

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

AFTON MANOR

Location:

Freshwater, Isle of Wight

Recorded historical holders:

6

Export date:

15 October 2026, 12:03 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=afton-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. Earl Tostig, Earl of Northumbria | before 1066 - 1066

Transfer: Held before the Norman Conquest; the precise commencement of Tostig's tenure is unknown.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. King William I, King of England, 1066-1087, Duke of Normandy, King of England (1066-1087) | 1066 - 1086

Transfer: Afton passed into royal possession after the Norman Conquest; the exact legal mechanism and date are not stated in the source.

Holding: Royal demesne

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. Richard de Afton, Holder of a life interest in the manor of Afton, Freshwater | 24 June 1302 - for life; exact end date unknown

Transfer: John de Droxford granted Richard de Afton the manor for Richard's life by a plea of covenant enrolled at York one week from Holy Trinity, 30 Edward I, dated 24 June 1302. The manor was to revert to John de Droxford and his heirs after Richard's death.

Holding: Other / Life interest

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. David Urry, Gentleman of Afton, Freshwater | 1591 - unknown; later Urry family tenure continued until 1779

Transfer: Purchased Afton in 1591. The seller and the precise conveyance instrument are not identified in the public source consulted.

Holding: Urry family of Afton

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. The daughters of David Urry of Afton, including the marital interests of Sir John Oglander and Charles Holmes, Gentleman and landholder of Afton, Freshwater | 1779 - unknown

Transfer: On the death of David Urry of Afton in 1779, he died without sons and left everything to his daughters, who were married to Sir John Oglander and Charles Holmes. The exact allocation of Afton Manor between the daughters and their husbands is not stated.

Holding: Share / Unspecified shares or interests among the daughters; exact division unknown / Urry daughters and their marital households

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. Benjamin Cotton, Esquire, lord of the manor of Afton, principal landowner at Freshwater | by 1878 - unknown

Transfer: By 1878 he was recorded as lord of the manor of Afton. The preceding conveyance and date of acquisition are not established by the source consulted.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

before 1066 - 1066

Earl Tostig, Earl of Northumbria

Transfer:

Held before the Norman Conquest; the precise commencement of Tostig's tenure is unknown.

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

Afton, called Affetune, was held by Earl Tostig before the Conquest. This is an overlordship or manorial holding statement derived from the Domesday and archaeological record; no more precise conveyance is supplied.

Source citation:

Historic England Research Record for Afton, Hob Uid 459467, citing M. Beresford, Lost Villages of England (1954), p. 355, and Victoria County History, Hampshire, volume 5 (1912), p. 242.

Source URL:

https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?resourceID=19191&uid=4a04190c-9f1d-4ddb-8a5c-55a4061fca46

Other parties:

Earl Tostig

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=tostig-earl-of-northumbria-25071

Person dates:

died 1066

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

1066 - 1086

King William I, King of England, 1066-1087, Duke of Normandy, King of England (1066-1087)

Transfer:

Afton passed into royal possession after the Norman Conquest; the exact legal mechanism and date are not stated in the source.

Previous holder:

Earl Tostig

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Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Royal demesne

Narrative / explanation:

The Afton estate was held by the King in 1086. This records the Crown's lordship in the Domesday period and should not be read as proof of a specific dated conveyance from Earl Tostig.

Source citation:

Historic England Research Record for Afton, Hob Uid 459467, citing Victoria County History, Hampshire, volume 5 (1912), p. 242; corroborated by the Domesday entry for Afton.

Source URL:

https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?resourceID=19191&uid=4a04190c-9f1d-4ddb-8a5c-55a4061fca46

Other parties:

The Crown

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=tostig-earl-of-northumbria-25071

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-i-of-england-14671

Person dates:

c.1028-1087

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3**24 June 1302 - for life; exact end date unknown****Richard de Afton, Holder of a life interest in the manor of Afton, Freshwater****Transfer:**

John de Droxford granted Richard de Afton the manor for Richard's life by a plea of covenant enrolled at York one week from Holy Trinity, 30 Edward I, dated 24 June 1302. The manor was to revert to John de Droxford and his heirs after Richard's death.

