



PART I





Chapter One

SHROPSHIRE

c. 1400 - 1615

Roger de Longelande

Thomas Longlande and his descendants

The wills of 1547, the Bishop's bequests,
the move to Buckden, Hunts.

Margaret Longland
and the parsonage at Tingewick, Bucks.,
her daughter Cicely Williams

Tenants in Chief at Kinlet

'A fair feld, ful of folke ...alle manere of men, the mene and the ryche.'
(Piers Plowman)

William Langland, the 14th century poet, produced his work Piers Plowman in about the year 1360, some twenty years before Chaucer wrote his Canterbury Tales. There is no evidence to support dogmatic assertions regarding William's parentage or birthplace but on the basis of our evidence the memorial window in the church at Cleobury Mortimer may well be in the right place.

'The vision of William Langland concerning Piers Plowman' tells us nothing directly about the author or his family. Scholars have looked for clues, within the vivid and complex poetry, which might tell us something about his birthplace and ancestry. Their conclusions are as imaginative as the poetry itself.

The data which has provided the basis for this present book contains no reference to the author of Piers Plowman but it proves beyond doubt that one member of the Longelände family was at Kinlet, Shropshire, in the year 1399. This is within a year or two of the commonly accepted date of the poet's death, perhaps two generations earlier than the earliest evidence quoted in an article published by the Shropshire Archaeological Society in 1964.

In presenting the evidence at that time, John Corbett showed that Professor Skeat was in error when he stated that *'any trace of a Langland family in the Midland counties is so utterly absent that the name ought perhaps to be given up'*. The late professor was an authority on early English speech rather than an historian and his conclusion was probably based solely on published information. John Corbett referred back to primary sources, and so successfully resurrected the Langlands of Kinlet. The additional documents now reveal both the earlier origins of the family and its character in the subsequent Tudor period, for two sons went to Oxford University and were ordained priests in the sixteenth century.

According to the publisher of the 1550 edition of the poem (the first printed one) William Langland was *'a Shropshire man born at Claybire'*, the present Cleobury Mortimer. Kinlet lies about eight miles to the North East. A hand written note on an earlier manuscript states that Langland was the son of Eustace de Rockayle of Shipton under Wychwood in Oxfordshire. Should this be so, we are left with the interesting question: why did our medieval poet speak of 'William Langland' as the visionary ?

There is no question of including William Langland in a proposed line of descent, however tentative, of the Longlands of Kinlet, for in so doing we would join the ranks of all the other speculators. It is none the less a relevant addition

to the old controversy, to demonstrate that the Shropshire family of Longland is the only known Midlands family from which the poet could have come. Oxfordshire offers no Longlands until Tudor times, and they were related to those at Kinlet.

Kinlet is a hamlet, now much smaller than the village of earlier times, some 12 miles east north east of Ludlow and about eight south of Bridgenorth, in undulating wooded countryside. The modern large scale maps of the area give no indication of Longland family property (such as names of farms or fields). The present Kinlet Hall is the 18th century house of the Childe family and in Kinlet church only the 16th century monuments to the Blount family survive. Tudor documents refer to Longland property 'The Birch', and so it is tempting to imagine that the present Birch Farm, north east of Kinlet, stands where the Longlands once lived. We are free to imagine those yeoman of the 14th and 15th centuries riding through the woods and coppices but only the countryside remains, their houses and memorials stand no longer.

LAND IN CHIEF OF THE LORD OF HIGGELEY

Our first documented Longland of Kinlet, Roger de Longelande, appears in the Childe records at Shrewsbury as a witness to a deed dated 28th September 1399. The document, in Latin, is a feoffment between Hugh Davys, vicar of Higgley, and Roger son of John de ... (perhaps 'de Longelande', but the word is unreadable). The document concerns lands and tenements at a rent of £7-6s-8d to be paid by Roger to the Church. The name 'de Longelande', amongst the witnesses, is clearly readable.

Thus we know that the Longland family in Kinlet were tending cattle and tilling the earth in the year 1399 when Henry the Fourth became King on the death of Richard the Second. The struggle for power continued throughout the lifetime of Roger de Longelande, the conspiracies of various Earls being brought to an end with the battles at Cirencester and at Shrewsbury. Whether or not any of the Longland family were involved we cannot say. They were probably concerned with the saner and more profitable activities of agricultural life. At that time the total population of England is said to have been little more than two million as a result of the Black Death of 1349.

The few early deeds which have survived provide us with a sketchy history, which takes us into the mid sixteenth century, just enough to show that these Longlands were substantial landholders.

THE DEEDS OF 1437 AND 1524

Following on from our Roger de Longelonde of 1399, a deed in the year 1437 records that on the 10th September John Longlande gave and confirmed to Thomas Longlande, his son, '*a messuage and lands in the Birch in the manor of Higgeley, and also one acre of land with appurtenances in the manor of Kinlet*'.

Probably two generations later, on the 4th June 1524, another Thomas Longlond confirmed to his son, Thomas Longland, '*one messuage with appertenances lying in le Birche in the manor of Higguley, also one nook of land with appertenances lying in the vill and field de lee Birche in the manor of Kynlet and six acres of land lying in lee Birche... these to son Thomas and his heirs and in default of issue to William, son of Thomas (the father) and his heirs...witnesses Edward Pigot gent., William Longland my brother and others*'.

From a note on Kinlet history which appeared in 1908 (Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society) we learn that in 1536, when monastic property passed into the King's hands, Edward Pigot, gent. was granted the Manor of Moorhall, Kinlet. He appears to have been an acquaintance of Thomas Longland. The deed itself was the cause of a family argument fifty years later.

THE LAY SUBSIDY FOR SHROPSHIRE, 1524-7

Two Longland entries appear:

- 'Stottesdon hundred 1525*
- (694) Earnwood Thomas Longlond iii^{or} m(ar)c - xvid*
- (698) Kinlet & Cattersley William Longlond xl.s - xiid'*

LAND HOLDINGS IN OTHER COUNTIES

We know that a Thomas Longland from Kinlet (probably the one resident at Nortons) held land of the manor of Banbury, granted to him by Bishop Longland, for in the year 1557 this Thomas, who had leased the property, brought a legal action to recover his rights. It is evident that these yeomen were not totally dependent on their day to day farming activity and that they had income from property in places quite distant from Kinlet.

Evidence from manor court records suggests that Thomas owned Nortons, that is the older house, not the one shown in some sketches by a much later descendant of the Lacon Childe family. In the year 1604 Thomas Longland, at a Court Baron, '*claimed the messuage with appurtenances called Nortons als Harleye to have and to hold unto himself and his wife Katherine*'. Whether or not he was occupying the property, perhaps as a sub tenant prior to making his

claim, we do not know.

In the Parish of Chaddesley Corbett which is about 12 miles South East of Kinlet, on January 25th 1543, William Longland married Ellen Carter. Their son Richard was christened on July 27th 1547. As far as we know they played no part in the subsequent history of Chaddesley Corbett. However, it is possible that this William was from Kinlet, the brother of Thomas of Nortons.

Two wills, written in the year 1547, clearly link the family with their relative Bishop John Longland and provide the background for two migrations, one a limited and personal move to Tingewick, Buckinghamshire, the other a move of greater family consequence, to Huntingdonshire.

THE WILLS OF 1547, WILLIAM AND THOMAS

The will of William Longland of Kinlet (father of Thomas of Nortons), dated 24th August 1547, is not complicated. The first bequest is to his son John, the Archdeacon of Buckingham, whose story we leave for the present for it takes us into Elizabethan times, away from Kinlet. The will concentrates on the land, held of the Lord of Kinlet by William, so £3 6s 8d was to be paid to William Tyler, Steward to Sir George Blount, and a further sum to Thomas Beckwith, to transfer the land. His sons William and Thomas are named and daughter Elizabeth is given a mattress, a black heifer and a yearling heifer. Margaret Nashe is named, perhaps a daughter, and of course his wife, Elizabeth. It seems that some land was held directly of Sir George Blount.

One of the witnesses was '*Sir Alen, vicar of Kinlet*', the last Abbot of the monastery of Wigmore. The Blount family had supported his institution as vicar after the Dissolution. We find him in the Canterbury Register of Faculties in the year 1543 when, as Chaplain to Bishop Longland of Lincoln, he was permitted to hold two benefices. That he should have been chosen as chaplain does suggest that bishop John knew him, as vicar of Kinlet, probably in earlier years as Abbot. It suggests also that the monastery of Wigmore had been wisely governed, unlike some others which the bishop reported on in unfavourable terms.

It is the will of Thomas of Kinlet (son of Thomas of Hunt House) which links the family in Kinlet with Bishop Longland, and with a parson and a yeoman in Huntingdonshire, also sons of Thomas of Hunt House. From the will of the Bishop, three Longlands benefited at his death: Humfrey (the yeoman) and his brother Edward (the parson) of Upton, Huntingdonshire, and a 'Thomas Longland', not identified in the Bishop's will, though clearly the Thomas who claimed this bequest.

Thomas of Kinlet intended to set up house in Buckden, Hunts. He states in his will that the goods and money bequeathed to him by the Bishop *'have not as yet been received'*. He was formulating his will only months after the Bishop's death in 1547.

THE BEQUESTS OF 1547

The bequests of land in the will of Thomas read: *'to my brother Humfrey my taxings (tithings ?) in Bugden lying in Stirtloe, and for lack of him to William my brother and his heirs and assigns...item. I give to William my brotherall the ground that is howen (held?) by chief of the Lord of Higgely Kinlet and late monastery of Wigmore'*. His brother 'the parson' was given a feather bed, a pot and a broche, everything due from the Bishop was passed on to his mother Margerie and brother John.

The years 1547-1549 saw the death of Humfrey and Edward in Huntingdonshire. William (son of Thomas of Hunt House) and his son Thomas would then be occupying the Hunt House. John and Joyce (brother and sister of William) may have remained in Kinlet for a time but they now had some property at Stirtloe, Huntingdonshire. Thomas (of Nortons) and his wife Katherine remained in Kinlet with their son James and daughter Margaret.

THE HUNT HOUSE

In the year 1547, on the death of Thomas Longland of Kinlet, his brother William inherited *'all the ground that is held by chief of the Lord of Higgely, late monastery of Wigmore'*. William was now in possession of considerable property, for the Hunt House was his also, thanks to a deed of conveyance of the year 1524 signed by his father.

William had a son Thomas and in August 1561 the Hunt House property was occupied by him as a tenant at will, his father William still in possession. However this arrangement was surprisingly disturbed by Richard Longland of Cuddington, Bucks., who brought an action against them in 1577 claiming that the Hunt House was his.

The Chancery records present a picture of mutual accusation, Richard claiming a clear right of inheritance to the Hunt House and lands, whilst William and his son Thomas (at Kinlet) claimed to hold deeds by which the property passed to William. The only point agreed was that William's son Thomas had been a tenant of the property for some time. Richard said that he had initially received the rents and profits as his due; the story about a deed of entail, according to Richard, was something imagined, or at least *'never executed'*. However, the deed of the year 1524 records the grant, by Thomas Longland (of

Hunt House) to his son Thomas of Kinlet, '*a messuage with appertences*'. The deed does state that, should Thomas of Kinlet die without issue, the property is to pass to William. In effect, 52 years later, Richard is claiming to be the descendant of the earlier Thomas of Kinlet, that is cousin to the Thomas actually occupying Hunt House. No certain record of the birth of this Richard has been found, though a Richard Longland, son of William, was baptised at Chaddesley Corbett in 1545.

However the complaint had to be acted upon, so a beautifully written instruction in the name of the Queen (Elizabeth) instructed John Lee, George Piggot, and John Purselow, Esquires, to enquire into the case.

Though we cannot be sure, George Pigot Esq. was probably the son of the Edward who had witnessed the deed of 1524, for at the time Richard Longland made his claim a George Pigot held the manor of Moorhall, Kinlet. The surname 'Lee' was a local Kinlet name, a family later linked to the Longlands by marriage. In the Sixteenth century list of Sheriffs of Salop we find two Robert Pygots and a Thomas Lee, so it seems that all three commissioners were local men.

In investigating the claim there was some necessity to see the property in question and the three commissioners reported from Higgeley (Kinlet) on the 13th April 1577, having received the answer personally and in writing, of William and his son Thomas. Their reply begins '*The said defendants say and either of them sayeth that the said bill of complaint and the matter therein contained are altogether untrue devised and imagined*'. They were bound, none the less, to answer, and the long statement gives dates which are confirmed by the surviving deeds. Richard had no choice but give up any right to the Hunt House and the lands.

THE BARGAIN SALE OF 1581

The Thomas, son of William, who acquired Hunt House in the year 1577 did not hold on to it for many years; an indenture of 2nd April 1581 states that '*Thomas Longland, the younger, husbandman, bargains and sells to Humphrey Dallow of Kinlet, yeoman, and William Mason of the same, for a certain sum of money a messuage called the Hunt House with all edifices housings barns stables easements and gardens etc. and all the meadow called the Longlande now or late in the occupation of John Oslande...*'

The property appears to have been extensive judging by the further references to '*that leasow called wheat acre*' and '*the Redinge*' and '*Dallow Hill*' with other meadow land, arable land, woods, waters, commons and appurtenances '*lying and being in the Parish of Kinlet and Lordship of Higgely and county of Salop*'. There must have been a reason for this sale; perhaps this

Thomas was about to move to Buckden, for we are in the period of transition when, as far as we can tell, the only Longland family to remain in Kinlet was that of Thomas of Nortons.

JOHN LONGLAND AND THE ABBOT OF NOTTLEY
THE FAMILY AT NETHER WYCHENDON AND CUDDINGTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Just four years before the surrender of the Abbey to the King, the last Abbot signed an acquittance, dated 21st October 1534 '*to John Longland, Bailiff and collector, for one pound one shilling and fourpence, half years rents of tenements in Nether Wychendon belonging to the Abbot and Convent of Nottley*'. Only six weeks before the surrender the Cartulary of the Abbey recorded a lease '*Richard, Abbot of Nottley, to John Longland of Nether Wychendon, yeoman, a tenement in Friday Street London called "the abbot of Nottley his lodging" in which Richard Fytthette dwelt, from Michelmas next for 61 years*'. (dated 27th September 1538).

The Bishop's brother Lucas was either steward or accountant of Nottley Abbey, one of several from which he drew a regular income. Although we cannot be certain we may draw the conclusion that the appointment of John, as Bailiff, was one more example of Bishop John Longland's promotion of the family interest.

Winchendon (the present village) is little more than a mile away from Cuddington and the evidence suggests that the Cuddington family was simply the continuation of the earlier Wychendon family. The church registers which have survived date from 1566, so we have no record of John's family: only the burial of a John in the year 1562, probably the John in the Abbey records. There are two marriages, Richard Longland and Margery West, 1566, and Thomas Longland and Jone '*his wife*' in 1573 (whose burial took place only two years later). There are no baptisms, and no Longland entries occur later than the year 1575. Thus the genealogy cannot be constructed with any certainty.

RICHARD LONGLAND OF CUDDINGTON

The Chancery records of 1577 refer to Richard Longland of Higgely and Kinlet, yet the deed by which he granted the Hunt House to his cousin states that he is Richard '*of Cuddesdon, Bucks.*' We are reminded of the fragmentary nature of the documentation and just how grateful we should be for the few deeds and wills which support the broad outline of the events.

Though Richard's claim to property at Kinlet had been dismissed he was not in want; his estate at Cuddington is briefly described in his will, dated the

20th September 1608. His home, part of which his widow would continue to occupy, was *'the mansion house in Cuddington'*. He gave money to the poor, to the church, and to his godchildren.

He was particularly concerned to make provision for his wife, Elizabeth, ensuring that his son Richard would provide her with grain from the harvest and a stock of wood for fuel. She was to have the nether chamber at the mansion house for her private use, and free use of the kitchen, oven and kiln with free access *'by the usual ways'* and have half the fruit of every tree in the orchard each year. There seems to have been much woodland on the estate for his son Rowland was given the biggest log of oak in the yard and wood to make a table, as well as goods and money. William was given some elm fit to make a bedstead, and money and goods equal to his brother. Richard, as the eldest, was responsible for carrying out these detailed wishes, and most of the land was his, though should he die without issue Rowland would inherit it. Careful provision is made for any wife or daughter of any of the sons should there be no male heir to inherit. The presumption seems to be that one of the brothers would marry and have a son. There were two sons in law and one grandchild, Elizabeth Bull (His daughter Mary married John Bull at Cuddington on 7th November 1605), who received modest legacies.

Two other documents, bearing the signature of a Richard Longland (written *'Langlande'*) are known to have survived; they show him as a witness, in each case, to an agreement (a feoffment of land at Cuddington and Haddenham). Dating from 1578 and 1590 they tell us no more about the Longland family but we find, in 1578, the signature of John Stratton, perhaps the father of the children mentioned in the will of John Longland of Nether Wychendon, 1571.

The elder Richard Longland of Cuddington died in the year 1616, the burial entry in the church register reads *'January 26th Richard Longland, householder'*. The will of his son Richard, who died in 1625, expressed concern for his wife Elizabeth and his three daughters, none of whom had reached the age of eighteen, and for his young son Richard.

The elder Elizabeth, widow of Richard senior, died in 1631. Rowland and William were named in her will as were two granddaughters, Elizabeth and Mary Longland. There are many bequests to grandchildren, particularly of household goods and apparel, including her *'best waring petty coat'* (to Elizabeth Bryden) *'the coffer standing at her bedside'* (to Elizabeth Longland) and *'a double kircher with black silk'* (to Mary Longland). Her sister Mary Corby was given her best gown. She gave her old gown, three petty coats and her best hat to *'the widow Tattum'*.

William Longland appears in the Public Records (Ship Money, 1635)

when he objected to his assessment, and some years later, in 1647, Rowland was one of those Royalists who '*compounded for their estates*', paying a punitive fine, in his case £18. For lack of evidence we assume that the male line of Longland died out at Cuddington in the mid to late 1600s.

THE CUDDINGTON SURVEY 1627

One curious document which has survived, though it does not add much to our knowledge, gives some prominence to the house of Richard Longland. It is a local survey, a list of what appear to be house or gate frontages in Cuddington headed, '*A note of the Churchmounds of this parish of Cuddington proved by divers old men in the year 1627. Allowed of them by Robert More, John Very, William Widdington, William Longland, John Davie, Richard Burnard, Robert Widdington, Edward Burnard, William Rose, Richard Stratton, Charles Very*'.

The churchwardens were Francis Allmond and Richard Lamborn. The tabulation gives occupiers' names and what appear to be measurements of frontages, mostly distances of about 16 feet, but the Longland house precedes the tabulation:

'Imprimis the north gate and staircase of the house there belong unto Richard Longland's house 16 foot and half'.

In the year 1642, three members of the Longland family were taxed in the '*Contributions for Ireland*' list: Rowland junior; 2 shillings, Rowland senior; 1 shilling & 6 pence, and William; 2 shillings & 6 pence. The Curate was charged 5 shillings, many individuals paid less than a shilling, some widows only one penny. There are no memorials to this early family of Longland but an eighteenth century map of Wichendon shows a parcel of land called '*Langlands Close*', a name which may still be current.

TARPORLEY

There is an isolated reference to the Longlands of Kinlet in the register of Tarporley, Cheshire: '*10th January 1595/6 Susan Langland, daughter of Thomas and Ellen Langland of Kinley (sic) Shropshire, baptised*'. The evidence shows that the family was not restricted to Kinlet, that land was held in other places and that movement naturally led to marriages with families distant from Kinlet.

THE FAMILY AT NORTONS, KINLET

The will of Thomas Longland of Nortons was witnessed by Richard Lee, Thomas Palmer and George Lane on August 30th 1601. Surprisingly it is not signed, but bears the mark of Thomas Longland; this may have been due to his illness for he died shortly afterwards.

His daughter Joan received twenty pounds with some household furniture and goods, her sister Ellen Butcher just twenty shillings. Cicely, the daughter of Mr Erasmus Williams of Tingewick, was given a ring of gold of the price of five shillings. Cicely was his granddaughter, yet her mother Margaret is not mentioned.

Katheryne Palmer, daughter of Thomas Palmer and Isobel (Longland) whose marriage is recorded at Astley Abbots in the year 1589, was given a ewe and a lamb, as were other grandchildren and godchildren, some of whom received twelvecence. All the residue went to his wife Katherine as executrix, and his son James was overseer. There are no bequests to James but, presumably, he would have inherited the manorial land.

We cannot really picture what life was like for this last Longland family at Kinlet, but the manorial evidence for the occupation of Nortons, and a later reference to '*Mr James Longland*' suggests that they led a comfortable life by the standards of the time. Katherine died in the year 1614 and her will gives us more information about the daughters and grandchildren; of James we know little for he died before his mother (in the year 1610). So, it seems, James Longland was the last of the male line of the family at Kinlet. It is his sister Margaret who provides a little story which is centred, not in Shropshire, but for a short time in the village of Tingewick in Buckinghamshire, where in fact her uncle had lived for many years, as Rector and Archdeacon.

AMBROSE SMITH

Margaret Longland married a local parson, Ambrose Smith of Finmer, at Tingewick on the 26th of November 1588.

Ambrose had been instituted to the Rectory of Finmere, in the deanery of Bicester, eleven years previously. The same Deanery records show that he had died by the 20th July 1592, the date of the institution of his successor. From the Archdeacon's will we do know that he held Ambrose Smith in high regard referring to him as '*cousin Smith of Finmer*' and so he would approve of the marriage. He may well have influenced his brother at Kinlet in the matter. Margaret's new home was very close to that of her uncle, only two miles or so

from the rectory at Tingewick, though in Oxfordshire and in the deanery of Bicester.

Within a year of Margaret's marriage the Archdeacon had died and an Oxford scholar had become rector of Tingewick. An entry on the flyleaf of the register reads '*7 November 1589 Mr Longland buried, and Erasmus Williams in the Parsonage*'. Erasmus seems to have been ready to take over; he may have been at the parsonage for some time assisting John Longland in his latter years, for New College Oxford, where Erasmus had studied and lectured, would have presented him to the living.

Then, quite soon after the death of her first husband, on the 13th August 1592, Margaret Smith married the Reverend Erasmus Williams, Rector of Tingewick. So Margaret, as the Rector's wife, came to the parsonage of Tingewick, a more imposing home in all probability than the one at Finmer. Erasmus, too, was no ordinary parson, the son of John Williams of Dorset, he was admitted as a scholar of Winchester in the year 1566 (he was then about thirteen) entering the University four years later. Graduating M.A. he was a Fellow of New College from 1572 until 1591. At the time of his marriage to Margaret he would be about 40 years old. The Winchester College admissions list gives his birthplace as Downton (presumably in Hampshire) and the final inscription on his brass at Tingewick states that his mother was of a Hampshire family.

Margaret's life in Kinlet, as far as we may guess, had been that of a yeoman's daughter, bound by the rhythm of farming life. Yet her uncle the Archdeacon had been an academic, and both he and her cousin Edward, at Windsor, were granted the arms of Longland. When we look at her husband's brass in the chancel we may wonder to what extent she was able to share his zest for science, the arts and the classics.

THE BRASS AT TINGEWICK

*'This dooth Erasmus Williams represent,
Whome living all did love, deade all lament.
His humane Artes behind his back attende,
Whereon spare howers he wisely chose to spend.
And from Corinthiane Colurnne deck' t with Artes,
Now to the Temples Pillar him converts.
Under the Rainebowes arche of Promise, where
Of hoped blisse noe deluge he neede feare.
He of this Church did a firme pillar live,
T' whome deade his Wive's love dooth these Pillars give.
Contrived by his Schollar and his frende...,
Whoe wisht their loves and lives had made one ende.
Erasmus, Mores encomien sett forth;
Wee want a More to praise Erasmus worth.'*

This is an idealised picture. We see Erasmus turning away from all his cultural pursuits *'in plain evidence of the spirit, not in the enticing speech of man's wisdom'*. The play on the name *'Erasmus'* and the suggestion that only Thomas More could have done justice to Erasmus Williams is fascinating. We are reminded that, ninety years earlier, it was Thomas More who had praised John Longland, the future bishop.

The *'scholar and friend'* who composed these verses was Richard Haydock, a doctor of medicine. Haydock himself was an eccentric, recorded in some detail in the Dictionary of National Biography.

None the less, having allowed for the fashion of the time, the superlatives and the emotion which so often do not ring true, we are left with something real. It is difficult not to believe that Margaret loved her husband, and to some extent shared his enthusiasms and his faith.

THE PARSONAGE

A terrier for the year 1607 describes the old parsonage, a stone building of fifteen bays, ten tiled and five thatched, approached via an arched gateway. The house had been built by William of Wykeham as a retreat for Oxford scholars in times of pestilence. Margaret had two gardens and an orchard to which she could retreat with her daughter Cicely whilst her husband studied his books, devoting his spare time to the arts or the science of the day.

There were also two meadows; life at Tingewick must have been very

pleasant. No doubt Erasmus was a conscientious minister; we do not know to what extent Margaret may have been expected to visit the sick, exposed to all the contagious diseases of the early seventeenth century.

Erasmus died on March the 30th. in the year 1608, he was 56 years old, he and Margaret had shared sixteen years together at the rectory. We have no record of the birth of their daughter Cicely, she was probably about 15 when her father died. Erasmus made it very clear that he did not expect her to marry before the age of 18, but even if that were to happen she would still inherit her hundred pounds when of age.

The books which he gave to New College Oxford, '*Saint Mary's College of Divinity*', are works by Aquinas and Copernicus, evidence of his wide ranging thought which embraced Catholic theology and the science of his day.

In the preamble to his will he reminds us that he was a Master of Arts. We know that he remained an Oxford scholar, still attending election meetings periodically when summoned. The brass is not simply a monument to his memory for it witnesses to that '*golden age*' of Anglicanism, the world of John Donne and that generation which followed him.

The will did not ignore practical matters for Erasmus was careful to provide for his daughter Cicely's upbringing. A hundred pounds was set aside '*until the day of her marriage*'. Margaret was instructed to have custody of her in her own home and '*bestow upon the said Cicely at her own charges sufficient meat, drink, apparel and all other necessaries*'. She had to decide how much money to give each servant, in memory of her husband, over and above that normally due to them.

The residue of the estate was given to Margaret, his '*well beloved wife*', and his '*well loved brother Mr James Longland*' was to assist her in her task as executrix. A new family would then have taken over the parsonage, so Cicely and her mother probably moved to Kinlet, to live at Nortons.

CICELY WILLIAMS, AND THE SACHAVERELL FAMILY

Thanks to a Herald's pedigree in the Visitation of the County of Oxford in the year 1634 we know that Cicely married into the family of Sachaverell whose origins lie in the Midland counties of Nottingham and Derby. Her husband, Ambrose, was a scholar of New College, Oxford, her father's old College to which he had been so attached.

By the year 1596 Ambrose Sachaverrel was a Bachelor of Civil Laws. Cicely's father may well have been the young man's tutor, and it is likely that the young couple first met at the time of her father's death, for in 1608 Ambrose

became Rector of Radcliffe, a parish close to Tingewick.

No doubt Cicely had profited from her father's learning and example and must have been an accomplished and able match for this learned cleric who was also a Canon of Winchester. On her marriage she would simply have exchanged one parsonage for another as Ambrose took up his new appointment as Rector of Tadmarton near Banbury in the year 1615. Their house was large, if not quite so imposing as the rectory at Tingewick; in 1665 it was assessed on eight hearths in the taxation. Though rebuilt nearly two hundred years later much of the old house, the home of Cicely and Ambrose, survives still.

The manor house at Wroxton, North West of Banbury, was also Sacheverell property and Thomas, their son who died in 1675, has a memorial in the church there.

Tadmarton, like Tingewick, was New College '*territory*' and, at least for some years, life would not change very much for Cicely. Their eldest son, Erasmus, born in the year 1620 was a scholar at Winchester in 1634 and a BA of New College in 1641. Erasmus had two elder sisters, Dorothy and Margaret, and there were also the younger surviving children, Thomas, James and Sarah.

THE CIVIL WAR

This contented family life was overshadowed by great events; King Charles had challenged the authority of Parliament and the year 1642 saw the beginning of Civil War. Cicely's husband, Ambrose, was a declared Royalist who was subsequently penalised by the Protectorate.

The young Erasmus was one of twelve pupils, scholars and gentlemen, to accompany William Beaw, a Fellow of New College, into the King's service. Beaw, in a short history of his life written in the year 1702, describes Erasmus Sacheverell as '*Fellow of that College, his pupil and afterwards Major of Dragoons*'.

It may be that Erasmus fought at the battle of Edgehill (only six miles or so NNW of Tadmarten) on the 31st October 1642. In April 1646 he changed sides, enlisting in Captain Pile's troop of horse under Major General Richard Brown. In spite of his new loyalty to the Parliamentarians he had to humbly request, in December 1646, that his inherited estate be '*compounded*', that is assessed for the punitive tax. In April 1647 his brother Thomas, not then quite 18 years old, also compounded presumably following the death of Erasmus.

The records tell us nothing more, their mother may not have lived to experience the stressful years of the Civil War and its immediate aftermath.

Did she treasure the gold ring given to her by her grandfather, Thomas

— | ⊕ | —
Longland of Kinlet ? A reminder of those rural ways, so different from her father's pursuits, and a world away from life in a seventeenth century rectory.

REMAINING LONGLANDS IN SHROPSHIRE ?

It is important to realise that any history of this kind is provisional. The surviving documents are few and it is likely that there were other members of the family who are not mentioned in the wills or deeds.

However, a search of the published transcripts of some 60 Shropshire parishes from the earliest registers down to about 1660 revealed no families of Longland. The early Kinlet registers have not survived, and no Longlands appear in the later records, that is from about the year 1657, though certain tithed land continued to be known as '*Langlands Living*'.

The family name, as a place name, has persisted giving us '*Longlands*' in the village of Greete, and '*Longland's Lane*' at Market Drayton, Donington and Albrighton.

Longland:
The family pattern
16th to 20th C.

Family at Henley.
Bishop Longland (celibate) and
brother Lucas prob. unmarried.
no male heirs.

Family at Kinlet
Salop
from 14th C,

Descendants of William
Longland
who died 1547

Descendants of Thomas
Longland
who died 1547

John, the Archdeacon, died 1589
his son Edward, died 1619
Charles, son of Edward, died 1688 at Leghorn.
no male heirs.

Family of Longland
at Nortons Kinlet
James died c, 1610
no male heir.

Edward and Humfrey of
Upton, Hunts. died c.1548
Heir: brother, John

Presumably, John or his heirs moved to Buckden, Hunts. (evidence from wills, tithe records, and Parish Reg.)

**Kinlet, Henley, Tingewick
(Bucks) and Buckden
(Hunts)**

Roger de Longlande
of Kinlet
deed 1399

based primarily on
references in wills and
deeds.

John Longlande, of Kinlet

Thomas Longland
of Henley, father of bishop John. The
precise relationship to the Kinlet
family remains uncertain.

William Longland
of Kinlet

William, of Kinlet

Thomas, of Kinlet
deed, Hunt House 1524

John, Archdeacon
of Buckingham
1516-1589

The family at
Nortons, Kinlet
c.1515-1610

Thomas and William (wills 1547)
Edward and Humfrey, Joyce and John,
the move to Buckden.

**Thomas Longland
of Henley,
Lucas, Bishop
John, Eleanor and
the Pate family**

Thomas Longland
of Henley
Servant to Lord Morley

Isabel (Elizabeth)
died 1527
(will)

refer to Chapters One and
Five

Lucas
the lawyer
died c. 1530

John
the bishop
1473-1547
(will)

Eleanor

John Pate
died 1520
(will)

Thomas Pate

Richard Pate
Archdeacon of Lincoln,
Bishop of Worcester,
died 1565 at Rome

John Pate
in the service of
Cromwell

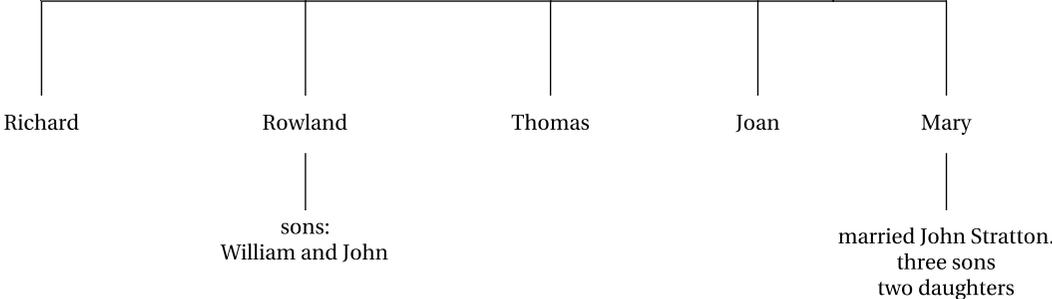
Elizabeth

Eleanor
(married
John Denton
Esq.)

**John
of Nottley Abbey
and
Wychendon
c. 1530-1600**

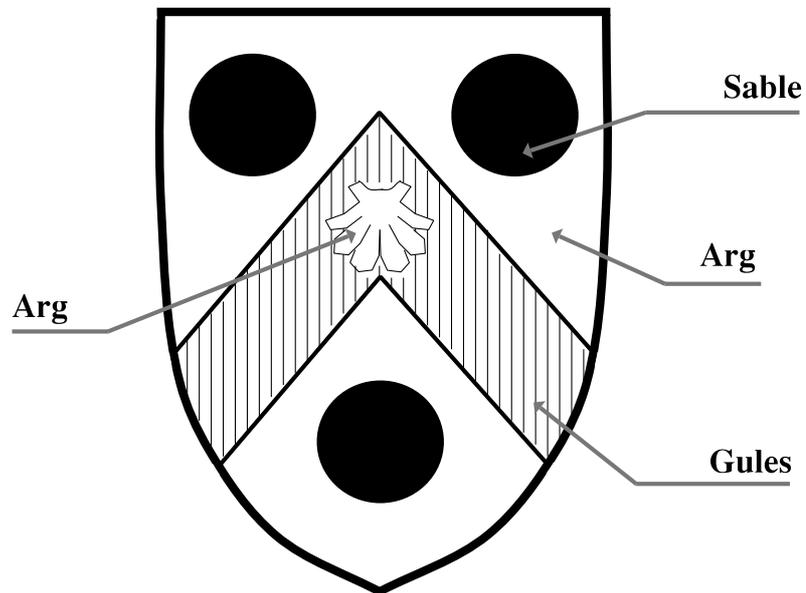
John Longland, bailiff of Nottley, 1534

John Longland, will 1571 = Alice, will 1575



refer to Chaper One

THE ARMS OF LONGLAND,
GRANTED TO JOHN LONGLAND OF TINGEWICK, BUCKS.
AND TO HIS SON EDWARD OF TINGEWICK, AND OF WINDSOR



The arms shown are those granted to Edward. The earlier arms borne by his father (the Archdeacon of Buckingham) were probably a variant described, in Burkes General Armoury, as '*Ar on a chev gu betw three pellets a cock of the first.*'











Chapter Two

TINGEWICK, BUCKS.,
AND THE PARK AT WINDSOR

c. 1540 - 1630

John the Archdeacon,
his son Edward of Windsor
and problems of inheritance



John Longland, Archdeacon of Buckingham

'and further upon condition she take not to husband one Paule Robbyns whom I have forbidden her to marry, and which hath been a great grief to me ...'
(the will of John the Archdeacon, 1588)

John Longland was of the same generation as the Bishop's nephew, Richard Pate, Archdeacon of Lincoln. He was the son of William Longland of Kinlet, Bishop Longland's cousin, and became Archdeacon of Buckingham and Parson of Tingewick quite early in his career.

The Oxford University records show that, by the year 1541, John Longland of Kinlet was a fellow of Brazenose College, a BA and a Canon of Lincoln. Three years later, as a young man of 28, he was appointed Archdeacon of Buckingham. He became Rector of Stanton St John, Oxford in the year 1543 and chaplain to Bishop John Longland in 1544. Eight years after the Bishop's death he was deprived of all his public Offices for reason of clerical marriage, for the year 1555 saw a restoration of Catholic discipline under Queen Mary.

He spent the years of enforced retirement as chaplain to the Duchess of Somerset. She had spent some time in the Tower of London, following the execution of her husband, but was released by the Catholic Queen Mary who also granted her lands. Whether or not John Longland acted as her Chaplain during her imprisonment is not known. Certainly he came into contact with those of high position, some of them politically dangerous, for the Duchess, following her release, had custody of Lady Catherine Gray who was next in line to the throne after Elizabeth. Queen Mary's generosity towards the Protestant family of the Duchess of Somerset goes some way to correct the popular condemnation of this Catholic queen.

Certainly John Longland had the highest of Protestant credentials when, in 1559, Queen Elizabeth restored him to his Lincolnshire prebend and made him Rector of Great Linford. From the year 1576 until his death in 1589 he was Rector of Tingewick, restored too as Archdeacon of Buckingham.

His omission from the will of Bishop Longland invites speculation: could it be that the Bishop was indicating his displeasure? Until at least the year 1544 the Archdeacon was close to the Bishop, officiating as his Chaplain. We have noted that he took advantage of the new rules of the year 1549 allowing clerical marriage, but that was two years after the death of Bishop Longland. Perhaps he had expressed his views about these trends during the Bishop's lifetime.

Certainly the Archdeacon was favoured by Queen Elizabeth, unlike the other Archdeacon, the Bishop's nephew John Pate, who spent some time a prisoner in the Tower. It is interesting to see the complexities of those times

through the eyes of three members of the family. John of Tingewick the Reformed Anglican, John Pate of Lincoln the convinced Catholic, and Bishop John who, whilst supporting limited reform, remained essentially 'Catholic' to the end, in spite of his attitude towards the Papal authority.

CONCERN FOR THE FAMILY

According to the Archdeacon's will his wife Elizabeth was buried in the chancel of the church at Tingewick. Edward received special mention, for his father expressed great concern for the future of daughter Elizabeth hoping that Edward '*will not only be a brother but also a father confessor unto my said daughter between whom my desire and will is there to be a perpetual love and amitie*'.

THE ARCHDEACONRY

John Longland, as Archdeacon, had much to think about for the Archdeaconry embraced 28 parishes and 7 hamlets and a population of 1,074 families (1562 census). There were, in 1585, a hundred and fifteen clergy and two Readers (probably schoolmasters licensed to read Morning and Evening Prayer). Four clergy to each parish seems more than enough, but no doubt the very number of clergy available produced its own problems. In the year 1585 he had income from Tingewick (Tynswicke in the '*Liber Cleri*' at Lincoln), Great Linford, and the Lincolnshire Prebend. His Curate at Linford was Sir Thomas Wood. The Archdeacon had assented to the 'Three Articles' in the year 1584 (acknowledging Elizabeth as Supreme Governor of the Church in England, accepting the Prayer Book and assenting to the articles of 1562). It had been, after all, her Accession which had brought him back into favour. He would have been bound to attend Chapter meetings at Lincoln and carry out the visitations, possibly one every two weeks unless he was able to delegate them.

Scattered references to these many duties may be found in the Cathedral Chapter records and, as the Calendar of State Papers for the year 1548 tells us, he was taxed on his income (providing one light horse for the country's defence). High status, and presumably high income, did not go unnoticed in the sixteenth century.

THE WILL OF JOHN LONGLAND, ARCHDEACON OF BUCKINGHAM

In his will he gave ten shillings to the Mother Church of Lincoln, and the same sum to the poor of Tingewick. To the poor of Linford he gave six shillings and to his brother Thomas (of Nortons, Kinlet) '*an almayne rivets*', the latest

lightweight armour then being produced by the Royal Armoury at Greenwich and at Southwark, together with a bow and a sheaf of arrows.

An undecorated suit of almain armour would have cost about ten pounds, the equivalent of a much larger sum today.

His 'cousin' Smith, Parson of Fynmere (who was to become his niece's first husband) was to have '*some of my divinity books by the discretion of mine executor*'. He asked to be buried by his late wife in the chancel at Tingewick.

Elizabeth remained his chief concern: '*I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Longland forty shillings, and further upon condition she take not to husband one Paul Robbyns whom I have forbidden her to marry, and which hath been a great grief to me, I give unto her forty pounds to be paid within two years next after my decease*'. His 'well beloved son' Edward inherited all the rest of the estate, which must have been considerable. He married Cicely, Edolph, of County Kent, whose family had been granted arms early in the reign of Elizabeth. Edward himself bore the arms of Longland.

EDWARD LONGLAND AT WINDSOR PARK

Edward Longland moved to Old Windsor: his will which was proved in the year 1619 mentions 'the house in the Park' and 'Sir Charles Howard'. Norden's survey of Windsor Forest names Mr Langland as one of the Royal Keepers (the map indicates Langland's Lodge). Tighe's *Annals of Windsor* (1858) mentions this '*A walk of which in Norden's time Mr Langlande was the keeper adjoined Norris Walk. The lodge of this walk stood nearly in the line of the present Long Walk. Traces of it near the Spa Well are discernable*'.

Langlande's Walk was five and a quarter miles, according to Norden; part of this walk was called the Lawn. Many documents of the sixteenth century (and a few later ones) interchange the name Longland and Langland indiscriminately, consequently where the circumstantial evidence is strong there is no reason not to accept the variant. From this it seems reasonably certain that Edward moved to take up the post there some time before the year 1607, as the relevant Certificates of Residence show him as having paid tax at Tingewick in 1601 but being taxed on his Old Windsor residence in 1607 and 1609.

When we consider Edward Longland's status, for a 'keeper' of a Royal Park would be in today's terms a senior Civil Servant, it is particularly disappointing to know so little about him. Not a single reference has been found in the many Official Papers widely available. His friend Robert Barker appears in more than one volume but, as we shall see, not always in a very good light. We must be content with the known facts, just sufficient to maintain the continuity of the account of the family of Tingewick and Windsor.

THE LAST WILL OF EDWARD 1619

Edward still had the Tingewick house at the time he made his will for he wished his 'brother Clark' to dwell there as tenant. The fish in the pond were to be sold. He gave Sir Charles Howard his three year old '*freezeland*' (?) horse, and '*Cozen Barker*' any colt he should like. We will see later that, according to Edward's son Charles Longland, Cozen Barker did not deal fairly with the estate placed in his trust. Unfortunately the wording of the will gave Robert Barker, Armigero, full rights over the land and leases until Charles became of age.

There was some ready cash at the house in the Park: sixteen or seventeen pounds, and his cloak was in the keeping of the maid at the White Hart in Tuttel Street. A pair of boots '*paid for*' were awaiting collection at the shoemakers' in King's Street. Several sums owing to Edward are mentioned: from Cross and Milford of Tingewick £23, from John Sanders the Carpenter £3 and more unknown, from Barton the mason forty shillings, from Mr Hobson by bill £10, from Sir Charles Howard £14. Some money was owing for the carrying of brick, a matter to be arranged between '*his man Christopher and Hawkings*.' Edward himself owed £31 due at Lady day to '*one Web*'.

The Probate names, as a minor, Charles Longland, and his sisters Cicilie, Anne Longland, and Helen Harris alias Longland. The entry in the register at Datchet shows the marriage of John Harris to Helen Longland in the year 1618. From the Tingewick parish register we know that, at the time of their father's death, Cicilie would be about 21, Anne 25, and Helen 24. Their sister Elizabeth, possibly the Elizabeth who married Frances Pullen at Quainton in 1617, is not mentioned in the will.

OLD WINDSOR

Charles, the youngest of the family, was probably baptised at Old Windsor, shown in Norden's plan as a small town of a couple of hundred buildings, each neatly drawn with their gardens. The Little Park beyond the castle is depicted with its deer, one chased by a dog. The Lodge, we know from the text of the Survey, was occupied by Mr Charles Lister. Langland's Lodge was about two miles to the South. Sir Charles Howard is shown on the Forest plan as Keeper of Sandhurst walk.

It must have been a pleasant home for Edward's son, Charles, who later in his life betrays some knowledge of horses, gained perhaps from his young Windsor days. What could have been an easy start in life for a gentleman's son was brought to a dramatic close by his father's death, for as a result the young Charles was thrust into the commercial world.

ROBERT BARKER

Robert Barker Esquire, printer to King James, was granted the administration of Edward's estate on the 16th February 1619/20. During Charles' absence in Turkey, he was getting himself into trouble for, in 1623-5, a bill was issued against him (and others) '*relative to old Windsor closes and other lands held by them but claimed for the Crown as belonging to Windsor Forest*'. In 1630 Robert Barker claimed all publishing rights regarding Bibles and Church books and secured a warrant to seize the illegal imports.

He himself was then the target of legal action by the importer whose books were seized at Bristol.

In the year 1634 Charles Longland was described, in a law suit, as a 'Merchant of London' when he claimed that Robert Barker owed him £1,000 from his father's Estate, which had originally been valued at two thousand pounds. He had brought the case before the Court two years earlier, the preamble referring to Charles Longland as '*a poor orphan coming lately to full age and from beyond the seas*'. He accused Barker of having broken his trust '*(he) left your orator and all his sisters comfortless without maintenance or education*' and asserted that, though some smaller sums of money had been received by him, he was still owed £800.

Robert Barker described himself as '*a mere friend and acquaintance of Edward Longland*'. Charles was first apprenticed to Mr Harris, a merchant of London, who sent him to Turkey where he spent several years gaining experience of overseas trade. On his return to England in July 1631 he persuaded Robert Barker to enter into an agreement to pay the money owing out of his income as Printer to the King. The charge was that Barker had spent the money obtained from the Estate on his own children and was then insolvent.

The charge was denied, Barker asserting that he had accepted responsibility for only a part of Edward's Estate and had, as a kind personal act, done his best for Charles and his six sisters, educating them, bringing them up and placing Charles with a merchant of good worth and reputation. He claimed to have arranged marriages for some of the girls at his own expense, believing that he had spent on the children more than their father's estate was worth, though he had gained £600 from the sale of a lease of Edward's, held of an Oxford College. He insisted that his receipts from the Office of Printer to the King were uncertain, though Charles alleged that Barker's profits of £200 each year had been paid directly to the son Christopher Barker, and others.

Barker's long and complicated defence contains the interesting statement '*this defendant did intend the payment of the residue ... out of the profits of the office of King's printer annually ... but hath failed thereof for some years by*

reason of other charges, debts and engagements and encumbrances fallen on the said office contrary to this defendant's expectation ...'

ROBERT BARKER'S DIFFICULTIES

It may be no coincidence that, in 1631, the King's printers at Blackfriars, Barker and Lucas, produced what came to be known as the '*Wicked Bible*' so called because the word 'not' was omitted from the seventh commandment. Barker and Lucas were fined £300 which some sources say helped to ruin the printer. That same year Robert Barker sold his estate of Southlea in the manor of Datchet which his father, printer to the Queen, had acquired in the year 1583. Robert had mortgaged the property in 1620, when he became responsible for the Longland estate.

It was admitted that Christopher's wife and children were receiving quite large sums, but any intention to defraud was denied. Though not mentioned in the legal proceedings, a younger brother of Christopher Barker must also have needed financial support. The register of Eton College lists among its pupils Charles Barker, the third son of Robert Barker of Southlea in Datchet. He was at the College from 1617 to 1622, subsequently matriculating at Cambridge but leaving without a degree. The Barker family is of considerable interest in its own right, but we know of no later connection with the family of Longland.

CHARLES, THE SON OF EDWARD LONGLAND

At this point our attention is focussed on the career of Edward's only son, Charles, the last surviving member of the senior branch of the Longlands of Kinlet. As we move into the mid seventeenth century we are also in the period of Longland consolidation in Huntingdonshire. Charles himself may have hardly been aware of those distant relatives, for even his grandfather may not have known much about his cousins.

It is Charles who brings to an end an important part of the story of the Longlands of Kinlet. He is mentioned in many official documents and in one or two specialist histories; consequently a great deal of our knowledge is of an impersonal nature. Even so, as we read these official accounts it is not difficult to imagine this 'gentleman merchant' comfortably off, due primarily to his own efforts, and ever eager to do his duty as he saw it.

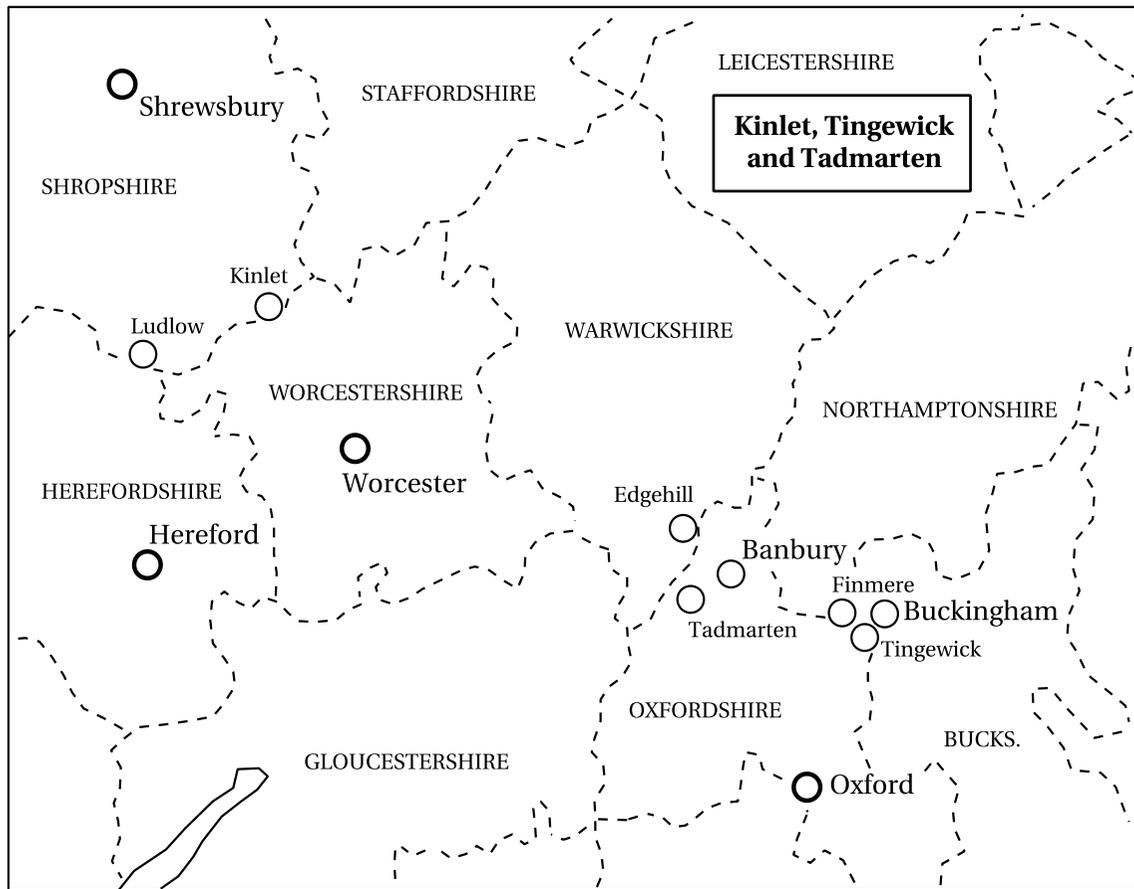
His life was not an easy one, and though a great deal of money passed through his hands it seems unlikely that he was personally extravagant. He reflects the political and religious opinions of an educated Englishman of his time. There seems also something of that high moral tone of which his

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grandfather, the Archdeacon, would have approved.

So he takes his place, in some ways not so distant from those Longland yeomen whose estates were not a tenth of his.





**John Longland,
Archdeacon of
Buckingham,
Edward and
Charles
c.1544-1688**

John Longland
the Archdeacon
1516-1589

Elizabeth

refer to chapters
Two and Three

Edward Longland
of Tingewick and Old
Windsor

Cicely Edolphe
of Co. Kent

Elizabeth
1592 married
1617 Francis
Pullen at
Quainton,
Bucks

Mary
1593

Anna
1594

Elenora
1596

Dorothe
1597

Cecyle
1598

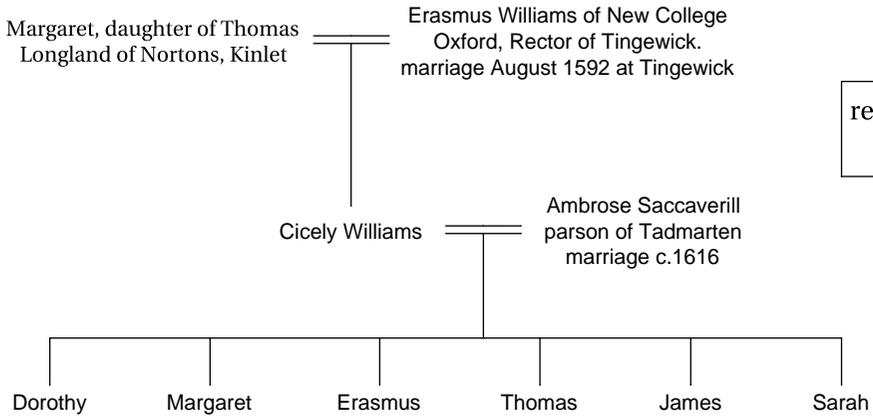
Charles

John, the Archdeacon,
was the son of William
Longland of Kinlet

Kinlet and Tingewick
Longland, Williams
and Saccaverill

Margaret first married Ambrose Smith, parson of Fynmer, he died in 1592

39



refer to Chapter Two



Chapter Three

LEGHORN, TUSCANY

c. 1650 - 1688

Charles Longland, merchant and diplomat,
his will, his sisters and their families

An Estate taken ... and Emeralds from East India

'I give to each of them peeces of eight one thousand ...'
(from the will of Charles Longland of Leghorn)

Early in the year 1677 Charles Longland completed his long and remarkable testament, having much to decide for he had a responsibility towards the families of his nephews and nieces who would expect to share his not inconsiderable estate.

His thoughts were not confined to his family, for he pondered on the fate of those unfortunate seamen, prisoners of the Moors on the Barbary coast, and that of the poor widows in the town of Leghorn, (that is Livorno) his home of many years. But England was not forgotten, for the village of Tingewick in Buckinghamshire had been the home of his father and grandfather, there were deserving poor in England too.

Our picture of Charles and his family is incomplete, depending as it does on references to *'Mr Richard Harris with whom I was prentis'*, to *'my Cozen Mrs Anne Edolfe'*, to *'the five husbands of my nieces'* and so on. The early death of his father left him dependant on the counsel of Robert Barker, who had at least arranged a wise apprenticeship for him. Charles was a merchant of some repute, well acquainted with the Mediterranean world and with Eastern trade in general. Judging by the inventory of his goods, he seems to have had some knowledge of jewels and plate. But first we look back some twenty five years, piecing together extracts from the government records to picture, in this limited way, the life of Charles Longland.

His official position in Livorno was that of Agent for the Admiralty but he was regarded as a source of political intelligence. Because of his personal influence with the Grand Duke it was he who conveyed messages from Cromwell. Charles could become involved in operational decisions. One example of this is found in the correspondence with the Admiralty in October 1652 concerned the recapture of an English vessel which was in Dutch hands.

The ship was at Leghorn, about to sail for Holland having been captured in battle. Admiral Badely and Captain Appleton agreed with Charles that it was worthwhile to attempt to re-take the vessel, quietly at night without the use of firearms. The sailors were successful, the Dutch commander Cornelis Trompe fired one shot and then jumped overboard into a small boat and made his escape.

It seems that for once Charles had misjudged the local mood for the Duke expressed his disapproval of this action. Leghorn was an international port encouraging free trade, not a theatre for military operations. The peaceful victualling of naval vessels was a different matter, and generally speaking

Charles could reckon on the Duke's support.

Published histories of the Navy of Cromwell's day which quote Admiralty correspondence show that Charles Longland did not hesitate to express his opinions regarding matters of policy. He once asked for a permanent Naval presence in the Mediterranean, pressing the Government to swap Dunkirk for Oran when peace came to be made with the French and urged the authorities to foment a rising in Naples. His energy and capacity for work seem to have been unbounded

CHARLES: A DIPLOMAT ?

A Camden Society publication 'Swedish Diplomats at Cromwell's Court' perhaps exaggerates Charles Longland's position, describing him as a diplomat and listing him in the index as Sir Charles Longland. In the book's introduction we read '*Until Lockhart was sent to France in May 1656 England had no permanent representative abroad, apart from Charles Longland at Leghorne and Sir Thomas Bendyshe at Constantinople.*'

He was, more than anything, a merchant but he was also deputy Consul and was at one time Consul. He had the ear of the Duke of Tuscany and acted on orders from London, though he was never rewarded for his pains. However, in the Calendar of State Papers (Venetian), we find an interesting reference to Charles dated January 9 1655. In a letter to the Doge and Senate, the Venetian resident at Florence reported the arrival of General Blake, adding that '*When the English Consul Longland went to meet him at the port, Blake handed him two letters, one for the Grand Duke and the other for the governor of the fortress.*' Blake had arrived with twenty ships of war, and the letters were from Cromwell.

An earlier letter from this same informant, Giovanni Ambrosio Sarotti, states '*As soon as I am able to move I will go to Leghorn and speak with the English Consul, Longland*' (this was in February 1654). In January of the previous year he had been instructed to '*convince the English Gentleman Longland that it is not the right thing to take away the English ships from the Republic*' and Sarotti was to inform the Grand Duke of Tuscany so that he would put pressure on the English.

MERCHANT SHIPS ARMED FOR WAR

These merchant ships were in the Service of the Republic of Venice, and trade had been seriously interrupted as a result of Charles Longland's action. Charles claimed that he was bound '*by the strictest instructions from London*' which charged him to order all English ships present in the Mediterranean to put

aside every other employment and arm for war to offer resistance to the Dutch.

The attitude of the crews of the English ships made life difficult for Charles, the captains of three ships at anchor at Leghorn at first simply ignoring the orders sent out from London. Charles, to no avail, read aloud the 'invitation' to the crews. A lawyer then fixed the orders to the mainmasts, but not until the sailors' rate of pay had been fixed did the commanders agree to enter military service. Charles reported these details to the Council of State in November 1652.

The currant trade with Zante (the Ionian Isle of Zakinthos, Greece) was especially suffering as a result. The Italians found Charles a difficult man to deal with, sharply criticizing the behaviour of the 'English Minister'. Then, in November 1653, Charles sent an express expedition to Tripoli to carry goods there to redeem the English slaves because, according to Sarotti, the Parliamentary fleet was very short of sailors. Perhaps the Italian informer had an exaggerated notion of Charles Longland's personal authority, but there is no doubt that he could act decisively.

Charles once complained that a Roman Catholic, Morgan Reid, had taken upon himself to act as Consul, exacting duty from ships using the port without any proper authority. It seems that it was not easy for the government in London to control events in Leghorn, for the Italians seemed to have accepted Morgan Reid's role in this respect.

CHARLES LONGLAND AND THE LEVANT COMPANY

In the year 1657 Captain Ell intercepted a Turkish vessel and seized a considerable cargo which was brought to Livorno that November. This caused much consternation in Constantinople and the Levant Company wrote to the English Ambassador, Sir Thomas Bendish. They assured him that Mr Longland had been ordered, in March 1658, to restore the goods to the Grand Seigneur. There was concern that Turkish reprisals might follow but, on receipt of the cargo returned by Charles Longland, matters developed into a diplomatic exchange. The Turks demanded payment of 75,000 rix dollars compensation claiming that only part of the seized goods had been received.

It was suspected, or known, that Captain Ell *'had sold at sea parcels of rice and other goods'* and 200 bales of coffee remained at Livorno. A group of English merchants who had previously corresponded with the Admiralty were informed that His Highness (Cromwell) had engaged his agent Charles Longland in the affair. Thus the merchants were referred to Charles and to his orders and the Consul at Smyrna was assured that Charles Longland had the matter in hand.

The Levant Company regarded Charles as the man to be contacted directly at Leghorn, perhaps because he represented the Admiralty directly and

was accustomed to giving Captains their instructions.

At least he was thanked for his successful action regarding Captain Ell and the Grand Seigneur's goods, and later that year another captured vessel, that of a Spanish Corsair, was placed '*in the hands of Mr Longland*'.

Piracy was not the only problem for there was much concern about the circulation of counterfeit money which had a serious effect on trade. Charles received a letter from the Levant Company requesting that he inform the Grand Duke that he should prohibit the export of false coins. They asked Charles to endeavour to stop the practice though they gave no suggestions as to how he could achieve this.

A year or two before, fear of a rebellion had caused the Levant Company to instruct Charles to hold a ship at Leghorn which was due to sail to Aleppo. As a result Charles had to fix the rate of 'demurrage' to be levied on the goods. This payment was probably compensation to the Captain for whom the enforced stay in Leghorn meant a loss in income.

In the year 1657 they requested him to befriend two Turkish gentlemen who were due to pass through Leghorn. Many interesting stories must lie behind these terse instructions which show that the world of trade and that of political diplomacy were closely knit.

SUPPLIES TO THE NAVY

On the 4th May 1658 the Council (in London) consisting of Desborow, Montague, Mr Secretary (Thurloe), Mr Comptroller, Richard Cromwell and Fleetwood, met to read and report on some letters from Captain John Stokes and those from Charles Longland. In one letter a Captain Poole complained '*I was ordered out of my own richly laden ship by Captain Bradiley, commander in the Straits, and Mr Longland, and was put on board the Leopard*'.

A subsequent letter referred to this ship, the Mary Rose, which the Admiralty reported had been leased by Mr Longland for whose use the bill of freight had been made out and received.

In the following July a certificate arrived in London with an account attached from Charles Longland and five other merchants concerning the sundry expenses involved in the redemption of captives. The negotiations took place between Admiral John Stokes (he is, elsewhere, referred to as Captain Stokes) and the Bey of Tunis.

Matters between the merchants at Leghorn and the senior Naval officers were often strained, for though the merchants looked to the Navy for protection their chief daily concern was their relationship with the Grand Duke. As a small community in what was at times a hostile environment his support and

understanding was essential. The Duke even appointed the English Vice-Consuls, and Charles seems to have enjoyed his confidence.

In the year 1657 the behaviour of Captain Stokes posed a threat to the maintenance of this delicate balance of authority. The Duke of Tuscany accused John Stokes of arrogance, unlawful pretensions and high handed procedure. Charles Longland wrote to the Admiralty supporting the Duke, an action which must have strained his relations with the Council in London. Obviously there were ways of doing things in Livorno, long established practices, which had to be respected. A visiting officer of the Navy, however senior, could not be allowed to put at risk, not only the future of the trading community, but the necessary political relationship between the English government and the Duke.

BILLS AND GOODS ON CREDIT

In March 1657/8 the Admiralty approved payment of a bill of exchange presented by Captain John Stokes, the cost of provisioning of his fleet by Charles Longland. The sum came to £1,536-12-10 which shows what a great deal it cost the Government to maintain our Naval presence in the Mediterranean. Captains not infrequently found themselves without adequate provisions and without money also. Charles supplied goods on credit and on occasion settled bills with other merchants whilst waiting to be recompensed by the Admiralty. The sums involved were often considerable and suggest that, if the account books could be traced, they would form the basis for an interesting study of seventeenth century trade.

The great variety of goods supplied by Charles is remarkable. In 1656-57 he corresponded with Admiral Bradley, writing at considerable length and not hesitating to give advice on many matters. There are frequent references to the supply of wine, though Charles reluctantly admits that it could be had more cheaply in Portugal, however he sent two hundred butts of wine to General Blake.

In one of his letters to London Charles says that he is freighting another ship to send to Trapani or Calabria, implying that he was concerned not just with individual items but with all kinds of goods on a large scale.

He was always conscious of the political background, for the threat of war was never absent. In 1657, looking ahead to yet one more Naval involvement, he was eager to remind the Admiralty that he could supply cordage to the Fleet, 200 tons and upwards in four months, '*at reasonable rates*'. Supplies of hemp were problematical, being dear and scarce because of the war between Poland and Russia.

THE RESTORATION YEARS
CHARLES LONGLAND AND COMPANY

Charles never returned to England, for following the death of Cromwell in 1658 and the subsequent restoration of the Monarchy he had no influential friends at home. John Thurloe was charged with high treason, then released to retire quietly in the country. For Charles many years of commercial activity remained, as we see from the official correspondence between Sir John Finch, resident in Tuscany, and Lord Arlington in March 1667.

It was in 1658 that Charles promoted a joint stock company with the participation of Dutch and Italian merchants. The emissary of the Tsar of Russia, then in Leghorn, had hoped to secure the Grand Duke's support for the grant of the monopoly on caviar imports. The Duke would not grant the full money, so the emissary had turned to Charles Longland who by means of this new venture held the contract until 1667. The profits on this trade were remarkably high.

GUNPOWDER: MORE CREDIT

Correspondence included in the State Papers for the period 1660-1672 shows that Charles remained active as victualler of the Navy's ships. Goods were frequently supplied on credit. In October 1660, Captain Robert Blake, commanding the 'Newbury' reported that he had come to Leghorn for bread and other provisions, those on board ship being bad. Knowing that another vessel, the 'Preston', was without gunpowder he bought some on their behalf.

As this had not been authorised in London Charles Longland provided the money. It seems that the authorities at the Tower, in London, had thought gunpowder unnecessary because peace had been agreed with Spain; news of this had not reached Captain Blake. A subsequent receipt presented to the Admiralty by Blake, in the year 1665, may have concerned later supplies also on credit from Mr Longland: 50 barrels of gunpowder, 389 bar shot, 2 cables and 2 anchors.

A letter dated June 22nd 1660 is reminiscent of the Thurloe period for it contains some Naval intelligence. Captain Jonas Poole's squadron of four frigates and four merchantmen had arrived, though fourteen other merchant ships had left him at Tunis and gone direct to England. Captain Black had arrived, in time to leave in pursuit of 'The Naples Prince of Monte Sarchio' who commanded fourteen ships full of soldiers. They had taken an English ship but Charles was confident that Captain Black would '*ruin them*', for the soldiers were forced men who would yield or desert ship.

Charles then wished the King, now recalled by Parliament, '*a happy*

Government'. Only finally did he come to the point: he had yet to be paid for some wine and other '*necessaries*' furnished for the Naval ships. Just a month later, when requesting settlement of an account totalling £1,805, he stressed that '*as great offices are much subject to change in England*' strangers could take their place and '*his case would be desperate*'. He stated bluntly that if he were not to be paid he would be unable to do like service in future.

SIR THOMAS CLUTTERBUCK

One of these new men in office was Sir Thomas Clutterbuck who appears to have been generally responsible for the victualling and fitting out of English Naval ships in the Mediterranean. Some of his correspondence is headed 'Lisbon' though he spent much time at Leghorn where his wife and children lived. Charles Longland must have tried hard to work with this new official, and initially Mr Clutterbuck used his influence in London to speed up the settlement of accounts. In the year 1669 he had the support of Charles when he brought an action against another merchant. Mr Clutterbuck claimed that he had not been paid his commission on goods supplied and had initiated expensive legal proceedings in Chancery.

Mrs Clutterbuck '*suffering in his absence, being in a strange country and without a provider*' journeyed to Florence and appealed to the Grand Duke who ordered the imprisonment of the accused merchant. However the accused Mr Lee was so well supported by Sir John Finch, who represented the English Government in Florence, that he was released.

