

THE ANCIENT PIGOT FAMILY OF BERKSHIRE

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The earliest available family records of Great Britain (generally 15th and 16th centuries) show that the Pigot family were already a significant presence in central England. Although the

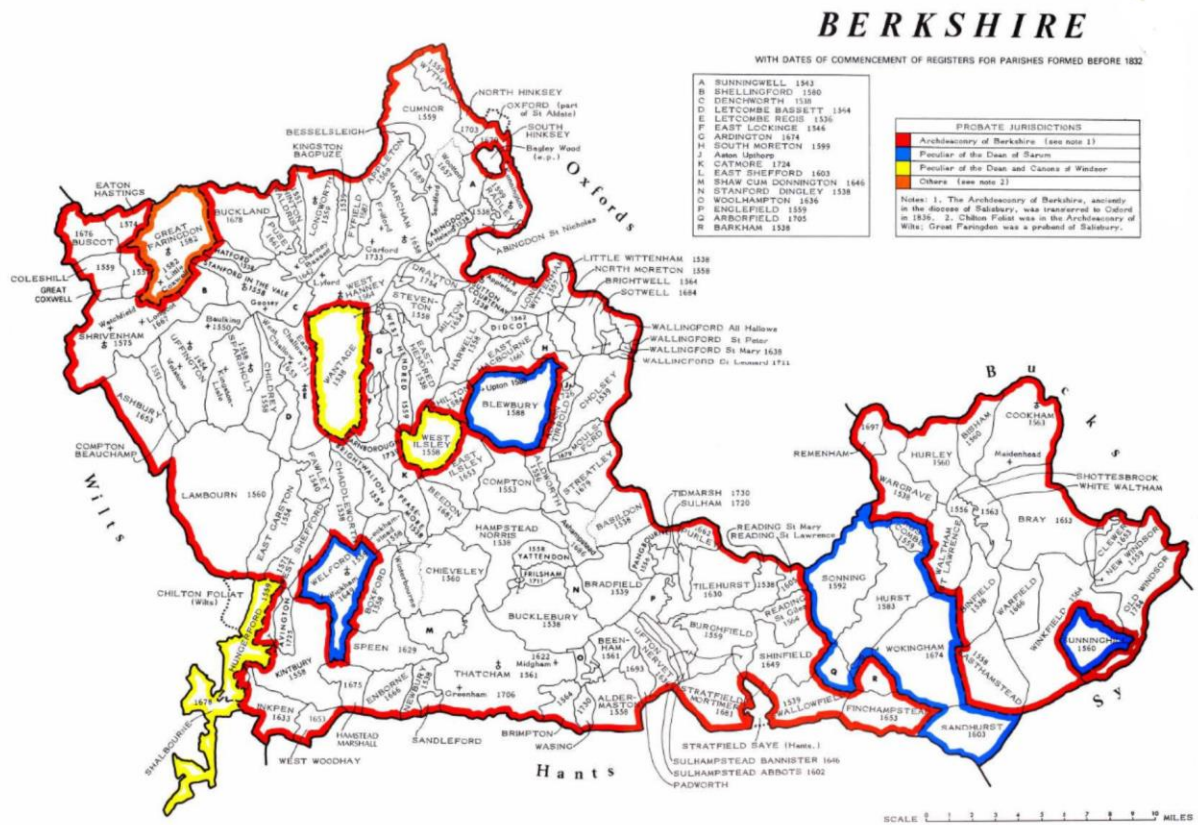


Figure 1. Parish Map of Berkshire England (19th Century)¹

¹ Humphery-Smith, Cecil R. *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers* (Chichester, England: Phillimore, 1995).

family Pigot/Pykot populated strongholds at Gravenhurst in Bedfordshire, Abington Pigots in Cambridgeshire and Thrumpton in Nottingham; in truth these places were all fairly close to one another in the central United Kingdom.²

In 18th century Berkshire there were Pigot families in eastern Berks at Hurst parish, in central Berks at St. Giles, Reading, a significant presence in the royal wood at Wychwood (parishes of Wantage, and West Challow, now Oxfordshire), and in southern Berks in the parishes of Hampstead Norreys, Chieveley and Thatcham.³ Notable among these families is the birth of Admiral Sir Hugh Pigot (1722-1792) and his older brothers General Sir Robert Pigot and Baron George Pigot of the Wantage Parish Pigot families. Lieutenant-General Robert Pigot commanded the left flank of the British forces at the Battle of Bunker Hill in the American

