

# SWINNERTON Family History



*Bill Swinarton at Swynnerton for the Society's Gathering in 1989  
in a pose no Swinnerton visitors to Swynnerton have ever been able to resist!*

JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

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# The Swinnerton Society

A non-profit making organisation devoted to the welfare of Swynnerton Church and the research and publication of Swinnerton Family Records

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## SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

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Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton

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## Foreword – The Chairman

Firstly, I must let you know that the date of next year's Annual General Meeting has been changed to Saturday 7th June at 11 am, and will be held in the Church Hall in Swynnerton. If you attended our last AGM at Swynnerton, you were told the date would be Saturday 31st May, but at our last Council meeting, it was thought that this was not a very convenient date, and it was agreed to change it to the 7th June. So please make sure you have the correct date, and place, in your diary.

At the same Council meeting it was agreed that the Society should pay for the cost of making and installing the aumbry in St. Mary's Church now, rather than waiting for all the contributions to come in. The aumbry has already been installed, and a service of dedication held. Your council inspected it, and were very pleased by the craftsmanship. A cheque for £851.88 was sent to the church Treasurer who has thanked the Society for their generosity.

Science and family history do not seem, at first, to have much in common. The popular view of family history was, for years, that of people searching through dusty parish records in search of their ancestors. Today, genealogy is one of the most common reasons for computers being used, either researching through web-sites, or recording family trees, as does the Swinnerton Society. But now, another scientific breakthrough is helping family history - DNA technology. The Y chromosome, held only by men, has a 10 digit code which is passed down, unchanged, from father to son, rather like the surname. Now, if there are two men who believe they have a common ancestor, a DNA test can prove or disprove it. But this can only be done if the code of both men is known. Today, an Oxford firm will do this test, taking a swab from the cheek of the man, then processing it, and finally coming up with the 10 figure digit. Soon it will be possible to use a web-site that is now being set up to enter your surname and 10 digit code, and search for matches. I believe we may soon know if Swinnertons are descended from Viking invaders by comparing our DNA with that of Norwegians living today. (For more information, see the Oct-Dec issue of the Journal of One-Name Studies)

This issue of the Journal has been compiled as a tribute to the late Bill Swinarton of Canada in appreciation of the tremendous contribution he made to the Society.

## SWINNERTONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Canadian-American Supplement to the Journal of the Swinnerton Society, Volume 4, Number 9, December 1981.

(Beginning with this issue North American members of the Society will receive the Supplement in addition to the Journal. Your contribution of materials for inclusion in future issues are most welcome. Corrections, suggestions and comments in general are invited.)

This first edition will be sent to many non-members with the sincere hope that it will encourage them to join with us and add to our knowledge of Swinnerton families past and present. We do have an enormous amount of information on many of the family branches arriving in North America over a 350 year period. Iain Swinnerton of England, our chief family historian, has 900 years of records. But, as you will see, we do not have all of the answers. We do need your help. At the same time some may be quite surprised to see the amount of history known about your early family. Perhaps a few explanations are in order.

The Journal of the Swinnerton Society is a quarterly publication sent to members. Generally 20 pages of family history both past and present, with emphasis on the past. It is compiled by Lt. Col. Iain Swinnerton,

Iain began Vol. 1, No. 1 in May of 1974 and to date nearly 300 pages have been printed. Back copies are available from Iain.

A Brief History of the Society. Research into the family history was started in the 1870's by the Reverend Charles Swinnerton MA. FSA. Over the course of the years he wrote a number of articles and papers about the family and gathered together many Swinnertons from all over the world. His principal work was "A History of the Family of Swinnerton" (jointly with the Rev. & Hon. Canon Bridgman) and published as part II of Vol. VII of the "Collections for a History of Staffordshire" by the William Salt Archaeological Society. Interest in the family history became dormant after his death in 1928 until revived by the present Secretary in 1952. The Society was revived in 1969 and to-day has a world-wide membership.

Variations of the name. Although historical records in Canada and the U.S.A. indicate many spellings we do know that present day variations are Swynnerton, Swinnerton, Swinerton, Swenerton, Swenarton, Swinarton and Swinington. Don't be confused by seeing two or more spellings in some branches. They do connect and future issues of the Supplement will try to give you an idea when they took place although, in some cases, the reasons do

escape us. The Supplement, when making a general reference, will use Swinnerton. Specific references will use the actual spelling as found in the records or as presently used.

Our North American Members. With each edition of the Journal we find names of new members. As of this moment we have 40 from the U.S.A. and Canada, representing about 25% of the world-wide membership. From past issues we see brief biographies being published as space permits. It may interest you to know just how some of our members group together in branches.

