

The following notes describe part of the Jarvis (or Jervis) family of Shropshire and Staffordshire. To see other documents about the family, go to http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_jarvis.shtml

Thomas Jervis (Family group L3)

When Henry Jervis (L2) married in 1843 he named his father as Thomas and gave his father's occupation as farmer; George Jervis witnessed the marriage. In the 1851 census the best match to Henry was in prison, and his birthplace was recorded as Newcastle under Lyme. His birth year from the few sources found was in the period 1818/1821.

The finding of a baptism in 1819 of a Henry Jervis to Thomas at Maer, later part of the registration district of Newcastle under Lyme, is a good match of names, timing and location (and no alternative baptisms have been found); also another son, George (name of wedding witness), was baptised on the same day.

This document looks at the family of Thomas Jervis. More detail of the lives of his children are in documents:

- John&HannahJ http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/John&HannahJ.pdf
- William&Ann http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/William&Ann.pdf
- George&Mary http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/George&Mary.pdf
- Henry Jarvis http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/Henry%20Jarvis.pdf
- Elizabeth&JosephHarding http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/Elizabeth&JosephHarding.pdf

Also

- Millington (wife of Henry) http://www.bhsproject.co.uk/x_downloads/Millington.pdf

Thomas is the first individual researched who may not have survived until the 1841 census so as a starting point information about Thomas is evaluated.

Maer baptisms to Thomas & Anne:

The image shows two entries from a handwritten baptism register. Each entry is contained within a rectangular box divided into seven columns. The first column contains the date, the second the name of the child, the third the parents' names, the fourth the surname, the fifth the location, the sixth the officiant, and the seventh the witness. The first entry is for George Jervis, son of Thomas and Anne, baptised on Feb 28th at Maer way-lane, with Cordwain and W. Snape as witnesses. The second entry is for Henry Jervis, son of Thomas and Anne, baptised on Feb 20th at Maer way lane, with the same witnesses.

Feb: 28 th	George son of	Thomas & Anne	Jervis	Maer way-lane	Cordwain	W. Snape
No. 79.						
Feb: 20 th	Henry son of	Thomas & Anne Anne	Jervis	Maer way lane.	Cordwain	W. Snape
No. 80.						



Thomas gave his address as Maerway Lane, see later map, and he was a shoemaker.

Three baptisms is a short run of children and may indicate one of the following:

- Thomas moved into Maer at around 1819 (there may be earlier children baptised elsewhere)
- He moved away from Maer around 1823 (later children baptised elsewhere)
- He or his wife died around 1823 (no more children)
- His wife was not fertile after 1823 (she was around 45 then)
- The Maer registers are incomplete in the period up to 1819 or post-1823 (examination of the registers found no gaps and some interesting entries – see later)

As the children were baptised in the parish church there is no evidence the parents were non-conformists at this time.

Summary of three marriages, thought to be of Thomas's children

Child	George (bap 1819)	Henry (bap 1819)	Elizabeth (1823)
Marriage years	1840	1843	1847
Church	St Peter's Stoke on Trent	St Leonard's Woore, Shropshire	St George's, Newcastle u Lyme
Groom's occupation	Labourer	Labourer	Farmer
Spouse residence	Stoke Lane	Aston	Maer
Spouse name	Mary Mellor	Ann Millington	Joseph Harding
Jervis residence	Stoke Lane	Aston	Brunswick Street
Jervis father	Thomas Jervis	Thomas Jervis	Thomas Jervis
Occupation	Labourer	Farmer	Farmer
Spouse's father	Ralph Mellor	Samuel Millington	William Harding
Occupation	Farmer	Labourer	Farmer
Witnesses	Thomas Wrench, Ellen Wrench	George Jervis, Elizabeth Shelmadine	Thomas Harding, Ann Harding
Signed	No	No	Yes
1851 Census: birthplace (DOB)	Maer (1815/6)	Newcastle u Lyme (1820/1) (wife in Knutton)	Maer (1820/1)
Location	Aston	Prison, Wakefield	Maer
1861 census: location	Aston (Mucklestone parish)	Deceased (widow: Frog Lane, Market Drayton)	Maer Heath
No. of and children's names	10: Henry, George, William, Allen, Samuel, Elizabeth, Mary, Anne, Thomas, John	4: Thomas, Alan (twin, died in infancy), Ann, Henry	5: Ruth, William, John Thomas, Fanny, Emma

The information for George and Elizabeth is more extensive than that for Henry. There are several positives: the birthplace of both George and Elizabeth was recorded as Maer in censuses, providing a firm connection to the baptisms to Thomas and Anne noted above. Elizabeth settled in Maer, her husband Joseph Harding also being born in Maer parish; he and her brother George were both involved in agriculture. Summaries of the lives of George and Elizabeth can be accessed through links above.

Henry seems the odd one out – his occupation changed from labourer to engineer or engine man; he spent time in prison. Fewer records have been found for Henry and his birth place has been found in one census only, where it was stated as Newcastle under Lyme. However references to his siblings and father do support the theory that he was from the Maer family.

The three siblings married in different churches between 1840 and 1847 and were of different places when they married – it would seem the family had dispersed by the 1840s; George was a witness to his brother Henry's marriage so a link was maintained between them. The second witness to Henry's marriage has an unusual name: Elizabeth Shelmadine, and in the 1851 census Thomas and Elizabeth Shelmadine were enumerated immediately prior to George Jervis and his wife in Aston: they lived near to each other and probably were neighbours. The marriage of Thomas Shelmadine to Elizabeth Platt took place at Mucklestone 29 Jan 1833 – so there is no obvious familial link between Elizabeth and Henry. It is possible that Henry was living with his brother when he married and their neighbour was roped in as a witness.

