

Herrick Family Association

Founded in 2001



Richard L. Herrick, Founder and President Emeritus

Kenneth Herrick, Vice President Emeritus

Joann Nichols, Editor Emeritus

Virgil Herrick, Counselor Emeritus

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Check our Web Page: www.Herrickfamilyassociation.org or find us on Facebook!



SEASONS GREETINGS



Message from the President:

Dale E. Yoe, HFA #062

December 2020

Hello again and I hope everyone is safe and healthy. This is one year I will be happy to see go away! Jim, Jimmy, and I have been busy trying to have folks in our church keep connected as well as keeping the faith. Through Zoom and Live in- stream- they have made it work. Of course, as soon as we were able to get back inside with a few folks and several sittings- boom- back to live stream. But we are all safe, so far.

Plans are still going on for our September trip to England and I cannot wait. Hopefully the add of vaccines will help that move along. Please contact Maria at Celtic Journeys asap to let her know if you wish to come along, so we can total the final numbers.

As we move forward into 2021, I want to mention that this will be the year we celebrate our 20th anniversary. It was 2001 that Richard, Virgil, Sharon and Alice put their heads together and decided we needed to revive a Herrick Family Association, and I am so happy they did. We have had 229 people become members. They range in age, but also in countries. Not just the USA, but Canada, Japan, Wales, and Switzerland. Our group has traveled to Salem MA, Boston MA, Washington DC, Salt Lake Utah, Lansing MI, Albany NY, Madison WI, Fort Wayne IN, Hartford CT, and Leicester England. With the brilliance of Richard as President, we produced the Herrick Genealogical Register – 2012 and revised it in 2016.

So- as we move forward to help link up with our Viking past, we must realize that we have come a long way. We continue to research Henry of Salem and Henry of Virginia. We continue to produce our newsletter and maintain our look ups, flash drive sales and web page. We have a lot to be proud of.

I hope to meet most of you again as we travel to England to research and tour Viking places and around our well-known Herrick spots. In the meantime- stay safe, wear the mask, and get the vaccine when you can.

* * *

2021 Leicester Meeting Update

Maria Flynn Conway of Celtic Journeys

At the moment I suggest if people want to look at flights and see what kind of options are available and prices they might get a good deal, schedules will only just be opening up for September 2021 so no harm in looking but I would say unless it's a really low fare to wait until January to consider booking. As of now yes all the venues are welcoming and hoping everyone will come. To be honest if there is no travel by September the world is in trouble. I think by June there will be movement if not late April to May.

But everyone is on a positive note for the 2021 season even though they believe it will be a late start.

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www.celtic-journeys.com

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Membership Report

Jim Hilton HFA #168

In early January I will be sending out communications to those members who owe dues for 2021. I will also send an individual message to each member who is already paid through at least 2021 in case you wonder if we've forgotten you!

Dues for 2021 remain: \$20 for 1 year, \$38 for 2 years, \$80 for 5 years, and \$400 for lifetime. If you know that you owe for 2021 and want to beat the rush, members can send their payment (made out to Herrick Family Association) to our treasurer:

Dianne Herrick
6707 St. Johns Parkway
Victor, NY 14564

I'm sure that we all hope for an improved new normal in 2021. Look for upcoming HFA activity and keep breaking down those brick walls. Don't forget the Herrick Forum can help and is available through our website.

Jim Hilton, Membership Chair

<mailto:jhiltonjr@frontiernet.net>

* * *

Member Highlight

Cleo is 100 Years Old!

Ike Herrick HFA #106



My sister, Cleo Herrick McCulla, (HGR 7966) celebrated her 100th birthday on August 22, 2020. Cleo was born on a farm, northwest of Red Cloud, in Webster County Nebraska to first time parents Van and Hazel Herrick.

Cleo lived on this farm and attended rural school until 1931. By this time she had three siblings Lowell, Cecil and Pauly. The family moved, in March 1931, to a farm in Franklin County near Riverton Nebraska. She again attended rural school, located about one half mile from the farm.

Cleo began high school, in Franklin, Nebraska, at age thirteen and graduated in 1937. Her father scraped together enough depression money to pay her tuition at University of Nebraska at Kearney. Cleo worked to pay all other expenses by working in the cafeteria. She finished her studies in 1941.

In October 1941 she married the love of her life, Frank McCulla. Frank was a master electrician and worked for a number of utilities in Nebraska, Union Pacific Railroad and ship yards in Washington state.

In the 1950's they became tired of travel and returned to Shelton Nebraska, where Frank had his own business of wiring houses for Rural Electrification. For the next thirty-five years Frank carried on a successful business and Cleo was a book keeper for the local natural gas company.

In 1960 their home was blessed with the birth of daughter Kathy Renee. Kathy, a nurse has helped her mother remain in her home, in Shelton Nebraska to this day.

Cleo is still very sharp mentally. Reads two newspapers a day and can converse on about any subject. She does have some mobility issues, with bad knees but still gets out once a week to have her hair done.

Your author Ithel (Ike) Herrick (HGR 7970) did not join the Herrick family until 1936.

Ike Herrick

* * *

Historical Sampler Information Sought

Dale Yoe #062

This past mid-March time from- about the start of the pandemic shutdown, I received an email from a Christopher Philipppo at the Bethlehem Historical Association in NY. They were looking for information on a sampler they had received. It was done by:

Catherine Bradt Vanderzee Herrick of Troy NY b. 1795 or abt 1810. It has on its back a label stating:

Made by Catherine Van-der-Zee (Bradt)

Born New Baltimore in 1795

Married William Herrick

Buried at Mt. Ida Cemetery, Troy, in William M. Herrick plot.

Sampler made at 18 years of age.

