



REPORT ON AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND TRIP

The trip to meet Shirleys in Australia and New Zealand was a great success! I am happy to report that an everlasting bond was made between us and the Shirleys down under!

There are so many things I could tell about but I think the most impressive and fulfilling place I visited was the sphinx cut from a solid rock by an inmate of a nearby hospital in 1925 & 1926. Mr. W.T. Shirley had been gassed during the war in Egypt. The original Sphinx in Egypt is THE GREAT SPHINX OF GIZEH. It is 65 ft. high and 177 ft. in length. W.T. Shirley would walk thru the woods about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to this site and work on the stone.

About 85 Shirleys met us in Auckland NZ and 65 in Sydney Australia.

Our plane was delayed three hours on the ground in Los Angeles on take off

to Auckland NZ. Small part could not be found and we were ready to disembark for the night when it was suddenly found, fixed and then we were on our way!

The first evening in Auckland, I ate at one of the nice restaurants, took a taxis back to hotel, went in and prepared for bed. As I washed up, I noticed how ill I suddenly was feeling. In seconds I was itching all over. My throat started swelling closed and we called for a doctor and I was rushed to the hospital to emergency. I was allergic to a spice in the meat sauce I had eaten. The rest of the trip went well!

Yes, I SURVIVED THE EARTHQUAKE! Thank you for all the calls of concern. For those who did not realize it, I live 10 miles from the epicenter. Few broken dishes etc. House is fine. Wished the aftershocks would stop!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHILIP SHIRLEY, eldest son of Major John and Judith Shirley of Ettington Park in England, was married September 30th, 1989. CONGRATULATIONS !

The Shirley Association is proud to announce there will soon be a SHIRLEY spoon available. The spoon will be a collectable item and great for gift giving. It is being designed for us now with Shirley coat of arms etc.

8th SHIRLEY CONVENTION BEING PLANNED for June 1990 in the Nashville, Tenn. or Kentucky area. Details next issue!

Another trip similar to the Boston, New York, Pa. and Virginia trip is in the making. It will coincide with the Shirley convention dates as did the previous trip. Proposed locations will be Shirley related places in Kentucky, Tenn. S.C., Ga. Ala. and Mississippi. As always, we will include some tourist attractions too! Further details and costs in next edition of the NEWS.

Major John and Judith Shirley postponed their visit with me until next year.

Additional report on my trip to New Zealand. The article read elsewhere in this NEWS was also used in the Shirley International NEWS. This story could NOT be included in that issue. But I thought you would be interested to hear this:

There was a Shirley who attended the meeting who had not attended an earlier Shirley gathering a few years ago in N.Z. of his own branch of the family. The organizer of the earlier reunion said to me how thrilled she was that this Mr. Shirley had come today. I learned he is a well known radio personality in N.Z. It seems his parents split when he was about 7 years old and he has really had no use for the Shirleys because it was a difficult divorce...etc. I am pleased to announce that he came at the insistance

of his wife. They came a long distance to be there. When I learned which person it was they were referring to, I was surprised for he had talked to me earlier. He not only became interested about the Shirleys during the course of the day but purchased one of everything I brought with me. I have received a letter from his wife and he is busy reading and studying about his family from Stemmata Shirleianna and they were delighted to have come to the meeting to learn about the Shirleys.

In Australia I had another experience that I could not actually write up in their NEWS edition.

At the Sydney meeting, several stood and introduced themselves and said they were cousins of those who had helped me organize this day. What I did not know until after the meeting was that these cousins had not seen one another or had a family gathering since they were children. Seems their parents before them had a bit of a falling out with one another and the children who now are in their 60-70's just this day came together. They now plan on holding family reunions.

One of the gentleman who attended the Sydney Australia meeting was a Philip Shirley who went to London in 1936. He worked as an accountant for several years. Later he became Vice Chairman of the British Railways, and then Deputy Chairman of Gunard Steamship Company in London. This is the company that owns the cruise ship, Queen Elizabeth II (QE II). He returned to Australia in 1972 after his wife died.

Another Shirley and related to Philip, designs silos. He asked me if I had seen the blue ones here in the states. He was working on a project of several millions dollars when we were there. He will be coming to Chicago this month for a business meeting.

I'll see if I can learn more about these silos and storage tanks etc.

"Kentucky Headhunters"

Who are the Kentucky Headhunters???
They are the sons of our James Young of Barren County Kentucky. James is a descendant of Thomas and Mollie Grubbs Shirley.

Richard and Fred Young wrote all but three of the songs on their first album due to be released October 16th. They appeared on the TNN (Shotgun Red program) on Sept. 16th.

Fred was the drummer for Sylvia, another TNN personality.

The name of their single is "Walk Softly on this Heart of Mine".

I talked with James recently and he told me about the boys video which will be seen on TNN. He said the video was shot in front of the old YOUNG AND SHIRLEY store. James, his wife and daughter and grandchildren are also shown in the video as well as Jacky, the black gentleman, who lives there too!

James Young has agreed to show us around his area next year when we have the next SHIRLEY CONVENTION!

We wrote about this fantastic place several years ago in the Jan. 1982 page 1 & 2 Shirley News. I have been back to visit James again a couple of years ago.

For you who may not have that back issue, the store dates back to very early 1900's and still contains merchandise, the old pot belly stove and various antiques of early Barren Co. Ky. The store has been closed for many many years. It is like stepping back in time!

