

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

AKENHAM MANOR

Location:

Akenham, Suffolk

Recorded historical holders:

11

Export date:

16 October 2026, 18:07 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=akenham-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. Roger de Rames, also rendered Roger de Rheims or Roger of Rames, Norman landholder recorded in Domesday Book | 1086 - after 1086

Transfer: Domesday tenure; predecessor holdings rather than a demonstrably unified later Akenham Manor

Holding: Several separate Akenham holdings; the sources do not establish a single unified manor or a precise share / Domesday Akenham holdings

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Richard de Brewse, Knight or member of the de Brewse landed family, exact style varies by source | by 1296 - late thirteenth or early fourteenth century; exact end date unknown

Transfer: Earlier Brewse family holding; the precise acquisition date is unknown

Holding: Not stated / Brewse family / Co-holders: William Brewse

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. William Brewse, Member of the Brewse landed family | fifteenth century; exact date unknown - before or by the marriage of his daughter Amy; exact date unknown

Transfer: Descent within the Brewse family; the manor was later assigned in dower on the marriage of his daughter Amy

Holding: Not stated / Brewse family / Co-holders: Richard de Brewse

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. Sir Roger Townsend, member of the Townsend family | late fifteenth century; exact date unknown - before 1586

Transfer: Received Akenham Manor in dower on his marriage to Amy Brewse

Holding: Dower interest; the precise legal extent is not stated / Townsend-Brewse marriage settlement

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Roger Townsend, Member of the Townsend family, seller of Akenham Manor in 1586 | before 1586 - 1586

Transfer: Sold Akenham Manor to John Aylmer, Bishop of London

Holding: Not stated / Townsend family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. John Aylmer, Bishop of London, 1577-1594, chaplain and tutor to Lady Jane Grey, tutor to Lady Jane Grey | 1586 - 1594

Transfer: Purchased from Roger Townsend; subsequently settled the estate so that his son Samuel became sole possessor by 1594

Holding: Not stated; later family settlement altered the beneficial and legal holding / Aylmer family /

Co-holders: Samuel Aylmer, Edward Aylmer

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

7. Samuel Aylmer, Suffolk landowner, High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1626 | 1594 - 1635

Transfer: Became sole possessor of Akenham Manor under an indenture octopartite settling his father's Suffolk properties

Holding: Sole possession stated for Akenham and Claydon / Aylmer family / Co-holders: John Aylmer, Bishop of London, Edward Aylmer

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

8. Edward Aylmer, Suffolk landowner, son and successor of Samuel Aylmer | 1635 - by 1650

Transfer: Succeeded Samuel Aylmer to Akenham Manor and later agreed to sell the manor to an agent of Edward Arras; the exact completion date is uncertain

Holding: Not stated / Aylmer family / Co-holders: John Aylmer, Bishop of London, Samuel Aylmer

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

9. Thomas Arras, also rendered Edward Arras or Edward Arris in the contemporary litigation, Physician or medical practitioner in the Akenham litigation, exact style varies by source | by 1650 - before 1817; exact end date unknown

Transfer: Acquired or contracted to acquire Akenham Manor from Edward Aylmer; the completion of the sale is not fully established

Holding: Not stated; contemporary proceedings also describe possession or enjoyment under financial arrangements / Arras or Arris family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

10. John Orford, Recorded owner or lord of Akenham Manor in 1817 | 1817 - after 1817; exact end date unknown

Transfer: Later owner; the intervening conveyance from the Arras or Arris interest is not identified

Holding: Not stated / Orford family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

11. George Frederick Beaumont, Esquire, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, lord of Akenham Manor by 1900 | by 1900 - date unknown; after 1900

Transfer: Later documented lordship; the conveyance from the Orford family or any intervening holder is not identified

Holding: Not stated / Beaumont family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

1086 - after 1086

Roger de Rames, also rendered Roger de Rheims or Roger of Rames, Norman landholder recorded in Domesday Book

Transfer:

Domesday tenure; predecessor holdings rather than a demonstrably unified later Akenham Manor

Previous holder:

Godwin the priest, Sunwin and Thorbern the priest, together with the unnamed holder of one additional Akenham holding

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Several separate Akenham holdings; the sources do not establish a single unified manor or a precise share

Shared holding:

Domesday Akenham holdings

Narrative / explanation:

The Akenham parish manorial summary records four separate pre-Conquest holdings and states that by 1086 they belonged to Roger de Rames, with one holding occupied by Roger's daughter. This is the earliest secure documentary evidence for the later manor's land in Akenham, but it should not be treated as proof that the later consolidated Akenham Manor already existed in its medieval form.

