

# The Swarbricks

A Family of the Fylde

by  
Catherine J. Turner

*c.*1993

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## 1 The Swarbricks and their Ancestors

Our family is descended from *Elizabeth Baker and John Threlfall Swarbrick* who married in December 1914 at St. Andrew's Church, Ashton in Ribble, Preston.

John's (Jack's) parents were *James Swarbrick* and *Catherine Threlfall*. Elizabeth's (Bess) were *John Baker* and *Jane Reid*.

The Swarbricks and Threlfalls were families of continual residence in the Hundred of Amounderness and the Fylde area of Lancashire since the 10th century AD. They intermarried with local families and moved from village to village over the years but in the direct line none left this localised area until this century. In the census returns they were variously classed as yeomen, husbandmen and farmers.

The Swarbrick ancestors were located to the west of the Fylde in the hinterland of Blackpool. The earliest references are found in the parish records of St. Chad's Poulton le Fylde and in the Kirkham parish registers. At that time Blackpool did not exist.

The Threlfalls were based in Woodplumpton by the 16th century, but prior to that they were in Goosnargh.

Both names are of Old Norse origin. In the 10th century AD bands of raiding Norsemen sailed round the north of Scotland and some settled in Dublin, others in the Isle of Man, the Lake District and west Lancashire. The names are analysed in place name dictionaries:

*'Swarbrick: an English habitation name from a place near Kirkham so called from Old Norse by name Svartr (Black) and Brekka (slope). A small settlement near Kirkham was first mentioned in the 13th century.'*

The modern ordnance map shows a small hill with a height of just over 100ft. (30.5m) to the west of Greenhalgh. At the foot is a farm named Swarbrick Hall. It is not known whether this was the site of the 13<sup>th</sup> century village, or whether it was the slope colonised by Svartr:

*'Threlfall; Lancashire habitation name from a place near Kirkham so called from Middle English Thrall (serf), Old Norse prall and fall; a clearing place where trees have been felled.'*

This may not be the original settlement of the Threlfalls. The area of Amounderness is included in the Yorkshire survey of Domesday Book and in it *Trefelft* is listed as having one *caracute*. This reference is in the text near Whittingham, Goosnargh, and Chipping and not in the neighbourhood of Kirkham. An old moated farmstead at Ashes near Whitechapel was the home of the Threlfalls from medieval times until well into the 18th century. This could be the original site of the settlement and would be more likely to be wooded and therefore cleared for the meeting of the *thralls* than would be any site on the largely treeless Fylde plain. It is significant that the local pronunciation of Threlfall is *Trefal* - little changed from the Domesday text.

A *William de Threlfall* is listed in 1246 in Ass/La.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Assize Rolls Lancashire

## 2 History of the Fylde

The Fylde is a region of the Hundred of Amounderness which has been touched by history throughout the centuries but remained impervious to change for over a thousand years .

The Romans passed through. They built a road from the fort at Ribchester to Kirkham and thence to a port on the river Wyre - *Portus Setantiorum*. The local *Setantii* sept of the Brigantes (*sic*) were probably then left in peace, for there is no evidence of Roman settlement in the area.

The Anglian invasions into Yorkshire probably led to some Anglian colonisers moving via the Ribble-Aire gap into the area, but the major colonisation of the Fylde was by the Norse invaders.

It was a bleak, windswept landscape. The Ribble - which bounded it to the west - had many sandbanks in its wide estuary and high sand dunes bordered its mouth. Blown sand was a major agricultural hazard here. High tides and heavy rainfall caused serious flooding problems. Freckleton Marsh a few miles up the estuary was often flooded even in modern times.

The river Wyre, the northern boundary, had a more navigable mouth and early fishing settlements were established here.

Between the rivers, behind the land now occupied by Blackpool was a shallow lake, Marton Mere, which later dried out to moss land.

