

## MANORS AND ESTATES

The extensive pre-conquest estate of Devrel included the area of land which later became the parish of Hill Deverill. By 1066 this area had been divided up into six main holdings, one of which was Baycliffe. Hill Deverill was apparently of strategic military importance, as three tenants in chief of the crown – the earl of Salisbury, the earl of Gloucester, and Ellis Giffard – held estates there by 1154,<sup>48</sup> and other knights held smaller estates from them. Hill Deverill manor belonged to the honour of Salisbury and included lands in Baycliffe. By the early 14th century all or most of Baycliffe tithing had been given to the priory of Maiden Bradley; the three main estates were briefly in the hands of Hugh le Despenser, earl of Winchester, and his son Hugh le Despenser the younger, both executed in 1326; after which the Mautravers family held both the Gloucester and Giffard estates and claimed manorial rights over them. In the mid 15th century William Ludlow claimed lordship over Hill Deverill manor after buying part of the Mautravers estate and in the 16th and early 17th centuries his descendents purchased the other principal estates in Hill Deverill, which then became known collectively as Hill Deverill manor. The manor passed to the Coker family in 1624, and was sold in 1738 to the duke of Marlborough, who sold it in 1796 to the duke of Somerset. The estate or reputed manor of Baycliffe belonged to the Seymour family 1547–1608, to the Ludlow family 1609–53, and to the Thynne family from 1653, since when it has descended with the Longleat estate. In 1824 the duke of Somerset was the chief proprietor of the parish, owning 1,420 a. and renting the great and small tithes from the prebendary of Hill Deverill; his lessee, the marquess of Bath, held 103 a. in addition to Baycliffe farm, 298 a.<sup>49</sup> The duke of Somerset sold off his estate as individual farms in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In the early 21st century the lands were owned by the marquess of Bath and various farmers.

---

<sup>48</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.*, Heytesbury, 8.

<sup>49</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 43/971; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.*, Heytesbury, 10, 31–2.

## Hill Deverill Manor

A 4-hide estate was held by Saulf in 1066, and by Edward of Salisbury in 1086, whose tenant then was Adelelm.<sup>50</sup> The manor passed in direct line to Walter of Salisbury (d. 1147),<sup>51</sup> Patrick of Salisbury (earl of Salisbury from c. 1143–47, d. 1168), William, earl of Salisbury (d. 1196), and to Ela, *suo jure* countess of Salisbury (d. 1261), who held it jointly with her husband William Longespée (d. 1226). After William's death and Ela's decision in 1238 to take the veil, the estates were held by their son Sir William Longespée (d. 1250) and grandson, also Sir William (d. 1257).<sup>52</sup> The latter's daughter Margaret (d. c. 1306–10), *de jure* countess of Salisbury after her great-grandmother's death in 1261, married Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln (d. 1311), and he did homage for her inheritance in 1268.<sup>53</sup> Their daughter Alice (d. without issue 1348) married Thomas, earl of Lancaster, who did homage for her inheritance in 1311.<sup>54</sup> Following his rebellion and execution in 1322, Alice surrendered a number of estates to the crown in exchange for others.<sup>55</sup>

Hugh le Despenser the younger was granted Alice's lands in *Deverel* and *Baycliffe* in 1325.<sup>56</sup> After his execution the following year, these were granted to William Montagu (earl of Salisbury from 1337, d. 1344),<sup>57</sup> and descended in direct line to William (d. 1382), John (executed 1400),<sup>58</sup> and Thomas (d. 1428).<sup>59</sup> The manor, assessed as 1 knight's fee in 1429,<sup>60</sup> was held by his daughter Alice (d. 1462), *suo jure* countess of Salisbury, with her husband Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury (d. 1460), from whom it passed to their son Richard Neville, earl of Warwick and Salisbury (d.

<sup>50</sup> *VCH Wilts. II*, 136; *V*, 47.

<sup>51</sup> The following paragraph is based upon *Complete Peerage*, XI, 373–85.

<sup>52</sup> *Close* 1251–1253, p. 150.

<sup>53</sup> *Close* 1264–1268, p. 464.

<sup>54</sup> *Cal. Fine* 1307–1319, p. 92.

<sup>55</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VII, 687–88; XI, App. F, 127–28.

<sup>56</sup> *Complete Peerage*, IV, 262–6; *Cal. Pat.* 1324–27, p. 102; Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines* 1272–1327, p. 132.

<sup>57</sup> *Complete Peerage*, XI, 385–88, and App. F, 127–28.

<sup>58</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XVIII, 233.

<sup>59</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1405–1409, pp. 457–58; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XX, 72.

<sup>60</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXIII, 149–51.

without issue 1471), after whose death it reverted to the crown. Edward IV granted it with the honour of Salisbury to his younger brother George, duke of Clarence (earl of Salisbury from 1472, executed 1478), and then in 1478 to his nephew Edward (d. 1484), only son of his brother Richard, duke of Gloucester (later Richard III). The honour reverted to the crown, and was granted in 1513 to Margaret, countess of Salisbury (executed 1541), daughter of George, duke of Clarence; after her attainder in 1539 it reverted to the Crown for good.<sup>61</sup>

