

Birth, parentage, marriage and death of William Maycock

This brief evidences the details of the birth, parentage, marriage and death of William Maycock.

Those details are –

William’s baptism date is unknown, as is his place of baptism, although it is likely to be Fenny Compton, Warwickshire.

His parents are also unknown.

He married Anne Duckett on 31st March 1746 in Newbold Pacey, Warwickshire.

William’s date of death or burial could not be determined, and is thus unknown, as is his place of burial, although it is also likely to be Fenny Compton.

(The research for this brief was conducted in late 2025 and early 2026).

William’s marriage

William and Anne Maycock baptised their son James Maycock in Fenny Compton on 23rd July 1749, see the brief relating to James Maycock. Searches also located a Richard baptised in Fenny Compton to William and Anne¹ Maycock on 3rd May 1747, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY5C-GRJ?lang=en>.²

The screenshot displays a FamilySearch record for Richard Maycock. The record is titled "Richard Maycock" and is categorized as "Vital • England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975". It includes a "SAVE" button, an "EDIT" button, and a "SHARE" button. The record details are as follows:

Field	Value
Name	Richard Maycock
Sex	Male
Father's Name	William Maycock
Father's Sex	Male
Mother's Name	Anna
Mother's Sex	Female
Event Type	Christening
Event Date	3 May 1747
Event Place	Fenny Compton, Warwickshire, England
Event Place (Original)	Fenny Compton, Warwick, England

Attached in Tree to: [Richard Maycock](#) (1747-Deceased • LQ25-QNP)

Similar Records: No similar records were found.

Document Information: Collection Information: [England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975](#)

Cite This Record: "England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY5C-GRJ : 4 February 2023), Richard Maycock, 1747.

Richard Maycock's Parents and Siblings: [William Maycock](#) (Father, M), [Anna](#) (Mother, F)

¹ An examination of an image of the original baptism record shows that the mother’s name is actually “Anne”, not “Anna” as written in the above Family Search record, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-02-00003>. The vicar writes an “e” almost like an “o”, not an “a”, as can be seen from the various renditions of the letter “e” in the word “daughter” written in entries in that image.

² URLs of Family Search records linked herein include “61903”, presumably a specific member number, and likely need adapting to function.

A Family Search search³ for Maycock events in Fenny Compton around 1750 located no other baptisms to William and Ann/Anne Maycock. A like FindMyPast search⁴ resulted in the same outcome.⁵

However, notwithstanding those two searches, another baptism to William and Ann Macock was later located during manual examination of Fenny Compton's parish registers in FindMyPast, namely a Hannah baptised on 20th June 1761, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-02-00011>.

The date of Richard's baptism suggests that William and Anne had married by at least 1747, although it may have been earlier than that, as there might be undiscovered baptism records for an earlier child or children of theirs, as many entries in Fenny Compton's records of the time are missing, obscure and/or in disarray (see below), and, also, families of the time consistently had more children than just three.

A FindMyPast search for a William Maycock event in Fenny Compton between 1740 and 1760⁶ returned only one relevant marriage,⁷ to an Anne Duckett on 31st March 1746 in Newbold Pacey, 8 miles north-east of Fenny Compton. Notwithstanding that location, William is specifically noted in the parish register entry as being from Fenny Compton (see below). The marriage was likely in Newbold Pacey as Anne's residence is given as Ashorn, a village which is part of the parish of Newbold Pacey,⁸ and just over ½ mile east of that town.

A search for William Maycock/Macock/Meacock events between 1740 and 1760 in FindMyPast's Warwickshire Marriages record set returned no additional records.⁹ The like search in FindMyPast's Warwickshire Banns

³ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.anyDate.from=1750&q.anyPlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.anyPlace.exact=on&q.surname=Maycock>.

⁴ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=998&lastname=maycock&eventyear=1755&eventyear_offset=10&keywords=fenny+compton. The search returned a 1746 Dorothy christening, but that was to John and Mary Maycock, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00002>. The search also returned the marriage by licence on 20th December 1764 of a William Maycock of Fenny Compton to a Mary Potter, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FMAR%2F000147344%2F1&tab=this>, but this was not a second marriage for William, as the licence dated 12th December 1764 states that the groom was "abt. 25 Years of Age & a Batchelor", see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007619188%2F00541&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FMARRLICENCE%2F102564%2F1>. The marriage was in Avon Dassett, 1½ miles south-south-west of Fenny Compton. Mary Potter is stated in the licence to be a widow.

⁵ It did however, return an Ann Maycock buried in Fenny Compton on 3rd July 1759, see

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00009>. As noted in the brief relating to Anne Duckett, this was not her.

⁶ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&eventyear=1750&eventyear_offset=10&keywords=fenny+compton&firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&sid=998.

⁷ The FindMyPast search also returned a William Macock marriage in Fenny Compton in 1747, but it was to an Elizabeth Brown, see https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBOR%2FPHILLIMOREMARS%2FYPPWAR01%2F0012_1&parentid=GBOR%2FPHILLIMOREMARS%2F0247456%2F1 and <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00003>. The search also returned a William Macock marriage in Fenny Compton in 1748, but the linked image with the parish register entry was the same image linked to the just mentioned 1747 marriage. Examination of the image reveals why the software read the year as 1748, with the words "Weddings 1748" written next to the marriage, but obviously intended to apply to entries following. The only other William Maycock marriage in Fenny Compton returned on the search was much later, in 1778, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBOR%2FPHILLIMOREMARS%2FYPPWAR01%2F0015&parentid=GBOR%2FPHILLIMOREMARS%2FYPPWAR01%2F0015>. Notably, the search also missed the baptism in Fenny Compton of a Francis to William and Elizabeth Maycock on 30th September 1749, which was located via another search, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NG1H-YTL?lang=en>.

⁸ See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashorne>.

⁹ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=100&firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&eventyear=1750&eventyear_offset=10&keywords=fenny+compton&datasetname=warwickshire+marriages. Notably, however, according to the Phillimore Marriage Registers for Fenny Compton, parish wedding records for the period 1752 to 1755 are missing, see https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBOR/PHILLIMOREMARS/YPWAR01/0008_1. The pages following that page illustrate the high proportion of marriages, about 80%-90%, which are between persons of the same parish. William Phillimore started his own company in 1897 publishing works related to British family history; he also transcribed and printed parish marriage registers for over a thousand parishes, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/discover/birth-marriage-death-and-parish-records/parish-marriages/england-phillimore-marriage-registers-1531-1913>.

record set also returned “No results found”. A search for a William Maycock marriage in Warwickshire between 1730 and 1750 in Family Search¹⁰ also only returned the 1746 Newbold Pacey marriage.¹¹

A FindMyPast search for any Ann/Anne marrying any William Maycock/Macock/Meacock anywhere between 1740 and 1750 also returned no additional records.¹²

The fact that the groom William Maycock was from Fenny Compton, being the location of James Maycock’s baptism, the timing of the marriage in relation to the arrival of Richard and then James as referred to above, and the lack of any other candidates found upon a number of different searches both in Family Search and FindMyPast, compels the conclusion that William Maycock, the father of James, married Anne Duckett on 31st March 1746 in Newbold Pacey, Warwickshire.

This is an image of the relevant Newbold Pacey parish register page recording the marriage:¹³



This is a close up of the relevant entry:

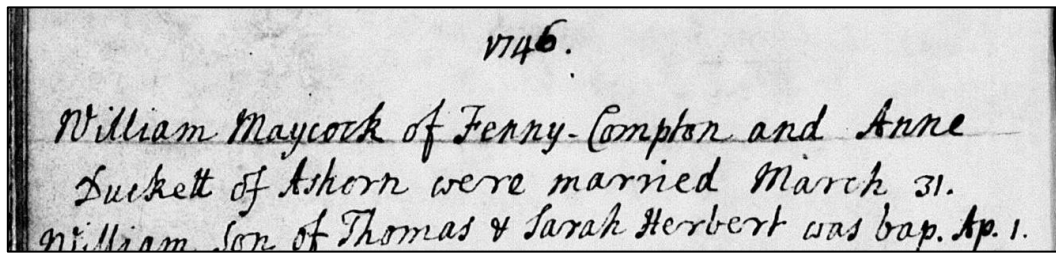
¹⁰ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.givenName=William&q.marriageLikeDate.from=1730&q.marriageLikeDate.to=1750&q.marriageLikePlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.surname=Maycock>.

¹¹ Thus missing the 1747 Fenny Compton marriage of William Macock to Elizabeth Brown referred to in a footnote above (and also below).

¹² See, for “Maycock”, https://search.findmypast.com.au/search-world-records?firstname=anne&firstname_variants=true&eventyear=1745&eventyear_offset=5&keywords=william%20maycock (with changes to search for “Macock and “Meacock” returning substantially the same results).

¹³ See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEX%2FNEWBOLDPACEY%2FDR0074-01-00041>.



(The wedding was not recorded in duplicate in the Fenny Compton parish register entries for 1746, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-02-00003>).

William's birth

William's person record in Family Search lists his birth as occurring "abt 1721".¹⁴ However, the contributor who posted that detail did not provide any justification, and the qualifier "about" indicates supposition. No such baptism about 1721 was located upon FindMyPast¹⁵ or Family Search¹⁶ searches.

Nevertheless, a marriage in 1746 does suggest a birth around 1720-1725. As the abovementioned searches for about that period returned no William Maycock baptism in Fenny Compton, a search in a 20 kilometre radius was carried out in FindMyPast. However, it also returned no relevant record.¹⁷ A similar Family Search search, for a William Maycock baptism in Fenny Compton between 1710 and 1730, also proved fruitless.¹⁸ There is, however, considerable doubt as to the comprehensiveness of those searches given the poor state of the Fenny Compton records referred to below, and given also that a Fenny Compton baptism of a William Maycock in 1723 was later found, see below, and there was also another William Maycock baptising children in Fenny Compton in the 1740s and 1750s, see below, so he also was likely born there in about the 1720s.

A FindMyPast search for Maycock/Macock/Meacock events in Fenny Compton between 1710 and 1790 showed there were quite a number of Maycocks there during that period.¹⁹ That search returned 13 records for a William Maycock, including the 1746 Newbold Pacey wedding, but only one baptism predating that marriage. However, that was obviously not the baptism of the William who married Anne Duckett on 31st March 1746, as it occurred only 7 years earlier, on 27th January 1739.²⁰

¹⁴ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/K4DB-8R9>.

¹⁵ See https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&yearofbirth=1721&yearofbirth_offset=5&keywords=fenny%20compton&sid=999.

¹⁶ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.birthLikeDate.from=1715&q.birthLikeDate.to=1728&q.birthLikePlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.givenName=William&q.surname=Maycock>. The search was limited to Fenny Compton, as over 1,000 records were returned when the search related to the wider area of Warwickshire.

¹⁷ See https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=100&firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&yearofbirth=1721&yearofbirth_offset=10&keywordsplace=fenny+compton%2c+warwickshire%2c+england&keywords=fenny+compton&keywordsplace_proximity=10&sourcecountry=england. Interestingly, one record returned was that of a John Pearson apprenticed as a blacksmith to William Maycock in Fenny Compton in 1723, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=ORIGINS%2FLODONAPPRENTICE%2F176431%2F411699&tab=this>. But, being an adult and an apprentice's principal in 1723, he was very likely too old to have married in 1746.

