

## About the ownership of Summerhill House, where Hamilton met Catherine.

Comments to footnote 15 on p. 57 of the essay *A Victorian Marriage : Sir William Rowan Hamilton*, concerning the ownership of Summerhill House, <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/cgi-bin/viewsite.cgi?siteid=5192>, after the death of Baron Langford in 1825. The once famous house in county Meath was built in 1731 by Hercules Rowley and Frances Upton, and in 1825 their great-granddaughter Frances Rowley and her husband Clotworthy Taylour, Baron and Baroness Langford, still owned Summerhill House. Yet it is not at all clear who owned the house after the death of the Baron.

The family trees of the Langfords (1) and the Longfords (2) mainly come from *The Peerage*: <http://www.thepeerage.com>.

### The Langfords:

1) Hercules Rowley (.. -1742) married in 1705 Frances Upton (.. - ..).

They had a son,

1.1) Hercules Langford Rowley (ca 1714-1794).

1.1) Hercules Langford Rowley (ca 1714-1794) married in 1732 Elizabeth Ormsby Upton (.. -1791).

They had two daughters,

1.1.1) Jane Rowley (.. - ..),

1.1.2) Catherine Rowley (.. -1816),

and three sons,

1.1.3) Clotworthy Rowley (.. -1781),

1.1.4) Arthur Rowley (.. - ..),

1.1.5) Hercules Rowley (1737-1796).

1.1.2) Catherine Rowley (.. -1816) married 2.5) Edward Michael Pakenham (1743-1792), 2nd Baron Longford.

1.1.3) Clotworthy Rowley (.. -1781) married Elizabeth Crosbie (.. - ..).

They had a daughter,

1.1.3.1) Frances Rowley (ca 1775-1860).

1.1.4) Arthur Rowley (.. - ..) died unmarried.

1.1.5) Hercules Rowley (1737-1796) died unmarried. His niece 1.1.3.1) Frances

Rowley inherited his estates.

1.1.3.1) Frances Rowley (ca 1775-1860) married in 1794 Clotworthy Taylour (1763-1825). On 26 April 1796 Clotworthy Taylour's name was legally changed to Clotworthy Rowley. His title, 1st Baron Langford of Summerhill, was created on 31 July 1800 for changing his vote against the Union of Ireland and Great Britain Parliaments the year before to one in favour.

They had two daughters,

1.1.3.1.1) Elizabeth Jane Rowley (.. -1864),

1.1.3.1.2) Harriet Rowley (.. - ..)

and two sons,

1.1.3.1.3) Hercules Langford Rowley, 2nd Baron Langford (1795-1839),

1.1.3.1.4) Richard Thomas Rowley (1812-1887).

### **The Longfords:**

2) Thomas Pakenham, 1st Baron Longford (1713-1766), married in 1739 or 1740 Elizabeth Cuffe (.. -1794), created in 1785 Countess of Longford.

They had three daughters,

2.1) Frances Pakenham (1744-1776),

2.2) Helena Pakenham (1745-1777),

2.3) Mary Pakenham (1749-1775),

and four sons,

2.4) Robert Pakenham (.. -1775),

2.5) Edward Michael Pakenham, 2nd Baron Longford (1743-1792),

2.6) William Pakenham (1756-1769),

2.7) Thomas Pakenham (1757-1836).

2.5) Edward Michael Pakenham, 2nd Baron Longford (1743-1792) married in 1768 1.1.2) Catherine Rowley (.. -1816).

They had four daughters,

2.5.1) Elizabeth Pakenham (.. -1851),

2.5.2) Helen Pakenham (.. -1807),

2.5.3) Caroline Penelope Pakenham (.. -1854),

2.5.4) Catherine Sarah Dorothea Pakenham (1773-1831),

and five sons,

2.5.5) Thomas Pakenham, 3rd Baron Longford and 2nd Earl of Longford (1774-1835),

2.5.6) Edward Michael Pakenham (1778-1815),

2.5.7) Hercules Robert Pakenham (1781-1850),

2.5.8) William Pakenham (ca 1784-1811),

2.5.9) Henry Pakenham (1787-1863).

