

## WHITEPARISH

### LANDOWNERSHIP

#### *Whiteparish before Domesday*

Whiteparish comprised several estates in the Anglo-Saxon period. Charters of 943 and 968 mention three hides of land in Frustfield.<sup>1</sup> By 1086 part of Frustfield was among the estates of Humphrey de L'Isle, and held directly by him. It had been held in the time of King Edward by Eadric, when it paid geld for three hides.<sup>2</sup> Land at Frustfield was also held by Bernard Pauncevolt; it had been held prior to 1066 by Godwine, when it paid geld for 1½ virgates of land.<sup>3</sup> Wulfric, one of the king's thegns, held one hide in Frustfield by 1086,<sup>4</sup> and Esbern one virgate of land there,<sup>5</sup> but who held Wilfric and Esbern's lands before 1066 was not recorded. Other Domesday estates in Whiteparish are recorded at Alderstone and Cowesfield.<sup>6</sup>

#### *Manors and principal estates*

The following manors are known in Whiteparish: Abbotstone, Alderstone, Blaxwell, Cowesfield Esturmy, Cowsfield Louveras, Cowesfield Spilman, Moor, Titchborne, Whelpley and Whiteparish. Records survive for the manors of Cowsfield Esturmy (14<sup>th</sup> to early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries) and Whelpley (15<sup>th</sup> to early 17<sup>th</sup> century, and stewards' papers of 1818). A valuation of 1545–6 survives for Whiteparish manor.<sup>7</sup> Extracts from the court rolls for the manors of Whelpley, Whiteparish and Sherfield English (Hants.) survive for 1606–13.<sup>8</sup>

The manorial history of the parish is complex, with multiple manors in the medieval period reflecting the discrete settlements that made up the medieval parish. The process of consolidating the manors began before the Reformation, a process which continued into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Whiteparish itself does not appear to have been regarded as a manor until at least the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>9</sup> As the church at Alderstone became the parish church of

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<sup>1</sup> Taylor, 'The Saxon boundaries of Frustfield', *WAM* 59 (1964), 110.

<sup>2</sup> *Domesday*, 182.

<sup>3</sup> *Domesday*, 188.

<sup>4</sup> *Domesday*, 195.

<sup>5</sup> *Domesday*, 195.

<sup>6</sup> See below.

<sup>7</sup> Manorial Documents Register (MDR), <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manor-search> (accessed 30 Apr. 2021). Abbotstone is not listed as a manor by the MDR but was described as such by 1242–3, see below.

<sup>8</sup> WSA, 1369/4/23/2. This record is not listed on the Manorial Documents Register.

<sup>9</sup> Manorial Documents Register (MDR), <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manor-search> (accessed 30 Apr. 2021).

Whiteparish, it seems that Alderstone manor became, at an unknown date, the manor of Whiteparish.<sup>10</sup> By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century much of the manorial land in the parish was held by the earls Nelson, with the exception of the settlement at Cowesfield where the manor and its estate were held independently of the Nelson estate.

### *Abbotstone*

By a charter of 943, king Eadmund granted three hides of land to his thegn Wulfgar. In 968 the same land was granted by king Edgar to the nuns of Wilton Abbey.<sup>11</sup> There is no mention in Domesday of land held by Wilton Abbey at Whiteparish. By the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century land at Whiteparish was in the hands of the abbey, and it is this estate which became known as Abbotstone, or the Abbess' farm.<sup>12</sup> In 1242–3 the manor of Abbotstone was held by the Prioress of Amesbury by gift of the king.<sup>13</sup> The gift of the manor to the priory at Amesbury is unexplained, but the manor had reverted to Wilton Abbey by 1338.<sup>14</sup>

The Grimstead family was associated with the settlement by 1316.<sup>15</sup> At his death, by March 1338, John, son of Andrew de Grymsteade, held a messuage, 60 a. of arable land and 100s. rent at Abbotstone, held to himself and his heirs by Agnes, his first wife, of the abbess of Wilton, by service of 100s. yearly. The Abbotstone estate descended through the Grimstead family, the descent of the manor following that of Moor.<sup>16</sup>

John de Grymstede died by September 1362, and his estates at Abbotstone and Moor were inherited by his kinsman Reynold Perot. Reynold had died by September 1370, when his holdings at Abbotstone comprised a messuage, garden and dovecot with 120 a. of arable land and 50s. of rent, which he held of the abbess of Wilton for 100s. a year. Beatrice, widow of Reynold, was assigned dower in her late husband's lands, including a wood called 'Hacchewode' in Abbotstone.<sup>17</sup> The wood was not mentioned as being held of the abbess, which suggests that the abbey may not have held all the land at Abbotstone. The abbey is not

<sup>10</sup> On the parish church see Religious History.

<sup>11</sup> The Electronic Sawyer: Online Catalogue of Anglo-Saxon Charters, S 492, <https://esawyer.lib.cam.ac.uk/charter/492.html>; S 766, <https://esawyer.lib.cam.ac.uk/charter/766.html> (accessed 5 September 2022).

<sup>12</sup> C. C. Taylor, 'The Saxon boundaries of Frustfield', *WAM* 59 (1964), 110–15.

<sup>13</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 749.

<sup>14</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 110. See also Alderstone for a gift of land to Amesbury abbey.

<sup>15</sup> W. H. Jones, 'The Nomina Villarum for Wiltshire', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9; *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 200.

<sup>16</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 110 (no. 178), p. 465 (no. 633); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 128–30, 191; *Cal. Close* 1346–9, 27–8, 435. See below, Moor.

<sup>17</sup> *Cal. Close* 1369–74, 196.

mentioned in several transactions of the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries concerning lands at Abbotstone.<sup>18</sup>

In 1406 Ralph Perot, son and heir of Reynold, conveyed to Sir John de Berkeley and his wife Elizabeth estates in Wiltshire and Hampshire, including the manor of Abbotstone.<sup>19</sup> John de Berkeley died in 1425, when he held a messuage at Abbotstone with 60 a. of land and the advowson of the chapel there. The manor and advowson descended to his son and heir Maurice de Berkeley.<sup>20</sup> Abbotstone then descended to Maurice's daughter Katherine, who married Sir John Stourton, and, after his death, John Brereton, to whom the manor had passed by 1494, still comprising a messuage and 60 a. of land, with the advowson.<sup>21</sup>

By 1535 Wilton abbey was receiving 100s. rent annually from William Compton for Frustfield, probably Abbotstone.<sup>22</sup> Most of the abbey's estates were granted at the dissolution to Sir William Herbert (created earl of Pembroke 1551), which are likely to have included Abbotstone.<sup>23</sup> By 1585 the manor was in the hands of Walter Snow, who was pardoned for his alienation of the manor, and to whom the manor was granted in perpetuity.<sup>24</sup>

The connection of Abbotstone with Moor was signalled in 1700, when the manor was described as that of 'Moore Abatston'.<sup>25</sup>

### *Alderstone*

Ealdræd, one of the king's thegns, held Alderstone by 1086, having held it in the time of king Edward, when it paid geld for one hide. In 1086 there was land for two ploughs.<sup>26</sup>

The history of Alderstone is obscure until 1255, when Robert de Alderstone, John Sprot and Bartholomew de Alderstone were small landholders under the Crown.<sup>27</sup> At an unknown date Alderstone came into the hands of the de Chartres (or Chartris) family, as in

<sup>18</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1272–1327, 12, 108; Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1327–77, 48 (no. 169); Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1377–1509, 65 (no. 306); Fry (ed.), *Feet of Fines*, 1195–1272, 49, 65.

<sup>19</sup> *Cal. Close* 1389–92, 230–1; Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1377–1509, 55 (no. 258).

<sup>20</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXIII, no. 106; Phillipps, *Institutions*, I, 144.

<sup>21</sup> *Cal. Close* 1485–1500, 229–30 (no. 786); *ODNB*, Stourton family (*per. c.* 1380–1485), accessed 13 June 2022.

<sup>22</sup> *Valor Eccl.*, II, 111.

<sup>23</sup> *VCH Wilts*, III, 241.

<sup>24</sup> WSA, 270/42.

<sup>25</sup> WSA, 130/17b (Conveyance to William Hitchcock, 17 Oct. 1700).

<sup>26</sup> *Domesday*, 193.

<sup>27</sup> *Rotuli Hundredorum* (London, 1818), II, 237.

