

Benjamin Smithin & Elizabeth Woodward – descendants (Stoulton)

Updated – November 2018

This document describes Benjamin Smithin (1791-1853) and Elizabeth Woodward and the descendants of their sons Benjamin (b.1821) and Joseph (b.1828).

See separate document for descendants of their son John.

There is only very limited information about those born after 1920.

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1. Benjamin Smithin & Elizabeth Woodward

Benjamin Smithin (1791-1853). Also Smithen. The son of Joseph and Margaret Ricketts. He was baptised on the 21st January 1791 in Birlingham.¹

Benjamin's father Joseph died in 1807.

Benjamin married Elizabeth Woodward (1796-1875), by licence, on the 5th December 1820 at Pershore, Holy Cross.²

There may be a mention of Benjamin in the following advertisement.³

Worcester Journal Thursday 5th May 1831

Lot 2. All that Cottage or Tenement, with the garden behind the same, situate near the Plough Inn, in Pershore aforesaid, now in the occupation of Richard Davis, together with a Capital Orchard, also well planted with choice Fruit Trees, heretofore two Orchards, containing by estimation 3 acres or thereabouts, part formerly belonging with the said Cottage and Garden to William Turner, and the other part to the Rev. Benjamin Smithin, and called Wincott's Orchard, and Hunt's Orchard, now occupied together by Mr. William Taylor, jun.

At the 1841 census Benjamin and Elizabeth were living and farming at Wadborough Farm, Wadborough.⁴

1841 Census

Wadborough Farm, Wadborough, Worcestershire

Benjamin Smithin, age 50, Farmer

Elizabeth Smithin, age 45

Benjamin Smithin, age 20

Mary Smithin, age 25

John Smithin, age 10

George Stanley, age 20, Ag. Lab

James Heley, age 15, Ag. Lab

Lucy Phelps, age 15, ?

Elizabeth Andrews, age 15, ?

Son Joseph, age 13, was at school in Hanley Castle. Elizabeth Andrews was possibly Joseph's future wife.

In 1843 Benjamin was involved in a petition to deter trespassers.⁵

Worcester Journal Thursday 24th August 1843

*We the undersigned, do hereby give Notice that all persons found sporting or trespassing over lands in our several occupations, situate in the Parishes of Stoulton, and Holy Cross, Pershore, will be prosecuted. August 19th 1843
... Benjamin Smithin*

Benjamin made a Will on the 21st February 1846.⁶

Will of Benjamin Smithin, 21st Feb 1846

This is the last will and Testament of Benjamin Smithin of Wadborough in the Parish of Holy Cross, Pershore, in the County of Worcester. First I will and direct that all my just debts funeral expenses and the costs and charges of proving this my Will be fully paid and satisfied.

Next I give and bequeath unto my Son-in-law William Thorneloe Horniblow of the Bow Farm in the Parish of Ripple in the said County of Worcester aforesaid, and my son Benjamin Smithin of Wadborough aforesaid, Yeoman, their Executors, administrators and assigns all my ready money, securities for money, household goods and furniture, plate, china, glass, linen, live and dead farming stock, crops, implements in husbandry, debts due and owing to me, and all other the rest and residue of my personal estate and effects whatsoever upon the several Trusts and to and for the ends, intents, and purposes and subject to the powers provisions and declarations hereinafter expressed and declared concerning the same (that is to say);

Upon Trust that they the said William Thorneloe Horniblow and Benjamin Smithin the younger or the survivor of them his executors or administrators do and shall collect and comprise all debts and sums of money due and owing or belonging to me at the time of my decease and after the payment of my just debts and funeral and testamentary expenses to permit and suffer my dear wife Elizabeth Smithin and her assigns to have hold receive take use and enjoy the interest dividends and annual produce or profits of the residue of my said personal estate and effects and every part thereof respectively from and immediately after my decease for and during the term of her natural life for her and their own use and benefit And from and immediately after her decease Upon trust absolutely to sell and dispose of such portion or parts of the same as shall not consist of money or debts either together or in parts and by public auction or private contract as they or he in their or his discretion shall think fit and proper to any person or persons whomsoever and for such price or prices in money that can be had or obtained for the same.

And Upon Trust to pay and divide the residue of the said trust monies unto and amongst my four children the said Benjamin Smithin and Mary Horniblow the wife of the said William Thorneloe Horniblow and Joseph Smithin and John Smithin share and share alike. The share of the said Benjamin Smithin and Mary Horniblow to be paid retained assigned or transferred to them respectively as soon as conveniently may be. And the shares of the said Joseph Smithin and John Smithin to be paid assigned or transferred to them respectively at their respective ages of twenty one years provided always that if the said Joseph Smithin and John Smithin or either of them shall depart this life without leaving issue before they or he shall attain that age then the share or shares as well original as also original or surviving of him or them so dying shall from time to time go accrue and belong to the survivor or survivors of my said four children and (if more than one) equally share and share alike and if but one then to that one and the same shall be paid assigned or transferred at such respective times to the survivor or survivors of them as hereinbefore expressed touching him and their original share and shares.

And Upon further Trust that they my said Trustees or Trustee for the time being do and shall by and out of the interest dividends and annual produce of the respective shares of the said Joseph Smithin and John Smithin pay for their maintenance and education and support until their respective shares shall become vested or payable, such yearly sum or sums of money as my said Trustees or Trustee shall think fit not exceeding in the whole for any one of them the interest or dividends of the share or shares of him or them respectively of and in the said Trust promises, and do and shall improve and accumulate the residue or surplus (if any) of the interest and dividends of the same share or shares together with the principal thereof and as part of the same.

Provided also and my will is that it shall and may be lawful for my said Trustees or Trustee for the time being with the consent and approbation in writing of my said wife during her lifetime and after her decease of their or his own proper authority to pay or apply any part of the share or respective shares of my said three sons of and in the said trust monies not exceeding one moiety or half part thereof respectively for the placing or appointing him or them in or to any profession trade business or employment or otherwise for his or their benefit or advancement in the world as to my said Trustees or Trustee shall seem meet, notwithstanding his or their share or shares shall not have become vested or payable and in case the said Joseph Smithin and John Smithin shall both happen to die before their respective shares of and in the said trust promises shall have become vested interest as aforesaid then Upon Trust to pay retain or assign or transfer the respective shares of the said Joseph Smithin and John Smithin unto and between my said son Benjamin Smithin and my said daughter Mary Horniblow equally share and share alike.

Benjamin's wife, Elizabeth Woodward 1796-1875, received the interest and benefits of the estate during her lifetime.

Benjamin was listed as a farmer in Kelly's directory of 1850.⁷ *Walcot - Benjamin Smithen Sn. Farmer of Wadborough*

At the 1851 census Benjamin was a farmer of 500 acres at Wadborough House, Wadborough, employing 20 labourers.⁸

1851 Census

Wadborough House, Wadborough, Worcestershire

Benjamin Smithin, head, married, age 60, Farmer 500 acres employing 20 labourers, born Birlingham

Elizabeth Smithin, wife, married, age 55, Farmer's wife, born Wadborough

Joseph Smithin, son, age 23, unmarried, born Wadborough

Kezia Harris, House servant, age 21, born Norton

Esther Harris, servant, age 16, born Feckenham

Joseph Smith, servant, unmarried, age 22, Farm labourer, born Fladbury

William Clark, servant, unmarried, age 16, Farm labourer, born Wadborough

Kezia Harris and Esther Harris are possibly relatives of Benjamin's daughter in law Harriet.

Benjamin died from a sudden stroke in February 1853.^{9 10}

Worcester Journal Thursday 3rd February 1853

Pershore. Sudden Death. We regret to have to record in our obituary of this week the sudden demise of Mr. Benjamin Smithin, an old and highly respected inhabitant to the parish of Wadborough. Mr. Smithin, on the day of his death, which took place on Wednesday last, ate a hearty dinner, at his usual time of day, and after smoking his pipe went to see his wool weighed at his other farm. When the job was nearly completed, some rats were discovered, and general hunt ensued, during which Mr. Smithin, whilst striking at one of the vermin, suddenly became unwell. He was immediately taken home, and surgical aid called in, but he expired in about three hours after the attack. His medical attendant was of the opinion that death was caused by an attack of apoplexy; and a certificate to that effect having been sent to the Coroner, and inquest was deemed unnecessary.

His executor was Elizabeth Horniblow (probably his niece).¹¹

At the 1861 census Elizabeth was living in Stoulton.¹²

1861 Census

Stoulton Village, Worcestershire

Elizabeth Smithin, Head, Widow, age 61, Landholder, born Pershore

Mary Woodward, Boarder, Widow, age 56, Assistant, born Eckington

Mary Ewins, Servant, age 14, General servant, born Pershore

At the 1871 census Elizabeth was living at 'The Farm' Stoulton.¹³

*Elizabeth Smithin, Head, widow, age 75, annuitant, born Pershore Holy Cross
Hannah Stanley, Servant, unmarried, age 15, General servant / domestic, born Stoulton*

Elizabeth was listed in a trade directory as a resident of Stoulton in 1873.¹⁴

Elizabeth died, aged 79, in 1875; registered at Pershore in the March quarter.¹⁵ There is a memorial in the Abbey (Persore Holy Cross) churchyard.¹⁶

*In Memory of Elizabeth Smithin of Stoulton
Relict of Benjamin Smithin
Who died at Wadborough
March 1st 1875, age 79 years*

*The path of the just is as the shining light
That shineth more and more unto the perfect day.¹⁷*

2. Benjamin Smithin & Olivia Phipps – descendants

Benjamin Smithin (1821-1905). The son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Woodward. He was christened at Stoulton on the 11th May 1821.¹⁸

At the 1841 census, age 20, he was living at home at Wadborough farm.

Benjamin married Olivia Phipps at St. John the Baptist, Crowle (near Droitwich) on the 17th May 1849; registered at Droitwich in the June quarter. Olivia, 'of full age' was living at Crowle; her father was Samuel Phipps a farmer. Benjamin was described as a Farmer, residence Sheriff's Lench. The witnesses were Elizabeth Phipps and William Sergeant.^{19 20}

At the 1851 census (March) they were living at Church Lench.²¹

1851 Census

*Church Lench, Evesham and Pershore Road
Benjamin Smithin, Head, married, age 29, Farmer 580 acres employing 16 labourers, born
Wadborough
Olivia Smithin, Wife, married, age 25, Farmer's wife, born Fladbury
Sarah Forrester, Servant, unmarried, age 22, House servant, born Wadborough
Thomas Holyoake, Servant, unmarried, age 19, Farm labourer, born Badsey*

They were tenants in the Manor House and Farm at Sherriff's Lench in the parish of Church Lench (known as Manor farm) originally owned by the Dinley family since the Middle ages; the manor was sold in various lots in 1806.²² Not to be confused with 'Sherriff's Lench Farm'; Benjamin was also a tenant at this farm later.²³

... Benjamin Smithin took the farm from the Winnalls in 1846, and after many years left Sherriff's Lench, for a time living at Dumbleton. He returned to his original farm in the early 'eighties, and spent his last days there. His sons gave up the farm in 1906, since when my son, J.C. Bomford, has farmed it...

Benjamin owned 20 horses.²⁴

*In the 'forties the numbers [of horses], as I remember them were as follows:-
Sheriff's Lench: Benj. Smithin --- 20*

We get a glimpse of Benjamin in the following story.²⁵

In my early days letters were not delivered by a postman at Sheriff's Lench, but they were sent to Norton on certain days to Shoemaker Stanton's house, which stood not far from the church: there

was a yew-tree in the garden. Stanton had the post office, and was responsible for seeing that letters got to their proper destinations. For many years 'Teddy' New walked from Evesham and carried the letters to Stanton's. On a Tuesday someone was sent from Sheriff's Lench to fetch the letters from Norton because that was the day when 'Bell's Weekly Messenger' arrived. It often fell to my lot to do this just at one period. My father always read the paper first, and then Mr. Smithin saw it. Later a daily post was delivered.

In 1851 Benjamin acted as an Executor of the Will of his uncle Joseph Smithin (1789-1851) at Birlingham.²⁶

Benjamin was listed as a Farmer at Sheriff's Lench in Kelly's directory of 1860.²⁷

At the 1861 census they were still living and farming at Church Lench.²⁸

1861 Census

Pershore Road, Church Lench, Worcestershire

Benjamin Smithin, Head, married, age 39, Farmer of 580 acres, 8 men and 3 boys, born Pershore

Olivia Smithin, Wife, married, age 33, born Fladbury

Olivia M Smithin, Daughter, age 9, Scholar, born Church Lench

Samuel P Smithin, Son, age 5, born Church Lench

Emma F Smithin, Daughter, age 3, born Church Lench

Benjamin A Smithin, Son, age 2, born Church Lench

Martin Smithin, Son, age 1, born Church Lench

?, Governess, age 22, unmarried, Teacher, born Worcester

Anne Turbeville, Servant, unmarried, age 17, Housemaid, born Brighton

Mary ?, Servant, unmarried, age 31, Cook, born ?

On the 2nd December 1862 Benjamin made an agreement with his brothers to take control of their brother John's farm as he was too ill to continue.²⁹

It was probably Benjamin who was mentioned in the British Farmer's Magazine in 1863.³⁰

Mr. Smithin proposed Mr. Randell's health, which [was] warmly received.

In 1864 Benjamin acted as an executor for the will of William Robert Smith.³¹

Worcestershire Chronicle. Wednesday 16th November 1864

Notice to Debtors and Creditors

All Persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the late William Robert Smith, of Rushford, in the Parish of Salford, in the County of Warwick, Farmer and Seedsman, are requested forthwith to send particulars thereof to the undersigned, that the same may be examined, and, if correct, discharged; and all Persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to pay the amount of such debts to us within twenty one days from this date.

Benjamin Bomford, Pitchill, near Evesham

Benjamin Smithin, Sheriff's Lench, near Evesham

November 8th, 1864

In 1865 Benjamin acted as an expert witness in a court case between the Evesham and Redditch Railway Company and some landowners.³²

A carter named John Badger employed by Benjamin was killed in an accident in April 1865.³³

Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 12th April 1865

Fatal Accident

On Thursday last, as a man named John Badger, in the employ of Mr. Benj. Smithin of Sheriff's Lench, was engaged with a horse and cart in hauling stone, the horse suddenly became restive and ran away. Badger held on to the shaft for some distance, but was ultimately knocked down, and the cart going over his body, killed him upon the spot. Deceased was upwards of 60 years old.

Benjamin was a witness in a bizarre case before the magistrates involving a scuffle in the church at Church Lench. There were clearly tensions between those who were in favour of the old tradition of paid and allocated pews and those who believed in unallocated seating in church.³⁴

Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 8th May 1867

The unseemly Disturbance in Church Lench Church. Magisterial Investigation

... Mr. Benjamin Smithin, of Sheriff's Lench, said: I was churchwarden for the parish of Church Lench in 1856. When the church was restored Mr. Tovey was a subscriber.

Mr. Bentley: This must be taken under objection. I have admitted that Miss Masters was legally in the pew and I shall contend that we were legally in the pew and I shall dispute the assault. The subscriptions have nothing at all to do with the case. I shall not object again.

The Rev. Chairman: I think it right to be clear on the question of allotment.

Mr. New: I contend that there was a most unwarrantable interference. There was no assertion of right, and the parties have not common ground there.

The Rev. Chairman: I think we should have the evidence clear as to whether pews or seats were allotted.

Witness, continuing: I allotted the seats in the year 1856 and I did so with the concurrence of the late Mr. Tovey. I allotted the fourth seat from the chancel to Mr. Thomas Yardington Tovey – the whole of the pew. The Tovey family have occupied the whole of the sitting. There has not been any alteration in the allotment of seats in Church Lench since. The first seat in the aisle was allotted to the rector, and his servants occupied it for years. The seats were very narrow, and it was not possible for any person to pass without jostling. I never allowed a lady to pass me without getting up and going out of the pew.

By the Chairman: I do not know if leave was given to Mrs. Leaver to sit in the seat. I was not churchwarden at that time.

By Mr. New: I was in my pew on the 7th of April. My pew is directly opposite Mr. Tovey's. Miss Archer and Sarah Masters were in the pew. I saw Amos Brooks in the church, and saw him attempt to rudely force himself into Mr. Tovey's seat, and he got in. I did not notice who was sitting in the seat behind, and cannot say how many were in that seat.

I noticed the seat in front of Mr. Tovey's and saw there was no one in it. The seat allotted to Mr. Amphlett was occupied that morning by three men. They are the singers. The singers were not Mr. Amphlett's servants.

Cross examined: I do not know how long the singers have occupied the seat that was allotted to Mr. Amphlett – not for years, but it might be for months.

The Chairman: Where did the Rev. Mr. Amphlett's servants usually sit when the seat was occupied by the singers?

Witness: In the free sittings.

The Chairman: You had a complete view of what Brooks did to Masters?

Witness: I was sat opposite and saw it all.

The Rev. F.G. Faussett: Did he ask for admission?

Witness: I did not hear him

The Rev. F.G. Faussett: Was his ingress resisted?

Witness: I should think slightly so.

Mr. Workman: How many persons can the seat hold?

Witness: Four

This was the case for the complainant ...

Benjamin attended a stock sale in 1867.³⁵

Dumbleton Ram Sale

Mr. Benjamin Smithin called upon the company present to drink the health of their worthy host, which needed but few words to commend itself as a toast to their consideration. As an agriculturist and country gentleman he stood pre-eminent; and he wished that every landed proprietor would copy his example. He felt that every one must appreciate the kind hospitality with which he met them on all occasions. He would therefore call upon them to drink the health of Mr. Holland, wishing that he might have a good and profitable sale.

Benjamin took an active part in the formation of a 'Chamber of Agriculture for Worcestershire' in 1867; this later became the Royal Agricultural Society of Worcester.

A meeting at the Crown Hotel, Worcester, in May 1867 considered a proposal to form a Chamber of Agriculture for Worcestershire "to watch over all measures affecting the agricultural interests, both in and out of Parliament; to cooperate with the Central Chamber of Agriculture thereon and take such action for the benefit of agriculture as may seem desirable, also to discuss any subject, whether of a local or general nature, bearing on agriculture which shall be approved by the Council". Another meeting later in the month presided over by George Whitaker Caldwell through resolutions proposed and supported by, Joseph Woodward, Birlingham; B Smithin, Sheriffs Lench; T Trinder, Sandlin and John Lett Rushcock, approved the contribution and appointed J Blick, Droitwich, as Secretary.

