Names 102 – Documenting a name
Presented by
Yehuda ben Moshe
Elmet Herald

Introduction
• Reference material:
  – How to Document a Name (not quite within an inch of its life) by Mistress Juliana de Luna
    • [http://medievalscotland.org/jes/DocumentingAName.shtml](http://medievalscotland.org/jes/DocumentingAName.shtml)
  – Alys’s Guide to Picking and Documenting an SCA Name by Mistress Alys Mackyntoich

Requirements
• AH V.B.2.d
  – A summary of all supporting evidence provided for the submission must be included on the Letter of Intent. Such evidence includes documentation, permissions to conflict, proofs for entitlement, … In the case of resubmissions or appeals, a history of previous submissions to the College of Arms, including the dates and grounds for previous returns must be included; including the full text of relevant previous returns is highly recommended. … The letter should include specific references for all supporting documentation (URLs, headings, page numbers). Omission of any part of this summary of documentation may make registration impossible and is grounds for return.
Requirements

• What must be documented?
  – Each name element
    • See the Names 101 class and SENA PN.1/NPN.1 for info on sources of name elements
  – Overall construction of name
    • See the Names 101 class, SENA PN.2/NPN.2 and Appendices A and C

Sources

• What makes a good source?
  – Primary sources
    • Scans of actual, original period documents
    • Not necessarily transcriptions, unless one is sure the text is unaltered
  – Spelling not normalized/modernized
    • Most history texts normalize names
    • Look at introduction to see if name normalization is discussed
    • If there are multiple spellings of the same name present, that’s a good indicator that names aren’t normalized

• What makes a good source?
  – Dated forms
    • Dates need to be before 1650, or better yet before 1600
    • Designations such as “ancient Irish” or “medieval name” aren’t acceptable
  – Reliable source
    • Scholarly and academic works are good
    • SCA-specific articles are usually good
    • Genealogical data, baby name books are generally not reliable enough
Sources

- Photocopy vs. no-photocopy sources
  - See AH Appendix H for list of no-photocopy sources
    - FamilySearch/IGI is no-photocopy though it’s not on the list
  - For all other sources, a copy must be included
    - For books or long articles, include the title page, the page where the elements appear, and any other relevant pages
    - For websites, print the website, a URL is not enough

- Some good general sources:
  - Articles on heraldry.sca.org under the “Articles” tab
    - No-photocopy
    - Generally acceptable with no further requirements
  - Numbered reports on s-gabriels.org
    - No-photocopy
    - Be careful of early ones
  - Articles on s-gabriels.org
    - Photocopy required
    - Generally acceptable with no further requirements

- Some good general sources:
  - Name books
    - Be careful when buying books
      - See AH Appendix F for list of books that are not acceptable
      - Do not use AH Appendix H as a shopping list – it’s a list of books commonly available in the College of Arms, not necessarily useful books
    - Many books are out of print but available used
    - I have created a list of books, sorted by usefulness, based on the 2013 Pennsic Book Request List – it can be found at yehudaheraldry.com
      - Exercise caution – the list is hardly definitive
Sources

• Some good general sources:
  – OSCAR
    • An excellent first step is to search OSCAR for a name element you want
    • If it’s there, check if the name was registered
    • If it was registered, you can just steal the documentation

• Some good general sources:
  – FamilySearch
    • Formerly International Genealogical Index (IGI)
    • https://familysearch.org/search
    • Large database of genealogical information
    • Contains contributed and indexed information – we only use the indexed data which comes from late period church and other records
    • Search by date, place, event type
      – I recommend searching "1000-1650", any event, any location

• Some good general sources:
  – FamilySearch
    • Rules for using FamilySearch are in the Cover Letters of the June 2011, Sep 2012, May 2013, and Jan 2014 LoARs
    • Must come from the following batches:
      – B, C, I, K, M (except M17 and M18), or P
      – If no batch number listed, or batch is all numbers, the record is not acceptable
    • Article on using FamilySearch is available here: http://heraldry.sca.org/names/familysearch.html
Sources

1. Enter name
2. Click "Any"
3. Enter dates
4. Make sure "RECORDS" selected
5. Optional

Sources

Sources

Sources

Sources

Mary Smith, "England Deaths and Burials, 1538-1991"

Batch Number
Sources

• Some good general sources:
  – FamilySearch
    • When citing FamilySearch, must include gender, date, place, and batch number
    • I include more:
      – This gives the commenters and Pelican the most possible information to work from.