¹⁸ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.anyDate.from=1710&q.anyDate.to=1730&q.birthLikePlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.givenName=William&q.surname=Maycock>.

¹⁹ See https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&eventyear=1750&eventyear_offset=40&keywords=fenny%20compton&sid=999. Changing the surname to Macock and Meacock returned the exact same records.

²⁰ See <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001505431&tab=this>. That 1739 baptism was in Fenny Compton to John and Mary Maycock. Two brothers, John Maycock junior and William Maycock, are named in letters of administration granted in 1754, see Appendix 1, but, apart from the Fenny Compton location and the child's name, no connecting information was discovered which assists to say whether or not that William, being John junior's brother, was the father of James.

The FindMyPast images for the parish register for Fenny Compton marked “1702–1745 Baptisms Weddings & Burials”²¹ were manually examined from 1702 until they end in 1728,²² but there was no William Maycock baptism recorded. Notably, the entries are not in date sequence, and records for periods during that time frame appear to be missing.

William’s son Richard’s abovementioned 1747 baptism record in Family Search at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY5C-GRJ?lang=en> has a link to a family tree at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/pedigree/landscape/LQ55-QNP> which in turn has a link to a second person record for the William given in the family tree as Richard’s father, see <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/details/LQ55-CPS>.

That second person record states that William was baptised in Fenny Compton on 13th October 1723, and that he was the son of John Maycock (1687-1754) and Dorothy Hemmings (1684-1754). No source record is given for the baptism date and place, which was added to William’s details by Family Search in 2012.²³ Nor is any source record given for the naming of John and Dorothy as his parents. They appear to have been added to William’s details by two contributors.²⁴ It has been observed that details added to Family Search records by contributors are commonly incorrect.

Source records for the abovementioned John Maycock (1687-1754) at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/sources/MVP9-D5L> do not provide any birth record for a William, nor do the source records for the abovementioned Dorothy Hemmings (1684-1754) at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/sources/MX1D-P9D>, although both person records name him as a son born 1723. Those person records for John and Dorothy both say that they married on 28th July 1712 in Wolston, Warwickshire. Wolston is 14 miles north of Fenny Compton.

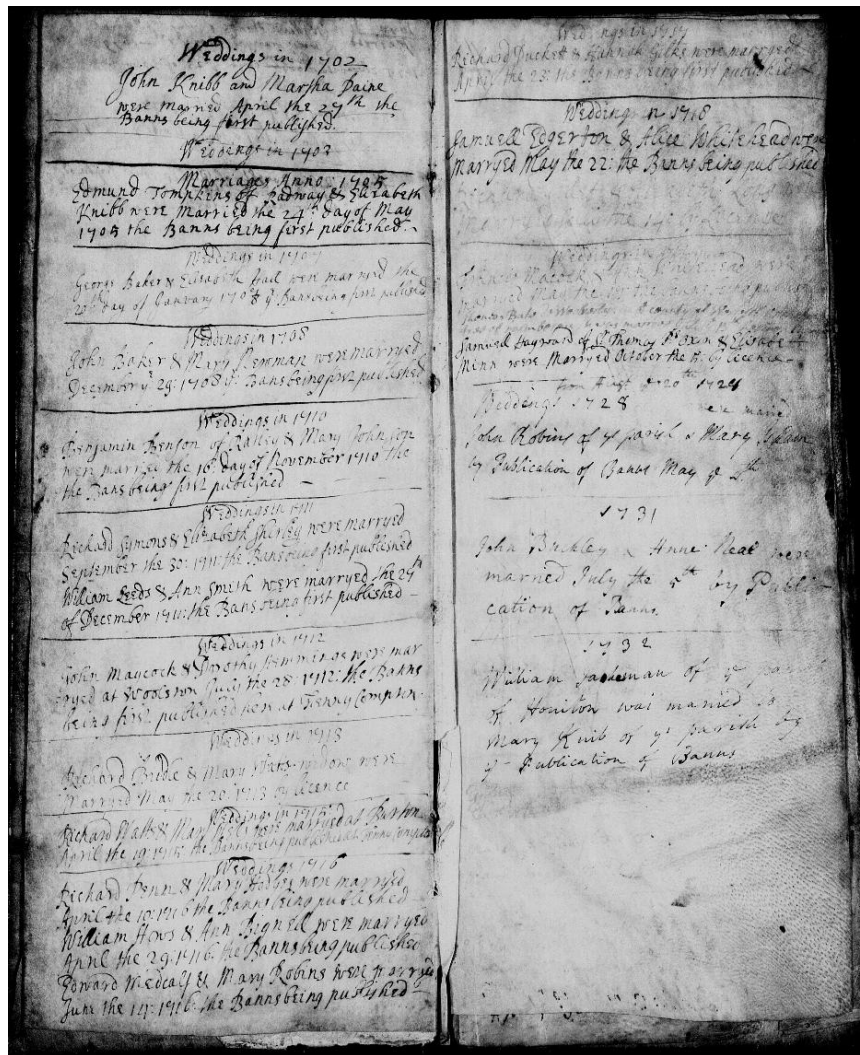
And such a marriage did in fact occur, and it is also noted in the Fenny Compton parish register, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0161-01-00004>:

²¹ At <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0161-01-00001>.

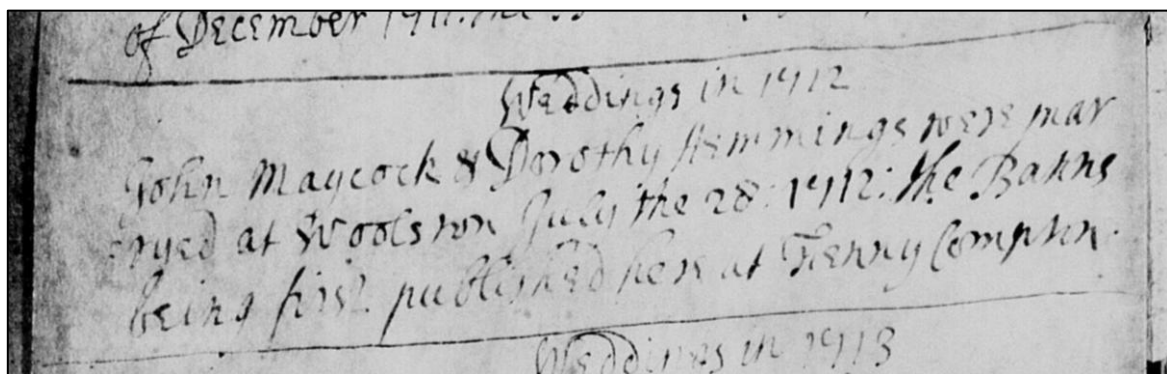
²² See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0161-01-00004> and following images.

²³ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/changelog/LQ55-CPS/christening>.

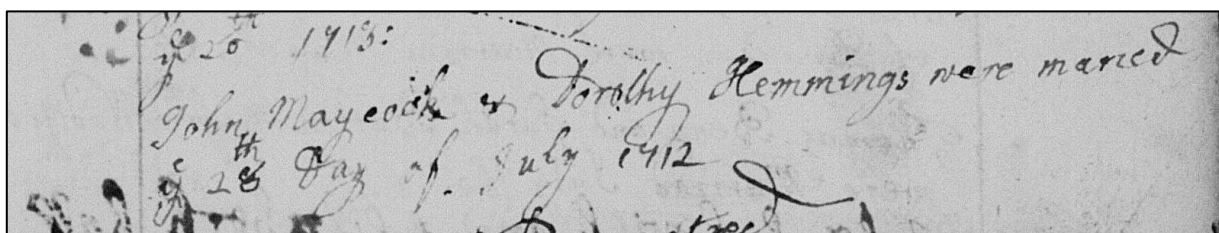
²⁴ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/changelog/LQ55-CPS/couple/MGZ2-JLB>.



This is a close up of the relevant entry, which transcribes as "John Maycock & Dorothy Hemmings were married at Woolston July the 28 1712: the Banns being first published here at Fenny Compton":



The marriage was also entered into the Wolston parish register, see the image at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FWOLSTON%2FD0051-01-00018>. This is a close up of the relevant entry:



In order to see if they provided any clues as to William's birth, an exercise was conducted to locate and view the baptism records of all the children of John and Dorothy Maycock named in their respective Family Search person records, see the following list. (All are said to be baptised in Fenny Compton).

Name	Baptism date	Record location
Mary	14 th June 1713	Not located. The date was extracted from Mary's linked person record.
Elizabeth	3 rd October 1714 ²⁵	https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001504353&tab=this
John	January 1716	https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001504359&tab=this The day is obscured in the original entry, which also makes plain that the baptism year is 1716, not 1715 as per the FindMyPast transcript.
Mary	15 th May 1718	https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001504379&tab=this Family Search gives the baptism date as 15 th April 1718, but see the below footnote regarding the correct date being 15 th May 1718. The first name in the original parish register entry, linked to the above transcript, is obscured, so it may be that Mary and Anne (named next) are twins, or that Mary is a misnomer for Anne (no record of the death of the Mary born earlier in 1713 was located).
Anne	15 th May 1718	The URL is as for 1718 Mary. Family Search gives the baptism date as 11 th May 1718, but see the below footnote regarding the correct date being 15 th May 1718.
Thomas	14 th July 1719 ²⁶	Not located. A note in the person record says the record is available at https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2416/images/4290927_00104?usePUB=true&_phsrc=HMd998
Sarah	19 th January 1722	Not located
William	13 th October 1723	Not located
James	14 th November 1725	https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001505268&tab=this

The timing of the baptisms tends to support that the listed children, including William, were all from the same family, except perhaps for the second Mary, who suffers from both a duplicated name in circumstances where no intervening burial of the first Mary was located, and also a baptism date clash with Anne (unless they were twins).²⁷ However, the exercise did not provide any other information of relevance.

²⁵ Apparently buried as an infant on 29th December 1716, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBUR%2F000624684&tab=this>.

²⁶ Apparently buried as an infant on 20th February 1720, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-01-00030>.

²⁷ Alternatively, given the second Mary's name is obscured in the available image, the record may have been misread by FindMyPast.

As noted above, a 1723 Fenny Compton baptism of a William Maycock could not be located on a FindMyPast database search,²⁸ so the abovementioned Fenny Compton parish register (“1702–1745 Baptisms Weddings & Burials”) was again manually examined armed with a presumptive baptism date of 13th October 1723. In the 19 images, there appeared to be no records at all for christenings in 1723, in fact the christenings appear to start only in 1725, see image 5 at

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0161-01-00005>.

Another set of images was then located, being the FindMyPast record set “Warwickshire, Fenny-Compton, Baptisms, marriages, burials 1627-1722”, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-01-00030>,²⁹ and the images either side of it, but, again, no christenings for 1723 could be located. Notably, many pages where the entry might be expected to be were heavily water damaged, and large parts of the images of those pages were illegible as a consequence.

