Clan ADAM

ARMS Green shield with three silver arrows, points down

CREST Not available

MOTTO Steady



Bardsley says that "six centuries ago Adam probably ranked as second or third favorite among boys names throughout England. In the north it attained a most remarkable pre-eminence." It was also a popular name in Scotland. Douglas absurdly says that a Duncan Adam, who lived in the reign of Robert the Bruce, had four sons, Robert, John, Reginald, and Duncan, and that from them "all the Adams, Macadams, Adamsons, and Adies in Scotland are descended, which sufficiently appears from their carrying the same figures in their armorial bearing." Adam, sub-prior of Melrose became abbot of Cupar, 1189. Adam, son of Adam, was one of the witnesses to the charter by William Bruce to Adam of Carlyle of the lands of Kynemundm c. 1194-1214, and he also witnessed the resignation by Dunegal, son of Udard, of a carucate of land in Warmanbie within the same period. Adam became abbot of Newbatle in 1201, and another Adam, a native of Lennox, was a monk of great sanctity. Duncan Filius Ade occurs as witness in a charter gifting the church of Wemyss to the Hosital of Soltre, now Soura in Midlothianm between 1200 and 1240. Sir Ade, a Pope's knight, was vicar of Inverkippe, 1329. Andrew Adam was one of the representatives of Lanark in the obligation by the burghs to pay part of the ransom of King James I, and William, son of Ade de Kydalaw, was a witness at Yester, 1374. Robert Adam (1728-1792), architect, and William Adam (1751-1839), politician, were two of the most eminent of the name.

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

This Clan information sheet has been prepared by
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