

Clan Crozier

Clan Crozier (crosier, croser, cros, etc.) is one of the **border reiving** clans of Scotland, along with the **Armstrongs**, **Elliots**, and **Nixons**. Some sources cite the surname as a sept of the Armstrong clan, but the **Scottish Parliament** in 1587 identified the Croziers as a middle march clan.^[1]

An **armigerous clan** is a clan without a chief, and a **sept** is a clan which follows a chief. So an armigerous clan like Clan Armstrong, since it does not have a chief, does not have septs. Clan Crozier, not having a chief by the **Lord Lyon King of Arms**, is an armigerous clan allied with the far more populous **Clan Armstrong**.

1 Name evolution

Croyser, Croiser, Crosier, Crozier.

Many of the earlier forms of the name were of Croyser or Crosier (of Cros), had a common English language switch of an “y” for an “i”. The name basically was Croyser then Croiser, which means cross; one who lives near or bears one.^[2] Croyser or Crosier has Old French origins, of Roman Christianity the name Croyser, then Croiser has also Old Scottish influence evolved from the Old French of, Croice, Crois(e, n. Also: croyce, croys(e). [ME. croice, croyce, crois, croys, croyz (14–15th c.), OF. crois, croiz. Cf. Croce n.1] An earlier form of the word, which is croy for the Croyser name; Cro, Croy, n.1 Sc. and Ir. Gaelic cró fold, hut, Icel. kró sheepfold. Latinized as croa, croya (12th c.).^[3]

The meaning referring to hut, which developed the name Croyser is insignificant in most of England where the name is based on cross, but given the popularity of the name in Yorkshire (**York Mayor John Croser** 1447)^[4] with variants in Sweden, it is felt by people of Scandinavian origins migrating to what is now Scotland, likely applied the meaning of hut to Croyser that of hut builder.

The Croziers came from Normandy in 1066 with **William the Conqueror**. Through the years, some moved northward to the southern areas of Scotland where they became established as a Border Clan. According to Scots Kith and Kin,^[5] Clan Crozier was in Liddesdale in the 14th Century.^[6]

Example of Tyndale to Liddesdale-Treviotdale movement; Clemy and John **Croser** (Crosier-Crozier), English Tyndale Rebels resettled to Liddesdale-Teviotdale Scotland with Clemy Croser, and Robyn (son of Rob of Redheugh) Elwald, in 1540.^[7]

- **William le Gros** Earl of Yorkshire (Count of Aumale) died 1179 could easily be the influence of the Croyser of today's border region being of Yorkshire. Name similarities exist between, **Le Cros** and **Le Gros** and today's **Crozier** and **Grozier** surnames. William le Gros, owned **Scarborough Castle**. Borough means fort and is symbolized on the shield of Scarborough. Scarborough is of Anglo-Saxon origins, and people with the surname Scarborough are known to be from Scarborough. The **Y-DNA** of the people named Scarborough was used to locate an entry point into the British Isles, of an Elfwald/Elwald.^[8] Name version of Crozier with a **G**; **Grosar**, **Grosars**, **Grossars** (RB Armstrong), **Gros**, and **Grozier**, which OCR (**optical character recognition**), sometimes read the upper case **C** as a **G**, is questioned if the document is handwritten, that it may have been transcribed in the past with a **C** transcribed as a **G**. William le Gros, Count of Aumale, was a powerful Anglo-Norman baron and grand-nephew of William the Conqueror.

Le Cros flats (acres) part of Warden manor, about 6 km (4 mi) west of and within the region of Hexam (St Andrew) Priority, Northumberland.^{[9][10][11][12]}

In the Norman Barony surname naming procedures, the name is taken from locality, and today there is a **Le Cros**, France, which corresponds with surname density, location in Southern France, of **Le Cros**. Time of surname adoption, **Le Cros** (Le Gros) was likely change to **Le Croyser** in what is now England.

