

THE SOMERSET DRAGON

THE JOURNAL OF THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

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Editorial

Our chairman has suggested that it would be as well to enclose our dragon within an oval frame rather than a shield—thus emphasising that he is an emblem and not masquerading as a shield of arms. We hope readers will approve the new look.



The hatchments alongside are for Blathwayt impaling Jenkinson and Blathwayt with Creighton in pre-tence.

They are two of the nine seen on our visit to Dyrham Church—see p. 13

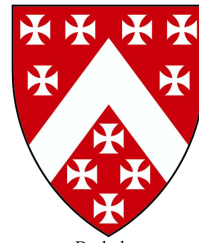
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BERKELEYS AND BARCLAYS by Alex Maxwell Findlater

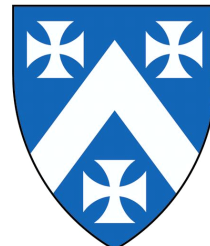
As soon as you had read that title, you knew you were back in that familiar world of Anglo-Scottish heraldry, which you have come to know and love over the last ten years.

The Scottish Barclays are always said to have come from England, and this is not improbable, given their arms, in England a silver chevron on a red ground with ten crosses pattée and in Scotland on blue with only three crosses. Scots heraldry doesn't much like semée fields, for that is what the Berkeley field originally was, and it does like three charges the same, so the simplification is characteristic



Berkeley

Figs. 1 & 2
The arms of the
Berkeleys and Bar-
clays.



Barclay

The Barclays have traditionally traced themselves from English courtiers, who went north with Princess Margaret, sister of Edgar the Atheling in about 1068. However, there is no evidence for this and de Berkeley was not, I believe, used in England as a family name so early. A more convincing case was proposed by Geoffrey Barrow in 1980, that the first incomers were Walter, Chamberlain of King William the Lion, and his brother Robert. They are recorded from about 1165 to the 1190s, and Barrow suggests that they were from the Frome branch of the Berkeleys. Both married wealthy women, and neither had a surviving son, Robert's daughter Alina marrying Hugo de Normanville of Stamfordham and carrying Maxtone to him, while one of

Walter's daughters, un-named, married Enguerrand de Balliol and produced a line of Balliols of Urr and Redcastle, and the other, Agatha, married Humphrey de Addeville, probably from Flanders, who changed his name to Berkeley, but had only a daughter Richenda, who married but had no children, giving all her lands to Arbroath Abbey and St Andrews Priory. Barrow hypothesized that Humphrey's brother John de Addeville changed his name to Berkeley, but there is no evidence of this, or indeed of any issue he might have had.

The next Barclays on record in Scotland are some two generations later than Walter and Robert. They are Roger de Berkeley of Forgandenny, in southern Perthshire, who makes two grants to Lindores Abbey, to one of which three of his sons, Hugh, Dovenald and Walter, act as witnesses. There is also a contemporary Sir Robert Barclay, who is based in Lanarkshire. Roger and Sir Robert would seem to have been born about 1200 and to have survived into the second part of that century, Sir Robert being the senior juror on an inquest in Wiston (Lanarks) in 1264. Roger's sons, Hugh, Justiciar of Lothian (1258-1276), and Walter are identifiable as 1296 homagers to Edward I, and we also find a Sir Patrick as a Lanarkshire homager, in the Ragman Roll. John Ravilious in a paper in the *Scottish Genealogist* (March 2008) has shown that Sir Hugh's daughter Euphemia married William Earl of Ross, using as evidence that their son, Hugh, later Earl of Ross, used a seal which combined the characteristic crosses pattée of the Barclays with the three lioncels of the Rosses. He also showed that Earl Hugh had a second cousin John Barclay of Gartly, Banffshire, identified as grandson of Walter, Sir Hugh's brother. Meanwhile their cousins held Crawfordjohn in Lanarkshire and had an interest in Belhelvie, a thanage in Aberdeenshire.