Neither of the brothers signed their name at marriage but their sister, who was a few years younger, did. It is possible Elizabeth was able to attend the village school, which was founded by Emma Wedgwood in the laundry of Maer Hall (although the date for when the school started is uncertain).¹

In terms of naming patterns, Henry named his twin sons Thomas, after his father, and Allen; Allen was a family name used from 1759. Henry's eldest daughter Ann was given the name of Henry's mother. His brother George had ten children, including Henry, Thomas, Anne and Allen. Elizabeth's first son was named William, after his Harding grandfather, and John Thomas took in her father's name; otherwise her names were not familiar Jervis forenames.

The 1861 census entry for Elizabeth (see Elizabeth&JosephHarding.pdf link on page 1) provides a useful familial link: her widowed brother William Jervis, aged 54, born in Maer, was staying with the Hardings. He was born around 1806/7, 16 years before his sister Elizabeth, and this suggests that the three baptisms found at Maer were the tail-end of a larger family. The Maer parish registers are considered next, in the hope that the other Jervis entries there might be part of the same family.

Maer register searches

The register starting in January 1813 has been searched by browsing to the end of 1841, by which point the census and central registration are additional sources of information. There is no evidence of any gaps in the register during this period. Whilst browsing, efforts were made to note any baptisms to a shoemaker or cordwainer and any Jervis or Jarvis entries in addition to those to Thomas and Anne already shown above.

Other cordwainer/shoemakers living in Maer parish

Baptism years are noted:

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maer,_Staffordshire (accessed 6 Sep 2018)

Samuel & Hannah Harding, Minn Bank, 1817, 1819, 1823, 1825, 1828, 1830, 1833, 1838

Samuel & Elizabeth Phillips, Maer, 1820, 1822, 1826, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1836, 1840

NB Thomas's youngest child Elizabeth married **Joseph Harding** son of Thomas, possibly a branch of the shoemaker's family.

One concern has been the change of occupation of Thomas from a shoemaker (1819, 1823) to a farmer or labourer (marriages of his children 1840-1847). It seems there were two other shoemakers in the parish at the same time as Thomas and perhaps there was not enough work to support his shoemaking business full time. Thomas may have undertaken labouring work on a casual basis, in which case a child might remember him as a labourer; or he may have rented a small area of land to be more self-sufficient and be remembered as a farmer.

Jervis baptisms at Maer (searched 1823-1840)

The name of the person who performed the ceremony follows in brackets:

August 9 1829	Jane d/o John & Hannah Jervis, Maerway Lane, Labourer (Wedgwood)
April 24 1831	Thomas s/o John & Hannah Jarvis, Maer Lane, Labourer (Hulme)
Jan 19 1834	Martha d/o John & Hannah Jervis, Maerway Lane, Labourer (Wedgwood)
August 3 1834	Elizabeth d/o William & Anne Jervis, Maer Heath, Labourer (Wedgwood)
Sep 27 1835	Susanna s/o John & Hannah Jervis, Maerway Lane, Labourer (Wedgwood)
Feb 19 1837	Sarah d/o William & Anne Jervis, Maerheath, Labourer (Wedgwood)
July 2 1837	William s/o John & Hannah Jervis, Maerway Lane, Labourer (Wedgwood)
Oct 27 1839	Jane d/o William & Anne Jervis, Maerheath, Labourer (Wedgwood)

The GRO Births Index includes the mother's maiden name for the last baptism:

JERVIS, JANE

GREATBATCH

GRO Reference: 1839 D Quarter in NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME Volume 17 Page 99

It seems Wedgwood consistently used the Jervis spelling whereas Hulme used 'Jarvis' and also recorded the address slightly differently.

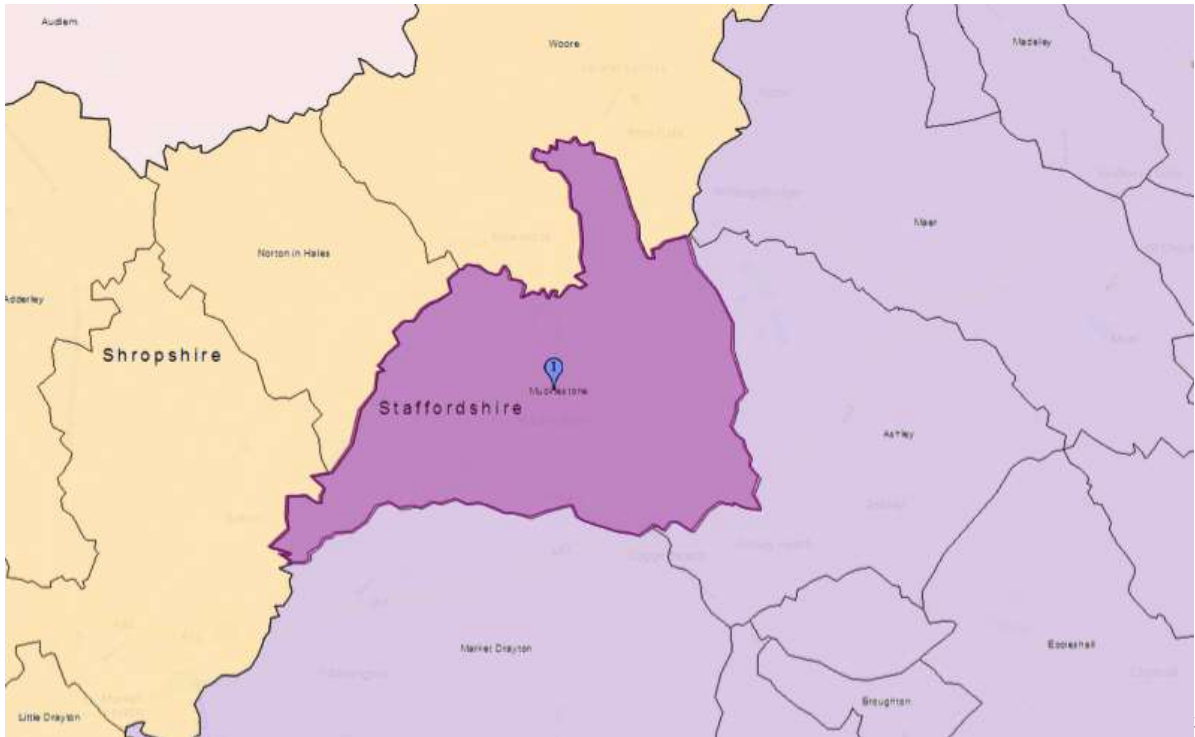
To sum up: parish register entries provide evidence of three Jervis families in Maer parish between 1819 and 1839:

- Thomas and Anne; shoemaker, Maerway Lane (last baptism 1823)
- John and Hannah; labourer, Maerway Lane (1829-1837 see John&Hannah.docx)

- William and Anne; labourer, Maerheath² (1834-1839, William&Anne.docx)

John's run of baptisms at Maer started in 1829, William's in 1834 so they may have been younger than Thomas and may have been elder brothers to George, Henry and Elizabeth (the 1861 census showed Elizabeth had an elder brother named William born around 1806/7).

Census searches found one reference to John's birthplace as Woore, Shropshire. The map below shows Mucklestone (highlighted), Woore, Maer and the county borders of Cheshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire.



Three of Thomas's children had links with Mucklestone: William married there; George was involved in a manslaughter case there; and John baptised children there. Therefore the registers of Mucklestone were checked for references to Jervis.

Jervis baptisms at Mucklestone 1823-1840

Jan 5 1823	Eadney child of William & Hannah Jarvis, Napeley Heath, Shoemaker (Offley Crewe, Rector)
Feb 1(3/5) 1824	Ann d/o John & Hannah Jarvis, Aston, Laborer (Revd Mr Turner)
July 10 1825	Mary d/o Thos & Hannah Jarvis, Aston, Laborer (Revd Mr Turner)
Feb 4 1827	John s/o John & Hannah Jarvis, Aston, Labourer (J Bowen, Curate)

² Maerheath or Maer Heath is east of Maerway Lane; it is possible 'Maerway Lane' includes Maer Heath

³ <https://www.familysearch.org/mapp/>

Sep 2 1827	James s/o William & Hannah Jarvis, Napeley Heath, Shoe-maker (O Crewe, Rector)
Jan 10 1830	Sarah d/o William & Hannah Jervis, Napeley Heath, Shoemaker (Wm Thornes, Curate)
Sep 23 1832	William s/o William & Hannah Jarvis, Napeley Heath, Shoemaker (Willm Thornes, Curate)
Nov 9 1834	Anne d/o James & Mary Jervis, Napeley Heath, Shoemaker (R Wedgwood)
May 26 1835	Emma d/o William & Hannah Jarvis, Napeley Heath, Shoemaker (R Wedgwood)
July 16 1837	Ellen d/o James & Mary Jervis, Napeley, Cordwainer (W Harrison)
Feb 23 1840	Betsey d/o James & Mary Jervis, Napeley Heath, Cordwainer (W Harrison)

Surname spelling was more variable here than in Maer with Jarvis used five times, Jervis six times.

Summing up, there is evidence of three, possibly four Jervis families in Mucklestone, the parents being:

- William & Hannah, shoemaker, Napeley Heath (1823-1825, see William&Hannah.docx)
- John & Hannah, labourer, Aston (1824-1827; it seems very likely this is the couple who later baptised children at Maer; see John&Hannah.docx)
- James & Mary, cordwainer, Napeley Heath (1834-1840, see James&Mary.docx)
- Thomas & Hannah, labourer, Aston (1825)

The single Thomas & Hannah baptism might be a contemporary copying error for John & Hannah who had the occupation and residence; it is unusual for just one child to be born.

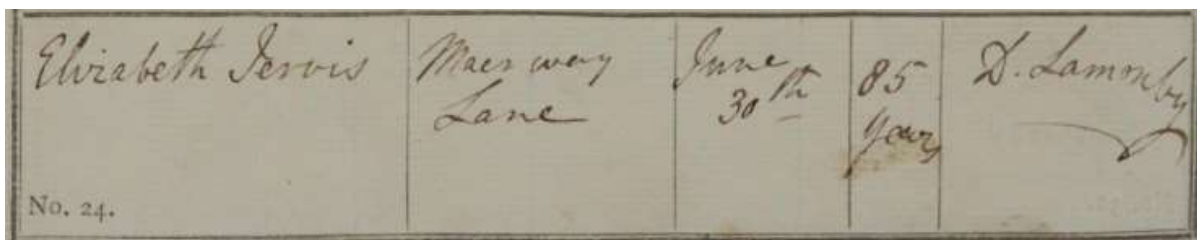
The parish of Ashley lies between Maer and Mucklestone and has been checked in case it was another Jervis home.