- **William le Croyser** 1264, recorded in *Eynsham Cartulary*, in the time of King Henry III, and was known *The Frenchman*, 1216 - 1272.^[13]
- **Henry Croiser** (Croyser) 1266-1272 is detained in Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland prison, in killing Agnes of Hertrepol, in self-defence.^[14] This is close to today's Scottish Borders, and likely where the name Croyser/Croiser, migrated into what became Scotland in ca. 1320.
- **Simon le Croyser** April 1327, is recorded in Calendar of Close Rolls, Peterborough which is a larger community south of **Crowland/Crowland Abbey** as spelled **Croyland**.^[15]
- **William Croyser** of Bedfordshire and Buckingham County is listed in the Patent Rolls 1348-9.^[16]

giving the location of a valley of Liddesdale being where the people referred to as Croyser lived.

Today this valley is believed to be called Riccarton Burn. The spelling in William Croyser and Simon le Croyser near Croyland, and in “locus Croyser” is consistent in the fourteenth century, which strongly shows that the name which originates in the Valley (locus/locality of a valley in Liddesdale in 1376 by where the Croyser are living) of the Croyser, originated in the Croyland region. This valley now Riccarton Burn is where for Scottish-Irish Croyser (Crozier) surname adoption takes place. It is guarded by the tower of the Croziers, known as Riccarton Tower,^{[29][30]}



Riccarton Burn, the Valley of the Scottish Croziers.

Surname seeding is when a surname is brought into a region, and those without a surname adopt it. Among the Navajo Native Americans a missionary from the mid-west United States brought the Elliott name to the Navajo people. At the time of surname adoption a family of Navajos took on the surname Elliott. Now there is a line of Navajo Elliotts.

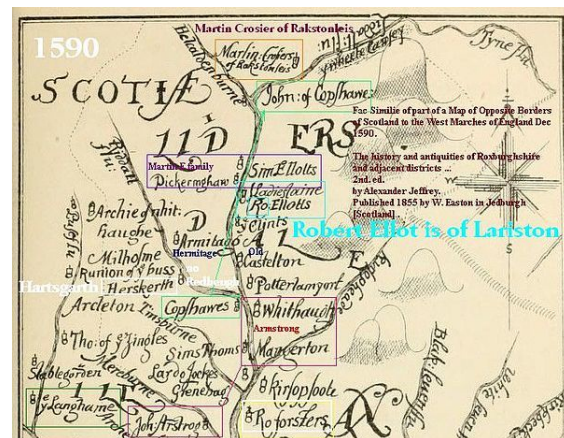
Surnames, showing popularity in Yorkshire; Croyser and Elwald, though with many deviations which from these standard spellings (norm given the centuries), developed in today's England near the beginning of the twelfth century, and were brought into the north, previous to the Declaration of Arbroath ca1320, where Croyser evolve into Croiser, Crosier, lastly Crozier, and Elwald evolved

into Elliot, Elliott, and some cases Elliott.

In the 14th century the name William (like William the Conqueror) Croyser, is found in Bedford, County, in an area not to far from Croyland. In the 13th Century the name Elwald (i.e. Elliott) is found in the region of Rye (Johannes (John) Elwold (Elwald) de (of) Rya (Rye). ca1230^[31]), near where the Battle of Hastings took place, and the Kerr which came to the borderland are said to be from Normany. So it is felt a seed carrying the name Croyser, came to the Valley of the Croyser, now Riccarton Burn, in Liddesdale. Riccarton/Riccarton Mill (Rickerton, forms of Richardtown) second home of the Redheugh Elliot (Elliott) is near Larriston/Over&Nether Laristown.^{[32][33]}

Report of Meetings for 1889. By Dr. J. Hardy. 461
History of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, instituted September 22, 1831, Volume 12 Berwickshire Naturalists' Club (Scotland). The Club, 1890 - Berwickshire (Scotland)
Riccarton Mill on our left is the place where Scott makes Dimmont direct Harry Bertram to, (see “Guy Mannering,” chap. xxii.) It remained a public house until a few years ago. The present tenant was the last licensed owner. At least one person has been drowned by falling into the mill-dam.
 On the opposite side of the road is the neat tree-sheltered farm steading of **Riccarton**, on and near the foot of a burn of the same name, which descends from Arnton Fell. A tower stood a short way up the burn, the site of which is now occupied by a sheep-stell. **This tower, of old called Rakestonleis**, belonged to a branch of the clan **Crozier**.
Riccarton Tower; Over/Upper meaning upper Riccarton.

