

Scenario of My Ward Lineage

A whole chapter is devoted to the history of the Wardes of Givendale by W. Paley Baildon, in the book Baildon and the Baildons. A brief summary goes like this (quotes are from the said book):

Godwin Warde: of the early 12th century living in Givendale, near Ripon in Yorkshire, England.

Sir Simon Warde, son of Godwin:
born about 1130

Married Maud Unknown.

"born circa 1130; confirmed the gift to Fountains. He gave lands at Esholt to Sinningthwaite Priory, near Wetherby, which grant was confirmed by a Bull of Pope Alexander III in 1172. 'It has been suggested that this is not the Esholt in the parish of Guiseley, where the Cistercian nunnery was shortly afterwards founded; but though we have no record of how or when this property was transferred to Esholt Priory, as it appears to have been, there can be no reasonable doubt that there is only the one Esholt. Simon "Wahart" appears in the Red Book of the Exchequer among the Knights of the Archbishop of York in the reign of Henry II, 1154 to 1189, as holding one knight's fee.

1154-81— Simon Ward witnessed a charter of Roger, Archbishop of York, granting property at Ingerthorp to Peter his chamberlain. '

1172-3, January 14. — Simon Ward witnessed a charter of Alan son of Thorfin son of Gospatric releasing to Roger, Archbishop of York, all the land which his father and ancestors had given in Stainley, etc.

His wife's name was Maude ; he had two sons, William and Roger."

Sir William Warde, son of Sir Simon:
born about 1160

"He confirmed to Fountains Abbey the gifts of land at Givendale,. He appears among the knights of the Archbishop in the time of John, 1199-1216, as holding one knight's fee."

William Warde and Nicholas Warde his son witnessed a deed by which Richard son of Henry and Cicely his wife gave land in Hawksworth to Leonard de Hawksworth.

'William Ward, and Nicholas and Simon his sons, witnessed a charter from William de Leathley, granting land in Horsforth to Kirkstall Abbey."

Sir Simon Warde, son of Sir William:
born about 1200

Married Constance de Vescy.

"second son of William Ward...was born about 1200. He may have survived his brother Nicholas, who was living in 1245, but if so it cannot have been for any great length of time, for he appears to have been dead before 1262. This doubtless accounts for the few records concerning him. I think he probably did survive Nicholas, from the fact that he was a knight. Knighthood in these early times was not usually due to prowess on the field or service to the state, but to the more prosaic fact of owning a certain amount of property. I think that this Simon was probably the one to whom Archbishop Gray granted the lordship of Baildon, and that the grant was probably on the occasion of Simon's marriage in 1210".

1228, Wednesday after the Translation of St. Thomas [July 5]. — Simon Warde holds five tofts and a bovate of land in Givendale, paying 6d a year...

This small estate was probably given by his father on the occasion of his marriage."

Sir William Warde, son of Sir Simon: born about 1220

Married Margaret de Neville

"1252.— Simon Ward, Rector of Guiseley, and William Ward witnessed a charter of Joan daughter of Simon de Baildon, granting land in Baildon to her kinsman, Walter de Hawksworth. Simon also affixed his seal to the deed, presumably for greater solemnity. The sketch of this seal shows a conventional representation of a church, having three spires, with the legend, S : RECTORIS : ECCL : DE : GYSELY : 'J This deed will be printed in full in Book III

He married Margaret, sister of Julian de Nevill, prior to Trinity Term, 1253.

1253,--Trinity Term. — William le Despenser and Isabel his wife sued the Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England to warrant to them the wardship of John son and heir of Richard Pyn, which William Ward and Margaret his wife claim against them by reason of the gift which Jollan de Nevill made to them, of whom the said Richard held his land by military service.

1262.— Sir William Ward and Sir Simon Ward witnessed a charter of Ralph son of German Maunsel of Burley, granting a rent of 2s. in Menston to Walter son of Walter de Hawksworth. ' This Sir Simon was probably William's brother, the Rector of Guiseley ; parish priests were usually styled Sir or 'dominus', down to the Reformation.

1265.— Sir William Ward witnessed a charter of Hugh de Nayleford [Neirford], granting land in Baildon to William the Forester of Baildon.

Undated.— William son of Sir Simon Warde grants to Beatrice his sister land called the Rodes, in the fee of Ralph Maunsel of Burghley [Burley in Wharfedale]. Witnesses : Sir Alan de Catherton, Simon son of William de Hawkesworth, Adam son of Thomas of the same, &C. " This Beatrice must, I think, be the lady who married Walter de Hawksworth, otherwise it is difficult to account for the deed being among the Hawksworth muniments.

Undated.—Hugh son of Alan de Heukeswrth [Hawksworth] released to Sir William Ward all his claim to a rent of 1 5,/, arising from two bovates of land which Maude daughter of Robert Rufus of Hawksworth gave to Alan, his father. Witnesses : Sir Simon Warde, Rector of Giselay”

Sir Simon Warde, son of Sir William:
born abt 1245

Married Clarice Unknown

“1274-5, February — Sir Simon Warde was appointed by Archbishop Giralard one of his justices within the Liberties of Ripon and Beverley.

1298, June 16. — Sir Simon Ward did homage to Henry de Newark, Archbishop of York, on the morrow of his consecration at York, namely on the 10 July, and took the oath of fealty. Simon admitted that he held one knight's fee in Guiseley, Givendale and Kirkby Wharfe, and a quarter of a knight's fee in Newby on Yore. (Ure) The Guiseley property included Baildon.

1300, Michaelmas Term. — Simon Warde of Gyvendale claimed against Henry de Eyville and Alice his wife, three acres of pasture in Thorpe near Gyvendale [Littlethorpe]”

Sir John Warde, son of Sir Simon:
born about 1285 (second son of Sir Simon Warde b 1245)

Wife unknown.

He succeeded to the family property on the death of his brother, Sir Simon, in 1334, prior to which very little is known of him; he was a knight in 1322.

In 1334 Sir John Warde, knight, released to Sir Nicholas Warde, his brother, Parson of the church of Giselay, all his right to the manor of Giselay. This deed was among the Constable charters when Robert Glover, Somerset Herald, made his Visitation of Yorkshire in 1583-4; he made a sketch of the seal, which is here reproduced. The deed was probably executed shortly after the death of Sir Simon, for the purpose of a re-settlement, and Sir John had not as yet got a new seal. The use of the label is interesting; it is generally said to be confined to the eldest son, but is here used by the heir-apparent, who was the brother, and not the son.

Sir Simon Warde, son of Sir John:
born abt 1315

Married 1st Maud Unknown; 2nd Joan Unknown.

“He was probably first married in or shortly before May, 1334, as the following deed has all the appearance of being a settlement made soon after marriage.

1334, May 23. — Nicholas Warde, Parson of the church of Giselay, grants in special tail to

Simon (son of Sir John Warde) and Maude his wife, all the land, etc., which Nicholas had of the gift of Sir Simon Warde, his brother, in Neubi, except the tenements held in dower by Alice, widow of Sir Simon; also 7£ 11s. 10d. of land, meadow and rent in Givendale. Remainder to Sir John Warde and his heirs. Witnesses : Sir Robert Coniers, Sir Henry de Hertelington, Sir Andrew de Merkinfeld, knights, and others.

1352, November 19. — Sir Simon Ward owed 4: yearly rent to St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital, Ripon, for a tenement at Newby.

1367, Michaelmas Term.- -Simon son of John Warde, chivaler, claimed two messuages and lands in Neuby-on-Yore from Joan widow of Thomas Raynson of Skelton. The property had been given by Simon son of William Warde to Simon, his son, and the heirs of his body; Simon, the son, died without heir of his body, and it therefore reverted to Simon, the father; from him it descended to John Warde, as son and heir, and from him to the plaintiff, as son and heir.

1373, June 19. — John Warde, son and heir [apparent] of Simon Warde, knight, released, to Sir Simon and Lady Joan his wife, for their lives, certain lands and tenements in Neuby-on-Youre.

