

THE HORSINGTONS OF CORSTON, PUCKLECHURCH, ETC. 1510-1673

compiled by J.Goulstone (1989)

The North Somerset and Pucklechurch Horsingtons seem to have descended from two brothers - Walter and John, a husbandman who acquired substantial land holdings early in the 16th century. The link between the Pucklechurch Horsingtons and John's son Giles is clearly established. However the origins of the Compton Dando-Nailsea branch represented by Walter (will proved 1581) and the brothers John and William (both 1593) is less definite. Most likely, perhaps, they were the son and grandsons of the first named Walter. John of Corston who died in 1597 is assumed in the following pedigree to have been the son John mentioned in William's will. The brothers Thomas, Richard and Roger seem to have been sons of Giles' brother, Richard of Corston, by his wife Agnes - after whom their sister Annes and Thomas and Richard's daughters Agnes/Annes were presumably named. Hopefully some of these uncertainties may be resolved when further records become readily available.

JOHN - as Jn Horsyndon or Horsynton of (Midsomer) Norton and 'Coston', husbandman, farmer of the Prior of Bath, in pardon roll 1510 (Letters & Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII). Patron of Saltford church 1533. As Jn of Corston will 1.10.1536 pr PCC: buried in Corston church; bequests to poor of Corston, Pensford alms house, Bath spittle house; son Richard mills, tanhouse, 2 culverhouses at Pensford, wife Agnes' mother having half for life; if Richard diesson Giles and his mother to have mills; son Master Thomas £4 paid yearly for 8 years by Jn Taillour of Midsomer Norton; wife Agnes £7 a portion of rent of Midsomer Norton parsonage paid yearly for 10 years; Wm Manerd of N.Stoke, Walter H. and Nich Moorton 20s each; half residue to Agnes, half to sons Giles and Richard. Overseers sons William and Thomas, brother Walter, Wm Manerd and Nich Moorton of Bristol; Wm & Jn Rynge, Jn Colton, Jn Brytton, Thos Goldstone priest, Chris Stork clerk, withn. (see also chancery proceedings Cl 586/35 and 590/44).

Master THOMAS - left £4 p.a. for 8 years; BA Oxford 1530, MA 1533; rector of Saltford 1533; father's overseer 1536.

GILES - left half residue of father's estate 1536; as gent of Pucklechurch, Glos, 1.4.1544 sold all his lands in Vobster, Mells parish, granted him by his father Jn dec, to Jn Chilton, husbandman of Mells, for £25 6s 8d (Som. Enrolled Deeds: Som. Record Socy. vol 51); name in Corston subsidy 1570-71 crossed out and 'in co Gloucs' entered. Giles, his wife Ann and Wm H. held copyhold in Pucklechurch for their lives for past 20 years (C3 95/10 undated). About 1565 Giles, gent of Corston, Richard gent of Corston v Wm Llewellyn, gent of Wriddleton, Som., re. lands in Pucklechurch which Giles and his son Wm were ordered to release to Wm & Thos Llewellyn; Giles' wife Ann said to be mother of said Wm Llewellyn - i.e. daughter of Jn Atwood and widow of Jn Llewellyn (Court of Requests 7QE 30/84). *Giles buried Corston 1589?*

KATHERINE - Read; legatee under and witness of brother William's will 1593; mother of Elinor, Isabel, Kath & Wm Read.

WILLIAM, yeoman of Pucklechurch will 8.3.1593 pr PCC 1593: wife Agnes 6 kine of the best, all household stuff in house, 2 loads of wheat in stack in Pontens backside with all my hay at home and abroad to keep her 6 kine; residue of cattle, 14 ewes and their lambs, brown bay nag, rest of years unexpired in Burbarrares being the ground of Thos Parker Reddhead of Wapley and all ground I bargained for with Thos Parker a burdge for one year to come from Lady Day next. Brother Wm Llew £4 owed me in exchange for a mare so that he gives every one of his house 12d; sister-in-law Cicilye Llew bay mare; brother Hugh Llew 3s 6d; son John 26 sheep, 2 kine that I have at hire, heifer of 4 years which I have