Source citation:

Suffolk Heritage Explorer, Akenham parish history, section 13 Manorial, citing Domesday material.

Source URL:

<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/media/pdfs/akenham.pdf>

Other parties:

Roger de Rames

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=roger-de-rames-roger-de-rheims-or-roger-of-rames-25417

Person dates:

flourished in the late eleventh century; recorded in 1086

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

by 1296 - late thirteenth or early fourteenth century; exact end date unknown

Richard de Brewse, Knight or member of the de Brewse landed family, exact style varies by source

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Transfer:

Earlier Brewse family holding; the precise acquisition date is unknown

Previous holder:

Brewse family, described as the ancient holders of Akenham Manor

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Brewse family

Narrative / explanation:

The Suffolk parish-history summary states that Akenham Manor was anciently held by the Brewse family by 1296 and associates Richard de Brewse with the absorption of Rice or Rous Hall into the main manor. The wording does not establish the exact date or legal instrument of Richard's acquisition, and the relationship between the main manor and Rice Hall was historically confused.

Source citation:

Suffolk Heritage Explorer, Akenham parish history, section 13 Manorial; corroborated by the historical account in the Beaumont Collection catalogue summarising Copinger, The Manors of Suffolk, volume II, page 227.

Source URL:

<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/media/pdfs/akenham.pdf>

Other parties:

Richard de Brewse

Co-holders:

William Brewse

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=richard-de-browse-25418

Person dates:

flourished in the late thirteenth century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3

fifteenth century; exact date unknown - before or by the marriage of his daughter Amy; exact date unknown

William Brewse, Member of the Brewse landed family

Transfer:

Descent within the Brewse family; the manor was later assigned in dower on the marriage of his daughter Amy

Previous holder:

Earlier Brewse holders, including the line associated with Sir Thomas Brewse

Holding arrangement:

sole

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Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Browse family

Narrative / explanation:

The manor is specifically mentioned in the inquisition post mortem of Sir Thomas Browse in 1482. A later account states that it passed in dower on the marriage of Amy, daughter of William Browse, to Sir Roger Townsend. The evidence supports William Browse's position in the relevant Browse descent, but does not provide an exact date for his tenure or the dower settlement.

Source citation:

Historical account of Akenham Manor in the Beaumont Collection catalogue, summarising Copinger, The Manors of Suffolk, volume II, page 227; the same account notes the 1482 inquisition post mortem of Sir Thomas Browse.

Source URL:

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/cfbf0ed-882c-4d84-b3f4-8d81a3f29bba/downloads/Auction%20Catalogue%20-%20Beaumont%20Collection%20-%20Nov%20.pdf?ver=1754342542619>

Other parties:

William Browse

Co-holders:

Richard de Browse

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-browse-25419

Person dates:

flourished in the fifteenth century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

late fifteenth century; exact date unknown - before 1586

Sir Roger Townsend, member of the Townsend family

Transfer:

Received Akenham Manor in dower on his marriage to Amy Browse

Previous holder:

Amy Browse, daughter of William Browse; the dower arrangement derived from the Browse holding

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Dower interest; the precise legal extent is not stated

Shared holding:

Townsend-Browse marriage settlement

Narrative / explanation:

The historical account states that Akenham Manor passed in dower on the marriage of Amy Browse, daughter of William Browse, to Sir Roger Townsend. This is evidence of a manor connection, but the

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source does not give the marriage date or specify whether the dower interest represented the whole manor or a defined legal share.

Source citation:

Historical account of Akenham Manor in the Beaumont Collection catalogue, summarising Copinger, The Manors of Suffolk, volume II, page 227.

Source URL:

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/cfbf0ed-882c-4d84-b3f4-8d81a3f29bba/downloads/Auction%20Catalogue%20-%20Beaumont%20Collection%20-%20Nov%20.pdf?ver=1754342542619>

Other parties:

Sir Roger Townsend, Amy Brewse

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-roger-townsend-25420

Person dates:

flourished in the late fifteenth century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

before 1586 - 1586

Roger Townsend, Member of the Townsend family, seller of Akenham Manor in 1586

Transfer:

Sold Akenham Manor to John Aylmer, Bishop of London

Previous holder:

Townsend family, descended from Sir Roger Townsend

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Townsend family

Narrative / explanation:

A descendant of Sir Roger Townsend, identified as Roger Townsend, sold Akenham Manor in 1586 to John Aylmer, Bishop of London. The source does not establish the intervening descent from Sir Roger Townsend to this Roger Townsend, nor does it give the exact date or instrument of sale.

