

A 17th CENTURY SUTTON COLDFIELD GLOSSARY

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The following list is of words appearing in the wills and inventories of Sutton people from 1620 to 1710 which are now obsolete, unusual, or known by some other name. Spellings vary greatly, and only the commonest forms are given; usually the other forms are sufficiently close to be recognizable, e.g. *cobards*, *copartes*, *cobertes*, *cob bardes* for **cobords**. The main source for definitions is the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

Acqua vita	Spirits such as brandy.
Anadomany	Anno Domini.
Andirons	Bars on short feet placed in a hearth to support the fire.
Ashcloth	Cloth for carrying ashes.
Axeltree	Beam connecting wheels on a vehicle.
Backside	Garden, orchard, paddock etc. at the back of a house.
Back stoole	Chair without arms.
Bailes	Handles.
Balk	Piece of land or ridge between two furrows.
Band	Bond, document securing repayment of a loan.
Barge	The detached body of a cart or tumbril.
Barke	A box, e.g. <i>one tin candel barke</i> .
Beames	Scales for weighing.
Bease	Beasts, cattle.
Bed cord	Cord stretched across a bedstead frame.
Bed staves	Wooden rods supporting a mattress.
Beene	Obsolete plural of bee.
Beetle	Heavy mallet.
Bellies	Bellows.
Bickhorne	Anvil with two projecting ends.
Bill	Blade or long-handled lopper.
Bing	A bin for corn.
Birding peece	Gun for shooting birds.
Black byli	Military weapon.
Blades	Shafts of a cart.
Blencorn	Wheat and rye sown together (blend-corn).
Block	A washing block on which clothes were beetled.
Board cloth	Table cloth.
Boot hose	Stockings to wear with top boots.
Bottle	Could be of wood, leather, pewter glass, or woven twigs.
Boulting house	Building where flour was sifted or bouted.
Bowe	Wooden yoke.
Brake	1. Frame for holding horses 'feet for shoeing. 2. Toothed instrument for processing flax or hemp.
Brandire	Trivet for over or in front of the fire.

Broche	Spit for roasting meat.
Broom hooke	Hatchet for cutting broom (a common weed in pastures).
Buffet stools	Set of stools for the table.
Bulchin	Bull calf.
Butt	Ground at the edge of an open field where the plough turned.
Byhouse	Outhouse.
Cann	Drinking vessel.
Canvas	Fine unbleached cloth of hemp or flax.
Carbine	Firearm.
Cardes	Wire brushes for combing wool.
Carpet	Cloth used to cover tables, beds and walls as well as floors.
Caudle cup	Cup for warm drinks.
Chaff bed	Mattress stuffed with chaff.
Chafing dish	Small brazier for heating food.
Charott	Four-wheeled cart or carriage.
Cheese cratch	Rack or frame used in cheese-making.
Chesford	Cheese vat.
Chine	Backbone of pig after the sides have been cured for bacon.
Chitt peas	Chick or dwarf peas.
Christening sheet	Shawl for newly christened child.
Citterne	Type of guitar.
Cloake bag	Small suitcase or valise.
Close stool	Commode.
Clyves	Iron hooks or bolts for attaching tackle to plough.
Cobords, Cobirons	Iron bars for supporting a spit over the fire.
Cockloft	Small upper loft, usually reached by a ladder.
Composicion	Contract.
Corne, see quern,	
Costrell	Large bottle with "ears" for carrying.
Coulter	Iron blade on the front of a plough.
Court cupboard	Open cupboard.
Couterfeit dishes	Dishes of inferior metal.
Coverlet	Counterpane or quilt.
Cowle	A tub
Cowpye ware	Wooden vessels.
Cracketwit	Tool for undoing tangled yarn.
Cratch	A rack or manger for bacon or cheese.
Creepers	Small iron fire-dogs.
Cressette	Small iron vessel holding oil for lighting.
Cribb	Container for cattle food.
Croft	Small field of arable land.
Crow	Crowbar.
Cruell lace	Woollen embroidery.
Cruse	Cup, jar, or bottle.
Dabnett	Small cooking vessel
Damix	Damask (from the Flemish "domick")