In 1242-3, Henry of Hulle held  $\frac{1}{2}$  knight's fee from the earl of Salisbury, and Henry Durling held  $\frac{1}{2}$  knight's fee, part of the barony of Chitterne, from the earl of Salisbury.<sup>62</sup> In the early 14th century the manor was held by Robert le Bore,<sup>63</sup> who purchased c. 1311 two messuages, two mills, three carucates of land, 10 a. of meadow, 10 a. of wood and 100 s. rent in Hill Deverill and Maiden Bradley from Ellis of Hulle,<sup>64</sup> and a hide of land from Roger of Hinton.<sup>65</sup> Robert le Bore was still living in 1332,<sup>66</sup> but by 1338 his estate had passed to John le Bore, chaplain, to Robert Balle and his wife Alice,<sup>67</sup> and to other relatives.<sup>68</sup> The manor passed in 1404 to Thomas Balle and William Westbury, then husband of Alice, widow of Robert Balle.<sup>69</sup> The manor had passed to John Westbury senior by 1428,<sup>70</sup> and at that date John Westbury junior held  $\frac{1}{4}$  knight's fee previously held by John of Hinton from the earl of Salisbury, as well as  $\frac{1}{2}$  knight's fee previously held by Thomas Carey from the heirs of the earl of March.<sup>71</sup> In 1439 the manor, then known as Bores Manor,

---

<sup>61</sup> *Complete Peerage*, XI, 395–402.

<sup>62</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 8, 9; *Book of Fees*, II, 708, 720; *VCH Wilts. II*, 107.

<sup>63</sup> *WAM*, XII (1869–70), 27.

<sup>64</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, p. 125.

<sup>65</sup> Hoare, *Mod Wilts. Heytesbury*, 10; *WAM*, XII (1869–70), 27.

<sup>66</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 36.

<sup>67</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 55.

<sup>68</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 69.

<sup>69</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, p. 54.

<sup>70</sup> *Feudal Aids*, V, 258; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXIII, 149–51.

<sup>71</sup> *Feudal Aids*, V, 258; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XX, 32–33; below, Giffard manor.

passed with Lady Manor and other lands in Hill Deverill from John Westbury to William Westbury and Henry Green.<sup>72</sup>

The Ludlow family subsequently claimed lordship over Hill Deverill manor.<sup>73</sup> William Ludlow (d. 1478) had acquired an estate in Hill Deverill from the Arundel heirs of the Mautravers family by 1462,<sup>74</sup> reputed as a manor and held from Walter Hungerford's manor of Heytesbury.<sup>75</sup> His son, John Ludlow (d. 1488) of Southampton, added 2½ carucates purchased from Thomas and Elizabeth Bradston in 1479,<sup>76</sup> which then passed in direct line to John Ludlow (d. c. 1519) of Hill Deverill,<sup>77</sup> William (d. 1533),<sup>78</sup> and George (d. 1580).<sup>79</sup> George Ludlow increased the family estates in Hill Deverill with the purchase of Chantry Close, 52 a. of land and 1 a. of meadow formerly belonging to Longleat priory, from John Thynne in 1548,<sup>80</sup> and a capital messuage called the farm of Hill Deverill from Henry FitzAlan, earl of Arundel, in 1559.<sup>81</sup> The estate passed from George Ludlow to his eldest son, Sir Edmund (d. 1624);<sup>82</sup> a younger son, Thomas (d. 1607), inherited an estate in Dinton and Baycliffe.<sup>83</sup> Sir Edmund purchased land in Hill Deverill in 1600,<sup>84</sup> the manor of Hussey Deverill and Burleys Farm in 1606,<sup>85</sup> and Baycliffe in 1609.<sup>86</sup> The estate descended to Sir Edmund's son by his first wife Bridget, the daughter of Robert Coker of Maypowder (Dorset), Henry Ludlow (d. 1639) of Tadley (Hants.),<sup>87</sup> to his

<sup>72</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, pp. 112, 119.

<sup>73</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 10, 13–16; WAM, XXVI (1892), 173.

<sup>74</sup> *Hist. Parl.* 1439–1509, p. 561; below, Giffard estate.

<sup>75</sup> TNA: PRO, C 140/66/36.

<sup>76</sup> Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, pp. 157–8.

<sup>77</sup> TNA: PRO, C 142/3/121–22; *L&P Hen. VIII*, I, 208.

<sup>78</sup> TNA: PRO, C 142/55/36; C 142/56/43.

<sup>79</sup> TNA: PRO, C 142/191/122.

<sup>80</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1547–48, 336.

<sup>81</sup> TNA: PRO, Common Pleas, Deeds Enrolled, Trin 1 Eliz [1559]; below, this section, Giffard estate.

<sup>82</sup> Sir Edmund had acquired the estate by 1576, probably as part of his marriage settlement in 1574; Ramsay (ed.), *Taxation Lists 1545 & 1576*, p. 144.

<sup>83</sup> Williams (ed.), *Early-Stuart Tradesmen*, 17–8. See below, this section, Baycliffe.

<sup>84</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/242/42ELIZIHIL.

<sup>85</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/369/3JASIHIL.

<sup>86</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 33; below, this section, Baycliff.