Early American Branch: Margaret (Swinerton) Perkins, Richard Swinerton, Richard de Swynnerton, Fred Swinnerton, John H. Swinnerton, Ruth Swinerton (wife of Ernest Swinerton), Priscilla Fuller (granddaughter of Emma Jane Swinerton), Jane (Swinerton) Ophuls, and Dr. E. Nelson Swinerton of the University of Wisconsin. This branch dates at Salem, Mass. from about 1628 with the arrival of Job Swinnerton from Taunton, Somersetshire. The family of our member Mabel (Swinerton) Eller has not been connected yet but it is possible that we shall find a tie in with this branch once we can get beyond her grandfather, Algernon Southworth Swinerton, who married Catherine Grey. Mrs. Eller's father was Fred Wilkerson Swinerton born in 1867 at Corry, Pennsylvania and died in 1959 at Reno, Nevada. An uncle was Ralph Swinerton, a retired policeman who died about 1922-23 at Akron, Ohio. Two aunts were Daisy and Frances. Can anyone help?

Irish-American Branch: James Swenarton and Fred Lincks (son of Grace Emma Swenarton) are descendants of John Swenarton arriving about 1810 from Co. Tyrone, Ireland and settling in New York City. Information contained in a letter of 1869 from Ireland has allowed us to compile a tree taking this branch back to the mid 1700's on Ireland. We have been able to tie in with an existing Irish branch and as well, two brothers who would come to Canada about 1885.

Irish-Canadian Branch (1): Edythe Seeley (great-granddaughter of Mary Ellen Swinerton), John, William, Carole, Kelly, Laurie, Lindsay and Alexis Swinerton, Arthur and Gordon Swenerton. To our knowledge this was the earliest family of Swinnerton to settle in Canada. Probably beginning with Joseph (Swenarton, Swinarton, Swenerton) arriving from Co. Down, Ireland about 1831 and purchasing property that year in Albion Township, Peel County, Ontario. The first of at least three branches from Ireland.

Swinnerton of Gloucestershire: Diana Cunningham, Philip Swinnerton Lum, Susan Hammen and Charles Felix. Arriving about 1833 and settling at Newark, N.J. The earliest appears to be Samuel Swinnerton along with sons George and James. Our members all descend from James through his son, the Rev. Henry Ulyate Swinnerton, who was one of the early family historians and he would take an interest in many of the American branches. Diana has many of Henry's records and some of these have helped immensely.

Swinnerton of India: The September 1981 issue of the Journal has shown a breakthrough in the early family of our member Aylmer Swinnerton. He arrived in Canada about May of 1911 along with his father, Robert William, brother Aysceau, and sister Thurza.

Joan Hodgden's connection, through her husband, has been described in Vol. 4, page 82 of the Journal and dates back to the 1400's when Hellina or Elena Swynnerton married Humphrey Peshall. It may interest all to know the Gretchen Swinnerton, wife of the late artist-cartoonist James Guilford (Jimmy) Swinnerton, is a descendant of this same family. Jimmy was a descendant of the Early American Branch.

Robert Swinnerton of Corning, N.Y. descends from a Liverpool branch and Iain Swinnerton has had success in locating early information about this family that came to settle at Princeton, N.J. in the 1930's.

Swinnerton of Adbaston: H. Norman Swinnerton is a member of this well documented branch. Vol. 2, page 9 of the Journal made mention of Norman's appointment as the Society's American Vice-President in 1976.

Swinnerton of Chester: Dr. Guy S. Swinnerton of the University of Alberta. Vol. 1, page 26 of the Journal displayed the tree of this branch.

Swinnerton of Yorkshire: Marjorie Culley and son Philip are descendants of Mary Swinnerton, a 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandmother, who married in 1736.

Swinnerton of Betley: Probably the largest branch so far documented by the Society and Iain has been publishing the information in the Journal. Offshoots of this branch have been arriving in North America over the last 100 years. Our members: Douglas Swinnerton, Stephen Saunders (son of Mary Elizabeth Swinnerton), Donovan Swinnerton, Hazel Jones (granddaughter of Jane Swinnerton), Margaret Stiell and Lelia Morey (granddaughters of Hannah Swinnerton), and Michael Swinnerton.

For the benefit of non-members, an explanation. The references to Liverpool, Gloucestershire, Adbaston, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Betley are locales in England where the branches originate as determined by Iain Swinnerton.

Quite a representation of branches and you can see that it is not necessary to have a Swinnerton name to be interested in the family history. Two members in particular are interested in their husband's connections. All are welcome and indeed are most important as members of the Swinnerton Family History Society.

A Family gathering in Illinois for 1982? It is expected that the December issue of the Journal will contain some mention of the great success of the 1981 Family Gathering at the ancestral village of Swynnerton, Staffordshire. Five families from the U.S.A. and Canada were at the large turnout and no doubt all will agree that it was a great event thanks to Iain and those who aided him. The next is scheduled for Sept. 24, 1983. Try to make it. In the meantime, how about 1982? Our member Fred Swinnerton,

has suggested a Gathering for North America, if enough interest can be aroused. Depending on numbers attending it will be held at Dixon, about 100 miles west of Chicago, or at Chicago itself. Probably a two day weekend event to be held in July or August. Fred is open to date suggestions, but try to be flexible. A chance to renew old memories with cousins and a great opportunity to meet other Swinnerton descendants from across the continent. Please take time to consider this, perhaps historical, American Gathering and send your comments to Fred soon. There will be a need for some advance planning. More about it in the next issue of the Supplement, due in March. Hope to see many of you there.

