

Will of Peter Webb, Yeoman of *Ditcheridge*, Wiltshire¹
Proved 28th May 1646

The will was made on the 13 May 1646 and mentions Peter's wife, Elizabeth, and their children, in their order of birth, with boys first:

Peter, first son, baptised at Box on the 15 December 1617, son of Peter.²

William, second son, baptised at Box on the 26 December 1619, son of Peter.

John, third son, baptised at Ditcheridge on the 28 December 1625, son of Peter.

Richard, fourth son, baptised at Box and Ditcheridge on the 25 April 1626-7, son of Peter.

George, fifth son, baptised at Box on the 20 February 1630, son of Peter.

James(?) sixth son. The name is not clear and I am unable to trace a baptism for him.

The last two sons are just described as the youngest:

Samuel, baptised 1 September 1636 at Box to Peter and Elizabeth.

Thomas, baptised 25 March 1637-8 at Box to Peter and Elizabeth.

Anne, first daughter, baptised 3 December 1618 at Box and Ditcheridge, daughter of Peter.

Elizabeth, second daughter, baptised at Ditcheridge on 3 December 1620, daughter of Peter.

Joan, third daughter, no record of baptism found.

Elleanor, fourth daughter. This name is not clear and no record of baptism found but there is a baptism at Ditcheridge on the 21 February 1623-4, which is around the right time, for a Susannah Webb, no parents name given.

The last two daughters are just described as the youngest:

Mury, baptised at Box and Ditcheridge on the 13 January 1624-5, daughter of Peter.

Sarah, baptised at Box on the 28 June 1629, daughter of Peter.

The will also refers to Mr Blanchard in connection with some land. The Blanchard family lived at St Catherines and a Samuel Webb (b 6 October 1654), son of the Peter, the first son listed above, married Susannah Blanchard of *St Katherines*, Swainswick, in 1680. It was from this marriage that the Webb family obtained the advowson of the church at Winford, Somerset. Peter (b 1687), the son of Samuel and Susannah, became rector there in 1714 and the family retained the advowson until it was sold to Worcester College, Oxford in 1801 for £1,680.

The will nominates a friend and kinsman, Mr Nicholas Webb of Marshfield, and another friend, *to assist my wife and children in any doubt, ambiguity or questions that shall arise*. The mention of Nicholas being a kinsman seems to confirm the two Webb families were related as suspected by SJ Elyard, in which case the family can be traced back to the marriage of William de Richmond who married Alice, daughter and heiress of Thomas Webb of Draycott, Wilts about 1430. They then became known as Richmond alias Webb and lived at Rodbourne, Wilts; the Marshfield

¹ A copy of the will was downloaded from the National Archives on 1st Feb 08.

The copy is very difficult to read and only 60% size of the original copy.

² The Box and Ditcheridge parish registers give details of their baptism dates. Three of the children have their baptism entries in both parish registers.

branch seemed to drop the Richmond prefix but kept the Richmond coat of arms on their tombs at Marshfield church. It is not clear why the coats of arms for both families are so different. Samuel Webb of Bath (b 1696), who may be an elder brother of Peter (b 1687), married Ann Webb of Ashwick, Marshfield, in 1728, which confirms a link between the families.