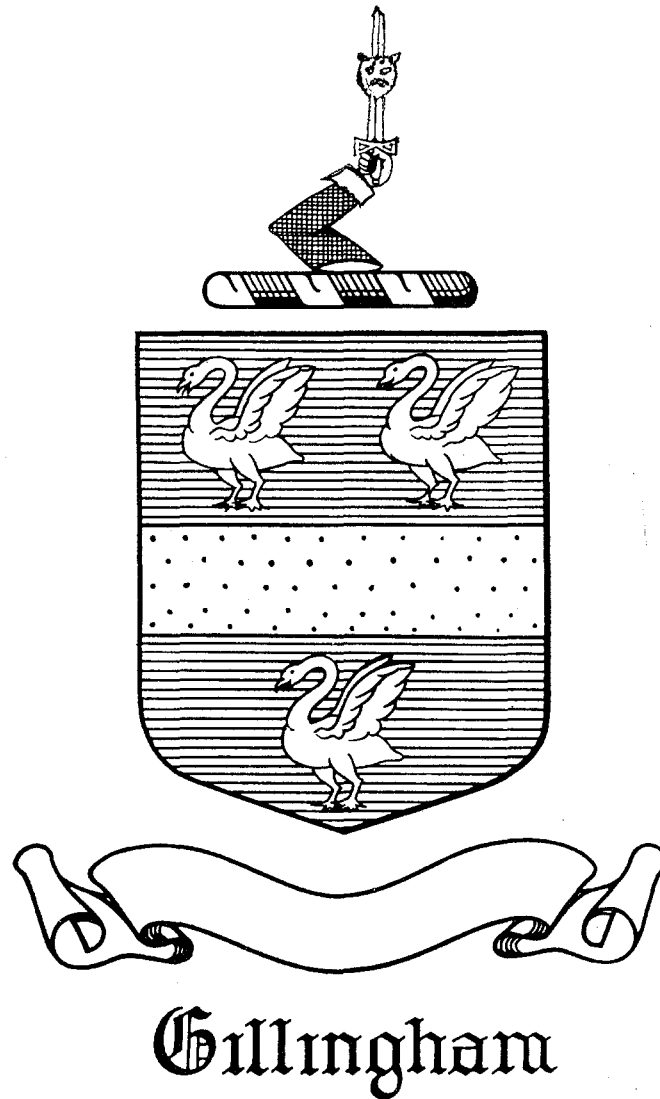


# The Story of Gillingham



Gillingham

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## GILLINGHAM IN ENGLAND

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### THE NAME OF GILLINGHAM

There is uncertainty -- and speculation -- about the origin of the name "Gillingham". Old records spell it in various ways.

One theory is that the first syllable was derived from the ancient English word "gylian" (or "gullan") meaning to "shout". Thus, inhabitants of some early Anglo-Saxon settlements were called "gillingas" (the "shouting men").

Another idea is that "gilling" referred to the Norse invaders and "ham" meant their home in Britain. However, some authorities contend that the name was used long before that invasion.

An interesting version is that the prefix "gill" is from the Gaelic word "gille", or "gillie", meaning a man-servant, usually a young man serving a chieftan. A "gillie-wetfoot", a term long obsolete, had the particular duty of carrying his master over streams (there being few bridges in those days). The suffix "ham" has been associated with "hamlet", the village or town in which the gillie lived.

Still another story is that between 450 and 600 A.D. there was a resident of Britain named "Gylla" (although there is no known written record of such a person) and that Gillingham was coined from Gylla's "ing", i. e., his family and followers, and "ham", their "hame" (home) or dwelling place.

The most acceptable explanation is that the name is local in origin, being derived from the "ham of Gylla's people". "Ham" is an old English word originally denoting "an inclosure", and "Gylla" stems from the name of some early but unidentified British tribal chief.

In any event, "Gylla", or "Gill", must have been a fairly common appellation among the Anglo-Saxons because it forms part of some old place names in different parts of England. Examples are Gilling in Yorkshire, and Gillingham in Dorset, Kent and Norfolk, and the related name of Gislingham in Suffolk. In this connection it should be noted that names ending in "ing" have the strongest claims to British antiquity.

The present form of the name seems to have appeared about the end of the twelfth century.

British pronunciation of Gillingham is as if it were spelled "Jill-ing-um".

## DOMESDAY BOOK REFERENCE TO GILLINGHAM

The Domesday (sometimes called "Doomsday") Book, which was England's first survey of the value of land for tax purposes (1085-1087), has entries mentioning Gillingham (but in different spellings) as places in Dorset and Kent. This record is in Latin, but contracted in a sort of shorthand. A translation of these extracts follows:

### "Dorset"

"The land of Turstin son of Rolf:

"Turstin son of Rolf holds Gillingham from the King, and (> = et) Bernard (holds it) from him (Turstin). Alwold held it in the time of King Edward (T.R.E. = temporare Regis Edwardi) and it was gelded (assessed for tax) at 3 1/2 hides. There is land for 4 plough teams (i. e., 4 carucates: a carucate was the amount of land that could be ploughed by one team in a season). In the domain there are two carucates and 8 serfs, and one villein with two carucates. There are 12 acres of meadowland (prati). It was worth (T.R.E.), and is (now) worth 60 shillings.

"The lands of the King's thanes:

"Edwin holds one virgate (a quarter of a hide) of land in Gillingham. The land is half a carucate. It is worth (amount omitted).

"Godric holds one virgate of land in Gillingham. The land is half a carucate. (?T.R.E. it was worth) 5 shillings. There are 4 bordars (cottagers with a small amount of land, but unfree) and 3 acres of meadowland. It is worth 5 shillings. Ulwin holds 1 1/2 virgates of land in Gillingham. There is land for one plough-team. It is worth 10 shillings. Edward the huntsman holds half a virgate of land in Gillingham. Anschil held it in the time of King Edward. The land is 3 bovates (i. e., 3/8 of a carucate). It is worth 30 pence.

### "Kent"

"The Archbishop himself holds Gillingham which defends itself for (i. e., answers to an assessment of) six solins (the Kent equivalent of the hide). There is land for 15 plough-teams. In the domain there are two carucates, and 42 villeins with 16 bordars have 15 carucates. There is a church, and 3 serfs, and 3

fish-ponds of 42s. 8d., and one mill of 16s. 8d., and 14 acres of meadowland. (There are) woods (enough for) 20 swine. Of this manor a certain freeman holds one carucate of land and there he has 2 bordars. In total value in the time of King Edward this manor was worth 15 pounds; when received (by the Archbishop) 12 pounds, and now 23 pounds; and it should even yield 26 pounds and 12 pence at least. What the freeman holds: 40 shillings."

### GILLINGHAM PLACE NAMES

Gillingham in Dorset and Gillingham in Kent are both very old, and these two places are sometimes confused in England's historical records.

In 1016, Danish invaders were defeated at Gillingham, but whether this was in Dorset or Kent is disputed. Twenty years later, after the death of King Canute, a Norman force invaded Britain and their leader, Alfred, was tortured and killed at one or the other of these two places. In 1062, a council met at Gillingham (either in Dorset or Kent) and offered the throne to Edward the Confessor, brother of the murdered Alfred, who accepted it and was crowned at Westminster.

#### Kent's Gillingham

The present city of Gillingham in Kent was the site of some of the earliest fixed settlements in Britain, including those of prehistoric man. In Roman times it was a flourishing town. There is evidence of a Jutish settlement there between 450 and 500 A.D., and graves of that period may have been the last resting place of some early "Gyllingas".

The first written evidence of a place named Gillingham was in 970 A.D. when a local regulation was adopted (a copy of which is still preserved) to insure that a bridge in Kent's Gillingham would be kept in repair. This Gillingham was on the route of Chaucer's pilgrims from Southwark to Canterbury.

The Domesday Book entry for "Gelingham", as it was then spelled, says, in effect, that the "manor" of Gillingham, which had been part of the possessions of the See of Canterbury for many years before the Norman conquest, was recognized by William the Conqueror as the property of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had sublet part of it to a "de Gillingham" family referred to later.

Kent's Gillingham felt the "Peasants' Revolt" in 1381 and Jack Cade's rebellion in 1450. In the Middle Ages it became identified with the royal navy, to the inclusion of a dockyard. An order issued in 1550 mentions moving the king's fighting ships to "Gillynham Water". The 17th century conflict

between the Stuart kings and Parliament found the people of Gillingham largely favoring the latter.