Riccarton, mistakenly Rakestonleis, but is Caddroun Tower.



Helcaldenburne is Caddroun Burn (Tower) where Rakestonleis is of William Crosier in 1590.

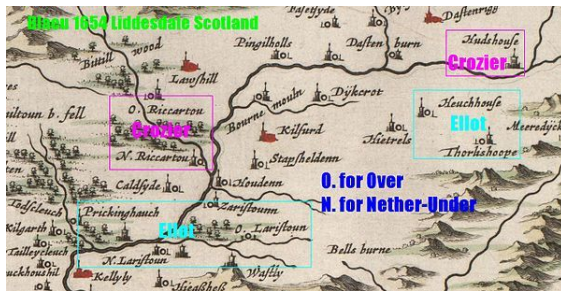
In the 1376 Rent Roll were Ricardtoun superior, and Ricardtoun inferior, and in 1541 rent rolls of Liddesdale were Ricardtuncleuch, Over (superior) Riccarton (higher in elevation), and Richardtoun, Nether (inferior) Riccarton (lower in elevation).

The History of Liddesdale, Eskdale, Ewesdale, Vassdale and the ... Volume 1 By Robert Bruce Armstrong
 Riccartoun cleuch xlth solidate terrarum. Assedantur Martino Crosar et Patricio Crosar solvendo annuatim xl s.
 Riccartoun xlth solidate terrarum. Assedantur Rollando Elwald Wilhelmo Elwald, Riccarton Nether/inferior Martino Crosar et Patricio Crosar solvendo annuatim xl s.

Ricardtoun/R. Cleuch Crosar and Elwald

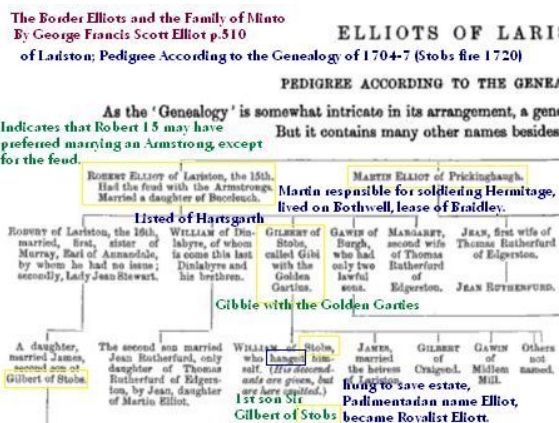
In Nether Riccarton Liddesdale 1541 rent rolls, was tenanted by Martin Crosar, Patrick Crosar, Rolland Elwald (i.e. Elliott), and William Elwald, and Over (up-

the Crosar/Croyser (Crozier) and the Elwald (Ellot) were close. Thorsliehope was land of the Elwald like Gorrenberry (next to Braidley) previous to Robert Elwald receiving lands of Redheugh, Larriston, Hartsgarth and other.



Jamie Telfer in *The Fair Dodhead Telfer* is sent to meet Martin Elliot, of Prickinbaugh, as shown on the Blaeu map as being near N&O Ricarrton, and N&O Lariston. The Pedigree According to the Genealogy of 1704-7 (previous to Stobs Castle fire of 1712) ELLIOTS OF LARISTON ; Robert Elliot of Lariston, the **15**th, had a feud with the Armstrongs. Married a daughter of Buccleuch. His next brother was Martin Elliot, of Prickinbaugh.

