

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0002809 • MANOR
Great Wigborough-cum-Salcott

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Essex
Associated places: Essex

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

- Lordship of Great Wigborough, also known as the Lordship of Abbess or Abbots Hall |
Associated | | Provisional

ABOUT THE MANOR

Together with Samphire Island: about seventy acres in extent and valuable wild fowling rights.

The Lordship of Great Wigborough was also known as the Lordship of Abbess or Abbots Hall. It is situated on the River Blackwater, four miles south of Colchester, Essex. The area of the lordship is about one thousand acres.

The Nunnery of Barking owned this lordship in King Edward the Confessor's time. After the Norman

Conquest, King William the Conqueror allowed the Nunnery to retain the lordship. The manor is

recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086.

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries the lordship was vested by Act of Parliament in the person

of his Late Majesty King Henry VIII. On the 10th April 1540 he granted this lordship to Thomas Lord

Cromwell. When he was executed the lordship was forfeited to the Crown and its revenues used for the

support of Princess Mary, later Queen Mary I.

In 1555 the lordship was granted to Sir Charles Tuke, Secretary to Cardinal Wolsey at the time of

his death. By 1562 the lordship had come to Queen Elizabeth I. She granted it to Thomas Howard, Duke

of Norfolk. Ten years later he was executed for treason and, once again, this lordship reverted to

the Crown. This time Queen Elizabeth retained the lordship for a further twenty-two years but, in

1594, she granted it to Thomas the old Duke of Norfolk's son by his second wife Margaret, daughter

of Lord Dudley.

In 1603 he was created Earl of Suffolk and he died, lord of the manor, in 1626. The Suffolk family

retained the lordship until 1640, when it was conveyed to Sir Mark Guyon. On his death, in 1686, the lordship passed to his daughter Rachel, who carried the manor in marriage to John Bullock. The Bullock family retained the lordship until 1809, when Sir Henry Bullock, M.P., died lord of the manor. In 1811 Henry Cline acquired the lordship. From Henry Cline the lordship came to the family of the present lord of the manor.

There are valuable oyster layings in the River Blackwater. For centuries these provided an extra income to the lord of the manor. The Court Rolls from 1661 show the rents received. Under the 1922

Law of Property Act, these copyhold tenancies were enfranchised for a payment. Thus, the actual oyster layings in the river are no longer manorial property, but they could be repurchased in the future.

The freehold of Samphire Island, known locally as Sunken Island, about seventy acres, will be conveyed with the lordship, together with wild fowling rights let for £200 per annum. The new lord of the manor will have this income transferred to him.

Rights, customs and incidents Together with Samphire Island: about seventy acres in extent and valuable wild fowling rights.

The freehold of Samphire Island, known locally as Sunken Island, about seventy acres, will be conveyed with the lordship, together with wild fowling rights let for £200 per annum.

Catalogue source Lot #12 of Bernard Thorpe Auction - March 1987

Associated manorial documents / archive references 1 Royal Letters Patent, King Henry VIII 15402

Royal Letters Patent, King Henry VIII 15453 Court rolls (with other manors) 1565-18104 Court books

(with index to each) 1730-17865 Compotus 16396 Compoti 1642, 16437 Survey (and copy 1596) 1596,

16418 Two Surveys 1596, 16419 Rentals of the manors of Wigborough als. Abbeshall and Salcott 164410 Rental c.164511 Rental of Great Wigborough with Salcott 177212

List of

customary tenants c.185013 Court book index 1885-1927

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

Historical holder / succession information Sir Charles Tuke, Secretary to Cardinal Wolsey [source

claim requiring identity review] 1555 • granted_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording:

In 1555 the lordship was granted to Sir Charles Tuke, Secretary to Cardinal Wolsey at the time of

his death. Sir Mark Guyon 1640 • conveyed_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source

wording: The

Suffolk family retained the lordship until 1640, when it was conveyed to Sir Mark Guyon.his daughter

Rachel [source claim requiring identity review]1686 • passed_to •

historical_holder_or_transfereeSource wording: On his death, in 1686, the lordship passed to his

daughter Rachel, who carried the manor in marriage to John Bullock.In 1811 Henry Cline

[source claim

requiring identity review]1811 • purchased • historical_holder_or_transfereeSource

wording: In

1811 Henry Cline acquired the lordship.family of the present lord of the manor [source claim

requiring identity review]passed_to • historical_holder_or_transfereeSource wording: From

Henry

Cline the lordship came to the family of the present lord of the manor.him [source claim

requiring

identity review]conveyed_to • historical_holder_or_transfereeSource wording: The new lord

of the

manor will have this income transferred to him.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1640 | Sir Mark Guyon | conveyed_to | | Lot #12 of Bernard Thorpe Auction - March 1987

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Wildfowling rights associated with Samphire Island, also known locally as Sunken Island:

The registry describes Samphire Island as approximately seventy acres and records valuable wildfowling rights associated with it.

- Oyster layings in the River Blackwater: The registry records historic oyster layings producing income for the lord of the manor; it also states that copyhold oyster layings were enfranchised under the Law of Property Act 1922 and were no longer manorial property at that point.

RESEARCH GAPS / WANTED EVIDENCE

- [OPEN] The formal ecclesiastical or civil parish designation for the combined Great Wigborough-cum-Salcott estate should be source-verified. | Wanted: Source-backed evidence resolving this point

- [OPEN] The date and legal status of any surviving or extinguished lordship title remain unconfirmed. | Wanted: Source-backed evidence resolving this point

DISCLAIMER

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