

# **GODDARD FAMILIES**

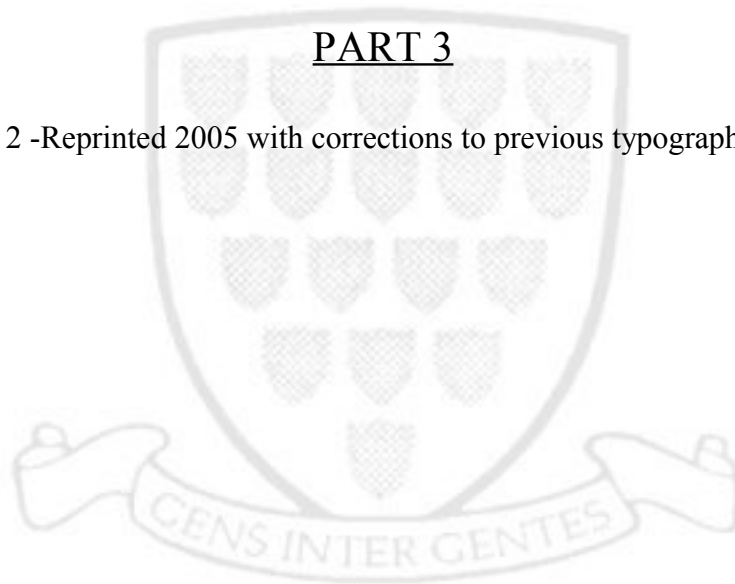
THE GODDARDS OF  
NORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

&

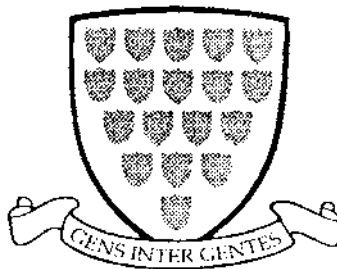
WORCESTERSHIRE

PART 3

Chapter 2 -Reprinted 2005 with corrections to previous typographical errors



The Goddard Association  
of Europe

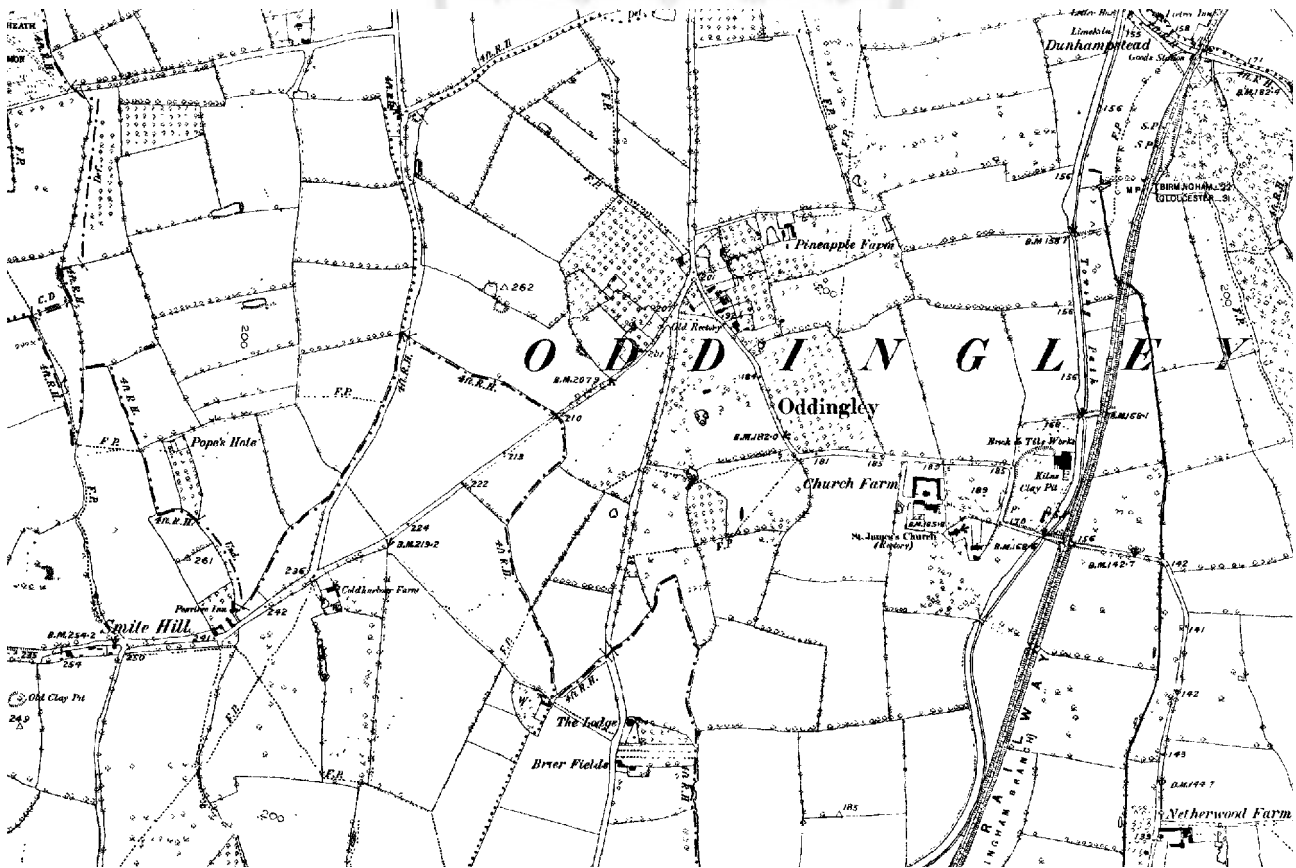


The Goddard Association  
of Europe

Research & Text by Leslie Frank Goddard

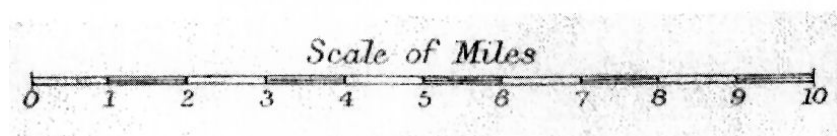
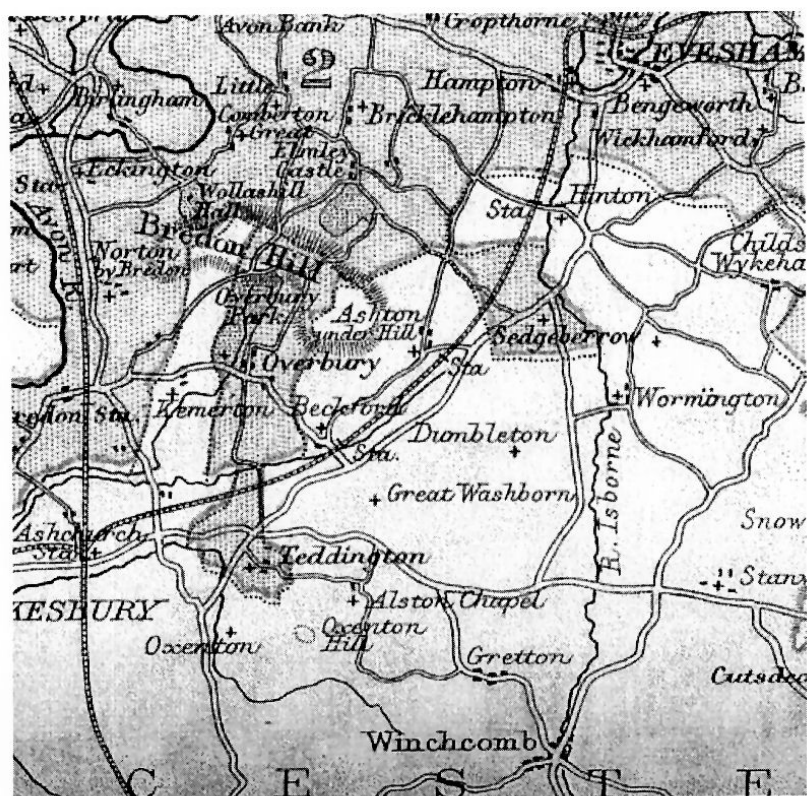
THE GODDARDS OF  
NORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
&  
WORCESTERSHIRE

ECKINGTON & SNOWSHILL



DETAIL FROM THE 1890 ORDINANCE SURVEY MAP

## ECKINGTON



Extract from a 1888 map of Worcestershire

The parish of Eckington<sup>1</sup> lies in south Worcestershire on the bank of the Avon, in a bend of the river, which forms its northern and western boundaries. In the south-east it ascends to the high point of Bredon Hill near the Banbury Stone in the Iron Age hill fort that perches on the scarp edge some 950 feet above the flood plain below, though the greater part of the parish is on the low ground. The village itself is situated on a slight rise and its main street is part of the Pershore to Tewkesbury road which enters the parish by way of the sixteenth century Eckington bridge over the Avon, about half a mile north of the village. In the mid nineteenth century this was joined by the Gloucester to Birmingham railway which runs parallel to the road through the parish and the village. During the excavations for the construction of this some remains of 'Romano/British' buildings were discovered, but apparently not examined.

The parish was part of the original endowment of Pershore Abbey made in 972 AD by King Edgar at which time it was spelt Eccyncgtune, meaning something like Ecca's farm. It was also part of the two hundred hides<sup>2</sup> of this endowment that Edward the Confessor gave to Westminster Abbey in the mid-eleventh century, the Abbot of Westminster thus becoming lord of the manor until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539. The Domesday Book credits Eckington with sixteen hides and some 58 people are listed in the three holdings which made up the manor. As the majority of these would be heads of households it indicates a population of perhaps around two hundred, maybe more, which in a parish of 2168<sup>3</sup> acres suggests that it was quite intensively farmed by the standards of the time<sup>4</sup>. This would be in accord with its later history as a primarily arable area, though in the later nineteenth and the twentieth centuries it shared in the growth of market gardening in the Vale of Evesham.

<sup>1</sup> There is another Eckington in Yorkshire, about 6 miles S. E. Of Sheffield

<sup>2</sup> A hide was the land needed to support an extended family, sometimes estimated as 120 acres but likely to have varied a great deal.

