

AMI UPCHURCH CONNECTION

△ ENGLAND → △ NEW ZEALAND

The ancestor of Margaret Edna (Upchurch) Butler migrated from England to New Zealand in the 1800's. Margaret and RPU had extensive exchanges filed in her Biofile labeled as Margaret Edna Upchurch. Through the work of David Ransome performed for RPU she was, after many years, able to establish our shared Upchurch lineage in England.

- RPU 11 AUG 2017

RPU
11 AUG
2017

THE ROOTS OF THE AMERICAN UPCHURCH FAMILY IN ENGLAND

The first effort at linking the American
Upchurches to their English heritage was
started by an American Group about 1950
leading to the telling of their findings in
a book in the 1970's by Eda Belle (Leuter)
West. They got some parts of the story right.
And some parts wrong.

In the early 1990's I sponsored a 20-year
effort to tell the story more fully. This
was undertaken by Professor David B. Rowson
sponsored by RPU and the underwriting of
the Upchurch Bulletin. His 24 reports are
published in issues of the Upchurch Bulletin
1980-2016 and Englander 1996-1999 both
of which are posted on www.upchurchstory.com

In short, the story is that Michael
Upchurch, I migrated from England to
America in 1638 as a 14 year old indentured
servant and in the progenitor of essentially
all white American Upchurches. Michael
came from Buxton in Huntingdonshire
England. His father was Richard Upchurch
but beyond that we have no proof.
In the 1500's and beyond there were
groups of Upchurches in several parts
of England - but not linked per Rowson

DAVID

RANSOME

①

RECEIVED
3 MAR 2019

42 Swaan Drive, Lee NH 03861

Dear Phil,

UB 37 was waiting for us when we returned from Rhode Island to New Hampshire a day or two ago. (This winter, did I say, we have been deciding whether to abandon RI and move north to be close to our daughter and her family. She has recently moved into a house they have renovated in Durham, home of UNH where her husband is chairman of the psych department, and we are squatting in their former condo. Currently our thinking is that it is too far north and that we should stay in Rhode Island where we know the stores, understand our way around Brown, and have had our links these past 57 years.)

I am sorry, as I am sure you are, to think that UB 37 is the last you will edit, and indeed is the last, period. These twenty years and more I have been pleased to have contributed a little to its existence; and I am even more pleased that it has brought us friendship with you and Sallaine. As I have said before, I admire the energy and skill and patience with which you have built a network and a clan, and have now created a center, all of which will outlive you. I trust your image will appear in the Cary Facility; I'd not think it inappropriate if the board of the Allied Families Association applied to your portrait the sentiment Sir Christopher Wren's son applied to his tomb in St Paul's Cathedral: "Lector, si monumentum requiris, circumspice." [If you who read this seek his monument,



look around you – or, as some wit, using the old pronunciation of Latin,
paraphrased it: “Sir, come, spy, see.”]

I have taken close note of your arrangements for the perpetuation of the Allied Families Association as you have set it out in UB 37. The Ransome archive that has drifted my way is neither as large as the one you have assembled nor been so carefully organized but I am aware that I must see to its safekeeping.. I thank you for describing so clearly how you have solved the problem. You will thus be not only father to one archive but godfather to another.

Now as you enter your ninetieth year, you will, I trust, complete it, and with the help of your doctors complete yet others. Meantime Joyce and I send you and Sallaine our good wishes for a continuing happy enjoyment of your continually expanding family. I remain

With affection and admiration,

David



Subject: Friendship

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sat, Mar 04, 2017 10:09 am

To: "David aaxRansome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>

Hi David---

I appreciate your nice letter which arrived yesterday and especially your comments about what I had set forth in the final UB. Although I have some regret at not being able to look forward to having a place to document aspects of heritage that come my way I welcomed having a good reason to bring a 37 year publishing effort to a meaningful close. This was better than having it simply stopped due to unexpected life-changing events. In like manner I am planning a closeout of my activities in Allied Families in a meaningful way so that it can continue on it's own in my absence, However, after transferring all operations to competent associates I will be around for an ill-defined period of time to look over their shoulders and offer comments, welcomed or not.

It is encouraging to me that your reading of my epistle caused you to think of the future management of your collection. In each of my talks I give voice to this issue, it being one family historians do not often contemplate

I am excited about my trip to N.C. later this month in that we can accelerate the progress in our Allied families Cary Facility. This will be followed by a careful assessment about whether to undergo the serious Whipple operation to remove source of my affliction.

You have probably made a wise decision to stay with your community you have enjoyed for 57 years. At some point you may need a change of one sort or another. This is a highly personal decision which only you and Joyce can make. Sallaine and I are comfortable with the change we made three years ago to move into a retirement center. We would have enjoyed the three years more in our Villa but as life advances one needs to face logic. We made the right decision. Should my cancer terminate my existence or require exceptional treatments we are in exactly the right place and should Sallaine be left alone she is in a good environment. It gives one peace of mind.

Looking forward to our continued exchanges and to good outcomes for the four of us and our loved ones.

Sending All Best Wishes to you and Joyce~
Phil Upchurch

Allied Families

Upchurch & Allied Families Association

Upchurch and Allied Families, Inc. is a not for profit organization under which Phil Upchurch, colleagues, and members perform family and local history work. See www.alliedfamilies.com and www.upchurchhistory.com.
Contact Phil at (636) 898-8516 or (314) 313-4734 (cell)

January 4, 2017

Dear David,

Enclosed is a copy of UB 2016 - Volume 37, the last to be produced. In it I have tried to tell the story of how over many years we have evolved from print to digital. It is quite a saga. And now I am endeavouring to pass the baton to the leaders who will manage Allied Families.

Along the way your documented/published inputs on our English roots have been a very bright element. Your efforts are online for the age and the whole Upchurch Family will forever be in your debt as will I in particular. A wonderful by product has been the deep friendship you and I have achieved which I treasure.

My shadow now grows long as I contemplate the most likely outcome of my pancreatic cancer. I continue to be lucky and to have good days and am using them effectively.

Sending All Best Wishes to you and Joyce
Fondly
Phil Upchurch

Subject: Re: Visit to England-Advice Needed!
From: David Ransome <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jul 10, 2016 6:14 am
To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

By all means give Dawn and husband my e-mail address. I will be in and about Cambridge from 8 August but I may be busy, especially if I haven't managed to complete my paper for the Ferrar conference at Magdalene in early September. Joyce arrives on 24 August, so I know I will be out of circulation from that date. I don't charge anything for accompanying Upchurches but similarly I don't expect to have to pay for my own lunch!

In haste; after lunch I'm off to Scotland for a week.

Greetings to you both,
David

On 10 July 2016 at 01:58, <phil@upchurchstory.com> wrote:

Hi Cousin Dawn---

Great to hear from you and to learn you and your husband are to visit England and hope to absorb some of you Upchurch heritage there. I will be happy to make several suggestions as follows:

1. Essex is not relevant to our Upchurch heritage as known so far.
2. Do not be attracted by the Village of Upchurch in Kent as no Upchurches were ever have been known to have been there.
3. Our Upchurches came from Huntingdonshire (now absorbed by Cambridgeshire). Key towns are Brington and Little Gidding both near Godmanchester 100 miles north of London.
4. Early on we thought our key village was Little Gidding. Not so, but it is still important for certain reasons and you should visit it if feasible.
5. The key village is Brington about five miles from Little Gidding. Do visit and attend service in the old Church where Michael likely worshiped. We were lucky enough to have tea in the home of the Village Warden, now deceased, the home dating from the 1500's.
6. For your homework:
 - a. View some of the videos posted on www.upchurchstory.com password 2013upchurch# starting with the one on Michael Upchurch and going to others including the one on your ancestor John U. III.
 - b. On the website pull up the Upchurch Bulletin and Englandia and start going through them page by page. Each table of Contents will tell you if there is an item on England. You will soon learn to move rapidly through the issues and to see how we dispelled myths as we went. Note our extreme good luck in contracting with Professor David Ransome to help us for now about 25 years. Some of his articles involve lists which you can skip. They are fodder for future researchers. Note that the UB narratives appeared in several tranches so you will have several files to inspect. By spending a few hours on these items you will benefit from tens of thousands of hours we invested and tens of thousands of dollars. I hope this will encourage you to make an extra contribution to Allied Families as you indicated a desire to do on our last exchange. In the meantime we are making great progress in enrolling the John U., III Family to which you belong ---see www.alliedfamilies.com password 2014allied#.
7. And now a special thought. Professor Ransome lives in RI but now is sojourning for a season in England. If you had a day to spare and could contract with Professor Ransome to serve as your guide on Upchurches you would be extremely blessed. I do not know if he is available or his fee but if you are interested I could inquire. He normally does not do work for hire but for us he has made an exception and has become like family.

I have made the trip to Upchurch sites in England several times with great pleasure. I know you will enjoy it immensely and will come back more dedicated to our Upchurch case than ever. I hope you will keep notes and write us a 1-3 page account of your experiences which I can publish in the UB to be prepared this fall

If you have some questions please let me know.

Sending All Best Wishes~
Phil Upchurch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Visit to England-Advice Needed!

DAVID

RANSOME

①

Print | Close Window

Subject: RE: Virginia Ferrar
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Jul 02, 2016 3:44 pm
To: "David aaxRansome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Cc: "Joyce--OM Ransome" <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>
Attach: Balliol-Logo-RGB-not-for-print-small[2][33].png

Hi David---

I ask your reaction to the draft of an email as proposed below to Dr Adam Smyth. I assume the thread of emails since he found my website on May 30, 2016 will give you the context. Perhaps you and or Virginia already are in touch with him. I would propose to copy you two on my email to him if you have no objection.

Trust you are enjoying England~
Phil Upchurch

Hi Adam---

I will tell you a little about our Upchurch interest in the Ferrars before suggesting an option for you.

In the 1950's a small Group started to research the origins of the American Upchurch family about which little was known at the time. In the 1970's I inherited the continuation of this effort and since 1980 have published the Upchurch Bulletin. All issues are posted on my website www.upchurchstory.com password 2013upchurch#. Our connection with England may be found in the various issues. Also posted there are four volumes of Englandia 1996-1999 where we concentrated on our English roots. I general it may be said that essentially all white American Upchurches descend from Michael Upchurch born 1624 in England, he coming to America in 1638 as an indentured servant. Arguably, his descendants could now amount to a million people.

Our early research in England led us to believe that the family of our Michael lived at Little Gidding. Not so, they lived at Brington. Still we Upchurches have a tenuous claim on Little Gidding which we treasure.

To your interests--- the original Group discovered that Michael had written to England in the 1650's. Actually there were four letters. They are preserved in Cambridge and I have been there and held them in my hands. Some if not all of these letters were stimulated by a questionnaire the Ferrars sent to the New World which bears upon your interest in Virginia. In about 1990 coincidences led to us finding a Ferrar authority by the name of professor David Ransome. Since that time he has served as our consultant cum dear friend and has penned a couple of dozen reports on our Upchurch heritage in England. They are not profound in the grand scheme but are treasures for our family history. Further, more to your interests, David and his wife Virginia are Ferrar published scholars. They now reside in Rhode Island but as it happens David is sojourning in England for a season. It is with his permission that I hereby share his email address with you in the event you would like to contact him. Their interests in the Ferrars, and yours, go beyond my serious interests but I remain curious about unfolding Ferrar events. My current interests center on American Upchurch events as illustrated by our second website www.alliedfamilies.com password 2014allied#.

I trust this input will be of some use to you and I will welcome additional contacts if you think I can be of assistance.
Sending All Best Wishes~
Phil Upchurch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Virginia Ferrar
From: Adam Smyth <adam.smyth@ell.ox.ac.uk>
Date: Sat, July 02, 2016 2:47 am
To: "phil@upchurchstory.com" <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil

Thanks for this, and sorry for being so slow in replying: the end of term is still rumbling on!

You kindly asked about my research interests. I'm looking to find out about the contact between in particular Virginia Ferrar and Michael Upchurch, and about her role in connection with North America more generally. I suspect her activity and agency has been rather downplayed, while her male family members, including her father, have received more critical attention. So I'd be fascinated to see or read of any archival materials you may know about concerned with Virginia's letter writing to, and contact with, Upchurch or other Virginians.

Best wishes,

Adam

Dr Adam Smyth
Associate Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book
Co-Director, Centre for Early Modern Studies
New book: *A History of English Autobiography* (CUP 2016)
Routledge Book Series [Material Readings](#)



From: phil@upchurchstory.com [phil@upchurchstory.com]

Subject: RE: Virginia Ferrar
 From: phil@upchurchstory.com
 Date: Sun, Jul 03, 2016 7:58 am
 To: "Adam Smyth" <adam.smyth@ell.ox.ac.uk>
 Cc: "David aaxRansome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>
 Bcc: "Joyce--OM Ransome" <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>
 Attach: Balliol-Logo-RGB-not-for-print-small[2][33].png

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Our early research in England led us to believe that the family of our Michael lived at Little Gidding. Not so, they lived at Brighton. Still we Upchurches have a tenuous claim on Little Gidding which we treasure.

To your interests--- the original Group discovered that Michael had written to England in the 1650's. Actually there were four letters. They are preserved in Cambridge and I have been there and held them in my hands. Some if not all of these letters were stimulated by a questionnaire the Ferrars sent to the New World which bears upon your interest in Virginia. In about 1990 coincidences led to us finding a Ferrar authority by the name of professor David Ransome. Since that time he has served as our consultant cum dear friend and has penned a couple of dozen reports on our Upchurch heritage in England. They are not profound in the grand scheme but are treasures for our family history. Further, more to your interests, David and his wife Virginia are Ferrar published scholars. They now reside in Rhode Island but as it happens David is sojourning in England for a season. It is with his permission that I hereby share his email address with you in the event you would like to contact him. Their interests in the Ferrars, and yours, go beyond my serious interests but I remain curious about unfolding Ferrar events. My current interests center on American Upchurch events as illustrated by our second website www.alliedfamilies.com password 2014allied#.

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From: phil@upchurchstory.com [phil@upchurchstory.com]
 Sent: 14 June 2016 20:41
 To: Adam Smyth
 Subject: RE: New Form Entry: Contact Form

Hi Adam---

Subject: Re: Virginia Ferrar
From: David Ransome <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jul 03, 2016 6:29 am
To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>
Attach: Balliol-Logo-RGB-not-for-print-small[2][33].png

Dear Phil,

In the distant past I corresponded with Adam Smyth before he got to Balliol. By all means give him my current e-address. I fancy that he may well be attending the Ferrar conference at Magdalene in early September, in which he and I and Joyce can talk face to face.

There seems to be a push at the moment to build up Virginia Ferrar in opposition to her father John. I must confess that I think those who so argue are on thin ice. Indeed the Records of Huntingdonshire are about to print later this year a paper I gave at Durham some years ago: "Virginia Ferrar: a liberated woman." The sting is in the paper's tail; she liberated herself, I reckon, from her father's requirements to correspond with Virginians and cultivate silkworms and after his death became for the next thirty years until her death a thoroughly conventional spinster aunt, freeing herself from matrimony and the dangers of child-bearing, in short from male domination. But please keep this under your hat till the article appears - in October, I am told.

Best wishes to you both,
David

On 2 July 2016 at 21:44, <phil@upchurchstory.com> wrote:

Hi David---

I ask your reaction to the draft of an email as proposed below to Dr Adam Smyth. I assume the thread of emails since he found my website on May 30, 2016 will give you the context. Perhaps you and or Virginia already are in touch with him. I would propose to copy you two on my email to him if you have no objection.

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Best wishes,

Adam

Dr Adam Smyth
Associate Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book

Subject: Re: Omnibus Newsletter December 2016
From: David Ransome <moanard33@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 16, 2016 8:28 am
To: Upchurch Story <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Many thanks for including us among the recipients of the newsletter. We are glad to know that all goes well, and we admire your energy and generosity in funding the association.

We are - very tentatively - on the move. Now that our Elizabeth and her family have moved into the house they have been modernising these past three or four years, we are camping in their old condo, a mile or so away from them, to see if we like the idea of moving permanently there or thereabouts. For the present we are keeping our base in RI, and our e-addresses of course remain the same.

The Ferrar conference at Magdalene was a success. It was occasioned by the completion of a programme to clean and mount the Ferrar prints. There were 50 or so of us, about a third of whom we had either already met or been in a conversation with. The topics were varied: literary, historical, and musical, and the meeting included a visit to Little Gidding, which is once more receiving visitors. Joyce gave a paper on Mary Collett, the Ferrar niece who played an important role in the making of the biblical Harmonies; I spoke on the Ferrars' edition of 'the King's Book', Charles I's meditations published a fortnight after his execution and the runaway best seller of 1649. The meeting was both congenial and profitable and has already yielded contacts with folk who weren't there. Any moment now I will have a paper on Virginia Ferrar published in the Records of Huntingdonshire, and I hope shortly to have published another on her cultivation of silkworms at Gidding.

But most immediately we are thinking of Christmas. We will spend it with the family, as we expect you and Sallaine too will spend yours. We trust it will be a merry day and will be prelude to a happy, healthy and peaceful year for us all.

David

On 13/12/2016, Upchurch Story <phil@upchurchstory.com> wrote:

> **December 13, 2016**

> =====

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> *

> * Since our last newsletter on April 14, 2016, there have been many developments which we now report.

>

> **Allied Families Invites Contributions and Newsletters**

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> Supporters are encouraged to send in year-end donations. The amounts over the basic membership of \$20 will lead to a 2016 tax deduction. You can also prepay your renewal or new 2017 membership of \$20. You can go to the website and use Pay Pal (

> <https://sable.godaddy.com/c/51135?id=867.54.1.1e381cb2107c0fa7a29b540728fdd5ad>

>) or download the membership form found here (

> <https://sable.godaddy.com/c/51135?id=867.55.1.1e1d01e2d0991702d328e6b65486e5ef>

>).

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> **_Phil and Sallaine Upchurch Endowment Established_**

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> On November 9, 2016, Phil and Sallaine gifted \$200,000 in cash to establish an endowment in our Allied Families Association. The earnings of this endowment will provide a stable income to support our Association each year in the future. It is my hope that others will step forward to establish more such endowments.

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> **Programs**

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> Our longstanding and ongoing programs of documenting, sharing, and preserving the heritage of Upchurch and Allied Families is currently in a huge state of transition. Basically, we are keeping our feet in the print world while rapidly moving to the digital world. The former is largely accommodated by our 2007 website and the latter by an 2013 website. The mechanics of the shift are clearly explained in the 2016 issue of the Upchurch Bulletin now posted on our 2007 website. All 2017 paid members of Allied Families are entitled to a hard copy of the 2016 issue upon request. To link to a copy now click here. (

> <https://sable.godaddy.com/c/51135?id=867.56.1.3108c4f3221600c9fa5924ecab92585c>

>)

>

> Our digital program of work is to share and preserve our family history records online far into the future. A key feature of this platform centers on our enrolled families. See the 2013 website for examples. For each enrolled family we are building an endowment to insure permanence. Descendants of each enrolled family are invited to be volunteer transcribers, tree masters, and the level of participation so far is encouraging. To participate, contact Maureen at Membership Services.

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> There are many more bells and whistles on our 2013 newsletter and more are being added so please take a look.

>

> Websites

> =====

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> If you have not recently visited the two websites, please do so as we keep adding new information every day. The two websites are as follows; 2007 site

Subject: RE: Omnibus Newsletter December 2016
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Dec 17, 2016 10:19 am
To: "David Ransome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>

Hi David---

Good to hear from you and to have an update. You and Joyce seem to be very productive and are also proceeding logically about a move which is wise---meas I am now in a full court press to put Allied Families in a position to function without me. This may be months or years ahead but I feel good about moving aggr will be not only be an Internet platform and physical location (Cary, N.C.) that will serve Upchurch and allied families well into the decades ahead but it will also I think what you have helped us assemble will stand up well in comparison to English records for other Colonial American families. My only regret is that we have r assemble. Given that it will all be preserved online far into the future means the records are there for the next worker in the vineyard. May these records ever re for all who helped sponsor your work on behalf of the Upchurch family which had so much of the hallmark of a labour of love on your part.

