THE FAMILY OF DONALD SPENCER FEAR AND RUTH ANNA PURCHASE

Donald Spencer Fear was born 25 March 1904, the son of George Varney Fear and Emma May Roy. He married Ruth Anna Purchase 25 March 1929. He worked as a building contractor. He died March 1966 in Seaford, New York, and is buried in Mt. Hebron Cemetery in Montclair, New Jersey.

Ruth Anna Purchase was born 20 December 1902 in Asbury Park, New Jersey, the daughter of Arthur Thomas Purchase and Bertha Louise Hollar.

Donald and Ruth had the following children:


1940 census, Queens, New York

In 1940, Donald worked as a salesman for a roofing company.

1930 census, Montclair, Essex, New Jersey

Find a Grave, http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=FE&GSpartial=1&GSbyrel=all&GSst=33&GScnty=4&GSsr=41&GRid=28650595

SOURCES: Family records on familysearch; 1940 federal census, 1930 federal census.
George Varney Fear was born 8 November 1867 in Stanford in the Vale, Berkshire, England, the son of Henry Fear and Elizabeth Ann Varney.

He was christened Christmas Day 1867 in Stanford in the Vale.

He married Emma May Roy 25 December 1888. Emma was born 20 March 1867 in Mendham, Morris, New Jersey, the daughter of George P. and Ada Roy.

George and Emma had the following children:

2. Florence May, born 1892 in New Jersey.
SOURCES: Family records on familysearch; 1900 federal census, 1910 federal census; 1900 federal census; www.findagrave.com.

THE FAMILY OF HENRY FEAR AND ELIZABETH ANN VARNEY

Henry Fear was born 28 September 1840 in Buckland, Berkshire, England, the son of Charles Fear and Sara Lambourn. At age 20, he is found in the 1861 English census, working as a servant, a carter, in Buckland.

He married Elizabeth Ann Varney 8 March 1865 in Stanford in the Vale, Berkshire, England. Elizabeth was born 10 June 1843 in Stanford in the Vale, the daughter of Charles Fear and Sara Lambourn.

Henry and Elizabeth had the following children:

2. *George Varney, 8 November 1867 in Stanford in the Vale; married Emma May Roy; died 28 July 1943 in Montclair, New Jersey.

1871 English census, Stanford, Berkshire, England

George is shown as a three year-old child. His mother, Elizabeth is shown as wife, occupation – general dealer, and a note over the occupation says “Husband in America”.

1880 census, Bloomfield, Essex, New Jersey

Henry’s occupation is shown as an Express Agent

Elizabeth died 17 May 1897 in Montclair, New Jersey.
In 1900, Henry is a boarder in the home of the Bollenbach family.

Henry married Jennifer McLaughlin 18 May 1907 in Montclair, and they had one daughter, Henrietta Celia, born in 1908. Henry died 26 October 1918 and is buried in Buckland, Berkshire, England.

The gravestone of Henry Fear in Buckland

SOURCES: 1861 English census; 1871 English census; 1880 federal census; 1900 federal census; www.ancestry.com; new.familysearch.org.
THE FAMILY OF CHARLES AND SARA FEAR

Charles Fear was born in about 1816 of Faringdon, Berkshire, England, the son of William and Martha Fear. His occupation was carpenter. Charles married Sara Lambourn 11 April 1836 in Oxford, Oxfordshire.

Sara was born 9 May 1817 in Childrey, Berkshire, the daughter of Thomas Lambourn and Sara Tuck.

Charles and Sara had the following children:

1. Martha, christened 21 February 1836 in Buckland.
2. Emma, christened 26 June 1838 in Buckland; died 10 October 1843 in Buckland.

Charles died 11 December 1843 in Faringdon. Sara died 8 February 1892.

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM AND MARTHA FEAR

William Fear was christened 5 May 1771 in Buckland, Berkshire, England, the son of Henry Fear and Mary Cox. He married Martha Dowling 26 February 1794 in Buckland.

William and Martha had the following children:

1. Elizabeth, born about 1797; died 1815.
2. Jane, born about 1799; died 1815.
3. Henry, born about 1809; died 1809.
4. Henry, born about 1811; died 1812.
5. Richard, born about 1812; died 1894.
6. Henry, born about 1814; died 1822.
7. *Charles, born about 1816; died 11 December 1843 in Faringdon.
8. Edward, born about 1818; died 1878.

William died 28 September 1853 in Buckland.

SOURCES: www.familysearch.org

THE FAMILY OF HENRY FEAR AND MARY COX

Henry Fear was christened 11 April 1736 in Buckland, Berkshire, the son of Richard Fear and Jane Frogley. He married Mary Cox 9 October 1768 in Buckland. Mary was christened 2 May 1742 in Buckland.

Henry and Mary had the following children:

1. Elizabeth, christened 17 September 1769 in Buckland; married Thomas Oakley; died 1846.
2. *William, christened 5 May 1771 in Buckland; married Martha; died 28 September 1853.
3. Jane, christened 4 April 1773; died 1796.
4. Richard, christened 7 May 1775 in Buckland; married Elizabeth; died 1850.