<sup>3</sup> The Victoria County History, Worcestershire Vol. IV p68

<sup>4</sup> The population in 1801 was 550. 'An account of the inhabitants names in this parish' dating from 1790 gives 75 names including John Godard sen. Mr John Godard jun. And Mr. Robt Godard. 25 persons are distinguished as Mr. or Mrs. Assuming these 75 to be heads of households an average of six plus people per household is implied. In 1871 the population was 709 and in 1961 it was 803

The parish of Eckington was enclosed in 1813 having being previously farmed mostly on the open field system in which the farm buildings would be in the village itself and in the older part of it this may still be seen to some extent.



*Eckington the bridge over the river Avon*

Although Bredon Hill is an outcrop of the Cotswold limestone many of Eckington's buildings are of brick, or in the case of the older structures with a timber framing. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is one of the exceptions, being of the local cotswold limestone, no doubt from one of the quarries on the hill. The earliest work to be seen in the existing structure is twelfth century and includes the south arcade. The tower is mid-fifteenth century, there is a thirteenth century font and a Norman west door. Another important building is Woolas Hall, which takes its name from one of the original holdings called Wllaveshull in the twelfth century, which was probably Ullaves hill, with hill now being replaced by hall. This was built in 1611 by John Hansford, whose descendants still live in it. It is a distinguished early Jacobean house built of the locally quarried limestone and stands on the north-west slope of Bredon Hill at about 300 feet. It is perhaps curious that members of the Hansford family were often given the names Francis and Frances from the early seventeenth century onwards and one wonders if the first appearance of these names in the Goddard family in that century might be in respect of some act of patronage on the part of the Hansfords, or perhaps merely from emulation.

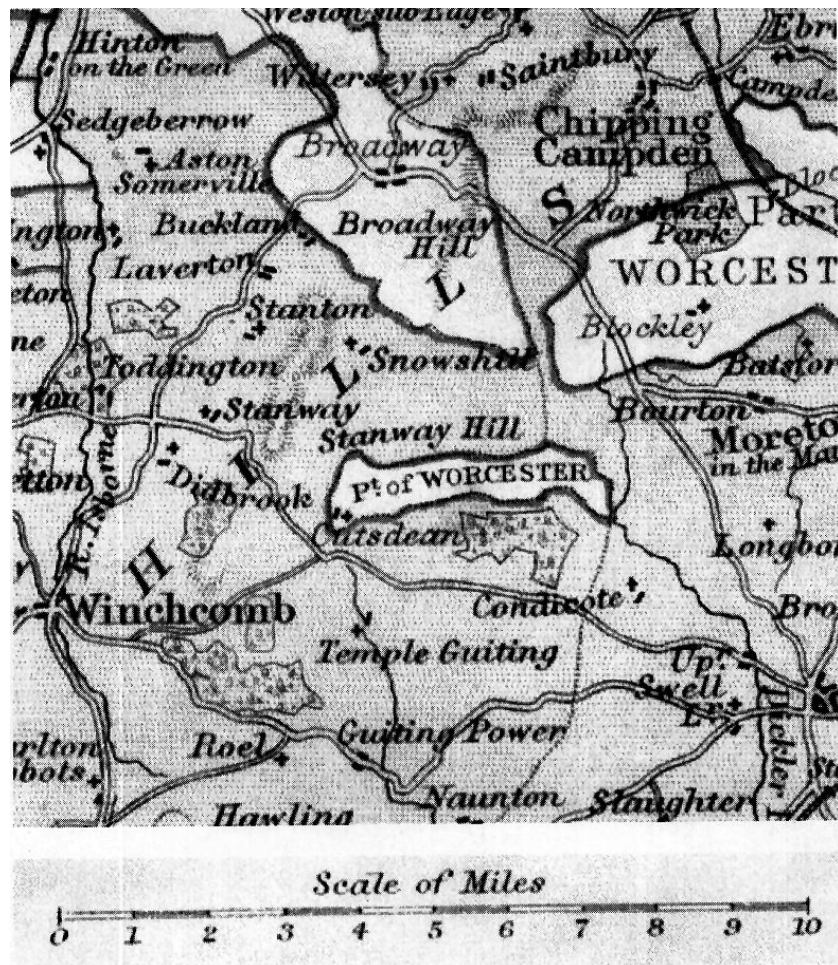
#### **SNOWSHILL**



*Snowshill*

Snowshill is situated at the top of the Cotswold Edge about two miles south of Broadway, seven miles west of Morton in the Marsh and twelve miles east of Tewkesbury. It lies mainly on high ground, up to 975 ft and the aspect is open and at times bleak in much of the parish, so that it can be assumed that the name means what it says. The village is small and compact with little if any recent development, it lies sheltered by trees at the side of a hollow toward the western end of the parish near the top of the scarp. The situation is picturesque and this is enhanced by the fact that all the buildings are of the beautiful local limestone. The name is Snawesille in Domesday Book (1087 AD). The land was rated as seven hides and twenty inhabitants are listed, indicating a population of well under a hundred in all. The parish seems always to have been sparsely peopled: there were 192 in 1712, around 300 in the mid nineteenth century and 224 as recently as 1961. There are still few habitations outside the village itself. The manor was held by Winchcombe Abbey until the

dissolution of the monasteries (c.1539) after which Henry VIII gave it to Catherine of Aragon as part of her dower. On her death it was granted to the Earl of Warwick and by the beginning of the eighteenth century it was in the hands of a William Sambach



*Extract from a 1888 map of Gloucestershire*

A good many of the houses are quite ancient (and highly desirable) but the mediaeval church, which is dedicated to St Barnabas, was rebuilt in 1864, largely in the style of the late thirteenth century. It is well sited overlooking delightful surroundings. There is a good perpendicular font left over from the mediaeval original, and the pulpit is made from Jacobean carved panels. Among the older houses is Snowhill Manor which dates from about 1500 AD with some later additions which were mainly the work of the William Sambach mentioned above, who made the new west front where his coat of arms may be seen over the door. The house is now in the care of the National Trust and can be visited in the summer months. It houses the remarkable collection of a former occupant, Charles Paget Wade, whose magpie instinct produced a house full of heterogeneous items ranging from childrens toys through musical instruments to Japanese samurai armour.



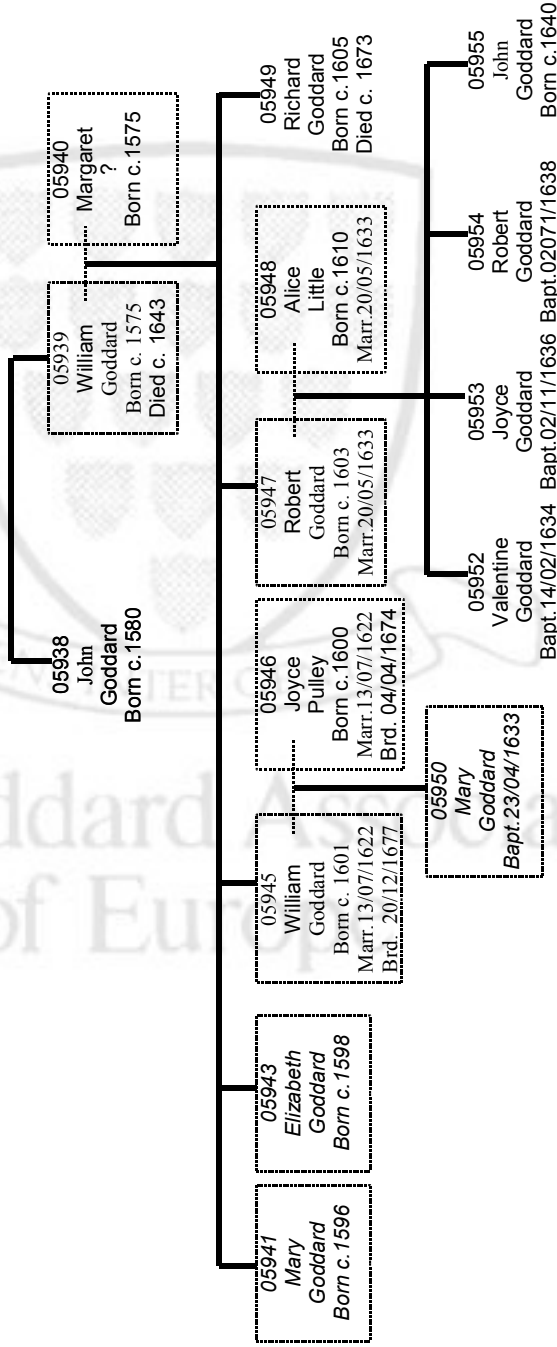
*Snowhill Manor*

Tree Notes

- 1/ The number above each person is the computer reference number only, it provides a unique identity and has no other relevance.
- 2/ Persons known to have married have their name shown either framed and coupled with their spouse, or with their name in *italics*, with the details in the narrative.
- 3/ Where circa dates e.g. "Born c. 1760", are given these are "best guess" and are expected to be, at worst, + or -10 years in variation to the year given.

The Snowshill/Overbury  
Goddard Branch  
C. 1575 to C. 1650

**Tree 1**



THE GODDARDS OF SNOWSHILL AND ECKINGTON Tree 1

A glance at the I.G.I. for Worcestershire reveals a quite numerous branch of the family in the parish of Eckington where they appear in the register from 1695 to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. This provides the basis for a fairly complete picture of the development of the family which is shown in the accompanying family tree, on which this text is mainly a commentary. There were Goddards in the parish before that time however, whose origins lie in the parish of Snowhill in north Gloucestershire, (near Broadway), and these will be dealt with first.

The evidence for the Snowhill origin of the Eckington Goddards is based on wills and other references, the earliest found so far is the will of William Goddard (05939) of Snowhill made in 1635 and proved in 1643. In it he names his wife, Margaret (05940), two daughters, both married, and three sons. One daughter was Elizabeth Lowbie and the other, unnamed but possibly deceased, was married to a William Workman, by whom she had three children. William's three sons were William (05945), Robert (05947) and Richard (05949). According to this will William (05945) has a daughter Mary (05950) while Robert (05947) had a daughter Valentine (05942). All these, including the Workman children, received legacies, and some money went to the poor of Snowhill. William's executors were his wife Margaret and his son Richard who was the main legatee, getting the "*tenement, appurtances and land thereunto belonging*" after Margaret's decease. When the will came to probate after William's death in Nov. 1643 Margaret was already dead but the will was not altered and remained as written on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1635. Three witnesses signed to say that they had been present at the making of the will and on the reverse of the document William's brother John "*of the city of Worcester*" made a statement validating it signed on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1643.