at home, 3 young beasts, bull, sword & buckler, my forrest bill, 10s; dau Joan £10 paid on day of marriage to the good liking of oversersers, employed for her use in the 'mean season', if dies to remain to other children; sister Katherine Read use of 12s for life then equally divided among her daus Elinor and Isabel Read, her dau Kath Read a yearling beast, her son Wm 10s; said Elinor & Isabel a black mare. Giles & Margt Murseley children of Elizb Muresley, dec, of Pucklechurch a white mare and grey gelding colt; Jn Westbury, clerk of Westerley 20s for writing my will & inventory; poor of Pucklechurch 6s; residue to children Wm, Thos, Margt and Walter, joint execs, their portions payable to sons at 24, to Margt within month of marriage; their goods to remain in hands of Mr Jn Dennis esq of Pucklechurch and brother Wm Lleu, overseers; with Kath Read, (Jn) Westbury, clerk. = AGNES, widow of Pucklechurch, whose nunc. will of 19.11.1597 was pr. Gloucester 1598: two youngest children, Margt and Walter all goods and chattels, sister Cicilie Luellinge, gent (sic), exec, having both goods and bringing up of said children; creditors: sister Mrs Luelling £13 6s 8d, Giles Murrslye & his sister Margt 20s; debtors: Jo: Snaylom on a bill £3 10s, Hugh Luelling 9s, Jo: Ponting 29s, Thos Wickhom 34s 4d, Henry Cliffe of Wapley 20s and a load of hay 6s; with Cicilie Tyler X, Cicilie Griffin X.

- William
- Thomas
- John
- Joan
- Walter
- Margt

— WILLIAM - father's overseer 1536; Wm of Corston in 1569 musters; not taxed there 1570-71 but apparently still alive since wife Elizb bur 1573. Defended chancery suit brought by Bishop of Bath & Wells 1562 re. his ownership of Corston rectory and parsonage leased by since dissolved Bath Priory 8.3. with remainder to Wm Horsington & Rich Fisher (C3 25/22). As Wm of Twerton brought chancery action (undated) v Joan Baber claiming Isabel Cogan, Prioress of dissolved priory of Minchinbarrow, Som, in 1517-18 granted a barn in Twerton to John Horsington, Agnes his wife and the pl. Wm for their lives, but after Jn & Agnes' deaths it came into the hands of Joan Baber (widow of Rich Baber) who refuses to let Wm enter the premises. Joan replied that writ served on wrong Joan, never having had a husband Richard, the correct person being Joan Babour wife of Rich Parket (?) (C3/86/48)

— RICHARD - mentioned as brother of William of Corston 1562 (C3 25/22); inherited properties in Pensford 1536; interest in Pensford lands noted 1539 (Somerset R.S. 51); gent of Corston cl565 (Court of Requests 7QE 30/84), taxed Corston 1570-71. Ref. to lease of manor and demesne lands of Corston Manor and letting of corn and hay of the lands all once held by Bath Monastery and leased to Richard H. at £12 p.a.; and lease of Sheep house on Lansdowne called Launcesdowne Shepehouse and a close adj. a parcel of the downs called Lansdown in the fields of Langridge and elsewhere for pasture of 630 ewes and wethers, by the Prior of Bath to (1) Thos Richeman of Corston, his wife Isabel and son John for life 28.10.14 Henry 8, (2) Richard Horsington, husbandman, and wife Agnes at £6 13s 4d p.a. for life from end of previous lease 11.10.21 Henry 8 (Patent Rolls 1578). As Rich of Corston will pr. Wells 1577. = Agnes bur Corston 1575 as wife of Rich.

— — — — JOHN of Corston, will pr. Wells 1566.