Swinnertons of Illinois. Being central to North America Illinois is a practical location to have the first of what we hope will be many such Gatherings. The State does have significance in the history of the Swinnertons.

Some few years ago Mr. William Arthur Swinnerton, brother to our member Jane Ophuls, suggested a cousin as the best source of information about their early family. In reply to an inquiry Mrs. Adrienne Clark of San Francisco wrote on June 5, 1977, "The only knowledge that I have of that side of the family is thru the family Bible. The only record that I have is that my grandmother, Emma Bingham Swinerton was born in Peoria, Illinois on October 16, 1849, married my grandfather Henry Andrew Hedger and died in San Francisco on November 13, 1907."

In November, 1977 a reply from Jo Ann Ingram, Deputy County Clerk for the County of Peoria. "I have searched for the Birth record of Emma Bingham Swinerton but was unable to locate such a document. We do have a few recorded prior to 1877, but Emma's was not among them. However, in the marriage indexes I have found three males listed in the indexes ranging from 1825 thru 1875." (Note: These have yet to be obtained)

Some time passed and in 1979 a copy of the 1850 Census for Peoria County, Illinois was located. It contained the needed information about Emma.

Name	Age/Sex	Occupation	Birthplace
Wm. R. Swinnerton	40m	boatm	Oh
Laura A.	36f		Ct
Amanda	17f		Il
Ruth A.	11f		Il
Albert Adams	9m		Il
Melissa Swinnerton	7f		Il
Ellen	4f		Il
Emma	7/12f		Il

Our member Diana Cunningham has supplied several valuable pieces from the collection of her great-grandfather, the Rev. Henry Ulyate Swinnerton. One was a copy of a calling card of "Wm. R. Swinnerton, Peoria, Ills." Penned on the card is "Mrs. Alonzo V. Richards, formerly Miss Swinnerton, Galena, Ill., sister to Wm. R. Swinnerton". Also the name of Dr. Aug. Campbell of Galena has been noted on the card but as of this moment that name means nothing to the Swinnerton history. Diana wrote, "The calling card of Mr. Wm. R. Swinnerton is I think Mr. William Rufus Swinnerton of Sacramento City, Cal. and also of Peoria, Ill. This man visited George Swinnerton in Urbana, Ohio on March 13, 1868. (George was Henry U. Swinnerton's uncle) This William R. Swinnerton was then a man of about 50 and he visited the family bringing documents concerning the Swinnerton Estate. He claimed descent from Job and Timothy and convinced the Ohio branch of the family that he had "a claim" on the Swinnerton Park Estate. Letters flew fast between Urbana, Ohio and Cherry Valley (New York) where the Rev. Henry remained skeptical. Also at about the same time (the 1860's) someone advertised in various newspapers around the U.S. for members of the Swinnerton family. Have you come across anything about this William Rufus Swinnerton or his descendants?" Of course the answer to Diana's question was yes.

Another equally interesting piece supplied by Diana was a letter to the Rev. H.U. Swinnerton, Cherry Valley, N.Y. Written on the letterhead of the Huber

Manufacturing Co., Marion, Ohio and dated 2/17 1880. "Rev. Sir, Your letter of 12<sup>th</sup> ult. was duly rec'd and noted. Have delayed answering until I could get a letter from my sister and cousin. Mr. Wm. R. Swinnerton of Peoria, Ills. was a cousin of mine. My grandfather is as far back as I can give any account of. His name was James Swinnerton born Aug 13<sup>th</sup> 1757 in Salem Village, County of Suffolk, Mass. He was married to Eleanor Guilford in Pittsfield, Mass., Berkshire County. They afterwards lived in Rutland, Vt. and after in Whitehall, N.Y. on the banks of Paradox lake. Grandfather's brother & he married sisters. Wm. R. Swinnerton has two brothers James & Henry both of whom are living. Jas in Cal. & Henry in Ills. Am very much interested in the genealogy of the name and should be very pleased to hear further from you. We have a picture of a family crest but my sister has it and cannot tell me what it is like. I have never lost any sleep from anticipating any fabulous sums of money from England. Yet there are very strange things happening every day with the land troubles they are having there might be some hopes provided there was money enough spent to cover the proceeds. Hoping to hear from you soon. I remain, Yours respectfully, James Swinnerton".

All of this then tells us that descendants of the Early American Branch lived in Illinois from at least 1833 until 1880. Jane Ophuls and her brother Wm. A. Swinerton should be found to be descendants of William Rufus Swinnerton. We need one more link, the name of their great grandfather.