How can we tie these Scots to the English Berkeleys? After the troubled times of Stephen and Matilda, Roger de Berkeley of Dursley had lost Berkeley Castle, as he had delayed declaring his allegiance, and was only restored to Dursley when peace came, being replaced at Berkeley by Robert FitzHarding, later de Berkeley. Roger harried Robert and the King enforced a concord between the warring parties. The terms of the 1154 concord were that the son of Dursley should marry a daughter of FitzHarding and vice-versa, so making a double marriage, and that the Berkeley of Dursley family should hold their lands of the FitzHarding of Berkeley family. This last condition is significant, for any charter granted by the Lord of Dursley would have to be confirmed by his lord, the Lord of Berkeley.

It seems to me most likely that in the aftermath of this enforced concord, the younger sons of Dursley, ie Walter and Robert, were most likely to leave for Scotland, while those of the FitzHardings would have new and broader acres on which to be planted.

Of these first two Scottish Berkeleys, Walter the Chamberlain was a hostage in England, as a surety of the Treaty of Falaise of 1174. It seems that he returned to Scotland in about 1179, but in the meantime most probably was lodged, as was normal practice at the time, with his English relatives, and so was able to kindle their interest in a further adventure in Scotland. To which branch of the Berkeleys he belonged, can be suggested by a combination of small pieces of evidence.

The next piece of the puzzle is the fact that Roger and Robert, the 13th century settlers, fit neatly into the Dursley family, for their contemporary in that family is the first Henry in that family, all previous lords having been Roger and the dates of the generations coincide beautifully. The naming pattern also fits as Roger was a Dursley name, not a FitzHarding name.

Moreover the Scots Barclays fit between the generations in the FitzHarding family, not into them. We know the birth years of the FitzHardings; Thomas Lord Berkeley was born in ca 1170 (died aged about 73 in 1243) and his eldest son Maurice in 1218 (died aged 63 in 1281). The Scottish Barclays, born about 1200, are either too young or too old to fit comfortably into that family

Turning to the lands, both Sir Hugh and Sir Patrick of Scotland held lands in Gloucestershire, but only for Sir Hugh are the details known. In 1296 Sir Hugh Barclay is recorded as holding land worth 26/8d in Cam in the Sherifffdom of Berkeleyshire, alias Gloucestershire:

26s 8d of rent in fee in the vill of Cam from a house and carucate there, which Robert de Draycote an Englishman at the King's peace has held for 30 years or more by hereditary right (CDS ii p173)

Cam is immediately north of Dursley and the Dursley family did indeed hold land there, as we know from Inquisitions post mortem. Smyth in his Family of Berkeley has a note on Cam, which shows that there was a family of Draycote there in the 13th and 14th centuries. Smyth himself came from Nibley, which is in the same parish as Dursley, so he took a particular interest in it.

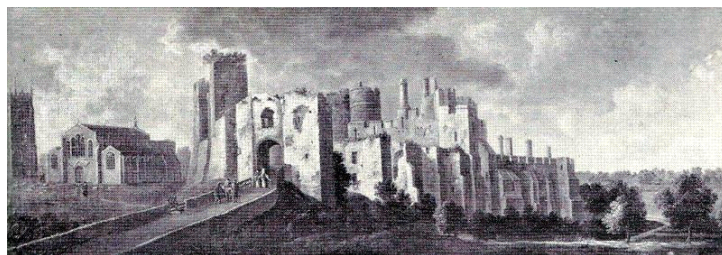


Fig. 3. The earliest known picture of Berkeley Castle, held by both families at different times, and a cause of the strife between them.