Sir Simon was dead in Michaelmas Term, 1385. Whitaker says that he died in 1383, and by his will directed his body to be buried at Esholt Priory.

Of his two wives, Maude and Joan I have no further information."

Sir John Warde, son of Sir Simon: born about 1339

Married Katherine Hamerton

Sir John Warde, son of Sir Simon, 8, was, as he himself says 46 years of age in September, 1386, that is, he was born in 1339 or 1340.

1373, June 19. — -John Warde, son and heir [apparent] of Simon Warde, knight, released, to Sir Simon and Lady Joan his wife, for their lives, certain lands and tenements in Neuby-on-Youre.

1373, December 5. — Agreement between John de Hamerton and John eldest son of Sir Simon Warde, for the marriage of John Warde and Katherine daughter of John "Damerton" [i.e. de Hamerton]. Hamerton is to pay John 100 marks [£66, 13s. 4d.], and will grant all the lands held by Richard Hebbeson in Mikyl Huseburn [Great Ouseburn], with 5 1/2 marks [£3, 13s. 4d.] a year for five years. Hamerton will pay all the expenses of his daughter Katherine for two years from the Purification next, and will find John Warde and for his "chaumberleyne" for two horses during the said two years. If Katherine should eventually be heir to John "Damerton," John Warde shall give him 100 marks [£66, 13s. 4d.] and shall enfeof Katherine in

£20 of lands after Sir Simon Warde's death.

1378-9, January 27. — John son of Sir Simon Ward gave a power of attorney to John Ilketon of Hamerton and Richard de Sunyngges, to enter and receive the manors of Gevendale, Neuby-on-Yore and Hesseholt, and the vill of Gysselay, with the advowson of the church there, after the death of Sir Simon, his father, whenever it should happen." The vill of Guiseley would include the Baildon property.

1385, Michaelmas Term. — Sir John Warde sued Joan widow of Sir Simon Warde [his father] for the return of 12 charters, which she detained from him. (my note: Joan would be Sir John's stepmother)

1385, Michaelmas Term. — John Warde, chivaler, complained of William Raynson of Skelton, and many others, for entering his free warren at Neweby and Gyvendale, and hunting there without leave, and for taking fish, value 10L, in his several fishery there, and for taking hares, coneys, pheasants and partridges in the warren.

1386, September 17. — Sir John Warde was one of the witnesses in the celebrated Scrope and Grosvenor controversy, 1385 to 1390. He stated that he was aged 46 years and more; that he had seen Sir Richard le Scrope armed in the arms, azure, a bend or, in Scotland, in the expedition of the Lord of Lancaster [John of Gaunt], and in the last expedition of the King into Scotland; that he was for half a year in the retinue of Sir William Scrope, son of Sir Richard, in Gascony, and there often saw Sir William armed in the same arms with a label; that he had a chamber in his manor house called Gyvendale, where the arms of Scrope were set up and depicted on the wall, in which chamber were also the arms of Lord Neville, Lord Percy, Lord Clifford, and others, which had been in the said chamber for one hundred and sixty years, as his father had told him.

Sir John appears to have died before December 10, 1414, when his son Roger presented to the rectory of Guiseley

Sir Roger Warde, son of Sir John: born about 1383

Married Joan Markenfield

1405, March 26. — John and Roger, sons of Sir John Warde, knight, released to Richard de Skelton all their right in a garden in Annsgate, Ripon. Witnesses: William de Fencotes, and others. Sir John had granted this property to John Memersmyth and Beatrice his wife before December 29, 1391

1414., December 10. — Roger son and heir of Sir John Warde_ presented Simon Warde, clerk, to the Rectory of Guiseley, on the death of Robert Marras.

1413, Trinity Term. — Elizabeth widow of John de Hirst appealed Thomas deMerkyngfeld the younger, John and Robert de Merkyngfeld, Roger Ward and Nicholas Ward, and others for the death of her husband. The three Markenfields were sons of Sir Thomas Markenfield; Roger Warde married their sister Joan, and this note suggests that the marriage has already taken place.

1414-5, March 1, April 16. — Roger Ward witnessed the agreement for the marriage of Walter, son of Sir Walter de Calverley, with Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas de Markenfield of Markenfield, and the settlement consequent thereon. Elizabeth Markenfield was the sister of Roger Warde's wife.

1415, June 25. — By the inquisition taken after the death of Beatrice, widow of Thomas, Lord de Roos, it was found that her Baildon property was held of Sir John Warde, by knight service. The information as to the tenure was probably copied from the earlier inquisition in 1383; Sir John was certainly dead, and the property was held of Roger.

1416, September 20. — Roger Warde presented William Sharrowe, priest, to the Rectory of Guiseley, on the death of Simon Warde.

1422-3.— A deed was executed relating to the estate of Sir Roger Warde, Joan his wife, and Nicholas his son, in Givendale, Asshold [Esholt]and Keswick.

1423, Michaelmas Term. — Katherine, Queen of England, complained of Roger Warde of Gyndale, chivaler, and Nicholas Warde of Gyndale, esq., for hunting in her park at Knaresborough without leave, and taking and carrying off her game [finis] there.

1423-4, March 15. — Sir Roger Warde witnessed a charter of Sir John Bigod of Settrington, and others, the surviving feoffees of Sir Walter Calverley, deceased, releasing the manors of Calverley, Burley in Wharfedale, etc., to Walter Calverley.

1429, June 18. — At the proof of age of William Ingilby of Ripley, Roger Warde, chivaler, aged 46, testified that William came of age on June 8 last; Roger well remembered his birth, for on that day he was knighted. This evidence gives us two useful facts, Sir Roger's age, and his knighthood on June 8, 1408.

My Note: The above William Ingilby (Ingleby) is very important to the linking of the Givendale/Skelton Ward family to the Wards of Barton Manor (near Marske by Richmond). The Lordship of Barton passed from the Ingleby family of Ripley (near Ripon) to Lord John Warde in 1579. So, I'm inserting this here.

In the 1609 Inquisition it is stated:

“The Prebend of Studley according to the antient Survey.

Inprimis there is a free Rent in Stammergate in Rippon, p. Ann. 8s. 7d. Item a free Rent in Skelton, p. Ann. 25s. Id. Item a free Rent in Winxley, p. Ann. 5d. Item the Tythe Corn and Hay coitus Ann. 201. Item the Tythe of Wool and Lamb coitus Ann. 31. 6s. 8d. Summa, 251. 15d.

The Prebend of Studley as it is now used.

The Prebend of Studley within the Collegiat Church of Rippon with all his Members and Appurtenances parcel of the Lands and Possessions of the said Collegiat Church and by Act of Parliament annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster being demised unto William Ingleby Esqr. by Lease under the Duchy Seal bearing date the iij, h day of February in the xxixth of Queen Elizabeth To Hold from the Feast of St. Michael next before for xxiue years at the yearly Rent of 26l. 6s. 8d. at the Feasts of the Annunciation of our Lady and S'. Michael by even portions He the said William Ingleby before the Chancellor and Council of the said Duchy in the Term of Easter in the xlth year of the said Queen at Westmr). did surrender the same Lease whereupon and for a Fine of 26l. paid by the said William Ingleby All the said Prebend of Studley within the said Collegiat Church of Rippon with all his Members and Appurtenances parcel of the Lands and possessions of the said Church which premisses were parcell of the possessions Except Wood and Underwood &c. as in the said Lease is excepted To Hold from the Feast of the Annunciation of our Lady last past for the Term of 21 years yielding the foresaid yearly Rent of 26l. 6s. 3d. at the said feasts of St. Michael and the Annunciation of our Lady.

There is belonging to the said Prebend a free Rent in Skelton, p. Ann. 25s. 7d. Item in Winxley and Woodhouse there is paid Wool and Lamb in kind p. Ann. 20s. Item for Corn and Hay there is a yearly Rent by Composition.etc.

It is also noteworthy that the Ingleby and the Warde families were related through marriage via Christopher Warde's wife Margaret Gascoine.

