



## Clan SYDSERF

**ARMS**  
**CREST**  
**MOTTO**

Argent, three fleurs de lis Azure  
An eagle's head coupéd Gules  
virtute promoreo (By virtue I prevail)

**T**he lands and barony of Sydsenf lay in East Lothian but the main estate was later to be called Ruchlaw. The lands were probably named after St serf. Nisbet suggests that the arms bear the royal fleurs de lis of France, and that the family are of noble French origin. Marior de Sdsenfe appears on the Ragman Roll of 1296, swearing homage to Edward I of England for his lands near Edinburgh. William de Sidesenf also appears on the roll. The name appears in the register of the Privy council of Scotland in 1577, as 'Sydsenf of that Ilk'. William Sydsenf of Ruchlaw received a Crown charter to his lands in 1619. His son, Sir Alexander Sydsenf, was a prominent Edinburgh Baillie who signed the National covenant, in defense of Presbyterianism, in 1639. He was also a royalist in the civil war and was taken prisoner in 1651, but he was knighted after the Restoration in 1660. Martha Sydsenf, the heiress to Ruchlaw, married Francis Buchan, a scion of the chiefly house of Auchmacoy, in 1791. The family, which is still represented today, were thereafter styled 'Buchan-Sydsenf'.

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