The Coat of Arms on the snuff box has two bars, each charged with three martlets. The crest is a talbot rampant Clc: standing on its rear feet with its two front paws raised from the ground). The 1858 edition of Burkes Landed Gentry describes the Temple of Bishopstrow Arms as follows:

Arms: Arg. two bars, each charged with three martlets, or.
Crest: a Talbot

However, The General Armory (by J. Burke published London 1884)
Shows:

TEMPLE: of Bishopstrow co. Wilts
Arms: Ar. two bars, each charge with three martlets, Or
Crest: A talbot sejant, sa. collard and ringed Or

The abbreviations above have the following meanings:
Ar. (Arg.) - silver
Or - gold
Sa - Sable (Black)

The martlet has been described as a "fabulous bird shaped like a martin or swallow"! The talbot is an extinct breed of hunting dog and "sejant" signifies seated.

From this it appears that the Temples of Bishopstrow were officially and legally granted the use of Arms sometime before 1884.

The lineage of the descendants of Joseph Temple of King William County, Virginia, who married Ann Arnold, can be traced back to Thomas Temple of Heytsbury, Wiltshire, England. The will of Thomas Temple, probated in 1594, mentions ten children, but does not name them. Lucy Temple Temple of Richmond, Virginia, has stated that in 1951 Phillemore and Co., Genealogists of London, identified five sons - John of Bishopstrow, Thomas, William, Edward, and Phillip - and three daughters - Jane, Agnes, and Joan. If the John Temple of Bishopstrow identified by Phillemore was the same person as John Temple of Kingston Deverell, as circumstantial evidence strongly suggests, he is buried at St. Aldhelms Church, near Bishopstrow, Wiltshire. Kingston Deverell is a few miles from Bishopstrow. John Temple's burial placque shows his date of death as 1657. Church records as well as Burke's Landed Gentry, 1858 edition, show John Temple of Kingston Deverell to be the father of William Temple, Esquire of Bishopstrow who died in 1688. Burke's Landed Gentry and church records show that among the children of William Temple was Peter b. 1661, and Joseph b. 1666. They also indicate that the descendants of Joseph Temple were living in Virginia, U.S.A. in 1858. Peter Temple, the eldest surviving son inherited the Bishopstrow estate which was quite substantial. William Temple, b. 1781, great-grandson of the aforementioned Peter Temple, built the present Bishopstrow House which was begun in 1817. This house was kept in the family until 1949 when it was sold after the death of Grenville Newton Temple, last Squire of Bishopstrow. "Bishopstrow House" is now a Country Inn or Hotel.

The wills of Thomas of Heytsbury, William of Bishopstrow, and Joseph Temple of Bristol, contain much information of interest. From these wills, it was learned that Joseph Temple of Bristol, who died in 1699, left a widow, the former Hannah Liston, and was the brother of Peter Temple of Bishopstrow. Joseph had three children - Mary, William and Joseph. This son Joseph is in the center of the old Temple wheel. He had 10 children, among whom was a daughter named Hannah, and a son named Liston. Joseph was a representative of Bristol merchants in Virginia. There are photostatic copies of these three wills - Thomas of Heytsbury, William of Bishopstrow, and Joseph of Bristol - in the Temple Memorial Library, Diboll, Texas 75941.

The Temple Hunting Cup mentioned in the bottom right hand corner of the old Temple wheel was in the Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Richmond, Virginia, from 1941 to 1961. It belonged to a Frances Roberdeau Wolfe of Richmond, Virginia. Frances Wolf died in 1981, and her will does not mention the Hunting Cup. There is an article describing it in the April 1941, Vol. XLIX - No. 2 issue of the "The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography" published quarterly by the Virginia Historical Society. A copy of this article will also be in the Temple Memorial Library, Diboll, Texas 75941.

