



Clan MACDONELL

ARMS

Gold with a red eagle on which there is a black lymphad.

CREST

Not available

MOTTO

Per mare per terras (By water and land)

MACDONELL. The spelling of the name MACDONALD, q.v., used by the families of Glengarry and Keppoch.

MACDONALD. Gaelic. *Mac DhomhnuiU* (pron. Maak oonil), 'son of DONALD,' q.v. Properly speaking there is no such surname as Macdonald. *MacDhomhnuill* means 'son of (a par - ticular) Donald': all others of the name are simply *Domhnullach*, 'one of the Donalds'. The chiefs of the clan in the direct line are descended from Donald, eldest son of Reginald, second son of Somerled, Regulus of the Isles. Collectively the clan is known as *Clann DomhnuiU*, and, due to the absorption of many small septs and 'broken men: it is therefore the most numerous and widespread of all the clans. It should therefore be borne in mind that all persons named Macdonald are not by any means son of a particular Donald any more than all Campbells are sib to the duke of Argyll. Sir Eneas Macpherson rather spitefully accuses the MacDonald's of vanity in that they "would have all the families descended of theirs in which there is an (M) or any other letter of their name". In *MacDhomhnuill* the *li* by aspiration is often omitted in pronunciation thus giving rise to the form MacConnell, a spelling common in Ulster. In 'A *ChOnuill*' for 'A *DhomhnuiU* ('A' here is all that remains of 'Mac') the sounds of broad *dh* and broad *ch* are liable to confusion, hence *MacChonuill* for *MacDhOmhnuiU* and MacConachie for *MacDhonnchaidh*. In *Waifs and strays*, n, and in Rev. J. G. Campbell's *Witchcraft*, p. 23, are the forms *MacConnuill* and *Ma-Conuill*. The attempts in record to render the name from Gaelic pronunciation has resulted in a great variety of forms from which the following is a selection: Makconehill 1479, 1564, Maconhale (of Dunivaig) 1588, McConile 1571, M'Conill 1580, McConnaill 1581, M'Connel 1627, McConnell 1633, McCannil 1564, M'Connill 1597, M'Connyll 1545, VcConull 1613, MakDonald 1571, M'Donnyle 1326, McDonol 1769, McDonoll 1771, McDonyll 1521, M'Douny 1329, M'Kconil 1597, MacKonald 1586, Mackoneye 1571, M'Konnell, M'Oneill, VcONeill 1576, M'Onele (all four of Donnawik = Dunivaig) 1626, McOnill (of Sleat) 1628, Mc orronald (of Eyellantirrem) 1645, M'zonil 1531, Makconeil 1571, Makconell 1521, Makconnele and Makconell 1571, Mach-Onales and Mac-Coneales (pI.) 1646. Sir James Melville spells the name Machonet The M'Douny of 1329 above appears three years earlier as John M'Donnyle, bailie of Ile (Islay), and Therthelnac Makdonenalde was a charter witness at Lesmore, 1251. MACDONELL and MACDONNELL are also recognized spellings of the name at the present time.

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

Clan MACDONELL septs

ALEXANDER, SANDERSON

This clan information sheet has been prepared by
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