



AYLWIN FAMILY AND FOREBEARS

7th to 20th CENTURY

BY

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INTRODUCTION

In writing this account of the ancestry and family of Aylwin I have made much use of the researches carried out by my uncle (Guy Aylwin 1877-1961), my grandfather (Charles Aylwin 1838-1909) and others. Somewhat naturally it mostly covers the line leading down to my grandfather's family and his descendants. There are, of course, other lines leading from the various children of other forebears, but time and space do not permit me to cover them in detail.

My grandfather had a lengthy correspondence on the subject with a Mr. W.C. Shorto, who was descended on his maternal side from Thomas Aylwin (1713-1780) of Didling, Sussex. Shorto carried out a great deal of research in old chronicles, histories, church registers and other documents during the late 19th Century.

In more recent times my uncle analysed this correspondence and himself carried out much painstaking and detailed research in church registers in Sussex and Hampshire.

My contribution is to extract some of the highlights of their work. I have added other details which I have gleaned in order to produce a short family history.

I also have to thank my first cousin, Jack Aylwin of Victoria, British Columbia and another Jack Aylwin (John Henry) ^(d.1984), who coincidentally also lives in Victoria, B.C., for their help and encouragement. John Aylwin of Sydney, New South Wales, kindly supplied information concerning his family's line of descent and drew my attention to United States Navy Ships named Aylwin.

Others who have helped me are Jacques Fortin of the Department of Toponymy in the Quebec Government; Miss A.P. Dunster of the Economics Division of The Bank of England;

Mrs. K. Chapman of The National Maritime Museum and P.L. Gwynn-Jones, Bluemantle Pursuivant at The College of Arms. I also obtained information from M.N. Roberts, The Keeper of Enquiry Services at The Guildhall Library in the City of London, and from the Dictionary of American Biography and The Dictionary of American Fighting Ships. Finally, I must thank my wife, Islay, for her comments and help.

Perhaps it may stimulate others to try and discover the missing links with those Aylwins of the 15th Century and earlier.

Kenneth Aylwin
Wimbledon,
5th November, 1981

SPELLING OF THE NAME

Through the centuries there have been a number of variations in the spelling of the name. This can be seen in Reaney's "Dictionary of British Surnames" of which, in addition to Aylwin, the following are examples: Aethelwine, Elwin, Eylwin, Aylewyn, Allwin, Aldwine, Alwyn, Ayling. Suffice it to say that the name is Saxon in origin. Reaney states that the Old English Spelling was originally Aedelwine, meaning "Noble friend".

FIRST RECORDS

The first record we have is in the Saxon Chronicle of the 7th Century, where one Elwin, is mentioned as being slain near the River Trent in 679. Echard's "History of England" (1718) refers to Aldwin, King of the South Saxons, being killed by Ina, King of the West Saxons in 725. The Melrose Chronicle mentions Alwin who was Bishop of Mercia 731. An Ailwin was a kinsman, possibly cousin, of King Edgar (944-975). He was an Alderman of all the Anglias and founded Ramsey Abbey in Huntingdonshire and was buried there in 993. In those times, an Alderman was a member of the judiciary, and such people held positions akin to Governor of a Province. Another Ailwin was Custodian of the Convent of Bury St. Edmunds in 990 and later Bishop of Ely in 1020.

To continue the links in religious orders, the founder of Durham Priory was named Aldwin. He was the last Bishop of Chester-le-Street and first Bishop of Durham in 995.

ALWYN, BISHOP OF WINCHESTER

Towards the end of the period of the Danish Invasions of England, in the 9th and 10th Centuries, one of the leaders in the fighting against the Danes was named Alwyn. As a reward for his bravery, he was appointed to preside over the

Province of Southampton. According to the historian, Rudbourne, he was created Earl of Southampton. He later gave up the military life and became a monk. It was after becoming an ecclesiastic that he was appointed to be counsellor and guardian of Emma, sister of Richard, Duke of Normandy, when this lady was sent to England to become the wife of King Ethelred (979-1016), who was the second son of King Edgar. Then, after Emma had become Queen, she prevailed upon the King to appoint Alwyn, Bishop of Winchester.

The friendship between Alwyn and Queen Emma led to a slander on the former by Robert of Jumièges, who became Archbishop of Canterbury. It was to the effect that Alwyn had been accessory to the death of Queen Emma's eldest son, Alfred, and also that he had tried to obstruct the succession of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066).