Sources

• A not-so-good general source:
  – LoARs/Collected Precedents
    • Use caution
    • Old LoARs may not be enough – anything more than 10 years old is suspect
    • Beware of “SCA-Compatible” names – those haven’t been registerable since 2009
    • Registration with no comment is not documentation
      – Prior registration is not a guarantee of future registration, or
      – We aren’t bound to repeat our mistakes
    • If a specific source is listed, that may be useful

What to include in documentation

• If it’s a photocopy source, include the photocopies!
• URL, or photocopy is not enough – you must summarize the documentation
  – Failing to summarize is grounds for an administrative return
• Be truthful
  – Exaggerating the value of the source isn’t helpful – it will be checked
What to include in documentation

- Include the following
  - The name of the source
    - If it's a no-photocopy source, use the standard abbreviation
    - If it's a book or article, include name of book, author, and edition — enough that we can find it
    - If it's an internet resource, please include the URL — makes it easier for commenters to verify
  - A summary of all relevant information — what does the source say, what dates does it list, what relevant name forms are listed
    - Do not just list a page number or section name
    - For descriptive/occupational names, include meaning
  - A conclusion, explaining why this source supports the submission

What to include in documentation

- Example of inadequate documentation:
  - Ivan Baranov
    - Ivan: Wickenden, found at http://heraldry.sca.org/names/paul/h-j.html
    - Baranov: Wickenden, found at http://heraldry.sca.org/names/paul/ba.html
  - Problems:
    - Sources not adequately summarized
    - Construction not explained

What to include in documentation

- Example of good documentation:
  - Ivan Baranov
    - Construction: Paul Goldschmidt’s Dictionary of period Russian Names 2nd edition, Grammar, lists the pattern “G-P” (given name + patronymic). Ivan is a given name, Baranov is a patronymic. As it is already in patronymic form, it need not be modified. See: http://heraldry.sca.org/names/paul/grammar.html
What to include in documentation

• Some other problems
  – Not listing the name formation pattern
    • My recommendation is to always list the formation pattern
    • Most are found in SENA Appendix A
    • Even if it’s something obvious, like “John Smith”, include
      “SENA Appendix A lists the pattern “given+byname” as
      acceptable in Early Modern English”
  – Not referring to Appendix C to show that a mix of two
    language groups is acceptable
    • “English and French are an acceptable lingual mix under
      SENA Appendix C”

What to include in documentation

• Some other problems
  – Not including any documentation at all
  – Wikipedia
    • Ok for generally acceptable facts, not ok for name
      elements
    • May be a good place to start research – look at the
      citations
  – Websites such as “Behind the Name”, genealogy
    sites, or sites that try to sell you things about
    family history

What to include in documentation

• Some more examples:
  – For the name Eoin Ó Mathghamhna
    • “Quick and Easy Gaelic Names (3rd Ed.)” by Sharon Kressa
      (http://www.medievalscotland.org/cotname/gaelicbyname#)
      sets out the pattern for clan affiliation-style
      bynames as:
        <single given name> Ó <eponymous clan ancestor’s name (in genitive
        case)>n
    • Eoin is an Early Modern Irish Gaelic name with 58 Annals dates
      between 1246 and 1600, appearing in “Index of Names in Irish
      Annals” by Kathleen O’Brien
      (http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Eoin.
      shtml)
    • Mathghamhain is also found in “Index of Names in Irish Annals”
      (http://www.medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/Masculine/Math
      hghamhain.shtml), with Annals dates of 1255, 1266, 1271, 1314, 1461,
      1472, 1483, 1489, 1588. Mathghamhain is the nominative form;
      Mathghamhna is the genitive form.
What to include in documentation

• Some more examples:
  — For the name **Mergery Potticary**
    • Mergery is found in "English Given Names from 16th and Early 17th C Marriage Records" by Aryanwy merch Catmael (http://heraldry.sca.org/names/english/parishes/parishes.html) s.n. Margery dated to 1583.
    • Potticary appears in Bardsley, A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames, p. 617 s.n. Potticary, with this spelling dated to 1591.
    • This naming pattern for English names is found in Appendix A of SENA.