Baptisms at Ashley 1820-1840

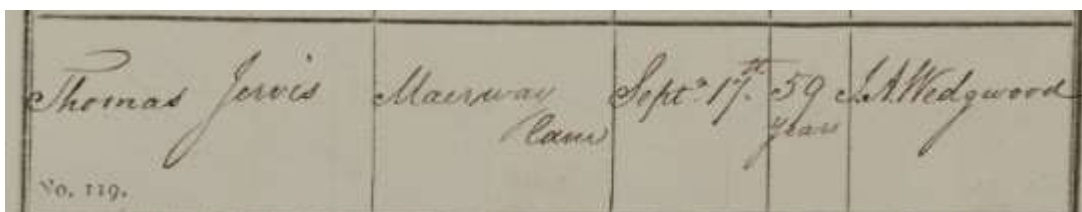
There were no baptisms or burials in this 20-year period. There was one marriage here of a Matthias Jervis, widower, to Sarah Simcox, widow, in 1832. Matthias Jervis came from Audlem, Cheshire: see Jarvis of Audlem.docx for more details.

Burials at Maer (1816+)

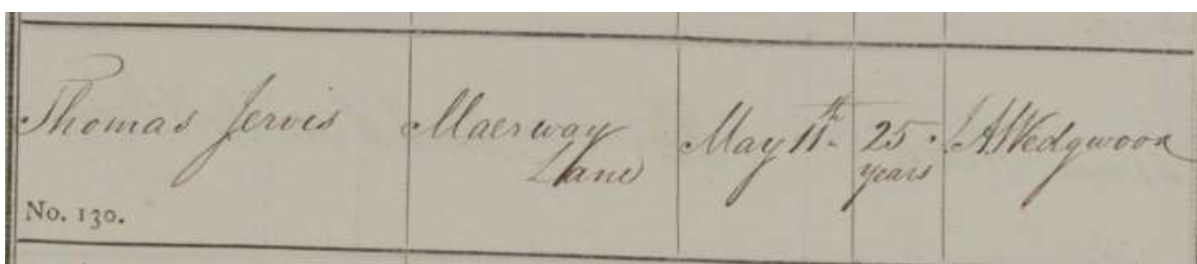
The original registers can be viewed on Findmypast. The following entries span the period 1816 (see image following) to 1840; this covers later baptisms to Thomas and of some of his grandchildren.



1828:



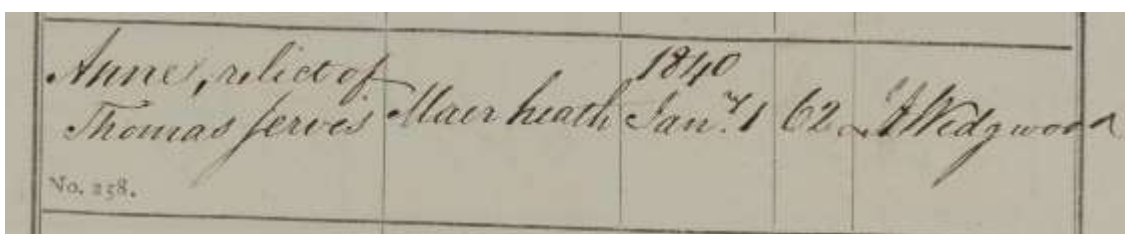
1829:



Also

Jan 20 1831 Jane Jervis, Maerway Lane, 18 months [matches a baptism to John and Hannah]

Apr 26 1837 Allen Jervis, Chesterton, 23 years



Thomas and Anne Jervis were buried in 1828 and 1840 respectively and ages at death indicate Thomas was born around 1768/9 and his wife Anne around 1777. Their last child, Elizabeth, was baptised at Maer in 1823 when Anne was about 46.

Collating the entries gives a possible family structure to work with.

Thomas Jervis, born around 1768/9, died 1828, married Anne (in 1819 and 1823 baptisms she was named as his wife but she was 8 or 9 years younger than Thomas and may have been his second wife); Anne was born around 1777 and died in 1840; Thomas's family may include:

John ca 1799/1801, married Hannah 1823

James (possibly – the 1851 census of Mucklestone includes a James Jervis born around 1800/1 in Mucklestone)

Jane (possibly – Jane Jervis witnessed the marriage of John in 1823 and presumably was 18 or older at the time)

Thomas ca 1803/4 (buried 1829; possibly the father of Mary, who was baptised in 1825 – his wife was named Hannah but no local marriage matches; see Wistanswick.docx for details of a Thomas & Hannah – probably a different couple but of a similar age, occupation and location)

Allen ca 1813/4 (of Chesterton when buried 1837)

William ca 1806/7 (age 54 in 1861; he married Ann in 1832)

George ca 1816/19 (baptised in 1819 but age at census suggests an earlier date; married Mary 1840)

Henry 1819; married Ann 1843

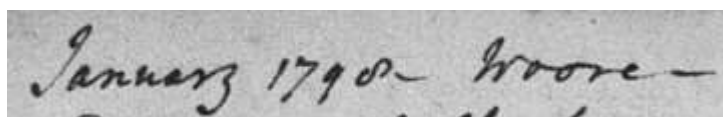
Elizabeth 1823; married Joseph 1847

There is also the burial of Elizabeth Jervis of Maerway Lane in 1816 at the age of 85, thus born around 1730/1 to consider. She is of an age where she could be the mother of Thomas, who was at the Maerway Lane address 3 years later; or she could be a widowed aunt or a spinster aunt. The previous generation is considered later.

