

will of Habakkuk Englestown 1850

A summary

The sole executor was his wife Elizabeth.

Elizabeth is to take for her use a bed, bedstead with bolster and pillows, sheets and blankets and all necessary clothing for the bed. I direct her to take six chairs with a table for her own use.

I direct her to sell the remainder of the furniture as also my estate at Eaton near Norwich. In short I direct her to sell all my property whatsoever description and add the money produced by the sale to whatever I have at my death and I direct her to take one third of the whole.

I, having done more for my son William Englestown than it was in my power to do for my other children, I direct her to give him ten pounds for the mourning. The remainder to be divided between my four other children, that is for my son John Englestown, one quarter, for Phoebe Elmer one quarter, Ann Pidgeon one quarter, Henry Englestown one quarter.

27th March 1848

Witnesses Dawson Ewer, Robert Green. 4th March 1850

(Grocer)

(Schoolmaster)

NOTES

Spelling of Habakuk, Habakkuk, Habbakuk Habbakkuk and Habakkuk are all found.

It sounds as if there was an elder son, William who is not included in the two Lists of Descendants of Habakkuk Englestown which I have been given. The only other reference I have to him at the moment is that a William Englestone was witness to a marriage in Castle Rising in 1830.

Habakkuk's wife at his death and in the 1841 census was Elizabeth, his second wife, but Ann was his first wife and mother of all his children. She died presumably due to post natal complications, a week after the birth of Charlotte. Elizabeth died in Docketing in 1852, two years after her husband.

Habakkuk Englestown was listed as a farmer in the 1841 census but he was elsewhere described as a yeoman. He and Elizabeth are in the 1841 Census, both aged 70 years, living on the Lower Road in Castle Rising. He died in 1850, about 80 years old. Elizabeth was not in the 1851 census of the village. Their daughter Phoebe Elmer was living with her husband Robert (an agricultural labourer) and six children at 20 Lower Road in 1841. They had married in 1814 when Phoebe was still a minor. Phoebe had had nine children altogether but in 1827 three of her babies died. Robert at 7 months and John at 10 months must have been twins I think and

Henry who died at one day old, the next born Robert died before the 1851 census when Phoebe, a widow aged 59 was living with 4 unmarried children, William, (34) a warrener, Ann, (32), a laundress like her mother, Richard, (30) a farm labourer and Mary, (14), a scholar. Her other two daughters, aged 25 and 20 were absent. After this Phoebe is listed as a cow keeper in 1861 and 1871.

Habakkuk's other daughter Ann married Thomas Pidgeon, a wheelwright .It seems that their first three children died as infants between 1827 and 1832 but they then had three daughters and a son who became a wheelwright working with his father. Ann died before 1861 and Thomas by 1871.

Habakkuk was the mayor of Castle Rising fourteen times, in every other year between 1807 and 1833. After 1834 the borough no longer had a mayor, but prior to that the mayor of C.R. had precedence over all the other mayors in Norfolk. The mayors, like the two MPs of the borough were at this time selected by the Howard family and the Walpoles. They each chose an MP and took it in turns to select the mayor. Englestown was a Walpole supporter which explains why the family had close connections with Houghton, the Walpole family seat. His children Ann and John were both born at Houghton in 1803 and 1806. Presumably they lived there then but moved back to CR in 1807 when Henry was born and Habakkuk first became mayor. The land and farm he leased in CR was owned by the Walpoles.

H.Englestown drew a very attractive map of Castle Rising which is in the Houghton Archives. I have included a copy of part of this as well as the corner with his name on. One wonders where he acquired the skill to do this.

Habakkuk had property at Eaton, mentioned in his will, but so far I have no other reference to this except that he lived there in the early days of his marriage.

I have been in touch with Mr. D Englestown, 104 Kirklands Rd, Hull, E. Yks. HU5 5AU Tel 01 482 354 632 who sent me this descendant list. His grandfather was a blacksmith on the Houghton Estate and I think made the railings around the estate.

I also met Jane Baugh-Ward, 53A, Chapel Road, Dersingham. PE31 6PJ Tel 01485 540 896 when we gave a talk in Dersingham on 5th April 2011. She gave me a copy of the page in the Parish Register for 1810 showing both the baptism of Charlotte and the death of her mother Ann.

She also gave me a copy of a document which was signed by the Mayors of Castle Rising each year stating that they do not believe in the transubstantiation of the sacraments. In this case in 1822, 1823 and 1824 signed by H Englestown, J. Holland and H. Englestown respectively before J.A.Bellamy, Steward of the C.R.Estate. The exact wording is as follows:-

I Habakuk Englestown Mayor of the Borough of Castle Rising in the County of Norfolk do declare that I do believe there is not any Transubstantiation in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, Or in the Elements of Bread and Wine at or after the Consecration thereof by any person whatsoever.

This declaration was made and Subscribed this twenty-ninth

Year of our Lord One thousand and Eight hundred **H. Englestown**

and twenty-two Before me **JA Bellamy** *steward*