Thus I send All Best Wishes to you and yours for a Blessed and Merry Christmas~
Phil Upchurch

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> <https://sable.godaddy.com/c/51135?id=867.54.1.1e381cb2107c0fe7a29b540728fdd5ad>
>) or download the membership form found here (
> <https://sable.godaddy.com/c/51135?id=867.55.1.1e1d01e2d0991702d328e6b65486e5ef>
>).
>
> **_Phil and Sallaine Upchurch Endowment Established_**
> =====
>
> On November 9, 2016, Phil and Sallaine gifted \$200,000 in cash to establish
> an endowment in our Allied Families Association. The earnings of this
> endowment will provide a stable income to support our Association each year
> in the future. It is my hope that others will step forward to establish more
> such endowments.
>
> **Programs**
> =====
>
> Our longstanding and ongoing programs of documenting, sharing, and

Subject: [FWD: Re: Payment received from garfield3869@hotmail.com]
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Sep 03, 2016 6:40 am
To: "David aaxRansome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Cc: "Karen-15-16 Stoffle" <garfield3869@hotmail.com>
Bcc: "Carla-15-16 Michaels" <cjm400@gmail.com>

Hi David---

The forwarded email will alert you to another of our extended Upchurch family that is visiting England for an extended period. I know her knowledge of our Upchurch heritage would be greatly enhanced if she could sit with you for a short visit. I realize your respective schedules might not make this possible. If you meet perhaps you could explain the relationship of our family to Brington and Little Gidding and perhaps encourage her to visit.

Sending All Best Wishes~
Phil Upchurch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Payment received from garfield3869@hotmail.com
From: KC Stoffle <garfield3869@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri, September 02, 2016 1:47 pm
To: "phil@upchurchstory.com" <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Hello Phil,

I just returned to England to study at University of Gloucestershire, let me finish moving into my rented accommodation and set up internet. Hopefully that will be done by 21 Sept, then I will email you and be happy to transcribe a Biofile.

So sorry it took me a bit to renew my membership, I have enjoyed so much reading and learning about the family history. I will also be researching more the family of Upchurch, Goodwin, Stone and Renn (Wren) over here as well. I do know that there was a professor at Cambridge who has done extensive research on the Upchurch family name, there are a few Renn relatives who I have met.

Speak with you soon.

Kind regards,
Karen

On 2 Sep 2016, at 14:33, phil@upchurchstory.com wrote:

Hi Karen----

Thanks so much for your \$20 via PayPal for your 2016 Membership in Allied Families. I hope you are following the enrolled Family of Moses U. on our website We are making regular progress on this family. Would you be in a position to transcribe a Biofile or two for members of the family to be posted on our website? We have about 30 Transcribers but need more.

Best Wishes~
Phil Upchurch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Payment received from garfield3869@hotmail.com
From: Karen Stoffle via PayPal <member@paypal.com>
Date: Thu, September 01, 2016 3:17 am
To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>



Sep 1, 2016 01:17:38 PDT
Transaction ID: [4FH83193EC263374J](#)

Hello Phil Upchurch,

You received a payment of \$20.00 USD from (garfield3869@hotmail.com).

To see all the transaction details, please log into your PayPal account. It may take a few moments for this transaction to appear in your account.

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

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Date: Sat, Sep 03, 2016 9:22 am
To: "David Ransome" <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Cc: "Karen--15-16 Stoffle" <garfield3869@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Thanks for your response. You are very generous. By copy of this email I will let Karen know of your availability.

Best Regards~

Phil Upchurch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: [FWD: Re: Payment received from garfield3869@hotmail.com]
From: David Ransome <emosnard33@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, September 03, 2016 9:10 am
To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Joyce leaves for the US on 9/21, and I'll be away from Cambridge until 10/1. Thereafter, till I too leave - on 10/26 - I'll be in Cambridge, but will be stationary there, since I will by then have disposed of my car. If Karen likes to get in touch with me and come to Cambridge I'd be happy to spend an hour or two with her.

The Ferrar conference opens to-morrow and I am still working on my papers. I just hope I get them both finished in time!

Best wishes to you both,
David

On 3 September 2016 at 12:40, <phil@upchurchstory.com> wrote:

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DAVID R

RANSOME 2013- PG1

①
14
JAN
2013
Subject: RE: New video
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2013 9:48 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Joyce and I have just viewed the video, which we like. I have sent Tom an 'All Clear', suggesting only two or three minute changes. I hope even such minor alterations will not cause him and you too many headaches.

David

②
14
JAN
2013
From: david ransome [mailto:emosnard@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2013 10:42 AM
To: Tom Upchurch
Subject: RE: New video

Joyce and I have now both seen and heard Phil's account of my friendship with him. Joyce had no difficulty in calling it up; I had problems at first, but on a second attempt had no trouble. It is easy listening and I am flattered by Phil's remarks. I have only one or two very minor comments.

* Phil says at one point that he left his business card "at the Gate at Cambridge University". I suspect he left it "at the Porters' Lodge [the entry] at Magdalene College". By the time I saw it in 1990, it was in a file in the Old Library there, where the Ferrar Papers are kept.

* Phil says that I can read "Old English". In fact I can't. Old English is in effect Anglo-Saxon. What I can do is to read with a fair degree of success handwriting/manuscript from the 16th century onwards.

* I was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society for some 25 years but I am no longer so. I'd be happier if it stated "a former..."

* Phil refers to my accompanying the Upchurch tour of England "in about 2000". Fair enough, I suppose. The year was actually 2002.

As you can see, I think the talk an essentially fair representation of our relationship , and I'm most grateful to you
https://email14.secureserver.net/view_print_multi.php?uidArray=10702|INBOX&aEmIPart=0

1,

③
14
JAN
2013
Subject: Video Upgrade
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2013 4:20 pm
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Cc: "Dr. Tom Upchurch" <tupchurch41@charter.net>

Hi David---

Tom has been kind enough to let me know of your suggestions about the video and as to what can be done. He can and will correct the Royal Historical Society item. The other items cannot be corrected with out distortion of the presentation. The alternative is to remake the video. In thinking of the three items that remain I am inclined to think, on balance, that we should go forward with the video as it is. Technically I should have used the term "Porters Lodge" but in my mind I had always thought that I had left it at sort of a Gate House. As to "old English" perhaps we can visualize that the average American looking at 16th century script would conclude that your ability to read it constitutes a skill even if it takes some liberty to call it "Old English". It would have been better if I could have remembered the proper year for the tour but I did have enough presence of mind to say "about"

CONTINUED

③ 14 JAN 2013 - CONTINUED

We are quite new at the video business and the suggestions you have made encourage me to prepare better in advance to have dates and other facts better in mind as I prepare to do future videos. So far I am pretty much doing the videos off the top of my head in order to move the process along. It is quite likely that in some cases we may wish at some later date to redo some of the videos where we missed the mark in a significant way. In the meantime we are anxious to hear from viewers to get a sense of how well our venture into this new world is working. I sense that it has a lot of power but we will wait and see.

I did suggest to Tom that a mention of your being made an Honorary Upchurch would be a nice touch and he thinks he can do that.

The intent of the video was to say to one and all how valuable your expertise and cooperation has been for the entire Upchurch Family. I hope that comes through to the viewers and especially to you and Joyce.

Best!

Phil Upchurch

Subject: RE: Video Upgrade

④ From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2013 4:44 pm

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>, Tom Upchurch <tupchurch41@charter.net>

14
JAN
2013

I can certainly live with the version as it now stands. Indeed it was only the fact that Tom implied that changes could be more easily at this stage that made me suggest the possibility of crossing the odd T and dotting an I or two.

David

Subject: Update

⑤ From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2013 9:36 am

Alec Roche <ar.roche2@gmail.com>, Alix Krueger <alixkru@earthlink.net>, Ann Coulson <anncoulson@hotmail.com>, Betsy J Bell <betsyjbelle@comcast.net>, Bill Beaton <wbeaton@talktalk.net>, Bill Packard <wpackd@yahoo.com>, Caroline McEwan <dralanmcewan@aol.com>, Caroline Moseley <cm014c1839@blueyonder.co.uk>, Charles Hanson <charleshansonecon@yahoo.co.uk>, Charles Judge <cmfjudge@gmail.com>, Charlie Shelton <crofton5@tiscali.co.uk>, Denis Price <denis.price@orange.fr>, Dennis Bonney <bonney.jd@gmail.com>, Felicity Dale <fdale@house2house.com>, Geoffrey Robinson

To: <gandprobinson@waitrose.com>, George Sipp <gsipp2@kc.rr.com>, Jane Acton <acton.jane@googlegmail.com>, "John Richardson" <jgr.lfr@btopenworld.com>, John Dyter <john@dyter.net>, Jonathan Keer <jonkeer2000@yahoo.co.uk>, Julie Jones <julia_jones76@yahoo.co.uk>, Karen Hirtzel <karen.hirtzel@alexlive.com>, Marguerite Dupree <mdupree@arts.gla.ac.uk>, Marianne Hirtzel <mpots@hotmail.com>, Monty Northcott <m.northcott254@btinternet.com>, Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>, Philip Acton <pacton01@btinternet.com>, philippa Freund <philippafreund@tiscali.co.uk>

11
MAR
2013

Dear All,

Please excuse this circular which comes courtesy of Elizabeth's fingers.

On 2 March I created a single-car accident by hitting a tree. I was least injured, breaking my right thumb (which will receive surgery on Wednesday). Joyce was more seriously hurt: she has a cracked sternum, a broken rib and a broken right arm, and bruises that are gradually becoming less spectacular. She was in the hospital for three days, and is now in a nursing home for rehab. There is the hope that she will be home by the end of the week. The car was totalled.

E came down on Sunday evening and has been here since holding the fort. The rest of the family arrived for the weekend, Charles fenced, Emma danced, and everybody slept. All being well, I still hope to come to England on 17th April; Joyce was planning to arrive about 10th May. We shall have to see if that's possible.

Love to you all,

Please pass on the information to anyone who you know would be interested.

David

DAVID R

RANSOME 2013

PG 3

②

11 MAR
2013

Subject: RE: Update

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2013 1:38 pm

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

We were sorry to learn about your accident but take solace in that no one was fatally injured. From the description of the accident and especially of the injuries to Joyce it seems that it could be more serious than it was. Sallaine and I send our best wishes hoping that you will both soon be back to par. I can recall when I have had broken parts it seemed like the therapy and using my left hand to eat would last forever but with the passage of time I have to stop and think about the angst of those experiences. Thus I hope you and Joyce will be good soldiers and persevere as your recovery knowing the down the road you will return to your regular busy schedules with the accident in your rear view mirror.

Activities here are proceeding apace with more videos going in the can and activities picking up on my memoirs.

Good luck on your travel plans.

Phil I Upchurch

③

22 MAR
2013

Subject: Re:Joyce again; I say rejoice

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 22, 2013 6:28 am

Alec Roche <ar.roche2@gmail.com>, Alix Krueger <alixkru@earthlink.net>, Ann Coulson <anncoulson@hotmail.com>, Bill Beaton <wbeaton@talktalk.net>, Caroline Moseley <cm014c1839@blueyonder.co.uk>, Charles Hanson <charleshansonecon@yahoo.co.uk>, Charlie Shelton <crofton5@tiscali.co.uk>, Dennis Bonney <bonney.jd@gmail.com>, Felicity Dale <fdale@house2house.com>, Geoffrey Robinson <gandprobinson@waitrose.com>, George Sipp <gsipp2@kc.rr.com>, Jane Acton <acton.jane@googlemail.com>, "John Richardson"

To: <jgr.lfr@btopenworld.com>, John Dyter <john@dyter.net>, JonathanKeer <jonkeer2000@yahoo.co.uk>, Julie Jones <julia_jones76@yahoo.co.uk>, Karen Hirtzel <karen.hirtzel@alexlive.com>, Karen Kupperman <karen.kupperman@nyu.edu>, Marguerite Dupree <marguerite.dupree@glasgow.ac.uk>, Marguerite Dupree <mdupree@arts.gla.ac.uk>, Marianne Hirtzel <mpots@hotmail.com>, Monty Northcott <m.northcott254@btinternet.com>, Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>, Philip Acton <pacton01@btinternet.com>, philippa Freund <philippafreund@tiscali.co.uk>, Rob Manning <manningmill@tiscali.co.uk>, Tim Harris <timothy_harris@brown.edu>

Dear All,

Joyce came home yesterday. She continues to improve; her bruises are vanishing, her pain is less, she is walking with a cane, and the doctors (who saw her yesterday) don't want to see her for another fortnight. Elizabeth goes back to NH later to-day, and friends from church are rallying round with food and transport. I too saw the doctor yesterday; he changed my dressing, and will take the pin from my thumb in three weeks time.

Please spread the good news, wherever appropriate.

Love to you all, and thanks for the messages received
David

DAVID R

RANSOME 2013

PE4

④

28
APR
2013

Subject: Upchurch stories

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, Apr 28, 2013 4:37 pm

To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

In the weeks while Joyce and I have been recovering from the crash - and we are recovering slowly but steadily, being now busily obeying physiotherapists - we have been reading lighter materials than our usual diet of historical works. Joyce has been threading Jane Austen between detective tales, and thus has been distantly linked to Little Gidding since it is highly likely that Jane A was a descendant of the Ferrars.

I meanwhile have made my way through the four volumes of autobiography of Osbert Sitwell, covering the years 1893-1942 until he inherited a baronetcy from his father, the volumes thus acting as a factual sequel to the fictional Downton Abbey, OS being a real-life descendant of dukes and earls and the heir to a stately home in England and a castle in Italy. For lighter reading still I too have been sampling murder mysteries, and have just finished one which has prompted me to write. Brynn Bonner is the author of Paging the Dead, described as a Family History mystery, and published this year by Gallery Books, a division of Simon & Schuster. The tale is set in North Carolina, where the author, an Alabamian, now lives, and the two sleuths who aid the police are professional genealogists; but what particularly caught my eye was the dedication: "For Brenda Upchurch Smart, a fine writer and a fine friend, Gone too soon." Could she possibly be someone of interest to you?

More soberly an article in my Oxford Alumni magazine reports the conclusions of a DNA project. Three Oxford scientists have mapped the DNA of the Peoples of the British Isles. The article is based on data derived from folk whose four grandparents were all born in the same area of the country and thus gives a genetic picture of rural Britain c.1880. It would be interesting to know if any Upchurches took part in the survey, as many of them in Huntingdonshire would have qualified (as indeed would I in Suffolk). The article doesn't mention a similar study based on the 1881 census which I have seen online; it offers maps showing in England where last names could then be found, and the Upchurches appear exactly where (and only where) the parish records reveal them, on the western fringe of greater East Anglia. Scanning is beyond me, but Joyce has agreed to copy the article in the next day or so and send it to you directly, in case it is of more than passing interest.

We have thought of you both whenever our local TV shows pictures of the misbehavior of the Missouri and the Mississippi and hoped that you are high enough and far enough away from the rivers to avoid the floods. Here in Rhode Island spring is now arriving, and indeed here in the northern part of the state we are for once warmer than the coastal areas to the south of us, and this afternoon sat out for the first time. We are about to install a new air conditioning system as we reckon to be here for much of the summer, going to Europe only at its end. Are you planning any foreign travel?

Our best wishes to you both,
David

⑤

29
APR
2013

Subject: "What makes British?"

From: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

Date: Mon, Apr 29, 2013 9:08 am

To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Attach: What makes British?1.pdf

What makes British?2.pdf

What makes British?3.pdf

original to ORG/EX USA/BREIT BRITAINO
crossreferenced in FIT/33/DNA

Dear Phil,

Attached are the scanned pages of the article David wrote you about yesterday, a very interesting article I thought. I could only wish there had been some indication that a larger version of the map could be downloaded from somewhere, but I couldn't see anything about that.

We hope you are not under threat from the rising flood waters we see on the news.
Best wishes to you both,
Joyce

DAVID R

RANSOME 2013 PG 5

⑥

4 MAY
2013

Subject: RE: Upchurch stories
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, May 04, 2013 8:05 am
To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Cc: "Joyce Ransome" <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

Hi David and Joyce---

Many thanks to you both for the very interesting DNA article on the peoples of the British Isles. I have made it a part of my files and cross-referenced as appropriate. Sallaine was anxious to have a look as she is convinced her British heritage traces back to the Vikings. The confirming evidence I offer is that she has cold feet!

We are pleased that you continue to recover from your accident. Soon it will be a distant memory. The opportunity to read more is a bonus. Thank you for the reference on author Brenda Upchurch. I have made an extract for the files including my file on Upchurch Authors. I have several dozen Upchurches with the name Brenda and she now joins hem with the hopes I can eventually place her on the family tree.

My current read is a book by Regis Philben and the people he knew--not very taxing. A recent book sale allowed me to buy several books on President Jefferson to give to my son as he has a focus on Jefferson. One nicely boxed two volume set on how the White house evolved over the years intended for Barry was commandeered by Sallaine as she thought it a nice display. Now she is immersed in reading it.

Our next travel is to Georgetown University to attend the presentation of the MBA to our grandson Andrew Heck. Also to meet his future in laws the Kings from California given that Andrew has now proposed to their daughter Sarah. We are expecting our first great grand child in Nevada this month and will go out in a few months to say hello. Then it is on to North Carolina in December--no international travel on the books at present

After a year of delay I am now back to writing my part of the book two cousins and I are writing on my Grandfather Bartley Jefferson Upchurch, CSA 1841-1929. Just yesterday I sent the Upchurch Newsletter to 394 individuals including you two. From it you will gather the great progress we are making on the Internet front. Responses are coming in. My body and psyche feel like someone is putting high octane fuel in an older model that was designed to run on more benign fuel.

With All Best Wishes an trusting that you will enjoy your new air conditioner.
Phil Upchurch

⑦

22
JUN
2013

Subject: RE: Upchurch stories
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jun 22, 2013 10:32 am
To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

Have you come across "Family Trees: a history of genealogy in America"? It is by Francois Weil, and was published by the Harvard University Press earlier this year. There was a review of it in the New York Review of Books, and as a result I have just read it. It is an extremely good - but rather impersonal - account of the waves of interest in the topic from colonial days onwards, tracing the varying motivations for an interest in one's ancestors.

Originally, to boost their social standing colonial folk sought if not noble at least gentle ancestors. In the early republic they became moral exemplars worthy to be imitated. The 19th century saw family tradition as a justification for claims of descent challenged by a more rigorous reliance on evidence, but the century also brought about a commercialisation of the activity. That led to increased fraud, both from the desire of the nouveaux riches after the Civil War to match their new wealth with old status and from the all too frequent venality of some professional genealogical agents. Genealogy in this period was also used to promote nationalism, not only nation-wide in the USA but also among the immigrant nationalities, and of course it also veered into racism, with a Darwinian sequence that descended from the "Anglo-Saxon" through the "Mediterranean" to the "African". The struggle between the two styles of genealogy, the strictly documentary and the rather more hypothetical, was, temporarily, 'won' after World War II by the former, but racism has recently surfaced again in another form with the evidence to be gained from DNA. The interpretation of DNA, Weil warns, may not be as secure as it is sometimes portrayed.

COPY TYPED

DAVID R

RANSOME 2013

PE6

② - 22 JUN 2013 - CONTINUED

But be warned! This summary of mine is even more schematic than Weil's. It overlooks the jumble of motives that I think has existed throughout the story, and I omit, as Weil does not, developments such as the 19th-century appearance of one-name family societies which were as social as they were sometimes scholarly, the 'democratization' of genealogy thanks largely to the internet and the - to me unexpected - success of African-Americans in tracing their ancestry through the years of slavery, of which the (flawed) "Roots" of Alex Haley was a most influential example, to blacks and whites alike.

Less impersonally, Joyce and I now consider ourselves mended. We'll head for England in late July or August, and return one side or the other of Michaelmas. We'll be too late to take part in either of the celebrations at Little Gidding - the TSEliot or the Leighton Bromswold - Little Gidding pilgrimage - but we'll expect to visit at some point during our stay. We hope your summer with its travels will be as cheerful as we anticipate ours will be.

