

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003195 • MANOR
ABDON MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Abdon, Shropshire
Associated places: Abdon, Shropshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Abdon was a Domesday manor in the parish of Abdon, Shropshire, historically called Abbeton or Abdon.

In 1086 it was held under Earl Roger by Rainald the Sheriff, with Azo as undertenant. The manor

subsequently formed part of the FitzAlan honour and was held under the FitzAlans by the Le Strange

family, with the Ledwyche family as tenants for much of the thirteenth century. By the later thirteenth century it had become part of the extensive estates of Bishop Robert Burnell and was

associated with the Barony of Holgate. The manor descended through the Burnell, Lovel, Howard,

Dudley, Cresset, Briggs, Fitzwilliam and Herbert interests before being purchased by William Bradley

in 1872. The manor and the advowson were distinct: the 1872 purchase covered the manor but not the

advowson. The associated medieval tenurial relationships included overlordship by the FitzAlans and

later the Earl of Arundel, and mesne tenure under Le Strange and the lords of Holgate; these relationships should not be conflated with direct possession of the manor.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest recorded estate holder was Uluuin in the time of King Edward the Confessor. At Domesday

in 1086 Abdon was held under Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, by Rainald the Sheriff, whose

undertenant was Azo. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the superior lordship passed into the

FitzAlan honour; John le Strange held Abdon of the FitzAlans, while the Ledwyches held it under Le

Strange. By the close of the thirteenth century Abdon was among the possessions of Bishop Robert

Burnell and formed part of the Barony of Holgate. Sir Philip Burnell held the estate until his death

in 1294; his son Edward held it until his death in 1315, after which the inheritance passed

through Edward's sister Maud Burnell and her second husband Sir John de Handlo to Nicholas de Handlo, who adopted the Burnell name and died seised of Abdon in 1382 under the Earl of Arundel. Nicholas was succeeded by Sir Hugh Burnell. In 1417 Sir Hugh settled Abdon and other manors on his daughter Katherine, who possessed them with her husband Sir John Radcliffe. The Burnell inheritance later passed, apparently on Katherine's death, to William Lovel, Baron Lovel of Titchmarsh, who died seised of Abdon in 1454. After Francis Lovel's forfeiture under Henry VII, the estate was granted to Jasper, Duke of Bedford, and subsequently in 1513-1514 to Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey. Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, later conveyed the estate to Sir John Dudley. Henry Cresset appears as lord of Abdon in 1556 and by his will of 1562 devised the manor to his nephew Richard Cresset. A documentary gap follows. Adam Lutley's 1590 will refers to his 'manor' of Abdon, but the extent of his title is uncertain; shortly afterwards Humphrey Briggs was lord of the manor and died seised of it in 1625. The manor remained with the Briggs family and descended through the female coheirs after the death of Sir Hugh Briggs in 1747. The Briggs estates were partitioned by Act of Parliament in 1800, when Abdon was assigned to Viscount Fitzwilliam. Lord Fitzwilliam bequeathed the property to George Augustus Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, with remainder to his second son Sydney Herbert, who was lord of the manor in 1851. The Herbert heirs retained the manor until William Bradley purchased it in 1872. William Bradley died in 1905; the published local history states that his family continued to own the manor, but does not identify a later named holder with sufficient precision for a separate conveyance entry.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- before 1066 - 1066 | Uluiu | Pre-Conquest recorded holder | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, citing Domesday Book.
- 1086 - 1086 | Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury | Norman superior lordship recorded at Domesday | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, citing Domesday Book.
- 1086 - after 1086 | Rainald the Sheriff | Domesday tenure under Earl Roger | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, citing Domesday Book.
- 1086 - after 1086 | Azo | Domesday undertenancy under Rainald the Sheriff | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, volume 4,

pp. 128-129.