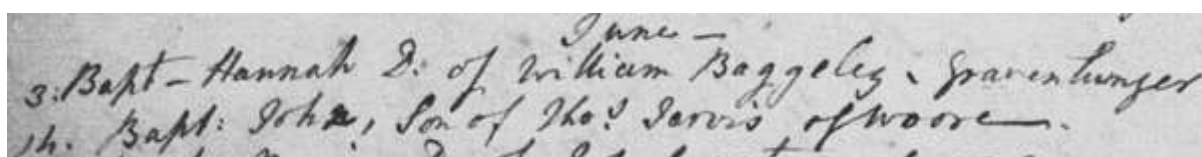
Whereabouts of Thomas Jervis pre-1819

The baptisms of several children born before 1817 - John, James (possibly), Thomas, Allen, William and Jane (possibly) – have not been found at Maer. It may be that Thomas and his family moved to Maer by 1819, possibly linked to the death of Elizabeth Jervis in 1816.

John and William both survived to 1851 and census sightings offer places of birth for John: Manchester, Lancashire; Woore, Shropshire; and for William: Maer. As no baptism for William has been found at Maer searches were made of Woore, which is in Shropshire but was part of the parish of Mucklestone in Staffordshire until its own church was built during the 1830s. There are some promising baptisms to a Thomas Jervis. The page heading suggests the Mucklestone register recorded Woore entries a year at a time:

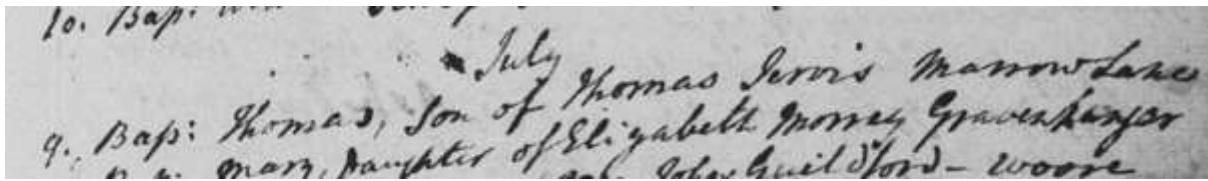


January 1790 - Woore -

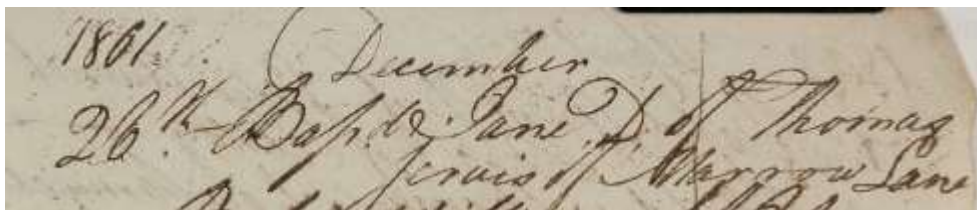


3. Bapt - Hannah D. of William Baggeley - Sparentwinger
14. Bapt: John, Son of Tho: Jervis of Woore.

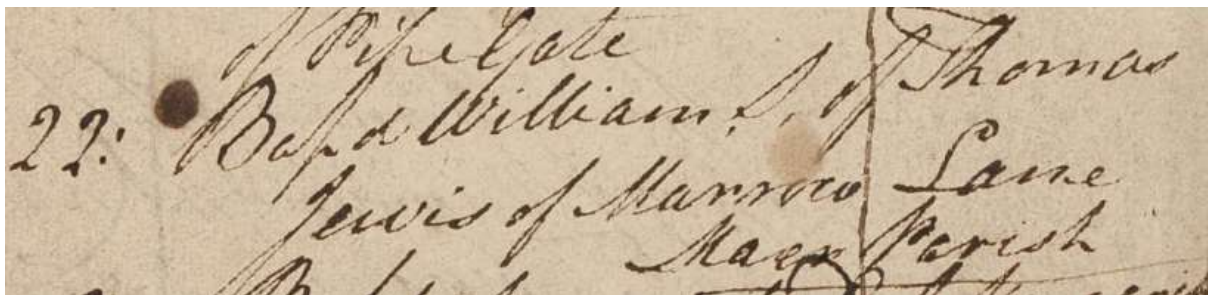
Searches for the next known child, Thomas, turned up a baptism on 9 July 1804 at Mucklestone, under a page heading 'Woore Chapel':



It was conjectured that Thomas might have had a daughter Jane and there is a corresponding baptism in 1801:



Finally, in 1807, 22 May:



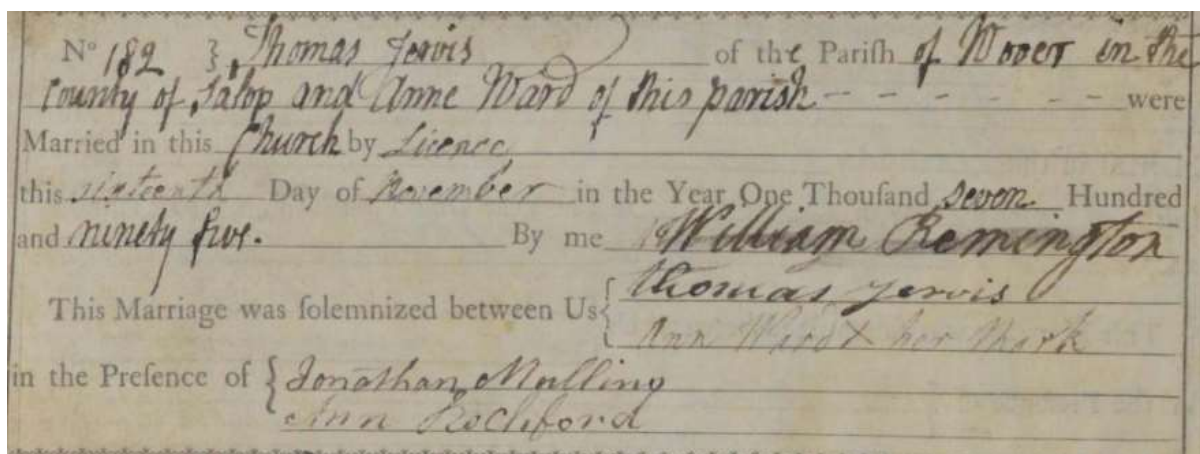
The name of the mother is not recorded in the baptisms.

The only baptism not found is that of Allen, who was born around 1813/4 in the gap in baptisms between that of 1807 at Mucklestone and those in 1819 at Maer. Nor has a baptism been found for James.

Marriage of Thomas Jervis

Thomas was born around 1768/9 so may have married as early as 1786, although the earliest baptism to him in 1798 suggests a later date is more likely. His wife in 1819 was named Anne but she may have been a second (or third) wife.

The following marriage by licence looks promising as Thomas was from 'Woore' ie Woore – transcribed as 'Wover' – which is where the baptisms to Thomas took place. The marriage was at St Michael Lichfield on 16 Nov 1795; this was Anne's parish. Thomas signed the register using Jervis spelling and the marriage was witnessed by Jonathan Mulling and Ann Rochford.



Unfortunately, the licence does not seem to be available via Findmypast. The map shows Woore north of Mucklestone (at the southern edge).



Conclusions

The searches above have focused on the generation headed by Thomas Jervis, who was born around 1768/9. He first surfaces in Mucklestone as a resident of Marrow Lane / Woore in 1798: this is thought to be Maerway Lane, suggesting he and his family lived in the same area and possibly same property throughout. A plausible marriage has been found for him in 1795 at Lichfield.

The searches have identified four children in addition to George, Henry and Elizabeth, who were baptised at Mucklestone between 1798 and 1807. There is then a gap in baptisms until 1819 – did Thomas live elsewhere? - before he appears in Maer.

Thomas Jervis remained at Maerway Lane until his death in 1828 and was buried in the parish churchyard. His eldest son John may have remained in the family home on Maerway Lane as he is recorded at this address in the tithe records for Mucklestone.

Thomas's widow Anne was of Maer Heath when she was buried in 1840. Maer Heath is an area to the west of Maerway Lane and it is possible she remained in the family home with her son John. Or she may have lived with her second son William and his wife Anne as they lived just round the corner. The title of Mucklestone shows William lived near to his brother John.

Biographies of those children known to have married and had children have been prepared and show that Henry, George and William all spent time in prison.

There are a few loose ends...

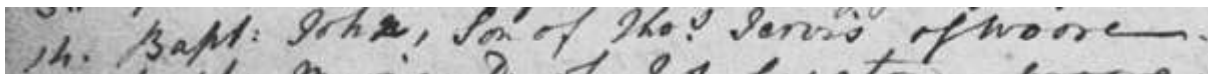
Niggles

1. Ancestry family trees

In compiling this information Ancestry's public trees have not been used but have been checked later. There are some which include John Jervis/Hannah Simcock and one that has William Jervis/Ann Greatbatch. Some include different parents for John and William.

The parents for John Jervis are recorded as Thomas Jervis and Sarah Guildford, rather than Anne Ward, in more than one.

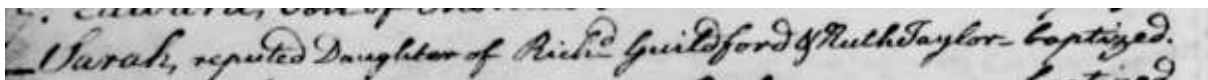
The baptism of John Jervis at Woore is the best fit in terms of location and timing – 14 Jun 1798 – for the John who married Hannah Simcock and is used in the majority of Ancestry trees. The entry below is from the Mucklestone PR:



The mother's name is not recorded – it could be from the Jervis/Guildford marriage.

The Jervis/Guildford marriage was at Mucklestone in 1789, so there is a 9-year gap between the marriage and baptism of John.

Considering Sarah Guildford, there is one baptism at around the right time and place: 7 May 1769 at Audlem, Cheshire:



There is a burial of Sarah Guildford at Audlem 15 Sep 1831, age 64 which is a reasonable match to the baptism: she would be 62, not 64; but this could be a married woman. It is difficult to draw any conclusions as to whether this is the same Sarah or not without further research.

The trees that choose Jervis/Guildford as parents of John Jervis do not show other children from the marriage, just John.

