

CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HISTORICAL HOLDER REGISTER

Manor:

ALFORD WITH WELL MANOR

Location:

Alford, Lincolnshire

Recorded historical holders:

12

Export date:

17 October 2026, 23:54 GMT+0000

Public record URL:https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_manor=alford-with-well-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. Well family | Domesday period, 1086 - Medieval period; date uncertain

Transfer: The estate at Well was held by the Well family at the time of Domesday and later passed to the Willoughby family. The date and legal form of the transfer are not established.

Holding: Well family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

2. Willoughby family, represented by Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey, Baron Willoughby de Eresby | After the Domesday period; date uncertain - 1640s

Transfer: The estate at Well passed from the Well family to the Willoughby family at an uncertain medieval date. By the seventeenth century it was held by the Willoughby interest, represented by Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey, who was compelled to sell the manor of Alford-Well during the Civil War or Parliamentary period.

Holding: Willoughby family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

3. Colonel William Wolley | 1640s - 1695

Transfer: Sale of the manor of Alford-Well during the English Civil War or Parliamentary period by the Willoughby interest to Colonel William Wolley.

Holding: Wolley family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

4. Anthony Wellden, Merchant-adventurer, associated with the East India Company, later President of Fort William, Calcutta | 1695 - By 1715

Transfer: Purchase of the manor or Well estate from the Wolley family in 1695.

Holding: Wellden family / Co-holders: Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

5. Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden | By 1715 - About 1720

Transfer: Succession to the Well estate within the Wellden family; the Parks and Gardens Register states that Anthony Wellden's son had succeeded by 1715.

Holding: Wellden family / Co-holders: Anthony Wellden

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

6. James Bateman, Second son of Sir James Bateman of Shobdon Court | About 1720 - 1752

Transfer: Acquisition of Well and its estate about 1720. The precise seller and legal form of the transaction are uncertain; the source suggests that the property may have been acquired from or through Sir Robert Chaplin, who had been financially ruined by the South Sea Bubble.

Holding: Bateman family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

7. Anne Dashwood and Samuel Dashwood | 1752 - 1793

Transfer: Well was given to James Bateman's only child Anne and her husband Samuel Dashwood in 1752.

Holding: Joint / Dashwood family / Co-holders: Francis Bateman Dashwood

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

8. Francis Bateman Dashwood, Esquire | 1793 - 1825

Transfer: Inheritance from his parents, Anne and Samuel Dashwood, in 1793.

Holding: Dashwood family / Co-holders: Anne Dashwood and Samuel Dashwood

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

9. R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, Right Honourable, Member of Parliament | 1836 - 1876

Transfer: Purchase of the manor and several other estates from the heirs of Francis Bateman Dashwood in 1836, following the financial pressures caused by debts.

Holding: Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

10. Mary Hamilton Ogilvy, also styled Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy, also styled Lady Mary Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton in an 1880 estate-plan reference | 1876 - 1914

Transfer: Inheritance from her father, R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, in 1876, followed by sale of Well in 1914.

Holding: Hamilton Ogilvy family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

11. Major Walter H. Rawnsley | 1914 - After 1914; later succession date uncertain

Transfer: Purchase of Well in 1914 from Mary Hamilton Ogilvy. Walter H. Rawnsley had rented Well Hall for several years before buying it.

Holding: Rawnsley family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

12. John Reeve | After 1974 - Date of later sale unknown

Transfer: The estate passed to John Reeve, nephew of John Chaplin Rawnsley, after the death of John Chaplin Rawnsley's widow in 1974. The later sale is mentioned but its date and purchaser are not identified.

Holding: Reeve family

Relationship to present holder: Not recorded

DETAILED CONVEYANCE & DESCENT

HOLDER 1

Domesday period, 1086 - Medieval period; date uncertain

Well family

Transfer:

The estate at Well was held by the Well family at the time of Domesday and later passed to the Willoughby family. The date and legal form of the transfer are not established.

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Well family

Narrative / explanation:

This is the earliest identified holding associated with the Well portion of the Alford with Well estate. The source does not name an individual member of the Well family and does not provide a precise date for the later transfer to the Willoughby family.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section; accessed through Parks & Gardens UK.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Well family

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=well-family-27846

Person dates:

Medieval family; individual dates not identified

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 2

After the Domesday period; date uncertain - 1640s

Willoughby family, represented by Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey, Baron Willoughby de Eresby

Transfer:

The estate at Well passed from the Well family to the Willoughby family at an uncertain medieval date. By the seventeenth century it was held by the Willoughby interest, represented by Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey, who was compelled to sell the manor of Alford-Well during the Civil War or Parliamentary period.

