

Search for Joseph Hawley's parentage and relatives in England.

Back to **Joseph Hawley (1603-1690)**

Research suggestions and status:

Note: "HR" means The Hawley Record, Elias W. Hawley, throughout.

1. Records and suggestions of the College of Arms, London:

Visitations show 3 Hawley families: Somerset, Kent and Lincolnshire with branch in Derbyshire.

Visitations of Somerset 1591 etc. show family for which a 1795 pedigree ties in to Jerome, Treasurer of Virginia (HR, p. xii), to Jeremy Hawley of Brentford House, Middlesex, James Hawley of Brentford, and Henry Hawley, Gov. of Barbados. (Swan, Report)

Visitation of Lincolnshire 1564 shows ancestors of Ann Hawley, who married Sir Thomas Bloount (HR, p. viii), and William Hawley of Derbyshire...". It is possible (sic) that this William Hawley was ancestor of the large and prolific yeoman family who owned land in the various parishes (notably Youlgrave and Elton) around Parwich in Derby. The arms of this Lincolnshire family are exemplified as Vert a Saltire engrailed Or, Identical to the Somerset family, although the latter is differenced with a mullet." (Swan, Report)

The Visitation of Kent 1620 shows another isolated family of Haule and a family of Aulley, alias Hawley and Holy resident around Sheffield in the 17th and 18th centuries. (Swan, Report)

"It is of interest that a Thomas Hawley was Clarenceux King of Arms in the 16th century. According to his Funeral Certificate at the College he died 25 August 1557. His arms were Vert a Saltire engrailed Argent." (Swan, Report)

Wills show "considerable yeoman family of Hawleys living in Derbyshire around Parwich, though the former must have arrived before the time of the earliest Wills (c.1530)

There are 312 Wills proved at Lichfield for Hawley from 1530 - 1805)." (Swan, Report)

(Note: Swan ltr of 24 January 1968 clarifies that the Wills are not a part of the College of Arms records as such. Those in possession of the College were checked in cursory manner, w/o evidence of specific link. Swan asked whether the Hawley Wills at Lichfield had ever been gone through; he "would not be surprised" given the thoroughness of the HR.)

2. Lichfield Wills:

Wills cited by Swan (see above). In 1979 I was also told by the Derbyshire records office in Matlock that they have nothing which is not also in the Lichfield collection. "It is true that there are no Hawley wills from Parwich before 1650 in the Lichfield Consistory series, and that the early original registers and bishops' transcripts no longer survive, but you should be able to find wills for the family if they held property there, even though they may have died or had their property elsewhere. Moreover, a search of Parwich wills for other families in the period would be highly likely to bring cross-references to the Hawleys." (Bethell ltr. to Judge Martin, March 16, 1979)

"I have been working in Lichfield, and taken the opportunity to compile a listing of Consistory probates for the Hawley family to 1650 from the indexes. As you will see from the resulting list, enclosed, there is a strong representation of the family in the parishes of Youlgreave and Elton (particularly Youlgreave), which adjoin Parwich on the north, and it is extremely likely that your Hawley ancestors were closely related to the Youlgreave family. As noted before, there is nothing for Parwich itself. (...) If you would like to go ahead with research on the Hawley ancestry in Derbyshire, you would be best advised to abstract the Hawley wills noted in the enclosed list, or at least those from the period 1600 to 1650, and also to search Youlgreave parish registers for an appropriate period for all Hawley entries; the registers survive from 1558. On the basis of this work you could then judge what further research might be necessary, either in other local parish or probate records, or in the court rolls...". (Bethell ltr to FWH April 16, 1980) (I agreed to the work underlined above by ltr of September 9, 1980; see response under Para. 4, below)

3. Land records:

Until the reign of Charles I (1625 - 1649) the manor of Parwich belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster.

The Court rolls of the Duchy are now held in the Public Records Office in London. According to the PRO's lists and indexes volume 6 (reprinted by the Kraus Reprint Corporation in 1963) manorial court records concerning Parwich are to be found in bundle 54 and others of class D.L.30 at the PRO. If Joseph Hawley or other members of the family held copy-hold land in Parwich before 1629 then land transactions, including inheritance, may appear in those records. If Hawley was a recusant then it is just possible that he may appear in the records of recusancy also held in the PRO. Although primarily concerned with Roman Catholic recusants these may also contain references to puritan non-conformists." (Joan Sinar ltr to Judge Martin August 14, 1975)

The lay subsidy or taxation records at the Public Record Office (in Exchequer series E179) include numerous surveys for Derbyshire, usually in the form of rolls for individual hundreds or groups of hundreds.

Some of the rolls contain little more than financial summaries, but I have listed these rolls surviving from 1590 to 1620, as requested, for the hundred of Wirksworth, in which Parwich lay:

E179	93/286	subsidy	1598
	93/290	subsidy	1599
	93/292	subsidy	1600
	93/313	subsidy	c1600 (fragmentary)
	93/332	subsidy	1610
	93/340	aid composition	1612

The PRO calendar specifies that all these list names of taxpayers, but the calendar also specifies the number of membranes of each role, and it is clear that these are not comprehensive lists. The first taxation lists which cover all householders for the area are the hearth tax returns dating from after the Restoration in 1660. You may be interested to have the enclosed abstract of Hawleys from High Peak and Wirksworth hundreds, since it gives an indication of the places in which hawleys were then living; each had just one hearth:

High Peak and Wirksworth hundreds, Derbyshire: hearth tax returns 1670. (Derby Public Library DC 9955 & 9953).

