

The Tyes of West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes and Fletching

Forward

For over twenty years I have researched my family, concentrating mainly on my maternal ancestors who came mostly from a relatively small area of Sussex, Surrey and a little bit of Kent. West Hoathly could be considered the centre of this family. The Tye family are very distant ancestors of mine with connections at or around the late 16th and early 17th centuries. The West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes Parish Registers do not start until 1606 and 1605 respectively. In order to track my ancestry earlier in these parishes I have transcribed multiple early wills from these and other parishes. This exercise proved successful in expanding my family tree. I collected together all the TYE wills from the area and was planning to make a short paper out of them, but I could not make a reasonable story. I wrote to Anne Drewery, and she directed me to Jeremy Clarke of the Felbridge and District History Group. Jeremy provided me with a wealth of information gleaned principally from Manorial Records of the Imberhorne and Horsted-Keynes-Broadhurst Manors, sources that are not readily available to me. It was from these I realised that Deanland was split into two parts and from 1608 to 1649 both parts were occupied by separate Thomas Tyes. With the inclusion of two Chancery Records which I transcribed I was able to tie (pun intended) things up, however the article was now too long for publication in my usual outlet and Anne Drewery offered to place it on the Danehill website if I agreed to respond to any questions that were forwarded. This I willingly agreed to, and I acknowledge here with my sincere thanks the extensive help provided by both Jeremy Clarke and Anne Drewery in getting this article completed and available.

1. Introduction

This family was prominent in both West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes from the 16th to the mid-17th century, thereafter declining until by the second decade of the 18th century they had disappeared from both these parishes. They also owned and were probably related to other Tye families in nearby parishes including Worth and Fletching.

The hypothesis presented in this article is that many individuals can be traced to two branches of the family who were living in West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes and Fletching in the mid-16th century. The parish registers of two of the parishes do not begin until 1605 (HK) and 1606 (WH) and many baptisms for the early entries do not provide the father's name and burials that do not always say if the deceased was a widow, son or daughter or wife. The Fletching entries date from 1554 but lack full dates until 1558. This article covers mainly the period from the mid-16th century to the early 18th century but for the main properties held by the Tyes in this period I have extended the narrative to the late 18th century where the owner or occupant was a descendant of the Tye family.

Wills provide a lot of information, especially on relationships, and can help sort out genealogies. With the addition of other sources such as manorial records etc. it is possible to draw up a genealogical tree of the Tyes with a high degree of confidence that it is correct, and to provide some details of their lives and occupations.

During their tenure in these parishes, the Tye family occupied numerous properties, listed below. Parish and administrative borders have shifted since the times covered in this article.

Barnards (spellings differ) located on Fig 2 below as Barn's Place and which is now Courtland. It lies to the south of Tyes Cross in West Hoathly which is named after the family. Barnards was part of Imberhorne Manor.

Deanland (also Denn or Dene Land) located south of Tyes Cross and adjacent to Barnards. Dean land was part of the Manor of Horsted Keynes- Broadhurst. A property called Deanland is now located in Sharpthorne.

Moones Mead (alternate spellings and now probably known as Moons Woods in Sharpthorne). See Table 3

Buntes Grove (also Bunch Grove) is located to the east of West Hoathly and north of Horsted Keynes and was originally part of West Hoathly before being transferred in 1935 to Horsted Keynes. The name covers an area with a number of properties that were at one time held by the Tyes. Individual properties here had different names throughout the time covered by this article.

Woodlands, was a property adjacent to both Deanland and Barnards. It corresponds to Norwood (Northwood) on the 1825 map (Fig 1 below). This property is now part of Sharpthorne.

Woods. May also have been called Deanland in manorial records.

The Lyon a croft, with 1.5ac purchased in 1606 from the Trepe family by Richard Tye. Purchased by John Newnham in 1671.

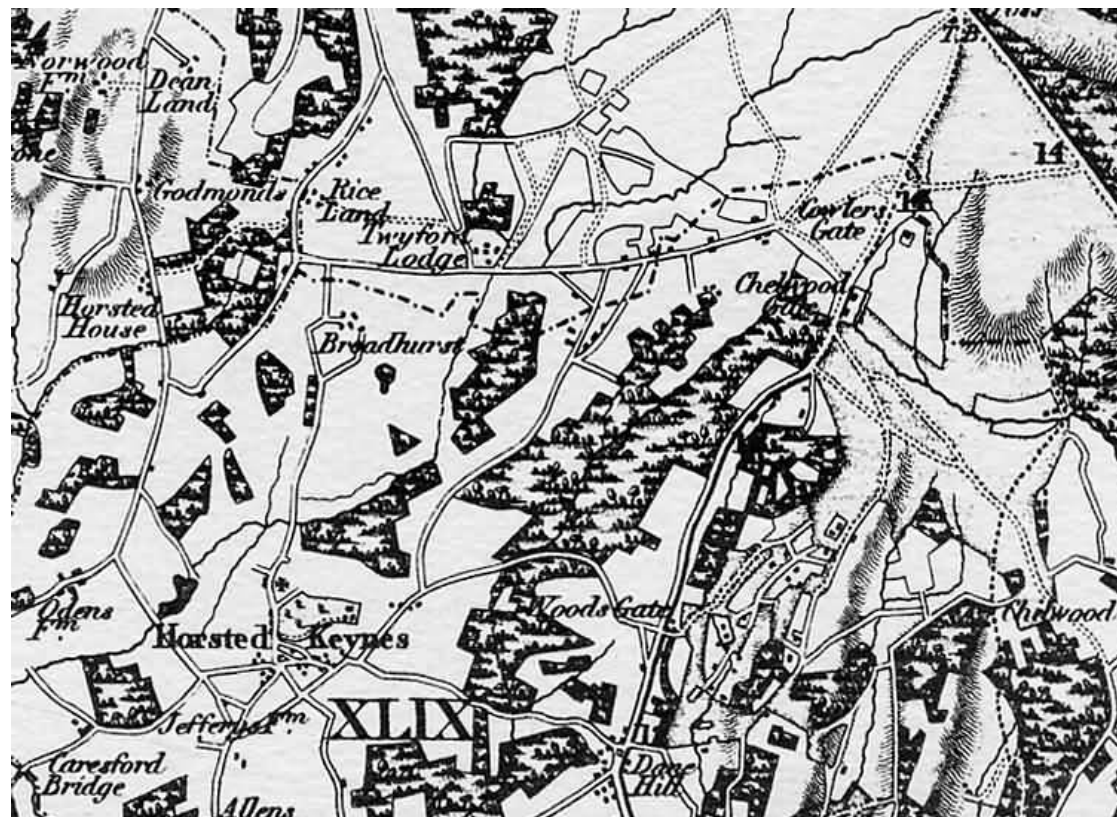
Lands in Fletching including Priests croft, Hungers Hatch and Clapwater.

Other properties occupied by the family at various times include Ludwells in HK, Blackland farm which was part of the Manor of Mayes and was land of St Katherines, Odens, the Shoppe a cottage which was located next to Horsted Keynes church, and Cookhams & Blackland Mead, a piece of property purchased by Richard Tye in the mid-17th century from the Browne family of Coombe Farm lying to the west of Tyes Cross. Cookhams was an area of West Hoathly identified in the Land tax returns and included numerous properties including Coombes and Barnetts (as it was then called). This area is now known as Sharpthorne.

Another piece of property that will be mentioned is Godmans which lies to the south of Deanland and was long the property of the Wood family who descended from the Tye family. Godmans may now be known as Tanyard Manor in Sharpthorne.

Coombs is a property lying north of Sharpthorne and owned for many years by the Browne family with whom the Tyes interacted.

Figure 1. 1825 Map of Horsted Keynes area.



Bunch (Buntes) Grove – is located to the east of Twyford Lodge on above map

Algate Farm is located just to the south of Horsted House on the above map

Ludwell is located west of Horsted Keynes and northwest of Jeffries on the above map

Figure 2. 1825 Map of Area North of Horsted Keynes with parts of West Hoathly and East Grinstead.



2. Early References to Tye.

Prior to the 16th century there are references to the Manor of Tye in Cuckfield and individuals referred to as atte Tye or Tigh. While these people were likely ancestors to the family discussed in this article I cannot connect them.

I discovered very little information on the Tye family before the middle of the 16th century.

Before 1558. In the Lay Subsidy of 1524 (SRS Vol 56) Richard a Tye was assessed at 10s in the Hundred of Danehill Horsted. This land is probably identical to that mentioned in several documents dated 1552 to 1557 (see below) and to the lands for which Robert Tye was assessed 10s in the 1552 Lay Subsidy. The 1524 Subsidy also lists John Tye assessed at 1s for Danehill Sheffield.

There is an Administration for Thomas Tye dated 27 Oct 1551 which is brief and difficult to interpret. The Latin translation says that his counsel was Richard Tye and Thomas Tye the natural brothers of the said Thomas Tye. I have seen other examples from this period where two brothers shared the same name.

Richard and Thomas were clearly active and reasonably prominent in the community and members of the family were frequent overseers or witnesses to several West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes wills, including that of Richard Infield (1558).

On the 15th of Oct 1552, between 6 PM and 7 PM, John Comber of the prominent Comber family who occupied Philpots and BunchGrove (Now Birchgrove), ‘threw himself into Chiddinglye Ponde’ and drowned. Two days later a coroner’s inquest determined that he had “feloniously drowned himself” and among the jurors of this inquisition were Richard and Thomas Tye (Sussex Coroners Inquests 1485-1558 Sussex Record Society Vol 74).

