



The WORLDWIDE NEWBURGH FAMILY



MAPPING AND RESEARCH NEWSLETTER
STRIVING FOR TRUTH IN HISTORY

deNovoBurgoChronicles.com

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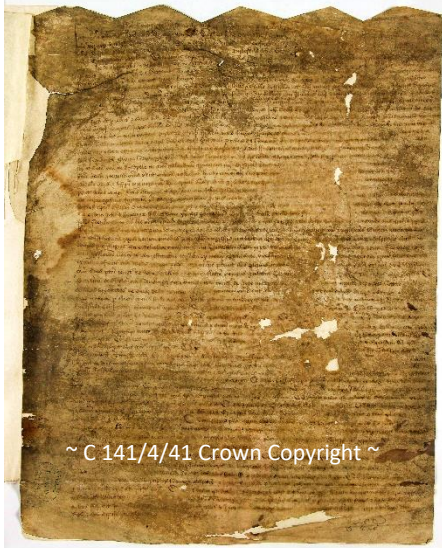
Join the team! Previous donors have assisted in continuing research of the medieval Newburgh families. With still more records to explore, your continued support is humbly requested. Donations can be made at [GoFundMe](https://www.gofundme.com).

MANY THANKS AND GREAT APPRECIATION TO:

Dr. Kenneth Ohm and Beth McCarty for their recent and generous donations.

My work is uniquely sourced from original documents available through various archives. These centuries old documents require acquisition fees and expert translations which often necessitate specialized advisors and equipment. Many thanks in advance for your continued interest!

NEW INQUISITION TRANSLATION for JOHN NEWBURGH, Esq. of EAST LULWORTH



~ C 141/4/41 Crown Copyright ~

One document I've had on file for quite some time is the IPM for John Newburgh Esq. who died 1483/4. My colleague Sally Thomson successfully translated his will, but his *Inquisition Post Mortem* (IPM) is in such poor condition it wasn't easy to get many words off the parchment.

← As you can see, water damage and holes made some of it indecipherable. There are actually seven pieces of parchment belonging to this IPM group. Some pieces are in better condition than others.

FAST FORWARD to 2024

Using recent donations, I hired research specialist [Simon Neal](#) to have another look at the parchment. He has access to UV technology at the British Archives. UV light is like a magic wand illuminating faded script. He was able to pull much more information from it than our previous attempts produced, but some discontinuity remains.

With information gathered from other previously translated family documents, it was possible to fill in some of the gaps Simon was unable to decrypt.

IPMs generally use boilerplate formats and are typically filled with legal redundancies. Some language in IPMs is quite predictable. Where jurors or feoffees are involved the names are repeated many times throughout a document. Generally, standard operating procedure displays only forenames after initial introduction of a feoffee or juror group.

After Simon sent me the translation, I went to work and filled in text where obvious redundancies occurred. It was a medieval “copy and paste.” Previously translated close family documents were consulted to help fill in missing ideas and words where obvious prompts exist.¹ Using document comparisons to insert proper names and phrases made the process fairly simple and accurate. Where prompts are missing we are still studying.

Going over the new results, I realized John Newburgh’s IPM revealed property holdings I have not studied well. One was the Manor of Rokeley that seemed always to be in contention along with Sutton Poyntz. Another was the Manor of Skydmore now known as Upton Scudmore. Both were originally held by Sir Nicholas Poyntz, who was John Newburgh Esq.’s 2nd Great Grandfather.

In previous newsletters I explained Sir Nicholas was an outlaw. His barony fell into abeyance, and he died a pauper in 1376. After reviewing C 141/4/41, more history about the Manor of Rokeley was ultimately uncovered. Some amazing history has come to light. What I have found is mind blowing if you are a Templar enthusiast.

