

Extracts relating to DROXFORD from various documents A.D. 1500 to 1600

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Late 1400's/Early 1500's

DROXFORD Church - the North and South aisles are widened, their doorways being again moved outwards.

(Reigns of Kings Henry VII and VIII).

DROXFORD Church - the East window is built.

1500-1599

Built:-

Barn at Manor Farm, DROXFORD: 2 stories; on straddle-stones (O.S. 607183).

Cottage at Manor Farm, DROXFORD: timber-framed; brick infilling (O.S. 607183).

Mill Cottage, DROXFORD: timber-framed; brick infilling (O.S. 608183).

Farmhouse, St. Clair's Farm: timber-framed; brick infilling (O.S. 605154). (Reputedly a tunnel to here from DROXFORD MANOR HOUSE – some evidence of this found when workmen repaired the Manor House boundary wall about 10 yards west of the Churchyard gates). Existence of 2-storey medieval stone building discovered 1977/1978 (incorporated as S/E quarter of existing farmhouse).

1533 to early 1559 (see WILL)

DR. COFFOLD or CUFFOLDES.

1533. Valor Ecclesiasticus. Vol. II, p.23. (cf. Newport Wills).

(Per Miss F.B.Collins).

1549

An Inventory of Droxford Church goods is signed by Churchwardens:-

Phyllypp BENSTEDE

John CLEVERLAY

Henry HARMESWORTH

John CLUER

John KNYGHT

"Curat" - Sir Thomas BLACWELL

(This inventory includes 4 church bells).

(Hants Field Club., vol. 8., p.345).

1551

Reign of King Edward VI - as a result of the Protestant Reformation the whole of Bishop's Waltham Hundred (including DROXFORD MANOR) is surrendered to the King by Bishop Poynt.

1552 (6 Edward VI)

An Inventory of Droxford Church goods (including "foure belles in the steeple") is signed by:-

Churchmen - John TANNER and Richard PROWTYNG

Sydemen - Jasper KNYGHT and John MARKES

Curatt - Thomas MYERS

(Hants Field Club., vol. 7., p.87).

1552 – Summary of landholders in DROXFORD, HILL and MIDLINGTON (detailed analysis below)

DEMESNE LAND (Droxford)	Acres 538 (min)	Rent p.a. NIL.
"THE FARMER" (Hill)	96	16s.9d.
WILLIAM FAWCONER (Hill and Mid.)	?	37s.2d.
EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON (Hill)	?	17s.4.5d.

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THOMAS CHANNELL of BENSTED	?	£4.0s.0d.
JOHN KNYGHT (Mid)	98	35s.8d.
JOHN CAMIN (Drox. Phill.)	52 (min)	35s.6d.
PHILIP WASTELL (D.P and Hill)	63	31s.10d.
STEPHEN HOLT (Hill)	49.25	18s.8d.
WILLIAM CLEVERLEY (Hill)	46.5 (min)	18s.6.5d.
RICHARD COSEN (Hill and Mid)	44	17s.1d.
JOHN (and EDITH) CROWCHER (Hill)	45 (min)	15s.6d.
RICHARD CONER (Hill)	35.5	14s.8.5d.
JASPER KNYGHT (Mid)	40.75	11s.2.75d.
WILLIAM APPULFORD (Hill)	31.5	10s.8d.
DAVID HATCHE (Drox. Phill.)	12	7s.6d.
EDWARD WASTELL (Hill)	20	6s.9d.
RICHARD PROWTING (Hill)	24	6s.4d.
JOHN (and JOAN) SPENCER (Hill)	24	6s.3d.
PHILIP BENSTED (Drox. Phill.)	5	3s.0d.
WILLIAM KNYGHT (Drox. Phill.)	?	1s.6d.
JOHN CHYLD Junior (Hill)	2	(?) 8d.
JOHN (and ALICE) CLEVERLEY (Hill)	?	?
JOHN CHANNELL (ST. CLAIRS)	243	NIL
Therefore minimum ACREAGE/RENT	1,469.5	£19.12s.8.25d.

1552 SURVEY

(DROXFORD, HILL, MIDLINGTON and ST. CLAIRS).