Sir Roger died in 1453, after March 19 and before August 10. Buried at Esholt Abbey. His will is as follows:

In Dei nomine. Amen. Memorandum that I, Roger Warde, knyght, in hole mynd, the xix day of the month of Marce, the yere of our Lord, MCCCClij [1452-3], make my testament in this maner: — I will and orden Jenet Ward, my wife, Roger Ward, my eldist sone, and Nicholas Ward my son, to be my full executurs, and thay to have my gudes, movable and immovable, and thay to dispose thaim for the wel of my soule, and pay my dettes, and to fulfyll my will; that is to say, I bequeth my saule to God all myghtty and to our Lady Sanct Mary and to the hole companie of Hevven, and my body to be beryd at the Abbay of Esshehold in Ayredale; and thay to fulfyll thes and all othir thynges as God and I and thay knawes, as they will answer to God.

Proved August 10, 1453.

Dame Joan survived her husband, and died between November 14, 1473, and March 29, 1474.

1473, November 14. — Will of Joan Warde, relict of Sir Roger Warde the elder of Gevendale, knight, lying on her sick-bed. To be buried at the Abbey of Esholt, within the Church; to the Prioress and Convent of Esholt :o.f., and iar. to be distributed among the nuns [sundry other legacies]. A jewel called "an nowche" of gold, with a precious stone, to be sold, and the price given to a priest to celebrate for my soul and my husband's, and for the soul of Thomas Markenfeld, my brother. To Christopher son of Sir Roger Warde the younger a silver bowl with a cover called "a plane pece." Residue to Nicholas Warde and William Warde my sons, equally, and they to be executors. Witnesses: Dom Richard Brown, Rector of Gyslay, etc. Proved March 29, 1474. 1

Sir Roger Warde, son of Sir Roger: born abt 1430

Married 1st Eleanor Constable and 2nd Joan Tunstall

1453.— Prior Swynton of Fountains Abbey records in his Account Book a payment of 4d. when the Abbat baptised the son of Roger Warde of Givendale at Ripon. This date would fit for the baptism of Christopher, Roger's eldest son, but as the infant's christian name is not mentioned it is impossible to be certain.

1455.— Sir Roger Warde, knight, and Joan his wife were admitted members of the Guild of Corpus Christi at York.

Sir Roger was dead at the date of his sister Joan's will, November 28, 1472 as follows:

"I will, with the consent of Nicholas Warde, my brother, that **a tenement at Skelton go to John Warde, son of Sir Roger Warde**, deceased, after the death of the said Nicholas. To Christopher Warde a girdle of gold over "tuschu tawny sylke." A pair of "bedys of coral, gauditt wit calsedone" to be sold "to the payntyng of an ymage of our Lady de Pete [Pity] at the Abba of Hassholde." To the Chapel of the Convent 6s. %d., "to the payntyng of the ymage." To Margaret my sister a girdle of green silk, "harnes' wyth sylver and gilt." To William Warde my brother, 2 cows. To Elizabeth Wonthworth a furred gown of "blod" [blue] and gray, and a girdle of black silk, " harnes wit sylver and gilt." To Margaret wife of Christopher Warde, a pair of sheets and the fustians. Residue to Nicholas Warde, my brother, and George Wode, clerk, to be disposed of for the good of my soul; they are appointed executors. Witnesses: William Warde, &c. ' Proved March 29, 1474, by Nicholas Warde."

Dame Joan survived Sir Roger, and married Sir William Stapelton of Wighill, as his second wife. They were admitted to the Guild of Corpus Christi at York in 1472. She was executrix of his will in 1503.

Joan died in March, 1507. Her will is as follows:

1507-8, February 24. — Will of Dame Joan Stapelton. She desires to be "beryd in the paryshe chyrche of Wyghhall, in the chapell of our Lady in the northe parte of the same chyrche, wit my husband" [Stapelton];

- "to the Prioress and the Convent of Essholt xx.r., to pray for me";

- "to my sone, Syr Christofer Warde, knyght, if he life after me, a ryng wit ij stonys, and a goblett of sylver wit the coveryng";

- to my son, John Warde, a ryng wit a dyamonde, and a Prymor whiche is called my Bretar' [sic] boke, if he life after me";

- "to my doghter, Dame Margarete Norton, a ryng wit abalys, and a gyrdil wit a golde tushwe [tissue], if she lit after me";

- "to Sir John Norton, knyght, a gilt goblett wit the coveryng";

- "to my son Bryan Stapilton, my weddyng ryng";

- "to John Norton, my gc son, a pese of sylver, Parys-warke";

- "to my doghter, Dame Margarete Norton, my crosse wit the releke, and all the goodes whych shal be praysyd witin halfe the valor that thei shal be prasyd to";

- **"I will that my son, John Warde, gyfe to Roger, his basterd son, x marke, whych x marke he awe me for corn and catall, what tyme as he thinkes most necessary to the saide chylde."**

- "I make my doghter, Dame Margaret Norton, and my son, John Warde, my executors, and my son, Sir John Norton, supervisor; and I will that all the resydw of my godes be disposed for the well of my soule." Proved March 23, 1507-8. *

Note: It appears that Joan did not have any Ward grandchildren except for Roger, the bastard son of her son John. This makes me think that Roger must still be underage as of this will in 1507, making his birth date more like about 1488 or later.

1514, November 15. — Henry VIII granted to "oure humble servant John Warde" the office of "baner berer before Saint Wilfride " at Ripon, with a fee of $\text{^}5$ a year. ² This probably refers to John son of Sir Roger Warde, 1 I.A., and he may be the John Warde who was plaintiff in two Fines relating to property in Great Ouseburn in 1502 and 1505.

Sir Christopher Warde, son of Roger (the end of the 'Wards of Givendale): born 1453

Married Margaret Gascoigne

He is said to have been Master of the Hart Hounds to Richard III, to have fought at Flodden, and to have been Standard Bearer to Henry VIII at the Siege of Boulogne.

The first mention of Christopher is in the will of his aunt Joan, November 28, 1472, and then next in the will of his grandmother, November 14, 1473;

He was already married at the earlier of these dates to Margaret, daughter of Sir William Gascoigne of Gawthorpe.

1474, May 16. — He appeared before John Pakenham and others, Canons Residentiary, in the

Chapter House at Ripon, and there acknowledged to hold of the Chapter divers lands and tenements in Givendale and Newby, by the like services as the lord of Marmyon, and by ancient rent; he did fealty, was sworn, and admitted to the said service. This was after the death of his father, which probably occurred in the autumn of 1472; he appears to have just come of age.

1486.— Sir Christopher was one of the Earl of Northumberland's " 33 knyghts of his feedmen " who met Henry VII in Barnesdale, a little beyond " Robyn Haddezston," apparently between Doncaster and Pontefract.

1522-3, February 4. — Inquisition after the death of Christopher Warde, knight, taken at Boroughbridge; it was found that he died seised of the manors of Giselay, Gevendale, Neuby [on Yore], Hescheholde [Esholt], Estkeswike, Athewolton [Adwalton], Drighelyngton and Grenehamerton, and a moiety of the manor of Great Useburne. Guiseley was worth 40 marks [£26, 13s. 4./.] yearly, Givendale 80 marks [£\$ 3, 6s. S./.], Newby and Esholt 20 marks [£13, 6s. 8</./.] each; they were held of Thomas [Wolsey], Cardinal and Archbishop of York, by knight service. East keswick was worth 20 marks yearly, and was held of Richard Redman as of his Castle of Harewood, in socage. Driglington was worth ^8 and Adwalton^io yearly; they were held of the King as of the Castle of Pontefract, in socage. Great Ouseburn was worth ^20 yearly, and was held of the King as of the Castle of Knaresborough, by knight service. Greenhamerton was held of William Gascon, knt., as of the manor of Thorparch, by service unknown. His heirs were his daughter Joan, aged 34, wife of Edward Musgrave, knt., and three granddaughters, children of a deceased daughter, Anne Neyvell [Neville], viz.: Katherine, aged 22, wife of Walter Strickland, esq., Joan, aged 21, wife of John Constable, esq., and Clare Neyvill, aged 14 on October 26, 1521.