Best wishes to Sallaine and you both,
David

⑧ 25 JUN 2013 - Called David (401) 765-3901 to thank him for report of 22 JUN on the book. He also sent to Peggy Harris & she will buy. Discussed G's penning. They leave in 3 weeks back in OCT. Had a nice general chat. David says this will probably be their last trip to England

Subject: UB/UAFa

From: david <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sat, Dec 07, 2013 10:22 am

To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

Double thanks to you, first for the e-message received while we were in New Hampshire with Elizabeth and family over Thanksgiving, and next for the Bulletin that reached us this week. As always, I am amazed at your perpetual energy - and envious. You are breaking new ground, I fancy, with UAFa and I hope it will succeed as it deserves to. And, more personally, congratulations to you and Sallaine on the arrival - at two removes - of Claire Sallaine King. She looks a happy soul in the photo, even if Emma Lou seems perplexed.

I haven't checked in to the Upchurch website since I got back from England in late October, but I'll do so any moment now. I was much interested in your fourteen stations of the Upchurch trek from the James to the deeper south, and am impressed by the variety of sources that you have used to recreate that saga. My own attempts to unravel the New England genealogy of some acquaintance would have benefited from your knowledge, had it then been available to me, and I'm hoping to learn from the relevant videos.

Do you in your collections and archive give any heed to historical novels? Recently Peggy Harris drew my attention to a series of eleven books that portrayed the story of North Carolina in the colonial period. They were written between 1940 and 1964 by [Mrs] Inglis Fletcher (1879-1969), the wife of a mining engineer. By the time I had read the two volumes [Roanoke Hundred, & Bennett's Welcome] that dealt with the period before 1660 in which I am primarily interested I was glad that Peggy had mentioned them. Mrs Fletcher's use of the American sources seems eminently trustworthy. I got the books from the public library, but Peggy says they are easily bought on the internet.

We had been corresponding about Michael's movements between his arrival in Virginia in the late 1630s and his appearance in Surry county in the early 1650s. There can be no certainty of the means by which he reached the colony, but I begin to think that he bound himself either to the Bennetts or, more probably, to William Bernard, the younger brother of Sir Robert Bernard, who lived at Brampton, on the way from Brington to Huntingdon. Bernard had been back to England at least three times since his arrival in Virginia in 1622. (I wish we had the dates of those trips.) Both the Bennetts and Bernard had plantations in Isle of Wight County, which includes Castle Creek where, John Ferrar tells us, Michael lived. We next find him in York County on the York river. He then returned to Surry county on the north bank of the James, Surry having been subdivided from James City county at some date before 1652. There he remained till his death in 1681. [Most of these facts are most easily found in Adventurers of Purse and Person (1987).]

Since my return from the UK I have been circling around John Ferrar's interest in silkworms, the last phase in his schemes to promote Virginia's prosperity. The topic is proving more complex than I had originally thought. I need to make contact with an entomologist with an interest in silkworms, as I would like to discover just how different the Virginian breed was from the varieties to be found in Europe. Will I be lucky enough to hear from you that you have such an acquaintance?

Best wishes to you both,

David

⑨

7 DEC 2013

DAVID R

RANSOME 2013 PG 7

16

8 DEC
2013

Subject: RE: UB/UAFAs

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sun, Dec 08, 2013 6:01 am

To: "david" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Cc: "Peggy Harris" <oldpond@aol.com>

Hi David---

It is always so nice to get your upbeat, informative messages. Of course we are thrilled with Claire and also with her mother who seemed to us to be an unhinged youth but who has morphed into a model wife and mother. It gives one hope. Claire only knows to pull hair and ears and Emma Lou has not yet found the pleasure in that.

The UAFA has great potential and we have great hopes that we can pull it off. The website draft is now up <www.alliedfamilies.com>.

I consider our making of videos a great advance for our cause and hope to use it in UAFA. While they are not perfect they seem to be in advance of what other family historians are doing.

Peggy and I have also been corresponding about the Fletcher books. She and I discussed that Fletcher used our Colonial relative Moses U. as a character in one of her novels. If we are successful in creating the UAFA Repository in Wake County, NC I plan to place copies of the Fletcher books there. They seem to contain grains of essence that are useful as do other historical novels.

Your exchanges with Peggy about Michael U are quite interesting. If you have no objection I will put them in my bring up file for the UB to be produced in the fall of 2014. Ill give you and Peggy a chance to reflect/comment add to this matter as of next fall.

I am sorry to report that I do not have an expert on silk worms to whom you can refer. However, I have always taken note of this failed premise for the Colonies and would very much like for it to be laid out in more detail. Our Colonial past is in need of refurbishing. You and Peggy seem to be beacons of light in this regard

As of Wednesday we are off to N. C. for two weeks for family history and soul food.

Sallaine and I send our very best to you and Joyce and your family for a most Merry Christmas.

Phil Upchurch

11

9 DEC
2013

Subject: RE: UB/UAFAs

From: david <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Dec 09, 2013 10:57 am

To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

OOps! With your long acquaintance with Michael U's story, you must have thought me out to lunch when I said that Surry county was on the north bank of the James, not the south. Misled by the fact that the county was hived off from James City county, I hadn't remembered that, like the other early counties, James City originally stretched across the river. Fortunately I could consult the county road maps I had bought in 1991 from the Virginia Department of Transportation's office in Richmond, and correct my booboo. I had then reckoned the department's responsibility for the state's lesser roads would be invaluable in helping me discern the basic patterns of movement in the colony/state. At last they have proved their worth. Maddeningly, however, I can't be sure of the location of Castle Creek, though I suspect it was somewhere near the boundary of Isle of Wight County and the present City of Suffolk. In 1639-40 Richard Jackson was the tobacco viewer "from Lawne's Creek to Castle Creek", and I suspect it was a county appointment. Lawne's Creek ran into the James at the most westerly point of Isle of Wight County, so I'm guessing Castle Creek was at the most easterly.

Peggy Harris writes that it will be 2014 before she can turn again to her MU files. I too must think Christmas; I have done none of my shopping as yet. And you are both off any moment to North Carolina (may your journeying be safe, genealogically profitable, and above all enjoyable). It's time therefore to wish you and Sallaine a merry Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year. Ill look forward to resuming the conversations with you and Peg and Michael in January.

David

RANSOME - 2010, 2011, 2012

2010 & 2011

DAVID

RANSOME PG1 2010

①

①

5 MAY
2010

Subject: Farm in the Fen
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, May 05, 2010 3:49 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

Spring is taking so long to arrive that I fear Joyce will beat it into the UK. She arrives next week, and though the daffodils are over and the apple blossom pinking up, the winds are still cruel. I almost wish I was back in Rhode Island. I was there for five weeks in February and March, and seemed in retrospect to do nothing but sit and watch snow and rain fall.

Back here I have started on the slow task of sorting out the house. I'd like to move permanently to RI by the end of the year but fear that I am being optimistic. Crammed into the house, which is in need of a paint job inside and out, are three generations worth of stuff, nothing of real value but all of it carrying for me lifelong memories. Packrat that I am, I'm finding it a slow task to make decisions, and an even slower one to determine discards. Recently I have got out the books that were already in the house when I moved in three years or so ago; I had packed them away to make room for my own and now they're out again.

The younger of my aunts went off to Cambridge in the late 1930s and was secretary to the professor of chemistry. As a result she bought books of local Cambridge interest. One of them, published in 1943, I have just read: Alan Bloom's Farm in the Fen, the tale of the reclamation of farmland from the fen. It had been abandoned during the farming slump of the late 19th and early 20th century after being savaged by turf cutting. Bloom's account of the resuscitation of the land, with the backing of the War Agricultural Executive Committee [abbreviated to WAEC, and known usually as 'the War Ag'] is enlivened by the conversation of the local farm hands. I mention the book because the farm's site is only a hop and a skip away from the home territory of the Huntingdonshire Upchurches, and I suspect that the picture drawn of the workers could equally well be a picture of the 19th and 20th century Upchurches in the neighbouring villages.

We have no grand plans for the summer but will be dodging in and out of Cambridge. We will spend a day or two there on her arrival, as the publisher of the Lutterworth Press has expressed an interest in talking to her about her life of Nicholas Ferrar. We go to Oxford in late May for a talk on the public worship at Little Gidding, then dash back to Suffolk to hear about the finding of the hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold last year in Staffordshire. The next day Joyce wants to go up to Westminster Abbey for a service commemorating Nicholas Ferrar's ordination there, and ten days or so later there's a service at Clare College [which was NF's college] she wants to attend. Then in July she is taking part at Little Gidding in a choral reading of T.S.Eliot's Little Gidding Quartet. Every so often the reading will halt and Joyce will explain what happened historically.

Are you reckoning to travel this summer, and will your travels bring you and Sallaine our way? We hope for it. Meantime I have been in communication with Peggy Harris as I've been able to find out some more about her Anglican ancestor who headed for Virginia in the early 18th century. In an earlier phase of his life he appears to have left his own living in the hinterland of Cambridge and turned up at Hamerton; just down in the valley from Little Gidding, where it looks as though he was in effect curate to the absentee rector, one of the extended Ferrar clan. I'm hoping to find out more about this stage of his life while Joyce is at Gidding in July.

Best wishes to you both; we still talk of our visit to you.

n David

Subject: Activity
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Wed, May 05, 2010 7:28 am
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Bcc: "Peggy Harris" <oldpond@aol.com>

②
5 MAY
2010

Hi David---

Delighted to hear from you and to learn about what you and Joyce have been experiencing and about your plans. We would very much enjoy a visit with you in Rhode Island. The best prospect seems to be associated with the possible marriage of our granddaughter Sandy to Rupert King whose family is from Vermont and whose ancestors came over on the Mayflower. Sandy and Rupert now live in Las Vegas. Their plans seem to be unfolding very slowly.

Our life continues very full. Last weekend we took a mini-vacation and attended a Kentucky Derby Party in southern Missouri where our son's in laws live. Our granddaughter Jenna age 12 keeps her horse at a "Barn " there and often goes to ride. She is into competition and is really good. At a recent event she won 11 ribbons out of 14 events in which she participated. Dressed in her dressage outfit she looks like a beautiful 16 year old movie star. My buttons are about to pop!

CONTINUED

DAVID

RANSOME P&L 2010

2

2 - 5 MAY 2010 - CONTINUED

Next Tuesday we are off to Arizona for six days to see Grandson Michael graduate from the University. We'll see old friends from our 20 years in the State. The Desert Legume Program I started is holding and Open House to allow us to say "hello" to as many as possible.

Then on May 25 we fly to North Carolina for three weeks to do family history. I'll give three talks. No 1 is a reprise of a talk on families of Western Wake County where my GGGF settled in 1802. No 2 will be on the Upchurches and related families of the Upchurch enclave in Franklin Co., NC started by my ancestors in 1755. No 3 is a "sermon" to be given at my home Church "Inwood" started by my grandfather. I will tell of my early experiences in the Church and about the involvement of my relatives and others over the years.

Both trips will be so tightly scripted as to allow no down time. For me it's like being a kid in a candy store with no limits. Sallaine, ever my guardian, protests reminding me that I seem to think I am still forty.

Our plans for later on are unmade except possibly for a visit later this year to see our granddaughter Heather and husband Mark in Seattle. We muse about more travel abroad but must decide later.

I have been working on more papers to go to the Upchurch Collection at N. C. State University which involves a lot of reminiscing. Sallaine says "hurry up"

My daughter Deb urged me to learn to cook. I finally took up the challenge and am enjoying it. I could not resist writing a book about the experience entitled "Learning to Cook when Over Sixty" When the movie comes out I'll be rich and famous.

I'll listen for progress on your proposed move to Rhode Island. Such a project is always a challenge. I am please to note the you and Joyce are still actively involved in history projects. May it be so far into the future.

Sallaine joins me in wishing for you and Joyce and yours the very best.
Phil Upchurch

Subject: RE: Upchurch Collection

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 18, 2010 3:52 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

3

18 JUL
2010

The arrival of the news about the further "modernization" of the Upchurch collections has arrived just as I was in any case about to write; many thanks for keeping me in the loop. It will be good for all the world to be able to access the information that you have gathered over so many years.

We were at Little Gidding yesterday for the fifth annual festival jointly organized by the Friends of Little Gidding and the T.S.Eliot Society. It was well attended as two busloads had come down from the T.S.Eliot summer school in London. One of the leaders was a professor from Mississippi Southern but her accept wasn't "deep" enough to make her a native of that state. She originated from North Carolina, but wasn't - I discovered when I asked - Upchurch kin.

Proceedings opened with a choral reading of Eliot's Little Gidding Quartet in which Joyce took part. She supplied a survey of Nicholas Ferrar's life which was threaded between the sections of the poem. A question-and-answer session followed, which was entirely taken up by questions to Joyce about Nicholas and the Gidding community. For once Eliot couldn't hijack a Gidding occasion. Various papers followed, and the day ended with a service in the church, which was packed. A local choir provided the music, drawn largely from the 17th century; it made a memorable close to the day.

In fact I didn't attend most of the papers as I was sitting in the car reading the final draft of Joyce's biography of Nicholas Ferrar. She now has a publisher - the Lutterworth Press, named for the parish to which John Wycliffe [d.1384] retired at the end of his life but actually based in Cambridge. It is expecting the text by the end of November. Publication will follow six months after that. But before then she has still to decide on a title and choose the design for the cover. For the latter, if it proves feasible, she would like to reproduce the part of the 1626 Gidding estate map that shows the big house and the church.

Our other project - to relocate me in Rhode Island - moves slowly forward. Winnowing two housefulls of furniture crammed in one house is proving a slow task, made none the faster by my lingering over every item. A mass of papers, photos, books, and "treasures" call up memories with a consequent reluctance to shed anything. Elizabeth arrives in late August to make her selection, and to arrange for the sale of the house. If all goes well - and the house market is currently no help - I'd manage to reach the USA before VAT - the UK's sales tax - hits 20% in January, but I'm not too hopeful of arriving so promptly.

CONTINUED

DAVID

RANSOME PEZ 2010

3

③ 18 JUL 2010 - CONTINUED

We had a miserably cold spring but the weather improved in mid-June. As a result harvest has begun, as we noted as we drove west from Felixstowe last week. Has the weather been equally kind to you in Missouri? Or were you delayed by a late spring too? At all events Joyce and I are both well, as we trust you and Sallaine are, and able to enjoy, as we do, the news and sight of children and grandchildren.

On which cheerful note I'll end. Our best wishes to you both,

David

Subject: Update

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sun, Jul 18, 2010 7:44 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

④
18 JUL
2010

Hi David---

It is so nice to hear from you commenting on our prospects for treatment of Upchurch records and giving an update on the lives you and Joyce are leading. The first step to be taken supported by Cousin Tom Upchurch will take care of the UB and Englandia issues but there is much more to be done on my family history records beyond that. I am hopeful that Cousin Tom will support the next steps as well. As you can imagine the Library is anxious to have funds but they are a little touchy about people suggesting how they should do their work. With cash in sight and some careful negotiating we will get the job done. Of course I still have a big job to do in organizing my records, creating narratives, and transferring them to N. C. State.

It was most interesting to hear about the Little Gidding festival. My congratulations to Joyce on her book. I will certainly want to buy a copy for the Upchurch Collection.

We will be happy to have you on our side of the Pond but I can imagine the challenges in making the move. Perhaps this means we will have a greater chance of another visit with you and Joyce. The prospects that our Granddaughter Sandy Schuler may be marrying Mr Rupert King of Vermont heritage continue to unfold with the likelihood of nuptials in 2011. If it happens as expected Sallaine and I would, at some point, make a special trip to Vermont to meet his relatives thus creating a chance that we could also see the Ransomes.

Our Spring was very wet delaying planting of crops. However, the weather has been good for crops since and ours look very good at this point. Sallaine and I were out for a visit recently and saw a large deer doing some harvesting. So, Sallaine took it upon herself to bring back three ears of corn for our table.

We are often drawn into the activities of our grandchildren and especially for the youngest, twelve year old Jenna, who owns her own horse and is traveling often to compete in horse events. Three of the 15/16 year olds have just gotten a car. Life will never be the same again. They do seem reasonably responsible. One has just returned from a week at Purdue University where she designed and built a guitar which we are yet to see.

I am still processing the notes made during 60 interviews while in NC but the task should be complete next week. Before long I will have to turn my attention to creating the sole issue of the UB to appear this year. It will probably be fat.

With fond memories and all best wishes to you and Joyce and yours.

Phil Upchurch

⑤ Dear Upchurch Family History Cousin/Cooperator:(Via blind copy)
10 OCT 2010

From: <phil@upchurchstory.com>
Date: Sun, October 10, 2010 6:06 am
To: phil@upchurchstory.com

⑥
12 OCT
2010

Subject: RE: The UPCHURCH BULLETIN
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 12, 2010 3:10 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

From: phil@upchurchstory.com
To: phil@upchurchstory.com
Subject: The UPCHURCH BULLETIN
Date: Sun, 10 Oct 2010 05:26:36 -0700

Nothing significant to report. Joyce's biography of Nicholas Ferrar is due with the publisher at the end of November. Our Felixstowe house is on the market: a steady trickle of prospective buyers, but no offers so far. I hope to be in Woonsocket for Christmas, missing Thanksgiving this year as I have to be here to see to the house. Trust you are all well. Best wishes to you both, David

DAVID

RANSOM PK1 2011

①
21 SEP
2011

Subject: RE: UPCHURCH E-NEWSLETTER 20 SEP 2011
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 21, 2011 3:12 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

A very quick note: I am in the throes of moving house and (I hope) country. I leave Felixstowe next Wednesday, and as soon as the Citizenship and Immigration folk make all their decisions I will transfer myself permanently to Rhode Island. The summer dragged by, as the lawyers took their time to safeguard all us eager buyers and sellers. Joyce was here from May to September ["a long long time"?]. She read from her biography of Nicholas Ferrar in June at Westminster Abbey, and the (at last) corrected version of the work should be hitting the bookshops about now.

While I am in limbo, I shall be staying at 47 Malcolm Place, Cambridge CB1 1LS, and will have the use of the University Library's computers. I'll then have time to answer your e-message more fully.

Meantime best wishes to both Sallaine and you,

DFavid

From: phil@upchurchstory.com
To: catphill@yahoo.com; stacierphillips@yahoo.com; jfpitt@comcast.net; cindypons@aol.com; shiloeap@sbcglobal.net; renehragan@gmail.com; emosnard@hotmail.com; greg_raschke@ncsu.edu; kiray@EARTHLINK.NET; gene7356@nc.rr.com; williamcraupe@verizon.net; bwreg@yahoo.com; catnipcottage1@verizon.net;

②
24 DEC
2011

Subject: The cuckoo has landed
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, Dec 24, 2011 7:37 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Sallaine and Phil,

The Bulletin and your card were waiting for me when I at last arrived earlier in the week; many thanks for both. I have made it under the wire in time for the holiday, and we leave for New Hampshire in an hour or two; but I shan't regard myself as thoroughly at home until Medicare (or rather Social Security) lets me back on to their books on 1 July. Meantime I must stay fit.

No doubt your holiday will be as joyfully family-filled. We send you our best wishes and hope that it will be a merry and relaxing time and a happy prelude to a placid and healthy 2012.

David and Joyce

③
29 DEC
2011

Subject: The New Year
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Thu, Dec 29, 2011 7:48 am
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David and Joyce---

We were glad to hear that, as we say in the Colonies, the Eagle has landed. We trust that your sojourn to be with the family in New Hampshire was enjoyable. We shared a holiday dinner in the home of our son Barry and were joined by our daughter Deb and her family. Our number one grandson, Andrew, is in town for the week and he joins Sallaine and myself for lunch today at Annie Gunns a local favorite. You must share the experience with us when you next visit which we hope will be soon.

Our computers have been down for a week as it turned out due to an aging modem. In a review we decided to opt for AT&T Uverse and the technicians were with us yesterday five hours for the installation. It seems to be working.

I have made a concerted effort to clear the decks as the year end approaches and am reasonably satisfied. Now, I turn my attention to a process I have periodically undertaken--that of conducting a periodic personal retrospective/prospective review of my activities and status. This time it will be for a five year plan to be made on my 84th birthday next February 9. My projection is that at 89 I will make another plan to just enjoy whatever is possible. In the meantime I don't have anything that has to be done but many things that can be enjoyably undertaken. So, I make no resolutions, only plans that may or may not unfold.

Wishing for you both a great 2012.