#### Dorset's Gillingham

Dorset's Gillingham is a market town in the north of that county, about five miles west of Shaftsbury. In Saxon times it was the heart of the kingdom of Wessex, and appears to have been a part of the king's own lands. It was a royal manor at the time of the Domesday Book survey and so continued until Stuart times.

Near the town was "Gillingham Forest" where there was a royal residence used as a hunting lodge by Kings John and Henry I. A story is that in the forest during the latter's reign there was a beautiful white hart (male deer) which became Henry's pet. Consequently, he was angered when it was killed by local huntsmen. He imposed a fine on the lands in Gillingham owned by the persons responsible, and "white hart money" continued to be paid to the Crown during feudal times. In the days of Queen Elizabeth, Sir Walter Raleigh served for a time as the royal ranger of Gillingham Forest.

In spite of its long history, Dorset's Gillingham has few old buildings remaining. Nothing but grassy mounds mark the site of the royal residence; its stone masonry long ago went into other buildings. Part of the parish church dates from 1326. The old town bridge is the subject of a painting by John Constable.

#### Norfolk's Gillingham

Norfolk's Gillingham, near the Suffolk border, is a hamlet of Loddon Rural District. It has a "Gillingham Hall". According to Mary Blamley, present occupant:

"This house was built by Francis Bacon's nephew (Sir Nathaniel Bacon) in 1601 and has been in the family ever since, though the name has changed several times owing to succession in the female side. Before 1600, we have always understood there was another house here on the site, occupied by a family called Everhard, and in the 1300's a man named Sir Lawrence de Blemle lived here. There has never been, to my knowledge, any family named Gillingham here, and there are no tombstones in this name in the cemetery."

#### GILLINGHAM AS A FAMILY NAME

The people who held land in places named Gillingham at the time of the Domesday Book census were not surnamed Gillingham. They were simply "Edwin". "Godric", "Ulwin", etc., and, where it was necessary to describe them individually, either the father's name was mentioned or the person's occupation -- such as "Turstin son of Rolf" and "Edward venator" (the huntsman). It may have been that Turstin's son or grandson began to be known as

"de (the) Gillingham", and his descendants adopted Gillingham as a surname.

It was only after the Norman conquest that the practice of distinctive last names passing from fathers to sons started in England. These added names were first known as "ekenames" ("eke" meaning "also") and from this came the word "nickname". By the thirteenth century the use of hereditary surnames had become general, and many families came to be named after the places where they held land, and continued to do so even when later generations moved to other places.

In this way three families called Gillingham arose -- one named for the Dorset town of Gillingham, another for the Kent place of the same name, and the third for Suffolk's Gislingham.

Persons named "de Gillingham" are mentioned in medieval documents -- Gild' de Gillingham in Dorset and Robert de Gillingham in the "Hundred Rolls" (about 1273) and Hugh de Gillingham of Kent in the "Placira de Quo Warranto" of 1292. Kent's Gillingham had two "Vicars of Gillingham" -- Hamo de Gyllynham (1279) and William de Gyllynham (1314). A Richard de Gillingham was living in Somerset in 1326. The Gislinghams, who took their name from Gislingham in Suffolk, are recorded in the "Heralds' Visitations" of Suffolk and Norfolk in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in connection with the registration of that family's coat of arms.

Parish registers show that by the end of the sixteenth century the Gillinghams had become a fairly large family in various parts of Dorset, especially in the villages around Dorchester, the county seat. They appear to have been most numerous at Sydling St. Nicholas and Hillfield where, in the period 1566-1587, there were seven of that name -- Henry, John, William, Leon, Richard, Robert and Thomas Gillingham. Possibly brothers, they were married and had families.

#### Relation to the Churchills

At Sydling St. Nicholas in 1578, Leon Gillingham (probably the one mentioned previously) married Julyan Churchill. She was presumably related to Jasper Churchill of Bradford and the latter's son, John Churchill of Mintern -- these being villages adjoining Sydling St. Nicholas -- and was, therefore, an early member of the family from which sprang the first Sir Winston Churchill, his son the first Duke of Marlborough, and the late Sir Winston Churchill who became Prime Minister of England. Records do not show any children of the Churchill-Gillingham marriage. Julyan died in 1588 and Leon in 1623.

#### GILLINGHAM FAMILY ARMS AND CREST

The hereditary system known as "amory", or more popularly as "heraldry", dates from feudal times. It concerns the use of emblems to identify families and individuals.

Coats of arms were painted on the outside of shields that knights carried into battle to ward off lances, arrows from cross-bows, battle-axes, maces and long-handled swords. Most knights had crests on their helmets for further identification. Mantles worn over their armor were embroidered to match the shield.

Coats of arms on banners were useful for grouping forces on the field of combat, at tourneys and other gatherings, also to fly above family abodes and for decorating their halls used for big gatherings. Crests on family arms were used additionally to wax-stamp legal papers and to mark the last resting places of their bearers.

To avoid duplication of personal insignia, a body of Heralds was early appointed to visit English districts and record details of existing arms, and to grant new ones to those of the ruling class who wished to be "distinguished from all and singular".

This resulted in formation of the College of Arms which developed rules of "blasonry" (the heraldic term for coats of arms) and a code governing their inheritance. A strict interpretation is that arms are akin to a title, descending to the eldest son. Accordingly, the legal right of a person to use a coat of arms must be established by satisfactory proof of descent from the original grantee. However, the more popular view is that the use of an arms insignia is common to all those descended or related to the original male holder.

It is seldom possible to trace the reasons which led to the adoption of a particular British heraldic design. Occasionally, an arms or crest can be identified as symbolic of a family name, accomplishment or association, or an adaptation of the arms of some closely related family.

But most old arms and crests do not have any such significance. Many of them are merely distinctive signs without inner meaning. However, conjecture can sometimes be made as to the possible meaning which led to the selection of particular heraldic designs.

The first coat of arms used by a Gillingham is ascribed to the Kent family of that name. It was "blazoned quarterly ermine and gules on a red and white shield". It was held by the lords of the "manor" of Gillingham -- Hugh de Gillingham during the reign of King Henry III (1216-1272) and, subsequently, by Thomas de Gillingham. The latter's son, Richard, died in 1389 leaving the estate to two daughters to be divided into two parts, one called East Court and the other West Court. The daughters, Margaret and Isabel, married John Thorpe and William Grensted (or Greenstreet), respectively. Since Richard Gillingham left no male heir, there was no Gillingham to formally inherit this particular Gillingham coat of arms.

The arms now associated with the Gillingham family were granted in 1576 to John Gislingham of Suston, Suffolk, to be borne only by his descendants in the male line. They were, apparently, based upon the arms of the De la Poles, who were overlords of the district where the Gislinghams held

land. From 1385 to 1513 the Honor, or Lordship, of Eyre was held by the De la Poles family whose arms were borne by the Lords of Suffolk.

The De la Poles arms consisted of a blue shield with a central horizontal gold stripe (fesse) and two leopard's heads in gold in the upper portion and a third in the lower section. Indications are that the Gislinghams took the blue ground and gold strip from the De la Poles shield but, for distinction, had to substitute something for the leopard's heads in the shield and, for that purpose, chose swans in the same number and in the same positions. Why they made this selection is obscure but, possibly, swans appeared on the arms of some other family with which the Gislinghams were closely associated.

The theory that these early Gislinghams based their arms on those of the De la Poles is indicated further by the crest above the Gislingham shield. Many crests show an arm with the hand grasping a sword. The Gislingham-selected crest differs from the others by having one of the leopard's heads impaled on the sword blade, and this may have been borrowed from one of the leopard's heads on the De la Poles shield.

About a century after the Suffolk Gislinghams started using their coat of arms, the latter seems to have been adopted -- without recorded authority -- by some Dorset Gillinghams. Indications are that the Gillingham who first assumed the Gislingham arms was Roger Gillingham, a London barrister, who was born in Cowgrove, Pamphill. He died in 1695 leaving money to found a school and almshouse in Pamphill.

The 1844 edition of Burke's "General Amory" has the following notation concerning the Gillingham arms and crest:

"GILLINGHAM: Arms: Azure, a fesse or between three swans argent. Crest: A dexter arm couped and embowed proper vested sable cuffed argent holding a sword in pale enfiled with a leopard's head embossed proper."

To be more detailed: The shield is of blue. The fesse, or belt, which crosses the shield horizontally, is of gold. The three swans are of silver. The ribbon under the shield is either of gold or silver, as desired, and if there was a motto on it the lettering of the latter would be in blue. The decorative wreath is of alternate twists of blue and whatever color is used in the ribbon. The sleeve of the arm holding the sword is of black, the cuff of silver, and the hand is of natural coloring. The sword blade is of silver with the handle and guard of gold. The leopard's head is of natural color.

