

Birth, parentage, marriage and death of William Wilkins

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

Those details are –

Baptised on 9th February 1766 at Dunchurch, Warwickshire.

Born to parents Edward and Ann Wilkins.

Married on 17th July 1794 at Frankton, Warwickshire to Mary Neal.

Buried on 30th May 1847 at Marton, Warwickshire.

(The research for this brief was conducted in early 2023).

William's death

It is demonstrated in the brief relating to Mary Wilkins that the William Wilkins in this 1841 census record is her father, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQB1-9CF>.¹

William Wilkins

Census • England and Wales Census, 1841

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Document Information

Collection Information

England and Wales Census, 1841

Cite This Record

"England and Wales Census, 1841," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MQB1-9CF : 24 May 2019), William Wilkins, Marton, Warwickshire, England, United Kingdom; from "1841 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, findmypast (http://www.findmypast.com : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives, Kew, Surrey.

[Copy Citation](#)

Name **William Wilkins**

Sex **Male**

Age **75**

Event Date **1841**

Event Place **Marton, Warwickshire, England, United Kingdom**

Event Place **Marton, Warwickshire, England**

Registration District **Rugby**

Event Type **Census**

Residence Note **Marton**

Birth Year (Estimated) **1762-1766**

Birthplace **Warwickshire**

Page Number **2**

Piece/Folio **1138/4**

Registration Number **HO107**

Family Tree

[ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE](#)

Similar Records

No similar records were found.

Other People on This Record

Mary Wilkins	F	74	Warwickshire	▼
Sarah Wilkins	F	15	Warwickshire	▼
Mary Wilkins	F	45	Warwickshire	▼
Susan Mary Wilkins	F	11	Warwickshire	▼
Alfred Burbidge	M	9	Warwickshire	▼
Thomas Burbidge	M	6	Warwickshire	▼
Elizabeth Archer	F	30	Warwickshire	▼
Joseph Archer	M	0	Warwickshire	▼

¹ URLs of Family Search records linked herein include "61903", presumably a specific member number, and likely need adapting to function.

William is said to be aged 75 in 1841.

It is also demonstrated in the brief relating to Sarah Walker nee Wilkins that, by the time of the 1851 census, Mary Wilkins and also her daughter Susan Mary Wilkins were living with John and Sarah Walker, but there was no William Wilkins in the household, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:SGZ2-12G>.



VIEW ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Mary Wilkins
Census • England and Wales Census, 1851

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Name Mary Wilkins
Sex Female
Age 54
Event Date 1851
Event Place Marton, Warwickshire, England
Registration District Rugby
Event Type Census
Residence Note Village
Birth Year (Estimated) 1797
Birthplace Frankton, Warwickshire
Marital Status Unmarried
Occupation Laundress
Page Number 8
Piece/Folio 2070 / 314
Registration Number HO107

Family Tree
ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE

Similar Records
No similar records were found.

Document Information
Collection Information
England and Wales Census, 1851

Cite This Record
"England and Wales Census, 1851," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:SGZ2-12G : 8 November 2019), Mary Wilkins in household of John Walker, Marton, Warwickshire, England; citing Marton, Warwickshire, England, p. 8, from "1851 England, Scotland and Wales census," database and images, findmypast (http://www.findmypast.com : n.d.); citing PRO HO 107, The National Archives of the UK, Kew, Surrey.

Copy Citation

Other People on This Record OPEN ALL

John Walker	M	34	Marton, Warwickshire
Sarah Walker	F	28	Marton, Warwickshire
Mary Walker	F	8	Marton, Warwickshire
Alfred Walker	M	6	Marton, Warwickshire
Charlotte Walker	F	2	Marton, Warwickshire
William Josh Walker	M	0	Marton, Warwickshire
Susan Mary Wilkins	F	21	Marton,
George Woodland	M	22	Woburnsands, Bedfordshire
William Quarry	M	15	Woburnsands, Bedfordshire

Most likely, therefore, William died between 1841 and 1851 and, given he had probably lived in Marton for at least 40 years by 1841 in that his daughters Anna and Elizabeth were baptised there in 1801 and 1805 respectively, see the brief relating to Mary Wilkins,² and given also that he was verifiably living with Mary in Marton in 1841, he most likely died in Marton.

A search was carried out in Family Search's Warwickshire parish registers database for the death or burial of a William Wilkins in Marton between 1841 and 1851. It returned only one record, as follows, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XX56-RP2>.



