



Clan MACBRAYNE

ARMS	Gules, two lions passant guardant in pale parted per pale Or and Argent
CREST	A dexter arm issuing out of a ducal coronet and grasping a sword all Proper
MOTTO	Fortis ceu leo fidus (Brave as a faithful lion)

This largely Highland name is said to derive from the Gaelic for 'son of the judge'. The brieve, or frehon, was a Celtic judge who was trained in the oral customary law of the Celtic policy, and this office was held in high esteem. The system is said to have broken down by its becoming hereditary, thus placing great power in the hands of men whose qualifications would necessarily be of an unequal nature and whose judgements could not be free from bias. Eugenius Macgrahin is listed as a student at the University of St Andrews in 1525. Duncan and Archibald Mcbrain were denounced as rebels in Argyllshire in 1685. Archibald Mcbrain, who died in 1760, brought to the family the estates of Macnaghtan of that Ilk and his son, Donald, quartered the Macbrayn lions with the arms of Machaghtan around 1773. The family continued to prosper and acquired the lands of Glenbranter in Argyll. Major John Macbrayne was mentioned in dispatches in the First World War, when he served in the cavalry and was wounded. However, the name is now best known throughout the Western Isles for the MacBrayne shipping lines, without which many of the islands would still be completely isolated. 'God made all the earth and is lord of all that it contains/Except the Island shipping lanes that belong to the MacBraynes'.

Taken from "Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopedia", by Collins, HarperCollins Publishers 1994

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

Visit our website at www.scotsoflou.com