Another family known to have been in Illinois comes from the first Irish-Canadian Branch. James Herbert Swinarton, the eldest surviving son of Thomas and Eliza (Parker) Swinarton has been thought to be born about 1848-49 at Columbia, Ontario (now known as Coventry). There is a record in the possession of descendants that indicates James was born March 31, 1849 at New York City. If this in fact true then one can only speculate on the reason why Eliza, at least, was in New York at the time. But all were in Canada in 1861 as shown by census records. The last record we have of James in Canada is found in the 1868-69 City of Toronto Directory when he worked for Wm. Rowland & Co., produce and commission merchants. James probably married Annie Ennis Blackman in Toronto and moved to Chicago where they would have one son, William Henry, born April 29, 1876. An old photograph exists showing William on a bicycle and the notation "On a century run-Chicago 1894". William married Louise Adrian Ludwig about 1900. The whole family must have moved from Chicago about this time and William and Louise would have two sons, William Henry Jr. and Herbert Lincoln, born in the New York City area. William Sr. died Jan. 1, 1903 just a few weeks before the birth of his second son. James Herbert Swinarton died July 8, 1910 at Staten Island. The widows, along with the boys, moved back to Chicago at

some time and we find that Anna E. (Blackman) Swinarton died there July 18, 1918. Louise A. (Ludwig) Swinarton died at New York on Sept. 26, 1923. James, Anna, William and Louise are all buried at the Moravian Cemetery, Staten Island. Thanks go to Wm. H. Swinarton, his wife Gladys and their daughter Betty Lou Riggs along with her family, all of Swansboro, N.C., for all their interest, information and most especially the hospitality shown in our brief visits.

One more Illinois reference and this has to come under "unknown connections" for the time being. "The Journal of Proceedings and Addresses of the National Educational Association, Session of the Year 1884, at Madison, Wisconsin and published by the Association at Boston 1885" and we find the following entry. "Annual Memberships for the year ending July 1, 1885, Illinois, page 39—Swinerton, Carrie P., 754 Gordon St., Chicago". Can anyone tell us who Carrie was and how she may fit into the family?

So, as was earlier stated, Illinois does have Swinnerton history. It is not complete but we have some idea of who and when. What can our readers add? At the same time records indicate Swinnertons have been or presently are living in 7 Canadian Provinces and at least 30 States plus D.C.

Books and Poetry. The British Humanities Index-1976 listed the name of E. Nelson Swinerton as joint author of a book dealing with the Ugandan Asian crisis of 1972 when President Idi Amin ordered the expulsion of Asians on Aug. 4 that year. Within a very short time Mr. Swinerton and his co-authors, William G. Kuepper and G. Lynne Lackey, went to England and conducted research during 1972 and early 1973. They personally observed the reception and relocation of Ugandan Asians in Great Britain. Dr. Swinerton is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin and has recently become a member of the Swinnerton Society. He sent along a copy of the book, "Ugandan Asians in Great Britain-1975" and I thank Dr. Swinerton for the very kind inscription.

Another family author was the Rev. Henry Ulyate Swinnerton. He wrote "An Historical Account of the Presbyterian Church at Cherry Valley, N.Y." in 1876 and "The Story of Cherry Valley" about 1906. More about Henry and his branch in future Supplements and there is a great deal to be told.

"Under a spreading chestnut-tree The village smithy stands; The smith, a mighty man is he, With large and sinewy hands; And the muscles of his brawny arms Are strong as iron bands". Who among us has never heard these words from The Village Blacksmith by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow,

American poet? "The Shell Guide to England" indicates that Longfellow used the village of Swynnerton for this famous poem. Some of us attending the recent Gathering did see a chestnut tree standing in front of what Arthur Swenerton determined to be the former village blacksmith shop. Thanks to my mother, Eva M. (Robin) Swinarton, for discovering the reference.

Richard de Swynnerton has been a great source of information, more of which will be seen in future editions. He discovered the reference to Dr. John Swinnerton in the House of Seven Gables by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Richard has now sent a copy of The Dolliver Romance by Hawthorne and no less than 15 references are found to Dr. John Swinnerton (1633-1691) of the Early American Branch.

This supplement is compiled by Wm. Robin (Bill) Swinarton, [redacted] Copies of this and future editions are available to all interested descendants. Your requests are welcome as is your help in supplying information and family details.

### JOHN ALBERT SWINARTON & FAMILY

At the age of nineteen John Swinarton, later to be known as Jack, left Bolton, the place of his birth, to seek work and adventure in the developing frontier of Western Canada. He rode the rails to the end of steel and for two years he worked on the construction crew of the C. P. R. A bout of rheumatic fever forced him into hospital at Fort Macleod and on recovery he went to work at the old Macleod House. Here his interest in the hotel business was aroused. When the Cranbrook Hotel in British Columbia was opened, Jack left Fort Macleod and worked there until 1905. In 1902 he married Margaret Kennedy, a school-day sweetheart. From Cranbrook Margaret and Jack and their first daughter, Wilma, lived and worked in Moyie, B. C.

In 1906 and in partnership with two friends, Jack Swinarton built the Empire Hotel in Fort Macleod and it was there that the Swinarton family continued to live. Both Jack and Margaret contributed to the community life of their chosen home town. Jack was a member of the town council for several years and was Mayor for two years. His interest in hockey led him to chair the committee to build the present arena. He was Chairman of the Hospital Board for twenty-one years. He remained active in the hotel business until his death in 1943. Margaret Swinarton did her share of community work in church groups, hospital aid, Red Cross and Broomball – a game played first

on ice, then badminton and now a flourishing bridge club – still going strong after fifty years. Since Jack was a Mason, Margaret became a charter member of the Eastern Star and filled many of the offices including Matron and Grand Martha in the Provincial Chapter. Jack was also a Shriner.

