

SILAS C. SHIRLEY b. 1806 Ky.  
(Son of Charles, son of Michael  
and Katy Franz).

[See April 1979 NEWS page 11 for family  
information].



OLIVER C. SHIRLEY  
(son of Silas C. Shirley)

[Photos from Donald and Stan Shirley  
who gave these photos to me at the Brentwood  
meeting this Oct.] THANK YOU!!!

JOHN AND ELIZABETH BARMORE SHIRLEY LINE

Their son John Shirley Jr. was the father of: (See Apr. 1983 NEWS page 1).

RICHARD D. SHIRLEY b. ca. 1797

married Mary Blain

(10 children have been verified)

1. Thomas b. Jan 17, 1816 d. July 2, 1898  
married America \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1). Sarah b. Dec. 8, 1844 d. 1848  
(2). Richard D. b. Mr. 5, 1851 d. 1852
2. Mary E. b. Feb. 7, 1817 d. Dec. 10, 1818
3. Nancy b. 1823 married \_\_\_\_\_ Griffin
4. Levi b. 1825 m. Arrena Coats
5. John Pinkney b. 1827 m. Sarah Martin  
(SEE JULY 1980 NEWS page 7 and Apr '82  
NEWS page 13.)
6. William Washington b. Jan 30, 1830 d. 1907  
m. Mary Buckalew
7. John N. b. 1832 d. June 2, 1915  
m. Hulde J. Poole in 1858 Greene Co. Ala
8. Martha C. b. 1834 m. Stephen R. Darden
9. Mahala b. 1836
10. Eliza M. b. 1838 m. Warren J. Hardin

THIS INFO FROM Mamie Shirley! THANK YOU!!!

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The following is some info taken from a letter written 1935 by Frank Shirley and another letter written in 1939 by Mary E. Knight..... descendants of: THOMAS SHIRLEY AND MOLLIE YATES. (Copies of letters given by Barbara Shirley). THANK YOU!!!

George Yates Shirley [son of Thomas and Mollie] was a physician, lived Jacksonville, Ill. He married Emily Brown. He was born in Culpeper Co. Va. [1804] and lived in Glasgow, Ky. then removed to Illinois. He was an abolitionist. Dr. George Yates Shirley and his wife were much in society of that social circle of college bred folks at Jacksonville, Ill. of which can be named notables as Richard Yates, the war governor of the State of Ill. during Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, were of their personal friends. Peter Cartwright, the pioneer preacher, was often entertained in their home as was Peter Acres, another minister of Methodism.

As is by tradition that Thomas Shirley Revolutionary Soldier was descended from the Robert Shirley family of England who married Elizabeth Washington. Elizabeth Washington was the daughter of Lawrence Washington, 1677. His son

John Washington, emigrated to Virginia and his son Lawrence married Mildred Warner. Their son Augustine married Mary Ball. George Washington was their son.

As already shown, Thomas Shirley married Mollie Yates. The Yates family is well known in the history of Virginia. Charles Yates lived at Fredericksburg, Va. 1728-1807. He was the son of Francis Yates Rector of Grandville, Yorkshire, England.

Thomas Shirley (Frank Shirley's grandfather) was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, Va. Co. Rec. (8VR) War Dept. Folder 178 1-4-6 Spotsylvania Co. Reg., 12th Va. Family history in possession of William Shirley, late of Chinook, Kansas, shows that he fought in the battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.

From letter of Mary Knight...she refers to Charles M. Shirley of Chanute, Kansas as a third cousin to herself. She says he has a pen sketch of Mollie Yates. Mary says that William Shirley descending thru Thomas W. Shirley, stated absolutely in his record that Mollie's father was Charles Yates, a son of Rev. Francis Yates of England. Mary states that the records in Caroline Co. Va. where Thomas and Mollie Yates were married was destroyed during the Revolution.

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REFERENCE TO YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND...above!

NOTE: The Isfield Shirleys in England are originally from Yorkshire England.

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From your editor...

I am sorry to report that I have fallen behind in my work in the office, which includes my mail.

I seem to be burnt-out as they would say. There were many, many personal things that took my attention between meetings. I am happy to report that I am back to work and will be answering all my mail within the next few days. I apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused. Thank you for your patience.



CONTINUED RESEARCH RESULTS....

(see page 6 and 7 of July '85 NEWS).

WHERE DID ROGER SHURLEY (who made a will Dec. 7, 1694 in Kent Co (Pa.) Delaware COME FROM???

Roger Sherly of Talbot Co. Maryland bought land in Kent Co. Pa. (Delaware now) from Thomas Hethard, called "EXETOR" part of " OUSBY"100 acres, Nov. 10, 1693

Roger Sherly sold this land to Stephen Simons July 5, 1694.

Research shows Shirleys in some of the other counties in Maryland in those early days as follows:

CALVERT CO. MARYLANDRichard Shirley

Here in 1693-1695 and well enough established and respected to be assigned to appraise and take inventory of an estate in 1695, as well as to witness a will in 1693.

There seems to be no further evidence of Richard Shirley in Calvert Co. after this time.

*(Note: In my files under Calvert Co. Maryland, I was told that the AVIS family was in Calvert Co. Md. Dorcas AVIS married Walter Shirley about 1726 and they lived in Berkeley Co. Va (now West Va.). Could this Walter Shirley be closely related to Richard? The Avis family came from Lincolnshire England according to my source).*

ANN ARUNDEL CO. MARYLAND

James Shirley and wife, Katherine, are mentioned for the years 1703-1708. No children are mentioned in the records.

PRINCE GEORGE CO. MARYLAND

George Shirley and wife Mary (Here in 1726).

ST. MARYS CO. MARYLAND

Richard Shirley and wife Katherine here as early as 1705.

