



A  
Private Treaty Sale  
of Lordships of the Manor  
and an English & Irish  
Feudal Barony

**OFFERS ARE INVITED IN THE REGION OF THE FOLLOWING**

<b>The Barony of Alton</b> Staffordshire, England		£45,000.00
<b>The Barony of Salt</b> Co. Kildare, Ireland		£20,000.00
Lordship of <b>Hamstall Ridware,</b>	Staffordshire	£8,250.00
Lordship of <b>Pavenham,</b>	Bedfordshire	£8,250.00
Lordship of <b>Sheriff's Lench,</b>	Worcestershire	£7,000.00
Lordship of <b>Lower Rocombe,</b>	Devon	£7,500.00
Lordship of <b>Sandhall,</b>	East Yorkshire	£7,500.00
Lordship of <b>Berrington,</b>	Gloucestershire	£6,500.00
Lordship of <b>Slaidburn,</b>	Yorkshire	£8,500.00
Lordship of <b>Polscoath,</b>	Cornwall	£5,500.00
Lordship of <b>Ridings Court</b>	Buckinghamshire	£6,000.00
Lordship of <b>Stanley,</b>	Co. Durham	£8,250.00
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Lordship of <b>Bittesby,</b>	Leicestershire	£7,000.00
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Lordship of <b>Stella,</b>	Co. Durham	£7,500.00
Lordship of <b>Faugh &amp; Fenton,</b>	Cumbria	£6,000.00
Lordship of <b>Westington &amp; Combe</b>	Gloucestershire	£6,500.00
Lordship of <b>Winlaton,</b>	Co. Durham	£6,000.00
Lordship of <b>Newhall,</b>	Cornwall	£5,500.00
Lordship of <b>North Filham,</b>	Devon	£7,500.00

*On the Instructions of A Crown Charity, members of the Aristocracy, and  
others*

**A**  
**Private Treaty Sale**  
**of Lordships of the Manor**  
**and an English & Irish**  
**Feudal Barony**

Catalogue: £15.00 or US\$40.00

All prices are subject to a buyer's premium plus VAT:  
please see "conduct of the Sale", infra

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# CONTENTS

Summary of Lots	p iii
List of Descents	p iv
Conduct of the Sale	p v
A note on the Boldon Book 1183	pvi
Foreword: Lordships of the Manor:	p vii
The Origin and Evolution of English Manors:	p xi
Map of England:	p xii
Land and Power: The Norman Conquest to the law of Property Acts (1925)	p xvii
A Case Study of Manorial Rights	p xxii
How to Write a Descent of a Manorial Lord	p xxvii
A note on coinage:	p xxix
Glossary:	p xxxi
What is a Manorial Lordship?	p xxxv
The Manorial Society of Great Britain	p xxxvi
Boronies by Tenure in England and Ireland	p xxxviii
The Lots	p 1 - 78

# LIST OF LOTS

Title		Page
Barony of Alton	Staffordshire	1
Hamstall Ridware	Staffordshire	9
Pavenham	Bedfordshire	12
Sheriff's Lench	Worcestershire	14
Lower Rocombe	Devon	16
Sandhall	East Yorkshire	19
Berrington	Gloucestershire	21
Slaidburn	Yorkshire	26
Polsoath	Cornwall	29
Ridings Court	Buckinghamshire	31
Stanley	Co Durham	33
Barony of Salt	Co Kildare, Ireland	36
Coseley	Staffordshire	42
Bittesby	Leicestershire	46
Clifton and Goldwell	Northumberland	49
Easby	Cumbria	53
Grindleton	Yorkshire	56
Stella	Co Durham	59
Faugh and Fenton	Cumbria	61
Westington and Coombe	Gloucestershire	65
Winlaton	Co Durham	70
Newhall	Cornwall	74
North Filham	Devon	76

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## *List of descents*

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	Page No
De Verdon	2, 47
Furnivals	4
Earls of Shrewsbury	5
Leigh	10
Alston Baronets	13
Carew Baronets	17, 77
Scholfield	20
Gainsborough	22, 66
O'Hagan	28, 35, 48, 60, 73
Towneley	27, 34, 57
Agar Robartes	30
Montagus	32
Gormanston	40
Dudley	43
Howards, Earls of Carlisle	50, 62
de Vaux	53
Nevill, Earls of Westmoreland	71
Courtenays	75

# CONDUCT OF THE SALE

## Conduct of the Sale

This will be broadly in accordance with the Standard Conditions of Sale (4th Edition), except as varied by the Special Conditions of Sale. Special Conditions of Sale, Draft Conveyance, and Title to the Lordships being offered may be inspected at the offices of the Auctioneers.

## Making an Offer (Deposits)

This can be done, initially, on the Form of Offer provided with the Catalogue, or over the telephone, or by letter, or fax, or email. We shall put the offer to the seller and if it is accepted we shall let you know as quickly as possible, and then write to you requesting a 20% (twenty per cent) deposit and part payment of the agreed price. The deposit will be paid to Manorial Auctioneers Ltd as Agent to the Vendor and on receipt will form the Contract to sell and to buy.

## Making an Offer (Buyer's Premium) and Seller's commission

At the same time as making the deposit and part-payment, the purchaser shall also pay to the Agents a premium of 20% of the price, upto £10,000, and 15% of the price over £10,000 together with value added tax (VAT) at the prevailing rate. Each Lordship or Barony is zero-rated for VAT, therefore, VAT does not apply to the actual price of the property acquired.

On payment of the deposit and buyer's premium, the Lordship or Barony will be withdrawn from sale and reserved for the intending purchaser.

The vendors have also agreed to pay the Agents a commission of 15% of the selling price.

## Credit Cards

The following cards may be used: Access, American Express, EuroCard, MasterCard, and Visa. The Agents will charge a handling fee which shall not be more than the commission deducted by the credit card company.

## Other payments

Payment may be made by personal cheque (or building society cheque), or company cheque, or solicitors' client account cheque; bank transfer; and cash. Overseas cheques may take several weeks to clear.

## Currency Conversion

The Agents will credit foreign monies at the prevailing rate on the day that they are converted into sterling. Any shortfall shall be paid to the Agents on demand, and any excess will be applied to the purchaser's account of the Lot bid for.

## Solicitors

All intending purchasers are advised to consult a solicitor. If you do not use a solicitor regularly, or would like to consult a

solicitor well-versed in the law as it applies to Lordships of the Manor and Manorial Rights, the Agents can advise. As a general guide, *Halsbury's Laws of England, vol 8, title Copyholds*, glosses the subject well.

## The Catalogue

The Agents have gone to some lengths to ensure accuracy in the Particulars of the Lots that follow, but even so no responsibility can be accepted by the Agents, the Vendors, or the Vendors' Solicitors for any errors that may have inadvertently occurred. The statements and descriptions contained in these Particulars are given in good faith and as a general outline only for guidance of intending purchasers, and do not constitute any part of an offer or contract and, while they are believed to be correct, any intending purchasers should not rely on them as statements or representations of fact, and their accuracy is not guaranteed. Intending purchasers should satisfy themselves by their own investigations, inspections, searches, and otherwise as to the correctness of each of them. References in these Particulars as to the geographical extent of a Lot is given for historical interest. Any rights referred to in these Particulars being part of or any rights which may be associated with these Lordships are to be taken as historical. The operable historic rights associated with their purchase must be established by each new owner.

## Manorial Documents

The Lots in this Catalogue are offered for sale subject to the Manorial Documents Rules 1959 (No 1399); the Manorial Documents (Amendment) Rules 1963 (No 976), and the Manorial Documents (Amendment) Rules 1967 (No 963), copies of which may be applied for from the Auctioneers in return for a self-addressed and stamped envelope. These Rules, made by Statutory Instrument, are mainly concerned with the safe custody of the documents. Where documents are associated with Lots, their location and where they may be inspected by appointment, are given after the Particulars for further historical research. Most archives have photocopying and facsimile facilities, which are available at the expense of purchasers or intending purchasers. While there is no ban on foreign ownership of Manorial Documents, overseas purchasers should note that such documents cannot be removed from Great Britain without the consent of the Master of the Rolls.

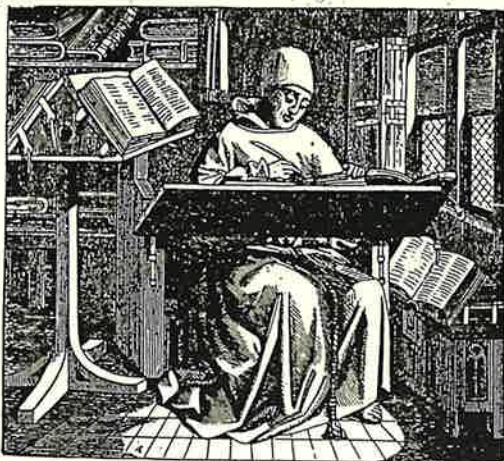
# A Note on Boldon Book 1183

The following is a paraphrase from the Introduction to the 1982 Phillimore publication, 'Domesday Book, Supplementary Volume - Boldon Book, Northumberland and Durham,' available from good booksellers or direct from the publishers, Phillimore & Co Ltd, Shopwycke Hall, Chichester, West Sussex.

Bishop Hugh de Puiset or Pudsey reigned over the See of St Cuthbert - based on the Saint's cathedral church in the City of Durham - for more than 40 years, from 1153 to 1195. Whether it was compiled, like Domesday Book almost a century before, by episcopal officials visiting the places mentioned; or compiled from records already in the cathedral's possession is unknown. The latter seems more likely. The places in Boldon Book are not mentioned in Domesday Book, and Boldon Book is an account of the liabilities owed by its tenants to the bishopric. There is no mention of the geld (or land tax) due to the King which must have been one of the primary aims of William I's commissioners in making Domesday Book in 1086.

King William's commissioners must have had authority to go upto the border with Scotland. After all, Northumberland and Durham were part of the kingdom of England. There was the Norman Earldom of Northumberland but insofar as the royal officials made any inquiries north of the Tees for Domesday Book these entries appear under other counties, mostly Yorkshire.

The north-east, initially as the kingdoms of Deria and Bernicia, later as Northumbria, had been subjected to the fullest force of the Viking descents on England from Scandinavia from the beginning of the ninth century. King Harold II had faced Duke William of Normandy at the battle of Hastings on 23 October 1066, having force-marched only part of his army south from having defeated a Viking invasion at Stamfordbridge, York, on 25 September. This invasion had been led by Harald Sigurdson Hardrada, King of Norway, one of the most formidable warrior-kings of Scandinavia, who had brought his men in 300 ships and sailed up the River Ouse. There were several other descents on the north-east coast by the Vikings whom even William the Conqueror had found it prudent to pay off with gold. There had been a northern rising against him in 1069-70 and again in 1070 under Earl Waltheof.



In any case, Northumbria had a long tradition of independence as a kingdom, some of whose rulers had been recognized as Bretwalda, a kind of Anglo-Saxon overlord of England, which overlordship was pretty nominal. The north-east was not absorbed in the kingdom of England until the middle of the 10th century, but still enjoyed much local autonomy, and was often willing to join the enemy when a King of England did not appear to cut the mustard - particularly Eathelraed the Unraed, whose disastrous reign led to the Danish Cnut becoming King of England in 1016.

It is not unreasonable to suppose that by the time of the Domesday Survey, most of the lands and honours, such as the Mowbray Earldom, were putative and waiting to be made effectual by the Normans. Doubtless, William's Domesday commissioners, had authority to cover the whole realm, but they were unlikely to risk life and limb crossing the River Tees to assess Durham and Northumberland for geld, a tax that had never been imposed on the north-east by the strongest Anglo-Saxon and Danish kings.

Bishop Hugh was consolidating his legal authority with Boldon Book by identifying the see's estates and the revenues expected. He and his successors also sought to prescribe the rights in the north-east of kings of England, making Durham a county palatine under a prince-bishop. Bishops of Durham were able to exclude the king's itinerant judges and appoint their own, a situation that lasted until 1835 when the Municipal Corporations Act ended such anomalies, leaving only the title 'county palatine' and 'prince bishops', and for the addressing of letters, 'Co Durham', the only county in England and Wales to be preceded by 'County'. The similarity with Domesday ends here, for Boldon Book was a custumal, a record by holding of the labour and money dues owed by custom to the bishops. Also, unlike Domesday, freemen do not figure in it. Nor does the geld, as we have seen.

Nor are both counties surveyed in their entirety. The entries are confined to the bishopric's land and the dues owed, although later bishops claimed all royal rights in Co Durham and Northumberland. In the case of Co Durham, Barnard Castle and Hartness are excluded. In Northumberland, the bishop's land were in two main blocks. On the Tweed, from Norham to Berwick; and in the south, on the coast inland to Morpeth. The explanation for this can be found in the prologue of Boldon Book itself:

'In the one thousand one hundred and eighty-third year of the Incarnation of our Lord at the Feast of St Cuthbert in Lent, Lord Hugh, Bishop of Durham, caused to be written down in his and in his men's presence all the returns of his whole Bishopric, fixed rents and customs as they were then and had been before.'

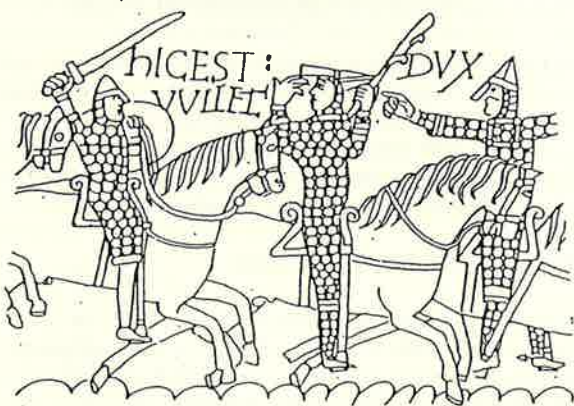
- Robert Smith

# LORDSHIPS OF THE MANOR

LORDSHIPS of the Manor are the oldest land titles in England and pre-date the Norman Conquest, begun by William I at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

Historians are not agreed on how the word Manor originated. It has been suggested that it was a French import, *manoir*, or perhaps even older, from the Latin, *manerium*. Nor are historians sure whether it was a purely Saxon concept, its origins lying in the need for self-defence down the east coast particularly against succeeding incursions by Germanic tribes and later Vikings.

They are agreed, however, that the Manor was the pivot of the Feudal System, "by certain ecclesiastics who propounded the theory that human society was divided into three orders, the *oratores*, the *bellatores*, and the *laboratores*: those who protected it with their prayers and their swords, and those who tilled the earth to support the other two classes" (Dr A P M Wright, Senior Assistant Editor, VCH writing in the Bulletin of the *Manorial Society of Great Britain*, 1981).



By the reign of Edward the Confessor (1042-66), the Lord of the Manor, be he the local leader, or some great suzerain, such as Earl Godwinson of Mercia, was the most important person in village or regional affairs, whether it be collecting taxes for the King or dispensing "high justice", the power to inflict death in his courts.

Historians are also agreed that the Normans institutionalized the Manorial System and set down its landed and service components in Domesday Book, compiled for William the Conqueror in 1086 and listing 13,418 Manors and their owners. It was an inventory of the wealth of the new kingdom and, as such, is still a Government document, housed at the National Archives where it is known as Public Record No 1. The conquerors also introduced the word *feudum*, from *feuum* (the Latin form of the Old English *feoh*, cattle, money, possessions in general); either a landholder's holding, or lands held under the terms of a specific grant.

It took the 18th century, however, to come up with the expression "Feudal System" which is made to have uniform operation in the High Middle Ages. Few things could be further from the truth. The Feudal System was versatile and diverse, which is why its form of landholding survived in many parts of England and Wales until the 1920s, and many rights survive in the 21st century.

In return for his protection and the land he gave them, the people on the Manor, from slaves to freemen, owed their Lord certain

services, ranging from money rents to working so many days a week on the Lord's "home farm", or *demesne*, without pay (week-work).

In theory, most men held their land "at pleasure", though in practice the "customary tenants", or villeins, were fairly secure, provided they undertook their services: week-work, the harvest boon (*precaria*) when they helped the Lord get his corn in, used the Lord's mill to grind their corn and his fold for their animals so that he might benefit from the manure on his land.

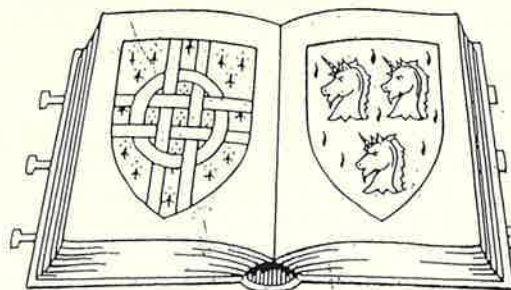
If the tenants of the Manor disagreed, they went before the manorial court, presided over by one of the Lord's officers, usually the Bailiff, who decided and imposed fines often called "arbitrary" though, in fact, usually determined by custom. If there were some crime committed, the Lord could arrest, try, and punish upto "pit and gallows", gibbet, and mutilation.

In the High Middle Ages of the 12th century, a Lord could simply say: "it is my will" and there is surely no better basis for prestige than this. Indeed, the great "nobles" of the period expressed their power through the number of Manors they held, many becoming barons by tenure and, by the reign of Edward I, barons by writ of summons to Parliament.

Throughout the Middle Ages, the English nobility was a caste whose power was based on the ownership of land through the Manor. Their peerages, unlike those on the continent, were purely honorific and they lost them if they lost their landed status.

Nothing is immutable and in time the powers of the Lord were diminished. For example, no self-respecting King of England could permit any other than his own appointed officials to have power of life and death over the King's subjects. From the reign of Henry II, the royal itinerant justices began a long battle with the Lord of the Manor over his powers of criminal jurisdiction. Of course, the kings eventually won, but when Henry III instituted justices of the peace, it was the Lord of the Manor to whom he looked to fill this post as they had the status and local knowledge necessary to win respect. Manorial Lords are by no means missing from the lists of justices, deputy lieutenants, or even lords lieutenant today.

At the economic level, the medieval period saw changes. A substantial increase in the population in the 13th century meant that the irksome duty of week-work from a reluctant peasantry became increasingly unproductive. Agricultural science did not improve much until the 18th century so that land that had been waste at Domesday was being taken under the plough by the 14th century.



The result was the evolution of paid labourers (men no longer tied to the land through the Lordship and, importantly, free to move around) and the reclamation (*assarting*) of waste which was granted out by Lords on very favourable terms to people who became copyholders, effectively freeholders who held title to their land by copy of the manorial court roll in return for a half-yearly rent payable at the Lord's court. The customary tenants gradually benefitted from this process too and became copyholders. Land tenure became more secure as services were commuted for fixed money, or money-equivalent, fines. Although the process accelerated after the Black Death in the middle of the 14th century, commutation of services is found in Domesday Book.

Although frequently strict in the application of their manorial rights, the Church, the largest landowner, tended to be a revolutionizing institution, its priesthood, right up to the highest prelates, originating in the vast majority of cases from the peasantry.

Lords would often apply to the King for special rights within the Manor. The most valuable of these was the monopoly to hold a market and fair in the Manor and these are the most common among Royal Charters to Manorial Lords: there were virtually no shops as we know them, apart from London, Norwich, and York, and retailing was done at markets, the Lord usually being granted in his Charter a Pie Powder Court by which he regulated the activities of buyers and sellers. He derived a financial benefit, first, from letting booths and stalls, and, second, from the profits of the justice his officers meted out.

There are charters for foreshore rights, rights of wreck, treasure trove, free warren (sporting rights), riparian and piscaries rights (river banks and fishing). These are special rights.

*Droit de seigneur*, or *jus primae noctis*, the right to have the bride on her wedding night, is a fiction. It was an alleged right of feudal lords in medieval Europe to sleep the first night with the bride of any of his vassals. There is some evidence of such a right in some primitive societies. 'The only evidence of its existence in Europe is of payments by a vassal in lieu of enforcement of the right, and it is probable that it was merely a kind of tax like the avail or redemption payment in lieu of the lord's right to select a bride for his vassal.' (*The Oxford Companion to Law*, ed. David M Walker). The myth has perhaps been perpetuated in the novels of Jane Austen and Anthony Trollope. The technical term for licence to marry was a fine of Merchet.

General rights were the copyhold income from the tenantry, manorial waste, common land, the profits of justice in the manorial court, *heriots* (payment of 'the best beast or chattel') on death and inheritance, *murage* and *scutage* (a 'tax' for self-defence), *pontage* (a 'tax' for bridge repair), mineral excavation rights, and many others.

It is easy to judge, from this plethora rights, how important the Lord of the Manor was, not only socially, but economically.

#### LAW OF PROPERTY ACT (1922)

In 1922, the Government of the day enacted the most thoroughgoing legislation touching property in England and Wales. So far as the Lord of the Manor was concerned, the Law of Property Act abolished copyhold tenure, taking away his right to be Lord of the soil save that which he owned directly. He was compensated and the copyholds were converted on 1 January 1926 into freehold, or 999-year leasehold.



But the Act went on to confirm many of the historic rights long enjoyed by the Lord of the Manor: the right to market and fair, mineral excavation (subject to the enfranchisement of the copyhold, the subsoil still belongs to the Lord of the Manor), fishing rights, sporting rights, manorial waste (principally the verges of the road and those areas in rural Manors which do not appear to belong to anyone), common land rights (subject to the Common Land Registration Act 1965), even the village green.

Some Lords today charge a manorial wayleave and are paid by British Telecom annually for every telegraph pole planted in the roadside verges. Others operate markets which require planning consent. Still others, in conjunction with the freeholder, employ mineral excavation companies to take out gravel, or sand if the subsoil contains a commercially exploitable deposit.

#### LAND REGISTRATION ACT (2002)

The Land Registration Act (2002) has implications for Lords of Manors and the MSGB held a conference at Merton College, Oxford, in 2005, and published the verbatim *Proceedings* in a report. One lecture is given in this Catalogue at page 21, together with further information about this conference. Intending purchasers are urged to read this section.

The operable historic rights associated with their Manor must be legally established by each purchaser. Those relating to Manors in the past included:

The right to hold market and fairs

The right to common land and manorial waste

The right to all the usual manorial incidents such as merchets, heriots, wardships, tolls, and escheats, pickage, stallage, turbary, and pannage

The rights to mines and quarries within the Manor

Fishing rights

Rights of free warren, free chase, and free forest

Timber rights

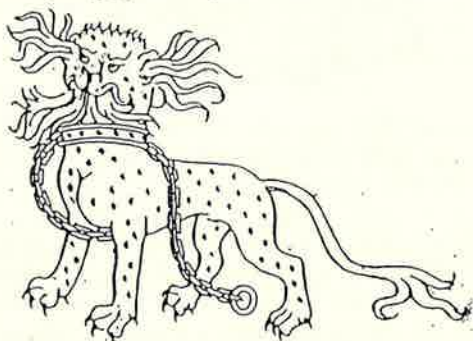
Rights over rivers and foreshore.

#### STATUS

The essence of a Baron's status, according to Professor Sir Frank Stenton (*The First Century of English Feudalism*, Oxford University Press, 1932), was his direct personal relationship with

his Lord, and there can be no closer relationship in medieval society than the swearing of fealty to the King himself. The Lords of Manors, or "mesne tenants", as Professor Stenton describes them, 'appear as a body of very important people' in the 12th century. 'There can be no doubt of their identity, as a class, with the honorial barons of 12th century charters... It is an important element in... the Anglo-Norman state'. Such mesne tenants who held Manors in the 12th century were honorial barons, or territorial peers. Professor Stenton adds that these early references to a lord's barons 'are valuable, historically, for they show that the barons who appear at a later time in Shropshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, and Durham did not owe their style to a near analogy between their position and that of a tenant-in-chief of the Crown, but that they were representatives of men regarded as barons already in the Norman period. Their titles come, in fact, before the conception of baronage was specialized... a specialization that was not to begin to take shape until the late 13th century with barons by writ and, much later still, by letters patent'.

Many of England's most ancient titles of what we are now pleased to call nobility are based on baronies by tenure: eg Earl Ranulph de Meschines grants the Barony of Greystock, Cumbria, to Lyulph, and Henry I confirms this landholding. Lyulph, whose ancestors are completely unknown, is ancestor to eight generations of feudal Barons of Greystock, before the ninth generation, in Ralph, is summoned to Parliament as a baron by writ in 1295. The difference between the baron by writ, or patent, and the honorial baron, or baron by tenure was that the latter would not expect to sit in the councils of the realm unless summoned beyond the reign of Henry III; 92 of the former can now sit in the House of Lords as of right.



The present Duke of Norfolk, is feudal Earl of Arundel (besides being parliamentary earl), a feudal title which, like Lord of the Manor, is protected in the 1922 Property Act. The Duke's ancestor, William de Albin (Albany), married Adeliza, widow of Henry I and daughter of Godfrey Duke of Lorraine. Adeliza had in dower Arundel Castle, Sussex, and William became Earl of Arundel in 1139 by this marriage. The feudal Earldom of Arundel came into the Howard family in 1480, but it was not until the passing of an Act of Parliament in 1628 that Thomas FitzAlan-Howard, 20th feudal Earl of Arundel, also became parliamentary Earl of Arundel. The Duke's feudal Earldom, like a Manor title, is vested in property. The parliamentary earldom would descend to the Duke's successors as specified in the Act and subsequent Acts and patents; but, presumably, were the family to part with Arundel Castle, there would be a feudal Earl of Arundel in addition to a parliamentary earl of the same name.

Helen Cam, in her Introduction to *Law-Finders and Law-Makers in Medieval England* (Merlin Press, London), says: 'Whilst the King's vassals fulfilled their responsibilities and vindicated their rights in his courts, all over England, their own sub-vassals, the baron's barons, were acting as judges in their Lords'

courts, and helping to adjust the conflicting claims of the old and new tenants of the honour and the manor.'

In describing thegnship, that Saxon Lordship with which Domesday is scattered, Professor F W Maitland (*Domesday Book and Beyond*, Cambridge University Press, 1897), calls wealthy thegns *barones maiores* and "less-thegns" *barones minores*. 'The household of a great man, but more especially the King's household, is the cradle of thegnship... Then the King... begins to give land to his thegns, and thus the nature of thegnship is modified. The thegn no longer lives in his lord's court; he is a warrior endowed with land. Then the thegnship becomes more than a relationship; it becomes a status.'

Right into the early Angevin period (circa 1160), the King's barons, Professor Stenton writes (*op cit*), 'remained a large and indeterminate body, defined by a rough equality of rank and a general similarity of territorial position, but by nothing that even approximated to any rule of law'. The word Baron is used by historians and writers today in a way that it is safe to assume that the author is thinking of a tenant-in-chief of the King. 'In a general survey of constitutional history,' Professor Maitland remarks, 'it is convenient to use the term in this limited sense. But the usage receives no support from the private charters of the Norman period, in which earls, bishops, and many lords of lesser status continually speak of their own tenants as *barones*.'

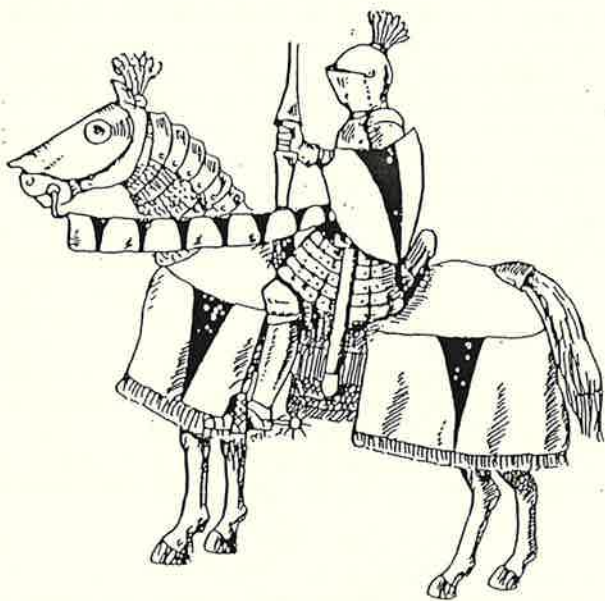
'Dark as is the early history of the manor,' Professor Maitland writes in *The Constitutional History of England* (Cambridge University Press, 1926), 'we can see that before the Conquest England is covered by what in all substantive points are manors, though the term manor is brought hither by the Normans.' Since this is so and since, as already observed, there can be no surer basis of prestige than to say, 'it is my will', the status conveyed by Manorial Lordship, or Feudal Barony pre-dates the peage of England, as it is understood today, by at least 200 years. The former is vested in jurisdiction over land, the second in the will of the sovereign and is purely honorific.



The military aristocracy of the early 12th century would, probably laugh at the later concept of nobility through pedigree. Most would probably not have known who their grand parents were. Nothing is known of the family of Hugh the Great, Duke of France, who ruled that cradle of the chivalric ideal in the 10th century. William the Conqueror's principal followers were opportunistic thugs, most of whom are never heard of again after Domesday Book; while even of those who went on to become earls and bishops later, we know virtually nothing of their antecedents. Early pedigree charts are fragmentary. The Anglo-Norman period was one of great rises to, and falls from, fortune. There was no time to consider such niceties as "nobility", or pedigree. A great family is suddenly there: take the celebrated house of Bellême, who rise to instant prominence; their "ancestor" of one generation seems to have been a crossbowman. He becomes a Lord of Manors and, being practical, it was this wealth that was all that mattered. The Anglo-Norman and early Angevin monarchs were only interested in a man's

landholding and territorial power, and the money and services they could extract.

In the French or German sense of the word, medieval England had no nobility; that is to say that among the freemen there was no intrinsically superior class enjoying a privileged *legal* status of its own, transmitted by descent. In appearance, English society was an astonishingly egalitarian structure. That said, essentially, it was based on the existence of an extremely rigid hierarchic division, though the line was drawn at a lower level than elsewhere in Europe. It meant that on English soil, the freeman was in law scarcely less distinguishable from the nobleman. But the freemen themselves were an oligarchy. Yet England had an aristocracy as powerful as any in Europe - more powerful perhaps because the land of the peasants, through the Manor, was still more at its mercy. It was a class of Manorial Lords, of warrior chieftains, of royal officials, and of knights of the shire - all of them men whose mode of life differed greatly and consciously from that of the common run of freemen. At the top was the narrow circle of earls and barons. During the 13th century, this highest group began to be endowed with fairly definite privileges, but these were almost exclusively political and honorific in nature; and, above all, being attached to the *fief de dignité*, to the Honour, they were transmissible only to the eldest son. In short, the class of noblemen in England remained as a whole more a social than a legal class.



Naturally, although power and revenues were as a rule inherited, and although, as on the continent, the prestige of birth was greatly prized, this group was too ill-defined not to remain largely open. In the 13th century, the possession of landed wealth was sufficient to authorize the assumption of knighthood, in fact made it obligatory. Something like a century and a half later, it officially confirmed the right (always restricted by the characteristic rule to free tenure) to elect in the shires the representatives of the Commons of the land. And, although in theory, these same representatives - they were known by the significant name of knights of the shire and had originally, in fact, to be chosen from among the dubbed knights - were required to furnish proof of hereditary armorial bearings, it does not appear that in practice any family of solid wealth and social distinction ever encountered much difficulty in obtaining permission to use such emblems. There were no 'letters of nobility' among the English at this period - the creation of baronets by the needy House

of Stewart was only a belated imitation of French practices. There was no need for them. The actual situation was enough.

We must wait until the 14th century, or possibly the very late 13th, before the idea of chivalry, or *prudhommie*, or pedigree begin to become important in England as concepts, setting some men apart from others, and reflecting, among other things, a more settled state in society. Edward III inaugurates the 'Round Table' in the Order of the Garter. Parliament, in 1351, in the Statute of Labourers, attempts for the first time to restrict the acquisition of land and Manors by wealthy merchants from impoverished 'old money'. Parliament tries again and again in the 14th and throughout the 15th centuries to stop commercial new money from wearing certain furs and velvets, or owning more than 40 acres in the country.

Such efforts were thwarted by economic realities and the Kings of England themselves, the Tudors particularly, preferring new wealth and the cleverness that spawned it, to the old wealth and jealousies that sustained it.



Badges, banners, flags, seals were originally intended as means by which a man might be identified in time of battle, perhaps, or on papers which the illiterate, many of whom included the nobility, could recognize. Henry V established something approximating to a formalization of these devices. Richard III in 1484 established the College of Arms which contains a number of Household officers: the three Kings of Arms, Garter, Clarenceux, and Norroy and Ulster; a number of Officers in Ordinary (Heralds); and Pursuivants and Officers Extraordinary. They have granted arms to men and women of virtue for more than 500 years, despite conceits, which have appeared in every generation since 1484 - even to this day - which would ossify the institution.

It has been mainly by keeping close to the practical things which give real power, and avoiding the paralysis that overtakes social classes, which are too sharply divided and too dependent on birth, that the English aristocracy acquired the dominant position it retained for centuries, and to some extent still does socially.

In purchasing a Manor, therefore, one inherits the status that this form of tenure implies and becomes the successor in title to a line of men and women, many of whom have had a pronounced influence on the history of the British Isles.

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# The Origin and Evolution of English Manors

by A P M Wright

IN THE early 11th century, certain ecclesiastics, unwitting precursors of functionalist sociology, propounded the theory that human society was divided into three orders, the *oratores*, *bellatores*, and *laboratores*; those who protected it with their prayers and their swords, and those who tilled the earth to support the other two classes. When the Manor was first recorded by that name in England, in 1086 in the pages of Domesday Book, social developments, including the revival of commerce and town life, were already beginning to make such a classification inadequate, though it applied fairly well to Western Europe over the previous half millennium.

During that period, the poor state of communications made it difficult to transport what small surplus the primitive and inefficient agricultural techniques in use produced, and made self-sufficiency in each locality necessary. The same difficulty obliged rulers to delegate their powers to local potentates who found it only too easy to convert such authority into hereditary, private possession. Money was in use, but it was rather a measure of value than a regular means of exchange. The silver penny introduced by the Carolingians (Kings of France in the ninth century) was of quite high value in terms of corn and livestock. The Manor, therefore, proved the most convenient institution for obtaining from the peasantry the resources needed to maintain the higher orders of clergy and warriors. Just as men of the warrior order held land in return for fighting for their king or lord, so the peasants paid for the land which the wealthy and powerful gave them, or allowed them to keep, with their labour in cultivating the fields or carrying the produce to palace or monastery. Some of the men subject to such obligations were probably descended from bondmen whom their masters had settled on small holdings, to make them self-supporting in food, while retaining their services. Others, legally free, had surrendered their holdings to a powerful neighbour, to receive them back burdened with services, in return for assistance in times of scarcity and protection from oppression by others than himself.

Although England during the Anglo-Saxon period is poorly documented for economic history, glimpses can be obtained of the development of Manors there also. It has been suggested that the medieval England Manor was directly derived from the Roman-British villa, English chieftains taking over ownership, as Frankish and Gothic invaders did from Roman landowners elsewhere, while their serfs were thought to descend from a subjugated British peasantry. Such a transfer of lordship could have occurred in regions where Romano-British society survived relatively intact at the moment when the English overran it. In other parts, where the population consisted mainly of English settlers, a social hierarchy existed which could involve dependent landholding on a manorial system.

Apart from slaves and surviving Welshmen, free men were differentiated *eorls* of noble rank, and *ceorls*, or peasant husbandmen. Many villages names, in which an Anglo-Saxon personal name is combined with "tun" or "ham" probably indicate places where leaders of tribes settled, surrounded by followers whose subjection to them, expressed through yielding produce or services, could be made progressively more burdensome. By 700, thegns in Wessex, who had settled men on newly cultivated land, could make them in return work on the donor's land. If the thegn provided a house as well, the recipient was bound for life to his service.

Manorialism also spread through the alienation of the English kings' rights over land and its inhabitants. Scattered over the various Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms during the Heptarchy (see map) were "king's tuns", to which the men of the surrounding district customarily delivered amounts of bread and ale, meat and poultry, butter, cheese, and honey, sufficient to provision the king for a day and a night as he journeyed around his realm. They might also come in for a few days each year to plough and harvest any farmland that the king had there. His reeve might also collect there the sums due to him upon breaches of the law.

From the 7th century, for the safety of their souls and their kingdoms, kings steadily gave away such estates, or fractions of them, often comprising whole villages, to their bishops, abbots, and nobles in perpetuity. Each such grant implied the right to draw revenues and services from the husbandmen there and often to exercise jurisdiction over them for the grantee's profit. By the 10th century a great mass of the peasantry, even apart from the numerous serfs, was mostly still tied. On many estates their obligations included, besides for various renders in kind and the ploughing of a portion of their lord's lands, working for him every week, as villein, did later, in whatever way they were commanded. In much of eastern England, however, where Danish invasion and settlement had disrupted the old English social structure, the cultivators were less subject to Manorial lordship. Those regions contained until after 1066 many sokemen, whose main duty to their lord was to "seek" the jurisdiction of his court. In many villages there, no substantial landowner had any large area in hand, the land being divided among the resident peasants.

In organization of lordships, as in other fields, the Norman Conquest produced, despite the forcible dispossession of the English aristocracy, not so much a cataclysmic transformation, but a sharper and more systematic development of existing institutions. The name of the Manor, from the lord's manoir, or residence, was indeed an innovation. The parcelling out of the land into Manors, where they did not already exist, was moreover required by the enforcement of feudal tenure, as the Conqueror and his barons distributed land to their vassals, to be held by providing knights. The Manor became the economic unit supplying the knight with the income to maintain him and to pay for his arms and horse. Since Manors varied in size and value there was no correlation between them and the knight's fee, the amount of land theoretically sufficient for the support of a knight. The new Norman lords did perhaps make use of the villagers on their Manors somewhat more than their predecessors had done: Domesday Book sometimes indicates that the amount of income obtained was higher than those paying it could comfortably yield. Manorialization was extended in areas, as in the east, where it had been weak in 1066. Many free men and sokemen were degraded from their previous partial independence to the status of the villani, ordinary villagers, and may have incurred more obligations as a result.

It is in the records from the early 12th century, after those changes, that the "classic" type of English Manor becomes clearly visible. The land within it fell into two portions: the lord's mesne under his immediate control, whose produce was for the support of him and his household; and the tenanted land, from which services were provided to cultivate the demesne. In 1086, many Manors had had serfs who probably worked con



tinuously on the demesne, but chattel slavery died out soon. Thereafter, the lords drew the necessary labour, partly from their tenants, partly from a small group of permanently hired men, some specially skilled as ploughmen or shepherds. Such farm workers received, besides a small money wage, yearly payments in corn. The demesne usually included a Manor house or farmstead, where some permanent agent, if not the lord himself, lived, surrounded by enclosures of meadow and pasture larger than those of other landholders on the Manor. In the arable open fields too the lord had much of his land lying together in largish blocks, saving him the trouble of moving his ploughs about the fields as frequently as the peasants had to, with their small strips of an acre or less.

The tenanted land was usually held partly freely, partly in villeinage. The freeholders paid their dues to the lord mainly in money rents, but might owe some labour services at special times of year, often of a more honourable kind, such as supervizing other workers in harvest. The villein tenements were less secure and more heavily burdened. Legally, they were held entirely at the lord's will. In practice, they passed from father to son, for such land was unprofitable without men to farm it. But a villein tenant ejected or denied succession by the lord had no legal redress. Most villein holdings owed some money rents, perhaps a commutation of ancient renders in kind, or a continuation of a yearly levy, called before the Conquest *gafol*, perhaps once due to the king. Each holding sent a man to work on the demesne for two or three days a week, and at the relevant seasons to plough and harrow so many acres of it, and to mow the lord's meadows. The tenant also had to use his cart and draught beasts to carry the lord's crops to his house or to neighbouring markets. During the harvest, villein tenants had to come once or twice with several men, or with their whole households, to reap and carry the lord's crops, to get them while favourable weather lasted. The name *precaria*, or harvest boon, given to that service, probably recalls a long distant past when men had voluntarily given their lords and neighbours such assistance from goodwill. Such tenants also had to send their sheep to the lord's fold, giving him the advantage of their manure, and to grind his corn at the lord's mill: the toll went to the lord through the miller's rent. The lord in his turn in times of bad harvest, would subsidize the poor from his barn.

The distinction between freemen and villeinage holding was not based on the tenant's personal status. Free men could hold land in villeinage, performing the labour due from it, without necessary forfeiting their freedom, although a family once free whose members did so for several generations risked losing its free status. A freeman's children born on such a holding to a villeinage woman, perhaps its heiress, were moreover reckoned as unfree. Over those who were villeins by birth, also styled *nativi*, the lord had even greater authority. He might, and sometimes did, sell or give away a villein and his offspring, though usually only with the land they occupied. Villeins might not depart from the Manor without their lord's leave. If, at a price, he allowed them to live elsewhere, they must still pay every year chevage, head money, as evidence of their continuing in bondage. Villeins had to pay the lord "merchet" on giving their daughters in marriage. Their personal goods were supposed to be his and at his will he might exact from them as much as he chose, as *tallage*. In practice, however, *tallage* was often taken from villeins as a group as an annual payment, not varying greatly in amount. When a villein died, the lord took his best beast as a heriot. The term had once referred to a thegn's arms returned at his death to the lord who had given them. Its use among the peasantry perhaps recalls a period at which a lord, when giving land, had also supplied the livestock to work it.

The divergence in standing which thus gave the Manorial lord far more power over some of his men than over others was probably in some cases caused by some families retaining an ancestral freedom from before 1066. Elsewhere, descendants of some of the undifferentiated *villani* of 1086 had acquired by prescription a freedom of tenure and status in time to be protected by the developing Common Law; while many others, of similar origins, saw themselves subjected more firmly to their lords, as the king's judges established clearer definitions of freedom and serfdom, and declined to extend to more than a minority of the peasantry that protection from arbitrary treatment by their lords which the Common Law offered to acknowledged freeholders. In doing so, the courts were influenced partly by Roman Law doctrines about slavery, partly perhaps by unwillingness to determine every petty dispute between lord and tenant throughout England. The tests adopted for deciding whether a peasant held freely or in villeinage were not clear cut. Liability to merchet and tallage were considered strong evidence of villeinage, although free men also occasionally owed them. The most important criterion was not simply the type of render due to the lord, money or labour. Although most freeholders paid the money rents, considered more honourable, some owed not inconsiderable works. The issue turned rather on the certainty or otherwise of the services rendered. To hold freely a man must only have to do yearly a fixed amount of work. If a lord were entitled to demand as much work for a holding as he chose, the courts reckoned that it was villein land. In practice, indeed, the level of labour services imposed was regulated by tradition on each Manor; but the courts would not protect admitted villein tenants from attempts by their lords to increase it.

Some villeins sought to escape their disabilities by buying from their lords charters of enfranchisement. Such purchases were not very frequent, for the line between freedom and villeinage was one of legal status, not of material well-being. Some freeholders owned more land than most villeins, but many others had only minute holdings: free hand was often divisible between heirs. The lords usually insisted that the villeins' holdings, typically full, half, and quarter yardlands, of 30, 15, or 7.5 customary acres, be preserved as units, so that the services due from them in proportion to their size could be more easily exacted. Many free men, therefore, were no better off than at lowest stratum of Manorial tenants, the cottager. They probably derived from the bordars and cottagers, holding five acres or less each, recorded in 1086. Mostly unfree personally, they usually owned only their cottage and the croft around it, sometimes a few open-field acres. Being hardly able to live by cultivating their own land, they furnished a reserve of labour for hiring by those more prosperous peasants who had holdings too large to be worked solely by their family, and in particular by the lord. He had naturally an advantage in bargaining over wages with men who could not easily seek work elsewhere without his leave.

Such was the organization of the Manor, as it was recorded on the estates of the large Benedictine monasteries and some other great landowners. But it was not typical of all Manors, the extent to which that model prevailed varying in space and time. There were parts of England where villeinage was of little importance. In Kent, the peasantry were almost all personally free, and owed only money rents and some seasonal services. Over much of East Anglia, besides a class of full freeholders already flourishing in the 12th century, there were many molemen, who, although personally unfree, held their land for permanently fixed rents. In the pastoral uplands of the North, much peasant tenure involved mainly renders of cattle and a form of military service to repel raids across the Scottish border. In Cornwall, by 1300, much land was held on a purely contractual basis: men took it

up from the lord for terms of years at rents partly determined by market forces. Even in the Midlands and the South of England, the heartland of the "model" Manor, there were exceptions to its dominance. Many villages contained several Manors so that no single lord had exclusive control of the peasants. The smaller Manors belonging to knights and franklins often also differed from the model just described. On many of them, week work was not customary, and their villein tenants performed only the seasonal tasks of ploughing, haymaking, and harvesting. Some Manors had, besides their demesne, only free tenants, others only a few villeins, whose services would not be sufficient to work the demesne. A few Manors contained no demesne at all, but only rights of lordship over freeholders and villeins, so that their revenue could only be received in cash.

From the 11th century, moreover, the Manor was placed in a changed economic environment. Coinage was becoming relatively plentiful, witness the thousands of silver pennies exacted from England as Danegeld, a fraction of which has been discovered in buried hoards in Scandinavia. The lords thus had the option of drawing their income from the peasantry, not in kind or labour, but mainly in cash. In Domesday Book, most Manors have a money value on them, which probably represents the sum obtainable by renting them out. On many estates, lay and ecclesiastical, they were by 1100 leased to middlemen as *firmarii*, farmers, who undertook their management, for a fixed or "farm" rent. Such leases then usually included the stock and seed needed to cultivate the demesne, with the right to call on the tenants' labour services, but lords often reserved their money rents to themselves. The convenience of farming out Manors was balanced by risks. Leases were usually made for life and, if allowed to pass in the same family, might easily become *de facto* hereditary, making it hard for the lord to regain possession at their expiry. Farmers, too, were often willing to connive with a preference from the peasantry for paying their dues in money rather than by labour, and thus achieving a tenure that could be claimed as freehold, and for those remaining in villeinage, knowledge of what works they owed might be obscured.

The practice of farming Manors was eventually abandoned when in the 12th century, England was afflicted with its first serious recorded inflation. The farmers could take the profit from rising prices, while the unchanged rents which they paid yielded many lords too small an income to meet the increasing expense of a noble or knightly lifestyle. By 1200, many lords were responding by taking their Manors back under their personal control. They were then run, sometimes by reeves drawn from the unfree tenants, sometimes by salaried bailiffs, who might have professional experience of farm management. The monasteries, whose exemption from military pursuits gave their rulers more leisure for supervising their estates, were especially prominent in undertaking such direct management of their demesne. For almost 200 years, landlords continued to develop their Manors intensively themselves, aiming no longer simply at subsistence, although some produce was often delivered to their households, but at financial profit by selling corn, wool, and cattle on the market. Their seignorial rights over their tenants were revived for the purpose. Freeholders, whose rents were fixed, escaped the heaviest pressure, but villeins were often faced with demands for their performing anew traditional labour-services, which their lords might try to increase, under the guise of defining them. The peasants naturally resisted, sometimes by passive noncooperation, sometimes by lawsuits. Before the king's judges, they often claimed to belong to the ancient demesne of the Crown; the privileged villein tenants on it were entitled to royal protection in holding their land securely and in rendering only fixed customary services. The courts, however, decided that only those Manors named as the king's in Domesday Book could claim

those privileges, and the villeins' lawsuits usually failed, leaving them to the uncertain protection of a Manorial custom that the lord might well override.

Some lords met peasant resistance with open force, exercising their admitted right to imprison their villeins, confiscating their land, or fining them to the uttermost for their defiance. Such repression was assisted by the economic situation. Until the early 14th century, the population was steadily rising, and even land on the margin of profitable cultivation had to be brought under the plough to feed the growing numbers. There was, therefore, a strong demand for villein land, even on burdensome terms, while the competition of many labourers, landless or nearly so, kept down agricultural wage rates. A man who, finding his lord's demand too heavy, fled from the Manor without leave, must leave behind the land and cattle which had been his livelihood; and even if he escaped recapture, and in some distant borough or village achieved a *de facto* freedom, he was likely, lacking training in a craft, to be reduced to penury. So it did not matter too much to lords that the legal burden of proving that a man, ostensibly free, was really their villein, came to rest on them. Most villeins perforce stayed on their holdings, though no doubt grumbling and sometimes, at the risk of occasional fines, shirking as much of the labour imposed on them as they could.

The lords did not, in any case, invariably demand that such services be performed in full. Besides being perhaps aware of the relative inefficiency of forced labour, they might find that the value of a particular work was less than the return customarily expected for it in food or other perquisites; especially the hearty meals due to harvesters. Lords were often therefore ready to "sell" or commute works for cash payments, usually 1/2d. to 2d. for ordinary week work, double for the especially useful harvest works. The figure chosen was probably originally equivalent to the cost of hiring substitute labour. Lord and villein might agree to commute a whole year's work in advance, making the villein temporarily a near rent payer. More often, perhaps, only those individual works not required on the demesne were commuted one by one. The choice whether to commute rested with the lord and the process was not entirely to the villein's advantage. Although spared the indignity of compulsory labour and able to devote more time to his own land, he had to raise the necessary cash by selling a larger proportion of the crops of a holding that might even in good years be barely sufficient to support himself and his family.

By such exactions, the lords substantially increased their real incomes over the 13th century at the expense of the peasantry. On many Manors, half or more of that income came not from demesne farming, whether using villeins' works or hired labour, but immediately in money, from rents, including some for leasing out small pieces of demesne, commutation of works, mills, "sales" of the right to use the lord's grass and woodland, and the profits of his courts. The increasing intensity with which lords exploited their rights is reflected by changes in the type of records concerned with Manorial management. In the 12th century, when economic change was slow and hardly noticed or expected, the lords had surveys made at long intervals, showing the extent of the demesne, the amount of stock employed on it, and the numbers and size of the tenants' holdings with the services they owed. William the Conqueror had had Domesday Book compiled as a once-for-all record of the wealth and landholding in his new kingdom. By the mid 13th century, such surveys were supplemented by new kinds of document, the account and the court roll. The account, which enumerated in detail all receipts and expenditure, was designed less to help the lord estimate the profitability of his demesne farming, although some landowners

came to use it for that purpose, than to ensure that his agent running the Manor answered for every penny due. Court rolls enabled a lord to check the occasional income arising from his men's land dealings and law breaking, besides providing a record of proceedings in his court.

A Manorial court was, in theory, held every three weeks, and usually met frequently until the 15th century when its business was often concentrated into two sittings in spring and autumn. Although it was held in the lord's name by his steward, he was not, formally at least, judge in his own cause. The court's judgments were made by the assembled body of tenants, styled the homage, or a jury drawn from them. Such juries also, when necessary, swore that the special customs of that Manor were, whether over their obligations to the lord or the rules for inheritance of unfree holdings. The authority of those courts derived from several origins. Before the Conquest, kings had allowed landowners a wide jurisdiction over their peasants, reserving only serious cases of robbery and violence. Feudal custom gave any lord the right to try, in a court composed of his tenants, disputes arising between them. So the peasants regularly sued one another in the Manor court in minor cases of debt and contract, assault and trespass. The court also enforced the lord's rights against those neglecting to render their dues to him or encroaching on his property, and recorded his admission of men to holdings and the "fine" exacted for their entry upon them. Lawyers later styled courts handling such business customary courts or courts baron: only the latter were supposed to have authority over freeholders. But such distinctions were not made in medieval times.

Many Manorial lords also had higher rights of jurisdiction, which became those of courts leet. The king's lawyers held that they were possessed by delegation of royal authority, but in practice they were admittedly enjoyed by long established custom "from a time beyond human memory". The principal jurisdiction was view of frankpledge. It entitled a lord to check that his unfree tenants, freemen being exempt, all belonged to the groups, called tithings, into which the peasantry was divided to help maintain public order: tithings were collectively liable to be fined for their individual member's offences. Courts leet had, too, a form of police jurisdiction, with the power to punish bloodshed, scolding, and similar breaches of the peace. From the 14th century they usually named the constables responsible for leading the villagers in repressing crime. Most lords also had the right to enforce the assize of bread and of ale, by which the price, measure, and quality of those basic foods, when produced for sale, were controlled. The courts regularly appointed ale-tasters to do so in practice, the lord simply took the fines imposed on the villages ale wives and bakers, as a kind of licensing fee, without trying to make them mend their ways. To some Manors also belonged the right to take the forfeited goods of tenants convicted of felony, or that of infangthief. The latter entitled a lord to hang thieves caught red-handed on his land. The Manorial gallows was, however, rather a token of its owner's standing than a frequently used instrument of justice.

The decline of the Manor as an economic institution began with economic changes in the late 14th century. The slow fall in population resulting from the Black Death and the recurrent plagues that followed reduced the pressure that lords could exert upon their tenants. Prices fell, and wage-rates, despite attempts to hold them down by legislation, slowly but steadily increased, doubling by the end of the 14th century. There was reduced demand for villein holdings from a less numerous peasantry, who could more easily find land or employment elsewhere. The demands put forward during the Peasants' Revolt for personal freedom for all and the right to hold land solely for rent reveal the under-

lying resentment still felt against villeinage and compulsory labour. Lords found that men would not accept holdings liable to such burdens. If they were not to be left vacant, such tenements had to be let out at rent. At first, such leases were for short periods, the lords still hoping eventually to restore the old order. From the 15th century, however, the renting out of former villein land became permanent and its tenure hereditary: and the rents as fixed as those for freeholds had been since the 12th century. The class of customary tenants was gradually transformed into one of copyholders, so named from their receiving as title deeds copies of the court roll entries recording their admission. The inferior status of their tenure, the freehold of it remaining with the lord, was marked by the ceremony used in transferring it. Heirs or purchasers of copyhold must come into the court and receive possession from the steward "to hold at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the Manor". Villein status as such, however, was never formally abolished. In 1381, the landowners when asked in Parliament, emphatically repudiated the proposal that they should free their bondmen. Even in the 16th century, wealthy townsmen of unfree ancestry might be coerced by a lord under colour of his right to confiscate or tallage their goods. The Crown, too, raised small sums by granting commissions for the compulsory enfranchisement, at a price, of bondmen on royal Manors. But for the great majority of the peasantry, custom assisted by a more rapid turnover of village populations and the dying out of known villein families had lifted the ignominy of servitude by 1500.

Higher wages and the loss of villein works also helped to end the lord's farming their demense themselves. Between the 1380s and the 1420s most landlords, to stem the decline in farming profits, turned to leasing them out at rents which, fixed at least for a time, would protect their incomes. A few kept some demense as home farms to supply their households. Some demenses were leased to the body of villagers who would probably share them out in proportion to their previous land holdings. Mostly, however, they were let as units, at first often to prosperous villagers, drawn from the class of men who had run them for the lord as reeve or bailiff. From the late 15th century, demesne leases were more often acquired by neighbouring small gentry or merchants from nearby towns. Such men, by close personal supervision or specialization, might make demesne farms pay, where more remote owners could not. The lord usually reserved to himself the cash income from tenants' rents and his courts. So the English aristocracy and gentry finally withdrew from the direct exploitation of their lands, becoming, as it remained later, primarily rentiers.

Manorial Lordships still, however, gave a landowner certain advantages over his tenants. Copyholders were forbidden to impair the value of their holdings by letting buildings there fall into disrepair, to cut down trees, or to let their land for more than a year without their lord's leave. If they did, the tenement was formally forfeited, though usually restored on payment of a fine. More important was the copyholder's relatively precarious right of succession. By the late 15th century, the king's courts were indeed willing if a copyholder could afford to appeal to them, to protect him against outright eviction by his lord, but a son was often vulnerable when his father died. In the West of England copyholds were commonly held for the lives of two or three named members of the tenant's family. In the East, they were usually heritable like freehold. In either case, the lord was entitled to an entry fine from heirs seeking admission. On some Manors that fine was fixed by custom, often at a year's rent. On most its amount was arbitrary, at the lord's discretion, and was steadily increased throughout the 16th century. By setting it too high for the heir to afford to pay, the lord could in effect frustrate his claim to inherit. Many copyholders, especially those

for lives, were thus compelled to renounce hereditary right in their ancestral lands, though sometimes they received leaseholds for lives instead. By 1600, however, the royal courts had largely blocked that loophole. They decided that a fine must be 'reasonable', which was defined as not being more than two year's real value of the property. Thereafter, copyhold tenure, though still subject to special rules and practices, was nearly as secure as freehold.

Until the 17th century, the Manor also remained important in village life through the activity of its court. During the 15th century, its police jurisdiction and later its hearing of ordinary lawsuits over money gradually fell into disuse. But much business remained. Since the 14th century, the court had regularly noted and published breaches of the customary practices of open-field husbandry, especially those related to common pasturage. It appointed haywards and common herdsmen to enforce those rules. It also dealt with the many small nuisances, digging up roads for clay, not scouring watercourses, or fouling streams and streets with domestic refuse, with which villagers might incommode their neighbours. The frequent repetition of orders and punishments in such matters suggests that the court's efforts were more persistent than successful. By the 15th century, such rules were regularly recorded on the roll as "bylaws" or ordinances, made in legislative style "by the assent of the lord and the tenants, for the common weal of the township". In villages containing more than one Manor, it was usually through the court of the largest, sometimes styled the chief manor, that the villagers thus managed their communal business.

From the mid-17th century, however, the courts mostly ceased to concern themselves with such matters. The country lawyers who ran them as stewards confined the recorded business mostly to reciting, in formalized detail, successions to, and transfers of, copyhold land: it was only in that that the lord had a financial interest. Agrarian bylaw were still occasionally repeated in stereotyped form, but any attempt to enforce them apparently ceased. Where once the whole body of tenants had been expected to attend, on pain of fines, one or two farmers represented them. Control of villages passed to other bodies, such as the parish vestry.

Such courts saw, however, their activity revived through special circumstances in certain of the new industrial towns which grew up in the 18th century, such as Birmingham and Manchester. Despite their increasing population, they had not obtained a chartered corporation, but remained legally mere townships. These courts baron might provide a forum conveniently close at hand for litigation over small sums. The process of the court leet to repress public nuisances were the only ones available to preserve a minimum level of urban decency. So shopkeepers and manufactures took up ancient offices as bailiffs, constables, and headboroughs to help manage their new cities. If, as often happens, the right to hold a weekly market belonged to the Lord of a Manor, the manor's court appointment of searchers of food and other goods offered for sale provided a means to ensure trading standards.

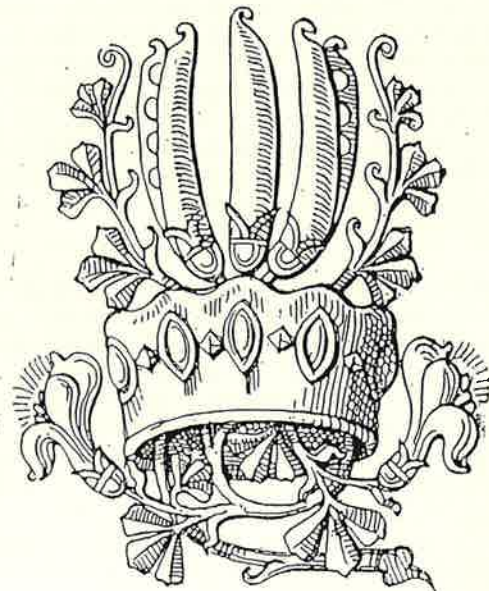
Over most of rural England, however, the Manor had declined by 1800. Its remaining rights of supervizing open-field farming vanished with the steady enclosure of open-fields and commons in the 18th and the early 19th centuries. In those wider regions, where extensive common land survived, the court might still be occasionally called formally into action. The enfranchisement of copyhold into freehold, the lord taking a capital sum for renouncing his right to rents and entry fines, proceeded steadily encouraged by a series of statutes, from the mid-19th century. From 1926, copyhold tenure itself was abolished. There-

after, the only potentially profitable right attached to a manorial lordship was that over minerals under remaining commons, and in some cases under former copyhold lands, and manorial wastes. The name of the Manor, in common usage, often come to refer to the complex belonging to a landed estate, so that appointing a gamekeeper over sporting rights was the lord's most obvious activity.

The surviving substances of the Manor, the leased demesne farm, however, continued from the 16th century to the early 20th, as a principal support of the landed classes. Historians trying to discover the proportion of land owned by different sections of those classes, peerage, gentry, and yeomanry, have found it convenient to count the number of Manors held at different periods by such groups. The ties between landlord and leasee, moreover, long remained not simply commercial. It retained traces of that seignorial systems, involving authority and protection on one side, respect and service on the other, which had been more clearly shown in the medieval Manor. In the 16th century, landowners fully expected their dependants' backing in feud with neighbouring gentry, in the 18th and 19th century their support at parliamentary elections. Just as customary tenements had in practice been heritable, so leasehold might remain for generations in the same family. Until the mid 17th century, most leases of demesne or former copyhold were made for two or three lives at relatively low rents, seldom changed, but subjected to high "fines" when they fell due for renewal.

Within the village, too, the demesne, where it survived undivided, gave the lord who owned it the opportunity to dominate local life. Some lords might be descended from medieval knights, others the successors of merchants or lawyers or rising yeoman who had bought the manor in Tudor or Stuart times. In either case, they were well placed to buy up smaller landholdings. In those villages where, in the 19th century, most of the farmland was in the hands of one or two families, they will usually be found to be the heirs in title of the medieval Lords of the Manor. It was not until after the First World War that the flood of land sales converted much of England from a regime of landlord and tenant to one of owner- occupation.

