

# SHIRLEYS OF REXBURG, IDAHO

James F. Shirley and his sons, Lex, Gil and Todd Shirley, artistically fashion "Paintings In Wood" that preserve the splendor of America, Then, inspiration hit. Jim created a rustic landscape-the first of many scenics- to come from some of his favorite pieces of old, salvaged wood.

You might cross paths with Jim Shirley if you happen to vacation in

Tones of rust, cinnamon, umber, gray-blue, mahogany, rich yellow, and olive green reflect light in an uncanny way. And, the Shirleys do nothing to enhance them. They refuse artificial, manipulated colors and finishes-no paints, stains, oils or



LEX, GIL, TODD AND JAMES F. SHIRLEY

the dignity of the Victorian era and the flavor of vintage streets and sleepy villages.

Jim Shirley knows wood. As a youngster on his parents' farm, he worked it as a hobby. Later, he became a building contractor. But, Jim, now 64 and retired from the building trade, was always more interested in old wood than new. "Seeing old architecture destroyed just made me heartsick," Jim recalls, "and I wanted, somehow, to find a way to preserve the old scenes and the grand old buildings."

He began his preservation efforts by salvaging interesting pieces of wood and hanging them on the walls of his home. Although his collection grew steadily, he knew that his wood display should be made meaningful.

Wyoming's Grand Teton National Park and the neighboring national forests in southern Idaho. He wanders there, looking for appealing pieces of wood.

Maybe it once belonged to an aging fence. Or, it was a clapboard on a sagging shack. Perhaps a machinery building yielded a hand-hewn plank. A barn roof shed a shingle. The wood portrays the past because it belongs to the past.

Bits and pieces of wood-all selected for color and texture-join one another as the landscapes and buildings. From tiny, toothpick sized fragments, he produces accents-wagon wheels, pumps, telegraph poles, windmills, mailboxes, and lampposts.

In place, the chosen pieces of wood glow with almost iridescent colors.

varnishes.

Many of their pictures represent several hundred years of natural processing, the colors created as the seasons came and went. "They're the resulting mix of sunshine and moonlight, wind and rain, sand and snow," Jim explains.

Material from: Dorene Shirley Carol Parkinson Betty Shirley ENGLAND SHIRLEYS TO SOUTH AFRICA TO IDAHO, USA

THOMAS WILLIAM SHIRLEY b. England. Married Harriet Ann Hawkins Mar 6, 1828 in St Mary's Parish, Portsea, Hampshire England.

Their son, William Henry Shirley b. April 11, 1829 St John's Parish, Portsea, Hampshire England. Married Esther Maria Bubb Aug 1, 1860.

(Children in my S/A files)

- Thomas b. Dec 1858 South Africa.
   Married Mary A., Children...Neva C.
   Nov 1895 Idaho Caroline M. b.
   Jan 1898 Idaho
- 2. Charles Coulson b. Aug 1864 Idaho. Married Grace Maud Stock, Sept 12, 1888. Children...William Devalson Dec 13, 1889 Idaho Florence Mabel June 2, 1892 Idaho Charles Herbert Dec 9, 1894 Idaho Ida Maud Feb 20, 1897 Idaho Frances Maria May 27, 1898 Idaho Vera Charlotte Apr 7, 1901 Idaho Arthur Coulson Aug 15, 1904 Idaho
- 3. James Frederick b. 1874, grandfather of James F. Shirley in article above.

# PENDLETON DISTRICT AND ANDERSON COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA WILLS, ESTATES, INVENTORIES, TAX RECORDS

Compiled by: Virginia Alexander, Colleen Morse Elliott and Betty Willie. Sent by Gary F. Shirley

#### SHIRLEY LISTINGS

SHERLEY, Frances, mentioned as an heir in will of William Mattison with homestead on Broad Mouth Creek. Will dated July 20, 1870, Probate Jan 14, 1873. Page 423-427 Anderson County S.C. Probate Will Book 3, 1857-1880

SHEARLY, Letty E., mentioned as child of Thomas Erskin with homestead on South side of Greenville Columbia Railroad. Will dated Dec 24, 1878. Probate Aug 4, 1879. Page 718-722 Anderson County S.C.. Probate Will Book 3, 1857-1880.

SHIRLEY, Nancy A. Witness to will of J.F. Ragsdale dated Mar 24, 1873. Probate Sept 28, 1876. J.M. Shirley also a witness. Page 581-583 Anderson S.C. Probate Will Book 3,

1857-1880.

SHIRLEY, A.T. Witness to will of John Hix, Sr. Will dated June 6, 1857. Probate Feb 5, 1858. Page 6-8 Anderson County S.C. Will Book 3, 1857-1880.

SHIRLEY, Aaron, mentioned in will of James Erskine Sr. "James E. Shirley, my grandson and the son of my daughter, Margaret, is under the age of 21. Appoints Aaron Shirley his father to be his guardian". Polly Shirley also listed. Will dated Feb 7, 1845, proven Apr 6, 1846. Page 222-224 Anderson County S.C., Will Book 1, 1835-1857, Book B.

SHIRLEY, B. Listed in Sale Bill for the Estate of Enock Breazeale, dec'd. Personal Property Jan 1-2, 1851. Anderson County District, S.C. Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Book 2 1845-1851.