SOMERSET CO. MARLAND & WOCESTER CO. MD.

James Shirley here as early as 1730

Refer back to last issue...July '85 on page 13.

BUCKS CO. PA.

Oathes of allegiance...Robert Shirley Senior and Robert Shirley Junior of 1778., Springfield Twp. Bucks Co. Pa.

Who is this Robert Shirley? It would be my opinion that this is the same Robert Shirley who we find later in Indiana Co. Pennsylvania.

Robert Shirley was born May 15, 1735 in Eastern Penn. (dates from Carol Hopping). He married Susannah Baker who was born May 11, 1742. Robert served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He came to Indiana Co. in 1792 from Conococheague Valley and settled in Conemaugh Township two miles from Saltsburg.

Their oldest son, John, was born Dec. 14, 1771 BUCKS CO. PA.

It would be Robert Jr. who married Susan Baker would it not? They took their oathes in 1778! Therefore Robert Sr. must be his father!

In Franklin Co. Pa. we find Thomas Shirley who in his pension papers said he was born in Springfield Twp. BUCKS CO. PA. July 10, 1746. Is he an uncle to Robert Shirley who married Susannah Baker??? And brother to Robert Shirley Sr.?

. . . . .

ANOTHER EXCITING STORY WHICH HAPPENED TODAY! (by Betty Shirley).....

Today as I was typing this issue of the NEWS, I received a long distance call. The gal identified herself as Eileen Shirley. She had obtained my name and phone number from Anna Husbands in Mississippi this summer. (Anna helped me get the Jackson Miss. meeting together this summer). Eileen said she was in Miss. and picked up a newspaper and was reading about family reunions in it and about our trip to England which she is interested in. As we talked about who her line was, I knew this Seth Shirley was a name I heard before. She referred to Sweetwater, Texas and I reached over while talking to another gentlemans file and it was his branch. I told her about this gentleman and their relationship and that he is a pilot for United Airlines. She was thrilled....all in a days work! I called him tonight and she had called him already!



FROM OUR MAILBAG...

*Letter from Mildred Shirley of  
Milbrook, Ala. Sept 1985)*

[Lineage on page 6 Jan. '85 NEWS]

I must let you know we have located another branch of the William and Adeline Shirley family. It is the youngest daughter Mary Jane who married Francis M. Dobbs and lived in DeKalb Co. Georgia.

Because we attended the 1982 Shirley Convention in Anderson, S.C. and passed out our "KISSING COUSINS" cards we got in touch with Helen Park thru Lillian Shirley of Cornelia Georgia.

*Letter from Helen Park Sept. 1985*

Thank you for answering my letter I wrote to you before the mini convention in Anderson, S.C. in July 1985. My cousin, Nell Bradberry and I enjoyed that time with you at Anderson this summer and all the news about your trip to England.

Tell your members of the Association to play their hunches. I found Mildred and Clyde Shirley through an ad in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution that had nothing to do with genealogy, but had Lillian's name and address in Cornelia Georgia. I wrote to her and it opened up a whole new world about the Shirleys. Until then we had never known another family by that name. And look what we found when she sent me Mildred's and Clyde's name and address! Shirley's all over the place.

Again, let me say "thank you", and tell you that you are really doing a good service.

*(Lillian Shirley is descended from  
Moses Shirley b. ca. 1760's thru son  
Moses Shirley Jr. and wife Nancy thru  
son Roland Shirley and wife Hannah,  
these are Habersham Co. Ga. Shirleys).*

Thank you for these letters. We like to hear these stories and am sorry I don't print more of these kind of stories. We hear them quite often in varied forms. To know we are helping gives real purpose to our work and keeps me trying...even though sometimes I get behind! This work is alot of responsiblity and work, I won't kid you.

ANOTHER STORY....

This one told at our San Jose meeting  
October 12th, 1985.

I will have to fill in the beginning as it started many months ago when my son Dale Shirley was competing in a motorcycle race near San Jose, California. One of the ladies in the booth who was assisting with the race was taking some information from my son. When he told her his name she looked up at him and said that SHIRLEY was her maiden name. He quickly commented to her she ought to contact his mother who was involved with the Shirley Assoc. and etc..... Bernie Francisco was the ladies name and she did call me the next day. She told me she did not know much about the Shirleys. She gave me the name of Timothy (I think this was her grandfather) and that he lived in Idaho. I told her I didn't know much about Idaho Shirleys other than one branch out of Missouri who had gone there near a Hot Springs. I told her what line it was from and that I would look it up and write to her. We were able to take her back to James and Mary Shirley of Barren Co. Ky. She joined the Shirley Association and I haven't heard from her since. Now... here is where the story begins.

*At our Fresno, Ca. meeting Oct. 3rd, 1985  
a Timothy Shirley attended with his wife.  
He explained his sister was Bernie  
Francisco and how much their learning  
about their ancestry had meant to them.  
He related several things to me and it  
was interesting.*

*Just before the San Jose meeting, I  
received a phone call about attending  
the San Jose meeting and reservations etc.  
The lady calling was Bernie's sister  
from Lakeport, Ca. The following is what  
I learned from these two sisters.*

*Their father and mother had died when  
they were very young and they knew nothing  
about the Shirley side of the family.  
A few years ago, I was on our San Francisco  
television station about our San Jose  
convention and the Shirleys. The sister  
in Lakeport seen me on the news and called  
Bernie and told her to call the T.V.  
station and get in touch with me. Bernie  
said she told her...O.K. but told me she  
at that point could care less. She never  
did get in touch with us. When she met  
my son some months ago at races, she knew*

(cont....)



she was suppose to get in touch with us, this must be meant to be. So she called and we did send her the material along with the names and addresses of the other members of her branch. She wrote to them and they talked on the phone to some of them on the list. Bernie and her sister said they would like to go back to Idaho to the Hot Springs and the area their family had lived. An invitation was given for them to stay with the Shirley family there and so...this summer they really discovered their roots. They were emotionally moved when telling this story at the San Jose meeting. It was quite an experience for them and for me to stand there and realize the good that is coming from our work.