So many of our members roots are from the Shirleys of Barren Co. Ky. To be able to have someone to show you where Granny Springs is, where some of the old houses stood, where old cemeteries are, the location of unmarked graves of early Shirleys... This is one opportunity you should take advantage of. More next issue.

NOTICE TO SHIRLEYS...

In 1983, the U.S Treasury, Comptroller of currency, released unclaimed property (contents of safe deposit boxes), from the bank closings of the 1930's. Contents usually include things like legal and financial documents and personal papers. The details along with a list of about 23,000 names of depositors may be found in the June 29, 1983 issue of "The Federal Register". This can be found in major libraries in the government section.

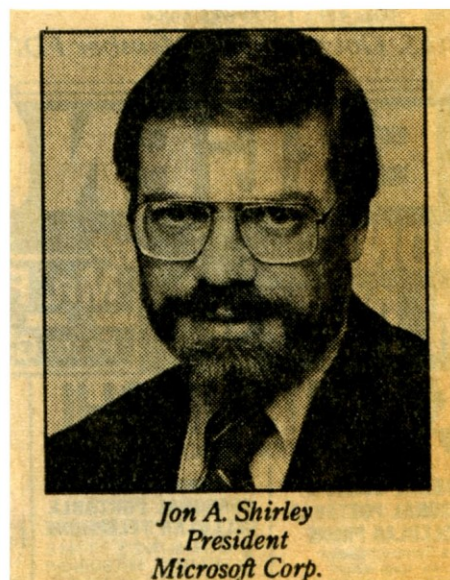
The list was scanned and the following was listed...

SHIRLEY LABORATORIES...The Hyde Park-Kenwood National Bank of Chicago, Ill.

BEN P. SHIRLEY... First National Bank Detroit, Mich.

Do you know who these people were or are? Pass the word on to them or heirs.

Material submitted by: Gordon Seyffert.



*Jon A. Shirley
President
Microsoft Corp.*

A few years ago someone wrote asking if I knew what branch of the Shirleys this Jon Shirley descended. I had not heard of Microsoft at that time. Since then, I have talked with him and his mother has been a member of the Assoc. He descends from the Pickens Co. Ala. Shirleys.

Control Systems helps computerize grain elevators

By John Schneidawind
Financial Writer

Behind the nondescript storefront at 1317 Central in Kansas City, Kan., is an unobtrusive company with a major stake in grain markets all over the world.

The people at Control Systems Inc., who estimate they will gross \$12.8 million this year after a \$9.5 million year in 1982, prefer it that way. The company, which employs 120 people throughout the world and 50 in the Kansas City area, prefers the low profile. Its president, J.N. Shirley, and his son, Nelson, who serves as vice president, are soft-spoken businessmen who know their markets and don't have many competitors.

At least not yet. According to Jan Elzey, president of R.S. Fling & Partners, a grain industry consultant based in Columbus, Ohio, the automation of grain elevators to ensure greater safety and lower insurance costs is a growing industry. But it has been stymied in recent years by substantial declines in capital expenditures by major grain elevator operators. According to Mr. Elzey, spending in the industry declined from about \$150 million in 1980 to \$30 million last year.

After a stint at Bendix Corp., the elder Mr. Shirley started the company in 1969, manufacturing control and microwave heat-treatment systems for the government. In 1975 the firm entered world grain markets with systems that could keep track of all grades and types of grain, an invaluable asset to grain elevator operators. Now the company markets the systems all over the world, primarily where grain changes hands most frequently. According to Nelson Shirley, those areas are the Gulf Coast of the United States, Australia and Canada.

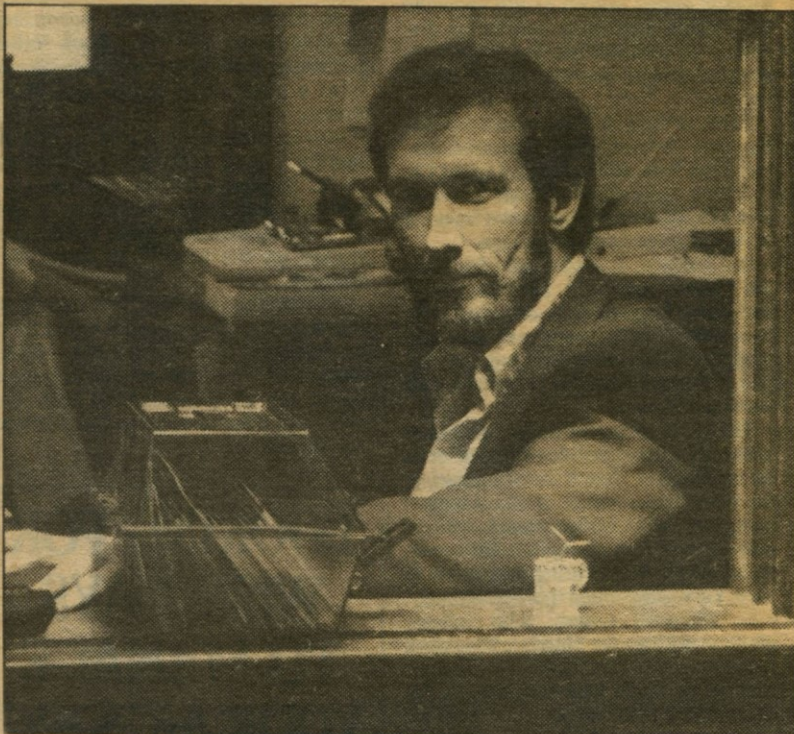
Thus, although the Midwest is considered the grain capital of the world, and although CSI was founded in Kansas City and has every intention of staying, little of its business is done here.

