

# Report of research into Flood of Kent

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The object of the present programme of research was to seek entries in the records of armorial bearings and pedigrees maintained by the College of Arms which may shed light upon whether any armorial bearings have been officially recorded for the philosopher and physician Robert Fludd (b. in Bearsted, Kent; d. 1637 in London) or his father Thomas Fludd (d. 1607), Member of Parliament for Maidstone in Kent (1593, 1597, 1601).



1626



1631

Two engravings of Robert Fludd show the following arms. The **1631 engraving (above right)** shows a 'quartered' coat of arms. This means that the first 'quarter' – the rectangle in the top-left – shows the arms of Fludd's paternal ancestors, while the other quarters – which are called quarters, no matter how many there are – show the arms of other families which have expired in the male line, and whose 'heraldic heiresses' have then married into Fludd (or into other families which subsequently married into Fludd). The quarters would be numbered from left to right and top to bottom, so **the top row are the first, second and third quarters, and the bottom row are the fourth, fifth and sixth quarters.**

The **1626 engraving (above left)** shows the same quartered arms of Fludd, ‘impaled’ – meaning shown side-by-side on a single shield – with another coat of arms, which is itself quartered. This is a conventional way to display the arms of a married couple. So the 1631 engraving shows Fludd’s (quartered) arms alone, while the 1626 engraving would in theory show his quartered arms impaled with his wife’s quartered arms. However, Robert Fludd is not known to have married. It has therefore been suggested, purely as a possibility that the arms with which Fludd are impaled on this shield could be those of his father Thomas Fludd’s second wife Barbara, daughter of Bradbury and widow of Cutts.

To clarify some of the terminology used in this report: the most common forms of armorial bearings are coats of arms and crest. A **coat of arms** is a design usually seen filling a shield, though it can equally fill any shape, including rectangular banners, diamond-shaped ‘lozenges’ and oval cartouches. A **crest**, meanwhile, is a theoretically three-dimensional object placed atop a helm – it is sometimes shown above the coat of arms, sometimes on its own, with or without the helm. All armorial bearings are defined by a verbal description in heraldic language, known as the **blazon**.

The official records of the College of Arms date back to its foundation in 1484 in many cases, although most series begin in the reign of Henry VIII or slightly later. They may be divided into a number of categories, representing different kinds of record, and relating to different activities of the heralds. The relevant series of records for the present enquiry have been carefully searched and all entries examined.

## The Herald’s Visitations

Between 1530 and 1687, the heralds visited each county roughly once every generation, to oversee the use of arms, and to record the pedigrees of the gentry. The results, recorded in a series of manuscript volumes, have been searched for any entries pertaining to individuals or families surnamed Flood or Fludd and residing in Kent or London. The following such entries were found.

**1.** At the heralds’ visitation of Kent in 1574, a pedigree of five generations was recorded. It runs as follows:

1. **John Fludd** of Morton in Shropshire m. Anne, daughter of Bannoe
  - a. **Thomas Fludd** of Milgate in the parish of Bearsted in Kent m. Elizabeth, daughter of Phillip Andrews of Somerset
    - i. **Edward Fludd** [seemingly eldest son]
    - ii. **Thomas Fludd**
    - iii. **William Fludd**
    - iv. **John Fludd**
    - v. **Robert Fludd**
    - vi. **Johan Fludd** [daughter]

The pedigree is accompanied by an outline sketch or ‘trick’ of a coat of arms and a crest. The arms may be blazoned: *Quarterly, 1, Vert a Chevron between three Wolf’s Heads erased Argent, 2, Per fess Sable and Argent a Lion rampant counterchanged, 3, Argent a Chevron Gules between three Pheons pointing inwards Sable, 4, Sable three Horse’s Heads erased Argent.* In plainer English this means:

- A shield divided into four quarters (*Quarterly*, followed by 1–4);
- In the **first quarter**: a green (*Vert*) background spanned by a white (*Argent*) chevron between three white wolves’ heads torn raggedly across the neck (*erased*), two above and one below – these would be the patrilineal arms of Fludd of Bearsted and Otham, and **they plausibly match the first quarter shown in the two engravings depicting the arms of Robert Fludd**;
- In the **second quarter**: a background divided in two by a horizontal line (*per fess*), being black (*Sable*) in the top half and white (*Argent*) in the bottom half, superimposed by a lion rearing up on its left hind foot (*rampant*) which is coloured white where it sits against the black background and black against the white background (*counterchanged*); **this plausibly matches the fourth quarter in the engravings**;
- In the **third quarter**: a white (*Argent*) background spanned by a red (*Gules*) chevron between three black (*Sable*) wide arrow heads (*Pheons*), two above and one below, the upper two pointing towards each other (*pointing inwards*); **this plausibly matches the fifth quarter in the engravings**;
- In the **fourth quarter**: a black (*Sable*) background with three white (*Argent*) horses’ heads arranged in a row of two above a row of one; **this plausibly matches the sixth quarter in the engravings.**

