

Committee on Heraldry, New England Historic Genealogical Society

Report for the Year 2021

to the Council and Members of NEHGS

Established in 1864 as a standing committee within the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the Committee on Heraldry is the oldest organization in the United States dealing with coats of arms and their use, and arguably the oldest non-state heraldic body in the world.

The Committee met four times in 2021, all by videoconference. The year 2021 continued a trend of hard work and tangible progress on long-time committee projects. 2021 rivaled 2020 as the Committee's busiest in recent decades, both in registering and recording coats of arms and in other related activities.

Roll of Arms

Since 1915, the Committee's principal corporate activity has been the registration of verified historic coats of arms brought to the present-day United States by the country's early European settlers and subsequent immigrants. The *Roll of Arms* registered by the Committee has been published in installments in *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* since 1928, reprinted in separate fascicles, and published in 2013 in a cumulative volume. In 2021, the *Roll of Arms: Eleventh Part* was prepared for publication. It is appearing in three installments in the *Register* in 2022.

In 2021 the Committee registered **fourteen** coats of arms in the *Roll of Arms* (nos. 944, Ireland, to 957, Boddie). Five of these fourteen registrations came from applications from outside the committee—the largest cohort and percentage, by far, in modern times. This is a testament to the increased visibility of the Committee's mission and the *Roll of Arms*.

Registrations in 2021 [provisional numbers, as renumbered following completion of *Eleventh Part* and cancellation of several registrations from that tranche]:

944. Ireland, John, to Maryland from Yorkshire, c. 1750. Arms: *Gules six fleurs-de-lys silver*. Crest: *A dove close in its beak an olive branch proper*.
945. van Dievoet, Jean Paul Laurent, of Antwerp, Belgium, to Detroit, Michigan, 1956. Arms: *Per pale silver and sable a tower counterchanged, the port open of the field, charged on the center with an escutcheon per pale gold and gules the sole of a dexter human foot counterchanged, all between in chief two stars of six points, the dexter gules and the sinister gold, and in base a crescent counterchanged*.
946. Calder, Hugh, William, and Robert, brothers, of Aswanley, Aberdeenshire, to Boston 1713–1720s. Arms: *Gold a stag's head cabossed sable*. Crest: *A swan proper crowned gules*.
947. Denys de Bonnaventure, Pierre-Louis. From La Rochelle, France, to Louisiana via Quebec by 1720. Arms: *Gules a bunch of grapes leaved gold*.

948. Thorpe, George, of Wanswell, Gloucs., to Berkeley Hundred, Va., 1619, killed 1622. Arms: *Silver a fess nebuly between three trefoils slipped gules.*
949. Thruston, Edward and Malachy, brothers, from Bristol to Va. by 1666. Arms: *Sable three bugle-horns stringed gold garnished azure.*
950. Chiffelle, Rev. Henry (1704–1759), of La Neuveville in the Prince-Bishopric of Basel, to the settlement of Purysburg, South Carolina, in 1734. Arms: *two trefoils in fess and in base a rose, on a chief gules a star of five points* [from his seal; other tinctures uncertain].
951. Cooke, Elizabeth, wife of Edmund Reade and Rev. Hugh Peter, of Pebmarsh, co. Essex; to Salem, Mass., 1635, with 2nd husband. Arms: *Sable three bendlets silver.* Crest: *A cockatrice statant silver wings gold beaked and combed gules.*
952. Flournoy, Jacob, and his nephew Jean-Jacques, of Geneva, to Henrico Co., Virginia, in 1700 and ca. 1718. Arms: *Azure a chevron silver between two walnut catkins in chief and a nut pendant in base gold.*
953. Fresne, Charles-Sigismond-Albert, of Reconvilier, Prince-Bishopric of Basel, to Lancaster, Pa. in 1788 (d. 1823). Arms: *Quarterly, 1 and 4, an ash tree on a mound in base; 2 and 3, three chevrons* [tinctures unknown: from immigrant's seal, 1781].
954. Poutiatine, Capt. Prince Sergei Mikhailovich (1893–1966), of St. Petersburg, Russia, to New York City, 1930. Arms: *Per fess azure and gules in chief a cross paty gold and in base a dance of two downward points coupé silver, resembling a W.*
955. Woodward, Sarah, wife of Capt. Daniel Henschman, of London, to Boston, Mass., ca. 1666. Arms: *Azure a pale between two eagles displayed silver.*
956. Princess Ileana of Romania, to Newton, Massachusetts, in 1950. Arms: *Quartered: 1, Azure an eagle displayed gold beaked and membered gules holding in his beak an Orthodox cross gold, in chief a sun and an increscent gold; 2, Gules a bull's head caboshed sable between in chief a molet and in base a rose and a decrescent gold; 3, Gules, upon a bridge of two arches embattled throughout a demi-lion rampant gold brandishing a saber proper, in base water azure; 4, Per fess azure and gold issuant from a bar gules a demi-eagle displayed sable between in chief a sun gold and a decrescent silver, in base seven castles gules; on a point in point azure two dolphins counterembowed palewise addorsed heads to base gold; overall an escutcheon quarterly silver and sable.*
957. Boddie, Robert, of Chelmsford, Essex, to Lower Norfolk Co., Virginia, by 1630. Arms: *Silver on a fess azure three pelicans vulning themselves gold, on a canton gules two ragged staves in saltire silver surmounted of a coronet gold.* Crest: *A ragged staff palewise gules enfiled at the middle by a coronet gold.*

