

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ALDERTON WITH MEMBERS MANOR

Location:

Alderton, Northamptonshire

Recorded historical holders:

18

Export date:

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Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=alderton-with-members-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. Edmar and Edwin, Saxon proprietors or lords of Alderton | before 1066 - 1066

Transfer: Pre-Conquest lordship; no specific transfer recorded in the sources consulted.

Holding: Joint / Jointly described as proprietors or lords of Alderton before the Norman Conquest; individual shares are unknown. / Pre-Conquest proprietors

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Robert, Count of Mortain, tenant-in-chief under William the Conqueror, half-brother of William the Conqueror, major Norman landholder, Domesday landholder, Earl of Cornwall, Norman magnate and half-brother of William the Conqueror, Norman magnate | 1086 - after 1086

Transfer: Norman post-Conquest reallocation; Domesday Book records the Alderton holdings under Robert, Count of Mortain.

Holding: Held the two Domesday holdings at Alderton as tenant-in-chief and lord in 1086. / Domesday tenant-in-chief

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. William de Warenne, earl of Surrey, 5th Earl of Surrey, 1st Earl of Surrey, Norman baron and Domesday landholder | 1204 - 13th century

Transfer: The manor is stated in local estate history to have been assigned to William de Warenne in 1204; the exact instrument and subsequent date of disposition were not located.

Holding: Reported as the principal holder or overlord; the extent of any concurrent under-tenancy is unclear. / Warenne interest

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. William Briwerre or Brewer, Feudal tenant of land of the Warenne fee | late 12th century - uncertain

Transfer: Feudal confirmation by William de Warenne of land of his fee in Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton.

Holding: Other / A fee or subinfeudated interest is evidenced; no evidence establishes that William Briwerre held the entire manor as immediate lord. / Subinfeudated Warenne fee

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Thomas le Sauvage, Lord or holder of Alderton castle and lands | before 1270 - 13th century, before acquisition by Pagan de Chaworth

Transfer: Sold or conveyed the castle and lands of Alderton to Pagan de Chaworth during the reign of Edward I.

Holding: Described as holding the castle and lands of Alderton; the precise extent of the manor and any superior lordship are not stated. / Sauvage interest

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. Pagan de Chaworth, Lord of Alderton, Chaworth nobleman | mid-13th century, no later than 1270 - late 13th century

Transfer: Acquired the castle and manor or lands of Alderton from Thomas le Sauvage during the reign of Edward I.

Holding: Described as lord of the manor; exact feudal relationship to any superior lord is not stated. / Chaworth lordship

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

7. Patrick de Chaworth, Chaworth lord of Alderton, according to the local account | late 13th century - before 1307

Transfer: Succeeded his brother Pagan de Chaworth according to the local historical account.

Holding: Reported successor to the Chaworth lordship; exact legal instrument is not given. / Chaworth succession

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

8. Maud de Chaworth and Henry, Earl of Lancaster, heiress | late 13th century or early 14th century - 1307

Transfer: Maud de Chaworth is reported to have carried the lordship by marriage to Henry, Earl of Lancaster.

Holding: Joint / Maud's hereditary interest and Henry's marital or conjugal interest are reported together; exact shares are unknown. / Chaworth-Lancaster lordship

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

9. William de Combemartin, Knight, lord of Alderton and Stoke Bruerne interests | 1307 - 1318

Transfer: Henry, Earl of Lancaster, granted Alderton with the advowson of the church and manor, together with the advowson of Stoke Bruerne, to William de Combemartin.

Holding: Granted interest in Alderton and its associated advowsons; the superior feudal title is not specified. / Combemartin lordship

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

10. The Crown, Royal owner or custodian, Honour of Grafton annexation | 1539 - 1542

Transfer: Alderton came into Crown hands by 1539; in 1542 it was annexed to the Honour of Grafton. The precise Crown acquisition instrument was not located.

Holding: Royal ownership or custody is reported; the route by which the Crown acquired the manor is not

established. / Crown ownership

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

11. Honour of Grafton, Royal honour and estate | 1542 - later period

Transfer: Alderton was annexed to the Honour of Grafton in 1542.

Holding: Institutional honour holding; later leases created separate tenancy interests. / Grafton honour estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

12. Sir John Williams, Knight, Crown lessee of Alderton | 1548 - before 1567

Transfer: The Crown leased the manor or estate to Sir John Williams in 1548.

