

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0002893 • MANOR

Layer Breton

Evidence status: Unverified

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Location: Essex (aka Layer Barley)

Associated places: Essex (aka Layer Barley)

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

- Lordship of the Manor of Layer Breton | Associated | | Provisional

ABOUT THE MANOR

Layer Breton lies six miles South West of Colchester on the road to Tollesbury. A feature of the

Village is the Heath, which has an area of about 32 acres, the greater part of which is in the

Parish of Layer Breton, while a very small portion - about 2 acres - is in the Parish of Birch.

All the title and interest of the vendors in the Heath and in such roadside verges as lie within the

Parish of Layer Breton are included in the Sale. An ordinance Map of the Parish can be inspected at

the office of Messrs. C.M. Stanford & Son, High Street, Colchester, on which the Heath has been

coloured to correspond with a plan held by the Lexden & Winstree R.D.C., Rebow Chambers, Sir

Isaac's Walk, Colchester. The Council's plan shows only the Heath coloured and it is

presumed that this is the only part affected by the Council's bye-Laws. The Vendors, nevertheless, claim that the roadside verges form part of the wastes of the Manor.

The Manor is sold subject to the following:

An easement in favour of the South Essex Waterworks Company dated 26th May, 1936. A scheme under the

Commons Act 1899 and the Lexden and Winstree R.D.C. Bye-Laws made under it and brought into operation on 1st September, 1948. A right of way granted to Mrs. M. A. Renwick by a deed dated 28th

September, 1953. The Wayleave agreements referred to below. The rights as the Lexden and Winstree

R.D.C. have in respect of water pipes laid under the Heath following a notice given to the Vendors

on 22nd September, 1934.

Copies of the documents referred to above can be seen at the offices of the Solicitors.

Income in this Manor is derived from:

Two Wayleave agreements with Eastern Electricity Board, with rents totaling £1 16s. 6d. per annum.

Rent for grazing on the Heath, £5 per annum having been paid for this up to a few years ago. It is not now let. The right to let the grazing is subject to the rights of commoners, so far as they can be shown to exist, but no right to graze has, to the best of the vendors' knowledge, been claimed by any commoner since the Manor was purchased by the late Mr. G.F. Beaumont in 1906. Payments from time to time of £7 by a travelling Showman for the vendors' consent to placing his roundabouts and sideshows on part of the Heath, such consent being given after consultation with the Police, R.D.C. and the Chairman of the Parish meeting. The sporting rights over the heath have from time to time been let, but they are not let at the present time. According to Morant (History and Antiquities of the County of Essex Vol. 1, Page 409) the owner of the land in this Parish in Edward the Confessor's reign was Ailmar, while Ralph Piperell and his undertenant held the Manor at the time of the Domesday Survey. It later came to Isaac Rebow, who was knighted on 27th March, 1693. (His name is kept alive in Colchester by the name given to the Lexden and Winstree R.D.C. Office - Rebow Chambers). His grandson Charles Chamberlain Rebow inherited the Manor and died in 1754 leaving an only daughter (by his wife, Mary Nevill, sister of the Rt. Hon. William Lord Abergavenny) who married Thomas Adams. In 1789 the Manor was in the hands of John and Elizabeth Gripper, who were Quakers, and their Steward was William Francis. On 11th May, 1804, a Court was held for John Gripper and it is interesting to know that it was held at Laver Breton Hall, though the Manor House abuts on the Heath. A Court was also held for Edward Gripper on 19th May, 1828 at Laver Breton Hall, but his Court of 17th October, 1839 was held at the house of Jonathan Powell. This gentleman, with John Tiffen, formed the Homage, or Jury, and it is recorded that the former affirmed, being a Quaker, instead of being sworn in the usual manner. John Tiffen, a farmer of Laver Breton, purchased the Manor from Edward Gripper's Executors on 30th September, 1867 and held his first Court at the "Hare and Hounds", Charles H. T. Marshall, the Colchester Solicitor, being Steward. Charles Digby Garrod was the next Lord and on his death in 1905 the Manor was sold by his Executors to the late George Frederick Beaumont of Coggeshall. His only Court was held on the 27th June, 1907, the Steward being his eldest son, Horace Frederick

Beaumont,
one of the Vendors.

There are many interesting entries in the records of this Manor, such as examples of payment
of quit

rents in kind, viz. a capon and a race of ginger, and for students of place names there are
numerous

curious words, viz. Stamps and Crows, Trowers and Wrights, Farthing Garden, Downings,
Washings, Mary

Lay's Plot, The Bushes, Golding's Garden, Bigwoods and Littlemans, Hocklays, and
Ladylands.

The little church standing on the Heath was erected in 1906 in memory of the Rt. Hon. James
Round,

from money raised by public subscription, upon a site given by the late Mr. G. F. Beaumont,
then

Lord of the Manor.