"There's very little work done in the Kansas City area," Nelson Shirley said. "Most of these facilities don't move grain quickly."

The move to the Australian grain market was made after careful planning and was not the result of the country's increased market share after the Russian invasion of Afghanistan prompted the United States to temporarily block the sale of grain to the Soviet Union in 1980. Of course, the embargo didn't hurt CSI's business any.

"We've been working on the Australian business for the last three or four years," Nelson Shirley said. "But two or three years before the embargo Australia was expanding its export terminals tremendously. It's fortunate that we're in that market."

Many of the systems that CSI markets are custom-designed for each grain elevator. But they all use groups



Cliff Schlappa/Staff

Nelson Shirley, vice president of Control Systems Inc., gazes out a window that looks out on a hallway inside the firm's building, which used to be an apartment building.

of processors to control specific areas of a grain elevator, as opposed to having a large, mainframe computer handle the starting and stopping of particular pieces of machinery.

The principle is known as "distributed processing," according to Nelson Shirley, and the devices in such an arrangement are known as "stand alone" in data processing terms because each has its own assigned task and sufficient intelligence, or software, to accomplish a particular task.

Such equipment is not entirely independent because the units exchange data regularly. But each unit is programmed with sufficient intelligence to allow it to operate in a prescribed manner if it loses communications with other elements of the system, according to Nelson Shirley.

Making the system perform such manual functions in "real time" is a complicated task, requiring the development of sophisticated software, Nelson Shirley said. The information entered into most computers in an office environment doesn't have to be processed right away. But in grain-handling applications, "the information in this computer has to come out in fractions of a second," he said.

The systems that CSI markets can sort various grades and types of grain

automatically as the grain is delivered instead of having human operators push the switches that start and stop the equipment handling each grade. The systems also can restore unit trains to their original order once their contents have been dumped into appropriate grain bins.

CSI systems also feature sophisticated color graphics displays — alternatives to conventional graphic control panels — that portray overhead schematic displays of a grain facility. If something goes wrong with one area of a grain facility its color changes, notifying operators of a potential problem.

The systems that CSI markets cost between \$1 million and \$3 million, according to Nelson Shirley, depending on a particular facility's needs.

Because of a desire not to be highly leveraged, the elder Mr. Shirley sold half of CSI's stock in 1980 to Motherwell Bridge Holdings Ltd., a firm based in Scotland involved in offshore oil and gas drilling. According to Nelson Shirley, the arrangement helps CSI finance its projects throughout the world without borrowing from banks. It also makes it easier for the firm to set up operations in countries without encountering a lot of red tape with foreign investment review boards.

The article on the previous page was sent to me in 1983 and I decided to print it in the NEWS. Another interesting Shirley family.

I called Mr. J.N. Shirley a couple of days ago to see what I could learn about HIS Shirley ancestry. Sorry to say, he only knew his fathers name...May Shirley. I asked if he would have been born before 1900 and he said yes. I then asked if he knew where he was born. His reply was, in Carroll Co. Missouri.

Later that day I began looking thru my Carroll Co. Mo.

I found May in his parents household in the 1900 census. He was listed as May B. Shirley born January 1881 in Missouri. His father is listed as James S. b. July 1847 Missouri.

This is the household as it appears in 1900 census:

James S. July 1847 Mo.
Sarah J. June 1858 Miss.
May B. Jan 1881 Mo.
Frank T. Oct. 1882 Mo
Elsie W. (male) July 1884
Stella June 1886 Mo
Ray (Roy ?) Aug 1889 Mo
Ethel E. Aug 1891 Mo
Marshall Aug 1891 Mo.

(step children)
Starnie Jones 1881 Miss.
Alva Jones 1886 Miss.
Allie Turner (niece) 1877 Miss.

I looked up the 1850 census to see who James S. Shirley was the son of and this is the lineage and information.

James is the son of Caleb and Phebe (Gibbons) Shirley and Caleb was the son of James and Mary(McMekin) Shirley of Barren Co. Kentucky.

James S. Shirley was born July 4th, 1847 and died April 1, 1916. He is buried in the Smith Cemetery, Mandeville in Carroll Co. Mo. He married 1st Amanda J. Cochran and she died January 19, 1995 and is buried in same cemetery.

In the 1880 census, James S. and Amanda is listed and a male child, Impey W. b. 1879 Mo.

It would appear from the 1900 census that James married 2nd to Sarah J. JONES as the step children are JONES.

Additional information on this family will be appreciated by the Shirley Association!

Santa makes a special trip



FATHER Christmas hops aboard a tram at the Crich Tramway Museum in Derbyshire.

Santa Specials start running this weekend at the museum and will also be running on December 17 and 18.

He will be driving around in stylish trams such as the 85-year-old Southampton Number 45 pictured.

THIS APPEARED IN AN ENGLAND NEWS PAPER LAST YEAR. THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GENTLE REMINDER OF THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS !!! Yes, it's that time !