<sup>87</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1625–49, pp. 306–7; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 14–15.

son Edmund Ludlow (d. 1644) of Hill Deverill,<sup>88</sup> and through his daughter Elizabeth, wife of Henry Coker (d. 1692) of Maypowder (Dorset), to the Coker family.<sup>89</sup> A junior branch of the family was established at Maiden Bradley by Sir Henry Ludlow (d. 1643), Sir Edmund's son by his second wife Margaret, daughter of Henry Manning of Down (Kent). It passed to Sir Henry's son, Edmund (d. 1693), the regicide.<sup>90</sup> The manor of Hill Deverill, held of the duchy of Lancaster in 1580,<sup>91</sup> was held of Thomas Hawker's manor of Heytesbury by 1624, when the manor of Hussey Deverill and Burley's farm were held of Sir Thomas Thynne's manor of Longbridge Deverill.<sup>92</sup>

Henry Coker (later knighted, d. 1692)<sup>93</sup> sold the manor of Hussey Deverill to Sir James Thynne in 1653,<sup>94</sup> since when it has descended with the Longleat estate. Hill Deverill manor descended from Sir Henry,<sup>95</sup> sheriff in 1662–3,<sup>96</sup> to his third son Henry (d. 1736).<sup>97</sup> By the time of his death the estate was heavily mortgaged, and in 1737 his heir, his second son Thomas (d. 1761),<sup>98</sup> sold the manor of Hill Deverill to Sarah, duchess of Marlborough (d. 1744), widow of John Churchill, 1st duke of Marlborough (d. 1722), and her grandson Charles Spencer, 3rd duke of Marlborough (d. 1758).<sup>99</sup> His son George, 4th duke of Marlborough (d. 1817)<sup>100</sup> sold it in 1796 to

---

<sup>88</sup> WSA, 110/118.

<sup>89</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/608/1652EASTER.

<sup>90</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 14–15, resolves confusion about the identity of Edmund Ludlow's father.

<sup>91</sup> TNA: PRO, C 142/191/122.

<sup>92</sup> *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1625–49, pp. 94–97.

<sup>93</sup> Hoare gives this as 1681; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.*, Heytesbury, 31. However, the parish registers records his date of burial as Jan 1693; WSA, PR/1180/19. His will was proved in Feb. 1693; TNA: PRO, PROB 11/413.

<sup>94</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/608/1652EASTER; see below, estates; Longbridge Deverill, manors.

<sup>95</sup> *Wilts. N&Q*, VI (1908–10), 25–31.

<sup>96</sup> PRO, *Lists*, IX, 154.

<sup>97</sup> WSA, 865/271; *ibid.* 84/47; TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/747/35CHASIITRIN. *Wilts. N&Q*, VI (1908–10), 572; *VCH Wilts. V*, 167.

<sup>98</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.*, Heytesbury, 31.

<sup>99</sup> WSA, 1332/19; TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/1233/12/13GEOIITRIN or CP 25/2/1233/13/14GEOIITRIN.

<sup>100</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VIII, 491–500.

Edward Seymour (afterwards Saint Maur), 11th duke of Somerset (d. 1855),<sup>101</sup> who in 1812 exchanged c. 557 a. in Baycliffe, parcel of the manor of Hill Deverill, and Maiden Bradley with the Marquess of Bath.<sup>102</sup> The manor, which in 1824 consisted of 1,420 a.,<sup>103</sup> passed from Edward, 12th duke of Somerset (d. 1885), to his brother Archibald, 13th duke of Somerset (d. 1891),<sup>104</sup> who sold Hill Deverill Manor House with 660 a., called Manor farm, to Charles Harris Stratton.<sup>105</sup> The estate passed to Archibald's brother Algernon, 14th duke (d. 1894), and to his son Algernon, 15th duke (d. 1923),<sup>106</sup> who sold Rye Hill farm, 695 a., to John Wilmot Pope in 1922; the latter sold 183 a. to Mr. Marriage in 1923, which became Marriage's farm, and retained 512 a., sold to Claude Algar in the 1930s and still owned by his grandson, Julian Algar, in 2009.<sup>107</sup> The remainder of the estate, then consisting of Mill Farm, c. 69 a. and various cottages, descended to Edward Hamilton (afterwards Seymour), 16th duke (d. 1931),<sup>108</sup> and was sold in 1925 to William Hurd, which passed to Daniel Hurd, William Hurd and Paul Hurd.<sup>109</sup> Hill Deverill Manor farm was sold by Charles Harris Stratton in 1940 to his nephew Jack Houghton Brown, who sold it in the same year to Capt. Courtenay Booth. He sold it in 1945 to Mr H. R. M. Dumas (d. 1970), whose executors in 1972 sold the manor house and 73 a. to Stuart McCarthy, and 582 a. to Peter Houghton Brown, son of Jack Houghton Brown.<sup>110</sup> The house was later sold to Mr and Mrs Birt, who converted farm outbuildings incorporating part of

---

<sup>101</sup> *Complete Peerage*, XII, 1, 85.

<sup>102</sup> WSA, 861/12, and map 332/5H.

<sup>103</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 43/971; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 10, 31–2.

<sup>104</sup> *Complete Peerage*, XII, 86–7.

<sup>105</sup> J. Houghton Brown, 'The Agricultural History of Pertwood Farms' (unpublished transcript [n.d.]), 31–2 (copy in WSHC, local studies colln.).

<sup>106</sup> *Complete Peerage*, XII, 1, 87–9.

<sup>107</sup> WSA, 1225/39; WBR, 'Rye Hill Farm' (unpublished report, 2010).

<sup>108</sup> *Burke's Peerage*, II, 2663–4.

<sup>109</sup> WSA, L8/1/134; *Longbridge Deverill Parish Memories*, 105–110, 131–4; inf. from Mr J. Hurd, 2009.