**THE WILL OF WILLIAM GODDARD OF SNOWSHILL 1643**

*In the name of God amen: the xv daie of December [---?] 1635, I William Goddard the elder [---?] of good & pfect memorie [make] my last will: [- -?]. Imprimis I give to the poore of Snowhill parish [v s?] to bee presently paide unto them Item I give unto my sonne Richard my tenement and all my appurtances and land thereunto belonging and all other pasture after the decease of Margaret my wife, in consideration whereof I give unto William my eldest sonne v li in money to bee paide unto him within one yere after my decease by my exec. Item I give unto Marie Goddard the daughter of William Goddard the younger xxs to be paid unto her after the decease of Margaret my wife. Item I give unto Robert Goddard my second sonne xls in money to bee paide unto him within one yere after the decease of Margeret my wife. Item to Valentine Goddard the daughter of the said Robert Goddard xxs to bee paide one yere after the decease of my wife. Item I give to Marie Workman the daughter of William Workman my sonne in law xxs to bee paid unto her in forme aforesaid. Item I give unto John Workman the eldest sonne of William Workman xs to bee paid in forme aforesaid. Item I give unto Margaret Workman the daughter of William Workman xs in money to be paid in manner aforesaid. Item I give unto Elizabeth Lowbie my daughter xxs to bee paid in manner aforesaid. Item I give unto Thomas Carpenter the sonne of Thomas Carpenter xls to bee paide in manner aforesaid. Item I give unto Thomas Lowbie my son in law [vs?] to bee paide in forme aforesaid. Item I give unto Richard Wells vs in money to bee paide unto him presentlie after my decease.*

*I make Margaret my wife and Richard my sonne Joynt Executors of this my last will and testament*

*Three lines deleted, then;--*

*Wee whose names are subscribed were present at the makinge of this will and shall be redie to iustifie the truth thereof upon oath being lawfully required*

*Anne Winston her marke*

*[---?] Dordwell her marke*

*Margaret Clarke her marke*

*4th December 1643*

The following appears on the reverse of the will

*The within named William Goddard the Testator did send for his brother John Goddard of the city of Worcester and told him that hee hadd made his will in writinge and that hee hadd settled his estate accordinge to his mynde in all respectes. In witness whereof the said John Goddard hath hereunto put his hand the last day of November Anno Dm 1643.*

The parish records for Snowhill are extremely patchy for this period<sup>5</sup> but there are two female baptisms Alice, Sept. 1574 and Margaret, 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1579 to a Robert Goddard who is probably the Robert buried in 1583: there is also the baptism of Mary Goddard (05941) in Oct. 1596 to William Goddard (05939). He must be the William of the will, in which case she would be the future wife of Wm. Workman (their first child was also Mary). Very few Bishop's

<sup>5</sup> The parish register has disappeared but a printed transcript made by the Soc. of Genealogists survives, though it is not possible to know how good the original was. A copy is held in Gloucester Record Office.

transcripts survive and those that do contain no further information, although those around 1620/30 are in the same inimitable hand as William's will. The only other reference is a marriage on 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1686 of an Ann Goddard of Great Washbourne to Edward Drinkwater of Alderton, which does not seem relevant to the matter in hand.

The two older sons of William (05939), William (05945) and Robert (05947), next appear in the parish of Overbury in Worcestershire on the southern slope of Bredon Hill, where both were married, William (05945) to Joyce Pulley (05946) on 13<sup>th</sup> Jun. 1622 and Robert to Alice Little (05948) on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1633. William and Joyce's first (and apparently only) child Mary (05950) was baptised in 1633, while the first child of Robert and Alice, Valentine (05952), was baptised in 1634 on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb., hence the only appearance of this name in the family record so far. As these two daughters are named in the 1635 will, there can be no doubt as to the identity of this William and Robert. Mary eventually married a Giles Malin (or Mealing) (05951) and produced children in Overbury from 1655 on and they were mentioned in the will of William junior (05945) when he died in the parish in 1677. Robert does not appear in Overbury after 1638 when his third child, another Robert (05954), was baptised, nor has his subsequent whereabouts been found.

The third son of William (05939) of Snowhill, Richard (05949), does not seem to have married or had children, but in his will dated 1673 he left land and property in the parish of Eckington and the adjoining parish of Defford<sup>6</sup> to William (05945), Robert (05947) and their offspring, with Richard's freehold property in both parishes going to John (05955), one of Robert's sons and his leasehold property providing income for William, his daughter Mary Malin (05950) and her son. This will seems to provide the basis for the numerous and apparently successful Goddard family in Eckington which was still in situ in the late nineteenth century and who make occasional appearances in neighbouring parishes where they can be confused with the Stanway Goddards, to whom they may be distantly related.

The Eckington parish register only survives from 1678 and is incomplete for some years after that date, having been poorly kept and the bishops transcripts are not available either, for many of the years in question. The first recorded Goddard events in the 1690s probably involve Robert's (05947) grandchildren, who may well not have been born in the parish<sup>7</sup>. Another reference attests to the presence of Richard (05949) in Eckington in the 1650s; this is a deposition made to the Quarter Sessions<sup>8</sup> in 1659 in which he is accused of growing "400 rods" of tobacco in "Eckington field" thus infringing the monopoly granted to the American colonies. How seriously this was taken may be judged by the fact that he was supposed to be fined the then enormous sum of four hundred pounds.<sup>9</sup> His accuser one William Harrison, claimed that he was entitled under the law to receive half of this sum!<sup>10</sup> If Richard ever paid up it did not impoverish him judging by his will. He also appears in the Eckington Hearth Tax record for 1662<sup>11</sup>.

#### **DEPOSITION MADE TO WORCESTER QUARTER SESSIONS 12 APRIL 1659**

*Be it [recorded?] That at the general sessions of the publick peace for the county of Worcester aforesaid holden at Worcr in the county of Worcr aforesaid upon the xii th day of Aprill in the year of or. Lord 1669 William Harrison of Parshore in the county of Worcester who as well for his highness the Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England Scotland and Ireland and the Dominions and Territories thereto belonging as for himself in this behalf doth presente in his own person come here unto the cort before Sr Tomas Rous baronet, Gervase Buck esq, Nicholas Acton esq, x x x and others there fellowe Justices assigned to keepe the publick peace in the county aforesaid and also to heare and determine divers felonyes trespasses and other misdemeanors committed in the said county and as well for the said Lord Protector as for himself hee [praese?] the Cort here to understand and to bee informed that Richard Goddard of Eckington in the county of Worcr ffreemason after the ffirst day of May in the yeare of our Lord 1652 (that is to say) between the ffirst day of May last past in the yeare of our lord 1658 and the day of the exhibiting of this informacon at Eckington aforesaid in the said county of Worcr did plant sett growe make and cure tobacco in seed plant and otherwise uppon 400 poles or rodds of ground in the ground and fiede of Eckington aforesaid and did within the tyme aforesaid at Eckington aforesaid use and employ the 400 poles or rodds of ground in plowing setting growing and curing tobacco contrary to the statute in such case made and provided whereby the said Richard Goddard hath forfeited ffower hundred pounds of lawful money of England (that is to say) Twenty shillings for every pole or rodd of ground so used and employed as aforesaid where uppon the said William Harrison as well for the said Lord Protector as for himself prayeth the advise of the Cort in the premises And that hee the said William Harrison who as well doth desier to have one moety of the forfeiture aforesaid according to the forme of the statute aforesaid And the said Richard Goddard may come hereinto the Cort to answer of and uppon the premises*

Square brackets [ ] indicate an interpretation of a word not fully deciphered. Round Brackets ( ) are as in the original.

6 The will of Robert Godard (05974) bur. in Eckington 1810 disposes of what is probably the Defford freehold.

7 The name Robert recurs in nearly every generation in Eckington but never in the Stanway Goddards, so far as is known

8 Worcester County Record Office. Quarter Session Index 96/21

9 The wages of a servant (e.g. Anne Marten), at this time would have been about £4 per year with full board.

10 As Harrison accused six other men of the same offence at the same time he stood to make a pretty penny out of his informing business in which his wife was also involved.

11 Worcester C.R.O. 900:4001

Regarding the reference in footnote 10 to the wife of William Harrison being involved in the informing business, this gem turned up while researching the quarter sessions records for matters not connected with the Goddards

*The informacon of Mary Harrison wife of William Harrison of Parshore in the said County gent taken upon the 19th day of June 1660 before Gervase Bucke One of his Majesties Justices of the peace for the county Shee saith and doth Inform that shee heard Margaret [Undrill?] about eight weeks synce say that if Piddle Mill were as neare as Parshore Mill shee would not trouble such a Whoremaster (Meaning as this informant conceaved) Mr ffrancis Steede whoe is Tennant of Parshore Mill, whereupon one Hannah Bamford being then present asked her how she knew he was a Whoremaster Shee answered that he was taken in bed with Nan Harbidge (meaning as this Informant conceaved) Mrs Anne Harbidge and that the streete was in uproare.*

It is signed by Gervase Bucke, who was one of the Justices in Richard Goddard's case

It is hard to see who is being accused of what here, especially as in the year that had passed since the tobacco affair the Merry Monarch had been restored to the throne and the puritans were no longer in the ascendant.

