

THREE BLACK BIRDS

The 900 Year History of a Lincolnshire Family

Volume II – Early Hackthorn and Leicester

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VOLUME II: EARLY HACKTHORN & LEICESTER

JOHN CRACROFT (son of Richard Cracroft, of Ingoldmells - see Volume I), of Ingoldmells, Lincs., aged 16 and more at his father's death; married Jane Claymond, daughter of Adlard Claymond, of Frampton, Lincs. (proved her husband's will; her will was dated 25 January 1557/58 and proved 15 March 1557/58; after her husband's death she married 2ndly Lawrence Palmer, of Burgh-le-Marsh, Lincs.); died on 14 May 1537; will dated 10 May 1537 and proved PCC 15 November 1538; IPM taken at Horncastle, Lincs., on 13 October 1537¹, leaving issue,

1. **Francis Cracroft**, of whom.
2. Anthony Cracroft, 2nd son 10 May 1537; died before 25 January 1557/58.
3. Dorothy Cracroft, living 10 May 1537 and 13 February 1569; married James Megson.
4. Cassandra Cracroft, living 10 May 1537 and 13 February 1569; married John Wilkinson, of Boston, Lincs.
5. Mary Cracroft; living 13 February 1569; married Thory.

FRANCIS CRACROFT, of Winthorpe, 1st son and heir, aged 4 at his father's death; married 1stly, Katherine, first daughter of Hugh Grantham, of Dunholme, Lincs., and sister and (in her issue) principal co-heiress of Robert Grantham, of the Black Monks, near Lincoln; they had issue,

1. **John Cracroft**, of whom.
2. Richard Cracroft, buried at Winthorpe, Lincs., on 19 September 1561.

He married 2ndly, Anne (died 1596) and died on 17 February 1569/70; will dated 13 February, proved on 16 March 1569/70²; IPM at Lincoln Castle on 11 May 1570³, leaving further issue,

3. Daniel Cracroft, of Stallingborough and Haltham-on-Bane, Lincs., second surviving son, under age in 1570, a legatee of his half-brother John in 1621; married by licence at St Michael's-on-the-Mount, Lincoln, on 16 August 1602, Ursula Loudon, of Ormsby, Lincs. (buried at Stallingborough on 21 March 1615/16); buried at Haltham-on-Bane on 14 August 1625, leaving issue,

- 1a. James Cracroft, baptised at Wood Enderby, Lincs., on 27 November 1603 and buried there on 20 December 1603.
 - 2a. Francis Cracroft, baptised at Wood Enderby, Lincs., on 28 November 1604.
 - 3a. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Wood Enderby, Lincs., on 20 December 1606.
 - 4a. John Cracroft, baptised at Wood Enderby, Lincs., on 19 June 1608 and buried there on 10 July 1608.
 - 5a. Edward Cracroft, baptised at Wood Enderby, Lincs., on 24 December 1609.
 - 6a. William Cracroft, baptised at Stallingborough, Lincs., on 12 July 1612 and buried there on 21 July 1612.
 - 7a. John Cracroft, baptised at Stallingborough, Lincs., on 10 October 1613; mentioned in his uncle's will in 1621.
 - 8a. Richard Cracroft, baptised at Stallingborough, Lincs., on 21 March 1615.
4. Edmund Cracroft, third surviving son, under age in 1570, a grocer in the City of London; married (licence dated 25 August 1600) Elizabeth Howe, of Goltho, Lincs.
 5. Jane Cracroft, under age in 1570.

JOHN CRACROFT, of Whisby in the parish of Doddington Pigot and of Dunholme, Lincs., aged 11 at his father's death in 1570, inherited Whisby, Hackthorn and Dunholme from his maternal uncle Robert Grantham in 1618 and then living in North Grimston, Yorks.; married Elizabeth Beverley, daughter of William Beverley, of North Grimston, Yorks. (died on 23 August 1602 and buried in North Grimston church⁴); buried at Dunholme, Lincs., on 6 November 1622; will dated 14 July 1621 and proved on 28 November 1622; IPM at Sleaford on 19 June 1623, leaving issue,

1. **Robert Cracroft**, of whom.
2. John Cracroft, second son in 1616 but died before 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire.

3. William Cracroft, of Cold Hanworth, Lincs., third son in 1616 but second surviving son in 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire; married before 1624 Elizabeth (died before 1637) and died on 1 March 1637/38, leaving issue,
 - 1a. Ephraim Cracroft, aged 9 years and 10 months at his father's death; sold lands in Fulnetby, Lincs., to Thomas Lodington in 1651; living in London in 1654.

4. Francis Cracroft, of Metheringham and Washingborough, Lincs., fourth son in 1616 but third surviving son in 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, matriculated pensioner from Trinity College, Cambridge, Easter 1622; married by licence at St Michael-le-Belfry, York., on 20 November 1623, Jane Waterhouse, widow (buried at Washingborough, Lincs., on 17 April 1641), and was buried at Spalding, Lincs., on 28 May 1671, leaving issue,
 - 1a. Anne Cracroft, baptised at Metheringham, Lincs., on 12 September 1624.
 - 2a. John Cracroft, baptised at Metheringham, Lincs., on 26 February 1626.
 - 3a. Peter Cracroft, of Lincoln, baptised at Metheringham, Lincs., on 1 November 1628; will dated 29 January and proved on 6 February 1651/52.
 - 4a. Robert Cracroft, of Donington, baptised at Spridlington, Lincs., on 21 July 1630, a legatee of his brother Robert on 29 January 1651/52 and of his own son Robert on 10 February 1684/85; married Anne, and had issue,
 - 1b. Robert Cracroft, of Grantham; married there on 3 April 1682, Jane Tomlinson, of Grantham, Lincs.; died during the lifetime of his father and apparently without issue; buried at Grantham, Lincs., on 16 February 1684/85; will dated 10 February 1684/85 and proved at Lincoln on 4 May 1685.
 - 2b. Francis Cracroft, of Leicester, living 10 February 1684/85; married and had issue,
 - 1c. Francis Cracroft, baptised at St Nicholas, Leicester, on 9 May 1681; married at St Mary, Leicester, on 8 October 1703, and had issue,
 - 1d. John Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 9 November 1708.

- 2d. Mary Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 28 September 1711.
 - 3d. Francis Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 3 November 1713.
 - 4d. Jane Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 17 September 1716.
- 2c. Thomas Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 2 April 1691; married Elizabeth, and had issue,
- 1d. Richard Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 19 March 1717.
 - 2d. Anne Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 11 April 1722.
 - 3d. Francis Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 7 April 1724 and married there on 26 November 1753, Elizabeth Ward, and had issue,
 - 1e. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 5 January 1755.
 - 2e. William Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 31 May 1762; married at Braunstone, Leics., on 7 October 1781, Sarah Tansley, and had issue,
 - 1f. Sarah Cracroft, baptised at All Saints, Leicester, on 13 October 1782.
 - 2f. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 26 December 1785.
 - 3f. William Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 2 January 1787.
 - 4f. Francis Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 17 July 1789.

- 5f. Keziah Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 26 January 1790 and married there on 23 February 1812, William Charlton.
 - 6f. Catherine Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 11 April 1793.
 - 7f. James Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 11 April 1793.
 - 8f. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 6 October 1793.
- 4d. John Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 29 March 1726.
 - 5d. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 10 April 1728.
 - 6d. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 8 July 1729; married at St Mary, Leicester, on 18 August 1754, William Trelawney.
 - 7d. Charles Cracroft, baptised at St Martin, Leicester, on 17 May 1731.
- 3c. Jane Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 4 April 1693 and married there on 23 October 1720, John Whitworth.
 - 4c. Robert Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 27 January 1696.
 - 5c. Henry Cracroft, baptised at St Mary, Leicester, on 10 May 1697.
- 5a. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Washingborough, Lincs., on 29 December 1633 and buried there on 23 December 1635.
 - 6a. Charles Cracroft, of New Sleaford, apothecary, baptised at Metheringham, Lincs., on 31 August 1637; married firstly at

Sleaford, Lincs., on 26 April 1660, Jane Gibson (buried there on 3 December 1663) and had issue,

- 1b. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 1 August 1661 and buried there on 25 March 1679.
- 2b. Anne Cracroft, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 21 April 1663.

He married secondly at Heckington, Lincs., on 4 June 1666, Margaret Christopher, daughter of George Christopher, of Winkhill-in-Heckington, Lincs., (baptised there on 17 July 1645 and buried at Sleaford, Lincs., on 17 June 1667), and had further issue,

- 3b. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 12 June 1667 and buried there 17 June 1667.

He married thirdly Susannah, and had further issue,

- 4b. Charles Cracroft, of Sleaford, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 19 July 1669; married Sarah (buried at Sleaford, Lincs., on 28 October 1719) and was buried there on 22 April 1715, leaving issue,

- 1c. Sarah Cracroft, buried at Sleaford, Lincs., on 13 April 1739.