What to include in documentation

• Some more examples:
  — For the name **Meliana Trinidad de Valero**
    • The pattern given + byname + de + locative for Spanish names is found in Appendix A of SENA. All elements are found in the Family Search Historical Records:
      • Meliana Lopez; Female; Marriage; 12 Nov 1599; Nuestra Señora De La Consolación, Ballesteros De Calatrava, Ciudad Real, Spain; Batch: M86466-1
      • Ana Trinidad; Female; Christening; 30 Jan 1564; San Juan Evangelista, Villafrades de Campos, Valladolid, Spain; Batch: C02523-2
      • Gonzalo De Valero; Male; Christening; 22 Sep 1567; San Andrés, Valladolid, Valladolid, Spain; Batch: C87100-1

Specific Sources

• English
  — For late period, FamilySearch
  — Books are great here:
    • Surnames:
      — Reaney, P. H., & R. M. Wilson, A Dictionary of English Surnames
      — Bardsley, A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames
    • Placenames:
        (expensive but very good)
Specific Sources

• English
  – Online:
    • Talan Gwynek’s “Feminine Given Names in A Dictionary of English Surnames” (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/talan/reaney/)
    • Surnames: Many articles on St. Gabriel’s
    • Middle English Dictionary (MED)
      – http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/med/structure.html
      – Good for descriptive, occupational, and place-name bynames
      – Search for the relevant word and look in the citations for use as a name
    • Anglo-Saxon
      – Proposography of Anglo-Saxon England (PASE): http://pase.ac.uk/jsp/index.jsp

• Welsh
  – Online
  – Books
    • T. J. and Prys Morgan’s Welsh Surnames
    • Bardsley, A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames

• Gaelic
  – Starting place:
    • Effric Neyn Kenjocht Mcherrald, “Quick and Easy Gaelic Names” (http://medievalscotland.org/scotnames/quickgaelicbyname)
    • Effric Neyn Kenjocht Mcherrald, “The Spelling of Lenited Consonants in Gaelic” (http://medievalscotland.org/scotlang/lentition.shtml)
  – Online:
    • Mari ingen Briain meic Donnchada (or Mari Elspeth nic Bryan), “Index of Names in Irish Annals” (http://medievalscotland.org/kmo/AnnalsIndex/)
Specific Sources

• Gaelic
  — Books
  • Ó Corrain and Maguire, *Irish Names/Gaelic Names* (two editions of the same book) — use with caution
  • Patrick Woulfe, *Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall: Irish Names and Surnames* (Revised Ed.)
    — The italicized forms are Anglicized Irish forms that are late period or grey period; while the Gaelic forms of those dated names are early 20th century, they are generally identical to the c. 1600 forms, and are registerable
    — Do not use the given name section! This one is bynames only
  • Do not use Woulfe's *Irish Names for Children*

• Scots
  — Books
  • Many English sources are applicable
  • Black, *The Surnames of Scotland: Their Origin, Meaning and History*

• Greek (Byzantine)
  — Online
  • Bardas Xiphias, "Common Names of the Aristocracy in the Roman Empire During the 6th and 7th Centuries" ([http://heraldry.sca.org/names/byzantine/early_byz_names.html](http://heraldry.sca.org/names/byzantine/early_byz_names.html))
  • Bardas Xiphias, "Personal Names of the Aristocracy in the Roman Empire During the Later Byzantine Era" ([http://heraldry.sca.org/names/byzantine/introduction.html](http://heraldry.sca.org/names/byzantine/introduction.html))

