THE SKYDMORES/ SCUDAMORES OF ROWLESTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE, including their descendants at KENTCHURCH, LLANCILLO, MAGOR & EYWAS HAROLD.

edited by Linda Moffatt 2016© from the original work of Warren Skidmore

CITATION
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DATES
• Prior to 1752 the year began on 25 March (Lady Day). In order to avoid confusion, a date which in the modern calendar would be written 2 February 1714 is written 2 February 1713/4 - i.e. the baptism, marriage or burial occurred in the 3 months (January, February and the first 3 weeks of March) of 1713 which 'rolled over' into what in a modern calendar would be 1714.
• Civil registration was introduced in England and Wales in 1837 and records were archived quarterly; hence, for example, 'born in 1840Q1' the author here uses to mean that the birth took place in January, February or March of 1840. Where only a baptism date is given for an individual born after 1837, assume the birth was registered in the same quarter.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS
Databases of all known Skidmore and Scudamore bmds can be found at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

PROBATE
A list of all known Skidmore and Scudamore wills - many with full transcription or an abstract of its contents - can be found at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com in the file Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study Probate.

PRIVACY
The Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study does not, as a matter of course, publish any biographical detail from the last 100 years, unless with permission of descendants.
PREFACE

This work was originally published in book form as part of Thirty Generations of The Scudamore/Skidmore Family in England and America by Warren Skidmore, and revised and sold on CD in 2006. I have extracted from this large work those sections on the early families in Herefordshire and divided these between three files, all available on the website of the Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study.

In addition, the Appendix contains material relating to this family, taken from the out-of-print 2006 CD produced by Warren Skidmore and William Frank Skidmore.

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In keeping with his wishes, the original text and format used by Warren Skidmore have been retained, apart from

- the addition of code numbers assigned to each male head of household, allowing cross-reference to other information in the databases of the Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study. Code ROW (Rowlestone),
- additions from Warren’s work on the first family to move from Herefordshire to live at their lands in Burnham, Buckinghamshire,
- occasional additions of mine which are shown in italics.

Linda Moffatt, January 2016
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ROWLSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE

The Rowlstone family was ancestor to all of the Skydmore/Scudamores that came after them in Herefordshire. Probably many of the unconnected families in London and the home counties in the Tudor period came out of Rowlstone but some proof of this remains to be discovered. A documented account of the early generations at Rowlstone will be found in The Scudamores of Upton Scudamore, a knightly family in medieval Wiltshire, 1086-1382, by Warren Skidmore (2nd Edition, 1989) on in the article on the Scudemer family found elsewhere on the new (2006) CD-ROM.1

ROW 1. JOHN SCUDAMORE (SKYDEMORE), a son of Vincent Skydemore of Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, was an adult by 1276 when he and his uncle Adam Woodcock are mentioned in the Welsh Assize Rolls. He became a man of considerable importance in Wales where he served KING EDWARD I well during the Welsh revolt. He was rewarded with an appointment during pleasure at Michaelmas 1298 as Constable of Llanbadarn Fawr Castle in Cardiganshire, which was changed to an appointment for life two years later. He was head of a garrison there of 50 men (including 24 crossbowmen and 18 archers) but this was reduced in happier times to 30 men. In 1306 his brother Robert Skydemore granted the manor of Rowlstone (and the bondsmen living there) to John Skydemore and his wife Cecilia, and Rowlstone was held from this date down until 1922 by their descendants at Kentchurch Court. In the same period he had the lease of the royal pastures between the rivers Einion and Llyfnant in the commote of Genau’r Glyn, and was engaged in fortifying Llanbadarn Castle in May 1308. Shortly thereafter John Skydemore was accused by Margery, the widow of Geoffrey Clement, of taking her husband’s records and tallies and levying them to the value of £200 as well as keeping £300 from the issues of her husband’s office collected before his death in 1294. He was appointed Constable of Mefenydd Castle at Michaelmas 1307 and served there until 1321 and for another term beginning at Michaelmas 1327 until his death. An attempt by the Justiciar to remove him as Constable of Mefenydd in 1315 was foiled by an order from the KING on 27 September 1315. His relationships with the men at Genau’r Glyn were also strained and they claimed that it would be impossible for him to take an inquest in Cardiganshire “as the Welsh hate the said John because he inflicted so much damage on them during the war in the late KING’S time.” John survived these crises and in March 1321 was ordered to return to Llanbadarn Castle in person. His early prominence at Abergavenny is indicated by the taxation of 1292 in which he appears fifth below the lord and assessed on 31sh as a fifteenth of the value of his possessions. He was dead before 8 December 1330 having had issue (probably with other sons in holy orders).

2. JOHN SKYDEMORE, of Rowlstone. He held Rowlstone as a moiety of knights fee in 1337. He was living 1349 and may be the man who married according to a traditional Welsh pedigree Alice, a daughter and co-heiress (with her sister Sybil, wife of John ap Gerald Sitsylt) of Sir Robert Ewyas. Had issue,

3. 1. JOHN, of whom further.
   2. Philip. He had a grant of lands from his father dated at Rowlstone on 23 March 1348/9 at places called Kayr Wared and Puteis adjoining land that once belonged to Walter de Pedwardyn, presumably the same Walter Bredwardine who was the father-in-law of his brother John. [These places are presumably now Cae-newydd Wood and Paradise Wood which adjoin on modern maps of Rowlstone.] Philip Skydmore was living as late as 28 August 1357 when he witnessed a release from Bernard Bras to the prior of Ewyas Harold. He may be the Philip de Ewyas who died shortly before 1 July 1360 according to the Close Rolls.
   3. Thomas. He is said to have married his cousin; she was an unnamed daughter and co-heiress of Clarice Ewyas by her husband Jevan Llewellyn (Whelan) “a gentleman of the KING’S Court.” [For her descent from the ancient lords of the honour of Ewyas Harold see the NOTES which follow.] Thomas Skydmore alias Ewyas is named in the deed of his father dated 23 March 1348/9 as having the reversion of the lands granted to his brother Philip should Philip die without male heirs. He was doubtless the Thomas who was father of another PHILIP SKYDMORE alias EWYAS of Holampton who was an ancestor to the family at HOLME LACY (noticed

1 The contents of this CD have now been transferred to the website www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
elsewhere²).

The eldest son,
ROW 3. JOHN SKYDMORE alias EYAS, held Rowlstone but probably lived there briefly if at all. He is usually called “of Abergavenny” and is frequently styled a knight. According to the Llŷr Baglan he bore arms gules 3 steroppes orr, the earliest mention of the Scudamore stirrups in Herefordshire. He may be the man of his name who was a mainpernor of the lands near Llanuga, Monmouthshire, of the alien Abbey of Lire as late as 1 May 1370. In the traditional pedigrees he is said to have married Joyce, a daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Merbury. He was dead by 1385 having had issue,
5. 1. RICHARD, of whom further.
6. 2. JOHN (JENKIN) of The Vern in Bodenham, Herefordshire, and ancestor to the family at KENTCHURCH AND THRUXTON (described below, see p.12).
7. 3. Robert. He sold a tenement on Monks Street, Abergavenny on 15 January 1398 to John le Barre, joined by his wife Sara and their daughter Agnes. The witnesses to this deed include John Skydmore, Steward of Abergavenny, and William Wroth. Had issue,
   Agnes, living unmarried in 1398.
   2. A daughter, married Gwilym ap David Morgan of the Chapel near Abergavenny.
   3. (probably) Margaret, married Roger ap John Proger of Wern-ddu in Llantilio Pertholey, Monmouthshire.

The eldest son,
5. RICHARD SKYDMORE alias EYAS, was an adult by 1384 when he was the collector of a tax in Herefordshire. He held Rowlstone on 12 February 1385 as half a knight’s fee pertaining to Ewyas Lacy Castle and worth 50sh by the year. He seems to have lived largely in Hereford, where he was five times Mayor between 1385 and 1394. On 3 November 1396 John Skydmore was committed to keep some lands at Dorton, Herefordshire, by the mainprise of Richard Ewyas, and on 27 October 1404 Richard Skydmore, citizen of Hereford, granted certain lands at Kilforge, Herefordshire to his brother John Ewyas. On 8 October 1403 a mandate was sent to the Keepers of the Peace and Justices of Oyer and Terminer in Herefordshire not to trouble Richard Skydmore who had been released as a mainpernor for the appearance of the Abbot of Dore who had been arrested for certain felonies. He died before 15 April 1407, when the inquest post mortem of Sir Thomas de Neville shows that Rowlstone was held by the unnamed heir of Richard Skydmore as a half fee by Neville in the right of Joan, his first wife, who was the daughter of Sir William de Furnival. It passed to Maud, wife of John Talbot, heir of Joan Neville.

The elder son,
ROW 9. THOMAS SKYDMORE alias EYAS, of Rowlstone and Kilpeck. On 6 February 1398 the Abbot of Dore complained that Thomas and John Skydmore (together with John Ewyas, James Ewyas, and others) came armed to the abbey and took away the great seal, the charters and muniments belonging to the abbey, and imprisoned his servants at Ewyas Harold. Skydmore had an important letter of attorney on 12 January 1400 to deliver seizin of the castle and lordship of Ewyas Harold to Sir William Beauchamp of Abergavenny. Either this Thomas (or his son of the same name) purchased the manor of Llancillo, Herefordshire on 12 June 1424 from John Dansey, and it was joined with Rowlstone and descended in the same way until they were both sold in 1922. He had issue,
1. THOMAS, of whom presently.
2. John Skydmore, of Kilpeck, Herefordshire. He had the keeping of Craswall Priory on 25 January 1387, and Abergavenny Priory on 8 March 1387, replacing a Thomas Ewyas (doubtless his brother) at both places. He was appointed Escheator of Herefordshire, Gloucestershire and the Marches of Wales on 15 November 1389 and again on 16 January 1390 but died in office without issue on 2 June 1399. His brother Thomas was his heir to his lands at Erewyn [Gwerngenny] in Kilpeck.

The elder son,
THOMAS SKYDMORE, of Rowlstone, Llancillo and Kilpeck. He was a student at Oxford in 1411 and a Fellow of New College on 7 October 1417. He married (by 1426) Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Bromwich, the elder, and died without issue before November 1456 when he was succeeded by his younger brother,

NICHOLAS SKYDMORE, of Rowlstone and Llancillo. He was living in 1456 when John Dansey, of Webton, Herefordshire, granted to him his bondslave John ap Hisok alias John Wayne on 8 November of that

year. He married Margery verch Morgan and died probably not long after 1456, having had issue,

18. 1. JOHN, of whom further.
20. 2. JENKIN, of Llancillo, ancestor to the family at LLANCILLO, HEREFORDSHIRE (see p.28).
19. 3. ROGER (ROSSER), of Rowlstone, of whom presently (see p.9).
21. 4. RICHARD, living a yeoman at MAGOR, MONMOUTHSHIRE, as late as 1535 and ancestor
to the family there (see p.30).
22. 5. WILLIAM (WILCOCK), ancestor of the family at EWYAS HAROLD (see p.34).

The eldest son,

ROW 18. JOHN SKYDMORE, of Rowlstone and Llancillo, Herefordshire, married 1stly Joyce ________ by
whom he had a son and heir,

  1. John, born 1468 and heir to his father3. However he presented rectors to the church at Beacons-
field, Burnham from 1502 to 1525, presumably at the concession of his stepmother who was then
still living. He died without issue on 18 December 1526, possessing Rowlstone, worth £20 by the
year, from Henry VIII of the honour of Ewyas Lacy, in Herefordshire.

John Skydmore, the elder, now married secondly ANNE SKYDMORE, (born 1458, died 28 February 1527/8),
the only known daughter of Philip Skydmore (died 1488)4 and his wife Wenllyn Osborne of Holme Lacy. Anne
brought the ancient Huntercombe manor of Burnham and the advowson of Beaconfield to her husband
presumably as a marriage settlement made by her father. They were forcibly ejected from Burnham in 1496 by
her brothers William and Edward Skydmore, but were later confirmed in their possession by the king’s court.
John Skydmore died at Burnham on 10 August 1500. It is curious to find that Anne Skydmore, who survived
him and did not die until 28 February 1528 was not enumerated in Buckinghamshire in the muster taken of the
county in 1522, and even more curious, that she was not taxed in Burnham Hundred two years later when a lay
subsidy was taken in 1524. Alas, no complete list of the sons of John Skydmore, the elder (died 1500) has yet
been found5. In addition to John, his heir, who was born 1475, there were at least two half brothers. His younger
brother Philip was not born until some 14 years later in 1489, and this leaves a long gap when several siblings
must have been born to John’s first wife6.

26. 2. PHILIP, born 1489, and heir to his mother Anne at Burnham, of whom further.
3. Simon (perhaps), who was a witness on 19 September 1518 to the will of Sir Thomas Gray, a
priest, who was buried in the chancel of St Georges in Buttolfe Lane in London. Nothing more has
been learned of him.

27. 4. David, of Burnham, who married and had issue (as known) a son,

37. 1. Simon Skydmore. He was born in 1526 (and perhaps named for an uncle), and was
apprenticed as a son of David Skydmore of Burnham to Bartholomew Clevering, a
citizen and goldsmith of London, in 1544. He had married (by 1562) Jane, a
daughter of Jasper Edwards. He prospered in a small way and was assessed on
£20 in lands at the Lay Subsidy of 1576. He settled at Finchley, Middlesex, were he was a
[Catholic] recusant in 1598 and fined £80 pounds for not having attended “any
church, chapel or usual place of common prayer since 1590.” He died at Finchley on
18 May 1609 aged 83 leaving a will dated three days earlier and proved on 29 May
16097. His wife Jane survived him leaving a will dated 7 July 1611 but not proved
until 24 April 1621. There are handsome effigies of Simon (in civil dress) and his
wife, and embellished with the familiar Skydmore stirrups, on a sepulchral brass in
the church at Finchley so he may have conformed later in questions of religion8.
Their only surviving child, a daughter Elizabeth, married Nicholas Luke of Great

He was aged 32 at his father’s death in 1500.

3 Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study code HLY [1].
4 Their cousins at Rowlstone and at Holme Lacy died leaving family archives that have survived down to the present. The
title deeds once at Rowlstone (later transferred to Kencurch Court) were calendared by National Library of Wales at
Aberystwyth and this is now available newly digitized, on the Scudamore/Skidmore Family History CD-ROM issued in
2006 [please see footnote 1]. The enormous collection of the Duchess of Norfolk Deeds (named for the last Scudamore
heirress at Holme Lacy) are preserved at the National Archives at Kew. Both contain useful material relating to Burnham,
noticed here. No doubt a coffer or chest once at Burnham had a somew

5 The birth of Philip Scudamore can be placed with authority in 1489. At the inquest post mortem of his grandfather
Philip Skydmore of Holme Lacy, on 4 March 1489, the homage of his son-in-law John Skydmore was respited until
Christmas “by reason of his [John] having issue by his said wife.” Philip was also 40 and more at the death of his mother
on 28 February 1528.

6 There is a rubbing of the brass at the British Library, Add. Mss. 32,490 DDD21.

7 P.C.C., PROB 11/113.
Paxton, Huntingdonshire, on 16 October 1593 at Finchley by whom she had a son Scudamore Luke and three daughters. She was dead in 1611 when her son Scudamore was heir to Sir Philip Scudamore. He had issue an only daughter,

1. Elizabeth. She married at Finchley 16 October 1593 Nicholas Luke of Great Paxton, Huntingdonshire (his second wife) by whom she had a son and three daughters. She was dead in 1611 and her only son, Scudamore Luke, was heir to Sir Philip Scudamore.

The second son,

ROW 26. PHILIP SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), was born in 1489. He was aged 40 and more at the time of his mother’s death, and proved his title to Burnham in 1536. He married firstly (settlement 12 June 1521) his distant cousin Joan (born 1497, died 20 March 1538), the elder daughter of James Scudamore (died 1522) by his wife Joan Baskerville, and with her sister a co-heiress to Kentchurch Court. They had, in addition to Burnham, the manor of Llancillo from his eldest brother John Skydmore (died 1526) by a settlement dated 12 June 15219. He had issue by his wife Joan Skydmore,

35. 1. JOHN, born 1521, of KENTCHURCH, ROWLSTONE AND LLANCILLO. (See p.16).
36. 2. JAMES, of TRETIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, born 1525. (See p.26).
3. Christopher. He was a recusant at Kentchurch in 1592, and was cited (together with his nephew Thomas Scudamore) on 20 September 1599 for not coming to church at Easter of that year.
4. Hugh. He married Elinor ap Price on 13 January 1583/4 at St Martins, Hereford. He was living as late as 23 August 1595 at Welford, Northamptonshire.
1. An unnamed daughter. She had married Ralph Chamberlayne before 1544.

Philip Skydmore married secondly Sibyl, a daughter of Sir Edward Chamberlayne (1480-1543) of Shirburn Castle, Oxfordshire. Philip made a settlement in 1538 of Burnham for the use of his two youngest sons Ralf and Philip which he had by his second wife Sibyll, daughter of Sir Edward Chamberlayne (1480-1543) of Shirburn Castle in Oxfordshire. However on 19 July 1544 he altered it, leaving it to his wife for life with a reversion to the two sons he had by her. He died two days later on 21 July 1554 (leaving a will signed the same day) possessed of the united manors of Rowlestone, Llancillo, and Burnham to which he had succeeded to Burnham in the right of his mother Anne Skydmore10. Sibyll remarried promptly, by a licence dated 4 February 1544/5. Her new husband was John Burley of Yanglely in Wonersh, Surrey and they were called quickly to do homage for Burnham. The Burleys denied the obligation saying that Ralf Skydmore, the elder son, owned the remainder11. In addition to his sons by his wife Sibyl, he had two unnamed younger daughters who were provided for in his will, but nothing more has been learned of them.

