

The DUXBURYs

In the DUXBURY Family we find some of our most prestigious ancestors - we actually have some 'gentlemen'!

Of those making their living off the land in the 16th and 17th centuries, the lowest class was the agricultural labourer: he worked for landowners or tenant farmers and had a little land on which he and his wife could grow a few crops to feed their family. Husbandmen were small-scale farmers engaged in subsistence farming and probably supplementing their income with weaving (the women spinning the wool in preparation). A yeoman had enough land to produce, with the help of employees, a surplus which he could sell to others; the income could be spent on luxury items, land improvement or the acquisition of more land. A gentleman had enough land and employees to generate sufficient income without engaging, himself, in manual labour; as a member of the 'gentry', however, he would have social responsibilities such as acting as a magistrate. His land might be inherited, acquired with his profits or, very often, acquired through marriage to a landowning woman or heiress.

The DUXBURY family originated in Duxbury, near Chorley. The name Duxbury is believed to have been derived from Deowuc's Burgh, from the original settlement founded by Deowuc, an Angle. From Duxbury the family slowly spread out, initially north-eastwards within Lancashire, but later, thinly, across the whole country and overseas.

It is our DUXBURYs' land holding and wealth that enables us to trace the family back into the 16th century: parish records alone would have been insufficient. In 1544 we find NICHOLAS DUXBURY assessed for unspecified goods worth £5 held in Great Harwood: this might have been the value of one horse, or four cows, or fifteen stones (100 kilos) of wool.¹ From the dates of the marriages of his children, it is reasonable to assume that NICHOLAS was born around 1520, at the latest: this was the year in which Henry VIII of England and Francis I of France met at the famous Field of the Cloth of Gold, Pope Leo X issued the bull (public decree) threatening Martin Luther with excommunication - and Luther publicly burned it. NICHOLAS is Andrew, Paul and James' 13 x great-grandfather.

¹ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency-converter/#currency-result>

Great Harwood, or 'Muche Harwood' as it was then known, lies three miles north of Accrington, four and a half miles northeast of Blackburn. No major route passes through. It is bounded by the rivers Hyndburn and Calder, Dean Brook and Norden Brook, with higher land to the north, overlooking the Calder; the land slopes more gently towards the east and south-east to the Hyndburn, and to Norden Brook on the south. Numerous small streams and springs allowed the scattered building of farmsteads. The larger (by area if not population) 'Upper Town', owned by the Heskeths of Martholme, centred on the Cliffe and Hindle Fold, but extended to Whalley Nab; 'Lower Town' or 'Nether-ton', owned by the Nowells of Read Hall, grew to become the town centre, but extended to Clayton-le-Moors and Rishton. In **NICHOLAS**' time, the greater part of Harwood was unreclaimed moor, common and woodland.

Great Harwood was served by the church of St. Lawrence, mentioned as a chapel of ease in 1389. A chantry dedicated to St Bartholomew was commissioned in 1521 by Thomas Hesketh of Martholme, and, at an unknown date, the dedication of the chapel was changed to St Bartholomew. The tower of the present building probably dates from the 15th century; most of the rest appears to date from the 16th century and may have been rebuilt by another Thomas Hesketh who was rebuilding Martholme in 1577.

Parish registers go back to 1547, and so the burial of **NICHOLAS**' wife, **Alice**,² on 10th January, 1560 is recorded. **NICHOLAS** himself was buried on 27th September, 1569, his name being recorded as 'Duckesburie'.

Despite the absence of baptismal records, we know from other contemporary documents³ that **NICHOLAS** had three sons, **LAWRENCE**, **Thomas** and **Alexander Duxbury**.

Thomas married **Alice Walmsley** on 27th November, 1560 at Great Harwood, then, following **Alice**'s death, **Elizabeth Baron** on 15th December, 1562. He was buried on 22nd June, 1597.

Alexander married **Grace Hindle** on 17th November, 1569 at Great Harwood, but she was buried on 9th November, 1575. **Alexander** was buried on 17th November, 1584. In the case of both brothers, the lack of parents' names in the baptismal registers disallows establishing their children.

² we cannot be sure if she was the mother of our ancestor **LAWRENCE**

³ quoted in Abram, William Alexander, *A History of Blackburn, Town and Parish*, 1877

LAWRENCE, however, is well documented in other legal records, and it is with him - our first 'gentleman'! - that we get a picture of widespread land tenure, albeit in small parcels. In 1570, the year after his father's death, he was assessed for land at 'Harwood Magna'. This was no doubt his inheritance, and, to inherit, he must have been over 21 years old; so he was probably born in the 1540s.

In 1574 he sold, to Thomas Walmsley of Dunkenhalgh, land in Clayton-le-Moors which he had recently acquired with jointly with Alexander Rishton of Sparth (Clayton), comprising

a barn and closes of land in Clayton called Rough Hey or Upper Marled Earth (12 acres), Nether Marled Earth or Hey (12 acres), land called Rough Hey in Rough Hey Wood (3 acres) and a parcel of land, part of a close called the Hagg (2 acres).⁴

Also in 1574, Bryan Parker sued him and Gilbert Rishton for possession of messuages⁵ and lands in Oswaldtwistle and Clayton.⁶

In 1575, **LAWRENCE** leased a property at Dudland, near Gisburn, to Richard Waddington and his wife Isabel. Their son, James, married an Elizabeth Duxbury in 1577 at Whalley, and it is possible that she was **LAWRENCE**'s sister.⁷ There were further land transactions in the next generation, between **NICHOLAS** and James Waddington (whose son and heir was a Lawrence) with regard to more land at Dudland.