• French
  — Excellent online sources:
    • Aryanwyt merch Catmael, "Names from the 1292 Paris Census" ([http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/french/1292paris.pdf](http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/french/1292paris.pdf))
    • Aryanwyt merch Catmael, "French Names from Paris, 1421, 1423, & 1438" ([http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/french/paris1423.html](http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/french/paris1423.html))
    • Mari ingen Brian mac Donnchada, "Names Found in Amblyen Registers 1578-1616" ([http://medievalscotland.org/kmos/Amblyen/](http://medievalscotland.org/kmos/Amblyen/))
Specific Sources

• French
  — Books
    • Dauzat & Rostaing, Dictionnaire Etymologique des Noms de Lieux de la France
    • Morlet, Les Noms de Personne sur le Territoire de l'Ancienne Gaule du Vie au XIIe Siècle, vol I-III
    • Morlet, Étude d'anthroponymie picarde, les noms de personne en Haute Picardie aux XIIe, XIVe, XVe siècles
    • Unfortunately, these are all hard to come by, expensive, and in French

Specific Sources

• German
  — Online for given names
    • Talan Gwynek, "Medieval German Given Names from Silesia" (http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/bahlow_v.htm)
    • Aryanhwy merch Catmael, "German Names from Rottweil, Baden-Württemberg, 1441" (http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/german/rottweil1441.html)

Specific Sources

• German
  — Books for bynames
    • Bahlow/Gentry Dictionary of German Names
    • Josef Brechenmacher, Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Deutschen Familiennamen
Specific Sources

- **Old Norse**
  - Geirr Bassi Haroldsson, *The Old Norse Name*
    - Probably best source to use
    - Available from the SCA stock clerk for $6
    - [https://stockclerk.sca.org/ftpww.html?id=101sXaV] (see last page)
  - Online:
    - Gunnvor silfraharr "Old Norse Names" 
    - Aryanhwy merch Catmael, "Viking Names found in the Landnamabok" 
      ([http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/landnamabok.html](http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/landnamabok.html))
    - Aryanhwy merch Catmael, "Viking Bynames found in the Landnamabok" 
      ([http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/vikbynames.html](http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/norse/vikbynames.html))

- **Russian**
  - Paul Wickenden of Thanet’ (Paul Goldschmidt)
    - This is the best SCA name resource for Russian, it includes grammar, name patterns, and a huge database of names

- **Spanish**
  - Juliana de Luna, "Spanish Names from the Late 15th Century" 
    ([http://heraldry.sca.org/names/isabella/index.html](http://heraldry.sca.org/names/isabella/index.html))
  - Elsbeth Anne Roth, "16th Century Spanish Names" 
    ([http://heraldry.sca.org/names/spanish/index.html](http://heraldry.sca.org/names/spanish/index.html))
Specific Sources

- Italian
  - Florence
    - Juliana de Luna, "Names in 15th Century Florence and her Dominions: the Condado" (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/juliana/condado/)
    - Ferrante l'Alvole, "Men's names from Florence, 1427" (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/ferrante/catasto/)
    - Arval Benicoeur, "Feminine Given Names from the Online Catasto of Florence of 1427" (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/arval/catasto/)
  - Venice
    - Arval Benicoeur and Talan Gwynek, "Fourteenth Century Venetian Personal Names" (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/arval/venice14/)
    - Anyarhey merch Catmael, "Fifteenth Century Venetian Masculine Names" (http://www.ellipsis.cx/~liana/names/italian/venice.html)
    - Juliana de Luna, "Names from Sixteenth Century Venice" (http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/juliana/16thcvenice.html)

Final Thoughts

- Registerable vs. Authentic
  - A submission must be registerable, it need not be authentic
  - While we can encourage clients to design authentic names and devices, we cannot, and should not force the decision
  - If a client is set on a registerable but not very authentic submission, you should process it!

- Customer Service
  - It is our job to help our clients
  - We are here to make registrations happen, not prevent them from happening
  - When consulting, help clients create registerable submissions they like
  - When commenting, look for reasons to allow registration, not prohibit it
  - Heralds want a reputation for being helpful, not obstructionist!
About me

• Elmet Herald – I am the East Kingdom heraldic education deputy
• elmet@eastkingdom.org
• jgalak@gmail.com
• This handout can be found at:
  – http://www.yehudaheraldry.com/ekhu