<i>Church Record Sources for West Challow, Chieveley and Hampstead Norreys Parishes, Southern Berkshire (1500-1900)</i> <i>(FamilySearch and Ancestry, as of Mar 2015)</i>	
Source	FHL Microfilm
Chieveley Bishop's Transcripts, 1607-1836	1279453, items 27-30
Chieveley Parish Registers, 1560-1975 and church and civil records	1040504, items 4-23 (also 254496 and 254498, items 1-3)
Oare Parish Registers, 1802-1975 And 1813-1875	1040504, items 1-3 1041181, items 7-8
Oare Marriages, 1815-1837	254498, item 4
Leckhampstead Parish Registers, 1754-1985 And banns	1849236, items 19-22 1849262, item 14
Hampstead Norreys Bishop's Transcripts, 1605-1836	1279450, items 1-4
Hampstead Norreys Parish Registers and poor law records, 1720-1928	1040520, items 2-14
Hampstead Norreys Parish Registers, 1538-1892	88298
West Challow Bishop's Transcripts (chapelry in Letcombe Regis (1607-1812)	1279453, items 20-22
Parish Registers of West Challow (1653-1959)	88250, items 4-7

² Le Neve, Peter (1661-1729) and Marshall,

George William (1839-1905) 'Le Neve's Pedigrees of the Knights...' in *Publications of the Harleian Society, Vol. 8* (London: Harleian Society, 1873), pp. 115, 205, 213, 246.

³ Survey by the author of Picket/Pickett/Piggott/Pigot/Pigott births in Berkshire and Northern Hants at FamilySearch (accessed Feb 2015).

Revolution.⁴ There were also Pigot families in Northern Hampshire (neighboring southern Berks) at Hartley Wespall, Alton and Whitchurch.

The Pigots of particular interest to the author lived in and around the parishes of Hampstead Norreys and Chieveley in southern Berkshire. It is likely that the Pigots of southern Berks actually came from the Wantage/West Challow group (now Oxfordshire) *vide infra*.

Surveying the available records for that area we are talking about nearly exclusively parish registers/bishops transcripts and a few land records. The Piggots of southern Berkshire were not particularly well-to-do (no surviving land transactions or wills) and traveled little; they chose spouses from their home parish or neighboring villages.

The earliest⁵ Piggot/Picket record in Chieveley or Hampton Norreys parish was the baptism of William Picket (**9**) in 1725, the son of Thomas and Ann Picket.

Generation E

1. Francis^E Pigot was christened⁶ 22 Apr 1662 at West Challow, Berks (now Oxfordshire) the son of Francis and Marie Pigot. He married⁷ 1683 at West Challow, Berks **Mary Young (Mrs.)**.

Francis and Mary (Young) Piggot had six/seven children in the West Challow, Berkshire parish⁸:

⁴ Wikipedia online (search: Hugh Pigot, accessed 27 Feb 2015).

⁵ An exception is the marriage of Agnes Pickett to Henry Adnam in 1593 (Berkshire Marriage Index (2012), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1-CD-ROM (2nd Edition) at FHL; hereafter **BerksMarriages**) In this time period there are no Picketts in the Chieveley Parish Register, but lots of Adnams. The author concludes she was not a local.

⁶ Francis Pigot christening: Church of England, West Challow Parish 1653-1959, Berkshire, FHL British Film 88250, items 4-7; online at FamilySearch.

⁷ Pigot/Mrs. Young marriage: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch; Mary may have been married before.