Enclosed land per surveyors	801 acres (54.5% of whole (1,470))
Enclosed meadow per surveyors	9 acres (0.6% of whole)
Therefore Minimum	810 acres (55.1% of whole)

Downland (all in demesne) - 151 acres (10.3% of 1,470)

Identified plots in common fields*	315.5 acres (21.5% of whole)
Identified plots in common meadows	12.5 acres (0.9% of whole)
Therefore Minimum	328 acres (22.4% of whole)

(Remainder (12.2% of 1,470) is land, meadow and woodland not positively described as in "closes" or in "common").

[* Includes some land in demesne fields].

Survey 1552 - Landowners in DROXFORD, HILL and MIDLINGTON TITHINGS (detailed analysis – see summary above)

DEMESNE LANDS:

Land in closes	174 acres (possibly 134)
Land still open	150 acres (possibly 110)
Down land	151 acres
Woodland	37 acres
Meadow	16.5 acres
Pasture and Arable	10 acres
Therefore Approx.	538.5 acres

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“THE FARMER” (2 virgates) (Hill)

Land in closes	56 acres
Land in “crofts”	18 acres
Other land	8 acres
Woodland	14 acres
(RENT: 16s.9d.)	96 acres

(Plus 1 close in the common meadow of MIDLINGTON).

WILLIAM FAWCONER (MIDLINGTON, HILL SWANMORE):
(RENT: 37s.2d.) “For lands”.

EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON:

For HALLYWELL in HYLL	RENT 11s.3.5d.
For CANYFORDS “vide fett”	RENT 6s.0d. (Also under HILL).
For a parcel of land (DXFD.PHILIPPI)	RENT 0s.1d.
TOTAL	RENT 17s.4.5d.

THOMAS CHANNELL of BENSTED (“FRANCIS MOLLEND” above):

Lease by Indenture 18 March 10 Henry VIII (1518/19) of DROXFORD MILL for term of 60 years
(Francis M. to maintain mill and its banks).

(RENT: £4.0s.0d. p.a., payable Easter and Michaelmas).

(Note: Connection with Manor of Seyntcleres Court).

JOHN KNYGHT (Midlington in HILL):

(Messuage and 1 virgate of bondland. Toft and one quarter virgate of land).

Messuage, garden and enclosed land	7 acres
Toft and enclosed land	2 acres
Messuage, curtilage, garden	?
Other enclosed land (some wood)	42.5 acres
Total enclosures	51.5 acres
Coppice	1 acre
Meadow	0.5 acre
Land in common fields	42 acres
Land in common meadows	3 acres
(RENT p.a. 35s.8d.)	98 acres

JOHN CAMIN (“PETER BENSTED” above) (DROXFORD PHILLIPPI):

Land in closes	31 acres (some meadow adjoining)
Other land (?unenclosed)	21 acres
Three closes (no area)	?
RENT p.a. 35s.6d. Minimum acreage	52 acres

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PHILIP WASTELL (DROXFORD PHILLIPPI):

Parcel of enclosed land (Palyce Court)	? acres
Enclosed meadow (Palyce Meadow)	1 acre
Other enclosed meadow	4 acres
Arable land, some in demesne, some in shared field	8.5 acres
RENT p.a. 15s.4d. Minimum acreage	13.5 acres

PHILIP WASTELL (HILL):

(Messuage and 2 half-virgates of land. Toft and 2 acres of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden, enclosed land	4 acres
Toft	1 acre
Other enclosed land (some wood)	17 acres
Woodland	2 acres
Enclosed meadow	1 acre
Land in common fields	24.5 acres
Land in common meadows	NIL
RENT p.a. 16s.6d. Total acreage (both tithings)	63 acres
TOTAL RENTS p.a. (both tithings) 31s.10d.	

STEPHEN HOLT (Hill):

(Messuage and 1 virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden and enclosed land	12 acres
Toft and garden	0.5 acre
Other enclosed land (some wood)	19.75 acres
Land in common fields	15.5 acres
Land in common meadows	1.5 acres
RENT p.a. 18s.8d.	49.25 acres

WILLIAM CLEVERLEY (Hill):

(Messuage and a half virgate of bondland plus a toft and 1 virgate of land).

