

CHAPTER 1 EARLY TAVERNERS

The first Taverners we know of were living in the reign of Edward I around 1272. In Sir Henry Channycy's historical antiquities of Hertfordshire - a copy can be found in Stoke Newington Library, a family tree of the Taverners is given. This tree was generated by Francis Taverner in the Mid 17th Century whilst he was Lord of the Manor of Hexton, in Hertfordshire. He was a noted historian and I have copies of some of his hand written notes describing Hexton in 1638. He traced his ancestors back to North Elmham in Norfolk in 1272 when **RALPH LE TAVERNER HAD LAND IN NORTH ELMHAM ABOUT 1272**. It is quite possible and likely that the land was the Taverners property long before 1272, it was in Edward I reign that much land ownership appears as written deeds. Before this land was sworn to be owned to by 3 or 4 respected local dignitaries. This branch - or rather the eldest son of this branch of the Taverners owned land in North Elmham at least until **Thomas Taverner in 1650**. The reason the eldest sons inherited is interesting. Long before William and the Domesday Survey the Lord of the area and King of the Country expected his landholders to provide soldiers in time of war. 1 hide (about 120 acres) was the area needed to support 1 family, who in turn was expected to supply 1 soldier, a 'hundred' was a group of 100 hides or 100 families. If a hide was divided between 2 sons for example which would provide the soldier? So hides had to remain intact as a unit. - Other terms used in the domesday text are given elsewhere in this book. As warfare became more sophisticated and soldiers dress more complex it took the efforts of 5 hides to provide 1 soldier. But I digress. It is very difficult to obtain good records before the mid 16th century when in 1538 churches were forced to keep proper records of Births, Marriages & Deaths. Records between 12th century and 16th century are normally of land transactions, or criminal proceedings. From these we can get some other Early Taverners names and occupations. A list of sources consulted so far appears elsewhere. Returning to Ralph le Taverner.

In 1287 "**Ralph Le Taverner** was executor of the will of Robert de Caringham late citizen of London". This information comes from Volume 2 of "A Catalogue of Ancient Deeds" Middlesex P75 A2403. Could this Ralph le Taverner be the same who is recorded as having lands in North Elmham? if so, it shows that Ralph spent time in London. One of the notable features of the Taverners is their mobility. We will learn more of this later.

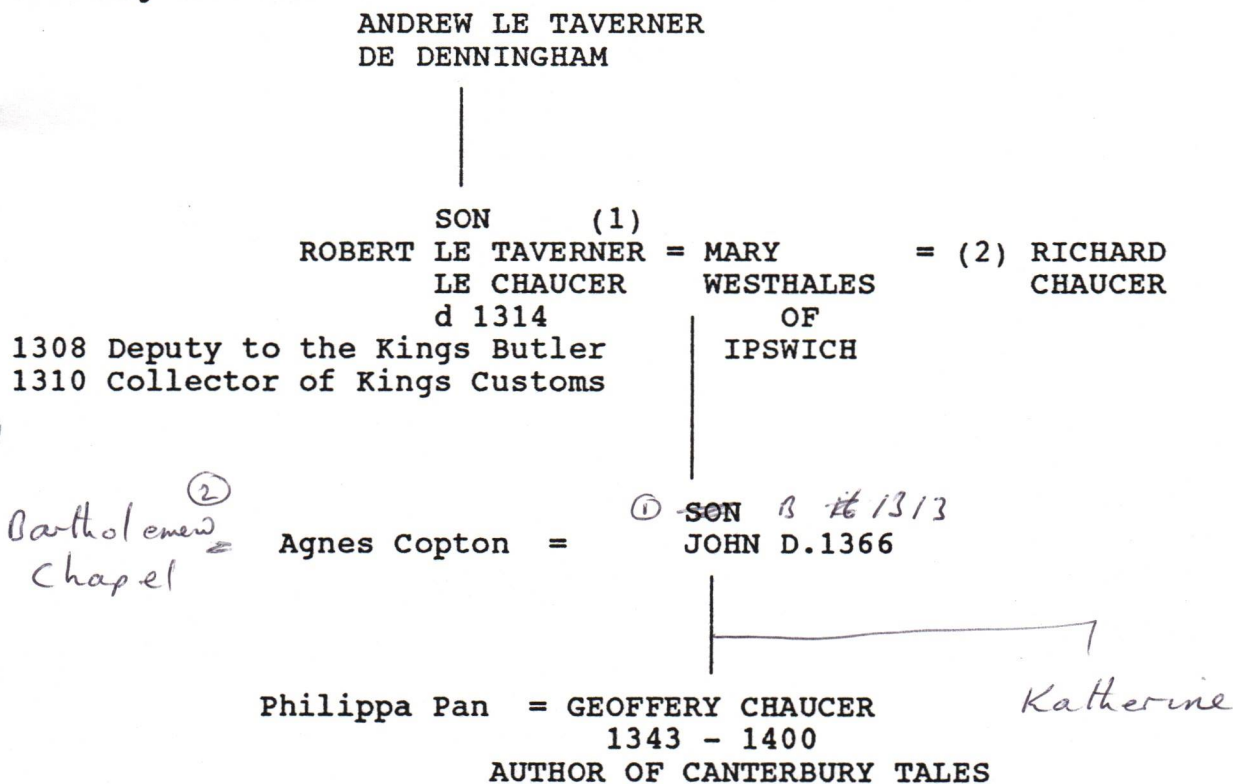
Also in 1287 a grant by Gilbert de la March to **Ralph le Taverner & German Clerk**, will of Robert of Caringham - land in christmas land in St Olave's parish by Tower of London.

The Chaucer connection with the le Taverners

Geoffery Chaucer (1343 to 1400) wrote one of the world's great classics "The Canterbury Tales". His grandfather Robert mainly lived in Ipswich, but had London connections. Surnames could be haphazard things in the middle ages and Robert was no exception. He was known as "le Taverner" The Poets Great Grandfather was Andrew le Taverner which probably meant some of them were tavern keepers says the author of a book "The life and times of Chaucer" P24 & 25. Tavern keepers were by law distinct from Vintners, he says, the one a retailer the other a socially elevated wholesaler.

Robert Chaucer lived in Cordwainer Street (shoemaker or leatherworker street). He was variously known as Robert le Saddler or Robert Chaucer (French "Chaussier" or shoemaker), he was also known as Robert of Dennington as was Andrew, which suggests he owned land or property in Dennington (Suffolk), he also appears as Robert Malyn ie Robert of Great Lynn, Robert of Ipswich and Robert Malin le Chaucer, he did have relations in all of these places.

A Family Tree follows:-



This branch of the Taverners was alive at the same time that **Ralph le Taverner** was in London, although I have no proof that the two families were related. Clearly, if anyone owning a Tavern can be called Taverner there must be many unrelated families with the name.

We also see further proof that Taverners were suppliers of wines, and were not always paid.

18th June 1305. The Dean and Chapter of Chichester paid £31.10 in arrears to **Robert le Taverner** and others for money due to them for wines supplied for the king's use in June 33rd year (of Edward I). The king must have stayed at Chichester, it is probable that **Robert le Taverner** is the grandfather of Geoffery Chaucer, we know that in 1308 Robert le Taverner was made Deputy Butler to the king, therefore he must have been involved with supplying the King before 1308.

In "The Catalogue of Ancient Deeds" volume 2 page 473 April 23 1306 Walvesey. **Walter le Taverner** and 3 others made complaint that as merchants of sandwich they had loaded up in Bordeaux goods for London. The ship was wrecked near Carne Castle. Some men and 2 dogs came ashore and therefore it could not be considered a wreck - yet some men of Dorset cut the ship and gear to pieces and carried away the goods. No doubt the cargo was wine for London.

This is confirmed later when on p499 February 18th at Lanercost a licence was granted to export corn and other victuals to Gascony notwithstanding the late ordinance of the king and council, as he intends to bring back wine. The like for the following: The Barons of the Cinque Ports, Nicholas Archer Baron of the Port of Dover, **Walter le Taverner** Baron of the Port of Sandwich, Nicholas Adelaid Baron of the Port of Wynchelse.

So Walter in 1306 was Baron of the Port of Sandwich - A very influential position in the country and again there in the association with wine, shipping and travel.

ROBERT LE TAVERNER
WALTER LE TAVERNER
RALPH LE TAVERNER

Were all in there own way associates, by name and 2 of them by profession, and were associated with London. Did they all know each other? were they related? We will probably never know. Certainly we can say that Le Taverners were at court and associated with King Edward 1.

Other references to early Taverners 1200 - 1299

D 1206 - Lichfield, **William le Taverner** and others given letters patent to appear before the treasury and barons of the exchequer and others at Westminster on Monday 1st St Mark the Evangelist and touch upon matters affecting the profit of the king and commonality of his Realm. 20-4-Edward I 1272 to 1307 (Ancient deeds Volume 3). Which seems a very definite summons to someone of significance - Lichfield is not North Elmham and thus William le Taverner is again unlikely to be related to the Taverners of Norfolk.

Not all Taverners were nice, one or two examples serve to illustrate the point. 290 from the calendar of Patent Rolls 24th May 1278. Westminster complaint by Robert and Matilda de Croxton that....amongst others **Hugh le Taverner** and **Richard Le Taverner** came to their house in Croxton and carried away their goods. Unfortunately this glimpse is one sided, no doubt Hugh & Richard had reason for taking their goods. (Croxton is 5 miles North of North Elmham).

ANOTHER TAVERNER STORY

1292 Gift for good services rendered to Eleanor, late Queen of England to **Thomas le Taverner** of Overton (15 miles south of Chester) of 6 messuages and 60 acres of land in Overton to be held by said Thomas and his heirs (messuage = farm).

1292 Gift to **Thomas le Taverner** of Overton in Meullor Seysenck of a plot of land in Overton lying between King Strumming to the Bridge of Bangor-On-Dee is 3 miles North of Overton on the east and the land of Richard De Felton on the west. Eleanor lady of the town to be held for 1/40 of a knight's fee.

1333 Charter at Berwick-on-Tweed, **Thomas le Taverner** of Overton Mayllar Seysenck license for Thomas to give land to William de Doncaster, letter patent at Thundersley.

It would be interesting to know what service Thomas had done for Eleanor and why 40 years later he, or his son had to sell it.

OTHER EARLY REFERENCES TO TAVERNERS

1273 **Nicholas le Vinetur**, who owned a Tavern and his wife Maude sued the abbot of Missenden for lands. - This note in dad's writing - I recall that the law suit concerned the purity of water downstream from the priory. Interestingly in 1545 **Richard** and **Robert Taverner** owned a mill at Missenden called Deep Water. I visited the mill in about 1985.

1300 - 1399 Boston Lincs, A guild of corpus christie was formed by a group of 30 men including a **John Taverner**. NB **John Taverner** (famous musician) became a member of the same guild in 1540 and treasurer in 1541.

From extracts from ancient deeds.

1361 Kent (B3072) We hear of a grant by John Campenade, nephew and one of the heirs of **Thomas Taverner** of Rochester, to Katherine de Pelham of London of all his share in a tenement and land in the parish of St Nicholas of Rochester which he inherited together with this late brother Thomas Campendale on his uncle's death. 10 April 34 Edward III.

1307 (541 February 12th Lanercost)

Complaint by Andrew de Bollingbrok late mayor of York, that whereas he sealed the door of a Tavern of **Peter le Taverner** in that city, because Peter was selling wine against the Assize and sent John de Batercram, Kings Baliff to the city, to attack William, son of Thomas Chauncy for violating the seal, breaking the door and entering the Tavern and disposing of the wines, the said William assaulted the Bailiff, struck the Mayor who had his hood on with a drawn knife and almost cut his throat and trampled him so that he hardly escaped with his life (unfinished entry). - Nasty.

1305 (May 26th Barnstead)

Complaint by the Friars Preachers of Northampton that about 30 men including **Gilbert le Taverner** broke into a close in Northampton, felled trees and carried them and the gates and other goods away.

1358 (538 November 23d Lanercost Cumbria)

Commission to William Haward and Henry de Gildeforde on complaint by John de Eboraco, Glover of London, to cause to be recited before the record and process a plea to trespass that was before the Mayor of London between **James Le Taverner** and him and to correct the error therein, if any.

CALENDER OF PATENT ROLLS EDI 1301-07

February 27, 1302 GATESHEAD

The like to John de Berewyk, henry Spygurnel and John le Blund, Mayor of London on complaint by John de Guldeford, citizen of London, that 9 men including **Benedict le Taverner** assaulted him in his house at London and maimed him.

By fine made at the Exchequer

March 5th, 1302 DARLINGTON.

That about 20 named men, including **William le Taverner** + various monks of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, caused the death of the Christian son of Thomas de Brenleye.

July 18th, 1302 WESTMINSTER

Pardon granted to **William le Taverner** + others in Dover gaol for the death of Christian son of Thomas de Brenlee, killed at Faversham.

