

Renoufs of Guernsey
1500 to 1900
and their emigration
to UK, USA, Canada,
Australia and New Zealand

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***Genealogy Charts: Jean of the Monnaie; James of Fief l'evêque;
Thomas of the Forest; Pierre of St. Pierre Du Bois; Jean of St. Peter Port.***

Dedication

This book is dedicated to my many Renouf forebears. To those many men and women whose lives have become very real to me. To those people who struggled to advance their families and who survived life's vicissitudes, in much harsher times than these. Thanks to them I have the privilege not only of knowing our family history, but also of enjoying the journey of discovery.

Acknowledgements

Many people have helped considerably in the preparation of this manuscript and to them I owe grateful thanks. First, my cousin John Renouf from Tonbridge, who obtained a huge amount of parish data and other Guernsey information, and who inspired my later efforts to find the father of James Renouf of the Monnaie.

Second, Miss Gallienne from the Priaulx Library undertook hours of painstaking research on our behalf.

Third, my thanks go to many members of the Channel Islands List. In particular Angela in Guernsey was a great help with data and shared my enthusiasm for a better understanding of life in Guernsey. Anne, from Jersey, was also generous in sharing information on her Jersey Renouf families. Many others members of the Channel Island List provided insights, encouragement and information over the last four years. In particular they helped in my understanding of the widespread emigration of people from Guernsey.

I availed myself of as many books on Island history as was possible from a distance.

I alone am responsible for any errors or wrongful interpretations. Where the records were equivocal and there remains uncertainty I have indicated this.

PART ONE

MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT

Figure Two: Viking settlement in Normandy

Figure Three: Villages around St. Pierre Eglise

Chapter One: OUR ORIGINS

First Settlement

Evidence from my fathers DNA [Haplogroup R1b1b2a1b7] indicate that my male ancestors were amongst the earliest men to settle in Western Europe many thousand years ago. They arrived in the first waves of human migration heading south from northern Europe [current Germany, Poland] towards Spain. At some point in prehistory these ancient peoples settled along the coasts and islands of west Europe. During the Ice Ages these people moved into refugia along the French/ Spanish border and as the ice retreated their ancestors re-spread through out Europe. Amongst these people, my Renouf ancestors settled at some point in the area of France known as Normandy.

We know that the name Renouf originated from the Germanic Ragin Wulf [Wolf Consul/ Adviser], and was initially used as a forename in the time before people had surnames. However, by the end of the first millennium Renouf became established as a surname in Normandy, with a variety of spellings, and people with our surname lived in the villages in the northern Contentin Peninsula [Theville, Gonnerville] and around Caen and Bayeux [Isigny Sur Mer, Ver Sur Mer, Cahagnes, Saint Contest, Cheux, Mosles, Landes Sur Ajon]. They were not all related.

The Vikings

While my Renouf ancestors were probably not part of the Viking invasions or subsequent permanent settlement of Normandy after 843, they may well have been co-opted into the services of the invader. When the area known as Normandy was ceded by the Frankish King Charles the Simple to Rollo the Viking leader in 911, the Renoufs came under a new regime in which some of them achieved prominence and their name first appears in written records.

Rollo gave feudal rights over the already occupied land to his various Viking chieftains in recognition of their services to him and to ensure their future loyalty. The existing local people were subsumed into this new social, political and economic order. The new rulers maintained their strategic links with their Danish forbears and a strong Norman state developed which repelled later attacks from the Frankish kings, and continued to expand Norman territory within France, into the Channel Islands, England and southern Italy.

The first record of the Renouf surname is of **Jean Renouf**, who along with some former Norsemen, was part of a warlike group achieving military superiority against various foes. Tupper's "History of Guernsey" reveals that there were Renoufs living at Hauteville, five miles south west of Coutances in western Normandy, who went to Apulia [Southern Italy] in 1033 with various sons from the Tancred family, to set up a colony there. This group of warriors was said "to have applied genius and courage to win battles and overturn thrones". Renouf was said to have been elected as their leader.

The Falaise Roll, which lists the Companions who fought with William the Conqueror in 1066 at the Battle of Hastings, includes five Renoufs; **Renouf of Vailort** and **Renouf of St. Valery** [both in Normandy de Haute]; **Renouf of Colonbelles**; **Renouf of Vaubadan** [both in Normandy de Bas, near Caen] and **Renouf Peveral**. However, the Domesday Book of 1086 shows that there were no Renoufs amongst the 190 Norman counts who held over half of England as their fief.

The Norman Invasion of the Channel Islands

History tells us that a Siegneur **Ranulf Fitz Anhetil**, Viscount of Bessin, was part of the Norman Court of Duke Robert the Magnificent [an heir of Rollo] when the latter took possession of the Channel Islands in 933. Anhetil was appointed to rule over the northern fief in Guernsey comprising the parishes of the Vale, Catel, St. Saviour and St. Pierre du Bois. In 1032 this fief was passed over to the Monastery of Mont St. Michel but was restored to the Viscount's son, **Ranulph**, in 1042. It was again forfeited when Ranulph, attempting to protect the independence of western Normandy, fought against William the Conqueror at the Battle of Dunes in 1047. As a consequence Ranulph fled to England where he defended Chester against William in 1066. The fief was again restored in 1054 to Ranulph's son and was known as the Fief Le Compte until it was once more transferred back to the Abbot of Mont St. Michel in 1155.

The southern fief in Guernsey was granted to Nigel, Viscount of the Contentin. He too fought against William in 1047 but later was reconciled and the fief, which had reverted to the Abbey of Marmoutier, was again vested in Nigel. A Charter confirming Duke William's grant to Nigel is one of the earliest surviving documents relating to the Channel Islands. It is thought to have been signed in 1060. This document, which identifies the six parishes contained in this fief, including St. Andrews, was witnessed by one **Rannulfus**, Nigel's chaplain.

Some of the Duke of Normandy's friends were given land in the Islands as a reward for their services and some of his enemies were banished there for punishment. However, it is unlikely that these earliest knights and their immediate households ever visited, let alone settled, on their fief lands in Guernsey where their interests were primarily in its fishing grounds. Rather, they imposed their feudal system on the small local population probably with the aid of only a few trusted retainers.

Chapter Two: 1100- 1600 AD

Changes during the 1100's

After two hundred years the original fiefs in Guernsey underwent changes. Demand for agricultural land had increased during the twelfth century and between 1144 and 1200 former waste land was cleared in a number of parishes. This land came to be held by the newly formed Fief Le Roi [the King's Fief] which was administered by the Viscount of the Island. In addition, by the end of the 1100's, the initial two fiefdoms were broken into smaller parts and given to either the important abbeys, or to great Norman families, from the Contentin Peninsula. At this point, while the fisheries were still important, some of the feudal owners set up manors on the island. There were no Renoufs amongst these few "great families". Nor were they listed amongst those notable persons attending the Dedications of the Churches in the Island between 1111[St. Sampson] and 1284 [St. Andrew], although this last source of data may not be genuine.

After 1204 Normandy was no longer part of England's realm and Guernsey swore allegiance to the English monarch. It is likely that migration from Normandy to Guernsey ceased because of the ensuing hostile relations between France and England.

The English Crown set up the first formal records which enables us to discover whether or not our family name was recorded on the Island. The first of these, the Extant of 1274, shows that no one named Renouf was amongst the head tenants paying dues directly to the King. But it does not clarify whether or not there were any Renoufs on the island.

The English introduced the Rolls of Assizes in 1309 and these, unhappily, recorded that a **Colin Renouf** was indicted for the night assault on one, William Marks. Colin apparently died before his trial. Another wayward Islander was **William Renouf** who abjured [repudiated] the island and was given sanctuary by one Richard Manche. His fate is unknown.

Tupper's "History of Guernsey", shows the next record of the Renouf name, in Guernsey, in the 1331 Extant of Edward 3rd. A **Rauf Renouf** of St. Sampson's is cited twice in the

Extant, which describes his feudal obligations to the King, as he held a tenancy in Fief Le Roi.

The items reveal that Rauf Renouf was a tenant farmer [probably with a personal holding] in that parish and, with his subtenants, had to pay Bordage or Grosse Tete for his 1 ½

Footnote: * Marsh lands in St. Sampson's were incorporated into Fief Le Roi between 1144 and 1150.

Bouvees [about 12 acres]. He also had to pay Purprestures of six deniers, tournais to the King for the use of two parcels of common pasturage, on the feast of St. Michael's. He also had a number of other obligations to be paid in kind.

These last three records confirm that some Renoufs had settled in Guernsey in the period between 933 and 1204. It is not possible, however, to confirm whether they were amongst those who settled soon after 933 or amongst those who migrated to Guernsey, and became tenants in their own right, or came as subtenants for one of the great Norman families, between the years 1144 and 1204.

The Wars between France and England 1204- 1480

The strategic location of Guernsey, with its safe anchorages and its role in the fish and wine trade between Gascony and England, meant that it was a focus for continual French attacks. For three hundred years Guernsey was subjected to numerous incursions of French troops. One attack in 1294 saw a quarter of the population of St. Peter Port killed by the French. In 1372 there was another invasion which pitted eight hundred Guernsey men against the French leaving half of the Island militia dead. The Hundred Years War between England and France began in 1338 with intermittent raids and occupations, and these continued on until 1480. However the Papal Bull of 1480 conferred neutrality on the Island during times of war, and this enabled trade in Guernsey to flourish.

Renewed migration from Normandy

In the early 1500's, various French ports including Dunkirk, Cherbourg and St. Malo engaged in trade with Guernsey and many French merchants regularly visited St. Peter Port. With more settled conditions in the Island, and with its expanding importance as a trade "entrepot", some people migrated from Normandy and Brittany to Guernsey. It appears that many of these migrants were wealthy merchants who had been well educated. In addition, new opportunities to procure land occurred in Guernsey. Many of the Church fiefs were released in 1547 as a consequence of the Protestant Reformation.

This land, as well as some poor quality land, previously held in the Fief Le Roi, became available as Fee Farms to new land holders.

Edith Carey refers to a “Livres de Perchage” [land records], begun in 1470, and cites two Renoufs as being “from Normandy”. The first reference, dated 1524, refers to a **Robin Renouf**, “son of **Richard Renouf** of Normandy”, obtaining land at Countree des Effards in St. Andrews [sic]. The second reference is to a “**Jean Renouf** of Normandy”, who was the father of a **Robert Renouf** who obtained property in St. Peter Port in 1614. It is probable that these two Normandy migrants were related.

Soon after 1557, the first victims of religious persecution from the Contentin Peninsula began to arrive in the Channel Islands; all zealous Calvinists, with many following reformist ministers who had taken up parish duties in Guernsey and Jersey around 1560, where the liturgy was still in French. Other waves of persecution followed in the years from 1568 and after the Paris massacre in 1572 refugees continued to flee through the Islands until around 1580. The names of some of these refugees were recorded but most were not. There is no mention of Renoufs being amongst these, although there were many Renoufs involved with the Protestant Church in Caen around 1550-80.

Nearly a hundred years later, in 1686, the great Huguenot exodus from France began with the Channel Islands used primarily as a stepping stone on their journey to religious freedom. The name Renouf, however, does not appear among the list of Huguenot Abjurations effected in Guernsey. Further, when I searched the Huguenot listings in Normandy I found only one **Renou** [sic] and half a dozen others with similar spellings amongst them. Thus I think it is safe to say that no one named Renouf arrived in Guernsey as a Huguenot refugee in the late 1600’s.

By the start of the 1600’s it is possible to discover a great deal more about the Guernsey Renoufs. The Carey papers reveal that the merchant Renoufs in St. Peter Port held considerable property and were amongst Guernsey’s wealthy elite and as a consequence many of these men were able to use the title Monsieur. Various entries in the St. Andrew’s Livres de Perchage also show that Renouf families worked modest rural properties in St. Andrew’s and others had land in the Forest. These men were given the title Le Sieur.

Just as the Livres de Perchage help us to obtain reliable information about the Renouf farmers, the parish church records of baptisms, marriages and deaths, which commenced in the late 1500’s, gives some real appreciation of the number of Renouf families in Guernsey, at that time, and the linkages between many of them. All of these documents inform the next chapters.

Chapter Three; RENOUFFS ARRIVAL in GUERNSEY

Our Renouf Family Lines

We can confirm our descent from two of the Renouf families in Guernsey from around 1600. On the paternal side the Renouf family line came from La Monnaie in St. Andrew's Parish on land within Fief Le Roi. Parish records and Extracts from the Livres de Perchage for the Fief confirm that our ancestor **Jean Renouf** [who married **Michelle Nicolle**] lived there from at least 1605.

On the maternal side there was a marriage between a **Mary Elizabeth Renouf** [born 1842 St. Sampson's] and William Marsh, an Englishman. Mary Elizabeth was descended from **James Renouf** of Fief l'evêque [the Bishop of Coutances Fief] and Fief Des Eprons [Fief of the Spur], also in St Andrew's. Again, parish records and Extracts from the Livres de Perchage confirm that this line of Renoufs also lived on the land at least from the start of the 1600's.

What we can not do, however, is to confirm when our ancestors arrived in Guernsey from Normandy, and whether they were descended from the Renoufs in Guernsey during the 1200's. But there are a number of options which we can explore to determine which is most likely.

