

Foreman Family History Newsletter

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ALLEN FAMILY HISTORY RELEASED BY SHOPPE FOREMAN PUBLISHING

On December 10, 2010, Larry Foreman, owner of Shoppe Foreman Publishing of Guthrie, Oklahoma, announced the release of "The Dick and Maggie Allen Children of Sparks, Nebraska." The centerpiece of the book is a collection of autobiographies of the ten Allen children that lived to adulthood. The autobiographies were recorded by Larry in 1984.

Also included are biographies of the children's parents Louis Richard (Dick) and Margaret (Maggie) Regina (Copeland) Allen and their grandparents – William and Jennie (Swogger) Allen and John Newton and Mary (Oldfather) Copeland.

Larry prepared this book to help maintain the strong family unity and love of the Allen family and to instill in the younger generations an appreciation for their hard-earned heritage. He hopes that family members can gain strength and encouragement from the challenges and successes of their Allen ancestors. With these thoughts in mind, he hopes that all the descendants of the Allen children will want to own and read the book.

The 311-page book includes more than 140 photographs. The book is available on Amazon.com for \$11.95.

*The Dick and Maggie
Allen Children
of Sparks, Nebraska*



Larry D. Foreman

GENEALOGY AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALLEN FAMILY POSTED ON-LINE

You can find photos of your Allen ancestors at www.tribalpages.com. Search for the Foreman/Allen family by putting in any family name, such as "Mary Oldfather." In 2011, Larry will be uploading many other photos that he has acquired from the Allen cousins. New and replacement photos will be at a higher resolution, better for downloading and printing. Check out the site; you'll need to search around to get familiar with it. You can check out a lineage on the "Ancestor" view, or for detailed info showing dates and places, go to the "Family" view. E-mail Larry for help.

THREE ALLEN ANCESTRAL HOMES IN ENGLAND

by Larry D. Foreman

My wife Sandy and I have been actively involved in family history research since about 1980, more than 30 years. In the early years, progress was slow because we had to acquire information by talking with relatives, writing to state and county agencies, ordering and waiting for microfilmed records, and traveling to national archives and libraries. Through the years I have exchanged findings with relatives, primarily with my first cousin Greg Fredericksen and second cousin Noreen Allen. Later, many other distant cousins provided valuable information. By the 1990's, new data from on-line sources, such as chat forums and uploaded lineages, increased our knowledge.

In 1983, Sandy and I and our three children – Melissa, Andrew, and Amy – embarked on a month-long family history excursion through Nebraska and Iowa. We explored towns and cemeteries that we had found in the records of our ancestors. We found lots of new documents, but mostly we increased our understanding of the challenges and lives of our predecessors. Sandy and I found opportunities to help our children find their place in a large family. We hoped that our children would find strength in knowing that those who had come before had difficulties greater than theirs but had persevered, and they could, too.

When Sandy and I traveled to Britain in 2001 and 2009, we took a similar approach and included on our itinerary the ancestral villages and manors of our commoner ancestors and the castles of some royal ancestors. Following are descriptions of three of the homes we visited in England and their relevance to the Allen family.

Linkenholt Manor

One of our immigrant ancestors was Col. George Reade. He was born 25 October 1608 and raised at Linkenholt Manor in the very small village of Linkenholt in Hampshire, England. Of course, his parents Robert and Mildred (Windebank) Reade also lived at Linkenholt Manor. It had likewise been the home of Robert's parents, Andrew and Alice (Cook) Reade. In fact, Robert Reade was born in 1575 at Linkenholt Manor and died in that home in 1626. Three generations of ancestors lived in the Manor.

George Reade immigrated to America in 1637 at age 29 and lived in Gloucester County, Virginia. He was Acting Governor of the Virginia Colony in 1638 and 1639. He was a Virginia Burgess from James City County in 1649 and from York County in 1655 and 56. He was a member of the Governor's Council from 1657-1671.