At the order of the King, the Archbishop convened a synod, at which it was decided that the Queen should undergo a test of ordeal by fire. She was to walk over nine red-hot ploughshares placed on the floor of the nave of Winchester Cathedral. History relates that she readily agreed, and suffered no injury.

This same Alwyn was a brother of Earl Godwin, who, in his time, was the most powerful man in the kingdom. Godwin's daughter Edith, married King Edward the Confessor. Harold II, defeated at the Battle of Hastings, was Godwin's son and thus Alwyn was Harold's uncle. He was buried in Winchester Cathedral in 1047.

This was not the present cathedral building, the construction of which was started in 1079. The old one was pulled down in 1093. When this was done, the bones of the early Kings and Queens of England and Bishops were placed in Mortuary Chests. They can be seen today resting on top of the choir screen of Winchester Cathedral. The particular Mortuary Chest containing the bones of Alwyn also contains those of King Canute and King

William Rufus and Queen Emma and rests on the screen on the south side of the choir. Its Latin inscription is translated as follows: "In this coffer are the remains of Canute and Rufus Kings, of Emma Queen, and Alwin Bishop".

LANDOWNERS IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND

Probably as a result of their influence at court, the Alwyns became owners of several manors and much land in Sussex and Hampshire. Reference to and details of this are made in "The Book of Winchester", the version of Domesday Book applicable to the Winchester area. However, it seems that these properties were plundered by the Normans after the Invasion, as Domesday Book records that they were acquired by Godfrey De Bec of Caen in Normandy through the gift of William, Duke of Normandy, in return for his services at William's court.

These properties were at Offham, Storchestone (Storrington), Clapham and Basingstoke. It is also recorded in the Domesday Survey that there was a manor in Devonshire called Alwinestone held by Alwin in King Edward's time.

FIRST MAYOR OF LONDON

Moving on some 120 years, we come to Henry Fitz Alwyn, or Fitz Eylwin, who was first Mayor of London. Kent's "An Encyclopaedia of London" states that he assumed Office about 1191 and died in 1212. He was described as of "Londonestone", and it may be assumed that his house was near what is still known as London Stone.

London Stone, in Cannon Street, is believed to be the most ancient relic still in the streets of London. It was mentioned in a gospel book given by King Athelstan (895-940) to Christchurch, Canterbury. Camden, the Elizabethan antiquary, thought that originally it was the millarium or stone from which

the Romans measured distances.

By coincidence, the firm of Canadian Stockbrokers for whom my son, Andrew, ^{once} ~~now~~ works, ~~recently~~ acquired offices in Milestone House, Cannon Street, which stands opposite Cannon Street Station. The remaining piece of London Stone has been placed on the wall of this office building and attached to it is a bronze plaque, on which the following is inscribed:-

"London Stone"

"This is a fragment of the original piece of limestone once securely fixed in the ground now fronting Cannon Street Station.

"Removed in 1742 to the north side of the street, in 1798 it was built in the south wall of the Church of St. Swithun Londonstone, which stood here until demolished in 1962.

"Its origin and purpose are unknown but in 1188 there was a reference to Henry, Son of Eylwin de Londenstane, subsequently, Lord Mayor of London."

In actual fact, it is not strictly correct to say that Henry Fitz Eylwin was Lord Mayor, as I have established from The Guildhall Library that the person holding the position was called Mayor until 1283, when the addition of "Lord" was made. Prior to Henry Fitz Alwyn's time the leading citizen of London was known as the Portreeve. The duties of these persons were very onerous and were mostly men of great distinction and appointed to the post by the King. Henry Fitz Alwyn was appointed by King Richard I. He had been an Alderman from 1177, and a member of the Draper's Company. He was a considerable landowner at Hoo and Burham, in Kent, Warlingham in Surrey and Edmonton in Middlesex.

Richard I, also known as Coeur-de-Lion, reigned for 10 years, but only spent a total of about 10 months in all in England. During his absence on the Crusades to the Holy Land,

he left the supervision of the country to his mother, Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, assisted by others, including the Bishops of Ely and Durham. No doubt Henry Fitz Alwyn, as leading citizen of London, had a considerable hand in the affairs of the nation.

