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WOODS

Research into this family has not definitely established the parentage of Michael Woods who went to the U.S. with his brothers and sister c.1724. He was thought to have been the son of John Wood (not Woods) of Rossmead and either of his two alleged wives, Elizabeth Worsop or Anne Bedlow. John Wood of Rossmead made his will 9 March 1723 and the will was proved 24 April 1730. A photo-copy is attached, which makes it quite clear that his wife, Elizabeth Worsop, was alive in 1723 and that they had no issue. It is inconceivable that a man who had four sons would have left the bulk of his estate to his sister's child, John Widman, on condition that he changed his name to All the sources point to his being childless. is no doubt that he married Elizabeth Worsop, daughter of Sir Thomas Worsop, probably after 1690. Her brother Thomas Worsop, Captain in the Earl of Meath's regiment made an undated will against which a caveat was entered in December 1690, so he was presumably dead by that date. He mention his mother. Lady Elizabeth Worsop, and his sisters Lettice, Elizabeth. and Anne and also Dorothy, wife of Thomas Toler. This indicates that Elizabeth was still single in 1690. Her father Sir Thomas Worsop mentioned her in his will, proved 20 January 1688. All this information comes from Betham's 18th century notes on Prerogative wills later lodged in the Public Record Office and destroyed in 1922.

The John Wood/Anne Bedlow marriage took place in St. Michan's Dublin on 12 June 1687. The only evidence that this is John Wood of Rossmead comes from Genealogical Office MS. 254 (Betham's sketch pedigrees compiled from Prerogative Wills). A copy of this pedigree is enclosed. The entry 'M. Anne Bedlow' is in a different handwriting and ink to the rest of the pedigree, and may not even be in Betham's writing.

The printed Dublin parish registers contain numerous John Wood and John Woods references, many of them being tradesmen, carpenters, etc.. If the John Wood who married Anne B edlow was actually the John of Rossmead, then he cannot have had any children by her either. If he married her, she must have been his first wife, and Elizabeth, William, Michael and John Woods were all born before the marriage of 1687.

Elizateth Morsep Mood survived her husband, and by her will, dated 7 May 1766, proved 17 Hovember 1764, she distributed her estate among numerous niccos and nephews.

It is established therefore that Elchael, William, Andrew, James, John and Elizabeth Woods could not have been the children of John of Rosmead, and the question as to whose children they were, remains. There has apparently been a considerable amount of research done over the years on this family, and it is difficult to know who decided that they were of the Rossmead Woods.

They are said to have come from Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath. The Church of Treland records of Dunshaughlin were destroyed in 1922, but in any event dated only from 1839, much too late to be useful. It was not possible to examine the Dunshaughlin tombstones but they would probably only show several Good families without any positive identification. He do not know the maiden name of the wife of John Wood of Dunshaughlin.

Seventeenth century records are scanty in Ireland, and the P.P.O. fire destroyed much that was available before 1922. The main sources for early family history are wills, Genealogical Office pedigrees, Betham abstracts of wills, Betham sketch pedigrees, Marriage License Bonds etc.. All the sources listed in the appendix were consulted, including lists of Cromwellian Adventurers, and 1041 Depositions in the Manuscript Library of Trinity College. However, the Library was unable to identify the references to Elizabeth Worsep and could find no material on Sir Thomas Worsep.

The pre-1700 printed parish registers of Dublin were examined and some John Wood/Woods references extracted. The name Bedlow occurred several times, in the parishes of S9. Feter and Kevin, St. Catherine, St. Wichael and St. John. One entry for Michaels Bedlow buried 13 May 1682 at S9. Feter and Kevin may be for Anne Bedlow's first husband. One James Bedlow paid parish cess in St. John's parish in 1621.

The various Indexes to Emringe Licence bonds in the P.R.O. were examined but no relevant entry was found. It is regretted that we cannot identify the journals of Michael Wood, but it is hoped that the material in this report will be of interest.

