

Clan GOW

ARMS

Not available

GOW, GOWAN, MACGOWAN: With other variants, these are anglicized names derived from the Gaelic, Gobha, a smith. The usual genitive form of gobha is gobhainn, which gives us GOWAN and the same applies to Mac a'Ghobhainn, (Son of the Smith), which becomes MACGOWAN. As the trade would be one required in most clans or communities it would undoubtedly become widespread and to specify positive clan associations to the exclusion of all others would be foolhardy. However, within the clan lands, certain races of 'gows' or smiths, found an almost hereditary niche amongst certain kindred's, and it is their descendants who have an 'official' clan connection. Traditionally, the Gows are associated with the Mackintoshs and MacPhersons Clan Chattan, and are said to be descendants of a smith of Perth who aided them at the 'trial by combat' on the North Inch in 1396, thereafter returning with them to Badenoch. Others have a distinct association with Clan Donald. It will thus be obvious that one's ancestors would have required to have come from areas dominated by these clans and the association with Clan Chattan is therefore only true if one's ancestors originated in Badenoch, or the surrounding area, while ancestral origins on or near the western seaboard would more probably indicate a link with Clan Donald. Outwith these areas, association with other clans is also possible, and such would be determined by whatever clan dominated the area inhabited by one's ancestors. A genealogical trace, or an established geographical area of ancestral origin would be required to remove doubt where loyalties should lie. Loyalty should not be declared to more than one Clan Chief and when such is identified the CREST BADGE, MOTTO, TARTANS etc, pertaining to that clan may safely be adopted.

Taken from 'ElectricScotland.com'.

Clan GOW Septs

GOAN	GOWING(S)	MAC GOHAN	MAC SMITH
GOHAN	GUAN	MAC GOVAN,-EN	MACOWAN, -,EN
GOVE	MAC COUN	MAC GOW	MAGEOWN
GOW	MAC GAHAN	MAC GOWAN,-EN	MAGOWAN,-EN,-IN
GOWAN(S)	MAC GAN(N)	MAC GOWIN(S)	SMITH
GOWE	MAC GAUNE	MAC GOWNE	SMYTH
GOWEN(S)	MAC GAVIN	MAC KOAN(E)	
GOWIN(S)	MAC GAWN	MAC KOW	

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