The **crest** above the arms may be blazoned: *Out of a Crest Coronet* [also known, now archaically, as a *Ducal Coronet*] *Argent an Ounce’s Head proper.* This means a white (*Argent*) regular heraldic coronet (with strawberry-leaf finials) out of which rises the head of a lynx (*Ounce*) in its natural colours (*proper*). **This is a plausible match for the crest in the two engravings**, although these appear to show a horsehoe on the ounce’s neck which is not depicted here. [Coll. Arms MS H.2/142].

**2.** At the heralds’ visitation of Kent in 1592, a pedigree of three generations was recorded. It runs as follows:

1. **John Fludd** of Morton in Shropshire, Esquire *m.* Agnes, daughter of Meredith Bannoc of Weston Rhyn in Shropshire, Gentleman
  - a. **Hugh Fludd** (eldest son)
  - b. **David Fludd** (died young)
  - c. **Sir Thomas Fludd, Knight** (third son (but second surviving son)) *m.* Elizabeth, daughter of Phillipp Andrewes of Wellington in Somerset, Esquire
    - i. **John Fludd** (died without issue)
    - ii. **Edward Fludd** (eldest surviving son)
    - iii. **Thomas Fludd** (second son)
    - iv. **William Fludd** (third son)

- v. **John Fludd** (fourth son)
- vi. **Robert Fludd** (fifth son)
- vii. **Phillipp Fludd** (sixth son)
- viii. **Johan** *m.* Nicholas Gylborne of Charing in Kent, Esquire
- ix. **Cicellie** (died young)
- x. **Elizabeth** (died young)
- xi. **Katherin** (unmarried)
- xii. **Sara** (unmarried)
- d. **William Fludd** (fourth son)
- e. **Mandalyn** *m.* John Note of Bearsted in Kent, Gentleman
- f. **Katherine** (unmarried)

The pedigree is accompanied by an outline sketch or ‘trick’ of a coat of arms and a crest which match those previously recorded for the family in 1574 [see entry 1 above] (although the arms have been drawn on a shield which is quarterly of six rather than four, with the second quarter left blank and the first quarter repeated in the sixth). [Coll. Arms MS G.12/62].

**3.** At the heralds’ visitation of London in 1633–34, a pedigree of four generations was recorded. It runs as follows:

- 1. **David Flood** of Shropshire *m.* daughter and heir of Griffith
  - a. **John Flood**
    - i. **Sir Thomas Flood** of Milgate in Bearsted in Kent *m.* Elizabeth daughter of Andrews of Dorchester
      - 1. **Thomas Flood** (eldest son)
      - 2. **Robert Flood** of London, ‘Doctor of Physick’ (living 1633; parallel lines indicating a marriage are shown, but no wife is listed, nor any issue)

The pedigree has been signed in attestation by Robert Flood. It is accompanied by an outline sketch or ‘trick’ of a coat of arms which may be blazoned: *Vert a Chevron Ermine between three Wolf’s Heads erased Argent*. This means a green (*Vert*) background spanned by a chevron which is white and speckled with stylised black stoat tails (*Ermine*), between three white (*Argent*) wolves’ heads torn raggedly across the neck (*erased*), two above and one below. No crest is shown. [Coll. Arms MS C.24/58b].

**4.** At the heralds’ visitation of London in 1633–34, a pedigree of three generations was recorded. It runs as follows:

- 1. **Richard Flood** of Shropshire *m.* Anne
  - a. **Andrew Flood** (eldest son)
  - b. **John Flood** of London, haberdasher (living 1633) *m.* Dorothy, daughter of Allyn
    - i. **Nathaniel Flood** (eldest son; living 1633)

- ii. **Dorothy Flood**
- iii. **Anne Flood**
- iv. **Elizabeth Flood**
- v. **Johan** [or possibly **John**] **Flood**

No arms or crest are shown. [Coll. Arms MS C.24/294b].

