

Edward Henzey of Amblecote

Edward Henzey of Amblecoate in the prishe of Oldswinford in the County of Stafford Glassmaker, wrote his will on 12 July 1621. Probate was granted at London on 18 February 1621/22.¹

In his will bequests were made to “Elizabeth Henzey widdowe my sister” and to “Sara my wife Edward my sonne and Jane my daughter.” Jane was aged uder 18 and Edward under 21. “Sara my wife” was nominated executrix and “Perregrin Henzey my brother and Josua Henzey my kinsman and John Sparry” were appointed Overseers.

Who was Edward Henzey?

According to many sources² Edward Henzey was a member of the Henzey family which moved to Bishop’s Wood near Eccleshall in Staffordshire to establish a glassworks on land belonging to William Overton, Bishop of Lichfield. The Henzey family at Bishop’s Wood comprised the brothers Ambrose, Edward, George and Peregrine, sons of Nicolas Hennezel.

On 5 June, 1585, Ambrose Henzey signed an agreement to establish a glassworks at Bagot’s Park at Abbots Bromley in Staffordshire.³ On 26 June in the same year he was joined at Bagot’s Park by his brother, Edward, who had been given leave to depart from Bishop’s Wood because “his brother and hee could not agree so that he would rather depart than live in continuall trouble.”⁴ According to these sources the brother with whom Edward could not live was George Henzey of Blower Park, glassmaker, who was buried at Eccleshall on 7 August 1603.

By 1602 Edward had settled at Wisbourough Green in Sussex and in October that year returned to Eccleshall to marry Sarah Tetrye. He returned to Sussex after his marriage, remained there until about 1614 then moved to Amblecoat where he died in 1621.

Is this all correct?

1) Were Edward and Ambrose brothers?

The is no other reference to Ambrose Henzey in England other than at Bagot’s Park. He may be the same person as Ambroise Hennezel of the Verrière Thomas in Lorraine.⁵ Ambroise was famous for taking glassmaking to Picardy and was last mentioned in Lorraine in 1582 when he was a witness at the marriage of Christophe de Hennezel, seigneur d'Ormoy and Maguerite de Thiétry.⁶

In 1553 the Verrière Thomas was in the possession of Jacques Thiétry, Georges Hennezel and the widow of François Thiétry.⁷ This suggests that Ambroise Hennezel may have been the son of Georges Hennezel.

2) Who was the brother with whom Edward Henzey “could not agree?”

The only members of the Henzey family who appear in the Eccleshall Parish Register in the 1580s are an unnamed couple whose two children, Peregrine and Judith, were baptised there in 1586 and 1589.⁸

A third Henzey child, Thomas, son of Jone Henzey of Blower Park, widow, was baptised on 5 April, 1604.⁹ Jone was probably the widow of George Henzey of Blower Park, glasemaker, who was buried on 7 August, 1603.¹⁰

The assumption that George and Jone were the parents of the children baptised in 1586 and 1589 does not allow for the absence of any baptisms of children in the 15 years between 1589 and 1604. Without these baptisms it a more reasonable hypothesis that George and Jone were only recently married when George died in 1603 and that Thomas may have been their only child.

Therefore the Edward's brother at Eccleshall remains unidentified, but was unlikely to be George Henzey.

3) Was Edward who left Bishop's Wood in 1585 the same person as Edward who married at Eccleshall in 1602?

In June 1585 Edward Henzey was described as "Ewerd Hencye gent glasse maker beinge one of my Lord Byshoppe workmen at his Lordshippe glassehouse ... hee hath demeand himself verye honestlye and hath delt wisly with all men ... since his comminge to his Lordshippe works."¹¹

The wording implies that Edward was not an apprentice who had finished his training, but rather an older, well established man who could be dignified with the epithet "gentleman." He was probably aged at least 30 and may have been older.

Edward Henzey of Wisborough Green, glassmaker, married Sarah Tetrye at Eccleshall in 1602.¹² When he died in 1621 Edward was survived by Sarah and two underage children.