APPENDIX

Betham Notebooks P. R.O. 1593-1760. Aimtenets of Wills.

- (1) John Wood, Garctony Co. Moath, gent. 3111 15 August 1710, proved 16 May 1711. Grandchildren John and Winifred Widman. Son John, wife Mary, grandchildren Nicholson and Mulready.
- (2) John Wood of Rosmead, (Photo-copy)
- (3) John Wood of Dublin city. Will N.D., proved 1 April 1755. Father Richard Wood, son John, sister Mary Kelly, otherwise Wood, sister Ellinor Fitzsimons otherwise Wood, brother Gerald Wood.
- (1) Richard Woods of Dublin, will 20 February 1674. Son John, grandson John, daughter Susanna Masterson, daughter wife of Thomas Gibson, chandler, Dublin, grandchildren.

(Betham in G.O.M.S.254, says that this Richard is the father of John of Garclony and grandfather of John of Rossmead)

Printed Dublin Parish Registers (Pre-1800).

St. Catherine (1636-1715) numerous Wood and Woods entries, none relevant.

St. Michain (1636-1700).

16-6-1687 Married John Wood, gent to Ann Bedlow, widow.
2-5-1695 Buried Joan, wife of John Wood, car-man.
18-10-1657 Nanns of marriage, Richard Woods and Grizzell Fitzgerald.
22-11-1674 Baptised John, son of John Woods, merchant and
Alice his wife.
29-12-1671 Married John Woods to Joan Woods, by Banns.
2-6-1695 Baptised Peter, son of John Woods, soldier.
23-12-1700 Buried Joseph, son of John Woods, chandler.
(Numerous other Wood/Woods entries, none relevant)

Saints Andrew, Anne, Audoen and Bride 1632-1800.

Numerous Wood/Noods entries, none relevant.

St. Nicholas Without (1694-1739). No relevant entry.

Saints Peter and Kevin (1669-1761).

13 May 1692 Buried John Woods of New Street. 6-7-1699 Buried John Woods of York Street.

Saint Patrick (1677-1800). No relevant entry.

St. John (1619-1699). No relevant entry.

Registry of Deeds 1708-29.

Bedlow: Nil.

40-517-27191 Wood and another to Clinch. Lease 21 March 1723. John Wood of Rossmead, Esq., Elizabeth Wood, otherwise Worsop, his wife, John Worsop Burke and Henry Webb both of Dunshaughlin to James Clinch of Co. Meath, farmer. Lands at Johnstown 230 acres and Dunshaughlin 20 acres for 31 years for rents totalling £122-10. Witnesses John Tandy of Drewstown Esq., Wm Tanner of Dublin. Registered 2-11-24.

53-130-34744 Wood to Wood. Lease 4 April 1724.

John Wood of Rossmead Esq., Elizabeth Wood otherwise Worsop his wife, Worsop Bushe and Henry Webb, both of Dunshaughlin of the first part to John Wood of Dunshaughlin, innkeeper. Premises now in possession of John Wood innkeeper commonly called Green's holding, 32 acres, Horse Park and 14 acres opposite the housemill in Dunshaughlin town, 64 acres in all for the lives of Elizabeth Hoy and Elizabeth Woods, the two lives now in being, under which the parties of the first part hold the property from Lord Viscount Rosse, Baron Oxmantown. Witnesses Robert Gorman and William Tenner of Dublin. Registered 15-5-1727.

Betham: Sketch Pedigrees, G.O.254.

John Woods of Dunshaughlin = Anne

Sara = James Clynch Grace

James Robert Margaret Margaret Dutton, granddaughter

G.O. Obituaries

1690. Sir Thomas Worsop, late of Dublin, died at Chester.

1690. John Worsop. Captain in the Earl of Meath's Regiment.

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Will 7-5-41
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                   Richard Wood
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Will 15-8-1710
Proved 16-5-1711
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of Balrath
(Betham 32)
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THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE

BOURCES CONSULTED

Public Record Office

Testamentary Index

Betham Notebooks. (All Wood and Bedlow entries 1600-1766)

Index to Dublin Acts and Grants.