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# LAND AND POWER: THE NORMAN CONQUEST TO THE LAW OF PROPERTY ACTS (1925)

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We begin in 1066, not because the previous six centuries of English history are unimportant, but because the Norman Conquest introduced some radical changes into England - and, subsequently, into Wales, Scotland, and Ireland - which particularly affected the ownership and control of land.

First, we must ask ourselves why land was so important to contemporaries. In the pre-industrial period in England, until the 18th century, land was the ultimate source of wealth, political power, and social prestige. For the peasantry - - the bulk of the population - access to land determined whether one had food. Without land, or paid work on it, one starved.

In 1086, Domesday Book primarily assessed the capacity of Lords' and peasants' land by the number of ploughteams: how much land could be ploughed and how much corn it could produce. The clergy's income was also partly derived from land - parochial glebes, episcopal and monastic Manors - and partly from tithes on agricultural produce. Land supplied the Lords with food from their demesnes - home farms - rents and labour services on those demesnes from their peasants and, not least, men: military manpower ranging from knightly sub-tenants to household knights, archers, men-at-arms, and skilled craftsmen to build castles, to make and service arms and armour, and to care for horses.

On the quantum of noble power depended social prestige and access to the ultimate source of honour, the Crown. Not all of that changed or appeared suddenly after 1066. As George Orwell observed, the division of society into high, middle, and low was as old as recorded history. The Godwineson earls in 1065 were richer and more powerful than all but a handful of the Norman barons in 1086.

What changed after 1066 were the relationships between freemen and the Crown, and between their land and the Crown. In the Anglo-Saxon realm, the basic relationship between monarch and people was one of King and subject. Only the tenants of Crown land and those who had chosen to 'commend' themselves to the King had an additional nexus binding them directly to him. Other freemen might be independent or tenants of, or commended to, another Lord. The plentiful slaves were simply property owned by their Lords. Land that was not part of the royal estate was independent of Crown control.

As Domesday Book sometimes put it, such land was held as 'an alod' - in absolute freehold - by men 'who could go with their land where they would'. The only powers that old English Kings had over their subjects land fell into three categories, all of which depended on the royal prerogative. First, they could assess taxes on all land - the 'geld'. Secondly, they could order land to be forfeit for certain serious crimes. Thirdly, they could convert 'folkland' held according to local custom - the later custom of the Manor - into 'bookland': land held by charter which could be bequeathed by will, given or sold away from ones heirs or kin, particularly to the Church.

By 1086, the revolutionaries of 1066 might have remarked, as their successors of 1789 did, *nous changerons tout cela*. The King was the only independent freeholder the apex of the feudal pyramid and the ultimate Lord - from whom every other Lord held his land either directly of the Crown as a 'tenant-in-chief'

or as a tenant from the tenants-in-chief or as their sub-(sub-sub) tenants. At the lowest level, all peasants held their land from a Lord of one of the Manors into which Domesday Book divided all of England.

In addition, modes of succession to land had radically changed. The normal inheritance pattern before 1066 was partible tenure - 'in parage' (equally). So, Domesday frequently records land held by brothers in 1066. Thereafter, partible tenure at higher social levels was confined to the least important members of societywomen. At lower levels it survived among the peasantry in Kent and Wales. All land at manorial level or above descended on death to the eldest son alone. We call such a system primogeniture or impartible tenure. The only exception to that rule, which was confined to the Crown and its tenants-in-chief and lasted from 1066 to the final loss of Normandy in 1204, was that the patrimony descended to the eldest son and acquired lands to the next younger son.

Lords, ranging from the King down to the local Lord of a Manor, exercised considerable control over their tenants land dealings. If tenants wished to give, transfer or sell part of their land to someone else or to the Church, they had to obtain their Lords permission normally on payment of money - for what later became a 'licence to alienate'. On death their heirs had to pay a 'heriot', commonly the 'best beast', as well as a graduated money payment, which was called a relief, when they succeeded if they were already aged 21. If they bought or were given land, they had to pay their Lord an entry-fine to succeed to it. If the heir, or the co-heiresses, if there was no male heir, was under 21, their persons and estates were in 'wardship' to their Lord, who could run the estates for his own benefit during the heirs minority or who could give or sell the wardship to another.

If the minor heir or heiresses were unmarried, their marriage and that of their widowed mother could be controlled or sold by the Lord. The only check on that was the legal convention of *nulle disparagement*, whereby a woman could not be forced to marry a man of lower social rank since, as a woman, her status naturally depended on that of her husband. Women did not matter in the feudal age. They were merely the means through which land passed to their heirs. Even their ancestral land belonged to their husbands during marriage. The freedom to buy, sell, give and bequeath land enjoyed by the Anglo-Saxon freewoman was regained by her descendents only after the married womens property Acts in the later 19th century.

To provide for widows, the system of 'dower' was introduced whereby a husband, on marriage, nominated a third of his land to be held by a widow for her lifetime. To compensate for that, a wife on marriage brought to her husband a dowry in land or cash. Similar arrangements obtained at sub-manorial level. Tenants could only transfer, receive or inherit land in the manorial court before the Lords steward.

As the medieval period progressed, the Norman rule of inheritance by the eldest son increasingly prevailed over gavelkind - partible inheritance - and 'borough English', which was inheritance by the youngest son. From the 13th century onwards, Kentish Lords obtained royal licences to disgavel their lands so that their eldest sons alone would succeed them. By the 17th

century, primogeniture had triumphed as the customary mode of inheritance in most manorial courts, as it had among all the tenants Lords.

The importance of primogeniture as the standard form of inheritance was emphasized by an important evolutionary development in English feudalism. Originally, in France and Germany, the grant of a fief or knights fee - *beneficium or feudum* in medieval Latin - was precarious; it was a grant for a lifetime only. By the time feudalism arrived in England, the grant of a knights fee was hereditary. Henry I (1100-35) was the last English King to interfere with what was already becoming the natural inheritance; he directed that Geoffrey de Mandevilles Barony of Marshwood in Dorset should pass to his son Ralph by his second wife rather than to his son Robert by his first wife because the King considered Ralph to be the better knight.

The sine qua non of the feudal structure was personal military service as knights, which clearly women could not perform. That did not prevent them from being, on occasion, notable generals or from commanding besieged castles with success. For example, Empress Matilda and Stephens Queen Matilda commanded armies in the mid-12th century civil war, and Nichola de la Hay was hereditary castellan of Lincoln in King Johns reign. In addition, women were not the only victims of feudal service. The system, which emphasized personal military service, also penalized male weakness. A man who was too young, ill, weak, feeble-minded or old to perform such a service was in the same position as a woman.

By the reign of Henry I, personal service was supplemented by a cash payment in lieu - scutage. From the time of Henry II (1154-89), the Crown often preferred to take the scutage and hire mercenary troops to do the fighting. Although the feudal structure had a logic to it based on the render of military service for land which reinforced the unity of estates, hence primogeniture, the system necessarily incurred costs that many members of the lordly class found increasingly unacceptable.

As a result, the history of the law of property from the 12th to the 20th century is one of increasing attempts to modify the original stringency of the system created in the aftermath of the Norman Conquest to meet human problems that had not been envisaged or properly thought through by government. The situation was due partly to an historical accident: the transfer to King William of the royal lands and the estates of the Godwinesons and of most of the English thegnly class was the largest shift in landed power in England until the dissolution of the monasteries in the 1530s. It gave the Crown a commanding position in the landed economy, as well as permitting the creation of a new, almost entirely foreign landed aristocracy, which was a situation never to be repeated in English history.

Thereafter, Crown and nobility had to adjust their inheritance to take account of changing circumstances, not least the changing attitude of the western Church to marriage. The post-Roman Church had tolerated divorce and remarriage, particularly for monarchs and nobles, precisely because of the importance of succession by male heirs. The Western Church decisively turned against both; marriage was to be indissoluble except by death, unless the Papacy decided that a particular marriage was invalid.

There was an important corollary to that decision: the essential basis for marriage was declared to be free consent of both parties. That drove a potential horse and cart through the feudal institution of 'wardship and marriage', because refusal of consent by either party automatically invalidated a marriage. Ward-

ship and marriage continued in England and Wales until the Crowns feudal rights were abrogated by the Civil War in the 1640s, but such arranged marriages after the 1150s had to take account of the wishes of grooms and brides. By the end of the 12th century, aristocratic widows in England were paying the Crown 'not to be married or remarried against their will'.

As time went on, new circumstances produced new problems that required new solutions. Kings and nobles wished to be able to reward men of talent. That required either the grant of a portion of the existing estate as a new holding the lawyers called that 'subinfeudation' - or the grant of the marriage of an heiress with her land. Thus, even by 1086, much of the holdings of tenants-in-chief had been granted to sub-tenants, and the process of subinfeudation continued for another two centuries until it was prohibited by the statute Quia emptores in 1290. By then, feudal service had been so fragmented that it could no longer be demanded with any hope of success. How could one render or demand the service from one-fortieth of a knights fee?

After 1290, land could still be transferred by outright sale, gift or trust, but the transfer would not create a new feudal sub-tenancy. Lawyers thus held that no new Manor could be created after 1290 - but legal doctrine did not always align with territorial fact. By the 1270s, the Crown and nobility were also getting seriously worried about the amount of land in the 'dead hand' of the Church as the result of previous generations piety. Such land could not be transferred back into lay ownership, although it could, and was, leased into it. In consequence the Statute of Mortmain in 1279 prevented further transfers of land to the Church unless a fee was paid to the Crown. Because of the statute and the increasing shortage of land caused first by continued population growth until the mid 14th century and secondly by the continued growth of the size of large estates as their number fell, much less land was given - certainly in larger amounts - to the Church between 1300 and 1530.

Again to avoid dissipating landed patrimonies, the use of heiresses' marriages to reward new men became increasingly common. The classic instance of that is Isabella de Clare, the daughter of Earl Richard 'Strongbow', who died in 1176. She was given in marriage by Richard the Lionheart to the notable soldier William Marshal in 1189. He thereupon succeeded in right of his wife to his father-in-laws vast estates in England, Wales, and Ireland, and to his title as Earl of Pembroke. There were two reasons why that strategy became increasingly popular. The first was that it was relatively painless to the arranger, because the estates covered by the marriage were not his by right, but were only a temporary addition to his lands. The second was the biological probability that at least one in five of all families at any social level will fail in the male line within a century. That meant that there would inevitably be a continuing supply of marriageable heiresses with their lands to be disposed of by feudal superiors.

In certain circumstances, the percentage could be higher. If it became the custom to marry heiresses in order to acquire their share of their family lands, which was the case in medieval England as the size of the nobility fell, the genetic combination predisposing the female rather than male births will be passed onto future generations, thus explaining successive failures in the male line. I will give two examples. After the death in 1107 of Robert Fitz Hamon, who had conquered Netherwent in south-east Wales in the reign of William Rufus, Henry I gave Roberts daughter Maud in marriage to one of his own bastard sons, Robert de Caen, who was created Earl of Gloucester in 1122 and died in 1147. When his son, Earl William, died in 1183, his heirs were his three daughters, Mabel, Isabel, and

Amice - two female successions inside a century! That was hardly exceptional.

Robert Fitz Hamons neighbour to the north was Bernard of Neufmarché, who died in 1125 after conquering Brychan and Brycheiniog in east Wales. His heir was his daughter Sybil, whom Henry I gave in marriage in 1121 to his constable and household steward, Miles of Gloucester, who was created Earl of Hereford in 1141. By 1166, Earl Miles' four sons had died childless, leaving their three sisters, Margaret, Bertha and Lucy as heirs. In this case, we are talking about two female successions in 40 years. Margaret's third descended to the Bohuns and Lucys third to the Fitzherberts, but Bertha's share was further divided in 1230 between her four de Braose great-granddaughters, Maud, Isabel, Eleanor, and Eve - three female successions in 110 years. Numerous other examples could be given from Sanders' English Baronies and the serried green volumes of *Complete Peerage*.

I mentioned two medieval statutes, *Quia emptores* and Mortmain. Such statutes originated in the process of consultation between the King and his barons in the Great Council, which had led to Magna Carta in 1215 and which continued in the reigns of Henry III and Edward I, widening to include representatives of the great towns - 'burgesses' - and of the counties - 'knights of the shires' - which coalesced as the House of Commons. The Great Council broadened to include all landed nobles, not just great tenants-in-chief, in the future House of Lords.

The evolution of Parliament was slow, haphazard, and often faltering, as major crises such as the Barons War in the 1260s, the revolt of the 'contrarians' in the 1320s, the struggles of the Appellants under Richard II, and the Wars of the Roses in the 1450s temporarily disrupted good relations between Crown, nobility, and Commons. However, the evolution embodied the developing political consciousness of upper and middling orders as articulate parts of national society, so that law ceased to be if ever had been simply the will of a King who had not consulted his natural advisers. *Magna Carta* notoriously was the outcome of bargaining between King John and his rebellious barons which, although mainly dealing with aristocratic concerns, also guaranteed to all freemen liberty from arbitrary arrest and imprisonment and to all countrymen immunity from confiscation of their ploughteams (their lands - livelihoods).

Henceforth, the making of law - above all, land law - reflected the desires of the landed aristocracy as much as those of the Crown. Rising population during the 13th century put great pressure on land that was either uncultivated or on which there were restrictions on cultivation. In the first category came common land: the Statute of Merton in 1235 directed that commons could be enclosed only with the consent of all Lords and freemen who had rights of commonage. Thereafter, the growing numbers of Acts passed by medieval and later Parliaments - 'stacks of statutes', according to a 16th century lawyer - usually reflected the consensus agreed by the various sectional interests in Parliament that had become an essential part of government under Henry VIII's reign. (See *The House of Lords and The House of Commons*, edited by Robert Smith and myself).

Consensus and cooperation between the landed nobility and the lower orders had become apparent in another aspect in the reigns of King John and his son Henry III. By 1199, about a quarter of the area of England was subject to forest law. Regardless of who held the land, the King's forest officials controlled the hunting of the beasts of the chase, notably red deer and wild boar. They forbade the use of dogs with unclipped - 'unlawed' - claws that could be used to bring down deer. They prevented the break-

ing up of new ground - 'assarting' - and the erection of mills and other buildings - 'purprestures' - that might injure the beasts of the chase. They prohibited the cutting of timber that sheltered them - offences against 'vert' - and opposed all unauthorized hunting - offences against 'venison'.

The end result was to sterilize hundreds of thousands of acres that could be used productively. But the Crown's need for money and the nobility's desire to lead the local population, most of whom were its tenants and dependents, led between 1200 and 1272 to widespread disafforestation, in the legal sense. Entire counties such as Devon, and large parts of others, such as Gloucestershire, east of the River Severn, were 'taken out of the forest' and made available for expanding agriculture, a movement led by the local landholders such as the 'knights and free men of the seven hundreds of Grumbalds Ash', who procured the freeing of South Gloucestershire in 1228. Without the radical reduction in the royal forest, the agricultural expansion of the 13th century would have been curtailed considerably.

Besides female succession, other human circumstances created problems that were impossible to solve under strict feudal law. Very few families in England at any social level in the past tried to limit the number of children born because nature was more than capable of doing the job itself. Infant and child mortality levels were high in all social groups until the 19th century. Usually, in addition to the eldest son, there would be younger sons and daughters, all of whom needed to be brought up and suitably provided for. Clever or clearly unmilitary sons could be directed towards the Church, but that increasingly required education if one was aiming higher than a parson for a local parish church. Gerald of Wales, for example, spent at least 10 years in the 'schools' of France before becoming an archdeacon in Wales. Even if the evolving secular 'common law' or the expanding royal bureaucracy were seen as good avenues for advancement, which they often were, that again necessitated expensive training and the judicious greasing of palms.

Younger sons, even if fit for military service, required lengthy training and equipping with arms, armour, and horses, the cost of which rose continuously between the 12th and 16th centuries. Moreover, war was a chancy business. Success could bring ransoms and booty sufficient to found a new landed family. Failure could mean ruinous ransoms, bringing a family to the brink of bankruptcy. Increasingly, and hardly surprisingly, many of the gentry preferred to keep out of war and become local magistrates, administrators, and estate owners. If younger sons were a problem, daughters were even worse. If they were not to suffer 'disparagement', be forced into a mésalliance with a lawyer or merchant or be consigned to a nunnery, a sufficient 'jointure' or 'portion' had to be found to attract the right class of future husband who would respond with an appropriate dowry. Physically or temperamentally unattractive daughters would require correspondingly higher dowries.

A landed family, therefore, always needed some available hard cash; yet from the 13th to 19th century an average landed estate was thought to be doing well if it yielded a net return of 5 per cent. It was perfectly possible for a landed family to be rich on parchment and yet have little liquid cash available. Much of its regular landed income went on maintaining the noble household and its estates, hospitality, and necessary display. A fortunate marriage to an heiress could radically alter the situation though it could have long-term dangers, as we have just seen.

Equally, a series of widows in succeeding generations or long-lived spinsters could be disastrous - two-thirds left after one widow and 4/9ths left after two widows. In the short run, re

course would be necessary to the Jews until they were expelled from England in 1290 or to English or foreign bankers, but since such loans could not formally be secured on land until the later medieval and early modern period, the interest rate, however disguised, would be high. In default of all else, land sales would be necessary.

Later, medieval lawyers sought means to alleviate such crises, in particular by creating the device known as the 'use'. That was essentially a trust created by agentslawyers, estate officials or relatives to assume control of certain lands as free tenants in place of the estate owner for the benefit of stated purposes dictated by the estate owner. Such uses often took the form of entails to specified groups of people: heirs male; heirs female; or heirs general. The problem with the use was that the feudal superior was likely to lose out by the creation of a long-running use there would be no reliefs, no heriots, no entry fines and no licences to alienate unless he was suitably placated. Of course, the biggest loser was the largest feudal superior, the Crown itself. Once the Crown had recovered from its weakness in the 15th century, the Statute of Uses in 1536 severely restricted the application of the use and the utilisation of the conveyance that set it up - the 'bargain and sale' - and both fell into disfavour as a result.

A further problem arose from the coexistence of Church and State with two separate law codes: the secular common law and the ecclesiastical 'canon law'. While land and 'real property' - rights attached to land such as minerals, growing crops and timber, common rights, fairs and markets and ecclesiastical patronage - came under the former, 'moveable property' - goods and chattels, leasehold rights, debts and probate - were under the purview of canon law administered by church courts whose powers were curtailed only in the 1850s. There were two obvious areas where clashes could occur: tithes were subject in practice to both legal systems, often competing against each other; and wills, though administered by Church courts, nevertheless usually contained the testators directions regarding disposal of his land and other real property. Again, the medieval nobility was trying to get back to the situation of freedom of bequest enjoyed by its Anglo-Saxon predecessors and frequently uses were being employed to set up post-mortem trusts.

Finally, in 1540 the Statute of Wills recognized the right of testators to bequeath 'socage' land - land not held by military service - together with two thirds of land held by knight service. The Crown's potential losses were offset by the creation the same year of a Court of Wards and Liveries designed to maximise the Crown's 'feudal' income, a project that succeeded in the short term, but at the cost of alienating many members of the landed classes in the run up to the Civil War in the 1640s.

The 16th century also saw a radical diminution in the types of tenure: petty serjeantry had already largely disappeared during the 13th century and grand serjeantry was an honorific survival of little significance. Frankalmoign - free alms - tenure, on which much, though not all, monastic land had been held in the Middle Ages, was largely attenuated by the Dissolution of the Monasteries between 1536 and 1540, but was to survive for the lands of bishops and cathedral chapters until the 19th century and for local parish glebe lands until the 20th century.

What remained after 1540 was knight service in an entirely nominal form, socage tenure - free tenure, sometimes with ground rent - and copyhold tenure within Manors, which had been recognized by the royal courts at Westminster in the later 15th century. Knight service lasted until the Civil War because of its financial value to the Crown which, increasingly short of money

in a period of inflation, ever more vigorously exploited its rights of wardship and marriage in a programme dubbed 'fiscal feudalism' by historians. That, because it relied on the royal prerogative, was abrogated during the Civil War and was formally abolished by the Restoration Parliament in 1660. Land held by knight service was merged with socage tenure; copyhold was the only other heritable tenure, frankalmoign - what was left of it - being restricted to official successors in post.

Meanwhile, the rise of the common lawyers produced change in the procedure of the land law itself. English law had never favoured perpetual entails and the later medieval 'use' could be broken by a fictitious suit utilizing 'fine and recovery'. Mortgages had been introduced by 1500, but were short-term - six to 12 months - involving the entire debt and accrued interest that had to be repaid and renegotiated. If there was any default in repayment, however small, the entire property held as security was forfeited to the lenders. Not surprisingly, most borrowers preferred to rely on family, friends or unsecured loans.

By 1600, however, conveyancing lawyers had evolved the doctrine of the 'equity of redemption', so that borrowers were liable only for an outstanding debt with any accrued interest, but retained the surplus amount between the sale value of the land on which the loan had been secured and the debt owed. Mortgages became much safer and more popular, even more so as interest rates on secured loans fell in the late 17th century and remained at low levels until World War Two. London goldsmiths evolved into bankers and stockbrokers willing to lend on security and, given rates of about 5 per cent, it made economic sense for landlords to borrow to finance not only exceptional family expenditure, but estate improvement on a growing scale.

The burgeoning agricultural revolution facilitated the digging of canals and river-navigation schemes, land drainage and diversification into industrial enterprises, especially mining coal and iron, and the construction of ports. However, despite the simplification of land law, with socage and former knight service land becoming absolute freehold, some causes of family insecurity still remained to be addressed. In particular, even if a landowner no longer had to cope with capricious and grasping feudal superiors, how did he guard against capricious, lazy, incompetent or uncaring successors? How could he ensure the transmission of his estate as a functioning unity to his posterity?

The answer to that question was produced by a great conveyancing lawyer, Sir Orlando Bridgeman, during the years of the Cromwellian Protectorate. Effectively, he revived the medieval use and entail in a new form, the strict settlement, which was to dominate the administration of English landed estates until World War One. The landowner created a trust usually comprising himself, his eldest son if of age and of good character, other family members as necessary, the estate lawyer, the estate steward, often his banker, and such others as he chose, who were to hold specified lands on specified trusts with specified powers. That usually included the raising of loans on mortgage, expenditure on specified matters, such as estate administration and improvement, the payment of dower to daughters and widows, and the education of younger sons.

By the 18th century, trustees usually had powers to invest in Bank of England or East India stock. Such a settlement would usually remain in being until the death of the last 'remainderman' or 'remainder-woman', when it would be wound up by consent of the surviving trustees. It was fairly rare and not thought advisable for a settlement to cover a whole estate. Usually, there would be more than one settlement in being at any one time, raised on different parts of an estate usually with

beneficiaries of different generations, even if the general purposes were the same.

By the end of the 18th century, it was thought that two thirds of England's land was 'under settlement' at any one time. It was good practice to have some 'unsettled' land available to meet sudden, unforeseen emergencies or, indeed, unexpected opportunities. Certainly, the system minimized risk and a properly drawn settlement could not usually be broken during its period of operation except by a private Act of Parliament. Since most settlements made alternative arrangements in lieu of the customary dower or 'thirds', dower in its original form became obsolete and was abolished by statute in 1833.

Furthermore, Lord Broughams Act that year abolished the 'final concords', which had existed since Henry II's reign, and the 'recoveries', which had evolved in the later medieval period to arrange and to abolish simple entails, substituting simpler disentailing deeds. Historians believe that the adoption of the strict settlement system was an important factor in re-establishing the ascendancy of the landed aristocracy after the Civil War and ensuring the continuance of the great landed estates during the next two and a half centuries.

Sir Orlando Bridgemans innovation was fortunate in the timing of its appearance: feudal superiority had been in abeyance in England and Wales since the start of the Civil War in 1642 and was, as we have already seen, formally abolished by the Restoration Parliament in 1660. Provided the settlement was within the common law, no superior power could intervene except, as we have noted, Parliament - and then only exceptionally. A new type of conveyance was employed, the 'lease and release', which avoided the restrictions placed on the 'bargain and sale' by the Statute of Uses.

We have all, I suppose, met peers who are selfish, bloody minded, ill-mannered, and anti-social although, in my experience, they are a small minority. I shall not pretend that the actions of the landed aristocracy in the past were never actuated by naked class interest, when they sometimes clearly were. The most obvious example of 'class' legislation were the measures designed to protect private hunting preserves in the 17th and 18th centuries. Until the recent prohibition of fox hunting, the arrogant disregard too often shown by hunters for other peoples property rights - such as following foxes on to private land, destroying fences, damaging crops and livestock in areas where they had no legal right to be - was a flashpoint in rural social relations, even where hunting as such was approved or at least tolerated.

However, in general, the law of property was accepted by most people, propertied or unpropertied, because it was the law. It had been enacted by their representatives in Parliament, and it benefited all. The same law of property was part of a law that protected dukes and dustmen. As William Pitt the Elder stated in a debate in 1763, The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the force of the Crown. It may be frail; its roof may shake; the wind may blow through it; the rain may enter but the King of England cannot enter; all his forces dare not cross the threshold of the ruined tenement. The law, including the law of property, that protected the landed aristocracy against Stuart absolutism, also guarded the poor against arbitrary interference by their so-called betters.

As we have seen, the abolition of feudal tenure in 1660 left absolute freehold as the only system of permanent land law for the upper and middle classes in England and Wales. Leasehold continued, but as a necessarily time-limited form of tenure. The freedoms to settle land and to bequeath land meant that primo-

geniture no longer needed to be a necessary rule of descent: its function to ensure the passing of landed estates as intact units could be attained by other means. Equally, means were then available to meet the problems posed by those who had been excluded by primogeniture, especially younger sons and daughters.

At lower social levels, however, copyhold tenure remained and was administered in thousands of manorial courts that still survived. Despite its antique language, tenure 'at the will of the Lord', for example, in the last resort was protected by royal courts as it had been since the later 15th century. Effectively, it was freehold in all but name. Copyhold land could be bought, sold, given, bequeathed or held in trust. It was subject to the payment of rent - at levels fixed mostly in the 13th century and not capable of being increased - to heriots on death, and to reliefs on succession or entry fines on purchase or bequest, again at levels long fixed by custom. Other services, apart from serving on manorial juries, had withered away. Its main disadvantage was that any transfer of tenure usually had to take place in a manorial court, which effectively acted as a local land registration system, although even that requirement could be circumvented.

Finally, after an incomplete Act in 1922, the Law of Property Act 1925 arranged for copyhold tenure to be enfranchised, compensation being paid to manorial Lords for the ending of money rents over time. Because of the onset of World War Two, copyhold was finally extinguished in 1950. Nine centuries after the Norman Conquest, the revolution of 1066, the legal wheel had turned full circle: absolute freehold was again the rule.

*John Moore is a member of the Governing Council of the Manorial Society with oversight of academic affairs.*



# A CASE STUDY OF MANORIAL RIGHTS

by Jeremy Ackroyd FRICS

Jeremy Ackroyd FRICS (Ackroyd and Harrison, Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents): I am afraid the subject title of 'Severed manorial minerals in Cumbria' is a bit of a mouthful, but it involves some rich and interesting historical research. There is also a real possibility of making some money. For those who want to go to sleep now, I will bang the table when it is time to talk about the money side—it will be towards the end.

There is quite a lot to get through, so I will take questions at the end if I may. I speak as a chartered surveyor and not as a lawyer. I am certainly not a retired Law Lord. The reason why I am doing this talk is that about 18 months or two years ago my firm was instructed by four Cumbrian landowners who were becoming increasingly concerned about their severed minerals miles away from their landed estates. What should they do now with the proposed changes in the law, they asked? Between them, my clients own about 70 Manors scattered throughout the county and North Yorkshire. This talk is based on the review and what we found, and what my clients are doing now after the challenges in the Land Registration Act 2002.

Some landowners have hundreds of Manors within their estates, but my talk is primarily aimed at those members who have just one or two Manors with minerals attached. What is the definition of 'severed'? 'Severed' just has the ordinary meaning: that the surface land and the underlying minerals are in separate ownerships. The law is complex and that is because over the years the Courts have tried hard to balance the directly competing interests of the mineral owner and the surface owner. Members can imagine the conflict.

The surface owner wants to retain whatever is on the surface and the mineral owner wants to quarry the minerals and thereby destroy the surface. The situation could be no more black and white than that. The Courts over the years have tried to be fair to both parties.

I will discuss the following: why the review has been undertaken; where the legal interest in severed minerals originates; what has been found in the review to date; the research and the historical researchers, who are all working hard; Counsel's advice on the Enclosure Acts and awards; Counsel's advice on the research we have done in respect of copyhold minerals; an update on the mineral disputes with a cost-benefit analysis; and a summary for members undertaking research into severed minerals for the first time.

Why are the reviews being undertaken by my four clients in Cumbria? The medium-term aim is for the clients to register all their landed estates and the severed minerals with the Land Registry. They are doing so for cheaper conveyancing—my lawyer friends tell me that if one has a registered estate and sells it, the conveyancing costs could be 35 to 40 per cent cheaper than if it were unregistered—to stop claims for adverse possession; and to stop others from interfering with our severed minerals.

The Land Registration Act 2002 was the catalyst for the four clients coming to my firm for advice. As we all know, unless the severed minerals are registered by 13 October 2013 registration will not be possible thereafter.

Another reason for this work was the increasing number of developments in the semi-uplands throughout Cumbria since the 1990s, which required reasonably deep foundations and site levelling within the severed minerals. Such developments consist of telecommunication aerials, wind farms, and small landfill sites. We have always had telecommunication aerials in Cumbria, but there was a big surge in their number from the mid-1990s onwards. The question is whether the developments are interfering with my clients' minerals.

The starting point was where does the legal interest originate for the minerals? In Cumbria there are three main sources. The first is enclosed common land—minerals reserved to the Lord in enabling Acts and enclosure awards during the period of the statutory enclosures. In Cumbria these started in the 1760s and the latest one I have seen was from about 1864. The enclosure movement came quite late to the semi-uplands in Cumbria due to the generally poor quality farming land. That had advantages, because by 1820 the lawyers were more up to speed and the legalese is easier to understand. Enabling Acts also tended to be printed as opposed to being in script. The whole exercise is a lot easier compared with examining documents before the mid-1700s.

Secondly there are severed minerals reserved to the Lord in private agreements to enclose common land. In my experience, such agreements date from about the 1500s and continue until the 1870s.

Thirdly, there are minerals under former copyhold land which are reserved to the Lord in an enfranchisement agreement with the copyholder or under the Law of Property Act 1922.

I have recently seen, for the first time, an actual agreement between the Lord and 14 commoners to enclose part of the common land. It is dated 1686. It is on vellum and the 14 commoners put their cross on the tags at the bottom. Their initials were on the tags, they crossed the appropriate tag and the minerals were reserved. The agreement related to the common land in a Manor south of Carlisle: it gave consent to the commoners to enclose the land which was then leased from the Lord. That is the first such agreement that I have seen, and the researcher said that it has hardly ever been opened and is as good as new.



As we have heard, there are problems for the Lord in entering and working minerals under former copyhold land. By about 1500, almost all villein land had been turned into copyhold, and tenants had pretty secure tenure as long as they paid the periodic fines to the Lord of the Manor. Those fines were mostly fixed by 'custom' as the late medieval mind had not grasped the concept of inflation. As time passed, the fine became proportionately smaller in real terms. The expression 'copyhold' originates from the tenant's attendance at the manorial court, and receiving confirmation of his tenancy by copy of the court roll from the Lord of the Manor or his stewards.

From about this time, the Lord had no automatic right to enter the copyhold tenement and work the minerals as the copyholder possessed the land. The Lord had the legal interest in the minerals, but he could not enter without the copyholder's consent. However, in some West Cumbrian Manors it was the custom of the Manor—in this part of Cumbria there are a lot of mineral rights with minerals near the surface—for the Lord to enter the copyholders' land, dig up the minerals, and restore the surface without requiring the consent of the copyholder. In my experience, proving a custom of the Manor is difficult, but a custom of the Manor is established law with the appropriate evidence.

The documentary evidence of custom does not seem to exist for my clients' Manors; I have carried out this review over the last 18 months and have come across little. The trouble is that all the 'old boys' who used to be able to remember the custom of the Manor are long since dead. But Mike Westcott-Rudd told me after his talk that he has seen custom recited in indentures (old conveyances) and enfranchisement agreements.

With the creation of copyhold tenements in the early 1500s, Lords and copyholders have been agreeing terms for copyholders to enfranchise their land by paying a capital sum to the Lord, copyholders rid themselves of the manorial dues and liabilities. But in Cumbria, it is common that these new 'freemen' continued to pay one shilling a year to the Lord, and we have found this very helpful in proving title to land and minerals which were previously under copyhold tenure.

In enfranchisement agreements, it was normal for the Lord to reserve the minerals and, sometimes, the specific right to work them, though not always.

The Law of Property Act 1922 did not give any additional rights to the Lord for access to work minerals through statutory enfranchisement. However, we have many compensation agreements under this Act where the agent, probably out of deference from the ex-copyholder, managed to have the right to work included. In a standard compensation agreement of this

sort the agent has included the words 'reserving the Mines and Minerals with power to work and remove the same and subject to the Exceptions and Reservations contained in any Enfranchisement or Grant affecting the said premises'.

This agent wrote to the client's London solicitors on 22 January 1926—22 days after the statutory provision came into force. He said, 'We have been in the habit of reserving the power to work in our compensation agreements where the landowner did not object. But some wide awake owners have objected, and we could not insist on the reservation.' I have seen hundreds of standard printed compensation agreement forms under Section 138 of the Law of Property Act 1922. I understand that ex-copyholders had to have a receipt from the Lord before they could sell their land as freehold.

For those interested in the history of villeinage and how villeins obtained 'security of tenure' and became copyholders, I can recommend a book called *Copyhold Equity and the Common Law* by Charles Montgomery Gray (Harvard University Press 1963). If a modern-day politician tells you, 'We invented security of tenure for all those poor tenants at the top of those tower blocks', don't believe him. According to Charles Montgomery Gray's book, security for copyholders commenced in the latter part of Henry VII's reign, with many successful cases in the Tudor Chancery Court.

In the two-year review, we have found numerous reservations of minerals in Enclosure Acts and awards in south Cumbria. We also found a strong mineral reservation/exception in the enabling Acts that granted the bedrock and the stone within the subsoil to the Lord. In addition, there was a full right to work. This means that the surface owners' rights are limited to the turf and the topsoil, together with the right to remove stone for agricultural buildings and walls. All this was found in family estate documents and in county record offices.

We went on to identify various surface developments directly affecting the reserved minerals which is where things became interesting. We found an unlawful greenfield quarry excavating grit stone, which was reserved to one of my clients in an Enabling Act dated 1837. It was leased to a national quarry company and the surface owner was doing well from the royalty payments. We also found three unlawful telecommunication aerials penetrating the minerals, and a wind farm.

In South Cumbria, there is a large mast, used by three telecommunication companies. A security fence is in place, and there are blocks of limestone which must have been removed during construction. The important point is that the tower has been constructed with no authority to disturb the minerals. A landowner can only disturb minerals for agricultural purposes. We shall have an interesting time attempting to resolve this interference and I think that the evidence is quite strong in our favour.

I am aware that a huge wind farm is being constructed in North Wales. The turbines will be 350 metres high. I do not know who owns the subsoil or the minerals, but *prima facie* if they are severed from the surface someone should be able to sustain a claim for interference—if



they have not already done so. If members find that sort of thing on their Manors, I suggest they do something about it.

To prove our claims, much depends on historical researchers. I have two employed on a part-time basis. There are about 70 Manors to assess. The first task was to produce a composite Manors plan, so that we knew exactly where they all are and how they fit in with each Lord/landowner. Fortunately, my clients possess numerous old estate plans, which include the manorial boundaries, so there is no need to start at the beginning by producing manorial boundary plans from the original descriptions of the boundaries/perambulations of each Manor.

In extracts from the composite Manors' plan, we have numbered all the Manors. Once the plan was produced, the researchers' job was to go to the Cumbria Record Offices—there is one in Kendal and another in Carlisle. They studied the Enabling Acts and awards, and transcribed the boundary information onto Ordnance Survey maps.

The job of transcribing the inclosed common land on to a 1:25000 Ordnance Survey map is not the most difficult of tasks and such a person will cost about £12 to £14 an hour.

One researcher is in charge of looking at the minerals under former copyhold land. She is highly qualified with an MA in museum studies and understands the law. Her first task was to research copyhold minerals adjacent to existing quarries, on the basis that these may be expanded in the short term. Once that is under way, her second task will be to research title to copyhold minerals in Manors where there are existing commercial minerals, and where there is potential in the next 100 years or so for quarrying to take place (planning policies permitting).

Researching title to minerals under former copyhold land can be expensive and we were selective. If we had 10 researchers looking at copyhold title in 70 Manors for the next 10 years, I do not think that we would get to the bottom of it. It is a massive task and we have only eight years remaining in which to register.

An interesting point is that from a parliamentary inquiry in the 1780s, it was estimated that about 60 per cent of lowlands and semi-uplands were in copyhold tenure. We had a geological report prepared by local geologists. In Cumbria, Solway Firth is sandstone; and limestone and grit stone are found in mid and south Cumbria. There are quite a lot of quarries there. The grit stone runs north-east to south-west, but it is variable in quality. At the moment, we are not going to research my clients' minerals within the national park.

We have to take a decision on whether the shale and sandstone between the coal seams will be registered. It is worth going to look at an open-cast coal mine if you get the opportunity—there are not many left in Cumbria; unlike chalk, coal does not come in a 100-foot-tall seam but in narrow bands, and between them there is shale and sandstone. When coal was nationalized by the Government in 1947 the other minerals between the coal seams were not normally included, unless they were part of a coal mining lease which was also acquired at vesting.

Since the semi-privatization of the working of coal, the new Coal Authority now says, 'Fine, here is the licence Mr Operator. You can dig that coal up but you

have to treat with the owner of the 'severed' minerals within the coal'. A more open market has now developed, and five years ago some of my clients were receiving royalty payments of £2 to £4 a tonne of coal mined in consideration of the destruction of my clients' 'severed' minerals within the coal seams. Such a royalty is quite useful for estate finances, but it cannot be obtained at the moment because the world price of coal is relatively low, although it is increasing. In Cumbria, where the coal is high in sulphur, I cannot see the market paying that royalty again for some time.

Having carried out all the research and gaining all this information, it was time to obtain opinions from Counsel. He advised that the Enclosure Acts clearly awarded the minerals to the Lord, my clients, and the reservations included the minerals in the subsoil plus the right to work. This means that any surface development that is not simply *de minimis*, but relatively substantial, and which is not for agricultural purposes on inclosed common land, is a trespass for which damages are recoverable. That is based on the same principle that applies to trespass of air space, which is actionable without proof of damage—see *Anchor Brewhouse Development Ltd v. Berkeley House (Docklands Developments) Ltd* 1987; and, for those who read the *Estates Gazette*, the same principles were applied in a similar case in the High Court in Leeds in June 2004: *Laiqat v. Majid and others*.

The level of damages should be assessed on the user or 'way leave' principle. A person who has wrongfully used another's property is liable to pay as damages a reasonable sum for the wrongful use, as in the Court of Appeal case: *Stoke-on-Trent City Council v. W & J Wass Ltd* 1988.

Counsel thought that the open market rent or royalty for the telecommunications aerial, wind farm or other development should be split 50/50 between the surface owner and the mineral owner where substantial interference could be shown. I think that the development in Case Law over the past 15 to 20 years has been extremely helpful to owners of 'severed' minerals who suffer interference from unlawful developments on the surface.

We have also been busy looking at potential copyhold minerals, especially under land adjacent to a sand and gravel quarry in north Cumbria. We searched dozens of boxes of documents to prove title, at a cost of £6,500, and she produced a report, with all the relevant documents attached. Counsel believes that a case based on this work is likely to succeed in Court.

I now have some very interesting negotiations with a national quarry company currently working the sand and gravel quarry. Most of the national quarry companies will take such claims 'on the chin', but I find telecommunication aerial companies are not at all happy at receiving a claim informing them that they do not have the required permission from my clients for the foundations of their masts to interfere with the 'severed' minerals.

You will need to produce documents showing title the reserved assets, such as minerals, under copyhold land. In the case of a quarry, we have been able to demonstrate this from 1587 by searching through the estate papers. None of the copyholds had been enfranchised at any time, including at the time of the

statutory enfranchisements—1 January 1926, when the Lords could—some did—agree to enfranchise their minerals, selling their mineral rights to the copyholders.

We went through grants and re-grants of the copyhold land from 1672 to 1938. That was a serious detective exercise. Very helpful as a starting point was a book *A Perambulation of Cumberland* by Thomas Denton, first published in 1688, and republished in 2004 by the Surtees Society. It is well worth checking at the county record office, or at the British Library, for such books before you start on the old documents. They can give useful pointers and save much time.

We worked through a long series of rental and call books, the earliest dating from 1587. In 1672, the enfranchisement agreements show that the copyholders purchased many of the feudal liabilities, but that the minerals were reserved to the Lord of the Manor. Although the copyholders were now free from the payment of feudal dues and liabilities under the 1672 agreement, they remained freemen in the Manor and liable to the shilling-a-year fine. This was important, as with this fine, we were able to trace the names in the books all the way through to 1939 when the final entry showed the now ex-copyholders had paid the required compensation to the Lord on the abolition of copyhold tenure under the 1922 Act.

You must be prepared to pay your researcher and be patient. They sit in county record offices and look through box after box, knowing that their fees are mounting, but find nothing for their client. Then, finally, they find the right document which leads to a breakthrough.

The principles of adverse possession do not apply where the minerals are severed from the ownership of the surface land. But the Courts do apply these principles where a trespasser works a quarry for 12 years: he will gain possessory title to the minerals which he has occupied and worked over this period. This can sometimes entail the trespasser gaining a valuable 'ransom strip' to the remainder of the Lord's mineral reserve.

The right of the surface owner of former copyhold land to interfere with the Lord's minerals is found in Schedule 12(6) of the Law of Property Act 1922. It gives the current surface owner the right to disturb the Lord's minerals as is 'necessary or convenient' for the purposes of making roads or drains, erecting buildings and obtaining water on the land. Buildings, in my view, do not include wind farms or telecommunication aerials. But what you can claim from surface development on copyhold land is obviously limited.

Three of my clients use Dickinson Dees, solicitors of Newcastle, for advice on landed property. The firm is highly experienced in advising on rural estate matters and is one of few firms who are experienced in manorial mineral law. The firm has now made three applications to the Land Registry for registration of 'severed' minerals under enclosed common lands in nine Manors. Again, that is all now subject to Counsel's opinion being obtained by the Land Registry, to which Mike Westcott-Rudd referred yesterday.

We have sent Counsel's opinion to three unlawful developers seeking to agree terms for them to retain their apparatus within the severed minerals or to remove it. One operator has removed an aerial.

We are obviously trying to obtain repossession of the 'greenfield' quarry. That case may be heard in the High Court; writs have been served but the good news is that, in September 2005, we heard that the surface owner may not put in a defence to the action. If he confirms this position we will need to sort out the compensation and royalty payments for the past six years.

My overall advice depends on whether the opinion sought by the Land Registry on mineral registration is favourable and if so I would encourage you to register your 'severed' minerals with the Land Registry. You must know what you own before any surface development commences. Negotiating to right the wrong after the development has started is time-consuming, costly, and frustrating for everyone.

The cost of the research and negotiations: surveyors and legal fees for the 'greenfield' quarry on enclosed common land are about £16,000, but we should have royalties of £75,000 a year. I reckon that we have spent £5,000 on the wind farm, but we should receive about £9,000 a year. We have spent £5,000 on three telecommunication aerials, and we should achieve rental payments in the region of about £9,500 a year.

The mineral rights under the former copyhold land in north Cumbria have been expensive to research and deal with: £15,000 has been spent to date, but as my client has no working rights we will need to do a deal with the surface owner. The royalties will be in the region of £60,000 a year., but we will have to go 50/50 with the surface owner, so that takes it down to £30,000 a year. For the four clients, that is a total of about £125,000 a year and very roughly a total value of about £1.1 million.

Those figures are quite encouraging, but it all depends on the wording in the Enabling Acts reserving the minerals in the first instance. The evidence has to be strong; if not, the Court will throw it out. Always remember the Court has to balance the interests of the mineral owner and the surface owner.

For those who have to carry out research into their Manors for the first time, my overall advice is to start your research now. You do need strong documentary evidence; if you do not have it, you will not get anywhere. You certainly will not win much against the telecommunication aerial people; they will just politely tell you to go away.

You will require a map of the Manor. If you do not have one, you will need to find an historical description of the boundary of the Manor. We have all learned at this conference that there should be plenty of documentary evidence available, and from this evidence you may be able to find enough evidence to prepare a map. My advice is that if there is no map or historical description, you will probably be wasting your money. If you can obtain a map showing minerals in your Manor, or you have one made, find out whether the minerals have a commercial value and whether they are relatively near the surface and near a road. Ask a local geologist. If you wanted to do it absolutely free of charge, you could talk to your county mineral planning officer: they are often very helpful.

You may want to hire a competent researcher to do the initial research. One of the problems that I found is that there is a dearth of good historical researchers in the

north. If anyone is thinking of a new career, this could be it. Historical researchers will soon be in great demand. If you are successful with your research, register with the Land Registry.

A point about the physical extent of enclosed land in England: first, I refer to a map that comes from Professor H C Darby's book published in 1938, *The Historical Geography of England before 1800*. He took the map from Dr G Slater's paper 'The English Peasantry and the Enclosure of Common Fields' of 1907. The map shows the vast extent of common fields that were enclosed from the start of statutory enclosure movement in the mid 1700s. My view is that, for 90 per cent of the land, the minerals will have been reserved the Lord of the Manor. That does not include common land which was also enclosed, so there is a lot to go for.

If you get to know where your minerals are and get them registered, you can be even more proactive. To protect your minerals, send your manorial map to the local planning authority and the county mineral people. I have done that for clients. The local authority will be pleased to receive your manorial map because if it receives a planning application for a new quarry, officials will check the map and inform you and the potential developers of your interest in the subsoil.

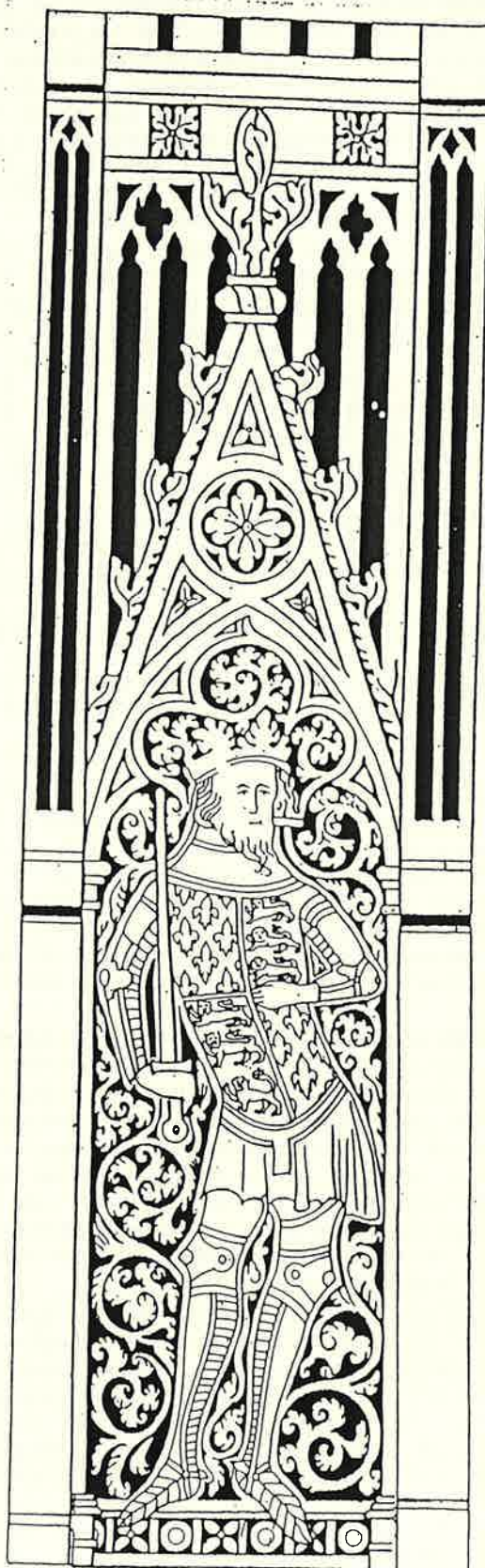
Planning committee agendas can now be viewed on the internet. Planning applications for minerals tend to be on the agenda for six or seven months, if not longer and there is time to make your objections and signal your rights.

How do you know if the proposed or existing surface development will prejudice or is prejudicing your 'severed' minerals? The easiest way is to go to the site and, if it is not obvious, get a spade and dig a hole. If it is more than 2 feet deep, get a JCB. If you own the severed minerals, you should have the right of search, but if you are going to use a JCB, do inform the surface owner. I have found that surface owners are not unhappy if you do not do much damage; just carefully scrape away the grass and put it to one side, dig the hole and take a photograph. And get a local geologist to accompany you and to write up a geological description.

Enfranchisement agreements freeing copyholders of manorial liabilities exist in their thousands in the Cumbria Record Offices. They were neatly written from about 1770 in copperplate script, but very few such agreements have a plan attached showing the land. Your researcher will need to transcribe the description of the copyhold property onto a modern Ordnance Survey map.

I am continually surprised by the wealth and extent of documents that have been deposited in the county record offices over the years. There is a reasonable chance of finding historical records for your Manor. Remember that in 1900, 90 per cent of all agricultural land in England and Wales was tenanted and formed part of a small or large agricultural estate. Many estate documents will have survived.

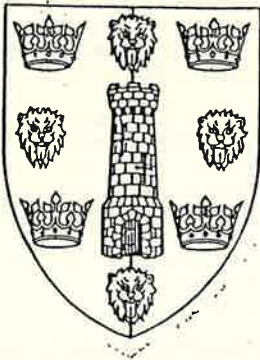
**The Chairman:** Jeremy Ackroyd's instructive talk concludes another Annual Conference. In acting for a number of Cumbria clients, he has brought home to us, at the practical level, the crucial importance of doing your research first, the principal theme throughout all the papers this weekend. It is no use saying, 'Well, I am



# HOW TO WRITE A DESCENT OF A MANORIAL LORD

The following is a descent of a Manorial Lord, whose title has been thoroughly researched and recorded.

## Rand of Lynford



### RAND Gerald Frederick

b 10 November 1926 s of William Frederick Rand (d 1960) of Herts and Elsie Mary White (d 1926). Educated Merchant Taylor's. Married 1stly 13 July 1949 Eileen Margaret, dau of William Alexander Wilson (d 1975) of Herts 1 son Steven born 1953. 2ndly 1 November 1972 Clarissa Elizabeth, dau of Thomas William Barker (d 1956) of Hull. Landowner and master builder, ret; Chairman Rand Contractors Ltd 1952-68, MD Power Plant Int 1962-71, Chmn Manor Minerals (UK) Ltd 1985-; elected to Société Jersaise 1967, member governing council The Manorial Society of Great Britain 1985, regional Chairman Domesday National Committee 1986, member of Country Landowners Association; owner of the Lynford Hall Estate Norfolk; Lord of the Manor of: Lynford, Mundford, Cranwich Norfolk. Mr Rand bought Lynford Hall in 1970 and five years later bought the Lordship of the Manor of Lynford and the adjoining Manors of Mundford, Cranwich, and West Tofts. Mr Rand has carefully restored the house which he now runs as an hotel and country club. Lynford Hall is also the setting for the television series 'Allo 'Allo.

One of the most engaging of Mr Rand's predecessors at Lynford was George Osbaldeston, nominated informally by Queen Victoria as "Squire of all England". Squire Osbaldeston was Master of the Burton Hunt and became the mentor of Sir Richard Sutton (3rd Bt) in 1809 when Sutton was a mere lad of 10 years. Sir Richard was heir to vast estates throughout Britain and after he inherited the Pultney Estates in London and Bath in 1812 from his step-father Sir James Murray Pultney, became one of the richest men in England next to the King. Upon his coming-of-age in 1820 he also inherited the family estates in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and various properties in London. Sutton became Master of the Burton, The Quorn, The Cottessmore Hunts and followed in the steps of Osbaldeston to be one of the finest shots in the kingdom. In 1824, Sutton founded the Great Lynford Hall Estate (7,718a 2r 37p) and the Estate became one of the finest sporting estates in England. He had purchased Lynford Hall (1717-1863) and in the same year purchased Mundford, Cranwich, and West Tofts and part of Colveston. Osbaldeston made Lynford his "second home" where he

Walter Rand, b 21 Nov 1855 = Clara Preston, b 6 Nov 1876  
died 10 March 1915

William Frederick Rand of Hertfordshire = Elsie Mary White, died 1926

Gerald Frederick Rand of Lynford = (1) Eileen Margaret, daughter of William Alexander Winson of Hertfordshire (d 1975)  
(2) Clarissa Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas William Barker of Hull

(1)

Stephen William Rand, b 29 January 1953

entertained shooting parties each season until his death on 22 November 1855. An extract from Sir Richard's Game Book (now in the possession of Commander Jack Sutton) for 13 August 1832 on the Lynford Estate includes the following guns: Sir R Sutton, Sir Phillip Musgrave, Mr Osbaldeston, Mr C Chaplin, The Duke of Rutland who shot 309 pheasants, 104 hares, 62 rabbits, and seven woodcocks. Lynford was Sutton's favourite Estate and he is buried in a Tomb in St Marys Church, West Tofts, which would do justice to a Monarch. The Lynford Hall Estate was purchased by Stephen Lyne-Stephens in 1856 from Sir Richard's executors and William Burn was commissioned to design and build the present Hall in July 1857. In 1862, the house was completed and Madame Lyne-Stephens (Pauline Duvernay) moved in. The old mansion was demolished in 1863. Osbaldeston having established a connection with Pauline (Yolande Marie Louise) continued to visit Lynford as her guest (her husband Stephen Lyne-Stephens died in 1860) until his death in 1866. A suite in the present Hall bears his name to this day. History repeated itself at Lynford when in 1905 Frederick James Osbaldeston Montague of Ingmanthorpe bought the Lynford Hall Estate from Henry Alexander Campbell Esq of Grantully Castle, Perthshire, and Penninghame House, Newton Stewart. Montagu's father married into the Osbaldeston family and Ben Marshall's famous portrait of George Osbaldeston "A First Rate Shot" took pride of place hung in the central archway of the grand stair case until 1925, when Montagu sold the Estate. The portrait is now in the possession of George Montagu Esq, Cannes, South of France, and has been restored in recent years. In 1990, history repeated itself at Lynford when a descendant of the great Squire stayed at Lynford and a "Mr Osbaldeston" was once again in residence!

LORDS OF THE MANOR OF LYNFORD, NORFOLK - 1064 to the Present

The first Molety (Bigods Manor)

Alstan the Saxon - 1064

Richard de Rising - 1080 (Overlord, Roger Bigod or Bigot, Earl of Norfolk)

Alstan the Son - 1092

Stanart - 1133

Stanart the Son - 1177

John Cosyn - 1218

Thomas de Lynford - 1222

Margaret Cosyn - 1270

Stephen de Lynford - 1285

Ansius son of Roger of Cressingham Magna - 1305

John de Cressingham and Maud his wife - 1310

Walter Gyzun and Catherine his wife - 1318

Walter de Constantinople alias le Goldsmith and Catherine his wife in tail - 1330

Will Longstaff - 1347

Thomas de Cressingham - 1372

William Gossen - 1386

Sir John Clifton Kt, of Buckenham Castle - 1412

Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk - 1429

John Briggs of Quidenham - 1450

The Prior and Convent of St Mary in Thetford - (vide infra) 1460

The Second Molety (Giffards Manor)

Alstan the Saxon - 1064

Richard de Rising - 1080 (Overlord, Walter Giffard, Earl of Buckingham)

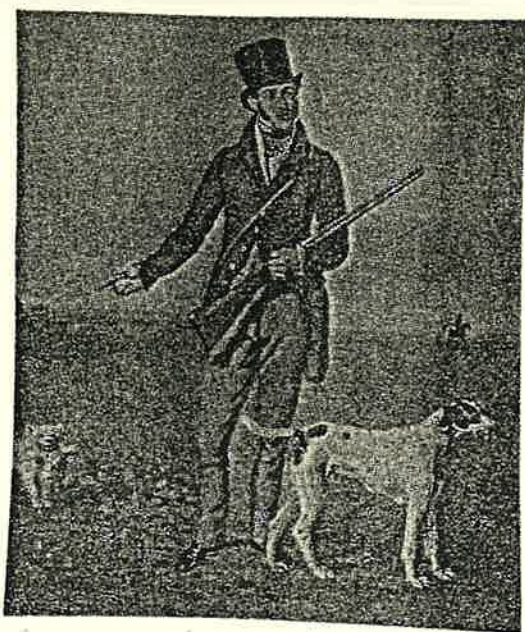
Alstan the Son - 1092

Jeffry de Lynford - 1133

John Thomas de Lynford - 1180

John Thomas de Lynford - 1222

Richard de Clare, 6th Earl of Hertford and 2nd Earl of Gloucester, Lord of Clare who was a



George Osbaldeston of Lynford

direct descendant of Geoffrey, natural son of Richard I, Duke of Normandy - 1260

Jordan Foliot - 1287

Hugh de Audley, Baron Audley, married Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and widow of Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, favourite of Edward II. He was created Earl of Gloucester in 1337 by Edward III - 1320

John le Spicer - 1347

Stephen Baldwyn - 1360

John le Camoys - 1380

William Baldwyn, Lord of the Manor of Clare - 1391

Richard Gegge - 1402

Richard Gegge the Son - 1431

The Prior and Convent of St Mary in Thetford - 1460. By whom the two moieties were purchased for Eight Score Marks

Thomas, Duke of Norfolk (*vide* Norfolk, Dukedom) - 1541

King Edward VI - 1547

Richard Fulmerston - 1549

Sir Edward Clere, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth during a Royal progress to Norwich; was father of Henry, 1st Baronet of Ormesby, Norfolk (*exti*) - 1570

Phillip, Earl of Arundel (*vide* Norfolk, Dukedom) - 1581

Francis Moundeford of Feltwell - 1594

Sir Edward Moundeford, 1st of Lynford Hall - 1603

Sir Edward Moundeford, 2nd of Lynford Hall - 1640

Dame Abigail Steward of Morley and Elizabeth Hobart of 3rd Lynford Hall - 1643

Sir John Manwood (26 May for £1,500) 4th of Lynford Hall and Harlington, Kent - 1652

Dorothy Lady Manwood (née Moundeford) 5th of Lynford Hall - 1653

Charles Turner, Attorney-at-Law, 6th of Lynford Hall - 1671

Charles Turner 7th of Lynford Hall, created a Baronet (1727 as Turner of Warham, *exti*) married Mary, sister of Sir Robert Walpole KG, 1st Prime Minister - 1690

James Nelthorpe Esquire 8th of Lynford Hall, married Anne, daughter of James Hoste of Sandringham, 1741 - 1717

James Nelthorpe Esquire, 9th of Lynford Hall - 1760

George Nelthorpe Esquire, 10th of Lynford Hall - 1775

George Robert Eyres Esquire, 11th of Lynford Hall - 1805

John William Drage Merest Esquire, 12th of Lynford Hall - 1811

Sir Richard Sutton Bt, 13th of Lynford Hall - 1824

Stephen Lyne-Stephens Esquire, 14th of Lynford Hall - 1856

Madame Yolande Marie Louise Lyne-

Stephens, 15th of Lynford Hall - 1860

Henry Alexander Campbell Esquire, 16th of Lynford Hall and Grandtully Castle, Scotland - 1899

Capt Frederick James Osbaldeston Montagu MCJP, 17th of Lynford Hall - 1905

William Abel Towler Esquire of Littleport, Cambridgeshire, 18th of Lynford Hall - 1924

Henry William Game Esquire of Burwell, Cambridgeshire, 19th of Lynford Hall - 1925

Robert Holmes Edleston and Sarah Alice Cumming Edleston of Gainford, Co Durham, 20th of Lynford Hall - 1925

Richard John Hanby-Holmes Esquire of London, Lord of Lynford, but not owner of the Hall - 1969

Gerald Frederick Rand Esquire, 21st of Lynford Hall, the present Lord

*Arms:* Per pale gules and azure in orle four crowns and as many leopards' heads alternating or within the same a tower argent masoned proper in its portal a door opening inwards gold

*Crest:* A helm with a wreath or gules and azure a crown issuing therefrom and supported between two mail gauntlets argent a boars head erect gules muzzled and tusked or in the mouth an oak sprig frucked gold

*Motto:* Fortiter et Recte

*Style:* Gerald Rand Esquire, Lord of Lynford

## A note on Coinage

IN THE following Particulars will be found numerous references to coins and monetary values. Apart from the pound sterling, which survives, all other names and values have disappeared, particularly since Britain adopted the decimal system in 1971. Domesday in particular is full of monetary terms now unknown, such as shillings, pence, marks and so forth. Because of this and also in response to requests from some clients, we give a summary of British coinage from the earliest times. This information is extracted from the Catalogue to the V&A Gothic Exhibition and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

**Ancient Britain:** *circa* 2nd century BC - small pieces of bronze alloy with 20% tin, circulating in southern England. These coins copied the bronze Massilia (Marseille) from Gaul (modern France). Gold coins, based on the *stater* of Philip II, King of Macedonia - father of Alexander the Great - in the 4th century BC, have also been found by archaeologists and originated with the Gaulish Bellovaci, a tribe at Beauvais, Normandy. These must have been used for trade. After the raid by Julius Caesar in 55-54BC, English coins were minted by British chiefs on the Roman model. Even after the Claudian conquest of AD43, English 'mints' continued long under Roman rule in the West Country.