I MUST REMIND YOU IT IS BECAUSE OF OUR MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO WRITE AND SEND THEIR FAMILY INFORMATION THAT ALL OF THIS IS POSSIBLE!!! Really!!!

I don't usually take up so much space in an issue of the NEWS with stories. I hope you enjoyed them this once. I know we are mostly interested in stories of the Shirleys in history.

your editor...

There will be an announcement about a special item I arranged to have made for the Shirley descendants while I was in England. It is custom made and will be available for sale in the next issue of the NEWS...WATCH FOR IT!

HERE IS A LIST OF MATERIAL FOR SALE NOW!  
(New members ask what is available).

STEMMATA SHIRLEIANA BOOKLET .....\$10  
(about the Shirleys of England from 1086 thru 1800's) 39 pages...

PEDIGREE CHART.....\$5  
(same as above)

ELIZABETHANS ERRANT BOOK.....\$15  
(about the 3 famous Shirley brothers of England of the late 1500's)

CARTER/SHIRLEY PLANTATION LETTER...\$ 3  
(written by the Carter family about life during the Civil War time at the Shirley Plantation).

1850 CENSUS BOOK.....\$30  
(lists over 2200 Shirleys living in about 30 states, the more populated states at the time).

1880 CENSUS BOOK.....\$40  
(over 5000 Shirleys living in the more populated states at that time).

STORY OF ETTINGTON BOOKLET.....\$ 5  
(gives a brief history of Ettington and descriptive information about the rooms before it was refurbished in 1984)

BACK ISSUES OF THE NEWS.....\$ 3 ea

PICTURE SHIRLEY CONVENTION GROUP...\$10  
1985 in INDIANAPOLIS, IND. 8X10 color

PICTURES...SNAPSHOTS OF ENGLAND ...\$10  
sets of 15: I was asked to make my snapshots in my photo album available for purchase! Photos of Ettington in and out. Also other Shirley places.

Order by writing to: Betty Shirley  
10256 Glencoe Dr. Cupertino, Ca. 95014

IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A COMPLETE COPY OF THE STEMMATA SHIRLEIANA, write me. If anyone is interested in reading the complete book, I will have it copied for you. This book was printed in 1873 and has 435 pages.

On the next page you will see an article which appeared in the Boston Herald June 23, 1985 by Mr. Mittell who is the President of the SHIRLEY-EUSTIS HOUSE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Mittell has invited us to hold a future SHIRLEY CONVENTION there in Boston at the SHIRLEY-EUSTIS HOUSE.

On June 18, 1985 they had a celebration of the preservation and restoration the house. As you know this is the old home of Governor William Shirley who came from England to Mass. in the 1700's.

Recently they were presented with a portrait of Madame Shirley which is being placed in the drawing room.

William Shirley was the last of the Royal Governors and William Eustis was the first elected Governor.

We will consider having a convention there in the near future...1987/88

Mr. Mittell is also going to England the year we are and maybe we will meet him at one of stops. Perhaps Ote Hall! This is the home Gov. Shirley left when he came to America.



ADMIRING WORK: Josephus and Lynn Long inspect the restoration of the historic Shirley-Eustis House.



IN LAFAYETTE'S PLACE: The Marquis and Marquise de Chambrun, descendants of the Revolutionary War hero, follow in his footsteps with hostess Anita Hovey, right.

# Epic feast caps decades of work

By DANA BISBEE

**T**WO HUNDRED years ago Boston was the tip of a skinny peninsula separated from Roxbury by a broad bay. Roxbury was rolling farmland and the home of the gentry. William Shirley, the last Royal Governor, had his mansion built there; William Eustis, the first elected governor, continued to live there after the American Revolution.

Roxbury has grown up around that mansion, now called the Shirley-Eustis House in their mutual honor. Telegraph Hill is now the corner of Shirley and Dudley and triple deckers have grown dense on the hilly streets.

The gentry returned to Roxbury last week when 182 people,

part of the blue-blooded Yankee Old Guard who privately fund historic renovation, arrived to enjoy a recreation of an epic dinner party for the Marquis de Lafayette. Joining the modern celebration was the Marquis and Marquise de Chambrun, Lafayette's direct descendants.

"Come in and have a martini!" hostess Anita Hovey called to arriving guests as she stood on the home's sandstone stairs beside its pebbled circular driveway. But more than martinis were being offered — shrub, a mixture of rum and lime that Jefferson often served at Monticello, was also available. The dinner featured small portions of poached salmon and cold roast beef with a variety of pungent original sauces, corn

bread and a dessert custard. It was only a hint, though, of the feast enjoyed by Lafayette.

"I have a copy of the real menu and you'd die if you ate the original food," party organizer Ruth Wyman laughed. "They started with pickled pigs' feet, then had fish, beef, lamb. You'd get sick if you ate it all."

John Sears served as host, discouraging easily on the history of the house and greeting such guests as restoration director Frederic Detwiller, Shirley-Eustis House Association president David Mittell and restoration architect Robert Neley.

"A lot of people worked hard to make it a success," Wyman said. "And if they hadn't, the house would have gone kerplunk and they'd have made this a used car lot."

"The restoration work has taken at least five years," Shirley-Eustis Association member Josephus Long explained. "We've

actively worked on it that long, but the association has existed for over 30 years."

The effort to restore the house was begun by Mary Caner in the 1920's. She died just a few weeks ago, sadly missing the completion of her decades-long work and the party that would certainly have been in her honor.