Index to Prerogative Wills.

Index to Prerogative Marriage Licence Bonds.

Index to Meath M.L. 8.

Pender: Census of Ireland 1659.

Civil Survey, Co. Meath.

National Library

Printed Dublin parish registers, as listed.

N.L.I. report on family papers 385. (Covers Woods families Dublin and Kildare, all too late).

Burke: Landed Gentry of Ireland.

N.L.I. Ms. 11,975 (Lists of Adventurers).

Prendergast: Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland.

Hayes: Sources for Irish History under, persons, places etc.

Genealogical Office G.O. Mss. 112, 176, 180, 132.

Manuscript Library Trinity College

Depositions 1641

(Many Wood/Woods claims for damage suffered in 1641, including John Woods of Wicklow who 'was horribly robbed and dispossessed'.

E.E.B

(Contributed by Lois M. Postel, 14861 Valley Vista Blvd., Sherman Gaks, Ca 91403) and Ruby Woods, 400 South MI8, Gladwin, Michigan 48624.) 517-426-5758

On a genealogy trip to Ireland in September, 1982, RUBY WOODS found these family trees in the Public Record Office, Belfast. In the Public Library she found a manuscript of the Reverend HAMLET MCCLINACHAN, Rector of Dunshauglin Parish, 1905 to 1941. There was no way to copy the papers at the library, however, when in the village of Dunshaughlin she found another copy in the hands of the butcher, MICHAEL KENNY, his wife was willing to type a copy for Ruby. Lois found the papers when she met Ruby at the Balt Lake City Moumon Genealogy Library. They decided the best way to inform most of the people interested would be through this magazine. We are indeed grateful to these ladies for their generosity in sharing.

THE McCLENAGHAN PAPERS

Historical and biographical notes, copies of register entries, and tombstone inscriptions etc., relating to the Parish of Dunshaughlin and neighboring parishes, in the Diocese of Meath; compiled by the Rev. HAMLET McCLENAGHAN, Rector of Dunshaughlin, 1905 - 1941.

PAROCHIAL HISTORY - DUNSHAUGHLIN. There is usually much interesting and forgotten history connected with most parishes in the Church of Ireland, and especially so with the parishes in the Diocese of Meath, which was part of the English Pale. When I became Rector of the Dunshaughlin group of parishes (eight of them) Archdeacon HEALY said to me: "There is a great number of interesting historical facts connected with your union of parishes". And when I expressed my willingness to collect them, he very kindly put me on the right track to do so, and to begin with gave me the run of his own extensive library, inviting me to stay at his Rectory in Kells for the inside of a week, while I collected there a good sheaf of notes for a beginning. Then my next step was to visit the Record Office and various libraries in Dublin. In doing this I spent seven years or more - riding to Dublin (two or three times some weeks) on my bicycle, riding altogether 5,000 miles and bringing home each time many pages of pencil notes . . . 1,000 pages (foolscap size) of materials which I have written in my attempt at a parochial history". (HAMLET MCCLENAGHAN writing in the Meath Piocesan Magazine, August, 1941).

N.B. These notes are of special value as many of the sources from which Nr. No Clanaghan extracted them were destroyed in the Record Office explosion in 1922. This copy of the Papers was transferred to Meath Diocesan Registry in 1970 from the Library of the R.C.B., another copy remaining in the library. Both copies lack appendices K to O on Dunshaughlin and appendices on other parishes in the union.

C.C. ELLISON. Diocesan Registrar
Meath, Ireland

NOTE ON THE WOODS FAMILY

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Though not extracts from the Vestry Book, as the page headings would suggest, this seems an appropriate place to make a short reference to the WOODS family, which has been so long and so honourably connected with Dunshaughlin Parish.