Previous holder:

Well family

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Willoughby family

Narrative / explanation:

The sources establish the Willoughby connection but do not provide the medieval conveyance date. The Earl of Lindsey is identified as the relevant seventeenth-century holder or representative of the Willoughby interest. The title numbering is not reproduced here because the modern local source and standard historical identifications are not wholly consistent on the ordinal number of the barony.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section; Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, Lincolnshire Past and Present, issue containing the discussion of the Alford Fight and the manor of Alford-Well.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Willoughby family, Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=well-family-27846

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=robert-bertie-earl-of-lindsey-27847

Person dates:

1582–1642

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 3

1640s - 1695

Colonel William Wolley

Transfer:

Sale of the manor of Alford-Well during the English Civil War or Parliamentary period by the Willoughby interest to Colonel William Wolley.

Previous holder:

Willoughby family, represented by Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindsey

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Wolley family

Narrative / explanation:

A local historical account explicitly states that the manor of Alford-Well was sold to William Wolley

during the Parliamentary period. The Parks and Gardens Register likewise records that Colonel William Wolley purchased or occupied Well after the Earl of Lindsey was forced to sell it.

Source citation:

Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, Lincolnshire Past and Present, issue containing the discussion of the Alford Fight and the manor of Alford-Well; English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990.

Source URL:

<https://slha.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/import/Downloads/LPP006.pdf>

Other parties:

Colonel William Wolley

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=robert-bertie-earl-of-lindsey-27847

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=colonel-william-wolley-27848

Person dates:

Seventeenth century; exact dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 4

1695 - By 1715

Anthony Wellden, Merchant-adventurer, associated with the East India Company, later President of Fort William, Calcutta

Transfer:

Purchase of the manor or Well estate from the Wolley family in 1695.

Previous holder:

Colonel William Wolley

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Wellden family

Narrative / explanation:

The Parks and Gardens Register states that the Wolleys sold the property in 1695 to Anthony Wellden, an explorer-trader associated with the East India Company.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Anthony Wellden

Co-holders:

Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=colonel-william-wolley-27848

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anthony-wellden-27849

Person dates:

Died 1715

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 5

By 1715 - About 1720

Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden

Transfer:

Succession to the Well estate within the Wellden family; the Parks and Gardens Register states that Anthony Wellden's son had succeeded by 1715.

Previous holder:

Anthony Wellden

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Wellden family

Narrative / explanation:

The source explicitly records that the younger Anthony Wellden had succeeded to the property by 1715. His exact date of accession and the later conveyance to James Bateman are not given.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden

Co-holders:

Anthony Wellden

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anthony-wellden-27849

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anthony-wellden-son-of-anthony-wellden-27850

Person dates:

Active by 1715; other dates not established

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 6**About 1720 - 1752****James Bateman, Second son of Sir James Bateman of Shobdon Court****Transfer:**

Acquisition of Well and its estate about 1720. The precise seller and legal form of the transaction are uncertain; the source suggests that the property may have been acquired from or through Sir Robert Chaplin, who had been financially ruined by the South Sea Bubble.

Previous holder:

Anthony Wellden, son of Anthony Wellden

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Bateman family

Narrative / explanation:

James Bateman acquired Well about 1720. The source presents the possible connection with Sir Robert Chaplin as a hypothesis rather than a documented conveyance, so no specific seller is asserted beyond the preceding Wellden holding.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

James Bateman

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anthony-wellden-son-of-anthony-wellden-27850

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=james-bateman-27851

Person dates:

Eighteenth century; exact dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 7**1752 - 1793****Anne Dashwood and Samuel Dashwood**

Transfer:

Well was given to James Bateman's only child Anne and her husband Samuel Dashwood in 1752.

Previous holder:

James Bateman

Holding arrangement:

joint

Shared holding:

Dashwood family

Narrative / explanation:

The Parks and Gardens Register states that Anne and Samuel Dashwood were given Well in 1752 when James Bateman moved to a smaller house at Claxby. The source does not state whether the gift was by settlement, conveyance or another legal mechanism.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Anne Dashwood, Samuel Dashwood

Co-holders:

Francis Bateman Dashwood

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=james-bateman-27851

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anne-dashwood-and-samuel-dashwood-27852

Person dates:

Eighteenth century; exact dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 8**1793 - 1825****Francis Bateman Dashwood, Esquire****Transfer:**

Inheritance from his parents, Anne and Samuel Dashwood, in 1793.