Hannah Henshall was a witness to the Jervis/Guildford marriage. She was buried at Mucklestone 10 Mar 1790 and was of Gravenhunger Moss. This may be her marriage:

First name(s)	Ann
Last name	Wakefield
Marriage year	1750
Marriage date	02 Jul 1750
Marriage place	Audlem
Spouse's first name(s)	James
Spouse's last name	Henshall
City or town	Audlem
County	Cheshire

This line of enquiry is parked for now. From independent research, the Jervis/Guildford marriage has been tentatively linked to another Thomas Jervis, who was baptised at Mucklestone in 1742 (M2).

As to William Jervis/Ann Greatbanks or Greatbatch, this marriage features in one other tree and William is linked to a birth at Stone in Staffordshire, 16 Sep 1809, parents William and Hannah Jervis of Aston. No siblings of William are recorded and Aston by Stone is around 12 miles, as the crow flies, from Mucklestone. There is no convincing evidence that this William who married Ann Greatbanks at Mucklestone in 1832.

2. Henry's occupation: engineman

The rest of his family worked in agriculture, although his father was a shoemaker during the period 1819-1823 at least. Does Henry's occupation fit his (few known) locations? He did not sign his marriage certificate but literacy may not have been necessary if the work was operating an engine.

Engineman ⁴	In charge of colliery winding machinery under the direction of the Bankman
------------------------	--

Or 'employed at a mine to be in charge of the machinery in the engine house used to crush and transport the ore'.⁵

He started out as a labourer (marriage certificate, conviction in 1844) so must have switched to engineman between 1844 and his next conviction in 1850. I think this is OK.

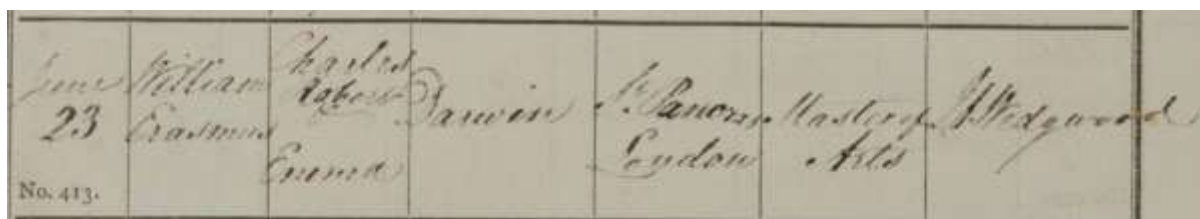
Two interesting baptisms at Maer



⁴ <http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/e.html> (accessed 5 Sep 2018)

⁵ <http://www.census1891.com/occupations-e.php> (accessed 5 Sep 2018)

1837 above, 1840 below.



There was a Wedgwood/Darwin marriage joining branches of two famous families.⁶

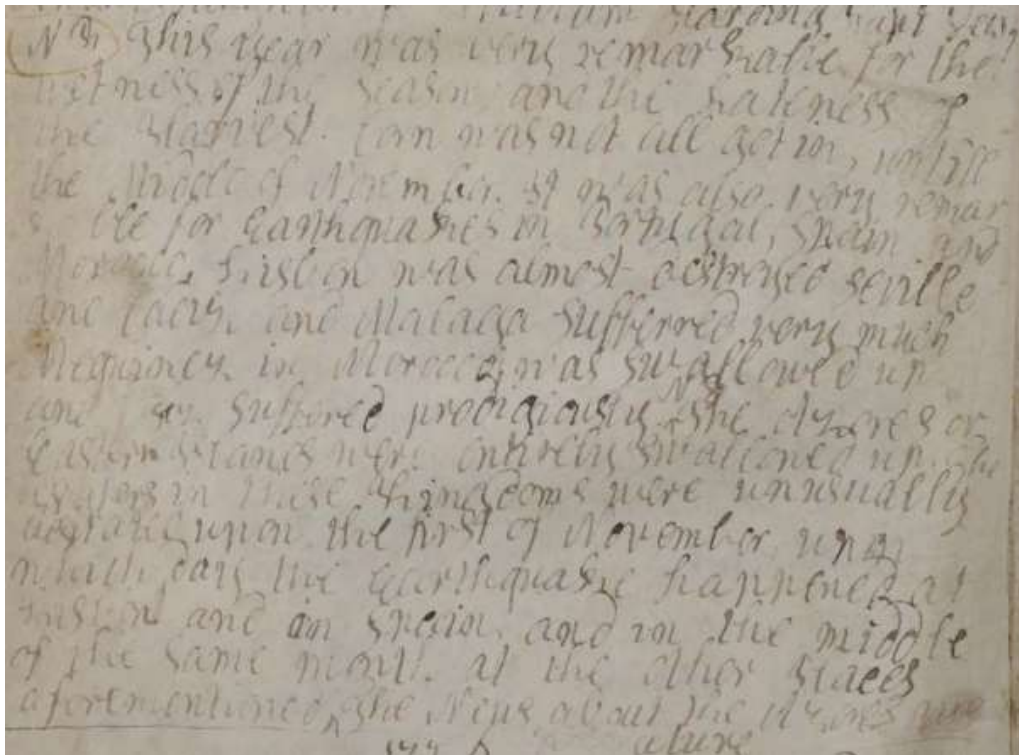
More about Maer

Maer is a small village, in a narrow romantic valley, with steep and lofty acclivities, on the Market Drayton road, seven miles SSW of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Its parish comprises about 2800 acres of land and 558 souls, of whom 272 are in the district called Maerway Lane, but the houses are generally scattered in small hamlets. Maer is supposed to have derived its name from a natural lake or mere, which occupies 23 acres at the foot of the village, and is the source of the Tearn, a stream that flows westward to the borders of Shropshire, and afterwards falls into the Severn. At the east end of this lake stands Maer Hall, which was the property and occasional residence of the late Josiah Wedgwood, Esq, who, about 40 years ago, re-edified it and converted it into an elegant mansion.⁷