Dr. Whitaker states respecting this family, "The last in the direct line (of Givendale Wards... my addition) was Sir Christopher Ward, who died Dec. 30, 13th Henry VIII.,(1522) seized of the Manors of Guiseley, Gevendale, Newby Eskeholt (Esholt), East Keswick, Driglington, Adwalton, Usburn Magna, and Green Hammerton, leaving one daughter and three granddaughters, namely, the daughters of his daughter Anne Nevill, deceased, his co-heirs;

*My note:

I had given up researching this line for years because of the above statement until I ran across another book written about a certain Mary Ward who was born in 1585 in Mulwith (near Givendale) and who was said to be of the Wardes of Givendale. On further investigation I discovered that Sir Christopher Warde, although he may have ended the male line of the Wardes of 'Givendale', had at least one brother who carried on the Warde name in the immediate vicinity, that is, within a 10 mile radius of the original Manor of Givendale. Recall that above I included the will of Sir Christopher Warde's aunt, Joan. Relevant to my Ward lineage scenario, I re-quote the following:

*"I will, with the consent of Nicholas Warde, my brother, that **a tenement at Skelton go to John Warde, son of Sir Roger Warde, deceased, after the death of the said Nicholas.***

So, this John Warde mentioned in Joan's will was a brother of Sir Christopher Warde. His aunt

wanted to make sure her nephew received an inheritance of land in 'Skelton'. This would be Skelton-on-Ure which is right next to the original manor of Givendale.

John Warde, son of Sir Roger:

born about 1454

In the book 'Memorials of the Church of St. Peter and Wilfrid' (a mile from Givendale, in Ripon) there is the following entry under the heading 'The Prebend of Munckton - according to the antient Survey':

—

"Item of **John Warde**, William Smithe, Thomas Steele, Thomas Tailor and others **in the Towne of Skellton**, p. Ann. 40s."

So, 'Munckton' is referring to 'Bishop Munckton' which is only a few miles from Skelton-on-Ure.

This establishes that there was indeed a branch of the Givendale Ward family that continued beyond the death of Sir Christopher Warde, the supposed 'end of the male line' of the Wardes of Givendale!

Roger Warde, son of John Warde:

Born abt 1488

At this point we have at one end of the 'gap' a John Warde, born 1454, Givendale, who had an illegitimate son named Roger who was likely born abt 1488.

At the other end, my 'brick wall' in my Ward line research has been a Ralph Ward, born about 1578, who was buried July 31, 1658 in Forcett, in the Richmond area of North Yorkshire. His burial record states that he was "of East Layton." I have not located a birth record for any Ralph Ward born in that area in the time period around 1578. However, since I started looking into the Wardes of Givendale again, I discovered in the Parish register of Ripon, a **Ralph Ward, son of John**, baptized December 8, 1577.

There is a very strong possibility that this is the same Ralph Ward who Died in Forcett in 1658. If so, then here is a possible scenario:

Ralph Ward, baptized December 8th 1577 in Ripon was the son of a 'John' Ward and Jenet Sawkelth who were married April 18th 1574. John would have been born about 1540. I say this date because John had been married twice before, to a Jane **Tailbus** on 17 Jan 1572 and before that to another Jane on November 10th 1560. He had no children by the first two wives. So assuming he was about 20 at his first marriage that brings us to 1540 as his approximate

birth year.

This leaves only a couple of generations to link up between Roger Warde, born 1488, son of John Warde, and John Warde born 1540, father of Ralph Warde.

Here's a side point that bears consideration: Did the Wards of Hurworth-on-Tees originate in the Ripon/Aldborough area? There was a George Ward, the Lord of Hurworth Manor, and a John Ward, the Lord of Barton Manor. Were they related? Here's why I think so.

A couple of quotes from the British History Online website regarding the **Manor of Hurworth**:

"Sir Leonard Beckwith died on 7 May 1557, [\(fn. 99\)](#) and his son and heir Roger, then sixteen years of age, in 1577 sold the manor of Hurworth, but not the advowson of the church, to Henry Lawson of Neasham and ***George Ward of Hurworth***."

"Another part of the land ***attached to the Ingleby Manor*** was acquired by William Wormeley, who in 1603 died seised of 4½ oxgangs 'late of Ingleby.' also bought from Ralph **Tailbois** in 1567 an estate of 14½ oxgangs, probably including the 13 oxgangs of which Henry son of Henry Tailbois had died seised in 1444 leaving a son John. **This junior branch of the Tailbois family held of the lords of Hurworth...**

Other tenants of land in Hurworth were Christopher Foreman (d. 1621) and Richard Thompson (d. 1628), who held of James Lawson, and Ninian Kirsopp (d. 1631) who held 4 oxgangs of the heirs of James Lawson and ***John Ward***. John Lister died in 1642 holding 12 oxgangs in Hurworth, of which 5½ oxgangs were ***held of the Ingleby Manor***, receiving manorial rents from certain houses in the township."

And, from the same website, but referring to **Barton Manor**:

"It must have been at this time that the manor of Barton was divided into the two parts, sometimes called separate manors, of which it was afterwards composed. The first of these, afterwards known as '**WARD'S formerly INGLEBY'S MANOR**, ...Robert son of John Franceys had succeeded by 1319, and granted his lands here to the Mowbrays before 1330, when Thomas son of William de Mowbray was enfeoffed. John son and successor of Thomas with Isabel his wife and her heirs in 1354 settled this manor on his uncle John son of William Mowbray of Kirklington, whose son William died seised in 1391, leaving a daughter Eleanor, afterwards wife of Thomas Ingleby, and a widow Margaret. Margaret held the manor in dower until her death in 1419, when it descended to William son of Thomas and Eleanor Ingleby.

The ***Inglebys of Ripley*** held this manor of Barton until 1579, when William Ingleby conveyed it to John Ward"

From this we can see that both the Manor of Hurworth and Barton Manor were at some point

held of the Inglebys of Ripley and both ended up belonging, in part, to a Ward.

In the book 'Memorials of the Church of St. Wilfrid' in Ripon, there is this entry:

“Sir William Inglebye knight for lande in Skelton xiiij d.” (This is referring to Skelton on Ure, which is also where John Ward, brother of Sir Christopher Warde inherited land.)

William Inglebye married Ann Mallory who was born in Studley Roger, also in the neighborhood of Skelton and Ripon. It seems a strong possibility that this could be the same William Ingleby who conveyed the Manor of Barton to John Ward in 1579.

Interestingly, he was the son of William Ingleby and Cecily ***Tailboys!*** (recall that my *Ralph Ward's father John had been married previously to a Jane Tailboys*)

Other conundrums:

There was a **Robert Ward** living in Croft (between Hurworth and Barton manors) as early as 1334. According to 'Yorkshire Deeds Volume 2' which has listed under the heading 'Jolby': “254. Sunday after St. Nicholas (Dec. 11), 1334. Grant in tail by John de Oxenale, living in Jolby, to Richard his son, of an acre of arable land, lying at Donwatflat, in the common field and territory of Jolby, between the land of John son of Alan and the land of William son of John; and half an acre of meadow in Donwat, between the meadow of Peter de Oxenale and the meadow of William son of Cristian de Clesby, for one penny a year at Christmas. Witnesses, Arnald de Croft, **Robert Ward of the same**, John Quaynt of Jolby, John son of Henry of the same, Peter de Oxenhale of the same. Jolby. (Burton Agness MSS.)”

Lots of 'Skeltons' in my Closet

We left off above with a John Warde, born 1470 who inherited land at Skelton-on-Ure and had a son Roger born about 1488. Now we introduce the Wards of Skelton by Richmond.

Ralph Warde, born in 1577 in Ripon, was son of John Warde born 1540 who was a son of a John Ward born about 1518, so there is only about a 30 year gap.