1297 the king presented to the living of Alderstone, having taken into his hands the lands of Andrew de Chartres who had rebelled against the king.<sup>28</sup>

By 1310 the advowson was in the hands of Alan la Zouche of Ashby (Leics.).<sup>29</sup> He had died by December 1314, leaving as co-heirs his daughters Ellen and Matilda (or Maud), the Alderstone estate being held by Ingelram Berenger by service of one-eighth of a knight's fee.<sup>30</sup> Matilda inherited the Alderstone estate, as in 1315 Ingelram Berenger held Alderstone, of Robert de Holand and his wife Matilda, youngest daughter of Alan la Zouche.<sup>31</sup>

In 1314 Ingelram also acquired, in consideration of his good service to Edward II, all lands and tenements in Alderstone previously held by the late Andrew de Chartres, whose heir, Robert de Chartres, had, like his father, rebelled against the king, and thereby forfeited his inheritance.<sup>32</sup> Ingelram forfeited his lands for his allegiance to the rebellious Edmund, earl of Kent, but they were restored by 1331.<sup>33</sup> In 1324, licence was granted for the acquisition of the rectory and advowson of Alderstone by Amesbury priory, but it is doubtful if the licence ever took effect.<sup>34</sup>

Alderstone was later conveyed to endow the college of St Edmund in Salisbury.<sup>35</sup> In 1337–8 John, son of William de Sparsholt, conveyed to Peter de Wymburn, provost of the church of St Edmund, Salisbury, 4½ a. of land in Alderstone, with the advowson of the church.<sup>36</sup> A further gift of a messuage, lands and rent in Alderstone and Winterbourne Earls was made in 1343.<sup>37</sup>

It appears that some of the land at Alderstone was held independently of the endowment of the manor and lands to the college. Andrew Stratford, at his death in 1378, held, among other lands in Wiltshire, one messuage and 30 a. of land in Alderstone, of John Conge, by service of 6d. at Michaelmas. These lands were jointly enfeoffed with his wife

<sup>28</sup> Phillipps, *Institutions*, I, 1; People of Medieval Scotland, 1093–1371, <https://www.poms.ac.uk/record/person/16829/> (accessed 17 Feb. 2022).

<sup>29</sup> Phillipps, *Institutions*, I, 10.

<sup>30</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* V, p. 257 (no. 458); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1242–1326, 394. The Berenger family came from Alvediston, see *VCH Wilts*, XIII, 9, 11.

<sup>31</sup> *Cal. Close* 1313–18, 154.

<sup>32</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1313–1317, 130, 155.

<sup>33</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1330–1334, 126.

<sup>34</sup> *VCH Wilts.*, III, 251. See also Religious history.

<sup>35</sup> For the College of St Edmund, see *VCH Wilts*, III, 386.

<sup>36</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1334–1338, 534; Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1327–77, 54 (nos. 195, 196).

<sup>37</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1327–77, 71 (no. 277). *Cal. Pat.* 1343–1345, 122; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 156–7.

Christina, and his son Robert was his heir. After Robert's death the Alderstone property was held by guardians for Robert's son John, a minor.<sup>38</sup>

The manor of Alderstone remained with the college of St Edmund until the dissolution.<sup>39</sup> By 1537 the manor of Alderstone, with the parsonage of Whiteparish, had been held by William Knight, by lease from Edmund Davye. Knight surrendered his interest in the manor and parsonage to William St Barbe in 1545. The estate included 600 a. of land, wood, meadow and pasture in Alderstone, Whiteparish, Homington and the city of New Sarum (Salisbury), much if not all of which was sub-let by Knight.<sup>40</sup>

In 1548 William St Barbe (Saynteberge) granted his manor of Alderstone with the rectory of Whiteparish and the chapel of Whelpley to Edward St Barbe, possibly his son, with the use of the same to William and his wife Mary, and the descent of the manor continued with the St Barbe family.<sup>41</sup> In 1672 Edward St Barbe left to his wife Mary the manor of Alderstone, to hold for life.<sup>42</sup> The manor, estate and great tithes were purchased in c.1722 from the co-heiresses of John St Barbe by George Treby. He disposed of these in c.1725 to Robert Bristow of Micheldever (Hants.).<sup>43</sup> By 1760 Alderstone was a farm, leased by the Bristow family to tenants, and it remained in the hands of Bristow tenants in 1839.<sup>44</sup>

In 1924 a portion of earl Nelson's estate in Whiteparish, totalling over 409 a., was sold by auction. The sale was advertised as including the lordship of the manor of Whiteparish. Lots included Sansom's, Common, Golden's and White's farms, a Jacobean mansion (formerly the village workhouse), several shops, including the village post office, a brickyard, a smithy, cottages and land. The sale was advertised as an opportunity for the inhabitants of Whiteparish to acquire their own freeholds.<sup>45</sup>

The manor house of the St Barbe family was built by Edward, son of William St Barbe. It was situated near the parish church, but, unlike the mansion houses of Brickworth and Cowesfield, is not identified on Andrews' and Dury's map of 1773.<sup>46</sup> A surviving drawing shows an Elizabethan building, with an entrance porch of c.1671. It was demolished

<sup>38</sup> *Cal. Close* 1422–9, 176–7. *Date*: 12 July 1425; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XIX, pp. 245–6 (no. 681).; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXII, no. 517. The Stratford family held land at Cowesfield and Whelpley, see below.

<sup>39</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 7.

<sup>40</sup> W. F. Lawrence, 'Manor of Alderston & Lands in Whiteparish, &c.', *WAM* 34 (1905–6), 216–17, citing TNA, Chancery Decree Roll No. 3, entry no. 102, 8th June 37 Henry VIII (1545).

<sup>41</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1547–1548, 358; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 10.

<sup>42</sup> WSA, 212A/27/19 (copy will of Edward St Barbe, 1671/2).

<sup>43</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 10.

<sup>44</sup> Hants. RO, 2M37/78; WSA, 2467/6; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 10.

<sup>45</sup> WSA, 1980/20.

<sup>46</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 10, 25; *Andrews' and Dury's Map 1773*, plate 3.

in 1812, and some of the materials used in the new mansion house of Broxmore, a residence situated towards the eastern edge of the parish, distant from the church and village centre, designed by the architect Tatham. This was apparently originally intended as a hunting lodge, but had been enlarged by 1844.<sup>47</sup> The estate, including the mansion house, was advertised for sale by auction in 1947.<sup>48</sup> The house was demolished c.1949, as was a summer house of c.1898 known as the Deer House or Swiss Cottage.<sup>49</sup>

### *Blaxwell (Blackswell)*

The medieval manor of Blaxwell may have been a manor subordinate to the manor of Whelpley, but its history at this period is obscure.<sup>50</sup> William de Nevill and his wife Cristina, jointly enfeoffed by Nicholas de Nevill, held Blaxwell of Richard le Engleis at William's death, c.1306. William left as his heirs two daughters, Nicholaa, born at Blaxwell in 1297, and Alice.<sup>51</sup> In 1315 his widow Christiania alleged that Nicholaa, still a minor, had been abducted and married, despite the right to arrange her marriage previously having been granted to Christiania.<sup>52</sup> Nicholaa is recorded in 1319 as being married to John de Hadresham, and as one of the heirs of her father William.<sup>53</sup> She predeceased her husband John, who himself had died by April 1358, when their son William inherited. manor of Blaxwell was held from Robert Gilbert by service of fealty. William also inherited 102 a. of arable land and 10 a. of meadow in the vill of Whiteparish, also held from Robert Gilbert by service of 5s. and suit at his court at two views of frankpledge.<sup>54</sup>

The history of Blaxwell is obscure until 1622 when Joan Noyes died seised in her demesne as of fee of the manor of Blaxwell in Whiteparish, which was said to be held of Thomas Cable in free socage of his manor of Welpley. She also held other lands and property in Whiteparish of the manors of Alderstone and Cowesfield. William Noyes, her son, was her heir.<sup>55</sup>

<sup>47</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 25–9; tithe map, 1842; ODNB, Tatham, Charles Heathcote (1772–1842), architect and designer, accessed 23 Feb. 2023.

<sup>48</sup> *Western Gaz.*, 21 Nov. 1947, 2.

<sup>49</sup> R. Strong, M. Binney and J. Harris (eds.), *The Destruction of the Country House: 1875-1975* (1974), 190. Inf. and photos of the Deer House/Swiss Cottage from T. Rossinger, 5 May 2022.

<sup>50</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 44.

<sup>51</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1242–1326, 327–8; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VI, p. 115 (no. 188).

