

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003355 • MANOR
ALCASTON MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Acton Scott, Shropshire
Associated places: Acton Scott, Shropshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Alcaston was a Domesday manor in the former Lenteurde Hundred, now the Alcaston settlement within the parish of Acton Scott, Shropshire. The Domesday entry records one hide, land for four ploughs, one plough in demesne, two servi and five villani, with a value falling from 20 shillings before the Conquest to 8 shillings at the survey. Medieval forms of the name include AEImundestune, Agemundeston, Alhameston, Halchamston, Halghameston, Alcaneston, Alkamston and Alghamston. A chapel belonging to or associated with the manor is documented in 1259 and 1349, although its site is now unknown. The surviving Manor Farmhouse at Alcaston is a timber-framed building dated principally to circa 1581; it is listed Grade II. Alcaston was historically distinct from the principal manor of Acton Scott, although later descriptions place it within the same parish and record the two estates in close relationship.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest recorded lord was Edric, whose estate was held by Helgot at the Domesday survey of 1086, immediately of the Norman Earl of Shrewsbury. Eyton states that the holding subsequently passed, by feoffment or inheritance among the relevant Domesday tenures, to the Girros family; Robert de Girros's manor of Agemundeston is recorded in the 1195 Pipe Roll material. About 1251 the Girros fief was divided between coheirs identified by Eyton as Hopton and Constantine, and Alcaston fell to the Hopton share as a mesne tenure. The Rossall family had already been enfeoffed in the manor: Thomas de Rossall appears as the senior feoffee, followed by his son Vivian, and

Vivian's son Reymund was recorded as holding the manor in 1272 and as Reymund de Alcaston in 1284. The Fitz Alan interest and the Hopton mesne lordship continued alongside these Rossall holdings; Eyton records John fitz Alan's fee-simple interest, Walter de Hopton as suzerain, and Richard, Earl of Arundel, holding under Walter de Hopton in 1302. The documentary descent after the early fourteenth century is not securely continuous in the accessible sources. A modern VCH snippet reports a possible sale by John Lyttelton to Humphrey Ludlow between 1507 and 1532, but expressly treats the identification as uncertain and also records an interest in Alcaston and Henley sold by the Earl of Oxford to John Stringfellow in 1552. Those events are therefore retained only as qualified evidence. Later nineteenth-century directories explicitly identify J. Loxdale Warren as lord of the manor of Alcaston, but the intervening conveyance from the sixteenth-century interests to Warren has not been established here.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- before 1086 - by 1086 | Edric | Pre-Conquest tenure; the Domesday entry states that Edric held the estate before Helgot. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 1, quoting the Shropshire Domesday entry: 'Edricus tenuit'.
- by 1086 - after 1086; exact end unknown | Helgot | Held at the Domesday survey immediately of the Norman Earl of Shrewsbury; succeeded Edric, but the mechanism and date of succession are not stated. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 1, quoting Domesday Book, fol. 258b.
- by 1195 - 1195; deceased by the Pipe Roll account | Robert de Girros | Alcaston is identified by Eyton as one of Helgot's Domesday tenures that passed to the Girros family. Robert de Girros was deceased by 1195, when the escheator accounted for receipts from his manor of Agemundeston. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 1; citing Pipe Roll, 7 Richard I, and the Schedule of Escheats, Shropshire.
- about 1251 - after 1251; exact end unknown | Hopton coheirs, represented by the Hopton share | Division of the Girros fief among coheirs identified by Eyton as Hopton and Constantine; Alcaston fell to the Hopton share. This was a mesne tenure rather than necessarily the immediate fee-simple estate. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 1.
- before 1251 - before or by the later thirteenth century; exact end unknown | Thomas de Rossall | Already enfeoffed in the manor before the division of the Girros fief about 1251. The source does not state the date or instrument of his enfeoffment. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 1.
- before 1255 - after 1259; exact end unknown | Vivian de Rossall | Sub-enfeoffed by his father Thomas de Rossall; later recorded as lord of Halchamston in 1259. Eyton also states that within the following eight years Vivian seems to have transferred the fee-simple to John fitz Alan II, but later evidence shows a renewed or competing Rossall interest. | | R. W. Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', pp. 1-2; citing the Munslow Hundred Roll and 1259 assize evidence.

- about 1259 - by 1267 | John fitz Alan II | Probable transfer of the fee-simple from Vivian de Rossall, according to Eyton's reconstruction; the source does not identify a surviving conveyance or exact date. | | R. W. Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', pp. 2-3; citing the 1267 inquest after the death of John fitz Alan II.
- September 1272 - after 1284; exact end unknown | Reymund de Rossall, later styled Reymund de Alcaston | Recorded as tenant-in-fee in 1272 and as holding Alcaneston under the heir of John fitz Alan in 1284. The precise transaction between Vivian, John fitz Alan and Reymund is not stated. | | R. W. Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', pp. 2-3; citing the 1272 assizes and the 1284 Feodary.
- by 1267 - after 1302; exact end unknown | Walter de Hopton | Superior or mesne lordship documented through the 1267 and 1302 inquests. This was not necessarily direct possession of the demesne manor. | | R. W. Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', pp. 2-3; citing the 1267 and 1302 inquisitions.
- by 1302 - 1302; exact end unknown | Richard, Earl of Arundel | Recorded by inquest as holding Alkamston under Walter de Hopton for a pair of gilt spurs. The source does not establish a later conveyance. | | R. W. Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. XII (1860), 'Alcaston', p. 3; citing Inquisitions, 30 Edward I, no. 30.
- by 1863 - by 1871; exact end unknown | J. Loxdale Warren | No conveyance identified. Kelly's 1863 directory and Cassey's 1871 directory independently state that Loxdale Warren was lord of the manor of Alcaston. | | Kelly's Directory of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and the City of Bristol (1863), Acton Scott and Alcaston entry; Edward Cassey & Co., History, Gazetteer, and Directory of Shropshire (1871), Alcaston entry.

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