



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Volume 11 #2

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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WHAT IS THE "DOMESDAY BOOK"?

Domesday Book is the first official record (written in Latin) of the property owners living in England and the amount they owned. The information was collected and published at the command of William of Normandy soon after he conquered England. The survey was carried out against great popular resentment in 1086.

England was divided into units, of "hundreds", and each hundred was represented by a jury of 12 men who gave information under oath to royal officers. This information covered the crown's property in each district and all the castles, baronial estates, manors and landholdings with the history of each. All sources of income were recorded and the overall value was estimated. The peasants were counted and classified. The information was condensed in book form in two volumes.

Volume I (Great Domesday) covers all the counties of England in a condensed form, except Northumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland and Northern Lancashire which are in volume II (Little Domesday) in the full unabbreviated form. For the majority of English villages and towns (except London and Winchester for which no Domesday records survived) Domesday is the starting point of their history.

The name "Domesday" (sometimes spelled Doomesday) means "day of judgement", in this case in a legal or economic sense. The Domesday Book was used as a final authority in the settlement of suits and disputes of ownership for centuries, and has occasionally been used as evidence in legal cases as late as the 20th century. It has been in official custody since it was finished and is kept in the public record office in London.

(Editor: The above information was taken from the Encyclopedia Britannica, Encyclopedia Americana and World Book Encyclopedia)

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND

From: E. B. Vaughters, 12015 1st Avenue N.W., Seattle, WA 98177

Genealogical research in England involves two time frames. All records before July 1, 1837, by law were ecclesiastically kept and after that time they were public records kept by various government agencies and for the first time centralized.

Records since July 1, 1837 are kept at the GENERAL REGISTER office, SAINT CATHERINES HOUSE, 10 Kingsway, WC2B 6 JP. These are bound volumes, quarterly by year and alphabetically indexed. A certified copy of the register entries involve a fee. The Keeper of Public Records, PUBLIC RECORDS office, Chancery Lane, WC2A 1 IR has a multitude of records of genealogical value. Another branch of Public Records Office on Portugal Street WC1, houses microfilm of census returns from 1841. Some wills made before 1858 are now kept at the PUBLIC RECORDS office in Chancery Lane, and some are kept at County Records offices. Wills and Probates from 1858 onwards are

held in the Principal Registry of the Family Division, SOMERSET HOUSE, Strand, WC2R 1 LP. Wills proved in District Probate Registers, are held in the Registry in which they are proved, with only copies at SOMERSET HOUSE. All these repositories are within a few blocks of each other in East Central London.

Further east, just off Cheapside, near the BANK OF ENGLAND is GUILD HALL LIBRARY, Guild Hall Plaza, EC2. It holds a very fine collection of apprenticeship records and many individuals can be traced through their Guild or Trade. In counties, freeman are referred to as BIRGESESSES and the BURGESS ROLLS were those kept of apprentices and freemen which are found at GUILD HALL LIBRARY and are also kept in most COUNTY RECORDS OFFICES.

Before 1837, by law beginning in 1535, birth, marriage, death, and various court, will and deed records, were recorded in many of the various parishes. Beginning in 1597 the parish records were required to be copied on PARCHMENT and delivered to the Bishops Office annually, now referred to as BISHOPS TRANSCRIPTS. To search for an ancestor, one must determine what County, Parish, and Archdeaconry the ancestor resided.

Before beginning your search, stop at the SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS in London, located at 14 CHARTERHOUSE BLDGS. There you will find Boyd's marriage index, copies of Parish records and indexes on virtually any area of research prior to 1837. The Great Card Index in the lower library, consists of several million entries, sorted under surname and subdivided under christian names, covering Parish Registers, Genealogical Works, Marriage Records, Monumental Inscriptions, References to Chancery Courts. Another index in the middle library (2nd floor) is the LIBRARY CATALOGUE INDEX, divided into English counties (Scotland, Wales & Ireland) further divided into: 1. General, 2. Local, 3. (Parish) Registers, 4. Monumental Inscriptions, 5. Census, 6. Lists. Once all these indexes have been examined, one can decide if further examination of the County Records office might be productive. A nominal fee is charged for non-members.

Regarding Manor Court Rolls: The business of working the manorial land was a matter of record. Regular Courts were held, where the business of running the manor, transferring land, penalties, disputes etc. were recorded. The most up-to-date listing is maintained by the HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION, whose offices are at QUALITY HOUSE, QUALITY COURT, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1 MP. The only trouble, before 1732, Manor Court Rolls were usually written in LATIN.