Six documents held at ESRO record a property in Horsted Keynes known as Woodlands. This land had been in the occupation of Richard Gele of West Hoathly and following his death had been inherited by his daughters. Four of the documents record the conveyance of this property to Edward Eglond (Egland). (ESRO, Documents SRL 1/6/23 7 May 1552, AMS 5790/50 15 Nov 1553, SRL 7/2/3 28 Mar 1555 and SRL 7/2/4 12 Dec 1557). The documents describe the location of this property lying adjacent to Denland and to the property of Richard Tye and in 1557 of Robert Tye. Notably by the 17th century both Woodlands and Denlands were in the hands of the Tye family. Figures 1 and 2 above demonstrate that the Tye land referred to is Barnards. Woodlands was bequeathed to Robert Sennock by Edward Egland in his will dated 1585 (Summary in ESRO AMS 5790/51). In 1608 Woodlands was owned by Mr Earle and in 1631 by Mrs Edwards.

There are two Tye wills from Fletching, dated 1550 and 1551, but I am unable to connect them to the West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes family, so will deal with them later in this article.

3. *Seven Tye Siblings.*

My hypothesis here is that the seven Tye siblings outlined below were the children of Richard Tye who may have died around 1556. My reasoning is purely speculative and is based only on the data from the conveyances (1552-1557) outlined previously. Those conveyances dated from 1552 to 1555 have Richard Tye as the occupant of the land whereas the one from 1557 has Robert Tye as the occupant.

There is a 1557 Rental for Imberhorne Manor for Robert Tye for land called Barnathe Land 45 acres 4s KLHC U269/E341[courtesy FDHG].

There were seven Tye siblings, four of whom wrote wills between 1558 and 1567. While the earliest Tye will for West Hoathly is 1558 I am including here a brief summary of the will of John Bryan who was closely connected to the family. John's will was written on 12 Sep 1554 and was proved on 9 Jul 1555. It is important to the Tye family story for several reasons. Primarily John Bryan's son was his principal heir and sole executor who married Joan Tye, a daughter of one of the seven Tye siblings. Both John Bryan and his wife Joan left wills, John in 1587 and Joan in 1610 providing a list of descendants who can be followed through later generations. Further John left a long list of legacies, some of whom can be traced. One of the legacies goes to Walter Tye the elder (implying there was a younger Walter). John was one of the occupants of Langrege farm at the time of his death.

Walter Tye- It is not known if this is the same Walter as the one mentioned in John Bryan's will. This Walter's will was written on 30 Apr 1558 and was proved on 21 May 1558. Walter had no direct descendants at the time of his death but had six siblings, all of whom were mentioned in his will. These were Richard, Robert, Edward, Thomas, Clemence, wife of Robert Woods and his sister Dyne. Also mentioned was John Bryan who was also one of his witnesses. His only executor was his brother Thomas Tye. His legacies were small, and no mention is made of any lands. John Wyllard and Sir Roland Haryman (vicar of West Hoathly) were his other witnesses.

Thomas Tye, Joane and their 2 sons. Thomas' will was written on 31 Aug 1559 and proved on 29th Apr 1560. In it he identifies his brother Richard, his sister Xian (Christian) Dyne of Stanmer and his brother Robert. Sister Clemence Wood was not mentioned but she was still living in 1559. His brother Edward was also not mentioned. He identifies his brother-in-law as Richard Chamberlain thus identifying his wife as Joane Chamberlain. There was a Richard Chamberlain who was the son of James Chamberlain (Will proved 1559) and Richard's sister Johan was under 21 in 1558. James names Thomas Tye as one of his overseers in 1558. Since Thomas Tye's children were of full age in 1559 it is likely that Richard Chamberlain who was Thomas' brother-in-law was a brother of James rather than his son. Alternatively, the marriage of Thomas Tye to the young Johan could be a second marriage.

Thomas names two sons in his will both of whom were named as his executors. To his son Richard he wills all his freehold lands, tenements and hereditaments in Fletching and to his son John tenements in Horsted Keynes called Denland that he had recently purchased from Mr William Bowyer plus a meadow called Moundes Mead and all his other tenements and lands in Horsted Keynes with the condition that after Thomas' death John shall permit Richard to occupy his customary and copyhold lands in Fletching bought of Richard Atherwold and part of the Manor of Danehill Sheffield. Richard Tye was a juror on Oct 1, 1576, at the View of Frankpledge

for the Hundred of Rushmonden (DPHS Vol 5 Issue 5, 1995). Thomas put conditions in his will to prevent his son John from interfering in the right of Richard to the Customary property that would effectively disinherit John from those lands. Richard did not leave a will and so I don't know his fate. He is probably Richard Tye who appears in an inquisition following the death of John Challenor on 7 May 1578 in Horsted Keynes. Richard Tye and his wife Agnes were seised of 30 ac of meadow and pasture in Fletching called Selves (or Shelves) and Estriches (or Estridges) of which John Challenor and son Francis were demandants with Richard and Agnes deforciantes in a fine dated in 1578 and to which Richard and Agnes acknowledged the right of the land to John Challenor (Sussex Postmortems, 1-25 Elizabeth, SRS Vol 3). In 1598 the Buckhurst Terrier (SRS Vol 39), shows Francis Challenor in occupation of both properties. Agnes may have been buried in Horsted Keynes on 3 Dec 1608. It must be noted, however, that Robert Tye (See next paragraph) also had a son Richard, but I think he is less likely to be the husband of Agnes. Richard was living in October 1607 and received a bequest of £40. He may have had a son John. In his niece Joan Furner's 1643 will (see later) she referred to her cousin John of Buntsgrove and to his daughter her god daughter Joan Tye (probably baptised in West Hoathly on 16 Apr 1610).

Robert Tye and Joan – Robert's will was written on 17th Jan 1565/1566 and was proved on the 1st March 1566/1567. He mentioned none of his siblings but does include Alice Tye his niece and Elinor Cole his sister's daughter. This must be Christian Dyne's daughter as there is no Elinor mentioned in his sister Clemence's will. He bequeaths to his wife Johane his lands called Denn Lands which he late purchased of Thomas Jennys the elder. Robert also bequeathed to Johane, a property called Ludwell (Ludwell Mead in Horsted Keynes not the Ludwell in West Hoathly which was occupied by Henry Payne). Following the death of Johane the properties were to go to Robert's son Thomas. The residue of his estate was to go to his son Richard who was his whole and only executor. John Bryan, his son-in-law was one of his overseers along with Thomas Browne of Coombe. In 1563 Robert was constable in the Burrough of Wardley, within the Hundred of Danehill Horsted (TNA 42/112). Robert's son Thomas is followed later in this article.

Robert Wood and his wife Clemence (nee Tye) – Robert's will was written on 10 Jan 1565/1566 and proved on 26 Jan 1565/1566 and his wife Clemence's will was written on 25 Feb 1565/1566 and proved on 27 Mar 1566. They had six surviving children at the time of their deaths. John, Drew, Johan, Kathleen and Elizabeth were all under 21. Clemence's executor was her eldest son Richard, presumably over 21. Robert Tye was one of the overseers for Robert Wood, but he died shortly after Robert Wood as did Clemence herself. Three deaths so close suggest they died from one of the diseases such as smallpox or plague that were common in that era. Clemence left the care of her younger children to other residents, who may or may not have been related. The care of Drew was left to Thomas Trepe of West Hoathly, of Johan and Katherine to John Hills and Elizabeth to Richard Tye (son of either Robert or Thomas), who was also a witness to her will. Robert Wood's mother was Jone Godman, the sister of Roger Godman. In his will of 1544 Roger, a tanner in Horsted Keynes, left two small freehold properties named Barleyfelde and Homecroft (6ac) to his nephew Robert Wood. By 1604 (ESRO AMS1435) Richard Wood, the son of Robert and Clemence was the occupant of Godmansland, adjacent to Deanland and which was held for many centuries by the Wood family who were also tanners. The 1785 East Sussex Land Tax (SRS Vol 77) records have John Wood as the owner of Godmansland with Alexander Illman as

the occupant. Robert and Clemence' descendants can be traced down to the Richard Wood who married his second cousin, Katherine Tye by licence on 24 Apr 1626.

Richard Tye – Richard Tye left no will. We know of him only from his brother's wills and from him being a juror at the coroner's inquest in 1552. He was possibly Richard Tye who occupied land adjacent to Woodland and Denland in Horsted Keynes prior to 1557, although I currently believe this was more likely to be his father as this Richard was still alive in 1560.

Edward Tye – known only from his reference in Walter's will.

Xian (Christian) Tye – known from two of her siblings' wills with a married George a Wood als Dyne and lived in Stanmer. Geoge died in 1564.

4. The Many Deanlands

In the years between the death of John Tye in 1608 and before the death of Thomas Tye in 1649 there were two individuals named Thomas Tye in Horsted Keynes who were kinsmen and who occupied properties referred to in Manor records as Deanland (spellings differ). One descended from Thomas who left a will proved in 1560 and the other descended from Robert, brother of the elder Thomas and who left a will proved in 1566. While the Manor records refer to both properties as Deanland (spelling varies) other documents refer to one Thomas as Thomas of The Wood, perhaps in order to differentiate between them. The rental amounts in the manor records which remained constant over many decades make it clear which Thomas was which.

