



BODIAM CASTLE

THE MOST  
DISTINGUISHED  
SURNAME  
DURANDIS

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# ANCIENT ORIGINS

The distinguished surname Durandis was first brought to England in the wake of the Norman Conquest of 1066. The name is patronymic in origin, signifying "the son of Durant," an Old French personal name. Looking at records from this time, we found Geoffry, Roger and Henry Durant who claimed descent from Normandy c. 1180-95<sup>[1]</sup> while another census in 1198, lists Aceline, Ralph, Richard, and Robert Durant.<sup>[2]</sup>

## ANCIENT HISTORY

Though shrouded by the mists of time, the chronicles of England indicate that the surname Durandis is of Norman origin and ranks as one of the oldest. Tracing the history of the distinguished name, it was found to be closely woven into the richly colourful tapestry of the ancient history of Britain.

Diligent tracking by professional analysts using such ancient manuscripts as the Domesday Book (compiled in 1086 by William the Conqueror), the Ragman Rolls, the Wace poem, the Honour Roll of the Battel Abbey, The Curia Regis, Pipe Rolls, the Falaise Roll, tax records, baptismals, family genealogies, and local parish and church records suggests that the name Durandis was first found in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire at Tong, a parish, in the union of Shiffnall, Shiffnall division of the hundred of Brimstree. "Tong Castle, the seat of the family of Durant, a magnificent mansion remodelled in the last century, is crowned with numerous turrets, pinnacles, and eight lofty domes, producing a striking effect: it contains many valuable pictures and cabinets."<sup>[3]</sup>

The Domesday Book of 1086 has the first record of the family. Durandus, the Latin form of the name in use at that time was registered in Winton, Hampshire as holding lands there at that time.<sup>[4]</sup>

Another branch of the family were found at Wallingswells in the West Riding of Yorkshire. "In excavating near the house[of Sir Thomas Woolaston White], in 1829, several stone coffins were found, and amongst them that of Dame Margery Dourant, second abbess of the convent, who died in the reign of Richard I ([1189-1199])."<sup>[3]</sup>

And yet another branch of the family was found in Cornwall. "The manor of Lanestock, which is partly in the parish[of St. Austell], and partly in Tywardreath, has of late years passed under the same title as Trenance Austell. This was anciently in the family of Durant, from whom it passed into that of the Arundells of Trerice in Newlyn. The manor of Thorlebear[in the parish of Launcells, Cornwall] was formerly the property of the Durants, by whose heiress it was carried in marriage to the Arundells of Trerice." <sup>[5]</sup>

## SPELLING VARIATIONS

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Different spellings were ultimately traced to a common root, usually the name of one of the Norman nobles or warriors at the Battle of Hastings. The surname, Durandis, was included in many references. Similarly, from time to time, the surname was recorded as Durand, Durant, Durande, Durrane, Dant, Dante and Dorantand many versions. Scribes recorded on charters or documents the name as it sounded. It was not unlikely that a person would be born with one spelling, married with another, and buried with another. All three related to the same person. On the other hand, preferences for different spelling variations sometimes indicated a branch of the family, a religious preference, or sometimes a national identity.







The origin of the family name Durandis has been conjecturally traced to a Norman source. Generally believed to be of French origin, the Normans were, more accurately, of Viking origin. The Vikings landed in the Orkneys and Northern Scotland about the year 870 A.D., under their King, Stirgud the Stout. Later, under their Jarl, Thorfinn Rollo, they invaded France about 911 A.D. The French King, Charles the Simple, after Rollo laid siege to Paris, finally conceded defeat and granted northern France to Rollo. Rollo became the first Duke of Normandy. His descendant, William, Duke of Normandy (1035-1087) invaded and defeated England at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

After the Conquest, Duke William took a census of most of England in 1086. It became known a century later as the Domesday Book, and established, in perpetuity, the possession of estates in England.