**Anglo-Saxon** (*circa* 450-1066): Trade with France in the 6th century prompted the issue of Anglo-Saxon 'thirds' in the 7th century. The principal mints were at London and Canterbury, capital of the kingdom of Kent. Christian influence and conversion of pagan kings and their subjects, besides bringing the written word - and with it the first written laws, thus beginning to make permanent the English 'state' - came many Roman conceptions of government and civilization, including coinage which begins to reflect royal authority with the 'king's head' on the obverse side. Gold coinage was expensive and gave way to silver *circa* 650. At the same time, Anglo-Saxon chiefs set themselves up as kings in different parts of England, especially Wessex, Mercia, and Northumbria, all with their own mints. By the reign of Athelstan (924-39), King of (most of) England, there were about 30 mints, although the Danes, who settled in the North also minted coins. By the beginning of the 11th century, there were 70 mints, main ones being London, Winchester, Lincoln, and York, who produced uniform coins: obverse, king's head; reverse: some cruciform design.

Gold and silver coins were not in general circulation and Offa's gold ryal was possibly minted to pay Romescot (the tax payable to the pope). Gold and silver were required in great quantity in the ninth and tenth centuries to pay off the Danish invaders, and an indication of England's wealth is that such large sums were available and the kings of England's authority great enough that amounts as large as £30,000 were collected. Most people on the Manor would probably have never seen any kind of coin, and certainly not have owned one, and their 'buying and selling' would have been of goods and labour. The amounts given in Domesday Book are units of account, probably based on produce, not on actual money, a situation that probably obtained in the country until the 17th century when James I minted the first copper penny, half-penny, and farthing (a quarter of a penny) and which latter existed until 1948. Forgery was a constant problem, as was coin-clipping, shaving edges of gold and silver coins. Henry I maimed and executed fraudulent moneyers, we learn from the first Pipe Roll of 1122. Counterfeiting still car-

ries one of the heaviest sentences that English courts can impose. Not only is it dishonest, but an affront to the State. The cross on the reverse was extended to the edge to discourage clipping, but the matter was not finally dealt with until the reign of Queen Anne at the beginning of the 18th century when milled coin edges were inset with the words *decus et tutamen* (for decoration and security) which was revived in the 1980s when the pound sterling ceased to be paper and became a base metal coin.

**Post Conquest:** William I made little change to these Saxon arrangements

**Penny:** The first English penny so called was made of silver and minted by King Offa of Mercia (central England, see map on page xxiv) in about 790 and carrying the legend *Rex Merciorum*. It contained twenty-two and a half grains of silver, equal to 240 to the Tower pound (see *Avoir dupois* below) until 1526, when silver and gold purity by the troy pound was adopted and troy weight is still used for specie on the international markets (it was so named from Troyes, eastern France). Coins at this time were not just issued by kings, but also by archbishops of Canterbury and other prelates, although the king's name was carried. Offa also minted gold coins based on the Muslim dinar of 744 of Caliph al-Mansûr of Morocco, and was called the 'ryal', a name still much used in the Middle East. Until decimalization in 1971, there were 240 copper pennies to the pound sterling. See *Shilling* below.

Henry III struck a gold penny in 1257 which was meant to be worth 20 pence of silver, but making an equal comparison was notoriously difficult in these 'pre-economic' days when inflation was unknown to the medieval mind.

**Florin:** A coin by this name was first minted by Edward III in 1344 in fine gold, together with a leopard (half a florin) and a helm (quarter), but this attempt failed, the problem being its value against other kings' precious metal currencies. The florin was not revived until 1848 when it was struck in silver and was worth two shillings (qv), and proved very popular. An attempt at a double florin in 1887 was not popular, rather like the modern £2 coin, and it was withdrawn. From 1920, Britain's silver currency was devalued by the addition of 50% base metal, and all silver and gold coins, except ceremonial ones, such as the sovereign or crown (qv), were discontinued in 1947 when they all became cupro-nickel.

**Shilling:** Although long known as a unit of account, the shilling coin was not minted until the reign of Henry VII (1485-1509) and was of silver. In the following particulars, it is abbreviated as 's' or /-, in the case of the latter 7/6: ie seven shillings and sixpence, which we spoke of until decimalization as 'seven and six'; or 9/11 ie: nine shillings and eleven pence, or spoken, 'nine and eleven'. The word seems to derive from Anglo-Saxon, *scilling*. Its silver content was the same as the florin (qv). In medieval MSS, the shilling is known as *solidus*, the oblique stroke, eg in 7/6 aimed immediately above. From the 14th century, the Byzantine Emperor at Constantinople minted a *solidus nummus*, and the expression for cash until decimalization generally was LSD, *pron* 'el ess dee' (ie £ = livre, s = solidus, d = *denarius*, penny)

**Pound:** In fact a measure by weight (*avoir du poids*) of a substance which monetarily became known as the pound sterling. As a measure of weight, the 'pound' is still used as such in the United States, being divided into 16 ounces, and used conjointly with decimal weights, such as kilograms. A troy unit of weight (for precious metal) divides into 12 ounces, a troy ounce being divided into grains and drams, one sixteenth of a troy ounce. The £ or 'L' symbol derives from the Roman pound, known as *libra*, the French using the 'livre' until the Napoleon I. Anglo-Saxon pound, Latin *pondo*.

**Sterling:** Originated in the 13th century and meant a very high quality of silver or gold content, which English coins contained, enjoying a reputation of great fineness throughout Europe until the devaluation of Henry VIII (see below). Sterling is still a benchmark for silver fineness, being of a quality of not less than 92.5%. 'Solid' silver decorative objects and cutlery are still hallmarked at Assay Offices in England: ie guaranteeing their silver content.

In European terms, English coinage was distinctive. It was relatively simple, consisting of gold and fine silver, with no base-metal element. Its system of account was straightforward, using pounds, shillings and pence, plus the mark, which had a fixed relationship to £ s d : 1 mark = 2/3 pound. It had a reputation for stability and fine standards, and it made systematic use of the royal image in its designs.

In 1544 Henry VIII discarded the ancient English policy of a stable coinage of fine standards, by resorting to debasement for profit, making the coinage a vast fraud on the public. Henry's reputation suffered as a result of this disastrous policy (disastrous for the public, he made a huge short-term profit, to be spent on his last French war). Henry had inherited probably the most attractive and best-regarded coinage in Europe, but he left a currency in chaos and the most disreputable-looking money in English history.

**Noble:** (6s 8d) First introduced by Edward III in 1351, the first successful gold coin which weighed 120 grains, being divided in half- and quarter-nobles. Henry V's (1413-22) noble showed: Obv: king standing, facing, in ship; crowned and armoured, with sword in right hand and shield, quartered with arms of England and France, *in left*. *HENRIC DI GRA REX ANGL & FRANC* DNS HYB (Henry by the grace of God King of England and France Lord of Ireland). Edward IV increased its value to 10 shillings. Rev: floriated cross with lis at end of limbs, central apartment containing initial H; lion and crown in each quarter, all within tressure of eight arches. *IHC AUTEM TRANSIENS PER MEDIUM ILLORUM IBAT* (But Jesus, passing through the midst of them, went his way [Luke iv 30]). Half-noble 3 shillings; quarter 1s 6d. Henry VIII introduced the George noble in 1544 - so called from George and the Dragon - which replaced the angel (qv).

**Groat:** (4d) which were minted as silver four-penny pieces until 1920, although the groat, as such, was withdrawn in the 17th century. Edward I (1272-1307) introduced the silver coin, together with pennies, half-pennies, and farthings, and subordinated all the provincial mints to that at the Tower in London. These smaller denominations of pennies (there were 480 half-pennies in a £, and 960 farthings), and one remembers in the 1950s, as a child, being able to buy a bubble-gum for a half-penny (pron 'ha'penny'). A Henry VI groat showed: Obv: the King crowned, beardless bust facing, within tressure of arches. *HENRIC DI GRA REX ANGL & FRANC* (Henry by the grace of God king of England and France). Rev: legends in two concentric circles divided by long cross pattée, three pellets in each angle. *POSUI DEUM ADIUTORE MEUM* (I have made

God my Helper [CF Psalms liv 4]). Groat Market is fairly common as an area in the centre of market towns in England, probably where the groat was used as currency for the first time - possibly a way of telling people that currency was used in that town's market.

**Rose noble, or ryal** (10s), of Edward IV, first reign (1461-70), light coinage, initial mark: Obv: similar to the noble, with the King standing, facing in ship, but with a rose on the ship's side, banner inscribed E at the stern, and, in the temporary recoinage mints. *EDWARD DI GRA REX ANGL & FRANC* DNS HYB (Edward by the grace of God King of England and France, Lord of Ireland). Rev: design similar to the noble, but with a rose upon radiate sun over the centre of a cross. *IHC AUT TRANSIENS PER MEDIUM ILLORUM IBAT* (But Jesus, passing through the midst of them, went his way [Luke iv 30]).

**Angel:** (6s 8d) Introduced by Edward IV in 1472-3. Obv: the Archangel Michael, piercing the devil as a dragon with his spear (from the Book of Revelations), hence the name 'angel'. *EDWARD DEI GRA REX ANGLIS & FRANC* (Edward by the grace of God King of England and France). Rev: a ship at sea, with a large cross as a mast, from which hand royal shield, letter E to left of cross, and rose to right *PER CRUCEM TUA SALVA NOS XPC REDEMPTOR*. (By thy cross save us, O Christ our redeemer). Often called the rose angel.

**Sovereign:** (£1 or 20s) Introduced by Henry VII in 1489 and is perhaps the most splendid coin, still minted, like gold dollars and kruggerands, though not circulated since the First World War. *HENRICUS DEI GRACIA REX ANGLIE ET FRANC* DNS HIB (Henry by the grace of God King of England and France, Lord of Ireland). Rev: a royal shield in the centre of a Tudor Rose. *IHESUS AUTEM TRANSIENS PER MEDIUM ILLORUM IBAT* (But Jesus, passing through the midst of them, went his way [Luke iv 30]).

**Testoon** (shilling, or 12d) k)

**Crown of the double rose** (5s) of Henry VIII, but a devalued silver content, corrected by his son Edward VI which was dated for the first time in Arabic numerals and known simply as the crown. Commemorative crowns are still minted. It was not popular, but the half-crown (2/6) was and widely used until decimalization in 1971, when you could easily buy a pint of beer for this amount. Edward also introduced the sixpenny piece and the threepenny bit (pron 'thra-pennyc'), which included the Portcull

is for the first time on the reverse.

By the reign of James I (1603-25) money as currency for circulation was necessary, as the economy became more complex and barter was failing, especially in the large commercial centres, and as noted under Penny he introduced the first copper currency. Until then, currency was silver or gold and confined to the well off.

Henry V and France With the catastrophic French defeat at Agincourt in 1415 and the Peace of Troyes, by which Henry V married the King of France's daughter Katherine and was recognized as his heir to the Crown, Henry and his son, Henry VI, minted coins in France. These included and occasionally appear in particulars:

**Salut** (=22 1/2 sous tournois) of Henry VI, Rouen Mint, issued 1423-C1449 Grand blanc au écus (= 10 deniers tournois) of Henry VI, Paris mint.

# GLOSSARY

**Abbey:** monastery or nunnery

**Agistment:** Feeding livestock, a tax on land used for livestock

**Amercement:** to be amerced: literally "to be in mercy" - a fine levied in the Manorial Court for some minor infringement of other tenants' property rights. Court Rolls and Books are littered with such fines payable to the Lord

**Athwart:** Old English, "across the line or path of something". Often used in manorial extents and surveys

**Ancient Demesne:** MANORS held by the King in 1086, the VILLAGERS of which later successfully asserted the right to special protection and privileges.

**Arrayer:** royal official responsible in later medieval and early modern England for assembling military forces.

**Baron:** a Lord, especially in the 11th and 12th centuries, a TENANT-IN-CHIEF holding an HONOR or capital manor in return for military service, later a peer called to Parliament by a WRIT OF SUMMONS.

**Bastard feudalism:** later medieval version of the FEUDAL SYSTEM in which the LORD rewarded his VASSAL with a money payment rather than a grant of land.

**Bend:** broad diagonal line in HERALDRY

**Boldon Book:** compiled in 1183 for the Bishop of Durham.

**Bookland:** Anglo-Saxon, land "booked" (recorded in writing) by a king to such a person

**Bordar:** SMALLHOLDER, usually holding between five and fifteen acres in a MANOR, but sometimes identical with a COTTAGER.

**Borough English:** succession by the youngest (son)

**Bovate:** same as yardland.

**Breviate:** a 13th-century summary of DOMESDAY BOOK, usually containing only the names of the landholder and his tenant (if any) for each MANOR, and its assessment to the DANGELD in terms of a CARUCATE, HIDE or SULONG.

**Byzantine:** relating to the Byzantine (earlier the Eastern Roman) Empire ruled from Byzantium (Istanbul).

**Cadet Line:** junior branch of a family.

**Canon Law:** law of medieval Catholic Church.

**Capital Manor:** one held direct of the King with no mesne Lord

**Carolingian:** relating to the Empire ruled by Charlemagne and his successors.

**Carolingian Renaissance:** intellectual and cultural revival of the CAROLINGIAN period.

**Carucate:** the equivalent of the HIDE, both as a unit of 120 acres for assessing DANGELD in DOMESDAY BOOK and as a real land measure, in the DANELAW; also used elsewhere in ENGLAND in DOMESDAY BOOK as a real measure of land exempt from DANEGELD

**Chancery:** royal secretariat of late Anglo-Saxon and subsequent medieval kings.

**Charter:** a formal document witnessing the grant of land or of special privileges by a LORD, especially the King to a VASSAL.

**Chausses:** legging made of MAIL

**Chief point:** a location in the upper third of a shield of HERALDRY.

**Circuit:** a group of three to six counties surveyed by one set of COMMISSIONERS in the DOMESDAY INQUEST.

**Coats armour, coats of arms:** insignia in HERALDRY, relating to a specific family or branch of a family, borne on shields or standards.

**Coif:** cap or under-helmet made of MAIL

**Colibert:** West Country: freeman

**Commot:** A Welsh landholding, a division of a cantrefi (hundred), implying a superiority, but less institutionalised than those Manors or Lordships along the southern coast of Wales which were occupied by the Normans at an early date.

**Commendation:** the act by which a VASSAL acknowledged the superiority of his LORD in Anglo-Saxon times; the equivalent of FEALTY in Norman times.

**Commissioners:** groups of BARONS and royal officials sent to survey the CIRCUITS and to check the returns made by manorial officials and the juries of each HUNDRED or WAPENTAKE.

**Common Land Act:** Act of Parliament, 1965, under which all those with an interest in Common Land, mainly LORDS, should register

**Compoti:** accounts

**Coombe:** sometimes spelt Coomb or Combe - a short valley or or deep hollow - mainly West Country and Brittany, probably Celtic

**Consanguinity:** close family relationship forming the "forbidden degrees" within which marriage was forbidden without special permission from the Pope.

**Copyhold:** holding land by title of copy of COURT ROLL

**Cotise:** a narrow diagonal line in HERALDRY.

**Cottage:** person normally holding a cottage and four acres or less in a MANOR.

**Counties of the Empire:** provinces of the CAROLINGIAN Empire, usually larger than many English counties.

**Court Books, or Rolls:** lists of the proceedings at the Manorial Court

**Courts:** LEET and BARON, CUSTOMARY COURTS: Courts of the Manor presided over by the Steward or Bailiff. The Leet was the determination of minor crimes and civil affairs within the Manor. The Court Baron was the Court of the freeholders of the Manor. Many Courts are still held for traditional purposes today: eg Henley-in-Arden, Altrincham, Heaton, Alcester, Bromsgrove, Langport, Warwick.

**Crucks:** curved vertical roof-timbers joining at the ridge of a roof.

**Curia Regis:** Royal Court; the royal household in its capacity as the administrative and especially judicial machinery of Anglo-Norman central government.

**Custom, customary:** traditional landholdings, rights, and rents on a MANOR which were invariable

**Danegeld:** a land tax levied on the CARUCATE, HIDE or SULONG, originally to buy off Danish attacks on late Anglo-Saxon England; in Norman times a normal peace-time tax raised almost every year.

**Danelaw:** East Anglia, the East, North Midland, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Lancashire: the areas settled by Danes or Norsemen and under Danish law rather than the laws of Wessex or Mercia.

**Demesne:** the land in a MANOR held by its LORD and worked by his men for his benefit, or held on lease from him: the later "home farm".

**Dissolution:** Henry VIII's abolition of Roman Catholicism and the taking of Church land into the Crown.

**Domesday Book:** strictly speaking, only the EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY OR GREAT DOMESDAY, but this is often termed Volume I, LITTLE DOMESDAY being Volume II; the final product of the DOMESDAY INQUEST.

**Domesday inquest:** the inquiry started in January 1086, in which England was divided into CIRCUITS surveyed by sets of COMMISSIONERS whose returns, after checking and at least

two stages of abbreviation, became the EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY.

**Earldom:** the territory administered by an earl, normally comprising several counties, often previously an ancient kingdom, eg Mercia, Northumbria or Wessex.

**Enfeoffment:** a grant of land, forming a FIEF or HONOR according to its size by a LORD to his VASSAL to be held in return for FEUDAL SERVICE.

**Engrailed:** with an indented edge in HERALDRY.

**Entail:** system of fixed succession to land which cannot be altered by a will.

**Escallop:** scallop-shell ornament in HERALDRY.

**Escheator:** a royal official administering the lands of any TENANT-IN-CHIEF which were in royal custody because he was a minor.

**Estovers:** necessities allowed to tenants from the common land, especially wood for fuel and repairs

**Estreat:** an exact copy.

**Exchequer:** financial accounting department of Anglo-Norman central government from Henry I's reign.

**Exchequer Domesday** (also GREAT DOMESDAY or DOMESDAY BOOK, Volume I): the final summary of the results of the DOMESDAY INQUEST, compiled at Winchester probably under the direction of Samson, later Bishop of Worcester, probably in 1086-7.

**Exemplification:** an official copy or extract by royal officials of another document, eg DOMESDAY BOOK.

**Fealty:** oath of loyalty sworn by a VASSAL to his LORD after the LORD had accepted the VASSAL's HOMAGE.

**Feudalization:** the process by which the personal links of LORDSHIP became the territorial links of the FEUDAL SYSTEM and TENURE.

**Feudal Baron:** an 18th century concept of historians and lawyers, like FEUDAL SYSTEM to differentiate between Barons of Parliament and holders of Baronies not entitling their owners to a seat in Parliament. Baronies were originally a landholding, but have now been severed from the land and can be transmitted by gift, bequest, and conveyance as incorporeal hereditaments.

**Feudal service:** duties rendered by a VASSAL to his LORD in return for the land granted by means of ENFEOFFMENT, which could be military (knight service), administrative (serjeanty) or ecclesiastical (frankalmoign or free alms).

**Feudal system:** the reconstruction by historians of the links between LORD and VASSAL, begun by HOMAGE and FEALTY, followed by ENFEOFFMENT, continued by FEUDAL SERVICE subject to the INCIDENTS of TENURE; expression first coined in C18th

**Fief:** a MANOR or Manors granted to a VASSAL by his LORD by means of ENFEOFFMENT to be held in return for FEUDAL SERVICE.

**Folio:** a sheet of parchment, folded in two or four before being sewn into a GATHERING.

**Folkland:** Anglo-Saxon, roughly common land

**Fran(c)(k)marriage:** freehold land given in marriage to the husband of a daughter, sister &c on her marriage - a form of dowry

**Frankalmoign:** land held by the Church, usually not for payment in money, but for praying for the dead, often for a family or benefactor

**Franklin:** a freeman or yeoman in later medieval England.

**Frankpledge, View of:** Assembly of the tenants of the Manor at which they swore to uphold the custom of the Manor

**Freebord:** to plant and cut timber on one's own lands freely, noticed in East Anglia

**Freeman:** before the Norman Conquest, a man who could transfer himself and his land from one LORD to another by COM-MENDATION: after the Norman Conquest, a man holding lands

within a MANOR in return for rent and very light services, unlike the VILLAGER who owed regular labour services on the DEMESNE, with access to the protection of the royal courts.

**Free warren:** charter of sporting rights.

**Frenchmen:** superior manorial tenants of French origin in DOMESDAY BOOK.

**Gathering:** a group of FOLIOS sewn together before binding.  
**Gavelkind:** Payment of a money rent to the Lord instead of SERVICE. Peculiar to Kent.

**Geld:** see DANEGELD.

**Gonfalon:** banner or standard.

**Gothic Revival:** the period of fashionable building in REVIVAL GOTHIC, mainly in the 19th century.

**Great Domesday:** see EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY.

**Gules:** red in HERALDRY.

**Halimote:** Court of FREEHOLDERS of a Manor, presided over by the Lord's steward.

**Halley's Comet:** a COMET named after Edmond Halley, d. 1742, who observed it in 1682 and calculated its orbit round the Sun to be approximately every 76 years: illustrated in the Bayeux Tapestry

**Homage:** in the Manorial Court, the 12 men who formed the jury

**Hauberk:** knee-length tunic made of MAIL.

**Heraldry:** system of personal identification of knights by means of insignia (COAT ARMOUR, COATS OF ARMS) on shields or standards.

**Heriot:** due to Lord on death of a tenant - usually his best beast.

**Hide:** originally a unit, varying between 40 and 1000 acres, thought sufficient to support one family. In DOMESDAY BOOK a fiscal unit on which DANEGELD was levied, and generally assumed to contain 120 acres.

**High Justice:** power to inflict death.

**Homage:** act of submission by a new VASSAL to his LORD.

**Honor:** land, normally comprising MANORS in several counties, held by a BARON or TENANT-IN-CHIEF.

**Housecarl:** a member of an élite 'Guards' infantry unit serving a King or Earl in Anglo-Saxon England.

**Hundred:** a unit of fiscal assessment and local government outside the DANELAW, originally containing 100 HIDEs, intermediate between the county and the MANOR, roughly equivalent in size to the modern District; cantrefi in Wales

**Hussett:** Unclear, but possibly a fishery

**Incidents:** the payments and services to be rendered by a VASSAL to his LORD in addition to regular rent and FEUDAL SERVICE: these usually included an inheritance tax (relief) and a death duty (heriot).

**Infangenthef:** the power of a LORD to inflict capital punishment on his tenants, OUTFANGENTHEF

**Keep:** central tower of a Norman castle.

**League/leuga:** approx a mile and a half in length

**Letters patent:** royal letters conferring a privilege on an individual or corporate body, sent open with a visible seal.

**Lineage:** authenticated genealogy or pedigree.

**Lion rampant:** a lion standing on its hind-quarters with its front legs in the air, in HERALDRY.

**Little Domesday** (also DOMESDAY BOOK, Volume II): the final CIRCUIT return for East Anglia (Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk), never summarized for inclusion in the EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY.

**Lord:** feudal superior of a VASSAL: always a Manorial Lord  
**Lordship:** the mutual loyalty and support joining LORD and VASSAL.

**Mail:** flexible armour made of interlocking iron rings.

**Mancusa(s):** a gold or silver coin worth, respectively 30 pence and half a mark, 3s. 4d; also sometimes used as a liquid and dry measure, though quantity now unknown

**Manor:** a landed estate, usually comprising a DEMESNE and lands held by VILLAGERS, BORDARS, or COTTAGERS and sometimes also FREE MEN, FRENCHMEN, RIDING MEN etc, which could vary in size from part of one village to several villages over a wide area; power over men (and women), ranging from civil to criminal jurisdiction; an estate in land giving authority and prestige; a land title giving superiority and gentility

**Mesne tenant:** a VASSAL of a TENANT-IN-CHIEF.

**Message:** a property, especially a house

**Minster:** originally a monastery but by late Anglo-Saxon times often simply a large and important church.

**Missus Dominicus** (plural Missi Dominici): a Minster of the CAROLINGIAN Empire.

**Money:** d. denarius, an old penny; s. shilling, solidus (5p), both abolished in 1971 when Britain went metric; l. or £. libra or livre, a pound (sterling), probably to be abolished in favour of the euro. Written in manorial documents as eg: £2. 10s. 6d. two pounds, ten shillings, and sixpence

**Murage:** from mur, a wall, duty to repair or defend a wall, generally incident to a tenement in a Manor with a duty to the local town

**Nasal:** metal nose-piece attached to a helmet.

**Open fields:** the major divisions, normally two or three, of the cultivated arable area of a medieval village outside the Highland Zone of England and Wales, in which one field each year in succession was left in rotation-fallow, the other one or two being communally ploughed and sown with winter and spring grains.

**Or:** gold or yellow in HERALDRY.

**Outrun:** same as FREEBORD

**Outfangenthef:** power to inflict capital punishment within the MANOR on non-tenants without recourse to Royal justice

**Palisade:** fence of pointed stakes firmly fixed in the ground.

**Pannage:** right to pasture swine.

**Pennon:** long narrow flag carried on the end of a spear or lance.

**Perambulation:** a survey made by walking the boundary of the Manor. Still continued in some Manors

**Perpendicular:** style of Gothic architecture in vogue from the mid-14th to the 16th century.

**Pie powder:** a court convened on market days by the Lord's Steward to deal with disputes, weights and measures &c

**Piscaries:** fishing rights.

**Plain:** blank, uncoloured space in HERALDRY.

**Plough (team):** a team of six to twelve oxen, yoked in pairs, pulling a plough; in DOMESDAY BOOK usually eight oxen.

**Presentment:** to introduce into court.

**Priory:** a monastery or nunnery dependent on an ABBEY or Cathedral.

**Proper:** natural colours in HERALDRY

**Property Act:** 1922-5, a series of legislative measures regulating the ownership of land, including MANORS

**Quarenta/quarentene:** a quarter of a virgate, a furlong

**Quota:** the number of knights required to serve a LORD on behalf of a VASSAL, especially to serve the King.

**Rape:** An administration unit unique to Sussex, presumed to have derived from the Anglo-Saxon *rap*, (measuring or delimiting) a rope. Sussex was divided into six rapes, which were divided into hundreds, which constituted the next tier of administration or jurisdiction. Usually, there were 10 hundreds in a rape, but not in the case of Arundel and Chichester rapes where there were 12 hundreds between them, suggesting the two rapes originally were one.

**Reformation:** the period 1529-59 in which England first rejected the religious authority of the Pope and then changed from Catholic to Protestant doctrine and beliefs.

**Revival Gothic:** Gothic architecture as revived from the late 18th century onwards.

**Revival Norman:** Norman architecture as revived in the 19th century.

**Riding men:** Anglo-Saxon free tenants rendering escort-duty and messenger-service to their LORD.

**Rolls of Arms:** records of the COATS OF ARMS borne by different families, especially those made by an authority in HERALDRY.

**Sable:** black in HERALDRY.

**Saracenic:** relating to the Arabs of Syria or Palestine.

**Satellites:** records preserving copies of parts of the earlier stages of the DOMESDAY INQUEST.

**Scutage:** a tax levied in place of personal military service by VASSALS - a cash payment

**Secular arm:** the Royal criminal jurisdiction to which a heretic or other person guilty of a serious offence under CANON LAW was transferred for serious punishment, especially execution.

**Sheriff:** principal official administering a shire or county in the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods for the Crown

**Smallholder:** see BORDAR.

**Soc and Sac:** similar to the Frenchoyer and terminer, to hear and decide in OE, usually in the Court of the LORD

**Sokemen:** free tenants subject to the jurisdiction of the MANOR but owing little or no service to its LORD.

**Sub-tenants:** tenants holding land from a TENANT-IN-CHIEF or a Manorial Lord

**Sulong:** the Kentish equivalent of the CARUCATE or HIDE, both as a fiscal unit and as a land measure, but usually double the size of the HIDE.

**Survey:** a written description of the boundaries of a Manor and the fields and properties within the Manor. It is not a map

**Teamland** ('land for one plough'): a Norman-French term for the English CARUCATE or HIDE used as a measure of land area of no fixed acreage.

**Tenant-in-chief:** a LORD holding his land directly from the King.

**Tenure:** the conditions upon which land was held under the FEUDAL SYSTEM by a VASSAL from a LORD who was a MESNE TENANT, a TENANT-IN-CHIEF or the King.

**Terrier:** register of landed estate.

**Testamentary causes:** cases concerning the probate of wills or the administration of the effects of those who died without making a will.

**Thegn:** a VASSAL, usually a manorial LORD, holding land by military or administrative services in Anglo-Saxon and early Norman England.

**Tor:** a high hill, especially a bare rocky one - West Country, especially Devon and Cornwall

**Treasury:** the main financial department of late Anglo-Saxon and early Anglo-Norman government, located at Winchester.

**Tun:** Anglo-Saxon for town; modern suffixes, "ton" or "don" or "den"

**Turbary:** The right of commoners to cut and take turf from the common land

**Valor:** valuation

**Vassal:** a feudal inferior of tenant or a MESNE TENANT, of a TENANT-IN-CHIEF or of the King.

**Vert:** green in HERALDRY.

**Vill/villa:** translation of Anglo-Saxon tun, village or town

**Villager:** the normal peasant farmer of Anglo-Norman England, usually holding between 1 and 3 YARLANDS from the LORD of a MANOR in 1086.

**Wace, Robert:** usually referred to as Wace - born circa 1100, chronicler and poet, Roman de Brut and Roman de Rou

**Wapentake:** the equivalent of the HUNDRED in parts of the DANELAW.

**Wergild:** money-payment in compensation for death, injury or loss, graduated according to the social standing of the victim.

**Witan:** Anglo-Saxon and early Norman Royal Council.  
**Withy:** West Country, willows, a thicket of willows  
**Writ:** royal letter conveying orders and information in a summary form.  
**Writ of summons:** WRIT addressed to a named recipient to attend Parliament; as such, generally held to confer peerage status.  
**Yardland:** a quarter of a HIDE.  
**Yoke:** Kentish and East Anglia - same as plough.

(From *Domesday, 900 years of England's Norman Heritage*, published by the MSGB in 1986)

#### ABBREVIATIONS

AO: Archive Office  
 BL Cat: Catalogue of the British Library  
 BExtP: Burke's Extinct Peerage  
 BLG: Burke's Landed Gentry  
 Bod: Bodleian Library  
 BRS: British Record Society  
 Bull IHR: Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research  
 Bull MSGB: Bulletin of the Manorial Society of Great Britain  
 C: century  
 c: circa  
 Close R: Letters from the Close Rolls  
 CR: Charter Rolls  
 d: died  
 dau: daughter  
 dsp: died without issue  
 dvp: died in life of father  
 ex: executed  
 HA: Historical Association  
 infra: below  
 k: killed  
 kn: knighted  
 m: murdered  
 NLI: National Library of Ireland  
 NRA: National Register of Archives  
 op cit: work cited  
 PR: Patent Rolls  
 PRO: Public Record Office, now called the National Archives, located at Kew, London  
 qv: which see  
 Rec Com: Record Commission  
 Rec Soc: Record Society  
 RO: Record Office  
 Rot Parl: Rolls of Parliament  
 RS: Rolls Series  
 SQE: Statute Quia Emptores Terrarum (1290)  
 SR: Statutes of the Realm  
 sic: it is  
 supra: above  
 temp: in the time of  
 TRHistS: Transactions of the Royal Historical Society  
 vide: see



## What is a Manorial Lordship?

UNDER the laws of real property in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Republic, Lordships of the manor are known as 'estates in land' and in Courts, where they may crop up in cases to do with real property, they are often simply called 'land'.

They are 'incorporeal hereditaments' (literally, property without body) and are well glossed from the English and Welsh point of view in Halsbury's *Laws of England*, vol viii, title *Copyholds*, which is available in any solicitor's office or central reference library.

Manors cover an immutable area of land and may include rights over and under that land, such as rights to exploit minerals under the soil, manorial waste (eg the verges of roads), commons and greens. While it has always been the case that manorial rights can sometimes have a high value, this is rare because the rights are frequently unknown and unresearched (or are just not commercial). There is no value in owning mineral rights if there are no commercially exploitable minerals, such as granite or aggregate, and purchasers should not expect a manorial Eldorado. If such benefits were routine, then the asking prices would be considerably higher to reflect this\*.

We are sometimes asked whether Lordships are a "good investment" to which the answer is, "what goes up can also come down." The average price of a Manor was about £300 in 1955; about £600 in 1976; about £2,000 in 1981; about £10,000 in 1989; about £7,000 in 1992, during the last recession; about £12,000 in 1998, and about £9,000 now. Some Lordships command a premium price because of their names: Stratford Upon Avon and Wimbledon, sold respectively in 1993 and 1996 for £110,000 and £171,000. These are exceptional. At auction and private treaty some Manors will go higher or lower than the average, depending on the competition. If you should enjoy a capital gain, then treat it as serendipity.

Like any other real property (known as real estate in the United States), Manorial Lordships belong to some one and are conveyed in precisely the same way as you would convey a house. Just as you would not contemplate the purchase of a house without legal advice, so you would be unwise to contemplate the purchase of a Manor without legal advice and you should appoint an independent solicitor/attorney. The Auctioneers have a panel of solicitors who are well versed in this arcane area of property law and will advise, but an intending purchaser is free to appoint any solicitor of his or her choice.

Solicitors will be looking principally for one thing: whether the person or company selling is the legal owner. 'Legal owner' is an important expression in law, and is quite different from a similar expression in law 'beneficial owner' (eg such as a beneficiary under a Will where the legal owner is the Executor or Trustee). The solicitor will also make inquiries with the seller's solicitors about any rights that are to be passed. He will also make Land Searches.

Once you have made your offer and it is accepted, your solicitor will ask the vendor's solicitor for what is known as an Epitome of Title: ie proof of ownership over not less than 15 years (20 years in Ireland). Proof of ownership is normally found in family or estate documents: viz Assents, Probates, Wills, Settle-

ments, and often Statutory Declarations, the latter supported by persuasive exhibits from secondary sources.

Your solicitor will check also by Searches that the seller is not a bankrupt or (if a company) where it is incorporated and not struck off or in receivership.

Your solicitor will also check that the Manor is purchased 'unencumbered' (ie that there are no hidden costs, such as the duty to repair the chancel of the local church, known as the 'lay rectorship', or to maintain the village green).

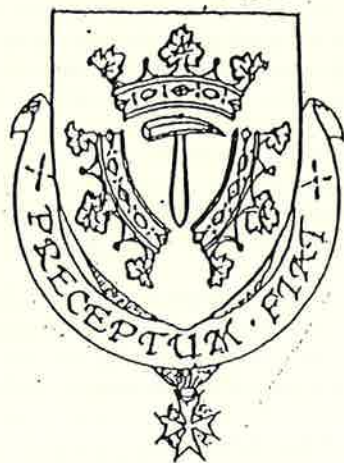
It is not a very complicated job for your solicitor, but it is worth spending a few hundred pounds with him to ask the right questions of the seller's solicitor and to get the correct paperwork. We mentioned commercial rights and capital gains on the asset: do not forget that if by chance there were potentially valuable rights on the Manor, the first thing you need to prove any legal entitlement to them is good title and conveyancing. You also need good title should you ever decide to sell.

Irish property law is similar to mainland UK (two Legal Opinions on Lordships in Ireland by an academic lawyer and a Senior Counsel are available in copy for purchasers' solicitors if requested). The conveyance of Feudal Baronies in England and Ireland works in the same way as for a Manorial Lordship.

Think of the acquisition of a Lordship as the acquisition of a tiny piece of history when you become the latest in a chain of known owners going back many hundreds of years. You may, as the Lord, be asked to take part in local events, such as opening the annual village fete. It is not obligatory, but some Lords feel a sense of duty in accepting these kind of invitations when they arrive. There is no obligation to accept. The Lord of the Manor of Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, presides over the Court Leet (Manorial Court) every November. The Lord and Lady of Kettleburgh, Suffolk, inaugurated a new peal of three bells in the Manorial Church. The Lord and Lady of Moulton Bewsolas, Lincolnshire, open the village fete every summer. Such rights are traditional and purely honorific.



# The Manorial Society of Great Britain



The Society was founded in 1906 and included among its committee the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Master of the Rolls. It was based in Mitre Court, Temple, London, and in origin sought to locate and to protect manorial records which - with the exception of institutions, such as the Ecclesiastical (now Church) Commissioners, the Crown in its several forms, Oxford and Cambridge colleges - were in private hands.

By 1906, the lands of the majority of Manors had been enfranchised and the need to maintain and keep manorial records (such as court rolls) for estate purposes disappeared. We can judge how many of these must have been left lying around an estate office and almost certainly thrown away from the date gaps in the records of some Manors in this Catalogue. Even where copyhold continued into the 20th century, it must have been the case that many medieval and Tudor records, mostly in Latin, were discarded as being of no further use.

The 19th century, however, saw the blossoming of county histories, often in multi-volume sets, many editions of which are at the Society today. These were written by highly educated men, often clergymen with leisure. Men, like Blomefield and Lipscomb (1810 and 1850), then Coppinger (1904-11) produced remarkable histories by Hundreds, then the Manors within each Hundred, using records in private ownership. We can only be amazed at their determination and grasp of palaeography and topography, knowledge of genealogy and national history.

Such records are not only of use in understanding the management of landed estates, but are also records of the names of tenants, many of whom succeeded one another. It became law to register births, marriages, and deaths in England and Wales in 1538, and this was done by the Church. But what of the many people who were never married - there were far more than the modern mind might expect? What of those generations of ordinary folk who were born before 1538? There may be some kind of record in a gravestone, but these are fewer the longer you go back. But there are, in some cases, medieval and early Tudor Court Rolls, listing tenants which can take a family back to the Middle Ages. The growth of interest in family history has grown enormously in the last 40 years, with television

programmes tracing celebrities, descended from 'ordinary folk'. In fact, these do not seem to go back beyond the reign of Queen Victoria, and in that sense the impression may be gained that this is as far as can be attempted. This is not so in many cases. The Society began to publish list of Manors and their documents from such diverse sources as individuals in Surrey or the Manors of New College, Oxford, producing 16 publications. Unsurprisingly, the Great War disrupted this work, but with peace in 1918 the Prime Minister of the day, David Lloyd-George, began to look at the many Acts affecting Manors, copyhold, and real property generally, and it was decided to consolidate them and abolish copyhold in several Property Acts in the 1920s. The important one, so far as records are concerned, was the 1922 Act, subsection (7) of Section 144A(7), which sought to define manorial documents and place them under the protection of the Master of the Rolls. 'Manorial documents', in the meaning of the Act as affected by several Statutory Instruments, have come to be Court Rolls, surveys, maps, terriers, documents and books of every description relating to the boundaries, franchises, wastes, customs, and courts of a Manor, whether in being on 1 January 1926 or obsolete.

County Record Offices were charged with maintaining such documents as these that were donated, and as Manors ceased to enjoy Copyhold income so solicitors, who had often acted as Stewards and kept records at their offices, handed documents over to the local CRO. The British Record Society was formed in 1931 and the publications part of the Society was taken over by this body.

The Society was headed in the late 1920s, until his death in 1945, by Hubert Knocker, a solicitor in Guildford, Surrey, who was Steward to many Manorial Lords in the county, and he was summoning Courts for as late as 1935. The Society has notices of Courts at Otford, for example, which were pinned up on church and other noticeboards. Mr Beaumont, an East Anglia solicitor, did much the same in his area.

Mr Knocker was succeeded by Hubert Hughes, whose committee gave evidence in 1955 to the Common Land Committee of the House of Commons, which translated into the Commons Registration Act of 1965. He was succeeded by his wife, Constance, on his death in 1967, and she handed over to Robert Smith in 1980.

The Society's public face is its social functions and publications, some of the latter of which are given below. But we regularly receive inquiries from government, local authorities, quangos, solicitors, historians, genealogists, and the general public on some manorial aspect, all of which are answered as fully as we can and without charge.

The Society has members who pay a subscription of £50 a year, or £500 for life, and for this they can ask for advice and assistance on manorial matters. They also receive information about social events, the last of which was the Annual Reception at the House of Lords, 8th July. The next dinner will be held at the Carlton Club, London, in honour of Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, on the Tuesday 7th October. The annual carol service on Tuesday 16th December, will be held at the Church of Most Holy Redeemer, Exmouth Market, London. Pictures of past events are on the website: [www.ms.gb.co.uk](http://www.ms.gb.co.uk).

Besides books, which are in print and given below, the Society publishes periodic Proceedings of legal conferences, the most recent of which was on the Land Registration Act (2002) at Merton College, Oxford:

#### Publications in print:

##### The Land Registration Act 2002,

*implications for manorial lords, proceedings of a conference, held at Merton College, Oxford, in 2005. Speakers included barristers, solicitors, land agents, researchers, head of Land Registry legal division, Chief Common Land Commissioner*  
( £250.00 non-members, £150.00 members )

Manorial Law, by AW & C Barsby, *Legal Research & Publishing* (£49.95)

Charter and Statutory Markets, *proceedings of a Conference on manorial and other market rights* (£35.00)

Blood Royal, *to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002 from the time of Alexander the Great to Queen Elizabeth II*  
(£29.95)

The Monarchy, *fifteen hundred years of British tradition*  
(£19.95)

The House of Lords, *a thousand years of British tradition*  
(£16.95)

The House of Commons, *700 years of British tradition* (£16.95)

The Sudeleys, Lords of Toddington (£16.95)

Royal Armada (£6.00)

Mutiny on the Bounty (£6.00)

Blount's Jocular Tenures (£95.00)

*Book prices are post-free British Isles; plus airmail postage all other places*

#### Historical Research

Inevitably, there is much information that we have had to omit from the historical particulars because of the cost of printing and research. This Catalogue was researched and written up by Stephen Johnson MA and if purchasers would like to know more about the Lordships they buy, then Steve would be happy to assist.

His address is: 43 Seabridge Road, Newcastle Under Lyme, Staffs ST5 2HU; email: [stevej.historicalresearch@virgin.net](mailto:stevej.historicalresearch@virgin.net); telephone: 01782-613503

#### Coats of Arms

Coats of arms are personal and heritable, and can be used by your sons, daughters, and grandchildren. Manorial Lords and Ladies have long been identified by their Armorial Bearings (Coats of Arms) - first, on the battlefield, and later in seals, signet rings, and on legal documents, as they can still be used. Arms can be displayed on stationery and visiting cards, silverware and glass.

Arms are a Grant under the Royal Prerogative, exercised by the Kings of Arms, under Warrant of the Earl Marshall, the Duke of Norfolk, at the College of Arms, London, and are a unique distinction.

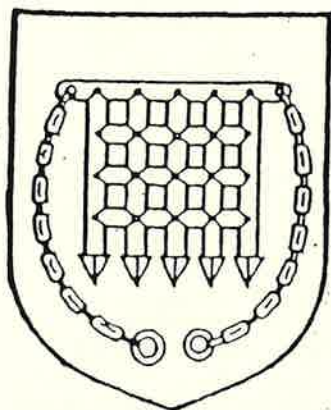
If purchasers do not have Armorial Bearings and are interested in knowing more, they should contact Cecil Humphery-Smith OBE, FSA.

His address is: The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Research, Northgate, Canterbury, CT1 1BA; email: [cecil.ancestry@googlemail.com](mailto:cecil.ancestry@googlemail.com); telephone: 01227-768554.



# BARONIES BY TENURE IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND

FROM THE reign of the Conqueror to the middle of the 13th century at least, the dignity of Baron in England was annexed to territorial possessions *derived* from the Crown, for which the grantee was bound to render homage, fealty, and military or other honourable services. To such possessions was annexed the privilege of holding courts, or civil and criminal jurisdiction as it has been called, which right sometimes passed with the Seignory as an incident without being expressly named; but more generally was specially granted by the words *justitiam, curiam, or socha and sacha, infangenthef and outfangenthef*. The Sheriff could not for the most part enter the Barony or Honour, and the Baron's officers received the King's writs. In such courts, justice was dispensed by the Baron to his tenants and vassals, or those representing him. Besides attending the King in his wars with the number of knights reserved by his tenure to the Crown, the Baron, as its vassal, was bound to attend the King's Court, the *Curia Regis*.



This Court, at first held at stated periods in each year, was afterwards extended to the *Magnum Consilium* (Great Council), to which the King summoned his Barons for their *advice and consent* at such times and on such occasions as his exigencies required. When *extra-feudal* services were agreed by the Barons at this Court, the consent of their tenants and vassals was also sought by the holders of such Seignories in their Courts. In possession of one of these Seignories as a *Feodum Nobile*, with its incident service of attending the *Curia Regis* or *Commune Concilium*, originated the dignity of a 'Feudal Peerage', a Feudal Barony is perhaps a literal Territorial Peerage, as opposed to a nominal one today. After the Barons' War of 1264-5, a change took place in England which affected the rights of the English Baronage, by which it was established that no person should attend Parliament (*Commune Consilium*) without express writs from the King, with a sitting in consequence, and has since been held to have vested in the person so summoned and his heirs lineally an hereditary Barony. Such rules have never applied to the Barony by Tenure, though there are still some Baronies by Writ, whose holders sit in the House of Lords, whose ancestors sold their Baronies by Tenure centuries ago. The most recent example of this is the Parliamentary Barony of Dacre of Gilsland, held by the Earl of Carlisle, who sold the Barony by Tenure of Gilsland without affecting his right to sit in the House of Lords, even if he, or his successors, were to lose their superior Parliamentary titles of Earl of Carlisle and Viscount Howard Morpeth. Indeed, Lord Carlisle in 1990 sold the Barony of Morpeth. In 1992, the Earl of Lonsdale sold the Barony of Burgh, though his ancestor was first summoned to Parliament under the *Parliamentary* Barony of Burgh, no matter that the right of hereditary

peers to sit in the House of Lords has been much curtailed since 1999.

At the College of Arms, London, is a manuscript headed: "There are Barons of three kinds, namely:

- (1) By Tenure (who, in regard thereof, ought to be summoned to Parliament)
- (2) By Writ of Summons
- (3) By Creation, or Letters Patent



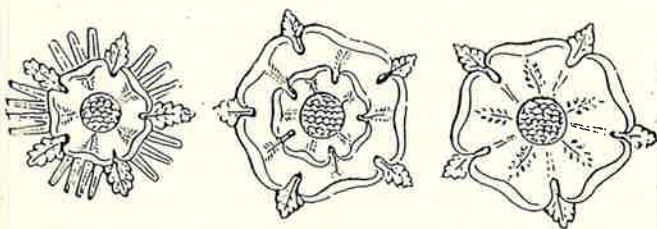
Barons by Tenure were of old the King's principal tenants, who holding an Honour, castle, or group of Manors of the King *in capite* by Barony (*per integram Baroniam*) were called his *Barones majores*, having their titles usually from their principal seats, or heads (*caputs*) of their Baronies, and continued to be the *only* Barons summoned to Parliament until 1265, when Henry III, having overcome Simon de Montfort and the rebellious Barons at the Battle of Evesham, called a Parliament to have such of them as were slain, taken prisoner, or escaped, attainted and disinherited; but the number of his faithful Barons being small, he supplied their number with other persons of known worth, wisdom, and repute who, by means thereof were henceforth Barons by Writ, although they had no possession that was a *Feodum Nobile*, for they were only tenants *in capite*, which were not really Barons at all (though some were, some were restored, and some married ladies - the daughters or widows of Barons - who conferred Baronies, or at least respectability, upon them). Many, however, were not, though they were often called to Great Councils as Barons and Peers. This continued to be the practice until the reign of Richard II who, in 1388, introduced the creation of Barons by Letters Patent, which is now the only method by which a person is summoned as a Peer to Parliament, saving occasionally those people who can demonstrate to the Privileges Committee of the House of Lords that they be entitled to such a summons by descent from a Baron by Writ. The Feudal Baronage in England predates by as much as two centuries the Parliamentary Peerage.



In the reign of King John, an alteration of great importance took place in the rights of the Barons and tenants *in capite*; for only the principal barons, or *barones majores*, were wanted at the Great Council, or prototype parliaments, and then only by royal summons and not, as hitherto, by right. The rest, who acquired the name of *barones minores*, were called by one general summons from the sheriffs of their respective counties. This practice was effectively recognized and legally established by the *Magna Carta* of King John. Selden supposes that in consequence of the quarrels between King John and his Barons, several Baronies had escheated to the Crown, either by attainder, or otherwise, which were partly granted to others, and partly retained as rewards for those who should come over to the King.



That several Barons were also so decayed in their estates as not to be able to support their rank; and the ancient Barons, or *barones majores*, who retained their possessions, foreseeing that their dignity might be diminished if the new tenants in chief, or grantees of the escheated Baronies, and the decayed Barons, should remain equal to them, procured a law no longer extant, or some understanding, in some of the parliaments preceding the Great Charter, by which they only in future should be styled Barons, and the rest tenants in chief, only, or knights. And because their ancient name could not be wholly taken from them, therefore, the addition of *majores* was given to the ancient and more powerful Barons, and that of *minores* to the others. Barons by Tenure, like Scottish Barons and later Irish Barons, are one of the *minores* sort, but only because they have been unable to sit in Parliament. (The use of the word "Parliament" in this context is not in its specialized sense, but in the sense of a deliberative assembly).

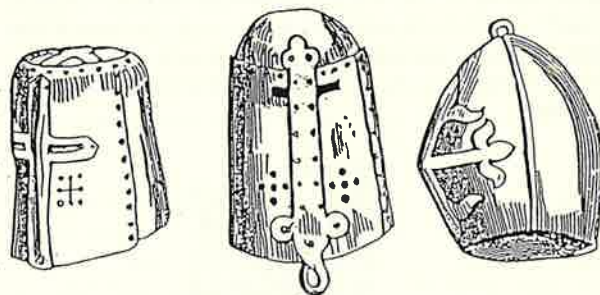


From this period, the right of sitting in Parliament appears to have been confined to those persons who were possessed of entire Baronies. But in the reign of King Henry III, a still greater alteration took place in the rights of the Barons; for whereas, every tenant *in capite* was, before that period, *ipso facto*, a Parliamentary Baron, and entitled to be summoned, either by the King's writ, or by the sheriff of the county, to every parliament that was called: yet, about that time, some new law is said to have been made, by which it was established that no person, though possessed of a Barony, should come to parliament with-

out being expressly and particularly summoned by the King's writ.

This fact is first mentioned by Camden in the Preface to his *Britannia*, who cites an ancient author, without naming him as his authority. *Ad summum honorem pertinet ex quo rex Henricus III ex tanta multitudine quae seditiosa et turbulenta fuit, optimos quosque rescripto ad comitia parlamentaria evocaverit. Ille enim (ex satis antiquo scriptore loquor) post magnas perturbationes et enormes vexationes inter ipsum regem, Simonem de Monteforte, et alios barones, motas et susceptas, statuit et ordinavit quod omnes illi comites et barones Angliae quibus uspe rex dignatus est brevia summonitionis dirigere, venirent ad parlamentum suum, et non alii, nisi forte dominus rex alia vel similia brevia eis dirigere voluisset.*

Selden appears to have given but little credit to this narrative; and says, he never could discover who this ancient writer, cited by Camden, was; but thought that, not long after the Great Charter of King John, some law was made that induced the utter exclusion of all tenants in chief from parliament, beside the ancient and greater Barons, and such others as the King should in like manner summon.



In consequence of this law, the practice of summoning the *barones minores*, by the sheriff, ceased, as appears from the *Magna Carta* of 9 Henry III in which the chapter respecting the summoning of the Barons and tenants *in capite*, in the charter of King John, is entirely omitted.

From this period, the dignity of a parliamentary Baron was confined to those who were summoned by the Crown; this appears from the words of the writ, by which the King certifies a person to be a peer, as stated in the *Registerum Brevium*, a book as ancient as the Statute of Westminster, 2 13 Edward I which are, *Quia praedictum G unum baronum regni nostri, ad parlamenta nostra de summonitione regia venientium, recordamur.*

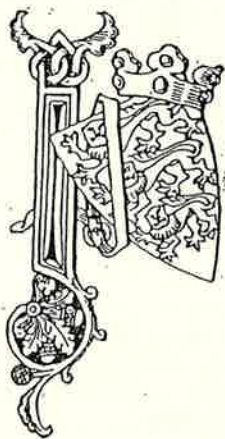
It cannot, however, be supposed, that the Crown ever possessed the prerogative of omitting to summon the principal nobles to every parliament, pursuant to the provisions of the *Magna Carta* of King John; for there is one instance recorded in English history of an omission of this kind, which was immediately noticed in such a manner as to prevent its recurrence.

In the year 1225, King Henry III called a parliament at Westminster, and several of the peers being absent for want of writs of summons, the Barons who attended refused to answer the King's proposals, for this reason, *Quod omnes tunc temporis non fuerunt, juxta tenorem Magnae Chartae vocati; et ideo sine paribus suis tunc absentibus, nullum voluerunt tunc responsum dare, vel auxilium concedere vel prestare.*

With respect to the different orders, and names or titles of nobility and dignity in England, the most ancient are those of Baron and Earl. It has been stated that the word *baro* was originally synonymous with *homo*; that all those persons to whom feuds were granted by Kings and sovereign princes, were called *barones et homines regis, sive qui hominum regi debent*.

Sir Henry Spelman says that the word baron was introduced into England by the Normans: *Ad Anglos autem pervenisse videtur vocabulum baro, vel cum ipsis Normannis, vel cum Edwardus Confessor aures moresque imbibisset Normannicos*. The first mention of the word which we have met with is in Domesday Vol ii 367 where it is said, *Hanc terram invadiavit abbas et barones regis*. And Eadmerus, who lived in the time of King Henry I speaking of William the Conqueror, says: *Nulli episcoporum permittebat ut aliquem de baronibus suis, seu ministris, publice excommunicaret*.

Selden observes that in the extracts from the Inquisitions, taken in the time of King John, the phrases of *tenentes per baroniam et servitia militaria*; and *milites et barones tenentes in capite de rege*, are used for the same persons. In another place he says, *Tenere de rege in capite, habere possessiones sicut baroniam*, and to be a baron, with a right to sit with the rest of the barons in councils or courts of judgment, according to the laws of that time, were synonymous: and Spelman says, *Aevo Henrici Secundi quaevis tenura in capite habebatur pro tenura per baroniam*.



Lord Coke has observed that in ancient records the Barons included the whole nobility of England, because regularly all noblemen were Barons, though they had a higher dignity; and the great council of the nobility were all comprehended under the name of the Council *De Baronage*. This seems to be confirmed by Matthew Paris, in whose history we find the word *baronagium* used as comprehending all the nobility: *Dominus rex de consilio totius baronagii sui*, and Dugdale has transcribed the following writ of King Henry III to the Sheriff of Herefordshire: *Rex Vicecomiti Heref' - Precipimus tibi quod si aliqua gens armata per ballivam tuam, contra provisionem nuper factam apud Gloucestriam, de communi concilio baronagii nostri*.

In consequence of the practice of subinfeudation, the great lords, particularly those who were Earls Palatine, called their immediate tenants or vassals, Barons. Thus the Earls of Chester and the bishops of Durham had their Barons. The City of London and the Cinque Ports also had their Barons. In like manner the parliamentary barons seem gradually to be called *barones regis* or *barones regni*, in order to distinguish them from those inferior Barons.

With respect to the various modes by which dignities may be created, it has been shown that British dignities were originally feudal, and introduced into England, together with the rest of that system, by the Normans, that they were annexed to the possession of certain estates in land, and must have been created by a grant of those estates.



Dignities were created in this manner in France and in Normandy. In Scotland the same practice prevailed. Thus, in the printed case of the Earldom of Sutherland, it is said that the most ancient mode of conferring honours in Scotland was by erecting certain estates into an Earldom, and investing the grantee with those estates, of which several instances are given. And in the return made by the Lords of Sessions of Scotland in 1739 to the House of Lords respecting the state of the Scottish Peerage, it is said that before the reign of King James VI titles of honour and dignity were created by erecting lands into Earldoms and Lordships.

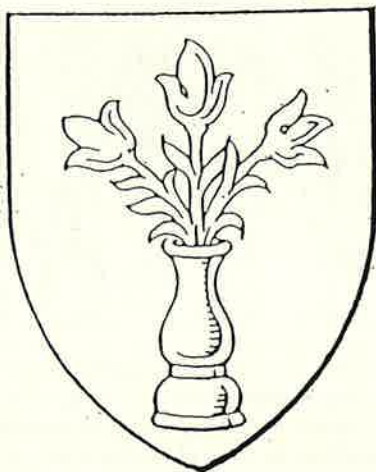
As all the ancient grants of lands made by the Conqueror and his sons to their followers are now lost, there exists no instance of the Crown's erecting an estate into a Barony or Earldom. Lord Coke says "but now the ancient manner of creation is altered; for now, when the King creates a duke, a marquis, an earl, a viscount, or a baron; he seldom creates a dukedom, marquisdome, earldome &c *ad sustinendum nomen et onus*, viz to grant him manours, lands, tenements, &c to hold of him in chiefe; for commonly upon creations the king grants to them created an annuity". And in Lord Gerard's case, Wright, serjeant, says: "The legal constitution of a Barony is, when the king creates certain lands to be a Barony."

It also appears from ancient records that the dignities of Baron and Earl, with a right of sitting in parliament, continued to be annexed to the possession of some feudal seigneuries or lordships for a long time after the Conquest, a fact that is fully admitted by all eminent antiquaries; by Camden, Spelman, Dugdale, and Selden. It will therefore be necessary to inquire into the nature of those Manors, Seigneuries or Lordships, and to state the cases in which dignities have been held to be annexed to the possession of them.



On the establishment of the Normans in England, William the Conqueror conferred or confirmed the estates of many Saxon thanes upon his principal followers, as strict feuds, to be held immediately of himself, by homage fealty, and military or other honourable services. The usual services reserved on these grants were the services of a certain number of knights; and the persons who received them, in order to be able to perform their services, gave out by subinfeudation portions of the lands to their followers, to be held of themselves by knight service; reserving a tract of land round their castle, or mansion house, for the maintenance of their own family; by which means their estates became feudal seigneuries, consisting of demesnes and services.

To every grant of a *feudum nobile* or *feudum dignitatis*, a jurisdiction was always annexed. In conformity to this practice, it may be presumed that in all the grants of lands made by William and his sons, to be held of the Crown *in capite*, a civil and criminal jurisdiction was given. For it appears from Dugdale's *Monasticon*, that in almost all the charters of lands granted by the crown to abbeys, a civil and criminal jurisdiction was expressly given. And we know that from time immemorial every Lord of a Manor has exercised a jurisdiction over his tenants; a franchise which must have been originally derived from the Crown, directly or tacitly.



The court in which the Feudal Lord exercised his jurisdiction was called *curia baronis*, the court baron. And Lord Coke says: "If we labour to search out the antiquity of these courts baron, we shall find them as ancient as manors themselves. For when the ancient kings of this realm, who had all the lands of England in demesne, did confer great quantities of land upon some great personages, with liberty to parcel the lands out to other inferior tenants, reserving such duties and services as they thought convenient; and to keep courts where they might redress misdemeanors, within their precincts, punish offences, committed by their tenants, and decide and debate controversies arising within their jurisdiction, these courts were termed courts baron".



Dugdale says that every estate of this kind had a capital mansion on it, as of which the lands granted out to the tenants were held. And being the residence of the Lord, it was called in old French *Manoir*, a *manendo*, from which the whole acquired the name Manor. It is also called, and with more propriety, a lordship, being in fact a feudal seignory or *dominium*, annexed to the possession of the demesnes, over the tenants holding lands by a subinfeudation from the ancient proprietors of such demesnes, by certain services, with a jurisdiction over those persons. And Lord Coke says: "A manor in these days signifieth the jurisdiction and royalty incorporate, rather than the land or scite".

*Manerium* (says Spelman) *est feudum nobile, partim vassallis, quos tenentes vocamus, ob certa servitia concessum; partim domina in usum familiae suae, cum jurisdictione in vassallos, ob concessa praedia reservatum. Quae vassallis conceduntur, terras dicimus tenementales, quae domino reservantur dominicales. Totum vero feudum dominium appellatur, olim baronia. Unde curia quae huic praeest jurisdictioni, hodie curia baronis nomen retinet.*

The persons to whom the great lords granted lands, to hold of them by knight service, were called *valvasores*, (*vavaseurs*) of whom Spelman gives the following account: -*Sunt ergo valvasores majores, qui non a rege immediate sed secunda vice feuda acceperunt, scilicet a ducibus, marchionibus, vel comitibus; hoc est a regni vel regis capitaneis.* And Bracton says that an estate thus held was called *vavasoria*.