VIEW ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

William Wilkins
Vital • England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963

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Name William Wilkins
Sex Male
Age 81y
Death or Burial Date 30 May 1847
Death or Burial Place Marton, Warwickshire, England
Death or Burial Place Marton, Warwickshire, England
Event Type Burial

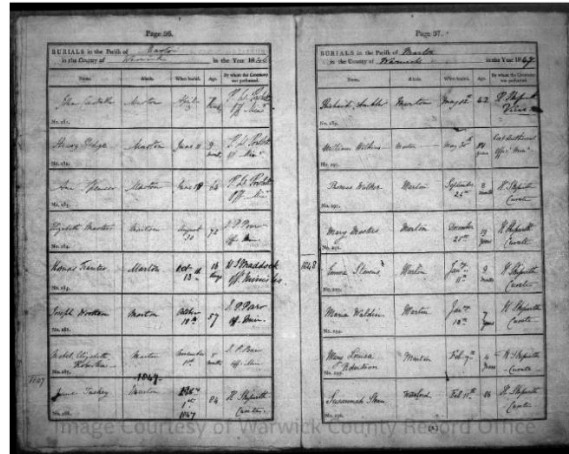
Family Tree
ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE

Similar Records
No similar records were found.

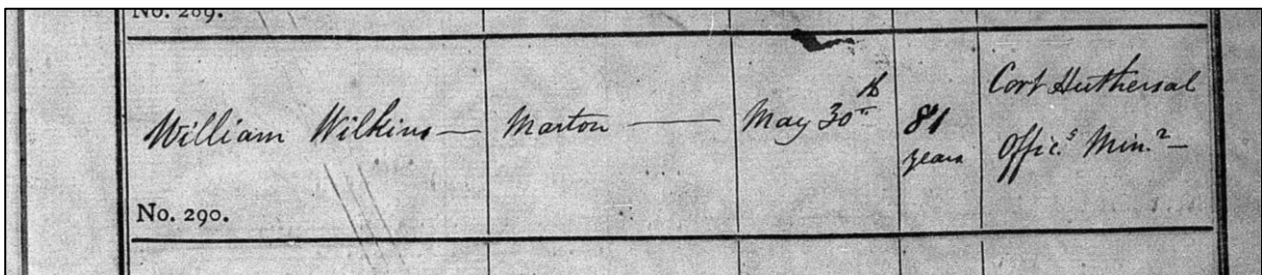
² See also Anna's baptism record at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VH6B-84B>, and Elizabeth's at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VH6B-8JW>. *Contra*, however, a Charlotte was baptised to a William and Mary Wilkins in Dunchurch on 12th July 1807, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-64VQ-FSH?i=85&wc=X6W2-YWL%3A42645501%2C1583867309%2C1583869512&cc=1462403>. This record, which is not indexed, was located on a manual search of Dunchurch parish images. Note, however, that there was another William Wilkins of equivalent age in the area at the time – see below.

If William was 75 on 6th June 1841, when the 1841 census was taken,³ then 6 years later, on 30th May 1847, he would almost certainly be 81.⁴ Accordingly, the age stated at burial of the William Wilkins in the above record strongly correlates to the known age of Mary's father William.

The image hyperlinked in the above record is at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DRY3-VJJ?i=21&wc=X6M6-DP8%3A42645501%2C1583867710%2C1583867712&cc=1462403>, image 22 of 35.



This is a close-up of the relevant entry.



Accordingly, William Wilkins was buried in Marton on 30th May 1847.

William's marriage

As demonstrated in the brief relating to Mary Wilkins, she was baptised in Frankton, Warwickshire on 19th October 1794, and her mother's name was Mary. Frankton is 1½ miles north-east of Marton.

A search was carried out in Family Search's Warwickshire parish registers database for the marriage of a William Wilkins to a Mary in Frankton between 1780 and 1800. It returned only one record, of a William Wilkins marrying a Mary Neal in Frankton on 17th July 1794, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VH6R-2NM>.

³ See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1841_United_Kingdom_census.

⁴ If William was aged 75 on 6th June 1841, when the census was taken, he was born between 7th June 1765 and 6th June 1766. If that were so, he would be 81 at all times between 7th June 1846 and 6th June 1847. He would be 80 on 30th May 1847 only if he had been born on one of the seven days between 31st May 1766 and 6th June 1766. The chance of that is about one in 52. Even then, that assumes he died on the day he was buried, and not beforehand.