<sup>52</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1313–1317, 249.

<sup>53</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VI, p. 115 (no. 188).

<sup>54</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 250.

<sup>55</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1625–49, 124–6. Free socage – held by services other than knight service.

In 1793 the estate of Francis Thomas Egerton at Whiteparish was offered for sale by auction. The sale particulars noted that a great part of Mr Egerton's lands were a divided part of the manor of 'Blackwell's', part of the land of this manor being held by John Eyre and Henry Eyre.<sup>56</sup> The Blaxwell portion of Egerton's estate was sold to George Yalden Fort and by 1844 Blaxwell was in the hands of Fort's son, George Fort.<sup>57</sup> That part of Blaxwell which was held by the Eyres came through marriage to Nelson family. Blaxwell farm was held by Frances, dowager countess Nelson, in 1853, when she exchanged the premises with her son Horatio for a farm at Newton.<sup>58</sup>

### *Brickworth*<sup>59</sup>

The Brickworth estate was associated with the Eyre family from at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century, although the Eyre connection with Abbotstone may date from as early as 1316, when a Thomas le Eyre is mentioned as one of the lords in the tithing of Abbotstone and Alderstone.<sup>60</sup>

Little is known of Brickworth in the medieval period. It may be the 'Brycore' mentioned in 1255.<sup>61</sup> It appears as 'Bricore', in 1315, when Alice de Kyngesmulle held of Robert Gereberd for her life one messuage, land, meadow, wood, rents and the third part of one mill and one virgate of land in Brickworth, Britford and Stockton, with successive remainders to her sons Nicholas and Thomas and their heirs.<sup>62</sup>

In c.1522 Thomas Swayne and Johanna his wife conveyed messuages and lands in Brickworth, Whiteparish and Downton to Anthony Stileman and Christina his wife, Thomas Martyn, clerk, and Richard Stileman.<sup>63</sup> In c.1560 Anthony Stylman, either the same Anthony or a near relation, conveyed to Thomas Codrynton and William Stylman messuages and lands in Brickworth, Whiteparish, Newton and Landford.<sup>64</sup> The estate descended with the Stileman family to 1604, when the executors of John Stileman sold to Giles Eyre (d. 1656), then of Redlynch, the copyhold of inheritance land in East Downton tithing, and lands at Whiteparish on which he built Brickworth House.<sup>65</sup>

<sup>56</sup> Hants. RO, 44M69/E22/5/6.

<sup>57</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 45.

<sup>58</sup> WSA, 776/522.

<sup>59</sup> No trace has been found of the 'Brickworth deeds' consulted by Matcham in the 1840s, see Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, esp. 30, 31, 33, 46, 47.

<sup>60</sup> A. S. Hartigan, 'Eyre of Wilts.', *Wilts. N&Q* V (1905–7), 97; Jones, 'Nomina Villarum', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9.

<sup>61</sup> Fry (ed.), *Feet of Fines, 1195–1272*, 47.

<sup>62</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, 89.

<sup>63</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *Wilts. N&Q* II (1896–8) 422. (no. 50).

<sup>64</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *Wilts. N&Q* IV (1902–4), 504 (no. 130).

<sup>65</sup> *VCH Wilts*, XI, 31; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 33.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Brickworth estates came into the Nelson family, when Thomas Bolton, later 2<sup>nd</sup> earl Nelson, married Frances Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Maurice Eyre of Brickworth and of Landford. Their son Horatio (d. 1913), who was born at Brickworth, succeeded his father as 3<sup>rd</sup> earl at the age of 12, and on Horatio's death he was succeeded by his son Edward Agar Horatio Nelson as 4<sup>th</sup> earl.<sup>66</sup> The seat of the earls Nelson was Trafalgar House at Standlynch, the Brickworth property being occupied at times by the dowager countess Nelson, widow of the 2<sup>nd</sup> earl, and at other times by tenants.<sup>67</sup> By 1918 it was owned by earl Nelson and let to a tenant.<sup>68</sup> The house and park were advertised for sale by auction in 1948.<sup>69</sup>

Brickworth House is believed to have been built by Giles Eyre (d. 1656).<sup>70</sup> It was a Jacobean mansion, modernised in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>71</sup> It was let to a tenant in 1860, when it was badly damaged by fire.<sup>72</sup> It was rebuilt in a much altered style by 1864, when it was again advertised for let.<sup>73</sup>

### *Cowesfield*

Cowesfield was regarded as a separate settlement before 1066. In 1086 an estate at Cowesfield was held of the king by Richard Sturmy. It had been held before 1066 by Ælfric, when it paid geld for two hides.<sup>74</sup> Beorhtric, one of the king's thegns, and his brother Alwig held a second estate at Cowesfield, which prior to 1066 had paid geld for 1½ hides.<sup>75</sup>

Cowesfield came to be divided into three distinct settlements, Cowesfield Esturmy, Cowesfield Louveras and Cowesfield Spilman, named after medieval holders of the estates. The existence of the three settlements is known by 1198, though the division may have occurred earlier.<sup>76</sup> Consolidation of the three manors began as early as 1379, when Henry Sturmy held the manors of both Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Spilman.<sup>77</sup>

<sup>66</sup> 'Wilts Obituary', *WAM* 38 (1913–14), 118–19.

<sup>67</sup> K. H. Rogers (ed.), *Early Trade Directories of Wiltshire* (indexed by J. H. Chandler), (WRS 47, 1992), 131; *Kelly's Dir Hants., Wilts., Dorset* (1889), 1049; *A Handbook for Residents and Travellers in Wilts and Dorset*, 5th edn. (London, 1899), 217.

<sup>68</sup> WSA, 1980/3, 89. The owner was Thomas Horatio Nelson, 4th earl Nelson (1857–1947), who inherited the peerage on the death of his father in 1913.

<sup>69</sup> Sale partics. 1948, in possession of T. Rossinger, 5 May 2022.

<sup>70</sup> *VCH Wilts*, XI, 31.

<sup>71</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts*. Frustfield, 34.

<sup>72</sup> *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl*, 2 June 1860, 8.

<sup>73</sup> *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl*., 16 Apr. 1864, 4; photos in collection of Tony Rossinger, seen 5 May 2022.

<sup>74</sup> *Domesday*, 191.

<sup>75</sup> *Domesday*, 192.

<sup>76</sup> See below.

<sup>77</sup> *Cal. Close* 1377–81, 329–30.



There was never a single landowner in Cowesfield, but consolidation of landholdings saw the rise of a dominant manorial holding. By 1661 reference was made to the manor of Cowesfield, part of the St Barbe estate in the parish, without any further qualification as to the exact name of the manor.<sup>78</sup> In 1842 George Lawrence (d. 1861), had an estate in Cowesfield, including Cowesfield House. Lawrence was not the sole proprietor of estates in Cowesfield; other landowners included Selina, Lady Fremantle, whose holdings included Cowesfield Louveras farm, and Alexander, Lord Ashburton.<sup>79</sup> The Bathursts of Clarendon Park owned a woodland estate at Cowesfield by 1860, with whom it remained at least to 1890.<sup>80</sup>

George Lawrence's Cowesfield estate later passed to his great-nephew William Frederic Lawrence (1844–1935), whose seat was at Cowesfield by 1889.<sup>81</sup> The estate was advertised for sale by auction in 1940, including the lordships of the manors of Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Louveras.<sup>82</sup> It was taken over by the military during the Second World War.<sup>83</sup> In 1949 the house, 123 a. of land, two lodges and Home Farm were advertised for sale by auction.<sup>84</sup>

The mansion house of Cowesfield House may have originated in the later 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century, before it was altered in 1815–18 by Arthur Paget from designs by the architect Tatham.<sup>85</sup> It was on the southern slope of Dean Hill, with views over the New Forest to the Isle of Wight.<sup>86</sup> It was taken over by the military during the Second World War, and by 1946 was being used as a camp for German prisoners of war.<sup>87</sup> Following its derequisitioning by the military in 1947, the house was advertised for sale by auction in 1949, and demolished later that year.<sup>88</sup> A new house now stands on the site.<sup>89</sup>

### *Cowesfield Esturmy*

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<sup>78</sup> HRO, 2M37/66.

<sup>79</sup> Tithe award, 1842.

<sup>80</sup> *Salisbury and Winchester Jnl.*, 16 June 1860. 8; *Salisbury Times*, 25 Oct. 1890. 4. x

<sup>81</sup> Tithe map and award, 1842; Legacies of British Slave-ownership database, <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/> (accessed 15 June 2020); *Kelly's Dir Hants., Wilts., Dorset* (1889), 1049. William Frederic Lawrence was MP for Liverpool Abercromby (1885–1906).