The first option is that they arrived at the time that the island came under the aegis of the Norman Duchy in 933, as it is possible that the new feudal rulers sent some of their retinue to collect dues and oversee the good governance of their Guernsey tenants. Genetic studies undertaken by University College London in 2002 have found that 6% of the Guernsey population has Viking DNA*. We know, though, that the paternal Renouf family doesn't show the majority Viking DNA [Haplogroup I] which may exclude them from being amongst this first group of Normans.

A second option is that our Renoufs arrived sometime between 1100 and 1204 as we know that a **Colin, William and Rauf Renouf** all lived on the Island in the early 1300's. We also know that Rauf was not a head tenant until after 1274.

The third option is that we are the descendants of one of the sixteenth century Renouf migrants from Normandy; either **Jean or Robin**.

*Footnote: *This DNA is found mainly in the Saami people of Finland [40%] and is also found in Sardinia and the Catalan part of Spain.*

We can neither prove nor disprove whether we are the descendants of any of these men. We can only assess the probability by examining the limited data available

Parish Data

The parish records for Guernsey give information which suggests that about 15 male Renoufs reached adulthood in Guernsey between 1555 and 1600 [Chart1] who had been born on the island in the years between 1530 and 1585. Six of these men were cited in the St. Peter Port church records, and of them we know that at least three [**Colas, Robert and Pierre** all born 1560 -70] were the sons of **Jean of Normandy** whom, the Carey papers imply, was a son of Robin and grandson of Richard, both of Normandy. Another, **Pierre** [born about 1565], appears to be the second son of James of St. Andrew's. The remaining two Renoufs in St. Peter Port [**Pierre** "the Baker" and **Collas**] can not be so readily accounted for.

In addition to those in the Town there were five adult male Renoufs in St. Andrew's: **James** born 1545-1550 and his son **Jean** born about 1580; another **Jean** [born about 1546 -1551 who was buried in 1582] and his son **Jean** [born about 1575]; and a **Colin** or **Colas** [born about 1550-1555].

Two other men [**Jean and Richard**], who each had a daughter's baptism recorded in St. Saviour's, and a third [**Pierre**] whose son's marriage was recorded in St. Saviour's, all appear to be from St. Pierre du Bois, and may be entirely unrelated to either the St. Andrews and St. Peter Port families. Finally, there was one adult male in the Forest, **Simon**, who was born between 1580-1585, who again may be unrelated to the families in the other parishes.

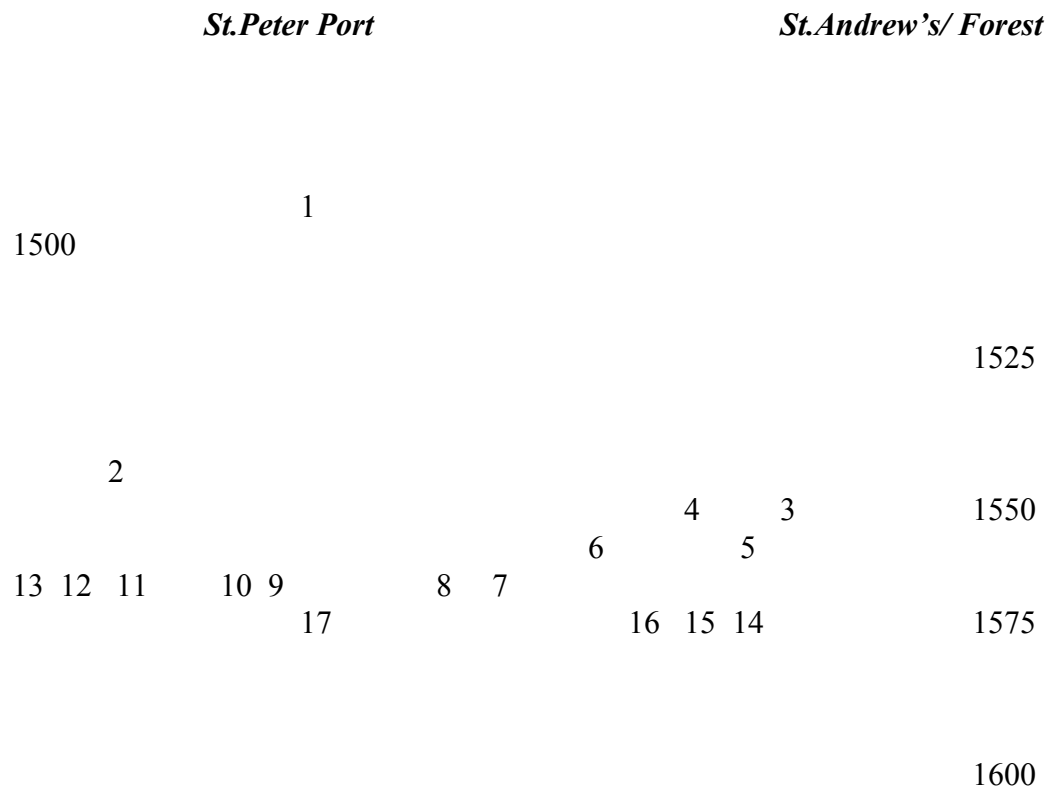
It seems unlikely that all of these men could have descended from **Robin** of Normandy. Even if we assume that Robin Renouf was about 25 years old when he arrived in Guernsey, that he married soon after and fathered three surviving males in the years 1530-45 and that between 1555 - 1570 those male children each fathered another two or three surviving males, it would be impossible to account for all the men identified in Chart One.

Another factor lends support to this view. The baptismal data for the early 1600's shows a lower average number of surviving males in each generation than that assumed above. It is probable that there was no immediate and worsening change in health and social circumstances in the early 1600's, in contrast to the late 1500's, to effect a reduction in survival rates.

There is however, a clear generational gap in the earliest marriage and birth records [Chart Two] for both St. Andrew's and St. Peter Port in the period 1580 to 1652, which is harder to explain. While some have argued that not all families registered their births, deaths and marriages in these early years, that does not seem to be the explanation, since

CHART ONE;

Adult Male Renoufs in Guernsey 1500 -1600



KEY

- 1 Robin Renouf born about 1500, son of Richard of Normandy, buys land in 1524.[source Carey]
- 2 Jean of Normandy, born about 1530, marries Guilliamaine Le Fellya. [source Carey]

- 3 Jean born 1545-1550 marries Girette Navatal, son Jean bapt. 1576, 1584 wife remarries. [St. Andrew's]
- 4 James born 1545-50, of Fief l'èveque, buried 1611 "an old man". [St. Andrew's]
- 5 Collas born 1550- 55, marries 1587. [St. Andrew's]
- 6 Collas born 1550-55, marries 1581. [St. Peter Port]
- 7 Pierre "the Baker" born 1555-60, daughter bapt. 1586. [St. Peter Port]
- 8 Pierre born 1565-70, marries, son James bapt. 1594. [St. Peter Port]
- 9 Richard born 1565 -70, daughter Perotine bapt. 1595. [St. Saviour's]
- 10 Jean born 1565-70 of St. Pierre du Bois, daughter Lorence bapt. 1595. [St. Saviour's]
- 11 Pierre born 1560-65, son of Jean, son Pierre bapt. 1592. [St. Peter Port]
- 12 Collas born 1565-70, son of Jean, daughter Sarra bapt. 1593. [St. Peter Port]
- 13 Robert born 1565-70, son of Jean, marries 1595. [St. Peter Port]
- 14 Simon born 1580-85, daughter Susanne marries 1632. [St. Saviour's]
- 15 Jean born about 1580, son bapt. 1613. [St. Andrew's]
- 16 Jean bapt. 1576, son of Jean [3]. [St. Andrew's]
- 17 Pierre of St Pierre Du Bois born 1580-85, son James marries 1635 [St. Saviour's]

I believe the generational gap is a result of the low numbers of Renoufs at the time. I have discovered few omissions, rather than large scale gaps, after amalgamating all the families. In addition to the generation gap there are markedly different French female names given to the various Renouf daughters in the first lot of records [1587 – 1627] than are given to those in subsequent years [Chart Three]. However, changes in naming may reflect new and stricter Calvinist requirements to use biblical names, rather than be explained by recent migration from France.

Census Data

The British Government instituted its first census in 1841 and data was collected from the Channel Islands. In 1841 we find that there were 203 people in Guernsey with the Renouf surname and they constituted 0.75% of the Guernsey population. By 1861 the number of Renoufs recorded totaled 231 and their proportion in the population had not changed appreciably.

These census figures give us a base for making a retrospective estimate of how many Renoufs there may have been in Guernsey in 1613. If we assume that their proportion in the total population was between 0.75 and 1% of the Guernsey population, [as it was in 1841] then of the 7 500 people in Guernsey in 1613 we would then expect there to be between 56 and 75 Renouf family members. Instead we find only 35 -45 Renoufs, all descending from the seventeen men already identified.

Twin Data

There appears to be a greater than expected number of same gender twins born amongst the descendants of both the St. Andrew's Renouf families [Appendix One] who had moved to St. Peter Port. Out of 298 Renouf births in St Peter Port 10, or 3.3 %, were of same sex twins. This is nearly three times the expected rate of 1.2% for dizygotic [fraternal] twins and seven times the expected rate of [0.4%] for monozygotic [identical] twins*. This suggests that the ex St. Andrew's Renoufs probably had a different ancestor to the St. Peter Port descendants of Jean of Normandy.

Social Status Data

There appear to be significant status differences between the wealthy St. Peter Port merchant Renoufs who engaged in international trade, and the small farmer or craftsmen Renoufs who emerged from St. Andrew's. This suggests that they were not closely related and may well have come from different parts of Normandy at different times.

Footnote: *There is a genetic base for fraternal twinning but it is the female parent who has sole influence. While some tribes have been found with higher rates of twinning it is not plausible that all the Renouf wives came from the same background? Thus, I suspect that these Renouf twins could have been monozygotic twins as it is thought that there is a genetic predisposition for such twins.

CHART TWO;

Clusters of Marriage and Birth Records for St Andrew's and St. Peter Port

Marriages St. Andrew's

1578

1584

1587

1607

1622

1623

1627

1630

1632

1633

1637

1639

Marriages St. Peter Port

1581

1584

1591

1595

1623

1626

1628

1630

1631

1638

Births St. Andrew's

1576

1581

1605

1610

1613

Births St. Peter Port

1586

1587

1589 – 1610 [16]

1621	1624
1623	1626
1626	1627
1628	1631- 1638 [7]
1629	
1632	
1635	
1637	
1638	
1639	
1640 -52 [8]	
	1647
	1652

Data on Guernsey farmhouses

While we can not confirm Renouf tenancy of Fief properties in St. Andrew's prior to 1600 we know that Renoufs were involved in the local church at least fifty years earlier which suggests that their tenancy at least dated from 1550, if not before. We also know that there were very modest farm houses, built in the 1400's, relatively close by to their later more substantial homes; presumably these were the homes of earlier farmers. The unanswered question is "were these early farmhouses the habitations of our Renouf ancestors"?

Conclusion

In light of these various pieces of data I think it is **possible** that the St. Andrew's/ Forest Renoufs are descended from one of the Renouf families living in Guernsey in the 1330's but that these Renoufs only just managed to replace themselves in the years up to 1600. It is also **possible** that we descended from a later Norman migrant but I think we can safely assume that if so this migrant was neither Robin nor Jean of Normandy. Instead, there may have been other Norman migrants from the northern part of the Contentin Peninsula around St. Pierre Eglise, who may have had farming backgrounds and was able to take up tenancies in St. Andrew's, the Forest and St. Pierre du Bois. But as there are no records in Guernsey to support this, it seems to be a slim possibility.

In all then, I think the balance of **probabilities** suggests that our Renouf antecedents were settled in Guernsey by the fourteenth century. Hopefully, in the future, data will be found which will enable us to establish, unequivocally, exactly when our Renouf families arrived in Guernsey.

In the next section I will outline the information we have about the various Renouf families from St. Andrew's, the Forest and St. Peter Port. Each of their histories is

different, but each shows their descendants migrating in and outside Guernsey over the next three centuries.

CHART THREE;

Names used in late 1500's and subsequently discontinued.

Perotine
Alichette
Giotte
Noemi
Sarra
Debra
Bertranne
Lorence / Lorenche
Collenette / Collette
Catteline

PART TWO

RENOUFS IN GUERNSEY 1600 - 1900

Figure Four: Guernsey Parishes

Chapter Four; FIEF LANDS in ST. ANDREW'S

St. Andrew's parish, in the centre of the Island, is the only parish without a coastline. The parish has a relatively small population within the confines of its undulating farmland and deep valleys. Its parish church, four kilometers south west of St. Peter Port, was consecrated in 1284, with its parish records commencing in 1575. The parish boundaries however, existed from before the Norman Conquest and, as a consequence, the Norman feudal fiefs largely echoed these parish lines.

The feudal history of St. Andrew's parish is relatively straight forward. It was initially part of the much larger Contentin fief, but after 1150 no new Seigneur was appointed to oversee this large part of the island. Rather, the fief was divided up into eight smaller fiefs. Additionally, after 1150, land in the north of the parish that had previously been waste land [swampy or forested areas and some less accessible tracts], became part of the Kings Fief.