In Henry Fitz Alwyn's time, most buildings were constructed of wood with thatched roofs, and consequently were at great risk from fire. Encyclopaedia Britannica records that he instituted an order requiring that every building must be covered with tiles, shingle boards or lead as a fire precaution. It has been described as the first English Building Act.

Gwyn Williams, in his book "Medieval London", writes that the Fitz Ailwins were one of the leading and oldest families living in the City of London. They originated in Ailwin Horne, which was a thegn of Edward the Confessor. (A thegn or thane was land held through the King by virtue of military service). Between 1191 and 1263 the family alone supplied at least ten Aldermen of the City of London.

NICHOLAS AILWIN, LORD MAYOR OF LONDON

Nicholas Ailwin was the son of Richard Ailwin of Spalding, Lincolnshire. He had a distinguished public career. He was a member of the Mercers' Company of the City of London. He was Auditor from 1482-84; was elected to Parliament in 1491; and was Sheriff from 1494-95. He was Alderman of the Coleman Street Ward from 1496-99 and for Bassishaw Ward from 1499. He had become Master of the Mercers' Company in 1496. At the same time as becoming Alderman for Bassishaw, he was appointed Lord Mayor of London, which post he held until his death in 1506.

The family records which I hold say he was titled Sir Nicholas Ailwin, but when researching the relevant books at

the Guildhall Library, I found that while this was how he was described in the Record of the Coats of Arms of the Mayors and Sheriffs of London, in A.B. Beavan's book "The Alderman of the City of London, Volume II," it is stated that it was erroneous to say that he had been knighted.

I asked the Keeper of Enquiry Services of the Library, for clarification. He replied on 30th September 1981 as follows:-

".....the statements made by Beavan can usually be relied upon. That he was probably correct in this instance is supported by the fact that no reference to the knighting of Nicholas Ailwin appears in "The Knights of England" by W.A. Shaw, 1906, a record of Knights from the earliest times, based on available official sources. (Also that Ailwin is not referred to as a knight in the accounts of him in "The Merchant Class of Medieval London", by S.L. Thrupp, 1948, P. 321, and "Biographies of Members of the Commons House, 1439-1509", by J.C. Wedgwood, 1936 (History of Parliament) P.10". Thus it must be concluded that our illustrious forebear did not receive the accolade of knighthood for his many public services.

COAT OF ARMS AND CREST

It is recorded that Nicholas Ailwin's coat of arms was described as follows:- "Argent, a fesse nebulée, azure, between three lions rampant, guardant, sable". Referring to "Boutells Heraldry" this terminology means the following:- Argent, a silver shield: Fesse, a bar across a shield formed by two horizontal lines: Nebulée, the bar is formed by two lines in rising and falling ovals (i.e. wavy in appearance): Azure, blue. Two of the lions are above the fesse and one below. Rampant means erect, with one hind paw on the ground and the other three raised. The tail is erect. Guardant means heads turned to appear full face: Sable, black.

These details were verified by me at The College of Arms. I established that in 1634 William Aylwin of Treyford was granted a coat of arms very similar to the above. The difference being that the three lions are rampant not guardant, i.e. their heads are in profile. The fesse is described as gules, red.

The reason for the variation in the two coats of arms is probably due to the fact that at that time the authorities at The College of Arms, while recognising that Nicholas Ailwin and William Aylwin were of the same family, were not fully certain that William was a direct descendant of Nicholas.

William Aylwin added a crest described thus: a Lion's jamb (leg), erect and erased (torn off, leaving ragged edges). The jamb enfiled (encircled) by a mural crown, (coloured) or, gold. This crest and coat of arms included a motto:

"Vincit amor Patrie"; which is translated as:
"The love of my Country prevails".

The mural crown was usually included if someone had had military service. This William Aylwin had been Captain of a Trained Band, responsible for the security of the Chichester area.

Trained Bands were part of the Militia, which had existed from as early as the Saxon invasions. Under an Act of Parliament of the 14th Century, men were required to muster annually on a county basis. They were then grouped and trained, and became known as Trained Bands. Their purpose was to suppress riots and to defend the realm against invasion by foreign foes. The Militia was replaced in 1908 by the Army Special Reserve and later the Territorial Army.

I have given the armorial details of the 16th and 17th Centuries to show the link with the Aylwins of the 20th Century.

The coat of arms and crest of William Aylwin granted in 1634 are the same as those held by my grandfather and his descendants, namely my first cousin Jack of Victoria, British Columbia, myself and brothers, Derek and Peter, and our respective sons and their families.