SHIRLEY NEWS SUBSCRIPTION & MEMBERSHIP IS \$15 per year. This includes 4 issues of the NEWS and...when requested, a list of the names of other members who are descendants of the same branch of the Shirleys. Send to:
Shirley Association
10256 Glencoe Dr.
Cupertino, Ca. 95014 USA
408-255-8511



ASTWELL MANOR HOUSE

THE LOVETTS

In 1453 Arthur Brooke, of a Warwickshire family, was in possession, and in 1471 his son William exchanged the manors of Astwell and Falcott with one Thomas Lovett for the manors of Rushton and Great Oakley near Kettering.⁹ Thomas Lovett's daughter, Margaret, married John, son of William Brooke.

Soon after Thomas Lovett came to Astwell—this was in Edward IV's reign—he set to work to build the manor house anew, and the surviving gate-house is part of his work. The rest of the house was built round a courtyard; there was a moat, and, said the Ministry of Works in 1958, "it must have been an imposing place". Four generations of Lovetts lived here and the family was of some standing in the County, for three different Thomas Lovetts served as High Sheriff in the reigns respectively of Edward IV, Henry VII, and Elizabeth I.¹⁰ The last Thomas Lovett of Astwell, who died in 1586,¹¹ married Elizabeth Fermor of Easton Neston, and their only child Jane, by her marriage with John, younger son of Francis Shirley of Ragsdale and Staunton Harold in Leicestershire, carried Astwell into the Shirley family.

THE SHIRLEYS

John Shirley, the husband of Jane Lovett, died in 1570 leaving a son, George, who, born in 1559, inherited Staunton Harold in 1571, and Astwell (on the death of his Lovett grandfather) in 1586.

The Shirleys were by far the most interesting of the owners of Astwell, and, in fact, managed to produce contemporaneously a murderer and the founder of a religious sect, who may be presumed to have cancelled each other out.

With George Shirley the light at last begins to shine brightly on Astwell. He was a man highly typical of his age. Educated at Hart Hall, Oxford, he received some training at one of the Inns of Court and later served for a while with the Earl of Leicester in Holland.¹² On succeeding to Astwell, with which he immediately fell in love, he became henceforth a Northamptonshire rather than a Leicestershire

man and was sheriff of the County in the year that Queen Elizabeth died.

Early in the next reign he demolished the greater part of the manor house, and, smitten with the building fever then raging among Northamptonshire squires, built himself a large and beautiful mansion alongside old Thomas Lovett's tower. The new house, which had gables and mullioned windows in the prevailing style, was completed in about 1606. There were over forty rooms, including a hall, a chapel, a great and a little parlour, and a gallery hung with twenty-four pictures, as we know from an inventory of 1622 which gives the names of all the rooms.¹³ These and also the tower were luxuriously furnished with court cupboards, four-poster beds, chairs and stools covered with velvet, needle-work or leather, green and red rugs, hangings and "carpets" of arras, velvet cushions, coloured window curtains, chests, cabinets, long oak tables with benches and joint stools, two pair of virginals, a "harpsicall", a bell to ring to prayers, etc., etc., etc. With a small army of servants inside and out, a stableful of horses, at least three coaches, those were surely the greatest days of Astwell when for beauty and importance it must have ranked with such places as Fawsley, Deene, or Great Oakley Hall. George signed the work of his period with his initials and coat of arms in several rooms, the example on the stone mantel-piece in the sitting room of the present house being the only one now surviving.

George Shirley "with many gallant gentlemen" conducted James I across Northamptonshire on his way south at his accession, and was one of the first batch of baronets created by that monarch. An open-handed man, "relieving during the great dearth 500 a day at his gates", he reminds us of his contemporary the first Lord Montagu of Boughton on the other side of the County.¹⁴ The year of the "great dearth" was 1608.

Shirley's religious position was ambiguous, unless, which we doubt, he was an arrant hypocrite. He was an avowed Roman Catholic,

and therefore placed on the list of suspected Papists in Northamptonshire.¹⁵ All his armour and weapons were removed from Astwell House in his absence over-seas in 1618 on the plea that his servants were recusants. Lord Exeter, then Lord Lieutenant, thereupon wrote to the Privy Council on his behalf that "he had always been loyal and forward in service and declared himself no recusant".¹⁶ Three years later his arms were restored to him. He was certainly an outward conformer to the Church of England, and the following letter to Dr. Lambe, Chancellor of the Diocese of Peterborough, from four of the local clergy, suggests very strongly that his attendance at her services was more than a mere formality. He was perhaps one of those who had "the true unity, which is most glorious because inward and spiritual".

"May it please you, Sir, Whereas we whose names are hereunder written are intreated by Sir George Shirley of Astwell in your Countie of Northampton Barronet, to certifie our knowledge to your worship of his conformitie in coming to the church and hearing devine service and sermons there, upon Sundays and Hollydayes, according to the lawe in that case; we do hereby certifie you that the said Sir George Shirley (being an old gent. and his house farr from the parish church) and having an auntient previledged chappell in his house, hathe, according to the booke of Common Prayer, service red in the same chappell by Mr. Jones, a Batchelor in Divinitie and Chaplen in his house, who hathe of him a yearely stipend for reading prayer and preaching there, to which service and sermons himselfe, his Ladie and his familie doe come verie orderly, and we doe further certifie your worship that we ourselves doe verie often every yeare in the absence of his said chaplen, or when we are thereunto entreated by the said Sir George Shirley, com thether and read service and preache in his said chappell to him, his Ladie and his familie; and this with remembrance of our humble dutie we committ you to God, and rest,

Your worship's allwayes to command,
Rich^d Lewis (S.T.P.) [Vicar of Brackley].
Willm. Jonnes (Clerk) [Rector of Syresham].
Chr. Middleton (Clerk) [Rector of Aston-le-Walls].