Hawley abstract:

High Peak hundred

Fairfield	Tho. Hawley	1
Abney Hamblet	Will. Hawley	1
Stanton Hamblet	Widd. Hawley	1
Winster Hamblet	John Hawley	1
	Raphe Hawley	1
	Robt Hawley	1
	Tho Hawley	1
Hathersage	John Hawley	1
	Robert Hawley	1

Wirksworth hundred

Elton	George Hawley	1
	Robert Hawley	1

The places mentined in this abstract are, generally speaking, townships or hamlets, rather than parishes. you may, therefore, find the following list helpful in placing the localities in the parish structure:

Fairfield	Hope parish
Abney	Hope parish
Stanton	Youlgreave parish
Winster	Youlgreave parish

Hathersage
Elton

Hathersage parish
Youlgreave parish

(Note: Youlgreave registers have already been searched; Hope registers survive from 1599, Hathersage from 1627.)" (Bethell ltr to FWH, September 10, 1983)

4. Church records of baptisms, marriages and burials:

"Parwich is a village and civil and ecclesiastical parish in Derbyshire. The parish records, including the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, are still in the custody of the vicar. unfortunately for your enquiry the registers only begin in 1640 and I do not think those records would be of any help to you. In the 17th century Derbyshire was included in the Diocese of Lichfield and there might possibly be probate records concerning inhabitants of Parwich in the Diocesan Records. You should write to the City Librarian, Lichfield Joint Record Office, Bird Street, Lichfield, Staffs. WS13 6PN to enquire about this. I fear, however, that in the absence of the parish registers, one's chances of finding surviving records relating to a particular individual are rather slight." (Joan Sinar ltr to Judge Martin February 11, 1975)

"I have contacted the vicar of Parwich, a Mr. Read, who has been of limited assistance. His records commence at 1640 and are very incomplete until 1665-70; he says he does not recollect the name Hawley in them. (...) This lack of Hawleys in the Parwich records is not necessarily a bad thing: if you can locate one before 1630 and there are none after that date, then possibly you have found your man. Have you considered the possibility that Joseph Hawley may also have been a Calvinist or adhered to some sect which eschewed the Established Church so that such events as baptisms, marriages and deaths were not recorded in the Anglican Records? (...) I am sure that you must know that most of the early church records are kept at the Diocesan Registry at Lichfield. If there are any church records which refer to Hawleys then this is where you should find them. It may also be worth bearing in mind that other villages in the vicinity (such as Ballidon, which is also very old) may have references to Hawleys in their records. perhaps you also know that records of births are kept at Somerset House in London." (Bill Hopkins ltr to Judge Martin July 1, 1975)

"As requested, I have arranged access to the Youlgreave parish registers (which survive from 1558), and searched these from the commencement to 1660, abstracting all Hawley and variant entries. I have also abstracted the Hawley and variant wills and administrations from youlgreave and Elton, as previously listed. The Hawley family was clearly prolific in this area, and well represented in both the parish registers and the wills, but in neither is there any specific reference to the Parwich property or to Joseph Hawley. The Mormon records in Salt Lake City state that Joseph Hawley of Parwich was born there in 1603 son of Thomas Hawley -- on what evidence I do not know. You will notice at a glance that there is considerable overplus of Hawley marriages in the Youlgreave registers as compared with baptisms, suggesting that many baptisms are not registered at Youlgreave but in adjoining chapelries. There is thus a reasonable chance that we have the

marriage of Joseph's parents among these Hawley marriages. (...) It would be quite reasonable, given the absence of early registers or register transcripts for Parwich, to assume that Joseph Hawley was baptised there, and that thus the record of his parentage is lost. The difficulty in this interpretation is the complete absence of probates for the Hawley family from Parwich. Additionally, we are not even certain that there were baptisms recorded at Parwich in the earlier period; the church is in fact an ancient chapele to Ashbourne, whose original registers survive from 1547, and it would be a logical step to check these for a suitable period for Joseph's baptism. (...) Since we are not at this point sure that Joseph's family actually lived at Parwich, another logical and inexpensive step would be to search a tax return for Parwich for about 1590 to 1620 to see whether any Hawleys are listed as inhabitants; we might well be able to provisionally identify his father if he is listed there. Moreover, information gathered in this way on the inheritance of the Parwich property would greatly help narrowing our search of Parwich court rolls to a manageable period." (Bethell ltr to FWH November 30, 1980) (I agreed to this work by ltr of August 21, 1983)

"I have checked Ashbourne baptism registers from 1580 to 1620, and found a number of Halley entries, but no record of Joseph. Parwich was, as you know, a detached part of Ashbourne parish, lying between the Derbyshire parishes of Hartington, Bradbourne and Tissington, and the Staffordshire parish of Alstonefield. however of these parish registers only survive for Alstonefield, and for Hartington from 1610, for the period of interest." (Bethell ltr to FWH, September 10, 1983)

5. Suggestions for further research from David Bethell (Ltr of Sept. 10, 1983): (Not yet pursued)

- o a continued search in the Parwich area, among surviving parish registers, such as those of Hartington and Alstonefield, in the hope of discovering Joseph Hawley's baptism. This search might well be extended to include Hope parish.
- o a search of listed subsidies for Hawley entries
- o a search of Parwich court rolls for a specific period
- o a listing of wills from Parwich in the Lichfield Consistory files for a suitable period (say 1590 to 1640), and a search of such wills for cross-references to the Hawley family (since we have already found that there are no Hawley wills from Parwich).
- o More general search of the Hawley wills already listed from Lichfield Consistory and Peculiars for that period.

-- F. William Hawley

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