

## Ealdormere

External Letter of Intent

May 26 2006

Unto Laurel Sovereign of Arms, Countess Elisabeth de Rossignol, Pelican Queen of Arms, Mistress Margaret MacDuibhshithe and Wreath Queen of Arms, Baroness Jeanne Marie Lacroix and commenting heralds everywhere does Lady Cainer ingen Hui Chatharnaig, Green Mantle Herald, send busy greetings. The following items are presented for your commentary and suggestions, as it is our wish to put forward these, our submissions, for registration with the SCA College of Heraldry.

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

1. **Andrew Cameron – Device Resubmission.** *Per pale wavy argent and azure, a bear and a dog collared, combatant counterchanged.* Client's name registered Nov 04, device returned Feb 05: "The wavy line has too many and overly small waves making it too difficult to identify at a distance." The client has redrawn an improved; more defined pale line though Green Mantle feels that the waves could stand to be drawn deeper still.



2. **Angela Fabbricci – New Name.** Client cares most about the language (Italian) and a feminine name. No requests regarding authenticity.

Angela – appears once in "Feminine Given Names from the Online Catasto of Florence of 1427" by Arval Benicoeur (Josh Mittleman) 1998, [www.s-gabriel.org/names/arval/catasto](http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/arval/catasto)

Fabbricci – appears once s.n. <Fabbricci> also from the same source. [www.s-gabriel.org/names/ferrante/catasto/family\\_names.html](http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/ferrante/catasto/family_names.html) author of the family name list is Ferrante LaVolpe.

**3. {A'}stri{dh}r Hrafnard{o'}ttir – New Name.** Client advises meaning of “Hrafn” as raven is important to her but any variation on that would be fine. She wishes a female name that is authentic to 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century Norse (Sweden specifically).

{A'}stri{dh}r – occurs 10 times in Viking Names found in the Landn{a'}mab{o'}k <http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/landnamabok.html>.

It also occurs repeatedly on Old Norse runestones in Sweden and Denmark. These runestones are well documented to have come from the Viking Age.

Hrafn – male name occurring 17 times in Viking Names found in the Landn{a'}mab{o'}k (link above). It means raven. (further documentation regarding Swedish rune stone findings is included with submission – English translation of Nordiskt runnamslexikon from the Viking Answer Lady's pages)

Construction Method: A Simple Guide to Creating Old Norse Names, pg.1; Viking Answer Lady Surnames: Patronymics and Matronymics, pg.5 Hrafnard{o'}ttir = Hrafn + -ar suffix + dottir.

The client goes into further documentation regarding variations of spelling that may be plausible but are not on her requested registration form.

**4. Beth{o'}c ingen Mael F{e'}ch{i}'n Fynletyr – Device Resubmission.** *Per saltire gules and purple a sea-unicorn erect argent within a bordure per saltire Or and argent.* Client's previous submission: Argent, three bars wavy overall on a pale azure a unicorn rampant argent was returned Oct 05 LoAR. The client has gone for a complete redraw, which clears the previous conflicts with her original submission.



**5. Brigit Larkin – New Name and Device.** *Quarterly argent and azure a Saint Brigit's Cross overall counterchanged.* Client wishes a female name but indicates no preference for time, language, culture or meaning.

Brigit – “Index of Names in Irish Annals: Brigit” by Mari Elspeth nic Bayan (Kathleen M. O'Brien) 2000-2004, [www.s-gabriel.org/names/mari/AnnalsIndex/Feminine/Brigit.shtml](http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/mari/AnnalsIndex/Feminine/Brigit.shtml)

-listed as a saint.

According to Sept 2005 LoAR Cover Letter, saints names may be used as a given name in an SCA name.

Larkin – Woulfe “Irish Names & Surnames” s.n. <O'Lorc{a'}in> lists <Larkin> as an alternate form.