Holding: Other / Leasehold or Crown tenancy; not equivalent to fee-simple lordship. / Crown lessee / Co-holders: Robert Stafford

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

13. Robert Stafford, Lessee of Alderton | 1567 - before 1582

Transfer: Robert Stafford held the lease after Sir John Williams; by 1567 the property was reported to be in need of repair.

Holding: Other / Leasehold or Crown tenancy; not superior ownership. / Crown lessee / Co-holders: Sir John Williams

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

14. William Gorges, Esquire or gentleman, lessee of Alderton | late 16th century, before 1582 - after 1582; exact end uncertain

Transfer: Became the next lessee after Robert Stafford and substantially rebuilt or replaced the manor house in 1582.

Holding: Other / Leasehold or estate tenancy under the Crown or Honour of Grafton; not proven to be the superior fee-simple lord. / Gorges leasehold interest

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

15. Thomas Hesilrige and Frances Gorges, later 1st Baronet, heiress of William Gorges of Alderton | late 16th century - Thomas Hesilrige died 1629; Frances's date uncertain

Transfer: Frances Gorges, daughter and heiress of William Gorges, married Thomas Hesilrige; local history states that the manor house passed to the Hesilrige family.

Holding: Joint / Family or leasehold interest associated with the manor house; exact legal shares and whether the superior manor passed are not established. / Hesilrige-Gorges interest

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

16. Sir Arthur Hesilrige, 2nd Baronet, Parliamentarian, lord of Alderton manor in 1655 | 1655 - 1661

Transfer: Recorded as lord of the manor of Alderton in 1655; the precise succession instrument from Thomas Hesilrige or another predecessor was not located.

Holding: Specifically described as lord of the manor in 1655, although the relationship between this lordship and the Crown's superior title is not fully documented. / Hesilrige lordship

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

17. Samuel Rolt, Lessee or tenant of the Alderton manorial demesnes | late 17th century or before 1722 - 1722 or shortly before

Transfer: Held the tenancy of the Alderton manorial demesnes; local estate history identifies him as the then lessee and states that he demolished part of the mansion. The date of the lease commencement

was not located.

Holding: Other / Lessee or tenant of the manorial demesnes, not proven to be lord of the manor. /

Manorial demesne lessee

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

18. Duke of Grafton, reported lord of Alderton manor | shortly after 1722, with earlier Honour of Grafton interest - presently reported; exact modern title chain not researched to completion

Transfer: The Duke of Grafton acquired Manor Farm shortly after Samuel Rolt's death, and local estate history states that the lordship of Alderton remains with the Duke of Grafton. The exact legal conveyance and date of acquisition of the superior manor were not located.

Holding: Reported modern lordship or estate ownership; the distinction between the historic manor, demesne, and later Manor Farm property requires title-deed confirmation. / Grafton estate

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

before 1066 - 1066

Edmar and Edwin, Saxon proprietors or lords of Alderton

Transfer:

Pre-Conquest lordship; no specific transfer recorded in the sources consulted.

Holding arrangement:

joint

Share / interest:

Jointly described as proprietors or lords of Alderton before the Norman Conquest; individual shares are unknown.

Shared holding:

Pre-Conquest proprietors

Narrative / explanation:

A local historical account identifies Edmar and Edwin as Saxon proprietors of Aldritone before the Conquest. This is a place-specific statement about Alderton, but the precise legal nature and division of their interests are not known.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932, lines 12-15 as reproduced by Milton Keynes Heritage Association.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Northampton%20County%20Magazine%20%20Nov1932.html>

Other parties:

Edmar, Edwin

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edmar-and-edwin-27595

Person dates:

Active before 1066

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

1086 - after 1086

Robert, Count of Mortain, tenant-in-chief under William the Conqueror, half-brother of William the Conqueror, major Norman landholder, Domesday landholder, Earl of Cornwall, Norman magnate and half-brother of William the Conqueror, Norman magnate

Transfer:

Norman post-Conquest reallocation; Domesday Book records the Alderton holdings under Robert, Count of

Mortain.

Previous holder:

Edmar and Edwin

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Held the two Domesday holdings at Alderton as tenant-in-chief and lord in 1086.

Shared holding:

Domesday tenant-in-chief

Narrative / explanation:

Domesday evidence records two holdings at Alderton in 1086, both under Robert, Count of Mortain. The Domesday entries do not establish a single undivided manor in the later sense, so this entry records the two documented Alderton holdings without assuming that their later consolidation was immediate.

