

associated with such notable success. He divorced his second wife in 1906 and in 1907 married Eveline Frances Cookson, the eldest daughter of John Blencowe Cookson, C.B., of Meldon Park, Morpeth.

As he had no children by any of his three marriages, the baronetcy became extinct on February 16th, 1918, when John himself died at his home — Alexander House, Newmarket. In spite of his love of racing he had not been seen on a racecourse in his last few years which made his appearance at the Newmarket Fifth Extra Meeting, looking obviously ill, all the more remarkable. He was buried in Newmarket Cemetery following a service at which the Turf was represented by Mr. Richard Marsh, the King's trainer.

(c) Frank Penn

The Penn family lived in a large corner house on the south side of Blackheath Road with a garden alongside the present Lewisham Road back to Cold Bath Lane (now known as John Penn Street). Five other properties separated them from their factory to the west which only had a frontage onto Cold Bath Lane. The firm had been started in 1799 by John Penn, a Bristolian millwright, whose aim was to produce agricultural machinery. It became famous for the marine engines produced since 1825 and also for the marine boilers produced at Palmer's Payne Wharf, Deptford. When John Penn died in 1843 his son, who was also named John, took over. The factory had become world-famous by 1857 and underwent major expansion in the 1860s. In 1868 they built the first ever wind tunnel for the Aeronautical Society which was then based in Blackheath.

John Penn had three sons: William (born 29.8.1849), Frank (born 7.3.1851) and Alfred (born 6.1.1855). All three played cricket for Kent. Their sister, Isabella, married Frederick Stokes who was the eldest of another set of three brothers who all played in the Kent XI.

Frank Penn was most appreciated in cricketing circles for his first-class batsmanship. He began to play for Kent on May 31st, 1875 at Cufford Bridge and made his debut at Lord's in 1876 where he scored 44 and 35 runs for the M.C.C. in a match against Yorkshire. His ability was so recognised that he was picked for the Gentlemen *versus* Players match that year both at The Oval and at Lord's. His best year playing for Kent was 1877 when he scored 857 runs in 24 innings (three times not out). The highest of his many big scores for Kent was the 160 scored in a match against Surrey at Maidstone on July 29th, 1878. That winter he went to Australia as a member of Lord Harris's team. It was also his privilege to play cricket for England in the Test Match against Australia at The Oval on 6th-8th September, 1880. Penn got 23 runs in the first innings and 27 runs not out in the second. It was his final hit, which gave England victory by 5 wickets. The team included the legendary W. G. Grace, who got 152 runs in the first innings and 9 runs not out in the second. Also playing for England were E. M. Grace and G. F. Grace making this the first instance of three

brothers playing in the same Test. This match was regarded as the first Test played in England — others had been held abroad.

Penn developed a heart condition during the 1881 season, which precluded him from running, and so his cricketing career was suddenly ended.

He served as President of the Kent County Cricket Club for the year 1905.

(d) Robert Henry Bullock Marsham

Robert Henry Bullock Marsham was born in Merton College, Oxford, on September 3rd, 1833. His father, Robert Bullock-Marsham, had been Warden of the college since 1826 and had married his mother, Janet (known as "Jessie"), in 1828. She was the widow of Sir John Carmichael-Anstruther, Bart., the Member of Parliament for ??? and the daughter of Major-General David Dewar of Gilston House, Fife. Robert Henry was their second son. Naturally enough he was educated at Merton College where he gained his B.A. in 1855 and M.A. in 1858. Like his father he followed the legal profession to become a magistrate; he won a studentship to the Inner Temple and was called to the Bar in 1860.

These early days were interspersed with a certain amount of cricket. He played for Oxford University in 1856; Cambridge beat his side by 3 wickets and he never played in the Oxford XI again. However, he was chosen to play for the Gentlemen against the Players at Lord's in both 1859 and 1860. In 1862 he played for the Gentlemen under 30 against the Players under 30 and got his best score, 24 runs, when he opened the Gentlemen's first innings with E. M. Grace. I should add that the Players won all three matches very easily.

His bowling led the Middlesex Cricket Club to victory by 119 runs against the Surrey Cricket Club at Lord's in July 1859 even though Middlesex were the weaker team.

In 1860 he was chosen to play for England against Kent at Canterbury. He made numerous runs for I Zingari and played in the double-tie match against Cranbury Park in 1864.

Professionally he joined the South-Eastern Circuit and from 1868 was Recorder of Maidstone. He married Laura Field of Ashurst Park, Kent, in 1871. He moved from Kent in 1879

on appointment as a Metropolitan Police Magistrate. At first he worked in the Greenwich and Woolwich courts. In 1897 he transferred to Westminster and finally in 1899 to Bow Street where he rose to be the second most senior magistrate.

At Bow Street on August 29th, 1910, he had the high-profile job of remanding that notorious American dentist, "Dr." Hawley Harvey Crippen, and his shorthand-typist, Ethel Clara Le Neve, into custody at Brixton and Holloway prisons, respectively, to await trial for the murder of Mrs. Crippen.

Mr. Marsham continued to sit at Bow Street until March 28th after which he suffered from an attack of bronchitis which led to his death at Bifrons on April 5th, 1913. Two important cases which he had been adjudicating had to be formally adjourned.

His body was transported to Canterbury East station and thence to Victoria by train accompanied by his sons Charles and Robert four days later for the funeral service at St. Mary's, Bryanston Square that same day. He was interred in Kensal Green Cemetery.

(e) Frank Penn's second tenancy

After Mr. Marsham's death, Frank Penn returned to Bifrons. He had moved to Hardres Court, Upper Hardres, when its owner, George Marshall, J.P. moved to Juniper Rough in 1909 or 1910. He concluded an agreement with the Conyngham Estate for the provision of an electricity supply.

Penn died at Bifrons on December 26th, 1916, and was survived by his second wife, Ethel, his son, Frank, and three daughters. At 1.15 p.m. on December 30th, his fumed-oak coffin was taken from the mansion on a wheeled bier through the private grounds and the iron gate in the churchyard, to the church for the funeral. The Rev. Hubert Knight conducted the service and was assisted by a portion of the Canterbury Cathedral Choir and Mr. W. T. Harvey, the assistant organist at the cathedral. There were many floral tributes and wreaths including one from the Kent County Cricket Club. The grave was lined with flowers by the Head Gardener of Bifrons.

(f) Major Frank Penn

The tenancy was taken over by his son who was also named Frank and who I shall refer to as Major Frank Penn in recognition of the grade he attained in the Army and to distinguish him from his father. He had played cricket for Kent in three matches in 1904 and 1905, this latter year being that in which his father was President. He played for the Household Brigade against the Royal Artillery in 1906 and scored innings of 101 and 123 not out.

When the tenancy agreement of Bifrons came up for renewal in 1918, Major Frank Penn was uncertain about whether he wanted a long lease and settled for a lease of one year commencing June 24th, 1918. The rent was just £200 for the mansion and grounds and £350 for the shooting rights and use of the household goods. The tenancy agreement differed from earlier ones in that provision had to be made for wartime disruption of the normal life of Bifrons. Thus the agreement about the game started "... exclusive right, subject to the provisions of the Good Game Acts 1880 and 1906) of hunting, shooting, fishing and coursing over and upon that part of the Bifrons Estate in the said County of Kent and containing 3791 acres 1 rood 5 perches or thereabouts which is specified or referred to in the schedule hereto". However, it continued: "At his own expense to keep and feed in a proper and customary manner, so far as the present or any future restrictions imposed by the Food Controller or other official will permit, all game in and upon the said lands mentioned, or referred to, in the said schedule hereto and to preserve the same from being killed or destroyed by unauthorised persons or by vermin and at the expiration of the said term to leave the same premises stocked with game as near as may be equal to the existing stock (but in any case there shall be not less than 50 hen pheasants left in the pens) and to keep indemnified the landlord from all claims and demands of or by the landlords, tenants or any of them or any other person for or in respect of any loss or damage occasioned or arising from the keeping or preserving of game in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1908 and especially shall the tenant keep down the stock of rabbits so as to prevent them, as far as possible, from becoming

injurious at any time to the woods and underwood of the landlord or the crops of his tenants".

One must assume that Major Frank Penn left at the end of this tenancy and the house remained unoccupied for nine months until new tenants were found.

(g) Colonel the Hon. Milo Talbot and Mrs. Talbot

The Honorable Milo George Talbot was born on September 14th, 1854 as the son of James Talbot, 4th Baron Talbot de Malahide, and his wife, Maria Margareta Murray. His oldest brother, Richard Wogan Talbot, became the 5th Baron in 1883. He was educated at Wellington College, and had a very distinguished career in the Army. From 1877-1878 he served in the Jowaki Afridi expedition to India for which he was awarded a medal with clasp; he entered the Royal Engineers in 1878 and during the Second Afghan War of 1879-1880 he was mentioned in despatches and was awarded a medal with four clasps and a bronze decoration. In 1881, he was a member of the Mahsud Waziri Expedition. From 1897-1899 he was Deputy-Assistant-Adjutant-General at the headquarters of the Nile Expedition and was rewarded with a British medal and an Egyptian medal with three clasps. He became Director of the Sudan Surveys in 1900 and retired in 1905.

In 1911 he married Eva Joicey, the younger daughter of Colonel John Joicey of Newton Hall, Northumberland, who had been the Member of Parliament for Chester-le-Street(?), a Deputy Lieutenant for the county and a Justice of the Peace and had died in 1881. Their eldest son, Milo John Reginald, was born in 1912.

The Talbots were living at Hartham Park, Corsham, Wiltshire when they agreed to lease Bifrons for two years from 1st April 1920 for £1000 per year payable on April 1st and October 1st. On 30th December 1921, they signed the lease to rent Bifrons mansion for a further seven years with the possibility of leaving after 3 or 5 years. The details of the lease are quite revealing: the properties leased were the "mansion house, dairy, laundry, cottage, stables, coach-houses, offices, gardens, gardener's house, hot-houses, greenhouses, pleasure grounds and one of the cottages numbered 23 on the plan [*i.e.* Upper Lodge] at present occupied by the gardener containing in the whole 20 acres or thereabouts". In the Smoking Room there were two small bookcases and four cupboards with uniforms. Other occupied cupboards included one in the Library and one

* The witness to Col. Talbot's signature was David Robertson, Butler of Bifrons.

under the Billiard Room stairs. A whole room over the Stables remained similarly occupied. The lessees were required to contribute 15s. per week to employ one Head Gardener and three under-gardeners.

(d) Mr. Blunt's death and funeral

Tragedy struck the Bifrons and Minster Estates when Mr. Blunt caught a chill as a result of a walk in Whitehill Wood¹⁹ on 18th March, 1927. He died of pneumonia five days later at his home, "The Old Parsonage", Ospringe, and the funeral service was concelebrated in Patricbourne Church on the 27th by the resident vicar, the Rev. Hubert Knight, and Mr. Blunt's local vicar, the Rev. C. F. Hodges²⁰. In the eulogy, it was pointed out what a much-loved and kindly Englishman he was. Amongst the large congregation were his sister, Miss Blunt, his brother, Colonel Blunt, his nephew Colonel Sheepshank and Miss Sheepshank, his sister-in-law Mrs Fair with Colonel Fair, Mrs Kenrick, Mrs Jupp, Mr. Blencowe, the Talbots and Major and Mrs. Gordon Home. The Bifrons Head Gardener, Mr. A. Kitt, who was also a churchwarden, had lined the grave with ivy. Mr. Blunt was buried just in front of the Conyngham graves in the churchyard and a fine, horizontal, granite prism serves as a gravestone.