### **WILL OF RICHARD GODDARD OF ECKINGTON PROVED 13<sup>th</sup> SEPT. 1673**

*In the name of God Amen I Richard Goddard of Eckington in the county of Worcester freemason being weake in bodie but of good and p'fect memorie god be praised ,doe make this my last will and testament [etc.- - - -] but for my worldly goods [- - - -] I dispose of in manner following. First I give and bequeath to John Goddard the son of my brother Robert Goddard all and singular my freehold land and tenements in Eckington and Defford during his life and afterwards to his eldest son and his heirs for ever to enter hereby on within half a year after my decease And I give to the rest of the children of my brother Robert three pounds apiece to be paid within one year of my decease. Item I give and dispose to the said Robert Goddard twenty pounds of lawful money of England to be quit by forty shillings a yeare in tenne years after my death and if he die before the receipt of the said xx pounds then the remainder to be paid to his wife and in case she die then the residue to be paid amongst his children equally, the said John excepted. Item. I give and dispose the yearly issues and profits of my lease lands in Eckington to my brother William and his children in manner following, that is I give to Mary Mealings daughter of the said William xl s to be paid out of the said lease lands and twenty shillings yearly to the son of the said Mary out of the said lease. And for the residue of the sd issues I bequeath to the said William to be yearly paid to him and his assigns each half year by equall parts and if he die before the expiration of the lease then I give the said William his part to his wife and if she die then to his said daughter and her child equally divided betwixt them. Item I give and bequeath to Susanna Tompson the some of tenne pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid within one year after my decease. Item I give to my servant Anne Marten the some of four pounds to be paid within one year after my decease. Item I give and dispose six pounds to Thomas Rich late of Whittington in the county of Gloucr if he be now living to be paid within one year after my decease and my will is that my executors hereafter named and the survivors of them shall have the letting and setting of my said lease lands for the raising of the said moneys so bequeathed [- - - -] willed to my brother William and his children [- - - - -? - - - - -] Item I give and bequeath to my apprentice Richard two axes for a mason and his choice of the moulds as many as will [-? -] turne. Item I give to Abraham [Collins?] one sheepe at the discretion of my executors. Item I give to the son of Thomas Bishop the best [- - ?-]. Item I give and bequeath to every one of the daughters of Edward Wilson three pounds to be paid within one year after my decease. Item I give to the said John Goddard one table board in the hall a [-? -] chair and the bed there in the lower chamber. And for the rest of my moneys goods and household stuff I give and bequeath to my said two brothers and their children, John being excepted to be equally divided betwixt them at the discretion of my executors and for the rest of my moneys and personal estate I give unto my said brothers and their children, John being excepted, to be equally parted betwixt them and I nominate Thomas Thornbury and Edward Wilson the younger executors of this my last will and I give them three pounds apiece in witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the [?] day of August 1673.*

*The [?] of  
the testator*

Richard (05949) is described as a Freemason in the above document and also in his will. His elder brother William (05945) who died in 1677 at Overbury seems also to have been a Mason as he left his axe and hammer to a man who was not a family member, as Richard had to his apprentice. Most of William's other bequests were to his daughter Mary

and her children, but he did not enjoy anything like the same degree of affluence as Richard. His wife was made executor but was not named; she died in 1674 and it seems unlikely that he married again; the only date on the will is 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 1677/8 which on the dating system then in use would be a month after his death (he was buried 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1677) and so must be the date of probate. No will has been found for Robert (05954), nor is it known where he went after his last appearance in the register at Overbury. He may have been in Worcester where his uncle John (05938) was living in 1643, though as this brings us to the period of the civil war and the Commonwealth when records often lapsed, it may be difficult to find out.

At this point it becomes necessary to address the questions raised by the 1608 muster rolls for Gloucestershire. This military survey has been preserved complete except for the city of Gloucester and its liberties; it was subsequently published in book form with index and contains "*The Names and Surnames of all the Able and Sufficient men in Body fit for His Majesty's Service in the Wars within the County of Gloucestershire*". The age limits were sixteen and sixty and were broken down into three categories; (1) "*about twenty*", (2) "*about forty*" and (3) "*between fifty and threescore*": there are 19,402 names listed, including four Goddards two of whom are in Snowhill, William and Robert. William and Robert are both in category (1) though this might mean anything between sixteen and thirty something and they are both described as "*mason*"; William also has (*Tr*) against his name indicating that he was a trained soldier. It seems obvious at first sight that we are looking at William junior and Robert, with younger brother Richard under age and not listed and William senior either unfit or over age. This however raises problems; William would then have to be at least about twenty and also to have an apprentice who was rated as aged "*about twenty*", making William well over ninety when he died and Robert not much younger. Both were certainly alive and active when Richard made his will in 1673. The alternative would be for William senior to be the one on the Muster Rolls and stretch the "*about twenty*" of 1608 to the maximum, say 33, which would mean a date of birth circa 1575 giving him just about time to father Mary in 1596, followed by William and Robert by, say 1601, then Elizabeth and Richard by around 1605. This would give them all time to do what they had done by 1635 when William senior's will was made, but it is a bit tight and it requires William senior to be a mason and to have a brother called Robert, also a mason; not impossible but there is no evidence to support the last two assumptions. Nonetheless, the latter alternative now seems preferable. It is also more in line with the reference to him as the godson of the Buckland will 1616 the author of which was the William senior of that parish who is alluded to in the Muster Rolls (see below) and who was born in the 1540s. A birth date of around 1575 for the Snowhill William would put them a generation apart, which would be suitable for the godparent/godson relationship. On the accompanying family tree one should assume that there could be alternative dates of birth.

### THE 1608 MUSTER ROLLS FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE<sup>12</sup>

Compiled by John Smyth of North Nibley who appears on the roll for that parish.

Smyth's subtitle reads:-

"*The names of all the Able and Sufficient men in Body fit for His Majesty's Service in the Wars within the County of Gloucester*" then "*Viewed by the Right Hon. Henry Lord Berkeley Lord Lieutenant of the said County by direction of His Majesty in the month of August 1608 in the sixth year of the reign of James the First*". There are 19,402 names listed including four Goddards on the rolls and one other alluded to\*.

There is a key as follows:-

The figure (1) Sheweth that the age of the man bee about Twenty

The figure (2) Sheweth that the age of the man bee about Forty

The figure (3) Sheweth that the age of the man bee between Fifty and Threescore

The L'r (P) Sheweth the man bee of the tallest stature fit to make a Pikeman

The L'r M) Sheweth the man bee of middle stature fit to make a Musketeer

The L'rs (Ca) Sheweth the man bee of lower stature fit to serve with a Caliver

The L'rs (Py) Sheweth the man bee of meanest stature fit for a Pyoner or little other use

The L'rs (Tr) Sheweth that at the taking of this view hee was then a Trained Soldier

The L'rs (Sub) Sheweth that the said man was then a Subsidy man

The Goddards listed are, by parish, as follows:-

**Buckland & "Laberton".** Forty nine names are given including

William Goddard Jun. (1) (M) (Sub)

Richard Batte Servant to

\*William Goddard Sen. (1) (M)

**Snowhill.** Twenty four names given including

William Goddard, mason (1) (Tr) Also his apprentice Thos. Bromley (1) (P)

<sup>12</sup> Preserved at Berkeley Castle and Published in 1902 as "*Men and Armour in Gloucestershire 1608*". Reprinted with index in 1980 by Alan Sutton, Gloucester, in a limited edition of 400. A copy is on open shelves at Glos. C.R.O..

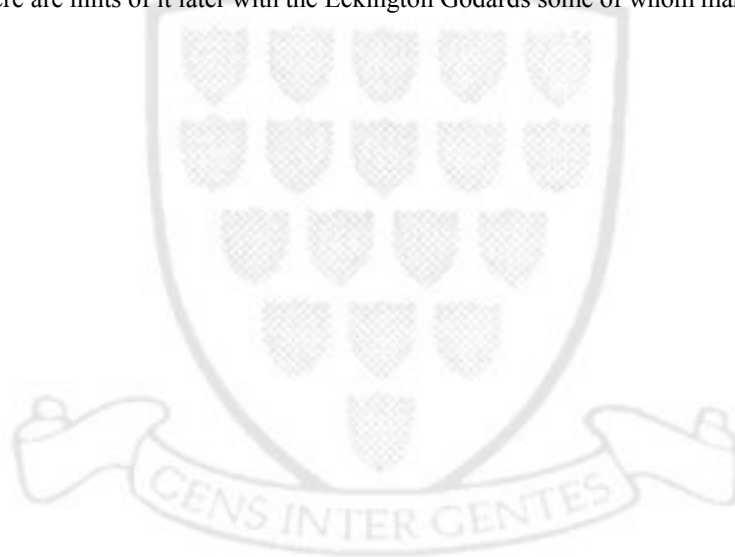
Robert Goddard, mason (1) (Ca)

**Leckhampton.** Twenty seven names given including

William Goddard, husbandman (1) (P)

These are the only Goddards that are listed. There are none at Stanway, although Nathaniel Goddard, (see “The Goddards of N. Gloucestershire Pt. 2”), should be either there or at Leckhampton where he baptised as child in 1610. The Snowhill Goddards look like members of the yeoman class. A tithe rent book<sup>13</sup> names William Goddard as paying rent for “*my close*” (i.e. the incumbent’s) and some rights in the meadow. The book covers about ten years from 1624 and William appears in it from 1627 to 1631. In the first entry he is called “*Goddard of Littleworth*” which confirms a link with the well established Goddard family of the neighbouring parish of Buckland, where another William Goddard made a will in 1616 Naming his “*Godson Goddard of Littleworth*”<sup>14</sup>

The connection between these Goddards and those of Eckington seems certain enough but lacks some vital links, notably a baptism for Francis the progenitor of the latter. There is a possibility of a continuing connection in Worcester where a Robert and a John baptise children with the right sort of names in various city parishes in the 1670s and 80s. This connection would presumably go back to John Goddard (05938) “*of the city of Worcester*” in the 1635 will of William (05939) and there are hints of it later with the Eckington Godards some of whom marry there.