<sup>82</sup> WSA, 776/347A.

<sup>83</sup> WSA, 1980/5, mins. 17 Jul. 1946, 17 Oct. 1946.

<sup>84</sup> WSA, 3382/108.

<sup>85</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 73–4. On Tatham, see ODNB, Tatham, Charles Heathcote (1772–1842), architect and designer, accessed 23 Feb. 2023.

<sup>86</sup> *Kelly's Dir Hants., Wilts., Dorset* (1889), 1049.

<sup>87</sup> WSA, 1980/5, mins. 17 Jul. 1946, 17 Oct. 1946.

<sup>88</sup> WSA, 3382/108; WILBR, B3532.

<sup>89</sup> Inf. Tony Rossinger, 5 May 2022.

Cowesfield Esturmy is known to have been in the hands of the Sturmy family by 1198. The lands of Geoffrey Esturmy were seized on account of his support for the king's brother John, Count of Mortain, and in 1198 Geoffrey agreed to pay 500 marks for the restitution of his lands, include one carucate of land at Cowesfield, and paid a moiety of the amount. His son Henry was responsible for the balance a year later.<sup>90</sup>

The manor descended with the Sturmy family. In 1236 Geoffrey Esturmy held his land at Cowesfield and elsewhere as custodian of the forest of Savernake, and for one hauberk.<sup>91</sup> The Cowesfield serjeanty attached to Savernake forest was valued at 60s. a year by 1249, when it was in the hands of Richard Sturmy, acting for Henry, the heir of Geoffrey Sturmy.<sup>92</sup> Richard held one hide of land with appurtenances at Cowesfield, of the gift of Robert de Mucegros, by the service of keeping Savernake forest.<sup>93</sup> In 1268 Henry Sturmy held one hide of land in Cowesfield, by the service of keeping the king's forest at Savernake, and the land was worth 100s a year.<sup>94</sup> By 1281 he, or another Henry Sturmy, held two hides at Cowesfield worth five pounds by the serjeanty of keeping Savernake forest and providing two serjeants for the king's army in Wales.<sup>95</sup> Henry Sturmy died by 1295, and his son, also Henry, inherited his Cowesfield estate of eight virgates of land and 55s. rent.<sup>96</sup> An inquisition post mortem was held in 1305 on Henry Sturmy, presumably the same who inherited in 1295, who held the manor of Burbage, of which his Cowesfield estate was a part, and the bailiwick of Savernake forest, of the king by service of a horseman in the king's army in time of war. His son and heir, also Henry, was aged 23 years.<sup>97</sup> In 1316 Henry Sturmy was one of lords for Cowesfield.<sup>98</sup> By 1321 Henry had granted the manor to John de Vienna for his life, with other rights, lands and properties including the manor of Burbage and the stewardship of Savernake. Henry's son, also Henry, was his heir, and married to Margaret.<sup>99</sup>

The manor descended with the Sturmy family. By 1336 Henry Sturmy the elder, with Henry Sturmy the younger and his wife Margaret, held the manors of Cowesfield and Burbage of the king by the serjeanty of the stewardship of the king's forest of Savernake.<sup>100</sup>

<sup>90</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 3, 11.

<sup>91</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 586. A hauberk was a tunic of ring or chain mail.

<sup>92</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 1422; B. Farr and C. Elrington (eds), rev. H. Summerson, *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>93</sup> C. A. F. Meekings (ed.), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1249* (WRS 16, 1961), 245 (no. 493).

<sup>94</sup> Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>95</sup> Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>96</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* III, p. 171–2 (no. 274); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1242–1326, 206–7.

<sup>97</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* IV, p. 210 (no. 311).

<sup>98</sup> Jones, 'Nomina Villarum', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9; *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 200.

<sup>99</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1317–1321, 553.

<sup>100</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 117.

Henry Sturmy held the manors of both Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Spilman by 1379.<sup>101</sup> In 1402 William Esturmy held one carucate of land with appurtenances in Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Spilman from the king.<sup>102</sup> At his death in 1427 William Sturmy held a toft and a carucate of land called ‘Testwodes’ at Cowesfield of the duke of Gloucester, and two messuages, a toft and two virgates of land of the same duke. He was also seised in his demesne as of fee the manor of Burbage, part of which included a messuage and lands in Cowesfield Esturmy, and the baliwick of the seneschalry of the forest of Savernake. The manor of Burbage and the bailiwick of Savernake were held of the duke of Gloucester.<sup>103</sup> Cowesfield may have come to be part of the manor of Burbage in Kinwardstone hundred, held by the Sturmys.<sup>104</sup>

In 1427 Joan, widow of William Sturmy, was assigned dower in the manor of Cowesfield and other properties.<sup>105</sup> She died in 1429, her heirs being her daughter Agnes and her grandson John Seymour.<sup>106</sup> The manor of Cowesfield Esturmy was inherited by her grandson, and remained with his descendants, passing out of Seymour hands at an unknown date. By 1676 the manor was held by George Pitt. Pitt’s descendant George, Lord Rivers, sold the manor to Sir John Elwell in 1777, and Elwell’s daughter, Lady Fremantle, held the manor by 1844.<sup>107</sup>

### *Cowesfield Louveras*

The manor of Cowesfield Louveras (or Loveries) is known by 1198, when Geoffrey de Luveriz held one carucate of land at Cowesfield.<sup>108</sup> By 1236 William de Loveraz held one hide of land there, valued at 100s., when the service was said to be of keeping the king’s wolfhounds.<sup>109</sup> He had gifted this to John of Fortesbur’ by 1249, when John held a hide of land in ‘Ystenesfeld’ in Cowesfield, by the serjeanty of hunting wolves, and it was worth only 10s. yearly.<sup>110</sup> By 1268 Walter Loverace held one hide of land with appurtenances by

<sup>101</sup> *Cal. Close* 1377–81, 329–30; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 75. See also Cowesfield Spilman.

<sup>102</sup> *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 227.

<sup>103</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXII, nos. 714, 716.

<sup>104</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 1422; Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>105</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXII, no. 719.

<sup>106</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXIII, no. 237.

<sup>107</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 75.

<sup>108</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 12.

<sup>109</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 587; Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>110</sup> Meekings (ed.), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1249* (WRS 16, 1961), 245 (no. 494A).

the service of hunting wolves, and the land was worth 100s. a year.<sup>111</sup> The service was repeated in 1281, when the estate was still valued at 100s.<sup>112</sup>

The estate of Cowesfield Louveras continued to descend with the family. Richard de Luveraz (or de Loveraz) had died by 1297, leaving his uncle Stephen de Loveraz as his heir to 5s. rent in Cowesfield held of the king by service of hunting wolves, 'if one can be found in the county'.<sup>113</sup> In 1316 Stephen Louveraz was one of the lords for Cowesfield.<sup>114</sup> In 1328 Stephen Louveraz granted to Roger Normaund and his wife Joan one messuage, two carucates of land, 80 a. of pasture, 60 a. of wood and six marks' rent in Cowesfield; the lands, pasture, woods and rents, worth 52s., were held by the serjeanty of taking wolves with the king's dogs at the king's expense when they came within the forest of Clarendon.<sup>115</sup> In 1331 Roger Normaund (or Norman) and Joan his wife conveyed to Stephen Loveraz for his life, with reversion to Roger and Joan, one messuage with lands and rents in Cowesfield Louveras.<sup>116</sup> In 1333 a licence was granted for Roger Normaund of Southampton to grant to Hugh Sampson and William Loveraz the reversion of a messuage, lands and rent in Cowesfield Louveras, which he held in chief, and which was the held for life by Stephen Loveraz, and for them to regrant it to Roger and his wife Joan for their lives, with remainders to his son Roger and the heirs of the elder Roger.<sup>117</sup> Stephen Louveras had died by December 1339, having held in Cowesfield Louveras a messuage, two carucates of land, 80 a. pasture, 60 a. of woodland and six marks rent, held of the king by service of doing suit at the hundred court of Frustfield every three weeks. The reversion belonged to Roger Norman and Joan his wife, and the heirs of Roger, to hold of the king. Richard de Louveras, aged 40 years or more, was the heir of Stephen.<sup>118</sup>

Roger Normaund died in 1349, when among his Wiltshire lands were a messuage and two carucates of land in Cowesfield Louveras, held from Thomas Kerdyff and his brother Ralph for the term of 20 years from Michaelmas 1345, with the remainder, in the event of the death of Thomas and Ralph before the end of the term, to Roger and his heirs, Roger's heir being his grandson Giles.<sup>119</sup> Roger had been granted free warren (the right to hunt game) in

<sup>111</sup> Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>112</sup> Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (entry 64).