St. Andrew's now comprised of four ecclesiastic fiefs associated with the different French Abbots, who were responsible for maintaining Christianity on the island, as well as four lay fiefs, with the remainder of the parish in the possession of the King of England, [who was also the Duke of Normandy], in the Fief La Roi. Under the aegis of King Henry 4th, in 1414, more land came into Fief La Roi from some of the ecclesiastic fiefs and later again, during the Reformation, some church lands were confiscated in favour of the Crown. At the same time [in the 1550's], two of the lay fiefs in St. Andrew's [Fief au Fay and Fief Burons] were joined to form the new fief of des Eprons.

Just as St. Andrew's parish forms the centre of Guernsey, so too was this parish the heart land of the Guernsey Renoufs. Both our paternal and maternal Renouf lines farmed there

from at least the start of the seventeenth century and probably since the early fifteenth century. The Livres de Percharge show that properties in two fiefs in St. Andrew's; Fief la Roi and Fief l'evêque [the Bishop of Coutances Fief] were held by Renoufs until the end of the 1800's. Briefly, in the middle of the eighteenth century, land in des Eprons was also held by Renoufs. Later still, in 1847, small lots in Fief La Haule also came into Renouf hands.

Land Tenure

On land in Fief Le Roi the "villeins" [peasant farmer] enjoyed the privilege and status of "hotes" du Roi or guests of the King. This meant that they had a form of land holding which gave them continuous tenure, in return for modest payments in kind. While they could not own the land itself, they owned the right to use the land and to sell its usage. Many local peasants were attracted to the newly cleared lands in Fief Le Roi and some of their tenancies were established soon after the 1204 breach with Normandy. Those tenant farmers in the ecclesiastic fiefs had obligations to the relevant diocese.

Inheritance

Guernsey inheritance laws gave the eldest son a twentieth part of the whole estate, plus the house and its "appurtenances"[relevant property]; then divided the remaining property on the basis of two thirds to the sons and one third to the daughters. As a consequence land remained in families for many generations, in ever smaller parcels, which gradually became unsustainable. Younger sons were then forced to move away from the original land holding and to find a living somewhere else.

Sometimes, though, when landholdings became too small to divide, a useful marriage might bring new land into the family and provide a living for younger sons and their families. Canny business sense and hard work also enabled others to purchase tenure on nearby properties.

St. Andrew's Parish Records

The parish records supplement the information on tenure recorded on the Livres de Percharge. The earliest entries in the St. Andrew's Parish Registers indicate that there were two extended Renouf families active in the church, between 1550 and 1600 and some entries record the area of the parish where their properties could be found. These help us to identify the Renoufs from Fief Le Roi from those at Fief l'evêque. What we do not know is whether these two families were related; but I believe they must be.

Over the next hundred and fifty years the numbers of Renouf families active in St. Andrew's church grew considerably, from the original two, to about thirteen. As the two extended families continued to grow, family members moved away from St. Andrew's, finding homes within other parishes or in the Town. Despite this internal migration, the

Renouf affiliation with the parish of St. Andrew's, and with their original farms was maintained until 1900; a quite considerable period of time.

Census Records

The census information from 1841 onwards makes it clear that the Renoufs were still successful small to medium landholders on the original fief lands, in the north and south of the parish. They had acquired some additional lands which enabled some of them to still support their extended families by farming.

By 1841, after almost 300 years, there were 55 Renoufs, in nine extended families living in St. Andrew's, and all were descended from the two families known to be there in 1550.

However, by 1841, only four men were still described as farmers* on the original fief Holdings; the others were labourers or involved in other occupations.

Some were shopkeepers, at Bailiff's Cross, while others worked at various crafts; including carpentry, and shoemaking. In 1841 the Renoufs represented 5.3% of the St. Andrew's population.

Social and economic changes continued and by 1901, only 34 Renoufs lived in St Andrew's, in eight households, with only two farmers**and two fruit growers*** amongst them. Others worked as harness makers, grocers, tailors, gardeners and labourers. By then Renoufs constituted only 2.2 % of that parish's population.

The next two chapters outline the Renoufs tenure of farmland and properties in St. Andrew's.

Footnotes:* They included Nicolas [b.1783] of the Monnaie and Nicolas[b.1797] of l'echelle, as well as Thomas[b.1785] of the Ruettes [Fief Le Roi Line]. In addition there was Thomas[b.1783] of Rue Marquand [Fief l'evêque line].

** John [b. 1841] of Rue Fraires

* ** Frederick [b.1868] both Fief l'evêque line, Henry Naftel [b. 1837] at Vauquiador Rd. of Monnaie line.

Chapter Five; RENOUS of FIEF LE ROI and FIEF LA HAULE

First Records of Family Members

La Monnaie*, the ancestral home for our paternal Renouf family, is part of Fief Le Roi and lies along a ridge in the north west of the parish. On its western edge the land drops steeply into the wooded Talbot Valley. Initially, the flatter areas were used for growing grain and parsnips as well as for grazing cattle. Farm produce was largely used for home consumption and local barter. However, with the inception of the hand knitting trade our farm families developed an income stream and the winter months were used fruitfully. By the end of the 1500's and in the beginning of the 1600's extensive apple orchards were planted on the Monnaie land and cider making became an important source of wealth.

While it is difficult to ascertain to which of the two Renouf families the earliest parish entries belong, my best guess is that **Jean Renouf** [born 1545- 1550] who was married to **Girotte Navatal**, and whose son Jean was the first Renouf baptized in St. Andrew's in 1576, was from the Monnaie. Jean senior, was described as "sacristan and elder" at his burial in 1582 [the first recorded for a Renouf in the parish] and his widow Girotte soon remarried [1584]. **Jean** junior subsequently married either Marie Simon or **Isebel Robert** somewhere between 1595 and 1605. I favour the latter**.

By the early 1600's, though, it is possible to be more certain about our family line at the Monnaie. In the church records there is a **Jean** [born about 1610] who, when he married

Michelle Nicolle in 1637, was described in the marriage register as “Jean of the Monnaie”.

Jean and Michelle Nicolle had a daughter Elizabeth born in 1639 [with Thomas Navatal as godfather] and there was also a daughter Susanne, who was buried in 1642. There is no baptism though, for a Jean [born about 1640], nor for a Nicolas [born about 1645] though there are subsequent records of each of them. So we can surmise either, that the first Jean of the Monnaie had no sons, and that these are a younger brother's sons, or that Jean and Michelle failed to have two of their sons baptized for some reason. As Michelle was buried in 1646, possibly dying in childbirth, the latter is possible. The first certain “Jean Renouf of the Monnaie” was buried on 24th February 1660.

Footnotes: * *La Monnaie translates as “the Mint”. In 1533 one, Collas Guillemotte, who presumably lived in the area, had permission to mint a coin, called the Freluques, which was used for over a century.*

* **Jean and Isebel Robert had three daughters; Susanne born 1605, Collenette born 1610 and Lorenche who was buried in 1620. Susanne went on to marry Pierre Queripel in 1632 and Collenette married Pierre Grut in 1642: the Queripel and Grut names come up again in association with the Monnaie Renoufs.*

The second confirmed **Jean** of the Monnaie married **Judith Pipet** in 1665. This couple had four sons; Nicolas born 1672/3 [godparents Nicolas Renouf, James Renouf junior and Judith de Jersey] and three boys named Jean born in 1666/1667, 1670 and 1675 respectively. Various godparents for the three sons named Jean included a Collas Renouf “uncle”.

Thus the next heir to the Monnaie was Jean and Judith's oldest surviving son **Nicolas**. He married **Marie Le Noury** and had two sons; Nicolas in 1696 [who was buried 21st November 1718] and Thomas born in 1698 [who was buried 7th Dec 1712]; and a daughter, Marie, who was buried in 1697. A third son James* was also born to this couple in 1699, but he was not baptized. He became the next owner of the Monnaie land. Marie Le Noury died in 1699, most probably during, or soon after, childbirth.

The Monnaie Land and Houses

The first mention of the Monnaie land being owned by Jean Renouf [and his wife Judith] is found in Island Archives papers dated August 1674. The next mention is in the Livres de Perchage in 1701 and it refers to another house, garden and courtyard [of 2 verges and 36 perch in size [about 1 acre] plus three other items coming into the possession of [Jean's son] Nicolas Renouf [born 1672 died 1750], at the back of his existing house on the Monnaie property.

On 7th August 1721 when **James Renouf** married **Elizabeth Le Petit** at the Town Church, he was the owner of the original Monnaie land as well as the extra acre his father had purchased. We believe that he lived in one of these two old farmhouses at

Monnaie, which had probably been built 1400-1550. James's uncle, **Jean** [born 1675], his wife **Marie Martin** and their family also lived at the Monnaie, presumably in the other farmhouse. It appears as if the original size of the land holding was between 5 and 10 acres.

Monnaie De Haute

James of the Monnaie had two surviving sons and after his death his oldest son **Nicolas**, built the large stone house called Monnaie de Haut in 1759, at the top end of Monnaie Lane. This was a 9 window two storey house, sometimes called the "large parlour" or Jersey House. It was a substantial dwelling and costly to build. James's second son, **Thomas**, lived with his widowed mother and family at what was probably the original farmhouse, now called L'Echelle [the ladder or steps]. We believe this house was on the ridge above the Talbot Valley and accessed by an old roadway leading up from the valley towards Monnaie Lane.

The oldest sons of both Nicolas and Thomas continued to farm the Renouf land at both
Footnote: **When James who married Elizabeth Le Petit was buried on 17th July 1752 he was described as "James son of Nicolas of the Monnaie".*

L'Echelle and La Monnaie until the late 1800's although additional land acquisitions enabled some of the younger sons to stay on in St. Andrews.

We know that Monnaie de Haute comprised of 5v [approximately two and a half acres] as well as the extra 2v 36 p [another acre] in 1756. Much of this land was planted with apples trees and cider was made there; as was also traditional in the Calvados region of France. So at its maximum the heirs [the oldest sons] to Monnaie de Haute owned approximately 3 ½ acres of farm land.

In 1852, the grandson of **Nicolas** [born 1750] and **Elizabeth Patourel** released the single acre plot, the house Monnaie de Haute*, the barn, stable and cider press to Jean de Moulipied of St. Martins. The remaining 5v remained with Thomas [born 1785] the second son of Nicolas and Elizabeth Le Patourel. He made a further purchase of 3v 13p [1 ½ acres] in 1824 from Elie Le Patourel [his grandfather]. This land was probably used for grazing cattle and for crops, and, with some further land purchases it continued to be farmed up until some time between 1881 and 1891, when its last owner **John Renouf** [born 1846] married to **Elizabeth Lihou** sold the "ten acres +" and moved to live at 27 Norma Terrace in St Peter Port. We know that he received a good price for the property because his three daughters ended up owning a large apartment house at 8 the Grange in 1903.

Monnaie de Bas

The second son of the Nicolas [born 1726] who built Monnaie de Haute in 1759 was **Thomas** [born 1756] who married **Marguerite Naftel**. He obtained 2 v 2p [an acre] of

land adjacent to Monnaie Lane from his father-in-law as well as the house Monnaie de Bas, which had been built between 1700 and 1750. Thomas and his oldest son farmed this land until both died in 1836. The widow of Thomas junior, and her young son Thomas Winter Renouf [born 1829], moved into St. Peter Port where they were living in 1841. At the same time a number of agricultural workers were lodging at Monnaie de Bas whilst the Renouf family maintained their ownership of the property, as well as another house called Jennets, at least until 1867. The house at Monnaie de Bas was used as a school for some years in the early 1900's and is now privately owned and also extremely valuable.

L'echelle

As indicated this house, as well as land [probably 5v] was in the possession of Thomas Renouf [born 1731], the second son of James, and was the home of James' widow

Footnote: *Later Monnaie de Haute was owned by the Simon family and later, around 1900, by the Reverend Henry Appelby. In the Second World War the house was occupied by the German invaders. A chapel was built at the rear of the house in 1957 after the then owner, Mr. Drake, had a vision whilst praying for his son's health. In the year 2004 the house was worth over one million pounds.

[Elizabeth Le Petit] along with daughter, Elizabeth, and her children, as well as son Thomas's family.

This land, plus a further 5v, obtained again from a wife's family, in 1846 continued to be held by this branch of the paternal Renoufs up until at least 1891 when we find it in the possession of **John Joseph Renouf** [born 1826], Thomas's great grandson. John Joseph then held more than 10 acres of land which was situated between The New House and Les Galliennes on the **Talbot Valley Road**.

Other Properties

We have already seen that marriages between property holding families enabled the Renoufs to extend the original Monnaie property which meant that some second and subsequent sons were also able to farm in St. Andrews. Among those was **Thomas Renouf** [second son of Nicolas and Elizabeth Le Patourel] who as mentioned already, acquired 3v 13p of land, with a house, near **the Ruettes**.

Another inheritance helped the situation for **Jean George** [born 1790] the third son of Thomas of Monnaie de Bas. He obtained 2v of land from Nicolas La Ree near to the Ruettes in 1824. In 1841 he was described as being a carpenter, but in 1846 owns another 7v 4p of land at **Four Cabots**. Later, in 1867, the 2v of property was given to Sophie Tardiff the widow of Jean George's eldest son, whilst Jean George retained the larger portion.