An outstanding sum of three thousand pounds was was paid to Charles in August 1670 and Thomas Clutterbuck, in a letter to the Admiralty, claimed some personal credit for having been an intermediary. He called attention to his own problems, implying that he often laid out more money on the Admiralty's behalf than he ever received.

There were some accounts to be settled on the Government's behalf but Charles would not accept casual instructions. On one occasion he refused payment to Captain Haddock, of the 'Bantam', on the authority of a bare letter and the matter was settled by the issue of an official letter of credit for which Captain Haddock expressed his thanks to Samuel Pepys.

SOUR RELATIONS

The official correspondence for the year 1670 includes some letters from Mr Clutterbuck to Lord Fauconberg. The Grand Duke of Tuscany had at last given permission for an English Church to be built in Livorno, but Charles had refused to contribute any money towards the project. Mr Clutterbuck was very hurt *'I find you have been informed of the unhappy controversy between Mr Longland and myself. I want words to express his baseness in striking at mine , my wife's and my family's honour.'* He describes Messrs. Longland and Williams as being *'professed enemies to a public and orthodox ministry'*. This statement is at odds with Charles' expressed wish to set up an English church at Livorno. Quite apart from these personal difficulties the whole question of facilities for non-Catholic worship in Leghorn was then a great problem. English services were held in one of the merchants' houses, such practice being regarded as scandalous by the local people and condemned by the Vatican. The Grand Duke had long wished to help the English community but had, in the past, been obliged to conform to the official Vatican ruling.

Relations between Mr Clutterbuck and Charles Longland had deteriorated since the summer of 1670. Early the following year Thomas Clutterbuck complained to the Admiralty: *'Mr Longland having been very violent in prosecuting me for a bill upon the victuallers for £661-3s-4d. ... I have given him security for its discharge ten days after the arrival of these letters so as to free myself from his clamorous and malicious persecution'*.

THE TRANSFER OF THOMAS CLUTTERBUCK

Then in July, 1671, Charles Longland and the other deputy Consul signed a copy of a letter of complaint regarding the behaviour of Mr Clutterbuck, who was by this time Consul at Leghorn.

Matters had been brought to a head by the considerable delay in the fitting out of the King's galley. The signatories to the original letter were presumably a group of merchants, the copy was in Italian and Charles and his colleague attested to the accuracy of the translation. Mr Clutterbuck was said to have acted independantly, never through the Grand Duke's officers and masters. Obviously a working relationship had been built up by the resident English merchants and Thomas Clutterbuck was acting in a high handed manner.

They accused him of rudeness and the use of severe language, presumably towards the Italians. Charles agreed in substance with all the charges, fearful as ever that he would lose the confidence of the Grand Duke. Perhaps it was as a result of this sour relationship that, in August 1671, Sir

Thomas Clutterbuck was posted as Consul to Florence.

COMMERCIAL PROBLEMS

The victualling of ships whose arrival was uncertain and whose demands were so varied involved considerable storage facilities. One of Charles Longland's stores was the magazine at St Peter's, ten miles or so from Leghorn. In January 1667 the store housed a quantity of perishable goods which had not been taken as expected by visiting ships. Thomas Clutterbuck obtained Admiralty authority for the first Naval ships to arrive to take on board this meat, to prevent loss and avoid further charges for warehouse room. A ship duly arrived and Captain O'Brien inspected the meat which had been in store for three years. It must have been salted, for he declared it to be just eatable, only four of the 127 casks of beef and pork were unservicable. The wine was good and the Captain thought that Charles would have no difficulty in selling it.

TRADE WITH CONSTANTINOPLE

A proceeding in Chancery in the year 1670 concerns his services as factor to Robert Frampton of Constantinople: the complaint regarding loss of money on goods sold was directed at Charles Longland and Jonathan Parker, his associate. It is apparent that Charles' had many other commitments, other than his service to the Admiralty, with trading representatives at other Mediterranean ports. One or two documents refer to him as 'Charles Longland of Lisbon' or 'Charles Longland and Company' and more than one of his nephews was involved in the Company's activities.

The surviving correspondence for these Restoration years is quite sparse, no doubt Charles remained active to the end though it may be that he had become no longer directly useful to the Government in London. He died in the year 1688, probably in his late eighties. Together with his last will the inventory of his jewels and other valuables has survived, and so we have this account of a meeting of merchant friends in a house, in Leghorn, in the April of that year.

THE CHEST OF JEWELS

On the twentieth of April, 1688, a small group of English merchants met in the house of Mr Thomas Dorman '*situate in the Great Street at Legorn*'. Their purpose was to make an inventory of jewels and plate.

These valuable items were the property of '*the heirs and inheritance of*

Mr Charles Longland, deceased and the proceedings were witnessed by Mr Angels Maffei, Judge and Notary. A packet was presented on which was written , by the late Charles Longland, *'Key of the Jewels'*. This packet is described as being *'very well sealed with two seals in red wax without any the least suspicion of the said seals having been in any manner touched or altered, in each of which seals was stamped the impression of Arms'*

Very likely these would have been the Arms of Longland, borne certainly by Charles' father and grandfather. We have no record of any such grant to Charles though he had a right to bear them.

A little iron chest was opened and the jewels were individually inspected by Mr Francis Pain and Mr Jacob Perrera, *'both skilfull jewellers'*. Some twenty five items were listed and valued. There were about 90 pearls, 11 gold rings, a collection of diamonds, emeralds and sapphires. Item number twelve reads *'One jewel wherein is the picture of King Charles the first set in gold with diamonds at the bottom, one pendant pearl, all valued at one hundred and fifty pieces of eight'*.

In the great iron chest, which had contained the small chest full of jewels, were found several items of silver plate, weighing in total 13 pounds 8 ounces, a pair of candlesticks, two vessels or pots *'English fashion'*, two salts, four cups, one salver, 22 spoons, and 23 forks. Valued at the rate of *'five livres six sols and eight deniers (£5-6-8d.) Florentine money per ounce'*.

The total value of the Inventory was 3,000 pieces of eight (that is about £675 sterling) plus £1,000 (Florentine) for the items of silver plate. To put these sums into perspective we may note that, in England, the total yearly income of a craftsman's family would have been about £38, and a personal servant might have only £4 a year in cash.

His will may still be found in the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. It is largely concerned with the bequests to his numerous nephews and nieces. He did not forget the parish of Tingewick in Buckinghamshire, nor the needy of his adopted city.

THE WILL OF CHARLES LONGLAND:
THE CORSAIR CARDI

One particular matter weighed heavily on Charles' mind as he considered his wish to help the poor of Leghorn. He writes *'It has long been in my thoughts (as a duty incumbent on me) to doe some good for the poor of this place where God has been mercifull unto me to give me so long life and health but again considering how I am disabled by the Corsare Cardi who has taken from me so great an estate and deteyned it now these twenty yeares against all the rules of*

Justice I cannott performe the charity I would but conditionally that is to say if the letter from his Majesty to this prince in my favour doe prevaile with him to doe me Justice and render the estate taken from me (with charges Damages and Interest for twenty yeares detention) I doe then give unto the poor of Livorno a house or tenement to be bought by my executors for the full vallue of tenn or twelve hundred peeces of eight the annuall rent thereof to be distributed among tenn poor widdows ...'

Charles then goes into some detail regarding the character of the widows and their families whom he wishes to help, among other qualifications '*those who have most small children are to be preferred.*'

Did Charles recover his great estate and so enable his executors to buy the property so that Italian widows could benefit forever from the charity of an English gentleman ? It is likely that the Corsair Cardi was licensed by the Duke, for the Knights of St Stephen were an established body of Corsairs at both Pisa and Leghorn. These Christian Corsairs undertook to attack Moslem vessels only but it is known that many of them preyed on other vessels in the Mediterranean. Perhaps the answer lies still in the archives of Livorno, but even if the house was set up as Charles wished it would probably have been destroyed by the bombs of the Second World War.

Charles' will gave instructions that his accounts should be reviewed and every man given his due; his business associates Prior and Scottes were named. The executors were to '*use their best diligence*' in selling his goods, especially his jewels, either at Venice or Paris, thought to be the best markets for them. The original lengthy will was written by Charles himself, and the copy affirmed by George Man and Edward Paliner.

CAPTIVES IN BARBARY

Among the many bequests which the executors had to action was that of £250 for the redemption of '*poor English Captives in Barbary, seamen such as have no friends or means to redeem them*'. Charles Longland may have witnessed the distressing scenes in Tripoli, or listened to first hand accounts of the Consul's prescence at the 'Diwan', where the slaves and their captors were assembled, hoping to be freed. 'The Bashaw' would claim his tenth, then others would be freed, following a debate and presumably the handing over of the ransom. The Christian corsairs, as Charles had experienced personally, took only goods and valuables.

TINGEWICK

Many miles North of the Barbary Coast, under gentler English skies in the village of Tingewick, Buckinghamshire, was a parcel of land, a 'yard land', purchased on Charles' behalf so that the yearly income could be distributed '*to poor widdowes of honest life that have Fatherless Children twenty shillings a year to each widdow as far as the rent will go.*' Charles adds '*This I give in memory of my Father Edward Longland and my Grandfather John Longland; both of them liv' d long in the Parish, my Grandfather was Minister, died and lies buried there.*'

According to the Victoria County History, the Parish of Tingewick was still receiving some income from this land in the year 1927 but the income was very small, shared amongst twenty recipients.

There is no memorial in the church at Tingewick relating to Charles or his father, and any slab which may have marked the Archdeacon's burial in the chancel can no longer be traced. There was, as recently as the year 1847, a tablet in front of the gallery which quoted the terms of Charles Longland's bequest in full, but both the gallery and the tablet have disappeared.

The Visitation of the year 1709 records that there was no other gift or benefaction other than that of Charles; the £130 from him, plus another ten pounds, had been used to purchase some freehold in Barton Hartshorne, Bucks. The income of £5 a year was distributed to the poor by the Minister and Churchwardens.

THE FAMILY OF CHARLES

We can only assume that Charles Longland never married. So it was natural that his lack of direct heirs should focus his affection on his nephews and nieces. He seems to have been regarded as the head of the large extended family which had resulted from the marriages of his sisters. His nephews Charles Harris and Alexander Constantine lived and worked for many years with their uncle in Livorno, attending to the administration which Charles' affairs created. They both died there in his lifetime.

Another nephew, William Buck, visited Charles early in the year 1669, staying for some time, for Charles sent him on a three month trip into Tuscany to learn Italian and then took him on as a clerk and treasurer. William was given plenty to do, receiving and paying out cash and making copies of Charles' correspondence which was no light task.

CICELY LLOYD AND THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Amongst the private letters was a series, one letter each year from 1663 to 1676, from his niece Cicely and her husband Henry Lloyd who lived in the City of London. Their great concern was that Charles should be aware of their family problems which became particularly acute in 1666 when they lost their home in the Great Fire. Contemporary accounts say that one hundred and thirty thousand homes were destroyed and that two hundred thousand people were dispersed in St Georges Fields, Moorfields and Highgate. Amongst them were Cicely and Henry Lloyd and their children.

Of their seven sons and two daughters, only a son remained by the time Charles came to make his will in the year 1677, though Charles thought that there was still a daughter. The daughters had both died three or four years earlier and the Lloyds were convinced that their letters had been deliberately intercepted. So following the death of Charles they tried to claim the money he had intended to give to their daughter.

Cicely and Henry Lloyd were living at Whittingtons Court near Puddle Dock, that ancient part of the City by the river at the foot of St Andrew's Hill, not far from Ludgate Hill; very likely in much reduced circumstances. William Buck did not speak very kindly of them, referring to them as poor relations who kept up the correspondence for obvious reasons. Another cousin, Paul Bush, seems to have been more sympathetic.

PAUL BUSH, THE NAVAL SURGEON

Charles, was genuinely fond of his nieces and nephews. In particular he supported his nephew Paul Bush, sending him to London in his seventeenth year to train as a merchant. However, Paul wanted to become a surgeon and Charles, no doubt disappointed, encouraged him in this alternative apprenticeship. The young surgeon first served on a merchant ship which took him to the Mediterranean, which gave him the opportunity to call on his uncle in Leghorn.

He later became a Naval surgeon, no doubt helped by Charles who had several contacts with ships' captains and senior officials. During the years that followed Paul Bush saw his uncle many times always, according to his own account, being kindly received whilst in port. It appears that Charles Longland did once ask about Cicely's family, though Paul knew little about them being away at sea so much. Subsequently he did visit the family at Puddle Dock, from time to time seeing the two Lloyds' sons, and on one occasion he was called in to give their son Charles medical attention.

Another visitor to the home at Puddle Dock was Cicely's cousin,

Alexander Constantine, who called to give them the thirty pounds which Charles had sent soon after the Great Fire. Years later when he visited them he saw their son Charles Lloyd, a lad of fourteen or fifteen, who died when still in his teens.

Charles Longland was the youngest of Edward's children, outliving his sisters, Elizabeth, Mary, Anne, Helen, Dorothy and Cicely. We know that Helen (Eleanor) became Helen Harris, but no other marriage records have been traced. The children and grandchildren of the several marriages were given sums of money, from 500 to 1,500 pieces of eight each. The five husbands of his nieces received £10 apiece.

JOHN LAMBTON AND THE EMERALDS

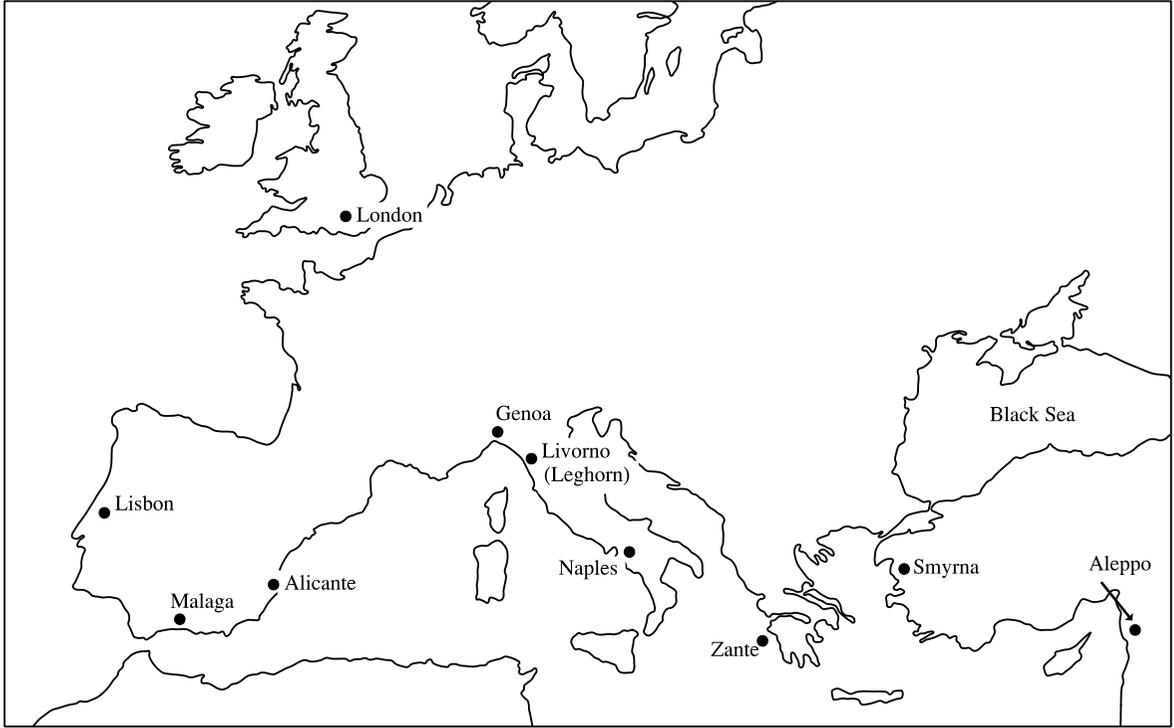
Charles should have been richer. Not only had he been deprived of a considerable estate by the Corsair, he was owed a substantial sum by an English merchant, John Lambton. A document dated the 23rd May 1670 empowered Thomas Chamberlain, Gentleman, of London, to recover, from the executors of the late John Lambton, money or goods worth about £3,000 (for the use of Charles Longland). Thomas Chamberlain was authorised to *'attack and arrest or cause to be attacked and arrested any estate whether in goods lands houses chattells or moneys belonging or apertaining unto the deceased John Lambton Merchant who sometimes lived at Surratt in the East Indies'*.

A round sum of ready money (£3,000) was known to have been in the hands of St George Smith, merchant deceased, *'now in the hands of his executor'*. On November the 23rd, 1674, Thomas Chamberlain recovered £500 in money and, in July 1676, two pendant pearls weighing 43 carats. In the following September he claimed eight loose emerald stones, sent from East India, and finally in May 1676 ten emerald stones set in gold buttons. The inventory of Charles Longland's jewels (in the year 1688) lists some of these items, enough to provide an estimated £500. So Charles recovered about a thousand pounds from the estate of John Lambton.

Paul Bush, in his testimony before the Court of Arches, described Charles as *'a very eminent merchant ... someone who could not have less stock than one hundred thousand dollars besides other estate'*.

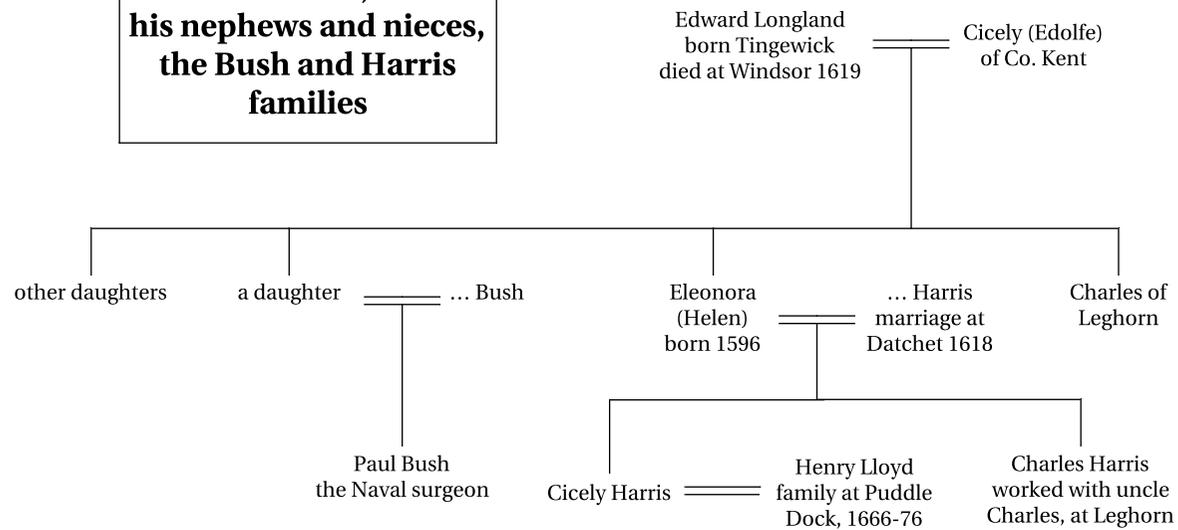
From the last Will of Charles, of Leghorn, and from the records of the subsequent legal actions, an extended family of the descendants of Charles' sisters is evident. Precise identification of every person named is not possible for we have not only nephews and nieces of Charles but their children too. It seems certain that Charles Longland had no brothers.

The chapter which follows consists largely of extracts from the official correspondence of John Thurloe, the Secretary of State to the Commonwealth Government in England. Though these letters relate primarily to the gathering of intelligence they do at times give some insight into Charles Longland's character, and we learn something of his not unreasonable ambitions which never came to fruition.



Mediterranean Sea

**Charles Longland of
Leghorn, son of
Edward,
his nephews and nieces,
the Bush and Harris
families**







Chapter Four

THE THURLOE CORRESPONDENCE

1653 - 1657

Charles Longland corresponds with John Thurloe.

His concerns:
horses for the Protector,
Naval matters,
and the good will of the Duke of Tuscany.

Informers, letters and gossip

*'I have this week read letters from Cales, Mallaga, Alligant, Barcalona,
and Marselles from English factors there ...'*
(Mr Charles Longland, agent at Leghorn to Mr John Thurloe, 9th January, 1653)

'Al-molto illustre Sig Carlo Longland Inglese in Lovorno'
(Letter from the agent at Rome, 1655)

John Thurloe was Cromwell's Secretary of State; he has been called Cromwell's 'Master Spy', a reference to his efficient organisation of the Intelligence Service. The published seven volumes of his correspondence include letters from a number of informers in Europe and it is these, rather than the affairs at home, which are relevant to our Longland story. Each volume is reasonably well indexed and of these references about seventy refer to Charles Longland of Leghorn.

Our chapter which sketches the main outline of the life of Charles, from his boyhood at Windsor to his death in Tuscany, pictures him as a well to do merchant. The Thurloe letters show Charles to have been a man with ambitions which were never fully realised. He believed strongly in England's role as a major power and looked upon the other nations with distrust, as did most Englishmen at that time. As the spokesman for the English traders he appealed in several of his letters for a squadron of English ships to be sent from England, primarily to keep the French in their place. Charles himself had suffered considerable losses both from French action and from that of the Corsair Cardi, one of those Christian privateers probably licensed by the Duke of Tuscany.

Charles' ambition seems to have been primarily commercial (judging by his letters seeking Government backing for investment in trade with Mozambique and the East) but a political ambition is at least hinted at in his letters which stress his wish to serve Thurloe in some better capacity. Not only did he go out of his way to buy horses for the Lord Protector, which were officially paid for, but he sent one Arab horse as a free gift. None of this moved those in power to bring him home, perhaps to grant him some high office, and with the restoration of the Monarchy and Thurloe's retirement into private life Charles no longer had friends in high places. Perhaps he was better off after all finding Tuscany a pleasant enough home in his old age.

As far as the letters themselves are concerned it is necessary to be selective, for much of the intelligence is tedious, full of details of the movements of French ships or the latest gossip from Rome. Those quoted tell us something about Charles himself, or help us to imagine his remarkable life, or at least

certain aspects of it.

The letters begin in the year 1653 and the last one from Charles is dated December 1657. The final volume contains a letter from an English Captain at Leghorn which mentions that Mr Longland, the English agent, was hindered by the local authorities when boarding his ship there. Charles Longland had a difficult task, all his skill was required to maintain good relations with the Duke of Tuscany whilst obeying instructions from the government in England. Yet he continued to be a successful merchant, ever ready for new ventures, hand in hand with this political role.

THE GATHERING OF INTELLIGENCE

From Thurloe's point of view this was Charles' chief function though he was used frequently as a channel of communication with the Tuscan authorities. Diligent as ever, Charles complained on several occasions that he had received no answer to his letters. This one dated 1st August 1653 is typical of the general tone:

'Honor'd Sir, I have kept a constant course in writing to you according to your commands; but hitherto I have not heard that any of my letters have been received by you ... I have given you such intelligence from Rome as I can procure by the hands of our English there ...'

By September Charles had received a reply for he writes:

'By yours of the first of August I am again confirmed that the advices I send you from Rome are not such things as you desire. However having paid for them three months anticipat I must give you the trouble of viewing them 'till the expiration of the said term. Next week I am promised such a correspondent as you desire in Rome ...'

Later in September he was able to promise better intelligence from Rome informing Thurloe that *'my other new entertained intelligencer dares not correspond with England but he will write hither to me what occurs ... He will have £10 a year whereof £5 in hand'*. Charles is still not happy about this new man, adding that he hopes to find a better one. *'I know by his price this man is not like to say much'*.

However, later that Autumn, Charles received a letter from Rome in which the writer cautiously recommended a gentleman by the name of Abbot Costa, and by December he was so confident that he expected Thurloe to accept this new informer and to suitably reward him.

THE WAR AT SEA, THE MERCILESS DUTCH

As Consul he would meet all captains entering the port of Leghorn and would have their reports of shipping movements. Many letters pass on this kind of information, that of the 5th December 1653 for example:

'The Dutch here have been very high upon the arrival of their great fleet from the Sound, but this week they are at a very low ebb by the great storm happening on their coast wherein themselves report (according to their usual modesty in relating to their own losses) that they have lost eleven of their best ships ...'

A letter the following January, having noted Dutch losses in a storm in the Gulf of Lyons lists places from which he has received information (from English factors): Calais, Malaga, Alicante, Barcelona and Marseilles. He again asks for a good English Squadron to be sent into these seas and remarks that *'the Pope and the Spaniard are at very great differences ... I hope the spiritual tyranny shall likewise end'*

In a letter of 13th March Charles condemned the Dutch in strong terms:

'Two English ships are fallen into their hands, the one it seems fought with them for five hours; for which reason, it seems, when they took her, they put all men to the sword. A cruel act. I hope 'twil be revenged on that nation both by God and man.'

On 10th April, 1654, Charles noted that the Dutch were still attacking our ships because the articles of peace would not take effect for a further ten weeks. He considered that we also should make use of this period to reply in kind. A month later, when peace had been concluded, it is interesting to note that 'peace' was never more than a relative term, for Charles reports that *'also two of the Duke's galleys have departed with merchandise for the Palermo fair; which being delivered, they then go in chase of the Turks towards the coast of Barbary'*. We see that there was a continual threat to shipping whether it be the activities of the Dutch or the French, or the ever present corsairs.

THE QUEEN OF SWEDEN AND FRENCH MISCHIEF

July brought news of French fleet movement out of Toulon, always a matter of concern, and also the first reference to the Queen of Sweden, who, *'after her stay in France intends to go to Rome ... to embrace that religion ...'*

how likely I know not'. Eighteen months later the Queen was in Rome, as Charles reported 'the Pope allows her 1,000 dollars a day', and 'she rode between two Prince cardinals'.

And in a later letter: 'she travels horseback like a man, being clad so from middle upwards with doublet, cassack, band, hat, feather, in so much that the Italians say she is hermaphrodite'.

In one of his letters, of July 1654, Charles remembers a quotation which, for him, expresses the 'secret mischief' of the French. What is particularly interesting is the evidence of Charles' familiarity with classical Latin, part of his general linguistic ability. He writes

'a couple of verses I have long ago read under a picture of the Powder-Treason ...

*Perditione prius, nunc proditione petebant:
Perdita perditio est, prodita proditio.'*

(it appears to be a play on words, 'perditione, perdita, perditio' and 'proditione, prodita, proditio', all about betrayal, perdition and destruction)

In spite of his profound distrust of the French, Charles was able to pass the following comment on the French Nation (in a letter dated 12th May, 1656)

'Tis a strange thing so potent, gallant and ingenious a nation as the French should not discover their own vassellage but lackey it thus to Rome for preferment as if the King wanted power or authority to give it'.

NO NEWS FROM LONDON

On 9th October 1654, having completed his report of French shipping movements and passed on his gossip about the Pope, he adds a postscript:

'Sir, if you would now and then, amidst your great affairs, afford your servant a line or two, it would much oblige and encourage me in your service', and then, a week later:

'I know you are extreme full of business; otherwise, now and then a word of occurrences at home would be very acceptable'.

On both 14th. and 21st of August he asks for political news concerning the Protector's stance, in relation to Spain or France, of the military action against the Highlanders in Scotland. A letter of November 1655 which again complains

of the lack of news from England says something about his relationship with the Duke of Tuscany: *'Indeed this prince sends often to me to be resolved in certain general passages and I can say no more to him than what passes upon the exchange ... the knowledge of such things at first hand would give me some credit here.'*

He appears as a very confident individual, at ease in the presence of princes, eager to act as the government's representative in high places. In February 1655 he shows his concern for the provisioning of Blake's fleet, writing to Thurloe:

'tis convenient they should have some port to refresh and careen their ships in as also to have provision for such things as they may want; to which end if you please to command me, I shall go to the great duke about it, or any other prince in Italy where you shall please to direct'.

There is this sense of eagerness to be involved, the implication too that Charles, in spite of his busy life, would be able to go anywhere on the Government's behalf. His special responsibility for the victualling of visiting ships and his liaison with the officers of the English squadron was no small task. We have this fascinating picture of a practical man who had the ability to deal directly with the Prince or with Admiral Blake.

He had a natural confidence, perhaps reinforced by his early training and the difficulties which had faced him on his return home, in the dramatic language of the lawyers, *'a poor orphan'*. Here in Leghorn he is certain of the practicalities as he promises to supply, if directed, *'four or five thousand barrels of gunpowder at three months notice'* for Blake's ships in the Mediterranean.

ACCOUNTS WITH THE ADMIRALTY

On 22nd August 1655 Charles presented his accounts to the Admiralty, the sums of money tabulated in two columns: one headed *'The Right Honourable General Blake debtor'*, the other *'The Right Hon. General Blake creditor'*.

It appears that Charles had prize money in his possession to be set against money owing to him. The ship the Madonna di Rosaria had been taken *'laden with wools and hides for Constantinople'*, the proceeds came to fourteen thousand dollars.

From the French prize *'St Francis'* laden with Tripoli wools, Charles had over 7,000 dollars. These sums plus what he had received direct from the

Admiralty were set against his victualling costs 'to Mr Hempson on shore, and on board the George, to cash paid to Mr Andrew Piers, to cash paid to the captains of two French prizes, to several vittals provided for the fleet' (this last over 7,000 dollars). Other charges included the bill for the horses shipped to Oliver Cromwell, on board the Success from Naples. Blake still owed Charles over 4,000 dollars.

AN ENGLISH CHURCH IN LEGHORN ?

At this time Charles was trying to persuade the Duke, who was nervous about the reaction of the other Catholic Dukedoms, to authorise the setting up of an English church at Livorno. General Blake had already written to the Duke on Charles' behalf, with no positive response, so Charles asked Cromwell to intervene, but no action resulted.

A SCHEME FOR ADVENTURERS

A much later request to Thurloe, in December 1657, sought Government support for what seems to have been a grand scheme requiring considerable backing, full of promises of rich reward:

'I am still an humble supplicant to your honour about the trade propounded on the coast of Mozambique as far as Zacatora land, in form and manner contained in the articles delivered to your honour by Mr Goodwin, that you would be pleased to procure me a patent either from his Highness or the East India Company which by your honour's recommendation may easily be had either way ... for I have offered in this my intended trade, if they will become adventurers, for ten or twenty thousand pounds, to double their money in four years (as good a benefit as the East India trade ever made them in the best times). I could wish his Highness or his right honorable council would accept of this offer: I should rather have them for my masters than the East India Company.

Although I have got the experience of this intended trade here abroad amongst strangers, yet I utterly deny the interest of any stranger therein but only our own nation; so that your honour should favour me with your patronage ... I shall immediately desire your licence to leave this country and repair home for England when I shall ever acknowledge myself your most humble grateful servant'.

TO SERVE IN SOME MORE ACCEPTABLE WAY

Two years earlier in a letter of 10th March 1655, in which he asked for some financial compensation for losses at sea due to French attacks, he continued *'the want thereof is the chief cause why I want my country, whither I should quickly repair with your good leave to kiss your hands and serve you at home in some more acceptable way'*.

These ambitions were never realised. No doubt Charles Longland was not the only merchant to apply for Government backing, and Cromwell refused to set a precedent by paying compensation to Charles Longland. By August Charles had resigned himself to the fact that he could not be considered a special case, though he felt bound to add *'I assure you that I should not have cryed roast meat'*. (that is he would not have been foolish enough to broadcast the news of his good luck).

He was diligent in carrying out any direct order from Cromwell, or from the Council as represented by Thurloe. The story of the Neapolitan horses is typical, involving Charles in much worry and expenditure, not to mention how difficult it could be to get his money back. Complaints from London were at least as frequent as were cash payments.

HORSES FOR THE LORD PROTECTOR

Oliver Cromwell had a passion for horses and it seems that Charles had been asked to ship some to England. On 9th of April 1655 Charles informed Thurloe that *'all possible diligence shall be used in procuring his Highness' Neapolitan horses'*. Two weeks later he writes *'My correspondent at Naples has yet bought but one horse which he gives a high commendation unto, being an iron grey of the Duke d' Oro's race. General Blake has sent a ship to take them but it has come a month too soon'*.

By 5th June Charles had news from Naples that six horses and mares were aboard the 'Success' (Capt. Smith) who expected to depart on the 14th. direct for London. The Captain, because of the load of merchandise, could only take provisions for two months *'in which time'*, Charles wrote, *'I much doubt this summer season he will get home'*.

A subsequent letter details the cost and charges, over 2,800 dollars, to be charged to General Blake's account, in favour of Charles who had already paid the bill. Blake had promised to reimburse Charles but sudden departure to sea had prevented him from attending to it.

The matter of horses for Cromwell seems to have been raised again for in

July 1657 Thurloe received an apology

'I am heartily sorry the Barbary mare has much suffered by a long voyage but I hope she will recover and be in case to breed upon which is the only property I intended her for. If she proves to his Highness' liking it will fully satisfy and infinitely rejoice ... C. L.'

This horse had been sent by Charles as a gift to Cromwell at which time he commented, as someone with a knowledge of horses:

'I have not seen a Barbary horse so tall as this but a mare never so. She was never shod till she came here which made her lame, so I pulled off her shoes again. She is not for the saddle but for breed if she prove to his Highness' liking'.

MR HARRIS AND MR BAYLY

Though much routine information was obtained by chance from the captains of merchant ships Charles continued to recruit paid informers. Thurloe was always ready to complain that he was not receiving the right kind of information, and the informers themselves were sometimes inefficient rogues playing for the highest bidder. Two letters written by Charles in the autumn of 1654 give some idea of the system; the first concerns the employment of Mr Harris, in Rome.

'(Mr Harris) ... has served the Duke of Lorraine as a gentleman in his troop, he was secretary to the Earl of Norwich, then private agent for the parliament at Ratisbon, whence he was forced to fly for his life ... a master of languages: Latin, French, Italian, Spanish and Low Dutch ... Mr Bartholomew Harris, for that is his name unless you please to order him another'.

Charles suggested pay of £10 a month; a week later he had given Mr Harris £40 to cover the first four months, requesting Thurloe to arrange continuing payments. At the same time Charles sent Thurloe a bill for 270 pieces of eight (Mr Harris' pay, plus the return fare to Toulon and 50 pieces of eight to pay for 'Roman intelligence').

Thurloe was reminded that 270 pieces of eight equalled £67 and ten shillings, the money to be drawn on Thurloe in bills payable to Mr Geo. Smith merchant. The following April found Mr Harris in Calais, with his money exhausted, finding life expensive and in need of two 'pieces of eight' a day.

This recruitment of agents caused Charles much concern. Mr Mettam, an agent in Rome 'was deceived' by a Mr Bayly, and eventually Charles commented '*how much folly Bayly has been guilty of ... but now that comedy is over.*'

As late as April 1660, Charles was giving advice to Thurloe advising him that £1,000 a year would be worthwhile expenditure on the gathering of intelligence. He suggested a gratuity now and then of £100 and a pension of £500 a year.

But great changes were now imminent, the signs of which had been apparent a year before when Charles Longland had complimented Thurloe who had been 'very prudent' in withdrawing from public business. In that letter we find too a reference to Mr Parker, a kinsman of Charles. At the Restoration, Thurloe did offer his services to the King who may have consulted him privately but his political life was over and with it Charles Longland's life as an intelligence agent. As we have seen in the previous chapter, Charles continued to be the agent for the Admiralty coincident with his commercial activities. Indeed close on thirty years of active life were to follow.

With his death in 1688 the direct male line from William Longland of Kinlet came to an end. The seventeenth century family of Longland in Buckden, Huntingdonshire, were descended from that earlier junior branch at Kinlet.

Before giving some account of their lives we look back nearly two hundred years, to a Longland family at Henley.

For Henley was the home of Thomas and Elizabeth Longland, the parents of John who became Bishop of Lincoln. He it was who encouraged one of his young relatives to set up home in Buckden; without his influence there might never have been any Longlands of Huntingdonshire.





Chapter Five

BISHOP JOHN LONGLAND

c. 1477 - 1547

John Longland,
his brother Lucas, the lawyer,
his devout parents,
his yeoman relatives.

⊕

**Servants of the King:
John the bishop, and Lucas the lawyer**

*'Pointed oval, the Virgin, crowned, enthroned beneath a canopy of late style. In
base a shield of arms: Longland'*

(the seal of Bishop Longland, Brit. Museum)

'Longa terra mensuram ejus Dominus dedit'

Long land, the Lord gave him his measure

(inscription in the Longland Chantry at Lincoln Cathedral)

*'... and all other stuff lately given to me by the reverend father in God, John
Longland late Bishop of Lincoln ...'*

(the will of Thomas Longland, of Kinlet, 1547)

THE EARLY YEARS

⊕

According to the University Register, John Longland was born in the year 1473 and was admitted to Magdalen College as a demy on Sir John Falstaff's foundation in 1491. We know nothing of his early life, though it is generally assumed that as a boy he attended the school in Henley. Certainly his admission to the Magdalen College School in his eighteenth year meant that he was one of the more senior entrants. Even the twelve year old pupils were expected to be already instructed in plainsong. In the words of the Statutes *'thereafter they were to be taught grammar, logic, and sophistry'* and to be given *'a thorough grounding in languages'*. At Magdalen, *'no hounds, hawks, cards or dice'* were allowed, nor any *'extravagant dress'*, and Latin was to be spoken. As resident pupils they were allowed a maximum absence of thirty days a year. In all this we can see the future bishop, this serious man whose very familiarity with the Court and its frivolity and intrigue seemed to reinforce his natural disapproval of such things.

⊕

CAREER, FRIENDS AND FAMILY

A Fellow of Magdalen in 1496 and MA in 1501, ordained priest on 18th April 1500, John was soon to become a noted theologian. He was a cautious reformer sympathetic towards the humanists and Erasmus, who was disliked by conservatives and yet uneasy amongst extreme Protestants, was a particular friend.

It is unfortunate that his eagerness to stamp out heresy is misunderstood,

though often cited, whereas his many virtues receive scant mention. Of his piety and his love for his family there is no doubt, as we find in this extract from his *'Quinque Sermons'* :

'But I tell you how my parents sent me to Oxford to undertake the study of death ... I was entrusted by my parents to a school of good and sound learning, through which I might live a good life chastely and studiously and instruct others in the same way for I know that this was the wish and prayer of my virtuous parents'.

This devotion to the memory of his parents is evident in a deed (in the year 1535) by which the President and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford, received income from property given by the Bishop. John Longland, in caring for the future of his old College, directed that prayers were to be offered daily for the souls of his parents. Each year, on the morrow following the feast and day of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady, solemn prayers were to be said. *'And a mass of Requiem to be songe For the said Colledge And for the soules of Thomas and Elizabeth His Father and mother his Friends soules and all Crysten soules'*.

From the point of view of family history this document is important because it leaves us in no doubt as to the names of the Bishop's parents. We may note here that the Latin form of 'Elizabeth' is 'Isabelle' which is the form in which his mother's name appears in her will. A Herald's notebook held at the College of Arms in London, dated c. 1590, contains sketches of heraldry found in houses and churches and there is one reference to the family of Langland (as indexed). The Herald used both forms of the family name, beginning 'Lang ...' and 'Long ...' and the arms shown are basically the same as those of John Longland, Bishop of Lincoln. That is we have the leopards heads, the rose, the chevron and the three roundels. John's shield (as Bishop) adds a green filet and places a cock on the chevron.

The sketch in the herald's notebook is accompanied by the note: *'Elizabeth late wife of Thomas Longland'*. The heading on the notebook page reads *'in the Church at Henley'*, though the notes cover the counties of Bucks., Oxon. and Berks. It is possible that this was the shield of the Longlands of Henley.

Those grants of arms which have been verified are registered in the persons of John (the Bishop) John (the Archdeacon), and Edward (the Archdeacon's son) which shows how close the Henley-Kinlet relationship was, for all repeat the same basic arms, though the difference in the arms attributed to Lucas Longland has raised questions regarding his relationship to Bishop John.

That John had a brother Lucas is a well documented fact. No reference, to any other 'Lucas' Longland has been found amongst the many documents of the period examined.

His mother's will, dated 1527, states '*I Isabell Longland Widow within the parish of Henley upon Thames ... And my bodye to be buried in the aforesaid church of Henley in the Chapell of Our Ladye nye to the place Whereas my father doth lye*'. This request does suggest that Isabell's family, thought to be the Stavely family of Oxfordshire, was settled in Henley. It is probable that Thomas Longland, the bishop's father, had income from land in several counties and he may have moved to Henley on marriage.

THE HENLEY RECORDS

The earliest Longland entry in the Henley Borough Records is dated July 11th 1507, and the property referred to is a tenement in the town of Henley '*lately in the tenancy of Thomas Longland*'. There are one or two references to Isabella Longland, and to Magistri Longland and Mestres Longland, in particular to '*Mistress Longland's Mynde*', a payment for the requiem for a departed soul.

Of the Bishop's father, Thomas Longland, we have no certain knowledge beyond the few references in the Henley records. However a little sketchy, uncertain, history may be deduced from the printed sources such as the Calendar of Patent Rolls in the PRO. It should be noted that these records of grants tell us nothing about the origins of this particular Thomas Longland. The deductions are subjective. The only other Thomas Longland references, in the many contemporary records and indexes studied, lead us to Kinlet or to Henley.

Service with the nobility brought prosperity to many yeomen families, a background consistent with the known facts. The two sons of Thomas of Henley: one a lawyer of the Inns of Court, in the service of the Earl of Wiltshire; his brother Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, soon to be a favourite of the King. Their mother had the means, and the leisure, to be a lay member of a religious Order, and to enjoy the symbols of a cultured minority, the silver and jewels and the rich fabrics, all described in her testament.

The fragmentary evidence suggests that Thomas Longland of Kinlet, a yeoman's son, spent his early years in the service of Lord Morley eventually occupying a position of responsibility managing his estates. His increasing prosperity led to the marriage with Elizabeth Stavely and a grant of arms. Consequently their sons Lucas and John received a good education which fitted them for their careers in Law and the Church.

THOMAS LONGLAND AND THE LOVELL FAMILY

In April 1478 the following grant is recorded: *'during the minority of Henry Lord Morley, son and heir of William Lovell late Lord Morley and Eleanor his wife to Thomas Longland late household servant of the said William and Eleanor, an annuity of 40s per annum from the Lordship of Walynton (Wellington ?) under Wrekin, Salop, which he had of the grant of the said William, and an annuity of 4 marks per annum in the Lordship of Swanton Morley Norfolk and the custody of the park of Hokeryng Co. Norfolk which he had for life of the grant of the said Eleanor after the decease of William'*. (the grant is taken from the Calendar of Patent Rolls, KE 4)

Another member of the Lovell family, Francis, Viscount Lovell, was Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds in the year 1483 and simultaneously Baron of Minster Lovell and Constable of Wallingford.

Then, in 1490, a reference to letters patent dated 16 March 4 KH 7 *'whereby Henry Lovell kt. Lord de Morley granted for life to Thomas Longland an annuity of 40s out of the Manor of Kencote Oxon ...'* This was in fact a confirmation of Letters Patent issued two or three years earlier, for the Manor had passed into the King's hands *'by the death of the said Lord Morley and the attainder and forfeiture of Francis, late Lord Lovel for High Treason under an act of Parliament held 7 November I Henry VII'*. Thomas had to pay half a mark *'in the hanaper'* that is the department of Chancery which received the payments for the sealing of such documents. These grants appear to take us back to the family in Kinlet for we have found no Longlands established in Oxfordshire at this early date.

Kencote is twenty miles or so West of Oxford, but much nearer 'home' than Swanton Morley. Distant sources of income seem to have been common amongst the gentry and close servants of the nobility.

THE PATE FAMILY OF HENLEY

Our only sources giving family relationships are the wills of Isabell Longland, written in 1527 and that of John Pate. Isabell mentions *'my son Richard Pate'*, presumably Richard Pate her grandson. We may quote from a letter to Bishop Longland, dated 8th July 1524 from Richard, then a student at Bruges: *'Richard Pate your sister's son and Anthony Barcher your dependant are wonderfully studious'*. Richard was speaking the truth, for he was admitted a graduate of the University at Paris. He had graduated in the year 1523, from Corpus Christi, Oxford, and five years later was Archdeacon of Lincoln. By 1533 he was the King's Ambassador at Rome, but he eventually declared his

allegiance to the Pope and so was condemned as a traitor. Anthony Wood, writing more than a century later, states that he was '*a learned man of a peaceable disposition.*'

Richard Pate returned to England, as Bishop of Worcester, during the reign of Queen Mary; then on the Accession of Queen Elizabeth, he was imprisoned in the Tower. On his release, in the year 1562, he was banished and so ended his days in Europe, a respected Catholic bishop. None of these events could have been foreseen at the beginning of John Longland's episcopacy.

The will of Richard's father John Pate of Henley, written in the year 1520, contains one reference to '*Lucas Longlond of London, Gentleman*' who is named as executor together with Eleanor (John's wife). There was, in about 1515, a John Pate keeper or groom of the Wardrobe and Usher of the Exchange in the Tower who received an annuity of ten pounds out of the Lordship of Denbigh, and held a tenement in 'Le Chepe'. Probably not the same John Pate, for there are numerous later records of grants to this Royal servant, some in the years following the death of the testator of 1520. It is possible that the later grants were to the first John's son, a speculation supported only by one reference to '*page of the bedchamber*' which seems to be a more junior appointment.

John Pate of Henley wished to be buried in the church of the Blackfriars in London. He gave money to the church at Henley intended to help towards the purchase of a new pair of organs. Eleanor, the sister of Bishop John, inherited most of his property, and the three sons, Thomas, Richard and John, and the daughters Elizabeth and Eleanor, were given sums of money.

Of his son Thomas nothing more has come to light, Richard appears in the public records because of his Office, not to mention his courageous rejection of the new order. The third son John was servant to Thomas Cromwell, that is he was entrusted to undertake certain missions on Cromwell's behalf.

From one of the depositions in the published 'Early Chancery Proceedings' we learn that Eleanor Pate, bishop John's niece, married John the eldest son of Thomas Denton Esquire. Some years later, probably in 1542-3, John Longland demanded repayment of a loan which he had granted to Thomas Denton on the occasion of the marriage. The defendants were the executors of the estate of Thomas following his death. Certainly, this concern for Eleanor's well being is one more example of John Longland's support of his nephews and nieces and the other relatives of that generation (at Kinlet).

Though there seems no doubt that John Longland, the future bishop, was born there, Henley appears to have been the home of this senior branch of the family for quite a brief period. The Henley Borough records as published begin in the year 1395 but, as we have noted, no Longland appears until 1507 and

there are no Longland entries after about 1540. The dates of the entries are uncertain, for the pages are torn. It is assumed by historians generally that John was at school in Henley but, apart from an official Visitation during his Episcopate, few available records mention him in connection with his home town. Lucas, though regarded in one or two documents as 'of Henley', was mostly in London, that is when he was not visiting the several abbeys of which he was steward, or employed on missions on behalf of Wolsley or the Earl of Wiltshire.

THE HISTORICAL SETTING

This sketch of Bishop Longlands's life is factual, based on the written evidence which is publicly available. The approach is avowedly sympathetic, an attempt to appreciate both his strength of character and yet his capacity to obey.

We must imagine a world in which the individual quite naturally accepted the authority of Pope and King, for they each derived their power from God. A world which was seen as transient, in which suffering was the norm at all levels of society, for earthly life was a time of preparation for that true destiny after death. Free speech and private interpretation (especially of Scripture) were abhorrent, for they threatened the social structure, and more importantly led to eternal damnation. It was a bishop's duty to oppose such heresies. Bishop Longland was faced with a most serious clash of authority. We must forget that image of much later bishops, so fixed in our minds by the fiction of Trollope.

The bishops of John Longland's day were bound by the oath of clerical celibacy, so his need to relate to a family focussed naturally on his sister Eleanor and on her children. We note too that John was equally concerned for the welfare of his Kinlet relatives, though the precise degree of that relationship is not known.

THE HISTORIANS AND BISHOP LONGLAND

It is surprising to find so few references to Bishop Longland in many of the published histories of Tudor England. They tend to focus on three aspects of the Bishop's public life: his part in the events leading to the divorce of Queen Katherine, his vigorous measures against the Lollards, and his unswerving allegiance to King Henry, shown for example, by his prompt issue of Royal Proclamations throughout his Diocese. It is for the professional historians to debate such matters, but even they must depend on the evidence contained in such documents as have survived. Perhaps it is fair comment to say that his

personal influence in the 'King's great matter' was probably slight, for he did advise the King to consult a wider range of authority.

His persecution of the Lollards was no more than the proper exercise of his duty as a bishop as it was seen at that time. He obeyed the King but he was not so subservient as some commentators imply: he is on record as having protested boldly against Cranmer's visitation within the Lincoln Diocese which raised the question of legitimate authority and weakened the power of the bishops within their own jurisdiction. The more recent historical researches have contributed to a more balanced assessment of this important period. In particular, Margaret Bowker's account of the Diocese of Lincoln under John Longland provides us with an accurate and sympathetic account.

John Longland was well qualified to be a Bishop and to hold high office. Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, in 1505 he took his BD in 1510. He was also 'STP (Professor of Sacred Theology) and contemporary records, before his elevation to the See of Lincoln, refer to him as Doctor Longland.

He is associated with Fitzjames and John Fisher, for they too were theologians. It is not difficult to imagine that much later, at the height of his career worn by the strain of his Office, he must have wished himself back in Oxford. He was at his best when encouraging young priests in their quest for holiness of life and liveliness of mind. John moved on to become Doctor of Divinity in 1511, briefly rector of Lifton, Devon in 1513, then Dean of Salisbury in 1514.

It was at this time that Sir Thomas More praised John Longland, calling him 'a second Colet'. (Colet was Dean of St Pauls, one of the great Tudor Christian humanists). In 1519, as Canon of Windsor, John Longland grew in great favour with the King for his excellent way of preaching, and the year 1521 saw him as Bishop of Lincoln and Lord Almoner. It was in that year, possibly earlier, that he became the King's confessor. He was installed as Bishop of Lincoln on the 12th May 1521 having been consecrated seven days earlier by William, Archbishop of Canterbury, under the authority of Pope Leo X from whom the Papal Letters had been received.

Twenty six years of life remained during which time he was certainly a tireless worker, both on the King's behalf and as director and pastor of a huge diocese. In spite of the stress which his position must have caused him he continued to sponsor young students and, what is particularly relevant to our story, he never ceased to think of his family as he grasped opportunities to give them a helping hand. For example his brother Lucas became Steward of Biggleswade Manor, to name only one of his many appointments, and a Thomas of Kinlet held land in Oxfordshire, offered to him directly by Bishop John, Lord of the Manor of Banbury.

Margaret Bowker, in her book 'The Henrician Reformation: The Diocese of Lincoln under John Longland', puts these actions of the Bishop in perspective seeing them as part of his greater responsibility. She says '*He saw in his family a barrier against damage to the Church ... he clearly thought that his family were as good custodians of the lands of the Church as any and certainly he at least knew his family well enough to know which of them was trustworthy*'.

There were many demands on the Bishop's liberality, direct requests for money or hopes that he would exercise his influence in high places. His correspondence must have been enormous, the published letters being those necessitated by his Office. If only we had his letters to his mother, or his sister, or more particularly to his brother Lucas, how much more complete would be this account of his life.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

The published 'Epostolae Academicae' (1508-1596) of Oxford University include more than fifty Longland references for, as Chancellor, he was expected to be particularly sensitive towards the University's problems. Just two of these letters are given here.

(1) from Convocation/Congregation, to John Longland, bishop of Lincoln.(no date, early 1527).

'Not having written for a long time we write now to show that we still regard you as faithful clients ought to regard an excellent patron - for otherwise you might suspect us of negligence or ingratitude and withdraw some of your affection.

We are still as devoted to you as ever and we continue to pray for you. In saving us from taxation, you have been a second Joseph to us ; but whereas he delivered his brothers from a pagan ruler, you prevailed with a Christian King and Cardinal. Your counsels and promptings counted for much in the foundation of Cardinal College, an inestimable boon to the whole university. If the Cardinal, like Christ, has spared no labour for the good of his own, neither have you, or expense either, as your daily benefactions testify. It is our duty to thank God for you and pray that you may live long.'

(2) John Longland's reply, dated 7th April 1527.

'I see from your letter what you want of me and how highly you regard

me. Your praise, though undeserved, is none the less a sign of friendship and will be rewarded to the extent of my modest resources; for if patriotism, as we know from Plato, the example of illustrious Romans and others, and the law of nature is so great a virtue, I am bound to be as generous as I can to Oxford, which made me all that I am. I have decided not to write to the mayor at the moment, for reasons confided to the bearer and stated in a private letter of mine to the commissary. Go on hoping, and I will continue my efforts for you. If there is anything else I can do for you, you have only to tell me.'

An extract from an earlier letter to Bishop Longland, just a year after his consecration as Bishop, though perhaps the kind of congratulatory letter which we may expect from an official body, does convey something of the respect in which John Longland was held:

'In none of Oxford's sons do we take more pride than in you whose early promise is fulfilled by your elevation to your present See from which no doubt you will eventually reach the supreme heights ...'

Such hopes were not, in the event, realised.

VISITOR OF LINCOLN COLLEGE, OXFORD

John Longland's commitments as Chancellor of the University must have been considerable and his deep love for all it stood for is evident. When he visited Lincoln College in the year 1524 he presented them with a swan (the subsequent accounts show in an item *'for oats for the swan that my lord of Lincoln gave us'*).

Another entry itemises the preparations for his visit, presumably a prolonged, one for he came to appraise the work of the college and to issue his injunctions. He occupied the chamber *'above Mr Rector'* which Alice Clark prepared for him. The Bishop's cook and kitchen staff came with him, the college paying eight pence for cloth *'to make my Lord's cook a naperon.'* Four pence was spent *'the dressing of my lord's larder house'* and fresh straw and rushes were needed for his room, library, and chapel. Among his entourage was his scribe Mr Jenyns who wrote out the injunctions drawn up by the bishop.

ROYAL GIFTS AND THE KING'S DEMANDS

The letters written by Bishop Longland give us some idea of the life of a Tudor Bishop; the topics range from Royal commands to concern for humble

students, from matters deeply spiritual to individual concern for wealth and power. John Longland was nominally a very wealthy man but the King saw to it that no Bishop escaped the liability to contribute to the Royal coffers. In 1522 King Henry specified an annual grant to be made *'by the spirituality for the King's personal expenses in France for the recovery of the Crown of the same'*. Bishop Longland had to find £1,000 each year, the Archdeacon of Lincoln was charged £333-6-8d. Henry gratefully gave the Nobility various gifts at the New Year giving the Bishop of Lincoln a gilt cup with cover weighing nearly 32 oz. Such presents were a routine observance, and the King received in return, from each Bishop, money in purses or gloves.

Wolsey wrote to the Bishop in May 1523 summoning Longland to attend convocation at Westminster in June. We know that he was already in London, for the records of the city of Lincoln contain a report from the Mayor to the effect that he had *'communicated with my lord of Lincoln (then in London) about the ashes the precentor had felled in divers churchyards in the city'*. The city authorities hoped that the King's power to seize the trees could be invoked so that they would have use of the wood. The University of Oxford wrote to him at about the same time, worried about the water supply in times of sickness.

The Convocation of Oxford University regarded him primarily as a great friend and counsellor, an efficient delegate who would do his utmost for them. Cromwell, looked upon him as a loyal servant who would ensure that the largest diocese in England could be trusted to obey the Royal commands.

In spite of these pressures, John Longland continued to be faithful to his commitment as a pastor and a bishop in the truly spiritual sense. Parish priests and, before the Dissolution, ordinary monks and nuns experienced both his sympathetic concern and his uncompromising exercise of discipline.

Fortunately he was able to delegate some tasks in Oxford to his suffragan, Bishop Robert King, for he must have felt the need to retreat from the busy world, and no doubt this was possible, at Buckden or at Lyddington. The Bishop did continue his studies, giving this as his reason for not going to see Cromwell in mid Lent 1533.

INDIFFERENT HEALTH AND FRUSTRATION

He was not always in good health; in June 1525 he wrote to Wolsey to say that he had been laid up for five weeks with pain in his left hip from cold, but that he would attend on him as soon as he could ride. We may imagine John Longland astride Cambridge, his sorrel gelding, accompanied by an armed escort, for there were individuals prepared to do desperate things. The roads

could be dangerous from more than one point of view and at times of flood the Bishop sent a deputy to attend to his business. The impression remains that John Longland liked to act directly in all important matters.

Three years later, on 5th March 1528, he corresponded with the University regarding the prevalence of Lutherism there, regretting that as illness kept him inactive he could do no more than write to Wolsey. He had been suffering from sciatica since the Summer of 1527 and complained frequently in his letters throughout the following year, inactive and deeply frustrated at a time when the teachings of the Church were threatened.

On one occasion, in spite of his unfitnes, he intended to ride to Oxford *'to reduce them to order'*. He hoped to be at Court for Easter if he could walk with a staff, and in March 1528 he was grateful for a dispensation to eat meat during Lent for the good of his health. On 26th June 1528 in a letter to Wolsey from Woburn he was happy to report that *'I was at Court Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi, the King was shriven and houselled. I ministered as my weakness would serve in pontificalibus (that is properly vested as Bishop) and found the King very gracious'*.

That summer many people in London were dying of the sweat and he was forced to flee, reaching Woburn in a litter, though having spent part of the journey on horseback. He found several people dead there but he still hoped to be fit enough to go on to Buckden, and later to make a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Walsingham.

He was passing through a particularly bad time, having offended the King by granting clerical appointments to people of his own choice, ignorant of the King's wishes. In one pathetic letter to Wolsey he asks for the Archbishop's help *'that the King will take me again into his old favour or I will not long continue in this life, for I cannot bear the least jot of his displeasure'*. He was not of course the only one of his generation to have fallen under the spell of King Henry, the accomplished Prince who had charmed so many.

NEPHEW RICHARD PATE

That same year he wrote to Wolsey on a personal matter regarding a house in the close at Lincoln *'which I should be glad of for my nephew Richard Pate, Archdeacon of Lincoln, whom I should like to settle there'*.

Richard Pate was soon to leave England on a diplomatic mission to Spain. The 'Remembrances' have survived which list the day to day tasks of Thomas Cromwell, his notes which were reminders to attend not to great matters of State but to routine requirements. In November 1533 he noted the imminent

dispatch of Master Pate 'my Lord of Lincoln's kinsman' towards Spain, and his uncertainty about how much money was required and how many horses were necessary.

Meanwhile John Longland was putting pressure on Cromwell on behalf of the University of Oxford, regarding the maintenance of the University privileges: 'While this is in suspense learning goes not forward & order is not kept & many depart the University, neither can we punish unthrifths'.

John Longland wrote from Woburn in April 1535 regarding a riot at Newmarket, adding 'I have been very weak in my limbs and feet since Easter but intend to ride sometime next week to Lincoln to view the Cathedral and other spiritualities there'. Yet again he asked Cromwell to help his nephew Richard Pate, Archdeacon of Lincoln, 'whose great charges at this time are beyond what his income can bear'.

The three commitments, as the King's servant, as administrator, and as pastor, drained his energy; and he showed concern, as always, for the welfare of his family. We are speaking of his brother and sister, his nephews, nieces and those relatives at Kinlet. At least, in common with all bishops at that time, he was spared the particular concern for a wife and children of his own.

TAXES, ESCAPED PRISONERS, AND RICHARD PATE'S EXPENSES

In May 1525 the clergy of Beds., Bucks. and Hunts. all claimed much poverty and Bishop Longland, as Commissioner for Taxes, agreed with their complaints suggesting more widely spaced dates of payment of tax. He was on his way to Spalding to meet heads of religious houses but he decided not to meet the clergy until he had heard further from Wolsey.

One letter, in 1536, combined a plea to the King for forgiveness with his expression of concern for his nephew Richard Pate, referred to as 'cousin'.

'Through ill keepers on Tuesday night last the prisoners, convicts who were in my prison at Banbury, brake out & are gone so I am at the King's mercy for the forfeit. I request your intercession that the King may forgive me part of the same & grant days of payment for the rest.' The King was persuaded to pardon John Longland who in gratitude gave Cromwell 5 marks in gold.

The Archdeacon's problems were more complicated. John Longland's letter continued *'I beg you, as my cousin Archdeacon tarries beyond sea, to command Mr Bryan Tuyke to deliver my cousin Robyns money for his bank when Robyns shall sue you for it.'* This was a recurring matter, for in 1538 Richard Pate, still in Europe, was owed £115. Richard was perpetually in need and it seems that William Robyns was a source of supply and perhaps not a very straightforward one. He appears to have been responsible for the collection of

rents of Church property in England, some of which passed to Richard Pate. Perhaps it should not have done so, for, in October 1540 Robyns warns the Archdeacon-Ambassador *'Take care my Lord of Lincoln does not hear what money you receive of me, as it might hinder you if he were inclined to do you good hereafter altho he be as yet straightly laced'*.

The bishop also thanked Lord Lisle for *'goodness shown to his servants in Calais'*, referring to John Pate. This John, was his nephew, the brother of Richard Pate the Archdeacon. He was also concerned about some money owing to himself.

Some relatively minor matters of Church discipline seem to have been dealt with directly by John Longland. Writing from his house at Holborn, 21 July 1536, to the Curate of All Hallows, Oxford, he expressed his surprise that a curate should presume to preach within his diocese without his licence. He forbade him to do so, reminding the authorities that this priest *'requires to study Divinity first.'* On the same day a letter was addressed by the Bishop to the Rector of Lincoln College bidding him to look better to such cures as were in the gift of his college.

That same summer Bishop Longland had more distressing matters on his mind, for religious discontent (following the King's Act of Supremacy and other measures) coincided with economic troubles.

THE REBELLION OF 1536

By October 1536, a serious rebellion was underway in Lincolnshire. John Longland was one of five bishops regarded by the rebels as heretics; in fact the rebels in Yorkshire, in their proclamation, stated that *'we think the beginning of all this trouble was the bishop of Lincoln'*. They must surely have exaggerated the influence which John Longland had with the King but no doubt in the popular mind he was Henry's most intimate advisor.

Some time during the first weekend in October the rebels broke up the bishop's palace at Lincoln and murdered the Chancellor. Bishop Longland was absent, wisely remaining at Holborn.

Nearly a year later a prisoner in the Marshalsea, Andrew Pylottes, warned the Bishop by letter that he (John Longland) was likely to be accused of High Treason, as he himself was wrongfully accused. He reminded the Bishop that he once made three clocks for him and was enduring great cold, hunger, and thirst. It was a cry for help which contained a thinly veiled threat, an indication of the political intrigue which cast its shadow over many lives.

Not many years afterwards when Richard Pate the Ambassador in France dramatically disappeared from the scene, John Longland was temporarily under

this shadow. Meanwhile, on the Continent the King's agents questioned Pate's servants at the house in 'Amures' (perhaps 'Amiens' ?) to be told that the Ambassador had fled, taking a considerable sum of money and some silver plate. One of the servants questioned was William Langland, probably from Kinlet, page to Richard Pate.

It is fitting to end this brief survey of his official correspondence with an extract from a letter to Thomas Cromwell in which he asks that special consideration be given to a relative. The tenure of a farm was in question. We read: *'Regarding the ferme of this prebend given out by Master Bedyll under his seal & writing I beseech you may stand. The holder gave 40 l in a fine for it. He has married the sister of John Pate your servant. His harvest is in & his cattle on the ground so unless allowed to enjoy his lease he will be undone.*

Lydyngton, 11 September 1537'.

LYDDINGTON

The manor house at Lyddington still stands, not far from Uppingham in the old County of Rutland. In spite of some changes (it became a hospital and Bede House in 1602) it is not difficult to imagine the arrival of Bishop Longland. Tired and cold at the end of his ride he would have relaxed before the huge fireplace in the great hall. Away from the politics and the plague sickness in London, he was more at peace here than at Woburn. His predecessors had been fond of the place and he was a frequent visitor. Official histories note that the Manor was surrendered to the King in the year 1547, significantly the year of John Longland's death when much episcopal property passed to the Crown.

BISHOP LONGLAND AND THE RELIGIOUS HOUSES

John Longland in the years preceeding the Dissolution did what he could to reform those institutions which had ceased to follow the strict rules of their founders. The visitation reports generally contain exhortations to follow strictly the routine of prayer and study, but the the wearing of religious dress was also a matter for concern. His instructions directed to the Benedictine nuns of Elstow, Bedfordshire, tell us something of the fashions of the day:

'We ordain ... that no lady nor any religious sister within the said monastery presume to wear their apparel on their heads under such lay fashion as they have now of late done with cornered crests, neither under such manner of height, showing their foreheads more like lay people than religious, but that

they use them without such crests or secular fashions and of a lower sort and that their veil come as low as their eye lids ... and that none of the said religious sisters do use or wear hereafter any such open shoes, neither crested as they have of late used, but that they be of such honest fashion as other religious places do use and that their gowns and kirtles be close afore and not so deep open at the breast and no more to use red stomachers but other sad colours in the same'.

In June 1528 he reported to Wolsey that the head of the Blackfriars, at Warwick, '*had his woman there*', an Agnes Pastoe. She was sent away to marry a servant, but the Queen protested saying that the provincial should not live in a house of which she was foundress. The bishop had admonished the Prior but admitted that little religion was kept in the house '*which was in decay*'.

Six months later, on the death of the Abbot of Thame, John Longland was very concerned about the choice of a successor there, writing '*I am founder of the monastery and anxious to promote religion there*'.

Perhaps many of the visitations were carried out by the Archdeacon or others representing the Bishop but he did appear in person at Missenden in the year 1531, armed with a schedule of charges against the Abbot John Fox and one of the Canons, Roger Palmer. Afterwards, John Longland issued a long list of injunctions to be read out every month in Chapter; his practical approach has a typical ring about it:

'Every Canon is to occupy himself in study ... or some honest craft to avoid idleness which is the mother of mischief'. The Abbot was charged to reform the dress of the Canons: they were not to wear '*any guarded or welted hose or stufed codpiece or jerkin or any other short or courtly fashioned garment. Their kirtles are to be in future at least down to the ankle*' The Abbey ceased to exist in September 1539, the abbot then married and lived on his pension of £50 a year; the prior received £6-13-4 a year.

GAIETIES AND CHRISTMAS SPORT

The Bishop cannot have been a welcome visitor on these occasions. At Nuncotham, in North Lincolnshire, he found that the customary hospitality was abused for the Prioress, Joan Thompson, accommodated many of her own family there. She had given things belonging to the Order to her brother and his children and granted corrodies too freely. A corrody entitled the recipient to free bed and board, but at this Priory there seems to have been entertainment as well, for '*gaieties and Christmas sport*' were reported. The sisters were often away on visits to friends and the children were not properly taught (presumably those attending a school there).

We imagine that people came and went at all hours, for John Longland ordered the cloister doors to be duly fastened at night time. Regarding festivities these seem not to have been banned outright but no lord of misrule was allowed and there was to be *'no disguising in nuns apparel, nor otherwise'*. Tudor parties must have been a real free for all but John Longland could not allow the nuns or their guests to imagine that they were at the King's Court. The ladies were to *'flee all ill company'* and only approved priests could be admitted as confessors to them.

No doubt King Henry was pleased to read reports of laxity, they gave him the excuse to close the abbeys and so seize their wealth. It was too late for John Longland to remedy matters. For him this must have been a tragedy, for from his boyhood he had absorbed all that was best in the system which was now falling apart. He himself had founded one abbey, that of Thame. Not only the abbeys but the pious guilds and fraternities, communities dear to his late mother's heart, were not to last much longer.

