

Birth, parentage, marriage and death of Martha Miles

This brief evidences the details of the birth, parentage, marriage and death of Martha Miles.

Those details are –

Martha was baptised “privately” on 24th March 1743, and “publicly” on 27th March 1743, in Whatcote, Warwickshire.

She was baptised to Edward and Elizabeth Miles.

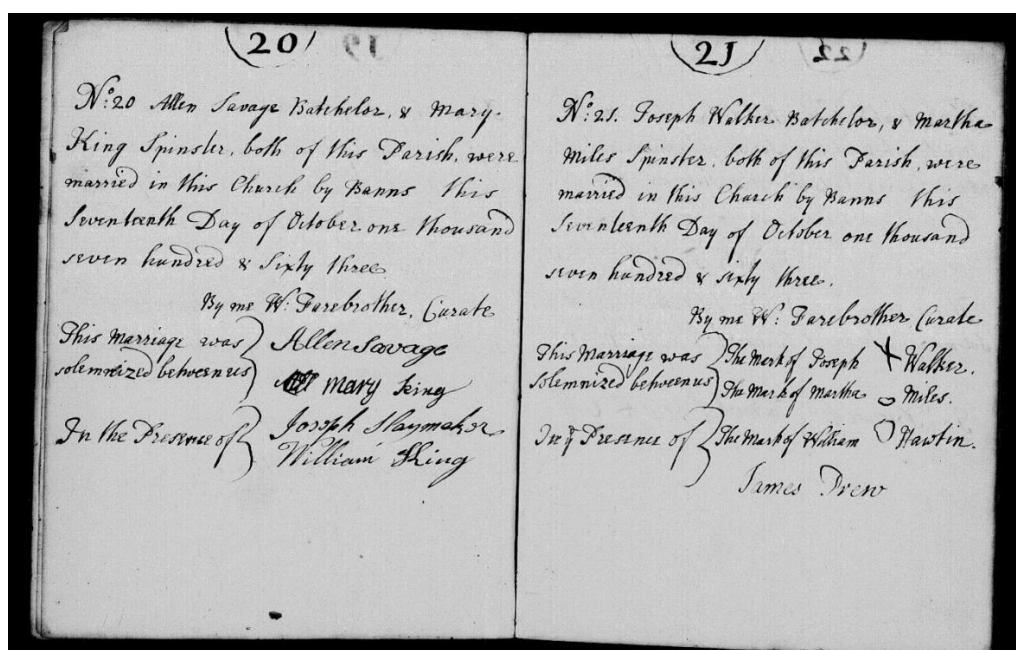
She married Joseph Walker senior on 17th October 1763 in Oxhill, Warwickshire.

She died and was buried in Oxhill, Warwickshire on 21st August 1803.

(The research for this brief was carried out in late 2025).

Martha's marriage

Martha married Joseph Walker senior on 17th October 1763 in Oxhill, Warwickshire, see the brief relating to him for verification of that fact. Page 21 below is the relevant page of the Oxhill parish marriages register, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FOXHILL%2FDR0024-03-00013>:



Martha's birth

A marriage in 1763 in Oxhill, Warwickshire indicates that Martha would have been born about 20 years or so earlier, and probably in or near Oxhill. (The marriage record confirms she was then of the Oxhill parish). A FindMyPast search did not locate any Martha Miles baptised in Oxhill between 1730 and 1750,¹ but one was baptised in 1743 to Edward and Elizabeth Miles in Whatcote, just over a mile south-west of Oxhill.² She was baptised "privately" on 24th March 1743, and "publicly" on 27th March 1743,³ see

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FWHATCOTE%2FDR0023-02-00017>:



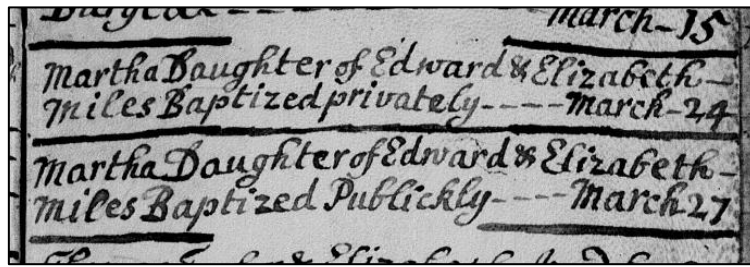
This is a close up of the relevant entries in the Whatcote parish register:

¹ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=100&firstname=martha&lastname=miles&yearofbirth=1740&yearofbirth_offset=10&keywordsplace=oxhill%2c+warwickshire%2c+england&keywordsplace_proximity=5&sourcecountry=england.