April 9th, 1302 ST ALBANS.

Complaint that 4 men including **Richard le Taverner** the younger did assault William de la Lyumyne at Reyershe, Co Kent.

May 11th, 1304 STIRLING.

Pardon to Ralph Hermer + 7 others for the death of **John le Taverner** + for Robberies etc + of any consequential outlawry.

March 16th 1305 WESTMINSTER.

By William de la Mare, Master of the Knights Templars in England that whereas he, his lands and his men were taken under the Kings protection. When he was going to Cypress about 230 men, including **Stephen le Taverner**, assaulted him + the men of his Company at Rochester. [No doubt these good men were going to a crusade].

Catalog of Ancient Deeds Volume 2 MIDDLESEX B3638 1358

Release by Katherine, da & Heir of Adam Clement & Margaret, his wife to Robert Michael Chaplain & John de Cirencestre Perpetual vicar of Wychebury (co wilts) of all rights in the lands that **Richard le Taverner** of Cranbourne, gave to the said Adam & Margaret at Fordyngebrigg 31. Edward III.

8492 1333

Cornwall - Lananton - Held Tenement
Nicholas Taverner 6. Edward III
& Margery his wife.

c 5436 1322

Notts witness **Ralph le Taverner** 15. Edward II

1400 - 1499

4911 Demise by Will. Wallashull to Thos Tryll & **William le Taverner** citizens of London of a tenement and land in Wolwyche (Woolwich?) adjoining the hill called Wyndemylhill 1453 23-11-32 Henry VI.

4916 Resale of the above to Thos Tryll same day

4989 More about the property

4996 As above

B 4187 Release by **Simon Taverner** and his wife to John, son of Michael de Brokesbourne all their right in part of a tenement with a house built in it + pasture for 2 beasts in Hokemarsh. (?)

From 1348 onwards until the 16 century England was ravaged by the plague and records become sketchy. About all we have is the family tree of the Norfolk Taverners. This branch of the family may have survived because of their remoteness from the main centres of population where the plague hit hardest.

THE NORFOLK TAVERNERS are extremely interesting and take up the next section of the narrative.

RALPH LE TAVERNER was the first of the Taverners we hear about. He owned land in North Elmham - North Elmham has a saxon monastery. His son was **WARIN LE TAVERNER** who had two sons **SIR NICHOLAS** and **WILLIAM**. William was the younger son and moved to Dunwich in Suffolk and had a living (corrodie) from the abbey at Sibton in Suffolk in 1317 (Saxmundum is the closest town).

Sir Nicholas had a son **JOHN TAVERNER**. John held North Elmham, but we are also told he owned other lands in Norfolk (1393) maybe he inherited these by his marriage to Cecilie Gelham. John had 3 children **HENRY**, his eldest son was a councillor at law from about 1413 to 1461, he had land in North Elmham, died in 1467, Henry's brother was **JOHN** who became a soldier at the battle of Agincourt and in the wars of France, **WILLIAM**, Henry's other brother became a Freeman of London and died 1454.

HENRY had 3 sons **NICHOLAS, HENRY, & THOMAS**. **NICHOLAS** the eldest son lived in the time 1461 to 1485 and died in 1492 in reign of Henry VII. He married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Dethick of Wormegay in Norfolk. In turn **NICHOLAS & Margaret** had 2 sons. **JOHN**, the eldest and **ROBERT** who became a cannon in the monastery of Walsingham in Norfolk. John married twice, and each of his sons and daughters have an interesting history. John held lands in North Elmham 1488 and died 1545 and lies buried in Brisley Church. His first wife was Alice the sole daughter and heir of Robert Silvester of Brisley in Norfolk, Gent.

By his first wife he had 4 sons **RICHARD, ROGER, ROBERT, & SILVESTER**, all of whom went to either Oxford or Cambridge or both. His second wife was Ann Crane of Bilney in Norfolk. By her he bore **JAMES, THOMAS & MARGARET**. Interestingly the land at North Elmham passed to James and not his eldest son Richard. This is presumably because Ann outlived John & remarried when she passed from this life left her property to her eldest.

We are now around the year 1500 and one of the most colourful 100 years in English History. We can follow this family, sometimes in short glimpses, sometimes in detail through the reigns of Henry VIII (1509 - 1547) Edward VI (1547-1553), Mary I (1553-1558) Elizabeth I (1558-1603) and James I (1603-1625).

Warren-le-Tavernet
Land in N. Elmham 1154-1184

THE TAVERNERS OF NORTH ELMHAM, NORFOLK.

RALPH LE TAVERNER had lands in North Elmham 1272

WARIN LE TAVERNER had land thereabouts 1300

SIR NICHOLAS LE TAVERNER

WILLIAM LE TAVERNER OF DONWICH
SUFFOLK who had a corrodie in the
Abbey of Sibton, Suffolk 1317

JOHN TAVERNER had lands in Norfolk 1352 = CECILIE GELHAM
and in North Elmham 1393

HENRY TAVERNER councillor at law
1413-22 lands in N. Elmham died 1466

WILLIAM TAVERNER
freeman of London dead by 1454
Lincoln's Inn before 1440
see 1453 PASTON LETTERS

JOHN TAVERNER soldier in Battle of
Agincourt and in wars with France (1415)

(1) NICHOLAS TAVERNER = MARGARET DETHICK
lives 1461 died 1492
Will 1504

(2) HENRY

(3) THOMAS

da of THOMAS OF
WORMEGAY
alive ~ 1504

= JOHN lands in North Elmham 1488
died 1545 aged 88 in Brisley Church
(2)* *1457*
ANN
CRANE
OF
BILNEY
NORFOLK

(1)
= ALICE SILVESTER
da of ROBERT OF
BRISLEY, GENT

ROBERT cannon
in Walsingham
Monastery

*Not mentioned
in Father's
will*

(5) JAMES
(6) THOMAS
(7) MARGARET

(1) RICHARD B.1505
(2) ROGER B.1507
(3) ROBERT B.1509
(4) SILVESTER B.1511

* Ann's sister was the mother of Sir John Petty of Norfolk Kt,
father of Sir Augustin Petty Kt.

Some flesh on the bones of the early Taverners has been provided by Dr J.H.
Baker of St Catherine's College, Cambridge.

Firstly William Taverner, Third son of John Taverner and Cecilie Gelham.

William went to Lincoln's Inn sometime before 1440, although there is no
direct evidence of a legal career says Dr Baker. Our tree suggest he became
a freeman of London.

Dr Baker's other notes comprise:- Perhaps Escheator for Essex etc in 1465 Pardoned in 1471, as of Barking, London and Newland, Essex (c 67/44, m.4; c 67/48, m35).

William's eldest brother was Henry. Our tree says "Councillor-at-Law" 1413-1422, Lands in North Elmham, died 1466 Dr Baker adds:- mentioned as Council-in-the-Law reports for 1457/1458 (Year Book 36 H. VI fo 32, pl 34, a sussex case). This suggests senior rank in the profession.

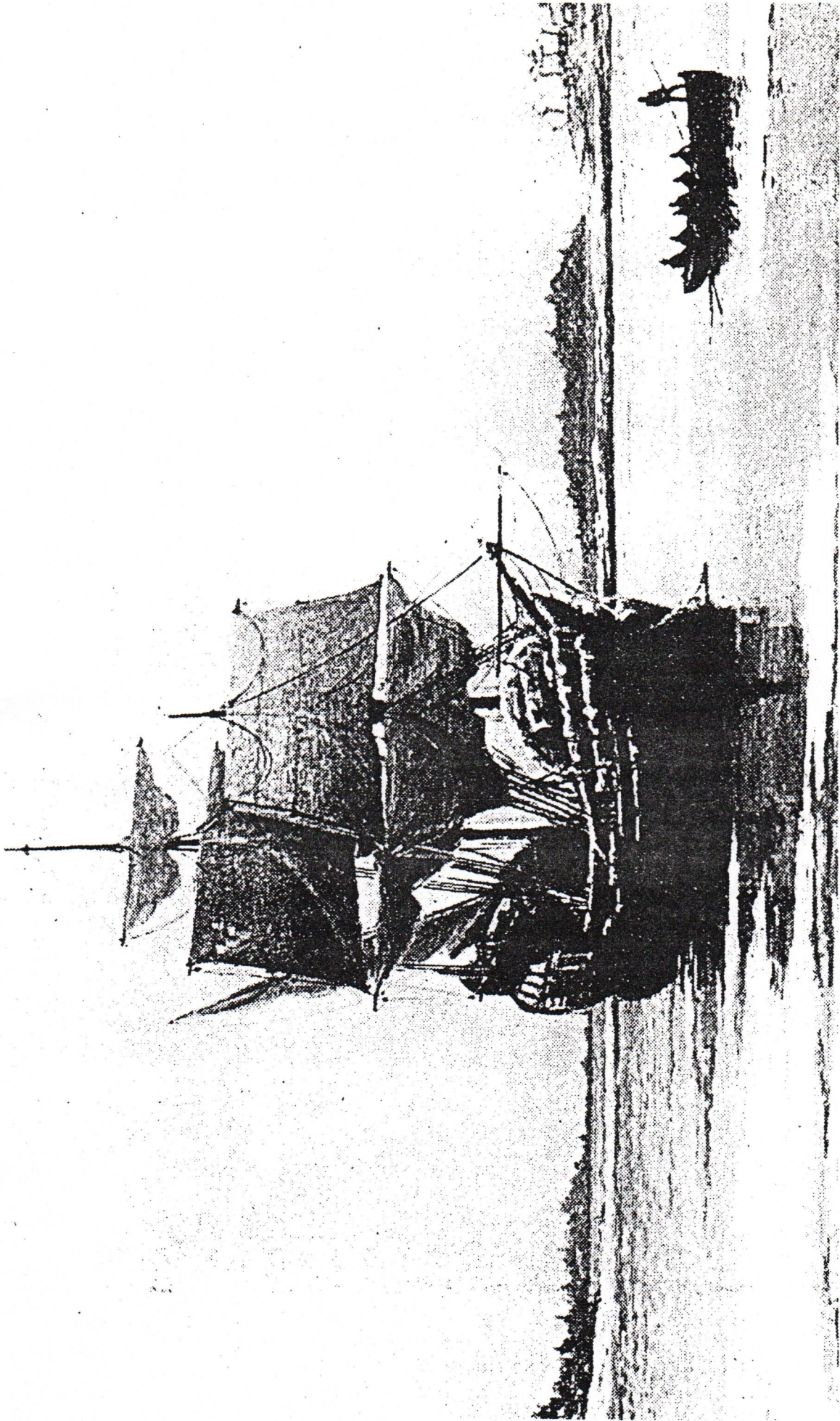
Nicholas Taverner, Henry's eldest son - we have lives 1462 died 1492. Married Margaret Dethick. daughter of Thomas of Wormegay. Dr Baker adds:- althorney general of the county of Durham in C.XV (qu dated); JP Westmorland 1461-63 and 1474-81; JP Yorks (NR) 1451-61.

Nicholas's eldest son was John, he married firstly Alice Silvester, and then Ann Crane. He bore the 7 sons that take up the next section.

Dr Baker adds; Sued for dues by Lyons Inn in 1484 and 1493 - nothing else known.

Richard Tavener eldest son of John, takes a whole chapter in our book.

Dr Baker adds:- elected christmas butler of the Inner Temple in 1537 and again in 1547 also he notes, Richard was a member of Strand Inn.



THE MAYFLOWER 1634 - HENRY TAVERNER

Surveyed the coast of Virginia for a suitable landing place for the Mayflower.

CHAPTER 2
THE 7 SONS OF JOHN TAVERNER
RICHARD, FIRST SON OF JOHN TAVERNER
AND ALICE SILVESTER

This chapter is devoted to the best known Taverner, Richard Taverner and his descendants. He was the eldest son of John Taverner of Brisley and his wife Alice nee Silvester.

The villages in Norfolk each have a road sign and that for Brisley shows its most famous son Richard Taverner, sitting reading a bible with Brisley Church in the background.

Alice was the sole heir of her father's estate and this marriage was fortuitous in bringing two estates together, whether one was sold or not I do not know, but John (who died aged 88 at Brisley in 1545) was able to send his sons to Oxford or Cambridge for their education.

Richard was born in 1505 at Brisley. In 1509 Henry VIII became King and his desire for a male heir was to affect the whole of Europe. Young Richard could not have known that in 30 years he would play an important part of the reformation. It is not clear what education he had as a young boy, or at what age he went to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. On Wolsey's visitation he migrated to Cardinal College, Oxford. He graduated B.A. on 21st June 1527, perhaps as a matter of course, perhaps sensing Wolsey's fall (in 1530)), Richard moved back to Cambridge entering Gonville Hall (possibly at the same time as Silvester his brother was there) and graduated B.A. in 1529. In 1530 he commenced M.A. He lived by teaching at Cambridge, this and later facts suggest his family's funds were limited.

