

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003175 • MANOR
ABBOTS MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire
Associated places: Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Abbots Manor was the separate ecclesiastical manor associated with Notley Abbey in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. It is also found under the names Abbot's Manor, Abbot's Hold, Brooke or Brookes Manor, and in some later descriptions as the Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough. The manor should not be confused with the separate King's Manor, the former royal and later princely manor of Princes Risborough. The available evidence indicates that Notley Abbey held the manor and rectory at the Dissolution, when the estate was valued at £40 per year. The manor was subsequently involved in Crown and episcopal grants and was sold by Elizabeth I in 1589 to Thomas Crompton, Robert Wrighte and Gilley Merick. It was later acquired by Joan Chibnall and Vincent Barry in 1624. From the Civil War period the Abbot's Manor appears to have been brought into the same ownership as the King's Manor, although the precise legal conveyance or date of that merger is not established. The surviving Manor House or Brooke House site was associated with the Abbot's Manor, but the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust cautions that it was probably not itself the original medieval manor house.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The secure documentary history begins with Notley Abbey's possession of the manor by the Dissolution of the Monasteries, although the abbey's earlier grants in Princes Risborough from the twelfth century do not by themselves establish the exact date at which it acquired the whole manor. After the Dissolution, the manor was initially granted to the Dean and Chapter of Oxford and

was then returned or otherwise removed from their possession. In the reign of Edward VI it was granted to Robert King, Bishop of Oxford. In 1589 Elizabeth I recovered the manor from the bishop and granted it to Thomas Crompton, Robert Wrighte and Gilley Merick. Crompton subsequently conveyed it to John Jackman; Jackman died seised in 1622, after which the manor passed to his unnamed son. In 1624 the son sold it to Joan Chibnall and Vincent Barry. Ralph Adeane is reported as having obtained or held the manor during the Civil War, but the source describes this as presumptive rather than certain. By a 1675 suit concerning the customs of the two manors, both the King's Manor and the Abbot's Manor were said to be held by Thomas Adeane. The later history of the Abbot's Manor cannot safely be reconstructed as a separate descent because the two manors appear thereafter to have been held together and the available sources do not provide a complete chain of title.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- by the Dissolution of the Monasteries, 1538 - 1538 | Notley Abbey | Prior possession; the manor and rectory were held by Notley Abbey at the Dissolution before the Crown disposal of the former monastic estate. | | Princes Risborough Historic Town Assessment, Buckinghamshire County Council, section 5.4, 'Abbots Manor'; citing W. Page, ed., A History of the County of Buckingham, Victoria County History, vol. 2, 'Parishes: Princes Risborough', pp. 260-267.
- 1538 - shortly after 1538 | Dean and Chapter of Oxford | Granted from the Crown after the Dissolution of Notley Abbey; the manor was subsequently returned, forfeited or otherwise removed from their possession. | | Princes Risborough Historic Town Assessment, Buckinghamshire County Council, section 5.4, 'Abbots Manor'.
- 1547 - 1553 | Robert King, Bishop of Oxford | Granted by the Crown during the reign of Edward VI after the manor had been removed from the Dean and Chapter of Oxford. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'; corroborated in John Moore Heritage Services, St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough archaeological watching brief.
- 1589 - 1589 | Elizabeth I, Crown | Recovered from the Bishop of Oxford and immediately granted by Elizabeth I to Thomas Crompton, Robert Wrighte and Gilley Merick. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'.
- 1589 - before 1622 | Thomas Crompton, Robert Wrighte and Gilley Merick | Granted by Elizabeth I in 1589; the manor was subsequently conveyed by Thomas Crompton to John Jackman. The respective shares and the date of Crompton's conveyance are not stated. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'; the 1589 grant is also summarized in the Buckinghamshire County Council Historic Town Assessment.
- before 1622 - 1622 | John Jackman | Acquired by conveyance from Thomas Crompton; the exact date and legal form of the conveyance are not stated. | | Princes Risborough Parish

historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'.

- 1622 - 1624 | Unnamed son of John Jackman | Inherited or otherwise received the manor after John Jackman's death in 1622; the son's name and the exact legal mechanism are not stated. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'.

- 1624 - after 1624; precise end date not established | Joan Chibnall and Vincent Barry | Purchased from the unnamed son of John Jackman in 1624. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'; Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust, Site Dossier: Manor House (Brooke House), Princes Risborough, pp. 4-5.

- by 1675 - after 1675; later separate holding not established | Thomas Adeane | Appears as holder of both the King's Manor and the Abbot's Manor in a 1675 suit concerning the customs of the manors. The transfer from the preceding holder is not established. | | Princes Risborough Parish historical account, 'The Manor of Risborough or Princes Risborough or Brooke or Abbot's Risborough'; Buckinghamshire County Council, Princes Risborough Historic Town Assessment, section 5.4, 'Abbots Manor'.

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