In Twiston, near Downham, Edward Braddyll had bought four messuages, 'etc.' from Miles Aspinall, John Houghton and his wife Agnes Houghton in 1575, and the estate, now augmented, was sold to **LAWRENCE** in 1579.⁸

In 1581, John Ridding of Oswaldtwistle released to him a messuage in Oswaldtwistle,⁹ probably the same property he and **NICHOLAS** sold to Robert Riding in 1609, when it was identified as 'Rhyddings'.¹⁰

⁴ Trappes-Lomax, Richard, *A History of the Township and Manor of Clayton-Le-Moors, Co. Lancaster*, Chetham Society Series II, Book 85, 1926

⁵ dwellings with adjoining lands

⁶ Duchy Courts Calendar Pleadings Vol.3, p25

⁷ possibly baptised 3.12.1548 Gt. Harwood, no parents named

⁸ Palatine of Lancashire Feet of Fines bundle 37, ms. 185 and bundle. 41, ms. 96.

⁹ Farrer, William *et al*, *The Victoria County History of Lancashire*

¹⁰ Ainsworth, Richard, *Old Homesteads of Accrington and District*, Wardleworth, 1928



Location of lands held by **LAWRENCE** and **NICHOLAS DUXBURY** with the date their tenure is first recorded

Map by John Speed, 1610

LAWRENCE had at least three children, Jenet, Elizabeth and NICHOLAS,¹¹ by his first wife, AGNES, who was buried at Great Harwood on 26th May, 1594. His second wife, Elizabeth, was buried there on 1st November, 1597: despite his other land holdings, the family home was still in Great Harwood, where his lands brought in a net income of £3 per annum.

Jenet Duxbury¹² married Richard Spencer and they lived on LAWRENCE's Twiston estate, which comprised

6 messuages, 4 cottages, 6 gardens, 6 orchards, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture, 6 acres of wood, 20 acres of heath and briar, 30 acres of moor and 30 acres of moss and also brought in a net income of £3 per annum.

On 2nd February, 1585, Jenet presumably having died, LAWRENCE leased half of the Twiston estate to his son-in-law for a term of 21 years at an annual rent of 20 shillings. When this expired, the property was leased to Richard and Jenet's two daughters, Margaret and Dorothy at the same rent.¹³

Elizabeth Duxbury was baptised on 26th November, 1567 and married Henry Dean. They, too, lived at Twiston, and a daughter, Grace, was born there, but baptised at Great Harwood on 28th March, 1599. In 1602, LAWRENCE leased the second half of the Twiston estate to the couple for their lifetimes at an annual rent of 13 shillings.

In 1590 LAWRENCE was appointed a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School and around 1593 gave 20 shillings to Blackburn Grammar School Stock.¹⁴



The school was founded in 1509, the first year of the reign of Henry VIII, by Thomas Stanley, 2nd Earl of Derby, as a chantry school. It was situated adjacent to Blackburn Parish Church. Despite its chantry status, it survived the Reformation, and in 1567 Elizabeth I granted the school a Royal Charter. It became 'The Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn in the County of Lancashire' – now popularly known as 'QEGS'.

¹¹ Abram also suggests Alexander (baptised 1582) and Lawrence (died 1621), but offers no proof

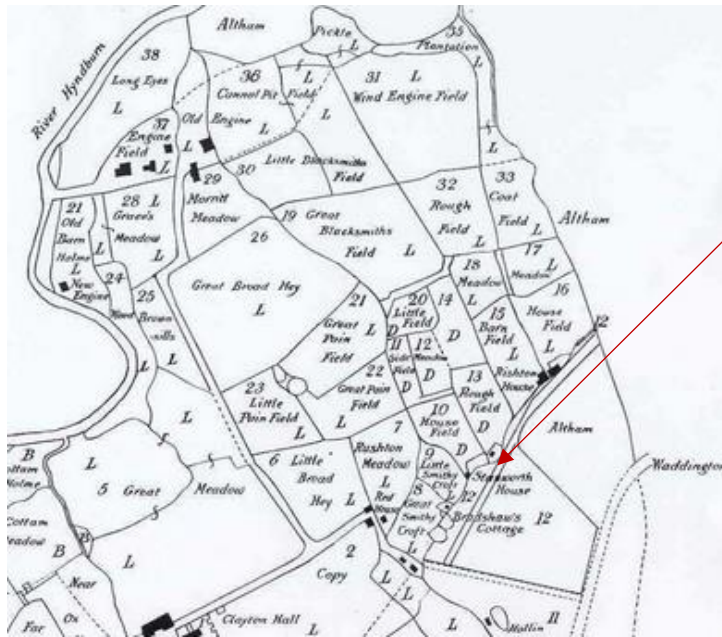
¹² named by Trappes-Lomax

¹³ *Lancashire Inquisitions*, The Record Society of Lancashire & Cheshire

¹⁴ Abram

In 1607 LAWRENCE served as a juror at Chorley, described as ‘of Mutchharwoode.’

