



## VCH Oxfordshire Texts in Progress

# Chadlington

## 2. Landownership

All or most of Chadlington once belonged to the large Anglo-Saxon royal estate focused on Shipton-under-Wychwood, to which a part of it (Chadlington's future Shippenhull manor) remained attached in 1086. Other parts of the future parish were by then included in manors based in Sarsden and Spelsbury, however,<sup>1</sup> while two small independent estates (each of 2½ hides) were held from the king by the royal servants Reginald the archer and Siward the huntsman,<sup>2</sup> but were later reabsorbed into Shipton or Shippenhull manor. By 1279 there were three manors in Chadlington,<sup>3</sup> of which Shippenhull had emerged from Shipton manor, Wahull from Sarsden manor, and East or Eastend from Spelsbury manor, their manor houses located on the sites of present-day Lower Court, Upper Court, and Manor House. Shippenhull and Wahull manors were combined in 1366 to form Chadlington West manor, which (with the manor house at Lower Court) was owned by the mostly resident Osbaldeston family c.1414–1740. Both West and East manors were bought in the 19th century by the MP James Langston (d. 1863) of Sarsden House, remaining part of his much larger Sarsden estate until that was broken up in 1922.

Other medieval estates included land belonging to Cold Norton priory and (later) to Brasenose College, Oxford, whilst Eynsham abbey acquired land through private gifts and as part of its Charlbury rectory estate, which passed by 1590 to St John's College, Oxford. From 1296 Charlbury's vicar also held land in Chadlington, both the vicarial and the St John's estates being greatly enlarged at enclosure c.1812, when land was awarded for extinguished tithes. The vicarage estate was sold in the 1920s, though St John's College retained the c.400-a. Rectory or College farm until 1970.

### Chadlington West Manors

#### *Shippenhull Manor to 1366*

In 1086 the future Shippenhull manor (so called by 1304) remained part of the royal manor of Shipton-under-Wychwood.<sup>4</sup> It emerged as a separate lordship probably in the early 12th

<sup>1</sup> Above, vol. intro. (landownership); below, Sarsden; Spelsbury.

<sup>2</sup> DB, f. 160v. Reginald also held land at Ipsden: cf. *VCH Oxon.* XX, 245.

<sup>3</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 736–8, 747.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Chart.* 1300–26, 44 ('Shippenhull'); *VCH Oxon.* XIX, 9, 42 (Shipton manor); below.

century, still held of Shipton manor,<sup>5</sup> of which it was called a 'member' in 1279 and 1552.<sup>6</sup> Early lords included Richard Fitzgerald (fl. 1166), whose gift of half a yardland to Eynsham abbey was confirmed (and increased) by his brother the royal chamberlain Henry Fitzgerald (d. by 1174). Both grants were subsequently confirmed by the lady of Shipton Matilda de Clare (d. 1195), countess of Gloucester, presumably acting as overlord.<sup>7</sup> Henry's son Warin Fitzgerald (d. 1215/16) held the manor in 1201,<sup>8</sup> and thereafter it descended with Sarsden, passing eventually to Isabel de Forz (d. 1293), countess of Devon and Aumale and lady of the Isle of Wight.<sup>9</sup>

By 1279, however, the manor had been further subinfeudated, since Reginald de Wautham held it from Isabel as ½ knight's fee.<sup>10</sup> Wautham acquired the neighbouring Wahull manor through his (perhaps second) marriage to Margaret de Wahull,<sup>11</sup> and both manors descended together until 1361,<sup>12</sup> when Shippenhull was assigned to Elizabeth (née de Hadlow) and her husband Edmund de la Pole, who charged it with a £10 annuity payable to Wahull's new owners John and Margaret Appleby.<sup>13</sup> The manors were reunited under the Applebys in 1366, becoming a single manor thereafter.<sup>14</sup>

### **Wahull Manor to 1366**

The future Wahull manor (so called by 1279 after its 12th-century lords) formed part of Richard de Courcy's 20-hide Sarsden estate in 1086, but by the late 12th century had emerged as an independent lordship held under the Courcys by the Wahull family.<sup>15</sup> The Courcy overlordship descended to Alice de Courcy (d. 1218), whose lands were partitioned in 1224–5 between her daughters Joan de Neville and Margaret de Redvers.<sup>16</sup> The Wahull

<sup>5</sup> e.g. *Rot. Hund.* II, 736; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* I, p. 159; VIII, p. 494; X, p. 243; XI, p. 71; cf. *VCH Oxon.* XIX, 43.

<sup>6</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 736; TNA, LR 2/189, f. 107. Cf. OHC, E36/2/2/CR/118; Merevale Hall (Warws.), Dugdale MSS, HT I/14.

<sup>7</sup> *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 107, 109; *Red Bk Exch.* I, 355–6; *ODNB*, s.v. Hen. Fitzgerald; cf. *VCH Oxon.* XIX, 43; below (Charlbury manor). The abbey's half yardland was still held of the manor in 1279: *Rot. Hund.* II, 737.

<sup>8</sup> *Cur. Reg.* I, p. 417; *ODNB*, s.v. Hen. Fitzgerald.

<sup>9</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* I, p. 159; *Close* 1261–4, 288; *Rot. Hund.* II, 736; below, Sarsden, landownership.

<sup>10</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 736. Isabel's intermediate lordship was not recorded later, the manor being held directly of Shipton.

<sup>11</sup> Below (Wahull). In 1261 Reginald (or a namesake) had a wife named Isabel: 'Oxon. Eyre, 1261', II, 288.

<sup>12</sup> Below (Wahull); cf. *Cal. Chart.* 1300–26, 44; *Feudal Aids*, IV, 165, *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, pp. 493–4; X, p. 243; XI, pp. 70–1.

<sup>13</sup> *Cal. Fine* 1356–68, 185–6; *Cal. Close* 1360–4, 386–7; Salter (ed.), *Boarstall Cart.* pp. 74, 119; below (Wahull).

<sup>14</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1364–7, 276–7; *Cal. Close* 1364–8, 230; Salter (ed.), *Boarstall Cart.* p. 74.

<sup>15</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 738; below.

<sup>16</sup> Below, Sarsden, landownership; Farrer, *Honors*, III, 242; Sanders, *Eng. Baronies*, 143.

part (which included a share in Sarsden's Domesday woodland in Chilson) passed to Joan's son John de Neville (d. 1246),<sup>17</sup> and by 1279 to Margaret's granddaughter Isabel de Forz (d. 1293).<sup>18</sup> From her the overlordship passed to Warin de Lisle (d. 1296), whose great-grandson surrendered it to the king with other lands in 1368;<sup>19</sup> thereafter the manor was held of the duchy of Lancaster.<sup>20</sup>

