

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Issue 3

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President's Letter

As this issue of the DSFC goes out (a bit early due to Gratia's vacation schedule) many folks are aware that July 1-3 is the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. Dunhams from both the north and the south were engaged in this struggle, considered a crucial turning point in the Civil War. No matter which side your ancestors favored, both sides suffered greatly.

Over 160,000 men fought ferociously and courageously and casualties suffered were over 51,000, including over 7,000 fatalities on the battlefield alone. It took a week to bury the dead. Many of the Confederate dead were reinterred later in southern states. The Union dead were reburied later in a location now the National Cemetery at Gettysburg. That was the site of the "Gettysburg Address" delivered by Abraham Lincoln on 19 November 1863.

Now 150 years after that momentous battle we commemorate it and our ancestors who fought there.

David Lee Dunham,

President

Editor's Corner

This issue of DSFC contains a verbatim transcript of the will of Richard Dunham, poulter, of Langford, Bedfordshire, England. Bedfordshire researcher Mary Wooldridge has helped read the old English script. On p. 4 is a burial record for Agnes, surely the wife of Richard Dunham, poulter. Her surname is still not known, but research continues to try to discover this name.

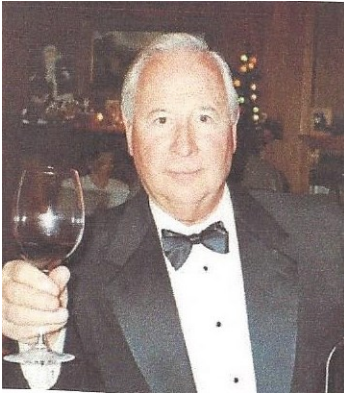
A copy of the original will of Richard Dunham follows on p. 5. The "long horned brown cow" which Richard bequeathed to his son William was likely a Gloucester cow of the type shown on p. 6.

Description of Pirton, Hertfordshire will be interesting to those who may wish to try to picture this ancient English village. Folks may also want to look at the web site for more information and maps of Pirton.

The article is followed by a rough drawing showing the names of the parishes mentioned in the following article about the family of Richard Dunham. Genealogy research of this family continues and will be relayed in future issues as it progresses.

Gratia Dunham Mahony, Editor

Member's Corner



Michael Dale Dunham
(1944-2013)

Michael Dale Dunham, co-owner of Dunham Cellars of Walla Walla, Washington passed away On May 18, 2013. Mike, his wife Joanne, and his son Eric Dunham founded Dunham Cellars in 1997.

Joanne Dunham writes “the winery has been a wonderful part of the Dunham family’s life, providing many opportunities to meet new friends, to travel and to support many great causes and charities.”

Michael a Descendant of the Tennessee Dunham Line

A Joseph Dunham, born say 1705 was the probable head of the Dunham Families of Tennessee. Two young men, John and Daniel Dunham, are of record in the early settlement of Fort Nashborough, later Nashville, Tennessee. When trying to find the origin of John and Daniel Dunham, and to locate them prior to their move to Fort Nashborough in 1780, we need to study the migration pattern of the people who settled in these areas.

People came to these areas from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, and as new immigrants. Many of these new immigrants were Scotch-Irish. Joseph¹ Dunham, the probable father of John² and Daniel² Dunham, could have come from any of these above groups. Another man, Henry H. Dunham was probably also a son of Joseph¹ Dunham. Henry H.² Dunham was born about 1750 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. He died in 1820 in Wake County, North Carolina. His wife was Elizabeth Medlin who he married about 1775 in Rutherford County, North Carolina.

From Henry H.² Dunham the line continues:

Richard³ Dunham (1795-1874)

John Sebron⁴ Dunham (1825-1879+)

James⁵ Dunham b. 1854 in Jackson County Alabama, moved to Union County, Illinois

John Franklin⁶ Dunham b. 1884 in Illinois, moved to New Madrid County, Missouri

Benjamin Wendall⁷ Dunham b. 1920, died 1986 in Walla Walla, Washington

Michael Dale⁸ Dunham participated in DNA analysis. His DNA test shows a close match to another man who took the DNA test in 2009. A third man who is believed to be from this line has just participated in DNA analysis. An article with further information about this line will appear in the next issue of the DSFC newsletter.