Meanwhile outside, Shirley Street's children cavorted on the stone wall and petted the Boston police horse grazing on the mansion's lawn.

One of them, Marquis Chambers, a perky 2-year-old quick to mention that she will be 3 on July 9, lives next door. She knew that she had been given a beautiful French name because Marquis de Lafayette had once visited the house. But she did not know that her namesake's great-great-grandson was there. And none of the guests knew of Marquis and her intimate connection to them.



..... Report on the 1986 England Trip!

During the summer we held meetings and told about the Shirley Celebration tour etc. for June 1986. Many at those meetings asked for reservation forms and many more have written to me requesting these application forms. I have also received letters from you who were on the mailing list who did not hear from me about the trip after the trip application forms were sent to you. That concluded the mailing list and only those who sent the forms back with their deposits continued to hear from me about the trip. You have said you are still interested in hearing more about the trip. There is nothing else we can tell you. The information is attached to the application telling you the general places we will be visiting. The detailed day by day itinerary is for those who are going and have made their deposits. This letter is already composed and with a few additions, will be mailed in about a week or 10 days. We are waiting for a letter from England on the package C plan. An idea was given us to substitute the Ireland trip with another location for package C. The gentleman involved with this has been on "Holiday" as they say in England... vacation. As soon as we hear from him, this letter will be mailed to all of you from Mr. Bolles who is helping us with our trip.

I have also had several letters from some who have said they plan to attend the Celebration and will see me there as they will be going to England on their own.

I REGRET TO SAY THAT ONLY THOSE WHO ARE TRAVELING WITH THE ENTIRE TOUR (at least the ground portion) WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND 1986 SHIRLEY CELEBRATION!

Space at Ettington is a problem and I have stated this for some time. I don't know if I at some point and time said something to lead any of you to believe that you could attend on your own. If I did, I am sorry! A few years ago, we did not know very much about the accommodations and how many could attend. Once I visited there and talked with management, I was informed about the space problem. I got the go ahead for up to 200 people. Those attending will be admitted to the estate by presentation of an engraved invitation ONLY! I wouldn't want some of you to drive over to be refused entrance that day. You may visit there any other day. As I said in a past issue of the NEWS, you as a member of the Shirley Association will receive a 10% discount for hotel accommodations by presenting the hotel with a letter from

us. Just write me and I will be happy to send you what you need to receive your discount. We arranged this just for you! It is not inexpensive to stay there.

Those of you who have not mailed your application in for the trip, PLEASE DO SO IMMEDIATELY. Many...applications have been requested by mail and at our meetings. If you all sent them in at the same time... more than half of you would be left out. Remember only 200 people maximum can go with us. I wished everyone could go! But this is not possible for many reasons.

You have asked us to give the trip good coverage when we return for those who are not able to go. WE WILL!!! We want you to share the experience even if only reading about it. You won't miss it! We'll take lots of pictures and make these available too!

Back to the applications forms. Mr. Bolles who is helping me with the trip, is leaving Dec. 26, for England to go over details of our trip and some other family trips he is involved with for next year. It is very important for us to know just exactly how many are planning on making this trip with us. Hotels book rapidly and tourism is very strong in England these last few years. I realize you feel that because Ettington is booked, there is not as big of a rush in getting these applications back to us. But let me repeat, if everyone sent their applications in immediately, there would not be room to accommodate even half of them. There is space for about 60 more people to go with us.

I hope those of you who are already booked are getting your passports ordered now.

Everyone who is booked for the trip will be receiving a letter from me by Dec. 15th. You should be receiving Mr. Bolles letter in a week or 10 days according to what he has told me.

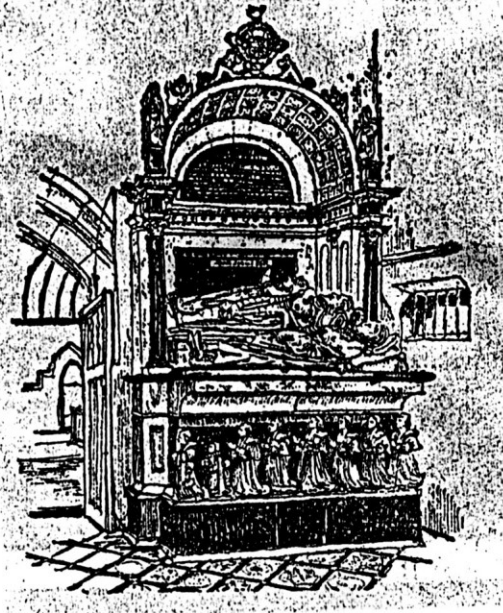
It has been brought to my attention that only the person making the reservation (filling out the form) received letters from myself and Mr. Bolles. This is my fault. I will re-do my mailing list for those going to England to include those traveling with the original applicant. Sorry!

If you have any questions about the trip, please write to me or call me at 408-255-8511. (Betty Shirley, Cupertino, Ca.)



## Spiritual pilgrimage

TWO hundred Americans will be visiting Isfield Church near Lewes, East Sussex, next year with a single objective in view. All bearing the surname Shirley, the Americans are



*Last resting place*

descendants of settlers who left these shores in 1646.

