

STAUNTON HAROLD HALL and HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

The present Earl Ferrers mother's recollections at Staunton Harold.

My earliest recollections are of a very beautiful home full of love and history.

Sundays were faithfully observed and held regularly, three times a day. It was the custom for the tenants and staff to be in the church five minutes before the appointed time. When the bell stopped ringing, the family walked from the frontdoor to the Church - led by my mother-in-law, Lady Ferrers. Lord Ferrers came last on these occasions because he always locked the West door after he entered, so that no one

could ever come in late. The keys were then placed on a velvet cushion, which the clerk carried, followed by Lord Ferrers, to the front pew where he sat with his son. When the service was over, the keys were collected and the West door was unlocked so that the congregation went out first, the family last.

The ladies always sat on the left of the centre aisle and the men on the right.

The Earl Ferrers died in 1937 and my husband and I went to live at Staunton. Our children grew up to love this house.
(This is the church built in Cromwells time)

KENTUCKY AND INDIANA SHIRLEYS

(written by MARION SHIRLEY)

Descendants of the Kentucky Shirleys are aware that the family stuck together. Cousin and even double-cousin marriages were not uncommon in the homesteading days. What makes this couple unusual is an extra loop in the double-cousin bloodline.

Ottie Nelson Shirley and Bertha (Alice) Money Shirley did not know that they were fourth and fifth cousins, although they understood that they were related somehow. Exactly how it came to be was not known until members of the Shirley Association began pooling their information. The marriage of Ottie and Bertha merged four lines descending from three Shirley brothers. Born in Hendricks Co., Ind. they were the grandparents of Shirley Association member Walter Shirley, Jr. of Indianapolis, Ind.

Ottie descended from brothers James (d.1801) and Thomas (d.c.1835) of Barren County, Ky. through the marriage of their children Robert and Elizabeth.

Bertha's Shirley roots are more complicated, because they involve daughters and name changes in almost every generation. She was descended from the same James of Barren Co. Ky., and Richard Shirley (d.1796, Scott Co. Ky.), said to be the third brother in the Kentucky tribe. In Bertha's case, grandchildren (or second cousins) married, the link to the Shirleys for both grandchildren being maternal: i.e. Frances Thomas, daughter of Malinda (James Shirley) and Presley Thomas, married Arron Smith, son of Susannah (Richard Shirley) and Benjamin Smith. Bear in mind these Shirley cousins are also cousins of Robert and Elizabeth and children. Ottie and Bertha were born three generations later.



Ottie and Bertha Shirley

Frances (Thomas) Smith is not listed with the other children of Malinda (Shirley) and Presley Thomas in the Shirley News, April 1984, p.5. She was born Oct. 15, 1808 in Barren Co., Ky. and died Jan. 20, 1890 in Boone Co., Ind. Malinda is buried in the same cemetery as her daughter. Her gravestone reads "Malinda Thomas, mother of Frances Smith, died Feb. 8, 1873, aged 84 years."

Ottie and Bertha's descendants number two sons, seven grandchildren, twenty-six great grandchildren, and nine great, great grandchildren--so far. It is no wonder they all kind of look alike, considering everything....

Thanks to many members of the Shirley Association, especially Dick Vogt and his mother Ethel Vogt Richert for most of this information.

WALTER SHIRLEY BRANCH

The following information and comments from Betty Schroeder who descends from the Riley family.

Ref: THE SHIRLEY NEWS Vol 1 #5 July 1979 pp 3-5: Last will and Testament of Walter Shirley, dated Aug 11, 1755, Witnessed by Thomas Rutherford; William Giving Worthington; Richard Lock and Walter Shirley.

The names Worthington and Lock appear under court notations for Richard Riley, SR & JR. (the General and son Richard Riley, I II) indicating that there is a possibility that they may be the family names, in addition to being friends/neighbors to both the Shirley and Riley families.

Walter Shirley b. 1690 England, d. 1755 Frederick Co. Va. #2 married Margaret Riley, widow of General Richard Riley, English Army, who died Sept 25, 1778, supposedly in the town of Charlestown, Frederick Co. Va.

The death date of the General is supposedly the same as the birth date of Richard, II, his son, and supposedly in Charlestown, Va.

No issue from this marriage!

Walter Shirley's son, Jarvis b. ca. 1732, married Mary Ellen Riley, b. Mar 1, 1777 at Charlestown, Va., daughter of General Richard Riley, of Accrington, England, with His Majesty's forces in the Colonies and a member of the Colonial Army, ca. 1796.

Jarvis and Mary Ellen's son, Ephraim Benson Shirley, Sr. b. 1796, "one half mile from Charlestown on the Martinsburg road, on the right hand side of the road, in a stone house and his mother, Mary Riley Shirley, died at this time in that house."

Ref: Chadwell, R.R. "Riley Family History, Rev 1976" v3, pp 2 and 3; (Jesse Keyser Riley MSS)

"Ephram Shirley once owned property next to the jail at Charlestown, Va., this lot was the execution ground on which John Brown, of Civil War fame, was hung." Benjamin Franklin Shirley gives a long account of the "memories of Ephraim Shirley" as told in a letter to Jesse Keyser Riley. Riley was putting together a history of the General Richard Riley descendants, as best he knew them in the early 30's. Naturally, included was the Mary Ellen Riley Shirley line, which had been represented by Ephraim and his grandmother, Margaret Riley Shirley, widow of General Richard Riley and

and Walter Shirley.