Will of Richard Dunham, Poulter of Langford

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

The will of Richard Dunham of Langford, Bedfordshire, England has been known of for some time. It was referenced in an article by Robert Leigh Ward published in *The American Genealogist*, Volume 71: 130-133, *The English Origin and First Marriage of Deacon John¹ Dunham of Plymouth, Massachusetts*. That article excerpted some of the information from the will but did not include the entire document. In my search to locate the other two sons of Richard Dunham, of Langford, I wanted to see the entire will. Bedfordshire Family History Society researcher, Mary Wooldridge, has been assisting with the English research project. She photographed the will of Richard Dunham located in the Archdeaconry Court of Bedford. A transcription is given below and a photocopy of the actual will appears on the next page. The spelling and punctuation are as close to the original as possible.

October the five & twentieth 1624

In the name of God Amen I Richard Dunham of Langford in ye county of Bedds poulter being sicke in body yet in perfecte memory thankes & prayse be given to God Almighty doe make & constitute my laste will & testament in manner & forme following firste I bequeath my soule to God my Creator & Jesus Christe my Saviour & redeemer & my body to be buried in such a place as my executors shall thinke convenient lastely I make my sonn Richard Dunham my sole Executor. As for my worly [worldly] goods I give & bequeath in manner & forme following Item I give & bequeath unto William Dunham my longe horned browne cowe: and my lynsey wolsey trusse [lynsey Woolsey trousers] diplate Item I give unto my sonn William & sonn Richard my Cofer that standes at my beddes head Item I give unto my Sonn John Dunham my best shirte and twenty shillings in mony to be payd him at his re-torne Item I give & bequeath unto my daughter Anne 12d & unto her sonn Richard I give my canvase diplate [above this it says] & my high shoes Item I give my daughter Elsabehe 12d in mony and halfe a bushel of griste at Christmas & halfe a bushel at Easter: And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed I give unto my sonn Richard

Dunham my Executor lastly I give unto my grandechilde Ellen Underwood my Cub-
borde that standes in the chamber

Witnesses here unto John Dutton

William Headley/Headye

Ye marke of Richard Dunham

The elder

Ye marke of William Ashwell witnesse

Notes about the will.

Diplate; I have not been able to find the meaning of this word under this spelling, but depilate means to remove unwanted hair. Lynsey Woolsey was a very rough fabric and I wonder if there was a process to make it less rough and scratchy and perhaps that is the meaning of this word.

Cofer; coffer, a strong box in which to keep papers and valuables

I agree with Robert Leigh Ward's conclusion in the article cited above that "The shirt and money to be paid to John Dunham 'at his retorne' shows that the testator's son was away from home; the phrase probably means no more than that John would receive his legacy if he were to return, not that he was expected to do so. At the time, the immigrant (John Dunham) was in Leyden."

Her Name was Agnes . . .

The will of Richard Dunham does not mention a wife. Therefore I believe she had died before the will was written. The Bedfordshire researcher has found the following entry in the parish register of Stotfold, a parish adjoining Langford on the south east.

"Agnes wife of Richard Dunnam buried at Stotfold on the 14th January 1623/24"

Arlesey, the parish adjoining Langford on the south, and directly west of Stotfold contains baptismal and marriage records which seem to be for the family of William Dunham, son of Richard Dunham, poulter of Langford. Please see the articles on pages 7-11 for more about these records.