Source citation:

Historical account of Akenham Manor in the Beaumont Collection catalogue, summarising Copinger, The Manors of Suffolk, volume II, page 227; corroborated by the Suffolk Heritage Explorer parish history.

Source URL:

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/cfbf0ed-882c-4d84-b3f4-8d81a3f29bba/downloads/Auction%20Catalogue%20-%20Beaumont%20Collection%20-%20Nov%20.pdf?ver=1754342542619>

Other parties:

Roger Townsend

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=roger-townsend-25421

Person dates:

flourished in the sixteenth century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6

1586 - 1594

John Aylmer, Bishop of London, 1577-1594, chaplain and tutor to Lady Jane Grey, tutor to Lady Jane Grey

Transfer:

Purchased from Roger Townsend; subsequently settled the estate so that his son Samuel became sole possessor by 1594

Previous holder:

Roger Townsend

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated; later family settlement altered the beneficial and legal holding

Shared holding:

Aylmer family

Narrative / explanation:

The Akenham Manor history states that Roger Townsend sold the manor in 1586 to John Aylmer, Bishop of London. A contemporary legal-history account records that John Aylmer and his son Samuel acquired the adjoining manors of Claydon and Akenham in the 1580s and that an indenture octopartite subsequently made Samuel sole possessor of Akenham and Claydon by 1594.

Source citation:

Historical account of Akenham Manor in the Beaumont Collection catalogue; W. P. Hills, Claydon and Mockbeggars Hall, Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, volume XXIII, 1937, pages 8-10.

Source URL:

https://suffolkinstitute.pdfsrv.co.uk/customers/Suffolk%20Institute/2014/01/10/Volume%20XXIII%20Part%201%20%281937%29_Claydon%20and%20Mockbeggars%20Hall%20W%20P%20Hills_6%20to%2017.pdf

Other parties:

John Aylmer

Co-holders:

Samuel Aylmer, Edward Aylmer

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=roger-townsend-25421

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=john-aylmer-25422

Person dates:

1521-1594

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 7

1594 - 1635

Samuel Aylmer, Suffolk landowner, High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1626

Transfer:

Became sole possessor of Akenham Manor under an indenture octopartite settling his father's Suffolk properties

Previous holder:

John Aylmer, Bishop of London

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Sole possession stated for Akenham and Claydon

Shared holding:

Aylmer family

Narrative / explanation:

A legal-history account states that John Aylmer had settled most of his properties by an indenture octopartite under which Samuel Aylmer became sole possessor of Claydon and Akenham. Samuel lived at Akenham Hall and died in 1635. The evidence supports a formal family settlement rather than an inferred succession based solely on kinship.

Source citation:

W. P. Hills, Claydon and Mockbeggars Hall, Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, volume XXIII, 1937, pages 8-10; Suffolk Heritage Explorer records Samuel Aylmer as resident at Akenham Hall and identifies him in the manorial history.

Source URL:

https://suffolkinstitute.pdfsrv.co.uk/customers/Suffolk%20Institute/2014/01/10/Volume%20XXIII%20Part%201%20%281937%29_Claydon%20and%20Mockbeggars%20Hall%20W%20P%20Hills_6%20to%2017.pdf

Other parties:

Samuel Aylmer

Co-holders:

John Aylmer, Bishop of London, Edward Aylmer

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=john-aylmer-25422

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=samuel-aylmer-25423

Person dates:

1546-1635

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 8**1635 - by 1650****Edward Aylmer, Suffolk landowner, son and successor of Samuel Aylmer****Transfer:**

Succeeded Samuel Aylmer to Akenham Manor and later agreed to sell the manor to an agent of Edward Arras; the exact completion date is uncertain

Previous holder:

Samuel Aylmer

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Aylmer family

Narrative / explanation:

The legal-history account states that Edward Aylmer succeeded to both Akenham and Claydon and to his father's Suffolk properties after Samuel Aylmer's death in 1635. Chancery proceedings recited an agreement dated 12 December 1650 for the sale of Akenham Manor by Edward Aylmer to an agent of Edward Arras for £4,779 10 shillings. The source also records financial arrangements under which Arras was to enjoy the manor, so the precise date of completed legal transfer should not be assumed.