Excerpt from Maer parish register, 1755: *This year was very remarkable for the wetness of the season and the lateness of the harvest...* and refers to earthquakes across the world

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maer,_Staffordshire (accessed 6 Sep 2018)

⁷ <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/STS/Maer> History, Gazetteer and Directory of Staffordshire, William White, Sheffield, 1851 (accessed 3 Sep 2018)



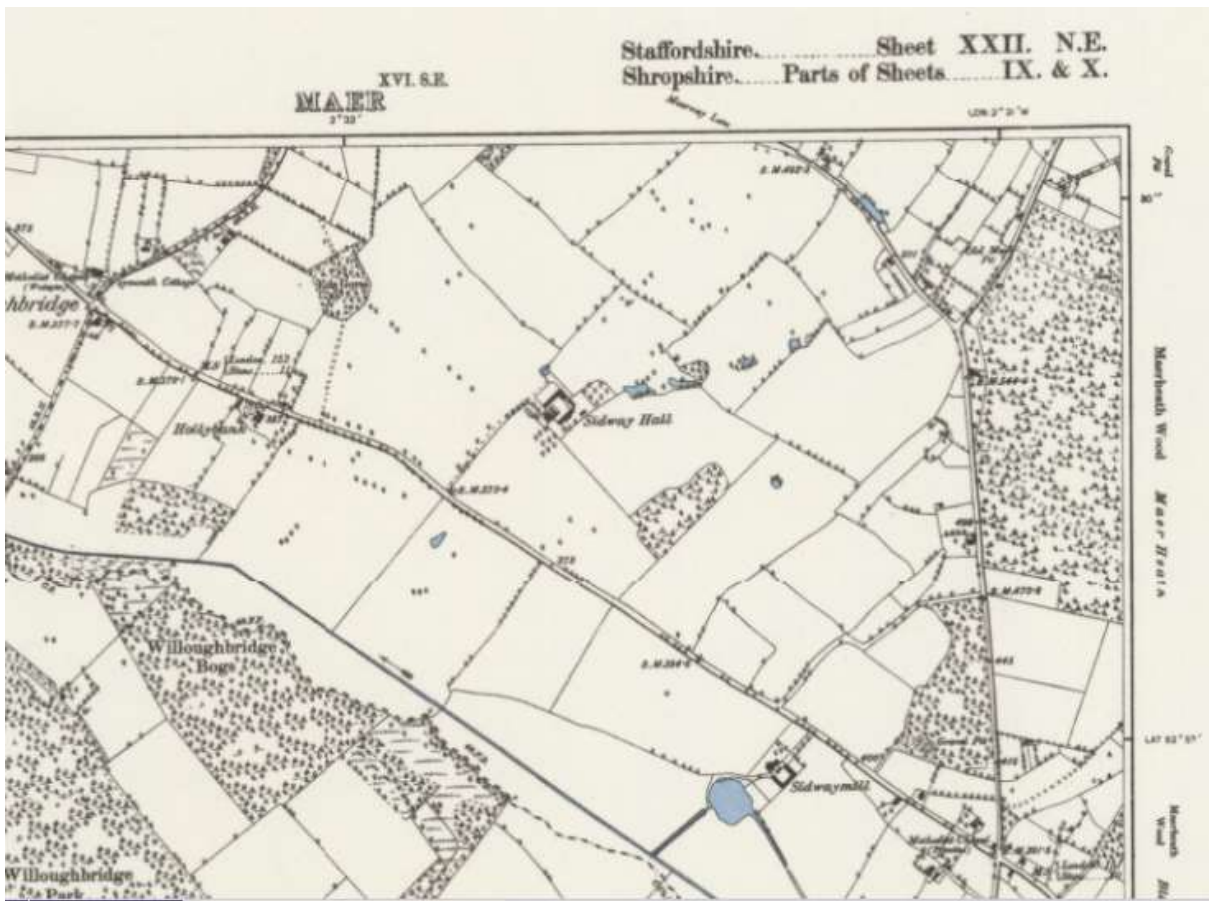
Maer: population

- 1801: 382
- 1811: 454
- 1821: 451
- 1831: 505
- 1841: 559.⁸

Ordnance Survey Map of Maer, 6" to the mile, surveyed 1876/9, published 1889.⁹

⁸ http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10288472/cube/TOT_POP (accessed 3 Sep 2018)

⁹ National Library of Scotland OS maps



Ordnance Survey Map, 6" to the mile, surveyed 1879 and published 1889: Maerway Lane runs north-south near the eastern side of the map – the name is marked at the top border. Maer village is around two miles South East of the Y-junction near the top right corner.¹⁰

Mucklestone burial that has not been fitted in yet

BURIALS in the Parish of _____				
in the County of _____			in the Year 18 <u>89</u>	
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
George Jervies No. 681.	Norton	Aug st 20 th	14 yrs	W. Crewe

Age at death points to a birth around 1824/5. A baptism at Stoke on Tern, George son of Francis and Ann, could be him. However the 1841 census includes a George Jervies, age 24, born Ollerton, working as a farm servant in Stoke on Tern – this is a good match allowing for slight age discrepancy.

¹⁰ National Library of Scotland OS maps