The Swinarton Hotels Company continued in the hands of Albert, the older son, after the death of Jack. He was later joined by Cordell and together they operated the business until it was sold in 1976. For sixty-nine years the hotels in Fort Macleod were operated by the Swinartons, father and sons. This is believed to be a record in Canada for hotels to be operated by the one family.

Both Albert and Cordell have been active in other affairs in Fort Macleod and in the province. Albert was a Director of the Alberta Hotelmen's Associated, as was his father, and served as President of this organisation as well as President of the Canadian Hotelmen's Association. During his term as president, the Alberta Hotelmen's Scholarship Fund was set up which has provided funds for hundreds of Alberta students to pursue their careers at University. His interest in community affairs found him as a member or chairman of many different local endeavours, and his business interests resulted in directorships of several different companies.

Cordell served five years overseas in the second World War. On return he tried his hand at different businesses but finally returned to the family hotel business on Fort Macleod. Both Swinarton boys, like their father, earned an enviable reputation in the fine hotels they operated and the service which was given to their customers. Cordell branched out into the real estate business in Fort Macleod, built and operated apartment buildings and in many areas contributed to the growth and prosperity of Fort Macleod.

Wilma, first daughter of Jack and Margaret, was born in Cranbrook, B. C. Margaret, second daughter, was born in Fort Macleod. Both girls received all their public school education in Fort Macleod and went to the University of Alberta. Margaret worked in Calgary before her marriage to Gordon Cooper. While she raised a family of two, she also continued to work at many different jobs along with her husband wherever they happened to be living. Wilma married too, raised a family of two, but concentrated her activities in volunteer organisations, sometimes in the field of family service, but mostly in the field of education. For this volunteer work, Wilma was awarded a Doctorate degree from the University of Calgary in 1969. Her mother, Margaret Swinarton, then 91 was present at the convocation ceremonies and was recognised by the Chancellor. Wilma was elected to the Calgary School Board and continued

the family tradition of service in elected office that had been started by her father in Fort Macleod.

Perhaps the qualities of character of both Margaret and Jack Swinerton worth recording was their interest in their chosen home town, their concern for others, and their ability to work hard in any endeavour, private or public, to which they set their minds and energies. Their faith in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church led them to donate the big timbers from the Empire Hotel after it was demolished and much of the construction cost to the new church which opened in 1944. Unhappily, Jack died in October 1943 and did not see the final fulfilment of his act of faith in the church of his choice. A table to his memory is displayed in the church and Albert, the elder son, continues the Swinerton tradition of active membership on the Board. Margaret died in 1971 at the age of 93, physically active and mentally alert to the end.

Written by Wilma Kathleen Swinerton (Mrs. D. A. Hansen)

#### DR. JOHN SWINERTON.

Another Salem physician who was perhaps more intimately connected with Danvers than the others mentioned was Dr. John Swinerton. He was son of the emigrant Job Swinerton, and a brother of Job, who lived on the present Garden street, near the little cemetery, through whom the Danvers family of that name is descended. He was practicing early in Salem. Through his marriage on March 8, 1679-80, with Hannah (Bartholomew) Brown, born in February, 1642-3, the daughter of Henry Bartholomew and at this time the widow of James Brown, he had still further Danvers connections, for Bartholomew was early in possession of considerable land on the easterly side of Nichols street. By her first husband she had six children, the eldest fifteen at the time of her marriage with Dr. Swinerton, and by the latter she had three, Mercy, John and Antipas. Her first husband, James Brown, was the son of Elder John Brown and was a merchant. He was murdered in Maryland, Nov, 12, 1675, leaving his widow a house situated at the present western corner of Union and Essex streets. Dr. Swinerton died Jan 6., 1691, aged fifty-seven years. His will dated Nov. 22, 1688 was proved April 29, 1691. He made provision for his wife and children, Mercy and John, and stipulated that if John wished to follow his father's calling all his books and manuscripts should be kept for him and that "he be brought up to learning if it be thought suitable for him, but at least that he be perfect in ye Latin Tongue." He also generously provided for his wife's children. His son John evidently did not incline to the study of medicine, as he is mentioned some years later as a cooper, but the profession was duly represented by his wife's son,

Bartholomew Brown, to whom probably descended the books and manuscripts mentioned in his will. His widow, Hannah, died Dec. 23, 1713.

There seems to be a question as to the house in which Dr. Swinerton dispensed drugs and practiced "physic." Dr. Bentley, in his diary, asserts that he lived in his wife's house on Essex street to which reference has already been made. He says that Dr. Swinerton's house was where Dr. Holyoke boarded when he first came to Salem in 1749; that when the house was torn down in 1808, a John Brinsley's Latin grammar (1611) with John Swinerton's name (1652), was found in the ceiling; and that Abraham Watson, whose wife was a descendant of the Brownes, was the last owner; and that he (Watson) had the arms of the Swinerton family in his own house. This house which was valued at £200 in 1676, was conveyed on April 29, 1706, by the widow Hannah Swinerton to Capt. William Pickering in consideration of his providing for her during the remainder of her life. The house next adjoining at the corner of Walnut and Essex streets descended from Elder John Browne to Dr. Swinerton's stepson, Bartholomew Browne, and is where the latter practiced his profession.

