

# CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY of the FAMILY of the WAUNCY'S from the Conquest.

Collected from the Court Rolls testa de Nevel Pope Nicholsons (?) survey; Blomefield History of Norfolk; Bloomfield under-head of West Barsham; Chauncey's Hist. of Hertfordshire etc., Bridges History of Northamptonshire. See Dugdale's Monasticon under Castle Acre.

1 W.I.

1066 A.D.

Hugo de Waunci came over from Normandy under William Earl Warren his patron, who marrying the Conqueror's daughter gave him lands mentioned in Domesday book - namely, Barsham in Norfolk which was his place of residence.

His arms are painted in glass in the old Church at West Barsham.

1072

A Charter was granted to Castleacre Church by William Earl Warren of lands and it is signed and witnessed by Hugo de Waunei. Sir Hugo gave Thrupton Church to Castleacre Priory and also Depeden Church. (Dug. Mon.I. 622).

1085 (1 W.ii.)

In 1085 William Earl Warren died and left it to Hugh (or Hugo) de Waunci to finish Castleacre.

1088

Sir Ralph de Waunci son of Hugo is mentioned in the public deeds. Hugo de Waunci died soon after 1088 and before 1090. Esmond daughter of Hugo de Waunci, married Philip le Vetre (or the huntsman) and was a benefactress to Castleacre Priory founded partly by her father to whose care the erection of the Priory was committed while Earl Warren was absent in Normandy and on a pilgrimage to Rome. The Priory was of the order of the Cluniac monks and its ruins are venerable to this day.

1090

A Charter is dated this year of lands given by the second Earl Warren to the said Priory wherein mention is made of the Church of Depeden having been given by the late Hugo de Waunci. (See Blomefield Vol. III. p.753)

Blomefield says that the foundation of the erecting of the Abbey of Castleacre Nr. Swaffham Norfolk was owing to the Wauncies who also left large property to it.

1100 H.i.

In the reign of William Rufus and Henry I. Sir Roger de Waunci, probably a younger son of Hngh held Stansted under Richard de Clare Earl of Pembroke, the Founder of Tintern Abbey (See Chauncey's History of Herts.)

1117

King Henry I. founded Merton Abbey and Roger de Wauncie signed the Charter as a witness: and he gave to it the Church of Stansted in Hertfordshire where he lived. The Rectory of Hursdon (Hunsden) he also gave in perpetual alms. (Provisions were so cheap in England at this time that a shilling would purchase a day's corn for 100 men and a goat was the price of a sheep) Hunsdon is close to Stansted.

1133 A.D.

A Charter to Daventry Church (Northre) of the grant of Matilda de Senliz, sister in law to King Henry I and Aunt to the Empress Maud and wife to David King of Scotland is witnessed first by Hugo de Waunci grandson of Hugh who first settled at Barsham (Dug. Mon. vol. p.676) This Matilda was of the blood royal of the Saxon Kings of Northumberland, being daughter of Earl of Walsheaf and married David King of Scotland for her second husband. (Hugh de Wancy in Dugd. Mon.)

1154 H.ii.

Geoffrey Waunci held lands at Leewarton in Berkshire and Senescamp and left lands to Castle Acre Priory.

1154

Giles Waunci son of the second Hugh was a man of large property. He assumed for his arms 6 dexter hands coupee argent. These arms says Blomefield, are still to be seen in Thursford Church and other places

C 1160 - 1161

Walter de Wanci his brother and second son of Hugh witnesses a charter of Nesta de Cokefield to Heyrisnis in Suffolk temp. Robert Earl of Gloster natural son of Henry I.

1162

Michael de Wanci holds two knights fees at Stanstead.

1187

Charter of Roger de Sanford to Church of St. Nicholas of Sandford of gifts to pray for the soul of the Empress Maud, and as witness to this deed was Domino Galfredo de Wanci. (Dug. Mon.)

1170-1189

William de Wauncy is Eschaetor for Berks. between 1170 and 1189.

1180

Giles Waunci died in 1180.

1189 R.I.

Michael de Waunci may have died or gone elsewhere before 1189 as in that year Richard I gave up Stansted Manor left to his father by Michael de Waunci. Leabridge in Hertfordshire was given to Waltham Abbey by Michael de Waunci in 1166.

1192

Robert Waunci patronised by the Baron Pinkeneys of Northamptonshire of whom he rented Astwell etc.

