

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ABBOTTS MANOR

Location:

Denham St Mary (nr Newmarket), Suffolk

Recorded historical holders:

8

Export date:

15 October 2026, 16:16 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=abbotts-manor

Colour key: green - direct blood, blue - collateral, purple - marriage-linked blood, amber - in-law, grey - unclassified. Colours describe the saved relationship classification, not documentary certainty.

SUCCESSION AT A GLANCE

Earliest recorded holder to present. Relationship descriptions are reproduced from saved published paths; categories are not evidence ratings.

1. The Priory of St Osyth, Essex, Augustinian priory | undated; probably late 12th or early 13th century - 1539

Transfer: Gift and confirmation of land in Denham by Alice de Vere and Aubrey de Vere to the priory of St Osyth; the property was later treated as the separate manor of Denham Abbots.

Holding: The source records 40 shillings' worth of land in Denham; no fractional share of the manor is stated. / Augustinian priory

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Thomas Audley, Baron Audley of Walden, Lord Chancellor of England | 1538 - 1544

Transfer: Alienation of the former St Osyth estate to Thomas Audley under royal licence; after the surrender of St Osyth in July 1539, Denham Abbots was treated as belonging to Audley.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. Margaret Audley, later Margaret Dudley and Margaret Howard, Lady Dudley, Duchess of Norfolk by marriage | 1544 - after 1558

Transfer: Inherited Denham Abbots and the surrounding Denham manors from her father, Thomas Audley, on his death.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. Thomas Howard, later Baron Howard of Walden and Earl of Suffolk, Lord High Treasurer of England | 1572 or later - 1586

Transfer: The Audley property passed through Margaret Audley to her son Thomas Howard after the execution of his father, Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, in 1572.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Thomas Stuteville of Dalham, Esquire of Dalham | 1586 - shortly after 1586

Transfer: Sale by indenture from Thomas Howard to Thomas Stuteville of Dalham in the 28th year of Elizabeth I, 1586.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. Edward Lewkenor, Sir Edward Lewkenor, landowner of Denham | by 1605 - 1 May 1618

Transfer: Transfer from Martha Heigham is not established. Edward Lewkenor was seised of the manor site by the 1605 inquisition; the parish historian says it appears to have passed from Martha Heigham to him, possibly in connection with his marriage to her daughter, but expressly treats that explanation as probable rather than proved.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

7. Edward Lewkenor, esquire, son and heir of Sir Edward Lewkenor | 1 May 1618 - December 1634

Transfer: Inherited the manor site and associated property from his father, Sir Edward Lewkenor, who died on 1 May 1618.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

8. Edward Lewkenor, son and heir of Edward Lewkenor, Esquire | December 1634 - after January 1635

Transfer: Inherited the manor site and associated Denham property from his father, Edward Lewkenor, who died in December 1634.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

undated; probably late 12th or early 13th century - 1539

The Priory of St Osyth, Essex, Augustinian priory

Transfer:

Gift and confirmation of land in Denham by Alice de Vere and Aubrey de Vere to the priory of St Osyth; the property was later treated as the separate manor of Denham Abbots.

Previous holder:

Alice de Vere and Aubrey de Vere

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

The source records 40 shillings' worth of land in Denham; no fractional share of the manor is stated.

Shared holding:

Augustinian priory

Narrative / explanation:

Aubrey, Earl of Oxford, confirmed that his grandmother Alice de Vere and his father Aubrey de Vere had given the priory of St Osyth 7 pounds' worth of land from Alice's marriage portion, including 40 shillings' worth in Denham. The parish historian identifies this Denham land as the origin of Denham Abbots as a separate manor. The deed is undated; the editor associates one deed with the tenure of Hubert Walter as Archbishop of Canterbury, approximately 1193-1205. A second confirmation is printed as dated 11 September 52 Henry II, but the editor states that this must be a mistake for Henry III, producing the date 1268.

Source citation:

S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, historical chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 172-174, citing Dugdale, Monasticon Anglicanum, VI, p. 310.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

The Priory of St Osyth

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-priory-of-st-osyth-4514

Person dates:

founded as an Augustinian house about 1120; surrendered July 1539

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2**1538 - 1544****Thomas Audley, Baron Audley of Walden, Lord Chancellor of England****Transfer:**

Alienation of the former St Osyth estate to Thomas Audley under royal licence; after the surrender of St Osyth in July 1539, Denham Abbots was treated as belonging to Audley.

Previous holder:

The Priory of St Osyth, Essex

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

In July 1538 the abbot of St Osyth received licence to alienate the abbey and specified manors, including Denham, to Thomas Audley. The local history states that after the priory surrendered its estates in July 1539, Denham Abbots belonged to Lord Audley. The precise legal form of the transfer of the separate manor is not reproduced in the source, so the 1538-1539 transition is described as an alienation and subsequent possession rather than as a reconstructed deed.

Source citation:

S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, historical chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 175-176, citing the Calendars of State Papers.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Thomas Audley, Baron Audley of Walden

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-priory-of-st-osyth-4514

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-audley-4515

Person dates:

1488-1544

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3**1544 - after 1558****Margaret Audley, later Margaret Dudley and Margaret Howard, Lady Dudley, Duchess of Norfolk by marriage****Transfer:**

Inherited Denham Abbots and the surrounding Denham manors from her father, Thomas Audley, on his death.

Previous holder:

Thomas Audley, Baron Audley of Walden

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

Thomas Audley died in 1544 without a son. His daughter Margaret inherited his property in Essex together with Denham Abbots and the manors around Denham. Her first marriage was to Lord Henry Dudley; in 1558 she married Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk.