Nevertheless, the nomination of a specific name, date and place for the baptism by Family Search suggests a record of it somewhere in its databases. However, a dozen or so searches in Family Search using different search terms could not locate it.³⁰ It was noted that a catalogue search in Family Search identified further collections of contemporaneous Fenny Compton records which were separate to record sets of the actual Fenny Compton parish registers, including Bishop’s transcripts of the registers, and transcripts by “Alma Merritt” of those registers, see the catalogue search results below:

Catalog Search Results (4)

TIPS AND RESOURCES

PRINT

CATALOG PRINT LIST (0)

Year

Category

Language

Format

Subject

Search Terms

[Bishop's transcripts for Fenny-Compton, 1662-1871](#)

Author:
Church of England. Parish Church of Fenny-Compton (Warwickshire)

[Parish registers for Fenny-Compton, 1627-1949](#)

Author:
Church of England. Parish Church of Fenny-Compton (Warwickshire)

[Registers of the church of St. Peter & St. Clare, Fenny Compton, Warwickshire : baptisms, marriages and burials, 1627-1837/ transcribed by Alma Merritt](#)

Author:
Church of England. Parish Church of Fenny-Compton (Warwickshire),...
MORE

[Warwickshire parish registers: Marriages at Fenny Compton, 1627-1812](#)

Author:
Church of England. Parish Church of Fenny-Compton (Warwickshire)

Results per page:

20

< Page 1

Given the 1723 event was not returned on the multiple Family Search searches referred to above, but Family Search held a record of the event and, in fact, very specific detail of it, one can only conclude that that event is in

²⁸ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&yearofbirth=1723&yearofbirth_offset=0&keywords=1723&sid=100.

²⁹ William’s sister Mary’s christening record is said to be in this particular image (image 30 of 40) in notes relating to that 1718 event in the source records given in her mother Dorothy’s person record, see <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/sources/MX1D-P9D>. The entry could only be the second entry on the left hand page, most of which is obscure in the image, although it appears to give the date as May 15th, not April 15th as asserted in the notes referred to. The FindMyPast transcript of that entry likewise picks up only part of the entry, and in fact gives the baptism date as May 11th, although it is more likely May 15th, see

<https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBAP%2F001504379&tab=this>.

³⁰ See, for example,

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&offset=20&q.anyDate.exact=on&q.anyDate.from=1723&q.birthLikePlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.surname=Macock> and

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.birthLikeDate.exact=on&q.birthLikeDate.from=1723&q.birthLikePlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.fatherGivenName=John&q.fatherGivenName.exact=on&q.motherGivenName=Dorothy>.

some Family Search database, but that searches by Family Search users do not extend to that database for some reason.

Such database likely contains information from one (or both) of the two additional record sets referred to above (neither of which, unfortunately, could be accessed to view the contents). With access to the original parish registers, the transcribers likely would have been able to read many entries with the naked eye notwithstanding those entries were affected by water damage, whereas the same entries are illegible in FindMyPast's register images, and consequently also unreadable upon any electronic scanning of those images.

In addition to concluding that there is a Family Search database record of a William Maycock being baptised in Fenny Compton on 13th October 1723, it is also concluded that that event occurred as a matter of fact, and notwithstanding that a record of it has not been located or sighted. That is because the Family Search record is of a specific event (a baptism) on a specific date at a specific location, and it involves a specifically named person. That specificity strongly indicates that there is a proper source for the database record, namely a genuine original parish register record of the event, or a genuine transcription of such an original record, notwithstanding that the same has not been located on extensive searching.³¹

The next question would be "was the 1723 William Maycock the one who married Anne Duckett in Newbold Pacey in 1746?" As to that question, the details of the 1723 baptism fit the known facts about William Maycock the father of James, specifically, as noted above, he married in Newbold Pacey in 1746, and would thus likely have been baptised about 1720-1725, and that he was most likely baptised in Fenny Compton given his marriage record stated that as his abode.

As noted above, database searches located no other William Maycock who was baptised in Fenny Compton, or indeed in Warwickshire, in the relevant time frame but, as also noted above, those searches were not comprehensive. They did not return the 1723 baptism and, critically, there was also another William Maycock who was baptising children in Fenny Compton from the late 1740s to the early 1760s, and who was discovered on the manual parish register examinations referred to above. The details of this William Maycock also fit with a 1723 Fenny Compton baptism, as he married an Elizabeth Brown in Fenny Compton on 3rd November 1747, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBOR%2FPHILLIMORE-MARS%2F0247456%2F1&tab=this>.³²

This William and Elizabeth baptised a series of children in Fenny Compton thereafter, namely a Francis on 30th September 1749, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-02-00003> (Image 3), a William on 7th March 1750 (see the following Image 4), a Stephen on 26th November 1752 (Image 6), an Elizabeth on 13th October 1754 (Image 7), a James on 10th June 1759 (Image 10),³³ a John on 30th August 1760 (Image 11), and a Charles on 7th April 1755 (Image 12). They also buried two sons Joseph and Thomas on 18th December 1757 (see Image 9).

(There were also other Maycocks observed to be baptising children in Fenny Compton in the period between 1746 and 1771, namely a John and Mary Maycock and a Francis and Hannah Maycock).

So the William Maycock who was baptised in Fenny Compton on 13th October 1723 could have been the William Maycock of Fenny Compton who married Anne Duckett on 31st March 1746 in Newbold Pacey, or he could have been the William Maycock who married Elizabeth Brown on 3rd November 1747 in Fenny Compton. And, unfortunately, there is no information to distinguish whether the 1723 William is the one who married Anne

³¹ Whilst, more recently, Artificial Intelligence has been known to present false information as fact ("hallucinate"), the detail was added to William's second person record at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/details/LQ55-CPS> by Family Search's software in 2012. The generation by AI systems of factually incorrect or misleading outputs in tasks like machine translation appears to have developed in line with the development of AI, and the phenomenon appears to have been first identified in 2015, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallucination_\(artificial_intelligence\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallucination_(artificial_intelligence)).

³² The original parish register entry is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00003>.

³³ He would not be the James Maycock who married Judith Turner in Southam in 1776, as he would have been too young to marry at 17, and, in any case, he would not then have been mistaken for age 25, as recorded in James' marriage licence. This 1759 James appears to be the James Maycock buried in Fenny Compton in 1826 at age 67, as referred to in the brief relating to James Maycock.

Duckett in 1746 (and hence was the father of James), or whether he married Elizabeth in 1747, or, indeed, whether the 1723 William was neither of those William Maycocks.³⁴

Also, nothing identified James Maycock's father upon a detailed analysis, as set out in Appendix 1, of the wills, estate inventories and testamentary documentation of a number of Fenny Compton Maycocks of the time. Those Maycocks were well-to-do, and included at least three William Maycocks, one the son of a Richard Maycock, one the son of a John Maycock, and one the son of a William Maycock. The first was probably too old to be James' father,³⁵ and the last was probably too young (see the discussion of those two points in Appendix 1), but nothing definitive ruled any of the three of them out as his father. There was also nothing which indicated whether any of them were, or were not, either of the William Maycocks identified above (the husbands of Anne and Elizabeth).

Further, the risk of missing other candidates for James' father was significant because many pages of the Fenny Compton parish registers for the relevant period of about 1710-1728 are in a poor state, with many entries in relevant images completely or partially obscured.³⁶ Also, as noted above, there were two sets of parish registers for the same period of the early 1700s. A description of the state of the Fenny Compton records of the time in Phillimore's Marriage Registers notes that those two sets of records overlap for 43 years.³⁷ That description also refers to various records as "lost", "ill written", "differ[ing] in arrangement", and as having "gaps in the wedding entries". Various pages of the registers are said to be "damaged at the edges" or "much discoloured".

Also, the likelihood that there were other candidates for James' father is exacerbated in that, at that time, William was a common first name, and, as noted above, there were a significant number of Maycocks in Fenny Compton.

Accordingly, despite extensive searching, William's birth/baptism record could not be determined with sufficient certainty, and his parents are thus unknown. He was probably born in Fenny Compton.

William's death

No date and/or place of death or burial is noted in William's Family Search person record at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/details/K4DB-8R9>, or his second Family Search person record at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/details/LQ55-CPS>.

William was named in his 1746 marriage record as from Fenny Compton, see above, and he baptised two sons there in 1747 and 1749, and also a daughter there in 1761, see above. It may therefore be expected that he lived his life out and died there.

A Family Search search for a William Maycock event in Fenny Compton between 1745 and 1820 returned no relevant record.³⁸ Widening the search to Warwickshire produced thousands of records.³⁹ They included a William Maycock buried on 31st July 1750 in Newbold Pacey, the location of William's marriage, and where he probably still had in-laws in 1750, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VHXC-JB7?lang=en>:

³⁴ Even if there was some connecting information which indicated the 1723 William married Anne Duckett and was James' father, there would also need to be some further information to corroborate that he was the son of John Maycock and Dorothy Hemmings who married in Wolston in 1712, as asserted by two Family Search contributors. No such information was discovered, despite the extensive research outlined in this brief.

³⁵ And notwithstanding the fact that James' parents William and Anne also baptised a Richard (see above), which might otherwise be a minor corroborating fact.

³⁶ See, for example, <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=S2/GBPRS/WARWICKSHIRE/PR-NONEXC/FENNYCOMPTON/DR0103-01-00028>.

³⁷ See https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBOR/PHILLIMOREMARS/YPWAR01/0008_1.

³⁸ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.anyDate.from=1745&q.anyDate.to=1820&q.anyPlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.anyPlace.exact=on&q.givenName=William&q.surname=Maycock>.

³⁹ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&q.anyDate.from=1745&q.anyDate.to=1820&q.anyPlace=Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.givenName=William&q.surname=Maycock>.

The screenshot shows a FamilySearch record for William Maycock. The record is titled "William Maycock" and is categorized as "Vital • England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1972". It includes buttons for "SAVE", "EDIT", and "SHARE". On the left, there is a placeholder for a document image with a "Check Image Availability" button. To the right of the image placeholder, the following information is listed:

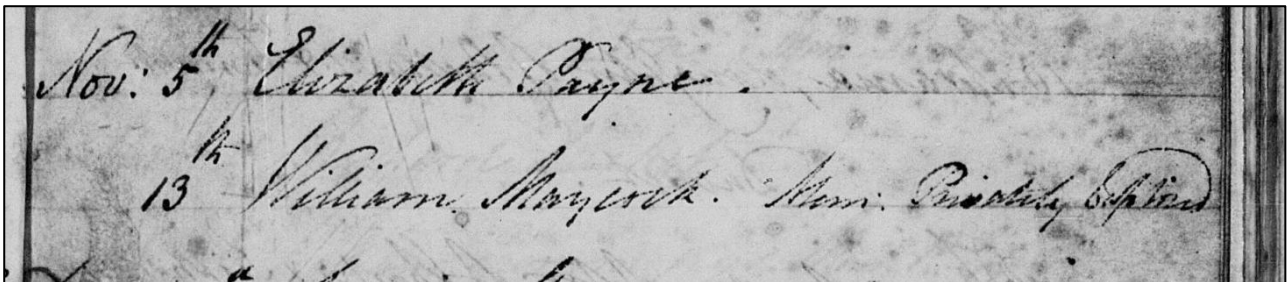
Name	William Maycock
Age	0
Event Type	Burial
Event Date	31 Jul 1750
Event Place	Newbold-Pacey, Warwickshire, England
Event Place (Original)	Newbold-Pacey, Warwickshire, England

Below the table, there is a section titled "Attached in Tree to" showing a link to William Maycock (1750-1750 • L4LV-CN2). To the right of this, there is a section titled "Similar Records" showing a link to William Maycock (England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975). At the bottom right, there is a section titled "Attached To" showing a link to William Maycock (1750-1750 • L4LV-CN2).