The Court Baron record for 9 Apr 1563(ESRO SAS X/1/1/ [FDHG]) lists four apportionments of Dean Land. The first deals with Robert a Wood, husband of Clemence Tye who freely held 20 ac of Denne land formerly William Bowyers at an annual rent of 3s. The second entry was for Thomas Chamberlen who held 24 ac of Denne land other for an annual rent of 3s 8d. Thomas Chamberlyn was the nephew of John Tye's wife Joan, the son of her brother James. The third entry is for John Tye holding (acreage not given but probably about 37ac) for a rent of 5s 6d annually which premises Thomas Tye, father of John purchased from William Bowyer on 30 Sep 1558 and paid a herriot and was seised with at the time of his death. The fourth piece of land which the said Thomas Tye similarly held at the time of his death (no acreage given, probably about 46 ac) at an annual rent of 6s 11d. John's total annual rent was therefore 12s 5d.

In addition to the above four portions a fifth portion may have existed or may have represented the portions held by Thomas Chamberlin and Robert a Wood. Robert Tye held lands called Deanland in 1566 acquired from Thomas Jennys but where Thomas Jennys fits in, I am unaware. I will discuss this in section 4.2.

4.1. Tyes of Deanland Part 1 Descendants of Thomas (Will 1560)

As described above in Part 3 Thomas Tye acquired Deanland on 30 Sept 1558 from William Bowyer and bequeathed this along with land called Mounds Mead (or Moons Mead) to his son John. An entry in the Court Baron records outlined above and dated 6 Apr 1563 deals with the apportioning of the rent John Tye's apportionment was 12s 5d and Thomas Chamberlyn 's was 3s 8d. The Broadhurst Court Baron dated 30 Sep 1575 John comes to the court and was the son and heir of Thomas Tye and held 6 acres of land in Horsted called Mounte Mead for a rent of 4d. In his will proved on 25 Jun 1608 John Tye left Deanland to his son Thomas and this was

reflected in the 1608 half year rentals of Broadhurst (ESRO SAS-X/2/2/1 {FDHG}) where total rental was 6s 2 1/2d or 12s 5d per annum John also left an annuity of £5 for his son Thomas' wife Mary if she outlived Thomas and provided, she did not claim her thirds. Mary predeceased Thomas in either 1634 or 1639 (the registers record the burial of Mary Tye in both years but without further identification), so this provision never came into effect. The half year rental in 1631 for Deanland (ESRO SAS-X/2/2/2 [FDHG]) was 6s 2d for Thomas Tye who also held Philpotts at 2s 1d (not the property in West Hoathly occupied by the Combers). Thomas died as a widower in 1649 and left a will (PCC PROB 11/200) which was written on 20 May 1641 and proved in London on 8 Aug 1649. He left bequests to his three daughters, Margery, Elizabeth and Mary. Mary was married to Richard Tye (died 1669) and to whom Thomas had left a bequest of "three score and twelve pounds of lawfull English money" to be paid within a year after his death as a promised marriage settlement. In the Horsted Keynes burial register he was buried as Thomas of the Woods. The property was inherited by his son John as noted in the Horsted-Keynes- Broadhurst manor records (ESRO SAS-X/2/2/3) [FDHG], an undated half year rental that for "deneland" was 2s 2 1/2 d suggesting a decrease in the acreage of Deanland held by John and for Philpotts 2s 1d, the same as in 1631.

John Tye held the land until his death in 1667. He was buried by Giles Moore on 9 Oct 1667 and recorded in his diary as "preached for Old John Tye received 10s" and in the parish register as John Tye the elder. John left no will or at least no will was proved. During his lifetime he was recorded in Giles Moore's journal (SRS Vol 68) in a list of persons paying their tithes as John Tye of the Wood, but following his death the Broadhurst Manor's records for the court held on 30 Sep 1669 note the obituary of John Tye freely holding lands called Deanlands in Horsted Keynes. John was his eldest son and heir. John Tye, the elder, had three other children Richard, Thomas and Joan, all of whom wrote wills and who I will discuss later. Both John Tye the elder and his son John were frequently mentioned in the Journal of Giles Moore, usually associated with the collection or assessment of taxes.

John Tye the younger, the son who inherited the property married his distant cousin Audrey Tye who will be discussed in part 2 of the Deanland story. I can find no record of the marriage, but it likely occurred in 1667. They had two children. Mary Tye (baptised 31 May 1668) who married John Mills at St. George the Martyr in Southwark on 30 Oct 1688 and John received a post-nuptial gift dated 2 May 1689 from his father Nicholas Mills with several pieces of land in East Grinstead including one called Deanland, which was part of the lands of the Manor of Imberhorne and not associated with the Deanland property in Horsted Keynes (WSRO Mss 17465)). A witness to this latter document was Ralph Comber (see later) The second daughter was named Jane (baptised 9 Mar 1669/70) and married Edward Gainsford in by a licence dated 10 Jun 1697 with her uncle Ralph Comber as one of the sponsors. These two women will also be referenced later in this article.

John Tye the younger was buried on 15 Sep 1670 and there was no will recorded. Audrey his widow married Benjamin Pelling on 20 Sep 1676 at Lewes, All Saints by licence dated the day prior. In 1681 the half year rental of this property was to Benjamin Pelling. In addition to the property referred to as Deanland there was Moones Meade that John had inherited from his brother-in-law Richard (died 1669) and would also have come to Benjamin via Audrey. Audrey was buried in Horsted Keynes on 16 Jan 1710/11 as "wife of Benjamin".

The information in this section concerning Deanland is summarized in Table 1

4.1a Philpots

This property is not to be confused with the one in West Hoathly, the long-time residence of the Comber family.

The first reference I have is in the 1631 half year rental for Thomas Tye of Deanland with a rental of 2s 11 1/2d and again in the 1649 entry for John Tye.

In the 1656 land tax the payer was John Knell at 2s 11d (SRS 68)

The next record I have was from 1747 (WSRO Mss 17468, 17469) when Philpots (23acres) was part of a marriage settlement to Thomas Bisenden from Nicholas Mills on the marriage of his daughter Sarah. Sarah was the granddaughter of John Mills and Mary Tye and presumably this property had come to Mary either when she reached 21 or on the death of her mother Audrey Pelling. The occupant of the property at this time was Thomas Taylor. Also included in this settlement was Cookhams and Blackland, which at the time was occupied by John Coomber.

The 1785 Land Tax (SRS Vol 77) has Sarah Bisenden as the owner of Philpots and the occupant as Widow Obbard.

Table 1 Summary and Timeline for Deanland 1

Date or Year	Summary of Event	Source¹
30 Sep 1558	Thomas Tye acquired part of Deanland from William Bowyer	Broadhurst Court records 1563
30 Apr 1560	Thomas Tye will was proved. Deanland to son John Tye.	Thomas Tye will.
6 Apr 1563	John was recognized as the owner of two portions of Deanland. Annual rent 12s 5d.	Broadhurst Court records 1563
25 Jun 1608	John Tye's will was proved. Deanland to son Thomas.	John Tye will.
1608	Half year rent to Thomas Tye at 6s 2 ½ d	Broadhurst Court Records
1631	Half year rent to Thomas Tye at 6s 2d which included Philpotts 2s 11 1/2d	Broadhurst Court records.
1649	Thomas Tye was buried in Horsted Keynes as Thomas Tye of the Wood.	Parish Register.
8 Aug 1649	Thomas Tye's will was proved with property to his son John	Thomas Tye will.
C 1649	Half year rent consisting of 2s 2 ½ for Deanland and 2s 11d for Philpotts. To John Tye.	Broadhurst Court Records
Dates between 1655 and 1667.	John Tye paid tithes as John of the Wood.	Journal of Giles Moore.
9 Oct 1667	John Tye the elder was buried.	Parish Register.
C 1667	John Tye the younger married his distant cousin Audrey Tye.	No record of marriage but birth of two daughters recorded in Parish Register.
30 Sep 1669	Death of John Tye the elder acknowledged and John Tye was his son and heir.	Broadhurst Court Records.
15 Sep 1670	John Tye the younger died	Parish Register.
1671	Widow Tye for half year rental	Broadhurst Court Records.
20 Sep 1676	Audrey Tye married Benjamin Pelling in Lewes	Parish Register
1681	Benjamin Pelling for half year rental	Broadhurst Court Records.
16 Jan 1710/1711	Audrey Pelling buried	Parish Register
1750	John Mills for half year rental	Broadhurst Court Records.

¹ Full references are given in the text

4.2. Tyes of Deanland Part 2 Descendants of Robert (Will 1565/66)

Robert's will was written on 17th Jan 1565/1566 and was proved on the 1st March 1565/1566 and his death was recorded in the Broadhurst Court Baron dated 17 Apr 1566. His will mentioned none of his siblings but does include Alice Tye his niece, daughter of his brother Richard and Elinor Cole his sister's daughter. This may be Christian Dyne's daughter as there was no Elinor mentioned in his sister Clemence's will but she could be the daughter of his sister-in-law. He bequeathed to his wife Johane his lands called Denn Lands which he "late purchased of Thomas Jennys the elder". Robert also bequeathed to Johane a property called Ludwell (Ludwell Mead in Horsted Keynes not the Ludwell in West Hoathly which was occupied by Henry Payne). Following the death of Johane the properties were to go to Robert's son Thomas. The residue of his estate was to go to his son Richard who was his whole and only executor. John Bryan, his son-in-law was one of his overseers along with Thomas Browne of Coombe, the latter being the writer of the will. In 1563 Robert was constable in the Burrough of Wardley, within the Hundred of Danehill Horsted (The National Archives 42/112). There was Thomas Tye of Fletching who left a will dated 1603 but there was no mention of properties in Horsted Keynes in this will and he may be the son of John Tye of Fletching (see later). Robert's son Thomas may have died before there were parish records and it was likely that he had a son, also named Thomas who is described next.