⁸ There are no records of a Picket/Piggot family in Chieveley or Hampstead Norreys around 1700, when Thomas (**8**) was born. The closest family and best guess for Thomas' parents is Francis and Mary Piggot of West Challow, central Berkshire north of Hampstead Norreys. There are families with children born in the early 1700 time period in Hurst parish (eastern Berks), Bisham parish (far eastern Berks), one near

- 2 i. **RALPH^A PIGOTT**, christened⁹ 8 Dec 1689 at West Challow, Berks.
- 3 ii. **KALEY^A PIGOTT**, christened¹⁰ 8 Sep 1689 at West Challow, Berks.
- 4 iii. **ELIZABETH^A PIGGOT**, christened¹¹ 23 Mar 1693 at West Challow, Berks.
- 5 iv. **JOHN^A PIGOTT**, christened¹² 22 Nov 1695 at West Challow, Berks.
- 6 v. **FRANCIS^A PIGGOT**, christened¹³ 16 Sep 1697 at West Challow, Berks. He married¹⁴ 21 Oct 1717 at West Challow **Mary Luke** and raised a family at Letcombe Regis (adjacent village to West Challow).
- 7 vi. **THOMAS^A PIGOTT**, christened¹⁵ 29 Oct 1700 at West Challow, Berks and probably died young if he actually existed.
- + 8 vii. **THOMAS^A PIGOTT¹⁶**, christened 29 Oct 1701 at West Challow, Berks.

Generation D

Reading (St. Giles, eastern central Berks) and another family in Wantage Parish (adjacent to West Challow) and a couple in northern Hants. None have a son Thomas born in this time period.

⁹ Ralph Piggot christening: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch.

¹⁰ John Piggot christening: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch.

¹¹ Elizabeth Piggot christening: Church of England, West Challow Parish 1653-1959, Berkshire, FHL British Film 88250, items 4-7; online at FamilySearch.

¹² John Piggot christening: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch.

¹³ Francis Piggot christening: Church of England, West Challow Parish 1653-1959, Berkshire, FHL British Film 88250, items 4-7; online at FamilySearch.

¹⁴ Piggot/Luke marriage, Church of England, West Challow Parish, Berkshire, FHL British Film 88250, items 4-7, online at FamilySearch (accessed 14 May 2015) and Letcombe Regis christenings, same film.

¹⁵ Thomas Piggot christening: Church of England, West Challow Parish 1653-1959, Berkshire, FHL British Film 88250, items 4-7; online at FamilySearch. These two Thomases are probably the same individual since one record came from the parish register and the other from the Bishop's transcript and differ by only a year.

¹⁶ Thomas Piggot christening: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch.

8. Thomas^D Picket (Francis^E) was christened¹⁷ 29 Oct 1701 at West Challow, Berks the son of Francis and Mary Pigott. He married¹⁸ 7 Jun 1724 at St. Lawrence Church, Reading, Berks **Ann Nicols**.

Thomas and Anne (Nicols) Pickett had two children in the Chieveley, Berkshire parish:

- + 9 i. **WILLIAM^A PICKET**, christened¹⁹ 7 Mar 1725 at Chieveley, Berks.
- + 10 ii. **THOMAS^A PICKET**, christened²⁰ 27 Jan 1734 at Chieveley, Berks.

Generation C

9. William^C Piggot/Picket (Thomas^D Francis^E) was christened²¹ 7 Mar 1725 at Chieveley, Berks the son of Thomas and (probably) Ann (Nicols) Picket of Reading, Berks. He married²² 3 Oct 1748 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks **Anne Stamp** daughter of Richard and Frances Stamp.²³ She was christened 5 Nov 1727 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

The family must have lived somewhere between the two churches (both called St. Mary's) in the adjacent parishes of Hampstead Norreys and Chieveley as some children are christened in one church and some in the other.

William and Anne (Stamp) Pickett had seven children in the Chieveley and Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire parishes:

¹⁷ John Piggot christening: Church of England, Bishop's Transcripts of West Challow Parish 1607-1812, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279453, items 20-22; online at FamilySearch.

¹⁸ **BerksMarriages**

¹⁹ William Pickett christening: Church of England, Chieveley Parish 1560-1975, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

²⁰ Thomas Pickett christening: Church of England, Chieveley Parish 1560-1975, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

²¹ Chieveley Parish Registers, 1560-1975 (Berkshire, England), FHL Film 1040504 (earlier copy 254496); online at FamilySearch and Ancestry.

²² Berkshire Marriage Index (2012), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1-CD-ROM (2nd Edition) at FHL.

²³ FamilySearch has wrong parents (as of 2015), whose daughter Anne Stamp was born in 1780; she therefore could not be married in 1748. The christening record in Hampstead Norreys does not name Anne's parents, but examination of the parish register indicates only one Stamp family (Richard and Frances) christening children in this time period.