Due to the different depiction of this charge compared to the charge as depicted in the Pic Dic, Internal commentary provided the following further documentation regarding the device as pictured. “A St. Brigit’s cross is made of rushes or straw. The ends are bound and if you tied them off tightly and don’t trim the ends off too close to the ties, the straws will splay below the tie. This is what we drew for Brigit’s device. I believe the Pic Dic version shows the ends trimmed off completely.” ~indeed it does. GM comment. “ The exact picture we traced was this one: <http://www.historicimpressions.com/StBrigidL.jpg>” (Here is the image in context: <http://www.historicimpressions.com/Irish.htm> )

Here are some more:

<http://www.geocities.com/mcbobl/nan/stbrigid.gif>  
<http://www.geocities.com/mcbobl/nan/stbrigid.htm>

<http://www.celticislesshop.com/images/14-1104a.jpg>  
<http://www.celticislesshop.com/crosses/>

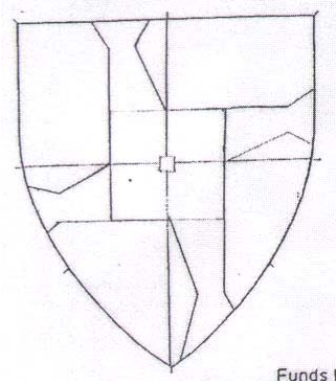
[http://www.catholicshopper.com/products/media/MA\\_25001\\_L.jpg](http://www.catholicshopper.com/products/media/MA_25001_L.jpg)  
<http://www.catholicshopper.com/products/product1297.html>

[http://www.allsaintsbrookline.org/celtic/celt\\_images/st\\_images/brig\\_cross.gif](http://www.allsaintsbrookline.org/celtic/celt_images/st_images/brig_cross.gif)  
<http://www.allsaintsbrookline.org/celtic/saints/brigid.html>

<http://www.maeves-irish-imports.com/images/GreenCross.JPG>  
[http://www.maeves-irish-imports.com/detail.asp?product\\_id=9010](http://www.maeves-irish-imports.com/detail.asp?product_id=9010)

<http://www.ladiesaoh.com/sys-tmpl/nss-folder/pictures/brigidcross1.gif>  
<http://www.ladiesaoh.com/sys-tmpl/membership/>

<http://homepage.tinet.ie/~frduffy/re/school/bcross1.jpg>  
<http://homepage.tinet.ie/~frduffy/re/school/brigid.html>



**6. Mateo de Merida – New Household Name “The Company of the Ship and the Star”** The clients would care more about the sound of the name and are particularly attached to the ship and star elements. Mateo’s name was registered Oct 05.

The Ship and the Star – “Project Ordensnamen” by Meradudd Cethin,  
[www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/order](http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/order)

<ship and crescent> 1262 France

<ship and shell> 1268 France

<tower and sword> 1459 Portugal

**7. Davin de la Baleine – New Name and Device.** *Azure, in pale a narwhal embowed and two swords in saltire, a bordure argent.* Client wishes a male name but does not indicate any requests within the upper check boxes however documentation notes indicate that “This name is intended to be that of a 15<sup>th</sup> century Frenchman”.

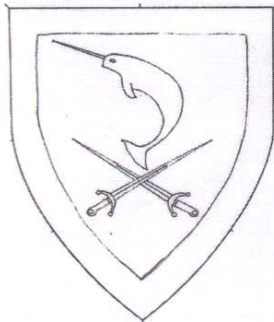
Davin – Dauzat, “Dictionnaire des noms et prenom de France” s.n. <David> lists <Davin> as a derivation of <Davinet>, a pet form of <David>.

“Ansteorran Gazette” June 1999, Talan Gwynek, Fause Lozenge Herald wrote regarding commentary on the name <Devin Quinn> “...<Davin> is surely a reasonable later medieval French name.”

de – standard French form of “of”

la Baleine – a town in la Manche, Normandy.

De Beaurepaire, Francois, “Les noms de communes et anciennes paroisses de la Manche”, Paris. 1986. s.n. <la Baleine> dates <La baleinne> to 1198 and <Balena> to 1236. Since the modern spelling is identical to the 1198 spelling except for the extra “n” and the 1236 spelling shows just one “n”, we believe the standardized spelling <la Baleine> is a reasonable conjecture for the spelling in the 1400’s.



**8. Donald Jacob Maurie – New Name.** Client wishes a male name and cares most that the name should have elements beginning with D and J to be similar to his mundane given name. Client is interested in a name authentic to the late 15<sup>th</sup> century “if possible”.

Donald – Black, op. cit., s.n. Roy <Donald Ruffus> 1428, <Donaldus Roye> 1550

Jacob – “Yorkshire Given Names from 1379”, Talan Gwynek.

<http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/yorkshire.html>

Maurie – 16th century parish registers GEN UKI (UK and Ireland Genealogy) hosts these parish registers transcribed by George Bell. Originally this was (is?) linked from the Medieval Names Archive but the link is broken.