The MANOR of ROKELEY/ROCKLEY and THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



From its early history, the Manor of Rokeley was held by John Marshall, ancestor of Earl Marshall and the Earls of Pembroke. In 1155 he gave one (1) hide of land in Rokeley (parish of Ogbourne St. Andrew) to the Knights Templar.² The Templars established a preceptory [headquarters] at Rokeley during the reign of Henry II.

The Templars were suppressed in England in 1308. In 1313 the keeper of their land in Wiltshire was ordered to pay the Bishop of Salisbury for the maintenance of four Templars, John de Mohun, John de Egle, Robert de Hameldon, and Robert de Sautré.³ The nearby the Manor of Lockeridge was a subsidiary Templar holding near Rokeley. For an interesting read online about the Templars at Rokeley and Lockeridge [click here](#).

MEANWHILE . . .

In 1156 Margaret, Countess of Warwick (wife of Henry Newburgh 1st Norman earl of Warwick), supported the Order of Templars. In the chapter house of [St. Stephen, Normandy](#), her support was attested by Rotrode, Bishop of Evreux (her son) and Henry de Novo Burgo (her son), Robert de Novo Burgo (her son) and Seneschal of Normandy, Geoffrey de Novo Burgo (her son); Roger Beaumont, a chaplain, and Waleran, Comte (Count) of Mellent her late husband’s nephews. Knowing their piety,

¹ The IPM for Sir John Newburgh (d. 1444 the Esquire’s father), and the IPM for the Esquire’s grandson John Senior. (d. 1485).

² A HIDE of land was typically about 120 acres.

³ [British History Online A History of the County of Wiltshire: Volume 3](#). Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1956, 327-328.

members of the Newburgh/Beaumont family may have been involved in protecting the Holy Land.

AND LATER . . .

The larger manor of Rokeley was passed down through Hugh of Kilpeck, inherited by his daughter Isabel, wife of William Walerand. In 1244 Hugh de Kilpeck died leaving two heiresses. His daughter Isobel married William Walerand. Kilpeck Castle was her dowry. Walerand died in 1273 and had no direct heirs.

Rokeley then went to Maud de Cauntelo (recorded elsewhere as Cantilupe or Montealto).⁴ Her grandson George de Cauntelo then passed it to his sister Millicent who became the wife of Eudes de la Zouche. Next, Rokeley went to Elizabeth de la Zouche in return for an annuity.

Before 1301 greater Rokeley was passed to Sir Nicholas Poyntz who was succeeded by Sir Hugh Poyntz his son. Hugh's son, another Sir Nicholas (the outlaw), conveyed it to Sir Robert Russell.⁵

In 1397 Sir Ives FitzWarren, perhaps acting as trustee for the Poyntz family, conveyed it as a moiety to Gilbert Newburgh and his wife Amice (aka Avice).⁶ Sir John Newburgh held the other part of the moiety in 1412, but later held Rokeley in its entirety after Amice's family perished. Sir John was married to Amice's sister Margaret. Both women were the daughters of Sir Nicholas Poyntz and Eleanor Erleygh.

Rokeley was passed down through the Newburghs' Dorset line to John Newburgh Esq. (d. 1483/4). From there it went to his grandsons, sons of William. The first grandson, John Senior, inherited East Lulworth etc. When he died less than two and a half years later, his brother Roger became Lord of East Lulworth.⁷ Roger had one daughter Christian, who inherited the entire Newburgh legacy and married Sir John Marney.

The de la Zouches' were ancestors of the Poyntz and Newburgh families. Because of Sir Nicholas' outlawry, the Newburghs did not inherit his barony, though according to Sir John Tiptoft's 1443 IPM they were "right ancient" and entitled to the barony.⁸ Rokeley was often the subject of litigation by the Newburghs along with Sutton Poyntz.

THE MANOR OF SKYDMORE ^{aka} UPTON SCUDMORE, WILTSHIRE

The Manor of Skydmore seems to be one of those nebulous places for which modern historians have very little ancient history. So far published history doesn't reveal much about it except that John Newburgh Jr.'s sister Joan (daughter of the Esquire) was married to a man named Lyte aka Leigh who seems to have conferred Skydmore to her at their marriage.