The Dissolution of the monasteries came late in the life of Bishop John, just eight years remained. He had been born into a world of certainty; not an easy world but one in which the authority of the Church was sharply defined. That world was now being shaken and the new men included self seekers as well as saints. A sad end indeed to his Episcopate.

The words of his mother's will would still be in his mind: *'I give and bequeath to the guild of our Blessed Lady in Boston ... whereof I am sister, to have mass and dirge shortly after my decease, 6 shillings and 8 pence ...'* There were similar bequests to a guild and brotherhood at York and to the fraternity of Jesus at Henley. Candles were to burn before the holy Sacrament, visible prayers for her soul.

John Longland had once been moved to mention his parent's piety in a sermon; we cannot doubt the reality of this, even against the background of comfort which only the gentry of his day can have known. To her son *'my Lord of Lincoln'* Elizabeth had given a standing cup of silver and gilt with a cover *'having the image of Saint Michael and a dragon on the top and three angels in the foot.'* There was a gilt goblet, a gold ring, a girdle of black velvet with a buckle and pendant of silver, more than one pair of beads with precious stones, and a silver pomander with a pearl in the top.

John, the bishop, looking at these heirlooms, must have thought often of his mother and asked himself how she would judge his actions, with some sympathy perhaps, for he had been carried along by a tide which he could hardly oppose. For a minority of abbots opposition meant that their bodies were now quartered and publicly displayed.

Had John Longland any real friends in that turbulent world? A question

which we can hardly answer, but his relationship with Erasmus was, apparently, a deep one.

JOHN LONGLAND AND ERASMUS OF ROTTERDAM

John, as a scholar and theologian, was naturally interested in the works of Erasmus and the relationship deepened to become a genuine friendship. In a letter written in 1523, which accompanied the draft of a theological book, Erasmus concludes *'You will taste it and give me your opinion; I submit to it more willingly than to any other. May the Lord keep you in good health.'* Erasmus dedicated to John Longland his Discourse on the Fourth Psalm (1525) his translation of Athanasius (1527) and his Treatise on Psalm 85 (1528).

They may have met as early as the year 1499 when John was studying for his M.A. at Oxford. Erasmus himself mentions their meeting at Calais in the year 1520, for it was then that John Longland first encouraged him to write a commentary on the Psalms. John was in Calais, summoned by King Henry to be present at the Field of the Cloth of Gold, that extravagant meeting with the King of France. John Longland is listed as Dean of Salisbury (his elevation to bishop followed a year later) so he was allowed a retinue of ten persons and four horses.

In spite of their occasional differences of opinion they were close friends and John Longland frequently supplied Erasmus with funds. In his letters Erasmus adopts a friendly though often reverential tone.

A letter of the Bishop's to Erasmus at Bâle in the year 1525 carries the direction *'To Master Erasmus of Rotterdam, his chosen friend'*, and the letter is signed simply *'your friend, John de Lincoln'*. Their relationship was very warm, and so it continued, though John did advise some prudent revision of those texts which had shocked both opponents and friends.

In April 1526 Erasmus wrote to thank him for the ten angels received via More, and the ten received in the previous year. He feared that some correspondence had been lost but assumed that the Bishop had the Colloquies saying *'he will find there much in it serviceable for education of the young'*. In another letter Erasmus claims to have followed John Longland's advice in correcting his writings, but it is hard to believe that John Longland could have accepted the new ideas which sought to abolish Catholic ritual. None the less he was convinced that the work of Erasmus would have lasting significance. Obviously moved by the knowledge that at least one of the books would be dedicated to him he wrote *'for many reasons I feel very close to you, doing all you can to make me immortal through your universally known great literary works.'*

In one letter Erasmus expected John Longland to reward Aldridge (a

friend of the bishop's) who had done much work in collating the manuscripts. Erasmus himself was always in need of money for the publication of his works was only made possible by others.

The correspondence between Erasmus and Bishop John is of two kinds: the shorter letters from Erasmus being his thanks for money received and the longer letters, theological in nature, concerned with the writings of Erasmus. In the published letters there are close on fifty references to John Longland, but many of these tell us little, for Erasmus was keen to mention his friends and patrons when writing to others.

From about the year 1531 the letters of Erasmus change in tone, they seem to be written against a background of insecurity. John Longland was still contributing but Erasmus no longer anticipated anything from Thomas More. Then in 1533, he was obviously worried to learn that several personal letters, including some to John Longland, had fallen into the hands of More. According to Erasmus these letters were about 'serious matters'; he would have preferred More to have remained in ignorance of these discussions.

In 1534 he informed another correspondent that, for some years, the Bishop of Lincoln had been pressing him to write a commentary on Augustin's 'City of God', but he could not bring himself to do it, and had written to John Longland asking him not to send any more money.

However, the following year the money was still coming in from Bishop Longland. In 1536 Erasmus acknowledged another 15 'half angels' but, alas, no letter from him. He wrote to John, on 16th March, thanking him for not forgetting him '*in the midst of such great trouble*'. This was the year of the rebellion in Lincolnshire, no doubt a difficult time for John Longland. The letter is a moving one for it shows beyond doubt that the friendship was real. Erasmus was very ill, unable to eat and in pain, and he had to dictate his letter. Yet he was moved in these difficult circumstances to express the great respect which he had for his friend and patron.

In his will Erasmus gave instructions for a special reprint of all his works for distribution amongst several people of note, including Thomas More. John Longland was to receive a copy of every work.

THOMAS CRANMER

John Longland and Thomas Cranmer seem never to have experienced any deep personal relationship, at least no correspondence has come to light which would suggest otherwise. John represented the old order whilst Cranmer, the younger man, was moving dangerously towards the new. John Longland, at the age of 59, could have followed Wolsey as Archbishop but the King chose the

one more suited to his plans. So, Thomas Cranmer, with the Pope's approval, was consecrated by John Longland and two other bishops in 1532. The fifteen years which were to follow cannot have been the happiest of John Longland's life. He continued to do his duty, still supporting King Henry, occasionally flouting Canterbury, often bowing to authority with ill disguised irony.

THE ROYAL DIVORCE

John Longland's main personal involvement was to put the matter before the University of Oxford, and he was one of the four bishops to sign the letter to Pope Clement on 13th July 1530 asking him to grant the divorce. A number of temporal Lords and some academics also signed. The matter to be decided was one of 'annulment' of the King's marriage, a judgement which had to refer to Scripture and the law of the Church. It was not a divorce as modern law understands the term.

Bishop John was present at the trial of Katherine of Aragon and a letter from him to the King says that the matter '*is to be determined after Mass of the Holy Ghost, which I the Bishop of Lincoln purpose to celebrate, God willing.*'

Some sources say that Bishop Longland in later years bitterly repented the part which he had played. The Emperor's Ambassador in England, Chapuys, stated that '*the bishop of Lincoln has said several times since Christmas that he would rather be the poorest man in the world than ever have been the King's counsellor and confessor*' (he was writing in January 1534).

Perhaps such feelings were suspected but it seems hardly likely that John Longland would have said this openly; it was necessary to be extremely circumspect at Henry's Court. Buckden was initially chosen as a secure place for the divorced Queen Katherine and she arrived at the Bishop's Palace there in the Summer of 1533.

THE CHRISTENING OF THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH 1533

That autumn the new Queen, Anne Boleyn, informed Lord Cobham of the birth of a daughter, the Princess Elizabeth. The christening of the baby Princess is described in some detail in the contemporary Chronicles of Edward Hall. It is fairly certain that John Longland was present for Hall describes how '*the Bishop of London met the procession with divers bishops and abbots mitred and began the observance of the sacrament*'. Chapuys the Ambassador from Spain, reporting before the ceremony, expected the Bishop of London to officiate.

In her account of the life of Anne Boleyn, Esther Chapman states that *'she was baptised by Longland, bishop of Lincoln'*. There are several editions of Hall's Chronicles in existence, certainly that of the year 1809 contains no reference to Bishop Longland. We do know that Cranmer was Anne's godfather and that the other sponsors were the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk and the Marchioness of Dorset.

Meanwhile Henry's first wife Katherine was proving too popular with the people of Buckden and she was eventually removed to Kimbolton.

Bishop Longland was used by the Royal Authority in ways which cannot have been to his liking. The lawyer Rich suggested that it would be a good idea for the King to seize Katherine's property (on her death) in an underhand way *'to administer by means of the bishop of Lincoln for her as Princess Dowager and then to confiscate all as insufficient to defray her funeral expenses'* (quoted in Strickland's Lives of the Queens of England).

Though he was able to accept the Royal Supremacy there must have been a measure of self deception, for the trends were obvious. Bishop Longland and Bishop Stokesley attempted to introduce clauses into the declaration which could have toned down the surrender to the King. In several instances at that critical time John Longland was one of a small group of bishops chosen to present to the King the difficulties felt by the bishops in Convocation.

Henry did not accept these modifications, yet in spite of this setback Cromwell was given strong support by the Bishop of Lincoln. On June 25th 1535, he wrote to Cromwell:

'Since the letter of declaration which your mastership sent unto me last must go to so many places that the bishop's clerks cannot cope with the copies needed, I have caused 2,000 of the same to be put in print'. Within weeks the Pope had excommunicated John Longland.

On reading the letters concerning affairs of Church and State we gain little idea of the personal relationship between Thomas Cromwell and Bishop John. In the year 1536, Cromwell instructed John Longland to leave the Prior of Spalding undisturbed, and similarly in 1539 he more or less insisted that the parish priest of Horncastle was to be forgiven. Yet it seems that the bishop was displeased with them and had he been free to act he would have penalised them in some way. Cromwell ends his letter of 1539 *'Thus the Holy Ghost have you in his custody'*. No doubt this was a routine formula, often used to conclude such correspondence; it may have conveyed some genuine regard. The following year Thomas was beheaded, a terrible reminder of the dangers of high office at that time. In the introduction to Christopher Haigh's book *'The English Reformation Revised'* Longland is contrasted with Fisher, who went to the block for his

beliefs, and it is suggested that, in holding on to his See, the Bishop of Lincoln had served the Catholic cause well, delaying the impact of Protestantism on his diocese until after his death in 1547.

MATTERS OF STATE

Bishops were regarded as 'Princes of the Church', spiritual advisors to the King, but equally they were associated with the Royal temporal power. In May, 1522, when the Emperor Charles V visited England, Bishop Longland was among those standing on the South Downs waiting to greet him.

On the 11th October 1532 Henry landed at Calais with the Duke of Richmond, his bastard son, and the Dukes of Norfolk and of Suffolk. With them were the Bishops of Winchester, London, Lincoln, and Bath, the Marquess of Exeter, the Earl of Derby, and others. Each Bishop had a retinue of 24 men. On the 21st they all rode to Boulogne, returning later to Calais with the French King, his Dukes and Bishops and the great Lords of France, Gascoigne, Bretagne and Normandy. The French King paid for all Henry's costs '*and of them that came to Boulogne*'. (These details are taken from Camden's Chronicle of Calais)

As Bishop, John Longland had to visit those in high places. We can only guess at the reason for these social calls, though it seems likely that some practical need was satisfied. No doubt patrons who presented priests to Church livings had to make their proposals through the Bishop. Maybe problems arose regarding manorial jurisdictions, or civil misdemeanors which involved the Church. We know, for example, that in November 1539 the Bishop of Lincoln visited the Earl of Rutland at Belvoir, for the Household accounts include 9 pence for seven gallons of ale on the occasion, which was repeated a year later.

Though few details are found in official records the Bishop must have had frequent personal contact with the King. In 'The Lives of the Queens of England' (Agnes Strickland) we read that in the year 1523, two years after John Longland's appointment as Bishop, Queen Katherine was with the King at Eltham Palace. '*Longland, Bishop of Lincoln, undertook to show and explain to her the plans of the noble foundation of Christ's College Oxford just then established by Cardinal Wolsey. It was the eve of the Epiphany, the Queen's dinner was done when the Bishop entered with the other Lords into the Queen's chamber. Henry himself, with Katherine, approached the place where Bishop Longland stood, and said to her in these words Madame, my Lord of Lincoln can show of my lord Cardinal's college at Oxford and what learning there shall be...*' John Longland then showed the Queen the plans, subsequently writing to Wolsey to tell him all about the meeting.

Nearly twenty years later, on Friday 10th February 1542, Bishop John had a very different meeting with a Queen. This was the day on which Katherine Howard was received, at the Tower of London, following her condemnation and death sentence. *'In the evening John Longland Bishop of Lincoln came to hear the Queen's confession and to offer her spiritual comfort ... she swore to him that she was innocent ... she asked the Bishop to pray with her ... and fell on her knees beside him ...'*

This is quoted from the book 'The Six wives of Henry VIII' by Alison Weir. It is not clear on what evidence such intimate details are based but it seems possible that the story comes from the letters of Chapys, the foreign diplomat who listened to conversations, picking up stories here and there at the King's court. His familiarity with English speech was not adequate to the task but the account illustrates the nature of some of John Longland's less welcome tasks.

JOHN TAVERNER

Fortunately there were tasks of a very different nature, for example, in the year 1525 he was looking for a musician of some repute to train the choir which would be established at Cardinal College. He chose John Taverner who had been a lay clerk at Tattershall, a Boston man, by then in his thirty fifth year. The Bishop's mother had connections with Boston (as a member of one of the Guilds there) and it seems obvious that John Longland knew Taverner well and held him in high regard. Though he turned down the offer initially, Taverner accepted the appointment a year later.

JANE SEYMOUR, ANNE OF CLEVES AND KATHERINE HOWARD

John Longland took part in the Royal ceremonial, playing a prominent part in the week of solemn masses which preceded the funeral of Henry's Queen, Jane Seymour (the mother of Edward) in the year 1537. At the funeral he read the seventh lesson, followed by the Archbishop who read the eighth; this was at Windsor on November 12th.

He welcomed Anne of Cleves in London, and later, in August 1540, he was at Lincoln to meet Henry and his new Queen, Katherine Howard. He had in the interval taken part in the deliberations leading to the annulment of the marriage with Anne.

In October 1541 Henry and the Queen (Katherine Howard) arrived at Hampton Court and, on the following day, heard Mass in the Chapel; *'the King gave most hearty thanks for the good life he had led with his wife, and also desired the Bishop of Lincoln, his ghostly father, to make like prayers and give*

like thanks with him on All Souls Day'.

A year later Katherine was beheaded on Tower Hill; we may wonder what John Longland thought of these events and, whether or not in these final years of his life he still held the King in such high regard.

SPIRITUAL DUTIES, AND HIS CONCERN FOR PEOPLE

It was his duty to preach before the King and one of these sermons demonstrates that the buying and selling of benefices continued. The first years income from a newly acquired benefice now went to the King instead of to the Pope; but the cure of souls continued to be sullied by strong financial considerations. So John Longland condemned 'simony' as the greatest sin of the time:

'That which almost destroys the Church of Christ ... Simony, Simony. Chopping and changing, buying and selling of benefices and of spiritual gifts and promotions. And no better merchandise is now a days, than to procure advowsons of patrons for benefices, for prebends, for other spiritual livelihood : whether it be by suit, request, by letters, by money, bargain or otherwise, yes whether it be to buy them or sell them.'

John Longland himself was of course involved in the system of which he was so powerfully critical, he did not hesitate to use his influence in advancing his own nephews, or his cousins at Kinlet or in Cuddington, not to mention his brother Lucas. But to be fair to John Longland it was the distortion of the system, a sort of medieval dealing in stocks and shares, which was evil. Someone had to occupy a given post, and prebends had useful farm land which went with preferment; there is no evidence to suggest that the Bishop encouraged a kind of trade in these matters.

The sermon was preached at Greenwich, on Good Friday, 1538 when he spoke too against the Bishop of Rome, but a few sermons of his have survived which are more spiritually contemplative in their nature.

An extract from a letter to Wolsey, in September 1528, shows us another aspect of John Longland's mind ; one more in tune with the life of most Longland's, close to the earth and the lives of country people. He was distressed by the economic changes which he saw on his travels which he seems to have discussed with the Nobility, landowners in Northants., Leicester and Rutland:

'... for if your grace did at the eyes see as I have now seen your heart would mourn to see the towns, villages, hamlets, manor places, in ruin and decay, the people gone, the ploughs laid down, the living of many honest

husbandmen in one man's hand ... few people there stirring, the commons in many places taken away from the poor people, whereby they are compelled to forsake their houses, and so wearied out and wot not where to live and so maketh their lamentation.'

So we have a picture of a man in high office, determined to do his duty in difficult circumstances. He cannot be compared with a modern Church of England bishop whose task, however difficult, is confined to a more restricted role. John Longland held his position at the will and mercy of a ruthless King who gave great power to his Secretary Thomas Cromwell.

John, as Bishop of Lincoln, was fighting a losing battle to protect a Church which he still regarded as the Catholic spiritual power in England. He did ensure that some Church property would be cared for by generations of his own family and it is this which has made our story what it is. The facts suggest that, during his latter years, he must have realised that the old order was doomed.

Even he, like other Royal favourites, was for a few days under suspicion. His nephew Richard Pate, then in Rome, had been condemned in absence as a traitor. In Lincoln the enemies of the bishop searched in vain for proof of his unreliability.

IN MEMORIAM

No portrait of John Longland has been traced, though his arms appear at Oxford (and at Lincoln, together with the pun in Latin). The Register at Lincoln records the institution by Bishop John, on the day before his death, of Sir John Dickenson, clerk, to the church of Long Ledenham, patron the King:

'by the advice and consent of his uncle Edward duke of Somerset governor of his Royal person ... that this is the last and latest institution expedited by the reverend father of revered memory the lord John Longland bishop of Lincoln who died at Woborne at the ninth hour of the night on Saturday 7 May 1547. On whose soul God have mercy. Amen.'

He had lived 74 years, latterly an obstacle to those who were eager for radical change, whether within the University or in the Church. He had ably defended both institutions to the end.

Archbishop Warham, Cranmer's predecessor who died in 1532, said in a letter to John Longland *'and of truth I think verily that if all bishops had done their duty as ye have in setting forth Christ's doctrine and repressing of vice by preaching and otherwise, the dignity of the Church had not been had in such contempt as it is now, and virtue had not been so cold and almost extinct in*

mens' hearts, and iniquity had not had so great boldness and strength as it hath now, increasing day by day by the great schismatic and heretic Luther ...'

He has been condemned by nineteenth century writers who accepted Fox's biased accounts, and the Dictionary of National Biography echoes this legacy. It is perhaps salutary to give more weight to the testimony of his contemporaries, to look at him, if we can, through sixteenth century eyes. With hindsight we may conclude that John Longland had attempted the impossible. He had held out to the end but with his death the old order was dismissed.

THE LAST WILL OF THE BISHOP

John Longland's Will was written in March 1546/7 *'in the first year of the reign of our sovereign lord Edward ... defender of the faith and of the Church of England and also of Ireland in Earth the Supreme Head.'*

Three members of the Longland family appear in the lists of bequests:

To Humfrey Longlonde *'one complete harness of allmayn Ryvetts with a bow and sheaf of arrows or a bill'*.

A complete harness of allmayn ryvets was a complete suit of light-weight armour. If this was made at one of the Royal Armouries it would be worth around £5,000 in today's money, ordinary armour cost much less, the equivalent of £250.

To Sir Edward Longlond *'one work called Opus Cardinalis super totam bibliam expesitoris, with two of the best sermonystes that are in my study at Bugden'*.

To Thomas Longlond *'to the helping and fitting up of his household in Bugden, one half garnyshe of the second sort, two of my small geldyngs, two honest beds complete, my standing table that is in the great tower chamber, two pots, my least broche there, two whole course bord clothes, two course towels, two course pair of sheets whole, and forty shillings in money'* (a garnyshe was a set of vessels for table use).

'Item I do clearly remit and foregeve Sir Edward Longlonde all such sums of money as he oweth unto me as appeareth in an obligation he standeth bounden unto me.'

Humfrey and Edward ('Sir' was his courtesy title as priest) were the brothers at Upton, Thomas was the yeoman at Kinlet; all three were to die within a year or so of the death of Bishop John.

His nephew John Pate was given one of his horses and his long gown of damask *'furred with foynes'*.

It difficult to put the sums of money mentioned in the bequests into

perspective; if we adopt a factor of 90 as a comparison with the late 20th century (based on the cost of a loaf) we see that Thomas Longland was given about two hundred pounds (today's equivalent) to help set up his house. In 1547 forty shillings was more than a month's pay of skilled workman.

These family bequests form only a small part of the will; the other provisions tell us something about the Bishop himself, about the Church and some of the notables of the day. John Longland requested *'any hearse, but plain and after the common sort with four tapers only'*.

He asked to be buried in the Cathedral only if he should die there, or close by. He chose Eton College Church as his burial place in the event of death at Woburn. There were instructions for a dirge and a Requiem mass, and the singers were to share four pounds. At Eton, the Masters, Fellows and Choir were given four marks.

As the funeral cortege progressed from Woburn to Eton, each parish they passed through was to receive a noble *'of 6 shillings and 8 pence'* for church maintenance.

Each one of his servants received a complete bed, and all debts owing to the Bishop of less than 40 shillings were remitted. At that point, John Longland remembered the big debts, particularly that owed by the late King which amounted to one thousand pounds. He trusted that the honorable Lords and executors would repay his executors and assigns. He hoped too that some copyhold land at Sleaford which had been taken from him would be restored to his successor. In the event, after his death, much manorial land passed into the King's hands.

He gave many books to Eton and to the Colleges: Magdalen, Oriel and Lincoln. His mitre, rod, and staff as well as his Eucharistic vestments were given to the Cathedral at Lincoln, with copes of silver for the deacon and sub deacon.

Many people are named: his cousins, Anthony Forster and his wife, cousin Bewforest, John Pate, William Robyns. William Adams was given *'my great sorrel gelding, called Cambridge'* and Doctor Roydon *'my lesser astrolobe which is in a case with one column otherwise called a dial in silver, and little small books concerning making of dials and such other like and a clock'*.

He gave to the church at a Woburn a bell of fine metal silver, called Bishop Longland's bell, which was to be perfectly in tune. He directed that this bell be rung at seven o'clock in the evening on working days, from All Hallowtide till Candlemass.

Henley was not forgotten: land was to be bought so that his almshouses could be set up, a new house for the men and the old hermitage for the women.

They were instructed to pray each evening for the souls of his father and mother, for his own soul, and for all Christian souls.

The executors were his cousins, William Robyns and Anthony Forester, and his Steward, John Somer.

Lord St John, Lord Grandmaster of the King's Household, and Lord Montagu the Chief Justice were Overseers of the will; they each received £6-14-4d, the executors £5. A final bequest was a payment of £8 for a period of 14 years to his scholar at Oxford, James Calshill.

THE BRASS AT ETON, HIS HEART AT LINCOLN

According to a history of Eton College, published in the year 1911, all trace of a brass commemorating Bishop John had disappeared '*some time during the preceeding 200 years*'. John Longland was represented in full episcopal dress and the brass was inscribed '*Haec Aedes corpus, Woburn viscera servat, Atque pium sedes cor Cathedralis habet*'. This would accord with his wishes: his body at Eton, his bowels at Woburn, and his heart at Lincoln.

Bishop Longland receives no mention in the current Cathedral guide books at Lincoln, though the visitors tread on the carpet which must cover the spot where his heart lies. Thankfully his chantry chapel has survived: at least the exterior with the pun in Latin and the heraldic devices. The interior is bare, a memorial rather to those iconoclasts who were eager to efface the Catholic past.

The heraldry consists of two pairs of shields: on the left the arms of Lincoln, more or less as they appear on his seal. That is the 'our Lady with her Babe', the Virgin's head now missing thanks to the later destruction, and below her 'two lions passant guardant', and then the arms of Longland. On the right, the first shield is that of St Hugh, bishop of Lincoln from 1186 to 1200, a saltire ermine between four fleurs de lys, and by it the Longland arms, again. That is the bishop's own variation which includes the cock on the chevron, not on the apex but slipped to lie just below it on the chevron.

It is as though the heraldry is meant to remind us of the really important aspects of John Longland's life, his devotion to the Blessed Lady and St Hugh, his dedication to the Diocese of Lincoln, and his love for his parents and family whose arms he bore. As to the Latin pun, the meaning of the play on the words 'long-land' and 'his measure' is not clear. In Walker's 'History of the Reformation in Lincoln and Stow' we read '*His mortal remains and aspirations (are) brought to their proper measure, the meagre measure of a tomb*'.

The abolition of the chantries throughout England within two years of the bishop's death quickly brought to an end those Masses for the soul of John Longland. Fortunately the chantry survives not solely as a work of art or cold

memorial, for prayers of intercession are said there once a month.

Lucas Longland

Lucas (or Luke) the brother of Bishop John, appears in his mother's will and in that of his brother in law, John Pate, for he was the executor. A few references occur in the published 'Letters and Papers Henry VII' and 'Henry VIII', also in one or two original documents held at the PRO and payments to him are shown in the Lay Subsidy for the Diocese of Lincoln in the year 1526.

LUCAS IN HIS MOTHER'S WILL

His mother's bequests read: *'I gyve and bequeath to my sonne Lucas a hoope of gold, graven ... item another gold Ring with the image of Saint Kathryn of the one side and the image of Saint John Baptist of the other side ... item a large crucifix ... gilt ... with the image of our lord upon it ... A pair of beads of coral'*. Other gifts of silver are listed together with harness of gilt, and a buckle and pendant of the same. Her Executor was John Bewforest but she asked her 'good son Lucas' to see that her will was fulfilled, adding *'and God's blessing and mine I give you long my daily prayer'*.

Elizabeth died in the year 1530 and Lucas himself died soon afterwards. His appointments as steward of a number of manors suggest that he was a trained lawyer and one document, of the year 1504, describes him as Lucas Longland, gent of Cliffords Inn, also as *'yeoman of Henley and of Colchester, Essex'*. Why he was granted a Royal Pardon in that year remains a mystery; he is identified as the son of Thomas Longland.

The Calendar of the Close Rolls of Henry VII names Lucas Longland of Henley on Thames, gentleman, as one of a group of gentry liable for certain payments to the Crown, this is dated February 4th 1509. This liability was cancelled by warrant in the second year of the reign of Henry VIII.

Lucas was admitted to the Inner Temple in the year 1510; there is only one other reference to him in the published Temple records which mentions the room he occupied in 1520. *'Luke Langland who is with Lord Wiltshire, specially admitted, and he is excused all offices ... and has licence to be out of commons ... and he is admitted to the chamber where Edmund Appleby formerly lay'*. Sir John Fern is quoted by Dugdale as saying that none were admitted at that time (to these Inns of Court) unless they were 'gentlemen of the blood.'

Lucas, presumably as steward or auditor, had a regular income from the Abbeys he served and the list in the Lay Subsidy for the Diocese of Lincoln,

1526, which lists the outgoings of each monastery, is impressive:

'Longland, Lucas :

Crowland 20 shillings Kyrkeby Bellers 20 shillings Launda 20 shillings Peterboro' 40 shillings Ramsey 40 shillings Huntingdon 40 shillings Newenham 26s 8d Dunstaple 20 shillings Notely 54 shillings and 40 shillings Godestowe (2 entries) 40 shillings Oseney in feodis Luce Longland 54s 8d.

The Oseney Abbey accounts for the year 1520-1521 include the payment of an annual sum of five marks. The entry, in Latin, of which some words are missing, appears to relate to a grant in the year 1511 of 66s 8d annually. This section of the accounts is headed *'Feoda & Vadia'* presumably concerned with feudal tenancy, as the 1526 Subsidy (*in feodis*) confirms. It seems certain that Lucas was well established as an official at least ten years before his brother John was consecrated Bishop of Lincoln.

Sums of twenty six shillings and eightpence, for example (from the religious house of Newenham) may seem small in today's terms, but at that time a farm could be rented for, perhaps, £4 a year. Lucas would have income from many other sources.

Some indication of Lucas' status is given by an entry in the Lincoln Diocese Institution book:

'Master Richard Pate, clerk, to the church of Whethampsted on res. patron Luke Longland Esq. by a grant made for this turn by the bp of Lincoln. Adm. at Buckden 22 July 1528'.

He served too on Royal Commissions, as we see from the Letters and papers of King Henry VIII:

'Searches in London 6 Nov. 1524 :Commissioners to search and return certificates

Holborn St Giles & Paddington & Kingsland, Sir Henry Wiatt, Sir Richard Weston & Lucas Longland'.

INVESTMENT IN LAND

Lucas appears to have held land in many parts of the country; a petition for a hearing by the Court of Requests, held at the PRO, tells us that Lucas Longland, Gentleman, had been granted a lease of the parsonage of Pen (Buckinghamshire) and its farm for a term of years. However, one of his servants had shown the deed to Roger Culverhouse who had then kept it and had, for a period unspecified, occupied the parsonage and taken the profits.

Lucas hoped that the Court would grant his rights in the matter.

Absent landlords were unable to supervise their scattered estates, and so relied on others who, so often, betrayed the trust. The tedious legal repetitions in the documents only hint at the human story to which they relate. We may imagine Lucas, having discovered that he had received no income from the Parsonage land, then learning from his servant, probably a bailiff, that Roger Culverhouse had the indenture in his possession. Lucas can hardly have taken all this patiently; was the servant dismissed ?

We have evidence of another lease, that of a farm of the Manor of Cold Norton (near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire) together with meadow and pasture. The indenture is dated 1st May 1528, an agreement for a term of 30 years, Lucas paying £14 3s 4d per annum to Brazenose College. Presumably Lucas himself would take the profits from the use of the land having sub-let. In view of his professional work he can hardly have farmed the land himself.

He worked closely with the Cardinal (Wolsey) and with the Earl of Wiltshire. We find in the Close Rolls an entry dated 28th November 1519 which states that *'the Manor of La Mote Cheshunt came into the possession of (1) Henry Stafford Earl of Wiltshire and (2) Lucas Longland, acting for Cardinal Wolsey.'* It seems that Lucas often represented the Earl or the Cardinal, receiving monies or documents on their behalf. He must have moved around the country a great deal.

Amongst the State Papers is a receipt dated 15th March 1514 by Lucas Longland *'servant to the Earl of Wiltshire from Sir John Daunce of money for coats and conduct'*. The order for payment is signed by Wolsey. In December 1521 the Earl of Wiltshire wrote to Wolsey concerning the failure of the Marquess of Dorset to fulfill certain covenants, grateful that *'his counsel'* John Skuys and Lucas Langlonde *'may resort to Wolsey from time to time'*. There is no detail but it seems that Lucas was empowered to discuss the Earl's legal problems; we note that the term *'servant'*, in this context, meant someone with delegated authority.

Another isolated reference among the expenses of Cardinal College in the year 1530 mentions *'gloves for the Bishop of Lincoln's brother'*. This was probably a courtesy gift, for gloves were distributed at certain times of the year by those in authority. Lucas Longland is listed as Commissioner of Peace for Oxfordshire in 1524-1526, and again in 1529-30.

On 27th May 1531, John Pen, groom of the King's Privy Chamber was granted a corrody in the monastery of Thame vice Luke Longland, deceased. A corrody could be a source of income, it was in principle a right to free board and lodging, a useful facility for a steward with many journeys to make.

Then in the year 1536, Bishop Longland informed Thomas Cromwell that

'Hailwoode is suing again for the Earl of Wiltshire's debts as executor to my brother Lucas'. So, Lucas had left a will, or at least Hailwoode had the task of administration, but of this nothing more has come to light. It seems that Lucas' affairs were complicated by his working relationship to the Earl of Wiltshire.

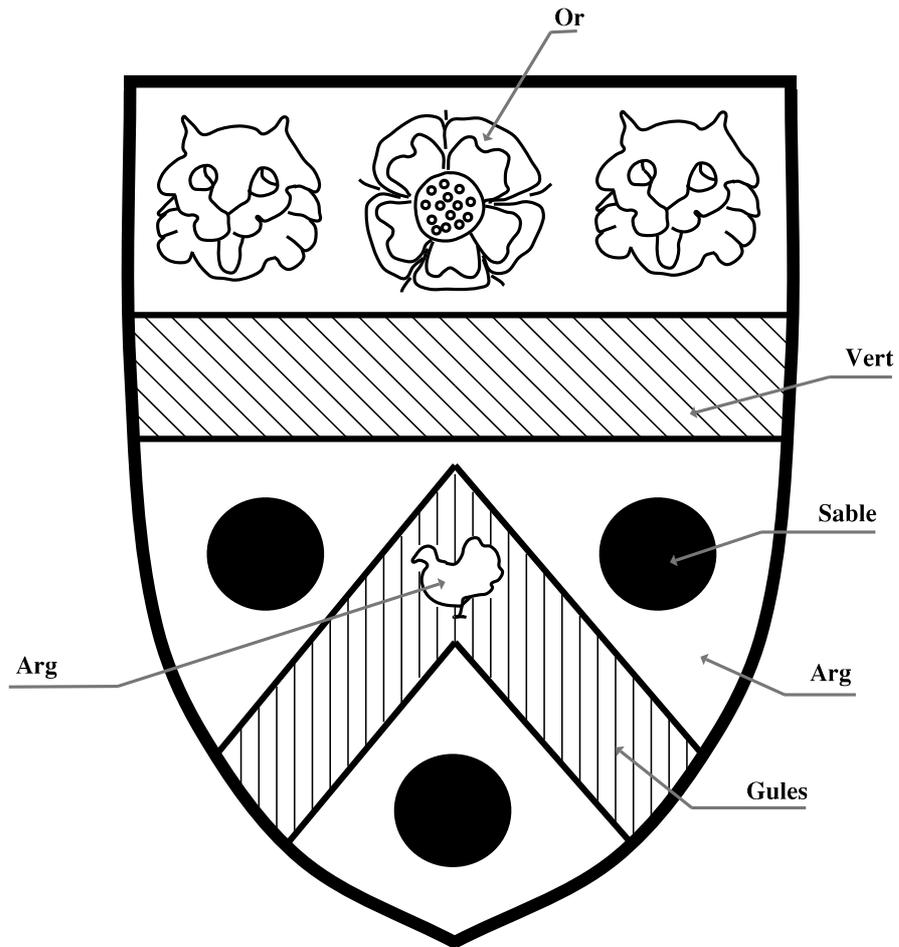
A Royal Grant of the year 1544 which mentions the tenure of land in Hartington by Luke Longland, is obviously referring to a previous tenure. The land was granted to Roland Babington. Hartington, in Derbyshire, is far from those counties further South where we know Lucas to have been active, it was also outside the Diocese of Lincoln. It seems that Royal patronage brought in useful income from far afield, but with it those arguments over tenure which were so common.

THE LINKS WITH THE KINLET FAMILY.

Not one of the documents examined mentions Lucas Longland in connection with the family at Kinlet or at Buckden, but the source material is very limited. Even in the case of Bishop John evidence of a relationship is restricted to a handful of documents. Anthony Wood, the seventeenth century Oxford historian, considered that John Longland, Archdeacon of Buckingham *'who was Salopian born ... was nearly (i.e. closely) related to Dr. Longland, bishop of Lincoln'*. His opinion is of interest now that some relevant facts which give it some weight have been brought together.

The chapter which follows takes us to Huntingdonshire, in particular to Stirtlow where the Kinlet family held some tithe land, and so to Buckden.

THE ARMS OF JOHN LONGLAND, BISHOP OF LINCOLN



'Ar. on a chev. gu. betw. three pellets a cock of the field, on a fillet in cheif vert a rose or, betw. two leopards' faces of the first'





Chapter Six

BUCKDEN: THE YEOMEN

c. 1547 - 1837

The earliest families,
of Thomas and Rowland Longland,
their numerous descendants,
the heart of the Longland story.



The Longlands of Buckden

‘The Constables of Bugden John Longland and Thomas Cranfield hath nothing to present but omne bene’
(all is well, presentment, 1680)

When Bishop Longland made his bequest to Thomas Longland of Kinlet to help him set up his house in Buckden he cannot have visualised the large extended family which we find there a hundred years later.

In the year 1576 there were two main families of Longland in Buckden, that of Rowland, the other of Thomas; very likely brothers, the descendants of John of Kinlet. The manor records tell us that a John Longland died in 1552 seized of land of the Manor of Paxton which passed to his sister Margaret. We know too of an earlier Henry Longland who appears in a Subsidy in the reign of Henry VIII. So we are made aware of our limited knowledge, sure in a sense that John, Margaret, and Henry were of the Kinlet family, yet lacking any formal proof.

THE TITHES AND TENEMENTS AT STIRTLOW

The only Huntingdonshire property held by The Longland family of Kinlet of which we have documentary evidence (in 1547) was that at Stirtlow.

Stirtlow is still marked on modern maps, a hamlet barely a mile south of the old Bishop’s Palace at Buckden. Yet some of those early Longland yeomen were styled ‘of Stirtlow’, and it is this little place which connects the family in Kinlet, Salop, with two of its members at Upton, and with the later yeomen of Buckden.

EDWARD AND HUMFREY

Humfrey Langlande, the son of Thomas of Hunt House, Kinlet, was born round about the year 1520. It is likely that he moved from Kinlet to Upton in 1542 when his brother Edward became Rector; then in 1547 he inherited the Stirtlow property from his father. He died in 1548.

A young batchelor, Humfrey bequeathed all his ‘raiment’ to his mother, Isabell, and his property to his brothers Edward and John and to his sister Joyce. We may imagine the parlour of Humfrey’s house at Upton, where the suit of armour and the bow and arrows (the gift of Bishop Longland) might have been displayed.

The story of his brother Edward is brief yet eventful for it seems that Bishop John was determined that the young Edward would enjoy early

advancement. Had he lived he may have become a second Bishop Longland, but he died some time in the summer of 1549. No will has been traced but his academic career and rapid ecclesiastical preferment are recorded.

Edward, of Kinlet, Salop., was admitted to Winchester College as scholar in the year 1531 at the age of 13. The general accounts of life at the College show it to have been a hard one. Those other than the Founder's kin were chosen according to aptitude, and the regime was one of strict preparation for entry to New College and Holy Orders. Pupils made their own beds and swept the rooms, a system which continued until the year 1708. Some details of their diet are known, it consisted largely of beef but on Fridays the only meal was at mid-day, consisting of cheese and cream. So Edward had to leave the rural life of Kinlet for the rigours of school. No doubt he would have been taught in his early boyhood by the monks, perhaps at Wigmore, and must have been an able pupil.

He remained at Winchester just five years before going on to New College Oxford. He became a fellow in 1538 and by Lent 1541 he was a Bachelor of Arts. Surprisingly he was already a Canon of Lincoln and held the prebend of South Scarle.

The Lincoln Chapter Acts Book records, on 12th December 1539, his induction to the Prebend '*vacated by death of Master Thomas Hunte, in the person of Master Thomas Lililowe, Canon Residentiary, his proctor.*'

Letters had to be written to Edward Archbishop of York because South Scarle is in the county of Nottingham in the Diocese of York. Edward aged 21, a 'clerk', so he must have been ordained before graduating, hence 'Sir Edward'.

He was admitted to the living of Copmanford with Upton in September 1542, presumably living there until his death in the Summer of 1549.

THE LIVING OF UPTON WITH COPPINGFORD 1542-1549

No parish documents for such an early date have been traced, presumably Edward farmed his glebe land, officiated in both parishes, visited the sick and buried the dead. Bishop Longland's visitation of 1543 gives the income from Coppingford as £20 a year. There would be a similar sum from Upton, plus whatever the Prebend brought him. We have seen that the Bishop's will remitted money owed to him by Edward, perhaps the Bishop had paid for Edward's maintenance throughout his student days.

Edward himself was the son of a yeoman ... as was Bishop Latimer, from whose sermon we quote. It was preached just before the death of Edward Longland and ended with the words '*for by yomans sonnes, the fayth of Christ is, and hath been maintained chefely*'.

What little evidence we have supports the view that Edward was of the most junior family of Longland at Kinlet, in other words the less wealthy. In the year 1549 Latimer, preaching on inflation of prices and decay of standards, tells us that his yeoman father paid around four pounds rent a year for his farm and was prosperous. Now, he says, the tenant is charged sixteen pounds a year and cannot even give a cup of drink to the poor.

It may be that economic difficulties had promoted the Longland move from Kinlet to Huntingdonshire, leaving only the Longland family at Nortons to farm there for one more generation. To return to Edward at Upton, just one published document, compiled three years after his death, gives some interesting background.

THE EDWARDIAN INVENTORY OF 1552

We have evidence of small details regarding the vestments Edward used at Mass, for the Edwardian inventory of 1552 has survived. In that year by the King's command the Commissioners visited Upton and Coppingford. They left each of the two parishes with only two old surplices for Divine Service, taking away from Upton a vestment of green silk, one of blue velvet and one of white stammel, and from Copmanford another blue one, and one red. The Parishes lost their copes of green and red 'saye' (a mixture of silk and wool) as well as the silver chalices, crosses and hand bells.

A sad time indeed, and a coincidence that the deaths of John the Bishop, and Edward the parson more or less marked the end of the Church they had known. The deaths at Kinlet and Upton and that of Bishop John, all occurring between 1547 and 1549, may have been due to some general plague.

The following ten years saw an unprecedented rise in the cost of living, and manors which had been held by the Bishop of Lincoln passed into the hands of the King. This turning point in the Longland story was also a time of national upheaval.

THE MOVE TO BUCKDEN

Of the more junior Kinlet Longlands only John, and possibly William, brothers of Humfrey, and their sister Joyce were left by the year 1550. It would seem that one or other of the brothers moved to Buckden as holder of the Stirtlow property.

Unfortunately we have no Buckden documents earlier than the year 1559, the date of commencement of parish registers. Though there is no doubt that Edward and Humfrey were brothers, and that Bishop John regarded them as near relatives, the proposed Kinlet genealogy is unlikely to be correct in every detail. In particular Humfrey refers to his mother as 'Isabell' whereas Thomas of Kinlet

(the brother of Humfrey) in his will gives her name as 'Margery'.

THE PARISH REGISTERS

There are no Longland entries in the Buckden register until 1570 when the christenings begin with the family of Rowland, and a few years later the family of Thomas Longland appears. From 1570 until 1582 the register gives the family name as 'Langland' but from then on 'Longland' appears consistently apart from one isolated 'Langland' in the year 1661.

Gradually we are able to picture the homes of these families, to imagine their work and see the husbands at the vestry meetings as they elect the Officers for the year. The wives and daughters of the yeomen only appear in documents when land is inherited, when widows become responsible for an estate, or when children are orphaned. Occasionally we are reminded of their work in the home, their intimate knowledge of farming, and the responsibility which was often theirs. Of the first two families in the registers it is likely that Thomas and his descendants were yeoman farmers, others were blacksmiths of some substance. The family of Rowland Longland embraced more craftsmen, probably Abraham the spurrier of London, and the carpenters who appear in Chancery records.

Somewhat later wills and manorial records provide detail but even then only a broad picture of the genealogy is possible. From the year 1650 or so the evidence becomes firmer and the descent of the senior branch seems well established. At certain points the data does not support a proven genealogical structure. This does not prevent us from gaining some insight into the lives of these families at Buckden and establishing their links with Longland families in neighbouring villages.

THE PATTERN OF THE EARLY FAMILIES

Thomas Longland, husbandman, married Joan Jarmayne, at Bugden on June 25th. 1576. They had three sons, Henry, Thomas and John, and two daughters, Elyne and Anne. The will of Michael Jarman of Offord Cluny, husbandman, of the year 1584, names Thomas Longland of Bugden as one of the overseers, the other being John Burder, and they each received 6s 8d *'for their pains'*.

Rowland Longland and his second wife Alice Warill died in the year 1600, soon after the birth of their son Rowland. In the chapter which traces the fortunes of the innholders of Buckden we conclude that a later William was the grandson of this Rowland. And so we raise unanswered questions regarding the status of this family, for the innholders were men of capital.

Gilbert Longland, carpenter, a son of the first marriage, appears in the Chancery proceedings for the year 1617. We have no details of the legal proceedings, but it may well have been a question of inheritance. He paid local church taxes, which were assessed on his property, in 1617 and in 1628.

The will of William Ingram, 1657

A will of the year 1657 proved at Canterbury takes us back to November 1626 when Ellen Langland married William Ingram at Buckden. Ellen was probably born around the year 1605, the sister of John Longland of Buckden, possibly a granddaughter of John Longland of Kinlet. Her husband does not mention her in his will, presumably she had died and there were no surviving children. He gave twenty shillings to his 'brother' John Longland and there were bequests to Thomas Hamont's daughter and to the two children of Lawrence Awberry. John Burder of Stirtlow was given two shillings and sixpence to buy a pair of gloves. These family names, and those of Rayment and Ireland, are part of this Longland story.

As we read their inventories the yeomen families come to life. Their houses were much alike, the parlour with its long table and many chairs, the great chamber above it with its bed, often a servants' chamber which was very sparsely furnished. Hardly any early wills of the blacksmiths or butchers have survived, yet the later evidence suggests that they were often property owners, copyholders of the manor. During the 1600s these Longland families multiplied, and the same names were repeated, John, Thomas, Henry, William, fathers and sons, and their wives Ann, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary or Hannah ... a great assembly from which a pattern emerges and, for certain groups, a tentative genealogy.

THE STIRTLOW HISTORY

The will of Thomas Longland of Kinlet in 1547 tells us very little about the family landholding in Huntingdonshire, the only specific reference being that to the property at Stirtlow. No early Stirtlow documents have come to light but thanks to one manorial document, in the year 1645, we meet John Longland of Stirtlow.

He and his wife Elizabeth were admitted to 44 acres of arable land, inherited from John's father Henry, also of Stirtlow, who had died about four years earlier. The Latin text does not tell us very much, though Elizabeth was questioned privately by the Steward of the Manor. John and Elizabeth then sold this copyhold to Mr Bromshall, gent. of Biggleswade.

We cannot identify Henry with certainty but the circumstantial evidence

suggests that he was the grandson of the first Thomas of Buckden, son of Henry baptised in 1577. One of these Henrys is named as a taxpayer in 1639, taxed at a penny an acre to pay for church repairs; he was charged seven shillings, that is on 84 acres.

In 1646 John of Stirtlow paid his tithes, on Brickhouse Leyes, in Stirtlow, to the vicar of Buckden. The receipt is one of a collection of documents which relate to Royalists in the Civil War period. John does not appear in any list examined of those who paid a fine to the Commonwealth government, but it may be that all holders of tithed land were investigated.

The tentative genealogy relates this John to Henry of St Neots, to William of Paxton, and to John Longland, tallow chandler, of Buckden. This John we take to be the son of John of Stirtlow who died in 1689, leaving estates both at Buckden and Paxton to his brothers.

There was another Longland family at Stirtlow, as we see from the wills of William in 1638, and a later William in 1681, probably father and son. They too were yeomen, some later evidence showing that some members of this family were '*malsters*'. The suggested line of descent of this junior family is supported by the wills. The Parish registers give only limited information for there are periods for which no entries have survived, notably 1601-15 and 1618-23; manorial records for this period are fragmentary.

It is evident that the family continued to hold some property at Stirtlow for something like two hundred years. The distinction 'of Stirtlow' or 'of Buckden' is often difficult to maintain, for the people who actually occupied houses at Stirtlow were still in the parish of Buckden: there was never a 'parish' of Stirtlow.

WILLIAM OF STIRTLOW 1638

The will of William of Stirtlow was written on 28th January, 1637/8, and proved the following April. His widow Elizabeth was the executrix, and there were four sons, Thomas and Rowland, who received 40 shillings, John twelve pence, and William 40 shillings, to be his at the age of twenty one years. His 'son' William Cooke, probably a son in law, received five shillings and his two daughters each a swarm of bees. The sum of ten shillings was to be distributed amongst the poor people of Buckden, Hardwick and Stirtlow and the rest of William's goods went to his wife Elizabeth.

Like so many wills, it tells us nothing about the land, which being held of the manor would be claimed by the eldest son.

A bequest of a swarm of bees is, perhaps, unusual; and the sums of money? Forty shillings was then ten weeks pay for a labourer or about seven weeks for a carpenter; it would have bought half a dozen pigs.

An additional list of sums of money to be paid out is interesting: 'to Mr Pepys of Brampton on a bond £5' (could this be the uncle of Samuel Pepys the diarist ?) and a further £5 'on surrender'. We know from the published letters of Samuel Pepys (the diarist) that land was held of the manor of Buckden. In May 1663 Samuel wrote to his father regarding the sale of the property at Stirtlow, from which, after payment of debts, an income of fifty pounds a year would enable John Pepys and his wife 'to be boarded comfortably in City or Country'.

To return to the will of William Longland, individual sums of £5 were due to John Bortone of Perry (just West of Buckden near what is now Graffham Water) on bond, and to Mr Nichols 'on surrenders'. The term 'surrender' suggests that copyhold land was involved, and bonds required security which was usually land. Five pounds would be a year's pay for a house servant, so the further sum of fifteen pounds to the poor of Buckden was generous.

WILLIAM OF STIRTLOW
THE WILL OF 1681

To his son William he bequeathed a bedstead 'standing in the further chamber' (and the bolster and sheets). Daughter Elizabeth received the same, but her bed was standing in the chamber over the hall, as was the bedstead given to daughter Mary, who was given a featherbed as well. There was more furniture for them, including two chests standing in the parlour, one of them carefully specified for one end of it stood by the bed's foot. One of the tables was 'next to the orchard'.

A long table and six joined stools were standing in the hall and there was yet another table and a form in the parlour. William was given a table from the kitchen and two rush chairs and, as an afterthought, Mary was given a press cupboard standing in the parlour. All the rest of his goods went to his 'loving wife' Annie. Before signing the will William remembered that he had a son John, to whom he bequeathed ten pounds. One of the witnesses was Robert Rayment, the first of several recorded connections between the two families.

William's inventory lists the rooms, the hall and the parlour, the chamber over the hall and the one over the parlour. There was a chamber over the kitchen, a milk house, and a stall for the animals and the barns. The parlour contained a joined bedstead, bedding, curtains and valence, a press cupboard, two chests and two coffers, one desk, three chairs, a little table a form and one glass case.

The animals were not numerous, two horses, one little colt, five cows, two bullocks and one a year in calf. 'Three sheep' suggests that the other sheep

were not seen: it was usual to allow a sum for things 'not seen and forgot'. The total of £62-12s was low for a yeoman, though not unknown in such records.

Again, land is not mentioned in the will, and only to a limited extent in the inventory where crops of wheat, rye and barley are valued. Some of the Buckden inventories give the impression that they were hastily compiled, just sufficient to satisfy the letter of the law, inaccurate guides to wealth, which was generally in the land, but there is a general impression of simplicity and practicality.

JOAN LONGLAND OF STIRTLOW 1657

Joan, the widow of Humphrey Longland, was living at Stirtlow in the mid seventeenth century. Her will was proved in the Court of Canterbury in May 1657. She appears later in our account because of her connection with the family at Offord Cluny. The Offords, and Paxton, are very close to Buckden, and there was some movement between these parishes, often due to marriage or inheritance, or at times to commercial enterprise. Yet it was Buckden which continued to be the hub of this activity.

Towards the end of the seventeenth century the Stirtlow families appear to be less prosperous, but we must always remind ourselves that our account is bound to be uneven, for at times the facts are hidden from us. The documents no longer exist, or may do so in private hands. We can only describe what we know, or what is reasonable conjecture. Few manorial documents for this period have been traced; as always there remains the thought that more may yet be revealed regarding the lives of the earlier Longland families at Stirtlow.

JOHN THE MALSTER AND HIS FAMILY

A marriage bond of 1683 tells us that John Longland of Stirtlow, malster, intended to marry Christian Wright of Risely, Bedfordshire. John was probably the son of William (who died in 1681). A subsequent baptism, of their daughter Christian, took place at Buckden, but we know nothing more of their story. The taxation records for Buckden include William Longland, malster, in the year 1660.

John's brother William had a daughter Anne who appears in the manorial rolls for the year 1713, presumably the year of her death. Thomas Longland, of Stirtlow, is named as her brother and heir, inheriting three roods of arable land. He already held some Stirtlow property to which he had been admitted in the year 1710. Almost certainly it was this Thomas who married, in that year, Mary Cartwright the daughter of Edward Cartwright, malster of Stirtlow.

Edward died in the year 1722/3. His will shows him to have been a man

of property. Marshall Longland was an executor and William Dean of Offord, Doctor of Divinity was a trustee. Edward's daughter Mary, the wife of Thomas Longland, inherited a share of the estate. Thomas Longland died in the year 1726, and his widow Mary was granted the administration of his estate. Her signature appears on the grant as does that of her daughter Jane, as witness. Her brother Thomas was then aged 13 and William was only 5 years old. Manorial records show that Thomas inherited a cottage and land at Stirtlow in the year 1737.

LATER CONNECTIONS WITH STIRTLOW

In the year 1726, a Robert Longland, shoemaker, held several cottages in Stirtlow and an orchard which had belonged to a John Longland.

The manorial records provide a few later references which associate the Buckden family with Stirtlow, as in the year 1741 when Marshall Longland was party to a surrender of land there.

In 1764 William Longland, the innholder of Buckden, bought some copyhold land in Stirtlow described as '*a toft where a house lately stood*' but, in the following year, he sold it to George Alexander Esq. of Stirtlow. An earlier document of 1760 concerns this same property, late the estate of Thomas Longland, that is the father of the Thomas involved in the transaction.

These manorial entries do not enable us to establish the identity of the several Thomas Longlands with certainty. From then on, as far as we can tell, there were no Longlands living at Stirtlow.

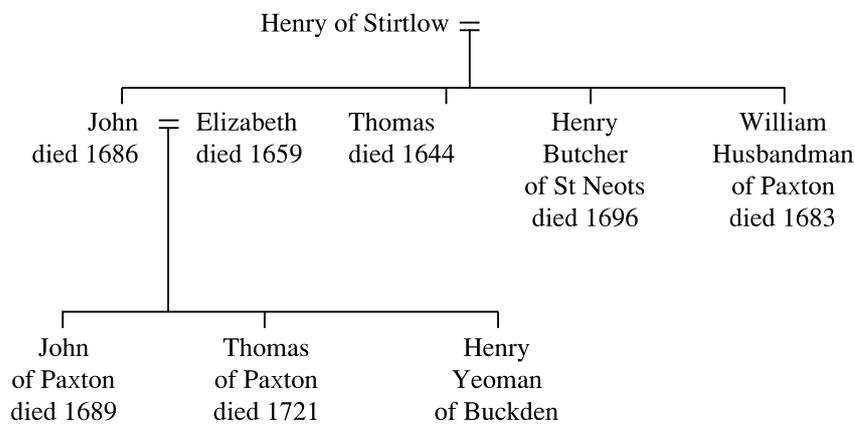
SEVENTEENTH CENTURY FAMILIES OF BUCKDEN

By the mid sixteen hundreds there were several families of Longland, farmers, innholders, butchers, smiths, and others; their wills give us fleeting, limited pictures of their lives.

Thomas Longland, a husbandman who died in 1662, owned goods and crops worth £19, a modest total, yet his house had a hall and parlour, and some goods were in another house. An acre and a half of new sown oats was valued at sixteen shillings. His '*two mylche cows, two bullocks and a little pig*' were valued at £8-5-0. Two years later another Thomas, a labourer, was in fact slightly better off. He left three children, Thomas, Mary and Elizabeth, too young to take up their inheritance, so John Longland, yeoman, became their guardian. There was a sum of ready money in the house, a woollen wheel, a linen wheel and ten pounds of wool. Thomas possessed three ponies and the family had flaxen sheets, towels and napkins, a feather bed, and brass and pewter utensils and tableware.

JOHN LONGLAND, YEOMAN OF BUCKDEN
DIED 1686

This John provides a link between the family at Buckden and that at St Neots. The tentative genealogy presumes that this John was the John of Stirtlow who held the tithes there, son of Henry of Stirtlow, a descendant of those first Buckden Longlands of Kinlet origin:



THE WILL OF JOHN LONGLAND, PROVED JAN 1686/7

The will itself is dated 15 December 1686, that is only three weeks before his death for the year 1687 would not commence until the following March 25.

His sons, John and Thomas shared all the copyhold land; their subsequent wills, which are part of the Paxton story, show that land was held both of the manor of Buckden and that of Paxton, some of the Paxton property being freehold.

Henry their young brother received twenty shillings from his father's will; not many years afterwards he was to inherit the Buckden copyhold.

Two other members of the family were named by John: his brother Henry, a butcher of St Neots, and Elizabeth, John's niece, who was given twenty shillings. This Elizabeth was the daughter of William Longland, husbandman of Paxton, who had died three years previously. Frances, his widow, mentions (in

her administration account) 'brother Henry Longland,' a butcher, and 'brother John Longland'. Her daughter Elizabeth would be aged about 23 in 1686.

THE HEARTH TAX 1666

The towns of Buckden and St Neots and the village of Paxton are close to each other and Longlands seemed to circulate between all three, though Henry was probably the first member of the family to live in St Neots, rearing cattle on land at Wintringham. Some indication of the distribution of Longland families in the year 1666 is given by the Hearth Tax returns:

St Neots	Henry Longland 2 hearths,
Offord Cluny	William Longland 1, Jeremy Longland 3.
Buckden	Elizabeth, widow, occupying a town house, Henry, William, junior (each 1) and William senior, 3 there are three 'Thomas' entries and one John. Jeffrey Longland had just taken possession of a house, previously that of Thomas Longland, senior.

THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS

The families at Paxton and St Neots appear in later chapters; for now we remain in Buckden, turning over the pages of the Churchwardens' accounts, beginning in the year 1627.

The Bugden 'Parish Book' and the Churchwardens Rates and Accounts book, tell us something about the status of most members of the family though the first entry, dated 1627, a payment to 'John Longland' of £1-10-00, gives no other information. Thomas Longland appears twice, having done the *'iron work about the bells'*, on one occasion he and John Hamont were paid £6-11-6d.

Two or three generations of Longlands had by now made their mark, tilling the land and bargaining for property and produce, and providing the services of blacksmith and carpenter. Rates were levied for church repairs in 1627, and many Longlands are in the list, including a Henry, a William, and a John. Sheep were assessed at 6d a score, each cow and bullock at two pence. Henry Longland paid 3 shillings, others paying only a shilling or so.

In 1628 William and John signed the minutes of a vestry meeting and, in 1629, on 29th of March, '*Henry Longland was named for the other Churchwarden after evening prayer*'.

A Gilbert Longland, carpenter, son of Rowland, appears both in 1627 and 1628. He died in 1631 at about the age of 60.

It was in the year 1628 that John, the blacksmith, was paid for work in connection with the great beam over the bell; apparently a continuing task, for in 1637 he attended to more ironwork about the bells, which this time cost the churchwardens over seven pounds.

In 1646, on 20th of November, a rate was levied to pay for repairs to the church. The total from all the people was £28-0-6 and the Longland contribution came to nearly one pound, adding together the payments by Henry, John, and Rowland.

In 1637 it was John's turn to be Churchwarden and an entry of 1642 includes his signature. Rates were levied in the year 1649 and it is this list which, at last, tells us a little more. Thomas and Rowland are entered without any further description but we have two John Longlands, one a farmer and the other a blacksmith, they each contributed over £2. Some rate payers paid as little as six pence. In the same year John, the blacksmith, was paid '*for iron work 46 foote of timber and carriages 3 loads £7-1-9*'.

THE LAY SUBSIDIES 1627 AND 1641

These taxation records of the time of Charles the First, in 1627 and 1641 give us, in 1627, John and William Longland each assessed at £3-8s on their goods; then in 1641 we have John, blacksmith, 5s and two Johns, yeomen, each 7s. Two subsequent assessments show John and Henry, each charged 21s on their goods.

THE PROTESTATION RETURN 1641

The House of Commons, in an attempt to demonstrate public support for the moves against the Church Hierarchy, imposed this oath throughout the land. All males of 18 and over were expected to sign, so committing themselves to live and die for the 'true' Protestant religion. Refusal to sign barred the individual from holding any office in Church or State. The list of those who signed includes six Longlands at Bugden: three Johns (one of whom was Overseer of the Poor), Rowland, William and Thomas. There was also a William Longland at Keystone. There are no Longlands in the list of 'refusals'.

MORE ACCOUNTS

In the year 1644, and in 1646, the church rate book refers to 'John Longland, malster, and one or two entries (from 1639 to 1646) show '*widow Longland*' as a ratepayer. In the Churchwardens' accounts for the year 1649 we find '*Item to John Longland Maulster for one backe in the Hayrokes viz. that next the towne ... (one shilling)*' and '*John Longland blacksmith for the Mere backe and the heath ... (three shillings)*'. These expenses were in connection with church repairs involving felling and carriage of thirty trees from the park, and transport of supplies from Stirtlow, St Ives and St Neots.

A levy of Church rates for the year 1649 gives just two Johns, one a farmer, the other a blacksmith. John paid nearly £3 and Thomas £2-2-0. Another Thomas paid one shilling, and Rowland six pence.

In 1654 the Churchwardens were Robert Hamont and John Longland, farmer. They received the sum of 12s 6d '*amercements*' from Thomas Longland; this would appear to be some kind of fine or penalty, presumably for transgressing some rule.

The accounts in the year 1656 give us the signatures of '*John Longland*' and of '*Jo. (John) Longland*', malster.

CHURCHWARDENS' RECEIPTS 1662

This list is of interest for the land held is identified (to some extent) and a few occupations given:

John Longland 7s 8d, John Longland: Brickhouse Leys and Watter Close 4s 0d, John Longland: Thornwood, 3s 0d, John Longland 14s 0d, Henry Longland: the Park, 6s 0d, Henry Longland 7s 6d, William Longland, butcher, 4d, Thomas Longland, blacksmith, 8d.

As we come forward into the 1680s, Thomas the blacksmith, the son of John, continued his father's work '*about the church*', being paid in 1686 for mending the clock and the chimes. These names in the Church Book are their only visible memorial, but we may still hear the chimes and gaze up at the beams.

A few original documents have survived, dating from the mid 17th century, evidence of copyhold or of renting of land, but it is not possible to prove which John held land in Steeple Dole, or which Henry leased land from Orwell Shelley. In the year 1673 the signature of a John Longland occurs in a list of Huntingdonshire voters who objected to the Election result.

The Hearth Tax Returns, for the year 1674, indicate the continuing concentration of Longland families in Buckden at that time. Thomas, senior, yeoman, had three (possibly five) hearths, the figure is not clear.

In the year 1681 John Longland, butcher, was taxed on his meadow land and Henry on his land at town ember.

Some of these families play a limited part in our story when a brief reference arouses our interest, only to leave us still curious, for nothing more is known. The task of reconstruction demands a certain attitude of respect and acceptance, for we cannot really lay their lives bare, and should not wish to do so.

JOHN LONGLAND, TALLOW CHANDLER 1689

From the will of John Longland of Paxton in the year 1689 we learn of his kinsman John, a tallow chandler at Buckden. It is not possible to identify him, yet he was probably a merchant comparable in status with the yeomen we have come to know.

LYDIA LONGLAND AND HER SISTERS

In the year 1724, Lydia Longland gave up a some land, three roods, to her sister Martha who had married Mathew Lenton four years previously. Lydia had just come of age and claimed the land, inherited from her father William.

William, by his will of December 1711 had given land to each of his daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, Lydia and Martha. In 1733 Lydia married Robert Salmon at Houghton, three children Robert, Lydia and John were born, then Lydia died soon afterwards. We can only guess that William of Buckden was a farmer on a small scale, a younger son of one of the yeomen of Buckden.

Another William, a labourer, who died in the year 1724 left his cottage, copyhold of the manor, to his wife Mary who by the time her possession was authorised had already married John Boon of Offord Darcy. Though their houses were usually smaller than those of most yeomen these labourers, in some instances, held manorial property. Our knowledge of these families is limited, dictated by the extent to which documents have survived.

Those Longlands who worked on the land owned by others, or who were simply paid servants, have no memorial other than the record of birth, possible marriage, and burial. Very few documents present any glimpse of social unrest, of strains within the system, but this false sense of absolute stability is occasionally corrected, as in the year 1641.

MASS PROTEST
THE BISHOP DISTURBED

On June 18th 1641 feeling ran remarkably high in Buckden for Bishop Williams had deprived the people of their 'rights of common' by his inclosure of some land at Buckden; presumably smaller farmers in particular were faced with the necessity to pay other land owners for seasonal use of pasture, deprived of the traditional facility to use the common land.

A brief account of the protest is given in a book 'The Notices of Archbishop Williams', published in 1869. Williams (then Bishop of Lincoln) was faced with a riot. We are told that '*hundreds of women and boys armed with daggers and javelins entered the grounds enclosed ... six persons were committed to the Fleet (presumably the London prison) then discharged by order of the Bishop*'.

Obviously the Bishop had reacted in fear, for the Palace at Buckden, could easily have been broken into by the excited rioters.

Amongst the six were Henry Longland and Mary, his wife. The six named in the book are referred to as being '*amongst the principal inhabitants*'; it is therefore surprising to find no mention of a Henry in the Protestation return for Huntingdonshire. The register for Buckden does record the burial of a Henry Longland in November 1641 and the order demanding that the Oath be signed was not given by Parliament until the following January. So we can explain the non appearance of Henry in the return; we then have to conclude that the Henry Longland who leased land and paid taxes from 1651 to 1660 was a younger Henry, not old enough to sign the oath of 1641/2 but aged 21 or more in 1651.

A document of 1651 concerns the lease of land by a Henry Longland from Orwell Shelley; tax payments too were made by Henry Longland in 1659 and 1660. Mary Shelley, presumably Orwell's wife, was briefly imprisoned, or threatened with imprisonment. Her husband certainly was a principal inhabitant, listed as 'gent.' and a freeholder.

Not all the Shelleys were above reproach. In the year 1636 the Constables of Buckden complained that William Shelley had deceitfully obtained from them '*in an ale house*' a copy of the assessment made on the inhabitants of Buckden for Ship Money. The Bishop wished to commit William Shelley to jail but he had gone to London, and there, for lack of any more information, the story ends.

So many Longlands were part of that local hierarchy, which provided constables and churchwardens, that the following record of protest comes as a surprise.

JOHN LONGLAND
ABSENT FROM CHURCH

This individual protest was not an isolated incident, for John Longland, farmer was presented on two occasions by the churchwardens, firstly in July 1666:

'We the churchwardens of Buckden do present John Longland the elder of our Parish for absenting himself from the parish church for the space of one whole year last past ... and for refusing to pay his levy to the church being assessed at 16 shillings ... Wm Close, Lorraine Auberry'

Then, in July 1684:

'John Longland farmer for not coming to his parish church to hear Divine Service and for not receiving the Sacrament. Henry Longland son of the aforesaid John for the like.'

Presumably John had complied with the law in the interval, for on 5th March 1680 the Constables had nothing to report but *'omne bene'*. One of the Constables was John Longland, the other Thomas Cranfield. John, the Constable, was probably the brother of Henry Longland the butcher of St Neots (who was churchwarden there).

The story of one particular family, that of Thomas Longland who died in the year 1737, is well documented, taking us from the mid seventeenth century down to the early nineteenth century. We begin in the little village of Southoe, only two miles or so south of Buckden, in the year 1677.