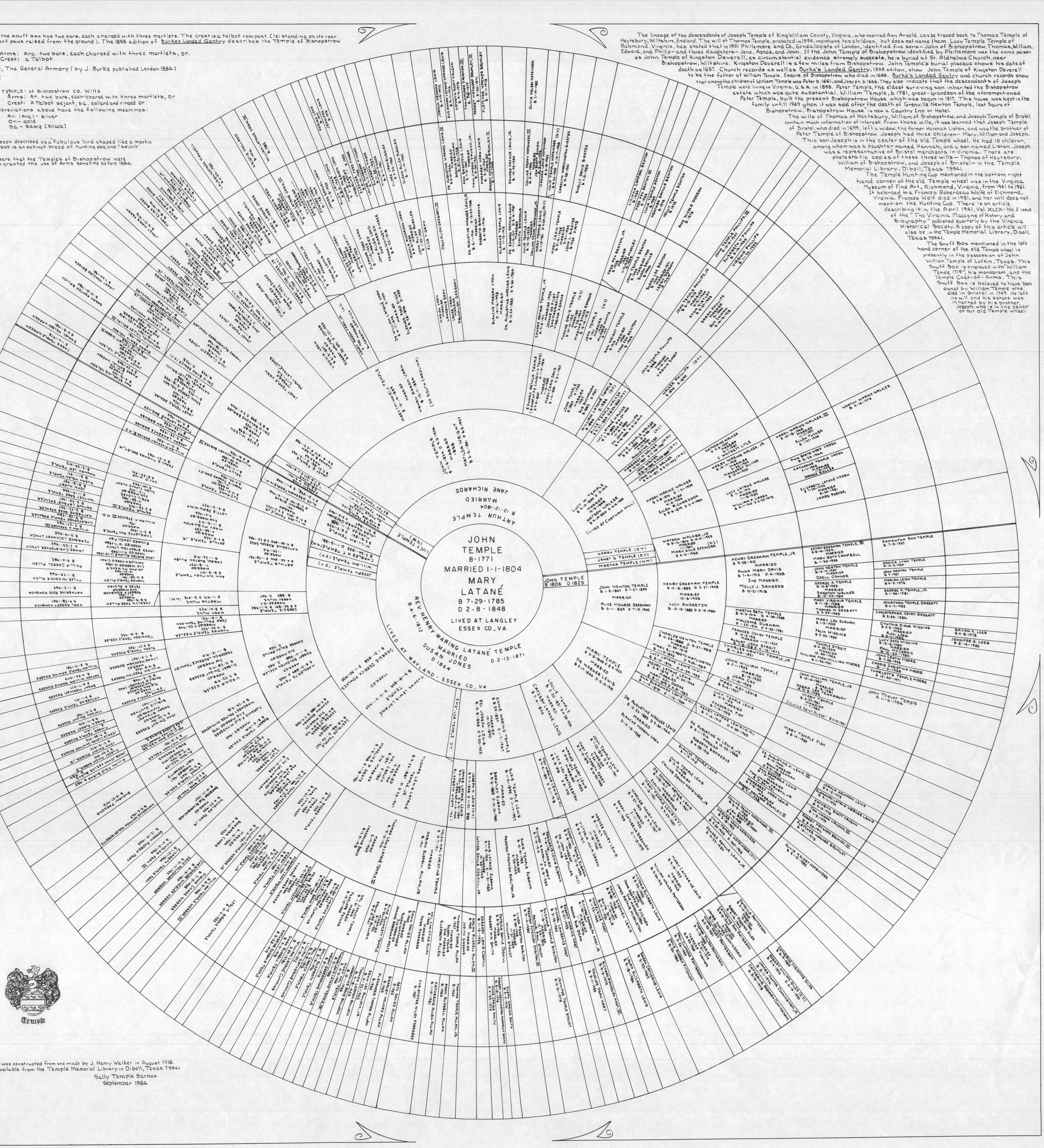
The Snuff Box mentioned in the left hand corner of the old Temple wheel is presently in the possession of John William Temple of Lufkin, Texas. This Snuff Box is engraved with "William Temple 1719", his monogram, and the Temple Coat-of-Arms. This Snuff Box is believed to have been owned by William Temple who died in Bristol in 1749. He left no will and his estate was inherited by his brother, Joseph, who is in the center of our old Temple wheel.

JOHN TEMPLE
B-1771
MARRIED 1-1-1804
MARY LATANÉ
B 7-29-1785
D 2-8-1848
LIVED AT LANGLEY ESSEX CO., VA.

ARTHUR TEMPLE B 12-12-1804 MARRIED JANE RICHARDS

REV HENRY WARING LATANÉ TEMPLE B 4-6-1812 MARRIED SUSAN JONES 1864 D 2-13-1871 LIVED AT WAYLAND - ESSEX CO., VA

JOHN TEMPLE B 1806 D 1829



This circle was constructed from one made by J. Henry Walker in August 1918.
Both are available from the Temple Memorial Library in Diboll, Texas 75941

Sally Temple Barnes
September 1984