Phil Upchurch

RAISONS

ARTICLE

AUG 2012

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Subject: The Little World...
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 26, 2012 11:08 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>
Attach: Mupchurch2.doc

Dear Phil,

Many thanks for your manuscript letter and the accompanying cheque. They arrived just as we were off to NH for an overnight with the family, our last chance to see them before the hurly-burly of the academic year begins this coming week. We are now back in Woonsocket and with Joyce's guidance I have (I hope) put the article in the form that will give Sallaine the least trouble. As you will also see I haven't been able to resist the opportunity of tinkering with the script. The new version is attached to this note.

Best wishes to you both,
David

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THE LITTLE WORLD HE LEFT BEHIND:

MICHAEL UPCHURCH SAILS FOR VIRGINIA

David R. Ransome

When sturdy Michael Upchurch left Brington for Virginia in 1638, it was probably the first time he had been more than ten miles from his home. He was leaving not only his family and village but also abandoning a cultivated landscape where the inhabitants acknowledged a gradation of social ranks, an established Christian, indeed Protestant, church, and an hereditary king.

Perhaps he had once seen the king in person; in 1633 Charles I was at Apethorpe, some ten miles north of Brington as the crow flies, but it is more likely that Michael knew the king only from his portrait on the coinage. Yet coins were not that plentiful in the countryside; barter would have been a more normal form of exchange, and if not barter then an elaborate system of credit.

The undulating landscape of seventeenth-century Huntingdonshire had long since been tamed and cultivated by its inhabitants. Brington in the south-west of the county was a nuclear village from which the inhabitants went out to the surrounding fields from their thatched dwellings framed in timber and walled with wattle and daub, the two exceptions being, on one lane, the stone-built church that every villager was expected to attend each Sunday, and the brick manor house on the other. The village was triangular in form, the two lanes descending southwards to meet the king's highway that ran east to Huntingdon, the county town, and west to Thrapston. The latter was a little less than ten miles distant, the former a little more. Both were important to the village; at their weekly markets Brington folk could sell their surplus and buy what they could not produce. In a good year their crops and their livestock provided that surplus; salt and ironware, any cloth finer than homespun, and such little luxuries as ribbons and fairings would have required expenditure of coin or negotiation of credit.

In addition Huntingdon was the seat of the royal assize court, where serious crimes were judged. Less serious ones brought the accused before the Justices of the Peace, a bench of local gentry recompensed not by salaries but by enhanced reputation and influence.

In mediaeval Brington the villagers had answered for their actions not only to the king in the persons of his itinerant assize judges and his justices of the peace but to the manorial court. Though the lord's steward sat in the chair, the elders of the community constituted the jury and were the authority on the custom of the manor, whereby fines and other punishments were assessed. For over 500 years the manor of Brington, together with neighbouring Bythorn and Old Weston, was owned by the great abbey of Ramsey, fifteen miles north-eastward in the Fens. There was thus no resident lord of the manor but stewards would have kept a sharp eye on the manors and ensured that the villagers paid their rents, in coin, or toil, or kind.

During those centuries the abbey blended the three manors into one administrative unit, with Brington providing the mother-church and Old Weston becoming the manorial centre. Then in 1539 the abbey lands were seized by the king, a royal bailiff was appointed, and a generation later in 1581 Elizabeth sold the manor(s) to the bailiff's son. Within a decade his son was in financial trouble. The result, most unusually, was that the copyholders - the hereditary tenants - bought out the manorial owner and were thereby enfranchised, becoming freeholders. For Brington folk the future looked rosy; and Michael's father Richard was one of the village leaders.

Why then did Michael choose to emigrate? He was leaving a countryside peopled with close and distant kin. Upchurches centred upon Godmanchester; Richard Upchurch at Brington was as far west as any of the family. Others were at St Neots to the south but none were yet in Warboys to the east. We do not know Michael's reasons but can speculate, bearing in mind reasons that drove contemporaries to take a similar decision. We are probably correct in attributing to him a sense of adventure. Nothing indicates, however, that he was compelled to go, or that he resented his exile. We are probably equally right to exclude a religious cause. Many English folk were heading for the American colonies because of their distaste either for the Anglican establishment in general or, more

particularly, for the Romanizing tendency of Archbishop Laud's campaign to secure greater ceremonial uniformity of worship, but it is hard to accept that a teenager unaccompanied by his parents was influenced by such beliefs. Equally it was probably not a generational clash with his father. Had it been so, he is unlikely to have sought to maintain contact with him twelve years later. The loss of Brington's parish registers for this period does not allow us to describe his family, so we cannot say if the pressure of a large family drove the teenage son abroad.

The most likely possibility is that, as an indentured servant, he went with a local family. The Bernards suggest themselves; in 1637 Sir Robert came to Brampton, a village on the road from Brington to Huntingdon. His younger brother William had first gone to Virginia in 1622 and was back in England at least three times before 1642. What more likely than that William took Michael with him in 1638?

At all events, though Michael never returned home, he was sturdily fortunate. He survived the long transatlantic voyage, the dangerous first season in the James valley, and his participation in the 1644 campaign against the elderly Opechancanough. By his presence in Virginia, moreover, he escaped involvement in the civil war that erupted in England in 1642, and more especially the ransacking of Brington by royalist troops in 1645. Nearly four hundred years after Michael's birth his descendants are to be found throughout the United States, while in England his Upchurch kin have similarly spread across the country; some are still resident in Huntingdonshire, though not in Brington itself.

THE LITTLE WORLD HE LEFT BEHIND:

MICHAEL UPCHURCH SAILS FOR VIRGINIA

David R. Ransome

When sturdy Michael Upchurch left Brington for Virginia in 1638, it was probably the first time he had been more than ten miles from his home. He was leaving not only his family and village but also abandoning a cultivated landscape where the inhabitants acknowledged a gradation of social ranks, an established Christian, indeed Protestant, church, and an hereditary king.

Perhaps he had once seen the king in person; in 1633 Charles I was at Apethorpe, some ten miles north of Brington as the crow flies, but it is more likely that Michael knew the king only from his portrait on the coinage. Yet coins were not that plentiful in the countryside; barter would have been a more normal form of exchange, and if not barter then an elaborate system of credit.

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In addition Huntingdon was the seat of the royal assize court, where serious crimes were judged. Less serious ones brought the accused before the Justices of the Peace, a bench of local gentry recompensed not by salaries but by enhanced reputation and influence.

In mediaeval Brington the villagers had answered for their actions not only to the king in the persons of his itinerant assize judges and his justices of the peace but to the manorial court. Though the lord's steward sat in the chair, the elders of the community constituted the jury and were the authority on the custom of the manor, whereby fines and other punishments were assessed. For over 500 years the manor of Brington, together with neighbouring Bythorn and Old Weston, was owned by the great abbey of Ramsey, fifteen miles north-eastward in the Fens. There was thus no resident lord of the manor but stewards would have kept a sharp eye on the manors and ensured that the villagers paid their rents, in coin, or toil, or kind.

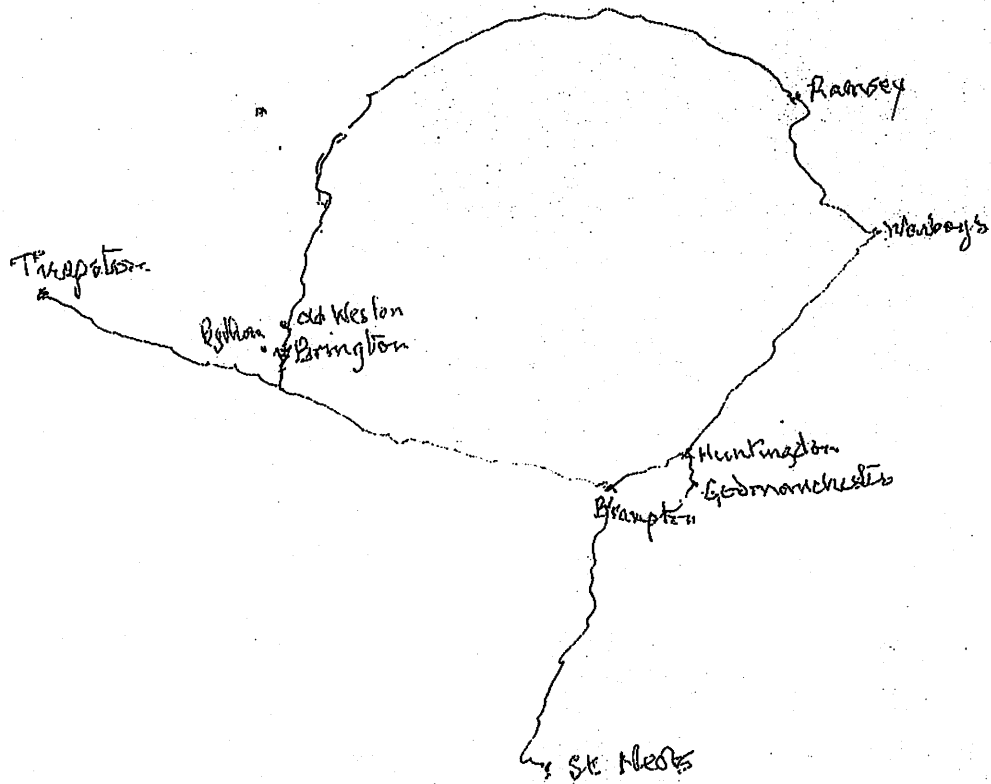
During those centuries the abbey blended the three manors into one administrative unit, with Brington providing the mother-church and Old Weston becoming the manorial centre. Then in 1539 the abbey lands were seized by the king, a royal bailiff was appointed, and a generation later in 1581 Elizabeth sold the manor(s) to the bailiff's son. Within a decade his son was in financial trouble. The result, most unusually, was that the copyholders - the hereditary tenants - bought out the manorial owner and were thereby enfranchised, becoming freeholders. For Brington folk the future looked rosy; and Michael's father Richard was one of the village leaders.

Why then did Michael choose to emigrate? He was leaving a countryside peopled with close and distant kin. Upchurches centred upon Godmanchester; Richard Upchurch at Brington was as far west as any of the family. Others were at St Neots to the south but none were yet in Warboys to the east. We do not know Michael's reasons but can speculate, bearing in mind reasons that drove contemporaries to take a similar decision. We are probably correct in attributing to him a sense of adventure. Nothing indicates, however, that he was compelled to go, or that he resented his exile. We are probably equally right to exclude a religious cause. Many English folk were heading for the American colonies because of their distaste either for the Anglican establishment in general or, more

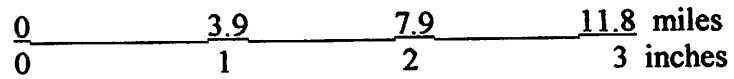
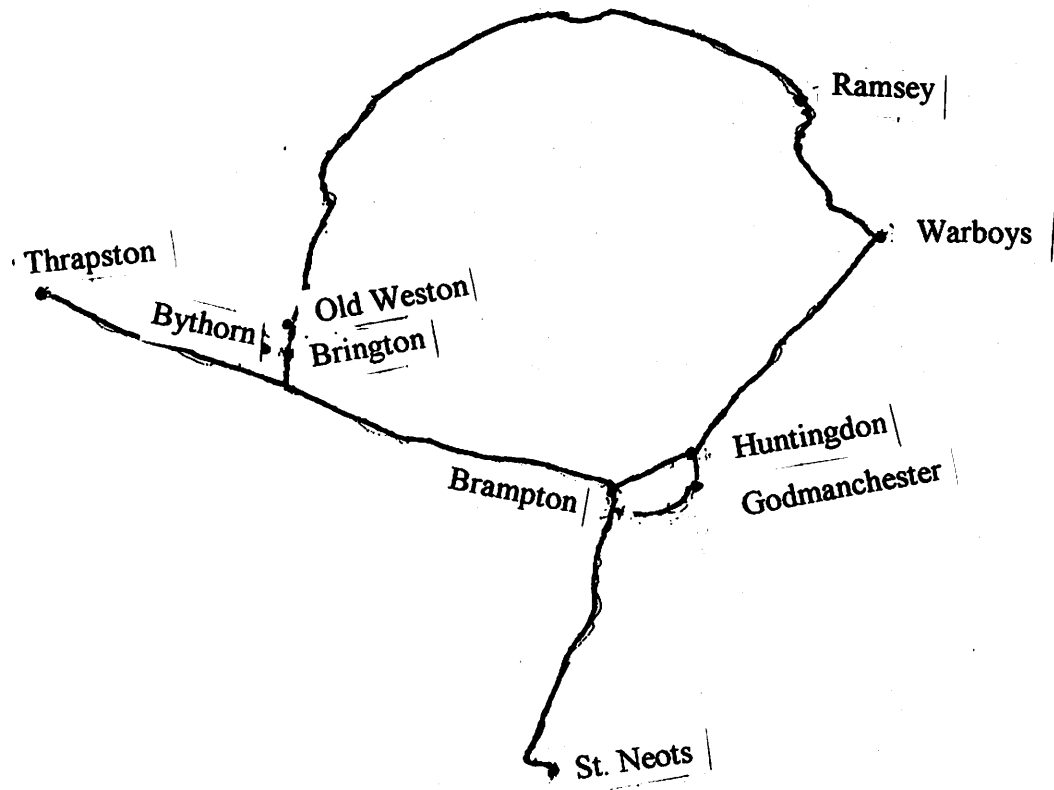
particularly, for the Romanizing tendency of Archbishop Laud's campaign to secure greater ceremonial uniformity of worship, but it is hard to accept that a teenager unaccompanied by his parents was influenced by such beliefs. Equally it was probably not a generational clash with his father. Had it been so, he is unlikely to have sought to maintain contact with him twelve years later. The loss of Brington's parish registers for this period does not allow us to describe his family, so we cannot say if the pressure of a large family drove the teenage son abroad.

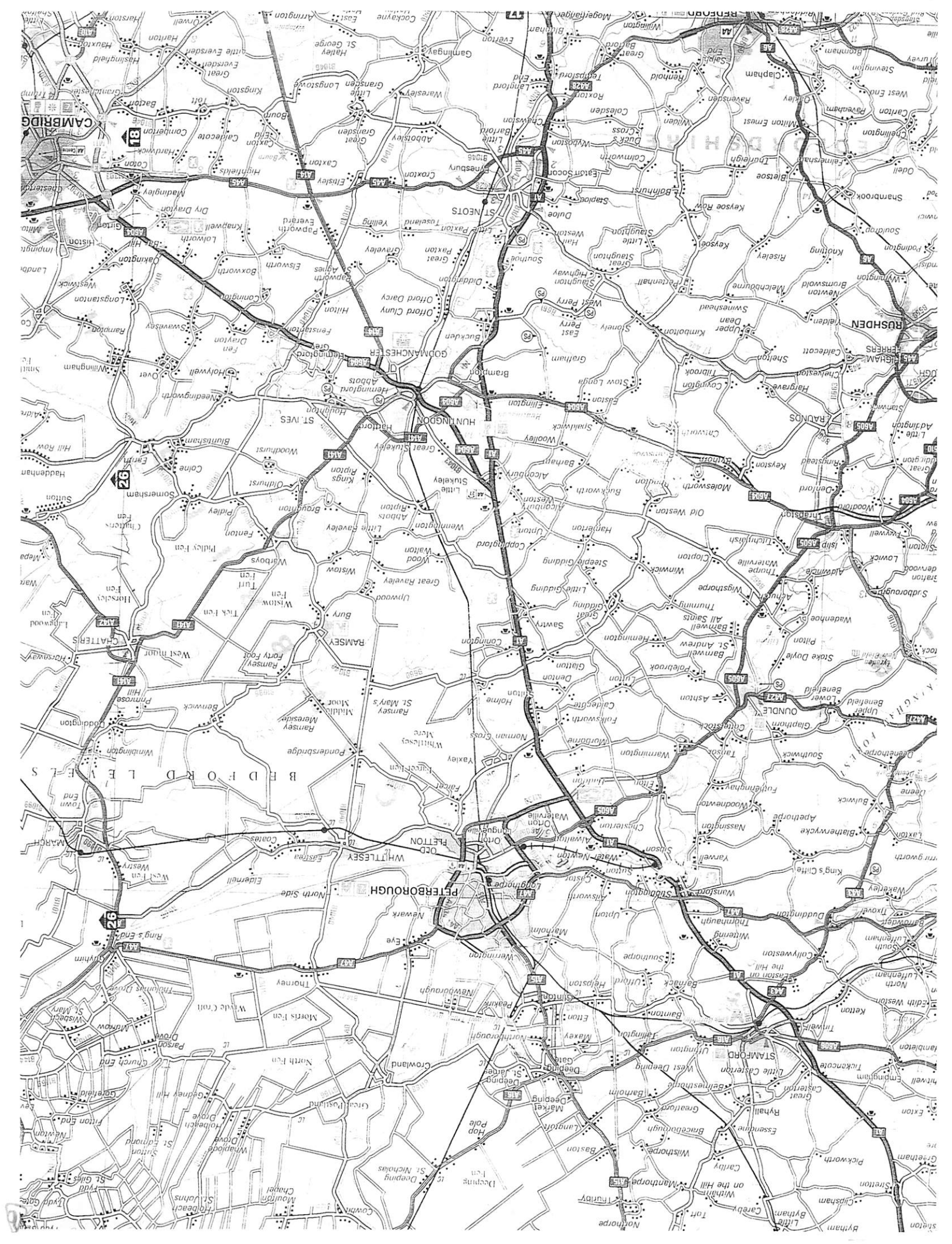
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At all events, though Michael never returned home, he was sturdily fortunate. He survived the long transatlantic voyage, the dangerous first season in the James valley, and his participation in the 1644 campaign against the elderly Opechancanough. By his presence in Virginia, moreover, he escaped involvement in the civil war that erupted in England in 1642, and more especially the ransacking of Brington by royalist troops in 1645. Nearly four hundred years after Michael's birth his descendants are to be found throughout the United States, while in England his Upchurch kin have similarly spread across the country; some are still resident in Huntingdonshire, though not in Brington itself.



Scale : 4 cm = 10 Km.





[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

Subject: Scans to accompany David's article
From: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>
Date: Thu, Aug 16, 2012 7:37 am
To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>
Attach: Brington Church.pdf
Upchurch Map.pdf
Upchurch Sketch.pdf

Dear Phil,

Apologies for the delay in sending these off to you. I trust they'll arrive safely but if there is any problem, please let me know.

Best wishes to you and Sallaine,
Joyce

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Subject: RE: Scans to accompany David's article
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Aug 18, 2012 7:14 am
To: "Joyce Ransome" <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>
Cc: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

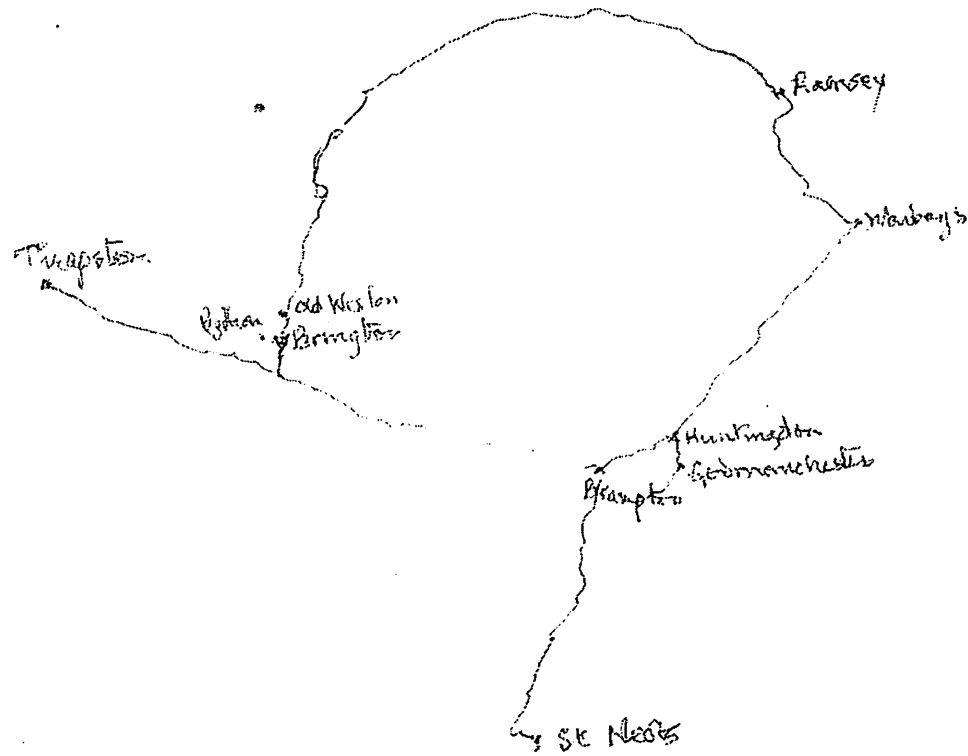
Hi Joyce---

Thanks for the images which arrived in good order. After a couple of attempts, adding new ink and with Sallaine's help I was able to get quite good reproductions. I'll have to play with the space requirements to see how much can be included. The text along with the images will make an excellent article for the Upchurch family to be preserved in the UPCHURCH BULLETIN and the Upchurch Collection at N. C. State University forever.