THE BROTHERS, THOMAS AND JOHN LONGLAND
MARRIAGES AT SOUTHOE

Two Longland seventeenth century marriages were celebrated at the church in Southoe, that of John in the year 1677 and that of Thomas in 1682. John seems to have set up business as a butcher in Buckden.

Thomas, a smith, was known as a yeoman in the later records. This should not surprise us for the term 'yeoman' was an ill defined one, not necessarily restricted to freehold farmers. Many yeomen were known to engage in other occupations whilst retaining their farming interest, perhaps leasing land to others.

The account which follows is well founded for the will of Thomas and those of his sons and daughters give much detail.

John and Thomas were brothers, sons of Thomas, senior, a prosperous

blacksmith at Buckden. The family owned property, including farm land, and the dual activity in the family is well documented. They seem to have had more schooling than many of their contemporaries, writing in clear well formed hands as seen on the marriage bonds and wills and other documents.

Ann, the sister of John and Thomas, married Paul Pattison a wheelwright of Eynesbury. She seems to have had some education for she mentioned 'all her books' in her will. Her husband Paul held land of the Manor of Eynesbury.

ANN PATTISON OF EYNESBURY
HER WILL OF 1707

Ann's husband died in 1701 and her own will, six years later, refers to their son Robert and his children, Paul, Ann and Susannah, who were then only a few years old. Gifts of silver spoons seem to have been intended for her nieces, she specified, for example, 'Ann daughter of Thomas' and 'daughter of Robert'.

In the 'great parlour' there was a long table, two arm chairs, six stools and a couch which she bequeathed to her granddaughter Ann, together with the bed and a suite of linen from the great chamber. To Ellen Burder she gave the chest of drawers from this room. The best bedstead and cupboard went to grandson Paul, as did the pictures in the parlour and the great chest from the hall. Damask cloths and napkins are mentioned and her '*best gown and petticoat*' were given to Ellen Burder, who before her marriage was Ellen Longland.

Ann Pattison had a companion, Elizabeth Longland, perhaps her sister, to whom she gave ten pounds and a gold ring. Eight cousins and four closer relatives received a pound each and John Longland of Buckden £10. The poor of Eynesbury were given twenty shillings. She bequeathed '*all her books*' to her son Robert; this is the only bequest of books to occur in a Longland will. We may wonder what kind of books these were. Her father's signature, at the time of her marriage to Paul Pattison in 1681, is well formed in the old style.

One of Ann's cousins was Robert Longland of Goldington, Bedford, the only known link between the Longlands of Buckden and those in Bedfordshire at that time; it is likely that they were all related. Robert's children were baptised at Goldington: Anne in 1686, Sarah 1689, Mary 1691, Jane 1698, John 1700.

THE FAMILIES OF MARSHALL AND LONGLAND

We have seen that from 1628 to about the year 1700 the Longland blacksmiths were prominent in the Parish records, John who died in 1656 was succeeded by his son Thomas who died in about the year 1700.

The younger Thomas, who married Elizabeth Marshall at Southoe in 1682, appears five years later as party to a bond following the death of Ann Marshall, perhaps his mother in law, for he was her executor.

The signature in 1687 of Thomas Longland, junior (blacksmith) is the same as that of Thomas, senior, in later years (for example that of the year 1712 when he was described as a farmer, 'agricolus', party to a marriage bond). Numerous later documents bear his signature, always 'Thomas Longland senior' to distinguish him from his son and others who bore the name. We often think of him as Thomas of the purse wrought with gold, for no other Longland in this long history owned one (as far as is known).

The Marshall family, into which he married, held property at Southoe as mentioned in the inventory of Dorothy Marshall in the year 1724, which is signed by Thomas Longland. A freehold house, at Boughton in the parish of Southoe, was valued at £10 a year; she had land also at Paxton.

Thomas would then be 68 years old, living primarily on income from property. It was his eldest son Marshall who chose to carry on the blacksmiths business, though he also had a farm. The two younger sons of Thomas senior, Thomas and Henry, were yeomen farmers, well set up and independent at the time of their marriages.

The will of Thomas, who died in 1737 aged 81, gives much family detail. The only uncertainty is that of his presumed late third marriage to Mary Walgate, the 'loving wife' to whom he gave just a guinea. The Walgate family owned much property: evidently Mary would not have been in need.

THOMAS LONGLAND 1656-1737

THE THOMAS OF THE PURSE WROUGHT WITH GOLD

Marshall, the first child of the marriage of Thomas and Elizabeth, was christened in 1683 at Buckden. Katherine followed in 1686 and then her mother Elizabeth died, perhaps a few years later, for the family of Thomas and Martha begins in 1691 with the birth of Mary. There followed Henry in 1692, Martha in 1693, Ann in 1696, and Thomas in 1697.

Thomas, the grandfather, died in the year 1700 leaving what was probably a thriving business in Buckden, well placed on the road to London. His grandson, Marshall the smith, married Ann Longland in 1711. By that time there were many families of Longland so that such marriages were possible which did not break the rules of affinity. We know nothing about the family of Ann Longland.

Both Marshall and his father Thomas appear frequently in the Manor Court records as Thomas passed on land to his sons. The survey of the town

fields shows that he held several strips of land, his larger acreages being presumably elsewhere. When the time came, much later, to make up the inventory of his goods there were only 8 sheep and 2 cows and a small barn with some hay. We may imagine that, in his old age he did little farming himself, but in bonds, bills and rents he had assets totalling £164. This sum represents only part of his wealth. The land he owned was leased to tenants, for copyhold could be used in this way to provide income. Many people, not regarded as farmers, engaged in this activity for they were all close to the land, and their homes too had their brew house and buttery.

In the year 1730 Thomas surrendered all lands held of the Manor '*to the use of his will*' ensuring the smooth handing over of the property on his death. At the same time Robert Raymont and his wife Anne, the daughter of Thomas, occupied a house and orchard in Hardwick which had belonged to her father.

Marshall's brother Thomas, who married Hannah Barker, farmed at Swineshead and had estates in two other parishes. His brother Henry, who farmed at Buckden, died some time before his father leaving three children (of his second wife Hannah) and two children of the first marriage (Mary and Thomas).

JOHN THE BUTCHER, BROTHER OF THOMAS

John Longland, the butcher who married Mary Auberry at Southoe in 1677 died in the year 1702. Their daughter Alice was christened on August 24th 1695, the day her mother was buried. When she was twelve years old she received a silver spoon from the will of Aunt Ann (Pattison) and, in 1714, she married Lawrence Desborough

Her brother John married Mary Abbot of St Neots in 1703 and sister Mary married John Hubbard of St Neots. This Mary was also remembered by Aunt Ann in her will.

THE WILL OF THOMAS LONGLAND, YEOMAN OF BUCKDEN, PROVED 1737

The first bequest reads: '*I give to my loving wife Mary Longland one guinea to buy her a ring*'. His second wife Martha had died in the year 1730 and we can only assume that he married Mary in his old age. A Mary Longland, widow, formerly Mary Walgate, died shortly after Thomas but her will names no members of the Longland family.

By his will, Thomas, senior, gave 18 acres of arable land '*lying dispersedly in the fields of Buckden*' to Marshall Longland and 8 acres to

Catherine Joyce, 'land in West Field called Clarks Piece, in Millfield, in Town Ember, Southfield, in Paddy-brooks, Pitt Leys and Low Meadow, Dickings Hide and in Steeple Dole'. No doubt much more remained to be passed down to Thomas of Swineshead. Some fifteen small bequests (to children and grandchildren) came to about £180. Thomas of Swineshead was executor and Marshall trustee.

The one interesting item in his inventory is a purse, wrought with gold and silver, containing twelve guineas. Some of this was given to his daughters, the remainder to son Thomas of Swineshead. His purse and apparel was valued at £20. Of the family of Thomas there were, at the time of his death, four married daughters, two married sons and sixteen grandchildren.

MARRIAGES: THE FAMILIES OF RAYMENT,
WATSON, LUDDINGTON, JOYCE AND KIDMAN.

Mary, daughter of Thomas, married Hamont Rayment in 1714, her sister Ann married Robert Rayment in the year 1717. Martha married first William Watson, then on his death she married Richard Luddington, a butcher of Kimbolton.

We find Martha in the Manor Court book in October 1736, as Martha Watson, widow, when Thomas Longland junior surrendered 14 acres of land to her use until her marriage to Richard Luddington of Kimbolton. She died in the year in 1777, aged 84, and her signature on the will seven years earlier is quite clear.

Thomas Longland's daughter Catherine married Edward Joyce of Hatfield. She died a widow, in the year 1747, leaving her lands to nephews and nieces of the Rayment and Kidman families.

Martha Luddington left her property of the Manor of Buckden, Brittain's (late her father's) to her daughter Mary Chapman, to the three children of her son William Watson, and to the Chapman grandchildren, nine of them. A gold ring and some silver spoons went to two of the grandchildren.

It may be that the direct male line of descent from Thomas Longland, senior, came to an end with the deaths of Marshall in 1745 and Thomas of Swineshead in 1768. Thomas of Swineshead had no sons and the only survivor of Marshall's family was his daughter Catherine.

There is, however, some inconclusive evidence in the Manor Court records which implies that Thomas Longland, perhaps the son of Henry and Mary, who was aged 'about 15 years in 1739' was admitted to ten acres of land in the year 1746.

HENRY LONGLAND, FARMER,
DIED 1735

At the Buckden Manor Court in 1717 Henry and his wife Mary were named as the eventual inheritors of copyhold land held by Thomas Longland, senior. However Mary died in 1730 and in December that year Henry took as his second wife Hannah Harper of Kings Ripton.

This marriage was to last only five years, for Henry died in 1735. The will of Thomas Longland senior, in 1737, made provision for Henry's children: Mary (of the first marriage of Henry) and John, Maria, and Hannah (of the second).

Thanks to the manorial records for Kings Ripton we know something of the ancestry of Hannah Harper. The detailed inventory of her husband Henry helps us to picture the background of her life as a yeoman's wife.

HANNAH HARPER OF KINGS RIPTON

Hannah was christened on 19th April 1713, the second daughter of John Harper and Elizabeth. The Harpers are evident in the earlier records of Ripton, though we cannot link them with those Harpers of Southoe who featured earlier in this story.

John Harper died in 1718 and his widow Elizabeth married William Nurse, of an old yeoman family long settled in Ripton. Hannah would then be only five years old. We find John Harper and his wife in the manorial records, surrendering a messuage to Nathaniel Nurse in 1710 and then in April 1721 '*Elizabeth Nurse, wife of William Nurse, formerly the wife of John Harper*' appeared at the Court. She was admitted to land in Bridge Field, Goldsmiths Dole, Fryors Dole, Shakespear Furlong and Pecking Hales. There was land too in Abbots Ripton.

William died in October 1723, so Elizabeth was again a widow, but in possession of land and property, and we shall see that her daughter Hannah was remembered in her will. Hannah, now ten years old was again fatherless but only eight years were to pass before her adult life in Buckden began.

On 4th of December 1730, Henry Longland, yeoman of Buckden, and Hammont Rayment signed the marriage bond which refers to Hannah Harper '*about the age of 18 years*'. They were to marry at All Saints Huntingdon '*between the hours of Eight and Twelve of the Clock in the Forenoon*'.

Thomas Longland, father of Henry, gave them the close of two acres '*in the land called the Hoe*' on the occasion of the marriage. So Hannah took over the household at Buckden which we may try to visualise, for the inventory

which was drawn up a little over five years later is quite detailed.

In the parlour were two tables and seven chairs, a chest of drawers, and a bed with its curtains and valences, and curtains for a window. Guests would be welcomed by the fire in the hall, with chairs for nine people and three tables; the large fireplace had its pot hooks for cooking over the fire. Here too was the warming pan, and the clock.

The kitchen had its fireplace, table, dresser and chairs; three large kettles, one small, its tubs and vats. There were a dozen trenchers and eight dishes, another eight dishes of pewter, a dozen plates, spoons and '*other things*' not described. A drink house contained hogsheads, tubs, barrels, drink stalls and wicker bottles.

As in most yeomen's houses, the dairy had its cheese press, scales for weighing and a variety of equipment. There was a separate '*cheese chamber*' which contained twenty five cheeses, several vats, a table, boards and trestles.

Of the four first floor rooms the most spacious was over the hall. There were two beds, and here all the sheets and napkins were kept. There was a smaller bedroom for the family and one for two servants which was over the dairy. A garret had in it just a screen, a hen pen and some old iron.

All this would be Hannah's responsibility; a yeoman's wife was expected to supervise all the household work, and maybe to work in the garden or poultry yard. The labour in the fields was for the lower classes. We know nothing of the life of the servants whom Hannah employed, nor anything else about her daily life.

THE FAMILY OF HENRY AND HANNAH

The five years of their marriage saw the birth of John, Maria, and Hannah, still very young children when their father Henry died in 1735; he was only 43. Hannah was still a young woman, in her twenty third year.

Henry signed his will, the hand markedly shaky, though still recognisable as the signature of the Henry who had signed the marriage bond. His widow received all the residue from his personal estate, goods and chattels, once his father Thomas and brother Marshall had settled his accounts. One of the witnesses, whose signature appears plainly on the original will, was Elizabeth Nurse, the mother of Hannah.

Some of the land was copyhold, given to Henry by his father on marriage. At any rate Hannah cannot have been badly placed. She married John Longland of Buckden, yeoman, on 29th September 1736.

We may imagine the concern that Thomas would feel for Hannah and her children; no doubt he and Elizabeth Nurse made the choice together. The chosen '*John*' would have land of his own but this was added to on marriage. Hannah

had inherited about 70 acres of land and the crops on it together with the livestock and goods, worth nearly £230.

So Hannah's life would not have changed radically, she had probably known John for some time, as one of the family. The marriage took place in the church at Buckden. The marriage bond bears the neat well formed signature of John Longland. The ancestry of this John has not been established.

THE FAMILY OF JOHN AND HANNAH

The children followed, John in 1732, Thomas 1739, Sarah 1740, John 1742, William 1743, Elizabeth 1745, and Katherine in 1751. Thomas died in infancy but we shall see later that a second Thomas survived eventually to inherit the estate with his brother John.

In the year 1746 John and Hannah surrendered the close called the Hoe to Thomas Longland the butcher at St Neots. This fact reminds us that there was still at least one family of Longland in St Neots at that time. These manorial references to the Hoe are, at first sight, mutually contradictory; perhaps the Hoe was a more extensive area of pasture split up into several small closes, each called 'the Hoe' in the records.

Then in 1761 we find John of Buckden at the Court Baron of Abbots Ripton as one of the Homage. It appears that in 1755 Hannah had inherited a cottage and three acres of land from her mother, Elizabeth Nurse of Kings Ripton. In May 1740 Elizabeth had surrendered all her copyhold of the Manor of Kings Ripton to her will. Following the death of Elizabeth in 1755 Hannah Longland was described in the Manor records as 'her heir'. The Steward asked if there was a will, and the will was produced though there was only one witness to it, Thomas Thong.

Twenty years later, John and Hannah decided to surrender the property to Francis King for its cash value of £75. We may put this sum into perspective if we remind ourselves that the average annual income of a tenant farmer was then about £100 a year.

This inheritance is interesting because it is the only record which associates the Buckden family with land North East of Huntingdon, that is land only a few miles South West of Warboys. Chronologically we are now at the beginning of the Warboys phase of the Longland story but we return to John and Hannah in Buckden.

HANNAH AND MARIA
DAUGHTERS OF HANNAH BY HER FIRST MARRIAGE

Her daughter Hannah married John Dixie, a barber, in 1756. Then in the year 1761, Maria married Henry Wynn, a victualler. He too owned property and we find him in the Manor records, for example twenty years later when John Longland (his father-in law) surrendered three acres of copyhold land to him.

THE DEATH OF HANNAH'S HUSBAND JOHN 1788

John Longland, yeoman, died in the autumn of 1788, his will which he had signed in December 1773 was proved on October the 18th by his son Thomas, as executor. Hannah was also named as executor but she had died before her husband, probably in the summer of 1781.

John's son Henry inherited nine and a half acres of arable land subject to the payment by him of legacies of ten pounds each to his sisters Sarah Hopkins and Elizabeth Walton. Thomas then received all the goods, chattels, and personal estate which would otherwise have been his mother's. Presumably all the copyhold land would have passed to him.

Henry Wynn died in the Summer of 1789 leaving everything to Maria: a copyhold messuage in Buckden, a close of pasture, and all other tenements, goods and personal estate. Maria died ten years later and it is her will which makes it possible to reconstruct the family, for she names so many of them in the bequests.

THE WILL OF MARIA WYNN 1798

The will, written in February 1798, shows us how attached to her family Maria was, as her brothers Henry and Thomas and the several nephews and nieces are remembered. It is at first sight surprising to find, right at the beginning, Henry Wynne Norman, the son of Charles Norman, butcher of Buckden, but the Norman family were related by marriage.

Her sister Hannah, the wife of John Dixie, barber of Buckden, had four children Elizabeth, Ann, Mary and John. It was Ann Dixie who had married Charles Norman. Her nephew, Henry Wynne Dixie, inherited a close of pasture with the proviso that should he not live to the age of 21 the close would go to her nephew John Longland. Charles Norman was, in her words, 'her brother' an expression of affection which seemed to come naturally to Maria.

Henry Wynne Dixie received her largest silver tankard and two large silver spoons and Charles Norman her best silver tankard. Ann Norman was given ten silver teaspoons, silver tea tongs and Maria's gold ring, a feather bed

and a mahogany table. She gave several sums of money, to John Longland, son of her nephew John Longland, to brother Thomas Longland (who inherited land in Great Paxton) and to brother Henry, £20.

Sums of £50 each went to sister Sarah Hopkins, sister Elizabeth Walton, niece Elizabeth Norman, late Elizabeth Longland, widow. and to nephew James Longland. Elizabeth daughter of brother Henry Longland received £5. Nephew John Longland retained the £100 and interest owing to Maria. Her brother Thomas Longland received all the rest and residue of the estate which had been valued, in total, at nearly £600.

It was a considerable estate for a widow of that time, forgetting of course the very rich. In the late eighteenth century you could emigrate to the American plantations for a cost of £5, a grammar school headmaster would earn £100 a year, and a labouring family of five could eat quite well on less than two pounds a week. The reader is referred to the appropriate genealogical trees which, it is hoped, will make these complex relationships which appear in the will more clear. In following Maria Wynn's story we have moved on in time, almost into the nineteenth century. So it is necessary to go back to look at the families of the other two sons of Thomas senior, that is Thomas (of Swineshead) and Marshall (of Buckden).

THOMAS LONGLAND OF SWINESHEAD

His marriage to Hannah Barker, the daughter of John Barker, yeoman, took place at Swineshead in the year 1723. The marriage bond, dated 18th October 1723, describes Thomas as a bachelor and Hannah as a single woman; it is likely that her family had been copyhold tenants of the Manor of Swineshead for several generations, though only the manorial files dating from the year 1713 have been traced.

Hannah's father John died in the year 1729 and Thomas Longland was one of the administrators of the personal estate of John Barker which amounted to £233. In 1731 Thomas Longland and Hannah became copyholders of land '*late the estate of their father deceased*': twenty acres or so with a messuage, the pasture Glover's Copy, formerly Pickering's. Thomas Longland was also the proprietor of freehold estates not inherited from his own father.

A note added to one of the many manorial transactions, written in haste on the cover of a copy of Court Roll by the Steward, reads '*look for Mr. Longland's copy and Mr. Islip's and if not made out to make them out*'. This was in the year 1735, by which time Thomas probably held several hundred acres at Swineshead.

In 1731 he redeemed a mortgage on land (due on an earlier bond of John

Barker's) which cost him £250 and there is at least one other case of a cash payment of £200 for a copyhold estate. In the Huntingdonshire Poll for the year 1739 and 1768 he is listed as a freeholder.

In his will he mentions his Estates at Tilbrook (to the North East, not far from Kimbolton) and at Risely (to the South West), also at Wornditch (Kimbolton) Hunts. From about the year 1750 to 1764, just four years before his death, Thomas does appear in the records of the Manor of Buckden though his holding there did not compare with his estates in Bedfordshire. Hannah too had some land at Buckden which she bequeathed to John Islip. The Will of Thomas of Swineshead, proved in 1768, tells us nothing about his personal life; it is concerned purely with land. He does mention Mary Rayment who was living with him to whom he gave five pounds. She may have been his widowed sister.

HANNAH OF SWINESHEAD
HER WILL PROVED 1784

The will of his widow Hannah provides a little personal detail: her *'Trunk Silk Gown and Petticoat'*, was given to Elizabeth Whitney, and her bed *'with the Curtains and Quilt'* went to John Islip, her executor. On her death all the lands, apart from the Buckden property, went to the grandchildren, Thomas Mehew and Hannah Baker. From this it appears that there were two daughters of Thomas and Hannah Longland, Mary married William Mehew, butcher, of Swineshead (the marriage bond is dated 13th June 1746) but no Longland sons remained to inherit. That a family of Baker did exist is confirmed by the Manor Court Book, in which an incorrect entry of 'Barker' was corrected to 'Baker' by the Steward.

We return now to Buckden to learn a little of the life of Marshall, the prosperous blacksmith, the brother of Thomas of Swineshead.

MARSHALL LONGLAND OF BUCKDEN
1683- 1745

Marshall, the eldest son of Thomas Longland (the yeoman of Buckden who died in 1737) appears frequently in the Church and Manorial records. In the year 1711, on May 14th he married Ann (Longland) and in the following October was admitted copyhold tenant of the Spread Eagle.

It still stands in Buckden, a fair sized coaching inn, in the quiet street which runs alongside the grounds of the Bishop's Palace. In Marshall's time this would have been the main road through Buckden.

Subsequently Marshall appears as Beadle, as Field Reeve and as Churchwarden. At various times he added to his copyhold and on the death of his father he was admitted to a house and cottage and 60 acres of land, also to a close called Hogherds Close, held in trust for the poor. A further 18 acres went to Marshall, conditionally, subject to Marshall's payment of bequests to the grandchildren of Thomas.

Marshall and Ann had thirteen children, but at the time of their grandfather's death in 1737 we find, mentioned in the will, William, Ann (Kidman), Sarah and Catherine. On the death of Marshall in 1745 only Catherine Longland remained to inherit her father's property.

It is interesting to note that though Benjamin Kidman (Ann's husband) was a wheelwright, he carried on farming to some extent, renting a farm from William Longland whilst owning some freehold himself. His wearing apparel, watch and silver buckles are mentioned in his will (in the year 1764).

CATHERINE LONGLAND
DIED 1761

Catherine never married, and on her death in 1761 her nieces Ann and Alice Kidman were her executors. Ann Kidman, their mother, is referred to by Catherine (writing in 1758) as 'my late sister'.

She left to nephew George her half of the messuage '*late my father's Marshall Longland*', with its barns and stables, buildings, yards, orchards close, pasture and appurtenances. This farm was in the occupation of Robert Millington and Catherine's brother in law Benjamin Kidman, whom she regards as '*my brother*' showing how close families became on marriage then.

All copyhold lands went to nephew Benjamin. Nieces Ann and Alice received forty pounds each, but not until Benjamin reached the age of 21. He was expected to pay the money from the estate he was to receive.

Ann was given two large silver spoons, Alice six silver tea spoons and a red silk gown, and the two nieces shared all the rest and residue of the estate. Thus Marshall Longland's estate passed to the Kidman family. Catherine signed her will '*Cath Longland*', she was only 36 years old when she died.

BENJAMIN KIDMAN AND ROBERT SILK

A chance reference in the Hunts. Quarter Sessions records for the year 1749 concerns a case in which William Boon had 'rescued' one horse and gelding which Robert Silk and Benjamin Kidman had impounded at Buckden. They would have impounded the stray horses as a duty, acting for the Manor

Court.

THE INVENTORY OF MARSHALL LONGLAND 1745

Looking back to the year 1745 we get a limited idea of Marshall's property from the Inventory, dated February 13th. The appraisers were William Howard and John Burder and their total estimate of the value of goods and chattels was £320-0-4.

The house consisted of a parlour and two kitchens, buttery and dairy, Marshall's own 'chamber' and two servants' chambers (the maid's and the man's). There was a shop, a shop chamber and three barns. The goods in the shop were worth about £24 and the account book showed a sum owed to him of over £100. On the farmland there were 13 acres of wheat worth £19-10-00 and five score and two sheep valued at £25-10-00. Much of his wealth would be represented by land and property leased to others, which the inventory does not mention.

Marshall was prominent in public affairs, often regarded as the man who could be trusted to mark out land when, as often happened, parcels of land were divided between the beneficiaries of a will. He signed as a witness to the wills of Thos. Usher in 1721 and Thos. Colten in 1728, and was Edward Cartwright's executor in 1722.

We have seen that the Longland families of Stirtlow were really part of the extended family of Buckden. So too, it seems, were those at Offord Cluny, not far away, though formal proof is lacking. The chronology of our story is again disturbed in order to look backwards at these two places before continuing the account of the late eighteenth century family at Buckden.

JEREMY AND JANE OF OFFORD CLUNY
AND JOAN OF STIRTLOW

Perhaps the most striking original Longland document is the ruling of the Court of Common Pleas regarding some meadow land in Offord Cluny and Offord Darcy in the year 1657.

JEREMY LONGLAND
AT THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS 1657

The preamble reads '*Oliver, Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England Scotland and Ireland and the dominions and territories thereunto belonging. To all to whom these our present letters shall come, greetings.*'

The colouring of 340 years ago is bright, the green and yellow of the

large initial 'O' and the decorative background giving the impression that the matter is of great importance. In fact it concerns the right and title to one acre of meadow. James Crofts, gent. claimed his right to the land as his inheritance, denying any right at all to Jeremy Longland to enter it. He claimed that a certain Hugh Hunt had dispossessed him of the land thirty years ago '*in the time of peace in the time of Charles late King of England*'.

Jeremy had probably acquired the land through a third party and during the hearing George Humston, presumably there to give evidence, suddenly left '*in contempt of Court*' so the verdict favoured James Crofts. On completion of the indenture, by which James Crofts received his title, Jeremy Longland was granted as compensation the sum of twenty pounds in goods and money.

The indenture states that Jeremy Longland was the son and sole heir of Jane Longland deceased, the daughter of Thomas Crofts, deceased, basket maker of Offord Cluny. Thomas owned the meadow land which, on his death in 1624, had passed to daughter Jane, the mother of Jeremy Longland.

Jeremy was only seven years old when his parents Humphrey and Jane died so the land could not pass to him, as his grandfather's will had implied. We can only guess that it was held in trust. The will of 1624 did state that should Jane have no heir, the land would go to Edward Crofts, a brother of Thomas, perhaps it was he who held it in trust. The legal argument in 1657 suggests that he had had access to the land for a time, perhaps since his 21st birthday in the year 1655. It would seem that Jeremy Longland had simply claimed his inheritance.

However, Jeremy lost his acre of meadow. In the year 1665, his sister Jane married Henry Riley, a poulterer of Eynesbury, by licence, and Jeremy Longland was a party to the bond.

Eight years previously, Joan Longland, of Stirtlow, widow, remembered Jane the daughter of Humphrey Longland in her will, with bequests of furniture and household goods. These typical bequests appear to look ahead to the marriage at which Jeremy acted in place of her deceased father, but the precise relationship with Joan Longland of Stirtlow cannot be established.

Jeremy was taxed on three hearths at Offord Cluny in the year 1666, yet he appears as a labourer on the marriage bond of 1665. The indenture of the year 1657 refers to him as a 'single man'. He had an elder brother, William, and two other sisters Elizabeth and Alice; we may imagine that in the year 1641 they went to live with a relative, perhaps Edward Crofts.

Many of the Crofts family were basket makers and it seems likely that it was also Jeremy's trade. His first wife Judith died in childbirth in the year 1661 when Elizabeth was born. The sons, Joseph, William, and John were the children

of his second marriage to Bridget. The registers give us the baptisms of two of William's children, John and Mary, their mother was Martha, but nothing more is known of these families.

The data, by its very nature, provides us with these unsatisfactory 'snapshots' of which the following, as we return to Buckden, is an intriguing example.

THE DESBOROUGH STORY

In Volume 26 of the 'Genealogist' a note on the Desborough family of Huntingdonshire lists the family of Lawrence Desborough and his wife Alice in the early eighteenth Century. Lawrence Desborough was born on 29th September 1690, his wife Alice (Longland) on 16th August 1695.

The Buckden Register gives us the christening of Alice, daughter of John Longland and his wife Mary, just eight days after her birth. From the Buckden Manorial records we know that Alice inherited 11 acres of land from her father in April 1719 and that, in the following October, Lawrence and Alice surrendered this land to Marshall Longland, so receiving its cash value.

Lawrence Desborough and Alice Longland were married in January 1714 and they appear in one other manorial entry, in the year 1716, when they surrendered their interest in the property known as the 'Spread Eagle', the coaching Inn in the High Street. None of this is in itself unusual but the article in the Genealogist gives more family detail, taken from a family Bible, which lists dates of birth which we may compare with the known dates of christening.

THE DESBOROUGH CHILDREN

Lawrence, born 11th November 1716 (probably died in infancy),
Nathaniel 18th May 1718, Ann 29th Sept 1719.

John 26th Jan 1720 (5th Feb), Nathaniel and Thomas 16th Aug 1722 (18th Aug), Mary 24th Oct 1724 (25th Oct, buried 29th Oct), Lawrence 9th Oct 1725 (24th Oct).

The dates in brackets are christenings from the Buckden register.

In the year 1721, Lawrence Desborough was a witness (as was also Thomas Longland) to the last will of Robert West, innholder at Buckden.

LAWRENCE DESBOROUGH AND LORD SANDWICH

According to the family Bible the youngest child, Lawrence, was adopted by Lord Sandwich. This family of Desborough was descended from Isaac Desborough, gent. who died at Elseworth, Cambridgeshire on the 8th December

1660; he is said to have been a brother of General John Desborough, Cromwell's brother in law.

The Index to the Sandwich Papers, which are held at the Maritime Museum, gives several Desborough references, and we know that the family of a Lawrence and Ann Desborough was settled in Huntingdon from about the year 1755. Lawrence Desborough, perhaps a son of the earlier Lawrence, appears in the Borough accounts in the eighteenth Century, a surgeon and 'man-midwife'.

This takes us away from the Longland family but the basis of another story, that of Lawrence Desborough, the adopted son of Lord Sandwich, may be hidden amongst the archives. Alice was the daughter of John Longland (brother of Thomas the smith) who married Mary Aubry at Southoe in 1677.

THE SURVEY OF BUCKDEN 1722

This survey was begun in 1721, it was April 1722 before it was completed, carrying the signatures of twenty two holders of land which include Thomas and Henry Longland.

Thomas, senior, and his sons Thomas and Henry, and that of Marshall are familiar names. The heirs of William Longland, labourer, are mentioned, and Liddy and Matthew Longland, of whom we know very little.

Only the Town fields were surveyed, small acreages, but the names are evocative: Pease Furlong, Perry Way, Hardwick Dean ... *'then go back East through Hobgoblin Lane, and take a row of trees ...'*

We come across South Meadow (Longland land since the 1600s) then Tumbling Collins Hide, Dickens Hide and Danns Hide, Eight Mans Meadow, Town Ember, and Stirlow Way Furlong.

THE BIGGLESWADE ROAD

The prosperity of Buckden stemmed from its position on the road connecting London with the North of England. For the innholders and victuallers it was the prime reason for their business and, for the farmers it must have been a distribution centre having good communication with the nearby towns of St Neots and Bedford.

In October 1731 the road construction was a source of additional income, for Robert Longland provided carts for the transport of gravel and Marshall Longland did some ironwork, in connection with bridge repairs. Then in the Biggleswade Road Accounts for the period 1770 to 1778 Longlands are again

evident, this time John and Thomas Longland, farmers who provided the transport. Payments varied from a few shillings to one sum of five pounds. Several familiar names occur: Robert Burder, Benjamin Kidman, and Mr Waller. Then, in 1775, we find a payment of twenty pounds to Lawrence Desborough, perhaps the son of Lawrence Desborough and Alice Longland.

This latter appears to be his salary, suggesting some responsibility for the Buckden Roads Division. Mr Waller was paid on both accounts, the larger sum being his salary for some administrative work.

REVOLUTION IN FRANCE, FEARS IN ENGLAND

The Turn of the Century brought the threat of invasion, hard living conditions for the poor, civil unrest and the land owners' reaction. Recruitment for the Army was now the foremost priority in order to crush Napoleon, and at home forces were raised to provide resistance in case of invasion. General histories of this period show how real the threat was, both of internal collapse and of foreign expansion. For most Englishmen of the time France represented complete anarchy, a movement which would sweep away our Monarchy and destroy our Religion; a Power also which was attempting to dominate the whole of Europe.

England stood for 'morality' against the revolutionary ideas which had sprung from those foreign philosophers of whom the ordinary Englishman knew nothing. Judging by the tone of the army recruitment appeals, there must have been no shortage of young men ready to become soldiers.

Though the Longlands of Buckden had declined in importance, two Thomas Longlands appear in the Provisional Cavalry Order of January 18 1797. Thomas Longland senior and Thomas Longland junior were each to provide men for the Cavalry for the Hundred of Toseland.

Three years earlier a broadsheet had announced the formation of this volunteer force, putting into effect the decision taken at a meeting of the High Sheriff and his friends at the Crown Inn, Huntingdon. The resolutions were to be published in the Times and other newspapers, and amongst the sixteen signatures is that of Thomas Longland. The first four are 'Manchester', Sandwich, Carysfort, and Hinchbrook, and that of Thomas Longland is preceded by six well known names including James Rust and Owsley Rowley.

RIOTS AND DESPERATE MEASURES 1797

Due largely to land inclosures there were riots in many parts of the country and in Huntingdon an Association for the Protection of Property was formed. Members were issued with a musket, bayonet, and cartouch box, and sported a round hat with feather and cockade. No Longland subscribed to this Association which seems to have been promoted by certain sections of the land owning class.

NINETEENTH CENTURY BUCKDEN

After the year 1740 there are few references to Longlands in the Buckden Parish Book, but in the year 1810 Charles Longland was the Churchwarden, presumably the same Charles who, in the previous September, paid 3s 6d to Jos. Paxton, Watchmaker and Gunsmith of St Neots, who had mended his watch and supplied a new key; a troublesome watch, for his father had paid 2s 6d in March 1805 for its repair.

In the previous century the Hurstington and Toseland Land Tax returns of 1767 had included several Longlands. We note William and Thomas (payments on land) and John Longland who paid tax as a tenant of George Reynolds. There was also Thomas Longland 'landlord' who was taxed on land at Kings Ripton.

By the year 1806 there remained only a Henry Longland proprietor at Toseland, an indication of the decrease both in the Longland 'population' and in their relative prosperity. The County Poll for the year 1807 includes Thomas Longland with freehold land at Great Paxton: 'abode Buckden'. This freehold, or at least part of it, had been inherited from his sister Maria Wynn.

Henry and Thomas were brothers, the sons of John Longland and Hannah, born in 1737 and 1742. Hannah was the widow of Henry the son of Thomas whose extended family appeared earlier in this chapter. Thus the genealogy of these two brothers, on their mother's side, takes us back to the Longlands of Stuart and late Tudor times.

The ancestors of John, their father, are more elusive but they too must have been descended from those early Longlands of Buckden. Manorial evidence gives us a Henry and Sarah as likely parents of John.

From the mid eighteenth century onwards there is no such problem, the genealogy is clear, but not a great deal is known about the family.

THOMAS, HENRY AND CHARLES:
BUCKDEN TO GODMANCHESTER

Thomas Longland who was born in 1742 married Jane Wilson at Stilton in the year 1777 then in 1784, following her death, he married Elizabeth Kent of St Neots. Their son Charles was born in 1788; he married Mary Alders of Huntingdon in 1807. Their daughter Amelia was baptised in 1808, followed by a son Charley in the year 1814.

Charles' father Thomas died at Godmanchester in the year 1818. His uncle Henry died in 1819 followed soon afterwards by his brother George at the early age of 33.

That the senior branch at Buckden, that is the male line, died out with the death of Henry in 1819 is evident from the executorship of his estate.

THE WILL OF HENRY LONGLAND 1807

Henry, the farmer at Buckden made his will in December, 1807, naming his brother Thomas and his daughter Elizabeth Ward as joint executors. Elizabeth, the surviving executor, attended to the estate. By that time it is likely that the Longland landholding had become quite modest though we have no details of the arable and pasture land which Elizabeth inherited. On her death the land went to the heirs of Elizabeth, so bringing to an end nearly three hundred years of land ownership by Longlands in the parish of of Buckden.

Elizabeth's sister Mary, the wife of Edward Nichols, received forty pounds, some indication of the decline in the Longland wealth. From the evidence of the wills alone it would seem that Maria Wynne who died some twenty years earlier was richer than either of her brothers, Henry or Thomas, for she had inherited property from her father Henry, and her step father John Longland.

A James Longland, perhaps the last of the line, appears in the 1851 Census for Cambridge; he was born in Buckden, the nephew of Maria Wynn who mentioned him in her will in 1798. The same census gives us Frederick Longland, in Cambridge on Census night, born in the year 1802 in the parish of All Saints, Huntingdon, his wife Lucy came from Hampshire. The nineteenth Century brought increasing mobility, and children who were not necessarily baptised in the parish church. These 'stray' Longlands cannot easily be placed within the general pattern which this account creates.



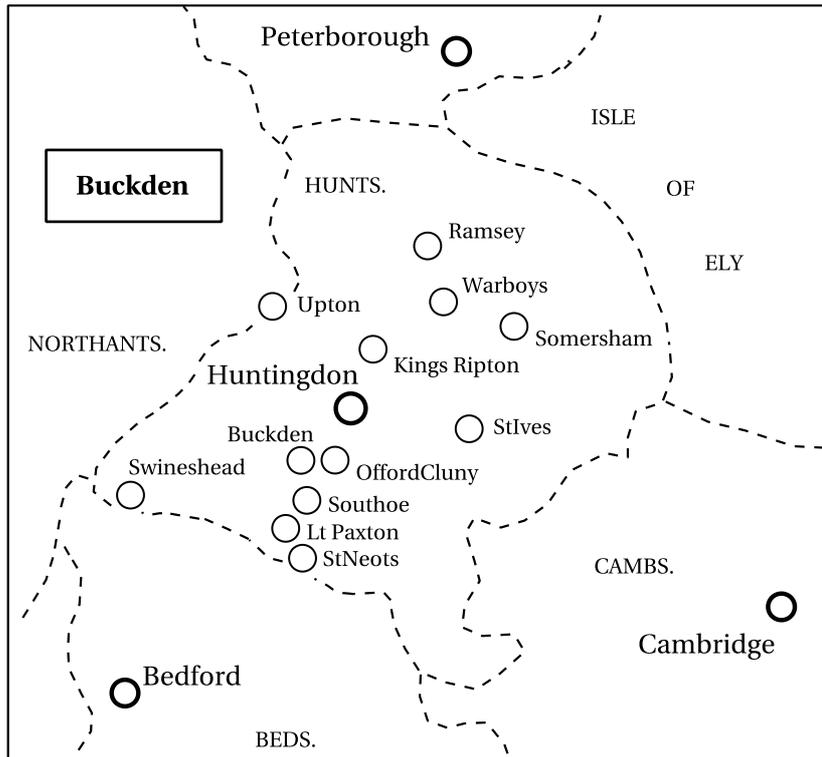
CAMBRIDGE AND EYNESBURY

An earlier James Longland married Rebecca Mowlem at St Michaels, Cambridge, in August 1800; their children were baptised at St Michaels, but following the death of Rebecca we lose track of this James. It is tempting to assume that he too was of Buckden origin.

A register of Methodist baptisms records Sarah Ann and Charles Longland who were baptised in July 1856 at Eynesbury. They were the children of Charles and Sarah Longland, possibly the descendants of the last Charles of Buckden.

We must now go back in time for from about the mid seventeenth century onwards there were other Longlands at Buckden, victuallers and innholders, who were related to a Longland family in London. Of the inns they held the two most important still face each other looking across the old North Road, both coaching inns, the 'George' and the more ancient 'Lion'.

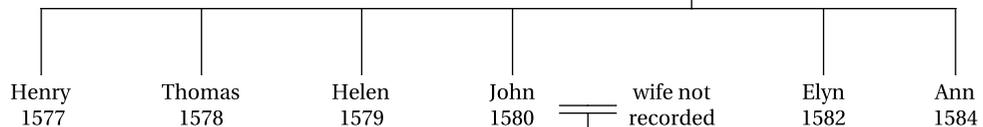




**Buckden:
The first
Thomas
Longland
1576**

Thomas Longland
of Buckden
of the Kinlet family

Joan Jarmaine
of Offord Cluny
marriage 1576
at Buckden



Elizabeth
1616

'John Longland,
junior'

unknown
marriage

William
1624

Henry
1627

refer to
Chapter Six

**Rowland
Longland of
Buckden
1584**

Rowland Longland
of Buckden
died 1600

Alice Warril
marriage 1584
died 1600

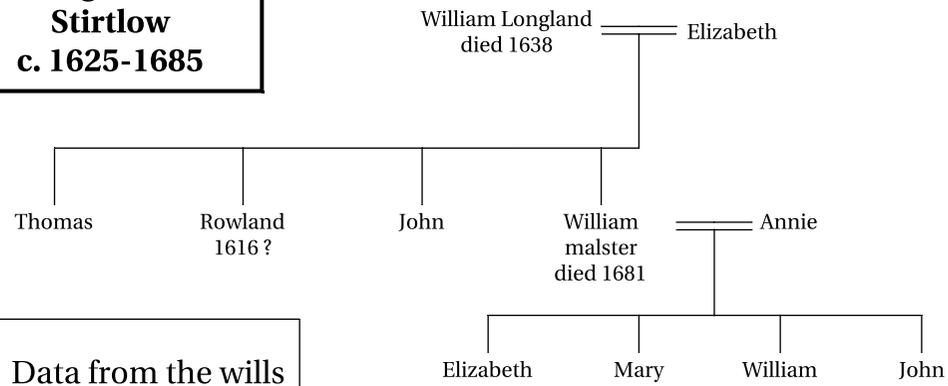
Children of first marriage
of Rowland:
William 1570,
Humfrey (?)1572,
Susan 1574,
Gilbert 1576,
Helen 1579

Anne 1585 Abraham 1587 (spurrier of London PCC will 1609) Thomas 1588 Rowland 1595 Letice Gibson marr. 1617 Francis 1600

Jeffrey, 1625 father of William, innholder of Buckden Richard 1627 Elizabeth 1634 Rowland 1637

refer to Chapters Six
and Eight

**The family of
Longland of
Stirtlow
c. 1625-1685**



Data from the wills
of 1638 and 1681,
only three parish
register dates

**The family of
Longland of
Stirlow
1577-1736
suggested descent**

Thomas Longland = Joan marr 1576

family at Buckden

family at Stirlow, not all children shown

Henry 1577

Henry died 1641

William will 1638 = Elizabeth

John tithes, 1646

Thomas

Roland 1616 ?

John

William will 1681 = Annie

family at Buckden and at Paxton

William 1656 = Ann ?

John malster

refer to Chapter Six

Ann 1677

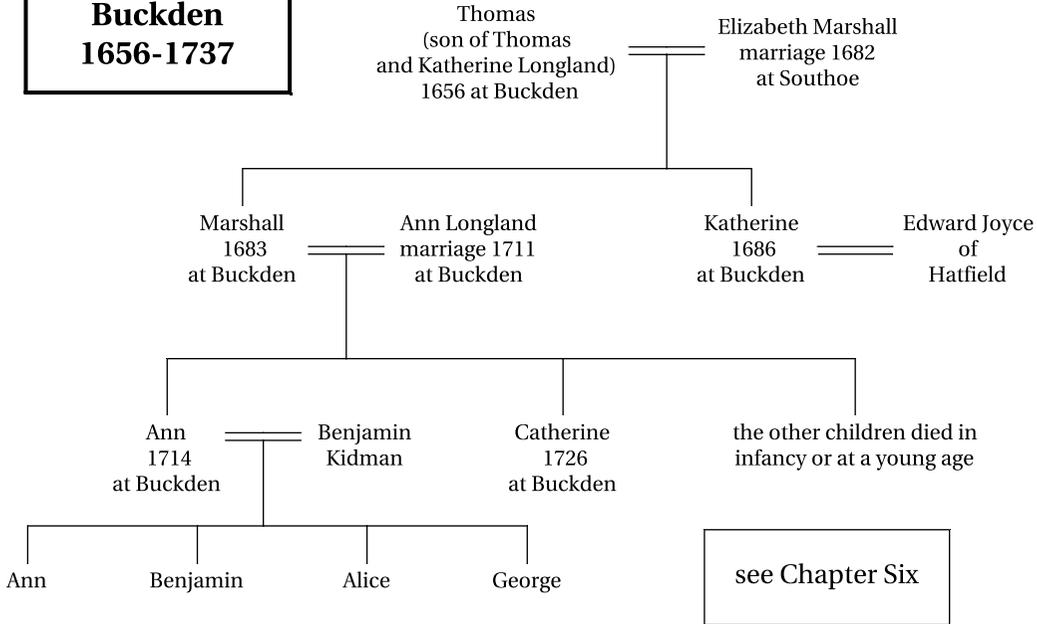
Thomas died 1726

Mary Cartwright

Based on manorial references, tithes, wills, limited register entries

Thomas 1713 inheritance 1736

**Thomas &
Marshall
Longland of
Buckden
1656-1737**



**Thomas Longland
of Buckden
1656-1737
his second
marriage**

see Chapter Six

Thomas Longland (widower) = Martha

Mary
1691
at Buckden

married
Hamont
Rayment

Henry
1692
at Buckden

married
Mary
c.1717

Martha
1693
at Buckden

married
Watson, then
Luddington

Thomas
1697
at Buckden

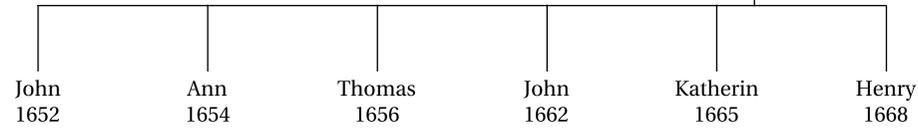
married
Hannah
Barker

Ann
1696
at Buckden

married
Robert
Rayment

**Buckden-
Family of
Thomas and
Katherine
from 1650**

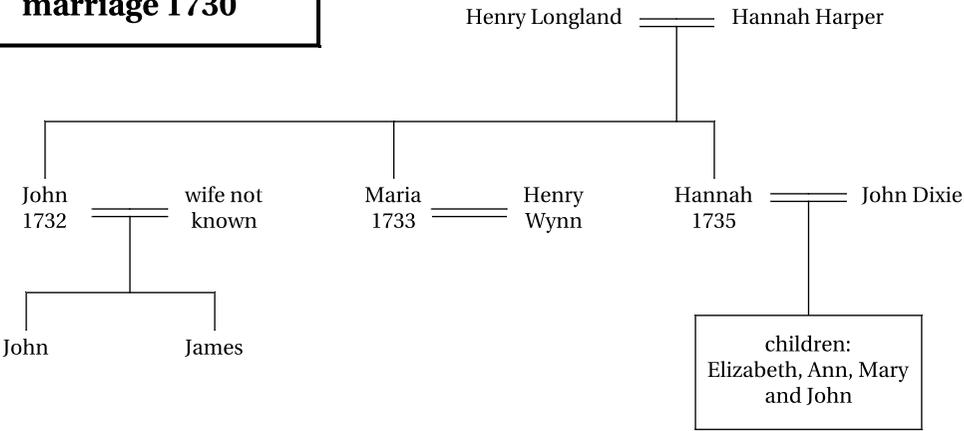
Thomas Longland
blacksmith Katherine



150

refer to Chapter 6
for history of the extended family
of this Thomas

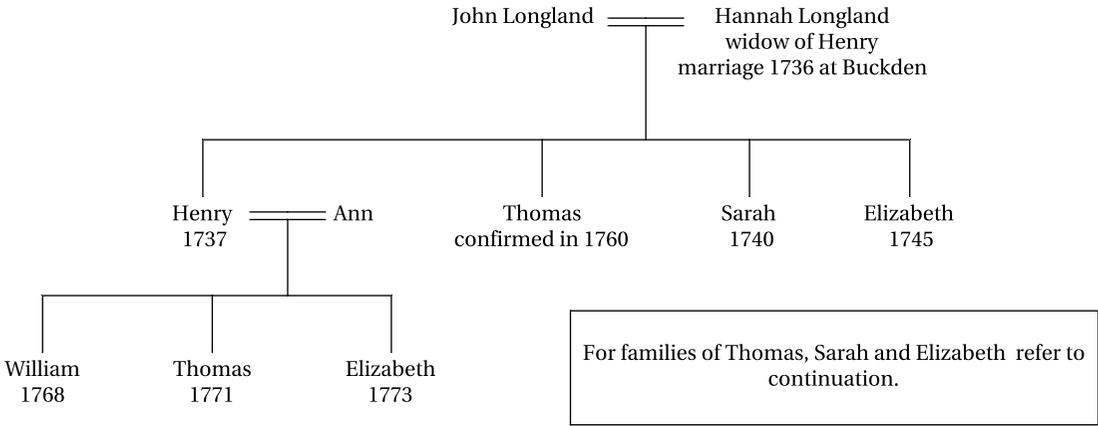
**Henry Longland and
Hannah Harper
marriage 1730**



**Hannah Harper
of Kings Ripton:
her second
marriage**

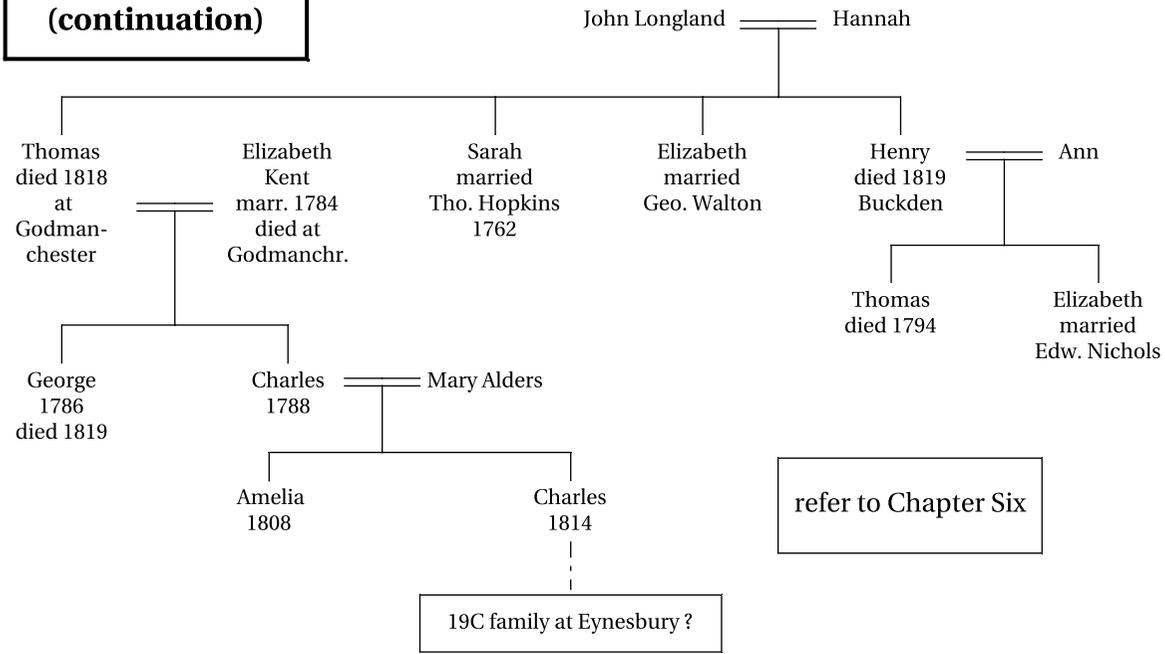
Of Hanna's first marriage to Henry Longland:
son John in 1732, daughter Maria, 1733- who refers to Thomas
(son of John & Hanna) as her brother

152



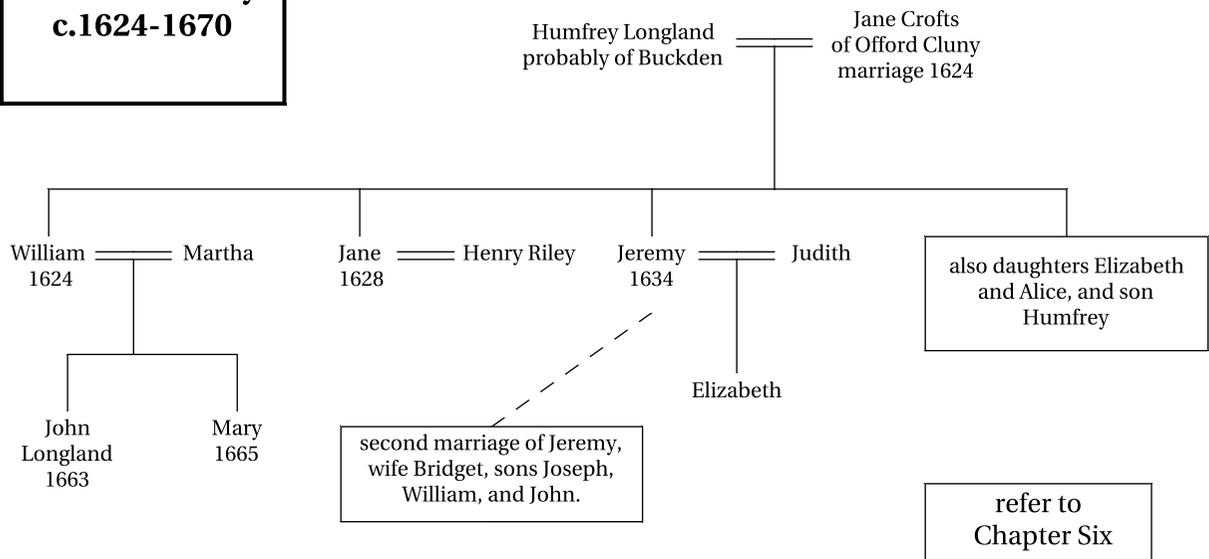
**Hannah Harper:
family of
her second
marriage
(continuation)**

Marriages of Thomas, Sarah, and Elizabeth, children of John and Hannah. The last Longlands of Buckden



**Longland family
of Offord Cluny
c.1624-1670**

154

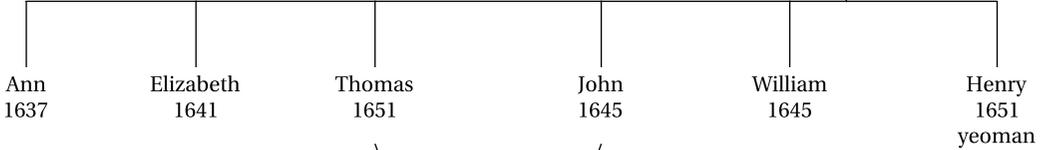


**Buckden
Family of John and
Elizabeth
1637 onwards**

see family tree of the Longlands of Paxton, which incorporates later information from wills and admins.

John Longland
yeoman of Buckden
died 1686

Elizabeth



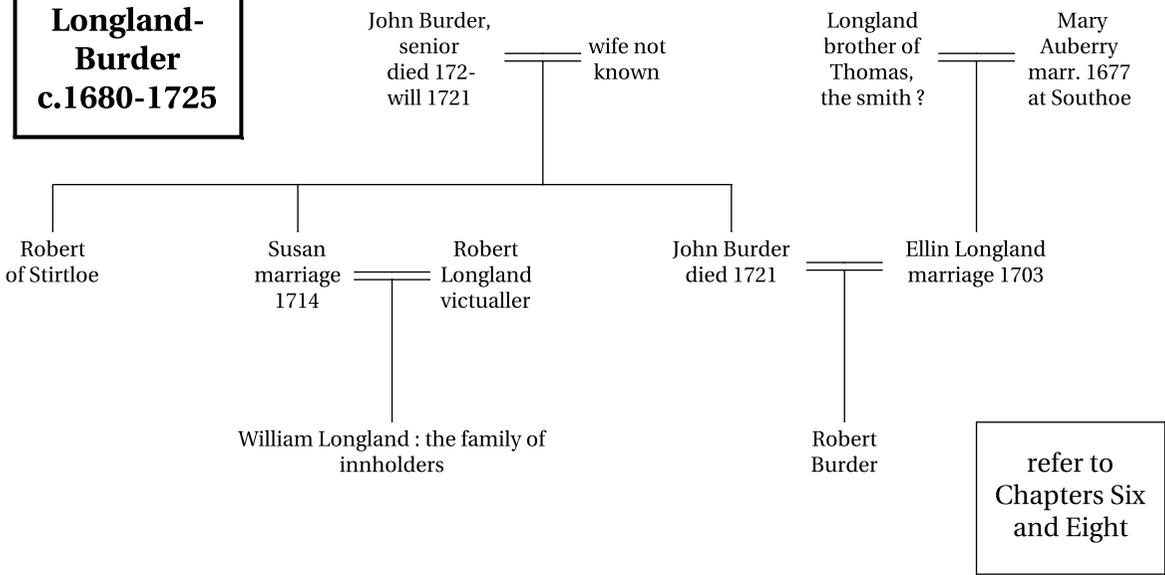
compiled from parish register entries

later,
'of Paxton'

Estate at
Buckden and
at Paxton.

**Buckden
marriages
Longland-
Burder
c.1680-1725**

156



**John Longland of
Buckden, Alice and
the family of
Desborough**

John Longland
butcher
of Buckden

Mary Auberry
marriage 1677
at Southoe

Mary
1679

William
1680

John
1683/4

Ann

Alice
1695
marriage
1714

Lawrence
Desborough

Eight children, of whom the
youngest,
Lawrence, born in 1725
was adopted by Lord Sandwich

Desborough family at Huntingdon

see Chapter Six

**Maria Wynn, daughter
of Henry Longland and
Hanna (Harper)
1733-1798**

Relationships given in her will

158

brother
Henry
Longland

sister
Sarah
Hopkins

sister
Elizabeth
Walton

sister Hannah Dixie,
her children Elizabeth, Ann,
Mary, & John

brother
Thomas
Longland

niece
Elizabeth
Norman

nephew
John Longland
and his son John

nephew
James
Longland



























Chapter Seven

LONDON

1567 - 1695

Merchants of the Staple of Calais,
a spurrier, brewers and innholders.



⊕

**A Tudor Testament
Gentry and Traders in London**

*'Here I am husband what saye you to me good husband ...'
'Yea by my trouthe all'
(Canterbury Probate Record, 1567)*

*'To my dear wife Hannah Longland all those my Four Howses in Little Queen
Street'
(the Will of Robert Longland of the Parish of St Giles, 1694)*

Robert Longland of London, whose will is quoted above, was related to William Longland of Buckden (the Innholder who died in 1714). It was Robert's son Charles, a Huntingdonshire freeholder, who inherited the copyhold property 'the Mitre' in 1695. London Longlands were in evidence in earlier times, merchants who traded across the Channel; their full story lies outside the scope of this sketch which serves as an introduction to those who were innholders at Buckden.

⊕

The year is 1567, on the 14th September, and we must imagine a gentleman's town house somewhere in the parish of Great St Bartholomew with West Smythfield. The memorandum which is filed in the Probate Records tells us that William Longland gent *'lying in extreme Sycknes and perill of deathe called for his wife on this wise Wher is my wyfe'*. So Richard Durant gent., his neighbour, together with three other friends of William, called his wife, Margaret, who said to her husband *'Here I am husband what say you to me goode husband, speak to me'*. William lay still, saying nothing, and Richard Durant approached the bedside, saying to William *'Here is now your wyfe master Longland, what is your will towards her if God shoude take you from us? Ys your will that she shall have your goods? ... Mr Longland answered on this wyse yea by my trouthe all'*.

On 15th September, Margaret Longland, William's widow was granted the administration.

The only other document so far discovered which refers specifically to William Longland of Gt St Bartholomew appears in the Chancery proceedings of c.1567

ANTHONY CARLETON vs JOHN LONGLAND c.1567

Anthony Carlton possessed the Manor of Southweston, Oxon. which he sold to William Longland of Great St Bartholomew, but '*because of their mutual affection*' nothing was put into writing. Before the first payment could be made William died and John Longland, clerk, brother and heir of William Longland, obtained the property deeds. Margaret Harleton (Hurlestone ?) is named as administrator of the goods of William Longland.

It is clear that William was a gentleman of some substance, probably the William Longland named in the Patent Rolls in the years 1558 and 1559:

'Longland, Calais. 29 June 1558 Wm Langland pardoned for buying and selling wool at forbidden times'. (Calendar, Patent Rolls P & M Pt 4)

'10 August 1559. Wm Langland merchant of the staple of Calais permitted to ship goods to Brugge in Flanders instead of to Calais from London Boston and Hull'. (Patent Rolls QE 1 vol 1).

It is interesting to note that the London Marriage Licence Records include a Margaret Longland, widow, who we may reasonably assume was the widow of William Longland of St Bartholomew '*Marriage, 1567 October 26, Randall Hurlestone of the City of London, Gent. and Margaret Longland, widow, of the said parish at St Bartholomew in West Smithfield*'. Well to do widows did not waste much time in the Sixteenth Century.

CHARLES AT TOURNAI 1713

In the year 1713 Charles Longland of London gent. a kinsman of William Longland of Bugden, died suddenly '*beyond the seas at Tournai*'. There is no firm evidence to link these later Longlands of London with those of Tudor times.

However, it is interesting to consider certain possibilities which fit the facts we have; there is earlier documentation which suggests a Buckden-London association, for we have the last will of Abraham the spurrier, in the year 1609.

ABRAHAM LONGLAND, SPURRIER

Family references in a London Will of the year 1609, that of Abraham Longland, a spurrier of St Martin in the Fields, tempt us to conclude that he was the son of Rowland and Alice Longland of Buckden.

First, the Will itself: the sum of eleven pounds owing to Abraham by '*one*

Barke, was bequeathed to his brothers and sisters. Anne received forty shillings, Thomas forty shillings, Elizabeth twenty shillings and Francis, Rowland and Humfrey each forty shillings.

Abraham, the son of Rowland Longland, was baptised at Buckden in 1587, his brothers and sisters were Anne (1585), Thomas (1589), Rowland (1595) and Frances (1600). Elizabeth and Humfrey are 'missing' but there is a 15 year gap in the register from 1601 to 1615 inclusive. It is likely that the young Abraham left Buckden as no subsequent Abraham reference has been found in the large number of Hunts. records examined.

Abraham, of St Martin in the Fields, appears in the Session Roll, dated 30th March, 1608: '*accused of refusing to aid a constable when ordered to do so by the constable*'. If the speculation regarding the Buckden origin is correct then, in 1609, Abraham would have been aged 22, Anne 24, Thomas 20, and Rowland 14.

His will concentrates on the sums of money to be given to his brothers and sisters and the forty shillings to be given to Robert More, plus thirty eight shillings already owed to Robert by Abraham. Thomas Caldwell received twenty shillings, John Smith and Francis Berry each ten shillings. The sum of eleven pounds, owed to Abraham by John Burder, is intended to cover these other bequests, plus any debts to be paid, and he was to keep any surplus to cover funeral expenses and charges.

What was the 'house' referred to by Abraham ? It could have been the house where Abraham's employees both lived and worked as spurriers, a normal arrangement in the early seventeenth century. The executors were to have the four pounds due to Abraham '*by the house*', and ten shillings in order '*to satisfy all the demands and reckoning of the folkes of the house*'. Thomas Caldwell received the rest of his goods, '*wearing apparel, debts, reckoning scores, sums of money and substance whatsoever heretofore not mentioned to be given or bequeathed.*'

Thomas Caldwell was executor, John Burder and William Boyton overseers. John Burder, William Boyton and Francis Berry (servant to John) were witnesses.

There certainly were families both of Caldwell and of Burder settled at Buckden in the sixteenth century; indeed a Thomas Caldwell was baptised at Buckden in the year 1584, the son of Robert 'Caldwell'. This Thomas, some three years Abraham's senior, may well have been a close friend of Abraham as suggested by the trust placed in him and the bequests. We have also a contemporary John Burder at Buckden. Thus, a strong case may be put to support the hypothesis that the Longland families at Buckden and in London, in

Tudor times, were related.

The sums of money need to be put in perspective: annual incomes in the early 1600's were around forty to eighty shillings for a farm bailiff, thirteen to forty shillings for a woman servant, up to sixty shillings for a man servant. The annual income of many yeoman was only forty pounds a year.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY LONGLANDS IN LONDON

The St Martin in the Fields history of Longland families extends over a century or more for the Rate Book of 1685 includes '*Will Longland at the Ducking Pond*'. These houses were referred to as Albemarle Buildings, later as Ducking Pond Row (1723) and, by the 19th century, Grafton Street.

Just a year earlier than the St Martin in the Fields rate assessment, on 7th April 1684, Robert Longland, yeoman, of St Giles in the fields, pleaded guilty before the Middlesex magistrates to the charge of declaring Roger Lestrangle '*a rascal*' and saying that he was '*Oliver's fiddler*', in other words, a right old cheat, and for this he was fined three shillings and fourpence, which he paid to the Sheriff in Court. (Terms of derision incorporating 'Oliver' were common in Restoration England).

Two years later, Charles Longland, distiller, of St James Westminster, was involved in a charge of murder ... not as the accused, but as having entered into a recognizance of five hundred pounds as surety for Edward Hayhurst gent. Edward Hayhurst, was to answer to the charge at the next hearing, and Charles and his associates were responsible for his subsequent appearance at court.

The total surety, which amounted to one thousand pounds, was shared between Charles Longland, William Colet (tallow chandler), John Boswell (cheesemonger) and Edward Lill (baker). In addition Michael Burnet, from Upton, Chester, pledged £500.

Fortunately we can, to a limited extent, show that a London-Buckden link did exist insofar as a Robert Longland of London, gent. did own property in Buckden towards the end of the seventeenth century.

THE LONDON- BUCKDEN LINK

Though the names and places give us only a circumstantial association it seems likely that the two cases refer to Robert Longland of St Giles in the Fields, who acquired the Mitre inn at Buckden in the year 1695, and his son Charles who had freehold property at Buckden in the year 1706. This freehold probably passed to his son, the later Robert, who became an innholder at

Buckden in the year 1715.

Charles had died in Tournai in Belgium, a region which was then recovering from the battles fought by Marlborough, those victories which had been celebrated so wholeheartedly in the inns of Buckden. We may well ask what business Charles had in North East France at that time. The Treasury accounts for the year 1715 show that money was owed by the Army to English victuallers, some of whom claimed compensation for losses suffered. It could be that Charles Longland had been involved, for the family were certainly brewers and victuallers.

Perhaps Charles was there on the resumption of normal business for we seem to have a family of London merchants who traded with the Continent, probably shipping wines and brandy to England for sale, particularly for the inns they owned at Buckden or elsewhere.

So we return to Huntingdonshire, to seventeenth century Buckden where the Lion and the George still face each other on either side of the old Great North Road.





Chapter Eight

BUCKDEN, HUNTS.
THE INNHOLDERS

1695 - 1837

Charles Longland, of London, gent.,
his son Robert and the succeeding generations.

Relations with the Waller family.

The last Longlands of Buckden.

