

## Article for Bassett Branches – part 2 Bassett Wills from Wales

### CARMARTHENSHIRE BASSETTs

Bassett Branches Y-DNA testing currently has only 1 line for Carmarthen, Wales. If anyone knows of a male Bassett from Carmarthenshire (not connected to this line), please encourage them to participate in Y-DNA testing.

Bassett Line 202 – descendants of Anthony Bassett, born 1720 who married Margaret Griffith in Llanelli parish in 1745. They had 4 children (all born in Llanelli parish):

Anthony born ca1746 who married Katherine Owen and had 7 children

Elizabeth born ca1748

Richard born ca1751

Ann born ca1752

It is believed the elder Anthony had a brothers, Davnd and John.

No Wills are listed in the National Library of Wales database for any descendant of this family.

I have obtained copies of all available BASSETT Wills from the National Library of Wales and the UK National Archives for any Bassett who lived in Carmarthenshire.

In chronological order they are:

Will of John Bassett, Gentleman of Killa Gwyn, Llanelli	1690
Bond for the estate of Anthony Basset of Llanelli	1737
Will of Ann Bassett, Widow; Pauper of Llangendeirne	1797
Will of George Bassett, Shopkeeper of Carmarthen	1824
Will of Richard Bassett, Farmer of Alltycreach, Llanelli	1841

The Y-DNA for line 202 (from a descendant Anthony b. 1720 ....) is a 24 marker out of 25 marker match for several U.S. Bassetts (Lines 25B & 12B). When comparing this Carmarthen BASSETT DNA to that of the well-known Beaupre Bassett line, we have only a 21 out of 25 marker match. One of the two Y-DNA samples for the Llanelli BASSETTs is a 25 out of 25 marker match for the Lewis Bassett line (#66B). The connection of this main Carmarthen Bassett family to any Bassetts in Glamorgan is not known. The Wills below shed some light on the subject but still leave many gaps. Clearly, further research (including thorough study of parish registers for key parishes in Carmarthen) is needed along with searches through land records. It is interesting that the common choice of first names for his BASSETT line is different than in Glamorganshire. The first names, David and Anthony are much more common in the various BASSETTs of Carmarthen.

3143	#25B George W. Bassett of IN	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	23	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
79778	#25B George W. Bassett of IN	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	23	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
58206	#12B Oliver Bassett of NY	I	13	25	16	10	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
129084	#12B Oliver Bassett of NY	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	29	14	14	15	16
13838	#12B Oliver Bassett of NY	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
88337	#12B Oliver Bassett of NY	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
7446	#12B Oliver Bassett of NY	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
9144	#66B Lewis Bassett of Wales	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
47974	#292 Bassett of Beaupre, Wales	I	13	25	16	11	14	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	16	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	29	14	14	16	16
80460	#202 Bassett of Llanelli, Wales	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	10	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16
80687	#202 Bassett of Llanelli, Wales	I	13	25	16	11	13	17	11	13	11	12	11	28	15	8	9	10	12	24	15	19	30	14	14	15	16

Below is a map of that part of Carmarthenshire that shows the parishes of Carmarthen; Llanelli and Llangendeirne (in the middle marked by the blue circle).



Here are the transcribed Wills:

### Will of John Bassett, Gentleman of Killa Gwyn, Llanelli, CMN 1690

(Connection: Brother of David, Francis & James)

SD / 1690 / 101 W

In the name of God Amen the nineteenth day of August in ye fifth year of ye Reign of our Sovereign Lord King William & Queen Mary & in ye year of our Lord 1689 I **John Bassett** of Killa Gwyn within ye parish of Llanelli and County of Carmarthen gent being sicke of body but of sound and

perfect memory Laud & praise to ye Almighty God for ye same doe make this my last will & testament revoking all former wills by me made in manner and form following:

First & principally I bequeath my soule to God my maker & my body to be buried in Christian Buriall And of to ye settlement of what estate God hath blessed me withall:

I give & bequeath all that Capital messuage & tenant of Lands commonly called by ye name of Abel Carway & all other my lands & tenants whatsoever \_\_\_\_ lying and being within ye parish of Llanelly & county of Carmarthen unto my beloved Brother **David Bassett** of ye sd parish & County gent, & to his Heirs forever subject to ye payment of all my debts & what Legacies are left after expenses & declared & after all that \_\_\_\_ & other Lands being within ye parish of Langendayrne & else whichare within ye sd County

Item I doe likewise charge & make available to my \_\_\_\_ & Legacy, over & above what ye sonall efforts I doe hereby bequeath;

I give & bequeath unto my nieces **Katherine Bassett Joan Cowey** & a Beell being now a tenent of killagwyn together with one horse & a Mare to be by her made Choyse of all my floke of Horses, one payre of steers three yeares ould & all ye Hay & Corne \_\_\_\_ being and ye Tenant of killagwryn & in my possession & all my household stuffe,

Item I give & bequeath unto my nephew **David Bassett** sone to **James Bassett** three hieffers & two steers, all of two yeares ould & one Horse.