HOWEVER, THERE MUST BE MORE to it . . . I've recently found two documents that cite other John Newborough(s) who were in conflict with a family named Kyrton for two centuries over Skydmore and

⁴ Sir John [Tiptoft's IPM](https://inquisitionspostmortem.ac.uk/view/inquisition/26-082/84). <https://inquisitionspostmortem.ac.uk/view/inquisition/26-082/84>

Tiptoft's IPM gives a great deal of information about the Neuburgh family. He died in the same year as Sir John Newburgh, (d. 1443) father of John Newburgh Esq.

⁵ Sir Nicholas died in 1376. British Archives, TOCKINGTON (GLOS.) BCM/A/2/45

⁶ Avice was married before her marriage to Gilbert. A moiety is a half or portion of something.

⁷ William Newburgh was the son of the Esquire via his second marriage to Alice Carent c. 1448.

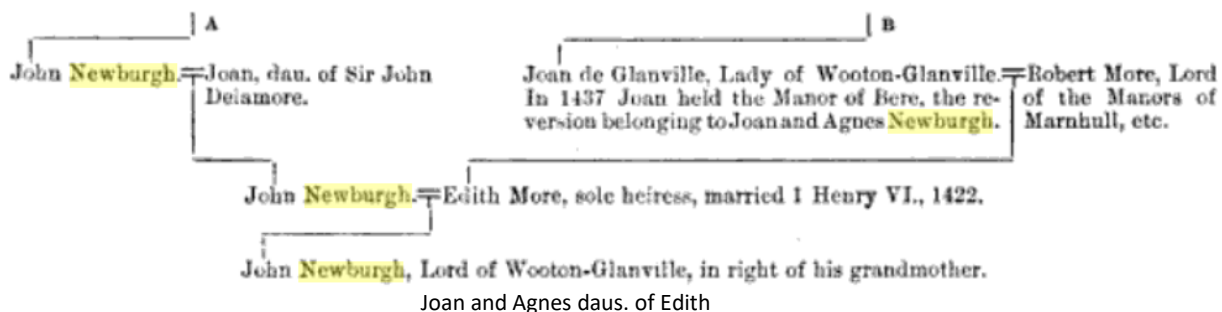
⁸ <https://inquisitionspostmortem.ac.uk/view/inquisition/26-082/84>

several other manors. In the coming months, I will acquire these and see what litigations took place.⁹

The Lyte family also held Wootton Glanville, (more modernly known as Glanville Wootton) which is about 30 miles from Skydmore in Wiltshire. Wootton Glanville was also mentioned in John Newburgh's IPM. It was held by Lyte family after it was inherited by Joan Newburgh from her grandmother Joan de Glanville. Joan and Agnes Newburgh were her heirs, daughters of Edith Attemore, *first* wife of John Newburgh Esq. (d. 1483/4). Additionally, it is documented that the Esquire and his son John Jr. were patrons of St. Mary the Virgin of Wootton Glanville and held the advowson for the church around 1461. It would appear the Esquire still had some control of the manor at his death - details are unclear.¹⁰

ANGLO-NORMAN HOUSE OF GLANVILLE.

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MORE CLUES

Toward the end of the Esquire's IPM, a lot of confusion still lingers. The language is convoluted but we are still working on what appears to be information about the Esquire's eldest sons.

In the past, I have reported the Esquire cut off his eldest son John Jr. depriving him of his primogeniture via charters in September 1471. These are mentioned in C 141/4/41 and seem to indicate that John Jr. and his brother Thomas fell into a second place position behind their deceased ?stepbrother? William and his sons.

Inheritance wise, John Jr. didn't make out as badly as previously thought, though he did not inherit the Crown Manor of East Lulworth and appendant properties. His brother Thomas was settled on the Berkeley, Somerset manor with the chance to inherit from his brother should he die before Thomas John Jr. died in 1496, but Thomas gained little from it. The IPM seems to confirm their brother Robert was dead before 1483. Yet, there are still some irreconcilable questions about . . .