- 1155 - after 1165 | William FitzAlan and the FitzAlan lords | Superior lordship passed into the FitzAlan honour | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, volume 4, pp. 128-129.
- by 1165 - after 1255 | John le Strange | Held Abdon of the FitzAlan barony | | Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, volume 4, pp. 128-130; A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1226 - 1284 | Geoffrey de Ledwyche and the Ledwyche family | Held Abdon under John le Strange | | Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, volume 4, pp. 129-130; A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- late 13th century - 1292 | Bishop Robert Burnell | Abdon became part of the Burnell estates | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1292 - 1294 | Sir Philip Burnell | Succession as nephew and heir of Bishop Robert Burnell | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1294 - 1315 | Edward Burnell | Succession to the Burnell inheritance | | Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, volume 4, pp. 130-131; A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1315 - after 1350 | Maud Burnell and Sir John de Handlo | Inheritance through Edward Burnell's sister Maud and her settlement with her second husband | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- after 1315 - 1382 | Nicholas de Handlo, later Nicholas Burnell | Settlement of the Burnell inheritance on Maud Burnell's male issue | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1382 - 1417 | Sir Hugh Burnell | Succession as son and heir of Nicholas Burnell | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1417 - before 1454 | Katherine Burnell and Sir John Radcliffe | Settlement by Sir Hugh Burnell on his daughter Katherine; possession exercised by her husband in her right | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- before 1454 - 1454 | William Lovel, Baron Lovel of Titchmarsh | Burnell inheritance passed, apparently on Katherine's death, to the heir male of Maud Burnell's first husband | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- after 1454 - 1485 | Francis Lovel, Lord Lovel | Succession through William Lovel's line | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- after 1485 - 1497 | Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford | Crown grant of Francis Lovel's forfeited estates | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1513-1514 - after 1514 | Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey | Grant by Henry VIII of Abdon and associated estates | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- after 1514 - before 1551 | Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk | Succession and later conveyance to Sir John Dudley | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- before 1551 - mid 16th century | Sir John Dudley | Conveyance from Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.
- 1556 - 1562 | Henry Cresset | Acquisition or leasehold succession from the Dudley interest; exact conveyance uncertain | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, including note on the probable Dudley-to-Cresset conveyance.
- 1562 - after 1580 | Richard Cresset of Upton | Devise under Henry Cresset's will | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; Shropshire historical register material recording Richard Cresset's presentation at Abdon in 1580.
- before 1590 - 1590 | Adam Lutley | Separate or partial interest evidenced by will and

inquisition post mortem | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, citing Adam Lutley's inquisition post mortem and will.

- late 16th century - 1625 | Humphrey Briggs of Earnstrey | Later appearance as lord of Abdon; intervening conveyance not identified | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon, including the note on the probable Cresset-to-Briggs transfer.

- 1625 - after 1641 | Moreton Briggs | Succession as son of Humphrey Briggs | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- after 1641 - before 1747 | Sir Humphrey Briggs | Succession within the Briggs family | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- before 1747 - 1747 | Sir Hugh Briggs | Succession within the Briggs family | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- 1747 - eighteenth century | Elizabeth Briggs and the Briggs female coheirs | Descent to the sisters and coheirs of Sir Hugh Briggs | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- eighteenth century - after 1747 | Rev. John Brooke of Shifnal | Inheritance through Elizabeth Briggs and Leigh Brooke | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- eighteenth century - 1800 | George Townshend | Devise by Rev. John Brooke to his nephew | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- 1800 - 1816 | Viscount Fitzwilliam | Assignment under Act of Parliament partitioning the Briggs estates | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; local Abdon parish history.

- 1816 - after 1851 | George Augustus Herbert, Earl of Pembroke | Bequest by Lord Fitzwilliam | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon.

- before 1851 - after 1851 | Hon. Sydney Herbert, later 12th Earl of Pembroke | Remainder under Lord Fitzwilliam's bequest; later succession to the Pembroke title | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; Bagshaw, History, Gazetteer, and Directory of Shropshire, 1851.

- 1872 - 1905 | William Bradley | Purchase from the Herbert or Fitzwilliam inheritors | | A History of the County of Shropshire, volume 10, Abdon; Abdon and Heath Parish Council, History of Abdon.

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Advowson of Abdon: The advowson was distinct from the manor; the 1872 purchase covered the manor but not the advowson.

DISCLAIMER

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