I doe give & bequeath to my Brother **Francis Bassett** two \_\_\_\_ three yeares ould, & ye five steers, & a Bay Horse

Item I give him one feather bed with all maner of furniture \_\_\_\_ belonging being in ye new Chamber over ye kitchening

Item I give him six platter \_\_\_\_ a Brasse pan & a Brasse \_\_\_\_ of ye \_\_\_\_ sort

Item I give & bequeath to my nephew **James Bassett** two steer two yeares ould a heiffer of a year ould & five calves

Item I give my niece **Katherine Bassett** all ye implements of husbandry & pigg & poultry.

I give & bequeath unto all ye rest of my nephews & nieces being sons & Daughters of **David Bassett** the sum of 40 shillings a peece to be pd them within one year next after my decease by my sd Brother **David Bassett**.

I give likewise to my nephew **David** sone to **James Bassett** ye sum of £20 to be pd him by my Brother **David Bassett** within six yeares after my decease, ye sd Lands being made available for ye sd paymt within ye time after, & my desire is that Mr **Griffith Reese** of Llanon shall \_\_\_\_ ye sd money when payable to yr children, & I doe make him to give a full receipt & discharge to my Brother **David** & Heirs for ye same, But if it please God to call for ye childe before ye Legacy is become payable or ye adge of sixteen, yn such legacy to be payd (or if payd to return to ye sd **David Bassett** ye Elder or his Heirs

Item I give unto my Brother **Francis Bassett** ye sum of £10 to be pd him by my brother **David Bassett** within three yeares next after my decease if my Brother **Francis** shall soe longer live.

I doe likewise give to **Margarett Hugh** halfe a Bushel of Barly & halfe a Bushell of Oattes, I give to each of my mayd servents & my manservants a pork of Barly & a pork of Oatts, & theyne wadge & Corne to be respectively pd them by my niece **Katherine Bassett** with in three months next after my decease

I give to ye poore of ye parish of Llanelly 10 shillings to be dispersed of in bread within one week next after my decease by ye Over & appoynted of ye Overseers of ye poore for ye sd parish, & to be pd for by my Brother **David Bassett** whom I doe nominate & appoynt to pay and to discharge my

\_\_\_ expenses such Legacy as are \_\_\_ and my sd Lands In Wittness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale this day & yeare first above written.

Signed published & declared in  
the presence of

**John Bassett**

A black and white photograph of a document. On the left, there is a handwritten signature in cursive that reads "John Bassett". To the right of the signature is a dark, circular ink stamp or seal.

**Ran: Mansell**  
**Griffith Lewis**  
**Jo: Rees**  
**Edward Morgan**

Memorandum that ye soberall interlyndings in this will may \_\_\_ & mark by ye appoynted of ye sd **John Bassett** & ye signed published & declared ye third Day of December 1689 in ye presence of  
**John Bassett**

**Raw: Mansell**  
**Thomas Thomas**  
**David Mansell**

A true and perfect Inventory of all the goods Cattle and Chattle household stuff Implemennt of husbandry \_\_\_ Corne and Hay all others goods whatsoever & movable and unmovable of **John Bassett** of Llanelly gent Lately deceased person by ye persons \_\_\_ named this tenth day of January 1689 as followeth

Animals £15 Crops £4 Household stuff £5 Wearing Apparel £1 Total Value £27

**Garn Mansell**  
\_\_\_ **Morgan**  
**Griffith Rees**  
**Jo. Rees**

**Here is an image of the top half of the 1st page of John's 1690 Will:**



SD/1690/101 W

In the name of God Amen The mynstrerth day of hys  
 In ye fift year of ye Reigne of our Sovereign Lord  
 King William & Queen Mary, in ye year of our Lord 1689  
 I John Bassett of Llanelli, within ye gift of Llanelli and  
 County of Carmarthen gent being sick of body but of sound and  
 perfect memory and I pray to ye Almighty God for ye same doe  
 make this my last will & testament shewing all forme willy & lawe  
 made in manner & forme following: first I principally  
 bequeath my soule to God my maker & my body to be  
 buried in Christian buriall and of to ye best love of what  
 shall God best please me withall: I give & bequeath all ye  
 Capital moneys & Jewells of Land & Tenement  
 Name of what far way call oather my Land & Tenement  
 whatsoever for what lying & being within ye gift of Llanelli  
 County of Carmarthen unto my brother brother Robert Bassett  
 of what far way & County gent & to his Heirs for ever full  
 & what I have & oather

