

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ADSTON (ASHBY PRIORY) MANOR

Location:

Adstone, Northamptonshire

Recorded historical holders:

6

Export date:

15 October 2026, 13:58 GMT+0000

Public record URL:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=adston-ashby-priory-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. Canons Ashby Priory, Augustinian priory of the Blessed Virgin Mary | reign of Henry III (1216-1272) - 1536

Transfer: Held the Adstone/Atteneston manor or the monastic estate from which the manor is identified

Holding: Canons Ashby Priory

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Sir Francis Bryan, courtier and landowner | 1536 - 1538

Transfer: Purchased the dissolved priory and its associated village and lands from the Crown

Holding: Post-Dissolution Canons Ashby estate / Co-holders: Sir John Cope

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. Sir John Cope, owner of Canons Ashby | 1538 - 1558

Transfer: Bought the Canons Ashby property from Sir Francis Bryan

Holding: Post-Dissolution Canons Ashby estate / Co-holders: Sir Francis Bryan

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. Dryden family, John Dryden of Canons Ashby | 1558 - 1665

Transfer: The former Canons Ashby monastic estate passed to the Dryden family after the death of Sir John Cope; the Drydens held a considerable part of the manor and subsequently acquired most of it

Holding: Dryden ownership of the Canons Ashby estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, charitable corporation, lord of the manor of Adstone | 1714 - 1916

Transfer: Purchased the Stowe estate, which included Adstone as a separate estate unit

Holding: Stowe and Adstone estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. Unknown purchaser or purchasers | 2 June 1916

Transfer: The combined Stowe and Adstone estates were offered for sale; the purchaser of the Adstone manor component has not been securely identified

Holding: Other / Stowe and Adstone estates

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

reign of Henry III (1216-1272) - 1536

Canons Ashby Priory, Augustinian priory of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Transfer:

Held the Adstone/Atteneston manor or the monastic estate from which the manor is identified

Previous holder:

Earlier local and Domesday interests are not securely shown to be the same manor holding

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Canons Ashby Priory

Narrative / explanation:

Samuel Lewis records that the monks of Canons Ashby were owners of land in Adstone in the reign of Henry III and that, after receiving free warren over their demesne lands in Adstone in the reign of Edward II, the monastery seems to have held the manor until the Dissolution. This is the principal direct evidence linking the Adstone manor to Canons Ashby Priory. The wording is cautious and does not establish an exact acquisition date.

Source citation:

Samuel Lewis, A Topographical Dictionary of England, entry for Adstone, 1848; reproduced with the cited source attribution by Parishmouse.

Source URL:

<https://parishmouse.co.uk/england/northamptonshire/adstone-northamptonshire-family-history-guide/>

Other parties:

The Augustinian canons of Canons Ashby Priory

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=canons-ashby-priory-24956

Person dates:

founded 1147-1151; dissolved 1536

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

1536 - 1538

Sir Francis Bryan, courtier and landowner

ADSTON (ASHBY PRIORY) MANOR

Transfer:

Purchased the dissolved priory and its associated village and lands from the Crown

Previous holder:

Canons Ashby Priory

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Post-Dissolution Canons Ashby estate

Narrative / explanation:

The Canons Ashby Historic Environment Record states that at the Dissolution the priory and village were purchased from the Crown by Sir Francis Bryan. Because Adstone lands are independently identified as part of the Canons Ashby monastic estate, this is the documented post-Dissolution succession for the predecessor estate. The source does not separately itemise the Adstone manor in the 1536 transaction.

Source citation:

Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, 600/3 Canons Ashby Priory, MNN11470, full description.

Source URL:

<https://her.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Monument/MNN11470>

Other parties:

Sir Francis Bryan

Co-holders:

Sir John Cope

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=canons-ashby-priory-24956

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-francis-bryan-24957

Person dates:

died 1550

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3

1538 - 1558

Sir John Cope, owner of Canons Ashby

Transfer:

Bought the Canons Ashby property from Sir Francis Bryan

Previous holder:

Sir Francis Bryan

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Post-Dissolution Canons Ashby estate

Narrative / explanation:

The Canons Ashby Historic Environment Record states that Sir Francis Bryan sold the priory and its

ADSTON (ASHBY PRIORY) MANOR

property to Sir John Cope in 1538. Historic England likewise records that Sir John Cope bought the property from Bryan soon after the Dissolution and constructed a house on the former monastic site. The source establishes succession of the predecessor estate, but does not provide a separate parcel-by-parcel conveyance for Adstone.

