

**Research Project Summary**  
**Joseph Westwood/Ann Webley**  
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Background

Joseph Westwood and his wife, Ann Webley, my 3<sup>rd</sup> ggparents, joined the LDS church in England and emigrated to the United States with their children and other extended family members. Joseph, Ann, and a few other family members died of cholera in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri. The children stayed in the St. Louis area for several years. Some of them, including my direct ancestor, Richard Webley Westwood, eventually finished the migration to Utah. Others left the LDS church and settled in the mid-West or in California (and some who came to Utah later left). A friend I met at several genealogy conferences who lives in St. Louis searched for the Westwood graves there, but did not find them, and reported that many of those who died of cholera were buried in unmarked graves. Temperance, one of the daughters of Joseph and Ann Westwood, worked for the parents of the poet Eugene Field and cared for him as a child. I have visited the Field home in St. Louis which is now open to the public.

I acquired a computer about the same time that the first PAF program was introduced, and at the request of one of my uncles, I entered all the information I could gather on our family from previous research. The main source of this information was the IGI and the Archives Family Group collection, though on some lines I also consulted the TIB cards and actual temple records.

Family researchers have stated that Joseph Westwood's parents were Joseph Westwood and Hannah Smith and that his paternal grandmother was Jane "Dunsley" Webley. In recent years, some new information on the parents of the senior Joseph Westwood has appeared on the IGI, but I do not know if the family connections are correct. Several years ago, I did some U.S. research on a daughter, (one of those who did not come to Utah), Hannah Westwood. I have also acquired bits and pieces of U.S. data while researching other families, but have never attempted to find this family in England. It was obvious from Family Group records that research had been done in Bromsgrove parish records before, but it was not possible to tell what information came from the parish records and which came from other sources that may be less reliable.

With these facts in mind, I decided to use the Westwood family as the research subjects for a British research class I just completed. Though I concentrated on three families, as I examined various records I extracted information on all Westwood and Webley families. The three families are the family of Joseph Westwood/Ann Webley and the families of their parents, Joseph Westwood/Hannah Smith and Richard Webley/Jane Danby.

Here is a summary of what I found in English records for our Westwood family. Feel free to photocopy this paper and share it with family members, but do not reproduce it electronically (on the internet, CD, etc.) or publish it in any other form without my permission.

## THE WESTWOOD FAMILY IN ENGLAND

### Joseph Westwood/Hannah Smith

A family history written by Eva L. Coryell states, “Joseph Westwood Sr. we know little of. We don’t know his father’s name, but his mother was Jane (Duncley) Webley. Joseph was born in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England. We have no birth or marriage dates, but there are reasons to believe he was christened in the little parish church where his ancestors had lived and died for several hundred years. The only son we know of was Joseph Westwood Jr. who was baptized there 13 May 1797. We don’t have Joseph Sr.’s death date. He married Hannah Smith, who was born 20 December 1767 at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England. She married twice after her first husband’s death. Her second husband was Charles Rowencroft and her third was a Mr. Gurnel.”<sup>1</sup>

While there were a few Westwood families at Bromsgrove, no baptism was found there of Joseph Westwood Sr. and it is quite possible he never lived there. I have not yet located a baptismal record for Joseph nor identified his parents. I suspect the reputed name of his mother (Jane Duncley Webley) is a miswriting of the name of his son’s mother-in-law, Jane Danby Webley.

Joseph married Hannah Smith on 16 Jan 1798 at Saint Michael Bedwardine, Worcester, England<sup>2</sup>. Their marriage record reads:

*Joseph Westwood of this Parish and Hannah Smith of the Parish of Bromsgrove were Married in this Church by Banns this Sixteenth Day of January in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and ninety eight by me Thomas Clarke Curate .*

Joseph and Hannah signed with an X. Joseph Smith, who was probably Hannah’s father, and James Allcock were witnesses to the marriage.

A Hannah Smith was christened on 20 Dec 1767 in Bromsgrove, Worcester, England,<sup>3</sup> daughter of Joseph and Ann Smith of Chadwich who has been reputed to be the Hannah who married Joseph. She would have been 31 at the time of the marriage, which is older than the average age of marriage. No death record or other record has been located at this time that would verify Hannah’s parentage. The Bromsgrove Parish computer printout of names extracted from parish records shows two more possibilities: Hannah, daughter of Joseph Smith and

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<sup>1</sup>Eva L. Coryell, *Westwood History*, undated typescript in possession of Beth Davies June 2005.

<sup>2</sup>Parish registers, Church of England. St. Michael's Church (Worcester), Marriages, 1754-1802, 1798, p. 79, #320, Microfilm 417, 975, Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>3</sup>Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 5, Baptisms

December 1767, Microfilm 321,124, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sarah, chr. 25 Dec. 1779 and Hannah, daughter of William Smith and Ann, chr. 18 May 1781.<sup>4</sup> No burial records were located in Bromsgrove for these individuals.

Joseph and Hannah had only one known child, **Joseph Westwood** who was christened on 13 May 1799 in Bromsgrove, Worcester, England<sup>5</sup>. He died on 3 May 1849 in St.Louis, St.Louis, Missouri<sup>6</sup>. It was common for a woman to return home for the birth or christening of a first child, so this does not necessarily indicate that the family lived in Bromsgrove.

A daughter, Elizabeth, has been attributed to Joseph and Hannah, born or christened 6 Jan. 1802<sup>7</sup>, but the actual parish records show this is the child of Joseph and Hannah Smith, not Joseph and Hannah Westwood<sup>8</sup>.

A possible additional child of Hannah Smith/Joseph Westwood could be Hannah, daughter of Hannah Westwood, pauper who was buried 19 Jan. 1806 at Bromsgrove<sup>9</sup>. No christening record appears for this child.

I have been unable to locate a burial record for Joseph Westwood. His widow, Hannah, married Charles Ravenscroft on 16 March 1807 at Bromsgrove.<sup>10</sup> Their marriage record reads:

*Charles Ravenscroft of this parish Bachelor and Hannah Westwood of the Same Widow were Married in this church by Publication of Banns this Sixteenth Day of March in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seven by me Robt Cottam Curate In the Presence of Joseph Ledbury, William Brooke*

The Bromsgrove parish records show the burials (but there are no corresponding christening records) of three children of Charles Ravenscroft and Hannah: Thomas, buried 31

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<sup>4</sup>Computer printout of Bromsgrove, Worcester, England,( Salt Lake City : Genealogical Society of Utah, 1990) Microfiche 6,901,301, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah

<sup>5</sup>Parish Registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove, Vol. 10, Christenings in May 1799, Microfilm 321,126, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>6</sup>Hannah Westwood Smith to Joseph Westwood, letter dated 16 Feb. 1905, Cambridge, Idaho, typescript copy in possession of Beth Davies June, 2005.

<sup>7</sup>Elizabeth Westwood entry, *International Genealogical Index [IGI]* (Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 2005), several different submissions by members of the LDS Church. Note: this christening appears correctly as that of Elizabeth Smith, reference Bromsgrove Parish Records.

<sup>8</sup>Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 10, 1802 Christenings in January, Microfilm 321,126, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>9</sup>Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 11, Burials in January 1806, Microfilm 321,126, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>10</sup>Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 7, Marriages 1773-1812, 1807 #10, Microfilm 321,125, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Jan. 1808, Sarah, buried 22 June 1809, and James, buried 25 June 1812. Then the burial of Charles Ravenscrofte, aged 46 years, Pauper, appears on 21 September 1812.<sup>11</sup>

Hannah's 3<sup>rd</sup> husband was reputed to be a Mr. Gurnel. The Gurnel surname does not seem to exist in the Bromsgrove area, but there are many Yarnell/Yarnold families. A possible third marriage that took place at Bromsgrove is:

*Richard Yarnold of this parish and Hannah Ravenscroft of this parish were married in this Church by banns...this thirteenth day of August in the Year One thousand eight hundred and Twenty-one .<sup>12</sup>*

### **Joseph Westwood/Ann Webley**

Eva Coryell wrote, " Joseph, Jr. married Ann Webley 5 Nov. 1823. Previous to this marriage he had married Susan Nokes, who had borne him nine children. We presume she died, as we have no record of her. We have no record of the nine children or what became of them . . ." <sup>13</sup>

Hannah Westwood, one of Joseph and Ann's daughters, wrote, "Now about Father's first marriage, his wife had several children. I remember when I was living in Birmingham, Eng., I went with him to call on an acquaintance of his and in the conversation he said to the parties that he had been the father of 23 children, but they did not all come to maturity. The name of his first wife we used to call "Shuckey". I suppose it was Susan or Susannah Nokes before marriage . . ." <sup>14</sup>

When I started working on this family, a little common sense said that Joseph couldn't have had nine children from his first marriage. He was only 24 when he married Ann Webley in 1823! He actually married **Susannah Nokes** just a little over a year previous to this time, 26 August 1822 at St. Helen, city of Worcester, Worcester County, England<sup>15</sup>. Their marriage record reads:

*Marriages solemnized in the Parish of Saint Helen in sd City & County of Worcester in the year 1822*

*Joseph Westwood of this parish Bachelor and Susannah Nokes of this parish spinster were married in this church by Banns this twenty sixth day of August in the year One*

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<sup>11</sup> Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 12, Burials in January 1808, June 1809, June 1812, September 1812, Microfilm 321,126, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>12</sup>Parish registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove (Worcester), Vol. 14, Marriages 1812-1831, p. 120, Microfilm 321,127, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>13</sup>Eva L. Coryell, *Westwood History*, undated typescript in possession of Beth Davies June 2005.

<sup>14</sup>Hannah Westwood Smith to Joseph Westwood, letter dated 16 Feb. 1905, Cambridge, Idaho, typescript copy in possession of Beth Davies June, 2005.

<sup>15</sup>Parish registers, 1538-1939, Church of England. St. Helen's Church, city of Worcester, Marriages 1813-1834; p. 66, Microfilm 354,312, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

*thousand eight hundred and Twenty Two  
In the Presence of Wm. Smith, Sarah Smith.*

The Bromsgrove parish records show what appears to be Susannah's burial: Susanna Westwood, living at Sidemoor [one of the neighborhoods in Bromsgrove parish], buried March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1823, age 28.<sup>16</sup> That means she and Joseph were married only seven months prior to her death. Her age matches closely with the christening in Bromsgrove on 11 Aug. 1795 of a Susannah Nokes, daughter of William and Sarah Nokes.<sup>17</sup>

Joseph married (2) **Ann Webley** daughter of Richard Webley and Jane Danby on 5 Nov 1823 in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England<sup>18</sup>. Their marriage record says:

*Marriages solemnized in the Parish of Bromsgrove in the County of Worcester in the Year 1823  
Joseph Westwood of this parish and Ann Webley of this Parish were married in this Church by Banns . . . this Fifth Day of November in the Year One thousand eight hundred and Twenty Three by me John Nitherta? Curate..  
In the Presence of William Rose, Richard Webley.*

A number of children have been attributed to this family, but I have been unable to determine the sources for some of them and therefore am not sure they actually existed. None of the children appear in the Bromsgrove parish records, but the family appears to have lived in the area until they emigrated to the United States. The following children definitely belong to this family, either because they lived to maturity and emigrated with the family to the U.S. or because records of them exist in England (Note that Catshill is an area within Bromsgrove parish and some records are more specific about naming the place than others). Those events listed as taking place at Bromsgrove probably took place at Catshill) :

**Philip Moss WESTWOOD** was born on 1 Sep 1824 in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England<sup>19</sup>. He is died on 20 Jun 1868<sup>20</sup> in Virginia City, Storey, Nevada<sup>21</sup>.

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<sup>16</sup>Parish Registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove, Burials 1813-1827, p.

205."#1640 , Microfilm 321,127, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>17</sup>Susannah Nokes, Christening: 11 Aug 1795, Bromsgrove, Worcester, England, Parents: Willm.

Nokes/Sarah, *IGI*, (Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 2005), reference film 321,126.

<sup>18</sup>Parish Registers, Church of England, Parish Church of Bromsgrove, Vol. 14; Marriages 1813-1831, p.

163 #487, Microfilm 321,127, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>19</sup>Springville Ward Records, p. 63, Microfilm 26,459, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah

<sup>20</sup>Richard Elwyn Westwood Jr., Editor, *Westwood Family History* (J. Grant Stevenson: Provo, Utah,

1973), p. 1.

<sup>21</sup>Death place supplied by Bob Wilcox, source unknown.

**David WESTWOOD** was born on 3 Aug 1826 in Bromsgrove. He died on 12 Oct 1903 in Central House, California<sup>22</sup>.

**Hannah WESTWOOD** was born on 12 Oct 1828 near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England. She died on 17 May 1918 in Chepota, Liberty, Kansas. She was buried in Fairview Cemetery, near Chetopa<sup>23</sup>.

Other children, Elizabeth, born about 1827, Sarah Ann, born about 1830, and Charles, born about 1831, have been attributed to this family, but I can find no record, other than compiled sources, which lists these children.

The next three children had their births recorded in the records of the Catshill Baptist Church:

**Mercy Ellen WESTWOOD** was born on 26 Mar 1833 in Hadless Cross, Worcestershire, England<sup>24</sup>. Her birth record reads:

*Mercy Westwood Daughter Josh & Ann Westwood Born March the 26 1833.*

She died on 18 Jan 1863 in Fulsom, California<sup>25</sup>.

**Twins Richard Webley and Joseph WESTWOOD** were born on 25 Apr 1835 in Catshill, Worcestershire, England<sup>26</sup>. Their birth record says:

*Richard & Joseph Westwood twins sons of Joseph & Ann Westwood His wife Who Was the Daughter of Richard Webley Was Born at Little Catshill In the Parish of Bromsgrove In the County of Worcester on the Twenty Fifth Day of April One Thousand eight Hundred and Thirty Five At whoes Birth Where Present Hannah Yarnell, Hannah Powell.*

*Named at this Chapel the 17th Day of May 1834 by Moses Nokes.*

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<sup>22</sup>Dr. Willard S. Westwood, "A Partial History of the Family of David Westwood" in *Westwood Family History*, Richard Elwyn Westwood Jr., Editor (J. Grant Stevenson: Provo, Utah, 1973).

<sup>23</sup>Obituary, Hannah Westwood Smith, typescript found on Reta Grant's Danby-Westwood web site, 2004.

<sup>24</sup>Births, the Baptist Chapel, Little Catshill, PRO RG4: Nonconformist Registers, Worcestershire England, 2135, p. 17, Microfilm 816,597, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>25</sup>Richard Elwyn Westwood Jr., Editor, *Westwood Family History* (J. Grant Stevenson: Provo, Utah, 1973), p. 1, 244.

<sup>26</sup>Births, the Baptist Chapel, Little Catshill, PRO RG4: Nonconformist Registers, Worcestershire England, 2135, p. 17 Microfilm 816,597, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Richard died on 16 Apr 1908 in Fairview, San Pete, Utah<sup>27</sup>,<sup>28</sup>. Joseph, twin to Richard apparently died young as another son was later named Joseph.

England began keeping vital records in 1837. Previously unknown birth and death dates for Sampson and Patience Westwood were found in the vital records indexes and copies of the birth and death certificates obtained from England. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Joseph also appear in the indexes, but his birth certificate has not been obtained. Temperance does not appear in the indexes.

**Sampson WESTWOOD** was born on 29 Jul 1837<sup>29</sup> and died on 3 Mar 1839<sup>30</sup> in Bromsgrove, Worcester, England. His birth certificate reads:

*Registration District: Bromsgrove, Subdistrict, Bromsgrove*

*1837 Births, #19*

*Sampson, born 29 July, Bromsgrove*

*Male*

*Father: Joseph Westwood, occupation: Nailer*

*Mother: Ann Westwood formerly Webley*

*Informant: Joseph Westwood (mark of), Father, residence: Little Catshill near Bromsgrove*

*Registered: 6th September*

His death certificate reads:

*1839 Death in the Sub-district of Bromsgrove in the County of Worcester, #393*

*Died: Third of March 1839, Bromsgrove*

*Name: Sampson Westwood, Male, age One year and seven months*

*Occupation: Son of Joseph Westwood nailer*

*Cause of death: Declilne*

*Informant: The mark of Ann Westwood present at the death, residence: Little Catshill*

*Registered Tenth of March 1839*

**Temperance WESTWOOD** was born on 19 Aug 1839 in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire,

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<sup>27</sup>Richard Elwyn Westwood Jr., Editor, *Westwood Family History* (J. Grant Stevenson: Provo, Utah, 1973), p. 263.

<sup>28</sup>Richard W. Westwood Obituary, Eastern Utah Advocate, May 1, 1908, (Utah Digital Newspapers).

<sup>29</sup>Birth Certificate, Sampson Westwood, General Register Office, Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH England. Copy in possession of Beth Davies, Feb. 2, 2005.

<sup>30</sup>Death Certificate, Sampson Westwood, General Register Office, Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH England. Copy in possession of Beth Davies.

England<sup>31</sup>. She died on 21 Sep 1922 in Farmington, Davis, Utah<sup>32</sup>.