Walter R. Elgar, Senior Partner of G. Webb & Co., Land Agents, Surveyors & Auctioneers, of 43 Park Road, Sittingbourne, was appointed to manage the estates for an annual salary of £350. This represented a considerable saving on Mr. Blunt's terminal salary of £600 *per annum* plus £30 car allowance plus journeys and expenses of approximately £42 *per annum*.

At meetings of the Trustees on 26th and 27th June, 1927 attended by the Dowager Marchioness and Mr. Saltwell, it was reported that Mr. Elgar had endeavoured to arrange for Col. Talbot to continue his lease and at the meeting on 18th July 1928 it was reported that Mr. Elgar had written to say that the Talbots were indeed desirous of renewing their lease.

* His second wife, Alice Ruth, died on September 4th, 1948, and is buried with him.

The lease was duly renewed* on 9th January, 1929, for a further seven years from 1st April, 1929 at the same rent and with the possibility of termination by the lessee after three or five years. However, it was noted that there were now cracks in the walls and floors which had given trouble. J. Elvy & Co. were brought in to repair the coping and the walls of the front wing and to coat these with Szerelmey liquid — an early form of damp-proofing treatment — for £31.10s. while “general interior and other repairs” in the same half-year cost a further £88.16s.11d.

Colonel Talbot died on September 3rd, 1931. Details of Mrs. Talbot's domestic establishment were recorded in an interview in October 1988 between Tim Allen of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Miss Joan Carpenter of Patixbourne who had started work at the age of 14 as a scullerymaid in 1937 and continued there until 1940 when Mrs. Talbot had to move. Miss Carpenter related that there were ten indoor servants (the butler, the footman, the hallboy, the housekeeper, two parlourmaids, the cook, two kitchenmaids and the lady's maid) and eleven outdoor servants (six gardeners, the groom, a stable boy, the chauffeur and two laundrymaids). The indoor staff lived and worked in the basement and access to the bedrooms in the attic was gained by the back stairs. The kitchen was connected by a stair directly to a servery for the dining room. The function of each of the rooms in the semi-basement was also recorded in this interview. There was an outside larder for storing game, fish and Welsh mutton; an inner larder, a kitchen staff room, the scullery, the kitchen, the linen room, the butler's pantry, the brushing room for polishing boots and shoes, the footman and hallboy's bedroom, the housekeeper and cook's room, the housemaid's sitting room, the servants' hall, a toilet, a water-tank room containing a large tank for softening water, a boiler room which had two other rooms associated with it and a store room.

After Bifrons was requisitioned for military use in 1940, Mrs Talbot moved to Froyle Place[†], near Alton.

* Colonel Talbot's signature was witnessed by his elder brother, Reginald (Gilbert Murray) Talbot, a barrister-at-law of 32, St. George's Road, London.

† Now Gasston House of the Lord Mayor Treloar (hospital) School.

During the war Bifrons was used as a transit camp for soldiers and was allowed to fall into a bad state of repair. The wooden panelling was used for firewood. Rubble found beneath the floor during the archaeological investigation in 1988-1989 included some NAAFI* cups dated 1942 and 1943.

* NAAFI was a well-known abbreviation for the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute.

(n) The future

Bifrons Park was declared a Conservation Area on January 30th, 1995, and was measured as 123.90 hectares (=306.16 acres). This was in quick succession to the declaration of the Patixbourne Conservation Area of 15.31 hectares (=37.83 acres) which was declared on November 8th, 1994.

CHAPTER ELEVEN**The Bifrons Chattels****(a) The heirlooms**

The recorded chattels of Bifrons essentially date back to the Conyngham period. Jewellery and silver plate feature strongly.

According to the Will of the dowager Marchioness of Conyngham, she gave her son Albert (Lord Londesborough) any picture in her houses at Bifrons or Hamilton Place and to his wife any picture of Lord Albert in either house. [Silver] plates and plated articles, linen, china, furniture, the remaining pictures, statues, books and prints in both houses were to go to her son, Francis Nathaniel, the current Marquess. The diamonds were to go to him for his life and after his death to his son Lord Mountcharles for his life and after his death to whomsoever is Marquess Conyngham.

Much of the Bifrons silver was sold off after the death of Jane, widow of the 3rd Marquess Conyngham, by Christie's, Mann & Woods in their salerooms at 8, King Street, St. James' Square, on May 4th, 1908 and the three following days. Since Jane was wealthy in her own right by inheritance from the Harrington family, there is no reason to suppose that much of the silver being sold had been amassed by the Conynghams prior to their purchasing Bifrons. However, Lot 57 — a James I rosewater ewer and dish (90 ounces silver) — attracted a telling comment from the auctioneer: "A very similar dish is at Windsor Castle". It is more than probable that both dishes were together at Windsor Castle only 80 years before.

(b) The pictures

In the twentieth century the policy of selectively disposing of chattels to provide an income was continued. King George IV had instructed the President of the Royal Academy, Sir Thomas Lawrence (1769–1830), to paint two of the Conyngham daughters, Elizabeth (Henrietta) (later wife of the 10th Marquess of Aboyne; 1799–1839) and (Harriet) Maria (later

wife of the 1st Baron Athlumney; ?-1843). These oil paintings had been valued by Messrs, Morant & Co, of 91, New Bond Street in August 1910 at £6000 each and had been insured for that amount with the Law Fire Insurance Society by a policy dated November 15th, 1910 in the name of the Marquess. The American buyer, Mr. Duveen, wished to buy these portraits for £20,000 each and had put down a deposit of £200. The aunts of the Marquess, who were residuary legatees under the will of the dowager Marchioness, were now all married except Lady Blanche but the settlements executed on their respective marriages did not affect their shares of the residuary estate. To effect the sale, a handwritten bill was proposed to Parliament by the Marquess Conyngham.

Appendix 1

The Conynghams before 1830

The history of the Conyngham family has been traced back to an 11th century family in Ayrshire and published by Playfair²¹. For the purposes of understanding the 19th century position of the family in Ireland and Kent it will be sufficient to regard the "Big Bang" in Conyngham genealogy as commencing with Alexander Conyngham of Scotland who married Marian Murray, daughter of John Murray of Broughton, and produced 27 children of whom just 4 sons and 5 daughters survived infancy. They moved to Ireland and he became, in 1611, the first Protestant Minister of Enver and Killymard in Co. Donegal. In 1630 he became Dean of Raphoe and settled at Mount Charles on the coast of Co. Donegal where he leased an estate from the Earl of Annandale.⁷

Alexander died on September 3rd, 1660: his two most distinguished children were Katherine, who married Bishop John Leslie, and his eldest son, Albert, who married Margaret Leslie, daughter of the Rt. Rev. Henry Leslie, Bishop of Meath. Albert fought as a captain in Lord Mountjoy's Regiment of Foot for King William III in the Battle of the Boyne in 1660 and in December of that same year was appointed by letters patent Lieutenant-General for Ordnance in Ireland. He was duly rewarded with Slane Castle and its estate which had been forfeited by Lord Slane after the 1641 rebellion. He was present at the Siege of Limerick in 1691. When he was killed by rapparees near Colooney in Co. Sligo, his only surviving son was Henry who followed a similar military career.

However, Henry also became a politician, being M.P. for Killybegs in 1692 and for Donegal in 1695 and 1703. On December 9th, 1696, he married Mary Petty, the widow of Charles Petty, Baron Shelburne, and daughter of Sir John

⁷ The documents relating to the leasehold interests of the Conynghams in the Murray of Broughton estates in Donegal are in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast. (Reference: D/2860).

Williams of Carmarthenshire, the 2nd baronet of Minster Court, Thanet. In this way, the Minster estate came into the possession of the Conyngham family. In 1699 he leased the 14 ballyboes* of Church of Ireland land in the parish of Killybegs from the Bishop of Raphoe. On January 1st, 1704, he was appointed Major-General. He was sent to Portugal and, in the War of Spanish Succession, he was Governor of Lérida (now known by the Catalan equivalent, Lléida) fighting for the King of Spain. In a battle on January 26th, 1707, against a relatively large number of Frenchmen a few miles across the Aragonese border at San Esteban de Litera he suffered a severe abdominal wound. He was taken back to Balagués in Catalonia where he died ten days later. His body was buried in the town walls.

Henry and Mary had had three sons and three daughters: the elder son, William, died in 1738 by which time the younger son, Henry, who was born in 1705, was in his second year as Member of Parliament, a post which he retained until 1753. This Henry was created 1st Viscount Conyngham on July 20th, 1756, and 1st Baron and 1st Earl Conyngham in 1781. In December 1744, he had married Ellen Merrett, the daughter and heir of Sir Solomon Merrett, a merchant of Hart Street in St. Olave's parish and his wife, Rebecca Savage. However, they had no children and so, when Henry died in 1781, the Minster estate passed to the inheritors of his sibling, Mary, who had died on March 20th, 1743. Her widower, the Rt. Hon. Francis Burton of Buncraggy, Co. Clare, inherited the Conyngham estate but with the usual proviso that he change his name to Conyngham which he did by Royal Licence on May 3rd, 1781, just one month after his brother-in-law, Henry, had been buried in Slane church. Francis and Mary Burton had four children: the eldest son, Francis Pierpoint Burton, acquired not only the surname Conyngham in 1781 but also became the 2nd Baron Conyngham. He had married on March 19th, 1750, Elizabeth Clements, the daughter of the Rt. Hon. Nathaniel Clements, who was responsible for building Beau Park in Co. Meath, and his wife Hannah Gore who was the daughter of the

* A ballyboe of land is an area of land containing 120 acres of *usable* land. It may be divided into 3 sessiaghs or 4 carrows.

Dean of Co. Down and the sister of the 1st Earl of Leitrim. When the 2nd Baron died at Hot Wells, Bristol, on May 22nd, 1787, their eldest son, Henry, who had been born the elder of twin sons, in London on December 26th, 1766, became the 3rd Baron and it is in the last two years of this Conyngham's life that the family's connection with Bifrons begins.

However, the story gets more interesting before we reach Bifrons.

The Sumner affair

Charles Richard Sumner was an aspiring cleric when he met Henry Joseph Conyngham, Earl of Mountcharles, at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was four years older and in the position of offering tutoring. In the summer of 1814, he took Henry and his younger brother, Francis Nathaniel, on a trip through Flanders and the Rhine valley to Geneva where they unexpectedly met his old friend from Eton days, John Taylor Coleridge, nephew of the poet and philosopher Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who introduced them to Professor Jean-Pierre Maunoir, the distinguished ophthalmic surgeon, in Geneva who had an English wife. Interest developed in their eldest daughter, Jennie Fanny Barnabine Maunoir, to the extent that to prevent Henry from proposing marriage to her, Sumner himself got engaged to her in January 1815 and married her a year later. The Conyngham parents were so immensely grateful for this that they remained firm friends of Sumner and resolved to advance his career. After the Regent became King George IV in 1820, the Conynghams introduced Sumner to the King at Brighton where he dined and talked to George IV for three hours. Sumner's handsome presence, dignified manner and tact created a very favourable impression.