Michael de Wahull (fl. 1194), who held the manor under the Courcys, was the third son of Walter de Wahull (d. by 1176), lord of the castle and honor of Odell (Beds.), from which the family was named. Michael's successor was his son Simon,<sup>21</sup> although a part of the Wahull estate seems to have passed to Simon's sister Margery, wife of Robert Belet (d. by 1234), before being recombined with the manor before 1279.<sup>22</sup> In 1216 Simon's hostility to King John resulted in his Chadlington lands being temporarily committed to Ralph Tyrel,<sup>23</sup> but he regained the manor (held subsequently as one knight's fee), and died apparently by 1235.<sup>24</sup> His son and heir Walter married Argentilla, daughter of Roger de Welton, who held the manor in 1242 perhaps during Walter's minority;<sup>25</sup> Walter subsequently confirmed lands and rents in Chadlington to Eynsham abbey and Cold Norton priory,<sup>26</sup> but was dead by 1279 when the manor belonged to his heirs.<sup>27</sup> Wahull evidently passed to his daughter Margaret, who married firstly Walter de Piddington (fl. 1272)<sup>28</sup> and secondly Reginald de Wautham, the lord of Shippenhull manor. Their daughter and heir Isabel, wife of John Fitz Niel (d. 1289) of Boarstall (Bucks.),<sup>29</sup> held the manor in 1300,<sup>30</sup> and in 1301 it was settled on her for life with remainder to her daughter Joan and Joan's husband John de Hadlow.<sup>31</sup>

Isabel was dead by 1304 when Hadlow was granted free warren in his manors of Wahull and Shippenhull,<sup>32</sup> and following his death in 1346 both manors passed under a 1331

<sup>17</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 449, 454, 457; II, 828, 842; Sanders, *Eng. Baronies*, 143. For woods, below, econ. hist. (agric. landscape).

<sup>18</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 738; Sanders, *Eng. Baronies*, 144.

<sup>19</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VIII, 71–7; *Cal. Close* 1364–8, 496. Cf. *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 494; X, p. 243; XI, p. 70.

<sup>20</sup> *Feudal Aids*, IV, 189; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, III, p. 58.

<sup>21</sup> Farrer, *Honors*, I, 66, 263; Sanders, *Eng. Baronies*, 69. 'Wahull' was a medieval form of the place name Odell: V. Watts, *Cambridge Dict. of Eng. Place-Names* (2004), 449.

<sup>22</sup> *Book of Fees*, I, 317 ('Chadlington Belet' in 1220); Farrar, *Honors*, I, 263–4. For Belet's gift of land (held of Wahull manor in 1279: *Rot. Hund.* II, 738) to Cold Norton priory, below (other estates).

<sup>23</sup> *Rott. Litt. Claus.* I, 273; Farrer, *Honors*, I, 64.

<sup>24</sup> *Cur. Reg.* XIII, p. 213; *Book of Fees*, I, 449.

<sup>25</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 828, 842; BNC, Chadlington 2; G. Baker, *History and Antiquities of the County of Northampton* (1822), I, 232 (calling her Argentina); Farrer, *Honors*, I, 66, 89–90.

<sup>26</sup> Schumer, *Oxon. Forests*, 48; *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 214–15, BNC, Chadlington 2.

<sup>27</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 738.

<sup>28</sup> BNC, Chadlington 3; Schumer, *Oxon. Forests*, 66.

<sup>29</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 202 (mistaking Fitz Niel for Lee); VCH Bucks. IV, 11; H.E. Salter (ed.), *The Boarstall Cartulary* (OHS 88, 1930), pp. 64–74; below (Shippenhull).

<sup>30</sup> B. Schumer, 'The 1298/1300 perambulations of Wychwood Forest', *Oxoniensia* 69 (2004), 10.

<sup>31</sup> TNA, CP 25/1/188/12, no. 69; VCH Bucks. IV, 11.

<sup>32</sup> *Feudal Aids*, IV, 161; *Cal. Chart.* 1300–26, 44; cf. *Feudal Aids*, IV, 165.

settlement to his daughter-in-law Isabel (née de St Amand), the widow of his son Richard de Hadlow (d. 1343). Before 1346 she married Robert Hildesley, and on her death in 1361<sup>33</sup> her lands were divided between her two daughters by Richard de Hadlow, Margaret and Elizabeth. Wahull was assigned to Margaret and her second husband John Appleby, who acquired Shippenhull under a fresh partition in 1366.<sup>34</sup>

### ***The Combined West Manor from 1366***

John Appleby (d. 1372) was survived by his widow Margaret (fl. 1391),<sup>35</sup> whose daughter and heir Joan married Roger de Coghill (d. 1390), constable of Flint castle and sheriff of Flintshire. Their daughter and heir Jane married Sir John Osbaldeston,<sup>36</sup> who was lord in Chadlington in 1414 and died between 1419 and 1428, when Robert Andrew held the combined Chadlington West manor perhaps in custody during the minority of Sir John's son John. By 1437 it had passed to John (d. by 1485),<sup>37</sup> from whom it descended in the direct male line to Thomas (d. 1506), John (d. 1535), Richard (d. 1539),<sup>38</sup> John (d. 1593), Arthur (d. 1606), and Hercules Osbaldeston (d. 1640). Hercules left parts of the estate to his three younger sons Henry, Maximilian, and Thomas,<sup>39</sup> while the reduced manor itself passed to Hercules's Royalist eldest son John (d. c.1688).<sup>40</sup> In 1655 he settled it on his son and heir Littleton, upon the latter's marriage.<sup>41</sup>

Littleton (d. 1691), a lawyer and MP, was made a baronet in 1664, and in 1680 settled the manor on his son Lacy (d. 1699), who later inherited the baronetcy.<sup>42</sup> Sir Lacy's son Sir Richard died a minor in 1701 (in the guardianship of his mother Elizabeth), and was succeeded by his brother and heir Sir William, who came of age in 1708 and died in 1740.

<sup>33</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VI, 398–401 (or Haudlo); *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, pp. 493–4; X, p. 243; XI, pp. 70–1; TNA, CP 25/1/286/36, no. 96; *Feudal Aids*, IV, 184.

<sup>34</sup> *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* II, 265; *Cal. Close* 1360–4, 204, 386–7; 1364–8, 230, 496; *Cal. Pat.* 1364–7, 276–7; above (Shippenhull). Mgt was previously married to Sir Gilbert Chasteleyn: *Complete Peerage*, VI, 401; Salter (ed.), *Boarstall Cart.* p. 74.

<sup>35</sup> Salter (ed.), *Boarstall Cart.* p. 74; *Eynsham Cart.* II, p. 179; TNA, CP 25/1/191/24, no. 11.

<sup>36</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 202; H. Taylor, *Historical Notices ... of the Borough and County-Town of Flint* (1822), 63–4, 67–8; below, social hist. (Middle Ages).

<sup>37</sup> *VCH Lancs.* VI, 321; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XX, p. 63; *Feudal Aids*, IV, 188; TNA, CP 25/1/115/311, no. 438; *Oxon. Visit.* 202.

<sup>38</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 202; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen.* VII, III, p. 58 (Thos); OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 178.104 (John); TNA, C 142/82/18 (John); *ibid.* PROB 11/27/603 (Ric.).