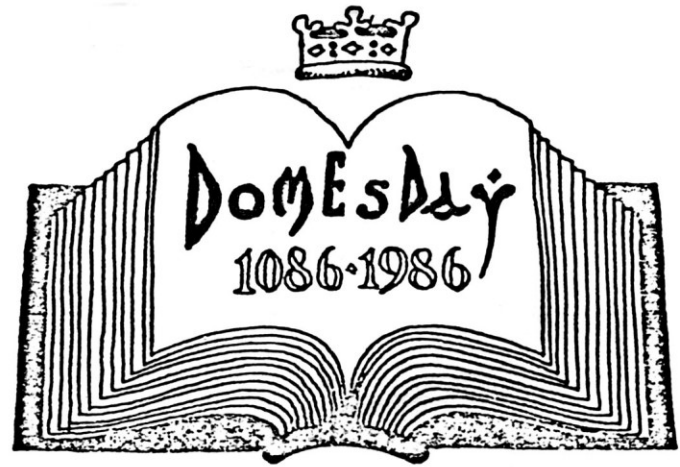
Of particular interest to the transatlantic visitors will be the alabaster tomb in the pre-Reformation (similarly spelt) Shurley Chapel just restored for £5,500 and drawn for me by Moira Hoddell.

Sir John Shurley lies in effigy between his two wives—Lady Jane and Lady Dorothy. A number of their children are also shown including two sons and two daughters who can be seen holding skulls as a sign that they died.

The above article was sent to me from a gentleman in England whom I have not met. He found my name and address and wrote me. Next letter he sent this article. I don't know who put this in the paper as it is no one I know of...

I have said there would be publicity about our trip to England and it has already started breaking....Early!

I have written to our researcher to investigate the part in this that says...descendants of settlers who left these shores in 1646. ??? How do they know this? I don't have this information as to 1646!!!



From "The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle"

By Steven Erlanger  
Globe Staff

LONDON — William the Conqueror spent Christmas 1085 at Gloucester, in council with his barons, discussing the kingdom of the Angles and Saxons they had won in the Battle of Hastings 19 years before, in 1066. The population was still sullen, recovering from the devastation of the war; their Norman rulers were building their castles in every major port and town to defend their new lands.

### Accomplished in 8 months

William decided to order a survey of his kingdom, to discover what there was of value in it, and who held what land, men, equipment and livestock. It is thought he wanted to judge the costs of the war, settle land disputes and solidify the new order, while creating a new basis for taxation. In only eight months, by Michaelmas (Sept. 29) 1086, the astonishing job was done. There had been nothing comparable in Western Europe since Roman times, nor was there anything similar in Europe until the 13th century.

Dividing the country into circuits, William sent his men to the shire, or county, courts to take testimony village by village, with information checked by the local priest. This unprecedented inquiry created fear and hatred among the Anglo-Saxons; there were riots and enough false testimony that new visits were required to some counties, and many people were punished for perjury.

Once gathered, the data was reorganized as a directory of aristocratic landholders. A brief description of the county town was followed by an index of landholders beginning with the king, passing through his bishops and noblemen to his servants and fi-

nally those of English birth. Under the names of the king and each tenant-in-chief — those who held land directly from William — there follows a description of the estates each held within the shire.

The results were then sent to the exchequer at Winchester, where a scribe condensed and abbreviated the entries and wrote them in his Norman Latin, county by county, onto sheepskin parchment bound into what was called "the king's book" or "the book of the exchequer," though it was made up into two volumes.

### Oldest public record

But the inevitable comparison of the Normans' inquiry with the last great Day of Judgment caused the work to be known as the Domesday (pronounced doomsday) Book. The decisions made from the evidence in its pages, wrote a 12th century historian, "like those of the Last Judgment, are unalterable."

The Domesday Book, 900 years old next year, is the oldest public record in the United Kingdom, and can be said to mark the beginning of its history as a land (save Oliver Cromwell) united under a continuous crown. It was used to settle a dispute only 30 years ago.

To mark its 900th anniversary, the government's Public Record Office is planning a major exhibition in its Chancery Lane building. The theme will be the continuity of royal government from the Conqueror, William I, to the prospective William V, the 2½-year-old eldest son of the current heir, Prince Charles.

The exhibit, which opens in April 1986 and runs through September, will attempt to describe how the book was made and used and to bring 11th century England to life. The entrance will display the ornate, 40-foot-long family tree of the current Lord Sudeley, who traces his family back

(cont...)



through the Domesday Book and King Ethelred the Unready to Charlemagne.

"The 900th anniversary is already stirring latent feelings of patriotism and taking on the character of a national festival," says Jane Cox, the principal assistant keeper at the public records office. "There are about 1.5 million people and 13,000 places mentioned in the Domesday Book, and every English village traces its history from its mention there."

#### Even Domesday jam

Plans include a day of jousting (admittedly anachronistic) at the Tower of London, with lots of mead drinking and morris dancing, six commemorative stamps and an illustrated Domesday gazetteer. Tourists will be able to buy Domesday umbrellas, a Wedgwood plate, replicas of an 11th century backgammon set discovered last year at Gloucester and a preserve to be called Domesday jam.

But more importantly, the public records office is now repairing and rebinding the book. A full-color facsimile complete with translations, maps and computerized indexes is being painstakingly prepared, and the British Broadcasting Corp. has already begun collating a 1986 Domesday Book to be published as two interactive computer video discs.

The two volumes of the Domesday Book - Great Domesday, containing details of 31 counties in 382 folios (764 pages) measuring about 14½ by 20 inches, and the smaller Little Domesday, a detailed survey of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex in 451 folios (902 pages) - were last rebound in 1952-53. Each folio, consisting of the skin of one 11th century sheep, and sometimes with a corner missing where the creature's leg began, was bound in thick parchment guards to protect it. "But there's an air of post-war penury about it," says Helen Ford, the record office's conservation chief: the post-war sheep, badly fed, were inferior.

So the 1950s parchment that binds the folios is being replaced with the skins of fatted Thatcherite sheep, toned to match the brownish color of the original. The guards, which chief binder Donald Gubbins says were a bad idea, made the Great Domesday over 7 inches thick and impossible to open flat: the new parchment will be sewn directly into the binding. The two volumes will be rebound

as five, all between thick oak boards covered in beige goatskin.

