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Ealdormere
Letter of Intent
June 23, 2005

Unto Elisabeth de Rossignol, Laurel Queen of Arms, Margaret MacDuibhshithe, Pelican Queen of Arms, Gwynllian ferch Maredudd, Wreath Queen of Arms and the College of Arms does Lady Cainnear inghean Hui Chatharnaig, Green Mantle Herald send greetings and salutations. The following items are presented for your consideration by the College of Arms with the Society for Creative Anachronism. I would also like to advise that my mailing address has changed as noted in bold above. Please be advised.

*In all cases unless indicated otherwise, submitters will accept all changes and creation of holding names as required for their desired authenticity.

1. Bethóc inghean MaelFéich{i}'n F.ynletyr. New Name and New Device. Client wishes a female name authentic to 11th-12th century Scottish Gaelic (with Irish influences) and will accept major changes.

Barry wavy azure and argent, on a pale azure a sea-unicorn erect argent.

-this persona is under development as a woman in the 11th-12th century Scotland with Gaelic Scots-Irish heritage.

Bethóc – www.sca.org/heraldry/loar/1986/08/lar.html last accessed 2005 March 05
“Bethoc is a feminine given name”. Dunkling, Leslie Alan (1999). Scottish Christian Names. Sterling, Scotland: Thompson Press Ltd. P.25. www.tracycrocker.com/p2.htm last accessed: 2005 March 05
“Bethoc daughter of Mael-Coluim [Malcolm II] King of Scots. She married Crinan the Thane in 1000. Daughter of Mael-Coluim [Malcolm II] King of Scots (M) d. 25 November 1034. NB “Mael-Coluim King of Scots was the son of Cinaed [Kenneth] King of Scots. King of Scots, 25 March 1005 to 1034; fought a battle in 1008 at Carham with Uchtred, son of Waltheof, Earl of the Northumbrians, and overcame the Danes, 1017; Published a conde of laws; was murdered, 25 November 1034. “1004 Malcolm the Son of Kenneth, a most victorious king reigned 30 years. Died on 25 November 1034.” Citation: [S39] Fredrick Lewis Weis and Jr. assisted by: David Faris with additions and Corrections by: Walter Lee Sheppard, Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists who came to New England between 1623 and 1650. The lineage of Alfred the Great, Charlemagne, Malcolm of Scotland, Robert the Strong, and some of their Descendants. Mackay, George (1999) Celtic First Names. Geddes & Grosset. Scotland, U.K. P43. www.daire.org/names/celtscotfem.html
inghean –

www.medievalscotland.org/chotnames/quickgaelicbyname/#simplepatronymicbyname
last accessed 2005 March 05. The simplest way to construct an historically accurate

Gaelic name & byname is to select a single appropriate Gaelic given name (that is, “first name” or “Christian name”) for the individual and a single appropriate Gaelic given name for that individual’s father and then put them together as a given name with patronymic byname, as detailed below. This pattern re-creates what is by far the most common form of Gaelic name & byname found in medieval and early modern Ireland...The standard way to form a name using a simple patronymic byname for women is <single given name> inghean <father’s given name (in genitive case & always lenited unless starting with D, T, L, N, R, or a vowel which means <given name> daughter of <father’s name>.

MaelFéchin – www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/simplescotgarlicnames12.htm last accessed 2005 March 05. In the original manuscript, the position of the accents was wholly meaningless (that is, they tended to appear where they didn’t belong, such as over consonants, and also not to appear where they did belong, over long vowels). The accents given in the names in this article do not reflect the actual manuscript usage, but rather are editorial additions by Kenneth Jackson as found in *The Gaelic Notes in the Book of Deer*. The use of the hyphens is also a conventional editorial addition, again by Kenneth Jackson, unused in the manuscript, where such names generally appeared as a single word. NB: The name Mael-Fechin appears in Mr. Jackson’s list of male names in many forms. I have chosen this version without the added modern hyphenation. I would like to keep the accents as written.

