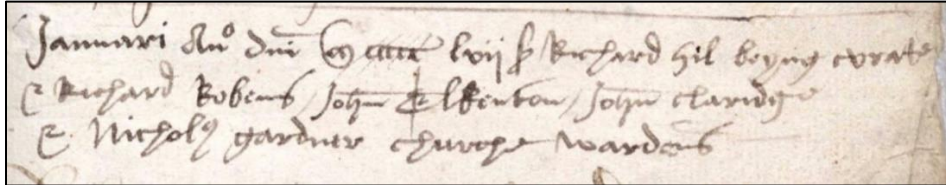


FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF NICHOLAS AND ELIZABETH GARDNER

Nicholas Gardner was born in about 1535 of Little Bourton in Cropredy, the son of Thomas and Ellyn Gardner. He married Elizabeth. Nicholas was a churchwarden in Cropredy in 1557: "*Nicholys Gardner, church warden*".



*Cropredy parish register in January 1557, showing church wardens:
"Richard Robens, John Elkenton, John Claridge, & Nicholas Gardnar, church wardens"*

Nicholas was named as an overseer in a will for Richard Denzey in 1558: "*I make my overseers Nicholas Gardner and Thomas Sherman and they are to have 8d apiece for their pains.*"

He is also mentioned in a land deed of 1557: "*May 10, 1557 Tho. Smythe, Tho. Gubbyn and Roger Truste, transfer the property to, apparently for the most part, younger men: John Ffrenshe, sen., and Tho. Ffrenshe, his son, John Ffrenshe, jun., Tho. Howse, and William, his son, his son, Rich. Lumbard, Will. Page, Tho. Robins, and Rich., his son, John Gibbes and Will., his son, John, son of Will. Hall, James Hall, Will. Helkington, Vincent Baylis, John Pryons, Peter Tyms, John Gubbyn, Will. Plant, Rob. Mole, John Gibbes, **Nich. Gardener**, and John Bacheler, parishioners of the parish church of Cropredy.*" (*Historical Notices of the Parish of Cropredy*)

Nicholas was also mentioned in the will of John Toms in 1558: "*It would seem John Toms in 1558 was worried about one son's behaviour and to secure his obedience to his future master, Toms made stern warnings in his will. He may advocate a hard time for George, but he does not mention whipping him into submission, instead he used his future inheritance as a more powerful threat. "I will Nicholas Gardner to have George Tomes my sone to do him service for the space of vij yeres and to have with hym ij shepe and a calfe of vij wekes olde, a brasse pott, a pewter platter, a table and a forme and so the said Nicholas to be delivered to the sayd George Tomes the value of the same stuffe againe at the end of vij yeres which is praysed by certain honest men and if he will not be ruled by his masters his master shall kepe this stuffe awaye from him and the sayd George Tomes to have none of hit." His other sone Thomas was to go to Thomas Gardner for six years. He had two sheep, "a platter, a kettell" and the same conditions applied, but a little less fierce being: "upon his masters gentillnes and favor." He then added "I bequeath to Thomas ij borrdes to make him a table." (*The Town of Cropredy*)*

Nicholas was named as an overseer for the will of John Sherman, his son-in-law William Sherman's father, in 1574. Elizabeth was a witness for the same will: "*my overseers I make **Nicholas Gardener** Thomas Plante and Thomas Densye they to have for their paines xijd apiece: These beinge psent with the said John Sharman at Lyttle Bourton aforesayde viz: Thomas Plante **Elizabeth Gardner** and Elizabeth Densie beinge witnesses unto thes psent*".

Nicholas is also mentioned in the will of his uncle George Gardner of Great Bourton in 1591:

*In the name of God Amen the eight and twentieth daye of Aprill in the three and thirtieth yere of the raigne of oure soveraigne Ladie Elizabeth Quene, I **George Gardner of Greate Burton** in the Countie of Oxon and in ye parische of Cropredye, being sicke in bodie but perfect in memorye thanks be given to God, revoking all other former willes, do make and ordeyne this my last will and testamente in manner and forme folowinge, ...*