It appears as if Thomas Renouf and Marguerite Naftel also tried to help their other two sons **Nicolas** [born 1785] who married **Rachel Mansell** and **James** [born 1787] as we find records suggesting that each had a small property of 14 p obtained from Daniel Francis and Jean Mollet in 1793 respectively. However their location is not known.

Fief Le Haute

Three other lots of property in this other fief in St. Andrews also came into the hands of descendants of “Jean Renouf of the Monnaie” [born 1640] during the 1800’s. These included the **Bailiff’s Cross** Cottages and houses on **Route Des Marmaquis**. One of the great grandsons of Thomas Renouf of L’echelle [born 1731], **Daniel** [born, 1831] was a successful grocer in Vauguiedor Road. In 1889 he bought three houses “near the Church” on Bailiff’s Cross Rd; from Pierre Jaques Ozanne. His son and business partner, another **Daniel** [born 1853], also a grocer, bought two houses likewise. By 1910 Daniel junior owned all five houses which remained in the family until 1930.

Another more distant relative, descended from younger son Jean Renouf [born 1675] also bought property in Bailiff’s Cross. This was **Frederick James Renouf** [born 1824 in London]. His is an interesting return to the ancestral lands as his father Pierre Renouf whose family had lived in St Peter Port for two generations migrated to England where he died prematurely. In 1841 the teenaged Frederick was a 15 year old boot maker living in St Peter Port with an uncle. By 1861 he had moved to St. Andrew’s where he bought a house on 5p of land at Bailiff’s Cross from Nicolas Marquand. By 1889 his two sons **Simon Francis** and **Frederick Charles** had added two more properties which were all held until after 1910. Another son, **William John**, a draper held property in **Hurriaux Road** in 1881 but the entire family can not be found after this date.

Henry Naftel Renouf [born 1837] was another great grandson of Thomas Renouf of L’echelle. He was also an enterprising fellow who had visited Australia in 1854 and subsequently returned to Guernsey where he made a propitious marriage to Mary Ann Robert. In 1881 they were living at Bailiff’s Cross but that was soon to change. He acquired a house “De La Croute” on **Rue des Mamarquis** with 3v 7p of land as well as a house L’equelles and 3v 3p of land on **Routes des Pointes** in 1889, from the estate of Zacherie Robert. He does not seem to have any sons but in 1953 land in this area was owned by a Wilfred J Renouf who had bought it from an Alfred Godfrey and Captain Don.

By 1881 the number of Renouf families involved in farming had dropped and the families at Monnaie Le Haute and De Bas had left the land they had farmed. Now most of them were involved in activities such as shoemaking, carpentry, retailing, dressmaking and glass making.

By 1891 the only one of the Monnaie Renoufs still living on the original land was **John Joseph Renouf** [born 1826] of L’echelle, but he was soon to sell this property and take

on the role of Sextant in St. Peter Port. By 1901 there were only 4 families descended from the Monnaie Renoufs still living in St. Andrew's. These were **Frederick Charles Renouf** [born 1846] a carpenter; **Daniel Renouf** [born 1853] a grocer; **John Le Mesurier Renouf** [born 1835] now retired from a carpentry and glassmaking business; and **Henry Naftel Renouf** [born 1837] another former carpenter, but now a fruit grower.

Chapter Six; RENOUS of FIEFS L'EVEQUE and DES EPRONS

First Records of Family Members

Fiefs l'aveque and des Eprons are situated on flat and open land on the north east edge of the parish, and, being more readily accessible, may well have sustained farming for far longer than the land around La Monnaie. In Fief l'aveque, which comprised some 50 acres, Renoufs originally held about three acres but over time additional properties were obtained. The Renouf holdings in Fief des Eprons comprised approximately six acres [out of twenty five] but were held for only fifty years during the eighteenth century.

It is possible that the l'aveque Renouf line predated the line from the Monnaie and that the Monnaie line was in fact an off shoot of the l'aveque family. We know that at least one second son from the l'aveque line had migrated to St. Peter Port by 1590, [**Pierre**, born about 1565, who married **Collette Henron**] and that other younger sons followed in the mid 1600's. In contrast the Monnaie Renoufs did not start to migrate to St. Peter Port until about 1675. However the two St. Andrews lines have a similar number of descendants.

The first parish records tell us that our maternal Renouf family line in St. Andrew's is descended from a **James Renouf** [born about 1550] who was buried in 1611 as "an elderly man". Further, the Livres de Perchage for l'aveque, dated 1607, notes that James

had a house and other items on 2v 24p [an acre] of land, just to the north of his son **Jean** [born about 1580 and probably married to **Marie Simon**], who had a house and more than 5v [two acres] of land. This land was in the area bounded by **Rue Marquand**, **Rue des Naftiaux** and **Mourants Road**.

L' eveque Land and Houses

We know for certain that James's grandson, **Jean Renouf** [born 1590- 1600] who married **Marie Le Poidevin** in 1622, was the next farmer of the land in l' eveque and this land continued to be farmed by James's descendants until 1900.

Jean born [born 1590 -1600] had at least one younger brother. This was **Pierre** [born about 1595] who married **Janne Tardiff** in 1627. While their two sons, Pierre [born 1629] and Thomas [born 1635] probably grew up on the original farm, after their marriages their families needed to move away from St. Andrews to make a living. Some of them moved to St. Peter Port and it is possible that one of these may have taken up land in the Forest, at Les Nicolles.

Jean and Marie Le Poidevin had two surviving sons; James born in 1623 and Pierre born in 1637. **James**, married **Marie Quartier** in 1654, and Pierre married **Anne le Pelletier** in 1668. It would appear that Pierre obtained land at **Les Mourants** as his son [Pierre born 1670] and grandson [Thomas born 1711] were said to be of Les Mourants at the time of their deaths in 1752 and 1759 respectively.

In the meantime the two surviving sons of James and Marie Quartier [**Jean** born 1683 and **Pierre** born 1670] remained on the original l' eveque land. As Jean had no surviving grandsons to carry this on the original land reverted to his brother Pierre who had married **Marie Le Sauvage** in 1695. Pierre and Marie Le Sauvage had two sons; **Pierre** born in 1696 who married **Elizabeth Rose** in the Forest in September 1728; and **James** born in 1698 who married **Thomasse Priaulx** in November 1728. Both father and son named Pierre were recorded as being from l' eveque at the time of their burials on successive days in January 1755. However, in the meantime Pierre senior had obtained the land at des Eprons.

The exact ownership of the original l' eveque lands becomes somewhat unclear after this but by the 1800's it seems that at least part of it were farmed by a direct descendant **Nicolas** [born 1798] and his wife **Marthe de Garis**. They were succeeded by a son, **Peter Bonamy Renouf** [born 1833] and his nephew **Frederick** [born about 1860]. The fief records show that only small portions of the land remained up to 1935.

Des Eprons

It would appear that "Pierre of l' eveque" had realized that the original land holding was insufficient to maintain the families of his two sons so he acquired about 6 acres of

property [12v 30p] in the adjacent fief land in 1723. Five years later his oldest son, **Pierre**, who married **Elizabeth Rose** in 1728, became the owner of **Proche de Gouies**.

This land was passed on to **James** [born 1734], their oldest surviving son. This James, who married **Elizabeth Patourel** in 1756, and then **Elizabeth Blampied** in 1758, died prematurely in 1766 and Proche De Gouies went out of Renouf ownership two years later.

James and Elizabeth Blampied's oldest son **James** [born 1759] married **Marie Mc Lerance** in 1782. He remained in St. Andrews, fathered thirteen children, and died at **Des Morraines**. He appears to have bought various pieces of land in **Contree de l'eglise**. His oldest son **James Pierre** [born 1784] was found to be living at **Proche L'eglise** in 1841 but later moved to **Les Caches**.

Our maternal line descends from one of James and Marie's youngest sons, **St.Jean** [born 1793], who married **Marie De Garis** in St. Sampson's. He became a quarryman and they raised their family in this last parish whilst his brothers and their sons had settled in St. Martin's.

Les Naftieux.

The second son of James and Elizabeth Blampied was another **Pierre** [born 1764]. He and his wife **Marie Mauger** were living on a very small property [1v10p], acquired in 1803, on **Rue Marquand** in 1841 and he was described as an agricultural labourer rather than a farmer. This property was passed down the generations until 1935 when it was owned by a great great grandson, **Frederick John Renouf** [born 1877].

Les Hougues

This property of almost an acre [2v.3p] was held by **James** [born 1729] and his wife Judith Patourel. It may in fact have been owned by his father James [born 1698] the second son of Pierre and Marie Le Sauvage. This land was added to between 1794 and 1820, time but seems to have been lost by the early 1800's but lost soon after.

As occurred with the Renoufs of Fief Le Roi, a number of younger sons turned their hand to carpentry, tailoring, cartage and agricultural work. Some younger sons moved to St. Martin's and obtained farm land there and one broke the mold to become a notable sea captain [Jean born 1827]. There is no evidence that any of these emigrated before 1901, unlike the descendants of the youngest son St. Jean [born 1793] of St. Sampson's, who emigrated to Australia and the USA.

The 1901 Census for St. Andrew's shows that on the maternal Renouf line from l'evêque, there were only four Renouf families. Those of **John** [born 1841] a farmer;

Peter Bonamy [born 1833] a retired carpenter, **Frederick John** [born 1877] a labourer and **Frederick** [born 1858] a fruit grower.

Chapter Seven; RENOUFFS of the FOREST and south western parishes

The Forest

The Forest Parish is in the south of the Island where high cliffs form its coastal boundary. Its population has always been very small, numbering only 696 in 1841. Consecrated in 1163, the parish church only began to keep records in 1700. Land in the Forest was all part of Fief Le Roi. In this parish the Renoufs held land at Les Nicholles for at least two hundred years.

The first reference for a Renouf in this parish is of a “**Simon Renouf** of the Forest” [born about 1580] whose daughter Susanne was married in St. Saviour’s in 1632. Soon after, another Simon Renouf married in St Peter Port in 1646. As the first name is uncommon, I believe these two are related. However, I have found nothing which helps to show whether Simon senior was linked to one of the St. Andrews or to the St. Peter Port families.

I have also found a reference in a Le Lacheur genealogy to a **Nicolas Renouf** [born about 1580], said to be from the Forest, who married Perotine Le Lacheur of St. Andrew’s, and who had a son Jean. As neither the marriage nor baptism has been confirmed I believe it was a misreading of other names and have discounted this source.

The next Renouf references are about **Thomas** and **Thomasse Renouf** from the Forest in the period 1615 to 1620. These two were siblings and Thomasse [born about 1620] married a Philippin Guilbert on 11th July 1639, in St Andrews. It is not clear who Thomas [born about 1615] married but his daughter Thomasse was baptized 22nd October 1644 in St. Andrews, with Philippin, her uncle by marriage, as godparent.

From 1650 we are on more solid ground with the Forest Renoufs and, although we can not be certain of their forebears, the balance of probabilities is that they are descendants of the Thomas cited above. The next certain mention of Renoufs in the Forest comes from the parish records and is of another **Thomas** born about 1650, who, I believe, farmed at **Les Nicolles**.

Thomas married a Marguerite of unknown family, since there is no marriage record, and they had six children; three boys and three girls. The oldest son, probably named for his deceased grandfather, was **Pierre** [born about 1675] who married **Judith Ingrouille**. Pierre's oldest son **Jean** [born in 1705] was known as Le Sr., the title for a small farmer.

It would appear that Jean's younger brother, **Thomas** [born in 1708], moved to the Vale with his first wife **Esther Le Maitre**, and started the Renouf line of farmers in that parish, in about 1735.

Le Sr. Jean Renouf, however, died without heirs and his farm [?at Les Nicolles] appears to have reverted to a cousin **Pierre Renouf** [born 1704] who married **Anne Rougier** on Christmas Day 1727. They were described as the land holders of Les Nicolles.

Pierre and Anne had four surviving sons, as well as two daughters. The land was now stretched to provide a living for all these sons once they reached adulthood and had families of their own. Thus their third son, another **Thomas** [born 1733], was another who made the move to a farm in another parish; this time St. Martin's.

Said **Thomas**, who married first, **Margueritte Le Lacheur** [who died in 1771], and then remarried **Judith Marquand**, moved to a farm at **Les Blanchés St. Martins** where one son, Thomas was born in 1772. Here another dynasty was to develop as Thomas junior was to have ten children, and although only three of the seven sons survived, they each had large families. It was Thomas junior's second son Nicolas who migrated to Pennsylvania, in 1837, with his wife Rachel Robert and the first five of their eight children. The other sons of Thomas junior remained farming in St. Martin's and comprised a significant number of the Renoufs to be found in St. Martin's at the time of the 1841 census.

Meanwhile back in the Forest at Les Nicolles, two of the older sons of Pierre and Anne Rougier stayed on the land, married and had small families and their lines died out. However, this was not the case for their youngest son, **James** [born 1735] who married **Susanne Duquemin** in 1758, and who had three sons and three daughters.

While the first son of James and Susanne Duquemin does not appear to have survived the next son **Jean** [born 1771] and his younger brother **Pierre** [born in 1767] lived, married and raised children in the Forest; where Jean and Pierre can be found in the census of 1841 both widowed and employed as journeymen. By then the farm at Les Nicolles, which Renoufs had farmed for a number of generations, was now owned by Thomas Priaulx.