<sup>113</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* III, pp. 258–9 (no. 388).

<sup>114</sup> Jones, 'Nomina Villarum', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9; *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 200.

<sup>115</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 36.

<sup>116</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, 29 (no. 77).

<sup>117</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1330–1334, 430; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 96.

<sup>118</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, pp. 157–8 (no. 207); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 124–5.

<sup>119</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 206–7.

his demesne lands at Cowesfield Louveras in 1337. In 1391 this right was confirmed to Richard Beckot and his wife Alice, kinswoman and heir of Roger.<sup>120</sup>

The descent of the manor from the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century is complex, possibly due to the disruption caused by the plague outbreak of 1348–9. Thomas Kerdyff became keeper of the manor during the minority of Giles Normaund, but in 1359 was accused of having committed waste and destruction on the manor, including cutting down and selling 2,000 oaks, and removing three tenants of the manor (possibly the same three tenants who by April 1349 had survived the plague).<sup>121</sup> Giles Norman died in 1361, leaving as his heir his cousin Margaret, wife of John Chamberlain.<sup>122</sup>

The manor of West Tytherley (Hants) with other lands and rents in Hampshire, and six messuages, four tofts, two carucates and 60 a. of land, 80 a. of wood and £4 rent in Cowesfield (Couvelesfeld Louveras), were held by John Sonde and Joan his wife in dower of Joan of the inheritance of Julian, or Juliana, wife of John Shoune of Salisbury. In 1378 these were conveyed to Richard Monk and John Style, chaplain, of Salisbury, with right to John Style.<sup>123</sup> The manor of West Tytherley and the Cowesfield Louveras estate were conveyed the following year to William Rikhull and John Shelford, both of London, and Roger Faryndon, parson of St Margaret Lothbury, London, with right to John Shelford, when they were described as being held by John Sonde and Joan in dower of Joan of the inheritance of John Stille.<sup>124</sup> The connection with the manor of West Tytherley was maintained in 1390, when that manor, with the Cowesfield estate, was conveyed to Stephen Haym, Thomas le Warrener and John Bitterlee, with right to Stephen, by William Rykhull, John Shelford and Roger Faryndon, when they were described as held by John Sonde and Joan his wife in her dower of the inheritance of John Shelford.<sup>125</sup>

The Skelton family were associated with the manor by 1402, when Thomas Skelton held of the king one carucate of land, with appurtenances, in Cowesfield Louveras,<sup>126</sup> but it is not clear if this was manorial land. Thomas Skelton, knight, later conveyed six messuages, four tofts, two carucates of land, 80 a. pasture, 80 a. of wood and four marks of rent in Cowesfield Louveras to Robert Whithede, William Payn and Roger Whelpedale to hold in chief and afterwards, presumably after the death of Thomas, John Skelton released to them all

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<sup>120</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1388–1392, 508.

<sup>121</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 206–7, 257–8.

<sup>122</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 313.

<sup>123</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 2 (no. 7).

<sup>124</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 4 (no. 16).

<sup>125</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 27 (no. 131).

<sup>126</sup> *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 227.

his rights in the same. In 1425, Roger having died, Robert and William granted the premises to Thomas Ryngwode and John Frank.<sup>127</sup>

In 1428 Thomas Ryngwode, lord of Loveraz, presented to the chapel, and either he or another Thomas Ryngwode presented in 1464.<sup>128</sup> The descent of the manor is unclear until c.1536 when the manor of Cowesfield Louveras, with messuages and lands in Cowesfield Louveras and Whiteparish, was granted by John Tucket and George, his son and heir, to Richard Awsten, John Stocker senior, and Jacob Mesurer.<sup>129</sup> In c.1553 Richard Uffenham conveyed messuages and lands in Cowesfield Louveras and Whiteparish to John Strugnell.<sup>130</sup> In 1579 Thomas Gauntelet (or Gawntelet), gentleman, was described as of Cowesfield, suggested as being Cowesfield Louveras.<sup>131</sup>

Edward St Barbe had the manor of Cowesfield in 1661.<sup>132</sup> This was probably the manor of Cowesfield Louveras, as Edward St Barbe, by his will of 1672, left to his wife Mary the manor of Cowesfield Louveras, with the manor of Alderstone and the rectory and parsonage of Whiteparish, to hold for life, and after her death to be held by her executors, administrators and assigns for twenty years, and then the greater part of the estate to his heirs.<sup>133</sup>

In 1711 a farm, part of the manor of Cowesfield Louveras, was settled on Mary, wife of John St Barbe of Littleton Panell, as part of her jointure.<sup>134</sup> Anne, daughter and co-heir of John St Barbe of Alderbury, married into the Kemshead family, and by 1760 the manor was held by her husband, by her right.<sup>135</sup> The manorial lands appear to have been divided, as by her will of 1768 Henrietta Maria Godfrey, daughter of John St Barbe of Alderbury and widow of Charles Godfrey, gave a moiety of Cowesfield farm and a moiety of Cowesfield coppices to Charles and Walter Godfrey, children of her late husband. Cowesfield farm had come to the Godfrey family in 1753, as part of the manor of Cowesfield Louveras.<sup>136</sup>

The estate, or the greater part of it, was later sold to Sir John Elwell, and by 1844 had descended to Lady Fremantle.<sup>137</sup>

<sup>127</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1422–1429, 290.

<sup>128</sup> Phillipps, *Institutions*, I, 118, 154.

<sup>129</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *Wilts. N&Q* III (1899–1901), 24 (no. 151).

<sup>130</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *Wilts. N&Q* IV (1902–4), 158 (no. 20).

<sup>131</sup> P. M. Shelley, 'Wiltshire Wills', *Wilts. N&Q* V (1905–7), 316.

<sup>132</sup> Hants. RO, 2M37/66.

<sup>133</sup> WSA, 212A/27/19 (copy will of Edward St Barbe, 1671/2).

<sup>134</sup> WSA, 212A/27/19 (indenture, 10 Jan. 1710/11).

<sup>135</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 71.

<sup>136</sup> WSA, 212A/27/19.

<sup>137</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 71.

*Cowesfield Spilman*

Cowesfield Spilman is known by 1156, when Sir William Spelman, lord of Brockenhurst (Hants.) and Cowesfield, held lands in Wiltshire by military tenure.<sup>138</sup> The manor descended with the family. Land at Cowesfield was held by Sir William Spelman, son of the above Sir William, c.1166.<sup>139</sup> In 1198 William Spileman held one carucate of land at Cowesfield.<sup>140</sup> By 1236 this William, or a relation, held one hide of land in Cowesfield and lands in Hampshire.<sup>141</sup> He held this of the king's gift by the service of finding a serjeant with a hauberk for the king's service, as he, or another William Spileman, did in 1249 and 1268, without mention of the Hampshire lands. By 1268 the service was to provide one man for the king's army in wartime for 40 days, and the land was worth 100s. a year.<sup>142</sup> The manor descended with the Spileman family throughout the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In 1292 Isabel, widow of Peter Spileman, tenant in chief of lands in Cowesfield, was assigned his lands there and elsewhere until dower could be assigned to her.<sup>143</sup> Peter held a hide and half of land in Cowesfield of the king, and it appears to have been subordinate to the manor of Brockenhurst. Peter's sisters, Matilda (or Maud), wife of John de Grimstede, and Katherine, wife of Richard Testewode, were his next heirs.<sup>144</sup>

It appears that the manor of Cowesfield Spilman was granted to Katherine, and descended through her to William, her son.<sup>145</sup> In 1316 Richard de Testewode was one of the lords for Cowesfield.<sup>146</sup> In 1324 Richard de Testwood held half a knight's fee in Cowesfield.<sup>147</sup> Richard appears to have been the tenant, as in 1342 William, son of Katherine, was granted licence by the king to grant to the brothers John and Gilbert de Terstewode a messuage and a carucate of land at Cowesfield Spilman for their lives after the death of Richard de Terstewode, then or lately the tenant. The premises were held of the king in chief as part of the manor of Brockenhurst (Hants.).<sup>148</sup>

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<sup>138</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 72.

<sup>139</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 72.

<sup>140</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 12.