#### Very well preserved

"What's astonishing is its state of preservation," says Cox. "It looks like a forgery, it's so clear and neat. I'd rather it were curled and black." Scholars disagree, so as the individual folios are steamed to flatten them and then carefully cleaned, they are also being photographed - gutters, marginalia and all - for the new facsimile edition.

Alecto Historical Editions will publish the facsimile in looseleaf folios, county by county, using acid-free paper and continuous-tone lithography, which avoids the tiny dots that make up normal half-tone prints. The academic edition of Great Domesday, with maps, translations and computer indexes compiled at the University of California, Santa Barbara, will cost \$2200, while 31 individually bound county volumes will cost \$165 each. Little Domesday will be published later.

Though inevitably the Norman clerks who compiled the book simplified the puzzling names and varied practices of Anglo-Saxon landholding, their work, wrote the late historian Doris Mary Stenton in 1951, "is as competent and accurate as that of any modern government department working with all the apparatus of card indexes and typewriters."

Computers have since rendered information processing far easier, so the BBC, with government and corporate help, is now gathering similar information about Britain 900 years later. In a \$2.75 million project, the BBC has divided the country into 23,434 4-by-3-kilometer blocks and asked 10,000 schools and local groups to describe, photograph and survey them. Combining that textual, graphical and visual information with public records such as the

census and national household surveys, the BBC will compile the equivalent of two full sets of the Encyclopedia Britannica on two 12-inch laser video discs.

#### The Domesday Discs

Philips Electronics is designing a new player to hook up to a microcomputer that will allow the user to search through the discs and ask questions. Beginning with a country map, says the BBC's Michael Tibbetts, a user can request information ranging from local newspaper readership and how it's changed to farming acreage, unemployment or voting patterns and photographs of local landmarks. The BBC will sell the package, including player, discs and computer, for about \$1650.

Called "The Domesday Discs," the project, says Tibbetts, found resistance in Scotland, which was independent in 1086 and wanted no part of this commemoration of a conquered people. There it will be called "The People's Database."

The anniversary brings quiet pride to Maj. John E. Shirley, scion of the only family extant that can trace its male line to the Domesday Book and still lives on the same land, Ettington Park, near Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire.

"I feel only a link in the chain," said Shirley over lunch at The Calvary and Guards Club. "Besides fecundity, we're a family that hasn't particularly distinguished ourselves. We've not done anything in the 900 years to get a knighthood or baronetcy."

But Sir Colin Cole, the Garter Principal King of Arms, broke in to say: "What's extraordinary about Maj. Shirley and his family is the continuity of occupation, their care for the land and their ability to support all the levels of taxation since the 11th century!"

#### WANT AD.....

SEEKING INFORMATION ON LAURA EMARINE SHIRLEY born April 12, 1844 (prob. in Barren Co. Kentucky). In the 1850 Census she was living with Martha and John E. Duke. She married David Edward Vest on Oct. 22, 1860. Anderson Smith posted a marriage bond for her. She died Jan. 15, 1888 in Macomb, Ill. WHO WERE HER PARENTS? WAS SHE AN ORPHAN?

Frances Wright  
P.O.Box 445  
Vashon Island, Washington 98070



IDENTIFICATION OF Dr. JAMES S. SHIRLEY  
BORN 1837 in the JAN. 1985 NEWS p. 11

(sent by Mary Rosier) THANK YOU!!!

David Shirley b. 1755-65 d. 1810 Darlington Co. South Carolina, married Prudence Kelley ca, 1787. *Their sixth child, Jacob R. b. ca. 1811 m. 1st m. 2nd Unity Shearley Aug 4, 1845 Pike Co Alabama.*

(by first marriage...

1. Prudence b. 1836
2. James b. 1837 (Jan '85 NEWS p. 11)  
[Dr. James Spaulding Shirley].
3. Elias b. ca. 1840
4. Sidney b. ca. 1843  
(by 2nd marriage to Unity...
5. Suzanna b. ca. 1847
6. Monterey (male) 1849
7. Beuna Vista (male) 1851
8. Martha 1856
9. Jacob 1858
- 10 Davis

Who was Jacob R. Shirleys first wife?  
Where did she die and where is she buried?

From papers in Pike Co. Court House it appears Jacob R. died without a will. His son, James Spaulding Shirley was adm. of his estate. No record of his death date or place of burial can be found in Pike Co records. Does anyone know? His widow remarried to George R. Scroggins prior to guardianship papers executed in 1869.

Mary has a Bible passed down from her grandfather Shirley in which is inscribed: "To Captain and the Crew of the Sarah Lavinia" "1845".

Does anyone know anything about this ship? It may have been a schooner. Please write your editor. Mary is a great granddaughter of Dr. James Spaulding Shirley.

DEATH NOTICES: We are sorry to say that Esther Mitchell died Sept. 5, 1985 and is buried in Barkers Cemetary South Carolina.

JOHN BEN SHIRLEY died Sept 22, 1985 and is buried in Shoal Creek Baptist Church Cem. (See April '82 NEWS page 2 for his picture and a story about his place.)

## HISTORY OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Taken from an article VIGNETTES OF SACRIFICE by Amos Melton, Assistant Chancellor (TCU).

(Sent to us by Noah T. Shirley) THANK YOU!!!

THE MOTION before the AddRan Christian College trustees was simple and to the point. It proposed that the "brethren" of Texas be notified that they had given ample evidence they did not wish the school continued—and that the trustees had decided to close it.

If approved, the action most surely would have ended the life of the struggling little college. Nor would the demise have been unusual. Dozens of similar early-day institutions had already vanished into history.

There is a reason to believe that the motion presented at an "unofficial meeting in the Fort Worth church" at the turn of the century would have passed. For things were going badly.