The surname Durandis emerged as a notable family name in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Salop, where they held manors and estates. The Durandis family was originally from Normandy, and settled in the above counties where they were granted lands by King William. By the year 1140 they had moved north with the Earl of Huntingdon (later to become King David of Scotland) and acquired the lands of Clerkington in East Lothian in Scotland by a grant from King David. Andrew and Michael Durand succeeded the original settler, and Walter Durand rendered homage to King Edward I of England on his brief conquest of Scotland in 1296. They also acquired territories in Dumfriesshire. Malcolm Durand held a stall in the Church at Lochmaben.

"The manor of Ellbridge or Tellbridge, (in the parish of Laneast, Cornwall) which is mentioned in Domesday under the name of Telbrig, was held by Reginald de Valletort under the Earl of Cornwall." <sup>[5]</sup>

## EARLY NOTABLES

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Notable amongst the family at this time was Thomas Drant (d. 1578?), English divine and poet, born at Hagworthingham in Lincolnshire, son of Thomas Drant. "On the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's visit to the university in August 1564 he composed copies of English, Latin, and Greek verses, which he presented to her majesty. " <sup>[6]</sup>

John Durnat or Durance (fl. 1660), was an English Puritan divine who was an independent preacher at Sandwich in 1644. "A year or two later he removed to Canterbury, where he preached at first in a church and in a private room, and afterwards in the cathedral. The royalist Edwards denounces him with characteristic violence. " <sup>[6]</sup>

Joan Dant (1631-1715), was an English pedlar, born in Spitalfields, in the East End of London. Upon her husband's premature death, she was forced to become a pedlar, selling goods to fellow Quakers in the environs of London. Thanks to her frugality and good business sense, she became a rich merchant, leaving £9,150 (equivalent to about £1,522,000 in 2021) in her will when she died in 1715.





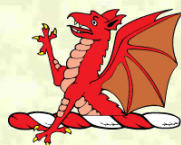


# THE GREAT MIGRATION

The democratic spirit of the New World beckoned. Many sailed aboard the fleet of sailing ships known as the "White Sails," tiny, overcrowded vessels on which only the hardy survived.

## SETTLERS

There are 176 settlers with similar origins in the Appendix.





## CURRENT NOTABLES

Trekking westward from their ports of arrival, many settlers joined the wagon trains. During the American War of Independence some declared their loyalty to the Crown and moved northward into Canada and became known as the United Empire Loyalists.

There are 50 notables with similar origins in the Appendix.







# HISTORIC EVENTS

There are 4 historic event entries in the Appendix.



**The Ancient Arms of**



**Durandis**

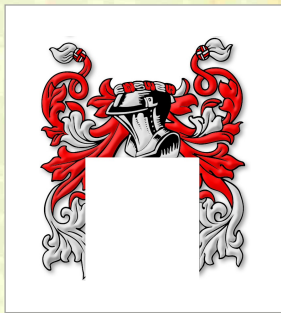




The practice of representing people with symbols is ancient, and in England this habit evolved with feudal society into a system of distinctive devices on shields. The heralds developed an extensive armory that had the important function of distinguishing members of the upper class from each other, whether at court or on the battlefield. Since then, heraldry has grown into a complex field with many rules and a terminology that requires some knowledge to interpret.



An Achievement of Arms such as the Durandis arms depicted on the left typically consists of these parts: the Escrolls, displaying the family motto and name, the family crest (if any) seen above the helmet, the actual Coat of arms (also known as 'arms,' or 'the shield'), the Helmet depicted below the crest, the Torse on top of the helmet, and the Mantle draped from the helmet. Each of these elements will be described below. Supporters were a later addition to the Achievement; they are somewhat rare, and are usually personal to the grantee.