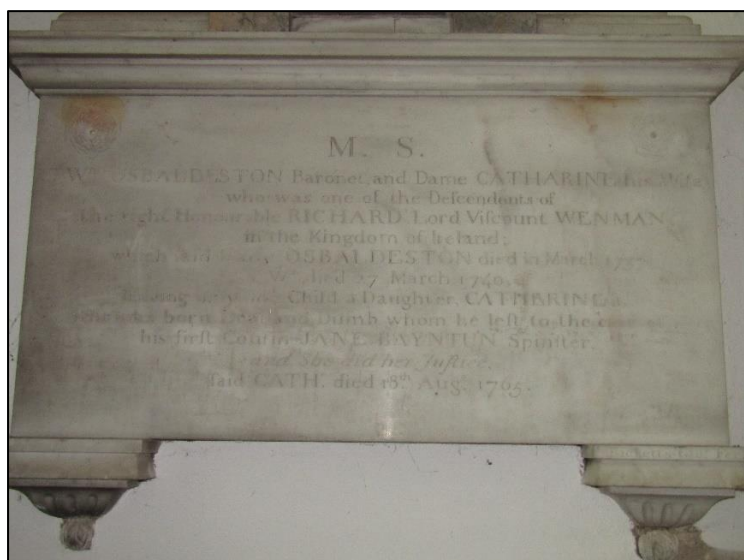
<sup>39</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 202, 313; *Oxon. Visit.* 1669–75, 21; OHC, par. reg. transcript, burials 1593, 1606, 1640; *ibid.* MS Wills Oxon. 49/1/22 (Arthur); TNA, PROB 11/183/242 (Hercules). For those detached parts, below (minor estates).

<sup>40</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 1669–75, 21; *Cal. Cttee for Compounding*, III, 2206; OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 171/2/4; below, social hist. (1500–1800).

<sup>41</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/588/1655Mich; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Sir Littleton Osbaldeston; cf. OHC, PAR56/16/D/1.

<sup>42</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/710/32ChasII Easter; *ibid.* PROB 11/408/73; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Sir Littleton Osbaldeston; below, social hist. (1500–1800).

The baronetcy then passed to William's brother Sir Charles (expiring on his death in 1749),<sup>43</sup> while the manor itself passed to William's first cousin Jane Bayntun, on condition that she and her heirs act as guardian for William's deaf-mute daughter Catherine (d. 1765), and live with her in the manor house for the remainder of her life.<sup>44</sup>



(Left) Wall monument to Sir William Osbaldeston (d. 1740) and his wife Catherine (d. 1737) in the church's north chapel. (Below) Grave slab of Stucley Bayntun (d. 1772) in the church porch.



Jane (d. 1746) was succeeded by her nephew Stucley Bayntun (d. 1772), the last resident lord,<sup>45</sup> and by Stucley's illegitimate daughter Ann, who married Edward Leach. After both she and her infant son Samuel died in 1774 the manor passed under Stucley's will to his cousin Andrew Bayntun of Spye Park in Bromham (Wilts.), from whom Stucley's brother William Bayntun successfully claimed it in Chancery in 1777.<sup>46</sup> William (d. 1785), a lawyer of Gray's Inn (Middx), left it to his widow Catherine (née Sandys), who married Thomas Brooks in 1786 and died in 1804.<sup>47</sup> It then passed under William's will to her cousin Edwin Sandys, who in 1807 took the additional surname Bayntun as a condition of his inheritance,<sup>48</sup> and in 1809 became a baronet, having also inherited the Miserden estate in Gloucestershire.

Sir Edwin Bayntun Sandys (d. 1848) lived at Miserden Park,<sup>49</sup> but bought additional freeholds in 1809, and after enclosure c.1812 owned 1,459 a. in Chadlington West.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>43</sup> *Oxon. Visit.* 1669–75, 21; *Par. Colln*, I, 79; TNA, PROB 11/408/73; OHC, par. reg. transcript, baptism 1687; J. Burke, *Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies* (1844), 394. Cf. below, social hist. (1500–1800).

<sup>44</sup> TNA, PROB 11/702/57; OHC, par. reg. transcript, burial 1765; wall tablets in church.

<sup>45</sup> TNA, PROB 11/746/107 (Jane); PROB 11/985/295 (Stucley); OHC, par. reg. transcript, burials 1746, 1772.

<sup>46</sup> TNA, C 45/1/22; *ibid.* PROB 11/985/295. Cf. OHC, Fi. IV/viii/6.

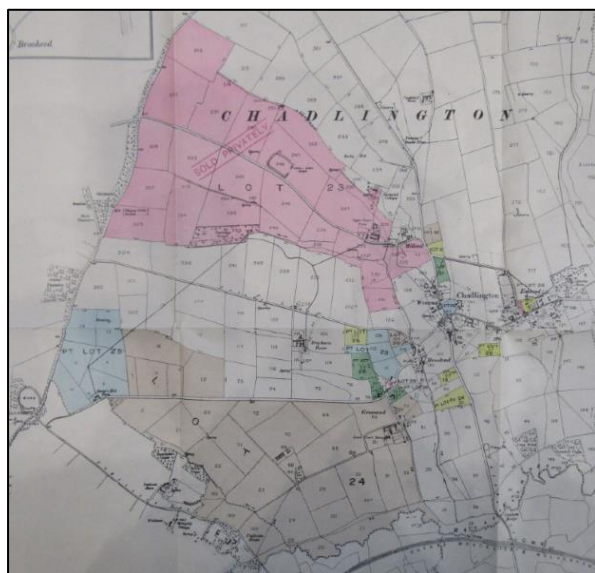
<sup>47</sup> TNA, PROB 11/1126/382 (Wm); PROB 11/1409/259 (Cath.); OHC, Fi. IV/iv/c/6; *N&Q*, 12th ser. VIII, 268. Cf. OHC, E21/C/1–15; E21/F/2–3.

<sup>48</sup> TNA, PROB 11/1126/382; *London Gaz.* 9 May 1807, p. 614.

<sup>49</sup> J. Burke, *Peerage and Baronetage* (1838), 842; *VCH Glos.* XI, 50.

<sup>50</sup> OHC, Fi. IV/viii/6–8; *ibid.* enclo. maps.

Burdened by heavy mortgages, he sold the estate in 1835 to James Langston of Sarsden House, MP, who added Chadlington East manor in 1847.<sup>51</sup> The two together (covering c.2,300 a.) formed part of his much larger Sarsden estate, which on his death in 1863 descended to his daughter Julia (d. 1895), wife of Henry Reynolds-Moreton, 3rd earl of Ducie, of Tortworth Court (Glos.).<sup>52</sup>



Part of the map which accompanies the 1922 sale catalogue of the remaining parts of the Sarsden estate. Upper Court farm is shaded pink and Lower Court farm appears brown.  
Source: OHC, Fi. XIV/ii/2.

Following the earl's death in 1921 their daughter Constance Shaw-Lefevre, Baroness Eversley, sold the estate in parcels in 1922.<sup>53</sup> Upper Court farm (451 a.), sold to Stanley Pascoe in 1922, passed to the Richardsons (c.1933–71) and then to Andrew Cleaver (1971–2000),<sup>54</sup> whilst Blaythorne farm (425 a.) descended from its purchaser William Woolcock (d. 1945) to his son Geoffrey (d. 2008) and grandson Martin, the owner in 2024.<sup>55</sup> The manor house (Lower Court) was bought with 504 a. by John Rowe (d. 1929),<sup>56</sup> whose widow Elizabeth (of Helston in Cornwall) still owned it in 1986.<sup>57</sup> Her family offered it for sale with 515 a. in 2019, and by 2024 it belonged to Luke Taylor.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>51</sup> Ibid. SL116/3/D/1–2; *ibid.* Fi. IV/viii/3–9; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Jas Langston; below (East). Miserden was sold for the same reason in 1832: *VCH Glos.* XI, 50.