**5.** At the heralds' visitation of Kent in 1668, a pedigree of four generations was recorded. It runs as follows:

1. **Sir Thomas Fludd** of Milgate in Bearsted in Kent, Knight, *m.* daughter of Andrews of Somerset
  - a. **Thomas Fludd** *m.* Catherine, daughter of Levine Buskin of Gore Court, Otham in Kent
    - i. **Thomas Fludd** of Goe Court (living 1663) *m.* Bridget, daughter of John Banckes of Little Shelford in Cambridgeshire
      1. **Alabaster**, eldest son *m.* Mary, daughter and heir of Peter Maplesden
        - a. **Thomas**, eldest son
        - b. **Peter**, second son
        - c. **Bridget**
        - d. **Mary**
        - e. **Priscilla**
      2. **Thomas**
      3. **Priscilla**, *m.* John Hendley of Otham

The pedigree is accompanied by an outline sketch or 'trick' of a coat of arms and a crest which match those previously recorded for the family in 1574 and 1592 [see entries 1 and 2 above]. [Coll. Arms MS D.18/152b].

## Grants of Arms

As well as the records of the visitations themselves, the College of Arms has records of a large number of grants of arms made before, during and after the time of the visitations. These records have been searched for any grants or confirmations of arms to individuals surnamed Fludd or Flood and residing in Kent or London. The following such entries were found.

**6.** A seventeenth-century manuscript volume of armorial bearings granted in the preceding century contains a record of arms granted to Thomas Fludd of Milgate, Bearsted in Kent by Letters Patent dated 10 November 1572. The text of the record runs as follows:

*Thomas Fludd of Milgatt in the parish of Bersted in the Countie of Kent gentelman, for as much as by his petegre [pedigree] yt doth appere, the the saide Thomas Fludd is the sonn of*

*John Fludd, son and heire of David Fludd allis [alias] Lloyd, and of his wife the Daughter of Gruffith the sonne of Enyon ap Maddocke hedwch and of his wife Daughter and heire of Moris ap Jonii Gethin, which David Fludd wase sonne of Hughe sonne of David sonne of Jonii the sonne of Paenod, And so finding by his descent to him from his auncestors the he may beare foure severall Caotes as followeth, the first for Fludd, vert a Cheveron between three wolfes heades erased argent, the second for Gethin per fesse Sables and argent a Lyon Rampant Counterchanged, the third for Granwy ap Cadogan argent a Cheveron gules between three Arrow heads Sables the forth for Jonii ap Gruffith Wenwys Sables three horse heads rased Silver, the Creast out of a Crowne argent an Ounce head in proper Cooler manteled gules doubled Silver : A patten bearing date the xth of November an'o 1572 : in the xiiiith yere of Q : E : by Robert Cooke Clarenceux Kinge of Armes.*

The record includes an outline sketch or 'trick' of the quartered arms and crest which are blazoned in the text. These match the arms and crest recorded for Fludd at the heralds' visitations of Kent in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [see entries 1, 2 and 5 above]. Unlike those entries, the text of this record also assigns the four quarters respectively to:

1. Fludd
2. Gethin
3. Granwy ap Cadogan
4. Jonii ap Gruffith Wenwys

[Coll. Arms MS Miscellaneous Grants 1/65b].

**7.** A seventeenth-century manuscript volume of armorial bearings granted in the preceding century includes what appears to be a complete transcript of Letters Patent originally issued on 10 November 1572 to Thomas Fludd of Milgate, Bearsted in Kent, confirming his right to arms by descent from several other families (seemingly Welsh), and also granting him a crest, which his ancestors had not borne. The text of the Patent runs as follows:

*To all and Singuler, as well Nobles and Gentils as others, to whom these presents shall come, be seen read or understood, **Rob't Cook** Esq als Clarenceux Principall Herald and King of Armes, of the south, East & west parts of this realme of England, from the River of Trent southward sendet Greeting in our Lord God Everlasting, Whereas **Thomas Fludd** of Milgate in the Parish of Bersted in the County of Kent Gent, is descended of an Antient family whose ancestors have of long tyme, have borne Ensigns & tokens of Honours, that is to say Armes w'ch also by right of succession do descend appertaine and are likewise due unto him, for as by his Pedigree, it doth appear y't [that] ye s'd [said] **Tbo: Fludd** [is son of **John Fludd\***], son & h: of **David Fludd** als [alias] Lloyd & of his wife daught: of Griffith ye son of Enyon ap Maddocke hedwch & of his wife daught: & h: of Morris ap Jenii Gethin, w'ch **David Fludd** was son of Hugh son of David son of Jenii, ye son of Paenod, & so finding by his descent him to him from his Ancestors that he may beare 4 severall Coats as followeth the first for Flud, V't a Cheveron betw: 3 Wolfes heads Erased Ar: the 2d for Gethin, per fesse sab: & Ar: a Lyon ramp't Counterchanged, the 3d for Gronwy ap Cadogan, Ar: a  $\wedge$  Gu: betw: 3*

