

Clan CLARK

ARMS CREST MOTTO A blue shield, with a gold fess between a gold castle in chief, and a gold crescent in base. Not available In Deo speravi (In God have I trusted).

Clark, Clarke, Clerk. Originally a man in a religious order, and later a scholar, a penman, in early charters Latinized clericus. Roger clericus held a land between 1174-78, and Thomas clericus was one of those appointed in 1246 to determine the right marches of West Fedale. James the clerk was witness to a charter by Richard de Bancori of land in Dumfriesshire, about 1249, and Alan clericus was charter witness in Aberdeen, 1281. Nine persons names 'le clerk,' rendered homage for their possessions, 1296. In the fourteenth and following centuries the name was quite common throughout the Lowlands and is found in all old Scots charters and public documents, and only after 1400 do we feel certain that the word is truly a surname. John Clerc possessed a tenement in Edinburgh, 1400, Adam Clark or Clerk was burgess of Dundee, 1406, and Hugh Clerk and Alan Clerk were burgesses of Irvine, 1418. John Clerk of Leith, shipmaster, had a safe conduct into England, 1446. Robert Clerk took part in the second hership of Petty, 1513, Johannes Clark was prior of Scone, 1524, and Angus the clerk, a follower of Donald Gorme of Sleat, had remission in 1541 for his part in laying waste Trouterness in Sky and Kenlochew in Ross. Richard Clark, a native of Montrose, became vice-admiral of Sweden and presented a brass chandelier to the parish church of his native town, 1623. Hans Clerck, of a different family, rose to be an admiral in the same service. The name still exists in Sweden and Finland in the form Klerck. The word was borrowed into Gaelic and gave origin to the surname Mac a' chleirich. Claerk 1547. George Rogers Clark (1752-1818), to whom is due the possession of the territory northwest of the Ohio, 1783, was of Scottish descent.

Taken from "Surnames of Scotland", by George Black, The New York Public Library.

Clan CLARK Septs

CLARK(E) CLARK(E) CLARKIN CLERK(E) MAC LURKEN,-IN SCRIBNER SCRIV(E)NER SCROLL SCRIBNER SCRIV(E)NER SCROLL

This clan information sheet has been prepared by The Scottish Society of Louisville, Inc. PO Box 32248 Louisville, KY 40232-2248

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