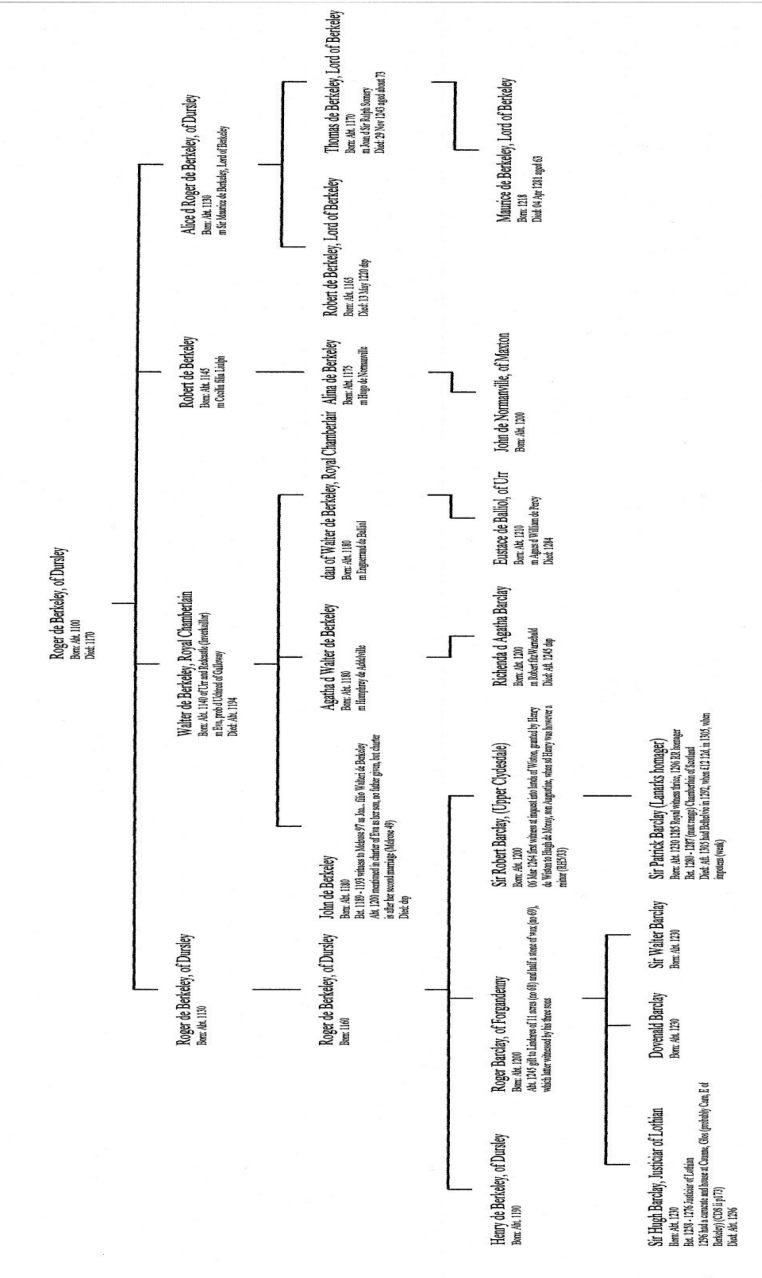
Finally we have an English record of 1331, which confirms the land holding:

‘Order to the escheator beyond Trent, - pursuant to an inquisition made by him shewing that Stephen de Draycote held no lands in chief whereby the wardship of his lands should pertain at present to the king, but held a messuage and 2 virgates of land in Draycote of Thomas de Berkele by knight service, wherefrom the king received a rent of 26s. 8d. a year which Maurice de Berkele, great-grandfather of the said Thomas, granted for life to Roger de Berkele of Scotland, and which is in the king's hand by reason of Roger's late adherence to the Scots,...’ [Cal Fine Rolls 4 Edw III, p. 190, mem. 17]

This land was in the hands of the King evidently as having been forfeit, not by Roger himself, but by his descendant Hugh earl of Ross. The amount of rent is exactly the same, 26/8d or 2 marks and it is interesting that the carucate is now described as 2 virgates, ie half a carucate, so it was very possibly partitioned between Sir Hugh and Sir Patrick. The lands, although granted by the Dursley family, would have required the confirmation charter of the Crown tenant, which was all that would be of interest to the King. Maurice de Berkeley succeeded his father in 1243 and died in 1281, so giving a wide window for this grant. It is likely that the grant was nearer the earlier date, although it may have been a confirmation of an earlier arrangement.

While this analysis does not prove incontrovertibly that this was the descent of the second wave of Barclays in Scotland, it seems a much more probable solution, given the known descents of the heirs of Walter and Robert, the first wave. The table opposite shows the relationships.

