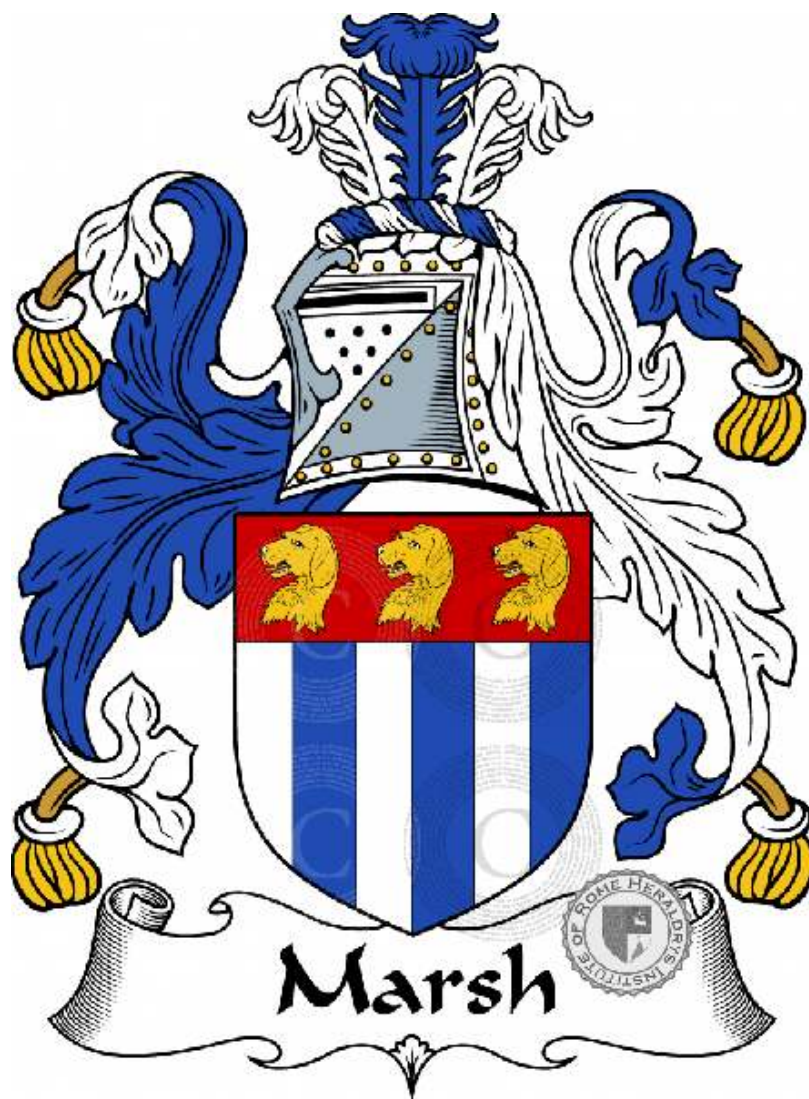


The MARSH FAMILY - LIFE ON THE BORDERS Kent, Leicestershire & Staffordshire, England



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I NTRODUCTION

By [John Graham Ward, Manager of the WARD FAMILY BLOG.](#)

- The EARLIEST ANCESTOR of the MARSH Family that I have identified in England so far is GODARD De La MERSHE (born 1194). We believe he was married but we have no record of his wife. We know he had a family but we only know his son Henry born in 1212.
 - They were all born in the County of KENT, England and lived much of their adult lives in EAST LANGTON and the adjacent Village of MARTIN.
 - The senior members of the early MARSH Family were probably Farmers and the younger men would have been Agricultural Labourers learning their trade, while working on local farms. Later descendants were elevated to the Gentry or “nobility” through their service to the King or his Barons. Others prospered from marriage into richer families.
 - The MARSH Family of today, are the descendants of many generations of Anglo-Saxons and then Vikings from Europe and Scandinavia who invaded the British Isles and then inter-married with the indigenous population. Other immigrants came to blend in with the “natives” to form the adventurous and ambitious ancestors from which the BRITISH FAMILY was formed.
 - The following story of the MARSH FAMILY shows that they were right in the “thick” of the evolution of the “green and pleasant land” we now call home.
- It was not always thus...!

Origin of the Modern Family Name "MARSH"

The modern surname of MARSH or MARSHE (sometimes written "MARSHE" or "MARCH" or "MARCHE") is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *MERSC*, meaning "marsh" or "fen." Thus, beginning in the 1100s A.D. English families that lived at or near marshlands might take the designation "*DE LA MERSE*" or "*ATTE MERSHE*."

Early recordings include one *HENRY DEL MERSE* (1212) in the Curia Regis Rolls of Yorkshire, and *ISABEL ATTE MERSHE* (1273) in the Hundred Rolls of Oxfordshire.

Variations in the spelling also include MAR, MASH, MARSCH and MARSH.

Recordings of the surname from the London Church Registers include the marriage of HENRY MARSH to Margaret Hayle, on December 3rd 1547, at St. Lawrence Jewry; on October 4th 1558, HUGH MARSH married Lucy Kyngston, at St. Mary Somerset; and the christening of ARTHUR MARSH took place on May 13th 1562, at St. John, Hackney, London, England.

One of the earliest settlers in America was JOHN MARSH, aged 26 yrs., who sailed from the Port of London in May 1635, aboard the immigrant ship "Plaine Joane", bound for Virginia. The first recorded spelling of the family name is shown to be that of GODARD DE LA MERSE which was dated 1194, in the "Pipe Rolls of Somerset", during the reign of King Richard 1, known as "The Lionheart", 1189 - 1199.

SURNAMES became necessary when Governments introduced Personal Taxation. In England this was known as Poll Tax.

MARSH FAMILY PATRIARCH SUCCESSION TREE

Since the Norman conquest of England in the 11th Century, it has been presumed that Kings would simply pass the power to rule to their first-born son. This line of succession, known as **PRIMOGENITURE**, was also used to determine non-Royal heirs to property and wealth.

1. Godard De La MERSHE (1194 - xxxx) born in Somerset, England;
Married (Unknown) (xxxx - xxxx)
2. Henry De La MERSHE (1212 - xxxx) born in Yorkshire;
Married (Unknown) (xxxx - xxxx)
3. John De Le MARSHE (1273 - xxxx) born in Oxfordshire;
Married ISABEL ATTE MARSHE (1270 - xxxx)
4. William ATTE MARSHE (1296 - 1377) born in Chelworth, Crudwell, Wiltshire;
Married (LUCY MILLER) (1320 - 1340)
5. Henry ATTE MARSHE (1320 - xxxx) born in Chelworth, Crudwell, Wiltshire;
Married MARY ELIZABETH RAE (1340 - xxxx)
6. Henry ATTE MARSHE (1340 - xxxx) born in Martin, Kent, England;
Married MARY ELIZABETH RAE (1340 - xxxx)
7. Henry ATTE MARSHE (1360 - 1440) born in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire;
Married (MARY ATTE MARSH) (1360 - xxxx)
8. William ATTE MARSH (1380 - 1460) born in East Langdon, Dover, Kent;
Married MARY JANE DITTON (1400 - 1460)
9. Sir Thomas MARSH (1400 - 1490) born in East Langdon, Dover, Kent;
Married 30-year old MARY JANE DITTON (1400 - 1480) in 1425.
10. Sir William Henry MARSH (1423-1490) born in Martin, East Langdon, Kent;
Married HARRIET COLLARD (1425 - 1485).
11. Robert MARSH (1443 - 1505) born in East Langdon, Dover, Kent;
Married SUZANNAH BLOOMFIELD (1447 - 1488).
12. Robert MARSH Jnr. (1466 -1490) born in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent;
Married JUDY BRINKERHOFF (1466 - 1520)

13. Sir Richard III MARSH (1490-1525) born in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent;

- **In 1516, the 26-year old RICHARD III MARSH married 22-year old ANN WADDINGTON) (1494 - 1525) born in Martin, Kent, England;**
- **In 1524 the 34-year old RICHARD III MARSH married 30-year old Lady ISABELLA ELIZABETH SEYMOUR (1494 - 1545)**

14. Robert MARSH (1500 - 1573) born in Henlow, Bedfordshire, England. He was the son of Sir Edward MARSH & Lady Isabel Ashton SAVILLE of Thornhill.

ROBERT MARSHE & AGNES FISHER lived at Darton, Borough of Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England.

Robert MARSHE (January 1500 - 1573) Born in HENLOW, Central Bedfordshire Unitary Authority, Bedfordshire, England. Died 1573 (aged 72-73) in DARTON, Metropolitan Borough of BARNSELEY, South Yorkshire, England.