In heraldry, azure or blue generally signifies loyalty and truth, the fesse represents a military belt or girdle of honor, sable or black denoting consistency (and sometimes, though rarely, grief), and white or silver means peace and security.



Under heraldic law, arms holders can embellish the basic design to a greater or lesser degree, adding helmets, palms, etc., to their individual liking. Also, they can adopt and use any motto desired. However, no motto is recorded for either the Gislingham or Gillingham arms.

Coats of arms or "rebuses" are also used to identify clergy, officials, merchants, companies, towns and cities. The one adopted by the city of Gillingham has no characteristics similar to either of the Gillingham arms

#### SEVENTEENTH CENTURY GILLINGHAM ABODES

Most Gillinghams of the seventeenth century lived in Dorset. Apparently, the great majority were yeomen (free farmers with small land holdings).

Some Dorset places where people named Gillingham lived at that time were:

Abbotsbury	Hazlebury Bryan
Beaminster	Litton Cheney
Bishop's Caundle	Maiden Newton
Bloxworth	Owermoigne
Bridport	Pamphill
Cattistock	Piddlehinton
Charminster	Portesham
Chelborough	Rampisham
Corscombe	Shillingstone
Cowgrove	Stratton
Crewkerne	Sturminster Marshall
Dorchester	Sydling St. Nicholas
Frampton	Wimborne Minster
Gillingham	Winfrith Newburgh
Godmanstone	Wootton Glanville

#### SEVENTEENTH CENTURY GILLINGHAM MARRIAGES

Boyd's collection in the Society of Genealogists, London, mentions these Gillingham marriages in the seventeenth century:

- 1602 -- William Gillingham and Ellinor Watts,  
Cattistock, Dorset.
- 1609 -- John Gillingham and Mary Smith,  
Stratton, Dorset.
- 1611 -- John Gillingham and Eloner Childs,  
Maiden Newton, Dorset.

- 1621 -- John Gillingham and Agnes Palmer,  
Rampisham, Dorset.
- 1622 -- Immanuel Gillingham and Maria Willford,  
Corscombe, Dorset.
- 1633 -- Richard Gillingham and Elizabeth Beer,  
Abbotsbury, Dorset.
- 1636 -- Thomas Gillingham and Joan Bartomy,  
Beamister, Dorset.
- 1641 -- John Gillingham and Elizabeth Pearce,  
"Well's M'ge Licenses".
- 1686 -- James Gillingham and Elizabeth Stride,  
Boldre, Hampshire.
- 1687 -- Emanuel Gillingham and Martha Pope,  
Corscombe, Dorset.
- 1698 -- Thomas Gillingham and Amy Hart,  
Godmanstone, Dorset.
- 1699 -- Robert Gillingham and Dorothy Pockett,  
Charminster, Dorset.

An indenture dated in 1695 between Lord Stourton and John Gillingham of East Chelborough, Dorset, a yeoman, concerning surrender of certain lands, mentions Emanuel Gillingham and his brothers, John and Thomas, and Joseph, son of John.

#### EARLY DORSET GILLINGHAMS

Dorset County parish registers record numerous Gillinghams in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the period when members of that family seem to have first migrated to the New World. However, from the fragmentary and meager notations in these records it is difficult to connect individual relationships.

There are some instances of Gillingham parents, in the cases of children dying in infancy, bestowing the same first name upon subsequent offspring -- particularly those of male descent. One family used the same christian name on three occasions.

These old church chronicles also show quaint first names or odd spellings. Middle names did not come into general use until later.

##### Abbotsbury:

- 1632 -- Richard Gillingham married Elizabeth Beer; Anne, daughter, baptised.

##### Beamminster:

- 1636 -- Thomas Gillingham married Joan Bartomy.
- 1671 -- James, son of Joseph Gillingham, baptised.
- 1673 -- William, son of Joseph Gillingham, baptised.

Bloxworth and Winterbourne Thompson:

1587 -- John Gillingham married Mawde Elfride.

Bridport:

1634 -- Richard, son of Richard Gillingham, baptised.

Cattistock:

1602 -- William Gillingham married Ellinor Watts.

Caundle Bishop:

1625 -- Ellizabeth, daughter of Nicholas Gillingham, baptised.

1629 -- Melior, daughter of Nicholas Gillingham, baptised.

1653 -- Richard, son of Richard Gillingham, baptised.

1656 -- William, son of Richard Gillingham, baptised.

1664 -- John, son of Richard Gillingham, baptised.

1685 -- John, son of William Gillingham, baptised.

1687 -- Richard, son of William Gillingham, baptised.

Corscombe:

1623 -- Immanuel (or Emanuel) Gillingham married Maria Willford  
(or Wulford).

1624 -- Dorothy, daughter of Emanuel Gillingham, baptised.

1629 -- Mary Gillingham (parents not stated) baptised.

1642 -- Emanuel Gillingham married Dorothy Alexander.

1664 -- Robert Gillingham married Frances Ssawne.

1664 -- Denah, daughter of Robert Gillingham, baptised.

1685 -- William, son of Hugh Gillingham, baptised.

1687 -- Emanuel Gillingham married Martha Pope.

1687 -- Elizabeth, daughter of John Gillingham, baptised.

1688 -- Grace, daughter of Emanuel Gillingham, baptised.

Dorchester:

1659 -- Charles, son of William Gillingham, baptised. Died 1660.

1663 -- Charles (second), son of William Gillingham, baptised.

1672 -- William Gillingham buried.

1677 -- William Gillingham of Sydling St. Nicholas married  
Catherine Cossenes.

1679 -- Shechem Gillingham married Mary Bedford.

1687 -- Nicholas Gillingham married Mary Griffen.

Frampton:

1632 -- Richard Gillingham buried.

1633 -- John Gillingham buried.

1683 -- Heugh, son of Heugh Gillingham, baptised.

Hazlebury Bryan:

- 1578 -- Gefferie Gillingham buried.
- 1585 -- Thomas Gillingham (parents not noted) baptised.

Litton Cheney:

- 1633 -- Sara, daughter of Henry Gillingham, baptised.
- 1635 -- Rebecca, daughter of Henry Gillingham, baptised.
- 1650 -- Heugh Gillingham buried.

Maiden Newton:

- 1598 -- Christopher, son of Heugh Gillingham, baptised.
- 1600 -- Edward, son of Heugh Gillingham, baptised.
- 1611 -- John Gillingham married Eloner Childs.
- 1612 -- Heugh, son of John Gillingham, baptised.
- 1615 -- Catharine, daughter of John Gillingham, baptised.

Owermoigne:

- 1576 -- Richard Gillingham married Cicelye Babstock.
- 1576 -- Joane, daughter of Richard Gillingham, baptised.
- 1607 -- George Gillingham married Elizabeth Martyn.
- 1608 -- William Gillingham, son of George Gillingham, baptised.
- 1636 -- John Gillingham married Mellesent White.

Piddlehinton:

- 1591 -- John Gillingham buried.
- 1608 -- Roger, son of Edmund Gillingham ("alias Farr") baptised.  
(This branch of the family may have used the name Farr to  
avoid confusion with other Gillinghams.)
- 1609 -- Another John Gillingham buried.

Portisham:

- 1573 -- John Gillingham (another) married Agnes Ashe.

Rampisham:

- 1597 -- John, son of John Gillingham, baptised.
- 1600 -- Edmund Gillingham buried.
- 1621 -- John Gillingham married Agnes Palmer. Issue (baptisms):  
Tomasin (daughter), 1626; William, 1629; Francis, 1632 (died  
1645); Edmund, 1634; Robert, 1637 (died 1672); Thomas, 1641;  
James, 1644; John, 1649; Christopher, 1651; William, 1654.
- 1622 -- John Gillingham (presumably father of above John) buried.
- 1636 -- Elizabeth, widow (no other identification), buried.

Shillington or Shilling Overford:

- Issue of John Gillingham (baptisms); Richard, 1655; Thomas, 1658;  
Alice, 1661.

Issue of another John Gillingham (baptisms): John, 1679; Elizabeth, 1681; Thomas, 1685; Richard, 1687.

Somerset:

1593 -- Richard Gillingham married Elizabeth Wille.  
1641 -- John Gillingham married Elizabeth Pearce.

Stock Gaylard:

1585 -- Richard Wyninge married Margaret Gillingham (alias Farr),

Stratton:

1609 -- John Gillingham married Mary Smith.