In 1602 Edward of Bishop's Wood and Bagot's Park would have been aged at least 50. By then he had been working for over 30 years and was a respected glassmaker. It is very surprising that he was not already married. While it is possible that he was a widower in 1602 the absence of any older children in 1621 suggests otherwise. It is more likely that the Edward who married in 1602 was a younger man, aged perhaps 25.

Therefore it has to be considered as highly unlikely that Edward of 1585 and Edward of 1602 were the same man.

4) Were there other men named Edward Henzey in the period 1585 to 1621?

On 30 November, 1614, warrants were issued for the apprehension of a number of Sussex glassmakers. Among these men were Edward Henzey and Edward Henzey alias Booas. The men appeared before the Privy Council on 12 December, 1614, as Edward Henzey of North Chappell and Edward Henzey of Westbarrow Greene.¹³ In April 1616 Edward Henzey appealed to the Privy Council for permission to complete glass production at his works and to sell that glass to Sir Robert Mansell.¹⁴

The glassmakers were all in breach of a monopoly on glass making that had been granted to Sir Edward Zouch in 1611 and 1613. In 1615 this monopoly was extended to include Sir Robert Mansell. The monopoly survived until 1624 but it crippled the glassworks in Sussex. At least two years before the collapse of the monopoly Lord Dudley, who campaigned to abolish it, had commenced glass making on his property at Kingswinford in Staffordshire.¹⁵ Amblecoat lies in the neighbouring parish of Old Swinford in Worcestershire.

By 1616 members of the Henzey family were working for Sir Robert Mansell, including Joshua Henzey, who was described as a servant and workman employed by him in the glasse works.¹⁶ Another “servant to Sir Robt Mansfield” was Edward Henzey, who was buried at All Saints, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 11 February 1617/18.¹⁷

Therefore there were two men named Edward Henzey in Sussex, one died at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1617/18 and the other died at Amblecoat in 1621.

5) Who were the siblings of Edward Henzey of Amblecoat

In his will Edward mentions one brother, Peregrine Henzey, and one sister “Elizabeth Henzey widdowe.” Elizabeth could be a sister who married a Henzey relative, or the widow of a deceased brother.

On 17 Jun 1620 Edward and Peregrine Henzey of “Amblecote au comté de Stratford,” as heirs of Hector Hennezel, sold their rights to a glasshouse at Houldrichapelle in Lorraine.¹⁸ This glasshouse had been established in 1555 by the brothers Nicolas and Georges Hennezel. By 1570 Nicolas had died and his children, Hector and François had taken over his share in the works.¹⁹ Georges Hennezel may be the same man who once ran the Verrière Thomas in Lorraine and who may have been the father of Ambrose Henzey.

Peregrine Henzey was first mention in Sussex in 1614 when he was one of the glassmakers summoned to appear at the Privy Council. On 26 May 1616 his daughter Sarah was baptised at Wisborough Green in Sussex.²⁰ Between 1618 and 1623 three further children were baptised at Kingswinford in Worcestershire and Old Swinford in Worcestershire, and in 1626 a fifth child was baptised at All Saints, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Peregrine was buried at All Saints on 25 March 1627.²¹

As an adult in 1614 and married soon before 1616, Peregrine should be identified as Peregrinus Hensie, baptised at Eccleshall in 1586.²²

Therefore Edward, who died at Amblecoat in 1621, and Peregrine were the children of the unnamed Henzey couple living at Eccleshall in the 1580s. It is likely that George Henzey who was buried at Eccleshall in 1603 was another brother and that they were all the nephews of Edward Henzey who left Bishop’s Wood in 1585.