## 3 Domesday Book: Lancashire

Lancashire north of the river Ribble is included in the Yorkshire edition of the Domesday Survey. The area lay within the earldom of Northumberland. This was an early Anglian kingdom which was beset by Danish invaders in the east in the 9th century and Norwegians in the west in the 10th century. By the mid tenth century it had become an earldom of the successful West Saxon kingdom (Wessex), but the area was strongly Scandinavian and developed a lasting tradition of regional separatism. Eric Bloodaxe, the last Viking king, was expelled in 954, but in 1014 the Anglo-Scandinavian nobility of Northumbria and the Danelaw supported the invasion of the Danish king Sveinn. In 1066 and after there was a strong possibility that Northumbria would act as a base for a Scandinavian bid to seize the throne. Internal conflicts within the ruling class were an integral part of the political complexity of the earldom throughout the 11th century. In 1055 Tosti the third son of Earl Godwin of Wessex, brother-in-law to Edward the Confessor and brother to Harold, was given the earldom of Northumbria but he was neither successful nor popular and was expelled in 1065 and went into exile. On Edward the Confessor's death he joined Harold Hardrada's invasion of England and was killed at the battle of Stamford Bridge. The Domesday Survey lists the villages of Amounderness as property of Earl Tosti, transferred to Roger of Poitou.

Roger was a member of one of the most powerful Anglo-Norman families. He was the third son of Roger of Montgomery who had vast possessions in both England and Normandy. Through marriage to an heiress he became Count la Marche in Poitou. In the 1080s his Lancashire lands were resumed by the crown and he was given land in Yorkshire instead. However William II later extended his holdings to most of Lancashire.

### 3.1 The Fylde in the Hundred of Amounderness

*Amounderness* is a Scandinavian place name *Agmunder's headland*. The only headland in the area is in the Norbeck area of Blackpool so this may have been the source of the name.

As the survey was a register of the land resources of the time the land available is described as *bovates* or *caracutes*. A bovate was the area which one ox could plough in a year; a caracute an area which an eight ox team could plough in a year. The actual amount ploughed would depend upon the nature of the geology:

*'Amounderness*

*In Preston Earl Tosti 6 caracutes taxable*

*These lands belong there:*

*Ashton (on Ribble) 2c ; Lea 1c ; Salwick (Hall) 1c ; Clifton 2c ;  
Newton 2c ; Freckleton 4c ; Ribby 6c ; Kirkham 4c ; Treales 2c ;  
Westby 2c ; Great and Little Plumpton 2c ; Weeton 2c ;  
Preese (Hall) 2c ; Warton 4c ; Lytham 2c ; Great and Little Marton 6c ;  
Layton 6c ; Staining 6c ; Carleton 4c ; Bispham 8c ; Rossall 2c ;  
Burn (Hall) 2c ; Thornton 6c ; Poulton (le Fylde) 2c ; Singleton 6c ;  
Greenhalgh 3c ; (Great) Eccleston 4c ; another (Little) Eccleston 2c ;  
Elswick 3c ; Inskip 2c ; Sowerby (Hall) 1c ; Aschebi 1c ; (St) Michaels  
(on Wyre) 1c ; Catterall 2c ; Claughton 2c ; Newsham 1c ; (Wood)-  
plumpton 5c ; Broughton 1c ; Whittingham (Hall) 2c ; Barton 2c ;  
Goosnargh 1c ; Haighton (Hall) 1c ; Threlfall's 1c ; Wheatley 1c ;  
Chipping 3c ; Aighton 1c ; Fishwick 1c ; Grimsargh 2c ; Ribchester 2c ;  
Dilworth (House) 2c ; 'Swainseat' 1c ; Forton 1c ; Great and Little  
Crimbles 1c ; Garstang 6c ; (Upper) Rawcliffe 3c ; Hambleton 2c ;  
Stalmine 4c ; Preesall 6c ; Mythop 1c ;*

*All these villas and three churches belong to Preston. Out of these 16 are inhabited by a few people, but how many may be living there is not known. The rest are waste. Roger of Poitou had them.'*

The translator has added words such as *Hall* and *Farm* to refer to modern grid references. He pinpoints Threlfall; *Trelfelt* in the original; to Threlfall Farm near Broughton, but in his note suggests that Whitechapel may have been the village centre. I believe this to be the more likely site as the *Ashes* was the home of the Threlfalls in medieval times.

## 4 Post Domesday Book

The Fylde became part of the Duchy of Lancaster. On the death of its most famous Duke, John of Gaunt, the title reverted to the crown. Even today the loyal toast here is "*the King, the Duke of Lancaster!*" Despite the crown connection most of the land was under the suzerainty of Lord Derby - the powerful Stanley family.