The move from Thorp Spring to Waco in 1895 had not worked out well. Waco businessmen had failed to meet their promises of financial help. There was a \$17,000 debt (\$13,000 left over from the Thorp Spring days). Enrollment fell to just 148 students in 1900-01. And, in 1899, Addison Clark had resigned as president after serving from the first days in 1873.

For two sessions, the school years of 1897-98 and 1898-99, four faculty members had leased the school property from the board, conducted classes and paid expenses out of income from tuition and dining facilities. It was a most unusual arrangement.

Appeals to churches and dedicated laymen brought little response. As Col. J. Z. Miller of Belton put it, "I do not care to invest another dollar in a sinking ship."

There's no official record of the trustee meeting "at the Fort Worth church" when the crisis was reached. But, as the late Colby D. Hall reported, "There's a tradition, and it is well authenticated." The motion to close the school came from Capt. T. M. Scott. It was never brought to a vote.

Presiding as board chairman was Thornton E. Shirley of Melisa, a very determined and consecrated man from all the evidence. He was Capt. Scott's brother-in-law, a cousin of Andrew Sherley (head of a family branch that retained the e spelling and was later to play a leading role in TCU history), a railroad man of some means and great energy.

Mr. Shirley not only refused to put the Scott motion to a vote, but outlined a course of action that was to save the school that would become Texas Christian University in 1902. He proposed to take a leave of absence from the H & T C Railroad Company, go out and raise funds for the school while taking no salary and paying his own expenses. He started the campaign by pledging \$1,000 himself.

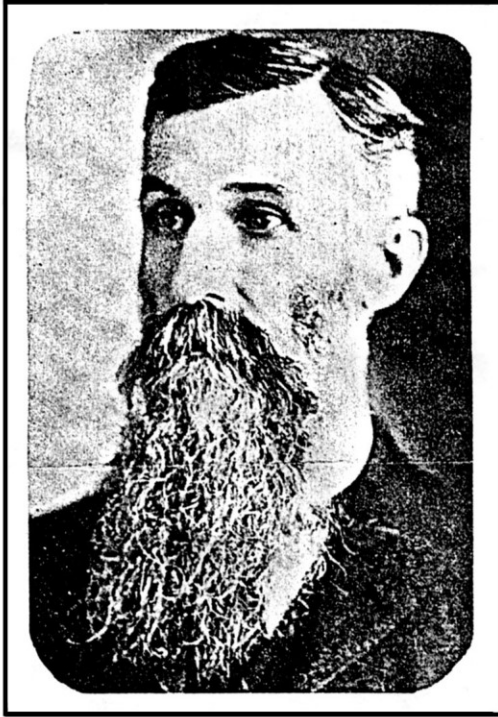
The rest is history. At the official board meeting in the Fall of 1901, the trustees passed a resolution of thanks to T. E. Shirley for his "unwearied effort in raising the money to discharge the indebtedness. . . in devoting his time and great personal influence without compensation and in addition to his own liberal contributions, meeting the expenses of his canvass . . . and in a great Christian University for the State of Texas, now free from debt, meeting its expenses and hopefully launched upon a career of prosperity worthy of the name which it bears."

In the long history of TCU, now extending over almost ten decades, the sacrificial concern and dedicated leadership of T. E. Shirley is a very bright chapter indeed. He was not only caught up in a great cause, but decided that he must do something about it—personally.

(cont...)



Today, in the big, paneled Board Room on the third floor of Sadler Hall where the trustees meet rather frequently to conduct the University's business, a portrait of T. E. Shirley holds a place of honor. And well it should, for in "the darkest hour" he had the faith, courage and will to make what sacrifice was necessary. ■