<sup>110</sup> J. Houghton Brown, 'Farmer-Soldier' (unpublished transcript, 1945), 86–92; idem., 'Agricultural Hist. of Pertwood Farms', 31–2 (copies in WSHC, Local Studies Colln.).

the Ludlow manor house to dwelling accommodation as *Chantry Cottage*, and sold the Coker manor house and grounds to Mr and Mrs Schott.<sup>111</sup>

*Hill Deverill manor house* is a stone two-storey house of pre-1500 origin, its present appearance dating from c. 1700 in a deliberate earlier style.<sup>112</sup> The site may have been previously occupied by a water mill, rebuilt c. 1700 as a mansion for the Coker family, while the mill leat and other water features were redesigned as ornamental moated gardens fed by the river.<sup>113</sup> In 1735 it was described as a mansion house with barns, stables, stalls, granaries, dovehouse, outbuildings, backsides, orchards, gardens, canals and fishponds.<sup>114</sup> The house is built to a through-passage plan which now incorporates one bay of the attached 14-bay barn of later date. The hipped, Welsh-slate roof is hidden behind a stone parapet. The principal elevations of the house face south and west, having Ogee-moulded round-headed mullioned windows and doorways with ground and first floors visually separated by a big label moulding. Leading to the south front are panelled gate piers with 'O ASD 1781' carved into the right pier. The south elevation has an asymmetric front, once partially rendered to hide the rubble construction, the west elevation has a bolection-moulded plinth and the north elevation has hollow-moulded transomed and mullioned windows of c. 1700 associated with later brickwork.

The interior is much altered. The panelled parlour has a mixture of scratch-moulded and fielded panelling which frame a 4-centred arched fireplace with hollow and ogee mouldings, very likely dating from the later 16th century. Other stone fireplaces are likely to be of a similar date and have hollow, ogee and roll mouldings; one in the present dining room has 'IC' carved into it, probably for the Coker family; another, in the drawing room, is much mutilated to fit a later

---

<sup>111</sup> Local inf. 2009.

<sup>112</sup> S.J. Elyard, *Some Old Wiltshire Homes* (1894), 15.

<sup>113</sup> C.R. Lewis, 'Hill Deverill Deserted Medieval Settlement' (RCHME survey, 1989); A.S.I. Heritage Consultants, 'Manor House Hill Deverill: archaeological evaluation' (unpublished report, 2005); idem., 'Manor House Hill Deverill: archeological and historical assessment' (unpublished report, 2006) (copies in WSHC, Wilts. Archaeology Service, SMR, ST84SE454). Elyard, *Old Wilts. Homes*, 15.

<sup>114</sup> WSA, 9/1/77; another copy, 490/11/23.

chimneypiece. Some of the upper rooms are open to the roof and show several phases of alterations from the 17th century onwards. The majority of trusses have slightly cambered tenoned collars with staggered purlins, whereas the north roof range has distinctively 18th-century trusses with notched apexes and yoke plates. The heavy common rafters are tenoned into the lower set of butt purlins. There were extensive alterations to the manor house and its site for use as a tenant farm in the 18th century, and again when a new tenant came in 1808: as part of this process the fish ponds were filled in and other buildings were pulled down.<sup>115</sup> The house had been divided into two dwellings by 1894,<sup>116</sup> but has since been restored to a single dwelling.<sup>117</sup>

A *14-bay barn* attached on the east side of the manor<sup>118</sup> has a thin stone plinth and weatherboarding above. On the south elevation are three hipped porches and stepped stone buttresses with the later addition of a stable. The rear elevation cart entrances are blocked up, with modern brick and stone buttresses. The interior has collar and tie beam trusses with raking struts very typical of 18th-century barns throughout Wiltshire. Serious westwards racking of the roof trusses has been counteracted by prominent timber shores. This work was carried out by Second World War prisoners of war.

*Chantry Cottage* is all that remains of an earlier manor house built for the Ludlow family *c.* 1500. It is a rubblestone two-storey building on a T plan with a flint and limestone chequered porch facing west, under thatched roofs, which forms a group with an L-shaped range of single-storey rubble and dressed stone thatched outbuildings, much altered, with timber lintels, a shelter shed, three-bay pigeon house and stables, now converted to dwelling accommodation. It is lit by a variety of windows, some hollow chamfered and ovolo-moulded mullions, some 20th-century.

---

<sup>115</sup> WAM, XXVIII (1894–5), 235–52; Pevsner, *Wilts.* (2nd edn), 270.

<sup>116</sup> Elyard, *Old Wilts. Homes*, 15.

<sup>117</sup> Local information, 2009.

<sup>118</sup> WAM, XXVII (1893–4), 270–71, plate opp. p. 271.



The interior retains deeply chamfered beams and a reset narrow chamfered pointed doorway.<sup>119</sup> The porch, apparently part of a gatehouse or lodge, has a Tudor arched moulded doorway with the arms of Ludlow impaling Bulstrode above,<sup>120</sup> suggesting that it was built for John Ludlow (d. c. 1519) and his wife Philippa, the daughter and heiress of William Bulstrode of London.<sup>121</sup>

## Estates

An estate belonging to the honour of Gloucester was probably the 2½-hide estate held by Ulmar in 1066, and by Urse from Ernulf in 1086, together with another half virgate of land and a mill.<sup>122</sup> The estate was apparently forfeited during the civil war and granted by Matilda to her brother Robert (earl of Gloucester from 1122, d. 1147). It passed to his son William (d. 1183), and to William's youngest daughter and coheir Isabel (d. 1217), who married John in 1189 (king from 1199). He divorced her in 1199, and in 1200 granted the earldom to Aumarie, count of Evreux (d. 1213), son of Mabel, William's eldest daughter and coheir. After Aumarie's death, Isabel held the estate jointly with her second husband Geoffrey de Mandeville (d. 1216), earl of Essex and Gloucester; and after Isabel's death the estate passed to Gilbert de Clare (d. 1230), earl of Gloucester and Hertford, son of Amice, William's second daughter and coheir.<sup>123</sup> It passed from Gilbert in direct line to Richard (d. 1230), Richard (d. 1262), and Gilbert (d. 1295), whose widow Joan of Acre (d. 1307), and her second husband Ralph de Monthermer, retained an interest in the estate for her life, after which it passed to Gilbert (d. 1314), son of Gilbert and Joan.<sup>124</sup> Hugh le Despenser the younger (d. 1326), acquired many estates in the honour of Gloucester, which may