This meant that significant changes happened for the children of Jean and Pierre. Their sons and daughters had to find alternative sources of employment in other parts of the Island. For three of Jean's sons, James [born 1816], Joseph [born 1821], and George Simon [born 1824], the new employment opportunities came with the extensive development of the granite trade in St. Sampson's and the Vale.

These sons of Jean all moved to the western parishes in the mid 1800's and became involved with granite as stone breakers or stone dressers. This line of work continued for many of their grandsons until the industry died out, at the turn of the century, and new forms of trade and commerce emerged. By 1881 we find that Jean's line was now securely established in St. Sampson's with numerous heirs.

Pierre's line was less robust. He had only one son, **Pierre** [born 1798], who appears to have moved to St. Peter Port and married **Ester Vaudin** in 1828. It is possible that Pierre junior was a cooper as was his oldest son, **Pierre James** [born 1831], who produced six daughters. In 1891 and 1901 Pierre James and his wife and one daughter were living in London. His brother, **Thomas William** [born 1835], was a mariner who died prematurely, in 1866, leaving only one daughter.

So while the original farm at Les Nicolles was outgrown early in the 1700's, the Forest Renouf line continued to flourish in the Vale, St. Martin's, St. Sampson's and then members of these families moved overseas to the USA and Australia. They were able to seize the new economic opportunities that arose and find new sources of work and different places to live.

St. Saviour's and St. Pierre du Bois

These two small parishes are on the most exposed corner of the island and their populations are small. However, earliest church records reveal that there were at least three men, all born in St. Pierre du Bois during the decade 1570- 1580, who had children either baptized or married in St. Saviour's Church between 1595 and 1638. We can only speculate as to whether they were a recent off shoot of one of the major Renouf family lines or whether they had been established in St. Pierre du Bois for some time. It is evident that this line was not vigorous and despite a few baptisms and marriages in St. Pierre du Bois between 1640 and 1700 the line appears to have died out.

Similarly in St. Saviour's, where a Jean Renouf married a Jeanne Vaucort and sired a number of children in the 1650's, this line also appears to have been extinguished in this parish by the early 1700's. There is conjecture as to whether Jean was from one of the St. Andrews families or from St. Pierre du Bois.

In both instances the records are too scarce to create a coherent family tree.

Chapter Eight; RENOUS of ST. PETER PORT

Establishment of the Town

A settlement has existed at St. Peter Port from mediaeval times [1000 to 1500 AD] with the port playing an early role in the wine and fish trades between England and France. In 1307 the Market was established in St. Peter Port. As well, the Town was the centre for government, and industry. Despite the various attacks by French raiders on the Town, the population grew continuously, as Guernsey trade and commerce developed over the centuries. It was helped by the fact that many people were pushed off their farm lands as these were passed on to the oldest sons.

In 1656 the Town was the domicile of 3000 out of the 8000 people on the Island. Growth accelerated after 1660 as international trade burgeoned. St. Peter Port, because of its relative closeness to SW England, the Azores and North America became a major "entrepot". Wine, brandy, linen, salt and cloth were all traded by Guernsey middlemen. An educated merchant class developed in the Town and, in addition, itinerant traders, sailors and skilled tradesmen came to the Island for work. By 1821 there were over 11 000 inhabitants in St. Peter Port, which rapidly expanded over the next ten years to 13 800. In all, 2 800 families were squeezed into the Town's narrow and unhealthy streets, where open drains filled with town waste were discharged down into the sea. At this time life in the Town was less healthy than life in the rural parishes and epidemics impacted more on the townspeople than on their fewer rural cousins.

The Town Church is the parish church of St. Peter Port and its records commenced early, in 1563. After 1789, when the Roman Catholic Church was built, and subsequently with the advent of two more Anglican Churches as well as a number of non-conformist Wesleyan, Methodist and Baptist Chapels in the early 1800's, the search for the Renoufs in St Peter Port has proved to be more difficult than in the other parishes. Added to which, there were three more burial grounds in St. Peter Port [the Foulon, Candie and the Brothers Cemetery] in addition to the one at the parish church.

By 1581 we find a significant number of references to Renouf on the Town Church registers. There were four marriages, eleven births and five burials recorded in the Town Church before 1600; which is slightly more than the three marriages, two births and five burials recorded in St. Andrews in the same period. Unfortunately, I have only secondary source information from a *Livre de Perchage*, which provides only a hint of Renouf activities in St Peter Port. However, by 1600 we can identify two distinct Renouf family lines in St. Peter Port.

Settlement of the Merchant Renoufs from Normandy

This Renouf family line begins with “**Jean Renouf of Normandy**” [born about 1540]. It appears likely that he married **Guillemaine Le Fellya**, who bore at least three surviving sons; Pierre, Robert, and Collas*, all of whom were probably born between 1560 and 1570.

While Collas does not seem to have any surviving male heirs his brother Pierre married twice and had one surviving son, Pierre [born in 1602] who married **Marie Le Tellier** in 1625. Pierre junior had only two children, and his only son died in his thirties, without heirs in Guernsey.

Robert Renouf, in contrast founded a strong line which continued in Guernsey through until the 1750's. He married **Romaine Mahaut de Lisle** in 1595 and had five children. His male heirs were amongst Guernsey's governing elite, entitled to use the term “Monsieur” [meaning a rich man and substantial property owner]. They seem to have owned considerable land including houses along the harbour-front in Rue Tranquil as well as in Berthelot St. and also to have married into Huegenot families in Guernsey.

Robert's oldest son, **Jean**, baptized in 1598 was one of the twelve Guernsey men who Charles the First, in 1643, appointed to be Commissioners and rule the Island. Jean's wife, **Catherine Gibaud**, came from the same oligargic grouping of Commissioners** whose families had sided with the English Parliament during the Civil War. The children from these families all intermarried.

This group of “Puritan” supporters, to which Jean belonged, were at odds with the other wealthy Guernsey group, who had supported the Royalists. Their political and economic rivalries continued for some twenty years, in tandem with the same divisions found within England. Many descendants of both groups subsequently left Guernsey as

international trade and politics provided new opportunities for them. They were literate, travelled and well educated people, who would have had little in common with the Renouf farmers in the parishes. While a large number of children were born to this Renouf line in the late 1600's no male descendants of this family line appear to be in Guernsey after 1801.

Pierre Renouf and Colas Renouf

A family, which can not be readily linked to any others in St. Peter Port was that of **Pierre Renouf** [born between 1555 and 1560] who was married to **Philippine Godet**.

Footnotes:* *Edith Carey in her research notes implies that Jean of Normandy could be descended from Robin son of "Richard of Normandy" who bought land in Contree des Effarts in 1524. Her notes mention Collas being the son of Jean and Guillemaine as well as a Pierre who married to Philipine De Valois .*

** *The 12 commissioners were Pierre de Beauvoir, James De Havilland, Jean Quetteville junior, Pierre Carey, Josua Gosselin, James Le Marchant, Thomas Dubree, Henri De La Marche, Andrew Monamy, Gilles Du Hamel, Eleazor Le Marchant and Jean Renouf.*

Pierre was a baker and he and Philippine had four daughters born between 1586 and 1590. I can not find any descendants of this family. Similarly, **Colas Renouf** [born in the same period], who may have been an older sibling of Pierre, is not obviously linked to any other St. Peter Port family, and doesn't appear to have any successors. It is possible they originated in St. Andrews.

Renouf Migration into St. Peter Port

Rural migration, from the parishes into the Town, became more common as a consequence of natural population growth in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Families were larger, many epidemic diseases were coming under control and military skirmishes had ended. The land could no longer be divided into ever smaller and uneconomic lots, so younger sons had to find new means of support. Sometimes their families moved into cottages in the parish, where they took up trades, and sometimes they moved into the Town. Since there were Ordinances requiring people to return to their parishes unless they had sufficient wealth to establish themselves in the Town, only the moderately well off were afforded the opportunity to live in St. Peter Port during the 1600 and early 1700's.

I believe that the second, and other younger sons of the St. Andrew's Renoufs, began to move to St. Peter Port by the beginning of the 1600's. Amongst the first of these was **Pierre** [born about 1565-70], the brother of James of Fief l'èveque, who married **Collette Henron** and had at least four sons; Jean, James, Pierre, and Nicolas, all born between 1594 and 1606. This line is notable for the number of same gender twins that were born from 1634 up until 1803.

In the late 1600's the exodus from St. Andrew's to St. Peter Port increased in pace. Amongst them we find descendants from the Fief Le Roi as well as those from the Fief L'evêque families. One from the Monnaie line was **Nicolas** [born 1721], the son of **Jean** [1675] and **Marie Martin**, who lived in Mill St, St. Peter Port. He accumulated considerable wealth which his daughter in law inherited. This line of the Renoufs had great grandchildren who went to Australia* and who married into a Jersey Renouf family there. There were also family members who went to England in the 1820's.

It is difficult to untangle some other of the St. Peter Port families. One of these is the family of **Nicolas Renouf**, who married **Jeanne Grut** in St. Andrew's in 1674/5, as he also had same gender twins amongst his large family. While we can not confirm who Nicolas descended from, there are two possibilities. The first is that he was the son of the first **Jean Renouf** of the Monnaie who married **Marguerite Queripel** after Marie Le Noury died in 1646. The second is that he was descended from the line formed by Pierre

*Footnote:***Susanne Renouf born 1780 [daughter of Jean Renouf and Susan Robin] married Thomas Day. Their granddaughter Mary Hannah Day married Alfred Renouf in Sydney.*

and Collette Heron which was the line with other twins amongst its members. Baptismal data and naming patterns support the former option.

Nicolas had a large family with one daughter, and eight sons, including twin boys. As it is impossible to confirm Nicolas's parents, so too is it difficult to untangle the marriages of his sons with others of the same name, which occurred at the same time.

The descendants of Nicolas and Jeanne Grut are more easily traced for those descended from their grandson **James** [born 1713] married to **Jeanne Sturgeon**. This family line comprised half of the Renoufs living in St Peter Port in the 1841 Census [five out of ten]. They include shop keepers, coopers, carpenters and a teacher. This latter is the father of **Sir Peter Le Page Renouf**, the first Renouf to attend Elizabeth College, and to go on to University.

If we accept that Nicolas [married to Jeanne Grut] was the son of Jean of the Monnaie then we know that he had a brother or half brother **Thomas**, born in St. Andrews in 1652 who also seems to have contributed significantly to the family line in St. Peter Port. This Thomas was, I believe, "Thomas of **Les Croutes**". While it can not be confirmed, I think that his descendants included the **Thomas** who married **Marie Griffon** [in 1708] and the **Thomas** who married **Elizabeth De Garis** [in 1726]. This branch, though, seems to have come to an end in the late 1700's.

One major enigma still remains; that is determining which of many Jean Renoufs who fathered **Thomas** who married **Marthe Trachy** in 1765. Thomas and Marthe had twin sons who both removed to the USA. Conceivably, [no pun intended] he was a descendent

of either the Nicolas and Jeanne Grut or Pierre and Collette Heron lines as each family line had same gender twins.*

In all, it is more difficult to untangle all of the St. Peter Port Renouf families during the late 1600 and the 1700's, but by the beginning of the new century the Renoufs were more readily fitted into families even though many in the Town had joined various small evangelical churches, whose record keeping was poor.

During the 1800's the number of Renoufs in St Peter Port increased from 57 in 1841 to 79 in 1901. Amongst these were a number of single women, employed as domestic help or dressmakers, as well as some widows, living on their savings. Some of the male householders were employed as grocers, small manufacturers or craftsmen in emerging industries [wheelwrights, foundry workers]. One family had its origins in Jersey, and the remainder could be linked back to the St. Andrew's or the Forest lines.

***Footnote:** * If Thomas was descended from Pierre Renouf and Collette Heron this would provide confirmation that the two St. Andrews Renouf family lines from Fief l'evêque and Fief Le Roi shared the same common ancestor.*

It is of some interest that my father, born in 1917, and raised in St. Peter Port, had no sense of any connection with other Renouf families in St. Peter Port, apart from his immediate kindred. Nor was he aware that his family had once owned land in St. Andrews. With the passing of four generations in the Town [some 100years] our members of the Monnaie Renouf line appear to have lost their knowledge about their family origins and lost contact with their wider group of kinsmen.

Chapter Nine; RENOUF MIGRATION to OTHER PARISHES

St Sampson's

St. Sampson's parish abuts the Vale to the north and west, and St. Peter Port to the south. Its Church was the first one to be consecrated in Guernsey [in 1111] but its registers begin only in 1714. While there was a Renouf in St. Sampson's in 1331 we can not find anything about him or his successors from church sources. It seems likely that at some time between the fourteenth and eighteenth century the initial Renouf line in St. Sampson's either moved to another parish or died out.

However, by 1815 we find that St. Sampson's was the destination for internal migration by one Renouf son from the St Andrew's Fief l'evêque line. **James Renouf** [born 1759] and **Marie Maclaurence of Proche Les Goies**, had 13 children and the much diminished family land could not provide for so many. While one son, James Robert moved to St. Martin's, the next son **St. Jean** [born 1793], who married **Mary De Garis**, settled in Banks St. St. Sampson in about 1815, where Jean became a quarryman.