*Arrow heads Sab; and ye 4th for Jenii ap Griffith Wenwys, Sab: 3 horses heads erased Argent, and forasmuch as it doth not appear in the Records of my office, w<sup>ch</sup> Crest or Cognoizance is apertaining or belonging to the s<sup>d</sup> Armes, he ye s<sup>d</sup> **Tho: Fludd** has required me to assigne unto him and to the residue of his blood and name, a Crest not to be preborne by any other, In Consideration wherof and at his instant request, I the s<sup>d</sup> Clarenceux K: of armes by power on authority, to me Comitted by L<sup>rs</sup> Pattents under the Great Seale of England, have assigned, given, & Granted unto the s<sup>d</sup> Tho: Fludd and to all other of his Blut & name ye Crest and Cognoizance to be borne in manner following, (that is to say) **Upon his Helmet Issuant out of a Crowne Argent An Ounce head in ppr Collers Mantled Gules doubled Silver**, as more plainly appeareth depicted in this margent, which Crest or Cognoizance & every part and parcell therof I ye s<sup>d</sup> Clar: K: of Armes, do by these p<sup>sents</sup> ratifie give & grant unto ye s<sup>d</sup> **Tho: Fludd** and to all other of his Blut and name & to his & their posterity forever, And he and they the same Crest or Cognoizance to have hold use bear & enjoy & shewfort, w<sup>th</sup> his & their die diffe<sup>nces</sup> at all times forever hereafter & his & their liberty & pleasure w<sup>thout</sup> impediment let or interruption of any p<sup>son</sup> or p<sup>sons</sup>, In wittness whereof I the afores<sup>d</sup> Clar: King of Ar<sup>s</sup> have hereunto sett my hand & seal of Office the 10 day of Nov<sup>r</sup> An<sup>o</sup> 1572 in the 14th yere of the Reigne of our soveraigne Lady Queen Elizab:  
[signed] Rob: Cook als Clarenceulx  
Roy D<sup>armes</sup>*

\* ‘son of John Fludd’ is missing from Coll. Arms MS Miscellaneous Grants 2/224 but included in MS Miscellaneous Grants 6/104 and MS Old Grants of Arms (Cross paty) 98.

The record includes an outline sketch or ‘trick’ of the confirmed arms which are blazoned in the text, along with the newly granted crest. These all match the arms and crest recorded for Fludd of Kent at the heralds’ visitations of Kent in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [see entries 1, 2 and 5 above]. Unlike those entries, this record also labels the four quarters as pertaining respectively to:

1. Flud als Lloyd
2. Gethin
3. Gronwy ap Cadogan
4. Ienii

[Coll. Arms MS Miscellaneous Grants 2/224. A second transcription, from around the same time, is held under the reference Coll. Arms MS Miscellaneous Grants 6/104. What appears to be either a draft or an earlier transcription of the same Letters Patent, without any accompanying illustration, is also held under the reference Coll. Arms MS Old Grants of Arms (Cross paty) 98].

**8.** A seventeenth-century manuscript volume of earlier armorial bearings contains an outline sketch or ‘trick’ of a coat of arms labelled simply as pertaining to ‘Sr Thomas Floudd of Kent’, with no further details given. The arms may be blazoned: *Vert a Chevron Ermine between three Wolf’s Heads erased Argent*. This means a green (*Vert*) background spanned by a chevron which is white and speckled with stylised black stoat tails (*Ermine*), between three white (*Argent*) wolves’ heads

torn raggedly across the neck (*erased*), two above and one below. No crest is shown. [Coll. Arms MS E.D.N. 56/125b].

## Pedigrees

The heralds' visitations ceased in 1687, but since that date a large number of pedigrees have been recorded at the College of Arms. These records have been searched for any pedigrees pertaining to individuals or families surnamed Fludd or Flood and residing in Kent or London. No entries of relevance to the present enquiry were found.

## Funerary Heraldry

The College of Arms had a virtual monopoly over the organisation of heraldic funerals in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and the records of this activity provide a valuable source as to the use of arms and the family of the deceased. The series of official registers of funeral certificates has been searched for any entries pertaining to individuals or families surnamed Fludd or Flood and residing in Kent or London. The following such entries were found.