# **Bond for the estate of Anthony Bassett of Llanelli, CMN 1737**

(Connection: Sister: Annie; daughter, Margaret)

SD / 1737 / 81 W

Know all men by these Presents that we **Evan John** of the Burrogh of Llanelli in the County of Carmarthen and **David Jonds** of the same/Gentlemen

Are held and firmly bound unto the Right Reverend father in God Nicolas Lord Bishop of Saint Davids in the sume of £200 of Good and lawfull money of Great Britain to be paid unto the said Lord Bishop or to his certain Attorney his Executors Administrators of Assigns to which payment well and truly to be made Wee oblige our selves and each of us try himself severally for the whole our and every of our Heirs Executors and Administrators firmly by these presents sealed with our seals dated the eighteen day of February in the eleventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth And in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty seven

The condition of this obligation is such that if **Margarett** the wife of the named **Evan John** Administrator of all and singular the goods Chattells and credits of **Anthony Bassett** last of the parish of Lanelli Deceased do make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all Singular the Goods Chattles and Credits of the said deceased which have or shall come to the hands possession or knowledge of her the said **Margaret** or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for her and the same so made do exhibit or cause to be exhibited unto the Registry of the Archdeconry of Carmarthen at or before the last day of July next ensuing and the same goods chattells and credits and all other the goods Chattells and credits of the said Deceased at the time of

his death which at any time of his death which at any time after shall come to the hands or possession of the said **Margaret** ...

Signed **Evan John**

In the presence of **Robert Thomas** **David Jones**

A true and perfect Inventory of the goods and Chattels of **Anthony Bassett** of the parish of Lanelly in the County of Carmarthen and Diocese of St David's deceased appraised by the undernamed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 1737

Animals £6 Household goods £1 Total Value £7

**John David** **Thomas John**

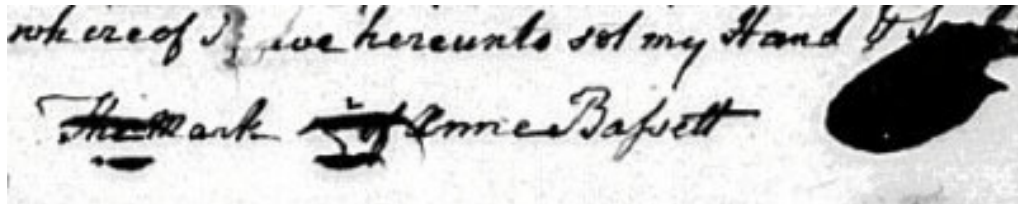
Feb 18 & 1737/8 The Administration of all ye goods chattles & whole personal Estate of ye within named **Anthony Bassett** deceased intestate \_\_ made out and committed to **Margaret** ye wife of **Evan John** daughter of ye sd deceased (reserving a power to **Anne Bassett** his syster) She having been duly sworn before me **Wm Hughes**

### **Will of Ann Bassett, Widow; Pauper of Llangyndeyrn, CMN 1797**

(Connection: ???; Daughter Jane mar. to David Robert) SD / 1797 / 132 W

In the Name of God, Amen, I **Anne Bassett** of the Parish of Llangundeyrn in the County of Carmarthen Widow being at present sick and weak in Body but of sound mind & perfect memory and understanding do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form following, that is to say

All the Effects I die possessed of of what Nature Kind or Quality soever they be both real and personal, I give devise and bequeath them all and singular unto my Daughter **Jane** wife of **David Robert** and her Heirs for ever and I do hereby constitute and appoint my said Daughter **Jane** wife of **David Robert** sole Executrix [torn hole] Legatee of this my last Will and Testament in Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & seal the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of Nov 1795 the Mark of **Anne Bassett**

A photograph of a handwritten signature and a dark, circular seal. The signature is written in cursive and reads "whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal" followed by "The Mark of Anne Bassett". The seal is a dark, circular ink stamp.

Signed sealed and delivered by the Testatrix as her last Will and Testament in the Presence of **Thomas Edward** **John David**

Carmarthen Dec 27, 1797 This will was proved by the Oath of those within named **Jane Robert** before me W H Barker surrg.

