

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003328 • MANOR
AIRTON MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Kirkby Malham, Yorkshire
Associated places: Kirkby Malham, Yorkshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Airton Manor, also recorded as the manor of Airton or Airton-in-Craven, was the principal manor associated with the township of Airton in the historic parish of Kirkby Malhamdale, Craven, Yorkshire. Airton appears in Domesday as Airtone, within the fief of Roger of Poitou. Medieval evidence places the manor in the Bulmer fee as a mesne lordship, later passing by marriage to the FitzHugh family. The manor was in the possession of John Lambert by the early sixteenth century and subsequently formed part of the Lambert, Middleton, Marton, Lloyd, Alcock, Illingworth and Morkill succession of Malhamdale estates. The present building called The Manor House at Airton is a separate physical subject from the medieval manor: Historic England describes it as an early nineteenth-century Grade II-listed house, formerly the Manor Hotel.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

Domesday evidence records Airton as a manor in the fief of Roger of Poitou, although this represents the superior feudal holding rather than necessarily day-to-day demesne lordship. Medieval county history states that the manor accompanied a carucate granted through the Nevile interest and remained with the Bulmers as mesne lords. It passed by marriage from the Bulmers to the FitzHughs and remained associated with that family until the death of Henry FitzHugh, fourth Baron FitzHugh, in 1425. The subsequent descent is undocumented in the consulted public sources until the early sixteenth century. Local historical material states that John Lambert purchased the manor from Lord Dacre in 1530; contemporary or near-contemporary deed abstracts identify John Lambert as lord or owner of Airton Manor in 1536, 1544, 1560 and 1573. A 1567 settlement placed Airton Hall and associated lands to the use of Benjamin Lambert, John's son and heir apparent, while a 1588

lease describes Benjamin as John's son and heir and leases the manor after John's death.

Benjamin Lambert possessed the manor by 1597 and died in 1598, after which his half-brother Josias

Lambert inherited the estate according to later historical research. The later Malhamdale estate

passed to the Middleton family, then to Oliver Marton and his descendants. In 1782 the southern

portion, including the manors of Airton, Calton and Hanlith, was sold to Gamaliel Lloyd, who conveyed the manors on the following day to William Alcock. William Alcock or his successors remained associated with the manor into the nineteenth century; a directory for the 1871 period

names Captain William Alcock as lord of the manor. By 1901 the title of lord of the manors of

Airton, Calton and Hanlith had passed with Newfield Hall from William Illingworth to John William

Morkill. The consulted sources do not establish a later conveyance of the manor after Morkill's

death in 1932, although they state that the wider estate was subsequently broken up.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1086 - after 1086 | Roger of Poitou | Domesday recording; Airton was included in the fief of Roger of Poitou, Lord of Clitheroe. | | William Page and J. Horace Round, Victoria County History-style account reproduced in History of Craven, Parish of Kirkby Malhamdale; corroborated by Yorkshire Dales Community Archives, Airton entry.

- after 1086 - before the marriage of Eve de Bulmer to Henry FitzHugh, date uncertain | Robert de Bulmer and the Bulmer family | The Airton manor accompanied a carucate associated with the Bulmer inheritance and continued to be held by the Bulmers as mesne lords. | | History of Craven, Parish of Kirkby Malhamdale, discussion of the Airton carucate, Bulmer inheritance and FitzHugh succession.

- after his marriage to Eve de Bulmer, date uncertain - date uncertain | Henry FitzHugh, 2nd Baron FitzHugh | The manor passed by marriage from the Bulmer inheritance to Henry FitzHugh through his marriage to Eve, daughter of Sir John Bulmer. | | History of Craven, Parish of Kirkby Malhamdale, account of the Bulmer and FitzHugh descent of Airton.

- date uncertain - 1425 | Henry FitzHugh, 4th Baron FitzHugh | Continuation of the FitzHugh family holding; Airton ceased to be enumerated among the FitzHugh manors after Henry FitzHugh's death in 1425. | | History of Craven, Parish of Kirkby Malhamdale; Mapping the Medieval Countryside, Inquisition Post Mortem evidence for Airton held of Lord Clifford.

- 1530 - after 1573; death date not established in the consulted sources | John Lambert of Calton | Purchased the manor of Airton from Lord Dacre, according to the local history account; later deeds directly identify him as lord or owner of Airton Manor. | | J. W. Morkill, History of Kirkby Malhamdale, quoted in Calton Hall history; Yorkshire Archaeological Society Calton Deed catalogue, entries for 1536, 1544, 1560 and 1573.

- 1596 or shortly thereafter - 1598 | Benjamin Lambert of Airton | Inherited the Lambert estate, including Airton Manor, from his father John Lambert; his possession of the manor is reported for 1597 and his death occurred in 1598. | | Yorkshire Archaeological Society Calton Deed catalogue, entries C91 and C110; research account citing J. W. Morkill and Farr, John Lambert.

- 1598 - date uncertain; later descent to the Middleton family | Josias Lambert of Malham | Inherited the Lambert estate from his half-brother Benjamin Lambert after Benjamin's death in 1598. | | Research account, Radical Religion and the Background to the Development of John Lambert, citing Farr, John Lambert, pages 8-11; corroborating Malhamdale church and local-history material.
- date uncertain; after the Lambert line failed - before 1727 | Sir John Middleton of Belsay Castle | The Malhamdale estate passed to Sir John Middleton through his marriage to Frances, daughter and heiress of the Lambert family. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group, account of the post-Lambert estate descent.
- before 1727 - 1727 | Sir William Middleton | Sold the Malhamdale property, including the associated Airton estate, to Oliver Marton. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group, citing J. W. Morkill's history of the parish.
- 1727 - 1735 | Oliver Marton of Gray's Inn and Capernwray | Purchased the Malhamdale property from Sir William Middleton; by his will he devised the Yorkshire estates to his sons in succession. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group, account of the Marton estate descent.
- 1735 - 1782 | Edward Marton, George Marton and Reverend Oliver Marton | Inherited or succeeded to the Yorkshire estates under Oliver Marton's will and its remainders; the Reverend Oliver Marton ultimately came into possession and conveyed the property to trustees for sale in 1782. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group, account of the Marton will and 1782 conveyance to trustees.
- 1782 - 1782 | Gamaliel Lloyd of Leeds | Purchased the southern portion of the Marton estate, including the manors of Airton, Calton and Hanlith, from trustees acting after the 1782 conveyance. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group, account of the 1782 sale and immediate conveyance.
- 1782 - by 1871; later transfer date not established | William Alcock of Skipton | Received a conveyance from Gamaliel Lloyd on the day after Lloyd acquired the southern estate; the conveyance expressly included the manors of Airton, Calton and Hanlith. | | Calton Hall history, Malhamdale Local History Group; 1871 directory entry naming William Alcock as lord of Airton.
- by 1901 - 1901 | William Illingworth | The title of lord of the manors of Airton, Calton and Hanlith passed with the sale of Newfield Hall and associated property to John William Morkill in 1901. | | John William Morkill biography, Malhamdale Local History Group; Newfield Hall historical summary corroborating the 1890 Illingworth acquisition and 1901 Morkill sale.
- 1901 - 1932 | John William Morkill | Bought Newfield Hall in 1901 from William Illingworth and acquired with it the title of lord of the manors of Airton, Calton and Hanlith. | | John William Morkill biography, Malhamdale Local History Group; Raistrick MSS catalogue, 1889 sale particulars for the manors and associated estates.

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