Will of Richard Dunham of Langford, Bedfordshire, England

Dated October the five & twentieth 1624

October 20 fife & twentieth 1624.
 In the name of god Amen I Richard
 Dunham of Langford in the County of Bedfordshire
 being sick in body yet in perfect memory
 thanks & prayse be given to god Almighty
 doe make & constitute my last will
 & Testament in maner & forme following
 first I bequeath my soule to god my Creator
 & Jesus Christ my Saviour & redeemer
 & my body to be buried in such a place as my
 Executors shall thinke convenient lastly
 I make my sonne Richard Dunham my sole
 Executor. And for my worldly goods I give & bequeath
 in maner & forme following
 I do give & bequeath unto William Dunham my longe
 & lovlye sonne & heire all my house hold stuffe & plate
 I do give unto my Sonne William Dunham my
 horse that standeth at my bedside now
 I do give unto my Sonne John Dunham my best Ringe and
 twenty shillings in money to be paid him at his returne
 I do give & bequeath unto my daughter Anne
 & unto her sonne Richard I give my Canister & plate
 I do give my daughter Elizabeth xij d in money and
 also a buyell of gylte at Christmas & also a
 buyell at Easter. And all the rest of my goods
 be bequeathed I give unto my Sonne Richard Dunham
 my Executor. Lastly I give unto my grandchild
 John Underwood my Gunbarrell that standeth in the
 Chamber
 Witness my hand & seale this fiftenth day of October 1624
 Richard Dunham
 William Dunham
 William Dunham
 all were witnesses

The Gloucester Cow

Part of our Living Heritage

It is not very often that we can actually see a living creature that still looks like those our 16th century ancestors saw. One beast does still exist and we can actually view similar animals at places like Plymouth Plantation. This beast is the Gloucester Cow, and the “long horned brown cow” that Richard Dunham bequeathed to his son William probably looked similar to the cow in the picture below. Gloucester cattle are an ancient breed and were valued for their milk (to produce cheese) and as strong draught oxen. They have white horns with black tips and a white stripe down the back and over the tail. The cows are dark brown with black faces. The photo is from the Wickipedia web site.



provided by Sally Anne Thompson

Gloucester Cattle are an ancient breed, numerous in the Severn Vale as early as the 13th century. They were valued for their milk (producing double Gloucester Cheese), their beef, and for producing strong and docile oxen. However, in the last two centuries, outbreaks of disease, the introduction of other breeds, and the development of intensive farming, led to such a reduction in their numbers that by 1972 only one herd remained. Fortunately, at its dispersal sale a group of purchasers determined that the breed should survive. It has done so. The Gloucester Cattle Society was revived and, since then cattle, numbers have increased from near extinction to over 700 registered females.

Pirton, Hertfordshire, England

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

What did Pirton look like when Richard Dunham lived here at the end of the 16th century?

The following information was taken from research studies prepared by Helen Hofton done in 2007 for the Pirton Local History Group and further information may be found at the web site www.pirtonhistory.org.uk Several drawings and maps appear on that web site.

An Ancient Village

Pirton was an ancient village in Hertfordshire with a castle complex of a motte and two baileys. The castle was not the stone keep surrounded by a high wall with a moat and draw-bridge, as we think of castles today. The motte in Pirton was an artificial mound of earth and timber that was flattened at the top to provide a look out point or a temporary residence. This was surrounded by water with plank bridges across it to the baileys on either side. The baileys would have enclosed the farms and outbuildings and probably had a palisade fence around the perimeter. Then the whole complex was surrounded by a deep ditch.