Thomas' son Thomas inherited Deanland. The half year rental data for 1608 (ESRO SAS-X/2/2/1 [FDHG]) record a rent of 3s 3 1/2d i.e. an annual rent of 6s 7d similar to the combined annual rents recorded in 1563 for Robert aWood and Thomas Chamberlin. This suggests that either Robert Tye or his son Thomas acquired the land from both Robert a Wood and Thomas Chamberlin. Where Thomas Jennys fits in, I am unaware. Thomas' wife was named Armanell the daughter of John Turner and Jane from Withyham but the marriage had occurred before the start of registers in West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes and Withyham so the date of the marriage is unknown but likely to have been around 1600. The couple had two daughters one named Katherine (possibly baptised in Fletching on 2 Dec 1604) who married Richard Wood, the great grandson of Clemence Tye on 24 Apr 1626 in Horsted Keynes and the other named Elizabeth who married Robert Turner on 27 Dec 1634 in Horsted Keynes. Thomas and Armanell also had a son named Thomas who was probably Thomas baptised in Horsted Keynes on 4 Jun 1609, the register however not naming the parents. Armanell was the aunt of Robert Turner the subject of the Court of Chancery case discussed later in this article.

Thomas Tye senior was buried in Horsted Keynes on 10 Dec 1638 and his death was recorded as a homage in Court book of Horsted Keynes (ESRO GLY 1080) [FDHG] dated 30 Sept 1639. Deanland went to Thomas Tye junior and his wife Audrey (nee Mandrie, although spellings of both her names differ in various records). A seemingly straightforward transfer of property from father to son but no will was proved at the time.

Thomas Tye had married Audrey by licence dated 30 May 1635 with the marriage taking place three days later in Horsted Keynes. The couple had five daughters all baptised in Horsted Keynes, Armanell (17 Jul 1636) named after her paternal grandmother, Livia (baptised as Levy on 20 May 1638) named after her maternal grandmother Levia Mandry, Mary (2 Feb 1639/40),

Audrey (9 Oct 1643) and Katherine (10 Oct 1649). Thomas the girls' father died in 1650 and was buried on the 28 May 1650 as Thomas Tye of Deanland. His death was recorded in the Court Book on 20 Sept 1650 as "Obit of Thomas Tye holding freely land called Deansland in Horsted Keynes" His daughters were coheirs and all were underage, Armanell the eldest being only 14 at the time.

Audrey Tye was the occupant of the land and was recorded in the Journal of Giles Moore as among those who paid tithes in Horsted Keynes and as widow Tye paid the land tax on 30 Jun 1656 also recorded by Giles Moore. Audrey died in 1663 and was buried on 11 Apr 1663. Her death set in motion a sequence of events that outlined in detail purported events from 1638 to 1664.

On 3 Nov 1663 a Writ of Complaint was filed with the Court of Chancery (TNA C6/165/134) by the five daughters of Thomas and Audrey Tye along with their uncle Henry Mandry (spellings differ) who also claimed to be the guardian of the youngest daughter, Katherine. Henry was the brother of Audrey and was from Sundridge in Kent. The five daughters had presumably been living with Audrey at Deanland but in the writ Armanell, the eldest was from East Grinstead and the four younger girls were from West Hoathly and not Horsted Keynes. It was not revealed where in West Hoathly they were living.

The writ was brought against two defendants, Robert Turner, a paternal uncle of the girls and John Wood, their first cousin, the son of Richard Wood and Elizabeth (nee Tye) mentioned earlier. The complaint listed many grievances accusing Robert especially of withholding rent from the property, cutting timber on the property and not providing a proper accounting to the complainants. John Wood was accused of illegally occupying the property as a tenant. The writ as written provides a convincing story that Robert and John had cheated the girls out of their inheritance but the response from the two defendants tells a different story.

Robert Turner and John Wood were subpoenaed to appear before the court and their answers were heard on 18 Jan 1663/64. Their response brought several new issues to light.

It was claimed that Thomas Tye senior had made an indenture dated the 29 May in the eleventh year of the reign of Charles the First to his daughter-in-law Audrey for an annuity of ten pounds for the term of her natural life.

According to Robert's response after Thomas senior's death his widow Armanell filed a Writ of Dower claiming one third of the estate together with a claim of £44-11s-8d for the cost and damage and arrears to the profits of the third and dower. On or before 1653 Armanell had moved to Withyham, where her son-in-law and family lived. Her will was written in 1653 (date not included) and was proved on 4 Jun 1657 with Robert Turner as executor. The parish records for Withyham for this time period are missing (or never made) so her exact burial date is not known. She left only monetary bequests and there was no mention of land in her will. She left bequests to all her Turner and Wood grandchildren but only to Armanell and not her four sisters. She also left bequests to James and Thomas Burley who she describes as her grandchildren, which they clearly were not.

Robert Turner claimed that Thomas Tye junior had made a will that was never sent for probate, claiming that Audrey's father Gyles Maundie, from Sundridge in Kent a named executor had refused to have it approved and had convinced Robert of the same. Robert also claimed that he had been named in the will as the five girls guardian.

Robert also claimed that there had been a mortgage on the land which had ended up with two lenders, John Baker and Thomas Moone. John Wood, the other defendant in this case was the husband of John Moone's daughter Alice, cousin of Thomas Moone.

John Wood in his answers to the writ stated that he had been the tenant at Deanlands for three quarters of a year in Jan1663/4 and had therefore become the tenant around April 1663 at the time Audrey Tye had been buried. The half year rentals for Deanland in 1668 and 1671 were to John Wood and in 1681 to John Board.

Robert Turner filed a writ of complaint in Chancery on 26 Oct 1664 (TNA C 9/31/132). In this writ he covered much of the ground discussed in his answers to the first writ but elaborated on the indentures concerning the mortgage of the property. Thomas Tye died less than a year after the first indenture was issued to John Turner and Edward Woodgate and no repayment had been made. In his testimony Robert claimed that John Turner threatened to cut timber and destroy the premises if he was not paid and that he, Robert, was entreated by the five daughters to come to their aid, something they confirmed in their response of 23 Nov 1664. Robert arranged for money from Thomas Moone and John Baker to repay John Turner, setting up a new indenture. The daughters in their response acknowledged the ten pounds annuity their mother received and the dower which their grandmother had recovered. Henry Maundy had received as security three fifths of the property from the three eldest daughters, Armanell, Livia and Mary and had cash to pay Robert what he was due provided he give a fair account of the rentals etc. of the property, which it appears he failed to do.

The Chancery document offers no judgement or opinion, so it is not clear what happened next. What can be seen is that the five daughters did not recover the property, and the property stayed in the hands of John Wood whose wife Alice was the cousin of Thomas Moone, one of the mortgagors of the property as purported in the document. Robert Turner was probably never paid what he felt he was due, and it is likely that his reluctance to provide an account was because he had not handled the affairs honestly. He lived for another ten years in Withyham, leaving a will with bequests to his children and to his wife Elizabeth (nee Tye) who survived until 1686. No mention was made of any property or person in Horsted Keynes in either Robert's will or the wills of Elizabeth and two of their sons. Thomas Moone and John Baker both died in 1688. Thomas, who lived in Frant, left a will but again there was no mention of any property in Horsted Keyes.

Although beyond the scope and intent of this article it is noted that the Wood family remained at Deanland as well as the adjoining Godmans Land with its tanyard. John Wood senior's wife Alice was buried 25 Sep 1675, and John remarried a widow named Elizabeth Spurle from London, but I have been unable to find a record of this marriage (ESRO AMS 1437). He retired to Southwark and became an inn keeper at the Grayhound Inn there later in 1690 styling himself as Gent. His son John Wood remained in Horsted Keynes, eventually selling Deanland but staying owner of Godmansland. The last record I have of Deanland in John Wood juniors'

ownership has the occupant as John Cumber, son of Ralph and Levy dated 21 May 1701 (ESRO AMS 1442). Deanland was estimated at 52 acres at this time. By 1722 the property was occupied by William Marchant, coincident with the death of John Comber's father Ralph. William was also one of the assessors on the Inventory of Ralph's goods attached to his will and may have been the occupant of Deanland prior to Ralph's death.

What happened to the five daughters of Thomas and Audrey? The younger Audrey has been detailed above ending up as Audrey Pelling. Mary Tye, a spinster married John Potter in Herstmonceux on 3 Nov 1663, coincidentally the date of the first writ of complaint and was probably one of the sisters but in the 1669 will of Richard Tye she was still referred to as Mary Tye. Livia (Levy) probably married Ralph Comber, but no marriage was recorded for either Ralph or Livia in Sussex. Ralph and his wife (unnamed in register) had baptisms recorded for five children from 1670 onwards and the Horsted Keynes parish register does have the burial of Levy Combar, wife of Ralph on 25 Feb 1705/6. Ralph and Levy's son John was baptised on either 16 or 20 Jun 1670 (both dates recorded) and was the occupant of Deanland in 1701 as mentioned above. Ralph Comber was a witness on other documents pertaining to this narrative. For Amarell there was no burial or marriage that I could discover. The marriages of Audrey and Levy occurred in the late 1660's. This was a time following the imposition of strict religious practices by Cromwell and the return of Charles II to the monarchy. There was concern that Charles' would try to restore Catholicism. This period saw a rise in the number of dissenters, and it was possible that the two Tye sisters were married by a non-conformist minister although there is no proof that I have yet discovered. There were no marriages recorded in Horsted Keynes between Dec 1667 and June 1669. Other local families, not usually associated with non-conformism show similar unrecorded marriages, including John Payne of Stoneland and Mary around 1671. Thomas Stoner and Sarah Nicholas (sometime before 1672). Thomas and Sarah's seven children were not baptised, again suggesting non-conformism. Five of these children were married in the church and two others were buried there, so their flirtation with non-conformism was apparently brief. Katherine and Amerell Tye may have undergone unrecorded marriages but Amerell's absence from Richard Tyes 1669 will suggests she may have died.

