

## A Sheriffhales PLANT lineage:

as far as the G G Grandparents of the wife of Douglas Barlow  
(via emails received by Dr John S Plant starting 19 Dec 2020).

The first BMD parish records for Sheriffhales go back to 1577 and the first 'Plant' entry is the baptism of Mary, daughter of John and Isabell Plant in April 1610. Until 1629, the only records are the baptisms of their children. Several generations of the family were Church Wardens at Sheriffhales and John is mentioned as being in this role for the first time in 1612. Douglas's primary interest focusses on the following descent line.

John Plante 1590-1629 and Isabell Smyth 1590 parents at Sheriffhales:

Mary 1610, Alice 1611, Margaret 1616, Jane 1617, Elizabeth 1626, Francis 1626, John 1629

Francis Plante 1626-1698 m Mary 1630-1705 Sheriffhales:

Ann 1655, Sarah 1657, John 1659, Elizabeth 1661, Thomas 1665,

John Plant b1659 m Ann Sherrifhales:

John 1696-1773,

Elizabeth 1701, Jane 1703-1703, Margaret 1704, William 1706, Thomas 1712

John Plant b1696-1773 m Elizabeth Kibble Sherif Hales:

**John** 1725 m1723 d1727 **m Sarah** 1702-1783,

Richard 1733, William 1737, Francis 1738, Ann 1741,

Francis Plant b1738 m Mary Bullock Sherif Hales m1757:

Ann 1759, John 1762-1831, William 1764-1765, Thomas 1766-1794,

Mary 1769, Francis 1771, William 1773, Daniel 1776-1852, Margaret 1777-1777

Daniel Plant was christened at Sheriff Hales on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1775 and married Ann Simmell on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1803 at Gnosall, which was Ann's home village. Son **William** b1820:

William's christening:

**PLANT, William** Christening

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 7 May 1820 Recorded in: Gnosall, Staffordshire, England

Father: Daniel PLANT

Mother: Anne

Source: FHL Film 1470948 Dates: 1677 - 1864

**John & Sarah** are by now living on Stafford Street, Bloxwich and John is a Victualer. There were about 4 boarders at the Inn. Their sons John and Thomas are both Carters and they now have two more children:

John, Thomas, Sarah b1842, Daniel b1845

At the 1861 census John senior is stated as being a 'small farmer', his sons John and Thomas are still at home, unmarried and still working as Carters, as is their younger son Daniel.

At the 1861 census there is a 39 year old **William** Plant living at 15, Orchard Place, Longton, who was born in Gnossal. He is a widower, living alone and working as an Innkeeper, this appears to be our William as he was born in the right place at the right time. **William** is working as a general labourer when he married Catherine Draycott on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 1863:

**PLANT, William** Age: FULL Marriage  
Wife: Catherine DRAYCOTT Age: FULL  
Marriage Date: 19 Jan 1863 Recorded in: Sutton-on-the-Hill, Derbyshire, England  
Husband's Father: Daniel PLANT  
Wife's Father: John DRAYCOTT  
Source: FHL Film 1042077 Dates: 1835 – 1863

Further descent at Derby.

## Notes (January 2021)

1. The male-line ancestry of the singer Robert Plant CBE links back through:

Robert Anthony Plant b 20 Aug 1948 b West Bromwich

Robert C Plant b 1918 m Annie Celia Cain m 1944 at Dudley

Robert Shropshire Plant b 1891 Warwicks m Frances M Farmer m 1917 at West Bromwich

John Plant b 1856 m Dinah Elizabeth Tildesley m 1884 at Stafford

William Plant b1818 m Ann Shropshire on 23 Aug1839 at Ellenhall\*\*

Thomas b1852, **John b1855**, William b1857, Anna Maria b1861

William Plant bap 22May1787 m Frances Collier in 1809 at Ellenhall

Thomas b1812, Jane b1815, **William b1818**, Sarah b1824, Fanny b1828

Thomas Plant m Sarah Lockley on 8 Jul 1776 at Ellenhall

Mary b1776, Thomas b1778 m Elizabeth Orwell 1806, Elizabeth b1780, Margaret b1783,

James b1785 d1786, **William b1787**, George b1789 d1789, Thomas b1790, Ellen b1792

\*\*The 1861 census has this William aged 41, while at 1851 he is 33 and 1871 he is 53, so b1818 looks most likely. The 1861 Census has him born at Ranton while 1851 & 1871 have his birth place at Ellenhall.

Though Ellenhall is only 4 miles from Gnosall, this is evidently a different William Plant from the one bap1820 Gnosall in the above Sheriffhales descent line and the two ancestral lineages remain separate at least as far back as Thomas m Sara m1776 at Ellenhall.

2. There is a1568 will of a Richard Plant of Edgmond, just 5 miles north of Sheriffhales. The Longspee-Audley hypothesis is especially successful in explaining the early locations of early

Plants. Though this is somewhat later, this hypothesis can be considered alongside the findings that the Plants appear both in this 1568 will at Edgmond near Sheriffhales by ca.1590 and in the main Plant homeland. The manor of Edgmond was progressively granted to Henry de Audley and his heirs during 1217-31, passing in 1392 through a sister to the Touchet barons Audley whose line ended in 1617. The manor of Gratton and Horton in the main Plant homeland around Leek parish in north Staffordshire, around 35 miles away, was similarly granted to Henry de Audley and heirs in 1218.

3. Starting from the earliest available records for the main Plant homeland in the 1360s, the Plants were evidently around the lands of Dieulacres abbey whose core lands adjoined the Audley manor of Horton and Gratton in Leek parish. We do not have anything for the y-DNA of the Sheriffhales Plants apart from the following debatable link. The Plant volunteer P49a traces his ancestry back to George Plant of Cheadle, Staffs and before that in the nearby Leek parish of north Staffordshire to William Plant (1679-). His y-DNA matches that of the main Plant family but not the usual Leek/north-Staffs branches A+D. We have him down as 'Uncertain branch II' of the main Plant family in the descent diagrams at <http://plant.one-name.net/dna.html#BranchingTree> (see P49a in the 'Part 2' diagram). Before William Plant (1679-) at Leek, P49a tentatively has his lineage back further to John Plant (1659-) and Francis Plante (1640) in Shropshire and these appear in the above Sheriffhales descent lineage. If this is correct, it would suggest a main Plant family link by 1568 to Edgmond near the Sheriffhales Plants from the main Plant homeland around Leek and then back to Leek for P49a by 1659. Given the patchy nature of records around Leek, it is possible that his line in fact never left the main homeland area around Leek but, instead, it is possible that the early link to Sheriffhales was still known to the family in 1659 and this guided the return of the lineage of P49a back to Leek. The major branching of the main Plant family by BigY-DNA analysis indicates an early separation between the north Staffs homeland Plant branches and branches by the eighteenth century further south in Staffordshire: the Sheriffhales Plants might be relevant to this. This could be tested by y-DNA testing of Plant lineages more directly associated with the Sheriffhales Plants though we have no such y-DNA volunteers as yet.