*Item, I give and grante unto **Nicholas Gardner sonne of my Brother Thomas Gardner** my pece of grounde called Hardwicke peece with the appurtenances thereunto belonging which I bought of Mr. Anthony Cope. To have and to holde the same piece of grounde called Hardwicke peere with the appurtenances to the said **Nicholas Gardner** his executors, administrators and assignes from the ffeaste of Sainte Michaell the Archanngelel next after my decease unto the ende and tearme of twentie and one yeres then next and ymediatlie fullie to be complete and ended for the yerelie rente of ffower pence, will that my executors by virtue of this my last will and testament shall seale for the contynenance of the foresaied tearme of yeres according to the tenor and effect of this my said last will and testament in manner and forme above veryted....*

*Item I give more unto the said **Nicholas Gardner** in wood bourdes and other house stuffe to the value of tenne poundes or else ten poundes of lawfull money of England at the choice of the said Nicholas.*

Bequests are also made to:

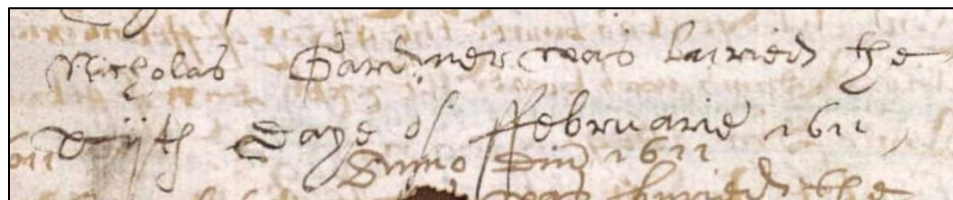
- Nicholas' brother William Gardner:

*And more five quarters of barley wherof I will that **William Gardner** his Brother shall pai hym one quarter out of that halfe yarde land crophe hereafter mentioned, the abovenamed Thomas Hollway a halfe a quarter and the abovenamed **Thomas Gardner** the other halfe quarter. Item, I give grante and bequeathe unto **William Gardner sonne of the saied Thomas Gardner** my Brother in full satisfaction of all accounts between hym and me.*

- Nicholas' brother Thomas Gardner

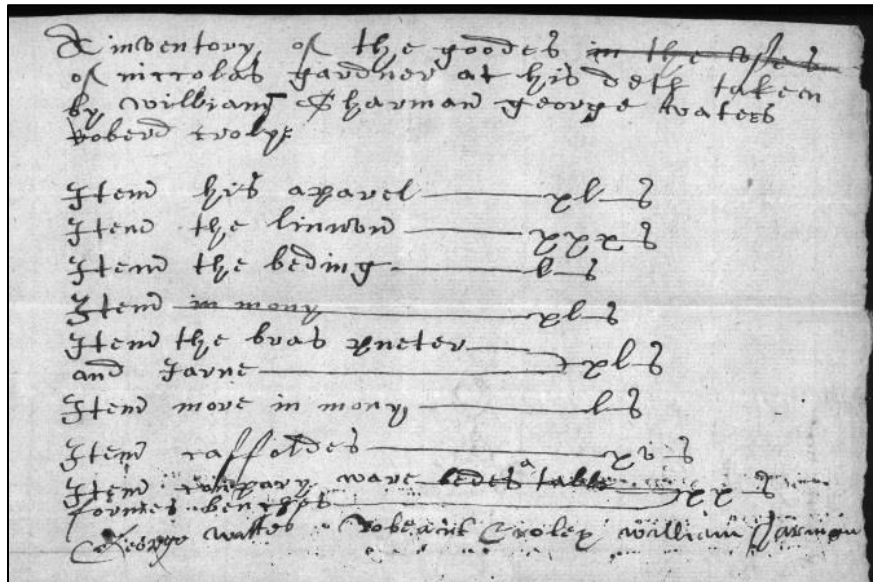
*Item, I give to **Thomas Gardner my godsonne and sonne of my Brother Thomas Gardner** twentie shillings.*

Nicholas died and was buried in Cropredy 12 February 1611.