It took a while for the Covid-19 to ease enough for them to get a picture for me- but here it is:



So- the clues were there. We first looked in the City of Troy, Superintendent of Burial Grounds' interment records - digitally scanned by Christopher Philippono, from the Bethlehem Historical Society, from microfilms of the originals; He said we are welcome to make them available to any of our members who might want to look for other Herricks (or whomever):

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B7Mt-S77wZKfZ1JCZEtRcFY5eTQ?usp=sharing>

In the 1836-01-02 to 1837-02-16.pdf there's an entry for William Herrick at July 7 1836 age 3 years 6 months. The discrepancy in the name recorded by the DAR from the headstone, we suspect is that the Superintendent of Burial Grounds wasn't given the child's name and had neglected to put "son of" or "child of" William Herrick. The date July 7 might have been date of interment rather than date of death.

On the 1850 Census it was thought that someone named Sally might've been William Herrick's sister-in-law, but it is also possible she had been a Herrick who'd married a Vanderzee.

They said they wished when the sampler was received, they'd collected more info from the donor! A perennial issue with small historical societies. It donated by a Mrs. Harry O'Brien in 1984. She might've been a descendant, or she might've just picked it up at a sale.

In the Herrick Genealogical Register- 3rd Ed. On page 229, it says:

1081. William Herrick (Josiah⁶, Joseph⁵, Stephen⁴, Samuel³, Ephraim², Heneriel Hericke) was born probably before 1790 [FCR NY 1840] (where he is enumerated as 50 & under 60), in Dutchess Co., NY; a merchant in Troy, Rensselaer Co., NY, where he died; married Catherine Vanderzee [85HGR 90-91].

Children of William Herrick and Catherine Vanderzee are:

- 2824 i. Storm T.8 Herrick, born Troy, New York [85HGR 91].
- 2825 ii. Maria Louisa Herrick, born in Troy, New York [85HGR 91].
- 2826 iii. Frances Ann Herrick, born in Troy, New York [85HGR 91].
- 2827 iv. William Herrick, born in Troy, New York [85HGR 91].

In looking at the 1850 Census- Sally could have been his sister- Sarah- that was a common nickname for Sarah. His father is on p.133:

376. Josiah Herrick (Joseph⁵, Stephen⁴, Samuel³, Ephraim², Heneriel Hericke) was of Dutchess Co., NY, farmer; married Margaret Hicks of Long Island [85HGR 89 & 90].

Children of Josiah Herrick and Margaret Hicks are:

- + 1080 i. Stephen Hicks⁷ Herrick [85HGR 90].
- + 1081 ii. William Herrick [85HGR 90].
- 1082 iii. Joseph Herrick [85HGR 90] (he is not recorded in the 46HGR).
- + 1083 iv. Sarah Herrick [85HGR 90] (she is not recorded in the 46HGR).
- + 1084 v. Josiah Herrick [85HGR 90] (he is not recorded in the 46HGR).
- + 1085 vi. Mary 'Polly' Herrick [85HGR 90] (she is not recorded in the 46HGR).
- + 1086 vii. Elias Hicks Herrick, born June 1798 [85HGR 90].
- + 1087 viii. Jacob Burton Herrick, born 06 September 1800 [85HGR 90].

Possibly that William Herrick is the one identified as having lived in Troy NY named in the Genealogical

Register. <https://archive.org/details/genealogicalregi00herrich/page/20/mode/2up/search/troy>

The DAR did transcribe headstones in the “Old” Mount Ida Cemetery on Pawling Avenue in Troy NY for a few children of William and Catherine Herrick that died in the 1830s, but seemingly did not record any for William and Catherine themselves - but many headstones in that cemetery have become buried and perhaps had been already underground when the DAR visited.

- > Jacob Hicks Herrick, son of William & Catherine, d. Feb. 5, 1832, 8 mo. 23 dy.
- > John Van Derzee Herrick, son of William & Catherine, d. July 6, 1836, 3 yr. 5 mo. 2 dy.
- > Sarah Margaret Herrick, dau. of William & Catherine, d. Sept. 25, 1826, 5 yr. 10 mo. 29 dy.

<http://www.onentofl.com/tcsnyrenTROYmida6.html>

There’s a William and Catherine Herrick on the 1850 US Census in Troy, he b. abt 1805 and she b. abt. 1810. In their household there is also a Sally Vanderzee b. abt 1808.

We now know that the sampler will be donated to Hart-Cluett Museum in Troy, NY, as soon as they are able to deliver it.

* * *

In Search of Erick the Forester Resources, Notes, and Questions

Alice Herrick Reynolds HFA #003

Lucius C. Herrick, in his Herrick Genealogical Register, 1885 (HGRII), mentions Erick the Forester as a potential ancestor of the Herrick family in Leicester. It is likely that Lucius discovered this information as he reviewed the works of two Leicestershire historians completed nearly 100 years previously.

What is Known about Erick the Forester

These historians, John Throsby and John Nichols communicated with William Herrick (whichever one was the head of the Herrick family at Beaumanor Hall) about 1795 when their works were published. William Herrick shared the Herrick family letters that had been collected starting with Sir William Heyricke (1557 to 1652/3). Both historians used this information and other sources to provide the lineage of the Herrick family. Eric the Forester was mentioned by both historians but with no additional references. It is our conclusion that it was the Herrick family lore (possibly true, partly true or not true at all) that Eric the Forester was the family’s direct ancestor. The historians dutifully included his name in their 1795 Herrick articles.