But this would not be James' father, as it is concluded above that he baptised a daughter Hannah in June 1761. Also, as the life span given on the right side of the above record (1750-1750) suggests, this is most likely the William Maycock baptised to Thomas and Frances Maycock in Newbold Pacey some three months earlier on 2nd May 1750, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NGB9-YRH?lang=en>.

A FindMyPast search for a William Maycock death in Warwickshire between 1745 and 1825⁴⁰ produced three burials in Fenny Compton, on 4th April 1791, 14th June 1806 and 13th November 1807.

The 1791 and 1806 records provide no ages, or any additional information,⁴¹ but the 1807 record has a side note "Privately baptised", suggesting that he may have been an infant who was hastily baptised shortly before he died,⁴² see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-04-00008>:



As to the other two William Maycocks buried in Fenny Compton referred to above, there is nothing which assists in determining if one of them was James' father. The one buried in 1791 is the more likely candidate because, given William married in 1746, he would have been born around 1726 at the latest, and thus at least about 80 if he died in 1806. However, whilst that was an unusually long life for the times, the 1806 William cannot be ruled out as James' father.

Accordingly, William's death or burial details could not be determined with any sufficient certitude.

⁴⁰ See

https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=100&firstname=william&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&lastname_variants=true&yearofdeath=1785&yearofdeath_offset=40&keywords=warwickshire.

⁴¹ See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00033> and

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-04-00006>.

⁴² See <https://www.ofhs.uk/resources/frequently-asked-questions-on-family-history/faq-baptisms>: "If a new-born infant was sickly and thought unlikely to survive, its fate in heaven required it to be baptised urgently. So any available clergyman was persuaded to attend the family home and baptise the child there, and hence the baptism was done "privately" and recorded as such. If the child recovered it would often be baptised publicly later ..."

Appendix 1

Examination of wills, probate and administration documents

FindMyPast searches carried out in researching this brief located the following Fenny Compton estate administration events which occurred at about the relevant time and which involved, or may have a relation to, a William Maycock (the documents referred to in this Appendix are set out in Appendix 2).

1. On 26th March 1725, Richard Meacock of “Finny Compton”, Yeoman, made a will, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00501>. He gave an annuity of £5 a year to his wife Mary, and a life estate in “my dwelling house & all my household goods”, as well as “the disposall of all Such Household goods that she brought wth. her when first married”. He gave £30 to his daughter Joyce, £30 to his daughter Anne, £20 to his son Thomas Meacock, £1 to his eldest daughter Mary Meacock, and one shilling to his son William Meacock, possibly an indication of disfavour, but possibly not, as he gave the same amount to his son-in-law Thomas Sabin and his wife Sarah.

Richard gave “my brother John Meacock One Shilling & my will further is that if my said Brother John should come poverty or be in want that my Meaning herein is that my Executor hereinafter named should be kind to him & allow him as he shall think Convenient for his Subsistence”. Richard left the balance of his estate to “my Loving Son Richard Meacock”, and appointed him as his sole executor. The will was witnessed by Mary Collins, Eliz. Faulkner and Edw^d Faulkner.

Given the commonality in rural England in the 1700s of male-line primogeniture,⁴³ Richard junior, who inherited the bulk of Richard senior’s estate, was very likely his eldest son.

(Accordingly, this family’s first generation was Richard Meacock, his wife Mary, and his brother John Meacock, and its second generation included a William, the eldest daughter Mary, a Joyce, an Anne, a Thomas, a Sarah married to a Thomas Sabin, and a Richard, likely the eldest son. See Figure 1 at the end of this Appendix 1 for the family tree created from information in the testamentary documents).

Probate of the will was granted on 21st April 1732, see

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00502>,⁴⁴ Richard senior having died and been buried in Fenny Compton on 16th November 1731, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBUR%2F000625704&tab=this>.

“The Innoventory of all the Goods and Chattels of Rich. Meacock Sen^r. of Finny Compton” is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00503>, and is dated 15th November 1731. It totalled £342, and included a significant amount of furniture in what, given details stated in the inventory, was apparently a two storey house with a garret, as well as a dairy and buttery. Other listed items were “Wheat Barly & Beans” valued at £60-10-0, Hay at £50, “The Crop of Wheat Growing & Grass in the Wheat Field” at £33, “Horses and Mares” at £45, “Cows Heifers & Calves” at £33, “The flock of Sheep” at £40, “Two Hoggs” at £3, and “Two Waggons Two Dung Carts a plow & Harrow with other Implem^{ts}. & Lumber” at £23. The “Apprizers” are named as Thos Sabine, presumably one and the same as the testator’s son-in-law, and John Vincent.

A “yeoman” refers to a member of the middle-class between a gentleman and a peasant or labourer, including a freeholder who cultivated his own land.⁴⁵ In other words, a yeoman was quite well-to-do, and

⁴³ See <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/9781118430873.est0290>. The system was designed to keep landed estates intact, see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primogeniture>: “The effect of English primogeniture was to keep estates undivided wherever possible”.

⁴⁴ See also the entry for that date in the register of wills, administrations and inventories, 1494-1860, for the Diocese of Lichfield Episcopal Consistory Court (being part of FindMyPast’s record set “Staffordshire, Dioceses Of Lichfield And Coventry Wills And Probate 1521-1860”) at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00180&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F179627>.

⁴⁵ See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yeoman>. See also <https://www.britannica.com/topic/yeoman>.

likely also an owner of real estate, as well as an owner of significant personal assets, as can be seen from, and is exemplified by, the above inventory of chattels.

The first born son of William and Anne Maycock, the parents of James, (or at least the one with the earliest baptism located), was named Richard, see above, which carries some suggestion that William's father was a Richard, and hence possibly the testator under this 1725 will. However, that is most unlikely, as one would expect the beneficiaries under the will to be adults, as borne out by the testator's daughter Sarah already being married. As noted above, William the father of James was likely born in the early 1720s, and was thus likely to have been an infant in 1725.

2. On 26th April 1745 in Coventry, Richard Maycock applied for and was granted letters of administration in respect of the estate of his sister Joyce Maycock of Fenny Compton.⁴⁶ The court record is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623175/00253>. The document states that Richard is "the Person to whom Letters of Administration of the said Deceased's Personal Estate by Law belongs". Given Joyce is plainly the daughter of Richard senior as his legacy to her was part of her assets (see below), this Richard is obviously Richard senior's son who inherited the bulk of his estate.

As Joyce died still named a Maycock, she likely never married or had children.⁴⁷ The stated entitlement of the said Richard Maycock to be the administrator of Joyce's estate confirms that, of Richard senior's sons, he was the eldest. (Rights of primogeniture make the eldest male brother the primary candidate to apply for letters of administration for a sister who was a childless spinster and whose father had died).⁴⁸

The estate's personal assets totalled over £59, and included silver spoons, feather pillows and the £30 legacy which Joyce took under her father's will. The inventory is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623175/00252>. It is dated 4th February 1737, and is signed by appraisers John Vincent and Thomas Maycock. (Joyce had died and been buried on 28th January 1737, some 8 years previous to the grant of letters of administration, see <https://www.findmypast.com.au/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FBUR%2F000625753&tab=this>).

3. On 10th July 1754, Thomas Maycock, Yeoman, of Fenny Compton, made a will, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623085/00409>.

The will left to his nephews Richard, John and William March and his niece Ann March £5 apiece, £30 to his nephew William Maycock, and the balance of his personal estate to his sister Sarah Sabin, the wife of Thomas Sabin, yeoman, of Harbury, who he also appointed as sole executrix. (Harbury is 5½ miles north-north-west of Fenny Compton). The will appears to be witnessed by Geo. Barnacle and T. Spicer.

Probate of the will was granted to Sarah Sabin on 21st April 1757, see the note at the foot of the will.⁴⁹ The papers were not accompanied by an inventory of the personal estate, and none could be located.

This Thomas Maycock is obviously the son of Richard senior, given the latter named a Thomas and a Sarah Sabin in his will as his children. His nephew William Maycock is therefore the son of one of

⁴⁶ See the entry for that date in the register of wills, administrations and inventories, 1494-1860, for the Diocese of Lichfield Episcopal Consistory Court (being part of FindMyPast's record set "Staffordshire, Dioceses Of Lichfield And Coventry Wills And Probate 1521-1860") at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00186&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F180158>.

⁴⁷ Thomas Maycock may have been Joyce's brother, and signed the inventory in acknowledgment on behalf of the family, or, given he was specifically named as an appraiser in the inventory, he and Joyce may not have been related. He was probably Joyce's relative as, prior to 1752, even a beneficiary under a will could attest it, see the footnote below, so, presumably, any valuer of an estate need not be independent. Nothing turns on it.

⁴⁸ The "first-placed direct male-line descendant (e.g. eldest son's son's son) inherits the title before siblings and similar, this being termed 'by right of substitution' for the deceased heir [and] where the late estate holder had no descendants his oldest brother would succeed, and his descendants would likewise enjoy the rule of substitution where he had died". See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primogeniture>.

⁴⁹ See also the entry for the next day, 22nd April 1757, in the register of wills, administrations and inventories, 1494-1860, for the Diocese of Lichfield Episcopal Consistory Court (being part of FindMyPast's record set "Staffordshire, Dioceses Of Lichfield And Coventry Wills And Probate 1521-1860") at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00416&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F196623>

Thomas' two brothers, Richard junior, or William.⁵⁰ Further, Thomas most likely had no children given he left his assets to his sister and his nephews and niece.

4. On 20th November 1754, John and William Maycock, both of Fenny Compton, applied in Lichfield for letters of administration in respect of the estate of their father John Maycock, yeoman, of Fenny Compton see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623112/00203>. The application states that John Maycock senior died on "Thursday last", which would be 14th November 1754.⁵¹ (He was buried in Fenny Compton on the 17th November 1754).⁵²

(The father of the 1723 William was said by a Family Search contributor to be a John, see above, and his person record in Family Search says he was buried in Fenny Compton on 17th November 1754, but that detail was added by a contributor, see <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/changelog/MVP9-D5L/burial>. However, as noted above, no information was found connecting the two).

The bond to be given by the administrators in support of the application is also dated 20th November 1754, and is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623112/00202>. It gives the occupations of both John and William Maycock as "yeoman", and thus, as with their father, also well-to-do and likely real estate owners. They both appear to have personally signed the bond, and were thus both literate at least to the extent of signing a name.

The letters of administration were granted on 27th November 1754.⁵³ The papers were not accompanied by an inventory of the personal estate, and none could be located, but the fact of a formal administration of the estate, as well as his yeoman status, indicates that John had assets of significance.

This John is possibly the brother which Richard senior named in his 1725 will, although possibly not as he died with assets whereas Richard senior's will appears to imply that his brother was impoverished. It is also noted that they died 23 years apart, which may indicate that John was from the next generation after Richard senior. However, he is unlikely to be the son of Richard senior himself, as no John was named in the latter's will.

