

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ALCISTON MANOR

Location:

Alciston, Sussex

Recorded historical holders:

6

Export date:

15 October 2026, 16:52 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=alciston-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. **Æthelnoth Cild, Pre-Conquest English landholder, Domesday holder of Alciston | 1066 - shortly after 1066**

Transfer: Domesday evidence records Æthelnoth Cild as holder of the 50-hide manor of Alciston in 1066. The subsequent transfer is described in later historical sources as a post-Conquest grant by William the Conqueror, but no precise date for the change of possession is established here.

Holding: The whole manor as recorded in the 1066 Domesday assessment, subject to the limitations of interpreting pre-Conquest tenure from Domesday evidence.

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. **Battle Abbey, Benedictine abbey, lord of Alciston Manor | shortly after the Norman Conquest - 1538**

Transfer: William the Conqueror granted Alciston to Battle Abbey after the Conquest. The exact date and surviving grant instrument were not established in the accessible sources consulted.

Holding: The manor of Alciston, with associated outlying lands; later sources note that portions lay in other rapes and that the Alfriston portion was excluded from the later Gage grant. / Battle Abbey

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. **The Crown, Crown owner or grantee after the dissolution of Battle Abbey | 1538 - 1539**

Transfer: On the dissolution of Battle Abbey in 1538, Alciston passed into Crown hands before being granted to Sir John Gage and Philippa his wife. The accessible sources do not establish the precise date on which Crown title was perfected or the exact form of the grant.

Holding: Other / The dissolved abbey's manor of Alciston, subject to the later exclusion of the portion situated in Alfriston. / Crown custody after Dissolution

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. **Sir John Gage and Philippa Gage, née Guldeford, Knight of the Garter, Tudor courtier, grantee and lord of Alciston Manor, Knight, Vice-Chamberlain of the Household, Comptroller of the Household, Constable of the Tower of London | 1539 - after 1556**

Transfer: Granted by the Crown after the dissolution of Battle Abbey, in consideration of Sir John Gage's service. The grant included Alciston Manor but excluded the part which lay in Alfriston.

Holding: Joint / Joint grant to Sir John Gage and Philippa his wife; the accessible summary does not specify separate fractional shares. / Gage family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. **Lord Gage, lord of Alciston Manor in 1867 | 1867 - after 1867**

Transfer: The 1867 Kelly's directory identifies Lord Gage as principal landowner and lord of Alciston Manor. The intervening legal conveyances within the Gage family were not established from the accessible public sources and are therefore not inferred.

Holding: Other / The directory identifies Lord Gage as lord of the manor but does not specify the legal tenure, fractional share or instrument of succession. / Gage family / Gage Estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. **Gage Estate, Family estate associated with Alciston Manor and Firle | nineteenth century, before 1867 - at least 1925**

Transfer: The East Sussex archival summary describes the manor as remaining in the Gage family and records manor court books ending in 1925. It does not provide a discrete conveyance into or out of the Gage Estate, so this entry records continued family ownership rather than an inferred transfer.

Holding: Other / Continuing family estate ownership; the accessible sources do not specify whether the legal manor was held by an individual, trustees, settlement or corporate estate vehicle. / Gage Estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

1066 - shortly after 1066

Æthelnoth Cild, Pre-Conquest English landholder, Domesday holder of Alciston

Transfer:

Domesday evidence records Æthelnoth Cild as holder of the 50-hide manor of Alciston in 1066. The subsequent transfer is described in later historical sources as a post-Conquest grant by William the Conqueror, but no precise date for the change of possession is established here.

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

The whole manor as recorded in the 1066 Domesday assessment, subject to the limitations of interpreting pre-Conquest tenure from Domesday evidence.

Narrative / explanation:

This is the earliest securely identified holder of the exact Alciston estate. PASE identifies Æthelnoth Cild as the explicit 1066 holder of Alciston in Sussex. The source does not establish the circumstances by which he ceased to hold it.

Source citation:

Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England, entry for Æthelnoth Cild, discussion of the Domesday holding of Alciston in Sussex.

Source URL:

<https://pase.ac.uk/domesday/person/40111/>

Other parties:

Æthelnoth Cild

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=aethelnoth-cild-27260

Person dates:

Active as holder of Alciston in 1066

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

shortly after the Norman Conquest - 1538

Battle Abbey, Benedictine abbey, lord of Alciston Manor

Transfer:

William the Conqueror granted Alciston to Battle Abbey after the Conquest. The exact date and surviving grant instrument were not established in the accessible sources consulted.

ALCISTON MANOR

Previous holder:

Æthelnoth Cild

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

The manor of Alciston, with associated outlying lands; later sources note that portions lay in other rapes and that the Alfriston portion was excluded from the later Gage grant.

Shared holding:

Battle Abbey

Narrative / explanation:

Battle Abbey held Alciston from the post-Conquest period until the Dissolution. The manor was one of the abbey's important estates and was operated as a home farm or grange. Medieval records include account rolls, court rolls, rentals and title deeds. VCH evidence also records that the manor was originally assessed at 50 hides and that outlying portions were detached into the rapes of Lewes and Hastings.

Source citation:

Judith A. Brent, Alciston Manor in the Later Middle Ages, Sussex Archaeological Collections, volume 106, 1968, pages 89-102; Victoria County History, Sussex, volume 1, discussion of Battle Abbey and Alciston.

