

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003167 • MANOR
ABBOTS BROMLEY MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire
Associated places: Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Abbots Bromley was an ecclesiastical manor in the parish of Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, historically associated with the estate of Burton Abbey. The settlement appears in pre-Conquest charters and in Domesday Book as Brunlege or Bromley, with the land forming part of the possessions of Burton Abbey. In the early thirteenth century the abbey developed the settlement as a market borough; a market was confirmed by royal charter in 1227. After the Dissolution of Burton Abbey, Abbots Bromley and Bromley Hurst passed to Sir William Paget and were subsequently known collectively as Pagets Bromley. The record identified here should not be merged with Bagots Bromley, the separate Bagot family manor in the same parish. The later Paget estate was gradually reduced by sales during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, after which the place-name Abbots Bromley again became predominant.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The estate is evidenced in pre-Conquest sources: King Edmund's charter of 942 granted lands including Abbots Bromley to Wulfsige the Black, and a charter of 966 describes the estate in the hands of Wulfric. Wulfric's will transferred Bromley to the Benedictine Abbey of Burton upon Trent in or about 1004. Burton Abbey retained the ecclesiastical lordship until the Dissolution. Following the suppression of the abbey, the Crown granted the estate to Sir William Paget in 1547, creating the post-Dissolution Paget manor known as Pagets Bromley. The estate descended within the Paget family until the attainder and confiscation of the Paget lands in 1583; the estate was subsequently restored to William Paget, later fourth Baron Paget, during the reign of James I. The

Paget family retained the manor and associated estate for the following centuries, although the intervening individual descent is not fully reconstructed in the sources consulted. By the nineteenth century the manor was associated with the Marquess of Anglesey, the senior Paget title-holder, and the Paget Staffordshire estates were progressively sold. The exact legal date and instrument of the later sale or sales of the manor itself require further deed or title research.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 942 - before 966 | Wulfsgie the Black | Granted or confirmed land including Abbots Bromley by King Edmund; the subsequent change to Wulfric is evidenced by a later charter, but the precise transfer date is unknown. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraphs 3.6.11-3.6.12, citing Staffordshire charter evidence.
- 966 - circa 1004 | Wulfric Spot, Earl of Mercia | Held the estate after the 966 charter and bequeathed Bromley to Burton Abbey in his will, probably executed shortly before or in 1004. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraph 3.6.11, citing Staffordshire charter evidence; Staffordshire Past Track, Abbots Bromley historical description.
- circa 1004 - 1547 | Abbey of Burton upon Trent | Received Bromley under the will of Wulfric Spot and retained it as part of the abbey's ecclesiastical estate until the Dissolution and subsequent Crown grant. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraphs 3.6.11-3.6.13 and 3.7.4; Staffordshire History Centre, Guide to Sources No. 7, Manorial Records of Staffordshire; Staffordshire Record Office catalogue for the Paget estate.
- 1547 - 1563 | Sir William Paget, later 1st Baron Paget of Beaudesert | Granted by the Crown after the Dissolution of Burton Abbey; the estate included Abbots Bromley and Bromley Hurst and became known as Pagets Bromley. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraph 3.7.4; Staffordshire History Centre, Records of the Paget family, Barons Paget of Beaudesert, Earls of Uxbridge and Marquesses of Anglesey; Staffordshire Record Office, D(W)1734/2/3/112b, Valor or rental of all the property of Lord Paget, circa 1550.
- 1563 - 1583 | Thomas Paget, 3rd Baron Paget of Beaudesert | Inherited the Paget estate after the death of his father, William Paget; the estate was confiscated by the Crown in 1583 following Thomas Paget's exile and attainder-related difficulties. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraphs 3.7.4-3.7.6; Staffordshire History Centre, Records of the Paget family, including papers concerning confiscation and restitution of Paget lands following the attainder of Thomas Paget in 1587.
- 1583 - after 1603 | The Crown | Confiscated the Paget estate after Thomas Paget's exile; the subsequent restoration to his son William occurred during the reign of James I, but the exact date and instrument are not established here. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraphs 3.7.5-3.7.6.
- after 1603 - 1629 | William Paget, 4th Baron Paget of Beaudesert | Restored by James I to the Paget family after the forfeiture of the estate of his father, Thomas Paget; the exact restoration date and instrument are not stated in the source consulted. | | High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraphs 3.7.5-3.7.6; Staffordshire History Centre, Records of the Paget family.
- 1629 - 19th century | Paget family | Continued descent and possession within the Paget

family after the death of William Paget, 4th Baron. The consulted public sources establish continued Paget ownership but do not provide a complete individual-by-individual descent for Abbots Bromley. | | Staffordshire History Centre, Records of the Paget family, Barons Paget of Beaudesert, Earls of Uxbridge and Marquesses of Anglesey; Staffordshire History Centre, Guide to Sources No. 7, Manorial Records of Staffordshire; High Speed Two Ltd, SES2 and AP2 ES Appendix CH-001-000, paragraph 3.7.6.

- 1831 - 19th century | Marquess of Anglesey | Held the manor or principal manor estate as senior Paget title-holder; the later date and legal form of the sale or sales are not established in the sources consulted. | | Samuel Lewis, A Topographical Dictionary of England, 1831, entry for Bromley (Abbot's); Staffordshire Past Track, Abbots Bromley historical description; Staffordshire heritage assessment on the Paget estate.

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Market: The settlement was developed as a market borough in the early thirteenth century, and a market was confirmed by royal charter in 1227.

DISCLAIMER

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