— ROGER of Chew, will undated pr. Wells 4.8.1579 - buried Chew churchyard; Wells Cath; Chew & Corston churches; poor of Chew; brother Edward; sister's children Alice & Jane Harris; godson Edward Smith at Langridge; brother Richard's wife and children; brother-in-law John Holbrook;

sister Annys Holbrook; sister Isabel West and her children; brother Thomas and his son John, my godson; brother Thomas exec; kinswomen Joan Davies, Anne Holbrook; brother Richard & Richard Wade of Chew overseers withn. Rich Wade, John Backwell, John Hix, Thos Winchcombe. inv. £26 16s.

- ANNES = John Holbrook 1572 at Corston
- ISABEL = West; her children mentioned 1579
- EDWARD = mentioned 1579
- daughter = Harris; mother of Alice & James Harris 1579
- RICHARD = brother Roger's overseer 1579; bur 1612.
 - SUSANNAH 1569
 - ANNES 1572 - Ann = Walter Price 1589 ?
 - VIRGELL (dau) 1573
 - JUDITH 1576
 - BARNABUS 1578-81
 - DOROTHY 1581-1614 bur Newton St Loe; named as niece of Thos 1611.

THOMAS - taxed Corston 1570-71, 1597; exec of Roger 1579; overseer of Thos Bayley alias Taunton of Holt, Wilts 1595; bur 1611; as Thos, yeoman of Corston will 5.3.1609-10 pr PCC 1611; C church 20s, poor of C 3s 4d; eldest son John fee of my tenement in Beneston, if no male heir to pass after his death to my younger son Gyles; dau's son Wm Baylye 3 silver spoons price 6s each, her dau Mary Baylye 2 silver spoons same price, and John Baylye the youngest of her 3 children 1 silver spoon of same weight; niece Dorothe Horsington 40s; dau Agnes Baylye 20 nobles; youngest dau of said John Baylye silver cup or beaker; residue wife Mary and son Giles, execs. Robert Baber, gent & Wm Bilbye, overseers, 3s 4d each; withn. Thos Mylner, clerk & Thos Poulsome. = MARY bur 1625, as widow of Corston will 14.9.1624 pr PCC 1625 - poor of C 3s 4d; son Gyles £50; dau's son Wm Taunton alias Bayly £10, her dau Sibilla feather bed with appurtenances, her dau Ann £30, her daus Sibilla & Ann all brass, pewter and wearing apparel equally divided; dau's children Edward, Sibilla, Joan, Gyles and Margery T alias B £10 each; by deed conveyed to dau Agnes and her husband John T alias B of Holt, Wilts, 2 tenements in Corston left me by late husband, disputed by son Gyles - Gyles asked to accept bequest of same to their son John T alias B the younger. Residue to John T alias B of Holt, son of dau Agnes, exec; friends John T alias B the elder of Holt and Robert Coppe, yeoman of Bradford, overseers; withn Peter Owen, clerk, Henry Blanchard, Henry Chapman.

- JOHN 1578-1623, godson of Roger 1579; as yeoman of Compton Bishop will pr. PCC 1623 - £50 to Mary, John, Edward, Anne, Isabel, Joan & Giles Bayley children of John & Anne Bayley of Bradford equally divided, at 21 or marriage; brother Giles, sister Ann Bayley, brother John Bayley 20s each; godson John Bayley my leases; residue wife Joan, exec; brother John Bayley & Rich Young, overseers, 12d each; withn John Conderay, clerk & Rich Young. = JOAN Neades 1610. She re-married Thos Morse, after which she was def. in chancery action against the Bayley family re. John's will (C2 Jas I B31/71).

- GILES 1583-1670 will pr. Wells. Yeoman of Corston, sgd 1638 terrier which mentions his lands; withn Walter's will 1650; = MARY (born c1597) chancery deponent 1621 aged 24 as wife of Giles, re. time spent as servant in house of plaintiff. As widow bur 1670, will pr. Wells 1671.

ANNES, Agnes = John Taunton alias Bayley of Holt 1603; ancestor of Bayley Bayley, Hill, Goodhind, Goulstone, etc. families of Saltford.

WALTER - overseer of brother John 1536. *Walter of Compton Dando taxed 1543-44 ?*

--- THOMAS - as 'unkell' appointed co-overseer of will of William of Compton Dando 1593.