Throsby said, “I have given in my Leicestershire Views a pretty full pedigree of this ancient and respectable family, who derive their lineage from Erick the forester, a great commander, who opposed the landing of William the conqueror. This veteran retired to Leicestershire, in his old age, after being employed in the service of the Conqueror, where his descendants, in succession, have continued ever since.” (The History and Antiquities of the Ancient Town of Leicester; Attempted by John Throsby. Leicester: Printed by J. Brown for the Author, M DCC XCI, p. 271)

John Nichols added more information in The History and Antiquities of Leicestershire, Vol iii, p. 227 in a section called *Minor Queries and Answers* dated Sept. 22, 1855:

Q: Eric the Forester. – Who was Eric the Forester? He is mentioned in Potter’s Charnwood, p. 80, as having harangued his forces in that forest in the time of the Norman invasion. Beyond this no mention is made of him,

nor have I been able to ascertain anything concerning him elsewhere. Doubtless there are particulars to be found of this Robin Hood of Leicestershire, and such a will be worthy when found to be “made a note of” Can any studious friend shed any light on this matter? Pedro.

A: Eric, surnamed Silvaticus, or the Forester, was the son of Alfrike, Earl of Mercia, and appears by the Domesday Book to have had afterwards possessions on the north side of Herefordshire. Not having fully acknowledged the Norman authority, he availed himself of the temporary absence of William to take up arms. This garrison of the castle of Hereford, under Richard Fitscrobe and others, marched against him, and laid waste his lands in several expeditions, but sustained themselves a considerable loss from the resistance opposed to them. At length Eric formed an alliance with Blethyn and Rywalhon, princes of Wales, in conjunction with whom he revenged the affront, ravaging the county as far as the bridge of Hereford and returning with a marvelous great spoil. (Duncumb’s Herefordshire, i. 57., quoted from Hoveden and Chronicle of Wales.) Hoveden further states, anno 1070, “At this period the most valiant man Eric, surnamed the Woodsman, was reconciled to King William; “ it is therefore probable that he continued in the royal service and favor till his death. In anecdotes of the Family Swift: a fragment written by Dean Swift (Scott’s edit, vol i, p. 508), it appears that “the Dean’s mother was Abigail Erick of Leicestershire, descended from the most ancient family of the Ericks, who derive their lineage from Eric, the Forester, a great commander, who raised up an army to oppose the invasion of William the conqueror, by whom he was vanquished, but afterwards employed to command that prince’s forces and in his old age retired to his house in Leicestershire, where his family has continued ever since.” Of the two branches, the Heyrickes of Leicester town, and the Herricks of Beaumanor, distinct pedigrees, and many curious historical anecdotes are given in Nichol’s Leicestershire, vol. ii, p. 215; vol. iii, p. 148.

Some Clues from these Records

Although tracing family that is not royalty this far back is extremely difficult, these passages provide some very important clues:

- Erick was an established leader – probably landed and respected.
- His father was identified as Alfrike, earl of Mercia - perhaps research can reveal more information here.
- He ‘opposed the landing of William the conqueror’ – this helps us pinpoint the various times when William attacked England and fought with the Welsh against William.
- He was defeated William’s forces and was ‘reconciled’ with William, which was often the case as various English armies were defeated and then became followers.
- He ‘was employed in the service of the Conqueror’- suggests he had some useful, perhaps visible role, that might have been noted in the Domesday Book or other records of the time,
- He had possessions in the north of Herefordshire.
- He ‘retired (as a veteran) to Leicestershire in his old age’ – this suggests he had some tie to Leicestershire – maybe from there originally, maybe had some land there, or some sort of grant or reward from the Conqueror.

In the Domesday Book

The Domesday Book was actually several books commissioned by King William to survey the population, land holdings and their value as a way to determine his tax scheme and policies to control his new found territories.

Professor Turi King (who led the DNA study that identified Herrick as a single source family with Viking roots) said in a note to Curt Herrick (10-11-06) when we asked about Erick the forester. “OK, got dictionaries next to me. Reaney says Herrick first recorded as Eiric, Eric, Erich in 1066 Domesday Book... From Old Norse Eirikr, Old Danish, Old Swedish, Erik.”

After exploring the Eric’s listed in the Domesday Book, none were found in Leicestershire, only Erick, the brother of Tostig (a major leader in Northumbria), in Lincolnshire and Huntingdonshire as well as Eric’s listed in Great Grimsby (Lincolnshire), Thistleton (Rutland), and Catworth (Cambridgeshire).

Another Historians' Work

Some helpful background information has been gleaned from the work of John Richard Green in Green's History of the English People. Vol. I 440-1461. (Lovel, Coryell & Company, New York before 1895.) Some information may help us in our search of Erick the forester.

- Many small battles followed throughout England for several years before William completed the full conquest of England led by current rulers of parts of England and by others from Norway or Sweden who desired to conquer parts of England during this volatile period.
- When defeated the barons and earls often gave allegiance to William.
- William imposed large fines upon the greater landowners as atonement for resistance. (p.123)
- William subdued uprisings in the Southwest and Exeter, later subdued York, put down the 1068 well-organized uprising, destroyed York and devastated the North, built castles to hold the land, put down the 1071 Mercian resistance (where Eadwine and Morkere (Morcar) surrendered at Ely, and forced Malcolm (King of Scotland) to swear fealty. (*This is where Alfricke would have been from... what can we learn about him?*)
- William established a harsh and cruel regime; the King's will had to be followed or people were punished severely.
- William established a combination of a feudal/royal system where his warriors received estates and other rewards.
- Freeholders were gradually reduced and lords bound the tenants of the land to them. Freeholders were forced to find lords to attach to.
- Land grants were given to Odo (William's brother), his counselors, barons and even to low ranking soldiers. Then dues were required from the grantees to the King. *Did Eric receive a grant from King William?*
- He rearranged the earldoms, shifted the local governance, controlled judicial matters and controlled the church.