In 1533, 33-year old Robert MARSHE married 27-year old Agnes FISHER (1506 - 1563) born in Clifton, Bedfordshire, England

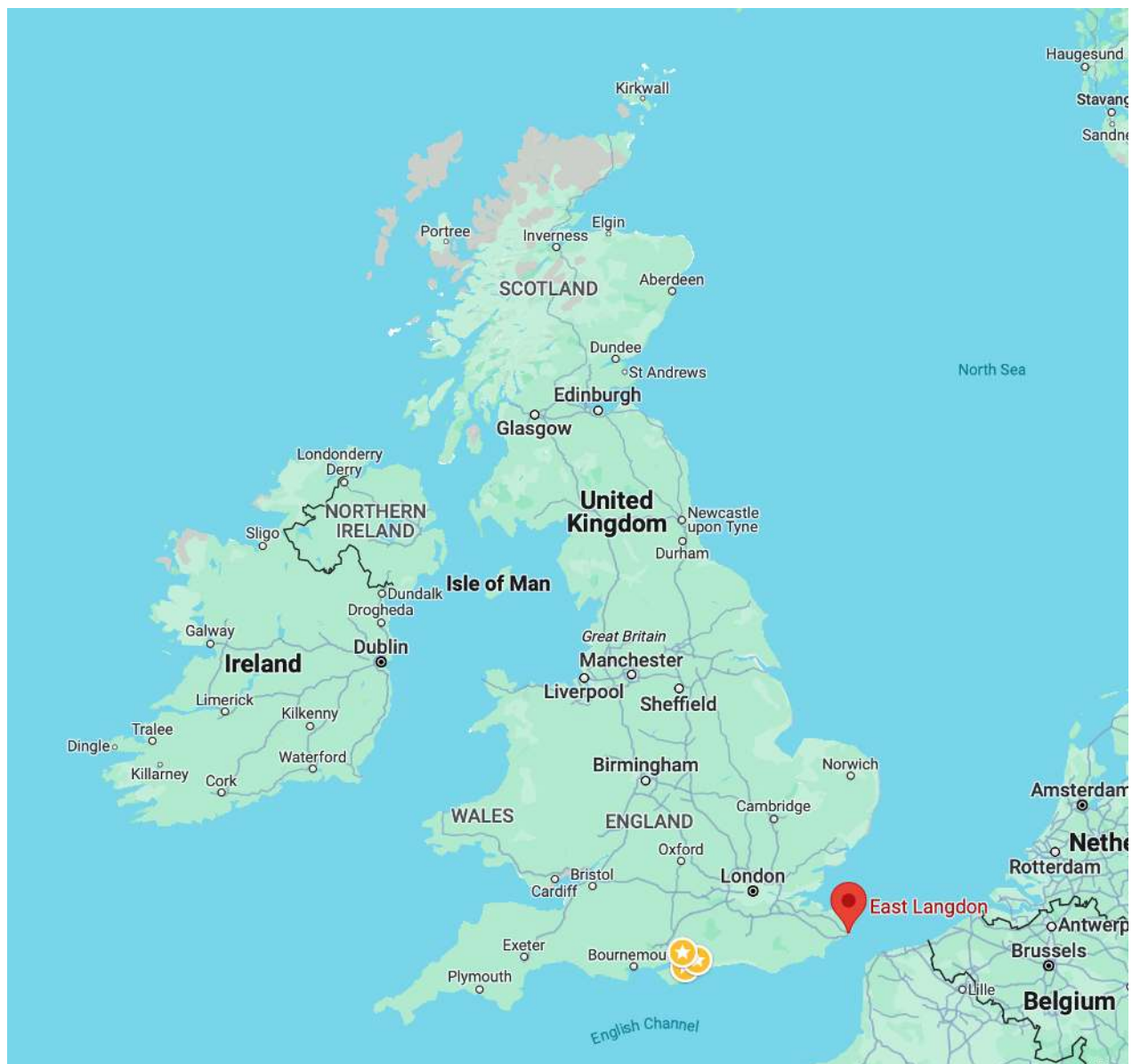
Robert Marshe & Agnes Fisher had 2-Children (1-Son & 1-Daughter)

- 1. Richard Marsh (1524 - 1625) born & died in Kent, England;**
- 2. Rose Marshe (1534 - 1601) died in Henlow, Bedfordshire, England.
Rose married William Hurst (1530 - 1569) and he died age 39-years in Henlow, Bedfordshire.**

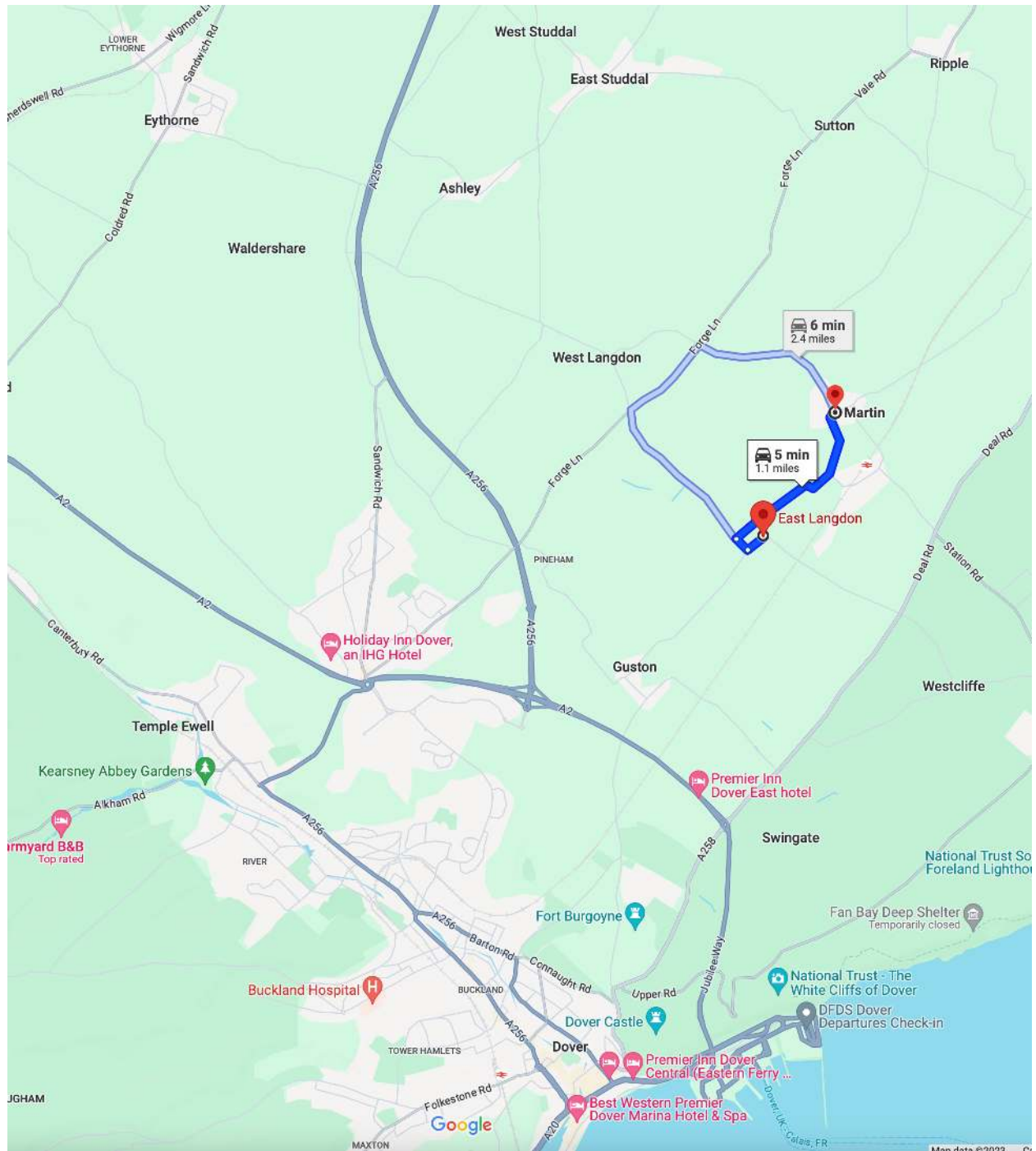
FAMILY SEAT OF THE MARSHES

- The Village of EAST LANGDON, Kent, England was the home of the early MARSHE Family in the 1300s from which the descendants of GODARD De La MARSHE spread to other locations in the Midlands & Southern England.

East Langdon is located at the **Red Tag**. (ZOOM to Enlarge)



Note: EAST LANGDON, in Kent should not be confused with “EAST LANGTON,” in Leicestershire, England, a small Village and Civil Parish in the Harborough district of Leicestershire, which also includes Church Langton, near Kibworth and Market Harborough.