"Ephraim married Leodicia Steenrod, dau of Briggs and Rachael (Lockwood) Steenrod. Leodicia was born Sept 15, 1808 and died March 18, 1866. She is buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Letart, Mason Co. West Virginia.

"Family records of Ephram Shirley by his son, Benjamin F. Shirley in the year 1912.

"It will be remembered that Mary Riley, the sister of Richard Riley, b. Mar 1st 1777 at Charlestown, VA. (now W.VA.) married Samuel (Jarvis) Shirley in the year ca. 1796 and lived in a stone house on the Charlestown-Martinsburg Pike, where she became the mother of a boy who was named Ephram and Mary died at this time and place and the child, Ephram was taken by Mary's mother, Margaret Riley the mother also of Richard Riley, and raised to manhood, said to have lived around among relatives for a while, until Margaret Riley married Walter Shirley, Samuel Shirley's father. We do not have any record of the death or burial of either Samuel Shirley or his father, Walter Shirley, but Margaret must have survived them and saw Ephram Shirley grown to be a man and his marriage to Leodiscia Steenrod in the year...ca. 1826. Margaret Shirley past the last days of her life at her sons home at Cash Hill, Putney Tw. Belmont County Ohio and died Jan 26, 1829 at the age of 74 years and buried at Dillys Bottom Cem. Belmont Co. Ohio."

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[See Shirley NEWS April 1985 p. 8 for the children of Ephraim Benson Shirley, Sr.). On page 9 is more on Ephraim. There seems to be 3 stories now...as I interpret it! *[editor of Shirley NEWS]*.

The history of General Richard Riley is limited to circumstantial evidence, some documented, some not. An old Army log book and other tidbits were lost in a fire ca. 1930 of his granddaughter home. *Betty Schroeder would like to hear from anyone interested in this family. She plans to write a book in 1986 on General Richard Riley, his descendants and allied families. Her address is 1710 Baylor Dr. Co. Sprs. Colo. 80909.*

Betty is a member now of the Assoc. and was delighted to get all the Shirley info pertaining to Walter Shirley line even if she is not a Shirley descendant!

JOHN AND ELIZABETH BARMORE SHIRLEY LINE

(see July 1980 NEWS page 7 and Oct 1985 page 2).

William Washington Shirley b. Feb 14, 1853 was the son of John Pinkney Shirley (and Sarah Martin), son of Richard D. Shirley (and Mary Blain), son of John Shirley, Jr. son of John and Elizabeth Barmore Shirley.

William married Martha Henderson Dec 28, 1876

Children

1. John
2. Willie Belle m. John Sire Booker
3. Ownie
4. Betty
5. Lillian b. Sept 10, 1887
6. William Grady m. Audrey Jay
7. Joseph M. m. Nannie Reynolds
 - (1) Joe Lee
 - (2) Roy (father of Ricky)
 - (3) Harold
 - (4) Hilda
8. May Belle

Info sent by Ricky Shirley.

WILL OF JOHN SHIRLEY

Recorded June 6, 1808 Book A page 91/94

In the name of God Aman I John Shierley of the State of South Carolina and Dist. of Pendleton being weak in body byt of sound mind and calling to mind the frailty of the body and that it is appointed for all men once to die do constitute and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say first my soul to God who gave it and my body to the dust in such manner as my Executors may thing decent- I do ordain and appoint my sons william and Joshua my Executers to manage my estate in the following maner (that is) as soon after my decease as may conveniently be done they shall sell all my personal property to go to the payment of my debts in the first place. Also I alow my dearly beloved wife a decent support out of my estate whether real or personal dureing her life or widowhood. My three daughters who are yet unmarried shall have a good feather bed and furniture and a cow and calf after the decease of my wife and the portion of my



WILLIAM WASHINGTON SHIRLEY FAMILY

wife and the portion of my unmarried girls I allow an equal devide of my estate and personal to all my children or their heirs who is as follows, Nipper William, Rhody, Joshua, James, John, Betsey, Robert, Sam, Polly and Leanah---

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WILL OF WILLIAM SHIRLEY

(son of John Shirley, Sr. & Eliz.)

May 13, 1827 Abbeville, South Carolina

In the name of God Amen, I William Shirley of the state and district aforesaid- being weak in body at present but of sound and diposing memory, and in allowing that is ordained to all men to die do hereby make this my last will and testament, in manner and form folloing. 1st. I will my immortal Soul to God that gave it and my body to be decently buried. 2nd. I wish all my just debts to be paid, and in order to enable my Executors to do so I allow them to sell in any manner they may think best, a tract of land containing one hundred and fifteen acres joining lands belonging to Asael Richardson being part of the tract which I now live on and should the land above described not be sufficient to pay the debts; they may then sell such other pro- perty as they think can be best spared from the family until my debts are paid. 3rd. The balance of my property real and personal I give to and leave with my belov- ed wife Jemina Shirley to enable her to raise the family in the best manner she can and at her death to be equally divided between my children in equal shares and in case she should marry again then the property may then marry again then the property to be divided again giving to my wife one third of whatever property may then remain on hands. --- I hereby appoint Jemina Shirley my wife and John Shirley my brother my Executors to carry the fore- going will into effect.

witnessed by James A. Black
Lankford Hughes
James Griffen

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If you will note in the will of John Sr. there is mention of a son Sam. He is not listed in Mrs. Updikes book! He is not listed as a son in the Tracy Kings book! Does anyone have information about this??? If so, please write your comments or info to your editor...Betty Shirley, address given elsewhere in NEWS.

