

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003412 • MANOR
ALDSWORTH MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Westbourne, Sussex
Associated places: Westbourne, Sussex

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Aldsworth was a medieval sub-manor in the ancient parish of Westbourne, Sussex, also recorded as Aldesworth. It was carved out of the main Westbourne estate in the mid-twelfth century, when William, Earl of Arundel, granted it to Ralph de la Roche for the render of a hunting spear at Martinmas; the obligation was later expressed as one boar-spear or 6d. The estate was held as a quarter or half knight's fee of the honour of Arundel. In 1243 a half fee in Aldsworth was assigned to John FitzAlan during the division of the d'Aubigny estates. Aldsworth had become an independent manor by the late thirteenth century. It descended through the de la Roche and Dawtrey families, passed to Philip Jermyn in 1633, and was sold by Alexander Jermyn to Lord Lumley in 1661. Thereafter it followed the descent of the principal Westbourne and Stansted estate through the Lumleys, earls of Scarborough, Richard Barwell, Lewis Way, Charles Dixon, and George Wilder. The manor was reunited with the main Westbourne descent in 1661. The associated manor-house site is in Aldsworth hamlet within Westbourne parish; modern references to Aldsworth Manor should not be confused with the separately located listed Aldsworth Manor in Gloucestershire. Sources: L.F. Salzman, ed., A History of the County of Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132; Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile; Westbourne local-history material.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest securely identified mesne lord was Ralph de la Roche, who received Aldsworth from William, Earl of Arundel, in the mid-twelfth century. The estate passed by inheritance to Richard de

la Roche and in 1292 was transferred to John Dawtrey and Cecily his wife. A Dawtrey holding is directly evidenced in 1439, when Andrew Dautre was described as lord of the manor of Aldsworth in Westbourne. The manor then descended within the Dawtrey family. Sir John Dawtrey died seised of it in 1542 and had settled it on his son, another Sir John Dawtrey, who died in 1549; William Dawtrey subsequently controlled the manor. In 1624 Anne Dawtrey and her husband Thomas Stanley received the manor, and in 1633 Francis Dawtrey and John Stanley sold it to Philip Jermyn. Alexander Jermyn, his successor, sold Aldsworth to Lord Lumley in 1661. From that sale onward Aldsworth followed the main Westbourne and Stansted descent. The later succession is securely stated in the available secondary source as the Lumleys, earls of Scarborough, Richard Barwell, Lewis Way, Charles Dixon, and George Wilder, although the precise instruments and dates for several of those later transfers have not been located in the public material reviewed. A 1826 conveyance directly records Lewis Way transferring the Stansted estate context to Charles Dixon, and George Wilder was identified as lord of the manor of Westbourne in 1909. The historical descent is therefore complete in broad outline but contains documentary gaps between some later named holders.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- mid-12th century - 1292 | Ralph de la Roche | Grant by William, Earl of Arundel, to Ralph de la Roche; the grant required the render of a hunting spear at Martinmas. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth, citing L.F. Salzman, ed., A History of the County of Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- unknown - 1292 | Richard de la Roche | Inheritance from the de la Roche holding; Richard de la Roche transferred the manor in 1292. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- 1292 - after 1327 | John Dawtrey and Cecily Dawtrey | Transfer from Richard de la Roche to John Dawtrey and Cecily his wife. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- by 9 April 1439 - after 9 April 1439 | Andrew Dautre | The exact acquisition is unknown. Andrew Dautre was described in a deed of exchange dated 9 April 1439 as lord of the manor of Aldsworth in Westbourne. | | West Sussex Record Office, Add Mss 12317, deed of exchange, 9 April 1439; catalogue description reproduced by Sheldon Manors.
- unknown - 1542 | Sir John Dawtrey | Inheritance within the Dawtrey family; Sir John Dawtrey died seised of Aldsworth in 1542 and had settled it upon his son. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- 1542 - 1549 | Sir John Dawtrey | Settlement by his father, Sir John Dawtrey, followed by possession until his death in 1549. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.

- after 1549 - by 1624 | William Dawtrey | Inheritance and subsequent control within the Dawtrey family after the death of Sir John Dawtrey in 1549. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- 1624 - 1633 | Anne Dawtrey and Thomas Stanley | Received the manor in 1624; in 1633 Francis Dawtrey and John Stanley sold Aldsworth to Philip Jermyn. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- 1633 - before 1661 | Philip Jermyn | Purchase from Francis Dawtrey and John Stanley in 1633. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, summarising VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- before 1661 - 1661 | Alexander Jermyn | Inheritance or succession from Philip Jermyn, followed by sale to Lord Lumley in 1661. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, with VCH closing statement: Alexander Jermyn sold Aldsworth to Lord Lumley in 1661.
- 1661 - late 17th or 18th century | Lord Lumley | Purchase from Alexander Jermyn in 1661. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile and VCH Sussex, volume 4, pages 126-132.
- after 1661 - before 1781 | Earls of Scarborough | Descent through the Lumley family and the earls of Scarborough; the precise transfer instrument and date are not established in the sources reviewed. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile, stating that after 1661 Aldsworth followed the main Westbourne descent through the Lumleys and earls of Scarborough.
- 1781 - by 1804 | Richard Barwell | Purchase of Stansted and associated Westbourne estate interests in 1781; Aldsworth followed the Stansted and main Westbourne descent. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile; Westbourne and local-history sources identifying Richard Barwell's 1781 purchase of Stansted.
- by 1826 - 24 October 1826 | Rev. Lewis Way | The precise acquisition is unknown. Lewis Way was described in a 1826 conveyance as late of Stansted Park; on 24-25 October 1826 he conveyed the estate context to Charles Dixon. | | West Sussex Record Office, Add Mss 2854-2855, conveyance dated 24-25 October 1826, from Rev. Lewis Way to Charles Dixon; catalogue description reproduced by Sheldon Manors.
- 24 October 1826 - after 1826 | Charles Dixon | Conveyance from Rev. Lewis Way by lease and release dated 24-25 October 1826 for £117,600, with covenant to levy a fine. | | West Sussex Record Office, Add Mss 2854-2855, conveyance dated 24-25 October 1826, from Rev. Lewis Way to Charles Dixon.
- by 1885 - after 1909 | George Wilder | Descent from the Dixon estate through the Stansted and Westbourne estate; the precise conveyance and date are not established in the sources reviewed. | | Sheldon Manors, Aldsworth profile; Kelly's Directory, Westbourne, 1909, identifying George Wilder of Stansted as lord of the manor.

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