Henry died in 1802. Martha died in 1834.

SOURCES: www.familysearch.org
THE FAMILY OF RICHARD FEAR AND JANE FROGLEY

Richard Fear was christened 11 June 1704 in Buckland, the son of Edward and Elizabeth Fare. He married Jane Frogley 29 June 1735. Jane was christened 14 March 1709 in Wantage, Berkshire, the daughter of Jeremiah Frogley and Jane Carter.

Richard and Jane had the following children:

1.  *Henry, christened 11 April 1736 in Buckland; married Mary Cox 9 October 1768 in Buckland; died 1802.
2.  Richard, christened 17 September 1738 in Buckland.
3.  William, christened 17 August 1740 in Buckland; married Margaret Dowling.
4.  Edward, christened 16 October 1742 in Buckland.
5.  Elizabeth, christened 30 June 1745 in Buckland.
7.  John, christened 5 March 1749 in Buckland.
8.  Jane, christened 17 November 1752 in Buckland.

SOURCES: www.familysearch.org

THE FAMILY OF EDWARD AND ELIZABETH FARE

Edward Fare was born in 1668. He married Elizabeth in 1685.

Edward and Elizabeth had the following children:

1.  Edward, christened 12 August 1688 in Buckland.

SOURCES: www.familysearch.org

THE FEAR FAMILY

The Fear family were well established in Berkshire, and the name has been spelled Fear, Feer and Fair. According to Ancestry, the derivation of the name was as a nickname for a sociable person, from Middle Englishfe(a)re ‘comrade’, ‘companion’ (Old Englishgefera).
**Home of the Fear/Feer/Fare Family – Buckland, Berkshire History**

**Buckland** is a village and civil parish about 4 miles (6.4 km) northeast of Faringdon in the Vale of White Horse District. Buckland was part of Berkshire until the 1974 boundary changes transferred it to Oxfordshire. Buckland is an estate village, created to house those working at Buckland House.

Buckland parish contains 4,505 acres, of which 1,762 acres are arable land, 1,884 acres permanent grass and 268 acres woods and plantations. (fn. 1) The village is situated a little to the north of the main road from Faringdon to Abingdon on high ground, which slopes down to the Thames. There is a tradition that an almshouse, founded about 1240, once stood in the village in a place now called Warnfords, near the parish pound.

The earliest known written record of Buckland is from AD 957 in a charter when King Edgar the Peaceful granted Duke Ælfheah ten hides which covered the area of Buckland.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor Buckland was the seat of Ulvric Chenp. In the reign of William the Conqueror Bishop Osbern asserted that it belonged to the fee of his bishopric, but at the time of the Domesday Survey the question as to the bishop's right was not yet decided, the case having been sent before the king. The estate was assessed at 8 hides, contained a mill, four fisheries and a dairy farm producing 10 weys of cheese a year, and was worth £8.

In 1774 Henry James Pye, Poet Laureate to George III, wrote the poem Faringdon Hill. Part of it refers to Buckland:

*See Buckland here her lovely scenes display,*  
*which rude erewhile in rich disorder lay*  
*til Taste and Genius with corrective hand*  
*spread Culture's nicest vesture o'er the land,*  
*and called each latent beauty to the fight;*  
*clothed the declining slopes with pendant wood,*  
*and o'er the sedge grown meadows poured the floor.*

(Wikipedia)
There was a mill in the manor in 1085, and a water-mill is included in an extent of the manor taken in 1317.

At the time of the Domesday Survey William Count of Evreux held in Ganfield Hundred two small unnamed estates, which were clearly both in Buckland parish. The first had been held by Ulwin in the reign of Edward the Confessor and the second by four freemen. These two holdings were granted by the count and Helewis his wife to Noyon Priory, and this gift was confirmed by their grandson Simon Count of Evreux between 1140 and 1157. The Prior of Noyon at an early date granted this estate to the lords of the main manor of Buckland to hold at an annual rent of 40s. Hamo de Crevequer is returned by the Testa de Nevill as holding a certain part of the vill of Buckland of the prior, and from this time onward the history of this estate is identical with that of the main manor.

The manor of Buckland, which was afterwards distinguished by the name of ST. JOHNS owing to its possession by the Prior and brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, was in origin the 10 hides of land in Buckland which King Edwy granted to Elfeah in 957. Elfeah is said to have granted them to Abingdon Abbey, and in 1086 the estate, then assessed at 5 hides only, was held by the abbey in demesne. Hugh de Buckland, who was Sheriff of Berkshire and several other counties, was the tenant of the estate under Abingdon in the reign of William Rufus. Either he or one of his descendants seems to have granted the manor in free alms to the Prior and brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, who were seised of one fee in Buckland of the fee of the Abbot of Abingdon at the beginning of the 13th century. The prior and brethren continued in possession of the estate until the dissolution of the order. In 1545 Henry VIII granted it to John Yate, who the year before had obtained a grant of Duke's Manor. From this date St. John's Manor follows the descent of Duke's Manor.

Recommendations for Additional Research

Buckland parish registers are available at the Family History Library, and could provide valuable information about the Fear family. Parish chest and poor law records are available from 1236 on.