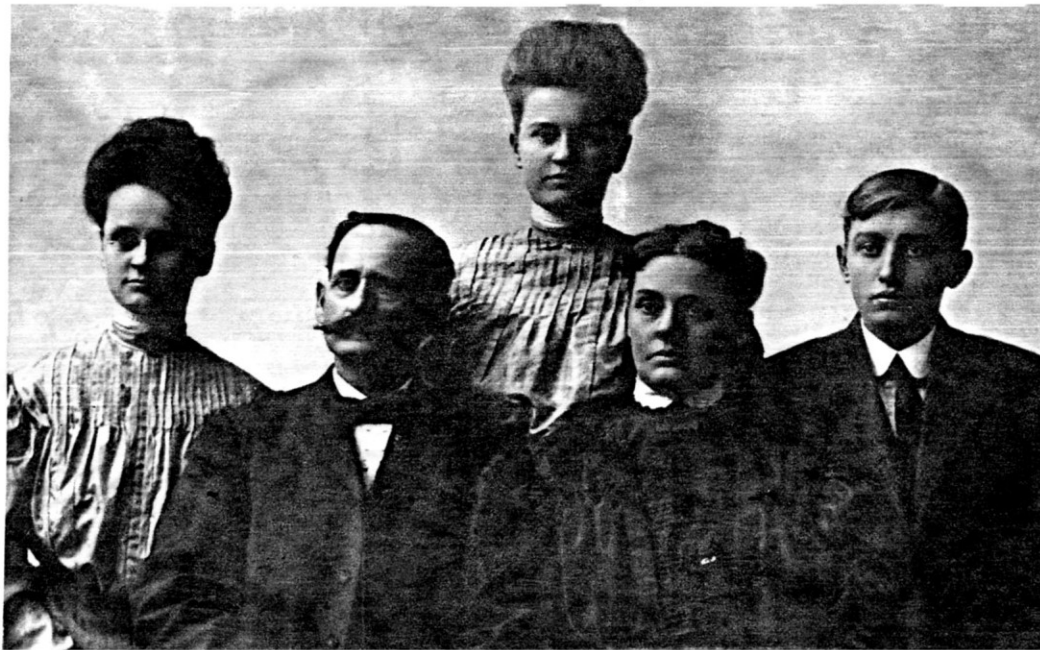


T. E. SHIRLEY

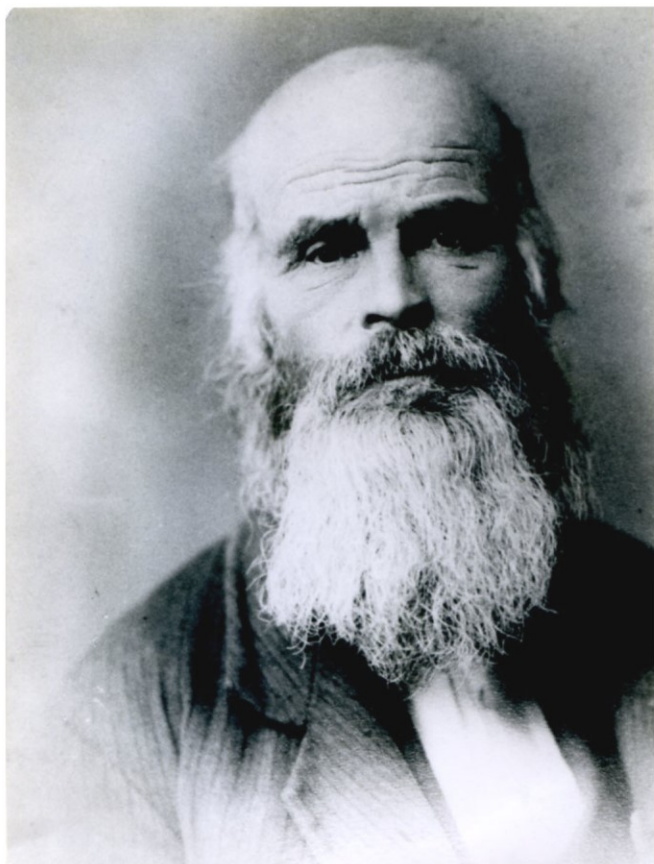
Thorton Edgar Shirley was the son of Lewis Shirley, the natural born son of Delilah Shirley, daughter of James and Judith Griottt Shirley of Va.  
(See page 8 of July 1980 NEWS)



Samuel Newton Shirley b, 1814 son of John Ambrose Shirley and Eliz. Danner.  
(See apr. '82 NEWS page 7)



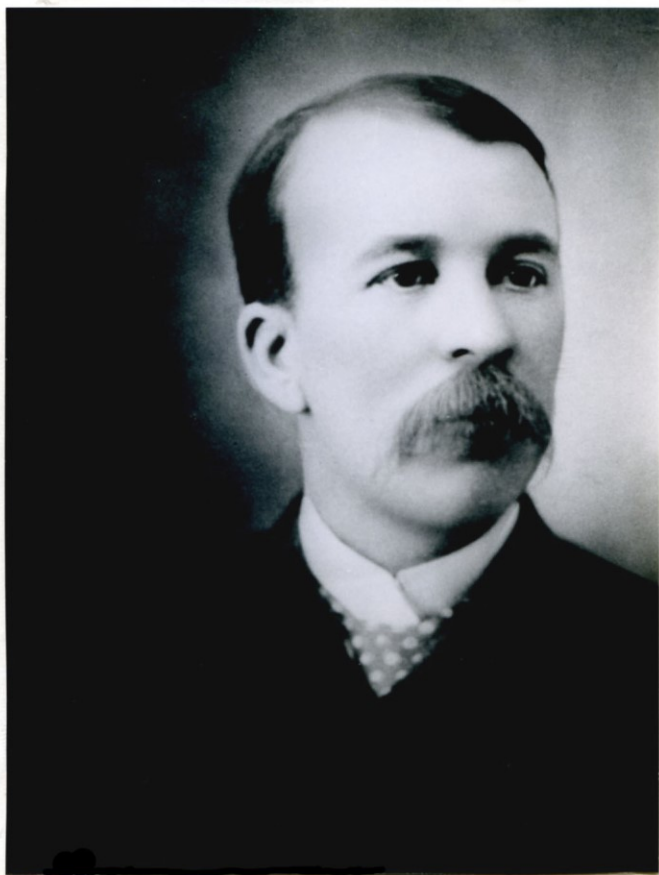
Jasper Hunt and Lucy Shirley and children, Minnie, Pearl & Jasper  
(7th son of Samuel Newton Shirley and Elizabeth White)



William Shirley (son of Thomas  
and Hannah Dale Shirley of Kentucky)



William Morris Shirley  
(son of William Shirley)



Charles Edward Shirley  
(son of William Shirley)

William Shirley b. Jan 22, 1818 Edmonton,  
Kentucky. Married Mary T. Beasley Oct 13,  
1842 Virginia, Ill. He died Sept 14, 1898  
in Hiawatha, Kansas.

They were the parents of a daughter Harriett  
who married Lile Berryhill in 1867, and  
two sons:

William Morris Shirley b. March 5, 1848  
Virginia, Ill.; married Armanda Ellis  
July 8, 1885 in Hiawatha, Kansas. Died  
May 25, 1921 in Denver Colorado.

Charles Edward Shirley b. Dec. 6, 1852  
Virginia, Ill. He married Huldah Bedker  
Jan 5, 1893 in Hiawatha, Kansas. He died  
Oct 14, 1937 Sharon Springs, Kansas.

(See Apr. '84 NEWS page 10 and 11 for  
the family of Thomas and Hannah Dale  
Shirley of Barren Co. Kentucky.)

*[Photos sent by Louise Marqueling]*

THANK YOU !!!

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