Marriages from the Durham St Nicholas Registers (1540-1719)

URL: <http://genuki.cs.ncl.ac.uk/Transcriptions/DUR/DSN.html>

<John Maurie> 23 Jun 1576

Reaney & Wilson, s.n. <Morey>, <Mory>, Hugh <Mori> 1159 P (Nf/Sf); Roger <Mory> 1296 SRSx; John <Morey> 1162-4 HTDo. Ofr <Mory>, a byname of <Maury>, a pet form of Ofr <Amauri>. v. <Amery>.

**9. Edward Fuchyn – New Name and Device.** *Or, a lion rampant guardant sustaining a Latin cross bottonny bendwise and in base a rose gules barbed sable.* Client will not accept major changes, and wishes a masculine Flemish name caring most about the language/culture.

Edward - Dutch Names 1358-1361 Eduard “Masculine Names”

<http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/dutch/earlydutch14.html> access date 04/12/06

Cultural weirdness – Names in the Low Lands 1250-1300: High-medieval given names and bynames in The Netherlands and Flanders. Unique given names: X:15.X=unknown or mixed origin “Analysis 2: Variation in given names”

[http://www.keesn.nl/name13/en5\\_an\\_var.htm](http://www.keesn.nl/name13/en5_an_var.htm) access date 04/12/06

Lingual Weirdness rulings. Flemish/English: weirdness, ruling: Rosalind Ryne, added 04/04 05/2005

[http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/wierdness\\_table.html](http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/wierdness_table.html) access date 04/12/06

Fuchyn – Flemish Names from Bruges. Nicolaus Fuchyn, “census of 1514 (15C- 1536)”

<http://www.s-gabriel.org/docs/bruges/data5.html> access date 04/14/06

Chronicles of the Crusades, by Joinville and Villehardouin. Fuchyn “Southern Minoian Surnames”

<http://www.legolas.org/llanowar/Geography/1040/Minot/names.html> access date 04/12/06



**10. Elizabeth Mortimer –Change of Holding Name (Elizabeth of Septentria).** Client will NOT accept MAJOR changes and wishes a female name. Holding Name was registered and her original name submission returned Aug 89 via Middle. When her name is changed, her registered device (also under holding name currently) should be adjusted to her new registered name.

Elizabeth – Whthycombe, s.n. <Elizabeth>f. “Elizabeth is found in England from time to time in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries” eg. <Elizabeth Cur> 1207

Mortimer – Reaney & Wilson, s.n. <Mortimer>, <Mortimore>, <Matimer>, Peter <Mortemer> 1296 SRSx

Note (from client): although the header form <Mortimer> is undated, that is the form I would like.

**11. Emer ingen Meic Aedain – New Name and Badge.** *Argent, three foxes courant in annulo conjoined at the feet gules.* Client wishes a female name.

Emer – <Emer> is the name of both a pair of 5<sup>th</sup> century Irish saints, said to be contemporaries of Patrick. According to the Sept 2001 LoAR Cover Letter: “Regardless, it seems unreasonable at this time to change our current policy by limiting the registerability of saint’s names only to cultures where this practice can be solidly documentable. Therefore, if a saint can be documented to period, their given name may be used as a given name in an SCA name.” That Emer was the name of 2 Irish saints can be established from the following sources:

M.R. D’Arcy, “The Saints of Ireland”, (Irish American Cultural Institute, St. Paul, MN, 1974) lists December 11<sup>th</sup> as the Feast of the Two Emers. The story related is that, when St. Patrick returned to Ireland to begin his mission, he went first to see his old master, Miluic. But rather than suffer the disgrace of meeting on equal terms with a slave, Miluic locked himself in his house and set fire to it. St. Patrick converted Miluic’s family, one son becoming first bishop of Granard in county Longford and it is the feast of his two daughters, both named Emer, that is kept today. They both converted and became nuns, founding in the village of Ballinalee the first convent in Ireland.

“Saint Patrick’s Church Saints of the Day” – <http://www.saintpatrickdc.org/ss/0124.htm> sn. Guasacht of Granard says: “4<sup>th</sup> century. Guasacht was the son of Maelchu (Miluic), the master under whom Saint Patrick worked as slave in Ireland. Maelhu set fire to his home, locked the doors, and perished in the flames rather than meet Patrick again. Guasacht, however, was converted by Patrick, whom he helped in the evangelization of Ireland, both as a layman and later as bishop of Granard (County Longford). His two sisters, known as the Emers, also became Christians and religious (Benedictines, D’Arcy, Montague).”