SHIRLEY, B.F. Listed in Sale Bill, Goods & Chattles of J.J. Robinson, dec'd. Sept 13, 1847, along with J.J. Shirley, W. Shirley, E. Shirley. Page 177-216 on original ledger, Book 2, 1845-1851 Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson county District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, B.F. Listed in Bill of Sale for the Estate of James Brock, dec'd. Feb 13, 1850 along with B.T. Shirley and J.R. Shirley. Book 2, 1845-1851, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, B.T. Listed in Bill of Sale for the Estate (Personal Property) of James Mattison, Sr. dec'd. Jan 1,\_\_\_\_, along with R.N. Shirley, Book 2, 1845-1851, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C. (also see B.F. Shirley above)

SHIRLEY, Benjamin. Listed as heir of widow Rebecca Neal. Dated Mar 16, 1813, page 105, Book M, 1812-1817. Conveyance, Estates and Revolutionary Soldiers, Pendleton District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Benjamin. Mentioned in Sale Bill for Estate of James Harkins, dec'd Dec 5, 1844. Book 1,

Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, 1839-1845, MFMC 1053. O. Shirley also listed.

SHIRLEY, Benjamin. Listed in Inventory & Appraise Bill, Goods & Chattels of J.J. Robinson, dec'd. Thursday Sept 9, 1847 as Accounts along with John Shirley, Stephen Shirley, James Shirley, Reubin N. Shirley, O. Shirley, John W. Shirley, Jeremiah Shirley, John R. Shirley, Richard Shirley, Nathaniel Shirley, Marion Shirley and Nipper Shirley. Book 2, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Benjamin. Mentioned in Sale of the Personal Property of James W. Kay. Dec'd. Not disposed of by Will Apr 20, 1848, along with O. Shirley and J.R. Shirley. Book 2, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales, 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Benjamin. Listed as Appraiser in Estate Inventory of the Widow Sarah Keer, dec'd. Jan 20, 1849, Book 2, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Betsey. Listed as child of John Shirley in his Will along with his other children: Nipper, William, Rhody, Joshua, James, John, Robert, Sara, Polly and Leanah. Dated Apr 11, 1808. Proven June 6, 1808, page 94, Will Book A, Pendleton District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, E. (see B.F. Shirley)

SHIRLEY, J.F. Witness to Will of John L. Holland, dated July 5, 1863. Probate Aug 11, 1873. "Written at Sullivan's Island, Charleston, S.C." Page 463-465, Book 3. Probate, 1857-1880, Anderson County, S.C.

SHIRLEY, J.J. Executor for Will of J. Augustus Lewis which mentions interest in mercantile firm called, SHIRLEY AND LEWIS in town of Honea Path. Dated July 18, 1861. Probate Dec 12, 1864, page 206-207. Probate Will Book 3, 1857-1880, Anderson County S.C.

SHIRLEY, J.J. (see B.F, Shirley)

SHIRLEY, J.M. Witness to Will of J.F. Ragsdale, dated Mar 24, 1873. Probate Sept 28, 1876. Nancy A. Shirley also a witness. Page 581-583, Probate Will Book 3, 1857-1880, Anderson County, S.C.

SHIRLEY, J.N. Witness to Will of William Spencer Moore. Dated July 25, 1865. Probate Jan 9, 1872, page 380-392. Probate Will Book 3, 1857-1880, Anderson County, S.C.

SHIRLEY, J.R. Listed in Sale Bill, Estate of Sarah Kerr, dec'd, Jan 20, 1888849. Book 2, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, J.R., (see B.F. Shirley)

SHIRLEY, James (see Betsey Shirley)

SHIRLEY, James. Listed as heir (for Estate of John Shirley, Sr.?) along with Nipper, William, Joshua, John, and Robert Shirley, all of Abbeville District, S.C., pertaining to sale? of "mill and appurtenances on Little River of Pendleton District formerly belonging to John Shirley, Sr., dec'd, tract 100 acres lying part in Pendleton District, part in Abbeville District, beginning on Barker's Creek, bounded Goudy's line, Hacleman's line, Nathaniel Aldridge, Sr., part of tract granted to said Aldridge, and recorded in Secretary's Dated Aug 6, 1808. Office." Recorded Jan 24, 1810, page 51-52, Book K, 1809-1810, Conveyance, Estates and Revolutionary Soldiers, Pendleton District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, James. Listed as witness to conveyance of Tract belonging (?) to James Linn, dec'd, dated Apr 27, 1819, recorded Sept 22, 1819. Sary Shirley also a witness. Page 429 Book O, 1817-1820, Conveyance, Estates and Revolutionary Soldiers, Pendleton District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, James. Listed in Sale Bill, Property of Nimrod Smith, Sr. dec'd. Sold Apr 30, 1847.

SHIRLEY, John, (see Benjamin

Shirley).

SHIRLEY, James E., (see Aaron Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Jeremiah, (see Benjamin).

SHIRLEY, John, (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, John, (see James Shirley).

SHIRLEY, John. Mentioned in Sale Bill for Estate of Nipper Adams, dec'd. Sold Dec 23, 1842. Book 1 1839-1845 MFMC 1053, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, John R., (see Benjamin Shirley).