Charles W. Upham, the witchcraft historian, places Dr. Swinerton's residence in a house which stood at the corner of Washington and Church streets, as a tenant of Bridget Oliver. This house was sold by Benjamin Ropes, who purchased it in 1694 of Job Hilliard, to Nathaniel Ropes, in 1716, when it was described as "now in possession of Mr. John Swinerton." As the Doctor died in 1691, it would seem to be his son John who occupied this place as late as 1716.

The Swinerton family were united in opposition to witchcraft and were firm supporters of Rebecca Nurse.

Dr. Holmes says: "The miserable delusion of witchcraft illustrates, in a still more impressive way, the false ideas which governed the supposed relation of men with the spiritual world. I have no doubt many physicians shared in these superstitions. Mr. Upham says they - that is, some of them - were in the habit of attributing their want of success to the fact that an 'evil hand' was on their patient. The temptation was strong, no doubt, when magistrates and ministers and all that followed in their lead were contented with such an explanation. But how was it in Salem, according to Mr. Upham's own statement? Dr. John Swinerton, was, as he says, for many years the principal physician of Salem. And he says, also 'The Swinerton family were all along opposed to Mr. Parris, and kept remarkably clear from the witchcraft delusion.' Dr. Swinerton died the very year before the great witchcraft explosion took place. But who can doubt that it was from him that the family had learned to despise and to resist the base superstition; or that Bridget Bishop, whose house he rented, as Mr. Upham tells me, the first person hanged in the time of the delusion, would have found an efficient

protector in her tenant, had he been living, to head the opposition of his family to the misguided clergymen and magistrates?"

Hawthorne has immortalized Dr. Swinerton in his "American Notes," "The House of Seven Gables," and "The Dolliver Romance." Dr. Swinerton and his wife were buried in the Charter Street Cemetery, where the following inscriptions are plainly legible today:

HERE LYETH BURIED  
YE BODY OF JOHN  
SWINNERTON PHISIAN  
DECEASD Ye 6 OF  
JANUR J690 IN Ye 58  
YEARE OF HIS AGE

HERE LYES Ye BODY  
OF HANNAH SWINNERTON  
WIDDO OF DOCTOR  
JOHN SWINNERTON  
AGED 71 YEARS  
DIED DECEMBER  
23d 1713



Your editor at John Swinerton's grave, Salem 1999

## COMPUTERS and the INTERNET

Bill Swinerton was an early convert to computers and an assiduous searcher of the internet. Here are some examples of the many miscellaneous references to the family that he dug out.

### Newspaper Search Results

Name: Swenerton, B., Mr.

Type: Death notice

Issue: Acton Free Press, 11 Jan 1923, page 1, column 7

\*\*Tuesday, August 5, 1997, visited the Acton, Ontario Public Library. They have the Acton Free Press (out of business) on microfiche. Here's what was said for the issue of Thursday morning, January 11, 1923:

"Mr. B. Swenerton, who was a brother-in-law of the late Zalman Hall and John Secord, died at his home at Los Angeles, Cal., on Christmas morning. He had not been well for about a year."

\* \* \* \* \*

<http://www.per.ualberta.ca/FPER/staff/gswinnerton.html>

### Guy S. Swinnerton

Professor, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation.

Teaching and research areas: Parks and conservation; planning and management of outdoor recreation environments, protected areas and heritage resources; protected areas and sustainable tourism; nature conservation and outdoor recreation on private land.<P>

BA (Honours) Geography. London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, England.

MA Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

PhD Land Use Studies, Wye College, University of London, England.

### Publications:

Swinerton, G.S., & Hinch, T.D. (1994). 'Sustainable rural tourism: Principles and practices'. *Trends*, 31(1), 4-8.

Swinerton, G.S. (1995). 'Nature conservation in national parks in England and Wales'.

In T.B. Herman, S. Bondrup-Nielsen, J.H. M. Wilson, & W.P. Munro (Eds.), *Ecosystem monitoring and protected areas* (pp. 148-153). Wolfville: Science and Management of Protected Areas Association.

#### Other information:

In addition to his academic interest in protected areas and outdoor recreation, Guy Swinnerton has served as an advisor and consultant to a number of provincial and federal departments on matters dealing with parks policy, planning and management, conservation and outdoor recreation, and integrated resource planning. He is member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Association for Leisure Studies.

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#### Results of May 4th Show at Eastwood

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Here is a list of the results from the May 4th show at Eastwood.