The whole area remained strongly Roman Catholic at the time of the reformation. Allegiance to the church and to the Stuarts was strong. The older firms, usually called halls, often hid chaplains who said mass for the recusants. Priest holes were well hidden. One at Crow Hall, our grandparents' farm, has defied discovery in modern times. The '45 rebellion was supported by many in the Fylde, and there are tales of the retreating army being helped by the villagers as they travelled through Woodplumpton on their way north. Our Swarbrick family is one of the few protestant Swarbrick families. It may be that the difficulty of finding the family in the early 18th century may be due to their conversion at this time.

In 1839 Lord Derby let out his land and dwellings to lessees who sub-let to tenants. *Tithes* were paid to the vicar and to an impropiator. In the following instances two are named:

Our ancestor James Swarbrick lived at Wharles. The lessee here was Jane Thistleton (the aunt of his wife):

| <i>Tenant</i>          | <i>Lessee</i>                  | <i>Land</i>  |             |              |              | <i>Tithes</i> |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|
|                        |                                | <i>Acres</i> | <i>Rood</i> | <i>Perch</i> | <i>Vicar</i> |               | <i>Improp</i>            |
| <i>James Swarbrick</i> | <i>Jane Thistleton</i>         |              |             |              |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>House and Orchard</i>       |              | 1           | 26           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Wheat Hay Meadow</i>        | 2            | 0           | 31           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Garden</i>                  |              |             | 17           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Green Garden</i>            |              | 2           | 13           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Innfield Pasture</i>        | 4            | 1           | 10           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Innfield Meadow Pasture</i> | 1            | 2           | 20           |              |               |                          |
|                        | <i>Town Moss</i>               | 1            | 1           | 39           |              |               |                          |
|                        |                                | <b>10</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>36</b>    |              |               | <i>14s 24d    £1 15s</i> |

William Threlfall, ancestor on the distaff side of the family, farmed at Thistleton at the same time. His lessee was 'Guardians of the Poor':

| <i>Tenant</i>            | <i>Lessee</i>                   | <i>Land</i>  |             |              | <i>Tithes</i> |               |                          |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|
|                          |                                 | <i>Acres</i> | <i>Rood</i> | <i>Perch</i> | <i>Vicar</i>  | <i>Improp</i> |                          |
| <i>William Threlfall</i> | <i>Guardians of The Poor</i>    |              |             |              |               |               |                          |
|                          | <i>Arable Croft</i>             |              |             |              |               | 36            |                          |
|                          | <i>Homestead and Garden</i>     | 1            |             |              |               | 11            |                          |
|                          | <i>Roe Field Arable</i>         | 5            | 2           |              |               | 16            |                          |
|                          | <i>Roe Meadow</i>               | 2            |             |              |               | 25            |                          |
|                          | <i>Little Roe Meadow</i>        |              | 1           |              |               | 30            |                          |
|                          | <i>Nixons Great Hay Pasture</i> |              | 6           |              |               | 8             |                          |
|                          | <i>Nixons Little Hay Arable</i> |              | 4           |              |               | 25            |                          |
|                          |                                 | <b>19</b>    | <b>1</b>    | <b>35</b>    |               |               | <i>14s 1d    £31s 5d</i> |

By 1851 William had moved to Esprick and was farming 26 acres and employing a labourer. A young schoolmaster from Anderton, Manchester was a boarder at the farm. William was described as a 'landed proprietor'.

Whilst life in the village was little changed there had been (other) changes. The beginnings of the Industrial Revolution in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century brought wealth to the cotton towns of Preston and Manchester and East Lancashire. People wanted to get away from the mills and the Lancashire coast became popular. Lytham was a small settlement at the time of Domesday but Blackpool and St Anne's and the fishing port of Fleetwood on the Wyre all developed after 1750. St. Anne's was established as late as 1875. The railways were developed following the popularity of the new seaside resorts. In July 1840 the *Preston and Wyre Railway* linked the new dock town of Fleetwood with Preston. In 1846 a branch line north of Kirkham extended the railway to Lytham and in 1872 the line was extended from Lytham to Blackpool.

Mills were built in Kirkham and the villagers were able to find work away from the traditional farmlands.

After the 1914-1918 war the cotton industry collapsed and some workers in Preston and elsewhere bought plots in the Fylde and set up as market gardeners or developed poultry farms. Between the wars the Fylde gained the highest profile it had ever achieved as a supplier of fresh foods to the cities. The port of Fleetwood became equal to Grimsby as a major supplier of fish. Special fish trains ran daily from Fleetwood to London.

