

PART OF THE LETTER FROM JANN BURROWS RE THE RESEARCH ON THE WYATTS

I was stunned to read from your letter that someone else is researching the WYATTS of Water Eaton! I'm sure the Mary Wyatt who married John Churchill Jnr in 1742 must have been Swithin's great aunt. The population of Water Eaton in 1821 was 153 and a century earlier would have been smaller.

All through my Wyatt research, I've come across "pockets" of Wyatts in Cropredy, Adderbury and Wigginton (also Froughton). In the Oxon Poll Book for 1754 are listed John Wyatt and Thomas Wyatt, landowners from Adderbury. It was through a connection probably that Mary Wyatt of Water Eaton met and married John Churchill. ~~As~~ Thomas and Mary Wyatt had the Manor House at Cropredy and are mentioned in the Oxford County History (Vol 6).

I've dozens of Wyatt references jotted down. The Water Eaton family seems to be directly descended from (or connected) with the Wyatt family who were yeoman farmers in the villages of Murcott and Fencott near Charlton on Otmoor. I'm enclosing a document in Latin about a transfer of land to John Wyatt of Islip. The land is in Murcott. We already have the Islip-Water Eaton connection. (We sometimes walk from Islip to Water Eaton along the River Sherwell. It's a 15-20 minute walk).

There are nine Wyatt wills in the Bodleian Library, dating from 1557-1680. All are from Murcott. Then come the wills of William and Anne Wyatt of Islip dated 1708 and 1712, grandparents of the Mary Wyatt, who married John Churchill, and of our Elizabeth Wyatt.

William Wyatt's will was too fragile for photocopying. I have sent you Anne Wyatt's, I think, and the inventories?

By the way, I noticed Joseph Churchill married an Esther Gilkes - the witness to the marriage of Sarah Newton and Richard Horn was Ann Gilkes. I think this is pure coincidence.

I had noticed that the Wyatts of Cropredy and Wigginton were highly praised for new inventive farming methods. So were the Wyatts of Water Eaton. "Mr Wyatt of Water Eaton breeds sheep with attention and success. His ewes are as fat as he can wish them to be."

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If you or Mr. Reynolds want any of the Wyatt jottings, I'll send them.