

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003184 • MANOR
HIGH ABBOTSIDE MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Aysgarth, Yorkshire
Associated places: Aysgarth, Yorkshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

- Manor of High Abbotside | Historically associated | By 1890 - 1912 | Provisional

ABOUT THE MANOR

High Abbotside Manor was the northern part of the former monastic Manor of Wensleydale, also known in earlier records as Abbotside or Dale Grange. The estate originated in the lands held by the monastery founded at Fors in 1145 and transferred to the later Jervaulx Abbey. The medieval estate covered much of upper Wensleydale north of the River Ure, including land later understood as High and Low Abbotside. After the Dissolution of Jervaulx Abbey, the estate passed through Crown and private ownership. It was acquired by the Wortley family in 1723 and thereafter treated as two manors, High Abbotside and Low Abbotside. High Abbotside included Hardraw, Cotterdale, Fossdale, Simonstone, Sedbusk, Shaw, Litherskew, Helbeck-Lunds and related hamlets and moorland. The manor was still held by the Earl of Wharnccliffe in the late nineteenth century. A 1913 sale catalogue records the Simonstone estate as including two manors in the township of High and Low Abbotside, while another historical account states that the Wortley estate was sold in 1912. The identity of any purchaser after that sale has not been securely established in the sources consulted.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest securely evidenced predecessor estate was the monastic holding established at Fors in 1145 and moved to Jervaulx in 1156. By the early fourteenth century the abbot's Wensleydale estate was known as the Manor of Wensleydale or Abbotside, with courts held at Dale Grange. Following the Dissolution of Jervaulx Abbey in 1539, the estate passed to the Crown and was granted in 1544 to Matthew Stewart, Earl of Lennox, and Margaret Douglas. The title returned to the

Crown in 1603 and was granted to Ludovic Stewart, Duke of Lennox, on 6 August 1603. Lennox sold the manor in 1614 to Sir Francis Baildon, Thomas Rookwood and Edmund Rolte, apparently as joint purchasers or estate intermediaries. The manor was then divided into shares: two parts were acquired by George Cole and Thomas Cole, while the remaining third was acquired by Mary Coleby and leased to George Cole. John Coleby, Mary Coleby's son, sold his part in 1678 to Alexander Smith. By 1717 the whole manor was reported to be in the hands of Lord Lonsdale, although the intervening conveyance from the Cole and Smith interests has not been identified. Henry Lowther, Viscount Lonsdale, sold the manor in 1723 to Edward Wortley Montagu. After Wortley's death in 1755, his daughter Mary held the estates for life, after which they passed to James Archibald Stuart, her second son, and subsequently to his eldest son John Stuart. Following John's death in 1797, the estates passed to James Archibald Stuart Wortley Mackenzie, later the first Baron Wharnccliffe. The manor remained associated with the Wortley-Stuart-Wharnccliffe estate. In 1890 the Earl of Wharnccliffe was explicitly identified as lord of the manors of High and Low Abbotside. The estate was reportedly sold in 1912, and a 1913 sale catalogue records two manors among the properties offered, but the purchaser and the precise legal disposition of the manorial rights have not been securely established.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1145 - 1539 | Abbot and convent of Fors Abbey, later Jervaulx Abbey | Foundation grant of land at Fors and Worton to establish a monastery; the community moved from Fors to the Jervaulx site in 1156 and retained the associated Wensleydale estate until the Dissolution. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1 (1914), pp. 68-70, as cited in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey; corroborated by the York Archaeological Trust account of Jervaulx Abbey.
- 1539 - 1544 | The Crown | Dissolution and forfeiture of Jervaulx Abbey's lands to the Crown. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1 (1914), pp. 68-70, as cited in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.
- 1544 - 1603 | Matthew Stewart, 4th Earl of Lennox, and Margaret Douglas | Grant by Henry VIII of the former Jervaulx Manor of Wensleydale or Abbotside to Matthew Stewart, Earl of Lennox, and Margaret Douglas. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1 (1914), pp. 68-70, citing the relevant Patent Roll; reproduced and summarized in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.
- 1603 - 1603 | The Crown | Reversion or return of the estate to the Crown on the accession of James I; the source states that the Lennox holding returned to the Crown in 1603. | | The

Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing the Patent Roll and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1 (1914), pp. 68-70.

- 1603-08-06 - 1614 | Ludovic Stewart, Duke of Lennox | Royal grant by James I on 6 August 1603 of the Manor of Wensleydale or Abbotside, together with Settrington and Temple Newsam. | | The Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing the Patent Roll, Exchequer Depositions and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, pp. 68-70.