WALTER of Compton Dando, will pr. Wells 1581.

JOHN, husbandman of Nailsea; will 9.6.1591 pr PCC 1593 (torn copy also in Somerset RO): Winchester Cath 4d; poor of Nailsea 4 bushels rye, poor of Compton Dando 4 bushels rye; children Wm, Thos, Rich, Joan £10 each, Geo £20; dau Margt Dowell and her son John 12d each, his youngest child 7s, his other children 12d each; Thos Taylor's children, sister-in-law Joan Horsington and her children, Ellinor Powell's children, godchildren, mother-in-law, wife's sister Joan Bennett and her children 12d each; unmarried children 4 sheep each; son John £40 'being his marriage money', featherbed, 2 blankets, coverlet that he hath already, crock, pan; residue wife Joan^{xxx} overseers brother Wm and son John 4d each; creditors Mr Guiding, vicar of Compton Dando, Geo Cooke; debtors Jn Heale, Mr Benyian, Mr Moulton of Hedgbury, Mr Moore of Hedgbury, Jn Horlocke of Corsely, Jn Godfrey of Mels, Jn Cable of Frome, Rob Noyse of Cholverton, Wilts, Jn Keyford of Camlerton, Jn Colyer of High Littleton, Thos Hasell of Whitchurch, Jn Ashford of Whitchurch, Rob Cox of Winchcombe, Thos Bennett of St George's, Jn Hobs of Wraxall, Som, Thos Cox jun of Queen Charlton, Jn Gullocke of Chewton Keynsham (1 bushel of wheat), Jn Keyford of Portishead, Jn Dowlting of Nailsea, Henry Lomley alias Morse of Pensford, shoemaker. - JOAN residual legatee and sole executor pr will Wells 6.7.1591; £205 17s 5d. and PCC Oct 1593

— WILLIAM
— THOMAS
— RICHARD
— JOAN
— MARGARET = Dowell

JOHN - father's overseer 1593 when left £40 as his marriage portion.

WILLIAM of Compton Dando - left best wain by brother John 1591 and overseer of his will; fragmentary copy of his will pr. Wells March 1592-3 in Somerset RO: (buried in church) 'yard of Comton', ref. to bed, bolster, least brass pan, round table board in the parlour, second best flockbed, pair blankets, green coverlet, blue coat cloth; £4 due to me from Thos Bisse, gent of Pensford; 'in the place whereof her unkell John Horsington did geve her' (cf above); best flockbed, bolster, pair sheets, pair of ... andires of iron, long tableboard; dau Sara £4, best featherbed, feather bolster, best crock, middle pan; son and 46s 8d in hands of Wm ...bote late dwelling; little cupboard standing in the hall; sons Richard Savu (?) and John all profits that shall grow of all such now have and hold in the Manor of Keynsham; my children Margaret, William, Morris, Anna, Richard Savu (?) (and) John all my pewter vessels and brassband tubs to be delivered to each of them by even parts as my overseers shall think most mete, if any die before 21(?) or marriage their goods divided among others in equal parts; dau Alice all goods my wife brought with her into the house delivered as soon as my (wife?) Margaret shall happen to marry unto any other man; if my wife buys the said grounds I hold of my Mis and buys it unto any of my children which I had by my other wife then to give to dau Alice £5 within one year and if my wife be with child and the child live the £5 I give to dau Alice shall be given to that child; wife 100 of cheese, 10 bushels wheat; Thos Tailer my doublet with the green buttons, second black breeches, second yellow stockings, old hat, pair 'pinklout' shoes; Nicolas Gobines black cloth stockings; John Smeth white stockings; dau Alice a lamb; Creditors - Mis Jane Smeth £3, John the son of Roger Harris 52s to be paid at Whit Sunday next, ...liner Horsington £5 8s, Edward Quare (?) of Banwell 13s 4d; Debtors - ... the elder Edm... of Bith, Jn Laingly late dwelling in Keynsham, Jn Clements of Pensford the elder, Rob apowell of Keynsham, Jn Smeth of Letelton, Henry Lomley, Peter Eston of Bruham the younger, Arthur Bocher of Coley, Mr Rich Davis parson of Comton, Jn Broune of the Grene. Residue to my (son Wi ?)lliam, whole exec. legacies paid to children within 6 months of death;

overseers uncle Thos Horsington, brother-in-law Wm Holbrook 12d each; proved by above TH and WH; inv. £63 4s 8d. - 2. MARGARET