Green also listed key resources to study for this period. Earlier resources often provide more details.

- Royal laws and charters from the period
- English Chronicle
- Dudo of St. Questin
- William of Jurniges
- Roman de Rou
- Gesta Williemi by William du Poiteries
- Carmen de Bello Hastingensi
- Guy, Bishop of Amiens
- Bayeux Tapestry
- Simeon of Durham (on Northern matters)
- William of Malmsbury
- Domesday Book
- Chroniques de Anjou
- Florence of Worcester
- Eadmer (monk) Canterbury Historica ovorum
- Henry of Huntington

Resources listed by Wikipedia

- Richard Southern
- H.G. Richardson
- G.O. Sayles
- Walker on Harold
- Chibnall
- Gravett on Hastings
- Lawson on the Battle of Hastings
- Roffe, D. on Hereward
- Stafford on the Unification and Conquest
- Thomas, Hugh 2001, 2003 on Significance and Fate of English Landowners
- Walker, Ian 2000 Harold
- Williams, Ann 2004 on Eadric the Wild
- Norman Chroniclers – Orderic
- The Chronicle
- Florence of Worcester
- Simeo of Durham
- Eadmer, monk at Canterbury called *Historica Novorum*
- Henry I – Life of Anselm

Basic Timeline of Battles and Participants

Sources: J.R. Green in Green's History of the English People, E.A. Freeman in The History of the Norman Conquest of England and Wikipedia, "William the Conqueror".

1066

- William defeats Harold at Hastings
- William defeats Edgar the Aetheling who was supported by Earls Edwin and Morcar, Stigand, Ealdred (Archbishop (AB) of Canterbury) and Ealdred (Archbishop of York)
- William defeats Stigand at Wallingford; Stigand submits, Edgar submits in Hertfordshire
- William is crowned King by Ealdred (AB of Canterbury). William gives Morcar, Edwin, Edgar and Wathoef (Earl of Northumbria) their lands back
- William returns to Normandy leaving Odo, his brother, and William FitzOsbern in charge

1067

- Rebels in Kent. Shropshire landowner Eadric the Wild and Welsh (Gwynedd and Powys) in western Mercia and fight William's forces in Hereford. *Were Alfricke, Blethyn and Rywalhon involved during this time?*

1068

- William returns to England, fights rebels at Exeter. Edwin and Morcar revolt in Mercia. Gospatric revolts in

Northumbria. William defeats them all. Edwin and Morcar submit. Gospatric returns to Scotland with Eagar the Aethling. William is crowned King on May 11, 1068.

- Harold's son raids Somerset and Cornwall
- King Malcolm of Scotland accepts and shelters Gospatric, Eadgar the Aetheling and his mother and sisters.
- William moves through Nottingham, although not mentioned, it is assumed that Coventry and Leicester submit during this march. Leicester, it appears, based on information (or lack thereof) in the Domesday Chronicles that implies that Leicester must have suffered a huge defeat with only a few of its early burghers or freeholders retaining property (Aschil, Raven and Turchil – all of Danish descent).
- William's followers get to "hold" land (often in piecemeal lots throughout England) and titles but William claims ultimate ownership

1069

- Northumbria revolt including Gospatric, Eagar, Swarl Born. William defeats them and massacres them and surrounding lands.
- Harold's son raids from Ireland, is defeated at Devon
- Sweyn II of Denmark raids with others and retakes Northumbria, they try to raid Lincoln but are defeated.
- Eadric the Wild revolts in Mercia (with Welsh, Shropshire and Cheshire) is defeated
- Those in Dorset defeated.
- William attacks Danes, defeats Mercian rebels, in Battle of Stafford.
- William retakes York.

1070

- William crushes resistance in Mercia. (*What happened here – was Alfricke here?*)
- William purges the church including Stigand
- Sweyn II returns, joins Hereward in Wake, but Sweyn II takes bribe and returns home

1071

- Edwin, Morcar and Fens rebel but are defeated. Hereward is pardoned and gets his land back, Edwin is killed, and Morcar is imprisoned for life. (*Or here?*)

1072

- William confronts King Malcolm of Scotland. He submits and expels Eagar the Aetheling who also submits.

1075

- Ralph de Gael (Norfolk) and Roger Brekeul (Hereford) revolt, William subdues them. (*Or here?*)

From 1075 to 1087

- William lived in England and in Normandy.
- At Christmas 1085, William ordered the compilation of a survey of the landholdings held by himself and by his vassals throughout his kingdom, organized by counties. It resulted in several works now known as the *Domesday Book*. The listing for each county gives the holdings of each landholder, grouped by owners. The listings describe the holding, who owned the land before the Conquest, its value, what the tax assessment was,

and usually the number of peasants, ploughs, and any other resources the holding had. Towns were listed separately. (Wikipedia)

- William continues to put down uprisings in England and in Normandy led by his sons and various ambitious nobles. He died in July, 1087 after a residing for two years in Normandy and putting down uprisings there

How does Erick the Forester Fit into the Timeline?

I am hoping that the more we learn about the period, the greater the chance we have to form hypotheses about Erick the Forester in terms of:

- Where he lived prior to William the Conqueror's arrival? If it was Herefordshire, what can we learn about this time? Was his father really Alfrike?
- Who Erick served when he fought against William? How was he connected to Blethyn and Rywalhon?
- Where and when did Eric fight with or was employed by William after he 'reconciled' with him?
- When Eric might have retired to Leicestershire?
- Where Eric settled in Leicestershire?
- Who Eric's descendants are?

Another Resource/Another Clue

A note in my folder says, "Eric the Forester – grandnephew of Edric who committed perfidy in the time of Edmond an Esmond." The reference is from Hume, History of England, Vol. I, p. 239.