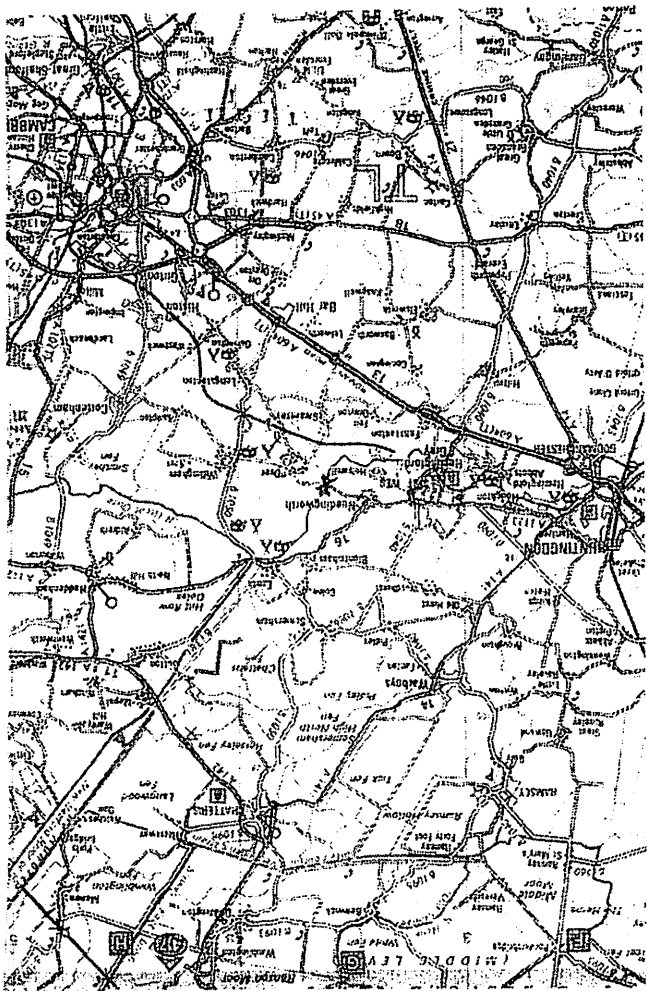
I was sorry to learn that arthritis has arrived in the Ransome home. Having had a touch of this for a decade I am alert to possible treatments and understand that the swimming option you are using is a really good one. Best of luck as you find the way forward.

Phil Upchurch

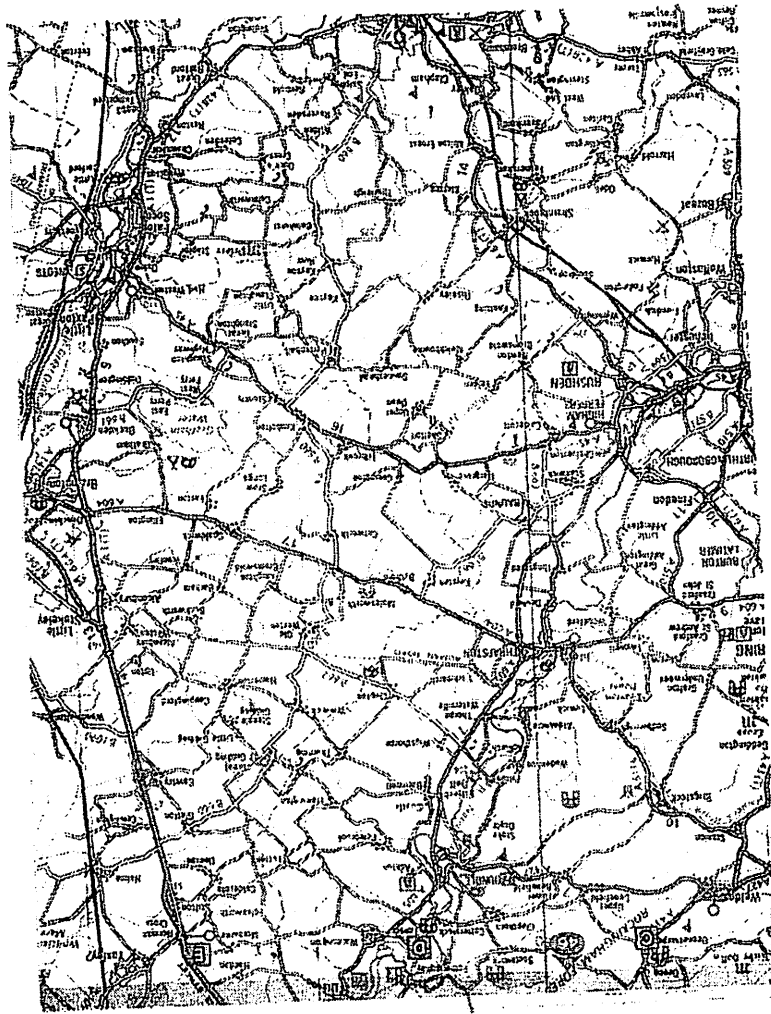
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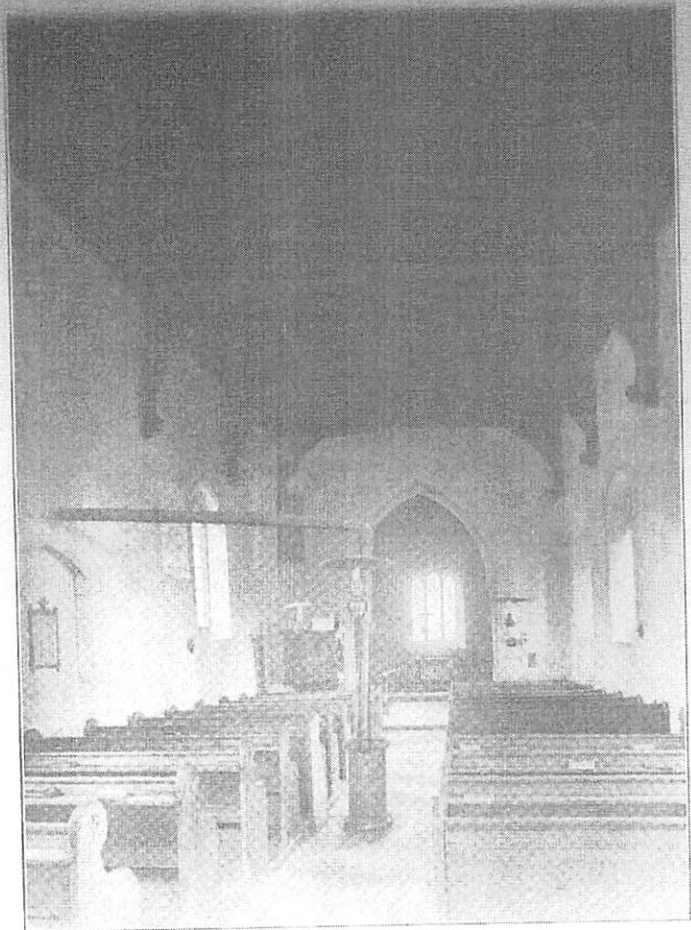
Scale : 4 cm = 10 Km.



Scale : 1 : 250,000



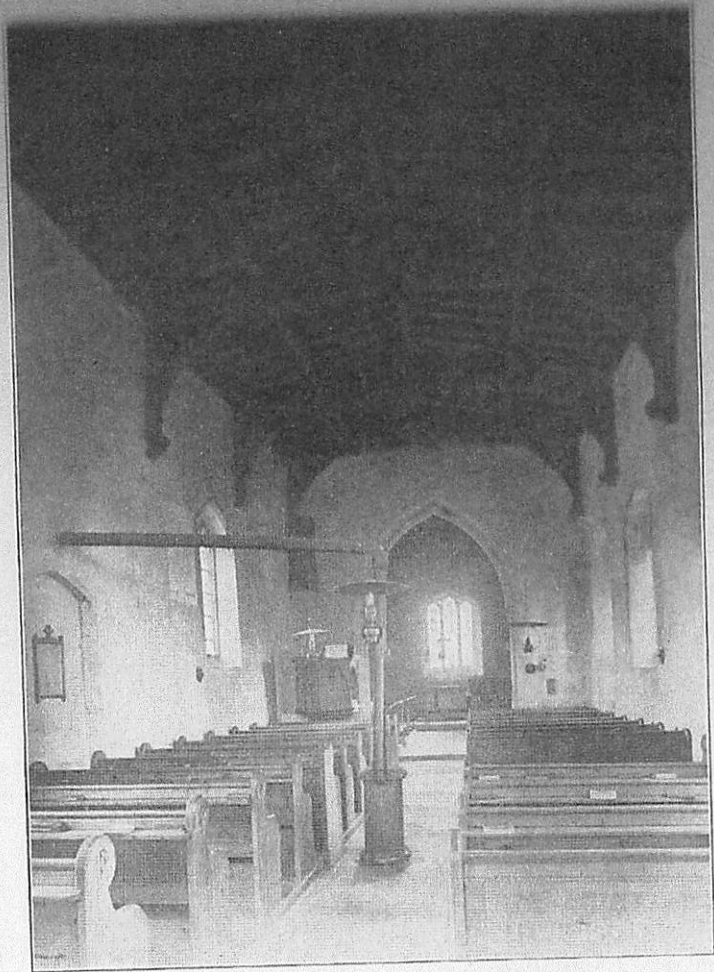
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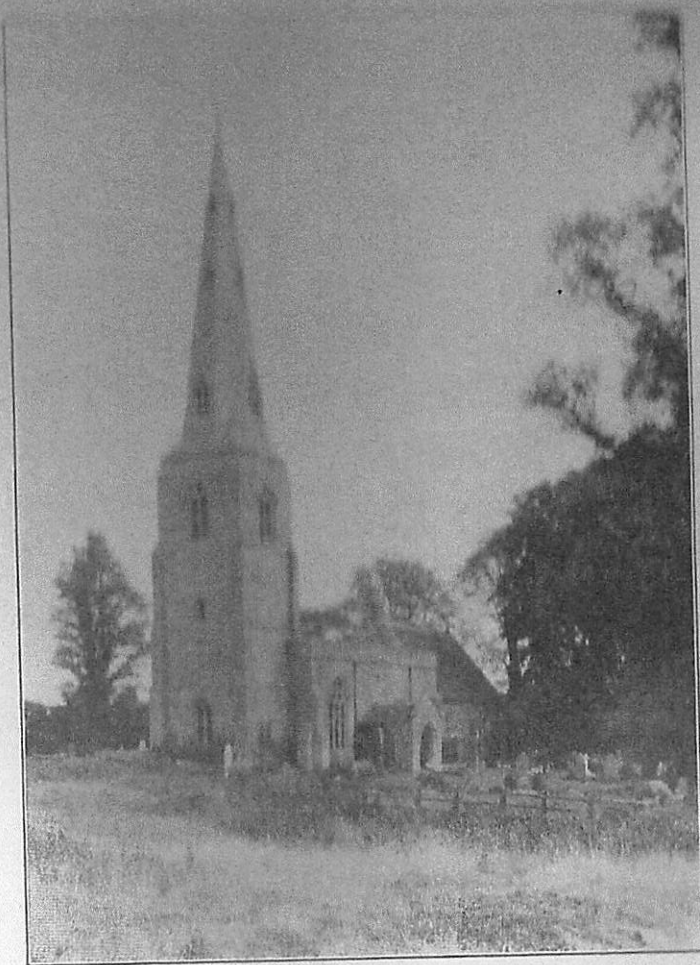
BRINGTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



BRINGTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST

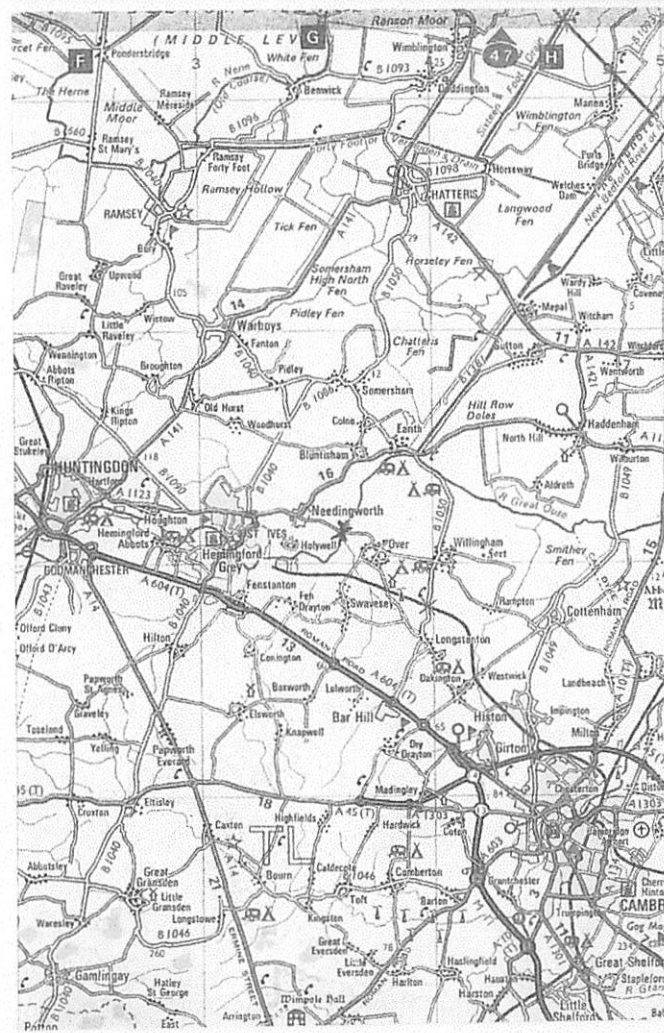
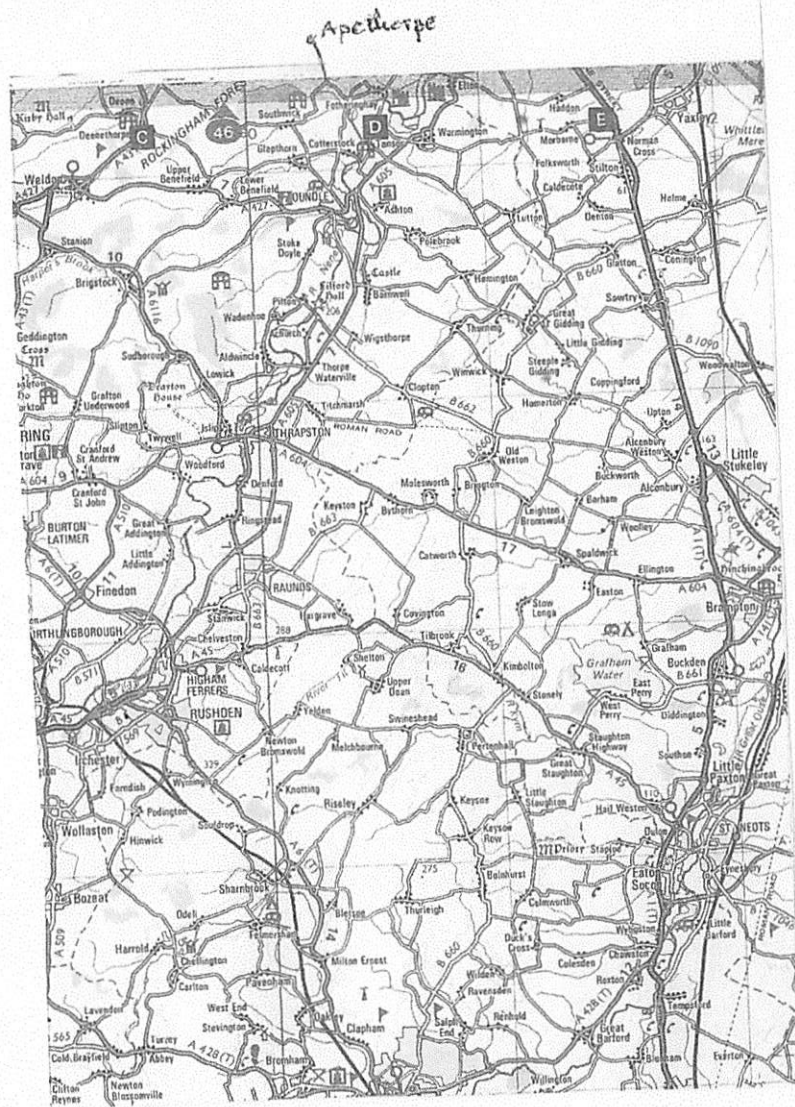


BRINGTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

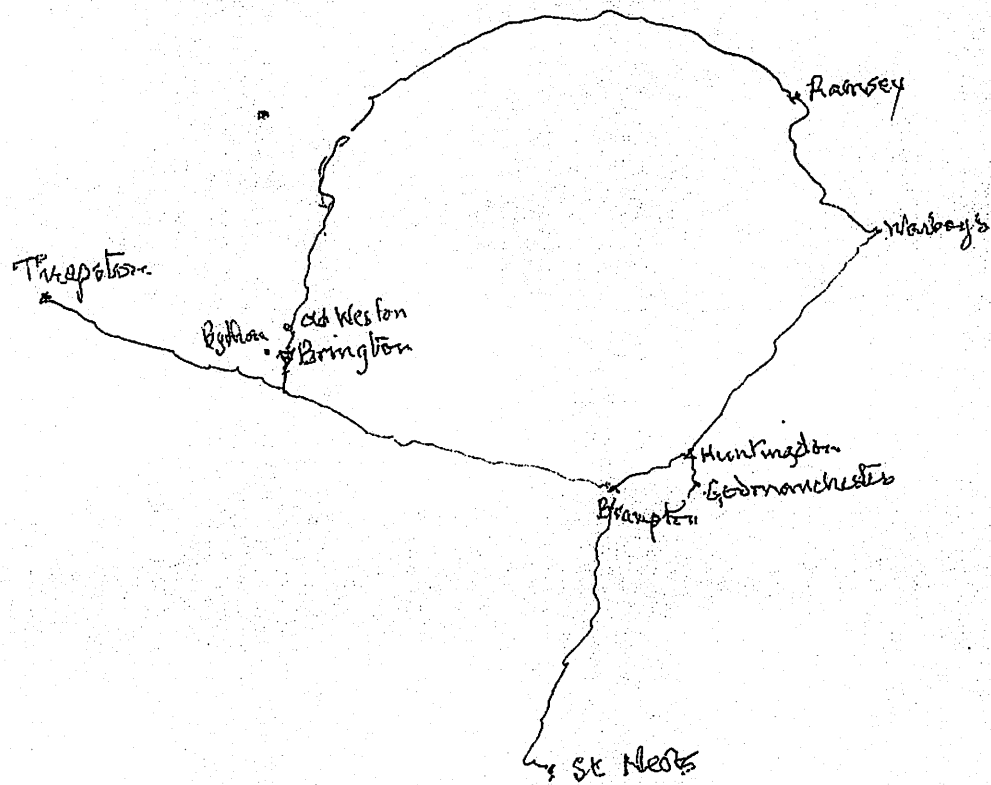


BRINGTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST

Scale 1 : 250,000



7



Scale : 4 cm = 10 Km .