In 1610 he leased one messuage, two cottages and nine acres of land, meadow and pasture in Clayton-le-Moors to Nicholas Waddington (one of ENID’s earliest WADDINGTONs.) The messuage was Stanworth House, in the north of Clayton, close to the Altham boundary.



1790 map¹⁵ showing Stanworth House and the fields belonging to it, labelled ‘D’ for Duxbury.

LAWRENCE died at Twiston on 8th September, 1619 and was buried at Great Harwood on 10th. The *Inquisition Post Mortem* taken at Blackburn on 23rd March, 1620 stated that NICHOLAS was *his son and next heir ... aged at the time of his father’s death 37 years and more.*

¹⁵ Trappes-Lomax

Lawrence Duxbury.

Inquisition taken at Blackburne, 23 Mar., 17 James [1619-20], before *Edward Rigby*, Esq., Escheator, after the death of *Lawrence Duxburye*, by the oath of *Thomas Astley* of Stakes, *Richard Houghton* of Redleigh, *Richard Parker* of Loveley, *Randal Houlden* of Ewood, *William Edge* of Blackburne, *Robert Aspden* of Tockholes, *Richard Barker* of the same, *Christopher Mairsden* of the same, *Nicholas Widdington* of Livesley, *Richard Dicconson* of the same, *Lawrence Ainsworth* of Livesley, *John Smith* of Shorrockhey, and *James Walmsley* of Mellor, gentlemen, who say that *Lawrence Duxbury* was seised in fee of 6 messuages, 4 cottages, 6 gardens, 6 orchards, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture, 6 acres of wood, 20 acres of heath and briar, 30 acres of moor, and 30 acres of moss in Twiston,¹ and of 1 messuage, 2 cottages, 9 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Clayton.¹ So seised, by an Indenture dated 16 Jan., 44 Eliz. [1601-2], he demised one-half of the premises in Twyston to *Henry Deane* and *Elizabeth*, his wife, for the term of their lives, at an annual rent of 13s., to be paid to the said *Lawrence* and his heirs, the reversion thereof being to the said *Lawrence* and his heirs for ever. *Henry Deane* and *Elizabeth* yet survive at Twiston.

By another Indenture dated 1 Jan., 1 James [1603-4], the said *Lawrence* demised the other half of the said premises in Twiston to *Margaret Spencer* and *Dorothy Spencer*, or their assigns, for a term of 21 years, after the expiration of a former lease of the same half of the premises made 2 Feb. 27 Eliz. [1584-5] to *Richard Spencer* for a term of 21 years, at an annual rent of 20s., the reversion thereof being to *Lawrence Duxbury* and his heirs for ever.

By another Indenture dated 13 Feb., 8 James [1610-11], he demised the premises in Clayton to *Nicholas Waddington* and his assigns for a term of 21 years, at an annual rent of 3s. 4d., the reversion thereof being to *Lawrence Duxbury* and his heirs for ever.

The premises in Twiston are held of *the King*, as of his Duchy of Lancaster, by the 100th part of a knight's fee, and are worth per ann. (clear) £3. The premises in Clayton are held of *the King*, as of his manor of East Greenwich, in free and common socage by fealty, and are worth per ann. (clear) 10s.

Lawrence Duxbury died at Twiston, 8 Sept. last past [1619], and *Nicholas*, his son and next heir, was aged at the time of his father's death 37 years and more.

¹ In Whalley parish.

Vol. xxii.
No. 60.
23 March,
1619-20.

As well as the details given by the testators of LAWRENCE's sub-let land in Twiston and Clayton-le-Moors, their residences suggest his other land interests may have included Livesey, Ewood, Blackburn, Tockholes, Shorrockhey (Pleasington) and Mellor.

Lancashire Inquisitions,
The Record Society of
Lancashire & Cheshire

NICHOLAS DUXBURY was baptised at Great Harwood on 19th August, 1579 in the reign of Elizabeth I.

On 19th August, 1601, also at Great Harwood,¹⁶ he married ELLEN NUTTER.

ELLEN was the daughter of ELLIS ROBINSON, a yeoman of Goldshawbooth.

On 19th October, 1599 at Whalley she married Richard Nutter, the son and heir of William Nutter of Goldshawbooth, and nephew of John Nutter, Dean of Chester.¹⁷

The ROBINSONs and Nutters were long-established, extended families within Goldshawbooth, prominent amongst the boothmen¹⁸ named in 1507, when Henry VII commissioned a survey of his Duchy of Lancaster lands. As a result of the survey, former tenant boothmen's rents in Pendle were fixed in perpetuity, and they were granted copyhold¹⁹ and rights of inheritance: it was said that, by the end of the 17th century, copyhold in the Honour of Clitheroe was as good as freehold. Furthermore, copyholders could sell, sub-divide, lease or sublet their land, at rents that were not fixed, but rose annually in a time of high inflation. These conditions allowed families to prosper, and, a century one, many had reached yeoman status. Most significantly, they now had the confidence to build or rebuild their houses and farm buildings in stone.

Dean John Nutter was involved in numerous land transactions beneficial to himself and his family, and when Richard married ELLEN, he settled on him a good customary estate of inheritance in certyain copyhold messuages, lands, etc., in Goldshaybooth ... Higham and Higham Deane within the Forest or Chase of Pendle ... of the yearly rent of 20s-5½d.