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William Wilkins

Vital • England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963

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Document Information

Collection Information
England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963

Cite This Record
"England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963," database with images, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:1:VH6R-2NM : 21 September 2022), William Wilkins and Mary Neal, 17 Jul 1794; Marriage; citing, p. , Warwick County Record Office, England; FHL microfilm 548,391.

Copy Citation

Name William Wilkins
Sex Male
Residence Place Shustoke
Spouse's Name Mary Neal
Spouse's Sex Female
Spouse's Residence Place Frankton
Marriage Date 17 Jul 1794
Marriage Place Frankton, Warwickshire, England
Marriage Place Frankton, Warwickshire, England
Event Type Marriage

Possible Family Tree Match
William Wilkins
Deceased • MVD1-92B
ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE
DISMISS MATCH

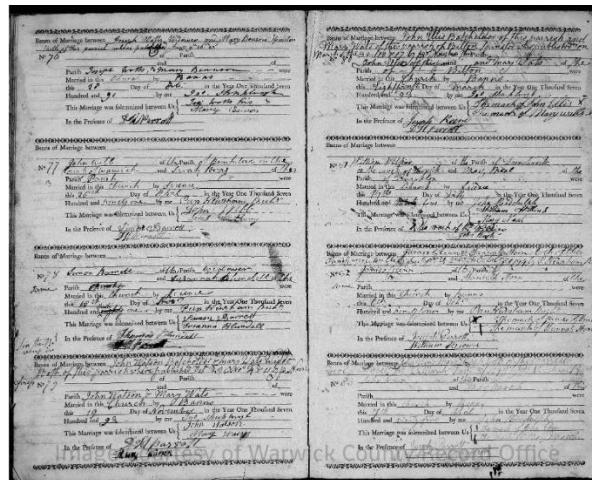
Similar Records
William Wilkins
England, Staffordshire, Church Records, 1538-1944
William Wilkins
England, Staffordshire, Church Records, 1538-1944
William Wilkins
England Marriages, 1538-1973
Attached To:
William Wilkins
Deceased • MVD1-92B

William Wilkins's Spouses and Children CLOSE ALL

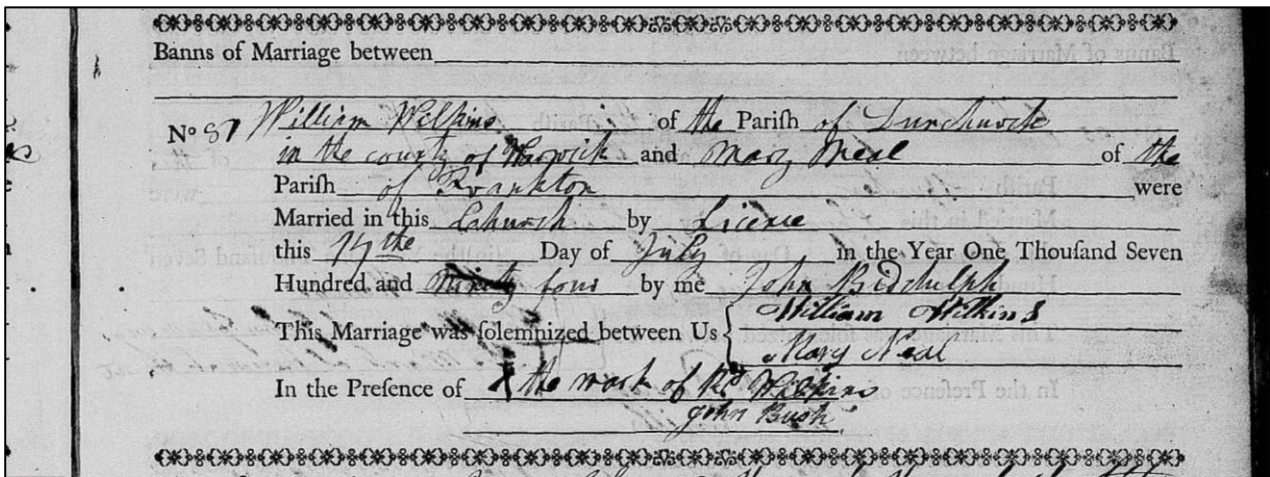
Name	Sex	Relationship
Mary Neal	Female	Wife

Name William Wilkins
Sex Male
Residence Place Shustoke
Spouse's Name Mary Neal
Spouse's Sex Female
Spouse's Residence Place Frankton
Marriage Date 17 Jul 1794
Marriage Place Frankton, Warwickshire, England
Marriage Place Frankton, Warwickshire, England
Event Type Marriage

The image hyperlinked in the above record is at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QW7-7DW?i=11&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AVH6R-2NM>, image 12 of 18.