---

<sup>119</sup> DOE, 'Bldgs List', Hill Deverill, 126; Pevsner, *Wilts.* (2nd edn), 270; Elyard, *Old Wilts. Homes*, 15.

<sup>120</sup> WAM, XXVII (1893–4), 270–1 and plate opp. p. 271.

<sup>121</sup> WAM, XXVIII (1894–5), 169.

<sup>122</sup> VCH *Wilts.* II, 140.

<sup>123</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 8; *Complete Peerage*, V, 683–96.

<sup>124</sup> *Complete Peerage*, V, 694–715.

have included those in Hill Deverill.<sup>125</sup> The earldom passed to Hugh de Audeley (d. 1347) in 1327, but he apparently did not hold the estate in Hill Deverill; after his death the earldom became extinct.<sup>126</sup>

The estate was one of five held by Roger Waspail from the honour of Gloucester in 1166, when it was assessed as ½ knight's fee, and another Roger Waspail held it the early 13th century.<sup>127</sup> By this time, the estates had been subinfeudated to other branches of the family. During the reign of Henry II (1154–89), Roger Waspail granted 1 hide of land to Roger of Hinton (Dorset), husband of his daughter Clarice;<sup>128</sup> in c. 1232, another estate was held by Henry Waspail from Roger Waspail.<sup>129</sup> In c. 1242–3 John Mautravers and Thomas of Hinton jointly held 1 knight's fee in Hill Deverill from Roger Waspail, who held it from the earl of Gloucester;<sup>130</sup> Mautravers and Thomas also held ½ knight's fee 'in Deverel' directly from the earl of Gloucester.<sup>131</sup> Roger of Hinton sold 1 hide of land to Robert le Bore c. 1311.<sup>132</sup> The lands of John Mautravers apparently passed to John (d. 1297), and to John (d. 1341);<sup>133</sup> in 1316, John Mautravers, William Waspail and Thomas of Hinton held ½ knight's fee in Hill Deverill and Smallbrook, Warminster, from the earl of Gloucester.<sup>134</sup> In 1318 John Mautravers was granted free warren on his demesne lands in Hill Deverill;<sup>135</sup> in 1319 he claimed manorial rights over this estate,<sup>136</sup> and in 1339 over all his lands in Hill Deverill,<sup>137</sup> which passed to his son John (lord

---

<sup>125</sup> *Complete Peerage*, IV, 267–71; V, 715.

<sup>126</sup> *Complete Peerage*, V, 715–9; *Cal. Close*, 1337–1339, pp. 201–02.

<sup>127</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 8–9; *Red Book Exch.*, 289, 485; *VCH Wilts. VIII*, 102.

<sup>128</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/1/250/1 f. 1; Fry (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1195–1272*, p. 4; Hutchins, *History of Dorset*, 4 Vols. (3rd edn, 1861–74, repr. 1973), III, 137–8; *PRS*, XIV, 29–30; XXIV, 308.

<sup>129</sup> *VCH Wilts. VIII*, 102.

<sup>130</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 724; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 10.

<sup>131</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 718.

<sup>132</sup> Hoare, *Mod Wilts. Heytesbury*, 10; *WAM*, XII, (1869–70), 27.

<sup>133</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VIII, 579–80.

<sup>134</sup> *WAM*, XII (1869–70), 27.

<sup>135</sup> *Cal. Chart.* 1300–26, p. 391.

<sup>136</sup> *Cal. Chart.* 1300–26, p. 391.

<sup>137</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 59.

Mautravers from 1330, d. 1364), who forfeited his lands in 1330.<sup>138</sup> Thereafter the estate apparently descended with the Giffard estate.

A  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -hide estate with a mill was held in 1066 by Smail, but following the Conquest it came to be held by the Giffard family of Brimpsfield (Glos.), of their manor in Sherrington.<sup>139</sup> In 1086 it was held by Osbert Giffard,<sup>140</sup> from whom it descended in the direct line to Ellis I Giffard (d. by 1130), Ellis II (d. by 1162), Ellis III (d. by 1190), Ellis IV (d. 1248),<sup>141</sup> John I Giffard (lord Giffard from c.1295, d. 1299),<sup>142</sup> and to John II, lord Giffard, who held  $\frac{1}{2}$  knight's fee in Hill Deverill in 1327.<sup>143</sup> Having supported the rebellion against the Despensers in 1321, John II was arrested and executed in 1322. He died without issue, and the forfeited estate was granted in 1322 to Hugh le Despenser, earl of Winchester. Following the latter's execution in 1326, the estates reverted once more to the Crown, and in 1330 Edward III arranged for them to be conveyed by John II Giffard's heir, John Calloway, to John Mautravers (lord Mautravers from 1330, d. 1364).<sup>144</sup> Mautravers was exiled in 1330 and his lands were forfeited; the estate was granted in 1337 to his brother-in-law Maurice Berkeley (d. 1347), but restored to Mautravers in 1351, and held by his wife Agnes (d. 1375) after his death in 1364. The estate, described as a manor and held from the earl of March, then passed to Mautravers' granddaughter Eleanor Mautravers (d. 1405), *suo jure* baroness Mautravers, who held it jointly with her husbands, firstly John d'Arundel (lord Arundel from 1377, d. 1379),<sup>145</sup> and secondly Reynold Cobham, lord Cobham (d. 1403).<sup>146</sup> The manor passed to Eleanor's grandson, John d'Arundel (lord Mautravers from 1405, earl of Arundel from 1415, d. 1421),<sup>147</sup> who granted the

<sup>138</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VIII, 581–5; Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, pp. 59, 109, 126.