<sup>52</sup> Below, Sarsden, landownership; *Complete Peerage*, IV, 477; L.G. Pine, *The New Extinct Peerage 1884–1971* (1972), 119; OHC, Lo. VI/11.

<sup>53</sup> *Sale Cat., Sarsden Estate* (1922): copy in OHC, Fi. XIV/ii/2.

<sup>54</sup> OHC, DV/X/34 (1922 alterations); *Banbury Guardian*, 7 Oct. 1971; *Country Life*, 13 Apr. 2000, 106.

<sup>55</sup> OHC, DV/X/34 (1922 alterations); *Chadlington Life & Hist.* II, 21–4; G. Eaton, *Field Notes* (2022), 73: copy in OHC.

<sup>56</sup> OHC, DV/X/34 (1922 alterations); *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser*, 14 Nov. 1929.

<sup>57</sup> TNA, MAF 32/910/79; *Oxf. Mail*, 13 Jan. 1986.

<sup>58</sup> *Country Life*, 15 Aug. 2019; local info. (2024).

### **Chadlington West Manor Houses (Upper Court and Lower Court)**

Wahull's manor house (mentioned perhaps in 1322 and certainly in 1346) presumably stood on or close to the site of Upper Court in Millend, although it ceased to be a manor house in 1366, and little or nothing survives from before the farmhouse's rebuilding c.1840.

Shippenhull manor house (also noted in 1346) was almost certainly on or near the site of Lower Court in Greenend.<sup>59</sup> A fishpond there is possibly of medieval origin, and wall foundations, reportedly seen as parch marks during dry weather,<sup>60</sup> may relate to the late medieval and early post-medieval manor house occupied by the Osbaldestons, which had a 'new chamber' in 1535 and armorial window glass in 1574.<sup>61</sup> An inventory of 1606 named eight chambers including a 'chapel chamber', and Hercules Osbaldeston (d. 1640) left his son John items in the upper parlour and hall along with 'all the furniture for a great house'.<sup>62</sup> In 1665 the house was apparently taxed on seven hearths.<sup>63</sup>

The surviving Lower Court dates from c.1700, having presumably been rebuilt for one of the early Osbaldeston baronets, and incorporates a re-used 17th-century carved oak overmantel (bearing the Osbaldeston arms) in the study.<sup>64</sup> Two-storeyed with attics and cellars, and constructed of coursed limestone rubble with ashlar dressings and stone slate roofs, it has a compact double-pile plan, with a T-shaped single-storey service range projecting to the west. The symmetrical north and south fronts have central doorways and three dormers, though their original five-window arrangement was reduced to three in the early 19th century, when tall casements were inserted. The north side retains a fine original doorway with panelled pilasters and a large segmental pediment, and several early 18th-century features survive internally, including heavy cornices, bolection-moulded architraves in the entrance hall, a chimneypiece in the dining room with giant fluted pilasters and a Doric entablature, and an oak open-well staircase with a closed string and heavy barley-twist balusters.

From 1772 the house was let, the tenant Thomas Drake Tyrwhitt agreeing in 1779 to rebuild the wash house and brewhouse and erect a 'substantial' servants' hall.<sup>65</sup> The work had presumably been completed by 1804 when there were various 'new-erected' outhouses,<sup>66</sup> and by 1816 Lower Court boasted a double coach-house, stabling for ten

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<sup>59</sup> TNA, C 135/82/1, no. 26; above, landscape etc. (settlement; built character). For 1322, below, social hist. (Middle Ages).

<sup>60</sup> Below, econ. hist. (agric. landscape); Eaton, *Field Notes*, 67.

<sup>61</sup> OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 178.104; *Oxon. Visit.* 29–30; cf. *Par. Colln*, I, 79–80.

<sup>62</sup> OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 49/1/22; TNA, PROB 11/183/242.

<sup>63</sup> *Hearth Tax Oxon.* 161 (John Osbaldeston).

<sup>64</sup> Paragraph based on: NHLE, no. 1368038 (accessed Dec. 2024); Brooks, *Pevsner N&W*, 236–7.

<sup>65</sup> Bodl. MS dd Tyrwhitt-Drake, c 2/38. For Tyrwhitt, below, social hist. (1500–1800).

<sup>66</sup> OHC, E21/F/3.



horses, and an ‘excellent’ walled garden with an orchard and paddocks. The house itself had also undergone ‘considerable repairs and improvements’,<sup>67</sup> perhaps including its refenestration, while other work may have included the gilded Rococo-style ceiling in the drawing room and perhaps its two Adam-style doorcases (which may, however, be slightly earlier).<sup>68</sup> From 1835 Lower Court became a tenanted farmhouse, and little further significant work was carried out until the 2020s, when converted farm buildings were brought into the service range and the casement windows in the main north front were replaced with sashes.<sup>69</sup>



The north (left) and south (right) fronts of Lower Court photographed in 1965.  
Sources: OHC, POX0188016; POX0188015.

## Chadlington East or Eastend Manor

In 1086 the future Chadlington East or Eastend manor formed part of the bishop of Worcester’s 10-hide Spelsbury estate, which was held under him by Urse d’Abitot and eventually passed to the earls of Warwick.<sup>70</sup> By the late 12th century Chadlington East had its own lords, although the bishop retained an interest in 1279 when its lords and freeholders owed suit to Spelsbury’s manor court.<sup>71</sup> The overlordship remained attached to Spelsbury manor thereafter.<sup>72</sup>

<sup>67</sup> *Oxf. Jnl*, 20 Apr. 1816; *Sale Cat.*, *Chadlington West manor* (1818) (mentioning the house’s recent tenancy by Lord Edw. Somerset): copy in Glos. Archives, D3393/E7.

<sup>68</sup> NHLE, no. 1368038; Brooks, *Pevsner N&W*, 236–7.

<sup>69</sup> WODC online planning docs, 21/00963/FUL; 22/02659/LBC. For farm tenants, below, econ. hist. (since 1800).

<sup>70</sup> DB, f. 238v.; below, Spelsbury, landownership.

<sup>71</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 747. Spelsbury’s lords exercised view of frankpledge there into the post-medieval period: below, local govt (manor cts).

<sup>72</sup> e.g. *Cal. Inq. p.m.* V, p. 402; XVIII, p. 169; XXVI, p. 271; TNA, C 142/370/71. Cf. below, Spelsbury, landownership.