F.ynletyr – www.medievalscotland.org/scotnames/scotnames101.shtml last accessed 2005 March 05. There are various general categories or types of personal bynames, and different Scottish cultures had preferences for using different tones, as indeed did different classes of people. Bynames were variously...locative –involving locations or places. There are two types of locative bynames...toponymic—involving proper names of locations...A locative byname indicates a location of place. This may be the name of a place, such as the name of a farm, town, region, or country, or it may be a description of a place based on some topographical feature, such as a mill, bridge, lake or the like. Locative bynames using the names of places are toponymic while locative bynames using descriptions of places are topographic. While some Scottish naming cultures regularly used locative bynames (for example, Scoto-Norman), others usually did not (for example, Scottish Gaelic). www.mcgibbonefamily.org/heraldic_marticulation.htm last accessed 2005 March 05. The name originates from the place Findlater, first recorded in the Exchequer Rolls in 1246. The name is Norse, fyn being white and leitr cliff, so called because there is quartz in the rock. The position of Findlater Castle is on a tiny peninsula, which sticks out into the North Sea, with a sheer drop of more than fifty feet to the rocks and sea below. Findlater of Fynletyr is on the coast of Banffshire, some few miles west of Banff itself.

Lenition style – www.medievalscotland.org/scotlang/lenition.shtml last accessed 2005 March 05. All Gaelic consonantal letters can be lenited [Note3]. Some letters have shown lenition in spelling from the early medieval period (c, f, p, s, and t), some have shown lenition in spelling only from the late medieval period (b, d, g, and m), and a few have never shown grammatical lenition in spelling (l, n, and r)...When Roman letters were first adapted for writing Gaelic (by the 6th century A.D.) lenition was shown for <f> and <s> by writing a dot (called a punctum delens in Latin) over the letter. In the Latin writing tradition, a punctum delens over a letter indicated that it was a mistake and should

be considered erased. [Note4] Since <f> and <s> are respectively silent and nearly silent in Gaelic when lenited, the punctum delens convention was adapted in to Gaelic writing to indicate that these letters were lenited. Similarly, because Latin used the letter combinations <ch>, <ph> and <th> for sounds that were close to the lenited consonants in question, they were adapted into Gaelic writing to indicate lenited <c>, <p>, and <t>, respectively. [Note 5] Later, both these conventions (a punctum delens over a letter and an <h> after a letter) were extrapolated to most of the other Gaelic consonants to show lenition. Some clerks preferred the punctum delens while others preferred using <h>; some clerks used them interchangeably. Eventually, sometime after the 16th century, the Irish standardized to always using the punctum delens to show lenition while the Scottish Gaels standardized to always using the <h>. Finally, in the 20th century, the Irish switched to using only <h> as well. [Note 6]...Because most modern computer fonts do not have an easy way to show a dot over a letter, the punctum delens is sometimes represented in electronic texts by using a period after the letter. Please note: the only part that I cannot get a definitive answer on is whether to not the lenition for MaelFechin would involve the M (no punctum delens pre-1200's applied) or the F (punctum delens applied). The former would read MaelFechin as submitted; the latter MaelF.echin. I will accept either form of lenition.

****Commenters felt that this was ready to go up to Laurel after a small problem with my mistake in spelling the submitters name originally. The lady has sent a letter allowing major changes to this submission. I have not changed this on her original form but have attached her letter of permission to make changes to her submission. The device appears clear of conflict and will be forwarded to Laurel. We have adjusted the blazon as per commentary advice.**

2. Bethóc inghean MaelFéof F.ynletyr. New Badge. Name submitted on this letter.
Barry wavy azure and argent, a pale azure.

*****Commenters found no conflicts thus this badge is being forwarded to Laurel.**

3. Caitilin inghean Tomás uí Dhuibhir. Device Resubmission. Name registered July 2004. Device previously returned on the Sept 2004 LoAR for "The rose, especially its leaves, is drawn so large as to make the line of division completely unidentifiable. This therefore violates RfS VIII.3, Armorial Identifiability: "Elements must be used in a design so as to preserve their individual identifiability.... a complex line of partition could be difficult to recognize between two parts of the field that do not have good contrast if most of the line is also covered by charges." This device is a complete redraw and thus clears any previous problems identified.

Ermine, a lion rampant gules tail nowed charged on the shoulder with a rose Or seeded, barbed, slipped and leaved vert.

*****This device is clear of conflicts. It is a complete change from her previous submission returned and this will be forwarded up to Laurel.**

4. Deredere of Aberdeen. New Name and Device. Client wishes a female name of no specific language/culture, meaning or authenticity. *Per pale engrailed vert and argent, a shepherd's crook and a fish embowed counterchanged.*

Deirdre – deemed SCA compatible as per Elsbeth Ann Roth

http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/precedents/elsbeth/name/html#N_ComS 10/99, 11/99, 01/00, 03/00.

Deirdre – Black s.n. Deirdre p204

Aberdeen – Black, s.n. Aberdeen <of Aberdeen> 1295.

