

## The Judd Family of Warmington, Warwickshire

*Sources and acknowledgements.* The following information was gathered over many years and from a variety of sources, including wills in the Lichfield Diocesan Record Office and the Public Record Office, the Warmington Parish register from its start in 1636, gravestones, property deeds, manorial records, an anonymous history of the parish written about 1811, census and school admissions register. The author, Elisabeth Newman, thanks particularly David Judd of Bath and Ray Judd of Lichfield for their contribution, and for their support and encouragement.

**Richard Judd bought the freehold of his farm in Warmington in 1572.** His direct descendents in the male line lived in the village until the 1960s. How long the family had been in the village before 1572 is unknown; an anonymous history written soon after 1811 (possibly written by a Judd) states 'the Judds have been possessed of land ever since Sheldons was Lord hereof, legally descended in a direct line and so it is like to continue'. The Sheldons, William and Francis, bought former monastic properties, including Warmington, in 1544, selling on Warmington just a few months later. An even earlier reference to a Judd is in the 1536 will of John Inglysh, parish priest of Warmington, who left a small legacy to his godson John Judd.

Richard Judd, yeoman farmer, bought his farmhouse and three yardlands in Warmington in 1572 for £60. In addition he had to pay an annual rent of 2s 8d to the Lord of the Manor and this payment continued in the Manor records into the 20th century. Richard Judd died in 1607 leaving his 'mansion house wherein I dwell' and his three yardlands to his elder son Ezekiel Judd. This mansion house stands at the south-eastern end of the village green and has a cruck barn, believed to date from around 1500, attached to it. Richard was survived by two sons, Ezekiel and Richard, a daughter Margerie FEARFAX, a granddaughter Mary BRATFORD and a widow Mary, his second wife. The elder son Ezekiel inherited the Warmington farm, while Richard followed the trade of shoemaker but also owned and farmed a smaller amount of land.

The descendants of these two sons formed two distinct 'branches' in the family tree, which will be separately described, starting with the elder son Ezekiel, section A, and following with the younger son Richard, section B.

### **Section A. Descendants of Ezekiel Judd, yeoman**

Ezekiel Judd was buried on the 29th August 1642, just a few weeks before the Battle of Edgehill was fought on the parish boundary. Probably because of the unsettled times, his will was not proved until 1647. It shows he had a wife Frances, daughters Margery, Mary and Frances, sons Richard, Thomas and Edward and an unspecified number of grandchildren. His eldest son Richard was his heir.

Richard Judd married Phillipa BURY, a widow, at Whichford in 1628. They had several daughters, some of whom died in infancy. One daughter, Mary, married Thomas BENNET another of Warmington's yeomen. Richard and Phillipa had two sons - William who died young and Ezekiel. The farmhouse was extended on the southern end in 1667. It carries a datestone on the west wall J/RPE, standing for Judd, Richard, Phillipa and Ezekiel. It is possible that the large barn which runs westward beyond this extension was built at the same time.

Richard died in 1679 and was succeeded on the farm by his son Ezekiel. Ezekiel and his second wife Ann had five children: Richard (1672-1756), Elizabeth (1674-84), Phillipa (born 1678 and married William HITCHCOCKS), William (1686-87), and Ann (born 1689 and married William SEEAR). Ezekiel died aged 82 in 1728, probably at his daughter Phillipa's home in Appletree, Northamptonshire. His gravestone in Warmington churchyard has an inscription on the back to his granddaughter Barbara Seear, schoolmistress and house owner in Warmington who died aged 29 in 1753.

Ezekiel was followed on the farm by his son Richard, 1672-1756, who married Elizabeth DAVIS, daughter of Peter Davis of Shotteswell, at Farnborough church in 1698. Richard and Elizabeth had ten children between 1699 and 1718, four dying in infancy.