The lord by the 1190s was Robert de Whitfield (d. by 1194), lord of Wheatfield, whose widow Isabella received dower in Chadlington in 1196.<sup>73</sup> The manor was later subinfeudated to other Whitfield family members, including William (fl. 1201), perhaps Richard (fl. 1261), and Ralph, whose heirs held it of Elias de Whitfield (then lord of Wheatfield) in 1279. Another part was apparently then held by John de Honyngton from Robert of Pendock, however, and by 1315 the manor was shared between John de Whitfield (holding a ploughland as ½ knight's fee) and John Hunter (*Venour*), Richard Douvill, and Nicholas of Aston, each holding 1/6 fee.<sup>74</sup> The following year Douvill and Aston alone reportedly held the manor as a whole knight's fee,<sup>75</sup> although both Douvill and Richard de Whitfield were taxed in Eastend in 1316 and 1327.<sup>76</sup> Douvill or a namesake still held a house with two ploughlands in Chadlington in 1342, and was succeeded before 1347 by his son Richard.<sup>77</sup> John de Whitfield held 14 houses, a ploughland, and five yardlands in Chadlington East in 1350,<sup>78</sup> and was followed by Richard Whitfield (fl. 1380–9)<sup>79</sup> and John Whitfield (fl. 1416–21).<sup>80</sup>

Nothing further is known until 1485, when the wealthy Witney wool merchant Thomas Fermor or Ricards left the manor to his son Laurence, the lord in 1517.<sup>81</sup> He was followed before 1542 by his son Henry,<sup>82</sup> while William Farmer (d. c.1548) of Chadlington married Margaret, a daughter of John Osbaldeston (d. 1535) of Chadlington West manor, who was described as a 'gentlewoman' at her death in 1580.<sup>83</sup> From the Fermors or Farmers the manor somehow passed to the Newmans, of whom Richard (d. 1604) left it to his nephew Richard Newman of Hook Norton.<sup>84</sup> He was followed by John Newman (d. 1616), whose eldest son John, initially a minor in the guardianship of his mother Jane,<sup>85</sup> came of age in

<sup>73</sup> *Oxon. Fines*, p. 2; *VCH Oxon.* VIII, 266.

<sup>74</sup> *Rotulus Cancellarii* (Rec. Com. 1833), 202, 278; *Oxon. Fines*, p. 182; *Rot. Hund.* II, 747; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* V, p. 408. Both Hen. de Whitfield (fl. 1258) and Ric. Douvill claimed the advowson against Eynsham abbey, Douvill in the right of his wife Matilda, who was perhaps a Whitfield heiress: *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 327–8, 404–5; below, relig. hist.

<sup>75</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* V, p. 402; cf. *Feudal Aids*, IV, 165.

<sup>76</sup> TNA, E 179/161/8–9.

<sup>77</sup> *Ibid.* CP 25/1/190/19, no. 14; CP 25/1/190/20, no. 8. Ric. Douvill senior and junior were both taxed in Eastend in 1327: *ibid.* E 179/161/9.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.* CP 25/1/190/20, no. 40.

<sup>79</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1377–81, 545; BL, Harl. 44 D 45; *Eynsham Cart.* II, p. 179.

<sup>80</sup> *Cal. Fine* 1413–22, 173; *Cal. Pat.* 1416–22, 344.

<sup>81</sup> TNA, PROB 11/7/277; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, I, pp. 78–9; I.S. Leadam (ed.), *Domesday of Inclosures 1517–1518* (1897), I, 360–1; cf. below, econ. hist. (1500–1800); *VCH Oxon.* XIV, 76. For his widow Emmot (d. 1501), below (other estates).

<sup>82</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/52/377, no. 30.

<sup>83</sup> OHC, MSS Wills Oxon. 179.273; 21/3/6; *ibid.* par. reg. transcript, burial 1580; *Oxon. Visit.* 202–3.

<sup>84</sup> TNA, PROB 11/105/320; OHC, par. reg. transcript, burial 1604.

<sup>85</sup> OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 194.334; TNA, C 142/370/71.

1629, and in 1658 sold the manor to Joseph Whetham.<sup>86</sup> Whetham was lord in 1662, but then or later sold the manor to the London vintner William Rollinson, the owner in 1674.<sup>87</sup>

Rollinson (d. 1678) left the manor to his son Joseph (d. 1699),<sup>88</sup> whose son William (d. 1774) settled it in 1731 on himself and his wife Sarah (d. 1735), dowager countess of Winchilsea, and then in 1740 on his son Thomas and Thomas's wife Martha (d. by 1756).<sup>89</sup> Thomas (d. 1773) was followed by his son Lock (d. 1788), who left the manor to his widow Mary (d. 1795) during the minority of their son James Lock Rollinson.<sup>90</sup> James, who owned 727 a. in Chadlington East in 1799,<sup>91</sup> died in 1802 aged 21, leaving as coheiresses his sisters Mary (who was unmarried), Martha (wife of the Revd John Dolphin), and Ann (wife of the Revd Henry Hippisley). Mary acquired the Hippisleys' third in 1805, and in 1806 she and the Dolphins sold the manor to Abram Tyzack Rawlinson (d. 1845),<sup>92</sup> who remodelled the manor house and, after enclosure c.1812, owned 582 a. in Chadlington East and 58 a. in West.<sup>93</sup>

Rawlinson's will directed that his Chadlington estate should be sold,<sup>94</sup> and in 1847 his widow Eliza and son Abram Lindow Rawlinson conveyed it in two parts to James Langston, to whose Sarsden estate it remained attached (along with Chadlington West) until the Sarsden estate's break-up in 1922.<sup>95</sup> Manor House and its 440-a. were then bought by the tenant Paul Handy,<sup>96</sup> whose descendants the Strongs sold the house itself in 1988. That was bought in 2022 by John Hartz, to whom Handy's grandson Simon Strong sold the farm in 2024.<sup>97</sup>

### ***Manor House (Manor House)***

The present-day Manor House, so called by 1854, stands immediately west of the church on the south side of Eastend's village street, presumably on or near the medieval manorial site.

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<sup>86</sup> OHC, par. reg. transcript, baptism 1608; TNA, CP 43/302, ro. 165.

<sup>87</sup> TNA, E 179/255/3; OHC, PAR56/16/D/1. *Hearth Tax Oxon.* 162 still names Whetham in 1665, while Roche, 'Notes', 6, dates the sale to 1662 (based apparently on an unlocated fine: cf. Roche's MS notes in VCH file). For Rollinson's son John (d. 1669), below, social hist. (1500–1800).

<sup>88</sup> TNA, PROB 11/358/92; PROB 11/457/169; monumental inscription in church.

<sup>89</sup> OHC, Fi. III/i/2–5; *ibid.* par. reg. transcript, burial 1774; TNA, PROB 11/995/57; *N&Q*, 150.4 (1926), 67; *Complete Peerage*, XIIB, 779–80.

<sup>90</sup> TNA, PROB 11/995/57 (Thomas); PROB 11/1162/99 (Lock); PROB 11/1261/177 (Mary); OHC, par. reg. transcript, burial 1773; *ibid.* Fi. III/i/7.

<sup>91</sup> SJC, MUN VI.74, ff. 108–112.

<sup>92</sup> OHC, par. reg. transcript, baptism 1781, burial 1802; *ibid.* Fi. IV/i/c; TNA, PROB 11/2025/388.

<sup>93</sup> OHC, encl. award and maps; below (manor ho.).

<sup>94</sup> TNA, PROB 11/2025/388.

<sup>95</sup> OHC, Fi. IV/v/6–17; DV/X/34; above (West); below, Sarsden, landownership.

<sup>96</sup> OHC, DV/X/34 (1922 alterations); TNA, MAF 32/910/79.

<sup>97</sup> T. Yeats, 'Hartley heritage: part two', *Wychwoods Hist.* 18 (2003), 51–3; *Oxf. Mail*, 13 Feb. 1989; info. (2024) from John Hartz.