Jean and Mary produced eight children; among them four sons survived, and three married and settled in St. Sampson's where, between them, they had 16 grandchildren. Their fourth son **Nicolas** [born 1829] migrated to Australia in 1859 as did one of their

grand daughters **Mary Elizabeth** [born 1842]. The majority of their sons and grandsons took part in the Guernsey granite industry with some others working as mariners or in the fishing trade.

Eighty five years later, in 1901, there were 45 Renoufs from this family line living in St. Sampson's parish. These included some from the Forest Renouf families.

The Vale

The Vale parish is in the north east of the Island and includes the Island's second harbour, St. Sampson's. The Church records for St. Michael in the Vale date from 1589 but there were no Renouf baptisms, nor deaths recorded there until after 1700.

The Vale parish is unusual in that it comprises a large amount of common land along its northern and western coast. This area was largely an island separated by the Braye de Vale which was reclaimed in 1806. After this the parish grew rapidly, and between 1801 and 1901 the population grew fourfold, from 1410 to 5082, fostered by the rapid expansion of the shipping and granite mining industries.

Beginning in the 1820's, English and Irish immigrants also came to the parish to work in the 136 Vale granite quarries and subsidiary industries. By the turn of the century though, the labour requirements for granite workers dropped markedly and many men in the Vale then turned to the horticultural industry for employment.

There are two Renouf family lines in the Vale. The older Vale line dates back to about 1730. Some descendants of this family line believe that their line originated from the wealthy merchant Renouf line, descended from Jean of Normandy, who had settled in St Peter Port. However, the baptismal evidence shows that they were an early off shoot of the Renouf family from the Forest who obtained new farm land in the Vale when it became available in the mid 1700's*.

The first Vale line started with **Thomas Renouf** who married his second wife, Judith Bisson, in the Vale Church in February 1747. While marriage and death records do not indicate his parents, we know he was baptized in the Forest on 1 November 1708 and was the second son of **Pierre Renouf and Judith Ingrouille**.

Thomas and Judith produced only one male heir, **Thomas** [born in 1751] at **Hougue de Vale**. Unlike his father, the second Thomas, and his wife Elizabeth Robin, produced fourteen children with four sons firmly establishing the family line in this area of the Vale.

The 1841 census reveals that their oldest son, **Thomas** [born 1785], married to **Susanne Machon**, was farming at **Juquers**; the second son **Jean** [born 1788], married to **Rachel Bichard** was farming at **Cognon**; the third **Nicolas Robin** [born 1802], was a fisherman

at St. Sampson's harbour; and the fourth **Martin** [born 1804], married to **Margurite Fleur** was farming at **Bordeaux**.

The family line flourished over the next fifty years but by 1901 the original farms had gone and sons and grandsons were either involved in horticulture instead [flowers and fruit] or had moved into the granite industry or a trade. This family also saw a number of its sons and daughters emigrate to the USA, Canada and Australia.

The second group of Renoufs who moved to the Vale were the children of **Jean Renouf** [born 1771], and his second wife, **Catherine Le Maitre**, both also from the Forest. Their first two surviving sons both became residents of the Vale by 1861. The oldest son **James** [born 1816], married **Betsey Bourgaize** and had eight children, most of whom were born in the Vale. The second son, **Joseph** [born 1821], married **Marie Sarre** and had thirteen children, all born in the Vale. The third son **George Simon** [born 1824], also spent some time in the Vale, but in later years lived in St Peter Port.

Footnote: 1737 Fee Farm system of land holding established on land formally part of Fief Le Roi.

All three sons were employed in the granite industry as stone dressers. In their turn, their various sons and grandsons were also involved in the granite trade with many recorded as quarry masters in the 1901 census.

George Simon's son, another **George Simon** [born 1856], appears to have been the only male to emigrate. He went to the USA where one of his sons was born but returned by 1891, probably after the death of his wife.

In 1901 there were 77 Renoufs living in the Vale.

St Martin's

St. Martin's parish lies to the south east of St. Peter Port and is adjacent to both the Forest and St. Andrew's. Its Church was consecrated in 1164 and its registers began in 1660.

Renoufs came to St Martin's from both the Forest in the late seventeen hundreds and St. Andrew's in the following century. Both of these family lines were able to obtain land and to farm in St Martin's.

Thomas Renouf [born 1733 Forest], married his second wife Judith Marquand about 1770 and had a son **Thomas** born in 1772. This son married **Elizabeth Rougier** in 1795 and farmed at **Les Blanchés** in St. Martins. Thomas and Elizabeth had three surviving sons. The oldest son, **Jean Robert** [born in 1797], continued to farm at Les Blanchés, whilst their second son, **Nicolas** [born in 1801], in contrast, immigrated to the USA with

his wife and children. The third son, **Daniel**, became a shoemaker and remained in St. Martin's.

Some of Jean Robert's children remained in St Martin's but they no longer farmed and instead were employed as labourers or gardeners. The oldest son moved to St. Peter Port where he found work as a tailor.

While we have already seen that one son of **James** [born 1759 St Andrew's] married to **Marie Maclaurence** had moved to St. Sampson's, another son stayed closer to home in St. Martin's. The latter was **James Pierre** [born 1784] who married **Marie Fallaize** who became a tailor, at Les Caches.

Similarly one of the sons of **Pierre Renouf** [born 1764 St. Andrew's] , a cousin of James above, saw his second son **Jean** [born 1793] move to **Les Nestors** in St. Martin's where he worked as a farm labourer. Jean's son, another **Jean** [born 1828], became a successful ship's captain and owned **Yangse House** in St. Martin's. Pierre's other sons remained in St. Andrew's; one working as a carpenter and another as a farm labourer.

By the end of the century various other members of the family were to make St. Martin's their home, including some of the younger sons of the Monnaie Renoufs. In 1901 there were 32 Renoufs living in this parish.

PART THREE

EMIGRATION FROM GUERNSEY

Chapter Ten; EMIGRATION 1800- 1900

Guernsey is a small island and it is said that the total population, which could be sustained by subsistence agriculture and local fishing, was around 7,000. In mediaeval times there was little spare land and very little capital, and Guernsey was at regular risk of crop failure. Local fishing [mackerel, conger and herring] provided the only goods for export and these were sent to the Paris market. Between the eleventh and fifteenth century population growth in Guernsey is unlikely to have much exceeded replacement rates. The Island's reliance on local production of foodstuffs, served to keep the population in check.

From the sixteenth century this changed with an extension of trade [the knitting industry], transatlantic fishing [cod], and the activities of privateering and smuggling. By 1600 it has been estimated that the population reached 7 500 and by 1656 it was assessed at more than 8 000. By 1727 the population had reached 10 250 and, although farming had become more intensive and fishing limits extended, food had to be imported from after 1700.

After 1750 there was an economic boom, which saw the development of a merchant class and which brought affluent visitors to Guernsey, all with a taste for luxury items and a

new range of personal services. In 1780 an English Garrison also added to the population. By 1800 the population had reached almost 16 500 with 8 500 people living in the Town.

Between 1810 and 1820, during a period of economic decline, emigration from amongst the poorer people in St. Peter Port began and a number of Guernsey families left for Canada and the United States. However their loss was soon made up in the 1820's when there was another period of migration into Guernsey from South West England and Normandy. Artisans from Dorset, Somerset and Devon arrived as well as English gentry. In these years the shipping and granite cutting industries boomed.

The 1850's saw a second and larger exodus begin, from the parishes as well as the Town, to North America and the Pacific colonies, where opportunities for skilled young people provided a strong pull. Many young couples followed friends and family in a process of chain migration which eased their difficulties in relocating so far from home. Some later returned to Guernsey while others had large families in the new country, where they have become well established and numerous.

Census data provides a graphic picture of the changes experienced by the Guernsey Renoufs between 1841 and 1901. The 1841 Census records show 26 436 people in Guernsey with almost 11 500 living in the parishes and 15 017 in an expanded St. Peter Port. At that time there were 203 people with the surname Renouf living, primarily, in the Vale/ St. Sampson's [60], St. Peter Port [56] and St. Andrew's [53].

Sixty years later, in 1901, there were 283 Renoufs in Guernsey including a family of 5 *from Jersey. The number living in the Vale and St. Sampson's had expanded to 117, while those in St. Peter Port had remained almost the same at 62, and those in St. Andrew's had declined to 31. Whilst a few Renouf families continued to own land, most of the others ran successful small businesses.

However, during those sixty years, the Renoufs from Guernsey, like many others from the Island, had responded to both adverse economic times and new opportunities, and left the Island to settle in The United Kingdom and its colonies. The following chapters trace their movements from Guernsey in the period up to 1901.

*Footnote: There appears to have been very little migration between Guernsey and Jersey on a permanent basis. See **Appendix Two**.*

Chapter Eleven; RENOUPS from GUERNSEY to UNITED KINGDOM

The Domesday Book, initiated by William the Conqueror, gives the names of tenants in chief of land owned by the Crown. Amongst the list of the most well known 200 landholders we find **Ranulf Flambard**, one time Chief Justice and Bishop of Durham [1099- 1128] who had holdings in Oxford and Hants. There was also a **Ranulph**, brother of Ilger, who had holdings in eight Home and East Anglian Counties. However, the Renouf surname does not appear to have been established widely in England until the end of the nineteenth century.

I have been unable to search the English parish registers for Renoufs and the earliest data I have been able to access is in Pallot's Marriage Index for the period 1780 to 1837, which was before civil registrations began. In 1795 and 1799 respectively a **John Renouf** and a **Charles Renouf** married; both in Dunstan East London. In 1816 a **Catherine Renouf** married in Bermondsey London. I know nothing about these three.

One burial, though, is of interest. This was of a **John Peter Ludowick Renouf**, a French priest, buried with other French Protestants, at St. Mary's Chelmsford on 26th November 1799.

There were relatively few civil registrations of Renouf births deaths and marriages between 1837 and 1871* which suggests that relatively few Renoufs were settled in England in that period. The 1871 census shows only three Renoufs were English born [out of 18], with only one family in Poplar, London, whose head of household was English born. The only Guernsey born Renouf in England in 1871 was an 18 year old sailor serving in the Royal Navy. In contrast there were 6 Jersey sailors as well as a Jersey family living in Wapping. By 1891 there were 76 Renoufs listed in the English Census, twenty one from Jersey and only seven from Guernsey.

It is evident that many more Jersey men and women moved to England for work between 1871 and 1891, as did a number of Jersey Renouf families. The 1891 census shows these latter living in Bermondsey, Camberwell, Chelsea, Horseleydown and Wanstead, all in London, as well as Brighton, Yeovil, Bedminster, Chadwell and Liverpool.

***Footnote:** *They occurred in Kent [2 deaths 1837 and 1858], Leicester [1 death 1844], Berkshire [1 death 1841] Devon [1 death 1855 1 marriage 1871], Hampshire [1 death 1855 1 marriage 1867], Lancashire [1 birth 1868] and Poplar London [1 marriage 1868].*

By contrast, in 1891, there were only three Guernsey Renouf families living in Hammersmith and Finchley in London, and Lewisham in Kent, as well as two young people working as servants. There was also a Renouf family from the USA settled in Battersea, London. It is interesting that while Renoufs from Guernsey were traveling to the new colonies in the early and middle of the nineteenth century, very few went to the United Kingdom until the end of the century

Despite not appearing in the records we know that one of the first migrants from Guernsey was **Pierre Renouf** [1792 -1824] and his wife **Elizabeth Lihou** who moved to Bermondsey, London with two of their children. It is not clear if they had followed other family members to this area. Pierre died early and his oldest son **Frederick** [born 1824 in London] returned to Guernsey to work for an uncle as a shoemaker. Two of his sisters subsequently married in Guernsey and both then migrated to Australia. Frederick later set himself up as a bootmaker in St. Andrews and became a relatively wealthy property holder in Fief Le Haule.

The illustrious **Sir Peter Le Page Renouf** [1822 -1897] followed his education at Elizabeth College [Number 389] with study at Pembroke College, Oxford; the first amongst the Guernsey Renoufs to attend university. However he did not graduate but left

to become a Roman Catholic and to teach at a Catholic university in Dublin in 1855. His second marriage took place in Germany in 1857, where his first child, Philip Louis Frances was born. Peter then returned to Dublin where he opposed the dogma of “Papal Infallibility” and published articles hostile to the Catholic hierarchy. In 1864 he was appointed government inspector of schools and he returned to London where his daughter Edith was born. Later he was employed as an Egyptologist at the British Museum and was knighted in 1896 for his work. In 1891 he retired from the museum and on census night was again described as a school inspector, boarding in Cambridge. In 1901 his widow and daughter Edith resided in Kensington.

His son **Philip Louis Renouf [1858 – 1915]** was also university educated [Cambridge 1877 – 1884], and was a member of the Inner Temple. He worked for the Humber Motor Company at Lewisham and was a significant inventor, patenting four wheel brakes for cars. In 1891 he was living in Stoke married to Jane from Henley on Thames with two children; Lilian Rose aged one and Louis Philip aged three. He was described as a bicycle works manager. A second son, Paul Emile was born in 1891. In 1901 Philip, Jane and Lilian are living in Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire where he is a self employed engineer. There is no record in the Census of the two sons who may not have survived.