SHIRLEY, John R. Mentioned in Sale Bill for Estate of William Kerr, dec'd, May 10, 1848. Book 2, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales 1845-1851 Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, John W., (see Benjamin Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Jonathon. Listed in Bill of Sale for property of E. Brown, dec'd, May 10, 1848. Book 1, 1839-1845 MFMC 1053 Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Jonathon. Listed in Sale of Estate of Bartley Tucker, dec'd, Apr 28, 1841. Book 1, 1837-1845 MFMC 1053, Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Joshua, (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Joshua, (see James Shirley).

SHIRLEY, L.O. Listed in Appraise Bill, Estate of Nimrod Smith, Sr. dec'd, April 28, 1847. Book 2, 1845-1851, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Leanah, (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Margaret P.A. Listed in Sale Bill, Estate of Nipper Shirley,

dec'd May 25, 1848. Book 2, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Marion, (see Benjamin Shirley).

SHIRLEY, N. Listed in Bill of Sale. Estate of James R. Webster, dec'd. Sold Dec 30, 1840. Book 1 1839-1845 MFMC 1053, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Nathan. Listed in Sale Bill, Goods, Chattels of Chester Kingsley, dec'd. Sold May 5, 1846. Also listed, Obadiah Shirley and Stephen Shirley. Book 2 1845-1851, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Nathaniel, (see Benjamin)

SHIRLEY, Nipper, (see Betsey, James, Benjamin & Margaret P.A. Shirley, above).

SHIRLEY, O. (see Benjamin Shirley)

SHIRLEY, O. Listed in Sale Bill. Personal Good and Chattels of David F. Lucius, "dec'd late of Anderson Dist." Sold Apr 8, 1847. Book 2 1845-1851, Inventories, appraisement and Sales, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Obadiah (see Nathan Shirley)

SHIRLEY, Obadiah. Listed as an appraiser for the Inventory and Appraisement of the Personal Estate of James W. Kay, dec'd Apr 18, 1848. Book 2 Inventories, Appraisement and Sales 1845-1851, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Polly (see Betsey and Aaron Shirley, above)

SHIRLEY, R. (?). Listed in Bill of Sale for the Estate of James R. Webster, dec'd. Sold Dec 30, 1840, Book 1 1830-1845 MFMC 1053 Inventories, Appraisements and Sales, Anderson District County, S.C.

SHIRLEY, R.N. (see B.T. Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Reuben N. (see Benjamin

Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Rhody, (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Richard (see Benjamin Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Robert (see James Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Robert (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Robert. Listed as purchaser in Bill of Sale for the Estate of Micajah Taylor, dec'd. (no date). Book 1, 1839-1845 Inventories, Appraisement and Sales MFMC 1053, Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Salley. Listed in Will of James Major, Esq. as wife of Stephen Shirley. Will dated Dec 26, 1851, proven Sept 27, 1852, page 330-332, Anderson County District, S.C. Will Book 1 1835-1857 Book B.

SHIRLEY, Sara (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Sary (see James Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Stephen (see Salley Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Stephen. Listed in Inventory, Goods and Chattels. Estate Real & Personal of William Cox, dec'd Nov 21, 1843. Book 1, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales 1839-1845 MFMc 1053. Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, Stephen (see Nathan Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Stephen (see Benjamin Shirley).

SHIRLEY, W. (see B.F, Shirley).

SHIRLEY, Widow O. Listed in Sale Bill. Goods and Chattels of Benjamin Clement, dec'd. Sold Jan 18, 1844. Book 1, Inventories, Appraisement and Sales 1839-1845 MFMC 1053. Anderson County District, S.C.

SHIRLEY, William (see Betsey Shirley).

SHIRLEY, William (see James Shirley).

# ANOTHER PLACE CALLED SHIRLEY IN ENLGAND APPEARED IN THE DOMESDAY BOOK OF 1086

Shirley is near Southampton in England. In the Domesday Book of 1086, Shirley is mentioned under the Mainsbridge Hundred as follows:

"Ralph De Mortimer holds Shirley and Choping held it of King Edward. It was then as now assessed at 1 hide. Here are 8 ploughlands and 4 villeins and 3 borders with 2 ploughlands; also a church 5 servants and a mill whech pays 30D. 12 acres of meadow and woods for 8 hogs. 4 messuages in Southampton which pay 40D and a fishery worth 6s. in the time of King Edward and afterwards its value was as now 100s".

In 1272, Nicholas De Shirley granted two parts of a messuage and a mill in Shirley to Nicholas De Barbflete his relative from Barfleur.

Note from editor: Looking at the pedigree of the early Shirleys, I find a Nicholas who would be a great grandson of Sewallis. I cannot say if this is the same Nicholas.



# THE "PALANTINATE" JOURNEY TO PENNSYLVANIA

The great German immigration began in the early eighteenth century because of religious persecution, devastating wars, political oppression and social unrest.

The journey began down the Rhine River to Amsterdam (or any other port). It took about six months to make the journey.

The Rhine boats experienced many delays getting from Heilbronn to Holland as they had to be inspected at each of the 26 custom houses they passed. The passengers could be detained for several weeks at each stop, waiting until it was convenient for the custom-house officials to examine the boat. The poor people would have to spend nearly all they had because of the long delays.