In my scenario, Ralph Warde moves to either Forcett or Skelton, in Richmondshire. The likely reason being lead mining. And, as mentioned earlier, a possible connection to that area is the Sir William Ingleby, who held lands in Skelton-on-Ure, who was Lord of both Barton and Hurworth in Richmondshire, both of which were also passed to Wards in the late 1500s.

I was excited to discover a will by a Rauf Ward of Barton dated 1564. This led to further confidence that that my definite Ralph Ward (born about 1618) came from a line of Wards connected to the area around Forcett, Stanwick St. John, Barton and Hurworth. This will provided for his wife (no name mentioned), his son Cuthbert, daughters Elizabeth and Alice, and his three sisters (no names mentioned). There is also a John Pearson and his son Richard Pearson mentioned who could perhaps be a brother-in-law and nephew. He makes Peter Pyburn, John Pearson and Christofer Ward of Stanwick the Supervisors of his will.

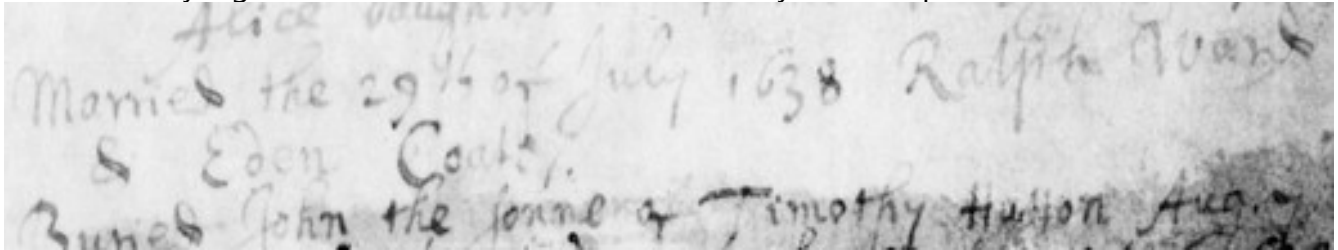
Wards of Marske and Skelton by Richmond

Ralph Ward

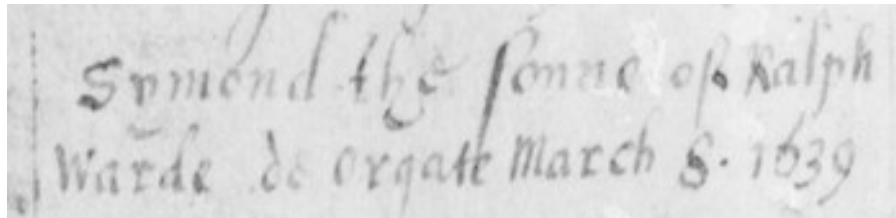
born about 1618

(likely a grandson of Ralph b. 1577 in Ripon - d. 1658 in Forcett)

I have not been able to locate a record of Ralph's baptism. Although the Marske Parish baptism registers exist starting from 1597, many of the pages are heavily stained, faded, and otherwise deteriorated, making them unreadable. The record of his marriage in 1638 to Eden Coates is very legible and reads "Married the 29th of July 1638 Ralph Ward & Eden Coates."



Fortunately, there is plenty of documented evidence of Ralph Ward's existence. For instance, we know that he and Eden lived in Orgate, just a short hike up Skelton Lane, because the Marske Parish baptism record of their first child states 'Symond the sonne of Ralph Warde de Orgate'.



We also know that Ralph Warde was an entrepreneur, making his living from the lead mining in the area. The following quotes add some colour to the black and white names and dates of the parish records.

The following was found in a book called '*Swaledale - Its Mines and Smelt Mills*' by Mike Gill:

"The site of a second mill is revealed in a sale of land at Orgate to Robert Willance in 1614. It is not clear who built that mill, but for convenience Tyson called it Willance's Mill. When Willance died in 1616, his estates including the mill, passed to his nephew, Brian Willance. The latter's daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, married Doctor John Bathurst in 1635. He worked at the Arkengarthdale Mines, first under the Commonwealth (1649 - 1653) and then under a lease from the Citizens of London from 1654. Ore was carried from shafts, chiefly around Windegg, via Gun Nest to Willance's Mill. Here two smelters, (**Ralph Warde** and John Taylor) were paid 10s 6d for each fother of lead they produced plus 2d for weighing it..."

Another quote taken from <http://sometimes-interesting.com/2015/03/22/orewinners-and->

[deadmen-lead-mining-in-swaledale/](#):

"The smelters were the highest paid men in the mining operation as it required considerable experience to be able to produce good quality lead.

The men doing it may not have been aware of the chemical terms for what they were doing, but it was quite sophisticated chemistry that they were performing, first turning the ore into lead oxide, and then adding carbon to remove the oxygen to produce the finished metal. They controlled everything: lighting the furnace, choosing the type and amount of fuel to use, and the casting of the lead pigs at the end of the process."

Ralph Warde is also mentioned in the book 'A Dales Heritage' by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, in chapter 2 'Two Seventeenth-Century Lead-Mine Proprietors' describing the bookkeeping, in 1657, of Dr. John Bathurst, manorial lord, and the owner of Clints mine:

*"The accounts are complicated by the borrowing which prevailed. Almost everyone, including the smelters, was in debt. For instance, although the partners at the White Gang had raised 247 ½ loads of ore, they were only paid for 225 ½. The twenty-two loads deducted cancelled out previous debts, and 'Clear' is now written at the bottom of their column of figures. A further list of individual miners record debts ranging from shillings to £2 8s. 8d., and one of the smelters, **Ralph Warde**, owing £3, had paid off part leaving him still owing £1 15s... The rate for the smelters was 10s. 6d. For smelting a fother and 2d. A fother for weighing. Between them they received £39 16s. 3d. During the year. **Ralph Warde** also chopped wood and the other smelter, John Taylor, built up 'Orgait house in Clints ground which was burnt' for £1 2s. 6d."*

It is known that Ralph was still alive in 1665 during The Great Plague, that lasted from 1665 to 1666, the last major epidemic of the bubonic plague to occur in England. Apparently, one George Mason had made a trip to London and on returning was required to stay in quarantine. Chosen men of Marske were required to guard his house to make sure he or any of his family did not leave.

"It is known that Marske has suffered in 1665 when stringent measures were enforced to keep George Mason and his family in quarantine for forty days. (NR Yorks Qtr Sessions Records Vol VI). Under the direction of the constable six men maintained a day and night watch at Mason's home because he had '...lately come from the city of London'.

*Some of the watchers were Hutton Harrison, Matthew Smith, **Ralph Ward**..."*

**Simon Ward, son of Ralph:
born 1639 at Orgate, near Skelton**

As mentioned above, the Marske parish baptism record for Simon says "Symond the sonne of Ralph Warde de Orgate March 8 1639." Orgate is just a short walk up the lane from Skelton

and Marske by Richmond.

On a visit to Marske in 2009 we took a round trip bicycle trip from Grinton to Marske and did the loop through Skelton, Orgate farm, Clints and back. Here is a photo of the house that is standing on what I believe was where my Ward ancestors lived.



I am assuming Simon married an Ann since his son named his second daughter 'Ann'. The naming pattern of the time was for the wife to name the first daughter after her mother, and the second daughter was to be named after the father's mother.

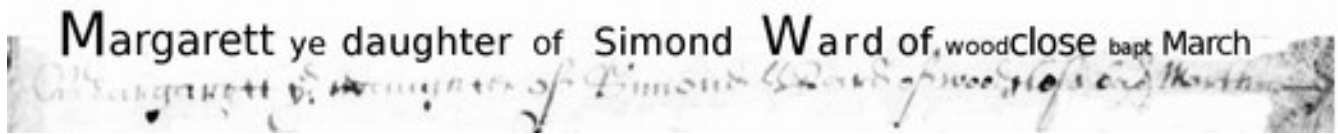
Simon and 'Ann' must have married after 1657, since I have not been able to find a record of their marriage. The Marske marriage registers are missing from 1658 to 1678.

