

# Genealogical Table of the POYTON Family and their Connections

## Notes

Many of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Poyton ancestors were French protestant refugees (Huguenots) who were weavers in the silk trade (by far the largest group of Huguenot immigrants) or in associated trades (e.g. dyers, printers). They were known as 'round-arsed weavers' because they spent all day sat at a treadle-operated loom. Our Huguenot ancestors settled in East London - mostly in Spitalfields and the parish of St Matthew, Bethnal Green - and remained there until the early 1900s.

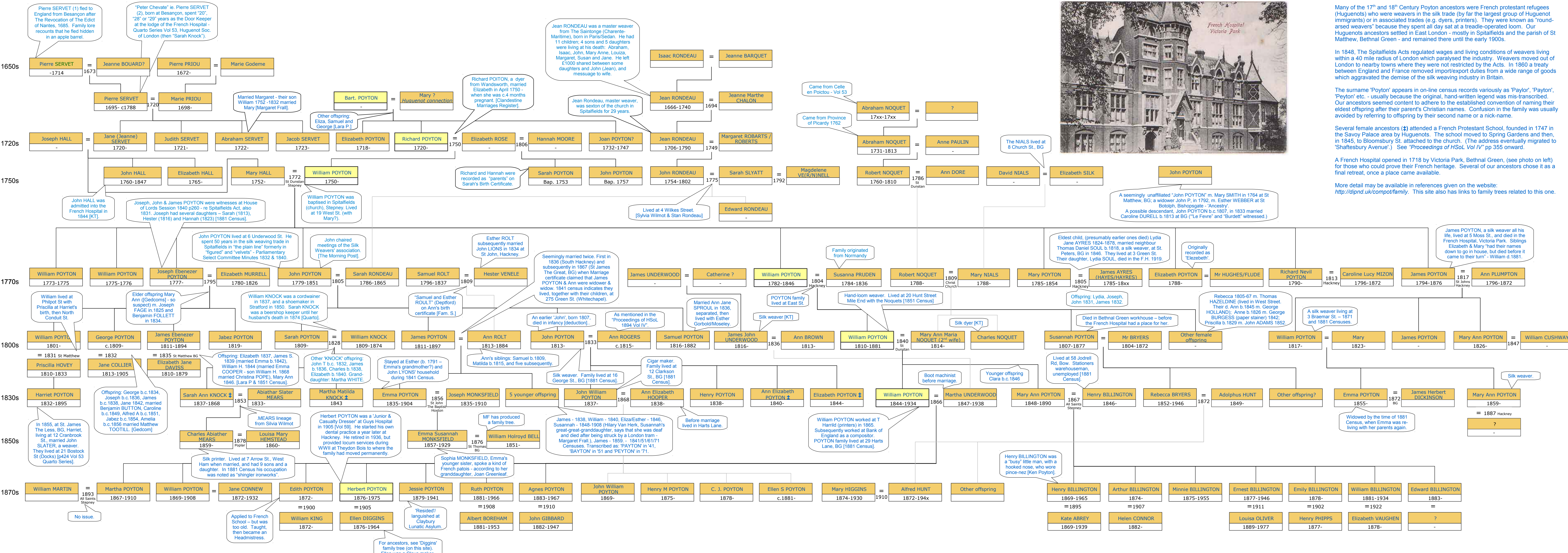
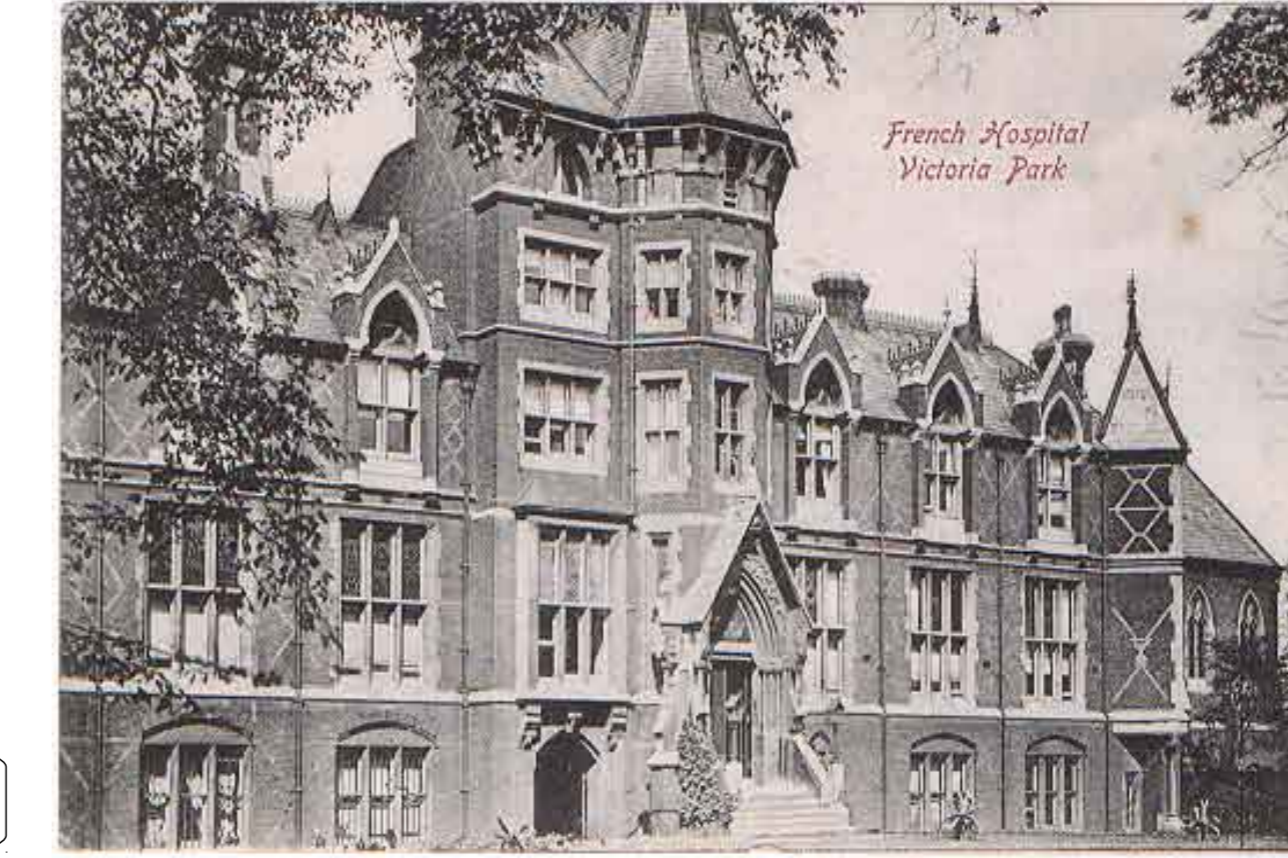
In 1848, The Spitalfields Acts regulated wages and living conditions of weavers living within a 40 mile radius of London which paralysed the industry. Weavers moved out of London to nearby towns where they were not restricted by the Acts. In 1860 a treaty between England and France removed import/export duties from a wide range of goods which aggravated the demise of the silk weaving industry in Britain.