From Amsterdam the boat went to a port in England. Cowes, on the Isle of Wight was a favorite stopping place. Here the boat had to wait for favorable winds before sailing for America. The journey would take another 8-10 weeks.

During this time, conditions on board were miserable. They lacked proper water and food. They existed in an overcrowded boat bounced around in violent storms.

When at last the boat reached Philadelphia, a health officer went aboard the boat to examine the passengers as to whether any had a contagious disease. New arrivals were led in possession to the City Hall and there they had to render the oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain. After that they were brought back to the boat. Then announcements were printed in the newspapers, stating how many of the new arrivals were to be sold. The boat became the market-place. The buyers made their choice among the arrivals and bargained with them for a certain number of years and days. They then took them to the merchant, paid the passage and their other debts and received from the government authorities a written document for a definite period.

Those passengers who had money were released.

The Pennsylvania Germans, having passed the stressful period of their history, wanted land. William Beverly, writing April 30, 1732, to a friend in Williamsburg, Virginia concerning lands on the Shenandoah, says: "Ye northern men are fond of buying land there, because they can buy it for six or seven pounds per hundred acres, cheaper than they can take up land in Pennsylvania and they don't care to go as far as Williamsburg."

Many of the German immigrants in Pennsylvania eventually made their way south into the large German Settlements along the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia. Some continued into North Carolina and Tennessee.

They most likely traveled the "Great Indian Warpath". This led from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, crossing the Susquehanna River, then to Lancaster, York and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, then Hagerstown, Maryland, and Winchester, down the Shenandoah Valley to Staunton, Virginia--then along the great trough between the main mountain ranges of the Applacian Mountains into the valleys of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. This path ended at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

In 1729 Colonel Robert Carter ("King Carter" whose 5th wife was a Shirley), secured a grant of 50,000 acres of land on the west bank of the Shenandoah River. This large grant will explain the fact that the people of this area are chiefly English. Only a few Germans got into that section of the Valley.

Very early in the history of the Valley, Jost Hite came into conflict with Thomas Lord Fairfax. The latter claimed the land within Hite's early grants, and the case was in the courts for fifty years. This dispute, coupled with the fact that the Scotch-Irish early secured a foothold in the upper Valley, explains to a great extent the concentration of the German element in the section between Winchester, Frederick County and Staunton,

Augusta County Virginia. The dispute was settled in favor of Hite in 1786.

On the eastern side of the Blue Ridge, home-seekers from Germanna and adjacent colonies came up along the Robinson River in Madison County Virginia, and took positions near to their kinsmen.

# THE GERMAN SCHALLYS/SHALLY/ SHIRLEYS

# From your editor...

I have previously written articles on the Karl/Carl/Charles Shally family who came to Pennsylvania in 1739 on the "Robert and Alice" from Germany. (see Summer 1991 page 10 and Fall 1991 pages 2 & 3).

I continue to be asked my opinion as to whether I think the sons of the above family are the heads of the families which represent the branches of: VALENTINE SHIRLEY of Rockingham Co. VA., PETER SHIRLEY, (great grandfather of Belle Starr), and MICHAEL SHIRLEY who married Katy Franz. Both Peter and Michael went to Madison County Kentucky.

My answer to this question is the same as it was before. It appears circumstantially correct. The associations with the other families in Lancaster County Pennsylvania, Augusta County, Rockingham County, Virginia and Greene County Tennessee are very convincing.

In the previous articles, I noted the family of Adam Miller who came from Germany to Pennsylvania to Rockingham County Virginia. He was the grandfather of Valentine Shirleys' wife. I also wrote about a Jacob Barnhart who married Martha Shirley, daughter of Adam Shirley of Greene County Tennessee. Adam was the son of Luke (Lucas) Shirley.

After that issue of the News, I received a letter and write up on

Jacob Barnhart from Esther Shirley who has a Greene County connection on her side of the family. (Esther's husband was a descendant of Walter Shirley who lived near Shenandoah Valley area in the mid 1700's].

Adam GeFeller and Mary Magalene Huber (daughter of Jacob Huber) were married in Lancaster County Pennsylvania about 1765. They migrated to Rockingham County Virginia prior to 1776. Adam GeFeller went to Tennessee and his will is dated Dec 12, 1812 Greene County Tennessee. Adam's daughter Barbara married CONRAD BARNHART. (Adam 's son, Abraham GeFeller, brother of Barbara, is the ancestor of Esther Shirley). CONRAD BARNHART arrived at Philadelphia in August 1774 aboard the "Snow Sally". He and his wife, Barbara GeFeller, were in Greene County Tennessee as early as 1795 when they purchased land.

Their son was JACOB BARNHART born about 1790-1800 Greene County Tennessee. He died in Miller County Missouri about 1849. He married Martha SHIRLEY daughter of Adam SHIRLEY who was the son of Lucas SHIRLEY...(who appears to be the son of Karl/Carl Shally who arrived in Pennsylvania in 1739 on the "Robert & Alice".

I received a letter from Riley Barnhart several years ago. He said, "About 1846, my grandpa JACOB BARNHART and grandmother Martha (Shirley) BARNHART moved to Missouri and grandpa Adam SHIRLEY moved with them.