## 5 The Swarbrick Genealogy

The damp climate of Lancashire was not suitable for intensive arable farming. Consequently there was never any need for the establishment of the three field system of agriculture or for the enclosure movement which followed it. The villages of the Fylde as listed in the Domesday Book are still small villages and hamlets. Throughout history it has remained an area of small independent farms, smallholdings and cottage subsistence.

A further influence on the parochialism of the Fylde has been the Roman Catholic tradition. The region has remained a hotbed of recusants throughout the religious troubles. In addition the Stuart cause was supported. This brought families into the Civil War, the 1715 and the 1745 rebellions. Followers of Fox<sup>2</sup> brought Quakerism to the Fylde in 1572 when the Moon family settled at Eaves, Woodplumpton. During the Civil War one Woodplumpton father was a royalist whilst his son was in Cromwell's army. Despite the infiltration of the Quakers, Roman Catholicism prevailed.

Many Roman Catholics preferred to pay fines rather than attend Protestant services and secret catholic masses and services were practised everywhere. Most of the magistrates were Roman Catholic and were unwilling to assist the state agents who sought out priests and Catholics.

Cardinal Allen who founded the English College in Rome and a seminary at Douay in France was related to the Haydock family of Cottam Hall.

One member of this family, a monk at Whalley, had taken part in the Pilgrimage of Grace and was hanged in field adjoining the abbey in 1537. In the early 18th century Gilbert Haydock, a priest returned to Cottam and his presence was betrayed. He hid in a large tree but was discovered and imprisoned at Lancaster. I am a witness to the way these stories remained in the village lore for centuries. As an infant I walked with my cousin along Cottam Hall Lane to Cottam R.C. School. On the way bordering the lane was a line of fine trees. We had been told, probably by older children at school, that a priest had been hanged on one of the trees. Tradition had distorted the truth here. On dark winter days we walked past the trees frightening each other with supposed sighting of a ghost! His elder brother William was outlawed for the part he played in the 1715 rising.

It is against this background of subsistence farming and religious quarrels that the family history developed.

For centuries the custom of naming children after grandparents and parents was followed in the Fylde as closely as in the rest of England. In the case of our family the Christian names of Richard and Henry for the eldest son alternated with the generations. The registers of all the relevant parish churches name many Richard Swarbricks but Henry seems unique to our family.

There are Swarbrick families in the Poulton le Fylde / Bispham district and across the River Wyre in Hambleton but our family appear to have lived during the centuries in villages around Kirkham - Warton, Freckleton, Medlar and Wharles.

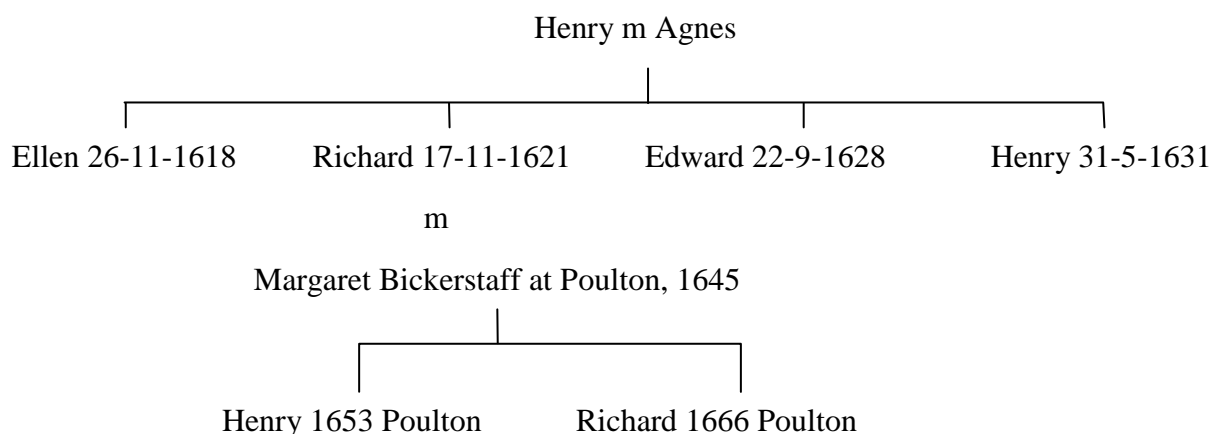
The first Swarbrick marriage noted is that of *Richard Swarbrick* to *Alice Butcher* 10-11-1604 at Poulton.