Lady Conyngham's influence over George IV was, to say the least, exceptional. Charles Greville²², Clerk of the Council to both George IV and William IV, recorded on May 2nd, 1821 that when the Canonry of Windsor became vacant, Lady Conyngham had asked the King to give it to Mr. Sumner, a curate who had never even held a living. The King agreed and Mr. Sumner kissed his hands at The Royal Pavilion, Brighton. A letter was sent to Lord Liverpool, the Prime

Minister, informing him of this but it crossed with a letter from Lord Liverpool to the King in which the customary list of suitable persons was provided. Liverpool was simply furious: he took his carriage to Brighton immediately and threatened to resign if Sumner were appointed and if he could not retain the distribution of this patronage. The outcome was that Sumner's candidacy was withdrawn and Dr. James Stanier Clarke*, who could be tolerated, but not approved of, by Lord Liverpool, got the canonry instead. The twist was that Sumner could now give up the curacy of Highclere which he had held since September 1816 because he would be taking on all of the appointments which Clarke had previously held. These included the posts of historiographer to the Crown, chaplain to the household at Carlton House and Librarian to the King. In addition he was appointed private chaplain at Windsor on a salary of £300 per annum and given use of a capital house opposite the park gate.

The Duke of Wellington wrote to Lord Liverpool on October 26th, 1821, confiding to him that since the King had not forgiven him for his opposition to Mr. Sumner he had objected to the accession of George Canning to the government thereafter in retaliation and that although all of the Prime Minister's colleagues supported Lord Liverpool over this matter, they would all suffer with him.

Charles Sumner was with the Earl of Mountcharles when he died in Nice on December 27th, 1824, at the age of 29. He became Bishop of Winchester in 1827 at the age of 37 and only fell from grace with King George IV when he supported the Roman Catholic Emancipation Bill in 1829.†

* Clarke was already well known to the King as he had been used as a go-between to get Jane Austen to dedicate *Emma* to The Prince Regent even though she loathed him. However, Clarke then tried to get her to write a novel about a clergyman of his own type: she resisted with consummate wit and diplomacy.

† Henry Reeve, Registrar of the Privy Council, as editor of Greville's posthumously-published memoirs added that although Sumner's early advancement may have been questionable, his performance as Bishop of Winchester was excellent.

Perquisites

Greville went on to recount how Lady Conyngham and all the members of her family were supplied at their house in Marlborough Row (now Marlborough Place), Brighton, with horses and carriages from the King's stables.

Henry Conyngham was appointed Lord Steward of the Royal Household with effect from December 11th, 1821.

Appendix 2

Lord Albert Conyngham

Lord Albert Conyngham was the third son of the first Marquess and Elizabeth Denison. He was born at 8, Stanhope Street, Piccadilly, on October 21st, 1805, and was educated at Eton from 1820. On September 21st of that year his name, with the rank of cornet, was placed on the half-pay list of the disbanded 22nd regiment of dragoons. On July 24th, 1823, he joined the Horse Guards but retired after 12 months. In May 1824 he entered the Diplomatic Service and was appointed Attaché at Berlin where he improved his knowledge of the German language. In May, 1825, he transferred to Vienna where he was similarly Attaché. In February, 1828, he became Secretary of the Legation at Florence and from January, 1829, until June 1831, was Secretary at Berlin.

King George IV created him Knight Commander of the Order of the Guelphs in 1829 and he was also named a Deputy-Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

On July 6th, 1833, Albert married Henrietta Maria Weld at St. George's Church, Hanover Square. She was the fourth daughter of Cecil Weld, 1st Baron Forester. Their first child, Henry, was born on June 19th, 1834.

In 1835, he published a translation* of the three volumes of Carl Spindler's historical novel *Der Bastard: eine deutsche Sittengeschichte aus den Zeitalter Kaiser Rudolph des Zweiten*. He was granted the Freedom of the City of Canterbury in 1835.

In 1856 he was forced by ill-health to remain in his villa at Cannes and in the winter of 1859 he went to St. Leonards-on-Sea. He then removed to his London residence, 8 Carlton House Terrace, where he died on January 15th, 1860. He was buried in the family vault at Grimston nine days later.

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- ²² C. C. F. Greville, "The Greville Memoirs: A Journal of the Reigns of King George IV and King William IV" (edited by H. Reeve), (London: Longmans, Green & Co.: 4th edition, 1875).

BIFRONS

A Kentish Mansion

by

L. Laurence Boyle

PATRIXBOURNE PRESS
PATRIXBOURNE
2000

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Acknowledgements

1. Introduction

2. The Bargrave Dynasty

- (a) John Bargrave (1609-1624)
- (b) Captain Robert Bargrave (1625-16??)
- (c) Rev. Dr. John Bargrave (16??-16??)

3. The Slingsby Dynasty

- (a) Sir Guilford Slingsby
- (b) Sir Arthur Slingsby
- (c) Sir Charles Slingsby

4. Thomas Baker (1677-16??)

5. William Whotton (16??-1680)

6. Thomas Adrian (1680-1694)

7. The Taylor Dynasty

- (a) John Taylor (1694-1729)
- (b) Brook Taylor (1729-1731)
- (c) Rev. Herbert Taylor (1731-1763)
- (d) Herbert Taylor (1763-1767)
- (e) Rev. Edward Taylor (1767-1798)
- (f) Captain Edward Taylor (1798-1830)

8. The Conyngham Dynasty

- (a) 1st Marquess Conyngham (1830-1832)
- (b) 1st Marchioness Conyngham (1832-1861)
- (c) 2nd Marquess Conyngham (1861-1876)
- (d) 3rd Marquess Conyngham (1876-1882)
- (e) 4th Marchioness Conyngham (1907-1939)

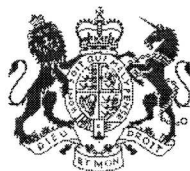
9. The Conynghams' Tenants

- (a) The Wienholt Family
- (b) John A. Miller (1897-1901)
- (c) Frank Penn and Major Frank Penn (1901-1919)
- (d) Colonel and Mrs Milo Talbot (1920-1939)

Appendix 1 The Conynghams before 1830

Appendix 2 Lord Albert Conyngham

Bibliography

**HMC**General
Information

MDR England

MDR Wales

HMC Homepage

Historical Manuscripts Commission

The Manorial Documents Register and Manorial Lordships

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1. The Manorial Documents Register

The Manorial Documents Register (MDR) is maintained by the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts (HMC), on behalf of the Master of the Rolls, as a record of the whereabouts of extant manorial documents. It is not a register of title to manorial lordships and the Commission does not collect or record information of this nature. The purpose of this information sheet is to clarify the ways in which the MDR can be of use to those interested in manorial lordships, also to indicate what other sources of reference are available to them.

2. Legal background

The MDR was set up as a consequence of the 1922 Law of Property Act which, by abolishing the form of land tenure known as "copyhold", brought to an end the last meaningful function of manorial courts. However, since proof of title to former copyhold land was in many cases contained within the books and rolls of manorial courts, it was essential that these records be preserved. To ensure that manorial documents were properly preserved, the Law of Property Amendment Act 1924 placed manorial documents under the charge and superintendence of the Master of the Rolls. The records to be protected were later defined in the Manorial Documents Rules as: "court rolls, surveys, maps, terriers, documents and books of every description relating to the boundaries, wastes, customs or courts of a manor". Deeds and other evidences of title therefore lie outside the scope of the MDR.

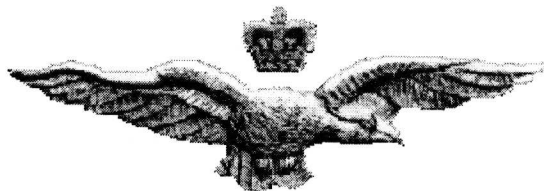
The Master of the Rolls issued the first Manorial Documents Rules in 1926. At the same time he ordered a Manorial Documents Register to be kept recording the individual nature and location of the documents concerned.

Manorial Documents Rules

Full copies of these rules, which have been amended several times, can be obtained from this Commission, but the most important provisions are as follows:

1. No manorial documents may be removed from England and Wales without the permission of the Master of the Rolls. In practice this is never granted.
2. Owners or custodians of manorial documents are under an obligation to provide the Secretary of the HMC with brief details of any documents in their possession for inclusion in the MDR. Any change in ownership of manorial records must be notified to him.
3. Owners or custodians are required to ensure that any manorial documents for which they are responsible are kept under safe and proper conditions.
4. Should the Secretary of the HMC not be satisfied with the conditions in which documents are being stored he can direct the owner to place the documents on deposit in a repository which has been approved by the Commission for this purpose. This will normally be the appropriate local record office.

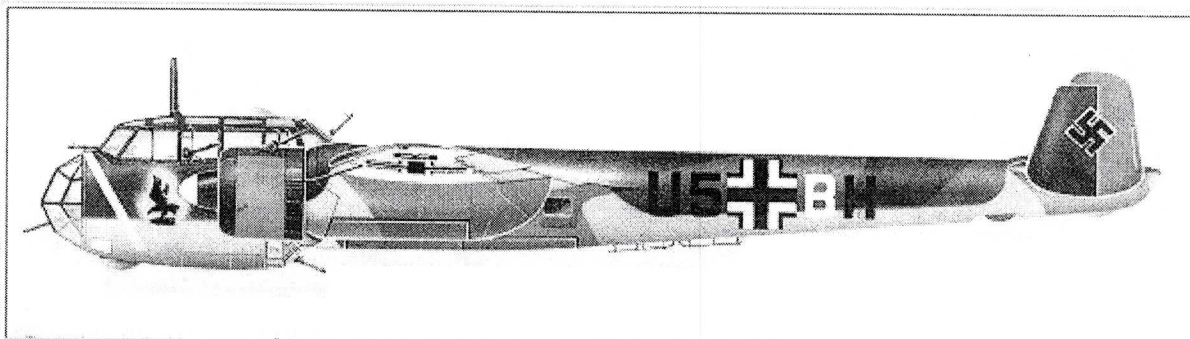
Access to manorial documents



The Battle of Britain 1940

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Aircraft of the Luftwaffe - 5



Dornier 17Z

OTHER GERMAN AIRCRAFT

Messerschmitt Bf109E Junkers Ju87
Messerschmitt Bf110-G Heinkel 111H

Dornier constructed a number of aircraft that were later to be dubbed the "Flying Pencils" due mainly to the long thin outline of the fuselage. probably the most famous, and the one that was to take part in the Battle of Britain period was the Dornier 17. Because of the fuselage shape, it was highly improbable that the aircraft was originally designed as a passenger aircraft for the Lufthansa Airline. More than likely the designers hoped that it would be accepted as a transport although many believe that the aircraft was destined to become a mailplane that could also carry four to six passengers.

The first flight of the Dornier was on November 23rd 1934, and was rejected by Lufthansa and the prototypes were left in a hangar, only to be discovered a few years later by Robert Untucht who was the air ministry liaison officer, and a test pilot with Lufthansa. he tested the Dornier, and believed that with modifications, the aircraft would more than handle the role of a bomber in the military arena.