² Despite its proximity to Oxhill, Whatcote has its own church, St Peter's, see <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13110/>, and obviously at the time concerned, its own parish registers. See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/catalog/koha:97923> as to its available parish records. St Peter's is now a single "benefice" with the neighbouring parish of Oxhill (i.e. a single ecclesiastical office, effectively a single parish), see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whatcote>.

³ The earlier private baptism indicates that there may have been some concern about her surviving birth. See <https://www.ofhs.uk/resources/frequently-asked-questions-on-family-history/faq-baptisms>.



The FindMyPast search referred to above returned no other potential candidate baptism for Martha.⁴

A similar Family Search for any Martha Miles baptised in Oxhill about 1743⁵ also returned the Martha Miles baptised in Whatcote in March 1743, but additionally one baptised in Mancetter, Warwickshire on 8th February 1738. As Mancetter is 32 miles north of Oxhill and 32½ miles north of Whatcote, that Martha may safely be ignored in favour of the Whatcote candidate.

That Family Search search returned 82 results across Warwickshire, but except as above there was no other Martha Miles returned who was baptised between 1730 and 1750.⁶

Accordingly, Martha Miles was baptised “privately” on 24th March 1743, and “publickly” on 27th March 1743. She was baptised in Whatcote, Warwickshire to Edward and Elizabeth Miles.

Martha's death

A Martha Walker was buried in Oxhill on 21st August 1803, see

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FOSHILL%2FDR0024-02-00020>:

⁴ The search did return a Martha Miles buried in Shipston-on-Stour, 3½ miles south-west of Whatcote, on 9th October 1744, but this was not the Martha Miles baptised in Whatcote the previous year as she is described in the burial record as the “wife of James Miles”, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FSHIPSTON-ON-STOUR%2FDR0446-01-00129> and <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBUR%2F000864073&tab=this>.

⁵ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?q.anyDate.from=1743&q.birthLikePlace=Oxhill%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.givenName=martha&q.surname=Miles>.

⁶ The search returned an unnamed female baptised in 1731 in Exhall to William and Hannah Miles, see

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VH61-Z5N?lang=en>, but, even if she was a Martha, given that Exhall is 24½ miles north of Oxhill, she may also be safely ignored in favour of the Whatcote candidate. URLs of Family Search records linked herein include “61903”, presumably a specific member number, and likely need adapting to function.

April 17th. Ursula Dr of Wm & Rachel Middleton.
August 21st. Martha Walker.
November 13th. Sarah, wife of Wm. M. M.

Similar searches in Family Search (for any Martha Walker event in Warwickshire between 1783 and 1813) also returned the above burial in Oxhill on 21st August 1803 and no others.⁸ Extending the time period of the search to

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1783&q.deathLikeDate.to=1813&q.deathLikePlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England%2C%20United%20Kingdom&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=Martha&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Walker&q.surname.exact=on> (post 1801) and
<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1783&q.deathLikeDate.to=1813&q.deathLikePlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=Martha&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Walker&q.surname.exact=on> (pre-1801).

1843⁹ only returned additional burials after 1825 (when Martha would be about 82) in Birmingham and Bedworth, 30 miles north-north-west of Oxhill and 26 miles north of Oxhill respectively. Again, those may safely be ignored in favour of the Oxhill candidate.

Accordingly, Martha Walker was buried in Oxhill, Warwickshire on 21st August 1803.

⁹ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1783&q.deathLikeDate.to=1843&q.deathLikePlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England%2C%20United%20Kingdom&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=Martha&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Walker&q.surname.exact=on>.