One thing is certain about Simon: he worked as a lead smelter, most likely for his father. This is seen from the following quote from a book by a Mike Gill who in turn, had made use of research carried out by L.O. Tyson and published in the journal, 'British Mining No 50' (1994).

"There was an inheritance dispute among relatives as to ownership of the mines and this resulted in a law suit which was heard in the Court of Chancery in 1682. Depositions of witnesses who were familiar with the mines testified that under the management of one of the disputants they had been very productive. "In his testimony, Simon Warde, a smelter stated that he had been a smelter at the Clints Mill for the past twenty years and that the mill was capable of smelting slag lead."

The following baptism record of Margaret Ward, daughter of Simon, in 1668 shows that Simon Ward was living way out on the moors at that time, about an 8 mile hike northwest from Orgate where he had been born and raised. There are numerous old lead mine sites there. Ravensworth, where this baptism was registered is likewise about 8 miles directly east of where an old unnamed road crosses Woodclose Gill where I assume he was living. That would have been slightly closer than traveling to Marske. I found it challenging to decipher the

record, but I sent it to an expert transcriber of early British documents who confirmed what I had suspected, which I printed above the actual record in the following image.



Incidental to this Simon Ward, there was a later Simon Ward (a 4th great grandson of his) who also lived out on the same remote moors. The baptism record of his son reads "James, son of Simon Ward of Shepherd's Hall". When I found Shepherd's Hall on an old map it made me ponder the complexities of rural isolation in those early days. It gives the child's birth date as December 6, 1810. However, it was over three months later that baby James was baptized in Kirkby-Ravensworth on March 17, 1811. One can only imagine making the grueling seven mile journey over the windswept moors, possibly on foot, with a fragile newborn and a wife who had just given birth! I can see why they postponed the baptism until spring!

Getting back to the Simon Ward born 1639, a Marske burial record simply states of him "Simon Ward buried November 14th, 1690". On my visit to the Dales in 2009 I had a look through the rather small churchyard at Marske and could not locate even one Ward headstone. Someone told me that through the centuries they would bury over top of the old graves rather than expanding the burial ground. For a church that has been there since 800 AD, the oldest readable headstone is dated 1729!

**Ralph Ward, son of Simon:
born about 1664**

Since the parish records for Marske are missing between 1664 and 1677, Ralph must have been born as early as possible between that time, so I'm going with 1664. Likely he was born at Orgate where his father Simon had been born and worked in the lead smelting business.

Ralph married in Spennithorne, Lucia Blackburne of Bellerby on May 31st, 1692.

**John Ward, son of Ralph:
born 1697, Marske by Richmond**

John Ward was born May 16th, 1697 in the tiny hamlet of Marske, 5 miles from the market town of Richmond in Swaledale.

He married Susannah Carter in Spennithorne, North Yorkshire, she being from the nearby village of Bellerby, about six miles south of Marske. The same village where John's mother, Lucia Blackburne had been born.

Little is known about his life except at the end of it the Marske Parish burial record says of him "John Ward, Parish Clerk for between 13 and 14 years buried January 20th, 1750."

I did a little digging into what, exactly, were the requirements and duties of parish clerks in those days:

"They should be at least 20 years old, and known to the parson "as a man of honest conversation and sufficient for his reading, writing and competent skill in singing" Canon 91 (1603). Functions - reading the lessons and epistles, singing in the choir, giving out the hymns, leading the responses, serving at the altar and other like duties, opening of the church, ringing the bell, digging graves if there be no sexton. The role of Sexton is usually combined in country parishes." Another source said "They are the sacristan, the keeper of holy things relating to divine service. Responsible for the care of the church, vestments and vessels, keeping the church clean, ringing bells, opening/closing doors, digging graves and care of the churchyard."

John was only 52 years old when he died, and when his wife, Susannah, followed him only a year later, age 51, they still had young children at home ranging from 10 to 17 years of age. Their eldest son, my great, great, great, great grandfather, Simon, however was already married and having children of his own.

**Simon Ward, son of John:
born 1721, Marske by Richmond**

Simon Ward was baptized in Marske in Richmondshire May 12th, 1721, son of John Ward and Susannah Carter.

Simon was likely not involved in the smelting business, as his father, John Ward's copper smelting mill in Whashton had closed down shortly after 1728 when Simon was only 7 years old. But, assuming the family was still living in the Orgate area, it is very likely he worked in some aspect of lead mining, perhaps as a general labourer, there being lead smelting mills at Orgate since the late 1590s, including one referred to as 'Willances Mill' where his grandfather, Ralph Ward had the smelting contract some time in the mid-late 1600s.

Simon married Sarah Colling of nearby Richmond in 1746.

To Nova Scotia, Canada

**Simon Ward, son of Simon:
born 1755, Marske by Richmond**

Simon senior's Marske parish burial record of 1796 calls him a 'pauper', so by that time, whether by old age, sickness, or the slowing down of lead mining in the area, he was no longer providing very well for his family.

By 1775, Simon junior was a young man of 20 years. His older and only surviving brother, Robert, was married and raising a family in nearby Grinton, likely working as a lead smelter in one of the many mines in that area. Robert's burial record of 1790 states "He came out of Netherdale (now called Nidderdale) some months before with a wife and 3 sons and a daughter where he had been a smelter. Pauper." So, at some point after 1779 when his last child was born in Grinton, Robert had moved his family to Nidderdale, worked there as a smelter for ten years or so, then returned to Marske, where his elderly father, Simon, was still living, to die at the young age of 42. Here is a quote from a book about the effects on the men who worked in the lead smelters.

"... He spoke of the ill effects of the lead fumes on the smelters, many of whom died in their early forties due to contracting a lung disease. A miner himself, he said that the higher wages did not tempt him to work in the mill." - The Lead Smelting Mills of the Yorkshire Dales and Northern Pennines. R. T. Clough, 2nd Ed. 1979

Perhaps this is the reason why twenty year old, unmarried Simon Ward junior decided to break away from a life of mining and seek his fortune in the 'new world'.

In 1775 the American Revolutionary War had begun, which is also known as the American War of Independence. It began as a conflict between Great Britain and her Thirteen Colonies, which had declared independence as the United States of America. In **1779** we find Simon Ward *on the muster roll of the British Royal Navy war ship 'Daphne'*. Written beside the whole list of men on this muster it says '29th August '79 'Exchanged'. This means that Simon and his fellow shipmates had been held prisoner on an American ship (perhaps the *Oliver Cromwell* mentioned below) and were offered in exchange for release of American prisoners of war.

"Most American POWs that survived incarceration were held until late 1779, in which they were exchanged for British POWs."



Above is picture of a model of 'Sphynx', which is identical to Daphne.

A few quotes I found referring to this ship:

"Edward Allen was the captain of the brigantine Comet. The Comet carried eighteen 6 pounders. On December 22nd the Royal Navy ship Daphne fought the Comet near Cuba and captured her."

*"That it appears from the affidavit and petition of the petitioner, that in the year 1779, he entered on board the public armed vessel "Oliver Cromwell," a ship belonging to the State of Connecticut, and in the service of the United States, as a common sailor, for a single cruise; that he was on board said ship about three months, when he was taken prisoner by the **British ship Daphne**, after a severe action, in which he was wounded severely, etc.."*

"On September 20, 1779, HM Frigate Daphne led by Captain St. John Chinnery captured the Eagle."

HM Frigate Daphne returned to England in autumn of 1779 and never returned to the Revolutionary War, so Simon must have transferred to another ship before that because next we find Simon Ward listed among those on board one of several prison/hospital ships in Wallabout Bay, New York during the 1780s near the end of the Revolutionary War. The source states: 'There is nothing to indicate what became of any of these prisoners, whether they died, escaped, or were **exchanged**.' However, **one of these ships was used for 'transporting Loyalists to New Brunswick'**. (source: <http://www.usmm.org/revdead.html>) As follows:

Prison and hospital ships in Wallabout Bay: name, capacity, first year of use.