9. The College of Arms holds a record abstract of a certificate issued for the funeral of Sir Thomas Flud of Milgate in the parish of Bearsted in Kent, Knight (died there Thursday 27 May 1607; buried Tuesday 30 June 1607 in the chancel of the parish church of Bearsted), who married Elizabeth, daughter of Phillip Andrewes of Somerset. The couple's children and grandchildren are listed in the certificate as follows:

1. Edward Flud (eldest son; predeceased his father) *m.* Jane, daughter of Sir Michael Sands
  - a. Mary, only child and heir
2. Thomas Flud (second but eldest surviving son) *m.* Katherin, daughter of Leven Buskin
  - a. Thomas Flud
3. William Flud (third son; died without issue)
4. John Flud (fourth son) *m.* Mary, daughter and heir of Thomas Purefoy, Gentleman
5. Robert Flud, Doctor of Physick (fifth son; unmarried at the time)
6. Phillip Flud (sixth son; died without issue)
7. Joanna Flud (eldest daughter) *m.* Sir Nicholas Gilborne of Charing in Kent, Knight
8. Catherin Flud (second daughter) *m.* Thomas Lundesford of Sussex
9. Sara Flud (third daughter) *m.* Henry Buskin

The pedigree is accompanied by an outline sketch or 'trick' of two coats of arms and a crest. The first coat of arms actually appears to be the 'impaled' arms of a married couple, showing two coats side by side on a single shield, that on the viewer's left being the husband's arms and that on the right being the wife's. The husband's arms are quarterly of six, and the first, fourth, fifth and sixth quarters all match those which were shown in the Letters Patent issued to Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate in 1572 [**entry 7 above**], and subsequently recorded for Fludd of Kent at the heralds' visitations of that county in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [**see entries 1, 2 and 5 above**]. Meanwhile, the

second quarter may be blazoned: *Argent three Greyhounds in pale collared Or* and the third quarter may be blazoned: *Azure a Lion statant guardant Or*. These match the second and third quarters shown in the engravings of Robert Fludd from 1626 and 1631.

The wife's arms in this impaled coat are likewise quarterly of six. They are a visual match for the arms with which Robert Fludd's arms are impaled in the engraving of him from 1626.

The crest above the arms matches that which was granted by Letters Patent to Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate in 1572 [**entry 7 above**], and subsequently recorded for Fludd of Kent at the heralds' visitations of that county in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [**see entries 1, 2 and 5 above**].

The second coat of arms is also impaled, but left blank on the left side – the husband's side – presumably because this is where the Fludd arms would once again go. The wife's arms are quarterly of four and do not match any of the arms with which this enquiry is concerned. [Coll. Arms MS I.16/255].

**10.** The College of Arms holds a record copy of the certificate issued for the funeral of Robert Fludd of London, Doctor of Physick (son of Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate, Bearsted in Kent, Knight, so created by Henry IV of France 'in the Army of Amiens being Treasurer of the Army sent over by Queene Elizabeth to the ayd of the said King Henry the 4th'), who died unmarried 8 September 1637 and was buried at Bearsted near to his father. The certificate states that Robert Fludd's heir was his nephew Thomas Fludd (son of Robert's elder brother Thomas Fludd, second but eldest surviving son and heir of Sir Thomas Fludd), who married Bridget, daughter of John Banks of Little Shelford in Cambridgeshire.

The pedigree is accompanied by a painting of a coat of arms which may be blazoned: *Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent*. This matches the patrilineal arms which were shown in the Letters Patent issued to Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate in 1572 [**entry 7 above**], and subsequently recorded for Fludd of Kent at the heralds' visitations of that county in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [**see entries 1, 2 and 5 above**]. No crest is shown. [Coll. Arms MS I.24/91].

**11.** A manuscript volume of armorial bearings borne at heraldic funerals of Middlesex families in the mid-seventeenth century includes an outline sketch or 'trick' of a coat of arms used at the funeral of 'Mr -- Fludd he dyed at his house at Otham in Kent the -- of Nov: and buried at Otham in Kent the -- of Decemb: 1680 his wife dau: of Banks of Cambridgeshire'.

The arms show the two coats of a married couple 'impaled' on a single shield. Those of the husband may be blazoned: *Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent*. This matches the patrilineal arms which were shown in the Letters Patent issued to Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate in 1572 [**entry 7 above**], and subsequently recorded for Fludd of Kent at the heralds' visitations of that county in 1574, 1592 and 1668 [**see entries 1, 2 and 5 above**]. No crest is shown. [Coll. Arms MS Middlesex Families 113b].