Furthermore, William also settled on his son

a good estate in certain copyhold messuages, land, etc., in the said Goldshaybooth of the yearly value of 7s-8d.

However, Richard died five months after the marriage, in March 1600.²⁰ The widow of a copyholder was entitled to a quarter of his lands (and thus the property thereon) for the rest of her life, but William and other family members refused to recognise this, producing documents which seemed to over-ride the provision. They took possession of the property and its rents, dividing them between them.

¹⁶ the register spells his name 'Duckesburie'

¹⁷ Lancashire was then in the Diocese of Chester

¹⁸ small-scale farmers

¹⁹ so-named because the leaseholder 'held' a 'copy' of the Court Rolls

²⁰ his burial is not found at Whalley, Newchurch-in-Pendle, Padiham or Colne

A year after their marriage, NICHOLAS and ELLEN applied for an injunction against the Nutter family.²¹

No record of the outcome has survived, but it seems clear that the case was eventually won: in 1608 NICHOLAS is recorded as holding land in Goldshawbooth, and between 1613 and 1617 the couple moved permanently from Great Harwood to Higham Deane.

One wonders what the dispute did to the close-knit and inter-related community of Goldshawbooth. In the same year that Richard Nutter died, ELLIS ROBINSON had paid £100 – around £14,000 today - to Dean John for the use of ELLIS' second daughter, Anne, as some sort of marriage guarantee or dowry:²² he must surely have come to regret that. ELLIS, in fact, seems to have left the area and lived with ELLEN and NICHOLAS at Great Harwood, where he was buried on 9th October, 1612. It was only after the sudden death of Dean John in 1602 that NICHOLAS and ELLEN took legal action, and only after ELLIS' death that they took up residence in Higham.

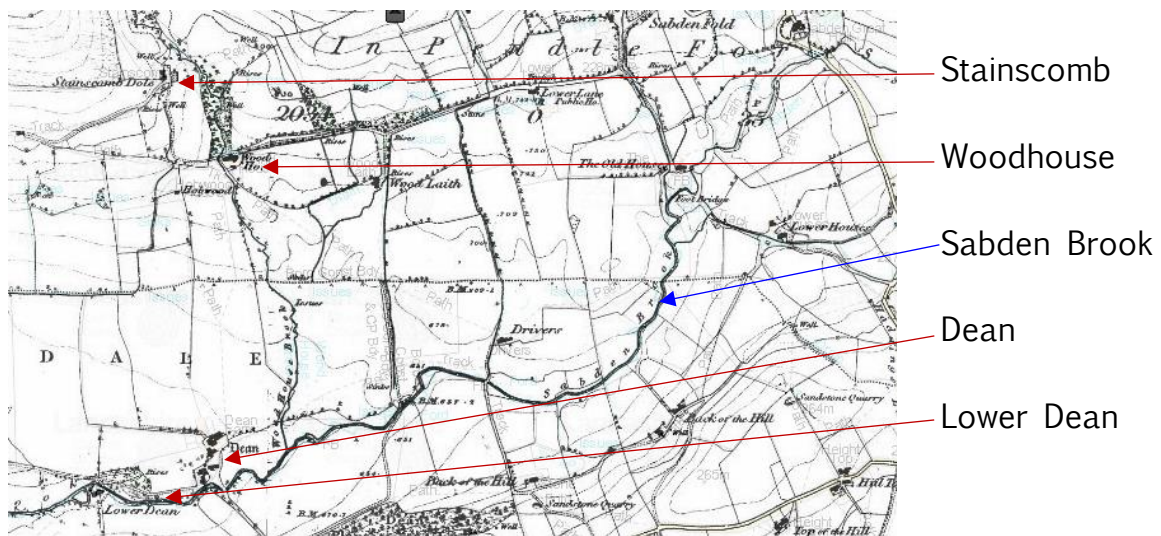
There was clearly some intention of making a claim to land in 1605, when, along with Accrington yeomen Robert Howarth and Richard Atoughe, and Habergham Eaves husbandman Thomas Riley, NICHOLAS broke into a John Robinson's close called Little Meysowe, and put to graze one of his mares.²³ Unfortunately, both the location of the close and the outcome of the expedition are unknown.

A 1617 survey revealed him owning *one howse of three baies and a little garden* in Padiham, but from this year onwards, baptisms of his children at St. Leonard's, Padiham show that he is living at Higham Deane. It is not possible to identify the property: the farmsteads of Dean and Lower Dean both stood beside the Sabden Brook – and there may have been others. The attractive Dean House Farm was built in 1574 by Hugh More and remained in his family well into the next century, so this is unlikely to be one of the properties held by the Nutters and passing to the Duxburys.