Source citation:

Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, 600/3 Canons Ashby Priory, MNN11470; Historic England, Canons Ashby scheduled monument entry 1015534.

Source URL:

<https://her.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Monument/MNN11470>

Other parties:

Sir John Cope

Co-holders:

Sir Francis Bryan

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-francis-bryan-24957

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-john-cope-24958

Person dates:

died 1558

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1558 - 1665

Dryden family, John Dryden of Canons Ashby

Transfer:

The former Canons Ashby monastic estate passed to the Dryden family after the death of Sir John Cope; the Drydens held a considerable part of the manor and subsequently acquired most of it

Previous holder:

Sir John Cope

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Dryden ownership of the Canons Ashby estate

Narrative / explanation:

Historic England states that Canons Ashby House was first constructed by John Dryden, who acquired the former monastic estate on the death of Sir John Cope in 1558. The Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record gives a more qualified account: the Dryden family appear to have held a considerable part of the manor from Cope during the following thirty years, with a lease modified in 1573, while Cope apparently retained the priory site; it further states that most of the manor was acquired by the Drydens in 1665.

This entry therefore records the Dryden succession of the Canons Ashby predecessor estate, while preserving the uncertainty over the precise legal descent of the separate Adstone component.

Source citation:

Historic England, Canons Ashby scheduled monument entry 1015534, lines describing John Dryden's acquisition in 1558; Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, 600/3 Canons Ashby Priory, MNN11470.

Source URL:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1015534>

Other parties:

John Dryden, Dryden family

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-john-cope-24958

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=john-dryden-24959

Person dates:

16th century; exact dates not established here

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

1714 - 1916

Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, charitable corporation, lord of the manor of Adstone

Transfer:

Purchased the Stowe estate, which included Adstone as a separate estate unit

Previous holder:

Earlier estate ownership is not fully documented in the reviewed sources; the Dryden succession is secure for the Canons Ashby predecessor estate but not for every Adstone parcel

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Stowe and Adstone estate

Narrative / explanation:

The Stowe Nine Churches historical account states that the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy bought the Stowe estate in 1714 and that the estate included farms and cottages in Adstone as a separate unit. Later directory evidence expressly describes the Corporation as lords of the manor of Adstone. The 1714 purchase therefore provides a good estate-level succession, while the exact conveyance by which the distinct manorial title or all manorial rights passed to the Corporation has not been located.

Source citation:

Stowe Nine Churches, Friends from the Past, account of the Stowe estate and Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy; Kelly's Directory of Northamptonshire, Adstone entry, early 20th century.

Source URL:

<https://www.stoweninechurches.org.uk/history/Friends%20from%20the%20past/index.html>

Other parties:

Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=corporation-of-the-sons-of-the-clergy-24960

Person dates:

incorporated by charter 1 July 1678; Adstone estate acquired 1714

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6

2 June 1916

Unknown purchaser or purchasers

Transfer:

The combined Stowe and Adstone estates were offered for sale; the purchaser of the Adstone manor component has not been securely identified

Previous holder:

Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy

Holding arrangement:

other

Shared holding:

Stowe and Adstone estates

Narrative / explanation:

Historic England catalogues the particulars of sale for the Stowe and Adstone estates dated 2 June 1916 and lists Adstone farms, houses, and Manor Farm among the properties. The public catalogue record establishes the sale event but does not identify the successful purchaser or demonstrate whether the manorial rights were conveyed with a particular lot. No later holder is entered.

Source citation:

Historic England Archive, Estate Sales Particulars collection, SC00802, Particulars of Sale of the Stowe and Adstone Estates, dated 2 June 1916.

Source URL:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/volume/SC00802>

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=corporation-of-the-sons-of-the-clergy-24960

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=unknown-purchaser-or-purchasers-24961

Person dates:

not established

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.