

## **Heraldry: Blaker, Blacker and Blaken**

In 1613, a coat of arms was granted to **William Blacker of Sarum**, showing:

Or, a chev. erm betw three Mens heads side faced ppr crined sa. The crest was a horse leaping.

His grandfather William, in his will of 1587, described himself as William ...**“Blaker otherwise Blacker,”** and notes that he was born at Donhead St.Marie, in Wilts., on the borders of Dorset.

A lawyer at Lincoln’s Inn, he served as the M.P. for Old Sarum from 1597 to 1603, claimed ownership of houses in Close, Salisbury , the manors of Gillingham, as well as West Harneham, the latter possibly inherited by marriage from the Davy family.

Died in the Fleet about 1641.

The two sons Edward and Thomas as well as their uncle (another) William, all went to Oxford, in law, as Blackers. The last born, Edward, was found lunatic by inquisition in 1647 and his estate included the Manors of West Harneham and Pierston.

**Another Blacker (Bucks. Old Sarum)**, presumably earlier (date not given), shows a Coat of Arms, az. a chev. erm. betw. three Moors heads couped and side faced sa; and a crest of two lions heads erased, collared and endorsed.

In 1616, a coat of arms was granted to **Edward Blaker of Buckingham House, Old Shoreham, Sussex**; it was a substantial property, and it is not yet clear if Edward built it turnkey, or bought it with renos.

The Coat was: or, a chev. erm. betw. three Moors heads, side faced couped ppr. crined or and the crest was a demi horse sa. bridled and maned or.

Edward served Old Shoreham as an M.P. from 1659 – 1678; a lawyer, Inner Temple. Died in office, and his estate passed to his brother William.

The 1613 and 1616 grants were made by Sir William Segar, then Knight of the Garter and of Dutch origin. Segar's grandson copied many of Sir William's drafts and grants, and we find the following collection, called the *Aspidora Segariana*, in the British Library:

1. "To William Blaker of the city of Salisbury in the county of Wilts.....descended of the Blakers of co. Derby....."
2. On page 14A, there is an image of the Coat for the Old Shoreham Blakers, showing three heads of girls with long wavy blond hair, facing slightly forwards.

A final Heraldic bit:

**Blaken, Blaknall and or Blaker** received a coat of arms, date and place unknown, described as:

Az., a sea bull or, tail targent.