The information in this section is summarized in Table 2

Table 2 Summary and Timeline for Deanland 2

Date or Year	Event	Source¹
6 Apr 1563	Robert a Wood held 20 ac of Deanland formerly William Bowyer's. Annual Rent 3s. Thomas Chamberlyn held 24 ac Deanland. Annual rent 3s 8d.	Broadhurst Court Record
1566	Robert a Wood died, and his will was proved 26 Jan 1565/1566. Robert Tye died, and his will was proved 1 Mar 1565/66. He left Deanland, acquired from Thomas Jennys to his wife Johane and after her decease to son Thomas	Robert Tye's will.
Between 1563 and 1608	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tye family acquired those parts of Deanland occupied by Thomas Chamberlyn and Robert a Wood. • Thomas Tye, grandson of Robert acquired Deanland. • Thomas Tye married Amerell (wedding predates parish records for HK or WH) 	<p>Deduced from available data</p> <p>Deduced from available data</p> <p>Deduced from available data.</p>
1608	Half year rental to Thomas Tye 3s 3 1/2d.	Broadhurst Court Record
24 Apr 1626	John Wood married Katherine Tye	Parish Record
1631	Half year rental to Thomas Tye 3s 3 1/2d	Broadhurst Court Record
27 Dec 1634	Robert Turner married Elizabeth Tye his first cousin.	Parish Record
2 Jun 1635	Thomas Tye junior and Audrey Mandie were married.	Parish record
10 Dec 1638	Thomas Tye was buried in Horsted Keynes. Possibly left a will that was never proved.	Parish Record
30 Sep 1639	Death of Thomas Tye acknowledged	Broadhurst Court Record
28 May 1650	Thomas Tye of Deanland was buried	Parish record
30 Sep 1650	Death of Thomas Tye was acknowledged. Daughters were his coheirs (all underage).	Broadhurst Court Record
Between 1655 and 1663	Widow Tye paid tithes	Journal of Giles Moore.
30 Jun 1656	Widow Tye the younger paid land tax of 2s.	Journal of Giles Moore
11 Apr 1663	Audrey Tye buried	Parish record

Apr 1663	John Wood, cousin of the Audrey Tye's 5 daughters became tenant at Deanland	Chancery Writ
3 Nov 1663	The 5 daughters of Thomas Tye filed a Writ of Complaint in Chancery	Chancery Writ
18 Jan 1663/1664	Response to Writ by defendants	Chancery Writ
26 Oct 1664	Robert Turner filed a writ of complaint against the 5 daughters & Henry Maundie	Chancery writ
23 Nov 1664	Defendants responded to writ of Robert Turner	Chancery writ
1668	John Wood half year rental	Broadhurst Court Record
1671	John Wood half year rental	Broadhurst Court Record
1681	John Board half year rental	Broadhurst Court Record
21 May 1701	Occupant was John Cumber	ESRO AMS 1442
1722	Occupant was William Marchant	ESRO

¹ Full references are given in the text

5. Tyes of Barnards.

As noted, earlier Barnards is in West Hoathly and extends south to the border of Horsted Keynes where it also borders Deanland. We know from the conveyances of the property known as Woodlands to the heirs of Richard Gele that the Tyes were at Barnards by 1552. Richard Tye was there from 1552 to 1555 but by 1557 the land was in the hands of Robert Tye. There was also a 1557 rental of the manor of Imberhorne (KLHC U269/E341[FDHG]) showing that Robert Tye paid 4s for 45 acres of land called Barnathe Land. In 1566 following the death of Robert Tye there was an Imberhorne Manor entry dated 17 Apr 1566 for Richard Tye (KLHC U269/M30 [FDHG]) for Barnerds Place, where the rent was 4s and the acreage was 60. In 1597 the occupant of the land was John Tye, and the acreage was 80 but the rent was still 4s. (Buckhurst Terrier SRS 39). John also held property called Blacklands in the Manor of Mayes which was of St Katherines and located directly to the north of Barnards in East Grinstead.

Richard Tye, who had the land in 1566 was probably the son of Robert but who was John Tye who occupied the property in 1597. Initially I had thought that John Tye of Horsted Keynes who left a will dated 1608 was the occupant of Barnards in 1597. There was nothing in the 1608 will to suggest that he was at Barnards. A more likely explanation might be that the John in the Buckhurst Terrier entry was the son of Richard Tye from the 1566 document. So, what happened to John of Barnards? The Horsted Keynes register records the burial of John Tye of West Hoadley on 2 Oct 1612. Another candidate is John Tye who died in East Grinstead on 12 Dec 1612. He died intestate but an administration was recorded dated 12 Jan 1612/13 with the administration of his goods going to his widow Francis and to Richard Tye of West Hoathly. His relationship to Richard is not stated but he could be a brother. This was John Tye who married Frances Aburlie in Worth on 18 Nov 1590 and was a witness to the will of Edward Payne of East Grinstead in 1599. Frances Tye, widow of East Grinstead married John Turner, gentleman of Horsted Keynes by License on 19 Jul 1613 in Horsted Keynes.

Richard of West Hoathly one of the administrators of John Tye (died 1612/13) could have inherited Barnards. If so then he would be Richard Tye who acquired from John Gaston of Cuckfield 9ac of land in Horsted Keynes called Bridges (Caresford Bridge?) and occupied by Thomas Peryar. The property bordered to the east the highway from Horsted Keynes to Tyes Cross and lands belonging to Chitting Street House to the north. One witness was Ellis Jenner who also was Richard's brother-in-law as the husband to Margaret Tye.

According to Ursula Ridley in her book Richard Tye of Tyes Cross purchased 4 acres of land and farm buildings near Chitting Street from Robert Kilner in 1656. In 1672 Barnetts was held by Edward Drew and in his will written in 1681 the property was in the occupation of Nicholas Meade. His will estimates the size of the property as four score acres exactly the same as it was in the Buckhurst Terrier of 1598.

The property passed to the Browne family later in the century and was in the possession of John Browne by 1680.

6. Richard Tye, son of Thomas Tye (1560)

Richard Tye, son of Thomas Tye (died 1560) and brother of John (died 1608). He was a juror on Oct 1, 1576, at the View of Frankpledge for the Hundred of Rushmonden. Thomas put conditions in his will to prevent his son John from interfering in the right of Richard to the Customary property that would effectively disinherit John from those lands. Richard did not leave a will and so I don't know his fate. He was probably Richard Tye who appears in an inquisition following the death of John Challenor on 7 May 1578 in Horsted Keynes. Richard Tye and his wife Agnes were seised of 30 ac of meadow and pasture in Fletching called Selves (or Shelves) and Estriches (or Estridges) of which John Challenor and son Francis were demandants with Richard and Agnes deforciantes in a fine dated in 1578 and to which Richard and Agnes acknowledged the right of the land to John Challenor (Sussex Postmortems, 1-25 Elizabeth, Sussex record Society Vol 3). In 1598 the Buckhurst terrier shows Francis Challenor in occupation of both properties. Agnes may have been buried in Horsted Keynes on 3 Dec 1608. This Richard Tye was alive in 1608 and was mentioned in John Tye's will.

7. The Other Children of John Tye of Horsted Keynes (died 1608)

In an earlier section I discussed Thomas Tye, the son of John. John had seven other children mentioned in his will dated 13 Oct 1607 and proved 25 Jun 1608.

An or Agnes was married to Edward Ward of Horsted Keynes, son of the late Edward Ward on 26 Aug 1602 by licence. She received a bequest of 10s from her father. She was alive as a widow in April 1642 when her sister Joan Furner made her will (see below)

Mary was married to Richard Gillam and received £5 from her father. Mary was buried in Horsted Keynes on 14 Nov 1613.

Jane, unmarried in 1607, received £25 from her father. She was of age at the time and was married on 15 Jul 1633 to Thomas Hooke in Buxted. They had no children, and Jane was too old to bear children.

Roger married Sybil Burly, a widow on 1 Dec 1609 in Horsted Keynes, in the year following her husband Walter's death. In Walter's will he mentioned six children of whom four were mentioned in Rogers will. It seems that Roger adopted them, and they become integral parts of the Tye family even being mentioned in the wills of other Tye family members. Roger and Sybil had no children of their own. Roger was church warden at Horsted Keynes in 1613 and Roger's will was written on 14 Sep 1623 and proved on 21 Apr 1624. He bequeathed to his brother John Tye two tenements called Hutchins and Tapsells which upon John's death were to go to John's son Richard and also to his brother John two tenements called Fullers and Warnetts (now known as Rixons and Giles). Monetary requests were given to his Gillam nieces and nephews and his two then unmarried sisters Joan and Jane and his nieces Margery Ward and Mary, the daughter of his brother Thomas. He gave his brother Francis' son Walter five pounds. Moundes Mead, which Roger lists as his dwelling initially went to his widow Sybil and on her death was to be left to James Burly with provisions for the land to go to Mary Tye, his goddaughter and the daughter of his brother Thomas if James did not pay her £5. Mary went on to marry her cousin Richard who then acquired the property. Roger's brother John Tye was his executor with John Browne of Coombe was his overseer. Roger did not inherit the properties of Walter Burly as it was specified

in Walter's will that if Sybil remarried her legacies were to go to her eldest son James Burly. Sybill was buried in Horsted Keynes on Feb 16, 1637/8.