WILLIAM'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE ESQUIRE and his elder sons by Edith Attemore.

HALF OR STEPBROTHER -THAT IS THE QUESTION!

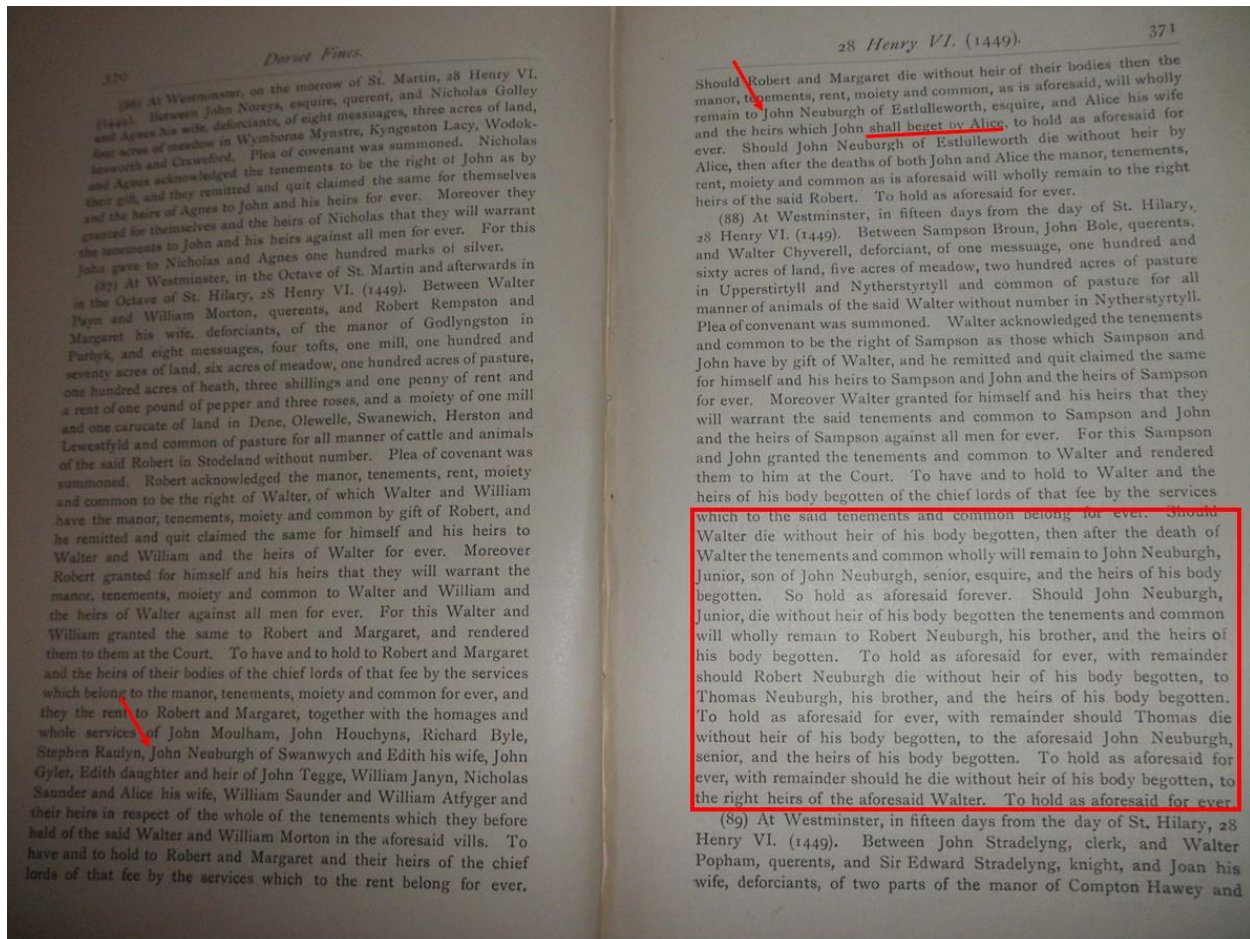
The Esquire's eldest sons were, in order of birth, **John Jr., Robert, and Thomas** born to his *first* wife