The original Do17 had a pair of 750 hp BMW engines that propelled the aircraft at 225 mph, but after Robert Untucht made the first modifications and by the time the Do17 had reached version 4, the BMW engines were retained, but the tailplane section had been redesigned doing away with the single tailfin, and replacing it with double tailfins and rudders. In an effort to increase speed even further, the version 5, designated Do17Z V5 was equipped with Hispano engines, and although heavier it managed to give the Dornier a top speed of 245

mph, which at the time, was far greater than any fighter, and this was proven in 1937 when the Do17 saw service in Spain, and outpaced all of the Republican fighter aircraft.

Modifications continued, the Do17Z V8 was tied with the Daimler Benz DB 600A engines that were producing 1,000 horsepower. , the Do17E was the first production bomber to see service with the Luftwaffe and the designers reverted back to the 750 hp BMW V1 engines at the sacrifice of a lower top speed. The Do17M was equipped with 1,000 hp Bramo 323A engines, but otherwise stayed the same as the Do17E. With more powerful engines coming out of a number of factories in Germany, the Do17K of which a number were bought by Yugoslavia were powered by Gnome-Rhône 14N engines and were amongst the fastest of the Dorniers by attaining a top speed of 259 mph.

The Spanish Civil War was to be the toughest test yet on the Do17 bomber. It proved to be fast, in fact was fast enough to outpace any enemy fighter, although it could not match Germany's own Bf109, but one important lesson was learnt. It was vulnerable to enemy gunfire, especially in the forward section. The nose had been shortened on the Do17E and the Do17F variants, but the firing arc of the forward gunner was restricted somewhat and the narrow diameter of the fuselage of the Do17 which was how it became known as the "Flying Pencil" meant cramped conditions for the cockpit area of the aircraft.

These lessons learnt, were applied to the Do17U. The nose was severely cut down and the forward machine gun positioned so that it had a complete arc of fire. An enlarged forward fuselage not only gave existing crew more room, but allowed for an additional crew member if required. All these modifications were to prove successful, and they were put into the Do17Z in 1939. It was this variant that was to see service throughout the battle of Britain and in operations during 1940 and 1941. One of the Do17 variants, was modified as a night fighter and had a nose section of a Ju88C fitted complete with cannon and machine guns. Additional to that was the installation of a FLIR (Forward Looking Infra Red) detector, said to be the worlds first. The first success of the use of the FLIR detector was the shooting down of a Wellington bomber of RAF Bomber Command on the night of October 16th/17th 1940 over the French-German border.

Dornier 17Z Specifications

Type	Medium Range Medium Bomber/Night Bomber/Reconnaissance
Crew	Five (sometimes four, depending on variant)
Power Plant	2 x Bramo 323A 1,000 hp radial engines
Fuel Capacity	1,550 litres (2,445 litres with additional fuel tank)
Unladen weight	11,484 lbs
Laden weight	18,931 lbs
Max Speed (16,500 ft)	265 mph
Cruising Speed (14,500 ft)	236 mph
Max range (Normal Load)	745 miles
Max range (with tanks)	1,860 miles (with normal load)
Service Ceiling	26,740 ft
Armament	1 x 20mm MG FF Cannon (on some versions) 1 x 13mm MG 131 Machine Gun (on some versions) 6 x 7.9mm MG 15 and/or MG 81 Machine Guns 2,200 lb bombload (carried internally) or 1,100lb bombload plus max fuel (all carried internally)
Wingspan	59 feet
Length	53ft 5½in
Height	15ft 9in
Wing Area	592 sq ft

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Document Details for MAF 32/1034/196

Lettercode Title Records created or inherited by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Departments, and bodies

Class Title Ministry of Food: National Farm Survey, Individual Farm Records

Piece/Item Title Parish No. 196 Parish: Patrixbourne

Header Title KENT

Text Date 1941-1943

Closure Status Open

Place of Deposit Public Record Office, Kew

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Document Details for IR 95/61/40

Lettercode Title Records of the Boards of Stamps, Taxes, Excise, Stamps and Taxes, and Inland R
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Piece Title Bridge and Patrixbourne
Header Title KENT
Closure Status Open
Place of Deposit Public Record Office, Kew

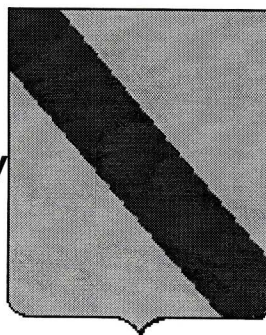
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Monarchies of Europe

Baden Royal Family



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Press [here](#) for more information and a description of the numbering system adopted on the genealogical table below.

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REFERENCE	TITLE	NAME	BORN	DIED	TITLE	NAME	BORN	DIED	COMMENTS
32	Grand Duke	Karl Friedrich of Baden	1728	1811	Landgravine	Caroline of Hesse-Darmstadt	1723	1783	Karl Friedrich was the Margrave of Baden becoming Elector in 1803 and Grand Duke in 1806
32	Grand Duke	Karl Friedrich of Baden	1728	1811		Luise Karoline von Geversberg	1768	1820	Karl Friedrich was the Margrave of Baden becoming Elector in 1803 and Grand Duke in 1806. Luise was created Baroness von Hochberg in 1787, Countess von Hochberg in 1796 and Princess of Baden in 1817
32.1	Prince	Karl Ludwig of Baden	1755	1801	Landgravine	Amalie of Hesse-Darmstadt	1754	1832	
32.11	Princess	Katherina of Baden	1776	1823					
32.12	Princess	Karoline of Baden	1776	1841	King	Maximilian I Joseph of Bavaria	1756	1825	See 18 - King Maximilian became the first King of Bavaria on 26 December 1805
32.13	Princess	Luise of Baden	1779	1826	Emperor	Alexander I of Russia	1777	1825	Alexander was succeeded as Emperor of Russia by his brother Nicholas I
32.14	Princess	Friederike of Baden	1781	1826	King	Gustaf IV Adolf of Sweden	1778	1837	King Gustaf was forcibly dethroned in 1809 and was succeeded by his Uncle King Carl XIII
32.141	Prince	Gustaf of Sweden	1799	1877	Princess	Luise Amalie of Baden	1811	1854	See 32.171
32.1411	Princess	Karola Frederikke of Sweden	1833	1907	King	Albrecht of Saxony	1828	1902	Albrecht was succeeded as King of Saxony by his brother Georg
32.142	Princess	Sophie of Sweden	1801	1865	Grand Duke	Karl Leopold of Baden	1790	1852	See 32.5
32.143	Princess	Amalia of Sweden	1805	1853					
32.144	Princess	Cecilie of Sweden	1807	1844	Grand Duke	August of Oldenburg	1783	1853	See 31.1
32.15	Princess	Marie of Baden	1782	1808	Duke	Friedrich Wilhelm of Brunswick-Wolfenbittel	1771	1815	Friedrich Wilhelm was killed in action in Quatre Bas
32.151	Duke	Karl III of Brunswick-Wolfenbittel	1804	1873					Karl III was extremely unpopular and was deposed in 1830
32.152	Duke	Wilhelm of Brunswick-Wolfenbittel	1806	1884					The death of Wilhelm brought this line of Brunswick to an end. In theory the Duchy should have passed to the Kings of Hanover, but as George V (King of Hanover) was strongly anti-Prussian a delaying tactic was employed by Prussia

									until 1913 when the Duchy finally passed to Prince Ernst August of Hanover (Duke of Brunswick-Luneburg)
32.16	Prince	Karl Friedrich of Baden	1784	1785					
32.17	Grand Duke	Karl Ludwig of Baden	1786	1818	Princess	Stephanie de Beauharnais	1789	1860	
32.171	Princess	Luise Amalie of Baden	1811	1854	Prince	Gustaf of Sweden	1799	1877	See 32.141
32.172	Princess	Josephine of Baden	1813	1900	Prince	Karl Anton of Hohenzollern	1811	1885	See 6
32.173	Prince	Alexander of Baden	1816	1816					
32.174	Princess	Marie Amalie of Baden	1817	1888		William Douglas Hamilton (11 th Duke of Hamilton and Brandon)	1881	1863	
32.18	Princess	Wilhelmina of Baden	1788	1836	Grand Duke	Ludwig II of Hesse and by Rhine	1777	1848	See 5 - Grand Duke Ludwig II was the son of Landgrave Ludwig X of Hesse-Darmstadt (1753-1830) who assumed the title of Grand Duke in 1806 and by the Congress of Vienna was further recognised as the Grand Duke of Hesse and the Rhine (as Ludwig I)
32.2	Prince	Friedrich Ludwig of Baden	1756	1817	Princess	Luise of Nassau-Usingen	1776	1829	
32.3	Grand Duke	Ludwig I of Baden	1763	1830					
32.4	Princess	Luise of Baden	1767	1767					
32.5	Grand Duke	Karl Leopold of Baden	1790	1852	Princess	Sophie of Sweden	1801	1865	See 32.142
32.51	Princess	Alexandrine Luise of Baden	1820	1904	Duke	Ernst II of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha	1818	1893	See 28.41
32.52	Prince	Ludwig Karl of Baden	1822	1822					
32.53	Grand Duke	Ludwig II of Baden	1824	1858					
32.54	Grand Duke	Friedrich I of Baden	1826	1907	Princess	Luise of Prussia	1838	1923	See 11.2
32.541	Grand Duke	Friedrich II of Baden	1857	1928	Princess	Hilda of Luxemburg	1864	1952	See 34.6 - Grand Duke Friedrich abdicated his throne on 22 November 1918
32.542	Princess	Viktoria of Baden	1862	1930	King	Gustaf V of Sweden	1858	1950	See 3.31
32.543	Prince	Ludwig Wilhelm of Baden	1865	1888					
32.55	Prince	Ludwig Wilhelm of Baden	1829	1897	Princess	Maria Romanovsky	1841	1914	See 18.272
32.551	Princess	Sopie Marie of Baden	1865	1939	Duke	Friedrich II of Anhalt	1856	1918	See 30.L22
32.552	Margrave	Maximilian "Max" of Baden	1867	1929	Princess	Marie Louise of Hanover (Duchess of Brunswick-Luneburg)	1879	1948	See 25.11 - Prince Maximilian "Max" was appointed German Chancellor on 3 October 1918 and placed in charge of obtaining a negotiated peace with the allies. He resigned his office on 9 November 1918. Max who was Heir Apparent to the Throne of Baden, renounced all claims to the Succession for himself and his heirs on 22 November 1918, coincidentally with the Abdication of Grand Duke Friedrich II of Baden
32.5521	Princess	Marie Alexandra Louise of Baden	1902	1944	Prince	Wolfgang of Hesse-Cassel	1896	1989	See 11.184 - Princess Marie was killed in an Allied bombing raid in Frankfurt-am-Main
32.5522	Margrave	Berthold of Baden	1906	1963	Princess	Theodora of Greece and	1906	1969	See 16.72