More work to do here!!

Anyone want to help?

Here is a short informative book you might like to order; *Viking Leicestershire* by **Roderick Dale** with an introduction by Judith Jesch. Order from Five Leave Bookshop in Nottingham, UK through email: bookshop@fiveleaves.co.uk . (website is www.fiveleavesbookshop.co.uk), phone is 01158373097. It cost about \$15 (8.99 pounds).

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Herrick Family Tree DNA Project

Nancy Johnson HFA #212

Recently while talking with Curt Herrick about the Herrick DNA Project I came to understand that before I could join the Herrick DNA Project I would need a Family Tree DNA test. You can order your test here <https://www.familytreedna.com/> right now the tests are on sale for \$70 off. Once your test has been purchased you can join the Herrick Project here - <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/herrick/about/background> . By clicking the join button, you can sign in with the kit number and password that you will receive via email after your purchase.

Once you send the swab back and it's been processed you will be able to sign in and look at your Herrick Project connections. I'm looking forward to finding out how my information might contribute to this project and recommend others join in too.

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Old Planters Reunion 2020

Dale Yoe HFA #62 Resources shared by Historic Beverly

Online collection: <https://beverlyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/>

Research Finding Aids: <https://www.historicbeverly.net/collections-exhibitions/finding-aids/>

Balch Excavation Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wc7Def4t2mI&list=PLe-BgJQkfUqJ-OlcHI3XZJ7SmzW1C23Li&index=2>

First Parish Church Records:

Google Books: Records of the First Church in Beverly, Massachusetts by William P. Upham in 1905, 270 pages Upham link to First Parish records <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/100437534>

Set at Liberty:

Set at Liberty Historic Beverly's Online Exhibit: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/eLxVbaIbhFbIE/>

The 1619 project, conceived by Hannah Nicole Jones and published last year by the New York Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>

Old Planters 101:

The Old Planters of Beverly, Massachusetts and the Thousand Acre Grant of 1635

<https://www.historicbeverly.net/product/the-old-planters-of-beverly-massachusetts-and-the-thousand-acre-grant-of-1635/>

The Great Migration Study Project online database

<https://www.americanancestors.org/browse/publications/ongoing-study-projects/the-great-migration-study-project>

Tales from Beverly's Attic by Charles Wainwright available through Historic Beverly

Old North Beverly Cemetery Virtual Walking Tour:

General maps of Beverly Cemeteries

<http://www.beverlyma.gov/departments/cemetery-department/>

Find-a-Grave

<https://www.findagrave.com/>

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Message from the Editor:

Nancy Johnson, HFA #212

Email NancyJohnson206@gmail.com

I would like to thank our contributors, Dale E. Yoe, HFA #62, Ike Herrick HFA #106, Jim Hilton HFA #168 and Alice Herrick Reynolds HFA #003 for contributing to this newsletter. I'd also like to remind everyone that I'm happy to accept articles and stories for the next newsletter at any time.

Also note that I have attached the Leicestershire Victoria County History Trust newsletter to the end of our HFA newsletter for your reading enjoyment.

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Our New Ibstock Book

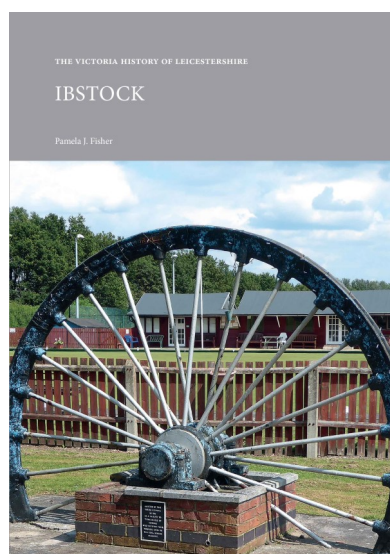
Our paperback history of Ibstock is due to be published in October. Restrictions on indoor 'gatherings' means that it will not be possible to hold a launch event at present. Instead, we hope to hold a celebratory event in Ibstock some time in 2021. Meanwhile, copies of the book will be available to purchase by post.

The book recounts the history of Ibstock from earliest times to the present day. It covers landscape, transport, population, settlement, landownership, economic history, social character, community organisations, schools, religious history and local government.

Ibstock, 15 miles NW of Leicester, was one of the largest villages in the county in the 1920s, but is little-known to many people today outside its immediate locality.

This was a mining area in the 19th century. Ibstock colliery opened in 1825 and closed in 1929. Ellistown colliery was sunk in the parish in 1873. The collieries and their attached brickworks form an important part of Ibstock's history. They drove a rapid growth in population, which created the village we see today – its housing, large sports grounds, former cinema (attractively restored as a community facility), many places of worship, and a range of social clubs and organisations that helped the community survive the closure of the mines.

Ibstock is first mentioned in Domesday Book, when the manor was held by Ingulf, one of the 'men of the Count of Meulan'.



One of Ingulf's descendants had no sons, and Ibstock manor was divided between two sisters in the early 13th century, each half having its own open fields.

Although the two parts were later reunited, the physical division enabled the land in the south to be enclosed for pasture without any need to rearrange the open fields in the north. The south of the parish was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion, by private agreement between landholders, between the 1590s and 1700. The northern part of the parish continued to be farmed in three great open fields until enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1775.

It is rare to catch sight of the process of early enclosure. But we can do so in Ibstock. Thomas Paget bought three closes from Thomas Barwell in 1636 for £90. The conveyance set out that 'if the closes or any of them happen to be thrown open or used in common' as they had been previously, Paget's purchase money would be returned, together with any expenses he had incurred 'in manuring dressing and husbanding the closes', as determined by independent arbiters.