Source citation:

Domesday Book evidence for Alderton, summarized in the Northamptonshire place and heritage sources; see also the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record summary citing the Domesday and manor history.

Source URL:

<https://her.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Monument/MNN1808>

Other parties:

Robert, Count of Mortain

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=edmar-and-edwin-27595

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=robert-count-of-mortain-27358

Person dates:

c.1031-1090

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3

1204 - 13th century

**William de Warenne, earl of Surrey, 5th Earl of Surrey, 1st Earl of Surrey,
Norman baron and Domesday landholder**

Transfer:

The manor is stated in local estate history to have been assigned to William de Warenne in 1204; the exact instrument and subsequent date of disposition were not located.

Previous holder:

Crown or royal administration

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Reported as the principal holder or overlord; the extent of any concurrent under-tenancy is unclear.

Shared holding:

Warenne interest

Narrative / explanation:

The local historical account states that Alderton remained intermittently in royal hands until it was assigned to William de Warenne in 1204. A separate published charter confirms William de Warenne's fee interest in land at Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton, supporting the feudal connection but not proving that he personally occupied the whole manor as immediate lord.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; corroborating charter of William de Warenne confirming William Briwerre's land of the Warenne fee in Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton, published by the Northamptonshire Record Society.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

William de Warenne

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-de-warenne-27596

Person dates:

Died 1208

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

late 12th century - uncertain

William Briwerre or Brewer, Feudal tenant of land of the Warenne fee

Transfer:

Feudal confirmation by William de Warenne of land of his fee in Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton.

Previous holder:

William de Warenne

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

A fee or subinfeudated interest is evidenced; no evidence establishes that William Briwerre held the entire manor as immediate lord.

Shared holding:

Subinfeudated Warenne fee

Narrative / explanation:

A published charter of William de Warenne confirms to William Briwerre all the land of Warenne's fee in Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton, to hold by knight service. This is relevant to the descent of the Alderton estate but should be treated as a feudal or mesne-tenure interest rather than automatically as sole manorial ownership.

Source citation:

Northamptonshire Record Society, Book of Seals, charter of William de Warenne confirming the Warenne fee in Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger, and Alderton to William Briwerre.

Source URL:

<https://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/pdf/volume-15/vol-15-book-of-seals.pdf>

Other parties:

William Briwerre, William de Warenne

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-de-wareenne-27596

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-briwerre-or-brewer-27597

Person dates:

Active late 12th or early 13th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

before 1270 - 13th century, before acquisition by Pagan de Chaworth

Thomas le Sauvage, Lord or holder of Alderton castle and lands

Transfer:

Sold or conveyed the castle and lands of Alderton to Pagan de Chaworth during the reign of Edward I.

Previous holder:

Earlier intermediate holders, including the Brewer, Maudit, and possibly other interests; exact sequence uncertain

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Described as holding the castle and lands of Alderton; the precise extent of the manor and any superior lordship are not stated.

Shared holding:

Sauvage interest

Narrative / explanation:

The sources state that Thomas le Sauvage sold the castle and manor or lands of Alderton to Pagan de Chaworth during the reign of Edward I. The exact date is not given, and the transaction should not be dated more precisely than the thirteenth century.

Source citation:

Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, Monument MNN1808, citing the medieval manor history; corroborated by the Alderton parish history and the 1932 Northampton County Magazine article.

Source URL:

<https://her.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Monument/MNN1808>

Other parties:

Thomas le Sauvage

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-le-sauvage-27598

Person dates:

Active 13th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6

mid-13th century, no later than 1270 - late 13th century

Pagan de Chaworth, Lord of Alderton, Chaworth nobleman

Transfer:

Acquired the castle and manor or lands of Alderton from Thomas le Sauvage during the reign of Edward I.

Previous holder:

Thomas le Sauvage

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Described as lord of the manor; exact feudal relationship to any superior lord is not stated.

Shared holding:

Chaworth lordship

Narrative / explanation:

Pagan de Chaworth acquired Alderton from Thomas le Sauvage and was lord of the manor by 1278. In 1270 he obtained a licence to enclose his wood and make a park at Stoke, and in 1278 he received a grant of a weekly market and an annual fair at Alderton. These rights provide strong place-specific corroboration of his manorial authority.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932; Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, Monument MNN1808; Archaeological Data Service, Northamptonshire Extensive Urban Survey, Appendix 2, Alderton market grant.

