

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003147 • MANOR
AB KETTLEBY MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Ab Kettleby, Leicestershire
Associated places: Ab Kettleby, Leicestershire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Ab Kettleby Manor was the manorial estate of Ab Kettleby, historically also styled Abkettleby or Kettleby, in the parish of Ab Kettleby, Leicestershire. The settlement was recorded in Domesday Book in 1086 as Chetelbi. The surviving Manor House is an early seventeenth-century ironstone building, formerly the village manor house and later a farmhouse. A separate medieval moated site lies beside St James's Church; Historic England records possible proprietorial or monastic connections between that site and Launde Abbey, but the evidence does not establish that Launde Abbey held the manor itself. The manor should not be confused with Eye-Kettleby, also called Kettleby Parva or Kettleby Beler, near Melton Mowbray.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest identified estate record is the Domesday entry of 1086, when Chetelbi was held by Gerard under Robert de Bucy. The medieval manor is securely recorded in 1323 in the possession of Joan de Driby, held of Ralph Basset of Weldon by knight service. Shortly before Joan's death in 1329, she granted the manors of Holwell and Ketelby to her son John de Driby and his heirs; the grant is also reflected in the contemporary inquisitorial evidence summarized by later antiquarian historians. The available sources then leave a substantial documentary gap in the direct descent of this manor. Some fourteenth- and fifteenth-century records concern rents, knight's fees, or lands in Abkettleby and Holwell, but they do not securely establish an unbroken succession of manor lords and are therefore not treated as conveyances of the whole manor. By 1846 the Earl of

Dysart

was recorded as lord of the manor, and the same lordship is recorded in directories and gazetteers in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The transfer from the medieval Driby holding to the Dysart lordship has not been established from the sources located.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1086 - 1086 | Gerard | Domesday record; no conveyance stated | | Domesday Book Online, Leicestershire A-G, entry for Ab Kettleby/Chetelbi: Chetelbi, Gerard from Robert de Bucy.
- 1323 - 1329 | Joan de Driby | Earlier acquisition not established in the cited sources; recorded as holding the manor in 1323. Before her death in 1329 she granted the manor of Holwell and Ketelby to her son John de Driby and his heirs. | | John Nichols, The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester, volume 1, Abkettleby section, citing Esc. 17 Edward II, no. 189, Leicestershire, and related inquisitions.
- 1329 - after 1329 | John de Driby | Grant by Joan de Driby, his mother, shortly before her death, of the manors of Holwell and Ketelby to John de Driby and his heirs | | John Nichols, The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester, volume 1, Abkettleby section; the underlying evidence is identified as an inquisition concerning Joan de Driby in 1329.
- 1846 - at least 1912 | Earl of Dysart | Unknown; recorded as lord of the manor by 1846, with the same lordship reported in later nineteenth- and early twentieth-century directories | | William White, History, Gazetteer, and Directory of Leicestershire and Rutland, 1846, entry for Ab Kettleby; corroborated by the Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales, circa 1870, and a later Leicestershire county directory.

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Tenure by knight service: In 1323 Joan de Driby was recorded as holding the manor of Ab Kettleby of Ralph Basset of Weldon by knight service.

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