Thank you!

Has anyone found this will??? If you have a copy of this John Shirleys will, your editor would apreciate your sending a copy to her.

This is the son of John and Elizabeth Barmore Shirley.

Thank You!

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Info from: Early Settlers of K-Springs Area by Shelba Nivens, printed 1981
Montevallo, Alabama.

(Nipper is the son of John and Elizabeth Barmore Shirley).

NIPPER SHIRLEY b. ca. 1780 in Virginia married Nancy Spruell. (He fought war of 1812

1. Johnathon N. b. ca. 1806
married Sarah Weldon
children

(1). Nipper Chelsey b. ca. 1838
m. Louisa Bennett
children

A. William Bunyan
m. Mary Kendrick
children

- (a). Millard
(b). Elva
(c). Winfred (killed in action in France WWI).
(d). Hubert (died Oct 17, 1918 the day before Winfred was killed).
(e). Norman (killed in 1957 by a train at railroad crossing in Chelsea, Alabama).
(f). Dow
(g). Mable m. Mr. Peters
(h). Robert

William and Mary lived on the hill southwest of Pleasant Valley Church.

B. Laura
C. Sarah Elizabeth
m. June Hodgens
children HODGENS

- (a). James (killed at the school house in Simmsville. It was the first day in the new school and Jim was the first person there. He opened a window and crawled inside, and had started back out when the window fell and caught him across the neck, killing him. A stone in the

Pleasant Valley Cemetary marks the grave of James Emmett Hodgens who died Jan 31, 1910 age 12 years.

- (b). Louie
- (c). Johnny
- (d). Floyd
- (e). Charles
- (f). William
- (g). Cecil
- (h). Curtis
- (i) Roy
- (j). Laura
- (k). Alton
- (l). Louise

- D. Noah Shirley
- E. James
- F. Madison "Matt"
 - m. Zonia Sweeney
 - children

- (a). Lexie m. Lawrence Kendrick
- (b). Fannie
- (c). Flora
- (d). Bertie m. Bob Harper
- (e). Montie m. Roy Crane
- (f). Clarence A. m. Joyce Kendrick
- (g). Gracie Lee

In Ethel Updikes book she gives Nippers middle name as Cheves. Nipper married Juliana Bennett Feb. 21, 1865 in Hart Co. Georgia. Nipper C. also had a daughter, Nancy A.

Nipper C. Shirley is living in Hart Co. Georgia in 1880. His brother William is living in Shelby Co. Alabama in 1880 in the census records.

Johnathon N. Shirley was a member of the Baptist church for some forty years and lived near Royston, Georgia. He was born in Abbeville, Co. South Carolina.

(See April 1983 NEWS page 12 for more info on Nipper Shirley b.ca. 1780 brothers and sisters etc.).

The following information was sent to me by Althea Kirkman. Some of the info can be found in an earlier article in the Shirley NEWS April 1982 page 17.

The first Shirley of this branch is Isaac Shirley of Washington Co. Kentucky. Bergen is his son which we know as Lunenberg/Lumberg Shirley.

The following is from a letter titled SHIRLEY HISTORY. In 1957, Alice Shirley Smith and Ora Fitzpatrick decided to try and get the Shirley Clan together. On Oct 13th, 1957 the first reunion was held at the Little Coon Church which held so many memories for so many of those attending the reunion. A committee was formed and the following information gathered.

Bergen Shirley, our grandfather, was born in Ohio and was married to Virginia Elizabeth Cole and to this union one son Daniel was born. Mrs. Shirley died and Bergen later married our granmother, Susannah Burns who was born in Indiana. With her and his young son Daniel, they joined with a wagon train with two of Bergens brothers, Issac and Bill Shirley and wife Jane (parents of Buck Shirley). Also with the group were, Billy Miller, Daniel McCatee Sr., Joel Long and Alf More and his wife, Susannah. The drove oxen from Ohio and came to Missouri in 1838 and settled on what is now known as the Tommy DeWitt place near Trenton, Mo.

They were the parents of nine children. Enroute to Missouri the wagon train was delayed when their first child, a daughter, Elizabeth Shirley was born.

(cont.)



Madison (Matt) and Zonia Shirley with daughters Fannie and Lexie

Bergen and Susannah were charter members of the Coon Creek Church and are both buried in the little church cemetery.

When the Civil War broke out, all families in the community gathered at the First Coon Church, which at the time was a little log church. Around twenty of the fellows from the gathering left for the service of their country. It was said several were wealthy enough to own horses to either ride or drive, and some had to walk. But the walking didn't dampen their spirits. To them it was a honor to wear the blue suits of the Union Army.

Two of Bergen Shirley's boys, William and Isaac joined the group and were Union soldiers.

On April 6, 1862 Isaac Shirley was captured at Shiloh, Tennessee and held a prisoner of War to May 28, 1862.

Althea Kirkman sent the following she has researched from the Public Library of Trenton, Mo. from a book entitled "History of Grundy Co. Mo."