The Crozier Hudhouse is in the vicinity of Slaughtree, home of a Margaret (Meg, Megg, Maggie) Kidd mistress to Redheugh (Robert 15) now of Larriston, which he builds a tower for her at Hartsgarth. Second son living in Larriston with his father Robert chief 15, is William then of Hartsgrath with his mother (rf sansine/deed). Next son Gilbert “Gib-bie of Golden Garters” is said to be born of a father of Larriston, and a mother of Buccleuch (Kidd’s curse, Kidd’s wall). Though a Hob Elwode (i.e. Robert Elliott), lived and was taken in by his uncle Clemyt Crossier (i.e. Clement Crozier) of Stobbes (Stobs) became Clementis Hobs, Gavan Ellot was first Ellot owner of Stobs, second husband to Gilbert’s mother, purchases Stobs for his grandson (first son of Gilbert) William. Gilbert marrying Mary “Fendy” first cousin to Buccleuch gave William the blood of a Buccleuch. This William (has first son Sir Gilbert) changed his support to Buccleuch (King Charles II), then hung himself so the Cromwellian Parliamentarians, would not take his estate.^[42] From this William, to indicate loyalty to the Royalist, and to differentiate the name from the Parliamentarian, Sir John Elliot which died in the tower of London, the family of the Clan Elliot chief of Stobs/Redheugh spells their name *Elliott*.



On 20th September, 1484,¹ Angus again executed a precept directed to "Walter Scot of Edschan, Radulph Ker, fratri Wateri Ker de Cesford et Willemo [Elwaid] de goranbery" to infekt [Robert] Elwaid of the Redehuch in the 20 merk lands of Over and Nether "Larrostane".

On 13th November, 1489,² at "Calco", the earl directed a further precept to William Ker of the "Mersyntoun Radulph Ker de Primsyde louch, [Willelmo] elwaid de gounbery et [Wilelmo] gledstansys" to infekt [Robert] Elwaid of the "Redehuch" in the lands commonly called "reduch", "layhauch", "hartsgarth", "caraseche", "dawmane", and "larostasyn superior et inferior," lying in the lordship of "Lyddalsdale"; and on 13th June, 1497,³ in presence of Ninian Elwaid, [Robert] Elwaid, William Elwaid, [John] Elwaid, Andrew Elwaid, [John] Crosar, Quynstin Crosar, John Grame, and George Forstar, crosse of all the foresaid

Robert receiving land of and around Redehuch, and Listoun, saine-deed, with landholders and witnesses.

The Annals of a Border Clough (the 3rd forest): and Biographical Notices of the ...
By George Mackenzie, Esq.
T. S. Kail, 1899 - 505 pages

Willelmo gledstans (William Gledstans) listed with landholders.

Over Larrostoun (superior) (higher elevation)
Nether (under) Larrostoun (inferior)

John and Quynstin Crosar
Crosar Crozier Clough listed with the witnesses to saine-deed, are fit to be tenants.

Redheugh Elwald sasine (deed); Crosars witnesses.^[43]

The Scottish, and other border people followed a similar path migration from The Liddel Water which is a



Lower Liddesdale, not showing Croziers.

Scottish-English border except in the Debatable Lands and past Kirhopefoot, where Mangerton is. Migration followed up into Northern Liddesdale. In Scotland, the names Armstrong, Elwald (Ellot), and Nixon, may have had there Scottish birth in the Debatable lands; the Croysier it is felt took more of a direct route northward bypassing the Debatable Lands.

Along with the Crosar/Crozier, listed as witnesses are Grame/Grahams, and Forstar/Foster/Forester. Though Elwald-Ellot (Elliot) of Redhugh and Gorrenberry are listed, along with the son of Buccleuch, Cessford (Roxburghe), and his brother, and other Kerr, a Wm Gledstanis, and a number of Elwald as witnesses. There are no Armstrongs, though Grahams, Foresters, and Armstrongs had towers along the Liddel.