1199

In the Charter of King John to the Abbey of Amesbury, Wilts, where his mother had been placed by Henry II. one of the witnesses is Ricardus de Wanci (or Waunci) 30. Aug. Capud rupen audel (Swallowclift) Swallowcliffe Down in S.Wilts?

1210

The Jews at this time were grievously amerced for large payments and in default thereof were rigorously dealt with.

1216 H.III

Robert de Waunci holds one fee in Astwel in Northamptonshire of Henry son of King John, the Pinkaney estates having devolved to the Crown. Robert de Wance witnesses deed of Geoffrey de Leserves to Castle Acre Priory.

1221

William de Wancy is Eschaetor with H. de Sacchano and W. de Stanford. Rogerus de Wantesey held a Knight's fee in Wivelsford. Ralph de W. holds two fees tenet duo feodo in Depeden in the hundred of Risbridge, Suffolk, de Com: Warren (Testa de Nevel). Geoffrey de W. holds in Clive Waney in N. Wilts half a military fee of the Earl Marshall (Earl of Clare) and he of the King and one fee (feodum) in Leewarton in Berkshire.

1228

Walter de Wancy is witness to a deed of Roger of Coxford. Ralph de W. holds in Hilmerton (Called Adhelmartin in Domesday) in N. Wilts a military fee from Roger de Bluet.

1231

Nicholas de Waunoy and Alice Danmartin his wife are charged with £130 of the goods of Elias (there called) Bishop, or High Priest of the Jews.

1237

Nicholas de W. is Sheriff of Surrey, for 3 years. Nicholas de W. holds two Knight's fee at Wullhampton of the honor of Arundel also the Chapel of Bishopston.

1240

Walter de Wancy signs two charters for Nesta de Cokefield to the Priory of Keresey in Suffolk.

1246-1256

Sir Ralph de Wancy signed a deed which is a grant by William Lungespee to Roger de London, parson of Culing and his heirs and assigns in perpetuity, of "all the land which Roger de Mortimer held of the gift of Sir Henry Trubleveles in the vill of Culing with the advowson in part, of the chapel of St. Margaret in Culing etc.,

1247

Nicholas de W. is Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex for three years more. Ralph de W. signs gift of Queen by Henry III to Mayor and Corporation of London Radulf de Wanciae.

1248

Ralph de. W. signs a deed of Henry III. granting the manor of Queenhythe to the Mayor and Corporation of London. William de Wauncy, Subdean and Clerk held the living of Stene in Northamptonshire presented by Baron Robert de Pinkeney.

1272 E.I.

Geoffrey de Waunci (or Vanci) (Dugd. Mon.V.3.p.14) held one fee in Leewarton, Berks, out of which he gave land for the health of his soul, of his father Robert's and of his mother Avis and Cecily his wife.

temp. H.III

Giles de Waunci, great grandson of HUGO, and living at West Barsham, leaves his estates to his brother Sir William de Wanci with remainder to his son William and in default of issue to his nephews the sons of this William - Walter, Edward, Thomas, (Nicholas) Robert and Hugh. (Some of these branched out and became heads of families in Northants, Herts, Surrey, Sussex and Wilts.)

He bore for his arms Gules 6 dexter hands erect coupee argent.

1286

William Wancy 14 E.I. claimed a fare at Barsham for 29th August and impleaded the Prior of Castle Acre for 20 marks due to him and the Prior was amerced.

1289

Lucia (Lucy) de Waunci died, seized of house and lands at Chinting on the Sussex coast which fell to the King (E.I.) for want of heirs

(Vide Rot. Hund. Voi. p.205)

A William de Wancy noticed in a precept of Edward I. that Adam Talbot held of William de W. in Fincham (Norfolk) 60 acres in villanage and 7 cottages with 18 customary tenants.

Customary tenantry was an obligation to find the land 60 days labour from the gules of August to the feast of St. Michael the lord paying them at the time's price.

1296

Robert de Wancei witnessed lands given by Richard the beloved son of Gilbert de Clare (Earl of Gloster) (son in-law to Hubert de Burgh) and it is witnessed also by his sons Walter and Robert. (Dug. Mon. Vol. 3 p.1008)

1301

Richard de Wauncey (probably grandson of Nicholas the Sheriff) was Rector of St. Nicholas Church in Guildford, which he held for 24 years.