It is probably Benjamin who was present at a meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture in London in 1868.³⁶

Central Chamber of Agriculture. A council meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture was held yesterday, at the Pall-mall Restuarant. Those present. B Smithin (Worcestershire)

The Chamber by 1870 had more than 500 members.³⁷

At the 1871 census Benjamin and Olivia were farming at Dumbleton (near Evesham).³⁸

1871 Census

Farm House, Dumbleton, Gloucestershire

Benjamin Smithin, Head, married, age 49, Farmer 960 acres, Employing 25 men, 11 lads and four women, born Pershore

Olivia Smithin, Wife, married, age 45, Farmers wife, born Fladbury, Worcestershire

Eliza Collins, servant, unmarried, age 18, Cook and Dairy maid, born Wyre Piddle, Worcestershire

Sarah Read, servant, unmarried, age 17, Housemaid, born Eshall Warwickshire

Benjamin is listed on the return of owner's of land for 1873.³⁹

Smithin, Benjamin, Dumbleton. 148 acres. Estimated rental. £821 1s

Benjamin was mentioned in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural society in 1873.⁴⁰

A sample of seed cake was sent by Mr B. Smithin, Dumbleton who wrote on the 25th July, 1872:-
'Dear sir, - I send by this post a sample of oil-cake, which I wish you to analyse. I have been giving it to rearing calves and have lost five, and think there must be something wrong with the cake.'

Benjamin took part in a meeting in Pershore Town Hall in April 1876.

The question of giving drink in part payment of wages

A very important meeting of agriculturists was held at the Town Hall, on Monday evening to consider the evils arising from the part payment of wages in drink ... Mr B. Smithin, the well known agriculturist, of Dumbleton, proposed:-

'That, in the opinion of this meeting, the system of giving drink to labourers as part of their wages is the source of much evil, and frequently leads to habits of intemperance, and that it is the duty of all employers of labour to use their efforts to check this system, even if under existing circumstances, they may feel themselves unable at once to abolish it.'

Mr. Smithin said that the practice of giving cider and beer to labourers led to more mischief and disagreements than anything else on farms, and he should only be too pleased to give even more than the equivalent for drink in wages.

Benjamin was fined in London in December 1876 for sending bad meat to the London market.⁴¹

Charge against an Agriculturist

At the Guildhall Police Court, London, on Friday, before Alderman Figgins. Mr B Smithin, of Dumbleton, was summoned for sending four quarters of beef to the London market for sale as human food, the same being unfit for the food of man. When the case was called on the Alderman asked Mr Smithin if he had professional assistance. Mr Smithin replied that he was so conscious of his innocence in the matter that he thought it would be sufficient for him to state the circumstances. Mr. Baylis, the solicitor to the Commissioners of Sewers, appeared in support of the summons, and said that the beef which had been sent to Mr Sutton, a salesman in the Central Meat market. When the inspector saw the defendant he said that some time ago the animal met with an accident, and was taken to a stall and fed upon oil-cake. One drench was given to it by his son a week before it was killed. On the morning on which it was slaughtered the defendant's man found the ox down in the stall choking, and sent for the bailiff, who procured a knife and cut its throat. He then sent to a butcher named Cook to have it dressed. The next morning the defendant saw it with the butcher Cook, who said there was no disease in the meat, and that it was fit to come to the London market. Upon that they agreed that Cook should send it to his salesman.

In defence Mr Smithin said that this was only the second beast that he had killed during the whole course of his life, and if there had been the slightest doubt about its quality expressed by Cook, he would not have had it sent to London. In the other case there was a doubt expressed about it, and he at once had it destroyed. In this case the animal dislocated its shoulder, was brought into the stalls. According to what his man told him it was found with its head under the stall, and the man thought it had dislocated its neck. He thereupon killed it, and went to the butcher. On being told of this by his man, he (Mr Smithin) said he would see Cook in the morning, and ask what he should do with the beast. He saw Cook, who said there was no disease, that it was fit for market, and that he would send it to his salesman in London. He further said he did not know how to get it to Evesham, as he had no horse to go in harness. Mr Smithin told him that his son was going into Evesham, and would take it for him to the station, which was done. Mr Smithin added that, knowing nothing about dead meat, he relied entirely upon the butcher. Cook was called as a witness. Ald. Figgins said it was proved that there was no disease, but the meat was of such doubtful character that the butcher ought not to have recommended it to be sent. It was considered necessary in these cases to impose a somewhat heavy penalty, and therefore he felt he could not fine the defendant less than £20. He considered that Cook was very much to blame for the advice he gave, and declined to allow him any expenses.

Benjamin was a director of the Worcester City and County Bank for many years. The bank was eventually absorbed into Lloyds bank in 1889. He was listed as a director in the following years.^{42 43}

44 45 46 47

Banking magazine 1869, Worcestershire Chronicle: August 1878, August 1879, August 1881, August 1883, August 1884, August 1885.

At the annual meeting in August 1881 Benjamin explained his role to shareholders.

Mr. Smithin, on behalf of Mr. Adams and himself, thanked the meeting for re-electing them as directors. He could assure them, he said, that in the past they had done everything they could for the interests of shareholders. They had seldom, if ever, been absent from their posts. He hoped the shareholders would render the directors all the assistance they could, and however little was the assistance thus rendered, it would be thankfully received. He would promise this, that the directors would do all they could to promote the interests of the bank.

Mr. Benjamin Smithin, in seconding the adoption of the report, said that the depression in agriculture during the past seven years had been unprecedented, and he was astonished that the directors had been able to present so good a report. He thought agriculturists were now on the even of the best harvest since 1870 (Hear, hear). He would not say it would be the largest in bulk, but the quality was very good indeed. He hoped that this season was only the forerunner of a more prosperous time for the practical agriculturists. Until the late depression people would not believe that they were so dependent upon agriculture, but they knew better now. The report was adopted.

Benjamin acted as an expert witness in a court case at the Worcester Assizes in July 1879.⁴⁸

Worcestershire Summer Assizes Berkeley v Gerrard

The Rev. W.N. Berkeley brought an action against Richard Gerrard. The claim was for damages sustained by the plaintiff by reason of the bad farming of the defendant in violation of a covenant dated April 24th 1873. Mr. Matthews Q.C., and Mr. Jelf were for the plaintiffs. The case was undefended. Counsel for the plaintiff stated that Mr. Berkeley let the farm to the defendant on the day stated with a Lady Day tenancy. Among the covenants of the lease were the usual ones to scour the ditches and keep the land in a proper state, but in consequence of his neglect Plaintiff gave him notice to quit. Everything was in a bad condition – hedges, ditches, &c. Straw had been taken off the land and manure not spread, &c. Edwin Clark, waggoner, said he was carter to Mr. Gerrard, and used to cart away hay and straw from the farm. He might have carted away twenty four tons during five years he was on the farm. He brought back only some fifteen tons of manure, but he never spread any of it on the arable land. A little was spread in the hop yard perhaps four or five tons. Benjamin Smithin stated that he had examined the farm, and had estimated the damages Mr. Gerrard should pay under the covenants of the lease. The fallows was 44-1/2 acres in excess of the ordinary average fallow. £62 5s. would be the charge thereby occasioned. There would also be the excess of fallow next year to the amount of £50 12s. 6d. £18 7s. 6d. was the loss on account of the manure not being spread. He would put down £20 for neglect of weeding and hoeing. The total was £295 16s. The jury returned a verdict for the full amount claimed.

At the 1881 census Benjamin was farming 138 acres at Cullabine Farm, Dumbleton, Gloucestershire.⁴⁹

1881 Census - Cullabine Farm Dumbleton

*Smithin Benjamin, age 59, Farmer of 138 acres, born Pershore Holy Cross, Head of household
Smithin Benjamin A, age 23, Farmer's son, born Church Lench, son of Benjamin Smithin
Smithin Emma T, age 24, Farmer's daughter, born Church Lench, daughter of Benjamin Smithin
Smithin Olivia M, age 27, Farmer's daughter, born Church Lench, daughter of Benjamin Smithin
Smithin Samuel P, age 25, Farmer's son, born Church Lench, son of Benjamin Smithin
Esther Gardiner, age 15, housemaid domestic, born Church Lench, servant to Benjamin Smithin
Mary Woodward, age 26, cook domestic, born Wormington Gloucs, servant to Benjamin Smithin*

Olivia, aged 55, was away visiting her sister Elizabeth Smith in Salford Priors.⁵⁰

Benjamin was mentioned in an article in Economic Geography in 1949, "High Farming" in the West Midland Counties 1840-1880.⁵¹

Benjamin was involved in a Court case in October 1887.⁵²

Worcester County Petty Sessions. Evesham. Stealing Eggs.

Francis Jobson, blacksmith, Church Lench, was charged on the information of Mr. Benjamin Smithen farmer, Church Lench, with stealing nine eggs value 7d., on September 16th. Defendant, who was at the time in the Complainant's service, admitted the theft and Mr. Smithen said he did not want to press the charge, his only object being to prevent this kind of pilfering, that was constantly going on. Fined £1 7s. costs incl. 7d, the value of the eggs, the Chairman remarking that the penalty was a heavy one because the Bench desired to protect property like eggs which were very liable to be stolen.

Benjamin was involved in another court case in November 1888.⁵³

No Gun Licence

Cornwall Wilkins, groom, Sheriff's Lench, was summoned by Mr. George Sleath, Supervisor of Inland Revenue, for carrying a gun without a licence at Church Lench, on August 23rd. P.C. Hooper deposed to meeting the defendant carrying a loaded gun, which he told witness he was bringing from Fladbury. Defendant now stated that he had been employed by Mr. Smithin to shoot rats in his barn, and was not aware that he required a licence for that purpose. The Chairman said it would alter the case if Mr. Smithin had a licence, and the Supervisor said defendant would not have been summoned if he had. The officer further stated that Mr. Smithin had been asked if he had authorised defendant to shoot rats on this day, but he had not given a definite answer. Fined 10s and 8s 6d costs.

Benjamin was listed in Kelly's directories of 1892, 1898, 1900 and 1904 as a Farmer at Sherriff's Lench.⁵⁴

Sheriff's Lench - Benjamin Smithin farmer

1892 - Eckington. William Hanford Flood esq. D.L. J.P. who is the Lord of the Manor, Mr Benjamin Smithin of Sheriff's Lench, Elijah Snowsell, and Richard Allen esq. area the principal landowners.

In 1890 Benjamin provided a statement for the wife of his cousin Joseph Smithin confirming Joseph's ownership of some land in Birlingham; this was when the Smithin Estate in Birlingham was being sold due to debts.⁵⁵

I Benjamin Smithin of Sheriff's Lench in the County of Worcester, Farmer, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

That I am 69 years of age and the eldest son of Benjamin Smithin late of Wadborough in the County of Worcester, Farmer who was a brother of Joseph Smithin late of Birlingham in the Country of Worcestser, Farmer, the father of the late Joseph Smithin also of Birlingham aforesaid under whose will the pieces or parcels of land called respectively Berwick Orchard, Longford Close, and Withy Walk situate at Birlingham aforesaid have recently been sold to the Trustees for the purposes of the Settled Land Act 1882, of the will of Robert Woodward Esquire, deceased.

That I have been well acquainted with the said pieces or parcel of land since my earliest recollection.

And that during such period they have been the property of or been in the possession of Joseph Smithin the Father, Joseph Smithin the son, and Charlotte Smithin successively namely of the said Joseph Smithin the father from my earliest recollection to the time of his death in the year 18-- of the said Joseph Smithin the son from that period to the time of his death in the year 1875 and of the said Charlotte Smithin from that period up to the present time.

And that such respective persons have during such respective periods as I verily believe from my knowledge of the property been in the free and undisputed possession and enjoyment or receipt of the rents and profits of the said pieces or parcels aforesaid.

And I have never heard of any title or claim being set up to the possession of the said pieces or parcels of land or the rents and profits thereof adverse to the said Joseph Smithin the father, Joseph Smithin the son, or Charlotte Smithin or any other of them.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be by virtue of the Statutory Declaration Action 1835.

Benjamin sent a letter to Joseph's solicitor.

*Sheriff's Lench, November 13th 1890
To Mr L Martin Esq.*

Dear Martin,

I make no charge for valuations of Birlingham, the property bought of Revd. Luden 1829 is too long ago for me to be able to give any information about it.

*Very Truly Yours
B Smithin*

Olivia died, aged 65, at Church Lench on the 15th March 1891; registered at Evesham.⁵⁶ She was buried at All Saints, Church Lench on the 19th March 1891.⁵⁷

This was reported in the local paper.⁵⁸

Deaths

Smithin. March 15, at Manor House, Sheriff's Lench, Evesham, Olivia, wife of Benjamin Smithin, aged 65 years.

There is an entry in the National Probate Calendar.⁵⁹

Smithin Olivia of Sheriffs Lench near Evesham Worcestershire (wife of Benjamin Smithin) died 15 March 1891. Administration Worcester 18 January to the said Benjamin Smithin farmer. Effects £810

Around this time Benjamin returned as a tenant to Manor farm and was also farming at Sherriff's Lench farm.

At the 1891 census Benjamin was living at the Manor House, Church Lench.⁶⁰

*Benjamin Smithin, Head, Widower, Farmer, age 69, born Pershore
Samuel P Smithin, Son, age 34, born Sherriff's Lench
Eleanor Tovey, Housekeeper, age 20, born Church Lench
Jane Halling, Servant, age 20, Domestic Servant, born Gloucestershire*

The farm at Sherrif's Lench was called Manor Farm. An obituary of one his sons briefly describes Benjamin.

The deceased was the second son of the late Mr Benjamin Smithin of Sherriff's Lench, one of the largest and most prominent agriculturists in the county, who farmed between 600 and 700 acres of land in the Lenches and at Dumbleton, and who for many years was Vice President of the Worcestershire Board of Agriculture.

Benjamin made a presentation to the Duke of Orleans at Wood Norton to celebrate his marriage. Benjamin was tenant of part of the Wood Norton estate which the Duke of Orleans owned (a descendant of the last King of France).⁶¹ This was a notable event at the time and known locally as the 'Royal wedding'.

Presentation to the Duke of Orleans

On Monday a deputation representing the tenantry of Wood Norton and Bishampton estates presented the Duke of Orleans with a silver cup and a book containing the subscribers' names, on the occasion of his marriage. In returning thanks the Duke said that he was sorry that the Duchess was too unwell to be present. Mr. C.H. Smith, agent for the estate, introduced Mr. Benjamin Smithin, of Sheriff's Lench, as the oldest farm tenant, and Mr. W.A. Fisher, of Evesham, as the representative of the market gardeners, and Mr. Smithin presented the gift.

The Duc d'Aumale has purchased York House, Twickenham for £14,000, and presented it as a marriage gift to the Duc and Duchess d'Orleans, who are now residing at Wood Norton, Evesham. The Duc d'Orleans visited the Queen at Windsor Castle on Tuesday afternoon.

Presentation to the Duke and Duchess of Orleans

The marriage gift of the tenants on the Wood Norton and Bishampton estates to the Duke and Duchess of Orleans was presented to the Duke at Wood Norton on Sunday afternoon. As before stated the present consisted of a very handsome three-handled loving cup, supplied by Messrs. Ward and Son, of Evesham and Pershore. The deputation appointed to make the presentation consisted of Mr Benjamin Smith(in) of Sheriff's Lench, the oldest farm tenant, and Mr., W A Fisher, of Evesham, who represented the market gardeners. The deputation was introduced by Mr C H Smith, the estate agent. Mr Smithin said they had the honour and great pleasure of presenting that loving cup on behalf of the Wood Norton and Bishampton tenants as a slight token of the good wishes of all the tenants towards their Royal Highnesses on the occasion of their marriage. It was small in intrinsic value, but he hoped their Highnesses might be spared to look upon it as a memento of the good feeling which had always existed between HRH the Duc D'Aumale and the tenants on his Worcestershire estates. Long might that good feeling continue, and might it descend from generation to generation until the end of all time. He was sure he was only expressing the good wishes of every individual included in the list of 207 subscribers when he said that they wished the Duke and his good Duchess every blessing which this earth could bestow – health, happiness, and good fortune, and that they might long live to visit Wood Norton and there enjoy the sports of the field. Mr Smithin then handed the cup and a book containing the names of the subscribers to the Duke, who replied as follows:-

Thank you. It is a very nice cup. I like it very much. Please thank all the subscribers for me. I will send each of them a photograph. The duchess is very sorry she can't be here. She is unwell. When she is better she will drive round and see all our friends. The deputation then withdrew.

We may add that the Duke of Orleans appeared to be very much pleased with the gift, and with the evidence of good feeling shewn by the tenants.

We are informed that he appreciates very much the efforts of the tenants to preserve the game for him. He has enjoyed splendid sport upon the occasion of this visit, and one day over 1,000 head of pheasants were shot. Some new covers for partridges are being laid out at Bishampton.

Benjamin was mentioned in a notice about a land sale.⁶²

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 6th June 1896

City of Worcester

Lot 5. Two messuages, Nos. 1 and 2. Lion Row, at the rear fo Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester, held for the life of Benjamin Smithin, now aged 75 years or thereabouts, to Edward Crump and Richard Barker, at weekly rate amounting to £18 4s. per annum, landlords, paying rates.

Benjamin made a Will on the 23rd March 1897. His two sons were appointed as Executors and there were legacies for his daughters, £2,700 to Olivia Marian Smithin and £2,200 to Emma Florence Smithin. The two legacies came into effect on the 11th June 1913 and the 12th October 1918 respectively.

Benjamin was described in Kelly's directory in 1900 as a principal landowner in Eckington

At the 1901 census Benjamin was still living at Manor House, Sheriff's Lench with the family.⁶³

*Benjamin Smithin, head, widower, aged 79, born Pershore, Farmer
Samuel Phipps Smithin, son, single, aged 45, born Church Lench, Farmer's son
Benjamin Abell Smithin, son, single aged 43, born Church Lench, Farmer's son
Olivia Marianne Smithin, daughter, aged 47, single, born Church Lench
Eleanor Tovey, Housekeeper, aged 38, single, born Church Lench, Housekeeper Domestic
Ellen Booth, servant, aged 18, single, born Dormston, single*

Benjamin died on the 21st January 1905.⁶⁴ There is a memorial in Church Lench.

*In Loving Memory of
Benjamin Smithin
of Sheriff's Lench
who died Jan 21st 1905 aged 83 years
also Olivia
wife of the above
who died March 15th 1891
aged 65*

*Come unto me, all ye that labour
and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.*⁶⁵

There were reports on his estate in a local papers.⁶⁶

Gloucester Citizen, Saturday 25th March 1905

Mr. Benjamin Smithin, of the Manor House, Sheriff's Lench, Evesham, farmer, left estate of the gross value of £13, 541, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £5, 312. Probate of his will has been granted to his sons, Mr Samuel Phipps Smithin and Mr Benjamin Abel Smithin, farmers, both of Sheriffs Lench, Evesham. The testator left the whole of his estate to his sons in equal shares absolutely, subject to the payment of a legacy of £2,700 to his daughter Olivia Marian Smithin and one of £2,200 to his daughter Emma Florence Smithin.