The surname 'Poyton' appears in on-line census records variously as 'Paylor', 'Payton', 'Peyton' etc. - usually because the original, hand-written legend was mis-transcribed. Our ancestors seemed content to adhere to the established convention of naming their eldest offspring after their parents' Christian names. Confusion in the family was usually avoided by referring to offspring by their second name or a nick-name.

Several female ancestors (#) attended a French Protestant School, founded in 1747 in the Savoy Palace area by Huguenots. The school moved to Spring Gardens and then, in 1845, to Bloomsbury St. attached to the church. (The address eventually migrated to 'Shaftesbury Avenue'.) See "Proceedings of H.Sol. Vol IV" pp 355 onward.

A French Hospital opened in 1718 by Victoria Park, Bethnal Green, (see photo on left) for those who could prove their French heritage. Several of our ancestors chose it as a final retreat, once a place came available.

More detail may be available in references given on the website: <http://dnpd.uk.com/poofamily>. This site also has links to family trees related to this one.



Key	
Christian SURNAME	Pale yellow, bold box signifies direct lineage to Colin Poyton
?	Grey line - Used to differentiate between connections that cross
?	Used where information is not certain
#	Attended French Protestant School
m	Married
m	Not Married
#	Baptised
dv	Divorced
FH	French Hospital
BG	Bethnal Green
KT	Katie Hill
P	Poyton