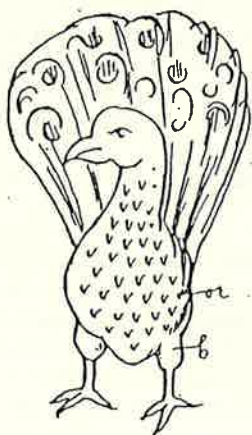
These *valvasores majores* again granted out portions of their lands to free persons, to be held of themselves in socage, who were called *valvasores minores*, by which means the *valvasores majores* created Manors of an inferior kind, whereof they were the immediate lords; and the Baron or King's tenant *in capite* was the lord paramount.

In consequence of this practice, Manors became divided into two sorts, which Bracton calls *maneria capitalia et non capitalia. Et sciendum est quod manerium poterit esse per se ex pluribus aedificiis coadjuvatum, sive villis vel hamlettis adjacentibus. Poterit enim esse manerium et per se, et cum pluribus villis, et cum pluribus hamlettis adjacentibus quorum nullum dici potest manerium per se, se d villae sive hamlettae. Poterit enim esse per se manerium capitale, et plura continere sub se maneria non capitalia, et plures villas et plures hamlettos, quasi sub uno capite, et dominio uno.*

The practice of creating inferior Manors was effectually prevented in the reign of King Edward I by the statute *Quia Emptores Terrarum*, (1290) which reciting the inconveniences arising from subinfeudations, that is from feoffments of lands to be held of the feoffors, enacted, that upon every future conveyance of lands, the grantee should hold of the chief lord, and not of the grantor. But the provisions not extending to the king's own tenants *in capite*, the law concerning them was declared by the statutes *Prerogativa Regis*, 17 Edw. II c. 6 and 4 Edw. III c. 15 by which last all subinfeudations previous to the reign of

King Edward I were confirmed. But all subsequent to that period were left open to the King's prerogative.

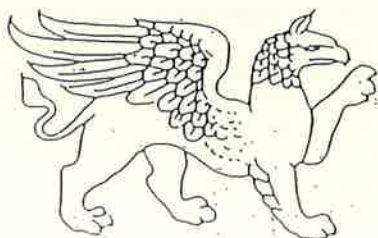
Every Lord of a Manor held immediately of the Crown was during the first century after the Conquest deemed a Baron and his Manor a Barony. Thus Spelman says:- *Maneriorum dominos etiam minores inter barones censeri manifestum est, cui fidem facit quod ipsae hae curiae usque hodie curiae baronum nuncupantur. Aevo praeterea Henrici Primi procerum appellatione computari videntur omnes maneriorum domini. Nam quos in epigraphe 25. legum suarum proceres vocat, eosdem mox in capite, barones sochnam suam habentes, exponit.*



But although every Manor held immediately of the Crown, was originally a Barony, and the Lord thereof a member of the *curia regis* and the *magnum consilium*, yet when the Barons were divided into *majores* and *minores*, it is probable that those only who possessed *maneria capitalia* of which inferior Manors were held, were considered as *barones majores* and retained the dignity of Barons; while those who had but a *manerium non capitale* were called *barones minores*.

In the course of time the Manor, or Seignory to which the dignity of a Baron was annexed, acquired the name *baronia*; and it appears from all our 12th and 13th century writers that such estates were not uncommon for some time after the Conquest. Thus we read in Glanville:- *Mortuo enim aliquo capitali barone, statim baroniam in manu suo retinet rex, donec haeres grantum suum fecerit de relevio.* But such Baronies must have some form of Charter of the King, or writ from the King, or some such charter of him for 'livery of his lands that designates the recipient, by virtue of holding such feudum nobile, a Baron.

It is thus enacted by King John's *Magna Carta* c 42,- *Si aliquis tenuerit de aliqua escaeta, sicut de honore de Wallingford, Nottingham Bolon, et de aliis escaetis quae sunt in manu nostra, et sint baroniae; et obierit, haeres ejus non det alium relevium, nec faciet nobis aliud servitium quam faceret baroni, si baronia esset in manu baronis.* Bracton also says:- *Item si dominus rex tenuerit aliquam baroniam, vel terram.* And in another place:- *Ut si fuerit contentio inter partes, in qua baronia, vel in cujus feodo, tenementum fuerit.*

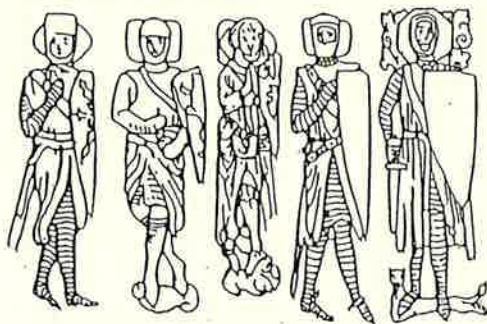


It has been stated that to every Manor was annexed a jurisdiction, and a court, called the court baron, for the exercise of it. The civil jurisdiction was called *soca et sacha*, the criminal *infangthef* and *outfangthef*. These latter words are thus explained by Spelman:-

*Significant latronem infra captum, hoc est infra amnerium vel jurisdictionem alicujus, jus habentis de eodem cognoscendi. Regale quidem privilegium, et in antiquis diplomatibus, majoribus regni frequenter concessum. Qui ipso hoc verbo talem assecuti sunt potestem.*

By the *Magna Carta* of 9 Hen. III c 17, sheriffs of counties, constables of castles, escheators and coroners were prohibited from holding pleas of the Crown. Lord Coke says- "Albeit the franchises of infangthiefe and outfangthiefe, to be heard and determined within courts-baron belonging to manors, were within the said mischief, yet we find, but not without great inconvenience, that the same had some continuance after this act. But neither this act or *per desuetudinem* for inconvenience these franchises within manors are antiquated and gone".

It appears however from the *Placita de Quo Warranto* that in the reigns of the three first Edwards, a great number of Lords of Manors claimed and established a right to exercise a criminal jurisdiction in their court barons.



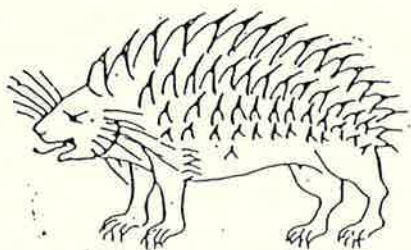
By the feudal law, the lord, upon the death of his tenant, became entitled to a sum of money from the heir, as a fine or composition for the renewal of the investiture, which was called a relief. In Glanville's time, the relief of a knight's fee was fixed at 100 shillings, but that of a Barony was uncertain. *De baronis vero nihil certum statuendum est, quia juxta voluntatem et misericordiam domini regis solent baronie capitales de releviis suis domino regi satisfacere.*

The reliefs of earls and barons were, however, reduced to a certainty before the *Magna Carta* of King John, in which is the following clause:- *Si quis comitum vel baronum nostrorum, sive aliorum tenentium de nobis in capite, per servitium militare mortuus fuerit, et cum decesserit heres suus plenae etatis fuerit, et relevium debeat, habeat hereditatem suam per antiquum relevium. Scilicet heres heredis comitis, de baronia comitis integra, per centum libra. Heres vel heredes baronis de baronia integra, per centum marcas.*



In some ancient copies of the *Magna Carta* of King Henry III, referred to in the folio edition of the Statutes the relief of a Barony is stated to be *centum libras*. But this reading appears erroneous, and *marcas* to be the true one. First, an earldom was always considered, not only on the continent, but also in England, as superior to, and of greater annual value than a Barony; therefore the relief ought to be greater. Second, in the text of the old *Coustumier* of Normandy, c 34, the relief of a Baron is stated to be 100 livres; and in the Glossary the relief of an Earl is said to be 500 livres. By the laws of the Conqueror, the relief of an earl consisted of eight horses, &c and that of a Baron of four horses &c. Third, in Bracton is the following passage:- *Quale sit rationabile relievium antiquum de feodo militari distinguitur in Charta Libertatum, c2. Scil de comitatu intergro dandae sunt c. librae de herede comitis, pro relievio, et de herede baronis pro baronia integra c marcas*. And this is the reading in the copy of *Magna Carta* published by Lord Coke, which is adopted by him, and by all the other writers of that age.

It appears, however, from Madox's History of the Exchequer, that in the reign of King Henry III the sum of one hundred pounds was required for the relief of a Barony. So that it was a matter of considerable importance to ascertain whether a person held his lands *per baronium*, or by the service of a certain number of knights only.



In 9 Henry III, Walter de Clifford was charged with £100 for his relief, as for a Barony. But it being found by inquisition that this Walter held of the King, *in capite*, by one knight's fee, and not by Barony, he was acquitted of £93 and half a mark, and charged for his relief with ten marks only. The words of the record are:- *Quod per inquisitionem quam rex praecepit fieri, idem Walterius tenuit de rege, in capite per feudum militis, et non per baroniam*.

In 40 Henry III, the King took homage of William Longespee, son and heir of Idonea, late wife of William Longespee, for all the lands which were Idonea's. The Abbot of Pershore, the King's escheator, was ordered to take security of William, for 50 shillings for his relief. But afterwards, upon searching the Roll of the Exchequer, it was found that the Idonea held of the King, *in capite*, two Baronies; whereupon it was adjudged by the court of exchequer that William should pay to the King £200 for his relief for the said Baronies.

The different fees payable on doing homage to the King, by persons holding by Barony, and by persons holding by knight service, proves the distinction between several tenures. By the Statute of Westminster 2. Edw.I c.42, in which the fees of the marshal and chamberlain of the King's house are regulated, it is ordered by the King that where a marshal "who asketh a palfrey of earls, Barons and others, holding by a part of a Barony, where they have done homage; nevertheless another palfrey, when they are made Knights; the said marshal, of every Earl and Baron, holding an entire Barony, should be contented with one palfrey, or with the price of it; such as he had used to have of old".

Lord Coke has observed on this passage that the ancient price of the horse of a Baron, holding by an entire Barony, was ten pounds; and that of a knight, having no part of a Barony, was five marks.

With respect to the extent of a Barony, it is said in an ancient manuscript, called *Modus tenendi Parliamentum*, that a Barony consisted of thirteen knight's fees and a quarter. But though this work has been frequently referred to by Lord Coke and some other writers, as a genuine piece of antiquity, yet its authenticity has been questioned by Selden and Prynne; the former of whom supposes it to have been an imposture of the time of King Edward III; and the latter makes it an invention, as late as 31 Hen VI.

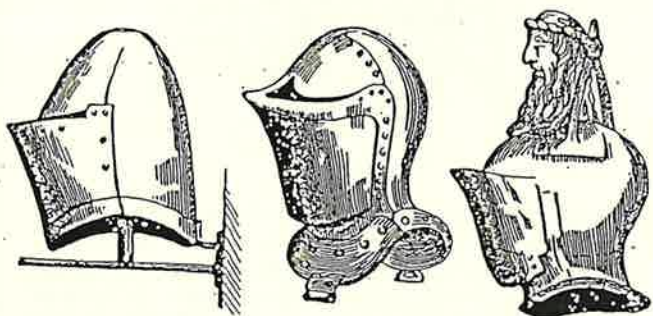


The best ground for presumption about the extent of a Barony is by comparing the relief due for it with the relief due for a knight's fee; for the relief being said to be a fourth part of the annual value of the feud, must have been in proportion to the *quantum* of property that descended to the heir. Now it has been stated that in Glanville's time, the relief of a Knight's Fee was five pounds, and supposing the relief of a Barony to have been a hundred marks, as Bracton and all the writers of that time assert, a Barony would consist of thirteen knight's fees and a quarter, according to the *Modus tenendi Parliamentum*. But if the relief was £100 it would consist of 20 Knights Fees.

Madox observes that the Baronies created by the Conqueror and his sons, were very likely much greater than those that were created after, and consequently contained a greater number of Knight's Fees. A distinction was, therefore, made between the Baronies and Knight's Fees of the older feoffment, that is, those that were created after; which are said to be of the new feoffment.

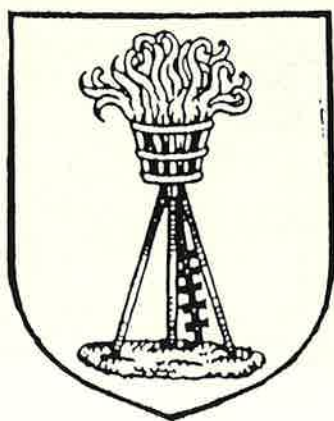


In the reign of Henry VIII, an Honour appears to have been considered as an illustrious Manor or Lordship, or several Manors united, having a capital seat or mansion. Thus certain Manors belonging to the Crown were then created Honours by Act of Parliament; such as the Manors of Hampton Court, Amptill and Grafton. But Madox observes that by those acts Honours were created in name, and those places acquired some of the properties of Honours, but in fact became Honours of a new sort. For the essential property of an Honour vested in the King was to be a Barony escheated. Now if Hampton Court was not an escheat, or a Barony escheated before the making of the Act, it could not become an escheat or Barony escheated by the Act; which could not alter its nature. If a Manor or estate vested in the Crown was a part of the King's original inheritance, if it never was granted to an Earl or Baron, and it did not come to the Crown by escheat, it was not properly an Honour. It might, indeed, be created an Honour, or nominal Honour, but such creation could not alter the nature of it, or make it an Honor in fact, that is, it would not make a Baronial estate, if not so before.



All the proprietors of these Baronial estates, or land Baronies, were entitled to sit in the *Magnum Consilium*, or parliament, till the reign of Henry III, who made a law, which has been already stated, that no person should come to parliament without a writ of summons from the King; and though it does not appear that this law applied to the principal Barons, yet it is probable that the Crown frequently availed itself of it, by omitting to summon the lesser Barons or those who acquired estates held *per baroniam*. For some passages in our ancient records prove that after the reign of Henry III all tenants *per baroniam* were not parliamentary Barons.

Thus in 15 Edw III to a complaint made by the clergy that the King's officers claimed tithes of them, His Majesty answers; "*Que ceux qui teignent du roi per baronie et deyvent venir au parlement per somonse, paient le neofisme.*" And in a petition of the Commons in 28 Edw III it is stated that the tenants of Lords who held by Barony, and were summonsd to Parliament claimed to be discharged from contributing to the wages of knights of the shire.



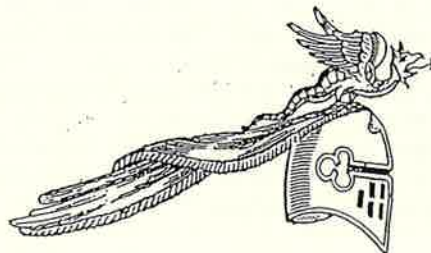
In Lord Coke's comment on *Magna Carta* he says: "It is to be understood that if the king give land to one and his heirs, *tenendum de rege per servitium baroniae* he is no lord of parliament until he is called by writ to parliament. Mr Elsynge, who was clerk of parliament in the reign of King James I, says it appears from the *Inquisitiones post Mortem* in the Tower, that many estates were held *per baroniam* by persons who were not reputed (parliamentary) peers."

The town of Burford, in Shropshire, appears from an inquisition taken in 40 Edw.III to have been held of the King, by the service of finding five men for the army of Wales; *et per servitium baroniae*, whence the proprietors were called Barons of Burford, but were not parliamentary Barons.



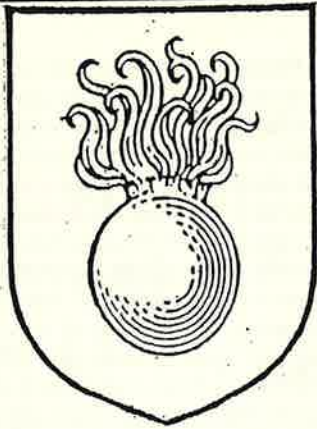
Madox, in a note to the case of Thomas de Furnival, observes that holding by Barony, and being summoned to attend among the Barons of Parliament, were in those days very different things. Selden, in his argument for the Earl of Kent, respecting the Barony of Grey of Ruthyn, says, "it is a rule that an honour or barony, or a tenure by barony, doth not enforce a conclusion that the possessed is a baron of parliament".

West observes that in consequence of the law of Henry III, which has been already stated from Camden, the circumstance of holding *per baroniam* did not make a parliamentary Baron. And though every Lord of parliament was a Baron, yet every Baron was not a Lord of Parliament. He cites the case of Sir Ralph Everden, who was discharged from sitting on juries because he held by a part of a Barony; thought it did not appear from the writs of summons that any man of that name was ever summoned to Parliament; and says this privilege was not peculiar to an attendance on Parliament, but incident to a tenure *per baroniam*. For although no Barons had a right to come to Parliament, but only those to whom writs were sent; yet the lesser Barons did preserve all the other privileges incident to their tenure.



There were, however, some estates to the possession of which the dignity of Baron, with a right to be summoned to, and sit in, Parliament was annexed conformably to the principles of the feudal law, and the usage that then prevailed in France.

Thus the dignity of a parliamentary Baron was formerly annexed to the Manor or Barony of Kingston Lisle in Berkshire, as appears from letters patent under the great seal, made with the authority of Parliament, in 22 Hen.VI, in which it is expressly declared that the possessors of that Manor had been, by reason of that possession, Barons and Lords Lisle, and by that name had place and seat in Parliament from time immemorial.

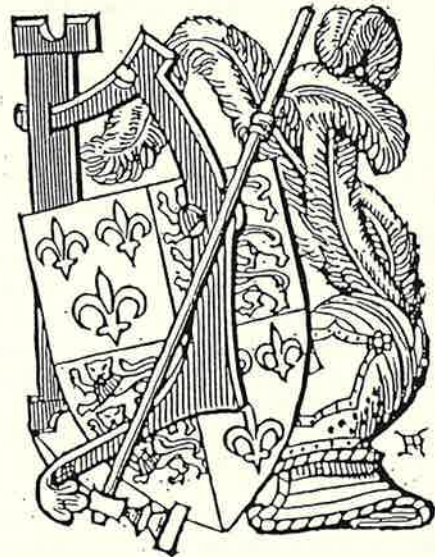


These letters patent, after reciting that Warinus, Lord of Lisle, was seised of the Manor of Kingston Lisle, from whom it descended to John Talbot, as one of his heirs; proceeds in these words:- *Nos nedum praemissa verum etiam qualiter praefatus Warinus et omnes antecessores sui, ratione domini et manerii de Kingston Lisle ex nunc domini et barones de Lisle, a tempore quo memoria hominum non existit obtinuerunt et habuerunt, ipsique et omnes successores sui ab eodem tempore per hujusmodi nomen, loca et sessiones et alias per-eminencias in parlamenti et consiliis regiis, ut caeteri barones regni Angliae a toto tempore praedicto habuerunt et obtinuerunt & c & c Volumus et concedimus per preentes, eidem Johanni, filio Johannis, quod ipse et haeredes sui domini dictorum domini et manerii de Kingston Lisle ex nunc domini et barones de Lisle et barones nobiles et proceres regni nostri habeantur, teneantur et reputentur, habeantque nomen stilum titulum et honorem baronum et dominorum de Lisle, ac sessiones in parlamenti et consiliis nostris et haeredum nostrorum, ac aliis locis quibuscunque inter alios barones regni nostri cum omnibus et omnimodis dignitatibus ac pre-eminentiis statui baronis regni nostri praedicti, et praesertim statui dictae baroniae de Lisle ab antiquo pertinentibus sive spectantibus eisdem modo et forma in omnibus et per omnia tam in hujusmodi sessionibus quam cum omnibus et omnimodis aliis preeminentiis et dignitatibus quibuscunque prout praedictus Warinus seu aliquis aliquis alius baroniam et dominium praedictam ante haec tempora habens et occupans habuit et tenuit. Habendum et tenendum nomen stilum titulum et honorem supradicta, una cum sessionibus supradictis in parlamenti consiliis et locis praedictis, nec non omnibus et omnimodis dignitatibus et pre-eminentiis supradictis eidem Johanni, filio Johannis, haeredibus et assignatis eidem Johanni, filio Johannis, haeredibus et assignatis suis imperpetuum &c.*

By other letters patent in 15 Edw IV, reciting, as in the former ones, that Edward Grey was seised in right of Elizabeth, his wife, who was the grand-daughter and heir of John Talbot, of the Lordship and Manor of Kingston Lisle; it is granted that the said Edward and his heirs, of the body of the said Elizabeth, being Lords of the said Lordship and Manor of Kingston Lisle should be Barons Lisle and should sit in parliament with the other Barons of the realm; and the name style, title and honour of Baron Lisle is granted him to hold to him and his heirs on the body of the said Elizabeth begotten. This is an exception to most current Baronies by Tenure in England, the bulk of which are in the Crown by forfeiture.



The Castle and Honour of Berkeley were granted by King Henry II to Robert FitzHarding, to hold to him and his heirs *per baroniam* from whom it descended to Thomas, Lord Berkeley, who died in 5 Hen V and by the inquisition taken at his death it was found that the castle and Manor of Berkeley were entailed by the grandfather of the deceased, by a fine levied in 23 Edward III, on himself and the heirs male of his body, and as the deceased left only a daughter, they descended on James de Berkeley, as cousin and next heir male to the deceased. Dugdale observes that this James by virtue of the entail enjoyed the castle and Barony of Berkeley and was summoned to Parliament as Lord Berkeley in 9 Henry V and to all the Parliaments that were held in the time of King Henry VI.



In the reign of Henry VII, William Lord Berkeley, having no children, covenanted to assure the castle and Manor of Berkeley, for want of issue of his own body, to King Henry VII and the heirs male of his body, and for default of such issue to his own right heirs, and settled the same accordingly. In consequence of this settlement, William Lord Berkeley obtained the office of Earl Marshal and title of Marquess to himself and the heirs male of his body, and dying without issue, the castle and Manor of Berkeley devolved to the Crown.

Maurice de Berkeley, the brother of William never had the dignity of Baron Berkeley, but having recovered several estates belonging to the family, he died in 22 Henry VII leaving Maurice, his eldest son, who was summoned to Parliament in 14 Henry VIII, but did not have the place of his ancestors, in regard that the castle of Berkeley and those Lordships belonging thereto, which originally were the body of that ancient Barony, then remained in the Crown, by virtue of the entail, and therefore he sat in Parliament as a new Baron, in the lowest place; of which, says Dugdale, he had no joy, considering the eminency of his ancestors and the pre-eminency which they ever had. Though in point of prudence he was necessitated to submit. On his death, however, King Edward VI, who was the last heir male of the body of Henry VII, the reversion of Berkeley castle and all the estates limited by William to that King fell into the possession of Henry de Berkeley as the right heir of William Lord and Marquis of Berkeley in consequence of which he was summoned to parliament in 4 & 5 Philip and Mary and was seated in the place of the ancient barons of Berkeley. The Earldom of Berkeley died out in 1945, but Captain John Barclay, as inheritor of Berkeley Lordship is Baron Barclay of Berkeley. Berkeley is the largest Manor in England, covering 28 parishes. Thus at a

much earlier date than in Scotland (*circa* 1596) the Barons By Tenure in England became *barones minores*. The Barons by Tenure in Ireland follow a similar pattern to those in England after 1170, with an exception in the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I, where Baronies were erected with the purpose of local government by the undertakers.

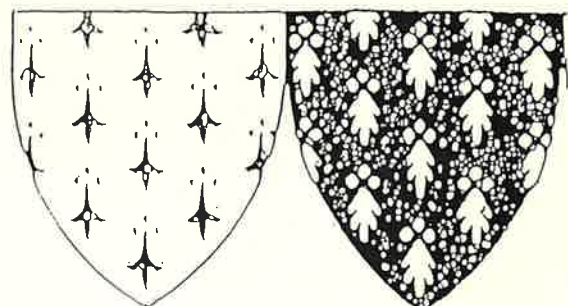


The 12th and 13th centuries were, in a manner of speaking, a baronial or honourial melting pot, some rising to great status and then falling to a manorial holding, as lands and rights were shorn from them, estates divided, or lands escheated and forfeited. A prime example of the land 'peerage', as it were, is the Earldom of Chester which features in the memorial of the Hothfield family in this Catalogue. The Anglo-Norman holders of this Earldom, though sometimes related to the king, were non-royal. The last non-royal holder of the Earldom was John Le Scot by inheritance from his uncle, Ranulph de Meschines, 4th Earl Palatine. The lands of the Earldom were so important that, on the death of John Le Scot in 1244 without issue, King Henry III annexed the Earldom to the Crown, 'lest so fair a dominion should be divided amongst women', bestowing other lands on the late John Le Scot's sister. A similar example in respect of a Barony or an Honour was that of Clare in East Anglia. Ibert de Clare, 7th Earl of Hertford, on his marriage to Joan of Acre, the daughter of King Edward I in 1289, entailed the Honour on the King, and the Honour remains in the Crown. When the Lordship of the Manor of Mitchells, in Essex, was sold about 10 years ago, there was a conveyance dated 1896 and sealed with the seal of the Honour of Clare, setting out that the Queen (Victoria) sitting in her Court of the Honour of Clare, being at Windsor Castle, granted the Lordship or Manor of Mitchells to be held of the Honour by the grantee (the purchaser). William III in 1695 granted (sold) the Honour or Barony of Hastings to Henry Pelham, whose successor, the Earl of Chichester, sold it at auction in 1996. The rights of the Tufton Barons of Westmoreland in that Barony over his mesne Manorial Lords were determined in the Court of Chancery in 1729. George II granted the Honour of Aquila, or the Barony of Pevensy, Sussex, to Earl De La Warr, in 1746, and as late as 1831 the burgesses of Barnstaple gave a fish supper to Sir John Chichester, Baronet, as the holder of that Barony, in return for an indefinite lease of the castle mound in the town. In 1660, Parliament passed an Act bringing to an end the services due to the Crown (and to some other Lords, principally Walsh seignories held by families like the Dukes of Beaufort) from remaining Baronies and some Manors. Most of these dues were purely honorific, such as the provision of a white rose to the king once a year, and they were not exacted, although a few very important services were implicitly preserved, such as that of providing a glove at the coronation when the monarch was invested with the sceptre with the dove, and supporting the king's arm at that point in the ceremony (Manor of Worksop), a right acknowledged by the Court of Claims at all coronations as being apurtenant to the Manor with the exception of the coronation in 1953 when the Manor was held by a divorcee and the office was served by a delegate, Lord Woolton. Most irksome to the holders of Bar-

onies and some Manors were the financial exactions in lieu of knight service and royal wardship of under-age children. Complaints had grown through the 16th century as increasingly needy monarchs had bled these ancient rights for all they were worth. Government was costly, and increasingly so under the Tudors, as society became more complex, but Parliament was seldom willing to acknowledge these expenses in their votes of tax subsidies. Consequently, kings turned to their dubious prerogative powers in an effort to make ends meet. Besides enjoying the estates of minors and demanding sums of money from holders of certain legal forms of land - Baronies and a number of Manors - for the knighting the king's eldest son, or the marriage of his daughter, they turned to the sale of monopolies to individuals and syndicates, granting an exclusive right to import and sell certain goods. Soap and tobacco were the most profitable monopolies, enabling the grantees to charge more or less what they wanted. A crisis was reached during the Personal Government of Charles I when the King ruled without Parliament between 1629 and 1640. With no parliamentary taxation, Charles relied increasingly on the prerogative Court of Star Chamber to extract money from his subjects under numerous feudal rights. A plethora of monopolies was granted and he even levied the prerogative, and legally suspect, tax known as Ship-money by which the country was obliged to pay towards the upkeep of the Navy, a feudal impost last used by Edward III in the 14th century. The former Member of Parliament, John Hampden, brought a test case in the Court of King's Bench against Ship-money in 1637, but as Charles appointed and could dismiss the judges, the Court found against him. When Parliament finally convened for the second time in 1640 - known as the Long Parliament, leading to the English Civil War - monopolies, the royal prerogative in respect of tax, benevolences (forced loans that were not repaid), feudal exactions from Manors and Baronies, and the Court of Star Chamber which enforced the prerogative, were abolished. When Charles's son was restored in 1660, confirmatory Acts were passed in Parliament against these perceived injustices, and similar Acts were passed in the Irish Parliament in the following year.

Some of these ancient traditions are maintained. Worksop has already been mentioned. The Barons of the Cinque Ports still enjoy (ie as at 1953) rights to attend the coronation. The Lord of the Manor of Henley-in-Arden still holds his Courts in the town in November. The Lord of Penrice, South Wales, still gives a pair of silver spurs to his overlord, the Lord of Gower, every two years in a small ceremony, which spurs the Lord of Gower immediately gives back for the next presentation. But insofar as being taxed for the knighting of the monarch's son, or if one leaves an under-age child, Lords need no longer be concerned.

The holder of a (Feudal) Barony would be known as John Smith of X, Baron of X, and his wife, or a woman in her own right, Janet Smith of X, Baroness of X. A Manorial Lord as Mr John Smith, Lord of X, or Lord of the Manor of X, and his wife or a woman in her own right, Mrs Janet Smith, Lady of X, or Lady of the Manor of X.





The **M**anorial **S**ociety of **G**reat **B**ritain  
**T**o **A**ll **A**nd **S**ingular **T**he **L**ords  
**F**eudal **O**f **T**he **U**nited **K**ingdom  
**O**f **G**reat **B**ritain **A**nd **N**orthern **I**reland  
**A**nd **O**f **T**he **A**ncient **K**ingdom **O**f **I**re

**GREETING**

**W**e the Governing Council of the Lords Feudal assembled  
 find and confirm the Lawful succession of  
**JOHN JAMES FORDHAM**  
 to the Manorial Lordship of **UFFINGTON**

an estate of feudal lordship of Great Britain and Ireland and thereby grant  
 the said Feudal Lord full membership of the Manorial Society this seventh  
 day of April in the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth  
 second of that name of England Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
 and Northern Ireland and of her other Realms and Territories Queen  
 Defender of the Faith



**The Manorial Society of Great Britain**

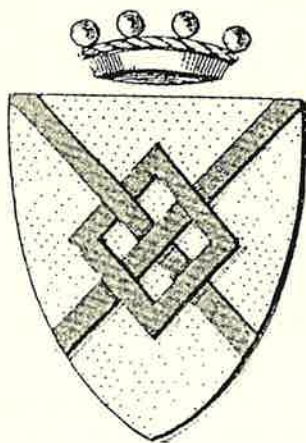
**The Certificate of Membership**

The certificate of Membership of the Manorial Society of Great Britain:

this measures approximately 2 ft x 21ins, and can be mounted and framed. Space is left in the top left corner for a Member's Arms, and in the right for his or her badge to be hand painted in. The other Arm bearings (shields of Arms) are those of the Governing Council of the Manorial Society of Great Britain.

## The Barony of Alton Staffordshire

THE BARONY OF ALTON was centred at Alton Castle in the eponymous village which lies a few miles north-west of Stoke-on-Trent. The name is today famous for Alton Towers, one of Britain's most popular visitor attractions which was once the home of the Earls of Shrewsbury and Barons of Alton. Also formerly known as Alveton, the village derives its name from the Anglo-Saxon for *Aelfas Estate* or *Aelfas Town*; Aelfa being a Saxon landowner. The name Alveton survived into the 19th century and was used in conjunction with Alton, which is a corruption of it and which probably gained ascendancy with the building at Alton Towers in the 19th century.



*Verdon*

The Barony, or Honour of Alton, was erected in the 12th century from land which belonged to the Crown. A Barony was a feudal unit of both income and power. The Baron dominated a number of local Manors whose individual lords would pay rental to the Baron, he in turn would make payments to his resident Earl. The Barony of Alton included the Lordships of Alton, Denstone, Farley among others as well as outlying estates such as the Manor of Fenton Culvert a few miles to the south (in what is now the Potteries) and the Manor of Crakemarsh. It was centred on the Baronial residence in Alton and its first Lords were the Verdon family - their descent lies on the following page. It is thought the Barony was erected for Norman de Verdon as part of a distribution of the estates of Henry I to his supporters. Verdon's father had come to England with the Normans in 1066, but was a relatively minor landholder in Yorkshire. The family had aligned themselves with the Earls of Chester. Norman de Verdon made a judicious marriage to the daughter of Geoffrey de Clinton and after the acquisition of Alton, became one of the most powerful men in the area.

Norman was succeeded by his son Bertram who sat as a Baron during the *Curia Regis* of Henry II (1154-89) and had considerable estates throughout the Midlands. He was Sheriff of Warwickshire from 1168 to 1183 and accompanied Richard I (1189-1199) on his crusade to the Holy Land in 1190. He was succeeded by his son Nicholas, who was considered a great favourite of Henry III (1216-1272).

His only heir was a daughter, Roseia, who married Theobald de Botiller, who took his wife's maiden name as his own. It is thought that it was Theobald who began construction of the Alton Castle which, in part, survives to today. On Theobald's death Alton and the rest of the family estates passed to their eldest son John. He made a profitable marriage to Margaret de Lacy, joint heiress of that powerful family's huge estates in Shropshire, Wales, and Ireland and his resulting wealth made him one of the most powerful magnates of the age. John remained intensely loyal to Henry III during his war with the Barons, which began in 1264 with the King's initial defeat at the battle of Lewes. Later he was present at the side of Prince Edward when he destroyed the power of the Barons at the battle of Evesham in 1265 and then personally led the army which destroyed Simon de Montfort's last bastion at Kenilworth., Warwickshire.

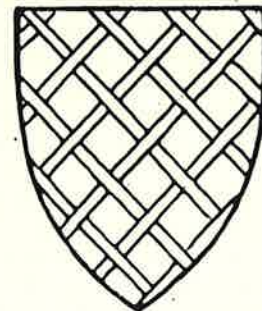
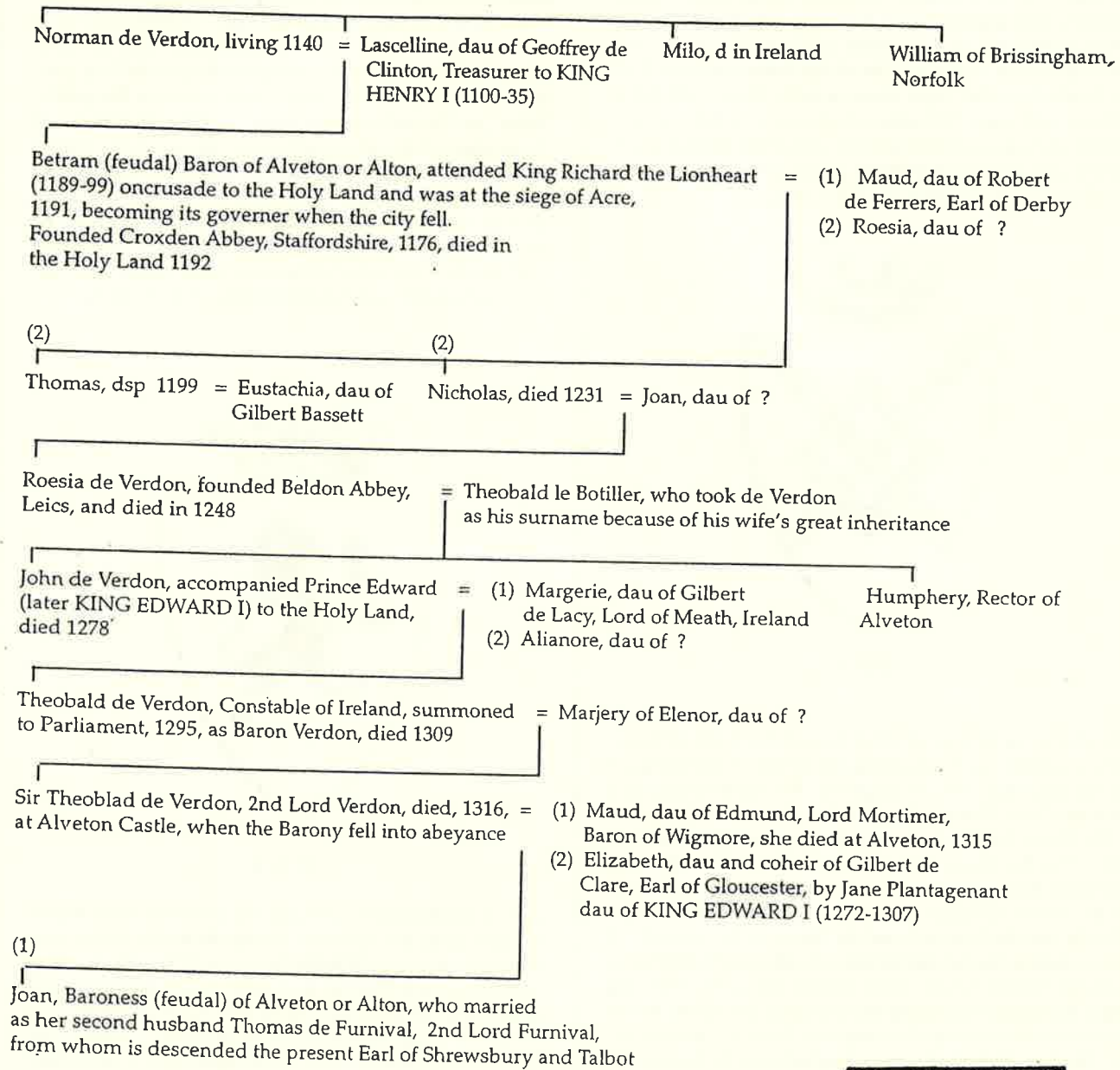


*de lacy*

John de Verdon died in 1274 and was succeeded in his Barony of Alton by his son Theobald. He was the third of John's sons, the eldest two being killed in Ireland in 1271. The resulting inheritance made Theobald a powerful figure in England and Ireland and he spent much of his time travelling between his two power bases. After the death of his father, Theobald, then aged about 23, assumed a myriad of royal duties in Ireland and Wales, where he served in 1277, 1282, and 1283. He sat in Edward I's early Parliaments, being summoned on a regular basis after 1295. Not long after this he had a serious disagreement with the King about the ownership of Meath and the Palatinate was seized by Edward for the Crown. There was little Theobald could do about this and he had little choice but to make his peace with Edward and remain in the King's service. Perhaps as an outlet for his frustration, Verdon then entered into a bitter feud with the monks of Llanthony Priory in the Welsh Marches over a trifling matter. Theobald summoned the Prior to his court, but when he failed to appear, Verdon sent in his private army and seized land and livestock belonging to the priory. Evidently his men had not been restrained in their violence and the prior appealed to king, accusing Verdon of assault and murder. The King demanded that Verdon's men leave the priory but his or-

# THE DESCENT OF DE VERDON, sometime BARONS of ALTON

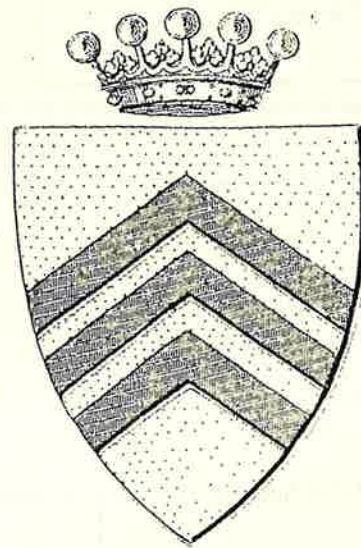
Bertram de Verdun, said to be the son of Godfrey, Count of Verdun, held the Lordship of Farnham Royal, Bucks, by the service of providing a glove on the day of a King's coronation for his right had = ?



ders were largely ignored. As events got out of hand, Edward himself was forced to seize Verdon's property and he was imprisoned and stripped of his lucrative Welsh Manor of Ewyas Lacy. This did not prevent Verdon from continuing to antagonize his neighbours with provocative and largely petty displays of his might. However, despite being only in his forties, Theobald very soon afterwards became infirm and relinquished many of his duties to the King. In 1297, he was summoned to attend to Edward in Gascony, south-west France, but wrote to the King to explain that his illnesses would prevent this. His misery was compounded by the death of his eldest son, John in the same year. His second son, Theobald was therefore sent in his place. Verdon died in 1309 and was succeeded by Theobald who died in 1316 after what was described as *a short but brilliant career*.

The younger Theobald was born in 1278 and by the time he was 20 had entered military service. He fought in the Scottish campaign of 1298 and was summoned to Parliament from 1299 as Lord Verdon in his own right, a separate dignity from that of his father. In April 1313, Theobald was appointed as Justiciar of Ireland. It is thought that he was given this position as a response to a revolt against Edward II (1307-27) in Ireland led by Verdons own brothers. His tenure of the Justiciarship was short lived and within a year he had returned to England and married Elizabeth de Clare, sister of Gilbert, Earl of Gloucester. Their marriage was rumoured to have been the result of Theobald kidnapping Elizabeth from Bristol Castle, but he later claimed that she had left the castle of her own free will and that they had already been betrothed in Ireland in the previous year. He did not live long enough to enjoy married life, and he died at Alton Castle in July 1316. With his death, the Verdon possession of the Barony came to an end.

The family estates were divided and Alton descended to his daughter, Joan who was married to Thomas Furnival. Furnival had been a great favourite of Edward I and survived the chaotic years of the reign of Edward II relatively unscathed. He died in 1339 and was succeeded by his son Thomas, Lord Furnival, who had received the nickname of Hasty and fought with Edward III at the Battle of Crécy in 1347. He died in 1366 and Alton then descended to his brother William. He proved to be the last of the family line and on his death in 1383 his estates passed to his daughter Joan. She married Sir Thomas Nevil, the brother of Ralph, Earl of Westmorland. Sir Thomas was summoned to Parliament as Lord Furnival by right of his marriage during unrest provoked by the reign of Richard II (1377-1399). Nevil supported Henry Bolingbroke against the King. He was rewarded when Richard was deposed by Henry - who became King Henry IV - when he was made Treasurer of England. Nevil died in 1406 and his estates, including the Barony of Alton passed to his only daughter, Maud. She married John Talbot, the fourth son of Richard, Baron Goodrich, and one of the most famous of all English warriors. Born in 1387, John's life was one of battle. He fought in Wales as teenager and by 1413 he had been made Lieutenant of Ireland by Henry V. In 1419 Talbot went to France, fighting at the sieges of Melun and Meaux, and later, after warring with his adversary in Ireland, the Earl of Ormonde, he returned to France where he took part in the siege of Orleans. His fame and repute as a warrior was such that Joan of Arc was said to have believed that Talbot led the English forces. He was later captured by the French at Patay where he had fought against overwhelming odds. He remained a prisoner until 1433 when on his release he joined forces with Philip, Duke of Burgundy, England's ally. He remained in France and is considered to have done much to keep Normandy in English hands. In 1442 he was created Earl of Shrewsbury and made Constable of France. The next year he returned to England and was made, for the third time, Governor of Ireland, and received the Earl



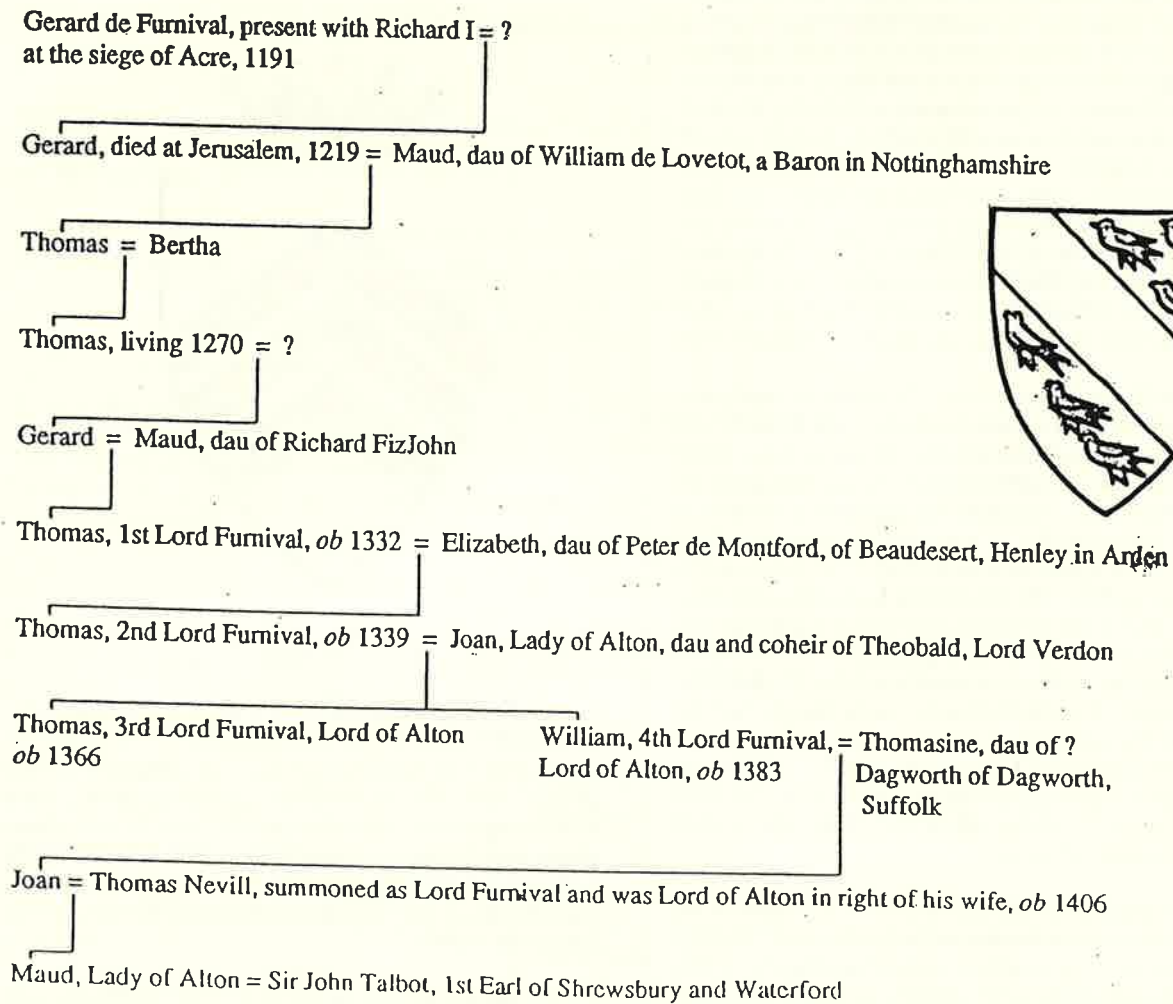
*de clare*

dom of Waterford and the Hereditary Lord Stewardship of Ireland. In 1452, as the French threatened Calais, Shrewsbury was sent to France of Lieutenant of Aquitaine, with almost regal powers. After a bloody campaign Shrewsbury made a stand with his English and Gascon troops at Castillon. Despite a brave charge from his men, to cries of Talbot, Talbot, St George the battle was lost and Shrewsbury killed. Despite this, Shrewsbury remained one of the most famous warriors of his age, on both sides of the channel.

His son and heir as Earl and Baron of Alton was his son John who was knighted as a young man in 1426 and married Elizabeth daughter of James Butler, fourth Earl of Ormond. In 1445 he was made Chancellor of Ireland, a post he held until 1451. In the political turmoil of the 15th century, Talbot gave only tepid support to the Duke of York and was careful never to offer his full support to any one camp in the civil war, known as the War of the Roses. Instead he attached himself to Queen Margaret in 1456, who was opposed to York and this may explain why he was made Lord Chancellor at that time. When Civil war broke out again in 1460 he fought for the king against the Yorkists at the battle of Northampton on July 10 1460 and was killed.

The Barony of Alton then passed to his son John, the third Earl, who died in 1473 and in turn he was succeeded by his son George, the fourth Earl of Shrewsbury. He was a minor at his father's death, and his wardship was granted to Edward IV's favourite William, Baron Hastings. He fought at the battle of Stoke in 1487 on behalf of Henry VII, after which he was made a Knight of the Garter. In 1494 he was present at the creation of Prince Henry as Duke of York in *so well horsed an soo richely Ò that it was a tryumphant sight*. On the accession of Henry VIII in 1509, Shrewsbury became involved in diplomacy and travelled to Spain. He was at the King's side at his meeting with the King Francis I of France at the Field of Cloth of Gold in 1520. During the revolts of 1536, Shrewsbury personally raised a force of 3,654 of his own men to assist the King in Lincolnshire. When the Northern Catholic rising, known as the Pilgrimage of Grace, broke out a few weeks later, Shrewsbury moved swiftly, if somewhat rashly, to try to defeat the rebels. Though he failed, he did manage to stall their advance and Henry VIII was grateful for

## DESCENT OF THE FURNIVALS



this. Shrewsbury showed little sympathy for Protestantism, but was loyal to his King and his influence in the Midlands, especially in Staffordshire, prevented any serious disturbances there. He died in 1538 and was succeeded by his son Francis. He was a supporter of Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, who ruled as Protector during the first years of the reign of Edward VI (1547-53). He was also one of the peers who welcomed the accession of Queen Mary in 1553. When Elizabeth came to the throne in 1558, Francis found it difficult to fully accommodate his Catholicism with the new regime. He died in 1560.

George, the sixth Earl of Shrewsbury, became Baron of Alton at his father's death. In 1553 he had signed the instrument, setting the Crown on Lady Jane Grey, but was later pardoned. During the reign of Elizabeth he was selected for the Order of the Garter and although he dominated local politics he never established himself on the national scene. He is perhaps best known for his marriage to Elizabeth St Loe, Bess of Hardwick. She had been married three times and was regarded as something of a 'gold-digger'. Despite an early warmth in their relationship, Shrewsbury soon soured towards his wife, describing her as *my wyked and malysyous wyfe*. Since he was one of the richest men in England, it was assumed that she had one eye on his fortune to repair her own. The couple soon separated and there followed a lengthy legal suit to settle their affairs. In the later 1560s, Shrewsbury was made custodian of Mary Queen of Scots and she was delivered to him at Tutbury Castle, a few miles south of Alton. She remained in his care until 1584 and during this time she was moved around his properties, possibly including Alton Castle. He died in 1590.

The Barony then descended with the Earls of Shrewsbury. Gilbert, the seventh Earl, died in 1616 and was succeeded by his brother Edward, with whom he had once fought a duel. Edward survived for only a year and was in turn succeeded by his kinsman, George Talbot, who had descended from the second Earl. On his death in 1630 the Talbot estates then passed to his nephew, John, the 10th Earl, who lived, uneventfully, until 1654. The Barony of Alton then became the possession of the 11th Earl, Francis. In 1667 he became involved in a bitter dispute with George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, who fell in love with Shrewsbury's wife, Anna Maria. The two began an affair which eventually led to the most famous duel of the 17th century when the cuckolded Earl challenged the Duke. Three men fought on each side on January 16 1668 and the Shrewsbury was wounded. The duel embarrassed the Government. Although the combatants were pardoned by King Charles II (1660-85) but the Earl died a few weeks later.

The title and estates, including Alton, then passed to John's only son, Charles, the 12th Earl. Charles was the godson of Charles II and was only a child when his father died. He was placed in the care of various relatives until he was 14 when he went abroad to be educated, a necessity since he was a Catholic. However, in the 1670s he converted to the Church of England and avoided the discriminatory provisions of the 1678 Test Act. He was able to sit in the House of Lords and he took up the lieutenancy of Staffordshire in 1681. When James II came to the Throne in 1685 he remained initially loyal to the new King but he was marginalized by the Catholic monarch and he became a core

DESCENT OF THE CHETWYND-TALBOTS, EARLS OF SHREWSBURY, WATERFORD, AND TALBOT OF HENSOL, Viscounts Ingestre, Premier Earls of England, HEREDITARY LORD HIGH STEWARD OF IRELAND, and Baron of Alton

Ralph de Talbot, mentioned in Domesday = a daughter of Gerard de Gournay, Baron of Yarmouth

Geoffrey

Hugh, living 1118 = Beatrix, dau of William de Mandeville

Richard de Talbot, living *temp* RICHARD I = a daughter of Stephen Bulmer of Appletreewick, Yorks

Gilbert, granted lands at Linton by RICHARD I and had custody of Ludlow Castle = ?

Richard, living *temp* HENRY III = Aliva, dau of Alan Basset, Baron of Wycombe

Richard, Bishop of London, 1260

Gilbert, *ob* 1274 = Gwendoline, dau of Rhys ap Griffith, King of South Wales

Richard, Feudal Baron of Eccleshall = Sarah, dau of William Beauchamp, Baron of Elmley and Earl of Warwick

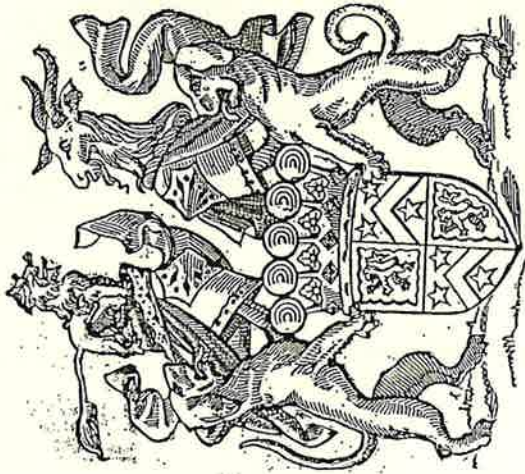
Sir Gilbert Talbot, 1st Baron Talbot, Lord Chamberlain to EDWARD III, *ob* 1346 = Anne, dau of William Boteler, Baron of Wem

Sir Richard, 2nd Baron, *ob* 1356 = Elizabeth, dau of John Comyn, Lord of Badenoch

Gilbert, 3rd Baron, *ob* 1387 = (1) Lady Petronella, dau of 1st Earl of Ormonde  
(2) Lady Joan, dau of 1st Earl of Stafford KG

(1)

Sir Richard, 4th Baron = Ankaret, sis and heir of John, Baron le Strange of Blackmere, *ob* 1413



Shrewsbury

Gilbert, 5th Baron KG, = (1) Joan, dau of Thomas Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, son of EDWARD III

(2) Beatrix, dau of the Pintos of Portugal

Sir John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury KG, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, termed by Shakespeare "the Great Aleides of the field", Lord Lieutenant of Aquitaine; 1442 cr Earl of Shrewsbury; 1446 and Earl of Waterford. He was the last Constable of Gascony, after whom the great claret Talbot is named. Created Hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland Killed at Châtillon, 1453

= Maud, Baroness Furnival

Ankaret, Baroness Talbot and Strange of Blackmere, dsp 1431

John, 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury and Waterford KG, = (1) Catherine, dau of Sir Edward Burnell Lord Treasurer of England, k at Northampton 1460 (2) Lady Elizabeth, dau of 4th Earl of Ormonde

John, 3rd Earl, ob 1473 = Lady Catherine, dau of Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham

Sir Gilbert Talbot of Grafton, Wores, KG PC = Elizabeth, dau of 7th Lord Greystock

George, 4th Earl, = (1) Anne, dau of William, Lord Hastings

KG, ob 1538 (2) Elizabeth, dau and co-heir of Sir Richard Walden of Erith, Kent

George Talbot of Grafton, 9th Earl, dsp 1630 when he was succeeded by his nephew

Francis, 5th Earl = Mary, dau of Thomas Lord Dacre of Gilsland

ob 1560

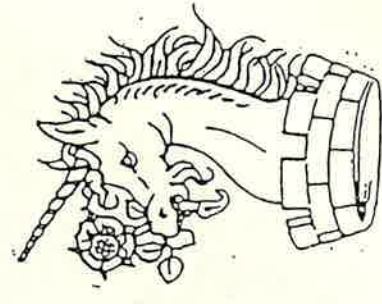
George, 6th Earl KG, had custody of MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS for 20 years till her execution in 1587; Lord High Steward of England, Hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland, Earl Marshal of England, ob 1590,

(1) Gertrude, dau of Thomas, Earl of Rutland

(2) Elizabeth, dau of John Hardwick of Hardwick, Derbys, BESS OF HARDWICK, a woman of "masculine understanding...proud, furious, selfish and unfeeling"

Gilbert, 7th Earl, ob 1616 = Mary, dau of Sir William Cavendish

Edward, 8th Earl, dsp 1617 = Jane, dau of 1st Lord Ogle



John, 10th Earl, ob 1654 = Mary, dau of Sir Francis Fortescue KB

George *dsvvp* 1642

Francis, 11th Earl, killed in a duel, 1667 = (1) Anne, dau of Sir John Conyers  
(2) Lady Anna Maria, dau of 2nd Earl of Cardigan

Charles, 12th Earl, *cr* (1694) Marquess of Alton, Staffs, and Duke of Shrewsbury, Lord Chamberlain, to whom  
QUEEN ANNE entrusted the Hanoverian succession in the person of GEORGE I. Great-grandfather eight times  
to HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II, *dsp* 1718

Gilbert, 13th Earl  
*dsp* a priest

George = Mary, dau of 4th  
Viscount FitzWilliam

George, 14th Earl, *dsp* 1787

Charles = (1) Mary, dau of Robert Alwyn  
(2) Mary, dau of Sir George Mostyn Bt

Charles, 15th Earl, *dsp* 1827

John = (1) Catherine, dau of Thomas Clifton of Lytham, Lancs  
(2) Harriet, dau of Rev Bacon Bedingfield of Norfolk

Francis = (1) Anne, dau of 1st Earl of Fauconberg  
(2) Lady Margaret, dau of William Sheldon

John, 16th Earl, *dspms* 1852

Charles = Julia, dau of Sir Henry Tichborne, Bt

Bertram, 17th Earl, *ob unrm* 1853

the 18th Earl was descended from Sir Gilbert Grafton, 3rd son of the 2nd Earl, *supra*\*

Henry John Chetwynd, 18th Earl of Shrewsbury and Waterford, = Lady Sarah, dau of 2nd Marquess of Waterford, an entirely different  
3rd Earl and 5th Baron Talbot, Viscount Ingestre, *ob* 1868

Charles, 19th Earl of Shrewsbury and Waterford, *ob* 1877 = Teresa, dau of Cmrdr Richard Cockerell

Charles, 20th Earl KCVO, Hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland, *ob* 1921 = Ellen, dau of Charles Morewood of Ladbroke Hall, Warks

Charles, Viscount Ingestre, *dvp* 1915 = Winifred Paget, dau of Lord Alexander Paget, son of 15th Marquess of Ailesbury

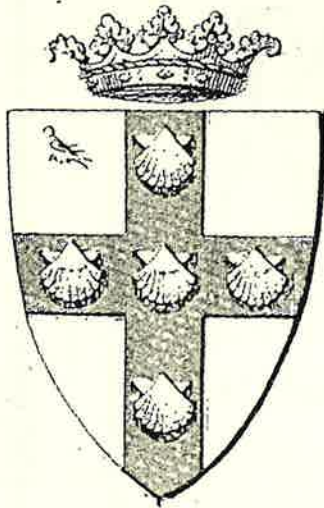
John, 21st Earl, *ob* 1980 = (1) Nadine Muriel, dau of Brigadier Cyril Crofton, died 2003

(2) Doris, Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury, died 1991

Charles Henry John Benedict Crofton Chetwynd-Talbot, 22nd and present Earl of Shrewsbury, Waterford and Talbot, Hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland



\*Space limitations do not permit a full pedigree of this most illustrious family, who hold three Earldoms, are Premier Earls of England on the Roll, Hereditary Lord High Stewards of Ireland and many other titles



Villiers

member of the Protestant opposition. In July 1688 he left England to join William of Orange. When William invaded that November, Shrewsbury travelled with him and he took control of Bristol with a small force. The Earl helped to consolidate the Revolution, but his relationship with the new Whig Government soon soured and his influence declined. Nevertheless, in 1694 he was created Duke of Shrewsbury and Marquess of Alton. Four years later, with his stock rising once more he was made Lord Chamberlain, but he remained in the post for only two years, ill health forcing his resignation. For the next few years he travelled throughout Europe and returned in 1706 to tour his English estates. He spent a good deal of the year in Staffordshire.

The Duke died childless in 1718 and that dignity became extinct. The Earldom of Shrewsbury and the Barony of Alton passed to his cousin, Gilbert, the son of the 10th Earl and a Catholic priest. Thus the family reverted to the Old Religion. Gilbert died in 1743 and was succeeded by his nephew, George, the 14th Earl.

On his death in 1787, the Earldom descended to his nephew, Charles, the 15th Earl. It was he who decided to develop his estate at Alton. At this time there was house there, known as Alveton Lodge and in 1812 the Earl began a series of extensive redevelopment of the house and the planting of large formal gardens. The Lodge was renamed Alton Towers. His nephew, John, the 16th Earl continued the development at Alton, drafting in Augustus Pugin to finish the design of the house, creating what is considered to be a *gothic wonderland*. On the death of the Earl in June 1856 the house passed briefly to his cousin, Bertram, the 17th Earl who died a few weeks later. He was childless and there then followed a series of legal battles to claim the estates and the title. Eventually Alton was claimed and won by Henry Chetwynd Talbot, the 3rd Earl of Talbot of Hensol who then became the 18th Earl of Shrewsbury and Earl of Waterford. The cost of the legal challenge had been so high that the new Earl was forced to sell the contents of Alton Towers and then let the building out to the public. His son, Charles, the 19th Earl, did much to develop Alton Towers as a public attraction but most of the property was sold in 1924. The Barony of Alton however has remained in the possession of the family and the current Baron is Charles, 22nd Earl of Shrewsbury, Earl of Waterford, Viscount Ingestre, and Hereditary Lord High Steward of Ireland. Lord Shrewsbury is also co-heir to the medieval parliamentary Baronies of Verdon and Furnival.