<sup>141</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 587.

<sup>142</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 1423; Meekings (ed.), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1249* (WRS 16, 1961), 246 (no. 494B); Farr and Elrington (eds), *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre 1268* (WRS 65, 2012), 17–18 (no. 64).

<sup>143</sup> *Cal. Close* 1288–96, 214.

<sup>144</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* III, p. 12 (no. 19); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1242–1326, 191.

<sup>145</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1340–1343, 416.

<sup>146</sup> Jones, 'Nomina Villarum', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9; *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 200.

<sup>147</sup> *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 216. p. 216.

<sup>148</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1340–1343, 416; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 31.

In 1361 Thomas, parson of Odstock, and Thomas Gerberd were allowed to retain the messuage, one carucate of land, meadow, wood and rents which they had acquired without the king's licence from John de Testewode, with the reversion of similar parcels after the death of Gilbert de Testewode, for the purposes of a feoffment to Philip de Lufteshull and his wife Isabel, and Philip's heirs. The premises were held of the king in chief, the Cowesfield Spilman estate being expected to find a fourth part of the cost of finding one armed man for the king's service, the remaining parts being found by Brockenhurst and two other manors.<sup>149</sup>

The manor of Cowesfield Spilman later came to be held by the Esturmy family. By 1379 Henry Sturmy held the manors of both Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Spilman.<sup>150</sup> In 1402 William Esturmy held one carucate of land with appurtenances in Cowesfield Esturmy and Cowesfield Spilman from the king.<sup>151</sup> The subsequent history of the manor is uncertain, although in 1574 William Waller conveyed to Stephen Hurst a messuage and lands in Whiteparish, Cowesfield and 'Spillman', probably Cowesfield Spilman.<sup>152</sup>

By 1620 the lord of the manor was Elias Thayne, and in 17<sup>th</sup> century lists of Wiltshire gentry Alexander Thayne is described as of Cowesfield. By 1670 the manor of Cowesfield Spilman was in the possession of William Hitchcock, who had married Mary, sister of Sir Samuel Eyre of Newhouse. The manor descended with the Hitchcock family. In 1733 William Hitchcock died without issue, and the manors of Cowesfield and Moor passed to his sister, Anna Hitchcock. She died in 1760, leaving her estates to her cousin Richard Luther. In 1767 he sold Cowesfield Spilman to Henry Dench, who upon his death bequeathed the estate to his nephew James Wapshare of Salisbury. Wapshare sold the property to George Wyndham, and in 1813 Wyndham's assignees sold Cowesfield Spilman to James Weld. Weld was not in possession long, as in 1815 the estate was sold again, to Arthur Paget. Paget sold the house and estate to George Lawrence in 1818, who still held the manor in 1844.<sup>153</sup>

### *Titchborne*

The name Titchborne (sometimes Titchbourne or Tichbourne) may have been associated with the manor of Abbotstone by the 14<sup>th</sup> century, as in 1337 Roger de Tychebourn had conveyed to Thomas de Tychebourn and Christine his wife one messuage with land, meadow, woods

<sup>149</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 270.

<sup>150</sup> *Cal. Close* 1377–81, 329–30. See also Cowesfield Esturmy.

<sup>151</sup> *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 227.

<sup>152</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *WN&Q* VII (1911–13), 554 (entry 790).

<sup>153</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 73–4.



and 20s. rent in Abbotstone.<sup>154</sup> It was certainly associated with it by 1452, when the chapel was described as the chapel of Abbotstone, alias Titchborne.<sup>155</sup> The history of the estate is complex, and the extent to which it was regarded as a manor in its own right is uncertain.

In 1669 Joseph Stockman sold his Whelpley, Whiteparish and Titchborne estates to the brothers Philip and Sir Thomas Leigh.<sup>156</sup> The Titchborne estate passed through several hands, eventually being sold to the trustees of Horatio, 3<sup>rd</sup> earl Nelson by 1844.<sup>157</sup>

### *Whelpley*

The manor of Whelpley does not appear in Domesday, but does appear in the court rolls of the barony of Castle Combe from the 13<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>158</sup> In c.1242 it was part of the feudal lands of Walter de Dunstanvill. Gilbert le Engleis held a third part of a knight's fee in Whelpley of Walter, and Walter held it of the king.<sup>159</sup> It was later held by John d'Engles, valued at five pounds, and assigned to the earl and countess of Oxford as lords paramount.<sup>160</sup> John le Englishe was lord at Whelpley in 1316.<sup>161</sup>

In 1329 Philip le Engleis held three parts of a knight's fee at Whelpley, which he had held of the late Bartholomew de Badelesmere, who also held the manor of Castle Combe of the king. Giles, the heir of de Badelsmere, was a still a minor.<sup>162</sup> Giles de Badelesmere, knight, had died by 1338, having three parts of a knight's fee in Whelpley, held by John Lenglys.<sup>163</sup> In 1350 John Bocland and John Engleys held it together, and Robert Gilbert held it by 1366. Philip Dautesey acquired it by marriage with Margaret Engleys and in 1369 proffered his homage and fealty for it, which was respited until the return of Robert, Lord Tiptoft, to England; Robert then owning the barony of Castle Combe.<sup>164</sup> In 1372 John Lengleys held three-fourths of a fee in Whelpley, of the late Thomas de Vere, earl of Oxford, whose mother was Maud Badlesmere.<sup>165</sup>

<sup>154</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, 48 (no. 169).

<sup>155</sup> Phillipps, *Institutions*, I, 144.

<sup>156</sup> WSA, 212B/6998.

<sup>157</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 50–1.

<sup>158</sup> G. Poulett Scrope, 'History of the Wiltshire Manors subordinate to the Barony of Castle Combe', *WAM* 2 (1855), 286–7.

<sup>159</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 745.

<sup>160</sup> Scrope, 'History of the Wiltshire Manors', *WAM* 2 (1855), 286–7.

<sup>161</sup> Jones, 'Nomina Villarum', *WAM* 12 (1870), 9; *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 200.

<sup>162</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VII, pp. 94, 96 (no. 104).

<sup>163</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 138 (no. 185); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 133–4.

<sup>164</sup> Scrope, 'History of the Wiltshire Manors', *WAM* 2 (1855), 286–7.

<sup>165</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 365; *ODNB*, Vere, Thomas de, eighth earl of Oxford, accessed 7 June 2022.

The Whelpley estate may have been divided at an unknown date, as a record of 1369 has Nicholas Wodelok and Joan his wife conveying to Philip Dauteseye and Margaret his wife a moiety of the manor of Whelpley, to hold to Philip and Margaret and their heirs, with reversion to Nicholas and Joan.<sup>166</sup> Margaret Englissh survived Philip, and held Whelpley in her own right in 1404.<sup>167</sup>

Andrew Stratford, at his death in 1378, held in his demesne as of fee one messuage, one carucate of land, 6 a. of meadow, 30 a. of wood and rents in Whelpley, of the lord of Whelpley by knight's service. His widow Christine had been jointly enfeoffed with Andrew of the Whelpley property, and it was held by her until her death in 1396.<sup>168</sup>

In 1410 Thomas Chapeleyn and Joan his wife granted to Thomas Ryngewode and Joan his wife and their heirs the manor of Whelpley and the advowson of the chapel of St Leonard at Whelpley, which Margaret Englissh held for her life of the inheritance of Joan Chapeleyn.<sup>169</sup> In 1428 Thomas Ryngewode held lands and tenements in Whelpley from John Falstoff of the manor of Castle Combe. The premises had lately been held by John le Englise, for the service of a third part of a knight's fee.<sup>170</sup> In the same year Thomas Ryngewode and Joan his wife granted the manor of Whelpley, excepting the advowson, to William Soper, Richard Punchardon and William Passenger, with right to William Passenger.<sup>171</sup>

In 1442 Thomas, son and heir of Thomas Ringwood, paid 75s. for relief of his fee in Whelpley. He still held it in 1454. In 1476 the name of his son Thomas, and in 1547 the name of another Thomas Ringwood appeared as tenants under the barony of the Castle Combe estate.<sup>172</sup>

In 1570 Henry Ryngwood and Silvester Hannam conveyed messuages and lands in Whelpley and Whiteparish to Peter Rosewell and Thomas Webbe,<sup>173</sup> and in 1572 Henry Ringwood conveyed to Thomas Ringwood the site of the manor of Whelpley with messuages and lands in Whiteparish.<sup>174</sup> The manor and estates were sold by Henry Ringwood and his son Charles to Roger Tichbourne of Sherfield English (Hants.) in 1589, for £550.<sup>175</sup> In 1619

<sup>166</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1327–77, 135 (no. 571).