²¹ Duchy of Lancs. Pleadings, Eliz, Vol 202, D19; writ dated 9.11.1602

²² *for her permanent in marriage*

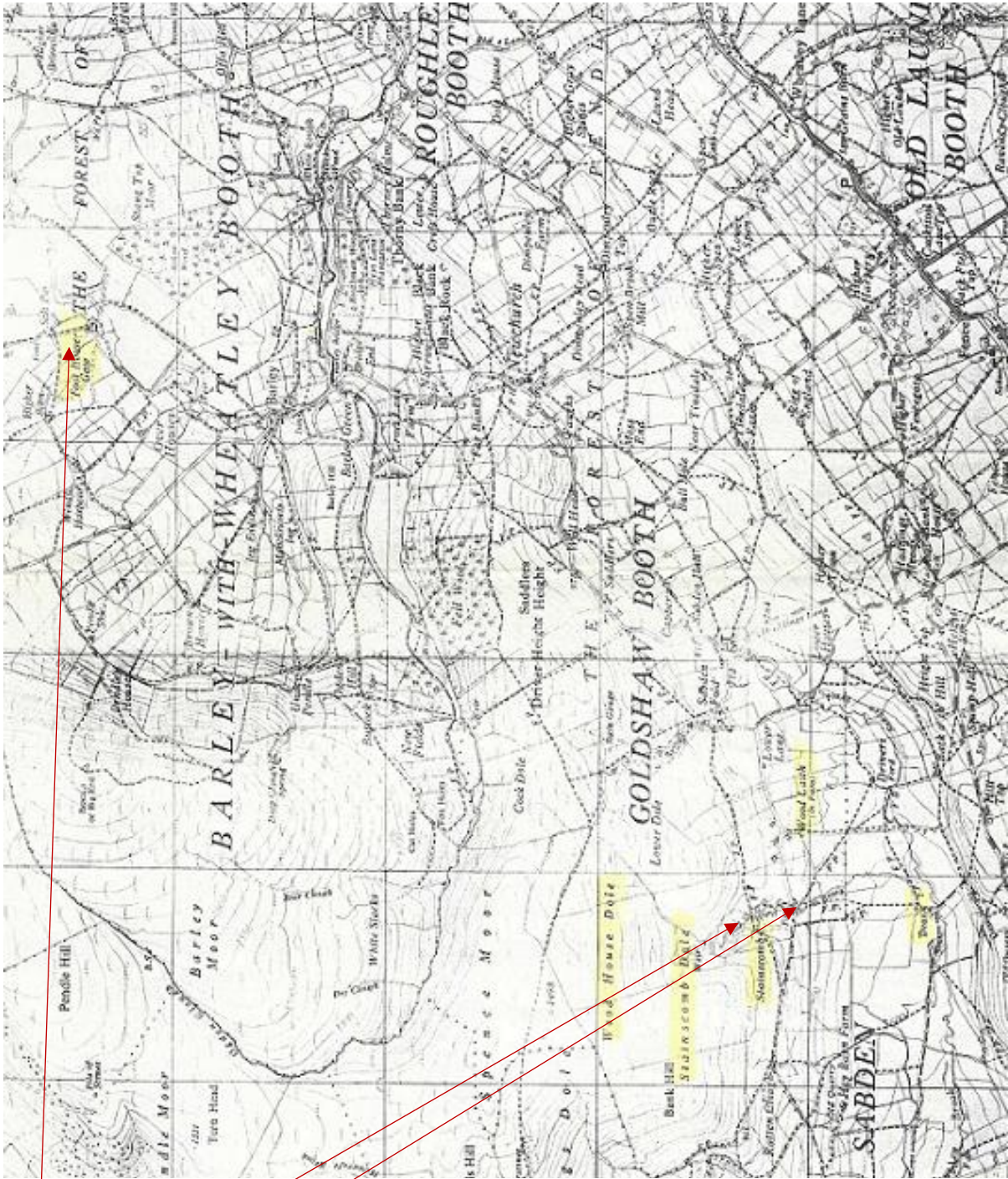
²³ Lancs Quarter Sessions, Preston, 2.10.1605



As a landowner, when the common land of Padiham was enclosed, **NICHOLAS** was allocated 22 falls (about 125 metres) in 1618 and 15 falls (85 metres) in 1620.¹ Sadly, he only survived his father by nine years, so held less of a social position, although he was appointed Chief Constable for Blackburn Hundred in 1623.

NICHOLAS died at Higham Deane and was buried at Padiham on 20th January, 1628. He and **ELLEN** had had twelve children, two of whom died in infancy;¹ **John, Joanna, Ellen** and **Maria** (a baby when her father died) probably died in their late teens or twenties. **ELLEN** was to survive a further thirty-four years, managing her own affairs and living on the formerly-disputed lands through an extremely turbulent social and political time. In 1641, unusually for a woman, she was listed in the Protestant Returns - an oath of allegiance to the Protestant religion - for Goldshawbooth, so must have been of some consequence. She drew up a will in November, 1653, with **Nicholas** her executor, but it did not come into effect until her death in 1662. In 1661 she was charged fifteen shillings Poll Tax, and was noted to have four servants.

When she died, her widow's portion reverted to **Lawrence**, but she made several monetary bequests - **Nicholas** and **Margaret** each received £10, the children of her deceased daughters **ELIZABETH** and **Isabel** received £10 and their widowers five shillings, and **Lawrence** received forty shillings (£2).



Foot House Gate

Stainscomb

Woodhouse

'Dole' appears in several place-names - Craggs, Wood House, Stainscomb, Cock. It is a Saxon name for the poor man's pasture: peasants were not allowed to graze their livestock on the lord or king's land, which was divided up by vaccary (cow-farm) walls, but had to use the rough pasture found higher up the hills. A 'booth' was a farm or small-holding, and a 'laund' a place where deer were reared for hunting.