# Correction

There was an error in the last edition of the Shirley News. The next National Shirley Convention will be on June 25, 1995 not 1994. Sorry for the mistake.

Grandpa Adam SHIRLEY lived by or with them the rest of his life. He lived to be 114 years old."

# LUCAS SHALLE/ SHAWLEY/SHURLEY/ SHIRLEY BRANCH of PENNSYLVANIA

Lucas died in 1792 Green County Tennessee. His wife was Margaret. She married John Muckleroy/ McElroy. In her will of 1816, she names her children as did Lucas/ Look Abe Shawley in 1792.

- 1. MICHAEL 1768 m. Sarah Parkhouse Feb 21, 1791 Green Co. TN (lived McNairy County TN in 1830 census).
- 2. GEORGE Sept 15, 1770 PA, died 1824 TN. m. Elizabeth Polland Nov 23, 1804 Carter Co. TN. She married Jeremiah Evans in 1830 and he died before 1840. Elizabeth is living with her son John Shirley in Fayette County Illinois in the 1850 census.
- 3. ADAM 1780 m. Sarah Brown. He lived to be 114 years old. He lived with his daughter Martha BARNHART in Miller County Missouri...[AS WRITTEN ABOVE!]
- 4. FREDERICK 1785. He was living in Cooper County Missouri in the 1830 census.
- 5. JOHN Appears to be the John Shirley who married Frances Meadows. They were in White County Tennessee about 1820 and were in Cape Girardeau County Missouri in the 1840 census. He died

about 1846. Frances married John Jarret in 1852 in Miller County. In the 1860 census of Miller County Missouri, Frances MEADOWS SHIRLEY JARRET is a neighbor of Martha SHIRLEY BARNHART and Martha's father, ADAM SHIRLEY who is 80 years old. (Adam Shirley would be a brother of John Shirley, the first husband of Frances Meadows Shirley Jarret).

(See family info on the family of this John Shirley in past issues of the NEWS...Summer 1991 cover page, Fall 1991 cover page and page 3, Winter 1992-93 page 7).

A write up of yet another German Scherle family who came to the USA in the mid 1800's was sent to your editor a few months ago. This family refers to a traditional story about the ancestry of their Scherle family. "When Cromwell rose up and disrupted the English monarchy, our ancestors were in Germany and didn't dare return to England, so they stayed and became Germans." This is a nice traditional story they say and comment that it will probably never be proved or disproved.

Annual Membership \$20.00 The Shirley Association 10256 Glencoe Drive Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 255-8511 Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Wednesday, December 22, 1993

# Noah T. Shirley Jr.

FORT WORTH — Noah T. Shirley Jr., a retired Air Force major, died Monday at a Fort Worth hospital. He was 72.

Funeral will be at 10 a.m. today at Altamesa Church of Christ, where he was a member. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. today in Montague Cemetery in Montague. Shannon TCU Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Shirley was born in Montague.

The family suggests that memorials be made to Southwest Christian School, 4600B Altamesa Blvd., Fort Worth 76133.

Survivors: Wife, Billie Shirley of Fort Worth; three stepdaughters, Deborah Wilson of Laguna Niguel, Calif., Dana Sager of Fort Worth and Dr. Pam Greene of Temple; brother, Bill Shirley of Fort Scott, Kan.; and six grandchildren.

Noah "Tom" Shirley attended the 1986 England tour and worked on the Obadiah Shirley House in S.C.

# Update: The Shirley Village Church Restoration Fund

We have received \$260 to date and thank the following contributors:

Shirley Mc Donald, Newlin Shirley, Nancy Raskopf, Opal Creekmore

Additional contributions are still being accepted and all checks will be forwarded to Shirley Village on April 1, 1994. Thank you.

(Shirley News-Fall '93 page 9)

## FRANK & ERNEST



# DERBYSHIRE PERSONALITY

TUCKED AWAY OFF the busy A52 road just south of Ashbourne lies the small village of Shirley. It is a very ancient place. Its church has Norman origins and in the churchyard is an enormous yew tree which could be 800 or 900 years old. But older than either of these is the family which now inhabits the Old Vicarage and which takes its name from the place.

Viscount Tamworth is the elder son and heir of the 13th Earl Ferrers, Minister of State at the Home Office and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords and head of the Shirley family, by his wife Annabel, only daughter of the late Brigadier William Carr, DSO, of Ditchingham Hall, Norfolk.

The family, until relatively recent times, lived at Staunton Harold (now a Sue Ryder home), a property which came to the family some 500 years ago. The original Shirley lands are at Ettington in Warwickshire and at Shirley in Derbyshire. Sewallis or Sasuualo held these lands at the end of the 11th century and his name is recorded in Domesday Book. He may well have been a Saxon noble whose family had held land there for generations. By the early 13th century Sewallis's descendants had taken the name of their Derbyshire property and become 'de Shirley'. It was Ralph Shirley, in the next century, who married the heiress to Staunton.