2.5.5) Thomas Pakenham (1774-1835), succeeded in 1792 as the 3rd Baron Longford. In 1794 he succeeded as the 2nd Earl of Longford since his father 2.5) Edward had died before his grandmother, 2) Countess Longford. He married in 1817 Lady Georgiana Emma Charlotte Lygon (.. - 1880).

They had one daughter,

2.5.5.1) Georgina Sophia Pakenham (1828-1909),  
and seven sons,

2.5.5.2) Edward Michael Pakenham, 4th Baron Longford and 3rd Earl of Longford (1817-1860),

2.5.5.3) William Lygon Pakenham, 5th Baron Longford and 4th Earl of Longford (1819-1887),

2.5.5.4) Thomas Alexander Pakenham (1820-1889),

2.5.5.5) Charles Reginald Pakenham (1821-1857),

2.5.5.6) Henry Robert Pakenham (1822-1856),

2.5.5.7) Frederick Beauchamp Pakenham (1823-1901),

2.5.5.8) Francis John Pakenham (1832-1905).

When Baron Langford died in September 1825 his son, 1.1.3.1.3) Hercules Langford Rowley, 2nd Baron Langford (1795-1839) was only twenty years old. Although the Baroness, 1.1.3.1) Frances Rowley, was still alive, both in 1826 and in 1829 2.5.5) Thomas Pakenham, 3rd Baron Longford and 2nd Earl of Longford (1774-1835) wrote letters while being in Summerhill House; these letters are kept at the *National Archives*, [www.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.nationalarchives.ie), in “The Registered Papers of the Chief Secretary’s Office”. Lord Longford therefore either lived there or he may have taken care of business. The letters have not yet been catalogued, see <http://www.csorp.nationalarchives.ie> [accessed 07 July 2017].

In the years following the death of the Baron in 1825 it has been mentioned twice that Summerhill was owned by Lord Longford. The first time is in 1827 when it is written that “Summerhill Castle [is] the residence of Lord Longford (Pakenham), the proprietor of this town.” See p. 266 of Hamilton, C.C. (1827), *Leigh’s New Pocket Road-book of Ireland*. London: Printed for Samuel Leigh. [https://archive.org/details/leighsnewpocketr00hami\\_0](https://archive.org/details/leighsnewpocketr00hami_0). This must have been 2.5.5) Thomas Pakenham. Yet in the third edition, printed in 1835, <https://archive.org/details/leighsnewpocketr00hami>, on p. 439 the name has been changed to “Lord Langford”, which then must have been 1.1.3.1.3) Hercules Langford Rowley, 2nd Baron Langford (1795-1839).

The second time Lord Longford is mentioned as owning Summerhill is in 1837, when in the *Topographical Dictionary*, [https://archive.org/details/bub\\_gb\\_dDQE\\_stxs-AC](https://archive.org/details/bub_gb_dDQE_stxs-AC), it can be read on pp. 244-245: “the principal seats [of Laracor] are Rock Lodge, the residence of T. Disney, Esq.; Freffans, of W. Battersby, Esq.; the glebe-house, of the Rev. Blayney Irwine; Spring Valley, of R. Butler Bryan, Esq.; Braymount, of G. J. Murphy, Esq.; Adamstown, the property of

T. Disney, Esq.;<sup>1</sup> and Summerhill, the property of the Earl of Longford. That can only have been 2.5.5.2) Edward Michael Pakenham, 4th Baron Longford and 3rd Earl of Longford (1817-1860), since the Earldom was that of the Longfords. Together with the similar names, the fact that the Langfords and the Longfords were also closely connected may have caused the frequent mix-ups.

It was for now, having access only to free information on the internet, impossible to discover whether around the time the Disneys lived in Summerhill also the Baron and Baroness lived there, or who owned Summerhill House after the death of the Baron. But the Baroness having inherited the house in the first place, if she remained the owner until her death in 1860, the various sources are erroneous and Graves, claiming that it was “then” (1824) “now” (1882) the property of the Langfords, was right after all.

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<sup>1</sup>Both Rock Lodge, <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/cgi-bin/viewsite.cgi?siteid=5167>, and Adamstown, <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/cgi-bin/viewsite.cgi?siteid=4932>, were thus owned by Catherine’s father.