Innholders and Merchants

'An Inn known as the Crown, once the King's Arms and before that the Mitre ...'
(Manorial records, 1695)

CHARLES OF LONDON
AND WILLIAM OF BUCKDEN

The Copy of Court Roll which admitted Charles Longland of London, gent. to the property known as the Crown (which some years later became the George) marks the beginning of the story of those Longlands of Buckden who were of London origin. Their relationship to those yeomen who held property at Stirtlow in the Sixteenth Century, whose descendants farmed the land around Buckden for some three hundred years, is not proved. Yet a close relationship seems likely.

William Longland of the George Inn, who claimed kinship with Charles Longland, gent. of London, would have had frequent contact with Thomas, the yeoman, at the Manor Court and at Church Vestry meetings. William named Marshall Longland, the blacksmith, as trustee of his estate.

The people of Buckden must have formed a closely knit community; yet in another sense these London Longlands stand apart, for they had a kind of gentry status. Susan, a great granddaughter of Charles Longland, daughter of a later William, innholder, married a surgeon, and her sister Francis was Francis Waller, the wife of John Waller a lawyer, later Lord of the Manor of Buckden. It seems that their family connections, not to mention their apparent prosperity and commercial activity, granted them a place amongst the hierarchy of Buckden.

It is interesting to note that at the time of the Herald's Visitation of Huntingdonshire, in 1684, two apparent claimants to gentility were innkeepers: at Buckden, Robert Langley, gent., and at Huntingdon (the Chequers), Henry Fowkes, gent.

Robert Langley subsequently denied all claim to arms or gentility but we may conclude that it was not unusual for a gent. to be an inn holder; just as John Hatley, gent. of Eynesbury was a draper, and the wealthier Longlands brewers or victuallers.

LONDON GENTRY
AND BUCKDEN COPYHOLD

Charles inherited the copyhold of the Crown Inn in the year 1695, on the death of his father Robert Longland gent. who owned four houses in Little

Queen Street, London, in the Parish of St Giles. He devised these to his wife Hannah, together with the house where they lived in Little Russel Street.

Mary, the daughter of Charles received £600, that is at age 21 or on marriage, for she was then only three years old. His kinswoman Elizabeth Longland was given two shillings and sixpence a week for life, plus £5 to buy a mourning ring. The sum of two shillings and sixpence a week seems very little, yet in the year 1714 it was equivalent to a servant's wages. 'Kinsman' William Longland was given £5. Presumably these bequests refer to William and Elizabeth at Buckden.

This William we take to be the one born at Buckden in 1654, son of Jeffery and Alice Longland, descended from the family of Rowland Longland of Buckden. The Parish register notes that Alice, who died in 1714, had lived 94 years.

THE WILL OF MR WILLIAM LONGLAND OF BUCKDEN, PROVED 1714

William (of Buckden) was keen to stress his relationship to Charles of London, but unfortunately did not say what that relationship was. In his will William made provision for his mother, as he did for his wife Elizabeth. Otherwise his thoughts were for Charles' son Robert, who would have been about 19 years old at the time, his niece Elizabeth Warner, daughter of Thomas Warner '*lately deceased*' and his cousin Rose Whitehead, wife of Thomas Whitehead of London. They each were to receive a hundred pounds. Robert Longland is identified as '*the son of Mr Charles Longland, late deceased.*' The will was signed on 26th of March 1713 and proved in April 1714.

Following the death of William these relatives sued William's widow Elizabeth, in Chancery in the year 1717. The legal proceedings state that William Longland of Buckden had '*considerable personal estate but no issue, but a wife and his mother living who died shortly after him.*'

William's estate is described as the contents of the George Inn, and a farm, sufficient to pay the legacies and debts plus one to two hundred pounds. His inventory totalled £790-7s-06d.

It was claimed that William's widow had paid Robert and his sister only about half that which was due, and Mary and Milly Longland demanded the residue under the terms of the will.

They also said that Elizabeth Longland was purchasing a house in Buckden, called Stone's Mitre, and that she had offered to let Robert and his sister live with her rent free. Elizabeth denied it all, but we have no record of the legal judgement.

THE CHURCHWARDENS ACCOUNTS

'Mr William Longland' appears at times in the Churchwardens' Accounts, for he occupied some church land: we find '*Receipt for rent: Mr Wm Longland for the plot of ground in Diddington Field and the baulk on Mark Ley Gravel Pits, Town Ember and Strewing Place, £1-17-0*'. He supplied bread and wine on Communion Days, and drink for the ringers on ringing days.

In the year 1708 they recorded '*the Joyful News*' that the Prince Eugin had joined his forces with his Grace the Duke of Marlborough against the French. This was celebrated with ale all round at Mr Longland's, as was the news of the relief of Dunkirk in the year 1712. Then, when the Visitation took place in the following year, Mr Longland was paid £2-0-6, presumably for wine or ale; this did not prevent the Archdeacon from noting the deficiencies: '*a Bible of the new translation is wanting, a new flagon, a hood, a hearse cloth. Entries in the Register are not duly made*'.

William was an Overseer of the Parish, responsible for apprenticeships of poorer boys. We note that not all Longlands were prosperous, for William the son of John Longland (we cannot identify which John) was apprenticed, by the Parish, to John Hubbard of St Neots, blacksmith, in the year 1711, bound to serve until the full age of 24.

THE GEORGE, BUCKDEN

Not the only inn at Buckden associated with the Longland family, but the grandest, the George still stands in the High Street, once the Great North Road, opposite the Lion of earlier origin another 'Longland' inn. The inventory of 1714 lists about twenty rooms, including '*the room Mr Longland lodged in*' and '*the room called the George*'.

The furnishings suggest that about thirty eight people could have been accommodated at any one time. The room called the George seems to have been intended for special guests, for it contained:

'One bedstead with a raised tester, curtains and vallants, one feather bed, one bolster, two pillows, three blankets, one quilt and counterpane, the hanging in the room, two pair of window curtains, two looking gasses, two tables with a twilight, seven cane chairs, nine cushions, brass fire shovel, tongs, bellows with brass snouts, a pair of dogs brass heads, 13 small pictures. In the closet: one little trundel bed, one feather bed, two quilts that lie under the feather bed, nine pillows, five blankets, a close stool and pan, a little wicker screen.'

There were two beer cellars and also a cellar under the hall in which the wine was stored: three dozen bottles of claret, one dozen of white wine, five bottles of sack, and thirty two bottles of cherry brandy, total value £6-12-0, perhaps £300 at today's prices. The silver spoons, with three silver salts and a silver cup were in Mr Longland's room.

ROBERT AND SUSANNAH

Our attention now turns to Robert whose father Charles Longland died suddenly at Tournai, in the year 1713. Robert was 21 years old on 29th October 1716 having married Susannah Burder at All Saints, Cambridge, on 29th September 1714, by licence. Whether or not Robert ever received that which was due to him from his father's estate is not known; there may be an untold family story here for, in the Cambridge (All Saints) register, Robert is '*of St Ives*' and Susannah '*of Gravely*'.

All this is a mystery, for Susannah's parents were certainly Burders of Buckden, and the Longlands generally had little to do with St Ives. It may be that the London family owned property at St Ives, but that is pure speculation. What is certain is that Robert and Susan settled in Buckden and that their first child, appropriately Charles, was baptised in 1715 and died in infancy.

Robert, like his kinsman William, was concerned with local affairs and both the parish and manorial records identify Robert as an innkeeper or victualler. There are several manorial references: in October 1724 there were 17 acres of land which he had inherited from his father in law John Burder. Some years later, in April 1741, he made sure that his lands and tenements would pass eventually to Susannah. It was necessary for the Court Book to show that property had been '*surrendered to the use of the will*'. In November, following the death of Robert, Susannah claimed her rights and then in 1743 she too surrendered all lands and tenements '*as in her will*'. This ensured that all the copyhold property would pass to her heirs as instructed in her will.

THE FAMILY OF ROBERT AND SUSANNAH

Most of the records which have survived concern property, so this story is given an unfortunate bias, as though the lives of the people were dominated by these matters. Robert and Susan had to establish themselves in order to care for their family, for had all their children lived there would have been perhaps a dozen of them. The death of their first child Charles, in infancy, was a common experience in the eighteenth Century, and the loss of one, or maybe two Roberts,

meant that these family names were not handed down, it was left to their son William to provide a grandson William.

Early deaths dogged these four generations for though the first William lived to the age of 54, his son William died at the age of 27 leaving a son Thomas then two years old who died thirty years later, unmarried.

No personal letters or diaries have been discovered, nothing to tell us about their loves or prejudices. We know that four of their children were confirmed, William, Robert, and Sarah in 1745, Susan, at Huntingdon, in 1760. For a son, especially of the middle class, Confirmation was important because only communicants of the Established Church could hold any public office; but we must not assume that no genuine religious sentiments existed.

As for domestic life, no doubt Susan had one or more servants, for families far less prosperous would often employ one girl to work in the house. Exactly what Robert did in his daily work is a matter for speculation, the financial accounts alone would require much attention. Almost certainly he was concerned with more than one inn and the day to day running must have been the work of others. The holding of property was essentially an investment, and exchanges of copyhold in order to acquire capital from time to time are evident in the Court Rolls.

THE WHITE LION

In the year 1726, Robert occupied the White Lion which was actually held of the Manor by James Reynolds of Biggleswade, but in October that year Robert became the copyholder, which meant that payments were due to the Lord of the Manor on sale or inheritance though, as a later description of the Spread Eagle tells us, it was often as good as freehold. The Lion is more ancient than the George, thought to have been a guest house for visitors to the Bishop who lived in the Palace close by.

The old beams and unusual ceiling boss with the carved image of the Lamb of God and the Latin words '*Agnus Dei*' were already old when Robert Longland took possession over two hundred and fifty years ago.

In the case of the White Lion, when Robert's son decided to surrender the copyhold to Francis Garnham in the year 1766 he received, two years later, £400 plus interest. So, though our succession of innkeepers, innholders, victuallers or bakers, could be so described, they lived largely on income from property leased to tenants.

THE DEATH OF ROBERT LONGLAND 1741

Robert's last will is dated 7th July 1741, he was buried at Buckden that same year, on 11th August and the will proved in November. His widow Susannah was the executrix.

William, Susannah, Mary and Sarah each received sixty pounds from their father Robert. The money was to be paid to them, or to their children, should they have married by then, on attaining the age of 24 years. The eldest of the three daughters was then fifteen and William about twenty four. Otherwise the estate went to Robert's widow Susannah who was directed to sell the house where they lived to provide capital to pay the legacies and any debts or expenses.

The inventory, which lists the furniture in the rooms, and the beer and wine in the cellars, came to over £300. There were barns with cereal crops stored, a few horses and a field of sheep. To add to this there would have been other copyhold premises, some land, and rents from leaseholds.

A few years later, Susanna, still a widow, surrendered the 17 acres which had once been John Burder's with a cottage '*late Reynolds*' to the use of her son William, innholder. He had to pay £20 to her and then, on her death, was liable to pay to Susan and Mary (his sisters) £40 each, and to his sister Sarah £60.

In 1754 Susannah surrendered a cottage in Hardwick to her daughter Sarah who shortly afterwards married Robert Silk; he too was an innholder. A manorial surrender of 1763, signed by him describes the orchard known as Cherry Orchard in Silver Street, Buckden, its barn and other appurtenances.

Meanwhile William was becoming established at the Lion, and in possession of other property at Buckden. Both Susanna and her son William paid the annual 'Quit Rent' to the manor; these were nominal payments of a few shillings in lieu of 'services to the Lord' which are shown from 1755 to 1765.

WILLIAM AND FRANCIS LONGLAND

William, son of Robert and Susannah, was christened on 3rd February, 1716/17; of his early life little is known apart from two references in wills. In the year 1723 Antrobus Cadwallader gent. bequeathed to William Longland son of Robert Longland of Buckden innholder '*all my wearing apparel being woollen*'. Obviously there must have been some tie of friendship between him and Robert Longland, perhaps Antrobus Cadwallader was godfather to William.

Two years earlier, William had been remembered in the will of his grandfather John Burder of Buckden; thirty two and a half acres of arable land

being divided between the sixteen grandchildren, the children of his three daughters, one of whom was William's mother Susannah. So William Longland, then about four years old, had at least two acres of arable land to come, and the '*wearing apparel being woollen*'.

John Burder had a daughter in law Ellen Burder, that is Ellen Longland who married John Burder, junior, in the year 1703. The marriage pattern was typical of that in a small enclosed community in which the families formed into groups of comparable status, but we know nothing about the family into which William Longland eventually married. The marriage of William and Frances probably took place around the year 1736 for their son Robert (who died in 1765) was baptised in 1737. There followed Susan (in 1739) William (1746) and Frances (1754). An earlier Frances had died in infancy.

DANIEL CRISPIN AND JOHN WALLER

Susan was the first to marry, at St Neots in the year 1763. Her husband was Daniel Crispin, a surgeon, and the marriage bond, dated 26th March 1763, is signed by Daniel Crispin and John Waller. Susan's age is given as '*22 and upwards*', Daniel was '*25 and upwards*', presumably only just qualified to be a surgeon. This was at the time when surgeons served an apprenticeship, though they had broken away from the barber-surgeons nearly twenty years earlier, forming their own Company. According to the gravestone in Buckden churchyard the marriage was very brief, for Susanna died in July 1763, her age is given as 21 years. The youngest daughter Frances married John Waller in the year 1771, having been present as witness just the year before at the wedding of her brother William and Sarah Green. Frances was only seventeen years old and the marriage allegation bears two 'William' signatures, father and son, and that of John Waller, attorney at law.

The Wallers were a wealthy family and the signature of this John appears on countless documents for John Waller was Steward, and later Lord, of the Manor of Buckden Brittons. Though a widower he was only 24 years old, throughout their married life he and Frances remained at Buckden, presumably for much of that time at the Manor House.

William Longland, the father of Frances, did not live to see his grandchildren. The very early marriage suggests that he wished to see his daughter well settled before his death, which occurred less than three weeks after the wedding. The father's signature on the allegation document is quite firm, and the bond is also signed by William, his son, baker of Buckden, who had married Sara Green in July, 1770.

John Waller, the husband of Frances, died in the year 1804, aged 62. On his death, Mr Wells, a solicitor, made a special journey to Buckden to discuss the contents of the will with the executor. Some of the Waller fortune was invested in the Biggleswade Turnpike Road and the records of the Trustees had to be checked. The signature of Frances Waller appears on the surviving documents. She was 84 years old when she died, the gravestone still clearly readable, a remarkably modest memorial. The neighbouring headstones, close by the path leading to the church door, are memorials to successive Williams of the Longland family. With them is the headstone in memory of the young Thomas who died in 1802.

WILLIAM AND SARAH,
AND THEIR SON THOMAS

Sarah was the daughter of Thomas Green, a butcher of Buckden, who witnessed the last will of William Longland, his son in law, in November 1773, for the marriage was terribly brief. Thomas, no doubt so christened to carry on his maternal grandfather's name, was only two years old and his sister Fanny just a few months when their father William died in January 1774. Fanny died in the April following.

The Manor Rolls record this concentrated period of property surrenders: in 1772, William junior, baker, occupied a cottage and orchard, and was admitted to the 17 acres, late his grandfather's; together with other land, and the Spread Eagle Inn. Then in 1774 it was his widow Sarah who inherited all the property, to hold until her son Thomas should be of age.

She acquired more property in January 1780 before her marriage to Stephen Priestly in 1781. We find her signature, as Sarah Longland, widow, on a bond dated November 1779. John Searle, clerk, had recently died, unfortunately in debt. Sarah Longland is named as '*the principal creditor on bond*' who was granted the administration of all his goods, chattels and credits.

His widow, Frances Searle, had renounced all her rights which, in law, was all very right and proper. She had no claim on anything. Perhaps there was something left for her when the debts were settled, perhaps Sarah gave her something from her own resources, she could well afford to do so. Sarah's second husband, Stephen Priestly, must have been comfortably off for their son Augustus appears in later records, styled 'gent.'

Meanwhile, in the year 1786, Frances Longland widow (the mother of Frances Waller) died. According to the inscription on her gravestone she was 77 years old. In her will her daughter and the Waller grandchildren take precedence. To Frances went all her lands, tenements, and hereditaments in Eynesbury, for life, and then these lands were to pass to grandson Leonard Waller.

Her granddaughters, Mary and Anna Maria Waller received a hundred pounds each, and granddaughter Frances Waller a collection of silver table ware, all marked 'R.L'. Thomas Longland, her grandson, received two silver spoons, also marked 'R.L', and a crown piece. Six poor men, to be nominated by daughter Frances, were given five shillings apiece for their trouble '*in carrying me to the grave*'. All the residue went to Frances. Grandson Thomas would then be about 15 years old, presumably living with his mother, Sarah Priestly.

The story of the innholders was approaching its end, for William had surrendered the White Lion to Francis Garnham twenty years previously, and just before his death some property with an orchard and close had been surrendered on mortgage to his mother, Frances Longland, widow.

THOMAS LONGLAND, JUNIOR.

Thomas, the baby son at the time of William's death in 1773, claimed his inheritance in the year 1792. The Manorial records give the details of the copyhold estates. The arable land, closes and pasture were not extensive, totalling less than 40 acres, but there was the Spread Eagle Inn and a messuage with its two closes in Buckden. These were only part of the family property for Thomas had his own farm and three years later he surrendered all his copyhold to the use of his will. In other words he had no need to sell any of it, it was a form of capital, all ready to pass to his heirs. At the same Manor court his mother Sarah Priestly surrendered another messuage and orchard to Thomas with the proviso that the annual rents (from the tenant) should be hers.

We know nothing about these rents paid by the tenants, but the rents paid to the Manor by the Longland owners were nominal, for example the Lord received only one shilling and ninepence each year for the Spread Eagle, and a little over five shillings for 17 acres of land.

It is possible to identify these acreages of arable land and the close which had been Longland property for three, if not four generations. For example, the land given in the year 1723 by John Burder, to William, the son of Robert Longland, remained in the family for many years.

In October 1798 the young Thomas, styled 'gent.' in the Court Book, presented an unusual document to the court, described as '*a certain writing or deed pole under the seal of Thomas Longland, junior*'. Thomas had initiated a major exchange of some of his copyhold, all small pieces of land in Buckden, and over thirty copyhold tenants had signed and sealed their agreement. Amongst the signatures, which follow that of Thomas, we note George, Bishop of Lincoln, Geo. Thornhill Esq., Richard Reynolds Esq., John Hodgson Esq., the

Reverend William Whitworth, clerk, John Waller, Maria Wynne widow, and Sarah Priestley widow. There are more than thirty in all.

The manorial system would soon be entering its final century but at this stage there was still some semblance of authority which compelled copyholders to adhere to the custom of the Manor. Even Thomas Longland, junior, was fined six shillings and eightpence because he did not attend the Court of October 1797.

Only five years before making his own will, Thomas Longland received a hundred pounds by the will of his grandfather Thomas Green, and then in 1802 he died. He was only thirty one. The legal obligation which then became necessary (for Thomas had named no executor) describes Thomas as 'farmer', he was the last of a line of merchants, victuallers and innholders, having returned to husbandry, the occupation of so many Longlands.

THE DEATH OF THE YOUNG THOMAS LONGLAND 1802

He wrote the will himself, as he states *'this first day of August 1797 being written with my own hand'* and to his mother, Sarah Priestly, widow, he bequeathed *'all my lands, tenements and hereditaments and premises whatsoever and also all other my Estate or Estates, Property or Properties of what nature or kind soever whether real or personal for her own use'*.

Unfortunately the inventory which Sarah Priestly had to provide has not been located, for without it we have no idea of the extent of the farm, one of the last Longland farms in Buckden.

Sarah lived to a good age, dying in the year 1826, at Thorney, Cambridgeshire. She was buried at Buckden on February 22nd. and it seems that everything went to her son Augustine Priestly gent. who appears in the manor records in the year 1830 claiming a messuage (that is a substantial property) held freely of the manor, for which he paid a nominal one pence.

PROPERTY AND VOTING RIGHTS

It is likely that most of the Longland property through the centuries at Buckden was copyhold. Perhaps this explains the fact that on only one or two occasions is a Buckden Longland termed 'freeholder'. We note particularly, in the year 1706, a Thomas Longland of Buckden and Charles Longland of London who each had a freehold in Buckden. In later years the Longland qualification depended on the land at Paxton. There were generally only a small number of freeholders at Buckden, the Bishop, as Lord, owning much of the land.

Stephen Priestly, the husband of Sarah Longland, appeared in the County Poll in the year 1790, as did John Waller. The Wallers were prominent landholders in Huntingdonshire and in Hertfordshire, but the Priestly family does not appear in the Hunts records prior to the marriage, in 1769, of Stephen (who came from Stamford, Lincs) with Jane Garnham. Jane, a widow, was of Baron, Northants, she died in 1778 and Stephen Priestly died at Buckden some years later; his will was proved at Canterbury, but that is the story of another family.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Thus land and farms, once the property of the Longland family, passed to the Priestly and Waller families, as is evident from the nineteenth century enclosure maps which show land belonging to Sarah and Augustine Priestly, and to the Waller family. If we look very closely we find the additional entry, relating to some of this land, '*late Longland.*'

Frances Waller of Buckden (the daughter of William and Frances Longland) died in 1837 aged 84. It is interesting to note that her mother lived to be 77 and that, of the earlier generation, the mother of William Longland (who outlived her son) died in 1714 age 94. We have a history of longevity amongst the wives of this branch of the family.

To return to the will of Frances: all her personal property went to her son Henry Waller. Her daughter Mary had become the wife of Charles Martin, and Anna Maria was now Anna Maria Gatty. Much later deeds show property which had once been held by Longlands to have passed to these families.

The village on the Great North Road which had seen so many generations of the Longland family had, by this time, more or less forgotten those yeomen, innholders, blacksmiths and butchers.

A few people, those who knew their Foxe's Book of Martyrs, may have known that a Bishop Longland had once lived in the old Palace. Regrettably, the list of prominent people associated with the old Palace (which is displayed for visitors) makes no mention of this distinguished resident.

The Longland story had not ended, for the Longlands of Warboys were by then at the peak of their expansion, and the Ramsey story had only just begun.

Before we follow the family to Warboys we again go back in time and give some account of the Longlands in Little Paxton and St Neots, for the family made its mark in each of these places before becoming established in Warboys.

**Buckden
Family of Jeffrey
Longland and
Alice
from 1654**

Jeffrey Longland 1625
son of Rowland and
Letice

Alice
died in 1714
age 94

William 1654
died 1714

Elizabeth

Elizabeth
1657

Thomas
Warner

Alice
1664

Elizabeth Warner
(niece, in will)

The testament of William (1714) refers to:

Kinsman Robert Longland,
son of Charles, of London,
gent.

Cousin Rose Whitehead, wife
of Thomas Whitehead of
London

**Innholders of
Buckden
c.1660-1800**

Longland family of
London

Jeffrey Longland of
Buckden.
1625
son of Rowland

Alice

Elizabeth
married Tho.
Warner, London

William 1654
Innholder at Buckden
died 1714

Robert Longland,
gent. of London

Hannah

Charles Longland,
gent.
b. 1665-died 1714

Elizabeth
Clayton of
London

Ann Couzens

Mary 1692

Elizabeth 1693

Milley 1694

Robert, 1695
innholder of Buckden

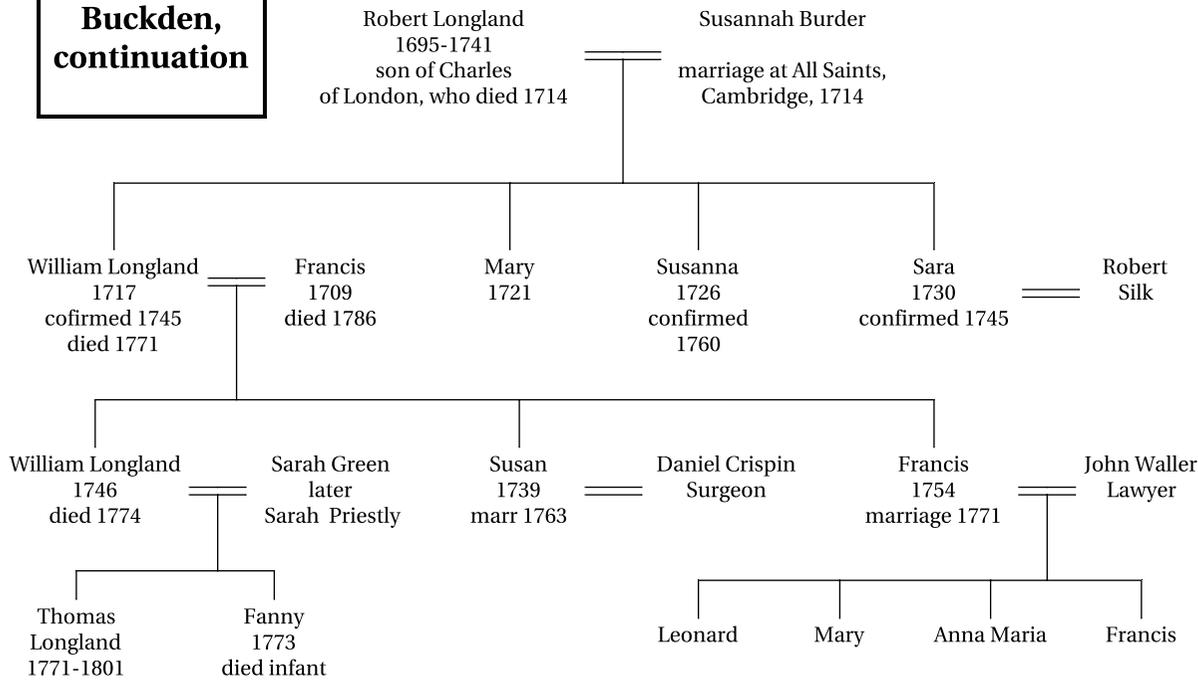
Susannah Burder

see also
Burder/Longland
marriages tree.

see continuation.

**Innholders of
Buckden,
continuation**

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Chapter Nine

LITTLE PAXTON, HUNTS.

c. 1660 - 1776

William Longland, husbandman,
his wife Alice, and their family.

John, of Paxton and Southoe,
his daughter Mary, and Philip Day.

The Longlands of Little Paxton

'Paid out for his funeral charge for bread and cakes 28 dozen ...'
(administration account of Frances Longland, widow, 1685)

As we have noted, land was held of the Manor of Little Paxton by the first Longlands of Huntingdonshire in the mid sixteenth century. Nothing more is known of those early families, though the circumstantial evidence would link them with Bishop Longland, and hence the family of Kinlet, Shropshire. So, in that sense, the Paxton story is part of the Buckden story; in fact for the succeeding three hundred years the connection remains, though intermittent and not completely recorded.

The surviving records of Paxton give us three stories which provide more human background than is commonly the case; the Administration Account of Frances Longland in the year 1684, an Archdeaconry Court hearing of 1708, and two or three documents which give us the later story of Mary Longland whose parents both died in her early childhood.

The Administration of 1684 is a real gem for we discover not only something of the home life of William the husbandman, and his wife and children, but much about harvests and casual labour, and a little of the social life of 17th century Paxton.

Frances, the widow of William was not his first wife: Alice Longland died in April 1668 leaving William with their four daughters, Anne, Mary, Elizabeth and Johanna.

On 11th November 1661 Robert Ashcroft, gent., of the family of Ashcroft who were Lords of the Manor, made his last will. One item reads *'I do give unto Mary Longland the daughter of Will Longland my bible and one ewe sheep'*.

Mary was christened at Little Paxton on the 26th April 1661. It would seem that Mr Ashcroft and William Longland enjoyed a close personal relationship, and it may be that Robert Ashcroft was godfather to Mary, for gifts of a sheep to a godchild were common in wills at that time. The Longland family of Paxton was obviously held in high regard.

Churchwardens were elected to serve for one year and the Parish records show that William Longland occupied the post in 1666 and from 1678 to 1680. He served as Parish Constable, certainly in 1674, and probably in other years.

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM AND FRANCES

Of the second marriage two boys survived: William (born in 1669) and Henry (1672), so at the time of their father's death in June 1683 Johanna was 18 and her sisters in their early twenties, the boys 15 and 12. We may picture Frances, then faced with the responsibility of the young family and the trouble of the administration, on the sudden death of William, for there was no will. And what must have been particularly onerous, the supervision of two harvests in the late summers of 1683 and 1684, for the Court hearing is dated September 1684 and the account which Francis eventually produced 1685.

William was known as a husbandman though his day to day life would have been little different from that of his yeoman relatives. The immediate impression is that of a not very enviable position for his widow, for we know that their accommodation and farm were rented.

THE TOWN HOUSE

They occupied the 'Town House' in little Paxton, a property owned by the Parish which seems to have been well maintained at the tenant's expense. Such a house would be used from time to time for public meetings and it would have been convenient for a Parish officer to live there. As Petty Constable and Churchwarden William had much to do with the keeping of accounts and the application of the law, for example he vouched for the accuracy of the Hearth Tax return of 1674. Life was never easy for a Petty Constable: even in Paxton it may not always have been possible to report, '*omne bene*', all is well.

Not long after the death of William there was an inquiry at Archdeaconry level into the conduct of those who administered the local charity funds. The Churchwardens of Paxton had not always received the rents or interest payments and there had been some degree of negligence. William Longland is named, once or twice, as having been the tenant of the Town house together with its four acres of arable land, and some right to two quarts of mead. The rent is quoted, but there is no direct implication of personal negligence on William's part, though it does appear that William was allowed to borrow money from the townsmen, almost as though this was a 'perk' for carrying out so many unpaid duties.

The original administration account of 1685 is held at the Huntingdon Record Office, it is hoped that the extracts which follow will give the reader some feel for the realities of seventeenth century village life.

THE ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT

Following the death of William Longland there were the immediate practical matters for Frances to attend to. Two women, *'that served the day he died, and the next for fetching burial clothes'* were paid one shilling. The burial clothes cost 8s 4d., the coffin nine shillings, the actual laying out three shillings.

If we add to these payments the charges for the clerk ringing the bell and digging the grave, the burial fee and the affidavit (which certified burying in woollen) and the high 'mortuary' of ten shillings, the total comes to thirty four shillings and two pence; a sum equivalent to three months wages for her servant, or the value of, say, eight sheep in the 1680's.

The 'mortuary' was a payment to the Rector, graded according to the estate of the deceased, paid in this case, by Frances, to Mr Hickuck the Rector of Great Paxton, for Little Paxton was under his jurisdiction. He died in late February, or early March, 1685, Henry Hickuck, clerk, son of Henry Hickuck of Kenton, Warwick.

JOURNIES TO BEDFORDSHIRE, CAKES AND ALE

Richard Spencely went over to Renhold and Wilden (in Bedfordshire) to fetch Anne Longland's clothes. There is no explanation, perhaps Anne was called home in a hurry, she may have been an employed servant. We do find some evidence of family connections with the County of Bedford when we follow the later story of the yeomen of Paxton in the eighteenth century.

The account of 1685 includes the cost of bed and board for the two boys at the time of their father's death, suggesting that the family accomodation was insufficient and that there may have been an influx of relations from Buckden and St Neots. Possibly the 'bed and board' was more directly associated with their education, for schooling charges are mentioned.

On the day of the funeral the cost of bread and cakes, 28 dozen, came to £1-8-0 and the ale 9 shillings, for the whole population of Little Paxton would have been present to pay their respects. However, all that would have quickly passed. A new Constable and Churchwarden would have to be chosen, and Mr John Ashcroft would be looking ahead to a new tenant for the farm, though this cannot have occured before the completion of the two harvests as noted in the account presented by Frances in 1685.

OUTGOINGS, HARVEST AND RENTS

She must have had some help from her relatives but her account does give the impression that she took on the responsibility of hiring labour. Among the many names given are Widow Brown, Henry Foster, Matthew Lolly, and Richard Spencely. Several women employed casually remain anonymous, their rate of pay was around a shilling a day.

The larger sums are rents: for the farm £39 (to Mr Ashcroft), the Town House and land £2 (half a year), for use of a close £4 (Mr Bland).

Henry Foster spent many days each year threshing; Michael Castle did the hedging. There was a bill for glazing the windows, a surprising item if this referred to rented property, and for claying a barn's end, and other like items.

Local rates, to the Minister of the Parish and to the Overseers, came to one quartering at midsummer 6 shillings 4 pence, the Constable's rate 3 shillings 2 pence, and the poor rate 3 shillings. Her own servant Thomas Savage received £3-12-6 for half a year and a servant that William had hired was paid £5-5-0.

The sums spent on the childrens clothing, and the apparent standard of dress are surprising. These items, which are numerous, were initially included in haphazard fashion amongst the farm work costs; they were later crossed out and separate accounts submitted for each of the daughters, and for William and Henry.

FAMILY EXPENSES JOHANNA AND MARY

Johanna had a red coat, for which Mr Dorman supplied 3 yards of cloth, a straw hat, two pairs of 'bodies', a shift, a stuff whisk, three aprons (two made of 'lincey woolcey'), and three pairs of stockings. There was more material: half an ell of holland, half an ell of dowlis. It cost sixpence to have her coat made and ten pence to mend her gown and waistcoat.

Two pairs of shoes cost 5s 4d. The total cost was £1-19-4, but this included a shilling for the letting of her blood; Mary also had this treatment which was attended to by Mr Annis, probably a barber-surgeon.

Mary, perhaps on another occasion '*when she was not well*', had a pint of sack and a pint of wine, for which Frances paid one shilling and sixpence This item was forgotten when the clearer individual account was written out, though the Court had access to the original which was filed with it.

Mary's clothing account totalled £2-14-0 and is similar in content to that of her sister; the coat was more expensive, made of paragon and requiring silk

thread; her whisk too was of silk. She appears to have needed three coats, one of which was black. The accounts for Anne and Elizabeth were very small, Anne's clothes, of course, had been brought home from Bedfordshire.

THE BOYS HENRY AND WILLIAM

The two boys' accounts were similar, for Henry £2-2-9 and for William £2-9-7, which did not include the cost for schooling, three shillings and ten pence. They had greatcoats and britches, and red waistcoats which were lined with silk. All this gives an impression, if not of luxury, certainly of a comfortable standard of living.

FARM COSTS

William Longland rented closes for pasture, to Mr Samuel Landey, two pounds, to Mr Bland, four pounds, to Thomas Hall of Doddington for keeping cattle, 9 shillings 8 pence, to Thomas Watts of Doddington for three cow commons, seven shillings. Over a working season these outgoings came to a fair sum, with farm maintenance too, the mending of gates and hedging, repair of barns and so on.

HOUSEKEEPING

Frances seems to have kept a strict account of money spent on housekeeping. In particular her administration account gives details of the wheat and grain bought during the year. During five weeks of harvest she bought six and a half bushels of wheat for which she paid £1-3s-10d and five bushels of mixed grain for 14 shillings and 2 pence. In the remaining 47 weeks she bought 47 bushels of grist and 11 bushels and 3 pecks of wheat.

We may imagine her days taken up with bread making and all the other household tasks, caring for the children and somehow supervising the farm work, taking on casual labour, finding the money to pay the wages and keeping accounts. Yet she managed with just one servant, perhaps two at one period according to the account.

The children were probably strictly brought up and, reminding ourselves that this was 17th century England, we may picture her leading family prayers early and late in the day.

CASUAL LABOUR AND OTHER CHARGES

Workmens' names tend to be repeated, suggesting that reliable local people were routinely employed; some seem to have been more truly casual, especially in the case of women who were employed. The nature of some of the tasks is surprising; for example William Nott was paid a shilling '*for spreading of molehills in Haile Brig Close*'.

Three reapers came from St Neots and were paid a total of 9 shillings and 8 pence for two days work. Three acres and a half of rye were reaped at a cost of 12 shillings and 6 pence. The widow Brown worked for a day and a half and was rewarded with one shilling. One man worked throughout a whole month of harvest for 10 shillings and three pence.

An inventory of William Longland's household goods, farm implements, cattle and sheep and growing crops, was presented to the Archdeaconry Court. Unfortunately it has not been found amongst the archives. Frances refers to it because before she received her letter of administration a total of eighty pigs died. They had been valued as part of the estate, the total value of the inventory of goods, crops and livestock was £195.

In all this she was finally dependant on others to act for her, Mr Perne as her legal representative claimed his proctor's fee of six shillings and it cost ten shillings for her accounts to be suitably written up for presentation to the Court.

THE FAMILY AT BUCKDEN AND ST NEOTS

William did owe money at the time of his death, for various purchases but also on loans; in several cases to close relatives. For this we should be grateful, for it helps us to define some family relationships.

'To my brother John Longland that my husband did owe to him, one pound.

To my brother Henry Longland that was due before my husband died and for meat in harvest, ten pounds.

To my brother Henry Longland the butcher for one horse and for meat due before my husband died, £11-6-2.

To Thomas Longland, the smith (probably Thomas, the smith at Buckden, for Thomas of Paxton was a farmer)

Thanks to these references, and the will of John (yeoman of Buckden who died in the year 1686) we can establish the close relationship between the Buckden, Paxton and St Neots families, and hence the link between the family at

Buckden and the later families at Warboys and at Ramsey.

To return to Frances and her immediate family, we picture a very close extended family, a family with mutual obligations, even if they did expect bills to be paid. There is a sense of real support and it is evident that Frances was not isolated. She herself regarded John and Henry as 'brothers', never using that legal restriction of 'brother in law', and all her care for Mary, Elizabeth and Johanna shows how she had accepted those children of the first marriage as absolutely her own.

Henry and William were of course her 'natural' children, but if they were given any preference at all it was the accepted male preference of the time, for only they had some schooling. Frances did claim, personally, the payment of five pounds '*for my trouble and charges for administering*'. Unfortunately we know no more of Frances, and little of the daughters, though it seems that Anne married William Mason of Paxton.

There were other Longlands at Little Paxton at this time but the documentary evidence is patchy and the reconstruction of the family is incomplete.

THE LIST OF GREGORY KING 1684

At the time of the Heralds' Visitation of Huntingonshire in 1684, Gregory King (Rouge Dragon Pursuivant) produced an extract from the Hearth Tax of 1684. This listed all those taxed on five hearths or more, so defining the number of possible 'gents.' who had to be investigated.

Mr Ashcroft, the landlord to whom Frances paid rent, had five hearths, but there was a John Longland with six hearths, probably the John who was Churchwarden in the year 1682. The Visitation record, as published, records no subsequent evidence from John Longland. He presumably had no wish to claim gentry status or any right to arms (which the Heralds would have granted for a fee if the genealogy could have been demonstrated).

This John died in the year 1689; apparently unmarried he lived at Little Paxton, though he had a freehold messuage and land in the parish of Buckden also. Probably the son of John Longland of Buckden, he was baptised in the year 1645. His two brothers were yeomen, Henry at Buckden and Thomas at Little Paxton. They each, appropriately, inherited that part of John's estate which was in their own parish.

John Longland named his servant in his will, Elizabeth Longland, to whom he gave twenty shillings and his kinsman John Longland, a tallow chandler at Buckden, who received a legacy of £40.

The freehold at Paxton, which may have been Longland property since Tudor times, gave Thomas and a John of Paxton, his brother and nephew, their voting rights in the years 1710-1713, and as we shall see twenty years later this right of freehold passed to Philip Day, on marriage.

JOHN LONGLAND BEFORE THE ARCHDEACONRY COURT

The Archdeaconry Courts were still very active in the eighteenth century, carrying on the old medieval practice of hearing presentations of alleged moral transgressions, accusations based on local gossip, all of which were investigated with the imposition of public penance for the guilty. There were too the practical matters: non payment of tithes or absence from church. Like all legal records they present a distorted picture, and the majority followed the conventions of the time. The Church had to be seen to preach morality and, with the aid of Constables and Parish Overseers, seek out and punish those guilty of serious offences.

In the year 1707 John Longland of Little Paxton was accused of having committed adultery with Elizabeth Franklin, in a rye field in the parish of St Neots. Two witnesses, Thomas Sperry of Paxton Parva and Robert Heading yeoman of Southoe, stated that the story was common gossip in the parishes of Southoe, Paxton and St Neots. The act was supposed to have taken place within a day or so of Elizabeth's marriage to Richard Franklin. Oliver Bigg, owner of the rye field, is said to have demanded restitution for damage to his crop. He claimed that Elizabeth had offered him two shillings and sixpence to end the matter ! Not a great sum of money, but the equivalent of three day's pay for a casual labourer.

John's family and friends in Paxton rallied to his support, and their original signed statement is still preserved in the archives at Huntingdon, it reads:

'This is to certify whom they may concern that John Longland was born at Little Paxton and hath lived there all his time till about three quarters of a year last, and all the time behaved himself dutiful and serviceable to his parents, and honestly and justly to all his neighbours that know him; from a child to a man; and we whose names are here underwritten do testify unto the same; although there was a fame reputed on him; we think it not to be true; but a very great scandal and a false repute of the person above mentioned and do here set our hands unto the same.

*Thomas Longland, Samuel Clark, William Henson,
John Day, senior, John Day, junior, the mark of William Buckell.'*

A further testament to John Longland's honesty was produced:

'I know not but John Longland has behaved himself very honestly in all respects, witness my hand ...'

It was signed by: Benjamin Marshall, Phi Prime, Will Heading, Phill Frank, John and Will Browning, and Thomas Marshall.

Depending upon the manner in which the allegation had been initiated such signed statements could result in a verdict of 'not guilty'. John is described as 'of Southoe', but he was born in Paxton, probably the John Longland who married Mary Harper of Rayhouses, Southoe, on 10th April 1710. Only one John Longland christening appears in the Little Paxton Register during the period 1665 to 1710, that of John, son of Thomas and Mary, 25th September 1680.

THE HARPER FAMILY OF SOUTHOE

'Johannes Longland de Paxton Parva uxorem duxit Mariam Harper de Rayhouses die decimo Aprilis'
(Southoe parish, Register of marriages, 1710)

Southoe is bounded from Gt Paxton, on the East, by the River Ouse. Wray House is in the SE corner of the parish between the Ouse and a tributary stream, with the farm of Wray House just within the Little Paxton boundary. Wray house is the modern spelling, early documents give Ray House, or Rayhouses. In this little area, so subject to floods, the Harper family had been settled since the year 1614; their business was largely that of fishing though they did own property, some of it in Bedfordshire. Richard Harper, in his will in 1712, mentions houses and land in Eaton Socon and Roxton.

The name Longland occurs in the Southoe Registers in the 17th century for in May 1677 John Longland married Mary Auberry and, in April 1682, Thomas Longland married Elizabeth Marshall. Only in 1710 do we find a Longland baptism, that of Anna, daughter of John and Mary.

The Buckden records give a family of John and Mary Longland, beginning with Mary in 1679, and then in later years a second Mary, then Ann, and Alice. Each of these baptisms took place on the 24th day of the month, in April, 1769, April 1687, November 1691 and August 1695. But this belongs to the Buckden story, leading to the marriage of Alice, daughter of John, with Lawrence Desborough.

Thus our account continually overlaps town and village boundaries, for these Johns and Thomas, Marys and Elizabeths did not lead confined lives

convenient for the researcher three hundred years later.

The story of Mary of Little Paxton introduces us to the family of Harper of Rayhouse where she lived with her grandmother. Then we follow her to St. Neots where she was cared for by William Hatley and where later she lived with her husband Philip Day.

THE STORY OF MARY LONGLAND OF LITTLE PAXTON

John Longland, farmer of Little Paxton, Huntingdonshire, was born in the year 1680, the son of Thomas and Mary Longland. Thomas was the Churchwarden and a freeholder, and their marriage took place at Little Paxton on 22nd April 1680.

In the year 1710 John married Mary Harper, of Wray House, Southoe, and their daughter Mary was born on 25th April 1712, she was baptised the same day. Her elder sister Ann seems to have been christened twice, for she appears in the Parish Registers of Southoe and of Little Paxton in the same month, November 1710.

Mary was only two years old when both her sister and her mother died, then in 1717 her father, John Longland, married Katherine Mays. A year later, in Mary's sixth year, John died and as there was no will his widow was appointed administrator of the personal estate of about £230. In November 1718, Ann Harper of Southoe became Mary's guardian, and so the little girl went to live with her grandmother at Ray House, or Rayhouses, which was her home until her eighteenth year when, on the death of her grandmother, William Hatley, gent. of St Neots stepped in as guardian.

THE WILL OF ANNE HARPER, PROVED 1728

The will was signed on 25th March 1727 and witnessed by Loftus Hatley, presumably the Loftus of St Neots who on his death in 1757 gave £40 for education of the poor which helped to provided a Free School in St Neots.

Anne Harper gave all her messuage, cottage, lands, tenements in Honeydon in the parish of Eaton Socon, Beds. to her son Thomas Harper. Then referring directly to Mary's inheritance '*whereas I shall have in my hands or power ... £89-06-8d of my granddaughter Mary Longland being of her late father Longland's personal estate and seven pounds of hers being her part and portion of her late uncle Richard Harper's personal estate who died intestate ...*' (the property was made subject to these payments to Mary) ... the will then specifies

all thirteen grandchildren who each received one pound a piece. Her son Thomas Harper received 'the residue' which may have been considerable.

Until her twenty first birthday Mary probably lived at St Neots and so came to know Philip Day, son of a prosperous mill owner; they married in the year 1732.

The bond has survived, it contains an error, for Mary of Paxton is given the surname 'Langley' and a subsequent transcriber has interpreted the Latin 'molitorem' as 'builder', for 'molitor' can imply this, but all other evidence, especially the later action in Chancery, leaves us in no doubt of Mary's identity nor of Philip Day's business. In this case 'Molitorum' means 'miller', from the Latin 'molendinum', a mill.

Mary's grandfather, Thomas Longland, yeoman of Paxton, had died in the year 1721. His daughter Mary and her husband Robert Lovell had property in Bedfordshire. The parish register of Roxton, Bedfordshire gives their marriage day as December 23 1708. They and their three children, Thomas, Robert and Mary, received twenty shillings apiece; no doubt there had been a more substantial allotment at the time of their marriage. Thomas Longland's daughter Catherine was given all the household goods. There remained only his little grand daughter Mary Longland to inherit the house, lands and meadow land at Paxton. Twelve years later, on Mary's twenty first birthday, she and her husband Philip Day took possession of the farm at Little Paxton. The family home appears to have been at St. Neots but nothing is known of their life together.

THE INVENTORY OF THOMAS LONGLAND OF LITTLE PAXTON 1721

Amongst the Archdeaconry records we find the inventory of Thomas Longland's goods and chattels, however the valuation in total is a mere four pounds. His purse and wearing apparel was assessed at twelve shillings and the remainder represents a bed and bedding, kitchen irons a cupboard, a table and four chairs, three plates, two boxes and other lumber. Then we see that all this was found in the kitchen and that no other room is mentioned. Even a modest yeoman's inventory would have included some farm equipment and growing crops. Possibly this inventory refers to some other 'Thomas', though we have no evidence of two Thomas Longlands in Paxton both dying in the same year. Thomas (the grandfather of our Mary of Little Paxton) owned the freehold farm which featured in the later proceeding in Chancery. He certainly had a vote for the County which required a property qualification. Our query remains unresolved.

THE FARM AT LITTLE PAXTON - PHILLIP AND MARY DAY

Under the terms of her grandfather's will, Thomas Owen of Paxton had been allowed to let the farm and act as owner until Mary came of age. During the intervening years the successive tenants had neglected the property and had not always paid their rent. Philip and Mary decided to sue Thomas Owen in Chancery claiming compensation for the trees he had cut down. No record of the conclusions of the Court has been traced but it is clear from the will of 1721 that Thomas had some right to lop the trees.

The young couple were comfortably off with a house in St Neots and income from the milling business and leases on property. Philip Day died in the year 1772 and his '*dear wife Mary*' inherited the messuage with orchard and Close at Wyboston and other lands and tenements in Eaton Socon, Roxton, and Great Barford, Beds. and the windmill and ground in Little Paxton. For her life only she had the Bulls Head in St Neots, a cottage and close in Eaton Socon, another cottage in Paxton, and all other lands and tenements. Much of this was freehold.

Philip is in the voters' list for 1768 (Freehold house and land at Little Paxton, abode St Neots). He was buried at Little Paxton, as at least two generations of the Day family had been.

So the little girl who went to live with her grandmother at the age of six made a comfortable marriage, though during her years of widowhood she had many responsibilities. The St. Neots Mills would continue to provide an income, on which she paid her poor rate in the year 1775. The ownership of property at a distance no doubt brought its worries, concerning particularly the choice of suitable tenants and the cost of repairs.

There is no record of any surviving family, and on her death much of the property passed to the nephews and nieces of her husband, Philip Day. A copy of the last will of Mary Day has survived, it was written in her sixty fourth year on 22nd July 1776. The two and a half large sheets of paper tell us much about the family; Mary's life was comfortable, lacking only the blessing of children. The will itself names a dozen nephews and nieces. No less than eight beds and bedding are described together with the furniture in the rooms: two bureaus (one a 'lady's bureau'), mahogany tables, a dressing table, several chests of draws and a japan teaboard. Her rings were given to close relatives: one diamond ring, two plain gold, one of cluster stone, another of white stone, one of garnet and one or two mourning rings.

There was her silver watch, a silver cup and a couple of tablespoons with monograms and her '*heaviest silver pint mug*'. We may imagine her on special evenings wearing her '*plain silk gown shot with yellow*', her green silk gown or

her best black one. She names her three menservants: James York, William Thornton and Samuel Taylor. There were eight legacies of twenty pounds each.

Her property is described as '*messuages, lands and tenements in the parishes of Little Paxton, Eaton Socon, Roxton and Gt. Barford (Bedfordshire) or elsewhere in the Kingdom of Great Britain*'. Some of this land had once been the property of Thomas Harper of Rayhouse. These various properties were clearly set out in her husband's will and left to Mary and her assigns 'for ever'.

The proceeds from the sale of Mary's property and lands were shared equally by about fifteen beneficiaries, the nephews and nieces and others including Richard Harper, Elizabeth Worship, Mary Quilter and James York.

Certain property, which was Mary's during her life only, passed to William Lysle, the son of Mary Lysle, Philip's sister.

Her executors and trustees were John Jackson and John Banks, the former having an obvious Longland link for a daughter, Mary Longland Jackson, was given the japan teaboard. Her brother, Philip Day Jackson, was given the silver watch. To her mother, Elizabeth Jackson, Mary Day gave her diamond ring and a mourning ring, a share of the plate and apparel unbequeathed. She had the privilege of 'first choice' of those things she would like.

The actual relationship of the families Day and Jackson has not been investigated, nor is the relationship Jackson to Longland referred to in any of the many documents consulted. From the Houghton parish records we know that John Jackson and Elizabeth Allpress were married in October 1766 and that Mary Longland Jackson, their first child, was christened a year later.

The Harper family of Rayhouses was not forgotten in Mary Day's will for the daughter of Thomas senior, Mary Harper, was given the green bed and the furniture from the room. There are references to the best chamber, the blue chamber, and curiously to 'the room on the hill'.

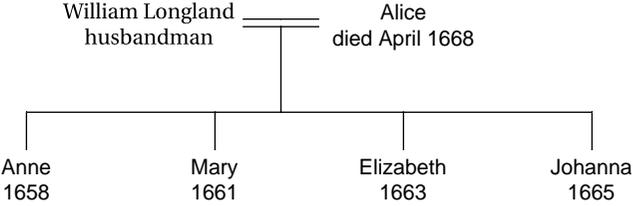
THE END OF THE PAXTON STORY

The last Longland burial recorded in the Little Paxton Register is that of Catherine of St Neots, in the year 1740; probably Catherine, the daughter of Thomas and Mary Longland of Paxton, born some 54 years earlier. She was of course Mary Day's (Longland) aunt, but nothing more is known regarding the movement of families between Paxton and St Neots.

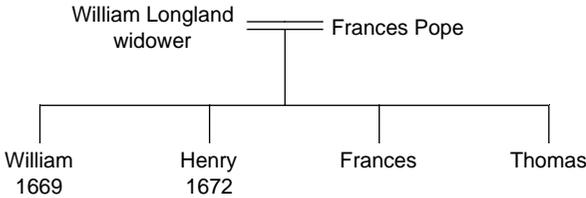
So ends the story of the Longlands of Paxton, though some of the Buckden family held land there into the 1800s. The voting rights of more than one Buckden Longland, for example Thomas in 1807, related to the freeholds at Paxton Parva or at Paxton Magna.

**William Longland
husbandman
Little Paxton
1658-1683**

First Marriage



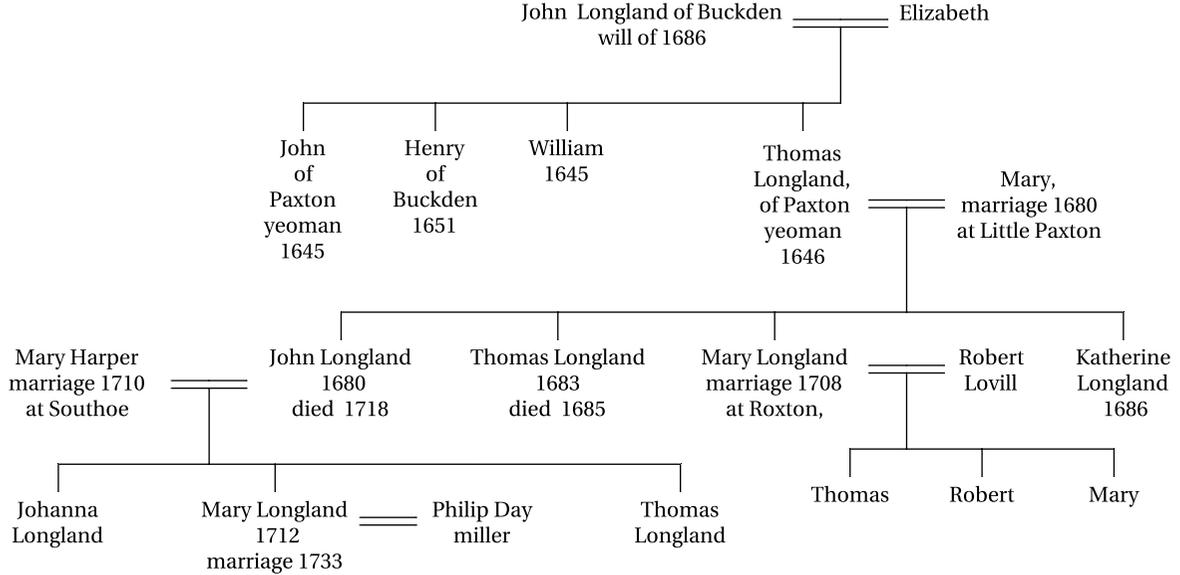
Second Marriage



see Chapter Nine

**Longland of Paxton,
Philip and Mary Day
c.1680-1735**

ref wills and admin account
see, Chapter Nine















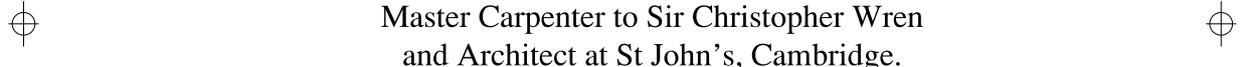


Chapter Ten

LONDON

1666 - 1706

John Longland,
of the Hampshire family of Longland.



Master Carpenter to Sir Christopher Wren
and Architect at St John's, Cambridge.

John Longland, Master Carpenter

In the mid seventeenth century a family of Longland was settled at Overton, a village in Hampshire, where in the year 1665 Richard Longland, a husbandman, was taxed on one hearth. There were other, probably related families, not far away. It is recorded that, in 1623, a Christopher Longland died in the College at Winchester, of a sword wound, aged eleven and, nearly twenty years later, a William Longland, Alderman of Winchester, was a Royalist taxed by the government of Oliver Cromwell. As Mayor of Winchester he had refused to surrender the city to Cromwell, reminding the future Lord Protector that the town was then occupied by Royalist Forces.

The history of these Hampshire Longlands, who may well be related to the Kinlet family, lies outside the scope of this book but the story of John, the son of Richard of Overton, is of particular interest.

JOHN, FREEMAN OF THE HABERDASHERS' COMPANY

John was admitted as a freeman of the Haberdashers' Company in the year 1666, following his seven years apprenticeship to Thomas Bates, citizen and Haberdasher (in February 1658). The freemen of the various Livery Companies could earn their living or practice any profession as they wished; it was not uncommon for a member of the Haberdashers to practice as a craftsman.

John's son Isaac must have been born about a year later for he appears in the Cambridge University list of admissions: '*Isaac, son of John Longland of St Clements Parish*' in 1684. He graduated, BA in 1688. He married shortly afterwards for his daughter Sarah was baptised in the year 1690 and a son Isaac in 1693. Isaac and his wife Mary lived in the London parish of Holborn, St. Andrew.

MASTER CARPENTER AND ARCHITECT

Of these earlier years little has come to light but, from about 1675, John Longland was Master Carpenter to Sir Christopher Wren. He was free to practice on his own account as shown by the Accounts of St John's College, Cambridge in which he is '*John Longland, architect*'. It was in the period 1693-4 that he designed, perhaps as one of a team of experts, the bridge to be built at St Johns. He was paid £5-10-0 in connection with '*directions about the new building*'.

Much earlier in his career he did some work for Lincolns Inn; payments are recorded in 1676 (£49-18-0) and later, in 1692 (£16-8-0) suggesting that he

had a much more varied life than just that of a master craftsman with a Government appointment. It may be that his private commissions brought him a secure income, which cannot really be said of his official work for the pay was frequently in arrears, if paid at all.

ST PAULS AND GOVERNMENT DEBT

The Government was in financial trouble as a result of the commitment to rebuild St Pauls and acknowledged its debts to the employees by creating so called 'loans' from those entitled to their pay. All they received was a percentage from the Treasury, as did John Longland, who in 1693 received 6% plus a gratuity of 2%, in all £5-13-3. In fact, in the year 1697 he was owed one thousand pounds. No record of his official salary has been found but earlier in the century a Master Carpenter was paid over £150 annually.

Jane Lang, in her book 'Rebuilding of St Pauls after the Great Fire of London' refers to Longland as being a contractor on a large scale, saying '*Wren had great confidence in him and had accepted his tenders for the carpentry of six important City churches including St Brides and St Stephen Walbrook, eventually his men were employed at fifteen City churches*'.

No doubt the work on the churches, especially that at St Pauls, was important to him and gave him a satisfaction greater than that offered by the income. From the book previously quoted we learn that on the 21st June 1675 the Foundation stone was laid by Thomas Strong, master mason, who passed the trowel to John Longland, master carpenter, to secure the second stone.

From about the year 1694, following the death of Israel Knowles, also master carpenter, John Longland carried full responsibility for the building of the platforms for the Dome and the most important task of roofing the choir. The framing of the great roof from the Dome to the West end began in 1704. John was by then an old man, a revered master craftsman; he appointed Richard Jennings, the man who would later succeed him, as partner. He is named too in the last will of John.

A LETTER TO LORD HATTON

It is likely that a letter to Lord Hatton in September 1689 was written by John, the master craftsman. The John Longland who signed the letter occupied some property leased from Sir Christopher Hatton. He was working on some building, providing gates and probably boundary walls close by a churchyard.

He writes '*I did intend to make my gates even with my front that I might secure the street from (smak ?) and nuisance ... for if ye passage lie open everybody will be (larving = leaving ?) his tail there & ye passage itself will*

become an annoyance ...'

John is concerned for the public good, for the curious expression '*leaving his tail*' implied that passages with free access often became public conveniences. He pointed out that the depth of the building would be inadequate should he not be able to proceed as intended. He instances the custom of doorways into churchyards at St Clements and at St Andrews, hoping for agreement from his Lordship.

THE LIVERY COMPANY

As a freeman of the Haberdashers' Company he would have certain commitments and, in the year 1702, he was one of a group of six members who represented the Company, submitting a petition to the House of Lords. The Haberdashers had invested part of a charitable bequest in the purchase of land in Huntingdonshire but a recent ruling in Chancery had resulted in a loss of income. In the event the appeal was dismissed. It appears that the Haberdashers invested money quite widely, for in the previous century they bought a manor at Eynesbury, Huntingdonshire, building a new manor house there.

JOHN LONGLAND'S FAMILY

The only document which tells us anything about John Longland's family is his will, written on 31st July 1706. It was proved in the following December. He asked to be buried, as near as may be, to the body of his late dear son Isaac.

Isaac's sister Elizabeth had married Walter Turner, a wine drawer, at All Hallows London Wall, in the year 1694. Walter had received £500 from his father in law, as well as other money not specified. It seems that a quantity of silver which belonged to John Longland had been lent to the couple, and much stress is laid on this fact in the will. Though Elizabeth was given the great silver tankard and some salts, casters and spoons, the bulk of the silver was to be handed over to the executors to be shared out as directed. Granddaughter Sarah, daughter of Isaac Longland, received a silver tankard plus her share, as one of the grandchildren, of thirteen large silver spoons '*with gold*'.

Walter Turner was given thirty pounds to buy mourning for the family, but £500 was settled on Elizabeth and her children, to be used to buy property from which an income would be available. Her husband was not to have any control over this. There was one condition: they had to agree to all claims and demands of the executors; in particular to return the silver.

Isaac's widow, his '*loving daughter in law Mary Longland*', was given three hundred pounds outright, and convenient furniture for two rooms or twenty

pounds in money in lieu. His kinswoman Elizabeth Capper received £120, her father had his debt of £20 remitted and niece Elizabeth Morgan was given £5.

Sir Christopher Wren was given a ring to the value of twenty shillings, as were six other friends, and a number of rings to the value of twelve shillings were bequeathed to friends or professional associates.

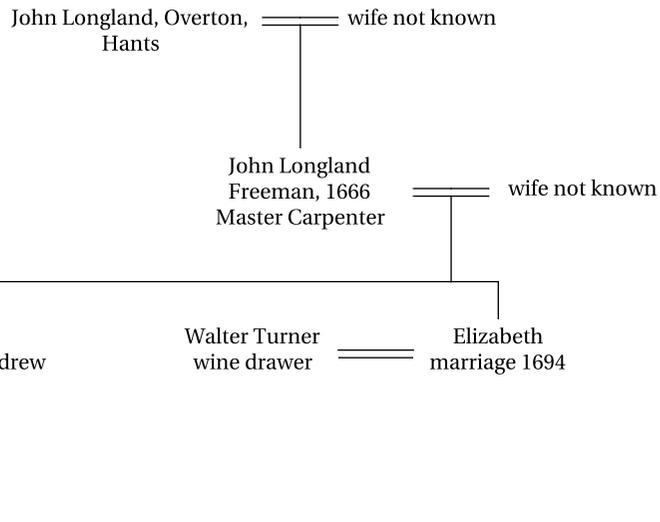
The executors were Benjamin Brown and Richard Jennings, master carpenter, who received all the residue of the estate.

Some of John Longland's work must have been destroyed in the air raids of the Second World War, but Wren's St Pauls and a number of other churches remain. As we look up at the vast Dome and the vaulting, and admire the beams and the carving, we may imagine John Longland being carried up in a basket to check on the progress of the work. Or we may think that we see him by the river at Cambridge, at St John's College, as he visualises the new bridge about to be built.

Though his ancestry has not been traced, nor has any link with the Longland family of Huntingdonshire become apparent, he takes his place amongst them here.

We return now to the the Huntingdonshire story, to the town of St Neots on the river Ouse, the home of a family of butchers, and of another John Longland, a victualler.

**John Longland
Master Carpenter to Sir
Christopher Wren
Habadasher, freeman,
died 1706**







Chapter Eleven

ST. NEOTS, HUNTS.

c. 1655 - 1782

Henry Longland, butcher,
Constable and Overseer.

Thomas, and John the victualler.

The two brothers, Thomas and John,
and the beginning of the Warboys story.

Henry the Butcher: St Neots and Wintringham

*'left to pay my brother Henry Longland that was due before my husband died
and for meat in harvest £10*

... paid to my brother Henry Longland the butcher ... £11-6-2'

(Administration Account, Paxton, 1684)

'Henry Longland for his house'

(monthly tax, St. Neots, 1678)

'Longland Henry nup de St Neots ... Maria Longland ejus Relict.'

(Hunts. Administration 1696)

The town of St Neots occupies a key position in this attempt to follow family movement, it is the link between those Longlands who remained settled in Buckden for something like 300 years and their eighteenth century descendants in Warboys. The Buckden-St Neots link seems geographically inevitable, the towns are only about four miles apart with St Neots to the South, just East of the Great North Road. It was in the mid 1600s that the Great Ouse was made navigable down to St Neots, connecting the town with the Offords and with Paxton. Buckden alone would not have provided enough commercial outlets for the several Longland families.

That Henry Longland of Buckden should rent land in St Neots, settling there as a butcher, seems an obvious choice. His arrival co-incided with the towns growing prosperity. It is when we come, nearly a hundred years later, to investigate the arrival of Thomas Longland in Warboys that we have no obvious explanation; but this is to look too far ahead, for we are in St Neots in the seventeenth century.

The Parish Minute Book notes that, at the Vestry Meeting on 20th April, 1657, Henry Longland was chosen to serve as an overseer for the Parish:

'and likewise do we also make our choice the same day and year to be overseers of the highways, Lewis Costome, Henry Longland, Henry Oliver, Thomas Whitchurch'.

An entry in the year 1659 gives us Henry's signature, not all men could write, not even some landholders, and this signature has a decorative loop on the 'd'.

The documentary evidence throughout the following one hundred and twenty years is patchy, not helped by the fact that the Parish Registers were once

thrown into the river, or that manorial references are very few, or that no wills relating to the Longlands of St Neots have been found.

HENRY LONGLAND THE BUTCHER,
HIS BROTHERS AT BUCKDEN AND PAXTON

The Parish Book and Churchwardens' accounts tell us something of Henry the butcher, and of a younger Henry, probably his son. In the year 1668 Henry senior served as constable, and when he and Edward Ratford handed over to their successors they had in hand two pounds four shillings of Parish money. Similar entries occur in 1675, 1676, and 1678 when Henry Longland and Mark Moone presented their accounts as constables.

From 1659 to 1678 we have four signatures 'Henry Longland', quite clearly written in each case but not identical. There seems to have been a Henry junior, the father of the John who was Overseer of the Highways in 1705.

The Rate Books for 1678 show that Henry Longland rented a close at Wintringham about two miles East of the town, the site of an ancient village which had disappeared even by Henry's day, where the Parish had a farm and pasture to let. He was taxed on his house in St Neots, with its close and yard. In the 1674 Hearth Tax he was assessed on two hearths. There was almost certainly more land occupied by Henry, for a butcher of his day was a rearer of cattle who would need adequate pasture.

He died in the year 1696, having made no will, but the administration grant has survived which names his widow, Mary. We do not know the date of Henry's birth for there are serious gaps in the records, but his brother's will establishes the Buckden origin. The St Neots Register dates from 1691 and there are transcripts from 1604 though none from 1625-1661. It appears unlikely that there were any Longlands in St Neots before the arrival of this Henry, in 1650 or thereabouts.

Following his death the subsequent Parish accounts mention no Longland until the year 1705 when John Longland was appointed as one of the overseers of the highways. This John may have been the son of Henry, more likely a grandson, for we cannot assume that there was a static family at St Neots during this period, We know that there was movement between Buckden, St Neots, Eaton Socon and Little Paxton.

