

PYEFINCH FAMILY.

Whilst I have carried out no specific research¹ into this family, references have emerged from documents I have accessed for other reasons. Most of these are from Eardisland 'Parish Book', which is at Herefordshire Archive and Records Centre at reference AJ32/58-59.

The first of these is dated 1762:

*And it is further agreed this 2^d, day Decr 1762
that the following Houses are proper to take apprentices
several lines further down...
Rodd Pyefinch for one of the Farms at Hinton.....²*

Then in 1782:

*1782 Mr William Fencott's Disbursements as Overseer of the
Poor (included):
Feb.16. To Mr Pyfinch with an Apprentice £1:1:0³*

And the following year:

*At a Vestry Meeting held this 16th. Day of January 1783.....
It was also agreed upon that the following Persons & Places
are liable to take apprentices.....
M^r. Pyfinch of Hinton John Stephens⁴*

Also in 1783:

*At a Vestry Meeting held this 15th Day of May 1783 It was
agreed upon to Grant a Shilling Loan⁵ to Mr Rodd Pyfinch and
M^r William Moore Jn^r for the Relief of the Poor.
Job Juson
Edward Wall
William Fencott
John Evans
Thomas Davies*

And:

*At a Vestry Meeting held this 19th Day of November 1783
it was agreed upon that an Eighteen Penny Poor's Loan & a
Shilling Church ditto be granted to William Moore & Rodd
Pyfinch Overseers of the Poor & Church wardens for the service
of the present year -----⁶*

Near the start of the first of the Parish Books is a list of Churchwardens and Overseers which covers many years. It includes:

*Rodd Pyfinch for Sheppards &
William Moore for Hardwicke 1783⁷*

¹ Other than a brief computer search which established that there is indeed a "One Name Society" in Family History circles, who have been informed of these entries.

² HAS AJ32/58 page 141.

³ HAS AJ32/58 page 86.

⁴ HAS AJ32/59, page 3.

⁵ This was a *Lewn*, the Parish Poor Rate, not a loan in the modern sense.

⁶ Both of these last two items are from AJ32/59, page 41.

⁷ HAS AJ32/58, page 7.

And so to 1784 when Rodd Pyefinch was one of seven signatories to the Minutes of the Vestry meeting which was held on 7th February. The purpose of the meeting had been to agree the financial accounts of the Churchwardens for the preceding period.

Then in 1786 an Elizabeth Baxter underwent a Settlement Examination, probably somewhere in Shropshire, before being ...*Hired to Rod Pyefinch of the Parish of Areland (or Eardisland), Hereford.*⁸

My last reference⁹ to this family is not until 1808 when:
1808 Nov 8th Surrender out of Court by said John Scarlett and Thomas Davies to the use of James Pyefinch.

This is from a "Schedule of Deeds and Writings belonging to C.J.Haywood of the Lower Hardwick Estate."¹⁰ The land itself is not specified, this reference being only a listing of documents of which this wording is one item.

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⁸ Shropshire record Office ref. P177/L/11/57.

⁹ This may reflect a gap in my researches rather than the family leaving the parish. I have made no attempt to explore the relationship between Rod in 1786 and before, and James in 1808; nor have I tried to trace the family here after 1808.

¹⁰ HAS B16/102.