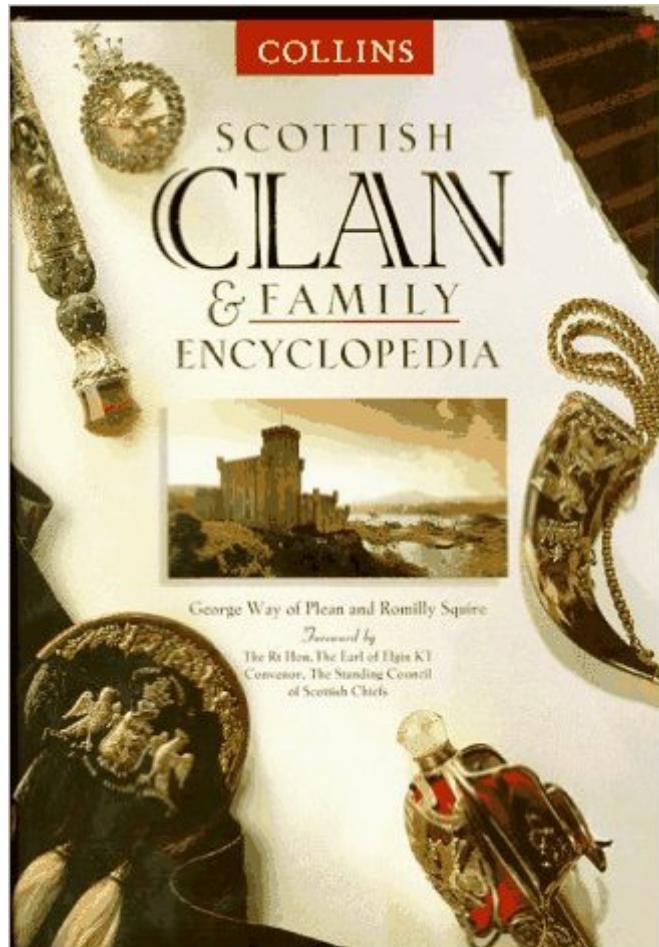


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Collins Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopedia



Synopsis

This reference work on the clans of Scotland is produced with the co-operation of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs and features a history of the clan system, the law of the clan, a history of tartan and Highland dress and a history of clan heraldry. It gives detailed listings of the crests, mottoes, tartans, clan seats, chiefs, septs and histories of over 350 clans. The appendices include Scottish genealogy, tartan collections, and important clan organizations in Scotland and abroad.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If only one book on the subject of Scotland's clans and families were truly all encompassing, this book would in fact be the one to buy. But no one book can do the subject of Scotland's people justice. While this 'encyclopedia' does provide some very interesting and informative items, such as just what a clan encompasses, it does repeat many of the same errors on family associations that prior authors on the subject have made. One might think with the credentials of the authors that their research would have been much better. For example: On Campbell, the tartan shown is that of Campbell of Argyll, which is the incorrect tartan. The Campbell of Argyll tartan was designed specifically for use by one the Past Dukes of Argyll as his own 'personal tartan'. It is not to be worn by members of the clan. The Ancient Campbell tartan, also known as the Blackwatch tartan is the tartan which may be worn by all Campbells. Additionally this book wants in explaining exactly what The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs is - it is a private association of certain chiefs, and omits from its membership some "officially" recognized chiefs of Scottish clans. The book may give the unformed reader the impression that the 'Council' somehow helps The Court of the Lord Lyon

make determinations on who is or is not the Chief of a Clan or Head of a Family. There is a blurring of the facts here. The Court of the Lord Lyon is the only authority in Scotland who may ratify and confirm Chiefs. The Lord Lyon signature on papers known as Letter Patent and on the Matriculation document, amounts to the Queen's signature ratifying the Chief of a Clan or Family. Only Lyon's signature and Seal of Office on such official state documents makes a Chief a Chief.

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