- 11 i. **ANN^A PICKET**, christened²⁴ 16 Jul 1749 at Chieveley, Berks. She married²⁵ 6 Dec 1784 at St. Mary's, Hampstead Norreys, Berks **Thomas Laily**.
- + 12 ii. **THOMAS^A PICKET**, christened²⁶ 14 Mar 1751 at Chieveley, Berks.
- + 13 iii. **JOHN^A PIGGOT**, christened²⁷ 29 Oct 1752 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks and buried²⁸ 4 Jun 1828 (age 77) at St. Mary's, Hampstead Norreys.
- 14 iv. **WILLIAM^A PICKETT**, christened²⁹ 25 Dec 1756 at Chieveley, Berks and was buried³⁰ 9 Jan 1844 (age 90) at St. Mary's, Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
- 15 v. **HANNAH^A PICKETT**, born abt 1757 at Chieveley, Berks and was buried 1834. She married³¹ 10 Apr 1779 at Chieveley, Berks **John White**.
- + 16 v. **JAMES^A PICKETT**, born 16 Oct 1758 at Thatcham, Berks and christened³² 28 Mar 1762 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks and was buried 5 Apr 1832 (age 70) at St. Mary the Virgin, Chieveley, Berks.³³ He married 23 Feb 1784 at Peasemore, Berks **Mary Slade**, daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Butler) Slade. [See 'Addendum 2. The Piggot/Pickett Family of Berkshire' on this website.]

²⁴ Ann Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

²⁵ **BerksMarriages**

²⁶ Thomas Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

²⁷ John Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

²⁸ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

²⁹ William Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

³⁰ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

³¹ Chieveley Parish Registers, 1560-1975 (Berkshire, England), FHL Film 1040504 (earlier copy 254496); online at FamilySearch and Ancestry.

³² James Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

³³ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

17 vi. **MARY^A PICKATT**, christened³⁴ 25 Mar 1759 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks and was buried³⁵ 22 Mar 1787 at St. Mary's, Hampstead Norreys, Berks. Never married.

10. **Thomas^C Piggot/Picket (Thomas^D Francis^E)** christened³⁶ 27 Jan 1734 at Chieveley, Berks the son of Thomas and (probably) Ann (Nicols) Picket of Reading, Berks. He married abt 1760 **Sarah _____**.

Thomas and Sarah Picket had seven children in Winterbourne Parish (part of Chieveley Parish).

18 i. **MARTHA^A PICKET**, christened³⁷ 3 May 1761 at Winterbourne, Berks.

19 ii. **SARAH^A PICKET**, christened³⁸ 27 Mar 1762 at Winterbourne, Berks. She married³⁹ 6 Jun 1785 at Chieveley, Berks **Joseph Yeby** of Yattenden Parish, Berks.

20 iii. **MARY^A PICKET**, christened⁴⁰ 3 Jan 1765 at Winterbourne, Berks.

21 iv. **THOMAS^A PIGGET**, christened⁴¹ 4 Dec 1768 at Winterbourne, Berks. He married⁴² 20 Dec 1793 at St. Mary's, Chieveley, Berks **Seabria Fisher**.

22 v. **ELIZABETH^A PIGGOTT**, christened⁴³ 6 Jan 1771 at Winterbourne, Berks.

23 vi. **HANNAH^A PICKET**, christened⁴⁴ 17 Aug 1777 at Winterbourne, Berks. She probably

³⁴ Mary Pickatt christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

³⁵ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

³⁶ Thomas Pickett christening: Church of England, Chieveley Parish 1560-1975, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

³⁷ Martha Picket christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish 1725-1979, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254501; online at FamilySearch.

³⁸ Sarah Picket christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish 1725-1979, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254501; online at FamilySearch.

³⁹ Yeby/Pickett marriage, Church of England, Chieveley Parish, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254498; her father Thomas was the witness and **BerksMarriages**.

⁴⁰ Mary Picket christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish Bishop's transcripts 1608-1835, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279476 items 10-13; online at FamilySearch.

⁴¹ Thomas Pigget christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish 1725-1979, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254501; online at FamilySearch.

⁴² **BerksMarriages**

⁴³ Elizabeth Piggott christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish Bishop's transcripts 1608-1835, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279476 items 10-13; online at FamilySearch.

married⁴⁵ 1797 at Thatcham, Berks **Stephen Tidbury**.
24 vii. **LUCY^A PICKET**, christened⁴⁶ 28 Nov 1779 at Winterbourne, Berks.