ADAM LOFTUS, (a rather famous Archbishop of Dublin who died in 1605) had a son, SIR DUDLEY LOFTUS, who had a son, SIR ADAM LOFTUS. The daughter of this Sir ADAM,

IRISH RECORDS -- Cont'd:

PARSONS was a rather stern and hard-hearted Lord Justice at the time of the rebellion of 1641, and greatly hated by the Irish people. He was a large owner of property in and around Dunshaughlin). ELIZABETH PARSONS, daughter of RICHARD PARSONS and LETITIA aforesaid, married THOMAS WOOD of Dunshaughlin about the year 1661. Their daughter, ELIZABETH WOODS, married JOHN WOODS, probably her cousinabout the year 1680-83. From one of their sons came the WOODS family of Milverton Hall, Skerries. From another son MICHAEL, born 1684, came an American branch of the WOODS family. This MICHAEL, who married MARY CAMPBELL of the Braedleband Campbells, Argyleshire, got a large grant of land in America from King George II in 1737 and brought out with him his three sons, two of whom were married, MAGDALINE to a Major McDOWELL, of the English Army who fell in battle with the Indians Dec. 14th 1742; and MARGARET to ANDREW WALLACE, from whom came Major Gen. LEW WALLACE, a ran of many parts, Statesman, Soldier, Diplomat and Author. He was the writer of two famous books, "Ben Hur" and "Fair God".

General LEW WALLACE was very devoted to his stepmother. After the publication of "Wen Hur" the general said to his stepmother, Mrs. ZERFLDA WALLACE "And what do you think of my book?" "Oh, it's a grand book, my son; but where did you get that beautiful character of the mother of Ben Hur."

(ED. NOTE: This opens up a whole new "ball game" as to the parentage of MICHAEL WXXDS, about whom so much has been written and so many of you claim descent. From Pweter McClanaghan's Papers it would seem that MICHAEL's parents were both WCCDS - JOHN and ELIZABETH, possibly his cousin. And that ELIZABETH was the daughter of MICHAEL WOOD(S) and ELIZABETH PARSONS. ELIZABETH PARSONS was the daughter of one WICHARD PARSONS and LETITIA LOFTUS. And LETITIA LOFTUS was the daughter of Sir ADAM LOFTUS, who was the son of Archbishop ADAM LOFTUS who died in Dublin in 1605. If this be correct this is how it would be:

Generation I. ADAM LOFTUS

Generation II. SIR DUDLEY LOFTUS.

Generation III. SIR ADAM LOFTUS.

Generation IV. LETITIA LOFTUS, m. RICHARD, son of SIR WILLIAM PARSONS of Birr.

Generation V. ELIZABETH PARSONS, m. THOMAS WOOD of Dunshaughlin ca 1661.

Generation VI. ELIZABETH WOODS, in. JOHN WOODS, ca 1680-83.

Cameration VII. MICHAEL WOODS, M. MARY CAMPBELL

Let us hear your thoughts on this. Has anyone done research on the PARSONS family ?

The English Pale referred to by Rector McClenaghan was a district in Eastern Ireland included in the Angevin Empire by King Henry II and his successors. The Angevin Royal House, descends from the counts of Anjou, a region and province in Western France. The Angevin Royal House, called the Plantagenets, the royal house which ruled England from the accession of Henry II in 1154 to the death of Richard III in 1485. Plantagenet in French was a sprig of broom, the nicknesse for the Angevin kings of England.

Back to the descent of MICHAEL -- other genealogists have said that ELIZABETH PARSONS, daughter of RICHARD PARSONS, married THOMAS WARSOP, and this couple had a daughter, ELIZABETH, who married JOHN WOODS, and were parents of MICHAEL. It has been proven that this JOHN and ELIZABETH (WARSOP) WOOD had no children. When ELIZABETH made her will in 1741 she left her estate to nieces, nephews and cousins. (See charts to follow.)

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