Edwarde Wade (Clerk) [Rector of Holdenby and Church Brampton].

Dated the 23 of Januar. 1618 [1619].¹⁷

Sir George Shirley, in the words of his son, Thomas, died on 27th April, 1622, aged 63, "in the bosom of his mother, the Roman Catholick Church".¹⁸

On the death of Sir George, his descendants did not entirely desert Astwell. Sir Robert, the 4th baronet, lived there as a boy during the early years of the Civil War,¹⁹ and his widow made it her home for many years. The house was kept up and the family probably came for a part of each year, but they took little or no part in the affairs of the County and inclined more and more to Staunton Harold and their other residences.

Sir Robert Shirley, the 7th baronet, became Lord Ferrers of Chartley when this ancient barony was called out of abeyance by Charles II in 1677. In 1711 he was created Earl Ferrers by Queen Anne. His chief claim to distinction, however, was the number of his children. By his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Lawrence Washington of Garsden, (Wilts) he had 17 and by his second wife 10, "besides some 30 natural children".²⁰

During the life-time of his son Washington, the second Earl Ferrers, John Bridges was at work on his history of Northamptonshire, and has preserved for us a glimpse of what "Astwell, an old seat of Earl Ferrers" as he called it, looked like 240 years ago.

"Behind the gate-house is a little court and an entry into the hall. The hall windows project *en ronde* and have battlements over them. The wainscot and chimney pieces in several rooms are adorned with the arms of the family and with other carved work: and the windows, which are of chrystal, are stained with flowers, birds, horses and other ornaments. At the east end of the great parlour was formerly a chapel, where Dr. Sheldon, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, and Dr. Dolben, afterwards Archbishop of York, are said to have successively officiated as chaplains to the family".²¹

Of this Lord Ferrers a contemporary wrote: "He keeps as hospitable an house and entertains as nobly as any peer of the realm",²² but on the whole the second and third earls were quite unremarkable people. Not so the fourth, — Laurence Shirley (1720-1760) — who succeeded his uncle, the third earl, in 1745. Of him Burke writes in his *Peerage*: —

"Although not bereaved of intellect, this nobleman frequently evinced strong symptoms of a constitutional violence of temper; and in one of the paroxisms of rage habitual with his lordship put to death his own confidential land-steward, an aged gentleman of the name of Johnson".

Lord Ferrers wished to evict Johnson from his farm, and failing to do so, got him into his room at Staunton Harold, locked the door, pulled a pistol out of his pocket and shot him. He was tried by his peers in Westminster Hall, found guilty of murder, and sentenced to death. During his imprisonment in the Tower of London before his execution, he was several times visited by his cousin Selina, Countess of Huntingdon (of whom more below).

Ferrers decided to die in the grand manner, even though it was the death of a felon. When the fatal day arrived he put on a suit embroidered with silver and was driven from the Tower to Tyburn in his own landau drawn by six horses, and, according to tradition, was hanged with the silken cord which was the privilege of a peer instead of the hempen rope used for common murderers.²³ A vast multitude of people assembled to watch the execution for which the "new drop" (just introduced instead of the cart, ladder and medieval gibbet) was used for the first time. Tyburn gallows stood close to the site of the Marble Arch on the boundary of the parishes of St. Marylebone and Westminster.

¹⁵ Sir Edward de Capell-Brooke, Bt., of Great Oakley, is the descendant of Arthur Brooke.

¹⁶ V.C.H., *Northants Families*, List of Sheriffs, pp. 369, 370.

¹⁷ Shirley Pedigree (Baker, I. p. 733, quoting Esc. 29 Eliz. n.165).

¹⁸ *Stemmata Shirleiana*, (1841), by E. P. Shirley.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 71-74, where extracts are given.

²⁰ N.R.S.VII, p. xxii. Lord Montagu would feed as many as 1,200 in a day.

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 225.

²² *Ibid.*, p. xlv, n.

²³ *Stemmata Shirleiana*, p. 67. The identifications of the clergy are from H. I. Longden, *Northants and Rutland Clergy*, 1500-1900.

²⁴ B.M., Harl. MS. 4928, p. 101B., quoted in *Stemmata Shirleiana*. This Thomas Shirley, according to E. P. Shirley, was "a most violent and bigoted Papist." (*Stemmata Shirleiana*, p. 94).

²⁵ He was a zealous Royalist and died in the Tower



SULGRAVE MANOR

Sulgrave Manor is a small manor-house, built by a Lancashireman born at Warton about 1500. His ancestry, and the family name, can be traced back to the manor of Wessington in County Durham about the end of the twelfth century.