In the year 1686, John Longland of St Neots married a Mary Longland, also of St Neots, this took place at Graffham. Then in 1703 we have the marriage, this time at St Neots, of John Longland, butcher of Buckden, and Mary Abbott of St Neots.

INTO THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

There follows a long period with no Longland references in Church accounts nor in the registers, which suggests that the families had returned to Buckden; this was a time when early deaths were common, as were the remarriages of widows and the movement of children.

One large indenture has survived dated 4th September 1711 by which Mary Longland of St Neots, widow, sold the property in which she was then living to John Nicholas, a tailor. The house, in the sheep market next to the George Inn, was owned by Mary '*in fee simple*' that is she had inherited it absolutely; it was not manorial property.

It is impossible to gain any idea of the size of the premises though we do know that there was a pigstye or slip of land attached and the legal terms cover other buildings or outhouses and garden. 'Cottage' itself seems to have been an all embracing term in the eighteenth century for there are instances of its use to describe quite large buildings.

We cannot positively identify Mary: the widow of Henry the butcher maybe, but as we have seen there were one or two other Mary Longlands in St Neots at that time. A more settled St Neots period, as far as Longland families were concerned, did then follow, but that too came to an end by the year 1800.

THOMAS OF ST NEOTS,
BUCKDEN MANOR COURT

It is a Buckden Manor Court reference which shows that in the year 1746 another butcher, Thomas Longland, was at St Neots. He was admitted to a close of pasture in the parish of Buckden, of two acres called the Hoe, with a further six acres of land. A year or so later he surrendered this, plus another sixteen acres, to a merchant of St Neots, John Bailey. We know nothing more of this Thomas Longland of St Neots, but he may well have been the Thomas who married Sarah Lavender at Warboys in 1739/40. Their children were christened at Warboys and yet Thomas seemed to play little part in the life of that village though he was a tenant of John Leman, Lord of the Manor there.

On the thirteenth of October, 1769 at St Neots, the Reverend Wills, Curate of St Neots, officiated at the marriage of Mary Longland and Thomas Topham. The banns refer to Mary and Thomas '*of this parish*'. Mary is not found in the baptismal register, maybe she was Mary the sister of John Longland the victualler, baptised in the year 1737 at Warboys. A late marriage certainly, but a possibility.

The signature 'John Longland' in the marriage book is similar to that of

the victualler in the parish book. Mary signed her name though Thomas Topham entered his mark.

JOHN LONGLAND, VICTUALLER
BEER FOR THE RINGERS - AND FOR THE ENGINES

In the year 1772 we find John Longland in the list of parish officers, he was one of the Overseers, responsible for charitable relief of the poor. His signature is amongst those witnessing the election of officers. The accounts for 1773 include the usual payment to John Longland for beer for the ringers, followed by an additional payment for '*beer for the engines*'. This must have been refreshment for the fire fighting crew for the parish officers had to maintain a fire engine.

In 1775 Mr Longland was taxed on his house and meadow land at St Neots, and in the following year he was again paid ten shillings for beer for the bell ringers. Almost certainly these references (1772-1776) are to John Longland the victualler. His children appear in the St Neots Parish register, though he himself had been christened at Warboys, the son of Thomas and Sarah. As we shall see later, early in the Warboys story, it is the cross references to St Neots and the references to '*Uncle Thomas*' which dictate this interpretation of the limited data.

His brother Thomas was the elder son and so it was he who developed the Estate at Warboys, the '*Uncle Thomas*' who became guardian to his St Neots nephews. But that is a later story, we are still in St Neots, puzzled by a chance reference to Brook House and Mr Longland.

BROOK HOUSE, ST NEOTS

The late Mr Tebbut, in his book '*St Neots*' stated that '*in 1775 Mr Longland probably lived at Brook House*' however he later considered this to be an uncertain deduction drawn from the Rates Book, which does not name Brook House. It is difficult to relate the entries directly to known houses.

Brook House is a large eighteenth century house which shortly after this date passed to the Reynolds family. Some twenty years later, a John Longland appears in a list of licensees of several inns, mostly at Buckden, but including the '*Wrestlers*' at St Neots. He was acting as surety for the licensee in each case which may imply that he was the owner, as four Buckden inns are in the list, including the Spread Eagle which was Longland property. The John connected with the inn at St Neots may have been the John, victualler of St Neots, whose signature is to be seen in the Parish Minutes Book for the year 1779, by which

time we are near the end of the St Neot's story.

The final Longland entry in the parish accounts, in the year 1781, is a payment to Mrs Longland. The 's' is quite clear and implies that, following John's death, there was some money still due from the churchwardens.

No doubt there is so much that could be told had more documents survived, for the town touched the lives of a number of Longlands whose families appear in the late 1600s and into the eighteenth century both at Eaton Socon and Eynesbury, very close to St Neots. There are one or two marriages, in the St Neots register, of Buckden Longlands and it seems certain that those at Eaton Socon and Eynesbury were of Buckden origin, but they had died out by the late 1700s leaving no record of their lives (other than the parish register entries).

For the people at Paxton St Neots was the nearest important town, and no doubt for the Buckden yeomen its market was an outlet for their produce; it must have been a place for social contacts and, as we know, a place for gossip.

Daniel Crispin the surgeon, Susanna Longland's husband, lived in the town, as did Philip Day the miller, who married Mary Longland of Paxton. The known facts are disappointingly few, but they are important, for without them the Warboys chapter would be quite detached from the tale of the family at Buckden.

JOHN LONGLAND, BLACKSMITH

One other Longland family appears in the St Neots registers in the late eighteenth century, that of John the blacksmith and Mary. The story of John the blacksmith is a reminder that no family history is likely to be a collection of success stories alone for this John, who married Mary Bigg at Hitchin, was the subject of an Overseers' letter in which they admitted that the family was a St Neots liability.

John could write in a clear well formed hand which suggests some schooling, yet he never achieved the same status as that of Marshall, the blacksmith at Buckden, for example. Obviously, Marshall of Buckden came of an affluent branch of the family, farmers and property owners, yeomen who could simultaneously invest in profitable business. Presumably this John of St Neots had to make his way in the world, as an ordinary blacksmith. Sickness of course was another hazard and both he and John the victualler died in the same year, 1780.

John, the blacksmith of St. Neots had two sons, Thomas (baptised in 1775) and John (baptised in 1780). When we come to consider the subsequent Warboys story, the possibility that it was this John and Thomas who moved to Warboys must be considered. Descent from the victualler is the more likely, for

the date of baptism of John, son of the victualler (1773) agrees with the age John gave in the later Census and that on the death Certificate. We know too that his brother Thomas provided several hundred pounds on his death, sufficient for his widow to live to a good age on the income. It is most unlikely that the sons of the blacksmith would have been in this position. We know no more about the descendants of John the blacksmith; families with no means and no property leave little evidence for posterity. A chance find in the marriage register of Bury, the little village not far from Warboys and close to Ramsey, does contain the signature of 'John Longland'.

He witnessed the marriage of John Topham of Warboys and Elizabeth Shelton of Bury on 11th December 1798. The signature has unusual characteristics and it does not match the hand of John, the carpenter of Warboys. A John Longland, a farm labourer, is found in the Census of 1861, living at the White Cock Inn, near Whittlesey. Then aged 45, born at Warboys, he may have been a descendant of this less fortunate family. So we are made conscious of the limitations of this tale which, in paying tribute to those who have left us so much to contemplate, must be regarded also as a testimony to those Longlands who have no memorial.

We are conscious also of the selective nature of the known facts, for only one other record mentions John Topham of Warboys. In October, 1822, he was accused by Anne and Harvey Meadows (the grocer of Warboys) of threatening them and trying to break in to their house. No doubt there had been heated exchanges of some kind. Whether or not the attempt to break in had really taken place is not recorded.

What is certainly true is that the Meadows family were comfortably off. Mrs Meadows was Anne Longland before her marriage. She would certainly have owned property and, in fact, ten more houses or cottages were her inheritance on the death of her father. The Meadows family employed a governess and their life was stable. John Topham was a labourer, at a time when the poor in England were desperate and revolution was in the air. We return now to the last Longlands of St Neots but before we follow the victualler's sons to Warboys we are able to record their widowed mother's marriage.

ELIZABETH LONGLAND AND JAMES YORK

The victualler's widow Elizabeth married James York (a framework knitter) by licence in the year 1782. Two years later the signature of James York again appears in the marriage register of St Neots, for he signed as a witness at the marriage of Thomas Longland of Buckden and Elizabeth Kent. The other witness was George Walton, brother in law to Thomas Longland.

As Elizabeth Kent came from St Neots it may be that James York was related to her, or at least was a close friend. Just six years before this marriage Mary Day, the widow of Philip Day the miller, refers to '*James York, my servant*' in her last will; could he have been the James York who married Elizabeth Longland ? James the servant was certainly highly regarded by Mary Day, he it was who had permission to live in the Day's house, rent free, whilst the Estate was administered following Mary's death. Once the estate was settled James York would have received one sixteenth of the proceeds, that is from the sale of '*all messuages lands and tenements*'. It must have been a useful sum. Did James then set himself up in the business of framework knitting in the year 1777 and then, five years later, marry the widowed Elizabeth Longland ? Not long after this marriage, the two sons of Elizabeth Longland, now Elizabeth York, went to live in Warboys where their uncle Thomas farmed.

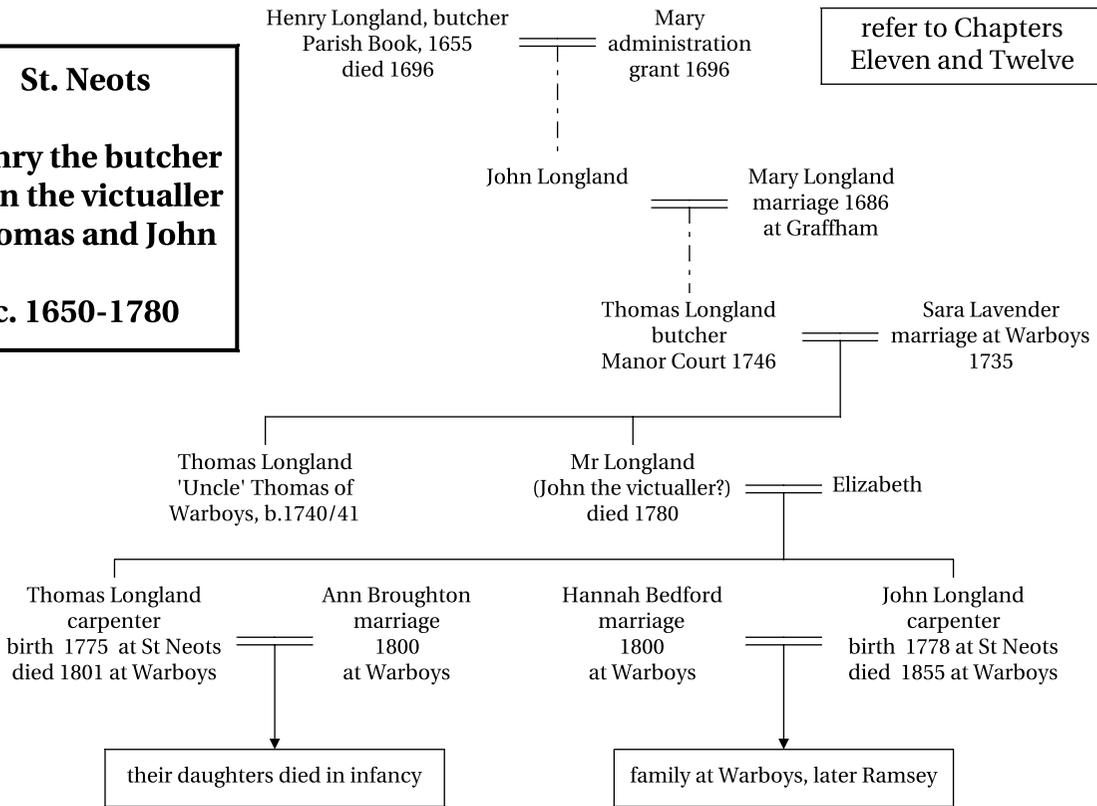
A number of unanswered questions are raised by the St Neots story and the first years of the settlement in Warboys seem destined to keep their secrets from us. Records of marriages, baptisms and burials define the genealogy but our first Thomas and Sarah of Warboys, whose story begins in the year 1739, remain in the shadows. The documents say clearly that their son Thomas was uncle to the boys from St Neots. So we may reasonably assume that John Longland, the victualler of St Neots, was the younger son of our first Thomas and Sarah.

Following on from the marriage of 'Uncle Thomas' the story of the land owning family of Warboys is clear enough. That of the surviving carpenter's family is also well established but of a different order; important to our tale for it will take us eventually to Ramsey.

The chapter which follows is set firmly in Warboys, the home for over two hundred years of these related families of Longland.

St. Neots
Henry the butcher
John the victualler
Thomas and John
c. 1650-1780

refer to Chapters
 Eleven and Twelve









Chapter Twelve

WARBOYS, HUNTS.

c. 1750 - 1970

Thomas and Sarah,
the probable St Neots origin.

Thomas the land owner,
Ann and the Bluntisham Chapel,
and John of the Manor House.

Of their carpenter 'cousins',
Lavender begins a new life in Ramsey.

Landowners, and craftsmen: The Warboys Story

*'The principal landowners are the Lord of the Manor, Lady Sparrow,
John Longland Esq., Edward Fellowes Esq.,
and John Fryer Esq. of Chatteris.
The Manor House now occupied by Mr Longland.'*
(Warboys, Hatfields Directory of Huntingdonshire, 1854)

The St Neots part of our history ended as Thomas and John Longland left their home town following the death of their father John, the victualler. The earliest mention of them in the Warboys registers is the record of their marriages in the year 1800, but we may guess that they had left St Neots some time before this. Their mother Elizabeth had married James York in the year 1782 when the boys would be about seven years old and we have no record of the family at St Neots subsequently. It is likely that Thomas Longland of Warboys, became their legal guardian, for he evidently accepted responsibility for their welfare.

The brothers may have had some schooling in Warboys, and Thomas was established as a carpenter at the time of his marriage, signing the marriage bond in a good clear hand, the other party to the bond being Hartley Setchell, a farmer. Thomas married Ann Broughton in May 1800, his brother John had married Hannah Bedford just three months earlier. The following year Thomas died having made his will on 10th September the day before his death. The inscription on the gravestone reads: *'In memory of Thomas Longland who died September 11th. 1801 aged 27, also of Mary and Ann his daughters who died as infants.'*

His will was proved the following October, though it was not in proper form for no executor was named. His widow Ann was nominated to carry out its provisions which were quite straightforward. Everything was left to her and it was assumed that the proceeds from the sale of his goods plus his personal estate would total around £500 after the payment of any debts.

Out of this Ann was directed to pay John one hundred pounds, or seventy five pounds should the estate be £450, but only fifty pounds if Ann should be pregnant. This money was to be paid *'into the hands of Uncle Thomas Longland as Trustee for the said John Longland and my uncle T. Longland to put my brother John Longland into some kind of business as he thinks proper with the said money.'*

Thomas's widow Ann lived on in Warboys. In 1822 when her father John Broughton died she was bequeathed the household goods and property *'which were late hers'*, then in her father's house. The Census of 1851 describes her as an annuitant, for her husband had left her adequate means. On her death in

February 1857 she bequeathed her silver watch to nephew Thomas Longland, to whom she also gave £50. Her sister Mary Ashley, and niece Ann Stokes each received the same sum. Ann Longland directed that '*her brother*' (that is brother in law) '*John Longland*' should receive £50, but in the event he did not live to inherit for he died in April 1855; her will was written four years earlier. Everything else went to her niece Mary Behagg and William Behagg the miller was her executor.

JOHN LONGLAND, CARPENTER

John, like his brother, set up as a carpenter, and he and Hannah had two daughters, Mary and Eleanor, and three sons, Thomas, John and Lavender. Mary, the elder daughter, married Thomas Harvey, a publican, and in his old age her father John went to live with them. At the time of the Census of 1841 he had retired and was living on Mill Green '*of independant means*'; by 1851 it would appear that his own resources were exhausted and that he was dependant on his daughter Mary. She cared for him for the few years which remained.

Thomas carried on as a carpenter, and the business passed to succeeding generations. The story of his brother Lavender, we shall see, is the story of the Longlands of Ramsey. Thus the genealogy of those Longlands from the St Neots period to the present is established.

WORK DONE FOR THE PARISH

Though relevant documents are sparse there is one lucky find in particular, an account of work done for the Parish in the year 1806 by John Longland, the father of Lavender. It refers to work carried out over a seven month period, mending bridges and fencing in the fen and in the town. John employed three men who were paid at the rate of about one pound for a weeks work. They mended the bridges in the High Fen and set up fencing posts in the town, all the work was done in oak and the bill for nine days work and all materials came to twelve pounds eight shillings. A six by four inch piece of oak ten feet long cost seven shillings and sixpence, that is nine pence per foot.

The work was done by the order of Mr Thomas Longland, his uncle. It seems very unfair that work carried out in the latter part of the year 1806 was not paid for until October 1808. Mr Thomas Longland is named as '*Surveyor of the Town Roads*' an interesting example of the public duties which were shared between the chief inhabitants of the parish. The payment would have been approved at a meeting of Parish Officers and we may suspect that there had been some argument about it. Perhaps in the interval uncle Thomas came to his nephew's assistance; we do know from the will of the year 1819 that John was

indebted to him.

The business was probably a success, though John was not the only carpenter in Warboys. He seems to have retired to Mill Green in his mid sixties by which time his son Thomas was the carpenter.

THE FIRST LONGLANDS OF WARBOYS

From the relationship given in the wills (of Thomas the carpenter and that of his uncle Thomas) we conclude that the first Thomas Longland of Warboys was the brother of John the victualler of St Neots. Yet it is in the the parish registers of Warboys that we find the christenings of his children, Thomas and John and their sisters, from 1737 to 1746. The parents, Thomas and Sarah were married at Warboys in the year 1735. Sarah's family (the Lavenders) had lived there for generations but Thomas was the first Longland to settle in Warboys.

An Elizabeth Longland, who may have come from St Neots, married Jo. Ward at Warboys in the year 1722. A William Longland of Somersham had some copyhold in Pidley North Fen (close to Warboys) as early as the year 1715. He died, apparently unmarried, in the year 1725 leaving all his land to his friends. Though he cannot be identified from the records, he was probably born in Buckden.

Our first Thomas Longland of Warboys rented some land from John Leman the Lord of the Manor there, as shown by an Estate map of 1755, but not until the year 1773 do the manorial records begin to register the copyhold of his eldest son, Thomas Longland, who would then have been about 33 years old. This Thomas, who married Ann Heard in the year 1764, is the one we know as 'Uncle' Thomas (in relation to the brothers from St Neots) and it was he who left a considerable estate on his death in the year 1821.

The Longland family hardly appears in the Warboys records of land tenure from 1730 to 1760, perhaps a time of movement when the family interests were not confined to just one parish, but the St Neots origin of our carpenters is certain.

In giving some account of both the landowners and the carpenters we draw a contrast between those of the senior branch who inherited property early in life, and their cousins for whom life was a harder struggle which eventually brought some measure of prosperity.

We imagine that when the brothers Thomas and John arrived in Warboys Sarah their grandmother cared for them. Certainly, later generations remembered the family name of Lavender when their children were christened. Much later in our Ramsey story there were at one time, three Lavender Longlands representing three generations. The direct descendants of 'Uncle' Thomas never used the

name in this way. 'Grandma' Lavender may have been particularly fond of the St Neots children. Of her husband Thomas we know hardly anything. He may well have had a house in St Neots and, as a butcher or raiser of cattle, rented pasture at Warboys; we have evidence of earlier generations whose cattle grazed some miles away from their owner's home.

It seems obvious that from the death of 'Uncle' Thomas in 1821 the Longland farmers had little to do with their less fortunate cousins, just another family with the same name. We follow the fortunes of the two families in parallel, but as we may expect the bulk of the documentary evidence available concerns the land owners.

UNCLE THOMAS

This Thomas, the son of Thomas Longland and Sarah, features prominently in the manorial records steadily adding to his land holding, both copyhold and freehold. There were one or two farms at Warboys, and over 200 acres freehold at Somersham, which taken together made him one of the 'chief inhabitants' as a Warboys document of the year 1780 states.

His early life must have had a secure financial base, but no record of that period has survived. By the year 1773, when he first appeared at the manor Court at Warboys, Thomas and Ann (Heard) had been married some eight years, their son and heir John had just been born and their daughter Ann was about seven years old.

It would be tedious to give the details of each manorial acquisition, close on forty transactions in the period 1773 to 1819. The very first holding, in December 1773, was described as *'twelve and a half acres in the fields of Warboys plus a house and pasture and other houses and out houses'*. We note that some of this property remained in the occupation of other farmers and that Thomas Longland was now deriving income from others who worked his land.

At first Thomas is styled *'yeoman'*, quite frequently *'husbandman'* but from about the year 1789 he is *'gentleman'* as the family came to be regarded as major proprietors.

In 1799 he appears as *'Thomas Longland, gent.'* in the records of the Manor Court of Houghton and Wyton of which he held the twenty three acres acquired from Mr Sweeting. One entry refers to a conditional surrender by Thomas which had produced £1,050 which then needed to be repaid in order to reclaim the land.

Of the home life and personal affairs of the Longland family we know hardly anything. Though influential in the Warboys community, and obviously prosperous, their day to day lives were probably lived on a simple level.

Ann, the wife of Thomas, died in the year 1784, she was only 42 years of age. They had enjoyed twenty years together and their son John would then be eleven. It is likely that he was receiving some private education to fit him for his future as a gentleman proprietor. He would later count David Veasey Esquire amongst his friends though he seems never to have been much concerned with either the political or social life of Huntingdon.

Thomas' later years were clouded by the early deaths of his son's first two wives, Sarah Small and Louisa, and the extreme attachment of his daughter Ann to the Bluntisham chapel. Thomas' first priority must have been his concern for the immediate family but he continued to help his nephew John, the carpenter.

LANT'S FARM

In the year 1795 following the death of John Lant, a farmer of modest means, Thomas Longland was one of the trustees of the Lant estate. John Lant requested that *'my respected friend Thomas Longland. aforesaid farmer, make sale and dispose of Lant's Farm'*. Thomas held the proceeds for distribution amongst the Lant family. Twentieth century maps of the Warboys area show Lant's Farm but the name 'Longland' is nowhere to be found.

THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY EXPANSION

Later manorial records often relate to property other than farms, such as the Cock Inn which Thomas bought in 1804. Such acquisitions were forms of investment, for clearly it would be left to others to inhabit and manage these properties. The Land Tax records for 1804 show Thomas Longland of Warboys as owner of land at Bury (rent received from the tenant John Sholton) and rents too from George Ekins, tenant of the Longland property at Colne and Somersham.

But always there was the 'Home Farm' to manage, and Thomas in his last will described himself as 'farmer'. This commitment to husbandry, typical of the traditional yeoman class, was certainly in the Longland blood, as was also a commitment to work, a pride in a task carried out to the best of one's ability.

In the year 1804 (when the Rectory and Glebe land were up for sale) Thomas Longland and his son John were tenants of two of the farms, of 485 acres and 343 acres, and the sale particulars point out that the leases still had fourteen years to run. The annual rents amounted to £388-9-6d and £290-14-6d respectively, considerable sums at a time when the income of a working family was about £40 a year, and the average individual wage of an agricultural labourer about twelve shillings a week. Mr Edward Fullard's leasehold farm of

185 acres was included in the same sale; he paid over £96 a year plus the Drainage and Eaubrink taxes.

THE ENCLOSURE OF 1803

The full Report of the Commissioners makes tedious reading but the preamble states that the chief owners and proprietors had requested that Commissioners be appointed to carry out the enclosure. Only half a dozen of these proprietors are named: William Strode, John Richards, John Kirkton, Robert Fowler, Simon Hardy and Thomas Longland.

The proceedings began in the year 1796 and Thomas Longland and three others deposited a nominal payment of five shillings each, some kind of legal security before the sealing of the recommendations.

Thomas was awarded rights in respect of land in High Fen and seven other plots of land together with his farm and homestead. Where property abutted onto the Town Street the cost of maintenance and repair was shared by the proprietors 'for ever.' The largest area of Warboys land was one plot of 58 acres in High Fen.

JOHN LONGLAND, THE YOUNG PROPRIETOR IN 1796

Son John, then in his 23rd year, appears as an independant proprietor with 17 acres in Conduit Field and 83 acres in Blackland and Conduit Fields.

There are several instances of owners seizing the opportunity to exchange smaller plots of land, often cottages with a close attached. Thomas Longland exchanged a cottage near Town Street for a cottage and 'ancient' enclosed garden called Berecroft which then belonged to Martha Wright. The large plan of the awards shows each plot with the owner's name.

Thomas Longland held land or property not only of the manor of Warboys but of Old Hurst, Brampton, and Chatteris. The Enclosure Awards refer to the Chatteris copyhold which was bounded '*on the West by a Fen Estate belonging to the said Thomas Longland*'. This 'fen estate' must refer to the Colne freehold which entitled Thomas to a vote for the County in 1807. There was land too of the Manor of Houghton with Wyton.

The Enclosure Allotment Book of 1803 includes a list of money received in payment of Rates on the land held. In the First Schedule which relates to the Parish of Warboys a total of £290-14-5d was received from Thomas Longland, very nearly the sum received from the Lords of the Manor, though they still

owed another £58 or so. John Longland paid £124-10-1d.

These sums were much greater than those received from many small proprietors though William Strode stands out as paying over £790.

Thomas and John also appear in the Second schedule, paying rates assessed on land at Houghton, Old Hurst, Wyton and Woodhurst. In the year 1813 the whole manor demesne was up for sale and the public notice to this effect listed all the copyholders. Thomas Longland and his son John held a total of more than 300 acres copyhold land plus the Cock Inn. Later records imply that there would have been a further 500 acres of land, partly held of other manors but largely freehold.

Copyhold land and property regularly changed hands, the purchase usually being agreed 'out of Court' between the parties concerned before being registered and approved by the manor Court. For example, in April 1816, Thomas Longland paid five hundred and eighty one pounds eight shillings directly to Martha and William Wright of Godmanchester. The manor Court registered the change of ownership of an area of pasture with '*a little house on the said premises then a carpenter's shop*'. Thomas paid thirty three pounds thirteen shillings to the Lord of the Manor, being bound each year to pay him the annual rent of just over a shilling. A hundred years were to pass before this ancient system was abolished by Act of Parliament.

FREEHOLD LAND, A VOTE FOR THE COUNTY

The known freehold included the estate at Wistow, and the farm at Pidley. Though sixty years had passed since the arrival in Warboys of the first Thomas Longland it seems hardly likely that this affluence was simply the result of the farming effort at Warboys during that time. It suggests that John Longland's grandfather had been a property owner, though no documentary evidence of this has been found.

By the year 1818 both Thomas and his son John were each entitled to be included in the County Poll in virtue of their land holding at Warboys.

THE DEATH OF THOMAS LONGLAND 1821

The Last Will and Testament of Thomas is dated 2nd December 1819; he died on 11th April 1821. The Manor Court Roll for 26th April reads: '*At this Court the Homage present the death of Thomas Longland late a Copyhold Tenant of this Manor and that he died seized of divers hereditaments situate within and held of this Manor by Copy of Court Roll. Now at this court no one coming to be admitted tenant to the premises whereof the said Thomas Longland*

died seized and therefore the first proclamation was made and so forth but no one came.'

They had to wait until 14th August: '*Now to this court comes John Longland the only son of the said Thomas Longland and brings into the court the last will and testament of his father ...*'.

John Longland was directed to sell all copyhold land or property not otherwise disposed of in the will, to pay debts and to use the residue for his own purposes. Once the specific gifts of land had been effected he inherited all that remained, this 'residue' as the will calls it was considerable.

GRANDSON GEORGE EKINS
INHERITANCE AND DEBT

Ann, daughter of Thomas, had married George Ekins in the year 1784. Now, in 1821, their son George inherited 300 acres in Colne fen together with the property on it (then occupied by Thomas Ekins and John Longland) and the other grandson, Thomas Ekins, was given the farmhouse and homestead, which Thomas Longland had occupied, plus the farm at Pidley and other land.

Thomas instructed his son John not to call in money owed to him by his nephew John, that is John the carpenter from whom the Longlands of Ramsey are descended. The gifts of land to the two grandsons carried a considerable liability in each case, for they had to pay off, between them, a total of £5,000 due on mortgages on the properties, that is to Robert Gooch, Henry Sweeting and James Mann.

George Ekins had also to pay £250 to Thomas' granddaughter Ann Daintree. The question arises: why was Thomas' daughter, Ann Ekins of Woodhurst, not mentioned? We will come shortly to her story which tells us a little about her father, and we may conclude that he was not a placid easy going man, an impression re-inforced by an entry in the Quarter Sessions Minute Books for Hunts:

'Presentment:

Year 1818. Thomas Longland of Warboys, farmer, assaulting John Whittlesey at Warboys; John Whittlesey, labourer, assaulting Thomas Longland of Warboys. Case withdrawn.'

Trouble with labourers and cases of theft were common. In that same year John Warrington of Somersham was found guilty of the theft of sixteen hogs from Thomas Longland of Warboys and sentenced to seven years transportation.

ANN EKINS OF WOODHURST
ENTHUSIASM AT BLUNTISHAM

Ann, daughter of Thomas and Ann Longland, was baptised at Warboys in the year 1765. In January 1784 she married George Ekins of Easton, thus marrying into a family of gentry from Northants. George and Ann lived at Woodhurst and farmed there and at Somersham. Following the death of George Ekins in the year 1824 Ann went to live with her daughter and son in law, Robert Daintree. Her son John Longland Ekins carried on the farm at Woodhurst and was a prominent local member of the non-Conformist Church centred on the meeting house at Bluntisham.

A history of Nonconformity in Bluntisham, by R.W. Dixon, was published in 1887. The author highlights Ann Ekins' fervour and her father's displeasure. Perhaps the details are largely hearsay but the account adds colour to our story: *'Mrs. Ann Ekins, née Longland, who lived at Woodhurst, was a regular attendant at Bluntisham meeting, and an earnest friend of Mr. Feary, she used to drive with her family to Bluntisham every Sunday, and stop the day to attend the services morning and afternoon, passing the interval in the meeting vestry. When her husband, Mr. George Ekins, lay at the point of death, and she was expecting to be left with six little children, her father, Mr. Thomas Longland, of Warboys, came over to see her, he had good property, was a farmer there, and hated dissent.*

Said he to his daughter, "If you will forsake these Culemites I will provide for you as a lady, but if not, I will cut you off without a shilling!" She stuck to her Culemites. Her father lived to change his mind, and to respect her convictions ... one of the six little children was John Longland who in 1829, on 30th July, became a member of Bluntisham church and a hearty supporter of all good works throughout a long life.'

This account certainly contains some inaccuracies: Ann's son George was baptised at Warboys in the year 1787 so was aged at least 37 in the year his father George died. Their daughter Martha Longland (Ekins) was baptised in 1791, and in the year 1811 she married Thomas Wakefield Chambers, some three years before her mother's admission as a member of the Bluntisham meeting. Somewhat later, in the year 1830, Martha Longland Chambers was running a ladies school in Warboys (boarding and day).

Ann Ekins may, of course, have begun to attend Bluntisham meetings earlier but she was not left with six *'little children'* in the year 1824. Thomas Longland's will was written in December 1819, he died in April 1821, three years before the death of George Ekins.

Ann's account of her religious experience, made publicly on her admission in 1814, makes for tedious reading. What would Thomas Longland have thought of her conviction that her early childhood fervour had been smothered in a situation '*unfriendly to religion ?*'

Did Thomas really '*hate Dissent*' as the Bluntisham history states ? We have on record that his son John was an active supporter of the Baptist Chapel, at least in practical terms, for he signed two petitions for property to be officially registered as Meeting Houses for the Dissenters.

THE DEATH OF GEORGE EKINS 1824

In his Will, George Ekins directed that his wife, Ann, was to receive £50 on his death and the furniture from the parlour, the best chamber, and from '*our sleeping room*', plus a quantity of linen and plate. She received two annuities: an unconditional one of £20 a year chargeable to the farmland given to daughter Ann (Daintree) and a further annuity of £130 a year which would reduce to £30 a year should she remarry. The grandchildren shared £1,000 between them.

George Ekins' widow Ann went to live in nearby Fenton where her son in law Robert Daintree farmed. She was to spend only four years living with him and her daughter Ann, probably at Fenton House, the elegant Georgian house near the turning to Pidley. Robert Daintree still occupied it some thirty years later according to the Directory.

When Ann died in 1828 her daughters and grand daughters shared her furniture and personal possessions which included two damask table cloths marked with the initials G A E and the date 1824, the year of her husband's death. Ann's larger annuity was chargeable to the freehold land given to their son John Longland Ekins, who was to maintain the Woodhurst estate throughout his life.

A staunch supporter of Baptist dissent, his memorial in the Chapel of Christian Fellowship at Woodhurst records the alterations and improvements which had been undertaken in the summer of 1883 '*in affectionate remembrance of the late John Longland Ekins Esq.*'. He was also held in high regard amongst the wider community. In May 1867 he provided the horses which enabled the twenty members of the Woodhurst Parish choir to journey to Godmanchester to take part in the Choral Festival. This kind assistance was acknowledged in the St Ives Parish magazine. The St Ives contingent went by water.

Bateman Brown, the son of Potto Brown of Houghton mentions in his '*Reminiscences*', that his brother George was at school with John, son of Mr Longland Ekins of Woodhurst. This was '*a little before the year 1840*' when they were joined too by George, the son of Robert Daintree at Fenton. Bateman

Brown is referring, presumably, to the private school to which he had been transferred some time before, because of the harsh discipline and poor teaching at Huntingdon Grammar School.

PATTIE EKINS

Ann Ekins' evangelical fervour lived on, not only in the person of her son, John Longland Ekins, but also, in the life of Pattie Ekins, her great grand daughter. Pattie was the youngest daughter of George and Sarah Ekins, born in the year 1858. It seems that 'Pattie' was a pet name for Martha ; she was Martha Chambers Ekins.

Pattie's line of descent is complicated by the second marriage of her father, and the genealogy given in the 'tree' depends largely on the facts given in her sister's book. Parish baptismal records are not available for the family seems to have been Baptist in conviction. Her great grandmother known for her piety was Ann Ekins, the daughter of Thomas Longland.

In the book 'Pattie C Ekins, her Life and Letters' edited by her sister, Annie Johnson Ekins, published in the year 1901, we read:

'Our Great Grandfather George Ekins farmed at Woodhurst, where the old family home may yet be seen. His youngest son, John Longland Ekins, died there in 1881, aged 82. The name of our great grandmother is still fragrant as of one who earnestly followed her Saviour at a time when religious effort was more uncommon than it is now, and therefore required on the part of those who practised it no little self denial.'

The following description of The Manor House, Warboys, is taken from the same book.

THE MANOR HOUSE
WARBOYS

'If you enter the village of Warboys from the St Ives road, you get a good view of the South side of the Manor House with its garden sloping down by the churchyard to the fields beyond.

As you ascend the hill you pass the beautiful parish church ... Close by, but further back from the road, with windows 'opening towards the sun rising' is the old red brick house itself, standing in a 'green', with farm buildings and the churchyard on either side. A belt of magnificent sycamore trees on the churchyard side pleasantly shades the narrow drive which brings you to a typical old English house with thick walls, many doors, few windows finely shaped chimneys, and rambling roofs, telling of much space and comparatively little room.

This was the home to which George Ekins the younger brought his bride half a century ago, and here, ten years later, their fourth child, little Pattie, first saw the light, as pale and fair as the snow drops which bloomed at her birth and were henceforth always associated with her. Pattie loved the garden, and it is full of her memory. One of four little plots therein was very carefully tended, and generally produced a bouquet, large or small, upon our father's birthday in June.

Halfway down, the path was shaded by a fine pink hawthorn, which Pattie called our summer palace, and where we often held high festival. Further on, behind the side wall, lighted up by moss and lichens, with a splendour all their own, an elm tree spread its branches, sometimes sheltering a venerable owl that soothed her childish slumbers with a mysterious hush-sh-sh-sh, far into the night.

The garden was bounded by a sunk fence, above which stood some filbert trees. Because of this, we were forbidden to gather the nuts (...) This 'ha-ha' was bridged over in the time of hay, that the three little girls and their only brother might go into the 'Home Close', and with their wooden forks toss the fragrant grass and make it into hay'.

So we leave Pattie Ekins and her family to return to the Longland story, that is of the senior family of land owners; that of John who died a year or so before Pattie's birth. He was widowed three times and presided over the rise of the family fortunes, farming close on a thousand acres, and acknowledging among his special friends David Veasey, of Castle Hill, Huntingdon. Towards the end of his life John lived in the manor house by the church in Warboys.

JOHN LONGLAND 1773-1857

John was admitted a copyhold tenant of the Manor of Warboys in July 1793, and at the age of twenty-one described as a farmer with 40 acres to manage. A year later he married Sarah Small Hennesy, at Brampton. Sarah was the daughter of Thomas Hennesy of Brampton, Hunts. gent. The marriage was by licence. John's signature appears on both Allegation and Bond, written in a large confident hand. We have noted that by the year 1804 he rented one of the Rectory farms, of nearly 300 acres, and his copyhold of Warboys Manor must have been considerable for in the year 1813 he was able to raise the sum of £2,000 on the surrender of some of it.

SARAH SMALL, LOUISA, MARTHA
AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Parish church baptism records give us Martha (1797) and Drusilla (1800), then in 1803 Sarah died. Her gravestone is large and the inscription is still readable *'In memory of Sara Small Longland wife of John Longland who departed this life February 12 1803 aged 40 years'*. Three years later John married Louisa Dockerill, again by licence. Louisa was a butcher's daughter, *'a spinster of twenty one years and upward'*. However, Louisa died in 1811 she was only 27 years old, and John married again on 23rd August 1821, this time to Martha Child. His signature on the marriage allegation is large and confident, not very different from his earlier hand, if anything with more flourish. He would then be in his forty eighth year.

The later daughters, Ann and Elizabeth, do not appear in the baptismal register, nor does Louisa who was probably the daughter of John and Louisa. From the register entry of Elizabeth's marriage in 1842 to William Harvey we learn that she was born in the year 1823, presumably the only child of John and Martha.

JOHN LONGLAND,
THE BAPTIST CONNECTION

Perhaps the absence of any church record of the christening of these children resulted from for their father having joined the Warboys Baptists. In the year 1816 and again in 1831 John Longland signed a petition, as trustee, supporting a Non-Conformist meeting house in Warboys. The new chapel which was completed in 1831 was built of bricks freely given by him. In the Baptist records they are described as *'hand pressed from a knot hole near Pingle wood'*. The land in front of the meeting house belonged to Mr Longland and Mr Ekins.

They each reserved burial rights, Mr Longland's being on the land to the right. John Longland was still serving on the committee in 1845 but no record of baptisms of his family have been found in the limited published records of the Baptists.

By the year 1821 John was a major land owner. On the death of his father Thomas he had inherited considerable property, receiving £1,000 on the surrender of some of it to Henry Sweeting. The manorial records of these transactions are not easy to follow; conditional surrenders, which were in fact mortgages, were often arranged when capital was needed the property being reclaimed on redemption at a later date. These later records show the appreciable sums of money which changed hands on change of ownership, the sums claimed by the Lord of the Manor remaining quite small. Copyhold had become practically as good as freehold, as some property advertisements claimed. In the case of the Longland family the need to provide marriageable daughters with property in their name is particularly evident.

Some copyhold was held of Old Hurst Manor, for example the eleven acres in Warboys High Fen which Thomas had taken over in 1802 and was claimed by John twenty years later.

THOMAS AND ELIZABETH

In 1833 John bought a farmhouse and woods, copyhold of Warboys manor, for £280 and immediately surrendered it to his daughter Elizabeth who was then aged 10. She was just 14 years old when her father paid £950 for 37 acres of land in High Fen, acting on her behalf. Five years later, she married William Harvey. Meanwhile John Longland paid £220 for a copyhold close and pasture at Old Hurst.

John Longland's son Thomas was now in his twenty sixth year and in April 1833 he married Elizabeth Child, a minor, with the consent of her widowed mother Ann Child. Two sons and four daughters were born to Thomas and Elizabeth Longland during the succeeding twelve years, or so.

THE QUARTER SESSIONS

The public records generally highlight wealth, poverty and crime. The Quarter Sessions papers show that life had its disturbances, that crime was related to poverty and that penalties were often harsh; and that life, as always, had its flashes of humour.

'Year 1827: John Longland Ekins, Woodhurst, farmer and George Hills, Warboys, turfman. Concerning attacks made on Ekins by Hodson and by John Gadby of Warboys, turf digger, when Ekins had aided the Constable (Bedford) to resist their rescue attempt.

True Bill. Joseph Huggins, Warboys, turfman, and Martin Hodson, the younger, gardener, for assaulting Thomas Bedford, constable, and against John Gadsby and Martin Hodson for assaulting J L Ekins.

Year 1830. Geo. Ekins, Overseer of the Poor, Somersham. (Thomas Briggs obtained three shillings by stating that he had 5 children, and 10s 6d relief, his entitlement was 7s 6d for his three children)

Warboys, 1833. Robert Fordham, labourer, rescued from the cage (put there for drunkenness) by John Haiborn and John Shelton. He was re-arrested by Constable Thomas Bedford and Benjamin Harvey, he escaped again.

Warboys. Edward Rowell, labourer, living in Warboys Tick Fen in a house upon Mr Thomas Longland's farm, charged John Harborn and Thomas Shelton, labourer, with entering and stealing a quartern loaf and 3 pence of apples.

Year 1841 Joseph Harvey, age 26, labourer. Stealing turf from John Longland, owner of a brick kiln at Warboys, discharged.

Year 1842 James Burrel, age 27 labourer. Stealing 20 lb of mutton from George Ekins, farmer, Warboys. Sentenced to be transported for 15 years.

Year 1844. Mahala Savage, accused by Ann Meadows, wife of Harvey Meadows, Warboys, general shopkeeper, of stealing a silk purse containing money belonging to Margaret Dobe, governess to the Meadows family.

Year 1848. Sara Veal, age 24, kept a bawdy house in Ramsey.

Year 1853 Richard Marshall 38 labourer, Warboys. Slaughtering and stealing carcasses of two ewes, property of John Longland, Warboys.

8 years penal servitude.

John Papworth with Richd. Marshall, as above.

6 years penal servitude.'

DIRECTORIES: GENTRY AND VOTERS

In contrast to these fleeting glimpses of the harsh realities of the nineteenth century we see the ordered lives of the gentry and traders as shown in the Directories of Huntingdonshire:

Pigots Directory for the year 1830 lists, amongst the Warboys gentry, John Longland with George and Thomas Ekins. Rather surprisingly, for her name is associated with the Pelican public house, Mrs Dinah Dockerill is included amongst the '*nobility, gentry and clergy*'. Actually in that year James Rogers kept the Pelican, the old large inn used for public affairs such as the Manor Court meeting. George Ekins and John Longland appear too as brick makers, which means that they owned the brickworks; they were malsters also.

The village (sometimes referred to as the town) of Warboys still represented a small community, though it was growing. The population in 1831 was 1,550 compared with 943 thirty years earlier. Hatfields Directory of 1854 listed John Longland, Esq. as the second principal landowner (following Lady Olivia Sparrow) Edward Fellowes Esq. and John Fryer Esq. (of Chatteris) were the other two in the list.

Directories and lists of voters give an impression of stability and continuity, but these were times of unrest, of social upheaval and progress towards a more democratic society. In 1837 John Longland was included in the list of voters as a freeholder. The house and garden which he occupied had an annual value of '*ten pounds or over*'. It was probably worth much more; ten pounds was the new minimum, a property qualification which gave the not so wealthy a voice. John's son Thomas rented a house which was the property of John Carstairs, the Lord of the Manor, at an annual rent of at least fifty pounds. So Thomas had a vote also.

HUNTINGDON POLITICS 1836

Just a year earlier the gentry and the middle class in Huntingdonshire were concerned about the fortunes of George Game Day, the local politician. He had stood trial, accused of some election impropriety, and many people now hailed him as a pillar of the community, a defender of liberty.

A committee was set up with the object of presenting him with a piece of plate to the value of one thousand pounds. In the event this sum was exceeded by one hundred pounds, there being many contributors in the published report. The Committee included the titled and higher gentry but, a little lower in the list, we find Mr Thomas Ekins of Warboys, Mr Robert Daintree of Fenton and Mr

John Longland Ekins of Woodhurst.

There is no sign of John or Thomas Longland of Warboys. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Longland family were not politically active; they were very likely distrustful of political figures and did not themselves seek the limelight in such ways.

We know so little about the social life of these well to do Longlands. John Bedford the publican died in 1840 having appointed Thomas Ekins and Thomas Longland as trustees of his will. His house was sold to Mr Behagg the miller for six hundred pounds, a fair sum at that time when some working families lived on four or five shillings a week.

Certainly John Longland's friendship with David Veasey of Huntingdon was quite real. A chance find in a St Ives pharmacist's account shows that, on 15th September 1850, David Veasey Esq. collected a prescription for Mr Longland senior of Warboys. From John's will we learn of one other close friendship, that is his trust in Thomas Fyson of Warboys to whom he gave fifty pounds, but nothing more regarding their relationship has come to light.

JOHN LONGLAND'S FAMILY
THE CENSUS OF 1851

John Longland farmed 900 acres which required the employment of thirty five labourers, he was now a widower and employed two servants, Jane Reddin age 21 and Rebecca Scott, 22. His widowed daughter Elizabeth Harvey and her son John Albert Harvey were living with him. Francis Pope, remembered in John Longland's will, was his own personal servant.

John's son Thomas was farming in Warboys (probably the Manor Farm as given in the Directory of 1854) aged 44, employing 10 labourers to farm 300 acres. His wife Elizabeth had died; daughter Martha was aged 14, Thomas 13 and John 10, both '*scholars*', Ann 8, Francis L. 7, Agnes Mary only 5 years old, and they had two servants, Ann Bedford aged 23 and Elizabeth King, 16.

At nearby Wistow, John Fullard was farming 150 acres and employing two labourers. Martha would then be 55 years old; the five children at home were Edward, Augusta, Longland, Frederick and William. Two daughters had died and Drusilla had married Fisher Webster Macer, a local farmer.

Anne Fullard, a little girl three years old (perhaps the daughter of Thomas, the eldest son of John and Martha) was registered as a '*visitor*' at the home of Isaac Saunders who farmed 400 acres.

We note also that John Maxwell of Thorney (John Longland's son in law) was then farming 390 acres, employing six men and four boys. Drusilla is not shown in the Census but their son Longland Maxwell was at home, then in his 21st year. Obviously comfortably off, they employed three servants. They may have occupied Willough Hall, given some 35 years later as the home of AJ Maxwell of Thorney who farmed 500 acres. He was accidentally drowned when a horse and cart overturned.

THE WILL OF JOHN LONGLAND ESQUIRE 1857

In January 1857, John Longland (of the Manor House) died *'of old age'* (he was 83) and his long and detailed will gives some idea of the Longland prosperity at that time. The bequests etc. read:

'to son Thomas: Dovehouse Farm, Ramsey Hollow, 150 acres, to daughter Drusilla Maxwell, of Thorney: £50 a year, to daughter Ann Meadows: £35 a year.' John's daughter Martha Fullard inherited a farmhouse in Wistow, plus cottages and tenements and 103 acres of land farmed by her husband John Fullard, plus other tenements.

All this was hers for life, to pass to her heirs or assigns. For her life only there were 28 acres of land in Wistow; this was to pass to grandson John Albert Harvey on her death.

John's daughter, Ann Meadows, inherited ten freehold messuages or tenements in Warboys, which had passed to John Longland from his father Thomas. To his grandson J A Harvey, John gave 74 acres of land in Warboys, plus a further 17 acres, and to son Thomas Longland, all the rest, farmlands etc., furniture, plate, and stock.

The legacies give marked preference to daughter Louisa Selby, wife of John Selby of Pilton, Northants. She received £3,500, no doubt in lieu of any Warboys land as she lived relatively far away on her husband's estate.

Her sisters Drusilla Maxwell, Ann Meadows, and Martha Fullard were each given £50, but Martha Fullard received a further legacy of £200.

John gave David Veasey of Castle Hill, Huntingdon *'the sum of £100 ..as a mark of respect and an acknowledgement for much kindness received by me from him'*. Their relationship seems to have been more than just professional (David Veasey was a banker and proprietor) for we have noted earlier at least one personal service rendered by him.

Francis Pope, his manservant was given £10, a modest sum, but we see later that Francis was singled out by Thomas Longland, the inheritor of the Warboys Estate, to be the farm bailiff.

To '*all poor widows in Warboys*' John gave '*ten shillings apiece*'. Any rent owed by John Fullard was remitted. This provision must have referred to land at Wistow, perhaps that which now passed strictly to Martha Fullard, and a few years later to her sons.

These records, of property transactions and inheritance, tell us nothing about John Longland as a person; the loss of his first wife Sarah Small must have been a tragedy for him, as also that of his wife Louisa, not many years later. His daughter Elizabeth had married William Harvey who had died leaving her with an infant son. John Longland was particularly concerned for the future of his grandson John Albert Harvey, then only eight years old. Land was placed in trust during his minority, the income paying for his education, but there was no legacy at all for Elizabeth or for her second husband James Rogers, a farmer.

THE MANOR HOUSE TENANCY

Very little is known regarding the Manor House tenancy. Hatfield's Directory for the year 1854 is quite specific: '*The Manor House is now occupied by Mr Longland*'.

However, equally specific are the references to occupation by the Ekins family, beginning in the year 1850 (possibly) according to the sister of Pattie Ekins. Certainly the Ekins family occupied the Manor House from about 1858 for more than a hundred years into the 1960s, in the latter period as owners of the freehold. And, of course, more than one intermarriage meant that during periods of Ekins occupation the lady of the house was a Longland.

Yet the Longland association has its memorial, for the grave of Francis Pope, manservant to John Longland and bailiff to Thomas Longland, appears to be on the Manor House property rather than within the churchyard.

THOMAS LONGLAND, GENT

On the death of his father John, Thomas Longland now in his 50th year inherited the bulk of the family property. Chronologically we overlap with the Ramsey story, for by this date Lavender Longland of Warboys had set up as a pork butcher on the Great Whyte there. However, this was probably the period of peak prosperity for the senior Warboys family, so we give some account of their fortunes into the twentieth century before we too move to the Ramsey of the 1840s.

Just a year before his father's death Thomas Longland, 'gent of Warboys' bought a house with a close of 3 acres, barns and stables at Old Hurst, copyhold,

which cost him £420. The land and property in the Longland family was now considerable but the generations to follow were to see much of it pass on marriage to other families, notably that of Ekins.

THE CENSUS OF 1861

The Census of 1861 gives us a picture of the two branches of the Longland family: Thomas, the son of John Longland of the Manor House, was farming a thousand acres and providing employment for 42 men and 9 boys. A housemaid and a cook looked after Thomas, aged 56, his wife Louisa (it seems he had married again) and daughter Agnes Mary, aged 15. Francis Pope, the manservant mentioned in John's will, had become the farm bailiff.

George Ekins had moved into the Manor House, farming 630 acres, whilst Thomas Ekins junior had 490 acres.

This Census included James Rogers, retired farmer, age 38 and his wife Elizabeth and '*son in law*' (that is his step-son) John Albert Harvey, aged 12, '*scholar*', and the three daughters and two sons of this second marriage; they employed a general servant and a nursemaid.

THE WARBOYS CARPENTERS

The near relatives of the Ramsey Longlands appear: Thomas the carpenter, now aged 60, his wife Ellen and son George, at 17 an agricultural labourer, Sara Ann was a dressmaker and her brothers Dring and William at school. Their elder brother Thomas was a carpenter and publican, a Directory of 1885 lists him as a cabinet maker. His wife Jane was the daughter of a shepherd at Sutton in the Isle of Ely (he gave Abbots Ripton as his place of birth).

Not much is known of the subsequent history of this family but in the Warboys church register we find the marriages of the younger Thomas' sister and brothers: Martha married William Boyce, a servant, in the year 1864, Charles married Jane Hyde in the year 1866, William married Julia Ann Maycock in 1874 and George, a bricklayer, married Shirley Parmenter of Pidley in 1883. Like the majority of families who lived ordinary working lives their recorded history is little more than a sequence of registrations, of births, marriages and deaths.

THE FAMILY AT CHATTERIS

The period of Civil Registration reveals a Longland family at Chatteris at the turn of the century. William Longland, a journeyman carpenter was

established there for some years having married Elizabeth Miller (probably around the year 1883). Their numerous family were born between 1884 and 1904. It seems likely that William (and a brother Thomas) were the sons of John Longland, a carpenter who, following the death of his first wife, had married Isabella Garner in the year 1859 (at Chatteris). This John was probably the son of Thomas and Eleanor of Warboys (born 1826) but the genealogy has not been fully researched.

So we return to the records of the more affluent, those Longlands who occupied large middle class houses on the Ramsey road at the peak of the family prosperity in the second half of the nineteenth century.

THE DEATH OF THOMAS LONGLAND 1865

In the year 1861, Thomas of the thousand acres, then in failing health, gave his solicitor instructions for the preparation of a will; he died four years later and the testimony of Mr Mellors is filed in the Peterborough Probate Records.

In the strict legal sense Thomas had not made a will, he had simply discussed his intentions with his solicitor, and when Thomas died Mr Mellor produced a statement to support a grant of Probate. The preamble reads:

'I William Jones Mellor ... of Huntingdon, gentleman, make oath that I knew and was well acquainted with Thomas Longland late of Warboys, farmer deceased, having acted as his solicitor for many years, that in the month of November, 1861, he gave me instructions for making his will ... here unto annexed'.

Mr Mellor was called to the house on the second of May 1865, to find that Thomas was very ill, but he was able to sign the instructions, in the presence of Thomas Ekins, before he died.

The more important provisions give some indication of the family wealth at that time. A freehold farm of 154 acres in Ramsey Hollow was given to daughter Ann, wife of William Wolstenholmes gent., a local landowner of Somersham, who received all the stock and horses and carriages on the farm. They had married in June 1861. Ann inherited some land in Warboys Fen and was given a legacy of £1,500.

Her sister Martha Elizabeth, wife of Lewis Ekins, inherited about 80 acres of land and two public houses, plus £1,500. Their sister Francis Sarah, then age 17, received about 140 acres, plus a house and 1,500. Agnes Mary, age 14,

inherited 100 acres plus the Cock public house, and a legacy of £2,500.

Their brother, John, was given one freehold farm of 270 acres and inherited all the residue, freehold and copyhold and '*all trust and mortgaged estates*'. John was left with an estate of 550 acres (presumably in addition to his own freehold) which produced an estimated rental of £833 (in 1871) in which year his son Thomas was farming 74 acres independently.

Francis Sarah claimed her copyhold inheritance, a house and about 80 acres, at the Houghton Manor court in the following May. William Wolstenholmes and Lewis Ekins were her trustees. Her sister Martha claimed land at the same Court. This copyhold was still held by the Ekins family in the year 1933 for it had passed to them through Martha Elizabeth Longland to be claimed by Annie Louise Ekins in that year when all copyhold became freehold.

THOMAS BLOTT AND THE THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

In 1867 Agnes Mary, the youngest daughter of Thomas, married Thomas Blott, a farmer of Colne. He appears in Kelly's Directory for the year 1869. Agnes and Thomas had only ten years together; we find his death reported in a Baptist magazine, the County Quarterly of 1877, he was only 34. At the time of the Census four years later Agnes Mary had her younger sister Francis staying with her.

Thomas Blott had been an active non-conformist Church supporter, listed as the local contact for the Quarterly. Copies could also be obtained from Miss Ekins, presumably Pattie Ekins, at the Manor House Warboys. The Baptist activity in the villages was centred on the Free Church at Huntingdon.

Financial contributions and local collections came from Mr G. Ekins and Mr Longland at Warboys, Miss Longland at Woodhurst, and a Miss Longland at Huntingdon. Individual sums of one pound or ten shillings are noted. These particular collections were for an Evangelical mission, in far away Leghorn, in which Mr Bateman Brown took a particular interest. A few years earlier Mr Longland of Warboys headed a subscription list for the setting up of a 'British School' in Warboys giving thirty pounds to the project.

MR LONGLAND'S WINE

In spite of the Baptist or strong Evangelical convictions which seem to have affected these families this latter John Longland must have enjoyed his dinner wine. A receipted bill amongst the accounts of Barton, the chemists of St

Ives, is headed '*Mr J. Longland, Warboys*'.

The list reads:

'1880		
<i>Feb. 23rd. half dozen case</i>		
<i>July 26</i>	<i>18 bottles claret @ 2/-</i>	<i>£1-16-0</i>
<i>Sep 27</i>	<i>2 dozen claret</i>	<i>£1- 9-8</i>
<i>1881</i>	<i>3 bottles gin</i>	<i>8-9'</i>

THOMAS EKINS OF THE POPLARS

The non-Conformist Quarterly magazine informs us that in 1877 Thomas Ekins, late of the Poplars, Warboys, died at Mildmay Park, London. We are reminded that the Mildmay Mission was particularly associated with the Ekins and Longland families.

The two families as major proprietors and employers remained prominent in village life. On 22nd July 1885 they took part in the cricket match '*Bluntisham versus Warboys*'. C. Longland bowled five for 40 runs, bowling T. Murphy out for a duck. T. Ekins though not out scored only one run, but G. Ekins made sixteen.

JOHN LONGLAND AND THE SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY

In December 1889, John Longland of Warboys was elected a member, (for that year) of the Shire Horse Society, as was his distant cousin John Palmer Longland of Ramsey.

This account of the two families has rather stressed the differences between the Warboys 'gentry' Longlands and their relatives in Ramsey. We are now reminded of those things which they had in common. They were all countrymen whose lives were shaped by their common yeoman ancestry. Their livelihood depended directly on husbandry and an interest in, indeed a love for horses was natural. The limited information available suggests that John Palmer Longland of Ramsey, a life member of the Society, was a more active enthusiast than John Longland of Warboys. We know of only one horse which was bred by the Warboys' John: a stallion, 'Huntingdonshire Duke'. There may have been others.

THE WEDDING OF 1891

Weddings were an important feature of the village life and the two families intermarried, continuing the close association which had begun a

hundred years before. On Saturday 18th July 1891 the Hunts County Guardian reported an *'Interesting Wedding'*: *'One of the prettiest weddings seen in this good old fashioned village for many a day was witnessed last Wednesday when Mr George Lewis Ekins married Miss Alice Marian Longland'* (the daughter of Mr John Longland). Mr Tom Ekins was Best Man and Mr Tom Longland a groom). *'This Friday evening the employees on the estates of the parents will be treated to a good supper in honour of the occasion ... the presents were both numerous and handsome and testified to the general esteem in which the contracting parties and their families are held.'*

In 1890 Alice's brother, Tom Longland, married Miss Catherine Beatrice Rampley of Southoe. No doubt, for the *'good old fashioned village of Warboys'*, life continued much as before. In fact there remained just twenty years of grace before the tragedy of the First World War was to shatter this picture of stability. A few facts follow from the Census return.

THE CENSUS 1891

John Longland, farmer, widower, was in his 51st year; it seems likely that his wife Louisa had died in 1869. Their son Thomas was 26 years old, the three daughters, Annie, 27, Bessie, 24, and Alice M., 23. Elizabeth Kettle was housekeeper, Annie Corrington, cook and Lydia Bass, housemaid. At another house we find Charles Longland, farmer, age 22, with his wife Temperance, 23, and son Reginald, 8 months old. Their servant, Sarah Fitch was only 14.

George Ekins, age 27, a farmer at Pidley employed a housekeeper, a domestic servant, and a groom.

These later Census returns give no details of farm acreage; it seems likely that by this time the landholding of the Longlands had decreased considerably as daughters married, taking land with them.

Some members of the Ekins family were now living in changed circumstances for we find, in a Cambridge Directory of 1891, *'George Ekins, 8 Warkworth Terrace'*. This was the family of Pattie Ekins, they would have moved there from the Manor House, Warboys, about three years before. In 1887 the same house in Warkworth Terrace was occupied by Benjamin Norton a portrait and animal painter.

At Warboys the wives and daughters organised charity events and in some instances sang at concerts, their husbands and fathers serving on various committees. In 1896 G. E. Ekins received 137 votes and Thomas Longland 92 votes in the Parish Council election.

In the previous year Mr Ekins was captain of the lawn tennis club, and

Mr Longland a committee member. In the late 1880s a Miss Longland of Warboys seems to have been popular as solo vocalist and reciter of poetry as far afield as the Baptist Chapel at Chatteris.

Though towards the end of the century the Longland landholding was further reduced we find, in the year 1898, Thomas at Warboys and C.J. Longland at Little Raveley both listed as farmers in Kelly's Directory, and John Longland Esquire was a chief land owner.

THE VESTIGES OF THE MANORIAL SYSTEM

There were still manorial transactions in which the Longlands featured: in 1898 John Longland bought some property from the shopkeeper William Ashley for £150 and in the following year Catherine Beatrice, the wife of Thomas Longland, paid £500 for 16 acres of land in Broadpool Common.

In the year 1902 she appears again, this time with William Mason as her attorney paying £456 for 11 acres in Fenside Cow Common.

CHARLES JOHN LONGLAND AT LITTLE RAVELEY

In the year 1920 Charles John Longland farmed Gray's Farm in Warboys, though he lived at Little Raveley, the parish in which his marriage had taken place and where his children were christened. He himself was christened as an adult. The ceremony took place at Raveley parish church in the year 1899, the entry in the register gives his age as 31 years, the son of John Longland and Louisa of Warboys.

Surprisingly he is not described as a farmer but as '*game superintendant*'. He had previously occupied the Firs, one of the larger houses in Warboys.

His eldest son Reginald, who remained a bachelor, farmed at Fenton with his brother Eric (who served in the Army in the first World War, surviving the battle of the Somme). Their brother Leonard married Gladys Huggins of Warboys.

Irene Longland, daughter of Charles John, married Fred Parsons a farmer of Somersham. Their son Peter recalls his childhood visits to grandfather Charles Longland's house at Fenton, round about the year 1923 or 1924, when grandfather took them to Broughton in his car. Peter's memories of that rural life, of the cattle going to market and the delights and dangers of horsemanship, show to what extent the old ways remained.

During the years 1900 to 1931 John, Thomas and Mrs Catherine Beatrice Longland are noted in the Warboys Manor records; these are small payments of

‘quit rents’ as the manorial system was coming to an end. At this time too, John Longland was a Chapel Trustee.

The Longland and Ekins families continued to be represented on village committees, exercising the paternalism of previous generations, encouraging the right pursuits. In January 1902 at the School Board Meeting T. Longland and G.L. Ekins approved the quarterly cheque which was paid to W. England who had passed his exam. at Cambridge. At Easter, 1906, Mrs G. L. Ekins and Mrs Beatrice Longland were amongst those who decorated the Parish church.

In 1905 the Warboys Shire and Hackney Foal Society had as its committee two members of the Ekins family together with C. J. and T. Longland. The Ramsey Horticultural Show that same year, was supported by both branches of the family, subscriptions of five shillings each coming from C. J. and T. Longland (the Warboys proprietors) and from John Palmer Longland, their relative at Ramsey. Miss B. Longland subscribed five shillings and William Henry, of Ramsey St Mary’s, three shillings.

John Longland, the Warboys farmer, died on 31st May 1906 and the press report of the Baptist funeral Service on the 9th of June mentions Tom and Charles John, (sons) and Miss A, Miss B Longland and Mrs G. L. Ekins (daughters).

Apart from participation in War Charities, the First World War hardly touched the Longland families in Warboys. We have of course noted Eric Longland’s military service in which he experienced one of the worst battles of all time. The gentry farmers thereafter carried on their settled way of life though the inter-war years saw a decline in fortunes generally.

In the year 1931, Kellys Directory still listed Thomas and C J Longland amongst the chief landowners and Catherine Beatrice Longland, as a market gardener, at Poplar House. In 1941 she, together with her sons, appears as ‘*farmer*’, still at Poplar House. Other large houses associated with the family are the Almonds, the Laurels and the Chestnuts, whilst the large farmhouse which the Longland brothers occupied in the year 1931, ‘The Laurels’ at Fenton, is now in a state of decay. Mr T. Longland, farmer of the Laurels, died in 1933 and the newspaper report mentions a floral tribute from Miss Linton at Stirtloe House.

In January that same year the preparations for the Hunts. County Show began but the report does not mention the Longland family. Mr G. L. Ekins, of the Manor House, served on the Jury at the Huntingdon Assizes though, generally speaking, these two families no longer played so prominent a part in local affairs.

Charles John Longland, the brother of Thomas of the Laurels, died in

1943. His sons were then managing the Ramsey Road Garage (a Directory of the year 1940 named Leonard Ailwyn Longland, motor engineer, Mill Green) whilst, coincidentally, George Longland (of the Ramsey family) was managing his garage business in Crowland.

Catherine Beatrice, the widow of Thomas Longland, died in 1960 in her 88th year. She unfortunately contracted tetanus whilst peeling potatoes.

Not so long ago, about the year 1969, her sons Mr TL and Mr CW Longland, the Warboys farmers, were at Moat House, Ramsey Road. Two hundred and thirty years had passed since their forebears first began to farm at Warboys. Thomas died two years later, as reported in the Hunts Post: *'On November 18th. 1971, peacefully at his home Moat House, Warboys, Thomas Leslie Longland, aged 71 years, dear brother of Joyce, Doris and Charlie'*.

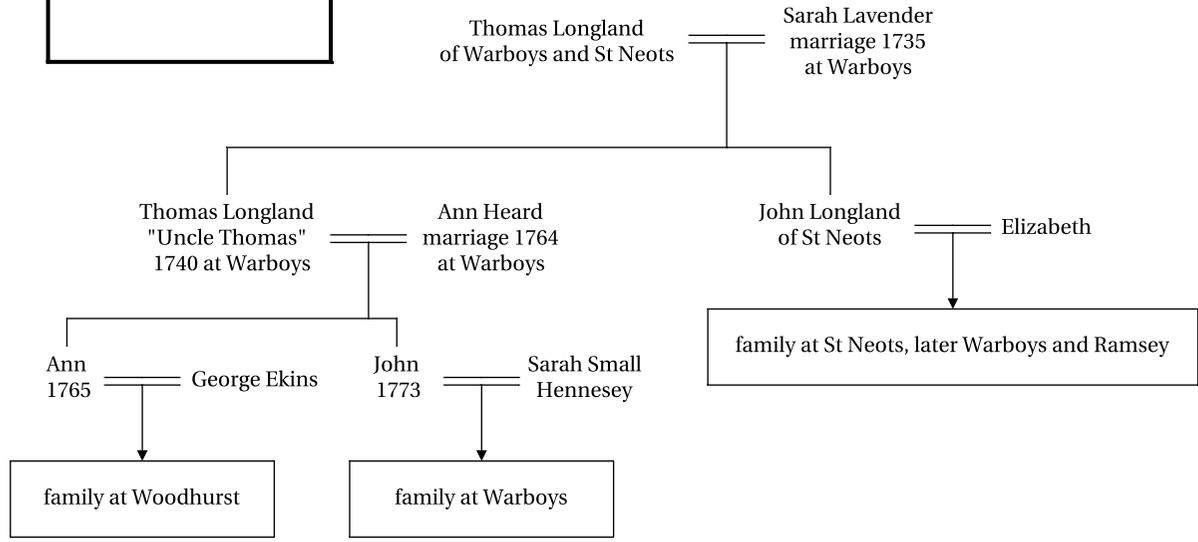
Charles William, brother of Thomas Leslie, died eight years later.

