Kit Documentation for Sir Lonnie Colson

Lance: Red Lance
Sponsor Knight: Sir Austin Smithey
Sponsored: None
Squire(s): Charles Turner, Raven Eastwood

HERALDRY:
Blazon: Gules, on a Chevron Or three cross crosslets fitchy of the first, on a chief of the second a Bear Sable passant langued and armed of the first.
Crest: Upon a Helm a demi-bear Sable armed and langued Gules holding with its dexter forepaw a sword Argent. Mantled Gules doubled Or.
Motto and translation: “Leges juraque servo” (translation: I keep the laws and justice).
Contemporary inspiration: The bear was a common animal depicted in contemporary regional heraldry (e.g. Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick) inspired by the very popular sport of bear-baiting in England. The version of bear depicted is taken from a 15th-century Bern crest. The cross-crosslets fitchy were also common (e.g. Sir John Howard, Duke of Norfolk). I drew inspiration from a banner hanging near the Beauchamp effigy in Saint Mary’s chapel, Warwickshire, England.



Impression region, social status, year: English knight, Midlands region, c. 1455

Armour evidence: Milanese export harness in an English style circa 1455 based primarily on the *WS A2*, Kunsthistoriches Museum in Vienna, Austria, with a number of regional stylistic modifications suggested by Dr. Tobias Capwell, formerly the Curator of Arms and Armour at the Wallace Collection in London, England. Sources of chief modifications are as follows:

- Armet based on *LM 16807* in Zurich: Milanese (Missaglia) c. 1450-1455.
- Symmetrical arms based on *BHM SBZ102* in Bern: Milanese (Missaglia) c. 1455.
- Gauntlets based on *E.1939.65.e.1* (Avant) in Glasgow: Milanese (Corio) c. 1440
- Besagews based on monumental effigy of Sir John St. Loe (d1447) in Chew Magna, Somerset.
- Sabatons based on monumental effigy of Sir John St. Loe. An almost exact copy of these sabatons are located in the Royal Armouries, object number *III.1348* c. 1445-1455.

Brief explanation: Goal was to build an Italian export armour 'Alla Inglese' (in an English style). For a basis, Dr. Capwell suggested the *WS A2,* which originally belonged to Friedrich I, Kurfürst von der Pfalz, usually referred to as Frederick "the Victorious." The Friedrich harness is possibly the best preserved and near-complete example of such Italian export armour. To build an English variant of the same style, Dr. Capwell recommended symmetrical vambraces and gauntlets, rectangular besagews, an armet, and plate sabatons. A contemporary example of vambraces with symmetrical couters can be seen on the *BHM SBZ102* composite armour currently in the Historisches Museum in Bern, Switzerland. They, too, were made in the same Missaglia workshop around 1455. Although the Germans preferred circular besagews, those seen on similar armours in England are often more or less rectangular, with slightly concave sides resembling a miniature pavise. It was decided to copy the besagews from the funeral effigy of Sir John St. Loe, who died in 1447 and whose tomb was completed about 1450 in the Church of St. Andrew, Chew Magna, Somerset. Unlike the Germans, the English almost always wore plate sabatons. Like the besagews, the sabatons were copied from the funeral effigy of Sir John St. Loe. An almost exact copy of these sabatons are located in the Royal Armouries, object number *III.1348* and are dated 1445-1455. The armour was commissioned from Jeffrey Hedgecock of Historic Enterprises. Great bascinet and sabatons were produced by Josh Davis of Davis Reproductions. See below.



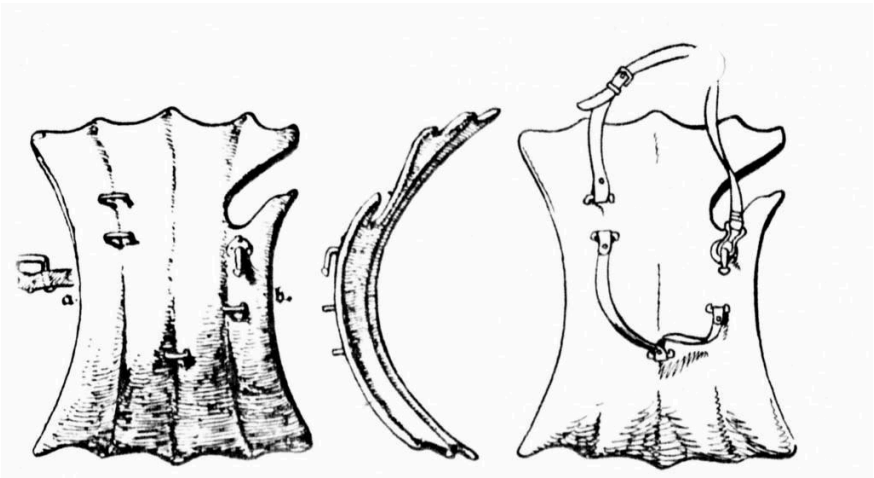







ARMOURIES







Underlying layers: Martial clothing consists of a brocade arming doublet worn underneath harness when maille is not required such as a joust of peace. Otherwise, a fustian arming coat with grand assiette tailored sleeves worn under a maille partial hauberk (often referred to as a Pisanello, after the artist who depicted the garment) with integral collar and constructed of steel riveted rings with 6mm internal diameter. Both the Pisanello and fauld (skirt) have a brass dagged edge as seen in period illustrations. For the legs, woollen joined hose and leather arming shoes (turnshoes). See below.

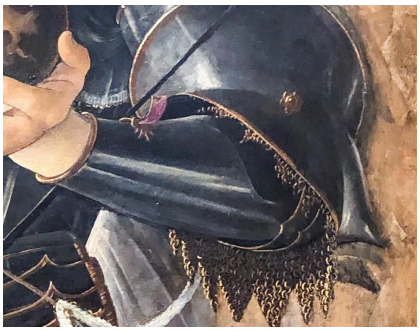














Soft kit: Clothing appropriate for a member of the English gentry circa 1455. Courtly attire consists of a pleated coat (*goun* in England) over mahoitred doublet as based on numerous period illustrations. Headgear varies from chaperone to sugarloaf or acorn hat and footwear varies from elkskin thigh boots to simple turnshoes, depending on the setting. Knightly “Collar of Esses” based on the funeral

effigy of Lord Bardolf (c. 1447) and an extant copy in the London Museum, object number *84.80*. Gold-plated spurs as appropriate for a knight. Heraldic tabard and personal banner available when appropriate. Livery coats for two squires. See below.













Encampment: Large pavilion tent (15 feet diameter) decorated with personal arms and motto. Furniture includes multiple trestle tables, folding chairs, benches, saddle stand, camp beds, chests, pewter pitchers, bowls, plates, etc. See below.



Accolades: Squired for Toby Capwell at the 2014 Tournament of the Phoenix. Squired for Ivar Maurtiz-Hansen, Tournament of the Phoenix 2015. Level 2 Jousting Certification from the International Jousting Association USA, Lysts on the Lake Tournament, April 2019. Named as a Companion of Saint George, Schola St. George, 2021. Grand Champion, Grand Tournoi de Chevalerie, Château de Sainte Croix Grand Tonne, France, July 2022. Vice Grand Champion, Grand Tournoi de Chevalerie, Château de Sainte Croix Grand Tonne, France, July 2024. Knighted at La Campaigne du Château 2026. First Among Equals, War Camp 2026.

Additional Images:









