

The later Earls of Roden

The last three Jocelyn owners of Hyde Hall

This article is the tenth and penultimate in my series of 'follow-ups' to my earlier article of November 2018, entitled Hyde Hall/Great Hyde Hall, in which I have been writing about the residents and owners of Hyde Hall, especially the Jocelyn family.

None of the three Earls who are the subject of this article were ever resident at Hyde Hall and there is indeed no record of them even visiting the town of Sawbridgeworth. They were nonetheless the owners of Hyde Hall, and as such are still a part of the history of Sawbridgeworth.

William Henry Viscount Jocelyn, 6th Earl Roden, 7th Baron Newport (1842 – 1910)

William was born in Naples in Italy on 5 November 1842. He was the son of John Jocelyn and his wife Emily (Thompson). He was also the grandson of Robert, the 2nd Earl Roden, and the cousin of John Strange, the 5th Earl Roden.

In 1857, William joined the Royal Navy, becoming a Lieutenant in 1865, finally rising to the rank of Captain before retiring in 1892.

William became the 6th Earl Roden upon the demise of his cousin John Strange 3 July 1897. He never married, and lived the rest of his life at Tollymore Park House, Bryansford, County Down. He died on 23 January 1910 at Kilkeel, County Down aged 67 and was succeeded by his younger brother Robert.

Robert Julian Orde Viscount Jocelyn, 7th Earl Roden, 8th Baron Newport (1845 – 1915)

Robert was the younger brother of William, the 6th Earl and was born 19 April 1845 in Bath, Somerset.

On 26 November 1882, Robert married Ada Maria Jenyns at St. Elphin's church in Warrington, Cheshire. Rather strangely though, the couple had a second recorded marriage at the church of St. Philip and St. James in York later that year on 7 December. It is unclear why this was, but in the 1881 census return, Ada was recorded as living in York, whilst in 1881 Robert was a Captain in the Army (8th Foot Regiment), based in the Cheshire area.

Ada was born on 7 September 1860 at Farnham, Surrey and died on 18 February 1931 at Northwich, Cheshire. They were to have three children together, one son and two daughters.

At some time prior to 1871, Robert was commissioned into the Army, serving with the 8th Foot, the King's Liverpool Regiment. In the 1871 census he was a Lieutenant. In the 1881 census he was a Captain.



The King's Liverpool Regiment in South Africa

Robert is absent from the 1891 census. Possibly he was serving abroad at that time. He probably spent time with the regiment in both Canada (Nova Scotia) and Cape Colony (South Africa). In the 1901 census, Robert was listed as a retired Lt. Colonel and had no less than ten servants living with him.

On 23 January 1910, Robert became the 8th Earl Roden on the demise of his brother William. Robert died on 18 December 1915 at Kilkeel in County Down and was succeeded by his son, another Robert.

Robert Soame Viscount Jocelyn, 8th Earl Roden, 9th Baron Newport (1883 – 1956)

Born on 8 September 1883 at York, Robert was the only son of Robert the 7th Earl Roden and his wife Ada.

On 19 July 1905, Robert married Elinor Jessie Parr at Kington in Herefordshire. She was born on 3 July 1883 in Warrington, being baptised 12 August that year. She died on 11 February 1962 at Gosport in Hampshire. The couple had four children together.

In the Great War, Robert served as a Captain in the North Irish Horse ('D' Squadron), a yeoman unit of the Territorial Army, which saw service on the Western Front. In 1915 it was attached to the 51st Highland Division, but later in June 1916 was amalgamated with 'A' Squadron. The unit appears to have been used mainly for secondary support functions to the rear of the front lines.



Robert Soame Jocelyn

Following the death of his father, the 7th Earl Roden in December 1915, Robert Soame assumed the titles of his father and became the 8th Earl Roden.

After the Great War, Robert served as a representative peer for Ireland in the House of Lords in Westminster from 1919 until his demise on 30 October 1956 in Southampton. He was described by his grandson, the 10th Earl Roden as being 'austere'.

In the 1920s, Robert sold the Hyde Hall estate, which by now was of secondary importance to the family, to Walter Lawrence, the owner of the joinery works by the river. From this time onwards the Jocelyn family ceased to have any connections to Sawbridgeworth, and therefore this history of them also ceases at this point. However, the titles Earl of Roden and Baron Newport are still extant and in 2010 were held by the 10th Earl Roden, who was living in Eire.

Authors note. Walter Lawrence is the subject of two articles for SLHS by Theo van der Bilt and is therefore not covered by this writer. They can be accessed at www.sbwhistory.com.

REFERENCES

www.cracroftspeerage.co.uk

www.familysearch.org

Forces War Records. www.forces-war-records.co.uk

Great St. Mary's Church. www.sawbridgeworthchurch.com

Hertfordshire County Council, *Great Hyde Hall.* www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Historic England. *Great Hyde Hall.* www.historicengland.org.uk

Jocelyn, R, 10th Earl of Roden, *The Irish Country House and the Great War.* Irish Life and Lore. Dublin DATE??

Page, W (ed) (1912), *A History of the County of Hertford, Volume 3 pp332-347.* Victoria County History.

www.thepeerage.com p22692-11 ???

Wikipedia.

Flt Lt Douglas Coe BSc RAFVR(T) Ret'd.

August 2019._