1307 E.II.

He built and endowed a chapel on Catherine Hill about one mile out of Guildford, 50 ft. by 25 ft. the ruins of which still remain. This chapel of St. Catherine was built on the ruins of a former house of religion. In this ancient St. Catherine's Abbey there is a tomb and window (?) of a de Waunci who was Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex.

1308

John de Wauncey holds the living of Wynterbourn Elystone (Selstone in Dorset) being presented to it by John Giffard and Margaret of Bremmersfield.

1314 8.E.II

Edmund de Vauncey Chevalier held Westle Waterlei Manor extent Cantabr. (Testa de Neville).

John de Wancey was Rector of Merton near Ambrosden in Northamptonshire till his death in July 1381.

This was in the Diocese of the Bishop of Lincoln (Vide Kennets Parochial Antiq). He was the Rector of Merton for 47 years: after being Rector of Wynterbourn.

1315

Robert le Wauncy held Astwel Manor of the Baron Pinkenys.

1317 10.E.II

Robert Wauncy of King's Walden, Clerk, was Vicar of Wymondham in Norfolk from 1317 to 1333 (16 years) when he exchanged it for the Rectory of Colton (or Cotton) in Norfolk which he held till 1343.

1318

Robert de W. son and heir of Robert de W. gave 100/- for his relief and had Astwell Manor. He held it of the Crown in capite as of the Baron of Pinkeny by the service of one Knight's fee and 20/- towards the guard of Windsor Castle.

1326 19.E.II.

1327 1.E.III

Amongst the escheats of land belonging lately to David Strathbridge Earl of Athol and Johanna his wife is mentioned 8 parts of a Knight's fee possessed by William de Wauncy at North Barsham in Norfolk.

N.E. Castle acre at this time belonged to this David Strathbridge by right of his wife (cousin) Countess of Adomaise de Valence Earl of Pembroke. (Testa de Nevil).

1330 3.E.III

Robert de Wauncy had livery of the Manor of Lilburn and held possession till his death 20. E.III.1347.

1331

Geoffry de Waunci inherits half the Manor of Sencamp in Herts. William de la Beek and Euphemia his wife feoffed Geoffry de Wauncy of the Manor of Senecamp in Herts.

1332 5.E.III

John Wauncy and John Ross conveyed to Lawrence Sealy, a Messuage in East Cheap London near the Church of Nicholas ad Macella.

1337 20.E.II.

Edmund de W. by the death of his uncles becomes heir to Barsham but as he was then serving the King in the ward in Gascoigny under the Black Prince he is therefore excused homage for livery of lands at that time. His daughter Catherine is married to Edmund Gourney who served in the wars with him and by her right upon the death of his only son Edmund in 1357, only seven years of age, he became Lord of Barshem, Depeden etc.,

1347

Upon an aid to make the King's son a Knight, Robert de Wauncy, Thomas de Astley and Robert of Edgebarton as joint possessors of Lilbourne Castle and Barony were assessed for one Knight's fee of the honor of Leicester.

1348

Robert Wauncy the younger held two thirds of the Manor of Bifield in Northamptonshire and paid the King 12/- yearly - while the remaining one third belonged, to Willian Verney.

1353

Walter Wancy, Clerk, gave to the Master and School of Michael house in Cambridge one acre of land in Grumdisburgh in Suffolk which is since very valuable and is, held to this day by Trinity College.

1357

Battle of Poitiers where the Black Prince took King John of France prisoner and here Froisard mentions Edmund Gourney - him who married Catherine Wancy and had the family estates at Barsham etc.

Sir Edmund de Wansy is said to have captured Philip of France at the Battle of Poitiers (See letter on the subject by Mr.Brace in Gentleman's Magazine Dec.18)

20.E.III.

Edmund de Waunci was Lord of West Barsham and being in the King's gervice in Gascony under the Black Prince, has the King's. licence. to delay livery. He died 46 E.III. 1373.

1357

The Abbot and monks of Egnisham, patrons of the Church of Merton near Ambrosden applied to the Bishop of Lincoln to obtain Merton Church after the present incumbent John de Wanse who held it 47 years, till his death in July 1381.

Geoffry Wauncy son of Rdbert Wauncy.

1360

Hugh Wauncy clerk is Rector of Uphill and Harpley, being presented to it by the Patron Edmund Gourney his near relation.