The Goddard Association  
of Europe

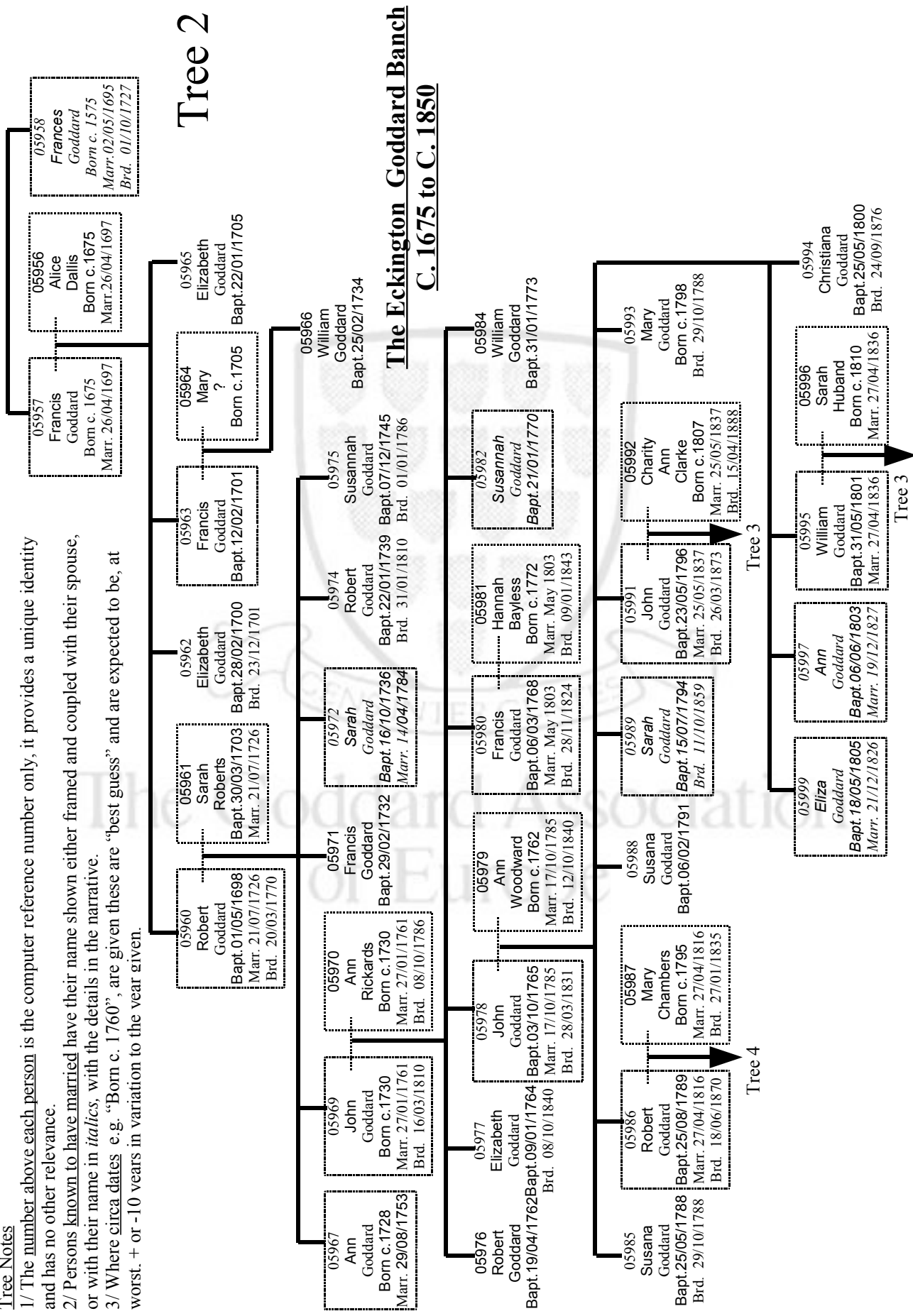
<sup>13</sup> Gloucester C.R.O. P307 in 3/1

<sup>14</sup> Littleworth was a hamlet of Snowhill now marked by Littleworth Wood, which is in the care of the National Trust at present.

Tree Notes

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- 2/ Persons known to have married have their name shown either framed and coupled with their spouse, or with their name in *italics*, with the details in the narrative.
- 3/ Where circa dates e.g. "Born c. 1760", are given these are "best guess" and are expected to be, at worst, + or -10 years in variation to the year given.

**Tree 2**



ECKINGTON GODDARDS Tree 2

*Eckington main street,-the Tewkesbury to Pershore road*

The continuous record for the Eckington Goddards actually starts in the adjacent parish of Beckford in Glos. with the marriage of Francis Goddard (05957) and Alice Dalis on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1697, all the subsequent Goddards in the parish descend from them. A year earlier a Frances Goddard (05958) was married in Eckington to William White, she was presumably Francis' sister and these are the only members of this generation known. Francis makes an appearance in the Worcester quarter session records<sup>15</sup> as the victim of an assault by Thomas Woodward and Charles Knowles, of Hill and Moor (a chapelry of Fladbury which lies a short distance away on the river Avon). The warrant for their arrest survives, dated 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1702, together with the remand recognisance's. An extract of the arrest warrant and its transcription are shown below.

*To the Constable of Hill & Moore  
or his Deputy there*

*Upon the Complaint of Fran: Goddard of Eckington  
you are hereby Required to Apprehend the Bodyes of  
Tho: Woodward Junr & Charles Knowles both in y<sup>e</sup>  
said Constablewick & then bring before me one of her*

*To the Constable of Hill & Moore  
or his Deputy there*

*Upon the complaint of Fran: Goddard of Eckington  
you are hereby required to apprehend the bodyes of  
Tho: Woodward Junr. & Charles Knowles both in your  
said constablewick & then bring before me one of her*

At his burial on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1717 Francis is described as being a Butcher, a trade which some other members of the family followed in subsequent generations, though they also held land as well.

Francis had two daughters both named Elizabeth, the earlier having died in infancy, and two sons, Robert (05960) and Francis (05963). Francis (05963) and his wife Mary produced a son William (05966) in February 1733/4, after which they disappear from the parish records, though Francis (05963) is shown as having land in Eckington in a list of freeholders dated 1741<sup>16</sup>. The elder son Robert remained in the parish and had six children there between about 1728 and 1745. His wife was Sarah Roberts of Winchcombe Glos. whom he married in Birlingham just across the river Avon to the north of Eckington, on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1726. It is noted that both Robert and Francis were about thirty when they baptised their first child, which is not unusual with this yeoman family who tended toward prudence where economic matters were concerned. Robert's family consisted of three daughters and three sons; two of the daughters married in Eckington, Ann (05967) to John Chamberlain in 1753 and Sarah (05972) to William Candell in 1784. The third daughter Susannah (05975) died, unmarried, in 1786. The three sons include, once more, Francis (05971) and Robert (05974) but it was the eldest brother, John (05969), who eventually produced the next generation in the parish Eckington. Of the second son Francis nothing else is recorded, but the third son, Robert (05974) was buried in 1810 aged 71, apparently unmarried as there is no record of a wife or children. This is confirmed by his will which was proved on 28<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1810 and in which he is described as "*Robert Godard of Defford*" (a parish adjoining Eckington to the north west) *Gentleman*. This is the only occasion so far as is known, of this status being attributed to a member of this branch of the family. Bequests to the family include money to his nieces Susannah Howse (b 21 Jan. 1770) and Elizabeth Goddard (05977) and his nephew "*John Godard of Eckington, Butcher*" (05978). The first named of his two executors is Hubert Woodward Gentleman, of Pershore. Robert (05974) and brother John (05969) signed as witness to a number of marriages from circa 1770 therefore it is assumed that they were church officers from about that date. Robert was a churchwarden in 1790 while John signed at vestry meetings as early as 1773.

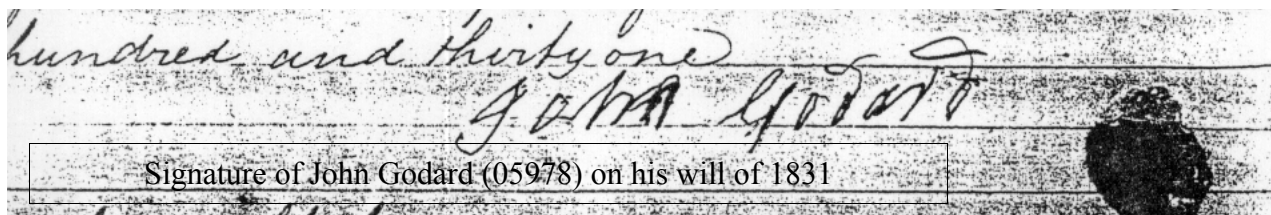
This family had spelt their name with one "d" and with one or two exceptions it remains as Godard as far as the research has gone (1916). John (05969) appears to be the John Goddard of Eckington who married Ann Rickards (Rickets in the marriage allegation) on 27 Jan 1761 in the adjacent parish of Bredon, their first child Richard (05976) being baptised there on 2 April 1762. There is no further information about him so it is possible that he died in infancy; five more children of John and Ann were baptised between 1764 and 1773 in Eckington including three sons, John (05978), Francis (05980) and William (05984). Francis (05980), baptised 1768 died in 1824 aged 55, seemingly childless, though he is apparently the Francis Godard who married a Hannah Bayliss at Worcester St Clement in May 1803. Both of them are buried in Eckington, Hannah on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 1843 said to be aged 71, the only other reference to them found so far being Hannah witnessing a marriage in 1811. The youngest son William makes no further appearance in the record. A pattern seems to emerge wherein one son remains in the parish to raise a family while any other sons either leave or remain childless. In this case the eldest of the sons born in Eckington, John (05978) baptised 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 1765 was the one to produce the next generation. Of the two daughters of John (05969) and Ann, Susannah (05982), the younger daughter, married a man named Howse, while the elder, Elizabeth (05977), remained unmarried and died in 1840 age 76, these last two, together with John (05978) being legatees in the 1810 will of Robert (05974). John (05969) died a few weeks after his brother Robert in March. 1810, leaving everything to his son Francis (05971). This included "*funeral benefit from the Eckington Society*", which appears to be the Eckington Tradesmen's Society, evidently a friendly or provident organisation.