*Burial record for Nicholas Gardner in Cropredy:
"Nicholas Gardner was buried the xijth daye of Ffebruarie 1611"*

He left an inventory:



Inventory of Nicholas Gardner, 1611

Nicholas Gardner of Cropredy 1611

An inventory of the goodes of Niccolas Gardner at the deats taken by William Sharman, George Wates, Roberd Croley

Item, his apparel xld

Item, the linnon xxxd

Item, the bedding cd

Item, in mony xld

Item, the bras pueter and farne xld

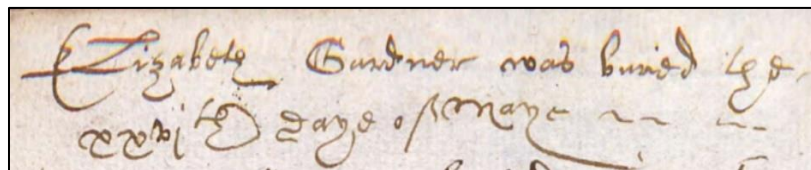
Item, more in mony ld

Item caffoldes xld

Item, copary ware, bedes, table, forms, benches xxd

George Wates, Robeart Croley, William Sharman

One of the appraisers for the inventory was William Sherman, Nicholas' son-in-law.



*Burial record for Elizabeth Gardner in Cropredy:
"Elizabeth Gardner was buried the xxvi daye of Maye"*

Elizabeth died and was buried 26 May 1615 in Cropredy, leaving a verbal will:

Be it known unto all men by these p'sente that Elizabeth Gardner late of little Bourton in the p'ish of Cropredy in the Countie of Oxon widdow did make & ordayne her last will nuncupative or by word of mouth the tenth day of November in the yeare of our Lord God 1614 in manner & forme as followeth first shee bequeathed her soule into the hands of God Almyghtie who gave it & and her body shee willed to be layed in the pysh church of Cropredy neere to her seat and, and as for her goods shee did bequeath them all unto Ann Sharman her daughter the wyfe of William Sharman of Borton aforesaid who she made executor of this her said last will. In witness hereof George Gardner.

Will of Elizabeth Gardner, widow of Little Bourton, 1616

Be it known unto all men by these p'sente that Elizabeth Gardner late of Little Bourton in the p'ishe of Cropredy in the Countie of Oxon, widdow did make & ordayne her last will nuncupative or by word of mouth the tenth day of November in the yeare of our Lord God 1614 in manner & forme as followeth, first shee bequeathed her soule into the hands of God Almyghtie who gave it & and her body shee willed to be layed in the pysh church of Cropredy neere to her seat and, and as for her goods shee did bequeath them all unto Ann Sharman her daughter the wyfe of William Sharman of Borton aforesaid who she made executor of this her said last will. In witness hereof George Gardner.

An inventory was also created for Elizabeth:

Inventory of
all the goods of Elizabeth
Gardner late of Bourton
in the p'ish of Cropredy in
the Countie of Oxon widdow
gives by Thomas Gardner
and James Sharman of
the same Countie
An primis ou foyes bedd — 2s
Item a mattress about 12s — 2s
Item three pillowes — 2s
Item two coverles — 2s

Inventory for Elizabeth Gardner

A true inventory of all the goods of Elizabeth Gardner late of Borton in the p'ishe of Cropredy in the county of Oxon, widow, prised by Thomas Gardner and James Bachelor of the same towne.

Imprimis, on fether bedd xxd

Item, a mattris & a boulster xd

Item, three pillows xd

Item, two cuverlides and on blanket xxiid

Item, three gownes and three peticotes iiid

Item, a warminge pan iiid

Item, two halle xxd

Item, halfe a dozen of napkins vd

Item, three payre of sheetes xxxd

Item her other linen and a tafata aperne xd

Nicholas and Elizabeth had the following children:

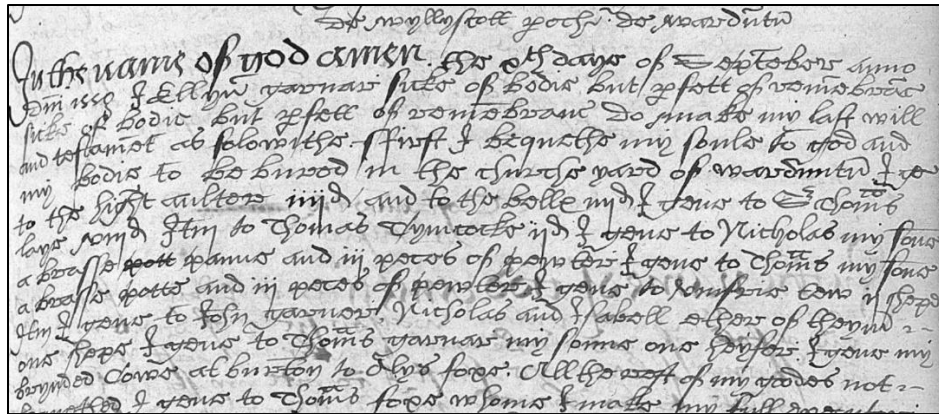
- *1. **Anne**, born in about 1567 of Cropredy; married William Sherman 27 June 1587 in Cropredy.
2. **Alice**, christened 25 February 1570/1 in Cropredy.
3. **George**, christened 5 April 1573 in Cropredy.
4. **Thomas**, christened 25 March 1575/6 in Cropredy.

*SOURCES: Cropredy parish register; inventory for Nicholas Gardner of Cropredy, 1611; will and inventory for Elizabeth Gardner of Little Bourton, 1616, on www.findmypast.co.uk; will of Richard Denzey, 1558; will of George Gardner, 1591, PCC; *The Town of Cropredy*, Pamela Keegan.*

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF THOMAS AND ELLYN GARDNER

Thomas Gardner was born in about 1515 of Cropredy. He married Ellyn.

Ellyn of Williamscoth died in 1559, leaving a will. Thomas must have died before 1559. Nicholas and the other children seem to be young at the time of the will.



Will of Ellyn Garner, 1559

Testament of Elena Garnar de Wyllyscott p'och de Wardinton

*In the name of God Amen, the xth daye of Septeber anno Dom 1559, I **Ellyn Garnar** sicke of bodie but pfett of remembrance do make my last will and testamet as foloweth: First I bequeathe my soule to God and my bodie to be buried in the churche yard of Wardinton. I geve to the hight aultere iijjd and to the bells iijjd. I geve to Sir Thomas Hays xijjd. Itm to Thomas Tymcocke ijd. I geve to **Nicholas my sone** a brasse panne and iij peces of pewter. I geve to **Thomas my sone** a brasse potte and iij peces of pewter. I geve to **Umfrie Tene** ij shepe. Item, I geve to **John Garner, Nicholas and Isabell** ether of theym one shepe. I geve to **Thomas Garnar my sonne** one heifer. I geve iij brynded cows at Burton to **Alys Foxe**. All the rest of my goodes not bequeathed I geve to **Thomas Foxe** whome I make my full executor thes beinge wyttness, Sir Thomas Hays, prist, John Elkington, and John Thorncraft.*

Proven 29 June 1559

Thomas and Ellyn had the following children:

*1. **Nicholas**, born in about 1535 of Cropredy; married Elizabeth; mentioned in mother's will of 1559; mentioned in uncle George Gardner's will in 1591; buried 12 February 1610/11 in Cropredy.

2. **William**, born in about 1540 of Cropredy; mentioned in uncle George Gardner's will in 1591.