His studies included Philosophy, Greek and Divinity, which together with Latin set the scene for his later career and fortunes. Friends persuaded Richard to study abroad (possibly Wolsey) and on Wolsey's death Richard returned to England in 1531 destitute. In 1532 he appealed for help to Cromwell to whom he was unknown. Cromwell induced the Duke of Norfolk to promise him a small pension and in 1533 Taverner was described as "last year master of Greek in Cambridge, and now Cromwell's client". Richard continued his education by attending an Inn of Chancery called Staire Inn, otherwise Strand Inn (pulled down when Edward Duke of Somerset built Somerset House in the Strand). Thence to the inner Temple, for before his time and some years after, students were not admitted into the inns of court, before they had read the ground of law in one of the Inns of Chancery, where his humour was to quote the law in Greek. In 1534 he went to the court and was there taken into the attendance of Thos Cromwell, then principle secretary to King Henry VIII, by whose commendation he was made by the

King, one of the clerks of the signet in ordinary ann D 1537, which place he kept until 1553. Alternatively the dictionary of national biography quotes "In 1536 Cromwell secured his appointment as clerk of the privy seal and 1537 9th August he was enable to marry".

Thus at 32 years old he married Margaret Lambert daughter of Walter, a goldsmith of London. Margaret was buried at Woodeaton 31st January 1562. By her he had 4 sons and 3 daughters.

He was well thought of, not only by Henry VIII but also with King Edward VI and most of all with Edward Duke of Somerset the Lord Protector, Edward was the cousin of Jane Seymour Henry VIII's third wife.

Under Cromwell's direction Richard was busy in producing works designed to encourage the reformation. Between 1536-39 he produced a number of works culminating in 1539 a translation in English of the Bible. He also published two editions of the New Testament both printed by T. Petit. The fall of Cromwell in 1540 put an end to Richard's literary career.

On December 2nd 1541 he was committed to Gardinier's custody for concealing from the government, and communicating with others a report that Ann of Cleves was pregnant by Henry VIII, 3 days later he was sent to the tower and his wife and mother-in-law were also imprisoned. (This was odd since Anne-of-Cleves was divorced by Henry VIII in 1540. He was soon released however, retaining his place in the signet office and the reward his favour at court brought him).

Another account suggests - more realistically that Richard was imprisoned for his works of literature in English after the fall of Thomas Cromwell. Certainly he produced very little after Cromwell's death.

20th January 1539 he had been granted the dissolved priory at Alvingham, Lincs with the rectories at Alvingham and Cokerington Mary.

1544-1545 Henry gave him the site of Franciscan Priory at Northampton.

1544 Richard & Margaret owned the Manor of Hartingdon, Surrey.

1547 Richard bought Norbiton Manor and in 1561 installed a rood screen - his son Peter sold the Manor in 1585.

1547 College chapel of St Mary Magdalen, Kingston, April 1547, site and appertuances dismissed by the owner to Richard Taverner for 21 years - Richard's son lived at Kingston.

1545 Warwickshire land in Austrey and other estates in Polesworth owned by Richard, Robert and Sylvester.

1546 He received 'Nuns Acres' part of the lands of Stamford Priory, and in 1546 other lands in Horningtoft, Norfolk (Thomas, Richards step brother was buried at Horningtoft in 1604).

In 1545 he was returned to parliament for Liverpool. Richard retained his position throughout Edward IV reign. On 28th May 1550 he was paid £333, 13s 6d for wages of soldiers who had served at Boulogne.

13th May 1552, though a layman he was licensed to preach throughout King Edwards dominions because the scarcity and slackness of preachers was so great. He preached before the King at court and in some public places in the kingdom, wearing a bonnet or round cap, a damask gown and a chain of gold, about his neck, in which habit he was seen, and heard preaching several times in St Mary's church in Oxen in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth I reign.

On Mary's accession, which Richard welcomed with "an oration congratulatory" he lost his place in the signet office and lived unmolested in his house at Norbiton, Surrey, through the reign (I wonder what he did? he was between 48 and 53 during Mary's reign. It's surprising that after being so active for 20 years he suddenly retired, we'll probably never know). However he had a second lease of life when in 1588 Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne. He addressed a congratulatory Latin epistle to Elizabeth. Elizabeth offered to Knight him - he refused - but served as justice of the peace and in 1569 as High Sherriff of Oxfordshire. He died 14th July 1575 and is buried next to his first wife at Woodeaton.

I have no real ages of Richard sons or grandsons. Richard was born 1505 and had children circa 1545, died 1575. His sons were **RICHARD, PETER, JOHN, EDMUND & HARCOURT**. From Oxford Alumni we have John Taverner entry 1571 B.A. 8-5-72 rector of Woodeaton 1575. In the family tree we have John Taverner M.A. A devine died without issue, undoubtedly this was the 3rd son of Richard. None of the other sons of Richard seem to have been at Oxford or Cambridge. Their children were more fortunate. We find Edmund's son Nathaniel at Oxford "Nathaniel, Gent of Oxford Corpus Christi. Matric 14th March 1600 age 16, BA 26th March 1602 Barister-at-Law. Grays Inn 1611.

Nathaniel's brother Edmund almost certainly went to Oxford also ref. Edmund Taverner of Oxon Arm Magdalen Hall, matric 16th June 1610 aged 15, perhaps MP for Woodstock 1626 and 1628-1629. Edmund was secretary to Peter, Earl of Pembroke Lord Chamberlain.

We know a lot about Edmund Jr since he appears in the domestic state papers of Charles I. In fact through him we glimpse the affluence of the beginning of Charles reign, followed by panic.

2.11.1626 - Warrant to pay Edmund Taverner £300 for a diamond sold to his Majesty, and given to Mons Frogan. 24.11.1626 - £400 to Edmund Taverner for provisions for the Queen's Masque shortly to be performed. 1627 - Warrant to pay Edmund Taverner £600 towards the expenses of Masque to be presented shortly before the King at Whitehall.

Edmund Taverner 15th July 1629 to Nicholas, The Lords of the Council meet this afternoon about the St Anne (a ship). Begg him to inform Lord Dorchester of the Consequences and justice of the King's right whereof he seemeth not overwell edified.

Edmund Taverner to see Dorchester, Solicits some reward for Mons Augier. The state has an interest in encouraging able and Industrious, honest ministers.

1st December 1630 Trinity Coll Cambs, Dr Sammuel Brooke to Bishop Land. Has written to the Lord Chamberlain and his Secretary Mr Taverner December 14th Met Mr T with letters.

Swason W Iterbert to Edmund Taverner urges him to procure them some other than written authority to seige the ship held by the Mansells. Begg him to consult Nicholas, (Edmund's brother) thereon and to let the depositions be read to the Earl of Pembroke & Montgomery.

Another fascinating Taverner story. We can read the bare details in the Domestic State Papers James I.

"On 13th July 1615 Dick Taverner guilty of killing several persons is apprehended, but the Queen favours him". So Richard (Dick) Taverner was a friend of the Queen, wife of James I. If we back trace to Richard Taverner who died 1575. His 4th son Edmund was a justice of the peace in Oxfordshire. He married Lucy Hales and by her had at least 4 sons, Richard, Nathaniel, John & Edmund. This Richard; grandson of Richard, is described as "the combatant, servant to King James". Here is our clue, as a "combatant" whatever that might be. Richard was clearly in danger of killing his opponent. Did he joust? was he a swordsman? or pistols? in any case he seems to have gone to far.

In a letter from an Alex Williams to Sir Dudley Carter 26th April 1616 he writes "Taverner is condemned on the King's bench". The nobility are for the arrangement (of the Earl of Somerset) and on 30th April 1616 we hear that

"Taverner is condemned to death for killing a man named Bird 5 years before.

Whatever pressures were brought to bear by his friend's. On 18th May 1616 we hear "Taverner is reprieved", and lastly on 6th november 1616 a special warrant was issued to George Reynall to deliver Richard Taverner from the Kings Bench Prison. I wonder what happened to Richard after this traumatic experience.

We are fortunate to have a copy of Richard Sr's will written in his own fair hand in 1575.

He divided his lands tenements etc, between his sons John, Peter and Edmund.

He bequeathed to his eldest son Richard, his gold chain, to Margaret his daughter he gave his jewelry, to John his Greek & Latin Books, to Martha £300 on her marriage, to Penelope £200 on her marriage, poor of Woodeaton 40/-, the balance of the estate to his 3 sons John, Peter & Edmund.

At first sight Richard Jr, & Jane appear to have done badly out of the deal, perhaps they had received their legacies during Richards life time. However in 1583 Richard Jr challenged his father's will and in a judgement the will was declared valid. So poor Richard Jr did indeed lose out in his father's will.

A note in the Margin of the will confirms that one payment to either Martha or Penelope was made on her marriage Friday 17th April 1583. Jane married Thomas Enman of Witting Parkin Oxon Esq, she was probably the eldest daughter and if married before her fathers death would have had her dowry already. A Woodeaton local history book says "Richard Taverner died in 1575. His estate passed to his son Richard, who mortgaged it. The Taverners seem to have disappeared from the area by 1604".

Richard Taverner Jr is described as of Woodeaton Esq Justice of Peace in 1584. He married Elanor daughter of Francis Heyton of Greenwich Esq, secretary to Queen Elizabeth I. Two sons are mentioned, John who was a soldier and served in the wars in Ireland under Lord Lambert and died in the wars between Sweden & Denmark, and Richard his brother of Yealing in Surrey. Both were born at Kinston-Upon-Thames, Surrey. Another researcher varies with this, he say's "Richard married Elanor, daughter of John Henton sargent of the larder to the Queen Elizabeth I, lived in Norbiton Hall, buried at Kingston Parish Church.

We also have the will of Edmund who died in 1615 he left a good deal of property and money to his son Edmund and his daughters Jenifer, Margaret and Anne.

Can we trace the wills of Richard Jr's two other sons? I believe I have the will of John Taverner, who is said to have been an M.A. in Divinity, and died without children. John did marry, his wife was Isabel and he died in Oxford in 1577, just 2 years after his father. I expect he was about 30 years old, no children are mentioned in his will. His main source of income appears to have been an income of £48 from the Manor and Lordship of Iselippe (Islip is the next village to Woodeaton in Oxon). There is an entry in Oxford Alumni which helps. John Taverner of Magdalene College Matric Entry under date 1571 B.A. 8th May 1572, Rector of Woodeaton, Oxon 1575, (Fosters Index Ecclesiastics).

Of Richard's second eldest son Peter Taverner we know a great deal

In 1585 Peter and his wife Frances sold the Norbiton Estate to John Evelyn (the diarist?). 1593 Peter bought the Manor of Hexton in the county of Hertfordshire. (Hexton is close to Hitchin). He and his family lived in Hexton until 1674. Peter married a Hertfordshire girl Frances Docwra of Putteridge, her father was High Sheriff of Herts in 1580 (Peters father Richard was Sheriff of Oxfordshire). Peter died in 1601 leaving 3 children **Francis, John & Mary**. Frances died at the age of 79 in 1636. Her obituary reads "Frances, matron, who after she had lived a widow 35 years to the good example of others, and to the comfort and benefit of her children, meekly and christianly rendered her sole to god, the 21st Junē An° Dni 1636, and was here under interred".

Francis the eldest son managed the estate after his father died, he also married a local girl Joan Needham from Wymondley Priory. To my knowledge he only had one son, Richard. **Richard** married Martha Bedell at Grays Inn, London 1636, Martha's father fined for alderman. It was Francis who researched the family tree tracing the family back to 1273.

Richard & Martha had at least 12 Children 11 boys & 1 Girl of whom Francis, Richard & Granado died young. Francis died in 1661, the parish register reads "Mr Francis Taverner, merchant, son and heir of Richard Taverner Esq, Lord of this Towne of Hexton 20th March 1661". This must have been a great tragedy to the family. Granado - his name is a geographical area from which a specially prized material was imported - died at sea in 1672. Robert another son died and described as a London Merchant & Bachelor in 1677. Robert died on a voyage to Maryland, Virginia. Joan, Richard's daughter married Robert Crawley of Bedford in 1663. The rest of the branch of the family can best be summarised on a family tree chart.

The present owner of Hexton manor, Ann Ashley-Cooper has written an excellent book called 'A Harvest of Hexton', which includes a chapter on the Taverners. Francis description of Hexton in 1636 is also available. There is a strong possibility that this branch of the family fought in Ireland and founded a dynasty in Lisburn. The family tree is printed later.

