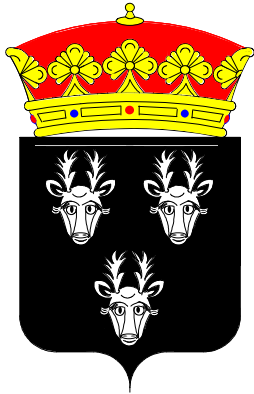


Devonshire



Description of Arms :

Sable, three bucks' heads cabosed argent.

Principal Title : Duke of Devonshire.

Creation : England, 1694.

Subsidiary Titles : Marquis of Hartington (1694), Earl of Devonshire (1618), etc ...

Family Name : Cavendish.

Family History : The Cavendish family started its upward ascent with Sir William, who became first Earl of Devonshire in 1618. Son succeeded son, until 1694, when the fourth earl was promoted to Duke of Devonshire and Marquis of Hartington.

Since then, virtually no generation has been far removed from an active part in state and political affairs generally. Offices held include First Lord of the Treasury, Lord Chamberlain, a Lord of the Admiralty, Governor-General of Canada and, nearly always, Member of Parliament and Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire.

Questions have been asked why a family so associated with Derbyshire, should have Devonshire as its title. One story, certainly apophorical, is that the first earl was asked to write down the name by which he wanted to be known. He wrote down Derbyshire but his writing was so illegible that it was misread.

The brother of the late, 11th, peer was married to the sister of President John Kennedy. Known by the courtesy title of Marquis of Hartington, he died in an air crash during the last war.

The wife of the same duke is one of the unforgettable Mitford sisters. Others were Nancy, Jessica, Unity - the friend of Adolf Hitler - and Lady (Oswald) Mosley. The Cavendish sons have contracted some of the most dazzling alliances with other great names from the British peerage. Cousins by this process include the Duke of St Albans, the Marquises of Landsdowne, Salisbury etc. Also allied were the, now extinct, Dukes of Leeds.

The bucks' heads displayed on the coat-of-arms are closely associated with the county of Derbyshire. The Earl of Derby uses the same and so did the Duke of Portland, a distant cousin.

Devonshire

William (1640/1641-1707), 4th Earl of Devonshire
Marquis of Harlington (1694), 1st Duke of Devonshire (1694)

William (1720-1764), 4th Duke
= (1748) Charlotte, Baroness Clifford (?-1754), daughter and heiress of Richard, 4th Earl of Burlington and Cork