Previous holder:

Anne Dashwood and Samuel Dashwood

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Dashwood family

Narrative / explanation:

Francis Bateman Dashwood inherited Well in 1793 and held it until his death in 1825. The later sale was

made by his heirs because of debts.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Francis Bateman Dashwood

Co-holders:

Anne Dashwood and Samuel Dashwood

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=anne-dashwood-and-samuel-dashwood-27852

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=francis-bateman-dashwood-27853

Person dates:

Died 1825

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 9

1836 - 1876

R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, Right Honourable, Member of Parliament

Transfer:

Purchase of the manor and several other estates from the heirs of Francis Bateman Dashwood in 1836, following the financial pressures caused by debts.

Previous holder:

Heirs of Francis Bateman Dashwood

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton family

Narrative / explanation:

The Parks and Gardens Register states that the heirs sold the estate in 1836 to the Right Honourable R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, MP, who purchased the manor and several other estates. A weights-and-measures history separately identifies Robert A. Christopher as lord of the Manor of Alford with Well Tothby before 1850, corroborating the manor connection.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990; Carl Ricketts and John Douglas, Marks and Markings of Weights and Measures of the British Isles, East Anglia and Eastern England I, section 'Manor of Alford with Well Tothby'.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=r-a-christopher-nisbet-hamilton-27854

Person dates:

Active by 1836; exact dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 10

1876 - 1914

Mary Hamilton Ogilvy, also styled Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy, also styled Lady Mary Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton in an 1880 estate-plan reference

Transfer:

Inheritance from her father, R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, in 1876, followed by sale of Well in 1914.

Previous holder:

R. A. Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Hamilton Ogilvy family

Narrative / explanation:

The Parks and Gardens Register states that Mr Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton's daughter, Mrs Hamilton Ogilvy, inherited in 1876. A Lincolnshire Archives catalogue reference cited by the same heritage record describes an 1880 plan of the parish of Well as the property of the Honourable Lady Mary Christopher Nisbet-Hamilton, supporting the identification of the female holder, although the precise formal name and style require archival confirmation.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990; Lincolnshire Archives, HIG 1/28, plan of the Parish of Well, 1880, as cited in the heritage register.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Mary Hamilton Ogilvy

Previous holder profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=r-a-christopher-nisbet-hamilton-27854

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=mary-hamilton-ogilvy-27855

Person dates:

Active from 1876; died or other dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 11**1914 - After 1914; later succession date uncertain****Major Walter H. Rawnsley****Transfer:**

Purchase of Well in 1914 from Mary Hamilton Ogilvy. Walter H. Rawnsley had rented Well Hall for several years before buying it.

Previous holder:

Mary Hamilton Ogilvy

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Rawnsley family

Narrative / explanation:

The Parks and Gardens Register explicitly records the 1914 sale to Major Walter H. Rawnsley. It also states that he had previously rented Well Hall. The subsequent transfer within the Rawnsley family is not assigned to a precise date in the sources reviewed.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

Major Walter H. Rawnsley

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=major-walter-h-rawnsley-27856

Person dates:

Active by 1914; other dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.

HOLDER 12**After 1974 - Date of later sale unknown****John Reeve****Transfer:**

The estate passed to John Reeve, nephew of John Chaplin Rawnsley, after the death of John Chaplin Rawnsley's widow in 1974. The later sale is mentioned but its date and purchaser are not identified.

Previous holder:

Rawnsley family; immediate intermediate holder not securely documented

Holding arrangement:

sole

Shared holding:

Reeve family

Narrative / explanation:

The source states that after John Chaplin Rawnsley's widow died in 1974, the estate passed to their nephew John Reeve. The intervening succession from Major Walter H. Rawnsley and the subsequent purchaser are not securely established, so those links are left as documentary gaps rather than inferred.

Source citation:

English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Well Hall, Alford, Register entry GD1990, historic development section.

Source URL:

<https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/well-hall-alford>

Other parties:

John Reeve

Historical person profile:

https://manorialregistry.com/?mhr_person=john-reeve-27857

Person dates:

Active after 1974; other dates not established in the sources reviewed

Relationship to present holder

No published relationship path recorded.