#### LONDON DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Eastwood Equestrian, London. May 4th, 1997

PRIMARY JR. PRE-BASIC JUDGE: Nancy Swinarton

PRIMARY JR. BASIC 2 JUDGE: Nancy Swinarton

PRIMARY SR. PRE-BASIC JUDGE: Nancy Swinarton

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Last Updated June 19, 1997 by Adrienne Johnston

\* \* \* \* \*

History of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.  
Chairmen of the NASD Board of Governors: 1939-1997

1976 Robert W. Swinarton Dean Witter & Company, Inc. New York, NY  
University of California books/pamphlets in their library.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid

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Name: SWINNERTON, Thomas  
Cemetery: Ebenezer United  
County: Peel  
Township: Toronto Gore  
Reference: HP-TG1

#### What's New at Veber Partners?

Westwood Construction Company, a full service commercial building contractor

serving Oregon and southern Washington has been sold to Swinerton Incorporated, a large San Francisco based commercial and industrial construction company. Westwood has been managed by the same team for over 38 years, led by President and Owner, Ted Millar. Veber Partners, Gayle Veber and Rodger Adams acted as the exclusive financial advisors to Westwood in connection with the sale.

Swinerton, Inc. has a strong interest in entering into the Portland construction market due to the area's high growth, and potential for construction activity. Current Westwood projects include the Fugimi Plant, Metropolitan Medical Clinic in Tualatin, and Legacy Health System Medical Clinic on Hall Road in Beaverton. Over the years, Westwood has specialized in commercial, retail, healthcare, and high-tech construction. Steady repeat customers include Fred Meyer, Albertson's, Legacy Health Systems, Toys R Us and Payless Drug.

Swinerton, Inc. is pleased to have acquired Westwood, a construction leader in the Portland area. Westwood and Ted Millar are just as pleased to be acquired by a capable and reputable company like Swinerton, Inc. Swinerton had reported revenues exceeding \$400 million in 1995. Ted Millar will remain President and CEO of the new company. The new company will be called Westwood Swinerton Construction.

\* \* \* \* \*

<http://www.infonex.com/~pba/catalogs/curcat109-5.html>

308. Volkmann, Daniel G. Memories of a Fishing Journey to New Zealand Made in 1950 by Dean and Helen Witter, Alfred and Jane Swinnerton, Dan and Beatrice Volkmann, as narrated in letters to family and friends. Folding frontis. map. Flexible marbled boards, paper cover label, glassine. 1 of 100 copies printed by the Westgate Press. First Edition. San Francisco: Privately Printed, 1950. Fine. (70/100).

(Bill's note: Likely should be Swinerton. Alfred was of the firm of Swinerton & Walberg of San Francisco, Jane was his wife.)

\* \* \* \* \*

<http://www.futureone.com/~5quail/prints.html>

Swinnerton, Jimmy. CANYON KIDDIES and/or KIDDIES OF THE CANYON COUNTRY. Original full-page in color removed from Good Housekeeping magazines 1920-30s. Very Good. Ask about selection. . . . . Each \$12

## *The Swynnerton Steeplechase*

I was born in Stoke on Trent not so many miles from Swynnerton, a small village which I first encountered whilst riding with our local cycling club at the age of fourteen. It was 1939, war had just been declared and the only significant thing there at that time to me was the huge ordnance factory being constructed not far away on what seemed to be a sea of mud.

In the ensuing years I learned more about this part of Staffordshire and the adjoining counties on my regular rides whenever I had the opportunity. Much later in life I was introduced to the Swinnerton Society: I started to attend the Gatherings and read the Journal and things began to take on a different aspect. I had no idea that my family name was so steeped in the history of many of the places that I had hitherto regarded as (just) a wonderful part of the countryside to ride a bike.

That however was only the beginning. At one of the Gatherings it was announced that the Revd. Brian Swynnerton was hosting a coach tour of the interesting places connected with the Swinnerton family which he called *The Swynnerton Steeplechase* to which my wife and I eagerly signed up. The result was an enthralling day visiting many places which we knew so well, but in actual fact did not know at all!

Brian is an absolute mine of information, his vast knowledge of this subject is unbelievable and when he consented to have his notes published and Iain undertook the task I was more than delighted. The booklet they have produced is excellent and is arranged in such a way that the various routes can be followed (sketch maps are included) individually or collectively depending on the time available, and if I am any judge you will make more time to study the family history in greater depth as the stories and routes unfold.

This publication is a "must have", it will have an attraction not only to members of the family but to all who are interested in the history of this area of Staffordshire and South Cheshire, and something that makes it all the more desirable is that following Brian through such pretty countryside is in itself a pleasure. *The Swynnerton Steeplechase* must be the bargain of the century.

*Roy Swinnerton*

The book costs £1.30 including post and packing in the UK and would make an ideal Christmas stocking present. You can add it on to your membership renewal as per the enclosed form. Overseas Members in the USA, Canada and Australia can order it from their local secretary and it will be sent with the next Journal to save heavy postage costs. Please add the appropriate amount to your membership renewal fee.

## St.Mary's Church, Swynnerton.

Our secretary has received the following letter from the Treasurer of Swynnerton Church.