MANTLE OF DURANDIS

The mantle was spread over and draped from the helmet and served as a protection, 'to repel the extremities of wet, cold, and heat, and to preserve the armour from rust.' The numerous cuts and slits suggest that it had been torn and hacked on the field of battle. The style or design of the mantling is up to the individual heraldic artist, and it is usually depicted in the main color and metal from the shield. The helmet (or Helm) varied in shape in different ages and countries, often depicting rank. The Esquire's Helm, as depicted here, is generally shown silver, with a closed visor and facing to the dexter (its right). On top of the helmet is a Torse or wreath which was formed by two pieces of silk twisted together. Its purpose was to hold the crest and mantle on the Helm.

## MOTTO

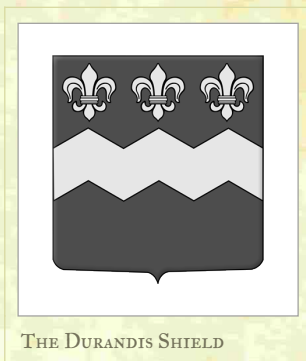
The motto was originally a war cry or slogan. Mottoes first began to be shown with arms in the 14th and 15th centuries, but were not in general use until the 17th century. Thus the oldest coats of arms generally do not include a motto. Mottoes seldom form part of the grant of arms: Under most heraldic authorities, a motto is an optional component of the coat of arms, and can be added to or changed at will; many families have chosen not to display a motto.

The coat of arms displayed here for the surname Durandis did not include a motto.

## SHIELD

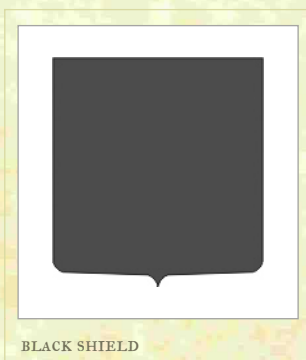
Shields (or Escutcheons) at first were painted simply with one or more bands of color or 'ordinaries'. Later, the ordinaries were used in conjunction with other figures or symbols. The Coat of Arms for the surname Durandis can be described as follows:





## DURANDIS ARMS

A black shield with a silver fesse dancetté and three silver fleur-de-lis in chief.



## BLACK SHIELD

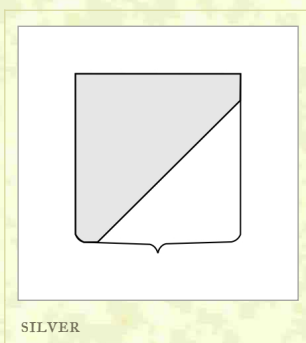
Sable (Archaic or literary English for black), the coldest of the colors, corresponds to lead. Black, or "sable," is symbolic of sadness. It also corresponds with winter and is a humble color, suitable for the deeply religious. It denotes the qualities of knowledge, piety, serenity and work. Engravers represent it with numerous horizontal and vertical lines crossing each other.

**Symbolic Virtues:** Sable symbolizes the virtues of prudence and wisdom. The bearer of sable is obliged to protect widows and to guard the possessions of those who are absent. It is associated with serenity, pity and grief.

**Precious Stone:** Diamond

**Planet:** Saturn

**Obligations:** Protect widows and guard the possessions of those who are absent.



## SILVER

Argent (from the French for silver), or Silver is one of the two metals used in heraldry. It is usually represented on a shield by the colors gray or white.

This metal represents nobility, peace and serenity. It is associated with the qualities of purity and chastity, because the metal withstands the test of fire.



## FESSE DANCETTÉ

When a fesse is dancetté (from the French "danché" and "dentellé") this implies partition lines that represents water; even though it's triangular edge more resembles mountains than water. It signifies industry and accomplishment.

The fesse is a broad, horizontal band across the center of the shield that represents the military belt and girdle of honor of the ancients. It signifies that the bearer must always be in readiness to act for the well being of the people. It is supposed to occupy a full third of the height of the shield, though it is seldom drawn this way. Its position is directly across the center of the shield unless the fesse is described as enhanced or abased. There can only be one fesse on a shield.