But I digress, 8 years after Richard Taverner of Hexton died, his four sons Edward, Thomas, John & Jeremy, decided to sell the estate in 1674 to John Cross, a brewer of London. This situation was probably forced on them because of the family size and the high taxation levels. Edward (Born 1640) and his family stayed on at Hexton as a farmer. he had at least 9 children. Thomas (Born 1645) married in 1671 at St Botolph, Aldgate and had at least 3 children, Thomas, Elizabeth and Richard. Jeremy (Born 1651) may have been an artist, if so his family fortunes can be traced in detail. Jeremy was a portrait painter, his son William 1683 to 1731 was bred to the civil law, he became Procurator General of the Court of Arches of Canterbury. He is best known for his plays. His best play ran for 15 nights at Lincolns Inn Fields, it was called 'The Artful Husband' and the applause he obtained was said to have made William very vain. He married a girl called Alanthea and had 2 children, William (Born 1702) and Cordelia (Born 1700) William Jr was also Procurator General and a landscape painter. He died without heirs in 1772 leaving £2,900.00 a tidy sum for those days. He was described as "One of the best landscape painters England had ever produced". A note of dad's says William Taverner (proctor in doctors commons) picture painter as an amusement. Picture in poss of Earl of Harcourt and Mr Fauquier ref "Dictionary of Painters".

The Hexton family tree shows, how in 2 or 3 generations a prosperous family can expand from 2 to many many families who eventually break up and scatter throughout the world.

Recall that all the history so far descends from John Taverner marrying his heiress in North Elmham, which brought him enough wealth to educate his children at Oxford or Cambridge.

Virginia Colonial records.

1677 Will of Robert Taverner of London merchant, intending to take a voyage to Maryland. To his brother Jeremy Taverner 20's for a ring, To John Fowkes of Barbican London Upholsterer, 20's rest of his estate to his friend Bridgett Fowlkes spinster executrix and attorney of all his estate in England and Maryland probate 31.1.1676.

Robert was unmarried and died in Virginia, refers to cause of Bridget Fowlke sole executrix of Will 18th October 1675 and Thomas Taverner, Bro & Admin of deceased dated 22.11.1676.

Robert, Thomas and Jeremy were the grandsons of Francis of Hexton.

FIRST SON OF JOHN TAVERNER

Margaret Guildford = Walter Lambert of Sir John
 =
 Anthony Lee of Bucks
 =
 Margaret Wyatt of Kent

Sir John = Agnes Darrel of Stanton of Sussex
 =
 Harcourt

(1) =
 Margaret Lambert of Carshalton, Surrey.
 M1537 D1561

RICHARD TAVERNER (2) = (1)
 M1537, B1505. D1575
 =
 Mary Harcourt M Circa 1565

Peter bought Hexton from the Lee family + Bicot Manor in 1594 selling it to Edward Wingate in 1595

Harcourt Taverner D1587
 =
 Penelope 1583? baptised 8/9/1566

Francis

*Sec. to Q.E.1
 Grays Inn 1589*

Richard of Wood Eaton J.P. 1584 = Elanor Heyton of Greenwich

B. 1573

Peter of Hexton D1601 = Frances Docwra B1557 D1636

19 Feb

John D1577 = Isabel Lordship of Iselippe

Edmund of Soundness J.P. D1615 = Thomas Waynman of Witney

Lucy Hales daughter of Park Brother of Assize
 Sir Christopher of Sir Hales & Mary Richard W Kt in Wales, son of Assize
 Lucy of Coventry Sir William in Ireland
 alive in 1615

Jane = Martha 1583

George Calfeld of Grays Inn esq father of Sir Edmund F Bart
 (2) Fryer of Walter Eaton

(1)

Margaret = Thos Yate

Kingston-On-Thames

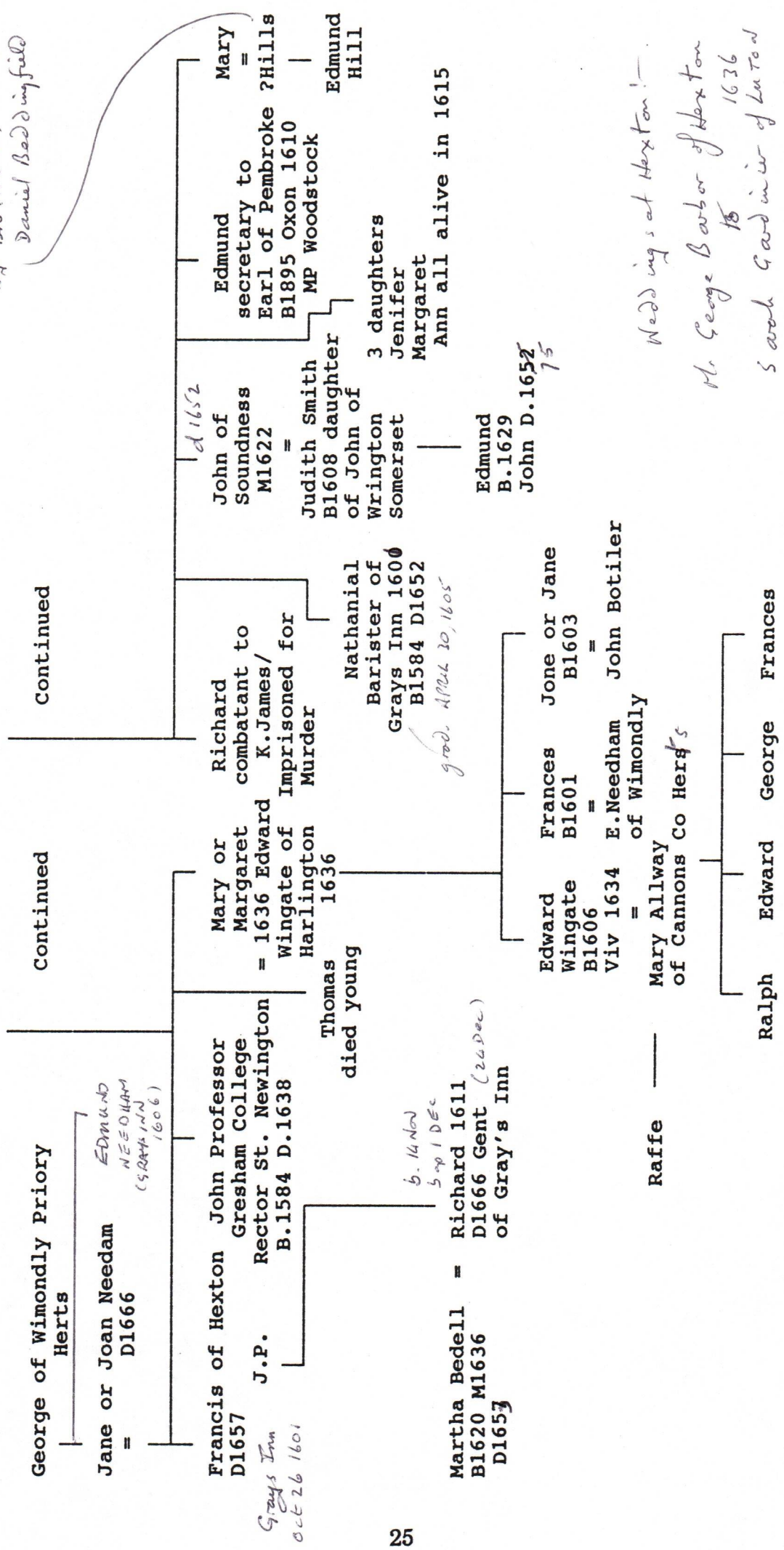
John Soldier B1583 served in Ireland under Lord Lambert & died in the wars between Sweden & Denmark

2 da

Continued

Continued

of Westminster, proved
by Bro. To him, Edmund Hill
Daniel Beddingfield



Wedding's at Hexton!
Mr George Barber of Hexton
1636
S work Gard in vic of Luton

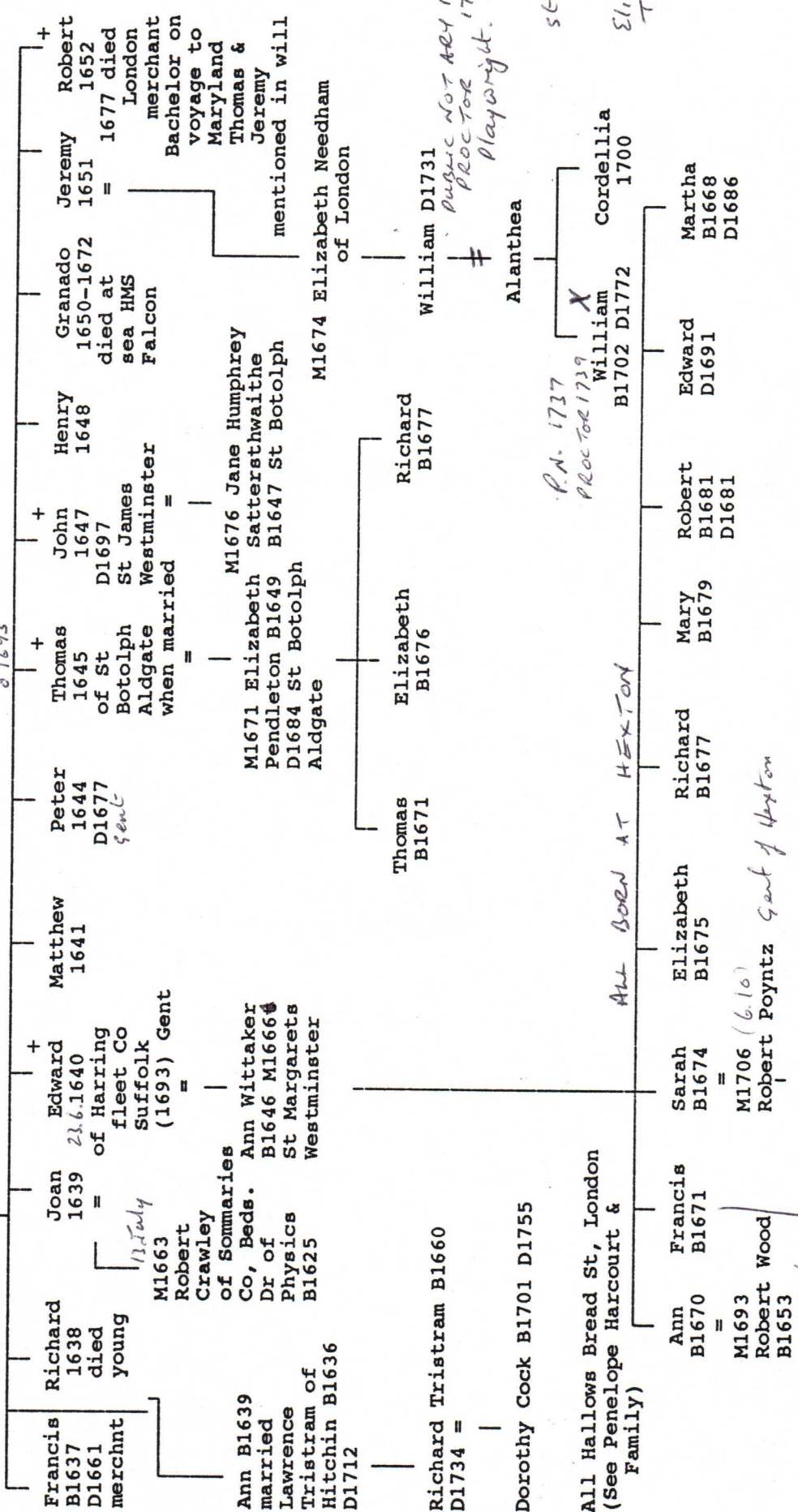
Mathew

RICHARD TAVERNER = MARTHA BEDELL
of Hexton died 13/10/1653
alive in 1663 M
Gent of Gray's Inn

Cit. & Marchant
Tailor
2/1693

+ SOLD HEXTON
1674 TO JOHN CROSS

SARAH T.
b. 1656
m 1678
NEWDISATE
POYNTZ
b 1648
of Gray's Inn



FRANCIS 1699 = EDW
51671 WILSON

ELIZ
51700
Norwich
ST George

Martha
51701
Norwich
ST George

FRANCIS
51703
d 1778 at st Mary
Islington.
5 Heigham, Norfolk

= 1729 Ann Richard at st Mary Le Sewoy
Westminster

26a

St Clement
Danes
Richard
b 1730

ST GILES
CRIPLEGATE
51732
1735
EDWARD

St Luke, Old St.
FRANCIS
61733
= ANN
= SAMI
WHITE
28/9/1757
ST MARTIN
EDMUND
526.2.1756
ST MARTIN.

MARY
61741
= JOHN
BERRY
14.4.1763
ST. ANNE
SONO

ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS
WILLIAM
51748
= MARTHA
HARR
ST PAUL
COVENT GDN
ANN
51781
ST GILES
CRIPLEGATE

EDMUND
51756

NO
ANN WHITE MARRIED
FRANCIS TAVERNER JR
HEREFORD 1775.