<sup>139</sup> *VCH Wilts.* XV, 237–8.

<sup>140</sup> *VCH Wilts.* II, 155.

<sup>141</sup> *VCH Wilts.* XV, 237; *Complete Peerage*, V, 639–40.

<sup>142</sup> *Complete Peerage*, V, 639–44.

<sup>143</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VII, 42–49, no. 78.

<sup>144</sup> *Complete Peerage*, V, 639–49; VIII, 581–86; *VCH Wilts.* XV, 237–8.

<sup>145</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* 1377–1383, p. 80; *Cal. Close*, 1377–81, p. 316; 1396–9, pp. 454–60.

<sup>146</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XVIII, 251, 381–2; *Cal. Close* 1402–5, p. 193.

<sup>147</sup> *Complete Peerage*, I, 240–47; VIII, 586; *VCH Wilts.* XV, 237–8.

manor, held of the earl of March of his manor of Cranbourne, to John Burnell for life in 1413;<sup>148</sup> he still held it in 1428.<sup>149</sup> Arundel's widow Eleanor (d. 1455), who was granted dower in his estates,<sup>150</sup> married secondly c. 1423 Sir Richard Poynings (d. c. 1430), and thirdly before 1439 Walter Hungerford, lord Hungerford (d. 1449);<sup>151</sup> he apparently sold an estate in Hill Deverill to William Ludlow, who held it of Hungerford's manor of Heytesbury.<sup>152</sup> After the death of John d'Arundel, earl of Arundel in 1421 the rest of the estate passed with the earldom to his son John (d. 1435), to his son Humphrey FitzAlan (d. 1438), and to his uncle William FitzAlan (d. 1488), to his son Thomas (d. 1524), to his son William (d. 1544), and to his son Henry (d. 1580).<sup>153</sup> This last, the 19th earl of Arundel, sold a capital messuage called the farm of Hill Deverill to George Ludlow in 1559.<sup>154</sup>

In c. 1242–3 1½ knight's fees were held by Ellis of Deverel from Ellis IV Giffard (d. 1248).<sup>155</sup> In 1261, one Ellis of Deverel and his wife Matilda granted the estate to their son John;<sup>156</sup> these were held by Ellis of Deverel in 1316,<sup>157</sup> and then by his son John. After the execution of John II Giffard, lord Giffard in 1322, overlordship over the estate was granted in 1329 to John Mautravers (lord Mautravers from 1330).<sup>158</sup> Deverel followed Mautravers in supporting Mortimer's rebellion, for which his estate was forfeited in 1331.<sup>159</sup> In 1338 it was granted to Sir Thomas Carey (d. 1356), when it consisted of 160 a. land.<sup>160</sup> It passed to Sir Thomas Carey (d. 1361),

<sup>148</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXI, 280–81; XXII, 431–33.

<sup>149</sup> *Feudal Aids*, V, 258.

<sup>150</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXI, 325–26.

<sup>151</sup> *Complete Peerage*, I, 247; VI, 616.

<sup>152</sup> Above, Hill Deverill manor.

<sup>153</sup> *Complete Peerage*, I, 247–53; Kirby (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1377–1509*, pp. 126–7.

<sup>154</sup> TNA: PRO, Common Pleas, Deeds Enrolled, Trin 1 Eliz [1559].

<sup>155</sup> Ellis of Deverel was probably the same person as the Ellis of Hulle also recorded in the Book of Fees: *Book of Fees*, II, 717, 728; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 8–9.

<sup>156</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/1/283/15 f. 68; Fry (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1195–1272*, p. 71.

<sup>157</sup> WAM, XII (1869–70), 27.

<sup>158</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VII, pp. 42–49; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, pp. 74–5.

<sup>159</sup> *Cal. Fine* 1327–1337, p. 283.

<sup>160</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1339–1341, p. 446; Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 76; *Wilts. Inq. p.m.* 1327–77, pp. 74–5; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* X, 260; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 9.

when it consisted of 240 a. land, held jointly with his wife Emma, who survived him.<sup>161</sup> In 1370 John Carey of Bloudesleigh sold his rights to the estate to Emma and her then husband Thomas Dru,<sup>162</sup> which in 1374 they settled upon themselves with remainders to their son Thomas and his half-brother Laurence, son of Thomas Dru by an earlier marriage.<sup>163</sup> By 1417 Thomas Romsey held Emma Dru's estate in Hill Deverill, which was described as a manor when he exchanged it with John Westbury junior for properties in Salisbury.<sup>164</sup> In 1428 John Westbury junior held ½ knight's fee which was previously held by Thomas Carey from the heirs of the earl of March,<sup>165</sup> and in 1449 it was held by William Westbury.<sup>166</sup>

*A 1-hide estate* held by two thegns in 1066 and by Aubrey the chamberlain in 1086,<sup>167</sup> has not been traced.