### THREE

"Three" devices, beasts or ordinaries of the same have a special significance in heraldry.

First of all, there is the obvious reference to the Trinity in the design that would signify observance of the Christian doctrine.

Secondly, with many Arms it brings balance that is steeped in tradition. To better understand this latter scenario, we must look at the evolution of shield in personal armory. Kite shields that were the most popular from the the 10th-14th century evolved into Heater shields that had flat tops c. 1250. This was the time of heraldry's beginnings and when "three" objects were used for balance in each corner of the shield.

Later, with the advent of the "chief," "chevron" and "bend" three devices brought balance to these ordinaries too.



## FLEUR-DE-LIS

The fleur-de-lis is a very ancient and widely used symbol. It is found in East Indian, Egyptian and Etruscan decorations, as well as Roman and Gothic architecture. It may originally have been intended to represent a lily or white iris, or an arrow or spearhead. In Christian symbolism, the fleur-de-lis is used as a symbol of the Holy Trinity and as an ensign of the Virgin Mary.

In heraldry, it is also said to signify faith, wisdom, and valor. Fleurs-de-lis are now most commonly associated with France.

In ancient times they may have signified a connection with that country through war, marriage or property rights. In English arms it was sometimes used as a mark of cadency for the sixth son.

## IN CHIEF

Any charge that is said to be 'in chief' is placed in the upper 1/3 of the shield. A chief itself stands for authority and domination of will.

## THE CREST

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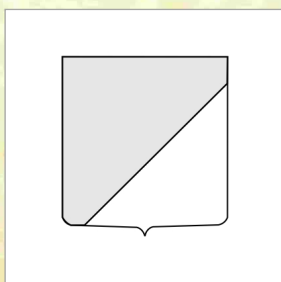
The Crest was worn on top of the helmet, and was usually made of wood, metal, or boiled leather. It provided the double advantage of easy identification and the addition of height to the wearer. The Crest for the surname Durandis is described as follows:





THE DURANDIS CREST

A SILVER FLEUR-DE-LIS.



SILVER

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Argent (from the French for silver), or Silver is one of the two metals used in heraldry. It is usually represented on a shield by the colors gray or white.

This metal represents nobility, peace and serenity. It is associated with the qualities of purity and chastity, because the metal withstands the test of fire.



FLEUR-DE-LIS

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## APPENDIX - NOTABLE LIST

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- William James Durant (1885-1981) American author who shared the 1968 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction with his wife Ariel and later was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Ford in 1977
- William Crapo "Billy" Durant (1861-1947) American leading pioneer of the United States automobile industry, founder of General Motors and Chevrolet
- Ariel Durant (1898-1981) American author who shared the 1968 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction with her husband Will and later was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Ford in 1977
- Omara Durand Elías (b.1991) Cuban visually impaired sprinter, four-time gold medalist at the 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2024 Paralympics
- Samuel Thornton Durrance Ph.D. (1943-2023) American scientist who flew aboard two NASA Space Shuttle missions as a payload specialist
- Sir Henry Thomas Estridge Durrant (1807-1861) 3rd Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer
- Sir Thomas Durrant (1775-1829) 2nd Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer
- Sir Thomas Durrant (1722-1790) 1st Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1784, English peer
- Kenneth W. Durant (1919-1942) United States Navy sailor killed in action on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, 3 November 1942, eponym of the USS Durant (DE-389)
- Marguerite Durand (1864-1936) French stage actress, journalist, and a leading suffragette who founded her own newspaper and ran for election, eponym of the Bibliothèque Marguerite Durand
- Ciro Durán (1937-2022) Colombian screenwriter and film director
- Robert "Bob" Bondurant (1933-2021) American racecar driver who raced for the Shelby American, Ferrari, and Eagle teams, founder of the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving which has been responsible for training generations of American racing drivers
- Mr. John Dorand, British sheriff, held the joint position of Sheriff of Nottingham, England from 1514 to 1515
- Carlo Durante (1946-2020) Italian gold, silver and bronze medalist Paralympic athlete who mainly competed in category T11 marathon events
- Stuart O. Bondurant (1929-2018) American professor and dean emeritus at the UNC School of Medicine in Chapel Hill, North Carolina