The next reference is to the children of *Henry* and *Agnes Swarbrick* all born at Bryning / Warton and christened at Kirkham.

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<sup>2</sup> George Fox (1624-1691) was a founder of the Religious Society of Friends, commonly known as the Quakers or Friends.

## 5.1 Henry and Agnes Swarbrick; Family Tree



Margaret Bickerstaff lived at Bispham and the marriage and christening of the children probably took place there because of her family connections. The naming of the son Henry seems to confirm this as the Warton family.

Thereafter there is no reference to the family until Henry married in 1791, and named his eldest son Richard. His son James and daughter Elizabeth were called after their mother's parents; Margaret, the elder girl, possibly after Richard's mother. This suggests he was the son of Richard and Margaret. He was born in 1770 but there is no evidence as to where or to whom. A *Richard Swarbrick* of Warton married *Margaret Rigby* in 1766. Their son *Richard* was christened at Lytham R.C. Church in 1772. If this is our family and the family tradition was followed this was the second son. The elder, probably born about 1770, could have been Henry of the 1791 marriage. This Richard of 1766 could have been the grandson of Richard Swarbrick of Freckleton, *yeo.* who married Sarah Smithson of Carleton (Poulton) at Poulton in 1722.

The lack of positive evidence at this period makes this lineage a supposition only.

It could be that until the late 18th century our ancestors, like most Swarbricks, were Roman Catholic and christenings may have taken place secretly. Certainly the marriage of *Henry* to *Ellen Thornton* at Stalmine in 1791 brought the family into the established church. The register states:

*'Henry Swarbrick of the Parish of Kirkham, husbandman, and Ellen Thornton of the chapelry of Stalmine, parish of Lancaster by licence 25th April 1791'*

She signed but Henry made a mark. Since the late 16th century the parish churches had sponsored 'schools' for children to learn to read and write. Henry cannot have attended such a school so this may be an indication of an upbringing outside the established religion. Supposition again!

The family history from this date is straightforward. Henry named his eldest son *Richard*. His son *James* and daughter *Elizabeth* were named after Ellen's parents. *Margaret* the other daughter was possibly named after Henry's mother. They lived in the Greenhalgh and Medlar area. *James*, our great, great, grandfather, continued to live in the Fylde, but *John* the third son moved north across the Wyre to Presall and his maternal roots.

James married *Margaret Thistleton* of Broughton at Woodplumpton church. The Thistletons had Broughton, Barton and Woodplumpton connections and were probably a more influential family than the Swarbricks. The eldest son was named *George* for Margaret's father. *Ellen* was named for her father's mother; then came the Swarbrick names *Henry* and *Richard*. *Jane* was called after her grandmother and *Margaret* after her mother. James farmed at Wharles. The landlord was Lord Derby but the monetary matters were conducted by lessees. James's lessee was *Jane Thistleton*, an aunt of his wife. In the census of 1841 James is listed as a



labourer of Wharles but the 1851 census shows him as a farmer and the Derby transactions of 1839 suggest he farmed 10 acres - though his actual personal holding was probably half of this. In the christening records of his children he is variously described as a labourer, farmer and weaver.

*Richard* the third son was our great grandfather. He became a wheelwright and was living in Lord St. Preston when he married *Mary Roskell* in 1847k. Mary was described as a spinster and servant, a daughter of George Roskell, shopkeeper of Marsh Lane, Preston. George had been a provision dealer in the Carlton / Bispham area when Mary was born.

Richard and Mary moved to Cabus or Nateby near Garstang where *James* and *Margaret* the eldest children were born. As usual children were named for forbears and younger sons *Henry* and *Richard* were duly christened with family names.

By 1861 the family had moved back to Preston. The copy of the 1861, 1871 and 1881 census returns charts the progress of the family. Between 1871 and 1881 Richard had moved to Dewhurst Farm, Cadley near Preston.

In 1881 James, our grandfather, was living with his sister Margaret (a widow), his brother George and sister Jane at 68 Windy Nook, Garstang Rd., Fulwood. He, too, was widowed.

When researching the family at the record office in Preston I met Glenn Swarbrick, a young Canadian who was seeking his ancestry and who mistakenly had gathered extensive information about our family. He sent me all the information and I include in this account his records of various census forms, the story of our grandfather's life and his mother's death and will. In fact he had researched and has given to me full histories of all the children of Richard and Mary and their descendants.