#### **Children of Richard and Elizabeth:**

1. The eldest son Ezekiel, 1700-1772, did not marry. Although he was his father's heir and in due course inherited the Warmington farm, he lived, farmed and was buried at Warkworth near Banbury. When he died he bequeathed his property to the two sons of his brother William, who presumably had been manager of the Warmington family farm on his behalf. So in 1772 this farm passed from Ezekiel to his nephew William, 1736-1823, while the tenancy and stock of the Warkworth farm passed to his younger nephew Richard.
2. William, 1702-80, married Sarah. Only two children, already mentioned, are known. They were William, 1736-1823, through whom the main Warmington line continued, and Richard who was his uncle's assistant on the Warkworth farm before taking it over. Richard was buried in Warkworth in 1807, leaving his two married daughters as joint heiresses. They were Lydia, who had married James GARDENER of Alkerton, and Sarah who married her second cousin, John MILES, farmer of Shipston-on-Stour.
3. Richard, born in 1712, bought some parcels of land in Warmington, which he bequeathed in his will, proved in 1786, to his nephew and namesake Richard Judd of Warkworth, referred to above.
4. Peter Davis Judd, born in 1715, had a wife Sarah and two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah. The daughter Sarah married Richard MILES of Shipston-on-Stour. Their son, John MILES, married his second cousin, Sarah JUDD, as mentioned above. This couple farmed in Shipston, before moving to Warmington with their son, Richard Judd MILES. The MILES family lived in Warmington for some generations, working as farmers, tailors, shopkeepers and bakers.
5. John, 1718-94. His will benefited his many nephews and nieces.
6. Mary, the eldest daughter was born in 1699 and married a man called SLATTER.
7. Elizabeth, born in 1705, married William BAYLISS, and had children William and Elizabeth. The daughter Elizabeth married a man called ARNOLD.

The open fields of Warmington were enclosed in 1777 following a private act of Parliament. William Judd, 1736-1823, who had inherited the family farm on the death of his uncle five years earlier, was allotted just under 64 acres of land on the west side of the turnpike road, now B4100, extending north from the toll house on the Shotteswell boundary. His farm included two small closes on the Hornton Brook and he divided his newly-allotted land into five fields. Two years later he bought two fields from John WILLIS; these fields were called Townfurlong and Middlebrook Ground and were situated on the north-east side of the village.

William married Jane ADAMS in 1774. Four of their children died in infancy but the eldest, Ezekiel, lived from 1775 to 1852, while his brother Richard died in 1840 aged 58.

Ezekiel married Elizabeth OWEN and their two children both lived to a great age. The elder, Sarah, born in 1809, married the boy next door, Simon HUGGINS, a younger son, and moved with him to farm in Westcot Barton, Oxfordshire. Her brother, William, was born in 1811, lived till 1906, and his obituary appeared in Banbury newspapers. He married Anne BEALE in 1836 and they had six children. They broke with tradition in naming their first son John, who sadly died at the age of 26. The second son, William, 1838-1921, known as 'Butcher' Judd because of his occupation and to differentiate him from his long-lived father, tenanted the house now known as Judd House in School Lane. He married Amy PRENTICE in 1880, but had no children. The only daughter of William and Anne was Jane who married

Richard WIMBUSH, a cattle dealer who farmed 575 acres at Chipping Warden. Jane was responsible for selling the last piece of Judd property in Warmington, their scutchyard, after the death of her brother, William 'Butcher' Judd. The scutchyard, a piece of land in Chapel Street, where Orchard House now stands, had a spring of water running through it where flax was once scutched or retted.

The other children of William and Anne BEALE were George Ezekiel, born 1843 and Richard, born 1845, who moved away from Warmington, and Owen, the youngest, born in 1853 who married Mary, a Shotteswell girl. Owen and Mary had nine children. Their third son Reginald George married Ada TIMMS, a member of the Warmington family of carpenters and wheelwrights. Reg, Ada and their two sons were the last of the Judd name to live in Warmington.

### **Section B. Descendants of Richard Judd, shoemaker**

The other main 'branch' of the Judd family tree begins with Richard, (the younger son of Richard, who died in 1607, and brother of Ezekiel, who died in 1642). Richard was dead by 1658, when his will was proved, though his burial is omitted from the parish register. His wife Mary survived him until 1662. He had four sons and three daughters alive when he wrote his will. Another son, Ezekiel, predeceased him. Richard had acquired property during his lifetime: two houses and several plots of land including some valuable closes, Hillyard Close, Breach Close and Custom Ground. The ownership of these various plots over the next generations helps in tracing this branch of the family.