Source URL:

https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/adssdata/arch-451-1/dissemination/pdf/_Overview/EUS_Overview_appendices.pdf

Other parties:

Pagan de Chaworth

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-le-sauvage-27598

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=pagan-de-chaworth-27599

Person dates:

Died late 13th century, date uncertain

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 7**late 13th century - before 1307****Patrick de Chaworth, Chaworth lord of Alderton, according to the local account****Transfer:**

Succeeded his brother Pagan de Chaworth according to the local historical account.

Previous holder:

Pagan de Chaworth

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Reported successor to the Chaworth lordship; exact legal instrument is not given.

Shared holding:

Chaworth succession

Narrative / explanation:

The 1932 local account states that Pagan de Chaworth died without issue and was succeeded by his brother Patrick. Patrick is said to have had no son, after which his daughter Maud carried the lordship by marriage to Henry, Earl of Lancaster. The precise dates and documentary instruments are not supplied by the source.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Northampton%20County%20Magazine%20%20Nov1932.html>

Other parties:

Patrick de Chaworth

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=pagan-de-chaworth-27599

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=patrick-de-chaworth-27600

Person dates:

Active late 13th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 8**late 13th century or early 14th century - 1307****Maud de Chaworth and Henry, Earl of Lancaster, heiress**

Transfer:

Maud de Chaworth is reported to have carried the lordship by marriage to Henry, Earl of Lancaster.

Previous holder:

Patrick de Chaworth

Holding arrangement:

joint

Share / interest:

Maud's hereditary interest and Henry's marital or conjugal interest are reported together; exact shares are unknown.

Shared holding:

Chaworth-Lancaster lordship

Narrative / explanation:

The local account states that Patrick de Chaworth had no son and that his daughter Maud carried the lordship in marriage to Henry, Earl of Lancaster. This entry records the reported manorial connection, but the precise legal mechanism and whether Henry held jointly, by curtesy, or through another form of marital tenure are not established.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Northampton%20County%20Magazine%20%20Nov1932.html>

Other parties:

Maud de Chaworth, Henry, Earl of Lancaster

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=patrick-de-chaworth-27600

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=maud-de-chaworth-and-henry-earl-of-lancaster-27601

Person dates:

Maud de Chaworth died 1322; Henry, Earl of Lancaster died 1345

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 9**1307 - 1318****William de Combemartin, Knight, lord of Alderton and Stoke Bruerne interests****Transfer:**

Henry, Earl of Lancaster, granted Alderton with the advowson of the church and manor, together with the advowson of Stoke Bruerne, to William de Combemartin.

Previous holder:

Henry, Earl of Lancaster

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Granted interest in Alderton and its associated advowsons; the superior feudal title is not specified.

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Shared holding:

Combemartin lordship

Narrative / explanation:

The 1307 grant is the clearest medieval conveyance found for Alderton after the Chaworth-Lancaster phase. William de Combemartin is recorded as holding the property until his death in 1318. The later descent after his death is not filled by inference; although later genealogical material mentions daughters and coheirs, it was not used here as sole evidence of a specific conveyance of this manor.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932; the account also records the surviving effigy of Sir William de Combemartin at Alderton church.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Northampton%20County%20Magazine%20%20Nov1932.html>

Other parties:

William de Combemartin

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-de-combemartin-27602

Person dates:

Died 1318

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 10

1539 - 1542

The Crown, Royal owner or custodian, Honour of Grafton annexation**Transfer:**

Alderton came into Crown hands by 1539; in 1542 it was annexed to the Honour of Grafton. The precise Crown acquisition instrument was not located.

Previous holder:

Medieval holders after William de Combemartin; intervening descent uncertain

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Royal ownership or custody is reported; the route by which the Crown acquired the manor is not established.

Shared holding:

Crown ownership

Narrative / explanation:

The sources identify a substantial documentary gap between the Combemartin period and the Crown's possession. The manor is stated to have been in Crown hands in 1539 and annexed to the Honour of Grafton in 1542. No intervening conveyance is invented.

Source citation:

Dorothy Macmillan, 'Our County Villages No. 46: Alderton', Northampton County Magazine, November 1932; Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, Monument MNN1808.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

The Crown

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-crown-27603

Person dates:

1539-1542 in the reported Alderton sequence

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 11**1542 - later period****Honour of Grafton, Royal honour and estate****Transfer:**

Alderton was annexed to the Honour of Grafton in 1542.