Regarding the VAWTER surname in its various spellings. In all 34 Counties of England it only occurs in DEVONSHIRE, in the I.G.A. (International Genealogical Index). The DEVON RECORD office, EXETER, is about 200 miles S.W. of London. Ecclesiastically, the County was wholly in the Diocese of Exeter and the Province of Canterbury, divided into three Archdeaconries: Barnstable, Exeter, & Totnes. Exeter, would be searched first. The Parish Registers transcripts are at the DEVON-CORNWALL Record Society, City Library, Exeter. Bishops Transcripts for various dates before 1837 (not complete) are at the DEVON RECORD office, The Castle, Exeter. Most probate records were destroyed in 1942 by enemy action. A collection of Wills and Administrations are recorded in "TRANSACTIONS OF THE DEVONSHIRE ASSOC." Devon 20, Vol. 1-3 at the City Library. Local Probate Courts were closed 1653-1660. The PEROGATIVE Court of Canterbury was the only court allowed to grant Probate.

BISHOPS TRANSCRIPTS are missing from varying dates in the 17th century. During the Civil Wars (1642-1649) and during the Interregnum 1649-1660) many ministers fled their Parishes, and although other persons were placed in charge, the Parish Registers were badly kept or not kept at all. Some registers were lost. Only Justices of the Peace were permitted to perform marriages (1653-1660) although Parish clerks were still required to record births, marriages, and deaths. Its during this difficult period that we believe BARTHOLOMEW VAWTER'S parents were married and he was born.

GENEALOGY OF M. GLEN VAWTER - VVVFA PRESIDENT

I JOHN OR BARTHOLOMEW VAWTER

II JOHN VAWTER

III DAVID VAWTER

IV PHILMON VAWTER

V BEVERELY VAWTER (page 324 in Bicknell)

b. 28 Sept. 1789, d 1 April 1872, m 5 March 1812

To Elizabeth Crawford, b. 29 March 1792, d. January 1866

Children:

1. Pascal Vawter b. 6 Jan 1813 Madison, IN., d. 26 Jan. 1899

m. 1 April 1834 To Eliza Mavity

2. Lucinda Vawter b. 30 Sept. 1814, d. 30 Aug. 1845 m. Thomas Blair

3. Rebecca Vawter (died young)

4. Melinda Vawter (died young)

5. Philmon Vawter b. 22 June 1819 near Madison, IN., d. 2 Oct. 1894

m. Martha A. Humphreys

6. JAMES CRAWFORD VAWTER

7. Richard Vawter b. 22 Sept. near Madison, IN m. 13 Jan. 1848 To Maria Lane

8. Cyrus Vawter b. 28 Sept. 1830 near Madison, IN

m. 10 Dec. 1857 To Sarah A. Finley

9. Samuel Vawter b. 24 Dec. 1832 near Madison, IN., d. 15 March 1884

m. 16 Oct. 1853 To Frances Ames

10. John M. Vawter b. 29 Feb. 1836 Shelby Twp., Jefferson Co., IN

m. 15 April 1869 To Sarah J. Pardun

VI JAMES CRAWFORD VAWTER (No further genealogy given in Bicknell)

b. 22 Jan. 1825 near Madison, IN., d. 27 Feb. 1894 Jasper Co., IL

m. To Mary Elder Children:

1. Sarah Vawter b. 1850 Jasper Co., IL

m. Sept. 1876 To Francis Wooden

Child: Mertie - never married

2. Anna Vawter b. 2 July 1852 Jasper Co., IL., d. 11 April 1917 Jasper Co., IL

m. (1) 4 Nov. 1875 To Thomas Rogers

Children:

1. Mary Rogers b. 13 Nov. 1876

2. Rollie Burton Rogers b. 27 Aug. 1879 Richland Co., IL

3. Edwin Peter Rogers b. 1 March 1888 Jasper Co., IL

4. Lulella Rogers b. 19 Oct. 1890

5. Wiley Rogers (died at birth)

Anna m. (2) July 1914 To A. J. Woods

3. William Vawter (died young)

4. Cyrus Vawter

5. James Marshall Vawter b. 7 July 1858, d. 11 April 1859

6. Xlema Vawter m. Abraham Goldsmith

Children:

1. James Chester Goldsmith

2. Lowell Goldsmith

7. Albert Grant Vawter b. 6 Sept. 1864 Jasper Co., IL., d. 6 April 1943

m. 15 Feb. 1886 To Sarah Jane Kinkade

Children: 1. Infant daughter (died at birth)