A possibly medieval fishpond exists within parkland to the south.<sup>98</sup> Nothing else is known until 1616 when John Newman's house had a 'new chamber', and the core of the surviving building is of broadly similar date, remodelled in the 18th century and again in the 19th and 20th.<sup>99</sup> Two-storeyed with attics and cellars, and built of coursed and squared limestone with ashlar dressings and stone slate roofs, it has a roughly L-shaped plan comprising long north and west ranges, its mix of mullioned and sash windows reflecting its different phases and remodellings.

All the cellars have 17th-century stone-mullioned windows just above ground level, suggesting that they delineate the footprint of a substantial residence with below-ground service rooms. One of the cellars, beneath a square block at the north range's east end, does not connect with those beneath the west range, and may therefore have been the site of a detached kitchen serving the 17th-century house, or possibly an earlier predecessor. It was later joined to the west range by the north range's central block, which comprises the present entrance hall with the rooms above, and a later eastern cross wing with gables to front and rear, the roof of which contains some reused medieval timbers. Both the hall block and cross wing retain some of their original mullioned windows with hoodmoulds, while the cross wing's ground-floor room has a large stone fireplace. Both ranges presumably formed part of the house on which Joseph Whetham was taxed on seven hearths in the 1660s.<sup>100</sup> In the late 17th century (under the Rollinsons and perhaps the Distons) the house was significantly altered, the new additions in part replacing what had gone before. The most extensive addition was the long west range with a staircase tower against its east wall near the southern end.

Remodelling by William Rollinson and his son Thomas followed around the 1730s, including the rebuilding of the west range's northern bay, the insertion of an open-string staircase, and creation of an enfilade of rooms in the west range. Thomas's involvement is suggested by the inscription 'TR July 23 1737' on a wall stone in a lower cellar that he seems to have had dug beneath the west range, while the inscription 'WR 1738' on a now-lost cast-iron fireback formerly in the north-west drawing room referred presumably to William. That room retains much of its mid 18th-century décor, including large-panelled walls, a dentil cornice, a triangular-pedimented eared doorcase, and a Rococo fireplace with a large broken-pedimented overmantel with scrolls, although a painting of the Thames in London (still contained within the overmantel in 1957) has since been lost. Also in the 18th

<sup>98</sup> *PO Dir. Oxon.* (1854); below, econ. hist. (agric. landscape).

<sup>99</sup> OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 47/2/22. Unless indicated, following description based on: NHLE, no. 1052835; Brooks, *Pevsner N&W*, 235–6; 'Chadlington Manor' (unpubl. Oxford Archaeology report, 2023); D. Clark, 'Manor House, Chadlington' (OBR Rep. 532, 2025); VCH and OBR fieldwork (2024–5).

<sup>100</sup> *Hearth Tax Oxon.* 162.

century several mullioned windows in both ranges were replaced with sashes (many of them shuttered), while the walls of the principal façades were raised to include a moulded parapet and were partly rebuilt.



North (left) and north-west (right) views of Manor House photographed in the early 20th century. Sources: OHC, POX0189580; POX0189594.

Early 19th-century alterations for A.T. Rawlinson (whose name is etched into window glass in the north-east kitchen block) included altering or replacing several sash windows, and adding a single-storey canted bay to the west front of the north-west drawing room. He was perhaps also responsible for raising the stair tower to give access to rooms created in the attics, and for forming a short south range by joining a 17th- or 18th-century outbuilding (probably a dairy) south-east of the staircase tower to the main house. As a keeper of racehorses he probably also enlarged the pre-existing stables and coach house fronting the village street, a part of which was remodelled by James Langston as a village reading room c.1860.<sup>101</sup> A plaque commemorating the birth in the house in 1810 of Rawlinson's son Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson was erected high up on the west range soon after the latter's death in 1895.<sup>102</sup> Changes c.1988, when the house became a hotel, were mostly internal, although four new sash windows were inserted into a formerly blank wall at the west range's south-west end. Around 2010 a small extension was added at the north range's eastern end, and further alterations and building works (mainly repairs) were under way in 2024.<sup>103</sup> The landscape designer Rupert Golby landscaped the grounds and laid out formal gardens before 2002.<sup>104</sup>

<sup>101</sup> For racehorses and reading room, below, social hist. (since 1800).

<sup>102</sup> For Rawlinson, *ibid.*; for plaque, cf. *Kelly's Dir. Oxon.* (1924).

<sup>103</sup> For 2024 works, cf. WODC online planning docs, 23/02204/LBC.

<sup>104</sup> *Sale Cat., The Manor, Chadlington* (2002): copy in OHC, EA cat. box AV1127.

## Other Estates

### ***Charlbury Manor (Eynsham Abbey) Estate***

Eynsham abbey acquired some Chadlington lands and houses through early gifts, incorporating them into its neighbouring manor of Charlbury.<sup>105</sup> Richard Fitzgerald, the lord of Shippenhull, gave half a yardland c.1173, which by c.1210 produced 2s. 6d. annual rent. A further 4 a. given by Richard's brother Henry was apparently later acquired by the Knights Hospitaller.<sup>106</sup> A larger freehold of three tenanted houses, three crofts, and more than 100 a. in Chadlington's open fields, together with 5s. rent from a Pudlicote meadow, was given before 1264 by John Heynon, son of William of Chadlington, and was confirmed to the abbey by the lord of Wahull manor Walter de Wahull. That estate was leased by the abbey before 1268 to Hugh of Chadlington and his wife Sibyl for their lives, for 20s. rent and a 30s. entry fine,<sup>107</sup> and by c.1310 the abbey's combined properties were held by various tenants for a total of 23s. 6d. a year.<sup>108</sup>

At the Dissolution three Chadlington tenants paid a total of 12s. 2d. a year as copyholders of Charlbury manor, along with three Pudlicote tenants each paying a third of the 5s. meadow rent.<sup>109</sup> Following much confusion the manor passed eventually to St John's College, Oxford, whose rights were confirmed under a settlement of 1590;<sup>110</sup> the Chadlington and Pudlicote copyholds, however, were subject to a separate 1,000-year grant to John Chamberlain of Charlbury,<sup>111</sup> who evidently sold them to John Osbaldeston (d. 1593), the lord of Chadlington West.<sup>112</sup>

### ***Charlbury Rectory Estate (Eynsham Abbey and St John's College)***

Chadlington was claimed as a chapelry of Charlbury by 1197–8, and in 1296 (following long-running disputes) its glebe and tithes were appropriated by Eynsham abbey as part of Charlbury rectory estate, save for some specified tithes and offerings and a Chadlington

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<sup>105</sup> *VCH Oxon.* X, 135.

<sup>106</sup> *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 107, 109; *Book of Fees*, I, 626; *Rot. Hund.* II, 737 (Hospitallers); above (Shippenhull). The Hospitallers' 4 a. has not been traced further.

<sup>107</sup> *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 214–15, 247–8; II, pp. xxxvii–viii, lxiii. The Pudlicote meadow was called Wolgersham: below, Chilson, landownership.

<sup>108</sup> BL, Harl. Roll B23 (including the 5s. Pudlicote rent).

<sup>109</sup> OHC, E36/4/1/F1/2; cf. SJC, MUN VI.59–60; VI.70 (death of a copyholder in 1554).