Some family 'trees' relating to the Warboys history are given.

The chapter which follows takes us back in time, to the year 1840, when Lavender and Elizabeth Longland left Warboys to set up home in Ramsey.

**Longland family
of Warboys**
c. 1730-1800

refer to Chapters
Eleven, Twelve
and Thirteen



**Warboys:
George Ekins and Ann
Longland
Warboys-Woodhurst,
from 1784**

George Ekins
marriage at Warboys, Jan. 1784
inherited Longland property
at Colne.
died 1824 at Woodhurst

Ann
daughter of Thomas Longland,
born 1765, died 1828
"one who earnestly followed her
Saviour" ... quoted from the book
'Pattie C. Ekins'

Sarah George Sarah Hobson Ann Martha Thomas John William

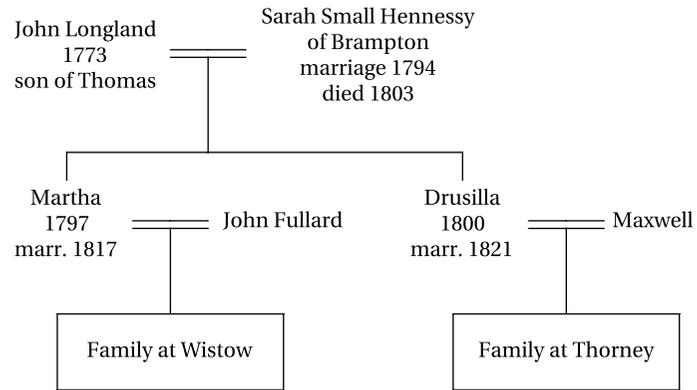
note: there were 3 other
children of this marriage.
Following the death of his first
wife George married again.
He died in 1841 leaving a widow
and eleven children.

refer to
Chapter
Twelve

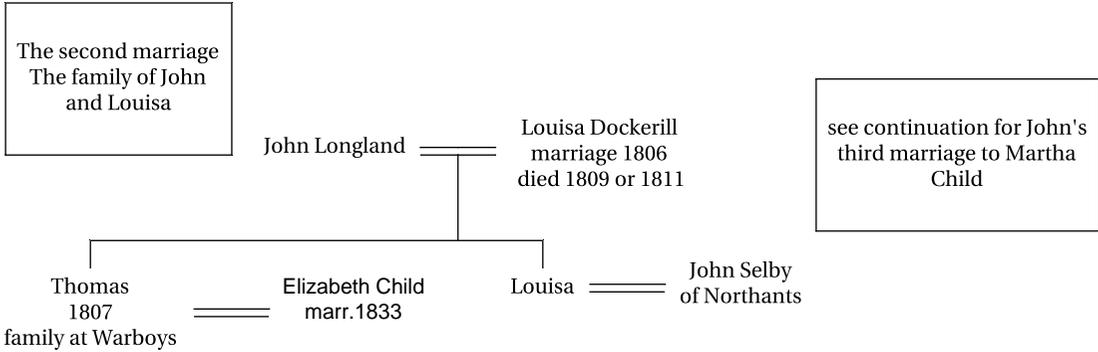
Thomas Sarah George Ekins

Sarah Ekins
daughter of uncle
Thomas Ekins.
'Pattie'
Ekins
died Feb. 24 1899

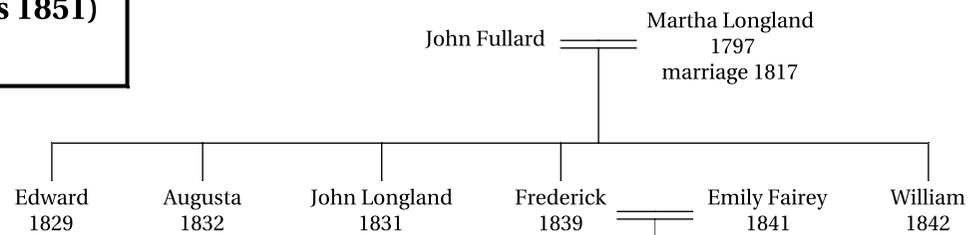
**Warboys
The Family of John
Longland, farmer,
from 1794
Families of Fullard
and Maxwell**



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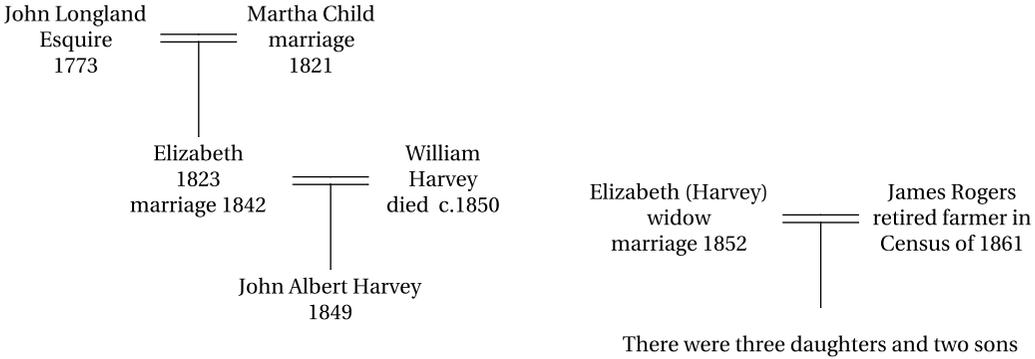
**Wistow
The Family of John
Fullard
(in Census 1851)**



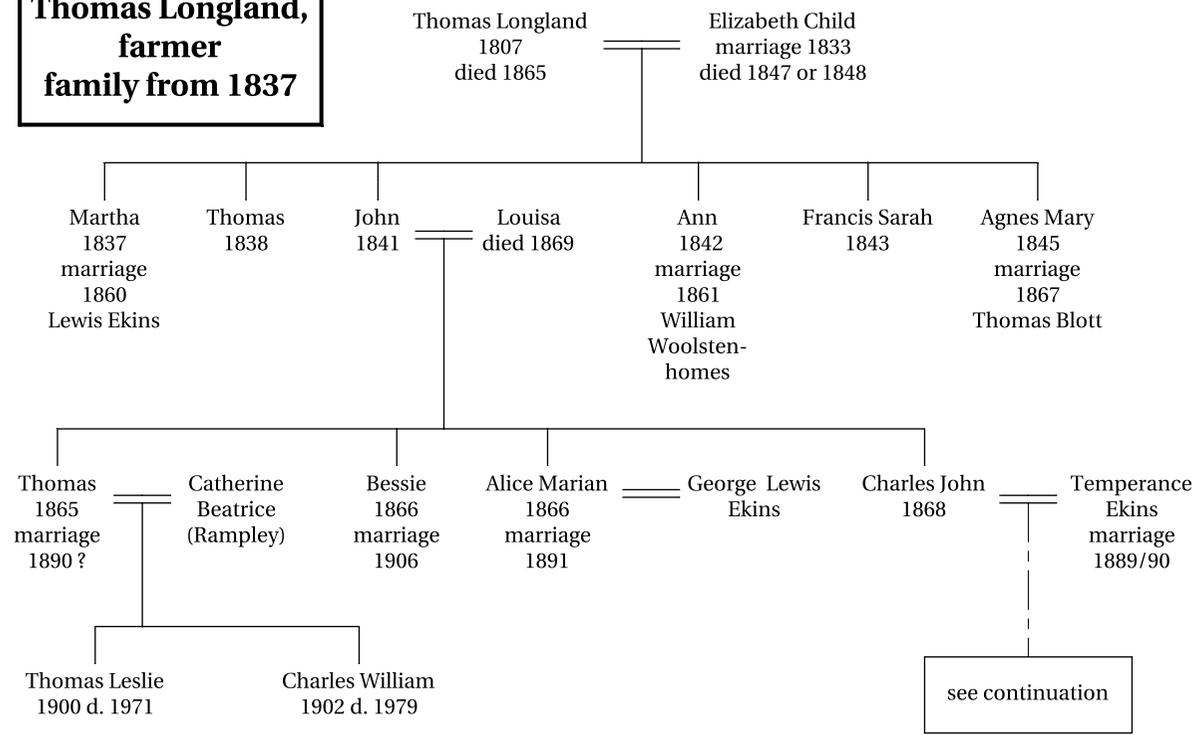
Frederick and Emily emigrated to Australia. Of their large family. Charles Herbert was the father of Leonard Fullard, M.B.E.

children not in the 1851 Wistow Census:
Drussilla (who married Fisher Webster Macer)
also
Ann Mary and Sarah Small, both died of consumption (as did Augusta who appears in the Census)

**Warboys
The Family of John
Longland and
Martha Child**



**Warboys
Thomas Longland,
farmer
family from 1837**

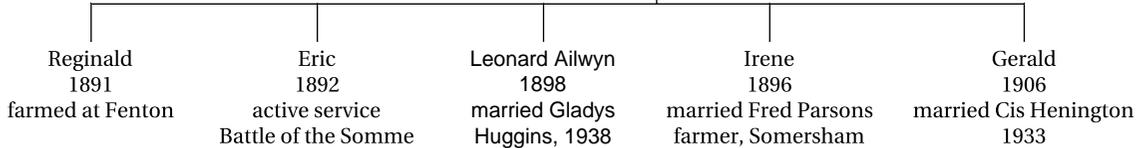


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**The Family of
Charles Longland and
Temperance
of Little Raveley,
from 1890**

Charles John
Longland
1868
farmer, game
superintendant.

Temperance
Ekins
marriage 1890

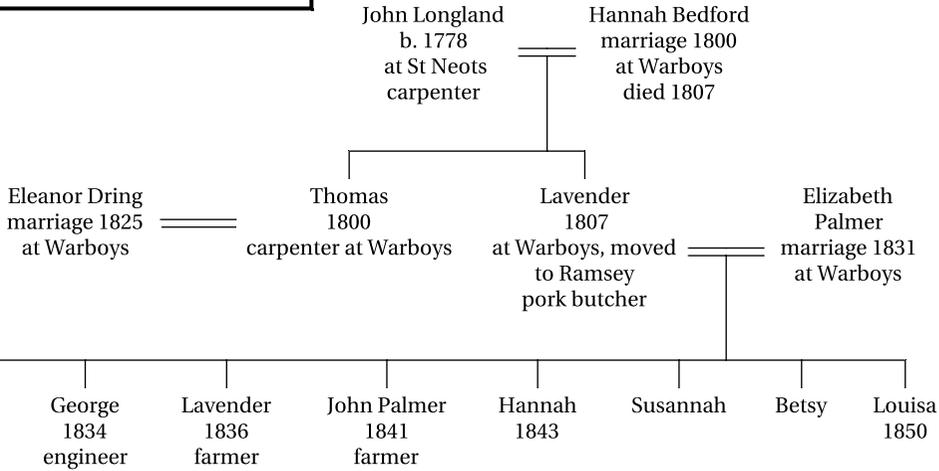


The Parsons family
Joan, Hugh Peter, Gordon and
Bettine.

**Warboys:
John, Thomas, and
Lavender**

not all the children of
John and Hannah are
shown; refer to text
Chapter Twelve

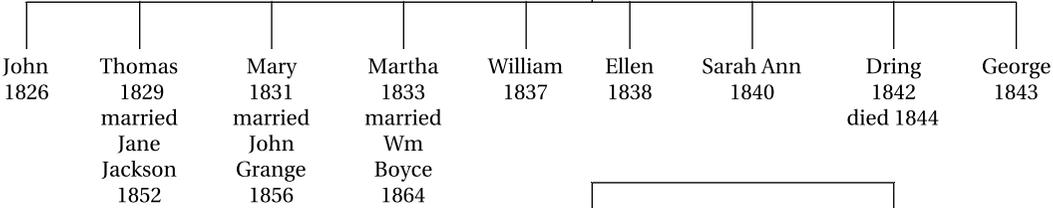
Thomas and Eleanor remained at Warboys. Hannah (wife of John) died in 1807. Of the second marriage of John and Elizabeth Johnson ,Ann, born 1814, died in 1837. Her sister Elizabeth was born in 1817. Chapter Twelve refers.



Sarah and George were born at Warboys, the later children at Ramsey. For subsequent families see individual trees. Chapter Thirteen refers

Warboys
Family of Thomas
Longland,
carpenter, and
Eleanor,
from 1825

Thomas Longland 1800 Eleanor Dring
 marriage 1825

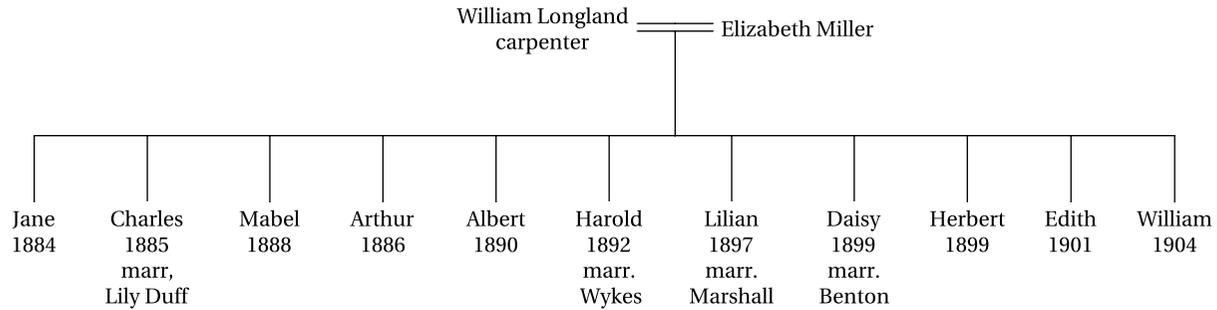


refer to
 Chapter Twelve and to
 'family at Chatteris'.

**The Longland family at
Chatteris
1884-1904**

This family, probably
of Warboys origin,
lived at Hive Lane.
refer to Chapter
Twelve

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Chapter Thirteen

Ramsey, Hunts.

1840-1960

Lavender Longland and Elizabeth.

George, John Palmer, and Lavender,
and their descendants.

Farewell to the house on the Bury Road.

The Foundry at Ramsey and Farms in the Fen

*'Longland and Sycamore: Engineers, millwrights, iron and brass founders,
agricultural implement manufacturers etc ...'*
(Ramsey Directory, 1890)

This final chapter in one sense brings us back to the beginning, for it was our curiosity regarding the ancestry of George Longland, engineer of Ramsey, which led to the unfolding of the Longland story. Though the Warboys chapter brought us well into the twentieth century, in Ramsey we are in a different world. The Longlands of Warboys continued to be part of that old paternalistic system which at this distance, despite its harsher aspects, encourages a sense of nostalgia. The well ordered life of the land owning class, even in the latter period as Pattie Ekins set out from the Manor House to evangelise the railway workers, is seen through a romantic haze.

Ramsey is different partly because the town itself, in spite of its Green and the Abbey church, presents a bleaker aspect but, less subjectively, because the Longlands of Ramsey were different. Lavender Longland, the youngest son of Thomas the carpenter, moved to Ramsey in order to make a living and the immediate prospect must have been that of a life of hard work. A very different life from that of his cousins who might expect two hundred acres as a wedding present, or even that of his brother who had the modest family business.

LAVENDER, THE PORK BUTCHER, AND ELIZABETH PALMER

Lavender was not, as far as we can guess, without some means; he had been a carpenter and a beer retailer in Warboys and by the year 1846 he had established himself as a butcher.

The family arrived in Ramsey in the year 1840 when Sara Ann would be nine years old, George about six and his brother Lavender three. John Palmer was born a year later followed by Hanna, Susannah and Louisa at three year intervals. The Census of 1851 describes Lavender Longland as a *'machine man'*, probably operating the recently developed steam powered machinery on the farms. It may be that Lavender worked for someone else part of the time, for Elizabeth could have kept the butcher's shop going.

Life must have been hard for her with eight children, though Sarah Ann, 19, was no doubt expected to look after her younger brothers and sisters. George, now 17, was at work described as an agricultural labourer, but his apprenticeship as an engineer with Mr Armitage must have begun soon afterwards.

Most craftsmen of that time were still close to the land and labourers generally had a small plot of ground, but Lavender, in his later years was listed in the Hunts. Directory as *'farmer'*. Obviously he had had some success as a pork butcher and must have reared his own pigs, and his sons Lavender and John Palmer, as young men, were copyholders carrying on some farming on their own account.

JOHN PALMER AND MARTHA CHARITY
MIDDLEMOOR FARM

John Palmer, who was born soon after the arrival of the family in Ramsey, followed the established pattern. Beginning as a farm labourer, he was soon making a living in more varied ways with some measure of independence.

In the year 1871 he was a publican, managing the 'Spotted Dog', but at the same time he bought some copyhold land, one rood and three perches, in Ramsey Field. Fifteen years later he had acquired enough capital to buy Middlemoor Farm, at a bargain price. He paid £3,950 for the property which had cost the previous owner, £6,000.

It was Mr Newton who, ten years earlier, had spent £300 on a new bridge which was a great benefit to the farm. So, in 1886 John Palmer Longland, now in his forties, was farming a total area of about 200 acres, Middlemoor accounting for 112 acres together with two cottages and farm buildings. A farm of this size would have been just sufficient to make him independent, those with much smaller acreages would be forced to do paid work for the bigger men as well as cultivating their own land.

In the Directories of that year he was *'farmer, potato merchant and beer retailer'*. He even had capital to invest for he bought shares in the Ramsey Gas Company, as reported in the Hunts. County News. Hard work and thrift had brought their reward.

Married life had begun just 25 years earlier in 1861, at the Parish Church in Martha's home town of Somersham on 8th October.

Their daughter, Martha, was baptised at Somersham in August 1865, but by the year 1883 their were five more children, Susannah, Lavender, John Palmer, George, and William Charity. Susannah was then 17 and William Charity just over a year old. So it was that on the tenth of June that year Susannah and her brothers were baptised in the Parish church in Martha Charity's home town.

We can imagine them going over to Somersham in some kind of trap, drawn by one of John Palmer's own ponies, all in style on that Summer's day. Almost as if they had been too busy working hard for seventeen years and at last

they were prosperous and could have a real family day out at Somersham. In that year John Palmer attended the Ramsey Manor Court, described as *'farmer and potato merchant'*. He acted as surety for his son Lavender, only 15 years old, who was admitted to fourteen perches of land.

Their home was on the Great Whyte, a fairly large house which stood on the site occupied many years later by the cinema. His nephew George, not so long ago, still remembered the walled garden and the peach trees.

SUNSTROKE IN 1886

The autumn of 1886 was very warm, the Hunts. County News reported a case of sunstroke which had occurred on Monday, 4th September John Dawson, a boatwright, had spent the morning repairing a boat in his yard by the Stocking Fen River. By mid-day the heat became too much for him so he set off for home but before he had gone many yards he became, to use his own words, *'as blind as a bat and everything seemed to go round.'*

He fell to the ground in a faint. Soon afterwards John Palmer Longland's eldest son, Lavender, happened to drive past and, seeing Dawson on the ground he stopped his horse and spoke to him. Getting no reply he called to someone close by and together they put him into the vehicle and took him home. In spite of his 74 years, John Dawson recovered and resumed his work.

SWINE FEVER, AND POTATO CROPS

About a month later an outbreak of swine fever broke out at John Palmer's premises in Ramsey field, affecting eleven fat pigs and two fat sows which had to be slaughtered. No doubt this was a serious loss.

However his main source of income was probably the potato crop, hence his interest in new mechanical methods of potato lifting. The newspaper gave an account of a meeting of a large number of farmers one Friday morning in the year 1888.

The demonstration of the lifting machine took place on Mr Newton's farm and John Palmer and Lavender Longland were present.

However, life was not all work for John Palmer, and during these more settled years he had time to develop what appears to have been his passion for horse breeding. He was a member of the Ramsey Athletic Sports Committee and a keen participant in agricultural Shows. In the year 1886 his pony 'Hermit' came first in the one mile race, winning the prize of a saddle.

PRIZES, TRIMMER, CARTY
AND MIDDLEMOOR BEAUTY

In the years to follow John Palmer Longland was awarded numerous prizes for his ponies and horses. July 1888 saw the entry of his bay filly 'Le Bon' (bred by the exhibitor) and his mares 'Trimmer' and 'Brisk' in the Hunts. Agricultural Show which was held in Hassock Meadow. There followed, in 1890, his Bay Mare 'Beauty', sire 'Esquire', dam 'Blossom' by 'Warboys Honest Tom', and soon afterwards 'Middlemoor Trimmer', 'Carty', and 'Middlemoor Beauty'.

'Middlemoor King' came third in 1891 and 'Middlemoor Trimmer' gained first prize for the best shire bred mare. A few days later he sold her to Mr Fuller for two hundred pounds. The following month he went to the auction held at the Lion and bought a total of around 35 acres of growing crops, mostly wheat at about six pounds an acre. It looks as though the sale of a valuable horse helped to finance the farm business.

The Report of the 1892 Show mentions Mr Lavender Longland's entry, a bay mare 'Maritana'. John Palmer's son Lavender would have then been in his 23rd year.

THE SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY

John Palmer Longland was elected a life member of the Society in June 1889 and in the following year the Stud Book listed the mares which were registered under his name as the breeder. The list is given here, in alphabetical order by name with the year each was foaled.

Mares:

Middlemoor Beauty 1886, Middlemoor Blaze 1884,
Middlemoor Blossom 1879, Middlemoor Bonny 1885,
Middlemoor Brown 1879, Middlemoor Cloddy 1884,
Middlemoor Dapper 1886, Middlemoor Fancy, 1883,
Middlemoor Flower 1885, Middlemoor Gulliver 1884,
Middlemoor Lady 1888, Middlemoor Smart 1882,
and Middlemoor Trimmer 1885.

A list published in the year 1907 names William C. Longland (of Great Whyte, Ramsey) as owner and John Palmer Longland as breeder. The mares were Middlemoor Duches (foaled 1901), Middlemoor Lady (1888), Middlemoor Maid (1900) and Middlemoor Pride (1900).

In the year 1905, William C. Longland is listed as the breeder of the

mares 'Mavis', 'Model' and 'Queen' foaled in that year. William Charity Longland was the youngest son and 1905 was the year of his marriage to Amy Shelton. John Palmer Longland, now in his sixty fifth year was, perhaps, handing over the farming at Middlemoor to William Charity. The eldest son Lavender was the coal merchant and though John Palmer Longland junior carried on some farming we know hardly anything about his life. William Charity seems to have taken precedence over his elder brothers. Exactly what happened to the Middlemoor freehold has not been ascertained.

John Palmer Longland lived a varied and fulfilled life; he served as a juror at the Hunts Quarter Sessions on 8th January 1887 and in the same year his donkey Bendigo won a race '*in first class style*' (Hunts Co. News). He is probably the Palmer Longland, referred to in the report of a Bankruptcy Court examination on 21st May 1887, who had loaned some money to a Francis Palmer. The report reads:

'Public examination of Mr Francis Palmer, retired farmer, Warboys, Hunts.'

(in evidence): "*I also had £100 of a man named Longland ... He is no relation of mine. He lent me some money when I was short ...*"

(Registrar): "*What is his name ?*"

(reply) "*Palmer Longland, I borrowed the £100 of Mr Longland in 1883. It was in two sums of £50 each. I gave him IOUs for security*".

There are one or two other instances of the omission of the first Christian name in press reports and the registration of birth in 1841 refers to 'Palmor' Longland. The subsequent christening, in his eighth year, named him clearly, John Palmer Longland. His son, John Palmer Longland junior, gave him a grandson John Palmer (in 1871) and a second grandson John Palmer Longland was born to Lavender and Annie (in 1908). The separate family tree may be found useful, for these extended Victorian families and the repetition of names easily leads to confusion.

THE FARM AT MIDDLEMOOR

Some 'Middlemoor farm' accounts for the year 1821 have survived, and though another 60 years passed before John Palmer Longland bought the property it may not have changed very much. Strictly, the farm is not precisely identified, but John Palmer's farm must have been similar. The Accounts read:

'Stock at sale	£44-18-9
Crops	£136
60 sheep at 21 shillings per head	£63
40 ewes at £1 per head	£40
Michel Edgeley 2 weeks work	£1
a horse	£17-14-0
2 posts for the bridge over the drain	4s
Bedford & Co. for reaping 31 acres	£12-18-6
Mich. Edgeley, 1 week	10s
Thomas Philips	12s
Mr Well's man two & a half day's work	5s
Mr Wells for beer in hatvest	£1-14-9
Tithes to Mr Newton	£24-16-8
Bedford Level Tax, total (50 acres)	£6-18-1
Eau Brink drainage tax	£14-18-0
2 women, 3 days	4s
a boy 4 days	2s
July 1822:	
14 acres burning at 3s 6d.	£2-9-0
30 acres haymaking	£1-5-0
Poor Rate	£1-17-9
Johnson, 10 acres wheat weeding	£1-10-0
boy, pig keeping, 10 days @ 4d	3s 4d
Thrasher, 1 day	2s 6d
9 gallons of ale, at 18 pence	13s 6d
bought at Mr Berry's sale	
7 acres 1 rood 26 poles of wheat	£28 (lot 2)

*Receipt for a cough for a horse (this accompanies the accounts)
Boil half a pound of honey in a quart of ale for 20 minutes. When in a proper heat give it to the horse with a small tea cup full of salad oil and two teaspoonsful of laudanum'.*

John Palmer Longland's later years, from what we can know of them, gave him a settled period of semi-retirement during which there was some capital available to help his sons to set themselves up in farming or trade, albeit modestly. Martha too cannot have been without means for in the year 1890, at the Manor Court, she paid £200 for property in the High Street Ramsey.

It is not easy to allow for inflation and other social changes which have so altered society from that of nearly a century ago. Manorial transactions, and recent published surveys, show that two hundred pounds then would have bought about six acres of agricultural land. A 'model' semi-detached cottage with three bedrooms could then be built for less than £150. In February, 1906, John Palmer bought three copyhold cottages in the High Street for which he paid £330. They produced a gross rental of £29 a year.

John Palmer died on 10th December 1911. He appointed his son William Charity and his friend Arthur Proud to be trustees and executors of his estate. His simple directions ensured the sale of his property, the proceeds of which were shared equally amongst the children. Martha had the use and enjoyment of all his household effects during her lifetime and lived comfortably in her widowhood, employing a housekeeper. She died, at Ramsey, in December 1925.

LAVENDER LONGLAND, DAIRYMAN AND ELIZABETH KILBY

Lavender Longland, brother of John Palmer and four years his senior, became a dairy farmer, but in terms of acreage he never achieved anything on the same scale as his brother. In the year 1881 he farmed just 40 acres and employed two labourers.

Twenty years earlier, Lavender and his wife Elizabeth, who came from Thorney, were occupying a house in Ramsey Field, they had been married about four years and had a baby son William Henry. The house next to them was occupied by Lavender's parents and the younger members of their family. These two houses may have been the houses in Ramsey field which George Longland mentioned in his will in 1919.

THE MANOR COURT, RAMSEY, 1874

At the Ramsey Manor Court in 1874 Lavender junior, the dairyman, was admitted to four cottages on the Great Whyte for which he paid £140. This copyhold, which had been the property of John Marriot, was situated between William Bellamy's house and that of Richard Cordell. One of these cottages, with its garden ground, was occupied by Lavender himself: '*Lavender, junior, dairyman*', for his father, the pork butcher, was still living.

THE DEATH OF LAVENDER, THE DAIRYMAN, 1901

In the year 1901, just twenty years after his father's death, the younger Lavender died. His executors were James Caton and Arthur Newton, both farmers, and they were directed to sell his personal estate and freehold and copyhold estates. The money was divided between his widow Elizabeth and their son William Henry, it seems that there were no other children of their marriage. Elizabeth had the use of all furniture and household effects, pictures, plate and china, but none of this is described in detail. During their later years Lavender and Elizabeth seem to have been comfortably off employing, according to the Census of 1891, a general domestic servant, Edith Godfrey, age 18.

GEORGE LONGLAND, ENGINEER, AND ANN SEEKINGS ROBINSON

George Longland, the eldest son of Lavender and Elizabeth Palmer, may have retained some very early memories of Warboys but anything he knew of those origins was not recorded. He was baptised in Warboys on 28th March 1834 and married, on 1st June 1855, Ann Seekings Robinson.

Of the intervening twenty one years we know hardly anything, that is regarding his education or his early working years. He is said to have walked many miles across the Fen, carrying his tools and servicing the windmills. Certainly he was a millwright in 1856 when the first Palmer Longland, who lived only four days, was baptised in Ramsey Parish Church. In the year 1860, when Elizabeth Ann was baptised, George aged 26 was an engine fitter, employed by Armitage and Itter at the Bury Ironworks where he had served his apprenticeship.

THE IMPERIAL JOURNAL

We can only guess that it was some strong personal inclination which moved him in a technological direction, unlike his brothers, the farmers. A few of his possessions have survived, some tools and three large volumes which contain much basic technology of the 1850s. These books are wide ranging in content covering mathematics, steam engineering, and many curious intellectual notions of the time.

The books are bound copies of the Imperial Journal, published in the year 1853, and they show in some detail, not only the technology of the period following the Great Exhibition of 1851, but the spirit of the age. Statistics indicate how deaths from certain diseases had declined over the preceding eighty years. There was a spirit of confidence, a belief in progress, and the conviction that education could *'elevate the moral character, and improve the social*

condition of the operative classes'.

Much of the technology in the Journal, with its detailed engineering drawings of steam engines and descriptions of forging techniques had a direct bearing on the work of George Longland.

THE HOUSE ON THE BURY ROAD

In the year 1866 he bought some land in Mill Leys, Ramsey '*bounded in the East by Bury Road with premises etc.*'. This was copyhold of the Manor of Ramsey but it may have become freehold during his lifetime and would certainly have become so soon after his death. This was probably the land on which his house was built, still standing on the Bury road and known as 'The Leys'. There seems to have been at least one other house on the Bury road known as the Leys. George Longland's plot included the land on which he established his own foundry. In 1885 the foundry was in the name of Longland and Sycamore, Engineers, iron and brass founders, and it may be that George had become independent some few years before this. The 1890 Directory adds '*agricultural implement manufacturers etc. Office and works, Bury Road*'.

So George Longland was running his own business during the last ten or twelve years of his working life. He was to retire in the year 1893 owing to indifferent health, yet he seemed to take on a new lease of life, the father of two children of his second marriage at the age of sixty. Thirty fruitful years remained.

APPRENTICESHIPS AND ACCIDENTS

Of the Foundry years, some apprenticeship papers have survived, for example one dated 1st September, 1883, concerning Frederick Abrahams '*a poor boy chargeable to the said Parish of Ramsey aged 17 or therabouts apprenticed to dwell and serve ... until age 21 ... and the said Messrs. Longland and Sycamore in consideration of the sum of £5 and of a new suit of clothes for the said apprentice to him in hand paid ... also £15 ... They will teach and instruct the said apprentice in the art trade or mystery of an engineer or iron founder.*'

Turning over the pages of the Hunts. Co. News, we find reports of two accidents, not on farming premises but at the Bury Foundry:

In the paper dated 26th June 1886 we are told that when Enoch Green visited the workshop of Messrs Longland and Sycamore a piece of wood fell from the floor above hitting him on the head. '*The effusion of blood was very great*'. He was taken into Mr Longland's house where Mrs Longland dressed the wound. Enoch Green, who worked for Messrs. Hughes and Kimber, was said to be making progress towards recovery.

The following April a large iron ball weighing several hundredweights (cast for the purpose of breaking scrap iron) rolled off a trolley onto the foot of foreman moulder D. Barnett. *'His great toe was terribly crushed but we understand it is going on favourably'*.

The work carried out at the Foundry seems to have been only part of the firm's activity, it is thought that they had contracts at the time of improvements to the Great Whyte (the main broad thoroughfare in Ramsey) and one newspaper report, in October 1888, notes that the official Surveyor had borrowed Mr Darlow's centrifugal pump which was placed in position by Messrs. Longland and Sycamore. This was in connection with local concern about the water supply and the necessity to pump out the water from the Ballast Pit.

THE FIRE BRIGADE: LIEUTENANT LONGLAND

The Bury Foundry was mentioned briefly at the Annual Meeting of the Volunteer Fire Brigade in March 1887, for on one occasion that year they had been called to a small fire there. The only other fire reported had occurred at the farm of Mr Nelson Hughes. Mr L. Longland is named as deputy Superintendent, probably the 'Lieutenant Longland' of a later report, either George Longland's brother, Lavender, or Palmer Longland's son. The meeting, at the Rose and Crown, was followed by an enjoyable supper at Mr Butler's house.

MORE INCIDENTS

The previous month had seen Mr J P Longland in the news. The report dated 26th March was headed 'Ramsey Accident.'

'On Monday afternoon Mr J P Longland and his son were driving from the farm on St Mary's road to Ramsey when, near the footbridge, the horse (a young animal only recently broken) shied at a perambulator, with the result that the occupants were precipitated into a dyke formerly known as the 'old river'. Fortunately neither were hurt nor was the horse or trap much the worse for the mishap'.

Yet another accident at the foundry was reported in the Hunts. County Guardian of the 16th July 1891:

'On Monday last Charles Topper employed at the Foundry, Bury, was lifting a large piece of iron with a crowbar when by some means it fell upon his foot, badly injuring it. He is under the care of Dr. Llewellyn.'

THE DEATH OF ANN SEEKINGS, 1890

George Longland's first wife Ann Seekings died in 1890 in her 57th year, she was buried at Ramsey on 2nd October.

Their two surviving children were Palmer, the schoolmaster, then aged 33, and Elizabeth Ann, 30, who married Borrel Bletsoe Beeton.

So George began his retirement, a widower at the Leys, with his housekeeper Margaret Ann Salmon. They later married and their children, Edith Mary and George Arthur Salmon, were born in 1894 and 1895.

MARGARET ANN SALMON

Margaret Ann Salmon was an ardent Baptist, who taught in the Sunday School. Amongst the few possessions of hers which have survived is a copy of the book 'Mary Bunyan, a Tale by Sallie Rochester Ford.' Written on the fly-leaf, very neatly, '*Margaret Salmon, Ramsey, March 13th 1884*'.

It may have been a twenty first birthday present, suitable serious reading for an Evangelical of that time. Her New Testament was a present to her in 1886. It contains some notes in her hand regarding the sermons to which she had listened, so attentively, at the Ramsey Baptist Chapel. Not many Longland possessions have remained in the family; these books, and those of her husband, pass on something of their owner's spirit.

In his retirement George Longland, no doubt strongly influenced by his second wife, continued to be active in the Baptist Church. He had been Deacon for many years, yet he had a sense of humour. On one occasion, so the story goes, he invited the Vicar (or was it the Baptist Minister ?) to try his home-made wine and then watched him make his unsteady way home.

When we look at him in the photograph taken at the wedding of Louisa Longland and Rose Alfred Newton in 1912 he is wearing his cap and holding a cigar. A cartoon dating from about 1910, perhaps drawn by his daughter Edith, is intended to give a humorous impression, exaggerating his stocky build.

Even amongst the Baptists there were some less serious pursuits, social gatherings and songs. In April 1887 Margaret Ann Salmon and Mrs G Longland made the tea at the Entertainment and Public Tea at the Great Whyte Baptist Chapel. That same week there had been a similar gathering at the Chapel in Chatteris. The entertainment was given by the Band of Hope, and two recitations '*one of which was given in the Yorkshire dialect by Miss Longland of Warboys, were received with marked appreciation*' (Co.News).

Lady tea makers were much in demand in the Fens in 1887, for we read also of the Baptist Sunday School Anniversary at Mereside, Ramsey, at which Mrs WH Longland helped with the tea.

William Henry Longland was the son of Lavender Longland, junior- that is the grandson of Lavender the pork butcher on the Great Whyte.

So, by the late 1800s there were several Longland families and the repetition of names, Palmers and Lavenders especially, easily leads to some confusion. Reference to the family trees should help to bring them all into focus.

RAMSEY LIFE AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

The public entertainment in Ramsey consisted of amateur singing. On the evening of 15th January 1887 the concert in the Abbey Rooms was for the benefit of Mr J. Legg *'the efficient and respected organist of the Parish Church.'* Mr W. L. Wykes sang *'Are you going to the ball this evening'* and *'I haven't got over it yet'*.

That same week, at Warboys, the concert was in aid of the poor. The Hunts. County News reported that the platform was prettily decorated and that the fine plants were kindly lent by Mr Longland. The programme included the songs *'Returning Sails'* and *'She nodded to me'* both sung by Miss A M Longland.

The few references to the involvement of members of the Longland family in team sports name one or two people at Warboys. However the Ramsey and District Football Team, in the year 1888, had a Longland playing 'centre'. The newspaper report omitted the Christian name.

THE CENSUS OF 1891

We are not given the detail, for example of farm acreages, which was a feature of earlier returns. John Palmer Longland is shown as *'Farmer, publican, employer'*. John Palmer, age 19, as *'farmer's son'*. and daughter Sara Ann, 29, *'dress maker'*. Lavender Longland senior's widow Elizabeth was living on the Great Whyte, aged 84. She is shown as an *'independent person living from her own means'* with her housekeeper, Francis Redhead.

At Roses Cottages, Oil Mills Road, we find William Henry Longland, age 30, a carpenter, his wife Louisa (who was born in Cornwall), their daughters, Martha, age 4, Mary just one year old and her twin brother William.

Lavender, aged 54, the farmer (George's brother) is listed with his wife Elizabeth and a servant. Lavender, the coal merchant, was just 20, he and Annie having recently begun their life together.

This same Census includes several members of the Newton family: we note Alfred N. Newton, the harness maker and his wife Jane. Of their family the youngest, Rose Alfred, was to eventually marry Louisa, a daughter of John Palmer Longland.

A Charles Longland was one of the enumerators of the Census.

INTO THE 20TH CENTURY THE FAMILY OF JOHN PALMER LONGLAND

John Palmer and Martha had four daughters. Martha married Rowland Hill, and they had a daughter Minnie. In 1891 Susannah married a draper William Leonard Wykes (presumably the singer at the concert) the son of Thomas Wykes, an engine driver from Northborough, Peterborough, and his wife Sarah.

The Wykes family had lived in Ramsey for some years. William Leonard and Susannah eventually moved to Lancashire. Susannah lived into her seventies, she died at Ashton-under-Lyne in 1946.

Following the death of John Palmer Longland his daughter Louisa married Rose Alfred Newton, a harness maker, whilst Sarah Ann the eldest daughter married Thomas Grace, then in his retirement.

Sarah Ann was already aged 53; at one time she lived in one of the old almshouses on the Green but, on marriage, her home became one of the Victorian houses on Blenheim Road. She died in 1956, in her 94th. year 'great Aunt Sarah', remembered as a cheerful soul. During her latter years, her nephew William Newton Longland cared for her garden.

LAVENDER LONGLAND, THE COAL MERCHANT, AND ANNIE

John Palmer Longland's son Lavender set up as a coal merchant at the time of their marriage. His wife was Annie Newton, and his grandfather Lavender witnessed the marriage, in the year 1890, at Ramsey Parish church. We find a brief mention of Lavender (junior) in the accounts of the Ramsey Spinning School for that year. He had supplied some coal for which he was paid one pound one shilling. A year or two earlier he is found in the accounts statement of the local Board, that is the Local Authority. He was paid £9-17-4

but the Press report gives no other details.

As seems to have been common practice at that time Lavender 'junior' was also a farmer, but farmers needed a couple of hundred acres if they were not to supplement their income by other means.

The records can be misleading, for example in 1895 when his son Charles Lavender was baptised he appears in the register as a labourer. Three years later at the baptism of a second Charles Lavender he was described as farmer. From 1902 onwards he was consistently labourer. This use of the description 'labourer', more particularly in the preceding century, is difficult to interpret. Often it was used in the sense 'works manually', perhaps performing a skilled task. At times it seems to imply employed work, whereas someone managing his own land, however badly off, was a farmer.

Such records do not tell us very much, it may be that the coal business was a failure and that, briefly, Lavender tried to repeat his father's success, perhaps in a depressed economic climate generally. These years leading up to the Great War cannot have been good for those with little capital.

Families too were becoming less cohesive and their daughter Nellie, who was born in the year 1900, eventually left home. Little is known of her story, but she married William Holditch at Derby in 1922, giving her address as Luton.

She was a dressmaker and her father's occupation was given as '*dairy farmer*'. This first marriage was dissolved and Nellie took a second husband on her return to Ramsey, becoming Nellie Clarke.

WILLIAM NEWTON LONGLAND

William Newton, the eldest son of Lavender and Annie, was born in the year 1893. He married Vinette Acomb the daughter of Lewis Acomb, a plumber of Ramsey in the year 1926. William, like so many of his generation, had endured the terrible experience of trench warfare. The little that is known of his youth, and of his subsequent decoration for bravery, is mentioned in the section relating to the First World War period. His brother Corporal Charles Lavender was killed in action in France in 1918. Vinette died in 1973 and William in 1978, there were three sons William, Charles and Harry. William Longland and his wife are still in Ramsey in their retirement, their daughter Elaine was born in 1955 and her brother Richard in 1960.

THOMAS NEWTON LONGLAND

In the year 1920, Lavender and Annie lived at Field Road, Ramsey. Their youngest son Thomas Newton, who was born in 1910, was living with them at

the time of his marriage to Penelope Richardson in March 1937. Mrs Lavender Longland (Annie) died in the year 1940, Lavender died two years afterwards.

Michael, the youngest son of Thomas and Penelope, now lives with his wife and daughter at Alconbury Weston, where Michael is a saddler.

The brother of Tom Newton Longland, John Palmer, married Florence Swift in the year 1932. John Palmer died in 1978 and Florence in 1983.

JOHN PALMER LONGLAND, JUNIOR
GERTRUDE AND ANNIE

John Palmer, born in 1871, the son of the earlier John Palmer Longland, was a farmer, or perhaps a smallholder. Of his first marriage there was a daughter Olive Georgina, born in 1894, but her mother, Alice Ann, died and in 1896 John Palmer married Gertrude Annie Potts, daughter of John Potts a barge owner. Their son John Palmer Longland, probably the John Palmer who served in the Machine Gun Corps in France in the First World War, was born in 1897.

Little is known of the life of these later 'John Palmer Longlands' or of the existence of sons or grandsons to carry on the Longland name. Reference to the simplified family tree showing the four Palmer Longlands may reduce the likelihood of confusion between the generations.

WILLIAM CHARITY AND AMY

William Charity the youngest son of John Palmer Longland senior was clearly singled out to inherit Middlemoor and follow in his father's footsteps.

He married Amy Shelton in the year 1905 and they had a house at 27 Great Whyte. There were three daughters, Christine Amy born 1907, Wilhelmina Esme, 1914 and Doreen Joan, 1915. Their son Reginald Ailwyn was born in 1912. He married Joyce Helen Summers in the year 1940, the marriage being celebrated in the church at Longthorpe, Peterborough, on 3rd January. Reginald Ailwyn, like his father and grandfather, farmed in the fenland throughout his working life.

WILLIAM HENRY LONGLAND, FARMER AND LOUISA

Also living on the Great Whyte, in the year 1920, were William Henry Longland and his wife Louisa.

William Henry, son of Lavender, was a wheelwright and carpenter in his earlier years but, as shown in later Directories he was primarily a farmer from about the time of his father's death in 1901. In March 1889 he was appointed

Constable for Mereside, Ramsey. We find him in the Directories farming at Lug Fen, though their house was at 109 Great Whyte.

William Longland, and Louisa had three daughters and two sons. Martha was born in 1887, Charles in 1891, then followed William Lavender and Mary Elizabeth, and Miriam Louisa in 1897.

In 1909 Martha married Frank Chetfield, a miller, the son of a farm bailiff. They were living in New Road Ramsey, in April 1919, when their daughter Minnie Patricia was baptised at the Parish Church. They moved to Market Rasen about twelve years later.

Martha's sister Mary Elizabeth married John Herbert Freeman who, in 1919, was a tobacconist in Ramsey, they had a daughter Florence Ellen.

The youngest daughter of William and Louisa Longland, Miriam Louisa, married Sydney Butler.

Charles Longland, in the Army during the Great War, died of wounds in the year 1916, and it was left to his brother William Lavender to carry on the farming tradition. We find him in 1920, with his wife Martha at Bury where he farmed, though ten years later they were living in Blenheim Road, Ramsey. In the year 1946 he was a tenant farmer at Hollow Lane holding land of Lord de Ramsey Their daughter Mary Elizabeth, who was born in 1913, married Albert Edward Landin, a grocery assistant.

THE FIRE OF 1902

On Saturday March 22 1902 the Huntingdon newspaper carried a brief report of a fire which had occurred earlier that Easter week end at a house known as the 'Pink House' on the great Whyte, the home of the Longland family.

The house was situated to the rear of Mr Behagg's house. The report states that the Fire Brigade arrived under Lieutenant Longland and that one hundred pounds damage resulted from the fire.

THE PONY AND GALLOWAY RACES

Mr W.C. Longland was present at the 'winding up' meeting in the year 1906. The newspaper report naturally assumes that the readers knew what this was all about. Perhaps it was a small organisation which had organised regular races at Ramsey.

THE WAR YEARS 1914-1918
THE WARBOYS COCKEREL

In November 1915 the 'Star and Garter' sale was organised in Ramsey to raise money for War charities. These sales were held in adjoining villages, and later throughout the Country, raising many thousands of pounds for War charities. A cockerel was exhibited and took part in the mock auction, being successively re-sold. The most celebrated was the Warboys cockerel, given by Mr Fyson of Warboys. By the year 1916 this little black cockerel had been to 16 sales and had travelled 756 miles. It had been sold 1,400 times, realising £1,003. By November that year this sum had doubled.

At the sale in Ramsey in 1915 both W.C. Longland and W.H. Longland paid their bid of ten shillings and a total of £78-5-0 was raised. The collection boxes in the pubs, intended to raise funds for the Red Cross were nothing like so successful: the one at the Spotted Dog, Ramsey, produced only two shillings collected over a period of some months.

THE HUNTS. CYCLIST BATTALION

As early as January 1913 there seems to have been a move to strengthen the Territorial Army reserve, as though war was seen as a real possibility. On 9th January it was proposed that a Huntingdonshire Cycle Battalion should be formed. The official response was positive and the new force was official a month later. There were to be eight Companies, each with two officers and fifty four men and seventeen motor cycle signallers. Cycles were provided for the men ensuring rapid movement of the force.

The young men who read the recruitment details were enticed by the prospect of an annual camp at the sea side, which would not interfere with harvest, free cycles or payments to those who brought their own, and various other allowances. No one, then, could imagine the fate which awaited them in France when, in the third week of December 1914, they boarded the train at Huntingdon to begin their active service. Their first task was to guard the East Coast of England. whilst playing football and composing patriotic songs.

In this company were Charles Lavender Longland, Charles Longland, and William Longland all from Ramsey. John Palmer Longland, presumably the grandson of John Palmer Longland of Middlemoor, may have been with them for he had enlisted earlier that month.

The 'Longland W' in the brief press report was probably William Newton Longland, but the remaining Charles Longland was the son of William Henry, the farmer.

Thus the Longland family was well represented, as indeed was Ramsey itself for in the previous November the volunteers from Ramsey numbered 65 men, soon to reach 97, compared with only 2 from Buckden. Hence the column heading in the Hunts. Post '*Buck up Buckden*'. However, as the War continued the Buckden casualties became equally prominent in the reports.

KILLED IN ACTION AND DIED OF WOUNDS,
CHARLES AND CHARLES LAVENDER

Amongst the names on the Ramsey War Memorial which honours those who gave their lives in the 1914-18 War are two Longland cousins: Charles, the son of William Henry and Louisa, and Charles Lavender the son of Lavender and Annie.

They had both volunteered for service with the Hunts. Cycle Battallion at the beginning of the war and were both on active service in France from January 1916.

Charles was transferred to the Royal Warwickshire Regt., Charles Lavender joined the Bedfordshires and then, sometime afterwards, the London Regt.

Charles was buried at Ramsey where the gravestone records his death, from wounds received in France, at a hospital in Eastbourne in September 1916. It records too the subsequent deaths of his parents, Lousia, in January 1829 and William Henry in August 1932.

Cpl. Charles Lavender was killed in action in France on 21st March 1918. His brother William served with the Warwickshire Regt. rising to the rank of Sergeant and serving finally in Italy in the year 1918.

THE MILITARY MEDAL

In the decisive battles which led to the defeat of the Austrians, William Longland was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field, as reported in the London Gazette on 21st October 1918. His wounds were severe enough for him to be discharged in May 1919 with the award of the Silver War Badge. His brother John Palmer who served in France with the Machine Gun Corps came through unscathed, as far as is known.

There was also Harold Longland, probably from St Ives, another early volunteer with the Hunts. Cyclists, who subsequently served with the Bedfordshires and the London Regt. in France.

Also serving in the Bedfordshire Yeomanry in 1916 was Sergeant E.C.

Longland. The official account of the Beds. Yeomanry in the Great War in describing the successful billeting of the officers in August 1916 adds '*no doubt Sergeant Longland did as well for the sergeants.*' No 'E.C.' Longland has been found in the Huntingdon data; he may have been from one of the Bedford or Northants. families.

THE AFTERMATH

The survivors returned to Ramsey to continue their lives as small holders in an England hard hit economically, quietly uncomplaining and unrewarded like so many in the years '*between the Wars*'. There is nothing out of the ordinary to record except to note that, in the 1939-45 War, a member of the Longland family at Houghton, Charles Albert William Longland, Sapper, was awarded the Military Medal in October 1945.

The Voters' Register for 1920 also listed John Palmer Longland at Star Lane, Amy Longland on the Great Whyte, and George Longland with his wife Margaret on the Bury Road.

THE DEATH OF GEORGE LONGLAND, 1923

George Longland died in 1923. He bequeathed all the household effects plus ready money and securities to his widow Margaret Ann, plus the house and premises they then occupied and the house adjoining, together with the three houses in Ramsey field. On her death this property was divided in equal shares between their children Edith Mary and George Arthur Salmon, plus two houses in Bury. His son of the first marriage, Palmer, inherited a cottage in Bury and nine and a half acres of land in Bury Fen.

By the original will his son in law Borrel Bletsoe Beeton inherited two houses in Ramsey field which had belonged to George's mother, Elizabeth Palmer of Warboys. However, Borrel's wife Elizabeth died some few years after the signing of her father's original will. Consequently a codicil was added by which these two houses were given to George's wife, Margaret Ann, for her lifetime and then to be passed on to her children, Edith and George.

George Longland of Ramsey did not leave great wealth for he had lived on his capital from his sixtieth year, supporting almost thirty years of retirement. He had lived in the times of King William the Fourth, Queen Victoria, and Kings Edward and George.

Beginning as a traditional craftsman, retaining a wheelwrights skill throughout his life, he had kept pace with the technology of the time. In his

retirement, he was keenly interested in his son's developing skill as a motor engineer. Not himself ever a farmer, though like all Longlands close to the land, it was left to his brothers to carry on the farming tradition. Yet, the skills of the carpenter and blacksmith were equally Longland skills throughout their history.

WILLIAM HENRY LONGLAND
AT MARKET RASEN

William Henry the wheelwright and farmer was, at the time of his death, living with his daughter Martha and her husband in Market Rasen, Lincolnshire. He had obviously moved there following the death of his wife Louisa in 1929.

All the household effects in his possession went to his daughter Martha and she was given two fifths of the proceeds of the sale of all his real estate. He wished to recognise her kindness in looking after him and the extra fifth was that share which would have gone to her brother Charles who was killed in the First World War. The other three children, Mary Freeman, Miriam Louisa Butler, and William Lavender each received one fifth of the estate.

PALMER LONGLAND,
THE SCHOOLMASTER

What had happened to Palmer Longland, the son of George Longland the engineer of Ramsey ? Verbal evidence from elderly members of the family in the 1960s implies that, as a young man, he travelled and studied in Europe. Money was spent on his education. Subsequently he settled for some years in the Manchester area where he was a headmaster. Apart from the comment that he lived in retirement at Connington, and that he and his wife had for a time left England for Australia- or was it New Zealand ?- he seemed to be deliberately forgotten. The one fact recorded was that he was born in Ramsey in the year 1857, the son of George and Ann Longland.

Two photographic portraits which are thought to be of Palmer have survived. One was taken in Sweden and only the photographer is identified: 'Leverin and Co. Drottninggaten 61, Stockholm'. The photograph is that of a smartly dressed young man in about the year 1878.

A later portrait of the same person, was taken in Camden town, North West London. A pleasing photograph of a young woman, probably Ellen Freemantle the teacher Palmer was to marry, is the work of a photographer at Sale, Manchester.

The details, or even an outline of Palmers early life ... as a student ? ... as a traveller ? ... are simply not recorded; it is unlikely that this mystery will

ever be solved.

A cursory examination of directories for the Manchester area has not yielded any information and it would appear that any real attempt to reconstruct the movements of Palmer Longland in his early years would develop into a major project.

Two elements of the family tradition appear to be true, he did travel and he was a teacher. This account covers only his later years ; it is more a eulogy of Ellen, rather than of Palmer. Still he emerges as a contended man in later life, certainly not an embittered one.

THE MARRIAGE OF PALMER LONGLAND AND ELLEN FREEMANTLE 1894

Palmer's marriage certificate dated 10th October 1894 reads:

'Palmer Longland, age 36, bachelor, schoolmaster, residence at time of marriage Stretford Lancashire, father George Longland, engineer.

Ellen Elizabeth Freemantle, age 28 spinster, schoolmistress, residence Old Charlton, father William Freemantle, gardener. Married at the Parish Church of Charlton in the County of Kent after banns'.

He did attend his uncle's funeral, that of Lavender Longland senior, at Ramsey in December 1901, and the newspaper report refers to him as Palmer Longland junior of Manchester. It seems likely that Palmer and Ellen lived for a time in Sale, near Manchester, but in the year 1912 they were at Egginton, a village close to Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire. He would then be in his fifty-fifth year, thus our story begins in his middle age. They then moved to Dry Drayton in Cambridgeshire for Ellen had applied, successfully, for a teaching post there.

The school managers seemed to be faced with problems, but the minutes are somewhat reticent, Ellen was needed to replace a teacher who had resigned and, two years later, another resignation resulted in Palmer taking on a temporary appointment to help out. So for a time they were both teaching, as was their daughter Phyllis, as a temporary assistant teacher.

In November 1914 the Cambridgeshire Education Secretary decided that the state of things in the school called for a complete change of teaching staff. Palmer and his wife were not directly accused of any negligence for they had apparently taken over at a time of crisis. The experience had certainly not increased Palmer's enthusiasm, for on their move to the village of Conington in the following year he described himself as 'retired'. He was 58 years old, Ellen would then be about 49.

THE MOVE TO CONINGTON

This was not the Conington which is just off the A1, south of Peterborough, but the little village in Cambridgeshire, not many miles from Swavesy.

In December of the previous year the school was in difficulty. The Head Mistress, Miss Allen, had resigned on health grounds and only a monitress could be provided. The Managers invited Mrs Longland to visit the school and to view the school house.

Conington was a little community of no more than twenty or thirty inhabited houses, the homes of the families employed on the three local farms. A hundred and fifty souls were in the care of the Reverend Walter Massey BA, who still occupied the rectory, whilst the Hall (previously the home of the Cotton family) was the residence of P.T. Gardner Esquire, J.P.

Right at the beginning of the School year, 1915, Ellen Longland's influence was evident in the school and her not unreasonable personal demands were worrying the managers. The Rectory Cottage was in a very poor state and probably inadequate for three adults. It was in August that they received her letter expressing dissatisfaction with the accomodation. She asked that the school house be repaired and that the 'additional room' be fitted with a fireplace.

Mr Bleet's estimate for this work came to more than £22 and the hard pressed managers came up with two suggestions: to improve the cottage by putting in a new wood block floor, or alternatively to carry out limited work to make the school house weatherproof. So it was agreed that the school house be painted, the kitchen stove be repaired and that a fireplace be installed in the extra room. For this Ellen agreed to pay a rent of four pounds a year.

The school was regularly inspected by both the Church authorities and His Majesty's Inspector and Mrs Longland never failed to be complemented on the high standards she had achieved. In June 1919 the Inspector noted the '*reverent tone and the delightful spirit*' in the school.

In 1920 there was much praise, the written work of the children being especially creditable, and the report stated that '*the Head Teacher deserves high commendation for her successful effort to secure clear and pleasing enunciation on the part of the children when reading and speaking*'.

RELATIONS WITH THE SQUIRE
AT THE HALL

When George and Minnie Longland (Palmer's half brother and his wife) called at Conington some time in about the year 1920 they were told that Palmer was playing billiards with the Squire, up at the Hall. Credibility is given to this anecdote when we realise that the Conington community was so tightly knit, its structure little different from that of the previous century. Mr Gardner, at the Hall, was the local Squire and chairman of the Parochial committee. He would meet the Rector and Mrs Longland quite often, for it was the duty of Rector and Squire to ensure that the religious and moral teaching followed the accepted norms.

Ellen taught at the school for six years, by all accounts dedicated to her task, doing her very best for the thirty eight children on the roll. Actual attendances were rarely as high as this, but the reported enthusiasm seems to have been quite genuine. Certainly the school had a good record and on several occasions was commended on its attendance and achievement record.

The log books which all schools kept are, not infrequently, rather monotonous records. That for Conington at this period conveys a sense of purpose, it allows us to build up a picture of Ellen as a caring teacher.

The page headed April 12 1915 reads:

*'School commenced after Easter Holidays.
I commenced my duties as Mistress.
E. Longland.'*

A war which was to become increasingly terrible was then in its sixth month, and so the children were instructed to write letters to their relatives at the Front; this activity took up the whole afternoon. Ellen was occupied in writing a different letter: one to Messrs. Philip and Tacey to point out that the school books had not arrived and requesting prompt despatch. The large map of England arrived soon afterwards, and eventually the books.

The school had its regular, frequent visitors; the Rector at one stage gave up a half hour each day to religious teaching and the Squire gave the children an account of his experiences in the Army under General Gordon, the hero of Khartoum.

PHYLLIS LONGLAND
TEACHING AND MARRIAGE

Ellen knew how to exert her authority, any boy arriving not wearing his collar was promptly sent home and told to return properly dressed. She seems to have been well in control. Her daughter Phyllis had been appointed assistant teacher, though at times there was only a monitress. She was encouraged, rather strongly we may imagine, to study, consequently she had to be absent on more than one occasion for her exams which would lead to proper certification as a teacher.

Even she was affected by the needs of other schools, spending short periods at Knapwell and at Childerley, a place not shown on many modern maps, apart from the Hall. Childerley itself never had a school and only a handful of people lived there at that time. The school at which Phyllis assisted would have been the then recently built one at Childerly Gate, not far from the village but on the road between Cambridge and St Neots. This new school relieved the problems at Bourne.

Then in May 1917 she was appointed assistant mistress at Fen Drayton, just three or four miles from Conington. However Phyllis' teaching career, at least in England, was shortlived for on 8th January 1918 she married Mr P. McGregor a New Zealander, a wartime soldier. Not long afterwards they left Conington to make their home in New Zealand.

THE WAR EFFORT, AND CELEBRATIONS

Ellen Longland's instruction of the children covered a broad spectrum of activity and the more practical matters were part of the general enthusiasm to 'do one's bit' for the War effort. The children picked large quantities of blackberries which went to be processed by Chivers, the jam people. The girls made blackberry and apple jam which was sent to Swavesy Red Cross Hospital, and a ton and a half of horse chestnuts was collected.

In November 1917 an aeroplane came down in Elsworth Fields, so the children were taken to see it, after which they had a lesson on 'aeroplanes' and were given the task of writing a 'composition' about it.

The following January gave the children a day's holiday on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Phyllis Longland, followed on the 25th by yet another extra day off- this to celebrate the award of a shield to the school for regular attendance. On that day Mrs Longland entertained all the children to tea.

On a more academic note the log records two girls, Jessie Eveleigh and Annie Scrambler, who in that year won scholarships to schools in Cambridge.

The school itself was awarded the 'Minor Shield' and Miss Longland received high commendation from His Majesty's Inspector.

SUPPORT FROM PALMER

It is obvious from the weekly reports, each one written in Ellen's bold, confident hand, that she was happy. Perhaps, for both Palmer and herself it was their most contented time together for Palmer, though not much in the news, attended Parish meetings with Ellen and acted as secretary and auditor of accounts. We know too that he was interested in the work of a local hospital, very likely the Red Cross hospital at Swavesey.

We have Ellen's own words to describe her happiness, and her unexpressed regret, in the log book on July 29 1921:

'I resign the position of Mistress of Conington School today owing to leaving for New Zealand. A delightful happy time with Managers and Scholars. Ellen E. Longland.'

FAREWELL AND RETURN 1921-23

The community expressed the general esteem in which Ellen was held when, in August 1921, they met to present a farewell testimonial of two gold bracelets. In February that year she had received a cable from her daughter in New Zealand announcing the birth of a baby girl and Ellen wished to be with her daughter and granddaughter. At the meeting the usual compliments were paid and we are told that Mrs Longland responded *'in her usual able way.'*

So she and Palmer left to begin a new life so far away, though it may be that they did not intend to stay for ever in New Zealand.

By early 1923 they were back in England, at a school in Isleham Fen, near Prickwillow, but their old home awaited them. In May that year the school at Conington was threatened with closure, the few children on the roll making it the smallest in the county. There was still the hope that the school would remain in being, but only if a permanent Mistress could be found.

MRS LONGLAND AGAIN APPOINTED

The minutes of the meeting on May 4 stressed that only *'a Churchman'* should be considered, and after some discussion Mrs Longland was put forward as a suitable candidate. Then, in October 1923, Ellen Longland applied for the

post.

Someone at the meeting mentioned that a previous Rector had criticised Mrs Longland for giving too much time, in school hours, to extraneous matters. However, following the study of one of the many '*highly satisfactory*' reports and comments on the school's success in the past (it had won a shield on one occasion) the decision to appoint Mrs Longland was unanimous.

There was some passing comment that Mrs Longland's possible move to Conington had been opposed by the Education Secretary not because of her unsuitability but because of the difficulty in replacing her at her unattractive school at Isleham Fen. Their only problem was the need to persuade Ellen to reduce her minimum salary stipulation.

So Mrs Longland's appointment to her old school was agreed from January 1924; they sent her their warmest wishes. In the following March Ellen had to pay £8 towards repairs to the school house, but the house was then rent free. As ever she was not slow to insist on essential needs and the Managers accepted that additional shelves were required in the school. Sadly, this second tenure of the Conington post was destined to be short lived. She took over on 7th January, entering the fact in the book, but the routine weekly reports are very brief, the old sparkle seems to be absent.

Ellen was very ill, her death on 10th December 1924 resulted from a distressing liver failure, she was 59 years old. The school was closed for a whole week.

The report of the funeral describes the large gathering at the church for the choral Service and burial conducted by the Reverend L.B.S. Abbot who had only recently arrived in the Parish.

No stone to mark her grave has been located, but there is a remarkable absence of memorials from the first half of the century in the churchyard. There are some well worn older ones and a few quite modern stones. There is a strange history of problems with the church fabric, of dangerous deterioration of the structure and subsidence. The rectory itself, after Palmer's time, was eventually demolished as were many small houses and cottages. There is a sad air of neglect, almost of mourning for those people who, over seventy years ago, gave expression to the life of the community.

Palmer's tenancy of the school house came to an end at Easter, 1925 and he spent the years immediately following his wife's death at the Rectory, presumably renting a couple of rooms. The old house had recently been refurbished and though several of its twenty two rooms had been removed it would still have had room to spare.

PALMER'S SECOND MARRIAGE

In 1929, Palmer married Rose Pete, a spinster aged 49 whose home was the Rectory cottage, still to be seen with its thatched roof, not far from the church. The Rectory itself was demolished some years ago.

In the April Parish magazine the Rector congratulated Mr Longland and Miss Peet on their marriage commenting that *'they did not take us by surprise'*. Obviously, Palmer and Rose were well acquainted. Rose seems to have been actively involved in church social affairs and Mr Longland was thanked the following September for having organised the races at the childrens' tea party at the Rectory.

The year 1933 saw the married couple still at Conington. In the April parish magazine the Reverend E. Gardener, who had come to the end of his two and a half years at Conington, in expressing his thanks to many people added *'nor should I forget Mr Longland, secretary of the P.C.C.'*

On 20th May Palmer was amongst the mourners at his stepmother's funeral at Ramsey. Not long afterwards, in May 1935, he and Rose retired to Cornwall. The then Rector wished them well in his parish notes, expressing the general thanks for Mr Longland's work as secretary of the Church Council and for his work for the hospital. Palmer died in Cornwall in the year 1940 followed in 1957 by Rose, at the age of 77. The death was registered in the Exeter area.

It is unfortunate that so little is known of Palmer's education or of his career generally, for his life did not conform to the Longland pattern. We can only imagine that the limitations imposed by the life at Ramsey were not for him. Not that Conington had much to offer but, if the story is true, at least he could play billiards and have a drink on a Sunday afternoon and talk to his billiard acquaintance about his experiences in Europe.

THE LATTER YEARS AT THE HOUSE ON THE BURY ROAD

The funeral report of 1901, that of Lavender Longland, which mentions Palmer Longland lists several members of the Ramsey family. giving one or two interesting relationships. Lavender's sister Mrs. Taylor was present with her daughter. Two nieces attended, Mrs Cox and Mrs Briggs. Mrs Wright was a sister in law. Mr R. Clements, brother in law, had travelled from Yeovil.

Other Ramsey families were represented: *'Messrs. A. Newton, Barlow, Abbott, J. Caton, P. Phillips, H. Palmer, Major, Poulter, H. Newton, Ridlington,*

Patrick, W. Shelton, Hildred, W.M. Skeif, C. Chapman, W. Shelton, Sewell, Bird and others'.

Of the two children of George Longland and Margaret (Salmon), George Longland, like his father, was an engineer. He began as an apprentice in Peterborough, then around the time of his marriage (in the year 1919) to Minnie May Betts of Peterborough, he set up his own business as a motor engineer at Crowland. He ran a daily bus service to Peterborough, and in later years managed a successful fleet of coaches, the Blue Bus Service, which served the Peterborough-Spalding area.

Their children, Betty, Doris and Margaret, remember the old house on the Bury Road with the hams hanging from the kitchen ceiling. There are memories, too, of the endless Baptist Church Services and of their serious grandmother. They were born too late to have known their old grandfather. In recent memory the house was the home of Aunt Edith.

EDITH LONGLAND

Looking back to her sixteenth year we see that Edith Longland was then a school monitress, for she is mentioned in the Log book of Ramsey Town Board School. In May 1910 Miss Harvey had been absent for some time and Miss Longland was called in to help with the infants: *'except on needlework afternoons during the first hour when she could not be spared from the mixed school.'*

She taught at the school in Ramsey throughout the whole of her working life, remaining in retirement at the house called The Leys, where she had been born, and where the old American wall clock still chimed the hours as it had done for a hundred years.

