

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003101 • MANOR
Uppingham

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Location: Rutland
Associated places: Rutland

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

- Lordship of the Manor of Uppingham | Associated | 1086 | Provisional

ABOUT THE MANOR

UPPINGHAM is most famous for its school, founded in 1584 by the Revd Robert Johnson, Archdeacon of Leicester. The school buildings occupy most of the area in the south of the town. The oldest part was built in about 1590 and had been part of the Hospital of Christ in Uppingham. Many new buildings have been added to the original cluster of splendid 17th century constructions, one of which is now used as a museum of the school. Much of the centre of the town, at the Market Place, is of the 17th and 18th centuries. On the south side of the Market Place is the Falcon, once a coaching inn, now an hotel, which used to serve sumptuous cream teas when we last visited many years ago. Two thoroughfares, High Street and North Street, should be noted for their architecture. Hom Lane takes its name from the Manor of Hom and reflects the long presence of the Noel family, whose present head, the Earl of Gainsborough, is the Lord of Uppingham. At the time of Domesday Book, which was collated in 1086, the Lordship of the Manor of Uppingham was one of 7 Berewicks or Members of the large manor of Ridlington. There is a description of the Lordship which reads:
In Ridlington its 7 Berewicks (including Uppingham), church sokeland. Queen Edith had 4 carucates of land to the geld. There is land for 16 ploughs. There the king has 4 ploughs in demesne; and 170 villains and 26 bordars having 30 ploughs, and 2 sokemen with 2 ploughs. There are two priests and 3 churches, and 2 sites for mills, And 40 acres of meadow. There is woodland pasture in places, 2

leagues long and 8 furlongs broad. Before 1066 it was worth £40. Not long after the Norman Conquest the Lordship was in the possession of the Montfort family. It had been granted to them by their overlord, Henry de Newburgh, the Earl of Warwick. Three generations of Hugh de Montfort held Uppingham until 1124 when the estate was forfeited after Hugh the third had taken part in a rebellion against Henry I. When King Stephen came to the throne in 1130 Robert de Montfort was able to claim back his father's estates and after his death in 1166 he was succeeded by his brother Thurstan, who lived until 1177. Thurstan was succeeded by his son Robert who died childless and Uppingham in turn descended to his brother, Henry. In 1205 it is recorded that Peter de Montfort was Lord of Uppingham. Born in 1205, Montfort cemented the family's wealth and by the 1240s he was substantial and influential. Much of his estate was based in Warwickshire and it was here that he was drawn into the circle of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. He became a key member of the earl's retinue travelling with him to Gascony in 1248 and was named as an executor of his patron's will. Peter was also a useful servant of the king and was sent on a number of diplomatic missions by Henry III as well as being given military posts in the Welsh marches. During the civil crisis and warfare between Leicester and the King during the 1260s, Peter remained a staunch ally of the earl and was killed with him at the Battle of Evesham in 1265. Peter's son and namesake had fought with his father during the civil war but was soon restored to his family's land and was succeeded by his son John who was summoned as a Baron to Parliament and died in 1296. Uppingham passed to his son John, who was killed in Scotland at the skirmish of Stryvelin in Scotland in 1314 and after this the Lordship devolved to his brother Peter. At the time of his brother's death, Peter was living as a priest, but was obliged to give up his vocation to marry and inherit the vast estate. His son Guy made a good marriage to Margaret, the daughter of the Earl of Warwick, who retained the overlordship of Uppingham. Guy died childless and by the terms of his marriage settlement the Lordship passed to Thomas, Earl of Warwick. It remained with the succeeding earls until 1488 when it was surrendered to the Crown by Anne, Countess of Warwick. In 1439 the

Lordship was inherited by Henry Beauchamp when he succeeded to the family estates on the death of his father.

He was fourteen at the time and his estates spread across the Midlands and Wales. They were administered by a group of close servants. By the 1440s he had become established at Court and was

awarded a series of land grants and official offices. He was recognized by Henry VI and his advisers

as a potentially powerful recruit for them and he was put on something of a fast track towards the

higher peerage. He was seen as a possible counterweight to Humphrey, the Earl of Stafford, a rising

and challenging political power. As Stafford was increasingly isolated at Court so many of his

offices were transferred to Beauchamp. In a calculated snub to Stafford, Beauchamp was elevated to

the position of Premier Earl. A year later when Stafford was created Duke of Buckingham, Beauchamp

was raised to the Dukedom of Warwick and given precedence over all other dukes except Norfolk.