NICHOLAS and ELLEN's eldest child, ELIZABETH DUXBURY, we shall return to later.

The eldest of the two surviving sons, Lawrence, born around 1604, inherited most of his father's estate, including the family home at Higham Deane - he would inherit the rest on ELLEN's death - and acted as his executor at the age of twenty-three. Later that year, 1628, he married Ann Pudsay, the daughter of gentry William and Elizabeth Pudsay of Bolton Hall, Bolton-by-Bowland.²⁴ He was described as 'of Downham' - probably Twiston - but in the same year also acted as Churchwarden of Padiham, representing the Pendle area; in 1630 they were living at Higham Deane and in 1639 at Woodhouse, although this was the property retained by ELLEN.

They had seven children before Ann died: she was buried at Padiham on 1st May, 1639. She left a will, but it has not survived.

On 10th September, 1640²⁵ Lawrence married Mabel Preston, the daughter of William and Ann Preston of Long Preston, who bore him an astonishing seventeen children!

Lawrence and his brother Nicholas, younger by sixteen years, had a difficult relationship. Acting, he claimed, as a responsible elder brother, around 1634 Lawrence took Nicholas to London and paid for an apprenticeship to a Mr. Walmsley. It seems a bizarre step for a gentry family, and suggests that Lawrence, now the head of the family, found Nicholas problematic.

After two years he was in trouble with his Master and Lawrence had to return to London to buy him out and re-apprentice him, this time to Mr. Fields, a hosier of Fleet Street. When he finished his apprenticeship, around 1642, Nicholas returned to Goldshaw to live with his mother, ELLEN, the value of whose land-holding was as much as half of that of Lawrence;²⁶ in 1649 she surrendered a messuage and closes called Stainscombe, Spout-Hill, Ringstones and Murgeon to the use of Nicholas for life. This seems to be the entirety of her estate apart from her own home at Woodhouse.

The unmarried Nicholas had a house and rental income from the rest of the property. There is no sign of any hosiery-making!

²⁴ Paver's Marriage Licences

²⁵ Chetham Society, Vol. 85

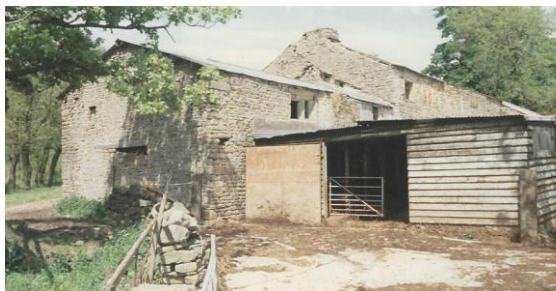
²⁶ the Clitheroe Court Rolls of 1662 record Lawrence's rentals as £1-1s-5d and ELLEN's as 10s-8d.



Stainscombe – not **Nicholas**' home, but the rebuild c 1670 - sadly derelict in the 1990s. An account of the day these photos, and those of Woodhouse, were taken is included in Supporting Documents.



The rear of Woodhouse, a large but unattractive property. Worse, the ancient frontage is obscured by a wooden cow-house.



However, the siting is impressive, next to a good supply of fresh water, sheltered by a steep hill to the north and rising land on the other sides. From the small hill in front, the valley of Sabden Brook - the 'Deane' - can be seen below.

Lawrence, who, as his father's heir, stood to inherit **ELLEN**'s land when she died, became increasingly worried about the extent to which **Nicholas** was taking control of their mother's estate, claiming to be her agent and creaming off the proceeds for his own use.

The whole sorry story was laid out by **Lawrence** in 1666, four years after **ELLEN**'s death, in a Chancery Court submission asking the Court for confirmation that the estate was his,²⁷ despite his being recorded at the third largest landowner in Newchurch in 1662,²⁸ and so, presumably, has inherited his father's estate.

He and **Mabel** continued to live at Higham Deane, where he was assessed for four hearths at the 1664 Hearth Tax. His will, dated 1st December, 1674 mentions some of the rooms at Deane: the Great Chamber the Kitchen Chamber, the Buttery Chamber, the Hall, the Parlour and the Parlour Chamber. He directs that all his arkes (storage chests), three pairs of bedstocks,²⁹ four tables, a hall cupboard, two livery cupboards³⁰ and six fire irons or grates are to remain as heirlooms at Deane *for ever*.

The will is complicated. **Mabel** receives the usual widow's provision, then the income from the majority of **Lawrence**'s property is used to provide equally for his seven daughters (the youngest 21 years old) for seven years; **Elizabeth**, however, aged around 36, is to receive nothing until she *shall be conformable to the holy Catholicke Church of England and renounce and forsake the superstitious and idolatrous Church of Rome*.

At the end of this period, the property reverts to **Peter**, who was the sixth of nine surviving sons, but seems to bear the brunt of the will's provisions: over the next seven years he is to make differing payments to seven brothers, one per year, in a specified order; whether this is a complicated attempt to be fair to each, or blatant favouritism/spite, one can only guess, but when **Andrew** was due his £20 in 1686, he complained that the legacies had not been met because the executors were falsely claiming that the revenues had been swallowed up by the testator's debts and were therefore insufficient!