5. Ralph, born about 1541, of Burnham. He was certainly was of age in 1566 and in the full occupation of his inheritance when he sold the advowson of the church at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, to Thomas Hanford. He entered the service of Sir William Drury (1527-1579), a Catholic neighbor of Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire about the same time, and went with him to Berwick, Scotland where they laid waste the lands of those Scots who had harbored the English rebels12. On 17 December 1571 Don Gueran D’Espes, the ambassador in London of Philip II of Spain, wrote to the Spanish king in favor of Ralph Scudamore, “an English Catholic,” who had rendered his majesty a great service by furnishing intelligence of what passed in England. Drury and Ralph _Scudeamour_ were both handsomely rewarded for their service in Scotland On 29 January 1572 they had a large grant of the lands with a yearly value of £50 12sh. 9d. that had belonged to several of the men now attained of treason13. A few months later, on 12 May 1572, Drury wrote to Lord Burghley that DeCroce, an emissary from the French king, “desires that Ralph Scudamore and a cipher may be sent to him” in Scotland14. He is last heard of in Morocco where

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9 His two eldest sons by Joan had been educated at Eton which is hard by Burnham. His heir John Scudamore (1522-1593) is called “of Rowlestone” when he was admitted at King’s College, Cambridge, at the age of 17 in 1538. His brother James (1525-1597), on the other hand, is called “of Burnham, Bucks” when he was admitted to the same college at the age of 18 in 1543.
10 Philip presented John Scudamore, a kinsman, to the rectory of Beaconsfield on 4 December 1543 shortly before his death.
11 In 1546 the Trustees were given a pardon for acquiring the manor without a licence. (Letters and papers foreign and domestic, Henry VIII (XXI, part 1) 580.
12 Drury’s mother Elizabeth was a daughter of Edward Brudenell of Chalfont St Peter, and was certainly an acquaintance of the Skydmore.
14 In 1576 Drury and his wife Margaret [Wentworth] alienated Crowell in Oxfordshire, to Ralph Scudamore probably for the purpose of some settlement on themselves.
he had gone to collect intelligence about the infidels for the Spanish king. His spying was caught out and Ralph Skydmore was poisoned there in 1579, reputedly by the London merchants there who did not welcome this sort of interference in their lucrative commercial life. Ralph Skydmore died unmarried and without issue according to the administration on his estate which was granted to his younger brother Philip on 24 March 1580.

6. Philip (Sir), born about 1545, of Burnham and St Bartholomews, Smithfield, London. He is first noticed on 20 April 1564 when at a likely age of about 20 he was admitted to Lincoln’s Inn, off Chancery Lane in London, along with many other young men of his station who hoped to improve their fortune by the study of the law. In 1572, having succeeded his elder brother Ralph, he and his first wife Elizabeth leased the Huntercombe manor to his half brother William Burley and settled in London. He was a churchwarden at St Bartholomew-the-Great in 1574 to 1578. Philip Skydmore was again in full possession by 1576 when a lay subsidy of Boveney in Burnham Hundred shows that he was assessed on £20 in goods and for two light horses. There is also a deed of 1579 in the Kentchurch Court Schedule in which Philip Skydmore, still called of Lincoln’s Inn, and Thomas Skydmore (1543-1606) of Kentchurch Court gave a grant of land at Llandewy Skyred in Monmouthshire. His first wife Elizabeth Jones died in London on 9 July 1593 survived by her second husband Philip, and three daughters by her first husband Henry Coddenham. She was buried at the church of St Bartholomew the Great in London where both of her husbands had lived. There is a marble tablet on the east wall of the chantry in the north aisle in the church there with a carved border (and the well-known Scudamore stirrups and a long inscription) dedicated to her memory. Philip lived in an ancient house over the Smithfield which he “the old decayed and ruyed edifies” when he pulled it down and rebuilt in 1595.

On 11 June 1597 John Chamberlain (1554-1628) wrote that “Phillip Scudamore is very forward and like to have Mistris Lovell the last Coferer’s widow, to the great dislike of some of his best friends.” She was Dorothy, the daughter of Michael Greene, and widow of Gregory Lovell, Cofer of the Royal Household from whom she inherited the manor of Oxhey Walround in Watford, Hertfordshire. Chamberlain does not elaborate on Dorothy’s presumed imperfections, but she disappointed Philip and married Sir Robert Cross as her second husband. Scudamore was a great collector of books, and may have squandered a part of his patrimony on them. He was an early benefactor of the great Bodleian Library. On 25 June 1600 Sir Thomas Bodley (1545-1613) wrote to the vice-chancellor of Oxford sending a list of recent donations to the library including

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15 According to Nevill Barbour’s book Morocco (Walker & Company,1965), the Barbary Company was formed for trade with Morocco in 1585, and in one year the Queen’s Household alone consumed 18,000 pounds of Moroccan sugar.

16 She was a sister of Quinton Jones who had married Margaret Hutchinson at St Stephens Coleman Street on 12 August 1560. The will of Henry Coddenham, gentleman, was signed on 30 August, 11 Elizabeth (1569), and recorded at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury [P.C.C., PROB 11/52] on 25 March 1570. In it he requests that “my brother Quintayne Jones to assist my wife, being myne executrix, for the better per performance and accomplishment of the last will and testament.” Richard Martyn and Quintayne Jones, his brother-in-law, were also the two witnesses to Coddenham’s will. Jones was buried on 22 March 1576 within the church at St Bartholomews-the-Great at the expense (6sh. 8d.) of his new second brother-in-law Skydmore who paid an additional 3sh. 3d. for the ringing of the church bells at the funeral.

17 See E. A. Webb, The Records of St. Bartholomew’s Priory, Smithfield, and of the Church and Parish of St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield (London, 1921), 269-70, 456. “Hereunder lyeth buried the Bodye/ of Elizabeth Scudamore wife of/ Philipp Scudamore of Bornham/ in the Countie of Buck Esquier, she/ dyed the 9th of July 1593 and had to her/ former husband Henry Coddenham/ Esquier Auditor of the Mynt by/ whom she had issue Alice married to/ Robert Chamberline of Sherborne/ in the Countie of Oxon Esquier/ Dorothy married to Thomas Piggott of Dodershall in the Countie of Buck/ Esquier Elizabeth, married to William/ Paulet of Winchester Esquier and/ after Richard Fines Knight Lord/ Say and Seale, the said Philipp Scudamore/ was afterwards knighted and Travellinge beyond the seas/ died at Antwerp in the year 1611 and lyeth buried there in St. Jacobb’s Church.” The monument was probably put up by her daughter Elizabeth Coddenham (or Cudingham), the wife firstly of William Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, of Ewalden, Somerset, and secondly of Richard Fienes, Lord Saye and Sele. Lady Elizabeth Fienes was buried in the same church near her mother. Curiously this very long and detailed inscription neglects to say anything about Mrs. Coddenham’s parentage.

18 It was badly damaged in a Zeppelin raid in World War I, but has been rebuilt a second.

19 John Chamberlain (1554-1628), the writer of this letter, was a son of Richard Chamberlain (died 1563) of Old Jewry in St Olaves, London. His father was an alderman, sheriff, and master of the Ironmongers’ Company. Robert Chamberlain, his eldest son, was almost of the same age at his father’s death. He also became a master of the Ironmongers’ Company where he was a partner with William Skydmore (c.1530-1589) of London in several ventures. On 22 January 1597 a handsome reward of 1390 crowns was paid to William Skidmore, William Garway, Robert Chamberlain, and Bartholomew Matewson for building five ships at their own expense. While this John Chamberlain must have known the ironmonger Skydmore’s family well there is no mention of them in his letters. Most of Chamberlain’s gossipy letters were written to Sir Dudley Carleton who took Chamberlain along to Italy when he was appointed ambassador to Venice in 1611.
“from Mr Phillip Scudamor of London about fifty volumes of which the greatest parties are in folio.” On 4 April 1604 Gilbert Talbot (1552-1616), the earl of Shrewsbury, paid £65 to Tucher Castell for the use of Philip Scudamore probably to repay a loan from Shrewsbury who was a great spendthrift. 20 Philip was knighted by James I on 23 July 1603 in the Royal Garden at Whitehall immediately before his coronation. Again to what (or perhaps more importantly, to whom) he owed this preferment is unknown. Sir Philip married secondly Ruth, daughter of Griffith Hampden of Great Hampden, Buckinghamshire, and previously the widow of Edward Oglethorpe by whom she had two daughters. 21 Sometime after succeeding his brother he and his wife Ruth conveyed the reversion of the manor to Sir Marmaduke Darrell, a neighbor from Fulmer, and then on the 7 July 1606 they made a final grant of Huntercombe to Sir Marmaduke for £770. The Skydmore era at Burnham was over, and they retired to London. Sir Philip and his wife agreed to separate soon after. In May 1609 Sir Philip had a licence to travel abroad which he put to use almost immediately. A few weeks later on the 16 June 1609 his servant Tucher Castell wrote to Sir John Scudamore (1542-1623) at Holme Lacy that “my master hath taken his leave at Burnham of all his friends and means not to return thither again [and] hath made over all unto my Lady [Ruth Scudamore] excepting one hundred pounds a year or thereabouts of annuities for himself which I think to be very small and taken but forty pounds with him [to Belgium] in money. My Lady is minded to let her house in St. Bartholomew’s and lie altogether at Burnham with Mrs. Kingsmill and Mrs. Watkins and others.” 22 “Sir Philip died at Antwerp (where Catholicism was still the accepted religion) on 24 January 1611, and was buried at St Jacobs there. 23 While both of his wives left posterity by other husbands, he had no children of his own, and his cousin Scudamore Luke was named his heir. Luke claimed (and obtained) one third of Burnham manor despite the claim of Sir Marmaduke Darrell who was, however, exercising his manorial rights in 1614.

Sir Philip Scudamore’s long will had been made on 20 November 1610. He had already, at the request of his wife Dame Ruth Scudamore, made a conveyance to Sir Thomas Bodley, Knt. (from the library), Sir John Poyntz, Knt., Henry Finche, Esq., and Walter Wentworth, of leaseholds of Hampton, Oxfordshire as well of two houses in Great St Bartholomews “lately part of the mansion house of Lord Rich” and other goods, plate, and jewels for his wife’s benefit. 24 He also trusted her to give some token to his special friends, and “to supply his defects in the advancement of her daughter Jane Oglethorpe.” To his cousin [nephew] Sir Robert Chamberlaine and his heirs, he left his freehold lands and messuages in Great St Bartholomews to their proper use. 25 To his servant Tucher Castell he left £10 to be paid out of the leases held from Lord Rich. He also requested that his young cousin John Scudamore (1579-1616) of Kentchurch pay a debt of £100 to his executor. If he did so promptly within one year, then the amount was to be reduced to £60, and John Scudamore was to be then released from the claim for £100. John’s lands at Rollston, and Lancillo (and all his other lands in Herefordshire) were all to be set free from any further claim. 26 Sir Robert Chamberlayne was named as his executor, Tucher Castell was to be the overseer, and the witnesses were Anthony Wither, John Barfoote, and James Greenhough. 27 At his death nearly six hundred years of a family connection through the female lines of Skydmore and Huntercombe going back to Walter Fitz Otho, the Conqueror’s constable of Windsor Castle, came to an end. Lady Rut Scudamore married thirdly Henry Leigh of Rushall, Staffordshire, on 2 July 1616 at Isleworth in Middlesex. Despite her new marriage to Henry Leigh (who died in 1630) she

20 A Calendar of the Shrewsbury and Talbot Papers in Lambeth Palace Library and College of Arms, London, (H.M.S.O., 1966) MS.694, folio 1. This Sir John Scudamore (1542-1623), a friend and kinsman of Philip Skydmore, was a grandson of the John Scudamore (1486-1571) mentioned earlier. Sir John was Shrewsbury’s principal steward and may have arranged the loan.

21 Ruth Hampden had two famous nephews: John Hampden (1594-1643), the statesman, and Edmund Waller (1606-1687), the poet.

22 P.R.O., Duchess of Norfolk Deeds, C115, Box M.18, no. 7520.

23 The church is best known as the burial place of the painter Rubens.

24 Lady Scudamore held these superior leases on the houses of Lord Bergavenny and Sir Edward Barrett has late as 1642.

25 Chamberlaine had also been knighted at the coronation of James I. He was buried at St. Bartholomews the Great, where his monument notes that he died between Tripoli and Cyprus on a trip to the Holy Land.

26 John Scudamore of Kentchurch had recently succeeded his father on 6 May 1606. He took this opportunity to perfect his title, and Rowlstone and Lancillo descended in the same way as Kentchurch until 1922 when they were sold to pay the death duties due at Kentchurch.

27 P.C.C., Register Wood, folio 49. Chamberlayne proved the will on 3 May 1611, and there were further administrations given to Tucher Castell on 10 September 1617, and again on 11 January 1618, to distribute the effects left unadministered by the executor.
preferred to be known by the title Lady Scudamore until her death. John Chamberlain repeated some news of her in a letter dated 9 August 1617: “Dr. [John] Burgess is leaving his charge here at Bishops-gate and hath accepted [a benefice at Sutton Coldfield] in Warwickshire worth £250 a yeare at least bestowed on him after the commendation of Lady Skidmore who dwells not far off. She is with child by this husband whose name is Lee of Rushall, and now ready to lie downe, after twenty years vacation and more.” Mistress Lee (but known as Lady Scudamore) was delivered of Samuel Leigh, her only son, soon after. In 1616 she gave Sir Marmaduke a further quit claim for her interest in the manor, and Darrell finally appears then to have entered into full possession of Huntercombe. Castell reported to Sir John Scudamore on 2 October 1619 that “My Lady has let her house in St. Bartholomews. Her sister Lady Saye and she lives as two strangers and so doth all her old acquaintance.” She survived for many years and did not die until 28 March 1649 in her 73rd year at Croydon, Surrey. She is called “Dame Ruth Scudamore” and noticed as “singularly accomplished” on her monument in Croydon church.

2. A “younger daughter,” remembered but not named in her father’s will.
3. Another younger daughter, also not named.

The 3rd son of Nicholas Skydmore by his wife Margery verch Morgan,

ROW 19. ROGER (ROSSER), of Rowlstone, had issue,
29. JOHN AP ROSSER SKYDMORE, of Grosmont, Monmouthshire. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of Jenkin Philpot of Rowlstone. In 1525 he was the plaintiff in a suit against Philip ap William Vaughan over the right to common pasture on the demesne lands at Grosmont, and in 1537 was a farmer of certain corn mills there belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster. John ap Rossor Scudamore, his cousin John ap Jenkin Scudamore, David Gilbert and many others were accused in the Star Chamber of forcible entry and assault on John Gwatkin Vaughan and his wife at Ewysa Harold on 24 March 1537/8. John ap Roger Scudamore was living in 1539 at Longtown, Herefordshire, when he possessed a gleve, a sword, and a dagger useful in the defence of the county. Had issue,
39. 1. PHILIP, of whom further.
   1. Wenllyan. She married (his 2nd wife) Nicholas Gilbert (died 1524) of Old Castle, Monmouthshire. His will dated 28 February 1523/4 left his lands at Clodock, Herefordshire (which he had from Philip Scudamore) to his three daughters Joan, Joan Elinor, and Wenllyan all by his 2nd wife.

The son,
ROW 39. PHILIP SCUDAMORE, of Grosmont, Monmouthshire. He married Jane, a daughter of Juan Philpot of Rowlstone. On 29 October 1550 Philip Scudamore was a witness to the will of Jonette Scudamore (wife of Philip ap Rhys of Old Court, Orcop). He was presumably living as late as 1587 when John Philip Thomas sued several tenants of Grosmont Lordship over the possession of Mill Close and the rights to a water grist mill which he held from Philip Skidmore. Had issue,
50. 1. THOMAS, of whom further.
   2. Sybil. She married Philip ap Thomas (dead 1585) of Grosmont.

The son,
ROW 50. THOMAS AP PHILIP SCUDAMORE, of Longtown, Herefordshire, and Llangua and Grosmont, Monmouthshire, born 1561. He married (according to the traditional pedigrees) Blanche, a daughter of Jenkin ap Rhys, and 2ndly Wenllyan ______ who was buried as his wife at Grosmont on 2 February 1611/2. He had hopes of turning Grosmont into a commercial center and proposed to build a number of shops there for his craftsmen to attract trade. He went up to London to purchase silk and haberdashery goods to provide stock for the yeomen that he proposed to turn into merchers, but was badly tricked by Thomas Bowdler, a Lombard Street

28 For the young Samuel Leigh, and the Leiggs of Rushall, see Steffing Shaw, History of Staffordshire (1798), II, 69. Henry Leigh, her last husband died in 1630.
29 P.R.O., Duchess of Norfolk Deeds, C115, M.18, no. 7526. There is another letter (M.17, no. 7464) dated 30 April, no year, in which Ruth Scudamor writes to Sir John to thank him for helping her in some difficulty with Tucher Castell. “I canot but let you know that Tucher hath never come at me since I came to the town [London] which is all most a fortnight.” Lady Saye was Elizabeth Coddenham, Sir Philip’s stepdaughter and the widow (secondly) of Richard Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele (who had died in 1613). Lady Saye, (who was not the sister of Dame Ruth), died in 1632. (Genealogists’ Magazine, September 1970, 334-5).
30 She was buried as “My Lady Scudamore” on the 29th at the church of St John the Baptist, Croydon. There was an unidentified Elizabeth Scudamore buried at the same church on 26 May 1639.
31 Her will, as Ruth Scudamore, was proved 26 June 1650 (P.C.C., PROB 11/212).
32 It is possible that one (or both) of these young ladies (who disappear from view) may have gone off to Flanders to enter a convent as did their cousins from Kentchurch.
merchant. Bowdler sold him inferior velvets, satins, fustian and other wares, and ruined the whole scheme at the 
onset. Thomas Philip Scudamore, gentleman, was a juror on 5 July 1613 when an inquest was taken of the 
extent of Grosmont manor. He was living at Clodock, Herefordshire, in 1640, aged 79. Had issue,
64. 1. JENKIN, of whom further.
   2. Walter. He married Jane, a daughter of Philip Thomas.
   1. Blanche. She married David Hughes.
   2. Elizabeth. She married Charles Bynon.