Hope (capacity 200) - Left N.Y. on Apr. 27, 1783 arrived at mouth of St. John River, June 10-12, 1783 -- hospital prison ship used to transport Loyalists to New Brunswick (Canada)

See also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hope_%28ship%29

Jersey was abandoned and burned in Wallabout Bay at the end of the war, so Simon must have then transferred to 'Hope' for transport to Canada.

For more info on the HMS Jersey: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Jersey_\(1736\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Jersey_(1736))

Another Simon Ward descendant who contacted me, Louise Kasigian of California, told me there were family stories when she was growing up about Simon having been from Yorkshire, England, and that he wore a "British uniform with long white socks."

This is how Simon finds himself in Newport, Nova Scotia where the first mention of him on any records is on his son Robert's baptism record in 1786. It's interesting to see that he named his firstborn after his brother Robert rather than his father even though both would still be alive at this time. Maybe it was because his father's name was the same as his own, Simon.

At some point before the birth of Robert in 1786, he met and married Rhoda Mosher, the daughter of James and Lydia Mosher, who had come from Rhode Island and were among the first of the New England 'planters', or settlers in Newport, Nova Scotia in 1760.

Next he is mentioned in the Newport Township Book November 3, 1788: "Meetings to discuss, among other things, the poor, were held in his home."

He is listed in the Poll Tax records for 1792-3 for Newport, Nova Scotia.

He bought land in Newport, NS in 1797 from a Samuel Hoyle (lot 15) as follows:

This Indenture made the fourteenth day of February and in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Seven and in the Thirty Seventh Year of His Majestys Reign, know all men by these presents that I Samuel Hoyle, Miller and planter of the Township of Newport County of Hants and Province of Nova Scotia for and in Consideration of the Sum of One hundred pounds Currency of this province to me in hand well and truly paid before the Ensealing and delivery of these presents by Simon Ward planter of the Township County and province aforesaid hath granted bargained Sold aliened Entrusted Released and Confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargained sold aliened Entrusted Released and Confirm unto the said Simon Ward his heirs Executors administration and Assigns for Ever Half that tract parcel or lot of land situate lying in the aforesaid Township of Newport being lot No. 15 bounded as followeth viz. on the East by lands formerly belonging to Jonathan Card on the West by the Mill farm on the North by the River Hubbert Containing by Estimation two hundred acres min or together with all the buildings and improvements woods Watercourses, and the Reversion and remaining remittences and _____ with all and every the Appartenances hereunto belonging to the said Simon Ward his heirs executors administrators and assigns for Ever. In Witness wherof I bind myself and my heirs to

shall and will warrant and for Ever defend against all persons whatsoever the full Possession with the benefits and appurtenances belonging to the aforesaid ____ to the aforesaid Simon Ward his heirs executors administrators and assigns for Ever To Have and to Hold the aforesaid Granted Premises. In Witness Hereto I hereunto set my Hand and Seal ____

Witnesses present Daniel Weeden, William Gill

Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of us this __ Day of February 1797

Samuel Hoyle

He bought adjoining lands in Newport, NS in 1810 from Thomas Smith (lot 14) and then again in 1811 he purchased the south half of lot 15 (he already bought the north half from Terrence Cochrane). Later he bought more adjoining land there from Felix Cochrane. (There was a Felix Cochrane who died in Newport in 1802)

In the 1817 Hants County census, Simon Ward is the head of a household of six. (1 English born, 5 Nova Scotia born). Simon would be the '1 English born'.

The following are entries in the church records for St. James Anglican in Newport referring to Simon Ward:

1829 - 'subscription rec. for Churchyard Fence'

1832 - occupies pew #11

1833 - Easter Monday, Apr. 8th 'That Simon Ward be appointed 'vestryman' (this would be only a few weeks before Simon's death)

- James Constantine & Simon Ward, pews both sold to D. Johnston

1835 - James Constantine occupies pew #11

1835 - Jehu Ward occupies pew #11

Simon died in Newport, Hants County, Nova Scotia and there is a burial record showing he was buried in St. James Anglican cemetery in Brooklyn, Newport on May 8, 1833. I was not able to locate a headstone for him or his wife Rhoda, but there is one for his son, my great great grandfather, Robert Ward.

Robert Ward born 1786, Newport, Nova Scotia

Robert's baptism is found in the St. Paul's Anglican, Halifax registers because in those years there was no resident minister in Newport, Hants County, Nova Scotia yet. All baptisms, marriages and deaths were registered in the main diocese register in Halifax.

Robert grew up in a rural setting, the eldest of ten children of Simon and Rhoda (Mosher) Ward. I thought it was interesting to note that Simon named his firstborn after his eldest brother, Robert, rather than his father, Simon, as the popular naming patterns would dictate.

Robert married his first cousin, Emetine (Amy) Mosher, November 15th, 1810 and between 1811 and 1832 had seven children.

When his father Simon was dying he made his will in May 25th, 1831. It reads in part: "First I give unto my son Robert Ward the use of the following Lots of Land during his natural Life and at his death to his son Simon Ward and to his heirs and assigns for ever viz. one Lot of upland containing thirty acres being a part of Lot number fifteen bounded southerly on the new road Landing to ___ easterly on Land of John Ward (Robert's younger brother) north of the river West on ___ Land of Felix Cochran and twenty eight and one half acres being a part of



Lot number fourteen and bounded southerly on Land of the Late James Smith easterly and northerly on Land of John Ward and west on Land of Felix Cochran

...and it is further my will that my son Robert Ward have my large Bible, my arm chair, two cows, five sheep and one ___ the sheep and cows to be the same that are now in his possession."

Unfortunately, Robert dies less than 2 years after his father, in December, 1835 at the young age of 49. He is buried at the foot of a huge old oak tree in the old St. James Anglican Cemetery, Newport (now Brooklyn), Hants County, NS. His headstone reads: "In memory of Robert Ward died Dec. 24, 1835 Aged 49 years. Also his wife Emetine died Aug 18, 1868 Aged 78 years _____ from the body to be ... (here the stone is broken and the rest is partially buried in the earth).

The youngest of Robert's sons, was Nicholas Ward, only nineteen years young when his father died. Nicholas is my great grandfather.

Nicholas Ward, born 1818

Because Nicholas was only nineteen when his father died, he was sent to live with his uncle, the brother of his father, Increase Ward, who owned an Inn at Three Mile House, in the Halifax area. He was listed in the school records there in 1836 as Nicholas Ward, age 19. His father's name given is Robert, so this is definitely my great grandfather.

It must be while dwelling at Three Mile House Inn, where travelers stopped regularly en route to and from the bustling city of Halifax, that he learned the blacksmith trade. At some point, before his marriage, he moves back to Windsor, Hants County, near to Newport where he grew up. He was a passenger on the Brig 'Bee' from Windsor, NS to Boston, Massachusetts, USA in June of 1845. Listed as Nicholas M. Ward, age 27, 'blacksmith'.

He marries Sarah Caldwell in Windsor, Nova Scotia in 1850. However, they have two daughters already, twins who were born in December 1845.

This was discovered when I found a headstone in the Old Parish Burying Ground in Windsor. It reads:

"Amy Ward .. daughter of Nicholas & Sarah Ward
Died Dec 15, 1851 Aged 6 years"

This means Amy would have been born in 1845, five years before Nicholas and Sarah's marriage.

Nicholas and Sarah also had another daughter named Mary Maria Ward. From the 1900 census, where she gives her birth date as December 1845, we can see that Mary Maria and Amy must have been twin sisters, both born in 1845, five years before Nicholas and Sarah's marriage.

The above mentioned passage on a ship bound from Windsor to Boston in June, 1845 makes one wonder if Nicholas wasn't high-tailing it out of the country! The expectant mother would, at that time, be about 3 months into her pregnancy, and since it was going to be twins, it was probably very evident!