This is a close-up of the relevant entry.



Notably, the record says William is from the parish of Dunchurch. Dunchurch is 4 miles east-north-east of Frankton.

A manual search of the images of Frankton's marriage records confirmed that there was no other record of a male Wilkins marrying in Frankton from 1780 to 1800 (see images 9 to 14).

Family Search searches were also made for any marriage of a William Wilkins to a Mary in either Marton or Dunchurch between 1780 and 1800. They both returned no record.⁵

The date of marriage in the above Frankton record correlates with the arrival some 3 months later of Mary.

Accordingly, William Wilkins married Mary Neal⁶ in Frankton, Warwickshire on 17th July 1794.

William's birth and parentage

In the 1841 census (see above), William is said to be aged 75 and born in Warwickshire. The 1841 census was taken on 6th June that year,⁷ so if William was then aged 75, he was born between 7th June 1765 and 6th June 1766.⁸

The above Frankton parish record of William's marriage says he is from the parish of Dunchurch.⁹

A search was carried out in Family Search's Warwickshire parish registers database for the birth of a William Wilkins in Dunchurch in 1765-1766. It proved fruitless, so the like search was carried out in Family Search's England births and christenings database. That search returned only one record, as follows, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY5G-C86>.

⁵ However, a "marriage license" event is recorded for William and Mary in the Family Search database for Staffordshire Church Records, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QLQB-XFX7>. It lists the date of the event as 16th July 1794, the day before the marriage. This suggests that William and Mary decided to marry quickly due to Mary's advanced pregnancy, rather than wait for a marriage date after 7 days notice and then banns being called on three Sundays (see <https://www.regencyhistory.net/2018/10/banns-licences-and-hardwicks-marriage.html>). There must have been a compelling reason they needed to get a licence in Staffordshire, given the nearest Staffordshire towns are Wilnecote or Hockley, some 30 miles by road from Frankton. (Presumably, they were required to travel there to get the licence). Mary's surname is spelt "Neale" in the Staffordshire record.

⁶ Despite the spelling of "Neale" for Mary's surname in the marriage license record, see the previous footnote, "Neal" is adopted given that Mary signed her name as such in the parish register.

⁷ See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1841_United_Kingdom_census.

⁸ The Family Search record of William's Staffordshire marriage licence, see the above footnote, says he is 21. If that were so, he was born in 1772 or 1773. Mary is also recorded as aged 21 in that record. It appears highly likely that this is not intended as a record of their ages, rather as a confirmation that they were both at least 21, and thus did not need parental consent to obtain the licence, see <https://www.regencyhistory.net/2018/10/banns-licences-and-hardwicks-marriage.html>.

⁹ Notwithstanding, a search was made for a Wilkins baptism in Marton by manually browsing the images of the relevant Marton parish records between 1751 and 1777. None was located. The images of Marton's parish records of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1660 to 1812 are available through Family Search at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DZP7-VH8?wc=X6Q7-6TL%3A42645501%2C1583867710%2C1583869325&cc=1462403>.

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Indexing Activities

Records Images Family Tree Genealogies Catalog Books Wiki

William Wilkins

Vital • England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975

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Document Information

Cite This Record

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY5G-C86 : 19 September 2020), William Wilkins, 1766.

Copy Citation

Name **William Wilkins**

Sex **Male**

Christening Date **9 Feb 1766**

Christening Place **Dunchurch, Warwickshire, England**

Christening Place (Original) **Dunchurch, Warwick, England**

Father's Name **Edward Wilkins**

Father's Sex **Male**

Mother's Name **Anne**

Mother's Sex **Female**

Attached in Family Tree to

William Wilkins
1766-Deceased • #1805-354

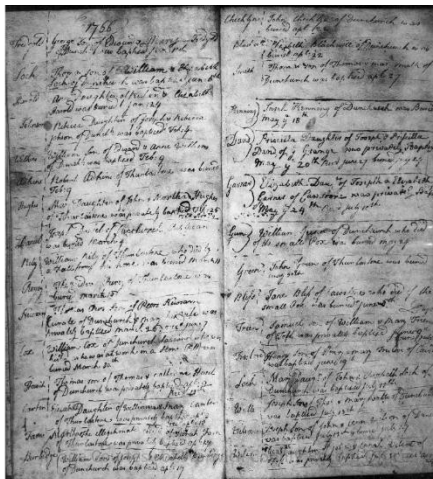
Similar Records

No similar records were found.