They are also held by Kathleen, Barry and John Aylwin of Sydney, New South Wales, whom my son, Nicholas, met while working in Sydney from April to July 1981.

SPANISH ARMADA - 1588

Mention must be made that a William Aylwin of Treyford is recorded in the Sussex Archeological Collection as having contributed the sum of £40 to the Spanish Armada Fund on 1st April 1588.

The Economics Division of the Bank of England informed me that they estimated that in March 1981 the equivalent purchasing power of £40 in Elizabethan times was approximately £2,400.

AYLWINS OF WEST DEAN

By the 15th and 16th Centuries a number of families of Aylwins were established in Sussex and Hampshire as landowners. Guy Aylwin researched a great amount of detail about them which he gleaned from parish records and other authorities in these counties. From these researches together with those of my grandfather, Charles Aylwin, W.C. Shorto and others, it appears that the Aylwins of West Dean and those of Treyford were probably descended from a common ancestor, Henry Aylwin of West Dean, who died in 1495. He had properties in and around these two villages.

There is a house named Treyford Manor, in the village of Treyford, Sussex, but very little of the original building remains. Elwes's book "History of Castles, Mansions and Manors of Western Sussex" refers to it as belonging to the Earls of Arundel until the 16th Century, when it was sold to William Aylwin. This William Aylwin was a member of the West Dean branch of the family which became extinct in the 18th Century on the deaths of the daughters of Robert Aylwin (1688-1736). Their names were Mary and Elizabeth, and married respectively, the Hon. Charles Talbot, second son of George, Earl of Shrewsbury and Sir William Mannock, Bart, of Stoke-by-Nayland, Essex.

AYLWINS OF TREYFORD

The line from another branch of Aylwins living in and around Treyford in the 17th Century is clear down to present-day descendants. This ancestor was Richard Aylwin of Treyford who was born in 1667 and died in 1735.

In a letter to my grandfather dated 28th July 1885, Shorto wrote: "I believe we have the descent of the present Aylwins from Richard (1686), owner of Brooks Farm, Treyford perfectly correct. What we now want is the link or links which will connect this Richard with the common ancestor from which he and the Aylwins of West Dean derive, and the link or links which will connect them with (Sir) Nicholas, Lord Mayor of London 1499, son of Richard Alwin of Spalding in Lincs, and the Alwins of Saxon times".

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX

There is a house in Mayfield, dating from the 16th Century, called "Aylwins". It has been thought that it was so named because it was once owned by Aylwin forebears. I have checked this possibility with the Sussex Archaeological

Society, but their records are unable to support it. The earliest deed the Society holds concerning the property, dated 1622, states that it was called "Alewyns and Pryors" and owned, on his death, by one, Thomas Aynscombe of Mayfield. Aylwin forebears may have owned it in mediaeval times, but there are no known documents to prove it.

AYLWINS OVERSEAS

There are branches of the family in North America and Australia.

(a) Canada and the United States

Of the Aylwins in Canada, my first cousin John Kenelm (Jack) married Joan Boyd-Wallis of Duncan, B.C. and lives^d in Victoria, B.C. He went to Canada in the 1920's, and became a leading authority in the production of fur, and was President of the Western Canada Fur Pool from 1940 to 1959. While visiting him in September 1978, he introduced me to another Jack (John Henry) Aylwin and his sister, Edith.

Early Years in Canada and the United States

John Henry's great great grandfather was Thomas Aylwin (1730-1791), who emigrated from Romsey, Hampshire to Boston, Massachusetts. He married Lucy Cushing whose brother was a Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. Thomas and Lucy had a son, also named Thomas (1777-1871), who was a merchant in business in Quebec. This Thomas married Louisa Connolly. They had eleven children of whom the eldest was also named Thomas (1806-1871).

This third Thomas Aylwin became a distinguished lawyer and politician. He was elected a Deputy

in the Canadian Parliament, and became Solicitor General in 1848 and later Judge of the Queen's Bench.

The present township and county of Aylwin in the Province of Quebec were named after him.

John Cushing Aylwin

Another child of Thomas and Lucy Aylwin, born in 1780, was given the names John Cushing. He had a comparatively short, but eventful life. He was educated in Quebec, whither his parents had moved from Boston during the blockade of that port by Britain following the historically famous Boston Tea Party of 1773. He then went to sea in the American Merchant Navy in which he gained rapid promotion to become Mate of his ship by the age of fifteen. However, when his ship was intercepted by a British Naval Ship he was press-ganged into service with the British Fleet. After some six years he escaped and rejoined his parents who had returned to Boston.