- 1614 - 1616 | Sir Francis Baidon, Thomas Rookwood and Edmund Rolte | Purchase of the entire manor from Ludovic Stewart, Duke of Lennox, for £10,000. | | The Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing the relevant Exchequer and conveyancing records and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, pp. 68-70.

- 1616 - 1618 | George Cole and Thomas Cole | Acquisition of one-third share of the manor from the 1614 purchasers; the related survey and later account describe two parts as passing to the Coles. | | The Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing Exchequer Depositions, Close Rolls and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, p. 69.

- 1616 - 1618 | George Cole | Acquisition of a further one-third share of the divided manor, according to the account of the 1616 transactions and 1618 survey. | | The Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing Exchequer Depositions, Close Rolls and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, p. 69.

- 1616 - 1678 | Mary Coleby | Acquisition of the remaining one-third share of the divided manor; she subsequently leased it to George Cole for ten years at £220 per annum. | | The Dales, Coleby Hall Askrigg historical account, citing Exchequer Depositions, Close Rolls and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, p. 69.

- By 1678 - 1678 | John Coleby | Sale of the Coleby share of the manor to Alexander Smith in 1678. | | Feet of Fines of Yorkshire, East Riding, Easter 33 Charles II, together with Dugdale's Visitation of Yorkshire and the Historical Manuscripts Commission report, as cited by Victoria County History and summarized in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.

- 1678 - By 1717 | Alexander Smith | Purchase of John Coleby's part of the manor in 1678. | | Feet of Fines of Yorkshire, East Riding, Easter 33 Charles II, and Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, p. 69, as summarized in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.

- By 1717 - 1723 | Henry Lowther, 3rd Viscount Lonsdale | The whole manor was reported to be owned by Lord Lonsdale by 1717; he sold it to Edward Wortley Montagu in 1723. The intermediate acquisition of the remaining shares is not identified. | | Recovery Rolls of Yorkshire, Trinity 3 George I, rot. 64, and related local history, as cited in the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey and the Northern Mine Research Society account.

- 1723 - 1755 | Edward Wortley Montagu | Purchase of the Manor of Wensleydale or Dale Grange from Henry, Viscount Lonsdale, in 1723. | | Northern Mine Research Society, British Mining no. 45, Minutes Regarding Mines in Upper Wensleydale, summarizing the 1723 purchase and later descent; corroborated by the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.

- 1755 - After 1755 and before succession of James Archibald Stuart | Mary Wortley Montagu | Life interest under Edward Wortley Montagu's testamentary disposition; after her life interest the estates were to pass to James Archibald Stuart, her second son. | | Northern Mine Research Society, British Mining no. 45, Minutes Regarding Mines in Upper Wensleydale, summarizing the Wortley estate settlement.

- After Mary Wortley Montagu's life interest and before 1797 - Before 1797 | James Archibald

Stuart | Remainder interest after Mary Wortley Montagu; the source states that James Archibald Stuart received the estates and then demised them to his eldest son John Stuart. | | Northern Mine Research Society, British Mining no. 45, Minutes Regarding Mines in Upper Wensleydale, summarizing the Wortley family estate descent.

- After the succession of James Archibald Stuart and before 1797 - 1797 | John Stuart | Demise from his father, James Archibald Stuart; the consulted source states that the estates were then held by his eldest son John Stuart until his death unmarried in 1797. | | Northern Mine Research Society, British Mining no. 45, Minutes Regarding Mines in Upper Wensleydale, summarizing the Wortley estate descent.

- 1797 - 1818 | James Archibald Stuart Wortley Mackenzie | Succession to the Wortley estates after the death of his elder brother John Stuart in 1797. | | Northern Mine Research Society, British Mining no. 45, Minutes Regarding Mines in Upper Wensleydale; biographical corroboration from the Dictionary of National Biography.

- By 1890 - 1912 | Earl of Wharnccliffe | Later descent within the Wortley-Stuart-Wharnccliffe family; the precise intervening conveyances from 1818 to 1890 are not established here. In 1890 the Earl of Wharnccliffe was expressly identified as lord of the manor of High Abbotside. | | Bulmer's History and Directory of North Yorkshire (1890), entry for High Abbotside; supplemented by Historic England's 1913 Simonstone Estate sale record and the Yorkshire Dales National Park archaeological survey.

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