William Wilkins's Parents and Siblings OPEN ALL

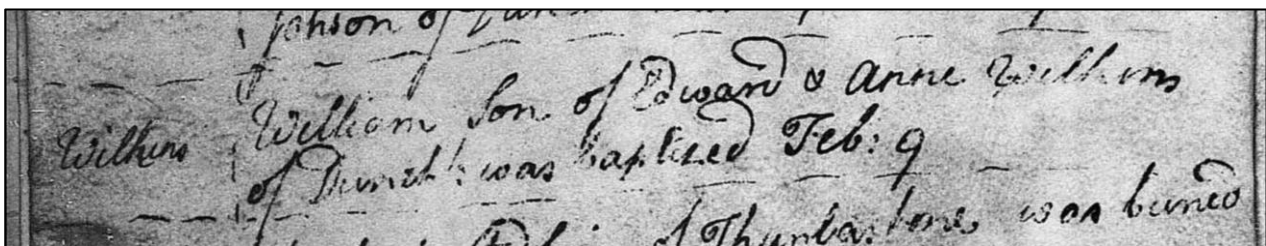
Edward Wilkins	Father	M
Anne	Mother	F

The Dunchurch parish records of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1748 to 1812 are available in Family Search as a set of images, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-64VQ-62T?wc=X6W2-YWL%3A42645501%2C1583867309%2C1583869512&cc=1462403>. Manually searching them for the above birth located the following record, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-64VQ-FBM?i=20&wc=X6W2-YWL%3A42645501%2C1583867309%2C1583869512&cc=1462403>, image 21 of 93.



This is a close up of the relevant entry, which states that –

William Son of Edward & Anne Wilkins of Dunch^h. was baptized Feb: 9



The above record was located by searching Family Search's England births and christenings database only for the period from 1765-1766. In order to ensure that it is the sole relevant record, the search for the birth of a William Wilkins in Dunchurch was expanded to cover the period from 1751 to 1777, and it returned one additional record, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NP96-DNT>.

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involved Activities

Records Images Family Tree Genealogies Catalog Books Wiki

Wm. Wilkins

Vital • England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975

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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:/61903/3:1:1NP96-DNT : 4 February 2023), Wm. Wilkins, 1763.

Copy Citation

Name **Wm. Wilkins**

Sex **Male**

Christening Date **9 Jan 1763**

Christening Place **Dunchurch, Warwickshire, England**

Father's Name **Robt. Wilkins**

Father's Sex **Male**

Mother's Name **Eliz.**

Mother's Sex **Female**

Event Type **Christening**

Attached in Family Tree to

Wm. Wilkins
1763-Deceased • MNG5-XML

Similar Records

No similar records were found.