32.55221 - QVD	Princess	Margarita of Baden	1932			Denmark				
32.55222 - QVD	Margrave	Maximilian of Baden	1933			Prince	Tomislav of Yugoslavia	1928	2000	See 7.542
32.552221 - QVD	Princess	Marie Louise of Baden	1969			Archduches	Valerie of Austria (Tuscany Line)	1941		See 20.38339 - Margrave Maximilian is the present Head of the Grand Ducal House of Baden
32.5522211 - QVD		Sofia Baker	2001				Richard Baker	1936		
32.552222 - QVD	Hereditary Prince	Bernard of Baden	1970				Stephanie Kaul	1967?		
32.5522221 - QVD	Prince	Leopold Bernard of Baden	2002							
32.552223 - QVD	Prince	Leopold of Baden	1971							
32.552224 - QVD	Prince	Michael of Baden	1976							
32.55223 - QVD	Prince	Ludwig of Baden	1937			Princess	Anna Maria "Marianne" of Auersperg-Breunner	1943		
32.552231 - QVD	Princess	Sophie of Baden	1975							
32.552232 - QVD	Prince	Berthold of Baden	1976							
32.552233 - QVD	Princess	Aglae of Baden	1981							
32.56	Prince	Karl Friedrich of Baden	1832	1906		Baroness	Rosalie Luise von Beust	1845	1908	Baroness Rosalie was created Countess von Rhena on 8 May 1871 by the Grand Duke of Baden
32.57	Princess	Marie of Baden	1834	1899		Prince	Ernst of Leiningen (4th Prince of Leiningen)	1830	1904	See 39.21
32.58	Princess	Cecile of Baden	1839	1891		Grand Duke	Michael of Russia	1832	1909	See 4.8
32.6	Prince	Wilhelm of Baden	1792	1859		Duchess	Elisabeth of Wurttemberg	1802	1864	See 22.25
32.61	Princess	Henriette of Baden	1833	1834						
32.62	Princess	Sophie of Baden	1834	1904		Prince	Waldemar of Lippe-Detmold	1824	1895	Waldemar was succeeded as Prince (Furst) of Lippe-Detmold by his brother Karl Alexander (1831-1905) who's death brought an end to the Detmold line of Lippe
32.63	Princess	Elisabeth of Baden	1835	1891						
32.64	Princess	Leopoldine of Baden	1837	1903		Prince	Hermann of Hohenlohe-Langenburg (6 th Prince of Hohenlohe-Langenburg)	1832	1913	See 39.33
32.7	Baron	Friedrich von Hochberg	1793	1793						
32.8	Princess	Amelie of Baden	1795	1869		Prince	Karle Egon II of Furstenberg	1796	1854	
32.9	Prince	Maximilian of Baden	1796	1882						

Note - QVD against a reference number indicates the first named individual is a descendant of Queen Victoria.



Last Updated on 27 June 2003

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European Royalty during World War II:

Genealogical Tables

Ahnenreihe of

Berthold Friedrich, Prince and Margrave of Baden (1906-)

and

Marie Alexandra, Princess Wolfgang Moritz of Hesse (1902-1944)

1. **Berthold Friedrich**, Prince and Margrave of Baden (1906-)
Marie Alexandra, Princess Wolfgang Moritz of Hesse (1902-1944)

Parents

2. Maximilian, Prince and Margrave of Baden (1867-1929)
3. **Marie Luise**, Princess of Hanover, Great Britain and Ireland (1879-)

Grandparents

4. Wilhelm, Prince of Baden (1829-1897)
5. Mariya Maksimilianovna, Princess Romanovskya, Duchess of Leuchtenberg (1841-1914)
6. Ernst August (II), Crown Prince of Hanover, Duke of Cumberland (1845-1923)
7. Thyra, Princess of Denmark (1853-1933)

Great-Grandparents

8. Leopold I, Grand Duke of Baden (1790-1852)
9. Sophie, Princess of Sweden (1801-1865)
10. Maximilian de Beauharnais, Duke of Leuchtenberg, The Prince of Eichstätt (1817-1852)
11. Mariya Nikolaievna, Grand Duchess of Russia (1819-1876)
12. Georg V, King of Hanover (1819-1878)
13. Marie, Princess of Saxe-Altenburg (1818-1907)
14. Christian IX, King of Denmark (1818-1906)
15. Luise, Princess of Hesse-Cassel (1817-1898)

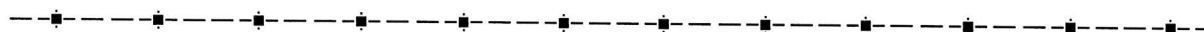
Great-Great-Grandparents

16. Karl Friedrich, Grand Duke of Baden (1728-1811)
17. Luise, Baroness Geyer von Geyersberg (1768-1820)
18. Gustaf IV, King of Sweden (1778-1837)
19. Friederike, Princess of Baden (1781-1826)
20. Eugene de Beauharnais, Duke of Leuchtenberg, The Prince of Eichstätt (1781-1824)
21. Auguste, Princess of Bavaria (1788-1851)
22. Nikolai I Pavlovich, Emperor of All the Russias (1796-1855)
23. Charlotte, Princess of Prussia (1798-1860)
24. Ernst August I, King of Hanover (1771-1851)
25. Friederike, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1778-1841)
26. Joseph, Duke of Saxe-Altenburg (1789-1868)
27. Amelie, Duchess of Württemberg (1799-1848)
28. Wilhelm, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg (1785-1831)
29. Luise, Princess of Hesse-Cassel (1789-1867)
30. Wilhelm, Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel (1787-1867)
31. Charlotte, Princess of Denmark (1789-1864)

Great-Great-Great-Grandparents

32. Friedrich, Hereditary Prince of Baden-Durlach (1703-1732)
33. Anna Charlotte Amalie, Princess of Orange-Nassau (1710-1777)
34. Ludwig Heinrich Philipp Geyer von Geyersberg (1729-1772)
35. Maximiliane Christiana von Sponeck (1730-1804)
36. Gustaf III, King of Sweden (1746-1792)
37. Sophia Magdalena, Princess of Denmark (1746-1813)
38. Karl Ludwig, Hereditary Prince of Baden (1755-1801)
39. Amalie, Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt (1754-1832)
40. Alexandre de Beauharnais (1760-1794)
41. Josephine Tascher de la Pagerie (1763-1814)

42. Maximilian I Josef, King of Bavaria (1756-1825)
43. Wilhelmine, Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt (1765-1796)
44. Pavel I Petrovich, Emperor of All the Russias (1754-1801)
45. Sophie, Duchess of Württemberg (1759-1828)
46. Friedrich Wilhelm III, King of Prussia (1770-1840)
47. Luise, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1776-1810)
48. George III, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Elector and King of Hanover (1738-1820)
49. Charlotte, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1744-1818)
50. Karl II, Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1741-1816)
51. Friederike, Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt (1752-1782)
52. Friedrich, Duke of Saxe-Altenburg (1763-1834)
53. Charlotte, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1769-1818)
54. Ludwig, Duke of Württemberg (1756-1817)
55. Henriette, Princess of Nassau-Weilburg (1770-1857)
56. Friedrich, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Beck (1757-1816)
57. Friederike, Countess von Schlieben (1757-1827)
58. Karl, Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel (1744-1836)
59. Lovisa, Princess of Denmark (1750-1831)
60. Friedrich, Landgrave of Hesse-Rumpenheim (1747-1837)
61. Karoline, Princess of Nassau-Usingen and Nassau-Saarbrücken (1762-1823)
62. Frederik, Prince of Denmark (1753-1805)
63. Sophie, Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin (1758-1794)



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Probate Records

Legal Records Information 23

1. Where to Look for a Will or Grant of Administration

While a few original wills may be found among private papers, the most reliable place to search for a will is among the records of the court where probate was granted, i.e. where the will was given official approval empowering the executor to act. In cases where no will was made, letters of administration were granted to the next-of-kin, giving him or her the authority to distribute the intestate's estate (The word 'estate' is used here meaning the personality, i.e. chattels, cash, debts, leases, etc., of the deceased. The ecclesiastical courts had no jurisdiction over bequests of freehold property. If such bequests were in dispute, recourse was had to Chancery or Common Law. Mixed wills, that is of personalty and realty, were nevertheless registered in the ecclesiastical courts). The Principal Probate Registry started functioning on 12 January 1858. From this date a copy of every will proved is to be found at the Probate Search Room, First Avenue House, 42-49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP (tel: 020-7947 6000) But prior to the Court of Probate Act of 1857, the proving of wills and the granting of administrations lay with ecclesiastical courts and some manorial courts. There was an elaborate network of probate courts; the factors which determined in which court a grant should be made were the place of death and the size and distribution of the estate in question. See *Wills and their Whereabouts*, ed. A J Camp (private publication, 1974) for background information on wills and court hierarchy.

The searcher for a pre-1858 probated will or grant of administration has two initial problems, namely to decide in which court the grant was made, and to ascertain where the records of that court are now kept. The estate of a person of small means was usually dealt with in the lowest permissible court, that of the archdeacon. The will of a person with goods in more than one archdeaconry was proved in the diocesan court. There were also various 'peculiar' jurisdictions, such as those exercised by the deans and chapters of cathedrals. Those leaving goods in more than one diocese or peculiar to the value of £5 (£10 in London) or more were deemed to be in possession of *bona notabilia* and, as such, their estates came under the cognizance of one or other of the provincial courts, the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) or the Prerogative Court of York. If goods were held in both provinces the grant could be made either solely in the court of the Archbishop of Canterbury, or in both provincial courts. The records of the minor probate courts are deposited in county record offices or other local repositories. The location of the records is explained *Probate Jurisdictions: Wills and Where to Find Them* by J Gibson (FFHS, 4th edition 1994). The problem of deciding on the right court is more complex, and it may be necessary to search the records of several.

2. Documents Available in The National Archives

Death Duty Registers

If the grant of probate or administration was made after 1796 and the court of probate is not known, the Legacy Duty Registers and their indexes may be useful (National Archives reference: IR 26 and IR 27). If legacy duty was payable on the estate in question these registers indicate in which court the grant was made. There is a separate research guide on

WILLS IN LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES AND ELSEWHERE

Introduction

Before 1858 the proving of wills and related testamentary matters came within the jurisdiction of courts administered by the church. There were many such courts operating at different levels. The court with over-riding jurisdiction in England and Wales was the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC). It had sole jurisdiction over those dying with property in more than one diocese in the southern province (the Prerogative Court of York had similar jurisdiction in the northern province) or with property in both provinces and over those who died overseas. It was largely but not exclusively used by the wealthy.

Each diocese had its bishop's, or consistory, court which had jurisdiction throughout the whole diocese. Below that were courts administered by archdeacons whose jurisdiction was limited to their respective archdeaconries or parts of them, and courts administered by bishop's commissaries (deputies) which might have jurisdiction over one or more archdeaconries. The archdeacons' jurisdiction was often inhibited (suspended) for part of the year and during episcopal visitations and at those times the bishop or his commissary dealt with business which would otherwise have come before the archdeacons' courts.

In most dioceses there were small areas exempt from the jurisdiction of the local archdeacon's or bishop's court. They were known as peculiars and the wills of people dying with property in them would be proved in the appropriate peculiar court.