Gloucestershire Echo 25 March 1905

Mr. Benjamin Smithin, of the Manor House, Sheriffs Lench, Evesham, farmer, formerly of Dumbleton, and at one time chairman of the Winchcombe Board of Guardians, who died on the 21st January last, aged 83 years, left estate of the gross value of £13,541, of which the net personally has been sworn at £5,512. Probate of his will, which bears date March 23, 1897, has been granted to his sons, Mr. Samuel Phipps Smithin and Mr. Benjamine Abel Smithin, farmers, both of Sherriffs Lench, Evesham. The testator left the whole of his estate to his sons in equal shares absolutely, subject to the payment of a legacy of £2,700 to his daughter Olivia Marian Smithin and one of £2,200 to his daughter Emma Florence Smith.

Probate was granted to his sons Samuel Phipps Smithin and Benjamin Abel Smithin farmers. Effects £13,541 3s 1d.⁶⁷

Manor house and Manor farm

It seems as these refer to the same place.

Joseph Comely Bomford married Mary Fowler in 1908 and they lived in this house. It was rented from Mr. Chafey from 1906-1919 and afterwards purchased by the Bomford family. Previous owners included a Mr. Stokes in the 18th century, a Mr. Postin was later a tenant, as was Mr. Benjamin Smithin in 1848.

The house was owned by the Rev. William Chafey.

In 1833 the farm was bought by the Rev. William Chafey, Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, who is reputed to have bought the farm at a sale in London without ever having seen the

property. The farm later passed to his grandson, the Rev. W. K. Chafey, who became Rector of Rous Lench in 1881.

Olivia Smithin (1851-1917). Olivia Marianne (or Maria M). The daughter of Benjamin and Olivia. She was born at Church Lench in 1851; registered in the September quarter.⁶⁸

At the 1861 census, age 9, Olivia was living at home in Church Lench.

At the 1871 census Olivia was living at Crophorne, Worcestershire in the household of Charles and Ellen Abell. She was listed as Maria M and was described as their cousin, aged 19, unmarried. Charles was a farmer of 406 acres in Crophorne.⁶⁹ Olivia's brother was named Benjamin Abel which is another link to the Abells. Ellen Abell, aged 44, Charles' wife, was possibly Olivia's Aunt and originally Ellen Phipps.

At the 1881 census aged 27 Olivia was living at home at Cullabine Farm, Dumbleton.

At the 1891 census she was staying with her sister Emma and her family in Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire.

At the 1901 census, age 47, Olivia was living at home at the Manor House, Church Lench

Olivia received a legacy on the 11th June 1913 of £2,700 from her father's Will (he had died in 1905).

Olivia died in 1917 at Keynsham (near Bristol); registered in the December quarter.^{70 71}

Olivia Marianne Smithin of Eckington Worcestershire spinster died 4 December 1917 at the Nursing Home Brislington Gloucestershire. Administration Worcester 6 February to Samuel Phipps Smithin gentleman. Effects, £6263 3s. 6d.

Kate Smithin (1853-1854). Kate Elizabeth. The daughter of Benjamin and Olivia. She was born in 1853; registered at Evesham in the June quarter.⁷² She died aged 13 months in 1854.⁷³ There is a memorial at Sheriff's Lench.⁷⁴

*Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven
Kate Elizabeth
Second daughter of
Benjamin & Olivia Smithin
died April 5th 1854 aged 13 months*

Samuel Smithin (1855-1934). Samuel Phipps. The son of Benjamin and Olivia. He was born at Church Lench in 1855.⁷⁵

At the 1861 census, age 5, he was at home in Church Lench.

He attended Malvern College from 1869 to 1872.⁷⁶

*In School House 4 with the Revd. Estridge
Smithin Samuel Phipps 1869-1872
son of B Smithin, Dumbleton, Evesham, b. 1855
II - Modern II*

At the 1871 census, age 15, he was boarding at the College.⁷⁷

4 College Grounds, Great Malvern
Samuel Smithin, pupil, age 15, scholar, born Worcestershire, Church Lench

Samuel worked on the family farms with his father and brother.

At the 1881 census, aged 25, he was living at Cullabine Farm, Dumbleton.

Samuel was a skilled wood carver and exhibited at the Worcestershire Exhibition (in Worcester) in 1882; possibly a stencil decoration.⁷⁸

At the 1891 census, aged 34, he was living at Manor House, Church Lench

At the 1901 census, aged 45, he was living at Manor House, Church Lench.

Samuel married Eleanor Nora Tovey on the 7th October 1905, at Church Lench.⁷⁹ There is a silver plated cruet presented to them by the 'work people' of Sherriff's Lench for their wedding.⁸⁰

*Presented to
Mr Samuel Phipps Smithin
and Miss Eleanor Nora Tovey
by the Sheriff Lench work people
on the occasion of their marriage 1905*

Eleanor had been their Housekeeper since 1891; she was born in Church Lench in about 1871. Her father was Thomas Tovey a farmer in Church Lench.

In about 1906 Samuel and Benjamin sold some land in Eckington.⁸¹

Conveyance involving SP Smithin and BA Smithin

This is a document which conveys two pieces of land in Eckington called Long Ground to Mr John William Browne for the sum of £515.

*Samuel Phipps Smithin of the Parish of Eckington, farmer
Benjamin Abel Smithin of the Parish of Eckington, farmer*

They hold the land as tenants in common and each receive half of the £515

The document mentions the will of their father, Benjamin Smithin, made on 23 March 1897. The two sons were appointed as Executors. There were two legacies for the daughters. £2700 to Olivia Marian Smithin and £2200 to Emma Florence Smithin. Benjamin died on 21st January 1905. The two legacies came into effect on 11 June 1913 and 12 October 1918 respectively.

Earlier they had sold land in Eckington (next to this land) called Top Piece to William Bateman.

Eleanor was a member of Worcestershire Naturalists' Club in 1907.⁸²

... and Mrs. S. Phipps Smithin entertained the members to a very welcome cup of tea, and after the President had expressed their thanks to them for their kind hospitality, the return walk to Fladbury Station was made across the fields ...

In Kelly's Directory of 1908 Samuel was mentioned as a resident of Nafford, Birlingham.⁸³

At the 1911 census they were living in Nafford.

1911 Census

*Nafford House, Birlingham, Worcs
Smithin Samuel Phipps, head, married, age 55, Landowner, born Church Lench, Worcs
Smithin Eleanor, wife, married, 5 years, age 39, born Church Lench, Worcs
Pulley Elizabeth, servant, single, age 28, Domestic servant, born London Shepherd's Bush*

Samuel attended his brother's funeral in Eckington in 1920.

Samuel was one of two church wardens in 1921 and 1922. He carved the oak credence table, hymn boards, and several other items in the church.⁸⁴

The carved oak credence table is the work of Mr S P Smithin, vicar's warden, as are also the carved hymn-boards, the case for the altar frontals and the screen above it, and the cabinet and bookshelves in the vestry.

Samuel died, aged 78, on the 20th March 1934 at Eckington.⁸⁵ Probate was granted on the 3rd July 1934 to his widow Eleanor Smithin. His effects were valued at £9,641 14s. 11d.⁸⁶

An Obituary appeared in Berrow's Worcester Journal.

Death of Mr. S P Smithin

A loss to Eckington

Much regret was expressed in Eckington at the death of Mr Samuel Phipps Smithin, of the Lenches, which took place in the early hours of Tuesday. Mr Smithin was 78 years of age and up to recently was about the village as usual. His father was Mr. Benjamin Smithin, of the Manor Farm, Sheriffs Lench, in the parish of Church Lench, where the late Mr Phipps Smithin formerly resided, and after whom the residence at Eckington is named. Mr Smithin was of a very quiet disposition. He was a staunch Churchman, and had been up to the last, a regular member of the Church Choir. He was appointed Vicar's warden in 1921, which position he held up to his death. He was also a School Manager and member of the Parochial Church Council. The Church contains some very beautiful carving by the late Mr Smithin, among which are the Oak Credence table, the carved hymn boards, the case for altar frontals and screen and the cabinet and book shelves in the vestry. The funeral is fixed for Saturday afternoon at Eckington Parish Church.

There was also a later memorial service.⁸⁷

Cheltenham Chronicle Saturday 31st March 1934

Mr. S.P. Smithin

Many tributes at Funeral at Eckington

The funeral of the late Mr. Samuel Phipps Smithin, of the Lenches, Eckington, took place on Saturday afternoon, when there was a large attendance, the proceedings revealing the high esteem and respect in which he was generally regarded, and the profound regret felt at this passing.

Mr. Smithin, who was 78 and leaves a widow but no family, was the son of Benjamin Smithin of the Manor Farm, Sheriff's Lench, near Evesham and a member of one of the oldest families of Worcestershire agriculturists. He may be said to have carved his own memorial at Eckington, for the parish church is enriched with many gifts which are fine examples of his own handicraft, including the oak Credence Table, the encasings for the altar and screen, carved hymn board, and a beautiful cabinet and book shelves in the vestry. He had been vicar's warden for 13 years, was the oldest chorister, a prominent member of the church council and a school manager.

Both at the funeral and at the memorial service at the church on Sunday, which were conducted by the vicar, the Rev. E.D. Annand, tribute was paid to the sterling worth of a loyal and generous supporter of the church and a kindly, courteous resident.

Eleanor with friends raised money for restoration in the church.⁸⁸

Gloucestershire Echo, 2nd December 1934

Eckington Church. Bishop praises Parishoners at Thanksgiving service.

There was a crowded congregation at Eckington Church for a special thanksgiving service for the restoration of the church tower and organ chamber, and for the dedication of a new west door and inside porch. The porch is the gift of Mrs Smithin and friends in memory of the late Mr Phipps

Smithin, who was for 12 years a Churchwarden and greatly beloved in the village for his generous nature and his services to the community. These handsome additions to the church are made with best Empire oak and adorned with skilfull carving. Bishop Duppuay, of Worcester, in his address from the pulpit, recalled that he was present there last year to dedicate the new seats, which had been installed in place of chairs, and since then, he understood, the whole of the restoration money had been subscribed, with enough surplus to permit the badly needed new west door. It was no mean spirit that the parishoners provided for the statutory and the ornamentation of their beautiful, ancient church.

Eleanor died, aged 83, in 1953; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.⁸⁹

Probate was granted in January 1954.⁹⁰

National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1966

Smithin Eleanor, of Vicarage Flat, Eckington, Worcestershire. Widow. Died 3 October 1953. Probate Birmingham, 14 January to Frederic Thomas Tovey, motor engineer and Francis John de la Bere Smith clerk. Effects £14,938 1s. 3d.

Francis Smith was her nephew.

Emma Smithin (b.1856). Emma Florence. The daughter of Benjamin and Olivia. She was born in Church Lench in 1856; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.⁹¹

At the 1861 census, age 3, she was at home in Church Lench.

At the 1871 census, age 14, she was boarding at School in Ledbury.⁹²

1871 Census

*Sarina? House, St Mathon, Ledbury, Herefordshire
Emma F Smithin, age 14, Pupil, born Church Lench, Worcestershire
Headmistress: Anne Daves*

At the 1881 census, aged 24, she was living at home at Cullabine farm.

Emma married Francis William Smith on the 21st November 1888 at Church Lench; registered at Evesham in the December quarter.^{93 94} Francis was born in 1868.

At the 1891 census they were living in Sedgeberrow near Evesham.⁹⁵

1891 Census

*Farm House, Sedgeberrow, Evesham, Worcestershire
Francis W Smith, Head, married, age 28, Farmer, born Dumbleton, Gloucestershire
Emma F Smith, Wife, married, age 34, born Sheriff's Lench, Worcestershire
Olive May Smith, Daughter, age 1, born Sedgeberrow
Olivia M Smithin, Sister in law, single, age 37, born Sheriff's Lench
Amy E Staunton, Servant, single, age 15, Housemaid Domestic servant, born Dumbleton
Alice Wilden, Servant, single, age 23, Cook Domestic servant, born Broughton Hackett, Worcs*

Her sister Olivia was staying with them.

At the 1901 census they were still living in Sedgeberrow.⁹⁶

1901 Census

*Sedgeberrow Hall, Sedgeberrow, Evesham Worcestershire
Francis W Smith, Head, married, age 38, Farmer, Employer, born Dumbleton
Emma F Smith, Wife, married, age 44, born Sheriff's Lench
Olive M Smith, Daughter, age 11, born Sedgeberrow*

Phyllis E Smith, Daughter, age 9, born Sedgeberrow
Francis J Delabere Smith, Son, age 5, born Sedgeberrow
Rachel Wells, Servant, single, age 19, Domestic servant, born Sedgeberrow
Annie K Farmer, Servant, single, age 16, Domestic servant, born Aldershot, Hampshire
Annie Lindrey, Governess, single, age 37, School Governess, born Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

On the 12th October 1918 Emma received a legacy of £2,200 left to her from her father's Will.

Benjamin Smithin (1858-1920). Benjamin Abel. The son of Benjamin and Olivia. He was born in 1857; registered at Evesham in the June quarter.⁹⁷

At the 1861 census, age 2, he was at home in Church Lench.

At the 1871 census, age 13, he was at boarding school in Cheltenham.⁹⁸

1871 Census

Southam Villa, St Mary's, Cheltenham
Benjamin A Smithin, pupil, unmarried, age 13, scholar, b. Sheriff's Lench, Worcestershire

At the 1881 census, aged 23, he was living at home at Cullabine Farm, Dumbleton.

At the 1891 census Cullabine farm was not occupied and Benjamin, aged 33, was a visitor at Bank Farm, Dumbleton.⁹⁹

John Walter Smith, head, widower, age 32, Farmer, born Dumbleton
Benjamin Abel Smithin, visitor, single, age 33, Farm manager, born Sheriff's Lench
Kate Porter, servant, single, age 39, House Keeper, born Laverton Gloucestershire
Elizabeth Bullingham, servant, single, age 16, Domestic servant (General), born Dumbleton

At the 1901 census, aged 43, Benjamin was living at home at Manor House, Church Lench.

In 1905 he acted as an Executor for his father's Will and later was a witness on his brother's marriage certificate.

Benjamin married Mary Tovey, age 38, at Church Lench on the 1st March 1906; registered at Evesham in the June quarter.¹⁰⁰ Mary was living at Church Lench and her father was Thomas Tovey a farmer. Mary was probably the sister of Eleanor Tovey who married Benjamin's brother Samuel. The witnesses were William Smith, Lily Tovey and G H Hunt.¹⁰¹

William Smith was probably his sister Emma's husband.

Benjamin was listed in Kelly's directory in 1908 as living at The Orchard, Eckington.¹⁰²

Benjamin died, aged 63, on the 10th July 1920; registered at Pershore in the September quarter.¹⁰³ There was an obituary in Berrow's Worcester Journal.

Eckington

Death of Mr B A Smithin

The death of Mr Benjamin Abel Smithin of the Lenches Upper End Eckington, occurred with suddenness on Saturday evening. He had been receiving intermittent medical attention for heart trouble for the past few months, but as he was considered to be decidedly better, made no complaint, and was also able to superintend his business in quite the usual manner. Shortly before his death the maids saw him walking around the garden, but when Mrs Smithin returned from the village after a brief absence, she was shocked to find him seated dead in his chair in the drawing room. Death was certified by the doctor as from heart failure. The funeral took place in Eckington Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon the day on which Mrs Smithin had arranged for a garden fete to take place at their residence in aid of the funds of the Mother's Union. Canon W Ismay of Newlands Malvern late Rector of Eckington conducted a preliminary service in the Parish Church at which there was a large congregation. The Rector, the Rev. A E Fletcher conducted the last rites at the graveside. Deceased was 63 years of age. The chief mourners were Mr Phipps Smithin, The Orchards, Eckington (brother); Mr J A Smithin of Lloyds Bank Gloucester (cousin), Mr Carlton Rea, Worcester (cousin), Mr F W Smith (brother in law), Mr F Tovey (nephew), Mr J P Smith, Salford (cousin), Mr Hodington, Westmancote, Mr Fred Davis and Mr J W Dee, Woollas Hill, Mr W J Browne, Mr W H Redwood, Mr J Grice, Mr and Mrs Humphries, Mr W Windows, Mrs Parish, Mrs Perkins, Mrs Cross, Miss Almon, Mrs Osbourne, Miss Dando etc. The deceased was the second son of the late Mr Benjamin Smithin of Sherriff's Lench, one of the largest and most prominent agriculturists in the county, who farmed between 600 and 700 acres of land in the Lenches and at Dumbleton, and who for many years was Vice President of the Worcestershire Board of Agriculture. When their father died at Sherriff's Lench about 14 years ago, the two sons, who had been associated with him in business, gave up the farming in that district and went to reside on their inherited estate of two hundred acres at Eckington which they cultivated until the early part of the present year, when they sold the greater part by auction, retaining only their...

Probate was granted to his widow Mary Smithin on the 17th September 1920. His effects were valued at £5,629 0s 1d.¹⁰⁴

Mary may be the Mary Smithin, aged 79, who died in 1947; registered at Pershore.¹⁰⁵

Martin Smithin (1859-1861). The son of Benjamin and Olivia. He was christened on the 18th December 1859 at Church Lench and the birth was registered at Evesham in the December quarter.¹⁰⁶

He died in 1861 and was buried at All Saints, Church Lench on the 1st May 1861.^{107 108} His death was recorded on the same memorial at Church Lench as his sister Kate.

*Martin their third son
died May 1-th 18-- aged -- months*

Church Lench and Sheriff's Lench in 1820

Church Lench is a small village and parish, situate about 5 miles from Evesham, and 9 from Worcester, containing in 1851 a population of 224 inhabitants.¹⁰⁹

Atch Lench is a small hamlet, about half a mile from the village, containing 77 inhabitants in 1851.

Sheriff's Lench is another small hamlet, adjoining Atch Lench, comprising only a few farms and cottages, with a population, in 1851, of 92 inhabitants.

The Church is a stone building, with nave, chancel, and south aisle. At the western end is a large square tower, and two bells. The building is in the Gothic style of architecture. The chancel has recently been rebuilt, and is very large. The windows are of stained glass, and the centre of the eastern window represents the Crucifixion. The living is a Rectory, in the patronage of the Lord Chancellor. Rev. Martin Amphlett, M.A., Rector; Mr. John Weston, Clerk. Service – 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

There is a small Baptist Chapel at Atch Lench. Rev. Stephen Dunn, Minister. Service – 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. There is a Sunday School in the parish, at which about twenty children attend.