- Erica Durance (b.1978) Canadian actress from Calgary, Alberta, best known for portraying Lois Lane on the series Smallville as Dr. Alex Reid on the medical drama series Saving Hope
- Sir William Alexander Estridge Durrant (b.1929) 8th Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer
- Sir William Henry Estridge Durrant (1901-1994) 7th Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer
- Sir William Henry Estridge Durrant (1872-1953) 6th Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer
- Sir William Robert Estridge Durrant (1840-1912) 5th Baronet of Scottow, Norfolk, English peer





## APPENDIX - HISTORIC EVENT LIST

### EMPRESS OF IRELAND

RMS Empress of Ireland departing from Quebec City, Quebec, Canada bound for Liverpool, England, United Kingdom was struck by the Norwegian SS Storstad due to fog on May 29, 1914. The ocean liner received severe damage and began to flood, she was carrying a total of 1057 passengers and 420 crew, of which 1012 people died.



EMPRESS OF IRELAND

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Mrs. Frances Durrant (1884-1914) née King Canadian Third Class Passenger from Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada who was traveling aboard the Empress of Ireland and died in the sinking<sup>[7]</sup>
- Mr. James Durrant (1890-1914) Canadian Third Class Passenger from Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada who was traveling aboard the Empress of Ireland and died in the sinking<sup>[7]</sup>



## HMS DORSETSHIRE

During World War II, HMS Dorsetshire was assigned to Force A of the Eastern Fleet. She was dispatched to escort a convoy of ships for repairs when she was spotted by a Japanese air craft from the Japanese Cruiser Tone. Once spotted, dive bombers attacked the HMS Dorsetshire from three different Aircraft Carriers finally sinking her on the 5th April 1942 along with her sister ship.



HMS DORSETSHIRE

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Bryan Cecil Durant, British Lieutenant Commander Navigation aboard the HMS Dorsetshire (1945) when she was struck by air bombers and sunk; he survived the sinking<sup>[8]</sup>

## USS INDIANAPOLIS

The USS Indianapolis was on a top-secret mission delivering uranium to the Tinian Naval Base as well as other parts required for the atomic bomb "Little Boy", which would eventually be dropped on Hiroshima. Upon completion of her duty she was to return the crew to Leyte for training, on the 30th July she was struck by torpedoes from the Japanese submarine I-58. There was 1,195 crewmen aboard the ship when she was struck, of that number 300 went down with the ship, the remaining crew were stranded in the water, as their mission was so top-secret no one knew they were in the area. The stranded survivors faced exposure and dehydration for 4 days prior to being spotted, but many also died from these as well as saltwater poisoning and shark attacks. As there had not been enough life boats or like jackets those 4 days were bleak. Once they were spotted and rescue attempts started only 316 crewmen were saved, of those 2 died after from their injuries.



INDIANAPOLIS OFF MARE ISLAND ON 10 JULY 1945

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Ralph Joseph Durand Jr., American crew member on board the ship "USS Indianapolis" when she was on a top secret trip for the first nuclear weapon, she was sunk by Japanese Navy on 30th July 1945, he was one of the many who were killed in the sinking due to exposure, dehydration, saltwater poisoning and shark attacks<sup>[9]</sup>