The eldest son,
64. JENKIN SCUDAMORE, of Llangua, born 1587. He married Maude, a daughter of Hugh Thomas of 
Llanillio Crossenny, Monmouthshire. He was a witness at Llancillo on 20 September 1638 (together with his 
father Thomas Scudamore) to a suit brought by his kinsman Lewis Gilbert of Walterstone, Herefordshire, about 
certain lands at Llancillo. His family disappears from Herefordshire and may have settled in London or 
elsewhere. Had issue,
   1. John.
   2. Charles.
   3. William.
   1. Marion.
   2. Elizabeth.

NOTES

The descent of the wife of THOMAS SKYDEMOR of Rowlstone from the ancient lords of the castle of Ewyas 
Harold is given in a manuscript at Kentchurch Court (another copy, not seen, appears to be at the British 
Library) which was set down by the heralds in the time of the Tudors. The text is given here with additions and 
notes in brackets as required:

“It is to be held in mynd [that] Sir Robert Ewias [living 1147], lord of Ewias Harold, the 
sonne of Harold, sometyme kinge of England, the sonne of Godwyn, Earl of Kent [this is a 
misapprehension, Harold (after whom Ewyas Harold was named) was a son of Ralph, the 
first Earl of Hereford and a nephew of Edward the Confessor], founded a monastery [in 
1100] of the Order of Cisteaulx [Cistercians] named Blakelarbestall, afterwards called 
Dore, in the Territory of the said Ewias Harold within the parish of Backynton [Bacton], in 
the diocese of Hereford. This Robert [living 1147] procreated by [Sibilla] the Dame, his 
wife, three sonnes, Sir Robert Ewyas [died 1198], his eldest son and heir, William and 
Richard. The which William was a monke professed in the said Monastery [at Dore] and 
there deceased. But the said Richard Ewias was married and by Sibill, his wife, a daughter 
named Sibill Ewias, afterwards espoused unto a great gentilman name Philip [correctly 
Richard] Spenser, slayne at a cross besyde the Churchyard of the aforenamed monastery of 
Dore. Howbeit he had issue a sonne named Richard Ewyas, so named because of his 
mother. This Richard had issue one onely daughter named Clarice Ewyas afterwards 
marrried to [Jevan Llewellyn (Whelan)] a gentleman of the King’s Court and by the 
forenamed Clarice had fower daughters; the first married to Thomas Scudamore of Ewias 
Harold esquire, the second married to Henry Elston of Elstons brigge [now Ponthillas in 
Kentchurch], the third daughter married to Guy Howke [Hook] of Newent, 
[Gloucestershire], the fourth daughter married to George le Brugge of Langdon in 
Worcestershire.”

Most of this pedigree can be confirmed by documentry evidence. Sibilla de Ewyas, the widow of Richard 
Dispensator gave a deed to Ralph de Ledene which was copied into the cartulary of St. Peter’s, Gloucester. The 
reciter of the pedigree overlooks one generation; Richard de Ewyas “so named because of his mother” had a son 
Richard who married Margery, daughter of Madoc ap Jorwent. In 1301 he was the principal tenant at Ewyas 
Harold holding half a knight’s fee in the village as well as a house and 100 acres of land for which he owed 
certain feudal services. Margery, the wife of the younger Richard, was living his widow on 18 September 1305.

WILLIAM SKYDEMOR had a mandate from the pope at Avignon addressed to the Bishop of Llandaff 
to grant a dispensation to William Skydemore of his diocese, the illegitimate son of a married woman, so that he
could be ordained and hold a benefice. William Skydemore of Llandaff was ordained an acolyte on 10 June 1335 in Hereford Cathedral.

WILLIAM SKYDEMORE was ordained an acolyte on 17 December 1345, a subdeacon on 11 March 1346/7, and a priest on 19 April 1348, all at Hereford Cathedral. Either he (or the man next above) may be the William Skidemore who was Chaplain to Sir Otto de Grandison who left him £20 in his will dated 3 September 1358.

JOHN SKYDEMORE was ordained an acolyte on 10 June 1335, (the same day as William Skydemore, first above), a deacon on 22 September 1341, and a priest on 7 June 1343. He is noticed as from the Dean and Chapter of Hereford (who may have sponsored him) when ordained a deacon.

WALTER DE SKYDEMERE was ordained a subdeacon on 11 April 1349 at Hereford Cathedral. He was from the Diocese of St. David’s, Pembroke, and came ad titulum patrimonii sui [with private means so the bishop would not have to support him].

THOMAS SKYDEMERE. He was provided with a canonry at Llandaff in 1330 with the reservation of a prebend. There was a concurrent mandate to the Bishop of St. David’s, the Prior of Brecon, and another.

JOHN SKYDMORE, born about 1461 in London, was a King’s Scholar, aged 14, at Eton in 1475.

JOHN SKYDMORE, of Rowlstone and Llancillo, is listed in the muster of 1542 of Herefordshire but nothing is said there of his ability or contribution to the defence of the county.

ELLE SCUDAMORE was a gentlewoman employed by Elizabeth, a daughter of Lewis, Lord Mordaunt of Turvey, Bedfordshire. About 1600 she had entrusted Elle with the care of “divers fine linens of cambricks, damaske and Holland, and gold.” Elle Scudamore had some occasion to go into some part of Wales and gave the linens to her sister BLANCHE SCUDAMORE, who was the wife of Martin Parrior (Purryor) of Olney, Buckinghamshire. Blanche died about Christmas 1603 and her husband a month later (leaving a son Nathaniel Parrior, aged 15) and Elizabeth sued the friends of the Scudamore sisters to recover possession of her linens. [They may have been the daughters of Thomas ap Philip Scudamore of Grosmont, Monmouthshire.]
KENTCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE

The Scudamores held Corras in Kentchurch at the time of the Domesday Book. It passed in the 12th century to Walter Scudamore of Poston who owed fealty and service for it (and his other lands in Hereford) to his cousins at Upton Scudamore. Kentchurch seems to have been farmed for centuries by Welshmen, and the overlordship passed on the death of Sir Peter Scudamore in 1293 to the Bavants. John (Jenkin) Skydmore alias Ewyas had the manor of Corras from the Wroth family before 8 August 1386 when his son John is called “of Kencherge.” The fortified tower (late 14th century) and some other surviving parts of the house clearly date from his time.

ROW 6. JOHN (JENKIN) SKYDMORE alias EWYAS, born 1342, a younger son of John Skydmore alias Ewyas of Abergavenny and Rowlestone by his presumptive wife Alice Bredwardine. According to the Llyfr Baglan he acquired Kentchurch and Thruxton, Herefordshire; these seem to have been settled on his sons after they came of age. Leland, quoting Skidmore of the Court (John Skydmore of Holme Lacy, died 1571), writes of him that “Jenkin was a stout fellow and had all the rule of the country thereabouts” a claim confirmed by surviving records. Jenkin himself was living by 28 November 1383 at The Vern in Bodenham, Herefordshire; on this date John Skydmore of La Vern and Philip Ewyas (perhaps his cousin) are mentioned as collectors of a tax levied by Parliament. On 6 July 1407, as John Ewyas, senior he granted certain lands at Kilforge, Herefordshire, which he had from his brother Richard Skydmore of Hereford city. John Skydemour, aged 68 and more, testified on 11 January 1410 that he fetched a light from the house of John Botiller at Penbridge when his son John (who was born 7 July 1387) was christened at the church of St. Uclutus the Abbot. He was living as late as 11 January 1410 but was dead by 6 November 1413 when his grandson held the Vern. Had issue,

10. 1. JOHN (SIR), his heir, of whom further.

11. 2. Philip Skydmore alias Ewyas, of (Mitchell) Troy, Monmouthshire (held from the Mortimer family), and master sergeant of Monmouth in 1393. He had custody of Carreg Cennen Castle in September 1401, where he was joined 20 October 1401 by his brother John who replaced him on 9 November. He went over to Owen Glendower and became one of his principal captains. He was captured by the English and beheaded at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, in 1410 (“whose head is still there set up beyond the bridge” writes Adam of Usk). He married (according to Llyfr Baglan) Anne Baskerville, and left issue,

16. John (SIR), “of the North,” who held a moiety of Troy in 1433 from Anne widow of the late Earl of March. While proof is yet to be found he is probably the John Skydmore who went with Sir John Cornwall of Fownhope, Herefordshire (created Baron Fownhope in 1432), to Amptill, Bedfordshire, where he is mentioned in 1439 as having a general pardon. Fownhope’s will is dated 10 December 1443; in it John Skydmore had a legacy of £10 and was a witness at its signing to which he testified on 5 January 1443/4. He appears to have had a son PHILIP SKYDMORE (see NOTES) and perhaps other children not traced further at present.

3. Maurice Skydmore (SIR) of Howton, Herefordshire. William of Worcester says of him (and his brothers Sir John and Sir William) that he was a knight-in-arms in France. On 19 April 1419 he granted his lands at Howton to his brother Sir John Skydmore; Howton was joined to Kentchurch and has descended in the same way until the present time. He was living at Wormbridge, Herefordshire, as late as Trinity Term 1425.

4. William Skydmore alias Ewyas of Thruxton, Herefordshire. He is probably the William Ewyas indicted for forcible entry at Thruxton in 1391/2. He served in France and was living as late as 24 July 1426. William of Worcester notes in his Itineraries that Sir William “died in bed.”

5. Jenkin Skydmore alias Vaughan, ancestor of the Vaughan family of Pontrilas, Herefordshire. His representative (in the male line) in 1607 was William Vaughan, of London, according to Llyfr Baglan.

1. Janet. She married Llywellyn ap Gryffydd Fychan (Vaughan) of Cilycyn, Carmarthenshire. Adam of Usk says that he was “a man of gentle birth and bountiful who yearly used 16 tuns of wine in his household.” He was appointed beadle of Caeo at Michaelmas 1381. His revolt was repaid by his execution in the presence of KING HENRY IV at Llandovery, Carmarthenshire, on 9 October 1401.

The eldest son,
SIR JOHN SKYDMORE, KT., of Kentchurch married 1stly Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Brut, and 2ndly (traditionally it is said in 1415, although John Skydmore was then in France) Alice, daughter and heiress of the celebrated Owain Glyndwr.33 His earliest patrons were the Talbots of Goodrich Castle; when this estate fell into the hands of a minor heir KING RICHARD II entrusted John Skydmore first with the custody of the castle in 1396, and then in 1398 with the whole of the lands. He was still serving as steward of Archenfield in 1411 and held Goodrich as late as 1413. He was steward of the Beauchamp lordship of Abergavenny in 1393 and still had an annuity from that estate in 1421. RICHARD II bestowed a number of other grants on John, notably the custody of the alien priory at Abergavenny during the French war, but his most influential patron proved to be Henry Bolingbroke (later KING HENRY IV) who made him deputy steward of Brecon in 1393. During the Glyndwr revolt his military talents were frequently exercised on behalf of the KING, and on 16 May 1401 John Skydmore was placed on a commission to resist the rebels invading the lordship of Abergavenny. The custody of Carreg Cennen Castle was transferred to him on 9 November 1401 (from his brother Philip who deserted soon after to Glyndwr) and it would appear from this time forward that he was a determined opponent of the Welsh. He was fighting in the Tywi valley in 1403 and in the same year commissioned to receive contrite rebels from the middle and south Welsh marches. In July 1403 Owain refused a safe conduct to the wife of John Skydmore, her mother and their maid, from Carreg Cennen Castle to their home in Herefordshire. The refusal may have been motivated by a true concern for their safety since the ladies would have been safer in the castle than attempting the hazards of a cross-country journey through bands of Glyndwr’s poorly disciplined supporters. At the same time Skydmore had to report that “all Kermeryrnyshine, Kedewely, Carnalthan and Yskeny ben sworny to Owyn yesterday.” In 1404 he was retained by Sir Richard Arundel to serve in another expedition to South Wales. He was named steward of Kidwelly on 30 May 1401 and in February 1405 he was given the custody of Grosmont Castle. In the same year he is also noted as an esquire of Prince Henry (later HENRY V). In August 1405 charges of disloyalty were brought against him; the confession of John Oke accused Skydmore of having been a secret supporter of Glyndwr as early as 1400 and having received £6870 in gold and silver from 27 disaffected persons for the support of the Welsh uprising. Nothing came of these charges (Oke was hanged before HENRY IV’s order for a further interrogation of the prisoner was received) and his Welsh sympathies (if any) must have been carefully concealed. He continued to reap rewards both in offices (he was named steward of Cantrefmawr at Michelmas 1407) and the forfeited lands of the rebels. John Skydmore, son of John Skydmore, had a licence on 10 October 1406 to purchase a moiety of Wellington Manor in Herefordshire from John Chandos and his wife Philippa which he still held in 1429. John Skydmore was knighted before 13 November 1405 for his services but when HENRY V came to the throne Sir John was required to enter into a £4000 recognizance to guarantee his own security and good behaviour. There were several complaints against him as Steward of Kidwelly in 1413 among them that of levying a personal subsidy of £20 from the men of Kidwelly and extorting gifts of animals from the poorer tenants under threats of selling offices and pocketing the bribes, and of using the labour services due from the tenants on his own land. These complaints were apparently heard in the proper quarter and he was removed from this office (despite a life-grant) in July 1415. He left, wisely, for France for the Agincourt campaign in the same year with four men-at-arms and 12 archers and was present at the battle (where his son died on the field) and was one of those to whom the King pawned his plate and jewels to pay the wages of the expedition. John Skydmore had a henseline [jacket] embroidered in gold and set with pearls, sapphires and rubies belonging to the KING which was not redeemed and returned to the Royal Treasury until 17 February 1421/2. He remained abroad for several years, serving in 1416 under Dorset as captain of Harfleur (where he was still guardian of the port in 1422). When he returned to England in the next year he was reinstated as steward of Kidwelly on 14 June 1423 (but not for life) and to this was added the stewardship of Monmouth and the Three Castles on 2 August 1425. Skydmore was Sheriff of Carmarthen in 1424 and was shortly thereafter named deputy-justiciar for South Wales. In 1431 he was steward of Cantref Selyf for Anne, countess of Stafford. He served his home shire three times as Sheriff (in 1407, 1409 and 1430), and was a Member of Parliament in 1397 (and on five other occasions, lastly in 1433). He was also on the bench in Herefordshire and had innumerable commissions there. In 1430 (shortly after the death of Glyndwr’s last son Maredudd) he and his wife Alice made an effort to reclaim her father’s estates at Sycharth and Glyndyrfdwy from the Beauforts who had had the custody of them since 1400. This was not only unsuccessful but Edmund Beaufort threw Skydmore’s Welsh marriage in his face in Parliament in 1433 and on 8 August 1433 secured Sir John’s dismissal as constable of Carmarthen Castle (to which he had been appointed by Prince Henry in 1405) and all his other public offices by virtue of a forgotten statute of 1402 which forbade any Englishman of the alliance of Glyndwr from holding any office. He retired to Kentchurch where he died two years later (before 14 December 1435), having had issue by his 1st wife,

1. John (Sir), was of The Vern, Bodenham, Herefordshire, on 6 November 1413 (a place that was held as early as 1383 by his grandfather John Skydmore alias Ewyas). He was engaged on

29 April 1415 by HENRY V to serve in France at 2sh by the day; his seal to this indenture with two surviving interlocking stirrups is the first known use of this familiar device of the Skydmores in Herefordshire. He was one of two recently created knights (Sir Richard Kyghley being the other) who was killed at the battle of Agincourt according to the chronicles of Adam of Usk. Sir John probably died unmarried as his father had a grant of the admons on his estate (wherein the son is called domicelli of The Vern) on 21 October 1418.

15. 2. JOHN (SIR), of whom further.

3. Henry (Harry), of Kilpeck, Herefordshire. He married (before 16 June 1442) Agnes, daughter of levan ap Ivor of Kilpec, and was captured at the battle of Mortimer’s Cross on 3 February 1461. He was beheaded at the market place at Hereford together with Owen Tudor and several other gentlemen on the following day.

4. Thomas. He may be the Thomas Scudamore who was in France on 10 June 1435 when he was controller of the household for John, Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, and was paid for his services in holding the muster at Vernon. On 26 September of the same year Thomas Skydmore, of London, gentleman, gave all his goods and chattles in London “and elsewhere in the realm” to John Cambridge, chaplain (and three other trustees) perhaps in an effort to see that his property in England was preserved while he was in France. He is last noticed on 25 November 1460 when he and Henry Dwnn had a grant of the admons on the goods of Walter John, Rector of Kingsland, Herefordshire.