*A 2-carucate estate*, held by Geoffrey Hussey from Henry Hussey in 1227,<sup>168</sup> was assessed as 1/10 knight's fee in 1242–3,<sup>169</sup> and remained in the hands of Geoffrey Hussey in 1268.<sup>170</sup> The estate descended to Edmund Hussey (d. c. 1361–2), and passed with lands in Longbridge Deverill and elsewhere to his daughter and co-heir, Joan (d. 1455),<sup>171</sup> from whom it passed to her heirs by her second husband, Sir Thomas Hungerford (d. 1397).<sup>172</sup> This may be the manor of Hussey Deverill sold with Burleys farm purchased in 1606 by Sir Edmund Ludlow.<sup>173</sup> The manor descended in the Ludlow and Coker families until it was sold in 1653 by Henry

<sup>161</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XI, 34; *Cal. Close*, 1360–1364, 190.

<sup>162</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, p. 137.

<sup>163</sup> Elrington (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1327–77*, pp. 144–5.

<sup>164</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1419–1322, pp. 128–29.

<sup>165</sup> *Feudal Aids*, V, 258.

<sup>166</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1447–1454, p. 162.

<sup>167</sup> *VCH Wilts. II*, 167.

<sup>168</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/1/250/7 f. 17, CP 25/1/250/10 f. 26; Fry (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1195–1272*, pp. 19, 28.

<sup>169</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 728.

<sup>170</sup> *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, III, pp. 438–39, 442.

<sup>171</sup> *HMC Hastings*, I, 225; Kirby (ed.), *Hungerford Cartulary: Hobhouse MS*, p. 173.

<sup>172</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VI, 613–27.

<sup>173</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/369/3JASIHIL. See above, manors; below, Longbridge Deverill, manors.

Coker to Sir James Thynne (d. 1670), since when it has descended with the Longleat estate.<sup>174</sup>

*The Rectory estate*, consisting of ½ hide of land, was held by Algar in 1066 and by Edgar the priest in 1086.<sup>175</sup> In the time of Bishop Roger (1107–39), one Elias Giffard gave the estate to the church of Heytesbury, where the income supported the prebend of Hill Deverill.<sup>176</sup> In 1291 the prebend was valued at £6 13s. 4d.<sup>177</sup> In 1342 the rectory estate consisted of two virgates of land, pasture for 200 sheep, tithes and church offerings.<sup>178</sup> The estate was worth over £11 in 1535.<sup>179</sup> In 1650 Parliamentary surveyors found that the property belonging to the Prebend included one small plot of land in Hill Deverill, once the site of a clergy house, and another small plot besides Heytesbury churchyard,<sup>180</sup> later the site of the Red Lion inn.<sup>181</sup> The tithes were valued at £95, and were leased out with the estate to Henry Ludlow,<sup>182</sup> and subsequent owners of Hill Deverill manor.<sup>183</sup> The tithes were commuted for £422 in 1848.<sup>184</sup> In 1817 the remaining prebendial property was valued at £333.<sup>185</sup> In 1863, having failed to persuade the duke of Somerset to renew the lease on the Prebendial property in Heytesbury, the last Prebendary transferred the property to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in return for £780.<sup>186</sup>

An estate of 50 a. land and other property in Hill Deverill and elsewhere was given to the *Priory of St Radegund, Longleat*, by Robert le Bore in 1318 to support his

---

<sup>174</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/608/1652EASTER. See above, manors.

<sup>175</sup> VCH Wilts. II, 162.

<sup>176</sup> Reg. St Osmund, I, 349; below: church, advowson.

<sup>177</sup> Tax. Eccl., 182.

<sup>178</sup> Inq. Non., 156; see WSA, 1332/20, for translation, 20 Sep., 1841.

<sup>179</sup> Valor Eccl., II, 101.

<sup>180</sup> WAM, XLI (1920–2), 21.

<sup>181</sup> WSA, 1332/20.

<sup>182</sup> WAM, XLI (1920–2), 22.

<sup>183</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/2/609/1658MICH; CP 43/971; WSA, 9/1/77; another copy: *ibid.*, 490/1123; *40th Rep. of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records* (1879), App. 1, p. 239; Hoare, *Mod. Wilts. Heytesbury*, 10, 31–2; below, Church: property.

<sup>184</sup> Sandell (ed.), *Tithe Apportionments*, p. 45.

<sup>185</sup> WSA, 1332/20.

<sup>186</sup> WSA, D 1/36/4/5 (33); *London Gaz.*, 16 June, 1863.

chantry in Holy Trinity chapel.<sup>187</sup> The priory was dissolved in 1529 and its property appropriated to the Carthusian house of Hinton (Som.).<sup>188</sup> Following the dissolution, the estate was granted by the Crown first to John Horsey in 1540,<sup>189</sup> and subsequently to Edward Seymour, earl of Hertford (duke of Somerset from 1547, executed 1552),<sup>190</sup> who in 1541 sold it to John Thynne (d. 1580),<sup>191</sup> who in 1548 sold Chantry Close, 52 a. land and 1 a. meadow formerly belonging to Longleat priory, to George Ludlow.<sup>192</sup>

