

Family Name History

Okle



Okla is an anglicized rendering of the German family name "Okle", which is classified as being of personal name origin. According to scholars the "oldest and most pervasive type of surname is that derived from a given name". Such family names may be derived from a parental first name or from the font name of the grandfather or indeed a more remote ancestor of the original bearer of the surname. With regard to the family name Okle, the appellation can be traced to "Occo", a pet form of old Germanic personal names such as "Odalhard" and "Odalwin", which were themselves derived from the Old High German word "od", meaning "homestead" or "patrimony". Variants of the surname Okle include "Ockele" and "Uckle". One of the earliest references to this name or to a variant is a record of one "Meister Adolf Occo", a court physician in Heidelberg in the year 1488. However, research is of course ongoing and this name may have been documented even earlier than the date indicated above. Onomastic research shows that fixed hereditary family names were first employed in southern Germany in the twelfth century. This practice of adopting a distinguishing name which was retained from one generation to the next gradually expanded to include all German speaking areas.

Research indicates that bearers of this surname dwelled in the German state of Baden and in neighboring regions of Switzerland. Crescentia Okle was married to Konrad Huber in Konstanz on 5 June 1837, while Adalbert Okle was baptized in Thurgau, Switzerland on 8 August 1863. This name was introduced to the United States as early as 1886, in which year we find a record of the naturalization of Constantine Okle, in the state of Arkansas. The name could of course have been first introduced to that country at an earlier date. To date, there is no record of a coat of arms associated with this surname, thus the arms of Germany are described below.

BLAZON OF ARMS: Or, an eagle displayed sable, beaked, langued and membered gules.

ORIGIN: GERMANY