Sturminster Marshall:

Issue of Philip Gillingham baptisms: Richard, 1623; William, 1624; John, 1627 (buried same year); John (second), 1629; Mary, 1631; Francis (daughter), 1634 (presumably died in infancy); Francis (second), 1635.

Sydling St. Nicholas:

Issue of Henry Gillingham (buried 1612): Hugh, baptised 1566; Agnes and Bartholomew, baptised in 1568; John, baptised 1571; Katharine, died in infancy 1574; Katharine (second), baptised 1576.

Issue of John Gillingham (buried 1596): Agnes, Born 1568; Edith, baptised 1569, and Ellyner, baptised 1573.

1574 -- William Gillingham (buried 1599) married Margery Leveridge (buried 1599). Issue: William, born 1575 and baptised 1576; Francis, baptised and buried 1577; Ellyner, baptised 1578; Grace, baptised 1580 and buried 1582; Mary, baptised 1584; Katharine, baptised and buried 1589.

1578 -- Leon Gillingham (buried 1623) married Julyan Churchill (buried 1588).

Issue of Richard Gillingham: Mary, baptised 1584; Esme (daughter), baptised 1587.

1582 -- Robert Gillingham married Johan Lovelace. Issue: Johan, baptised and buried 1584; Edeth, baptised 1585; Alice, baptised 1587; Julyan, baptised 1589; Johan (second), baptised 1591; Elizabeth, baptised 1594; Henry, baptised 1596; Agnes, baptised 1599; Esme, baptised 1600; Ellyner, baptised 1602 and buried 1603; Katharine, baptised 1603 and buried 1604; Grace, baptised 1606.

1587 -- Thomas, son of Thomas Gillingham, baptised.

1596 -- Thomas Gillingham of Mintern married Esme Chicke.

Issue of William Gillingham (perhaps the William baptised 1576): Angell, baptised 1599 and buried 1615; Katharine, baptised 1601; Edith, baptised 1603; Susan, baptised 1604; Katharine (second), baptised 1605 and buried 1608; Mellice, baptised 1607 and buried 1612; Ralphe, baptised and buried 1608; Hugh, baptised 1610; Joane, baptised 1612 and buried 1626; Lancelot, born 1612 and buried 1620; Ann, baptised 1615; Katharine (third), baptised 1617; Edward, baptised 1620; Gartred, baptised 1623.

Issue of Bartholomew Gillingham (baptised 1568): Launcelot, baptised 1609; William, born 1617.

1611 -- Edmond Gillingham married Mary Dowch. Presumably former's second marriage. Alice, daughter, baptised and buried 1612.

1614 -- Edith, daughter of Nicholas Gillingham, baptised.

1619 -- Christopher Gillingham married Elizabeth Hayward. Issue: Richard, baptised 1620 and buried 1621; Grace, baptised 1621.

Issue of Henry Gillingham (baptised 1596): Robert, baptised 1623.

1625 -- John Gillingham married Mary Ingrame.

1631 -- James Gillingham (buried 1675) married Grace Stickland (buried 1673). Issue: Grace, baptised 1632; Thomas, baptised 1634.

1635 -- Robert Gillingham married Elizabeth Briant.

Issue of Hugh Gillingham (baptised 1610): Avisse, baptised 1635.

Issue of Bartholomew Gillingham: Edith, baptised 1675; Bartholomew, baptised 1676; Edith (second), baptised 1678; Joan, baptised 1680.

Issue of William Gillingham: Katharine, baptised 1675; William, baptised 1678; Katharine (second), baptised 1679.

Gillingham burials at Sydling St. Nicholas, other than those noted previously: Thomas, 1574; Alice, 1582; Johan and Alice, both 1585; William and Margery, 1589; Joane, 1609; Alice, 1611; Ellyner, 1613; Cycely, 1620; "Eds. s. Elnr, widow", 1624; "Henry 2 bur", 1625; John "that was hurt in a marlepitt", 1630; "Rob. s. Mgy", 1631; William "in the lane", 1634.

#### Wimborne Minster:

1646 -- Mary, daughter of Ambrose Gillingham, baptised.

Issue of William Gillingham: baptised: Jane, 1649; Agnes, 1651; Robert, 1652; Cyprian, 1663.

1651 -- Thomas Gillingham married Anne Chrisp. Issue (baptised): George, 1662; Anne, 1664; Anne (second), 1666; Roger, 1667. (Latter founded the local almshouse.)

Issue of George and Anne Gillingham (baptised): Bartholomew, 1652; William, 1656.

1657 -- Robert Gillingham married Mary Ball. Issue (baptised): Thomas, 1660; Thomas (second), 1662; Mary, 1664.

Issue of another William Gillingham (baptisms): William, 1675; Robert, 1677; Robert (second), 1678; William (second), 1684; Francis, 1686; William (third), 1687. (Presumably first Robert and two Williams died in infancy.)

Winfrith Newburgh:

1622 -- Philip Gillingham married Mary Maynard.

? -- Roger Gillingham (buried 1688) married Jane (buried 1678): Issue, Agnes, 1634 (died 1635); Edith, 1636; John, 1638 (died 1643); Jane, 1641; John (second), 1644.

Tingleton:

1632 -- John Gillingham married Joane Ridout. Issue: Mathew, baptised 1632; Joane and Clement (daughters), baptised 1635. Clement died in 1636.

Wootton Glanville:

1678 -- Nicholas Gillingham married Hannah Claver.

Early Dorset, Kent and other English records do not indicate any Gillinghams in the Crown's military (army or naval) services.

"LADY OF GILLINGHAM CHURCH AND CASTLE"

Not further identified but of family interest is the following extract from the American Medical Journal of 1864:

"There is still in the possession of some of the family, a picture of the 'Church and Castle of the Lady of Gillingham' and history informs us that in the niche of the ancient Church of Gillingham in England there 'formerly stood the image of the famed Lady Gillingham', the same personage probably whom the picture represents."

GILLINGHAM CLERICS SUFFERED

Two English Gillinghams suffered for their religious convictions -- not as sectarians, but as clergy of the established church. They were "sequestered" (ousted) because they would not accept the Cromwellian regime. Their standpoint was, of course, quite different from that of the Quakers but, like them, they put conscience first.

They were, according to Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy During the Great Rebellion":

"George Gillingham, Doctor of Divinity (Oxford), Prebendary of Chichester, Canon of Windsor, Rector of Chalton 1633; lived at Southampton after the outbreak of the Civil War and was sequestered from his rectorship for delinquency by the Hampshire County Committee, a fifth of his stipend being granted to his wife; a lecturer at St. Gregory by St. Paul's, London, 1653; restored to his rectorship in 1660, at the Restoration; died 1668."

"Richard Gillingham, Master of Arts (Cambridge), Rector of Lillington (Dorset) 1640; sequestered by the Dorset County Committee 1646; a fifth of his stipend being allowed to his wife; permitted to officiate at Pulham, 1648; T. Drant, then minister (presumably of Pulham), was ordered by the County Committee to pay Gillingham's wife 8 pounds per annum 'in view of the present and the great necessity of her and her family'; Gillingham was one of the preachers at Wimborne Minster 1659; this appointment was confirmed 1661; he was restored to his rectorship at Lillington in 1660."

#### PERSECUTION OF QUAKERS IN ENGLAND

When George Fox founded the Society of Friends (Quakers) in England about 1648, its tenets attracted many Gillinghams. Though their religion eschewed the bearing of arms, some members of this sect who came largely from Puritan stock, were sympathetic -- even helpful -- to Oliver Cromwell's cause because it brought them relief from persecution by England's church and state.

However, after the restoration of Charles II in 1660, a series of restrictive laws led to conflict between the Friends and the new royal government, particularly over freedom of worship. The King's soldiers closed the Friends' meeting rooms and arrested them when they tried to worship out of doors. Of about 50,000 Friends in England at that time, thousands (one authority estimates 15,000) suffered various forms of punishment and history further records that some 450 died in prison and about 200 were transported, some as slaves.

Besse, in "Sufferings of the People Called Quakers", lists a Yeamans (a Gillingham first name) among the Bristol Friends imprisoned for a month in 1663, when the mayor of that city was a fanatical prosecutor of the Quakers. Besse does not mention any Gillingham among those personages, so it may be that members of that family discretely kept their opinions to themselves during those troubled times.

Though the plight of England's Friends was remedied largely by the Toleration Act of 1689 and the Affirmation Act of 1896, in the meantime many Friends left England to seek religious freedom in other parts of the world. Indications are that the pioneer Gillinghams in America were refugee Quakers of that period.