L. P. Shirley was born in Mercer Co. Ky, Nov. 19, 1809, where he lived about 16 years, when his father moved to Decatur Co. Indiana, and he lived there eight or ten years. They next moved to Shelby County, same state, where he lived four or five years. He married Miss Elizabeth Cole, Nov 1831 in Decatur Co. Indiana. They had one child. Mrs. Shirley died Dec. 1833. Dec 10, he married Miss Susannah Burns in Bartholomew County, Indiana. He took her to his home in Decatur Co, where they lived until 1839, when he moved to Grundy County and settled on the farm where he still lives, on Coon Creek. They had ten children: Daniel G., Mary E., Isaac, Catherine J., William H., L.P., Martin, Joel C., Johathan and Absalom Harvey. All are living except Martin. (book published in 1881).

Catherine and L.P. Shirley were among others who met on Dec. 28, 1844 to form the Union Baptist Church. This church is now known as "Coon Creek Church".

THE APRIL AND JULY 1986 ISSUE OF THE NEWS WILL BE A COMBINED ISSUE! IT WILL BE A

SPECIAL EDITION !!!

MISCELLANEOUS BITS AND PIECES

Sent by Steve Shirley...Hart Co. Georgia
Robert Lee Barton Shirley, son of Bottom Ben and Katherine Latimer Shirley was one of the first county surveyors, serving from 1899 thru 1904. (Apr 1982 News, page 1).

Richard Shirley b. Sept 10, 1816 Abbeville South Carolina, son of Nathaniel and Nancy Grubbs Shirley, was the first Tax Collector of Hart Co. Ga.

Bricks for Parker Town, Shoal Creek, Hart Co Ga. were made on the Plantation of Bottom Ben by slave labor. You can still find rejects there.

From the SUN Aug 12-19, 1887 (this paper is now called the Hartwell Sun)...

Shoal Creek's angry waters swept away \$15,000 worth of property in 30 minutes. Last Monday morning at 8:00 AM, rain began falling very steady until 10, when it began to fall in torrents. At about 12:07, fills on the E.A.L. Rail Road gave way between Lavonia and Bowersville and emptied their rushing waters into Middle Shoal Creek, which raised it three feet above high water mark. On the Plantation of Benjamin (Bottom Ben) Shirley, the three creeks come together and presented a scene the oldest citizens have never seen. Ten and fifteen foot of water could be had anywhere. Six hundred panels of fence washed off of Mr. Shirleys Plantation.

Decendents of both John and Elizabeth Barmore Shirley and Benjamin and Elizabeth Hughes Shirley families lived in Hart Co.

Prince William Co. Virginia Will Book 0:410.

Will of Richard O. Shirley

dau: Ann Virginia Clark and Mary Catharine Burghatter \$100 each and Sunday aricles of household and kitchen furniture, cow and to
dau: Susan Emily Potter (Pattir?) \$100.
dau: Alwilda (?) Jane Shirley \$100 and household funiture, cow when she arrives at 21 yrs. or marries.
son: John Richard Shirley mare, saddle, bridle when he comes to 21 yrs. \$100, bed and bedding. He to go to some good boarding school next year, expenses out of estate.
son: John Richard to take charge of farm after return from school and live with his mother and she pay him compensation for his services.
son: James Dallas Shirley to be kept at school 1 or 2 years longer if necessary and kept on

farm and taught to work 2 years and then to go to good boarding school for 1 or 2 years, horse and etc. and \$100 at 21. Wife: Rest of estate to wife Susan Shirley during her natural life or widowhood. etc..... dated: Nov 17, 1857 Proven Jan 4, 1858.

Abstract of Will, Prince William Co. Va.

Fielding Shirley inventory, Richard Shirley administrator. Signed by Peyton Nowell, Samuel Robinson, John L. Sanders July 5, 1830.

Sale of estate of Fielding Shirley: sold to: George Shirley, James P. Sanders, Richard O. Shirley, William W. Wetch, Syntha Shirley, Richard Brady, Daniel Shirley signed: Richard O. Shirley. July 5, 1830.

Reference: Prince William Co. Virginia deed book: June 15, 1820.

Joshua Long and Johanna Long of Spotsylvania County Va. to Thomas Shurly and Zacherises Sharley of Madison Co....land in Prince William Co. of 235 acres...tract called Douglas Hill....Long purchased of Philip Harrison and Maria Harrison dated June 1819.

NORTHUMBERLAND CO. VA. WILLS 1750-1770 !!!

Walker, William...written June 3, 1757 proven Feb. 9, 1761

To wife Ruth Walker, all my goods and chattle during her life...etc..... rest of estate to be divided between my four children, John Walker, ELIZABETH SHURLEY, Thaddeous Walker, and Magdelen Walker.

Wife: Ruth Walker
Witness: William Self, William Knott and Samuel Hammond.

Northumberland Co. Va. Wills...cont.

Oldham, John Will written 1752/53 proven Sept 10, 1753

To wife Jane Oldham during her natural life- the land I bought of DANIEL SHIRLEY, her mare and saddle and her choice of my beds, one cown and calf.....

children in will: Rawleigh, Richard, John, George, Winnefred, Anna, Mary and one not born yet.

St Stephens Parish, Northumberland Co. Va

In a will of Beverly Keeve of St Stephens dated 1769...

To daughter, Sarah Keeve, plantation I purchased of William Pew on Great Wicco River. River, by the Glebe lands westward, by the residue of William Pew's land northward, by DANIEL SHURLEY's eastward, and by Judith Taylor's southward. For as much as I have bought William Pew's right to the other forty five acres now in the possession of Daniel Neale, I give my right to said land to my daughter, Sarah. It is bounded by the Gleebe land, by the land of John Coles, by Daniel Shurley's and the first forty five acres. All the above mentioned land is in the parish of St. Stephens.

