

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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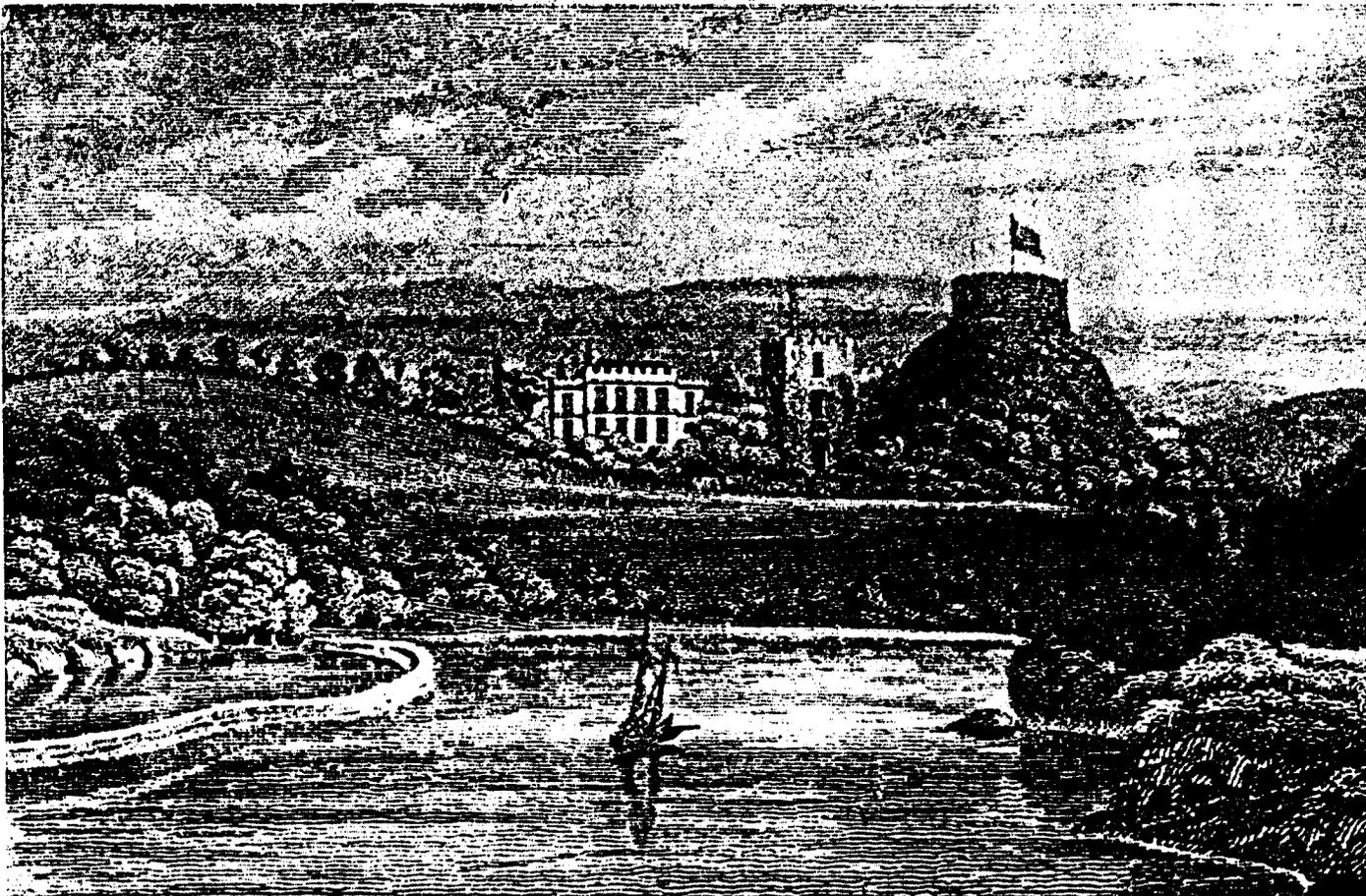
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TREMATON CASTLE

Cornwall, Saltash, England

From: John Taylor of Memphis, TN who visited England not long ago.



TREMATON CASTLE

Excerpts from the Cornish Times:

An old document in the British Museum tells us that the site of Trematon Castle was developed by the Romans. It seems that Claudius Ptolomev, the great historian, reports that the Second Augustine Legion of Rome was posted there among the Domnonii in what are today Devon and Cornwall.

The Celtic people had come with their iron weapons and castles of earth-works with trench fortifications thrown up on steep-sided hillocks, usually man-made. On one such hillock now stands the stone keep of Trematon Castle.

