

AnTir

Heraldic ACHIEVEMENTS

Document History: Compiled and composed by Torric inn Bjorn, May XXVIII/1993 - Edited and revised by Elizabeth Braidwood and Frederic Badger, May XXXIV/1999 - Rewritten and revised by Frederic Badger, October XXXIX/2004. This document is based on the result of a meeting that was held at the 1993 AnTir Kingdom Heraldic Symposium. Attendees included: Laurel Sovereign of Arms Bruce Draconarius of Mistholme, Kingdom Staff heralds including Black Lion Drogo the Forgetful, representatives of the Scribal authority including (we believe) Chief Scribe Eleanor the Clumsy and other interested parties. Further information was added in discussion with Black Lion Guerin de Bourgogne and arranged and updated by Zenobia Naphtali, Elizabeth Braidwood, Celdae the Seeker and Frederic Badger. This format was edited and revised by Bronwen Elgars, February XXXVIII/2004 for the purposes of printing a pamphlet as a teaching aid for the An Tir Heraldic Achievements Ithra class. Rewritten and revised by Bronwen Sable Sable, February XLIV/2010 for addition of pamphlet form to the An Tir College of Scribes website.

What is an Achievement?

An Achievement is a “formal” display of personal or civic armory. Armory is often used in informal methods of display, such as painting the heraldic device onto personal belongings or stitching it onto a field banner. Sometimes, however, a formal display of personal armory is called for, as on an official document detailing an Award, Grant or Patent of Arms modeled after similar period recordings.

An Achievement always includes some sort of shield shape, upon which the arms are rendered. It may also contain other elements, called “addiments” which surround the shield. Each Kingdom has an addiment convention. In An Tir, the rank of an individual or branch establishes which addiments may be used in an achievement.

Personal rank is determined by armigerous award bestowed by the Crown of An Tir. Civic rank is determined by branch type.

Award Categories:

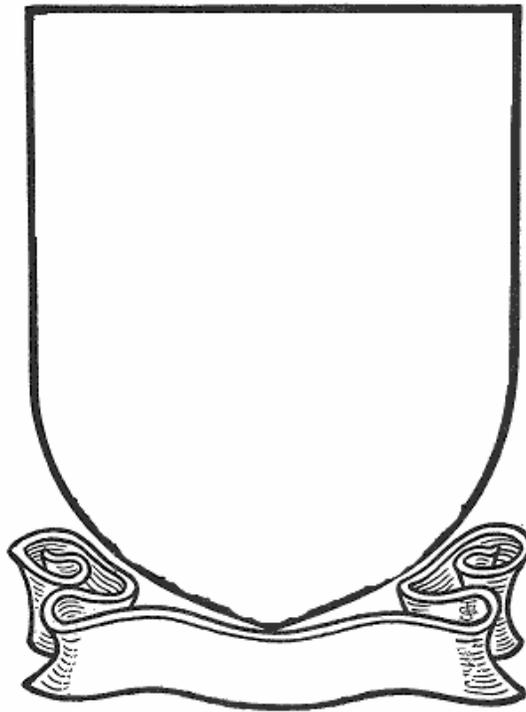
- **Device Only** (no award)
- **Award of Arms**
 - Award of Arms
 - Court Barony
- **Grant of Arms**
 - Order of the Goutte de Sang
 - Order of the Grey Goose Shaft
 - Ordo Hastae Leonis
 - Order of the Jambe de Lion
 - Ordre du Lion et de la Lance
 - Order of the White Scarf
- **Patent of Arms**
 - Order of the Chivalry
 - Order of the Laurel
 - Order of the Pelican
 - Viscounty
 - County
 - Duchy

Branch Categories:

- **Branch Armory**
 - Shire, Canton, Stronghold and College
 - Barony
 - Principality
 - Kingdom
 - Guilds, Groups and Households

Notes on Construction of Achievements: We have tried to show here an easy way of constructing an achievement. One key point to keep in mind is that you are “entitled” to bear certain addiments in your achievement, but not “required” to. This means for instance, that if you are a peer and don't feel that supporters are appropriate or necessary, then you don't have to display them. Currently, there is no registry of achievements in AnTir, so if you chose specific addiments and someone is working on an Achievement Scroll for you, you need to let the scribe know what choices you have made for yourself. Achievements can be somewhat intimidating to research, and you can easily get lost in the details. Please consult your local herald or the AEstel Herald if you desire advice or assistance.

Non-Award Level



Device Only: Anyone in the SCA may register an armorial device with the College of Heraldry, and are encouraged to do so. Before an individual has been recognized with an Award of Arms, they are entitled to display their “Registered Device” on an “Escutcheon” with a “Compartment” and a “Motto”.