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THE TALE OF THREE BOOKPLATES by Stephen Slater

I have in my little collection of heraldic memorabilia 3 bookplates (ex libris) which have a common theme running through them, each plate is rather splendid in its own way and I thought you might like to see them.

Each bookplate has a set of heraldic quarterings which relate in the main to the families of deGrey and Robinson.

The Robinsons heralded from the city of York and from the 16th century onwards played a leading part in the life of that city, providing mayors and other high office. The deGreys were of ancient noble stock and had numerous branches and titles including the dukedom of Kent, although there was to be only one holder of that title, Henry Grey, first and last Duke of Kent, who died in 1740. In time another title, that of Earl deGrey was created for this family and in passing through the female line it eventually went to the Robinsons, who by that time had been created Baron Grantham.

Thomas Robinson, 3rd Baron Grantham became 2nd Earl de Grey and also took the name and arms of deGrey. Thomas's younger brother, Frederick Robinson, (usually known as Viscount Goderich) was Prime Minister for a short term, his office has been said to be 'magnificently forgettable!'. Frederick was created Earl of Ripon and his son George further enhanced the family's position becoming Viceroy of India and Marquess of Ripon. Frederick also inherited the earldom of de Grey (the title going sideways as Thomas 2nd earl had no sons).

Thomas 2nd Earl de Grey placed on his bookplate the ancient and simple arms of deGrey (barry of 6 Argent and azure) in 1st and 6th quarters, relegating the arms of Robinson (Vert a chevron between 3 stags or) in the 2nd quarter. To these Thomas added the arms of Yorke (3rd quarter); Campbell (4th); and Lucas (5th). The quarters reflected the heir-esses married by the Robinsons



Thomas 2nd Earl de Grey
d.1859



George 1st Marquess of
Ripon KG. d.1880

George, first Marquess of Ripon dropped the arms of Lucas from his own bookplate but added those of Hobart (5th quarter) and Bertie (6th), the latter arms being rather curious in having 3 battering rams. George Ripon placed his arms within both the Garter and the collar of that order, thus making a very grand achievement.

George's son Frederick, 2nd Earl of Ripon married the Lady Gladys Herbert, sister of the Earl of Pembroke. Gladys de Grey (she was Countess de Grey in the lifetime of her father-in-law) created a furore in the aristocratic circles of her day by her feud with another great hostess Theresa, Marchioness of Londonderry. The 2 ladies were rivals for the attentions of the most handsome man of the day, the Honourable (some would say, not so honourable) Harry Cust. Gladys de Grey happened upon a collection of letters between Theresa Londonderry and Harry. In a fit of pique Gladys bundled up the letters and had her footman deliver them to Lord Londonderry. Having read the letters (which included very unflattering comments about himself) he had them bundled up once more and delivered to his wife, with the message 'Henceforth we do not speak' and so it was for the next 30 years of their lives. When Lord Londonderry was dying his wife sent him a message begging him to see her, back came the message 'No', when Theresa Londonderry was dying Gladys Ripon sent her old foe a note asking for her to be forgiven, back came the message 'No'.

To get back to the history and heraldry of the bookplates. Amongst the titles amassed by the Robinsons (earls de Grey) was the barony of Lucas of Crudwell (arms: Argent a fess between 6 annulets, 3-3), this title eventually passed to the earldom of Cowper with the marriage of Anne de Grey, 7th baroness, to George, 6th Earl Cowper. The earldom of Cowper was somewhat 'exotic' and the family included in the heraldic quarterings the arms of a side branch of the Nassaus, princes of Orange. This branch of the Nassaus descended through Lodewijk van Nassau, Lord of Lecq, the illegitimate son of Mauritz van Nassau, Prince of Orange. Under the heraldic rules of the house of Nassau the lords of Lecq should have born a bend sinister (in Dutch 'bastardbalk') over their armorial quarters to denote the illegitimate descent, but members of this branch petitioned the ruling head of Nassau (Willem III) to drop the bend sinister, they received no reply to their plea and therefore dropped the 'bastardbalk'.

