Dear Glenn

I have transcribed the Will of William HOLLIMAN who died in Tring (attached). This William died relatively young around the age of forty years, and was the husband of Grace HOLLIMAN (nee NEELLE). I have attached a one page family tree showing their children. Grace died in 1664 and her Will was proved in Great Hampden (Manor of Hampden)

This Will of William HOLLIMAN did not take too long to transcribe as you had already carried out a basic outline transcription of the copy Will. I have also attached an extract of the history of Tring from the entry in Victoria County History at

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=43280&strquery=Tring> to help put William in some context in Tring. The Reginald ARGOLD mentioned in this extract was actually the Reginald ARGALL in whose Will William HOLLIMAN of Tring is mentioned. Richard DAGNALL is also mentioned in this extract. Richard was one of the witnesses of the William HOLLIMAN who died in 1623.

I have yet to transcribe the Will of Edward HOLLIMAN who died 1617. Do you have a better scanned copy of both the Wills of Edward and William HOLLIMAN as having scanned them in two sections some of the text is not appearing. There is a missing line in the scanned Will of William HOLLIMAN which I have had to leave out.

The Edward HOLLYMAN who died in 1617 also had a son named Edward. Son Edward lived in the parish of Wigginton very close to Tring. This Edward married an Elizabeth DEANE in 1609 and they had ten children in all (family tree attached). Of most interest is their son John (born 1614) their daughter Jude or Judith (born 1621) and a brother who was born in 1616 whose name is either not given on the baptism register or the Christian name is illegible and has therefore been omitted from  [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org/) Could this John be the John HOLLIMAN of Tring who died in Virginia in 1650 and could the unnamed brother be a Christopher? Some information to ponder. When you are in England in December it may be worth your revisiting Hertfordshire Record Office and looking at the original Wigginton register just to look at this obscure 1616 entry. If you look on a map of Hertfordshire Wigginton is only a mile or so from Tring. John and Judith's youngest brother was another Ezekiel HOLLIMAN. Both the families of Edward and William HOLLIMAN are related to the Ezekiel HOLLIMAN who emigrated to America and founded the well known Baptist community there.

Do you have any copies of other Hertfordshire HOLLIMAN Wills? I have located the reference to a further two Wills of Tring HOLLIMANS held at Herts Record Office (see attached). These two individuals are also related to William and Edward HOLLIMAN and therefore Ezekiel.

I am at the Bucks Record Office tomorrow and I will look again at the Wills of Grace HOLLIMAN d1664 and also Leonard HOLYMAN, Weaver of Cholesbury, Bucks d 1573. Leonard was the father of an Edward and William HOLYMAN so may be the earliest ancestor connected to Ezekiel HOLLIMAN and the other Tring HOLLIMANS. I have a family tree that I compiled from the Wills of the Cholesbury HOLLIMANS but need to check through the relationships to see if they are correct before forwarding it.

I hope the information helps.

Kind Regards

Anne

Dear Glenn

Attached is the transcript of the Will of Edward HOLLYMAN, Weaver of Aldbury.

This branch of the HOLLYMAN family is interesting. I have recently read your early entries in your HOLLIMAN family blog, especially the mention of the William HOLLYMAN who was on the Court Rolls of Tring Manor in 1444. This perhaps puts the HOLLYMAN presence in this region before the Cuddington HOLYMANS. It seems likely these two branches of the family were related back in time.

This Edward , who wrote his Will in 1617 was a Weaver by occupation: the same occupation as his father Leonard HOLYMAN of Cholesbury, Bucks who died c1573. Leonard also left a Will as did Edward's brother John HOLYMAN (died c1598) who was also a Weaver by trade.

Wills proved in Buckinghamshire connected to Edward's family are as follows:

1573                Leonard HOLYMAN   Weaver of Cholesbury            ref: DAWf/7/191          Father of Edward  (d 1617)

1598                John    HOLYMAN     Weaver of Cholesbury            ref: DAWf/13/263        Brother of Edward (d 1617) and William HOLYMAN

1664                Grace  HOLLIMAN     Widow of Tring                        ref: DAWf/43/59          Widow of William HOLLIMAN: William died young in c1623 (Will transcribed). He was Edward's nephew (son of his brother William)

Grace's Will was proved at Great Hampden suggesting a connection to the Hampden family or the Manor of Hampden.

**Will of Leonard HOLYMAN 1573 - Beneficiaries:**

Sons: Edward, William & John

Daughters: Jane, Anne & Agnes (FIELD)

Wife: Joan

Executor/Overseer: [---- ] BALDWYN

Tenant: Robert WEDON

This Will is in very poor condition with a corner section missing.