He married Elizabeth Martiau (sometimes Marhes, Martin, and others) reportedly in 1640. She was also from a prominent family. Her father had immigrated to Jamestown settlement in 1620. George and Elizabeth had daughter Mildred who married prominent Virginian Col. Augustine Warner, Jr. (known as "Speaker"). Their daughter Elizabeth Warner married Maj. John Lewis III. Their son Col. Robert Lewis married Jane Meriwether. Their daughter Elizabeth Lewis married Rev. Robert Barret. Their son Capt. William Barret married Dorothea Winston. This couple moved to Kentucky. Their daughter Ann Nancy Barret married James Allen. Their son Alexander W. Allen married Mary Elizabeth Barret. This family moved to Illinois. Their son William James Allen married Levinia Jane Swogger in Nebraska. They are the parents of Louis Richard Allen, my grandfather. This is the line of descent of our Linkenholt ancestors.

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We visited Linkenholt in 2001 on our first day in England. So we weren't so assertive in asking the locals about the Manor and the town. There are no commercial establishments in Linkenholt. We photographed the large manor house and presumed that it was our ancestral Linkenholt Manor. We also visited the village church covered with the customary broken flint rocks (rebuilt in 1871). In our visit there in 2009, we went into the local snack shoppe/post office and visited with the lady there. She told us that the large manor house was built in the 1800's and directed us a few houses down to the manor house of the 1500's and 1600's. It was markedly more modest, but beautiful.

As it happens, we saw a two-page advertisement in a magazine about the sale of the entire estate and village of Linkenholt. The people at Linkenholt told us that they had heard it had sold. So all of the village (including 21 cottages) and surrounding lands (including 1,500 acres of farmland and 450 acres of woodland) are owned by the Linkenholt estate. If you visit there, the snack shoppe is across the street from the church and beside the polo field. Alice, who runs the snack shoppe, is quite helpful and enjoys visitors. The old manor house is one house (west?) from the only intersection in the village. You can Google "Linkenholt Manor" and see more photos.



Old Linkenholt Manor from the front.



Old Linkenholt Manor from the side



The Linkenholt village church



The newer Linkenholt Manor

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Kingston Manor

Based on information from numerous lineages posted on-line, I knew that Kingston Manor on the Isle of Wight was an ancestral home of many (12) generations of Allen ancestors. So, on our visit in 2001, we paid the hefty price (70 pounds round-trip) for the ferry ride across The Solent off the southern coast of England. We were well rewarded.

Kingston is located on the south side of the Isle of Wight, which is fairly large. We found the area even though there is no longer any village there. Kingston Manor and a few scattered farm houses are the only residences. Fortunately, we found Bucks Farm Bed and Breakfast immediately beside Kingston Manor. The Jones family operated the B&B and farm; they were very gracious hosts.

The Manor is not open to the public, but we were given a tour of the Manor gardens by Edwin Jones, who was our B&B host. Edwin was also the intermittent caretaker (the current owners live in London) of the Manor. Again, we were blessed by circumstance. We also visited St. James Chapel on the grounds of Kingston Manor. Unfortunately, the Chapel pews were stolen the night we stayed at Buck's Farm. We had seen them through the window on our first evening, and they were gone the next day when we went inside with Edwin. The bobbies were called, and they interviewed us.

Kingston Manor was the home of 12 generations of the families of de Kingston, Drew, and Meaux (pronounced Moe) in the Allen ancestry. The earliest known is Jordan de Kingston, Lord Kingston. He was appointed High Sheriff of Hampshire in 1280. There was then a continuous line of 12 generations born at Kingston Manor down to Henry Meaux, who was born about 1621. Several of the men were knights. The line of descent is Lord Jordan de Kingston, Sir John de Kingston, Eleanor de Kingston, John Drew, William Drew, Alice Drew, Thomas Meaux, Sir William Meaux, Sir Richard Meaux, William Meaux, Sir John Meaux, Bartholomew Meaux, and Henry Meaux. Although not living at Kingston Manor, the descent continues through John Meaux, Elizabeth Meaux, Anne Farrell, and Dorothea Winston who was listed earlier in the lineage of the Reade's-to-Louis Richard Allen.

If you get the chance, there are many interesting sites to visit on the Isle of Wight, and the number of tourists is less than on the Isle of Britain.



Kingston Manor in 2001. The original Manor house is on the right. The left wing was added later. The photo was taken from the churchyard of St. James.



St. James Chapel on the grounds of Kingston Manor.

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Arundel Castle

Arundel Castle is one of the oldest and most beautiful castles in England. It is currently the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, presently Edward Fitzalan-Howard, 18th Duke of Norfolk. As such, he is the premier duke in the peerage of England and as the Earl of Arundel he is the premier earl of England. Surprisingly, for such a position, the Dukes of Norfolk have remained Catholic through the past five centuries.