2. Lula May Vawter b. 14 Jan. 1888

3. James Louis Vawter b. 20 Jan 1890

4. DAVID GUY VAWTER

5. Skyler Beverly Vawter b. 21 Jan 1895

6. Hiram Clayton Vawter b. 30 Aug. 1899

7. Albert Tiberious Vawter b. 22 July 1904

8. Melvin Clifford Vawter b. 4 Nov. 1906

Winter 1986 - p. 10

8. Rouie Vawter (died young)

9. Henry Oliver Vawter b. 11 Nov. 1869 Jasper Co., d. 27 Sept. 1948
m. 19 March 1891 To Elzora Heady

Children:

1. Infant son (died at birth)
2. Ellis Jonah Vawter b. 21 Aug. 1893
3. Perry Vawter b 15 June 1897
4. Claudious Vawter

VII *DAVID GUY VAWTER*

b. 21 Feb. 1892 Jasper Co., IL., m. 13 Dec. 1916

To Claudia Myrtle McCoy

Children:

1. Thelma Allene Vawter b. 20 Sept. 1917 Keysport, IL
2. MELVIN GLEN VAWTER
3. Ethel May Vawter b. 15 June 1920 Lexington, IL
4. Vera Lucille Vawter b. 27 Aug. 1922 Piper City, IL
5. Infant son (died at birth)
6. Wilma Dean Vawter b. 17 March 1926 Wheeler, IL
7. Albert Emmerson Vawter b. 5 Aug. 1928 (died at birth)
8. Lowell Gail Vawter b. 8 April 1931 Superior, Iowa

VIII M. GLEN VAWTER (president of VVVFA)

b. 23 Sept. 1918 Keysport, IL

m. 3 July 1942 To May Catherine Jordan

Children:

1. Shirley Kay (Vawter) Beasley, b. 27 Feb. 1946 Bloomington, IL
2. Wayne Grant Vawter, b. 11 Jan. 1948 Bloomington, IL (Baptist minister)
3. Bruce Gordon Vawter, b. 1 Feb. 1950 Bloomington, IL
4. Roger Gerald Vawter, b. 20 Aug. 1955 Bloomington, IL
5. Gary Gene Vawter, b. 21 Dec. 1957 Normal, IL (Baptist minister)

Glen worked in construction as a carpenter, carpenter foreman, superintendent, contract & architects inspector for 35 years before forced retirement because of an auto accident in 1979. He is a WWII Army Veteran, member of DAV and Masons.

WHAT IS MY OCCUPATION?

From: An article about Sandra (Vawter) Robinson printed in the "Dairyman's Digest: Southern Region Edition", July 1986, Vol. 27, No. 7.

"Housewife" as her occupation seems rather inadequate to Sandra (Vawter) Robinson as she fills out forms for everything and everyone - the government, the bank, the doctor etc. "I get confused when I have to fill in occupation as I feel that I am a full partner in our dairy business. Somehow "housewife" doesn't fully cover my duties." However, to her it is "a good feeling just to be needed no mater one's role in life."

Sandra and her husband Frank milk 65 Holsteins and farm 1,000 acres near Atwood, Tennessee. They have two sons: John Mark age 17 and William age 13. As a partner in their business, Sandra is the bookkeeper for their dairy and farm, does the banking, pays the bills, talks to inspectors, chases cows, delivers calves, and does nearly any other of the many and various activities which arise during her busy days.

Besides her home demands as a mother and business partner, Sandra takes an active part in community affairs, is president of the local PTA and devotes much time to their local Baptist Church activities. Last year, Sandra spent two weeks in Jamaica (at her own expense) where she taught children's classes in the Bible School for the Foreign Mission Board.

Line of Descent: Bartholomew, Edward, Thomas, Edward. Sandra is a kinswoman of Pete Vawter.

NEW MEMBERS

Nell Vaughter McDaniel, Rt. 4 Box 398, Murfreesboro, TN 37130-Line: Ludwell, David R.
 Maggie Brown Bennett, Mt. Vernon Rd. Rockvale, TN 37153
 Anabel Vaughter Dunaway, 214 Piedmont Dr. Lebanon, TN 37087,Line: Ludwell, David R.
 Aline V. Boney, RFD Airport Rd. Clovis, N.M. 88101
 Margaret Daugherty, 1301 Greenwood Lane, Alamogordo, N.M. 88311
 Ralphe B. Vawter, 3028 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064
 Daryl Smith, 34 Village Dr., Basking Ridge, N.J. 07920
 Richard C. King, 820 Woodland Ed., Columbia Falls, MT 59912
 Lisa Strandberg, 1718 Aftonshine Dr., Greensboro, N.C. 27410
 Eric Vaughter, 2716 Augusta Dr., Durham, N.C. 27707
 Alfred Thomas Vawter II, Box 95, Aurora, N.Y. 13026
 Walter Bachman Vawter, 753 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91006
 James Singleton Vawter, 3593 Natvig Rd., Cottage Grove, WI 53527
 Vilas V. & Dorothy S. Vawter, 81 Grove Park Rd., Memphis, TN 38117
 Jack T. Smith, 7543 E. 28th St., Tulsa, OK 74129 - Same line as Paul Vaughter Sr. of
 OK