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Article**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Sun, Aug 12, 2012 4:16 pm**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>**Attach:** Mupchurch2.doc

Dear Phil,

Recovered from jet-lag but not yet, after a drear 'summer' in England, acclimated to the heat and humidity of Rhode Island, I have retreated to the study in the basement and sketched out something which may or may not be what you want. It runs to 955 words and may be too long for you. (The first attempt was even longer.) It is also not - as you suggested - a survey of early-17th-century England. I concluded that a view of the whole country would be even longer than this, and would have ignored the fact that, though England had been a single kingdom for 700 years, the provinces and counties still retained not only distinct accents, not yet completely ironed out in the 21st century, but variant ways of thought and behaviour. I have therefore tried to give a picture of the part of England that Michael Upchurch left.

If necessary, you could add an editorial comment to explain that if any readers of the Upchurch Bulletin want a more comprehensive look at England, they might read one or other of the following accounts. The tradition of including a chapter of social description in a work of history began with Macaulay in the 19th century and continued till c.1960, but from Elizabeth I's reign there had been similar accounts set down in manuscript.

- * William Harrison, *Description of England* (1587; various modern editions, including a Dover pb)
- * Thomas Wilson, *The State of England ... 1600* (Royal Historical Society, Camden Miscellany XVI, 1936; ?available on line)
- * [Thomas Babington Macaulay, *History of England*; his 3rd chapter describes late-17th-c. England]
- * G. M. Trevelyan, *England under the Stuarts*, ch.1 & 2 (1904; revised 1925 & 1946)
- * C.V.Wedgwood, *The King's Peace, 1637-1641*, ch.1. pp.19-61 (1955)
- * Maurice Ashley, *England in the Seventeenth Century (1603-1714)* ch.2 [The Pelican History of England, vol.6] This volume was superseded in 1978 by J.P.Kenyon's *Stuart England*; he chose not to include a comparable chapter.]

At book length there are also:

- * John Dover Wilson, *Life in Shakespeare's England* (originally Cambridge U.P., 1911; a Pelican pb, 1944)
- * M. St Clare Byrne, *Elizabethan Life in Town and Country* (7th edition, 1954; a University Paperback, 1961)
- * Dorothy Hartley, *Lost Country Life: How English country folk lived, worked, threshed, thatched, rolled fleece, milled corn, brewed mead...* (1979) Published in the USA as a Pantheon pb.
- * Keith Wrightson, *English Society, 1580-1680* (Hutchinson Social History of England, 1982)

Of them all, Dorothy Hartley's is the most appealing; indeed The New Yorker called it 'irresistible' in its review of 7/28/1980 on p.97. It is unacademic in language, has welcome line drawings, and though it reckons to describe "medieval English agriculture", it is perfectly safe to accept it as an account of farming in Michael Upchurch's Brington.

My account, which lacks a title as yet, is chiefly derived from my visits to Brington and from the accounts of Brington, Bythorn and Old Weston to be found in the *Victoria History of the County of Huntingdonshire*, vol. III (1936). I have extracted a map from a modern road atlas to show the relationship of the towns and villages I have mentioned, and I add a rough sketch of those places only to help in their location. (It may well be that you have someone who can provide for the U.B. a neater version of my sketch and thus make the road map unnecessary.) I also include copies of the interior and exterior of Brington church, which come from V.C.H. Hunts., vol.III, between pp.20-21.

If all goes well, this letter will arrive with my article attached; the roadmap and rough sketch, and the Brington church photographs, Joyce will send directly from her scanner.

Best wishes to you and Sallaine both,

David

When sturdy Michael Upchurch left Brington for Virginia in 1638, it was probably the first time he had been more than ten miles from his home. He was leaving not only his family and village but also abandoning a cultivated landscape where the inhabitants acknowledged a gradation of social ranks, an established Christian, indeed Protestant, church, and an hereditary king.

Perhaps he had once seen the king in person; in 1633 Charles I was at Apethorpe, some ten miles north of Brington as the crow flies, but it is more likely that Michael knew the king only from his portrait on the coinage. Yet coins were not that plentiful in the countryside; barter would have been a more normal form of exchange, and if not barter then an elaborate system of credit.

The undulating landscape of seventeenth-century Huntingdonshire had long since been tamed and cultivated by its inhabitants. Brington in the south-west of the county was a nuclear village from which the inhabitants went out to the surrounding fields from their thatched dwellings framed in timber and walled with wattle and daub, the two exceptions being, on one lane, the stone-built church that every villager was expected to attend each Sunday, and the brick manor house on the other. The

village was triangular in form, the two lanes descending southwards to meet the king's highway that ran east to Huntingdon, the county town, and west to Thrapston. The latter was a little less than ten miles distant, the former a little more. Both were important to the village; at their weekly markets Brington folk could sell their surplus and buy what they could not produce. In a good year their crops and their livestock provided that surplus; salt and ironware, any cloth finer than homespun, and such little luxuries as ribbons and fairings would have required expenditure of coin or negotiation of credit.

In addition Huntingdon was the seat of the royal assize court, where serious crimes were judged. Less serious ones brought the accused before the Justices of the Peace, a bench of local gentry recompensed not by salaries but by enhanced reputation and influence.

In mediaeval Brington the villagers had answered for their actions not only to the king in the persons of his itinerant assize judges and his justices of the peace but to the manorial court. Though the lord's steward sat in the chair, the elders of the community constituted the jury and were the authority on the custom of the manor, whereby fines and other punishments were assessed. For over 500 years the manor of Brington, together with neighbouring

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During those centuries the abbey blended the three manors into one administrative unit, with Brington providing the mother-church and Old Weston becoming the manorial centre. Then in 1539 the abbey lands were seized by the king, a royal bailiff was appointed, and a generation later in 1581 Elizabeth sold the manor(s) to the bailiff's son. Within a decade his son was in financial trouble. The result, most unusually, was that the copyholders - the hereditary tenants - bought out the manorial owner and were thereby enfranchised, becoming freeholders. For Brington folk the future looked rosy.

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

Subject: The Little World...
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 26, 2012 11:08 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>
Attach: Mupchurch2.doc

Dear Phil,

Many thanks for your manuscript letter and the accompanying cheque. They arrived just as we were off to NH for an overnight with the family, our last chance to see them before the hurly-burly of the academic year begins this coming week. We are now back in Woonsocket and with Joyce's guidance I have (I hope) put the article in the form that will give Sallaine the least trouble. As you will also see I haven't been able to resist the opportunity of tinkering with the script. The new version is attached to this note.

Best wishes to you both,
David

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THE LITTLE WORLD HE LEFT BEHIND:
MICHAEL UPCHURCH SAILS FOR VIRGINIA

David R. Ransome

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DAVID

RANSOME PGI 2012

NOTE: David would have received first issue of I rights & an U-E Newsletter recently

①
17 MAY
2012

Subject: Activities
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Thu, May 17, 2012 4:23 pm
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Recently you will have received several emails from me that required no response. On some of my projects the plan is to cast a wide net and then narrow the mailings to a smaller group that hopefully will include those interested.

We plan to leave next Wednesday for three weeks in North Carolina to visit family and to do family history research. I will give three talks. We will also have important interactions with D. H. Hill Library personnel where the Upchurch Collection is housed.

We returned on 27 April from a ten day tour of Ireland and were very pleased with the improvement in our education.

Along the way I have been thinking of a subject to discuss with you. It has to do with people lived in Huntingdonshire in the 1600-1650 era. This would encompass the time Michael Upchurch lived in the area and would include a few years before and after which would have touched the early years of his parents, Uncles, aunts, etc and later on there would be the issue of how things stood after Michael left. I realize we do not have hard data on the Upchurches involved but it is my imagination that a knowledgeable person such as your self could craft a narrative on general conditions in the mentioned era. I am thinking about the classes of people that existed, how they made their living, their health status, their religion, their housing ,etc ,etc. Perhaps you would be willing to reflect on this matter an let me know if you would be willing to pen an article to appear in the UB this fall. It could be one or two pages but 4-8 pages could also be accomodated. This is just an idea that has been floating around in my mind. Please don't hesitate to say it is not feasible to undertake for whatever reason.

We trust you and Joyce are in good health and enjoying life.
Phil Upchurch

②
19 MAY
2012

Subject: RE: Activities
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, May 19, 2012 5:16 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

It is good to hear from you. I'm glad you and Sallaine had a profitable trip to Ireland. I'm not sure what the weather was like while you were there, but here in England at the same time it was horribly wet and chilly, in contrast to the summer temperatures that we had had at the end of March. Poor Joyce arrived on 24 April and didn't see the sun for a fortnight. It is only gradually improving, and we still long for 70 degree weather. And that's not her only woe. Last fall she began to suffer attacks of arthritis and, despite physiotherapy, painkillers, and exercise, the attacks are becoming more frequent and more severe. Swimming helps, but her old activity, walking, is less and less helpful.

Many thanks for cc-ing the correspondence with Pam Upchurch. I have written to her and said that if I can help her off the top of my head I will. I wasn't sure from the messages whether she was primarily interested in the English or the American Upchurches. I am also intrigued to find her in Macclesfield as I don't remember tracing any Upchurches in Cheshire. I wonder, could she possibly be the Mrs Pam Upchurch who lived in Ely and came in to Cambridge to meet you when you were staying at the Gonville.

As for your suggestion about a brief essay on Huntingdonshire in the early 17th century, I'll have to think about it. I certainly can't do anything while I am here in England, as we have already made our plans for Joyce's stay (see below). She arrived on 24 April and is here for three months. She returns on 24 July to New England and I shall follow her as soon thereafter as possible. She managed to sort out the Medicare mess for me, and I will be re-admitted to the Medicare files on 1 July. And of course all my books are in RI. The essay is not something that I could write off the top of my head; I'd feel unsafe without being able to check facts. If indeed I do return to RI at the end of July, I can probably put something together within a month or so. Would that still be in time for the next UB? And will you think me mercenary, if I say that I would expect to bill you? I can't estimate how many hours it would take me, but I foresee a maximum of five hours at \$50 an hour. And curiously, the shorter the piece, the more difficult it will be to produce; compression takes time. (As the 17th-century French noblewoman wrote to her daughter, "If I had had more time, I would have written you a shorter letter.")

CONTINUED

② 19 MAY 2012 - CONTINUED

We are just back in Cambridge from visiting cousins in Suffolk and this afternoon go out to Little Gidding. The Bishop of Ely is leading a pilgrimage. After a communion service at Leighton Bromswold this morning and a lunch there, the pilgrims set out to walk to Gidding by way of Hamerton and Steeple Gidding. The pilgrimage ends with another service at Little G and a tea in Ferrar House. Joyce plans to walk from Steeple Gidding across the fields to Little Gidding, but won't try anything more. I shall drop her at Steeple G then take the car on to Little G and meet her as she comes over the fields. And on 2 June, the anniversary of Nicholas's being deaconed in 1626 by Bishop Laud (as he then was), there is a commemorative service at Clare College followed by a meal in hall which we will attend. Joyce has recently seen the publishers of *The Web of Friendship...*, her biography of Nicholas Ferrar. They have at last removed all the glitches from the printing, and copies are beginning to sell both here and in the US. News also reaches us of a recent U.Arizona thesis on the 'nuns' of Little Gidding (Nicholas's two nieces); we are currently hoping to receive the author's permission to read it.

Next week we go to London so that Joyce can attend a one-day conference to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the passing of the Act of Uniformity which guaranteed the Church of England a monopoly of power, even if toleration for other Protestant forms of worship was conceded a generation later. June will include a stay with my goddaughter and a fortnight in the south of France visiting a college friend whom we haven't visited for a number of years, and July takes us back to Suffolk and also up north to friends in Yorkshire. The sale of the Felixstowe house makes us that much more footloose, and we are trying to fit in as many friends and kin as possible as I fear that advancing years will make many more trips to England unlikely.

On which gloomy note I'll end, hoping that you and Sallaine are flourishing and as energetic as when we saw you last.

With best wishes,
David

Subject: RE: Activities

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sat, May 19, 2012 11:16 am

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

③

19 MAY
2012

Hi David---

We were distressed to learn that Joyce is having arthritis problems and hope she will get proper attention and learn how best to cope. I have had a touch of the same for about ten years. It does not seem to get worse with time--lucky me.

We did have quite a lot of rain in Ireland and at times it was cold but our experience was, never the less, excellent.

I have not heard from Pam but both Sallaine and I immediately came up with the prospect that she was the same Pam you mention. I elected to be silent on that issue in the initial exchange. The excellent work you did would seem to be just what she needs. We will see what unfolds.

I do hope you will find it possible to proceed with the essay. The financial arrangements you propose seem reasonable. The longer article will be fine as we can spread it over more than one issue if necessary. I will probably start preparing the issue this fall in late October with the full intention of getting it in the mail no later than Thanksgiving. I think the essay would be a splendid reading for our Upchurch family members.

I have just returned from Barnes & Noble where I inquired as to the availability of THE WEB OF FRIENDSHIP. I will plan to acquire a copy for the Upchurch Collection. Congratulations to Joyce on completing the book. The question of what kind of books the Collection should hold will be a subject for discussion on our N.C. trip.

We now have another Irish connection. When we visited England in 1989 we stayed in the home of Dr and Mrs Peter Wyse Jackson. He worked at Kew Gardens and he had visited us in Arizona. Later he became Director of the Garden in Dublin. In 2011 he was named President of the Missouri Botanical Gardens. We have renewed our association. His brother owns a used book store in Dublin. He was recently in MO to give a talk on Oscar Wilde which we attended. In 1989 he had a book shop in Chelsea and we bought a book for Peter there. (Sallaine remembers such details--what would we do without our wives?)

We do hope you and Joyce will soon be traveling our way to be our guests and we will have a chance to visit at length.

Phil Upchurch

DAVID RANSOM 2012 - PE3

④ THE RANSOME ARTICLE RE 1600-1650 ENGLAND

I mapped this in MAT and the attached packet in AVE deals with the drafts, attachments

Subject: RE: Article

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Thu, Aug 16, 2012 6:39 am

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

⑤
16 AUG
2012

Hi David----

I have now read the article over for the second time and continue to find it excellent. The length should fit well in the next UB. The maps have not arrived yet and I will have to study them to see how they fit in. Hopefully, they can be accommodated as well. The subject should be well received by readers as we have had nothing of this sort before. I will certainly alert them to the reading list you have provided. The Hartley book sounds most appealing and I will have to acquire it for my own pleasure and for the Upchurch Collection.

We will want to single space the article for publication and I will ask Sallaine if she knows how to make the conversion.

Would you want to craft a title also showing how you would like you name styled as author. I can do this but you will have a better grasp of the matter.

I am just now getting my desk relatively clear with the material collected in May/June on our N. C./ S. C. trip well processed. My attention is now focused on getting my website back up and figuring out how to add some new components to it. An exciting aspect is that we might add a number of videos of me talking about Upchurch family history. The technology is powerful but a real challenge for me to navigate. I have some good advisers but it is a little like having Henry Kissinger being adviser to a mule---there is a slight disconnect.

Sallaine and I are doing well and we trust you and Joyce are looking forward to a great Fall and that her arthritis will be well controlled.

All Best Wishes.

Phil Upchurch

Subject: RE: Article

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 17, 2012 9:58 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

⑥
17 AUG
2012

I'm relieved that my decision to personalize the account of early 17th century England meets with your approval; by now I hope the maps have arrived and are not too difficult to understand.

If it would be easier for Sallaine we can send another version of the article single-spaced. At the same time we could add a title and the way in which I'd like to be styled [David R. Ransome]. For the title we have been thinking of something along the lines of 'The Little World He Left Behind' or if you would prefer a shorter version, 'The World He Left Behind'. Myself I would vote for the former since it emphasises the constricted nature of his Huntingdonshire life before he set forth for the New World.

In fact the creation of the article took slightly more than five hours but not enough more to make me want to request any advance on the \$250 I originally mentioned.

If you find a copy of Dorothy Hartley's *Lost Country Life* and enjoy it enough to want to go further with the subject, I'll mention some other books that perhaps I should have included in my previous list. Joan Thirsk is the leading authority on this topic. She was the editor of *The Agrarian History of England and Wales, vol. IV: 1500-1640* (Cambridge U.P., 1967) and of *The English Rural Landscape* (Oxford U.P., 2000) and was the author of *Alternative Agriculture, A History, From the Black Death to the Present Day* (Oxford U.P., 1997). In addition G.E. Fussell published in 1952 *The Farmer's Tools*, and with K.R. Fussell [his wife] in 1953 and 1955 *The English Countrywoman* and *The English Countryman*. All three have been reprinted and I have the 1985 editions.

DAVID RANSOME PG 4

⑥ 17 AUG 2012 - CONTINUED

The notion that there should be videos of you, talking about the family's history, seems to me an especially good one. It not only leaves a record of you and your voice, but it avoids the danger of cold print with its suggestion that what is written is set in stone and absolute truth. Members of my mother's family have been urging me to write down my memories of our grandparents but I have been reluctant to do so since many of 'my' memories are in fact tales my mother told me - and I fancy they may have been 'improved' in the telling. I have said that I could bear to talk them on to a tape because that way they will be that much more personal and therefore more openly subjective, but that is as far as we have got..

Earlier this week it looked as though I might have occasion to be in St Louis in the fall. Grandson Charles continues to take his fencing seriously; he was at a camp in France in July and has just attended another in Boston. He told me, when I last saw him, that his schedule included a meet in St Louis in October. Unfortunately he will, if he goes, be there when I am in England for a fortnight, attending the 80th-birthday celebration of my oldest friend, so I fear a chance to see you both again will have to wait until another occasion.

Joyce is just off swimming, which she finds helps greatly with her arthritis, and I must take the chance to go to the store at the same time. Our best wishes to you both,

David

⑦

31 AUG
2012

Subject: Thanks

From: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

Date: Fri, Aug 31, 2012 3:08 pm

To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

I was delighted to have your letter and also your digest of *The Web of Friendship*. It is indeed a pleasure, as you say, to receive thoughtful comments from a careful reader. It's true that once the crisis of 1624 was resolved Virginia did not figure much in Nicholas's story, especially since he failed to convince John and Susannah Collet that their scapegrace son Edward should be packed off to the New World. One is left to speculate what would have happened if Edward had ended up there. As David has recounted, it was John in any case who really cared about the colony and was free to return to promoting it in the 1650s.

You're not alone in having contradictory ideas about Nicholas; I too found him a man of contrasts and ambiguities; fussy and precise and controlling on the one hand yet mystical and meditative on the other. He was stand-offish toward the neighbours, the Cottons at Steeple Gidding being Catholic among other complications. He clearly persuaded the family, except for Bathsheba, that they should not attempt to join the circles of local gentry and spend their time exchanging the customary social visits with them. And as word got round that they were 'different' in this way they found themselves the object of curiosity that produced lots of aspiring gate-crashers. But they had plenty of visits from friends so they didn't live in isolation. NF's 'schools', however, weren't connected to the local gentry social round but rather to ministering to their social inferiors. The idea was to persuade the local children to learn psalms by heart and have them come to the Sunday morning service at LG after which they recited the psalms to Mary Collet and whoever was helping her; they got a penny for each one they could recite and after that they got a good Sunday lunch. He also had occasional boys sent to board at LG for both lessons (with the family's children) and exposure to the piety of the household. This was a common practice; the Ferrar brothers had themselves been sent off the /school/household of Rev Robert Brooks at Enbourne.

I'm happy to be able to say that the arthritis that had bothered me earlier has largely disappeared thanks to a small pill and extensive exercise, including lots of swimming. Keeping the joints moving is key, my doctor tells me, and the exercise does seem to have paid off. One of the exercises is a series of lunges in different directions and I took in to one of my physical therapy sessions a picture of Charles doing a spectacular lunge in a fencing match! Our daughter reports that his first week of classes at the Univ of New Hampshire has gone very well and he is happily launched, so all is well on the academic front as well. His sister, Elizabeth tells us, is already so organised for the start of her school on Tuesday that she is driven to filling some of her waiting time by offering to help her mother!

With best wishes to you and Sallaine,
Joyce

DAVID RANSOME 2012 - PG 5

Subject: RE: The Little World...

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sat, Sep 15, 2012 11:53 am

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

With a big must do project out of the way I have returned to your email of August 26 and the attached revised version of the article. I have just reread it again and feel it is perfect for the next UB issue. I thank you for preparing such a meaningful article and you and Joyce both for a transmission that will go directly into the UB.

