numerous, due to so many languages having been involved in the structure of key heraldic words. I have tried to choose the middle, or most logical way to include or describe the situation. For finer points of distinction, take the word of your favorite Herald, King of Arms, or Pursuivant. Many books have been listed for your benefit.

If this "lecture" meets with your approval, and enough of you write telling me that it has been helpful, then I will continue with my research, and try to write the rest of it which includes the elements of the complete achievement containing crests, supporters, mottoes, etc.

Good luck with your ancestral arms hunting - your heritage. Let me know how you come out - some day when you are inspired. One more quote:

"Him that overcometh [the Basics of Heraldry] will I make
a Pillar in the Temple ... and I will write upon him my new name ..."
A Genealogical Herald! (Revelations 3:12, and F.H.)

THE JACKSONVILLE AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - PO BOX 21 - Jacksonville ILL 62650 was organized January 26, 1972. We enter 1974 with "high hopes" and eager anticipation. At the end of our second successful year we have 124 members from 10 counties in Illinois, 13 other states, and Canada. We have had 11 regular night meetings, and 11 afternoon workshops. Our meetings are as follows:

Day Workshops - 1st Thursday afternoon - Jacksonville Public Library - 1:15 pm
Regular meetings - 4th Thursday nights - Illinois Power Auditorium - 7:30 pm

We invite your 1974 membership, and ask members to pass this information along to their friends. We would appreciate your "zeroxing" this membership sheet to post in local libraries, as a means of letting others know about our Society. If you could use several of these sheets, send a request, and say how many.

We have mimeographed a special publication - "The Basics of Heraldry for Ancestral Knowledge" written by our President, Mrs. Florence Hutchison - to send members who pay dues for 1974. This workbook explains the basics of the heraldic shield as a guide for the genealogist to trace surname ancestors.

DUES: \$5.00 for 1 person per year, plus \$1.00 for spouse.

CHARTER RENEWALS: \$4.00 per person, 1.00 " "

To encourage young people to start family history collections, we accept JUNIOR MEMBERSHIPS at \$1.00 per year for Grade, High School and College Students. All memberships run from January 1 to December 31.

Make checks payable to Jacksonville Area Gen. Soc., and send to address above.

After August 1, new memberships are \$3.00, plus \$1.00 for spouse, and/or Juniors.

Letters of Inquiry are read in open meeting. If some person in the audience expresses an interest, he takes the letter to answer. We publish the names sought in this area in our news notices, along with the name and address of the seeker. If we can find some information easily in our ever-growing indexes and files, we write to the person. However, we have no one researcher who has volunteered to do this regularly. Write anyhow! Maybe some one will be of help.

A workbook "Helpful Hints for Writing Letters of Inquiry" is being prepared as our next special publication for members.

PUBLICATIONS POLICY: We cannot yet commit ourselves to regular publication of a Quarterly at this time, except for occasional newsletters, and special workbooks which probably have more valuable information. Our finances, volunteers and publishing experience are not yet sufficient. As membership and interest grows, this will eventually become reality.

Your Officers appreciate your support as indicated by your letters, and your membership in our Society. WE NEED YOU - YOU NEED US. Let's together make 1974 a BANNER YEAR for genealogical research and preservation of family records and history in West Central Illinois. (1/74)

Cut on lines, or	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL		1974
send 3"x5" card with name (names), address and amount sent.	Mr. _____		
	Mrs. _____		
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	Junior Memberships	1.00	
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