5. On 17th July 1755, "Mary Duckett otherwise Maycock now Wife of Thos Duckett" applied in Lichfield for letters of administration in respect of the personal estate of Thomas Maycock, late of Fenny Compton, labourer, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623090/00057>.⁵⁴ In the application, Mary alleges that Thomas "died Intestate & Without Will & that she is the Widow of the deceased". The application was not accompanied by an inventory of the personal estate, and none could be located.

Mary's husband Thomas Duckett of Fenny Compton, carpenter, gave the bond in respect of the administration and in support of the application. It is also dated 17th July 1755, and is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623090/00056>. The letters were granted the same day, see the entry for 17th July 1755 at

⁵⁰ Assuming Richard senior named all of his sons in his 1725 will, which he almost certainly did given its terms – everybody got something, even if it was a backhanded gift.

⁵¹ See <https://www.galtry.org.uk/php/calendar.php?year=1754>.

⁵² See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDRO103-02-00008>. Curiously, so was his wife: the entry in the Fenny Compton parish register listing burials for 1754 reads "John Macock & Dorothy his wife Nov[ember] 17th". There appears to be nothing suspicious as the entry then notes "Affid[avits] brought". (Although that refers to the affidavit of verification that a corpse was buried in wool, as required under 17th century laws designed to support the wool industry. The laws were repealed in 1814, having been generally ignored for the previous 40 years. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burying_in_Woolen_Acts, https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/History_of_Parish_Registers_in_England and <https://parishregister.co.uk/about/history>).

⁵³ See the entry for that date in the register of wills, administrations and inventories, 1494-1860, for the Diocese of Lichfield Episcopal Consistory Court (being part of FindMyPast's record set "Staffordshire, Dioceses Of Lichfield And Coventry Wills And Probate 1521-1860") at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00414&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F196521>.

⁵⁴ The writer of the application, and the bond, appears to write the name as "Durkett", which is obviously quite similar phonetically to "Duckett", but the correct spelling of the name is clear from the signature of Thomas Duckett on the bond.

<https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00415&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F196558>.⁵⁵

This Thomas was not the son of Richard senior, as that son was obviously the Thomas who wrote a will in 1754, which will was subsequently admitted to probate in 1757, see above. The details of this administration are included here because of the coincidence that William Maycock married an Anne Duckett in 1746, see above. However, if there was any connection between her and the Thomas Duckett who married Mary, it could not be divined.

6. On 27th April 1757, Richard Maycock, Yeoman, of Fenny Compton, made a will, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623139/00040> and the following image.

The will leaves to his “loving wife” (unnamed) “that Cottage House in Fenny Compton aforesaid which William Maycock Weaver now Occupies and all the premises Useally belonging to it during the Term of her natural Life and she shall have Liberty to Lopp the Trees But not to Cut them down”. “N. B. my wife is to have no Liberty to come no farther than the Elder⁵⁶ Hedge but to have Liberty to come to the well for water”.

Richard also gave to “my loving wife the Clock that is in my House”, “that Bedsquilt and Curtains that she provided herself”, “all the Linning⁵⁷ that is in the House at my Decease to Dispose of them as she please”, all the money in the house and half the household goods, as well as £7 a year for her life. He gave £20 to “my sister Ann Marches⁵⁸ children”, with the balance of the estate, including the reversion on the life estate in the cottage, to his nephew William Maycock, who is also made sole executor.

Given his sister is named as Ann March, this Richard is obviously Richard junior, the son of Richard senior (and being the son who took the bulk of the Richard senior’s estate). Richard obviously had no children given he left his assets to his wife, his sister’s children, and his nephew William, who, as a weaver, and thus a tradesman, was also of the middle classes.

The will is witnessed by Thomas Dickson, John Maycock and Thomas Maycock. Those Maycocks are most probably relatives of Richard junior’s,⁵⁹ but in what respect is unknown. The Thomas was not his brother, as his will had already been admitted to probate on 21st April 1757, see above, so he had died.

Richard died the year after the will was made, as probate of the will was granted to William Maycock on 4th July 1758, see the notation on the second page of the will, and see also the entry for 4th July 1758 at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2F007620612%2F00416&parentid=GBPRS%2FSTAFF%2FWILLS%2F196656>. (Richard was buried in Fenny Compton on 2nd June 1758, see <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=S2%2FGBPRS%2FWARWICKSHIRE%2FPR-NONEXC%2FFENNYCOMPTON%2FDR0103-02-00009>).

The inventory dated 5th June 1758 of the estate’s chattels of total appraised value of £89-17-6 is at <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623139/00042>. It includes

⁵⁵ The application appears to say Thomas died “111 days ago”, but it may be just “in days ago”. The 28th March is 111 days before the 17th July. Whatever the case, no 1755 death in Fenny Compton of a Thomas Maycock was located in Family Search, see <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/record/results?count=20&offset=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1755&q.deathLikePlace=Fenny%20Compton%2C%20Warwickshire%2C%20England&q.givenName=Thomas&q.surname=Maycock>.

⁵⁶ Also known as elderberry, which “is a very common feature of hedgerows ... in Britain”, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambucus_nigra.

⁵⁷ No doubt an older English variation of “linen”, as shown by search returns upon Googling “linning”.

⁵⁸ A search for Ann March records did not return any Fenny Compton record, or any record potentially connected to Fenny Compton, see https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?firstname=ann&firstname_variants=true&lastname=march&lastname_variants=true&eventyear=1750&eventyear_offset=20&keywordsplace=warwickshire%2c%20england&keywordsplace_proximity=5&sourcecountry=england&sid=999. Likewise, a search for an Ann Maycock marriage of the time to a March (or similar) could not locate any in Warwickshire, see https://www.findmypast.com.au/search/results?sid=998&firstname=ann&firstname_variants=true&lastname=maycock&eventyear=1750&eventyear_offset=20&keywordsplace=warwickshire%2C+england.

⁵⁹ Five years before the will, the “witness-beneficiary” rule came in with the passing of the British Wills Act 1751 (effective from 24th June 1752). It allowed an interested party to witness a will, but declared that any gift to them was void, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_history_of_wills. Independent witnesses to wills were thus encouraged. See also <https://www.lawreform.vic.gov.au/publication/succession-laws-report/2-witnessing-wills-and-undue-influence/>, para 2.31.

“three cows a heifer and a calfe” at a value of £16-00-0, and a “crop of corn and hay growing in the field” at a value of £18-08-0.

The nephew William Maycock is almost certainly the son of Richard senior’s son William. That is because, as noted above, and as based on the above documents, and as mapped in the family tree below, of Richard senior’s 7 children named in his will, Richard junior, Thomas and Joyce had no children, Anne and Sarah married so their children would not be named Maycock, as would be the case if Mary married and had children, thus leaving their sibling William as the only potential father. But the matter is not certain, as Richard senior may also have had another son not named in his will, although, as noted above, that is unlikely.

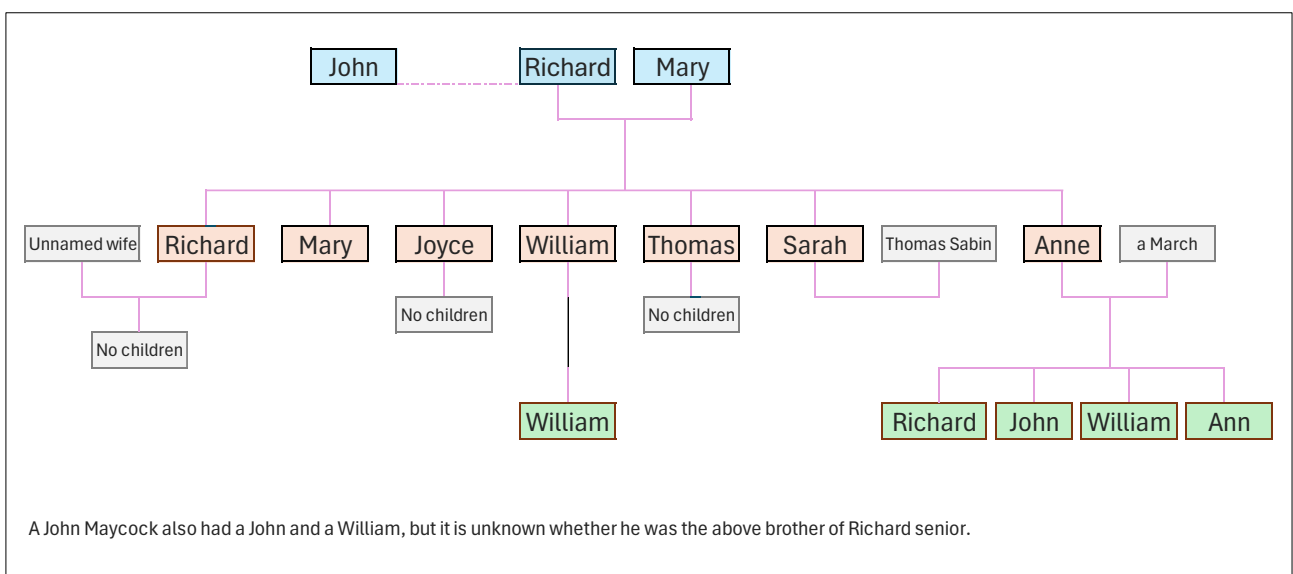
Unfortunately, none of this testamentary information indicated whether the William Maycock who was the father of James was –

- Richard senior’s son William (although that is unlikely, for the reason given above that William the father of James was likely born in the early 1720s, and thus he would have been an infant in 1725 and, as such, unlikely to have been named as a beneficiary in Richard senior’s 1725 will), or
- the William who was the son of John Maycock senior who died on 14th November 1754, or
- the William who was the nephew of Richard junior and a weaver (although he is also unlikely to be James’ father as, being two generations after Richard senior, he probably wasn’t old enough to marry Anne Duckett in 1746), or
- some other William Maycock.

Accordingly, nothing in the above testamentary information assisted to identify any details of William Maycock the father of James.