**Patience WESTWOOD** was born on 17 Dec 1841<sup>33</sup> and died on 2 Jan 1843<sup>34</sup> in Bromsgrove, Worcester, England. Her birth certificate reads:

*When and where born: Seventeenth of December 1841, Bromsgrove*

*Name: Patience*

*Girl*

*Father: Joseph Westwood, Nailer*

*Mother: Ann Westwood, formerly Webley*

*Informant: Joseph Westwood, father, residence: Little Catshill*

*Registered: Twenty-Seventh January 1842*

Her death certificate reads:

*Date and place of death: Second of January 1843, Bromsgrove*

*Name: Patience Westwood, female, age one year*

*Daughter of Joseph Westwood, nailor*

*Died of Inflammation of the Lungs*

*Informant: The mark of Hannah Westwood present at the death Catshill*

*Registered Fourth of January 1843.*

**Joseph Moroni WESTWOOD** was born on 21 Jan 1844 in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, England<sup>35</sup>. He died on 3 Mar 1929 in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah<sup>36</sup>.

**Becky Ann WESTWOOD** was born on 1 May 1849 and died on 4 May 1849 in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri after the family arrived in the United States<sup>37</sup>.

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<sup>31</sup>Temperance Westwood Obituary, Davis County Clipper, Sept. 29, 1922 (Utah Digital

Newspapers).

<sup>32</sup>Ibid.

<sup>33</sup>Birth Certificate, Patience Westwood, 1842 Birth, subdistrict of Bromsgrove, , General Register

Office, Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH England. Copy in possession of Beth Davies.

<sup>34</sup>Death Certificate, Patience Westwood, 18i43 Deaths, Bromsgrove District and Subdistrict, #239,

General Register Office, Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH England. Copy in possession of Beth Davies.."

<sup>35</sup>Springville ward records, Record of Members, Early to 1892, microfilm film 26,459, FHL, Salt

Lake City, UTah

<sup>36</sup>Obituary, Joseph Moroni Westwood, as reproduced in *Westwood Family History*, p. 226.

<sup>37</sup>Hannah Westwood Smith to Joseph Westwood, letter dated 16 Feb. 1905, Cambridge, Idaho,

typescript copy in possession of Beth Davies June, 2005. This letter does not give a name for this child. The name is found in *Westwood Family History* (op. cit.), p. 2.

Several children are reputed to have born between Joseph Moroni and Becky, but no record has yet been found of their births. Note that stillbirths were not recorded during this time period in England.

Two other records show most of the family: the 1841 British census and the ship's record when the family emigrated to the United States.

In the 1841 census of Bromsgrove, living at Over Catshill<sup>38</sup> were :

Joseph Westwood,	40, nail m.
Ann "	35
Phillip "	15
Mercy "	8
Richard "	6
Temperance "	2

All were listed as born within the county.

Note: ages of those 15 and older were usually rounded down to the nearest 5 years in this census.

In this census, daughter Hannah Westwood is listed as age 12, with her grandmother Jane (Danby) Webley at Marlbrook in Bromsgrove parish<sup>39</sup>. Missing is son David. Son Joseph was not yet born. Joseph's occupation of nailmaker was a very common one in the area where he lived.

New Orleans Passenger Lists<sup>40</sup> show Joseph's family arriving on the ship Ashland from Liverpool, April 18, 1849:

*Joseph Westwood, age 50*  
*Ann Westwood, age 43*  
*Philipp Westwood, age 24*  
*Elizabeth Westwood (Philip's wife), age 28*  
*David Westwood, age 22*  
*Hannah Westwood, age 20*  
*Mercy Westwood, age 15*  
*Richard Westwood, age 13*  
*Temperance Westwood, age 9*  
*Joseph Westwood, age 5*

Philip Westwood was the only child that married before the family left England, but his marriage does not appear in the national index to marriages. Sometime before leaving England,

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<sup>38</sup>Joseph Westwood household, 1841 British Census, Bromsgrove Parish, Worcester County, E.D. 7, p. 2, Microfilm 464,206, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>39</sup>Jane Webley household, 1841 British Census, Bromsgrove Parish, Worcester County, E.D. 15, p.

3, Microfilm 464,206, FHL, Salt Lake City, Utah.

<sup>40</sup>New Orleans 1820-1850 Passenger and Immigration Lists, Ship Ashland ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)).

the Westwood family joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, but no record of their membership was found. While some LDS records exist for this time period, they are probably not complete.