The Committee also approved several emendations to existing published entries, and made ten cancellations of *Roll of Arms* entries originally registered prior to 1999 but found to be defective during the review undertaken for preparation of the *Roll of Arms: Eleventh Part*. Canceled registrations (previously published only in name-index form): Margaret (Blencow) Griswold, George Darcy Boulton, Alice (Bowyer) Clayton, Antoine Laumet [styled Lamothe de Cadillac], Thomasine (Clench) Frost, William Fullwood, Meribah (Gibbs) Foster, Johann Christoph Löwe, John Nichols, and Samuel Wright.

Modern Arms

The Committee accepted for record sixteen modern modern coats of arms: three granted to U.S. citizens by foreign heraldic authorities, and thirteen coats newly assumed within the United States. As yet these arms are indexed only internally. The committee discussed several aspects of the work required to publish a list of modern recorded arms.

Modern arms accepted for record and placed on file during 2021:

- Anzalone, Lawrence. Arms: *Gules a chevron silver cotised gold between in chief three roses and in base a boar passant silver, tusks and hooves gold, tongue azure.* Crest: *Out of a coronet gold a pair of scales gules.*
- Berard, Christopher. Arms: *Per fess silver and gules, in chief a king's head affronty coupé and with a beard and mustache in the form of an inverted fleur de lys proper crowned gold, in base a sword its tip downwards and issuant therefrom two anchor flukes gold, the blade surmounted by an anvil silver.*
- Brennan, Timothy. Arms: *Gold a lion rampant tail forked and nowed azure langued and armed gules within a border vert.* Crest: *A white raven rising proper gorged with an ancient crown gules.*
- Crowley, Marion Lee (applicant: grandson John Gordon Crowley). Arms: *Sable a lion's face and in chief three eagles gold.* Crest: *A wolf rampant sable holding in his dexter paw a pine branch proper.*
- Davis, Thomas Pinckney. Certified, Vicente de Cadenas y Vicent, late Cronista de Armas of the Kingdom of Spain; matriculated, Lyon Office. Arms: *Gules a fess between two griffins passant gold.* Crest: *A griffin passant holding in the dexter claw a cross bottony fitchy gold.*
- Dennis, Shawn Allen (applicant: son Maximilian Dennis). Arms: *Vert a double fleur-de-lis within a border silver charged with eight hearts vert.* Crest: *Crest: A monkey's head coupé at the neck proper wearing a mitre silver charged with a cross of St. Anthony vert.*
- Gesker, Dennis. Arms: *Silver a flame within an orle azure.*
- Johnson, Joseph. Arms: *Gold a galley oars in action sable, sail furled silver, between three dexter hands gules, on a border sable eight buckles silver.* Crest: *A dexter hand proper surmounted by a Celtic cross silver.*
- Leihgaber, Cody. Arms: *Gules on a bend between two oak branches leaved and fructed gold three stag's attires sable.* Crest: *A stag's head gules attired with three estoiles gold pendant from the attires by ribbons sable.*
- Louras, Nicholas John. Arms: *Sable on a chevron silver two holly branches fructed proper.* Crest: *On a holly branch fesswise fructed proper an ancient lamp gold flammant.*
- Loy, Gary Edwin. Arms: *Gules on a cross ermine a sun in splendor gold.* Crest: *An open book with three seals on either side inscribed "In aeternum, Domine, verbum tuum permanet in caelo" all proper, the book ensigned with a scholar's tam sable.*
- MacDonald, Gary Bruce. Granted, Lyon Office. Arms: *Quarterly, first silver a lion gules; second gold a dexter arm vambraced and gauntleted fessways proper holding a cross crosslet fitchy gules; third gold a lymphad sails furled oars in action sable*

flagged gules; fourth azure a plumbline between two garbs gold; all within a border sable charged with three molets gold. Crest: A double bitted axe proper embedded bendways in an oak stump eradicated with a sprout fructed proper.