After fourteen years, in 1689, all the property reverts to **Lawrence**'s eldest surviving son, **William**. Two coal mines have been added to **Lawrence**'s portfolio: **William** receives the mine in Clayton and **Peter** that in Padiham, as well as rents in Grindleton and some property elsewhere. The executors of the will are **Peter** and third son **Ellis**, and fourth and fifth daughters **Isabel** and **Mary**. One of his feoffees is **Richard Bulcock**, his oldest surviving nephew.

²⁷ researches of Joe Duxbury, in full at http://www.family.hk.com/family/tree/en_47.htm

²⁸ Towneley's *Honor of Clitheroe Manuscripts*, p246 quoted by Farrer

²⁹ the head and foot (or two sides) of a bed which support wooden slats

³⁰ usually, at this time, closed cupboards for 'self-service' food, developing into display cabinets for crockery, etc.

Lawrence died six weeks after drawing up his will, and was buried on 20th January, 1675 at Padiham. probate was granted on 21st April.

Lawrence and Ann's eldest surviving son, William, was born on 2nd January, 1635 and baptised at Padiham on 8th. In 1662 he married Martha Habersham at St. Mary's, Newchurch-in-Pendle, holding land in Clayton prior to inheriting from his father. The couple had seven children. William died in June, 1720.

Lawrence's third surviving son, by Mabel, was Ellis, baptised at Padiham on 12th October, 1644.



He married Mary Haine on 28th October, 1677 at St. Marylebone's Church in London: the church was demolished in 1740, but the 1735 interior was portrayed by William Hogarth in the marriage scene from *A Rake's Progress*.

Ellis was the last son to inherit from his father, hopefully receiving £30 in 1689 - by which time he was in Barbados! Soon after, he moved to Staten Island, New York, on the promise of an inheritance from Mary's uncle, Captain Thomas Lovelace:

Capt. Thomas Lovelace was posset of a certain farme - upon Staten Island - which hee peaceably enjoyed for upwards of 20 years. And having no children sent for ye petr [petitioners, i.e. Mary and Ellis] from Barbadoes, but before they Arrived at New York was deceased, his widdow hearing yt ye petr was come, sent for them telling them it was her husband's desire they should have ye sd ffarme & delivered them possession thereof (reserving to herself maintenance for life) which they have enjoyed ever since 1689.³¹

Despite the widow's generosity, only a conditional patent was granted (on 10th March, 1691) in case of other heirs making claims; the couple petitioned for a new and unconditional patent on 13th June, 1702 and it was finally issued on 26th August, 1708.³²

³¹ *New York Land Papers*; iii; fol. 69

³² *New York Patents*; vii; fol. 385

In 1698 the population of Staten Island was just 727, with a majority of Dutch and French. But the Church of England's missionary organization, The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (SPG), founded to strengthen the established church within the British colonies, arrived in 1705 and construction of the first church building began in 1708. Ellis was one of its founders, serving on the first vestry. In 1712 the parish received a royal charter from Queen Anne along with the gift of two chalices and a paten still used on principal Feast Days, and several Bibles and Prayer Books.

Ellis also served as a Judge of Richmond County for nineteen years and was a member of the Colonial Assembly.

At his death in 1718, the plantation was 200 acres and his estate included 'negroes', i.e. slaves. The couple had no children and his entire estate passed, under his will, to the Vestry of St. Andrew's Church in Richmond County, and was afterwards generally known as 'Ellis Duxbury's Glebe.'³³

ELLIS DUXBURY. In the name of God, Amen.
I, ELLIS DUXBURY, of Staten Island, being in
good health, I leave and bequeath all that my

Plantation or tract of land on which I now
live in the County of Richmond, to the
Corporation of the Minister, Church Wardens
and Vestrymen of St. Andrew's in Richmond
County, and to their successors forever. For
the only use and maintenance of the present
minister, the Rev. Master ENEAS MACKENZIE,
during his life, and at his decease to his
successors being orthodox ministers of the
Church of England. And I make and appoint His
Excellency, Governor ROBERT HUNTER, to see
that the said Plantation granted to me by
Patent under the seal of the Province be not
put to any other use. And I also leave £100
toward building a vestry room for St. Andrew's
Church, and a handsome porch for the church
door, and to pale in the church yard, and to
buy a pall to cover the bier. I also leave
£10 for such poor of the county as my
executors shall think fit, I leave all the
rest of my personal estate to Master ENEAS
MACKENZIE, the present minister, namely, my
negroes, money and bonds, and I make him sole
executor.

Dated May 5, 1718. Witnesses, WALTER
DONGAN, WILLIAM TILLYOU, MARGARET TILLYOU.
Proved before Governor HUNTER, October 22,
1718.
Liber 9:4

WNYHS II:180

Ellis Duxbury's will, 5th May, 1718,
proved 22nd October, 1718.

³³ *Surrogate Office Wills, N.Y.; ix; fol. 3*

³⁴ General source: Richard Henry Greene, Henry Reed Stiles, Melatiah Everett Dwight et al, *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Volume 51, 1920, pp. 188-192.

According to the Padiham registers, Peter Duxbury was born 3rd July, 1654: from October 1654 to February 1661, during the Commonwealth period, births, rather than baptisms were recorded. He married Elizabeth Bannister on 15th June, 1679 at Altham and they had seven children.