Robert Taverner of Lamborne, Essex
3rd Son of John Taverner

He was named after his father's brother. Although his brothers Richard, Roger and Silvester all went to Oxford or Cambridge Robert did not. He held the post of surveyor of the kings woods beyond the trent. His elder brother Roger was surveyor of woods this side of the trent.

In or about 1553 "Robert left Richard and Silvester, and moved into Essex, where he acquired Arnways at Lamborne, Essex". Robert married Elizabeth the daughter of Charles Newcomen of Salowby, Lincs.

The document which holds records of land transactions is called the Feat^e of Fines. In the Feat of Fines for Essex we can follow Robert's acquisitions. At Michaelmas 1547, Richard Gybbes plaintive **ROBERT TAVERNER** gent and wife Elizabeth defendants 4 acres arable + 16 acres meadow in Stapleford Abbott £40. At Trinity 1549, Richard Godfrey plaintive, Robert & Elizabeth defendant 10 acre arable, 2 acre Meadow & 8 acre pasture in Stapleford Abbott £40. At Easter 1550, John Mayster plaintive **ROBERT & ELIZABETH TAVERNER** defendant 3 acre meadow, 7 acre pasture in Stapleford Abbott £20. At Trinity 1547, **ROBERT TAVERNER** plaintive Walter Celye gent and wife Elizabeth defendant 2 mess, 2 gardens, 50 acres arable, 20 acres meadow and 50 acres pasture in Stapleford Abbott, defendant quit claimed from themselves and the heirs of Walter to Robert and his heirs with warranty for themselves and the heirs of Elizabeth £80 At Michaelmas 1554 (the first year of William and Mary's reign).

ROBERT TAVERNER gent-pl, Henry, Earl of Sussex, Viscount Fitzwater, Lord Egremont and Burnell defendant. The Manor of Priors & 2 mess, 2 tofts, 1 garden, 3 orchards, 30 acre arable, 20 acre meadow, 20 acre pasture in Lamborne £80.

AT MICHAELMAS 1555

John Stoner, George Scott, **ROBERT TAVERNER**, Thomas Barfote Gent, John Boland, Thomas Northrope, Robert Spakeman, Ralph Hill, Richard Cuddard, Michael Pott, Nicholas Hill, George Holmes, John Wybert, Henry Archer and Stephen Archer pl. Anthony Braun esq and wife Joan defendant, 3 acres meadow & 11½ acres pasture in Chigwell, defendant quit claimed to plaintive and the heirs of John Stoner 100mks, and at Easter 1547 **RICHARD, ROGER AND ROBERT TAVERNER**, gent pl Robert Gurdon gent and wife Rose defendant. The manors of Hanhams alias Bulleyns and Whelars and 6 mess, 6 gardens, 400 acre arable, 500 acres meadow, 500 acres pasture, 200 acres woods, and 40 mt, in Tenderying, Fratying, GT Bentley, & Thoryngton defendant quit claimed to pl and the heirs of Richard 620 mks. (These villages are East of Colchester). (3 mks = £1)

To make these purchases Robert must have had money, presumably from his job as surveyor of woods beyond the trent. (Henry 8 died in 1547 and perhaps the Taverners were converting their cash into property while the going was good).

In a history of Essex hundreds - under the heading manor of West Thurrock, Sir William Hollis had 22 acres called Ordwyns and 27 acres called Quernys. Sir Thomas Hollis, his son and heir, joining with others in a fine in 1547 passed it to **ROBERT TAVERNER**, and within 4 years it was in Robert Long, Citizen and Mercer of London.

Hunts, Affebridge and Arnways in the Parish of Lamborn, Ongar Hundred. William Fitz-William had the land in 1536. Richard Morgan, and Thos Carpenter held the Manor of Lamborne and Affebridge in 1552.

Priors
ROBERT TAVERNER ESQ held the manor or capital messuage of Arneways with all its rights and appurtenances, and lands and tenements called Arneways, Piggs, Hunts and Pryson House and 60 acres of arable, 30 acres of meadow, 24 acres of pasture, 6 woods and 40 s rent in this parish Stapleford Abbot and Navestock of Richard Lord Riche, as of his manor of Ray Leigh in Fealty, also the manors of Lamborne and Affebridge and 20 acres pasture and 60 acres wood, 4 acres in Ray-mead and 1 rood in Affebridge-mead, and the advowson of this rectory of the Queen, as of the manor of East Greenwich be Fealty only, in free socage. Robert died 30.4.1556 leaving **THOMAS**, his son then only 14 weeks old. Thomas died 7th June 1610 holding Arneways with all lands tenements there to belonging, but not Affbridge, nor the Advowson of the church. As to the Manors of Lamborne and Affebridge, they were then in the ownership of Sir Robert Wrothe, who died possessed of them 27.1.1604. In King Charles I reign (1625-1648) Arneways belonged to Robert Draper Esq who died 8.7.1635.

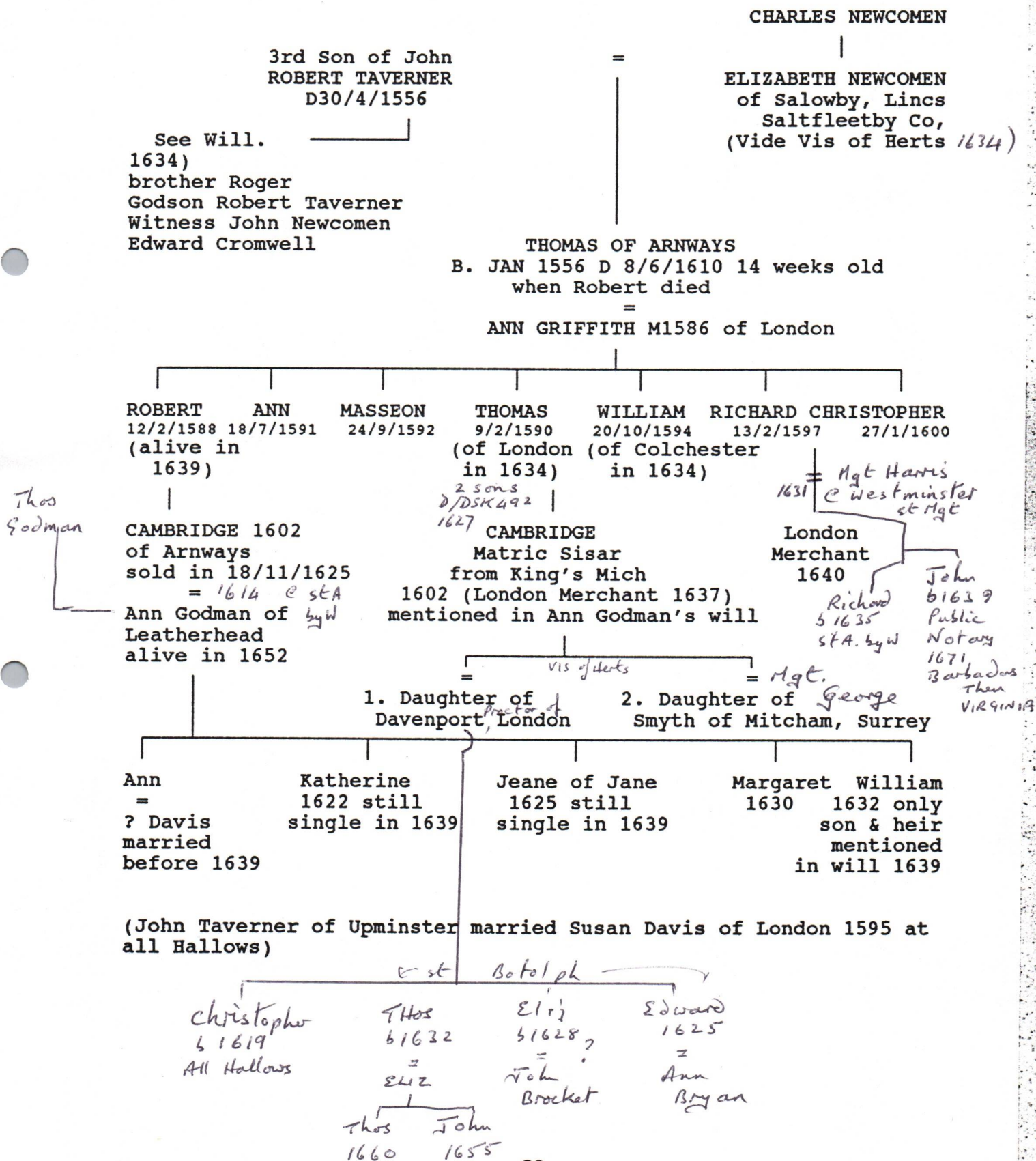
Priors, a mile and a half east of Affebridge. Part of the estate of Henry, Earl of Sussex who sold it 18.9.1553 to **ROBERT TAVERNER**. At his death 30.4.1556 he held this manor or tenement called priors and 60 acres arable, pasture & wood of the Queen in ca by knights service, **THOMAS** was his son whose son **ROBERT** sold it 18.11.1625 to Robert Draper Esq. *+ £4000 bond in 1627 & Ann*
Robert's only known son was **THOMAS** (named after Robert's half brother) who was very young when his father died in 1556,

Thomas was made ward of court and his mother granted a dowry. Thomas married Ann Griffith of London and had at least 8 children between 1588 and 1600, a number of property changes are recorded, but are confusing. Arnways may have been sold about 1597 by Thomas, however Roger (his eldest son) lived there until 1610.

More details in Feet of Fines

Essex 1581-1602

My own research is somewhat different, Lamborne register starts 1582. From the parish register of Lamborne I have built up the family tree below with the assistance of the Visitations to Essex 1634 - 1668.



Robert's son, Thomas of Arnways died in 1610, 54 years old. He had been made ward of court, which normally involved loosing most of the property. Robert married Ann Griffiths. They married in 1588 and had at least 7 children.

Their eldest son Robert baptised on 12th Feb. 1588 went to Cambridge 1602. Robert married Ann Goodman of heathhead in 1614 at St Andrews by the Wardrobe, Robert was alive - 1639 and Ann was alive - 1652. I have a note that Robert and Ann had at least 9 children. however I can list only 5, Ann Taverner who married a Davis sometime before 1639. Katherine Taverner born - 1622, Single - 1639 Tane or Teane Taverner born 1625, also single - 1639, Margaret Taverner born 1630, William son in law born - 1632 mentioned in will 1639

The next eldest in the family was Thomas born in 1590, of London 1634. Cambridge Signor - 1602 free of Merchant Taylors 1611 by T. Johnson of All Hallows, Bread St 1619 Admitted to livery 5.7.1624. 1626, Mother-in-law Alice Johnson elected to the Court 8 Oct. 1641. mentioned in Ann Goodman's will.

According to Visitation of Herts. this Thomas married twice his first wife is said to have been the daughter of Davenport, Proctor of London, although this seems a contradiction to the above note concerning Alice Johnson. Anyway. They had 4 children

Christopher, ^{baptized} ~~born~~ in 1619 at All Hallows, Followed
by Edward (bap 1625), Elizabeth (bap 1628) and Thomas
(baptized = 1632) all at St Botolph. Edward married
= 1652 an Ann Bryan, and Thomas married
Elizabeth somebody in or around 1658 and had
at least two children, John in 1655 and
Thomas in 1660.

Thomas's 3rd & 4th children were daughters
Ann, baptized 18/7/1591 and Maseon baptized
24/9/1592, His fifth was William, I have
little information about Will in exact that in
the report of the Visitation of 1634 he is "of Colchester"
6th child was Richard, and of Richard I know
some more. Richard was also an apprentice in
the Merchant Taylors guild, by servitude to William
Day on 25.9.1620. Richard was baptized 13.2.1597
Richard married in 1631 to Margaret Harrison
at Westminster in London.

They had at least two children, at
St Andrews by the Wardrobe. ~~For~~ Richard baptized
1635 and John baptized 1639, John became
a public Notary in 1671 and then sailed off to
Barbados and the Virginia.