TIMELINE of the MARSH FAMILY in the Midlands & Southern England (Circa 1325 - 1950)

- 1325-1400: HENRI & MARY MARCHE living in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.

The City of Stoke on Trent is a unique federation of "The Six Towns" - Burslem, Fenton, Hanley, Longton, Stoke upon Trent and Tunstall - which had evolved from small hilltop villages into thriving industrial towns based upon the local mineral resources of coal, iron and clay.

- 1400-1500: WILLIAM HENRY MARSH & HARRIET COLLARD living at East Langton, Kent, England. Also Sir JOHN MARSH & Sir ROBERT MARSH living in Ashford, Kent.

During the Reformation Staffordshire was a bastion of support for Roman Catholicism. The County's later history is largely that of its main industries. Beginning in the 13th century, coal and iron were mined on the upper River Trent and around Cannock Chase, but they did not achieve real importance until the late 18th century. The long-established POTTERY INDUSTRY of northern Staffordshire also became renowned during the 18th century, particularly through the entrepreneurial efforts of Josiah Wedgwood.

- 1500-1573: ROBERT MARSHE & AGNES FISHER living at Darton, Borough of Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England.

Robert MARSHE (January 1500 - 1573) Born in HENLOW, Central Bedfordshire Unitary Authority, Bedfordshire, England. Died 1573 (aged 72-73) in DARTON, Metropolitan Borough of BARNSLEY, South Yorkshire, England.

Robert MARSHE married Agnes FISHER (1506 - 1563) born in Clifton, Bedfordshire, England.

Robert MARSHE & Agnes FISHER had 3-Children (2-Sons & 1-Daughter):

1. Richard Marshe (1524 - 1625) born & died in East Langton, Dover, Kent, England;
2. Thomas Marshe (1534 - 1599) born & died in Louth, Lincolnshire, England;
3. Rose Marshe (1536 - 1601) born & died in Henlow, Bedfordshire.

Rose married William C. Hurst (1530 - 1569) who died at age 39-years in Henlow, Bedfordshire. She then married John Rushe.

- 1524-1625: RICHARD MARSHE was never married, and lived at East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.

Richard died in 1625 at age 101-years (if we can believe the following AI Biography from MyHeritage.)

1. GODARD De La MERSHE (1194 - xxxx)

■ This is the earliest member of the MARSH Family we have found. We have no details on his wife or his date of death



GODARD De La MERSHE was born in 1194 AD, in the County of Somerset, England. The era was marked by significant political strife, including the Baronial Revolt against the English Crown that led to the sealing of the **MAGNA CARTA** in 1215, when Godard was 21-years old. This document is one of the cornerstones of modern democracy, establishing the principle that everyone, including the King, is subject to the Law of the Land. (This is a Legal Principle that is under serious challenge today (2024) in America.)

■ The surname **MERSHE or MARSH** was first found in the County of Somerset, where **GODARD De La MERSHE** was listed in the *Pipe Rolls* of 1194.

The Pipe Rolls were the written records of the Crown revenue and expenditures for one financial year, which ran from Michaelmas, a Christian festival celebrated on September 29, to Michaelmas, as well as records of payments to the Government and debts that were owed to the Crown.

The name **MARSH or MERSHE** is distributed over ENGLAND, mainly southwards from Nottinghamshire and Lancashire. The family name is found in several geographical centres of CAMBRIDGESHIRE and KENT in the east, in LANCASHIRE in the north, in SHROPSHIRE in the west, and WILTSHIRE, DORSET, and SOMERSET in the south.

MARSH is also the name of a Parish, in the Counties of SHROPSHIRE and KENT. There are Parishes named "MARSH" in the Counties of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and LINCOLNSHIRE.

The Kentish "MARSH" family have been prominent in that County from the 14th. Century.

The Medieval English form of MARSH is "ATTE-MERSHE" (or "at the Marsh").

The *HUNDREDORUM ROLLS* of 1273 listed **ISABEL ATTE MERSHE (1270 - xxxx)**, and also **JOHN De La MERSHE (1273 - xxxx)**, both in the County of Oxfordshire, England.

2. HENRY De La MERSHE. (1212 - xxxx)

HENRY De La MERSHE was found in the *Curia Regis Rolls* of 1212 and his Father, **WILLIAM ATTE MERSCHE** was listed in the *Subsidy Rolls* for the County of Sussex in 1296.



The variant name "MARSHE" dates back to 1524 when "ROBERT MARSHE" was listed in the Subsidy Rolls for the County of Suffolk.

The Latin term "*CURIA REGIS*" translates to "*ROYAL COUNCIL*", and was used for those who served on the Councils of the earliest Kings of England and France.
The House of Normandy used the *curia regis* to manage most of England's state business after the Conquest of England.

3. JOHN DE LA MERSHE (1273 - xxxx)

Birth: 1273 in Oxfordshire, England

Father: Henry De La Mershe. Born: 1212 - Deceased

Spouse: Isabel Atte Mershe. Born: 1270 - Deceased

Son: William Atte-Marshe. (1315 - 1377)



Biography

JOHN DE LA MERSHE was born in 1273 in Oxfordshire, England. He was the son of 61-year old, HENRY DE LA MERSHE, who was born in 1212, also in Oxfordshire, England.

JOHN married ISABEL ATTE MERSHE, who was also born in 1270 in Oxfordshire, England. Together, they had a son named WILLIAM ATTE MERSHE, born in 1296.

The records indicate that JOHN De La MERSHE passed away, although the exact date of his death is not provided. His son WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE was born in 1315 in Chelworth, Wiltshire and died in 1377 in Circourt, Denchworth, Berkshire.

4. WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE (1315 - 1377).

- WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE was born in 1315 in Chelworth, Wiltshire, England; he was the son of JOHN De La MERSHE and ISABEL ATTE MERSHE (1270 - xxxx) of Oxfordshire, England.

CRUDWELL is a Village and Civil Parish in north Wiltshire, England. The nearest towns are Malmesbury, about 4 miles (6.4 km) to the south-west, and Cirencester, Gloucestershire 8 miles (13 km) to the north-east.



Also to the north-east is Cotswold Airport. Kemble Village, about 4 miles (6.4 km) away, has the nearest railway station, with services to London Paddington and Gloucester. The village lies on the A429 linking Cirencester and Malmesbury. This route south to Malmesbury opened as a turnpike in 1778.

The Parish includes the Hamlets of CHEDGLOW, CHELWORTH, EASTCOURT, MURCOTT AND WEST CRUDWELL. The Fosse Way, originally a Roman road, forms part of the parish and county boundary. The population of the Parish changed little between 1831 (604) and 1951 (618).

The DOMESDAY BOOK of 1086 recorded a large population of 107 households at CRUDWELL, and smaller settlements at CHELWORTH and CHEDGLOW. Most of the Parish belonged to MALMESBURY ABBEY'S BROKENBOROUGH ESTATE, which in the 13th Century had a farmstead with a fishpond and a Chapel.

- In 1335, the 20-year old WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE married 15-year old LUCY MILLER (1320 - 1340) in Circourt, Denchworth, Berkshire, England.

DENCHWORTH is a Village and Civil Parish about 2.5 miles north of Wantage. It was part of Berkshire until the 1974 boundary changes transferred the Vale of White Horse to Oxfordshire.

- WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE and LUCY ATTE MERSHE (born MILLER) had 4-Children (2-Sons & 2-Daughters);

1. HENRY I ATTE MARCHE (1320 - xxxx) Born in Crudwell, Lincolnshire, England;
2. JOHN ATTE MARSHE (1340 - 1430) Born in Curcourt, Denchworth, Berkshire;
3. DOROTHY YATE ATTE MARSHE (1370 - 1430) Born in Buckland, Berkshire;
4. MARGARET YATE (1375 - 1430) Born in Buckland, Berkshire; Married Sir William Walter Atte Yate (1380 - 1440) of Charney, Bassett, Berkshire, England.

- In 1377, WILLIAM ATTE MERSHE died in Circourt Manor, Denchworth, Berkshire, England at the age of 62-years.

Denchworth Parish also included a MANOR that in the 12th Century was called *Suthcote* a toponym derived from the fact that it is South of the Village. The name evolved via *Sudecote* in the 13th. Century and *Southcote* or *Circote* in the 17th Century to the present "CIRCOURT".

5. HENRY I ATTE MARSHE (1320 - xxxx).

- HENRY I ATTE MARSHE was born in 1320 in **Crudwell, Wiltshire, England**; he was the son of WILLIAM ATTE MERSHE and LUCY ATTE MERSHE (born MILLER) (1320 - 1340) of Oxfordshire, England.