WANT AD....

Urgent! Would like to hear from all descendants of: Luke Shirley of Cannon Co Tennessee. George Shirley of Carter Co. Tennessee and Luke Abe Shirley of Green Co Tennessee.

Family genealogy to be published in 1986! by Anne Shirley Bumpus
2717 Gray Circle
Columbia, Tenn. 38401

To subscribe to the SHIRLEY NEWS send \$15 for one year membership in the Shirley Association! You will receive 4 issues. IF...you want us to try and help you with your line of Shirleys, we ask you to be sure and enclose the name of your earliest Shirley ancestor, state and county he lived and aproximate years he lived there. The name of his spouse can be very helpful too! We will look thru our records and take you as far back on your direct line as we can. We will also send you the names of other members who are descended from that branch of the family.

Send to:

Betty Shirley
10256 Glencoe Dr.
Cupertino, Ca. 95014

To order the pin or pendant (necklace) send check for \$20 made out to Betty Shirley.

If you would like to call me...please do so! 408-255-8511. Eves and weekends are best! I get long distance calls almost everyday!

SHIRLEY COAT OF ARMS

PIN or NECKLACE.....\$20.00

gold color medal with blue stripes!
shipping and packaging included!
Immediate delivery...no waiting!!!
as long as supplies last!

I said in the last issue of the NEWS we would have a special item for sale in this issue of the NEWS. This is it!

While I was in England this summer, I met a very distinguished gentleman who works at the British Museum for years repairing and reconstructing historical artefacts. He has another interest which is reproducing Antiquity medallions etc... Therefore, I commissioned him to reproduce the Shirley Coat of Arms into both a pin and a necklace.

In a letter I just received from this gentleman, I learned that he has now been commissioned by the Public REcords office of London to make a pendant related to Domesday for them! So, you can see we had the right person doing our Coat of Arms reproduction.

When I met with him in England, I was telling him about the Shirleys and how I was there working on our plans for the 900 year Celebration and that we were bringing 150-200 American Shirley descendants over for this occassion. I mentioned there would probably be quite abit of publicity about the Shirleys.

In his letter he says,"I thought you would be interested to know that the London newspaper has picked up your story already. I was thrilled to think that I am also involved with Shirley even on the outside."

You must understand...the English people do not get as emotional and excited as we Americans do. Please note the word...thrilled! He means it too! Remember...I met him. He is very nice and reserved!

The Coat of Arms is about 1"x 1½" and is very attractive. I was pleased with it!!! It is shaped...not round. Across bottom is engraved the name Shirley.

Men can wear these too! My son put it on a longer heavier chain!

If you respond to this offer, I will consider another idea that will be even more impressive. A commorative plate for the 1986 Celebration and etc. I have already looked into this and the information. I will wait and see how the sales of the necklaces and pins go.

I am also working with our public relations firm in England about producing a commemorative booklet of the Celebration. It would have photos of the places and events and the people who were there, stories etc.

Not only those of you who are going would be interested in the booklet, but many of you who couldn't go. It would more than likely become a collectors item!

So...you see we are trying to be active in doing not only research and preserving the Shirley history but the events and etc.

I tried to get a commorative stamp made in honor of the Shirleys with our postal department in Washington D.C. They said we were to late. They work 3 years ahead. I should have thought of it sooner.

We have made arrangements to film the Celebration at Ettington for video. Those who have video players may be interested in this. We will say more about this after the trip. It is being professionally done by an award winning documentary producer, I understand. All these arrangements have been made over there.

I hope you appreciate the extras we are trying to do right now. I may get behind on the mail...but I can catch up on that in the near future. But...this celebration is coming up fast and there are so many things to do to make it the special event it is going to be. When it is over, we can return to our research and working on the family lines again. Put our researchers back to work. We have had to stop all but the researcher in Va. and England. We ran out of money for awhile. Depending on the success of the sale of pins etc... we may be able to go on with a couple more areas before the trip. I have two reseachers working in England right now! I asked the Virginia researcher to try and put more time in on our work of early days in Va.

Those traveling to England will have an opportunity to meet and hear from these two researchers in England.

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ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE WHO HAS BEEN
THINKING ABOUT GOING TO ENGLAND AND
HAVEN'T MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS YET ???

Recently, I have received several calls saying they were still trying to decide. I also had a couple letters from those going who knows of another person who they think will go...if I send an application to them. They just need a gentle nudge!

So...this is for you who still need to be convinced!

Let me tell you what is about to happen! You are about to take the trip of your life time!!! This trip can never be duplicated, no matter how many times you go to England in the future! Only because we are going as a group of Shirley descendants for this special 900 year trip, are we going to experience the events being planned for us in the villages and elsewhere.

I have told you all along in our meetings and at the conventions in the past that this event would be receiving a lot of publicity. To show you I knew what I was talking about...I enclose a few items from the press in England for you to read. I have some very large articles which I cannot copy and send you. You would be surprised how large the articles are... I was! But this will give you an idea. I am also sending you news from the states. There have been several articles. I cannot send them all. Again, this will give you an idea!

