

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0003431 • MANOR
ALFOXTON MANOR

Evidence status: Unverified
Generated: 16 October 2026 22:01 UTC

Location: Stringston, Somerset
Associated places: Stringston, Somerset

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

ABOUT THE MANOR

Alfoxton Manor, also known historically as Alfoxden or Alfoxten, was the manor and principal estate

centred on Alfoxton in the Stringston and Holford area of west Somerset, on the northern edge of the

Quantock Hills. The present Alfoxton Park or Alfoxton House lies in Holford, while the manor record

is associated with Stringston. The estate was described in an early nineteenth-century source as the

manor of Alfoxton and was associated for several centuries with the St. Albyn or St. Aubyn family.

The property should not be confused with other Somerset estates bearing similar names. The surviving

evidence is substantially stronger for the descent of the Alfoxton estate and manor-house estate

than for every individual legal conveyance of the manorial title.

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

The earliest secure medieval evidence located is an 8 Henry II reference to Alvoceston, identified

as Alfoxton, in a royal fine involving Adam de Cunteville. That evidence establishes the place and a

knight's fee but does not by itself provide a complete later descent of the manor. The later

descent is securely associated with the St. Albyn family from the late fifteenth or early sixteenth

century. A published account states that the Alfoxton estate had been in the St. Albyn family since

1499, while the family descent and the Somerset VCH tradition identify John St. Albyn of Chilton

Trivet as later of Alfoxton by about 1507. The named descent then proceeds through John St. Albyn,

George St. Albyn, John St. Albyn, Lancelot St. Albyn, successive Johns and Lancelots of the Alfoxton

line, and the Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn, who died without issue on 22 January 1791. His

widow,
 Anna Maria St. Albyn, retained or enjoyed the estates until her death on 1 July 1803 under the
 testamentary arrangement described by the source. The estate then passed to her
 nephew's elder
 son, Langley Gravenor, who assumed the surname St. Albyn in 1806. The St. Albyn estate was
 progressively divided or sold in the twentieth century; a 1920 sale disposed of Alfoxton
 Park and
 remaining estate properties, but the purchaser and the precise fate of the manorial title
 have not
 been established from the sources consulted. A separate statement that the house remained in
 the St.
 Albyn family until 1958 concerns the house or estate and should not automatically be treated
 as
 proof that the manorial title remained intact until that date.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 8 Henry II, approximately 1162 | Adam de Cunteville | Unknown; royal fine concerning Alvoceston, identified as Alfoxton | | Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, vol. 45, paper on the descent of the manor of Alverton, quoting the Pipe Roll and Collinson, History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset, and identifying Alvoceston as Alfoxton.
- about 1507 - before or by 1540 | John St. Albyn of Chilton Trivet, later of Alfoxton | Earlier transfer unknown; first securely located St. Albyn holder of Alfoxton | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, summarising the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, together with the Somerset visitations.
- after about 1507 - 1540 | John St. Albyn of Alfoxton | Descent from the preceding John St. Albyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitation material.
- after 1540 - before 1601 | George St. Albyn of Alfoxton | Descent or other succession from John St. Albyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitations.
- after 1540 and before 1601 - 1601 | John St. Albyn or St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent or other succession from George St. Albyn; precise title event not located | | The Visitations of the County of Somerset in the Years 1531 and 1575, including the Alfoxton in Stringston pedigree, and Stirnet's transcription and source summary.
- after 1601 - before 16 December 1624 | Lancelot St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent from John St. Albyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Somerset VCH and visitations; Christie's catalogue essay on Elizabeth St. Albyn née Halswell, which identifies Lancelot as of Alfoxton.
- after 1624 - about 1652 | John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent from Lancelot St. Aubyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitation pedigrees.
- about 1652 - 1708 | John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent from John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of

Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitations.

- after 1708 - about 1709 | Lancelot St. Aubyn of East Quantoxhead, later of Alfoxton | Descent or family succession; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitation pedigrees.
- after about 1709 - 1723 | John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent from Lancelot St. Aubyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitations.
- after 1723 - 1744 | John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton | Descent from John St. Aubyn of Alfoxton; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitations.
- after 1744 - 1745 | Lancelot St. Aubyn of Nether Stowey, later of Alfoxton | Descent or family succession from John St. Aubyn; precise title event not located | | Stirnet, StAubyn3, citing the Victoria County History of Somerset, volume 6, Stringston: Manors and other estates, and the Somerset visitations.
- after 1745 - 1768 | John St. Albyn of Alfoxton Park | Descent from Lancelot St. Aubyn; precise title event not located | | Historic England, Church of St Mary, Stringston, listing entry 1057383, noting the memorial to John St. Albyn of Alfoxton Park who died in 1768; succession context from Stirnet's Alfoxton descent.
- after 1768 - 22 January 1791 | Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn of Alfoxton | Descent from John St. Albyn; precise title event not located | | The Autobiography and Correspondence of Mary Granville, Mrs. Delany, second series, volume 1, account of the manor of Alfoxton and Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn; corroborating family descent in Stirnet.
- 22 January 1791 - 1 July 1803 | Anna Maria St. Albyn, widow of the Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn | Life interest, possession or testamentary provision under Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn's will; exact legal status not stated | | The Autobiography and Correspondence of Mary Granville, Mrs. Delany, second series, volume 1, account of the disposition of the Alfoxton estates after Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn's death.
- 1 July 1803 - 19 August 1806 | Langley Gravenor | Inheritance under the testamentary arrangement of the Reverend Lancelot St. Albyn, taking effect after Anna Maria St. Albyn's death | | The Autobiography and Correspondence of Mary Granville, Mrs. Delany, second series, volume 1, account of the testamentary succession to Alfoxton; corroborated by the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society account of Langley St. Albyn.
- 19 August 1806 - 1874 | Langley St. Albyn, formerly Langley Gravenor | Same holder as Langley Gravenor; assumed the surname St. Albyn by royal licence on 19 August 1806 | | Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, The Sheriffs of Somerset, entry for 1850 Langley St. Albyn, citing Burke's Landed Gentry; supplementary biographical entry in John Sainsbury's Dictionary of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.
- after 1874 - 1920 | St. Albyn family and, latterly, their trustees | Later family or trust succession; precise holders and instruments not located | | Kilve Parish Council, The History of the Kilve District, Part 3, discussion of the Alfoxton estate and the 1 July 1920 sale; Somerset Heritage Centre accession summary for St. Albyn of Alfoxton deeds and manorial records.

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