**Ramsey:
an outline family tree,
from the first Lavender
Longland,
from 1834, the male line**

Lavender Longland
pork butcher
1807
died 1881

Elizabeth
Palmer
marriage 1831

George
1834
engineer

Lavender
1837
farmer

John Palmer
1841
farmer

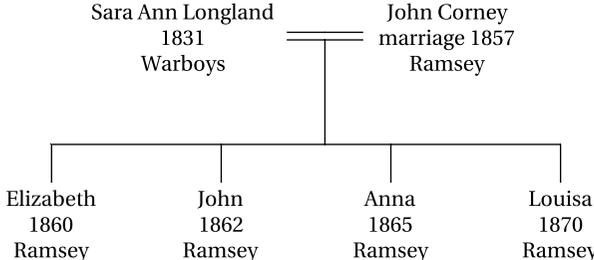
of first marriage:
Palmer, 1857
of second marriage
George A. Salmon
1895

son,
William Henry, 1860
the only surviving
child.

sons,
Lavender, 1868
John Palmer, 1871
Wm Charity, 1882.
see relevant
family trees.

Refer to trees: descendants of George, William Henry,, and John Palmer.

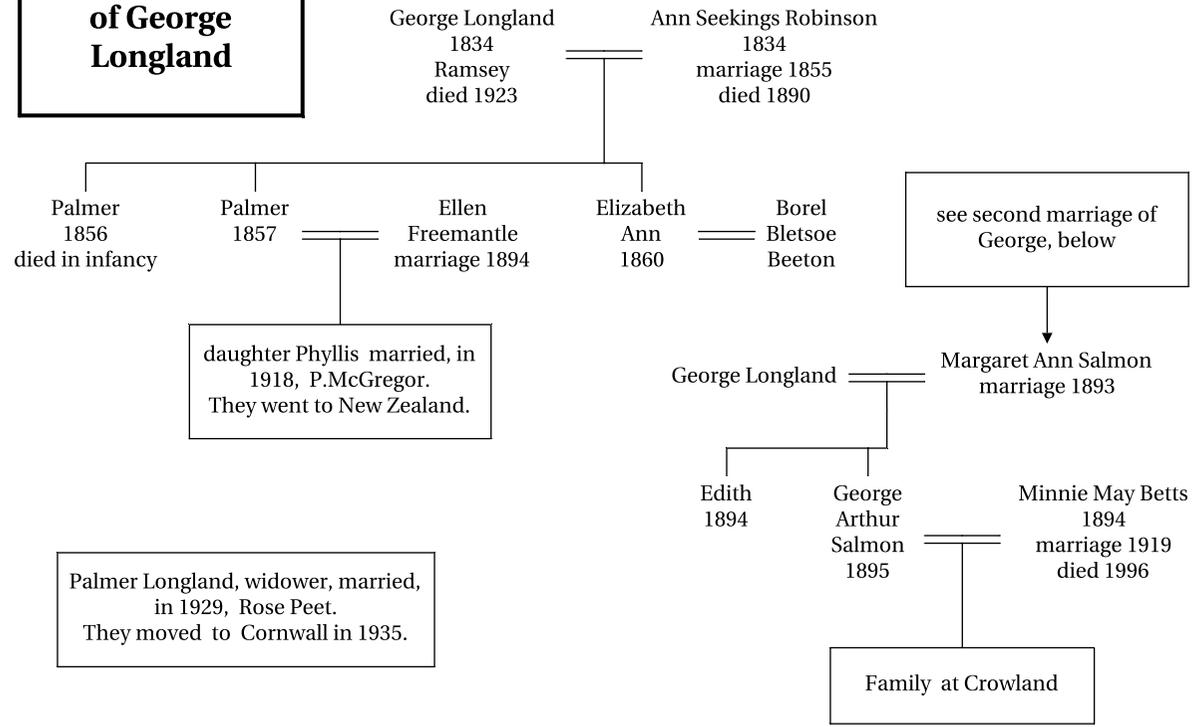
**Sarah, daughter of
Lavender Longland,
her family
1860-70**



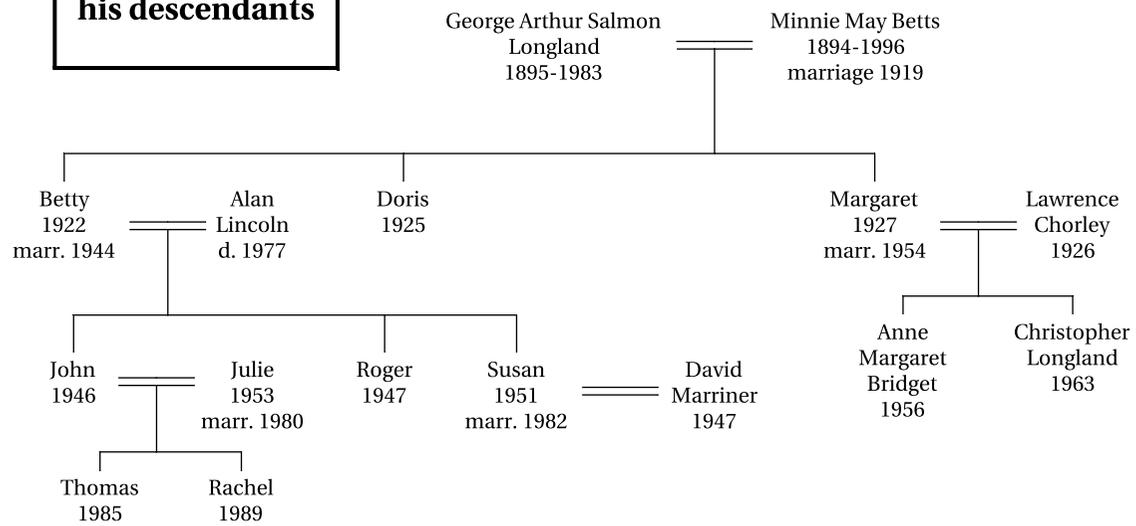
Sara Ann first married, in 1851, Isaac Goates. Sarah was a widow by 1857.

1871 Census: family at Crease Drove, Ramsey.

**Ramsey:
the descendants
of George
Longland**



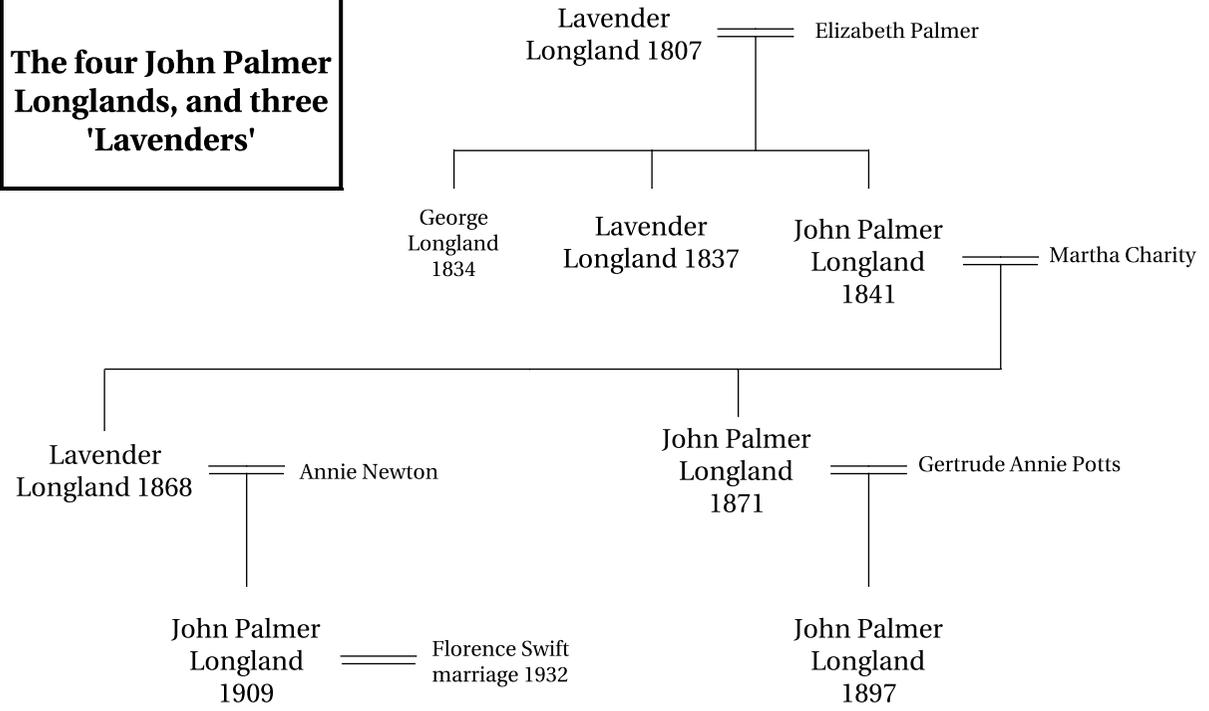
**George Longland
of Ramsey, and of
Crowland:
his descendants**



**Ramsey
1841-1909**

**The four John Palmer
Longlands, and three
'Lavenders'**

318

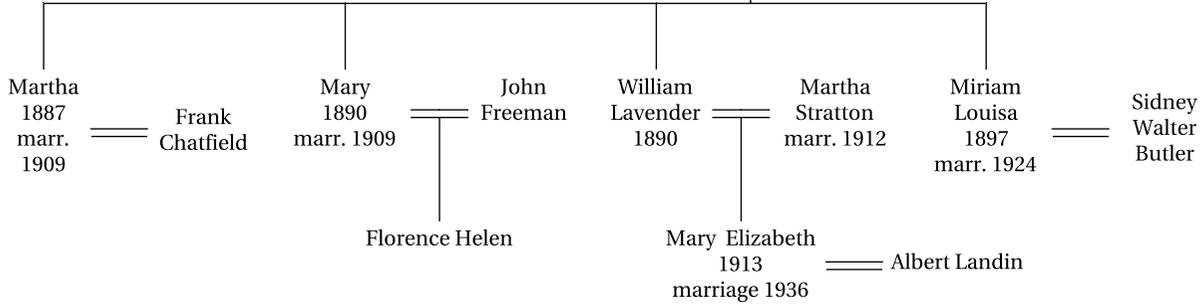


**Ramsey:
descendants of
William Henry
Longland
c.1880-1936**

William Henry
Longland
1860 (son of
Lavender, farmer)
died 1932

Louisa
1860
died 1929

refer to Chapter
Thirteen

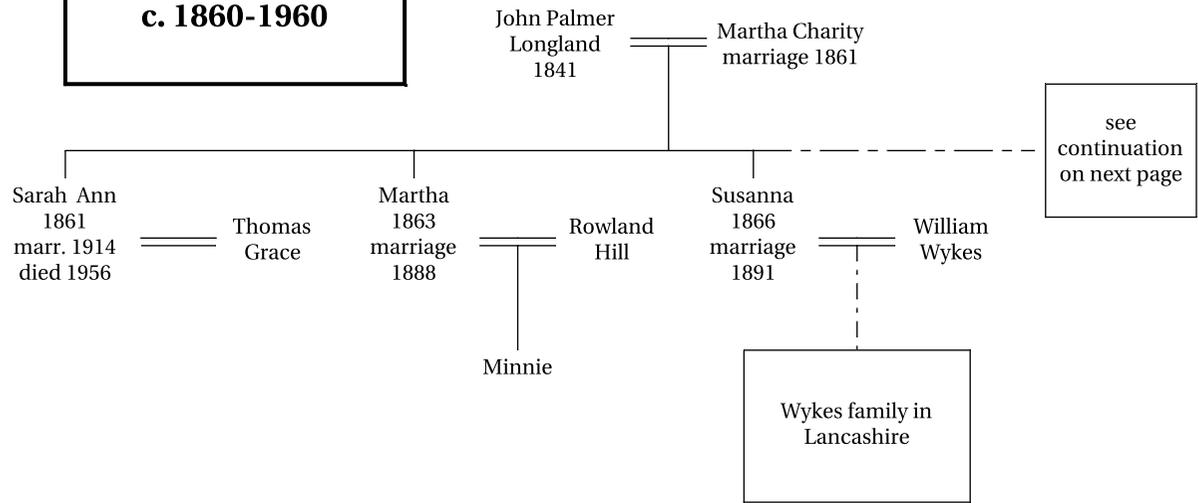


also, Charles 1889 died infant.
Charles, 1891, died of wounds in 1916

William Henry Longland was, apparently, the
only surviving child of the marriage of Lavender
Longland, junior, and Elizabeth Kilby.

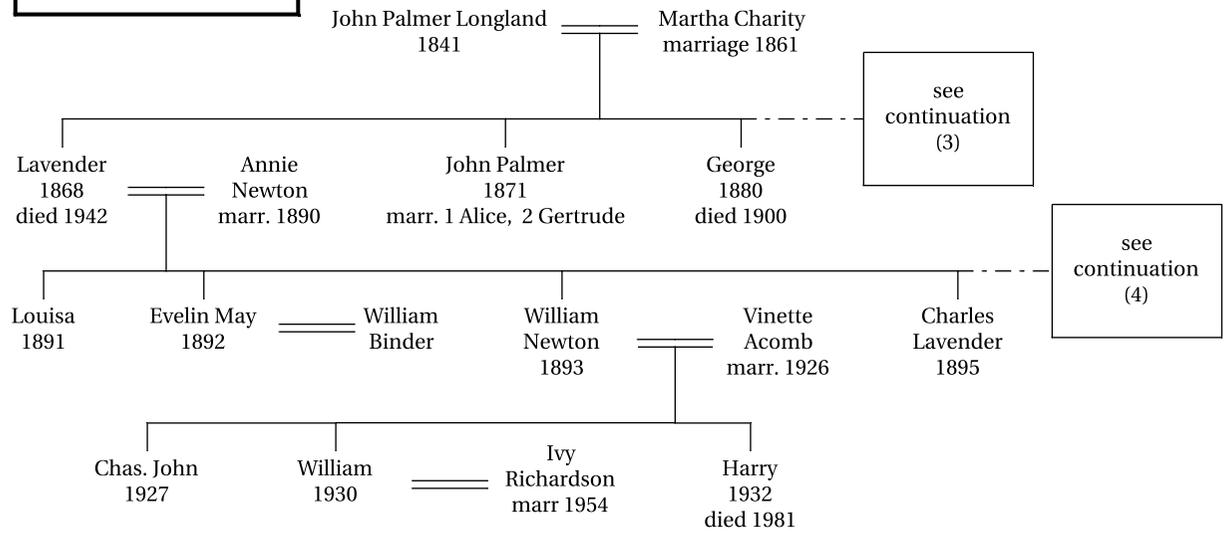
**Ramsey: descendants
of John Palmer
Longland
c. 1860-1960**

320

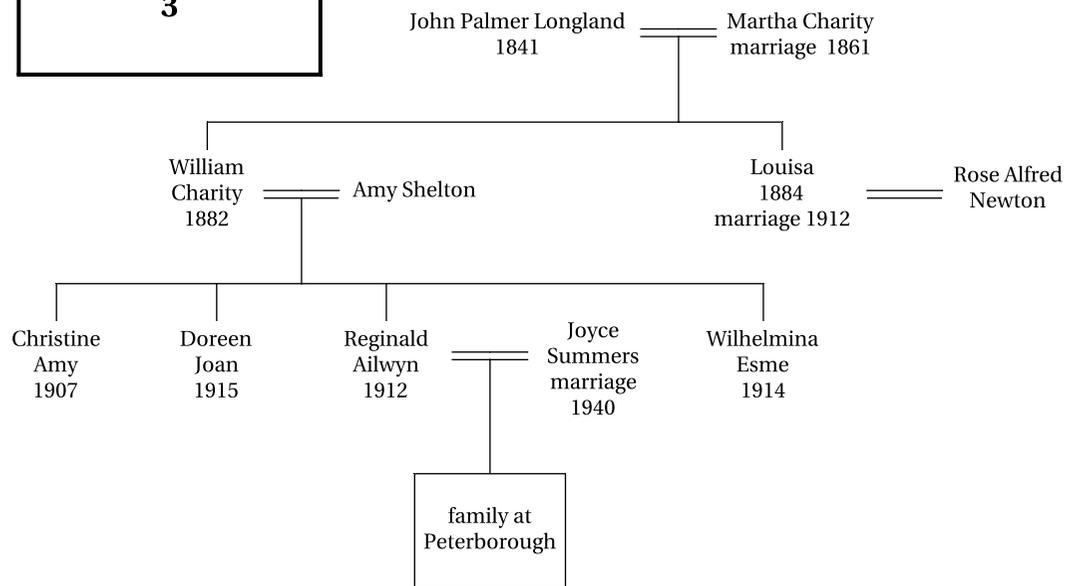


**Descendants of
John Palmer
Longland
(continuation)
2**

321

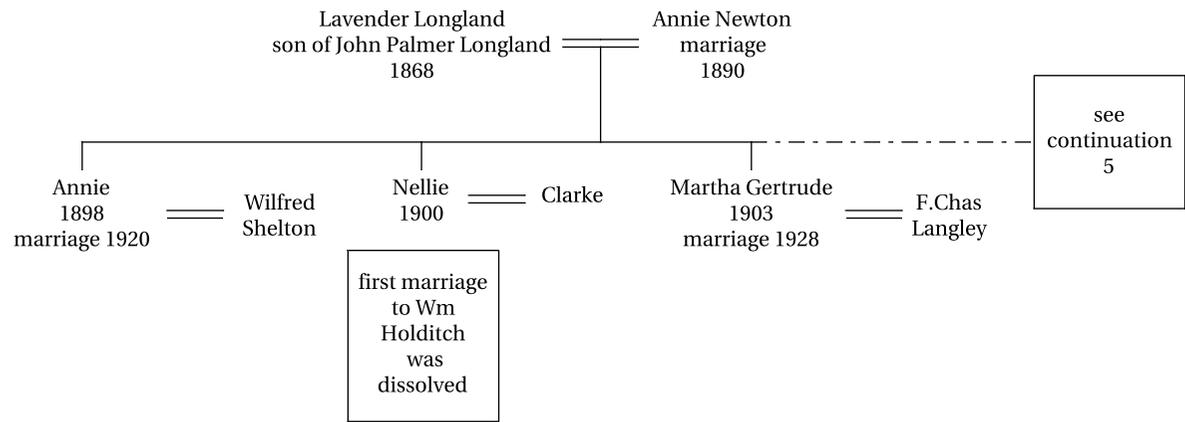


**Descendants of
John Palmer
Longland
(continuation)
3**



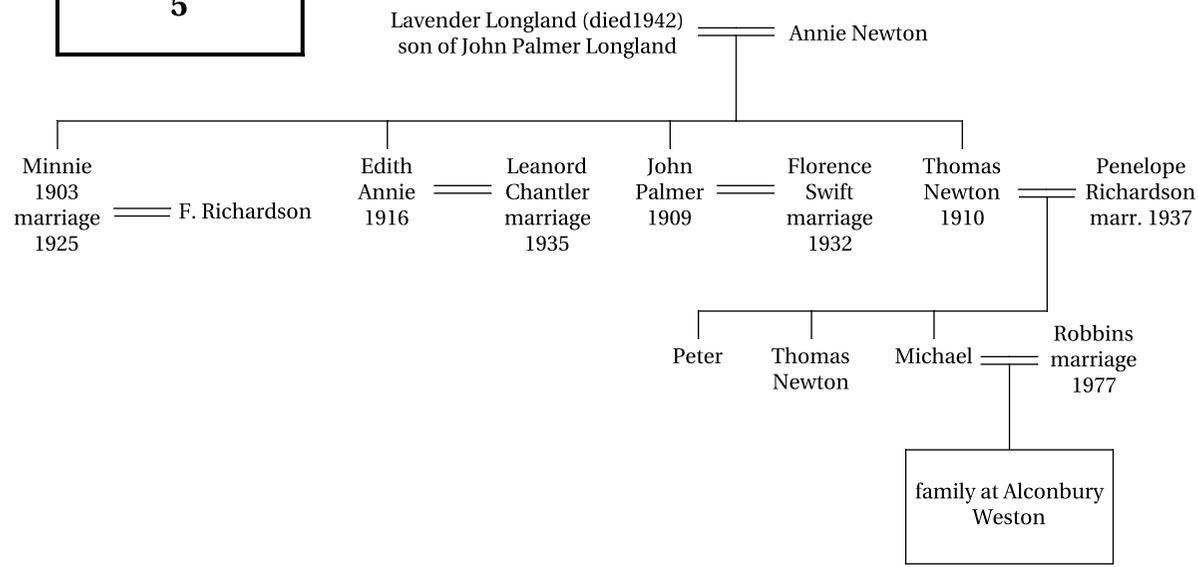
**Descendants of
John Palmer
Longland
(continuation)
4**

323



**Descendants of
John Palmer
Longland
(continuation)
5**

324









PART II





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Chapter Fourteen

OTHER FAMILIES OF LONGLAND.

An early Longland family of note, in Somerset.

A Longland Miscellany.

Some emigrants.

Families to whom the Longlands
were related by marriage.

⊕ | —

Sherrifs of Somerset

The family whose origins have been traced to fifteenth century Kinlet is not the only family of that name to be found in the Public Records and in the Parish registers. It is possible to construct limited family trees for the sixteenth century Longlands of Lincolnshire and at Maxey, Northants. Mobility in more recent times has resulted in some of their descendants being located in the Midlands, in London and in neighbouring parts of the South.

There were Longlands also in the North of England and in Scotland, some of whom adopted the surname 'Longlands' with the final 's'. No connection with the Huntingdonshire family is evident and their story has not been pursued in this book. This chapter refers briefly to some other Longland families, beginning with the earliest references found, so far. 'Langeland', 'Langlond', 'Longelonde' or similar variants, were common prior to the seventeenth century.

The search revealed an ancient family of Longland in the county of Somerset, where three generations played a prominent part as knights of the Shire. It is hoped that their inclusion here will be of interest to the reader.

*'Le roi en chief dona g'nt temps avant sa mort a
Sir Nicholas de Langeland le Man ~ de Ov'were en le Conte de Somers ~
a tenir de ly t'me de sa vie ...'*

*'The King granted to Sir Nicholas de Langeland, before his death, the Manor of
Overwere in the County of Somerset to hold during his lifetime'.*

(Rotulus Parliamenti 12 Edward II)

This incomplete tale brings together some facts extracted from official records of King and Parliament, and the Exchequer, for most records are concerned with law, power and property.

In the British Museum is preserved the seal of Hugh de Langelonde, son and heir of Nicholas de Langelonde. It dates from the year 1316, in fine condition with its edge chipped: dark green, oval in shape showing a shield of arms *'three escallops over all a band, suspended by a strap from a tree of three branches between two wingless wyverns'*.

The Hugh who bore these arms was Knight of the Shire of Somerset, like his father before him. They were followed by John Langelonde, so taking us from the latter part of the reign of Edward the First, through that of Edward the Second and Third, to John's death c.1380 in the reign of Richard the Second.

NICHOLAS DE LANGELONDE

The official records give some idea of their public life, as Justices appointed by the King to hear charges of felony in their respective counties, that is of Somerset and Devon; to act as King's Commissioners to enforce the laws, to attend Parliament at Westminster, to serve as keeper of the King's castles. Disputes over land rights and incomes seem to have been common, so that they themselves could become the accused, for example in the year 1299 when a number of people, including Nicholas de Langelonde, were accused by the Abbot of Glastonbury of cutting down his trees, breaking bridges and beating his men; such cases of trespass and breaking and entering manorial property occur quite often. Some tasks sound more exciting, such as the command to retake the ex- Abbot of Bynedon Abbey (who having been arrested by the King's mandate had escaped) or to make arrests in cases of murder. A case in the year 1312 concerns the abduction of a wife at Arrow (near Alcester) Warwickshire.

In 1311 the King, Edward II, required that every township in every county should furnish him with *'one strong and steady foot soldier, properly armed'*. The township had to pay his wages for seven weeks. It is hard to imagine how the selection was carried out though we know that the choice was the responsibility of the electors, in other words the greater landholders. The leaders were to conduct the man of their choice to the muster at Roxborough for these soldiers were required for a planned raid against Bruce. The leaders named for the County of Somerset were John de Beauchamp, Nicholas de Langelonde, Ralph de Gorgs and Nicholas de Poinz. It seems likely that Nicholas de Langelond would have ridden from Somerset to Scotland to carry out the King's wishes. Whether or not he took part in the war against the Scots is a matter for conjecture, he died the year preceding the battle of Bannockburn.

Apart from his duties as Knight of the Shire and Sheriff of Somerset and Dorset (Nicholas was appointed in the year 1306) it is the holding of land which provides the basis for our story. In April 1313, presumably soon after the death of Nicholas, his successor as Sheriff was ordered to take into the King's hand land and goods of Nicholas de Langelonde, deceased tenant in chief. In the following year John Abel, escheator beyond Trent, was ordered *'not to meddle further with the lands of Nicholas de Longelond as it appears by inquisition that he held nothing in chief at his death by reason whereof the custody of his lands ought to pertain to the King'*.

HUGH DE LANGLONDE

The land at Overwere, Somerset, seems to have passed into the possession of Hugh. By 1318 (as recorded in the Close Rolls) this land had passed into the King's hands because of some default before the Justices of the Peace. Hugh de Langport seems to be interceding on Hugh de Langelonde's behalf before the King. The Inquisition (that of Nicholas) lists land of the Manors of Brent and Burnham, Somerset. Later records show that there was land also in Cornwall.

In the case of Hugh no record of an Inquisition appears in the Indexes examined. However we do know that he was knighted at Westminster '*on the morrow of the Holy Trinity, 30th. May 1306*', the eldest son of Nicholas. Knighthoods at that time were automatically granted to the eldest son of a knight when of age. From this it appears that Hugh was born in the year 1285 and that, perhaps, he was not the only son.

The University of Oxford register records a Roger de Langlond who was rector of High Ham, Somerset, from the year 1312 to 1323 but who was granted leave to study for the period 1315 to 1320 followed by a year to study law at the Roman Curia, and also to transact business there for the Church at Wells. He died, at Rome, in the year 1323. He may have been related to Hugh, we do not know.

Hugh appears in the Lay Subsidy for the year 1327: '*Manerium de Brent: de Hugone de Langelonde xxd*'. He was appointed Sheriff of Dorset and Somerset on 5th December 1330, though he had been appointed Commissioner to survey measures in Somerset six years earlier, and was Knight of the Shire in 1326; his expenses for attendance at Parliament at Westminster are recorded for the year 1327 (the rate was four shillings a day). He received £14-4-0, as did John de Clyvedon under the same authorisation. In the year 1327 he was Keeper of Sherbourne Castle.

A chance reference in Burke's 'History of the Commons' tells us that Margaret Langland, Hugh's daughter, married John St Barbe, of Brent, Somerset, where Nicholas de Langelonde held land of the manor; the St Barbe family traces its history from the Conquest of 1066.

General histories of the period comment that the King's Commissioners and Justices were not infrequently assaulted; Hugh's complaint of assault at Bridgewater is recorded in the Patent Rolls of 1329. It is interesting to note that

he was re-appointed Sheriff in the year 1330; perhaps the appointment was normally for a three year term. During this term of Office a Commission of Oyer and Terminer was set up to investigate Hugh's charge that certain persons had broken in to his park at Penalyn, Cornwall, taken deer, and assaulted his servant John Bernard.

From a published pedigree of the family of Furneaux, we know that Hugh's wife was Margaret Beaupré (her first marriage was to Sir John Beaupré Kt.). She was the daughter of Sir Matthew de Fourneaux Kt who died in 1316. We know nothing more of Hugh's family, for references to wives or to children only appear where land holding is in question.

JOHN DE LANCELOND

According to the Herald's Visitation of Somerset in 1623 this John, the son of Hugh Langelond, was 'of Axbridge'. His daughter married John Roynon, whose genealogy is shown, but there is no Langelond descent; it seems that the male line of this family of Langelond died out at the end of the fourteenth century.

In 1338, John de Langeland was accused, with eight others, including the parson of the church of Cosyngton, of having broken into the coffers of Margaret de Beaupre, carrying away her goods and muniments (this was at Cumpton by Axebrugge, Somerset). The picture presented is one aspect of medieval England; of the normal life, the home life of these well to do Longlands, nothing is known.

The records from about the year 1352 tell us something of John de Langelond who, like Nicholas and Hugh, was a Commissioner, Sheriff and Justice for the same Counties. The manorial land held by him includes land of the same manors; in effect the circumstantial evidence suggests strongly that John was the son of Hugh. If this is so, then John de Langelonde was appointed collector of subsidy in Somerset during the life time of his father, for Hugh was a Justice in the year 1353.

In the year 1357 John was ordered to conduct an inquiry with the Escheator for Somerset, he had by then become Sheriff of the two Counties, Somerset and Dorset.

MANORIAL RIGHTS AND DISPUTES

In 1358, and again in 1359, John and his wife Isobell had to attend the Court of the Justices at Westminster to defend their manorial rights; in fact to

some considerable extent they were the guilty party and they freely acknowledged the rights of the claimants. On 10th May 1358 the claimants were Robert Trip, parson, and Alan Forester, Chaplain. They were granted their rights in the manors of Lanesly, Keleynek (in St Just in Penwith), Cornagh, Trew, Wyth and Pennalym (Jacobstow), and property including 500 acres of woodland. Also their rents, totalling 22s 5d 3 farthings, in Tremollou, Clompitte, Happenhall, Helfacre, Pengelly, St Issey, Penalyn, Trenewyth (in Probus), Bissack in Ladock, St Ladock (and the advowson of the church), and the manor of Northcote, Devon. All the other properties were in Cornwall. In return for their acceptance of the ruling, John and Isobell were paid 300 marks in silver.

A year later they gave up an acre of land to John Symond of Bodmin and his wife Alice, plus the advowson to the church of St Ladock, and received 100 marks. How they were able to give up their advowson rights twice is not explained. In another argument, the same year, Ralph de Trenewyth acknowledged the manorial rights of Isabell but he was permitted to occupy two messuages in Trenywith for life provided that he paid a yearly rent of two shillings and did suit at the manor court of John and Isabell. Ralph had also to perform an annual task for John and Isabell, the grinding of their corn, '*but only to the 20th. hopper*'. The property in question included pasture land with 4 plough beasts, 10 oxen, 10 cows, 5 steers, 5 heifers, 20 swine, 100 sheep and 1 'voleta' (the right to a swarm of bees) and 'reasonable estovers' (allowance of wood) in 160 acres of woodland.

On the 1st July 1359 the Lordship of the Manor of Northcote was again a matter for the court at Westminster, now claimed by Henry Percehay and John de Houndesmore; it seems that the previous hearing had not settled the question. John and Isobell, together with Robert Tryp and Alan Forester, acknowledged the rights of Henry Percehay and received 100 marks of silver.

THE MAINTENANCE OF THE KING'S PEACE 1359

The Placitorum for the year 1359 contains an interesting order in the name of the King, then at war in France, instructing the Sheriffs and other knights and officials to maintain the peace of England in the King's absence. John was one of seven officials responsible for Somerset. The text, a curious mixture of French and Latin, gives the Sheriffs authority to arrest any persons who are found to be opposed to the Royal authority and to imprison them until their eventual punishment is decreed.

The general histories of the period refer to the Great Peace, four years

after the English victory at Poitiers and just one year after the publication of this Order of the King. The war was renewed in 1369 and five years later only Calais, Bordeaux and Bayonne remained in English hands. Were the Langelonde knights ever involved directly ? We shall probably never know; the scanty records give the impression that they remained at home attending to the 'Peace of England'.

Actually, in the year 1359, a John Langlond, probably not our John of Somerset, was busy carrying out his duties as a master and keeper of Reigate quarry. Together with Henry Pouke he had power to *'select and take as many masons and other workmen as shall be necessary for digging and cutting the stones in the quarry for the King's works in the castle of Windsor, and put them to work in the quarry at the King's wages; and to arrest all contrariants and rebels, and imprison them in the castle until they find security to serve the King in the said works'*.

Routine payments for attendance at Parliament appear in the Close Rolls, in 1363 John Longelond, Sheriff of Somerset, received £14-16-0 for 37 days. In 1364 his appointment as Sheriff was renewed and in the Patent Rolls for the year 1367 we find him instructed to conduct an inquiry into a case of murder. Any persons indicted were to be safely kept in the gaol of Dorset *'until they be delivered according to the law and custom of the realm'*.

THE INQUISITION OF 1379

Twelve years later John Langelonde had died and the instructions for the Inquisition post Mortem appear in the Fine Rolls and the Calendar of Inquisitions. An entry for the third year of the reign of Richard the Second (1379) refers to *'Johes Langelonde et Isabella uxor ejus'*, that is *'his wife'*. Land was held in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. Eight manors are listed (all except one being in Devon and Cornwall) and these appear to be manors held of the King. For where parcels of land only are held, these appear to be specified, for example *'Alweston 50 ac. terr'*. The manors are those of Trewythy vocat Trenewithe, Rillaton, Keleynek, Lanfeley, Cornagh, Dygrembret and, in Somerset, Brutton. This story of manorial rights is quite confusing, for the hearings at Westminster in 1358-9 implied that John and Isabell had given up their rights, at least to some of this property.

Isobell was the daughter of Sir John de Bello Sparto, Kt Sire Beaupré, and her brother was Sir John Beaupré Kt, who seems to have inherited considerable property in the South West. The *'Miscellanea Genealogica et*

Heraldica' which gives this information refers to John Langland as 'Earl Somerset', which may mean 'of Earl Somerset', a place name, though this has not been identified.

The Fine Rolls, dated August 16th 1380, Westminster, give the order to Richard Kendale, escheator in the County of Cornwall (who had completed the Inquisition) to make a partition of the premises into three equal parts. Three daughters inherited the estate: Margaret, Joan (the wife of John Roygnon, of Axbridge, Somerset) and Agnes. They are referred to as Isobell's next heirs. John Langelond held the estate 'by courtesy of England' after the death of Isabell. This meant that a widower had the right to hold for life his deceased wife's dower land in fee simple or estate tail, provided he had had, by her, a child who was thus the wife's heir.

The manors and parcels of land correspond to the list in the Calendar of Inquisitions for the land was held by John of the King by knight's service. Agnes was still a minor and her portion was delivered to Margaret and her husband to be held until Agnes should be of age to inherit. John Roygnon was committed to pay 40 marks a year, to do service and maintain houses and outbuildings. Edmund Catesby of Co. Warwick and William de Wenlock of Co. Salop. were to stand surety.

Though there is no indication of any male heir there may have been other male relatives to carry on the family name. In the second year of the reign of King Henry IV, that is the year 1400, a grant of land to Thomas de Langelonde in the hamlet of Blanchford was confirmed by Galfrid de Mandeville.

Having regard to the heraldic evidence, any blood relationship between this family of Longland in the South West of England and that in Kinlet, Shropshire seems unlikely.

THE KING'S MARINER

In the Patent Rolls: 37 Edward III (year 1362) we find '*Solomon Longeland, King's Mariner, who has freely served the King in divers voyages beyond the seas to the utmost of his power shall not be selected against his will as a mariner to serve the King in any ship except in the King's own ship*'.

Nothing more has been discovered about Solomon Longland, not even the county of his birth. As King's Mariner he would have sailed on many

occasions to France. The war having been renewed in 1355 the victorious Edward was, by 1360, securely ruler of Aquitaine. So Solomon Longland would be familiar with the major French ports. Perhaps the basis of another Longland story is hidden in the Public Records.

LONGLAND OF YARDLEY HASTINGS,
RUTLAND, BEDFORDSHIRE AND HANTS.

The Longland family which is found in Yardley Hastings, Northants, from about the year 1690, is likely to be related to the Kinlet-Huntingdonshire families. However no documentary evidence of such a relationship has been found. In the year 1542, the rector of Kilsby, Northants., was John Longland, but this John is found to be the one from Kinlet (the Archdeacon of Buckingham) who had no other known Northants. connection. A family of 'Longlands' (with no apparent Hunts. connection) appears in the Parish Register of Maxey from 1579 to 1659.

A Francis Longland was admitted to Grays Inn in the year 1537, that is soon after the death of Lucas Longland, the bishop's brother, the only known lawyer in our Longland family; Francis has not been identified.

Laurence Longland, clerk in holy orders, appears in the Star Chamber records some time in the early to mid sixteenth century, involved in a manorial dispute at Stretton in the little county of Rutland. We know too of a family at Muston, Leicestershire, that of William and Mary Longland whose children were christened there in the years 1605 to 1609. Nothing more has come to light.

We have seen, in the Buckden story, that Robert of Goldington, Bedfordshire, was born in Buckden, Hunts. and there seems little doubt that the Bedfordshire families of Longland originated in Huntingdonshire, but the construction of a proven genealogy is beset with problems. The Longland family settled in Hampshire in the seventeenth century (briefly touched on in Chapter 11) may be closely related to those of Kinlet and Hunts. but their story remains to be more fully explored.

Those in holy orders commonly held livings away from the region of their origin. In the year 1530 a Robert Longland, was the parson of East Carlton, near Norwich, but his will tells us nothing of his county of birth.

Our curiosity is aroused by the fact that Thomas Longland, vicar of Aldworth, Berkshire, gave up his living the year 1659 '*in these troublesome times*'. Perhaps the same Thomas who was vicar of Stoke Row, Oxfordshire in

the year 1665 and was taxed on four hearths. This latter Thomas definitely came from Lincolnshire.

In the year 1713, when this account of the family focuses on Buckden and to some extent on the Longland brewers and innkeepers, another Robert Longland, a malster, died at Wallingford. The inventory, signed by Francis Longland, shows him to have been quite prosperous. He had a half share in a boat on the Thames, no doubt to deliver his beer and to collect the hops. Nothing more is known about him.

LONGLAND FAMILIES OF LONDON

There were Longland families in several London parishes and those connected with the innkeepers of Buckden are part of our story. There remain others whose origins have not been researched: John who was admitted to the Company of Merchant Taylors in the year 1674, John the sailmaker of St Pauls (Shadwell) in 1704, another John, late mariner of the 'Vigilant' in 1789. The family of Francis Longland, clockmakers in 1671 and into the eighteenth century. In 1626/7, Ambrose Longland is named as one of the creditors in the administration of the estate of Anne Ascough of Holborne.

LONGLAND EMIGRANTS

The Huntingdonshire Longlands did not stray far from the county of their birth; even Palmer Longland the schoolmaster returned, for a time, to a Cambridgeshire village within sight of the Huntingdonshire countryside.

Of the ancient Kinlet family it was Church preferment, Royal Patronage or gifts of land which, in each case, imposed some mobility. Charles of Leghorn, the last of that senior line, would gladly have returned home given the right circumstances.

The name Longland can be found in lists of emigrants. In the year 1650 a William Longland arrived in Virginia and he appears in the list of land allotments. Of William we know nothing more.

It is in Australia that many direct descendants of the Longland family of Yardley Hastings, Northants. may be found. Jonathan Longland, son of David and Anne was born at Yardley Hastings in 1837. He emigrated in 1856 to join his brother David in New South Wales. Their story lies outside the scope of this book.

THE FAMILY OF FULLARD

The marriage of Martha Longland to John Fullard in the year 1817 is part of the Warboys story. It was their son, Frederick, who emigrated to Australia in 1865 following his marriage with Emily Fairey.

Frederick and Emily arrived in Australia on 4th September having endured 102 days at sea in the barque 'Josephine', a vessel of only 585 tons. We can only begin to imagine the discomfort and the real hazards of such a voyage and wonder at the motives which produced such courage.

Emily was the sister of the Reverend Samuel Fairey of St. Neots; he too went out to Australia. Frederick had been a local Baptist preacher in England, he was baptised at Warboys in 1862 and preached at Warboys two years later. In Australia he continued his ministry, also farming rented land at least during the early years in their adopted country. His small income from the Baptist congregation was supplemented by the income from farming, and those years were hard for the young family. A dedicated preacher throughout his life, Frederick died in 1912 at Sydney where he had been minister for five years. Amongst the weathered memorials in the churchyard at Wistow is still found the gravestone of his sisters, Ann Mary and Sarah Small. So we are reminded of John Longland of Warboys, for his first wife, Sara Small Hennesey, was of course their grandmother.

Frederick's grandson, Leonard Fullard MBE, a Bachelor of Music of the University of Melbourne, was organist and master of the choristers at Christ Church, South Yarra for 38 years. In 1950 he inaugurated the Melbourne Bach Festival which he conducted annually until his death in 1988. He founded the Oriana Madrigal Choir and the Dorian Singers. These choirs specialised in music of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and English 20th century works. Many performances were broadcast by the ABC. As teacher, recitalist, adjudicator and lecturer he was noted for his scholarly approach, particularly in the teaching of the organ works of J.S. Bach.

We find the name 'Longland' to have been remembered by Frederick and Emily for two of their sons were John Longland Fullard and Samuel Longland Fullard. The story of the Fullards is not developed further here but their ancestry may be traced back to Edward Fullard of St Ives and Woodhurst in the eighteenth century. There was an earlier Edward, of Offord Cluny, listed in the Hearth Tax of 1674 with 5 hearths. The absence of the name 'Fullard' from the earlier English records searched suggests an origin elsewhere.

The surname has not been found among lists of Huguenot families but the French surname 'Fouillard' appears in a dictionary of surnames published in 1951 (Larousse).

OTHER RELATED FAMILIES

This account of the family of Longland has revealed many other families whose histories must be left to others to pursue. Here their family names are given, more or less in chronological order as they occur in the text. The history of any one of these families might well reveal more of the Longland story, supporting or correcting some of the subjective conclusions which have been drawn. This list relates only to the Longland family of Kinlet, and of the County of Huntingdon, and their descendants. Thus, provisionally, Longland families of Northants or Lincolnshire origin are not included; even so we have here just over 140 families.

PATE

Bishop Longland's sister and John Pate of Henley. reference will of John Pate, 1520. Date of marriage not known. Their son, Richard, was the Catholic bishop of Worcester.

CARTER

William Longland (of Kinlet ?) and Elyn Carter, at Chaddesley Corbett 1543.

STRATTON

The family at Wichendon, related by marriage. Sixteenth century.

JARMAINE, OR JARMAN

The first Thomas Longland of Buckden and Joan Jarmaine of Offord Cluny, daughter of a yeoman or husbandman, at Buckden, 1576.

WARRIL OR VARILL

The first Rowland Longland of Buckden and Alice Warril, at Buckden, 1584.

SMITH

Margaret Longland (of Kinlet) and Ambrose Smith, at Tingewick 1588

WILLIAMS

Margaret Longland and Erasmus Williams following the death of her first husband Ambrose Smith, at Tingewick, Bucks. 1592.

CLARKE

Elizabeth Longland and Reynold Clarke, at Buckden, 1599

EDOLPH

Edward Longland (of Tingewick and Windsor) and Cicely Edolph.
c1600 This ancient family of Kentish origin occurs in Herald's
visitations.

POWNEY

Joan Longland, of Kinlet, and George Powney at Nene Savage 1601.

SACCAVERILL

Cicely, the daughter of the above Margaret and Erasmus Williams,
and Ambrose Saccaverill. c. 1616. A continuation of the clerical
tradition, with links with New College, Oxford.

PULLEN

Elizabeth Langland (of Tingewick) and Frances Pullen, at Quainton,
1617.

GIBSON

Rowland Longland and Lettice Gibson, at Buckden, 1617.

Harris

(Cicely) Longland married John Harris at Datchet, 1618

CROFT OR CROFTS

Humfrey Longland, probably of Buckden, and Jane Crofts of Offord
Cluny. 1624.

INGRAM

Ellen Longland and William Ingram, at Buckden, 1626.

CHRISTMAS

Catherine Longland married William Christmas, at Buckden, 1634.

PRATT

Also (Alice) Longland and John Pratt, at Buckden, 1634.

GLOVER

Joan Longland and Robert Glover, at Buckden, 1635

NEWALL

Rowland Longland and Ann Newall, at Buckden, 1644.

COLLIN

Mary Longland, daughter of John Longland, the elder, and William Collin, at Buckden, 1654.

RILEY

Jane Longland of Offord Cluny and Henry Riley of Eynesbury, at Offord Cluny 1665.

POPE

William Longland and Frances Pope/Poope at Little Paxton 1668

WARNER

Elizabeth, sister of William Longland of Buckden, and Thomas Warner of London. c.1675

AUBERRY

John Longland of Buckden and Mary Auberry, at Southoe, 1677

MARSHALL

Thomas Longland of Buckden and Elizabeth Marshall at Southoe.1682

WRIGHT

John Longland, malster, to marry Christian Wright. (bond) 1683.

COLLIN

Susan Longland and William Collin, at Buckden, 1684.

MASON

Ann Longland and William Mason, at Little Paxton, 1685.

COUSENS

Mary Longland and John Cousens, at Little Paxton, 1691

CLAYTON

Charles Longland, of London gent. and Elizabeth Clayton, St Anne's
Westminster, 1691

PEAR

Elizabeth Longland and Thomas Pear of Bedford, at Buckden, 1691

Turner

Robert Longland and Mary Turner of Buckden at Huntingdon
All Saints 1692

PHILLIPS

Mary Longland and Samuel Phillips, at Buckden, 1702

ABBOTT

John Longland of St Neots married Mary Abbott, 1703.

BURDER

Ellen (Eleanor) Longland and John Burder, at Buckden. 1703

WRIGHT

Henry Longland and Sara Wright, at Buckden, 1705

HOWITT

Robert Longland and (widow) Howitt at Buckden 1708

LOVEL

Mary Longland (of Paxton) and Robert Lovel, at Roxton, Beds. 1708.

HARPER

John Longland of Paxton and Mary Harper of Rayhouse at Southoe, 1710

MORTON

Elizabeth Longland married John Morton at Buckden, 1710

CARTWRIGHT

Thomas Longland and Mary Cartwright, daughter of Edward
Cartwright, malster, at Buckden, 1710

ALLISON

Elizabeth/Ann Longland and Thomas Allison, at Buckden, 1712

KEY

Robert Longland and Mary Key at Buckden, 1713.

BURDER

Robert Longland and Susanna Burder at Cambridge, All Saints, 1714.

NORMAN

Robert Longland and Ann Norman at Buckden, 1714.

RAYMENT

Mary Longland and Hamont Rayment/Rayment, at Buckden, 1714.

DESBOROUGH

Alice Longland, daughter of John Longland of Buckden, and Lawrence Desborough, at Buckden, 1715.

LENTON

Martha Longland and Matthew Lenton, at Buckden, 1720.

JOYCE

Katherine, daughter of Thomas Longland of Warboys, and Edward Joyce of Hatfield, at Little B (?) Hertford, 1720

WARD

Elizabeth Longland and Joseph Ward, at Warboys, 1722

BARKER

Thomas Longland, yeoman of Buckden, and Hannah Barker, of Swineshead, Beds. at Swineshead, 1723.

HUGHES

Robert Longland and Susan Hughes, at Buckden, 1725

TAYLOR

Thomas Longland and Ann Taylor, at Eyensbury, 1727

HARPER

Henry Longland of Buckden and Hannah Harper, of All Saints, Huntingdon, 1730.

WALGATE

Thomas Longland and Mary Walgate, at Buckden, 1730.

LAVENDER

Thomas Longland and Sarah Lavender, at Warboys, 1735.
Note that 'Lavender' as a first name was used by the junior descendants.

KIDMAN

Ann Longland and Benjamin Kidman at Brampton, 1736.

CLARK

Susannah Longland and Thomas Clark at Kimbolton, 1746.

MEHEW

Mary Longland, to marry William Mehew, butcher, of Swineshead. At Swineshead or Harold. (Allegation) 1746.

MORRIS

Thomas Longland and Mary Morris, at Buckden, 1748.

CANARD

William Longland and Susan Canard, at Buckden, 1750.

MORTON

Robert Longland, widower, and Ann Morton, at Buckden, 1755.

WATSON, LUDDINGTON

Martha Longland of Buckden and William Watson.
subsequently, Martha (widow) and (--) Luddington. c. 1755

SILK

Sarah Longland, of the Buckden Innholders, and Robert Silk, at Buckden, 1755.

DIXIE

Hannah Longland and John Dixie, at Buckden, 1756.

CANNON

Mary Longland and John Cannon, at Buckden, 1757.

WYNN

Mary Maria Longland and Henry Wynn, at Buckden, 1761.

HOPKINS

Sarah Longland and Thomas Hopkins, at Buckden, 1762.

CRISPIN

Susan Longland, daughter of William Longland (innholder) of Buckden, and Daniel Crispin, surgeon. at St Neots, 1763.

HEARD

Thomas Longland, son of the above Thomas, and Ann Heard, at Warboys, 1764.

WRIGHT

Henry Longland and Anne Wright at Bythorne, 1765.

WALTON

Elizabeth Longland, of Buckden, and George Walton. c.1765

TOPHAM

Mary Longland and Thomas Topham at St Neots, 1769.

GREEN

William Longland and Sarah Green, at Buckden, 1770.

BIGG

John Longland, blacksmith, and Mary Bigg, at Hitchin, 1770.

BELL

Ann Longland, widow, and John Bell, at Buckden, 1771

WALLER

Francis Longland, daughter of William Longland (innkeeper) and John Waller, attorney, at Buckden, 1771.

PRIESTLY

Sarah Longland, widow, and Stephen Priestly, at Buckden, 1781

EKINS

Ann Longland, of Warboys and George Ekins (from Northants) at Warboys, 1784, beginning a long association between the two families.

KENT

Thomas Longland of Buckden and Elizabeth Kent, at St Neots, 1784.

WILDS

Henry Longland and Anne Wilds, at Houghton, 1790

HENNESSEY

John Longland of Warboys (of the senior branch) and Sarah Small Hennesey at Brampton, 1794.

HADNAM

James Longland and Sarah Hadnam, at Huntingdon, St Mary & St Benedict, 1795.

WADE

Elizabeth Longland and William Wade, at Buckden, 1799.

BROUGHTON

Thomas Longland (of St Neots) and Ann Broughton at Warboys, 1800.

BEDFORD

John Longland, brother of the above Thomas, and Hannah Bedford at Warboys, 1800.

MOWLEM

James Longland and Rebecca Mowlem at Cambridge, St Michaels, 1800.

CHAPMAN

James Longland, widower, and Mary Chapman, widow, at Cambridge St Michaels, 1801.

NICHOLS

Elizabeth Longland, of Buckden, and Edward Nichols, at Buckden, 1802.

DOCKERILL

John Longland of Warboys (above) AND Louisa Dockerill (following the death of Sarah Small) at Warboys, 1806.

ALDERS

Charles Longland and Mary Alders, at Buckden, 1807.

BALL

Susan Longland and William Ball, at Old Hurst, 1809

JOHNSON

John Longland, carpenter, widower, and Elizabeth Johnson, at Warboys, 1811.

SELBY

Louisa Longland, daughter of John Longland, farmer of Warboys, and John Selby of Northants. c. 1811.

GILBERT

Elizabeth Longland and James Gilbert, at Stevenage, Herts. 1814.

FULLARD

Martha Longland (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and John Fullard, at Warboys, 1817. See text for note on the Fullard family.

BRIGHT

Robert Longland, shoemaker of Huntingdon (St Mary) to be married to Sara Bright, of Hemingford Abbots, at Hemingford. (Allegation) 1819

CLARK

James Longland of Old Hurst and Sarah Clark, at Graffham, 1820

MEADOWS

Ann Longland (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and Harvey Meadows. at Warboys, 1820.

MAXWELL

Drusilla Longland (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and John Maxwell of Thorney, at Warboys, 1821.

CHILD

John Longland of Warboys, farmer, widower, and Martha Child, following the death of Louisa. At Warboys, 1821.

DRING

Thomas Longland, carpenter, and Eleanor Dring, at Warboys, 1825.

WHITTLESEA

Eleanor Longland and Joseph Wittlesea, at Somersham, 1828.

HARVEY

Mary Longland and Thomas Harvy, publican, at Warboys, 1830.

CHILD

Thomas Longland and Elizabeth Child, at Warboys, 1833.

HARVEY

Elizabeth Longland (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and William Harvey, farmer. At Warboys, 1842.

GOAKES

Sarah Ann Longland (daughter of Lavender Longland) and Isaac Goakes, labourer, at Ramsey, 1851.

ROGERS

Elizabeth Harvey, widow (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and James Rogers at Warboys, 1852.

JACKSON

Thomas Longland, carpenter (son of Thomas) and Jane Jackson, at Warboys, 1852.

ROBINSON

George Longland, labourer (son of Lavender) and Ann Seekings Robinson, at Ramsey, 1855.

GRANGE

Mary Longland (daughter of Thomas, carpenter) and John Grange, at Warboys, 1856.

CORNEY

Sarah Ann Goakes, widow (daughter of Lavender Longland) and John Corney, at Ramsey, 1857.

KILBY

Lavender Longland (son of Lavender) and Elizabeth Kilby, at Ramsey, 1857.

EKINS

Martha Elizabeth (daughter of Thomas Longland, farmer of Warboys) and Lewis Ekins, at Warboys, 1860.

WOOLSTENHOMES

Annie Longland (daughter of Thomas Longland, farmer of Warboys) and William Wolstenholmes of Somersham, at Warboys 1861.

BOYCE

Martha Longland (daughter of Thomas, carpenter of Warboys) and William Boyce, servant, at Warboys, 1864.

CHARITY

John Palmer Longland, labourer, of Ramsey, and Martha Charity of Somersham, at Somersham, 1865.

BLOTT

Agnes Mary Longland (daughter of Thomas Longland , farmer) and Thomas Blott, farmer of Colne. At Warboys, 1867

LANCASTER

Louisa Longland (daughter of Lavender, butcher) and Jonas Allen Lancaster, at Ramsey, 1871.

MAYCOCK

William Longland (son of Thomas, carpenter of Warboys) and Julia Ann Maycock, at Warboys, 1874.

PAMMENTER

George Longland, bricklayer (son of Thomas, carpenter of Warboys) and Shirley Pammenter of Pidley, at Warboys, 1883.

HYDE

Charles Longland (son of Thomas, carpenter of Warboys) and Jane Hyde at Warboys, 1886.

EKINS

Charles John Longland, son of John Longland of Warboys, farmer, and Temperance Ekins of Wennington. c. 1890

NEWTON

Lavender Longland, coal merchant (son of John Palmer Longland, farmer) and Annie Newton, at Ramsey, 1890.

WYKES

Susannah Longland (daughter of John Palmer Longland) and William Leonard Wykes, at Ramsey, 1891.

EKINS

Alice Marian Longland (daughter of John Longland, farmer) and George Lewis Ekins, at Warboys. 1891.

SALMON

George Longland, Engineer (son of Lavendar Longland of Ramsey) and Margaret Ann Salmon at Ramsey, 1893.

FREEMANTLE

Palmer Longland, schoolmaster (son of George Longland of Ramsey) and Ellen Elizabeth Freemantle of Old Charlton, at Old Charlton, Kent, 1894.

RAMPLEY

Tom Longland, farmer of Warboys, and Catherine Beatrice Rampley of Southoe, at Southoe 1896

NEWTON

Louisa Longland, daughter of John Palmer Longland (deceased) and Rose Alfred Newton, at Ramsey, 1912.

PARSONS

Irene Longland, daughter of Charles John Longland of Little Ravelly and Fred Parsons, farmer of Somersham, c. 1916.

BETTS

George Longland, Engineer (son of George Longland of Ramsey) and Minnie May Betts at Peterborough, 25th December 1919.

BINDER

Evelyn May Longland, daughter of Lavender Longland, and William Binder, at Ramsey, 1919.

SHELTON

Annie Longland, daughter of Lavender Longland, and Wilfred Shelton. at Ramsey, 1920.

ACOMB

William Newton Longland, son of Lavender Longland, and Vinette Acomb, daughter of Lewis Acomb. At Ramsey, 1926.

LANGLEY

Martha Gertrude Longland, daughter of Lavender Longland of Field Rd. Ramsey, and Fred Charles Langley, at Ramsey, 1928.

SWIFT

John Palmer Longland, son of Lavender Longland, and Florence Swift, at Ramsey, 1932.

CHANTLER

Edith Annie Longland, daughter of Lavender Longland, and Leonard Chantler of Horsham, Sussex, at Ramsey, 1935.

LANDIN

Mary Elizabeth Longland, daughter of William Longland (farmer) of Blenheim Rd. Ramsey, and Albert Edward Landin, at Ramsey, 1936.

RICHARDSON

Thomas Newton Longland, son of Lavender Longland, and Penelope Richardson, of Mereside, at Ramsey, 1937.

LINCOLN

Betty Longland (daughter of George Longland, Engineer of Crowland, Lincs) and Alan Lincoln of South Shields at St Neots, 1944

RICHARDSON

William Lavender Longland and Ivy Richardson, 1954.

CHORLEY

Margaret Longland (daughter of George Longland, engineer of Crowland, Lincs) and Lawrence Chorley of Stockport, Cheshire, at Crowland, 1954.

O'NEIL

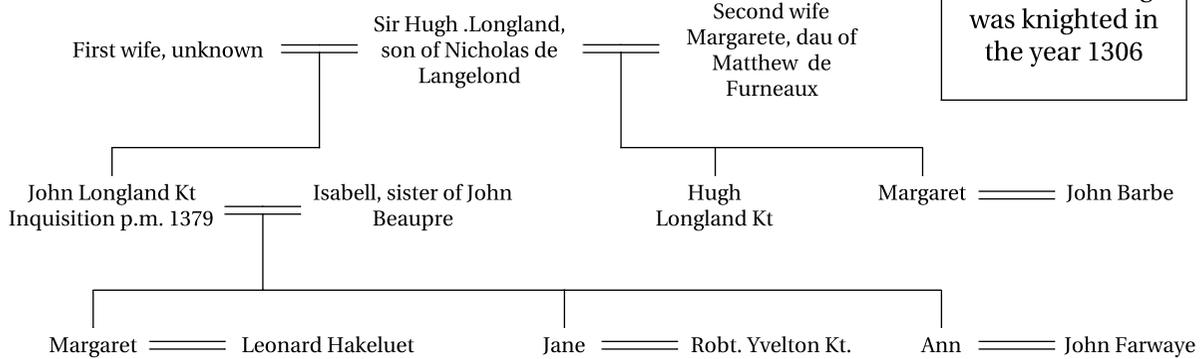
Elaine, daughter of William Lavender Longland, and (?) O'Neill, 1981.

NELSON

Richard William Longland, son of William Lavender Longland, and (?) Nelson 1982.

**Longland
Family of
Somerset
c. 1300-1400**

Nicholas was granted land of the King in the year 1308. The first Sir Hugh was knighted in the year 1306



354

refer to
Chapter Fourteen

Jane's second marriage was to
Richard Roynyon

data from published
pedigrees and Heralds'
Visitations







PART III





Chapter Fifteen

THE ANCESTRY OF GEORGE LONGLAND OF RAMSEY

1834-1923

George Longland of Ramsey, his ancestry

In presenting the Longland story, the movement and activity of family groups, rather than the construction of genealogical trees, became the dominant theme. This approach seemed to be not only the most satisfactory response to the data available but one which could demonstrate an overall continuity of family, despite the occasional genealogical discontinuity.

In this way the life of the groups and the things they accomplished, seen against the historical and economic background, became the substance of the story. None the less, the genealogy cannot be ignored, and where the data is adequate family trees have been constructed.

The initial project was launched with the simple aim of discovering the ancestors of George Longland of Ramsey, the engineer who lived from 1834 to 1923. The Ramsey chapter alone contains far more than just George's own story and the accounts of the families in early times may seem far removed from that of George's immediate forebears. This chapter concentrates on the question of his direct ancestry.

The account of the search begins with his birth in the year 1834 and continues step by step, back in time, through the church registers. As difficulties present themselves some explanation is given of the solutions adopted. There remains the possibility that the discovery of new facts, that is prior to about 1770, could result in a more accurate account of his ancestry. That they could support a radically different story seems, to the author, rather unlikely.

The 'modern period' presents no problem for it relies on the records of family registration. The summary which follows commences in 1834.

FROM 1834 BACK TO 1778

GEORGE LONGLAND'S PARENTS.

The entry of the baptism of George in the Warboys register states that his parents were Lavender and Elizabeth Longland. Registered, St Catherines House March 1834.

LAVENDER LONGLAND OF WARBOYS

His baptism is recorded in the church register, in 1807, son of John Longland, carpenter, and Hannah. The marriage of Lavender Longland and Elizabeth Palmer is recorded in the church register, at Warboys, 27th April 1831.

JOHN LONGLAND, CARPENTER, OF WARBOYS,
THE FATHER OF LAVENDER LONGLAND.

In the 1851 Census, John gives his age (74) and his birthplace (St Neots, Hunts.) His marriage to Hannah Bedford is recorded in the Warboys register in the year 1800. His baptism, son of John, victualler, is recorded at St Neots in August 1778. His uncle Thomas Longland of Warboys, who died in 1820, was the brother of John, victualler of St Neots. The relevant wills of Thomas (the carpenter) and 'Uncle' Thomas (the landowner) confirm the relationships. Their father was the elder Thomas who married Sarah Lavender at Warboys in 1735.

JOHN LONGLAND, VICTUALLER, OF ST NEOTS.

Here we meet our first serious difficulty due largely to the poor condition of the church register during the critical years. Neither are there any wills of the Longland butchers of St Neots from whom it is assumed that the Warboys family descended. The baptism of John Longland, son of Thomas, is recorded at Warboys in 1746 after which he does not appear in any Warboys document.

The possibility that the origins of this branch of the family lay elsewhere, in some other part of England, has been considered. There is no evidence of any link between the Longland families in Huntingdonshire and those in Lincolnshire.

Those in Northern England and Scotland appear to be equally detached. So the St Neots- Buckden link continued to be the working assumption in the search for the origins of the St Neots family. The accumulative circumstantial evidence gives strong support.

THOMAS LONGLAND, THE ELDER, OF WARBOYS AND OF ST NEOTS

We know so little of Thomas Longland of Warboys the father of John Longland, victualler of St Neots. Very likely he was the butcher of St Neots who held some land of Buckden manor in the year 1746.

THE ST NEOTS ANCESTRY

The earlier generations of the Longland family in St Neots feature in taxation records and in the minutes of vestry meetings but not in the surviving church registers. As has been noted in the St Neots story this is due to the late date of commencement of the register, and to the gaps in the Bishop's

Transcripts, not to mention their condition. Consequently, the data supports a 'story' but a not, prior to 1770, a complete genealogy. The father of Thomas, the elder, referred to above, may have been Henry or equally John Longland. They were both butchers of St. Neots. It is the will of John Longland, yeoman of Buckden, which states that his brother Henry was a butcher of St Neots. This and the Little Paxton references allow a construction of family relationships which illustrates a probable ancestry of George Longland of Ramsey.

THE BUCKDEN PERIOD

If we accept that Henry Longland, butcher of St Neots in the year 1686, was the ancestor of George of Ramsey, it then follows that his earlier ancestry should be found in that of the yeomen families of Buckden.

In spite of the wealth of Buckden data the date of birth of John Longland, yeoman, brother of Henry the butcher, cannot be ascertained. However, the broad pattern of family development may be resolved into two groups, each descended from the Thomas Longland who married Joan Jarmaine in the year 1576. The St Neots butchers are thought to be descended from Henry, son of that earlier Thomas, whereas the Buckden blacksmiths are traced back to John, a brother of Henry. In this way, the family groups, their pursuits and location support a tentative genealogy, for no other approach provides a 'solution'.

We cannot overlook the fact that Thomas Longland, the husbandman or yeoman who was established in Buckden in 1576, had a brother, Rowland Longland; he too had descendants. This branch is shown to be the one with London connections, whose senior members became innholders.

THE KINLET PERIOD.

The documents are few and the parish registers more or less non existent, yet what has been located is vital to the story and the reader is referred to the relevant chapter. That Thomas Longland of Kinlet, with the bishop's encouragement, intended to move to Buckden in the year 1547 is certain. That two Longland families were established there thirty years later is also clear from the local records.

The available evidence leads us to believe that George Longland of Ramsey, the grandson of John of St. Neots, was of that same Huntingdonshire family whose ancestors were tenants of the manor of Kinlet, Shropshire, in the fourteenth century.





Glossary, with some historical notes

- Advowsons: right of presentation to a benefice or living.
Bodies: parts of dresses above the waist.
Broche: a spit, for roasting meat.
Bugden: earlier spelling of 'Buckden', Huntingdonshire.
Bushel: measure of capacity equal to 8 gallons (4 pecks).
Codpiece: the bag attached to the front of male hose or breeches, often conspicuous.
Convocation : legislative assembly (Oxford University).
Copyholders: many Longlands were copyholders. Though small static rents were paid to the Lord of the Manor this form of land holding (which came to an end in the twentieth century) came to be described 'as good as freehold'.
Cromwell, Thomas, chief statesman exercising considerable power as the King's representative (not the much later Oliver).
Culemites: a opprobrious term for those Dissenters (sects outside the Established Church) of an Evangelical nature, born again Christians.
Demy : foundation scholar, Magdalen College, Oxford.
Donne, John : poet, Anglican priest, contemporary of Margaret Longland, wife of Erasmus Williams, rector of Tyngewick.
Dowlis: coarse linen
Ell: a measure equal to 45 inches
Enclosure: Land which had been for common use was by Act of Paliament becoming fenced off so that proprietors increased their holdings, smaller men losing their grazing rights.
Fine: commonly, routine payments to the Lord of the Manor (on admission to a manorial holding).
Grist: corn.
Half Angels: gold coin.
Hall's Chronicles : English) history, by Edward Hall, published 1550.
Hanaper : department of Chancery into which legal fees were paid.
Holland: linen fabric
Leghorn : the English name for the town and port of Livorno, Italy.
Liber Cleri : Lincoln Diocese records of Parish priests.
Lincey wolcey: inferior wool.
Marshalsea : a London prison.
Messuage : dwelling house with grounds.

More & Erasmus : Thomas More, Chancellor of England and Catholic martyr.
Erasmus of Rotterdam, humanist, scholar, theologian. John Longland seems to
have been more sympathetic towards Erasmus: torn between Catholicism
and the spirit of Reform.

Paragon: double camlet, camel's hair or wool-silk combination.

Prebend : income, from land, assigned by a cathedral to a Canon or other
dignitary.

Shift: a body garment of linen or cotton.

Sophistry : the pursuit of knowledge and its communication by reasoning.

Stammel: coarse woollen cloth.

Stuff whisk: a neckerchief, probably of wool.

Surrender (of Manorial property): for example to the 'use of his will'. The
registration of the Manor Court which ensured that copyhold land would
pass, on death, as the tenant's will directed.

Tenement : a manorial holding of land or buildings.

The Town House. Many parishes had a town house which was church property.

At Little Paxton, in the late 1600s, William Longland was the tenant; it
may have been common practice for a parish official to occupy the house.

Wood, Anthony: Oxford historian.

Yeoman : freeholder or tenant above the class of husbandman.

Yeoman, husbandman, gentleman: these references to Thomas Longland of
Warboys seem to indicate that he was adding significantly to his manorial
copyhold over a fairly short period of time, progressing from the status of
a practical farmer to that of a substantial landholder. He himself liked to
known as a farmer.

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