## 5.2 Richard and Mary Swarbrick

### 5.2.1 1861 Census: Living at 5, Great Shaw, Preston:

| <b>Name</b>               | <b>Relationship</b> | <b>Age</b>  | <b>Cond.</b> | <b>Occupation</b>  | <b>Birthplace</b>          |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Richard Swarbrick</i>  | <i>Head</i>         | <i>34</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>Joiner</i>      | <i>Wharles, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Mary Swarbrick</i>     | <i>Wife</i>         | <i>33</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>Housekeeper</i> | <i>Carlton, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>James Swarbrick</i>    | <i>Son</i>          | <i>10</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>     | <i>Nateby, Lancashire</i>  |
| <i>Margaret Swarbrick</i> | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>8</i>    | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>           | <i>Nateby, Lancashire</i>  |
| <i>Ann Swarbrick</i>      | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>5</i>    | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>           | <i>Kirkham, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Jane Swarbrick</i>     | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>5</i>    | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>           | <i>Kirkham, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Thomas Swarbrick</i>   | <i>Son</i>          | <i>4 mo</i> | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>           | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |

### 5.2.2 1871 Census: Living at 20, Spring St., Preston:

| <b>Name</b>               | <b>Relationship</b> | <b>Age</b>  | <b>Cond.</b> | <b>Occupation</b>    | <b>Birthplace</b>          |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Richard Swarbrick</i>  | <i>Head</i>         | <i>44</i>   | <i>Mar.</i>  | <i>Wheelwright</i>   | <i>Wharles, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Mary Swarbrick</i>     | <i>Wife</i>         | <i>42</i>   | <i>Mar.</i>  | <i>-</i>             | <i>Carlton, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>James Swarbrick</i>    | <i>Son</i>          | <i>20</i>   | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Bricklayer</i>    | <i>Nateby, Lancashire</i>  |
| <i>Margaret Swarbrick</i> | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>18</i>   | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Cotton weaver</i> | <i>Nateby, Lancashire</i>  |
| <i>Ann Swarbrick</i>      | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>15</i>   | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Cotton weaver</i> | <i>Kirkham, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Jane Swarbrick</i>     | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>15</i>   | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Cotton weaver</i> | <i>Kirkham, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>George Swarbrick</i>   | <i>Son</i>          | <i>12</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>       | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Thomas Swarbrick</i>   | <i>Son</i>          | <i>10</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>       | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Henry Swarbrick</i>    | <i>Son</i>          | <i>7</i>    | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>       | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Richard Swarbrick</i>  | <i>Son</i>          | <i>3</i>    | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>             | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |
| <i>William Swarbrick</i>  | <i>Son</i>          | <i>11mo</i> | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>             | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i> |

### 5.2.3 1881 Census: Living at Crow Hall Farm, Newsham Hall Lane, Broughton:

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Relationship</b> | <b>Age</b> | <b>Cond.</b> | <b>Occupation</b>            | <b>Birthplace</b>                |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Richard Swarbrick</i> | <i>Head</i>         | <i>54</i>  | <i>Mar.</i>  | <i>Farmer 32 ac.</i>         | <i>Warton, Lancashire</i>        |
| <i>Mary Swarbrick</i>    | <i>Wife</i>         | <i>52</i>  | <i>Mar.</i>  | <i>Farmer's Wife</i>         | <i>Bispham (sic), Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Ann Swarbrick</i>     | <i>Daughter</i>     | <i>25</i>  | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Farmer's Dau.</i>         | <i>Kirkham, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>Thomas Swarbrick</i>  | <i>Son</i>          | <i>20</i>  | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Farmer's Son</i>          | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>Henry Swarbrick</i>   | <i>Son</i>          | <i>18</i>  | <i>Un.</i>   | <i>Farmer's Son</i>          | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>Richard Swarbrick</i> | <i>Son</i>          | <i>13</i>  | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>               | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>William Swarbrick</i> | <i>Son</i>          | <i>10</i>  | <i>-</i>     | <i>Scholar</i>               | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>George Roskell</i>    | <i>F in L</i>       | <i>84</i>  | <i>Wr.</i>   | <i>Provision Dealer Rtd.</i> | <i>Bispham, Lancashire</i>       |
| <i>Richard J Cross</i>   | <i>Gr'son</i>       | <i>2</i>   | <i>-</i>     | <i>-</i>                     | <i>Preston, Lancashire</i>       |