Amphlett Rev. Martin, M.A., Rector, Rectory
Toveys The Misses, Bank House
Archer Joseph, tailor and beer retailer, Royal Oak
Beasley George, wheelwright and carpenter
Brookes George, wheelwright and carpenter
Bullock John, blacksmith
Corbett Miss E., preparatory day and boarding school
Crosswell William, shopkeeper
Ellison William, shopkeeper
Greening Henry, shoe maker
Moore John, shopkeeper
Tovey John, farmer and maltster
Tovey Thomas, farmer
Tovey William, farmer
Watcham Thomas, Police Officer, Station

Atch Lench

Dunn Rev. Stephen, Baptist Minister, Chapel House
Bomford Joseph, farmer
Bomford Thomas, farmer

Sheriff's Lench

Smithen Benjamin, farmer, The Manor House
Bomford Joseph, farmer

3. Joseph Smithin & Elizabeth Andrews – descendants

Joseph Smithin (1828-1872). Of Wadborough. The son of Benjamin and Elizabeth. He was christened, at Wadborough, on the 15th April 1828.¹¹⁰ His brother John was his twin.

At the 1841 census, age about 15, Joseph was at school at Hanley Castle.¹¹¹

1841 Census

Village of Hanley, Hanley Castle
Smithin Joseph, male, age 15, born Worcestershire

At the 1851 census, age 23, Joseph was living at home at Wadborough House, Wadborough.¹¹²

Joseph married Elizabeth Andrews on the 23rd May 1854, at Severn Stoke; registered at Upton on Severn in the June quarter.^{113 114} Joseph was described as a bachelor, aged 28, resident at Wadborough. Elizabeth was described as a Spinster, age 24, resident at Severn Stoke. The witnesses were: James Andrews. Anne Woodward, and W T Horniblow.

William Horniblow was Joseph's brother in law.

Elizabeth was christened on 10th April 1830. Her father was Thomas Andrews, a farmer, and her mother was Eleanor Eliza.

The marriage was reported in the Worcestershire Chronicle.¹¹⁵

May 23rd at Severn Stoke, by the Rev. H C Philpots, Mr. Jos. Smithin of Wadborough, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Mr Thos Andrews.

Joseph was appointed as a Parish Overseer at Pershore in April 1857. That is, an Overseer of the poor; responsible for setting the poor rate and providing relief for the poor.¹¹⁶

Joseph was mentioned in a court case in May 1857.¹¹⁷

Pershore. Petty Sessions. Tuesday April 28 1857

Game Trespass. Wm Edkins and Henry Forrester were charged with trespassing in pursuit of game, on the 16th inst., on land in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Smithin, of Wadborough. John Handy, labourer, and Wm. Clayton, gamekeeper to G Whittaker Esq. the prosecutor in this case, proved the charge, and this being the second conviction, they were fined £1. Each and 14s 6d each expenses; in default, of one month's imprisonment.

Joseph was a witness in a court case in March 1858.¹¹⁸

Pershore Petty Sessions, Yesterday (Tuesday)

Game Law Case. Henry Forrester, labourer, was charged with trespassing on land in the occupation of Mr Loxley, of Stoulton, in pursuit of game, on the 10th inst. Defendant did not appear. PC Randall proved the service of the summons. Mr Joseph Smithin, farmer, of Wadborough, stated that he saw the defendant in company with a man named Groves, on the day named about eight o'clock in the morning, they had with them a lurcher dog, and were beating a hedge, evidently in pursuit of game, on Mr Loxley's land. They had no gun with them. The dog was scratching at a hole. I asked Forrester what he had in his pocket; I searched him, but found no game upon him; only a guano bag in his jacket pocket. Defendant having been convicted twice before, was mulcted in the penalty of 2l and costs, or in default a month's hard labour. A summons had also been issued for Groves on a similar charge, but the police had been unable to serve it upon him, he having decamped.

The case against the remaining defendant came to a conclusion in December 1858.¹¹⁹

Pershore. Petty Sessions Tuesday Dec 28.

The Game Laws. Thomas Groves, labourer, of Pirton, was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on land in the occupation of Mr. R Loxley, of Stoulton, on the 10th March last. Defendant did not appear. The case was proved by Mr. Smithin, farmer, of Wadboro'. Fined 1l and costs, or in default one month's imprisonment.

Joseph was listed as a Farmer at Wadborough in 1860 in Kelly's directory.¹²⁰

At the 1861 census Joseph was at Wadborough farm.¹²¹ His father had died in 1853, his mother was living in Stoulton and he had taken over the running of the farm.

1861 Census

*Wadborough Farm, Wadborough, Holy Cross Pershore, Worcestershire
Joseph Smithin, Head, married, age 35, Farmer of 500 acres employing 35 labourers, born Wadborough
Elizabeth Smithin, Wife, married, age 31, born Severn Stoke
Elizabeth Smithin, Daughter, daughter, age 5, Scholar, born Wadborough
Joseph Ernest Smithin, Son, age 3, born Wadborough
James Andrew Smithin, Son, age 1, born Wadborough
Mary Horniblow, Governess, age 19, unmarried, Governess, born Earl's Croome
Anne Murrayman, Servant, age 20, unmarried, Dairy Maid, born Stoulton
Sarah Ewins, Servant, age 18, unmarried, House Maid, born Wadborough*

Joseph was a listed a shareholder in the Worcester City and Banking Company in 1862; his brother Benjamin was a Director of the bank for many years.¹²²

Joseph was involved in another court case in October 1863.¹²³

Petty Sessions. Tuesday 6th October

Game. John Vine, labourer, was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game, on land in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Smithin, of Wadborough, on the 26th ult,. Defendant admitted that he was in Mr. Smithin's field on the day in question, but not in search of game; he was only on the lookout for a

few wood pigeons. W. Clayton, gamekeeper to Mr. Whitaker, proved the case. Being his first offence, defendant was fined in the mitigated penalty of £1, and 12s 6d expenses.

A horse was killed in the storms of October 1863.¹²⁴

Pershore Storm.

On Thursday morning last, from two o'clock till five o'clock, as fearful storm raged in this town and neighbourhood. The thunder and lightning were terrific, and the rain descended in torrents, completely flooding the High Street, and also the lower stories of many of the houses. A horse the property of Mr. Smithin of Wadborough, was struck by lightning and killed.

Joseph was active in the Royal Agricultural Society of Worcester.¹²⁵ The first trials of a double engine steam cultivator (an early tractor and plough) were held at Wadborough farm in 1863.

On the latter ground, and at Wadborough Farm occupied by Joseph Smithin, the steam cultivator trials were carried out.

This refers to an Agricultural show staged by the Royal Agricultural Society of Worcestershire in 1863.¹²⁶

On Friday, July 17th, the competition for the Gold Medal and 50l, commenced at Wadborough, about eight miles from Worcester, on the farm of Mr. Smithin. The field selected was a clover lea, evidently in a clean and high state of cultivation, having a gentle incline to the south west. The quality of the soil varied exceedingly : the top portion being quite of a light character, mixed with small pebbles, whilst the bottom part was an extremely tough and retentive clay, considerably baked and cracked by the action of the sun.

A week later there were more trials on Joseph's farm.

Farmer's Gazetter and Journal of Practical Horticulture. Saturday 25th July 1863¹²⁷

Trials of Cultivators

The trials of steam cultivators were resumed on Saturday, in a meadow on Mr. Joseph Smithin's farm, at Wadborough, near the railway station. Only three machines were on the ground this day, namely, Howard's Cultivator, Smith's Cultivator, and Fowler's digger. The ground was a most trying one for even the strongest machines, being a remarkably stony clay, which has been lying undisturbed for some years, and was additionally hardened by the long drought. The quantity of land allotted to each implement was 1a. 3r. 26p. Fowler's digger was most powerful in its operation, turning over the sod in huge lumps, which will require a long time, to prepare them for a seed bed. Strong as Fowler's tackle is, one of the bolts broke, which however, occupied but little time to repair, and in a few minutes it was at work again. The depth which this machine took both on Friday and Saturday was from 10 to 14 inches, and on both occasions the work was admirably performed, although not so neat as some of the others.

Howard's cultivator made good work, to the depth of from 7 to 8 inches, but very little of it was turned over. Smith's cultivator also did its work well, to the depth of about 7 inches. Like Howard's implement, it cut and separated the sod into pieces without reversing it, leaving the sod on the surface to the action of drought to destroy it. A trial of Savoy's steam engine, drawing ploughs, was made on Saturday, in the same field that was operated upon on Friday, and it performed its work very well. The large drum of Savoy's engine meets the approval of the judges, who expressed themselves pleased with its superior working. The celerity with which it can be prepared for working after it reaches the field is greatly in its favour.

Later there was an attempt to set up a company to sell the steam cultivators.

In August 1863 an influential meeting of the landlords and tenants at the Crown Hotel Worcester, discussed the formation of a company with a capital of £3,500 for providing double-engine steam cultivators and hiring them out on an acreage basis; trials were held on the farms of George Pitcher, Nunney Wood Farm, and Joseph Smithin Wadborough

The proposal had fallen through by 1864.

The trials were still under discussion in 1867.¹²⁸

Most gentlemen who visited the trials at Wadborough must remember the way in which the soil was broken up; I, for one, thought that from the quantity of clay brought to the surface the field was ruined; but Mr Smithin informs me that although hitherto he has not grown any better crops, yet he does not think any injury has been done to the land, and probably in another year or so there will be an increase in the produce. Although a first-class farmer, Mr. Smithin does not himself cultivate by steam.

Joseph was involved in a court case in 1864.¹²⁹

Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 29th June 1864

Cowardly Assault. An elderly man, named James Wheeler, carter to Mr. Joseph Smithin, farmer, of Wadborough, charged his master with assaulting him in the hay fields on the 21st instant, by kicking and otherwise ill treating him. It appeared in evidence that defendant threatened to 'punch' complainant's head during a discussion he was having with his men about their dinner beer, and on complainant's head continuing, as the defendant said 'to dictate to him', he (defendant) got off his pony, punched complainant's head, knocked him down, and well kicked him. Defendant did not deny the assault, but considered the old man was not hurt so bad as he pretended. The Bench considered the assault a most unjustifiable one, but on defendant consenting to pay the complainant 1L. 10s. as a compensation for injuries received, and also the costs incurred, amounting to 11s., he was allowed to do so, and there was no conviction.

In April 1868 Joseph was elected as a Churchwarden for Holy Cross, Pershore.¹³⁰

Pershore. Easter vestries.

At a vestry meeting held on Monday last, Col. Scobell (The Abbey) and Mr. J. Smithin (Wadborough Park) were re-elected churchwardens of Holy Cross Pershore.

A field of wheat was set on fire in August 1868 and Joseph appeared at the subsequent court case.¹³¹

Pershore. Petty Sessions

Maria Brown, Stratford on Avon, was placed in the dock charged with setting fire to a field of wheat, the property of Mr. Joseph Smithin of Wadborough, in the parish of Holy Cross, Pershore, on Monday 3rd instant. Robert Brant states, I and my wife were, on Friday last, at work in a field of wheat, the property of Mr. Smithin, at Wadborough; the woman Brown was in the same field. I saw her breaking up some sticks. In a short time I heard her crying out 'What shall I do?'. She had lighted a fire in the middle of a field to cook some dinner; the stubble and stack had caught fire. I ran to her, and pushed some of the stacks of wheat down. The woman was much distressed and worked hard to put the fire out. I had seen a fire under the hedge before, but not in the middle of the field.

Mr. Smithin said he considered it his duty to bring the woman before the Bench, for he thought it was a very bad thing to light a fire so near to a stack of wheat, and the wind blowing into the stack. He did not object to their lighting a fire under the hedge. He had lost about five acres of the best wheat growing on his farm.

The Bench said there was no evidence to prove that it was a willful and malicious act, therefore the prisoner must be discharged – but a more careless act could not have been done, and she was cautioned to be more careful for the future.

A servant of Joseph (and his brother Benjamin) died in August 1868.¹³²

Deaths

Corbett. Aug. 14, at Wadborough, age 70, William Corbett, for 45 years the faithful and valued servant to the late Mr. Benjamin Smithin and Mr. Jos. Smithin.

Joseph was involved in another court case in September 1868.¹³³

Pershore Petty Sessions

Charge of Stealing Wheat. At the Police Court, yesterday (Thursday), before Henry Workman, Esq., George Rudge of Pirton, and Charles Clark, of Wadborough, labourers, were brought up on remand charged with stealing wheat on Saturday, the 29th. Ult., the property of Mr. Joseph Smithin, of Wadborough. The prisoners were again remanded till Tuesday next – bail being taken in both cases.

Joseph was accused of assaulting a teenager in October 1869.¹³⁴

Petty Sessions. Tuesday, Sept 28

Assault by a farmer on a Lad.

Mr Joseph Smithin, farmer, of Wadborough, in the Parish of Holy Cross, was charged with assaulting a lad 15 years of age, on Tuesday the 15th ult. At Wadborough. Defendant pleaded guilty, and stated that he had been robbed by his workpeople to a very great extent, and also by the police. He did ride over the lad, and knock him down with his horse. The Chairman suggested that Mr Smithin had better try and settle the matter. Mr Smithin, I have nothing to settle. I plead guilty to the charge.

Complainant, who had his head cut, stated that he was in the employ of Mr Smithin, and was coming up his field on Tuesday evening, dragging a bough after him, which had been blown off a tree, when he met Mr Smithin on horse back. The latter asked him where he had the bough from, and he told him from under the tree. Mr Smithin told him to take it back, and rode his mare so near to him that he fell down in the hedge.

Mr Smithin also knocked him with his stick, Mr Smithin, I have been robbed so much that I will do it again. You might have me before you every day. The Bench told him he must not take the law into his own hands. He might be sent to prison. Mr Smithin. I don't care.

The Chairman: The proper way when you are robbed is to take out a summons, and have the offenders brought before the Bench. Defendant. What use is that? I have had men here for wheat stealing, that was of no use. Mr G Whittaker: You had no right to beat the boy. Defendant: I did not beat him, I rode against him and knocked him down. The Chairman: And struck him with your stick. Defendant: Yes I did. The Chairman: We fine you £2 10s. and 7s 6d. costs. In default, two months imprisonment.

Mr Supt Harris: You have accused one of my men of robbing you. Will you explain it to the Bench? Why did you not make a complaint to me? Defendant: If I did not to you I did to another. Mr Harris: It is very wrong bringing a charge against a man that has left the force. Mr Whitaker expressed a similar opinion. Mr Smithin: I am prepared to meet any of you. Defendant then wrote a cheque for the fine and expense.

At the 1871 census Joseph and family were still living at Wadborough Farm.¹³⁵

1871 Census

Wadborough Farm, Wadborough, Worcestershire

Joseph Smithin, head, age 45, Farmer of 500 acres employing 14 men, 4 boys and 5 women, born Holy Cross

Elizabeth Smithin, wife, age 41, farmer's wife, born Severn Stoke

Freeman Smithin, son, age, 9, born Holy Cross Pershore

Ellen Eliza Smithin, daughter, age 8, born Holy Cross Pershore

Mary Smithin, daughter, age 6, born Holy Cross Pershore

Frank Smithin, son, age 4, born Holy Cross Pershore
Ada Margaret Smithin, daughter, 6 months, born Holy Cross Pershore
Mary Horniblow, visitor, age 48, widow, born Holy Cross Pershore
Mary Horniblow, governess, age 29, unmarried, Earle's Croome Worcestershire
Freeman Horniblow, visitor, age 24, unmarried, born St Michael's Worcester
Elizabeth Clark, servant, age 65, general servant, unmarried, Holy Cross Pershore
Sarah Hunt, servant, age 17, Dairy maid, unmarried, Bromsgrove
Eleanor Hooper, servant, age 14, domestic servant, Hartlebury

Mary Horniblow, age 48, was Joseph's sister.

Joseph distributed meat and coals to his work force at Christmas 1871.¹³⁶

Wadborough

Charitable gifts. On Christmas eve, Mr Joseph Smithin, farmer, distributed a plentiful supply of meat and coals to the workpeople in his employ. Mr Smithin has pursued this course for many years. The supplies varied in proportion to the numbers in the family of the recipients.

It was apparent by April 1872 that Joseph was in poor health.¹³⁷

Easter Vestries, Holy Cross

Mr. Joseph Smithin, who had been church warden for several years, was obliged, through fading health, to decline being re-elected, and was too ill to attend the meeting.

Joseph was involved in a court case in February 1872.¹³⁸

Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 28th February 1872

Sheep stealing. William Rudge (55), baker, was indicted for stealing a sheep at Pershore, on the 26th January, the property of Joseph Smithin, of Holy Cross, Pershore. The sheep had been slaughtered in the prosecutor's foldyard, and it was proved that on the following morning a hamper was despatched to Worcester by the prisoner, and which the carrier proved contained flesh; and boot marks, which corresponded with the prisoner's shoes, was traced from the foldyard to the coppice, whence the prisoner took the hamper, and gave it to the carrier. He was found guilty, and previous convictions proved against him. Sentence ten years' penal servitude.

Joseph died on the 27th June 1872, aged 44.¹³⁹ Probate was granted on the 7th September 1872. His effects were valued at under £18,000. There is a memorial at Pershore Abbey.¹⁴⁰

*In memory of Joseph Smithin
of Wadborough Park Farm
who died June 27 1872 age 46 years*

Joseph's death was reported in the Worcestershire Chronicle in July 1872.^{141 142}

Deaths

Smithin. June 27, at Wadborough, deeply regretted, Joseph Smithin, aged 46.

Re: Joseph Smithin, Deceased

All Persons having any Claims or Demands on the Estate of Mr. Joseph Smithin, late of Wadborough, in the County of Worcester, Farmer, deceased are requested to send the particulars thereof to us, the undersigned, on or before the 10th day of October next.

Dated this 5th day of September 1872. S M Beale, Worcester Chambers, Worcester, Solicitor to the Executor.

Elizabeth carried on running the farm and was listed in Kelly's directory of 1880 as a farmer at Wadborough.¹⁴³

At the 1881 census Elizabeth was living at Wadborough Farm.¹⁴⁴

*Smithen Elizabeth, age 51, widow, Farmer of 1050 acres, born Severn Stoke, head of household
Smithin Joseph Ernest, age 23, unmarried, Assistant Manager, born Holy Cross, son of Elizabeth
Smithen*

*Henry Horniblow, age 35, Farm Manager, unmarried, born Earls Croome, cousin to Elizabeth Smithen
Sarah Bateman, age 22, unmarried, housemaid, born Birlingham, servant to Elizabeth Smithen
Louisa Stanton, age 21, unmarried, domestic maid (ag)*

Henry Horniblow was probably a relative as Elizabeth's sister in law was Mary Horniblow (née Smithin) who lived at Ripple.