- SARAH
- RICHARD
- SAVU (SARU? FARU? - FAREW?)
- ALICE - apparently youngest child
- MARGARET
- WILLIAM - residual legatee and executor ?
- MORIS
- ANN
- RICHARD

JOHN - perhaps Jn taxed Corston 1597 and bur there 1597; = JOAN, widow bur Corston 1625; will pr. Wells 22 March 1624-5 in Somerset RO (torn): poor Corston 5s; son Wm Horsington ; dau 4 bushels maslin, 2 bushels wheat best petticoat, holland kerchief, holland partlet, apron, flockbed pair blankets, bolster; dau Agnes Aubert best petticoat, waistcoat, holland kerchief, holland partlet, covering of linen and woolen now lying upon my board (?); dau Priscilla Weekes new white smock petticoat, new linsey wolsey apron, holland kerchief, chest, bedstead in the new chamber, old bedstead in the old chamber, one old cupboard in the old house; dau Cicelie Vowles holland board (cloth?); Jn Weekes son of my dau Priscilla crock, kettle in possession of his father Thos my son-in-law, skillet, pair lockram sheets, 2 ewes; John son of my son-in-law John Nashe 5 ewes, 40s paid at 21, his dau Joan Nashe best gown, best , best hat, 2 ewes, brass crock, brass candlestick, £4 paid at 21; rest of Jn Nashe's children 5s each; son Richard's children 5s each; son Walter's dau Mary Horsington posnet, his son Walter great crock, his dau Silvester brass kettle, brandiron; son-in-law Rich Vowles' son John 2 of best sheep; whereas son-in-law Thos Aubert owes me £11, I remit £3, other £8 to his 4 youngest children at 21; residue son Walter 'together with the coustome of my whole living', exec; sgd X, with Thos Milner, Cicelie Vowles. inv £66 19s 11d.

- RICHARD 1580 - his children mentioned in mother's will 1625.
- JANE 1581 - 1602 John Nashe; mother of Joan 1603, John 1606; also other children mentioned 1625.
- ANNES 1584 - Thos Aubart 1608; Agnes Aubert 1625 when children living.
- WILLIAM 1589
- PRISCILLA 1592-1643 - Thos Wickes (Weekes) 1612; mother of Jn Weekes 1625.
- CISLY 1595 - Rich Vowles 1619; Cicelie 1625 when mother of John. will 25.3. 1658 as widow of Compton Dando pr. PCC 1660 - ringers of CD 5s; Barbara Vowles and Elizb Hort, widows of CD 12d each; Jn Newman, vicar 6s 8d as a thankful acknowledgement of my due respect and the great comfort I have reaped to my soul through his ministry, to preach my funeral sermon; Rebecca Collins red waistcoat, smock, Margt Clement under petticoat (if they don't survive to their eldest daus); Mary and Sarah, daus of my neighbour Jn Smyth 2s 6d each, his wife Mary holland apron; godchildren 5s each; son George's godchildren 5s each; kinsman Walter Horsington 20s, bed in outer chamber, bolster, 2 blankets, coverlet, bedstead; kinswoman Priscilla wife of Jn Clement yellow crock, wedding ring; residue kinsman John Horsington, exec, to bestow 40s for the entertainment of such friends as shall come to my funeral; vicar Jn Newman & Jn Fowler of CD overseers; with Jn & Alice Newman, Jn Smyth.