1. Anne, who married 1stly Meredudd ap Maelgwn of Kerry, Montgomeryshire, and 2ndly Roger ap Meurig Sisylt.

2. Joan, who married Gryffudd Dwnn of Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire. In 1428 Dwnn was deputy to this father-in-law as Steward of Kidwelly and in 1431 served as his deputy as constable of Carmarthen Castle. He was buried at St. Mary’s Priory Church, Kidwelly, after 1443.

The 2nd son,

15. SIR JOHN SKYDMORE, KT., of Kentchurch, Bredwardine, Moccas and Thruxtone, Herefordshire. He served in France in 1429 and had letters of protection on 23 March 1436 and 16 February 1440 on going to France for the KING. He was a retainer of Humphrey, duke of Buckingham, in 1443 and was appointed steward of Brecon in 1445 and receiver there in 1449. The tenants at Brecon regarded cattle-stealing as a privilege and their “grete roberies and pillages” reached the ear of the duke himself who reminded Sir John that he had done nothing to discipline the worst offenders. Things did not improve and Scudamore was dismissed about October 1451 and replaced by a Welshman. John Scudamore is first mentioned as a knight on 13 June 1445, and had thereafter a number of commissions to levy taxes and raise loans in Herefordshire. He went again to France in the company of John Talbot (and his son viscount Lisle) to Aquitaine and was one of the few who escaped the slaughter at the Battle of Castillon on 17 July 1453 where Talbot and most of his army were killed. He was an elector in Hereford in 1442 and 1447 and was pardoned on 15 July 1446. A steadfast Lancastrian, he was summoned in April 1455 to a meeting of the great council to represent Herefordshire. He had a commission in 1460 to confiscate the lands in Herefordshire held by Richard, Duke of York, and Richard, Earl of Warwick, which were forfeited by their rebellion. Sir John was a Member of Parliament for Herefordshire in 1443 (and still later). He was at the battle of Mortimer’s Cross on 3 February 1461 with 30 of his servants, but managed to escape to hold Pembroke Castle after the defeat of the Lancastrian army there. He was among those excluded from the general pardon offered in Wales on 12 August 1461 by EDWARD IV, but was promised that his life and lands would be spared when he surrendered the castle on 30 September. His life was saved, but his lands and livelihood were taken from him on 4 November 1461 and granted to Sir Richard Herbert of Coldbrook, Monmouthshire, soon after. Sir John managed eventually to get his attainder removed and his lands were restored to him on 6 October 1472. He married Blanche, the daughter of John ap Harry (Parry) of Poston, Herefordshire, who survived him and had the admons of his will. He died just previous to 3 May 1475 when a writ of diem clausit extremum was ordered. Had issue,

23. 1. John. He married Ellen, daughter of Sir Robert Whitney, and died before his father leaving an only daughter, Janet. She appears to have died young.

24. 2. JAMES, of whom further.

3. Henry. He had the manor and advowson of Moccas, Herefordshire, settled on him in his father’s will. He married Elizabeth (who married 2ndly Hugh Vaughan), daughter of John Chambor, and died without legitimate issue on 14 October 1489 while serving as Sheriff of Herefordshire. His heir was his grandson James Skydmore, then aged 19 and more, but Richard Skydmore of Ploughfield, Herefordshire, (an illegitimate son), put in his claim to Moccas.

TXN 1. 4. RICHARD, ancestor to the family at THRUXTON, HEREFORDSHIRE (noticed
1. Elizabeth. She married John Pye of Saddlebow, Much Dewchurch, Herefordshire. He was retained by HENRY VI to serve in the wars in France.
2. Margaret. She married John ap Iorwerth ap Gronw of Trellek, Monmouthshire.
4. Blanche.
5. Joyce.

The 2nd son,
24. JAMES SKYDMORE, of Kentchurch. He contracted on 14 January 1441 to serve Sir James Ormond in Normandy for one year supplying six mounted archers and were wearing the livery of the duke of York, for which he was to receive 12sh a day (and his archers 6sh). James Skydmore married Margaret, daughter of Gruffydd ap Nicholas of Newton, Carmarthenshire. He was living in 1454 when his father-in-law was arrested and charged at Hereford for “greatly grieving” the Crown’s subjects but Gruffydd was promptly rescued by the local influence exerted by Sir John Skydmore on his behalf. He was slain for his service to HENRY VI at the manor house at Kingchurch [Kentchurch] according to William of Worcester. He died during the lifetime of his father leaving issue.
32. 1. THOMAS, of whom further.
33. 2. Peter, of Presteigne, Radnorshire. In 1478 he and a number of men had illegally garrisoned Pembroke Castle but had a pardon by the special request of the Queen on 18 November of that year. He had a grant for life on 20 September 1485 of the office of Keeper of Haywood Forest beside the city of Hereford. On 3 June 1489 he had a grant of 20 marks annually out of the estate of his brother Thomas Skydmore so long as his nephew James was a minor. He was appointed during pleasure as Escheator in both Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire by Prince Arthur on 30 September 1490 and served in Carmarthenshire until Michaelmas 1491 and in Cardiganshire until February 1493. As Peter Skudamore, gentleman, he was a juror on 19 January 1504 at the inquest of John, Lord Powys. He married Joan _______ (who survived him) and died at Presteigne in June 1509. His widow Joan was party to a suit against Alice Maltis alias Walker on 17 July 1510 about a disputed will at Hereford. They left posterity at Little Brampton in PRESTEIGNE, RADNORSHIRE (see p.24), and at Knill, Herefordshire. Had issue,
1. Thomas, his heir.
2. John.
1. Isabel. She was betrothed at the time of her father’s death to John ap Richard ap Madocke.
3. (probably) Hugh. He was appointed a Bailiff Itinerant in both Cardigan and Llanbadarn, Cardiganshire, at Michaelmas 1492. Nothing further is known of him and he perhaps died soon after.

The elder son,
32. THOMAS SKYDMORE, of Kentchurch. He married (settlement dated 20 November 1473) Margaret, daughter of Morgan ap Jenkin ap Philip of Llangstone, Monmouthshire (who married as her 2nd husband Sir John St. John, K.B., of Bletsoe, Bedfordshire). Mr. Skydmore died shortly before 3 June 1489 leaving issue, an only son.
44. JAMES SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), of Kentchurch. He was an heir in 1489 while still a minor to both his father and his great-uncle Henry Skydmore. Leland says that this James Skydmore “wasted part of his lands” but the opposite seems to have been true as he acquired both Hardwick and still other lands in Kentchurch which had once belonged to the Knights Templar. He married about 1471 Joan (died 10 August 1535), daughter of Sir James Baskerville of Eardisley, Herefordshire, (who married as her 2nd husband Richard Herbert of Tregate, Llanrothal, Herefordshire). In 1509 Edward, duke of Buckingham, claimed a debt of £50 from James Scudamore (among others) according to the plea rolls. He died 19 July 1522 having had issue,
1. Thomas, the only son, who married (settlement dated 1 June 1515) Anne, daughter of Sir John Lingen of Sutton, Herefordshire. He died without issue on 20 July 1519.
1. JOAN, of whom further.
2. Eleanor, born 1501. She married Miles ap Harry (died 1543) of Newcourt in Bacton, Herefordshire. Her will was proved 21 January 1547/8 and she was buried at Kentchurch.

The elder daughter,
JOAN SCUDAMORE, born 1497. She married (his 1st marriage) her distant cousin Philip Scudamore of

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34 See The Skydmores/ Scudamores of Thruxton, Abenhall, Hentland (Herefordshire), & including Gallatin Co., Illinois & also Prince George’s County, Maryland at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com. 
35 He left a will, proved 14 June 1509 PCC PROB 11/16.
BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (ROW [26] see p.6). After litigation Kentchurch Court and most of her father’s lands were confirmed to Joan Scudamore. She died 20 March 1538, and Philip married 2ndly Sibyl Chamberlayne by whom he had two other sons who succeeded to BURNHAM. By his 1st wife Joan Scudamore, he had issue,

35. 1. JOHN, of whom further.
36. 2. JAMES, ancestor of the family at TRETIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE (see p.26).
   3. Christopher. He was a recusant at Kentchurch in 1592, and was cited on 20 September 1599 for not coming to church at Easter (together with his nephew Thomas Scudamore).
   4. Hugh. He married Elinor ap Price on 13 January 1583/4 at St. Martin’s, Hereford. He was living as late as 23 August 1595 at Welford, Northamptonshire.
   1. A daughter. She married Ralph Chamberlayne before 1544.

The eldest son,

35. JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch, Rowlestone and Llancillo, born 1522. He was educated at Eton and King’s College, Cambridge, and married Margaret, daughter of Walter Pollard of Plymouth, Devon, and a co-heiress of her brother Sir John Pollard (died 1557) of Nuneham Courtney, Oxfordshire, Speaker of the House of Commons. John Scudamore was Sheriff of Herefordshire in 1565. He and his family endured much for their adherence to the Catholic faith. He was imprisoned at Fleet Prison (and elsewhere) on at least three occasions, forfeited Rowlestone, Llancillo, Howton, and Gwerngenny in Kilpeck to the Crown in 1584 (returned some 11 years later on the payment of a heavy fine), and was removed from the bench in Herefordshire. He died on 9 July 1593 (or 1 September 1594 according to the inquest post mortem of his son Thomas Scudamore), leaving issue,

47. 1. THOMAS, of whom further.
   1. Alice. She married Anthony Elton (died 1587) of The Hazell in Ledbury, Herefordshire. She died after 1595 leaving issue (see BURKE’S Peerage, ELTON, Bt.).
   2. Mary. She married Rhys Morgan of Trillegh in Llanvihangel Crucorney, Monmouthshire.

The only son,

47. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch, born about 1543. He married 1stly (settlement 24 September 1562) his distant cousin Joan, daughter of William Scudamore (died 1560) of Ocle Lyre in Ocle Pychard, Herefordshire. She was given 300 marks in the will dated 20 July 1571 of her grandfather, John Scudamore of HOLME LACY (noticed elsewhere36), but died without issue soon after this date. Her husband married 2ndly (settlement 19 July 1575) Agnes (died 1 January 1585/6, buried Woodnesborough, Kent), daughter and coheiress of Henry White, of South Warnborough, Hampshire, and by her had issue,

3. 1. JOHN, born 1579, his heir, of whom further.
   2. Philip, born 1581. He was living in London in 1606, but died unmarried at the house of his cousin Dr. Thomas Elton at Bristol on 18 January 1611/2 (and was buried the following day at St. Augustine’s in that city)37.
   1. Mary, born 1576. She and her younger sister Anne went to Louvain in Belgium, in 1603 in the charge of Father Pitt, an English priest, with the intention of becoming Augustinian nuns. Mary was accepted at St. Ursula’s convent on 3 July 1606 and went with seven other English sisters to St. Monica’s at the same place on 9 November 1608. Sister Mary was well as an organist playing mostly on an instrument given to the convent at Louvain by Father Pitt, the same priest who took the Scudamore sisters to Flanders. She died at St. Monica’s on 7 March 1625.

2. Bridget, born 1578. She was living a spinster and recusant at Kentchurch Court in 1592, but later married Thomas Lane. They were living in 1623 when their daughter is remembered in the will of Benedict Winchcombe of Noke, Oxfordshire.

3. Anne, born 1584, went to Flanders in 1603 with her sister Mary and became a nun at Abbeville Paix-Notre-Dame at Douai in France in the same year and remained there until 1612 when she went to Paix-Jesus at Atrecht (where she was later the Prioress). On 18 November 1624 she founded and became the first Prioress of the Benedictine priory of Hunnegem at Geraardsbergen. She was re-elected by the community on 1 February 1628 and again on 8 February 1631 and died there on 27 July 1634.

Mr. Scudamore married 3rdly (by 1592) Anne (living 1627), daughter of Richard Middlemore of Edgbaston, Warwickshire, and by her had issue,

3. Paul, who had died by 19 May 1619 when the admons on his estate was given to his brother Benedict.

37 He died at St Augustine’s parish, Bristol, leaving a will proved 5 February 1611, PCC PROB
4. Benedict (Reverend), born 1599, matriculated at Douai in France on 1 July 1619. He was ordained a priest and sang his first mass on 16 May 1624 at the Benedictine convent at Arras where his sister Anne was then a nun. He left for England 13 days later and was ministering to the Catholics in Warwickshire in 1632 and in Worcestershire in 1634. He was living in 1652. Mr. Scudamore was like his father true to the Roman faith and in 1605 was called one of the “principal and most dangerous recusants in the Diocese of Hereford.” He died on 6 May 1606 and was succeeded by his eldest son, JOHN SCUDAMORE, born 1579, of Kentchurch, Rowlestone and Llancillo. He was arrested and his house at Kentchurch searched on 25 July 1603; four days later at the Tower of London he confessed that he had concealed a priest within three weeks past at Kentchurch. However after his father’s death he went to church and conformed in matters of religion and thus ended the difficulties which had long beset his family. He married (settlement 16 March 1599/1600) Amy (who married 2ndly, about 1618, Thomas Cavendish of Chatsworth, Derbyshire, and Madley, Herefordshire, and was living 1640), daughter of John Starkie, of Darley Hall, Darley, Derbyshire. Mr. Scudamore died 30 March 1616 aged 37 and was buried at Kentchurch where his widow put up an alabaster monument covering the east end of the chancel in the church in his memory. Had issue nine sons and a daughter, 1. JOHN, his heir, of whom further. 2. Philip, of Garway and Llangarron, Herefordshire. He was apprenticed to Robert Standish a Skinner of Watting Street in London on 19 March 1617/8 for seven years. He married Margery (buried 24 February 1668/9 at Kentchurch), daughter of Edmund Weaver, an Alderman of Hereford city. He was taxed on three hearths in 1665 at Garway, but was buried at Llangarron on 29 August 1671. Both of his sons died before their father without issue, and he was succeeded by his only daughter. 1. Philip, apprenticed to the Skinner’s Company in 1655. 2. John. 1. Elizabeth, sole heiress, married 20 April 1665 at Kentchurch to John Hoskyns (died 1715), of Bernithan Court, Herefordshire. She died on 26 October 1699 and a tablet to her memory is in Monmouth church. (Their portraits are to be found in the stone parlor at Sizergh Castle near Kendal, Cumbria.) 2. Richard, died unmarried. He was apprenticed to William Danvers of Paternoster Row on 20 September 1619 for eight years. He was buried on 6 April 1683 at Kentchurch. 3. Humphrey, born 2 February 1605/6 and educated at the Merchant Taylor’s School in London in 1618-9. He married Magdalen (who survived him and was buried 31 October 1662 at Kentchurch), daughter of Paul de la Hay of Alltyrynys in Walterstone, Herefordshire, and died without issue. The will of Magdalen Scudamore was proved on 9 December 1662 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. 4. Ambrose, of London, born 1608. He was apprenticed 6 March 1617/8 for nine years to a haberdasher in London, and married 1stly (licence 19 November 1638) Margaret (born 1618), widow of John Browne, and 2ndly Anne, daughter of Richard Ward of London. On 20 October 1628 Arthur Barnardiston of the Inner Temple, and Sir Simonds D’Ewes of Lavenham, Suffolk (the noted antiquary and diarist), entered into an agreement with Ambrose Scudamore and Nicholas Bragge (both of St. Giles in the Fields) about the disposition of the books of the late Ralph Starkey, another antiquarian, who was apparently a friend of Ambrose Scudamore. He is called “of Chiswick” on 15 September 1648 when he as a party to the marriage settlement of James Scudamore of Holme Lacy and Jane Bennett. He was buried on 21 February 1683/4 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London39, leaving issue, 1. James, baptized 3 September 1639 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and buried there the day after. 2. John, eldest surviving son, baptized 4 July 1644 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. He was a hosier and married (licence 23 October 1673) Elizabeth Allison. He had by the devise of his father certain tenements in Jermy Street and is probably the man of his name who was a recusant at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in 1675. He had issue, not traced. 3. Samuel (Captain), married 8 January 1667/8 at Holy Trinity, Knightsbridge, to Magdalene, daughter of Lancelot Thornton, 17

38 He left a will dated 30 March 1616 and proved 26 Apr 1616 PCC PROB 11/127. 39 He left a will proved 28 February 1683, PCC PROB 11/375.
Clerk of the Robes to KING CHARLES II (described as “a gentleman’s only daughter”) by whom he had no surviving issue. He was left a capital messuage in the occupation of the earl of Ranelagh by the terms of his father’s will, and was living in 1686 when he was a Captain in the prince of Denmark’s Regiment of Foot. Had issue.

Magdalene, baptized 25 December 1673 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

1. Amy, the only daughter. She married about 1684 Francis Comyn. She had her father’s house and its contents in St. James’ Street, London, by his will proved 28 February 1683/4.


8. Edward, died an infant.

73. Martin (Reverend), born 1616 (posthumously), of Llanvihangel Crucorney, Monmouthshire. He was admitted to Lincoln’s Inn 3 March 1639/40 and was Steward of the manor of Cwmyoy, Monmouthshire, 1665-7. He later took Holy Orders and was Rector for a time at Kentchurch. Mr. Scudamore married his kinswoman Frances (buried at Llangarron 19 July 1715), daughter of John Scudamore of Trescilla in Llangarron. His will (dated 2 July 1685, proved at Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 1 July 1698) names his wife Frances as his sole legatee. He had Voil Farm in Kentchurch and Garway at his death, and had issue an only son, Richard, born 17 April, baptized 29 April 1663 at Llangarron. He died before his father on 10 May 1695, and there is a marble tablet to his memory in the church at Llanvihangel Crucorney erected by his widow.