As I read the article it was easy for me to transport myself to the Brington area circa 1600-1650 and to muse about a variety of aspects of the life and times of our Upchurch ancestors. This provides a useful starting point for some future scholar to do more work either of a speculative nature on some facet or to uncover new factual information that somehow might become available to future researchers. I can only hope that others will read into the article the sorts of things that came to my mind.

I have now finished reading the Hartley book and agree that it gives more perspective to anyone wanting to grasp more of rural life in England in the old days. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. I will mention it to others and program my copy to go to the Upchurch Collection

I am trying to get up nerve to buy a new computer as my current model is a little long in the tooth. This will bring excitement to our household and possibly some angst for a time.

We send our best, thankful that Joyce seems to have learned to deal with her challenge.

Phil Upchurch

Subject: RE: The Little World...

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 9:43 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

I was just beginning to think that I should write to you when your message arrived on Saturday. Joyce and I are glad that we managed to get the formatting right and thus have given Sallaine the minimum of labour. I'm also happy that you liked the Hartley book as much as I did; I always find it hard to predict whether others will be as excited about a book as I was. Good luck with the hunt for the new computer; here my search is for a second car, now that I have passed my driving test. We are far enough from the stores and the rest of civilization to make a second car a necessity, especially now that Joyce is off swimming five mornings a week.

My reasons were for writing were two. The first is to pass on the unhappy news that Margaret Butler died on 26 July, in her 95th year. A card arrived from her (adopted) daughter, Kath Mitchell, saying that Margaret had 'developed a bout of pneumonia in April', from which she never fully recovered. Kath wrote that 'It took its toll.' She added, 'Thank goodness Mum never lost her mental capacity. She was sharp right to the end.' I have written back, and incidentally wonder if I'll ever get to meet any of Margaret's family. They seem to have the wander bug: Kath spends a lot of time in Cambodia, working no doubt but she didn't say at what; and one of her sons went around the world some years ago. Alternatively I might decide to head for New Zealand. One of my maternal great-great-grandfathers emigrated there in 1851. There are still still descendants in the female line, but we have lost touch with them, and I am gradually learning my way around the NZ internet in search of them. In addition, on my father's side, one of his grandmother's uncles also emigrated to New Zealand, and we are in touch with those (doubly) distant cousins.

The second reason is to say that while I'm in the UK in October, I'll be spending a couple of nights with cousins in Cheshire. It turns out that they are only a hop and a skip away from Pam Upchurch in Macclesfield. I'm therefore in the process of arranging to see her. I'm hoping that she will have information for us about her branch of the family. Certainly she should be able to provide more recent information about her branch of the St Neots Upchurches than I collected ten years ago. Once I'm back, I'll let you know in November what I have managed to glean.

And then yesterday evening a third reason for writing to you occurred. We were talking to our daughter Elizabeth (our weekly Sunday evening call). She was bringing us up to date on Charles's fencing schedule. He is due at the St Louis meet on 12-15 October, and she is in the midst of making the arrangements as she will be accompanying him. Her problem is that while she was in Turin during the summer, she had a nasty experience with bedbugs (not her first, and she has become increasingly allergic to their bites; there was a previous episode when she was in Moscow a good many years ago). In trawling the internet for St Louis hotels she was looking for ones usefully near to the site of the fencing meet downtown at the Convention Center. The fencing starts early, and Charles and the other competitors like

CONTINUED

⑧
15 SEP
2012

⑨
17 SEP
2012

DAVID

RANSOME 2012 - 286

⑨ 17 SEP 2012 - CONTINUED

to be there even earlier, for impromptu warm-ups. Because of her fear of bedbugs, she checked with the Bedbug Registry kept by the Center for Disease Control, and found to her dismay that bedbugs are now a nationwide hazard, and that the hotel chains are all too commonly infested, including those in St Louis. Unfortunately there is an unwillingness to acknowledge the problem, both because of its effect on bookings and because of its high cost of eliminating the creatures. In the course of our conversation we concluded that the best bet was to find an individually run bed-and-breakfast, since such an establishment would soon be out of business if infected. The problem is to locate such a place, and we are wondering if you know of any such places or of how to locate them.

Ourselves we are enjoying the cessation of the summer's humidity, and I for one am relishing the golden sunshine which now comes unaccompanied by extreme heat. Nevertheless I spent yesterday indoors among the books. Oxford University Press has commissioned a friend at Brown to write a volume on James I and Charles I, and when we saw him on Saturday evening he was asking about illustrations of the leading actors. As one of my pleasures is exhibition-going, I have a lot of catalogues and I was busy hunting out less usual illustrations of the two kings and their families and chief ministers. I was particularly taken with a van Dyck sketch of Charles I and an oil of James I when still only James VI of Scotland; I hope he'll be pleased. Meantime I have already earmarked a day in London in late October to see the exhibition commemorating the 400th anniversary of the death of James I's older son, Henry Prince of Wales, who was a very different, because self-confident, creature from Charles.

On which bookish note I'll end, with best wishes to you both,

David

Subject: RE: The Little World...

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Mon, Sep 17, 2012 3:32 pm

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

⑩
17 SEP
2012

I was so sorry to learn of the passing of Margaret Butler. She and I had such a cordial history of corresponding that I feel like an era has passed with little prospects of replacing the pattern with others in New Zealand. I shall always regret that we were not able to visit her when we were there. It is encouraging to learn that you are having some success in tracking your kin there and that there are prospects of your traveling to the area.

It is great that you will have prospects of visiting Pam when you are next in the mother country. Do let me know what you learn. I did not feel the exchanges she and I had were fully fleshed out. One always hopes that there will be an awakening on the part of some of the Upchurch family in England and that they will be able to use what we have accumulated thanks to your fine work.

Now I turn to the problem that has come to Elizabeth. Sallaine and I are not well acquainted with downtown St. Louis as far as accommodations are concerned but have some impressions. I first turned to our daughter Deb Heck as in her recent capacity as a purchasing VP for Express Scripts she had some acquaintance with accommodations. She confirms the bed bug problem and says it is especially bad on the east coast but would not be surprised to learn of it in St Louis. She offers a novel solution which she knows has been put to good use. This has to do with purchasing a traveling sleeping bag so that one sleeps in it on the hotel bed thus avoiding contact with the critters. Brookstone is one store that carries them.

Deb feels you improve your chances by staying at a high class hotel. A very good choice would be the Renaissance which is just next to the Convention Center. This has the convenience of involving only a small walk to the Center. This is important as there are fairly close to downtown St. Louis some unsavory neighborhoods and out of an abundance of caution the less street exposure you have the better especially when the streets are sparsely populated as in the early hours. Two other excellent hotels not far away are the Hyatt and Four Seasons.

None of us have any experience with Bed and Breakfast outfits in our city but find it hard to believe that a high quality unit could be found in the Convention area. There is a metro train in the area which might give options to move you about but then from time to time we hear negative stories about it. I guess we are died-in-the wool suburbanites with little taste for the central city.

Your report on James I and Charles I causes me to remember that we have a good art museum with quite a few old masters. They have recently completed a rather impressive expansion which we have not yet seen. I would hope on your next visit to St Louis that we would have a chance to take you to see our museum and see together the offerings. The experience would be most enjoyable.

We are on the verge of some fall walks in our village over the next two months and note that you s well are looking forward to a most pleasant season.

Phil Upchurch

DAVID

RANSOME 2012 - 1767

⑪
18 SEP
2012

Subject: RE: The Little World...
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 18, 2012 9:40 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Phil -

There's an old Latin tag - He gives double who gives swiftly; we are therefore doubly grateful to you for such a prompt and thorough reply. I forwarded your thoughts to Elizabeth, and she has acknowledged them to me most appreciatively and asked me to relay her thanks to you and Deb. She is grateful for the suggestion of the sleeping bag remedy; we'll cross our fingers and hope that whatever precautions she takes prove effective. (She reports, incidentally, that the Renaissance appears on the Bedbug Registry.)

Deb's comments about the east coast reminds me of my student experience when travelling in Spain in the 1950s. Everywhere we went we were told that it was safe to drink the water "here" but to beware of the next town and Granada; we concluded that Granada was certainly the one place to avoid the water. Even so, once there we fell victim to 'Gyppo tummy'. We blamed it on the fact that our hosts cooked with butter rather than olive oil and used no garlic. But who knows! Certainly we avoided the water.

Again, many thanks to you all for your input,

David

⑫
4 NOV
2012

Subject: Upchurch of Macclesfield
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sun, November 04, 2012 12:28 pm
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

NOTE: TABLE 14 IS IN
UB Vol 24 No 2 J-D 2003

Dear Phil,

Though delayed in the UK for three extra days by Hurricane Sandy, I am now back in the US. I arrived back on Thursday evening to find that RI and NH had escaped any significant damage. The storm stripped the leaves from the trees more swiftly and thoroughly than usual, the occasional tree fell, but none of them brought down power lines either around us in Woonsocket or near Elizabeth in New Hampshire. We assume that you were similarly spared, being well south of the storm's path.

My two weeks in the UK were delightfully full. I was almost constantly on the move, zinging in and out of Cambridge, visiting friends and relatives and making a quick dash to London to see an interesting exhibition commemorating the 400th anniversary of the death of Prince Henry, Charles I's elder brother. While I was with young cousins in Cheshire I had the opportunity to meet John and Pamela Upchurch, with whom I spent several happy hours at their home in Macclesfield. From them I learned of a volume self-published in 1990; Caroline Burkitt compiled a memorial volume *Men with Splendid Hearts: Stories of Remembrance 1914-1918 and 1939-1945*, in which she memorialized the men of Grantchester who died in the two wars, providing a genealogical tables and a brief biography of each man. (The most widely known, of course, is Rupert Brooke, the poet, who died in 1915 on his way to Gallipoli.) The volume included John's grandfather James Upchurch, and I have xeroxes of the two relevant pages which I will mail you once I have copied them.

The genealogical table setting out James Upchurch's descent is embarrassingly useful. It slots into my Table 14, the Upchurch family of Great Gransden 1822- , and reveals how partial my researches were. It serves to emphasize their incomplete nature. In the interests of economy Malcolm Clydesdale & I used only the General Register Office indexes of births, marriages and [civilian] deaths. Consequently I failed to track those children whose parents moved from one registration district to another. Nor did I allow for twins. And had I paid more attention to the 1901 census, I might have given a more complete account of the children of Frederick and Anne Upchurch. To Annie, and William Alfred, and Ernest Arthur I could have added Ernest's twin Edwin Henry, James, who in 1901 was a gardener's labourer, aged 14,

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

RANSOME 2012 P68

(12) 4 NOV 2012 - CONTINUED

Sarah then aged 7, and Lucy then aged 3, but I would still have missed Charles Robert who was born in 1901 after the census was taken.

Caroline Burkitt presumably used the parish registers for her information, and thus was able to give the maiden name of Frederick Upchurch's wife as RUST, a fact concealed from me by the GRO's 19th-century marriage indexes. [Wives' maiden names do not appear until 1912.] More interestingly Anne [Rust] Upchurch's burial date was given by Caroline Burkitt as 8 March 1928; I suggested that Anne died in the Caxton registration district (which included Great Gransden) in the second quarter of 1926. Recourse to the GRO death indexes shows that two Ann Upchurches died, one as I had suggested, the other in the first quarter of 1928 in the Chesterton registration district (which included Grantchester). If, as I suppose, Caroline Burkitt was using the parish registers, she is more likely to be correct. Recourse to the parish registers will settle the matter.

I have given all this detail as a warning to those who make use of my Upchurch trees. They should be checked against the relevant parish registers before being trusted absolutely. Moreover the 1911 census is now available and will enable researches to add another decade of information.

On 27 February 1913 at Grantchester James Upchurch married Mary Priscilla BOUGHEN [she died on 30 December 1950], and their only child Robert James was born on 9 October 1914. By then James had joined the 12th battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. He served in France from June 1916 and on 24 November 1917 he was killed in action. On 9 December 1939 at the start of World War II Robert married Esme Doreen LASHMAR; she, who had been born on 2 December 1912, died in August 1992; he had died previously on 2 July 1980. Their only child was John Robert, whom I visited. He was born on 28 August 1947, and married Pamela DRINKALL on 29 September 1973. Their son Michael Jonathan was born on 27 September 1979, their daughter Susan Joanne on 30 November 1982. On 31 July 2009 at Macclesfield she married Andrew Craig SCHOFIELD, who was born on 28 December 1982.

I will write a more informal letter later, but wanted to send this information promptly.

Best wishes to you both, David

Subject: RE: Upchurch of Macclesfield
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sun, Nov 04, 2012 2:50 pm
To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

(13)

4 NOV
2012

Hi David---

Many thanks for your very instructive report. I have had a quick look at your Table 14 and can see generally how the new information fits in. I will look forward to the pages you plan to send and will then study the matter more. It should all fit into the upcoming UB for which Sallaine has just today finished typing the Directory portion. I will want your advice on using your email of today in the UB. Also, I will anticipate interacting with Pam via email in the process.

All of this brings me to an update for you. The upcoming week will be extremely stimulating. Cousin Tom Upchurch arrives at noon on Tuesday to spend three days making ten-minute videos of me talking family history which Tom will shortly thereafter place on YouTube. We know not where this will lead. I have revised several times my list of several dozen videos and am today going through the UB issues picking out hints, examples, visuals, etc. The first video will be on Michael Upchurch as that is an excellent starting place. My

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I have given all this detail as a warning to those who make use of my Upchurch trees. They should be checked against the relevant parish registers before being trusted absolutely. Moreover the 1911 census is now available and will enable researches to add another decade of information.

On 27 February 1913 at Grantchester James Upchurch married Mary Priscilla BOUGHEN [she died on 30 December 1950], and their only child Robert James was born on 9 October 1914. By then James had joined the 12th battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. He served in France from June 1916 and on 24 November 1917 he was killed in action. On 9 December 1939 at the start of World War II Robert married Esme Doreen LASHMAR; she, who had been born on 2 December 1912, died in August 1992; he had died previously on 2 July 1980. Their only child was John Robert, whom I visited. He was born on 28 August 1947, and married Pamela DRINKALL on 29 September 1973. Their son Michael Jonathan was born on 27 September 1979, their daughter Susan Joanne on 30 November 1982. On 31 July 2009 at Macclesfield she married Andrew Craig SCHOFIELD, who was born on 28 December 1982.

I will write a more informal letter later, but wanted to send this information promptly.

Best wishes to you both, David

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Table 14 UB von 24 Nov 2012 5-D 2003

DAVID

RANSOME 2012 - PG 9

(13) 4 NOV 2012 - CONTINUED

second one will be on how you and I came to be associated and the tremendous good fortune the Upchurch family has had in having you as a key person helping us understand our English heritage. I have been going over in my mind just what to say with the idea of describing the seminal role you have played and continue to play while at the same time not reporting anything that would be objectionable in your eyes. I'll give this more thought and would appreciate any comments you may have at this time.

Tom will be advising me as we decide on and purchase a new computer and he will set it up. We hope to make 10-20 videos. If it works I will continue to make more later. This is all a new an exciting venture which this octogenarian never dreamed would happen.

The reach of Sandy was not so far as ST Louis so we were spared. Sallaine and I are please to hear that you had a good two weeks in England and that you are now safely back in the Colonies. Our best to you and Joyce.

Phil Upchurch

(14)

12 NOV 2012

Subject: RE: Upchurch of Macclesfield

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Nov 12, 2012 10:41 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Apologies for delaying a reply to your message of 4 November, and for not mailing the copies of the xeroxes I made in England. I purposely made my previous letter as impersonal as possible, reckoning that you might want to use much of it in the UB. May I leave you to decide how much of it you choose to print?

I'll be intrigued to hear how the sessions with Cousin Tom went. I assume you will have been talking either off the cuff, or from notes at most, rather than from a detailed script, so that your remarks can seem the more spontaneous and lively. (I always dread what is to come when I see a lecturer preparing to read from a wad of paper at the podium.) I think I must rely on your discretion in what you say of our acquaintance. Do not make my role more important than it really has been. The motive power for all the Upchurch projects has come from you; I regard myself merely as a technical assistant, who has enjoyed the task of exploring another family's past, and would counsel folk not to regard my contributions as infallible. (See my previous message.)

Yesterday I had an answer to my 'thank you' letter to Pam and John Upchurch in Macclesfield. They are busily making preparations for their visits to their daughter and son in Canada and New Zealand respectively; it will be March before they return to the UK and can continue their interest in their families' history. I see that I said little about Pam and John in my previous letter. I now say more - for your and Sallaine's eyes only. John is the sterling setting in which Pam sparkles. He is a retired solicitor, i.e. lawyer, who was bitten by the travel bug when younger. For a time he worked with/for the Attorney-General of Hong Kong, and it was there that his daughter was born. Both his children have inherited the willingness to travel. Their daughter, who is a valued medical statistician at Imperial College, London, married an oil man; hence a stint in the Gulf, followed by their present assignment in Calgary. Their son, in IT as I recall, has recently moved to New Zealand; hence the parents' visits to first one and then the other in the coming months. Just in case I have misremembered and am mis-speaking, please wait for confirmation of any of the preceding from Pam and John themselves. I don't want gossip to be confused with history.

Last week the Nor'Easter was more inconvenient than Sandy hereabouts. We had three or four inches of snow, the first fall of the season, but it didn't last, and we are now experiencing warm, sunny days. Joyce is now seeing the world with renewed exactness; she had the cataract remove from her other eye last week, and will resume her swimming on Wednesday. I meanwhile have almost shed the cold I acquired in the UK. We hope you are free of sneezes in Missouri.

(15)

13 NOV 2012

Subject: Family Information

From: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

Date: Tue, Nov 13, 2012 1:45 pm

To: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Attach: Upchurch genealogy1.pdf
Upchurch, James.pdf

Best wishes to you both,
David

See PES 10 & 11 for this
Two items
Also memo
in 4 folders
UB-2012

Dear Phil,

Attached are two items David asked me to scan and send on to you. I trust they'll travel safely.
Happy Thanksgiving to you and Sallaine,

Joyce



31890 PRIVATE
JAMES UPCHURCH

If it were not for the fact that, many years ago, someone in St. Neots broke open the Parish chest, stole the early Church Registers and threw them into a water-logged ditch, it would be possible to trace the Upchurch family even further back than 1719. As it is, the books were rescued in an almost illegible state. However, later ones are in excellent condition, and it can be seen that the family must have been quite active in the town. Several generations were cord-wainers, and among them was a Parish Clerk and a Sexton. One even owned a row of three cottages in Brook Street.

In the nineteenth century members of the family moved to Hemingford Grey and Great Gransden, and

then on to Caxton. James' parents spent ten years at Dumpling Farm before finally moving into Grant Cottages when Frederick became stockman for Mr Gardner at Lacies Farm. After he died in 1912 his wife moved to one of the old cottages in Symonds Lane.

James Upchurch went to school in Grantchester. He wanted to join the police force when he left, but was three quarters of an inch too short. He tried several jobs, and at one time was a gardener at Corpus Christi College, but gave that up to do jobbing gardening, working for, among others, the Nutters at Lyndewode, the Neeves at the Old Vicarage and the Warburtons at Yew Garth. On 27th February, 1913, he married Mary Priscilla Boughen. She came from Downham Market but was in service with the Holben family at Manor Farm, as was James' sister-in-law, Ethel Sparkes. Mary and James chose to be married in Grantchester Church and her sister was their bridesmaid. After their wedding they moved into 1, Laburnam Cottages and it was there that their only child, Robert James, was born.

When war broke out James was called up into the 12th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. From June, 1915 to June, 1916, the battalion was stationed in England. It then returned to France as part of the 40th Division. On 23rd November, 1917, an attack was made on Bournon wood and village. After four and a half hours of hard fighting in what is reputed to have been a brilliant military exploit, the wood was captured and the men entered the village. However, they were unable to hold the village so attacked again the next day. 24th November was another day of severe and difficult fighting and, although two companies managed to penetrate to the north of Bournon, the village still remained in the hands of the enemy, and on 25th the Division withdrew to the Hindenberg Line. The Battalion suffered 150 casualties and James was one of those who were killed. He is remembered on Panel 4 of the Cambrai Memorial at Louverval Military Cemetery, another of those thousands of men who have no known grave.