CRUDWELL is a Village and Civil Parish in north Wiltshire, England. The nearest towns are Malmesbury, about 4 miles (6.4 km) to the south-west, and Cirencester, Gloucestershire 8 miles (13 km) to the north-east.

Also to the north-east is Cotswold Airport. Kemble Village, about 4 miles (6.4 km) away, has the nearest railway station, with services to London Paddington and Gloucester. The village lies on the A429 linking Cirencester and Malmesbury. This route south to Malmesbury opened as a turnpike in 1778.

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- In 1335, the 15-year old HENRY ATTE MARSHE married 15-year old MARY ELIZABETH RAE (1320 - 1340) in Circourt, Denchworth, Berkshire, England.

DENCHWORTH is a Village and Civil Parish about 2.5 miles north of Wantage. It was part of Berkshire until the 1974 boundary changes transferred the Vale of White Horse to Oxfordshire.

- HENRY ATTE MARSHE and MARY ELIZABETH ATTE MERSHE (born RAE) had 4-Children (2-Sons & 2-Daughters);

1. HENRY II ATTE MARCHE (1340 - xxxx) Born in Crudwell, Lincolnshire, England;
2. JOHN ATTE MARSHE (1340 - 1430) Born in Circourt, Denchworth, Berkshire;
3. DOROTHY YATE ATTE MARSHE (1370 - 1430) Born in Buckland, Berkshire;
4. MARGARET YATE (1375 - 1430) Born in Buckland, Berkshire; Married Sir William Walter Atte Yate (1380 - 1440) of Charney, Bassett, Berkshire, England.

DENCHWORTH PARISH also included a MANOR that in the 12th Century was called **SUTHCOTE** a toponym derived from the fact that it is South of the Village. The name evolved via **SUDECOTE** in the 13th. Century and *Southcote* or *Circote* in the 17th Century to the present "**CIRCOURT**".



6. HENRY II ATTE MARSHE (1340 - xxxx)

■ HENRY II ATTE MARSHE was born in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England; he was the son of HENRY I ATTE MARSHE and MARY ELIZABETH ATTE MARSHE (born RAE of Circourt, Denchworth, Berkshire, England.

DENCHWORTH is a Village and Civil Parish about 2.5 miles north of Wantage. It was part of Berkshire until the 1974 boundary changes transferred the Vale of White Horse to Oxfordshire.



His father, HENRY I, was born in 1320 in Crudwell, Lincolnshire, England, while his Mother was born in the same year but in Martin, East Langdon, Kent, England.

HENRY II had a brother named JOHN ATTE-MARSH, who shared his birth year of 1340 . He also had two sisters: DOROTHY ATTE-MARSH, born in 1370, and MARGARET YATE (NÉE ATTE-MARSH), born in 1375.

The records do not provide information about any marriage or children for Henry II Atte-Marsh. The date and place of death for Henry II Atte-Marsh are not recorded in the provided sources.

Historical Context

HENRY II ATTE-MARSH was born into a world ravaged by the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR, a series of conflicts waged from 1337 to 1453 over the right to rule the Kingdom of France. His birth in 1340 coincided with the early stages of this war, which saw significant English victories such as the BATTLE OF SLUYS in the same year.

The social and economic fabric of England was also being tested by the onset of the BLACK DEATH in 1348, which would eventually claim a third of Europe's population.

As the son of HENRY I ATTE MARSHE and MARY ELIZABETH RAE, HENRY II was part of a family that likely held local significance in Kent, a County known for its agricultural production and contribution to the Wool Trade, vital to the English economy during the Middle Ages.

His father's origins from CRUDWELL, LINCOLNSHIRE, suggest connections between different regions, which were important for Commerce and social mobility at the time.

The shared birth year of HENRY II and his brother JOHN ATTE MARSH is unusual and may indicate they were twins, an occurrence that could have been seen as both auspicious and challenging in Medieval Society.

The later births of his sisters DOROTHY and MARGARET in the 1370s occurred after the initial wave of the BLACK DEATH had passed, reflecting a period where families might have begun to recover from the pandemic's devastation.

The lack of records regarding Marriage or Children for HENRY II ATTE MARSH suggests he may have lived a life less documented than those of higher status or perhaps succumbed to one of the many perils of the era before he could establish a family of his own. This absence of information reflects the challenges Historians face when piecing together the lives of individuals from the lower echelons of Medieval Society.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The absence of recorded details about HENRY II ATTE-MARSH'S death is not uncommon for the period. Many deaths were not recorded unless the individual held significant land, title, or social standing. It is possible that Henry II's life, like many others of his time, was cut short by recurring outbreaks of PLAGUE or the ongoing conflicts of the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR, which continued to cause upheaval throughout England and France.

LAST - NAME ORIGINS

The surname 'ATTE-MARSH' is of ENGLISH origin and is a locational name. It derives from the Middle English preposition 'ATTE', meaning 'at the', combined with 'marsh', which refers to an area of low-lying wetland. Originally, this surname would have been used to describe someone who lived by or at a MARSH or FEN. Over time, the prefix 'ATTE' often became attached to the following noun, leading to surnames like 'ATTEMARSH' or in its hyphenated form 'ATTE-MARSH'. Such names were commonly given to identify individuals based on notable landscape features near their residences.

7. HENRY III ATTE MARSHE (1360 - 1440)

BIOGRAPHY

- HENRY III ATTE MARSH was born in 1360 in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.

He was the son of 20-year old HENRY II ATTE MARSH, born in 1340 in the Village of Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.



- HENRY III ATTE MARSHE married MARY MARSH (born 1360) and they had a son named WILLIAM ATTE MARSH (1380 - 1460).
- HENRY III ATTE MARSH lived to the age of 80, passing away in the year 1440.

HENRY III ATTE-MARSH was born in 1360, a period that saw England embroiled in the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR with France. His birthplace, Stoke-on-Trent in Staffordshire, lay within a Kingdom ruled by Edward III, whose reign (1327-1377) witnessed significant military and political challenges, including the BLACK DEATH which had drastically reduced the population of England earlier in the Century. The war effort against France required substantial resources and led to the development of English Nationalism and military innovations such as the LONGBOW.



As the son of HENRY II ATTE MARSH from the Village of Martin, East Langdon in Kent, HENRY III would have been part of a society where local Governance was becoming increasingly important. The late 14th Century saw the rise of the Gentry Class, who often served as JUSTICES OF THE PEACE or in other local Administrative roles. This period also marked the beginning of the use of surnames, and 'ATTE-MARSH' suggests a family association with Marshland, indicating possible landholding and status in rural England.

In Tudor England, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE were appointed by the Monarch to oversee Local Administration and maintain Law and Order. They were responsible for a wide range of duties, including Keeping the Peace, enforcing Laws, overseeing Local Government, and conducting Trials for minor offences.

Henry III's marriage to MARY MARSH in his birth year of 1360 reflects the common practice of consolidating wealth and property through marital alliances.

Their son WILLIAM ATTE-MARSH, born in 1380, came into a world still dominated by Feudal structures but on the cusp of change. By the end of the 14th. Century, England had seen the PEASANTS' REVOLT of 1381, which demonstrated growing discontent among the lower classes towards feudal oppression and heavy taxation.

Living until 1440 meant that HENRY III ATTE MARSH experienced the transition from the PLANTAGENET to the LANCASTRIAN Kings, with King Henry IV seizing the throne in 1399. His lifetime encompassed both the continuation of the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR and domestic turmoil, including the deposition of Richard II.

- HENRY III ATTE MARSH's death occurred just before the outbreak of the WARS OF THE ROSES in 1455, a series of dynastic conflicts for control of the Throne of England, suggesting he left behind a nation on the brink of profound transformation.

LAST NAME ORIGINS

The surname 'ATTE-MARSH' is of English origin and is a locational name. It derives from the Middle English preposition 'ATTE', meaning 'AT THE', combined with 'MARSH', referring to an area of low-lying wetland. Originally, this surname would have been used to describe someone who lived by or at a marsh or fen. Over time, the prefix 'atte' often became attached to the following noun, leading to surnames like 'ATTEMARSH' or in its hyphenated form 'ATTE-MARSH'. This type of surname was particularly common in the Southern Counties of England where such geographical features were more prevalent.

8. WILLIAM ATTE MARSH (1380 - 1460)

BIOGRAPHY

WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE was born in 1380 in East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of **HENRY MARSH**, born in 1360 in Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire, England, and **MARY ELIZABETH ATTE MARSHE (BORN RAE)**, who was born around 1375, also from East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.



WILLIAM ATTE MARSH had two brothers: **WILLIAM HENRY MARSH** (born 1423) and **SIR THOMAS MARCHE**, who was born approximately in 1400.