From 11 January 1858 church courts were replaced by a centralised system of civil probate registries. The Principal Probate Registry was based at Somerset House. Copies of wills proved in England and Wales from 1858 onwards can be obtained from the Principal Registry Family Division, First Avenue House, 42-49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP. Copies of the calendars to wills 1858-1943 can be consulted at the Family Records Centre, 1 Myddelton Street, London EC1R 1UW.

Records

Wills survive in court records in two forms: the original, having been presented in court for probate and having been inscribed with the probate act, would be filed; a copy of the will and act would be entered in a register.

When a person died without making a will (intestate) the court would grant the next-of-kin, or creditors, letters of administration (often abbreviated as an admon or admin) enabling them to deal with the deceased's estate. Letters of administration with the will annexed could be granted in cases where the executors named in the will had died or refused to act.

The court would usually record in an act book the acts granting probates and administrations (a probate and administration act book). Sometimes grants of administrations were entered in will registers. Bonds entered into by executors and administrators faithfully to carry out their responsibilities were retained by the court with other related papers.

Inventories detailing the deceased's goods and chattels (often room by room), debts owing to him or her and plantations abroad were made and presented in court as part of the probate process. These have not always survived.

Calendars of or indexes to the records were often compiled. The series indexed were usually original wills, registers of wills and administrations and probate and administration act books. The indexes to names of testators or to names of the deceased might be in pure alphabetical order or in alpha-chronological order (all the names beginning with one letter put in date order). Many modern indexes to probate records have been, or are in the process of being, published and are often easier to use than the contemporary indexes. Printed indexes and calendars of probate records available in London Metropolitan Archives Library are listed at the end of this leaflet.

Looking for a will

The executors or administrators of those who died with property within the jurisdiction of one archdeaconry or commissary court should properly have gone to that court. If the deceased had goods worth £5 or more within the jurisdiction of more than one of these courts but within one diocese then the will should have been proved in the consistory court of that diocese. If the property lay in more than one diocese then the matter should have been dealt with by the appropriate archdiocese. However it is clear from the records that such rules were not always followed and when searching for a will it is advisable, if the will is not found in the obvious court, to check all the courts in the geographical area of the deceased's known property as well as the records of the PCC.

Probate copies of wills (made by the court and given to the executor) and a few original wills may be found in other series of records in London Metropolitan Archives. Searchers should consult the personal names index available on microfiche in the Reference Room.

Wills and the probate of them or the administration of the estate might be disputed. Records of disputed testamentary causes (cases) may be found among the records of many church courts. Searchers should consult staff about the records.

Probate records held by London Metropolitan Archives

Wills in London Metropolitan Archives relate mainly to the ancient (pre-1889) counties of Middlesex and Surrey, part of the ancient county of Kent and the City of London. Wills relating to these areas can also be found elsewhere (see below).

In many cases records held in London Metropolitan Archives have been microfilmed and the films should be consulted instead of the originals. Full lists of the records, indexes and microfilms are available in the Reference Room.

Consistory Court of the Bishop of London 1362-1858

This court had jurisdiction over the whole diocese of London except the peculiars. In 1846 the parishes of Charlton, Deptford, Eltham, Greenwich, Lee, Lewisham, Plumstead and Woolwich were transferred to this diocese from the diocese of Rochester and the parishes of Barnes, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Walworth and Wimbledon were transferred from the Deanery of Croydon.

Surviving records include: original wills and administrations 1507-1858 (with gaps); registers of wills and administrations 1492, 1514-1858 (with gaps); vicar-generals' books, which include probate and administrations acts, 1521-1644, 1661-1685. Wills 1362-1559 are also entered in bishops' books in the Guildhall Library (see below) but indexes to these are held in the London Metropolitan Archives. Very few probate inventories have survived for this court.

Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex (Middlesex Division) 1608-1810

This division of the court had jurisdiction over the following Middlesex parishes: Bedfont, Chelsea, Cranford, Feltham, Hampton, Hanwell with New Brentford, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Heston with Hounslow, Hillingdon with Uxbridge, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, St Anne Soho (Westminster), St Clement Danes, St George Hanover Square, St James Piccadilly (Westminster), St Martin-in-the-Fields, St Mary-le-Strand, St Paul Covent Garden, Shepperton, Staines with Ashford, Stanwell, Sunbury, Twickenham.

Surviving records include: original wills 1608-1611, 1662-1810; registers of wills 1664-1677, 1718-1779; probate and administration act books 1660-1810 (with gaps); administration bonds 1667-1760 (with gaps); probate inventories 1667-1758. The probate business of this court virtually ceased in the 1780s.

Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey 1662-1858.

The jurisdiction of this court covered the whole of the ancient county of Surrey except for the peculiars (for peculiar parishes see below under Surrey: Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury).

Surviving records include: original wills 1663-1857 (with gaps); registers of wills 1674-1696, 1729-1857; probate and administration act books 1662-1858 (with gaps); administration bonds 1674, 1731-1858.

Archdeaconry Court of Surrey 1480-1858

The jurisdiction of this court covered the whole of the ancient county of Surrey except for the peculiars (for peculiar parishes see below under Surrey: Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury).

Surviving records include: original wills 1534-1857 (with gaps); registers of wills 1480-1821 (with gaps); probate and administration act books 1674-1858 (with gaps to 1725).

Probate records not held by London Metropolitan Archives

Middlesex and the City of London

Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1383-1858

Location of records: Family Records Centre, 1 Myddelton Street, London EC1R 1UW. Microfilms of the act books (PROB 6), registered copy wills (PROB 11) and indexes of wills and administrations (PROB 12) should be consulted at the Family Records Centre. The original records are held by the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond Surrey TW9 4DU.

Jurisdiction: England and Wales (see Introduction)

Commissary Court of London 1374-1857

Location of records: Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ.

Jurisdiction: Acton, Bethnal Green, Bloomsbury, Bow, Bromley-by-Bow, City of London (part), Cowley, Ealing with Old Brentford, Edgware, Edmonton, Enfield, Finchley, Fulham with Hammersmith, Greenford, Hackney, Monken Hadley, Hampstead, Hanworth, Harefield, Hendon, Hornsey, Ickenham, Islington, Kingsbury, Limehouse, Marylebone, Northolt, Paddington, Poplar, Ruislip, St George-in-the-East, St Giles-in-the-Fields, St Paul Shadwell, Christ Church Spitalfields, South Mimms, Stanmore, Stepney, Teddington, Tottenham, Wapping, Whitechapel.

Archdeaconry Court of London 1393-1807

Location of records: Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ.

Jurisdiction: City of London (part), St Andrew Holborn with St George the Martyr, St James and St John Clerkenwell, St Leonard Shoreditch.

Peculiar Court of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral 1535-1840

Location of records: Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ.

Jurisdiction: Chiswick, City of London (part), Friern Barnet, Precinct of Hoxton in Shoreditch, St Luke Old Street, St Pancras with Highgate, Stoke Newington, West Drayton, Willesden.

Peculiar Court of the Deanery of Croydon 1664-1841

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library, London SE1 7JU.

Jurisdiction: Harrow with Pinner, Hayes with Norwood.

Royal Peculiar of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster 1504-1803

Location of records: City of Westminster Archives Centre, 10 St Ann's Street, London SW1P 2XR.

Jurisdiction: City of London (part), Paddington, Precincts of the Abbey, St John the Evangelist Westminster, St Margaret Westminster (but jurisdiction in most parishes had passed to the Consistory Court of London or the Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex by the early eighteenth century).

Royal Peculiar of St Katherine by the Tower 1698-1793

Location of records: Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EJ.

Jurisdiction: Liberty of St Katherine by the Tower.

Deanery of the Arches 1620-1780, 1832

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library, London SE1 7JU.

Jurisdiction: City of London (part); disputed testamentary causes in the Province of Canberbury.

Court of Husting 1258-1688

Location of records: Corporation of London Records Office, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ.

Jurisdiction: City of London and liberties.

Surrey

Prerogative Court of Canterbury and Deanery of the Arches see above.

Consistory Court of Winchester

Location of records: Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester, Hants SO23 8TH.

Jurisdiction: Surrey and Hampshire except peculiars (a small number of Surrey wills proved here: see index 1506-1645 at Society of Genealogists or *Union index of Surrey probate records which survive from before the year 1650* edited by Cliff Webb).

Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon 1602, 1614-1841

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library, London SE1 7JU.

Jurisdiction: Barnes, Burstow, Charlwood, Cheam, Croydon, East Horsley, Merstham, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Roehampton, Walworth, Wimbledon. In 1846 Barnes, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Walworth and Wimbledon were transferred to the Diocese of London (see Consistory Court of London above).

Consistory and Archdeaconry Courts of Canterbury 1396-1857 and 1449-1858

Location of records: Centre for Kentish Studies, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

Jurisdiction: In 1846 the parishes of Addington and Croydon were transferred to this jurisdiction from the Diocese of Winchester and the Deanery of Croydon respectively.

Kent

Prerogative Court of Canterbury and Deanery of the Arches see above.

Consistory Court of Rochester 1440-1858 and Archdeaconry Court of Rochester 1635-1857

Location of records: Centre for Kentish Studies, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

Jurisdiction: Included inner London parishes of Charlton, Deptford, Eltham, Greenwich, Lee, Lewisham, Plumstead and Woolwich which in 1846 were transferred to Diocese of London (see Consistory Court of London above).

For other courts having jurisdiction within the county of Kent consult the books referred to below or the Centre for Kentish Studies.

READING LIST

The London Metropolitan Archives Library has the following works on probate jurisdiction as well as copies of printed indexes and calendars of probate records, some held by London Metropolitan Archives, others held elsewhere. This is not a complete list of all relevant printed works for which the main library catalogue should be consulted. For guides to probate jurisdictions, see the works by Anthony Camp or J.S.W. Gibson listed below.

General works

ADDY, John. *Death, money and the vultures : inheritance and avarice, 1660 - 1750*. Routledge, 1992. (60.34 ADD)

CAMP, Anthony J. *Wills and their whereabouts*. 4th edition. The Author, 1974 (60.34 CAM)

COLDHAM, Peter Wilson. *American wills proved in London, 1611 - 1775*. Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992. (60.34 COL)

COX, Jane. *An introduction to - - - Affection defying the power of death : wills, probate and death duty records*. Federation of Family History Societies, 1993. (R60.34 COX)

FURNIVALL, Frederick J. *The fifty earliest English wills in the Court of Probate, London. AD 1387 - 1439 : with a priest's of 1454*. Oxford UP, 1882, reprinted 1964. (Early English Text Society original series no.78. (60.34 FUR)

GIBSON, J.S.W. *Probate jurisdictions : where to look for wills*. 4th edition Federation of Family History Societies, 1994. (60.34 GIB)

MCLAUGHLIN, Eve. *Somerset House wills from 1858*. 3rd edition. Federation of Family History Societies, 1985 (a McLaughlin Guide). (60.34 MAC)

MCLAUGHLIN, Eve. *Wills before 1858*. 2nd edition. Federation of Family History Societies. 1985 (a McLaughlin Guide). (60.34 MAC)

SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS. *An index to the Bank of England will extracts 1807 - 1845*. The Society, 1991. (60.34 SOC)

England and Wales

Prerogative Court of Canterbury

Printed Indexes to Wills

In the following chronological list [A] represents volumes in the Index Library published by the British Record Society (60.34 BRS), and [B] represents volumes in the "Year books of Probates" series, edited by John Matthews and George F. Matthews (60.34 MAT). [C] represents the series of indexes edited by A.J. Camp and published by the Society of Genealogists (60.34 SOC).