### **Will of George Bassett, Shopkeeper of Carmarthen, CMN 1824**

(Connection: married Mary Harries in 1816) SD / 1824 / 28 W

This is the last Will and Testament of **Mr George Bassett** of the county of the borough of Carmarthen Shopkeeper

First I commend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God who gave it and my Body I commit to the earth to be decently and frugally buried at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named, and as to all my household goods Books Hats Chairs Utensils and Personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever, wherewith it hath or may please God to Bless me I give and bequeath the same after payment of my just debts funeral expenses and the expense of proving this my will to my dear wife **Mary Bassett** to and for her own use and Benefit and I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint dear wife **Mary Bassett** whole and sole Executrix of this my last will and testament revoking and making void all other wills by me heretofore made and declaring this only to be my last In Witness whereof I the said **George Bassett** have hereunto put my hand and seal this 28<sup>th</sup> Day of October in the year of our Lod 1816



Signed **George Bassett**

Signed sealed published and declared by testator **George Bassett** and said for his last will and Testament in the presence of us who at his \_\_\_\_\_, in his presence and in the presence of each other towit published our names

**Wm** \_\_\_\_\_ Carmarthen

**Wm Griffiths** Lanten Mester Carmarthen

Carmarthen March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1824

This will was \_\_\_\_\_ by the both of **Mary Bassett** sole Executrix of the within named **George Bassett**

Effects under £200

Sworn before me T. Hancock Surrogate

### **Will of Richard Bassett, Farmer of Alltycreach, Llanelli, CMN 1841**

(Connection: Son of James & Margaret) SD / 1841 / 74 W

This is the last will and testament of me **Richard Bassett** of Allyoreach Farmer. In the Parish of Llanelly in the County of Carmarthen

First I do Give and bequeath after my decease unto my son **Richard Bassett** The whole of my Effects and house hold furniture together with all rights and profits of the lease on this tenements by paying in twelve caldender months.

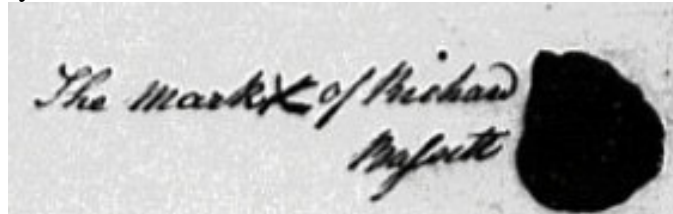
To my Elder Daughter **Margaret Driver**, the sum of One shilling

And unto younger Daughter **Ann Jenkins** the sum of one shilling

And Allso I do order and Direct to my Daughter **Jane Beynon** one cow

and further to my Granson **John Driver** one heifer same to be demanded on my son **Richard**

Lastly I do nominate and apoint my son **Richard** sole and whole Executor of this my Last Will and testament in testimony whereof I have heareunto set my hand an seal this the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March One Thousand Eight hundred and forty



The mark of **Richard Bassett**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said testator as and for his last will and testament in testimony whereof we have heare unto subscribe our names as witnesses

**David King** Melinycoed

**John William** Coledge

**Joshua Griffiths** Gellyrwydd

Carmarthen March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1841

**Richard Bassett** of Alltyoreach in the parish of Llanelli in the County of Carmarthen Farmer the sole Executor \_\_\_\_ This will annexed was sworn the \_\_\_\_ and faithful performance thereof as would and he further made oath that all the goods Chattels rights and credits of the Testator did not amount to £50 in value and that he died on the sixth day of September last

An apprisement of all the Effects of the late **Richard Bassett** of Alltyoreach Farmer in the Parish of Llanelly in the County of Carmarthen Deceased Made the fourth Day of March Eighteen hundred and fourty one to the amount of £47 10 shilling

The above has been Apprised by us whose names are hereunder written

**David Williams** Kibheddin Pencbey

**John William** Coledge Llanelly

Diocese of St David's

In the Goods of **Richard Bassett** deceased,

At Carmarthen the sixth day of March 1841

Appeared Personally **Richard Bassett** of Alltyocroch in the parish of Llanelly in the County of Carmarthen farmer son of the testar and sold Executor named in the last Will and Testament of **Richard Bassett** late of the same place Farmer Deceased, who died on the sixth day of September One Thousand Eight hundred and forty and made oath, that the Estate and the Effects of the said deceased, for or in respect of which a Probate of the said Will, is to be granted ... are under the Value of £50 to the best of this Deponent's Knowledge, Information, and Belief. Signed