Figure 1

Family tree of Richard Maycock senior according to the testamentary information



Appendix 2

Documents referred to in Appendix 1

1725 will

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00501>:

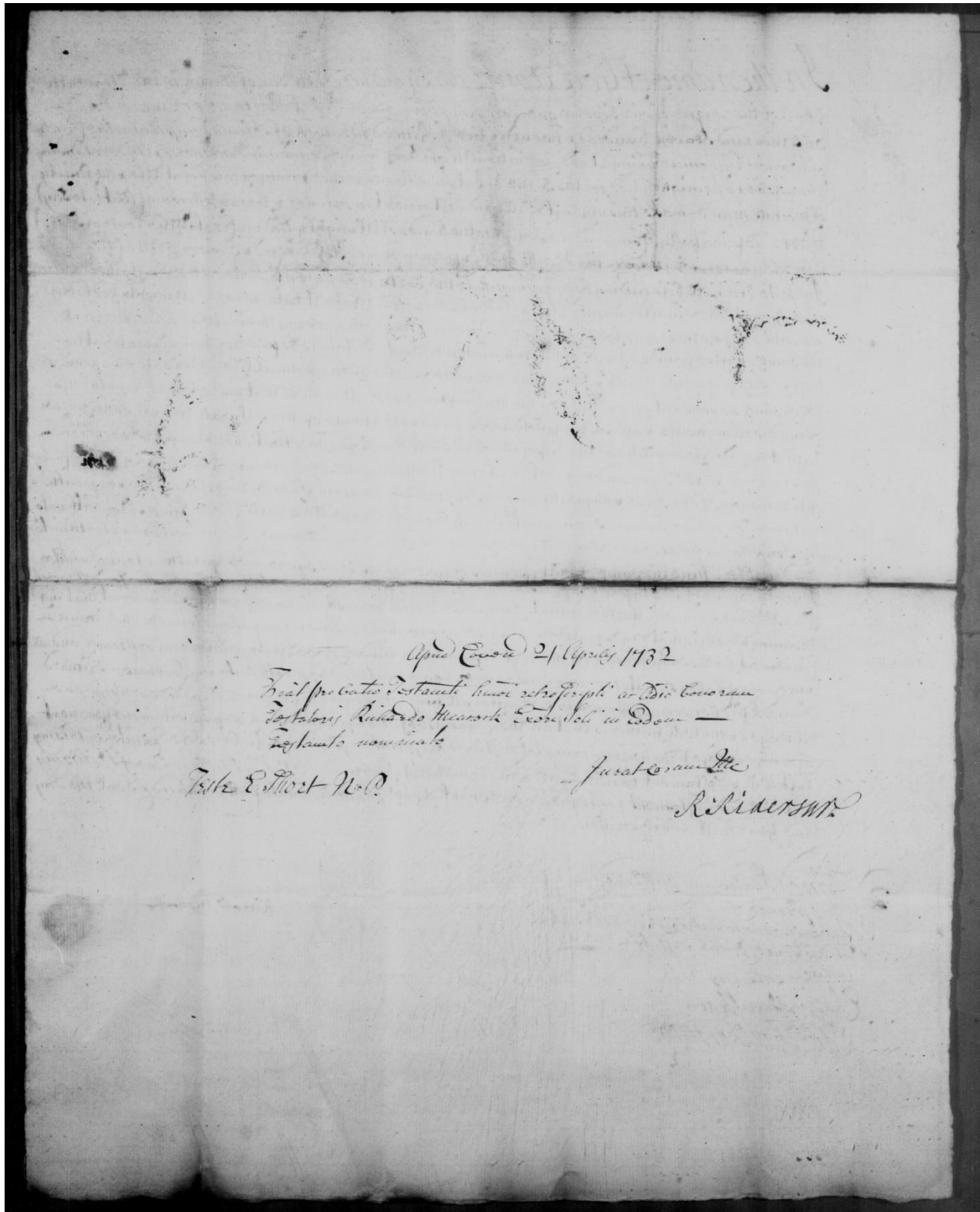
In the name of God Amen this six and twentieth day of March in the thirteenth
 year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George over Great Britain &c. I Richard Mearck of Trinity Compton in the County
 of Warwick Yeoman being a God yet in health of body and of sound mind and memory full understanding
 (thanks be to Almighty God for this) But knowing the uncertainty of this present life & the frailty
 of mortal man I make this my last Will and Testament in manner & for the following (that is to say)
 first and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Creator & the lover of souls
 assuredly believing through the Merits death & passion of our blessed Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ to
 Inherit Eternal Life and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried according to the discretion
 of my Executors hereinafter named And as to that Temporal Estate it hath pleased Almighty God to bless
 me with I dispose thereof as followeth first I give and bequeath unto my loving wife Mary Mearck
 the sum of five pounds a Year of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid her by my Executors at two
 half yearly payments yearly & every year during the term of her Natural Life which said five pounds
 I will shall be paid out of my Estate in Trinity Compton aforesaid Also I will that my wife shall have the use
 of my dwelling house & all my household goods during the term of her Natural Life & My Will further
 is that my wife shall have the disposal of all such Household goods that shee brought with her when
 first married Item I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter Mary Mearck the sum of ~~the~~ ^{the} pound
 of like money Item I give & bequeath unto my Son William Mearck One Shilling Item I give & bequeath
 unto my Son in Law Thomas Sabin & unto Sarah his wife One Shilling each Item I give & bequeath unto
 my Son Thomas Mearck the sum of twenty pounds of like lawful money Item I give & bequeath unto
 my daughter Anne the sum of thirty pounds of like money Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter
 Joyce the sum of thirty pounds of like money Item I give and bequeath unto my brother John Mearck
 One Shilling & my Will further is that if my said Brother John should come poverty or be in want that my
 meaning here in is that my Executors hereinafter named should be kind to him & allow him as he shall think
 convenient for his subsistence All the rest & residue & remainder of my Estate whether real or personal and all
 my goods & chattels whatsoever or whosoever I give devise and bequeath unto my loving Son Richard
 Mearck his heirs and assigns for ever after all my debts & legacies & funeral Expenses are paid and
 discharged & my Will further is that all the legacies before bequeathed shall be paid within one year next
 after my decease & so hereby I nominate constitute & appoint my said Son Richard & his Executors of this my
 last Will & Testament revoking all wills by me heretofore made In Witness whereof I this my
 last Will and Testament containing in and about of page have hereunto set my hand & seal this day
 and year first above written

Witnessed and published in
 the presence of us whose names
 were hereunto subscribed in his sight
 and presence of the Testator
 Mary Collins
 Eliz. Faulkner
 Edw. Faulkner

Richard Mearck

1732 probate

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00502>:



Inventory for 1732 probate

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623028/00503>:



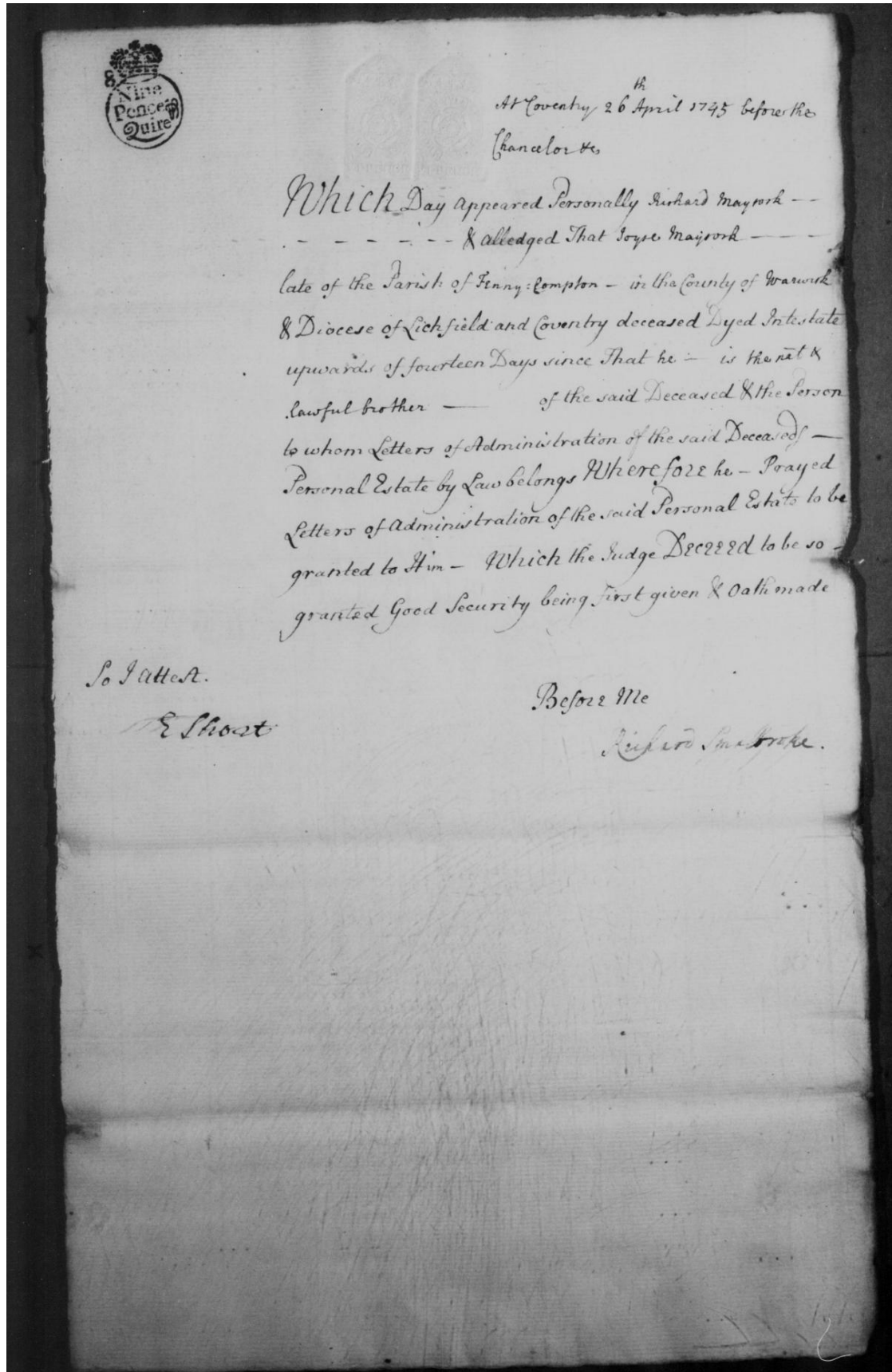
Pieces of Litchfield and Coventry

The Innoventory of all the Good and Challeys of Rich. Moorcock Senr. of Tintly Compton in the County of Warwick Deceased Taken and Apprized by us whose Names hereunder subscribed y^e 15th Day of November 1731

Imp ^t waring Apparell and Money in Pocket	£ 5-0-0
The Furniture in the Par Room	8-0-0
The Furniture in the Chamber over the Hall	4-0-0
The Furniture in the Chamber over the Kitching	10-0-0
In the Garils Cheese with other Implem ^{ts} and Lumber	3-0-0
The Furniture in the Dairy and Buttery	3-10-0
The Furniture in the Hall	2-0-0
The Furniture in the Kitching	0-0-0
Wheat Barly & Beans	60-10-0
Hay	30-0-0
The Crop of wheat growing & grass in the wheat field	33-0-0
The Barly Cellar and Grass	7-0-0
The Horses and Mares	45-0-0
Quiers Holters with other Implem ^{ts}	1-0-0
Cows Heifers & Calves	33-0-0
The flock of sheep	40-0-0
Two Hogs	3-0-0
Two Waggers Two Dung Carls a plow & Harrow	
With other Implem ^{ts} & Lumber	23-0-0
The Barn & Caves & Fold of Hurdles	
With other Implem ^{ts} and Lumber	5-0-0
	342-0-0
Apprizers	{ Tho: Sabine John Vincent

1745 application for, and grant of, letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623175/00253>:



1745 bond relating to letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623175/00254>:

Know

all Men by these Presents that We *Richard*
Mayroth of *Leamy Compton* in the County of *Warwick* Yeoman
Thomas Millington in the *close* in the Cathedral Church of
Lichfield in the County of *Stafford* Weaver & *Henry Clark* of
Coventry in the County of *Warwick* *parsonage* makers
 are held and firmly bound unto *his Right Honourable* *John* *in God*
Richard By divine permission Lord Bishop of *Lichfield* and *County*
 in the Sum of *Five Hundred*
 pounds of good and lawful Money of Great-Britain, to
 be paid unto the said Lord Bishop or to
 his certain Attorney his Executors Administrators or Assigns
 To which Payment well and truly to be made We oblige ourselves
 and every one of us by *him self* for
 the whole our and every one of our Heirs Executors
 and Administrators firmly by these Presents Sealed with our Seals
 Dated the *Twenty sixth* Day of *March* in the
Eighteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *George*
the Second by the Grace of God of Great-Britain
France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and to forth
 And in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred
 and *forty five*.