Generation B

12. Thomas^B Picket (William^C Thomas^D Francis^E) christened⁴⁷ 14 Mar 1751 at Chieveley, Berks the son of William and Anne (Stamp) Pickett. He married⁴⁸ 18 Dec 1780 at Hungerford, Berks **Martha Duckett** daughter of John and Mary Duckett. She was christened⁴⁹ 26 Feb 1760 at Tunworth, Hampshire.

Thomas and Martha (Duckett) Picket had three children in Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

- 25 i. **JOHN^A PICKET**, christened⁵⁰ 24 Nov 1781 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
- 26 ii. **WILLIAM^A PICKET**, christened⁵¹ 26 Dec 1783 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks. He married 19 May 1805 at St. Bartholomew, Oare Chapel, Chieveley, Berks **Ann Smith**.
- 27 ii. **MARY^A PICKET**, christened⁵² 26 Mar 1786 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

⁴⁴ Hannah Picket christening: Church of England, Thatcham Parish 1561-1992, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1040693; online at FamilySearch.

⁴⁵ Tidbury/Pigot marriage: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish 1725-1979, Berkshire, FHL British Film 254501; online at FamilySearch.

⁴⁶ Lucy Picket christening: Church of England, Winterbourne Parish Bishop's transcripts 1608-1835, Berkshire, FHL British Film 1279476 items 10-13; online at FamilySearch.

⁴⁷ Thomas Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254498; online at FamilySearch.

⁴⁸ **BerksMarriages**

⁴⁹ Martha Duckett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Tunworth, Hampshire, baptisms 1749-1878, FHL British Film 1041365 items, 15-20; online at FamilySearch and Ancestry. Tunworth is in northern Hampshire not far from Hungerford or Hampstead Norreys; this is probably the right Martha as there were no other Martha Ducketts in available records for this time period.

⁵⁰ John Picket christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁵¹ William Picket christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁵² Mary Picket christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

13. John^B Pickett (William^C Thomas^D Francis^E) was christened⁵³ 29 Oct 1752 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks the son of William and Anne (Stamp) Pickett; he was buried⁵⁴ 4 Jun 1828 (age 77) at St. Marys, Hampstead Norreys, Berks. He married⁵⁵ 13 Dec 1782 at Hampstead Norreys **Martha Taylor**. She was christened⁵⁶ 3 Sep 1758 at Hampstead Norreys, the daughter of William and Martha Taylor of Hampstead Norreys. She was buried⁵⁷ 20 Jan 1841 (age 82) at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

John and Martha (Taylor) Pickett had seven children in the Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

- 28 i. **MARTHA^A PICKETT**, christened⁵⁸ 7 Mar 1784 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
- 29 ii. **ANN^A PICKETT**, christened⁵⁹ 29 May 1785 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
- 30 iii. **JEREMIAH^A PICKETT**, christened⁶⁰ 11 Feb 1787 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
- 31 iv. **JOHN^A PICKETT**, christened⁶¹ 30 Nov 1788 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks and probably died young.
- 32 v. **JOHN^A PICKETT**, christened⁶² 13 Feb 1791 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.

⁵³ John Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Oare, Berkshire, baptisms 1745-1812, FHL British Film 254496; online at FamilySearch.

⁵⁴ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

⁵⁵ Berkshire Marriage Index (2012), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1-CD-ROM (2nd Edition) at FHL.

⁵⁶ Martha Taylor christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch and Ancestry.

⁵⁷ Berkshire Burial Index (2008), Berkshire Family History Society (England), 1 CD-ROM (7th Edition) at FHL.

⁵⁸ Martha Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁵⁹ Ann Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁶⁰ Jeremiah Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁶¹ John Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁶² John Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

- 33 vi. **HANNAH^A PICKETT**, christened⁶³ 27 Sep 1795 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks.
34 vii. **MARY^A PICKETT**, christened⁶⁴ 4 Feb 1798 at Hampstead Norreys, Berks

⁶³ Hannah Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.

⁶⁴ Mary Pickett christening: Church of England, Parish Church of Hampstead Norreys, Berkshire, baptisms 1538-1892, FHL British Film 88298; online at FamilySearch.