⁹ C 1/1509/28-29 <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7507370>

C1/660/47 <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7477960>

¹⁰ Glanville-Richards, Wm. Urmston Searle, *Records of the Anglo-Norman House of Glanville from A. D. 1050 to 1880*, London, 1882, p. 72-73. <http://tinyurl.com/More-Attemore>

Edith Attemore whom he married in April of 1422.¹¹ Her actual death date is unknown but was likely 1448 or before. His *second* wife was Alice Carent Westbury, a widow, whom he wed c. 1448/9.¹²



Dorset Feet of Fines, Vol. 10, 370-71

Alice was purportedly the mother of the Esquire's son William who was killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury May 4, 1471, and whose sons ULTIMATELY became the heirs to the Esquire's East Lulworth and Winfrith Newburgh estates. The Esquire's IPM (and will) discuss William's progeny who are oddly missing in any other historical accounts.

William's first son, known as **John Senior**, was said to have been 27 years of age when his grandfather the Esquire died in 1483/4. From this information, the year of his birth calculates to abt. 1446.¹³ William would have been at least fourteen years older than his son, making his (William's) birth abt. 1431 or

¹¹ There is a record showing the newlywed couple in London gathering households with Sir John Newburgh and Edith's stepmother.

¹² Dorset Feet of Fines Vol. 10, 370-71.

¹³ He died two and a half years after his grandfather 1485 of a sweating sickness. His wife died the next day. Eight years after the Esquire's death, William's wife Christian Gouvis als Smyth died in 1491 and claimed her son Roger (brother of John Sen.) was 25 years old at the time.

before.¹⁴ William is rarely discussed in any history until just before he was killed. 🙄 🙄

Historians claim William was the son of the Esquire and Alice Carent, but their marriage was new in 1449. Could it be that the Esquire sired an illegitimate son with Alice before he actually married her? Was his marriage to Edith an arranged marriage for which he was unprepared? Did he have a relationship with Alice while married to Edith? Or was William actually the son of John Westbury?

The Esquire was in his late 40's (b. 7 July 1402) when he married **Alice Carent Westbury widow of John Westbury who died in 1448**. Alice and JOHN WESTBURY purportedly DID have a son named William who apparently died under an apparent *illegal wardship* by his uncle, Nicholas Carent, dean of the Cathedral of Wells, on the eve of St. James the Apostle, 24 July 1453. His death occurred AFTER Alice's marriage to John Newburgh.¹⁵

So could the death of William Westbury have been fraudulently reported? Was he later adopted by John Newburgh? William would have been almost the same age as the Esquire's eldest son John Jr. Alice and John Newburgh had only one other child together a daughter named Isabel.¹⁶

In the Esquire's IPM we do not see any mention of his other grandsons related to his eldest son John Jr. John Jr. is mentioned in the Feet of Fines as first being married to a woman named Edith____. We know he had sons also named John and Roger, and another later marriage to Isabel Courtenay to whom he was married when he died in 1496. In 1449 John Jr. was living in Swanage near his kinsman Robert Rempston. (Feet of Fines, Vol. 10, 370 see facsimile above.)

The Feet of Fines clearly illustrate that John Newburgh Esquire, and Alice Carent Westbury's marriage happened after John Westbury died. The Fines also state at that time John Newburgh and Alice had no children. (Feet of Fines, Vol. 10, 370-371 see facsimile above).

I suppose we will never know the truth, but perhaps this was the grounds on which John Newburgh's eldest son John Jr. felt that eliminating his ?stepbrother? was justifiable. Again John Jr.'s involvement in William's death is based on other circumstantial evidence found in the historical record during the reign of Edward IV.