The earls Cowper further enhanced their titles in 1778 when George, 3rd earl gained the title of Prince of the Holy Roman Empire, heraldically the Cowpers augmented their arms by bearing them on the breast of the imperial double headed eagle, and placing the princely bonnet above their shield. By the way, the Nassau arms appear on Lady Cowper's arms as the complex 3rd quarter (made up of various lordships held by the Nassaus).

The third bookplate I have placed in my article shows the achievement of arms of Anne Dowager Countess Cowper, she was co-heiress to Thomas, 2nd Earl de Grey. Anne was in her own right 7th Baroness Lucas of Crudwell and her own family arms appear as an escutcheon topped by a baronesses coronet.

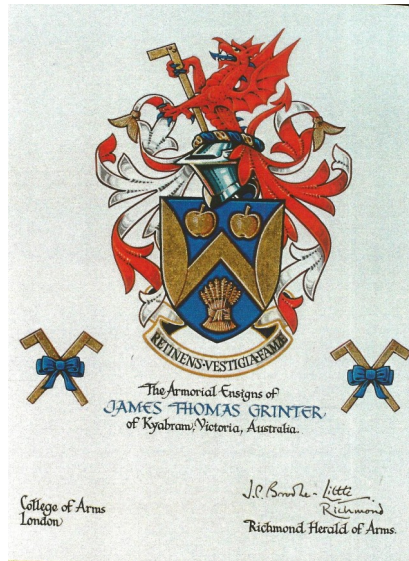


Wrest Park.

Anne Countess Cowper
Baroness Lucas of Crudwell
d.1880

In time most of the grand titles that those 3 bookplates are concerned with, the earldom of Cowper, the earldom of de Grey and the marquessate of Ripon became extinct. However, there is one title picked up by the Robinsons, de Greys and Cowpers which has survived to this day, this is the barony of Lucas of Crudwell, which has a remainder so remarkable that it is said, it is unlikely to ever become extinct, and is held today by Ralph Palmer. 12th Baron Lucas of Crudwell.

THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF JAMES GRINTER



We are privileged to be able to display the arms of our furthest flung member, James Grinter, who lives in Victoria, Australia. James is a fan of the Somerset Dragon and points out that 'I was fortunate to be allowed to use the emblem as a crest in 1977. John Brooke-Little, (Richmond) took some persuading'. Heraldry is obviously alive and well in the southern hemisphere.

Herewith is James's explanation of the symbolism of the arms and crest:

The symbolism of the Arms and Crest indicate the Grinter's lived in the English County of Somerset, where they were farmers and roof thatchers. This is shown with the golden apples and the garb of wheat in the Arms, and the use of the Red Dragon of Somerset in the Crest.

The Flaunches represent the Northern and Southern hemispheres; the Azure field is the blue sea that denotes emigration from England to Australia in the 1850's. The builder's square in the Crest and Badge alludes to the fact that James Grinter worked in the building trade from 1946.

The latin motto-"Retinens Vestigia Famae", means "Retracing the deeds of honourable ancestors" and shows his intense interest in Genealogy & Heraldry.

The name GRINTER derives from the Old French, GRENETIER-'The Keeper of a Granary'.

GRENETIER de SOMERSETSHIRE.

VISIT TO DYRHAM & DOYNTON

A small but select group of members and guest enjoyed a fascinating visit to the churches of Dyrham and Doynton just north of Bath. Our guides, Tony Ryan at Dyrham and David Vaudrey at Doynton, were on top form and we were introduced to the wealth of heraldry at Dyrham, including the nine hatchments commemorating members of the Blathwayt family who owned and lived at Dyrham Park. From Dyrham we moved to neighbouring Doynton to inspect the intriguing hatchment of Gen. Sir William Davy, who served under Wellington in the Peninsula. He lived at nearby Tracy Park and died in 1856. An article by Tony Ryan on the Dyrham heraldry will appear in our next issue.

Fig 3 Five members pose beneath the Davy hatchment in Doynton Church



Fig 1 A hatchment in Dyrham Church displaying the arms of Blathwayt with Ambrose in pre-tence.