The Armstrong, and their allies, believe like indigenous Americans, that land is of the common. Previous to the Redhugh sasine, the Armstrong Mangerton lands were re-granted by Arhibald “Bell the Cat” Douglas V Earl of Angus to Scot of Buccleuch. That is why the Armstrong are not on sasine.^[45]

3.2 Hudshouse

Near burn of same name, tower remains verily exist, and a peel house at Hudshouse possessed by this clan. Scotts of Buccleuch, Vol II page 174.^[46] Hudshouse was a two story house^[47] with dual doors, making it a strongly built huddle house. What one would call a “Hudshouse”. Hudshouse had recent farming up to about 1890, but in ruins with slight remains of an ancient tower of the Croziers.^[48]

Philippo Crosar was recorded on the Rental Rolls of Liddesdale, being a tenant at Hudshouse in 1541.^[49]

Hudshouse is below foot of Helcaldenburne (Caddroun Burn), on Liddel (refer to; Blaeu map of 1654).^[50]

Rakestonleis is of Caddroun Burn Tower (Helcaldenburne 1590) of Martin Crozier.^{[51][52]}

3.3 Treviotdale

The family becomes Treviodale Crosiers of Alderstonshields, with nearby Clement Crosier in Stobs^[53] migrating north Clement Crosier on Gledstanis estate land to Hummelknows just south of Hawick.^[54]

The head of the Croziers was Clame (Clement) in Hummilknowes (1569).^[55]

Thes men hereafter following ar borden in lyke maner, and for the performance there of they have laide in iiij^{or} pleges, that is to saye Adde Crosyer, Martyne Crosyer, John Crosier, and Dandy Crosyer. *The Hamilton Papers: A.D. 1543-1590 By Great Britain, General Register Office (Scotland). 1544, pg 742*

John Crosier of Agerstoneshields, Martyne Crosyer of Yarsaye, Clemyt Crossier of Stobbes, Adam Crosyer of Agerstoneshields, Patan Crosyer Martyns brother, Jame Crosyer Martyns brother, Qwinten Crosyer Patte Crossyer sone, Dande Crosyer Martyne Crosyer sone, Hobe Crossier Martyne son, Edwarde Crossier Martyne son, Lyell Crosyer James Crosser son, John Crossyer Thome Crossyer sone, Adde Crossyer Marke Crosser sone, Arche Crosser Markes sone.

Jake Rawe Martyn Crossers servaunte, Qwinten Crossyer Jefferay Crossyer sone, Wille Crossyer Jefferays sone, Cleme Crosser his brother, Sande Crossyer Edwarde Crossers son, Martyne Crossyer Wille Crossyers sone, Rowe Crossyer James sone, Thomas Crosser Cokis Crosser son, Mathewe Crosser Barte son, Hewe Crosser his brother, Patte Crossyer Wille Crossyers son, Hobe Crosser his brother, Rowe Crossyer his brother, Wille Yong Clemyt Crossers servaunte, Jake Yong his brother, John Carborne Clemyt Crossers man, Hobbe Elwode Clemyt systyr sone, John Crosyer Cokis Crossyers sone, Clemyt Crossyer John Crossyers sone, Lyell Crosyer John Crossyers brother, Coke Crossyer John Crossyers brother, Jame Crossyer John Crossyers sone, Martyne Crossyer John sone, Jone Crossyer John sone, Mathewe Hunter John Crossyer kynsman, Adde

Crosyer, Crosier, Crosser of Agerstoneshields-Alderstonshields and Stobs.

Crosyer, Crosier, Crosser of Agerstoneshields-Alderstonshields and Stobs, on Gladstanis estate in Treviotdale, 1544^[56]

662	REGISTER OF THE COUNCIL	1569.
The Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, Volume 1 Scotland. Privy Council, John Hill Burton, David Masson, Peter Hume Brown, Henry Paton, Robert Kerr Hannay H.M. General Register House, 1877 - Archives		
Comperit Clame Crosar in Hammilknowis, the tent day of Maii, and become souertie for the personis following :—		
ClemmeCrosaraliasCokkis	Ade Crosar alias Meggaittis	
Clemme, ii° H.	Ade, ii° H.	
Johnne Crosar his brother, ii° H.	Arche Crosar alias Arche the	
Rowy Crosar thair brother, ii° H.	Pyatt, ii° H.	
Dande Crosar alias Partis	Jame Crosar the tailyeour, . ii° H.	
Dande, ii° H.	Andro Crosar alias Markis	
	Andro, ii° H.	