1. Mary, only daughter, married 1633 at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Hugh Woodward. They were both living in London as late as 1670.

The eldest son,

70. JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch Court, born 16 February 1599/1600. He was admitted a member of Gray’s Inn in 1618. He became actively antagonistic to the Roman Church and as High Sheriff of Herefordshire in 1648 was instrumental in appointing the Sequestration Committee for the county on 4 September 1649. During the Civil War he sided with Parliament and was a commissioner in Herefordshire on 7 April 1649 to raise £90,000 for the forces, and on 28 August 1654 to eject “scandalous, ignorant, and inefficient ministers and schoolmasters”. He was taxed on 12 hearths at Kentchurch in 1665 (and his son John on an additional five) as well as seven more at Howton. He married in November 1621, Elizabeth (buried 11 June 1671 at Kentchurch), daughter of Sir William Cooke, of Highnam, Gloucestershire. Mr. Scudamore was buried 23 June 1669 having had issue 40.

1. William, born 1619, admitted to Magdalen College, Oxford, 23 November 1638, and to Lincoln’s Inn 7 May 1642. He married (settlement 3 January 1648/9) Rachel (who married 2ndly ________ Jones and was dead in 1690), daughter of William Herbert of Colebrook, Monmouthshire. He died without issue before 21 August 1651.

80. 2. JOHN, 2nd son and heir, of whom further.

3. Thomas, born 1627, admitted to Queens’ College, Cambridge, 27 April 1646. He was buried, a bachelor, in St. Peter le Bailey, Oxford, on 9 August 1647 aged 20.

4. Walter, of Grosmont, Monmouthshire, born 1629, admitted to Lincoln’s Inn 4 November 1648. He died unmarried and was buried at Kentchurch on 26 November 1682.

5. Robert, born 1635, admitted to New Inn Hall, Oxford, 26 May 1651 and to the Middle Temple 22 January 1654/5. He died unmarried.

6. Ambrose, died young.

7. James, born 1642. He was educated at Westminster from 1658 to 1661, and was admitted to Christ Church, Oxford on 22 August 1661. He was the author of the poem Homer a la Mode and drowned in the Wye on 12 July 1666.

1. Radegund, born 1622. She married William Bailey (died 1683) of Frertherne, Gloucestershire, and died 15 June 1702 aged 80.

2. Dorothy, married (settlement 8 March 1658/9) Rowland Price (died 1705) of Campstone, Monmouthshire.

3. Elizabeth, born 1645. She married (licence 9 February 1674/5) Thomas Lloyd, of

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40 He left a will proved 22 February 1669/70, PCC. PROB 11/323
Whitminster, Gloucestershire.

80. JOHN SCUDAMORE (CAPTAIN), of Kentchurch Court, born 20 March 1623/4. It seems likely (but unproven) that he was the John Skudamore who was an ensign in the summer of 1642 in the regiment of foot raised by Lord Roberts. This regiment was attached to the army commanded by the earl of Essex to oppose KING CHARLES, and some units of it went on to fight at the battle of Edgehill in Warwickshire. He married at Owestry, Shropshire, 10 April 1656, Mary, daughter of Andrew Lloyd of Aston, Shropshire. In November 1678 Captain Scudamore of Kentchurch (whose wife and children are said to have been Catholics) denounced the Reverend John Kemble and went to Pembridge Castle where he arrested the old priest and dragged him through the snow to the gaol at Hereford. Kemble was sent up to London to be examined by the Privy Council and was subsequently hanged. The first miracle recorded at the intercession of the Blessed John Kemble was the cure of the throat of one of the daughters of Captain Scudamore when the rope with which the martyr was hanged was applied to it; St. John Kemble was canonized in 1970. (Catherine Scudamore, of the TREWORGAN family, was later cured of a long-standing deafness while praying at his gravesite as noticed elsewhere.) Captain Scudamore was appointed Deputy Lieutenant for the county in 1689. He died on 28 December 1704 and was buried at Kentchurch; his wife died a few days later and was buried on 6 January 1704/5. Had issue,

1. John, baptized 19 August 1677, buried 25 April 1678.
2. Thomas, baptized 4 February 1678/9, buried 1 June 1679.
3. WILLIAM, heir to his grandfather, of whom further.
5. Ambrose, baptized 12 February 1684/5. He was living 15 October 1701 when he signed a settlement, but was dead by 1705.
6. Robert, baptized 14 February 1689/90. He was a party to the settlement 15 October 1701 and was admitted to Oriel College, Oxford on 17 May 1708 aged 17 and to the Middle Temple 15 November 1709. He died before his mother.

1. Mary, baptized 24 April, buried 29 September 1681.
3. Elizabeth, baptized 14 December 1694, and named in the settlement of 15 October 1701. She died before her mother.

83. 1. Ambrose, eldest son, born 8 January 1656/7. He married at Burghill, Herefordshire, on 10 April 1676 Anne (died in January 1733/4 at her house in King Street, Bloomsbury Square, London), daughter of John Fleet of Hallow, Worcestershire, and co-heiress with her sister to the manor of Redmarley D’Abitot, Worcestershire, formerly belonging to Thomas Fleet, their brother. He died before his father and was buried at Kentchurch on 22 July 1700. The admons of his widow was given 27 May 1734 to William Scudamore, her only surviving child. Had issue,

1. John, baptized 19 August 1677, buried 25 April 1678.
2. Thomas, baptized 4 February 1678/9, buried 1 June 1679.
3. WILLIAM, heir to his grandfather, of whom further.
5. Ambrose, baptized 12 February 1684/5. He was living 15 October 1701 when he signed a settlement, but was dead by 1705.
6. Robert, baptized 14 February 1689/90. He was a party to the settlement 15 October 1701 and was admitted to Oriel College, Oxford on 17 May 1708 aged 17 and to the Middle Temple 15 November 1709. He died before his mother.

1. Mary, baptized 24 April, buried 29 September 1681.
3. Elizabeth, baptized 14 December 1694, and named in the settlement of 15 October 1701. She died before her mother.

2. John, born 1658, died an infant.

84. 1. Robert (Captain), of Howton and Hereford city, born 22 January 1658/9. He married Honora (died 23 March, buried 25 March 1725/6 at Hampton Bishop, Herefordshire), daughter of Charles Walwyn of Kentchurch. He and his brother Walter had a lease for their lives of Howton in 1695 from their father, and on 15 October 1701 he and his younger brothers joined in the settlement at the marriage of their elder brother. He died 12 July 1727 (buried 14 July at Kentchurch) leaving a will dated 16 June 1727 at Hereford making his brothers Walter and Richard joint heirs and executors. Had issue,

1. Walter, baptized 12 May 1710 at St. Weonards, Herefordshire. He was buried 19 August 1710 at Kentchurch.
2. Mary, only daughter, baptized 1713-4 at Burghill, Herefordshire.
3. Thomas, born 6 January 1659/60, died an infant.
5. John, born 20 August 1666. He was British Consul at Aleppo, Syria, and died unmarried 16 June 1742.
6. Walter, of Rowlstone, baptized 18 July 1669. He was admitted to Lincoln’s College, Oxford, on 21 February 1686/7. He died unmarried and was buried at Kentchurch on 16 November 1737.

85. 1. Richard, of Rowlstone, born 7 August 1672. He married about 1725 Joan ________ (buried 28 December 1735 at Rowlstone). He was buried at Rowlstone 24 December 1741, having had issue (christened at Rowlstone),

41 He left a will proved 3 May 1703 PCC PROB 11/471.
1. JOHN, who succeeded his cousin William at Kentchurch Court in 1742, of whom further.

2. Richard, born 30 March 1731. He was a Captain in the 13th Regiment of Foot in 1759. He married Anne _________ (who died at Bath on 19 October 1802 and was buried at Kentchurch on 25 October). He was buried at St. James, Bath, on 26 October 1772.

3. Walter, born 12 January 1731/2, died an infant.

4. Walter, born 17 January 1734/5. He was admitted to Exeter College, Oxford, on 10 April 1753 (intended for the church) and died unmarried on 29 June 1760; buried at Kentchurch.

1. Catherine, born 10 October 1724. She married at Kentchurch (licence 14 June 1755) Philip Westfaling of Rudhall, Herefordshire, and was living his widow in 1798. She died without issue.

2. Mary, born 8 November 1725. She married at St. George’s, Hanover Square, 1 August 1755 Samuel Torriano (died 1785), a banker of London. She died 5 February 1791.

3. Elizabeth, born 30 November 1726, buried 7 October 1728.

4. Anne, baptized 26 November 1728. She was living unmarried in 1798 at Hereford city with her sister Catherine Westfaling.45

5. Margaret, baptized 18 May 1730, buried 26 December 1731.

6. Dorothy, baptized 20 January 1732/3. She married (licence 8 September 1756) at St. George’s, Hanover Square, London, Henry Frere of Barbados.

1. Mary, baptized 4 July 1661, buried 29 March 1664.

2. Elizabeth, born 18 June 1644. She married 4 March 1689/90 at Kentchurch, Robert Unett of Castle Frome, Herefordshire.


4. Anne, born 23 January 1667/8. She died unmarried and was buried at Kentchurch on 26 September 1686.

5. Margaret, baptized 29 October 1670, died young.


Mr. Scudamore was succeeded by his grandson,

87. WILLIAM SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch Court, baptized 18 February 1679/80. He married at Hanley Castle on 20 November 1701 Penelope (born 21 December 1680, buried 24 July 1730 at Kentchurch), daughter of Edmund Lechmere, of Hanley Castle, Worcestershire, and sister to Nicholas, 1st and last baron Lechmere of Evesham (see BURKE’S Peerage, LECHMERE, Bt.). He died 12 February 1741/2 (having previously been found a lunatic by inquisition). Had issue,

1. John, baptized 28 September 1709, died 2 August 1713, aged four years; buried 4 August at Kentchurch.

2. Lucy, baptized 18 October 1702, died 23 March 1702/3, aged six months; buried 26 March at Kentchurch.

2. Mary, baptized 29 November 1703. She married (by 1729) John Winde of St. Lawrence Pountney, London, and died in 1759. [Their son Scudamore Winde (died 14 October 1777) was Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature and member of the Assembly in Jamaica.]

3. Penelope, baptized 19 September 1710. She married 30 October 1735 at Wormbridge, Herefordshire, Lewis Clive (died 1753) of Howton Grove. She died 10 July 1743 and was buried at Wormbridge.

4. Rachel, born 15 May 1712. She died unmarried and was buried on 16 September 1737 at Kentchurch44.

42 She lived in Kensington Square, London. She left a will dated 1792 with codicils dated 1793, which was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 8 January 1803. See Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study Probate 1420-1920, compiled by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

43 She left a will proved 6 October 1737. PCC.
The only son having died an infant Mr. Scudamore was succeeded in 1742 (by virtue of the remainder specified in the settlement of 15 October 1701) by his cousin,

JOHN SCUDAMORE (COLONEL), of Rowlestone and Kentchurch Court, baptized 30 October 1727 at Rowlstone. He was admitted to Lincoln’s Inn on 7 November 1746. A Colonel in the Hereford Militia, he was also M.P. for Hereford city from 1764 to 1796. In or about 1795 (having held Kentchurch Court for over a half century) he approached John Nash for designs for remodelling Kentchurch Court in the Gothic style and the rebuilding was completed in the early 19th century during the lifetime of his grandson. He married 26 August 1756 Sarah (a friend and correspondent of Samuel Richardson, the novelist who gave her away at St. George’s, Hanover Square), a daughter and sole heiress of Daniel Westcombe of Enfield, Middlesex, from whom she inherited a fortune of £3000. She died 3 April 1797. Colonel Scudamore died after a chill caught while hunting in his deer park at Kentchurch on 4 July 1796 and was buried there on 11 July. He had been elected a few weeks earlier for the sixth time to represent Hereford and according to the monumental inscription behind an altar at Hereford Cathedral he represented the city for 34 years “uniformly supporting those measures which he considered best calculated to maintain the rights of Englishmen.”

Had issue,
89. 1. JOHN, his heir, of whom further.
   2. Richard Philip, baptized 22 June 1762. He was an M.P. for Hereford city from 1805 to 1818 and 1819 to 1826. He died unmarried 5 March 1831 at his house in Caroline Place, Park Road, Regents Park, London.
   3. Ambrose, baptized 14 April 1766, buried 22 April 1766 at Kentchurch.
   1. Mary, born 27 February, baptized 16 May 1759. She married 15 February 1787 James Herford, B.C.L., of Sutton Court in Mordiford, Herefordshire, and died 23 April 1834.
   2. Sarah, baptized 16 August 1760. She died unmarried and was buried on 19 January 1781 (admons granted to her brother Richard Philip Scudamore on 17 December 1799).

The eldest son,
90. JOHN SCUDAMORE (COLONEL), of Kentchurch Court, born 11 June 1757. He was a Colonel in Duke of Ancaster’s Regiment of Light Dragoons, and M.P. for Hereford from 1796 to 1805. He married 3 May 1797 Lucy (died 24 February 1798), only daughter of James Walwyn of Longworth, Herefordshire. Colonel Scudamore was taken ill in the House of Commons, 8 April 1805, during a debate about Lord Melville, and died in Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London, 12 April 1805. A tribute to Colonel Scudamore in the Gentleman’s Magazine noted that he “supported no measure which added to the burdens, or diminished the liberties of the people.” He was buried 22 April at Kentchurch. Had issue, an only son,
   1. JOHN LUCY SCUDAMORE (COLONEL), D.L., J.P., of Kentchurch Court, born 20 February 1798, educated at Eton and Brasenose College, Oxford. He was a Colonel of the Herefordshire militia and High Sheriff of Herefordshire in 1842. Colonel Scudamore married 23 October 1822, Sarah Laura (died 27 May 1863 at Boultilbrooke), elder daughter of Sir Harford Jones-Brydges, 1st Bt., of Boultilbrooke, Radnorshire (see BURKE’S Peerage, 1891 edition), and died 1 July 1875, having had issue,
      1. LAURA ADELAIDE, of whom further.

The only daughter,
   LAURA ADELAIDE SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch Court, born 24 April 1831. She married 1stly 24 May 1852 at Bayonne, France, Major Fitzherbert Dacre Lucas (killed at Lucknow 3 September 1857), second son of Rt. Hon. Edward Lucas, P.C., M.P., of Castle Shane, County Monaghan. She married 2ndly on 8 December 1859, John Donegan, J.P., of Carrigmore, County Cork, and died 18 August 1912. Her only son,
   EDWARD SCUDAMORE LUCAS-SCUDAMORE (HONORARY COLONEL), D.L., J.P., of Kentchurch Court (the life interest in which had been made over to him during his mother’s lifetime), and of Castle Shane, County Monaghan (inherited from his uncle), was born on 8 March 1853 at Bayonne in France, and educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for Monmouthshire and Radnorshire, High Sheriff of County Monaghan, Lieutenant-Colonel and Honorary Colonel 4th Battalion Shropshire Light Infantry. He assumed the additional surname and arms of SCUDAMORE by Royal Licence on 30 November 1900. He married 1 December 1900 Sybil Frances, M.B.E., Red Cross Medal (1919) (who was born in 1876 in Jamaica, and died 17 January 1965), youngest daughter of Colonel George Webber, C.B. (see BURKE’S Landed Gentry of Ireland, 1912 edition, WEBBER of Leekfield and Kellavil).

44 She left a will proved at PCC, PROB 11/1291.
45 He voted for parliamentary reform on 7 May 1783 (and again on 18 Apr. 1785) and for Fox’s East India bill, 27 Nov. 1783. Secure in his seat, Scudamore remained an opponent of Pitt’s administration. On 2 May 1785 he had joined the Whig Club and on 20 July Brooks’s. http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org.
46 Scudamore succeeded to his father’s seat for Hereford unopposed. ‘Devoted to the Duke of Norfolk and his adherents’, he likewise proved a staunch Whig, though he was a silent Member. He joined Brooks’s Club, 7 Nov. 1796, sponsored by Fox, and voted with him in the first five divisions of the Parliament of 1796. He was prevented by absence on active service (he took six weeks’ leave on 1 May) from voting for reform, 26 May 1797.
They were living in 1901 at 128 Ebury Street, Hanover Square, London. Colonel Scudamore died 9 March 1917, leaving issue,

1. JOHN HARFORD STANHOPE, of whom further.


The only son,

JOHN HARFORD STANHOPE LUCAS-SCUDAMORE (LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER, R.N.V.R.), of Kentchurch Court, Herefordshire, and formerly of Castle Shane, County Monaghan (destroyed by fire in 1920, the estate was later sold), born 16 January 1902, educated at Royal Naval Colleges of Osborne and Dartmouth, and at Christ Church, Oxford. He served on the H.M.S. Revenge as a Midshipman, R.N., and in World War II as a Lieutenant-Commander, R.N.V.R. He married 1stly on 25 June 1926 (dissolved 1939), Elsie Maude (born 1 February 1892, died 29 July 1969), daughter of Lieutenant W. P. Scott, R.N., of Burnham, Surrey. He married 2ndly on 2 September 1939 (dissolved 1946), Constance Primrose, daughter of William Carpenter, of Bath, Somerset. He married 3rdly on 24 October 1947, Lady (Evelyn) Patricia Mary, formerly wife of Lieutenant-Commander Ian McDonald, R.A.N., born 7 May 1917 at Kula Lumpar, Malasia, the only child of the 12th Earl of Chesterfield (see BURKE’S Peerage, 1967 edition, STANHOPE, E.). Lieutenant-Commander Lucas-Scudamore died 9 August 1976, leaving issue by his third wife (who married 3rdly on 13 June 1983 Leconby John Alexander Phipps (died 11 June 2001), F.R.I.C.S. of Newcote, Moccas, Herefordshire. She died on 12 December 1998 and buried on the 21th December at Kentchurch),

1. JOHN EDWARD STANHOPE, of whom further.
   1. Charlotte Mary Frances, born 5 July 1949. She married 1stly on 2 October 1971 Carlo Nardi Barbieri, only son of C. A. Barbieri, of Florence, Italy, by whom she had,

She married 2ndly on 18 November 1978 Gerald F. Bruce Manley of Bacton, Herefordshire by whom she has,


She married 3rdly Roger Terrence Milton-Goodhead, and lives at Llanithog Farm in Kentchurch.