The above Feet of Fines boxed text in RED shows the birth order of the Edith Newburgh's boys. As for the idea of adoption, I have ordered a book about medieval adoption that may help answer this question, although having firm documentation regarding William would be much better.

The **HONOUR OF GLOUCESTER**

Other holdings mentioned in the Esquire's IPM were the Manors Sutton Poyntz and Broadway which were held of the **HONOUR OF GLOUCESTER by two knights fees**. The title of "knight" was officially written into this IPM for John Newburgh. He however, used the term Esquire in identifying his social position.

¹⁴ The legal age for marriage set by canon law was twelve for girls and fourteen for boys.

¹⁵ [Calendar of Close Rolls Vol. VI, Henry VI – 1454-1461, p. 326.]

¹⁶ Isabel was rejected by her husband and later married a Cousin John FitzJames.

A little history is in order to understand just what the Honor of Gloucester was about. Simply put, it was **a collection of not necessarily geographically contiguous land holdings belonging to the crown.**

The origins of the honour began in Saxon times. It was appropriated by Queen Matilda after the Norman Conquest. She held manors contained within the honor until her death in 1083. Her son King William II used the honour as the nucleus for an immense grant of manors which he gave to Robert FitzHamon whose daughter married Henry I's son Robert FitzHenry.

A lot of time and successive marriages between royalty carried the Honour down to Gilbert de Clare in 1307. In the later middle ages component manors of the Honour of Gloucester were held with The Honor of Clare and later transferred to the line of Elizabeth de Clare and her husband, John de Burgh.

At King Edward IV's ascension to the throne, as the lineal representative of Lionel duke of Clarence, the Honour of Clare was merged with the Honour of Gloucester's crown holdings to form the Duchy of Lancaster. What is puzzling is that by the 1483 in Newburgh's will and IPM, the honour was still termed as the Honour of Gloucester, not the Duchy of Lancaster. Edward reigned from 1461 to April 9, 1483, so the term must have squeaked in just under the wire to remain known as the Honour of Gloucester in the Esquire's IPM. The pedigree comes from Somerset History Vol. 103.

At this point it is expedient to remind the reader that the East Lulworth lands were an original **Crown Manor** given to Robert Newburgh in perpetuity 1086-1100 by Henry I. It was held *in chief* via a chamberlainship handed down to descendants of Robert Newburgh who in 1100 was Seneschal of Normandy. This legacy grant continued until the mid-17th century. East Lulworth's history is detailed in my book, the [Lost Legacy of St. Andrew's Church and Medieval Lulworth](#). Comprehensive, documented pedigrees are included in the appendices.

KNIGHTHOOD CONFIRMED ⁱⁿ IPM



One topic that has forever puzzled me is the identification of knights in the middle ages. There are very few records available to identify the thousands of individuals who served as knights. However, La Roque reported that most of the men in the Newburgh family *were* knights.¹⁷

As it turns out some changes took place around 1300 that re-defined the term knighthood. Most of us think of knights as armored fighting men in the service of the king, or in the case of Templar knights in service of the Pope and the Catholic Church to protect the Holy Land.

During the Norman period, men who served as knights were not necessarily nobility or gentry but were peasants who held an allegiance to William the Conqueror. Later, many of his trusted acolytes would become landed gentry in England. However, the Newburghs and other families were already barons in

¹⁷ La Roque, *Histoire de la Maison de Harcourt*

Normandy prior to the Conquest. As we have discussed in the past, the Newburghs were originally known as the Beaumonts and changed their name after Henry Newburgh became the first Norman Earl of Warwick.

