

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ADFORTON

Location:

Leintwardine, Herefordshire

Recorded historical holders:

7

Export date:

15 October 2026, 12:00 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=adforton

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. Eadric, described in PASE as Eadric the Wild | 1066 - 1086

Transfer: Pre-Conquest tenure; Adforton was reassigned into the post-Conquest tenurial structure before the Domesday assessment.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Ralph de Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, tenant-in-chief in Domesday Book | 1086 - after 1086

Transfer: Post-Conquest tenure recorded in Domesday Book; the estate was held by Ralph de Mortimer as tenant-in-chief and in demesne.

Holding: Mortimer lordship of Wigmore

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. The Mortimer lords of Wigmore, later earls of March in the senior Mortimer line | 1086 - 1425

Transfer: Continuing Mortimer lordship of the Wigmore estate; no separate conveyance of Adforton has been located for this period.

Holding: Honour of Wigmore

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. The Crown, following the extinction of the direct Mortimer earldom of March, Royal lord of the Wigmore estate | 1425 - reign of Elizabeth I

Transfer: The Wigmore estate descended through Richard, duke of York, to the Crown after the death of Edmund Mortimer, fifth earl of March, in 1425; the precise treatment of Adforton during this period is not separately documented in the sources consulted.

Holding: Wigmore Castle estate / Co-holders: Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick, Stewards associated with Robert Devereux, earl of Essex | reign of Elizabeth I - 1601

Transfer: Granted the Wigmore property by Elizabeth I; the exact date and terms of the grant have not been established in the sources consulted.

Holding: Joint / Wigmore Castle estate / Co-holders: The Crown, following the extinction of the direct Mortimer earldom of March

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. Thomas Harley of Brampton Bryan, Esquire of Brampton Bryan | 1601 - after 1601

Transfer: Purchased the Wigmore Castle estate from Henry Linley for £2,600; the estate acquired in the transaction explicitly included lands in Adforton.

Holding: Wigmore Castle estate and later Harley estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

7. Edward Harley, earl of Oxford and earl Mortimer, 2nd Earl of Oxford and Earl Mortimer | 1772 - after 1772

Transfer: Later appearance as lord of the manor of Wigmore in the 1772 enclosure award; no direct intervening conveyance of Adforton has been located.

Holding: Harley estate and Wigmore Honour

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

1066 - 1086

Eadric, described in PASE as Eadric the Wild

Transfer:

Pre-Conquest tenure; Adforton was reassigned into the post-Conquest tenurial structure before the Domesday assessment.

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

The PASE Domesday database identifies the Adforton entry as a vill held in 1066 by Eadric and held in 1086 by Ralph de Mortimer as tenant-in-chief. This establishes the pre-Conquest holder but does not preserve the legal instrument or precise date of the change.

Source citation:

PASE, Domesday person record for Eadric, entry for Adforton, Herefordshire/Shropshire, Phil. ref. 6,13; Domesday Book database.

Source URL:

<https://pase.ac.uk/domesday/person/39528/>

Other parties:

Eadric

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=eadric-described-as-eadric-the-wild-24820

Person dates:

Holder of Adforton in 1066; other dates not established here

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

1086 - after 1086

Ralph de Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, tenant-in-chief in Domesday Book

Transfer:

Post-Conquest tenure recorded in Domesday Book; the estate was held by Ralph de Mortimer as tenant-in-chief and in demesne.

Previous holder:

Eadric, described as Eadric the Wild

ADFORTON

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Mortimer lordship of Wigmore

Narrative / explanation:

The PASE Domesday entry identifies Adforton as held in 1086 by Ralph de Mortimer, with no subtenant recorded. Herefordshire Through Time specifically describes Adforton as a demesne manor of the Mortimers in 1086. This is the earliest securely evidenced Norman-period lordship of the manor.

Source citation:

Herefordshire Through Time, Adforton possible motte, Historic Environment Record no. 10099; PASE Domesday database, Adforton entry.

Source URL:

<https://htt.herefordshire.gov.uk/herefordshires-past/the-medieval-period/castles/gazetteer-of-herefordshire-castles/parishes-a/>

Other parties:

Ralph de Mortimer

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=ralph-de-mortimer-24821

Person dates:

Died 1104

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3

1086 - 1425

The Mortimer lords of Wigmore, later earls of March in the senior Mortimer line

Transfer:

Continuing Mortimer lordship of the Wigmore estate; no separate conveyance of Adforton has been located for this period.

Previous holder:

Ralph de Mortimer

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Honour of Wigmore

Narrative / explanation:

Adforton is described as a Mortimer demesne manor in 1086 and as remaining one afterwards. The Wigmore Castle estate is described as remaining at the heart of the Mortimers' marcher lordship until the death of Edmund Mortimer, fifth earl of March, in 1425. The available public evidence supports continuity within the Mortimer estate, but does not identify each successive Mortimer holder of Adforton by name.

Source citation:

Herefordshire Through Time, Adforton possible motte; Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, Herefordshire News Sheet no. 60, discussion of Adforton as a Mortimer demesne manor; Woolhope Naturalists' Field

Club, Wigmore Fairs 1669-1710, historical summary of the Wigmore estate.