Source URL:

https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-285-1/dissemination/pdf/Vol_106_1968/SAC106_Brent.pdf

Other parties:

The Benedictine Abbey of St Martin at Battle, The abbot and convent of Battle

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=aethelnoth-cild-27260

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=battle-abbey-27261

Person dates:

Founded after the Norman Conquest; held Alciston until 1538

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3**1538 - 1539****The Crown, Crown owner or grantee after the dissolution of Battle Abbey****Transfer:**

On the dissolution of Battle Abbey in 1538, Alciston passed into Crown hands before being granted to Sir John Gage and Philippa his wife. The accessible sources do not establish the precise date on which Crown title was perfected or the exact form of the grant.

Previous holder:

Battle Abbey

ALCISTON MANOR

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

The dissolved abbey's manor of Alciston, subject to the later exclusion of the portion situated in Alfriston.

Shared holding:

Crown custody after Dissolution

Narrative / explanation:

The Crown entry is included because the authoritative local-history source explicitly states that the Crown granted the manor after Battle Abbey was dissolved. This represents an intervening Crown ownership or custody phase, not a presumed private conveyance.

Source citation:

The Keep, Alciston parish and settlement history, stating that when Battle Abbey was dissolved the Crown granted Alciston to Sir John Gage and Philippa his wife.

Source URL:

<https://www.thekeep.info/places/eastsussex/parishesandsettlements/alciston/>

Other parties:

The Crown

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=battle-abbey-27261

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-crown-27262

Person dates:

1538-1539 in relation to the Dissolution transfer

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1539 - after 1556

Sir John Gage and Philippa Gage, née Guldeford, Knight of the Garter, Tudor courtier, grantee and lord of Alciston Manor, Knight, Vice-Chamberlain of the Household, Comptroller of the Household, Constable of the Tower of London

Transfer:

Granted by the Crown after the dissolution of Battle Abbey, in consideration of Sir John Gage's service. The grant included Alciston Manor but excluded the part which lay in Alfriston.

Previous holder:

The Crown

Holding arrangement:

joint

Share / interest:

Joint grant to Sir John Gage and Philippa his wife; the accessible summary does not specify separate fractional shares.

Shared holding:

Gage family

Narrative / explanation:

This is the first securely documented private ownership of the post-Dissolution manor. The East Sussex archival summary explicitly identifies the grantees as Sir John Gage of Firle and his wife Philippa and quotes the consideration as good, true and faithful service. Sir John died in 1556, but no source consulted establishes the date or legal mechanism by which the manor passed from the joint grantees to later members of the Gage family; therefore the end date is left open rather than being equated with Sir John's death.

Source citation:

The Keep, Alciston parish and settlement history; Firle Place, The Collection, identifying Alciston as a reward granted to Sir John Gage KG by Henry VIII at the Dissolution.

Source URL:

<https://www.thekeep.info/places/eastsussex/parishesandsettlements/alciston/>

Other parties:

Sir John Gage, Philippa Gage, née Guldeford

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-crown-27262

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-john-gage-27263

Person dates:

1479-1556

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

1867 - after 1867

Lord Gage, lord of Alciston Manor in 1867

Transfer:

The 1867 Kelly's directory identifies Lord Gage as principal landowner and lord of Alciston Manor. The intervening legal conveyances within the Gage family were not established from the accessible public sources and are therefore not inferred.

Previous holder:

Gage family, through an undocumented succession

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

The directory identifies Lord Gage as lord of the manor but does not specify the legal tenure, fractional share or instrument of succession.

Shared holding:

Gage family / Gage Estate

Narrative / explanation:

This is a later dated confirmation of manorial lordship rather than a fully documented conveyance. It securely links a Gage title-holder to Alciston Manor in 1867, but the source does not identify which Lord Gage is meant or explain the exact succession from Sir John and Philippa. East Sussex archival

material separately records that the Gage Estate continued to own most of the land in the parish and that Alciston manorial records continue into the twentieth century.

Source citation:

Kelly's Post Office Directory for Sussex, 1867, entry for Alciston, identifying Lord Gage as principal landowner and lord of the manor.

Source URL:

<https://www.dands.uk/ssx1867/alciston1867/>

Other parties:

Lord Gage

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=lord-gage-27264

Person dates:

Identified as lord of Alciston Manor in 1867; individual identity not specified by the directory

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6

nineteenth century, before 1867 - at least 1925

Gage Estate, Family estate associated with Alciston Manor and Firle

Transfer:

The East Sussex archival summary describes the manor as remaining in the Gage family and records manor court books ending in 1925. It does not provide a discrete conveyance into or out of the Gage Estate, so this entry records continued family ownership rather than an inferred transfer.

Previous holder:

Earlier Gage family holders

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Continuing family estate ownership; the accessible sources do not specify whether the legal manor was held by an individual, trustees, settlement or corporate estate vehicle.

Shared holding:

Gage Estate

Narrative / explanation:

The Keep states that Alciston Manor and most of the parish had only two owners since 1066, Battle Abbey and the Gage family, and that the archive contains the last manor court book completed in 1925. It also states that most land in the parish was still owned by the Gage Estate. This supports continuity of the Gage ownership phase but not a precise individual-by-individual conveyance.

Source citation:

The Keep, Alciston parish and settlement history, including the statement that the manor records end with the last manor court book completed in 1925 and that most parish land remained owned by the Gage Estate.

Source URL:

<https://www.thekeep.info/places/eastsussex/parishesandsettlements/alciston/>

Other parties:

Gage family, Gage Estate

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=gage-estate-27265

Person dates:

Documented as continuing into the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; manor court book completed in 1925

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.