Lawrence Washington himself left Warton, where he was employed by Sir William Parr, uncle of Henry VIII's last Queen, and moved about 1530 to Northamptonshire, where Parr had large interests. At about this time he married Elizabeth Gough, widow of a rich woolstapler of the town of Northampton. Here he flourished sufficiently as a wool merchant to become Mayor in 1532. He had already acquired land in the county, and leased a house in the village of Sulgrave, when the opportunity fell to him in 1539, at the dissolution of the minor monastic houses, to buy from the Crown for the sum of £324 14s. 10d. the manor of Sulgrave, which had belonged to the Priory of St. Andrew at Northampton. His first wife died childless shortly after this, and he then married another widow, Amy Tomson, daughter of Robert Pargiter of Greatworth, a neighbouring village. By her he had four sons and seven daughters. We cannot tell whether it was the increased size of his family or ever greater prosperity (he was Mayor of Northampton again in 1545) that induced him to build the house, the remaining parts of which are now seen by visitors.

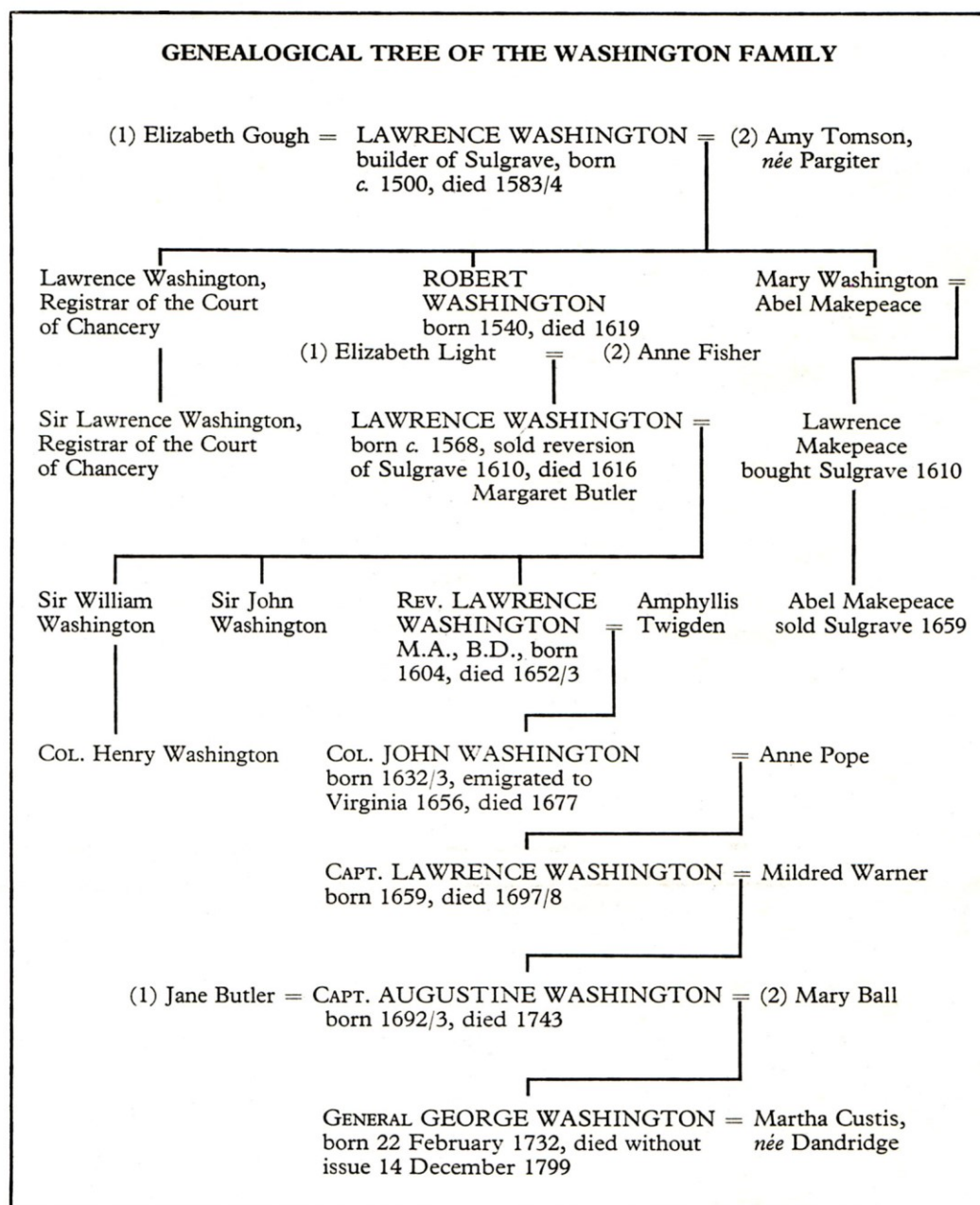
The date at which the house was completed can be fixed by architectural evidence at about 1560; he survived until 1584. His eldest son Robert continued to live in the house until his death in 1619, and for six years after that it was occupied by Robert's widow Anne. Meanwhile, however, in 1601, Robert had transferred actual ownership of the house to his eldest son, Lawrence; and while his father was still living there, in 1610, Lawrence sold the reversion of it to his cousin Lawrence Makepeace, the son of the builder's daughter Mary. He took up residence in 1626, and the Makepeaces retained it until 1659, so that the house was in the ownership of the builder's family for almost a century after its building was completed.