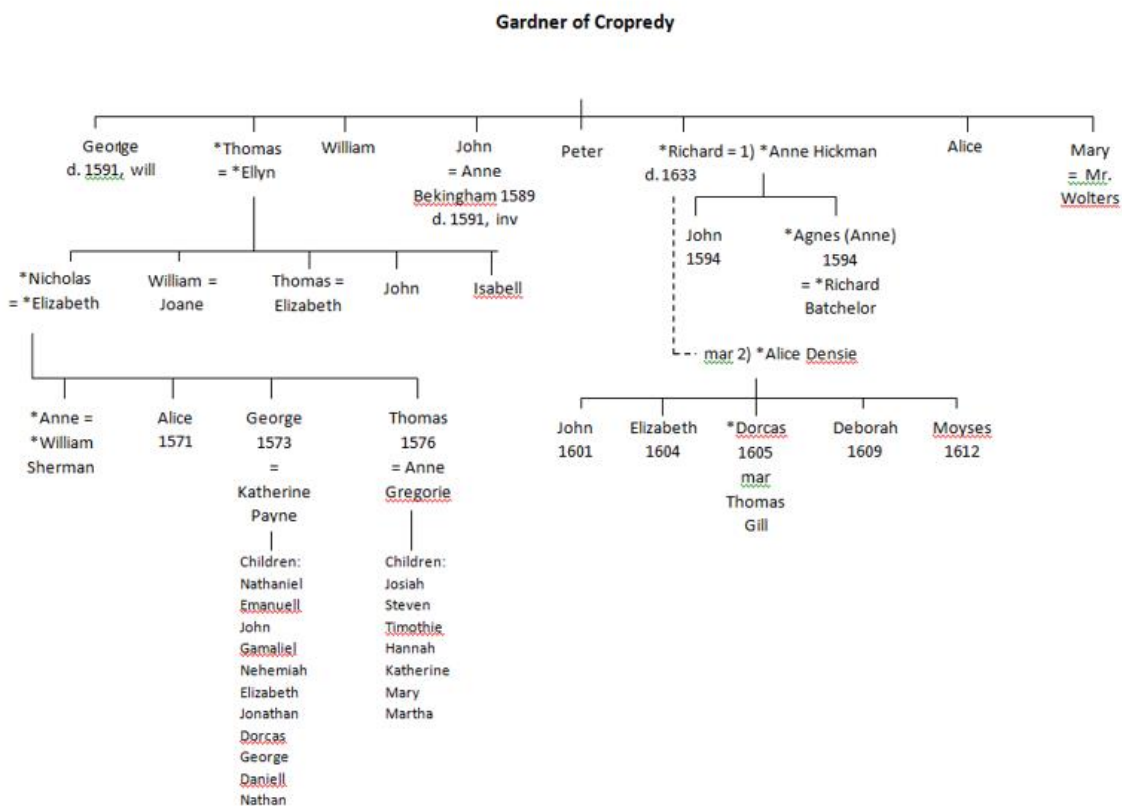
3. **Thomas**, born in about 1545 of Cropredy; mentioned in mother's will of 1559. mentioned in uncle George Gardner's will in 1591; married Elizabeth; occupation: yeoman; had children Josiah, Steven, Timothie, Hannah, Katherine, Mary and Martha; buried 5 October 1633; left a will dated 27 November 1633. Thomas occupied the manor farm in Little Bourton: "*In that year (1565) William Mathewe, his wife Catherine, and their son Thomas sold Little Bourton manor to Thomas Gardner. Josiah Gardner of London, son of Thomas Gardner of Little Bourton, deceased (both are described as gentlemen), dealt with ¼ yardland in Bourton in 1648; and there are later references to landowners of the name in Bourton.*" (*British History Online - Great and Little Bourton*) He is also described in *The Town of Cropredy*: "*memo That Tho gardner of/ lyttell borton sent me a/ fayn payre of gloves to / whom I send a garnishe/ of gent lasses for a/ handkerchefe. Item sent my sonne clerson a/ dosen of sylke poynts/ to his wife vjd. Item to my sone gorstelow who/ sent me a cloke & sent him/ a dosen sylke poyt-*" They were exchanging gifts for the New Year on March the 25th. Silk used to be for the nobility, but by this time other lesser gentlemen had

items of silk clothing. The Thomas Gardner of Little Bourton mentioned above lived in the manor farm, though there was another family of Gardners, sons of Richard." (*The Town of Cropredy, 1570-1640, Keegan*)

4. **John**, mentioned in mother's will of 1559.

5. **Isabell**, mentioned in mother's will of 1559.

SOURCES: Cropredy parish register; will of George Gardner of Great Bourton, 1591 on www.findmypast.co.uk; will of Ellyn Garner, 1559, www.ancestry.co.uk; British History Online - Great and Little Bourton; The Town of Cropredy, 1570-1640; Pamela Keegan.



Descendants of the Gardners of Little Bourton - both Justinian Southam and Lucy Hunt were descended from the same couple:

Justinian through both Thomas and Ellyn Gardner to Nicholas and Elizabeth Gardner to their daughter Anne who married William Sherman, and also from Richard Gardner and Anne Hickman's daughter Agnes (Anne) who married Richard Batchelor.

Lucy Hunt was descended from Richard Gardner and Alice Densie's daughter Dorcas Gardner who married Thomas Gill.