## APPENDIX - SETTLERS LIST

### AMERICAN SETTLERS

#### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Diego Durán, who settled in America in 1510
- Rodrigo Durán, who arrived in Cartagena in 1534
- Juan Durán, who arrived in Mexico in 1563
- Juan Duran, who arrived in Peru in 1565
- Diego Durán, who settled in Mexico and wrote a "History of the Indies of New Spain" based on Mexican legends. He died in Mexico in 1588
- William Durand who settled in Virginia in 1635
- William Durand, who landed in Virginia in 1635<sup>[10]</sup>
- Richard Durrant, who arrived in Virginia in 1635<sup>[10]</sup>
- Elizabeth Durand, who landed in Maryland in 1648-1649<sup>[10]</sup>
- William Durand, who landed in Maryland in 1648<sup>[10]</sup>
- William Durant, who arrived in Maryland in 1648<sup>[10]</sup>
- Jo Durant, who arrived in Virginia in 1650<sup>[10]</sup>
- John Duran, who arrived in Virginia in 1654<sup>[10]</sup>
- Tho Durant, who landed in Virginia in 1654<sup>[10]</sup>
- John Durand, who landed in New England in 1657<sup>[10]</sup>
- George Durant, who arrived in North Carolina in 1661<sup>[10]</sup>
- Geo Duram, who landed in Virginia in 1664<sup>[10]</sup>
- An Durant, who arrived in Virginia in 1665<sup>[10]</sup>
- Thomas Dante, who arrived in Maryland in 1669<sup>[10]</sup>
- Thomas Dant, who immigrated to Maryland in 1674

### CANADIAN SETTLERS

#### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Jean Durant, aged 21, who landed in Canada in 1657
- Mr. Jean Durant, French labourer travelling to Canada to work for Antoine Grignon, Pierre Gaigneur, and Jacques Massé, arriving on 3rd March 1657<sup>[11]</sup>
- Mr. William Durie U.E. who settled in Saint John, New Brunswick c. 1784<sup>[12]</sup>
- Samuel Durrant, who landed in Canada in 1832

## AUSTRALIAN SETTLERS

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Mr. Edward Durant, English convict who was convicted in Lincoln, Lincolnshire, England for life, transported aboard the "Dromedary" on 11th September 1819, arriving in Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) <sup>[13]</sup>
- Miss Maria Durrant, English convict who was convicted in Sussex, England for 14 years, transported aboard the "Fanny" on 14th July 1832, arriving in New South Wales, Australia <sup>[14]</sup>
- Mr. Thomas Durrant, English convict who was convicted in St Albans, Hertfordshire, England for 7 years, transported aboard the "Eden" on 27th August 1836, arriving in Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land), he died in 1843 <sup>[15]</sup>
- James Durrant, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "Isabella Watson" in 1846 <sup>[16]</sup>
- Susannah Durant, who arrived in Adelaide, Australia aboard the ship "David Malcolm" in 1847 <sup>[17]</sup>

## NEW ZEALAND SETTLERS

### SURNAME VARIANTS OF DURANDIS

- Peter Doreen, who landed in Wellington, New Zealand in 1840 aboard the ship Bengal Merchant <sup>[18]</sup>
- Peter jun Doreen, who landed in Wellington, New Zealand in 1840 aboard the ship Bengal Merchant <sup>[18]</sup>
- Thomas Doreen, who landed in Wellington, New Zealand in 1840 aboard the ship Bengal Merchant <sup>[18]</sup>
- William Durrant, aged 25, a labourer, who arrived in Port Nicholson aboard the ship "Gertrude" in 1841 <sup>[19]</sup>
- Mr. Elisha Durrant, British settler, as the 2nd Detachment of New Zealand Corps of Royal New Zealand Fencibles travelling from Gravesend aboard the ship "Minerva" arriving in Auckland, New Zealand on 8th October 1847 <sup>[20]</sup>
- Edward Durand, who arrived in Canterbury aboard the ship "Hastings" in 1856
- Mary Durand, who arrived in Canterbury aboard the ship "Hastings" in 1856
- Sarah Ann Durand, who arrived in Canterbury aboard the ship "Hastings" in 1856
- Mr. John Durran, British settler travelling from London aboard the ship "Palmyra" arriving in Dunedin, Otago, South Island, New Zealand on 19th February 1858 <sup>[21]</sup>
- Mrs. Durran, British settler travelling from London aboard the ship "Palmyra" arriving in Dunedin, Otago, South Island, New Zealand on 19th February 1858 <sup>[21]</sup>
- F. Durrant, who arrived in Nelson, New Zealand aboard the ship "Golconda" in 1859
- Miss Durrance, British settler travelling from Plymouth aboard the ship "Roman Emperor" arriving in Lyttlelton, Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand on 30th March 1863 <sup>[21]</sup>