He then served as Captain of a number of merchant ships out of Boston until the outbreak of the American War of 1812, when he joined the American Navy.

American War of 1812

Coming some thirty years after the American War of Independence, the War of 1812 was started by the United States in response to British interference with American trade on the high seas and alleged complicity in the struggles against the Red Indians on the frontier.

Nelson had defeated the combined French and Spanish fleets at Trafalgar in 1805, which removed the threat

of invasion of England for over 100 years. Nevertheless, blockade of France by sea continued as Napoleon had still to be beaten at Waterloo, in 1815. Consequently, few ships could be spared from European waters for action off the North American seaboard.

This led to a number of successful actions by United States Ships of War against their British opponents. None more so than U.S.S. Constitution which is still preserved in Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston in rather the same way as H.M.S. Victory at Portsmouth Dockyard.

At the start of hostilities John Aylwin was appointed Sailing Master of the Constitution, a 44-gun frigate. The ship was very stoutly built and became nicknamed "Old Ironsides" when enemy cannon-balls bounced off her tough oak planking. In her active service life she took part in 40 battles without losing one.

During John Aylwin's service in the ship he earned much praise for his competence and bravery. In the first of the Constitution's engagements, against the British frigate, H.M.S. Guerriere, he was wounded in the shoulder. Later, when on patrol off the coast of Brazil in December 1812, the Constitution engaged and defeated another frigate, H.M.S. Java. The Java was on her way to the Far East with the Governor of Bombay, General Hyslop, and 100 other passengers. The Constitution returned to the United States, but John Aylwin died from wounds received in the battle.

In October 1981, when staying with friends in New Jersey, I visited Boston and toured the Constitution. Adjacent to the ship in the Navy Yard is a museum containing much information about the ship's successful life. It was with great interest that I found the following extract from the report of events subsequent to the action against the Java:-

"The trip northward was uneventful and in the main pleasant. Ordinary Seaman John Cheeves, whose brother, James, had been killed outright in the Java fight, died of his wounds, and Lieutenant John Aylwin followed on the 29th. Aylwin had been Constitution's Sailing Master during the engagement with the Guerriere and had been wounded in the same place on that occasion. His Lieutenancy had come as a reward for his gallantry then".

United States Warships named "Aylwin".

The memory of John Cushing Aylwin has been kept alive in the United States Navy by the naming of ships after him.

The first was a galley, built in 1813, and which took part in engagements on Lake Champlain.

The second was a destroyer launched in 1912, and name-ship of her class. During World War I, she operated mainly off the American seaboard of the Atlantic, but in 1918 was transferred to U.K. waters and served with the British forces in the Baltic.

The third U.S.S. Aylwin was a destroyer of the Farragut class, commissioned in 1935. She was at Pearl Harbour during the Japanese attack on 7th December 1941, but escaped undamaged. She then took part in nearly every major operation of the Pacific Theatre of World War II, including the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. The ship had a charmed life. In all she was awarded 13 Battle Star honours. She was finally paid off in 1946.

Descendants of the first Canadian Aylwins

By the second half of the 19th Century a number of Aylwins were living at New Denver, B.C. although none live there now. As well as John Henry (Jack)

and Edith Aylwin, already mentioned, who are descendants of Thomas Aylwin and his wife, Lucy, there are Aylwin descendants living elsewhere in British Columbia and Yukon Territory and in the States of California and Washington, also other parts of Canada and the U.S.A.

(b) Australia

There are Aylwins in Australia, in the States of New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

As already mentioned, my son Nicholas, when working in Sydney for his firm of merchant bankers, Hill Samuel, had the pleasure of meeting John Aylwin (b. 1946) and his mother, Kathleen. John has a brother Barry, born in 1942. Their great grandfather, Joseph emigrated to Melbourne with his wife and family in 1872. It seems clear from correspondence between my grandfather and Mr. Shorto that this line of Aylwins and the line of which my closest relations and I are members have a common ancestor in Richard Aylwin of Treyford (1667-17³⁵~~67~~). (See family tree). He had seven children, of whom there was a son, also called Richard (1705-1767), from whom we have a direct line of descent. Another son was named Thomas (1713-1777) who went to live at Diding, and from whom the Aylwins in Sydney are directly descended. The villages of Treyford and Diding, in Sussex, are only a mile apart.