Source citation:

W. P. Hills, Claydon and Mockbeggars Hall, Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, volume XXIII, 1937, pages 8-10, discussing Aylmer v. Arris and Aylmer v. Eldred.

Source URL:

https://suffolkinstitute.pdfsvr.co.uk/customers/Suffolk%20Institute/2014/01/10/Volume%20XXIII%20Part%201%20%281937%29_Claydon%20and%20Mockbeggars%20Hall%20W%20P%20Hills_6%20to%2017.pdf

Other parties:

Edward Aylmer

Co-holders:

John Aylmer, Bishop of London, Samuel Aylmer

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=samuel-aylmer-25423

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-aylmer-25424

Person dates:

died 1656

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 9

by 1650 - before 1817; exact end date unknown

Thomas Arras, also rendered Edward Arras or Edward Arris in the contemporary litigation, Physician or medical practitioner in the Akenham litigation, exact style varies by source

Transfer:

Acquired or contracted to acquire Akenham Manor from Edward Aylmer; the completion of the sale is not fully established

Previous holder:

Edward Aylmer

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated; contemporary proceedings also describe possession or enjoyment under financial arrangements

Shared holding:

Arras or Arris family

Narrative / explanation:

The Suffolk parish-history summary gives Thomas Arras as owner in 1646, while the contemporary legal-history study records an agreement dated 12 December 1650 for Edward Aylmer to sell Akenham Manor to an agent of Edward Arras and describes Arras as enjoying the manor under related bonds. Because the 1646 date conflicts with the more specific 1650 Chancery evidence, this entry uses the cautious date 'by 1650' and records the legal uncertainty rather than treating 1646 as a proven completed conveyance.

Source citation:

W. P. Hills, Claydon and Mockbeggars Hall, Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, volume XXIII, 1937, pages 8-10; Suffolk Heritage Explorer, Akenham parish history.

Source URL:

https://suffolk.institute.pdfsrv.co.uk/customers/Suffolk%20Institute/2014/01/10/Volume%20XXIII%20Part%201%20%281937%29_Claydon%20and%20Mockbeggars%20Hall%20W%20P%20Hills_6%20to%2017.pdf

Other parties:

Thomas Arras

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edward-aylmer-25424

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-arras-also-rendered-edward-arras-or-edward-arris-25425

Person dates:

flourished in the mid-seventeenth century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 10**1817 - after 1817; exact end date unknown****John Orford, Recorded owner or lord of Akenham Manor in 1817****Transfer:**

Later owner; the intervening conveyance from the Arras or Arris interest is not identified

Previous holder:

Thomas Arras or his successors

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Orford family

Narrative / explanation:

The Suffolk parish-history summary records John Orford as owner of Akenham Manor in 1817, after noting an estate of approximately 2,000 acres and copyhold estates of approximately 200 acres in 1815. No source consulted establishes the conveyance by which the manor passed from Thomas Arras or his successors to John Orford, so the intervening gap is left explicit.

Source citation:

Suffolk Heritage Explorer, Akenham parish history, section 13 Manorial.

Source URL:

<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/media/pdfs/akenham.pdf>

Other parties:

John Orford

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=john-orford-25426

Person dates:

flourished in the early nineteenth century; exact dates not established here

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 11**by 1900 - date unknown; after 1900****George Frederick Beaumont, Esquire, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries,
lord of Akenham Manor by 1900****Transfer:**

Later documented lordship; the conveyance from the Orford family or any intervening holder is not identified

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Previous holder:

Robert Baker Orford or another undocumented predecessor

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Not stated

Shared holding:

Beaumont family

Narrative / explanation:

Kelly's Directory of Suffolk for 1900 described George Frederick Beaumont of The Lawn, Coggeshall, Essex, as lord of the manor of Akenham. The source establishes his manor connection but does not identify the conveyance by which the lordship reached him. The entry is therefore recorded as a later documented holder, not as a presumed successor by inheritance or family connection.

Source citation:

Kelly's Directory of Suffolk, 1900, parish description of Akenham, reproduced by Forebears.

Source URL:

<https://forebears.io/england/suffolk/akenham>

Other parties:

George Frederick Beaumont

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=george-frederick-beaumont-25427

Person dates:

nineteenth and early twentieth century; exact dates not established in the consulted source

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.