John (05978) married Ann Woodward, presumably a relative of Robert's executor (05960), on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct.. 1787 and the union produced ten children between 1788 and 1805, of which the eldest, Susana (05985) died in infancy. The remaining nine, three males and six females, all survived and are all mentioned in their father's will, made in 1831. Like his father, John (05978) seems to have played a part in the life of the community; he was a signatory to the enclosure award for Eckington in 1810 and signed fairly regularly at vestry meetings as recorded in a churchwardens and overseers account book <sup>17</sup>covering the years 1799-1817, he was overseer of the poor in 1808 and again in 1817 when he seems to have blotted his copybook somewhat. At the end of each financial year a meeting was held formally to approve the accounts and to appoint next year's overseers, it was routine and normally occupied a few lines in the book including the magistrates' signatures. In 1818 however we have: - "*6 April 1818 At a parish meeting met and settled the years accounts excepting only the expenses charged by John Godard for taking Maria James with an order of removal to Ledbury, he having forgotten his duty so far as to bring the said Maria James back into the parish of Eckington and by so doing her child has become chargeable to the said parish. This exception is now made to be laid before the magistrates for their opinion and to act accordingly.*" Then:- "*April 14 Called as above verified on oath and allowed except the charge of one pound and four shillings charged by John Godard for removing Maria James to Ledbury whichwe do not allow and do order to be struck out of the account sufficient cause having been shown to us in the presence of the said John Godard that the sum should not be allowed.*" Unfortunately this is the last entry in the book so that it is not possible to know if this was the end of John's career in public affairs, or of the adventures of Maria James, but in the volume which continues these accounts to 1833 John Godard is found signing at the annual meeting in 1820 and also serving as overseer of the poor in 1828 though it is probable that this was John (05991) his son, who is

<sup>16</sup> Newspaper cutting preserved in Foley scrapbook Worcester C.R.O. L899:31, (BA3762/8)

<sup>17</sup> Worcester. C.R.O. b 850 Eckington (BA1615)

dealt with below, as is his colleague in this job Ann Newman nee Godard (05997), his sister. She was not the only woman to serve as overseer at this time.



Of John's (05978) daughters, Sarah (05989) married a William Higgins, Ann (05997) a John Newman and Eliza (05999) a Charles Green; Mary Ann (05993) and Christiana, (05994) remained single and appear later owning property in Eckington. The will of John (05978) orders that all his estates which included Freehold, Leasehold and Copyhold properties in Eckington should go to his wife Ann for the term of her natural life, after which everything was to be sold and the proceeds, apart from five pounds which went to his daughter Susan (05988) to be divided amongst his nine children. There follows a proviso that in this share out "*that the money goods cattle and other effects that they have respectively had of me to put them in business or otherwise of which an account has been kept shall be brought into account, so that the amount of which they have already had shall be considered a part of their share*". The executors were his sons John (05991) and William (05995).



*The Norman doorway of Eckington church*

The two elder sons, Robert (05986) b1789 and John (05991) b1796, broke with tradition by both having families in the parish, though not quite at the same time. The censuses of 1841 and 1851 now throw new light on the subject, and it is possible to know something of the status and the location of these people; by 1841 there were two Godard households in the village of Eckington, both in Bunn Street<sup>18</sup>. One was that of Robert (05986), aged 50, who was a butcher; his wife Mary (nee Chambers), whom he had married at St Helens Worcester on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1816, had died in 1835 and he was now accompanied by his daughter Mary (06483), aged 20 and his youngest child Robert (06488) aged 11 years. Of his other offspring his eldest surviving daughter Sarah (06481) was married at Eckington in 1835 to a John Harris while Ann (06484) and Eliza (06486) turn up living with his sister Mary Ann at different times, both marrying later, Ann to David Charles Smith who was a mason at Kemerton Glos. and Eliza to a George Passey a carpenter, at Ripple in Worcs. Mary produced an illegitimate son called John (06499) in 1842 and the younger Robert (06488) disappears from the record after 1841. In the summer of 1815, the year before Robert's (05986) marriage to Mary, a lady named Ann Green had cited Robert as the father of her unborn child in the adjoining parish of Bredons Norton<sup>19</sup>, but although his first child, Ann (06480), was baptised there in July 1816, she is credited to Mary. This infant Ann died in 1821 and Robert's next child was given the same name. The other household in Bunn Street contained John (05991), whose age is given as 40, but he was not its head; that position belonged to his older sister Mary Ann (05993) also "40" and unmarried as was another sister, Christiana (05994) 35<sup>20</sup>. All three are described as "farmers" and this arrangement with the women holding property probably derives from the will of John (05978) described above. Also in the household were Ann Godard (06484) aged

15, a daughter of Robert, who was classed as female servant and Christiana (06489) and Elizabeth Godard (06490), aged 2 and 1 respectively, these being daughters of John who had married Charity Ann Ricketts (nee Clarke) a widow at Great Comberton in 1837. Lucy Ricketts 11, a child of hers by her former husband was also present. Charity Ann herself was in the adjoining parish of Great Comberton at time of the 1841 census with three other of her Ricketts children; she also is described as a farmer. All the children of John and Charity were baptised at Great Comberton.

<sup>18</sup> Currently named as Boon Street.- July 2000

<sup>19</sup> Worcester. C.R.O. Quarter Sessions calendar 1815

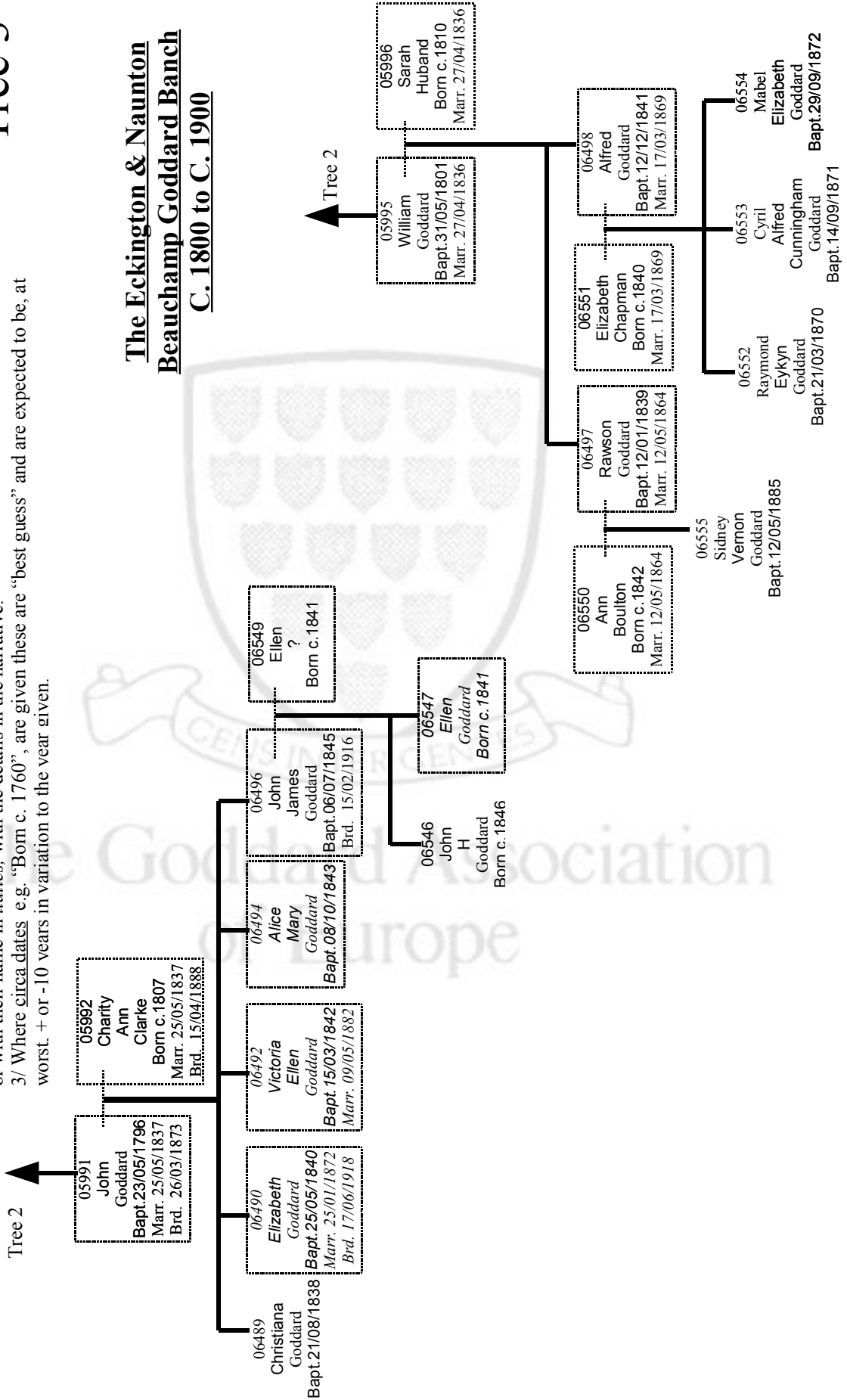
<sup>20</sup> Christiana was probably named after her mother's sister Christiana Woodward whose marriage was witnessed by John

# Tree 3

## The Eckington & Naunton Beauchamp Goddard Banch C. 1800 to C. 1900

Tree Notes

- 1/ The number above each person is the computer reference number only, it provides a unique identity and has no other relevance.
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- 3/ Where circa dates e.g. "Born c. 1760", are given these are "best guess" and are expected to be, at worst. + or - 10 years in variation to the year given.





*Jarvis Street Eckington*

By 1851 there were three Godard households in the parish; in Bunn Street Robert (05986) was now alone, his two children Mary (06483) and Robert (06488) having disappeared, though the other establishment in that street now contained another of his daughters, Eliza (06486) “aged 20” (actually 23) in addition to Mary Ann (05993), “*Farmer of 17 Acres*” and Christiana (05994) “*Proprietor of houses*”. John (05991) was now in his own house in Jarvis Street, and described as “*Farmer of 30 acres*” (by 1861 this had expanded to 44 acres) with him were two Ricketts children and one of his own daughters, Victoria Ellen (06492) aged 9. One of the Ricketts children, Lucy, is described as his housekeeper. John’s wife Charity Ann (05992) and three of his other four children, Elizabeth (06490) aged 11, Alice Mary (06494) aged 7 and John James (06496)

aged 6 were now in Bishops Cleeve in Gloucestershire, where she was again described as a “*farmer*”. The next adjacent entry on this census was that of William Clarke, born in Worcestershire, who was farming 480 acres and as Clarke was Charity Ann’s maiden name it may be that she was on a family property. She does not appear again in Eckington until the 1881 census, though her living apart from John did not prevent her having five children by him to add to the four from her first marriage.