- 5b. Joseph Cracroft, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 17 May 1670.

- 6b. Francis Cracroft, baptised at Sleaford, Lincs., on 27 April 1672.

- 7a. Francis Cracroft, of Spalding, a legatee of his brother Peter 29 January 1651/52 and proved his brother John's will 14 May 1669, baptised at Washingborough, Lincs., on 14 October 1635; married firstly at Spalding, Lincs., on 17 November 1658, Jane Mayes, and by her had issue,

- 1b. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 13 January 1659/60.

- 2b. John Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 28 June 1661/62.

- 3b. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 22 November 1665 and buried there on 11 December 1670.

He married secondly at Spalding, Lincs., on 30 March 1669, Mary Starling, and had further issue,

- 4b. Francis Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 28 January 1671/72.
 - 5b. John Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 12 September 1673.
 - 6b. Charles Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 13 December 1674.
 - 7b. Thomas Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 22 February 1676/77.
 - 8b. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 11 November 1678.
 - 9b. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 4 December 1680.
- 8a. Roger Cracroft, baptised at Washingborough, Lincs., on 11 March 1639; living 29 January 1651/52 and died before 23 April 1669, leaving issue,
- 1b. Edward Cracroft, living 23 April 1669.
- 9a. John Cracroft, of Spalding, living 1651 and 1657, had lands in Cold Hanworth, Lincs.; married at Washingborough, Lincs., on 29 June 1647 Margaret Lambe, daughter and heiress of William Lambe, of Spalding, Lincs. (proved her father's will 8 January 1657/58; mentioned in her husband's will 23 April 1669); died in the lifetime of his father, will dated 23 April 1669, proved at Lincoln 14 May 1669, having had issue,
- 1b. Thomas Cracroft, mentioned in his grandfather's will 8 January 1657/58.
 - 2b. Lambe Cracroft, of London, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 16 July 1648; died there unmarried and buried there on 25 January 1669; administration dated 29 November 1669 to William Johnson, principal creditor.
 - 3b. John Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 16 September 1649 and buried there 22 December 1649.

- 4b. William Cracroft, buried at Spalding, Lincs., on 7 February 1650/51.
- 5b. John Cracroft, of Market Deeping and Leicester, only surviving son, a legatee of his grandfather, William Lambe, 8 January 1657/58, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 22 February 1651/52; freeman of Leicester 10 April 1682, chamberlain 1683, alderman 1686 and Mayor of Leicester 1698; married 1stly at St Margaret's, Leicester, on 28 October 1675 Mary Green (died 1681), and by her had issue,
- 1c. John Cracroft, baptised at St Margaret's, Leicester, on 4 December 1676.
- 2c. Mary Cracroft, baptised at St Margaret's, Leicester. on 6 December 1677.
- 3c. Lambe Cracroft, baptised at St Margaret's, Leicester on 1 April 1679.
- 4c. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at St Margaret's, Leicester on 10 April 1680.
- He married 2ndly at Loughborough, Leics., on 10 March 1681, Alice Dainty; died after 1706, leaving further issue,
- 5c. Alice Cracroft, baptised at St Martin's, Leicester, on 3 January 1683.
- 6c. John Cracroft, baptised at St Martin's, Leicester, on 5 May 1685; married at St Mary, Leicester, on 14 November 1721, Elizabeth Lawrence.
- 7c. Benjamin Cracroft, baptised at St Martin's, Leicester, on 25 June 1686.
- 8c. Amphilis Cracroft, baptised at St Martin's, Leicester, on 25 October 1687.
- 6b. Margaret Cracroft, a legatee of her father 23 April 1669, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 25 September 1653; married there on 14 April 1675, Thomas Ogard.

- 7b. William Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 29 February 1655 and buried there on 16 May 1655.
 - 8b. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 7 February 1659/60.
 - 9b. Anne Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 19 April 1661.
 - 10b. William Cracroft, baptised at Spalding, Lincs., on 8 February 1662/63.
5. Bridget Cracroft, married after 14 July 1621, Dickenson.
 6. Elizabeth Cracroft, married before 14 July 1621, Thomas Appleby.
 7. Anne Cracroft, married before 1616, Charles Wilson, of Sheepwash, Lincs.; will dated 17 July 1656 and proved PCC on 26 November 1656, then a widow of Heighington, Lincs., and (to be) buried at Canwick, Lincs.
 8. Jane Cracroft, married at St Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, on 22 January 1617/18, Michael Lawes, of Lincoln, plumber (post-nuptial settlement dated 28 July 1619); buried at St Michael-at-Gowts, Lincoln, on 3 April 1635.
 9. Catherine Cracroft, married at Sudbroke, Lincs., on 30 June 1625, Edward Monke, of Broughton, Lincs.