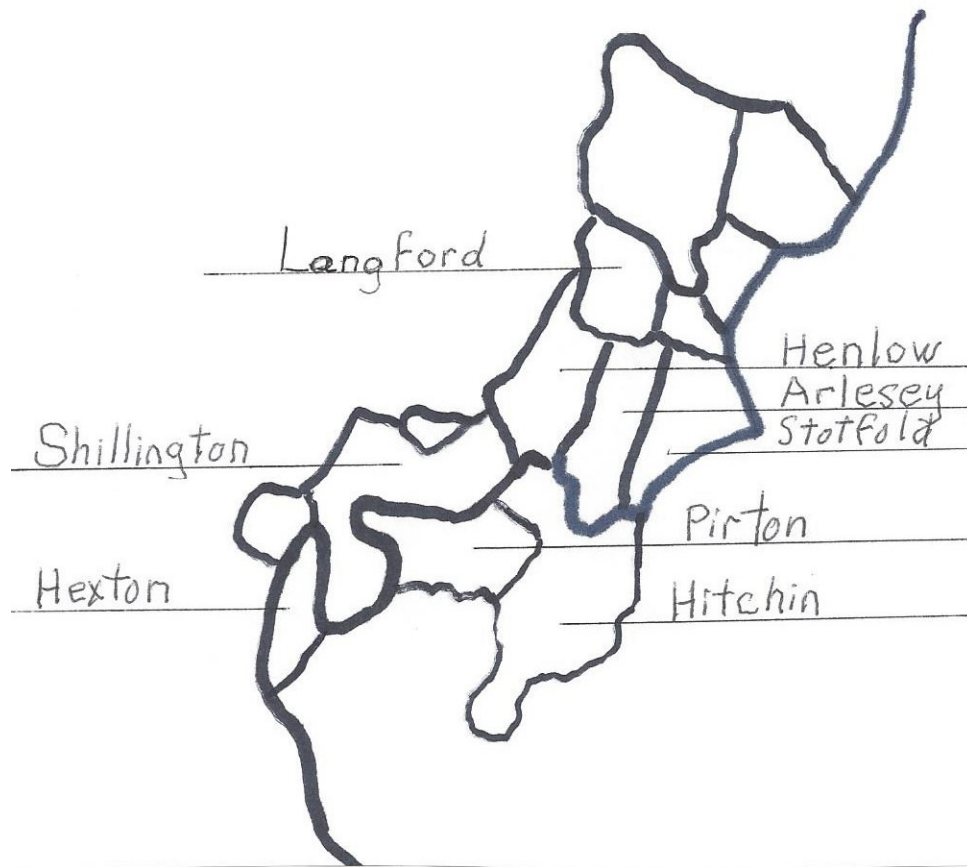
Pirton is situated on a spur of slightly raised ground overlooking the Bedford plains to the north. There is a break some two miles wide in the Chiltern escarpment and Pirton lies on the line between the chalk and the undulating chalk marl. The village is on two levels, the church and the motte and bailey are on the upper level and the lower contains houses dating from at least the sixteenth century. The Icknield Way runs through the complex.

It is not known when the motte and bailey were constructed but it is clear that there was careful planning to construct a motte, two baileys one containing a stone church and the other a stone manor house. There was a market and a planned village. Evidence suggests that Pirton's motte and bailey was constructed by Ralph de Limesy after the Normans arrived in 1066 but before 1090.

The parish of Pirton covered 2,261 acres. The land is chalk overlaid with clay. In 1603 the population was 146 adults over the age of sixteen. Pirton was a nucleated settlement located in the centre of the parish surrounded by open fields. The fields were laid out in furlongs, that is strips of land in the several open fields were allotted to certain men. Crops were grown on a three-course rotation: winter wheat; spring-sown barley, oats or peas; and the third year the land was left fallow. There was some common meadow where villagers were given allocations to pasture their animals. The dominant fodder crops were peas and oats. The yeomen also grew a small amount of lentils and beans. There was at least one windmill in the parish for grinding wheat.

The range of animals kept included pigs, cows, poultry and bees. Most of the animals were kept for the farmer's own purposes, rather than for sale. The only commercial animals were flocks of sheep. All the yeomen owned horses. The yeomen and husbandmen owned equipment such as ploughs, harrows, rollers and drag rakes. Labourers often had hand tools, rakes and forks, scythes and sickles. Long carts and dung carts also appear in inventories.

A list of inventories filed in the 1600s shows the professions of the residents of Pirton. There were yeomen, husbandmen, labourers, craftsmen (carpenter, sawyer, wheelwright, blacksmith, weaver, mason, malster) and at least one retail service grocer and butcher.