**Richard Bassett**

In the Goods of **Richard Bassett** Deceased the seventh Day of March 1841

Appeared Personally **John William** of Coledge in the parish of Llanelly in the County of Carmarthen Farmer and made Oath that he is one of the subscribed witnesses to the last Will and Testament of **Richard Bassett** late of the parish of Llanelly in the County of Carmarthen farmer Deceased and hereunto annexed, the said Will beginning this "This is the last Will and Testament of me **Richard Bassett**" ending thus, "In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the 31<sup>st</sup> Day of March One Thousand Eight Hundred forty" and this is Subscribed The mark X of **Richard Bassett** and with Reference to the Execution of the said Will, made Oath that on the day of



the date of the said Will, the said Deceased set and subscribed his Mark thereto in the presence of this Departed and his fellow Subscribed Witness **David King** and **Joshua Griffith** who were all three present at the same time with the said Deceased and on the Deceased so Executing the said Will in their presence, they immediately in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other, set and subscribed their names as witnesses thereto as now appears thereon. Signed **John William**

### **What do these Wills tell us?**

#### **Will of John Bassett, Gentleman of Killa Gwyn, Llanelli, CMN 1690**

Brothers: David Bassett; James Bassett; Francis Bassett

Nephews: James Bassett; David, S/O James Bassett

Nieces: Katherine Bassett & Joan Cowey

Un-named nephews and nieces, children of his brother, David Bassett

Land in Llanelli called: Abel Carway & Killa Gwyn; land in Langendeirne parish

Note: No Anthony Bassett is mentioned (even though there are many Anthony Bassetts in Carmarthen)

No one previously in my database fit this family. However, Jeff Bassett has a David Bassett (Line #202B1) who was born before 1695 and had a son, David born in Llanelli ca1719. The elder David may be a nephew (or great nephew) of the John Bassett of the 1690 Will.

#### **Bond for the estate of Anthony Basset of Llanelli, CMN 1737**

Unfortunately, this document reveals very little. It tells us that Anthony had a sister, named Anne Bassett and a daughter, Margaret who was married to Evan John. A search of my database reveals no one who first this description.

#### **Will of Ann Bassett, Widow; Pauper of Llangendeirne, CMN 1797**

Ann is a Widow but there is no mention of her deceased husband's name. Someone ought to check Llangendeirne parish records for burials to see if her husband's name can be learned. The only relation listed in the Will is a daughter, Jane, married to David Robert.

Note: The 1690 Will above, mentions land in Llangendeirne parish so perhaps one of John Bassett's nephews is the father of the husband of Ann Bassett. A search of land records appears promising.

#### **Will of George Bassett, Shopkeeper of Carmarthen, CMN 1824**

The only relation listed in this Will is his wife, Mary and his occupation: Shopkeeper. No children are mentioned. Carmarthen marriage record lists a marriage on 30 July 1816 between George Bassett of Abergwili and Mary Harris. This Will was written in October of that year which explains why no children are listed. No codicil is known so parish records would have to be searched to determine if George & Mary had any children in the 8 years they were married. Carmarthen Burial records list a burial on 9 Feb 1824 for George Bassett, aged 53 yrs so this puts his birth year ca1771. I have no baptismal record for George so have no clue as to the names of his parents.

#### **Will of Richard Bassett, Farmer of Alltycreach, Llanelli, CMN 1841**

The Will mentions only one son, Richard and names him the Executor. It names 3 daughters: Margaret Driver; Ann Jenkins; Jane Beynon. Lastly, it mentions a grandchild: John Driver.

Other records help us out. Carmarthen Burials lists: 6 Apr 1840 Allt Sgrech, Pembrey: Richard Bassett, 68 yrs so this indicates a birth ca1772. Carmarthen Baptisms list: 23 Apr 1772 Llanelli parish: Richard Bassett; parents: James & Margaret. No burial record is found for James or his wife. No record is found for Richard's marriage which would have occurred abt 1790.

No baptism records have been found for any of Richard's 4 children listed in the Will. However, the following marriage records have been found.

18 Mar 1825 Llanelli parish: Margaret Bassett & James Driver

26 May 1829 Pembrey: Ann Bassett & David Jenkins

Lastly, according to the 1851 census; James & Margaret Driver had 7 children: John, Ann, James, William, Thomas, Jane and Richard.

Here again, a more thorough search by someone in Wales of the Llanelli parish records and land records would be most helpful.

In summary, while these 5 Wills add some useful and tantalizing family information, due to the lack of searches in Carmarthen parish registers and land records, the knowledge of the BASSETTs families for that part of Wales is fragmentary. I close with two hopes:

- 1) that some researcher in Wales will add to our knowledge base by searches suggested above
- 2) that more male BASSETTs descended from other Carmarthen lines will come forward for Y-DNA testing

By: David Attride  
2323 Wynwood Dr.  
Jonesborough, TN 37659  
[davidattride@yahoo.com](mailto:davidattride@yahoo.com)