WILLIAM ATTE MARSH married **MARY JANE DITTON**, who was born in 1400 in East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. Together they had two sons: **SIR WILLIAM HENRY**, born in 1423; and **ROBERT**, for whom no birth details are provided.

- **WILLIAM ATTE MARSHE** passed away in 1460 at the age of 80. While one source states that he died in Sedgley, Staffordshire, England, another quotes Kent, England as his place of death.

9. Sir THOMAS MARSH (1395 - 1490)

THOMAS MARSH was born on January 1, 1395, in East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of WILLIAM ATTE MARSH, born in 1380, and MARY JANE ATTE-MARSH (born DITTON), whose birth date is also recorded as 1395.

The VILLAGE OF EAST LANGDON, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book, would be his lifelong home. It later became part of the PARISH of LANGDON in 1963.



In 1425, SIR THOMAS MARSH married MARY JANE DITTON, also from East Langdon, who was born around 1395. They are recorded to have had two sons: WILLIAM HENRY MARSH and ROBERT MARSH. However, a conflicting record suggests there was only one son, named WILLIAM WICKHAM MARSHE, and born on January 1, 1453.

■ Throughout his long life, SIR THOMAS MARSH resided in East Langdon, Kent, England. He died on January 1, 1490, at age 95, in Sedgley, Staffordshire, England.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

SIR THOMAS MARSH was born into the late Medieval Period, a time characterized by feudalism, the decline of Chivalry, and the prelude to the Renaissance. In the year 1395 England was under the rule of KING RICHARD II, whose reign saw internal strife and the seeds of later conflicts like the WARS OF THE ROSES. East Langdon, Sir Thomas's birthplace, was a small Village near Dover, in Kent with historical significance dating back to its mention in the Domesday Book of 1086.

As the son of WILLIAM ATTE-MARSH and MARY JANE ATTE MARSH (born DITTON), Sir Thomas was a member of a family embedded in local gentry. His father's name suggests a connection to the land ('atte' meaning 'at the'), typical for the era when surnames often denoted one's place of residence or occupation. This period witnessed the gradual solidification of surnames in English Society, a practice that became more standardized by the end of the 15th. Century.

In 1425, SIR THOMAS MARSH married MARY JANE DITTON, indicating an alliance between local families which was a common practice among the Gentry to consolidate wealth and influence. Their marriage occurred during the reign of KING HENRY VI, a time

overshadowed by the Hundred Years' War with France and domestic instability that would eventually lead to the Wars of the Roses, affecting the social fabric of England.

During Sir Thomas's lifetime, England experienced significant demographic changes due to the aftermath of the **BLACK DEATH**, which had reduced the population dramatically in the previous Century. This led to Social and Economic shifts, including the PEASANTS' REVOLT of 1381. Additionally, Religious Reform Movements such as Lollardy began emerging, challenging the established Church and foreshadowing the later Reformation.

The LOLLARDS were Christian reformers who followed the teachings of JOHN WYCLIFFE. Critical of a corrupt and overly hierarchical Catholic Church, they promoted the virtues of piety, simplicity, and humility. They were the first critical reform movement following the Age of Faith.

Sir Thomas lived through the tumultuous close of the Medieval Era and the dawn of the EARLY MODERN PERIOD. By his death in 1490, he had witnessed the rise of the TUDOR DYNASTY following the WARS OF THE ROSES. Sedgley, where he passed away, was part of Staffordshire, a County that played roles in various historical events, including the aforementioned CIVIL WARS. His lifespan encompassed both the stability and upheaval characteristic of the transition from Medieval to Modern England.

10. Sir WILLIAM HENRY MARSH (1423-1490)

- WILLIAM HENRY MARSH was born on January 1, 1423, in Martin, East Langdon, Kent, England, to SIR THOMAS MARSH and MARY JANE MARSH (born DITTON). His father, SIR THOMAS MARSH, was born in 1395 in the same Village of East Langdon, which is a small Community located 3 miles northeast from Dover Town. William's mother, MARY JANE MARSH, was also born in East Langdon, Kent, England with records indicating her birth year as either 1395 or 1400.



- WILLIAM HENRY had two brothers: WILLIAM WICKHAM and ROBERT. The family resided in an area that has historical significance, being mentioned in the Domesday Book, and would later become part of the Parish of Langdon after the abolition of its Civil Parish status in 1963.

On August 6, 1442, the 19-year old WILLIAM HENRY MARSH married 17-year old HARRIET COLLARD (1425 - 1485) who was born in Ashford, Kent, England. They were wed in East Langdon, Kent and had two sons: ROBERT and EDWARD.

(It is also noted that WILLIAM HENRY married MARGARET LYN, born circa 1425 in East Langdon; however, further details about this marriage are not consistent across sources.)

With his wife HARRIET COLLARD, WILLIAM HENRY MARSH Snr. had a son also named William Henry Jnr.

- WILLIAM HENRY MARSH Snr. passed away at age 66-years or 77-years, with conflicting records stating he died about 1490, in his hometown of East Langdon, Kent, England.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

WILLIAM HENRY MARSH was born into the late Middle Ages, a period characterized by Feudalism, the decline of Chivalry, and the gradual emergence of early Modern States in Europe. His birth in 1423 placed him within the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR (1337-1453), a series of conflicts fought between ENGLAND and FRANCE over succession to the French throne. The War had profound effects on English Society and Politics, influencing the lives of its Citizens.

WILLIAM HENRY MARSH hailed from East Langdon, Kent, a region with historical significance dating back to the Domesday Book of 1086. By the time of his birth, Kent was an important Agricultural County that also played a strategic Military role due to its proximity to continental Europe. **SIR THOMAS MARSH**, William's father, would have been part of the local Gentry, holding social status and responsibilities during a time when the traditional Feudal Order was being challenged by economic changes and Peasant unrest, such as the Peasants' Revolt of 1381.

William's marriage to **HARRIET COLLARD** in 1442 occurred against the backdrop of shifting attitudes towards family life and marriage. During this era, marriages often served to consolidate wealth and forge alliances. The Church exerted considerable influence over marital arrangements, emphasizing the sacramental nature of Marriage. It is possible that William's second marriage to Margaret Lyn reflects the practice of remarriage following the death of a spouse, which was not uncommon in medieval times due to shorter lifespans and high mortality rates.

WILLIAM HENRY MARSH'S death in 1490 marked the end of his life at the dawn of the **RENAISSANCE** in England. This period saw the beginning of the Tudor dynasty with the ascent of Henry VII in 1485 after the Wars of the Roses, a series of dynastic wars for control of the throne of England.

The **ENGLISH RENAISSANCE** can be hard to date precisely, but for most scholars, it begins with the rise of the Tudor Dynasty (1485–1603) and reaches its cultural summit during the 45-year reign of the final Tudor monarch, the charismatic Elizabeth I (1558–1603). The period extends into the reigns of the Stuarts, King James I (1603–25) and perhaps that of Charles I (1625–49). The era seethed with incessant political tensions and—never separable from politics—religious rifts between Catholics and Protestants, especially the so-called Puritan sects that fought to reform the Church of England by removing any Catholic or “popish” practices. The Renaissance firmly ends once those tensions boil over into a distinctly different period of revolutionary change and a succession of nation-shaking events: the series of civil wars between Parliamentarians and Royalists, the execution of Charles I, the interregnum of republican-led governments, and the restoration of the monarchy in 1660.

If **WILLIAM HENRY MARSH** had lived until 1500, he would have witnessed the early years of the reign of **HENRY VII** and the stabilization of the Monarchy after years of conflict. His passing in East Langdon, a place of personal origin and lifelong residence, reflected the common Medieval pattern of strong ties to one's birthplace.

11. ROBERT MARSH Snr. (1445 - 1505)

ROBERT MARSH Snr. was born in 1445 (or possibly 1443) in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of WILLIAM HENRY MARSH (also known as Sir William Henry Marshe) and HARRIET MARSH (born COLLARD) with alternative records mentioning MARGARET LYN as his Mother.



His father's birth year is variously recorded as circa 1420 or 1423, while his mother's birth year is consistently mentioned as 1425. Robert had several siblings, including THOMAS, WILLIAM HENRY, SIR JOHN, ALICE, CATHERINE, MARY, and JOHN HENRY.

ROBERT MARSH Snr. married SUZANNAH BLOOMFIELD (also referred to as SUSAN), who was born in 1447 and died in 1488. They were wed in 1465 in Martin, Kent, England, when Suzannah was 18-years old and Robert was 20-years old.

Together they had three sons: ROBERT, WILLIAM, EDWARD, and a daughter MARY ANN. Some sources also mention a RICHARD and an additional spouse named EDITH BENNETT, suggesting possible multiple marriages.

■ ROBERT MARSH Snr. died on July 16, 1505, at age 60, in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was buried in Kent, England.

