Milestones in Heraldic History

Heraldry · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Who is credited with the earliest known depiction of an armorial bearing on a funerary monument, specifically the enamel plate of Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, dating to c. 1150?

A) William the Conqueror
B) Geoffrey Plantagenet
C) King Stephen
D) Henry II

2. The 'Rolls of Arms' are the primary records of historical heraldry. Which document is widely recognized by historians as the oldest extant roll of arms, dating to approximately 1244-1254?

A) The Dering Roll
B) The Galloway Roll
C) The Glover's Roll
D) The Falkirk Roll

3. During the 14th century, which heraldic innovation allowed for the systematic identification of members of a family while maintaining the base coat of arms, known as 'differencing'?

A) The Scropes and Grosvenor Controversy
B) The invention of the bordure
C) The adoption of the cadency system
D) The use of supporters

4. What was the first national heraldic authority established to regulate the granting of arms, founded by King Richard III in 1484?

A) The College of Arms
B) The Court of Chivalry
C) The Heralds' College
D) The Lyon Court

5. In the history of heraldic blazonry, which 13th-century innovation introduced the use of 'dimidiation' to signify a marital union before the widespread adoption of 'impalement'?

A) The combining of two coats of arms by cutting them in half vertically
B) The layering of one crest over another
C) The adoption of quartering
D) The introduction of tinctures

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6. Which English monarch was the first to mandate that no person should assume arms unless they could prove a right by inheritance or a grant from the Crown, issued in 1417?

A) Henry V
B) Edward III
C) Richard II
D) John of Gaunt

7. The 'Scrope v. Grosvenor' case (1385-1390) is famous for being the first recorded legal dispute of what nature in heraldic history?

A) A dispute over the right to a title
B) A trial regarding the right to bear the same coat of arms
C) A challenge to the royal prerogative
D) A dispute over the use of supporters

8. What was the first heraldic 'fur' to be formally defined in European armorials, appearing in the earliest rolls as a representation of squirrel pelts?

A) Ermine
B) Vair
C) Counter-vair
D) Potent

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