The

Condition of this Obligation is such, That if *this above bound Richard*
Mayroth Administrator of all and singular the Goods Chattels
 and Credits of *Boys Mayroth late of Leamy Compton* Deceased do
 make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods
 Chattels and Credits of the said Deceased which have or shall come to the Hands
 Possession or Knowledge of *him* the said *Richard Mayroth*
 or into the Hands and Possession of any Person or Persons for *him* and the
 same so made do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the Registry of *his said Lord Bishop's*
Consistory at Lichfield at or before the *last* Day of *July*
 next ensuing and the same Goods Chattels and Credits and all other the Goods Chattels
 and Credits of the said Deceased at the time of *his* Death which at any time after
 shall come to the Hands or Possession of the said *Richard Mayroth*
 or into the Hands and Possession of any other Person or Persons for *him* do well and
 truly administer according to Law And further do make or cause to be made a true and
 just Account of *his* said Administration at or before the *last* Day of
August and all the Rest and Residue of the said Goods Chattels and Credits
 which shall be found remaining upon the said Administrators Account the same being
 first examined and allowed of by the Judge or Judges for the time being of the said
 Court shall deliver and pay unto such Person or Persons respectively as the said Judge or
 Judges by his or their Decree or Sentence pursuant to the true Intent and Meaning of a
 late Act of Parliament made in the two and twentieth and three and twentieth Years of
 the Reign of our late Sovereign Lord King *Charles* the Second, Intituled An Act for the
 better settling of Intestates Estates shall limit and appoint And if it shall hereafter appear
 that any last Will and Testament was made by the said Deceased and the Executor or
 Executors therein named do exhibit the same into the said Court making Request to
 have it allowed and approved accordingly if the said *Richard Mayroth*
 above-bounden being thereunto required do render and deliver the said Letters of
 Administration (Approbation of such Testament being first had and made) in the said
 Court then this Obligation to be Void or else to remain in full Force and Vertue.

Sealed and Delivered (being first
 duly Stamped) in the Presence of

Char. Howard

Richard Mayroth

Thos Millington

Henry Clark

Inventory for the 1745 letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623175/00253>:

A True and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Chattells of Joys May Rock
Late of Henney Compton in the County of Warwick deceased was Viewed and appraised by us whose
names are under written on the fourth day of February in the year of our Lord Christ 1737:

Item for her wearing apparel and money in her pocket	4	4	0
Item for on Bibles	0	2	6
Item for shifts washbots and aprons	3	18	0
Item for handkerchiefs hoods and caps silk aprons and on Scarfe	2	4	0
Item for four hats two old Bonnets and two old pillings	0	9	6
Item for on Looking Glass and old Set of Curtains	0	10	0
Item for three trunks on Chest of drawers and on table	1	5	0
Item for woollen aprons and two old pockets and gloves	0	6	6
Item for six old penter parringers on old tankard and on plate	0	2	6
Item due to the deceased a Legacy given her in y ^e Last Will and Testament of her father	30	0	0
Item on and three feather pillows	2	13	4
Item for four old Blankets and on. Riding	0	10	0
Item for for seven sheets	1	4	0
Item for three table cloaths	0	10	0
Item for hinstones napkins on table cloath two pillon drawers	1	1	0
Item for silver spoons on little Gold Ring and on silver Rodkin	0	9	0
Item due to the deceased from her Brother Richard May Rock	10	0	0
	59	9	4

John Vincent

Thomas Maycock

1754 will

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623085/00409>:

In the Name of God Amen I Thomas Maycock of Fenny Compton in
 the County of Warwick gentleman being of good health of Body and of a sound and disposing mind memory and
 understanding praise to God for the same But calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and earnestly considering the certainty
 of death do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say Principally I
 commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gives it me in hope of a joyfull resurrection to life eternal
 through the atone merits and mediations of my Saviour Jesus Christ my Body I commit to the Earth of which it was
 made to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereinafter named But as to all my worldly Estate
 wheresoever it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow I give and dispose thereof as follows to wit But first my
 mind and will is that all the just debts that I shall owe at the time of my decease shall be by my Executors
 hereinafter named faithfully paid And after my said debts shall be paid and funeral Expenses discharged I will
 give and bequeath unto my Nephews Richard March John March and William March and to my Niece Anne March
 the sum of five pounds a piece And also unto my Nephew William Maycock the sum of thirty pounds All which
 said several Legacies above by me given and bequeathed I do hereby will and direct shall be paid to the several
 legataries above named by my Executors hereinafter named within twelve Months next after my decease And as to all the
 rest residue and remainder of my goods Chattels monies Securities for monies and personal Estate whatsoever and
 wheresoever and of what nature kind or sort soever whereunto I am or at the time of my decease shall be entitled or have
 any Interest or property therein or therein I do hereby give and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto my Sister
 Sarah Sabin wife of Thomas Sabin of Harbury in the said County of Warwick gentleman to and for her own proper use
 and benefit And Lastly I do hereby make nominate and appoint my said Sister Sarah Sabin sole Executrix
 of this my last Will and Testament not hereby revoking all former Wills by me at any time heretofore made In Witness
 whereof I the said Thomas Maycock the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal the
 Twentieth day of July 1754 in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty four

Signed Sealed published and Delivered by the
 above named Thomas Maycock the Testator as and for his last
 Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in
 his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed
 our names as Witnesses here to

Geo. Barnack


Thomas Maycock

on the Twenty first day of April 1757
 Set a probat of this Will as made to Sarah Sabin wife of
 Thomas Sabin, Sole executrix therein named Being sworn before me
 Ric. Jago. Surrogate.
 C. D.

1754 letters of administration application

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623112/00203>:



At Lichfield 20th Nov^r 1754 before the rev^d Tho^s White Clerk M^r of the
S^r to the.

When personally appeared John Maycock and William Maycock & acknowledged that
John Maycock late of Ferry Compton in the County of Warwick & diocese of Lichfield &
Coventry Yeoman deceased ~~on Thursday last~~ died Intestate & that they are the nat
and lawful children of the dead. Wherefore they prayed & the Judge denied letters
of administration of the deceased's effects to be granted to them.

Not to be executed under 14 days
from the deceased's death.