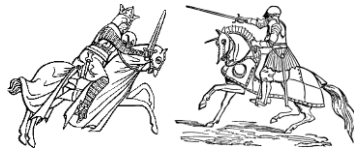
After 1300 the knight's role began shifting toward administrative duties for the king and did not always embody the traditional militaristic definition. Knights were often appointed as grand assize electors and jurors or sickness recorders.¹⁸

Being a fighting knight often required that the man's family support and fund him. Therefore, gentry tended toward the knightly class more often than those of lesser social standing. After 1300 it appears family pedigree and landed wealth made a man more eligible for knighthood than a man who had neither.

Throughout the twelfth century, knighthood in northern Europe remained more militaristic. However, in the *"later part of the century their roles too began evolving from functional to more ceremonial. For much of the twelfth century the definition of knighthood was ambiguous and contradictory."*¹⁹ It may have been customary for a new knight to achieve such status via taking up arms or being "belted." Belted knights usually went through training and an induction ritual.²⁰

In my opinion, the Newburgh's knighthood depended on each individual's desires. Some held only ministerial appointments, while others in the 15th and 16th century were noted as belted warriors. The Newburghs also participated in Parliament.

There is very little written about how most men became knights. It wasn't until the 16th century that we actually see a Newburgh knight "belted" and formally recognized in the record. Lastly, some family historians have declared the Newburghs to be minor gentry, but with what I have discovered over the past quarter century, that is definitely not the case.



¹⁸ As early as 1179, Henry II inaugurated the grand assize, which enabled certain civil cases to be settled by jury rather than by battle. All the writs issued to persons permitting them to obtain jury trial were recorded on rolls kept in the chancery.

The assizes were very closely associated with the King's Bench, employing the same judges and process, and dealing with similar cases. The assize commissions could try common pleas in the counties by a process of nisi prius, and in this role they heard primarily possessory actions touching land. They also came to hold commissions of oyer and terminer (to deal with treasons, felonies and trespasses) and cases of gaol delivery. This enabled them to hear pleas of the crown. INTERNET: <https://lawlibguides.usc.edu/c.php?g=777451&p=5590184>

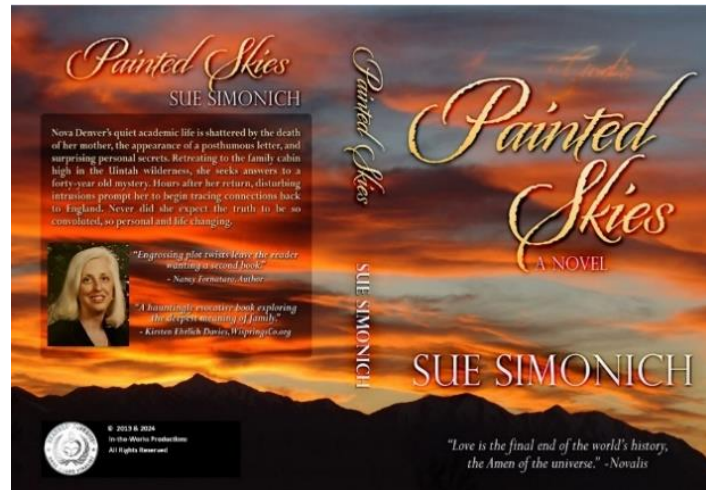
¹⁹ *The Transformation of Knighthood in Early Thirteenth-century England*, The English Historical Review (Vol. 111, issue 440), Kathryn Faulkner, Oxford University Press, 1996.

²⁰ Ibid.

INTRODUCING MY NOVEL!!!

As a writer, I have not confined myself to writing only history. In 2013 I published a novel but found advertising to be a burden and **absolutely boring**. I hoped with what little promotion I did that people would just find the book on their own. Of course that didn't happen. This last fall (2023), after talking with a friend who has published several books, I was inspired to republish and try, once again, to promote my novel titled . . .

GOD'S PAINTED SKIES



Before re-publishing I decided to give it a tune up and offer a paperback version only. In the past, I found the book had been pirated and sold by an organization in Taiwan. It is difficult to fight such copyright infringement so I unpublished the digital version. Being a huge bibliophile and rare books collector, I enjoy the feel of a solid book in my hand while turning the pages and using a traditional bookmark. Who needs *more* screen time anyway? These days, I call it “**scream time.**” 😊

Okay, here's the plot . . .