The Monasticon website, under “Clluain Bronaig”

<http://monasticmatrix.usc.edu/monasticon/?function=detail&id=1147&PHPSESSID=599e6a8ff116579c88d9b1b472c85533> notes: “At this location (previous to foundation) St. Patrick gave veil to two Emers, sisters of Guasacht, whom he placed in charge of Granard/References to the community appear in Irish annals to 1163; thereafter, some references to hospital, termon-irenagh, and corbeship appear in Elizabethan period (1595).(See Archdall)”

The Longford, Ireland website,

<http://www.longford.ie/community/townsection.asp?action=2&town=5&contenttype=2> says: “St. Patrick himself appointed his foster brother Guasacht as Bishop of Granard and together with the two St. Emers, his foster sisters, founded the first convent in Ireland in an area presently known as Old Clonbroney.”

There is a St. Emers school in Longford Co. <http://www.carrickedcentre.ie/pschools.htm>

Attempting to further track this story to it’s source, we found:

Colcannon, Mrs. Thomas, “Saint Patrick: His Life and Mission.” (Talbot Press, Dublin & Cork, 1931), pg 130: “Over the latter church our saint placed an old and well beloved friend of his, Bishop Guasacht, son of Miliucc; and in a convent at Clonbroney, not far off, he placed two of Guasacht’s sister, the two Emers.”

The footnote for this references *Triparte Vita*, I.,87,91.

“Four Latin Lives of St. Patrick”: Colgan’s *Vita Secunda, Quarta, tertia and Quinta*, edited by Ludwig Beiler (Scriptores Latini Hibernaiea Vol iii, The Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, Dublin, 1971), pg 66, footnotes, which reads: “Hß V4 Espoc Guasacht in sin mac Milchon fil i nGranartt hi Crich Coirpri indui 7 na di Eimir hi Cluain Bronaig rR) *Habes membra disiecta textus quem sic restituere coneris: Quae omnia iuxta uerbum uiri Dei impleta sunt. Hic est episcopus Guasacht filius Milchon i Granaird Chene(oi)l Coipri et duae Emeriae hi Cluain Bronaig, quae hodie ibi multum uenerantur. (Duae filiae, non una, commemorantur apud Tirechanum et in r, cf. R 124r, b 27; r 1950-3).*” The note that the Two Emers were “venerated by many” demonstrates that they were considered Saints in period. The manuscript for Colgan’s edition of the *Vite* dates from the late 12<sup>th</sup>, early 13<sup>th</sup> century. Further in Beiler’s The Life and Legend of St. Patrick: Problems of Modern Scholarship (Clonmore & Reynolds, Dublin 1949) it is noted on page 116 that,

“Most of these [later writers] follow Muirchu so closely that their works are valuable for a critical restoration of his text. Apart from Probus, however, these Lives do not depend on Muirchu directly, but on an Irish-Latin Life of St. Patrick, of perhaps early eighth century date, in which Muirchu, as well as Tirechan and his “files” were incorporated. This Bethu Phatraic is unfortunately lost; but its contents can be largely reconstructed from a comparison of the Tripartite Life with the Second and Fourth Life in Colgan.” and on page 118,

“The conversion of Miliuc’s children and their father’s dream about them are related also by Tirechan, and here too Patrick’s name is Sucat (in the Latinized form Succetus). The whole group must, then, be of considerable antiquity, and, centring as it does round Miliuc’s son Gosacht, of Irish origin; it was perhaps a local tradition of Granard, the shrine of Gosacht’s relics.”

Based on this submitted documentation that now provides evidence that this is also a saint’s name and thus is registerable, the Ealdormere College of Heraldry wishes to request that the past precedents ruling the given name “Emer” as unregistrable be overturned.

ingen Meic “daughter of son of” or “daughter of the clan of”

Effrick’s “Quick & Easy Gaelic Names” <mhic> - Early modern genitive of <mac>; <meic> Old and middle genitive.