## Unofficial Sources

As well as its large collection of official manuscript records, the College of Arms holds an extensive library of printed sources. As their contents and provenance have not been as closely controlled as the official records, and can often contain errors or omissions, they do not count as sufficient

evidence when proving a pedigree or a right to bear a given coat of arms. However, they do contain a great deal of valuable information and can provide fresh clues or contextual detail beyond the scope of the College records. A selection of relevant volumes from the College library have been searched in relation to this enquiry.

**12.** Sir Bernard Burke's *General Armory of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales* (last revised 1884) is a guide to arms ascribed to British and Irish families, first published in the mid-nineteenth century. It lists families alphabetically by surname and records a coat of arms purportedly used by each family, but its entries cannot be taken at face value since it includes arms used without authority, uncritically repeats entries contained in earlier reference books, and gives no reference to source materials. Nonetheless it forms a valuable body of unofficial heraldry and is the source of many unauthorized coats of arms seen in use today, as well as those offered on the internet. Burke's volume has been searched for any entries pertaining to individuals or families surnamed Fludd or Flood. The following entries were found.

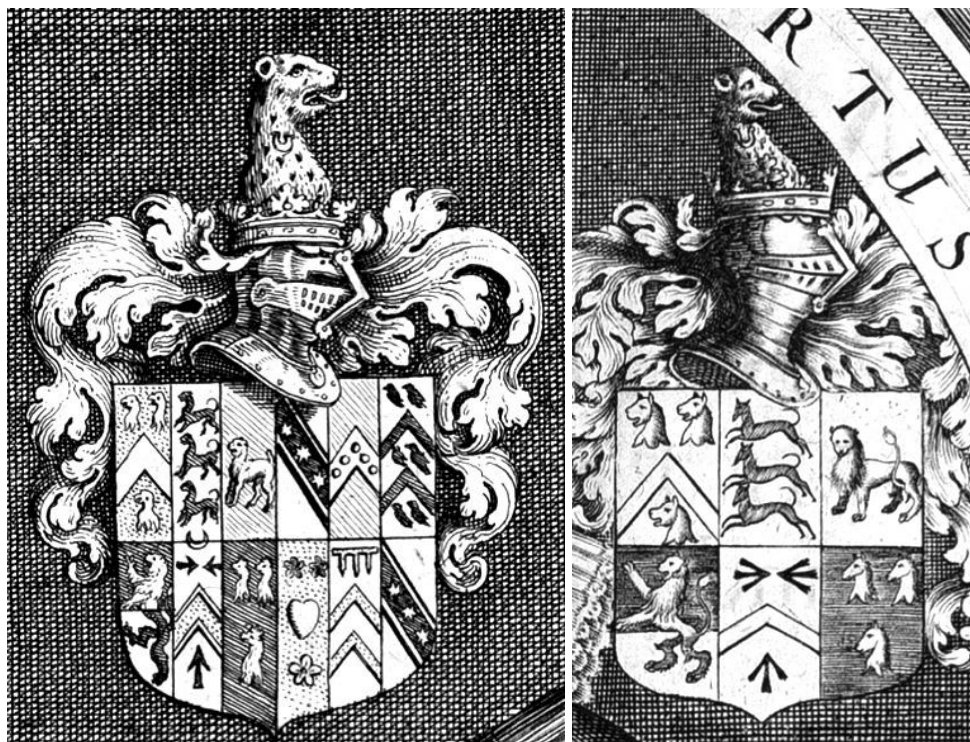
- A. **Flood** (Bramber Hill, Honiton, co. Devon, Esq.). Or on a Chevron Azure three Cinquefoils of the field. Crest – A demi Lion rampant Azure crowned Or holding a Cinquefoil Or. [p.362].
- B. **Flood** (Flood Hall, Farmley, Paulstown Castle, and Viewmount, co. Kilkenny. The name of Flood is one of distinction in Ireland, and the high reputation, as patriot, orator, and statesman, of the Right Hon. Henry Flood, of Flood Hall, and Farmley, has given it historic importance). *Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent*, confirmed *temp.* Elizabeth [I], to Sir Thomas Fludd, of the county of Kent. Crest – *A Wolf's Head as in the Arms*. Motto – *Vis unita fortior*. [p.362].
- C. **Flood** (Newtown Ormonde, co. Kilkenny, and Banna Lodge, co. Wexford, Baronet, extinct 1824; Frederick Flood, younger brother of John Flood, Esq., of Flood Hall, was created a baronet 1780, died without male issue). Same *Arms, Crest, and Motto*. [p.362].
- D. **Flood** (Solly-Flood, Slaney Lodge, and Bromley, co. Wexford; exemplified, 1819, to Frederick Solly, Esq., maternal grandson of Sir Frederick Flood, Baronet, of Banna Lodge and Slivney Lodge, co. Wexford, on his assuming, by royal licence, the additional surname of Flood). *Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent; 2nd and 3rd, Argent a Chevron Gules between three Sole Fishes haurient proper within a Bordure engrailed Sable*. Crest – *A Wolf's Head erased Argent*. Motto – *Vis unita fortior*. [p.362].
- E. **Flood** (Lloyd-Flood; granted, 1839, to William Lloyd, Esq., of Farmley, co. Kilkenny, on his assuming, by royal licence, the additional surname of Flood, by the desire of John Flood, Esq., of Flood Hall, Kilkenny). *Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent*. Crest – *A Wolf's Head erased Argent*. Motto – *Vis unita fortior*. [p.362].
- F. **Flud**. *Argent on a Cross Sable five Crescents Or* (another, *between four Crescents Sable*). [p.363].
- G. **Fludd**, or **Flood** (Millgate, co. Kent; granted 10 Nov. 1572, to Thomas Flood, Esq., of Millgate, co. Kent, son and heir of John Fludd, Esq., of Morton, co. Salop). *Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads Argent*. Crest – *Out of a Ducal Coronet Argent an Ounce's Head proper*. [p.363].