At the 1891 census Elizabeth was still running the farm.¹⁴⁵

*Elizabeth Smithin, Head, Widow, age 61, Farmer, born Severn Stoke
Freeman Smithin, son, single, age 29, Farm manager, unemployed, born Wadborough
Frank Smithin, son, single, age 23, born Wadborough
Ada Margaret Smithin, daughter, single, age 20, born Wadborough
Mary Horniblow, visitor, Widow, age 68, living on her own means, born Wadborough
Mary Burn, servant, single, age 20, General servant domestic, born South Wales
Fanny Searle?, servant, single, age 16, General servant domestic, born Herefordshire*

Elizabeth died, aged 70, at Hope House, Martley on the 23rd September 1900.^{146 147}

Elizabeth was buried at Holy Cross, Pershore.¹⁴⁸

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 29th September 1900

Funeral. On Wednesday afternoon the remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Smithin, widow of the late Mr. Joseph Smithin, were interred in the family vault in Holy Cross churchyard. For a great number of years deceased occupied Park Farm, Wadborough but for the past 18 months had lived with her daughter, Mrs John Davis. Hope House, Martley. The service at the Abbey Church was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. J H Bridgwater). The mourners were: First carriage. Mr J E Smithin, Mr James A Smithin, Mr Freeman Smithin, and Mr. Frank Smithin; second carriage. Mr John Davis, Mr W L Nicholls, Mr W Bache, and Mr E Bache; third carriage. Mrs H Horniblow, and Mrs Benjamin Smithin. Among those present at the church were the Rev. H Kingsford, Miss Kingsford, Mr Charles Whitaker, Mr F Woodward, Mr A E Baker, Mr and Mrs J G Baker, Mr H Oram, Mr Somer, Mr A Hobbs, and Miss Stephens. There were a large number of beautiful wreaths. The funeral arrangements were carried out personally by Mr Geo. Rutter (Rutter and Jones), Compton House, Worcester.

Probate was granted on the 12th December 1872 to her son James Andrews and son in law John Davis. Her effects were valued at £927 10s. 8d. Hope house was the farm of her son in law John Davis.

There is a memorial at Pershore Abbey where she is buried just outside the West door next to her husband.¹⁴⁹

*In loving memory of
Elizabeth his widow
Who died Sep 23rd 1900
age 70 years*

Benjamin Smithin (bd.1855). The son of Joseph and Elizabeth. He was christened on the 5th April 1855 at Stoulton.^{150 151} He died only a few months old; registered at Pershore in the September quarter.¹⁵²

Elizabeth Smithin (b.1856). The daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth. She was christened on the 2nd May 1856 at Stoulton; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.^{153 154}

At the 1861 census, age 5, she was at home in Wadborough.

At the 1871 census, age 15, she was at boarding school in Worcester.¹⁵⁵

1871 Census

St Clements, Worcester

Henrietta Road, Clifton House, Ladies School

Elizabeth Smithin, Pupil, age 15, Scholar, born Wadborough, Worcestershire

Head: Francis Spooner

Elizabeth married John Davis, age 23, a farmer, on the 27th October 1880 at Pershore Holy Cross; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.¹⁵⁶ He was living at Martley; his father was Richard Davis, a Farmer. Elizabeth age 24 was living at home at Wadborough. The witnesses were Ellen Smithin her sister and Benjamin Smithin possibly her uncle.¹⁵⁷

They farmed at Hope Farm, Martley Worcestershire.

At the 1881 census they were at Hope Farm and Elizabeth's sister Ellen was visiting.¹⁵⁸

John Davis, Head, age 24, born Martley, Farmer of 210 Acres Employing 5 Men & 1 Boy

Elizabeth Davis, Wife, age 25, born Pershore, Farmers Wife

Ellen Smithin, Visitor, unmarried, aged 17 born Pershore, Farmers Daughter

Rhoda Chandler, Servant, age 16, born Silvington, Shropshire, General Servant

At the 1891 they were still at Hope House/Farm, Martley.¹⁵⁹

1891 Census

Hope House Martley

John Davis, Head, married, age 34, Farmer and hop grower, b. Martley

Elizabeth Davis, Wife, married, age 35, b. Wadborough

William D Badger, Nephew, single, age 16, b. Martley

Annie Wood, Servant, single, age 16, General domestic servant, b. Kempsey

Herbert Hills, Servant, single, age 12, Farm servant, b. Martley

In 1900 John helped with the administration of his mother-in-law's death.

At the 1901 census they were living in Martley.¹⁶⁰

1901 Census

Hope House, Martley, Worcestershire

John Davis, Head, married, age 44, Farmer, born Wadborough

Elizabeth Davis, Wife, married, age 44, born Wadborough

Oliver H Bomford, Servant, single, age 32, Farm Bailiff, Worker, born Martley

Elizabeth Hill, Servant, single, age 16, Housemaid Domestic, born Martley

Clara Hill, Servant, single, age 15, Cook, born Martley

At the 1911 census they were still living in Martley.¹⁶¹

Hope House, Martley

Davis John, Head, Married, age 54, Farmer, born Martley

Davis Elizabeth, Wife, Married, age 55, born Wadboro, Worcs.

Clarke Alice, Servant, Single, age 31, Servant Domestic, born Stoke Bliss, Hereford

Nicholls Madeline, Niece, age 21, Help Domestic, born Cotheridge, Worcs.

Rowley Herbert, Servant, age 16, Worker on Farm, born Martley, Worcs.

Elizabeth was left a bequest in the Will of her brother James in 1927.

Joseph Smithin (1858-1924). Joseph Ernest. Known as Ernest. The son of Joseph and Elizabeth. He was christened at Stoulton on the 14th March 1858; registered at Pershore in the March quarter.^{162 163}

At the 1861 census, age 3, he was at home in Wadborough.

At the 1871 census, age 13, he was boarding at Hanley Castle High School.¹⁶⁴ His brothers James and Freeman also went to the school.

Church End, Hanley Castle

Joseph E Smithin, boarder, age 13, pupil, born Pershore

Joseph rode with the Croome Hunt on several occasions.^{165 166}

November 1878

November 1902

Worcester Journal Saturday 9th November 1878

Lord Coventry's Hounds

On Saturday (the day following the races) many well-known followers of Lord Coventry's hounds met at Croome, and were received with characteristic heartiness by his lordship and the countess, who are as liberal in their hospitality as they are zealous in sport. Present: Joseph Smithin (Birlingham), Ernest Smithin (Wadborough).

Joseph was a witness in a court case in April 1878.¹⁶⁷

Worcester Journal Saturday 6th April 1878

Pershore Petty Sessions

Henry Forrester was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game, at Holy Cross, on 24th March, on land in the occupation of Mrs Smithin. Joseph Ernest Smithin said he was watching snare with a rabbit in, and saw defendant come and take it away. He followed him, and took it and other wires from him. Superintendent Stanton and the Clerk said that the defendant was a bad character, and had been frequently fined at Worcester and Pershore for similar offences. Defendant in his absence, was fined £2 and 12s 6d cost or two months hard labour.

He was involved in another court case a few years later in 1881.¹⁶⁸

Worcester Journal Saturday 8th October 1881

Police Court. Charge of Stealing Geese

William Rudge, Levi Gould, and Henry Harris, all of Worcester, were charged with stealing six tame geese, the property of Mrs Smithin, at Wadborough on the 29th September; and Sarah Hughes, Norton, sister of Rudge, was charged with receiving the same, knowing them to have been stolen. Mr. Beauchamp, Worcester, appeared for the prisoner Hughes. Evidence as to identity and ownership was given by Mr. E. Smithin, Thomas Hook and his wife. P.C. Gwilliam said he went in company of Mr. Smithin, Mr. Horniblow, and P.C. Webb to Blagthorn Farm, and in the

pen where the geese were kept and in the yard he saw footprints of two persons, which he traced for a couple of miles to a short distance from the Hughes' cottages. He there saw Rudge, and asked to look at his boots. Prisoner showed him the boots and they exactly corresponded with the marks. Just then Deputy Chief Constable Checketts and Sergeant Wasley drove up and together they searched Hughes' house and premises. She denied having any fowls there except her own. In a pig sty at the back of the house he found four nets used by prisoners, in a damp state, and as Rudge and Hughes denied all knowledge or ownership of them, they were taken possession of by Mr. Checketts. Under a heap of hedge trimmings, about twenty yards from the door, he found two guano bags with three geese in each. Gould, Rudge and Hughes were both present, and were taken into Custody. Gould's boots exactly corresponded with the second set of footprints seen at and near the goose pen. When in custody Gould made a statement to the effect that he, Rudge, William Compton and Walter Adams left Worcester at eight o'clock, went to Hughes' house, got the nets and went out poaching till nearly one o'clock, when Rudge separated from the rest, saying he had somewhere to go, and asked him to carry his net back to Hughes' house, which he did. When first charged Rudge said that he had slept at his sister's that night, and went to bed at 9.30 and appealed to her to corroborate the statement, which she did. Deputy Chief Constable Checketts said that while he was searching the house Hughes said 'I have brought this to a nice thing at last', and offered him £20 not to take her into Custody. She seemed to feel her position most keenly. P.C. Webb said that upon searching Rudge at the station the knife produced was found upon him. It had blood stains upon it, and where the blade closes a small white feather was found. Mr. Beauchamp made a forcible appeal on behalf of Hughes. Harris called several witnesses to prove that he was at home very ill on the night ... The Bench discharged him, and committed the other three prisoners to the sessions. Hughes was allowed bail, two sureties in £20 each.

The case was taken further to the Worcester Sessions.¹⁶⁹

Worcestershire Chronicle 22nd October 1881

Worcester Second Court – Tuesday. Stealing Geese at Wadborough

William Rudge (61), baker, the prisoner who was convicted in another case, and Levi Gould (25), labourer, were charged with stealing six geese, on the 29th September, at Wadborough, the property of Mrs. Smithin. Mr. R.H. Amphlett prosecuted, and Mr. Radcliffe Cooke defended Gould.

Sarah Hughes, the sister of prisoner Rudge, was indicted for receiving the geese, knowing them to have been stole, but the Grand Jury threw out the bill.

Thomas Cooke, a labourer, in Mrs. Smithin's employ, stated that he locked up 22 geese in a cow-house on the 29th September. Mary Cook, wife of the last witness, stated that she looked after Mrs. Smithin's poultry; when she went to the cow-house on the morning of the 30th September six geese were missing. She identified three of the goose skins produced by a mark on the foot. She identified the others by their colour. The door of the cow-house had been forced.

Joseph Ernest Smithin, son of the prosecutrix, said he saw near the cow-house the tracks of two people, which he traced to within 200 yards of the house of Mrs. Hughes, sister of the prisoner Rudge. He asked to look at Rudge's boots, Sergeant Gwilliam being with him at the time. Rudge's boots corresponded with the tracks at the cowhouse. He also saw Gould's boots compared with the other tracks, and they corresponded. P.S. Gwilliam deposed to finding the geese in two bags near Rudge's sister's house, covered over with two loads of hedge trimmings.

Rudge denied all knowledge of them, saying he went to bed at half-past nine o'clock on the night before the robbery, and did not get up till next morning.

When witness apprehended Gould in King street, Worcester, he denied knowing anything about it. Deputy chief constable Checketts then said to Gould that they had apprehended Rudge, and had got the geese. Gould then said, 'D---' his old eyes if he has got me into this. I own being out with him last night with the nets, but we did not catch anything. I went out with him about half past nine o'clock, and when we came back Rudge said to me, 'Put the nets in the old woman's place, for I

am going somewhere else.' The marks on the ground corresponded with the impressions made by Gould's boots.

When the prisoners were remanded, Gould said the Rudge, 'Speak the truth, as I know nothing about it.' Rudge said 'Yes, you do.' Mr. Cooke, in defence, urged that although the case might be one of suspicion, there was no direct evidence against Gould which would justify the Jury in convicting him. The Jury, after the Chairman's summing up, found the prisoners guilty. Rudge, who has already undergone penal servitude, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude and five years' police supervision; Gould, who has also been previously convicted, was ordered to undergo 12 months' hard labour.

At the 1881 census, age 23, Joseph was at home at Wadborough Farm and working as the Assistant Manager.

Joseph married Elizabeth Holland, age 28, at Christ Church, Malvern on the 14th February 1885; registered at Upton in the March quarter.¹⁷⁰ Elizabeth was living in the parish of Christ Church Malvern; her father was Thomas Holland, a Dealer. Joseph was 27 and described as a farmer living at Holy Cross Pershore. The witnesses were George Boulton and Annie Holland.¹⁷¹

Joseph was a witness in a court case in 1886.¹⁷²

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 27th November 1886

Worcester County Petty Sessions. In search of Game. William Futerill, labourer, Kempsey; George Allington, shoemaker, Wyld's lane and Henry Lewis, labourer, Norton, were charged with trespassing on land belonging to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, situate at Kempsey, in search of game on November 14th. Mr. Ernest Smithin stated that on the date mentioned he saw the defendants on the Kempsey Common beating the gorse, and there were some greyhounds running about. A rabbit was started from witness's land, and it was killed on the Common by one of the dogs. John Corbett gamekeeper to the Earl of Coventry, saw the men searching for game on the Common. Defendants said they thought they had a perfect right to go on the Common. Mr. Hill said that the defendants had a right to go on the Common, but not to go there in search of game. Futerill, who had been previously convicted, was fined £1, and costs 9s. 2d.; Allington was fined 10s., and 9s. 6d. costs; and Lewis 10s. and 9s. 2d. costs.

There was another game case a few weeks later.¹⁷³

Worcester Journal 11th December 1886

Game Trespass. Joseph Bennett, baker, Cherry Orchard, was charged with game trespass on Kempsey Common, on the 14th November. Ernest Smithin, farmer, Kempsey, stated that the defendant and other men were on the Common, and had several dogs with them loose. A rabbit was started in witness's boundary fence, and was killed by one of the dogs. Defendant who did not appear, was fined 10s. and costs 12s. 6s., or a month's labour.

In 1887 Joseph was involved in a dispute with one of the neighbouring farms.

Worcester Journal Saturday 29 October 1887

A Farmer's Case. Smithin v Beardmore. Mr Joseph Ernest Smithin, farmer, Stonehall Farm, Kempsey, sued Mrs Beardmore, farmer, of the Willow Farm, Stonehall, for £5, amount agreed upon for carrying and unloading hay. Mr Bentley for the Plaintiff, and Mr Tree for the defendant. Mr Bentley said the parties occupied adjoining farms, and last hay harvest plaintiff agreed to carry and unload the hay off 20 acres of ground for the sum named. Mr Tree admitted the claim, but made a counter claim for £4 8s 6d. Plaintiff had 21 turkeys and 14 geese which did damage to a piece of mowing grass of three and a half acres belonging to the defendant. It was so trodden down that defendant had to pay 30s more for cutting it, and she estimated the other damage to the grass at 30s. more. She claimed 10s 6d. for a

gatepost plaintiff knocked down, and 18s for labour, supplied at plaintiff's request and for which he agreed to pay, for getting in the hay.

Defendant was examined. She said she only saw the poultry in the grass once. By Mr. Bentley: She had never sent in a claim or bill to plaintiff for that damage until asked for the £5. She asked him for the 18s. when he came to settle up. Arthur Beardmore, son of defendant, said he saw the geese in the grass six times, and the turkeys three or four times. He did not complain to the Plaintiff. Alfred Woodward, one of the men who cut the grass said the grass was trampled down by the poultry and much damaged. It was rotten in the bottom. Plaintiff gave evidence in support of his case. He denied setting the man to work for whose labour 18s was claimed.

By Mr. Tree: He thought 3s. sufficient compensation for damage to the grass. The men did part of the work of loading but the plaintiff did not ask them to. Mr Bentley offered 15s on the set off, and his Honour who said that was 2s. more than he estimated, gave judgement for the balance, £4. 5s.

Joseph was listed as the Farmer at Windmill Hill Farm, Stoulton in Kelly's directory of 1892 and in 1896, 1900, 1904 and 1908.¹⁷⁴

There was a serious fire at the farm in 1895.¹⁷⁵

Worcester Journal Saturday 13th July 1895

Farmyard Fire at Stoulton

Early on Saturday morning a fire was discovered in the buildings of Windmill Hill Farm, Stoulton, in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Ernest Smithin. It was first seen by Mrs. Smithin from her bedroom window, and Mr. Smithin at once gave an alarm and obtained the assistance of a number of the nearest cottages. They applied themselves to the work of confining the fire within narrow limits. The building first attacked by fire was a wooden one with a thatch roofing, and that was nearly burned down. The fire spread to the adjoining barn, which was of similar construction. There was a scarcity of water, and no engine was sent for. In spite, therefore, of the earnest work of the people on the spot the fire spread to another barn and cow sheds, which were also burned down. The sheds contained a number of tools and agricultural implements, which were all damaged or destroyed. Mr. Smithin's loss is estimated at £60, but it is covered by insurance, as it also the damage to the structures, which are the property of Lady Henry Somerset, who had insured them in the Norwich Union. Mr. Smithin suspects that someone slept in the shed and fired the contents.

At the 1901 census they were living at Windmill Hill, Stoulton.¹⁷⁶

*Joseph E Smithin, head, age 43, born Holy Cross, Pershore, Farmer
Elizabeth Smithin, wife, age 44, born Kempsey
Nellie Allam, niece, single, age 15, born Malvern, Help
Annie E Allam, age 4, born Birmingham, visitor
Emily F Bickerstaff, single, age 15, born Stoulton, General Servant Domestic*

Joseph was a churchwarden at St. Edmunds, Stoulton in 1908.¹⁷⁷

At the 1911 census they were still at Windmill farm.¹⁷⁸

1911 Census

Windmill Hill Farm, Stoulton, Worcs

Smithen Joseph Ernest, head, married, age 53, farmer, born Holy Cross, Pershore

Smithen Elizabeth, wife, married, 26 years, age 55, born Kempsey, Worcs

Allan Jack, nephew, single, age 17, Helps on Farm, born Birmingham

Allan Anne, niece, single, age 14, born Birmingham

Jones Albert Henry, single, visitor, age 19, Butcher, born Kempsey

Dorrell Ellen, age 19, General servant, born Norton, Worcs

Haynes William, single, age 46, Agricultural Labourer, born Kempsey

Rudge Thomas, single, age 56, Agricultural Labourer, born Kempsey

In about 1916/17 the tenancy of Windmill Hill farm was sold by auction.¹⁷⁹

19. Pasture field, Hawbridge, tenant Mr J. E. Smithin, Quantity 4a 0r 6p rental £5 5s 0p apportioned,

20. Two pasture Fields, Hawbridge, tenant Mr J. E. Smithin, Quantity 6a 3r 33p rental £8 15s 0p apportioned

50. Windmill hill farm, tenant Mr J. E. Smithin, Quantity 176a 0r 30p rental £149. 10s 0p actual

I can quote lot 19 situated at Haw bridge, near the "Bird in hand" Inn let to Mr J. E. Smithin, with lot 20 on a tenant-at-will, landlord paying rent - Robert Deloyde

This may have been connected with the death of Joseph's brother Frank as his farm tenancy at Muckenhill was sold at the same time.

Joseph died, aged 66, on the 1st October 1924 and was buried in Stoulton.¹⁸⁰ There is memorial in the churchyard.

