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I acknowledge the invaluable work of those professional searchers who located documents at the more distant Offices, and thank those members of the Longland family and others who contacted me with information or useful comment.

Permission to reproduce the following documents is acknowledged:

The will of Bishop Longland (extract), (The Public Record Office).

The wills of William and Thomas Longland of Kinlet, (Herefordshire District Council Record Office).

The Buckden Manor Court document Ref. UMS/Buckd/91:(The Norris Library and Museum St. Ives)

All those documents shown as *C.R.O. Huntingdon*:(the County Record Office, Huntingdon)

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## Preface

A project which began as an ordinary attempt to construct the genealogy of a family encountered the usual problems. The surviving parish registers often contained gaps, there was movement of individuals from one parish to another and there were problems of identification. The original aim has been broadly achieved though some uncertainties remain. The search did however bring to light unexpected human stories, linked with events and movements which are part of everyone's heritage. A pattern developed, as this family of Longland revealed itself in different parts of England at different times.

In the reign of King Henry the Eighth the family, who had farmed at Kinlet, Shropshire, since the fourteenth century, were tenants in chief of Sir George Blount, Lord of the Manor of Kinlet. Two Longland sons were educated at Oxford, and the influence of a relative, King Henry's confessor Bishop John Longland of Lincoln, is clearly documented. By the mid seventeenth century no Longlands remained in Kinlet, but the family had established itself in Huntingdonshire where they had held land for more than a hundred years. During that time we move briefly to Henley, to Windsor Park, and to Tuscany, but the heart of the story remains in Huntingdonshire as the descendants of the extended Buckden family take root in other places in the County.

In this way the pattern emerges, at Kinlet, then at Buckden and St Neots, at Warboys and on to Ramsey. In each instance a beginning, a prosperous maturity and then a decline, as simultaneously the Longland pattern develops afresh elsewhere. This is not a 'one name study' for these 'Longlands' appear to have a common origin. However, the early Longlands of Somerset are included because they made their mark in turbulent times and bore this ancient name. Other, unrelated, Longlands are briefly mentioned as explained in the text.

### 'PATTERN' IN FAMILY HISTORY

It is hoped that the factual content of the Longland story, supported as it is by documents from many sources, will be of interest to a variety of readers. Though much genealogy is offered the lack of continuous 'proof' may disappoint anyone who expects certification for each and every 'event'. This kind of genealogy, for many families, is only possible during the modern period of Civil Registration and Census Returns. Unsurmountable difficulties are commonly encountered prior to, say, the year 1780.

This account is offered as an example of 'pattern' in family development, that is an imaginative attempt to assemble a great array of facts into a pattern.

The pattern is not imposed, for it arises naturally over a long period as the information is slowly absorbed. If we are able to present a convincing pattern of family migration and changes of fortune the breaks in the strict genealogy, though unfortunate, will not necessarily invalidate the overall picture. Of course this approach towards family history can only be adopted if there is evidence of land tenure, profession or trade.

Because of the random nature of the information the account can never be truly balanced, some individuals will stand out simply because more is known about them. Certain groups will remain for ever in the shadows.

The description 'imaginative attempt' implies not the invention of 'facts' (as may be done by the author of an historical romance) but rather a growing empathy with the individuals portrayed. We imagine the doubts and self-searching of Bishop Longland. Our minds picture him on his last day of duty, working to the end, prepared for that death which he tells us was his real subject of study as a youth.

We seem to be actually present as John, that Tudor Archdeacon, pushes his books to one side, unable to concentrate, full of grief (as he himself implied) because his daughter seems determined to marry someone of whom he cannot approve. We share, in our imagination, the difficulties and the rewards of the husbandman's widow in Paxton supervising her employees. Two hundred years later we watch as Enoch Green, his head bleeding, is carried into the house on the Bury Road at Ramsey to be given first aid by Mrs Ann Longland.

None of this can be manufactured if the account claims to be, in essence, factual. In this instance we have a great number of facts, in need only of someone to perceive the pattern; and so the story is presented.

#### DATES OF EVENTS, AND REFERENCES.

Dates of baptisms, marriages, and deaths (up to the year 1851) are given as entered in the church register; thus prior to the year 1752 each year begins on March 25<sup>th</sup>. From 1851 birth years are given, except in cases where only a baptismal date is available.

The genealogical 'trees' do not give all the known facts: for example where only one date appears below a name it is the birth or baptismal year, unless otherwise stated. They are not a complete data base, they are intended to assist the reader in following the text and, in this context, clarity of presentation took precedence.

The Bibliography lists books which have been consulted. The list of sources gives a general indication of the nature and whereabouts of the records which have been searched. The parish records, including many transcripts, will be found in the appropriate County Record Offices. Many of the wills were proved in the Peculiar Court of Buckden, others in the P.C.C. or in other appropriate Courts.

About one hundred wills for the period 1520 to about 1920 have been studied. More than half of these are Longland wills, the others are relevant in some way.

#### THE HERALDRY OF LONGLAND

Arms were born only by members of the senior branch, namely Bishop John Longland (of Henley) and Archdeacon John Longland (of Tingewick but born Kinlet) and his son Edward (of Tingewick and of Windsor). Edward's son Charles (of Leghorn) seems not to have done so. Luke (Lucas) Longland, the bishop's brother, appears to have born arms though no grant of arms has been found. We may suspect that an earlier Kinlet Longland may have been armigerous as may Thomas, the bishop's father. This is speculative.

The arms have in common a chevron gules between three pellets, the variants found in Burke's General Armoury being as follows:

1. Toymoke (sic) Co. Buckingham. Ar. on a chev. gu. betw. three pellets as many escallops of the first. Crest: on a mount vert a garb or. (the College of Arms attributes these arms to Edward Longland (who was of Tingewick).

2. Ar. a chev. gu. betw. three pellets, on a chief az. a cock betw. two crosses fitchee ar. Crest: an arm coupé or, pellettee, hand ppr. holding a crosslet fitchee gu.

3. Ar. on a chev. gu. betw. three pellets a cock of the first. Crest: on the stump of a tree eradicated and coupé or, a dove ar. (presumably the arms of John, the Archdeacon).

4. Longland, John, Bishop of Lincoln 1521-1547 (arms in the Hall of New College, Oxford. Visitation Oxon. 1566). Ar. on a chev. gu. betw. three pellets a cock of the field, on a fillet in chief vert a rose or, betw. two leopards' faces of the first.

note: Morant's additions and corrections to Burke, 1973, refer to pellets as 'ogresses' and allots these arms to Luke Longland.

THOMAS AND ELIZABETH OF HENLEY, THE BISHOPS PARENTS

No evidence of any grant of arms has come to light, but a Herald's book of arms dated 1590 (College of Herald's ref. E.18.58) includes a sketch of the Longland arms (detail as the bishop's) against which is written '*Elizabeth, late wife of Thomas Longland.*' The page is headed '*Bucks.Oxon. Berks.*' and appears to be a record of arms found in churches or houses. The index to the book refers to '*Langland*' though the herald's note reads '*Longland*'. These variants were in common use in the 16<sup>th</sup> C. In later records the family name is consistently given as '*Longland*', variants then usually denoting another (unrelated) family.

As far as is known the last member of the Kinlet-Windsor family of Longland to bear arms was Edward (will proved 1619). His son Charles, who died at Leghorn in 1688, was the last of the direct male line. He used a seal of a coat of arms. No record of a grant of arms has been found.