<sup>167</sup> Scrope, 'History of the Wiltshire Manors', *WAM* 2 (1855), 286–7.

<sup>168</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XIX, pp. 245–6 (nos. 681, 682). The Stratford family also held land at Alderstone and Cowesfield, see above.

<sup>169</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 65–6 (no. 309); *Cal. Pat.* 1408–1413, 136, 209.

<sup>170</sup> *Feud. Aids*, vol. 5, 256.

<sup>171</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 94 (no. 436).

<sup>172</sup> Scrope, 'History of the Wiltshire Manors', *WAM* 2 (1855), 287.

<sup>173</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *WN&Q* VI (1908–10), 409 (no. 533).

<sup>174</sup> E. A. Fry, 'A Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire', *WN&Q* VII (1911–13), 321 (entry 679).

<sup>175</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 31, 39, 46. *on what evidence?*

Titchborne sold the manor to Thomas Cable for £1,200.<sup>176</sup> By Cable's will of 1636 he left the manor and its lordship, with all its remaining tenements and rents to his nephew James Scardivale (or Scardefeild).<sup>177</sup> James Scardivale and his wife Jane sold much, if not all, of the manorial land to Joseph Stockman of Downton in 1652, but the lordship of the manor was not mentioned in the deeds concerning the sale.<sup>178</sup> John Maurice Eyre was lord of the manor in 1805, and his daughter and heir Frances was lady of the manor by 1818. By 1842 she owned only a small estate at Whelpley. The majority of the estate was, by 1819, in the hands of Robert Cooper, who in that year mortgaged the manor of Whelpley, with Street farm, for the sum of £8,000; he remained the owner of the greater part of Whelpley in 1842.<sup>179</sup> Cooper had died by 1845, when the manor, with Whelpley and Street farms, was sold to Horatio, earl Nelson, albeit with the continued encumbrance of the mortgage, which was not finally settled until 1872.<sup>180</sup>

### *Other Estates*

#### *Moor*

The small settlement of Moor (otherwise Moore, More or la More) may be that referenced in Domesday as the one hide manor of Ulric, or Wulfric. It was known as a settlement by the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. In 1289 John de la More and Alice his wife granted to Andrew de Grinstede lands in Moor and Whiteparish, Andrew to hold these of the chief lords.<sup>181</sup> Its descent may be reckoned with that of Abbotstone by 1338.<sup>182</sup>

In 1310 messuages, lands and meadow at Moor and Whelpley were the subject of an agreement between Nicholas de Wyly and Isabel his wife, and Richard Costevile and Christine his wife.<sup>183</sup> John, son of Andrew de Grymstede, had held the hamlet of Moor as part of the manor of Grimstead, which was held of the king. John had died by March 1338, and his son Adam was his heir and of full age. In 1339 Adam de Grymstede enfeoffed Adam atte

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<sup>176</sup> WSA, 212B/6994.

<sup>177</sup> TNA, PROB 11/170/68.

<sup>178</sup> WSA, 212B/6993; 212B/6994.

<sup>179</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 31; R. E. Sandell (ed.), *Abstracts of Wiltshire Inclosures Awards and Agreements* (WRS 25, 1971), 138 (no. 191); WSA, 1369/4/23/3; 451/516; tithe award, 1842.

<sup>180</sup> WSA, 464/59.

<sup>181</sup> *Domesday*, 195; C. C. Taylor, 'Three deserted medieval settlements in Whiteparish', *WAM* 63 (1968), 42–3; Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, 35.

<sup>182</sup> See above, Abbotstone.

<sup>183</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, 77.

Forde and John de Mere with rents in Moor, but continued to held 110 a. of land there.<sup>184</sup> The family estates also included Abbotstone in Whiteparish.<sup>185</sup> In 1346 it was recorded that a messuage in Moor had been held by Adam de Grymsted, of the king, and after his death by his wife Eleanor.<sup>186</sup> In 1348, following Eleanor's death, a messuage and a virgate of land in Moor worth 12s. were part of the inheritance of John, then a minor, son and heir of Adam de Grymstede, knight.<sup>187</sup> John had attained his majority by 1361, when he granted lands, property and rents in Moor and other places to several persons.<sup>188</sup> John died by September 1362, leaving as his heir his kinsman Reynold Perot; by this date the Moor holding comprised 12s in rent, with no land mentioned.<sup>189</sup>

Reynold Perot died by September 1370, holding 12s. rents in Moor, and land and property at Abbotstone. His son Ralph was an infant at his father's death, and in 1392, when he would have come of age, was involved in a dispute concerning these and other premises.<sup>190</sup> In 1406 estates in Wiltshire and Hampshire, including Moor, described as a manor, were conveyed by Ralph Perot to Sir John de Berkeley and Elizabeth.<sup>191</sup> In 1425, John de Berkele (Berkeley), knight, died, his estate including a capital messuage in Moor, with land, meadow and 12s. rent for six cottages.<sup>192</sup>

The descent of Moor from John de Berkeley is complex. It was held for part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Anne Hitchcock (d. 1760), and by 1844 formed part of the estates of Horatio, 3<sup>rd</sup> earl Nelson.<sup>193</sup> Part of the settlement may have been held independently of that portion that descended to the de Berkeleys, as in 1409 John Kyrkeby and Thomasia his wife conveyed to Robert Fraunceys and Joan his wife messuages, lands and rent in places including Moor in Whiteparish.<sup>194</sup> The hamlet of Moor was deserted sometime between the late 14<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and by 1675 was a single farm.<sup>195</sup>

### *Newton*

<sup>184</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 137.

<sup>185</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 110 (no. 178); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 128–30. See entry above for Abbotstone.

<sup>186</sup> *Cal. Close* 1346–9, 27–8.

<sup>187</sup> *Cal. Close* 1346–9, 435; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 191.

<sup>188</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1361–1364, 84.

<sup>189</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 307.

<sup>190</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 359–60; *Cal. Close* 1389–92, 230–1, 431–2, 433, 460–1.

<sup>191</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 55 (no. 258).

<sup>192</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXIII, no. 106.

<sup>193</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 48–9.

<sup>194</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 65 (no. 306).

<sup>195</sup> Taylor, 'Three deserted medieval settlements', *WAM* 63 (1968), 42–3.

There was a settlement at Newton by 1329, when Richard atte Hulle granted to John le Carpenter of Newton and Maud his wife a messuage and land in Whelpley.<sup>196</sup> By 1350 the tithing of Whelpley included the hamlets of Newton and Chadwell.<sup>197</sup>

Newton was mentioned in 1473 and again in 1560–1. It was sold to a member of the Lynch family in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 1650 the mansion house and farm were reunited with Whelpley manor by Giles Eyre of Brickworth, from whom it descended to the Nelson family.<sup>198</sup> In 1853 Horatio, 3<sup>rd</sup> earl Nelson, gave the farm at Newton to his mother Frances, dowager countess Nelson, in exchange for her estate at Blaxwell farm.<sup>199</sup>

#### *Minor estates in Cowesfield*

Not all estates in Cowesfield were held solely of a single manor. Some estates encompassed lands in more than one manor, and other estates have proved impossible to identify with specific manors.

In 1305 Philip de Lusteshull held one messuage and two virgates of land as a free tenant of Henry Esturmy.<sup>200</sup> In 1316 William de Lusteshull and Amice his wife granted to Richard de Lusteshull one messuage and two carucates of land in Cowesfield.<sup>201</sup> They may have been ancestors of a 15<sup>th</sup>-century Philip Lusteshull, who with his wife Isabel, held lands, tenements, rents and services in Cowesfield Esturmy, Cowesfield Louveras and Cowesfield Spilman, and elsewhere, which were afterwards held by Ralph Cordery and his wife Edith, Philip's daughter. In 1473 Richard, son of John Erley, demised to William Kyrkeby, son of John Kyrkeby, all his rights in Ralph and Edith's estates in Cowesfield, 'Nuton' (probably Newton) and 'Hywysse' in the parish of Whiteparish, and in West Dene.<sup>202</sup>

Andrew Stratford, at his death in 1378, held four messuages and 40 a. of land in Cowesfield, of the lord of Cowesfield, Thomas Ryngwode. His widow Christine had been jointly enfeoffed with Andrew of the Cowesfield property, which they held of John, kinsman and heir of Andrew, with reversion to John. The Cowesfield property was held by Christine until her death in 1396. The sources variously give her heir as her son John atte Berghe, or her grandson John, son of Andrew's son Robert Stratforde, who appears to have pre-deceased

<sup>196</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1327–77, 22 (no. 45).