WALTER 1586-1650 - Silvester bur 1642 as wife of Walter. Mother's exec 1625; will pr PCC 1651 as yeoman of Corston - bur C churchyard; eldest son Walter 2 rooms under my lodging chamber called by the name of a hall and a buttery, press standing in buttery, so much garden as lies in compass of the south end of house unto a foot wide of Nicholas Werdegate Post; son Robert 20s, bed and bedstead he used to lodge in with appurtes; residue youngest son John, exec; with Griffith Smith, Giles Horsington. dated 12.4.1650

- PRISCILLA - legatee of grandmother 1625; bur 1644 as dau of Walter.
- MARY 1617-35
- SILVESTER 1622; legatee 1625.
- WALTER 1619; legatee 1625; legatee of Aunt Cicely 1660; = Elizb Emly 1647.
- JOAN 1626-33
- ELIZABETH 1634-43
- ROBERT - 2nd son, legatee of father 1650.

JOHN 1629; father's exec 1650; exec & residual legatee of Aunt Cicely 1660; = Sarah bur 1671 as wife of John; = 2. Alice Bilby (bapt 1636) 1672.

- MARY 1653-71/JANE 1668-68/ROBERT 1663-63
- JOHN 1651
- SARAH 1656
- ELIZABETH 1664
- JANE 1670

ALICE 1673 bapt as dau Jn & Alice.

(unless othersie stated PR dates relate to Corston)

Misc. Refs.

St Catherines - Wm 1605, Wm 1674 wills pr. Wells. Benedict, yeoman of St C., born c1578, chancery dept 1632-3 (C21 B51/2)

Bath St James - Giles = Sybbell Chaunler 1638

Compton Dando - Robert, husbandman aged 75, lived CD 40 years in 1638 but born Litton, Som (Court of Chivalry Case Reports p. 121: Harl. Socy vol. 107)

Queen Charlton - Barnabus and Josua with will of Thos Pinchin of QC 1640 (PCC)

Bradford-on-Avon - Joan = Wm Tawnton 1606, Susan = Jn Whateley 1612

Bitton - Barnabus, labourer 1608 musters, bur 1625; Rob bur 1587.

Siston - Wm bapt 1581

Marshfield - Saml son of Wm bapt 1631; Jn = Mary Hort 1682; Ellenora = Wm Hicke 1602

Doynton - Margt, widow will 6.11.1621 pr PCC, dau Alice exec.

The will of Thomas Brytton, husbandman of Bitton, 1573 (pr Gloucester 1574) mentions bequest to son Jasper of "fyve pounds in money and one cove which his grandfather William Horssington gave unto him by his will and testament." Thos was son of John died 1562, maybe the John Brytton who witnessed John Horsington's will 1536.

Compton Dando - John taxed 1543-44.

The Coxes of Corston and Stanton Prior

(a)
Thos Cox of Corston = Margaret
1626/7 | 1629

Anne = Thomas Meades
1578 ('Woodes' in Shuckle's transcript)
Robert
(Not in age order)

Robert Cox = Anne
of Corston 1581 - 1639
1st wife died in child bed 1607
2nd wife = Mary dau of Wm Strode of Shepton Mallet alive in 1645

(Not in age order)

Thomas d. aet 17 before R.C.
Edward
Robert m Elizabeth
John Eliz m Joan Pynney
Francis
Phillip
Mary
Martha

Robert
Katherine
Thomas
Thomas
Marie
Elizabeth
John
Agnes
William

Toane m.
Richard
Thomas
Popham
Marion

Thomas of Stanton Prior

(a) He was C.W. in 1606 at the time of Thomas Mulne's induction into "Vicaryage". Will copied on next sheet.

b) There is a charming monument in Stanton Prior Church to Thomas and his family.

c) Will copied on next sheet - the one with the mansion at Kynsham.

d) Will copied on next sheet.

There are lots of other Cox entries, but I have ignored those.

Herewith material on Cox, taken
from Shuckle's Register Transcripts &
Wills. This was a wealthy
and very widespread family, who
obviously regarded Corston as home tho'
they may have lived in Keynsham (see
Robert's will) whatever they did must
have generated plenty of money. I
feel Corston must have been v.
prosperous in early 17^c. Yours EFW.