1368

Sir Edmund de Vauncy, Knight, married Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir William de Creke and was owner of the manor of Lockley bury (or Lockleys) in Welwyn, Herts. This Knight died without issue in 1390, leaving his sister Joan his heiress who was married to Thomas Prior and the estate devolved to him. The arms of Sir Edmund de Vaunay were sable, 3 sinister hands, couped, argent (Edmondson) also sable, 3 gloves in pale argent.

1377 R.II.

William Wauncy was "janitor", (Porter, guardian, agent) of the "Maner" de Woodstoe at plitum etc.,

1380

"I Sylusby married the daughter and heiress of Robert de Wauncy and through whom Shirly Lord Ferres now holds the lands."

1431 9.11.VI. Wanesey. See Tower Records.

1434

Sir Michael Wonsy, Chaplain, was witness to a will of Mick Excestre of Bristol, Sept. 16, 1434. (Wad Ley's Bristol Wills.)

1485

Walderne Wauncy. See Tower Records. N.19. 42. (of King's Walden?)

Walderne Wauncy. See Tower Records. frequently mentioned.

1514 Oct 9th.

Leland in his Collectanea mentions amongst the persons attending the Princess Mary (daughter of Henry VII, being affianced to Louis the Dauphin of France) to France on her marriage to the Dauphin a Monsr. de Wansay. Mary was sister to King Henry VIII.

1521

Waunsel or Waunsey is mentioned in Fox's book of Martyrs 1521 as one of those who on account of a charge of heresy were enjoined by Bp. Capon and Geoffry his Chancellor the penance of bearing a faggot at Devizes. He was a fishmonger (Bp. Capon 1539-60).

1545 36.H.8.

William Wansey died in Warminster. In his will he bequeaths 3/4d. to buy a cloth for the high altar in Warminster Church and leaves legacies to Elizabeth his wife, to John his son and to Richard his kinsman. He holds the farms of Norrige and Thoulston.

His lease of Thoulston he devised to his wife and son... and also an acre of land in Wodeman's Mede, so long as Richard Daniel holds the farm of Norrige. Elizabeth his widow died in 1546 (her first husband's name was Hyde and she had one son Wm. Hyde and one daughter Elizabeth who married Richard Daniel) and she gave 3/4d. to make a paling round the cross before her door.

She left legacies to the high altar in Warminster Church and to our Lady's altar also to Richard Daniel her son-in-law, to her son Wm. Hyde and to Elizabeth her daughter. She lived at 27 Emwell Cross.

1546

Henry Wansey died, a glover, leaving by will money to buy a cloth to cover the high altar and one for that of the Holy Virgin. He had several children, and his wife was probably Margerie or Margaret Wansey who died in 1560 aged 53.

1558

John Wansey Clerk of the Parish.

1558

Nov. 4th. Christopher Wansey baptized, 2nd son of George Wansay, a glover.

1560

May 20th. John Wansey batpizcd and Margaret Wansey buried.

1562

Feb. 21st. Richard Wansey baptized.

1563

June 4th. Oliver Wansey baptized.

1564

The Plague visited Warminster. Oliver died in March, Christopher and Richard in August and a second Christopher Wansey in Sept. while Sir John Crocker the Vicar and John Wansey the Clerk died and were buried together on August 24th.

The Plague in London was in 1564, 1624, 1665.

1573

Henry Wansey married Katherine Stibs.

1576

Deanes Wansey baptized died aged one.

1578

John, son of Henry Wansey died.

1581

William Boyes married Xtian Wansey

1582

Elizabeth dau. of Henry Wansey baptized.

1583

Deed between Henry Wansey, glover and others: his son John Wansey is a skinner. Shirley house and land, now (1873) Langley's was his and the lime pits for his skins remain there.

1585

March, John Wansey son of Henry Wansay baptized.

1588

June Marie Wansey dau. of Henry Wansey baptized.

1589

William Wansie of Whidborne, parish of Corsley, near Warminster made a will 9th April.

(Unreg) (Somerset House Arch Sarum Court 1528-1799)

His widow's will Alice Wansie of Gt. Corslie als. Chyles, als. Waggen. 1st December 1595.

1592

Henry Wansey a trustee of St. Lawrence's Chapel.

1595

Walter Wansie, tanner of Warminster, Will dated 30 Nov. 1595.