Returning to the children of NICHOLAS and ELLEN, Margaret Duxbury was baptised at Great Harwood in 1606. She married a Croasdale.

Isabel was probably baptised in 1609 at Great Harwood and married Ralph Clough in 1640 at Newchurch in Pendle.³⁵ She predeceased her mother, who left five shillings to Ralph and £10 to his children by Isabel.

Ann Duxbury was baptised in 1613 at Great Harwood. She died unmarried at Woodhouse in February, 1639. Her will, dated 20th January when she was *sick in body*, leaves various sums to siblings ELIZABETH, Lawrence, Margaret, Isabel, Ellen, Nicholas and Mary, to the children of ELIZABETH, Lawrence and Margaret, and to ELIZABETH's husband. She leaves her mother ELLEN £3 *to the intent that she may help Lawrence Robinson* at her own discretion. ELLEN and Lawrence were to act as executors. When her inventory was appraised on 10th February, 1639, her clothing was worth £13-6s-8d, she had £1-14s-0d in cash, and £100-12s-0d - £11,750 today - was owed to her.

³⁵ Boyd's Marriage Index

In the name of good Amen I Anne Duxbury of Woodhouse beinge
sicke in body but of good & fort remembrance praiesed be god doe
make this my last will & testant. in maner & forme followinge
first & principally I give my soule unto the Almighty god hopinge
it through the merits of Iesus Christ he will save it. And my body
to be buried in the church of St. Andrewes in London. And as touching
my worldly goods my mynde & will is thus I give and bequeath
my brother Michael Duxbury who is now present in London the
summe of twenty pounds
I give unto my brother John Duxbury twenty pounds
I give unto my sister Isabell ten pounds
I give unto my sister Ellen the like summe of ten pounds
I give unto my sister Mary Duxbury ten pounds
I give unto my sister Elizabeth wife of John Bulcock four pounds
I give unto my sister Margrett the like summe of four pounds
I give unto Lawrence Duxbury my brother four pounds
I give unto Edward Duxbury my brother one pound
I give unto every of the rest of my said brother Lawrence's children be it
sons or daughters of my sister Elizabeth her children be it
sons or daughters of my sister Margrett daughter
I give unto my mother Ellen Duxbury forty pounds to the intent
that she may helpe Lawrence Duxbury when hee shall neede it or
wth the rest of it she shall thinke good but my mynde is yt neither
he nor any body for him shall demande the summe of her but she to
use wth it as when she pleaseth and if otherwise hee doe I have in
mynde is yt she shall not give him any thinge of it but shall
solely to her owne use & comfyt
I give my whole estate & furniture I have appointed them
to my mother & my sisters
And all the rest of my goods I give for ever towards my funerall expenses
And I doe appoint my mother & my said brother Lawrence
executors of this my last will & testant. In witness whereof I
have hereunto put my hand & seale the xxijth day of January
in the fiftenth yere of the Reigne of our soveraigne lord
by the grace of god Kinge of England & Fraunce & Brittain
Defender of the faith etc. 1639 Anno d. 1639

Anne
signs

1639 Will of Ann Duxbury of Woodhouse

And what of 'black sheep' **Nicholas**? The youngest surviving son of **NICHOLAS** and **ELLEN**, baptised on 6th December, 1618 at Padiham, he was nine when his father died and about sixteen when he was taken off to London – a very different environment from Pendle. We have only heard **Lawrence**'s side of the story so far, but there is evidence that **Nicholas** was trusted by the family of his oldest sister, **ELIZABETH**: he was a witness to both her sons' marriages and her husband's will, and appraised his inventory.

He perhaps became aware when **ELLEN** drew up her will in 1653 that he was only to expect a monetary bequest on her death, and in 1660 he bought from John Holliday lands to the west of the Duxbury lands, in Heyhouses. He was subsequently to describe his home as the Manor House; but Heyhouses was never a manor – and had no manor house! He paid 10 shillings in Poll Tax in 1661 and was assessed for two hearths for the 1664 Hearth Tax; he was described as a gentleman.

In 1667 he made a late marriage to **Dorothy Webster**. This is not recorded in any of the local Anglican registers, and may have been a Non-Conformist, even Quaker, marriage – further reason for the closer links with **ELIZABETH**'s family: fifteen years later, **Dorothy** was convicted of attending a Conventicle (illegal religious gathering) at Thomas Booth's Heyhouses home, and fined 5 shillings.

He was around 58 years old when the couple's daughter, **Ellen**, named after his mother, was born in 1676. In 1695 she married **John Cockshutt** of Simonstone at Altham. A second daughter, **Martha** was born and died in 1678.

Nicholas died aged around 79 and was buried, as 'Mr. Duxbury' on 20th November, 1697. **Dorothy** survived another twenty years and was buried at Padiham in 1717.

NICHOLAS and **ELLEN**'s eldest child, **ELIZABETH DUXBURY**, was born around 1602. Although her widowed mother was in Goldshawbooth, at the time of her marriage she was described as 'of Gisburn' and a marriage licence was issued for that parish in 1631. The actual marriage cannot be found, but is confirmed in the wills of her sister **Ann** and mother **ELLEN**. She brought to the marriage an estate at Twiston (in Downham parish).

The marriage was to **JENKIN BULCOCK**.