George Shirley was granted a baronetcy in 1611, the title being fourth in precedence. It was the 4th Baronet, staunch Church and King man, who, as an act of defiance against the tyrant Cromwell, built a church from scratch close to Staunton Harold Hall. It still survives and is described as 'the fullest and most fascinating illustration we have of Archbishop's Laud's High Anglican ideals'. Needless to say Sir Robert died an early death in the Tower. An inscription over the west door says of Sir Robert that he did 'the best things in ye worst times'. His son became the 1st Earl Ferrers and Viscount Tamworth. Sadly Staunton Harold was sold just after the last war and the family moved away. Ettington, which passed to a younger branch in the 18th century, still belongs to the family but is now an hotel.

The present Earl Ferrers lives at Ditchingham in Norfolk but was overjoyed when his son decided to settle in the cradle of the Shirley family – the village of Shirley itself. The Vicarage had been built for the Rev. Walter Augustus Shirley, DD, Bishop of Sodor and Man, when he was Vicar of Shirley and Archdeacon of Derby in the early part of the last century. He was grandfather of the 11th Earl Ferrers and direct forebear of Lord Tamworth. The last Shirley to live in the house was Tamworth's grandmother, widow of the 12th Earl. Although his

uncle, the Rev. J. M. Robson, was Vicar of Shirley and Rector of Brailsford he lived in the latter rectory.

Robert William Saswalo Shirley, Viscount Tamworth, was born in 1952 and educated at Ampleforth which he left in 1971. Instead of going up to university he spent a profitable year in Kenya teaching children in a local secondary school up to 'O' level standard. During his stay in East Africa he made the most of his opportunities and visited Uganda and Tanzania.

On his return to England Tamworth spent a year at the City of London Polytechnic and was articled to the well-known firm of chartered accountants Whinney Murray & Co., and successor firm Ernst and Whinney. For two years he worked in the investigation department where he produced viability studies, merger or acquisition reviews and advice.

In 1982 Lord Tamworth moved on and joined BICC plc – an electrical cable and construction company and he was based at Froghall between Ashbourne and Stoke-on-Trent. He was working on the finance side. The first step towards returning to Shirley was when the Tamworths rented a property on the Osmaston estate from the Walker-Okeover family (the Shirleys and the Okeovers are related since the Royalist 4th Baronet had married a daughter of Humphrey Okeover). It was not until August 1984 that they moved into the Old Vicarage at Shirley.

However, in September of that year, Lord Tamworth moved back to London to work, still on the financial side of BICC. In 1986 he met a property developer, Mr Brian Ashby, who had started up the Viking Property Group which is based at Kilburn Hall in Derbyshire. Mr Ashby invited Lord Tamworth to join him and this again was handy for staying in the county. He became Financial Controller and subsequently a Director. The company grew and prospered and in October 1988 Tamworth was involved in the takeover negotiations when the company was acquired by City Sites Estates plc. Following the sale of Viking Property Group, Tamworth and Ashby started a new company called Norseman Holdings Ltd which is involved with commercial property development. His duties require him to be three days a week in London.

Now happily ensconced in The Old Vicarage at Shirley, the family has adapted to a regular rhythm of life based on some degree of London commuting. Soon, he says, he will be making trips to North America three or four times a year.

In 1978 Robert first set eyes on Susannah Sheepshanks then based in London and involved with dressmaking. They met at a party given by her cousin to which he had been invited and they were to marry two

# VISCOUNT TAMWORTH



years later at Arthington near Otley in Yorkshire. Susannah's father is Charles Sheepshanks of Arthington Hall, member of a Yorkshire landed family, related through Susannah's great-grandfather to the poet and traveller Wilfred Scawen Blunt.

There are two children, Hermione, born in 1982 and William, born in 1984, the latest generation of a family which has maintained its identity in the male line for well over a thousand years.

Being head of such a family is not such a busy affair as being Chief of a Scottish clan but even so there are many people in the United States who claim Shirley descent and over a hundred of them turned up not so long ago at Shirley to meet the son of the head of the family and to see other places with Shirley associations such as Ettington. In 1987 he was the celebrity invited to 'turn up' the ball at the Ashbourne Shrovetide Football game.

The garden at the Old Vicarage extends to some two acres and the Tamworths are keen gardeners. Lord Tamworth himself also finds recreation in shooting when he can spare the time.

He is a member of Boodles Club where he sometimes stays when in London and though he has firm political views he does not have any inclination towards active politics.



Perhaps the biggest man who ever lived in Bloomington was Leonard "Baby" Bliss. Leonard weighed only twelve pounds when he was born and he grew normally until he was about five years old. By the time he was eleven, he was six feet tall and weighed 180 pounds. He reached his full height of six foot, four inches by the time he was seventeen years old. He continued gaining weight for several years and at one time he tipped the scales at 565 pounds.

One winter morning "Baby" Bliss was found frozen to death in his kitchen. It is believed that he passed out from escaping gas in his kitchen and then froze when the fire in his kitchen went out.

"Baby" always had a kind word for everyone. His cheery smile and his wonderful personality made him a long-remembered "baby" of Bloomington.