As I understand it, we have several rather important people who will be attending the Celebration at Ettington. This will be an all day affair! A special Masque has been written by a London company and it will be performed for us after our elegant dinner. The evening will end with firework display! The afternoon will be full of various activities and a tea will be served on the lawn with live music.

A word about the Masque....I have in my possession a book about this Masque. In it is the script and color designs for the customs which are being made just for this occasion. Special lighting and sound will be installed at Ettington for this Masque.

There will be two Colonel Shirleys attending the Celebration. They descend from our American Shirleys. One is stationed in

West Germany and the other Colonel is stationed in England. They descend from the Walter Shirley branch and the John and Elizabeth Barmore Shirley branch of the family.

For other activities on your own at Ettington, there is swimming, horseback riding, or pitch horse shoes etc...

We will tour the grounds and visit in the church where there is a tomb of Ralph Shirley of 1357, as well as other monuments.

Ettington is a FIVE STAR Hotel. It is very elegant and what a setting for such a special event.

During our tour of England, we will visit many other places where Shirleys lived and have an opportunity to visit the usual places the first time visitor to England likes to go.

We will visit in the Sussex area the home of Governor Shirley. Here we will meet the present owners and be served tea! The owner descends from the Godman family and this is the family of Governor Shirleys mother. From this house, Lady Huntington, niece of Walter Shirley of Berkley Co.Va., preached from the balcony. She was very much involved with the Methodist and George Whitefield. (See Oct. 1982 NEWS page 5).

Also in Sussex area is Wiston, the home of Sir Thomas Shirley the elder. He was the father of the three famous Shirley boys who were involved with the politics of the other countries such as Spain and Persia etc. Also he is the father-in-law of Virginia's first colonial governor, Lord Delaware West. We will be given a guided tour of the grounds and the church by the Vicar. In the church are monuments of Shirleys. (Sir Thomas Shirley created the title of BARONET).

Preston Manor in Sussex area will also be visited. This too was the home of a branch of the Shirley family. A guided tour of this home will be given by the Curator. Special documents and Shirley related things are being displayed for us on that day. A visit to the church on the grounds where there is also a monument of the Shirleys.

At Isfield Village, we will be having lunch with the Villagers. Special church services and a visit at the home of the Shirleys who lived in Isfield. The church

has very large monuments of the Shirleys. The village has some special things they will be doing for us.

We will be visiting Oxford where we will enjoy a buffet lunch with the Lord Mayor. We will meet Gerald Hamilton-Edwards who is the author of many books on English genealogy and research. We will tour the Christ Church College and Cathedral. Several of the Shirley's in history attended this college and others in Oxford and Cambridge areas.

In Leicester England, we will meet the Earl Ferrers, a Shirley descendant who serves in the House of Lords in Parliament. He has arranged for us to see the large Shirley Pedigree that is half the size of a tennis court at the museum. In the evening, he will be our guest speaker after dinner.

We will visit Breedon-on-the-Hill. This church is very special. There are many large monuments to the Shirleys. Sits high on a hill and view is breath taking! The Revend will tell us about the church history.

At Staunton Harold, we will have lunch and visit the grounds. Special services will be held for us. This is the home of the Earl Ferrers when he was a boy, and his ancestors for many generations. There is quite a story about this place which I have purposely not told in the NEWS. I told him I would leave this for him to tell at Leicester.

Remember, Staunton Harold is the only church built during Oliver Cromwells time. Robert Shirley who built it was sent to the Tower of London where he died at age 29 years.

At the Village of Shirley, we will have dinner served in a huge barn. There will be a band, dancers and sideshows, stalls with local crafts. You might call it a village fair...just for us!

We will visit Chartley Castle ruins. This is where Mary Queen of Scots was held prisoner. The Shirleys owned this place and lived here at one time. We will be served lunch across the road at a lovely tea room.

At Youlgrave England, we will be there for the villages "WELL DRESSING FESTIVAL".

Youlgrave claims to be the originator of this ancient festival. There will be six wells, each depicting in flowers only, historical events. Each well designer works all year on his or her designs, making sure that the event depicted has not been used before.

An historical play by the local acting group portraying the history of Youlgrave including the Shirley family's part will be given. Also a visit to a manor farm where the Shirley family lived for many generations. The present owner will have a tea for our visit. Later, the village will have dinner for us.

Other places we will visit that are not Shirley related but are of interest to us as tourists are: Washington's ancestral home. Warwick Castle, a tour and a medieval feast. We will visit Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespears birthplace, etc. In the evening we will attend the Shakespear Theatre for a performance.

For those who wish to continue on with package B...we will visit London sites such as Buckingham Palace, Tower of London and Big Ben, etc...

For those of you who will go with us on package C (and for you who didn't know about this...there is a package C), we will be going from Ettington to Cambridge area and on to Norwich. We will attend church services at the Norwich Cathedral and have tea at the home of the Earl Ferrers.

There will be some shopping time scheduled in here. Leicester is a good place to shop for shoes, I was told. You might call it the shoe capital! For keepsakes, I recommend Stratford. Many darling gift shops!

In London, you will have free time to shop and the evenings are free so you may do somethings on your own. Maybe dinner and theatre? Maybe...just rest!

Get out of that rocking chair and come along with us! We are going to have a great time!!! Just being together is an experience. You know how it is at the conventions. Imagine what it is going to be like with us all together having a blast and the memories??? Pictures??? You will have quite a bit to tell your other relatives that didn't go!