Note: James, Margaret, Jane and George were living at Margaret's house at 64 Garstang Rd Fulwood (Windy Nook)

## 5.3 Deaths: Richard and Mary Swarbrick

### 5.3.1 Monument Inscription, Woodplumpton Parish Church, Woodplumpton:

*'At Rest - In loving Memory of Richard Swarbrick who died Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1893, aged 66 years  
Also of Mary, widow of the above, who died June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1906, aged 78 yrs  
Also of Ann, their daughter who died March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1892, aged 36 years  
Also of James, son of the above Mary Swarbrick, who died August 19<sup>th</sup> 1925, aged 74 years'*

### 5.3.2 Death Notice

*Swarbrick - On the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. at Edmondson's Farm, Durton Lane, Broughton, Mary Swarbrick, wife of the late Richard Swarbrick, formerly of Crow Hall Farm, Newsham, Age 78 years.*

### 5.3.3 Information from Mary's Will

Mary Swarbrick wrote her will on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1905 while living at Edamson's (*sic*) Farm, Broughton. She appointed her sons John of Ashton on Ribble and George, of Preston, to be her executors and trustees. Her instructions were to sell all real and personal property, pay all her debts, funeral and related expenses, then divide the residue between her six sons: James, George, Thomas, Henry, Richard and William. In addition, £50 was to be paid to her grandson Richard James Cross, who was referred to as her nephew in the will.

The will was signed with her mark, and witnessed by George Mounsey and Richard Rowcroft.

Probate was granted at Lancaster on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1906

There was an administration of Richard's estate granted at Lancaster on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1893, but no will.

## 5.4 The Children of Mary and Richard Swarbrick

### Additional Information: Marriages:

#### Groom

|            |                                |                                      |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Name       | James Swarbrick                | Batchelor, Plasterer, Age 23         |
| Father     | Richard Swarbrick              | Wheelwright, 20, Spring St., Preston |
| Mother     | Mary Roskell                   |                                      |
| Baptism    | 10 <sup>th</sup> November 1850 |                                      |
| Birthplace | Nateby Laces                   |                                      |

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Bride

|        |                |                              |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Name   | Harriet Holmes | Spinster, Age 26             |
| Father | John Holmes    | Joiner, 1 Essex St., Preston |

#### Their Marriage

|        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Date   | 30 <sup>th</sup> July 1874   |
| Church | Holy Trinity Church, Preston |

#### Their Children

|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| Ann Jane | Born Nov. 1877 |
|----------|----------------|

#### Deaths

|          |                                               |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Harriet  | Buried 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 1877 aged 31     |
| Ann Jane | Buried 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1877 aged 2 weeks |

#### 2nd Bride

|        |                     |                  |
|--------|---------------------|------------------|
| Name   | Catherine Threlfall | Spinster, age 35 |
| Father | William Threlfall   | Farmer           |

#### Their marriage

|           |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Date      | 13 <sup>th</sup> June 1882      |
| Church    | Christchurch, Fulwood, Preston  |
| Witnesses | John Hindle and Ellen Threlfall |

#### Their Children

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| John Threlfall | Born 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 1886 |
|----------------|----------------------------------|

#### Deaths

|           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Catherine | Died 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 1886 |
|-----------|----------------------------------|

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Bride

|        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| Name   | Jane Parkinson |
| Father | Unknown        |

#### Their Marriage

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Date      | Unknown |
| Church    | Unknown |
| Witnesses | Unknown |

#### Their Children

|       |                                   |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| James | Born 10 <sup>th</sup> August 1904 |
| Henry | Born 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 1912     |

### 5.4.1 Notes

James died on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1925, age 74, and was buried In the Woodplumpton Parish Churchyard with his parents. His first wife Harriet and their daughter Ann Jane are buried at the Preston Cemetery in an unmarked grave with other family members.

James wrote his will the day before he died. He left all of his real and personal estate to his third wife Jane and made her the sole executrix. His signature was witnessed by William Bramwell, Solicitor, Preston and W.H. Livesey, Joiner, Ashton on Ribble. Probate was granted at Lancaster on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1926.

James died at 50 Waterloo Rd., Ashton on Ribble, where he had lived since about 1895.