# 75 Years Ago

Aug. 26, 1901 — The late Asa H. Moore, well known Bloomington resident, used to recall this tale about the town of Shirley and how it was named: "Along in 1854 I was superintendent of the Chicago & Alton or as it was then called, the Chicago & Mississippi. We concluded to make a siding where Shirley now is, and I said to my wife, What shall we name the new station?' The novel 'Shirley' by Charlotte Bronte was then a great favorite, and we were greatly charmed with it. My wife's reply was prompt. 'Wouldn't Shirley be a good name?' Said I, that's it exactly. If the town should grow up with a character like Shirley Keeldar's, I will be satisfied."

100 Years Ago April 14, 1876 — SHIRLEY: Mr. Braselton has completed his new blacksmith shop and is doing a lively business, as the farmers are bringing in their plows and machinery to get sharpened, ready for the spring campaign. As the mud is now dried, up, there will be no excuse now for the loafers not having anything to do.

## **EVEN BETTER**

Don't jump at conclusions: An even better one might be just about ready to appear.

#### **NEW TWIST**

They're bottles, now, for medicine That have a special lid. They can't be opened, it is said, By any prowling kid.

This special lid or top is safe And rids one of concern. It will not yield to childish yank Or common twist or turn.

I have a bottle full of pills I keep upon a shelf. The top's secure-I've tried, and I Can't open it myself.

# First born

The first president to be born in the United States of America was Martin Van Buren, on Dec. 5, 1782. All preceding presidents were born during the British colonial rule.

## 50 Years Ago

July 7, 1914-The hard road running southwest of Bloomington to Shirley is already beginning to show wear in places. It is no wonder for most every time an auto leaves Bloomington for a joy ride, it is down the hard road. Probably that road has had 10 times the travel it otherwise would have had and that very thing shows how such roads are liked.

# TUCK-AWAY THOUGHTS

# Pet Habits

by Catherine H. Garrett Dogs lie with forepaws to the

Cats seldom lie with feet toward a fire, and usually lie on their left side

Parakeets like to perch on mirror frames and there talk and look at themselves.

Hens scratch for food with the sun behind them.

Goldfish usually swim around a tank following the direction to the right.

Calves rise on their back feet first.

Colts rise on their front feet first.

Feb. 24, 1929 — The year 1850, notable as the period in which this city was incorporated, also stands forth in the history of this county seat as the founding date of Illinois Wesleyan university. Agitation of the subject of a university caused James Allin, first settler of this territory, to offer a site of 10 acres to the proposed institution. This site was located near the Chicago & Alton shops but when the land was needed for that road the university officials traded their tract for the present location. The school was opened in September of 1851, the Rev. William Goodfellow and the Rev. Reuben Andrus being in charge.

100 Years Ago

Jan. 24, 1876 — Quite a number have already ascended the city stand-pipe. and have all so far pronounced themselves satisfied with the view. Shirley is just under your feet, provided they are big enough, and Hudson can be seen with great distinctness.

A whodunit is a fellow who always seeks to place the blame for a boo-boo else-

An early attempt at harnessing a unique energy source to mow the lawn never quite became popular — it was called "son" pow-

Jan. 4, 1876 — SHIRLEY: Elder Vandervort, pastor of the Christian Church at this place. Sunday evening took up the subject of dancing, denouncing it in language most bitter and sarcastic. He said that those who practiced it were generally of a lower grade of society, unfit for Christian people to associate with. Quite a number of the best gentlemen and ladies in the community have been having social dances at their private houses and never knew until told by the preacher that they were so disrespectable. There is generally better order at those dances than at Elder Vandervort's meetings.

100 Years Ago

Dec. 17, 1875 - SHIRLEY: Prof. Scott has organized a singing school in the Christian church, and will hold forth for 12 weeks every Wednesday evening

-While driving near Normal, my wife and I came across a town by the name of Shirley. Can you tell us where it got its name and what is the population? I'm

asking because my wife's name is Shirley. Thomas O. Myers Jr., Elmhurst

A .- We ran into one roadblock after another until we located Ivan Light, an attorney who lives just east of Shirley. His great-grandfather platted out 20 acres for the town in 1866. Light said that when the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Rail road reached the hamlet in 1852, the townspeople decided to set up a Post Office. That meant the town had to have a name, Light said. The wife of the first postmaster, Corydon Weed, had read the novel "Shirley" by Charlotte Bronte and thought that title would be a good name for the town. And so Shirley was dubbed. Depending upon how many surrounding farms are included, population estimates run from 125 to 150

100 Years Ago

Feb. 20, 1876 — The traveling public will no longer find occasion to pass Shirley by after the first of March, as the Shirley House is to be fitted up and furnished so as to accommodate them.

Sir Ralph Shirley, son of John (Lord of Eatington and Staunton Harold) and brother of Anne Danvers had seven brothers. The will of Sir Ralph Shirley, dated 1513, makes mention of six of his brothers (Henry, Rector of Brailesford, is not mentioned) including "...Nicholas Shirley, Richard Shirley and Baudewyn Shirley....accordyng to my faders bequest." \* Nicholas Shirley is also named as one of the executors of this will.