Award of Arms Level



Simple Award of Arms: When the Crown of AnTir has recognized an individual with an Award of Arms, the individual continues to display their “Registered Device” on a “Shield” with a “Compartment” and a “Motto”. In addition, the achievement may now contain a “black or dark gray Helm” and a “Torse” with “Mantling” or “Streamers” of the main tinctures of the device.

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Court Barony: This award carries with it an Award of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Award of Arms, here the achievement may also display a “Baronial Coronet” consisting of a band surmounted by four or six pearls.

Grant of Arms Level



Simple Grant of Arms: When the Crown of AnTir has recognized an individual with a Grant of Arms, the individual may display the addiments of the Simple Award of Arms and in addition may also display a “Crest” atop the helm.

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Order of the Goutte de Sang: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Grant of Arms, here the achievement may also display a “Medallion of the Badge of the Order” and a “Ribbon” for the medallion to hang from or an “Order Chain of Linked Plates”. The Badge of the Order of the Goutte de Sang is “*Checky Or and argent, a goutte de sang*”. The color of the ribbon has been deregulated, but in the past the colors were “Or edged with gules”.

Order of the Grey Goose Shaft: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Grant of Arms, here the achievement may also display a “Medallion of the Badge of the Order” and a “Ribbon” for the medallion to hang from or an “Order Chain of Linked Plates”. The Badge of the Order of the Grey Goose Shaft is “*Checky Or and argent, a goose within four arrows lying as on a mascle sable*”.

Ordo Hastae Leonis: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. The Badge of the Ordo Hastae Leonis has yet to be registered with the SCA College of Arms and so there is no additional addiment.

Order of the Jambe de Lion: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Grant of Arms, here the achievement may also display a “Medallion of the Badge of the Order” and a “Ribbon” for the medallion to hang from or an “Order Chain of Linked Plates”. The Badge of the Order of the Jambe de Lion is “*Checky Or and argent, a lion's jambe bendwise inverted erased sable*”. The color of the ribbon has been deregulated, but in the past the colors were “Or edged with vert”.

Ordre du Lion et de la Lance: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. The Badge of the Ordre du Lion et de la Lance has yet to be registered with the SCA College of Arms and so there is no additional addiment.

Order of the White Scarf: This award carries with it a Grant of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. The Badge of the Order of the White Scarf has yet to be registered with the SCA College of Arms and so there is no additional addiment.

Patent of Arms Level



Simple Patent of Arms: When the Crown of AnTir recognizes an individual with a Patent of Arms, the individual is entitled to display a “Full Achievement”. The display may include the basic addiments of the Simple Award of Arms and the Simple Grant of Arms, and in addition may now include a “Silver Helm” and “Supporters”.

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Order of Chivalry: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display the regalia of the Order of the Chivalry – being an “Order Chain of Gold Links” for the Order of Knighthood or a “White Baldric” for the Order of Mastery at Arms.

Order of the Laurel: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display the regalia of the Order of the Laurel – being a “Green Laurel Wreath”.

Order of the Pelican: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display the regalia of the Order of the Pelican – being a “Pelican in her piety”, a “Pelican vulning itself” and/or a “Chapeau (*gules turned up argent plumetty gules goutty de sang*)” (also called a “Cap of Maintenance”).

Viscounty: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display a “Gold Coronet of twelve or sixteen points”.

County: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display the regalia of the County rank – being a “Gold Embattled Coronet”. In addition, the “Silver Helm” of the Simple Patent of Arms may be trimmed in gold. A Countess may display a “Wreath of Red Hearts and Roses proper” or a “Wreath of Red Roses proper”. If either wreath is displayed in the form of a medallion the field of the medallion and the ribbon from which it hangs shall be colored gold.

Duchy: This award carries with it a Patent of Arms if the recipient does not already have one. In addition to the addiments of the Simple Patent of Arms, here the achievement may also display the regalia of the Duchy rank – being a “Gold Coronet of Strawberry Leaves”. In addition, “Helm” may now be colored gold or be a rendering of the recipient’s personal helm. A Duchess may display a “Wreath of Gold Hearts and Roses barbed green and seeded red” or a “Wreath of Gold Roses barbed green and seeded red”. If either wreath is displayed in the form of a medallion the field of the medallion shall be colored red and the ribbon from which it hangs shall be colored gold.

Branch Arms



Simple Branch Arms: Black Lion Herald recently ruled that Branch Armory will follow the “French/German” model, meaning unrestricted. This allows for all branches to display a “Full Achievement”. The display may include the Branch's “Registered Device” on a “Escutcheon” with a “Crest” atop a “Helm” and a “Torse with Mantling of the main tinctures of the device”, “Supporters” on their “Compartment” and a “Motto”.