<http://www.medievalscotland.org/scotnames/quickgaelicbyname/>

Mari’s “Index of Names in Irish Annals: Feminine Names” <http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/mari/AnnalsIndex/Feminine/>

Construction “X ingen meic Y”

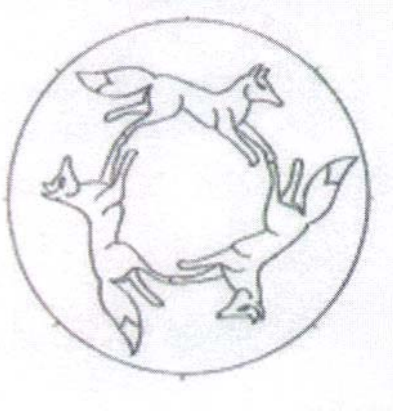
1083, <Derbhforghaill, inghen mic Briain

1088, <Mor inghen mic Taidhg atuaidh>

1231 <Cacht inghean mec Fhiachrach>

Aedain

as per <http://www.carrickedcentre.ie/pschools.htm> this is the genitive form of the Gaelic name <Aedan>.



**12. Evan Quicktongue – New Name.** Client cares most about the meaning and having a male name. Note: this client is married to above client Angela Fabbricci thus their wish to have similar device styles.

Evan – Whitycombe s.n. <Evan> (m.) – welsh form of John, dates from about 1500

Quicktongue – constructed byname in the form <adjective>+<body part>. Examples from period include: <Slowfoot> (R&W) <Thomas Slafot> 1379; <Longshanks>(R&W) <Richard Longschaunk> 1307; <Longnose>(R&W, s.n.<Longenow>) <Langnose> 13<sup>th</sup> c.; <Sweeteye> (R&W s.n. <sweetblood>) <William Sweteghe> 1299.

<Quick> undated header form in R&W also: Robert <Quic> 1279 RH(cj);

William <Quik> 1282 FFEss.

OE <cwic> “nimble, lively.”

From the OED:

12. “Of speech, writing, etc: lively, full of vigor or acute reasoning; smart, sprightly. Obs a 1225 Ancr. R. 170 – Ye erthure reason is uorte habben cwike bone” 1340 Ayenb 134 “et is to zigge oer ane quicke scele oer aperte miracle”

<tongue> - undated header form in R&W. also: Wluricus <Tunge> 1188 Bury S (Sf); Nicholas, Richard <Tonge> 1279 RH (Bk); The frequency of early forms without a preposition suggest a nickname from OE <tunge> “uougue”, “chatterbox”, “scold”.

<tongue> also occurs in conjunction with other elements in <Gosetunge>, <Hartestongu> and <Mousetonge> all in R&W.

**13. Gunnar de Blacwode – New Device.** *Per pale gules and argent, a set of hanging scales per pale argent and sable, in chief a skull and a heart counterchanged.* Client’s name registered Aug 97 via Middle.



Funds R

**14. Gyriðr daðaskald – Change of Holding Name (Amanda of Ben Dunfirth).** Client will not accept major changes, cares most about a female name and the language/culture of it though has no desires for authenticity. Client's previous submission Falgerðr bumbari hoensaskjald was returned on the Oct 2005 LoAR. Client has gone with a completely new name clearing previous problems regarding documentation.

G{y'}r{i'}ðr – feminine Norse name listed on pg 10 of Geir Bassi Haraldsson's "Old Norse Name", studia Marklandica, 1977

d{a'}ð{a'}sk{a'}ld – byname meaning "deed poet" listed on pg 20 of "Old Norse Name", ibid.

**15. Heylawive von Meißen – New Name and Device.** *Azure a castle purpure on a sun and on a chief embattled Or, three ladybugs gules spotted sable.* Client wishes a female name and cares about the language/culture wishing for an authentic to time period and language/culture name.

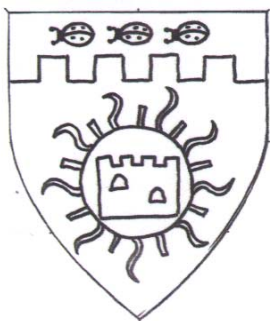
Heylawive – [http://www.keesn.nl/names/en4\\_list\\_f.htm](http://www.keesn.nl/names/en4_list_f.htm) Given names of female inhabitants of the Low Lands, recorded in charters and chronicles before 1150AD lists under alternative spellings for roots <Heil> combined with <wive>: <Heilwiif>, <Helawi>, <Heylawiif>, and <Heylawive>

Von Meißen – Byname von Meissen means "of Meissen" which was a local city in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. "History of Meissen Porcelain & China"

[http://www.collectics.com/education\\_meissen.html](http://www.collectics.com/education_meissen.html) says that the city was founded in 929 with a castle called <Misni>. As per discussion with Aryanhwy.