At *Baycliffe*, a 1-hide estate was held by Winegod in 1066: after the Conquest, Baycliffe was granted to Edward, earl of Salisbury, from whom Adelelm, a Saxon, held a 2-hide estate in 1086.<sup>193</sup> The estate was subsequently divided among several members of the Bolebec and Waspray families. In *c.* 1242–3 John de Waspray and James Bolebec held  $\frac{1}{2}$  knight's fee; James Bolebec held  $\frac{1}{4}$  knight's fee from Robert Columbariis, who held it in turn from Gilbert of Bolebec; and Ralph Waspray held  $\frac{1}{4}$  knight's fee from Robert Waspray; all three estates were held ultimately from the earl of Salisbury.<sup>194</sup> Shortly after this date, Jordan de Bolebec gave all his lands in Baycliffe to the priory of Maiden Bradley,<sup>195</sup> which also acquired a carucate of land from William of Swallowcliffe in *c.* 1270,<sup>196</sup> and a mesuage and 22 a. land from Henry Stubbes and Edith his wife in 1272 in return for providing them with two corrodies.<sup>197</sup> The priory apparently had lordship over the whole tithing of Baycliffe by 1316,<sup>198</sup> and in *c.* 1335 its estate included 101 a. of demesne land and a fulling

---

<sup>187</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1317–21, p. 73; 1321–24, p. 361; 1324–27, p. 27; Dugdale, *Mon.*, VI(1), 583; *VCH Wilts. III*, 302, 365; *WAM*, X (1866–7), 287; *Reg. Martival*, II, 242–5, 440–5; above, Hill Deverill manor.

<sup>188</sup> *VCH Wilts. III*, 303–4.

<sup>189</sup> *L&P Hen. VIII*, XV, 174.

<sup>190</sup> *WSA*, 9/1/38; *L&P Hen. VIII*, XVI, 381.

<sup>191</sup> *L&P Hen. VIII*, XVI, 463; XVIII(2), 413; *HMC Bath*, IV (Seymour Papers), 334; *Complete Peerage*, VI, 504.

<sup>192</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1547–48, p. 336.

<sup>193</sup> *VCH Wilts. II*, 137.

<sup>194</sup> *Book of Fees*, II, 708, 720; *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, I, 253; III, 416, 431, 442–43.

<sup>195</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 32–3; Dugdale, *Mon.*, VI(2), p. 644.

<sup>196</sup> *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, III, 441; *VCH Wilts. III*, 297.

<sup>197</sup> TNA: PRO, CP 25/1/252/23; Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, pp. 1–2.

<sup>198</sup> Pugh (ed.), *Feet of Fines 1272–1327*, pp. 115–6; *WAM*, XII (1869–70), 27.

mill.<sup>199</sup> The priory was given further lands in Baycliffe and Hill Deverill in the later 14th and early 15th centuries,<sup>200</sup> and in 1420 leased 2 carucates of land to Thomas Semley.<sup>201</sup> In 1536 the estate of Baycliffe produced an income of *c.* £2 5s. *p.a.*<sup>202</sup> Following the priory's dissolution it reverted to the Crown and was granted in 1547 to Edward Seymour, earl of Hertford (duke of Somerset from 1547, executed 1552),<sup>203</sup> and to his son Edward Seymour, earl of Hertford (d. 1612), whose lands in 1582 included the reputed manor of Baycliffe.<sup>204</sup> In 1608 he sold it to John Morley, who sold it to Sir Edmund Ludlow in 1609, by which time it was already leased to Jane Ludlow, the widow of Sir Edmund's brother Thomas (d. 1607).<sup>205</sup> Although Sir Edmund settled Baycliffe on his son Sir Henry Ludlow (d. 1643) of Maiden Bradley, by 1633 it had passed to Gabriel Ludlow, the son of Thomas (d. 1607). In 1638 Gabriel gave Baycliffe to his brother Thomas in trust for his wife Phyllis and their children and sailed to New England; there is no proof that he ever returned.<sup>206</sup> Gabriel Ludlow's eldest son, also Gabriel, died at the battle of Newbury in 1644; Phyllis Ludlow and another son, Thomas, lived at Baycliffe until 1653, when they sold it to Sir John Thynne, to which he added in 1662 the tithes of Maiden Bradley, formerly the property of the chapel of Baycliffe. In 1812 Thomas Thynne, 2nd Marquess of Bath (d. 1837), exchanged *c.* 557 a. in Baycliffe, parcel of the manor of Hill Deverill, and in Maiden Bradley with Edward Seymour (afterwards Saint Maur, d. 1855), 11th duke of Somerset.<sup>207</sup> The remaining estate has since then descended with the Longleat estate.<sup>208</sup>

---

<sup>199</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 33; *VCH Wilts.* III, 298.

<sup>200</sup> *Cat. Ancient Deeds*, III, 280; *Cal. Pat.* 1334–38, p. 540; 1389–92, p. 337; 1401–05, p. 116; *VCH Wilts.* III, 298.

<sup>201</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* XXI, 137–8.

<sup>202</sup> *Valor Eccles.*, II, 98.

<sup>203</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1547–48, p. 124–33.

<sup>204</sup> *Complete Peerage*, VI, 505–7; XII, 65–6; *Cal. Pat.* 1580–82, pp. 237–8.

<sup>205</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 10–16, 32–4.

<sup>206</sup> See below, social history.

<sup>207</sup> WSA, 861/12, and map, 332/5H.

<sup>208</sup> Hoare, *Mod. Wilts.* Heytesbury, 10–16, 32–4; *Wilts. Visitation 1623* (Harl. Soc. CV–CVI, 1953–4), 192–93; *Complete Peerage*, II, 24–27; XII, 585–89.





University of the  
West of England

Wiltshire Council  
Where everybody matters