# Do all to whom these Presents

shall come, I, Donald Begley, Chief Herald of Ireland, send greeting.

Whereas petition hath been made unto me by Alan Richardson Godson Brooile, Baron Katakath of County Meath, Ireland, which Barony was Chartered by King Richard I in 1190, being presently resident in Dandkon, South Africa, son of Edmund Godson Brooile, grandson of William Brooile and great-grandson of Thomas (Montague) Brooile, in accordance with the pedigree deposited by him in my Office, that he is desirous that certain Supporters be duly granted and assigned by lawful authority unto him, five Armorial Bearings having been duly recorded in the College of Arms, London, to wit: ~ **Bunny wavy of eight Argent and Azure, on a Canton Vert a Crown palewise Or, Crest: ~ On a Wreath of the Colours out of a Chapelet of Roses silver natly Argent and Gules seeded, seeded and leaved a demi-Lion passant holding between the fore paws a Saltire Vert garnished by a Chapelet of Or fauched Or.**

Now, I, the said Chief Herald of Ireland, do, by these Presents, grant and assign unto him the Supporters following, that is to say: ~ **On the dexter side a Lion rampant Or, on the sinister side a Dragon passant Argent, the wings charged with a Cross of St. George Gules, the Compartiment comprising a Grasshopper Mount Vert growing therefrom Shemmoche Proper,** as in the margin hereof more clearly depicted.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my Name and Title and affixed the Seal of my Office this 22nd day of March, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-one.

Vol. X, fol. 16

Donald Begley  
Chief Herald of Ireland



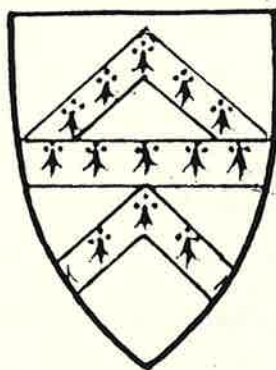
## The Lordship of Hamstall Ridware Staffordshire

THE PARISH and village of Hamstall Ridware lies in the Vale of Blyth and in the ancient Hundred of North Offlow, bounded on the south side by the River Trent. It is situated about five miles from Rugeley and eight miles from Lichfield, the capital of Offa, King of Mercia in the eighth century.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, a Saxon freeman held this Manor under the Earl of Mercia, but by the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 the Manor of Hamstall Ridware had been re-granted to Walter, a knight serving under the Norman Earl of Shrewsbury. According to the survey Walter held one virgate of land, together with ploughable land measuring one caracute with four and a half acres of meadow where there were two servants and four villiens. There are two further entries in Domesday recording the Manor. The entries read:

*Robert (of Stafford) also holds 3 virgates of land in (Hamstall) Ridware.  
Herman holds from him. 3 Thanes held it; they were free men. Land for 4 ploughs. In Lordship 1, with slave 1. A free man held 1 virgate of this land*

*(Hamstall) Ridware. Walter hold from him. 1 virgate of land.  
Land for 1 and half ploughs. 2 slaves;  
4 villagers. Meadow 4 acres, woodland 1 league long and half wide. Value 5s.*



*Peche*

As was not uncommon, the Lord of the Manor assumed as his surname his place or principal seat of residence, thus William de Rydware is recorded as holding the Manor of Hamstall Ridware in the reign of Henry I (1100-35) and again in the reign of King Stephen (1135-54). A second Walter de Ridware possibly a descendant of William, is recorded as Lord of the Manor in 1241, but had died by 1253 since at that time his widow, then recorded as Maud Peche, is shown as holding her dower in the Manor. William de Ridware, perhaps son of Walter and Maud is later recorded as Lord of the Manor in the reign of Edward I (1272-1307). In 1256 William is recorded as giving land to the Church of Scheyl and the same family were still holding the Manor in 1316 when Sir Thomas de Rydware is recorded as the Lord. On the death of Sir Thomas de Rydware his son Sir Walter Rydware inherited and is recorded as Lord of the Manor in 1335. However, in the absence of male heirs, the estate passed



to his grand-daughter who then carried the title in marriage to William Cotton. For the next 150 years, the Lordship descended in the Cotton family until their heiress Maud married to Sir Anthony FitzHerbert as his second wife. Sir Anthony was appointed to high office in the legal profession; in 1520 he was the Judge of Common Pleas and continued in high office in the reign of King Henry VIII (1509- 1547). From the FitzHerbert family the Lordship of Hamstall Ridware passed in 1601 to the important land owning family of Leigh, becoming Lord Leigh of Stoneleigh Abbey, which was sold recently. The descent of that family lies on the following pages.

The church of Hamstall Ridware dates from at least the 13th Century and is dedicated to St Michael. It contains 13th century arcades and the communion plate, a beautiful silver chalice and patten dating from about 1350 on loan to the Victoria and Albert Museum. The church register dates from 1598. Among the inscriptions and memorials in the church the tomb of Richard and John Cotton of 1502, with their shields, and their eight sons and six daughters, each shield surmounted by an eagle with a portrait and short history. Jane Austen stayed with her uncle at the Rectory at Hamstall Ridware when writing different chapters of her books.

Documents associated with this Manor:

Court Rolls	1312
Manor Court	1545-1546
Bailiffs Accounts	
Court Rolls	1402-1403
Schedule of Tenants	1590
& Rental	
Court Rolls	1434-1436
Book of Courts Baron	1721
Court Rolls	1443-1444
View of Frankpledge	1723-1724
Court Rolls	1448-1450

# DESCENT of LEIGH, LORDS LEIGH, sometime Lords of Hamstall Ridware

Hamon de Leigh, living temp HENRY II ((1154-89) = ?  
held half of Manor of High Leigh, Cheshire,  
great grandfather of



Richard Leigh = ?

Agnes = (1) Richard de Lymm, Cheshire  
(2) William de Haywardyn  
(3) William Venables

(3)

John Leigh = (1) Ellen, dau of Richard Dent, of Cheshire  
(2) Ellen, (sic), dau of Thomas Corona, of Adlington, Cheshire

Robert Leigh, of Adlington, living 1330 = (1) Sybil, dau of Henry de Hanford, Cheshire  
(2) Maud, dau of Adam de Norley

Sir Piers Leigh, of Lymm, carried the Black Prince's Standard at the battle of Crécy (1346), executed 1399 = Margaret, dau of Sir Thomas Dammery of Bradley

Sir Peter Leigh, killed at battle of Agincourt (1415) John Leigh = Alice, Lady of Ridge, dau of John Alcock

Richard Leigh = ?

Roger Leigh of Shropshire = ?

William Sir Thomas Leigh, born 1504, Lord Mayor of London, 1559, died 1571 = Alice (d 1603) dau and heir of John Barker or Coverdale, heir of Sir Rowland Hill Kt, who bought Stoneleigh Abbey from the Trustees of the Duke of Suffolk

Rowland of Adlestrop, Glos, died 1596 = (1) Margery, dau of Thomas Lowe  
(2) Catherine, dau of Sir Richard Berkeley

(2)

William, d 1632 = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Whorwood, of Sandwell Castles, Staffs

William, d 1690 = Joanna, dau of Thomas Pury

Theophilus, d 1725 = (1) Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Craven, of Lenchwick, Worcs  
(2) Mary Brydges, dau of 8th Lord Chandos, of Sudeley

William, d 1774 = Lady Caroline Brydges, dau of 2nd Duke of Chandos

James Henry, d 1824 inherited Stoneleigh Abbey from his kinsman Edward Leigh, 5th Baron Leigh of the earlier creation (who died insane and unmarried, 1786), d 1823 = Julia, eldest dau of Viscount Sage and Sale, of Broughton Castle, Oxon

Chandos Leigh, created (1839) Lord LEIGH of Stoneleigh, died 1850 = Margarett (d 1860) d of Rev William Shippen Willes, of Astrop House, Northants

William Leigh, 2nd Baron, a Privy Counsellor, d 1905 = Lady Caroline Grosvenor, dau of 2nd Marquess of Westminster

Francis (2nd son) 3rd Baron, married twice, but died 1938 without issue = Rupert, died 1919 = Beatrice Mary, dau of Dudley Robert Smith of London

Rupert William Dudley Leigh, 4th Baron, owner and trainer of racehorses, member of National Hunt Committee, died 1979 = Anna (d1977) dau of Ellis Hicks Beach

John Piers Leigh, 5th Baron Leigh, sold the Lordship Hamstall Ridware, died 2003 = Celia Poppy, dau of Robert Jackson of Wilts



## The Lordship of Pavenham Bedfordshire

THE VILLAGE of Pavenham is bounded on the east and south by the River Ouse and was once crossed here over the medieval Stafford Bridge. The river's bends and oxbows gave rise to a local industry of tending osier, or reed beds. The dried reeds were then used to make rush matting and wicker baskets. Pavenham was also known for its pillow lace cottage industry. It lies six miles north of the county town of Bedford.

In the great survey conducted by the King's commissioners and later to be known as Domesday Book, Pavenham is recorded as being in the possession of Turstin, Chamberlain to William I. The entry reads;

*Turstin the Chamberlain holds of the the King in Pavenham  
2 1/2 hides as 1 Manor.*

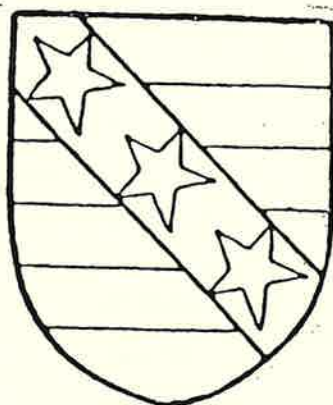
*There is land for 3 ploughs.*

*In demesne there is 1 hide and 1 plough.*

*There are 6 villains with 2 ploughs, and 1 bordar,  
and meadows for 3 ploughs.*

*It is worth 40s, when received, the same.*

After his death, it appears that the Lordship of the Manor descended a family, who no doubt took their name from their estate and may well have been Turstins tenants.



*Pavenham*

John Pavenham was recorded as Lord of the Manor here in 1201 and his descendant, possibly his grandson, is noted as dying seised of the Lordship in 1269. At this time the estate was recorded as consisting of 1 messuage, 7 virgates, 21 acres of meadow and a fishery; perhaps on the river itself. He had received a grant of free warren for the Manor in 1253. He held it for half a knight's fee from the Barony of Bedford. His son and heir was John who survived as Lord of Pavenham until his death in 1322. From him it descended to his son, also John, but who was not as long lived. He died in 1330 and from him it passed to his eldest son, John. This John alienated the Lordship ten years later to his uncle, Thomas Pavenham, who lived until 1345.

Thomas' son and heir, Laurence had, during his lifetime, settled Pavenham on his son, also Laurence. He was last of the family line and at his death in 1399 the Lordship was retained by his widow, Joan, who later married John Waleys. On Joan's death Pavenham reverted to Laurence's two daughters, Eleanor and Katherine. For a time the estate was divided between the two

with each taking a separate but unequal moiety. That of Katherine seems to have been rather minor and later formed the smaller but separate manor of Cheney's. The Lordship of Pavenham itself then descended with Eleanor, who was married to John Tyringham. Their son and successor, John, was Lord of Pavenham until his death in 1465 and from his death it remained in this family for seven further generations until 1637 when Thomas Tyringham sold the Manor to William Alston.

The Alston family had been recorded since the reign of Edward I (1272-1307) and had attained a degree of success in the law. William Alston, at this time, lived at Stisted, Essex, and granted most of his land there, except his mansion house to John de Carpenter, of Naylinghurst. In the reign of Edward III (1327-77) Hugh Alston is recorded as having a Coat of Arms, which is illustrated on the following page.

William Alston was a member of the Inner Temple and was made keeper of writs in the Kings Bench. According to one contemporary this position was *of considerable profit and honour, being conferred only on the nobility or some other eminent persons*. The same writer notes that Alston was a *pious and charitable man* and his gifts included a large silver guilt chalice and five bells given to his local church.

At his death in 1637, William was succeeded by his brother, Thomas, who himself was of the Inner Temple and married to Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Rowland St John. In 1642 he was created a baronet by Charles I, having served as high sheriff of Bedfordshire in the preceding year. His eldest son Thomas died before him so he was succeeded as Lord of Pavenham by his second son Rowland at his death in 1678. Sir Rowland lived until 1697 and his estates and title passed to his son, Thomas who sat as a Member of Parliament for Bedford in 1698. He was unmarried and died childless in 1714 at which point Pavenham passed to his brother Rowland, who also sat as an MP for the county in three successive Parliaments until the reign of George I (1714-27). He lived to be 80 years old and died in 1759. His son and heir, Sir Thomas continued the local family dominance of politics and sat in Parliament. The Lordship then descended first to Sir Thomas Alston, and then his son, Justinian.

On the death of the last Baronet in 1790, the estate passed to Thomas Alston, the illegitimate son of the fifth Baronet. He died in 1823 and was succeeded by his second son Crewe Alston, who was High Sheriff of the county in 1862 and died in 1901. His grandson sold Odell Castle and Barony in 1934 to Lord Luke of Pavenham, and the Lordship of Pavenham was acquired by P N Jones, sometime conservative MP, who Trustees are selling the Pavenham in this sale.

## Descent of the ALSTON BARONETS, sometime Lords of Pavenham

William Alston, of Stisted, living temp Edward I (1272-1307) = ?

John Alston of Newton, Suffolk = ?

William of Newton = Ann, daughter of Thomas Symons

Edward Edmund of Saxham Hall, Newton = Elizabeth, dau of John Coleman

William Alston = Marjery, dau of ? Holmsted of Mapleston, Essex

Thomas, of Polstead, Suffolk = Frances, dau of Simon Blomevill, of Blomfield, Monk's Illey Suffolk

Sir Thomas Alston, of Odell, Bedford, created a Baronet in 1642 by King Charles I = Elizabeth, dau of Sir Rowland St John

Sir Rowland, 2nd Baronet, Lord of Pavenham and Feudal Baron of Odell by virtue of holding Odell Castle (now the property of Lord Luke), died 1698 = Temperance, dau of Thomas 2nd Lord Crewe of Stene

Sir Thomas, 3rd Baronet died unmarried, 1714

Sir Rowland, 4th Baronet MP for Bedford, died 1759

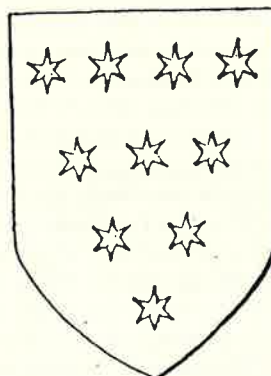
= Elizabeth, dau of Capt Thomas Raynes

Sir Thomas, 5th Baronet, MP for Bedford *dsp* 1744

= Catherine Davis, dau and heir of Dr Bovey

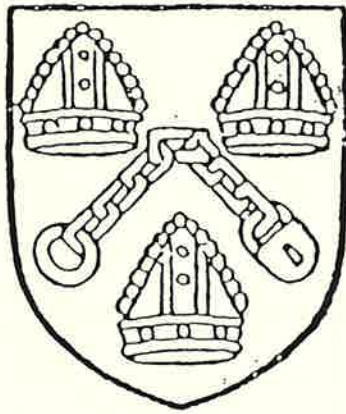
Sir Rowland Alston, 6th and last Baronet died 1790 without issue

= Gertrude, sister of Stillingfleet Durnford, of Tower



## The Lordship of Sheriff's Lench Worcestershire

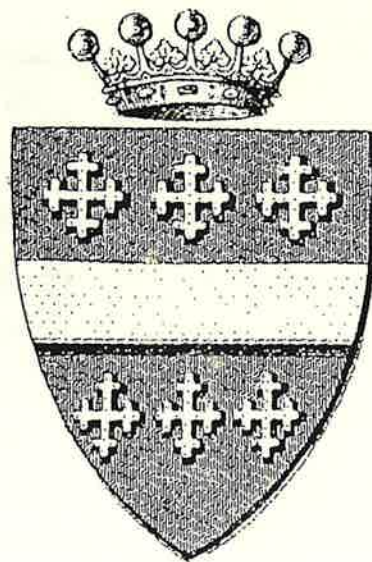
SHERIFF'S LENCH is said to have been the Lench, Lench Bernardi or "Lench Alnoth juxta Chadelbure" (Chadbury in Norton parish) asserted to have been given by Ethelbald of Mercia to the abbey at Evesham, as it was among the lands recovered by Abbot Æthelwig (1070-7) from King Edward and other good men. The Manor comprised four hides and was acquired in moieties by Æthelwig; two hides he held in the time of King Edward and the other two he bought with the money of the church from Gilbert Fitz Turolde with the permission of King William. The Domesday Survey gives the additional information that the proceeds of the latter moiety of the Manor supported one monk in Evesham Abbey. It does not, however, agree with the chronicles of Evesham as to the acquisition of the other two hides, which are here stated to have been bought of King William for one mark of gold.



*Evesham Abbey*

The whole Manor was held by Abbot Æthelwig until his death in 1077, when it was stolen from the church by Odo Bishop of Bayeux, who gave it to Urse the Sheriff. It is difficult to decide to what period to assign the statement made in the Domesday Survey that Lench had been held as three Manors, two hides being held by two thegns and two by a certain woman named Aelfgifu, as in the Cotton MS it is clearly stated that the church of Evesham held the Manor in demesne after its acquisition by Æthelwig. In 1086, the Manor of Sheriff's Lench was returned among the possessions of Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, then in the King's hands. Urse was still sub-tenant, and the Evesham Chronicle states that he held it "contra Rotulum Winton" in the time of Abbot Walter towards the end of the 11th century. In spite of the title to the Manor, which the monks of Evesham had made out at the time of the Survey, they seemed never to have recovered it from Urse, though they must evidently have extorted some acknowledgment of seignorial rights, for Urse's successors the Beauchamps recognized the Abbots of Evesham as their overlords. Though the Manor was said to be held for the service of half a knight's fee, "because it was in the hands of the mighty it does nothing for the abbot except homage, and the men of Lench do suit at Blakenhurst". The Abbot's overlordship is mentioned for the last time in 1316, and afterwards, though it was known that the Manor was not held of the King in chief, it could never be discovered who was the true overlord. From

Urse, the Manor passed to the Beauchamps, the hereditary Sheriffs of Worcester, and thus doubtless acquired its name Sheriff's Lench. It passed with Elmley Castle in the Beauchamp family until about the middle of the 13th century, when William de Beauchamp gave to his brother James the Manors of Sheriff's Lench and Church Lench and the advowson of the church, with the exception of the land which he had given to Bartholomew de Sudeley. By an undated charter, James de Beauchamp granted Sheriff's Lench to his nephew William, Earl of Warwick, and Maud his wife, and the Manor descended with Elmley Castle until it was granted in tail-male by Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, to his younger son William, afterwards Lord Bergavenny. It then passed with Chaddesley Corbett and was claimed with that Manor by the co-heirs of Henry, Duke of Warwick, and evidently assigned to Edward, Earl of Warwick, who was attainted in 1499. It was, however, like Chaddesley Corbett, granted by Anne Countess of Warwick to Henry VIII in 1487-8. In July 1511, the Manor was leased for 40 years to George Throckmorton. In November of the same year, it was granted in fee to William Dineley of Charlton and this grant was confirmed in 1514, a rent of £5 a year being reserved to the Crown. From that time, the Manor followed the same descent as Charlton in Crophorne to John Dineley. From deeds among the Prattinton Collection it appears that Sheriff's Lench was sold by a Mrs Johnson towards the end of the 18th century to a Mr Masefield, and that it afterwards passed to a Mr Pulteney, who sold it to different owners, the greater part passing to a Mr Stokes, who sold it to a Mr Edwin, the owner in 1812. Half the Manor was purchased about 1824 by the Rev Dr William Chafy, and the other half, including the old Manor house, lately called the Manor Farm, and about 500 acres of land, was bought of Mr Winnall in 1873 by the Rev William K W Chafy DD, whose successor is Miss E Chafy of Dorset. By an undated charter, probably about 1253, William de Beauchamp granted to Bartholomew de Sudeley in free marriage with his daughter Joan 10 virgates of land and a messuage in Sheriff's Lench, with reversion to the donor in case Joan had no children.



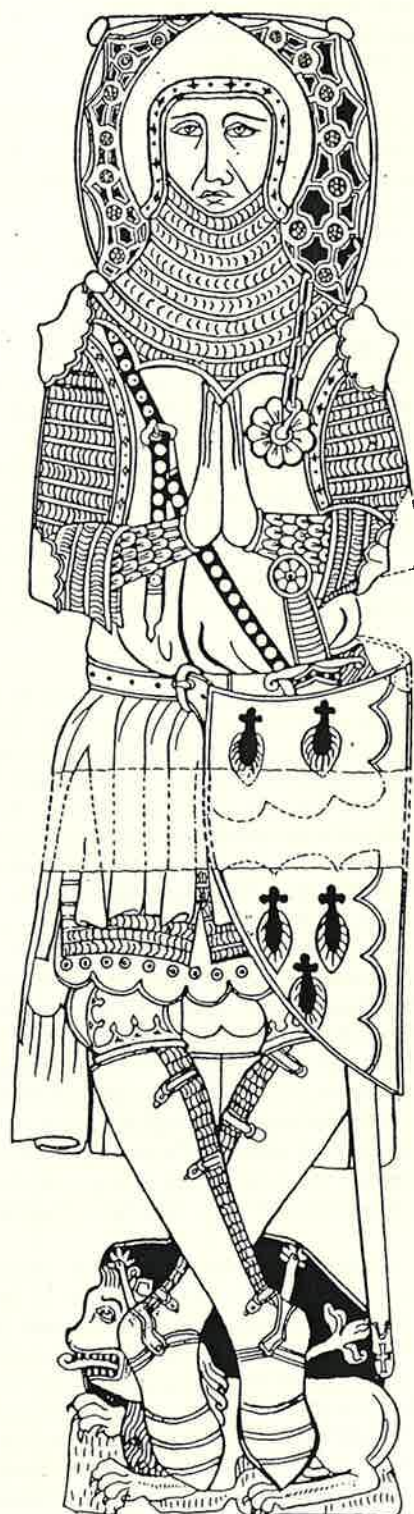
*Beauchamp*



The Manor, which was held of the Lords of Elmley Castle by the service of a pair of spurs, then followed the same descent as Fairfield in Belbroughton until 1496, when the lands of Ralph Lord Sudeley were divided between Edward Belknap and Sir John Norbury. Sheriff's Lench was assigned to the former. It was perhaps this Manor which as "the manor of Shrewlinche parcel of Warwick and Spenser's land" was granted in 1560 to Sir Nicholas Throckmorton and his heirs. Sir Nicholas left the Manor in 1571 to his second son, Arthur Throckmorton, and in 1596 he and his wife Anne were in possession of it, but nothing further is known of the estate, although it now forms parcel of the Lordship of Sheriff's Lench. The sacrist of Evesham Abbey held an estate at Lench during the 13th Century, and before 1206 had purchased of the commoners of Lench the right to assart certain common land there. In 1206, he held three and a half hides of land at Lench. In the Subsidy Roll of 1280 this estate is called Lenche Sacriste de Evesham and the Abbot of Evesham paid a subsidy of 22s there. The Lordship lies about 1 1/2 miles south west of Church Lench. It is hard to arrive at an area for Sheriff's Lench, but at Domesday it probably covered about 400 acres. With the 10 virgates (one virgate = 30 acres) the whole is probably about 700 acres. There is quite probably a map of the Manor with the enclosure award.

Documents associated with this Manor:

Court Books      1781-1860      Here & Worcs RO



## The Lordship of Lower Rocombe Devon

LOWER ROCOMBE is a hamlet lying in the parish of Stoke-in-Teignhead at the mouth of the River Teign five miles north of Torquay. In Domesday Book, the Lordship is mentioned as part of the Manor of Rocombe and the entry reads:

*Bernard holds Rocombe. Osmer held it before 1066. It paid tax for 1/2 hide. Land for 3 ploughs. 1 Plough there, with 1 villager, 2 smallholders and 2 slaves. Formerly 30d; value now 5s.*

Bernard, a Norman, held Rocombe from Baldwin of Moeles. Baldwin was the second son of Gilbert, Count of Eu, one of the guardians of the young Duke William of Normandy. His elder brother Richard was the founder of the house Clare. In 1040, Baldwin was taken to Flanders for refuge and on Duke William's marriage to Matilda, Baldwin was given the Lordships of Moeles and Sap and was himself married to Albreda, the daughter of the Duke's aunt. He accompanied William in his conquest of England from 1066 and was greatly enriched by the Norman's success. He was given vast estates in the West of England, with no fewer than 159 Manors in Devon alone. He was made Sheriff of the county on William's capture of Exeter in 1068 and left there to keep the city and to complete the building of the castle. At some point after this, Lower Rocombe became a separate Lordship and eventually came into the possession of the Andrews family who had their estate here. In the 18th century, it came into the hands of the Neck family and the Reverend Aaron Neck left £3 a year from Lower Rocombe for the education of local children.

In the 19th century Lower Rocombe came into the possession of the Carews and it remained so until recently. Their descent lies on the following page. This family can be traced back to the reign of William the Conqueror and appear to have come over to England from Normandy at the time of the Conquest. They settled in Devon and their descendants included the Barons Carew, Barons Clopton, and the Earls of Totnes. The first of one of the branches of the family was Thomas, the second son of Sir Edmund, Baron Carew. He served in the wars against Scotland at the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII under Thomas, Earl of Surrey. He commanded the English at Flodden in 1513, when James IV was killed with "the flower of the Scottish Nobility". A story is recounted in James Prince's *The Worthies of Devon* about an incident involving Thomas Carew. Before the English and Scottish sides engaged in the battle, a Scottish knight challenged any English gentleman to fight him for the honour of his country. Thomas Carew pleaded for the chance to answer the challenge and, having been granted it, proceeded to win, a foretaste of the subsequent English victory.

His brave deeds did not end there, however. Prince recounts that he was riding with the son of the Earl of Surrey, Lord Howard, who was then Lord Admiral of England. They came to a narrow pass, and realized that they were surrounded by Scottish forces. To prevent the capture of Lord Howard, Thomas swapped armour with him and rode ahead, eventually drawing the Scots and engaging them in battle. Thomas was taken prisoner, the Scots assuming him to be Lord Howard, and taken to Dunbar Castle. He was kept prisoner in poor conditions and his health suffered before his release. Lord Howard was forever grateful for this sacrifice and on his return made Thomas



*Carew*

his vice-admiral. Thomas left a son, John, by his first marriage, and was succeeded by his half-brother, Sir Humphrey Carew. His son, Peter, was succeeded in turn by his son, Sir Henry, who left two daughters as heirs. The eldest, Elizabeth, married Sir Thomas Carew, of Hacombe, thus uniting the two branches of the family which had split four generations before. During the 15th century, the Carew family lost most of their lands in Ireland and, but consolidated their estate in Devon at Hacombe, which came into the possession of Sir Nicholas Carew on his marriage to Elizabeth Croker in the mid-15th century.

One of the most exotic members of the Devonshire Carews was Bamfylde Moore. Born in 1693, his father was the rector of Bickleigh. When he reached 12 years of age, Bamfylde was sent to school in Tiverton, where he fell into bad ways. One day he and two schoolmates, who had a small pack of hounds, hunted a deer over several miles of farmland. They caused so much damage that the farmers came to Bamfylde's father to complain. He was so scared of being punished that he ran away and joined the gypsies and entered a life of swindling and deceit. He travelled to Newfoundland and returned to marry the daughter of an apothecary in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. On the death of Clause Patch, the King of the Gypsies, Bamfylde was elected his successor. This did not prevent his being convicted of vagrancy and being transported to Maryland. With the help of some native Americans he escaped, and, posing as a Quaker he worked his way back to England and continued his criminal life until his death in 1770.

Documents associated with this and other Manors:

10 Court Rolls	1495-1595	British Museum
Court Rolls	1464, 1465, 1482	Devon RO
	1507-1509, 1544-46	
	1560, 1607-08	
Court Rolls	1494-1515	

## DESCENT OF THE CAREW BARONETS, sometime Lords of Lower Rocombe

William FitzGerald of Carru (Carew) Castle, Pembroke, Wales, son of Gerald FitzWalter, Constable of Pembroke Castle (temp HENRY I (1100-35), by his wife Nesta, the daughter of Rhys ap Gryffid ap Tudor Mawr, Prince of South Wales, and heiress of Carew Castle. William was the grandson of Walter FitzOther, Castellian of Windsor (ancestor of the present Duke of Leinster) and died in 1173, leaving with other issue Otho, ancestor of the Carew Baronets, and William, ancestor of the present Lord Gerard.

John Carew, of Carew, Baron of Idrone, Ireland, *ob* 1363 = Margaret, dau of John Mohun of Dunster

Sir Leonard Carew, Baron of Idrone, *ob* 1371 = Alice, dau of Sir Edmond FitzAlan, of Arundel

Thomas Carew, Baron of Idrone, *ob* 1431 = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Bonville, of Shute

Sir Nicholas Carew, *ob* 1446 = Joan, dau of Sir Hugh Courtenay, of Hacombe, Devon

Sir Thomas, ancestor of the Carews of Bickleigh, Mohun's Ottery, and Earls of Totnes

Sir Nicholas Carew, inherited the Manors of Hacombe = Elizabeth, dau of Sir John Croker of Lydeard St Lawrence, Somerset and Ringmore from his mother, *ob* 1469

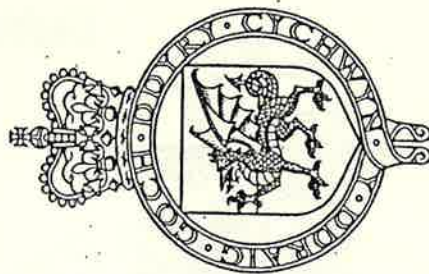
John Carew of Hacombe = Elizabeth, dau of John, Lord Zouche, of Harringworth

John Carew, commander in Francis I's army to rescue Pope Clement VII, who had been imprisoned by the Emperor = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Martin, of Dorset Charles V, killed at the Battle of Pavia, 1527

Thomas Carew, *ob* 1586 = Mary, dau of William Huddle, of Pillesden, Dorset

John Carew, living 1620 = Elizabeth, dau of Robert Hill, of Shilston, Devon

Thomas Carew, *ob* 1656 = Anne, dau of Rev John Clifford DD, of Ugborough



Sir Thomas Carew, created 1st Baronet of Haccombe, 1661, ob 1676 = (1) Elizabeth, dau and co-heir of Sir Henry Carew of Bickleigh, thus united two branches of the family  
(2) Martha, dau and co-heir of Nicholas Dack

(1) [redacted]  
Sir Henry Carew, 2nd Baronet, inherited the Lordship of Bickleigh from his mother, ob 1695  
(3) [redacted]



- (1) Elizabeth, dau of Thomas, 1st Lord Clifford of Chudleigh
- (2) Katherine, dau of John Fownes, of Whiteleigh
- (3) Gratiana, dau of Thomas Darrell, of Trewornan, Cornwall

Sir Henry Carew, 3rd Baronet, ob *unum* 1708 = Sir Thomas Carew, 4th Baronet, = Dorothy, dau. of Peter West, of Tiverton Castle ob before 1746

Sir John Carew, 5th Baronet, inherited the Lordship of Tiverton from his mother = Elizabeth, dau of the Rev Henry Holdsworth, of Dartmouth ob before 1773



Sir Thomas Carew, 6th Baronet, ob 1805 = Jane, dau of Rev Charles Smalwood

Sir Henry Carew, 7th Baronet, ob 1830 = Elizabeth, dau of Walter Palk

Sir Walter Palk Carew, 8th Baronet, ob 1874 = Anne, dau of Maj-Gen Taylor CB

Sir Henry Carew, 9th Baronet = Frances Gertrude, dau of Robert Locke-Roe, Lord of Lynmouth, Devon ob 1934

Sir Thomas Palk Carew, 10th Baronet, ob 1976 = (1) Ivy Madeline, Laura, dau of Col Arthur Breakey OBE (marriage dissolved)  
(2) Phyllis Evelyn, dau of Neville Mayman, of Sydney, Australia

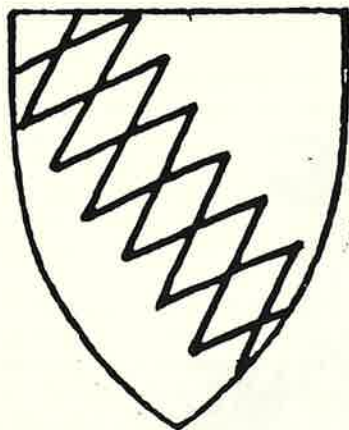
Sir Rivers Carew, 11th and present Baronet, Lord of Lower Rocombe



## The Lordship of Sandhall East Yorkshire

ON THE BANKS OF the River Ouse, opposite the thriving port of Goole, lies the Lordship of the Manor of Sandhall. The Lordship is formed from an estate surrounding Sandhall Manor House and is contained within a sweeping bend of the river. It lies in the parish of Skelton, formerly a township in the large parish of Howden.

The early history of Sandhall is rather obscure it is likely that it descended from the Chamberlain family, who held an estate nearby in the 12th century. This descended to the Mauleys and hence to the Thurkelbys from whom an estate passed to Robert Salvayn or Salvin in the 13th century. This seems to be the most likely route of descent since Salvayn as recorded as Lord of Sandhall in the 1280s. From him it passed to his son, Sir Gerard. This Salvayn was a local administrator of some importance in East Yorkshire and was granted a number of posts whereby the kings writ over estate matters could be enforced. In December 1298, for instance, he was appointed by Edward I (1272-1307) as the commissioner de walliis et fossatis (embankments and ditches) for the River Ouse. Three years later, he was given the lucrative posts of tax assessor and collector of the fifteenth for Yorkshire. Parliament granted taxes on the value of movables, in this case a fifteenth of the value. He was known in London since he sat as a knight of the shire for the county at the parliaments of 1305 and 1307. In 1308 he was appointed Escheator North of the Trent, and held the office until 10 December 1309. Again, this was a lucrative and important position since it gave him licence to investigate the estates of those who had died and decide whether anything was owing to the Crown. Salvayn was obviously considered to be of great importance to the Crown in Yorkshire since in the same year he was appointed a commissioner of array, to lead the levies against the Scot and made sheriff of Yorkshire in 1311..



*Mauley*

The bald details of his official appointments go some way to obscure the fact that Salvayn was more than just a local administrator. In 1304 he was sent abroad by the King on an unnamed mission which may have been a matter of secret diplomacy. He was also directly involved in the King's Household, holding the honour of 'banneret', which was a higher form of knighthood, and commanded of his own troop in the King's army. He was



considered to be close to Edward II and his favourite, Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall. When the latter was banished on the insistence of the barons in 1311, Salvayn was given the task of escorting Gaveston abroad. When Edward reasserted his authority in the following year, Salvayn was sent to fetch him back. As the King's Escheator, Sir Gerard was considered corrupt and oppressive, even by the standards of Edwards reign. Between 1313 and 1316 complaints were raised about his severe conduct and the King was eventually obliged to have him arrested and imprisoned in York in October 1316. As a result, Salvayn forfeited Sandhall and his other possessions, and was required to pay a fine of £2,000 in order to gain a pardon and get his land back. His treatment by Edward appears to have turned Salvayn into an enemy and in 1320 he was arrested, but pardoned for being in the service of the Thomas of Lancaster during his rebellion of that year. Salvayn died in 1330. He was succeeded by his grandson Gerard, who is recorded as holding Sandhall in 1348 and also served as Sheriff of Yorkshire.

Once more the descent of the Lordship of Sandhall is rather obscure, but it appears that, through a marriage between a descendant of Gerard Salvayn and a representative of the Girlington family of Thurland Castle, brought the Manor Thurland, Yorks, to the latter family. Thus we find that by 1590 Nicholas Girlington was Lord of Sandhall. It remained with this family for four generations until being sold by Sir John Girlington to Walter Blakiston of York. Blakiston did not remain long as Lord of Sandhall and shortly afterwards sold the estate to Henry Thompson, an Aldermen of York, whose son Leonard Thompson, also an Alderman of York, retained the title to at least 1670. After this time and before 1730 the Manor had passed to the John Scholfield from Armthorpe, near Doncaster. He was succeeded by his son, William, who served as Deputy Lieutenant for East Yorkshire. His son and heir, Edward, was born in 1805 and succeeded to his father's estates. His son and heir, Robert, was born at Sandhall in 1840 and educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. He died in 1913 and was followed by Edward Paget Scholfield. He emulated his father in attending both Eton and Trinity and fought in the First World War as a captain in the Yorkshire Yeomanry. On his death the estate passed to his daughter, Mary who is the present Lord of the Manor of Sandhall and her descent is on the following page.

DESCENT of BARKER, formerly SCHOLFIELD, of SANDHALL, HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE

John Schofield, bought the Lordship of Sandhall, Yorks, in the early c18th = ?

William DL for East Riding = ?

Edward of Sandhall, and Howgate, Doncaster, d 1868 = Elizabeth Sarah (d1900), dau of Charles David Faber, of Swinton Hall and Bridlington, Yorks

Robert Stanley Scholfield JP, d 1913 = Ada Elizabeth, dau of Canon Thomas Bradley Paget, of Hoon Hay, Derbyshire, d 1936

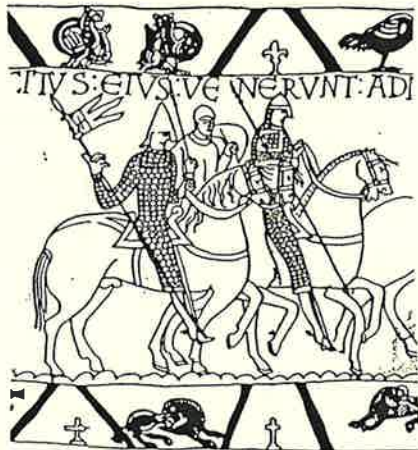
Edward Paget Scholfied, Manor House Sandhall, Howden = Margaret Eleanor, dau of Alan William Heber-Percy, of Durweston, Dorset

Mary, b 1920, Lady of the Manor of Sandhall has a son and a daughter from her first marriage = (1) Colum Robert Gore-Boothe, d 1959  
(2) 1971 Michael William McLean, BARKER, d 1982



## The Lordship of Berrington Gloucestershire

A GREAT BATTLE was fought here between the Mercians and West Saxons, according to the Venerable Bede in his *British History*, written in the seventh century, a battle, presumably, so well known at the time, that Bede did not think it necessary to mention its date. The Mercians were camped at Willersey and the West Saxons at Meon Hill, in the parish of Quinton. Meon Hill, apparently, derives its name from a tribe in Hampshire, called by Julius Caesar Icenii Magna, who composed the greater part of the West Saxon army. They dwelt on the rivers Meon and Itchen and have given their name to several Hampshire towns, including Meon Stoke and East Meon. The Dark Age conflict at Berrington is marked by a bridge, known as Battle Bridge.



The Lordship of Berrington adjoins the Cotswold town of Chipping Campden to the east, and is the property of the Earl of Gainsborough. The Manor does have a separate entry in Domesday Book (1086), but is very likely subsumed in the description of Chipping Campden, which is mentioned as follows:

The Earl himself holds Chipping Campden  
Earl Harold held it.  
There are fifteen hides paying geld.  
In demesne are six ploughs; and 50 villains and 8 bordars  
with 21 ploughs.  
There are 12 slaves and 2 mills rendering 62s 2d.  
There are 3 female slaves.  
It was worth £30. Now £20

The Domesday Earl was Hugh Lupus (the Wolf) Earl of Chester, a holder of enormous estates throughout England and it appears that the overlordship of the Manor remained with the Earls for some centuries afterwards. Earl Harold was Harold Godwinson, briefly King Harold II who was killed at the battle of Hastings in 1066. The descent of the Lordship seems to follow that for Chipping Campden until the 16th century. In the first year of the reign of King John (1199) it was held by Guinar Briton. He may well have left it to the Church since in 1206 it is noted as being in the possession of the Archbishop of Canterbury, John de Grey. In 1216, though, Sir Ralph de Somery died seized of the Manor, perhaps indicating that it was on some kind of lease from the Earls of Chester. This may well explain the variety of owners over the next few decades. A few years later, it was found that Serlo died seized of it and that it then passed to his widow, Anne.

The Lordship of Chipping Campden then seems to have undergone some division, a number of holders of separate moieties appearing, such as John Strangeways, Ralph Cromwell, and John de Ludloe. These moieties appear to have formed the Manors of Broad Campden, Berrington, and Westington in the course of the 13th century, but it is not certain that Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, who was recorded as Lord of Chipping Campden in 1296, owned all or part of the Manor, or perhaps just the Overlordship of Chipping Campden proper, together with Broad Campden, Berrington, and Westington. By the middle of the next century it is recorded as being held by William de Ludloe, as descendant of John de Ludloe above though again, Sir Richard Stafford is noted as holding part of it in 1381. It must still have been in moieties since Thomas de Ludloe is recorded as holding part of Campden twelve years later and Sir Richard Stafford a further share in 1399.

The Ludloes continued to hold their share well into the next century, as did the Staffords. By the time of King Henry VIII (in 1513), Broad Campden, together with the Manors of Buriton (Berrington) and Westington, had become vested in Sir Christopher Savage, whose son and namesake received livery of them from the Crown in 1521. Next to appear as the Lords of Berrington were James Gunter and William Lewis. James Gunter and his wife Anne seem to have been dealing with the Manor later and Lewis is not mentioned. It must be presumed that his interest in the estate had ceased.

The capital Manor of Chipping Campden seems finally to have been reunited under the single ownership of the Molyneux family from whom it passed to the Fitzherberts. From them it came to the Russell's, but the details of this transfer appear to be lost. In 1556, Sir John Russell died seised of all the Manors and he was succeeded by his son Sir Thomas. The estate was then taken into the possession of the Crown, possibly as forfeit, since it is noted that Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Thomas Smith. He was succeeded by his son Anthony, who sold it to Sir Baptist Hicks.

Hicks was the third son of a rich London trader, Robert Hicks, and inherited his father's mercer business at the White Bear in Cheapside. His brother Sir Michael Hicks was a secretary to Lord Burghley, whom we have already met. These connections enabled Hicks to supply large quantities of silks to the Court and he became a money-lender to prominent figures in society, including the Earls of Shrewsbury and Pembroke. His activities as a money-lender garnered him a reputation a something of a hard dealer and he commented of this to his brother 'when others ... goe awaye with the gaines and yet byte to the bone', but Hicks was a vital figure for James I and his son Charles I and is understood to have made loans to the Crown to the vast amount of £33,000. Since the Stuarts were generally hard up and always looking to raise funds, they organized a number of schemes including the sale of royal estates and Hicks had a lucrative business in buying and reselling these. Such was the immense fortune that he amassed it was said that both of his daughters and coheirs collected inheritances of £100,000 each, a staggering sum for the times. In 1603 Hicks was knighted and there followed a number of rewards which culminated in his elevation to the peerage as Baron Hicks of Ilmington and Viscount Campden of Campden in 1628. He died a year later

THE EARLS OF GAINSBOROUGH, sometime Lords of Broad Campden and Berrington, Gloucestershire and Pickwell, Leicestershire

Robert FitzNoel, Lord of Ellenhall, Warwicks, = ?  
in the reign of Henry I (1100-35)

Sir Thomas Philip, Lord of Hilcote, Staffs = ?

Robert, Lord of Hilcote = Joan, dau of Sir John Acton

James, Lord of Hilcote, JP (1514) = a dau of Richard Pole, of Langley, Derbys

(2)

Andrew, Lord of Dalby on Wold, Leics = Elizabeth, dau of John Hopton, Lord of Hopton, Shropshire  
and Perrybar, Staffs, Sheriff of Rutland, 1537

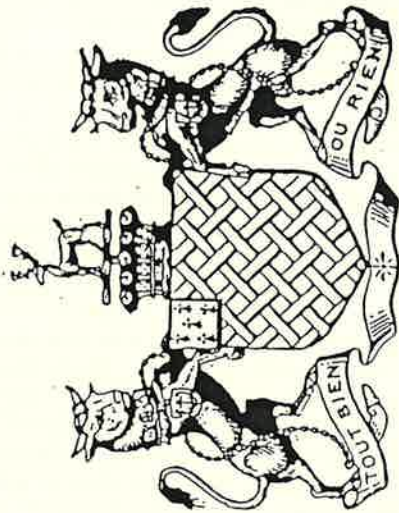
Sir Andrew Noel, MP Rutland, in the = Mabel, dau of Sir James Harington and sister and heir of John, Lord Harrington of Exton, Rutland

Sir Andrew Noel, 1st Baronet (1611), Baron Noel of Ridlington (1617), succeeded father-in-law as 2nd Viscount Campden by special remainder, d 1643 = Julian Hicks, dau and heir of 1st Viscount Campden

Baptist, 3rd Viscount, = (1) Lady Anne Fielding, dau of 1st Earl of Denbigh  
died 1682 (2) Anne, dau of Sir Robert Lovet, and widow of Edward Bouchier, Earl of Bath  
(3) Hester, dau and coheir of 2nd Lord Wotton  
(4) Lady Elizabeth Bertie, dau of 2nd Earl of Lindsey

(3)

Edward Noel, 4th Viscount, created 1st Earl of Gainsborough (1682) and Baron Noel of Titchfield (1661), with remainders to his brothers = Lady Elizabeth Wriothesley, dau of 4th Earl of Southampton



Gainsborough

Wriothesley Noel, 2nd Earl = Catherine, dau of  
died 1690, without male  
5th Lord Brooke, widow  
issue, revert to 3rd Viscount  
of Duke of Buckingham and  
Campden and his fourth wife  
Normanby

(4)

Baptist of Luffenham, MP = Susannah, dau and heir of  
Rutland  
Sir Thomas Fanshaw

Baptist Noel, 3rd Earl, died 1714 = Lady Dorothy Manners, dau of 1st Duke of Rutland

Baptist, 4th Earl, died 1751 = Elizabeth, dau of William Chapman, Lord Gainsborough's gamekeeper

Baptist, died 1759 *sp* Henry Noel, 6th and last Earl of Jane Noel = Sir Gerard Anne Edwardes, Baronet of Welham  
5th Earl the 1682 creation, *dsp* 1798 died 1811 Grove, Leics

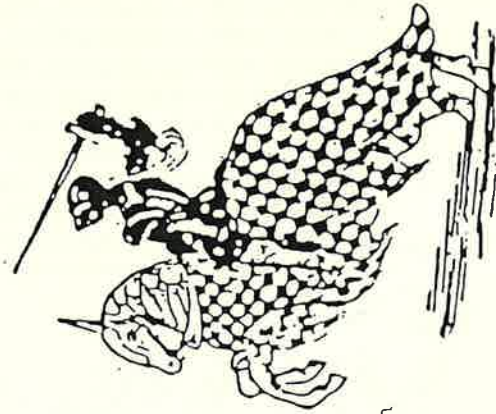
Sir Gerard Noel Edwards, 2nd Baronet, = (1) Diana, Baroness Barham in her own right  
succeeded his father-in-law, died 1838 (2) Harriet, dau of Rev J Gill, of Scraftoft, Leics  
(3) Isabella, dau of Raymond Evans

(1)

Charles, 3rd Baronet, changed his surname = (1) Elizabeth, dau of Thomas Welman of Foundsford Park, Somerset  
from Edwardes to Noel, 3rd Baron Barham (2) Elizabeth, dau of Hon Sir George Grey, Baronet  
succeeding his mother\*, created (1841) Earl of (3) Arabella, dau of Sir James Hamlyn William, Baronet,  
Gainsborough, Baron Noel of Ridlington, of Clovelly  
and Viscount Campden of Campden, Glos, (4) Frances, dau of 3rd Earl of Roden  
died 1866 \*Special remainder

(2)

Charles Noel, 2nd Earl, Lord Lieutenant of = Ida Harriet Augusta, dau of 18th Earl of Erroll  
Rutland, died 1881

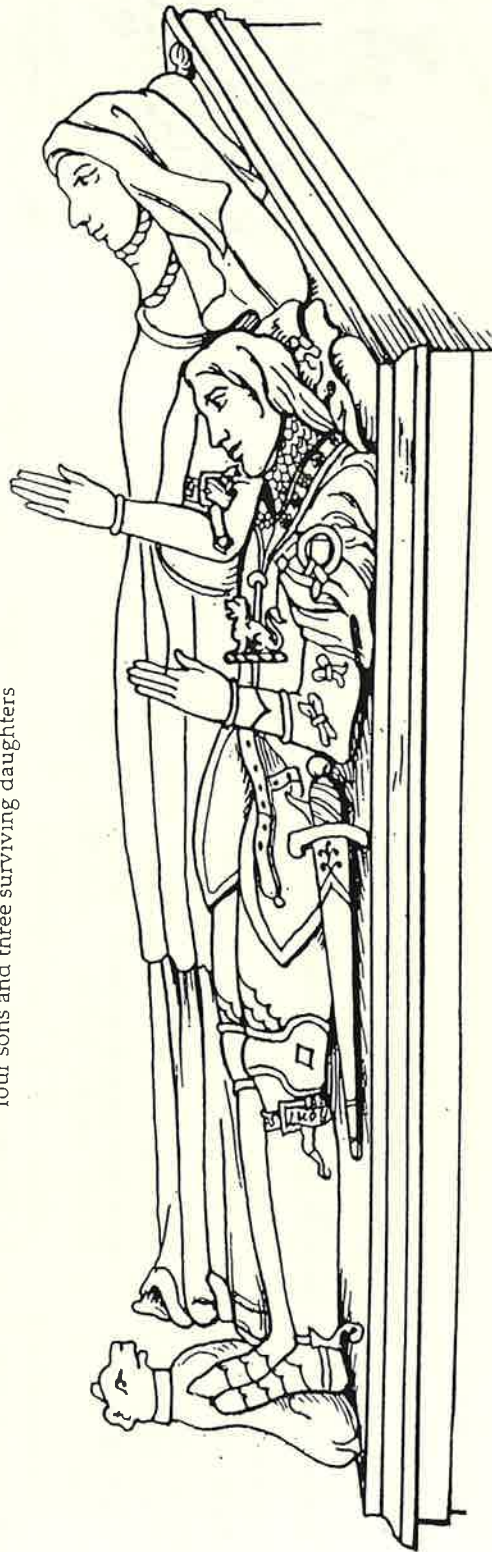


Charles William Francis, 3rd Earl, died 1926 =  
 (1) Augusta Mary Catherine, dau of Robert Berkeley  
 (2) Mary Elizabeth, dau of James Dease

Arthur Edward Joseph Noel, 4th Earl, OBE = Alice Mary, dau of Edward Eyre, of Mayfair, London (d 1970)

Anthony Gerard Edward Noel, 5th and present  
 Earl of Gainsborough, Viscount Campden,  
 Baron Barham, Baron Noel of Ridlington,  
 and a Baronet, b 1923 = Mary, dau of Hon John Stourton, son of Lord  
 Mowbray, Segrave, and Stourton  
 brother and sister

four sons and three surviving daughters



and is immortalized with a magnificent memorial edifice in St James' church, Chipping Campden.

After Hicks' death, his titles and estates passed by a special remainder to his son-in-law, Edward, Baron Noel, and with them came the Lordships in Chipping Campden. Edward was also a notable figure in Rutland and served as Sheriff for the county in 1608. He died in 1642. Among his last actions were raising troops locally for the King's army just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. His son and heir Baptist 3rd Viscount Campden served in the Royalist army as a colonel in a horse regiment and was later fined £9,000 by Parliament for his involvement in the war. In 1645 his house at Campden was burnt down by a fellow Royalist Lord Bard in a seemingly pointless attempt to prevent its being captured by Parliamentary forces.



Gainsborough

Baptist died in 1682 and was succeeded by his eldest son Edward who was elevated to the Earldom of Gainsborough in the same year. Eight years later his son Wriothesley died and the titles and estates passed to his cousin Baptist Noel, the 3rd Earl. He lived until 1714 and was followed by his son, also Baptist, the 4th Earl. On his death in 1750, the Earldom descended first to his eldest son Baptist, who died in Switzerland in 1759 and then passed to his second son Henry. On the latter's death without male issue the Earldom became extinct and the estates devolved to his nephew, Sir Gerard Noel Edwardes. When he died in 1838 his son, Charles became Lord of the Campden Manors. Three years later he was raised to the peerage with the reactivated title of Earl of Gainsborough. His son Charles was the second Earl, and his son Charles the third.

The 3rd Earl died in 1926 and his estates passed to Arthur, the 4th Earl and who served as a private secretary to the Pope. His son, Anthony is the 5th and present Earl and the Lord of the Manor of Broad Campden.

Chipping Campden lies about 90 miles west of London and 7 miles west of Shipston-on-Stour. There are many memorials to the Lords of the Manor in St James' church. In the Noel Chantry is the recumbent effigy of Sir Baptist Hicks, 1st Viscount Campden, Lord of the Manor, and his wife Elizabeth, under a canopy supported on 12 marble columns. There is a monument to Penelope, daughter of Edward Noel, Viscount Campden, and Juliana (Hicks) his wife. There is a memorial to the wife of the 2nd Viscount, and another to Henry Hicks MA, dated 1708. He was vicar for 50 years.

The Campden and District Historical and Archaeological Society was formed in 1984. The Chipping Campden Community

Trust, a registered charity (Hon Sec John Kohler), makes grants to local organizations in the parish. The trust also employs two health adviser nurses for the over-70s which is a free service. The nearest railway station is Moreton-in-Marsh, five miles distant. Stratford and Evesham are both 10 miles drive, and Oxford 15 miles away.

Documents associated with this Manor, found under Chipping Campden:

Court Records	1782, 1814	Gloucester RO
Court Orders	1771-1795	
Court Rolls	1562-63	
Court Roll	1788	Birmingham Archives
Court Leet	1778-1811	Shakespeare's Birthplace



## The Lordship and Liberty of Slaidburn Yorkshire

AT THE HEAD of the River Hodder lies the Lordship of the Manor of Slaidburn. Anciently this was part of the West Riding of Yorkshire, but today resides in the altered boundaries of Lancashire. It lies nine miles from Clitheroe and 10 miles from Gisburn. The name of Slaidburn is said to derive from the Saxon word *slae* meaning a road winding along a valley although other authorities have it that this comes from 'stream by a sheep pasture'. Either seems applicable from Slaidburn's rural position.



Plantagenet

The Lordship of the Manor was anciently part of the Honor of Clitheroe which was created by the Normans soon after they subdued the North-west of England. It was gifted to the de Lacy family, of whom Ilbert is the first noted. The de Lacys were among the most powerful families of the medieval period and remained Lords of Slaidburn until the beginning of the 14th century. During this period Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, was granted the right to hold a yearly fair here on the first three days of August. At his death in 1311, Slaidburn passed to his daughter Alice and so to her husband, Thomas, Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster.

Thomas Plantagenet, as the name suggests, was descended from Richard, Earl of Cornwall, the son of King Henry III (1216-72), which made him cousin to King Edward II (1307-27), against whom he rebelled in 1322. Meeting royal forces at Boroughbridge, Yorkshire, in 1322, Thomas was defeated, captured, and hanged on a gallow 50ft high. Five years later, in 1327, King Edward was deposed and murdered by his wife Queen Isabella and her lover, Roger Mortimer, Earl of March. The attainder against Thomas Plantagenet was reversed in this year and his son Henry, succeeded to the confiscated estates of his father including Slaidburn. Henry was created Duke of Lancaster by Edward III, who, on reaching his majority in 1330, arrested March and his mother Queen Isabella. Lord March was executed and the Queen was imprisoned, reasonably comfortably, one supposed, for the rest of her life. The Duke's daughter and heir, Blanche, married John of Gaunt, created Duke of Lancaster in 1360, on Henry's death, by Gaunt's father King Edward III. Their son was Henry Bolingbroke, later Duke of Lancaster, who overthrew and murdered his cousin, King Richard II, in 1399, and became King Henry IV. Slaidburn then

became the property of the Crown in what was and remains the Duchy of Lancaster. Like the Duchy of Cornwall, which is traditionally held by the Prince of Wales, so the Duchy of Lancaster is held by the Queen who is Duke, not Duchess, of Lancaster. The Duchy still holds numerous manors around the country, but its principal income is derived from land around Piccadilly Circus and Regent Street, London, and in Manchester, providing millions in taxable income for Her Majesty.

The Lordship remained in the possession the Crown until 1660 when the newly restored King Charles II gifted it to General George Monck. Born the second son of Devon gentleman, Monck was consequently forced to seek employment and chose a military career. He sailed in the English fleet which attacked Cadiz as a 16 year-old in 1625. In 1627 he was forced to flee England after accidentally killing an under-sheriff, who had arrested his father for debt, during a fight. He joined the Navy and was part of the failed attempt to relieve La Rochelle in the following year. Throughout the 1630s, Monck remained a military man, slowly working his way up the ranks and gaining a reputation as a brave and efficient soldier. By the time of Charles I's campaign against the Scottish Covenanters in 1639 he had been raised to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. When the Civil War broke out in 1642 Monck was serving under the Earl of Leicester, trying to suppress a rebellion in Ireland. Monck urged Leicester, not to take an oath to support either Parliament or the King but after an agreement was reached with the rebels in September 1643 the Irish army returned to England to bolster the royal forces. Monck refused to declare his allegiance to Charles and was dismissed, nevertheless his skills were such that the king summoned and interviewed him personally and gave him a command. He was captured by Parliamentarians at the siege of Nantwich on January 1644 and he spent the next few months as a prisoner in the Tower. He was eventually freed after promising not to fight against Parliament, but to help suppress the continuing rebellion in Ireland. In September 1647 he was appointed major-general of the Parliamentary forces in eastern Ulster and he remained here until and after the king's execution in 1649. Monck's army in Ireland was poorly supported and he was eventually forced to capitulate to a combination of Irish and royalist rebels and returned to England where he became unemployed.



Albemarle

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Charles Towneley, died 1876, when = Lady Caroline Molyneux, dau of 2nd  
his estates were divided among his Earl of Sefton, of Sefton Park, Liverpool  
daughters, see O'HAGAN in this memoir

Alice Mary = 1st Lord O'Hagan



## O'HAGAN of Slaidburn

Edward O'Hagan, of Belfast = Mary, dau of Capt Thomas Bell

Sir Thomas O'Hagan, 1st Baron O'Hagan of Tullahogue, Co Tyrone (1870) KP, PC, QR Attorney-General under Lord Palmerston, Lord Chancellor under Gladstone (1868-74) (1st Roman Catholic since King James II to hold this post), died 1888 = (2nd wife) Alice Mary and coheir of Charles Towneley (d 1921)

Hon Thomas Towneley O'Hagan, died 1900 in South Africa, unmarried aged 22, 2nd Lord O'Hagan

Maurice Herbert Towneley-O'Hagan, 3rd Lord O'Hagan, born 1886, died 1961 = (1) Hon Frances Constance Huddalena, dau and heir of 1st Baron Strachie (Strachey), died 1931  
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Thomas Anthony Edward Towneley O'Hagan adopted the surname of Strachey on inheriting his grandfather's Somerset estates, also died in 1955 = Lady Mary Sophia Palmer, dau of 3rd Earl Selborne, Lady-in-Waiting to HRH The Princess Elizabeth now Queen Elizabeth II

Charles Towneley Strachey, 4th and present Lord O'Hagan, an MEP, 1977-94, Lord of the Manor of Slaidburn, Yorkshire



In 1650 the Commonwealth launched a war against the royalist rump in Scotland and its leaders appointed Cromwell to lead it. Cromwell had been impressed with Monck and gave him a command and his subsequent successes in capturing a number of key posts led to his appointment at governor of Edinburgh in 1651. When Charles II made a dash for England, Cromwell followed and left Monck in charge to mop up resistance, which he accomplished with remarkable speed. His talents, especially in his use of artillery, were now considered precious by the Commonwealth and Monck was deployed at sea to fight the Dutch in 1652 and 1653.

The General professed to be a soldier, not a politician and that his loyalty was to his men. This served him well after Cromwell abolished the Regicide Parliament in April 1653. Monck issued a statement to the effect that he was too busy fighting the Dutch to be able to intervene in the domestic situation. This gave Cromwell a virtual free hand and within weeks Monck found himself elected to the new Parliament and as a leader in the reconstituted Protectorate.

Cromwell then sent his general to Scotland once more, to suppress renewed dissent and Monck skilfully employed his forces to crush it. The powers granted to him enabled to become the virtual dictator north of the Border for a time. When Cromwell died in 1658, Monck immediately offered his support to his son and successor, Richard. However, when Richard showed a disinclination to rule and was overthrown by the Regicide Parliament in the following year, Monck felt ill at ease with the new regime and in turn it looked upon him with some suspicion. At this point representatives of King Charles II, then an exile in Belgium, began to make overtures to the general to garner his possible support for a restoration of the monarchy. Monck was alarmed by the radicalization of Parliament in September 1654 and its attempts to remodel the army. Monck moved to protect his Scottish force and bring it under his personal control. As

the Parliamentary regime collapsed into disarray at the beginning of 1660 Monck marched his army south. He was instructed to protect Parliament but he could see that the tide had turned against the republic and when he was contacted by representatives of Charles once more Monck assured him of his loyalty. His military control of London ensured that the the throne could be restored peacefully and when Charles landed at Dover in May 1660, Monck was the first to embrace him. Within weeks his loyalty was rewarded with his elevation to the Dukedom of Albermarle and the grant of land and estates, including the Lordship of the Manor of Slaidburn, then part of the Honor of Clitheroe, which Monck also received.