In the autumn of 1986, Nova Denver's quiet academic life was shattered by the death of her mother and news of her previous unknown adoption. In a posthumous letter penned by her mother Grace she identified Nova's biological mother as her sister Elsa Benton.

Putting her career on hold at the Museum of Natural history, Nova begins looking into Elsa's troubled past. While seeking solace and searching for answers, she retreats to the family cabin in Utah's Uintah wilderness.

An evasive stranger enters her life unbidden, putting her on edge, prompting justifiable suspicion and concern. Enlisting her aunt Rue, best friend Jake, and renowned English historian and psychic Sir Godfrey Wilton, they discover . . .

“Love is the final end of the world's history, the Amen of the Universe.”

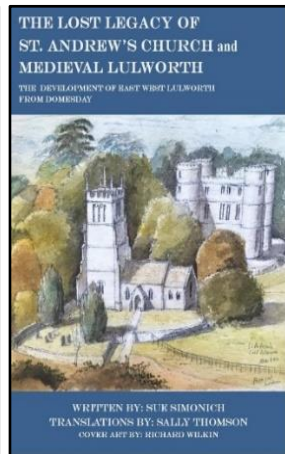
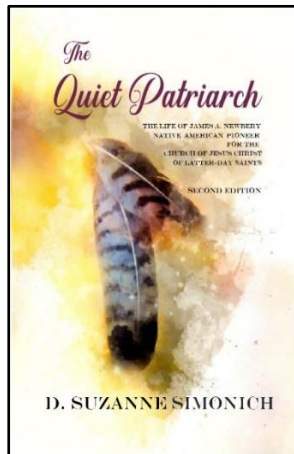
I would be thrilled if you, as part of my genealogical circle, were interested in reading my tall tale.

A little secret: Some of it is taken from actual stories I've uncovered in my family's 19th century history.

Painted Skies is a bit of genealogical mystery interspersed with human intuition. One reviewer delightfully stated the story was "hauntingly evocative." I was pleased to earn a "Reader's Choice Award" for my efforts. So please fly on over to Amazon for a peek. Here is the [preview](#) URL. If you buy and enjoy the book, please leave a review on Amazon and recommend it to others. ❤️ I am doing special pricing for this announcement at \$11.95 per copy through February.

Currently a sequel is in the works. I have been writing an adventurous plot that will take you into the mountainous areas of the American West seeking Nova's biological father. The tentative title is *Mountain Thunder*. Hope to see you on [Amazon](#)! Thanking you in advance.

GENEALOGY BOOKS



The Quiet Patriarch is now on sale at \$39.95. This 2nd edition (2022) tracks the pioneer Newberry family from New England and N.Y. to Ohio and Iowa, and on to Utah. New stories and pedigrees have been added and cited.

The Lost Legacy of Lulworth St. Andrew will take you through the medieval period of the Newburgh family, citing the development of Lulworth via the history of St. Andrew's Church. Pedigrees with collaterals cited. Visit [Amazon.com](#) for details. All proceeds go to further research.

IN CLOSING . . .

In the coming months, I hope to find more threads for Roger Newburgh of Milton Abbey that will ultimately lead us to the Stockland area. I hope to finish the Stockland study this year. I never dreamed I would be involved with this family for this long. I would like to retire knowing I finally accomplished my goals.

Thanks to Ian Newbery and Jane Newbery for recently sharing what they know with me. Both live in Australia! We are truly a world-wide, cosmopolitan family. Thanks for keeping in touch and supporting my efforts.

Until we meet again . . . Happy trails!

Sue Simonich, Newburgh research historian

[deNovoBurgoChronicles.com](#)

I recently joined Facebook. →  I also have an [indie author web site](#).