Langford, Shillington, Henlow, Arlesey & Stotfold are in Bedfordshire, England

Hexton, Pirton and Hitchin are in Hertfordshire, England

(map above is not to scale, only to show the proximity of the parishes)

Putting Together a Genealogy; Descendants of Richard ¹ Dunham

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

The Dunham-Singletary Family Connections family association has undertaken a project to investigate the origins of the Dunham families in England. The goal of the project is to try to identify the parishes where Dunhams lived in the 16th and 17th centuries. Once that is done the next step will be to try to extend the lines of these families down to the present time and to locate living male Dunham descendants of these lines who will participate in DNA analysis. The results of the DNA tests will give us the haplogroup of the Dunhams living in England, and comparison of this information with the haplogroup, and the match of allele markers, will help us to more clearly define the English Dunham families to trace on back in our quest for their origins.

We know that the haplogroup of the man we refer to as “Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth” is I1a. We know from the will of Richard ¹ Dunham, and from locating residences of his descendants who remained in England, that this family lived in parishes along the border of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, England. As of the publication of this issue of DSFC we have located one man who may descend from Dunhams living in this area who has agreed to participate in DNA analysis. Those results should be available in the next month or so. Another man has been identified and invited to take the DNA test, and the genealogical research on his line back indicate a strong possibility that he may be a descendant of Richard ¹ Dunham.

Research on the Dunham families living in Bedfordshire is being carried on with the help of a researcher from the Bedfordshire Family History Group. Bedfordshire parish records are not available on-line through a paid genealogy service. Parish records for both Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire are available on-line through the paid service at www.findmypast.co.uk. Demographic studies indicate that the next step in our quest to trace this ancestral line back will be in Cambridgeshire. I will have more information about that study in the 15 October issue of DSFC.

Please refer to the map on page 8 of this issue to see how close these English parishes were to each other. The English parishes were not large in number of acres, and it is easy to see how a particular family might have moved about among the neighboring parishes.

The genealogy on the following page will give us a little more information about Richard ¹ Dunham, poulter, who died in Langford, Bedfordshire. His children are given and his grandchildren are named so far as is known at this point. By the time the next newsletter comes out we may have enough information to extend this genealogy both forward and backward at least one more generation.

The Dunham Family in the line of Richard ¹ Dunham

Generation One

1. Richard ¹ Dunham b. about 1554; ^[1] died as a resident of Langford, Bedfordshire County, England between 25 October 1624, ^[2] and 19 November 1624. "Father Dunham, an old man" was buried at Langford on 19 November 1624. ^[3] His wife was named **AGNES** and she was buried at Stotfold on 14th January 1623/24. ^[4]

It is not known where Richard ¹ Dunham was born but his sons were all baptized in Pirton, Hertfordshire County between the years of 1581-1596. Richard was likely a farmer (or agricultural labourer, the term used at that time.) He called himself "poulter" in his will, and may have been raising turkeys or geese at the time he resided in Pirton.

Children of Richard ¹ and Agnes (unknown) Dunham: ^[5]

2. i. Alice ² Dunham b. say 1579 if age 20 at marriage
3. ii. William ² Dunham bp. 7 Jan. 1581 Pirton, Herts.
4. iii. Ann ² Dunham b. say 1585
5. iv. John ² Dunham bp. 8 Feb. 1589 Pirton, Herts.
6. v. Elizabeth ² Dunham b. say 1592
7. vi. Richard ² Dunham bp. 18 Feb. 1596 Pirton, Herts.

References:

1. If he was about 25 at the age of birth of first child, then he was b. approximately 1554.
2. Date of will.
3. Date of burial.
4. Parish Register of Stotfold 1559-1812, parish Register Series, Vol. 38 p. A39.
5. Named in his will or deduced from parish registers.

