



Clan GRAY

ARMS	Gules, a lion rampant within a border engrailed Argent (Gray); overall a label of two points Or, each point charged gyronny of eight Or and Sable (Campbell)
CREST	An anchor in pale Or
MOTTO	Anchor fast anchor
SUPPORTERS	Two lions gardant Gules, each charged about its neck with a label as in the arms

The surname is originally French, being first borne by Fulbert, Breat Chamberlain of Robert, Duke of Normandy, who granted him the castle and lands of Croy or Gray in Pieardy which he thereafter assumed as the family surname. His daughter, Arlotta, is said to have been the mother of William the Conqueror. In England several families from this source were raised to high rank, and spelled their name 'Grey'. From the Dukes of Suffolk came the amiable and accomplished Lady Jane Grey, who was an innocent victim of the ambitions of her father. She was proclaimed Queen of England and reigned for nine days in 1553, but she perished on the block in February 1554. In Scotland, John de Gray was a witness to donations in favor of the monastery of Coldstream during the reign of Alexander III. He was descended from Lord Grey of Chillingham in Northumberland, and became steward to the Earls of March. Like many others, the grays swore fealty to Edward I of England in the Ragman Roll of 1296, but they were soon following Robert the Bruce on the long fight for Scottish independence. Sir Andrew Gray was one of the first to scale the rock of Edinburgh Castle when it was taken from the English in 1312. He was rewarded with several grants of land, including Longforgen in Perthshire, for his services to the Crown. One of his descendents another Sir Andrew was one of the Scottish nobles who met James I at Durham from his return from captivity in England. He was created Lord Gray in 1444. Patrick, Master of Gray, son of the second Lord Gray, was a Gentleman of the Bedchamber to James II, and when the king stabbed the Earl of Douglas, Gray struck the next blow with a battleaxe. His son, the third Lord Gray, became Lord Justice General of Scotland in 1506. Patrick Bray of Buttergask, the fifth Lord, was taken prisoner at the Battle of Solway Moss in 1542, and was ransomed for £500 sterling. He was one of the first promoters of the Reformation in Scotland, and in 1567 joined in the defense of the infant James V. Patrick, Master of Gray, the seventh Lord, was a great favorite of James VI but became embroiled in the intrigue of the time, including the death of the king's mother, Mary, Queen of Scots. He was eventually tried for treason but on the intercession of the Earl of Huntly and Lord Hamilton his life was spared and he was exiled. Andrew, eighth Lord Gray, was lieutenant of the 'Gens d'Armes' in France under Lord Gordon. He was ordered to be banished from the kingdom by Order of the estates for being with the Marquess of Montrose in 1645, but the sentence was never carried out. In 1649 he was excommunicated by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for his Catholicism. In 16639 Lord Gray resigned his honors to Charles I and obtained a new patent in favor after himself, of his daughter Ann who had married William Gray, younger of Pittendrum. William, like the rest of the family, was a staunch royalist, and he commanded a regiment, which he had raised mostly at his own expense, at the battle of Worcester in 1651. He was killed in a duel by the Earl of Suthesk in 1660. For a time the title passed to the Earls of Moray, but on the death in 1895 of the fourteenth Earl of Moray and eighteenth Lord Gray, the title passed to his niece, Eveleen, Baroness Gray in her own right. The present Lord Gray is barred from the chiefship of his family by a famous decision of the Court of the Lord Lyon in 1950 – the case of Gray Petitioner, which established that in Scots heraldic law the bearing of a compound, or double-barreled name, was an absolute bar to assuming the chiefship on Scottish clan or family

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