ROBERT CRACROFT, of Whisby in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire and later of Hackthorn and of the City of Lincoln, aged 21 years and more at his father's death, married at Aisthorpe, Lincs., on 28 February 1608/09, Martha Amcotts, daughter of Sir Richard Amcotts, of Aisthorpe, Lincs. (marriage settlement dated 7 November 1608; she was buried at Dunholme, Lincs., on 25 August 1667); will dated 12 February 1666/67 and proved at Lincoln on 19 November 1667; buried at Dunholme, Lincs., on 14 September 1667, leaving issue,

1. **Robert Cracroft**, of whom.
2. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Aisthorpe, Lincs., on 28 March 1611.
3. Mary Cracroft, 1st daughter and aged 20 in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, married at Aisthorpe, Lincs., on 22 October 1640, Rev John Shelton; proved her father's will on 19 November 1667, being then a widow.

4. John Cracroft, 2nd son and aged 18 in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, a legatee of his father Robert Cracroft 12 February 1666/67; buried during the lifetime of his father at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 17 August 1667 (bond of administration dated 6 September 1667, with his nephew Robert Cracroft as administrator and his younger brother Richard Cracroft as surety; inventory dated the same date and administration account dated 8 November 1669)⁵.
5. Elizabeth Cracroft, 2nd daughter in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Wickenby, Lincs., on 17 March 1615/16; married William Bedell; a legatee of her father on 12 February 1666/67.
6. Richard Cracroft, licensee of The Old White Hart in the Bail of Lincoln, 3rd son in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Cold Hanworth, Lincs., on 16 November 1617; married Susannah (buried in St Peter's-in-Eastgate, Lincoln, on 7 May 1666); will dated 11 September 1684.
7. Jane Cracroft, 3rd daughter in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Doddington Pigot, Lincs., 3 November 1623; married Francis Bland, of Hablesthorp, Notts.; a legatee of her father 12 February 1666/67.
8. Martha Cracroft, 4th daughter in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Doddington Pigot, Lincs., 8 January 1625; married before 12 February 1666/67, Edward Barker; a legatee of her brother Richard 11 September 1684.
9. Thomas Cracroft, of Cold Hanworth, 4th son in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Doddington Pigot, Lincs., on 8 April 1628; married Mary Whelpdale; nuncupative will made on or about 23 February 1680/81 and proved by his widow at Lincoln on 18 March 1680/81.
10. Henry Cracroft, 5th son in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, baptised at Doddington Pigot, Lincs., on 15 August 1631.

ROBERT CRACROFT, 1st son and heir and aged 24 in the 1634 Visitation of Lincolnshire, entered in Gray's Inn on 19 October 1629, baptised at Aisthorpe, Lincs., on 4 May 1610; married Margaret Remington, daughter of Richard Remington, of Lund, Yorks. (will dated 12 August 1652, then of Whisby, Lincs., widow; (to be) buried at Doddington Pigot, Lincs.; administration dated 3 October 1655); died in the lifetime of his father and buried at St Mary-le-Wigford, Lincoln, on 23 August 1647, leaving issue,

1. **Robert Cracroft**, of whom.

2. Margaret Cracroft, 1st daughter, under age on 12 August 1652 according to her father's will.
3. Mary Cracroft, 2nd daughter, under age on 12 August 1652 according to her father's will.

ROBERT CRACROFT, of Whisby, Lincs., and afterwards of Hackthorn, Lincs., only son, heir to his grandfather, married Anne Lodington, daughter and coheirress of John Lodington, of Fulnetby, Lincs. (marriage settlement dated 8 October 1664; she remarried Francis Grantham, of Wragby, Lincs. (marriage settlement dated 5 September 1681); living 1726); buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 2 June 1677, leaving issue,

1. Mary Cracroft, baptised at Rand, Lincs., on 4 November 1665.
2. John Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 15 December 1668 and buried there in the lifetime of his father on 17 January 1670/71.
3. Richard Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 24 December 1672 and buried there in the lifetime of his father on 2 January 1672/73.
4. Anne Cracroft, living 1681.
5. Margaret Cracroft, living 1681.
6. Jane Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 9 April 1674 and living 1681.
7. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 9 September 1675 and living 1681.
8. **Robert Cracroft**, of whom.