I have a theory that the twin girls, Amy and Mary Maria, were actually born to Sarah Caldwell's twin sister Mary Ann Caldwell. This is based on the fact that Mary Ann Caldwell died March 20 1846, only three months after the birth of the twins in December 1845. It seems reasonable that Nicholas was the father of Amy and Mary Maria, and that their mother died possibly from complications of the birth of twins. Maybe the girls stayed with their grandmother and Mary Ann's twin sister Sarah until finally Nicholas married Sarah when the girls were 5 years old in 1850. That's my theory, anyway.

Then in the 1861 census Nicholas is the head of a household of eight. In 1864, according to the Windsor city directory they lived at Island Point in a house at Avon and Water Streets. The 1871 Windsor business directory shows Nicholas as a blacksmith with his own shop. That same year, on November 1st Nicholas and Sarah welcomed a new addition to their family, a baby boy, my grandfather, Harry Welton Ward.

Harry Welton Ward born November 1st 1871

Unfortunately, I never knew any of my grandparents, both grandfathers and one of my grandmothers having died before I was born. Even the one grandmother, my father's mother, who was alive in Sydney, Nova Scotia, until I was six years old, must have been a well guarded secret which was not uncovered until 1994 when I began my family research! None of them were even talked about through the years that I was growing up in Toronto, Canada, and, I guess I just never thought to ask! All I now know of my father's parents was revealed to me when, shortly before he died, he wrote his memoirs.

As the first entry regarding his father he writes: *"My father was Harry Welton Ward. His family had all been ship ironers, which meant they made all the ironmongery needed on the old wooden ships in their blacksmith shop."*

Harry was born to Nicholas and Sarah (Caldwell) Ward November 1st 1871 in Windsor, Hants County, Nova Scotia, Canada. No doubt, he learned the blacksmith trade from his father, and likely inherited the business and shop when Nicholas died in 1889. Early in 1896 he married a local girl, Maggie Ethel Lowthers, and before the year was out, they had begun a family. Then, less than a year later, on October 17, 1897,

"disaster struck the town of Windsor, Nova Scotia. At three a.m. that Sunday morning, a fire started that would destroy most the town and leave most of its residents homeless and penniless." (quoted from West Hants Historical Society Newsletter of November 2012 – Great Fire of Windsor, 1897)

I can only imagine, if Harry had lost his blacksmith shop, and thus his means of living, it explains why the family is next found, in the 1901 census, in Sydney, Nova Scotia, where the new 'Dominion Iron and Steel Company' had just been built and no doubt needed skilled blacksmiths.

"A small government town was transformed into a large industrial city that became known as "the steel capital of Eastern Canada". " (The Birth of a Steel Plant
By Sydney S. Slaven)

This turn of events were the beginning of Harry's nearly four decade long employment at the DICSO (Dominion Iron and Steel Company)



Above: The only known picture of my grandfather, Harry Welton Ward. The couple to the right are my mom and dad, Ralph Sydney Ward and Christina (Dalrymple) Ward.

Another amusing (or not) entry in my father's memoirs goes like this:

"Father had given mother a gun, and one night she nearly shot him by mistake when he had come home early because of a breakdown at the plant. Pop sawed the barrel off it after that."

On a more serious note:

"A terrible thing happened at the plant where my father worked. His helper had been standing by the forge hammering out a piece of steel when a chunk broke off from the main forging and struck him in the head. It almost took his head right off, and he, of course, died instantly. It shook my father deeply, and he was very grieved."

This snippet gives one an idea of Harry Ward's physical strength:

"Father was a real strong man, with arms on him like a blacksmith's – which is what he was. He could hold me up with one hand at arm's length and weighed about 215 lbs. He was really muscled from being on a forge all his life until the automatic steam hammer came into use.

We had a 16 lb. sledge with which father used to split logs. Our fence was about 100 feet away in the back yard, and he used to swing that sledge hammer like a ball and throw it right over the fence. One day he misjudged the distance and the sledge hammer hit the fence, knocking it all down."

My dad also mentions that his dad loved to box for a hobby and taught him how to defend himself.

Harry died in Sydney April 15th 1938. Here is his obituary:

H. W. Ward, Richmond Street, Succumbs In Hospital To Brief Illness

A resident of Sydney for the last 30 years, and employed at the steel plant all that time,

H. W. Ward, 67, of Richmond street, this city, died in St. Rita's hospital late last night following an illness of several days with heart trouble.

He was born in Windsor, NS and came here shortly after the opening of the plant and followed the occupation of tool dresser for the past quarter of a century.

He was well known throughout Sydney, and held in the highest esteem and his totally unexpected passing will be learned with deep regret and will be widely mourned.

He is survived by his widow, who is now en route home from Boston where she had been visiting relatives and friends in the past 10 days and is expected to arrive in the city on Sunday morning; also four daughters Mrs. Clarence Gordon (Hilda); Mrs. John Babineau, (Madge) in Boston; Mrs. Rueben Martin (Blanche); Mrs. Archie Vatcher (Irene), in Sydney; three sons, Claude, and Raymond, at home; Ralph in Toronto.

Also two sisters, Mrs. Sadie Baters, Boston; Miss Laura Ward, Boston.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.



Ralph Sydney Ward 1905 - 1985

Ralph Sydney Ward born November 29, 1905

It wasn't until I was grown up that I realized the significance of my father's middle name. That he was named for the city his parents had adopted after moving 437 kilometers away from Windsor, Hants County to Sydney, Cape Breton Island. And as for his first name, Ralph, well, if he were alive today I can just imagine how intrigued he would be to learn that he was one of at least eight Ralph Wards in our family tree. Indeed, how ironic it is that the 'brick wall' I have run into in my research is a 'Ralph' Ward!

My father's life began in November, 1905, in a company house on Old Victoria Road, right behind the Dominion Iron & Steel Company where his father Harry worked in his trade as a blacksmith. He was not to follow in the path of his father though. No, running through my father's veins was the blood of many a Ward entrepreneur before him, eventually starting his own successful business that lasted his lifetime. His grandfather, Nicholas Ward owned a blacksmith shop, his great grandfather as well. His great great grandfather, Simon Ward broke out of a long line of his Yorkshire Dales ancestors who were entrepreneurs in the lead smelting business to seek his fortune in the 'New World'. Along the way, surviving the American Revolutionary War, and becoming a successful farmer, land owner, and inn keeper in Nova Scotia, Canada.

My father also had artistic leanings. Drawn to things of a literary nature, his first job was at his city's main newspaper, the Sydney Post. However, not content with the day to day mechanics of helping to run the presses, he spent his off-time writing poems, something he loved to do, a creative expression that would surface from time to time throughout the stream of his life. In his memoirs he wrote "During my second year at the Post I began to write poetry. The night editor was quite partial to my poetry so I always got it published. He would always give it space. My first poem was "My Little Old Hunk of tin". It was reprinted by the Halifax Herald. Another was "Ode to a Fish". It would be a real nice job to go through all those old editions to see how many poems I had published."

The memory of my dad on his last night before he passed away was of him getting up out of his bed, standing on the bed, and bursting forth with passion, a recitation of 'The Wreck of the Hesperous', gestures and all! I can still see him, as he acted out the verse:

*"The Skipper he stood beside the helm,
His pipe was in his mouth,
And he watched how the veering flaw did blow
The smoke now West, now South.*

I also recall fondly his wonderful tenor singing voice which he loved to demonstrate at such times when the fancy struck him. Usually a few bars of a song that something someone said had just reminded him of.

Here is another glimpse from his memoirs: "I joined the choir the next year at Christ Church when I was in grade 8. I liked choir practice. We had a great choir teacher who used to be in the St. Andrew's Church choir. He was a real professional singer and tried so hard to get us to sing as a four-part harmony quartet. But it was no good. We just could not stop listening to what the other voices were doing. We were all put in the tenor section of the choir, that is, Jack Carson, Duncan MacQuarrie and myself, along with the choir director. We learned to follow the notes until we were quite good. The bass voices were beside us, and opposite were the lady sopranos and contraltos. Ours was one of the best choirs in town."