Day room, day house	Dairy.
Desperate (debts)	Irrecoverable.
Diaper	Twilled linen.
Dole	Part of a meadow.
Drangets	Cart shafts.
Draughts, drafes	Harness for pulling a cart.
Dredge	Mixed grain; dredge malt - malt of oats and barley.
Dresser board	Table for dressing meat.
Dridgeing box	A box used for sprinkling flour etc.
Dripping pan	For catching melted fat when basting meat on a spit.
Earloomes	Heirlooms.
Edge tool	Tool with a sharp cutting edge.
Face cloth	Cloth to cover the face of a corpse.
Falling table	Folding or gate-leg table.
Fan	Basket for separating corn from chaff.
Fat	Usual spelling of vat.
Fellmonger	Dealer in animal skins.
Field bedstead	Folding bed.
Firkin	Small cask.
Flag chairs	Chairs with woven rush seats.
Flaskett	1. Oval tub. 2. Shallow basket..
Forcer	Cabinet or chest.
Fore hammer	Sledge hammer.
Forest bill	Lopper for trees.
Frank pane	Frying pan.
French wheat	Buckwheat, used for feeding animals.
Galland	Gallon measure.
Gallypot	Small glazed pot.
Gawn	Gallon measure.
Gears	Harness for draught animals.
Glasing stock	Polishing frame.
Gorgett	Wimple or draped bib worn by women.
Greats	Groats, hulled and crushed grain, e.g. <i>oatmeale greats</i> .
Gridirons	Platform of iron bars for cooking meat.
Grindlestone	Grindstone.
Guilt	Spayed sow.
Hack	Any tool of the mattock, hoe and pickaxe type.
Hackel, hatchel	Implement for combing flax or hemp.
Hackney saddle	Riding saddle.
Hade	Headland in a field.
Half-headed bedstead	Two-poster bed.
(sheep to) Halves	Beasts reared by one man, fattened by another, profit shared.
Hames, homes	The curved bars of a draught horse's collar.

Hang beef	Beef hung for flavour.
Hanging press	Large cupboard for clothes, wardrobe.
Hard corn	Wheat or rye.
Hempen	Rough cloth made of hemp.
Hempleck	Plot of ground near the house where hemp was grown.
Hey, hay	Enclosure or park.
Hilling	Bed-cover.
(ewe) Hog	Animal of a certain age.
Holland	Fine linen.
Hooke	Cleaver-like hand-tool with a slightly curved or hooked blade used for cutting. brushwood etc.
Hoope	1. Corn measure of four pecks. 2. Metal or wooden hoop for a cask.
(stone) Honny	Whetstone for sharpening or honing.
Hundred (of cheese)	A hundredweight (112 lbs).
Hurdes	Coarse flax.
Irish rug	White stitching on a white ground.
Iron dogge	Lever used in hooping cart wheels.
Jack	Device for turning a spit.
Jarsey	Jersey knitted work; worsted generally
Javelin	Pointed weapon or pike.
Joyned (furniture)	Made by a joiner.
Kerchief	Square of linen worn like a shawl.
Kettle	Large pan (e.g. fish-kettle).
Kidderminster	Material woven on two-ply looms.
Kiddes	Bundles of sticks for firing.
Kilberkins	Casks holding 16-18 gallons.
Kinnell	Wooden tub.
Kine, kye	Cows.
Kitchen fee	Fat from cooking meat, dripping; a perk for the cook.
Land	A strip or selion in a common field.
Landiron	Horizontal bar for supporting the fire.
Lathers	Extensions to a cart to allow more hay etc. to be carried.
Lattin	Alloy of copper and zinc.
Lea or ley	Measure of yarn.
Lenten crop	Spring crop of com.
Ling lies	Layers of heather.
Links	Chains.
Linsey Wolsey	Mix of wool or cotton woven into material.
Livery cupboard	Cupboard for food and drink.
Long wheel	Spinning wheel.
Loom, lome	Open vessel or vat.
Loose table	Loose boards on a trestle.

Maner, manner	Manure.
Mashing tub	Tub used for brewing.
Maslen, maslin	Mixed gain, wheat and rye, sown together.
Mat	Piece of sacking on which the mattress was laid, bed-cover.
Mathooke, mattocke	Agricultural tool like a pick.
Meal, meelee	A tub.
Meare	A green balk or track marking a boundary.
Meniall	Domestic servant.
Messuage	Dwelling house with adjacent property belonging to it.
Miskin of mock	Dung heap.
Mullin bridle	Bridle with blinkers.
Muncorne	Maslin, mixed gain, wheat and rye.
Mustard stone	Stone on which to pound mustard.
Nagor	Auger.
Nibs	Short handles on the shaft of a scythe.
Noggen	Coarse flax.
Noggin	Small drinking vessel.
Obligation	Legal liability or debt.
Orris	Lace in patterns of silver and gold.
Outmuck	Manure when spread on the land.
Overplus	Surplus.
Pack saddle	For carrying loads.
Pad	A soft stuffed saddle without a tree.
Paddell	A small spade with a long handle.
Painted cloths	Hangings for walls or beds.
Pancheon	Crock pan for bread or cream making.
Pannel	Pad to go under a pack saddle.
Partlett	Woman's detachable bodice or stomacher.
Pecke	Two-gallon measure.
Peeced (brass)	Repaired.
Peele	Shovel for putting bread etc. in the oven.
Piggin	Small wooden vessel.
Pillion	Cushion or pad for person carried behind rider.
Pillow beare	Pillow-slip.
Pitch pan	Pan for pitch for marking animals.
Pitt coal	Coal from a mine, not charcoal.
Playing table	Table marked out for games.
Porkett	Young pig.
Porringer	Pan for porridge or soup.
Posnet	Small metal pot with 3 feet and a handle.
Pot geale	swingng crane over the fire.
Pott hangers	Hooks for pots to hang over a fire.
Powdering tub	For powdering or salting meat.
Presse board	Table with cupboard underneath.