Previous holder:

John de Droxford

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Life interest

Narrative / explanation:

This is a documented life grant, not an unrestricted hereditary conveyance. The fine states that John de Droxford had the right to the manor and granted it to Richard de Afton for Richard's lifetime, subject to reversion to John and his heirs. The place-name identification is Afton in Freshwater.

Source citation:

Feet of Fines, CP 25/1/205/15, number 25, abstracted from the record dated one week from Holy Trinity,

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30 Edward I, 24 June 1302; persons and place identified as Richard de Afton, John de Droxford and Afton in Freshwater.

Source URL:

https://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP_25_1_205_15.shtml

Other parties:

Richard de Afton

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=richard-de-afton-25072

Person dates:

flourished 1302

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1591 - unknown; later Urry family tenure continued until 1779

David Urry, Gentleman of Afton, Freshwater

Transfer:

Purchased Afton in 1591. The seller and the precise conveyance instrument are not identified in the public source consulted.

Previous holder:

Unknown

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Urry family of Afton

Narrative / explanation:

A local-authority conservation appraisal states that the manor came into the Urry family in 1591 when purchased by David Urry. The source does not identify the vendor or provide a complete intermediate descent before the later David Urry of Afton who died in 1779.

Source citation:

Isle of Wight Council, Church Place Conservation Area Character Appraisal, section 16.5, stating that Afton Manor came into the Urry family in 1591 when purchased by David Urry.

Source URL:

https://www.iow.gov.uk/media/248/1322-Church-Place-Conservation-Area-Character-Appraisal/pdf/1322-Church_Place_Conservation_Area_Character_Appraisal.pdf

Other parties:

David Urry

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=david-urry-of-afton-25073

Person dates:

flourished 1591; exact dates unknown

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5**1779 - unknown**

The daughters of David Urry of Afton, including the marital interests of Sir John Oglander and Charles Holmes, Gentleman and landholder of Afton, Freshwater

Transfer:

On the death of David Urry of Afton in 1779, he died without sons and left everything to his daughters, who were married to Sir John Oglander and Charles Holmes. The exact allocation of Afton Manor between the daughters and their husbands is not stated.

Previous holder:

David Urry of Afton

Holding arrangement:

share

Share / interest:

Unspecified shares or interests among the daughters; exact division unknown

Shared holding:

Urry daughters and their marital households

Narrative / explanation:

The source explicitly links the 1779 succession to David Urry's daughters and identifies their husbands, but it does not specify whether the manor was held jointly, in separate shares, or through settlements. The entry therefore preserves the uncertainty and does not treat either husband as an independently proven sole owner.

Source citation:

Isle of Wight Council, Church Place Conservation Area Character Appraisal, section 16.5.

Source URL:

https://www.iow.gov.uk/media/248/1322-Church-Place-Conservation-Area-Character-Appraisal/pdf/1322-Church_Place_Conservation_Area_Character_Appraisal.pdf

Other parties:

Daughter of David Urry married to Sir John Oglander, Daughter of David Urry married to Charles Holmes

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=david-urry-of-afton-25074

Person dates:

died 1779

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6**by 1878 - unknown**

Benjamin Cotton, Esquire, lord of the manor of Afton, principal landowner at Freshwater

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Transfer:

By 1878 he was recorded as lord of the manor of Afton. The preceding conveyance and date of acquisition are not established by the source consulted.

Previous holder:

Unknown

Holding arrangement:

sole

Narrative / explanation:

A contemporary directory for Freshwater lists Benjamin Cotton as lord of the manor of Afton and as a principal landowner. This provides direct evidence of his manorial status by 1878, but the source does not document how or when the manor passed to him. Other contemporary material identifies him as resident at Afton House, also called Afton Manor, and as a prominent local landowner.

Source citation:

Post Office Directory and Gazetteer entry for Freshwater, 1878, listing the manors and their lords: Afton, Benjamin Cotton, Esq.; corroborated by the directory's description of Benjamin Cotton at Afton House.

Source URL:

<https://www.bartiesworld.co.uk/directory-db/diroutput-town.php?loc=1878Freshwater&p=2>

Other parties:

Benjamin Cotton

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=benjamin-cotton-25075

Person dates:

flourished mid-nineteenth century; exact birth and death dates not established here

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.