

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks must first be given to the Librarian of St. Paul's Cathedral and the staff of the City of London Guildhall Library whose generous, extended research at an early stage produced key information on George Maitland Stapley. That would not have occurred had they only answered the question I had asked of them.

The Stapley history before 1615 is almost entirely supplied by Brian Saunders of Perth, W.A., the leading researcher into all branches of the Stapley family (ours is one 'clan' of twenty-two). He, in turn, acknowledges his indebtedness to W.H.H. Stapley of Southwater, Sussex, Shirley Stapley of Plymouth, Neville Thomas of New Zealand and Jim Derriman of Morden Surrey. Where possible he has given me details of the primary source but, in the earlier days of family history research, information was more readily accepted on only the word of another researcher. Sometimes this led to exaggerated claims or the introduction of errors. That is true, unfortunately, also of the huge collection of baptisms and marriages compiled by the Church of the Latter Day Saints (The Mormons) which is known as the International Genealogy Index (IGI). When it is the only known source of information, the fact is noted.

There have been two very fertile printed sources for the Strangwayes family, the first being the series of *The Victoria History of England*, county by county. In this huge series, part of each county's history is organised to give the histories of manors and their owners or tenants and can, therefore, yield histories of families at the 'gentry' level. The second is Foster's *Pedigrees of the County Families of England*¹ from which a detail of the Strangwayes pedigree is included in this book together with the detail from the family hand-written version, mentioned above.

Current descendants of George Maitland and Lucy Jane Stapley have contributed not only the basic, dry 'landmark' dates of their families but also the brief biographies that are included (but not in the 'library editions'). These have been edited only for some degree of uniformity and the elimination of pre-adult information. I thank them all for their patience and the trouble they have taken.

The family has also contributed 'family folklore', all of which has been included. Some of that folklore, as I suspect occurs in all families, makes a good story for which no evidence has been found: some contains a basis of genuine information for which evidence exists. Yet more has strong circumstantial evidence but lacks documentation. The most frequent Stapley stories concern the alleged link to Sir Anthony Stapley, 'the regicide', and to links with the pharmaceutical manufacturer, Allen & Hanburys, now part of the Glaxo Wellcome group. Each of these is discussed in the appropriate section.

One of the pleasures of this investigation has been the interest taken in the story of the Stapley and Strangwayes families: rather than suggest to me a line of further investigation, these contacts have often, like those mentioned above, followed that line themselves and sent me the results. This has been true of so many people in libraries and archives. The complete list of organisations and individuals from whom I have received information is as follows:-

Public libraries and archives

Centre for Kentish Studies, Kent County Council, Maidstone
County Record Office and the County Library,
North Yorkshire County Council, Northallerton
East Sussex CC, Lewes
Greater Manchester County Record Office
Hampshire County Record Office, Winchester
Islington Central Reference Library
London Metropolitan Archives
Ministry of Defence
Portsmouth City Council
Tonbridge Library
Tunbridge Wells Library
York City Archivist
York Probate Registry

Other sources

Bank of England Archives
Canterbury Research Services
Owners of private houses in Tunbridge Wells and Robin Hood's Bay
Diocese of Canterbury
Diocese of Chelmsford
Galbraith's (Ship brokers), London
GlaxoWellcome Records Management (Historical Records)
Hampshire Genealogical Society
House of Lords Record Office
Huguenot Society, London
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators
Kent Family History Indexes (a voluntary organisation)
King's School, Canterbury, Archivist
Lambeth Palace Library
Lloyd's Register
Members of the Sussex Family History Group
Members of the Tunbridge Wells Family History Society
NatWest Group Archives
Parish clergy at Ainderby Steeple, Bedale, Kirby Fleetham, North
Allerton, West Tansfield and Ravenscar
The Royal Society
Society of Genealogists
St Paul's Cathedral Library
Southwark Cathedral
Stock Exchange, Company Secretary
Sussex Marriage Index (Voluntary)
Sutton Valence School Archivist
Wallace Brothers & Co (Overseas) Ltd.
Mark Whyman, Historian at NT Ormesby Hall

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STAPLEY

Charles I death warrant	House of Lords Record Office
Maps of Tunbridge Wells	Tunbridge Wells Library
Browning Lodge, Stitches	
& Trench Farms (1827)	East Sussex Record Office
Current map of Sussex and Kent	A.A. Publishing

STRANGWAYES

Jeffrey's map of Yorkshire (1790)	
	Sheffield City Archives and North Yorkshire County Council
1792 map: Manors of Bedale and Askew	
	North Yorkshire County Council
Foster's Pedigrees of County Families, 1874 ¹	
	North Yorkshire County Council
Current map of N. Yorkshire	A.A. Publishing

STAPLEYS, STRANGWAYES AND CROADS

London and its environs	Corporation of London
(John Tallis) 1851	Guildhall Library

¹ Foster *Pedigrees of the County Families of England* W Wilfred Head, Fetter Lane, London 1874

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