Thomas's seventh child was Christopher, baptized
27. January 1600. 296

Having Consulted the Feet of Fines for Essex in detail. It can plot the fortunes or rather the unfortunes of Thomas, remember he was born in 1556, and his father died in that same year. No doubt, as well as his mother, his father's influential brothers & their wives would have looked after his welfare.

in 1587 Thomas Taverner (esquire) purchased for £40 12 acres of pasture in Lambourne from Thomas Hale. (I believe this Thomas Hale is related to the Hales of Hexton where Peter, one of the sons of Richard Taverner ~~was~~ ~~and~~ was soon to live. (in 1593)

The most important transaction at Lambourne as far as the history of the Taverners is concerned occurred in 1591. In this year Edmund Barbot & William Fyndyngge purchased from Thomas Taverner the Manors of Lambourne & Affebrydges, 1 Messuage 1 garden 120 acres of arable land, 30 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 80 acres of wood and 20 shillings annual rent in Lambourne, Stapleford Abbots, Chigwell and Theydon Bois plus the advowson of Lambourne Church. for £460

in 1598 Robert Wroth (Knight) purchased from Thomas Taverner ~~and~~ esq and his wife Ann the rest of the manor of Lambourne, ~~stapleford Abbots,~~ Chigwell & Theydon and Affebidge, 2 Messuages 2 gardens, 4 acres Arable, 10 acres meadow, 20 acres of Pasture 60a wood & 20/- rent in Lambourne, Chigwell and Theydon Bois. The sale included a warranty against Thomas's father Robert, the heirs of W^m Hulcott & wife Elizabeth, and Charles Newcomen in Roydon & Tackley. The sale was valued at £160

The 1590's was marked by a series of terrible winters which changed the whole structure of English agriculture, so perhaps Thomas had to sell his estates to cover his commitments,

Note above the characters involved, - the Heirs of William Hulcott. William Hulcott was a preacher of Buckland in Berks, friend of Richard Taverner. William's wife was Elizabeth. Their daughter I believe married Roger Taverner of Upminster, Richard's brother.

Charles Newcomen was the father of Elizabeth, who married Robert Taverner of Lambourne, Thomas's father.

Robert's son Thomas of Arnways died in 1610 54 years old, he had at least 7 children. His eldest **ROBERT JNR** born in 1588 inherited Arnways and also had a large family of at least 9 children. It appears that he sold Arnways in 1625, and the family must have run into very hard times because in 1636 we read in the poor record "Thomas of Lamborne, Essex 28/5/1636 by brother Francis, a like grant to Robert Taverner". Here in poverty we leave the Taverners of Lamborne.

Addendum, a list of inhabitants of London was made in 1640 from which we read, Broad Street Ward Thomas Taverner, Merchant. St Andrews (by the wardrobe) parish:- Richard Taverner. Additional information about this branch of the Taverners has also come via the Hon.G.R. strutt of The Old Rectory Terling. He kindly supplied copies of "Visitations to Essex 1634" from which we learn that Robert born 1588 married Ann Godman of Leatherhead in Surrey. This, then leads to a will I have of Ann Godman. It reads, "Ann late wife of Thomas Godman of Leatherhead Co, Surrey Esq 1 April 1639. To be buried in the parish church of Leatherhead beside my husband £10 to be bestowed upon the same - to daughter Ann Taverner all Lyninge in the upper end of the chest in the buttry chamber and the little iron bound chest and all that is in it - of £50 of mine Mr Thomas Taverner's hands, to daughter Ann Taverner £30 and to her 3 daughters Ann Davis, Katherine Taverner and Jeane Taverner £5 each, and to grandchild William Taverner £5, - to my daughter Olive Godman my book of Turners Herball." Ann Taverner is also mentioned in the will of her brother Thomas Godman written in 1652. These were probably the two sons of Thomas of Arnways.

SILVESTER 4TH SON OF JOHN TAVERNER

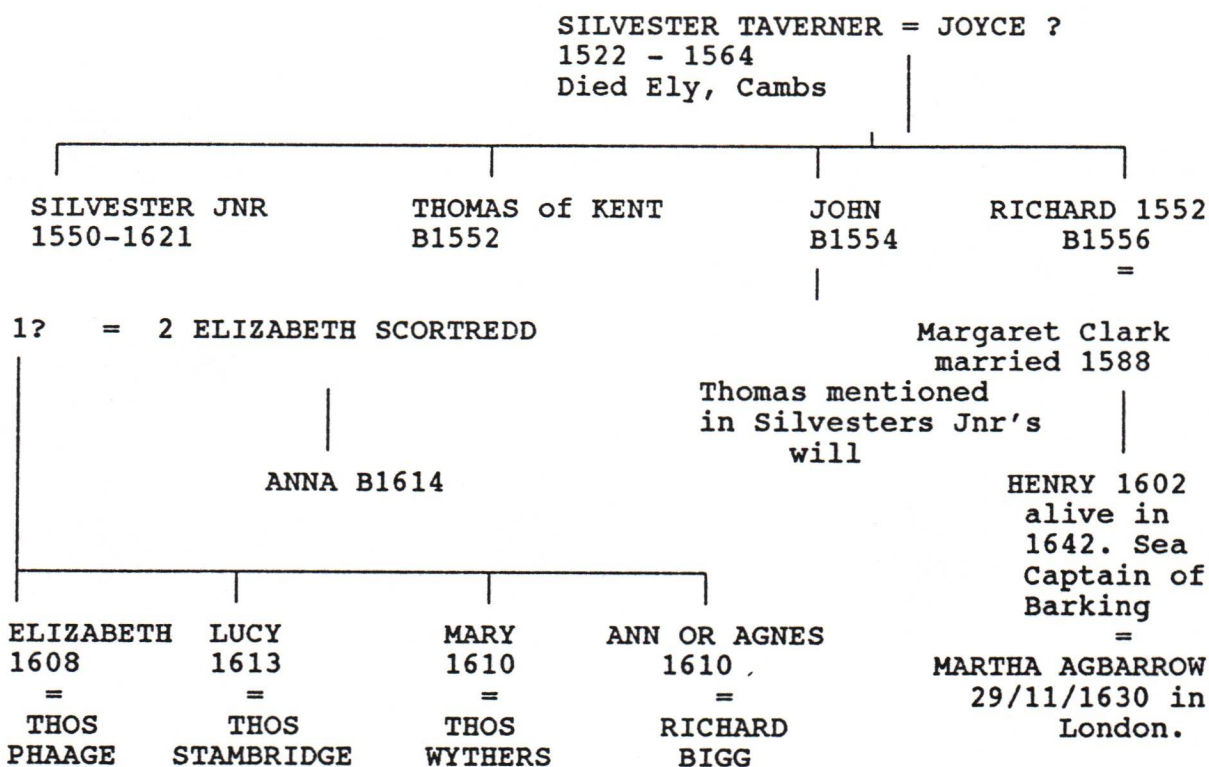
Silvester was born circa 1522 he died 1564, and was a follower of the Duke of Somerset. He was rector of Marston Mortaine 1561 - 1563. His wife's name was Joyce and he had at least 4 children **SILVESTER, THOMAS, JOHN & RICHARD**. He went to Gonville College, Cambs and was awarded a B.A. in 1543-1544 by 1548 Silvester was already owned property which he sold to his brothers Richard and Robert. (In 1548 **SILVESTER** sold Chase Park at Whaddon, Bucks to his brothers **RICHARD & ROBERT TAVERNER**).

Deed pole in ancient deeds Vol 5.

29/11/1549 **SILVESTER TAVERNER** a close of 6 acres called Chauntey Garden in Tenham). As I have previously noted Henry 8 died in 1547 and was succeeded by Edward IV and then Mary, a devout Catholic. She killed, tortured and even burnt at the stake those who had supported the reformation. In 1556 **SILVESTER** was arrested.

ACTS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL AT ELTHAM 1554-1556 P316 29/7/1556

Convicted prisoner at westminster and to procede to the further examination of **SILVESTER TAVERNER**, prisoner there, who having embezzled certain plate and other goods as well as belonging to the Queens Majestic as to other sundry persons besides, will by no mean hither to declare where the same has become. Not withstanding the matter is already confessed against him by 2 others, and therefore they are required for better atteyning the truth to put him to such tortures as by their discretion shall by though convenient. No doubt the 'Queens Plate' was the silver of church and Silvester was tortured for not disclosing it's whereabouts. Silvester survived, witness his being Rector of Marston Mortaine in 1561-1563.



Silvester's eldest son **SILVESTER** was born in 1550. He married twice, I have not been able to trace his first wife, but his second was Elizabeth Scortredd. By his first wife Silvester Jnr had 4 daughters by his second wife he had 1 daughter. In Silvester Jnr's will in 1621 he bequeaths his property and money between his daughters Elizabeth, Ann (Bigg) and Lucy. Silvester Jnr also left some money to Thomas, son of John Taverner, his brother. Presumably his wife and other brothers were already dead by 1621.

Silvester senior's other children were **THOMAS, JOHN & RICHARD**. Richard born 1556 had a son **HENRY** born 1602, which Henry became a Sea Captain.

A great deal is known about Henry. He was as largely responsible for surveying the coast of Florida for a safe anchorage for the Mayflower. His uncle, John was also concerned with the development of Virginia.

THE TAVERNERS SURVEY PART OF AMERICA

English settlement in the U.S.A. began in April 1607 when 3 storm beaten ships commanded by Captain Christopher Newport took refuge near the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, Virginia. George Percy, son of the Earl of Northumberland was with them.

1612 John Rolfe began to grow tobacco in Virginia and married an Indian Chiefs famous daughter Poko Huntas. By 1619 Virginia had only 2000 people. In that year 90 young maidens arrived, and the first 20 slaves were sold to plantation owners. 1620 The Pilgrim fathers, sailing in the Mayflower to Virginia were swept north and landed on the Massachusetts Coast, 102 landed, half perished in the first winter. By 1629 May saw 5 ships carrying 400 passengers, 400 cattle and 40 goats left London. By June they reached Salem. 1634 saw the first settlers in Maryland. Only in 1663 Charles II granted a charter to 8 of his favourites for the vast area now embraced by both Carolina and Georgia.

The chartered trading company was the main instrument for transferring Britons and others across the seas, organised primarily for profit, which planted Virginia and Massachusetts. The London Company, so-called because organised by stockholders resident in London, had been granted it's charter in 1606 to plant a colony between the thirty fourth and forty first degrees of latitude.

The Plymouth Company, whose stockholders lived in Plymouth, Bristol and other towns, was chartered the same year to establish a colony between the thirty eighth and forty fifth degrees.

These companies could distribute lands, operate mines, coin money & organise the defence of their colonies. After heavy losses, the London Company in 1624 saw its charter revoked. the King making Virginia a royal colony. As soon as it was proved that the life in America might be prosperous and hopeful a great spontaneous migration from Europe began.

The first two great waves went to Massachusetts and Virginia. From 1628 to 1640 20,000 of the sturdiest people in England left home to avoid the subversion which was happening in England. Whole populations of puritans left en mass, certain English towns were half depopulated.

THE TAVERNERS IN THE NEW WORLD

As early as 1607 **JOHN TAVERNER** probably one of Silvester Taverner's sons is recorded in Virginia. He may even have been one of the original signatories of the London charter in 1606. Certainly he is recorded in transactions of the Virginia Company shareholders book.

"January 7th 1617 Mr John Taverner surrendered to Mr David Wiffin a bill of adventure of £37 10S, 3 shares.

March 17th 1618 Mr John Taverner allowed a personal share of 100 acre, 1 share.

June 7th 1619 Mr John Taverner to Thos Sheppard, 3 shares".

John's brother Richard had a son **HENRY** who became a sea captain, his story is particularly interesting since he was involved in the exploration of South Carolina and Florida searching out a safe haven for the Mayflower, which had earlier taken the pilgrim fathers to America.

The first I know of Henry is his mention in a law court case concerning a tobacco plantation on St Christopher's Island (St Kitts in the leeward island). Henry Taverner was captain of a ship called the Expedition about 1630 which sailed to St Kitts with £200 worth of supplies for the owner's plantation at Palmeto Point. We know much more about Henry because of his appearance in another trial, between one Edward Kingswell plaintiff and Samuel Vassall and Peter Andrew defendants.

Samuel Vassall was a business man and owned or part owner of a number of ships amongst them, The Mayflower.

Edward Kingswell commissioned the Mayflower, the Pinnance Henry and the ship Thomas wereof, Henry Taverner was master.

Firstly to explore the East coast of America from latitude 34 to 31. Henry Taverner set out in the Pinnance called George in 1632, Henry returned in June 1633 from the discovery of Carolina Alias Florida. Henry reported on the river St Helena and 2 other rivers having 14 to 16 feet of water. The Mayflower of Burthen 380 - 400 tons and laden draft 16 feet was therefore completely unsuitable to go to those parts. However, The Mayflower was kitted out with provisions including 1600 salt cod. It seems that Mr Kingswell was governor of Virginia at that time, his brother was a Mr Wingate.

In July 1634 Taverner's wife sent a letter via Orpheus Dunkyn to her husband in Virginia or Florida, which Orpheus threw overboard in the Bay

of Biscay because he was boarded by spaniards and did not want them to find his destination. the Mayflower carried 200 passengers on the outward voyage to Virginia in 1633 with the loss of only 1 passenger. Captain Peter Andrew was in command. Victuals included meat, drink, spice fish, sugar, fruit, oatmeal. One quartermaster, Thomas willis, thought the food was as good as he had seen in 18 or 19 years and never saw more care taken for the health of the passengers.