ROBERT CRACROFT, of Hackthorn, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 17 January 1676/67; married at Hollywell-cum-Needingworth, Hunts., on 2 October 1701, Grace Baxter, daughter of Rev John Baxter, of Lincoln (buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 16 July 1709); buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 29 May 1712, leaving issue,

1. **Robert Cracroft**, for whom see Vol. III.

2. Elizabeth Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 6 April 1703/04; executrix of her sister 24 May 1776; died unmarried, aged 81, and buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 19 July 1784.
3. John Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 2 April 1705; married Sarah [Edmonds](#) (died on 17 March 1764 and buried at Louth, Lincs.); died on 20 April 1763, aged 58, and buried at Louth, Lincs.; will dated 20 March 1753 and proved 21 October 1763.
4. Edward Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 11 July 1706.
5. Thomas Cracroft, buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 6 April 1708.
6. Grace Cracroft, baptised at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 12 April 1708; died unmarried, aged 68, and buried at Hackthorn, Lincs., on 9 February 1776; will dated 13 August, then of Louth, Lincs., and proved 24 May 1776.

1 Inquisitionem Post Mortem

He died seized of 60 acres with the Manor of Ingoldmells held of the Crown, 30 acres in Burgh held of the Manor of Ingoldmells and 16 acres in Burgh held of the College of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, as of the Manor of Candlesby and 3 messuages and 74 acres of land in Winthorpe held of the Manor of Croft.

2 Lincolnshire Wills, 1500-1600 (Rev A R Maddison)

No 228 - Francis Cracroft, of Winthorpe.

The Will of Francis Cracroft, of Winthorpe, Gent. 13 Feby. 1569. To the poor of Winthorpe, Addlethorpe and Ingoldmells. My children Edmund, Daniel and Jane Cracroft under lawful age. To my son Edmund £10. To my daughter Jane £20. To my son John Cracroft a silver salt. To my sister Megson 20s. To my sister Langton 10s. To my sister Cassander 20s. To my sister Thory 10s. I make Mr. Anthony Claymond, Gent., ex'or., and Laurence Meres, Esqr., supervisor. My lands in Winthorpe and Burgh.

Probate 16 March 1569

3 Inquisitionem Post Mortem

He died seized of the Manor of Winthorpe and of 35 acres in Burgh of which 16 acres were held of the College of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, as of the Manor of Candlesby, and 19 acres of the Queen as of the Manor of Ingoldmells, being parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

4 On the west wall of the chancel, north of the altar, there is a black-letter inscription on a plate 17 inches by 7 inches with four shields of arms, each 5½ inches by 5 inches:

Here lieth the body of Elizabeth Cracrofte, late wife of John Cracrofte, gent., of Winthorpe in the county of Lincoln, daughter of William Beverley, gent., of Beverley in the county of Yorke, who had issue by the said John Cracrofte, six sonnes and five daughters and died the xxiii day of August, AD 1602

The arms of Cracroft, as shown here, are: *Quarterly of five: 1st, Per pale vert and gules on a bend dancetty argent three martlets sable (Cracroft); 2nd, Ermine a griffin segreant gules (Grantham); 3rd gules a crescent surmounted by an estoile or (Tuke); 4th, argent two bars azure (Hilton); 5th, argent on a chevron between two crescents in chief and a cross crosslet in*

base sable a mullet of the first (Gage). The arms of Beverley are shown as: Ermine a chevron sable on a chief of the last three bulls' heads caboshed argent armed or.

⁵ It has been claimed that John Cracroft of Hackthorn was the father of John Cra(y)croft, who emigrated to Maryland in 1665 and settled near Croom, Prince George's County, acquiring the properties known as "Hackthorn Heath" and "Craycroft's Rest". He married Ann, and died in 1697, leaving descendants down to the present time. It is admitted that the connection between John Cracroft of Hackthorn and John Craycroft the settler is based on conjecture (e.g, the naming of his properties, the use of a seal bearing the Cracroft family crest by Ignatius Craycroft, the son of John Craycroft the settler, etc.). A DNA comparison carried out in 1998 between a group of English male descendants of Robert Cracroft of Whisby, father of John Cracroft of Hackthorn, and a group of American male descendants of John Craycroft the settler, showed that there is a very high probability that the two groups share the same paternal ancestry.