11 November 2002

Dear Elizabeth

*I have, this morning, received the Swinnerton Society's very generous gift of £851.88 to cover the cost of the aumbry in St.Mary's Church. I will pass on the news of this gift to our PCC members when we meet next week. Meanwhile, please accept my thanks on their behalf.*

*I am sure that you and the Society will be pleased to know that the aumbry is already in use and that its use has made it possible for several people to receive home communion, or sick communion, during the recent temporary absence of the Barry (the Rector the Revd. Barry Brewer) on holiday. I am sure that it will help considerably in ministry in the Parish of Swynnerton in the future.*

*I would be grateful if you would pass on my thanks to the Society and I am sure that the PCC will write to you in the near future expressing its thanks.*

*Yours sincerely*

*David Butler*

## Membership

Our numbers are dropping steadily – partly due to the deaths of some of our older members but also due to the fact that many, over the years, have simply not bothered to renew their membership for one reason or another despite having had several reminders. Our numbers currently stand at 134, a far cry from our peak of 187. So – we are having a bit of a recruiting drive. Kerry Swinnerton of Australia, wife of our member Dennis, very kindly gave us a copy of the Australian phone directory CD Rom. There were 69 Swinnertons excluding those already in the society. Unfortunately, there was no facility for printing them out so I had to copy out the names and addresses by hand. I then typed them into a database. From that, I was able to produce a set of mailing labels which I sent to our Australian secretary, Glenda. I also sent the master copy of a revised and updated version of our publicity leaflet which had been prepared with the help of our Treasurer-to-be, Alan Jones. Bob and Diana Cunningham are carrying out a similar drive in America. Can you help? Can you enlist any more members of your family to support us or persuade any of those who have dropped by the wayside to rejoin?

We do need continuous on-going support if we are to carry out our twin objects of recording the family's history and supporting our church.

## FAMILY NOTES

Welcome to a new member, Mrs Christine Dunmore of [redacted] Christine is the daughter of Mrs Rosalie Price (née Swinnerton) of the Adbaston Branch who we welcome back into membership after some years.

We also welcome back Neill Swinnerton of Llingithlow, a member of the Wrexham Branch and his wife Dr Briony Williams.

Sadly we have to record the death, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April this year, of Neil's aunt, Mrs Florence Wood, a very long-standing member of the society and our sympathy goes to the family.

Former Council member Ron Swinnerton has retired and he and Margaret have moved to live at [redacted] far away from the harsh climate of North Staffordshire! For his many friends, his telephone number is [redacted] and he is on e-mail at [redacted]

### An appeal for help!

My appeal for help with typing and computerisation in the last journal brought a wonderful response and I am very grateful to Maretta Jerrett, Margaret Swinnerton, Peter Swinnerton, Roy Talbot and the Chairman for volunteering their services. I wasted no time in putting them to work and they nearly all have done some already and said they enjoyed doing it. More volunteers would be welcome – there is a vast amount to do.

However, this appeal is different and comes from the Council. Will you all keep an eye on your local newspapers and magazines and let us have any cuttings referring to Swinnertons. We have a very large collection of cuttings collected over the last 40 years or so (which the chairman is currently indexing) but there have been very few forthcoming in the last few years except from our regular contributor David Swinnerton in the north. This does, of course, also include keeping us up to date with the hatches, matches, despatches, activities and achievements in your own families. The Journal is a historical document for the future and should include accounts of our present day families as well as of those who have gone before.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

### *Swinnerton Family History* (The Quarterly Journal of the Society)

Vol.1 1974-5. Vol.2 1955-1977. Vol.3 1977-79.

Each volume contains 10 issues, is fully indexed and bound in A4 Binder.  
Price per volume - UK £2.50 USA \$5 Canada \$8 Australia \$6

Volume 4.1979-82. Volume 5.1982-84. Volume 6.1984-87. Volume 7.1987-89  
Volume 8.1990-92 Volume 9. 1992-94 Volume 10 1995-98 Volume 11 1998-2002  
Each volume contains 10 issues, is fully indexed and bound in A5 Binder.  
Price per volume - UK £5.00 USA \$10 Canada \$14 Australia \$12

A5 Binders for your loose issues. Each Binder holds 10 issues and an index.  
The binders are gold blocked on front with badge and on spine with title.  
UK £3.50 USA \$7 Canada \$10 Australia \$8

*Swynnerton & the Swinnertons* by the Revd Brian Swynnerton

*The Swynnerton Steeplechase* by the Revd. Brian Swynnerton  
(walks and drives round Swinnerton country in Staffs)

*Two Early Staffordshire Charters* by the Revd Charles Swynnerton

*Two Ancient Petitions from the PRO* by the Revd Charles Swynnerton

*Introduction to 'A History of the Family of Swynnerton'*  
by the Revd Charles Swynnerton

Each of the above:

UK £1.30 USA \$4 Canada \$5 Australia \$4

### *A History of the Family of Swynnerton.*

Facsimile reprint of the original history of the family published in 1880  
complete with family trees and index. 208 pages.

UK £12 USA \$20 Canada \$30 Australia \$27

### *Daughter of the Raj* by Margery Thomas

Our late President's personal story. Born in Simla in 1894, she tells of her childhood in India in the days of the Raj: of nursing on the Eastern Front in the Great War as a VAD: England after the war completing her training at Barts Hospital and then to Africa with her husband in the Colonial Service. A truly fascinating story of life in a bygone age.

UK £5.00 USA \$12 Canada \$15 Australia \$15

### All prices include postage and packing.

Overseas members please send dollar notes as the commissions deducted by the banks for exchanging dollar cheques are prohibitive.

Available from Keith Livesey, [redacted]