Then came the Saxons and Athelstan who, in 926 banished the 'West Welsh' beyond the River Tamar 'forever'. The castle would have been an important position when Athelmaur held it in 980 and Algar, Earl of Cornwall in 1045.

When the Normans began their conquest of Britain in 1066 they had to start building strong forts or castles, and at Trematon they used the old earth-works site.

Some twenty years after the coming of the Normans when things had quietened down somewhat, relevant information was recorded in two great books - one with 760 pages and another with 700. Only important people really mattered in those days and they and their's were listed in these volumes which we know as the "Domesday Book". Listed among the recipients of gifts from King William I (the Conqueror) was his half-brother, the Count of Mortain (Mortain).

Usually considered the first Norman Earl of Cornwall, the Count received most of Cornwall and among other things, the Manor of Trematon. We learn from the Exon Domesday, "To the Count one Manor called Trematon, which Brismar held in the time of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066). Reginald de Valletort now holds this ... .."

By 1086 Trematon was Reginald de Valletort's principal manor, boasting two mills and covering 33 other manors and from where he exercised rights over the River Tamar and Lynher.

Later notes from Porter's 'Around and About Saltash' reveal that by 1086 the de Valletorts were tenants of nearly all the estates. The initial 'R' seemed to be a popular choice for Christian names with the family were Reginald, Roger, and Richard, while Ralph held the honour in 1166. 'Honour' in this case meant the good name, an allegiance to what was right.

In 1207 a younger Reginald, Ralph's heir, was in the custody of the Bishop of Winchester until 1216 when he came of age and was given possession. The Saltash Election case of 19 February 1807, page 82 reads: Valletort who lived in the reign of King John (1199-12-16) and died in the year 1236, was lord of the honour and castle of Trematon of which Saltash was a part". In the reign of Richard II (1377-1399) this honour became part of the Duchy of Cornwall and as such, vested in the crown.

Richard of Cornwall, born in 1209, was the second son of King John and when he reached sixteen he was granted Cornwall and the tin mines. He married four years later and became an earl on the creation of the earldom. Most important he bought (received?) Trematon in 1270 from Roger de Valletort.

Porter's notes point out that Roger, uncle of the last Reginald who dissipated his property, made over the honour to his overlord Richard, Earl of Cornwall.

In 1299 Henry de Pomeroy and Peter Corbet (descendants of the de Valletorts) were found to be heirs and on the death of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, claimed the honour, but judgement was given against them in 1315.

#### Present Day Trematon Castle

The ancient fort and its Georgian house has lost its tenant of 20 years, Lord Caradon, who as Sir Hugh Foot achieved fame as one of the world's great peacemakers, in Cyprus, the Middle East and the United Nations. The house at the castle site was built within the bailey in 1808.

The Duchy of Cornwall passed the word around before formally advertising for a tenant. Lord Eliot at Port Eliot, Lord Boyd at Ince Castle and Earl Mount Edgcumbe were all wondering who their new neighbor would be.

A brochure was printed stating the lessee had to be responsible for keeping the whole property in full repair, used as a private dwelling, and that the lodge was to be occupied by an employee on license. The rent to be in the region of L3,000/L3,500 per annum for a period of up to 20 years. It has been announced since, new tenant is to be Mr. & Mrs. I. Renny.

From: Mary Winningham of Maryland

Taken from "Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists" by Frederick Lewis Weis, p. 123.

Henry I, born 1070, d. 1 Dec. 1135 - King of England, m. Sibyl Corbet Rohese, dau., m. 1146 to Henry de la Pomerai, baron

Henry de la Pomeroy, son - m. (1) Matilda

Henry de la Pomeroy, son - m. Alice de Vere

Henry de la Pomeroy, son - d. 1220, Governor of Rougement Castle, Exeter and Sheriff of Devon m. Joan de Vautort.

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A Vawter Profile

From:

Book "Indiana Lives" Written & Prepared under the Supervision of: Hubert H. Hawkins, A.B., M.A. & Robert R. McClarren, A.B., M.A., M.S. and Published by Historical Record Association, Hopkinsville, KY. page 811.

RALPH EMERSON VAWTER

Ralph Emerson Vawter, son of Elmer Mayo & Margaret Alice (Sawyer) Vawter, was born 12 Dec. 1889 in Glenn's Valley, IN. He received his education in the public schools of his native city and was licensed a Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor. He married 12 Oct. 1910 Fannie E. Macy of Indianapolis.

Ralph was first employed as a Railway clerk and after receiving his license was engaged in construction work doing Civil Engineering and Land Surveying. He was on active duty in the U.S. Army in WW I and in the Reserve Corps during WW II.

