

MOSTYN OF FLINT, WALES

If you go to the website *Welsh Biography on Line* there is quite a bit of information on the origins of the Mostyn Family of Flint, Wales. One of the items of interest to note is that the name Mostyn only was adopted in the 1500's.

Thomas Mostyn who died in 1558 the eldest son of Richard ap Hywel is the first recorded to have used the name Mostyn as a surname. The land on which Mostyn Hall still stands today was acquired by the family in the 1400's and there are family records back to the 1300's.

Thomas Mostyn's eldest son, William was in the service of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke at the time of Wyatt's Rebellion (1554). William was the high sheriff of Flintshire in 1566/7 and had also served in Parliament representing Flint. The documents by which Queen Elizabeth appoints him in 1568 to the second Caerwys eisteddfod (a type of arts council), state "*William Mostyn esquior and his auncestors have had the gyfte and bestowing of the Sylver harpe appertayning to the Cheff of that facultie*. William was married to Margaret, daughter of Robert Powel of Whittington and died Sep.19,1576.

William's eldest son by Margaret was Thomas (later Sir Thomas) Mostyn (1535?-1618). He was sheriff of Caenarvonshire, Flintshire and Anglesey at one time. His career is detailed in *History and Calendar of Wynn (of Gwydir) Papers*. It is known he collected a substantial library and is credited with making extensive additions to Gloddaeth. Sir Thomas married Ursula Jane Goodman who died in 1578.

William & Ursula's second son, Sir Roger Mostyn (1559-1642) was heir to his father. His long life started with the best education available at the time. He was educated at Oxford until 1584 then Lincoln's Inn until 1588. His career included terms as Sheriff of Anglesey and Flintshire and he was member of Parliament representing Flint in 1621. He made an extremely advantageous marriage in 1596 when he married Mary (1581-1653) the eldest daughter of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir. Sir Roger was acquainted with Sir James Whitlock (1570-1632) who was Chief Justice of Chester and the Circuit Judge for Flint and in 1623 the two men negotiated a marriage agreement between their eldest children. Sir Roger Mostyn died Aug.18,1642 age about 83.

Sir Thomas Mostyn (1598?-1641) is also extensively mentioned in the *History and Calendar of Wynn Papers*. In 1623 he married Elizabeth the daughter of Sir James Whitlock. They had two sons before Sir Thomas's untimely death in 1641.

Sir Thomas' eldest son, Roger was barely 19 when the Civil War erupted in Ireland. Despite his mother's brother being a very prominent Cromwellian, Sir Roger supported Charles I and soon became a Captain and shortly after a Colonel in the Royalist forces. Charles I appointed him governor of Flint castle and town. Sir Roger's life became a military one in support of his monarch. The move was a auspicious one in light of future events but it cost him dearly. His descendants estimate that he spent more than £60,000 of his family's estate supporting Charles I and later working for the restoration of the Monarchy. An unimaginable amount of money in the 17th century!! In 1660 Sir Roger was rewarded becoming Baron Mostyn and made a knight of Royal Oak. Sir Roger was an astute business man and managed his families estates to their best advantage. His lead and silver mines used the latest equipment and techniques provided a steady inflow of capital to the Mostyn estates. Sir Roger made three very advantageous marriages and set the stage for the power and influence of the family that is still maintained today.

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