The Duke remained a loyal officer in the King's army and Navy until his death in 1770 when his title and estates passed to his son Christopher. He died childless in 1687 and Slaidburn passed, with the rest of his possessions to his wife who survived to the age of 95, dying in 1734. From her it passed to her second husband, Ralph, 1st duke of Montagu. He was succeeded by his son, John, 2nd duke of Montagu who had no sons and passed his estates to his daughters Isabella, wife of Edward Hussey, Earl of Beaulieu and Mary who married George Brudenell, 4th Earl of Cardigan (great-grandfather of Cardigan of the Charge of the Light Brigade). Slaidburn passed to the former but on her death is passed to Mary's daughter, Lady Elizabeth Montagu who was married to the 3rd Duke of Buccleuch.

The Lordship then remained in the hands of the Dukes of Buccleuch until the death of the 5th duke in 1827 when it passed to his widow. She divided her husband's estates and sold parts of them off. Slaidburn was sold by the sixth Duke to Edward Peregrine Towneley, of Towneley in Lancashire and it has remained in his possession since that time. The present Lord of the Manor is the current representative of that family, the 4th Baron O'Hagan. The Lordship and Liberty occupy about 5,000 acres (approx 2,000 hectares).

## The Lordship of Polscoath, St Winnow Cornwall

THIS LORDSHIP was originally known as Polscoe, and is mentioned in Domesday Book:

Andrew holds Polscoe from the Count. Aelfric held it before 1066, and paid tax for 1 f; 1 v of land ther however.

Land for 1 plough; 1/2 plough there.

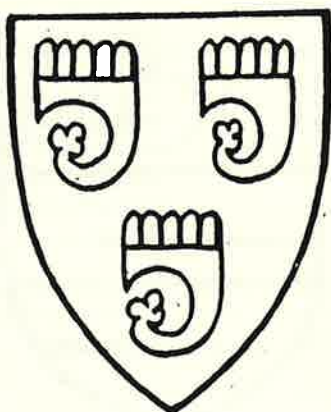
2 villagers and smallholders.

Woodland, 3 acres; pasture, 5 acres.

Value formerly and now 3s. 3 cattle

The Manor now forms part of the Lanhydrock Estate, originally in the possession of the Viscounts Clifden, and now offered for sale by the trustees of the estate. The descent of the Clifden lies on the following pages.

Before the Agar-Robartes family, Viscounts Clifden, owned the Lordship it had passed through the Lyttleton and Trenance families who also had large landholdings in St Winnow parish. Polscoath was purchased in 1620 by Sir Richard Robartes along with the Manors of Lanhydrock and Treffry, which former, later became the Cornish seat of the Robartes family. Sir Richard was created a baronet and afterwards a baron, by James I (1603-25). His son John, (Lord Robartes) sided with Parliament, and was one of the *generals of the west* during the Civil War. His estates were seized by the King and given to Sir Richard Greville. As the Royalist cause waned, Lord Robartes was reunited with his estates and retired into private life during the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell. On the Restoration, he was received favourably by Charles II (1660-1685) and became successively, Lord Privy Seal, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and President of the Council. In 1679 he was created Viscount Bodmin and the Earl of Radnor. The Earldom of Radnor died out in 1764 and the estates were inherited by the last Lord Radnor's great-niece, Anna-Maria. Through her marriage to the Hon Charles Begenal Agar, son of Viscount Clifden, they passed to the present owners.



*Greville*

The Agar-Robartes family also held the famous Wimpole Hall estate in Cambridgeshire, before it passed to the National Trust, but the 6th Viscount Clifden preferred their residence at Lanhydrock.



*Clifden*

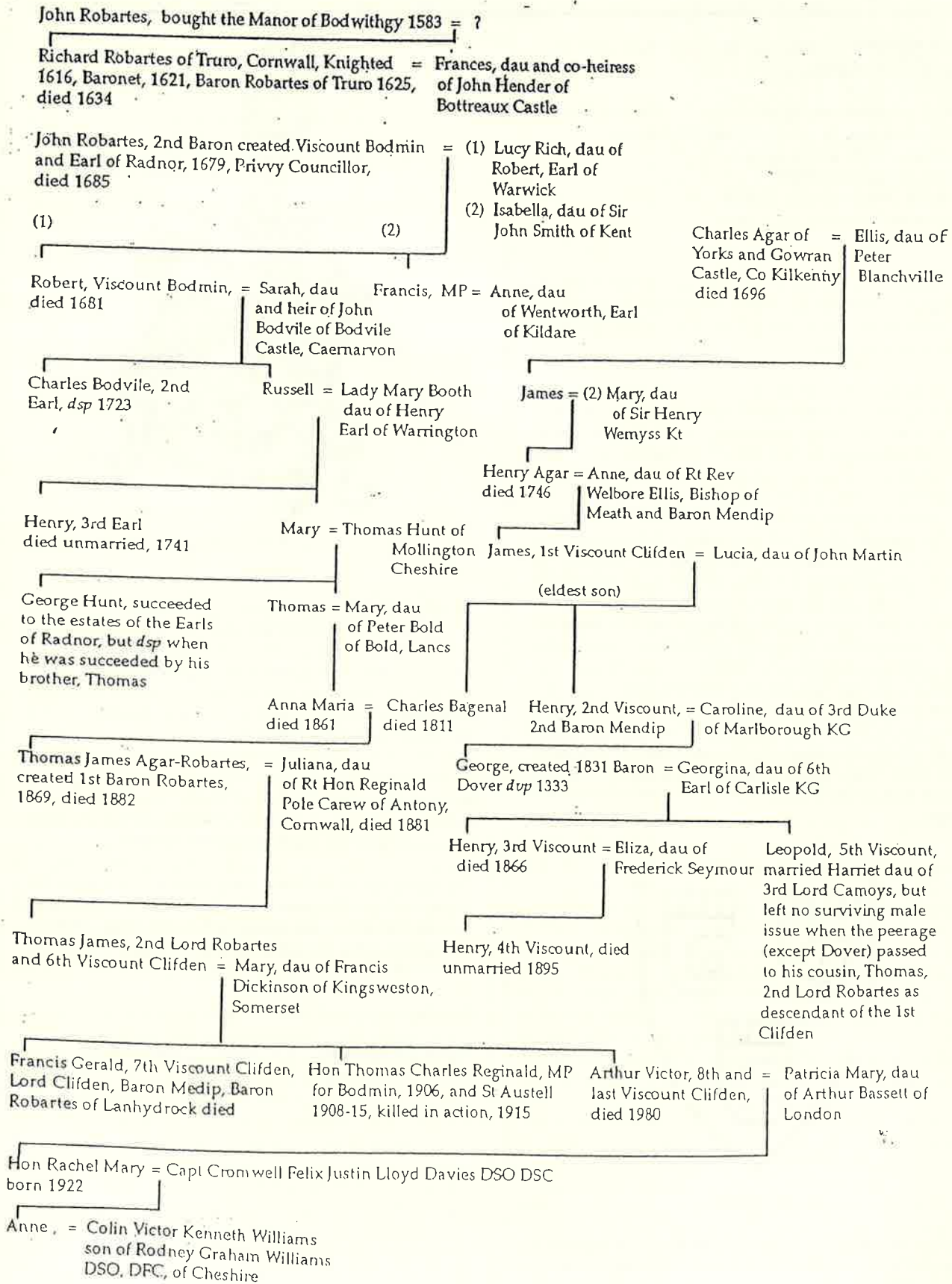
The village of St Winnow, two and a half miles north of Polscoe, contains the parish church of the same name: *an ancient building of stone and granite, in the Early Perpendicular style, and consists of chancel, nave, south aisle, small north transept, south porch and An embattled western tower containing five bells: the chancel and the north wall are said to be the oldest part of the church and date from about the end of the 12th century: the chancel-screen is a fine specimen of ancient carving, and 29 of the bench ends are ornamented with various devices: the pulpit is also richly carved; the fount of granite dates from the 14th century, and the basin bears the following inscription 'Ecce karissimi de deo vero baptizabuntur spiritu sancto'...*

The church has memorials to many famous local figures, including Lieutenant Teignmouth Neville, who died, together with Lieutenant Coghill, at the Tugela river, South Africa, while endeavouring to save the colours of the 24th regiment, after the disaster at Isandlwana, January 22, 1879.

Documents associated with this manor:

Survey and Valuation	1792	Cornwall RO
(with other manors)		

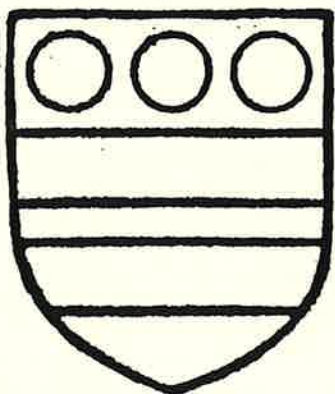
DESCENT OF THE AGAR-ROBARTES, EARLS OF RADNOR, BARONS BODMIN AND ROBARTES OF TRURO, VIS-  
COUNTS CLIFDEN and BARONS MENDIP, Lords of Polscoath, St Winnow



## The Lordship of Ridings Court Buckinghamshire

THIS MANOR was first mentioned, along with others in the area, in the 14th century. It came to John de Moleyns through his wife Gille, who was daughter and co-heir Sir Robert Pogeys of Stoke Poges, and was part of the 13 1/2 hides of land in Datchet owned at Domesday by Giles de Pinkney. John de Moleyns was granted free warren in Riding in 1331. In 1340 John was charged with irregularities regarding the money required for the siege of Tournai (during Edwards I's expedition to France). He was put in the Tower of London and his lands and goods were seized. The Manor remained in the hands of the King until 1345 when John was restored.

John was made Queen's Steward but was in trouble again 1355 and was imprisoned in 1357 along with his wife, Gille. They were held at Nottingham Castle and Cambridge Castle. John's son, William, obtained seisin of his father's land in 1359 and they were later granted to him for life. Gille was pardoned in 1360 (John having died in prison) and her lands were restored. They passed to her son William, who died in 1380. His son, Richard, died in 1385. Richard's son, William, was only seven at the time of his father's death and was placed in the custody of Thomas, Earl of Buckingham (later Duke of Gloucester). William was knighted and died in 1424, and his effigy can still be seen today in Stoke Poges church. His son, also William, gave proof of his age in 1427 and was slain two years later at the siege of Orleans. He had only one child, a daughter, Eleanor, who was three years of age at his death. She married Sir Robert Hungerford, later Lord Hungerford and Lord de Moleyns. Lord Hungerford obtained a grant of her lands in 1441 and served in the French wars. He was taken prisoner at Chatillon in 1453 and held captive for seven years, being released on payment of a substantial ransom. He fought for Henry VI at his defeat at Towton in 1461 and was consequently attainted. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Hexham in 1464, was beheaded soon after at Newcastle and buried at Salisbury Cathedral. His son and heir, Sir Thomas Hungerford, was also attainted and beheaded in 1469, again for his involvement in the conspiracy to restore Henry VI. Sir Robert's lands were for the most part given to Richard, Duke of Gloucester (afterwards Richard III)



*Hungerford*

His Widow, Eleanor, married Sir Oliver de Manningham and Mreceived a general pardon and restoration of most of her lands in 1472. Ridings Court was however excepted from this. Dur-



*Montagu*

ing this time it was farmed as the Manor of Riding Court for £12 8s. 4d. Yearly. It was granted in a lease to Sir Maurice Berkely in 1544 and this lease was renewed in 1557 and 1576. Richard Hanbury succeeded him as lessee and obtained a renewal in 1586. He later obtained a grant and the Manor passed to his daughter, Elizabeth, upon his death in 1608. Elizabeth was the wife of Sir Edmund Wheeler and the Manor passed to him. He left the Lordship to his son, William, who left it upon his death to his executors for the provision and education of his children, with a reversion to his son, William, and his heirs.

The Manor then passed through several hands and was eventually conveyed to John, second Duke of Montagu, in 1742. After the death of his son-in-law, George, Earl of Cardigan and later Duke of Montagu, Ridings Court passed to his daughter, Elizabeth, who was the wife of Henry, third Duke of Buccleuch. Elizabeth died in 1827 and the Manor devolved her second son, Lord Montagu of Boughton. He died without issue in 1845. His widow survived him and on her death the Manor passed to his Nephew, Walter Francis, fifth Duke of Buccleuch. He was Lord Privy Seal from 1842 to 1846 and afterwards Lord President of the Council. His widow, Charlotte, Duchess of Buccleuch, held the Manor until her death in 1895, when it passed to her second son, Henry, Lord Montagu of Beaulieu. The Manor then passed through that family to the present Lord Montagu, who held Ridings Court until recently. A descent of that family lies on the following page.

Ridings Court is in the Parish of Stoke Poges, approximately 40 miles west of London. The present Lord Montagu lives at Palace House, Beaulieu, where he founded the National Motor Museum thus creating the most successful stately home in the British Isles.

## DESCENT OF THE MONTAGUS, sometime Lords of Ridings Court

The Most Noble Walter Francis Douglas-Scott-Montagu, 5th Duke of Buccleuch and 8th Duke of Queensberry, KG KT PC DCL ADC to QUEEN VICTORIA, *ob* 1884

William Henry Walter, succeeded to the Dukedoms and the bulk of the family's vast estates, now represented by Walter Francis John, 9th Duke of Buccleuch and 11th Duke of Queensberry

Lord Henry John Douglas-Scott-Montagu, was gifted the Lordships = Cecily Susan, dau of 2nd Lord Wharmcliffe of Ridley Court and Ditton (together with the Beaulieu estate, Hampshire) by his father, the 5th Duke of Buccleuch, created Baron Montagu of Beaulieu, 1835, *ob* 1905

James Walter Edward, 2nd Lord Montagu, *ob* 1929 =

- (1) Lady Cecil Victoria Constance, dau of 9th Marquess of Lothian KT
- (2) Alice Pearl, dau of Maj Edward Barrington Crane, who remarried (1936) Capt the Hon Edward Pleyden-Bouverie MVO, 2nd son of the 6th Earl of Radnor

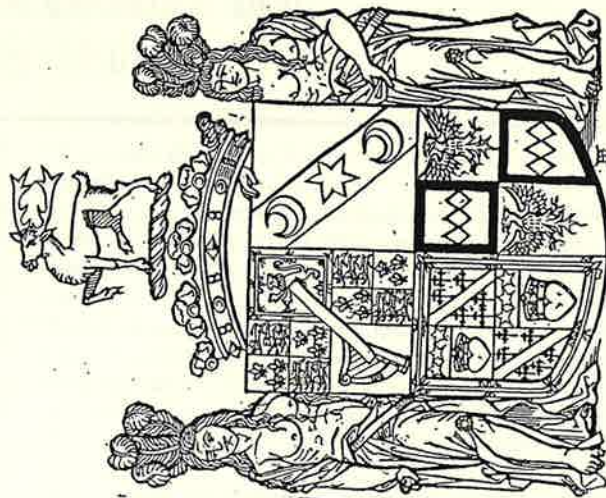
Edward John Barrington Douglas-Scott-Montagu, 3rd Lord Montagu sometime Lord of the Manor of Ridings Court, Bucks, founder of the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, Chairman of English Heritage 1982-91

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2)

The Hon Ralph, *b* 1961

The Hon Jonathan Deane, *b* 1975

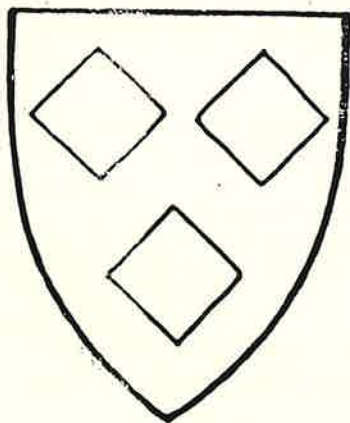
The Hon Mary Rachel, *b* 1964



## The Lordship of Stanley Co Durham

STANLEY IS A former mining village, lying at the northern extremity of the county of Durham. Anciently Stanley formed a small settlement within the large parish of Tanfield, but during the Industrial Revolution of the early 19th century it grew rapidly as a centre for coal production and became a small town. It is chiefly known for being the scene one of the worst mining disasters in British history. In 1909 160 miners were killed at the Burns Pit disaster. Today, Stanley is the second largest town in the district of Derwentside. During the late 19th century the early part of the 20th, many residents of Stanley migrated to the United States, among them were Jonathan Roddam great-grandfather of Hilary Clinton, and David and William Horsley two of the founders of Hollywood.

Stanley is first mentioned in records dating the the beginning of the 13th century and which place the very early descent of the Lordship in the hands of the De la Leigh family, Lords of Whitton and Beamish. Robert de Musters is recorded as granting Stanley to the Almoner (a church official in charge of distributing charity, or alms) of St Cuthberts Priory in Durham land in the Manor and then granting the same land to William de Kilkenny. This family must have eventually been granted the whole manor since they are recorded as Lords of the Manor after Musters time. Indeed, part of Kilkenny's indenture was a requirement for him to maintain a chapel in honour of Musters and for prayers be said for his soul.



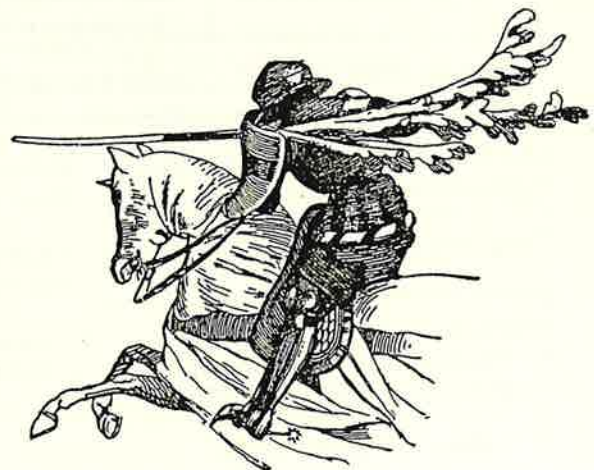
*Leigh*

Stanley then passed to John de Kilkenny who later settled them on his kinsman Sir William de Kilkenny. Sir William died in 1340 and the Manor came to his son William and from him it descended to his son Richard. He appears to have been the last of the line since in 1391 we find that Stanley was in possession of Isabel de Birtley, possibly his widow, or perhaps more likely, his daughter. However, Richard was still alive since Isabel's son Thomas, who then became Lord of Stanley held it with a reversion to him. By the end of the 14th century though the Kilkenny line had died out and Thomas is recorded as conveying the Lordship to Sir Ralph Lumley. The Lumleys were an ancient family who had descended from Saxon nobles fleeing the Norman invasion of 1066. They settled in Durham, at Lumley Castle and by the time of patriarchy of Sir Ralph, were one of the major landowners in the county. Sir Ralph was married to Eleanor,



*Westmorland*

daughter of John Lord Nevill of Raby, and sister of Ralph first Earl of Westmorland. During the reign of Richard II (1377-1399) he was summoned to Parliament as a baron and was something of a favourite of the kings. When Richard Bolingbroke deposed Richard in 1399, Lumley took up arms in defence of his patron but was killed at Cirencester. Stanley and the rest of the Lumley lands were seized by Henry IV and held by the crown until 1421 when they were released to Ralph's son, Sir John. More wisely, John for for the Lancastrian king's but died during Henry Vs campaign in Anjou. Johns son and heir, Sir Thomas was able to gain a posthumous pardon for his grandfather from Edward IV and he too sat in that kings parliaments as a knight of the shire for Durham. By this time though the family fortune had waned so far at this point that Thomas son, George was forced to marry a merchants daughter to bolster his finances. Though Elizabeth came well endowed with a fortune, she also came with some degree of baggage in the form of her half-brother Giles. He plagued Lumley with a number of protracted litigations the exact nature of which are obscure but evidently they were so annoying that Sir George resorted to challenging Giles to a duel. The resulting contest took place in a ditch outside Windsor Castle and resulted in Giles being killed.



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daughters, see O'HAGAN in this memoir

Alice Mary = 1st Lord O'Hagan





*O'Hagan*

From Sir George, Stanley passed to his son and heir, Richard, who was summoned to parliament during the reign of Henry VIII but appears to have been the last Lumley to be Lord of the Manor. By 1539 it had passed into the ownership of the Tempest family of Newcastle. The family retained the property until the end of the 17th century when it passed to the Lord Widdrington. This fervent Jacobite took part in the insurrection of 1715 and his lands were forfeited to the Crown. After almost 30 years Widdrington was able to reclaim some of his estates, Stanley included and this then passed to his son Henry (who was not able to reclaim his fathers peerage) who retained it until 1774.

Stanley descended to Henry's nephew, Thomas Eyre of Hassop with a remainder to his cousin Edward Standish. From Standish it passed to the the Towneley family of Lancashire and it has descended with them to the present day. The current Lord of the Manor of Stanley is the 4th Lord O'Hagan.

### O'HAGAN of Stanley

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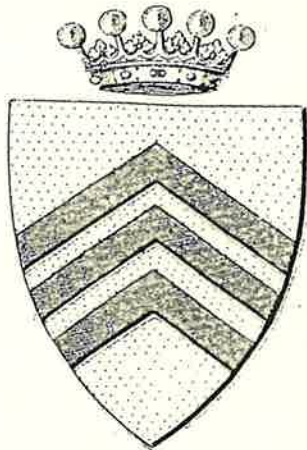
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Charles Towneley Strachey, 4th and present Lord O'Hagan, an MEP, 1977-94, Lord of the Manor of Stanley, Co Durham

## The Barony of Salt Co Kildare, Ireland

HUGH DE LACY was the first Lord of the great principality of Meath holding 50 knight's fees. The territory and jurisdiction were granted to him by Henry II as reward for his support of the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland in 1169, led by Richard de Clare, Earl of Pembroke (known to history as 'Strongbow'). A transcript of the foundation charter is found in the Gormanston Register, a large calendar of papers on loan from the present Viscount Gormanston to the National Library in Dublin:

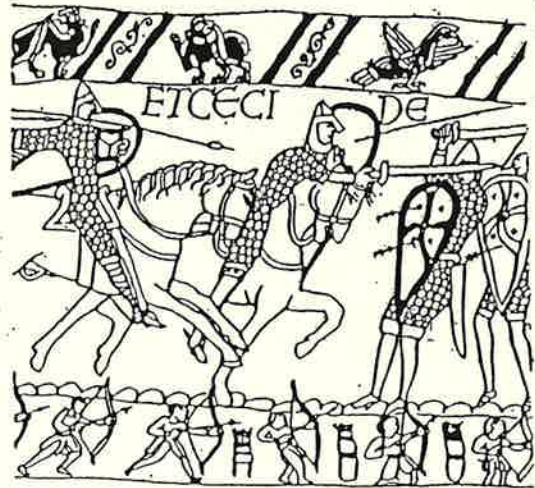
*Henry (II), King of England &c has granted to Hugh de Lacy, for his service, the land of Meath with its appurtenances, by the service of 50 knights. To hold to him and his heirs... And for increase to the gift, all fees which he shall acquire about Dublin, while he is the King's Bailiff, to do service to the King at his city of Dublin. He is to have all liberties and free customs which the King has or may have there... with all other liberties which he has there and can give to him.*



Clare

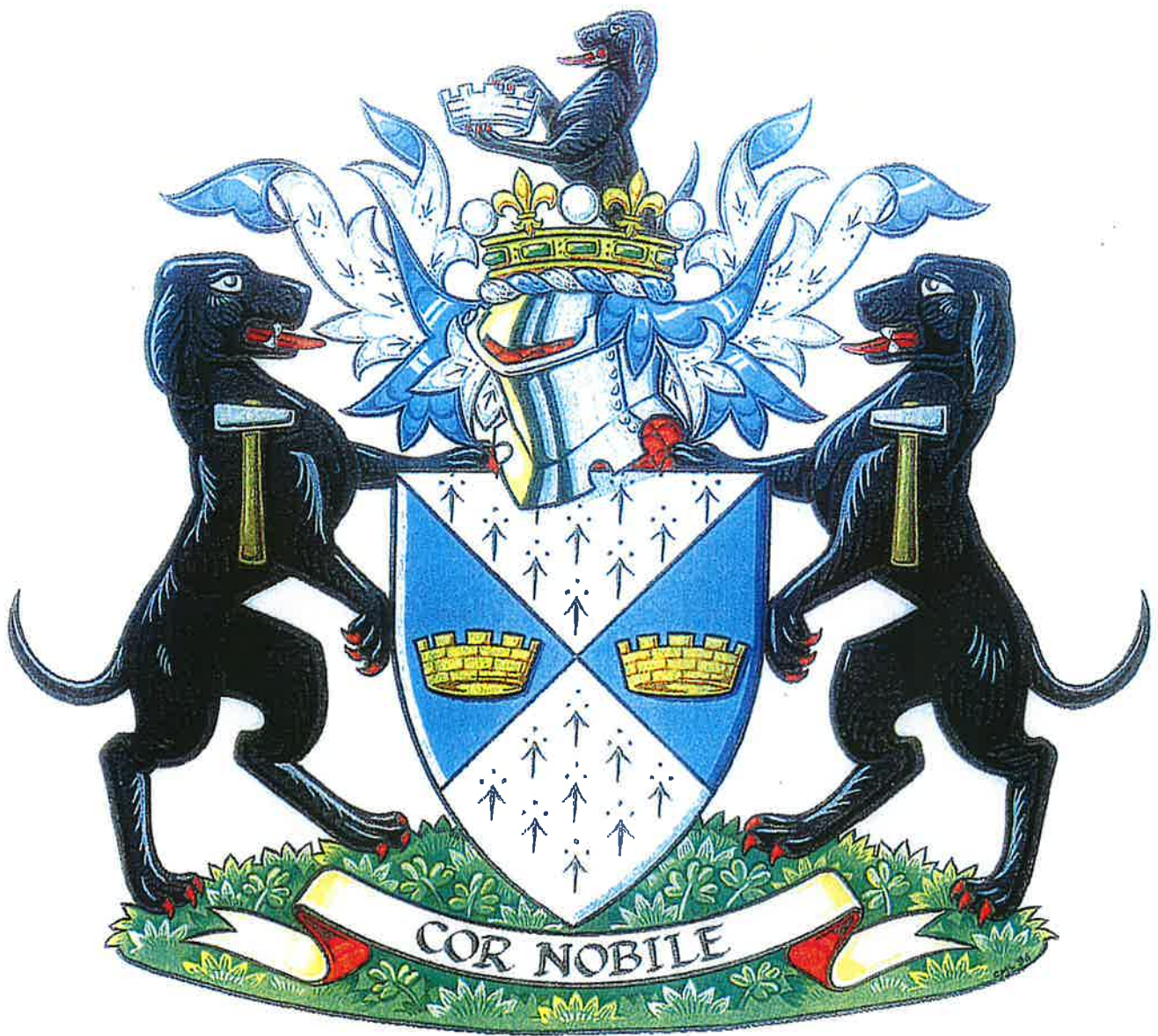
This charter in its terminology is broad and grants to Hugh palatine rights and powers. He was a descendant of one of those military captains and adventurers who accompanied William Duke of Normandy to England and fought for him at the battle of Hastings in 1066. The first de Lacy was Walter, who sprang from a family settled at Lassy, in the Vire, Normandy, and was a relative, perhaps a brother, of Ibert (or Ibert) de Lacy, a great Norman Lord mentioned throughout Domesday Book. In the *Roman de Rou* (Wace) he is mentioned as being at Hastings, and his principal estates were in the west, towards Wales, at Ewyas Lacy, Stanton Lacy, Weobley, Herefordshire, and Ludlow castle, Shropshire. The chronicler Orderic Vitalis has him fighting the Welsh in 1071 and taking part with the King in 1075 in suppressing the uprising of the 'Northern Earls' in Yorkshire. He was a benefactor of St Peter's, Gloucester, subsequently the cathedral, and founder of St Peter's in Hereford. He died in March 1085, having fallen from a ladder while superintending the building of his church in Hereford.

By his wife, Ermeline, he left three sons, Roger, Hugh, and Walter, and two daughters, Ermeline and Emma, the latter eventually succeeding to her father's estates. Hugh is descended from Emma's son Gilbert, whose father is unknown, and assumed the name de Lacy. To place him in context - when Henry I died in 1135, he left one legitimate child, a daughter Maud (or Matilda) who is known as the Empress Maud, being the widow



of the Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund. King Henry was succeeded by his nephew, Stephen Count of Blois, a situation which the Empress and her second husband, Geoffrey Count of Anjou ('Geoffrey the Handsome'), were not minded to accept with equanimity, and for the 19 years of King Stephen's reign England was pitched into warring factions around these two protagonists. Geoffrey and Maud's son, Henry, eventually succeeded Stephen in 1154 and is the Henry II noted in the charter above. At first, Gilbert supported the Empress and tried to capture Bath for her in 1138. But by 1146, he had transferred his allegiance to Stephen, perhaps because Maud kept Joce de Dinan in possession of Ludlow castle, formerly the jewel in the de Lacy patrimony. In the *Romance of Fulk Fitzwarine*, Gilbert obtained the favour of Henry and recovered his uncle's lands. Then in about 1159, he joined the Knights of the Temple and went to the Holy Land. There he became the preceptor of his Order in Tripoli (northern modern Lebanon), and as such became engaged with Geoffrey d'Angoulême's successful expedition against Nouraddin, the Turkish ruler of Palestine.

Gilbert left the de Lacy properties to his son Hugh, who was in possession of his father's lands by 1163 and in the Assize of 1165-6 was seized of the colossal estate of fifty-eight and three-quarter knight's fees. In October 1171, Hugh went over to Ireland with King Henry II when the grant above was made to him. In the following year, he received the submission of Roderick King of Connacht and later in 1172 arranged a meeting with Tiernan O'Rourke at the Hill of Ward, Athboy, Meath. The meeting ended in a quarrel, which both sides attributed to the treachery of the other - Tiernan being killed and Hugh only escaping with difficulty. He then set about establishing his authority over his principality of Meath with the building of castles, including the castle of Trim. By the end of the year he was at Canterbury where, according to the story preserved by the chronicler Gerald of Wales, he reproved Archbishop Richard for his boastful language. Next year, he was fighting for the King in his French dominions (Normandy, Anjou, Touraine, Maine, Aquitaine - the 'Angevin empire', deriving its name from Anjou - Vendée - whose capital is still Angers). He held Vermeuil against Louis VII for a month before being forced to capitulate. An aside, King Henry's wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, had been the wife of Louis VII, and the internecine machinations, loves,



The proposed Armorial Bearings of  
Leon Parmeter Carter OBE  
Baron of Connello

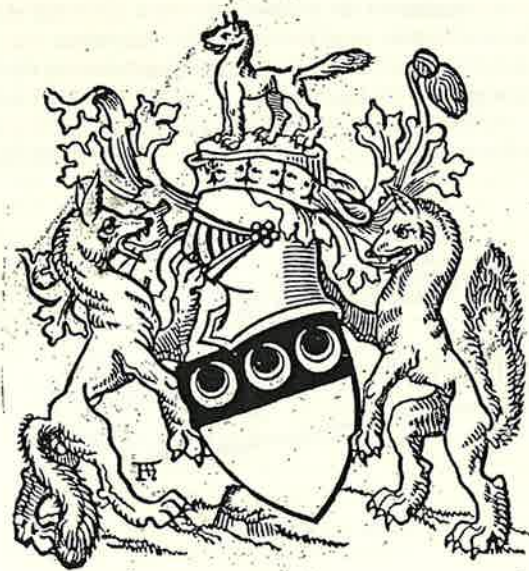
and hates of the two royal families and the families of their noble adherents is interestingly dramatized in the film *The Lion in Winter* (1969) which occasionally appears on British television. In 1177, Baron Hugh was sent over to Ireland and besides a confirmation of the Lordship of Meath, he had a charter granting him the Baronies and Lordships of Offelana, Offaly, Kildare, and Wicklow.

As Governor of Ireland, he resumed his castle-building programme in Meath and Leinster, while he maintained peace by making it his first care to preserve the native Irish in possession of their lands. By such conduct, he won the hearts of many of the Irish, but his friendly relations with the native chieftains soon led to accusations that he intended to make himself King of Ireland - by no means an improbable accusation when, barely a hundred years before, a duke of Normandy had made himself King of England. He was recalled in 1181 for marrying the King of Connacht's daughter without Henry's consent. But in the following winter Hugh was sent back. When the King's son John Count of Mortain arrived in Dublin in early 1185, he complained to his father that Hugh would not permit the Irish to pay tribute. Nevertheless, Hugh was maintained in Ireland, but at his castle of Durrow, Co Laoish, 'one of the men of Teffia... approached him, and with an axe severed his head from his body.' The chronicler William of Newburgh says that Henry was very glad at Hugh's death and repeats the story that the Baron had aspired to the Irish Crown. He was initially laid to rest at Durrow, but in 1195 his body was removed to the abbey of Bective, Co Meath, and his head to St Thomas's church, Dublin, where his wife was buried.



de Lacy

Gerald of Wales describes Lacy as a swarthy man, with small black sunken eyes, a flat nose, and an ugly scar on his cheek; muscular in body, but small and ill-made. He was a man of resolute character, careful in private affairs, and vigilant in public business. He was lax in his morality and avaricious, but eager beyond measure for honour and renown. By his first wife Rose, he had two sons, Walter (died 1241) and Hugh, and a daughter Elaine who married Richard de Beaufort. By the daughter of Roderick O'Connor King of Connacht, also known as Rose, he had a son William (called "Gorm" or "Blue") who acted closely with his half-brothers. William married a daughter of Llewelyn Prince of Wales, and Pierce Oge Lacy, one of the great Irish rebels in the reign of Elizabeth (1558-1603) was 18th in descent from him. Baron de Lacy's son Hugh was created Earl of Ulster by King John (the Count of Mortain mentioned above), and the de Lacy estates were eventually carried by his sole heir, Matilda de Lacy, to David Baron of Naas. From this union emerged the de Londres family, whose ultimate heiress in the 14th century married Sir Christopher Preston, the direct male ancestor of the present Viscount Gormanston.

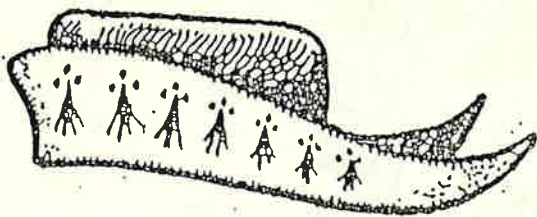


Gormanston

The early Gormanston pedigree is thickened by the infusion of blood from the wealthy de Londres (or Loundres), whose heiress Elizabeth married Sir Christopher Preston, in the second half of the 14th century, bringing among other properties the Baronies of Naas and Salt. The family had been prominent in Ireland for the greater part of 200 years and the first of the name in probable relation to Lord Gormanston is John de Londyrs (*sic*) who is said to have been a nephew of Henry de Londres, Archbishop of Dublin, from 1214 to 1228, and several times Justiciar (governor) of Ireland. It was through the influence of his powerful uncle that John de Londres succeeded in securing as his wife Nicola, the sole heiress of the Tuits of Athboy, and so took his place among the barons of the great Lordship of Meath. William de Londres, the son of this marriage, married Matilda, eldest daughter and heiress of Matilda de Lacy, granddaughter of David, Baron of Naas, and was thus the direct representative of the eldest son of Maurice FitzGerald. On folio 2 of the Gormanston Register, it is stated that *Richard Stranbaw (Strongbow) gave the Barony of Naas to Morice Gerald, who had a son and heir William. He married Mahaut de Pontearch (Pont de l'Arche) and they had three sons, David, William, and Maurice, which David married Matilda, daughter of Hugh de Lacy, Earl of Ulster and Lincoln, and Baron De Lacy by tenure, and Lecelina, sister of Thomas de Verdun. They had issue, William and Matilda. William had three sons, William, Hugh, and Robert, and they died without issue. And Matilda, daughter of David, married John le Botyller (Butler). They had five daughters, Matilda, Margaret, Johanna, Rosiea, and Lecelina. Matilda married William de Londres, who begot William, which Williams had a son and heir William. And the said Margaret married Richard, nephew of the said William Londres, who begot Alexander de Londres, and two daughters, Gild' and Alice. And Alexander gave his purparty (share)... to William, son of William Londres, which William, son of William, begot the third William Londres, who had John for a son and heir and two daughters, Elizabeth married to Christopher de Prestoun.*

Much of the information related so far derives from the *Gormanston Register*. It was compiled for Sir Christopher in 1397-8, a year after the death of his father, Sir Robert de Preston, when he was possessed of a considerable fortune by inheritance and through the marriage with the coheir of Sir William de Londres. Besides being a convenient form in which to keep the family's title to their many properties, Sir Christopher must also

have looked at the documents in the light of antiquarian interest. In the preface to the *Register*, the editor notes that the Prestons, two brothers from Preston, Lancs, "had begun to acquire landed property... and in 1327, he (William) obtained from the King a grant of the land forfeited by Sir Hugh de Lacy for rebellion by joining the Scots led by Edward Bruce. Sir Hugh held the Barony of De Lacy by tenure as part of his territories in Meath.



*Baronial Chapeau*

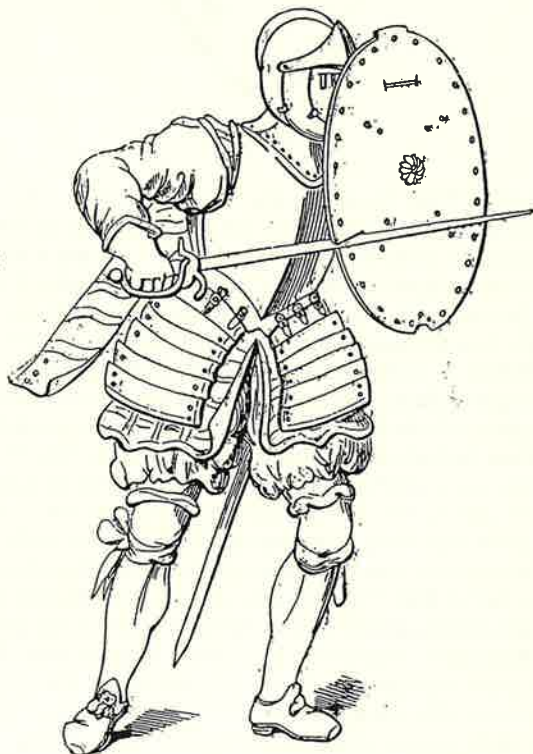
Although the Preston pedigree in the male line has only been traced to the beginning of the 14th century, through the female line, besides the de Lacy link, is also the link with Peter de Bermingham, living in 1165-6. He was Steward to Gervase Pagnell, Baron of Dudley, and his father William had been granted nine knight's fees in the reign of Henry I (1100-35), which Peter inherited. (Sir John de Somerie, eventual heir to Gervase Pagnell, was summoned to Parliament in 1308 in the Barony of Dudley). The de Berminghams take their surname from Bermingham castle, Warwickshire, and had a weekly market there with, we are told, the power of punishing offenders within the Lordship, a power of obliging all who lived in the jurisdiction to plead in his courts, a cognizance of all courts, and power to punish natives (though not foreigners) for theft.

It is not certain that the Robert de Bermingham who first went to Ireland during the Anglo-Norman invasion was related to Peter, but it is possible that he was. He was rewarded by Richard Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, with the grant of the Lordship of Offaly, a very broad jurisdiction in modern Co Laois, subsequently termed a feudal Barony and eventually a peerage title. As already noted, there is some question about Robert's earlier antecedents, but his descendants in the 13th century are found styled as Lords of Toutemoy, or Thetmoy (*Tuath-damhuighe*), in the north-east of Co Laois. The Lord at the end of the 13th century was Peter, son of James, son of Piers. Possibly, Piers was the son or grandson of Robert. At any rate, Piers took with his sword large territories in Connacht and is reckoned the first feudal Baron of Athenry, Co Galway. The family is known in Irish as McFeoris (MacPierce) in consequence of their descent from him. Throughout *The Annals of the Four Masters*, the de Bermingham name never appears once, but notices of the family are very frequent and always under their adopted Celtic name of MacFeoris. From this ancient family is descended a branch settled in Scotland, known as MacLoris, or as they began to write in the 18th century, MacGeorge. Piers's younger son, James, was father of Piers, feudal Baron of Thetmoy (now Monastereois), from whom the MacFeoris or MacYeory of Tipperary. Piers Senior's eldest son, Meyler, 2nd Lord Athenry, acquired a large territory in Tipperary by marriage with Basilia, sister and heir of William de Wygornia, descended from Philip de Wygornia, Justiciar of Ireland, but exchanged it with his nephew, Piers, Lord Bermingham of Thetmoy, for other lands.

Piers, sometimes called Peter in the documents, died in 1307-8, apparently having been summoned to a 'parliament' in Ireland.

His reputation was celebrated in a poem still extant in the Harleian MSS at the British Library. His second son was John who was appointed commander-in-chief of the English forces in Ireland in 1318 and won a victory over Edward Bruce, son of Robert Bruce, King of Scots, who had invaded Ulster in 1315. In May 1319, Edward II rewarded him with a charter to the territorial Earldom of Louth. He married Catherine, daughter of Richard de Burgh, Earl of Ulster. He was murdered in 1329. His son Richard predeceased him. His eldest daughter Catherine married Sir Eustace le Poer (*infra*).

The Peter who died in 1307-8 had another son, William, Baron of Carbury, Co Kildare. In 1331, William, as one of the magnates of Ireland, was asked by Edward III to give assistance (feudal dues owed to the Crown for his lands) and was knighted. However, in the following year, he was seized by the Justiciar at Clonmel and was imprisoned at Dublin castle with his son Walter. Without any record of charge, trial, and conviction, William was executed. The annalist, mourning his loss, says that 'the Lord William was a noble knight among a thousand thousands, and most noblest in feats of arms.' William's son Sir Walter was released in 1334 by order from England on finding hostages and mainpernors for good conduct. Not until 1337, though, and entering into a recognizance of £1,000 for good behaviour, were his father's lands, which had escheated to the Crown, restored to him. At about this time, he married Elizabeth, widow of Robert de Haveryngton, written in the MSS Harington, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir John de Multon, Baron of Egremont, in Cumberland. For some years, Sir Walter remained on his estates in England, until June 1346 when he was sent to Ireland as the King's Justiciar - interestingly, the recognizance for £1,000 and mainpernors was still in force. Sir Walter had been promised a reward for previous services in Ireland under the Justiarship of Sir Robert de Ufford, so he now took the opportunity on conferring upon himself the Manor of Kells, which had been forfeited by the attainder and execution of Sir Eustace le Poer. Lest this grant be challenged as irregular, it received special confirmation in England. In 1347, he was as Justiciar summoned to England to be present in Parliament to give advice on the war that Edward III was conducting so successfully (the signal victory at Crécy the previous year) in pursuit of his claim to the Crown of France.



He retired to his English estates in 1349 and died in 1350, leaving behind a reputation for having been a good Justiciar. He was succeeded by his only son and namesake Walter, a minor. In 1357, the son was given seisin of his lands, though not yet of full age, and the King by favour took his homage. Walter died in 1361 and his heir was his sister Margaret, the wife of Robert Preston, ancestor of Lord Gormanston.

The *Register* notes that Adam, son of Philip, was a townsman of Preston, Lancashire, towards the close of the 13th century. Adam had three sons, William, Richard, and Roger. William and Richard traded regularly across the Irish Sea to Drogheda, and must have been involved in the import of grain and other food-stuffs from Ireland in support of Edward I's campaigns against the Welsh, Scots, and even Gascony. The extensive wine trade at Drogheda was also stimulated by large demands for supplies for Edward's armies in Scotland. Wine could be brought directly from Bordeaux to Drogheda and thence to the King's military headquarters in Carlisle. The family had not yet adopted a fixed surname. In Preston, its members were known as 'Adam son of Philip', 'Roger son of Adam'. When abroad, in Ireland, they were naturally further identified as 'of Preston', and hence 'de Preston' and eventually 'Preston'.

The first to establish himself in Ireland was William who, in 1307, married Margery or Margaret, daughter of John Cosyn, of Drogheda, receiving a house in East Street, Drogheda, as her marriage portion. Between 1311 and 1321, he bought nine other properties there and had become a burgess of the town. By 1316, his brothers Richard and the Roger son of Adam, mentioned above had joined him and they took four conveyances of land jointly. By 1322, they had thriven to such an extent that they both received special letters from the King asking their aid to Sir Robert de Leyburn, Admiral of the Ships in the Western Sea. In return for their help, the government gave them letters of safe conduct and protection. In 1326, Richard de Preston was appointed Constable of Drogheda castle. Throughout this period, the brothers bought up Manors, including Gaffney, Fingalstown, forfeited by Sir Hugh de Lacy. Roger, the third brother, came to Ireland in 1326 and was appointed to the Court of King's Bench. He seems to have left his affairs in England in the stewardship of his brother-in-law, Albred. In 1341, he acquired the Manor of Midnightstown or Ministown. Roger was probably dead by 1346 and we find his widow, Matilda, buying properties in Fishers' Street, next to the church of St Mary de Dam, at Cork Hill, Drogheda, an area later known as Preston's Inns. Matilda seems to have died by 1364 when Robert de Preston, her son, is dealing with her property.

Like his father, Robert was a lawyer and in 1353 he married Margaret, then only 13 years old, only surviving daughter of Sir Walter de Bermingham of Castlecarbury, Co Kildare. As noted, Sir Walter had been Justiciar of Ireland between 1346 and 1349. Robert may have met her in England since Sir Thomas de Multon, Baron of Gilsland - not far from Preston - was a kinsman of Sir Walter's wife. In 1355, Robert was Counsel for the King in the Justiciar's Court in Dublin, looking after the King's interests, and acting as a Justice of Assize. He must have performed his duties well, for three years later he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, a post he held for the next 20 years. In 1361, Sir Walter de Bermingham the Younger died and his sister, Margaret, Robert de Preston's wife, became heiress to the de Bermingham estates at Carbury. She died in the same year, a particularly bad one for plague, which may also have carried off her brother, and the Manors of Kells and Shanbo, Co Kildare, came to him.

In the same year, Lionel, Duke of Clarence, a younger brother of Edward III, arrived in Ireland as the Justiciar and led a campaign against the O'Byrnes of Wicklow. Chief Justice Preston took part and was knighted by the Duke for his prowess. Two years later, he entered into negotiation for the purchase of the Lordship of Gormanston, which had been granted in 1230 to Aumary or Almaricus de St Amand. It was said to have belonged to an Irishman, Ma Gorman or Ua Gorman, and in 1363 it belonged to a descendant of the original patentee of 1230 who had retired to his English estates. Sir Robert already owned Ministown, Stameen, and Kenraghston, acquired by his father; and before buying Gormaston had obtained Rogerstown, Tankardstown, Donacarne, and Ninch. Gormaston with its castle, therefore, fitted well into this collection, and was convenient for Dublin. Sir Robert's claims to his wife's property were resisted by many of the de Bermingham tenants and members of that family, and he was caused to put a strong force into Castlecarbury to keep the King's peace. In 1368, during a parley, the rebellious de Berminghams took the Lord Chancellor prisoner and only released him in exchange for a member of their family who was being held at Trim castle.

On the accession of Richard II in 1377, Sir Robert was reappointed Chief Justice and, although soon after removed, continued to receive special commissions from the government. In 1388, the Lord Chancellor, Alexander de Balscot, Bishop of Meath, having been appointed Justiciar, made Sir Robert Keeper of the Great Seal. He was also Chancellor of the Green Wax, both of which posts he held until his death in 1396. He had married a second time, Johanne Hügeley, and he installed her in a dower house in St Laurence Street, Drogheda, with an orchard and a garden, together with 50 marks income from the Manors of Rogerstown and Stameen. This property eventually reverted to her probable son, Christopher's step-brother, Robert. Sir Christopher was a Justice for Co Meath and a Deputy Lieutenant, and died in 1422, leaving a widow, Emeline, and a son Christopher. The second Christopher's son Robert was created Viscount Gormanston in 1478 and thus became the Premier Viscount of Ireland. The first Viscount was fourth in descent from Roger de Preston, who was Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Ireland in 1327. Sir Robert Preston was Lord Deputy of Ireland in 1478, who in that year was created 'Viscount Gormanston'



O'Connor

## DESCENT OF THE VISCOUNTS GORMANSTON, Barons of Salt

Philip de Preston

Preston

Roger de Preston

Sir Robert Preston, 1st Baron Gormanston = Margaret, dau of Walter de Bermingham, Lord of Carbery

Sir Christopher Preston, 2nd Baron Gormanston = Elizabeth, dau and heiress of William de Loundres

Christopher Preston, 3rd Baron Gormanston = Jane D'Artois

Sir Robert Preston, 1st Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1503 = Janet, dau of Sir Richard Molyneux

Sir William Preston, 2nd Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1532 = Anne Burnell

Jenico, 3rd Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1569 = Catherine, dau of 9th Earl of Kildare

Christopher, 4th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1599 = Catherine Fitzwilliam

Jenico, 5th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1630 = Margaret, dau of Nicholas St Lawrence, Lord Howth

Nicholas, 6th Viscount Gormanston = Mary, dau of 1st Viscount Barnewall of Kingsland

Jenico, 7th Viscount, who having adhered to the lost cause of James II was indicted and outlawed for treason in 1691. He was succeeded by his nephew

Jenico, 8th Viscount Gormanston  
succeeded by his brother

Andrew, 9th Viscount Gormanston = Mary Preston

Jenico, 10th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1757 = Thomasine, dau of Baron Trimiestown

Anthony, 11th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1786 = Henrietta Robinson

Jenico, 12th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1860 = Margaret, dau of 2nd Viscount Southwell

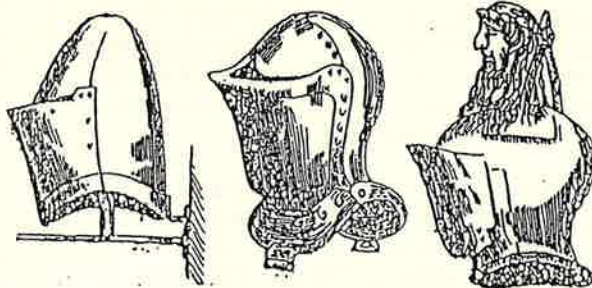
Edward, 13th Viscount Gormanston = Lucretia Jertingham

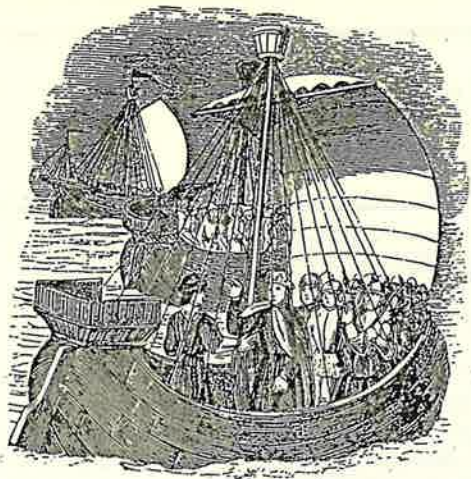
Jenico, 14th Viscount Gormanston = Georgina Connellan

Jenico, 15th Viscount Gormaston, *ob* 1925 = Eileen, dau of General Rt Hon Sir William Butler

William, 16th Viscount Gormanston, *ob* 1940 = Pamela, granddau of 9th Earl of Denbigh

Jenico Nicholas Dudley Preston, 17th and present Viscount Gormanston, Baron of Salt





Thomas Preston, son of the fourth Viscount Gormanston, was born towards the close of the 16th century. He was educated in the Low Countries, where he entered the service of Spain. Supplied by Cardinal Richelieu with three frigates and a considerable store of arms and ammunition for the Irish Confederates, Preston sailed from Dunkirk, and anchored in Wexford harbour about the middle of September, 1642. He was accompanied by his son, a great number of engineers, and five hundred officers, including Colonels Sinnott, Cullen, Plunket, and Burke, who distinguished themselves in the Dutch war. General Preston was appointed by the Supreme Council of the Catholic Confederation of Kilkenny, to the command of the Lenister forces, and was a prime actor in the affairs of Ireland for the next few years siding on the whole with the Anglo-Irish rather than the Old Irish party. He was consequently often in opposition to Owen Roe O'Neill; but in August, 1646, he co-operated with O'Neill to intercept Ormond in his march on Kilkenny, and compel his subsequent disastrous retreat to Dublin. Preston ultimately sided with the Marquess of Ormond and the Anglo-Irish party, and was therefor excommunicated by the Nuncio, Rinuccini, but Preston replied: "I hold your censures to be invalid; and, as for O'Neill, I have pursued him to Maryborough, fully resolved that either he or I shall fall in mortal combat." In the summer of 1650, Preston gallantly defended Waterford against Ireton's army, in that year also he was at Ennis created 'Viscount Tara'. Excluded by Cromwell from pardon for life and estate, Preston retired to the Continent, where he died before the 14th August, 1662. His grandson, the third viscount, died without issue in 1674; but John Preston, descended from his younger brother, was for his vote in favour of the 'Union', created 'Baron Tara', 1800.

Colonel Jenico Preston was the seventh Viscount Gormanston. He was a member of the Privy Council of King James II, Lord Lieutenant of the county Meath; and Member of Parliament for Dublin. He appears to have gone through the Irish War of the Revolution, and to have followed the fortunes of, and been shut up with, the Irish army in Limerick, where he died 17th March, 1691, leaving no male issue, though he was twice married. The line was carried on through the children of his brother Nicholas; his immediate successor being Jenico Preston, an officer in the Earl of Tyrone's Regiment.

Lieutenant Jenico Preston was the eldest son of the Hon Nicholas Preston, brother to Colonel Jenico Preston, the seventh Viscount Gormanstown; and, on the death of his uncle, without male issue, succeeded to the title as the eighth viscount. He also died without issue, when the title fell to his next brother, Anthony, who continued the line, which exists to the present day in the present 17th Viscount. The pedigree chart of the descent of the Gormanstons is shown on the previous page.



## The Lordship of Coseley Staffordshire

Coseley is a straggling village situated within the parish of Sedgley, lying between Wolverhampton and Dudley. It lies at the centre of the great mining and iron smelting district within Staffordshire with a large population. The parish of Sedgley is divided in two divisions, the Upper Side containing the villages of Sedgley, Gospel End, Cotwall End, Upper and Lower Gornall; Lower Side containing Ettingshall, Brierley, Coseley and Wood Setton.

Dudley and Sedgeley were formerly within Mercia, until that kingdom was absorbed by Wessex in the ninth century. By the time of the Domesday Survey 1086 only two of the former Anglo Saxon landowners together with Bishop Wulfstan of Worcester had survived. Coseley is not at that time specifically mentioned, but Sedgley is recorded held by Ansculf who held it from the King. The surrounding areas, much laid waste by the Conqueror in 1069-70 reverted to forest which continued to be held by William I and was probably further enlarged by his son Henry I in the early 12th Century. The Manor of Coseley, believed to be that formerly known as Coacley or Lower Sedgley, was evidently retrieved as a Manor within the parish held from the earliest times of the Barony of Dudley. The Domesday entry reads:

*William son of Ansculf holds Sedley from the King. Earl Algar held it. 6 hides. Land for 12 ploughs. In Lordship 1 plough. 3 slaves, 45 villagers with a priest and 2 smallholders have 18 ploughs. Meadow, 16 acres; woodland 2 leagues long and 1 wide. Value before 1066 £ 10; now the same.*

*.... in Sedgley 2 hides, Geoffrey holds from him. He has 1 plough in lordship, 9 villagers with 2 ploughs, meadow, 2 acres, Value 20s.*



Somery

From Ansculf the Sedgley and Coseley Estates with others passed in the 12th century to the Pagnall or Paganell family and then in the 13th Century to the Somery family. The first John de Somery (d 1194) had married Hawise Paganell, sister of Gervase Paganell who died c 1208, though her son Ralph de Somery in 1194 paid 300 marks for the seisin of the Barony of Dudley. Coseley with Sedgley then descended to his son Roger de Somery, Lord of Dudley and subsequently to his son also Roger 1255 - 1291.

Agnes, widow of Roger, is recorded holding in 1293. Roger and Agnes had three children, John de Somery who died in 1322 without issue when his sister Margaret inherited and in 1329 Margaret de Somery married John de Sutton.

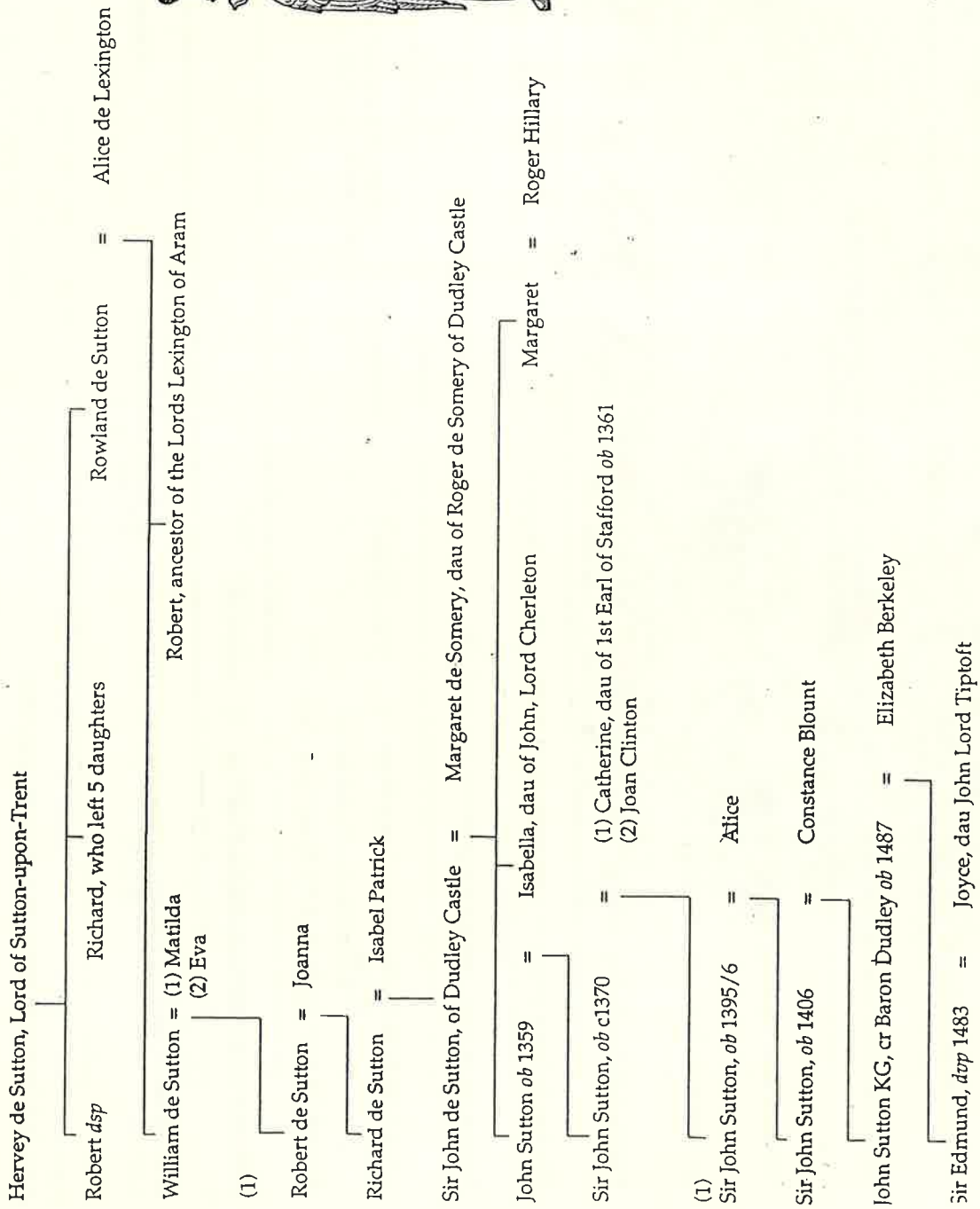
The Barony of Dudley with its many manors thereby passed into the de Sutton family and descended successively through several generations. In the summons to Parliament 1341 to 1342 John II is referred to as John de Sutton de Dudley, his son also John styled John de Sutton third Baron Dudley died 1370, his grandson John IV succeeded 1396. His son and namesake, the fifth Baron died 1492 and his son John 6th styled John de Sutton de Somery inherited and was summoned to Parliament as 1st Baron Dudley in 1441. His first son Edmund predeceased him in 1487 when he was succeeded by his grandson Edward de Sutton second Lord Dudley who in turn was succeeded by his son John de Sutton, third Lord Dudley, who had married Lady Cecily Grey, daughter of Thomas 1st Marquess of Dorset. John 3rd Lord Dudley is generally held to be a man of limited ability or understanding and whose deficiencies were the root cause for his alienating the majority of his estates in order to pay his debts. The Dudley Castle Estate and many Manors were sold to his cousin Sir John Dudley, later Duke of Northumberland and John 3rd Lord Dudley ended his days impoverished earning the nickname of Lord Quondam.

