The Search for the Missing Diaries of George Langton (1647-1727)

The mystery of George Langton’s missing diaries haunts our family. He lived what may be the most well-recorded life in the history of the Langton family, dating back over 300 years – a life of high society in London, filled with connections in business, political and professional circles. Unfortunately all we currently know of his life story is drawn from a few fragmented pieces of his writings held in various museums. **We have a great opportunity to complete this rich Langton story by assembling the remainder of his work. And we need your help to do that.**

We know from the following 1861 auction announcement (item #200) that the missing diaries were once part of a complete collection, and are highly likely to still exist today, probably in private collections and perhaps other archives.

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If you have knowledge of the existence of any of these diaries, please contact Joel Langton at: contact@lostlangtons.co.uk
Background
George Langton, Esq. of Langton-by-Partney was the grandfather of one of the more famous members of the Langton family – Dr. Bennet Langton (1736-1801), friend of the famous writer Dr. Samuel Johnson.

Although not widely known, George was a successful businessman and landowner. He was also a prolific diarist. He began writing his diaries in 1670 and continued through 1725…fifty five years of recorded history from 290 to 345 years ago.

The Diaries We Have

David Hamilton discovered that another diary was located at The University of Glasgow, covering the year 1701. He wrote an as-yet-unpublished supplement to his book covering this particular diary.
David also discovered another diary existed at the National Library of Wales. This one covered the decade from 1670 through 1680.

![1670-1680 diary at the National Library of Wales](image)

The National Library was kind enough to prepare high quality digital images of each page of this diary, with fascinating snippets of George’s life in London, like this one below.

This entry is for 1 Aug 1672, where George attends a wedding. He writes: “I was present at Goring House at the solemnization of the marriage of the Duchess of Cleveland’s second son, Henry, Earl of Easton, to my Lord of Arlington’s daughter, which was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who styled them “this man and this woman”. The King and the Duchess of Cleveland were both there.”

There is no known image for George, but we do have a portrait of his wife, Mary Tyndale:

![Portrait of Mary Langton](image)

The inscription reads: Mary, only daughter of Thomas Tyndale Esq. (2nd son of Thomas Tyndale of Eastwood Park in the parish of Thornbury Gloucestershire) & wife of George Langton in Lincolnshire. Simon Verelst (1644-c1721)

The painting was for sale and the description read: Portrait of Mary Langton (nee Tyndale), a cream and brown dress with blue shawl holding a pink rose. By: Simon Verelst Year: 1690. Dimensions: 50" x 40". It sold for ~29,000 British Pounds c2010.

Please…if you have knowledge of the existence of any of George’s missing diaries, and can help us piece together this remarkable story, contact Joel Langton at: contact@lostlangtons.co.uk