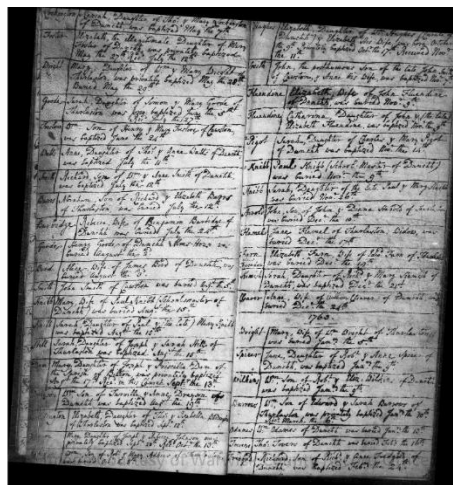
Wm. Wilkins's Parents and Siblings

Name	Relationship	Sex
Robt. Wilkins	Father	M
Eliz.	Mother	F

OPEN ALL

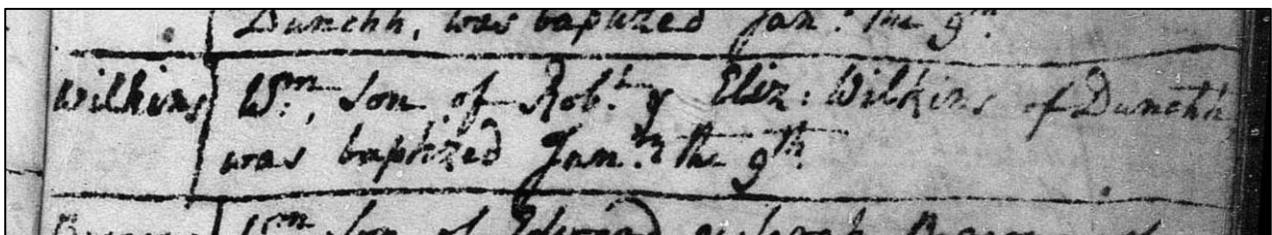
Manually searching the images of Dunchurch's parish records of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1748 to 1812 located this further baptism record at image 16 of 93, see

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:1S3HY-64VQ-NJL?i=15&wc=X6W2-YWL%3A42645501%2C1583867309%2C1583869512&cc=1462403>.



This is a close-up of the relevant entry, which states that –

W^m., Son of Rob^t.¹⁰ & Eliz: Wilkins of Dunchh. was baptized Jan^y. the 9th.¹¹



¹⁰ This Robert is actually Edward's brother – see the brief relating to Edward Wilkins.

¹¹ The images viewed also recorded that Edward and Anne Wilkins had an Edward baptised on 16th July 1769 (image 26) and a Richard baptised on 8th November 1772 (image 30). Robert and Elizabeth Wilkins also had a John baptised on 17th June 1764 (image 18) and a Thomas baptised on 25th September 1768 (image 25).

Which William?

The age of Mary Wilkins' father William given at the 1841 census, and at death, suggests the William baptised in 1766 is more likely to be her father. However, the William baptised in 1763 is also a possibility. Absent evidence going to the accuracy of any ages stated, a discrepancy of only three years would not rule him out, given people would regularly inaccurately state their age in the early 19th Century.¹²

Manual examination of the images of Dunchurch's parish records of baptisms, marriages and burials from the start of 1763 until the end of 1772 (images 16 to 31) established that neither of the Williams died in infancy and was buried in Dunchurch.

Although Mary's father was buried in Marton, a search in Family Search's Warwickshire parish registers database was conducted for the burial of a William Wilkins in Dunchurch between 1773 and 1850¹³ to establish if there was a burial in Dunchurch which would rule out either of the two Williams as Mary Wilkins' father.¹⁴ It returned three burials, on 28th February 1816, 2nd March 1820, and 15th March 1822. The first was aged 1 week, and the second was aged 5 months. The third was aged 59 years, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XXKD-8Z2>.

The screenshot shows a FamilySearch record for William Wilkins. The record is titled "William Wilkins" and includes the following information:

- Vital:** England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963
- Name:** William Wilkins
- Sex:** Male
- Age:** 59y
- Death or Burial Date:** 15 Mar 1822
- Death or Burial Place:** Dunchurch, Warwickshire, England
- Death or Burial Place (Original):** Dunchurch, Warwickshire, England
- Event Type:** Burial

On the left, there is a thumbnail image of a document page with a "VIEW ORIGINAL DOCUMENT" button below it. On the right, there is a "Family Tree" section with an "ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE" button and a "Similar Records" section stating "No similar records were found."

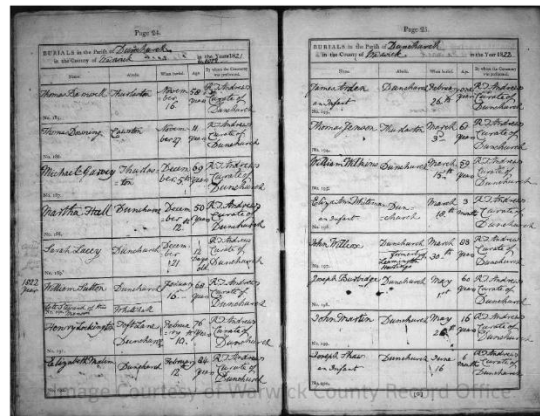
The parish register image hyperlinked in the above Family Search record is as follows, see <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-DYV7-LDR?i=14&cc=1462403&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AXXKD-8Z2>, image 15 of 72.