His son Edward 4th Lord Dudley however, following the Duke of Northumberland's attainder and execution by Mary Tudor in 1553 recovered Dudley Castle together with the majority of his estates and Manors in 1554 - 55. In 1555 Edward 4th Lord Dudley married Kathryn Bridges, daughter of Sir John Bridges Kt Lord Chandos. Much in favour with Queen Mary by letters patent in December of that year, she settled upon Lord Dudley a number of manors including Sedgley and Rowley. The precise date of this grant is not known but it was confirmed by letters patent in the 21st of Elizabeth I, 1578-9.

The coal and iron works of the area are for the most part at Coseley and Ettingshall and for centuries gave employment to vast numbers of workmen. At the beginning of the 17th Century the family made the great discovery that iron could be smelted with coal instead of charcoal for which in 1622 Edward, Lord Dudley obtained the monopoly of that trade for 14 years. During the Civil War (1642-47) the invention was used for founding canon for the King in Worcester. Nails had been made in Dudley as early as the 15th Century and in 1538 Reynold Ward of Dudley is said to have sold them at 11s 4d per thousand.

The Manor of Coseley then descended through successive Lords Dudley through to William 11th Lord Dudley, created Earl of Dudley on 17th February 1860. He had acquired Whitley Court then the Chief Seat of the Foley family and enlarged it to a palatial residence. The 1st Earl Dudley died in May 1885 and was succeeded by his son William Humble Ward 2nd Earl. The Lordship of the Manor of Coseley descended subsequently with successive Earls of Dudley, whose descent lies on the following pages, to the present owner.

DESCENT OF THE EARLS OF DUDLEY



Edward de Sutton KG, 2nd Baron. MP in 1492 and 1495. *ob* 1508 = Cicely Willoughby

John de Sutton, 3rd Baron. Knighted 1513, *ob* 1553

Lady Cicely Grey, dau of 1st Marquess of Dorset

Geoffrey

Thomas

Edward Sutton (or Dudley), 4th Baron *ob* 1586

(1) Katherine, dau of Baron Chandos of Sudeley  
(2) Jane, dau of 3rd Earl of Derby

(2)  
Edward Sutton, 5th Baron Dudley *ob* 1643

Sir Ferdinando Sutton KB. *dvp* 1621

Frances, Baroness Dudley *ob* 1697 = Sir Humble Ward, cr Baron Ward in 1643/4

Edward, 7th Baron Dudley and 2nd Baron Ward *ob* 1701 = Frances Brererton

William Ward *ob* 1713

Humble

William *dvp* 1692 = Frances Dilke

Edward, 8th Baron Dudley and 3rd Baron Ward *ob* 1704 = Diana Howard

John *ob* 1696

William, 10th Baron Dudley  
and 5th Baron Ward. *d umm* 1740

Frances  
*ob* 1737

= William Lea

Edward, 9th Baron Dudley and 4th Baron Ward *d umm* 1731

descent of the Barons Dudley

William Ward, MP for County Stafford. *ob* 1720 = Mary Grey

John, 6th Baron Ward. cr Viscount Dudley and Ward 1763 *ob* 1774 =

(1) Anne Maria Bouchier  
(2) Mary Carver

William

Humble

(1)  
John, 2nd Viscount Dudley and 7th Baron Ward *dsp* 1788

(2)

William, 3rd Viscount Dudley and 8th Baron Ward *ob* 1823

John, 4th Viscount Dudley and 9th Baron Ward *d umm* 1833  
cr Earl Dudley in 1827. Upon his death the Earldom became extinct

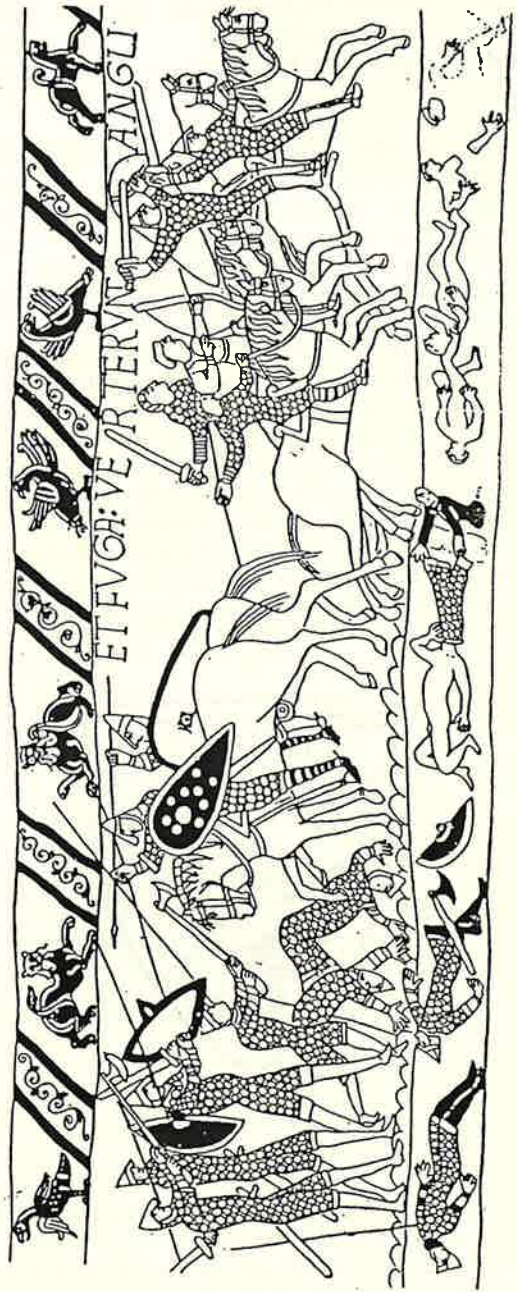
William Humble, 10th Baron Ward *ob* 1835 = Amelia Pillans

William 11th Baron Ward. cr Earl of Dudley 1860 *ob* 1885 = (1) Selina Constance  
(2) Georgina Elizabeth Moncrieffe

(1) William Humble, 2nd Earl of Dudley *ob* 1932 = (1) Rachel Gurney  
(2) Gertrude Monckton

(1) William Humble Eric, 3rd Earl of Dudley *ob* 1969 = (1) Lady Rosemary Sutherland-Leveson Gower  
(2) Frances Laura Charteris  
(3) Grace Maria Kolin

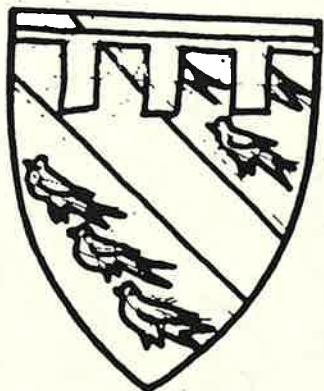
(1) William Humble David Ward, 4th and present Earl of Dudley



## The Lordship of Bittesby Leicestershire

THIS LORDSHIP lies in the extensive parish of Claybrooke, six miles from Lutterworth. It is an area of ancient settlement and two great Roman roads, Watling Street and the Fosse Way, form a crossroads here, at a Roman station known as Venonce. A barrow, known as 'Cloudsley Bush' lies nearby and is evidence of a much earlier settlement. The Lordship, known anciently as Budesby and Bittelbusby, consists of 750 acres of agricultural land.

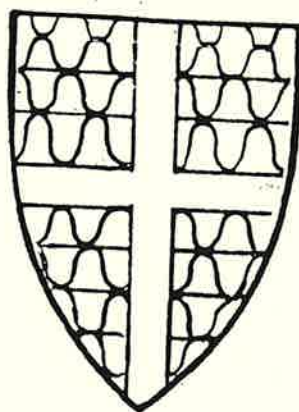
Bittesby was held before the Norman Conquest by Lewin and was worth 30 shillings. After the invasion, it came into the possession of the King in whose hands it remained for some time until it was granted to the Verdun family. This family are noted in Domesday Book as possessing Farnham Royal in Buckinghamshire. Bertram de Verdun, the Lord, was the son of Godfrey, Comte de Verdun, and arrived in England with William the Conqueror. He was succeeded in his estates by his son Norman, who in turn was succeeded by his son Bertam. Bertram was a judge and in 1175 was present as a baron during the sitting of the *curia regis*. He was Sheriff of Warwickshire from 1168 to 1183 and accompanied Richard I (1189-1199) on his crusade to the Holy Land in 1190. On his death he was succeeded by his son Nicholas, who is recorded as Lord of Bittesby in 1216. In that year he took part in the Barons rebellion and his estates were confiscated by King John, only to be returned to him on the accession of Henry III in that same year.



Furnival

He was reputedly a great favourite of the King and enjoyed the security of his estates until his death in 1231. His only child was a daughter, Roseia, who married Theobald de Botiller, and on his death his huge estates, in Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire passed to his son-in-law, who retained his wives maiden name as his own. On Theobald's death, Bittesby and the rest of the estate passed to their eldest son John, who obtained a charter of free warren on all his lands in 1257. John married Margaret de Lacy, joint heiress of that family's estates in Shropshire, Wales, and Ireland. John was able to combine his already vast estates with many English Lordships as well as half of the Lacy Palatinate of Meath in Ireland. His wealth made him one of the great barons of the age and he was used by Henry III to check Welsh advances on the borders. During the civil war between Henry and the Barons, which erupted in 1264,

Verdun remained loyal to the initially defeated King, and fought with Prince Edward, who defeated the Barons at the Battle of Evesham in 1265, and led the forces which destroyed Simon de Montfort's last bastion at Kenilworth Cstle, Warwickshire.

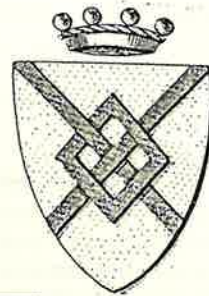


Norfolk

On his death in 1274 John de Verdun was succeeded in his estates, including the Lordship of Bittesby, by his son Theobald. Theobald immediately travelled to Ireland to organize his lands in Meath and to serve as constable of that country. He enjoyed great favour with Edward I (1272-1307) but in 1291 he was called before the King to answer charges of transgressions and disorders. He failed to appear at the court and was eventually captured and imprisoned. Such was his standing with Edward however, that he was able pay a fine of 500 marks for his release. He later served Edward in France and Ireland and sat as a Baron in Edwards parliaments. He died in 1309 and is buried at Alveton Castle in Staffordshire. He was succeeded by his son Theobald, who had been knighted by Edward I after the Battle of Falkirk, in 1298. In 1313 he was made Justice and Lieutenant of Ireland but was recalled in 1314 the aftermath of the Battle of Bannockburn, where the English were soundly defeated by King Robert Bruce. He died in 1316 after what was described as *a short but brilliant career*, and was succeeded in the Lordship of Bittesby by his son-in-law John Funival.

The Furnivals continued to possess Bittesby for almost 100 years. In 1332 William Funival is recorded as its Lord, and he was succeeded by his son Thomas, who was Lord in 1346. In 1408, Thomasia, wife of Thomas grandson, also Thomas, was found to be seized of the Lordship and by the early 15th century it had become the possession of John Talbot, first Earl of Shrewsbury. Born in 1388, Talbot was was the 4th Baron Talbot and on his marriage to Joan Funival, that family's heiress, became the Lord of Bittesby, in 1404. Talbot's life was one of battle. He fought in Wales as teenager and by 1413 he had been made Lieutenant of Ireland by Henry V. He was present at Agincourt in 1415. In 1419 Talbot travelled to France, fighting at the sieges of Melun and Meaux, and later, after warring with his adversary in Ireland, the Earl of Ormond, he returned to France where he took part in defending Orleans in 1431. His fame and repute as a warrior was such that Joan of Arc was said to have believed that Talbot led the English forces. He was later captured by the

# THE DESCENT OF DE VERDON, sometime Lords of Bittesby



Bertram de Verdun, said to be the son of Godfrey, Count of Verdun, held the Lordship of Farnham Royal, Bucks, by the service of providing a glove on the day of a King's coronation for his right had = ?

Norman de Verdon, living 1140 = Lascelline, dau of Geoffrey de Clinton, Treasurer to KING HENRY I (1100-35)      Milo, d in Ireland      William of Brissingham, Norfolk

Bertram (feudal) Baron of Alveton or Alton, attended King Richard the Lionheart (1189-99) on crusade to the Holy Land and was at the siege of Acre, 1191, becoming its governor when the city fell. Founded Croxden Abbey, Staffordshire, 1176, died in the Holy Land 1192 = (1) Maud, dau of Robert de Ferrers, Earl of Derby  
(2) Roesia, dau of ?

(2) Thomas, dsp 1199 = Eustachia, dau of Gilbert Bassett      (2) Nicholas, died 1231 = Joan, dau of ?

Roesia de Verdon, founded Beldon Abbey, Leics, and died in 1248 = Theobald le Botiller, who took de Verdon as his surname because of his wife's great inheritance

John de Verdon, accompanied Prince Edward (later KING EDWARD I) to the Holy Land, died 1278 = (1) Margerie, dau of Gilbert de Lacy, Lord of Meath, Ireland      Humphery, Rector of Alveton  
(2) Alianore, dau of ?

Theobald de Verdon, Constable of Ireland, summoned to Parliament, 1295, as Baron Verdon, died 1309 = Marjery of Elenor, dau of ?

Sir Theoblad de Verdon, 2nd Lord Verdon, died, 1316, at Alveton Castle, when the Barony fell into abeyance = (1) Maud, dau of Edmund, Lord Mortimer, Baron of Wigmore, she died at Alveton, 1315  
(2) Elizabeth, dau and coheir of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, by Jane Plantagenet dau of KING EDWARD I (1272-1307)

(1) Joan, Baroness (feudal) of Alveton or Alton, who married as her second husband Thomas de Furnival, 2nd Lord Furnival, from whom is descended the present Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot

French at Patay where he had fought against overwhelming odds. He remained a prisoner until 1433 when on his release he joined forces with the Duke of Burgundy. He remained in France and is considered to have done much to keep Normandy in English hands.

In 1442, he was created Earl of Shrewsbury and made Constable of France. The next year he returned to England and was made, for the third time, Governor of Ireland, as well as receiving the Earldom of Waterford and the Hereditary Lord Stewardship of Ireland. In 1452, as the French threatened Calais, Shrewsbury was sent to France as Lieutenant of Aquitaine, with almost regal powers. After a bloody campaign the Shrewsbury made a stand with his English and Gascon troops at Castillon. Despite a brave charge by his men, to cries of Talbot, Talbot, St George the battle was lost and Shrewsbury killed. Shrewsbury remained one of the most famous warriors of his age, on both sides of the channel.

The descent of the Lordship after this time is rather obscure, but by the 1670s it was in the possession of the Dukes of Norfolk. In a marriage settlement of Henry Howard, Earl of Norfolk (later the 7th Duke of Norfolk) Bittesby passed to trustees and was held in jointure for the couple. Henry died in 1700 and Mary in 1705. The couple were childless and the Dukedom was inherited by the dukes nephew, Thomas Howard, who died in 1732. It appears then that Bittesby fell to his widow, Mary. After her husband's death she lived with her kinsman, Peregrine Widdrington, younger son of the Jacobite leader, Lord Widdrington, who had been found guilty of treason for his part in the 1715 rebellion. Mary fell in love with Widdrington and the couple married. It then seems likely that Bittesby passed to him and hence to his descendants after his death in 1748. By the beginning of the 19th century these were represented by the Towneley family of Lancashire who are recorded as owning the estate. The Townleys remained as Lords of the Manor of Bittesby until the death of John Townley in 1878 when it passed to his kinsman Sir Thomas O'Hagan. The present and 4th Baron O'Hagan is the current Lord of the Manor of Bittesby.

### O'HAGAN of Bittesby

Edward O'Hagan, of Belfast = Mary, dau of Capt Thomas Bell

Sir Thomas O'Hagan, 1st Baron O'Hagan of Tullahogue, Co Tyrone (1870) KP, PC, QR Attorney-General under Lord Palmerston, Lord Chancellor under Gladstone (1868-74) (1st Roman Catholic since King James II to hold this post), died 1888 = (2nd wife) Alice Mary and coheir of Charles Towneley (d 1921)

Hon Thomas Towneley O'Hagan, died 1900 in South Africa, unmarried aged 22, 2nd Lord O'Hagan

Maurice Herbert Towneley-O'Hagan, 3rd Lord O'Hagan, born 1886, died 1961 = (1) Hon Frances Constance Huddalena, dau and heir of 1st Baron Strachie (Strachey), died 1931  
(2) Evelyn Violet died 1965

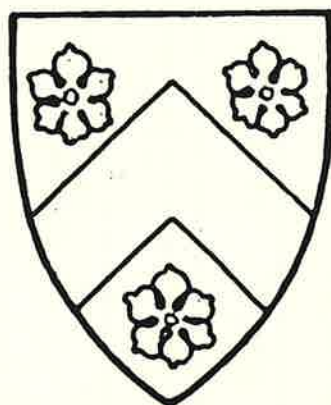
Thomas Anthony Edward Towneley O'Hagan adopted the surname of Strachey on inheriting his grandfather's Somerset estates, also died in 1955 = Lady Mary Sophia Palmer, dau of 3rd Earl Selborne, Lady-in-Waiting to HRH The Princess Elizabeth now Queen Elizabeth II

Charles Towneley Strachey, 4th and present Lord O'Hagan, an MEP, 1977-94, Lord of the Manor of Bittesby, Leicestershire



## The Lordship of Clifton & Coldwell Northumberland

CLIFTON and COLDWELL Lordship lies in the parish of Stannington, about a mile and a half from Morpeth and a similar distance from Netherton. The parish is also host to Blagdon, the 17th century home of the Viscounts Ridley, whose comparatively recent ancestors made their money as merchants and ironmasters in Newcastle, eventually marrying another into commercial 18th century family, the Whites, in the person of their heiress Elizabeth. They became baronets in 1756, Sir Matthew White Ridley being MP for Newcastle eight times and once for Morpeth, of whom it was written in the early 19th century that 'during this long period, he has carefully watched over the interests and rights of his constituents. He does not figure in the house (of Commons) as a speaker, but in solidity of judgment and independence of principle he is inferior to none.' The electoral franchise was extremely small at the time, being confined to ratepayers (some readers might think that this qualification should be restored), and make what you will of the fact that Sir Matthew never, or hardly ever, spoke in the Chamber.



Clifton

At any rate, they are a good example of the commercial purple of the 18th and 19th centuries, only being ennobled as Viscounts Ridley in 1900. The immediate past fourth Viscount was Lord Steward of Her Majesty's Household, a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, and, until 2000, Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland. Let it never be said that there is no upward mobility in England.

To trace the holders of the Manor of Clifton and Coldwell, we must trace the Barons of Morpeth, the first of whom was Roger de Merlay (or Merial, or Merlaco), who certified to Henry II (1154-89) that William de Clifton held under his Barony a knight's fee. Other fees and tenants are given in this certification of 1165-66.

Roger's son, Roger II, is returned in the Testa de Neville (1219) as holding 'of our Lord (the King) the Barony of Morpeth for the service of four Knights'. The account further states that Roger's ancestors had held the Barony by this service since the Conquest of England (ie since 1066), which seems unlikely because Merlays were not Norman. In 1240, the Barony is described as being held of the Crown by Roger de Merlay III and as then consisting of the Manor of Morpeth, and its members: Grinewest (which we have not been able to identify), Ulgham,

Hepscot, Shilvington, Twizell, Saltwick, Dudden, another Dudden (which we have not identified), Clifton and Caldwell, (Coldwell) Stannington, Shotton, Blakeden, (Blagdon) North Wydeslade, South Wydeslade, Killingworth, Benton, and Walker. Holding under Roger III were: Hugh de Gubium (Shilvington), Richard de Dudden (Dudden del West), William Conyers (Clifton and Caldwell, or Coldwell), John de Plessys (Shotton, which included Plessey, Blakeden, and North Wydeslade, Galfrid de Wydeslade (South Wydeslade), Adam Barret (Walker), Robert de Camhow (Saltwick). Alice de Merlay held East Dudden and Twizell in frank marriage (dower).

In 1294, it was shown at the Newcastle Assizes that Henry I had granted to Ralph de Merlay all the woods, enclosure, and free chase at Elchamps (Ulgham). The Baron, John de Greystock, who had married the Merlay heiress, also produced a Charter of the same King granting his ancestors, the de Merlays, free chase in all their lands in Northumberland. The Greystocks died out in the male line in the 15th century, and the Barony passed to the Dacres of Gilsland and thence to the Howard Earls of Carlisle by marriage (see Faught & Fenton, in this catalogue)



The seals represented above, and overleaf, especially that of Roger I, are very early examples of the use of emblems for authentication and for identification. The first properly *heraldic* device is that of Roger III. Whether these are blackbirds (*merulae*) is a matter of conjecture, but they might be. Roger de Merlay III's daughter and heiress, Mary, married William Baron of Greystock and as noted brought the Merlay patrimony into this great Cumberland family. Of their son and heir, John, it was written anonymously:

*He was a stronge man, but corpulent. He gave to the master Richard of Morpeth th'one half of the mannor of Bellesses, to have and to holde to the said master Richarde as his inheritance, as apperet (appears) more plainer by his dede. This John of Graistoke caused partitioe to be maide of all his landes & tennementes, whiche was Roger Marleis his grandfather's, betweixte him and Rob't Som'ville, outhrough (throughout) all Northumberlande. It is to be marked - that Roger Merley, whilst he lived, helde in capite upon the King's majestie in Northumberland, foure knightes fees so that the particione was*

DESCENT OF THE HOWARDS, EARLS OF CARLISLE

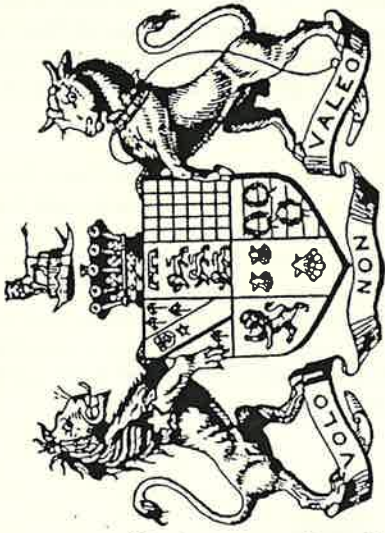
Sir William Howard = (1) Gilla, dau of Sir William de Terrington  
 1308  
 (2) Alice, dau of Sir Robert de Ufford

(1) Sir John = Joan, dau of Sir Richard de Cornwall, natural son of  
 ob 1340 Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cornwall (2nd s of King John) Sir William = Joan  
 dsp ante 1328

Sir John = Alice, dau of Sir Robert Boys

Sir Robert = Marjery, dau of Robert Lord Seales

Sir John = (1) Margaret, dau and heir to Sir John Plaiz of Mounpichet, Essex  
 ob 1436 (2) Alice, dau of Sir William Tendering



(1) Sir John = Joan, dau of Sir Richard Walton Margaret Sir Robert Howard = Lady Margaret, dau of Thomas Mowbray  
 dsp 1409 (1) (2) Henry Elizabeth  
 D of Norfolk, and co-heir of Richard Fitz-Alan  
 Earl of Arundel

Elizabeth = 12th E of Oxford John Howard, 1st Duke of Norfolk, KG = (1) Katherine, dau of William Lord Moleyns  
 Lord Howard, Earl Marshal of England, (2) Margaret, dau of Sir John Chedworth Catherine = Edward Nevill,  
 E of Surrey, Ld Admiral of England and Lord of Rathwire  
 Ireland, k at Bosworth 1485

(1) Thomas, 2nd Duke = (1) Elizabeth, dau of Sir Fredk Tilney Catherine = John Lord Berners  
 (2) Agnes: issue including present E of Effingham

Thomas, 3rd Duke = (1) PRINCESS ANNE, dau of EDWARD IV (dsp 1513) Edward, KG Edmond = Joyce Culpepper Elizabeth = Thomas Visc Rochford from whom ANNE BOLEYN,  
 (2) Elizabeth, dau of Edward, D of Buckingham ob 1513 2nd wife of KING HENRY VIII (ex 1536)

Henry, KG, E of Surrey = Lady Frances de Vere, dau of Henry = Anne Howard Margaret = Sir Thomas Arundel CATHERINE HOWARD = KING HENRY VIII  
 E of Oxford of Wardour ex 1543

Thomas 4th Duke = Mary, dau and heir of Henry Henry, KG, E of Northampton Jane = Charles, E of Catherine = Henry, Lord Berkeley Margaret = Henry, Lord Scrope  
 ex 1572 FitzAlan, E of Arundel Westmoreland of Bolton

Philip, E of Arundel, from whom Thomas, Lord Howard William = Elizabeth, dau and heir of George Lord Daere of Gilsland  
 Miles, 17th and present Duke of gr niece of Thomas, descended from Thomas Baron Moulton  
 Norfolk, KG ob 1313

Philip = Mary

Sir William Howard = Mary

Charles, cr 1661 Baron Dacre = Anne  
Viscount Howard of Morpeth  
and 1st Earl of Carlisle

Edward, 2nd Earl of Carlisle = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Uvedale

Charles, 3rd Earl of Carlisle = Anne, dau of 1st Earl of Essex of the second creation

Henry, 4th Earl of Carlisle KG = (2) Isabella, dau of 4th Lord Byron

Frederick, 5th Earl of Carlisle KG KT PC = Margaret, dau of 1st Marquess of Stafford KG

George, 6th Earl of Carlisle KG = Georgiana, dau of 5th Duke of Devonshire KG

George, 7th Earl of Carlisle KG PC, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland  
ob 1684 when he was succeeded by his brother

William, 8th Earl of Carlisle, ob 1889 and was succeeded by his nephew

George, 9th Earl of Carlisle = Rosalind, dau of 2nd Baron Stanley of Alderley

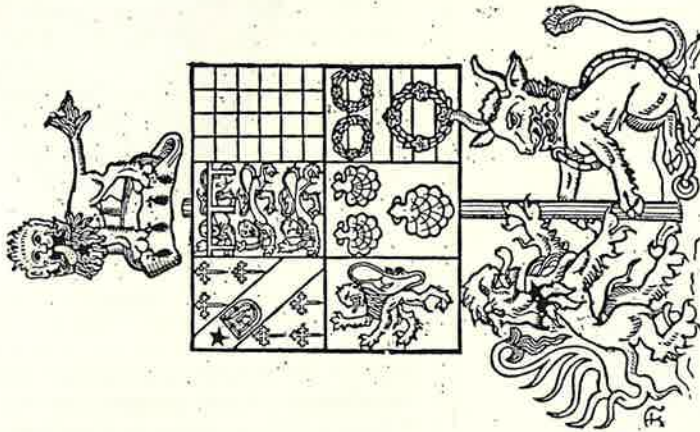
Charles, 10th Earl of Carlisle = Rhoda, dau of Col Paget L Estrange

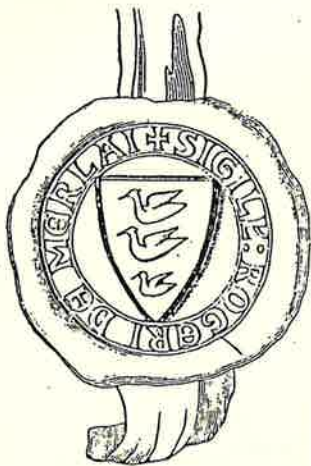
33rd Lord George, 11th Earl of Carlisle = Bridget Baroness Ruthven

34th Lord Charles, 12th Earl of Carlisle = Ela, dau of 2nd Viscount Allendale

13th Earl of Carlisle

Hon Philip Howard of Newcastle

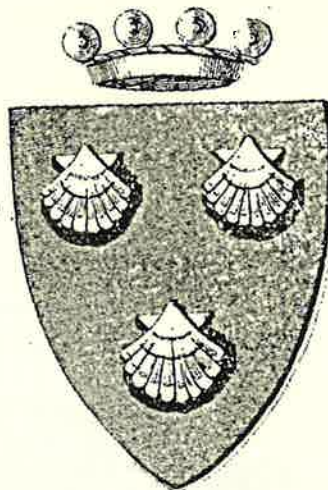




made thus... (and) seinge hymselfe without heire, gave to one Raife (Ralph FitzRobert, son of Robert Greystock and Elizabeth Nevile), the (nephew) of William his kynsman, all his lands and tennementes, as well in the countie of Northumberlande as elsewhere in Englande. To have and to holde to the saide Raif and to his haire, after the forme of his writinge to hym thereof gyvan, and shortly after died, and was buried at Graistoke.

Ralph's father, Robert, died in 1316-17 at Hinderkelf (Castle Howard), Yorkshire, the first occasion we meet the family living in what was to become one of the great stately homes which is still owned by a branch of the Howard family more than 650 years later. Ralph, according to the anonymous chronicle "besieged Gilbert de Middleton, and divers others with him, in the castle of Mitford, for certain traitrous actions done by them in Northumberland; and that not long after, being in Gateshead at breakfast, he was, through the contrivance of the same Gilbert and his party, there poisoned... and buried in the abbey of Newminster, near the High Altar." For this offence, Edward II had Gilbert executed in London. Morpeth remained in the Greystokes until the death of Ralph, Lord Greystoke, in 1487, when it passed in the marriage of his daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, to Thomas Lord Dacre. It remained in the male line of the Dacres for almost a century when Elizabeth Dacre married Lord William Howard, son of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, and Margaret, daughter of Thomas, Lord Audley of Saffron Walden. The Lordship and Barony then descend through the Howard Earls of Carlisle, Viscounts Morpeth, and Barons Dacre of Gilsland.

The third de Merlay Baron founded a chantry in Stannington, in honour of the Blessed Virgin, for one chaplain, to be chosen by the Archdeacon of Northumberland, for the time being. He



Dacre

gave to it (for its maintenance) one toft and croft on the south side of the church, with common of pasture for four cows, and thirty ewes with their followers of one year old. He also gave it 10 acres of land, and half a ploughland in Clifton, and 20 acres of land in Coldwell, to hold of the Priory of Hexham, by the annual rent of 1s. 6d. to be paid on the feast of St Peter ad Vincula, and answering to the Prior's Court. He gave three oxgangs of land in Coldwell, with common of pasture in Clifton and Coldwell, to hold of Gilbert de Coniers and his heirs by annual rent of one shilling.' The rolls and records of the Barony of Morpeth are substantial and housed at Durham University, Dept of Palaegography and Diplomatic, of which we give some below.

**Documents with other Manors associated with this Lordship:**

Survey	1569-70	PRO
Court Rolls	1632,1653,1654	Northumberland RO
	1656,1659,1660	
	1668	
Court Records	1775-89	
	1738-93	Durham University

There are numerous other papers in the department of Palaegography and Diplomatic at Durham University

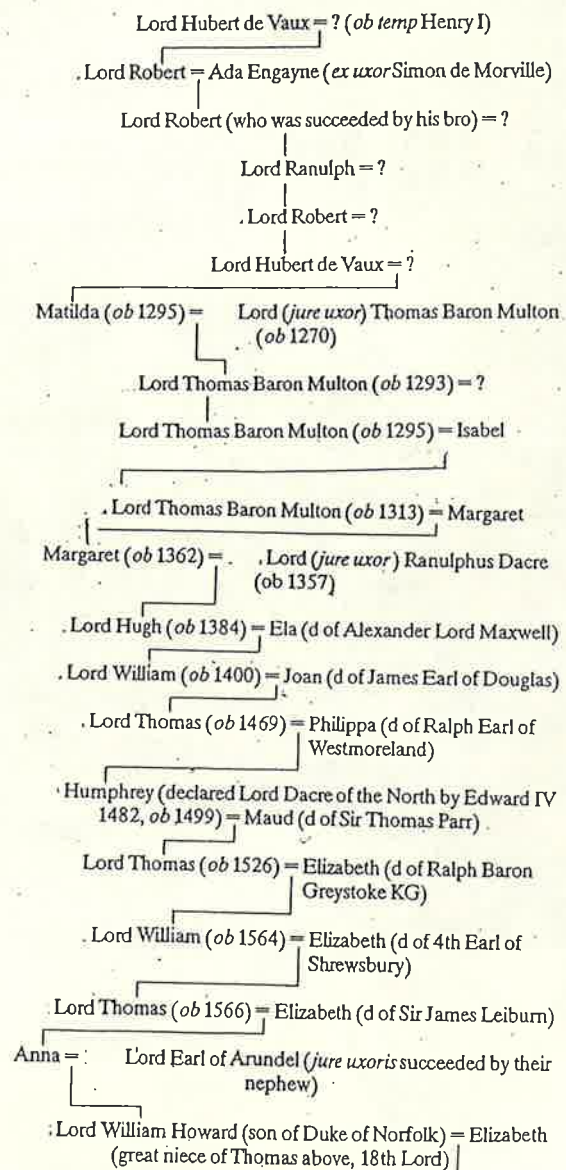
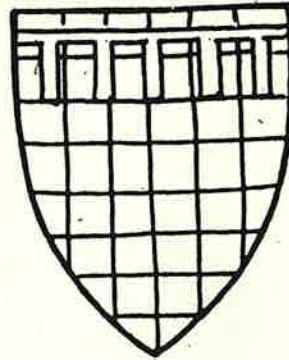
# The Lordship of Easby in Brampton Cumbria

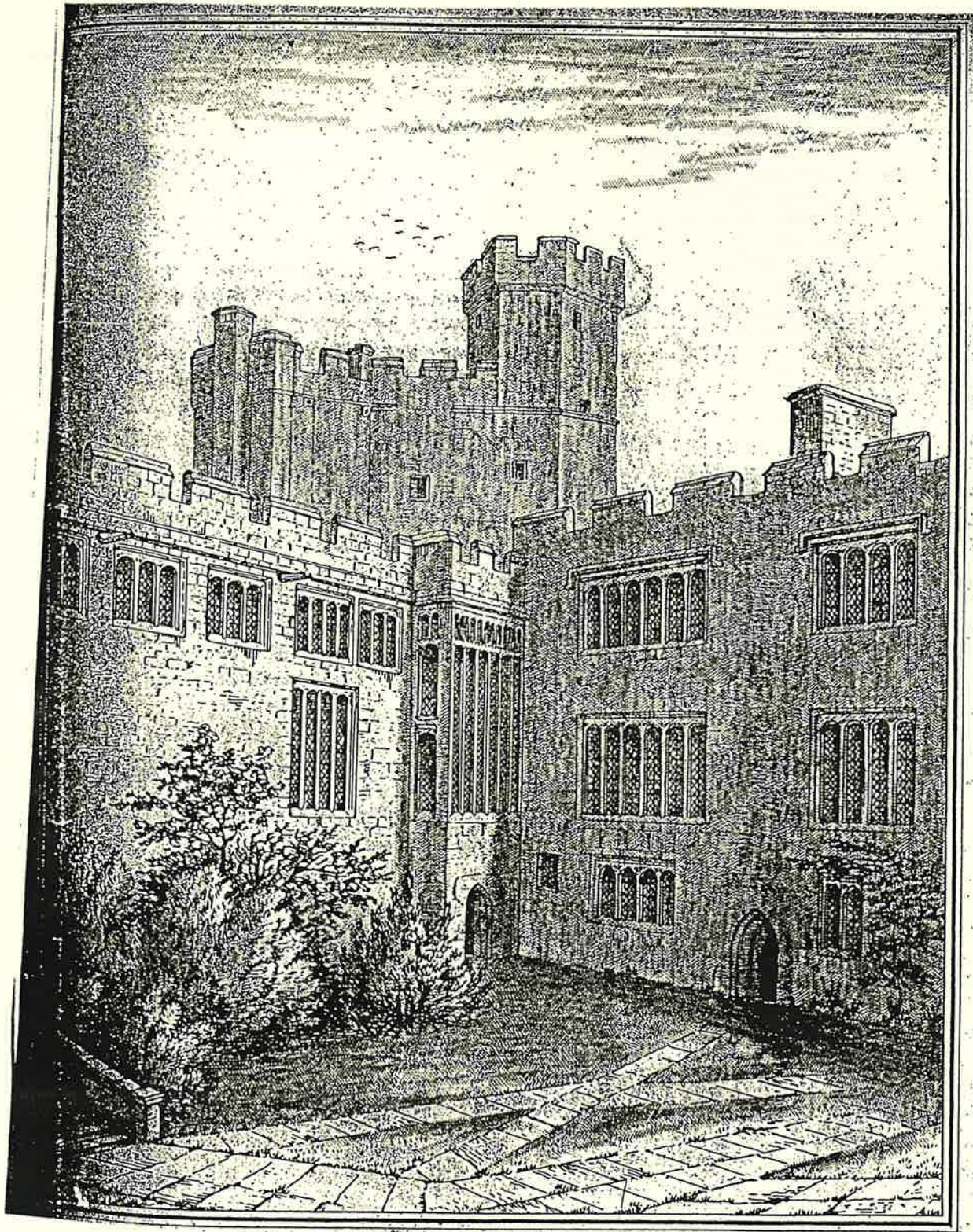
Easby lies in the large parish of Brampton in the dramatic mountains on the border of Scotland about nine miles east of Carlisle. It has belonged to the Earls of Carlisle and is parcel of the Feudal Barony of Gilsland, of which the late Lord Carlisle was Lord. The Howard Earls of Carlisle descend from the medieval Dacres the owner of Easby is the Honourable Philip Howard, second son of the 13th Earl who died in 1966. He lives at Naworth Castle, a splendid fortress, three miles from Brampton. The Lordship of Gilsland was given in the reign of William Rufus (1097-1100) by Ralph de Meschines to Hubert de Vallibus or Vaux whose immediate posterity were of much distinction among the Manorial and Baronial families of the north. Their descent is found opposite.

Hubert's son Robert was Sheriff of Cumberland and defended the city of Carlisle during a long siege laid by William King of Scots, but was obliged at length to surrender it for want of supplies. His son, also Robert, was one of the Barons who took arms against King John and forced that King to sign Magna Carta in 1215. Robert's granddaughter inherited Gilsland and its Manors and brought them in marriage to Thomas du Multon in the reign of Henry III (1216-72). Thomas's great granddaughter, Margaret, inherited as a monor and was a ward of King Edward II (1307-27). Ralph Dacre seized her at Warwick Castle, where she was staying - she then being under age - and married her at the age of 13., not at that time illegal. According to the chronicle of Lanercost Priory, Margaret was married when she was only seven years old to Robert de Clifford who was still living when she married Ralph Lord Dacre. Presumably, some ecclesiastical dispensations must have been forthcoming to make the whole thing canonically lawful. Ralph Lord Dacre seems to have found favour once again for in 1335 he obtained licence to crenellate his house at Naworth and few more magnificent border fortresses can be imagined. Another Ralph Dacre of Gilsland was killed at Towton, the most bloody battle on English soil, in 1461, as noticed above in the pedigree, fighting on the side of the House of Lancaster, and his Cumbria property and all his other estates were seized by Edward IV, only to be returned shortly afterwards by the same King to Thomas Lord Dacre, Ralph Earl of Westmoreland's grandson. His grandson and namesake distinguished himself at Flodden in 1513 against the Scots.

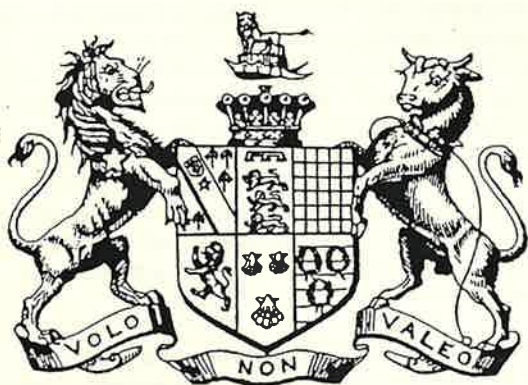
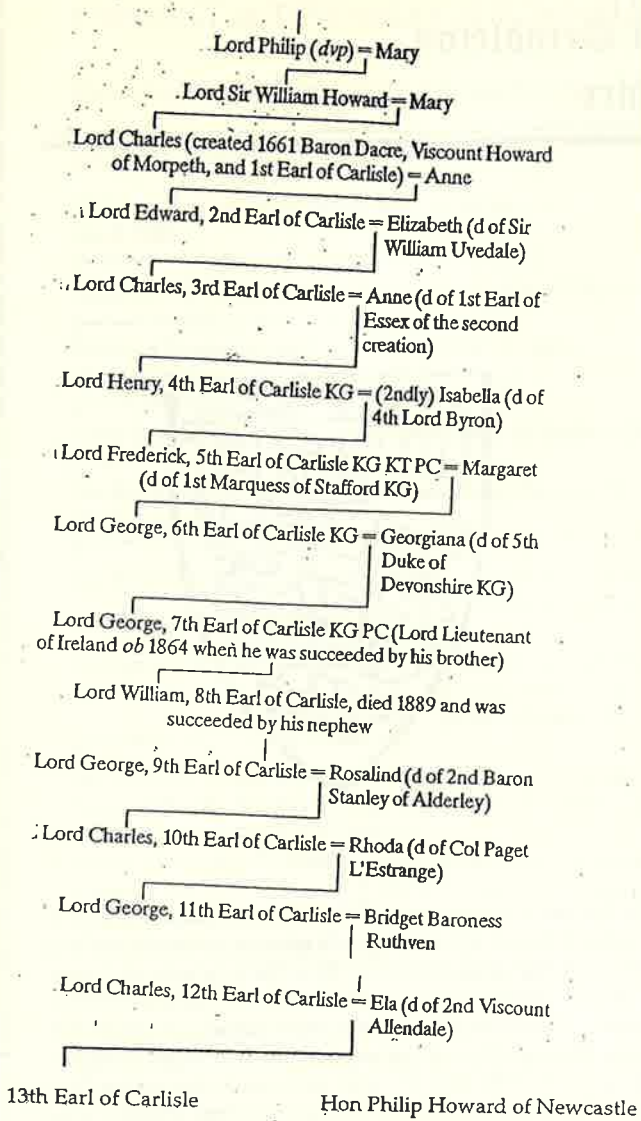
Thomas's granddaughter Elizabeth inherited in 1569 and she married Lord William Howard, third son of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, but this succession was by no means smooth. Leonard Dacre, the next male heir of the family (second son of William Lord Dacre who died in 1565) being discontented at the inheritance of his family going to a woman and having no hopes of success in disputing it by law with his niece, forcibly possessed himself of the castles of Naworth and Greystoke with their surrounding Lordships and fortified them, having collected together a force of 3,000 men. He was defeated during the rising of the Northern Earls in 1569 by Lord Hunsdon with a garrison from Berwick and he fled to Scotland. He was soon afterwards attainted. The Dacres formerly maintained a prison at Midgeholme for the Barony of Gilsland, in addition to their dungeons at Naworth Castle, which consisted of 4 small cells in one of which was a ring to which criminals were chained. The Dacres' Manorial Court had the power of life and death and it appears on record that beheading was the punishment for felons. In 1661, Lord William Howard's grandson, Sir Charles,

## Descent of de Vaux





*View of the Court of Naworth Castle*



Carlisle

was created Earl of Carlisle and Viscount Howard of Morpeth, and the Gilsland estate has remained through marriage in the same family since about the year 1100.

The history of this and the other Manors that comprised the original Barony are synonymous, ore or less, with the territory of Gilsland. Easby contrins the hamlets of Crooked Holme, and derives its name from a contraction of 'Eastry' indicating by its last syllable that the Vikings had a settlement her before the Norman Conquest. There is a two-arch stone bridge over the Cambeck and a spring at Charlybeate. There was an inn here, Johnson's Arms, in the 19th century; ancient farmhouses, Old Church, Brackenhill, Rigg Side, and Coathill. Easby lies about a mile and a half north-east from the township of Brampton.

Documents associated with Brampton, in which Easby occurs:

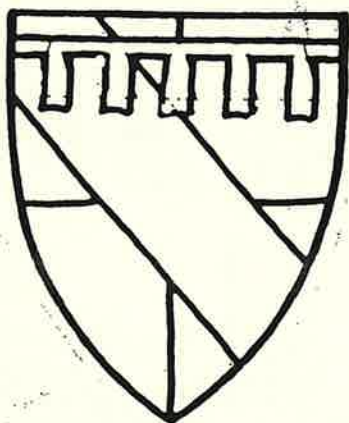
Jury Verdicts	1633 - 1825	Dept of Palaegraphy and
Rentals, Estreats		Diplomatic Durham
Fines, valuation, lists	1748 - 83	University
Maps	c18th &	
	c17th	
Return of ancient rents	1763	Castle Howard Yorks
Fines	1709	



## The Lordship of Grindleton Yorkshire

THIS LORDSHIP TAKES its name from the Saxon for the village of Grima and anciently lay in the extensive parish of Mitton. In the 19th century it was formed into its own parish which consists of about 3,500 acres. It has often been taken that the village had some connection with 'Grendel' from the Beowulf saga but this is, unfortunately, untrue. The village lies at the foot of Pendle Hill. This is the spiritual home of the Quaker movement for it was while at the top of the hill in 1652 that the founder of the sect, George Fox, is said to have had a vision which gave him inspiration. In his autobiography he wrote;

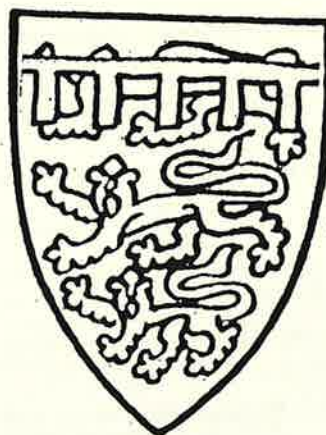
*As we travelled, we came near a very great hill, called Pendle Hill, and I was moved of the Lord to go up to the top of it; which I did with difficulty, it was so very steep and high. When I was come to the top, I saw the sea bordering upon Lancashire. From the top of this hill the Lord let me see in what places he had a great people to be gathered.*



Lincoln

Grindleton lies 14 miles from Burnley, 4 miles from Gisburn and 15 miles from Skipton. Historically the Lordship of Grindleton has always been associated with the Honor of Clitheroe and was a Manor within this large feudal estate. The Honor had been erected by the Normans after their invasion of 1066 and it was given as a reward to the de Lacy family who had arrived with William. Ilbert de Lacy was thought to be the first Lord of Clitheroe though it is not certain. Ilbert was succeeded by his son Robert, who was granted Bowland forest by Henry I and this grant may well have included the Lordship of the Manor of Bowland. Robert was succeeded by his son, Ilbert, who was loyal to King Stephen (1135-1154) during that king's chaotic and violent reign. He died childless and Grindleton passed to his brother Henry and then to Henry's son Robert, who is thought to have founded Clitheroe Castle in the 1190s.

Robert died childless and his estates eventually passed through his sister, Aubrey to his cousin Roger de Lacy. This branch of the family were powerful magnates. Roger was Constable of Chester Castle in 1191 and although he was at first opposed to Prince John, while Richard I was in the Holy Land, once John became king, Lacy swore loyalty to him and remained a favourite of his.



Lancaster

In the first few years of the 13th century, Lacy was sent to France to help to defend England's interests and in 1203 he was besieged at Chateau Gaillard by King Philip Augustus of France. The siege lasted several months and he was only forced to surrender when he and his garrison were threatened with starvation. He was eventually allowed to return to England on payment of £ 1000 ransom, and John made Lacy sheriff of Cumberland and Yorkshire. His presence was required since the North was seething with rebellious intent and Lacy remained loyal to the king, becoming in the process a close friend of the King's. He spent the next few years almost on constant military duty as John was threatened by Welsh, Scottish, and French as well as English enemies. He was particularly active against the Welsh and his harsh and brutal tactics earned him the name 'Roger of Hell'. He died in 1211.

The Lordship of Grindleton then descended to his eldest son John, who became Earl of Lincoln and from him to his son, Edmund, who does not appear to have assumed this dignity. He died in 1228 and the Lordship descended to his son Henry, Earl of Lincoln. He was one of the great barons of the 13th century and was one of Edward I's most trusted and reliable servants. He served the King in France, where he became Lieutenant of Aquitaine in 1295. On his return to England in 1258 he fought extensively in Scotland. After Edward's death, Henry quickly became disillusioned with the intemperate and ill-advised rule of Edward II (1307-27). He died in 1311 at the residence in London which still bears his name: Lincoln's Inn.

After Henry's death, the vast wealth of the de Lacy estates passed to his only daughter Alice and in turn to her husband, Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. Grindleton then became part of the vast Lancaster estates which, with the accession of Henry, Duke of Lancaster to the throne as Henry IV in 1399, became Crown property as the Duchy of Lancaster. There it remained until 1649 when Charles I was executed and the monarchy over-

## DESCENT of TOWNELEY of TOWNELEY, Lancs

Richard, living 1235, inherited lands near Burnley

Cecilia = John de la Hugh (living 1340)

Richard de Towneley, MP (1361) = Ellen  
died 1381

John Towneley, died 1399 = Elizabeth, dau of William de Rixton

Richard Towneley, at Agincourt (14XX) = Alice  
died 1454

John Towneley, d 1473 = Elizabeth, dau of Richard Sherburne, of Stonyhurst

Sir Richard Towneley - Knighted by King Edward IV = Jane, dau of Richard  
(1471), died 1482 Southworth of Salmesbury Lanes

Sir John Towneley, living 1540 = Isobel, dau of Sir Charles Pilkington,  
of Gateford, Notts

Richard Towneley, died 1555 = Elizabeth, day of Henry Foljambe, of  
Walton, Derbys (see That family in Burke's  
landed Gentry (1932))

Sir Richard Towneley, knighted at = Frances, day of Christopher Wymbush  
Siege of Leith, Scotland, 1547, died 1554 of Nocton, Lincs (see Byron, Baron in Debrett)

Mary Towneley (heiress), = John Towneley (1st cousin once removed) he  
living 1572 died a recusant in prison, 1608

Richard Towneley, died 1628 = Jane, dau of Ralph Assheton, of Great  
Leaver, Lancs

Charles Towneley, killed at Battle of Marston = Mary, dau of Sir Francis  
Moor, Yorks, 1644, turning point in the English Trappes-Byrnand, of Nidd,  
Civil War Yorks (see Mountgarret, V in Debrett)

Richard Towneley, an early member of the = Margaret, dau of Clemont Paston, of  
Royal Society, died 1707 Norfolk (see Paston-Bedingield  
in Burke's LG, 1952)

Charles Towneley, died 1712 = Ursula, dau of Richard Fermore, of  
Tusmore, Oxon (see Pomfret, E in  
Burke's Extinct and Dormant Peerages 1888,  
and Hesketh, in Debrett)

Richard Towneley, died 1765 = Mary Widdrington, dau of 3rd Lord  
Widdrington of Blankney

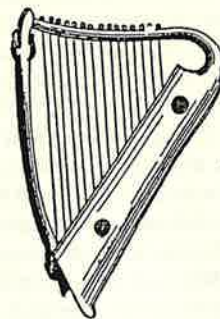
William Towneley, died 1741 = Cecilia, dau of Ralph Standish of Standish

John Towneley, inherited Widdrington = Barbara, dau of Edward Dicconsin of  
Estates in Co Durham, died 1813 Widdrington, Lancs

Peregrine Edward Towneley, died 1846 = Charlotte, dau of Robert Drummond  
(see Perth E in Debrett)

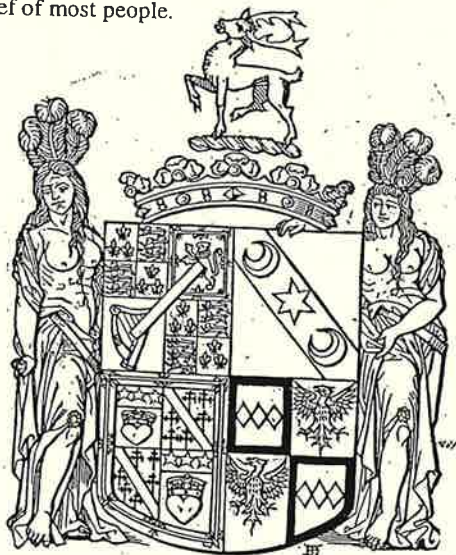
Charles Towneley, died 1876, when = Lady Caroline Molyneux, dau of 2nd  
his estates were divided among his Earl of Sefton, of Sefton Park, Liverpool  
daughters, see O'HAGAN in this memoir

Alice Mary = 1st Lord O'Hagan



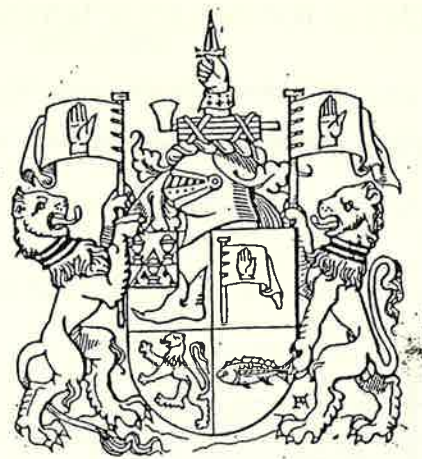
the Duchy, and the King granted Clitheroe and the manors remaining in it to General George Monck. Monck had been a major-general in Cromwell's New Model Army, albeit a somewhat reluctant one. Nevertheless, during the 1650s, the republican regime of Oliver Cromwell was in the ascendant, and Monck was given the government of Scotland, where he built up a personal power base. Oliver died in 1658 and was succeeded as Lord Protector by his son Richard as Protector. Richard's interest in the government was lukewarm at best and he resigned within months to die in 1670 in his bed. This left a rump parliament in London with virtually no authority, and power lay instead in the hands of Oliver's major-Generals who sought to maintain their rule by arbitrary collection of taxes within their areas as best they could - by force. The revolution occasioned by the Civil Wars had of the 1640s had come full circle.

The Civil War had begun for a variety of reasons, not least of which was what was seen in the 1630s, during Charles I's Personal Rule, as the King's unparliamentary exaction of revenue. The difference by the late 1650s was that generals, like Monck, had troops to enforce their will. Never an anti-Royalist, Monck saw the way the political wind was blowing and that the county would not put up with the imposition of soldiers indefinitely. Meanwhile, in Holland - where Charles II was in exile - the would be King issued a Declaration at Breda, promising that, if restored he would govern with the advice and consent of Parliament, accept much of the *fait accompli* of the sale of Crown property and let bygones be bygones. Monck, in Scotland moved his army, then based at Coldstream, south and took London peacefully. Charles II landed in Kent, and was acclaimed much to the relief of most people.



Buccleuch

The King resumed the estates held in the Duchy of Lancaster, and the first person he rewarded for his restoration to the throne was General Monck, to whom he granted the Honor of Clitheroe and its manors and created him Duke of Albermarle in 1660. In the same year Parliament enacted a thorough going reform of feudal tenures in England, effectively abolishing the overriding rights of Lords of Honors over remaining subsidiary manors. Most irksome of these were purveyance, wardship, and marriage, which earlier Stuart Kings had used to gain money out of wealthy subjects in the absence of parliamentary supply. Manors were, henceforth, held independently of Honors, or feudal Baronies, while such high feudal titles were from then only held 'in gross' (ie shorn of their rights, other than honorific rights and any status perceived).



O'Hagan

Clitheroe and the 40-odd Manors formerly held of the Honor passed from George Monck, first Duke of Abermarle on his death to his son Christopher, the 2nd duke, who was married to Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, the daughter of the Duke of Newcastle. At his death, in 1687, Christopher was childless and so Grindleton passed, with the rest of his possessions to his wife who survived to the age of 95 and died in 1734. She passed it on to her second husband, Ralph, first Duke of Montagu, who in turn was succeeded by his son, John, second Duke of Montagu. John had no sons so at his death in 1749 his estate passed to his daughters Isabella, who was married to Edward Hussey, Earl of Beaulieu and Mary who married George Brudenell, fourth Earl of Cardigan (great-grandfather of Cardigan of the Charge of the Light Brigade). Grindleton passed to the former but on her death is passed to Mary's daughter, Lady Elizabeth Montagu who was married to the 3rd duke of Buccleuch.

The Lordship then remained in the hands of the Dukes of Buccleuch until the death of the Fifth duke in 1827. His son, the sixth Duke sold the eastern lands and Manors of the once great Honor of Clitheroe in 1835 to

Edward Peregrine Towneley, of Towneley in Lancashire, for the sum of £99,000 - a king's ransom in those days. The sale included the Forest and Liberty of Bowland and the title of Master Forester, together with the Manors of Newton, Warkesworth, Slaidburn, Grindleton, Bradford, Radholme, Beaumont, Bolton, Stalmine, tithes, coroners, Courts Leet, and Views of Frankpledge. (A copy of this enormous conveyance is available from the agents for £10 UK and EU, £20 all other places airmail) The senior representative of the Townley family is the present fourth Lord O'Hagan.

## The Lordship of Stella Co Durham

MANY NORTHERN parishes are large in comparison with those of the more densely populated south of England and the parish of Ryton is no exception. Within its boundaries lie a number of Lordships of the Manor, one of which is Stella. This Manor occurs in the Boldon Book, a great account and survey of lands held by the Prince Bishops of Durham which was made in 1183 and shows that estate was held from the bishop by the son of William the Moneyer. At this time it was known as *Stellingeye*. William had received his appellation from his work as the kings minter of coins at Carlisle and Newcastle, a position he held for most of the reign of Henry II (1154-89) and beyond. However, it appears that William may have usurped the earlier holder of the Lordship, the Abbess of St Bartholemew in Newcastle. A grant of the Manor, made in around 1145, gives the details of the nuns' holding in Stella;

*all its appurtenances in woodland, champian, roads, ways, metes boundaries, mills and meadows, waters, fishdams, and fisheries free of forest-right and pasturage of the bishops hogs.*



Durham

Though subsequent bishops reconfirmed this charter it appears that Bishop Hugh of Le Puiset or Pudsey who held the office from 1153 to 1195 was not adverse to transferring property to those whom he viewed as loyal retainers. For a while then Stella was given over to William the Moneyer and later his son, but on his death it reverted at once to the nuns who retained the estate until their house was dissolved on the orders of Henry VIII in 1538.

Soon after, the Lordship of Stella was granted to the Tempest family of Newcastle, a branch of the family which lived at Holmside in Durham. The family retained the estate throughout the 16th and 17th centuries and were notable Catholics. Jane, the daughter of the last of the male line, Sir Thomas Tempest, married William, 4th Baron Widdrington and through this marriage the Manor came him. Like the Tempests, the Widdringtons were fiercely Catholic. The first Baron had been killed fighting

for the royal cause at the battle of Wigan 1651 during 'Third Civil War'. Indeed, Stella itself had been the scene of an action during the precursor to the conflict, Charles' war against the Scots in 1640. During what became known as the Second Bishops' War a Scottish army crossed the border, much to the King's surprise and quickly moved south. A small English army was put into the field but fled from the encroaching Scots and Newcastle was abandoned on August 28. On the following day, the Scots moved on into Durham and entered Ryton. It is said that they planted their canons in the church yard and erected their flag after crossing the river opposite Stella Hall.

The third Baron Widdrington had been imprisoned after the Revolution of 1688 and died in exile seven years later. William then inherited the title but continued as an active Jacobite. He married Jane Tempest in 1700 and inherited her estate at Stella which was by then a flourishing centre of coal production. He moved to live at Stella with his wife - his family home was Widdrington Castle on the Northumbrian coast which was destroyed by a French raiding party in 1691. He was able to draw a substantial rental from his estates and quickly became one of the leaders of the Catholic/Jacobite faction in Durham. In 1715 came the first of the 18th century's great Jacobite insurrections and Widdrington was heavily involved in its planning. However due to his religion and complete lack of military skill or experience he was not given a command in the Jacobite forces by its leaders, but he was able to equip a troop of men at the head of which he placed himself along with his two brothers. His original plan was for Jacobite forces to seize Newcastle but this was easily thwarted by the local garrison. From this point onwards, Widdrington was never really involved in any action after being struck down with a severe attack of gout. Nevertheless, he was seen as a leading light in the insurrection and after the rebellion was crushed he was arrested and tried for treason by the House of Lords in January 1716. He threw himself on the mercy of the Lords, arguing that he had only joined the rebels through peer pressure and that his children would be left destitute by his death and disgrace. His defence was treated with disdain and he was duly sentenced to be executed. However, with only a few hours before the appointed time of his execution he was spared the axe on the intervention of the Earl of Carlisle. He was not spared the forfeiture of his estates. Stella passed to the Crown for a time but eventually after a prolonged legal battle, Widdrington was able to retrieve his marital lands and at his death in 1743 he was able to pass Stella to his son Henry who held the Lordship until his death in 1774.

After Henry's death the estate passed to his nephew, Thomas Eyre of Hassop with a remainder to his cousin Edward Standish. From Standish it passed to the Towneley family and it has descended with them to the present day. The current Lord of the Manor of Stella is the 4th Lord O'Hagan.

The village of Stella lies a few miles to the west of Newcastle and for more than three centuries was a centre of coal production, much of which was shipped by coastal vessel to London. It was formed into a separate parish in 1845 and after this time was industrialized, becoming the home of the Stella Coal and Coke Company and the Laycock Railway Wagon Works. This has all gone and the place has reverted to its rural roots.

