

## **Origin of the NaeSmyth coat-of-arms**

The earliest legend of the NaeSmyth surname that has been found goes as follows: Between 8 September 1249 and 19 March 1286, King Alexander III ruled in Scotland. On the eve of an important battle, probably the Battle of Largs in October 1263, one of the NaeSmyth young men served as aide-de-camp to the King and was required to mend the King's armor on the eve before the battle. Though a man of powerful physique and a brave warrior, he was unsuccessful as a mechanic. The mended armor, which consisted of a Martel or horseman's hammer failed the King and broke, but due to the smith's prowess, great daring and achievement in battle, he was knighted by the King with this laconic comment, "Although he is nae smyth, he is a brave gentleman and will hereafter be known as Sir NaeSmyth." The armorial baring of the NaeSmyth family refers to this remark: a drawn sword between two, war Martels, broken, with the motto in old Scottish "Non Arte Sed Marte" (not by art, but by arms).

Source: NaeSmyth Descendants of Georgia, USA by John W. NesSmith