Francis Francis married Agnes (listed in SMI as Avis) Godley in Worth on 27 May 1619. They had one child Walter whose baptism was not recorded. Francis' will was written on 10 Mar 1620/1 in West Hoathly, He was buried there on 13 Mar 1621/1622 but his will was not proved until 9 May 1626. His unnamed lands and tenements were left to Agnes his wife and upon her death to their only son Walter. The will was proved to Agnes Harningale als Tye, the wife having remarried. Walter was buried in Worth on 15 Feb 1626/1627. Agnes probably married Nicholas Hornegold in Worth on 24 Jan 1624/5.

Joan Unmarried at the time of her father's will but later married to Thomas Furner (30 Apr 1629 in Fletching) a widower. Thomas died in 1631 and in his will it was only stated that she could have all the linens etc., she brought with her. There was probably some kind of dower. Joan returned to West Hoathly and left a will as a widow dated 16 Apr 1642 and proved 10 May 1643. (PCC PROB11/191/378). She left a small bequest to her widowed sister Agnes (An) Ward and Agnes' sons Davy and John. Bequests were also left to her brother-in-law Richard Gillam, her sister Mary having died in 1613 and to four of his daughters Mary Ellis, wife of Anthony, Joan Gillam, Jane Gillam and Elizabeth the wife of John Trendle and their three children. She referred to her cousin (probably her nephew) John Tye of Buntsgrove, mentioned earlier and to his daughter Joan her god daughter. John had recently married Margery Tye (possibly a cousin) in Lewes by license on 3 Oct 1637 (See John Tye of Buntsgrove, below).

John Tye of West Hoathly who left a will proved on 8 Aug 1633. The will provides very little information. No spouse was mentioned, and she was probably Joan, wife of John who was buried in West Hoathly on 9 Sep 1621. John left all his goods to his son John and requested his overseers, Richard Tye and John Payne, to act as guardians to his youngest son Richard and to manage his estate. The sons were most likely John Tye who died in 1654 leaving a will and Richard Tye who died in 1669. There was no mention of Barnards in any of these wills.

8. John Tye of Horsted Keynes (died 1654)

This John Tye can be identified by the legatees in his will, which was written on 26 Jul 1653 and proved on 25 Mar 1654. He left no direct heirs and had no spouse at the time of his death. He left bequests to Richard Tye and John Tye the sons of John Tye (died 1639) and to their mother Elizabeth an annuity of 20s per year "as long as shee liveth". To Mary Tye the daughter of Richard Tye (died 1669) he left 20s and to her father he left all his goods and made him the sole executor of his will.

9. Richard Tye of Horsted Keynes (died 1669)

Richard was the brother of John (see section 8). He married his first cousin Mary Tye in Horsted Keynes by licence on 23 Feb 1639/40. Richard's wife Mary was a flax spinner and was paid twice by Giles Moore for spinning 3¼ lb of flax, once on 21 Nov 1659 and again on 8 Feb to 17 Mar 1659/60

Richard and Mary had one daughter Mary but with no baptism date recorded. Mary was married to John Killingbeck in Horsted Keynes on 6 Jul 1658 but was buried there a year later on 14 Aug 1659. No birth or burial of a child was recorded.

Richard Tye's wife Mary was buried on 20 Feb 1661/62 and was noted in Giles Moore's Journal as being called "Hayden Mol". Giles Moore received 10s for preaching at her funeral. Richard, through his wife Mary had received Moons (Moundes) Mead for which he paid the tithes and a land tax of 1s 6d on 30 Jun 1656. Richard was buried on 30 April 1669 for which Giles Moore received 10s from Young John (husband of Audrey).

Richard's will was written a week before his burial on 23 Apr 1669 and proved on 27 Jun 1669. He left a number of gifts and bequests to his "brother's children". In this context he was referring to his brother-in-law, the brother of his wife Mary. The bequests provide a lot of information concerning the genealogy of the Tye family at this time.

Richard left his dwelling place, Moones Mead, to John Tye his "brother's" eldest son and to his godson John Bourly (Burley) the son of Thomas and grandson of Sybil. John Tye died less than two years after this will was proved but I do not know what happened to Moones Mead. To Richard Tye his "brother's" second son he left Cookham and Blacklands Mead recently purchased from Edward Browne from which Richard was obligated to pay off all money due on a bond he had made with Robert Browne. To Thomas Tye, his "brother's" youngest son he left a property called Buntsgrove which at that time was in the tenure of John Craft. To his "brother's" daughter Joan he left several annuities to be paid out of lands called Kixes occupied by James Burley, and out of the lands he left to both Richard and Thomas Tye. He also left small bequests to the children of John Killingbeck his former son-in-law who had remarried after the death of Mary, Richard's daughter. He left bequests to four of the five daughters of Thomas and Audrey but not Armenell. He also left 20s to John Wood, a tanner and then tenant of Deanland.

Table 3 Summary and Timeline for Moones Mead

Date or Year	Event	Source¹
30 Apr 1560	Thomas Tye's will proved. Moundes Mead to son John	Thomas' will
30 Sep 1575	John Tye recognized as freehold tenant at Mounte Mead (6ac)	Broadhurst Records
25 Jan 1608	John Tye's will proved.	John's will
21 Apr 1624	Roger Tye's will proved. Moundes Mead to wife Sybil then to James Burley or Mary Tye with conditions.	Roger's will
16 Feb 1637/38	Sybil Tye als Burly buried	Parish Register
29 Feb 1639/40	Richard Tye and Mary Tye married	Parish Register
1655-1669	Richard Tye pays tithes on Moundsmead	Journal of Giles Moore
30 Jun 1656	Land Tax of 6d on Moundayes Mead paid by William Vinall.	Journal of Giles Moore
30 Apr 1669	Old Richard Tye buried by Giles Moore	Journal of Giles Moore
27 Jun 1669	Richard Tye's will proved. Moones Mead was left to John Tye and John Burley (godson).	Richard's will
1798	Owner and occupant Fasham Nairn	1798 UK Land Tax redemption.

¹ Full references are given in the text

10. Thomas Tye and Richard Tye Brothers who both died in 1714

Thomas Tye was baptised in Horsted Keynes on 30 Nov 1654. In 1669 he received property in Bunch Grove from his uncle Richard. He married Jane Alcock of Fletching in Ardingly on 22 Jun 1676 by a licence issued two days earlier. They had no recorded children. Thomas wrote a will dated 13 Nov 1678 in which he surrendered all his property in the Manor of Imberhorne to the use of his will in which he made his wife Jane the executor. This surrender was also reflected in the Manor records for that year (19 Jul 1678). In 1686 he held an area of Bunch Grove called Sevenokes which had been held by Richard Norton in 1615. John Craft who held the land at Bunchgrove in 1669 wrote a will dated 20 Jun 1688 and proved 8 Oct 1688 and Thomas Tye was a witness to this will. In 1697 Thomas was elected Bedle for Bunch Grove. On 8 Oct 1712 Thomas Tye released his right to Brickhost pond, adjacent to his copyhold property to William Piggott for 5s consideration. Thomas was buried in Horsted Keynes on 6 May 1714 as Thomas Tye of West Hoadley, and his will was proved to Jane his relict on 21 May 1714. Attached to the will was an inventory but the name of his dwelling was not included. It was a small place consisting of a kitchen, a buttery, two bedchambers above the kitchen and buttery and a garret. No stock or animals were included, and the total value of the inventory was £25-18-05. Jane maintained the property until surrendering it to William Piggott at the manor of Broadhurst in 1716. Jane remarried on 23 Apr 1717 to Thomas Cheesman in West Hoathly.

Richard Tye, Thomas' older brother was baptised in Horsted Keynes on 20 Apr 1641 and was unmarried. In 1686 he held a property at Bunchgrove called "The Skeet". He died intestate and was buried on 20 Dec 1714 as Richard Tye of West Hoadley, but an inventory of his property was made. This inventory contained no reference to any goods or property or listed contents of any rooms. It consisted of his current money with a list of all debts he was owed or bonds and mortgages which were due to him. The inventory was taken on 24 Dec 1714 with an appraised value of £167-01-06 and one of the appraisers was Ralph Comber. The inventory was proved on 1 Jan 1714/1715 to Edward and Jane Gainsford (his niece and her husband) and Nicholas Mills, the son of his deceased niece Mary. Jane Gainsford inherited the property as the rightful heir under the customs of Imberhorne Manor. In 1719 Edward Gainsford surrendered the property to William Piggott of Broadhurst Manor. However, in his will of 1734, Edward Gainsford still had property in West Hoathly, which was not identified by name in the will.

The property known as The Skeet or Skites (70a) was leased to John Holford until his death in 1767 and in 1777 the properties were sold to Lord Hampden and leased to the Childs family.