- H. **Fludd** (Funeral Entry of Margaret, wife of Richard Fludd, of Dulilin, d. 28 Jan. 1614). *Vert a Chevron Ermine between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent.* [p.363].
- I. **Fludd**. *Sable three Horse's Heads erased Argent.* [p.363].

**13.** The *Dictionary of British Arms* (4 volumes, 1992–2014) lists a vast number of coats of arms in evidence before the mid-sixteenth century. It is organised by the visual elements within each coat of arms, meaning a search can be made for the precise design of the arms in question; and each volume has a nominal index, making it also possible to search for all entries on a given name. Sources are referenced for every entry, making the *DBA* a much more reliable work than nineteenth-century compendiums such as Burke's *General Armory* or Papworth's *Ordinary*. The *DBA* has been searched for any arms pertaining to the surname Fludd or Flood, or which are comparable in design to the patrilineal arms of Fludd already found in the course of this search. No such entries were found under either criteria.

### Conclusion

Extensive searches have been conducted among the official records of the College of Arms for any entries which may shed light upon whether any armorial bearings have been officially recorded for the philosopher and physician Robert Fludd (b. in Bearsted, Kent; d. 1637 in London) or his father Thomas Fludd (d. 1607), Member of Parliament for Maidstone in Kent (1593, 1597, 1601). The following arms and crest appear for Robert Fludd in two engravings of him dated 1626 and 1631 respectively.



1626

1631

Sir Thomas Fludd and his (fifth) son Robert Fludd both appear to have been recorded by the heralds at the visitations of Kent in 1574 and 1592 [**entries 1 and 2 above**]. Sir Thomas was recorded again at the visitation of Kent in 1668, but on that occasion the heralds recorded only the line descending from Sir Thomas's second (but eldest surviving) son, also named Thomas Fludd [**entry 5**]. On all three occasions the heralds recorded a coat of arms and a crest for the family which largely match those in the engravings of Robert Fludd, but omitting the second and third quarters (top-centre and top-right). A full description of the recorded arms is given above, in the entry on the 1574 visitation [**entry 1**]. The patrilineal arms of Fludd – without any additional quarters, nor a crest – were recorded as having been borne at the funerals of Robert Fludd himself and likely his nephew Thomas Fludd in 1637 and 1680 respectively [**entries 10 and 11**].

Further records found in the course of this search demonstrate that these four quarters were confirmed, and the crest newly granted, by Letters Patent issued to Thomas Fludd of Milgate in Bearsted (prior to his knighthood) by Robert Cook, Clarenceux King of Arms, in 1572 [**entries 6 and 7**]. Ancestors listed in the Patent match those shown in the visitation records, confirming that the grantee Thomas Fludd was the same man who would later become Sir Thomas Fludd, Knight, the father of Robert Fludd.