Robert Reene master mate on that voyage of the Mayflower state that Mr Wingate called Peter Andrews "Sirrah" and asked him who had made him captain and said that he did not know the way to Virginia and many other speeches which were unfit to be given by a passenger to the commander of a ship.

On the 28th March 1635 Henry Taverner of All Hallows, Barking, London, mariner aged about 32 was examined on behalf of Samuel Vassal.

"In September 1632 Henry was lured to go master of the Pinnace George to discover the coast of Florida between 33 and 31 degrees. Before he sailed, Edward Kingswell told Henry he intended to go to Florida and lent Henry 2 globes and 2 books of discovery, on one globe Henry was shown where to explore. Henry went to Florida and explored during February and March 1633 returning to London in July 1633. Upon his return Henry related to Vassell and Kingswell the true state of Florida and depth of the rivers and harbours, and gave them a true plot of that country. He particularly sounded the river of St Helena with a view to finding a commodious place for the settling of a plantation.

In May 1634 Henry set forth for Virginia in the ship the Thomas with 28 servants or passengers to replace servants formerly sent in the Mayflower who may have died, also bread and other provisions to sustain them in their passage from Virginia to Florida. Also clothing, bedding, hammocks, ironworks of several sorts, together with beads and other commodities to trade with the Indians.

July 1634 the Thomas arrived in Virginia.

Again in October 1636, Henry Taverner was master of the Elizabeth and Sarah of London sailed for Virginia, also in July 1637 Henry Taverner was master of the Sarah and Elizabeth was sent by Dobberry & Co to the Barbary Coast.

Just before this in June/July 1637 Henry as master of the Elizabeth and Sarah from Virginia to London, 6 leagues from Portland Henry spied a wreck

he brought it alongside and towed it loading many of the goods on board. In this same voyage to Virginia one Edward Turner, mate of the Elizabeth and Sarah under Henry Taverner died. His possessions are listed, a new serge gown (Edward was a surgeon) 5 petticoats, 1 bundle of silk ribbon, 1 barrel of oatmeal, 2 or 3 cases of strong waters, 1 barrel of castile soap weighing about 70lbs, 1 great barrel of iron wares, broad and narrow hoes, axes, padlocks, hatchets, and nails about 12 saws, 1 barrel of shoes, 3 or 4 suits, 1 pair of turkey draws laced with lace which seemed to be silver, one pair of boots, some skirts, bands and other wearing apparel and some sea instruments. Henry Taverner took the dead mans goods in lieu of the money owed him.

We now move to 1640-1641 close to the civil war Henry was master and commander of the Martha a ship of 120 tons worth £350. She was seized in Scotland May 1640 she had left the West Indies with a cargo of tobacco for the Clyde in January 1640. She was seized on arrival and the Scots, having intelligence that on of the King's ships was coming into the river with provisions and ammunition for Dumbarton Castle they took the goods out of the ship and all the guns and tackle and furniture and sank her in the river. the tobacco was sold for 16d/1b.

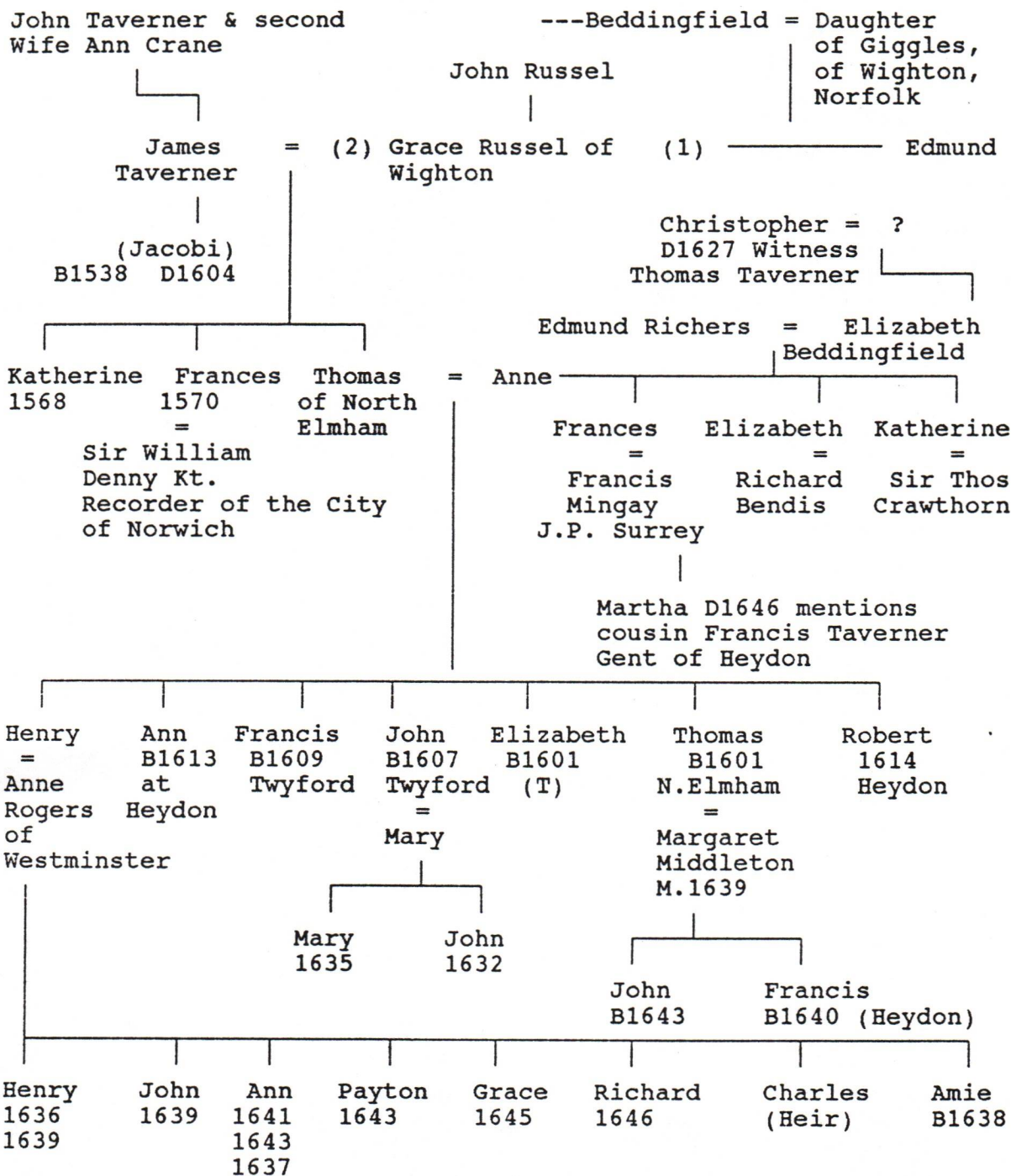
On 28th January 1640-1641 Henry Taverner of All Hallows, Barking, London, Mariner aged 36 gave evidence. Henry said he owned 1/12 of the value of the goods. On arrival at the Clyde and before he could procure leave to land and sell the tobacco, he was arrested and laid up in prison. The tobacco was of 65,000lb weight or more, Henry had been offered 6d per pound, the buyers to pay all customs and other charges. The tobacco was from Barbados and St Christopher's Island.

In November 22nd 1642 Oliver Cloberry believed (on oath) that Taverner who had command of the ship Martha from June 1638 for 19 months, to January 1639/40 and was paid £4.10s per month, that is usual for the master and commander of such a ship - this is the last we know for certain of Henry.

JAMES, 5TH SON OF JOHN TAVERNER

James was born around 1535 to John's second wife margaret. He inherited the family estate in North Elmham. He married Grace Russell of Wighton (12 miles north of Elmham) in Norfolk. James had a son Thomas who in his turn inherited the North Elmham estate.

The IGI for Norfolk mentions a son Thomas of Thomas Taverner baptised in 1601 in North Elmham there is also a large family born to Henry Taverner of North Elmham. Possibly he was also a son of Thomas - (see family tree below).

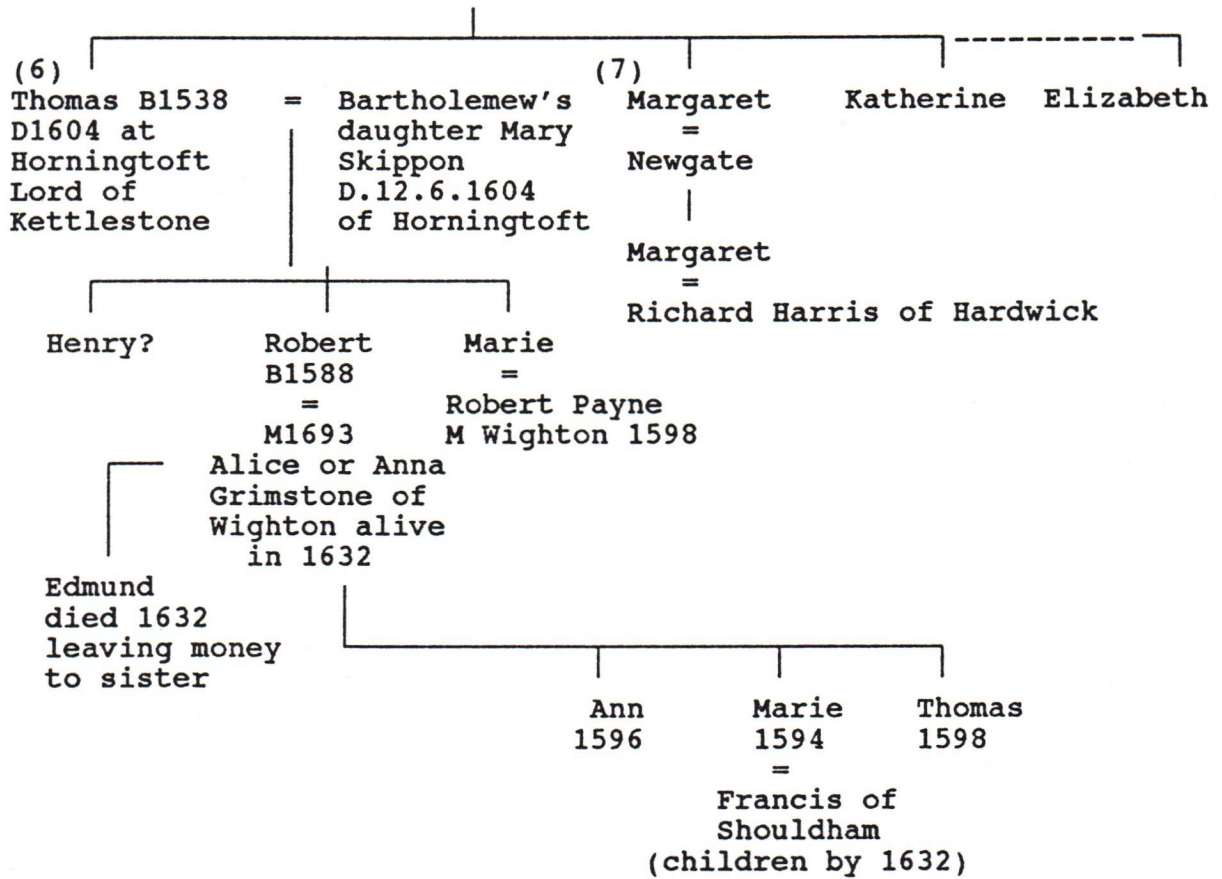


THOMAS, 6TH SON OF JOHN TAVERNER

Thomas went to Corpus Christi and matriculated in 1554 at Michaelmass, he was born in 1538. Thomas married Mary Skippon, daughter of Bartholomew Skippon of Kettlesdon, 7 miles north of North Elmham. Thomas was lord of the manor of Kettlesdon Thomas and Mary had a son Robert baptised in Norfolk. In 1588 Robert married Anna Grimstone. In 1593 at Wighton, a Marie Taverner (Thomas's sister?) married Robert Payne in Wighton 1598.

Robert and Anna had 3 children baptised in Kettlesdon, Thomas 1598, Marie 1594 and Ann in 1596.

JOHN TAVERNER = (2) ANN CRANE OF BRISLEY,
B1470 D1545 NORFOLK.



Thomas had a title similar to two of his elder brothers, since he is described as a "Preservator of Her Majesties Woods of Tyekford and Hanslopp, Bucks".

ROGER OF UPMINSTER THE 2ND SON OF JOHN TAVERNER

Roger went to Cambridge for a while. afterwards surveyor general on this side of the river trent of the King's woods to Henry VIII, Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth I. He owned a fair estate at Upminster, Essex where he died in 1582 leaving son **JOHN**. John died in 1608 leaving son **ROGER** living in 1636.

Cambridge Alumni says about Roger:-

"He was a student at Cambridge, Surveyor General of the King's woods south of the trent C1540 MP for Launceston 1554 (Cornwall) married and had issued. 1560 Author "Death of Victuals etc. Died at Upminster Essex 1582. Will PCC masters 391 Cooper 1 461 Vis of Essex 1634 D.N.B.)".