The Church marks of 1752(WHHG) have three entries for Bunchgrove, one is blank, one shows the owner as John Marchant and the third shows Mr. Granade Piggott as the owner of a property called Bunchgrove (probably Skeet) as well as one called Matthews both of which were occupied by Alexander Illman. The 1780 Land Tax records (WSRO) and the 1785 records (SRS Vol 77) also show three properties named Bunchgrove, one including Mathews as being owned by Lord Hampden of Little Hampden in Bucks and one owned by John Marchant. In his will, proved 1784 John Marchant left his property at Bunchgrove to the Bingham family. The part of West Hoathly where these were located was known as Stumblewood.

With the death of Richard Tye and Thomas Tye in 1714 the family disappears from West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes. Descendants of the family through female lines continued to live in the area.

11 Bunchgrove

Bunchgrove also called Bunes Grove or Bunce Grove was an area in the eastern part of the parish of West Hoathly directly to the north of Horsted Keynes. Properties in Bunch Grove were subject to several manors including Imberhorne and Broadhurst with some smaller properties subject to The Manors of Duddleswell (e.g. Matthews) and Maresfield (e.g. Walkings). It is now called Birch Grove and is part of Horsted Keynes. There are a number of properties there that had different names throughout the time we are discussing in this article. In reference they all tended to be called Bunch grove. The Tyes had properties there, the largest of which was apparently called Skeets or Skites. In the late 17th century this was held by Richard Tye as noted above. How he inherited it I have not discovered but it may be part of the earlier references summarized below. The property went to the Piggots and in later documents was referred to simply as Bunchgrove with Matthews, the latter being a smaller property and part of the Manor of Duddleswell.

Bunchgrove was also the home of one branch of the Comber family. Thomas Comber who died there in 1633 in his will referred to both John and Richard Tye who were witnesses and an overseer for him.

In 1643 Joan Furner referred to her “cousin John at Bunch grove”, probably meaning nephew. In 1650 Richard Tye grazed cattle there and according to Ursula Ridley lived at a property called Little Bunchgrove.

In his 1669 will Richard Tye left a property at Bunch Grove to his nephew Thomas Tye.

12. Tyes at Fletching

The Tye's of Fletching represent a separate branch of the family who were closely related but, their common ancestor lived before the data I have available

John Tye of Fletching had a will written on 9 Aug 1550 and proved on the 7 Dec 1550. He mentioned seven children named John, William, Richard, Edmond, Agnes, Jone and Thomas and his wife Jone was the executor. Jone had a will written 25 Apr 1553 and proved three days later. Thomas, her son, was her executor. All her seven children were still living. Son Richard married Alice Reade on 20 Sept 1557 and Alice Tye married on 12 Feb 1559/60. She was not recorded as a widow and there was no burial of Richard recorded but also there were no recorded children of Richard, except that John Tye was baptised in Fletching on 29 Jun 1557 and Thomas Tye on 22 Oct 1559 without a record of their father's name.

Thomas Tye left an undated will that was proved on 13 Aug 1603 and while the will was written in Horsted Keynes, no specific properties there were mentioned but a freehold property called Preistes Croft (5ac) in Fletching was left to his son John after the decease of Thomas' wife Annis. Thomas names his cousin Richard Tye of Horsted Keynes to be one of his overseers, illustrating the close kinship between these two branches of the family.

John Tye the son left a will written on 14 Jun 1639 in Fletching and proved to his wife Grace on 8 Jul 1639 with bequests to his two daughters Anne and Susan. John occupied property called Upper Clapwater (28ac) in Fletching

From the Buckhurst Terrier (SRS Vol 39) it appears that Thomas had substantial copyhold properties in Fletching including a 20ac property called Martins and Homans with another 20ac property bordering the River Ouse both with a copy dated 12 Aug 1570 and a property called Hungers Hatch with a copy dated 27 Sep 1583 and adjacent to lands of Robert Sennock

As an aside here, one of Thomas' daughters was Joan who had married Richard Homewood of The Deane, in East Grinstead around 1600. The wedding probably took place in Horsted Keynes before the start of the parish registers there. By 1603 Richard and Joan had two children named Richard and Thomas and by 1606 a third child had been born. A burial record for East Grinstead dated 17 Jul 1606 records "the 3 chyl dren of Rychard Homwood of the Deane beinge crewelleye murderede by ther owne mother and she herself dyd kill herself at that tyme". A subsequent post-mortem record stated that she slit her throat and drowned herself.

13. Richard Tye, son of Thomas (died 1603)

Richard Tye, son of Thomas (died 1603). This Richard was married twice both times to women named Jane. His first wife was Jane Norrice, whom he married by a licence issued on 8 Dec 1590 before parish records for West Hoathly exist. The 1608 half year rentals have Richard Tye holding Anyoys at a rent of 5s 5d, Deanfield and the Grove at a rent of 6d and the Lion, a croft for 1d. Richard had at least six children with her including three sons who predeceased him, one Robert who survived him and two daughters Jane who married Thomas Chapman on 16 Apr 1626 and an unnamed daughter who was married to Thomas Parris. His sons Thomas and Edward died before 1649, neither leaving a will. Edward married Eleanor Payne in Horsted Keynes on 28 Jun 1624. Eleanor Tye was buried in Horsted Keynes on 1 Nov 1626, but it was not clear if this was Edwards' wife or Robert Tye's daughter. Richard's son Thomas was not recorded except in his father's will and his son John's will. His son John's will was written on the 17 Sep 1639 and proved in Lewes on 26 Oct 1639. John was married to Elizabeth Plowerden in West Hoathly on 11 Feb 1627/8. They had five recorded children baptised in Horsted Keynes between 1628 and 1635.

Jane, their eldest daughter baptised 28 Dec 1628, married John Brookes on 18 May 1654, a wedding that was recorded in both Horsted Keynes and Fletching.

Richard was baptised on 14 Mar 1629/30 and it was to Richard that he left his lands called Woodlands when he achieved the age of 21, while in the meantime the property was in the care of Elizabeth, his wife. Nevertheless, it was widow Tye who paid tax on Woodlands in 1656 (Journal of Giles Moore).

Jone Tye was baptised on 2 Oct 1631 and was never married. She left a will written 5 May 1675 but not proved until 12 July 1691 to her brother Richard even though her burial was on 14 May 1675.

John Tye, the fourth child was baptised on 1 Dec 1633. He was probably John Tye who married Elizabeth Ward in Horsted Keynes on 5 Nov 1661. A less likely candidate was also John Tye who married Ann Rickward in Fletching and Lindfield on 9 Jul 1657. This latter John left a nuncupative will dated 9 Jul 1675 leaving bequests to wife Ann and, daughter Ann and son Robert which was several months prior to the death of Elizabeth, the wife of John senior whom she outlived for thirty-six years leaving a nuncupative will dated 24 Nov 1675 and leaving bequests to her four surviving children John, Richard, Joan and Elizabeth.

Elizabeth was the youngest child of John and Elizabeth, baptised on 21 Dec 1635. In her mother's will she has two daughters named Ann and Elizabeth. Banns were issued in Sep 1656 for Elizabeth Tye and Joseph Browne at All Saints, Lewes with the marriage recorded on 16 Oct 1656 in Horsted Keynes. Woodlands would probably have continued in the occupation of Elizabeth's son Richard who was alive in 1691. The next record I have of Woodlands is in the will of Henry Lindley of West Hoathly in 1733. In the 1785 Land Tax records, Woodlands was owned by Fasham Nairn who also owned Barnetts and several other properties in the area at this time.

Returning now to Richard who died in 1649, following the burial of his first wife on 11 Apr 1633 he married Jane Scrase, a spinster from East Grinstead by a licence dated 5 Mar 1635/36 with the marriage recorded in Horsted Keynes on 15 Mar 1635/36. Jane was buried in Horsted Keynes 26

Apr 1658 by Giles Moore who received 10s for preaching at her funeral. Richard's surviving son Robert married Anne Plawe a widow in Horsted Keynes 7 Nov 1632. In Richard's will, the property in Fletching, recently purchased from Thomas Pollard was left to Robert. Robert had two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, born in Horsted Keynes. Elizabeth died in 1649 in Fletching and his two sons named Edward both died as infants. His wife Ann died in 1661 and in Fletching on 2 Feb 1662/3 he remarried a woman named Helen Fuller, a widow with whom he had a daughter named Ann baptised in Horsted Keynes on 26 Feb 1663/1664. In the 1656 Land Tax he paid 1s and was recorded as paying tithes for property in Danehill (Journal of Giles Moore). Robert's surviving son was Richard baptised in Horsted Keynes on 24 Dec 1652. In 1665 Robert was listed as an alehouse owner in Fletching.

There were members of the Tye family living in Fletching in the 18th century. I have found no property data concerning them and many died poor. These families can be followed in the Fletching Parish registers.

14 Thomas Tye, son of Thomas (Died 1603)

Thomas Tye received a gift of £4-06-08 in his father's will of 1603 and was the executor to his mother Annis in her will of 1615.

He was probably Thomas Tye who married Katherine Duffield, daughter of Edward Duffield in East Grinstead on 29 May 1598 by licence dated 27 May 1598. Her life and marriage were short-lived. With the consent of her husband Thomas, she made a nuncupative will. It was unusual in this era for women to make a will unless they were widows or wealthy spinsters. But on 20 Feb 1599/1600 Katherine made her will as Katherine Tye of Fletching. The will was to gift all her wearing apparel and jewelry to her sisters, her mother and sisters-in-law. The will detailed an extensive and expensive wardrobe. Katherine had been baptised in September 1576 so was 23 years old and less than two years a bride. There was no record of any children. Thomas himself was buried in Horsted Keynes on 15 Mar 1639/40.