1383 - 1558	[A]	vols 10 & 11
1558 - 1583	[A]	vol 18
1584 - 1604	[A]	vol 25
1605 - 1619	[A]	vol 43
1620 - 1629	[A]	vol 44
1620 - 1624	[B]	abstracts of probates and sentences in the PCC
1630 - 1634	[B]	
1635 - 1639	[B]	
1630 - 1639	[B]	sentences and index nominum
1640 - 1644	[B]	
1645 - 1649	[B]	
1650 - 1651	[B]	
1653 - 1656	[A]	vol 54
1654	[B]	
1655	[B]	
1671 - 1675	[A]	vol 67
1676 - 1685	[A]	vol 71
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 1 : A - Bh
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 2 : Bi - Ce
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 3 : Ch - G
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 4 : H - M
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 5 : N - Sh
1750 - 1800	[C]	vol 6 : Si - Z

Printed indexes to Administrations

Abbreviations are as in indexes to wills.

1581 - 1595	[A]	vol 76
1596 - 1608	[A]	vol 81
1620 - 1630		P.C.C. Letters of Administration, by J. H. Morrison, 1935 (60.34 MOR)
1649 - 1654	[A]	vol 68
1655 - 1660	[A]	vol 72 : A - F
1655 - 1660	[A]	vol 74 : G - Q
1655 - 1660	[A]	vol 75 : R - Z

London and Middlesex

Consistory Court of the Bishop of London

LONDON RECORD SOCIETY. *London Consistory Court wills 1492 - 1547*. edited by Ida Darlington. The Society, 1967. (60.34 LRS)

Commissary Court of London

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London (London Division)*. edited by Marc Fitch.

1374 - 1488. HMC, 1969 (60.34 HMC)

1489 - 1570. HMC, 1974 (60.34 HMC)

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London (London Division)*. edited by Marc Fitch.
1571 - 1652 Index Library/BRS, 1985 (vol. 97) (60.34 BRS)

Archdeaconry Court of London

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Index to testamentary records in the Archdeaconry Court of London*. Volume II 1661 - 1700, edited by Marc Fitch. Index Library/BRS, 1985 (vol. 98). (60.34 BRS)

WEBB, Cliff. *An index of wills proved in the Archdeaconry Court of London 1700 - 1807*. Society of Genealogists, 1996. (R60.34 WEB)

Deanery of the Arches

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Index to testamentary records of the Deanery of the Arches in Lambeth Palace Library 1620 - 1845*, edited by Janet Foster. Index Library/BRS, 1985 (vol. 98). (60.34 BRS)

Court of Husting

SHARPE, Reginald R. *Calendar of the wills proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting, London, AD 1258 - AD 1688* :
Volume 1 1258 - 1358 Corporation of the City of London, 1889 (60.1 LON)
Volume 2 1358 - 1688 Corporation of the City of London, 1890 (60.1 LON)

Royal Peculiar of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster

BURKE, Arthur Meredyth. *Indexes to the ancient testamentary records of Westminster*. Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1913. (60.34 BUR)

This volume includes indexes to the following series :

1. The testamentary records of the Peculiar Court, 1504 - 1700
2. Westminster wills and administrations preserved among the records of the Consistory Court of London, 1540 - 1556.
3. Miscellaneous testamentary records preserved in the Muniment Room of Westminster Abbey, 1228 - 1700.

Surrey

WEBB, Cliff. *Union index of Surrey probate records which survive from before the year 1650*. British Record Society, 1990.

Archdeaconry Court of Surrey

SURREY RECORD SOCIETY. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Spage Register)*. The Society, 1922 (S.R.S. vol. no. XVII) abstracts of wills covering the period 1484 - 1489, with index.

(60.9 SUR)

SURREY RECORD SOCIETY. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Herringman Register)*. The Society, 1915 - 20 (3 vols, as below)

S.A.S. vol. no. III abstracts of wills covering period 1595 - 1600

S.A.S. vol. no. VII abstracts of wills covering period 1600 - 1607

S.A.S. vol. no. XV abstracts of wills covering period 1607 - 1608, and including index to all 3 volumes. (60.9 SUR)

WEST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY. *Index of wills proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Surrey 1752 - 1858*, compiled by Cliff Webb. 2nd edition. The Society, 1994. (Record series vol 1). (60.34 WES)

Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey

WEST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY. *Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey : index to the original wills... also : Peculiar Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon : index to the wills : 1752 - 1858*, compiled by Cliff Webb. 2nd edition. The Society, 1992. (Record series vol.3). (60.34 WES)

Peculiar Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon

see under Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester

Prerogative Court of Canterbury

WEST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY. *Index to Surrey wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1650 - 1770*, edited by Cliff Webb. The Society, 1989. (Record series vol.9). (60.34 WES).

WEST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY. *Surrey administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1760 - 1781*, compiled by the late Alfred Ridley Bax edited and indexed by Cliff Webb. The Society, 1993. (Record series vol. 17). (R61.2 WES).

Essex and East Hertfordshire

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Wills at Chelmsford (Essex and East Hertfordshire)*, edited by F.G. Emmison :

Vol. 1 : 1400 - 1619 Index Library/BRS, 1958. (vol. 78)

Vol. 2 : 1620 - 1720 " " " 1961. (vol. 79)

Vol. 3 : 1721 - 1858 " " " 1969 (vol. 84)

(60.34 BRS)

EMMISON, F.G. *Elizabethan wills of south west Essex*. Kylin Press, 1983 (60.34 EMM)

EMMISON, F.G. *Essex wills : the Archdeaconry Courts 1591 - 1597*. Essex Record Office, 1991. (60.34 EMM)

EMMISON, F.G. *Essex wills : the Archdeaconry Courts 1597 - 1603*. Essex Record Office, 1990. (60.34 EMM)

EMMISON, F.G. *Essex wills : the Bishop of London's Commissary Court 1569 - 1578*. Essex Record Office, 1994. (60.34 EMM)

Kent

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Index of wills and administrations now preserved in the Probate Registry at Canterbury 1396 - 1558 and 1640 - 1650*, edited by Henry R. Plomer. Index Library/BRS, 1920 (vol. 50) (60.34 BRS)

BRITISH RECORD SOCIETY. *Index of wills and administrations now preserved in the Probate Registry at Canterbury; vol II - wills and administrations 1558 - 1577 and administrations 1539 - 1545*, edited by Harold C. Ridge. Index Library/BRS, 1940 (vol. 65) (60.34 BRS)

Inventories

CURLE, B.R. *Kensington and Chelsea Probate Inventories 1672 - 1734*. (typescript, 1970) (60.34 CUR)

DEVON AND CORNWALL RECORD SOCIETY. *Devon : inventories of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries*, edited by Margaret Cash. The Society, 1966 (New Series, Vol. 11) (60.34 DEV)

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION. *Household and farm inventories in Oxfordshire, 1550 - 1590*, edited by M.A. Havinden. HMSO, 1965. (Joint Publications vol. 10 and Oxfordshire Record Soc. vol 44) (60.34 HMC)

HOLMAN, Joan and HERRIDGE, Marion. *Index of Surrey probate inventories 16 - 19th centuries*. Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), 1986 (60.34 HOL)

LIST AND INDEX SOCIETY. *Prerogative Court of Canterbury : inventories, series II : part I 1702; 1718 - 1733*. The Society, 1973 (LIS vol. 85) (60.3 LIS)

LIST AND INDEX SOCIETY. *Prerogative Court of Canterbury : inventories, series II : part II 1734 - 1782, with index*. The Society, 1973 (LIS vol. 86) (60.3 LIS)

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Estate

A term that describes a person's ownership of a property

Estates show the kind of ownership arrangement that you have. In general, each type of estate specifies your claim on a property, how long the claim will last and the rights that go along with the claim. The two major types of estates are (1) freehold estates, which refer to property owners; and (2) leasehold estates, which are for tenants.

Example: What are the types of estates?

Freehold estates

- Fee simple (absolute)** An owner has unrestricted rights to a property. This is the most common kind of ownership.
- Fee simple qualified** An owner holds title to a property under certain conditions. For example: Susan can hold a property's title unless she gets married before age 35.
- Life estate** An owner can hold onto a property until death, must maintain and pay taxes on the property, but cannot put it in a will.
- Estate in remainder** The person who receives a property after the owner of a life estate dies.
- Estate in reversion** When a property returns to the person (or heirs) who originally handed over a life estate property.

Leasehold estates (also called less-than-freehold or lease)

- Estate for years** A tenant that has a lease for a set period of time. The rent must remain the same until the lease expires.
- Estate from period to period** A tenant with a lease that lasts month to month. The lease is automatically renewed at the end of each month. The tenant has to give 30 days notice.
- Estate at will** When there's no lease between the tenant and the landlord.
- Estate at sufferance** When a tenant lives on a property without the landlord's permission or paying rent.

Barnsley Family History Society

Tithe Commutation Act 1836 A source for Family Historians

Barry Kelly

The Tithes, (in theory a tenth part of a persons income), went towards the upkeep of the incumbent of the Parish Church. Under the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836, tithes could be commuted to a rent charge, and commissioners were appointed to negotiate fair land values with the inhabitants.

In villages where the tithes were commuted, a survey of the land was carried out and a large scale detailed plan was drawn up showing every house and area of land. Each plot was individually numbered.

"That's all very well, but it's not very interesting to the family historian", I hear you say.

No. perhaps not, but the really interesting bit is the written apportionment.

Here you will find:-

- a. Landowners names.
- b. Occupiers names.
- c. Plot No. referring to plan.
- d. Name and description of Land and Premises.
- e. State of cultivation.
- f. Area.
- g. Amount of rent charge apportioned.

"Ah, now we're talking, but isn't this just another list of wealthy landowners. My ancestors weren't like that."

No, it's not like that. Let me give you a few examples from the Cudworth Tithe apportionments.

No referred to on plan	15
Landowner	Meyrick Banks Esq.
Occupier	John Bashforth
Name & description etc.	House Occupied by George Turner
No referred to on plan	49
Landowner	Meyrick Banks Esq.
Occupier	William Makin
Name & description etc.	House & Garden under let to Mary Ann Horbury
No referred to on plan	71
Landowner	William Coward
Occupier	John Driver
	John Hargreaves
	George Sinley

	John Ashurst
Name & description etc.	House, Butcher's Shop, Yard & Barn
	House
	House & Garden
	House & Garden

Over 400 pieces of land and holdings are recorded in the Cudworth Tithe, each with the name of the owner and occupier.

So there we are, loads of information to get stuck into, here are a few ideas to work on:-

- Tracing where ancestors lived.
- Is the house still there?
- Tracing occupation of ancestors.
- Gauging their standard of living
- Contemporary census 1841.
- Possible to trace enumerators route.

The original documents are in the P.R.O. Most main libraries and C.R.O's have copies. The copy plans are very large photographs (not photostats), and the written apportionment is on microfilm.