## GILLINGHAMS IN AMERICA

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### EARLY QUAKERS IN THE NEW WORLD

The hope of Friends to achieve peace in the New World was quickly shattered. Of the first refugees to go to New England in 1656, two women were imprisoned and then banished. But Quakers continued to arrive there and they, too, were persecuted. Four of them (one a woman) were hanged on Boston Common. So other Quakers turned elsewhere.

The American Friends received a big assist when William Penn joined them in 1667. With several other members of that society, he purchased east Jersey in 1681 and, in the same year, was granted land in what is now Pennsylvania. In that year two shiploads of Quakers arrived at Philadelphia from England to help colonize the new haven.

With freedom of religion guaranteed, and because of friendly relations with the Indians, the Quakers thrived and multiplied. They founded Swarthmore College and established the first free schools in America. Families subsequently migrated to New Jersey and Virginia and gradually spread Westward.

### FIRST GILLINGHAM IN AMERICA?

The first Gillingham in America is obscure. He may have been on one of the two ships of Quakers which arrived at Philadelphia in 1681, or he may have landed in New England at an earlier date.

The first record of a Gillingham in Pennsylvania is a Middletown, Bucks County, Friends Meeting notation that a Yeamans Gillingham was a witness at a marriage there on September 20, 1690. However, the date of his arrival in America is not known but is said to be "about 1682 or 1683".

Savage's "General History of New England" (1860) mentions a James Gillingham in early Salem. His origin and date of arrival in America are not indicated. He is recorded as marrying Rebecca, daughter of John Ely, in 1692. It is further noted that they had eleven children: Rebecca, born 1693; Hanna, 1694; James, 1696; Benjamin, 1697; Martha, 1699; Deborah, 1700; John, 1704; Mary, 1705; William, 1706; Jonathan, 1709, and David, 1711.

Rebecca, daughter of this James Gillingham, may have been the first Gillingham born in America (1693). The first child of Yeamans Gillingham (Ann) was born a year later.

## FIRST YEAMANS GILLINGHAM

From whence the first Yeamans Gillingham came is not clear. His first name also offers opportunity for speculation. Research made in England for this compilation was unable to find anyone of that name living in or departing from there during that period. British Society of Friends registers of births from 1638 and marriages from 1558 list no one named Yeamans Gillingham.

Accordingly, there is some belief that this pioneer Gillingham may have changed his original first name to Yeamans. Why a man in 17th century England should be given a surname as a baptismal name is difficult to understand. All the Gillinghams of that day seem to have borne simple first names like John and William and James -- the usual practice of that time.

Consequently, Yeamans Gillingham may have been baptised with one of those plain first names and, to honor a neighboring Yeamans family or for other reasons, adopted Yeamans as a first name after departing from England.

Another idea is that Yeamans Gillingham may have derived his first name from the word "yeoman" which was applied in those days, both in England and America, to small farmers who worked their own land, of which he was one. "Yeoman" was, in fact, the way the word was pronounced in West England. This is discounted, however, by the custom of Friends to eschew titles and other personal designations and use only the first name of a member prefixed by "Friend", and "Friend Yeamans" so appears in Pennsylvania old Quaker records.

There is some possibility that James Gillingham of Sydling St. Nicholas, who married Grace Strickland in 1631 and died in 1673, may have been the father of Yeamans Gillingham. James Gillingham apparently had some connection with the Yeamans and Taylor families of Dorset and Kent. It may also be significant that the first son of Yeamans Gillingham was named James.

Record was found of two children of James Gillingham of Sydling St. Nicholas -- Grace (baptised in 1632) and Thomas (baptised in 1634). There may have been other issue, baptised in neighboring counties (as often happened) and it is possible that this James was the father of Yeamans or that James's son Thomas changed his first name to Yeamans. Support for this is the fact that James seems to be the only recorded Gillingham of about the right period with a son corresponding in age with that of Yeamans Gillingham.

There is some confusion, too, about the identity of the wife of Yeamans Gillingham. Records indicate that his intended followed him from England and that they were married in Philadelphia, soon after his own arrival, but without recorded date of his or her arrival or of their marriage.

Most records claim that the wife of Yeamans Gillingham was Mary Taylor, presumably from the same English neighborhood that he came from.

However, a handwritten notation in one family record contends that his wife was Mary Brodwell, daughter of Richard and Mary (Freeman) Brodwell of Gloucester County, England. Archives of the Abington (Pennsylvania) Friends Meeting do not give the maiden name of Yeaman Gillingham's wife or the date of her death, though noting that her will was signed in 1727.

Yeamans Gillingham bought a hundred-acre "plantation" in Oxford Township, Pennsylvania, in 1691, from William Penn's commissioner, Thomas Fairman. (It is now the center of the city of Frankford.) On this land he paid a tax of six shillings in 1693. He increased his land holdings in 1712.

Yeamans Gillingham belonged to the Abington Friends Meeting and, in 1720, was chosen one of its overseers. He died in 1722, leaving his estate to his wife except fifty pounds each to his two sons.

#### GILLINGHAM-YEAMANS FAMILY TIES

Though no record was found of a definite connection between the Gillingham and Yeamans families in England, there are indications of family association through living in the same communities and Quaker membership.

Robert Yeamans, Sheriff of Bristol, was executed by the Parliamentarians in 1643 for plotting to deliver that city to the Royalist forces. His widow married Robert Speed, a Quaker. Their son, John Yeamans, migrated to Barbados in 1650 and was made a baronet in 1664 (presumably in recognition of his father's loyalty to the Crown) and later became the first British Governor of South Carolina.

A remote possibility is that Yeamans Gillingham was the son of a Gillingham-Yeamans marriage in the West Indies where there were members of both families. In 1678 there was an Emmanuel Gilham and Elizabeth Yeamans in Barbados. There, in the same year, Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Jane Gislingham, was baptised. Two years later a Lady Yeamans was involved in an island land dispute.

Major Edward Yeamans, formerly of Barbados, was Provost Marshal of Barbados in 1677-1788. In 1684 or 1685 Timothy Yeamans of Truckersell, England, sailed for Jamaica.

#### DESCENDANTS OF YEAMANS GILLINGHAM

Available records of the Gillingham family are incomplete and often confusing. This is indicated by penciled notations on compilations about the Yeamans Gillingham line available in geneological reference files.

Following is a sketchy chronology of descent from the first Yeamans Gillingham in America insofar as this chronicler was able to piece together.

Because of space consideration, it is limited to issue bearing the Gillingham surname and the marriages of male Gillinghams. To have attempted to add the names of persons the female Gillinghams married, along with their multitudinous offspring, was a task beyond this compiler's time and resources.

It would have been interesting to note the occupations of all the male members listed but the records do not so indicate. However, most of the early American Gillinghams appear to have been farmers, usually with small land holdings.

The pioneer Yeamans Gillingham had eight children. They were Ann, born in 1694; Mary, 1698; Sarah, 1699; Elizabeth, 1705; James, 1708; John, 1710; Susannah, 1712, and Rebecca (birth year not given).

James Gillingham, eldest son of the first Yeamans Gillingham, was born in 1708 on the family's Frankford "plantation". In 1730, at Abington Meeting, he married Martha Canby, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Jarvis) Canby. Thomas Canby was a justice of the county courts and a member of the Provincial Assembly. Shortly after their marriage, the James Gillinghams moved to Solebury, Bucks County, where he died in 1745. They had nine children -- John (1731), Yeamans (1734), James (1736), Martha (1738), Thomas (1740), Joseph (1743), Mary (1746), and Lavinia and Benjamin (birth dates undetermined).

John Gillingham, youngest son of the first Yeamans Gillingham, was born in 1710 at Buckingham. He married Ann Jacob in 1735 and they lived in Philadelphia. No issue is indicated.

John Gillingham, eldest son of James Gillingham, was born at Buckingham in 1731. He was twice married -- first, in 1754, to Sarah Taylor, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah (Towne or Tyson) Taylor of Newton Township, and second, in 1761, to Sarah White, daughter of Joseph and Martha (Taylor) White of Falls Township, a cousin of his first wife. They settled in Buckingham. Issue (number and names obscure) included a son, James (1757). A great grandson was J. Gillingham Fell of Philadelphia.