Among the other Guernsey Renoufs in England was my great, great uncle **Orlando John Renouf** who was working as a valet in Kensington in 1891. He married Susannah Mc Dowall in 1897 and, after her death, then married Rosie Belben. He spent the rest of his life in England employed by the National Gallery in London. He was buried in Jersey with his sister, and my father who attended the funeral in England, accompanied the coffin back to Guernsey by ferry from London in 1940.

His brother, and another great, great uncle, **Frederick Mansell Renouf** went to Scotland and lived in Roxburg. He married a widow, Agnes Haining in 1883, and died there childless in 1915. He was opposed to drinking alcohol but was reputed to have been run over by a brewer’s cart.

Another English resident, also of the paternal line, was **Thomas Winter Renouf** with his wife Grace and son Francis Thomas. In 1881 he was living in London at 3 Woodland Road, Lambeth, with his family, which now included a daughter, Ethel, born about 1870 in Stoke Newington. The family had a live-in domestic servant. In 1901 he was living in a wealthy part of London in Highgate, Hornsley and described as a “ Buyer for Australian agents” presumably in the cloth industry. His son **Francis**, a bank clerk, was the first of many Renoufs to enter this profession. I have found no other information on Francis.

The only other Guernsey family in England in 1891 was that of 60 year old **Peter James Renouf** [born 1844] who was living in Kensington with his wife **Elizabeth Wallace** and daughter Adeline. He was descended from the Forest Renouf line in St. Sampsons and had been a cooper in Guernsey. In 1901 he was a “Lodge House Keeper”.

There were fewer than 90 Renoufs recorded in the 1901 English Census. A new Guernsey family, that of **Alfred Daniel Renouf** [born 1854], a son of Frederick Renouf the bootmaker, was living in Barnstable Devon with his wife **Rosa** and one daughter, Lilian who married there in 1903. Alfred was continuing in his established trade as a draper. The family later returned to Guernsey.

During the twentieth century the number of Renoufs in the United Kingdom expanded significantly and they were well dispersed around the counties including the Home Counties the North and Wales. Many of these were descended from the Jersey Renouf families. Amongst them, though, is our second cousin **John Renouf** [born 1930] currently living in Tonbridge, Kent.

Chapter Twelve; RENOUFFS from GUERNSEY to USA

Early records of settlers in the United States of America are incomplete but there are mentions in genealogy indexes of a Renouf, born in Caen France, being in the USA in 1537 as well as an Amos Renouf from Jersey, being there in 1588. While the information is scant it is conceivable that cod fishermen remained in the American colonies in the sixteenth century.

By the eighteenth century better records are available. The marriage records showing a **Charles Renouf** married in Boston in 1704 and the passenger records show that an **Amis** and **Edward Renouf** emigrated to Boston in 1715 and two more Edwards went there in 1772. The Trade Directory for Boston cites an Edward Renouf, partner of Samuel Bridges, in the directories between 1810 and 1828. Judging by their forenames I think they would have been from Jersey.

Quite considerable migration from Guernsey occurred in 1806-1807 with parties of 25 or more Islanders landing at Norfolk, Virginia en route to Ohio accompanying cattle

imported to the USA. They were all to settle in Guernsey County where they intermarried for some time. While there were no Renoufs amongst these original settlers a son of one of the Guernsey Renoufs [**Nicolas Renouf** of St Martin's] was living at Salt Creek in Muskingum County Ohio in 1850 and a brother, John Renouf, married there in 1852. Family members continued to live at Salt Creek until after 1900. By 1930 there were descendants in Columbus and Youngstown Ohio.

The census of 1820 furnishes us with the names of four Renouf families living in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Two of these, we know, came from a Guernsey family; they were the twin sons [**Nicolas and William**], born in 1781 in St. Peter Port, to **Thomas Renouf and Marthe Trachy**. They were the seventh and eighth children in a family of nine.

William was the first to go to the USA in about 1803. He married a Hannah Baldwin in New York City in 1804. They were to have eleven children, many of whom died, before Hannah herself died aged 42 in 1828. William subsequently remarried in 1830 to Phoebe Hull. William died aged 78 in 1859. He was a Quaker.

William had only one surviving son whom left descendants. The first son, Benjamin Baldwin, was born in 1806 in Scipio, New York and had moved to Gates in Munro County upper New York State by 1850. He was married to Caroline and appears to have had one son William born in 1844. William in his turn married Harriet [Katie] Lettingham and continued living in Gates. They had three sons: Benjamin [born 1868] who never married; William J [born 1873]; and Edward [born 1885] as well as three daughters. By 1930 William J was still living in Gates with six of his children [two sons] and Edward had moved to Rochester New York with his wife and two daughters.

The second twin born to Thomas Renouf and Marthe Trachy was **Nicolas**. He was a tailor, who married **Janne Coles** in the Town Church on 6th February 1801. A son Jean Nicolas was baptized in the Town Church in September 1801 followed by a daughter Susanne in October 1803. Nicolas and Janne and five children emigrated on 24th April 1816. The records [Records of Immigrants to Canada] describe them "as Inhabitants of the Island of Guernsey desirous of embarking for the British Colonies in North America for want of work". They proceeded to Philadelphia in Pennsylvania.

Nicolas and Janne were to live originally in Franklin Court in the centre of Philadelphia. They were said to be "some kind of Quakers" who provided bed and board to other Guernsey immigrants arriving later on. Nicolas is named in a book written by one such immigrant, the son of John and Mary Bates, who immigrated on the ship "Venus" in 1817. Nicolas ran his tailoring business in Poplar, Randolph and North 6th Streets, until his death in February 1857. His widow lived on until 1870 and died at the home of one of her daughters in Belvedere, New Jersey.

One daughter died in 1822 and was interred at the Society of Friends [the Quakers]. The remaining two daughters married and one lived in the Philadelphia area with her husband

Samuel Gilbert, a brush-maker. The oldest son [Jean] **Nicolas** was a shoemaker and became a naturalized US Citizen in 1848. It appears that he was never married, but he too worked in Philadelphia. The younger son **Josue**, was a carpenter, married a Maria, and was still working in Philadelphia [North 6thSt.] in 1865. It would seem as though they may have had two sons; Arthur and Edward. In 1930 there were three women with the Renouf surname living in Philadelphia.

It is possible that a **Peter Renouf** [born 1772] who went to New London, Connecticut was also the son of Thomas and Marthe Trachy. However I have no information about him to support this contention and there were no successors. He may have been a visiting sailor.

Another Renouf family from Guernsey emigrated to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1822. This was **Nicolas Renouf** [born 1801], grandson of Thomas Renouf and Judith Marquand, and son of Thomas Renouf and Elizabeth Rougier from **Les Blanchés St. Martin's**. Thomas senior was one of the Renoufs from **Les Nicolles** in the Forest parish.

Nicolas was the second surviving son who married **Rachel Robert** in 1822 and had four children born in Guernsey. Subsequent to their emigration five more children were born in and around Pittsburg and Beaver Falls. Their children were all to marry and provide many descendants some of whom moved to Illinois and Salt Creek Ohio. While this family appears to have been Methodists, three of the young men completed a draft registration in 1917-18 for the First World War.

One grandson was particularly noteworthy. He was **Nicolas Bion Renouf** junior who was born in 1859 in Chilecothe, Ohio but who returned to live in Tarantum, Pennsylvania. He was at some time a bromine distiller, but subsequently owned and operated a Boat Hire and Ferry, from 1895 to 1921, at "**Renouf's Beach**" on the Allegheny river. Day trippers during the summer would take the train from Pittsburg and go to swim at the beach. Many descendants were found to be in Tarantum, Beaver Falls, and Westmoreland Pennsylvania in 1900. Subsequently some moved to California.

In the 1840's there was another wave of emigration from Guernsey associated with the dairy industry; this time to Racine in Wisconsin. Amongst those listed was a **Thomas Renouf**, who travelled as a single man in the company of Nicolas Le Prevost. I am unable to ascertain which Renouf family he came from.

In 1872 there was another **Thomas** [born 1844 in Guernsey], the son of **Thomas Renouf and Marie Quertier** of St Andrews. In the 1880 Census he was listed as a basket maker, living with the family of John Carre [also from Guernsey] in Racine. Thomas appears to have returned to Guernsey by 1891 where he married, lived in St Peter Port and worked as a leather cutter.

Later in the nineteenth century other Guernsey Renoufs also went to the USA. Many of these were the daughters of Renoufs from the **Vale and St. Sampson's** who married and

then emigrated. Among these was **Harriett Ann Renouf** [born 1858] who married Nicolas Falla in Guernsey, and went to live in Massachusetts. Another was **Rachel Renouf** [born 1845] who married Pierre Collas.

In the last part of the 19th century some Renoufs moved south from Canada to live in the United States and some others came from Jersey to Rochester, New York. The Ellis Island records provide information about some fifteen Guernsey Renoufs who migrated through this transit stop between 1892 and 1924.

Three came from a former Jersey and recent St. Peter Port Renouf family; **William Mallet Renouf** aged 23 and his younger brother **Clifford George** aged 19 migrated in 1907 and 1910 respectively. In 1911, their sister **Florence Louise**, also went through Ellis Island. Whilst William returned to Guernsey, Clifford George and Florence Louise moved on to Canada. They were the sons and daughter of **William Helier Renouf**, a carpenter of Guille Road.

One young couple Lillian Elizabeth [nee Jeffries] and **Peter Henry Renouf** [born 1878] the son of **William Henry Renouf**, a mariner of St. Sampsons, and **Martha Mary Bichard**, went to Elizabeth, New Jersey in 1907 aboard the “St. Paul” from Southampton. He was a carpenter and she was a domestic. Peter’s father **William Henry** [born 1858] visited them in 1907. The young couple returned to Guernsey and made the fateful mistake of returning to America [from Calais] along with her two brothers aboard the Titanic in 1917. Lillian was the only survivor. She remarried in the USA.

Another family group from St. Sampson’s [ex the Forest] travelled at different times and on different ships during 1911. The father **William John** [born 1851] went to Albion, New York, with his son **William John** junior [born 1874], to be followed later in 1911 by his wife **Mary Elizabeth Falla**, along with his son’s wife Minnie and infant Percy.

Two siblings, **John Richard** [born 1880] and **Clifford** [born 1888], the sons of **James Falla Renouf**, also of St, Sampsons, both former stone dressers, emigrated on the “Oceanic” to Alexander Bay, New York. It appears that John Richard had made an earlier visit in 1907.

George Simon Renouf [born 1856], of the Forest Renouf line, went to the USA about 1884 where his youngest son, Alfred was born in about 1886. George and some of his children were in Guernsey at the time of the 1891 census, staying with his parents in Gategny Parade. His seventy year old father visited the USA in 1900 ostensibly to see his son now living in Buffalo. However, in 1901 George Simon junior was living in the Vale with his sister and his children.

In 1850 there were 29 Renoufs [from five families] living in the USA. Four families had Guernsey origins. By 1900 there were 73 with the Renouf surname including some from Canada and Europe.

Chapter Thirteen; RENOUFFS from GUERNSEY to CANADA

While a number of Renoufs have been traced to the USA, fewer emigrated to Canada. Marion Turk in her book the “Quiet Explorers in Canada” cites sixteen different Renoufs, but only three were from Guernsey; and these three emigrated after 1901.

However, there have been Renoufs living in the eastern seaboard of Canada since the eighteenth century. The first names appear in the earliest records for New Foundland, Nova Scotia and the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec. As early as 1675 there was a settlement in New Foundland by the name of **Renouse**. It would appear that all of these earliest settlers originated in Jersey or France, and were involved in fishing or trading between France, the Channel Islands and the new settlements.

In 1806 a group of families from Guernsey crossed to Prince Edward Island on the ship “Neptune” and settled at Guernsey Cove, Murray Harbour. Among the seventy odd

passengers was a Renouf granddaughter, **Elizabeth Winsor** [born 14 February 1774], who was married to Jean Le Lacheur*. There were no other Renoufs in this party. By 1842, though, there was a John Renouf from Jersey, whose son Francis George [Frederick] Renouf was born on 20th April 1842 in Charlottetown.

From the Canadian immigration records we find that a **Peter Renouf** went to Nova Scotia between 1770 and 1799 and a **Phillipe** went to Quebec in 1825. We also know that **Nicolas Renouf** [of Philadelphia] and a **James Renouf**** [husbandman] passed through a Canadian port with other Guernsey immigrants in April 1816.

The Canadian Census of 1881 shows there were 26 Renoufs in Canada; all born in either Quebec or Prince Edward Island, except for one family from Jersey. Three families were settled in the township of Trois Pistoles where one, Cyprian Renouf, was the mayor.

By 1901 there were 80 people named Renouf in Canada living mostly in Quebec. They were to be found in Montreal, New Carlisle, and Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec [twelve families]; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island [one family]; Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia [one family in each]; Gloucester, New Brunswick [one family] and North West Territories [two single men]. One of those single men was George Renouf [born 1878 in Jersey] who went to Canada in 1896, where he later farmed and was elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1932.