*****Commenters suggested that this name be changed in spelling to Deredere of Aberdeen in order to remove the problem of combining a Gaelic form name “Deirdre” with a Scots form name “of Aberdeen” as per “Deredere Stewart - Calontir LoAR 12/2003”.**

5. Falger{dh}r bumbari hoensaskjald. New Name and New Device. Client wishes a female name and cares most about the language/culture being attributed to Norse/Icelandic.

Quarterly gules and azure, a cross throughout between four martlets Or.

Falger{dh}r – Geirr Bassi, pg. 9

Bumbari – “drummer”; constructed from “bumba” (a drum); Vigfusson, Gudbrand. An Icelandic English Dictionary. Clarendon Press. Oxford. 1957. page 86 (copies attached).

The suffix “-ari” is from Vigfusson, page 32, under the header “Words from nouns and roots” and the sub-header “-uni” and following the examples of: domari – a doomster, judge; lesari – a reader; skrifari – a writer; skapari – a creator; skirari – a Baptist (a baptizer); gjafari – a giver; groedari – a healer; riddari – a knight. Vigfusson notes that this is an obsolete form, however for our purposes this should not be a problem since we are seeking to recreate an archaic form (Old Norse) rather than modern Icelandic.

Therefore combining bumba (a drum) with the suffix “-ari” to create a nomen agentis (a “doer” noun) for “drummer” is within reason. Also attached is a printout of “The Bynames of the Viking Age Runic Inscriptions – Occupations and Activities” by Lindorm Eriksson <http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/lindorm/runicbyname/occupations.htm>

Among those listed are: Skald and Herald. It seems to us that “drummer” would fall into the same class of occupation (performance) and skald (poet) and herald. Additionally, we understand that the Sami people use drums ritually today and this may have been the case with medieval Norse and/or Icelandic people. Therefore, we also point the occupational byname of “drummer”.

Hoensaskjald – Chicken-shield; hoensa G.B. pg 23, skjald G.B. pg 27. formed from two words listed in Geirr Bassi as elements used to create bynames, as noted on page one of this documentation. Additionally, the intended meaning is “Chicken Shield”, a reference to the submitter’s proposed armory. Therefore, attached are copies of two more pages from Eriksson: The page on “Physical Objects” (<http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/lindorm/runicbyname/objects.htm>) lists “Red Shield”, demonstrating a reference to one’s shield as a known way of creating a byname. The page on “Animal Names” (<http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/lindorm/runicbyname/animal.htm>) lists a bird, a peacock, as well as four other animals in bynames. Therefore a reference to “chickens”

is in keeping with this pattern. Furthermore, discussion with Mistress Gunnvor silfrahar yielded four more references to medieval names based on armory: Maneskold – moon-shield, Hammarskjold – hammer-shield, Oxehufvud – ox head (Argent, an ox head caboshed gules.), Lejonhvud – lion heads (Azure, three lion’s heads erased Or.). Admittedly, these are post Viking era but still within the middle ages. Since the runic inscriptions already include at least one reference to a shield and this pattern was obviously expanded as referenced from names recorded later, it is not unreasonable to apply the pattern to a Norse name (an excerpt of the email from Gunnvor, including her reservations is attached). Finally, the acceptability of a Norse name with two bynames is upheld by College of Arms precedent: May 2002, re: Bordis gjallandi eyverska <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/loar/2002/05/02-05lar.html/#216>. The placement of the “title” byname between the personal name and any other byname is documented on Geirr Bassi, page 19, following the examples of <berserkr> and <skald>. In this case we are using <bumbari> in the same way.

*****There was much commentary on this name submission and while we feel that it’s going to require further work to be registerable we wish to forward it on to Laurel in the hopes of more knowledgeable advice on exactly what needs to be done to register this lady’s name be it dropping an element or changing grammar.**

6. Mateo de Merida. New Name and New Device. Client wishes a Male name authentic to Spanish language and cares most about language/culture of the name. *Per pale wavy vert and argent, a sword argent and a winged frog salient affronty wings elevated and addorsed gules.*

Mateo – Spanish Names from the Late 15th Century by Juliana de Luna (Julia Smith) Pg 1. <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/isabella/MensGivenAlpha.html> lists 5 occurrences of “Mateo”

De Merida – Spanish Names from the Late 15th Century by Juliana de Luna (Julia Smith) pgs 1-5 <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/isabella/locative.html> listed in the account books of Isabel la Catolica (1477-1504) are a multitude of locative surnames in the form of “de location”. This is consistent with the client’s choice of name form. <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/~rs143/reconque.jpg> shows a map of Spain in the 13th and 14th centuries and it’s reconquest by the “Christian Kingdoms of the North as well as the Kingdom of Granada”. Merida is a roman city located in the mid-west portion of the country (south of Toledo and north of Seville). The city of Merida exists today.