- Mrs. Elizabeth Durant, (b. 1833), aged 32, Cornish settler departing on 17th April 1865 aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[22]</sup>
- Miss Elizabeth Durant, (b. 1864), aged 7 months, Cornish settler departing on 17th April 1865 aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[22]</sup>
- Miss Margaret Durant, (b. 1863), aged 2, Cornish settler departing on 17th April 1865 aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[22]</sup>
- Mr. Thomas Durant, (b. 1834), aged 31, Cornish blacksmith departing on 17th April 1865 aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[22]</sup>
- Mr. Thomas Durant, (b. 1861), aged 4, Cornish settler departing on 17th April 1865 aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Canterbury, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[22]</sup>
- Miss Elizabeth Durant, (b. 1864), aged 7 months, British settler travelling from Gravesend aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[20]</sup>
- Mrs. Elizabeth Durant, (b. 1833), aged 32, British settler travelling from Gravesend aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[20]</sup>
- Mr. Thomas Durant, (b. 1834), aged 31, British blacksmith travelling from Gravesend aboard the ship "Indian Empire" arriving in Lyttelton, Christchurch, South Island, New Zealand on 23rd July 1865 <sup>[20]</sup>







Here is a listing of some of the sources consulted when researching British surnames. The resources below directly or indirectly influenced the authors of our surname histories. We have most of these titles in our library, others we have borrowed or had access to. Source materials have been chosen for their reliability and authenticity. Our research into surnames is ongoing, and we are continually adding to our source library. For each surname history, we seek and refer to sources specific to the surname; these are generally not included in the list below.

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College of Arms (England): <http://college-of-arms.gov.uk/>

#### MEDIEVAL ROLLS

Where available we consult Medieval rolls or use their information as reprinted in secondary sources.

Subsidy Rolls: taxation records from the 12th to the 17th centuries.

Assize Rolls: records from court sessions

Pipe Rolls: rolls of the Exchequer of accounts of the royal income, arranged by county, for each financial year. Many 12th and 13th century documents have been published with indexes by the Pipe Roll Society.

*Calendarium Inquisitionum Post Mortem*: Feudal inquiries, undertaken after the death of a feudal tenant in chief to establish what lands were held and who should succeed to them. Records exist from around 1240-1660.

*Roll of Battle Abbey*: a list of the principal Norman Knights said to have accompanied William across the English Channel. Original roll was lost.

*Curia Regis* Rolls (*Rotuli Curiae Regis*): Rolls and Records of the Court held before the king's Justices. Various translated and published, London 1835),

*Feet of Fines*: Legal agreements, usually about property ownership

*Register of the Freeman of York*: list of freemen from 13th-18th century, published by the Surtees Society, Francis Collins (editor) in 1897.

*Charters*: documents recording grants, usually of land recorded by the Chancery

*Historia Regum Britanniae* ("The History of the Kings of Britain"): a legendary account of British history, accredited to Geoffrey of Monmouth in around 1136.

*Heralds' visitations*: 16th-17th century, county by county visits to regulate the use of arms; many published by the Harleian Society.

*Hundred Rolls* (*Rotuli Hundredorum*): various royal inquests, documents were held in the tower of London. Much was published in 1818 *Ragman Rolls*: rolls of deeds on parchment in which the Scottish nobility and gentry subscribed allegiance to Edward I. of England, A. D. 1296.

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