

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003310 • MANOR
AGGLETHORPE MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
Generated: 15 October 2026 12:00 UTC

Location: Coverham, Yorkshire
Associated places: Coverham, Yorkshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Agglethorpe is a hamlet in the historic parish and township of Coverham, in Coverdale, Yorkshire. In medieval records it was one of the members of the manor of Coverham, together with Caldbergh and Melmerby, and formed part of the lordship associated with Middleham. By the later sixteenth century a distinct estate described as the manor of Agglethorpe had emerged in the hands of the Topham family. The manor was subsequently associated with Little or East Scafton and, in some title records, with Appleton alias Westhall. The present Agglethorpe Hall is a substantially rebuilt or altered seventeenth-century and later farmhouse; archaeological and landscape evidence indicates that the medieval manor-house site lay farther to the south-east. The manor should not be confused with the wider medieval manor of Coverham, although the latter is its documented predecessor or administrative context.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest securely located evidence places Agglethorpe within the manor of Coverham. In an inquisition post mortem of Stephen Lescrope dated 1406, Coverham is recorded as a manor with members in Agglethorpe, Caldbergh and Melmerby, held by Stephen of Ralph, earl of Westmorland, by the service of one barbed arrow. Secondary historical synthesis states that the manor of Coverham was part of the lordship of Middleham until 1310, when it was acquired by Geoffrey le Scrope, remained in Scrope hands until its confiscation in 1415, was granted to Henry, Lord FitzHugh, and was recovered by the Scropes in 1442-1443. A feet of fine dated 8 July 1442 records William FitzHugh and

Margery FitzHugh quitclaiming the manors and lands including Agglethorpe, Caldbergh, Melmerby and Scafton to John, Lord Scrope. The evidence does not establish a continuous title to the later separate manor of Agglethorpe between the mid-fifteenth century and the sixteenth century; that gap is therefore retained. By 1591 Edward Topham of Agglethorpe was seised of the manors of Agglethorpe, Melmerby and East Scafton. The three manors descended through the Topham family until the inheritance passed through Dinah Topham and the Frankland, Trevor and Lichfield interests. In 1782 Thomas Lord Pelham and Anne Pelham conveyed the three manors to Thomas Walley Partington. Later nineteenth-century directories state that manorial rights in the combined Coverham-cum-Agglethorpe township were held by the Topham family, but that statement is not sufficiently specific to prove a subsequent conveyance of this distinct Agglethorpe manor and is not entered as a separate conveyance.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1310 - 1415 | Geoffrey le Scrope | Acquisition of the manor of Coverham, of which Agglethorpe was a member, from the lordship of Middleham; the precise instrument and date of acquisition are not stated in the consulted source. | | M. J. Moorhouse, Woodland Management in Two Yorkshire Dales Since the Medieval Period, discussion of the manor of Coverham and its descent; citing medieval and antiquarian sources.
- 1406-02-01 - 1406-01-25 | Stephen Lescrope | Inherited or otherwise held the manor of Coverham before his death; the preceding conveyance is not stated. | | E-CIPM 19-131, Stephen Lescrope of Masham, knight, writ 1 February 1406; TNA C 137/56/52.
- 1415 - 1442 | Henry, Lord FitzHugh | The manor of Coverham, including Agglethorpe as a member, was confiscated from the Scrope interest and granted to Henry, Lord FitzHugh; the exact grant instrument was not located in the present research. | | M. J. Moorhouse, Woodland Management in Two Yorkshire Dales Since the Medieval Period, discussion of the manor of Coverham; the account cites the relevant medieval records.
- 1442-07-08 - after 1442 | John, Lord Scrope | William FitzHugh and Margery FitzHugh quitclaimed the manors and lands including Agglethorpe, Caldbergh, Melmerby and Scafton to John, Lord Scrope and his heirs for ever, subject to the services due to the chief lords. | | Feet of Fine, Yorkshire, CP 25/1/280/158, no. 43, dated 8 July 1442; abstract based on the enrolled fine.
- by 1591 - 1591 | Edward Topham | The immediate transfer into Edward Topham's hands is not stated. At his death he was recorded as seised of the manors of Agglethorpe, Melmerby and East Scafton. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 116-133; corroborated by the Topham pedigree citing the Yorkshire visitation literature.
- 1591 - 1600 | Francis Topham | Succession after the death of Edward Topham; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 116-133.

- 1600 - 1612 | Henry Topham | Succession after the death of his brother Francis Topham, who died childless; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 116-133.
- 1612 - 1628 | Edward Topham | Succession after the death of Henry Topham; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 116-133.
- 1628 - 1643 | Francis Topham | Succession after the death of Edward Topham; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 119-123.
- 1643 - c.1651 | Edward Topham | Succession after the death of his father Francis Topham; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 120-124.
- c.1651 - 1669 | Francis Topham | Succession after the death of Edward Topham; the precise legal instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 124-125; Topham pedigree corroboration.
- 1669 - 1677 | Lionel Topham | Succession after the death of Francis Topham; a conveyance by Lionel is recorded in 1677, but its exact effect on the beneficial ownership is not stated in the consulted summary. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 125-127.
- after 1677 - before 1740-02 | Francis Topham | Succession from Lionel Topham; the exact date and instrument are not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 126-128.
- before 1740-02 - 1740-1741 | Dinah Topham, later Dinah Frankland | Succession after the death of her childless brother Francis Topham; the exact instrument is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 127-129; Topham pedigree corroboration.
- 1740-1741 - 1745 | Elizabeth Frankland and Dinah Frankland | Inheritance as co-heirs after the death of their mother Dinah Topham, later Dinah Frankland; exact partition or settlement of the three manors is not stated. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 128-129.
- 1741 - 1742-07-02 | Sir Thomas Frankland, 3rd Baronet | Lease, grant and release of the manor of Agglethorpe to John Trevor, expressly stated to be in trust to sell. | | West Yorkshire Archive Service, Yorkshire Archaeological Society deposit DD5, DD5/1/151, attested copies of lease, grant and release, 2-3 July 1742.
- 1742-07-02 - after 1742 | John Trevor | Received the manor of Agglethorpe under a lease, grant and release from Sir Thomas Frankland in trust to sell; the subsequent sale instrument was not located. | | West Yorkshire Archive Service, Yorkshire Archaeological Society deposit DD5, DD5/1/151, attested copies of lease, grant and release, 2-3 July 1742; related DD5/1/150.
- 1745 - 1769 | George Henry, 3rd Earl of Lichfield | The manor court for Agglethorpe and

Little Scrafton was held in the Earl's name in 1750 after his marriage to Dinah Frankland; the precise conveyance or settlement into his name was not located. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnote 130; archival catalogue DD5/1/156 records his 1769 will.

- 1782 - after 1782 | Thomas Walley Partington | Thomas Lord Pelham and Anne Pelham conveyed the three manors, including Agglethorpe, to Thomas Walley Partington; the exact day of the 1782 conveyance is not stated in the consulted historical summary. | | Victoria County History, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 1, parish history of Coverham, manorial descent and footnotes 131-133; West Yorkshire Archive Service, Yorkshire Archaeological Society deposit DD5/1/169, Trinity Term 1782 fine.

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