The Heraldry of The Macleays and Their Kin: Scottish Heraldry and Its Australian Context
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Abstract

This present paper gives some general background of the origins of heraldry and its development in Scotland, and briefly examines early use of Scottish heraldry in colonial Australia. The lecture on which this paper is based went on to show examples of heraldic use by Alexander Macleay and his kinfolk, and it is the author’s hope that, once further research is undertaken, these can also be discussed. While not all of the arms that can be connected to Alexander Macleay via ancestry or marriage are Scottish in origin (in particular those of his Harrington, Dumaresq and Onslow sons-in-law), they are worthy of as much analysis as those that are (including Barclay, Innes and Campbell) in what they might tell us about identity, aspiration and kinship in the Scottish diaspora in colonial New South Wales.

Full Text:

In Scottish heraldry that rule is very rigidly enforced, but in England and elsewhere it has been allowed to fall into decay, except in the case of the royal family. Probably the next development in the scope of heraldry was its use by ecclesiastics. The bishops and the abbots of the monasteries used arms on their seals from the 12th century onward. In that variety of heraldic usage, the arms were not those of individuals but of the body they temporarily represented—as also with arms borne by political units such as nations and cities or by educational establishments, many of which date from the Australian Heraldry Society and the world of heraldry in Australia. Here you will find information about the Society and its objectives, including... For the latest news on upcoming events, publications, lectures and dinner meetings of the Australian Heraldry Society, please join us on our Facebook Page. Our Facebook page is updated most days with interesting heraldic knowledge and images, and is the location where we announce upcoming events. All our events are also listed within our Members Circular, which is available to all members. Contact Form. But heraldry is alive, well and thriving, and no place has such a well-developed and tightly regulated system of heraldry as Scotland. It is also of central importance in genealogy, as a coat of arms is a pictorial shorthand of an individual’s family tree. The components of an achievement of arms. It is best to start with an understanding of what a coat of arms consists of. Below is an ‘achievement’ of arms with its various components. Slughorn – as well as the motto at the top there may be a subsidiary slogan under the compartment, often the war-cry of the clan, for example. How did arms originate? Arms started from the necessity to identify knights and nobles on the battlefield and at jousting tournaments after the invention of the barrel helmet, which completely covered the face.