**Family Origin and Coat of Arms**

***01 February 1993***



**FAMILY ORIGIN AND COAT OF ARMS**



**MOTTO**: "Mero et merito"

(I deserve what I am worth)

**ARMS**: Barry of six argent and sable,

a bend ermine.

**CREST**: A Talbot statant, collared and

leashed or.

Merritt

Old English records indicate variations of the Merritt family name, such as Merriott, Merioth, etc, but it is assumed they are merely different branches of the same family.

The main line of the family can be traced back to Somersetshire, England, in the early 11th century. Descendants trace back to Hardin deMerriot and Thomas Meriot of Wiltshire in 1418.

The progenitor of the American branch of the family is considered to be Henry Merritt, a colonist in Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1650. Another reference indicates another Henry Merritt in Massachusetts as early as 1628.

Persons bearing this old distinguished name can be justly proud of their heritage and they can be found in all parts of our land. They are well represented in the arts and professions as well as in the world of business.