Ralph was a devout and able worker for the Disciples of Christ. He was an Elder and Trustee and was a Sunday School Teacher for fifty years.

In 1956 he had the honor of receiving a citation for his outstanding contribution on interracial relations from the Indianapolis Recorder.

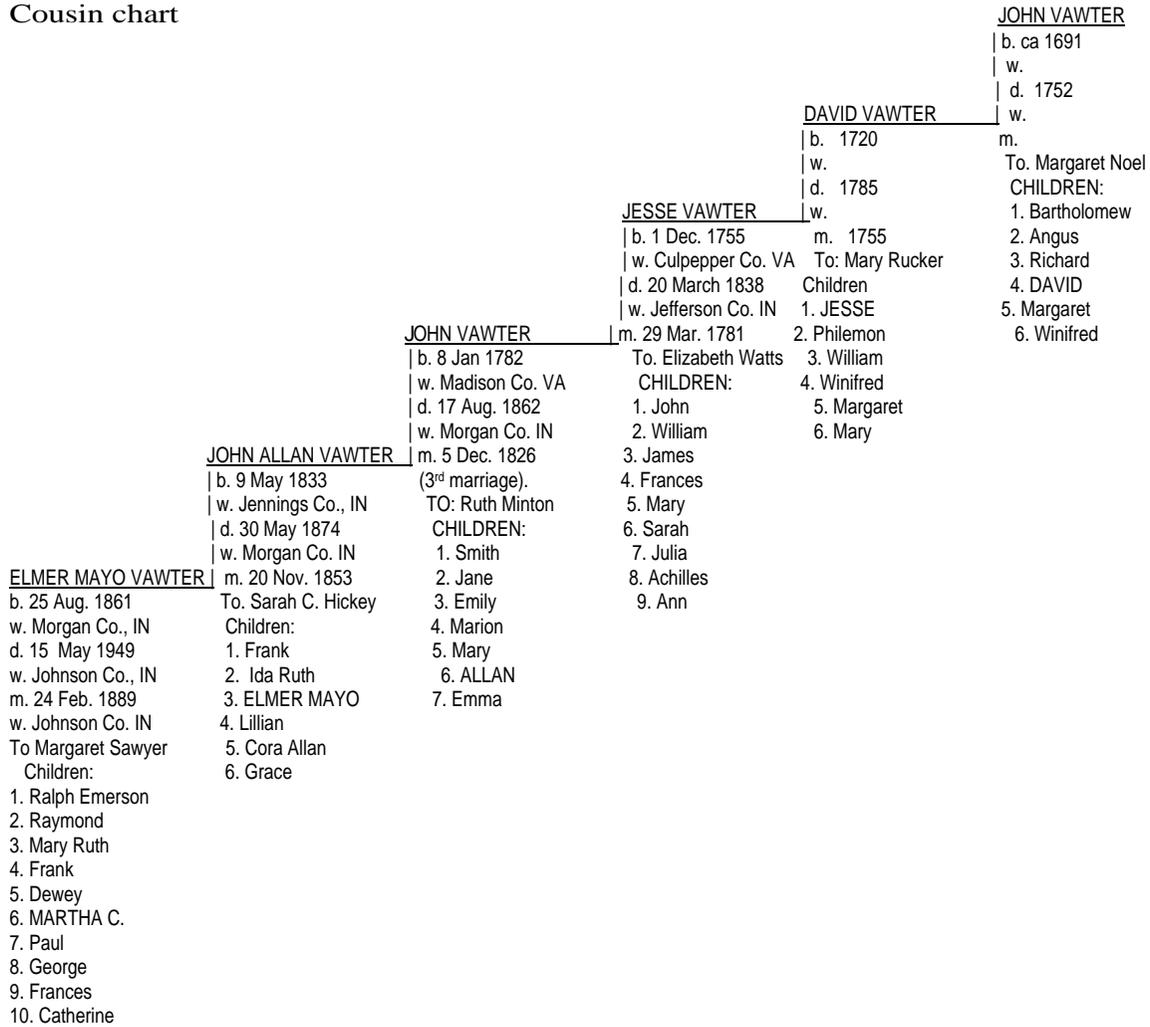
Line: Jesse & Elizabeth (Watts) Vawter, John & Ruth (Minton) Vawter, Allan & Catherine (Hickey) Vawter, Elmer Mayo & Margaret Alice (Sawyer) Vawter. Page 73 in Bicknell.

