

DE LA BECHE FAMILY

Agnes Whitloke, who with her husband John, head the W02H family, The Whitlocks of Wokingham was a De la Beche. Records show that she was the only daughter and heir of her father Robert De la Beche. In *Liber Familicus* page 2, Sir James Whitlock notes that in a deed dated May 12 Edward IV, Agnes called herself “*generosa*” which is the female equivalent of “*Sir*”

Her will is dated March 26, 1491 and proved in Canterbury in May 15,1491. While she does not mention any of her children, she does leave her estates to her husband John Whitloke. Her will mentions to the church of St. Augustine in Canterbury which is now a National Heritage site outside the walls of Canterbury cathedral. Canterbury cathedral is also dedicated to St. Augustine but the church mentioned in Agnes’ will is the one outside the walls.

The de la Beche family owned the Manor of Beches near Wokingham back to the 1100's and the deeds to this manor have been to determine a likely outline of her ancestors. The following was compiled by Julian Wyatt in the 1960's:

Roger de la Beche	
William de la Beche	1230-1231 1246-1247
Galfridus de la Beche	1292-1293
Roger de la Beche	1325-1326
Galfridus de la Beche	1319-1320
Johannes de la Beche	1325-1326 1339-1340 1348-1349
Thomas de la Beche	1352-1353 1371-1372
Richardus de la Beche	1386-1387 1397-1398 1399-1400
Robert de la Beche	1416-1417 1421-1422 1428-1429 1438-1439
Agnes de la Beche	-M- c.1454 John Whitloke

While it is not the Whitlock family the ancestors of Agnes de la Beche do take each of her descendants back another nine generations to the 1100's.

I have not found a lot of research into the de la Beche family and hopefully some of the descendants of this part of the Whitlock family will be interested in exploring this family further.

SOURCE:R1926