In loving memory of

Joseph Ernest

Eldest son of the late Joseph

Smithin of Wadborough

Born Feb 16 1858 died Oct 1 1924

aged 66

Also Eliza wife of the above

died December 11 1927 aged 73

Thy will be done. ¹⁸¹

Although he was referred to as the eldest son this is probably a mistake since Benjamin died as an infant in 1855. Probate was granted to his wife Elizabeth on the 10th November 1924.¹⁸²

Elizabeth was mentioned in the Will of her brother in law James Smithin of 19th January 1927.

To my sister in law Mrs J Ernest Smithin of Stoulton Worcestershire the sum of one hundred pounds.¹⁸³

Elizabeth died, aged 73, on the 10th December 1927 at Stoulton. Probate was granted to Anne Holland spinster. Her effects were valued at £1,768.¹⁸⁴

James Smithin (1859-1931). James Andrews. The son of Joseph and Elizabeth. He was born in Wadborough in 1859; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.¹⁸⁵

At the 1861 census, age 2, he was at home in Wadborough.

At the 1871 census, age 11, he was boarding at Hanley Castle High School.¹⁸⁶ His brother Joseph was also boarding at the same school.

Church End, Hanley Castle

James Andrew Smithin, boarder, age 11, pupil, born Pershore

James joined the Worcester City and County Banking Company in April 1879 when he was 19. His uncle Benjamin was a director of the bank.

A Board minute book of the bank records a promotion for him on the 19th January 1886.¹⁸⁷

Mr J A Smithin, the 3rd Cashier in Birmingham was appointed Cashier of Gloucester and his salary was increased from £130 to £150 per annum.

The branch was in Cherry Street, Birmingham. Worcester City and County Banking eventually became part of Lloyds Bank.

James became the Manager of Lloyds Bank Gloucester in 1890 and held that position until he retired on the 30th September 1920.

James was listed in the Journal of the Institute of Bankers in about 1890.¹⁸⁸

James was listed in the Proceedings of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club.¹⁸⁹

At the 1891 census he was living at 38 Eastgate street close to the Bank.¹⁹⁰

*James A Smithin, Head, single, age 31, Bank Manager, born Wadborough
Edward W Holder, married, age 38, born Cheltenham
Annie Holder, servant, married, aged 37, General servant, born Cheltenham*

James was listed in Kelly's directory for Gloucestershire in 1897

*Gloucester, Smithin James A, Lloyd's Bank, Eastgate Street
Lloyd's Bank (branch) (James A Smithin, manager); open 10 to 3 daily; thursday's 10 to 1; Sat 10 to 5
Eastgate Street; draw on Lloyd's Bank Limited, Lombard Street, London EC*

James attended his mother's funeral in Pershore on

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 29 September 1900

Funeral. On Wednesday afternoon the remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Smithin, widow of the late Mr. Joseph Smithin, were interred in the family vault in Holy Cross churchyard. For a great number of years deceased occupied Park Farm, Wadborough but for the past 18 months had lived with her daughter, Mrs John Davis. Hope House, Martley. The service at the Abbey Church was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. J H Bridgwater). The mourners were: First carriage. Mr J E Smithin, Mr James A Smithin, Mr Freeman Smithin, and Mr. Frank Smithin; second ...

At the 1901 census he was living at 19 Eastgate Street.¹⁹¹

1901 Census

*19 Eastgate Street, Gloucester
James Andrews Smithin, Head, single, age 41, Bank manager, b. Wadborough, Worcestershire
Esther Alice Chandler, Servant, single, age 30, Domestic housekeeper, b. Upton St Leonard, Gloucestershire
Beatrice Ethel Harper, Servant, single, age 24, General and domestic, b. ? Gloucestershire*

James later lived at Cooper's Hill, Brockworth.

James was a Freemason and was mentioned in reports of FreeMasonry events.

... and were replied to by Bros. Vassar-Smith, the two Mayors, the Worshipful Masters present, and Bro. Smithin, the indefatigable secretary of the Reception Committee.

After an enjoyable run, diversified by tea, which was served in the saloon carriages at Swindon, Gloucester was reached at 6 o' clock, where the brethren were met on the platform and welcomed to the city by Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith, the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. J. A. Smithin, secretary of the Reception Committee, and other local brethren.

James was mentioned in a Gloucester: Who's Who.¹⁹²

Smithin, James Andrews was born in Worcestershire and was educated at Hanley Castle in that County; after leaving school he entered the Worcester City and County bank at Birmingham, where he stayed for ten years, subsequently removing to their branch at Gloucester which later was amalgamated with Lloyds bank. He was appointed local manager in 1890; is hon. treasurer of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, The Gloucestershire Orchestral Society, and of the Gloucestershire Root Fruit and Grain Society. Recreations: Walking and Cycling. Address: Lloyds Bank Eastgate.

At the 1911 census James was still living in Gloucester.¹⁹³

1911 Census

Lloyds Bank, Gloucester

Smithin James Andrew, head, single, age 51, Bank Manager, born Pershore

Hale Rose, servant, single, age 25, General servant, born Cheltenham

Adams Elizabeth, servant, single, age 43, Housekeeper, born Charwelton, Northampton

James was listed in the Journal of the Institute of Bankers in 1911.¹⁹⁴

James contributed to a fund for the Titanic disaster in 1912.¹⁹⁵

Gloucester Citizen, Wednesday 24th April 1912

Appeal to 'Citizen' readers. For the Widows and Fatherless

As already stated it is our purpose to forward to the Lord Mayor of London tomorrow a cheque for the total amount paid into the Citizen's Titanic Relief Fund. We hope therefore, that all intending subscribers and those in charge of collections will let us have their amounts not later than tomorrow morning in time to be included in our final list of acknowledgements and our cheque to Sir Thomas B Crosby.

... J.A. Smithin, 10s 6d.

James was the Honorary Treasurer of the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society from the 12th July 1909 to the 2nd April 1917.¹⁹⁶

They are also pleased to say that Mr. JA Smithin has consented to undertake the work of Treasurer in succession to Mr. Currie.

On his retirement from the post there was a note in the journal.¹⁹⁷

The council have further to record the resignation of the Treasurer Mr J A Smithin who had charge of the Society's financial affairs since 1909 and they desire to express their thanks to him for his services

James was listed in Kelly's directory for 1914 and 1915.¹⁹⁸

*Gloucester - Smithin James A, manager Lloyd's Bank Limited, 37 Eastgate Street
Private residents - Smithin James A, Lloyd's Bank, 37 Eastgate Street Gloucester*

Smithin James A, Manager Lloyds Bank Limited 37 Eastgate Street, Gloucester

In 1918 he dealt with the administration of his cousin Isabel Dora Smith; the daughter of Isabel Smith (née Smithin).¹⁹⁹

Re Miss Isabel Dora Mary Smith, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any-debts, claims or demands against the estate of Isabel Dora Mary Smith, late of Cleveland, Marlton-road, Paignton, in the county of Devon, Spinster, deceased .(who died on the 24th day of December, WQJ7, and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, on the 5th day of June, 1918, by James Andrews Smithin, of the city of Gloucester, Bank Manager, and the Public Trustee, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send in the particulars of their debts, claims or demands to us, the undersigned, the Solicitors for the said executors, on or before the 30th day of August, 1918

James attended the funeral of his cousin Benjamin Abel Smithin in Eckington in 1920.

James made a Will in 1927. A summary was given in the Cheltenham Chronicle in 1931.²⁰⁰

Mr James Andrews Smithin, of Cooper's Hill, Brockworth, retired bank manager, who died on February 2 last, aged 71 years, left gross estate of the value of £15,123 2s 6d. with net personalty £14,214 1s 9d. Mr John Davis, of Hope House, Martley, Worcs., farmer; Mr William Bach, of Northampton; and Mr William Dalton Stone, of Lloyds Bank Ltd., Glos, are the executors. Testator left £250 to the Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary; £100 to his housekeeper, Miss Sollis, if serving at his death and not under notice; £100 each to his executors. £100 each to his sisters Elizabeth Davis, Mary Bach and Ada Margaret Bach, and his sisters in law, Mrs J E Smithin and Mrs Frank Smithin. All his jewellery, furniture and household effects to be divided among such of his relatives and friends as his executors may decide. The residue of his property in equal shares to his nephews, and nieces (children of his late brothers Frank, and his late sister Ellen Eliza Nicholls, and his sister Ada Margaret Bach) or their issue.

The full will is as follows.

Will of James Andrews Smithin - 19th January 1927.

Probate 13th March 1931

This is the last Will and Testament of me James Andrews Smithin of Coopers Hill Brockworth in the County of Gloucester. Retired Bank Manager. I appoint my Brothers in law John Davis of Hope House Martley in the County of Worcester Farmer and William Bach of Northampton late manager of Lloyds Bank Limited at Cannock and William Dalton Stone of Lloyds Bank Limited in the city of Gloucester Manager (hereinafter called my Trustees) joint Executors and Trustees of this my and I give and bequeath to each of my Executors and Trustees who shall act as such a legacy or sum of One hundred pounds free of duty.

I request and direct my Executors to divide my jewellery furniture and household effects among such of my relatives and friends as they in their absolute discretion may decide.

I also give and bequeath the following legacies free of duty namely to my three sisters Elizabeth Davis, Mary Bach and Ada Margaret Bach the sum of one hundred pounds each. To my sister in law Mrs J Ernest Smithin of Stoulton Worcestershire the sum of one hundred pounds. To my sister in law Mrs Frank Smithin of Stoulton aforesaid the sum of one hundred pounds.

To the Treasurer for the time being of the Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds. The latter sum to be applied for the purposes of such Institution and to my Housekeeper Miss Sollis if in my employ at my decease and not under notice to leave the sum of One hundred pounds.

I give devise and bequeath Fsall my real and all the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate to my Trustees upon Trust to sell call in and convert into money the same or such part thereof as shall not consist of money and shall with and out of the moneys produced by such sale calling in and conversion and my ready money pay my funeral and testamentary expenses duties and debts and the legacies bequeathed by this my Will or any codicil hereto.

And shall stand possessed of the residue of the said moneys upon Trust to divide the same unto and equally between my nephews and nieces, being the child of my late brother Frank Smithin and chidren of my late sister Ellen Elisa Nicholls the wife of William Lambert Nicholls of the City of Worcester and the children of my sister Ada Margaret Bach wife of Edward Bach of Far Cotton in the County of Nothampton Farmer and I declare that if any of my said nephews or nieces shall die in my lifetime leaving issue such issue shall take between them the share which his of their respective parent would have taken if the latter had survived me. And I hereby revoke all previous wills made by me.

Witness my hand this 19th day of January One thousand nine hundred and twenty seven. J A SMITHIN.

Signed by the said James Andrews Smithin in our presence and by us in his and each others presence.

*Frank Treasure, solicitor Gloucester
John A Fossick his clerk.*

Elizabeth Davis, Mary Bach and Ada Margaret Bach were his sisters.

James died on the 2nd February 1931 at Barnwood, Gloucester.²⁰¹ Barnwood was the second County Asylum so this might indicate senile decay. Probate was granted on the 18th March 1931 to John Davis farmer, William Bach retired bank manager, and William Dalton Stone bank manager. His effects were valued at £15,123 2s 6d. Resworn as £14,281 9s 2d.²⁰²

There is a memorial at Stoulton.

*James Andrew Smithin late of Brookvale Gloucs
2nd son of the late Joseph Smithin of Wadborough
died February 2nd 1931 aged 71
Not as I will but as thou wilt.²⁰³*

There was also an obituary in the paper.²⁰⁴

Gloucester Citizen, 3rd February 1931

*Death of Mr. J.A. Smithin
A prominent Freemason*

We regret to announce the death, which occurred yesterday of Mr. James Andrews Smithin, of the White House, Cooper's Hill, Brockworth – for many years manager of the Gloucester Branch of Lloyds Bank. Mr. Smithin who was 71 years of age, enjoyed quite good health until a short time ago. Then becoming ill, he underwent an operation at a local nursing home about a week ago and, pneumonia supervening, he passed away.

A very popular and greatly esteemed man. Mr. Smithin became widely known in Gloucester and District, through his long connection with Lloyd's Bank. He started his business career with the old

Worcester City & County Bank. He became manager of the Gloucester branch of Lloyd's something like 40 years ago, and held the position until his retirement about 10 years ago.

Connection with the Root Society. Among the offices held during that time was that of Treasurer of the Gloucestershire Root, Fruit and Grain Society in which he evinced great interest.

He was a Freemason, being associated with the Royal Gloucestershire Lodge, of which at one time he was Secretary. He was also a member of the Coteswold Naturalists Field Club.

Always fond of outdoor life, he was interested in many forms of sport, and was a keen golfer. Cycling was another favourite recreation, and he spent several cycling holidays with the late Mr. P Barrett Cooke. A member of a well known Worcestershire family, Mr. Smithin had three brothers all of whom predeceased him and three sisters. Mr. Smithin was never married. The funeral will take place at Stoulton, near Worcester, on Friday afternoon.

Freeman Smithin (1861-1914). The son of Joseph and Elizabeth. He was born at Wadborough in 1861; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.²⁰⁵

At the 1871 census, aged 9, Freeman was living at home at Wadborough Farm.

In 1874 he was awarded a prize for punctuality from Hanley Castle Grammar School.²⁰⁶

Hanley Castle Grammar School

For punctuality. Given by the School. (a). 'Macaulay's History' awarded to James Smithin. (b) 'Cooper's Poetical Works', Freeman Smithin.

At the 1881 census, age 20, Freeman was living at High Street, Gomersal, York and described as a CornMiller, either in a job or perhaps working as an apprentice.²⁰⁷

Henry Broschomb, Head, age 32, born Adwalton York, Mechanical Engineers Clerk
Emma Officer Broschomb, Wife, age 33, born Gainsbro Lincoln
Bertha Parker, Visitor, age 8, born Adwalton, York, Scholar
Freeman Smithon, Boarder, unmarried, age 20, born Wadborough, Cornmiller
Harry Wm. Mower, Boarder, unmarried, age 18, born Buckenham Norfolk, Cornmiller
Arthur Milner, Boarder, unmarried, age 19, born Barnsley, Cornmiller

In 1889 Freeman rode in two local point to point races.^{208 209} Later he rode in point to point races for the Croome Hunt.^{210 211}

Ledbury – April 1889

Malvern Wells – April 1889

Croome Hunt point to point – April 1890

Croom Hunt point to point – April 1902

Freeman was involved with the Croome Hunt over several years and was present at the following meetings and meets.^{212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221}

February 1892, October 1895, January 1896, April 1896, May 1896, March 1899, November 1901, January 1902, May 1902, November 1902

At the 1891 census, age 29, Freeman was at home at Wadborough Farm, single and unemployed. His profession was listed as Farm Manager.

Freeman attended a meeting of local farmers in December 1891.²²²

Worcester Journal 19th December 1891

A meeting of Agriculturists was held at the Crown Hotel on Monday to consider the desirability of reviving the suspended County Agricultural Society. Present: Freeman Smithin.

Freeman was involved in a local court case in 1895.²²³

Worcester Journal Saturday 9th November 1895

Worcester County Petty Sessions

Poaching. John Jones (26), labourer, Worcester, was summoned for day poaching at Stoulton on Oct. 13th. Mr. Freeman Smithin, manager to his mother, Wadborough, stated that he saw the defendant and other men at some rabbit holes in a field. When they saw him they ran away. He ran after defendant and overtook him, and he had a ferret then in his possession. Defendant was sent to prison for a month.

Freeman sold some sheep at the Worcester fair in 1899.²²⁴

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 23rd September 1899

Worcester Great Fair

The 19th of September has come round again, and with it the city's annual cheese and hop fair.

Auctioneers' Sales

60 theaves from Mr. Freeman Smithin up to 41s 6d.

(A 'theave' is a young female sheep.)

Freeman was listed in Kelly's directory for Worcestershire 1900 at: The Court, Stoulton.²²⁵

He attended the funeral of his mother in 1900 along with many other family members.

At the 1901 census he was living at Stoulton Village.²²⁶

*Freeman Smithin, Head, single, age 39, born Holy Cross Pershore, Farmer
Annie Addis, Housekeeper, single age 53, born Herefordshire*

In Kelly's directory of 1904 he was listed as a resident of Stoulton, at 'The Court'.²²⁷ In the 1908 and 1912 Directories he was listed as a Farmer at Boxmoor (?) and Boxbush Farm. Elizabeth (his mother) was listed as the Farmer in 1880.²²⁸

At the 1911 census he was still living in Stoulton.²²⁹

1911 Census

Stoulton, Worcs

Smithin Freeman, Boss, Single, age 49, Farmer, Holy Pershore

Nicholls Lambert, Nephew, single, age 20, Poultry farmer, born Cotheridge, Worcester

Jones Elizabeth, House keeper, single, age 52, Housekeeper domestic, born Pedington Gloucester

Nicholls was the son of his sister Ellen and William Nicholls.

Freeman died on the 14th March 1914, age 52; registered at Pershore in the March quarter.^{230 231}

Birmingham Daily Post, 24th March 1914

Smithin – On the 14th inst., at Bush Hill Farm, Stoulton, Freeman Smithin, aged 52, Funeral, Wednesday, March 18th, at Stoulton Church, 2pm.

There is a memorial at Stoulton.²³²

*In affectionate remembrance of
Freeman Smithin
Late of Boxbush Farm*

*Third son of the late
Joseph Smithin
of Wadborough
who died March 14th 1914 aged 52 years
Take ye heed, watch and pray
For ye know not when the time is.*

Ellen Smithin (1863-1922). Ellen Eliza (or Elisa). The daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth. She was born at Wadborough in 1863; registered at Pershore in the September quarter.²³³

At the 1871 census, aged 8, she was living at home at Wadborough Farm.

At the 1881 census, age 17, she was visiting her sister Elizabeth Davis at Hope Farm, Martley.

Ellen married William Lambert Nicholls (1861-1929) in 1887; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.^{234 235}

Marriages

*Nicholls – Smithin. April 18th. At Holy Cross Church, Pershore, by the Rev. Canon Walters ?
William Lambert Nicholls, of Cotherbridge, to Ellen Eliza, second daughter of the late Joseph
Smithin of Wadborough.*

At the 1891 census they were living at Cotheridge near Martley.²³⁶

1891 Census

*Great Horndean?, Cotheridge, Martley, Worcestershire
William Lambert Nicholls, Head, married, age 36, born Rochford, Worcestershire
Ellen Eliza Nicholls, married, age 27, born Pershore
Catherine Ellen Nicholls, daughter, age 2, born Cotheridge
Madeline Nicholls, daughter, age 1, born Cotheridge
William Lambert Nicholls, son, age 9 months, born Cotheridge
Henrietta Aslett, Servant, single, age 30, Mother's help, born Stokerington?, Middlesex
Mary Hartland, Servant, single, age 18, General servant, born Hinton, Warwickshire
Floriana Ann Bragh, Servant, single, age 18, Nurse Domestic, born Suckley, Worcestershire*

Their son William (1890-1915) was killed in the First World War.²³⁷

*William Lambert Nicholls - Private, Queen's Own Worcestershire Hussars (Worcester Yeomanry).
Service No 2355. Died aged 24 on 15th March 1915. Son of William Lambert Nicholls and Ellen
Eliza Nicholls. Stoulton (St Edmund) Churchyard.*

Ellen died on the 24th September 1922 in Worcester and was buried in Stoulton churchyard²³⁸. The inscription on the memorial is:-

In loving memory of Ellen Eliza Nicholls of Boughton Street, St Johns who died September 24th 1922 aged 59 years. Thy will de done. Also of William Lambert Nicholls husband of the above who died July 20th 1929 aged 67 years. In but of darkness came the light.