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Province, Shire, Canton, Stronghold and College: All branches are entitled to display a “German-style Mural Coronet”. The mural coronet looks like a masoned wall with towers. It is found in many displays of civic heraldry across Europe in period. The German style uses towers, while the English style is frequently drawn similar to an embattled masoned coronet. Due to the possible confusion between the English Style and the SCA-standard Count’s embattled coronet, the German style is preferred for use in Branch armory. Use of such a coronet marks the display as being that of a branch.

Barony: Baronies are entitled and encouraged to display a “Baronial Coronet” consisting of a band surmounted by four or six pearls in place of the mural coronet or they may display a representation of the territorial Coronet.

Principality: It is customary in the Kingdom of AnTir for the Royal achievement to use the “Kingdom Crown” in place of a mural coronet, and it is encouraged for this practice to continue in that the use of the “Principality Coronet” be adopted and implemented by the Principalities of AnTir.

Kingdom: It is customary in the Kingdom of AnTir for the Royal achievement to use the “Kingdom Crown” in place of a mural coronet.

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Ithra, Guilds, Groups and Households: Groups that have an Award of Arms may display the Simple Award of Arms achievement if they have a registered badge. The Badge is to be displayed on an Escutcheon. This follows the period practice for organizations who displayed arms, even though the Society does not register the group badge as arms. Groups that do not have an Award of Arms may display the Non-Award Level achievement but should not place the badge upon an escutcheon until the group has been awarded arms.

Definitions

Chapeau: The “Chapeau” or “Cap of Maintenance” is colored “*gules turned up argent plumetty gules goutty de sang*”. It is reserved for Members of the Noble Order of the Pelican. The Chapeau may be used in place of the “Torse” or “Helm”. When the Chapeau is used in place of the helm, it should rest directly on and extend all the way across the top of the “Escutcheon”.

Compartment: The “Compartment” is an optional “Piece of Ground” upon which the achievement rests. Any person of any rank may use a compartment. However, based on period artistic and general aesthetic practices the compartment is recommended for use only in achievements using “Supporters”. Supporters look more natural standing on something solid rather than floating in air, and the compartment or piece of ground looks somewhat superfluous in an achievement where no supporters are present.

Common compartments are grassy hills drawn with or without flowers, a watery ford (especially when the supporters are fish or sea-monsters) or an architectural construct such as a carved stone platform, which is also an ideal place for display of the “Motto”, as if it were carved into the stone. Then again, a compartment might be made up of a pile of books, a mound of stones, ornate iron or gold-work or a shelf of wood.

The compartment area may be used for other heraldic allusion or symbolism as seems appropriate to the recipient like a Mountain Range or a Desert Plain. Branches may wish to allude to their awards and/or orders in the design of the compartment.

It is recommended that a “Motto Scroll” not be used as a compartment for supporters to stand upon. This is known in period and particularly in post-period heraldic art, but the scroll is generally held to look flimsy in this context. Mottoes on architectural elements however, do not have this problem and so this type of display is encouraged when it is desired that the motto be incorporated into the design of the compartment.

Tokens, awards, insignia or artistic elements honoring individuals may be worked into the overall design of the achievement and the compartment is considered the best area for display these addiments.

Coronet: Branches, Royal Peers and Barons and Baronesses are entitled to use a “Coronet” appropriate to their rank. The specific coronets are discussed under the achievements for each individual award. The coronet can be used in place of the “Torse” or the “Helm”. When the coronet takes the place of the helm, it should rest directly on and extend all the way across the top of the escutcheon, becoming a major part of the design. In such a display, the coronet is often drawn with a high degree of detailing in the way of jewels, and relief work.

Crest: A “Crest” is an added decoration on top of the “Helm”. The form in heraldry appears to originate from early helm decorations used in tournament that were derived from the wearer’s fieldless badge. Many common crest shapes, such as a pair of wings, a pair of large bull's horns, an animal's head, etc., are shapes that could be easily mounted to sit on top of a helm with the “Mantling” draped in a natural manner from an attachment around the base. Crests such as an entire statant or rampant animal are also found in heraldry; however the airy space around the legs made them more difficult to attach to the helm thus making them less natural as a mounted crest.

Crests should always face in the same direction that the helm faces. A helm facing forward, with a lion passant facing dexter looks awkward, where a lion passant facing dexter on a dexter facing helm looks more balanced.

In an achievement using a “Crest”, it is not uncommon for period art to omit the “Torse” so that the crest flows seamlessly into the “Mantling”.

Escutcheon: The “Escutcheon” referred to here is the shield shape upon which the main display of registered arms is found. While the standard shield shape for armorial display is the “heater”, other shield shapes have been used for armorial display depending on the place and time of the display. A good survey of these shield shapes over time and place can be found in Neubecker's *Heraldry - Sources, Symbols and Meanings*.