One of these closes was known as Lanefield Close. A will of 1558 records two bridges into Lane Field. One was presumably the road bridge on Overton Road, over the brook. The second became a modern footbridge, also crossing the brook, into what would once have been Lane Field (shown below).



The book can be purchased from ourselves for £9, plus £2 P&P, until 31 December 2020 by sending a cheque payable to Leicestershire VCH Trust to Meadowside, Main Street, Kings Norton, Leicester, LE7 9BF

If possible, please include an email address with your order, so we can let you know if there is any delay, and inform you of the event we are hoping to plan in Ibstock in 2021.

The cost of the book from 1 January 2021 will be £10 plus P&P if ordered from ourselves.

OUR ADDRESS

We have been 'working from home' since March. Our office at Salisbury Road in Leicester (part of the University of Leicester) has been locked down, and we are only able to visit infrequently. This remains the case even though much of the University is now open.

Please therefore note that our address for all regular correspondence and book orders is now:

**Leicestershire VCH Trust, Meadowside,
Main Street, Kings Norton, Leicester, LE7
9BF**

You can continue to email us at leicsvch@leicester.ac.uk

Our registered office remains unchanged.

OUR FINANCES

Covid-19 has caused problems for many organisations that rely on members' subscriptions, donations and grants. How has it affected us? We have always taken care to match the work we take on to the money available. So far, we have been able to balance these and continue many of our current activities, although some work has not been possible due to the closure of libraries, museums and record offices. In particular, this has hampered work on a project on the early history of Loughborough market, for which we hold a Shire Grant awarded by Leicestershire County Council.

So, what does the future hold? When record offices and libraries fully reopen, restrictions will almost certainly apply, such as fewer reader desks and shorter opening hours. These will increase the cost of essential research in distant record offices, as more visits may be required to do the same amount of work.

Fundraising is likely to be more difficult. Grant-giving organisations will have numerous requests. County and district councils are finding it harder to meet all their statutory obligations, and are unlikely to make as many grants as in the past. Businesses have been badly affected, and to many, survival is their most pressing consideration. Many companies that have previously made donations to local causes out of annual profits may not be in a position to do so for several years.

This means that subscriptions from our Friends and membership of our 200 Club will be even more important to us than in the past. We are very grateful to those who have supported these schemes, and hope you will continue to do so. Please encourage any of your friends who are interested in the history of Leicestershire to join. Could you make a bequest in your will? Details can be found online at <https://www.history.ac.uk/research/victoria-county-history/county-histories-progress/leicestershire/support-vch-leicestershire>

200 CLUB WINNERS

Membership of our 200 Club costs £50 annually, or can be paid at £12.50 quarterly. From that sum, 60% goes to fund our work on parish histories, including volunteer training, and 40% is paid out quarterly in prize draws. We currently have just over 50 members although, as the name of the scheme indicates, we hope one day to have 200. More members are therefore very welcome!

You may notice in this list of winners that one number has been won by two people. This is because some numbers were reallocated in January 2020.

September 2019 (54 in draw)

1st, no. 56, Mr M. Chamberlain, £135.00
2nd, no. 22, Mr. D. Deadman, £90.00
3rd, no. 10, Mr I. McAlpine £45.00

December 2019 (53 in draw)

1st, no. 17, Mr P. Holden, £133.50
2nd, no. 15, name withheld, £88.33
3rd, no. 10, Mr I. McAlpine, £44.17

March 2020 (53 in draw)

1st, no. 30, Mr R. Bream, £133.50
2nd, no. 18, name withheld, £88.33
3rd, no. 17, Dr P. O'Callaghan, £44.17

June 2020 (52 in draw)

1st, no. 17, Dr P. O'Callaghan, £130.00
2nd, no. 27, Ms E. Bryan, £86.67
3rd, no. 50, name withheld, £43.33

FUTURE VCH RESEARCH ON LOUGHBOROUGH

Our interest in Loughborough began with the Charnwood Roots Project, which included Loughborough, by far the most complex and challenging of its parishes. Now we are focussing on this important town, and we expect that its history will fill all or most of a red volume, with a text of 160,000 words, or 400 pages.

We have already made a start. A group of

local volunteers did an excellent job of pulling together the evidence on public health in the nineteenth century. This was also relevant to the supply of clean water, and we were able to contribute to the history of the Fearon Fountain, which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2020, and create a small 'virtual' exhibition online (see pages 7-8). We are planning to research the early history of the market, which has also reached a significant milestone, having received its first charter in 1221.

The next phase of writing the history of Loughborough, in which Pam Fisher will play a vital role, will be to focus on the town's industries. It began as a market town, with a variety of trades and crafts to satisfy the needs of those living in the town and surrounding countryside. It developed specialisms in the eighteenth century in hosiery, malting, lace and woolcombing, and the population grew from 1,700 in the late seventeenth century to 5,500 in 1811.

These were mainly artisan crafts practised in the home, and the transformation and diversification of the town's industries came in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, an important early stage being John Taylor's move to the town in 1839, where he established a foundry, specialising in bells. Major steps in the later nineteenth century included the development of Herbert Morris's factory making lifts and cranes, and also the locomotives, rolling stock, and electrical engines made at Henry Hughes and Brush. Other companies made boilers and cycles.



A bell being cast at Taylor's bell-foundry

Loughborough's industrial base was always diverse, and alongside textiles and the heavy metal industries, publishing developed with the founding of Ladybird books, and also companies making perfume, bricks and pharmaceuticals. These new sources of

employment took the population to 23,000 in 1911, and to 60,000 at the present day.

The research into these many industries will be a challenge, because although a number of books have been published on individual companies, they need to be supplemented by consulting scattered archives, some of which are in the county record office and others are still with the firms.