O'HAGAN of Stella

Edward O'Hagan, of Belfast = Mary, dau of Capt Thomas Bell

Sir Thomas O'Hagan, 1st Baron O'Hagan of Tullahogue, Co Tyrone (1870) KP, PC, QR Attorney-General under Lord Palmerston, Lord Chancellor under Gladstone (1868-74) (1st Roman Catholic since King James II to hold this post), died 1888 = (2nd wife) Alice Mary and coheir of Charles Towneley (d 1921)

Hon Thomas Towneley O'Hagan, died 1900 in South Africa, unmarried aged 22, 2nd Lord O'Hagan

Maurice Herbert Towneley-O'Hagan, 3rd Lord O'Hagan, born 1886, died 1961 = (1) Hon Frances Constance Huddalena, dau and heir of 1st Baron Strachie (Strachey), died 1931  
(2) Evelyn Violet died 1965

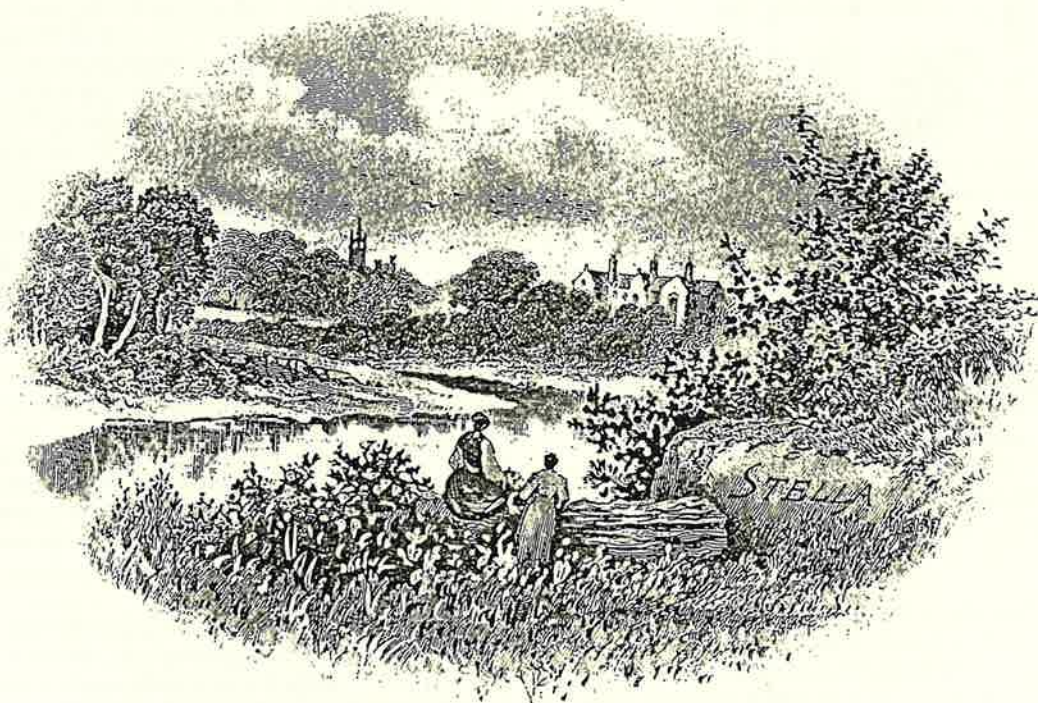
Thomas Anthony Edward Towneley O'Hagan = Lady Mary Sophia Palmer, dau of adopted the surname of Strachey on inheriting his grandfather's Somerset estates, also died in 1955  
3rd Earl Selborne, Lady-in-Waiting to HRH The Princess Elizabeth now Queen Elizabeth II

Charles Towneley Strachey, 4th and present Lord O'Hagan, an MEP, 1977-94, Lord of the Manor of Stella, Yorks



Documents associated with this Manor

Deeds 1726-1858 Lancashire RO



View of Stella Hall 1811

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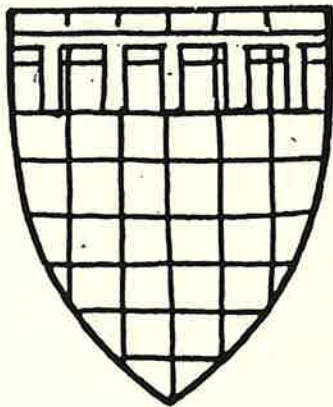
## The Lordship of Faugh & Fenton Cumbria (formerly Cumberland)

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THIS Lordship is formed of the hamlets of Faugh and Fenton, in the parish of Hayton, respectively one and a half and a mile south of Hayton village. The whole parish, including this Manor and those of Hayton, Little Corby, and Talkin, encompass about 7,730 acres, watered by the rivers Irthing and Gelt, and lies about two and a half miles south-west of the market town of Brampton.

The Lordship is part of the Barony of Gilsland, the property of the Dacres in the Middle Ages, and the manorial rights of Faugh and Fenton were transferred by John Denton to Thomas Lord Dacre in the reign of King Henry VII (1485-1509). The Manor is offered on behalf of the Honourable Philip Howard, of Naworth Castle, second son of the late 12th Earl of Carlisle, who died in 1996.

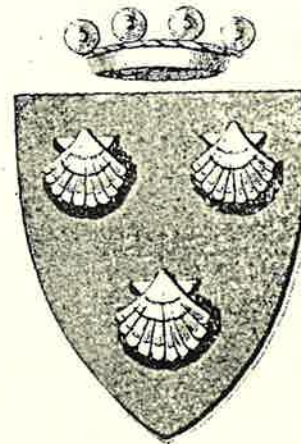
The Howard Earls of Carlisle can be traced with more or less certainty from Hubert de Vaux (de Vallibus), living in the reign of King Henry I (1100-1135). De Vaux was very probably some kind of important retainer, or captain, of Ralph de Meschines, *soit-distant* Earl of Chester, a Norman 'land Earldom'. Apart from land held in Chester by the Bishop and St Werbergh's Abbey, the whole county was held of King William I at the Domesday Survey in 1086, by Hugh de Meschines. (De) Vaux or Vallibus does not appear as a name among the Domesday landholders of the Earl, but surnames were not commonplace in the early Norman period, often people being named simply by their first name, or their first name, son of the father's first name, or first name of such and such a place. The list of landholders under Earl Hugh of Chester in Domesday Book may, therefore, include Hubert de Vaux's father, but, if so, he cannot be identified.



Vaux

Like other tenants-in-chief of the King, Ralph de Meschines, probably Earl Hugh's son, gave a general 'warrant' to his chief men, such as de Vaux, to go forth to take with their swords and keep what land they could in the north-west, that area of England being not occupied by the Normans much before 1100. Cumberland and Westmorland (now incorporated into the county of Cumbria) were, or had been until recently, claimed by the

Kings of Scots, as successors to the Brito-Pictish kingdom of Strathclyde. More likely, this area had been independent of Anglo-Saxon and Scottish kings, and some 30 miles north up to the Scottish Border were to remain in many ways lawless - medieval kings being content to hold the principal towns, such as Carlisle and Newcastle, and to rely on semi-autonomous noblemen, the Earls of Northumberland, to act in their stead. Indeed, that the Borders were in many ways a law unto themselves persisted into the 18th century when Hanoverian governments - after the two Jacobite rebellions of 1715 and 1745 - brought them under final control from London. If readers live or have visited this part of England, they will not be surprised that central government had such a hard time in making its writs run in the north-west in the medieval and early modern periods. Off main roads - themselves little more than dirt tracks in summer and quagmires in winter - the land was all but inaccessible to armies. Though now mettled and villages, like Faugh and Fenton, being scarred with a plethora of luminous roadsigns and other markings, it is still easy to comprehend how hard travel must have been centuries ago for anyone who did not know the fells, lakes, streams, and byways.



Dacre

To trace the history of the ownership of the Manor, we must trace the history of the Barons of Gilsland, which the de Vaux family become in the 12th century. Hubert's son, apparently, married Ada Engayne, of another great Norman family, and the Honor remained in the male line of the de Vaux's until the death, in the second half of the 13th century, of the 6th Baron, also Hubert, whose daughter Matilda brought it in marriage to Thomas Baron Multon. Her son, the 8th Baron, died in 1293, and was eventually succeeded by his great grand-daughter Margaret (d 1362), who married Ranulphus Dacre. It remained in the male line of the Dacres until the reign of Queen Elizabeth (1558-1603), the Dacre heiress Anna marrying the Earl of Arundel. Their son was Thomas Duke of Norfolk, whom Queen Elizabeth had executed in 1572 for treason. The Duke's younger son, however, Lord William Howard of Gilsland, was not part of his father's plot to dethrone the Tudor dynasty and replace Queen Elizabeth with the Catholic Mary Queen of Scots, who

DESCENT OF THE HOWARDS, EARLS OF CARLISLE

Sir William Howard = (1) Gilla, dau of Sir William de Terrington  
 s 1308  
 (2) Alice, dau of Sir Robert de Ufford

(1) Sir John = Joan, dau of Sir Richard de Cornwall, natural son of  
 ob 1340 Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cornwall (2nd s of King John) Sir William = Joan  
 dsp ante 1328

Sir John = Alice, dau of Sir Robert Boys

Sir Robert = Marjery, dau of Robert Lord Scales

Sir John = (1) Margaret, dau and heir to Sir John Plaiz of Mounpicheit, Essex  
 ob 1436 (2) Alice, dau of Sir William Tendinge

(1) Sir John = Joan, dau of Sir Richard Walton Margaret Sir Robert Howard = Lady Margaret, dau of Thomas Mowbray  
 dsp 1409 D of Norfolk, and co-heir of Richard FitzAlan  
 Earl of Arundel Elizabeth

Elizabeth = 12th E of Oxford John Howard, 1st Duke of Norfolk, KG = (1) Katherine, dau of William Lord Moleyns  
 Lord Howard, Earl Marshal of England, E of Surrey, Lt Admiral of England and Ireland, k at Bosworth 1485 (2) Margaret, dau of Sir John Chedworth Catherine = Edward Nevill,  
 Lord of Abergavenny

(1) Thomas, 2nd Duke = (1) Elizabeth, dau of Sir Fredk Tilney Carherine = John Lord Berners  
 (2) Agnes: issue including present E of Effingham

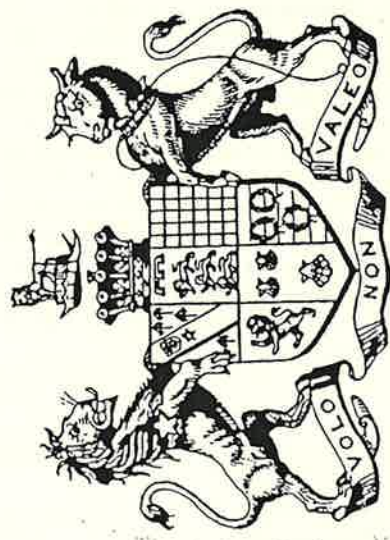
Thomas, 3rd Duke = (1) PRINCESS ANNE, dau of EDWARD IV (dsp 1513) Edward, KG Edmond = Joyce Culpepper Elizabeth = Thomas Visc Rochford from whom ANNE BOLEYN,  
 2nd wife of KING HENRY VIII (ex 1536)  
 (2) Elizabeth, dau of Edward, D of Buckingham

Henry, KG, E of Surrey = Lady Frances de Vere, dau of E of Oxford Henry = Anne Howard Margaret = Sir Thomas Arundel  
 of Wardour CATHERINE HOWARD = KING HENRY VIII  
 ex 1543

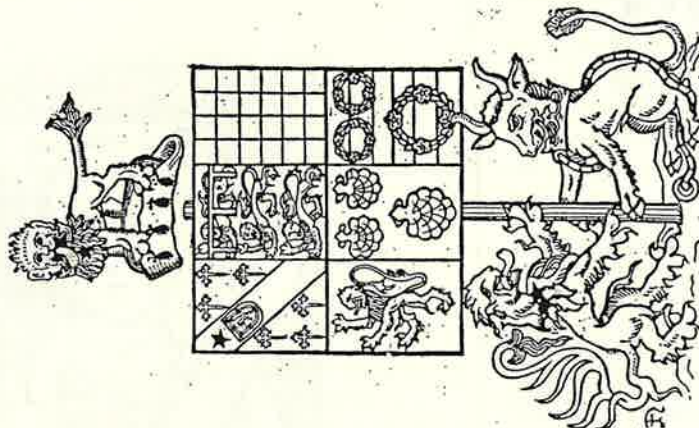
Thomas, 4th Duke = Mary, dau and heir of Henry Henry, KG, E of Northampton Jane = Charles, E of  
 ex 1572 FitzAlan, E of Arundel Westmoreland Catherine = Henry, Lord Berkeley Margaret = Henry, Lord Scrope  
 of Bolton

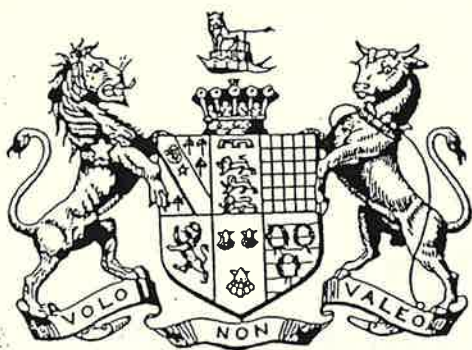
Philip, E of Arundel, from whom Miles, 17th and present Duke of Norfolk, KG William = Elizabeth, dau and heir of George Lord Daer of Gilstand  
 gr niece of Thomas, descended from Thomas Baron Moulton  
 ob 1313

Philip = Mary



Sir William Howard = Mary  
 └── Charles, cr. 1661 Baron Dacre = Anne  
 Viscount Howard of Morpeth  
 and 1st Earl of Carlisle  
 └── Edward, 2nd Earl of Carlisle = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Uvedale  
 └── Charles, 3rd Earl of Carlisle = Anne, dau of 1st Earl of Essex of the second creation  
 └── Henry, 4th Earl of Carlisle KG = (2) Isabella, dau of 4th Lord Byron  
 └── Frederick, 5th Earl of Carlisle KG KT PC = Margaret, dau of 1st Marquess of Stafford KG  
 └── George, 6th Earl of Carlisle KG = Georgiana, dau of 5th Duke of Devonshire KG  
 └── George, 7th Earl of Carlisle KG PC, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland  
 ob 1684 when he was succeeded by his brother  
 └── William, 8th Earl of Carlisle, ob 1889 and was succeeded by his nephew  
 └── George, 9th Earl of Carlisle = Rosalind, dau of 2nd Baron Stanley of Alderley  
 └── Charles, 10th Earl of Carlisle = Rhoda, dau of Col Paget L'Estrange  
 └── 33rd Lord George, 11th Earl of Carlisle = Bridget Baroness Ruthven  
 └── 34th Lord Charles, 12th Earl of Carlisle = Ela, dau of 2nd Viscount Allendale  
 └──  
 └── 13th Earl of Carlisle = Hon Philip Howard of Newcastle





### Carlisle

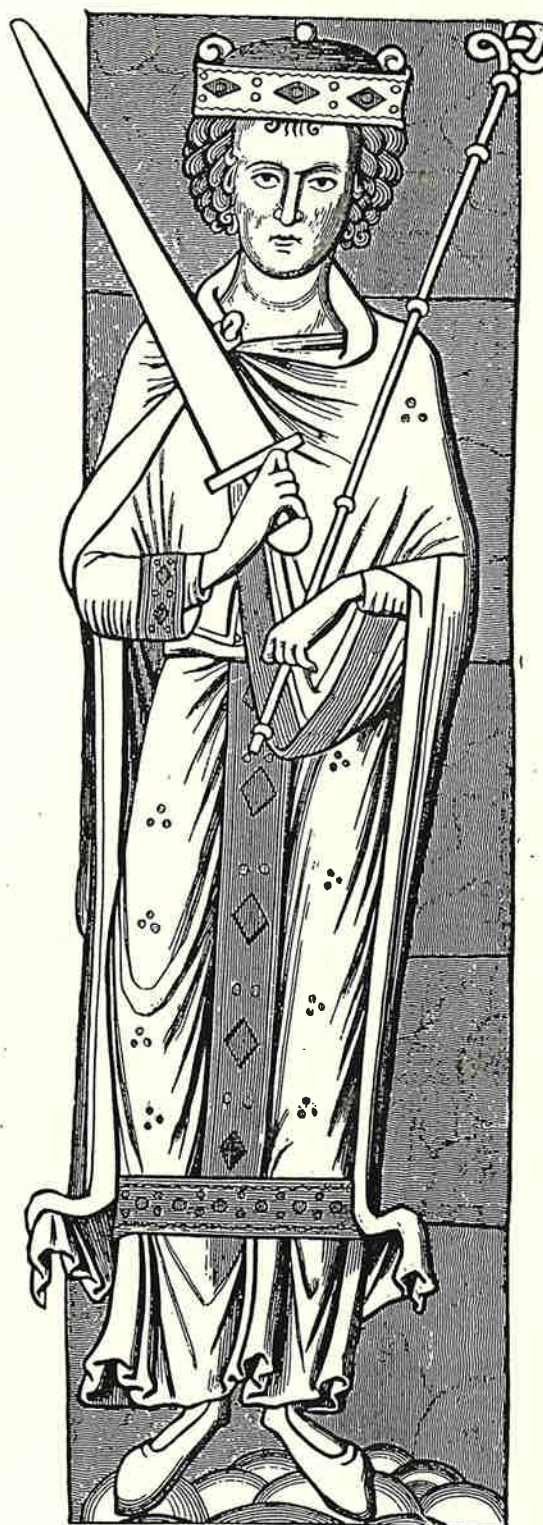
was also eventually executed by Elizabeth for treason, in 1587. Queen Elizabeth is said to have agonized about both executions, particularly of Mary, who was her cousin and heir presumptive, and beheading queens of any sort - even ex-queens, like Mary of Scotland - was a bad precedent for any monarch to set. It is said that the powerful and reactionary Pope Sixtus VII was much impressed by Queen Elizabeth's steely determination. Known as the Iron Pope, during his five-year pontificate (1585-90), it has been calculated that he executed 100,000 heretics (for which read perceived and actual opponents).

To more peaceful times: Lord William's great grandson Charles Howard, who had supported the Restoration of the Stuarts in the person of King Charles II in 1660, was rewarded in the following year by being elevated to the peerage as Lord Dacre of Gilsland, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, and 1st Earl of Carlisle of this creation.

The powerbase of the medieval family, perhaps even of the de Vaux's, was Naworth Castle, for which Lord Ranulphus Dacre obtained a licence to crenelate in 1335. Cumbria is littered with castles or fortified manor houses, or their remains, indicating how dangerous living in the area was for many years. The Howards still live at Naworth Castle, a short drive from Faugh and Fenton.

#### Documents associated with this and other Manors:

Maps	early c17th and c18th	University of Durham
Ancient rents:	c1760	
Plan of commons	undated	
Farms & rents	c1820	
Fines, lists of	1660 - 1760	



## The Lordship of Westington & Combe Gloucestershire

THE LORDSHIP of Westington & Comb lies just over a mile south-east of the Cotswold town of Chipping Campden, and is the property of the Earl of Gainsborough. The Manor does not have a separate entry in Domesday Book (1086), but is very likely subsumed in the description of Chipping Campden, which is mentioned as follows:

*The Earl himself holds Chipping Campden*

Earl Harold held it.

There are fifteen hides paying geld.

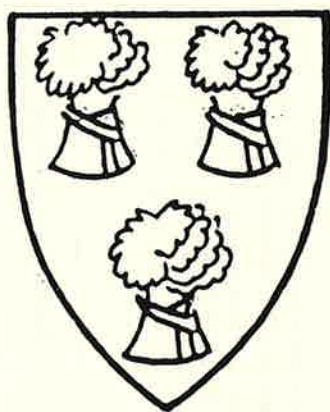
In demesne are six ploughs; and 50 villains and 8 bordars with 21 ploughs.

There are 12 slaves and 2 mills rendering 62s 2d.

There are 3 female slaves.

It was worth £30. Now £20

The Domesday Earl was Hugh Lupus (the Wolf) Earl of Chester, a holder of enormous estates throughout England and it appears that the overlordship of the Manor remained with the Earls for some centuries afterwards. The Earl Harold mentioned was Harold Godwinson, briefly King Harold II who was killed at the battle of Hastings in 1066. The descent of the Lordship seems to follow that for Chipping Campden until the 16th century. In the first year of the reign of King John (1199) it was held by Guinar Briton. He may well have left it to the Church since in 1206 it is noted as being in the possession of the Archbishop of Canterbury, John de Grey. In 1216, though, Sir Ralph de Somery died seized of the Manor, perhaps indicating that it was on some kind of lease from the Earls of Chester. This may well explain the variety of owners over the next decades. A few years later, it was found that Serlo died seized of it and that it then passed to his widow Anne.

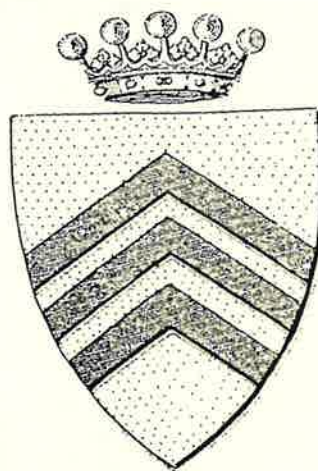


*Chester*

The Lordship then seems to have undergone some division, a number of holders of separate moieties appearing, such as John Strangeways, Ralph Cromwell, and John de Ludloe. These moieties appear to have formed the Manors of Broad Campden, Berrington, and Westington and Combe in the course of the 13th century, but it is not certain that Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, who was recorded as Lord of Chipping Campden in 1296, owned all or part of the Manor, or perhaps just the Overlordship of Chipping Campden proper, together with Broad Campden, Berrington, and Westington and Combe. By the

middle of the next century it is recorded as being held by William de Ludloe, as descendant of John de Ludloe above, though. Sir Richard Stafford is noted as holding part of it in 1381. It must still have been in moieties since Thomas de Ludloe is recorded as holding (Broad?) Campden twelve years later and Sir Richard Stafford a further share in 1399.

The Ludloes continued to hold their share well into the next century, as did the Staffords. By the time of King Henry VIII (in 1513), Westington and Combe, Broad Campden, together with the Manor of Buriton, had become vested in Sir Christopher Savage, whose son and namesake received livery of them from the Crown in 1521. Next to appear as the Lords of Broad Campden were James Gunter and William Lewis. A house, formerly belonging to the dissolved abbey of Tewkesbury, was granted King Henry in 1546 to James Gunter and his wife Anne, who levied a fine of the Lordship of Broad Campden for the purpose of Sir Roger Cholmondeley, Chief Baron of the Exchaquer in 1559. Lewis is not mentioned and it must be presumed that his interest in the estate had ceased.



*Clare*

There is nothing unusual about this. The Dissolution was a time for what historians have called the 'new Tudor men', those who made money as servants of the Crown, mostly lawyers, and who could buy former Church lands cheaply and sell quickly at a profit. A number of surviving aristocratic families today can date their emergence to this period: the present Marquess of Salisbury, of Hatfield, Hertfordshire, is an excellent example. His ancestor was William Cecil, Lord Burghley, so created by Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603), whose son Robert was created Earl of Salisbury by King James I (1603-25). The family were promoted to the Marquessate of Salisbury in the 19th century, and the third Marquess was the last aristocrat to be Prime Minister (in 1900).

The new men were often, but not always, Protestants. Catholics - who had to affect to have renounced their adherence to Rome - also took part in the Tudor 'gold rush' for cheap ecclesiastical property. The present Lord Petre, of Ingatestone, Essex, owns the former Priory of Ingatestone. The Welds of Lulworth

THE EARLS OF GAINSBOROUGH, sometime Lords of Westington and Coombe, Gloucestershire

Robert FitzNoel, Lord of Ellenhall, Warwicks, = ?  
in the reign of Henry I (1100-35)

Sir Thomas Philip, Lord of Hilcote, Staffs = ?

Robert, Lord of Hilcote = Joan, dau of Sir John Acton

James, Lord of Hilcote, JP (1514) = a dau of Richard Pole, of Langley, Derbys

(2)

Andrew, Lord of Dalby on Wold, Leics = Elizabeth, dau of John Hopton, Lord of Hopton, Shropshire

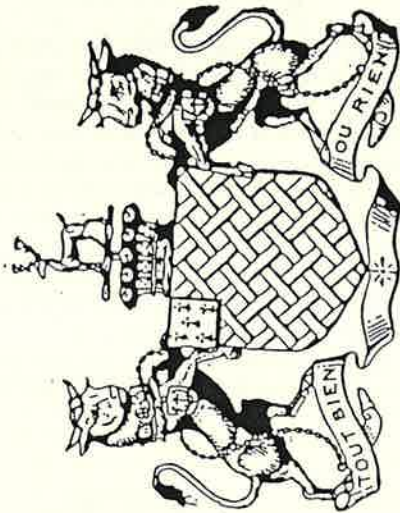
Sir Andrew Noel, MP Rutland, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I = Mabel, dau of Sir James Harrington and sister and heir of John, Lord Harrington of Exton, Rutland

Sir Andrew Noel, 1st Baronet (1611), Baron Noel of Ridlington (1617), succeeded father-in-law as 2nd Viscount Campden by special remainder, d 1643 = Julian Hicks, dau and heir of 1st Viscount Campden

Baptist, 3rd Viscount, died 1682 = (1) Lady Anne Fielding, dau of 1st Earl of Denbigh  
(2) Anne, dau of Sir Robert Lovet, and widow of Edward Bouchier, Earl of Bath  
(3) Hester, dau and coheir of 2nd Lord Wotton  
(4) Lady Elizabeth Bertie, dau of 2nd Earl of Lindsey

(3)

Edward Noel, 4th Viscount, created 1st Earl of Gainsborough (1682) and Baron Noel of Titchfield (1661), with remainders to his brothers = Lady Elizabeth Wriothesley, dau of 4th Earl of Southampton



Gainsborough

Wriothlesley Noel, 2nd Earl = Catherine, dau of  
died 1690, without male 5th Lord Brooke, widow  
issue, revert to 3rd Viscount of Duke of Buckingham and  
Campden and his fourth wife Normanby

(4)

Baptist of Luffenham, MP = Susannah, dau and heir of  
Rutland Sir Thomas Fanshaw

Baptist Noel, 3rd Earl, died 1714 = Lady Dorothy Manners, dau of 1st Duke of Rutland

Baptist, 4th Earl, died 1751 = Elizabeth, dau of William Chapman, Lord Gainsborough's gamekeeper

Baptist, died 1759 *sp* Henry Noel, 6th and last Earl of Jane Noel = Sir Gerard Anne Edwardes, Baronet of Welham  
5th Earl the 1682 creation, *dsp* 1798 died 1811 Grove, Leics

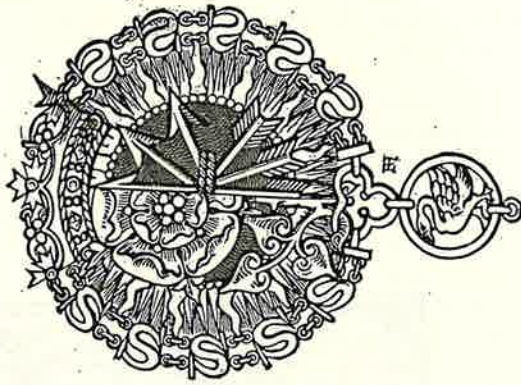
Sir Gerard Noel Edwardes, 2nd Baronet, = (1) Diana, Baroness Barham in her own right  
succeeded his father-in-law, died 1838 (2) Harriet, dau of Rev J Gill, of Scraptoft, Leics  
(3) Isabella, dau of Raymond Evans

(1)

Charles, 3rd Baronet, changed his surname = (1) Elizabeth, dau of Thomas Welman of Poundsford Park, Somerset  
from Edwardes to Noel, 3rd Baron Barham (2) Elizabeth, dau of Hon Sir George Grey, Baronet  
succeeding his mother\*, created (1841) Earl of (3) Arabella, dau of Sir James Hamlyn William, Baronet,  
Gainsborough, Baron Noel of Ridlington, of Clovelly  
and Viscount Campden of Campden, Glos, (4) Frances, dau of 3rd Earl of Roden  
died 1866 \*Special remainder

(2)

Charles Noel, 2nd Earl, Lord Lieutenant of = Ida Harriet Augusta, dau of 18th Earl of Erroll  
Rutland, died 1881



Charles William Francis, 3rd Earl, died 1926 = (1) Augusta Mary Catherine, dau of Robert Berkeley  
 (2) Mary Elizabeth, dau of James Dease

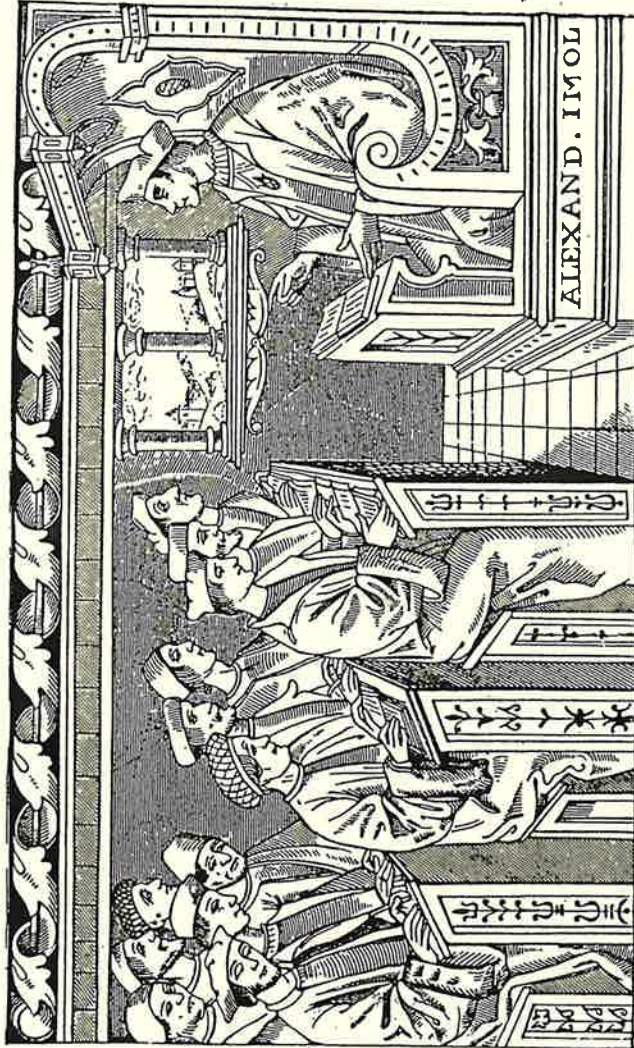
Arthur Edward Joseph Noel, 4th Earl, OBE = Alice Mary, dau of Edward Eyre, of Mayfair, London (d 1970)

Anthony Gerard Edward Noel, 5th and present  
 Earl of Gainsborough, Viscount Campden,  
 Baron Barham, Baron Noel of Ridlington,  
 and a Baronet, b 1923

= Mary, dau of Hon John Stourton, son of Lord  
 Mowbray, Segrave, and Stourton

brother and sister

four sons and three surviving daughters



Castle, Dorset, obtained that estate in the 16th century, and the scion of that family today is head of the English branch of the papal Order of the Knights of Malta. We hardly know the attitude of such men to the Hereafter, but they were certainly in favour of getting ahead in the Here and Now.

The capital Manor of Chipping Campden seems finally to have been reunited with those of Westington and Combe, Broad Campden and Berrington under the single ownership of the Molyneux family from whom it passed to the Fitzherberts. From them it came to the Russell's, but the details of this transfer appear to be lost. In 1556, Sir John Russell died seised of all the Manors and he was succeeded by his son Sir Thomas. The estate was then taken into the possession of the Crown, possibly as forfeit, since it is noted that Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Thomas Smith. He was succeeded by his son Anthony, who sold it to Sir Baptist Hicks.



Salisbury

Hicks was the third son of a rich London trader, Robert Hicks, and inherited his father's mercer business at the White Bear in Cheapside. His brother Sir Michael Hicks was a secretary to Lord Burghley, whom we have already met. These connections enabled Hicks to supply the Court and he became a money-lender to prominent figures in society, including the Earls of Shrewsbury and Pembroke. His activities as a money-lender garnered him a reputation a something of a hard dealer and he commented of this to his brother 'when others ... goe away with the gaires and yet byte to the bone', but Hicks was a vital figure for James I and his son Charles I and is understood to have made loans to the Crown to the vast amount of £33,000. Since the Stuarts were generally hard up and always looking to raise funds, they organized a number of schemes including the sale of royal estates and Hicks had a lucrative business in buying and reselling these. Such was the immense fortune that he amassed it was said that both of his daughters and coheirs collected inheritances of £100,000 each, a staggering sum for the times. In 1603 Hicks was knighted and there followed a number of rewards which culminated in his elevation to the peerage as Baron Hicks of Ilmington and Viscount Campden of Campden in 1628. He died a year later and is immortalized with a magnificent memorial edifice in St James' church, Chipping Campden.

After Hicks' death, his titles and estates passed by a special remainder to his son-in-law, Edward, Baron Noel, and with them came the Lordships in Chipping Campden. Edward was also a notable figure in Rutland and served as Sheriff for the county in 1608. He died in 1642. Among his last actions were raising troops locally for the King's army just prior to the outbreak of

the Civil War. His son and heir Baptist 3rd Viscount Campden served in the Royalist army as a colonel in a horse regiment and was later fined £9,000 by Parliament for his involvement in the war. In 1645 his house at Campden was burnt down by a fellow Royalist Lord Bard in a seemingly pointless attempt to prevent its being captured by Parliamentary forces.

Baptist died in 1682 and was succeeded by his eldest son Edward who was elevated to the Earldom of Gainsborough in the same year. Eight years later his son Wriothlesley died and the titles and estates passed to his cousin Baptist Noel, the 3rd Earl. He lived until 1714 and was followed by his son, also Baptist, the 4th Earl. On his death in 1750, the Earldom descended first to his eldest son Baptist, who died in Switzerland in 1759, and then passed to his second son Henry. On the latter's death without male issue the Earldom became extinct and the estates devolved to his nephew, Sir Gerard Noel Edwardes. When he died in 1838 his son, Charles became Lord of the Campden Manors. Three years later he was raised to the peerage with the reactivated title of Earl of Gainsborough. His son Charles was the second Earl, and his son Charles the third.

The 3rd Earl died in 1926 and his estates passed to Arthur, the 4th Earl and who served as a private secretary to the Pope. His son, Anthony is the 5th and present Earl and the Lord of the Manor of Westington and Combe.

Chipping Campden lies about 90 miles west of London and 7 miles west of Shipston-on-Stour. There are many memorials to the Lords of the Manor in St James' church. In the Noel Chantry is the recumbent effigy of Sir Baptist Hicks, 1st Viscount Campden, Lord of the Manor, and his wife Elizabeth, under a canopy supported on 12 marble columns. There is a monument to Penelope, daughter of Edward Noel, Viscount Campden, and Juliana (Hicks) his wife. There is a memorial to the wife of the 2nd Viscount, and another to Henry Hicks MA, dated 1708. He was vicar for 50 years. The church of St Michael and All Angels, at Broad Campden, was built in 1868 to the memory of Charles Noel, 1st Earl of Gainsborough of the second creation. The 4th Earl gave the land for the Roman Catholic church of St Catherine of Alexandria.

About a mile and a half west of Chipping Campden, in Westington and Combe is Campden House, formerly the property of the Earl of Gainsborough. The present mansion took the place of an ancient manor house, called Old Coombe, which lay in the hamlet of Westington.

The Campden and District Historical and Archaeological Society was formed in 1984. The Chipping Campden Community Trust, a registered charity (Hon Sec John Kohler), makes grants to local organizations in the parish. The trust also employs two health adviser nurses for the over-70s which is a free service. The nearest railway station is Moreton-in-Marsh, five miles distant. Stratford and Evesham are both 10 miles drive, and Oxford 15 miles away.

#### Documents associated with this Manor, found under Chipping Campden:

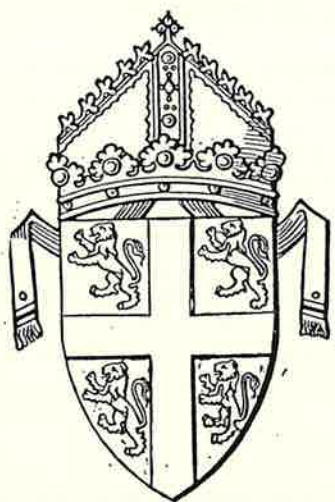
Court Records	1782, 1814	Gloucester RO
Court Orders	1771-1795	
Court Rolls	1562-63	
Court Roll	1788	Birmingham Archives
Court Leet	1778-1811	Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

## The Lordship of Winlaton Co Durham

LIKE MANY NORTHERN villages, which for many centuries remained small and undisturbed, Winlaton saw dramatic growth during the Industrial Revolution. It was widely known as the home of a manufactory established by Sir Ambrose Crowley as early as 1690. The abundance of running water, provided by its situation between the Tyne and Darwent rivers, rendered it as an ideal location. Crowleys Winlaton Mill works was notable for its manufacture and working of;

*edge-tools...files and for, slitting bars of iron and nail rods...anchors of the largest size, mooring chains, pumps and cylinders for steam engines, all kinds of cast metal utensils, agricultural implements, hoes, spades, shovels...in short every form which iron or steel is susceptible.*

Crowleys Mill proved to be a model of industry and philanthropy with schools being erected for his workers children, and health care provision for them.

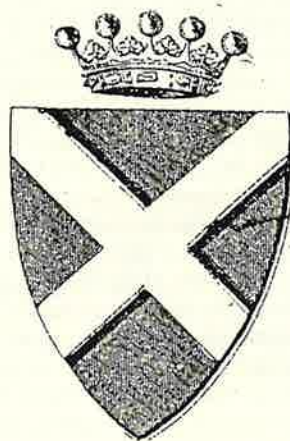


Durham

Winlaton itself is situated a few miles from Gateshead and now forms part of the metropolitan borough of Tyne and Wear. The earliest authentic reference to the Lordship comes in 1183 when it is recorded in the Boldon Book of the bishops of Durham. The Lord at this time was thought to have been Robert Fitz Meldred, or perhaps his son who had the same name. The latter was certainly Lord in 1213 when he is recorded as marrying Isobel, the daughter and heiress of Henry de Nevill. Their son and heir, Geoffrey took the Nevill name and so Winlaton became part of the extensive estates held by this important family. The family retained the manor over the next 250 years and 1397, Ralph Nevill was created Earl of Westmoreland.

Ralph, the fourth Earl of Westmoreland, was born on 21 February 1498 and succeeded to the earldom in 1499 and married Katherine, the second daughter of the Duke of Buckingham, with whom he had 18 children. His public life was uneventful until 1520 when he was present with Henry VIII at his meeting with François I of France at the Field of Cloth of Gold, just outside Calais, then an English possession. A few weeks later he met with the emperor Charles V at Gravelines and was a member of the entourage which received Charles when he visited England two years later, in 1522.

Nevill became a knight of the Garter in June 1525 and was appointed to the Privy Council a year later. He spent the majority of his time employed as a guardian of England's border with Scotland and he fought against the 'Old Enemy' during the campaigns of 1522 and 1523. Three years later, he was charged with leading a delegation of envoys to treat with the Scots. As an official of the King's peace he was instrumental in putting down a series of disturbances in the border counties during the summer of 1535. In the following year, the Catholic revolt in the north, known as the Pilgrimage of Grace, for a time was a serious threat to the Crown. This had come about in response to Henry's break with Rome and Nevill was directly implicated by the rebels since he had been one of the peers who had signed a letter to Pope Clement VII in an attempt persuade him to grant Henry a divorce from his first wife Catherine of Aragon. The Earl appears to have been caught between a rock and hard place during the revolt; facing the wrath of the northern populous if he acted against them and the king if he did not defend the Crown. Some thought him sympathetic to the rebels and he sent his own son to their musters, but it seems as though he was forced to permit this after being captured by rebel forces in Richmondshire, Yorks. Secretly, he was able to demonstrate his loyalty to the King by smuggling a message of support to the Duke of Norfolk. Henry responded with a show of trust but a doubt remained. A contemporary considered Nevill to be *a man of ... heat and hastiness of nature* and another of being *a great power, without wit or knowledge*. Despite misgivings over his character he was appointed to the Council of the North after the defeat of the rebellion and remained in favour with the King and his successor until his death in 1549.



Nevill

He was succeeded in his estates, including Winlaton, by his son Henry, the fifth Earl, who had been more or less taken hostage as by the Pilgrimage rebels. He was involved in the defence of England against the Scots in 1540s, often deputizing for his father and took part in a substantial cross-border raid in September 1545. As Earl his duties were more peaceful since he was appointed as ambassador to the Scottish court between 1552 and 1557. In April of that year, he commanded a force which crushed the flimsy array of Thomas Stafford who had proclaimed himself protector of the realm. He remained in favour with Queen Mary Tudor after quickly renouncing his early support

## NEVILL of RABY, sometime Lords of Winlaton

Gilbert de Nevill, said to have accompanied WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR in the Norman invasion of England, 1066

Geoffrey de Nevill = ?

Geoffrey de Nevill, died 1194, = Emma, dau of Bertram de Bulmer, Lord of Braucepath

Isabel = Robert FitzMaldred, a Saxon, Lord of Raby, Co Durham

Geoffrey de Nevill (took his mother's name) = Margaret

Robert, succeeded 1246, joined Simon de Montfort, = Ida, widow of Geoffrey de Neville, Lord of  
but was pardoned, governor of Pickering and Robert Bertram Hornby, Lancs  
numerous other castles, died 1282

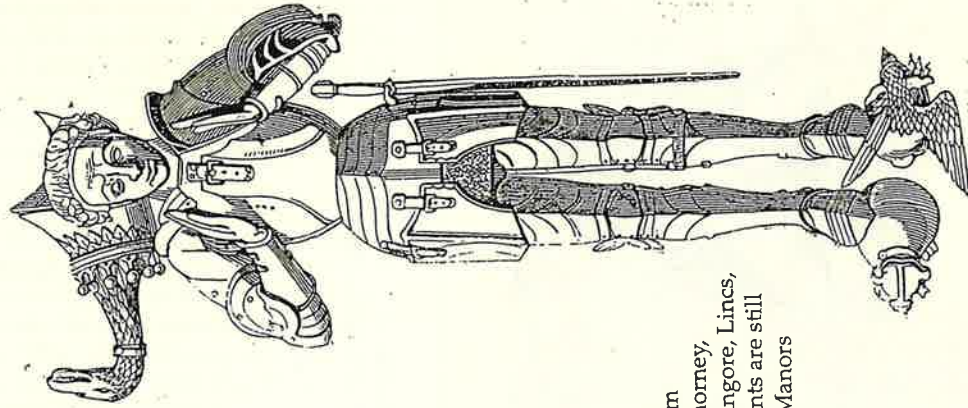
Robert = Mary, dau and coheir of Ralph FitzRandolph, Lord of Middleham, Yorks, and  
Robert became Lord of the Manors of Houghton, Norfolk, and Snape, Yorks, by this marriage  
*dwp*

Ralph or Ralph de Nevill, held Raby of the King for = (1) Euphemia, dau of Robert de Clavering  
£4 a year and one stag, summoned to Parliament (2) Margery, dau of John Thweng

(1)

Ralph de Nevill, 2nd Baron oNevill of Raby, fought for EDWARD III = Alice, dau of Sir Hugh  
in Scotland and France, died 1367 de Audley

Sir John de Nevill, 3rd Baron, Lieutenant of Aquitaine, France = (1) Maud, dau of  
KG, died 1388, and is buried in Durham Cathedral Henry, Lord Percy  
(2) Elizabeth, dau of  
William, Lord Latimer KG



Robert from whom  
the Nevills of Thorney,  
Notts, and Wellingore, Lincs,  
whose descendants are still  
Lords of these Manors

(1)

Ralph de Nevill, 4th Baron, Constable of the Tower, = (1) Lady Margaret, dau of Hugh Earl Stafford KG supported HENRY IV in dethroning RICHARD II, 1399, granted the Honour of Richmond, Yorks, and Earl Marshall, KG, died 1425

(2)

John, became Lord Latimer

(1)

John, Lord Nevill = Lady Elizabeth, dau of Thomas, Earl of Kent died 1423

(2)

issue who became variously Earls of Salisbury, Earls of Kent, and Earls of Abergavenny

Ralph, 2nd Earl of Westmoreland, died 1485

= (1) Elizabeth, dau of Henry Hotspur  
(2) Margaret, dau of Sir Reginald Cobham

John, killed at battle of Towton, 1461 v widow of his nephew John (*infra*)

(1)

John, Lord Nevill, dvp = Lady Anne, daughter of John Holland, Duke of Exeter

Ralph Nevill, 3rd Earl of Westmoreland = Margaret, dau of Roger Booth of Sawley died 1523

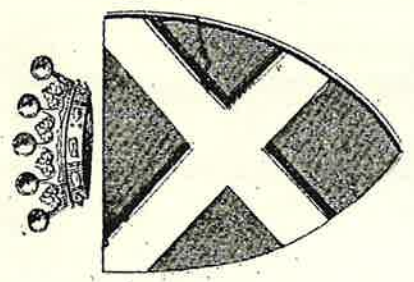
Ralph, dvp = Edith or Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Sandys

Ralph Nevill, 4th Earl of Westmoreland, KG, died 1549 = Lady Catherine, daughter of Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham

Henry Nevill, 5th Earl of Westmoreland, died 1563 =

(1) Lady Anne, dau of Thomas Manners, Earl of Rutland  
(2) Jane, dau of Richard Cholmondeley, of Cheshire

Charles Nevill: 6th Earl of Westmoreland



Nevill

for Lady Jane Grey - 'the nine day queen' in 1553, and during her reign he was able to retain his posts. He was rewarded for his service with substantial grant of lands and estates in 1558.

When Elizabeth came to the throne in the same year, Nevill was briefly touted as a possible husband, but doubts about his personality soon put paid to this notion. He was an inveterate gambler, going so far as to buy a magic ring to increase his luck, and was accused of plotting to kill his own father and his wife. In 1552, he was briefly imprisoned for conspiring to rob his own mother of her treasure. He survived all of these travails and died in 1560.

Winlaton remained with the Nevills until sold by Charles, the sixth Earl, in 1569. It passed to the Selby and Hodgson families, both in the northern merchant classes and was divided. In the 19th century it came under the whole ownership of the Towneley family of Lancashire. They had inherited a good deal of the estate at the beginning of the 19th century after passing to Peregrine Edward Towneley from Thomas Eyre of Hassop. It had come to him from Henry Widdrington, son of the Jacobite, Lord Widdrington, who had been found guilty of treason but saved from execution after the rebellion of 1715. The Widdringtons had succeeded the Tempest family of Newcastle who had obtained Winlaton from the Hodgson family. The present Lord of the Manor of Winlaton is the current representative of the Towneley line, the fourth Lord O'Hagan.



### O'HAGAN of Winlaton

Edward O'Hagan, of Belfast = Mary, dau of Capt Thomas Bell

Sir Thomas O'Hagan, 1st Baron O'Hagan of Tullahogue, Co Tyrone (1870) KP, PC, QR Attorney-General under Lord Palmerston, Lord Chancellor under Gladstone (1868-74) (1st Roman Catholic since King James II to hold this post), died 1888 = (2nd wife) Alice Mary and coheir of Charles Towneley (d 1921)

Hon Thomas Towneley O'Hagan, died 1900 in South Africa, unmarried aged 22, 2nd Lord O'Hagan

Maurice Herbert Towneley-O'Hagan, 3rd Lord O'Hagan, born 1886, died 1961 = (1) Hon Frances Constance Huddalena, dau and heir of 1st Baron Strachie (Strachey), died 1931  
(2) Evelyn Violet died 1965

Thomas Anthony Edward Towneley O'Hagan adopted the surname of Strachey on inheriting his grandfather's Somerset estates, also died in 1955 = Lady Mary Sophia Palmer, dau of 3rd Earl Selborne, Lady-in-Waiting to HRH The Princess Elizabeth now Queen Elizabeth II

Charles Towneley Strachey, 4th and present Lord O'Hagan, an MEP, 1977-94, Lord of the Manor of Winlaton, Co Durham



## The Lordship of Newhall, St Teath Cornwall

THIS Lordship was originally held of the Manor of Polrode, whose Lord into the early 19th century was Lord Grenville. The present holder of Newhall is the Lanhydrock Estate Company, of Lanhydrock, Cornwall, which is owned by the great grandson of the 8th Viscount Clifden. It is situated in the parish of St Teath, about 10 miles north of Bodmin, seven miles north-east of Wadebridge, which parish takes its name from St Eata or St Tetha as does the ancient church here. St Tetha was a Briton of Wales by birth and Bishop of Lindisfarne, the predecessor of St Cuthbert, founder of Durham cathedral. (AD678). The district was taxed under the jurisdiction of Dundagell at the Domesday Survey of 1086.



*Courtenay*

It came early in the Courtenays of Boconnoc, sometime Earls of Devon. They appear to have inherited it through marriage from the Carminows who, likewise, inherited from the Tintens, who acquired it from the earlier medieval Bloyow family. The Carminows hailed from Carminow in Mawgan, Cornwall, and are said to have been settled there before the Norman Conquest of 1066. The family is traced with some certainty from the reign of Henry III (1216-72) and there were numerous branches. One coheirss married the Arundells, later Lords Arundell of Wardour, Wiltshire. Others settled at Resprin, in St Winnow, Cornwall, and married into the family of Prideaux of Place, at Fentongollan, Trenowth, and Champernown. Some members of these families are interred in the graveyard of St Tetha, or St Etha, and their Coats of Arms in the church stained glass.

Sir Edmund Courtenay, second son of Sir Philip of Powderham Castle, Devon, by Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Lord Hungerford, and brother Piers Bishop of Winchester, married the Carminow heiress of the Manor and settled at St Germans, Cornwall. His eldest son Richard lived at Loswithiel, Cornwall, and left three children: Lawrence, the eldest, was Lord of Ethy, in St Winnow, which was sold by his descendant, Francis Courtenay, in 1634; William, the second son, who lived at Deviock, Cornwall; and Richard, the youngest, who settled at Tremere.

Edward, second son of Sir William Courtenay of Powderham, and Mary, a daughter of Lord Bonville, married the heiress of the Wottons of Wotton, in Landrake, Cornwall. Lord Bonville was Sir William Bonville, son of John by Elizabeth, Lady of



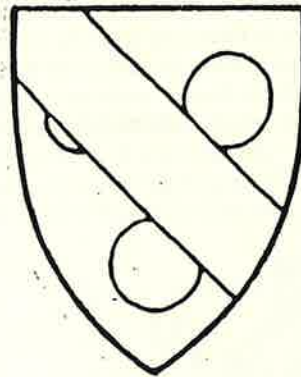
*Winchester*

Chuton in her own right. He accompanied Henry V to France in 1418 in the retinue of the Duke of Clarence, the King's brother, and was appointed Seneschal of the Duchy of Aquitaine. He was summoned to Parliament as Baron Bonville of Chuton from 1449. Lord Bonville supported the Yorkist cause during the Wars of the Roses and being captured by the victorious Lancastrians after the battle of Northampton in 1460 was beheaded and attainted along with the Duke of Exeter and the Earl of Devon. Another branch of the family lived at Trethurfe, in Landock, Cornwall, and it is probable that these lines united again. The Manor of Newhall and other Courtenay estates passed to William, son of Sir Peter Courtenay who, in 1683, bequeathed his property to his brother-in-law, Humphrey Courtenay of Tremere. Humphrey's son William married an heiress of the Kellands of Devonshire, but this branch became extinct in the male line with the death of Charles Kelland Courtenay in 1761. The estate was broken up and sold, Lord Robartes acquiring Newhall as well as Tremere.

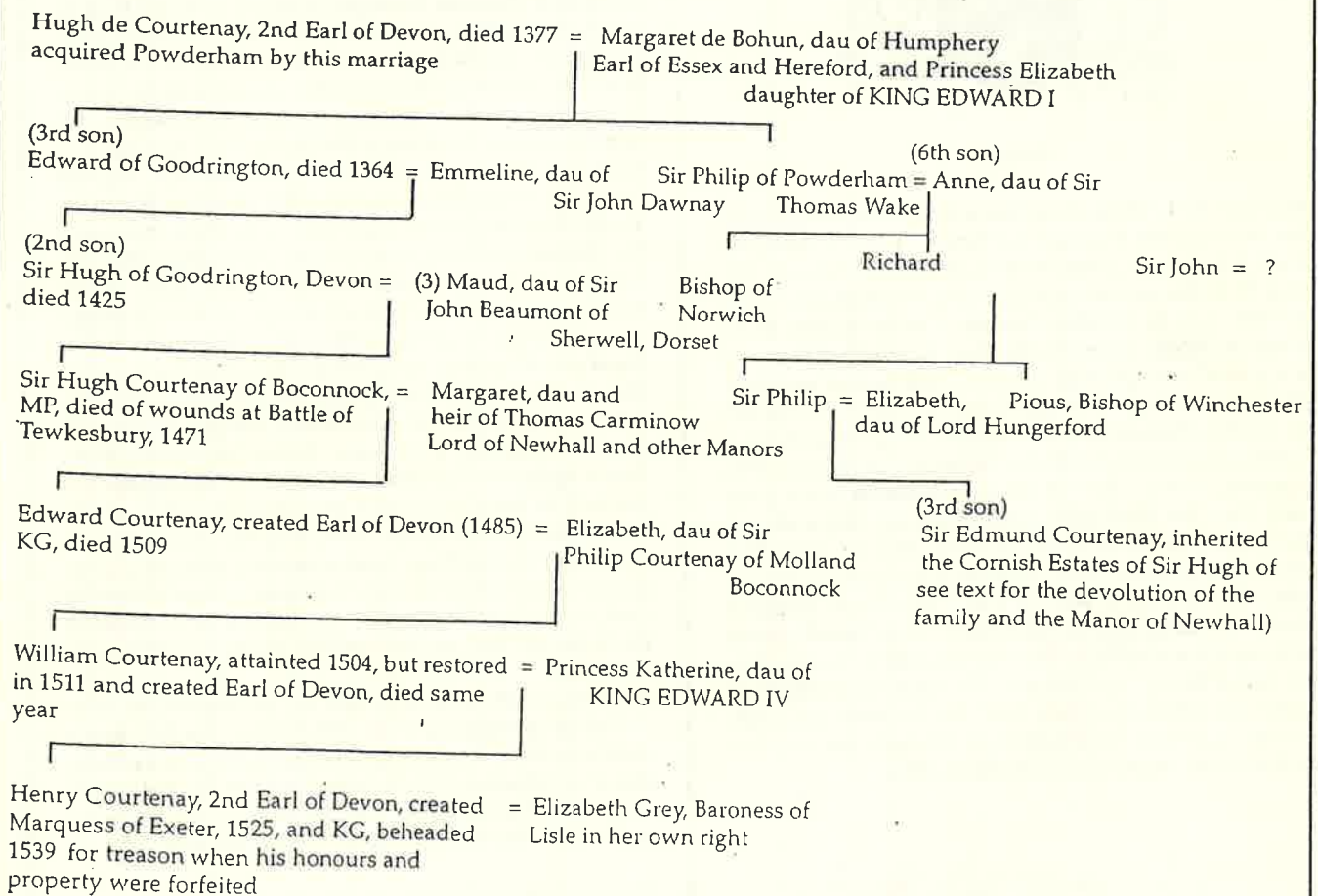


*Clifden*

The first of the Robartes family of whom we have any account is Richard Robartes, a merchant at Truro, whose grandson and namesake married a coheirress of the Bottreaux Castle estate. He was created a Baronet in 1621 and a peer four years later as Baron Robartes of Truro. His son John was created Viscount Bodmin and Earl of Radnor in 1679. It is said that his title was originally Earl of Falmouth, which he retained only six days, 'by reason of a jest; Lady Mohun having complimented his lady on having acquired the title of Countess of Penny-come-quick, a name given in derision to Falmouth by some of the neighbouring towns which had opposed its rise.' However, it is more probable that the Falmouth title was abandoned being already a Viscounty held by George FitzRoy, Earl of Northumberland. Ironically, the Mohun Barony of Okehampton was lost in 1712 with the death of Charles, Lord Mohun, Lady Mohun's son mentioned above. He was killed in a famous duel in Hyde Park by the Duke of Hamilton who was also killed. The Lordship passed to the Honourable Mrs Agar and thence by marriage to the Viscounts Clifden in the second half of the 19th century as Captain William Bligh, of the *Bounty*, was born here, and of whom several films have been made by Charles Lawton and Mel Gibson called *Mutiny on the Bounty*.



#### PARTIAL DESCENT OF THE COURTENAYS OF CORNWALL



#### Documents associated with this Manor:

Rents and receipts, mid-18th century Cornwall Record Office with other Manors



## DESCENT OF THE CAREW BARONETS, Lords of North Filham and Fardell, Devon

William FitzGerald of Carru (Carew) Castle, Pembroke, Wales, son of Gerald FitzWalter, Constable of Pembroke Castle temp HENRY I (1100-35), by his wife Nesta, the daughter of Rhys ap Gryffid ap Tudor Mawr, Prince of South Wales, and heiress of Carew Castle. William was the grandson of Walter FitzOther, Castellan of Windsor (ancestor of the present Duke of Leinster) and died in 1173, leaving with other issue Otho, ancestor of the Carew Baronets, and William, ancestor of the present Lord Gerard

John Carew, of Carew, Baron of Idrone, Ireland, ob 1363 = Margaret, dau of John Mohun of Dunster

Sir Leonard Carew, Baron of Idrone, ob 1371 = Alice, dau of Sir Edmond FitzAlan, of Arundel

Thomas Carew, Baron of Idrone, ob 1431 = Elizabeth, dau of Sir William Bonville, of Shute

Sir Nicholas Carew, ob 1446 = Joan, dau of Sir Hugh Courtenay, of Hacombe, Devon

Sir Thomas, ancestor of the Carews of Bickleigh, Mohun's Ottery, and Earls of Totnes

Elizabeth, dau of Sir John Croker of Lydeard St Lawrence, Somerset

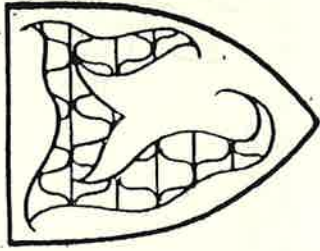
John Carew of Hacombe = Elizabeth, dau of John, Lord Zouche, of Harringworth

John Carew, commander in Francis I's army to rescue Pope Clement VII, who had been imprisoned by the Emperor Charles V, killed at the Battle of Pavia, 1527

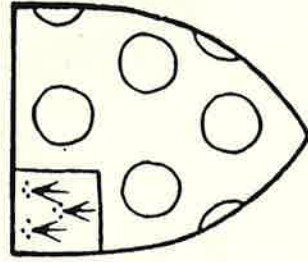
Thomas Carew, ob 1586 = Mary, dau of William Huddle, of Pillesden, Dorset

John Carew, living 1620 = Elizabeth, dau of Robert Hill, of Shulston, Devon

Thomas Carew, ob 1656 = Anne, dau of Rev John Clifford DD, of Ugborough



Mohun



Zouche

Sir Thomas Carew, created 1st Baronet of Haccombe, 1661, *ob* 1676 =

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Elizabeth, dau and co-heir of Sir Henry Carew of Bickleigh, thus united two branches of the family  
(2) Martha, dau and co-heir of Nicholas Dack

Sir Henry Carew, 2nd Baronet, inherited the Lordship of Bickleigh from his mother, *ob* 1695 =

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Elizabeth, dau of Thomas, 1st Lord Clifford of Chudleigh  
(2) Katherine, dau of John Fownes, of Whiteleigh  
(3) Gratiana, dau of Thomas Darrell, of Treworman, Cornwall

Sir Henry Carew, 3rd Baronet, *ob* ~~1711~~ 1708

Sir Thomas Carew, 4th Baronet, = Dorothy, dau of Peter West, of Tiverton Castle  
*ob* before 1746

Sir John Carew, 5th Baronet, inherited the Lordship of Tiverton from his mother = Elizabeth, dau of the Rev Henry Holdsworth, of Dartmouth  
*ob* before 1773

Sir Thomas Carew, 6th Baronet, *ob* 1805 = Jane, dau of Rev Charles Smalwood

Sir Henry Carew, 7th Baronet, *ob* 1830 = Elizabeth, dau of Walter Palk

Sir Walter Palk Carew, 8th Baronet, = Anne, dau of Maj-Gen Taylor CB  
*ob* 1874

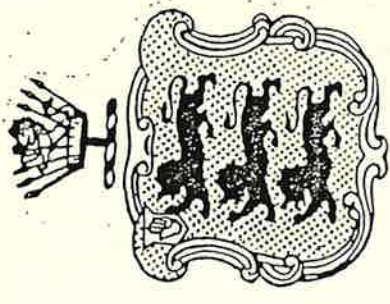
Sir Henry Carew, 9th Baronet =  
*ob* 1934

Frances Gertrude, dau of Robert Locke-Roe, Lord of Lynmouth, Devon

Sir Thomas Palk Carew, 10th Baronet, *ob* 1976 =

(1) Ivy Madeline, Laura, dau of Col Arthur Breakey OBE (marriage dissolved)  
(2) Phyllis Evelyn, dau of Neville Mayman, of Sydney, Australia

Sir Rivers Carew, 11th and present Baronet



Carew