Ellen was referred to as 'my late sister' by her brother James in his Will of 1927.

Mary Smithin (b.1865). Mary. The daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth. She was born at Wadborough in 1865; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.²³⁹

At the 1871 census, aged 6, she was living at home at Wadborough Farm.

At the 1881 census she was at Boarding School in Worcester.²⁴⁰

Clifton House Henwick, Worcester, St. Clement, Worcester - Mary Smithin, Pupil, unmarried, age 15, born Pershore, Scholar

Mary married William Bach from Northampton, a bank clerk, on the 11th May 1892 at Peshore Holy Cross; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.²⁴¹ William was living at New Milverton (near Leamington Spa) and Mary was resident in Wadborough. William's father was Thomas Bach a farmer. The witnesses were T. Bach, M. Horniblow (Mary's Aunt), Joseph Smithin (probably her brother Joseph Ernest) and Ada Smithin her younger sister.²⁴² William was born in Stokesay, Shropshire in about 1863.

At the 1901 census Mary and William were living at Snowscomb House, Everdon, Northamptonshire with William's brother Edward and his family. William was described as a Bank Cashier.²⁴³

Mary was still living in 1927 when she was mentioned in the Will of her brother James. William was the Manager of Lloyds bank in Cannock (Staffordshire); he had died by 1927.

Frank Smithin (1867-1916). The son of Joseph and Elizabeth. He was born at Wadborough in 1867; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.²⁴⁴

At the 1871 census, aged 4, he was living at home at Wadborough Farm.
At the 1881 census he was a boarder at the Abbey School, Tewkesbury.²⁴⁵

Smithin Frank, age 13, scholar, born Wadborough, boarder at Abbey School

He was listed in an address book of 'Old Theocsbrians'.²⁴⁶

F. Smithin; Wadborough near Worcester; 1879-1881

Frank was a notable footballer playing at County level.²⁴⁷

Gloucester Citizen, Saturday 24 December 1887

Football

Gloucester II v Roath (Cardiff). The team to represent Gloucester II against Roath on Monday will be selected from the following. J Oswell, E Smith, R Stoddart, R Dere, H Franklin, W G Roberts (captain), O H Jones, E H Kilminster, A Gorin, A H Brown, R George, R Lewis, S Clutterbuck, W Milnes, T Collins, D Minahan, E Ellis, and F Smithin.

Frank attended a ball in Severn Stoke in 1890.²⁴⁸

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 1st Februrary 1890

Severn Stoke. Invitation Ball.

The first invitation ball under the auspices of the Severn Stoke Tennis Club took place in the Assembly room at the Boars Head Inn, kept by Mr. J Howship, on Thursday, January 16th. The following is a list of names of the guests who attended:- Mr. I. Smithin, Mr. J. Smithin, Miss Smithin, Miss A. Smithin, Mr. Frank Smithin ...

At the 1891 census, aged 23, he was at home at Wadborough Farm.

In 1892 Frank was a witness in a local court case.²⁴⁹

Worcester Journal Saturday 6th August 1892

County Petty Sessions. Worcester. Tuesday, Theft of Mushrooms.

Thomas Rudge, labourer, Norton, was charged with stealing mushrooms, at Stoulton on July 24th, the property of James Firkins. Prosecutor gave evidence in support of the charge, and said the defendant had 20lbs. of mushrooms with him. He refused to desist, and said he would pick all the mushrooms in the place. It was five o'clock in the morning. Frank Smithin, Wadborough, said the mushrooms were cultivated. Defendant, being an old offender, was sentenced to prison for three weeks and ordered to pay the costs, or in default an additional seven days.

In 1894 Frank was a witness in another local court case.^{250 251}

Worcester Journal Saturday 23rd June 1894

Persore. Charges of game trespass.

James Etkins, labourer, Wadborough, was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on land in the occupation of Charles Jelf at Wadborough, on May 26th. Mr. A. Baker appeared for the complainant. Defendant pleaded not guilty. Matthew Corbett, Wadborough, said he saw the defendant come down Jelf's allotment and shoot a rabbit. Frank Smithin corroborated. Defendant said he shot the rabbit on an adjoining allotment, on which land he had permission to shoot ...

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 23rd June 1894

Pershore Petty Sessions In Pursuit of Game.

James Etkins, labourer, Wadborough, was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on land in the occupation of Charlesn Jelf, on May 26. Mr. J.G. Baker (Pershore) appeared for the complainant. Matthew Corbett, labourer, said he saw Etkins shoot a rabbit, pick it up, and walk away. Frank Smithin, farmer, corroborated. Fined £1, including costs.

Frank was a member of the Croome Hunt and is listed as taking part in the meet on the following dates.^{252 253 254 255 256 257}

October 1895

January 1896

February 1896

April 1896

November 1902

Frank was at a meeting for the Croome Hunt in March 1899.²⁵⁸

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 25th March 1899

The Presentation to Mr. Wrangham.

A meeting was held at the Crown Hotel, on Saturday afternoon, of farmers and supporters of the Croome Hunt, with reference to the testimonial which it is proposed to present to Mr. A.B. Wrangham, upon his resigning the Mastership of the Hunt.

Frank attended a meeting about the local fat stock sales in November 1899.

Worcestershire Chronicle, Saturday 11th November 1899

Worcester Christmas Fat Stock Sales.

On Saturday last a meeting of farmers, graziers, and others interested in the above sales, was held at the Star Hotel for the purpose of arranging what steps should be taken to improve the exhibits at these annual sales.

In September 1900 Frank attended the funeral for his mother at Holy Cross, Pershore, along with many other members of the family.²⁵⁹

In Kelly's directory for 1900, 1904, 1908, 1912, 1916 he is listed as a Farmer at Muckenhill, Stoulton.²⁶⁰ Muckenhill is at Norton Juxta Kempsey a few miles from Stoulton. It was also known as Mucknell Farm.

At the 1902 census Frank was living at Hill Farm, Stoulton.²⁶¹

*Frank Smithin, head, age 33, single, born Holy Cross, Pershore
Minnie JW Mead, House Keeper, age 41, married, born Ryde Isle of Wight, Housekeeper
Domestic*

In 1902 Frank was fined for mistreating a horse.^{262 263}

Frank Smithin, farmer of Norton, was charged with furiously driving a horse and trap in Sidbury. Mr Thomas, an inspector of the SPCA, said the rate at which the defendant turned a corner had been a distinct danger to other traffic and the public. The defendant pleaded that the horse was very young and nervous in town. He was fined one shilling.

Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 9th August 1902

Worcester City Police. Horse a bit Fresh

Frank Smithin, Norton, was charged with furiously driving a horse and trap in Sidbury on July 21st. P.C. Stevens gave evidence, and the defendant admitted the offence. He said that the animal was a young mare, and it was 'a bit fresh'. Fined 1s. and 12s. costs.

Frank married Decima Harriet Eaton in 1904; registered at Upton in the June quarter.²⁶⁴ Decima was born on the 25th March 1879.

At the 1911 census they were living at Muckenhill farm.²⁶⁵

1911 Census

Mucknal Farm, Norton, Worcs

Smithin Frank, head, married, age 43, farmer, born Wadborough, Worcs

Smithin Decima, wife, married, 7 years, age 32, born Wickerton, Wolverton

Eaton Ruth, sister in law, single, age 27, born Wickerton, Wolverton

Smithin Elizabeth Mary, daughter, age 5, born Hill Farm, Norton

Frank died, aged 49, on the 17th June 1916; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.²⁶⁶ There is a memorial at Stoulton.

*Frank Smithin. June 1916 of Muckenhill in this Parish
aged 49 years*

..... wife died 1973 age years

Frank's death was reported in a local paper.²⁶⁷

Banbury Advertiser, Thursday 22nd June 1916

Worcestershire Sportsman's Death. The death has occurred at Hill Farm, Whittington, Worcestershire, of Mr. Frank Smithin, a well known member of the Croome and Worcestershire Hunts, and also a supported of a small pack run by farmer-sportsmen in the Croome district. He was in his younger days a notable local footballer. Mr. Smithin was 49 years of age.

The farm was put up for sale shortly after this.²⁶⁸

There were two Smithins mentioned one was the late Mr Frank Smithin (his representatives were dealing with the property) and the other was Mr J. E. Smithin these are the entries:-

6. Muckenhill Farm Whittington, tenant Mr Frank Smithin, Quantity 198a 1r 39p rental £107 15s 0p apportioned

I have no information about the auction but the folder does give an insight as to what the properties looked like it is far too much for me to type out so I can only say that Muckenhill farm must have been of some size as it had a well six bedrooms, servants room, two store rooms, an American range, two furnaces and a few other things.

In 2008 or thereabouts a tree ring analysis of some timbers in the farm buildings (which no longer survive) showed that they were felled in the early summary of 1439 and the farm was probably part of Manor of Stoulton which can be traced back to the 16th century.

After Frank died Decima moved to a house called 'The Mount' in Stoulton. The Mount was used by the army for convalescing soldiers in the 1914-1918 war so the move was probably in 1918/1919.

The family were still living at Mount Pleasant in 1939.²⁶⁹

1939 Register

Mount Pleasant, Pershore Road, Stoulton#

Decima H Smithin, b. 25 March 1879, widow, Household duties

Elizabeth M Smithin, b. 9 May 1905, single, Unpaid Housework

Ruth B Eaton, b.28 May 1884, single, Unpaid Housework#

Annie B Rees, b. 7 May 1893, single, incapacitated

Robert A Sidney, b. 27 Jun 1861, married, retired journalist#

Florence Clough, b. 29 May 1857, retired, single

Catherine Clough, b. 27 July 1859, single, Teach of Music (retired)

The following article describes something of life at The Mount.²⁷⁰

Comings and goings at The Mount

It's a place too which had played a key role in the life of Michael Dowty, the well known local photographer and author of top-selling pictorial books on Worcester past and present, that Age of Steam, and of London. From infancy, he was taken out regularly to 'The Mount' by his parents and relatives who were close friends of the family then living there. Throughout life, Michael has looked on it as his second home, though for the past 10 years it has been very much his first home too ans that of wife Elizabeth and daughters Fiona and Bridget.

They bought the property in 1980, transferring from their previous home in London Road, Worcester.

But alas there's now a 'For Sale' sign outside 'The Mount'

The family are planning to move to Cheltenham, which means a big wrench for Michael from a house with a special place in his affections and from South Worcestershire, which has been home to several generations of Downtys ...

During the many years Michael looked on 'The Mount' as his second home, the head of the household was Decima Harriett "Mum" Smithin (maiden name, Eaton), the widow of Frank Smithin who farmed at Norton near Worcester but died at only 49.

In the house with her were her daughter Elizabeth, her sister Ruth Blanche Eaton, a friend Miss Blowden Reece, and from time to time her two other sisters Ethel and Clara.

"There was such a constant coming and going that it was sometimes difficult to know who was visiting", recalls Michael...

"The house always seemed full of people with the Smithins taking every opportunity to have get-togethers, indoors and out, from Christmas parties illuminated by oil lamps and firelight to fancy dress festivities and croquet games on the lawn.

"I spent some of my summer holidays at Stoulton and was also taken there at Christmas when the house was cold but full of personal warmth".

"Mum" Smithin died in 1973 at the age of 93, while her daughter collapsed at the wheel of her car in Worcester in 1980 at the age of 75.

Decima was left a bequest in the Will of her brother in law James Smithin in 1931 (the will was drawn up in 1927).

Decima died on the 12th January 1973 aged 93; registered at Pershore in the March quarter.²⁷¹

Decima and Frank had one daughter Elizabeth Mary.

Elizabeth Smithin (1905-1980). Elizabeth Mary. Known as Bet. The daughter of Frank and Decima. She was born on the 9th May 1905. She did not marry and lived with her mother and an Aunt Ruth Blanche Eaton.

She was the Godmother of Michael Dowty (a local historian and photographer).

Elizabeth collapsed whilst driving her car in Worcester and died, aged 75; registered at Worcester in the June quarter.²⁷²

Ada Smithin (1870-1953). Ada Margaret. The daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth. She was born in Wadborough in 1870; registered at Pershore in the June quarter.²⁷³

At the 1871 census, aged 6 months, she was living at home at Wadborough Farm.

At the 1881 census she was away at Boarding School; 'Old Road Park Hall' in Kempsey, Worcestershire.²⁷⁴

Smithin Ada, age 10, scholar, born Wadborough, border, head of household Elizabeth Edmonds

At the 1891 census, aged 20, she was at home at Wadborough Farm.

Ada married Edward Bach (1868-1948) of Far Cotton, Northampton in 1897; registered at Pershore in the March quarter.²⁷⁵ Edward was the brother of William Bach who married Ada's sister Mary.

At the 1901 census they were living at Snowcomb House, Everdon, Northamptonshire.²⁷⁶

1901 Census

Snowcomb House, Everdon, Daventry, Northampton

Edward Bach, Head, married, age 32, Farmer, Employer, born Onibury Shropshire

Ada M Bach, Wife, married, age 30, born Pershore

Edward V Bach, son, age 3, born Courteenhall, Northampton

Ada M Bach, daughter, age 1, born Everdon, Northampton

William Bach, brother, married, age 38, Bank Cashier, born Stokesay, Shropshire

Mary Bach, sister in law, married, age 35, born Pershore, Worcestershire

Alice Castle, servant, single, age 18, servant (Domestic), born Forthampton Northampton

Alice J Judkins, servant, single, age 14, servant (Domestic), born Everdon Northampton

Ada was left a bequest in the Will of her brother James.

Ada died on the 30th January 1953 at Hill Farm, Upper Heyford. Probate was granted on 18th April 1953 to Arthur William Bach, farmer, and Ada Mary North, married woman. £4,769 16s 10d.²⁷⁷

Their children were: Arthur William (1905-1986), Edward Victor (1898-1899), Edward Victory (b.1899), Ada May North (née Bach) (1900-1998).

Mary Smithin (1823-1893). The daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth. She was christened on the 10th April 1823 at Stoulton.²⁷⁸

At the 1841 census she was living at home in Wadborough.

Mary married William Thorneloe Horniblow (1796-1868) in 1843; registered at Pershore in the December quarter.²⁷⁹ They had a son William (b.1844).²⁸⁰ William senior farmed at Bow Farm Ripple.

Some Roman remains were found at Bow Farm in 1838.

Having heard that some ancient that some pottery was, in the year 1838, discovered at Bow Farm in the parish of Ripple, situated about three miles from Tewkesbury and thirteen from Worcester, I went to the spot on the 27th, of October of that year, and in a pasture which lies on the eastern border of the Severn in Worcestershire, and is the next field but one to the verge of the county of Gloucester, I found that the workmen had made a drain twelve feet deep and upwards all across the pasture into the Severn, and that at about seventy yards from the river they had cut across a very slight rise in the pasture, which runs parallel with the Severn. Mr W T Horniblow, the tenant, and the workmen informed me that all the way through that part they found, at an average depth of about four feet, a stratum of black ashes and cinders with pieces of pottery; that they also occasionally below such stratum found similar fragments of pottery, and that the earth above the black stratum appeared to them to have been a gradual accumulation which had in the course of time been deposited by the occasional floods or overflowings of the river. The trench had been filled up again at the part in question before my arrival; but I picked up several pieces of pottery and oxidised bits of iron out of the earth which had been excavated; Mr Horniblow had previously collected several such fragments in the course of the work, all of which I have deposited in our Museum.²⁸¹

At the 1851 census Mary and William were at Bow Farm.²⁸²

1851 Census

Bow Farm, Ripple Worcestershire

William T Horniblow, Head, married, age 55, Farmer of 200? acres employing 8 men, born Severn Stoke

Mary Horniblow, Wife, married, age 28, born Holy Cross, Pershore

William T Horniblow, son, age 6, born Ripple

Clement S Horniblow, son, age 5, born Ripple

Mary C Horniblow, daughter, age 3, born Ripple

Helen C Horniblow, daughter, 5 months, born Ripple

Ann Lilley, Governess, unmarried, age 22, Private Governess, born Hanbury

Elizabeth Andrews, Niece, unmarried, age 21, born Severn Stoke

Ellen Horniblow, Niece, unmarried, age 14, General servant, born Severn Stoke

Eliz Jones, Servant, unmarried, age 15, Nurse, born Tewkesbury

William was an executor for the Will of Mary's father Benjamin.

At the 1861 census they were living at Ripple.²⁸³

1861 Census

Farm House, Ripple, Worcestershire

William T Horniblow, Head, married, age 65, farming 220 acres employing 6 men and 2 boys, born Severn Stoke

Mary Horniblow, Wife, married, age 38, Farmer's wife, born Holy Cross Pershore

William T Horniblow, Son, unmarried, age 16, born Ripple

Mary E Horniblow, Daughter, unmarried, age 13, Scholar, born Ripple

Helen E Horniblow, Daughter, age 10, Scholar, born Ripple

Edith A Horniblow, Daughter, age 1, born Ripple

Ann Woodward, Niece, unmarried, age 31, Governess, born Holy Cross, Pershore

Ann Conybere, Servant, unmarried, age 23, Housemaid, born Birlingham

Sarah Giles, Servant, unmarried, age 19, Dairymaide and Cook, born Beverley, Gloucestershire

William died on the 20th March 1868, age 72; registered at Tewkesbury in the March quarter.^{284 285}

At the 1871 census Mary, aged 48, was visiting her brother Joseph at Wadborough. She was described as a Widow.

Another William Thorneloe Horniblow was christened at Ripple on the 28th July 1874; probably a grandson of William Horniblow and Mary Smithin.