General questions also need to be answered, for example why so much industry developed in a once small market town? Textiles are probably the key, as they were so dominant in the early stages, and factories producing hosiery and clothing continued alongside the metal and engineering activity in the nineteenth century. The two were connected, because the textile companies as they increased output promoted the invention and manufacture of machinery, William Cotton's business being one example. Also the employment of men in engineering complemented the work available for women in textiles.



We still must ask why large companies involved in heavy mechanical engineering

became established in the town? The high quality transport links by canal and rail helped, but why did a company like Morris with links with Sheffield not remain in that centre of the iron and steel trades?

Industries are important in their own right for the wealth and employment that they brought to the town, and had general consequences, such as the public health problems, and divisions in society that provoked unrest. Among the positive results were improvements in medical welfare, and moves to advance technical education, with the foundation of the Technical Institute in 1909 and eventually a University of Technology in 1966.

CHARNWOOD ROOTS DATABANK

As part of our Heritage-Lottery-funded Charnwood Roots project, volunteers and project staff collected information about the histories of 35 towns, villages and hamlets across the Charnwood area (which stretched over a wider area than Charnwood District Council). Much of the information was uploaded into a databank, with some left to be uploaded after the project ended in 2017.



The unshaded area shows the part of Leicestershire covered by the Charnwood Roots project

Some technical problems were encountered in transferring this data to a new 'host' and improving the search facility, which took time to resolve. This work was completed in January 2020, and we are very grateful to Teri Forey from the University of Leicester IT Services for her work, and to the volunteers who came forward to upload the final items.

The databank contains over 6,500 entries, mostly from documentary sources, which are fully referenced. It is now available online as a free resource for anyone interested in the history of this part of Leicestershire. It can be searched by place, topic, keyword, or any combination of these.

The databank can be found online at <https://www.charnwoodroots.org/databank/> Anyone is welcome to use the information it contains in any way they wish. All we ask is that Charnwood Roots and Leicestershire VCH are acknowledged in any published work or exhibition which uses any of this data.

WORKING IN LOCKDOWN

Archive offices and libraries closed in March, and volunteer groups have not been able to meet since then. But although our publications rely on original research in documents, few of which are online, we have still been able to make steady progress, as the articles in this newsletter show. Inevitably there have had to be some changes to the work we planned to do, but we have been fortunate in the timing of the lockdown, and have had plenty to keep us busy.

One major task has been making final changes, proof-reading and indexing our Ibstock book. We are pleased to have been able to bring this to press during this period.

From the end of February, when some kind of lockdown appeared inevitable, visits were made to the National Archives at Kew, Lambeth Palace Library, Northamptonshire Archives and Leicestershire Record Office. When they closed in March we held over 400 photographs of documents which we had yet to study. Taking notes from, or transcribing, these is well-suited to home working.

We also had a large collection of notes and draft text for our next paperback, a history of Lutterworth. Pulling these together, and adding information from the photographs we had recently taken and digitised sources, including some parish registers, probate records and local newspapers, has meant we are now well on the way to completing our Lutterworth history.

We have also written two articles for publication this autumn in *Transactions of Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* (about early 18th-century Lutterworth) and *Leicestershire Historian* (about Ibstock between 1831 and 1931). We hope these will also raise awareness of our work, and encourage more people to support us.

The National Archives kindly made their digitised wills free to download during 'lockdown' and beyond, and with the help of volunteers we now have copies of over 300

wills proved in London before 1858 for parishes being studied. These were previously only available free if downloaded when physically present at the National Archives, or for £3.50 each if ordered from home. Having these in hand will save some time when we next visit Kew, and help our research to progress.

Some planned work on Loughborough and Coston has had to be deferred until we can convene volunteer meetings and visit archive offices again (see pages 2, 3-4, 7). We hope these projects will get underway in early 2021, if not before.

We were sorry that we could not hold any events over the summer, such as walks and tours, where we would normally sell copies of our paperbacks, and would have collected expressions of interest for our Ibstock book. Instead, we have created two online resources on Ibstock chapels and the provision of piped water in Loughborough – see pages 7-8. These do not provide any financial return in the short term, but will hopefully stimulate interest in our work.

Everything considered, lockdown has therefore been highly productive, even if not in quite the way we had originally planned.

FORTHCOMING TALK

Dr Adam Chapman of VCH Central Office in London will be delivering an **online** paper, 'Where next for the Victoria County History?', on Thursday 5 November, looking at the progress and direction of this national project. This is part of the regular seminar series held by the Centre for English Local History, University of Leicester. All are welcome to 'attend' via PC or tablet. Questions will be invited at the end.

You can log in from 2pm for a 2.15pm start. The link you will need is:

<https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/3295c06f14c44056aaa3565c93856d28>

LUTTERWORTH'S BUILDINGS

When the initial lockdown was eased in the summer, we were able to visit the places we are researching and walk around the streets, looking at buildings to identify main periods of building activity and styles.

A serious fire in 1653 destroyed a reputed 80 bays of buildings in Lutterworth, and although some timber-framed buildings are believed to pre-date this fire, we do not know what has been lost.

From the 17th century onwards, two main periods of building activity can be seen. The first of these, between c.1790 and 1840, coincides with the peak coaching period. The three main coach services calling at Lutterworth were a London-Manchester coach from 1787, the London-Chester mail coach from 1788, and a Cambridge-Birmingham coach in the 1790s. It is clear from the town's buildings that this was a period of prosperity for many. New houses were built, and many existing homes were re-styled.