The Patent 'confirms' the four quarters later recorded at the visitations of Kent: the patrilineal arms of Fludd, plus three additional coats of arms inherited from heiresses of other families which had died out in the male line. A 'confirmation' means that the arms and the grantee's right to them were believed already to exist at the time of the Patent – though this does not always mean that there is an extant earlier record of them. The Patent ascribes the four quarters to the following families:

1. **Fludd *alias* Lloyd** (*Vert a Chevron between three Wolf's Heads erased Argent*)
2. **Gethin** (*Per fess Sable and Argent a Lion rampant counterchanged*)
3. **Granwy (or Gronwy) ap Cadogan** (*Argent a Chevron Gules between three Pheons pointing inwards Sable*)
4. **Ienii (or Jonii)** (*Sable three Horse's Heads erased Argent*)

In addition to these arms, the Patent 'grants' the crest – meaning that it was entirely new, and did not exist prior to this Patent in 1572.

The ancestors listed by the Patent appear to be Welsh, going by the names – even the surname Fludd seems to have been an anglicisation of Lloyd, with Sir Thomas's grandfather named in the Patent as 'David Fludd *alias* Lloyd'. The visitation records, however, suggest that the family had been based in Shropshire (which borders Wales but is part of England) as recently as Sir Thomas's father, John Fludd.

Neither the visitation records, nor the 1572 Patent, nor Robert Fludd's own funeral certificate make any mention of the coats shown in the second and third quarters of Robert Fludd's 1626 and 1631 engravings. They were found, however, in one official record: the 1607 funeral certificate of Robert Fludd's father, Sir Thomas Fludd of Milgate [**entry 9**]. The armorial bearings shown for Sir Thomas in this certificate, which were in theory borne at his funeral, match the arms and crest

shown in his 1572 Patent and in the family's visitation records from Kent, but also add the two additional quarters – albeit without any label or explanation as to where they came from. The arms are also shown 'impaled' with another coat, presumably those of one of Sir Thomas's two wives (only one of whom, Elizabeth Andrewes, is mentioned in the accompanying pedigree). This wife's arms are not included in any other records of the family found during this search, but they are a match for the arms with which Robert Fludd's arms are impaled in his 1626 engraving. In summary, the arms and crest recorded by the heralds for Sir Thomas Fludd's funeral in 1607 are an exact match – the *only* exact match on official record at the College – for the arms and crest used by Robert Fludd in his engravings, and for the arms with which Fludd's are impaled in his 1626 engraving.

The arms impaled by Fludd in Sir Thomas's funeral certificate and Robert Fludd's engraving seem likely to be those of Elizabeth Andrewes, but further research would be required to determine this. If they are, then Robert Fludd should not really have impaled his own arms with them – impaling is a way to show the arms of a husband and wife, not a mother and son. Possibly the artist simply used for their reference a depiction of the exact arms borne at Sir Thomas's funeral, without realising that only the *dexter* side of the shield pertained to Robert Fludd.

The narrative is further confused by another record found in the course of the search. At the heralds' visitation of London in 1633–4, Robert Fludd himself – listed as a 'Doctor of Physick' living in London in 1633 – appears to have signed a pedigree recording his ancestry back to his great-grandfather, David Fludd of Shropshire **[entry 3]**. The pedigree matches those recorded at the visitations of Kent in 1574, 1592 and 1668, and in the Letters Patent issued to Robert's father, Sir Thomas Fludd, in 1572. However, the arms of Fludd accompanying this pedigree show the chevron in the middle of the coat as patterned 'ermine' rather than plain white. This differs slightly, then, from the patrilineal arms confirmed to Robert Fludd's father by Letters Patent in 1572, from the arms recorded for Fludd at the visitations of Kent, and even from the arms shown in the engravings of Robert Fludd himself in 1626 and 1631. Nor are any quarterings shown, even though Robert was entitled to them and had indeed displayed them in his recent engravings. The slightly different arms, again without any quarterings, were also ascribed to Sir Thomas Fludd in a manuscript of around the same time **[entry 8]** – yet the correct version, with a plain white chevron, was used at his funeral not long after, in 1637 **[entry 10]**. It is unclear how this second version arose, and why Robert Fludd attested to them in 1633 when his engravings show that he had used the original version, plus its three confirmed quarterings, as recently as 1631.

A second family surnamed Flood, likewise descended from Shropshire, was also recorded at the same visitation of London; but no arms are shown for them, and their relationship, if any, to the family of Sir Thomas and Robert Fludd is unclear from these records alone **[entry 4]**.

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