Fig 2 Stuart Emerson (left), who took the photograph below, joins members in admiring the Wynter tomb in Dyrham Church





THE HULSE ARMS: A POSTSCRIPT

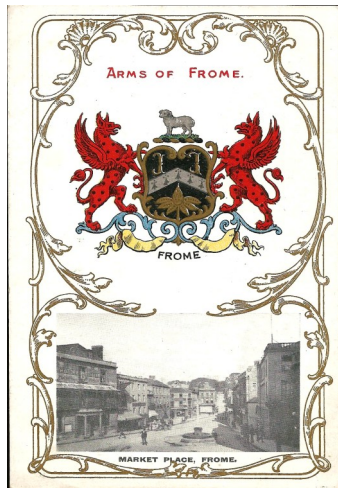
The arms of Hulse of Breamore House, Hampshire, are given in Burke's General Armory as *argent three piles, one issuing from the chief between the others reversed sable*. The crest is *a buck's head couped proper attired or between the attires a sun of the last*.

Interestingly enough, as Alex Maxwell Findlater pointed out in Issue No.20, the Hulse arms as depicted on six of the hatchments hanging in Breamore Church show the field as *per fess argent and ermine three piles sable issuing one from the chief and two from the base*. The reason for this would seem to be that from early in the nineteenth century the Breamore Hulses had doubts as to whether or not they were the senior branch of the family and so the arms they bore were differenced accordingly.

The quarterings displayed on the hatchment of Sir Hamilton John Hulse, the 8th baronet, are 1 and 4 Hulse, 2 and 3 *gules a molet or between three cinquefoils argent and a bordure engrailed argent charged alternately with four crescents and four fleurs-de-lys azure* for Hamilton. In pretence is *gyronny of eight sable and or on a chief argent two pallets azure between two cantons gules each charged with a molet argent* for Campbell.

*** Frome Urban District Council was granted arms in August 1953 but they bare scant resemblance to the Eames version opposite.

THE HERALDRY OF EDWARDIAN SOMERSET



Frome did not possess armorial bearings when the local firm of H. C. Eames of Stoney Street adapted the achievement of the Clothworkers Guild., namely *sable a chevron ermine between in chief two havettes argent and in base a teasel cob or*. The post-card shows that these 'arms' have retained the Clothworkers crest of *a ram statant or*, but replaced griffin supporters with Somerset dragons. A further change is that the havettes are now *or* rather than the Clothworkers' *argent*.

TIME TO ORDER FRESH STATIONERY?

From David T. Hawkings

I was stripping the cover of a book* in order to re-bind it and found that the spine of the book was lined with pieces of an old newspaper. One of the articles in this newspaper reads:-

No Charge Made for Stamping Arms, Crests, Coronets or Initials on Paper and Envelopes at Henry Rodrigue's Stationery and Account Book Warehouse, 21, Piccadilly. Good Cream-laid Adhesive Envelopes, 4d per 100. Cream-laid Note, full size, five quires for 6d. Thick ditto, five quires for 1s. Letter Paper, 4s per ream. Foolscap, 9s per ream. Sermon Paper, 4s 6d per ream. Black Bordered Note, 4d per quire, 6s per ream. Black Bordered Envelopes, 1s per 100. Best Sealing Wax, 10 sticks for 1s; 4s per lb. All kinds of stationery equally cheap. Card plate elegantly engraved, and 100 Superfine Cards printed for 4s 6d. Wedding Stationery of the newest patterns.

Observe at HENRY RODRIGUE'S well-known Stationery Warehouse, 21 Piccadilly, London.

* The book is *Pictorial Handbook of London* by Henry G. Bohn, York Street, Covent Garden, 1854

THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

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THE SOMERSET DRAGON

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Contributions welcome

Objects

The aims of the society are to promote and encourage the study of heraldry especially in the historic county of Somerset.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat. 8th Feb. AGM followed by an illustrated talk by the Secretary -
The Buckingham Arms—Reflections on a Doomed Dukedom
Sat. 29th March. Members Miscellany -
Ten Minute Talks by members
Meetings take place at Monteclefe Cottage, Somerton. 12.30 pm for 1.00
pm lunch, followed by 2.00 pm meeting. Finish by 3.30 pm.