Another will of the same Sir Ralph Shirley, dated 1517, mentions "...my v brethren.....according to the patents to them made by my father." # The names of Sir Ralph's five brothers are not mentioned. However, the will does make mention of Richard Shirley the elder, who perhaps may be a sixth brother of Sir Ralph. One of the executors of this will was "..my brother,..." # No mention is made at this point of the brother's name. The term "the elder" may indicate that this Richard Shirley may have had a son, Richard, born between 1513 and 1517. Richard the elder, if he is the same Richard mentioned in the will of 1513, would have been older than 32 years in 1517. Sir Ralph's bequest to Richard Shirley the elder (and others whose names are mentioned in the will) states '...my gift for term of their lives according to their patents to them thereof made; and after the decease of every of them their portion to come and remain unto the monastery of Gerondon for term of fifty years." # Perhaps it would appear that on the death of Richard Shirley the elder, his children's entitlement to any of the Shirley family estate was lost.

The following senario may have existed:

b. before 1485	Richard	John (Lord of Eatington & Staunton Harold) and Elianor
b. 1513 to 1517	Richard	Richard (son of John) and?

Other early records of Shirleys in Cropredy are as follows:

bapt. 1581	Rycharde	William and Ann	
marriage 1607	Richard Shirley to Susannah Milner		
bapt. 1612	John (d. 1613)	Rycharde and Susan	
bapt. 1614	John	Rycharde and Susan	
bapt. 1628	William	Rycharde and Susan	
burial 1642	Richard		

William Shirley, father of Rycharde, was not the same William who married Em Cherry. (William and Em had six children born between 1580 and 1593.) So where did William, father of Rycharde, come from to Cropredy? Was he perhaps a descendant of Richard, son of Richard the elder?

Early Cropredy records also show the deaths of unrelated Shirleys as follows:

John Shirley	d. 1597
John Shirley	d. 1602
Marye Shirley	d. 1610
John Shirley	d. 1634
John Shirley	d. 1660
Jane Shirley	d. 1650
William Shirley	d. 1695

- Stemmata Shirleiana, App. CXII, pages 410–414
- # Stemmata Shirleiana, App. CXIII, pages 414-416

Perhaps one of the previously mentioned John Shirleys who died in 1634 or 1660 was the son of Sir Thomas Shirley, the historian (great grandson of John Shirley, Lord of Eatington & Staunton Harold) who will be discussed at a later stage.

It may be possible that the male Shirley family line was as follows:

- (1) John, Lord of Eatington & Staunton Harold, married Elianor Willoughby
- (2) Richard (the elder) born before 1485, 6th son of John, Lord of Eatington & Staunton Harold
- (3) Richard born between 1513 and 1517, (son of Richard the elder)
- (4) John, died 1597 or 1602 Cropredy, (son of Richard) (married Marye, died 1610 Cropredy)
- (5) William (son of John) married Ann, father of Rycharde. William & Ann lived in Cropredy in when their first son John was baptised 1612, died 1613. Their second son John was baptised in Cropredy 1614 (died Cropredy 1634 or 1660)
- (6) Rycharde/Richard baptised 1581 Cropredy, died 1642 Cropredy, married 1607 in Cropredy Sussanah/Susan Milner who died 1665 Cropredy
- (7) William bapt. 1628 Cropredy, third son of Rycharde and Susan Shirley, died before 1677, married Mary who died 1677 Cropredy
- (8) William Shirley died 1695 (son of William and brother of Susan born & died 1659)

[Note that any information in the family line above in parantheses is purely hypothetical.]

Before continuing further with the Shirleys of Cropredy, another connection with the Shirley/Danvers family is worth noting.

John Shirley, (grandson of the abovementioned John Shirley, Lord of Eatington & Staunton Harold) born 1535, married Jane Lovett in 1556. Jane Lovett's grandmother was Anne, daughter of Sir John Danvers of Dantsey, Wiltshire. Anne Lovett (nee Danvers) died 11/7/1523. \* In the absence of the Danvers family tree, one can only assume that Anne Lovett (nee Danvers) may have been the sister/cousin/aunt of John Danvers who married in 1526–7 Anne Shirley (daughter of John Shirley) as previously mentioned at Page 1. So what is the connection, if any, between the Danvers family of Dantsey, Wiltshire, of Swithland, Leicestershire, of Prescote, Oxfordshire and the Shirley family of Eatington (connected by marriage to the Lovett family of Astwell, Northhamptonshire) and the Shirley family of Cropredy?

There was at least one family (possibly three families) by the name of Shirley in Cropredy in the 16th century. At least one Shirley family lived in Cropredy in the 17th century who were of the working class. "The lower mill in Cropredy, south of Cropredy Bridge, was held of the Boothby estate by the Shirley family; in 1696 the Shirleys' tenancy passed (probably by marriage) to John Allen of Cropredy, miller (d. 1743), whose son was William Shirley Allen." # William Shirley who died in Cropredy in 1695 (as mentioned above as (8) in the family line) may have been the Shirley who held the tenancy of the lower mill. Upon his death in in 1695 the tenancy may have passed to his son—in—law, John Allen. The name of John Allen's son, William Shirley Allen would almost certainly indicate the direct relationship between the said William Shirley and his possible grandson, William Shirley Allen. If this is the case, then William Shirley had a daughter, name unknown, who married John Allen.

- \* Stemmata Shirleiana, Page 75 Pedigree of Lovett of Astwell
- # A History of Oxfordshire, Page 167



Stoke

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Hanley

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