Historical Context

Robert Marsh's birth in 1445 in Kent, England, occurred during a tumultuous period of the late Middle Ages. His lifetime spanned the latter part of the HUNDRED YEARS' WAR (1337-1453) between England and France, which concluded when he was a young child. The war had significant impacts on English society and politics, including the loss of English territories in France, contributing to domestic instability that would lead to the Wars of the Roses (1455-1487).

Robert's father, WILLIAM HENRY MARSH, lived through the reign of KING HENRY VI, whose bouts of insanity and weak leadership contributed to the outbreak of Civil strife within England.

When ROBERT MARSH married SUZANNAH BLOOMFIELD in 1465, England was embroiled in the WARS OF THE ROSES, a series of dynastic conflicts for control of the throne between the English Houses of LANCASTER and YORK. Robert's marriage coincided with the brief redemption of HENRY VI and the subsequent return to power of

EDWARD IV from the House of York. This era saw shifting allegiances among the Nobility and Gentry, as well as social upheaval and economic difficulties exacerbated by the aftermath of the long conflict with France.

- ROBERT MARSH died in 1505 or 1506, just after the turn of the Century, having witnessed the end of the Wars of the Roses and the rise of the TUDOR DYNASTY with the victory of Henry VII at the BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD in 1485.

Robert's death came shortly before the start of the reign of HENRY VIII in 1509, who would go on to initiate the ENGLISH REFORMATION. Robert Marsh's life thus encapsulated a transformative period in English history, marked by political consolidation, the decline of Feudalism, and early stirrings of the RENAISSANCE in England.



RENAISSANCE ENGLAND (16TH. CENTURY)

12. ROBERT MARSH Jnr. (1466 -1490)

- ROBERT MARSH Jnr. was born in 1466 in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of ROBERT MARSH Snr., who was born in either 1443 or 1445, and Suzannah Marsh (born Bloomfield), whose birth year is consistently given as 1447. The records indicate that his Mother's maiden name may have been Morse rather than Bloomfield.



ROBERT had several siblings: WILLIAM, EDWARD, possibly another brother named ROBERT, and potentially two other siblings whose names are not consistently reported across sources.

The details of Robert's marriage are also somewhat conflicting. One record suggests he married JUDY BRINKERHOFF, born circa 1461, around 1488, while another indicates a wife named Cicely Brinkerhoff, born in 1482, with whom he married in 1495. It is possible that Robert had two marriages. From these unions, there were at least two sons mentioned: Sir RICHARD, born circa 1490, and William, born in 1500.

- ROBERT MARSH passed away at a young age, possibly at only 24-years old. There are discrepancies regarding the date of his death, which range from 1488 to 1512. He was buried in Kent, England.

Historical Context

ROBERT MARSH was born in the latter half of the 15th. Century, a period that saw England embroiled in the WARS OF THE ROSES (1455-1487), a series of dynastic conflicts for control of the English Throne between the Houses of LANCASTER and YORK. The political instability and intermittent warfare during this time would have influenced every aspect of life in Kent, where Robert's family resided.

His birth year of 1466 places his early years amidst the struggle for power which eventually led to the rise of the Tudor dynasty with HENRY VII'S victory at the BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD in 1485.

As the son of ROBERT and SUZANNAH MARSH, he came from a lineage that could trace its roots back to the mid- 15th Century. The fluctuation in the spelling of surnames like his Mother's maiden name, recorded as both BLOOMFIELD and MORSE, reflects the lack of standardization in record-keeping at the time. Given the era's social hierarchy, it is likely that the Marsh family were part of the Gentry or prosperous Yeomanry, who played significant roles in local governance and the economy.

Robert's marriage(s) to Judy or Cicely Brinkerhoff around the late 15th. Century coincides with a period when Marital alliances were crucial for consolidating wealth and influence, particularly among the landed classes. The births of his sons Sir Richard and William occurred as England transitioned into the RENAISSANCE under the Tudor Monarchy, an era marked by relative stability and the beginning of English exploration and expansion overseas.

ROBERT MARSH'S death, occurring sometime between 1488 and 1512, meant that he either died just after the tumultuous Wars of the Roses or lived into the early reign of HENRY VIII. If he passed away before 1509, he would not have witnessed the profound changes brought about by Henry VIII, including the REFORMATION and the break with the Catholic Church. Regardless, his burial in Kent signifies his family's continued presence and status within their local community.

13. Sir Richard MARSH (1490-1525)

SIR RICHARD MARSH was born circa 1490 in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of ROBERT JNR. MARSH, who was born in 1466, and JUDY MARSH (BORN BRINKERHOFF), whose birth year was 1461.

He married ANN MARSH (born WADDINGTON) and ISABELLA ELIZABETH MARSH (born SEYMOUR), both born in 1494. The marriage to ANN took place in 1524. Together with Ann, he had one son named THOMAS MARSH, born in 1520.



■ SIR RICHARD MARSH passed away in 1525 at the age of 35 in his hometown of Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.

- In 1510 the 20-year old RICHARD MARSH married 16-year old Lady ISABELLA ELIZABETH SEYMOUR (1494 - 1545)
- In 1516, the 26-year old RICHARD MARSH married 22-year old ANN WADDINGTON (1494 - 1525) born in Martin, Kent, England;

Historical Context

SIR RICHARD MARSH was born around the year 1490, during the reign of KING HENRY VII, marking the early years of the TUDOR PERIOD in England. This era followed the tumultuous WARS OF THE ROSES and saw the establishment of a new dynasty that sought to strengthen Royal authority and bring stability to the Realm. The late 15th. Century was characterized by economic growth, social change, and the beginnings of English exploration overseas.

As the son of ROBERT JNR. MARSH and JUDY MARSH (née BRINKERHOFF), Sir Richard's birth into a family with established roots in Kent positioned him within the Gentry Class, which played an integral role in Local Governance and Society.

His marriages to ANN WADDINGTON and ISABELLA ELIZABETH SEYMOUR in 1524 would have been significant for consolidating status and wealth, as marriage alliances were crucial for the Gentry and Nobility. Notably, the SEYMOUR family gained prominence later in the Tudor period, especially with JANE SEYMOUR becoming the third wife of HENRY VIII.

By the time of RICHARD'S marriage and the birth of his only child, son THOMAS MARSH in 1520, England was under the rule of KING HENRY VIII, who had succeeded King Henry VII in 1509. The Country was experiencing cultural transformations, including the RENAISSANCE with its influence on ART and EDUCATION. However, it was also a period marked by POLITICAL MANEUVERING and the beginning of RELIGIOUS UPHEAVALS that would eventually lead to the REFORMATION and the DISSOLUTION of the MONASTERIES.

- SIR RICHARD MARSH died in 1525, at the relatively young age of 35. His death occurred just before the onset of the REFORMATION in England, which began in earnest with Henry VIII's quest for an annulment of his marriage to CATHERINE OF ARAGON.
- SIR RICHARD'S passing meant he did not witness the profound changes that the REFORMATION would bring about, including the DISSOLUTION OF MONASTERIES and the establishment of the CHURCH OF ENGLAND separate from Roman Catholicism. His legacy would be carried on through his descendants amidst these transformative times.

14. ROBERT MARSHE (1500 - 1573)

ROBERT MARSHE was born in January 1500, in Henlow, Bedfordshire, England. He was born in 1470, the son of EDWARD MARSHE, of Darton, Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, and LADY ISABEL CATHERINE MARSHE (born SAVILLE), who was born in 1474 in Kirklees, England.

KIRKLEES is a Metropolitan Borough of West Yorkshire, England. The Borough comprises the 10 - Towns of Batley, Birstall, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Heckmondwike, Holmfirth, Huddersfield, Meltham, Mirfield and Slaithwaite.



ROBERT MARSHE had six siblings: JOHN, THOMAS, AUDREY, ELIZABETH, another ROBERT, and WILLIAM GEORGE.

He married AGNES TUDOR, who was born in 1488, also in Henlow, Bedford, England. Together they had 4 - Children: RICHARD and WILLIAM THOMAS, and two daughters both named ROSE.

Later, he married LADY ANNE TUDOR on September 17, 1524, in Hendon, London, England. With Lady Anne Tudor, ROBERT MARSHE had five children: ALICE, RICHARD, THOMASYN, and again two daughters named ROSE.

In 1533, 33-year old Robert MARSHE married 27-year old Agnes FISHER (1506 - 1563) born in Clifton, Bedfordshire, England

Robert Marshe & Agnes Fisher had 2-Children (1-Son & 1-Daughter)

1. Richard Marsh (1524 - 1625) born & died in Kent, England;
2. Rose Marshe (1534 - 1601) died in Henlow, Bedfordshire, England.
Rose married William Hurst (1530 - 1569) and he died age 39-years in Henlow, Bedfordshire.