#### **Richard and Mary's children:**

**1. John**, the eldest, married twice and it is likely both his brides were Quakers. His first wife was Ann ENOCK, daughter of Richard ENOCK of Arlescote, a husbandman or yeoman farmer. His second marriage at North Newington Quaker Meeting House, late in life, lasted only a couple of years and was to Mary POINTER, widow of Claydon. It is possible this second wife also had Arlescote connections, as Pointers 'were ancient possessors of land' in the hamlet. There is insufficient evidence so far to trace the descendants of John and Ann ENOCK with certainty. Their children probably included a Richard, a Charles (the only incidence of that Christian name among the Warmington Judds), and a John baptised in 1644. Charles, probably a bachelor, farmed in Warmington for a few decades, either holding land in his own right, or on behalf of one of his brothers. He died in 1712 in Warmington. In 1689, John Judd of nearby Claydon, Oxfordshire, cordwainer (shoemaker), bought land in Gaydon, a few miles away in Warwickshire. When a John Judd of Warmington, husbandman and maltster, died in 1723 his will shows he possessed a house and land in Gaydon, as well as land and two closes in Warmington; the Warmington property can be identified as that which Richard Judd, shoemaker, bequeathed in 1658 to his eldest son John.

**2. Richard**, received a house and land in Warmington under his father's will, but only outlived him by a few months.

**3. Thomas** received a cash bequest from his father, but then inherited some of his brother Richard's land. He married Margaret BATCHELER at Avon Dassett in 1637 and lived there for a time before settling in Adderbury, Oxfordshire, where he practised his trade of shoemaker for the rest of his long life. He was described in Warmington deeds of 1691 as 'Thomas Judd, the elder, shoemaker of Adderbury'. He was buried there on 20th December 1693.

**4. Simon** also received cash under his father's will, and then a house and land from his brother Richard. He too was a shoemaker, moving around local villages before returning to Warmington where he was buried in 1691. He was executor of the wills of his brother Richard and of his mother. However he was so laggardly in settling his brother's estate that Thomas Judd of Adderbury, his brother, and Richard HEMINGS, a mason of Warmington, his nephew, applied to the Lord Chancellor for a subpoena in an attempt to receive the legacies due to them. Simon and his wife Alice had many children, including Elizabeth (born 1643), Richard (born 1645), Symon (1649-1699) a farmer in nearby Horley, Oxfordshire, who founded the Judd line in that village, John a blacksmith (or locksmith) of Abingdon, Berkshire, who

died aged 30, Thomas a blacksmith of Sunningwell, also Berkshire, who died at 27 in 1683/4, Mary, Sarah and Joan. Joan spent her life in Warmington, marrying first, in 1693, John FRIEND who died leaving her with three young daughters, and secondly Simon HUGGINS, a Warmington farmer. When her father Simon wrote his will shortly before he died in 1691, only his wife Alice and daughter Joan were mentioned.

**5. Ezekiel**, who had died before his father wrote his will in 1646, had married Margery ENOCK, sister of his brother John's wife, at Brailes in 1624, and left four children, Ezekiel, Benjamin, William and Ann.

**6. Ursula**, the eldest daughter, is believed to have married Thomas THACKER and lived in Adderbury where she was buried, a widow, in 1709.

**7. Alice** married a Robert CLARKE and had children.

**8. Joan** married into a Warmington family, her husband being Richard HEMINGS, a stone mason. She was buried in Warmington on 12th May 1658 according to her gravestone, although no burials were recorded in the parish register in that year. Her children, remembered in their grandmother's will of 1662, were Mary, Elizabeth, Jane and Richard HEMINGS, and the four younger ones, Nan, Joseph, Joan and William HEMINGS.

**The male line of this branch of the Judd family in Warmington** appears to end with the death of John Judd, husbandman and maltster of Warmington, in 1723, referred to above. He had been living in Claydon in 1705 when his marriage to Alice HUNT, daughter of Thomas HUNT took place in the Radway Quaker Meeting House. When John wrote his will he left property in both Warmington and Gaydon to benefit his wife Alice and his two daughters, both minors and unnamed. Alice affirmed, rather than swore, to administer his estate, according to the indulgence granted to Quakers - and the Quaker allegiance seems to be a recurrent motif in this branch of the family. One of the two daughters can be assumed to be Elizabeth Judd who married William HOWKINS in 1736. Their only son, John HOWKINS, was allotted land at Inclosure in 1777 adjoining the turnpike road and bordered by the Judd family close, known as Hillyard Close. This entitlement to land, and the Hillyard Close, had been bought by Richard Judd, according to his will written in 1658, from his father and elder brother at a no doubt much earlier date.

Although this branch died out in the male line, the Judd blood continued to flow, through their daughters, in the veins of a number of Warmington families for generations!