*****There were no problems found with the name submission in commentary. Though the commentary indicated that the wings could be drawn better and there was some question about the position of the frog, we have reblazoned it more accurately and hope that we can forward this on to Laurel. We will be advising the submitter to draw the dividing line with more waves and to work on the wings as well.**

7. Mateo de Merida. New Badge. Name submitted earlier in this letter. *Argent, a winged frog salient affronty gules, a bordure vert.*

*****This badge has similar issues to the device submitted just above. We have again reblazoned it more appropriately to the frog's position and advised the submitter to work on a better rendition of the wings.**

8. Odette de Saint Remy. New Device. Name submitted Nov 04 LoI currently at Laurel. (**Kingdom Resubmission returned on Oct 04 ILoI** "Per bend sinister purpure and azure two fleurs-de-lys argent". Returned for conflict with "Geoffrey de la Brugge – October 1998 (via the Middle) Sable, in pale two fleur-de-lys argent. Single CD for the field" The client has gone with a single fleur-de-lys and a double tressure to clear the previous problem.)

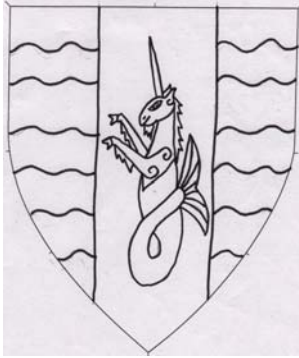
Per bend purpure and azure, a fleur-de-lys within a double tressure argent.

*****Commenters found no conflicts or problems with this device.**

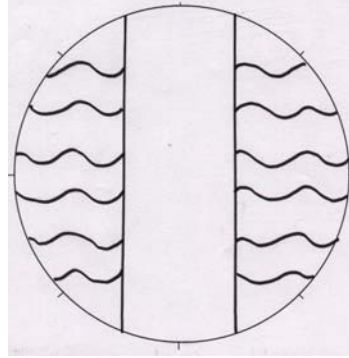
Here ends the June 23, 2005 Letter of Intent for the Kingdom of Ealdormere. Contained herein are: 4 new name submissions, 6 new device submissions, 2 new badge submissions, 1 device resubmission from laurel return for a total of 13 submission items. As always, suggestions for improvements are gratefully appreciated.

I remain in service to the crown, the staff and the Dream,

Lady Cainnear inghean hui Chatharnaig
Green Mantle Herald, Kingdom of Ealdormere



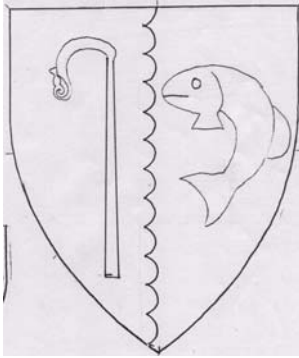
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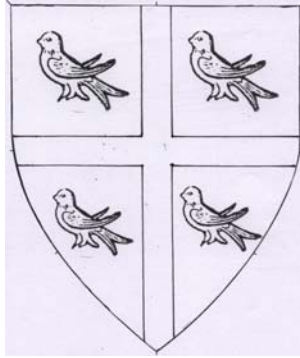
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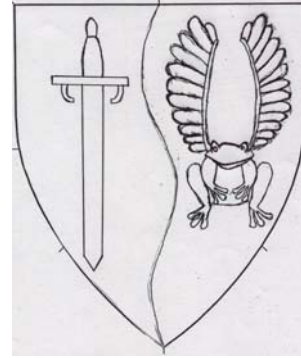
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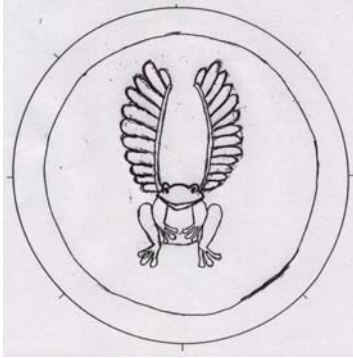
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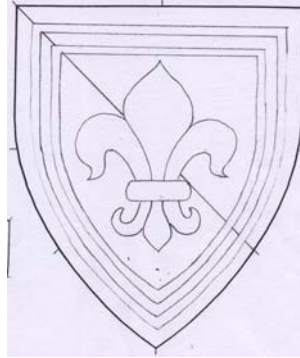
5.



6.



7.



8.