In 1656, three years before the Makepeaces disposed of the house, John Washington, grandson of the Lawrence who sold it to them and son of the Rev. Lawrence Washington,

emigrated to Virginia. We may conjecture whether he did so for business reasons or otherwise; but it is not unreasonable to suppose that he was discouraged by the treatment meted out to his father during the Civil War between Charles I and Parliament. The Rev. Lawrence Washington had strong royalist affiliations. His brother, Sir William Washington, was brother-in-law of the King's favourite, George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham; another brother, Thomas, had been page to the King on his voyage to Madrid in 1623; yet another, Sir John Washington was a prominent royalist; and Sir William's son, Colonel Henry Washington, actually held Worcester for the King and fought for him at Edgehill in 1642. The Rev. Lawrence Washington was ousted from the good living he held at Purleigh in Essex in 1643 and eked out a meagre existence thereafter.

It was, therefore, no healthy climate for a man with John's family connections that he left behind him in England in 1656. His son, yet another Lawrence, and his grandson Augustine paid temporary visits to England. But the family's settlement in Virginia was permanent. There, in 1732, was born John's great-grandson George, first President of the United States; and there he died, childless, in 1799.

It will be seen that George's direct ancestors had played no very prominent part in the history of England, although some members of the family attained distinction as soldiers and lawyers. The builder's second son, Lawrence, became Registrar of the Court of Chancery, and so did his son, also called Lawrence, who was knighted. But the family fortunes were firmly based in the first instance on wool. Lawrence the builder, besides his connection with Sir William Parr, had family ties with Sir Thomas Kytson of Hengrave Hall and with the still more important Spencer family of Althorp, not far from Sulgrave. Both Lawrence and his eldest son, Robert, made acquisitions of land. Robert's son, Lawrence, became tenant, and possibly agent, of his Spencer kinsman, and was buried at Great Brington, the village nearest Althorp. He was born at Sulgrave, as was also his son, the Rev. Lawrence Washington. John, the emigrant, is thought to have been born about 1632, when his father was still Rector of Purleigh and the Manor in the occupation of the Makepeaces.



It should be noted that Astwell House and Sulgrave Manor are about 4 country miles from one another. The Washingtons and the Shirleys were neighbors. Only a few farms are in that 4 miles mentioned even as I visited this area this year.

In Virginia John Washington was a pioneer settler of the Northern Neck. So were the Shirleys!

One branch of the Shirleys say their traditional family story is that George Washington and their Shirley attended school together.

In Virginia, George Washington was the surveyor of Walter Shirleys land.

Elizabeth Washington Shirley wife of the 1st Earl Ferrers of England was a 3rd cousin to Col. John Washington who emigrated to Virginia in 1656.

As you can see the Washingtons and the Shirleys seem to have a running relationship and/or bond through the generations.

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY, GEORGE, & WILLIAM SHIRLEY

John Washington was a pioneer settler of the Northern Neck (the area between Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers), along the lower Potomac in Westmoreland County, sometime prior to 1660.

In 1674, John Washington and Nicholas Spencer were granted 500 acres along the upper Potomac between Dogue and Little Hunting Creek, by Thomas Lord Culpeper. In 1690 the tract was divided between Lawrence, son of John Washington and the heirs of Nicholas Spencer. From Lawrence the Washington half of the grant, then known as Huntington Creek Plantation, passed to a daughter, Mildred. In 1726 Augustine Washington purchased it from Mildred and her husband, Roger Gregory.

In 1735, George Washington was three years old. Their family moved from Pope Creek in Westmoreland County to the Hunting Creek Plantation. Four years later they moved to Ferry Farm on the Rappahannock River near Fredericksburg.

In 1740, Augustine Washington deeded Little Hunting Creek Plantation to Lawrence who married in 1743 and settled there. He renamed it Mt. Vernon in honor of Admiral Vernon whom he had served under in the Carribean.

In 1743, Augustine Washington died and George spent part of his youth with his elder $\frac{1}{2}$ brother at Mt. Vernon. Lawrence died in 1752 His will made George exec. and residuary heir of the estate in the event that Sarah, Lawrence's daughter, died without male heirs. Two months later she died with out children, and George then 20 years old, inherited Mt. Vernon.

He was appointed a Major in the Virginia Militia at that same age. The following year, 1753, Governor Robert Dinwiddie of Virginia sent Washington to warn the French against encroachments in territory claimed by Virginia. The following year, Washington commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel. In 1755, he was appointed aide-de-camp to Major General Braddock. commander in Chief of the British forces in America. Braddock was killed in the encounter at Ft. Du-quesne to rout the French.

William Shirley of Boston, Mass. became commander of the British Forces upon Braddocks death in 1755. Williams Shirleys son, William Shirley, Jr. was secretary to Braddock and died with Braddock.

In Feb. of 1756, George Washington went to Boston to meet with Governor William Shirley. A booklet etitled "When Candles Glowed in Shirley Place" tells a story about this journey....

The Day George Washington arrived, Governor William Shirley and his daughter, Harriet Temple and granddaughter Shirley had gone by coach to visit his oldest daughter, Eliza and her husband, Eliahim Hutchinson.

"Servants scurried about dropping and picking up bundles, The sisters embraced as best they could despite wigs, caps, shawls and excess shirtage. Little Shirley had kisses for everyone & a deep curtsy for aunt and uncle Hutchinson. Then she fairly danced over the blue and white tessellated hall floor to hug Maria, her youngest aunt, who came running downstairs eager for the latest news and books from England---a British boat was in port.

Eliza inspected her little niece with satisfaction. "Really, Harriet, you must let me take her to London in a few years time. Through our kinsman, the Duke of Newcastle, we could have her presented at court.