John (05991) died in 1873 aged 76 and was buried in the family vault, which is still to be seen in Eckington churchyard. Like his father he had attended vestry meetings and had served as overseer of the poor in John (05991) died in 1873 aged 76 and was buried in the family vault, which is still to be seen in Eckington churchyard. Like his father he had attended vestry meetings and had served as overseer of the poor in the last years of the old Poor Law.<sup>21</sup> He left his household goods to his widow, all the rest of his property (including real estate) were to be sold and the proceeds divided between his four surviving children, Elizabeth (06490), Victoria Ellen (06492), John James (06496) and Alice Mary (06494), after £500 had been put out to interest for Charity Ann. When Charity Ann died in Eckington in 1888, she left money to her three married daughters and the rest of her property to her son John James, including “*my oil painting of the back of the farmhouse at Eckington*”. John James remained in Bishops Cleeve, being described in 1881 as “*retired farmer*” at the age of 36. He had with him his wife Ellen (nee Reed?), a daughter Helen Reed Goddard aged 6 and a son aged thirteen named John H., but the latter is not mentioned in John James’s will of 1916 and may have died young. John James’s effects were valued at over £3000, of which much went to his daughter, now Ellen Reed Cresswell, there apparently being no other children. At the time of the 1881 census Victoria was a visitor at the house of her sister and brother-in-law Thomas Barker, a grocer in Handsworth, now a suburb of Birmingham. She married Thomas Adams at Eckington in May 1882. The probable artist of the oil painting mentioned above was Henry Key of Birmingham, a Landscape Painter, who had married Elizabeth (06490) at Eckington in January 1872. Henry is not well known today, it is possible that Birmingham Art Gallery may have examples of his work, but with the help of his wife he obviously made enough money for them and their children, Marion and son Renford, to live in Bunn Street Eckington.

This ends the account of the family of John (05991) and Charity Ann so far as the Godard name is concerned, although they are commemorated on the family vault in Eckington churchyard and the three married daughters, Elizabeth Key, Victoria Adams and Alice Barker are also buried there, some of whom give their father’s name on their monuments. Of John’s two brothers, William (05995) the youngest of the three sons, baptised 31<sup>st</sup> May 1801, married Sarah Huband (in 1836) and lived outside the parish, first in Naunton Beauchamp and then in Oddingley where in 1861 he is described as a farmer of 240 acres and finally in Tibberton. He also served as Surveyor of the Highways in Oddingley, where in 1847 he is found proposing the closure of an “*unnecessary*” highway from the main Droitwich-Oddingley road, which just happened to finish in his rickyard<sup>22</sup>. There were two sons, Rawson<sup>23</sup> Henry (06497) and Alfred William (06498) who both appear in the 1881 census. Rawson, a farmer of over 500 acres at Evelench Farm, he had married Ann Griffiths Boulton of Oddingley at Tibberton on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 1864. The farm is still called Evelench Farm and it is still bisected by the busy main Gloucester to Birmingham railway line Their only known child was their son Sydney Vernon (06555) who was baptised at Tibberton on the first anniversary of their wedding, 12<sup>th</sup> May 1865. Alfred William (06498), a brick manufacturer, married Elizabeth Chapman, also of Oddingley at Tibberton on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1869. Alfred’s brick manufacturing business, at “*Briars Field*” was in an ideal position close to Oddingley, the railway and to the Worcester to Birmingham Canal. In 1881 at a time when Birmingham and the surrounding Black

21 The old poor law had been in effect since 1600 and was the responsibility of the parish. It was replaced in 1834 by the ‘new’ poor law which grouped the parishes into ‘unions’, each of which had a workhouse as its central feature. But see ‘Some Notes on the Poor Law’ herewith

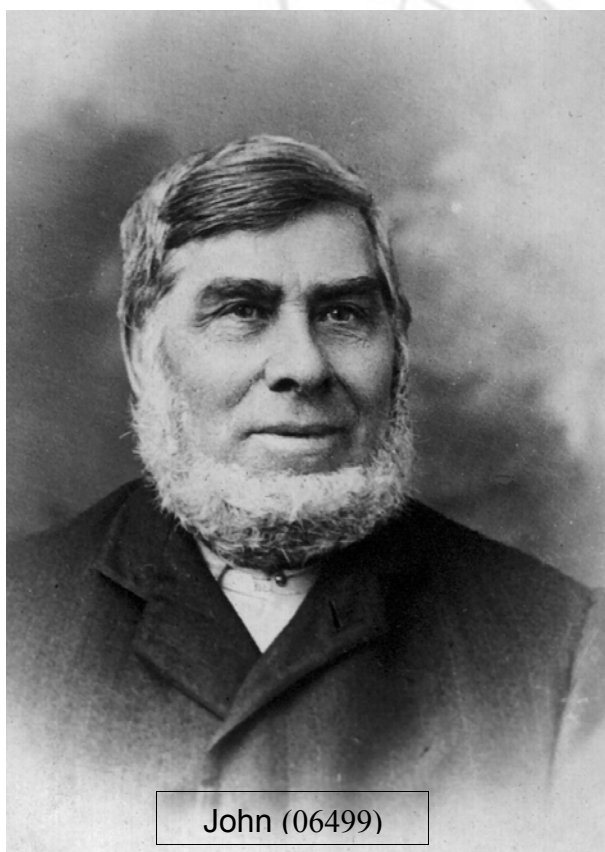
22 Berrow’s Worcester Journal 6/13 May 1847

23 Rawson was also the name given to one of the sons of Eliza (06486) & George Passey

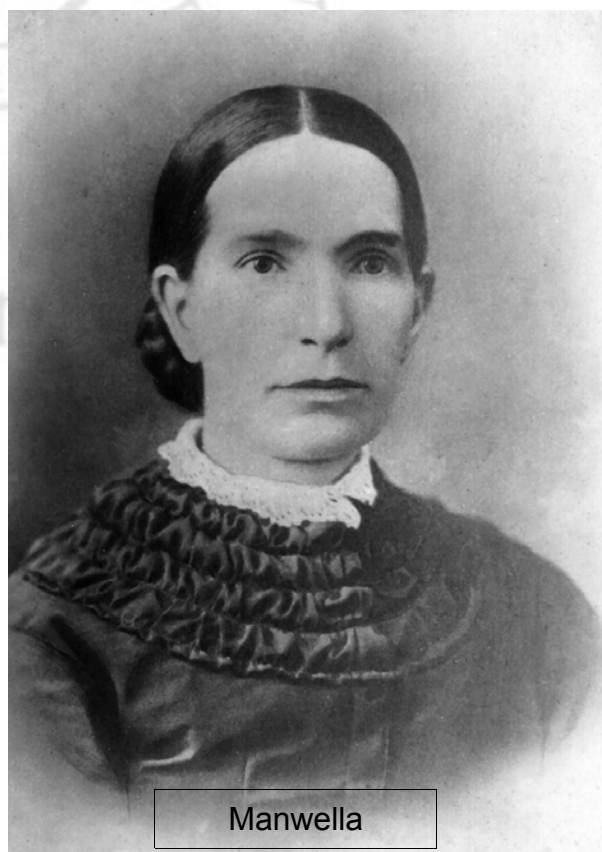
Country was growing at a tremendous rate and would have had an almost insatiable appetite for bricks, the business was giving employment to some 17 labourers, according to the census. However, if you believed this census return you would never guess that the three children of Alfred and Elizabeth were actually named Raymond Eykin Godard, Cyril Alfred Cunningham Godard and Mabel Elizabeth Godard! Raymond and Cyril were both born at Oddingly while Mabel was born at Tibberton, but as Briars Field is on the borders of both parishes it is likely that the family home did not move very far. At the time of the 1891 census only Alfred (06498) and son Cyril were at home at “The Lodge Briars Field”, but with an unmarried “house keeper” who had 3 young children, aged 2 years, 1 year and 7 months old, so there is probably a tale to be told there!

Robert (05986) the eldest of the three also has a monument in the churchyard and reference has been made to the absence of his son Robert (06488) from the record after 1841. Of Robert’s daughters surviving in 1851, the eldest, Sarah had married John Harris in 1839, as noted above, the youngest, Eliza (06486) was in the household of her aunt, Mary Ann (05993) and Mary (06483) aged 30 and unmarried was living in Stoke Orchard, Glos., part of the parish of Bishops Cleeve, with another member of the family, her aunt Sarah (Harris) for whom she was “House Servant”. Mary’s illegitimate son John (06499), aged ten, was with her sister Ann Smith (06484) in Kemerton, which though in Gloucestershire adjoins Eckington. John is also not found on the 1881 census index for either Worcestershire or Gloucestershire and it is now known that he went to the Pontefract area of Yorkshire where there are descendants of his still living.<sup>24</sup> We are indebted to his great granddaughter Jean Crabtree for the photographs below and following information.

John (06499) married Manwella Causier (06500) on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1866 at St. Marks Church Ocker Hill, Staffordshire, in the “Black Country”. He was twenty four at the time, having been born in September 1841. The Causier<sup>25</sup> family were from Droitwich, Wores. and it seems that they were responsible for the move to Yorkshire, where they appear on the 1871 census at Castleford. John is then described as a ‘General Labourer’ living in a house in Hunt Street, his eldest child William, aged four, is said to have been born in Castleford, so the move must have taken place soon after they married. There is probably another good tale as to why they moved the 100 miles north to Castleford, when 10 miles was the most the family had ever moved before, but that story is lost to us at present. In 1881 they were still in the same town of Castleford, John was then a grocer, there were by this time five children together with Manwella’s mother, Ann Causier, who was now living with them. According to this census William (06501), at the age of 14, was working as a “Flint Hand” at the local glass works, but in 1901 he was a Blacksmith. John later followed the trade of his Eckington forebears becoming a master butcher, but by 1901 his butchers shop and a slaughterhouse in Castleford was being run by his son Robert (06508) but John later became a publican, keeping the ‘Chequers Inn’ at Monk Fryston.