The lifting of turf from roadside waste in this Manor by one of the Lords gave rise to
articles in

the Essex County Standard in April and May, 1951 and the Sunday Despatch in May of the same
year.

This publicity resulted in applications being received from several hundred persons for
particulars

of the proposed auction.

The Manorial Records (insured for £200, premium 10/0 p.a.) to be handed over are:

Court Rolls: 1668-1712; 1728-97; 1803-05; 1807-12 Court Books: 1789-1818; 1818-1889;
1890-1933

Minute Book: 1789-1855 Draft of Courts: 1789-1812 Sundry: Rentals, draft admissions,
surrenders,

enfranchisement deeds, etc.

In connection with the above reference to Lord Abergavenny it is interesting to note in a
recent

Obituary in the Times that the eight Earl of Abergavenny "as Lord of the Manor of
Ditchling,

sold the common rights in 1950 to 20 residents for £100 to help in preserving the character
of the

common, and as Lord of the Manor of Rottingdean he fought against the scheme of the Brighton
Corporation to build on sites surrounding the downland village."

Mr. Bert Osborne, licensee of the "Hare and Hounds" has recently been appointed
Bailiff of

this Manor. A former Bailiff, who will still be remembered in the district, was the late Mr.
Norman

Smith.

Rights, customs and incidentsA right of way granted to Mrs.

The rights as the Lexden and Winstree R.D.C. have in respect of water pipes laid under the
Heath

following a notice given to the Vendors on 22nd September, 1934.

The right to let the grazing is subject to the rights of commoners, so far as thy can be
shown to

exist, but no right to graze has , to the best of the vendors' knowledge, been claimed

by any

commoner since the Manor was purchased by the late Mr.

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Catalogue source Lot #1 of 'Beaumont Collection'; Auction - Nov 1954

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

Historical holder / succession information late Mr [source claim requiring identity review] purchased by • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: The right to let the grazing

is subject to the rights of commoners, so far as they can be shown to exist, but no right to graze

has, to the best of the vendors' knowledge, been claimed by any commoner since the Manor was

purchased by the late Mr. in this Parish in Edward the Confessor's reign was Ailmar, while Ralph

Piperell and his undertenant [source claim requiring identity review] held manor •

historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: According to Morant (History and Antiquities of the

County of Essex Vol. 1, Page 409) the owner of the land in this Parish in Edward the Confessor's reign was Ailmar, while Ralph Piperell and his undertenant held the Manor at the

time of the Domesday Survey. John Tiffin, a farmer of Layer Breton 1867 • purchased •

historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: John Tiffin, a farmer of Layer Breton, purchased the

Manor from Edward Gripper's Executors on 30th September, 1867 and held his first Court at the

'Hare and Hounds', Charles H.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1867 | John Tiffin, a farmer of Layer Breton | purchased | | Lot #1 of 'Beaumont Collection' Auction - Nov 1954

- reign of Edward the Confessor - 1066 | Ailmar | | Manor Property |

- 1086 | Ralph Piperell and his undertenant | Domesday Survey | Manor Property |

- 17th century - after 1693 | Isaac Rebow | | Manor Property |

- before 1754 - 1754 | Charles Chamberlain Rebow | inheritance | Manor Property |

- 1789 | John Gripper and Elizabeth Gripper | | Manor Property |

- before 1828 - before 1867 | Edward Gripper | manorial court | Manor Property |

- before 1905 - 1905 | Charles Digby Garrod | inheritance or transfer not specified | Manor

And Title |

- 1906 | George Frederick Beaumont | sale | Manor And Title |

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Rights of common over the Heath, including potential common grazing rights: Grazing on the Heath was subject to the rights of commoners, although no commoner was known by the vendors to have claimed grazing since 1906.
- Right to let grazing on the Heath: The manor derived income from grazing on the Heath, subject to the rights of commoners; the grazing was not let at the time of the 1954 sale.
- Roadside waste and verge rights: The vendors claimed that roadside verges within Layer Breton parish formed part of the wastes of the manor and included their title and interest in the sale.
- Right of way granted to Mrs. M. A. Renwick: A right of way was granted by deed dated 28 September 1953.
- Water-pipe rights affecting the Heath: The Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council had rights relating to water pipes laid under the Heath following notice given on 22 September 1934.
- Easement in favour of the South Essex Waterworks Company: An easement dated 26 May 1936 affected the manor.
- Electricity wayleaves: Two wayleave agreements with the Eastern Electricity Board generated annual rents and affected the manor.
- Sporting rights over the Heath: Sporting rights had from time to time been let, though they were not let at the time of the 1954 sale.

DISCLAIMER

This is a historical registry extract generated from the Manorial Heritage Registry. It records the registry's documented research and assertions; it is not a Land Registry title document, legal certificate, or guarantee of ownership, lordship, rights, boundaries, or enforceability.