Previous holder:

The Crown

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Institutional honour holding; later leases created separate tenancy interests.

Shared holding:

Grafton honour estate

Narrative / explanation:

Annexation to the Honour of Grafton marks the principal institutional change in the post-medieval history of the manor. The honour or Crown estate remained the superior ownership structure even when the property was leased to named individuals. The sources do not provide a complete list of all later leases or estate settlements.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, Monument MNN1808.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

Honour of Grafton

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=the-crown-27603

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=honour-of-grafton-27604

Person dates:

Annexed Alderton from 1542

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 12**1548 - before 1567****Sir John Williams, Knight, Crown lessee of Alderton****Transfer:**

The Crown leased the manor or estate to Sir John Williams in 1548.

Previous holder:

Honour of Grafton or the Crown

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Leasehold or Crown tenancy; not equivalent to fee-simple lordship.

Shared holding:

Crown lessee

Narrative / explanation:

Grafton Estate history states that after the manor was leased by the Crown to Sir John Williams in 1548, a manor house appears to have been built on the lower site. This is recorded as a lease or tenancy interest, not as a conveyance of the superior manorial ownership.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafton/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

Sir John Williams

Co-holders:

Robert Stafford

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-john-williams-27605

Person dates:

Active 16th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 13**1567 - before 1582****Robert Stafford, Lessee of Alderton**

Transfer:

Robert Stafford held the lease after Sir John Williams; by 1567 the property was reported to be in need of repair.

Previous holder:

Sir John Williams

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Leasehold or Crown tenancy; not superior ownership.

Shared holding:

Crown lessee

Narrative / explanation:

The Grafton Estate history identifies Robert Stafford as the lessee of Alderton by 1567. It reports that the manor house was then in need of repair. The source does not give the exact date or instrument of Stafford's succession from Sir John Williams.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafon/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

Robert Stafford

Co-holders:

Sir John Williams

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-john-williams-27605

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=robert-stafford-27606

Person dates:

Active 16th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 14

late 16th century, before 1582 - after 1582; exact end uncertain

William Gorges, Esquire or gentleman, lessee of Alderton

Transfer:

Became the next lessee after Robert Stafford and substantially rebuilt or replaced the manor house in 1582.

Previous holder:

Robert Stafford

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Leasehold or estate tenancy under the Crown or Honour of Grafton; not proven to be the superior fee-simple lord.

Shared holding:

Gorges leasehold interest

Narrative / explanation:

William Gorges is identified as the next lessee after Robert Stafford. In 1582 he built a very large mansion at Alderton, on or near the site of the earlier manor house. The archaeological record confirms the 1582 construction, while the estate history identifies Gorges as lessee. The later statement that his daughter Frances's marriage to Thomas Hesilrige brought the manor house to the Hesilrige family should be understood cautiously as transfer of the Gorges family interest or leasehold estate unless a legal conveyance of the superior manor is found.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, 'Site of Alderton Manor House', Monument 4745/4/1; Alderton, Northamptonshire parish history.

Source URL:

<https://her.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Monument/MNN24695>

Other parties:

William Gorges

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=robert-stafford-27606

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-gorges-27607

Person dates:

Active late 16th century; died 1584 according to commonly cited biographical sources, but not verified here

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 15

late 16th century - Thomas Hesilrige died 1629; Frances's date uncertain

Thomas Hesilrige and Frances Gorges, later 1st Baronet, heiress of William Gorges of Alderton

Transfer:

Frances Gorges, daughter and heiress of William Gorges, married Thomas Hesilrige; local history states that the manor house passed to the Hesilrige family.

Previous holder:

William Gorges

Holding arrangement:

joint

Share / interest:

Family or leasehold interest associated with the manor house; exact legal shares and whether the superior manor passed are not established.

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Shared holding:

Hesilrige-Gorges interest

Narrative / explanation:

The sources explicitly connect Frances Gorges, daughter and heiress of William Gorges of Alderton, with Thomas Hesilrige and state that the manor house passed to the Hesilrige family. Because the surrounding evidence identifies Gorges and his successors primarily as Crown or estate lessees, this entry records the family interest without converting it into an unsupported fee-simple conveyance of the superior manor.

Source citation:

Alderton, Northamptonshire parish history; Westminster Abbey registers, biographical note identifying Frances Gorges as daughter and heiress of Sir William Gorges of Alderton and wife of Sir Thomas Hesilrige.