James's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> wives are probably buried in the Preston Cemetery. If not there one or both could be at St. Andrew's C of E churchyard, Ashton on Ribble.

## 5.5 Swarbrick of Wharles

### 5.5.1 1841 Census: Wharles Village

|                   |    |          |   |
|-------------------|----|----------|---|
| James Swarbrick   | 45 | Labourer | y |
| Peggy Swarbrick   | 45 |          | y |
| Ellen Swarbrick   | 20 |          | y |
| Ginny Swarbrick   | 10 |          | y |
| Richard Swarbrick | 15 |          | y |

### 5.5.2 1851 Census: Wharles

|                    |    |   |    |                |           |
|--------------------|----|---|----|----------------|-----------|
| James Swarbrick    | H  | M | 57 | Farmer 5 acres | Wesham    |
| Margaret Swarbrick | W  | M | 58 |                | Broughton |
| Jane Swarbrick     | D  | U | 20 |                | Wharles   |
| James Swarbrick    | GS |   | 2  |                | Wharles   |

### 5.5.3 1851 Census: Preesall

|                  |   |   |    |                |          |
|------------------|---|---|----|----------------|----------|
| John T Swarbrick | H | M | 51 | Farmer 5 acres | Medlar   |
| Mary Swarbrick   | W | M | 50 |                | Stalmine |
| John Swarbrick   | S |   | 13 | Scholar        | Preesall |
| Ellen Swarbrick  | D |   | 10 | Scholar        | Preesall |

### 5.5.4 1851 Census: Thornton, 7 Houghton Street

|                      |   |   |    |         |           |
|----------------------|---|---|----|---------|-----------|
| Henry Swarbrick      | H | M | 28 | Joiner  | Preesall  |
| Elizabeth Swarbrick  | W | M | 32 |         | Preesall  |
| John Anyon Swarbrick | S |   | 6  | Scholar | Preesall  |
| Richard Swarbrick    | S |   | 4  |         | Fleetwood |

### 5.5.5 Memorial Inscriptions Out Rawcliffe CE

Fragrant memories of Elizabeth beloved wife of James Gradwell Swarbrick who died 25<sup>th</sup> May 1955 aged 65 years. Also of the above James Gradwell Swarbrick who died 6th September 1970 aged 79, reunited. Also Doris their daughter who died in infancy.

In loving memory of Henry Swarbrick died November 13<sup>th</sup> 1916 aged 52. Also Jane beloved wife of the above died Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> 1950 aged 82 years, re-united.

In loving memory of my dear husband William Jackson Swarbrick died 7th Dec 1947 aged 54 years. Also Agnes Swarbrick beloved wife of the above died 17th April 1973 aged 77 years, re-united...

From Probate book 1893

Swarbrick Richard of Crow Hall Farm Newsham near Preston, Farmer died 23 Nov 1893 Administration Lancaster 21 Dec to Mary Swarbrick, widow, effects £296-18s

## Grandfather James Swarbrick

Grandad was variously described as a bricklayer, a builder, a joiner, a plasterer in various census returns. By the 1890s he had become a very successful builder and was engaged in both house building and public building contracts. Preston station was enlarged by the new Butler St. station and grandad was responsible for that. New council offices were built at Garstang and Dad helped to build those, as partner in the firm of *James Swarbrick & Son*.

As a successful businessman grandad took holidays to the Isle of Man and the continent. Dad as a young man went on holiday with him to Geneva.

Grandad's brothers George and Henry became builders, but Thomas, Richard and William were farmers. Mary Swarbrick left Crow Hall to live with her son William at Edmondsons Farm at Durton Lane. William married Elizabeth Rhodes; a farmer's daughter from Woodplumpton. Later William and Elizabeth emigrated to Australia with Elizabeth's brother. They settled in New South Wales as poultry and duck farmers. Richard farmed at Ribchester eventually and became a national judge of sheep.

Jim, son of James, was the last of our particular branch of the family to live in the Fylde. He trained as a woodwork teacher and his first post was at Poulton-le-Fylde. From there he moved to Warton as head of the village school. He remained in the village when he became head of a Preston school. On retirement he moved to Greenhalgh where he hoped to continue with his great interest: bee-keeping. His early death ended the family's thousand year residence in the Fylde. Fittingly, his moves from Poulton to Warton to Greenhalgh mirrored the family history.

## 5.6 Swarbricks of Wharles: Family Tree

# Swarbricks of Wharles