Hummelknows, Crosar which are surities (in bond) by Clem Crosar

Surities/bonding of Crosars by Clement Crosar of Hammelknows;^[57]

Gladstanis land in Treviotdale of Hammelknows, Alderstonshields and Stobs, which Crozier (Crosar) were tenants;



Gledstanis land which Crosar are tenants.

3.4 Fermanagh

The relation between the Crosare (Crozier), Elwald (El-lot), Home (Hume), in the Minto (Wolflee/Wolfhopelee) regions is shown in a Declaration of Sasine to David of Home 1436, when a Johannis Elwald, and a Jacobi Crosare witness the deed of David Hume receiving land from of Wolflee and Wolfhopelee from William Douglas.^[58]

John Croser sword only is listed in the ca1630 munster rolls of Tully Castle (1630 Tully, Monea, and Tullykelter Castles exist, but Castle Hume was built later^[59]) the Barony de Magherboy, Fermanagh, Ulster. Croser, El-lot and Hume in this same region as found two centuries earlier, in southern Treviotdale with Sasine of David Hume.^[60]



Maghereboy, Fermanagh, Ulster, Hume, Hamilton and Somerville lands of Tully, Monea, and Tullykelter Castle lands.

In 1659, Crozier were listed in the Census of Fermanagh/Armagh, Ulster.^[61]

1528 IN DEBATABLE LANDS; Of the Armstrong, El-lot, Nixon and Crosar; the most numerous in 1528 are the Armstrong then Elwands, Ellwoods, or Elliots who extended into Treviotdale, Nixons which are more numerous

in Cumberland than Scotland and the Crosars in Upper Liddesdale with their chief stronghold at Riccarton.^[30]

A CENTURY LATER IN ULSTER; Across the water to Ulster into the counties of Fermanagh which now borders Ireland, and Armagh. Given numbers for the Armstrong, Elliot (Ellot), Nixon, and Crozier (Crosar) of Fermanagh and Armagh,^[62] shows these two counties were stepping stones, into the English Plantations and around the world.

4 The Plantations

4.1 Australia and New Zealand

(space for future information)

4.2 Canada and United States

Early Crosier into **Boston, Massachusetts**; CROSIER TIME LINE by Charles Crosier.^[63]

1735 December 29 - An intent to marry is recorded in Kings Chapel for John Crosier and Martha Lindsey.

note; John Croser b. ca1714 Ireland?, father William Samuel Crossett and mother; Martha Hamilton, married; Martha Lindsay 1735 in **Boston, Massachusetts**.^[64]

1735/36 January 13 - John Crosier marries Martha Lindsey at Kings Chapel (Episcopalian).

Were like many Crosier/Crozier of Ulster (Scot-Irish) would have been Episcopalian.^[65]

Traditionally the **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** Crozer (Crozier) family was founded by five brothers, Andrew, John, James, Robert and Samuel of Northern Ireland (Ulster), arrived in Philadelphia about **1723**, unrecorded parents were likely with them.^[66]

Norwalk, Conneticut, Richard Cozier (Crozier), wife Abigail Brown listed in deeds of **1709**^[67] deceased **1724**.^[68]

5 Crozier Coat of Arms

Traditional design features, are the *fleur de lis* of France used in England^[69] and America (**Crozier's** General Armory:..... ed **William Armstrong Crozier**).^[70] with French being the basis to the name Crozier. Azure or lapis blue being a tradition colour of the Crozier Clan arms.

The cross is the Christian (St George's Cross), colour scheme in that of the arms of the Armstrong and the Scottish flag. Though the white could be turn to gold if the Irish want their coat of arms different. The Irish of mainly Fermanagh/Armagh, have Liddesdale/Teviotdale Scottish origins. The stag head is found normally on