

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003226 • MANOR
ABINGTON PIGOTTS MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Abington Pigotts, Cambridgeshire
Associated places: Abington Pigotts, Cambridgeshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Abington Pigotts Manor was the principal lay manor associated with Abington Pigotts, historically also called Abington by Shingay and Abington in the Clay. The medieval settlement contained several distinct Domesday landholdings, including holdings of the Crown, the bishop of Winchester, Hugh of Ivry, the earl of Shrewsbury, Hardwin of Scales, and Picot of Cambridge; the Domesday evidence should therefore not be treated as a single uninterrupted descent of the later named manor. By the early fifteenth century the Pigott family had acquired an estate at Abington near Shingay, from which the place later took the name Abington Pigotts. The surviving Manor Farmhouse on Church Lane is a moated former manor house, built or substantially rebuilt by Henry Pigott in the mid sixteenth century. It ceased to function as the principal manor house after 1680, when Granado Pigott removed to Bassingbourn. The estate remained associated with the Pigott family and its Foster-Pigott and Graham-Foster-Pigott successors into the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. No distinct barony, seigneury, or other associated feudal title has been securely identified for this manor.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The secure public evidence is discontinuous. Domesday Book records several separate estates at Abington in 1086, not one clearly identifiable unit corresponding to the later Abington Pigotts Manor. A Pigott estate at Abington near Shingay is documented from the early fifteenth century, and the place subsequently became known as Abington Pigotts. John Pigott was associated with the Abington estate and its advowson by 1440, but the available evidence does not establish a

complete

legal conveyance from the medieval predecessors to him. Henry Pigott is directly associated with the

sixteenth-century manor house, which Historic England dates to the mid sixteenth century and describes as built by Henry Pigott, who died in 1588. Granado Pigott was in possession of the estate

and manor house by the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; the house became a farmhouse after

he removed to Bassingbourn in 1680. Granado Pigott died in 1802. The estate then passed through the

female line to the Foster and Graham families: contemporary and later material records

William

Foster-Pigott and subsequently the Graham-Foster-Pigott family in connection with the Abington

Pigotts lordship and estate. William Graham Foster Pigott was recorded as lord of the manor in 1871,

and Thomas Graham-Foster-Pigott was recorded as lord of the manor in 1904. The precise legal instruments and dates of several transitions, especially between the medieval Pigotts, the eighteenth-century Granado Pigott, William Foster-Pigott, and the Graham-Foster-Pigott successors,

remain unresolved in the sources located.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- early 15th century - by 1440 | Pigott family, unnamed early holder or holders |

Acquisition of an estate at Abington near Shingay; the precise conveyance and the identity of the transferring party are not established in the available sources. | | Daniel Lysons

and Samuel Lysons, *Magna Britannia*, volume II, Cambridgeshire and Cheshire, nineteenth-century county account, section on Cambridgeshire families and estates.

- by 1440 | John Pigott | First located evidence of John Pigott in possession of the Abington estate and associated patronage; the transfer from the preceding Pigott holder is not identified. | | Victoria County History, Cambridgeshire, volume VIII, account of Abington Pigotts church and manorial context, reproduced in the historical account of St Michael's Church, Abington Pigotts.

- mid 16th century - 1588 | Henry Pigott | Continuation of the Pigott family's possession; the precise legal transfer to Henry Pigott is unknown. | | Historic England, listing entry 1330849, Manor Farmhouse, Church Lane, Abington Pigotts, dated 22 November 1957 and incorporating references to the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments and Victoria County History.

- by 1680 - 1802 | Granado Pigott | Continuation or inheritance within the Pigott family; the exact date and legal form of Granado Pigott's acquisition are not established. | | Historic England, listing entry 1330849, Manor Farmhouse, Church Lane, Abington Pigotts; corroborated by the memorial inscription for Granado Pigott at Bath Abbey.

- 1802 - 1824 | George Graham | Succession by marriage to the Pigott estate: George Graham married the niece and heiress of William Foster-Pigott and later succeeded to the Pigott estates. The exact legal date of possession of the manor is uncertain. | | Ellis Wasson, *Parliamentary Families: The Past and Present Members of the House of Commons and Their Families*, entry for the Pigott and Graham-Foster-Pigott families.

- 1831 - 1878 | George Granado Graham Foster Pigott | Continuation of the

Graham-Foster-Pigott family succession; no separate conveyance instrument has been located. | | Historical account of St Michael's Church, Abington Pigotts, drawing on Victoria County History material; corroborated by Royal Astronomical Society biographical records and the church memorial record.

- 1871 | William Graham Foster Pigott | First located contemporary directory evidence explicitly naming William Graham Foster Pigott as lord of the manor. The preceding transfer is not documented in the source. | | Post Office Directory of Cambridgeshire, 1871, entry for Abington Pigotts, digitised by the University of Leicester Special Collections.

- 1904 | Thomas Graham-Foster-Pigott | First located contemporary directory evidence explicitly naming Thomas Graham-Foster-Pigott as lord of the manor. The preceding transfer is not documented in the source. | | Kelly's Directory of Cambridgeshire, 1904, entry for Abington Pigotts, reproduced in a parish and genealogy reference transcription.

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