14 Bank Street

The Greek Revival movement was at its peak. This is most noticeable in Joseph Hansom's Town Hall (1836), and on a more modest scale at 14 Bank Street. Other buildings carry a flavour of the style, for example the horizontal rustication seen on the ground floor of The Terrace (originally Wickliff Terrace), newly built at that time on Regent Road, and applied to older buildings including the Hind Inn, the so-called Manor House on Market Street and Hythe House on Woodmarket.

Lean times followed, as long-distance traffic moved to the railways from 1840, but the opening of Lutterworth railway station in 1899 heralded better days to come. Industry arrived, and the growing population needed houses. Many were built near the foundries and the new factories. Council houses were planned as early as 1913, and the first were completed in 1915.

Factory owners and managers also needed homes. The town waterworks opened in 1899, encouraging other businesses, such as Thomas Buck's steam brewery. Shopkeepers benefitted from increasing trade as the population grew. Many new homes for the expanding middle-classes were built along Coventry Road and Bitteswell Road between 1898 and 1939, with their own individual features.



A pair of 20th-century houses on Bitteswell Road

We have enjoyed exploring these from the street, and writing about them for our fourth paperback, the history of Lutterworth, which we aim to publish in 2022.

COSTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE

The medieval church of St Andrew in Coston occupies a prominent raised spot adjacent to the B676 between Melton Mowbray and Buckminster. Driving past, one cannot help but notice the unusually slender spire, sitting on a tower which is largely contained within the body of the church. Extensive earthworks to the south of the church reveal where the village once stood, but there are now fewer than half a dozen houses in the village, which contained 31 households in 1381.



St Andrew's church lost part of its roof to lead thieves in 2018. An application by the parochial church

council to the National Lottery Heritage Fund proposing a community history project and a range of open days and other events in the church was approved. We are leading the history project, but the COVID-19 restrictions have delayed the planned group meetings.

In recent weeks, with restrictions eased, we have been able to explore the building, and have also walked round the earthworks.

The oldest part of the church is the tower, with a deeply-splayed lancet window. The south aisle, with triple sedilia and piscina, has two fragments of 14th-century glass in the east window, depicting the crucifixion and St Mary, and an apparently medieval vine frieze, curiously above the original roof corbels.



The chancel was completely rebuilt in the Gothic Revival style in 1846 (probably the earliest in this style in a Leicestershire church) by Sheffield architects Weighman and Hadfield, with the east window by William Warrington. On the wall is a brass memorial to Temple Crozier, son of the then rector, accidentally killed on a London stage in 1896, in a drama production which proved more dramatic than intended.

Hopefully the community history project will be able to get fully underway in 2021.

Open days, church tours, history and archaeology displays and tours of the earthworks, the latter to be led by Peter Liddle, former county archaeologist, are planned for 2021.

ONLINE TOUR AND EXHIBITION

Our plans for summer events linked to the national archaeology festival in July had to be cancelled, which was disappointing, as we enjoy the opportunity to meet people who are interested in local history, and to make our research findings available to them through talks and tours.

Two of the events we had planned were a tour of Ibstock's nonconformist churches and an exhibition telling the story of the 19th-century 'battle' in Loughborough for a piped water supply. We hope to hold these events in July 2021, but meanwhile, we have turned some of our research on these topics into an online tour (of Ibstock) and an online exhibition (on Loughborough).

These online 'events' also help us to deliver the results of our research to those who for any reason are unable to join walks and talks, or visit exhibitions, but who have an internet connection. The Ibstock 'walk' is also designed for viewing on a smartphone, so those who want to complete the walk 'in real life' at a time to suit themselves could travel to the start point for a 'self-guided' tour following the instructions on their smartphone.



**Ibstock Baptist Church,
the starting point for our 'tour'**

The Ibstock walk includes an interactive map and 'visits' the present Baptist, former Primitive Methodist, former and current Wesleyan Reform and current (and former Wesleyan) Methodist churches. There are

images and information about the history of these buildings and their congregations, and other historic buildings on the route.

The Loughborough exhibition on the provision of piped water opens with the high death rate in the town and the petition of over 200 inhabitants for intervention by the newly-established General Board of Health in 1849.

It explores the inspector's visit and his conclusions — including that the town should have sewers and piped water. It then looks at the 'battle' between what one newspaper called the "do nothing party", the "movers", who wanted the recommendations implementing in full, and the "something must be done" party, who wanted the town to pursue a middle course. Those wishing to improve the conditions of the poor were pitted against those landlords who thought the rates (local property taxes) were already too high, and who had the power to elect a local board, either to implement a scheme, or endlessly procrastinate.

Loughborough's rector, archdeacon Henry Fearon, had welcomed the inspector's

recommendations, and wrote occasional letters to the newspapers when nothing seemed to be happening. Sewers were laid across most of the town in 1854-5, but could not be flushed through with piped water until 1870. The board had been finally been goaded into action by new legislation, and the threat of action by Fearon and others who threatened to form a new company to build a waterworks if the board failed to do so.

You can find the Ibstock walk at https://leicestershirehistory.co.uk/?page_id=3852

The Loughborough 'battle' is at https://leicestershirehistory.co.uk/?page_id=3867



Nanpantan Reservoir, created for Loughborough in 1870



Leicestershire Victoria County History Trust

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Leicestershire Victoria County History Trust was launched in May 2009 to support and promote the Victoria County History project in Leicestershire. The Trust works with volunteers across the county to research and publish the history of Leicestershire towns and villages. Training and support is provided free of charge

The Trust relies on charitable donations to support this work. Please consider joining our 200 Club, becoming a Friend of the Trust or making a donation to support ongoing work in Leicestershire. More information is available on our website, at www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/leicestershire, or you can contact us at the address shown in the panel to the left.

Leicestershire Victoria County History Trust is a registered charity (No. 1128575) and a registered company (No. 6683052).