15 The Other Children of Thomas (died 1603) and Annis (died 1615)

I have already dealt with several of Thomas and Annis' children including son Thomas, John and Richard as well as his notorious daughter Joan Homewood. There were three other daughters and a son.

Margery was under 21 in 1603 and married Francis Rivers als Comber on 11 May 1606 in Horsted Keynes. Mercy Turner, widow of John Turner in a will dated 28 February 1611/12 left small bequests to Margery and her brothers Thomas and John.

Annis was also under 21 in 1603 and married John Orgle in West Hoathly on 2 Jun 1618.

Elizabeth was also under 21 in 1603 was married William Pelling in Horsted Keynes on 1 Nov 1609.

Robert was married to Elizabeth Weller in Horsted Keynes on 29 Jul 1611. They had five recorded children, two named Robert who died as infants and three daughters the eldest being Ellner who died as a child. At some time before 1620 Robert and Elizabeth moved to Barcombe where Robert died in 1624 leaving a will dated 16 Feb 1620 and proved 17 Apr 1624. He named his brother John of Fletching, his brother-in-law Edward Weller and Thomas Callchine (Caltchen) his sister-in-law's husband as his overseers. Elizabeth returned to Fletching and made a nuncupative will dated 4 Apr 1629. She failed to name an executor and her two surviving children Sara and Mary who were underage, and her brother Stephen Weller was granted administration on 9 Apr 1629. She requested that Stephen, her brother and her mother Ellinor should bring up Mary and her sister Sara Caulchen should bring up Sara. Both sisters were later married in Chailey, Sara to Richard Bursty on 27 Jun 1637 and Mary to Richard Vinall on 2 May 1640.

16 Tyes of Worth

There was a small and short-lived Tye family in Worth. The marriage of John Tye to Frances a Burlie mentioned earlier appears to be related to the West Hoathly family but I am unable to link them specifically.

John Tye held a property called Somersby in Worth as revealed in the inquisition following the death of Thomas Bysse on 26 Jun 1582. John was probably the brother of Edward Tye whose will was written on 15 Apr 1587 and proved 12 June 1587 to his sister Agnes' husband Richard Monery. Also in his will was his brother John Tye and his sister Margaret Tye who was buried 20 Mar 1600/1 and a brother William Tye. Edward's wife had died a week before and they had no recorded children their death probably from a virus.

John Tye married Joan Person on 11 Jun 1587 following the burial on 5 Jan 1586/7 of his first wife Agnes, but no baptisms were recorded in the Worth register. In the 17th century another John Tye married Dorothy Turk on 15 Apr 1621, and they had three recorded children Two of whom, Dorothy and John died as infants. The third child was a daughter named Bridget but there was no further record of her. Dorothy was buried in May 1626 and John remarried Joan Ashwine on 12 Dec 1627. They had two additional children, Elizabeth and John. John junior was baptised on 29 May 1635 and was apprenticed to Alexander Gardiner in 1647 for husbandry. Nothing further is known about him or his sister Elizabeth. John Tye senior was buried on 15 Jan 1642/43 and Joan died on 15 Nov 1658.

The relationship of this family to the Tyes of West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes or Fletching is unknown. The Worth registers start in 1558 but there were no entries prior to the burial of John Tye on 25 Mar 1576.

17 Loose Ends, Other Families and Conclusions

There are several loose ends, most of which are dealt with in the text above. Some others include the following.

Richard Tye married Mercy Turner in Lindfield 19 Oct 1600. Richard died in 1611, and Mercy was his administrator. I cannot find a suitable family connection for this Richard

There is John Tye who was buried in Horsted Keynes on 3 May 1700. The entry in the Broadhurst Court Baron records the surrender on 24 April 1700 of a messuage or tenement garden called Le Waterbury Castle to the use of Henry Waller and Edward Trendle, church guardians, and John Lucas and John Langridge guardians and overseers. The parish register also records the death on 30 Apr 1700 of John Tye "a poor day labourer releaved by the parish who was buried on 3 May 1700 by William Humphre his "Censman" (kinsman?)". William was the son of Robert Humphrey and Mary Tye who were married in East Grinstead on 26 May 1656. John and Mary were the children of John Tye and Elizabeth Butten who were married in Framfield on 14 Apr 1635. I have not been able to establish John's parentage or the relationship of this family to any of the branches discussed in this article. In 1677 John Tye was a servant in the home of James Brooker of Horsted Keynes and in James' will was left a bequest of five pounds.

A number of other families are an integral part of this narrative and a review of some of them reveals the reason they are involved.

Turner Family

The Turners were a wealthy family that had properties in Sussex, Surrey and Kent. The branch that is of interest in this story was based in Withyham and held properties in the neighbouring parish of Ashurst in Kent.

John Turner of Blackhams in Withyham had a will written on 28 May 1612 and was proved on 20 Aug of that year. He left bequests to his wife and his six children. Of interest to this article is his daughter Armanell, to whom he left a "twelvemonthling bullock" and to each of her children 3s 4d. His daughter Jone was married, and, in her brother, John's will written 14 Jun 1644 and proved 3 Feb 1644/5 Jone's husband was identified as Thomas Moone. John Turner senior's other daughter, Elizabeth, was married to John Moone and was the grandmother of Alice Moone the wife of John Wood. John Turner's three sons were William whose children each received 2 kyne. John and Robert, his other sons inherited property in Ashurst and in Penshurst Kent.

John Turner's son Robert married Elizabeth Webb in Hartfield on 19 Feb 1609/10. They had several children including Robert who was baptised in Hartfield on 25 Jan 1615/16. Robert senior made a will in Ashurst dated 21 May 1620 (PCC). He left one of his "best kine" to Armanell, his sister. To his son Robert he left his lands in Ashurst. Robert junior, as we have seen married Elizabeth Tye, thus making Armanell both his aunt and his mother-in law.

John Turner of Withyham's other son John junior lived in Rotherfied, dying in Jan 1644/5 and was the father of John Turner III who I believe was one of the original mortgagers for Thomas Tye. John III left a lengthy will written on 9 Sept 1664 (PCC) and proved on 30 Dec 1666. In his will he mentions his cousin Robert Turner of Withyham and lands he held in Withyham. John's daughter Mary was married to Robert Woodgate, the brother of Edward Woodgate, one of the original mortgagers of Thomas Tye. Edward was a Miller in East Grinstead and died at the beginning of 1649.

Wood Family

Throughout this article I have referenced the involvement of the Wood family. Table 4 below summarises the significant events.

Table 4 Timeline for Wood Family Events

Date or Year	Event	Source
3 Jul 1544	Roger Godman leaves land to nephew Robert a Wood	Will
1565/1566	Robert Wood and wife Clemence die. Son Richard Wood is heir.	Wills.
31 Oct 1604	Richard Wood leaves Godmansland to son John in trust.	ESRO AMS 1435
5 Nov 1604	John Wood and Ann Wicking are married by licence.	SFHG -Sussex Marriage Index
12 Jan 1608/9	Richard Wood baptised in Horsted Keynes	Parish Register
24 Apr 1626	Richard Wood and Katherine Tye are married in Horsted Keynes	Parish register
1 Jul 1627	Alice Moone, daughter of John Moone Jr. baptised in Rotherfield	Parish Register
29 Jul 1627	John Wood baptised in Horsted Keynes	Parish Register
22 May 1649	John Wood and Alice Wood married in Rotherfield.	Parish Register
April 1663	John Wood became tenant at Deanland (2).	Chancery Document

I have worked with the data that I have, and the text is consistent with the connections and assignments I have made. This does not mean that they are correct and that other explanations may be made. There is some guesswork or speculation with a few assignments and as I get more data, I should be able to confirm or modify conclusions. The information presented takes the family up to the late 17th and early 18th centuries. If the reader can trace a connection to the Tye family in this period, then it is possible to connect back to the mid-16th century for Tyes in West Hoathly, Horsted Keynes and Fletching.

Sources of Data.

Wills, Administrations and Inventories. Transcriptions of all Sussex wills etc., quoted in this article can be obtained from the Will Depository at Sussex Family History Group (SFHG). Alternatively copies of East Sussex wills from Lewes or South Malling are available on Ancestry.co.uk as well as PCC wills. Copies of the wills are also available at “The Keep” and for PCC wills at Discovery site of The National Archives. PCC wills for Kent or Surrey can be found at Ancestry.co.uk

Parish Registry data. Most parish registry data quoted here is available on the SFHG Baptism and Burial indexes or on the Sussex Marriage Index of SFHG. Horsted Keynes burial data from 1605 to 1638 which are not yet on the Burial Index are available on the Family search site. The marriage of John Mills and Mary Tye in Southwark came from Ancestry.co.uk.

Abbreviations used.

DPHS Danehill Parish History Society

ESRO East Sussex Record Office

KLHC Kent Library and History Centre

SRS Sussex Record Society

TNA The National Archives

WSRO West Sussex Record Office

Other Sources. Much information was provided to me by Jeremy Clarke of the Felbridge & District History Group. These data are referenced as [FDHG].

I have also taken some information out of the book “The Story of a Forest Village – West Hoathly” by Ursula Ridley, published in 1971. Also, from “Out and About in West Hoathly” published by “West Hoathly History Group” in 2005. [WHHG}and information from other sources cited within this publication including the 1752 Church marks.

The two maps were from “theweald.org”