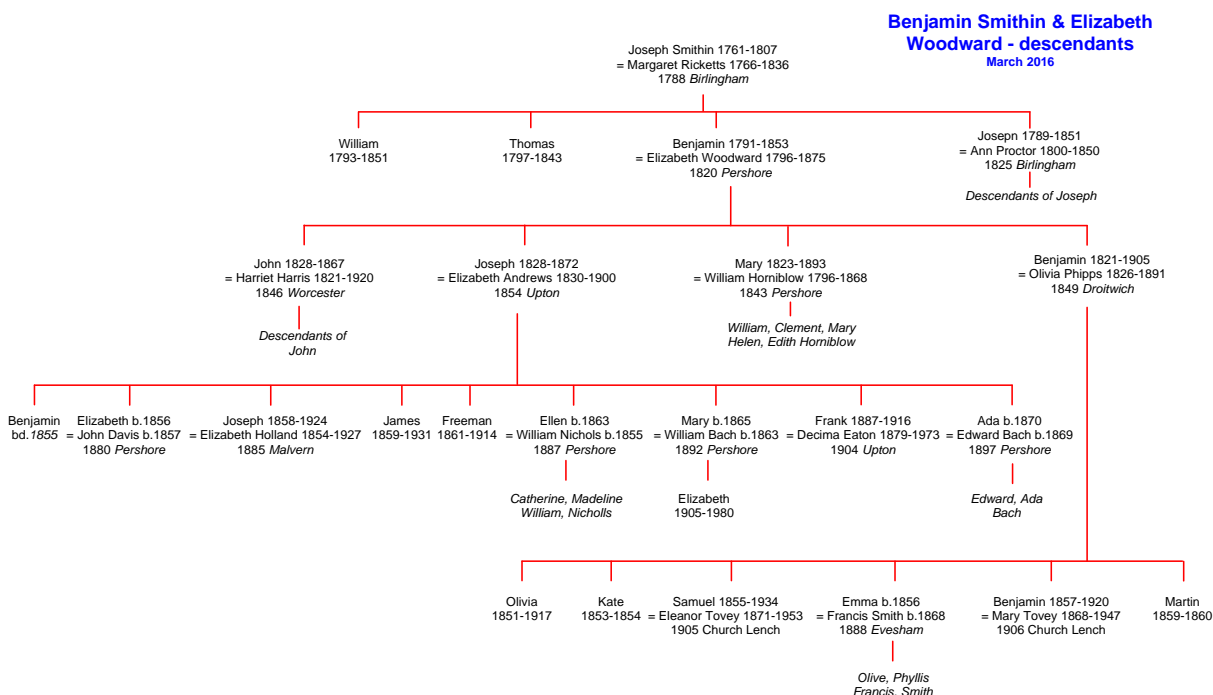
At the 1881 Census Ripple farm was described as 680 acres employing 15 men and 3 boys and was farmed by their son William and his wife Susanna.²⁸⁶

At the 1881 census Mary, age 48, was visiting or living at Wadborough farm.

At the 1891 census Mary, age 68, was visiting or living at Wadborough farm.

Mary was probably the Mary Horniblow who died, aged 70, in 1893; registered at Cheltenham in the June quarter.²⁸⁷

Family Tree



¹ Birlingham Parish registers 1791

² FFHS: Worcestershire marriages: Benj. Smithin = Eliz Woodward 5/12/1820 at Birlingham

³ Worcester Journal Thursday 5th May 1831

⁴ 1841 Census. Wadborough, Worcestershire. HO 107 1206/16

⁵ Worcester Journal Thursday 24th August 1843

⁶ WRO: Will of Benjamin Smithin 1846

⁷ Kelly's Directory, Worcestershire. 1850

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- ⁸ 1851 Census. Birlingham. HO 107 2045
- ⁹ PRO: Deaths. Benjamin Smithin, Mar 1853, Pershore 6c 18
- ¹⁰ Worcester Journal Thursday 3rd February 1853
- ¹¹ Index To Death Duty Registers 1796-1903, Benjamin Smithin 1853, Ref:IR27/307
- ¹² 1861 Census. Stoulton, Worcestershire. RG10/2105
- ¹³ 1871 Census. Stoulton, Worcestershire
- ¹⁴ Littlebury's Directory for Worcestershire 1873
- ¹⁵ PRO: Deaths. Elizabeth Smithin, Mar. 1875, Pershore 6c 295.
- ¹⁶ Memorial, Pershore Abbey, 1875
- ¹⁷ Proverbs. 4:18
- ¹⁸ IGI: Benjamin Smithin, christening, 1821
- ¹⁹ PRO: Marriage certificate of Benjamin Smithin. Crowle 17 May 1849
- ²⁰ PRO: Marriages, Benjamin Smithin, Jun. 1849, Droitwich 18 397
- ²¹ 1851 Census. Church Lench, Worcestershire. HO 107 2044
- ²² Land Assessment by Stephen Protherrough Architecture in 2011
- ²³ Other days: Other ways. Part II. Being the reminiscences of the late G F Bombford (1837-1933) of Atch Lench. Frances E. Bomford (ed). 1934.
- ²⁴ Other days: Other ways. Part II. Being the reminiscences of the late G F Bombford (1837-1933) of Atch Lench. Frances E. Bomford (ed). 1934.
- ²⁵ Other days: Other ways. Part II. Being the reminiscences of the late G F Bombford (1837-1933) of Atch Lench. Frances E. Bomford (ed). 1934.
- ²⁶ WRO: Will of Joseph Smithin, proved 1851
- ²⁷ Kelly's Directory Worcestershire 1860
- ²⁸ 1861 Census. Church Lench, Worcestershire. RG10/2105
- ²⁹ Agreement between John, Benjamin and Joseph Smithin Dec.1862, WRO.
- ³⁰ British Farmer's Magazine - Page 150. 1863
- ³¹ Worcestershire Chronicle. Wednesday 16th November 1864
- ³² Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 30th August 1865
- ³³ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 12th April 1865
- ³⁴ Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 8th May 1867
- ³⁵ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 11th September 1867
- ³⁶ The Times, 4th March 1868
- ³⁷ A History of Worcestershire Agriculture and Rural Evolution, by R.C Gaut, Littlebury & Co Publishers, 1939
- ³⁸ 1871 Census. Dumbleton, Gloucestershire. RG10/2658/55/9
- ³⁹ Return of owner's of Land 1873
- ⁴⁰ The Journal of the Royal Agricultural society of England. Volume Ninth - Page 270. 1873
- ⁴¹ Worcester Journal Saturday 02 December 1876
- ⁴² The Bankers' Magazine. 1869. p.1015
- ⁴³ Worcester Journal Saturday 9th August 1879
- ⁴⁴ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 18th August 1883
- ⁴⁵ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 16th August 1884
- ⁴⁶ The Stock Exchange year book for 1883. page 188
- ⁴⁷ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 15 August 1885
- ⁴⁸ Worcester Journal Saturday 19th July 1879
- ⁴⁹ 1881 Census. Dumbleton Gloucestershire RG11/3109/66/14
- ⁵⁰ 1881 Census. Salford Priors, Worcestershire
- ⁵¹ Economic Geography, July 1949, Vol. 25, No.3
- ⁵² Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 10th October 1887
- ⁵³ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 10th November 1888
- ⁵⁴ Kelly's Directories, Worcestershire, 1892, 1898, 1900, 1904
- ⁵⁵ WRO 705:359 2193 30
- ⁵⁶ PRO: Deaths, Olivia Smithin, Mar. 1891, Evesham 6c 230
- ⁵⁷ NBI: Olivia Smithin, Church Lench, Worcestershire, 1891
- ⁵⁸ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 21st March 1891
- ⁵⁹ Index of Wills and Administrations 1858 -1945 (National Probate Calendar).
- ⁶⁰ 1891 Census UK, Church Lench, Worcestershire
- ⁶¹ Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 19th December 1896
- ⁶² Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 6th June 1896
- ⁶³ 1901 Census UK, Church Lench, Worcestershire
- ⁶⁴ PRO:Deaths. Benjamin Smithin, aged 83, Mar. 1905 Evesham 6c 201
- ⁶⁵ Matthew. 11:28-30
- ⁶⁶ Gloucester Citizen, Saturday 25th March 1905
- ⁶⁷ National Index of Wills from 1858
- ⁶⁸ PRO: Births, Olivia Smithin, Sep 1851, Evesham 18 304
- ⁶⁹ 1871 Census UK, Cropthorne Worcestershire. RG10/3062/38/25
- ⁷⁰ PRO:Deaths, Olivia Smithin, Dec. 1917, Keynsham 5c 651
- ⁷¹ Index of Wills and Administrations 1858 -1945 (National Probate Calendar).
- ⁷² PRO:Births, Kate Smithin, Jun. 1853, Evesham 6c 282

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- ⁷³ Memorial, Church Lench Worcestershire, Kate Elizabeth Smithin 1854
- ⁷⁴ Matthew: 19:14
- ⁷⁵ Malvern College Year Book c.1920
- ⁷⁶ Malvern College Year Book c.1920
- ⁷⁷ 1871 Census UK, Malvern Worcestershire
- ⁷⁸ Worcestershire exhibition, 1882. Official catalogue - Page 88
- ⁷⁹ PRO:Marriages, Samuel Smithin, Dec. 1905, Pershore 6c 573
- ⁸⁰ Family information
- ⁸¹ Conveyance SP Smithin and BA Smithin, c.1906 WRO 705:477
- ⁸² Worcestershire Naturalists' Club, Carleton Rea - 1907
- ⁸³ Kelly's Directory, Eckington Worcestershire 1908
- ⁸⁴ Eckington by A W Fletcher, Oxford University Press, 1933
- ⁸⁵ PRO:Deaths, Samuel Smithin, Mar. 1934, Pershore 6c 250
- ⁸⁶ National Index of Wills from 1858
- ⁸⁷ Cheltenham Chronicle Saturday 31st March 1934
- ⁸⁸ Gloucestershire Echo, 2nd December 1934
- ⁸⁹ PRO:Deaths, Eleanor Smithin, Dec. 1953, Pershore 9d 168
- ⁹⁰ National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1966
- ⁹¹ PRO:Births, Emma Smithin, Dec 1856, Pershore 6c 537
- ⁹² 1871 Census UK, St Mathon, Ledbury, Herefordshire: RG10/2681/36/16
- ⁹³ PRO:Marriages, Emma Smithin. Dec 1888, Evesham 6c 537
- ⁹⁴ IGI:Emma Florence Smithin, Marriage, Church Lench 1888
- ⁹⁵ 1891 Census UK, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire: RG12/2335/18/5
- ⁹⁶ 1901 Census UK, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire: RG13/2788/25/6
- ⁹⁷ PRO: Births. Smithin Benjamin Abel, June 1858. Evesham 6c 318
- ⁹⁸ 1871 Census UK, Cheltenham. RG10/2665/41/1
- ⁹⁹ 1891 Census UK, Dumbleton, Worcestershire
- ¹⁰⁰ PRO:Births, Benjamin Smithin, Jun. 1906, Evesham 6c 587
- ¹⁰¹ Marriage certificate of Benjamin Abel Smithin and Mary Tovey, Church Lench 1906
- ¹⁰² Kelly's Directory Worcestershire, Eckington 1908
- ¹⁰³ PRO:Deaths, Benjamin Smithin, Sep. 1920, Pershore 6c 155
- ¹⁰⁴ National Index of Wills from 1858 - 1920
- ¹⁰⁵ PRO:Deaths, Mary Smithin, Mar. 1947, Pershore 9d 250
- ¹⁰⁶ PRO:Births, Martin Smithin, Dec.1859, Evesham 6c 343
- ¹⁰⁷ Birmingham and Midlands Family History Society Records
- ¹⁰⁸ PRO:Deaths, Martin Smithin, Jun. 1861, Evesham 6c 173
- ¹⁰⁹ S Lewis Worcestershire General and Commercial Directory for 1820.
- ¹¹⁰ IGI: Joseph Smithin, christening, 1828
- ¹¹¹ 1841 Census, Hanley Castle, Worcestershire
- ¹¹² 1851 Census, Wadborough, Worcestershire
- ¹¹³ PRO: Marriages, Joseph Smithin, Jun. 1854, Upton 6c 457
- ¹¹⁴ PRO: Marriage certificate. Joseph Smithin and Elizabeth Andrews. 23 May 1854. Upton on Severn
- ¹¹⁵ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 31 May 1854
- ¹¹⁶ Worcester Herald Saturday 4th April 1857
- ¹¹⁷ Worcester Herald Saturday 2 May 1857
- ¹¹⁸ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 24 March 1858
- ¹¹⁹ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 29 December 1858
- ¹²⁰ Kelly's Directory Worcestershire 1860
- ¹²¹ 1861 Census, Wadborough Worcestershire: RG9/2105/88/2
- ¹²² Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 19th February 1862
- ¹²³ Worcester Journal Saturday 10th October 1863
- ¹²⁴ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 14th October 1863
- ¹²⁵ A History of Worcestershire Agriculture and Rural Evolution, by R.C Gaut, Littlebury & Co Publishers, 1939
- ¹²⁶ The Meteorology of England, Jame Glaisher, 1863, p.484
- ¹²⁷ Farmer's Gazetter and Journal of Practical Horticulture, Saturday 25th July 1863
- ¹²⁸ Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, 1867. p.456
- ¹²⁹ Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 29th June 1864
- ¹³⁰ Worcester Journal Saturday 18th April 1868
- ¹³¹ Worcester Journal 8th August 1868
- ¹³² Worcester Journal Saturday 22nd August 1868
- ¹³³ Worcester Journal SaturdaY 5th September 1868
- ¹³⁴ Worcester Journal Saturday 02 October 1869
- ¹³⁵ 1871 Census, Wadborough Worcestershire
- ¹³⁶ Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 18 January 1871
- ¹³⁷ Worcester Journal 6th April 1872
- ¹³⁸ Worcestershire Chronicle, Wednesday 28th February 1872
- ¹³⁹ National Index of Wills from 1858, Joseph Smithin 1872
- ¹⁴⁰ Family information from Ann Widdowson; Memorial at Pershore Abbey

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- 141 Worcestershire Chronicle Wednesday 03 July 1872
- 142 Worcestershire Chronicle 11th September 1872
- 143 Kelly's Directory Wadborough Worcestershire 1880
- 144 1881 Census UK, Wadborough Worcestershire
- 145 1891 Census UK, Wadborough Worcestershire
- 146 National Index of Wills from 1858, Elizabeth Smithin 1900
- 147 PRO: Deaths, Elizabeth Smithin, Dec. 1900, Martley 6c 159
- 148 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 29 September 1900
- 149 Family information from Ann Widdowson; Memorial at Pershore Abbey
- 150 IGI:Benjamin Smithin, christening, 1855
- 151 PRO:Births, Benjamin Smithin, Jun.1855, Pershore 6c 562?
- 152 PRO:Deaths, Benjamin Smithin, Sep. 1855, Pershore 6c 167
- 153 IGI:Elizabeth Smithin, christening, 1856
- 154 PRO:Births, Elizabeth Smithin, Jun. 1856, Pershore 6c ?
- 155 1871 Census UK, St Clements, Worcester, Worcestershire: RG10/3048/28/16
- 156 PRO:Marriages, Elizabeth Smithin, Dec 1880, Pershore 6c 557
- 157 Marriage certificate of Elizabeth Smithin and John Davis, Pershore 1880
- 158 1881 Census UK, Martley, Worcestershire
- 159 1891 Census UK, Martley, Worcestershire. RG12/2320/20/2
- 160 1901 Census UK, Martley, Worcestershire: RG13/2774/65/10
- 161 1911 Census, Martley, Worcestershire, RG14 PN17599
- 162 IGI:Joseph Smithin, christening, 1858
- 163 PRO:Births, Joseph Smithin, Mar. 1858, Pershore 6c 58
- 164 1871 Census UK, Hanley Castle, Worcestershire
- 165 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 8th November 1902.
- 166 Worcester Journal Saturday 9th November 1878
- 167 Worcester Journal Saturday 06 April 1878
- 168 Worcester Journal Saturday 8th October 1881
- 169 Worcestershire Chronicle 22nd October 1881
- 170 PRO:Marriages, Joseph Smithin, Mar. 1885, Upton 6c 375
- 171 Marriage of Joseph Ernest Smithin and Elizabeth Holland, Peshore 1881
- 172 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 27th November 1886
- 173 Worcester Journal 11th December 1886
- 174 Kelly's Directory, Stoulton Worcestershire, 1892, 1900, 1904, 1908
- 175 Worcester Journal Saturday 13th July 1895
- 176 1901Census, Stoulton, Worcestershire
- 177 Littlebury's directory, Worcestershire. 1908
- 178 1911 Census, Stoulton. Worcs.
- 179 Sale notice provided by R Deloyde c.1999
- 180 Memorial Stoulton Churchyard - Joseph Smithin
- 181 Matthew.6:9-13
- 182 National Index of Wills from 1858, Joseph Smithin 1924
- 183 Will of James Andrews Smithin, Gloucestershire 1927
- 184 National Index of Wills from 1858, Elizabeth Smithin 1927
- 185 PRO: Births, James Smithin, Dec. 1859, Pershore 6c 353
- 186 1871 Census UK, Hanley Castle, Worcestershire
- 187 Lloyds Bank, UK, Archives
- 188 Journal of the Institute of Bankers by Institute of Bankers - Banks and banking - 1879 Page 29
- 189 Proceedings of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club by Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club - Natural history - 1861 Page vi
- 190 1891 Census UK, St Michaels, Gloucester, RG12/2014/36/4
- 191 1901 Census UK. Eastgate S. Gloucester. RG13/2426/29/10
- 192 Who's Who Gloucester, 1910
- 193 1911 Census, Gloucester.
- 194 Journal of the Institute of Bankers, Page 29, 1911
- 195 Gloucester Citizen, Wednesday 24th April 1912
- 196 Transactions by Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society page 16, c.1909
- 197 BGAS: Transactions, 1918
- 198 Kelly's Directory for Gloucestershire. 1914 and 1915
- 199 London Gazette, Issue 30771, 28 June 1918 p 51.
- 200 Cheltenham Chronicle Saturday 04 April 1931
- 201 PRO: Deaths. James Smithin, Mar. 1931, Gloucester
- 202 National Index of Wills from 1858, James Smithin 1931
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- 205 PRO: Births. Freeman Smithin, Dec. 1861, Pershore 6c 328
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217 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 11th January 1902
218 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 24th May 1902
219 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 9th November 1901
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240 1881 Census UK, Worcester St Clement
241 PRO:Marriages, Mary Smithin, Jun 1892, Pershore 6c 583
242 Marriage Certificate, William Bach & Mary Smithin, Peshore 1892
243 1901 Census. Everdon Northamptonshire
244 PRO:Births, Frank Smithin, Jun. 1867, Pershore 6c 301
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263 Worcestershire Chronicle Saturday 9th August 1902
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273 PRO:Births. Ada Smithin, Dec. 1870, Pershore 6c 343
274 1881 Census UK, Kempsey, Worcestershire
275 PRO:Marriages, Ada Smithin, Mar. 1897, Pershore 6c 401

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- ²⁸⁵ Monumental inscription: William Thorneloe Horniblow, 20 March 1868
- ²⁸⁶ 1881 Census, UK Ripple Worcestershire
- ²⁸⁷ PRO: Deaths. Mary Horniblow, age 70, Jun. 1893, Cheltenham 6a 248
- PRO: Public Record Office
GRO: General Register Office
IGI: International Genealogical Index
WRO: Worcester Record Office