Editor Note: On the following page you will find a family chart sent to me by Marylin Hash. I often use this style chart and call it my "cousin" chart because at a glance I can connect cousins for generations back. If any VVV's out there can make up a similar chart on your family, I would appreciate your sending it on to me. Also any other style or type of ancestor chart is acceptable.

The above profile and the "cousin" chart are of the same family, but were sent to me by different people and one not of the same family.

MARYLIN J. FISHEL HASH (Dau. Of Martha C. below)  
 8890 Morgantown Road  
 Indianapolis, IN 46217

Cousin chart



Winter 1987 p. 11

International Boost to Career Of  
Catherine Stoltz

From: Santa Barbara News Press

Catherine Stoltz, a Santa Barbara High School graduate, won a \$2,500 prize from the Baltimore Opera International Competition recently. The mezzo soprano received the Special Eleanor Steber Music Foundation Award, given to the singer who "best represented Mozart and bel canto singing, as did Miss Steber during her career."

Stoltz's most recent Santa Barbara appearance was as Orlofsky in "Die Fledermais." Stoltz's debuted in "The Magic Flute" at the Carmel Bach Festival in 1980 and joined the Lyric Opera of Chicago's Opera Center in 1984. She sang Rosina in "The Barber of Seville", Cherubino in "Marriage of Figaro", and Sibel in "Faust". She has also sung in "Madame Butterfly" and made her Chicago Opera Theater debut in Floyd's "Susannah".

She recently made her Pennsylvania Opera Theater debut in "The Barber of Seville" and will join the Pittsburgh Opera in November as Hansel in "Hansel and Gretel." Next spring she will be singing two roles with Opera Colorado; Mercedes in "Carmen", and Zita in "Gianni Schicchi."

Line:

Jesse Vawter, William, John Taylor, Albert C., Francis Marion, and parents Jack and Evelyn (Vawter) Stoltz. (Francis Marion is brother to Ted Vawter of Colorado.)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 1988 VVV reunion will be August 5, 6, & 7 (with "early birds" arriving on the 4th) in Gainsville, GA at the Holiday Inn.

Plan a vacation around this date and take in places of interest in the area: Stone Mountain, White Water, Six Flags, Reconstruction of "Old Atlanta" and Disney World 250 miles away. More in future newsletters.

Editor Note:

Will all VVV members think of what they can contribute to their newsletter? I need genealogy material, Gleaning items, Reminiscing stories, and news items. I want to thank all those who have sent me material the last five years. It always feels good to have a selection to choose from and use at just the right time; such as the story on Ralph Emerson Vawter and the genealogy chart by his niece, Marylin J. Fishel Hash which she sent to me a year or so ago.

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MEMBERSHIP DUES \$7.00 PER YEAR - DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO: VVVF ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Hazel McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, Texas 75760

REMINISCING

From: Paul E. Vawter, Sr., Northbrook, IL

Artist, illustrator Will Vawter (John William Vawter), p. 385 Bicknell, still lives through his artistic efforts, and Paul Vawter can attest to this.

Though better known, perhaps, for his illustrations of James Whitcomb Riley's books of poems, Will Vawter painted independently, also (see VVVNL Vol. 8 #2, p. 9)

Paul Vawter treasures his Will Vawter painting entitled "The Gladness of Spring" which he purchased from the Will Vawter estate in the middle 40's. "It's not for sale !" says Paul.

Paul Vawter's son, Jay, sent him a color photo of one of Will Vawter's paintings which stirred Paul's memory of over 50 years ago. The Barnes home was the setting for the painting which was called, "Cabin by the Road." He recognized it as Grandma Barnes' home of which he had taken movies in the middle 30's.

Paul and wife Betty had read a news item about Grandma Barnes and her strange relationship with her husband. According to this news item, Grandma spoke only to her husband through their son. This item had attracted attention and Grandma Barnes was featured in a news reel.

So Paul and Betty packed up and traveled to the Barnes' farm near Nashville, IN, where Paul photographed Grandma Barnes sitting in her rocking chair on her front porch.

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Editor Note:

After the Indiana reunion I went to Indianapolis for a few days. While there I visited the Indianapolis Museum. While looking at the paintings on the third floor I saw one painted by Will Vawter.

I also made a side trip to Greenfield to visit the James Whitcomb Riley Home and Museum. There I saw the painting "Neighbors" by Will Vawter which had been taken from the museum by a relative and later purchased by an unknown person who donated it to the James W. Riley Museum. It was appraised at \$4,000. There were other paintings and sketches there by Will Vawter.

I also looked up a used book store and was able to purchase a book of poems by Clara Vawter (sister of Will) and illustrated by Will Vawter, which was leather bound - a beautiful buy!

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