**Will of John HOLYMAN 1597 - Beneficiaries**

Wife: Alice

Brothers: Edward & William HOLYMAN

Godson: John GILES

Sister: Jane WEDON

Others (relationships not mentioned): Elizabeth HOLYMAN, Priscilla HOLYMAN, Elizabeth WEDON, Agnes FIELD (sister?), Anne SMYTH, Anne WEDON, Richard WEDON, Richard WYGINTON, Nicholas TWYTCHEN, Nicholas SHERMAN, John WESTON, William GIBBS, Hugh GERY & John CHILD

**Will of Grace HOLLIMAN of Tring 1664 -Beneficiaries:**

Son: Benjamin HOLLIMAN

Daughters: Hannah (BACHELOR), Sarah (RUSSELL), Grace (TAVERNOR), Susan (MORTON)

Grandsons: William, Philip  & John RUSSELL (sons of Sarah)

Granddaughters: Susanna TAVERNOR, Hannah MORTON

Other: Executor - Robert MORTON (husband of daughter Susan?), Overseer- John BACHELOR (husband of daughter Hannah?) and Mary MORTON

I have photographs of the above three Wills if you would like copies.

Any queries regarding the above information please let me know.

Kind Regards

Anne

[www.bucksheritage.co.uk](http://www.bucksheritage.co.uk/)

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Hi Glenn

I have sent the Lipscombe Volumes (I, II and III) via DROPBOX. I hope you have received them OK. DROPBOX has been playing up a but today so I do hope the volumes reach you. The only publication missing from these volumes is the Index. I had thought the Index was at the back of Volume III but it appears not. The extract re- Richard HOLYMAN 1376 is from Volume II.  Lipscombe's History of Buckinghamshire and the Victoria County History of Buckinghamshire (the latter available online at <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/> ) are the two main sources researchers first look at when researching the history of Buckinghamshire and its landed families. British History online, as well as the Victoria County Histories, also has records of some of the English State Papers. Some of these are free to access, others are by subscription only. I do have a subscription, therefore if there is any subscribed information you wish to look at I can access it for you.

Regarding your request to extend the family tree to link in with Lindsay's. Lindsay's furthest ancestor is a John HOLLYMAN, probably the one whose Will was written in 1600. This John may be the son of the William mentioned in the Will of John HOLLYMAN of 1521. The John who died c1600 was a grandfather so possibly quite elderly. A William HOLLYMAN, Husbandman of Cuddington left a Will dated 1545. He just mentions two children, John  and Elyne, so William was perhaps relatively young when he died. The John who died c1521 mentions three children in his Will, John, William and Isabell. However, there was another husbandman William in Cuddington who died c1557 and he also had a son John: probably a branch of the same family but difficult to say conclusively which father and son, William and John, were the ones connected to Lindsay's family tree and also to the John HOLYMAN who died c1521.

The DNA test results are going to be very interesting. If there is a match that would be wonderful and resolve a lot of puzzles. However, if there is a not a match it does not necessarily mean you are not connected to the Cuddington HOLLIMANS bearing in mind the Will of Robert HOLLYMAN (died 1638) and the mention of his *'reputed son Robert'.* Last year you asked me to try and trace some local HOLLIMANS. I did find a couple but they too seemed to trace back to the *'reputed son Robert'.*

*Hmmm...Anne, on my nickel or should I say shilling, could you 'branch out' the Holyman tree in Cuddington and tie Lindsay and my tree together.  We must share a common great grandfather, perhaps one of the John Holymans who died in 1621 or 1631 or even Thomas who died in 1558?*

Any queries on the above, please ask.

Kind Regards



Hi Glenn

This extract is from a land agreement of 1414.

A dwelling (messuage) and a piece of land (size not stated) in the parish of Chislet has been conveyed from James WODELONDE (WOODLAND) of Chislet  to jointly John HOLYMAN, also of Chislet and James' brother John WODELONDE of Westbere. Westbere and Chislet are about three miles in distance from each other and both belong to the See of Canterbury: Canterbury being only three miles from Westbere. Westbere of the two villages is the nearest to Canterbury.

This type of description of the location of the house and land was quite common in land agreements in medieval times. In the absence of a map to show land boundaries those who owned the pieces of land around that in question were described e.g. John HOLYMAN already had land to the west of that being conveyed. John ROBYN's land was to the south, Nicholas COOK's land to the east and the main highway, as it was then, to the north. The parties involved would have known exactly where the house and land were.

The source of the document is not stated. Is it from a Manorial collection? Manorial records are very useful for filling in gaps in genealogy. The National Archives has a manorial register online that shows where all the surviving documents from a Manor are held. The Buckinghamshire Manors are included on this register The entry for the Manor of Haddenham with Cuddington as follows:  <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr/searches/detail.asp?SubjectID=205049&CountyID=233&FirstDate=&LastDate=&ParishName=&MDKeyword>= Most of the Court Rolls for this Manor are held in the National Archives. There are a few at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies.

For the Manor to which Westbere and Chislet belonged, they are not on the National Archives register but are probably in Lambeth Palace Library (Lambeth Palace being a residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury). Other surviving Manorial documents for the Deanery of Rochester Cathedral are probably held either at the Medway Archives or the Kent History and Library Centre.

The date of the land agreement is interesting, namely 1414, which is later than the HOLYMAN name first appears in Buckinghamshire. It is difficult to know exactly where the HOLYMAN name first appeared. The surname is perhaps traditionally associated with the Haddenham and Cuddington area because of the famous Bishop HOLYMAN. However, if you search on sites such as [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk/) and [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org/) HOLYMANS appear in the sixteenth century London parish registers as well as elsewhere in England.

I hope this answers most of your query.

Kind Regards

Anne