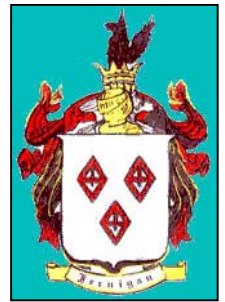


Jernigan's in England
by Roger Watson



The Jernigan family originally came from Somerleyton where they were the lords of the manor house and owners of the village of Somerleyton. When our ancestor **Thomas Jernigan** came to America in 1635, on the ship the True Love, he was from this family. In England property is left to the eldest son and the younger have to make a life for themselves. I suspect Thomas was a younger son and saw a future for himself in the new world. The Jernigans lived at Somerleyton for three or four hundred years, but sold the property in the 17th century. From my searches here, there seems to be no Jernigans left in England with the last one dying around the time of the first world war.

There is a church in Somerleyton, England, called St. Mary's. Inside there is a tomb, next to the altar, with Sir Richard Jernigan buried in it. There were other Jernigans associated with that church as well.

Kedar Jernigan

s/o Lewis Jernigan - b. ca. 1742, Bertie, NC – d. ca. 1818

Wiley Jernigan

s/o Kedar & Sarah Jernigan

John Tilford Jernigan

s/o Wiley & Sarah Jane "Sallie" (Short) Jernigan

Essie Avo Jernigan

d/o John Tilford & Hulda Jane (Thompson) Jernigan

Geraldine (Loftis) Denny

d/o Milton Otis & Essie Avo (Jernigan) Loftis

Audrey June (Denny) Loftis

d/o Tim & Geraldine (Loftis) Denny

Kedar Jernigan made his will in 1844 in Wayne Co., NC, naming Bright, Patrick and four daughters, stating that they were minors. He had older children who were not mentioned in his will, but we think his chief concern was for the welfare of his minor children who were not old enough to care for themselves: therefore, only the minors were remembered. Records indicate that Kedar had given most of his property to his children by the first two wives, so very little remained for the widow and minors. Legend is that the widow sold the property and moved with her family to Georgia or TN. In the 1850 census of Bedford Co., TN, **Wiley Jernigan** age 34 was head of household that contained: Sarah Jernigan 55; Easter Jernigan, 18; Bright Jernigan, 16; Patrick Jernigan, 14; Zilpha Wayne Jernigan, 11; and Washington Jernigan, 34, all born in NC from Census Records of Wayne Co., NC from 1800 to 1840 list 27 children in the household of Kedar Jernigan.

<http://www.bzbhive.com/candice/jernigan12.htm>

<http://members.aol.com/jernigan01/estate.htm>

SOMERLEYTON ESTATE
Sommerleyton, England



Somerleyton Hall 1300-1600



The Manor House today

Pictures provided by Edna Jernigan

From about 838 AD for nearly two centuries, East Anglia was subject to Danish and Viking raids, including pillaging, burning, and looting. The village of Somerleyton derived its name from a Viking explorer (raider) named Sumarlithi - a warrior-name meaning "Summer-Warrior-Mariner". He settled in the area prior to 900 AD, and the area became Sumarlithi's tun, or Sumarlithi's town.

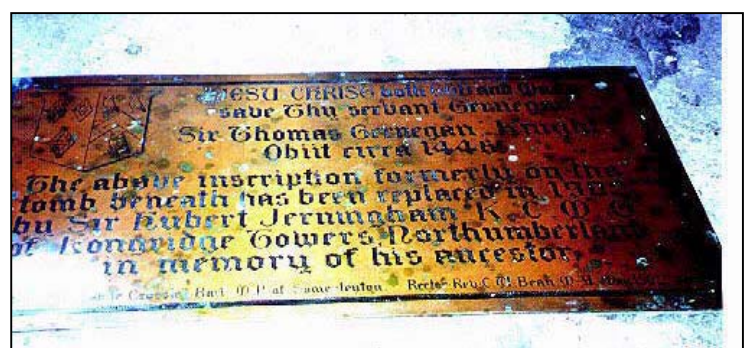
Some researchers suggest, in fact, that the original Jernegan was a Danish swordmaker who perfected the process of iron-braid metallurgy (later referred to as the damascening process).

At any rate, the estate at Somerleyton was held by a Sir Peter Fitzobert, whose son, Sir Roger was lord of the manor during the reign of Henry III and Edward I until he died in 1305. After Sir Roger's death, the estate passed to his sister, Isabella, because Sir Roger had no children. Isabella, widow of Sir Henry de Walpole subsequently married Sir Walter Jernegan, and the estate remained in the Jernegan family by descent until its sale to the Wentworth family in 1604.

The manor which is now on the estate is the fourth such splendid residence to be on the property, and was built in about 1840. Thus sadly, no Jernigans ever lived in the current manor.