<sup>110</sup> *VCH Oxon.* X, 135.

<sup>111</sup> SJC, MUN VI.9; VI.11; cf. *VCH Oxon.* X, 135.

<sup>112</sup> SJC, MUN VI.70 (1623 note).

glebe house allotted to the vicar of Charlbury the same year.<sup>113</sup> The abbey retained its Chadlington glebe and tithes (worth perhaps £7 6s. 8d. in 1340)<sup>114</sup> until its dissolution in 1539, leasing the great tithes in return for grain payments.<sup>115</sup> Chadlington's West's lord Thomas Osbaldeston rented Chadlington's 'rectory house' for 6d. a year c.1447,<sup>116</sup> while in 1538 the royal courtier Thomas Brydges held the glebe and tithes in Chadlington, Shorthampton, and Chilson for £12 4s. 8d. a year, the lease passing to his daughter Elizabeth Ashfield on his death in 1559.<sup>117</sup>

Following the Dissolution Charlbury manor and rectory descended together until 1590, when the Chadlington, Shorthampton, Chilson, and Pudlicote parts of the rectory estate passed with the manor to St John's College, Oxford.<sup>118</sup> The college continued to lease the glebe and tithes,<sup>119</sup> and in 1674 (when the glebe included a yardland in Chadlington's East's open fields) it was awarded a £4 annual rent-charge in lieu of commuted tithes on William Rollinson's new enclosures.<sup>120</sup> Its remaining Chadlington tithes were extinguished at enclosure c.1812, when it received 404 a. (comprising 34½ a. for glebe and 369½ a. for tithes) in Chadlington West.<sup>121</sup> The college sold Charlbury manor in 1857,<sup>122</sup> but kept Rectory or College farm until 1970, when it comprised 386 a. including a secondary farmstead known as Curdlehill Farm.<sup>123</sup> In 2008 that became the centre of a c.1,000-a. farm owned by the broadcaster Jeremy Clarkson, who retained it in 2024.<sup>124</sup>

The rectory house mentioned c.1447 may have stood at the western end of the north row in Eastend, on the site of a long-demolished successor. That was exchanged at enclosure c.1812 for a derelict Westend farmhouse belonging to the lord Sir E. Bayntun Sandys,<sup>125</sup> which together with its large farmyard was rebuilt as College Farm soon after. The two-storey dwelling (now The Farmhouse), described as 'superior' in 1826, is of limestone rubble with Welsh slate roofs and sash windows, and was extended northwards in

<sup>113</sup> *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 57, 340–6; *VCH Oxon.* X, 148; below (Charlbury vicarage estate); relig. hist. (church origins).

<sup>114</sup> *Nonarum Inquisitiones*, 139.

<sup>115</sup> *VCH Oxon.* X, 137; below, econ. hist. (medieval).

<sup>116</sup> OHC, E36/4/1/F1/1; for the date, cf. *VCH Oxon.* X, 127–57.

<sup>117</sup> OHC, E36/4/1/F1/2; TNA, PROB 11/43/134; *ODNB*, s.v. Brydges, Thos. Cf. SJC, MUN VI.59–60.

<sup>118</sup> *L&P Hen.* VIII, XIV (1), p. 417; XVIII (1), pp. 446, 540; *Cal. Pat.* 1589–90, 70, 137–8, 178; OHC, Kem. VI/1; SJC, MUN VI.5; VI.9; VI.11; VI.15. For the full descent 1539–90, *VCH Oxon.* X, 135, 137.

<sup>119</sup> e.g. OHC, E36/4/1/F1/25 (John Throckmorton, 1602); *ibid.* PAR56/16/D/1 (Ric. Eyrans, 1674); SJC, MUN VI.79 (Wm Diston, 1729); OHC, enclo. award and maps (Sir E. Bayntun Sandys, 1812–25).

<sup>120</sup> OHC, PAR56/16/D/1; SJC, MUN VI.56; VI.79; below, econ. hist. (1500–1800).

<sup>121</sup> OHC, enclo. award and maps.

<sup>122</sup> *VCH Oxon.* X, 135.

<sup>123</sup> SJC, ADM II.A.5b, p. 211; *ibid.* General Ledger 820. For the college's gift of the village hall site, below, social hist. (since 1800).

<sup>124</sup> J. Clarkson, *Diddly Squat: A Year on the Farm* (2021), 11; below, econ. hist. (since 1800).

<sup>125</sup> OHC, E36/4/1/F1/1; *ibid.* enclo. award and maps.

similar style a few decades later (present-day Hollywell House).<sup>126</sup> Curdlehill Farm, featuring a full-height canted bay window, was established by 1881, but in 2016 was demolished with explosives by Jeremy Clarkson, pending its replacement with a much larger neo-classical farmhouse completed in 2021.<sup>127</sup>



The former College Farm  
in Westend.

### **Charlbury Vicarage Estate**

Under Charlbury's 1296 vicarage ordination the vicar received Chadlington endowments comprising altar fees worth £5 6s. 8d. a year, hay tithes worth £2, and a house for the chaplain.<sup>128</sup> By 1635 the house had 1 a. of arable attached, and by 1685 the vicar reportedly took all of Chadlington's small tithes.<sup>129</sup> Those and the house were leased by 1785, when the estate owed £1 land tax in Chadlington East and £3 13s. 4d. in West.<sup>130</sup> At enclosure c.1812 the vicar retained the house (Glebe Cottage), the churchyard, and 1 a. of glebe in Eastend, and was allotted 287 a. (179 a. in Chadlington East and 108 a. in West) in lieu of extinguished Chadlington tithes.<sup>131</sup> The bulk (239 a. in 1910) became a tenanted farm known later as Vicarage, Uplands, or Galleypot farm, which in 1881 had a farmyard east of Green Lane.<sup>132</sup> Some 4 a. of glebe were sold in 1907 and the farm and Glebe Cottage in 1920, followed by the vicar's remaining 9 a. in 1927.<sup>133</sup>

<sup>126</sup> *Oxf. Jnl*, 22 July 1826; VCH fieldwork (June 2024).

<sup>127</sup> OS Map 1:2500, Oxon. XX.7 (1881 edn); *Oxf. Mail*, 10 Sept. 2016; *Country Life*, 22 Feb. 2001, 92. For the new house, above, landscape etc. (built character).

<sup>128</sup> *Eynsham Cart.* I, pp. 344–6; *VCH Oxon.* X, 148. Little if any of the vicar's 65-a. glebe seems to have been in Chadlington: cf. SJC, MUN VI.47; OHC, MS Oxf. Archd. Oxon. b 40, ff. 87–8.

<sup>129</sup> OHC, MS Oxf. Archd. Oxon. b 40, ff. 85, 88; below, relig. hist. (curate's ho.).

<sup>130</sup> OHC, QSD/L/62–3.

<sup>131</sup> *Ibid.* encl. award and maps.

<sup>132</sup> *Ibid.* DV/X/34; OS Map 1:2500, Oxon. XX.3 (1881 edn).

<sup>133</sup> T.G. Roche, 'Proposed union of Chadlington and Spelsbury' (1962): typescript in VCH file; Roche, 'Notes', 2.