The only son,

JOHN EDWARD STANHOPE LUCAS-SCUDAMORE, of Kentchurch, born 30 November 1953. He married Janice C. Pascoe on 18 February 1983, and has issue,


He has issue by Wendy Paula Luffman,


NOTES.

PHILIP SKYDMORE was probably a son of the Sir John Skydmore “of the North” who held a moiety of Troy, Monmouthshire, in 1433 and was living at Amphill, Bedfordshire, in 1444. Philip Skydmore appears to have been attached to the household of George, earl of Kent (who died in 1503 at Amphill), and afterwards was an agent for Richard, his son and heir. On 1 October 1506 Richard Legh, Philip Skydmore, John Bedyll and John Germyn were attorneys to receive seisin from Giles, Lord Daubeny, the KING’S Chamberlain, and others, of the manors of Cainhoe, Brobury, Wrist, and Flitton in Bedfordshire. A month later he was appointed (with Legh
and Germyn) to give seisin of the same four manors together with Gravenhurst and Bury in Houghton Conquest to John Scott, Reynold Pegge, Richard Wyat, clerk, and George Emerson probably for the purpose of some settlement upon himself. At Trinity Term 1509, Reginald Pegge (and Ann, his wife), Philip Skydmore, and Thomas Parker entered into a fictitious suit in Hertfordshire to grant a messuage, watermill, and other lands at The Grove and Lesvesden in Watford to Richard Boden. [By what can only be a curious coincidence The Grove seems to have been acquired some 93 years later by Sir Clement Scudamore, of South Mimms, Hertfordshire.] Nothing further is known of this Philip Skydmore in Bedfordshire but he may very well be ancestor to some part of the Skydmores who turn up in the time of HENRY VIII in Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex.
PRESTEIGN, RADNORSHIRE

This family of substantial yeomen was descended from Peter Skydmore (formerly of KENTCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE, see p.15) who died at Presteign in June 1509.\footnote{Warren Skidmore does not give detail of the descent over the following century and a half but the land at Little Brampton and Knill remained in the family's hands. LM}  

33a. THOMAS SKYDMORE, of Little Brampton in Presteign, was taxed on land in both Knill and at Little Brampton in the military assessment of 1663. Little Brampton (of lesser value) was clearly his abode for he paid the tax there on two hearths two years later. In 1674 he was a deponent in a suit between Philip Lewes and Francis Muscott about the tithes of the Rectory of Presteigne and the villages of Nash and Brampton. It seems likely that he was the man of his name living in 1699 when he was a party to a deed of Edward Harley of Brampton Bryan together with Henry Pyfinch and Thomas Owen of Little Brampton for land at Attercart Mountain. He was buried at Knill on 18 January 1711/2 leaving issue by his wife Margaret ________ (who had been buried at Knill on 5 December 1699),

1. James, his heir, a weaver of Little Brampton. He married Mary Craft (who survived him) on 6 June 1710, but left no issue. His will dated 19 February 1736 gave legacies to a number of his kinfolk and made his wife (unnamed) his residual heir. To his nephew John Scudamore of the city of London he left a messuage in Little Brampton and all of his land at Huchwall [Hookswall] in the parish of Knill. His nephew was to pay all of the legacies and to serve as the sole executor. James Scudamore was buried at Knill on 25 May 1736 but called “of the parish of Presteign.” His widow Mary Scudamore of Presteign was buried at Knill on 23 April 1740.

33b. 2. THOMAS, of whom further.

3. Edward. He was living in 1736 when he was left 21 shillings in the will of his brother James.

4. Joseph. Living in 1736 when he was left 21 shillings in the will of his brother.

1. Margaret, baptized 19 February 1674/5 at Presteign. She married ________ Thomas of Titley, Herefordshire, and was living his widow in 1736 with her three children remembered in the will of her brother James Scudamore.

2. Elizabeth. She married ________ Toft of Caynham, Shropshire, and was living his widow in 1736 when she and a daughter were remembered with 21 shillings in the will of her brother James.

A son,  

33b. THOMAS SKYDMORE, was of Little Brompton and Knill. He married Elinor Evans on 20 May 1695, both called “of the Court House” in the Knill register. He was buried on 31 December 1732 at Knill having had issue,

1. Thomas, baptized 13 April 1701. He died before his father and was buried as Thomas Scudamore, junior, on 10 January 1728/9 at Knill.

2. John (a twin), baptized 6 April 1706. He was a shipwright in the city of London. He married Elinor ________ who survived him. His will dated 30 June 1740 remembers his sister Margaret and left to his widow and executrix all his freehold lands and tenements at Presteign left to him by his uncle James Scudamore “to whom I am likewise heir at law.” His is called of ________ in Surrey on 17 January 1742 when his will was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

1. Margaret, baptized 14 May 1696. She married ________ Crowder and was living in 1740 when she was left 21 shillings in the will of her brother John.

2. Elizabeth, baptized 17 March 1698/9. She married ________ Jones and was living in the city of London in 1736 according to the will of her uncle James Scudamore.

3. Mary (a twin), baptized 6 April 1706.

NOTES.

JOHN, a son of RICHARD SKIDMORE of Little Brompton, was christened on 1 June 1665 at Presteign.
MARGARET SCUDAMORE was buried at Knill on 25 April 1740.

The eventual heir to Hookswall was John Scudamore who left a will dated 19 September 1772. He left Hookswall “wherein I now dwell” to Mrs. Elizabeth Suker, a widow, of Evenjobb in Old Radnor, his intended wife. His will was proved 15 July 1777 by Francis Stephens of Woodside in Knill who he had named as his executor.
TRETIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE

This family came out of a younger son of KENTCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE (see p. 16)

36. JAMES SCUDAMORE, of Tretire, born 1525 (the 2nd son of Philip Scudamore by his wife Joan Scudamore of Kentchurch). He was educated at Eton, and admitted 10 August 1543 aged 18 to King’s College, Cambridge, B.A. 1544/5. He was living at Bolston Court in Bolston, Herefordshire, on 10 August 1563. He had the manor and advowson of Tretire with Michaelchurch (with 20 messuages, six cottages, four tofts, and divers lands) settled on him by his elder brother John on 9 March 1570/1 (with quitclaim deeds from his younger brothers Christopher and Hugh) which land James and his wife subsequently granted to his sons John and Simon on 20 April 1590. He married Audrey _______ (buried 5 February 1594/5 at Tretire) and was himself buried at Tretire 28 February 1596/7 leaving issue,

48. 1. JOHN, his heir, of Tretire and Whitchurch, of whom further.
49. 2. Simon, of English Bicknor, Gloucestershire, born 1571. On 7 May 1593 he, his wife Frances, and their son Walter had a lease for three lives from William Worrall, lord of English Bicknor, of certain lands at Whoremore Hill and elsewhere in English Bicknor. (Presumably all three were dead by 11 October 1630 when these same lands were leased to John Gough, his wife and sons.) He was of English Bicknor at the muster in 1608 when Simon Scudamore, gentleman, aged about 40 “hath a musket furnished.” He was living 30 November 1620 but was dead by 3 December 1621 at English Bicknor, having had issue by his wife Frances _______

The eldest son,

48. JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Tretire and Whitchurch, born 1569. He married (by 6 April 1585 when they were living at Bolstone, Herefordshire) Margaret, daughter of John Higgins, of Dewshall, Herefordshire. On 3 May 1593 he and his brother Simon sold Tretire and their other lands (with an exception) to their kinsman John Scudamore (died 1600) of Ballingham Hall. He was living at Lydbrook in English Bicknor on 12 February 1595, but removed to Whit-church where he was known as a Catholic recusant until his death there about 1649, aged 80, having had issue,

61. 1. JOHN, of Trescilla in Llangarron, of whom further.
2. Roger, of High Meadow, Newland, Gloucestershire, born 1588. In the muster of 1608 he was of the tallest stature fit to make a pike-man, aged about 20, and servant to William Hall, Esq., of High Meadow. He died during the lifetime of his father without issue leaving a nuncupative will spoken on 12 October 1643 at High Meadow. It left legacies to his father, his brother John, his sister Frances Wheeler, and to several of his nephews and nieces.
62. 3. Walter, a yeoman of Bristol, married Ann _______ (who survived him, died 23 December 1632 at the Crown in Bristol, buried 26 December at St. Stephen’s, Bristol). He died 27 June 1630, buried St. Stephen’s, Bristol, having had issue three daughters,

1. Jane, baptized 24 January 1624/5, probably died young.
2. Ann, living in 1643 when she and her sister are remembered in the will of their uncle Roger.
3. Elizabeth, living 1643.

1. Margaret, baptized 3 November 1594 at Ruardean, Gloucestershire. She was buried there on 21 November.
2. Frances, married 1stly _______ Prickett, and 2ndly _______ Wheeler, living 1643.
3. Elizabeth, living unmarried 1632.
The eldest son,
61. JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Trescilla in Llangarron, born 1586, was living at Heyford, Northamptonshire, on 9 October 1608 when as the son and heir apparent he gave a quitclaim deed to his interest in Tretire with Michaelchurch to his kinsman William Scudamore (died 1649) of Ballingham Hall. He married Dorothy (who married 2ndly William Browne of Llangarron, and was living as late as 29 August 1670), daughter of Sir William Cooke, Kt., of Highnam, Gloucestershire. [Her sister Elizabeth Cooke married still another John Scudamore (died 1669) of Kentchurch Court.] He died before his father in 1646 (will dated 8 November) aged 60, leaving issue,
1. Roger, of Trescilla and London, born 1633, a ward in 1650 of his maternal uncle John Scudamore of Kentchurch, and heir to both his father and his uncle Roger. He was one of the lords of Cwmyoy, Monmouthshire, 1665-7, and was admitted to the Middle Temple, London, on 7 May 1668. He died unmarried and was buried 17 May 1698 at Llangarron.

2. JOHNS, of Trescilla, succeeded his brother Roger, of whom further.
1. Elizabeth, baptized 19 December 1631 at Llangarron. She died unmarried and was buried there 9 December 1719.
2. Frances, married her kinsman Reverend Martin Scudamore of Kentchurch and Llanvihangel Crucorney, Monmouthshire. She was buried his widow on 19 July 1715 at Llangarron. Her will dated 22 March 1713/4 (proved 26 March 1715) names her nephew and godson Richard Scudamore as her chief beneficiary.
3. Sarah, born 1646 (perhaps posthumously). She married the Very Reverend John Tyler (died 1724), Dean of the Cathedral Church of Hereford and Bishop of Llandaff in 1706. She died 10 November 1726 aged 80 and is buried beside her husband in Hereford Cathedral.

The younger son,
74. JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Treduchan in Llangarron and later of Trescilla, born 1642. He married 1stly Elizabeth (buried 1 August 1699 at Llangarron), daughter of Nathaniel Dobbins of Welsh Newton, and widow of Philip Jones of Llangarron, and 2ndly Margaret daughter of Charles Tudor of Llangarron (who survived him) on 9 September 1709. He was buried at Llangarron 29 July 1722 having had issue, an only son, Richard, baptized 7 December 1710. He was named the principal heir in the will of Frances Scudamore (his aunt and godmother), but died before his father and was buried 18 May 1720 at Llangarron.

NOTES

ANN, the wife of WALTER SCUDAMORE, had a sister who married Henry Diddall and a nephew Robert Diddall. The parentage of these sisters is unknown at present.

ANN SCUDAMORE married Richard Conoway on 4 July 1639 at Henbury, Gloucestershire.

ANTHONY SCUDAMORE is mentioned only once in 1628 at Ganarew, Herefordshire, in the recusant’s rolls.
The manor of Llancillo was acquired by Thomas Skydmore of ROWLSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE by purchase on 12 June 1424. It passed to the Scudamores of KENTCHURCH by inheritance and was held by them until 1922 when it was sold to pay the death duties on the estate of Edward Scudamore Lucas-Scudamore of Kentchurch Court. The family that we notice here had some other small estate in the parish. The register does not begin until 1727.

ROW 20. JENKIN SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), of Llancillo (see p.5), was a younger son of Nicholas Skydmore of Rowlstone and Llancillo by his wife Margery verch Morgan according to the Visitation of Hereforshire in 1634. In August 1484 he (styled John Skydmore, lately of Ewyas Harold in the Marches of Wales, junior, gentleman), together with his elder brother, John Skydmore of Rowlstone, and others were indicted before the King’s Bench at Westminster for assaulting and wounding Henry Hammys of Holme Lacy. The elder Skydmore and the others denied the charge, claiming that they had defended themselves against attacks by Hammys and his men. Had issue,

28. JOHN AP JENKIN SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), of Llancillo, was imprisoned for seven weeks in the 1520s in Ludlow Castle in Shropshire on the complaint of the Prior of the Augustinian friars in Ludlow that Skydmore was surety for a legacy of £4 bequeathed to the priory by Richard Jones. On 21 March 1537/8 he and 27 other men (among them his cousin John ap Rosser Scudamore) stood accused by John ap Gwatkyn Vaughan of Ewyas Harold of having broken into his house there and assaulted Vaughan and his wife and the wife of Rhys ap Gwatkyn. In the muster of Herefordshire in 1539 it was reported that he had a bow and two sheeves of arrows for the defence of the county. He had, about 1524, four acres in Llancillo called Dyble and another parcel of 14 acres in 1535 both of which passed to his son and heir,

38. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Llancillo. He served in 1545 in the army in Scotland and in 1564 was attached to the household of William Paulet, marquess of Winchester, the Lord Treasurer of England. In 1553-5 he sued Thomas ap John ap Hywel for a certain estate in Llancillo called Tebledy which had formerly belonged to his father, John ap Jenkin Scudamore. Thomas Scudamore married Alice, daughter of Philip Saunders of Llangua, Monmouthshire (descended from Filo ap David ap Sitsylt), by whom he had issue,

51. 1. WALTER, his heir, of whom further.
2. James, living 1630. He died 11 July 1659 and was buried in the churchyard at Llancillo.
1. Elizabeth, died unmarried at Bettwys, Monmouthshire. Her will was proved 19 May 1631.
2. A daughter, married _______ Prichard. Her son Thomas Prichard was left £13 in the will of his aunt Elizabeth Scudamore, next above.

The elder son,

51. WALTER SCUDAMORE, of Llancillo, married Blanche (who married 2ndly _______ Prichard and was living his widow in 1638), daughter of John Powell of Powellin. He died before 6 May 1630, having had issue,

63. 1. THOMAS, his heir, of whom further.
1. Anne. She was unmarried in 1630.
2. Mary. She married (by 1630) William Morris of Bettwys, Monmouthshire, and living there in 1634.

The only son,

63. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Llancillo, married Elizabeth (buried 22 October 1653 at Llancillo), daughter of William Symonds of Clodock. He was the executor of his aunt Elizabeth on 19 May 1631 and his pedigree was set down at the Visitation of Herefordshire in 1634. He and his mother Blanche Prichard were defendants on 11 June 1638 in a suit in chancery brought by Lewis Gilbert of Walterstone, Herefordshire, who accused them of withholding certain conveyances belonging to him for the Great House and the Little House in Llancillo. He was buried on 22 October 1653 at Llancillo, leaving issue,

75. 1. JAMES, his heir, of whom further.
2. Walter, of Llancillo, where he paid a tax on a single hearth in 1665. He died 1712 and is buried in the church at Llancillo. He married Magdalen ______ , who survived him and died 13 December 1728.
3. John (born after 1634). He is probably the man of his name who died 11 June 1712 “aged 81” and was buried in the churchyard at Llancillo.
1. Elizabeth, living 1634.
2. Anne, living 1634.
3. Blanche (born after 1634), married James Price. She died 1 October 1714 and was buried in the churchyard at Llancillo next to her mother.

The eldest son,
75. JAMES SCUDAMORE, of Llancillo, married Jane (died 24 October 1681 aged 52), daughter of _________. He purchased land in Clodock and Longtown in 1680 from John Gilbert of Snodhill. He was Chief Constable in 1663 of Ewyas Lacy, and was assessed on £16 in the same year at Llancillo in the Militia Assessment. He paid a tax on two hearths at Llancillo in 1665. His will was dated 1686 and he was buried on 11 July 1690 in the churchyard at Llancillo. Had issue,

1. James (Reverend), of Monmouth, born 1658. He was admitted to Jesus College, Oxford, on 18 June 1675 aged 17. B.A. 1679. He was Vicar of Dixton, Monmouthshire, in 1684 and at Rockfield, Monmouthshire, in 1685 serving there until his death on 3 December 1713. He married Dorothy (died 19 April 1743 aged 77), daughter of John Hoskyns of Bernithan Court in Llangarron, Herefordshire, on 13 January 1698/9 at Llangarron. They were both buried in St. Mary’s Church, Monmouth. On 30 April 1699 (Holy Trinity in three weeks) James Scudamore of Monmouth, clerk, and Roland Jennings, gentleman, had a messuage and 91 acres of land in Rowlstone from Walter Price and Mary his wife. His will dated 24 March 1704/5 left a life interest in his lands to his wife, and then to his brother Thomas, and then for want of heirs to his brother John.