Yeamans Gillingham, second son of James Gillingham, was born in Solebury in 1734 and died at Frankford in 1825. He, too, was twice married. His first wife, whom he wed in 1763, at Buckingham Meeting, was Ruth Preston, daughter of William and Deborah (Cheeseman) Preston of Bucks County. She died in 1765. They had one son -- William, born in 1765, who lived only about a month. His second wife, wed in 1768 at Falls Meeting, was Bridget Moon, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Lucas) Moon who were related to the Moon and Lucas families who first settled in Bucks County. There were nine children of the second marriage -- James (1768), Thomas (1770), Moses (1772), John (1774), Mathias (1776), Yeamans (1778), Joseph (1780), Mahlon (1782) and Stacy (1784). About 1792 the second Yeamans Gillingham moved to Oxford Township where he resided on most of the original Gillingham "plantation" which he had purchased after it had

been out of the family for many years. The Friends Meeting House in Frankford was built on land given by this Yeamans Gillingham. He divided his land among his eight surviving sons. Yeamans and his wife Bridget are buried side-by-side in the Frankford Meeting graveyard.

James Gillingham, son of John and Sarah Gillingham, was born in Bucks County in 1757 and, in 1786, married Elizabeth Hayward of England. They had a son - George (1790).

Joseph Gillingham, son of the second Yeamans Gillingham, was born in Bucks County in 1780. In 1802 he married Rebecca Harrold in Buckingham Meeting House. He died in Philadelphia in 1867. Most records indicate six children -- Rachel (1803), Samuel Harrold (1804), Mary Ann (1806), Ann (1807), Emmeline (1809), and Joseph (1818).

George Gillingham, son of James and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gillingham, was born in 1790 in Baltimore and died in 1844. In 1811 he married Miriam James, daughter of Amos James. They had one son -- Amos James (1812).

Samuel Harrold Gillingham, eldest son of Joseph and Rebecca Gillingham, was born in 1804 and died in 1854. He married (first) Lucy Eddy in 1826. They had six children -- Frances Eddy (1827), Francis Harrold (1828, who died the following year), Rebecca and Joseph Eddy, twins (1830), Lucy Lewis (1835) and Lewis Harrold (1836). By a second wife, Louisa (last name and marriage date in doubt), he had one son -- Frank Clemens (1840). Frances Eddy Gillingham in 1852 married Dr. Jarred Kibbee who in 1866 was mayor of Port Huron, Michigan.

Chalkley Gillingham, son of Yeaman Gillingham (1778) was born on the family "plantation" in Frankford in 1807. He married Keziah Warrington. He died in 1881 and is buried in the graveyard of the local Friends Meeting House which was part of the "Woodlawn" estate in Virginia once owned by Chalkley Gillingham which is subject of later reference. He had four children -- Warrington (1834), Yeamans (1837), Hannah Warrington (1839) and Lewis (1842).

Amos James Gillingham, son of the first George Gillingham, was born in 1812 and married Rebecca Ann Stevenson, daughter of John and Rebecca (Evans) Stevenson in 1835. He lived in Baltimore, where he was a wholesale commission merchant, and died in 1852 in St. Louis. They had a son -- George Oliver Gillingham (1838).

Joseph Eddy Gillingham, son of Samuel Harrold and Lucy (Eddy) Gillingham, was born in Philadelphia in 1830. He was an active member of the Pennsylvania Historical and Geneological Societies, to which he made many gifts and bequests. Children are not indicated.

Louis Harrold Gillingham, son of James Harrold Gillingham, was born in 1836 and married Louisa M. Bartle in 1859. They had two children -- William (1860) and Harrie (1861).

George Oliver Gillingham, son of Amos James Gillingham, was born in 1838 and died in 1890. In 1868 he married Annie Elizabeth Crawford of Baltimore, where he was a commission merchant. They had two children -- George Oliver (1872) and Anna Stevenson (birth date not determined).

Frank Clemens Gillingham, son of Samuel Harrold Gillingham, was born in 1840 and married Lucy Shoemaker Morris in 1862. They had four children -- Frank (1863), Harrold Edgar (1864), Elizabeth Morris (1871), and Katharine (birth year not indicated).

William Gillingham, son of Louis Harrold Gillingham, was born in 1860 and married Anna Robinson in 1885. They had one child -- Joseph E. (1887).

Frank Gillingham, son of Frank Clemens Gillingham, was born in 1863 and married Ida Keen in 1888. They had two children -- Frank Keen (1889) and Thomas Morris (1892).

Harrold Edgar Gillingham, son of Frank Clemens Gillingham, was born at Hainsport, New Jersey in 1864. He was active in Pennsylvania historical and geneological circles. In 1901 he published the "Gillingham Family" (sometimes known as the "Gillingham Book"), a record of Yeamans Gillingham and his descendants. He was a prolific writer, authoring papers on many subjects including bricklaying, colonial shipbuilding, early goldsmithing in Philadelphia, ceramics and birds, also a series of books on medals and decorations of foreign governments. At that time he lived in Germanstown, Pennsylvania. The name of his wife and the date of their marriage do not appear in ready reference material. They had one child -- Edith Harrold (1896).

George Oliver Gillingham, son of George Oliver Gillingham (1838), was born in 1872 and died in 1919. In 1893 he married Nannie Fairlie McKee, daughter of a Baltimore coffee importer who was also secretary of the company operating the landmark "Baltimore Shot Tower" used to drop hot lead pellets for bullet making. She died in 1928. They had four sons -- George Oliver (1894). William McKee (1900), Hugh Jenkins (1902) and Evan Stevenson (1908).

George Oliver Gillingham, son of George Oliver Gillingham (1872) was born in Mt. Washington, Maryland, in 1894. In 1922 he married Marie Theresa Bresnahan of Washington, District of Columbia. They have no children.

William McKee Gillingham, second son of George Oliver Gillingham (1872), was born in 1900 in Nutley, New Jersey. In 1922 he married Eleanor Troth Baker of Riverton, New Jersey. There is a daughter -- Eleanor Troth (1925).

Hugh Jenkins Gillingham, third son of George Oliver Gillingham (1872), was born in Nutley, New Jersey, in 1902. He married, in 1924,

Flora Jeanette Tompkins of Pennington, New Jersey. There is one child -- Joan (1925).

Evan Stevenson Gillingham, fourth son of George Oliver Gillingham (1872), was born in 1908 in East Orange, New Jersey. In 1937 he married Ann Eleanor Fenton of Nutley, that State. They have three children -- Evan Stevenson, Jr. (1939), Elizabeth Anne (1942) and Robert Fenton (1944).

Evan Stevenson Gillingham, Jr., son of the father of the same name, was born in Nutley, New Jersey, in 1939 and, in 1961, married Gail Anne Peterson of Ocean Terrace, New Jersey. To them were born Susan Anne (1962) and Lisa Lyn (1967).

#### EARLY PENNSYLVANIA GILLINGHAM QUAKERS

The following entries about Gillingham Quakers in Pennsylvania in the latter half of the eighteenth century appear in the "Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy" by W. W. Hinshaw (1938):

- 1754 July 3 -- John Gillingham reported married to Sarah Taylor, Falls Meeting.
- 1756 Apr. 7 -- Yeamans Gillingham granted certificate, Buckingham Meeting.
- 1761 Oct. 21 -- John Gillingham married Sarah White, Falls Meeting.
- 1763 Dec. 21 -- Yeamans Gillingham married Ruth Preston, Buckingham meeting.
- 1768 Jan. 13 -- Yeamans Gillingham of Bucks County married Bridgit Moon, daughter of James of Bucks County, Falls Meeting.
- 1768 Mar. 2 -- Bridgit, wife of Yeamans Gillingham, granted certificate, Buckingham Meeting.
- 1768 May 25 -- Joseph Gillingham married Elizabeth Harvey, Falls Meeting.
- 1780 Aug. 3 -- Joseph, son of Yeamans Gillingham and Bridgit, born, Philadelphia Meeting. (Joseph later married Rebecca Harrold and died in 1867).
- 1783 Nov. 12 -- Samuel Gillingham married Margaret Jenks, Buckingham Meeting.
- 1784 Nov. 16 -- Stacy, son of Yeamans Gillingham and Bridgit, born, Philadelphia Meeting. (Stacy later married Grace Harper and died in 1839).
- 1787 Oct. 10 -- John Gillingham married Ann Preston, Buckingham Meeting.

1790 Nov. 17 -- James Moon married Mary Gillingham, Falls Meeting.

1791 Nov. 19 -- Joseph Gillingham married Phoebe Brown, Buckingham Meeting.

1795 Apr. 15 -- Benjamin Gillingham married Grace Comfort, Buckingham Meeting.

#### EARLY GILLINGHAMS IN NEW JERSEY

Quakers first settled in New Jersey along the Raritan River in 1663, and founded New Beverly (now Burlington) in 1677. Cooper's Ferry (now Camden), Eversham, Mount Holly, Hainsport and Moorestown were also, for the most part, established by Quakers.