Pullen	Poultry.
Quarter	Wood 4 inches by 2 inches.
Querne	Handmill.
Quick goods	Livestock.
Quishon	Cushion.
Quoffer	Coffer.
Racks	Bars or framework supporting the cooking spit.
Rape	Rough file.
Rods	Curtain rods, especially for bed-curtains.
Rotten sheep	Sheep in poor condition.
Rugg	Heavy bed-cover.
Rundlet	Cask.
Runt (oxen)	Small breed.
Safe	Food cupboard.
Salt	A salt-cellar.
Saucer	A small shallow dish for sauce or salt.
Say	Fine serge material for curtains or bed-coven.
Scimer	Cooking ladle.
Sconce	Candlestick with a screen or a bracket candlestick.
Screen chair	Seat with high back and arms.
Sealing	Panelling.
Search	A sieve.
Set (verb)	To let on lease.
Settle	Seat with high back and anns.
Share	Iron blade on a plough.
Sheave	Pulley.
Shooter	Board between cheeses under a press.
Shredding knife	Lopper.
Sipruss	Cypress-wood.
Skellett	Cooking vessel with feet and a long handle.
Skeyning reel	Frame for winding yarn.
Skirt (of cart)	End board.
Skuttell	Basket for sifting com.
Slippings	Skeins or hanks of yarn each about 1 lb in weight.
Small linen	Fine linen.
Snead	Shaft of a scythe.
Soller, solar	Upper room.
Sorry	Inferior or worthless.
Specialty	Contract or bond.
Sperate (debts)	Those that may be honoured (opposite of desperate).
Stall of beene	Hive of bees.
Standish	Ink-stand.
Stirk	Young bullock.

Stock	1. Frame for holding horses for shoeing. 2. A butcher's wooden block. 3. Any fixed post.
Stockards	Wool-cards attached to a stock.
Store pig	One kept for breeding.
Strike	Bushel measure, and the container used to measure it.
Strong water	Alcohol, usually spirits.
Swingle tree	Bar swinging at the hooves of horses drawing a plough.
Syllabub	A drink, usually milk with flavouring.
Table and tablemen	Marked table and pieces for backgammon or chess.
Taw	Leather thong.
Tester	Ceiling of a four-poster bed.
Tewtaw, chewtaw	Tool for breaking down flax.
Thrall	A stand for pans or barrels.
Threshall	Flail.
Ticknall stuff	Pottery originally from Tcknall, near Burton.
Tobacco tongs	Tongs to hold a live coal for lighting tobacco.
Tod or tud of wool	281b. bundle.
Tops	Pair of top boots.
Towe	Uncleansed wool or flax.
Towes	Chains for a plough.
Treases	Pair of ropes, chains or straps for harness.
Trenchers	Wooden plates.
Trevet, tivet	Metal stand for kettle or pot.
Trouse	Brushwood.
Truckle, trundle bed	Low bed on castors.
Trumpery	Things of little value.
Try	A sieve or sifting screen.
Tuicon	The maintenance and upbringing of children.
Tumbril	Tipping cart.
Tumbril barge	Flat-bottomed cart.
Tundish	Funnel.
Turkey (cushions)	Made of wool woven with a carpet-like pile.
Twggen (chair)	Wicker.
Twillie	Twill bed-cover
Twinter	Beast two winters old.
Utmuckes	Manure when spread.
Valiants	Valance round the canopy of a four-poster bed.
Varges, verjuice	Acid juice, e.g. from crab apples, culinary or medicinal.
Virginalls	Keyed musical instrument.
Wain	Waggon.
Wainscot	Panelling.
Wallet	A bag.
Wanten	Rope for tying goods on a pack-horse.

Warping	Vat or trough and bar; parts of a weaver's loom.
Wash, wort	Fermented malt.
Whele	Spinning-wheel.
Which, wytch	Basket.
Whiskett	Basket.
Wimble	A brace.
Winnow sheet	Cloth for sifting grain.
Womptie, wombtie	Girth or belly-band for a pack-horse.
Wrought (chairs)	Embroidered.
Yardland	About 30 acres of arable land.
Yanwingle	Yarn spindle for winding skeins of wool into balls.