

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003333 • MANOR
AISLABY MANOR

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

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Aislaby Manor was the manor or lordship associated with Aislaby in Whitby parish, on the northern side of Eskdale about three miles south-west of Whitby. The settlement is recorded in Domesday Book as Asuluesbi, with two ploughlands, meadow and woodland. Medieval evidence places the manor within the descent of the Brus, Rosels, Thweng, Meynell, Percy and Darcy interests. An inquisitions post mortem record of 1411 expressly identifies two-thirds of the manor of Aislaby as held by John Darcy, Lord Darcy, of the heirs of Lucy de Thweng. Later published history states that the manor was associated with the Darcy and Strangways families before 1541 and with Lord Dacre thereafter, but this later medieval and early modern sequence conflicts with another local historical account stating that the Cholmley family acquired the former Whitby Abbey lands including Aislaby after the Dissolution and that Sir Hugh Cholmely acquired the manor of Aislaby in 1633. The apparent conflict may reflect different components of the Aislaby estate, a change in the identity of the reputed manor, or an error in one secondary account; it should not be resolved by inference. By the nineteenth century the manorial privileges or rights were held separately from most of the surrounding land. They were reported as belonging to members of the Noble family in the 1880s and to Mrs Hatt and Mrs Burnett in 1890. Frederick Haight Pyman was reported to have become entitled to the manor, including the wastes, in 1911 and was recorded as possessing the manorial rights in 1913.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest recorded lord in 1066 was Uhtred; in the Domesday survey of 1086 the estate was held by

Richard of Sourdeval under Count Robert of Mortain. A published summary based on the Victoria County History states that the lordship subsequently descended to the Brus family during the reign of Henry I, then through the Rosels and Lucy de Thweng to Nicholas de Meynell. In 1320-21 John son of William de Rosels conveyed the manor of Aislaby to Nicholas de Meynell for life, with remainder to Nicholas's son by Lucy de Thweng. By the early fourteenth century the manor was described in secondary summaries as a mesne lordship of Arnald de Percy. In 1411, an authoritative inquisitions post mortem records two-thirds of the manor in the possession of John Darcy, Lord Darcy, held of the heirs of Lucy de Thweng. The later descent remains incompletely documented in the sources located. The Victoria County History summary reports Darcy and Strangways possession until 1541 and Lord Dacre possession from 1541 to 1685. Separately, a Yorkshire Gardens Trust report, citing the 1923 Victoria County History and local archive material, says that the Cholmley family acquired the former Whitby Abbey lands including Aislaby after the Dissolution and that Sir Hugh Cholmley acquired the manor of Aislaby in 1633. Because these accounts are not reconciled by a primary conveyance in the material located, the intervening title should be treated as a documented but unresolved gap. By 1857 Robert Noble was advertised as owner of the manor or lordship of Aislaby. In 1890 the manorial privileges were held by Mrs Hatt and Mrs Burnett, and in 1911 Frederick Haight Pyman was reported to have become entitled to the manor including the wastes. Kelly's Directory recorded him as possessing the manorial rights in 1913. The descent after 1913 has not been established from reliable public sources.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1066 - 1066 | Uhtred | Holder recorded at the time of the Norman Conquest; no earlier transfer is identified. | | Open Domesday, Aislaby, Yorkshire; corroborated by the historical summary for Aislaby, Scarborough, citing William Page, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 2, pp. 506-528.
- 1086 - 1086 | Richard of Sourdeval | By the Norman reallocation of the estate after the Conquest; the precise grant or transfer is not identified in the source used. | | Open Domesday, Aislaby, Yorkshire.
- reign of Henry I - before the later Rosels and Thweng descent | Brus family | The lordship is reported to have entered the Brus family during the reign of Henry I; the specific conveyance is not identified. | | Aislaby, Scarborough historical summary, citing William Page, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 2, pp. 506-528; contextual discussion of Brus landholding in Ruth M. Blakely, The Brus Family in England and Scotland

1100-c.1290.

- before 1320-1321 - 1320-1321 | John son of William de Rosels | Conveyed the manor of Aislaby to Nicholas de Meynell for life, with remainder to Nicholas's son by Lucy de Thweng. | | Cokayne, Complete Peerage, 2nd edition, volume VIII, pp. 627-630, and volume XIV, p. 472, as quoted in the Aislaby-related transcription; the summary identifies the transaction as occurring in 1320-1321.

- 1320-1321 - after 1320-1321; exact end date not established | Nicholas de Meynell | Received a life interest in the manor of Aislaby from John son of William de Rosels, with remainder to his son by Lucy de Thweng. | | Cokayne, Complete Peerage, 2nd edition, volume VIII, pp. 627-630, and volume XIV, p. 472, as quoted in the Aislaby-related transcription.

- 1411 - 1411 | John Darcy, Lord Darcy | Held two-thirds of the manor at his death; the inquisition records the interest as coming into the king's hand because of his son's minority and wardship. The preceding conveyance into the Darcy family is not identified here. | | Inquisitions Post Mortem, E-CIPM 21-353, John Darcy, knight, TNA reference C 138/43/78, membranes 8-9.

- fourteenth century - 1541 | Darcy family | The published Aislaby summary states that the manor was held by the Darcy family during this period, but does not provide a complete sequence of individual holders or a securely documented transfer into the family. | | William Page, A History of the County of York: North Riding, volume 2, pp. 506-528, as summarized in the Aislaby historical entry.

- 1545 - 1633 | Cholmley family | The family is reported to have acquired former Whitby Abbey lands including Aislaby after the Dissolution; the precise conveyance of the manor itself is not identified and the account conflicts with the reported Dacre descent. | | Yorkshire Gardens Trust, Woodlands, Early history of the site; the report cites the Victoria History of the County of York North Riding, volume 2, and North Yorkshire County Record Office material.

- 1633 - after 1633; exact end date not established | Sir Hugh Cholmely | Acquired the manor of Aislaby in 1633 according to a local historical report. The grant, purchase deed or preceding holder is not identified in the accessible source. | | Yorkshire Gardens Trust, Woodlands, Early history of the site; report citing the Victoria History of the County of York North Riding, volume 2.

- 1857 - before 1881 | Robert Noble | By 1857 he was advertised as owner of Aislaby Hall together with the manor or lordship of Aislaby. The preceding conveyance is not identified. | | Country Life, report on Aislaby Hall quoting the Hull Packet and East Riding Times advertisement of January 1857.

- 1890 - after 1890; exact end date not established | Mrs Hatt and Mrs Burnett | By 1890 the manorial privileges were held by Mrs Hatt of Scarborough and Mrs Burnett of Whitby. The mechanism of succession or division from Robert Noble is not stated. | | Bulmer's Directory of the North Riding of Yorkshire, 1890, entry for Aislaby, quoted in the Aislaby historical image record.

- 1911 - 1913 | Frederick Haight Pyman | A 1987 commons decision records oral evidence that Frederick Haight Pyman became entitled to the Manor of Aislaby, including the wastes, in 1911. The transfer instrument and preceding holder are not identified. | | Aislaby Moor and Gally Hill, Aislaby No. CL.51, decision of Commissioner Baden Fuller dated 4 February 1987, section headed Manorial History; Kelly's Directory of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, 1913.

RECORDED RIGHTS

- Manorial privileges or manorial rights: By the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the manorial privileges or rights were held separately from most of the surrounding land; they were reported in 1890 and 1913.
- Rights in the wastes: Frederick Haight Pyman was reported in 1911 as entitled to the manor including the wastes.

DISCLAIMER

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