Anthony a Wood has a quite a bit to say about Roger. In 1560 he wrote a book defame of the means to prevent famine in this land, dedicated to Queen Elizabeth, who delivered it to Dr Parker Archbishop of Canterbury. He afterward gave it to Bennet College Libary in Cambridge, where it now remains (this was 1704) of the author is said. The author was no professed scholar, yet he was competantly learned well versed in the affairs of the commonwealth and of the estated of the Kingdoms in foreign parts, and that the book was worthy of publication.

He died at Upminster in Essex where he had a fair estate and was buried in the church there in 1582, leaving behind a son **JOHN**, who in 1600 published a little treatise concerning "The making of Ponds, Breeding and Feeding of Fish, and Planting of Fruit" etc, which John succeeded his father as surveyor, and dying in 1608 was buried next to his father, leaving behind him a son Roger, living in 1636.

This branch of the family is well recorded since money was lavishly spent on upgrading the King's hunting, shooting & fishing. Roger - In a later bibliography his books are said to be extant at Corpus Christi College, Cambs.

Ms 370 (Nasmyth Cat MSS Morant, Essex i 173, Cooper athenae i 461) His son John (see many letters by him on forestry in Lansdowne MSS).

In state papers 1547-1580, 1554 February 1st Edmund Downynge & **ROBERT & ROGER TAVERNER** of London purchased the Manor of Boyton, and the Barton of Bradridge Co Cornwall plus the manor of Stoke and Bradley Co Worcester etc.

In 1565 January 15th Survey by **ROGER** of the Manor of Ernewood Co Salop.

In ancient deeds Vol 6 20.9.1546 C5213 Grant by **RICHARD & ROBERT TAVERNER** of London, paid to them £12 13s 4d for a tenement on the bridge near Abbey Foregate Nr Shrewsbury, Salop.

Upminster had two main manors, Upminster Manor and Gaines or Gaynes Manor. (see A History of Upminster & Cranham - John Dury).

In the mid 1500's the estates were aquired by Ralph Lathom, a London goldsmith. Roger Taverner's eldest brother Richard married the daughter, Margaret of Walter Lambert, a London Goldsmith in 1537. It seems probable therefore that Roger leased his 'fair estate' from Ralph Latham. Another cross connection of associated families are the Poyntz's.

Nicholas Poyntz of Hexton fought at the battle of Agincourt along with John Taverner of North Elmham in Norfolk. In 1706 Sarah Taverner of Hexton married Robert Poyntz. Back in Upminster in 1601 it is recorded that Gabriel Poyntz was chairman of the jurors at the court baron of Gaynes Manor. They owned land in North Ockendon and Upminster and by 1800 owned Gaynes Manor. Poyntz is far from a common name and it would be interesting to know how the families were associated.

A number of grants were made to John, Roger's son by James I.

CALENDER OF STATE PAPERS 1603 - 1610

In James I P.135 July 22nd 1603.

Warrant of a payment of £661 18.4 by estimate of **JOHN TAVERNER** for erection of a new lodge at Richmond, Surrey £231 18.4 for felling and carriage of trees, £430 to Sir Thos Gorges, keeper of Richmond Park for oversight of the work.

In James I P.215 May 6th 1605.

Warrant to pay £56 13.8 to **JOHN TAVERNER** surveyor of the woods for timber for the park at Richmond.

In James I P.353 March 31st 1607.

Lord Treasurer Dorset to Sir Thomas Lake, to make a warrant for sale of as many timber trees out of Chute Forest Co, Hants, as will raise £180 to be applied to the building of a fair lodge in nonesuch park, by estimate of **JOHN TAVERNER**.

In James I P.381 November 13th 1607.

Warrant to pay **JOHN TAVERNER** surveyor of the Kings Woods south of the trent £217.1.0 for impaling a warren for hares near Hampton Court.

Roger died in 1582 and left the residue of his estate to his 2 sons **RICHARD** and **ROBERT** - No doubt John his eldest son had his inheritance earlier. No daughters are mentioned in the will, either he had no daughters or they were already safely married with their dowrys. Roger's wife must have died before him since she is not mentioned.

I also have Roger's son **JOHN'S** will. He died in 1608 and left his estate to Susan, his wife and on her death to his son **ROGER** and daughters **ELIZABETH** and **SUSAN**. Susan, John's wife remarried to a Simon Westwood. Simon died in 1614 extracts from his will are attached. Susan was John's second or third wife.

There is one more curious entry in the calendar of state papers for 1621.

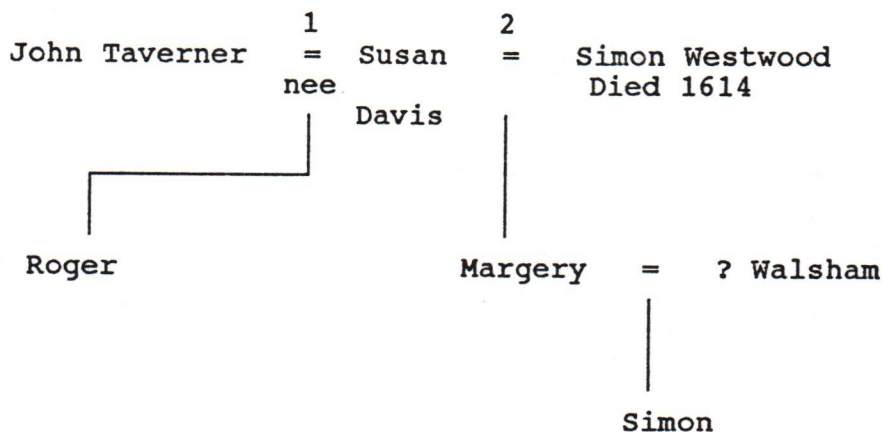
1621 Petition of John Clarke deputy surveyor for John Taverner of the Kings Woods south of the trent to the same the Captain Fitzgerald imprisoned for repeated disobedience to orders in chancery to pay £100 be not discharged from prison until he pays same. But John died in 1608, so did John's son born in 1601 inherit the surveyorship?

This John Taverner is confusing. There may be more than one John Taverner in the district which would account for a lot of conflicting information about his (their) marriages and children. A John Taverner married Alice Frith in Upminster 1575.

EXTRACTS FROM CALENDER OF WILLS OF THE COURT
OF HUSTINGS, LONDON PART 2 1358 - 1688

Will of Simon Westwood died 30.11.1614 to Susan his wife £2,000.00 and all his lands tenements etc in Co Essex as well as a tenement in the Parish of Little All Hallows, London under the company of Dyres.

To Roger Taverner, his wife's son and Simon Walsham, his daughter, Margery's son the reversion of his lands and tenements in London and Essex.
Dated 14.10.1614



Further confirmation of Susan's remarriage comes from the calender of state papers when on 9th July 1614 James I issued a warrant for payment to Susan Westwood £18.11.6 she being executrix of the late John Taverner, surveyor of the Kings Woods south of the trent.

We can fill in more about Rogers children from the will of his other son **RICHARD**, who died in Upminster in 1595. In his will he mentions his brother John (who died in 1608) and sisters Deborah Bearman and Jane Bradwell his wife Elizabeth Barbor, daughters Susan and Constance and god neice Christian. At this time there were around 50 houses in Upminster and 20 in Cranham, the next village.

ROMFORD, HORNCURCH, UPMINSTER, CRANHAM.
 UPMINSTER 50 HOUSES IN 1600 CRANHAM 20 HOUSES IN 1600

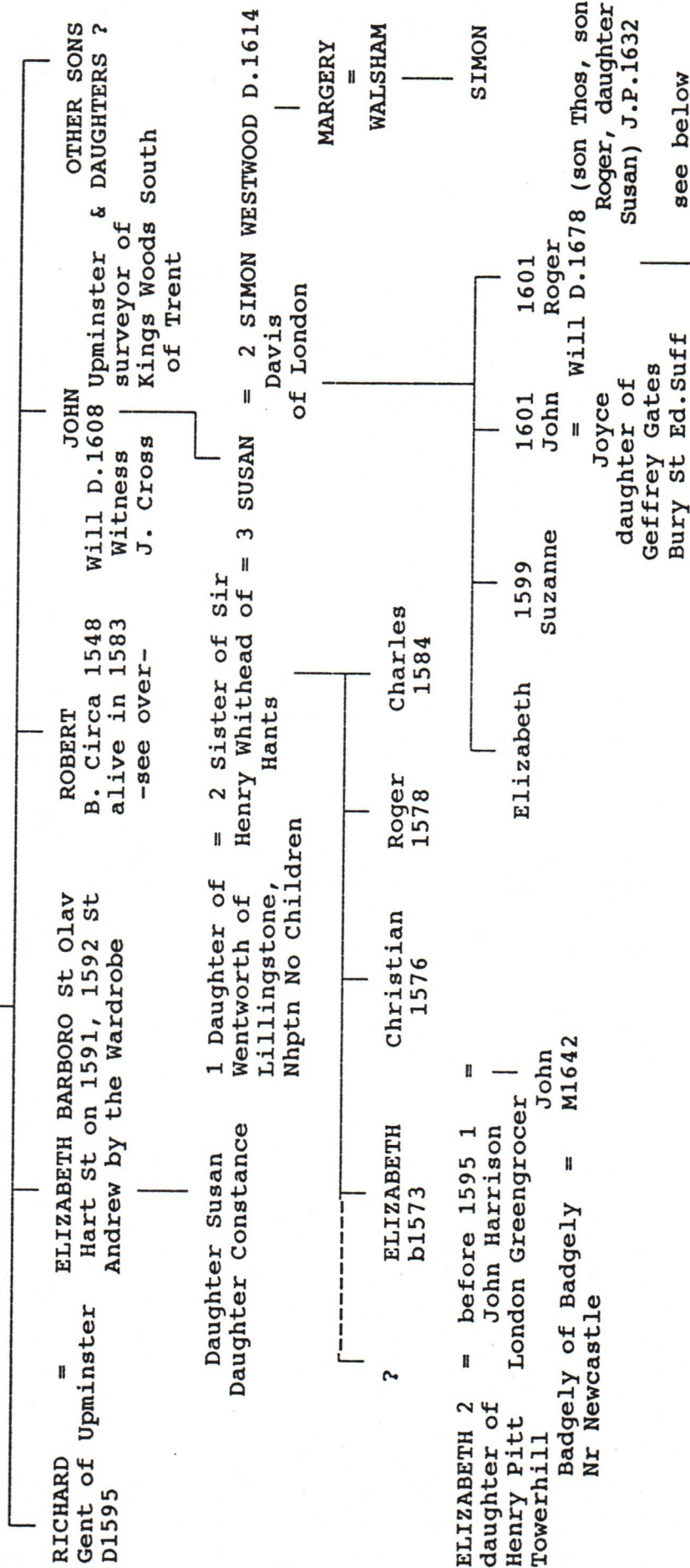
(Wm Holcot, Preacher
 of Buckland in Berks,
 friend of Richard Taverner
 Roger's brother)

| JOHN (N. Elmham)

Roger Taverner born circa 1510, died 1583 Upminster where he had a fair
 estate (educated cambridge M.P. for Launceston, Devon
 1554) (mention sons Robert & Richard)

= Holcot

Will mentions
 God daughter & Neice Mary
 Sister DEBORAH BEARMAN
 Sister JANE BRADWELL
 Brother JOHN
 God Neice CHRISTIAN
 will died 1595



ELIZABETH 2 = before 1595 1 =
 daughter of John Harrison
 Henry Pitt London Greengrocer
 Towerhill John
 Badgely of Badgely = M1642
 Nr Newcastle

see below

Son of Roger
(see above)

ROBERT (YEOMAN) = ?
D.1619 Horndon-on-the-Hill

William Robert
all mentioned in will

Ellen Francis Agnes
(daughter)

ROGER = William & Dorothy
Harrington
ANN HARRINGTON
M 1630 of Sibil Heddingham

3 THOMAS 1 JOHN 2 ROGER
Gent of N.Ockendon 1633 1631
B.1637 D.1683 aged 4 months 1635
= 4.8.1634 Son
ANN & Heir)
D.1685

4 ABRAHAM 5 ISAAC 6 JACOB
1640 1641 1643
1694-1704 Ref: Visitations
Bush Farm 1664-1668
Upminster

5 ISAAC
1641

6 JACOB
1643

Ref: Visitations
1664-1668

CHARLES 1668 1685
MARY 1679 1682

ROBERT 1675
ROGER 1679 1680
THOMAS 1678 1688

George B.1667
Walthamstow

John 1706
= Elizabeth
Humphries

= Ann Prentice

1662 Hearth Tax	
Taverner Robert	2
Taverner ?	14

1706 John of Hornchurch = Elizabeth Humphries
St James, Dukes Place