In the early part of the 19th Century the family living at Diding moved to Lewes. It was from there that in 1872 a great grandson of the above-named Thomas, who was named Joseph, went with his family to live in Melbourne.

ADDENDUM TO "AYLWIN FAMILY AND FOREBEARS 7TH TO 20TH CENTURY"

CHILE

In about 1830 Richard Aylwin (1797 - 1877) emigrated to Chile. His father was Robert Patrick Aylwin (1762-1840), whose brother John (1763-1842) was my great great grandfather. Richard married Martina Fernandez, and became British Vice-Consul in Constitución. Their descendants took leading roles in Chile's development. In particular, Miguel Aylwin (1889-1976) was President of the Supreme Court. His son, Patricio, born in 1918, became leader of the Christian Democrat Party, and then President of the Republic of Chile in 1989. He is my fourth cousin.

Patricio paid an official visit to the U.K. in April 1991. During his visit a gathering of some forty Aylwins welcomed him in the grounds of our ancestors' home at Treyford Manor, West Sussex. To mark the occasion Patricio Aylwin laid a wreath on the grave of our common ancestor, Richard Aylwin (1667-1735). The younger generations of the family are keeping the contacts alive.

MORE RECENT AYLWIN FOREBEARS AND RELATIONS

To round off the story up to the present day as far as our branch of Aylwins is concerned, mention should be made of my more immediate forebears and closest relatives.

My grandfather, Charles Herbert, was an importer of marble in London.

My father, Claude, went into the brewing industry. When he retired, he was Managing Director of St. Austell Brewery Company in Cornwall.

My aunt, Gertrude, remained unmarried. She faithfully lived with and cared for my grandmother for some 25 years after my grandfather's death.

My uncle, Guy, was an architect who specialised in the restoration of ancient buildings.

Another uncle, Bernard, had his own business as a solicitor. His two children were Jack, who as already mentioned, had a very successful career in Canada, in the production of mink and fox furs, and Robert (Bob). The latter was in the Royal Navy towards the end of World War I, but left under the Geddes Axe. He became a Fleet Street journalist, and for a number of years was Press Officer of the world-famous Bertram Mills Circus. He wrote an interesting book following his research into the unique cockney rhyming slang.

My brother, Derek, attained the rank of Major in the Royal Marines before being invalided from the service in consequence of the after-effects of being a Prisoner-of-War in Japanese hands for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, after the sinking of H.M.S. Prince of Wales in December 1941, off the coast of Malaya. He then joined the Probation Service in which he had wide and successful experience in the Bristol area.

My other brother, Peter, also served in the Royal Navy, retiring in the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He later worked in the Bank of England for a number of years.

I served in the Royal Navy from 1925 to 1958, and retired with the rank of Captain. I then had a happy second bite of the cherry as a Personnel and Staff Development Manager in the British-American Tobacco Company Limited for over fifteen years.

All we three brothers were Mentioned in Despatches at different times during World War II.

Our respective sons, daughters, grandchildren, nephews, nieces and cousins and their descendants, will, in God's good time, be able to add to this ongoing story as their lives and careers unfold.

TAILPIECE

As a tailpiece, when hostilities ceased in Germany in 1945 at the end of World War II, I found myself responsible for the administration of the German Fortress Island of Heligoland. At that time we had to work under the strict application of non-fraternisation. The Germans tried various means to try and break this barrier down. The line taken by the German Governor of the Island, as representative of the local population, was that my name was well-known in his homeland of Schleswig-Holstein and so, why not be friends? It was an interesting link back to the Saxon origins of the Aylwins, some 1200 years ago.

