

Clan ANDERSON



ARMS

A silver shield with a red engrailed saltire between two red mullets in chief and base and blue boars' heads erased on each side

CREST MOTTO

Out of a wreath of the liveries an oak tree proper
Stand sure with confidence

As St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, it is perhaps not surprising that the name 'son of Andrew' is common over much of the country. The Gaelic origin of the name 'Gilleandreas', gives the name 'Macandrew' and other variations. Grimble states that although arms were granted to an Anderson of that Ikl in the sixteenth century, the name is so widespread that no exact place of origin can be established. Black lists Andersons as burgesses of Peebles and also in the county of Dumfries. John Anderson was commissioner to Parliament for Cupar in 1585. Alexander Anderson was a famous mathematician born near Aberdeen, who later settled in Paris, where he published works on geometry and algebra. is kinsman, David Anderson of Finshaugh, had a similar scientific bent and is renowned for removing, by the application of science and mechanics, a large rock obstruction the entrance to Aberdeen harbor. William Anderson published his famous biographical history of the people of Scotland, *The Scottish Nation*, in three volumes in 1863. He praised the more charitable activities of the family by stating that David Anderson (the rock remover) was also 'rich enough and generous enough to found and endow a hospital in Aberdeen for the maintenance and education of ten poor orphans'. In the twentieth century, the name is remembered for the famous Anderson shelters, designed on the orders of John Anderson, viscount Waverley, during the Second World War. There is no chiefly line at present but the major cadet branches have been identified as those of Downhill, West Ardbreck and Candacriag. The Anderson Clan Society was formed in 1973 and is now active throughout the world and a clan room and archival display are maintained at Wisby House, Kirtlebridge in Dumfriesshire.

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