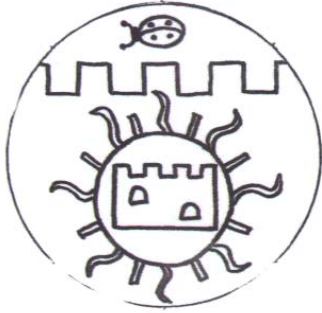
The earliest documentable use of the name Meissen that is not considered a forgery (according to the diocesan records) is in the Endowment of Otto 1. That document dates from 979, but refers to the endowment made in 965 (ie. The charter of the Mark of Meissen). As per discussion with Orderic.

The client requests consideration of the Germanic Spelling of Meissen which is <Meißen> as per <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meißen>.



Ex 1001

**16. Heylawive von Meißen – New Badge.** *Azure, a castle purpure on a sun and on a chief embattled Or, a ladybug gules spotted sable.* Name and device submission appears above.



### 17. Magnunnr Hringsdottir –Change of Holding Name “Meghan of Ealdormere”.

Client will NOT accept MINOR or MAJOR changes and is wishing for a female name authentic to Norse language/culture. This client considers this to be an appeal of her previous name submission based on new information. Name returned Mar 05 LoAR. Reasoning for return: “The given name does not appear to be a properly constructed Old Norse or Norwegian name. Only one name, *Magnhildr*, was provided to show the protheme *Magn-*. However, Orle notes: "According to Lena Peterson, *Magnhildr* is the Norse adaptation of an imported German name, not a native two-element name." As no documentation was submitted and none found for the independent use of the protheme *Magn-* in native Old Norse or Norwegian names, it cannot be combined with Old Norse or Norwegian deuterothermes to form new names.”

Magnunnr – Peterson’s dictionary, which includes only names found on rune stones lists three entries concerning the particle “magn.”. The first deals with “Magn/Mægin” generally, the second with the feminine compound “Magnhildr” (Peterson 144, runestone N185), and the third with the masculine compound “Mæginbjörn” (Peterson 147, runestone U1177). A fourth entry, somewhat related, is “Meinolf” (Peterson 145, runestone DRM58), which may be a form of “Meginulf” which has come through England or the Orkneys (See also de Vries). The compound “Magnhildr” is regularly found in manuscript sources of the middle ages (Neuman, 52) as well as on Runestone N185 (Norway, dated to 990-1010ace), as referenced by Peterson.

Peterson’s dictionary lists only compound “Magnhildr” as being from Germany, and not the particle itself. There is no ambiguity in the placement of the phrase. Furthermore, the “Germany” statement is asserted on the authority of Janzen 1947 (which I have been unable to access), de Vries 1962, and Magnússon 1989. Magnússon makes the same assertion, concerning specifically “Magnhildur,” but gives neither reasoning nor reference (Magnússon, 598). De Vries also repeats the assertion, again specific to “Magnhildr,” and giving no argument, but pointing to *Altnordische Namenstudien*, the 1911 Ph.D thesis by Hans Neuman, a much referenced work in all of these dictionaries (de Vries, 375). Neuman makes no such statement.

Neuman does list several names containing the protheme “Magn” (Neuman, 52). These he groups into Norse, and Germanic –not Norse. The Norse examples are: Meignbjörn, Meginþórr, Magnhildr, and Magni. More specifically, these names are found variously in Icelandic, Danish, Swedish, and Norwegian. The other Germanic examples occur in Burgundian, West Frankish, Alamanic, Anglo-Saxon, and Lombard, indicating a widespread tradition of the particle’s use in names, both during and prior to the Viking age.

Neuman's references (aside from Fornmannasögur, which would, at the time Neuman was writing have been a recent translation of the sagas) are publications from Stockholm in 1833 (J.G. Liljegren), and Copenhagen in 1883 (O.Neilson). These have proven somewhat difficult to get hold of.

"Magn/Megin" like most Norse name elements, is a common noun in Old Norse, meaning "Strong" (Cleasby Vigfusson, 408; Zoëga, 284, La Farge and Tucker, 176.) Interestingly, Magnússon puts forth the theory that the "Magn" form may be a back-formation from names such as Magni ("the name of Þórr's son"), and Magnhildr. (p. 598).

