

Family Name History

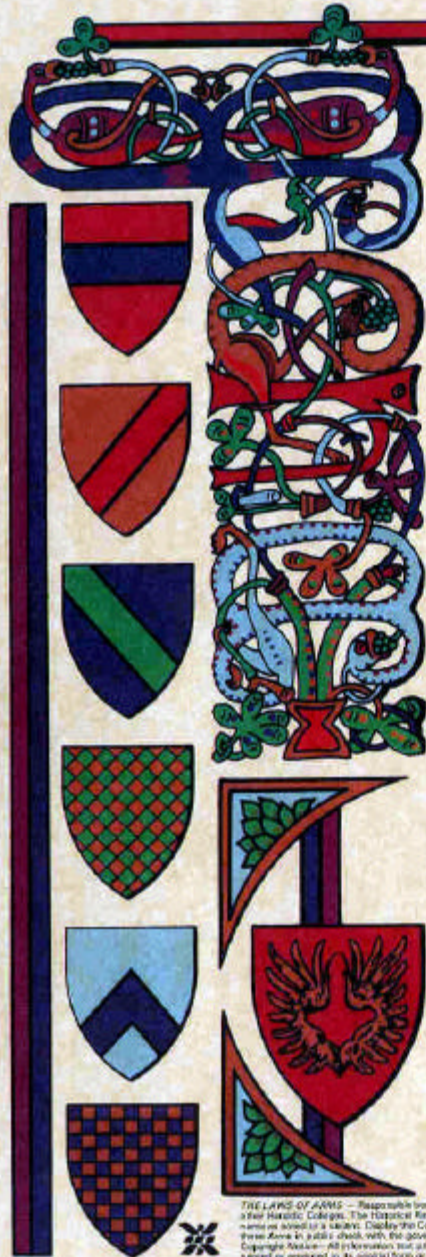


GOUGH

The surname Gough is of Welsh derivation and is of nickname origin, being one of those surnames based on a physical or personal characteristic of the original bearer. In this instance, the surname is derived from the Welsh "goch" meaning liberally "red complexioned" or "red haired" and referring to the appearance of the original bearer. Nicknames indeed, are the oldest of surnames and before the advent of the hereditary system of surnames, it was not unusual to name a person according to some attribute that the original bearer possessed as it provided a simple means of identification and distinguished the bearer from others in the community. Gough is one of the very few nicknames that can be found in Welsh directories.

Early references to this surname date back as far as the thirteenth century and some of these early instances include Griffin Gogh who is mentioned in the "Assize Rolls" for Cheshire in 1287 and also Robery Gogh who is recorded in the "Subsidy Rolls" for Somerset for the year 1327. Some notable bearers of the surname have included Viscount Hugh Gough (1779-1869), who served in India and defeated the Mahrattas at Maharajpoor in 1843; John Gough (b.1817-), an American temperance advocate and Richard Gough (1735-1809), the antiquary and topographer who published "Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain" in 1786. One John Gough, a servant bound to Thomas Danning, sailed from Bristol to New England, America in 1661 and is evidence of the early existence of the surname in America. Variants of the surname include Goff and Coffe.

- BLAZON OF ARMS :** Gules on a fesse argent between three boars' heads couped or, a lion passant azure.
- TRANSLATION :** The boar represents Bravery and Perseverance.
- CREST :** A boar's head couped argent devouring a broken spear.
- MOTTO :** Domat omnia virtus.
- TRANSLATION :** Virtue overcomes all things.



H.R.C.

Verification of Authenticity, hereby affixed with the signature of our researcher on this day

on _____ at _____ 1992

By _____

Registration Number _____

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