***Footnotes:** * Her widowed mother Elizabeth Winsor [nee Renouf] was buried in St. Peter Port in 1835 at the age of 92.]*

***James could be the son of Thomas Renouf and Marguerite Naftel born 1787 or the son of James and Marguerite Le Lacheur born 1792: both of the Monnaie line.*

In the early 1900's significantly more migration occurred with 17 Renoufs arriving between 1925 and 1935. Among the earlier arrivals were a Renouf group from New Zealand, an older couple returning from Jersey, and two young men from Guernsey.

One of these was the son of **Thomas Renouf and Rachel Martel** of Les Closepaines in the Vale. He was **Thomas John** [born 1883], who migrated via Ellis Island, in 1907, en route to Revelstoke, with the Savident brothers. He later became a Teamster working on the wharves in Sidney, Vancouver Island. A distant cousin, **Edward Walter** [born 1880], the son of **John Renouf and Julie Martel** of Sabigny St. Sampson's, a carpenter, emigrated with his wife, **Alice Mary Gaudion**, in about 1910. They went first to British Columbia, moved to Ontario and then to Quebec later returning to Sidney, Vancouver Island. I have not identified any descendants for either of these men.

The 1914-18 War Records show that 6 Renoufs served in the Canadian Forces including three from Guernsey. These were **Thomas John** born 1883 and **Edward Walter** [op cit]. The third was the older brother of Edward, **William John** [born 1879], who was a

painter, living in San Francisco, when he joined the British Columbia regiment. All three were mature men when they elected to join the Canadian forces.

Chapter Fourteen; RENOUS from GUERNSEY to AUSTRALIA

Assisted and independent emigration to Australia commenced in the second quarter of the nineteenth century from both Guernsey and Jersey. Renoufs from both islands have settled in different parts of Australia since then. The Victorian Archives show that 37 Renoufs immigrated there between 1852 and 1911. Of these five were from Guernsey. In addition three married Renouf daughters made the journey to Victoria with their husbands.

Two male members and two female members of the Monnaie Renouf line from St. Andrew's made the journey out from Guernsey and each returned to the Island. The first to leave was **Thomas Winter Renouf** [born 1829] who, aged 23, arrived in Melbourne in

January 1853 on the “Janet Mitchell”. Thomas paid his fare out and was described as a draper. Thomas left Melbourne for Sydney on the “Telegraph” in July 1856 and returned to Guernsey. He then again emigrated on the ship “Melbourne” in 1859. Thomas married a Cornish girl in Melbourne and a child was born there in 1861 and who subsequently died. Thomas and his wife then returned to Guernsey where a second son was born in 1864. Thomas, who owned Monnaie De Bas, bought more property in Guernsey in 1867 and then left the island for England. It is not known whether he made further visits to Australia but he was able to capitalize on his earlier visits to become a buyer for Australian merchants. Like some of his fellow Renoufs from St. Peter Port before him, he had the role of trade “negotiennes”.

The second to go to Victoria was the 18 year old carpenter **Henry Naftel Renouf** [born 1837], who sailed on the “Surprise” to Melbourne in 1855. The “Surprise” was a Guernsey ship built in 1854 by De La Mare for the firm Marquand and De La Mare. The boat was a brig of less than 30 metres in length. She left Guernsey on 18th January and arrived on 14th July carrying 25 adults and 13 children. Her original destination was said to be Adelaide but for some reason she went on to Melbourne. The passengers paid 8 pounds two shillings and sixpence for the journey. The passenger list is composed of young male and female trades people required for the new colony. It is not clear how long Henry Naftel Renouf remained in Australia because by 1881 he was back in Bailiff’s Cross, St. Andrew’s with a Guernsey wife and child.

Louisa [born 1820] and **Elizabeth Renouf** [born 1827], who were the daughters of **Pierre Renouf and Elizabeth Lihou**, both married in Guernsey and accompanied their husbands to Victoria. Louisa, died in 1887 in Ellesmere, and her younger sister Elizabeth died in Goornong, Victoria in 1930. The latter had no children but Louisa left many descendants.

Three children from the large St. Peter Port family of carpenter **John David Renouf** [1797] and **Marie Gallienne** migrated in succession. First to go was 24 year old **David** [born 1829] a miner, who also travelled on the “Melbourne” in 1853. He made his way to the Ballarat goldfields where he married in 1858. Two children were born there and the son, Marquis Gallienne Renouf born in 1862, died in Australia in 1937. Nothing is known of his life.

In 1871, the 34 year old **Elizabeth Catherine** [born 1837] followed her older brother to Ballarat, again on the “Melbourne”, where she soon after married. Finally, another brother, **William Nicolas** [born 1839] then aged 46 went on the Melbourne and died at his sister’s home in 1898. He appears not to have married.

Two sisters from the Vale also emigrated. They were the younger daughters of farmer **Thomas Renouf and Susanne Machon**. Others descended from this family later went to the United States and Canada. **Sophie Renouf** [born 1831] a twenty year old servant travelled out on the “Josua” in 1852. She was subsequently joined by her sister **Lucy Robin Rihoy** [born 1828] and her husband in 1853, travelling on the “America”. It

appears that the last couple returned to Guernsey but Sophie married and died two years later. Her husband remained in Melbourne and married her cousin.

The last two early immigrants came from the St. Sampson's Renoufs whose ancestors came from Fief L'èveque in St. Andrews. They are part of my maternal Renouf line. **Nicolas Renouf** [born 1829] was a 24 year old stone cutter when he migrated on the "America" to Geelong in 1853, with his wife Elizabeth. This was an "assisted passage". The "America" was also a Guernsey built barque, from Sebire's yard. Elizabeth died in 1858 and Nicolas returned to Guernsey where he married Elizabeth's younger sister Margaret. In 1859 the couple returned to Melbourne on the "Ocean Chief", this time as paying passengers. They had ten children and many of their Renouf descendants can still be found in Victoria.

Mary Elizabeth Renouf [born 1842] is my great, great grandmother and was the niece of Nicolas Renouf above. She was only 17 when she married in Guernsey in December 1857. Her first child died there in May 1858. She travelled on the "Mary Pleasant" from Liverpool via Sydney to Melbourne with her husband William Marsh, as an assisted immigrant arriving in November 1858. She subsequently had six children born in Melbourne, and after her husband's purported death in 1877, took her young family back to Guernsey, where she later remarried.

There are a number of striking facts about the Renouf immigration to Australia. They were all young people with a range of trade skills to offer the new colonies. Many of them were related and they travelled with or to join other family members. Some, it seems went for the adventure of it, returning to successful businesses. Many travelled on Guernsey built boats with both passengers and crew originating in the Island. Also surprising is the fact that so many made the long [5-6 month] return journey, often after adverse events.

Chapter Fifteen; RENOUS from GUERNSEY to NEW ZEALAND

Large scale immigration to New Zealand began in the mid 1840's with the inception of the six main colonies. Most of these colonists arrived directly from England and their names are recorded. In addition, however, many steerage passengers arrived from Europe via Australia and few records of these immigrants are available. The first steamers from Sydney came to NZ in 1854, the start of a vigorous trans-Tasman migration, which persisted throughout the 1800's. We know that steamers brought hundreds of gold miners from the Australian goldfields to Central Otago and the West Coast during the 1860's, and that during recessions in New Zealand, many people moved on to Australia to find employment.

Within the 1850's the first Renouf had arrived from Jersey. A **Henry Renouf** was aboard the "Onkaparinga" which departed Melbourne for New Zealand in 1854. He then appears on the Wellington Electoral Rolls of 1855/56 and 1857/58, which note that he was a carpenter in Dixon Street. He married in 1864 and returned to Jersey with his wife where they are cited on a great niece's baptism certificate, as godparents. He appears again on the ship "Mary Shepherd", an emigrant ship from London to Auckland, arriving 15 February 1866. Travelling with him is a **John Thomas Renouf**, his nephew.

Both men then settled in Napier, the first now a timber merchant the second a builder. Both owned freehold land. Henry married his second wife in Napier and John Thomas also married there, where their children were born. John also served in the Volunteers Militia in the wars 1860- 70, and received the New Zealand Medal for having been under fire. A third Jersey Renouf, **Nicolas Phillip** was also found to be living in Napier. He was unrelated to the other two, but his godparents were Henry's parents, so the families were well known to each other.

Another John Renouf also appears in 1874 arriving on the "Zealandia" in Auckland. He is reported to have married in Auckland but he also had returned to Jersey by 1881 and in 1901 was the owner of a hardware business there.

New Zealand records reveal that a number of Guernsey immigrants arrived in Lyttelton from London on 27 December 1874 on the "Geraldine Paget". A further 30 Guernsey emigrants arrived on the "Dilharee", also from London to Lyttelton, arriving 16 January 1875. These voyages took ninety eight and a hundred days respectively. There were no Renoufs on these early ships.

It is not clear when the first Guernsey Renoufs arrived in New Zealand, after 1900, but our family arrived in Wellington on the "Monowai" from Sydney, on 5th January 1953, en route to Christchurch. Four generations of the family now live in New Zealand.

Chapter Sixteen; POSTSCRIPT

Whilst this monograph covers the Guernsey Renoufs only up to 1900 we can jump forward a century to note the number of Renouf households currently in Guernsey and look at the number of Renouf households living in the original colonies, albeit that these also include Renoufs from Jersey as well as from France.

The 2006 telephone book in Guernsey gives listings for 64 Renouf households. This is roughly consistent with the 75 different dwellings listed in the 1901 Census, which also included single women and single men [13] in "live in" domestic or agricultural service.

As is the case in 1901, the majority of families still live in the Vale, St. Sampson's and St. Peter Port. Only three live in St. Andrews. Surprisingly, some still live in homes that their forebears occupied in 1881/91.

In the USA there are 112 listed and 21 unlisted Renouf households recorded by the telephone company in 2006. They are located in many parts of the USA; but most notably on the western seaboard, in Arizona, and around the Great Lakes. The number in Canada is not available. Australian records show 86 listings, with the majority in Victoria and Western Australia. In New Zealand there are 36 listings, almost all in the North Island.

While I don't have phone listings for the UK there were 380 Renoufs, in total, living in England in 1998 and, according to the Surname Profiler Project of University College London, the name occurs ten times in every million people.

Back in their original homeland, France, we find from telephone listings that nearly all of the Renoufs are still to be found in the Basse Normandie region, in the departments of Calvados and La Manche [536]. There were said to be almost 2500 people with the Renouf name in France on 1st January 2004.

APPENDIX ONE

LIST OF RENOUF TWINS

1655 Lorence and Marthe daughters of James Renouf and Marie Girard.

1678 Bertanne and Rachel daughters of Jean Renouf [brother of above]
and Judith Le Gros

1689 Henri and Pierre sons of Nicolas Renouf and Jeanne Grut

Renouf families from Guernsey

1720 Sara and Thomas children of Thomas Renouf and Marie Griffon*

1781 Nicolas and William sons of Thomas Renouf and Marthe Trachy

1803 Marthe Ann and Charlotte Elizabeth daughters of Thomas Renouf
[son of Thomas and Marthe above] and Charlotte Stanubury

1820 Jean and Mary Ann children of Jean Renouf and Marie Le Cras*

1865 John and Thomas sons of Jean Renouf and Rachel Girard.

Footnote: * *fraternal twins*

APPENDIX TWO

GUERNSEY RENOUFFS IN JERSEY

There were two Guernsey Renouf burials in St. Brelade Jersey. They were **Susan Elizabeth Renouf** [born 1754], widow of John Taylor, on 29th Dec 1831, and her sister **Jeanne** [born 1750], on 14th September 1835. They were the daughters of **Elie Renouf** of St. Peter Port. There were also two marriages of Guernsey Renoufs held in Jersey. First, **Pierre Renouf** of the **Forest** whose second marriage to Ann L'Anglois occurred in St

Ouen in 1798; second, **William Renouf** an ironmonger of St. Peter Port [born 1811] married Rachel Brouard in St. Saviour in 1844. It appears that William and Rachel took the mail boat from Guernsey, to marry privately in Jersey.

The only Guernsey family that I have found in Jersey was that of **Thomas James Renouf** [born 1853 St. Peter Port] the son of a tailor, **Jean Renouf** [born 1827, St. Martins]. Thomas was a printer who married Emily Ann Lawrence of St. Sampsons. They had four sons two of whom [William John and Benjamin Lawrence] married in Jersey in 1913 and 1919 respectively.

JERSEY RENOUFFS IN GUERNSEY

A **Jean Renouf** son of Jacques Renouf of Jersey was buried at the Town Church in 1747. He is said to be the son of Jacques Renouf and Catherine Le Moigne born 1696/7 in St. Martin's Jersey.

Three Jersey Renoufs married in the Town Church between 1803 -1830. In addition there was one marriage in St. Peter in the Woods in 1835.

In the 1881 census we find two brothers, both carpenters, **William Helier** and **George Gaudin Renouf** who were boarding in St. Peter Port. By 1891 George had died and William Helier Renouf, lived in Guille Road, was married to Sarah Shave and had four Guernsey born children [two of whom later lived in Canada].

Also briefly in Guernsey, first in 1881, was **John Blampied Renouf**, a tailor who later settled in Wales. Second, in 1891, **Charles A Renouf** an outfitter, with his wife and daughter and **George Francis Renouf** a coal merchant, with his wife and children. In 1901 two other families, those of **Peter** [no occupation], **Francis Renouf** [a farmer], and one single man, **John Renouf**, a porter, lived in Guernsey.