Source citation:

S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, historical chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 176-177.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Margaret Audley

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-audley-4515

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=margaret-audley-4516

Person dates:

16th century; died before 1564

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1572 or later - 1586

Thomas Howard, later Baron Howard of Walden and Earl of Suffolk, Lord High Treasurer of England

Transfer:

The Audley property passed through Margaret Audley to her son Thomas Howard after the execution of his father, Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, in 1572.

Previous holder:

Margaret Audley, later Margaret Dudley and Margaret Howard

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The source states that the Audley property passed to Thomas Howard, Margaret Audley's second son, after the Duke of Norfolk was executed in 1572. Thomas Howard was later created Baron Howard of Walden in 1597 and Earl of Suffolk in 1603. The source does not give a separate dated instrument for his acquisition of Denham Abbots, but it explicitly places the estate among the Audley property that passed to him.

Source citation:

S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, historical chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 176-177.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Thomas Howard, Baron Howard of Walden, Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=margaret-audley-4516

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-howard-4517

Person dates:

1561-1626

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

1586 - shortly after 1586

Thomas Stuteville of Dalham, Esquire of Dalham

Transfer:

Sale by indenture from Thomas Howard to Thomas Stuteville of Dalham in the 28th year of Elizabeth I, 1586.

Previous holder:

Thomas Howard, later Baron Howard of Walden and Earl of Suffolk

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The parish historian cites a statement in Page's supplement to the Suffolk Traveller that Thomas Howard sold Denham Abbots to Thomas Stuteville of Dalham by an indenture made in 1586. The underlying indenture is not reproduced in the online source, but the author treats the existence of the indenture as good authority.

Source citation:

S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, historical chapter "Denham Abbots," p. 177, citing Page's supplement to the Suffolk Traveller.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Thomas Stuteville of Dalham

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-howard-4517

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-stuteville-of-dalham-4518

Person dates:

dates not established in the consulted sources

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6**by 1605 - 1 May 1618****Edward Lewkenor, Sir Edward Lewkenor, landowner of Denham****Transfer:**

Transfer from Martha Heigham is not established. Edward Lewkenor was seised of the manor site by the 1605 inquisition; the parish historian says it appears to have passed from Martha Heigham to him, possibly in connection with his marriage to her daughter, but expressly treats that explanation as probable rather than proved.

Previous holder:

Martha Heigham, widow

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The 1605 inquisition records Edward Lewkenor's possession of the site of the manor of Abbots in Denham alias Denham Abbots, including the manor house, associated buildings, lands in Denham, Barrow and Hargrave, and the rectory and advowson of Denham church. The source states that the estate was held of the king in free soccage and had a clear yearly value of 5 pounds. The conveyance from Martha Heigham is not proven.

Source citation:

Inquisition post mortem of Edward Lewkenor, reproduced in S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, pp. 128-129 and discussed in the chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 177-178.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Edward Lewkenor

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-lewkenor-4519

Person dates:

died 1 May 1618

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 7**1 May 1618 - December 1634****Edward Lewkenor, esquire, son and heir of Sir Edward Lewkenor****Transfer:**

Inherited the manor site and associated property from his father, Sir Edward Lewkenor, who died on 1 May 1618.

ABBOTTS MANOR

Previous holder:

Edward Lewkenor, Sir Edward Lewkenor

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The 1618 inquisition identifies Edward Lewkenor esquire as the son and heir of Sir Edward Lewkenor. It records that the site of the manor of Abbots in Denham was held of the king in free soccage and was worth 5 pounds yearly. The same inquisition also records a settlement conveying the manor of Denham and the site of the manor of Abbots, with associated messuages, tithes and advowson, to trustees for Sir Edward Lewkenor and Mary Nevill for their lives and then to their eldest son and heirs male; this indicates that the heir's title was subject to the settlement's terms and to Crown custody during his minority.

Source citation:

Inquisition post mortem of Sir Edward Lewkenor, held at Ipswich on 4 June 1618, reproduced in S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, pp. 132-134.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Edward Lewkenor

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-lewkenor-4520

Person dates:

born about 1614; died December 1634

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 8

December 1634 - after January 1635

Edward Lewkenor, son and heir of Edward Lewkenor, Esquire

Transfer:

Inherited the manor site and associated Denham property from his father, Edward Lewkenor, who died in December 1634.

Previous holder:

Edward Lewkenor, esquire, son and heir of Sir Edward Lewkenor

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The 1635 inquisition, taken after the death of Edward Lewkenor, states that his father, Sir Edward Lewkenor, had been seised of the manor of Denham and the lands reckoned as part of it. It also records the manor of Denham Hall and related premises in the settlement made for the younger Edward. The chapter's earlier summary states that the inquisitions of 1605, 1618 and 1634 all refer to the site of the manor of Abbots in Denham alias Denham Abbots. By this period Denham Abbots was no longer being followed as an entirely separate estate because it had been reunited with the main manor of Denham.

Source citation:

Inquisition post mortem of Edward Lewkenor, taken at Ipswich on 22 January 1635, reproduced in S. H. A. Hervey, Denham Parish Registers, 1539-1850, pp. 134-138; see also the chapter "Denham Abbots," pp. 177-178.

Source URL:

https://archive.org/stream/denhamparishregi01denh/denhamparishregi01denh_djvu.txt

Other parties:

Edward Lewkenor

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-lewkenor-4520

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-lewkenor-4521

Person dates:

died December 1634

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.