1611

or 1616 John Wansey married Margaret Yockney.

1612

Nov. Mary Wansye dau. of John Wansy's baptized.

1614

Christian Wansye dau. of John Wansys baptized.

Christopher Wauncy is Churchwarden of Warminster Church.

1615

Christian Wansy dau. of John Wansy baptized.

1616

Dec. 1. John Wansey son of John Wansey baptized.

1618

John Wansey was Church Warden.

Henry Wansie son of John Wansye baptized.

1622

John Wansie son of John Wansye baptized.

Mary Wansey dau. of John Wansey baptized.

John Wansey died in 1626 and left his widow Margaret with a large family, namely, John, Jehu, Henry, George and another George the youngest. Of these six sons most of them were fighting in the Civil Wars, and two or three lost their lives. One of the Johns was killed in the Seige of Plymouth.

Jehu Wansey was shot in Ireland and Henry died there in the gatehouse from hard, usage in prison.

Thomas was Lieutenant of Hurst Castle, while King Charles was a prisoner there. Thomas Wanses two daughters married two Buckler brothers.

1624

Elizabeth Catherine Wansey dau. of John Wansie baptized.

1626

Thomas Wansey son of John Wansey baptized.

1627

John Wansey yeoman of Warminster. Will 30 Aug.1827 (Unregistered)

George Wansie son of John Wansey (deceased) baptized.

1631

John Wansey the Elder, Gunsmith, Maiden Bradley, Will 3. Oct. 1631. R.

1636

William Wancy son of Christopher Wancy baptized.

1641

John Wancy son of Christopher Wansea baptized.

1648

Henry Wansey a Major in the army under General Ludlow presents a petition from his townsmen to the Commons in Parliament assembled, against the conduct of Woodard Vicar of Warminster.

1649

George Wansey son of George Wansey baptized.

1651

Elizabeth Wansey dau. of George Wansey baptized.

1652

Thomas Wansey son of John Wansey baptized.

1655

Henry Wansey son of George Wansey baptized.

1656

Apr. 17. Ephraim Wansey son of John Wansey baptized.

1657

Jan.16. Margaret daughter of George Wansey baptized.

1674

John Wansey yeoman of Maiden Bradley Will. 19 May 1674.

1677

Henry Wansey of Maiden Bradley. Will. 14.Nov.1677.Unreg

1683

Aug.16. Elizabeth dau.of George Wansey baptized

1684

Nov .27. Elizabeth dau.of George Wansey baptized

1686

Sep.12. Sarah dau.of George Wansey baptized

1687

George Wansey and Esther French married 17 May 1687.



1688

Oct.24. George son of George Wansey baptized.

1690

May.28. Henry son of George Wansey baptized.

Mary Wansey widow of M.B. Will 30 Oct.1690. Unreg.

Andrew Wansey, Baker of Maiden Bradley, Will 11 April 1695 (Unreg.)

1895

John Wansey, Malster of Warminster, Will, 21 Jan. 1695 (Unreg.)

Rev. John Wansey is mentioned in the history of Ambrosden and Burchester in the county of Bucks and Oxford (See Kennets parochial antiquities)

John Wansey was Steward to Earl Tilney and had children John and Ann.

1697

Ephraim Wansey married to Bathsheba Crabb.

1699

George Wansey (Senior) of Warminster, Will, 21 Nov. 1699 (unregistered)

1705

Andrew Wansey, husbandman of Maiden Bradley, Will 18 March 1705 (unregistered)

1713

July 4. George son of Henry Wansey baptized

1714

Sep. 9. Hester dau of Henry Wansey baptized

1716

May 19. Henry son of Henry Wansey baptized

John Wansey (Senr) yeoman of Warminster, Will pr.17 April 1716 (unregistered)

1717

Nov.26. Susannah dau. of Henry Wansey baptised

1718

Feb. 1. Henry son of Henry & Elizabeth W. baptised

1719

Dec. 25. James son of James Wansey baptised

Ephraim Wansey, Warminster, Bond, 3 Nov. 1719. (Unreg)

1721

John Wansey married Katherine of Bulkington.

Tayler als. Tayler Bond 21 March 1721. K. of B. widow Will 10 May 1721.

(Unregistered against each entry, in Somerset House means that only the original Will exists - no copy and 1/- has to be paid for its production.)