To briefly address the gender question, I would give the following few examples from amongst the vast array of pairs showing clearly the use of the form of the dueterotheme (or the entire name when it is a single particle) to gender Old Norse names. Sigbiorg (f) versus Sigbiorn (m) (Peterson 171). Olof (F) versus Olafr (m) (Peterson, 221). Thorunnr (f) versus Thorbiorn (M) (Peterson 214, 206). Unnr (f) versus Unn (m) (Peterson, 221). Regardless of the ultimate origin of "Magn", from the proto-norse meina, through back-formation of names from Germany, or otherwise, the commonness of names such as Magnus, Magni and Magnhildr suggest that it should be recognized as "Norse" in the same manner as John or Mary are considered English regardless of their Semitic origins. Even if the particle were only found in the compound "Magnhildr", and assuming that the name is imported whole-cloth from Germany, "Kjartan," taken from the Irish "Myrkjartan" in the Viking age, and still common in Iceland today is an example of the importation and "norsification" of foreign names, including their handling as though they were formed from two separate particles (see Laxdæla saga).

For reasons given above, I reassert that <Magnunnr Hringsdottir> is a plausible name for a Norsewoman. Given that the woman commemorated on N185 would have been, or very nearly have been a contemporary and given the traditions of variation-naming and of women called "unnr" in Northwest Iceland during the period, I feel it is very much a plausible name for a woman of late 10<sup>th</sup> century, born in the Laxriverdales, Iceland.

Works Cited:

Peterson, Lena, Nordisk Runnamslexicon. Web: last accessed March 4 2006.

Magnússon, AG, Islensk Orðsifjabók. Háskólans, 1989.

De Vries. Altnordisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch. 1962.

Neumann, H. Altnordische Namenstudien. Mayer and Müller 1911.

The Cleasby-Vigfusson Old Icelandic-English Dictionary.

The Zoëga Old Icelandic-English Concise Dictionary.

Postscript: As Sandy Straubhaar pointed out, the particle "Magn/Megin" also appears in two attested bynames, öxnamegin, and bæjarmagns.

The client's documentation further includes many pages of discussion with various heralds regarding the validity of the elements. One further immediately relevant section is from a discussion by Sandy Straubhaar

(<http://www.utexas.edu/depts/german/gaculty/straubhaar.html>)

"...Back to Magn as protheme again. The modern Icelandic name database

Mannanöfn.com shows the following. The names listed below with Magn as protheme all contain verifiable Viking age geuterothemes. (I left out the few that didn't. I am quite aware that a modern database of this kind is going to have names that aren't Viking age, even if they are two themed Norse-ish in construction – such popular modern Icelandic

names as Fridhjón and Sigurjón, for instance, are definitely newer inventions.) But these names below are all made out of certifiably Viking age elements, by people with a native feel for a language as close to our (medieval) target as can be found today. And here they are:

[Of course all these –ur spellings are the modern version of the older –r, which was probably syllabic pretty early on anyway. Michael Barnes argues for this {A new Introduction to Old Norse, 1999, vol. 1, Grammar, pp.20-21}]

Mandís (f.)

Magney (f.)

Magnfríður (f.)

Magneir (m.)

Magnheiður (f.)

Magnhildur (f.)

Mafnþór (m.)

Magnþóra (f.)

So. Combination like these can definitely be made today, out of Viking age elements. I would argue that there's no reason to assume that they could not have been made in the Viking age as well. Unnr's supporting documentation cites Meginbjörn, Meginthórr and Magnhildr.

Our mixed databases for Norse names (sagas, Landnamabok and Islendingbok, runic inscriptions, poetry and so on) contain many wonderful two themed hapax legomena. Droplaug. Lophæna. Dólgfinnr. Skarphedhinn. Unique, splendid, unpartnered...like the unicorn. Their elements are known, but if we didn't have the one reference we do have for each, we wouldn't know they had ever come together as a name. If it weren't for the Sjusta runestone, for instance, (<http://www.runsten.info/runestone/upland/opir/u687.gif> - those heralds who know my device may recognize something here), we wouldn't know that the common noun Spjallboði could also be a personal name.

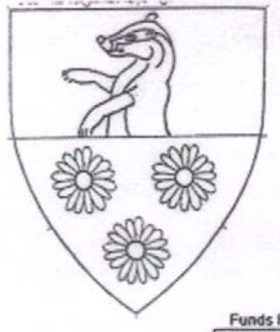
Could Magnunnr (or Meginunnr) be conceived of as like one of these?

Unnr – Lind (Dopnamn) lists woman's names containing this element including Steinunnr p959, Ingunnr p642, Unnr p1062. Multiple dated forms of each of these names dated pre-1600 are given in these entries. Geirr Bassi lists names with these elements Iorhildr p16, Iorunn p16, Steinunn p15, Ingunn p12.