Chalkley Gillingham was prominent in Quaker affairs in New Jersey before moving to Virginia. After marrying Keziah Warrington in Pennsylvania, he went to New Jersey to manage her father's large farm near Moorestown. The farm was owned originally by Keziah's greatgrandfather, Henry Warrington. The latter operated a pottery in Philadelphia and was often visited by George Washington.

Chalkley Gillingham, in addition to being a prosperous farmer, was an active Quaker "admired and respected by the Friends in other states as well as his own". He helped to organize the Burlington County Agricultural Society in 1847. He was a close friend of Benjamin Hallowell, one of the founders of the Maryland Agricultural College.

#### GILLINGHAMS IN VIRGINIA

In 1846, Chalkley Gillingham negotiated to purchase "Woodlawn Plantation" which George Washington had presented to Eleanor (Nelly) Park Custis, Martha Washington's niece, when she married his nephew, Major Lawrence Lewis, in 1799. The deaths there of her husband and eight of her children caused Lewis's widow to agree to dispose of the property to Chalkley Gillingham and his uncle, Joseph Gillingham, for \$25,000. The terms could not be met until Joseph Troth of Camden, New Jersey, replaced Joseph Gillingham in the transaction.

At that time Joseph Troth was engaged in supplying shipbuilders in Philadelphia and New England with lumber from New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. Chalkley Gillingham and his cousin, Lucas Gillingham, had become associated with Jacob Troth and Paul Hillman Troth in a firm first known as the Troth-Gillingham Company (which in 1853 was changed to Gillingham & Troth Company) to buy timber land in Virginia.

It was while searching for new woodland that Lucas Gillingham was attracted by "Woodlawn Plantation" and interested Chalkley in its purchase.



Lucas Gillingham and his wife, Elizabeth, and their children were the first Gillinghams to occupy the mansion. Later occupants were the Chalkley Gillinghams and Jacob Troths. "Woodlawn Plantation", which is now maintained by the National Trust for Historical Preservation, displays a "certificate of merit" awarded in 1877 to Chalkley Gillingham.

"Back in the Quaker towns of New Jersey all conversation centered around the recent purchase of Virginia lands by Friend Chalkley and Friend Jacob", wrote one Quaker chronicler at the time. The result was that during the fall and winter of 1847 a large group of Quakers began arriving in Virginia from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Among those attracted to Virginia were Charles, Joseph and Samuel Gillingham.

The forests on "Woodlawn Plantation" were cut down and sold by the Troth-Gillingham Company for ship timber and cordwood and the land was divided into small farms which were sold. Friends Chalkley and Jacob, being opposed to slavery, disposed of some of the tracts to slaves liberated by the Washington family. All Gillingham-Troth land deeds contained a covenant that the titles would become invalid if intoxicating liquors were sold on the property.

In 1848, all the land of "Woodlawn Plantation" which had not been sold was divided between Chalkley Gillingham and Jacob Troth, each obtaining about 150 acres. One of the first things that Chalkley did on receiving his portion was to give the local Friends an acre of land for a meeting house. The "Woodlawn Plantation" mill at Accotink remained Gillingham-Troth company property. The so-called "George Washington Mill" close to the estate was not involved in the Gillingham-Troth purchase.

An 1858 map made by Warrington Gillingham, son of Chalkley, shows locations of homes of various Gillinghams in the vicinity of Mount Vernon. Between "Woodlawn Plantation" and Gum Springs was "Spring Valley", the home of Dilworth Buckman and his wife, Emmaline Gillingham, a cousin of Chalkley Gillingham. When President and Mrs. Hayes visited this house its Quaker hosts addressed them as "Friend Rutherford" and "Friend Emily".

In 1861 Warrington Gillingham married Mary Ann Roberts. They had a son -- Henry Warrington (1862). The latter married Sarah Carpenter and left the settlement to engage in the produce business in New York City.

Maria Troth, daughter of Paul Hillman Troth, was considered "the most beautiful girl in the Mount Vernon neighborhood" in 1863 when she was eighteen years old. She recounts in her diary how "Lew" (Lewis Gillingham) carried a gun for protection from wartime marauders when he called on Mary, her sixteen-year-old sister, who was described as "the sweetest and most demure of Quaker maidens".

Martha Canby, a great grandniece of Jacob Troth, became the wife of George Gillingham, a grandson of Chalkley Gillingham.

Chalkley Gillingham's land passed down to his two sons -- Warrington

and Lewis -- and his daughter -- Hannah Cox. The last Gillingham house on the property was lived in by Mrs. Scott Gillingham, the widow of Lewis's son Scott. The Government took over this farm in enlarging Fort Belvoir.

In 1870, Fairfax County was divided into townships and Warrington Gillingham was appointed one of the commissioners which accomplished this division. He was also a justice of the peace, an office which he held for more than a quarter of a century.

In 1896 there were two weddings in Virginia at the respective Gillingham homes. Anna Lewis Gillingham, daughter of Warrington Gillingham, became the bride of Edward Rogers, and Susan E. Gillingham, daughter of Lewis Gillingham, was married to Levi T. Shoemaker.

#### OTHER GILLINGHAMS

Some other Gillinghams coming to the attention of this compiler, but whose relationship with Yeamans descent or with other branches of the family he could not determine from the records available to him, were:

"Old Richmond Families" mentions William Gillingham who married Fannie Smith Hallowell, descendant of John Hallowell who settled Abington in 1696.

Jonathan Gillingham, son of John Ware and Alice Armitage Gillingham, was born in 1847. He married Henrietta Smith in 1875 and they had three children -- William (1876), Clinton (1877) and Alice (1881).

W.B. Gillingham, born in 1850, was a mining engineer and wrote a "History of the Territory of Arizona".

Some Gillinghams seem to have descended from Scottish stock. Harrold Edgar Gillingham noted a presumed association with a Burds family in Philadelphia which came from Ormiston, Scotland. James L. Gillingham, born at Chelsea, Massachusetts, in 1857 and who became Special Justice of the Third District Court of Bristol County, claimed to be of Scotch origin. In 1885 he married Elizabeth Bryam Pratt. They had four children -- Annie, Dana, James and Margaret.

Clarence W. Gillingham, son of Clinton and Sarah A. (Warner) Gillingham, was born in 1857. He married Ella M. Graham. They had two children -- Clinton (1886) and William (1887).

Howard Gillingham, son of George and Mary (Smith) Gillingham, was born in 1868. He married Ella Clements in 1887 and resided in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where two children were born -- Howard (1891) and Ada (1899).

Oscar A. Gillingham, son of Smith Pruce and Margaret Catherine (Scarborough) Gillingham, was also born in 1868. He married Katherine Cleaver. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, he became pastor

of the Presbyterian church at Oberlin, Kansas.

Clinton Hancock Gillingham, son of Jonathan and Henrietta (Smith) Gillingham, was born in Philadelphia in 1877. Ordained in the Presbyterian church in 1907, he became president of Tennent College. He married Nancy Virginia Gardner of Taylorsville, Kentucky, in 1903. She died in 1934. Issue: George Gardner, Alice, Samuel Wilson, Mary and Jonathan (twins) and Edward. In 1927 Clinton Gillingham married (second) Helen Lewis of Middletown, Ohio.

William James Gillingham, son of J.S. Gillingham and Rose (Rebus) Gillingham, was born in England in 1912 and came to this country in 1934. He married Margaret Hatfield in 1937 and became an oil executive in Houston, Texas. They had three children -- Ann, Richard and Susan.

Frank G. Gillingham, son of Frank Keen Gillingham and grandson of Frank Morris Gillingham, was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania, in 1915. He married Kathryn MacIntire of Ambler, that state, in 1939 and now lives in Coral Gables. They have two sons -- Frank MacIntire (1942) and Thomas Stuart (1948). A brother, John Hayward Gillingham, resides in Miami.

#### GILLINGHAMS IN MILITARY SERVICE

Despite their Quaker origin, many American Gillinghams have served in the Nation's armed forces.

Microfilms of old military rosters can be inspected at the National Archives and Records Service in Washington. But these lists are so long that they are broken down by states. Rosters of the First and Second World Wars are still retained by the respective services and are not open to the public.

To search out all the Gillinghams with military service would take more time and effort than the compiler of this paper can give to such a specialized project.

However, "Pennsylvania Archives of Bedford, Berk, Bucks and Chester Counties", on reference at the Washington headquarters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, show a "Yeomans" Gillingham (on another roster spelled "Yoeman") and a John Gillingham as members of the Bucks County Militia in the War of Independence.