British welded Eliza could remember, as a child, having been dandled on the ducal knee.

Never would she forget it, nor would her sisters, who were constantly reminded of how things were done before the Shirleys came to America in 1731--- father, mother and 8 children.

William liked Boston and Boston like him. He had progressed steadily from prosperous lawyer to popular Governor of the Bay Colony.

Political contacts with the Mother country and with those in high office were important to the officials here and Mistress Shirley spent considerable time in England. She discharged her duties well but died shortly before the new mansion was finished and now lay in Kings Chapel under a flower Latin epitaph. Eliza had taken over the duties and care of Governor's home and had seen to it that the Shirley furnishings were the best to be had. Always thrifty, however, she was conscientiously wringing the last ray of light out of the fast darkening day. She now pulled a bell rope and requested a maid to light the candles.

"We may as well look as gay as we can. inspite of our sorrow, for we are expecting a visitor", she announced.

"Williams friend?" queried Harriet. "Yes", a colonel from Virginia. Although on General Braddock's staff, he luckily escaped disaster. Father met him at Alezandria last spring and was much impressed with him. He loved our brother. "She bade the maid stir up the fire and throw on some cloves which gave out a spicy aroma.

Pepper, William's dog, began to bark and looking out, they could see the young colonel cantering down the drive.

"A cordial welcome to you, Colonel Washington", exclaimed the Governor, holding out both hands to his visitor who had come from Mt. Vernon to condole with a sorrowing father, and to discuss military affairs with him, his present commander.

Courteously returning the greeting, George Washington looked eagerly into the face of the grey-wigged 62 year old man who with a word, could control his future course.

As they gathered around the big fire, Harriet gazed mournfully at her mother's protrait over the mantle flanked by titled cousins and murmured a word of thanfulness that at least she had been spared the sorrow of hearing the tale of her eldestson's death. Young John, the second son, had died in the Crown Point campaign. Their only living brother, Thomas, was at this time in London.

Sympathetically, George described Williams bravery and how he had been shot in the early part of the battle. His horse was killed and George himself had 2 horses shot under him. Like his chief, William had been bried secretly for fear of molestation by the Indians.

Althought this action had taken place the summer before, the family had heard few details, which George Washington supplied.

Dinner over, the family retired and George at last found himself alone with his commander.

Our vital need, Governor Shirley said, is strong leaders, properly trained men who understand border warfare and the character of Indian attack. As you know, I go to England shortly. I will make the situation known to Mr. Pitt. He is a man of resource in whom we can trust. Here we want men of action who won't despise the colonials. You brave Virginians put up a noble fight, Colonel.

George looked pleased. "I begged General Braddock not to keep men in solid formation and was no little jeered at for suggesting dressing them in wood colors. Their bright

red uniforms drew constant fire from the Indians. Mr. Franklin, I understand, warned them that their fine feathers make them easy prey and made merry over their wigs and stiff socks for a battle in the forest and wilderness.

When I heard the bullets at Great Meadows, I was caught in a whirl of excitement, but I could see folly when Braddock insisted on constantly reforming the platoons. A brave General, he had five horses shot under him before receiving his fatal wound.

Your son and I both feared the matching of drill formations against the wiles of the woods. It had taken us 10 days to march 24 miles with heavy baggage trains. In a month we covered less than 100 miles. The battle was all disorder and confusion. Never before had the British heard those war hoops and the men panic stricken, broke and ran while our Virginians held the fringe of the woods with wonderful courage. Nothing else saved his Majesty's troops from complete massacre. Washington's tone was bitter. The horror and disappointment rambled but he added, To our surprise and relief, there was no pursuit by either French or Indians.

A lesson learned at horrendous cost, Shirley groaned, but learned- I devoutly hope!

George drew from his pocket a quill pen. This, sir, was your son's. We visited together the evening before the battle and he left it in my tent.

George began making some sketches on a blank sheet of paper near his hand. Shirley looked in this direction and George explained: "This represents a hill nearby which I believe you call Dorchester Heights. In case of a siege, Boston would be completely at the mercy of a line of cannon on this eminence".

"Indeed" Shirley leaned over farther and George proceeded to calculate the number of men required and just how the cannon should be faced and where assaults might be attempted.

Always confident and accurate in military matters, George's eagerness intrigued the older man. Shirley's keen eye perceived plenty of merit in George's suggestions. Then feeling his son's pen in his hand, realized he had not yet expressed his gratitude with the memento.

"William hoped to make a name for himself by his pen, as you, I receive, hope to make yours by the sword".

Washington replied, "General Braddock is gone, sir, and our forces scattered. Who is to protect our borders, our brave pioneer families? Do you have men of sufficient experience? You yourself, I know, campaigned nobly.

At last the vexing problem could be presented- who was to be in command in Virginia. Was he, George Washington, to be a mere subaltern while Dagworthy and others replaced him?

There was a long pause during which each man seemed to be appraising the other. Finally the Governor spoke. There was little doubt in his mind.

"Perhaps in good time someone will make these colonies all go one direction- an Augean task-you, George, if I may call you that, have a talent for organizing and the patience to overcome difficulties and see things as they really are. I marked you well in Williamsburg. Remember that nothing is done until everything is done. This is a time to look forward, not backward and the younger men must have their chance. We need you, my boy, in full command of the Virginia forces. Under my hand and seal, your commission is secure."