Generation Two

2. Alice ² Dunham (Richard ¹) b. say 1579 if age 20 at marriage; died probably before her father wrote his will 25 October 1625. She married Lawrence Underwood 3 July 1601 in Arlesey, Beds. ^[1]

Child of Lawrence and Alice (Donhame) Underwood

- i. Ellen Underwood (named in will of Richard¹ Dunham)

References:

1. Parish Register of Arlesey 1538-1812, Parish Register Series, Volume 66, p. 61

William ² Dunham (Richard ¹) bp. 7 Jan. 1581 Pirton, Herts.; ^[1] died/buried in Pirton 26 September 1632. ^[2] There is a marriage listed in the Parish Registers of Hexton, Hertfordshire for William Dunham and Suesan Gregorie on 1 Nov. 1609 which may be for this William ² Dunham. ^[3]

Children of William ² and (probably Suesan Gregorie) Dunham:

8. i. Susan ³ Dunham bp. 14 Feb. 1610/11 Arlesey, Beds. ^[4]
9. ii. Richard ³ Dunham bp. 9 Oct. 1614 Arlesey, Beds. ^[5]
10. iii. Ann ³ Dunham bp. 2 Feb. 1616/17 Arlesey, Beds. ^[6]
11. iv. William ³ Dunham bp. 10 October 1619 Arlesey, Beds. ^[7]

NOTE: From the Pirton Local History Group/baptisms:, These may be a continuation of The above family:

12. v. John ³ Dunham bp. 30 June 1622 Pirton, Herts. ^[8]

13. vi. Henry ³ Dunham bp.1 May 1626 ^[9]

vii. and probably Agnes/Agnis ³ Dunham

There was a marriage in Pirton, Herts. For Agnis (Agnes) Dunham and Ed Tapster on 6 May 1642. ^[10] This Agnes is not shown in the baptisms of the children of William. This Agnes was prob. Born say 1622-1624, and there is space for a child of William b. about 1624 but she is not in the baptismal record. The given name of Agnes could be for a child named for her grandmother, Agnes the wife of Richard Dunham, poulter, of Langford.

References:

1. Pirton Local History Group, Record of Baptism, BAP-112
2. Pirton Local History Group, Record of Burial, BUR-264
3. Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies, Hexton, Hertfordshire Marriages-Transcripts p. 19
4. Parish Register of Arlesey 1538-1812, Parish Register Series, Volume 66 p. 13
5. Ibid. p. 13
6. Ibid. p. 14
7. Ibid. p. 15
8. Pirton Local History Group, Record of Baptism, BAP-466
9. Pirton Local History Group, Record of Baptism, BAP-511
10. Pirton Local History Group, Record of Marriage, MAR-144

4. Ann ² Dunham (Richard ¹) b. say 1585. She was named in her father's will along with her son Richard. Since her son Richard was bequeathed clothing belonging to his grandfather, he must have been at least a youth old enough that the clothing might fit him. No further information about Ann ² Dunham has been found.

Child of Ann Dunham and (unknown):

14. i. Richard ³ (unknown)

5. John ² Dunham (Richard ¹) bp. 8 Feb. 1589 Pirton, Herts.

The immigrant to Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts.

His line is not carried out in this article.

The first five generations of the descendants of John ² Dunham may be seen at www.dunham-singletary.org and by clicking on Dunham families on the left side of the home page, and then clicking on Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth, MA.

6. Elizabeth ² Dunham (Richard ¹) b. say 1592; living in October 1624. ^[1] She married John Hyde September 1615 in Arlesey, Beds. ^[2]

References:

1. Named in her father's will.
- Parish Register of Arlesey 1538-1812, parish Register Series, Volume 66 p. 63.

7. Richard ² Dunham (Richard ¹) bp. 18 Feb. 1596 Pirton, Herts. ^[1] He was named executor of the will of his father Richard ¹ Dunham. I have not found any indication of a marriage or children of this Richard Dunham.

References:

1. Named in his father's will; Pirton Local History Group, Record of Baptism, BAP-219