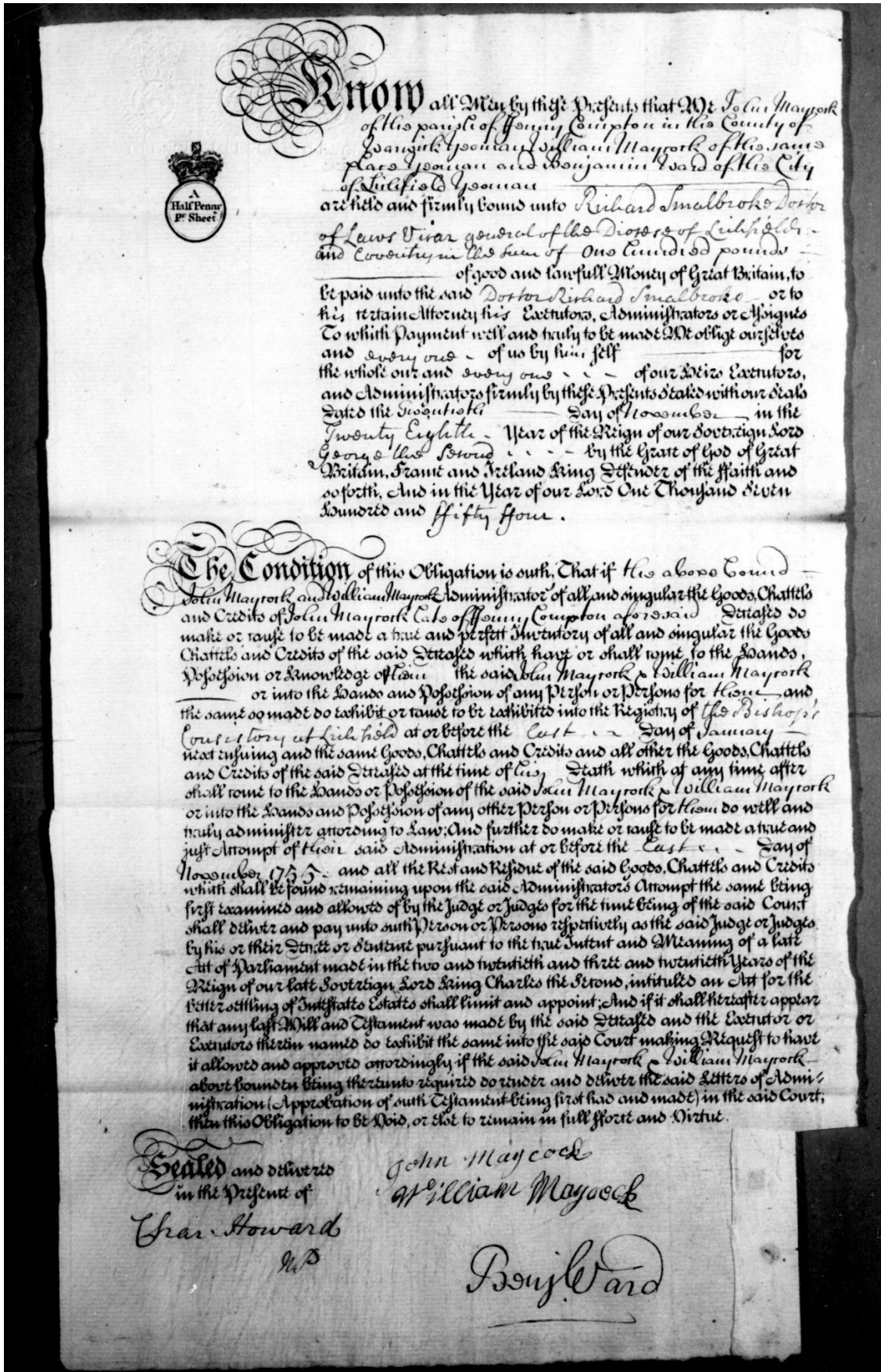
Being sworn before me

Tho^s White Clerk

Ad. Exhant^d 27th Nov^r 1754

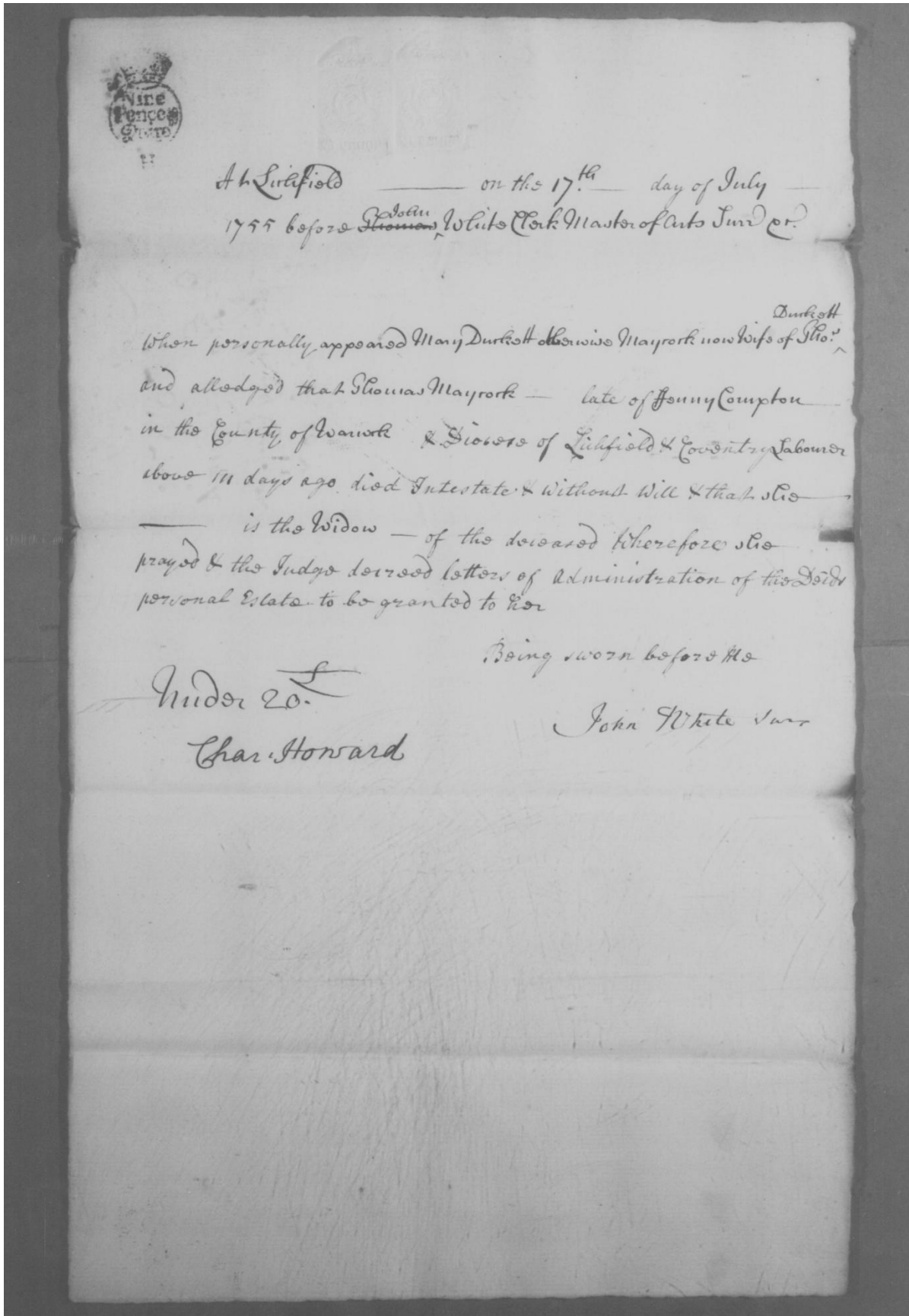
1754 bond relating to letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623112/00202>:



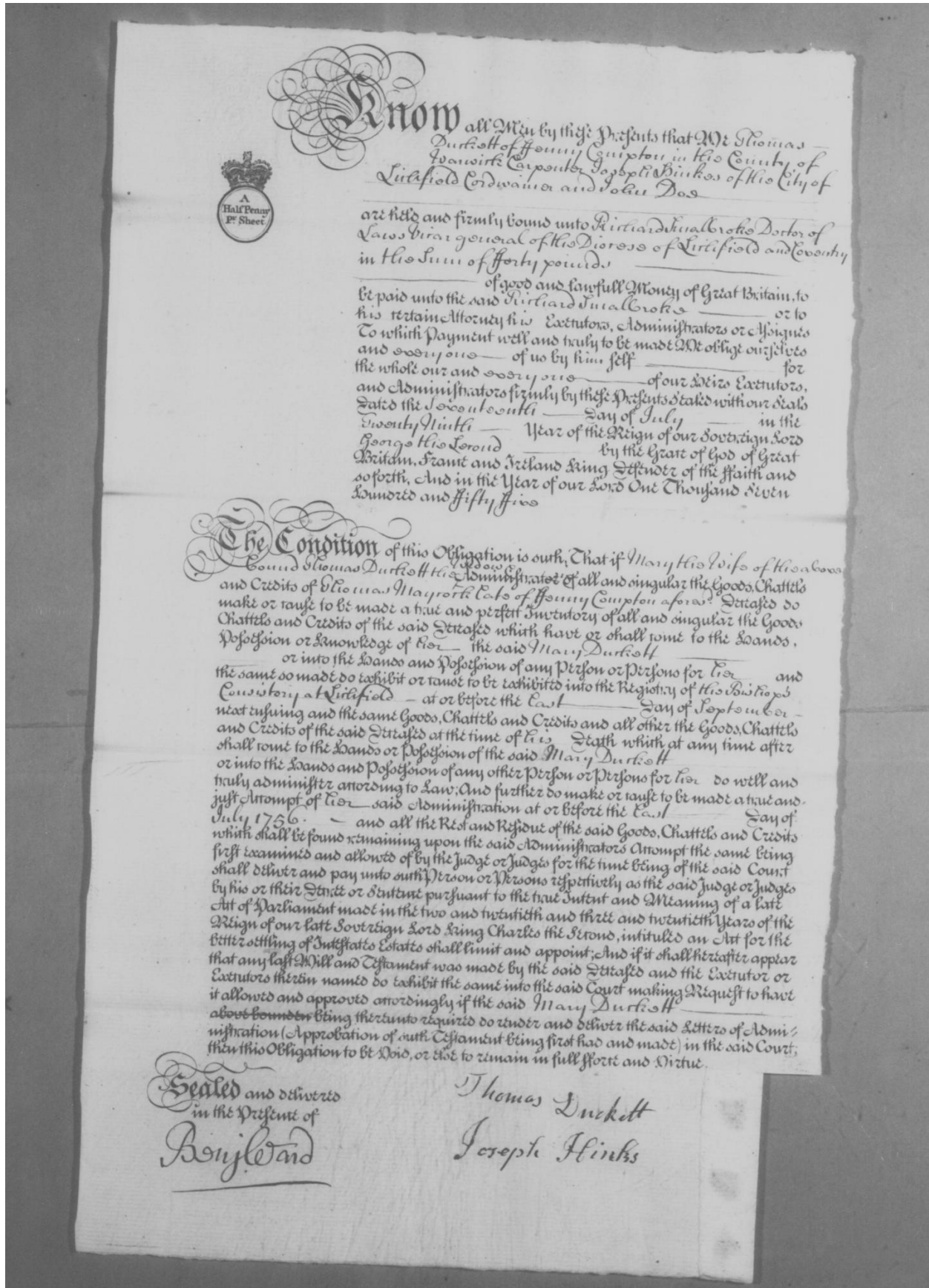
1755 application for letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623090/00057>:



1755 bond relating to letters of administration

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623090/00056>:



1757 will, page 1

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623139/00040>:

This is the Last Will and Testament of
 Richard Maycock of Henry Compton in the County
 of Warwick Yeoman. Made this 27th day of April in the
 Year of our Lord Christ 1757 as followeth: (that is to say)
 I give and Devise unto my Loving wife that Bed-chamber
 and Curtains that she provided her self and all the
 Linning that is in the House at my Decease to Dispose of
 them as she pleases. Likewise I give and Devise unto my
 Loving wife that Cottage House in Henry Compton afo-
 -said which William Maycock Weaver now Occupies and
 and all the premises appertaining belonging to it during
 the Term of her natural Life and she shall have Liberty to
 Lopp the Trees But not to Cut them down that are growing
 upon the aforesaid premises Also I give unto my Loving
 wife the Clock that is in my House to Dispose of as she
 pleases Wth my wife is to have no Liberty to come no further
 than the Elder Hedge but to have Liberty to come to the well for
 water. Likewise I give unto my Loving wife all the Money
 that I have in the House at My Decease and Half the
 House hold Goods and Also I give unto my Loving wife
 the Sum of seven pounds a Year of good and Lawful Money
 of Great-Brittain at two half yearly payments to become
 Payable from the Day of My Decease during the term of
 her natural Life. Likewise all the goods that she brought
 with her Likewise I give unto my Sister Ann Marches Child
 the Sum of twenty pound to be equally Divided between
 them And all the rest of my Real and personal Estate
 of what nature of what or Kind soever I give unto my
 Nephew William Maycock and his Heirs for ever
 and I do make my aforesaid William Maycock ^{sole} and
 Executor of this my Last will and Testament and he is to
 have that house of that I give my wife after her Decease
 And I Desire that my wife shall be at the Charge of My
 Funerals

1757 will, page 2 (with 1758 probate endorsed)

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623139/00041>:

And Thereby revoke, all former wills by me made, and I declare
 this alone to be my Last will and Testament. In witness
 whereof I the said Richard Maycock the Testator have here
 unto set my Hand and seal. ~~The~~ The Day and Year above
 written.

Signed, Sealed, published & declared
 by the Testator as and for his Last Will
 and Testament in the presence of Mr. Richard Maycock
 who subscribed our Names as witnesses
 in the sight and presence of the said
 Testator.

Thomas Wickson
 John Maycock
 Thomas Maycock

Litchfield 4th July 1758.

Let a Probate of this Will be granted
 to William Maycock the sole Executor
 named therein

Char Howard ^{Notary for Probate} before me

Tho White Sur.

Inventory for the 1758 probate

See <https://search.findmypast.com.au/record/browse?id=GBPRS/STAFF/007623139/00042>:

An
Chattels
Compton
Deceased

Inventory of all the Goods and
of Richard Maycock Late of Feyny
in the County of Warwick Yeoman
taken and appraised by us whose
Names are hereunto subscribed this 5th day of June Anno domini 1758

	#	s	d
Imprimis his Weaving apparel and money in his purse	01	0	0
Item In the kitchen for the furniture	03	0	0
Item In the hall for the furniture in it	02	00	0
Item In the Dairy and Buttery for the furniture in them	03	10	
Item In the Best Chamber for the furniture in it	04	00	0
Item In the Chamber over the hall for y ^e furniture	02	00	0
Item In the Chamber over the kitchen for y ^e furniture	02	00	0
Item for furniture in the pantry and Chamber over it	01	10	
Item In the Garret for grain and Lumber	03	10	0
Item In the Cuthouse furnace tubs and Lumber	02	02	6
Item In the Barn one Garret	01	00	0
Item In another Barn a fan wood & Ladders	02	00	0
Item for a malt mill old hurdles & old wood	00	15	0
Item three Cows a heifer and a Calf	16	00	0
Item nine Sheep and three Lambs	06	12	0
Item 2 Stacks of old hay 5 tun	07	10	0
Item in the orchard 17 pair of Staddle stones	01	00	0
Item six pair of Sheets and other Linnen	04	00	0
Item a Clock	00	15	0
Item forty pounds of Bacon	01	05	0
Item the Crop of Corn and hay growing in y ^e field	18	08	0
Total	89	17	6

Taken and }
Appraised by us

John Vincent
Tho: Watts