Have you told other members of your family about this trip? We have some going who

have 7 and 8 people in their own family going with them. I'm speaking of close family... children, brothers and sisters etc.

If you just can't go! write to your cousins or other family members even those more distant and let them know about this trip. They just might want to go! We have room for 200 and we would like to take that many!

I have just this week sent 2000 brochures to Shirleys to let them know about the trip. I have held off doing this to give our members and their families first chance at going to England. Now, I have opened it up to any Shirley descendant. We are going to have to put a dead line on reservations of April 15th. If we fill the 200 seats before then...that is it! If we do not fill the 200, only those booked by April 15th will be going! The land company must have confirmation by this date. They have buses and guides on reserve for 200. If we are not going to need them all, they want to release them so they may book them for other tours. This is understandable. So...we must co-operate!

Enclosed is a copy of the brochure we mailed to the 2000 people. You will note a change in price of tour. You who have already booked are already aware of the cost increase. We are just bringing this to the attention of those who have the salmon color application and have not filled it out. Please write for an updated one or the price increase.

If you want to ask more questions about the trip, please call me. I am as close as your telephone. 408-255-8511.

There is nothing more I can tell you to convince you to go with us! I know I haven't told you everything but you certainly have an idea of the activities and the places you will visit. This is a historical pilgrimage to the land of your ancestors for the 900th anniversary of the original land recorded in the Domesday book.

Come and go with us, you won't be alone even if you have to go alone. You will be with family!

One thing to keep in mind is that we are traveling with professional tour operators and they have been taking families to England for ten years. They will be in charge of us while we are there traveling. I have given them specific instructions on how things are to be done. I am here to guide them and they will see to it that everything runs smoothly.

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GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY AWARDS PROGRAM

Nomination: The Shirley family!

Nancy Reagan is the Honorary Chairman. The award will be presented during a ceremony at the White House just prior to the July 4th rededication of the Statue of Liberty. Families selected for the honors will include those with roots in other lands.

I, Betty Shirley, have written for the application and will submit the Shirley family for this honor. I have asked that a special award be considered for us as a family group, since our family will be participating in the 900 year celebration in England. The application is for families and it appears they are asking for a person to be selected from that family and tell why she or he or the family should be selected.

If they don't choose to set up a special award for this, my family wants to have me enter as a representative of the family. In this case, I will submit the award (copy) that was presented to me at the convention.

What an honor it would be to be recognized nationally! Through this publicity we could reach more of those Shirley descendants who haven't heard of us yet!

If we are selected...you will be notified in advance! Feb. 28th is the deadline for entering. I don't know when they will notify the ones selected for the awards.

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NEWS RELEASE SENT

about our trip to about 80 top Newspapers in the United States. Our story was sent to GOOD MORNING AMERICA for consideration.

A feature story was done this week on us by my local newspaper. It will be out next week. To late to include with this issue! Sorry!

I have contacted local T.V. talk shows and hope we will be invited to appear and talk about the Shirleys.

Spread the word to your local papers!!!!

Article appearing in the London Standard Newspaper

Note: According to the article, the Shirley pedigree will be on display at the Public Records office. This is another pedigree other than the larger one we will see with the Earl Ferrers in Leicester.

We are now trying to make special arrangements to visit this facility to see the original Domesday book and the exhibits.

The LONDON STANDARD, TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1986—3



Standard Picture: JOHN MINIHAN
IT'S IN THE BOOK : present-day Shirleys, Hugh (left), Emily and Philip,

1066 is just family history

WHEN it comes to "keeping it in the family" the Shirleys' record is hard to beat.

The family, one of the oldest in Britain has held on to land it was listed as owning 900 years ago in William the Conqueror's Domesday Book.

Through 26 generations and countless wars the 2500-acre Warwickshire estate has been passed down the line—surviving even the odd family scandal.

There was the Shirley who ended up in the Tower of London; another was a murderer; and the most notorious is in the record books as the peer with the most children—57. Thirty of them were illegitimate.

Hotel

Philip Shirley, 30-year-old heir of Etlington Park estate, said that even in 1986 his family's heritage holds a special meaning for him.

"It does instill a certain sense of pride, a sense of continuity," he said.

This year the Shirleys' past will be on display as part of the anniversary celebrations of the Domesday Book.

One of their landed gentry pedigrees, drawn up in the 17th century and going back to Domesday, is to go on display at the main exhibition at the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane, where Domesday is kept.

Now the day-to-day running of the estate, which lies just off the busy A34 tourist route to Stratford-upon-Avon, is handled by estate agents.

The ancestral home, a 65-room Victorian mansion, is now let as a luxury hotel.



**judy
jenkins**
gleaner
columnist

Hendersonian claims roots with 'old' kin

I'm a Shirley; you're a Shirley; he's a Shirley; she's a Shirley; wouldn't you like to be a Shirley too??

Forgive that takeoff on the Doctor Pepper softdrink jingle, but I couldn't resist. After reading about an upcoming reunion of the at-least-900-year-old, far-flung and populous Shirley family, I'm convinced there may be many unsuspecting Shirleys out there — possibly even including you and me.