In period, women occasionally used a lozenge shaped shield for armorial display, a practice that was more common in later period than in earlier. However, during the majority of the Society's times and places, women used the same kind of shield, as did men, so the lozenge shape is not encouraged.

Helm: The “Helm” is placed on top of the shield, touching, not floating above it. For the Award and Grant of Arms level it is black or dark gray, for the Peerage it is Silver, and for the Royal Peerages, it is either silver trimmed in gold or gold. The style of helm is up to the recipient, and is generally taken from their period, if applicable. When the helm has a crest, the helm and crest should face in the same direction, i.e. if the crest is a lion's face affronty, then the helm should be affronty and if the crest is a lion passant facing dexter, the helm should also face to dexter.

Mantling: “Mantling” is simple, vigorous and flowing turns of cloth drawn so as to set off the achievement and fill the space provided. The edges may be scalloped with tassels added to the ends. Normally, mantling is displayed with the most primary “color” of the device on the outer side of the fabric and the most primary “metal or fur” of the device on the lining or inside of the fabric. The use of Gules and ermine is restricted to the Peerage. For members of the Order of the Pelican, gouttey de sang may be used instead of ermine tails. The use of Or and ermine is not allowed. (Also see **Streamers**)

Medallion: A “Medallion” is normally a large circular or oval “Medal” stamped or inscribed with a design commemorating a specific award. Medallions used in An Tirian achievements are mostly limited to the Grant and Peerage Level heraldic “Badges” or “Regalia” appropriate to explicit ranks. The specific medallions are discussed under the achievements for each individual award.

Motto: The “Motto” is a brief sentence, phrase or single word used to express a principle, goal or ideal. Any person of any rank may use a “Motto”. The motto is usually found above or beneath the main design of the achievement and is generally drawn on a representation of scrolled parchment, but may also be incorporated into the compartment.

Mural Coronet: The “Mural Coronet” is a masonry wall sporting several towers all drawn in the shape of a coronet, with the towers being the coronet points. Any Branch is entitled to use the mural coronet in a Branch achievement.

Ribbon: A “Ribbon” is a narrow strip or band of fine fabric and is only used in combination with a medallion hanging from it. The ribbons used with the Grant and Patent Level medallions have been deregulated. The Royal Peerage medallions should be displayed hanging from a “gold” ribbon.

Streamers: “Streamers” are a late and post-period substitution for mantling, especially in achievements for women where the arms are drawn on a “Lozenge” rather than an “Escutcheon” and there is no “Helm”, “Torse” and “Mantling”. Streamers are long narrow strips of fabric and can have tassels hanging from the ends. However, during the majority of the SCA's times and places, women used the same kind of shield, as did men, so since the lozenge shape is not encouraged, likewise, “Streamers” are discouraged.

Supporters: “Supporters” hold up the “Escutcheon”. People and four-legged animals or monsters are the most common types of supporters. Other kinds can also be found, such as a two-legged bird standing on one leg and holding the shield with the other, fish or finned monsters and inanimate objects. A shield displayed over two crossed swords has the swords acting as supporters. Supporters may or may not echo charges used in the arms or may or may not relate to the owner’s badge. Most achievements with supporters use two supporters, one on each side, but achievements with a single supporter are found. The two supporters can be of the same type, or two different types.

Supporters tend to be found in later achievements. In some countries in period such as England, their use was strictly limited to high ranks and regulated by heralds. In other countries such as Germany, supporters were an artist's addition rather than a regulated piece of heraldry.

Black Lion Principal Herald of AnTir has ruled that only Peerage Achievements may have supporters with the following provisions:

1. The supporters are not mentioned in the text of a scroll.
2. The Lion of AnTir as depicted on the Kingdom arms, with tail forked and nowed is reserved for Kingdom, Royal Peerages and Members of the Order of the Honor of the Lion of An Tir.
3. The supporters should not detract from the arms and should not overwhelm the rest of the achievement.

Torse: The “Torse” is a band of twisted cloth that holds the “Mantling” on the “Helm”. The torse is drawn using the same two tinctures of the “Mantling” in six alternating twists with the furthestmost left twist being the metal or fur. A “Coronet”, “Wreath” or the Pelican’s “Chapeau” may replace the torse if the owner’s rank allows for such a display.

This paper was originally webbed by Elizabeth Braidwood and Frederic Badger with some text provided by Zenobia Naphtali. Graphics were scanned from *Heraldry: A Pictorial Archive for Artists and Designers* by Arthur Fox-Davies published by Dover and the images are all copyright free. Frederic Badger completed additional touch-up work and general image fiddling. The paper was downloaded from the web and edited by Bronwen Elgars for use in teaching an Ithra class on AnTir Achievement Customs. The Branch Arms image was scanned from a version of *The Laws of An Tir* and added to this version of the paper.