Barnsley Library (Local Studies/Archives) have copies of the tithes for the Barnsley area, don't forget also the enclosure awards which usually pre-date the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836.

Another valuable source, in the same vein, (owners and occupiers of land), are the Land Tax returns. The Cudworth returns run from 1781 to 1832.

Duplicate assessments for villages in the Staincross wapentake, (which covers most of the Barnsley area) can be found at the West Yorkshire Archive Service HQ, Newstead Road, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

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Naval History: Great Britain.

A List of the Royal Navy in 1546.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A List of the Navy, in 1599.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A List of the King's Ships and Pinnaces, with their respective Tonnages and Men, Anno Dom. 1603.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

An Account of the Royal Navy which the Queen left at her death, with the Number of Men, and Tonnage of the Ships. [1603]

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A Catalogue of all the King's Ships, with their respective Tonnage, and Men at Sea. Decr. 1607.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A List of the Royal Navy, in 1624.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A List of the King's Ships, Anno 1633.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

A List of all the Ships, Frigates, and other Vessels belonging to the State's Navy, on 1st March, 1651.

Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*, 1806.

Danish Ships Lost, Taken or Destroyed.

From *Steel's Naval Chronologist*, 1801.

A letter from Henry Hotham, Esq.

Regarding the Capture of the *L'Invention* on the 27th of July 1801.

Capture of the *L'Invention*.

From William James: *The Naval History of Great Britain*, 1822-1824.

Capture of the *L'Invention*.

From *Naval Chronicle*, 1802.

The London Gazette Extraordinary

From *The Times*, 1805-11-07.

Report from the *Victory* after the Battle of Trafalgar.

Naval Chronicle, Vol. 15 (1806), pp 34-35.

Popham's Capture of Cape Town.

Copy of a Letter received this day by Captain Downman, from Sir Home Popham, K.M., Captain of His Majesty's Ship *Diadem*, to W. Marsden, Esq.; dated on board the said Ship, in Table Bay, the 13th January 1806.

Naval Chronicle, Vol. 15 (1806), pp 248-250.

Popham's Capture of Cape Town

Copy of a Letter from Commodore Sir Home Popham to William Marsden, Esq.; Dated on board His Majesty's Ship *Diadem*, Table-bay, March 4, 1806.

Naval Chronicle, Vol. 15 (1806), p 437.

Capture of Copenhagen 1807.

Copy of a letter from Admiral Gambier to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, dated on board his Majesty's Ship the *Prince of Wales*, off Copenhagen, the 20th October, 1807.

Nautical Chronical, Vol. 18 (1807), pp 430-431.

A List of the Danish Ships and Vessels.

A List of the Danish Ships and Vessels delivered up by the Capitulation of Copenhagen to his Majesty's Forces, September 7, 1807.

The Late Danish Fleet.

List of the Danish fleet, with the names of the English ships by which they were fitted for sea. *Nautical Chronical*, Vol. 18 (1807), p 378.

Launch of the *Caledonia*.

A 120-gun ship launched at Plymouth, on the 25th of June 1808. *Nautical Chronical*, Vol. 20 (1808), p 60.

Articles of Agreement as have commonly been entered into by the Captains of Privateers and their Crews.

From Steel: *Shipmaster's Assistant*, 1817. pp 70-71.

Rules of Discipline and Government, to be Observed on Board of a Private Ship of War.

From Steel: *Shipmaster's Assistant*, 1817. pp 71-72.

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"Dec^r. 1607."

A Catalogue of all the King's Ships, with their respective Tonnage, and Men at Sea."

Names.	Tonnage.	Men.
Elizabeth	900	500
Triumph	1000	500
Bear	900	500
Victory	900	500
Honour	800	400
Ark	800	400
Repulse	700	350
Garland	700	300
Warspight	600	300
Mary Rose	600	250
Assurance	600	250
Bonaventure	600	250
Lion	500	250
Nonsuch	500	250
Defiance	500	250
Vanguard	500	250
Rainbow	500	250
Dreadnought	400	200
Swiftsure	400	200
Antelope	350	160
Adventure	250	120
Crane	200	100
Quittance	200	100
Answer	200	100
Advantage	200	100
Tramontane	140	70
Lion's Whelp	90	60
Charles	70	45
Moon	60	45
Advice	50	40
Spy	50	40
Merlin	50	40
Superlativa *	...	335
Advantagia *	...	223
Volatilia *	...	223
Galarita *	...	223
In all 36 Ships and Vessels	14710	8174
	if each of the 4	

latter Vessels was
100 Tons.

* In the 11th vol. of the Archæologia, these Vessels are stated to have been of 100 tons each.

MEM°.—This List is taken from Pepys's Miscellanies, vol. 2, p. 131, and vol. 5, p. 579, at the foot of which he says, "The foregoing are all the King's Ships, Pinnaces, and Galleys." By the List preceeding this, it appears that the four last Vessels were large Galleys.

Charles Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*.
Blacks & Parry; Cadell & Davies; G. & W. Nicol; H. Teape, London, 1806. pp 41-43.

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A List of the Royal Navy, in 1624.

Names.	Burthen.		Particulars of the Ordnance.								
	Tons.	N ^o of Pieces of Ordnance	Cannon Petro.	Cannon.	Demi-Cannon.	Culverines.	Culverines.	Demi-Sakers.	Minions.	Faulcons.	Port-pieces.	Fowlers.
Prince	1200	55	2	6	12	18	13	...	...	4	...
Bear	900	51	2	6	12	18	9	...	...	4	...
More Honour	800	44	2	6	12	12	8	...	...	4	...
Ann	800	44	2	5	12	13	8	...	...	4	...
Repulse*	700	40	2	2	14	12	4	...	...	2	...
Defiance*	700	40	2	2	14	12	4	...	2	...	...
Triumph*	921	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
St. George*	880	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
St. Andrew*	880	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
Swiftsure*	876	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
Victory*	870	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
Reformation*	750	42	2	2	16	12	4	...	2	...	...
Warspight	650	38	2	4	13	13	4	...	2	...	...
Vanguard*	651	40	2	...	14	12	4	...	2	...	...
Rainbow*	650	40	2	...	14	12	4	...	2	...	4
Red Lion	650	38	2	...	14	12	4	...	2	...	4
Assurance	600	38	2	...	10	12	10	...	...	...	4
Nonsuch	600	38	2	...	12	12	6	...	2	...	4
Bonaventure	674	34	...	...	4	14	10	2	...	...	4
Garland	680	32	...	...	4	12	10	2	...	...	4
Entrance	580	32	...	...	4	12	10	2	...	...	4
Convertine†	500	34	...	...	...	18	10	2	...	...	4
Dreadnought	450	32	...	...	...	16	10	2	...	...	4
Antelope	450	34	...	...	4	14	10	2	...	...	4
Adventure	350	26	...	...	...	12	6	4	...	...	4
Mary Rose	388	26	...	...	...	8	10	4	...	...	4
Phoenix	250	20**	...	...	...	...	12	4	2	...	4
Crane	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Answer	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moon	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Seven Stars	140	14	...	...	...	2	6	6	...	...	...
Charles	140	14‡	...	...	...	...	2	6	4	...	...
Desire	80	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...
Total	19400										

In all 33 Ships, &c.

* The Particulars of the Ordnance do not correspond with the total.

† Spelt *Conventine* in the *Archæologia*.

** According to the particulars of the Ordnance, she carried 22 guns.

‡ Only 12 specified in the particulars.

MEM^o.—For a description of several of the sorts of the Ordnance in the foregoing List, see Appendix, No. 27.

Charles Derrick: *Memoirs of the Rise and Progress of the Royal Navy*.
Blacks & Parry; Cadell & Davies; G. & W. Nicol; H. Teape, London, 1806. pp 54-56.

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Your House History

Maps

For properties built after the mid-19th century look at the large-scale Ordnance Survey maps. Four editions were published from the 1870s to the 1930s at a scale of 6 in. and 25 in. to the mile; the earliest edition was also produced at a scale of 120 in. to the mile covering the areas of large towns. Ask searchroom staff to show you the key sheet so that you can select the precise area you want to see. The maps will be produced for you by the staff.

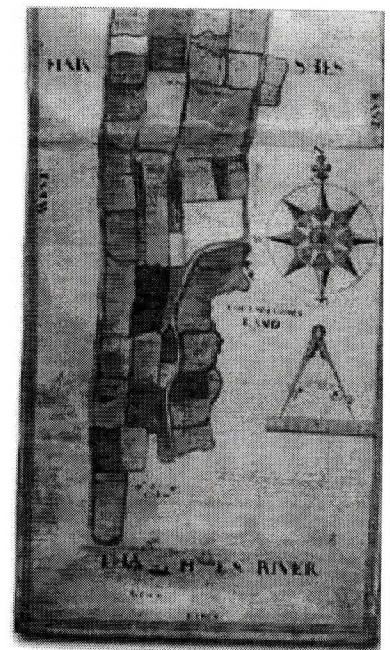


Even if your house dates from a much earlier period, you may learn something from these maps, which show an accurate outline of the property. For example, wings or outhouses may be shown which have since been demolished.

The next step is to search the tithe maps and tithe awards.

Tithe maps

Tithe means 'one-tenth' and from the Middle Ages tithes were paid by landowners to the rector or vicar of their parish church. At first these were payments in kind (farm produce) but in 1836 an Act of Parliament led to the surveying and mapping of all titheable lands and the conversion of all tithes to a rent. These tithe maps were often the first detailed plan to show all, or most of, a parish. The written document that accompanied the maps, the tithe awards, listed the owners and occupiers of every plot of land or dwelling shown on the map, giving a brief description of the property and the rent that was fixed by the Tithe Commissioners. Today, these are a prime source for historians, and for anyone studying house history they are a vital piece of evidence. If your house appears on the tithe map, the award will show you who owned it and who lived in it at the time of the award. These mostly date from 1837 to 1850. For the north west of Essex, if no tithe map exists, an enclosure map provides comparable information.



The Essex Record Office at Chelmsford has photograph copies of most of the tithe maps, which you can ask to see. They are stored in map drawers in the map research area of the searchroom. Many of the awards have been transcribed and arranged into plot number order for each parish, making it very easy to find the details of your property, once you have found it on the map. The tithe award transcripts are stored in green binders on the library shelves close to the map tables.

If the photograph copies of the maps are not clear enough, the staff can authorise you to order the original documents, using SEAX. The original awards may be ordered, too, if there is no transcript.

Earlier maps

Your next step could be to look at any earlier maps for the area where your house is situated, to see if it is shown. Bear in mind, though, that very few are complete surveys of an area; their purpose was not to record every building or dwelling and so the absence of your house from a map does not necessarily mean that it did not exist at the time the map was made.

A useful printed map to take you one stage back from the tithe map is Chapman and Andre's map of Essex of 1777. This covers the county on a scale of 2 in. to the mile, and it shows all the principal buildings in the county.

The Essex Record Office also holds a large number of manuscript maps. Many of them commissioned by private owners of estates in

the county. They date from the late 16th century to the 19th century. You can search for these through SEAX and either order the original map for study, or look at a photographic copy in the black 'Estate Map Binders' near the map tables. Not all maps have been photographed, but where there is a photographic copy you should look at this first, to save unnecessary wear and tear on the original.

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