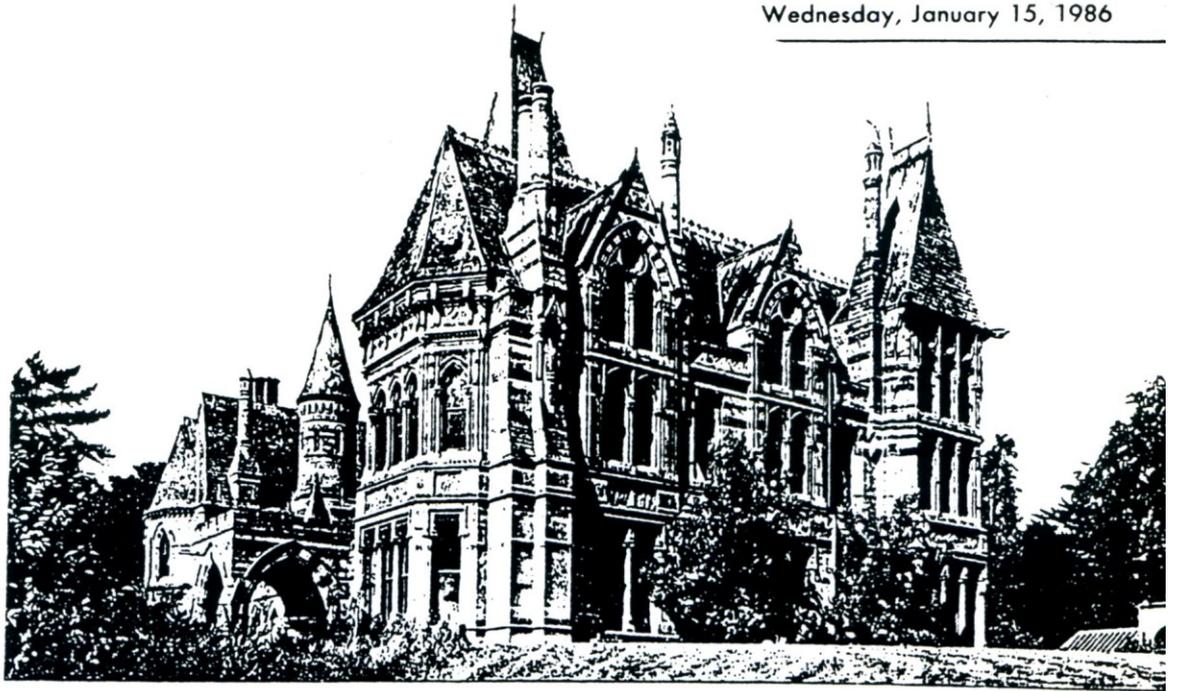
After all, when a family's direct lineage can be traced by records back to the year 1086, you know there are bound to be plenty of folk with a Shirley ancestor somewhere in the proverbial woodpile.

Belle Starr, the notorious woman outlaw who gallavanted around with the James brothers, was a Shirley, though not necessarily one the family is inclined to brag about.

Considerably more respectable among the Shirleys of yesterday were: Eliza Shirley, credited with starting the Salvation Army in America; William Shirley, governor of Massachusetts from 1741-56 and once commander of the British forces; George Washington's grandparents, and Robert Shirley, said to have built the only church that was constructed during the rule of Oliver Cromwell.

Robert Shirley, like some other unfortunate Shirleys, died in the Tower of London.

Hundreds of Shirleys have joined the Shirley Association, formed in 1978 to trace the genealogy of anyone whose last name is, or was, Shirley, and to establish communication bet-



Ettington Park, England, is where members of the Shirley family, including Hendersonian Gladys Shirley Luck, will have an unusual reunion this summer. The land has been in the family at least 900 years.

ween all the various branches. The guiding force was a Cupertino, Calif., resident named Betty Shirley, who spent a considerable amount of time at her local library examining out-of-town phone books for Shirley listings.

Then she penned umpteen letters to those Shirleys, wanting to pool any information they might have about their ancestors.

The result was the association, which had a national convention in Indianapolis last year, and whose members will join other Shirleys from around the globe on June 26 in Ettington, England, on the grounds of the original (and still family-owned) Shirley property.

That land was recorded in 1086 in the "Domesday Book," thus making the clan, the Shirleys say, the oldest direct lineage through 10 centuries in England.

There'll be at least one Hendersonian, Gladys Shirley Luck, at that unique family reunion, which will be hosted by the Earl of Ettington — also a

Shirley.

During their 12 days in England, the Shirleys will be visiting other previously owned Shirley estates, such as Chartley Castle (its ruins, anyway) where Mary, Queen of Scots, once was held prisoner.

If your family tree has included a Shirley, and you'd like to know more about the association or the reunion, call Gladys Luck at 826-9636.

The association's news about the planned summer gathering notes that the Shirley pedigree, rarely displayed, will be exhibited on that occasion. It's no wonder the pedigree is so seldom shown. It is, the newsletter notes, "half the size of a tennis court."

□□□

Gladys Luck sent me the article written about her in their local newspaper.

Judy Jenkins is to be commended for an excellent write-up!

It's my favorite so far! That was very clever...the jingle!

Gladys attended the Indianapolis convention this year. She descends from the Thomas and Mollie Grubbs family of Barren Co. Ky.

I have been collecting the newspaper articles from England and anything else that pertains to this occasion. The thought occurred to me that others of you may want to collect these too! I don't know just what I can do about it...but if you are like me and want to collect everything, write me and I will make a list with your name on it. A half page write up on the England Shirleys and estate appeared Feb 7, 1986 in the Guardian (national newspaper in England). There have been several articles over there! Already!!!