Also located in the village of Somerleyton is St. Mary's Church, which dates to about 1309. Behind the altar of St. Mary's is a sepulchre of dark marble, with the inscription:

Jesus Christ both God and man
Save thy servant Jernegan



Quoting from "A Thousand Years of Village History", "Camden conjectured it to be the monument of Sir Richard Jernegan, Privy Councillor to Henry VIII, but the arms of Appleyard which appear on it impaled with Jernegan suggest it to be the tomb of Sir Thomas Jernegan (d. 1446) who married Joan Appleyard of Dunston in Norfolk."

"A previous Sir Thomas, who died in 1406, and his wife, glazed the church windows at their own expense. The old stone floor of the chancel covers the remains of Edward Jernegan who died 6th May 1515, and was buried by the side of his first wife, the inscription reading:

"Margaret Jernegan the wyef of Edward Jernegan Esquyer, d. of Sir Edmund Bedingfelde Knt, which Margaret dyed the XXIII of March anno MDIII"

At the rear of the church is a plaque with the names of Rectors and "Patrons" of the church, from 1309 to the modern times. Prominent among the Patrons during the period 1354 - 1553 were several Jernigans, notable John Jernegan, and Edward Jernegan. A later John Jernegan, Knight is listed as a patron.

There is an additional property, named Costessey, which was granted to Henry Jerningham for service to Queen Mary. The branch who settled there changed the spelling of their names to Jerningham, to distinguish it from the main branch, but the coat of arms is very similar – having three scallop shells in lieu of the three lozenge shaped red buckles. This Henry was the son of Sir Edward and second wife Mary Scroope. His son Henry Jerningham Esq md as 2nd wife his 1st cousin twice removed, Frances, daughter and co-heir of John Jernegan of Somerleyton. The Costessey manor no longer exists. But the present manor, though not the original, has incorporated the beautiful carved wood paneling from the original Jernegan home. The Jernegan arms are preserved in stained glass above the staircase in the main hall.

There is also reportedly a Jernegan crest in either the Knights hall of Westminster Abbey, or in the Privy Council chambers (Sir Richard Jernegan was very close to Henry VIII) although I have not seen them. Those more persistent than I may have better luck.

At any rate we can all be very proud of the fact that we bear one of the oldest and most respected surnames in English history, and that our ancestors had a marked effect on the course of events in English history.

The information on this page is contributed mainly by Jim Jernigan with a few additions from Kay Stone.



St. Mary's Church in
Somerleyton, England



<http://www.bzbhive.com/candice/jernigan12.htm>

Sources: Wills, deeds, Jernigan Reunion Bood, state and county records, census records, and marriage bonds.29

children of Kedar and Elizabeth:

7-150. Martin Jernigan1 b. 6 Mar29 17941

7-151. Elizabeth Jernigan1 b. 22 Feb29 17961

children of Kedar and m2.

7-152. Lovie Jernigan1 b. 20 Apr 181029

7-153. William Jernigan b. 1800's1/c180329

7-154. Bryon29 Joseph Jernigan b. 1800's

7-155. Lewis Jernigan1 b. 20 Oct29 1797

7-156. James Jernigan b. 1805

7-157. Kedar Budd Jernigan b. 1799

children of Kedar and Sarah

7-158. Wiley Jernigan b. 1816

7-159. Bright Jernigan b. 1834

7-160. Patrick Jernigan b. 1836

*You will find most of the Jernigan's in Chapter 9 & 10 at ajlambert.com

Cathy Jernigan Morrison

9028 Gavelwood Court, Springfield, VA 22153; Email address:

stewmorrison@earthlink.net. Cathy descends from

James Cater and Sally Jane Goodwin Jernigan from Bloomington Springs (White County) and Monterey, Putnam County, TN. Although she has been unable to find proof, Cathy is sure that this line descends from Kedar Jernigan of NC (possibly through his son Thomas Wiley Jernigan).

Roger C. Watson

147 Oakland St., Rochester, NY 14620; (716) 242-0765; Email address:

rwatson@geh.org. Roger gives his line of descent

as follows: Roger Carlon Watson b. 8-28-1954; son of Pamela Doris Jernigan

Watson b. 6-15-1935; daughter of Henry Grady Jernigan b. Feb.

1890; son of John Tilford Jernigan b. c1865; son of Wiley Jernigan of Putnam

Co. TN

Genealogy Links

Nelda Jernigan suggests these two sites:

<http://www.tngenweb.usit.com/> and

<http://www.amesplantation.org/cemeteries/jernigancem2.htm>

RootsWeb is an awesome genealogy site. To join, go to

<http://www.rootsweb.com/rootsweb/how-to-subscribe.html>

ajlambert.com