Maillard, Jean. Arms: *Azure semy of molets, perched upon a mount an ibex looking backward with an elephant's tail silver, horned, hooved, bearded, and tufted gold. Crest: A mallard rising proper holding in its feet a mallet sable inflamed gold.*

McComas, Glenn Earl (applicant: grandson Jason McComas-Roe). Arms: *Silver a ship tenné sails proper and pennants gules within a border azure. Crest: A quatrefoil knot silver.*

Roe, Harry James (applicant: son Jason McComas-Roe). Arms: *Per bend gold and gules a bend between a horse's head sable and a quatrefoil gold. Crest: An oak leaf gules.*

Whitehouse, Heather Love. Granted, Canadian Heraldic Authority. Arms: *Per chevron azure and vert a chevron ensigned by a Latin cross between in chief two lamb's heads erased nimbed silver and in base a trillium proper. Crest: A unicorn rampant silver wearing a collar azure charged with three mullets silver.*

Additional Activities

Educational events:

In July, an invited talk by one of the English heralds, Peter O'Donohue, York Herald, "The College of Arms in the Eighteenth Century," was held as a webinar, with opening remarks by Chairman Ryan J. Woods and Registrar Nathaniel Lane Taylor. This had been carried forward from Spring 2020 (an in-person event postponed for the pandemic).

In October, members Taylor and McMillan attended the 34th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences in Madrid (Taylor presented a paper). McMillan and Taylor also presented to the Permanent Committee of the Congress the proposal that the 36th Congress be held in Boston in September 2024. The proposal was accepted.

In November, members Taylor and McMillan co-taught a three-part mini-course (webinar, three sessions of 90 minutes each): "Introduction to Heraldry for Genealogists." Response was positive but coupled with a recognition that more short and focused introductory offerings may be of use given a general sense among beginning to expert genealogists that heraldry remains an unfamiliar realm and its value for genealogical research is not well understood.

Committee records:

In July, several linear feet of files of the Committee on Heraldry were returned to the custody of the Committee on Heraldry after decades in the hands of individual committee officers. These include, notably, a substantial quantity of paper files relating to the registrations for the *Roll of Arms*, which facilitated the completion of preparation of the *Roll of Arms: Eleventh Part* in 2021 (published in 2022). This includes

Artwork:

Artist to the Committee Mathew Alderman generated the majority of black-and-white illustrations for the *Roll of Arms: Eleventh Part*. The remainder are expected timely for publication of the *Eleventh Part* in 2022. The committee reviewed and discussed general design principles for offering certificates of arms registered or recorded. Committee voted to offer individual emblazonments of either historic arms from the *Roll* or modern arms accepted for record, to be developed in conjunction with Mr. Alderman.

Publications:

The Committee completed *Roll of Arms: Eleventh Part* and sent to the editor of the *Register* in November. Work has begun on *Roll of Arms: Twelfth Part*.

The planned fascimile of Gore Roll with reprint of Bowditch's text was discussed, as was the concomitant conservation work on Gore Roll and the Promptuarium Armorum undertaken by NEDCC. The Gore Roll volume is expected to be completed and published before the 2024 Congress (September 2024).

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel Lane Taylor, Registrar
for the Committee

Members of the Committee in 2021:

Ryan J. Woods, Chairman
Nathaniel Lane Taylor, Registrar
Joseph McMillan, Corresponding Secretary
Rodney Armstrong, Treasurer†
Bertram Lippincott III, Corporate Secretary
Julian V. Brandt
John Blythe Dobson
Henry B. Hoff
John Shannon
Scott C. Steward

Matthew Alderman, Artist to the Committee

Ex Officio:

D. Brenton Simons, President and CEO
Nancy S. Maulsby, Chairman, Board of Trustees
David M. Trebing, Chairman, Board of Trustees (succeeded April 2021)

† Deceased 14 April 2021