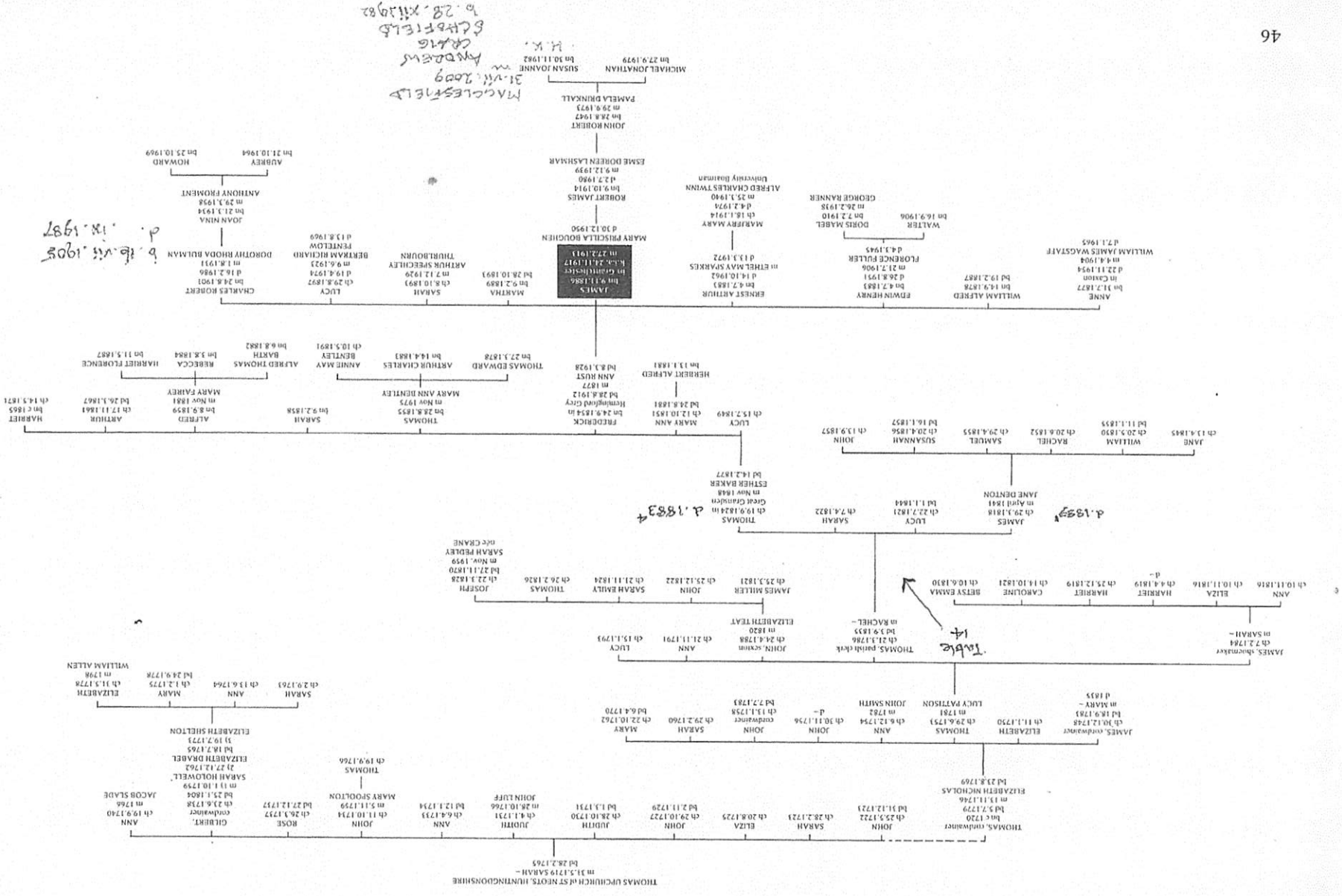
Mary Priscilla lived on in Laburnam Cottages until she died on Boxing Day, 1950. She is buried in Grantchester churchyard.

From:

Caroline Buskitt,

Men with Splendid Hearts: Stories
of Remembrance 1914-1918 and 1939-1945

[Grantchester, 1990].



DAVID

RANSOME 2012. P&R

18
13 NOV
2012

Subject: RE: Family Information
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Tue, Nov 13, 2012 4:09 pm
To: "Joyce Ransome" <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

Hi Joyce----

Thank you very much for the two items. I have had a quick read and find them very informative. I would like to call David and have a chat about them. Can he be reached by phone?

I was pleased to learn from David that your cataract operation went well. I had the procedure many years ago with great success. Sallaine, on the other hand, has never required the process.

We are looking forward to the holiday season with Thanksgiving dinner at the home of our daughter and her husband and with Christmas dinner here at our home. Sallaine and I have devised some special activities. One is a singing event with all singing about six Christmas carols followed by a number of songs each one for which someone will be voted off the island. The last two standing will be cheered as they sing a duet. Traditions have to start somewhere.

Wishing you and yours the blessings of the season.
Phil Upchurch

18
14 NOV
2012

Subject: Talking
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Nov 14, 2012 7:16 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Phil,

Joyce tells me that you'd like to talk. I'll be at 401-765-3901 this morning, but we are out this afternoon and evening. We have no definite plans for to-morrow, Thursday, that I know of.

David

18 14 NOV 2012 - Notes of RPU Call to DR (401) 765-3901

I updated DR on the website and indicated that Tom might ask him to net. DR says would need to send a Joyce computer

DR says OK to print the James A article and the chart. Caroline researched all families referred in the book similar to the Upchurch Family. She used Parish records more than DR hence better data

There were 10-12 Upchurches from England who died in WWI. Per Malcolm, DR added the missing parts to the chart

DR reports that he knows little about how to use computers but that Joyce is more proficient.

DAVID R

RANSOME 2012 PG13

Subject: Advent

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, Dec 09, 2012 10:48 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil and Sallaine,

Mid-week brought us both your sprightly Christmas greetings and the latest issue of the Upchurch Bulletin; many thanks for them. We enjoyed reading them both, and in addition admired the energy and dedication that produced the latter. Thank you for the space you gave Joyce and James Upchurch and me; I'm not sure I deserve the description of "competent professional". It will be interesting to see if the piece on Michael Upchurch provokes any reaction. I suspect you may hear eventually from Pam Upchurch when she sees that you have married her on p.26 to her father-in-law rather than to John whom you correctly name as her husband on p.28.

Both of us having spent all our spare moments this past week reading the draft of a friend's book on the early Stuarts (the publishers want the final version in mid-January, and he leaves for six weeks in England on the 16th), we are somewhat behind with our Christmas preparations. They will be further interrupted this next weekend by a trip to NH to see the grandchildren perform, Emma on the dance floor and Charles in the fencing hall. However, the Christmas puddings are made, but the mince pies and the rush to the stores are still ahead of us. Most of these tasks devolve on Joyce, and as she is the one who usually organizes the Christmas letter, I fear that it may fall victim to the other demands of the season.

I'll therefore be the one now to wish you both a merry Christmas in the company of as many of the family as possible. We hope that 2013 will be peacefully prosperous for us all, and more importantly keep us all in good health.

David

Subject: RE: Advent

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Wed, Dec 12, 2012 11:02 am

To: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Thanks for your input on the UB issue. I'll have to make a correction about Pam on my desk copy which is my standard way of noting errors. However, with this issue we now have a better method of making a correction. Cousin Tom Upchurch is vetting Vol. 33 and will be posting it on my website in due course. In the process we can make corrections. In fact, we can at any time in the future make corrections as they are found to be necessary months and years down the road. I am a little concerned about how to alert viewers that a particular change has been made. Maybe it would be well to add to the online edition a page where we could show changes made on specific dates showing the page, wrong information and the new information. I am just thinking out loud at this point.

I have a couple of cooperators who are helping me prepare all previous issues of the UB for posting on my website. There are technical issues and time and expense involved but they begin to look manageable. While the information goes on my website for now, in due course all will go to NCSU to be a part of the Upchurch Collection perhaps as a hard copy and as a digital version to stay on line. This is taking some negotiation as Libraries Special Collections units are accustomed to dealing with hard copies and are having some problem accommodating the digital world.

Over the next several months I hope the website can be greatly expanded. As a peak get Joyce to pull up <www.upchurchstory.com> and have a look/listen to the three videos I have now posted.

I am experimenting with several ways of creating videos. One is to talk about specific events or people in history and then to relate what some members of the Upchurch family were doing at that particular time even if they were not directly involved. Some historical points would be the King James Bible, Oliver Cromwell, the American Revolution, the gold rush, the first flight, etc., etc.

At present I am working on an issue of my E-Newsletter for the Swift Creek Community and will send you a copy for your amusement.

Life is very good here with good health all around and everyone seeming to be very busy which is a good thing.

I close by thanking you once again for the excellent article you prepared for Vol. 33. Several have already indicated that the issue is a really good one.

Our Best to you and Joyce and the young ones for a blessed season.

Phil Upchurch

19
9 DEC
2012

20
12 DEC
2012

DAVID R , RANSOME 2012 - P814

(21)

Subject: RE: Advent

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Thu, Dec 13, 2012 8:54 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

13 DEC

2012

I'm happy to report that even this old Model-T computer of mine (formerly Joyce's) was able to access your three videos. They look good. With luck - and persistence - you will one day identify the mysterious grandson who inherited a slice of the 1000 acres. I was especially glad to see the video on the first five generations, as it explained to me the logic behind Tribe, Branches, and Clans. I also noted, when watching the tour of the archive, that the two fat files of Ramsay matter was followed by a slim folder for Ransome. Are there Ransomes that descend from Michael I, or does that represent the letters the two of us have exchanged over the past twenty years?

The fact that this computer is capable of handling videos means that once Cousin Tom has edited your tale of our acquaintance he can send it direct to me as well as to Joyce. (I suggest keeping Joyce in the loop because, even before reading them, I have been known to delete messages accidentally through ignorance or clumsiness.)

Enjoy the holiday,
David

(22)

Subject: Videos

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sat, Dec 15, 2012 9:39 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

15 DEC

2012

Hi David---

Tom tells me that the videos including the one about you are too large to be sent as an email attachment. However, he thinks he can create an alternative process and will be working on that.

In the meantime he has posted on YouTube a video about Michael U., I. (It is not yet listed on my website.) I would like for you to view it if convenient. You can google Youtube and type in "Michael Upchurch video" which should then be among the options presented to you. I note that I got one date wrong and I will be checking with Tom to see what can be done about this. Tom has labeled this Part I meaning we can have several more on Michael.

I have a letter in the mail to you about the Ransom file you spotted in the earlier video.

Cheers!

Phil Upchurch

(23)

Subject: RE: Videos

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2012 8:24 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

18 DEC

2012

CC TO RANSOM(e)/RANSON(e) - BIOFILE

→

We left New Hampshire late yesterday morning a winter wonderland, having spent a happy weekend in New Hampshire - Emma danced elegantly and Charles fenced successfully - and in the afternoon reached a misty moisty Rhode Island to find the envelope of Ransom[e]/Ranson[e] information. Many thanks for it.

You are right to gather those folk all into a single file. We Ransomes have cousins who have dropped the final -e, and some years ago I noticed in the Suffolk Family History bulletin a request for help from a nearby Ransome. It turned out that he was no kin. His Church of England ancestors c.1700 could be traced to the south-west of the county, whereas at that time we were still Quaker Norfolk 'dumplings'. More interestingly, his earliest ancestors were Ransom; c. 1720 they changed the spelling to Ransom, and then in the mid-19th century they moved to Ipswich where my family's engineering firm was already installed, and Ransom became Ransome. (There was a similar switch in my mother's family; when my medical gt-grandfather Keer moved to Wickham Market in 1853 a family that had been there since 1600 or so immediately changed their spelling from Care to Keer. Once again spelling was bowing the knee to worldly status.) The one variant I have never met is Ransone. An English surname book derives both Ransom(e) and Ranson from the same source, reckoning that both are variants of 'Randolph's son'. I'm rather surprised that the 'd' vanished so completely.

CONTINUED

DAVID R

RANSOME 2012 - PG 15

(23) 18 DEC 2012 - CONTINUED

The earliest of your references suggests that the colonial Ransoms were extremely distant kin, if kin at all. I wonder if it would be possible to get a line on them through John Crowe Ransom, the poet. (We used to wonder whether he had put the -e on the wrong name.) And some years ago there was a Ransome Airlines over here. It was set up by a very distant cousin, but I never did find out what happened to it, whether it failed or was absorbed by a bigger outfit.

During the weekend Emma gave me my first lesson with the camera, and I can now take a picture. The next task will be to record Joyce and get her to record me, and then we'll try to figure out a foolproof way of sending the results to Dr Tom, Emma's instruction not proceeding that far. But that will have to wait till after the holiday.

Merry Christmas!
David

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email: phil@upchurchstory.com Website: <www.upchurchstory.com>



PROF DAVID R. RANSOME
1202 BROOKHAVEN LANE
WOOD SOCKET RI 02895

19 AVE 2012

Dear David -

Thanks for your email of 17 AVE 2012 re the article. I'll let you select the title but will offer a comment or two here for your consideration. I like "The little world he left behind" and will gladly accept that if you so decide. However, at the risk of being overly long one could add more specificity by substituting "Michael Upchurch" for "He" and expanding "'-- little world'" to read "'-- little English world'--". Perhaps there is a more creative way to do this, one option would be to use a subtitle as well as the title. None of this is a big issue so I will gladly accept your choice.

As you add a title and your name it would be helpful to have a single spaced transmission to save space in the challenge of connections.

Thank you for the additional list of books. Yesterday I went to Barnes & Noble to purchase the Hartley book and "The Men of Friendship". They were able to order Joyce's book for me and it will arrive in a few days. I have long wanted to get it. They did not have access to the Hartley book so I ordered it this morning from Amazon.com. My current read is a book on the history of the Arabs which helps to round out my knowledge of that part of the world and is especially useful in giving context to the current dire situation. Too, it helps me prepare for writing my chapter ^{on my memories} on my 1977-1981 experiences in Yemen where I supervised at length a University of Arizona agricultural research program.

For the video project there is much to do in assembling the electronic gear needed and to arrange for getting the completed videos on line. It all amounts to a powerful option. I hope to be recording my words simultaneously with word recognition software (Dragon NaturallySpeaking) and to have the text on-line and searchable. I urge you to get your own story

recorded. It would be a unique manuscript.

I am disappointed that you will not be coming to St Louis to see Charles complete as this would have given us the opportunity to visit. Perhaps there will be another time. In the meantime I offer congratulations to Charles knowing that his grandparents relish his accomplishments. We follow each of our 8 with pleasure. Our current anxiety has to do with the fact that 26 year old Andrew seems slow to place a ring on the finger of his intended. I am in a hurry even if he is not.

Enclosed is the payment for preparing the article. We continue to be indebted to you for helping us understand our Ypswich heritage.

My best to you and Joyce. Do let us know that I am looking forward to reading her book.

Fondly,

Phil Ypswich

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email: phil@upchurchstory.com Website: <www.upchurchstory.com>



25 AUG 2012

Dr JOYCE RANSOME
1202 BROOKHAVEN LANE
WOONSOCKET RI 02895

Dear Joyce -

Congratulations on publishing "The web of Friendship".
I have just finished reading it with my special
interest in mind. Since I may not return to
the matter of Michael Upchurch for some weeks
or months I thought it best to set down my
impressions to file with the book all of which
will go to the Upchurch collection at N. C. State in
due course.

I did not have in mind sending my
draft to you but after putting words to paper
I thought you might appreciate from one
reader, albeit not typical, reacted. I am always
pleased to know that someone has read an
item of mine.

The book is a very scholarly work and
it contributes measurably to an important

topic. I have no doubt it will be highly regarded by historians for many decades to come.

And now my next book to read is "Lost Country Life" by Dorothy Hartley which is at hand thanks to David's suggestion.

I hope that you are finding a good path to follow to deal with the pain of your arthritis. one man is that it is one price we pay for living a long life. while there may be true it is of little comfort.

We take note of your grandson's deep involvement in penning. It is a joy to see the young people develop always trusting that parents and grandparents have served as good role models.

Trusting that we will soon see you and David in St Louis again

Phil Upchurch

THE WEB OF FRIENDSHIP

- Nicholas Ferrar and Little Gidding
By Joyce Ransome - RTR NOTES 25 AUG 12

This book rec'd 22 AUG 2012. After reading it fairly closely I will now record a few impressions.

My main interest in the book is to tease out implications for the Upchurch Family.

The main focus of the book is to examine closely the historical facts about the kind of lifestyle Nicholas promoted at Little Gidding. A lot of new and old facts about the personalities and activities involved were closely examined and analysed - so much so that the book will mostly appeal to scholars of the era, man, society.

In the end Joyce concludes Nicholas served the Protestant religion well although life at Little Gidding was not portrayed nearly so idyllic and well regulated as I had formerly been led to believe.

Joyce starts with two misfortunes of the family which led to his mother coming to the rescue and purchasing the Little Gidding Manor & estate which provided rental income to sustain the family.

Nicholas was divided in his obligations at Little Gidding - wanting to guide the religious lifestyle but needing to otherwise lead the family & provide for them in a secular sense and still having regular obligations in London. Life for him was not a bed of roses.

I was pleased to be informed about the harmonies and the role they played. Except for a brief orientation in the beginning the role of the Ferrars

family in Virginia was suited. The fact that Michael Upchurch sent his letters to Virginia Ferrar, niece of Nicholas, in the 1850's had it mean that the Ferrar interest in Virginia was ongoing - but that aspect was beyond the scope of the book.

In Upchurch History Michael's letters led to the erroneous conclusion that Michael's family lived at Little Gidding. This misunderstanding persisted for a couple of decades before David Ransome led us to understand how the misunderstanding came about and how Brington was the real townstone for American Upchurches. The misunderstanding led me in the 1970 era to guide an American Upchurch bequest of \$10,000 to Little Gidding rather than to Brington. It was used to install new windows in the rear of the Church at Little Gidding.

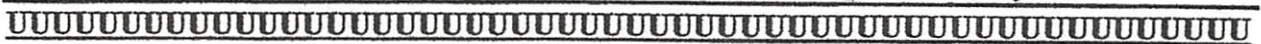
I am left with contradictory ideas about the behavior of Nicholas at Little Gidding. Joyce tells how he developed a sense of friendship but I gather this was more with relatives and connections of his social world. Joyce relates that he was stand-offish as regards local gentry. And yet my earliest impression, perhaps mistaken, was that he drew local children into his home based "school".

I ponder these matters because I would like to find more of a basis to speculate on how Michael might have been influenced to go to America and an unbelly, or not some of his Virginia neighbors might have travel their heritage to Brington/Little Gidding with some kind of embrace among the people.

ROBERT P. UPCHURCH
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email: phil@upchurchstory.com Website: <www.upchurchstory.com>



19 DEC 2012

Dear David -

Re your email of 13 DEC 2012 - I am pleased ^{I DID} that you had a look at the videos. I'll alert Tom to send the one about you to your email and to that of Joyce's as well. Tom's SIL Jay Annans is an expert on making videos and Tom has enlisted him to give advice. Our procedures are evolving. We made one yesterday about how a member of the Upchurch Family taught Charles Lindbergh how to fly in the Army.

You were very alert to note the Ransom file. I have now modified it to read

RANSOM (E)
RANSON (E)

and have brought all the various spellings into this one file folder (The exchanges you and I have had are filed elsewhere - I'll add a sheet to this file now to reflect that fact).

There are now 11 entries, (copies of all are included hereunder). (Some sheets were entered more than once as entries are made for each person in the record. For example the record for Amy Ransom, I

was also entered for Richard, James, Betty, etc.).

of the 11 entries you will note that 3 bear XID's which mean they have been formally enrolled in the extended Upchurch Family. Some of the others may yet be so enrolled.

I create Profile Records for many reasons but mainly because of some actual, likely, possible connection to the Upchurch Family such as a participant in a transaction, a neighbor,

If you have questions about any of them please feel free to let me know.

Phil Upchurch

A.S.

Sorry about the ink marks on the copies. Sallaine has been unable to fix the problem. We have parts to be delivered on the 17th. If this does not work we may have to buy another printer.