■ ROBERT MARSHE passed away on April 7, 1573, at the age of 73 in Darton, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England.

Historical Context:

ROBERT MARSHE'S life unfolded during a transformative period in English history, known as the TUDOR ERA. Born at the dawn of the 16th. Century, his lifetime witnessed the reigns of **Henry VII**, who solidified the Tudor dynasty after the WARS OF THE ROSES, and his son **Henry VIII**, whose numerous marital affairs and catastrophic break with the Catholic Church initiated the **ENGLISH REFORMATION**.

ROBERT MARSHE'S birthplace, Henlow, Bedfordshire, was a rural Parish within an England that was predominantly agrarian, yet on the cusp of Social and Economic changes that would define the RENAISSANCE and Early Modern Period.

Marrying AGNES TUDOR in Henlow suggests a connection, albeit distant, to the ruling TUDOR family, indicating the Marshes' social aspirations or existing status. The repetition of marriage to individuals bearing the TUDOR name, including LADY ANNE TUDOR later in London, could reflect the importance of such strategic alliances in this era. Marriages were often used to secure political ties and improve one's social standing. London, where ROBERT MARSHE married Lady Anne Tudor, was becoming a bustling metropolis and the heart of England's political and economic life.

By the time of ROBERT MARSHE'S death in Darton, South Yorkshire in 1573, England had experienced significant religious upheaval. Under Henry VIII, the **CHURCH OF ENGLAND** broke away from the **CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ROME** and **PAPAL AUTHORITY**, leading to the DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES and redistribution of Church Lands, which may have impacted families like the Marshes.

His children's lives spanned the reigns of EDWARD VI, MARY I, and into ELIZABETH I'S rule, each Monarch steering the Country in different religious directions. This tumultuous backdrop would have shaped their experiences and perhaps influenced their continuing Religious Belief.

- The LIST of Cathedrals, Abbeys, Monasteries, Priories and Churches destroyed at the despotic orders of King Henry Tudor VIII is endless...

The NAMES are representative of ALL Counties ENGLAND and demonstrate the extent to which DICTATORS and DESPOTS will go to preserve and extend their personal POWER.

What could go wrong today in 2024...?



Canterbury Monastery, Kent

Fountains Abbey, Yorkshire.





**Haughmond Abbey, Shropshire.
Glastonbury, Somerset.**





Malmesbury Abbey, Wiltshire.



Rievaulx Abbey, Yorkshire.

15. RICHARD MARSH III (1490 - 1525)

Born: Village of Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.

Parents: ROBERT MARSH JNR. (1466 - 1490);
JUDY BRINKERHOFF (1466 - 1520)

Siblings: THOMAS MARSH (1490 - 1516);
JOHANNE MARSH (1492 - 1535);

WILLIAM GEORGE MARSH (1498 - 1549).

Spouses: Lady ISABELLA ELIZABETH MARSH (BORN SEYMOUR) (1494 - 1545);
ANN MARSH (BORN WADDINGTON) (1494 - 1525)



Children: THOMAS MARCHE (1520 - 1612)
HENRY MARCHE (1523 - 1591) Born in Martin, Dover, Kent, England.
JOHN MARCHE (1525 - 1614) Born in Sherford, Devon, England.

Biography

SIR RICHARD III MARSH was born in the year 1490 in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of **Robert Marsh, Jr.** and **Judy Marche (born Brinkerhoff)**, both of whom were also born in Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England, in the year 1466.

Sir Richard had three siblings: **Thomas, Johanne, and William George.**

In his lifetime, Sir Richard Marsh married twice. His first marriage was to **Lady Isabella Elizabeth Seymour** in 1516. She was born in 1494 in the same town as Sir Richard.

Together they had two sons: Thomas, born in 1520, and Henry, born in 1523. After Lady Isabella's death in 1545, Sir Richard married **Lady Ann Waddington** in 1524. She too was born in 1494 in **Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England.** They had one son together named **John**, who was born in 1525.

■ **Sir Richard Marsh passed away in 1525 at the age of 35 in Martin, East Langdon, Kent, England. He was buried in the Village of Irchester, Northamptonshire, England.**

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

SIR RICHARD MARSH was born into the late Medieval world of England in 1490, during the reign of King Henry VII. This period marked the beginning of the Tudor Dynasty following the WARS OF THE ROSES, a series of dynastic conflicts for control of the English throne. The Country experienced relative stability after these tumultuous wars, with efforts to strengthen the Monarchy and to consolidate its power.

Born in the Village of Martin, East Langdon, Dover, Kent, near the iconic White Cliffs of Dover, Sir Richard's early life would have been influenced by the agricultural economy and the social hierarchy that characterized rural England at the time.

In 1516, Sir Richard Marsh married LADY ISABELLA ELIZABETH SEYMOUR, aligning himself with the influential SEYMOUR family. Marriages during this era were often strategic, designed to forge alliances and secure wealth or status. By the time their first son Thomas was born in 1520, England was ruled by Henry VIII, who sought to enhance Royal authority and break from supremacy of Rome, leading to the creation of the Church of England.

Their second son, Henry, arrived three years later amidst the King's growing conflict with Rome over his desire to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. After Lady Isabella's death in 1545, Sir Richard's remarriage to Lady Ann Waddington in 1524 continued the tradition of forming advantageous familial ties.

Sir Richard Marsh passed away in 1525, just as England was on the cusp of significant religious transformation. His burial in Irchester, Northamptonshire, placed him within a region that would witness the **DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES** under Henry VIII's Reformation policies. Although Sir Richard did not live to see the full impact of these changes, his lifetime encapsulated a pivotal moment when traditional Catholic practices were being questioned, setting the stage for profound shifts in English society and governance.

Last Name Origins

The surname MARSH is of Anglo-Saxon origin, deriving from the Old English word 'mersc', which means 'marsh' or 'fen'. It was a topographic name given to someone who lived near a marsh or swamp. The name also indicates geographical location. As families moved, the surname spread, but it retained its association with those early dwelling places by or within marshlands.

Citations: This ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BIOGRAPHY (TM) was created by MyHeritage using AI and includes data from MyHeritage and content generated by OpenAI.

16. RICHARD MARSHE (1524 - 1625)

Parents: **ROBERT MARSHE** (1500 - 1573)
ANNE MARSHE (born Tudor) (1488 - 1538)

Siblings: **Alice Marsh** (1522 - 1566)
Thomasyn Marsh (1524 - 1565)
Rose Rushe (born Marshe) (1534 - 1601)



AI Biography

RICHARD MARSHE was born in 1524 in East Langdon, Dover, Kent, England. He was the son of **ROBERT MARSHE**, who was born in January 1500 in **Henlow, Bedfordshire, England**, and **Lady Anne Marshe (born Tudor)**, who was born in 1488.

The Village of **HENLOW**, from where his father hailed, is located about 11 miles south-east of **Bedford** and its name is believed to derive from 'henna hlaw', meaning 'hill of birds' or 'hill frequented by birds'.

RICHARD had three sisters: **Alice, Thomasyn, and Rose. Alice Marsh** was born in 1522 and passed away in 1566. **Thomasyn Marsh** shared Richard's birth year of 1524, but died earlier in 1565. His sister named **Rose Rushe (born Marshe)** was born in 1534 and died on July 23, 1601.

RICHARD lived at **Huishe Chamflower** in **Somerset, England** and was known to be living as of October 5, 1555, in England.

RICHARD MARSHE passed away in 1625 at the age of 101 in Kent, England and was buried in Sedgley, Staffordshire, England.

Historical Context

Richard Marshe was born into a period of profound transformation in England. The year 1524 found the country under the rule of Henry VIII, whose reign (1509-1547) was marked by religious upheaval, the establishment of the **Church of England**, and **significant political changes**.

Richard's birth in Kent placed him within a region that would be deeply affected by these shifts, particularly the dissolution of the monasteries which began in 1536. His father, **Robert Marshe**, and mother, **Lady Anne Marshe (born Tudor)**, may have experienced the social and economic ripples caused by such events, given their proximity to the ruling Tudor dynasty.

As Richard grew up alongside his sisters **Alice**, **Thomasyn**, and **Rose**, England continued to experience the tumultuous effects of the **Reformation**. By the time his sister **Rose Rushe** was born in 1534, **King Henry VIII** had broken with Rome, leading to the creation of the **Anglican Church**. This era saw the suppression of Catholic practices and the redistribution of Church wealth and lands, which could have impacted the Marshe family's status and opportunities.