John (06499)



Manwella

<sup>24</sup> This information came to light via the Goddard Association of Europe newsletter of Nov. 1999

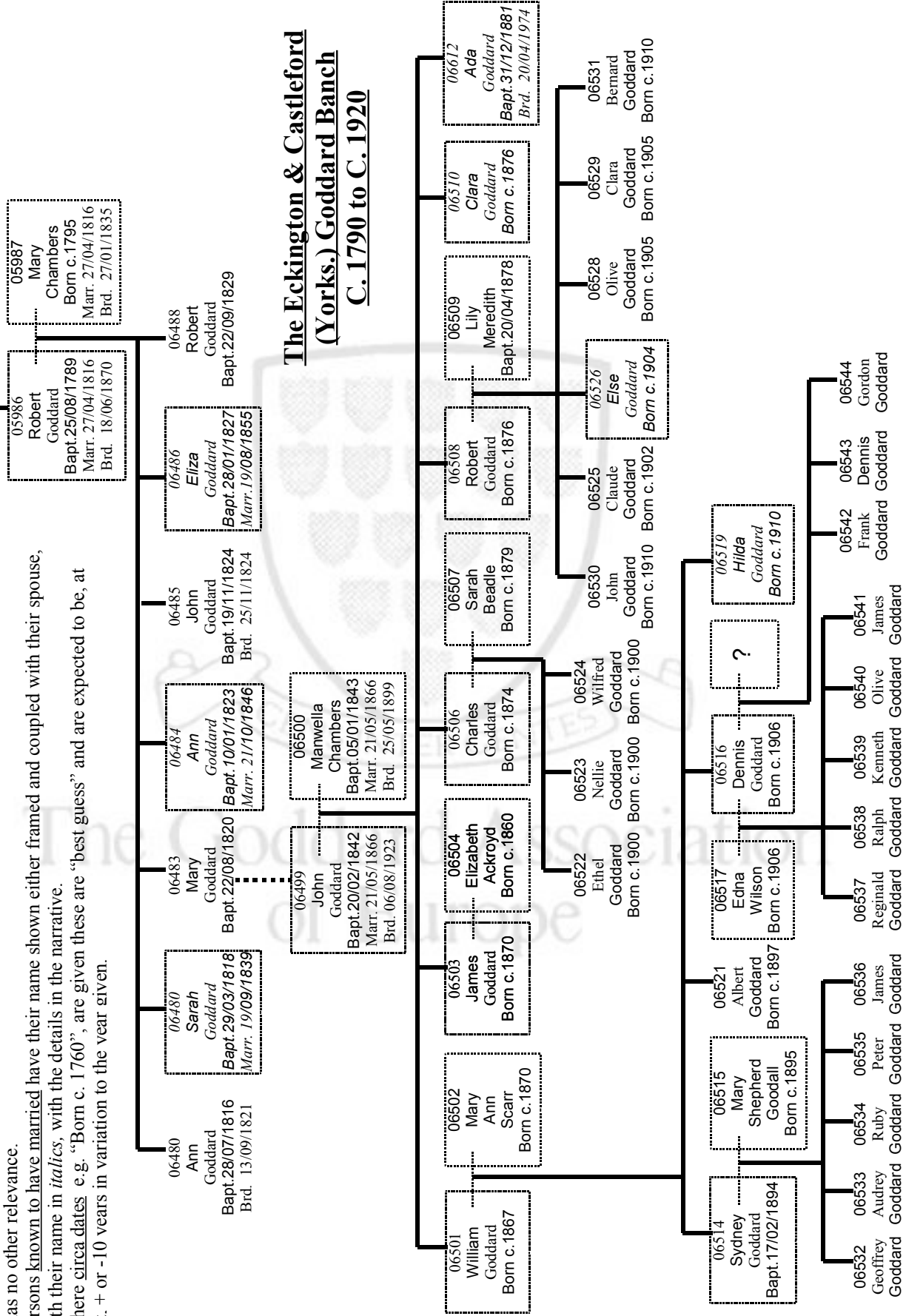
<sup>25</sup> A Huguenot family name

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Tree 2

Tree 4



John and Manwella had six children in all, of whom the first four were boys, William (06501), who became a Blacksmith, James (06503), who became a Coalminer, Charles (06506) who became a Sadler and Robert (06508), the Butcher, all who married and between them produced thirteen grandchildren (so far as is known) for John and Manwella, the two girls, Clara (06510) and Ada (06512),<sup>26</sup> providing four more. These ramifications are best followed on the family tree and it can be seen that where further generations have been traced they are quite numerous. Though John was baptised and married as Godard, the name assumes the second 'd' in Yorkshire and he signs his will as John Goddard. His will is purely a formal document and gives no hint of his lifestyle or financial circumstances. However, he does seem to have lived a long and, eventful life. His death was quite noteworthy too, as he died at the age of 81 while on holiday at Peel in the Isle of Man in August 1923. According to the Isle of Man newspaper which reported his death at the time "*the body was taken away by Friday's boat for internment at Monk Fryston*"

The Eckington Godards were clearly of the yeoman farmer, or tradesman, (grocer and butcher), class with occasional aspirations to upward mobility and as such they seem to have prospered. Good management of their affairs and prudent marriages no doubt played a part in this but the foundation of their prosperity was surely the freehold land and property left by Richard (05949) in 1673, plus whatever they may have received from their ancestor Robert. There are still Goddards to be found in the Vale of Evesham area, in Pershore, Pinvin, Defford, Wyre Piddle and other places and though some must derive from the Stanway/Croptorne branch one would suspect that there are still descendants of the Eckington Godards hereabouts, as well as further afield. The three grandsons of William (05995) who were born in Oddingley and Tibberton in the 1860s and 70s were in fairly prosperous circumstances and they should have left offspring somewhere.

#### **SOME NOTES ON THE POOR LAW**

Anyone who researches their ancestry in England during the period from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century is likely to encounter the poor law in one form or another, particularly if these ancestors lived in a rural parish or a small town. Before 1835 this will have been the 'old' poor law, which was the result of an act of parliament passed in 1600 in the last years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth the First and required every parish to raise a rate for the relief of the poor. The parish was also to appoint an officer, or officers, as overseers of the poor whose job it was to be responsible for the collection of the rate and disbursing the moneys collected to those deemed to be in need of help. This onerous post was originally held on a voluntary and unpaid basis.

The law was applied throughout the country in what soon became a uniform system, but administering it remained entirely the responsibility of the parish. Officers were appointed, usually annually, and the amount of the rate decided at a meeting generally known as a 'vestry' although it was not universally held in the church, being more often convened at one of the member's houses or more likely still at the village inn. The overseers and other parish officers would probably come from among the more substantial citizens, such as farmers, tradesmen and minor gentry who were likely to feel duty bound to take part in the affairs of the village. Often, the same names turn up as churchwardens, constables, surveyor of the highways etc. in a rough rotation. The rate was collected monthly, though it was often only eight or ten times per year.

By the mid to late seventeenth century onwards the books kept by the overseers of the poor seem to be in the same format and style wherever they are encountered, and the same printed forms are used for the various legal procedures involved in poor law administration. Among the most frequently met with are bastardy affiliation orders and removal orders, as an unattached pregnant female would usually attract one or the other. The parish would be particularly strict about not paying relief to any person who could not prove right of residence, as to do so would certainly arouse the fury of the rate payers. Also any suspicion that the parish might be a soft touch would be seen as inviting an influx of the needy and by definition undesirable. These were undoubtedly the causes of John Godard's trouble in Eckington in 1817 and the obvious ire of his colleagues, as a pregnant woman gaining residence would do so for her child and any others that she might have.

Apart from having the dubious pleasure of holding the post of overseer of the poor, (which eventually came to include a small fee and expenses), ones forebears would quite certainly have been either ratepayers or in receipt of benefit at one time or another and possibly both. The survival of records is unpredictable, but where they are available they often contain useful information from the genealogical point of view and give valuable insight into the life and times of our predecessors.

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<sup>26</sup> Jean Crabtree, who supplied the above photographs, is descended from Ada (06512).

**MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF HOLY TRINITY  
CHURCH, ECKINGTON**

20<sup>27</sup>. Vault near door in south side of chancel, the family vault.



R. side panel 1. - In memory of Sarah relict of William Higgins late of Stoke Orchard and daughter of the late John and Ann Godard who died October the 11th 1859 aged 66 years

R. side panel 2. - In memory of Mary Ann Godard who died May 23rd 1872 aged 74 years Also of John Godard who died March 26th 1873 aged 77 years. Also of Christiana Godard who died Sept. 24th 1876 aged 76 years

End panel 1. - In memory of Ann wife of John Godard of this parish who died Oct. 8th 1786. Also of the Above John Godard who died March 10th 1810.

L. side panel 1. - Also in memory of John son of the afore named John and Ann Godard who died March 28th 1831 aged 65 years. Also of Ann widow of the above who died Oct. 12th 1840 aged 77 years

L. side panel 2. - Also in memory of John grandson of the first and son of the second [afore?] named John and Ann Godard who died March 26th 1873 aged 77 years. And of Charity Ann, widow of the above who died April 15th 1888 aged 81 years. *“Enter thou into the joy of the Lord”*

(70.) Tombstone with triple kerb (Barker Tomb) includes.-

Lilian Alice Elizabeth Daughter of Thomas and Alice Mary Barker and grand daughter of the late John Godard. Born Nov. 25th 1872 died May 4th 1873.

<sup>27</sup> The numbers at the beginning of each entry are those on the plan in the BMSGH, (The Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry [www.bmsgh.org/](http://www.bmsgh.org/)), Monumental Inscription survey.

(76.) Tombstone with circular top. - "Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ"



In memory of Mary wife of Robert Godard who died Jan. XXII MDCCCXXXV aged XLVIII years (Jan 22 1835 aged 48) Also of the above named Robert Godard who died June 13th 1870 aged 80 years

Tombstone (with art nouveau decoration).



Henry Key, Artist, Born Birmingham 1824, National Medallist 1860. Thirty years resident in this village; died July 11th 1901. Also Elizabeth his wife daughter of the late John Godard. She died June 17th 1918 aged 77. "Her children rise up and call her blessed".

In addition to the above, a transcript of the burials in the parish register covering the early part of the nineteenth century gives the following information. John s.o. Robert and Mary bur. 25 Nov. 1824 is 'infant, in the family vault'. Francis Godard, bur. 28 Nov. 1824 age 55, is located 'about 25ft. 6 inches from the iron palisades at the top (of the churchyard). The side of the grave is 25ft. from the pales on the south of the ch'yard'. Exploring the churchyard failed to produce any sign of the latter grave, nor is there any indication on the family vault of the burial of the infant John.