2. Thomas. He buried 1720 at Llancillo where there is a stone slab with a molded edge to his memory and that of his father.

3. John, living 1705.

1. Mary, married Aaron Price.

2. Elizabeth, married Thomas Prichard.

NOTES

Probably a good many of these people are cousins from Rowlstone and Llangua and do not properly belong here. The monumental inscriptions that survive in the churchyard at Llancillo should also be checked; we suspect a transposed digit or two in the readings printed in the old history of the county by Duncumb.

THOMAS SCUDAMORE is noticed at Llancillo on 20 June 1603. (Perhaps THOMAS AP PHILLIP SCUDAMORE.)

THOMAS SCUDAMORE, SENIOR, a witness to the will of Elizabeth Scudamore of Bettwys in 1630. (Also THOMAS AP PHILLIP?)

GWENLLYAN, wife of THOMAS SCUDAMORE, was buried 2 February 1611/2 at Grosmont, Monmouthshire.

THOMAS and JENKIN SCUDAMORE are noticed at Llancillo on 20 September 1638.

From the churchyard:

THOMAS SCUDAMORE, died 7 June 1695 and,
THOMAS SCUDAMORE, gentleman, died 4 December 1695. (Should one of these be 1659?)
JOHN SCUDAMORE, died 1695. (Apparently on the same stone with ELIZABETH SCUDAMORE, died 1653; and Blanche Price died 1714. Possibly one of the THOMAS SCUDAMORES above, or is JOHN correct and THOMAS incorrect?)

These readings were copied before 1813 and if the monuments still survive they should be verified.
MAGOR, MONMOUTHSHIRE

This family was a younger branch of the Skydmores at ROWLSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE (See p.5).

ROW 21. RICHARD SKYDMORE (the 4th son of Nicholas Skydmore of Rowlstone and Llancillo by his wife Margery verch Morgan) acquired some estate at Little Salisbury, in Magor, Monmouthshire (perhaps from the Morgans of Llangstone). Pedigrees of his posterity at that place are found in the Llyfr Baglan and the Visitation of Herefordshire set down in 1634. He is said to have been living as late as 1535 at Little Salisbury, a yeoman. Left issue,

1. RHYS, of whom further.
2. (perhaps) Thomas. He may have been ancestor to the family at SHAFTESBURY, DORSET (see p.33).

The elder son,

1. RHYS SKYDMORE, his heir, of Little Salisbury, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Wallis (Valens). He had died before 20 April 1546 when Lewis Skidmor of Salisbury, gentleman, sold to William Morgan of Caldicot a messuage and other lands at Caldicot formerly belonging to William Valeis which had descended to his three sisters Elianor, Elizabeth [Scudamor] and Anne as co-heiresses, and whereof Lewis Scudamor was lawfully seized of two parts. Had issue,

2. LEWIS SCUDAMORE, his heir, born 1511, of Little Salisbury, married Elizabeth, daughter of William ap Llewellyn of Newport, Monmouthshire (descended from the ancient lords of Senghenith, Glamorganshire, according to the Llyfr Baglan). He was witness to the will of Lewis Bowles of Penhow on 18 January 1550/1, and on 27 August 1580 the will of Thomas Bowles of Penhow, his son, gives a legacy of £60 to Thomas Scudamore, the younger, son of Lewis Scudamore, gentleman, of Salisbury. In 1578 Lewis Scudamore, a tenant of Sir William Morgan, Kt., (from whom he held a water corn mill at Salisbury) was the defendant in a suit brought by Walter Morgan Woulphe who claimed that Scudamore had interrupted a water course at Tollgarthe. Had issue,

3. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Little Salisbury, is mentioned in the will of William Williams of Newport on 28 March 1597 who remembers both “my cousin Thomas Scudamor of Little Salisbury in the county, and my cousin Thomas Scudamor of York.” In 1580 his younger brother had entered into an agreement with Griffith Jones, then incumbent at Magor, that Lewis Scudamore, his father, should enjoy the tithes from his own land in Salisbury. In 1601 this became a matter of contention in Chancery and Thomas, the younger (calling himself an accountant in the Exchequer) brought an action against William Davies, Rector at Magor, stating that his brother Thomas, the elder, now had a pretended interest in these tithes. He died before 23 January 1622/3 when Edward Kemmis leased certain lands in Magor to Rowland Morgan adjoining the heirs of Thomas Skiddamor, deceased. He left two sisters as his eventual heirs, called daughters (but more likely granddaughters as appears from circumstances),

1. Bridget, married _______ Jones. She was living a widow with her son Samuel Jones at Little Salisbury on 14 August 1664.
2. Cicely, married 1stly William Catchmay, gentleman, on 4 May 1630 at Monmouth (his will proved 13 February 1635/6), and 2ndly Charles Watkins. Her will is dated 14 August 1664, proved 1 February 1669/70.

The younger son,

1. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of York and Overton, born 1548. He was admitted to the Inner Temple in November 1578, and had a commission for life as the Receiver of Yorkshire (Court of Wards) in 1591. In 1588 he and Hugh Bethell purchased the manor of Newsham, Yorkshire (his moiety passing to his heir William Scudamore), and in 1590 the rectory and advowson of the church of All Saints’ at Skelton, Yorkshire (sold by his widow and his heir in 1623). He presented George Jenkins (presumably some kinsman of his wife) as rector to the church at Skelton in 1610; his son Hugh Scudamore succeeded Jenkins in 1619. In 1595 he had the lease of the manor of Overton, Yorkshire, from the Crown (and a grant in fee of the same on 9 October 1605). He married Mary (who married 2ndly Henry Robinson on 16 May 1626 at Holy Trinity, York), elder daughter of John Jenkins of York, on 15 December 1585 at Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, York. He died 22 April 1621 aged
Rowlestone and Kentchurch

75, called “late of Cathedral Close and Overton”. The admons was granted to his widow on 10 May 1621, and mentions Henry, Elizabeth, and Jenkins, three minor children. Had issue 13 sons and 2 daughters baptized at Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, and at St. Michael-le-Belfry in York, and at Overton,

65. 1. WILLIAM, his heir, of whom further.
66. 2. John, of Burstall Garth Manor, near Skeffling, Yorkshire. He was baptized at Holy Trinity 27 June 1590, and admitted a pensioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1605-6. He had the third reversion of his father’s office of Receiver on 26 July 1606 having been already trained in its duties. He married Anna Maria, daughter of William Bourchier of Beningbrough Grange (and a sister of the wife of William Scudamore), on 17 June 1620 at St. Michael-le-Belfry, and had issue,

1. John, baptized at Overton 4 July 1624, died an infant.
2. Thomas, baptized at Overton 8 February 1630/1. He was apprenticed to Francis Thompson, a merchant taylor of Ludgate, on 1 September 1647 for seven years. He was a citizen and merchant of London in 1661 when he was left a legacy of £10 in the will of his uncle Thomas Scudamore. He died unmarried (will dated 12 December 1668, proved 18 March 1668/9) at St. Clement Danes, London.
3. William. He was left £10 in the will of Thomas Scudamore in 1661 and was living in 1668.
4. John, baptized at Overton 17 June 1635, buried there 10 September 1636.
5. Samuel, baptized at Overton 20 January 1636/7.
6. Moses, baptized at Overton 12 September 1638. He was left £10 in the will of his uncle Thomas Scudamore in 1661 and £30 in the will of his brother Thomas in 1668.

3. Francis, baptized at Holy Trinity 4 February 1591/2, buried at Overton 7 September 1596.

67. 4. Hugh (Reverend), baptized at Holy Trinity on 17 January 1593/4 and admitted a pensioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, 23 April 1608, B.A. 1611/2, M.A. 1615. Ordained at Peterborough 24 July 1619, and Rector at Skelton, Yorkshire, 1619, and at Holby, Yorkshire, 1623. He married Alice, daughter of Henry Watkinson of Ilkley, Yorkshire, and died 1 May 1665 aged 71, having had issue,

78. 1. Thomas, of Leeds, Yorkshire. He was born 1630 (aged 35 on 11 August 1665 when Dugdale’s Visitation was set down at Leeds) and had according to Thoresby’s Diary a collection of heraldic manuscripts. He married Barbara (buried at St. Johns, Leeds, on 19 December 1680), daughter of Edward Ashton of Clubcliffe Hall, Medley, Yorkshire. He died 5 November (buried 7 November at St. Johns, Leeds) 1693. Had issue,

1. Thomas, buried 6 November 1659. He died without issue at Upper Headrow in 1697.
2. William, baptized 27 March 1667 and buried the same day.
4. Alice, born 28 March 1661.
5. Elizabeth, born 3 August 1662, living 1709.
6. Eleanor, born about 1664, dead 1709.
8. John, living 1665.
9. Elizabeth, died unmarried.
10. Dorothy, born about 1627. She married Thomas Lazenby of Durham on 30 July 1663 at Holy Trinity, York.
11. Alice, born about 1645. She married (licence 1671; she was then aged 26 and of Old Malton, Yorkshire) Henry Mease of Skerne.

5. Thomas, of Kilnsea, Yorkshire, was baptized at Holy Trinity 19 February 1596/7. He was apprenticed on 25 March 1612 for nine years to a haberdasher in London, and married (licence 1634) Ellen Creyke, a widow of _____ Skeffling. His will (dated 29 June 1661, proved 5 February 1661/2) provided for his widow in her lifetime and leaves legacies to certain of his nephews and nieces. Captain William Scudamore was the executor and residuary legatee.

6. Edward, baptized at Holy Trinity 23 June 1597. He died unmarried and was buried there on 21 February 1619/20.
7. Richard, baptized at Overton 12 October 1598, died an infant.
8. George, baptized at St. Michael-le-Belfry 22 February 1599/1600, died young.
9. Richard, baptized at Overton 9 September 1601. He was apprenticed to John Harrington of St. Paul’s Churchyard for seven years on 19 March 1616/7.
11. Rowland, buried at Overton 14 July 1631. His will, dated 4 July 1631, leaves legacies to his brothers Hugh and Thomas, his uncle Ralph Jenkins, and names his sister Elizabeth Manbie and her husband as residuary legatees and executors.
12. Henry, of Bootham in York. He was baptized at Overton on 12 June 1606. He died without issue and was buried St. Olave’s, York, on 14 March 1630/1.
  2. Elizabeth, called the 12th child. She married William Manby of Hutton Cranswick, Yorkshire, on 4 January 1625/6 at St. Olave’s, York.

The eldest son, WILIAM SCUDAMORE, of Overton and Shipton, baptized 18 February 1588/9 at St. Michael-le-Belfry “and born in the parsonage house” according to the register. He was admitted a pensioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1605-6, and to Gray’s Inn 21 November 1608. He married Elizabeth, buried 15 March 1671/2 at Overton, daughter of William Bourchier of Beningbrough Grange (who brought him the manor of Shipton, Yorkshire, from her mother). He succeeded to estates greatly encumbered by his own or his father’s debts; in 1624 he settled the mansion house at Overton on his mother Mary and mortgaged the manor and advowson at disastrous terms. He died at Overton 4 April (buried 6 April) 1661, having issue,

  1. THOMAS, of whom further.
  2. William (Captain), of Beningbrough Grange. He was named executor and legatee of his uncle Thomas Scudamore in 1661 and buried 27 January 1685/6 at Overton.
  3. Henry (Ensign), of Shipton, baptized at Overton 30 April 1622. He served as an ensign in Sir William Robinson’s regiment of foot in the Civil War together with his brother Thomas. He was left £20 in the will of his uncle Thomas in 1661 and was buried at Overton 7 July 1686 (will dated 5 July 1686).
  1. Mary, baptized at Overton 15 May 1619. She was left £20 in the will of her uncle Thomas in 1661 and died unmarried on 9 June 1670 at Overton.

The eldest son, THOMAS SCUDAMORE (CAPTAIN), of Overton and Shipton, born about 1615 (aged 49 on 9 September 1665 when Dugdale’s Visitation was set down at York). He was a captain in Sir William Robinson’s regiment of foot in the Civil War and both he and his brother Henry filed a claim for part of the £60,000 granted by KING CHARLES II for the relief of poor officers after the Restoration. He sold Overton Manor in 1664, and Shipton Manor in 1668 (both to his cousin Barrington Bourchier of Beningbrough Hall). He died unmarried and was buried on 4 January 1672/3 at Overton.

NOTES

A William Scudamore of Overton, whose admirns was given on 19 April 1608 at York to Thomas Scudamore, is unidentified.
SHAFTESBURY, DORSET

This SCUDAMORE family may have come from MAGOR, MONMOUTHSHIRE (see p.30), to Shaftesbury with the earl of Pembroke. Undoubtedly other evidence remains to be found in both places.

THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Shaftesbury, may have been a younger son of Rhys Skidmore of Little Salisbury, Magor, Monmouthshire. He belonged to the household of William Herbert, the 1st earl of Pembroke. Pembroke died in 1570 and his will charges his executor to “have special care” of Thomas Scudamore (and four other Welshmen) in his household and to pay them their wages or annuities. Thomas Scudamore, gentleman, also had the lease of the New Inn at Shaftesbury (for which he paid £10 by the year) and other lands there from Pembroke. He married Margaret (who was previously the widow of John Beaumont of Shaftesbury), and died at Shaftesbury about 1578. The countess of Pembroke had her father Sir Henry Sidney, K.G., use his influence on behalf of Scudamore; on 25 October 1581 he wrote “Thomas Skidmore, a servant to the earl of Pembroke, has long had a matter before the Masters of Requests. Let this matter be heard, and end it with expedition.” His widow survived him; she subsequently sued Richard Williamson about the possession of her late husband’s inn. On 4 May 1586 John Spiller testified that before Thomas Scudamore’s death about seven or eight years earlier that he had leased the inn to him that he had subsequently taken possession of it. Margaret Scudamore died later in the same year and the admons on her estate was given at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury to her daughter Anne Beaumont on 25 August 1586.

GEORGE SCUDAMORE, of Denby, Yorkshire, was probably a grandson of Thomas Scudamore of Shaftesbury. He left a will dated 20 January 1635/6 signed when he was sick and weak in body leaving all his goods chattels to his two daughters Ann and Sarah Scudamore. If they died then his entire estate was to go to George Scudamore, his brother’s son. Anthony Gifford, a friend of Barmbrough (or Barnburgh), Yorkshire, and William Foster of St. Clement Danes, London, were appointed his executors. Had issue, two daughters,
1. Anne, who died unmarried about 1641.
2. Sarah.

GEORGE SCUDAMORE (ENSIGN), of Shaftesbury, a nephew of the above George Scudamore, brought a suit on 26 January 1646 against Anne, the widow of Anthony Gifford of Barmbrough, to recover his half interest in the estate of his uncle which he claimed amounted to at least £1000 in plate, linen, household stuff, stock and stores. Anne Gifford in her answer says that it is true that Anne Scudamore did die, but that the estate was not worth so much as the bill states. He is probably the George Scudamore who was still living on 5 August 1659, a Royalist, at Motcombe near Shaftesbury. After the Restoration George Scudamore of Dorset (who had been an ensign in Jordan Crooke’s Regiment of Foot) filed a claim for part of the £60,000 granted by CHARLES II for relief of poor Royalist officers in the civil war.
EWYAS HAROLD, HEREFORDSHIRE

NICHOLAS SKYDMORE of ROWLSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE (see p.5), had succeeded his elder brother THOMAS by November 1456. He married, according to the Llyfr Baglan, Margery verch Morgan by whom he had five sons. WILLIAM SKYDMORE, one of the younger sons, left descendants at Ewyas Harold.

ROW 22. WILLIAM (WILCOCK) SKYDMORE, a younger son of Nicholas Skydmore of Rowlstone and Llancillo by his wife Margery verch Morgan, married and had issue,

31. JOHN SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), whose name is known from the same source, married and had issue,

42. 1. THOMAS, his heir, of whom further.
43. 2. Richard. He is mentioned in the chancery suit (noticed under his grandson Richard below) thus confirming this part of the pedigree in the Llyfr Baglan. Had issue,

56. 1. John, who probably settled near Ewyas Harold, and is mentioned with his father in the same chancery suit. Had issue,

1. John, of Didley in St. Devereux, Herefordshire. He may have been the man of his name who made his will on 20 April 1603 devising a tenement and two acres of land in Didley to his brother Richard. He died before 10 October 1603 (the date of probate) leaving an only daughter Sybil then a minor.

2. Richard, of St. Devereux. He was executor of his brother’s will in 1603 and was a co-defendant (with Lewis Gunter of Howton) in 1619 in a chancery suit brought by Mary, the widow of Humphrey Scudamore, Richard’s cousin. Richard claimed to be Humphrey’s heir, but the judgement rendered is unknown. He died before 10 August 1641, apparently without issue, when his will (dated 1 April 1641) was probated.

57. 2. Rhys, of Bacton, mentioned in the Llyfr Baglan. He is listed as an able man of Bacton in the muster of 1542 and may have been ancestor to the family at Turnaston, Herefordshire (see NOTES).