<sup>197</sup> Taylor, 'Three deserted medieval settlements', *WAM* 63 (1968), 39–42.

<sup>198</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 27, 47.

<sup>199</sup> WSA, 776/522.

<sup>200</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1242–1326, 314.

<sup>201</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1272–1327, 95.

<sup>202</sup> *Cal. Close* 1468–76, 312 (no. 1143).

her.<sup>203</sup> A John atte Bergh, with Walter atte Bergh and Anne, wife of Walter, conveyed to feofees in 1455 lands, premises and rents in many Wiltshire settlements, including Whiteparish.<sup>204</sup>

There were further transactions involving land at Cowesfield in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1570 Henry Knevelt and his wife Elizabeth were granted licence to alienate the grange at ‘Cowfould’, alias ‘Cowfeild Graunge’, to Benjamin Gonson and John Hawkins.<sup>205</sup> In 1646 Katharine Hyde, widow, compounded with the Parliamentary authorities for that part of her estate which had belonged to her late husband, the Royalist Lawrence Hyde, and his heir, their son Robert. This included property at Cowesfield, with other estates in Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset.<sup>206</sup>

A farm in Cowesfield Esturmy was attached to the adjoining property of Melchet Park. It is reputed to have been associated with the families of Coleman, Tregagle and Whichcote, before being sold by the Whichcotes to James Lockhart of Sherfield English in 1771. Lockhart sold the farm in 1783 to Major Osborne of Melchet Park. In c.1822 it was purchased by Alexander Baring, later created Lord Ashburton. By 1844 c.15 a. of land at Cowesfield Esturmy belonged to Corpus Christi College, Oxford.<sup>207</sup>

#### *Minor estates in Whiteparish*

At his death in 1344, Oliver de Ingham’s estates included an eighth part of a knight’s fee at Whiteparish, held without yearly rent by the prior of Mottisfont.<sup>208</sup>

In 1618 the Lynch family bought from William Chambers of London, son and heir of the late William Chambers of the Close, Salisbury, a messuage and land which the Lynches had been occupying for some years.<sup>209</sup> James and Samuel Lynch of Whiteparish were called *ignobiles*, or not of noble stock, in 1623, but they were nevertheless important landowners in the parish.<sup>210</sup> In 1705 James Lynch left his estate in trust for his sister Barbara Horbet, wife of John Horbet, and her children. The mansion was alienated by the trustees at an unknown

<sup>203</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXII, no. 517; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XIX, pp. 245–6 (nos. 681, 682); *Cal. Close* 1422–9, 176–7. The Stratford family also held land at Alderstone and Whelpley.

<sup>204</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, 134 (no. 620).

<sup>205</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1569–1572, 147.

<sup>206</sup> J. Waylen, ‘The Falstone Day-Book’, *WAM* 26 (1892), 370.

<sup>207</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 75.

<sup>208</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 376 (no. 529); *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, 159–60. A knight’s fee was the amount of land needed to support a knight.

<sup>209</sup> WSA, 130/17b (release of 5 May 1618).

<sup>210</sup> *Wilts. N&Q* IV (1902–4), 392.

date.<sup>211</sup> In 1771 the house was rented from the then-owner, William Moody, as the parish workhouse.<sup>212</sup> At some point it came by exchange to the Eyre family of Brickworth, and through them became part of the Nelson estate. By 1844 it was in the hands of the dowager countess Nelson.<sup>213</sup> It was still in the hands of the Nelson estate in 1924, by which time it was divided into three, one part including the village reading room, and let to tenants. It was advertised for sale that year as part of the auction of the Nelson estate in Whiteparish.<sup>214</sup>

Sometime before 1636, Sir John Evelyn, John Nicholas and William Stockman were seised of 200 a. of arable, pasture and woodland in Whiteparish, formerly part of the lands of Sir William Burrowe.<sup>215</sup>

Jacob Pleydell-Bourverie, earl of Radnor, was lord of the manor of West Grimstead when it was the subject of an inclosure award in 1805 that included a part of Whiteparish.<sup>216</sup>

In 1842 there were 62 landowners in Whiteparish.<sup>217</sup> Estates over 200 a were held by Frances Nelson, countess Nelson (1,348 a.), Lady Selina Fremantle (968 a.), Robert Bristow (903 a.), the guardians of Horatio Nelson, earl Nelson (540 a.), Robert Cooper (401 a.), George Yalden Fort (379 a.), Alexander Baring, lord Ashburton (294 a.) Charles Baring Wall (286 a.) and Robert Eden Duncombe Shafto (215 a.),

Dean Hill farm was advertised for sale in 1906, as part of the sale of the Norman Court (Hants.) estate of Francis Baring. The farm, of c.401 a., was situated in the parishes of West Dean and Whiteparish, with c.288 a. and the farmhouse in Whiteparish. It was let on a yearly tenancy.<sup>218</sup>

Parts of the Hamptworth estate were within Whiteparish.<sup>219</sup> Sale particulars of the estate in 1858 included lands and cottages in Whiteparish.<sup>220</sup>

Young's farm was named after Edward Younge of Whiteparish, to whose son and heir John it came, c.1674. It descended through the Younge family until 1758, when it was conveyed to the Chetwynd family following a marriage into the Younge family. In 1759 Lord Chetwynd and his brother William sold the estate to Henry Wyndham of Salisbury.

<sup>211</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 27.

<sup>212</sup> WSA, 1980/27, 7 Aug. 1771, 3 Oct. 1771, 7 Nov. 1771; NHLE, no. 1355666 (accessed 2 Jan. 2022).

<sup>213</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 27.

<sup>214</sup> WSA, 1980/20.

<sup>215</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1625–49, 230.

<sup>216</sup> Sandell (ed.), *Abstracts of Wiltshire Inclosures* (WRS 25, 1971), 78 (no. 98). The award was not enrolled until 1817.

<sup>217</sup> Tithe map and award, 1842.

<sup>218</sup> WSA, 776/337.

<sup>219</sup> For Hamptworth see *VCH Wilts*, XI, 59–62.

<sup>220</sup> WSA, 451/283.

Wyndham's son, H. P. Wyndham, conveyed the estate in 1792 to George Yalden Fort. By 1844 it was in the hands of Fort's son George.<sup>221</sup>

Chadwell farm was held by John Estcourt as a free tenant of Whelpley manor, c.1487. The farm remained with the family until c.1569, when Giles Estcourt alienated his property at Chadwell to Thomas Gawen of Norrington, though the following year he conveyed the property to Henry Keilway. In 1626 William Stockman of Downton gave the rents of Chadwell farm to provide relief for the poor of Downton. By 1844 the farm, of c.40 a., was vested in trustees.<sup>222</sup>

Langley Wood, an estate of c.300 a., was appropriated to the bishopric of Salisbury at an unknown date. The Light (or Lyght) family were lessees and woodwards by 1552, when Richard Light the elder and his son Richard were involved in a dispute over rights to the wood and its timber. The grant of woodwardship continued to be made by the bishop at least to 1678. There was a dwelling house in the wood known as Broomfields, but this had been demolished by 1844 and a cottage ornée built in another part of the wood by the then-lessee John Street.<sup>223</sup> Langley Wood was taken over by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1869, and sold by them to George Morrison in 1873.<sup>224</sup> Morrison also bought, c.1876, the cottage formerly occupied by Street, and at an unknown date also acquired the only other cottage remaining in the woods; a third cottage, known as Woodmans Cottage, had been demolished many years previously.<sup>225</sup> Morrison does not appear to have purchased the keepership and wardenship of the wood, which as of 1881 was said to be vested in William Eyre Matcham of Newhouse. By this date Matcham and earl Nelson were the only two commoners remaining.<sup>226</sup>

<sup>221</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 44.

<sup>222</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 46; *VCH Wilts*, XI, 52.

<sup>223</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Frustfield, 62–6, 125.

<sup>224</sup> Copy letter of 31 Mar. 1944, from papers relating to dispute over commoners' rights, 1943–4, deposited at Wiltshire and Swindon Archives by Peter Roberts, 8 Sept. 2021.

<sup>225</sup> WSA, 1369/4/13/36.

<sup>226</sup> WSA, 1369/4/13/36.