## Minor Estates

In 1279 each of Chadlington's three manors had free tenants, those with a hide or more being Walter de Preston (seven yardlands on Shippenhull manor), Alice de Lyngure (four yardlands on Shippenhull manor, conveyed to Odo Becard in 1283), and Walter le Eyr (four yardlands held from John Lovell on Wahull manor).<sup>134</sup> The Lovells still owned three yardlands on Chadlington West manor in the 15th century,<sup>135</sup> but none of the other freeholds can be traced later. Emmot (d. 1501), the wealthy widow of Chadlington East's lord Thomas Ricards or Fermor (d. 1485), left unspecified houses and lands in Chadlington West to their son Richard Fermor (d. 1551),<sup>136</sup> while land formerly belonging to a Chipping Norton chantry was sold in 1575.<sup>137</sup>

Cold Norton priory held a yardland by 1279, following gifts by William son of Walter of Chadlington and Robert Belet before 1229, and another by John de la Barre (at a place called Breach) probably soon afterwards. The yardland was held in free alms, the lords of Wahull manor having waived the 2s. rent formerly due for it.<sup>138</sup> In 1486 the estate (called Canons' Breach) was leased to Chadlington West's lord Thomas Osbaldeston,<sup>139</sup> and following the priory's dissolution in 1507 it descended with Cold Norton manor, passing in 1513 to Brasenose College, Oxford.<sup>140</sup> The estate, latterly two yardlands, was exchanged for 34½ a. in Chadlington West at enclosure c.1812,<sup>141</sup> and Brasenose continued to lease it to tenants until at least 1942.<sup>142</sup>

Tenant farms which Chadlington West's lord Hercules Osbaldeston (d. 1640) left to his younger sons Henry, Maximilian, and Thomas descended as separate freeholds.<sup>143</sup> A five-yardland farm left to Thomas (and known as Wheeler's) was owned by the duke of Marlborough from 1788 until 1802, when it was sold first to Charles Stought and then in 1809 to Sir E. Bayntun Sandys, thus reuniting it with Chadlington West manor.<sup>144</sup> Maximilian's estate passed on his death in 1687 to his son the Revd Hercules Osbaldeston (d. 1701) of Ebrington (Glos.), who left 'Castle House' and four yardlands in Chadlington in

<sup>134</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 736–8, 747; TNA, E 210/7089.

<sup>135</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XIX, p. 144; XX, p. 63; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Com.), IV, pp. 8, 264; *Cal. Close* 1429–35, 57–8.

<sup>136</sup> *Oxon. Wills*, 70; cf. TNA, CP 25/1/191/31, no. 27; *VCH Oxon.* XIV, 78; *Hist. Parl.* s.v. Ric. Fermor.

<sup>137</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1572–5, 411. Perhaps the field in Chadlington East called 'Chantry' in 1674: OHC, PAR56/16/D/1; *ibid.* enclo. award and map, no. 49.

<sup>138</sup> *Rot. Hund.* II, 738; BNC, Chadlington 1–4, 6–7; Dugdale, *Mon.* VI (1), p. 421.

<sup>139</sup> BNC, Chadlington 9 ('Canonbreche'); cf. OHC, enclo. award ('Cannons Breach').

<sup>140</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, III, p. 539; *Cal. Pat.* 1494–1509, 544; *VCH Oxon.* XXI, 234.

<sup>141</sup> OHC, enclo. award and map.

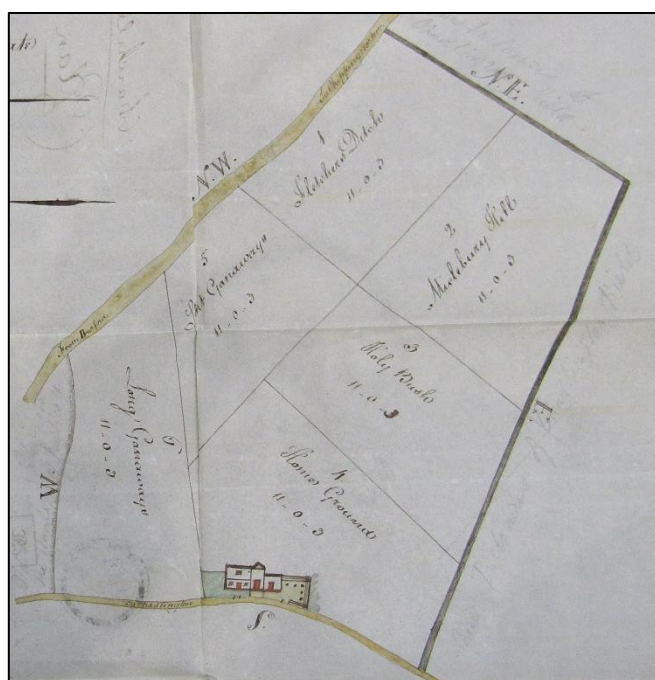
<sup>142</sup> BNC, Chadlington 15–33; OHC, Lo. III/1–4; TNA, MAF 32/910/79; cf. Madan, *Brasenose*, I, no. VI, 6, 9; II.1, no. IX, 195.

<sup>143</sup> Above (Chadlington West: combined manor).

<sup>144</sup> TNA, PROB 11/183/242; OHC, Fi. IV/viii/4; cf. *ibid.* QSD/L/63.

trust to be sold.<sup>145</sup> Those later belonged to Peter Smith (d. 1729),<sup>146</sup> whose descendants owned freeholds in both Chadlington townships during the 18th century,<sup>147</sup> and at enclosure c.1812 Robert Smith (d. 1826) and Jonah Smith (d. 1827) held 181 a. and 66 a. respectively in Chadlington West.<sup>148</sup> Jonah's estate (advertised in 1831) was eventually bought by James Langston in 1857,<sup>149</sup> while Robert's was sold to the earl of Ducie by his grandson Paul in 1894.<sup>150</sup>

A 67-a. farm in Chadlington West was bought as glebe for the vicar of Churchill by James Langston in 1827. Known later as Barter's Hill farm (after Churchill's vicar Charles Barter), it remained Churchill glebe until 1904 when it, too, was bought by the earl of Ducie.<sup>151</sup>



The future Barter's Hill farm as mapped in 1826.  
Source: OHC, Fi. IV/x/31.

<sup>145</sup> OHC, MS Wills Oxon. 49/3/20; TNA, PROB 11/460/167; *Oxon. Visit.* 1669–75, 21.

<sup>146</sup> OHC, Fi. IV/xi/h–i; *ibid.* MSS Wills Oxon. 151/2/45; 152/2/31; 63/5/24; *ibid.* par. reg. transcript, burial 1729.

<sup>147</sup> *Ibid.* QSD/L/62–3; *ibid.* Fi. IV/1/b; Fi. IV/xi/d–l.

<sup>148</sup> *Ibid.* enclo. award and maps; *ibid.* par. reg. transcript.

<sup>149</sup> *Sale Cat., Late Jonah Smith's estate* (1831): copy in OHC, Lo. IX/1; *ibid.* Fi. IV/vi/d.

<sup>150</sup> *Ibid.* MS Wills Oxon. 273/4/4; *ibid.* Fi. IV/xi/l; *ibid.* par. reg. transcript.

<sup>151</sup> *Ibid.* Fi. IV/x/31–9; Roche, 'Notes', 7; below, Churchill, relig. hist.