Perhaps to the embarrassment of both men the dukes were made to alternate precedence. Warwick was

never really able to establish himself as the leader of Warwickshire and in his short tenure as duke

the old family alliances, such as those with the Verney family, broke down and it was only with his

early death in 1446 that local equilibrium was restored.

The Lordship of Uppingham was then devolved to Richard Neville, the husband of King Henry's sister

Anne and he inherited the Earldom of Warwick after Anne's niece died. Known as the Kingmaker, Neville was a central player during the Wars of the Roses. He was eventually killed

at the Battle of Barnet in 1471. Uppingham remained in the possession of his wife, Countess Anne,

until 1488 when she surrendered it to Henry VII. The Lordship was retained by the Crown until 1550

when it was granted by Edward VI to his half-sister, Princess Elizabeth. As Queen, Elizabeth gave

Uppingham to her chief minister, William Cecil, Lord Burghley. He died in 1598 and was succeeded by

his son Thomas who was created first Earl of Exeter.

In 1622, the second Earl William gave the Manor to his daughter Anne as part of her dowry on her

marriage to Henry Earl of Stamford. The couple retained it until 1658 when it was sold to Edward

Fawkener. In 1691, he was succeeded by his son Edward, a barrister in the Middle Temple. He died

three years later in London, and Uppingham fell to the use of his widow Susanna who is

recorded as holding Manor Courts in the early 18th century on behalf of her son Henry. He did not survive into adulthood and Uppingham was inherited by his four sisters in 1722. Within a few years it became the property of John Merriman, son of the eldest sister. There then follow a number of owners in the middle of the 18th century, all of whom seem to be married or related to the sisters, before the Lordship was sold to the Earl of Gainsborough by Thomas Bradgate, in 1747. Uppingham has remained in the possession of this family until the present day. The town was a centre of pastoral farming and a cattle market was traditionally held here on Beast Hill. Opposite this was Hog Hill, the site of a pig market. The Manor is thought to be coincident with the town, and covers about 1,200 acres (approx 500 h). It lies 19 miles east of Leicester and 90 miles north of London, easily accessible by car on the A1(M). Catalogue source Lot #10 of Manorial Auctioneers November 2007 Associated manorial documents / archive references Enfranchisement 1733 Gloucestershire RO Deeds 37-4 Edw III National Archives Memoranda Richard II None Yet Indexed We have not yet indexed a lordship of the manor for this category yet. Source notes Catalogue transcribed by the Lord of Finchingfield - a friend to learning

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

Historical holder / succession information his brother Peter [source claim requiring identity review] 1314 • passed_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: Uppingham passed to his son John, who was killed in Scotland at the skirmish of Stryvelin in Scotland in 1314 and after this the Lordship devolved to his brother Peter. Thomas, Earl of Warwick passed_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: Guy died childless and by the terms of his marriage settlement the Lordship passed to Thomas, Earl of Warwick. Richard Neville, the husband of King Henry's sister Anne and he inherited the Earldom of Warwick [source claim requiring identity review] passed_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: The Lordship of Uppingham was then devolved to Richard Neville, the husband of King Henry's sister Anne and he inherited the Earldom of Warwick after Anne's niece died. Earl of Gainsborough 1747 • sold_to • historical_holder_or_transferee Source wording: There then follow a number of owners in the middle of

the 18th century, all of whom seem to be married or related to the sisters, before the Lordship was sold to the Earl of Gainsborough by Thomas Bradgate, in 1747.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- | Thomas, Earl of Warwick | passed_to | | Lot #10 of Manorial Auctioneers November 2007
- 1747 | Earl of Gainsborough | sold_to | | Lot #10 of Manorial Auctioneers November 2007
- 1488 | The Crown | | Manor And Title |
- 1550 | Elizabeth I | royal grant | Manor And Title |
- - 1598 | William Cecil, 1st Baron Burghley | royal grant | Manor And Title |
- 1598 - 1622 | Thomas Cecil, 1st Earl of Exeter | inheritance | Manor And Title |
- 1622 - 1658 | Anne Cecil, Countess of Stamford | marriage settlement/dowry | Manor Property |
- 1622 - 1658 | Henry Grey, 1st Earl of Stamford and Anne Cecil, Countess of Stamford | marriage settlement/dowry | Manor Property |
- 1658 - 1691 | Edward Fawkener | sale | Manor And Title |
- 1691 - 1694 | Edward Fawkener | inheritance | Manor And Title |

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