

MANORIAL HERITAGE REGISTRY HISTORICAL RECORD EXTRACT

MHR-M-0042050 • MANOR
Whipsnade (Vaux)

Evidence status: Unverified
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Location: Whipsnade, Bedfordshire

LORDSHIP / TITLE ASSOCIATIONS

- Whipsnade (Vaux) | Associated | | Unverified

OWNERSHIP / HOLDER ACCOUNT

A second property in this parish, later known as WHIPSNAD MANOR, was held from the early 13th century by a family who assumed Whipsnade as a surname. In 1228 one Adam de Whipsnade conveyed land in this parish to the parson of the church, (fn. 5) and in the same year was disputing with William de Eltedon concerning land in Studham. (fn. 6) Richard 'dominus' of Whipsnade, possibly a member of the same family, occurs as a witness in a transfer of land in 1305. (fn. 7) He appears to have been followed by William de Whipsnade, possibly the person of that name who in 1321 received pardon for giving land in mortmain to St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, without a licence. (fn. 8) His son Nicholas had succeeded him in 1340, in which year he granted a piece of land in the parish with hedge and ditch to Walter de Woburn. (fn. 9) Nicholas had a son Gilbert, who some years earlier in 1323 had made a grant of land in Whipsnade and Eaton. (fn. 10) From him the Whipsnade property, which about this time begins to be called a manor, passed to Philip de Whipsnade, who died some time before 1350. (fn. 11) He left four daughters as co-heirs Margery wife of Richard Raven, Christina wife of Henry de Walton, Alice and Joan. In 1350 the three first-named sisters were engaged in a suit with John de Swynnerton regarding their respective shares in the manor. (fn. 12) They placed their shares in the trusteeship of John de Linley, who released his right in 'a messuage with curtilage and land' in Whipsnade to Margery and Christina in 1356. (fn. 13) In addition to his wife's share, Richard Raven acquired that of Christina in 1361 (fn. 14) and that of Joan in 1369. (fn. 15) The portion of Joan may possibly be sought in the lands right in which Matilda

daughter of
Nicholas yielded to John Raven in 1391. (fn. 16) Whipsnade Manor passed from the Ravens to
Nicholas
Tettesworth some time previous to 1412, at which date John son of Nicholas conveyed his
right there
to John Haldenby and Margery his wife. (fn. 17) In 1443 John Haldenby settled the manor in
trust on
Laurence Pigot, (fn. 18) and ten years later he alienated this property permanently to
William
Cantlowe, (fn. 19) already a landowner in Whipsnade, (fn. 20) whose family remained in
possession
for the next sixty years. Henry Cantlowe died seised of Whipsnade in 1490, leaving as heir a
son
Richard, (fn. 21) who died in 1517, and was succeeded by a son John, aged fifteen. (fn. 22)
The
manor at this date is described as worth yearly £10, and held of Edmund Bray as of his
manor of
Eaton Bray. The history of this property during the next century is obscure. It was held in
1532 by
William Hawte, kt., and Margaret his wife (fn. 23) of the king in chief, (fn. 24) in right
of
Margaret. (fn. 25) She was a daughter of Oliver Wood, (fn. 26) and had previously married
Walter
Mantell, by whom she had two sons Walter and Thomas. (fn. 27) She and her third husband
James Hales,
kt., settled the manor in reversion on these two sons in 1551, (fn. 28) but after the
conviction for
high treason and consequent execution of Walter in 1554 James and Margaret obtained a
relaxation of
this settlement (fn. 29) in order to complete the sale of Whipsnade to William Dobson. (fn.
30)
William Dobson died in 1562, leaving the estate to his brother Miles, but an annuity out of
the same
to Thomas Clarke for life. (fn. 31) By his will of 1573 Miles left two-thirds of the manor
profits
to his daughter Frances and younger son John during the minority of his son and heir
William, (fn.
32) who obtained livery of his father's lands in 1589, (fn. 33) and in 1598 quitclaimed his
manor in
Whipsnade to Gamaliel Cruys. (fn. 34) He sold it for £1,500 to Robert Vaux in 1606, (fn.
35) and an
interesting extent of the manor made at this time describes it (fn. 36) as 'a house
containing 16
rooms, barns and stables, 21 bays, with a fair brick dovehouse, all tiled, and the demesne
lands as
particularly followeth: 3 orchards with other necessary yards, 6 acres, the Backside, 4
acres; Inner
and Outer Clapps, 11 acres, Studham field 23 acres, with other closes 268 acres.' There

was also

common for four sheep, and in a 'mast' year the feeding of 60 hogs in Dudmanse (now Deadmancey)

Wood and Buckswood. Certain quit-rents were worth 16s. yearly, and the grounds could also keep 12

kine, and in summer yielded 30 loads of hay. The total annual value was £100, and the value of the

timber on the estate £300. The manor continued in the Vaux family for the next two centuries, (fn.

37) and in 1800 the whole estate was sold to Leonard Hampson by Thomas Vaux. (fn. 38) It is now the

property of Earl Brownlow.

CONVEYANCE / DESCENT

- 1340 | Walter de Woburn | Grant | |
- | Philip de Whipsnade | Passed | |
- | Margery and Christina | Conveyance | |
- 1412 | John Haldenby and Margery his wife | Conveyance | |
- 1443 | Laurence Pigot | Settlement | |
- 1443 | William Cantlowe | Conveyance | |
- | Henry Cantlowe | Recorded holder | |
- 1517 | John | Succession | |
- Attested 1532 | William Hawte | Recorded holder | |
- 1573 | Frances and younger son John | Devise | |
- 1598 | Gamaliel Cruys | Conveyance | |
- 1800 | Leonard Hampson | Sale | |

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