Source URL:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Thomas_Hesilrige,_1st_Baronet

Other parties:

Thomas Hesilrige, Frances Gorges

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=william-gorges-27607

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=thomas-hesilrige-and-frances-gorges-27608

Person dates:

Thomas Hesilrige c. 1564-1629; Frances Gorges active late 16th and early 17th century

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 16

1655 - 1661

Sir Arthur Hesilrige, 2nd Baronet, Parliamentarian, lord of Alderton manor in 1655

Transfer:

Recorded as lord of the manor of Alderton in 1655; the precise succession instrument from Thomas Hesilrige or another predecessor was not located.

Previous holder:

Hesilrige family; exact immediate predecessor uncertain

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Specifically described as lord of the manor in 1655, although the relationship between this lordship and the Crown's superior title is not fully documented.

Shared holding:

Hesilrige lordship

Narrative / explanation:

Alderton's local history records Sir Arthur Hesilrige, 2nd Baronet, as lord of the manor in 1655. This is direct evidence of his manorial status at that date. It does not establish whether he held the fee

simple, a leasehold lordship under the Honour of Grafton, or another estate interest, and no unsupported conveyance is supplied.

Source citation:

Alderton, Northamptonshire parish history; corroborating biographical sources identify Sir Arthur Hesilrige as the son and successor of Sir Thomas Hesilrige and as a major landholder.

Source URL:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alderton%2C_Northamptonshire

Other parties:

Sir Arthur Hesilrige, 2nd Baronet

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=sir-arthur-hesilrige-2nd-baronet-27609

Person dates:

c. 1601-1661

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 17

late 17th century or before 1722 - 1722 or shortly before

Samuel Rolt, Lessee or tenant of the Alderton manorial demesnes

Transfer:

Held the tenancy of the Alderton manorial demesnes; local estate history identifies him as the then lessee and states that he demolished part of the mansion. The date of the lease commencement was not located.

Previous holder:

Hesilrige family or Honour of Grafton estate; immediate transfer uncertain

Holding arrangement:

other

Share / interest:

Lessee or tenant of the manorial demesnes, not proven to be lord of the manor.

Shared holding:

Manorial demesne lessee

Narrative / explanation:

Samuel Rolt is described by the Grafton Estate history as the then lessee of Alderton when part of the mansion was demolished. The same source states that the Duke of Grafton acquired Manor Farm shortly after Rolt's death in 1722. This entry records Rolt's leasehold or tenancy only and does not treat him as the superior manorial owner.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; Grafton Estate, 'The Manor at Alderton'.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafton/Alderton/Alderton%20Manor.html>

Other parties:

Samuel Rolt

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=samuel-rolt-27610

Person dates:

Active late 17th and early 18th century; died 1722 according to the Grafton Estate account

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 18

shortly after 1722, with earlier Honour of Grafton interest - presently reported; exact modern title chain not res

Duke of Grafton, reported lord of Alderton manor

Transfer:

The Duke of Grafton acquired Manor Farm shortly after Samuel Rolt's death, and local estate history states that the lordship of Alderton remains with the Duke of Grafton. The exact legal conveyance and date of acquisition of the superior manor were not located.

Previous holder:

Samuel Rolt as lessee; superior ownership remained connected with the Honour of Grafton

Holding arrangement:

sole

Share / interest:

Reported modern lordship or estate ownership; the distinction between the historic manor, demesne, and later Manor Farm property requires title-deed confirmation.

Shared holding:

Grafton estate

Narrative / explanation:

The public local-history sources state that the Duke of Grafton acquired Manor Farm shortly after Samuel Rolt's death in 1722 and that the lordship of Alderton still remains with the Duke of Grafton. Because the same sources distinguish the later farm property from the historic manor and do not reproduce the relevant conveyance, this is recorded as the latest reported holder with a qualification rather than as a fully documented modern conveyance.

Source citation:

Grafton Estate, 'Alderton History'; Grafton Estate, 'The Manor at Alderton'; late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century local descriptions also identify the Duke of Grafton as lord of the manor and principal landowner.

Source URL:

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/grafton/Alderton/Alderton%20History.html>

Other parties:

Duke of Grafton

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=duke-of-grafton-27611

Person dates:

Ducal title established 1679; Grafton estate connection continues into the modern period

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.