According to Germaine Rose-Villequey, Edward and Peregrine Henzey were the sons of Nicolas, brother of Ananias Hennezel,²³ who was the son of Georges Hennezel of Houldrichapelle. Ananias was the father of Joshua Henzey, servant to Sir Robert Mansell in 1615/16, overseer of the will of Edward Henzey in 1621 and ancestor of the Henzey family of Kingswinford and Old Swinford.²⁴

This allows the reconstruction of this branch of the Henzey family of Eccleshall, Sussex and Amblecoat as:

Father: Georges Hennezel of Houldrichapelle
Sons: Ambrose, Edward, Nicolas and Ananias
Grandsons: (Nicolas) George, Edward and Peregrine
(Ananias) Joshua

Another member of the family was Joseph Henzey who married Elizabeth Lutman at Wisborough Green in January 1612/13²⁵ and had three children baptised at Billingham in Sussex, including Ananias Henzey on 5 January 1616/17.

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- ¹ PRO Catalogue Reference: PRBOB/11/139
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wrag44/wills/henzeywills/EdwardHensey1621.htm>
- ² Jason Ellis, "Glassmakers of Stourbridge and Dudley 1612-2002" (Harrogate 2002) pages 44-52
Germaine Rose-Villequey, "Verre et Verriers de Lorraine," (Paris 1971) p. 454
- ³ David W. Crossley, "Glassmaking in Bagot's Park," *Post-Medieval Archaeology Volume 1* (1967) page 47
W. Horridge, "Documents relating to the Lorraine Glassmakers in North Staffordshire, with some Notes thereon" *Glass Notes No 15* (1955) page 28
- ⁴ Crossley, op.cit., page 29
- ⁵ Gabriel Ladaïque, *Deux Siècles de Travail Verrier dans le Vôge* p. 327
- ⁶ Comte Hennezel d'Ormois, *Voyage au pays des ancêtres* page 127
Comte Hennezel d'Ormois, *Généalogie de la Maison de Hennezel 1392-1902* (Laon 1902) Page 61
- ⁷ Ladaïque, op.cit., p. 327
- ⁸ *Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1 1573-1618* (Staffordshire Parish Register Society 1907) pages 20 & 24
A third child, Margaret, has been identified (Ellis, op.cit., page 51, note 38), however the Registers of Eccleshall record this child as Margareta Hemyse (*Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1* page 22). Other baptisms at this period include the surnames Haymyse and Hemies, all variants of the same surname. Therefore Margaret was not a Henzey.
- ⁹ *Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1*, page 42
- ¹⁰ *Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1*, page 117
- ¹¹ Horridge, op.cit. page 29
- ¹² *Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1*, page 68
- ¹³ *Acts of the Privy Council of England, Volume 33 - 1613-1614*, www.british-history.ac.uk, pages 643 & 658
- ¹⁴ *Acts of the Privy Council of England, Volume 34 - 1615-1616*, www.british-history.ac.uk, pages 469-470
- ¹⁵ D.R. Guttery *From Broad-Glass to Cut Crystal*, (London 1956) pages 3-5
- ¹⁶ *Acts of the Privy Council of England, Volume 34 - 1615-1616*, www.british-history.ac.uk, page 444
- ¹⁷ H.S. Grazebrook, *Collections for a Genealogy of the Noble Families of Henzey, Tyttery and Tyzack*, (Stourbridge 1877), p. 120
- ¹⁸ Ladaïque, op.cit., p. 319
Germaine Rose-Villequey, *Verre et Verriers de Lorraine au Début des Temps Modernes* p.454
- ¹⁹ Rose-Villequey, op.cit. page 782-783
Ladaïque, op.cit., p.319
- ²⁰ *Sussex Family History Group*, Baptismal Index
- ²¹ *The Registers of the Church of St Mary, Kingswinford, Staffordshire 1603-1704* (1984), pages 18 & 24
Grazebrooke, op.cit. p. 102, 114 & 120
- ²² *Eccleshall Parish Register, Volume 1* page 24
- ²³ Rose-Villequey, op.cit., p.454
- ²⁴ Grazebrook, op.cit., p. 25
- ²⁵ *Sussex Family History Group* Marriage Index & Baptismal Index