ANOTHER VAWTER GET-TOGETHER

Written by Assistant News Editor, Sally Duncan of Oklahoma

The descendants of the first Virginia Vawters continue to find one another and to explore their roots. On June 20, 1986, Descendants of John Henderson Vawter met in White Springs, W. VA. They were: Elizabeth Hines Czompo, granddaughter of George Vawter, youngest child of John Henderson Vawter, and her husband Charles from Huntington, W. VA. Clara Vawter James of Media, PA who is the granddaughter of Henry, the next older brother of George. Also there were: Mr. & Mrs. James Vawter of Kinsale, VA. James Vawter is the grandson of John William Vawter, the oldest brother of George Vawter. Jean Donaldson and her son Jed of Mechanicsburg, VA were there also. They are the daughter and grandson of Mr. & Mrs. James Vawter.

The following day Elizabeth and Charles Czompo led the group 40 miles south into Monroe County thru Union and Greenville to Han Creek to the land where John Henderson owned a farm in the 1800's. Nearby is a well kept little cemetery where several Vawters are buried. Some of the tombstones are so weathered that they are unreadable. Some of the readable markers are:

John Henderson Vawter	1800-1877
Henry Alexander Vawter	1853-1923
Annetta B. Vawter	1866-1935
George Elliot Vawter	1888-1916
Clara Elizabeth Vawter	1894-1939
Eliza L. Vawter	1860-1942
George W. Vawter	1855-1934
Josephine Hines Vawter	1892-1966

John Henderson Vawter was the son of William & Margaret Henderson Vawter. William Vawter was a Revolutionary War soldier, who was the first Tax Commissioner in Monroe Co. in 1799. John Henderson Vawter was a surveyor, planter, civil engineer, and a represen-

MEMEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00 PER YEAR – DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO: VVVF
 ASSOCIATION. Mail to Hazel McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, Texas 75760

Winter 1986 p. 12

-tative for Monroe County to the Virginia Assembly. He inherited the farm on Hans Creek from his father. John Henderson Vawter and his wife, Clara Peck had thirteen children. Four of their sons were in the Civil War. John William Vawter was wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness, Lewis Addison Vawter was taken prisoner, James Elliot Vawter was killed at Frazier's Farm, and Charles Erastus Vawter was captured. All the people who lived in that beautiful area at that time had to be hearty, resourceful, independent people because the land is so mountainous that there is no easy route thru it.

MEMORIAL

Rachel Alta Hill Vawter, b. 26 Jan. 1710, d. 25 Sept. 1986 - Mother of John Vawter of TX
Ethel May (Vawter) Stow, b. 29 July 1899, d. 25 Sept. 1986 - Dau. of James Wesley Vawter

Walter F. Blythe of Lascassas, TN, b. 25 Dec. 1904, d. 26 July 1986 - Son of Robert L. Blythe & Sallie G. Vaughter.

Rev. Eron Sharp, retired Methodist minister of North Mississippi Conference died 8 Aug. 1986. Upon retirement served as assist, circulation librarian at Memphis State University. Survived by his wife, Mrs. Alma Blissit Sharp and a sister, Mrs. Louise Sharp (See Newsletter #7 June 1979)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDING:

Robert Daniel Vawter, Jr. and Stephanie Hope Moore, both of Como, MS were married 5 Sept. 1986. Robert Daniel is the adopted son of Robert D. & Catherine Vawter of Como, MS. They had no children. Robert, the father is the son of James Wesley Vawter, Sr. and his grandfather was Horace T. Vawter of Milan, TN, both deceased. They are relatives of "Pete" Vawter of Milan, TN.

Another VVV Reunion: Fifty-two relatives of the late David Crockett & Tennie Brown Alsop Vaughter gathered July 13 at Middle Tennessee Christian School in Murfreesboro, TN for the family's 56th annual reunion. At noon a bountiful lunch was enjoyed by all with invocation given by D. C. Vaughter.

Help! Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR 97214 would like to have the addresses of the followings

Katherine Hall (Catherine?) Dallas, TX
Woodford C. Vawter of Ponca City, OK
Mrs. Alma Bodi of Toledo, Ohio
Smith McDougal of Tupelo, MS

QUERY

From:

Norma S. Vaughters, 1872 Valley Blvd., Memphis, TN 38106

"If anyone reading this newsletter had as a relative a Texan named Joe Wesley Vawter(s) I would sure like to hear from them".

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