Richard Marshe's residence at Huishe Chamflower in Somerset placed him in the heart of rural England during a time known as the **Mid-Tudor Crisis (1547-1558)**. This period, spanning the reigns of **Edward VI** and **Mary I**, was characterized by economic difficulties, religious persecution, and political instability. Living through the **Protestant reforms of Edward VI** and the subsequent **Marian Restoration**, which sought to return England to **Catholicism**, Richard would have witnessed firsthand the pendulum swing of religious policy and its impact on daily life.

Remarkably, **RICHARD MARSHE** lived to see the Elizabethan era, a golden age of exploration, culture, and relative stability under **Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603)**. He survived until 1625, reaching an extraordinary age of 101 years old. Throughout his Century-long life, he would have observed the defeat of the **Spanish Armada in 1588**, the flourishing of **English Renaissance literature**, and the **early Colonization efforts in the Americas**. His death in Kent and burial in Sedgley, Staffordshire, marked the end of a life that spanned some of the most dynamic and formative periods of English history.

Last Name Origins

The surname **MARSHE** is of English origin, derived from the Old English word 'MERSC', meaning 'MARSH'. It was a topographic name for someone who lived by or in a marsh or fen. Over time, the spelling has evolved, and variants such as **MARSH** have become more common. The addition of an 'e' at the end of some versions of the name may be attributable to Middle English orthographic practices rather than indicating a distinct etymological development.

Marsh fever — The geography of Malaria in England.

Author: MARY DOBSON, Harvard University, and Nuffield College, Oxford, UK. (2004)

The Marshlands of Kent and Essex had exceptionally high levels of mortality from the 16th. to the 19th. Century. The unhealthiness of the environment aroused frequent comment during this period and it was attributed to an endemic disease known as “MARSH FEVER” or “AGUE”. Marsh Parishes were perceived both as a danger to the local inhabitants and as a deterrent to potential settlers.

This paper traces the geography and history of the “MARSH FEVER” in England and shows that the disease was, in fact, PLASMODIUM MALARIA transmitted by anopheline mosquitoes. Malaria, once indigenous in the coastal marshes of England, had a striking impact on regional patterns of disease and death. This discussion concludes with an examination of the reasons for the clinical disappearance of Malaria during the 19th. Century, its reappearance after the First and Second World Wars and the possibility of new outbreaks of Malaria in the future.

The presence of riverine water bodies explains the large number of studies reporting increased Malaria risk near river channels during dry periods (Section 7.2) and reduced malaria risk in regions where high flows are observed (Fig. 4). A similar effect of disconnection has been reported in coastal marshes during dry years (Dobson, 1980). The general lack of understanding of tropical river systems (Latrubesse et al., 2005) and the paucity of hydrometric monitoring in sub-Saharan Africa further confounds attempts to embed hydrology and geomorphology into the study of malaria.

Malaria risk is linked inextricably to the hydrological and geomorphological processes that form vector breeding sites. Yet environmental controls of malaria transmission are often represented by temperature and rainfall amounts, ignoring hydrological and geomorphological influences altogether. Continental-scale studies incorporate hydrology implicitly through simple minimum rainfall thresholds, while community-scale coupled hydrological and entomological models do not represent the actual diversity of the mosquito vector breeding sites.

The greatest range of malaria transmission responses to environmental factors is observed at the catchment scale where seemingly contradictory associations between rainfall and malaria risk can be explained by hydrological and geomorphological processes that govern surface water body formation and persistence.

This paper extends recent efforts to incorporate ecological factors into malaria-risk models, proposing that the same detailed representation be afforded to hydrological and, at longer timescales relevant for predictions of climate change impacts, geomorphological processes.

We review existing representations of environmental controls of malaria and identify a range of hydrologically distinct vector breeding sites from existing literature. We illustrate the potential complexity of interactions among hydrology, geomorphology and vector breeding sites by classifying a range of water bodies observed in a catchment in East Africa. Crucially, the mechanisms driving surface water body formation and destruction must be considered explicitly if we are to produce dynamic spatial models of malaria risk at catchment scales.



Wicken Fen, Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, England.

Only 0.1% of Britain's fenland remains un-drained. Wicken Fen in the Isle of Ely, is the most accessible remnant of this habitat.

The Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire

The "Isle of Ely" is so called because it was only accessible by boat until the waterlogged Fens were drained in the 17th century. Still susceptible to flooding today, it was these watery surrounds that gave Ely its original name the 'Isle of Eels', a translation of the Anglo Saxon word 'Eilig'.

The ancient CITY OF ELY occupies the largest island in the Cambridgeshire Fens.

It was an Anglo Saxon princess, SAINT ETHELREDA, who founded the first Christian community on the islands' hill top site in 673 A.D. for both Monks and Nuns. Like her father Anna, the King of East Anglia, Ethelreda had become an enthusiastic supporter of the new Christian religion that was fast spreading through the Country.

Rich in folk history, Ely was also the stronghold of HEReward THE WAKE (meaning "wary"). Hereward exploited the natural defences of the Isle of Eels to stage the final Anglo Saxon resistance to the Norman invasion of 1066, led by WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR. Unfortunately for Hereward however, he did not have the full support of the Ely Monks, some of whom provided William with the information he needed to capture the island.

HEReward escaped to fight another day, but KING WILLIAM exacted a heavy toll on the Abbot and Monks of Ely. At that time Ely was the second richest Monastery in England, but in order to gain their pardon the Monks were forced to melt down and sell all the silver and gold objects within the Church as recompense.

Today nothing survives of the Anglo Saxon Church. Ely is now dominated by the magnificent NORMAN CATHEDRAL, a legacy left by King William I. The invading Normans undoubtedly used their building skills to demonstrate their power over the local population. With its intricately carved stonework, ELY CATHEDRAL took almost 300-years to complete. Today, more that 1,000 years later, it still towers over the surrounding low-lying fenland, one of the finest example of Romanesque architecture in the Country ... It is known as the "SHIP of the FENS".

The Cathedral with its many interesting features, including the 14th. Century Lady Chapel and Octagon Tower, will no doubt be recognized by millions, as it was used as a film set for the two recent Elizabethan movie epics 'THE GOLDEN AGE' and 'THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL'.



ELY CATHEDRAL - the "Ship of the Fens".



Due to its historic isolation, Ely has remained small. Visitors can explore the ancient buildings and medieval gateways, the CATHEDRAL CLOSE (the largest collection of domestic monastic buildings in the country) or OLIVER CROMWELL'S HOUSE, which is open all year round with exhibitions, Period Rooms and a haunted room. Stroll along the riverside; in the summer there are daily boat trips to Cambridge; or visit the Tearooms and Antique Shops which nestle cosily in the narrow streets of this ancient City.

Perhaps the most famous resident of Ely was the LORD PROTECTOR, the uncrowned King of Great Britain and Ireland, **OLIVER CROMWELL**. In 1636 Cromwell inherited a large Estate in the area from his uncle Sir Thomas Steward. He became the local Tax Collector, a man of wealth and great standing within certain sectors of the Community. Not perhaps the greatest admirer of the local Catholic Clergy, he was responsible for closing the Cathedral for approximately 10-years following a disagreement with them. He did however put the building to good use during this period, as stabling for his cavalry horses!



Oliver Cromwell (from the Project Gutenberg book by Charles Firth).



River Boats on the Great Ouse River, Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, England



Punting on the Great Ouse River, Cambridgeshire, England

Malaria and Deaths in the English Marshes.

AGUE, INTERMITTENT FEVER, AND MALARIA

Many of the medical terms that we use today had different and imprecise meanings in the past. The use of the word AGUE deserves close scrutiny since much of the research into English Malaria is based on historical accounts referring to ague cases. Ague was originally used to describe “any acute febrile disease, and especially to a fever accompanied by a shaking or shivering fit”,⁹ but was used more restrictively in the 18th and 19th Centuries to describe INTERMITTENT FEVER.

VIRULENT STRAINS OF VIVAX MALARIA

Is there evidence that Vivax Malaria was more virulent in the past? James in the early 20th Century stated that for Vivax Malaria acquired in England that was not treated with quinine “in persons...enfeebled from any cause, not infrequently results fatally”. Annual reports of the Registrar General from 1840 to 1910 recorded 736 Malaria deaths in Kent, (1.24 per 1000 inhabitants) but these included deaths from REMITTENT FEVER (relapsing fever and enteric fever), until 1901.

DEATH IN THE MARSHES

If Vivax Malaria was not the killer in the marshes, what was? One of the main arguments for Malaria being the principal cause is that the seasonal peaks in mortality correspond with when clinical attacks of Malaria would be most prevalent. Parish records for marsh communities frequently show a bimodal pattern of mortality; with a spring peak, around March and April, followed by an autumn peak, in September or October. The autumnal infections arise after the peak in adult mosquito populations.