Source URL:

<https://htt.herefordshire.gov.uk/herefordshires-past/the-medieval-period/castles/gazetteer-of-herefords-hire-castles/parishes-a/>

Other parties:

Mortimer lords of Wigmore

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=ralph-de-mortimer-24821

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-mortimer-lords-of-wigmore-24822

Person dates:

From the eleventh century until 1425 in the principal Wigmore estate descent

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1425 - reign of Elizabeth I

The Crown, following the extinction of the direct Mortimer earldom of March, Royal lord of the Wigmore estate

Transfer:

The Wigmore estate descended through Richard, duke of York, to the Crown after the death of Edmund Mortimer, fifth earl of March, in 1425; the precise treatment of Adforton during this period is not separately documented in the sources consulted.

Previous holder:

The Mortimer lords of Wigmore

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Wigmore Castle estate

Narrative / explanation:

The published history of the Wigmore Castle estate states that after Edmund Mortimer's death in 1425 the estate descended through Richard, duke of York, to the Crown. Because Adforton is explicitly identified as part of the Wigmore estate in the later 1601 acquisition account, Crown control is a reasonable estate-level phase in the descent, but no separate Crown grant or account naming the Adforton manor alone has been located for the intervening period.

Source citation:

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, Wigmore Fairs 1669-1710, historical summary of the Wigmore Castle estate and its descent after 1425.

Source URL:

<https://www.woolhopeclub.org.uk/system/files/documents/transaction/woolhope-club-transactions-volume-l-2002-part-iii.pdf>

Other parties:

The Crown

Co-holders:

Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-mortimer-lords-of-wigmore-24822

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-crown-24823

Person dates:

Estate-level control after 1425 and before the Elizabethan grant; exact dates for Adforton not established

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5**reign of Elizabeth I - 1601**

Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick, Stewards associated with Robert Devereux, earl of Essex

Transfer:

Granted the Wigmore property by Elizabeth I; the exact date and terms of the grant have not been established in the sources consulted.

Previous holder:

The Crown

Holding arrangement:

joint

Shared holding:

Wigmore Castle estate

Narrative / explanation:

The historical summary of the Wigmore Castle estate states that Elizabeth I granted it to Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick, described as stewards of Robert Devereux, earl of Essex. The source does not separately name Adforton in the grant, but the subsequent 1601 sale identifies Adforton as included in the Wigmore Castle estate acquired from Linley. The exact legal extent of Meyrick's interest and the precise grant date remain uncertain.

Source citation:

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, Wigmore Fairs 1669-1710, historical summary of the Wigmore Castle estate.

Source URL:

<https://www.woolhopeclub.org.uk/system/files/documents/transaction/woolhope-club-transactions-volume-i-2002-part-iii.pdf>

Other parties:

Henry Linley, Gelly Meyrick

Co-holders:

The Crown, following the extinction of the direct Mortimer earldom of March

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=henry-linley-and-gelly-meyrick-24824

Person dates:

Active in the reign of Elizabeth I; Linley sold the Wigmore estate in 1601

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6

1601 - after 1601

Thomas Harley of Brampton Bryan, Esquire of Brampton Bryan

Transfer:

Purchased the Wigmore Castle estate from Henry Linley for £2,600; the estate acquired in the transaction explicitly included lands in Adforton.

Previous holder:

Henry Linley and Gelly Meyrick

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Wigmore Castle estate and later Harley estate

Narrative / explanation:

In 1601 Henry Linley sold the Wigmore Castle estate to Thomas Harley of Brampton Bryan for £2,600. The estate acquired in that transaction included lands in Adforton, together with lands in Wigmore, Birtley, Brampton Bryan, Burrington, Limebrook and Lower Lye. The source does not state whether the transaction conveyed the whole manor of Adforton as a separate unit or only the Adforton lands attached to the Wigmore estate; it therefore supports Thomas Harley as holder of the relevant Adforton estate interest, but not a more precise legal characterization.

Source citation:

Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, Wigmore Fairs 1669-1710, historical summary of the 1601 purchase of the Wigmore Castle estate.

Source URL:

<https://www.woolhopeclub.org.uk/system/files/documents/transaction/woolhope-club-transactions-volume-l-2002-part-iii.pdf>

Other parties:

Thomas Harley of Brampton Bryan

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=henry-linley-and-gelly-meyrick-24824

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-harley-of-brampton-bryan-24825

Person dates:

Active in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries; purchased the Wigmore estate in 1601

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 7

1772 - after 1772

Edward Harley, earl of Oxford and earl Mortimer, 2nd Earl of Oxford and Earl Mortimer**Transfer:**

Later appearance as lord of the manor of Wigmore in the 1772 enclosure award; no direct intervening conveyance of Adforton has been located.

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Harley estate and Wigmore Honour

Narrative / explanation:

The 1772 Wigmore enclosure award names Edward, earl of Oxford and earl Mortimer, as lord of the manor of Wigmore and grants him a one-fifteenth share for his lordship and right of soil. Other historical accounts place Adforton within the Wigmore and Harley estate complex. This evidence supports a later Harley lordship connected with the Adforton estate, but it does not by itself prove that every parcel of the separately catalogued Adforton manor was held by Edward Harley at that date. The intervening conveyance from the earlier Harley holders is therefore left unspecified.

Source citation:

Muriel Tonkin, The Wigmore Enclosure Act and Award 1772-74, Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club Transactions, vol. XLI, 1975, especially the award naming Edward, earl of Oxford and earl Mortimer as lord of the manor of Wigmore.

Source URL:

<https://www.woolhopeclub.org.uk/system/files/documents/transaction/woolhope-club-transactions-volume-xli-1975-part-iii.pdf>

Other parties:

Edward Harley, earl of Oxford and earl Mortimer

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-harley-earl-of-oxford-and-earl-mortimer-24826

Person dates:

1689-1741

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.