Sandy and I visited the castle and village in both 2001 and 2009. In 2009, they had opened a new spectacularly manicured garden. The garden alone is worth the visit. Also present on the castle grounds is Fitzalan Chapel. It was built by Richard Fitz Alan (the 4th Earl of Arundel) who was one generation after our resident ancestors. The castle is lavishly furnished with the finest of furniture, paintings, sculptures, and wood and stone work. If you're there in the summer, there is a small well-hidden rose garden near the entrance to the castle grounds that has many varieties of roses - all absolutely perfect.

Arundel Castle was founded on Christmas day in 1067. The surrounding lands and obligation to build fortifications were granted to Roger de Montgomery, the most-trusted supporter of William the Conqueror. Roger, the 1st Earl of Shrewsbury is an ancestor, this line continues down to present day through a variety of royal and noble lines too numerous to describe here. However, our descent goes through his two daughters Sybil and Maud, and, hence, our ancestors in the de Montgomery line living at Arundel ends with them.

The d'Albini line came into possession of Arundel Castle when William III d'Albini, became the 1st Earl of Arundel, when he married Adeliza of Louvain, the widow of King Henry I. They are Allen ancestors. Our ancestral line then passes to William d'Albini (2nd Earl of Arundel) who married Maud de St. Hilaire du Harcouet. They had William d'Albini (3rd Earl of Arundel) who married Mabel le Meschin. They had Isabel d'Albini who married John Fitz Alan (Lord of Clun and Oswestry). They had John Fitz Alan of Arundel who married Maud le Botiller. They had John Fitz Alan of Arundel who married Isabella de Mortimer. They had Richard Fitz Alan. He was designated the 1st Earl of Arundel (numbers starting again). He married Alice of Saluzzo. They had Sir Edmund Fitz Alan (2nd Earl of Arundel) who married Alice de Warrene. They had Richard Fitz Alan (3rd Earl of Arundel, 9th Earl of Surrey). He became the richest man in England of his day. He married Eleanor of Lancaster (after his first wife Isabel le Despenser died). They had Alice Fitz Alan who married Thomas de Holland (Earl of Kent). This ends our d'Albini and Fitz Alan ancestors who resided at Arundel Castle. Many of the names in this ancestral line, such as de Mortimer, de Warrene, and Lancaster, are among the most prominent nobility in England.

For reference, Thomas de Holland and Alice Fitz Allen had Eleanor de Holland who married Roger de Mortimer (4th Earl of March, Earl of Ulster). They had Anne de Mortimer who married Richard of Conisburgh (Earl of Cambridge). They had Richard of York (Duke of York) who married Cicely de Neville. They had Anne of Exeter (Duchess of Exeter) who married Thomas St. Leger. They had Anne St. Leger who married George Manners (12th Lord Ros). They had Margaret Manners who married Sir Henry Strangeways. They had Eleanor Strangeways who married William Meaux, resident of Kingston Manor. This brings us back to the Meaux lineage described earlier.

You can read more about these ancestors by going on-line. Some photos of Arundel Castle, the Fitzalan Chapel, and the gardens are on the next page. More photos of these can be seen on-line.

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Arundel Castle distant view.



Arundel Castle view from below.



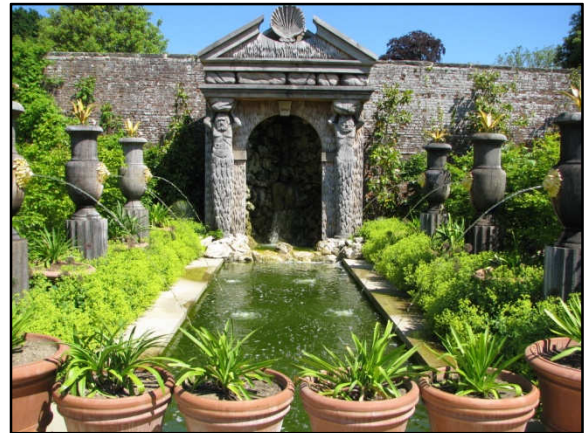
The interior courtyard (bailey) of Arundel Castle.



The first stone keep, built about 1140.



Fitzalan Chapel at Arundel Castle



Portion of new garden at Arundel Castle