Hringsdottir – Geirr Bassi p11 lists the masculine name Hringr.

Should this name be registered successfully, the device Argent, a bend sinister wavy sable, overall a human footprint gules. currently registered to the holding name, "Meghan of Ealdormere" should be transferred to this name.

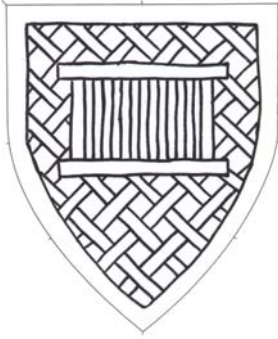
**18. Mairghread Plonced – Device Resubmission.** *Per fess argent and purpure, a badger rampant sable issuant from the line of division and in base three marguerites argent seeded Or.* Name registered and device previously returned Mar 05 LoAR. The device was returned due to identifiability issues with the argent markings on the badger's face against the argent field. The client has redrawn and adjusted the colouring on the badger to assist in clearing up this issue.



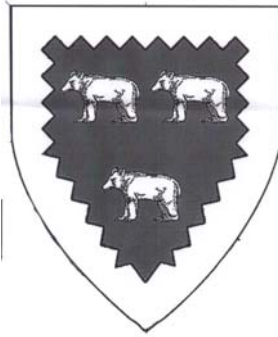
**19. Mateo de Merida – Device Resubmission.** . *Per pale wavy vert and argent, a sword inverted argent and a winged frog sejant contourny gules.* Client's name registered and device (and badge) previously returned Oct 05. Returned previously for: "The line of division needs more waves - at least twice the number currently shown. The current emblazon is not quite embowed-counter-embowed. The frog is neither sejant nor sejant erect nor in fact, in any blazonable posture. The wings should come out of the frog's back not its head." The client has redrawn the frog and the line of division has been improved as well with more identifiable waves.



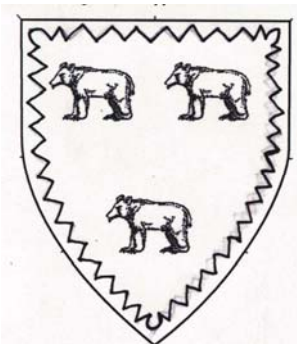
**20. Medb ingen Dungaile – Device Resubmission.** *Azure fretty argent, a weaver's slea and a bordure Or.* Clients name registered Mar 03. Previous device submission was returned June 2005 with the following commentary: "The primary charge was not identifiable as weaver's slea – or any other weaver's tool – by those knowledgeable of weaving. Note that the first edition of the Pictorial Dictionary misidentifies a weaver's stick shuttle, based on an erroneous blazon, which has since been corrected, as a weaver's slea. On resubmission this should use the weaver's slea shown in the second edition of the Pictorial Dictionary or provide documentation for this form." The submitter has 'rectangulated' her slea a bit more to make it very indicative of the slea shown in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Pictorial Dictionary. She has also provided a few pages of documentation for this form. Most notable is reference to the arms for the Company of Weavers, Exeter "Per saltire azure and gules, in fesse two shuttles filled paleways or; in chief a teasel; in base a pair of shears lying fessways argent; on a chief ermine a slea between two burlingirons of the third." Images of the arms accompany the submission and it should be noted that the "slea" in the arms bears much resemblance to the slea presented in Medb's device resubmission.



**21. Sn{ae}bj{o,}rn sverdsbrj{o'}tr – Device Submission.** *Vert, three bears statant argent within a bordure indented.* Name registered August 2005 LoAR. Device was returned previously in kingdom (Apr. 05) for redraw as the bordure was drawn too narrow. Shown next to the client's latest submission, this issue has been addressed (even if he couldn't get me an un-shaded drawing of his device.)



**May 2006 Submission 1**



**May 2005 Submission 1**

Here ends the May 2006 Letter of Intent. Contained herein are: 9 New Name submissions, 6 New Device submissions, 2 New Badge submissions, 3 Changes of Holding Name (Re)submissions, 6 Device Resubmissions and 1 New Household Name resulting in **26 total submissions (18 new, 8 resub)**. Request for a cheque to be sent from the Chancellor of the Exchequary for Ealdormere will be forwarded immediately in the amount of 18 X \$4US = \$72US.

As always, suggestions for improvements are gratefully appreciated.

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

Lady Cainer ingen hui Chatharnaig  
Green Mantle Herald, Kingdom of Ealdormere