¹² Inaccuracies as to age could result from lost, incorrect, incomplete or illegible baptism or birth records (although not an issue in the case of either the William baptised in 1766 or the William baptised in 1763), no birth record being kept or birth date committed to memory for a child baptised well after birth, persons not accessing available records to ascertain their exact date of birth due to illiteracy or having moved away or for other reasons and consequently arbitrarily choosing one, and persons lying about or deliberately embellishing their age (in either direction) for a range of reasons.

¹³ See

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1773&q.deathLikeDate.to=1850&q.deathLikePlace=Dunchurch&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=William&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Wilkins&q.surname.exact=on&f.collectionId=1462403>.

¹⁴ A search was carried out in Family Search's Warwickshire parish registers database for all burials in Warwickshire of a William Wilkins between 1763 and 1850 in order to establish if there was a burial anywhere in Warwickshire (and not just in Dunchurch) which might be that of either William. It returned an additional 20 records, see <https://www.familysearch.org/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1763&q.deathLikeDate.to=1850&q.deathLikePlace=Warwickshire&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=William&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Wilkins&q.surname.exact=on&f.collectionId=1462403>. These were reviewed but none were as close a match to the 1763 William and the 1766 William as the 1822 Dunchurch burial and the 1847 Marton burial respectively. The same conclusion was reached upon a like search in the "England Deaths and Burials, 1538-1991" database, see <https://www.familysearch.org/search/record/results?count=20&q.deathLikeDate.from=1763&q.deathLikeDate.to=1850&q.deathLikePlace=Warwickshire&q.deathLikePlace.exact=on&q.givenName=William&q.givenName.exact=on&q.surname=Wilkins&q.surname.exact=on&f.collectionId=1473016>, although notably it only returned 15 records, and none of the three Dunchurch burials.



This is a close-up of the relevant entry.

No. 194.	William Wilkins	Dunchurch	March 59	R.T. Andrews
			15 th Year	Curate of Dunchurch
No. 195.	Salina Ann Whittem		March 3	R.T. Andrews

If his age given of 59 is correct, this William Wilkins buried on 15th March 1822 in Dunchurch would have been born between about¹⁵ 16th March 1762 and 15th March 1763. That time period corresponds to the William baptised on 9th January 1763.

The other William was baptised on 9th February 1766. The record of burial of William Wilkins in Marton on 30th May 1847 states he was aged 81 and, if that age was correct, he would have been born between about 31st May 1875 and 30th May 1766. Accordingly, there is also correspondence between the baptism date of this other William and the age given at death of Mary Wilkins' father.

To summarise the facts established above –

- it is known that Mary Wilkins' father was William Wilkins, and he was from Dunchurch
- he lived in Marton from at least 1801, and he was still living in Marton with his daughter Mary on the census date of the 6th June 1841,¹⁶ and he was then said to be 75
- a William Wilkins was buried in Marton on 30th May 1847, and his age at death was given as 81
- that William was obviously Mary Wilkins' father given the burial location and the correlation of the age at death and his known age of 75 on the census date six years earlier
- two William Wilkinses were baptised in Dunchurch from 1751 to 1777, namely one on 9th January 1763, and one on 9th February 1766¹⁷
- three William Wilkinses were buried in Dunchurch between 1773 and 1850
- two were infants, and the third, buried on 15th March 1822, was then said to be 59
- but he obviously was not Mary Wilkins' father as that William lived to 81.

¹⁵ Given uncertainty as to the exact time between death and burial, although no doubt usually no more than a few days.

¹⁶ See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1841_United_Kingdom_census.

¹⁷ Assuming of course, that all relevant records have been captured by Family Search, and that all potential William Wilkinses were baptised, and also buried, in Warwickshire.

The question then becomes, could Mary's father have been the William Wilkins baptised in 1763 in any case, and he was really 84, and not 81, when buried in Marton in 1847?

The answer is that that is most unlikely, because, despite the potential for age discrepancies of the time, the exact correspondence between the age at death of the William buried in Marton in 1847 and the William baptised in 1766 evidences that they are one and the same person, and then that evidence is made more cogent by the exact correspondence between the age at death of the William buried in Dunchurch in 1822 and the William baptised in 1763, which likewise evidences that they are one and the same person.

The correlation between William's age of 81 given for his burial record in 1847, and his age of 75 given in his 1841 census record, provides further confidence that William and his family knew his correct age, and were citing it accurately.

Accordingly, Mary's father William Wilkins was baptised in Dunchurch, Warwickshire on 9th February 1766, and his parents were Edward and Anne Wilkins.