Some indication of Gillingham service in later wars is evidenced in microfilmed lists of pensioners which may be seen at the National Archives.

For service in the War of 1812, pensions were earned by James Gillingham of Pennsylvania; John and John B.E. Gillingham, both of Kentucky, and another John Gillingham, of Indiana.

A pension resulted from Mexican War service by Thomas W.G. Gillingham of an undetermined state.

No Gillingham pensioners are so recorded for duty in the Indian Wars, but "Old Wars" service brought a pension for Loramus G. Gillingham of Maryland.

National Archives microfilm lists of military pensioners between 1861 and 1934 record the following names:

Alexander Gillingham, Pennsylvania.  
Charles H. Gillingham, Ohio.  
Christopher H. Gillingham, Maryland.  
Edward N. Gillingham, California.  
Ezra Gillingham, Indiana.  
Frank C. Gillingham, Pennsylvania.  
George Gillingham, state undetermined.  
George D. Gillingham, Massachusetts.  
George W. Gillingham, Pennsylvania.  
Harry W. Gillingham, Ohio.  
Henry R. Gillingham, state undetermined.  
Ira J. Gillingham, New Hampshire.  
James Gillingham, Ohio.  
James Gillingham (another), Ohio.  
John Gillingham, Ohio.  
John Gillingham, Wisconsin.  
John Gillingham (another), state undetermined.  
John D. Gillingham, Pennsylvania.  
Joseph Gillingham, Indiana.  
Milton Gillingham, Ohio.  
Nelson Gillingham, New Hampshire.  
Oliver P. Gillingham, New Hampshire.  
Orland B. Gillingham, Vermont.  
Robert Gillingham, Pennsylvania.  
Samuel Gillingham, New York.  
Thomas E. Gillingham, state undetermined.  
Thomas Gillingham (another), state undetermined.  
William Gillingham, Wisconsin.

William J. Gillingham, New York.

William W. Gillingham, New York.

That at least one Gillingham wore gray in the War between the States is attested by record at the Richmond headquarters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy that a James Gillingham served as a private in Company D of the 4th Infantry Regiment of Louisiana.

#### GILLINGHAM, WISCONSIN

The only place in the United States to bear the name of Gillingham is in Richland County, Wisconsin. It does not appear on most maps but is listed in the "United States Official Postal Guide" and has its own postal cancellation marking. According to its postmistress, Margaret G. Gillingham:

"Gillingham, Wisconsin, was named for the 3rd settler in this township (Marshall). His name was Harvey Gillingham and he came here from Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1852. He had a family of 13 children. My husband, Frederick Gillingham, is a greatgrandson of this early settler."

#### GILLINGHAM FURNITURE

A grandson of the first Yeamans Gillingham achieved considerable distinction in the Colonies, and subsequent permanent recognition in the annals of American antiques, by fashioning what had become known as "Gillingham period furniture".

He was James Gillingham, third son of James (1708). Born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 1736, James moved to Philadelphia to advance his cabinet-making talents. His shop at Second Street, "a little below Dr. Thomas Bond's place", became widely known and was well patronized.

Though not able to produce in quantity, James Gillingham made chairs and other pre-Revolutionary household pieces which are treasured by those who still possess original examples. Sturdiness is one of their characteristics. While not as well known as the later and more productive Duncan Phyfe of New York City, James Gillingham is termed by Cescisky and Hunter in their book, "English and American Furniture" (1929), as "A good maker, his furniture being simple but of fine character".

#### GILLINGHAM ANTHRACITE PIONEER

Joseph Gillingham, born in 1780 and a son of the second Yeamans Gillingham, moved to Philadelphia where he became one of the pioneers in introducing the use of anthracite by railroads and industry.

## GILLINGHAM LOCOMOTIVES

"From the Hills to the Hudson", a history of the Paterson and Hudson River Railroad and its associated Patterson and Ramapo and Union Railroads of New Jersey, by Walter Arndt Lucas (1914), contains the following paragraph:

"To haul the increasing freight business on the Paterson and Hudson River Railroad it was found advisable to purchase two more engines. This time the railroad went to Baltimore and ordered the machines from the firm of Gillingham and Winans. This firm had earned a reputation for building powerful engines along the principles laid down by Davis, former master of machinery of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Most of their work was for that railroad but they also supplied other roads with locomotives. One of the engines was delivered in the latter part of 1836 and the other in 1837. They are represented in the following engraving which shows a 'Locomotive engine used by the Washington and Baltimore Railway constructed for the combustion of Anthracite Coal'. These locomotives were named 'Baltimore' and 'New York'."

## GILLINGHAM FABRIC DESIGN

The compiler of this paper has heard of a "Gillingham design" associated with fabrics for curtain and other decorative use. However, his inquiries have failed to locate an example on cloth or in picture, or to identify the presumed Gillingham originator. The design is said to have a large floral motif.

## POSTSCRIPT

There are several geneological compilations dealing primarily with the Yeamans Gillingham family lineage in America, but apparently none about the Gillingham family in England. However, compilations concerning Gillinghams in the United States are old and largely fragmentary and differ in many names and dates. Many more Gillinghams have since appeared on the American scene without any over-all record of their descent and complex relationships.

Consequently, this compilation is incomplete because it is based largely on bygone records replete with contradictions and omissions. As pointed out previously, the principal voids are determining the first Gillingham to settle in the New World and in fixing the exact origin in England of the pioneer Yeamans Gillingham.

Only year dates are used in this compilation because of the many voids or discrepancies in day and month citation in available family records; also because of the month-day confusion as a result of the calendar change in 1752.

The author wrote letters to some contemporary Gillinghams soliciting any help they could give him in making this compilation more currently embracing. Although he explained that the objective was a gratis one prompted only by a personal interest in the family, most of the recipients of these letters did not reply, probably under the mistaken assumption that there was some hidden commercial motive.

There now appear to be more Gillinghams in the United States than there are in the whole present British empire. Most of them are descended from those who, sooner or later, followed in the wake of the pioneer Gillingham settlers. Practically every American metropolitan telephone directory now lists one or more individuals bearing that name, and city directories show many more.

The task of recording them all, with their involved relationships, is being attempted by Robert Charles Gillingham, Jr. Born at Uniontown in 1928, he is the son of Robert Charles (born in 1900 and died in 1946) and Isabel Dixon Nicolar (born in 1904 and died in 1930). His grandparents were Charles Closcen Gillingham (born 1864, died 1927) and Mary Turley (born 1868, died 1959) and greatgrandparents David Gillingham (born about 1840) and Katherine Closcen (born 1841, died 1925).

A comprehensive compilation of the American Gillingham family as a whole, chronicling their descent and relationship, would be an invaluable contribution to the history of this now big family.

Meanwhile, these sketchy gleanings are primarily for the information of the author's immediate relatives and any other Gillinghams who may be interested. Since individual copies can not be supplied, reference copies have been sent to the geneological section of the Library of Congress and the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, also to the geneological societies of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia and Maryland.

George Oliver Gillingham  
Washington, D.C.  
September 1, 1967

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The story herein related of the origin of the Gillingham name in England, the family coat of arms and early Gillinghams and associations in the mother country is almost entirely due to the personal interest, painstaking research and illustrative and narrative material -- all penned personally -- by Mr. C. W. Scott-Giles, O.B.E., Fitzalan Pursuivant of Arms Extraordinary, now of Cambridge, England. His reputation as an authority on British heraldry and geneology make these contributions both invaluable and deeply appreciated.

In preparing the outline of the first Yeamans family and its descent, the compiler of this paper was assisted to a considerable degree by material furnished by Mrs. William Amies Furman, geneological researcher, of Trenton, New Jersey.

Contributions were also made by Robert Charles Gillingham, Jr., who is making a record of all Gillinghams in America -- living and dead -- and other data furnished by members of the author's near relatives.



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Richmond headquarters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.  
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"Gillingham Family in Bristol County, Massachusetts" (1898).  
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Notes on relationship of descendants of Yeamans Gillingham to the Marshall and Queens families.  
Reference at the geneology section of the Library of Congress is limited to a few Gillingham authors or persons writing about the family.  
The best reference to early American Gillinghams is found at the Washington headquarters of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which has excellent facilities for research and furnished very able and helpful assistance.  
The National Archives is also highly efficient and accommodating in providing access to its mine of geneological records. It has published a 145-page "Guide to Geneological Records in the National Archives" which is obtainable from the U.S. Government Printing Office for 50 cents a copy.