CONCLUSION

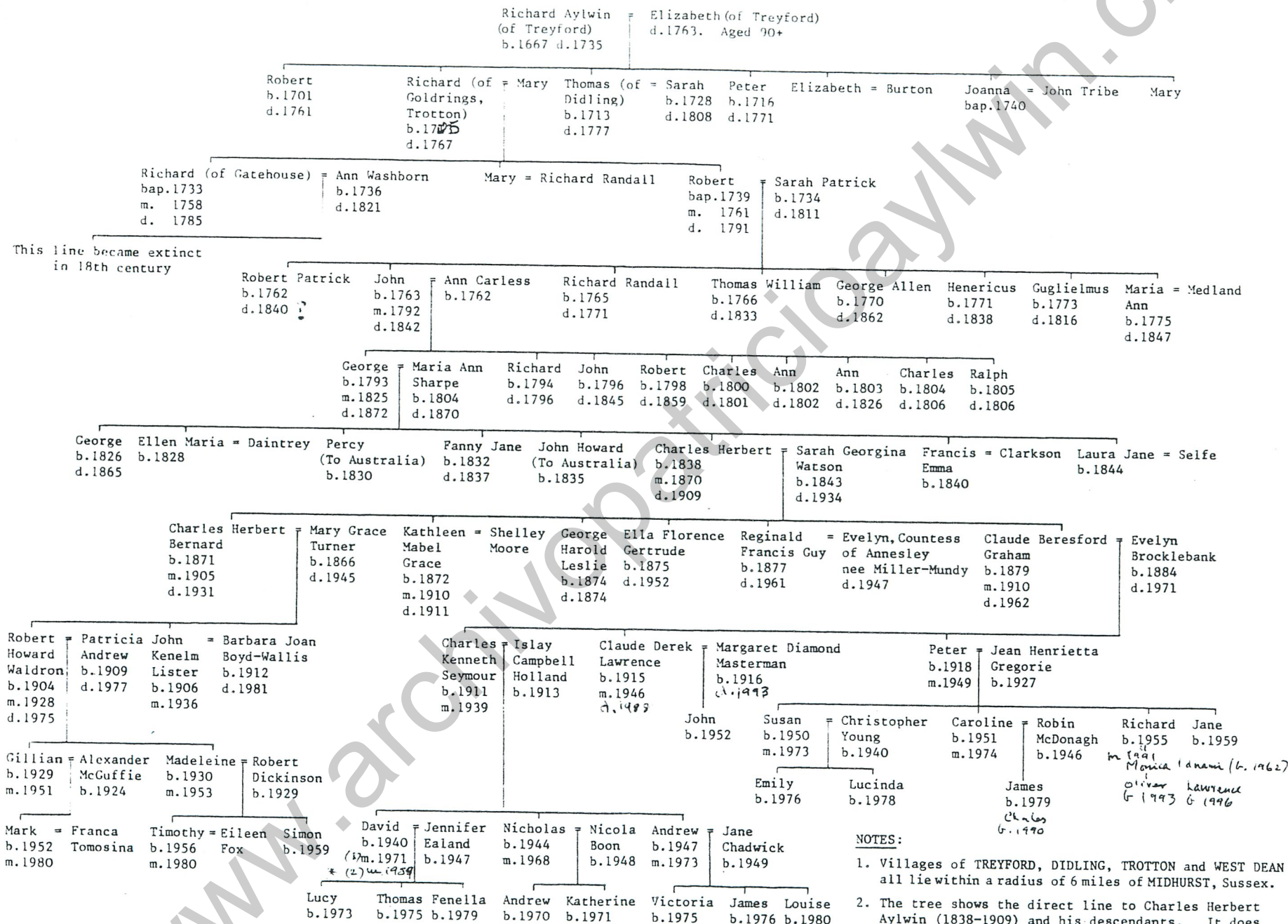
The lineage from Richard Aylwin of Treyford, in the County of Sussex, born 1667, is positive down to modern times, but it has not so far been possible to establish with certainty who precisely his forebears were, owing to lack of proper records.

It is known that there were land-owning and farming Aylwins in Sussex at least back to the 15th Century. One of these gentlemen, Henry Aylwin of West Dean, who died in 1495, may be the ancestor of today's descendants. Further back than this, to our Saxon ancestors, the direct line is lost in the mists of time.

As I said at the beginning, perhaps others may be stimulated to try and fill the gaps in the long line of Aylwin forebears.

AYLWIN FAMILY TREE

The line of descent from Richard Aylwin of Treyford, in the County of Sussex, born 1667.



- NOTES:
1. Villages of TREYFORD, DIDLING, TROTTON and WEST DEAN all lie within a radius of 6 miles of MIDHURST, Sussex.
 2. The tree shows the direct line to Charles Herbert Aylwin (1838-1909) and his descendants. It does not show other lines of descent.
 3. Space does not permit giving all christian names for the last two generations.