The eldest son,

42. THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of The Helme (now Elm Green Farm), in Ewyas Harold. He married Anne, the younger daughter of his distant kinsman John Scudamore (died 1555) of THRUXTON, HEREFORDSHIRE (noticed elsewhere48). Thomas Skydmore of Ewyas Harold was possessed of a jake and gleve for the defence of the county in the muster of Herefordshire in 1539. When John’s son, William Scudamore, died in 1558 his sister Anne was one of the beneficiaries of his will. She is probably the lady of that same name whose niece Sybil (formerly Scudamore), the wife of Henry Hankes of Gloucester, brought an action against her aunt for failing to return cattle and money loaned to Anne when Sybil was unmarried and under age. Thomas Scudamore was living in 1558 and had issue,

55. 1. HUMPHREY, his heir, of whom further.

2. John, of Abbey Dore, Herefordshire. He is named in his brother Humphrey’s will of 18 July 1617 who left him an annuity of £6 a year. He is probably the man of his name (styled “gentleman”) who made a nuncupative will on 27 April 1618 (proved 6 June) making his brother-in-law, John Strithill (or Stretton), his executor.

1. Jane. She married John Stretton and was granted an annuity of £4 a year by the will of her brother Humphrey.

The elder son,

55. HUMPHREY SCUDAMORE, of The Helme, was born about 1540. On 28 July 1591 he was granted the administration of the estate of his cousin William Scudamore of Thrushton (died 1558) following the death in February of that year of William’s only son John Scudamore (an intestate). Between April 1592 and October 1594 he married Mary, the widow of John Turner (by whom she had several children). On 28 October 1594 Humphrey and his wife sued Arthur Williams, clerk, for the recovery of plate and jewels that Mary had loaned to Williams two years earlier and which Williams had not returned. It appears that Humphrey and his wife were then living in London (where Mary had property) since he is called of Westminster. On 16 January 1599/1600

48 See The Skydmores/ Scudamores of Thrushton, Abenhall, Hentland (Herefordshire), & including Gallatin Co., Illinois & also Prince George’s County, Maryland at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
Humphrey was involved in a dispute with James Watkins and John ________ concerning leasehold lands in Ewyas Harold and the deeds relating to them. In his will, dated 18 July 1617 (proved 10 December of the same year), he makes a number of bequests including a gift of £40 to his cousin William Scudamore, of London (perhaps the man of his name who is remembered in the will of William Scudamore, of Thruxton, where he is called his base brother), and annuities to his brother John and his sister Jane Stretton. To his wife he leaves his freehold property in Ewyas Harold and Wormbridge, as well as leaseholds held of Edward Neville, lord of Abergavenny. He nominates his wife and Lewis Gunter, of Howton, his executors. Humphrey Scudamore died before December 1617 leaving no surviving issue. Two years after her husband’s death his widow was involved in litigation with Lewis Gunter, a “near kinsman” of the deceased. Gunter (died 1630), an attorney of Thruxton, had renounced the executorship of Humphrey’s will. Mary accused him of failing to abide by the provisions contained in it. The lawsuit, in which Mary was joined by William Scudamore, of London, and William Jones, a girdler, as co-plaintiffs, involved not only Gunter as defendant but also Richard Scudamore as co-defendant who claimed himself to be Humphrey’s lawful heir since he was the direct descendant of Humphrey’s uncle Richard Scudamore. The outcome of the suit is not known. In 1628 Mary Scudamore and Thomas Cardiff (probably a close relative) obtained a lease of The Greyhound Tavern (a site now occupied by Charing Cross Station). She died on 20 January 1628/9. An inquest held following her death (at the Questhouse, Holborn, on 10 November 1632) was erroneously attributed to Humphrey Scudamore. The property in question was a messuage situated in St. John’s Street in the parish of St. Sepulchre’s, Holborn, which reverted to the crown since no heirs general or special could be established. Her will dated 23 October 1628 was proved on 28 April 1630. (It is not known who were the eventual heirs of Humphrey Scudamore, but it appears that the Gunter family succeeded to his lands at Ewyas Harold presumably by inheritance.)

NOTES

The abode of WILLIAM SCUDAMORE “of London” is left unstated. His son may be the man of that name, a haberdasher, living in the parish of St. Giles Cripplegate as early as 1604. He had two sons named HUMPHREY SCUDAMORE baptized on 1 September 1611 (presumably died an infant) and again on 12 September 1613 and daughters Alice, baptized 23 December 1604; Anne, baptized 25 January 1606/7; and Katherine, baptized 12 September 1613 [23 September 1609].

HENRY SCUDAMORE, a yeoman of Turnaston, Herefordshire, married Elizabeth Webb. He left a brief will dated 25 October 1605 (and proved 22 March 1610/1) leaving his entire estate to his widow Elizabeth. Elizabeth Scudamore, a widow of Newton, Herefordshire, left a will dated 16 February 1612/3 directing that she be buried at Peterchurch (proved 18 February 1613/4). She left legacies to her three brothers (and their children) and named her brother Richard Webb to be her executor. No issue.

ABRAHAM SCUDAMORE, a yeoman of Turnaston (and probably a brother of HENRY SCUDAMORE above) left a will dated 23 April 1622. He married Perrine ________ who was confirmed as his executrix at Hereford on 26 June of the same year. Had issue,

1. William, living 1622 when he and his brother Harry are remembered in the will of their father.
2. Henry (Harry), living 1622.
3. Anne, a minor in 1622. She was left personalty (or £6 13sh 4d) in the will of her father.

ABRAHAM SCIDMORE “of Herefordshire” emigrated to Virginia in 1677. (See the NOTES to the family in KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND). At the present time there is nothing to connect him to the Turnaston family except his Christian name.

JOAN SCUDAMORE and ROWLAND SCUDAMORE were living at Dore in 1665 when they paid the tax on one hearth each.

The admons of JOHN SCUDAMORE “lately of Dore” was granted on 16 February 1677/8 to Elizabeth Sayse. ELIZABETH SCUDAMORE had married John Sayce on 2 November 1671.
Appendix 1

SOME NOTES ON KENTCHURCH COURT, HEREFORDSHIRE

by Warren Skidmore

[These notes were set down in April 1993. (WS)]

The definitive history of Kentchurch remains to be written. I have collected notes on the parish since 1941 and published the medieval part of them in the 2nd edition of my book The Scudamores of Upton Scudamore in December 1989. To this must be added the results of the recent archaeological dig at Corras in Kentchurch; the findings made there have been recently printed as the Partial Excavation of the Chapel of Corras, Kentchurch by Mary Thomas and Elizabeth Taylor in the Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club (XLVI, 194-208). The archaeologists working there found that all the evidence pointed to the fact that the chapel was deliberately demolished and the best stone was carried away for some other purpose. The date of this agrees tolerably well with the building of the tower (and the older portions of Kentchurch Court) and it may very well be that John Skydmore who had seated himself at Kentchurch by 1386 saw to the pulling down of the chapel to build his fortified house.

A good many years ago the staff of the University of London’s Institute of Historical Research were kind enough to bring into London from their storage in the country all of the materials that had been collected almost 100 years ago for the history of Kentchurch to be printed in the Victoria County History of Herefordshire. Only the first volume has ever appeared. Since the funding of the subsequent volumes depends on local initiative (lacking in Herefordshire) it seems next to certain that this will not appear in my lifetime. Most of their source materials were already known to me, but the remainder were added to my own notes in Ohio -- alas, at a great distance from Kentchurch.

All things considered perhaps the best account of the Scudamores at Kentchurch will be found in three weekly issues of County Life published in December 1966 (issues of the 15th, 22nd and 29th). The house was then occupied by the late John Lucas-Scudamore and his wife Lady Patricia (formerly Scudamore-Stanhope) who was then (and now) the legal representative of the Viscounts Scudamore once at Holme Lacy. The text by John Cornforth is essentially accurate and it is illustrated by a great many fine photographs. In 1970 Jack Lucas-Scudamore was kind enough to give me a number of duplicate prints of some unused photographs taken at that time. The current history of Kentchurch has been brought down practically to date in Country Homes and Interiors for March 1989 which is illustrated by some equally fine colour pictures of the house and Jan Scudamore (the present lady of Kentchurch) and her two children.

I first enjoyed the hospitality of the family in 1970 and in conjunction with John Hunt (now of Potton, Bedfordshire), and Mr. Lucas-Scudamore we turned out the account of the family and a part of its branches that appeared in the 1972 edition of Burke's Landed Gentry. This pedigree, much enlarged and altered, is the basis for my book tentatively titled Thirty Generations of the Scudamore/ Skidmore family in England and America... again in collaboration with John Hunt. A few "hard" copies of the manuscript have been printed but at the present time the latest revision remains only in my computer. It currently runs to 401 pages closely printed in 10 point Times Roman type.

This brief essay on Kentchurch would not be complete without a tribute to the character of John Harford Stanhope Lucas-Scudarnore (1902-1976) who was, bar none, the wittiest man that I have ever known. In addition to his other virtues Jack had the advantage of a lifelong curiousity about his family. It seems pertinent to set down a few of his remarks which have not been published to my knowledge.

The collection of deeds once at Kentchurch (and badly damaged by the flood waters there) are well known to scholars. They were stored for over two hundred years in a stone cubbyhole behind the fireplace on the ground floor of the tower. They were saved by the ministrations of an expert staff at the National Library of Wales (who prepared a typed calendar of them) and have recently been transferred to the Hereford Record Office at the
request of the young John Scudamore of Kentchurch. It is immediately apparent that these deeds, while suitably ancient and of great interest, reveal nothing about the important Sir John Skydmore of Agincourt who married a daughter of Owain Glyndwr and who had the rule of the whole countryside according to Leland (quoting Skidmore of the Court). His deeds were taken in a chest with some furniture to Ireland in the last century when Kentchurch was closed up. According to Jack the vellum deeds were used there as twists to light the fires of Castle Shane! It might be possible to rewrite much of the history of Welsh border if they had survived. The lot of deeds (damaged in the flood) now at the HRO were formerly at the ancient home of the family at Rowlestone and were brought to Kentchurch when the main line of Sir John's posterity failed in 1742. John Scudamore of Rowlestone succeeded his cousins at Kentchurch and moved his household (and his deeds) there. Nothing remains, not even a drawing, of the still older home of the family at Rowlestone. Traditionally all that is said of it is that “it stood near the church.”

Visitors to Kentchurch Court will not find anything in the house that was there in ancient times for the entire contents were sold up by the bailiffs early in the last century to settle the gambling debts in London of one of the family. The only thing remaining at Kentchurch of great antiquity is the small portrait of a gentleman in clerical dress reputed to be Jack of Kent. He is sometimes said to have been a stableboy of considerable promise at Kentchurch who was sent up to Oxford for an education and the church. This portrait is of great interest for the painter has added in the background a rendering of Kentchurch as it was in the time of the sitter. The portrait was saved from the bailiffs by a servant who hid it under her bed and kept it there until John Lucy Scudamore came of age in 1821.

The Scudamore portraits are all from Lady Patricia's family once at Holme Lacy and purchased when one of the Chesterfield houses was sold at auction. Jack was outbid on just one of these by a London dealer, but was able to buy the portrait itself after the sale when he found that the dealer was interested only in the frame to put on a picture of his own. Holme Lacy was still glorious in Jack's youth and he told me how he and the boys of the family would go up to the attic of the house where they would put on the helmets and strap on parts of the rusty old Elizabethan armour there and play at knights. (These two suits of armour are now in the Metropolitan Museum in New York City). Another of Jack's stories about Holme Lacy concerned the tombs of the viscounts and their wives who were buried underneath the church in lead-sealed coffins. The Wye is nearby, and when the ground water ran high the coffins would float about bumping into one another with great thuds that could be heard clearly in the church which disturbed the services there on occasion.

Once when Lady Pat, Jack and myself were at Ballingham he made a particularly revealing remark that has stayed with me. The parapet had recently fallen down from one corner of the drawing room at Kentchurch and was repaired -- no doubt at great expense. On another occasion the water tank at the top of the tower had let go releasing its contents over the lower floors. There was the great flash flood of 1959, noticed before, which had ruined or damaged everything at Kentchurch below chin-height. The house was drafty as a tree and thousands of gallons of oil were consumed every winter. Jack took a hard look at Ballingham and pronounced that it was "really as much house as any one man needed." On another occasion he told me that his friends told him to sell Kentchurch and find something more convenient elsewhere. However, when he remembered how many younger sons went away from Kentchurch with next to nothing so that it could be preserved intact for a succession of eldest sons he knew that he could never sell it. It was true, of course, that excepting perhaps an apprenticeship to a London merchant, or a university degree, the younger sons never got anything substantial to prepare them to realize their dreams -- much less support a wife and family. They were evicted at the proper time to fend for themselves and the younger sons of younger sons were usually on their way to oblivion. The family historian now is hard put to trace them or their origins.

49 The staff at the at National Library of Wales were kind enough to see a microfilm of the calendar made for me.
KENTCHURCH COURT, 1989

[This article in the “Country House of the Month” series was published in Country Home and Interiors for March 1989. Alas, it has not been possible to reproduce here the lovely color photographs which accompanied the story. (WS)]

Kentchurch is a delightful oddity. It was originally a medieval Great Hall built to guard a stretch of the English-Welsh border, yet nothing is less intimidating than its pretty countenance, or more ambiguous than its secret position.

Tucked well down in beautiful undulating Herefordshire countryside, out of the way of any border skirmishes or hostilities, it is without doubt a blissful hideaway, and has been a family home to the Scudamores since around the fourteenth century. The Great Hall today bears little resemblance to its original design. Linked to the Terrace Room and circumventing dwellings by Nash at the turn of the nineteenth century, then extended with an entrance hall and front door by Thomas Tudor 20 years later, the Great Hall now sits squarely in the middle of a rambling country house, stately dining room and drawing room for John and Jan Scudamore. The rest of the house - added floors and annexed wings - is a rich mix of cozy sitting rooms, wood panelled corridors, basic utility rooms and grand, draughty bedrooms. The cellar is still damp from a drastic flood in 1959, and the attics are disused and forgotten.

Outside, flower and vegetable gardens extend in all directions with 4,000 acres of farmland beyond, 800 of them tended by John himself, the rest of the land either forested or let to tenants. It's a massive undertaking. And, as Jan is quick to point out, while John was born to it, she is still relatively new. “I took it on officially five years ago, unofficially ten. And give or take a few grey hairs, it's working out pretty well.”

“The first thing I gave up,” she reflects, “was any idea of living a normal family life. There are always lots of people around - maintaining the property, looking after the gardens, working on the farm, shooting, hunting, planting trees. John and I and the children are just a small part of it - nothing is private!”

And, sadly, nothing is cheap. “The day to day cost of living is fine. We're pretty self sufficient in vegetables and we eat all our own lamb, duck, deer and beef. It's upkeep that's the big drain on resources.”

To generate extra funds, they allow some of the land to be used for cross country riding practice, to enable young horses to be brought up to British Horse Society competition levels. Jan also serves “good plain cooking” at private parties held at Kentchurch by organisations like the local hunt or the land agent's office. And friends use the house for events in aid of charity: a fashion show in the Terrace Room was a recent example. On top of that, the local playgroup sometimes visits. Kentchurch operates on an “all or nothing basis.” The money raised helps prevent harsh cut-backs in family life.

“Thankfully, Johnnie has given up economy drives now. I think the worse time was in 1982, when we had 28 degrees of frost and he turned off the heating!” Coincidentally the boiler packed up. For seven months there was no heating or hot water. Still, Jan adds on a Positive note, “no central heating is good for the furniture, and I got fit chopping wood.”

No heating, apparently, is also good for bringing up children. Joss, five, and Rosanna, four, learned to walk surprisingly early. “The floors are so cold they got off their bottoms quicker than most children.”

Decoration is next on the agenda. Apart from a new colour scheme in the kitchen, the last time the house saw a paint brush was after the flood. In 1959, after a torrential downpour, a flash flood of thick, muddy water burst into the house through the kitchen, setting everything afloat, including the Aga, and sweeping away chairs, tables, books and paintings, leaving a trail of devastation and a chin-high flood mark on the dining room wall. John's mother, Lady Patricia, restored what she could “brilliantly” but there is still much that needs to be tackled.

Fortunately, the Scudamores agree their role at Kentchurch is to preserve the original style of the place. Any redecoration must be appropriate to the period, “be that medieval in one part or Regency in another”. The trick is to know what's what. “I've been busily swotting up on the history of Kentchurch since I met Johnnie,” confides Jan. “I even have an elaborate correspondence with a distant relation called Warren Skydmore, in the States, who sends me volumes of genealogical information.”
Not that there is much time for research. Organising the various events, including shoots with lunch in the dining room and tea in front of a roaring fire, even turning up as a beater on occasions, managing a family and taking a keen interest in agricultural issues, leaves precious little energy for anything else.

“It's as hectic as it sounds. Yet we're careful not to take on more and more just to prove we can cope we plan to enjoy our lot!”

For more information about cross country riding or shooting at Kentchurch telephone (0981) 240228

Captions to pictures (not copied here):

Main picture: the smoking room, converted from a former gun room about 30 years ago. The leatherbound books are part of a historical collection, some of which relate to the Scudamore family, some to local history.

Above: a glimpse of the croquet lawn

Main Picture: the dining room with portrait of Viscount Scudamore whose wife was found indulging in 'illegal exercises' with Lord Coningsby at Hampton Court. He is flanked by Grinling Gibbons carvings

Above left, the cloakroom

Below: the library. After the flood of 1959 an earlier Mrs Scudamore was found clinging to the top of a bookcase with her dog, Mucky Miky, bobbing beside her, accompanied by a stuffed ferret

Main picture: the drawing room. The sixteenth century Persian carpet was given to Johnnie’s great-great-great-great-grandfather, the first ambassador to Persia, and brought back to England wrapped round one of the Elgin marbles

Above: the hall