Messuage, curtilage, garden, wood and enclosed land	6 acres
Enclosed land (area not stated)	?
Toft, messuage and enclosed land	3 acres
Other enclosed land	24.5 acres
Other land held (? not enclosed or in common fields)	5.5 acres
A purrock	1 acre
Land in common fields	4.5 acres
Land in common meadows	2 acres
RENT p.a. 18s.6.5d. Minimum acreage	46.5 acres

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RICHARD COSEN (Hill):

(Messuage and 1 virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden and enclosed land	12 acres
Other enclosed land (with wood)	10.5 acres
Land in common fields	4.5 acres
Land in common meadows	1 acre
RENT p.a. 9s.7d.	28 acres

RICHARD COSEN (Midlington):

(Toft and a half-virgate of bondland).

Toft and enclosed land	1 acre
Other enclosed land (with wood)	7 acres
Other wood	2 acres
Land in common fields	6 acres
Land in common meadows	NIL
RENT p.a. 7s.6d. Total acreage	44 acres

TOTAL RENTS: 17s.1d.

JOHN CROWCHER (Hill) in right of his wife EDITH:

(Messuage and a quarter-virgate bondland and a toft and a quarter virgate bondland).

Messuage, toft and enclosed land	2.75 acres
Other enclosed land (with wood)	12 acres (minimum)
Other land (12.5 acres), meadow (4 acres), wood (a half acre)	17 acres
Enclosed meadow	3 acres
Land in common fields (9.5 acres) and meadows (three quarters acre)	10.25 acres
RENT p.a. 15s.6d. Minimum acreage	45 acres

RICHARD CONER (Hill):

(Messuage, etc. and 1 virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden and enclosed land	6 acres
Other enclosed land (with wood)	15 acres
Woodland (other)	1 acre
Land in common fields	12 acres
Land in common meadows	1.5 acres
RENT p.a. 14s.8.5d.	35.5 acres

JASPER KNYGHT (Midlington):

(Messuage and a half-virgate of bondland and a quarter-virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden and enclosed land	5 acres
Other enclosed land (with wood)	17 acres
A croft of land (area not stated)	?
Land in common fields	18.25 acres
Land in common meadows	0.5 acre
RENT p.a. 11s.2.75d.	40.75 acres

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WILLIAM APPULFORD (Hill):

(Messuage and a half-virgate of bondland plus a toft and a quarter-virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage, garden, enclosed land and wood	9 acres
Toft and enclosed land	1 acre
Other enclosed land (no wood)	15.5 acres
Land in common fields	5.25 acres
Land in common meadows	6 acres
RENT p.a. 10s.8d.	31.5 acres

DAVID HATCHE (Droxford Phillippi):

Meadow land	2 acres
Arable (including 3 acres in the demesne - (? Remainder in common fields)	10 acres
RENT p.a. 7s.6d.	12 acres

EDWARD WASTELL (Hill):

(Messuage and a half-virgate of bondland).

House, curtilage, garden and enclosed land	5 acres
Garden, parrook and other land	1 acre
Other enclosed land (with wood)	8 acres
Land in common fields	5 acres
Meadow-land	1 acre
RENT p.a. 6s.9d.	20 acres

RICHARD PROWTING (Hill):

(Toft, messuage and a half-virgate of bondland).

Toft and enclosed land	4 acres
Other enclosed land	19 acres
Woodland	0.5 acre
Land in common meadows	0.5 acre
RENT p.a. 6s.4d.	24 acres

JOHN SPENCER (Hill) in right of JOAN his wife, formerly wife of JOHN PROWTING:

(Messuage and a half-virgate of bondland).

Messuage, curtilage and garden	?
Enclosed land	23 acres
Meadow	1 acre
RENT p.a. 6s.3d.	24 acres

PHILLIP BENSTED (Droxford Phillippi):

Toft, messuage and garden	2 acres
Enclosed land	3 acres
RENT p.a. 3s.0d.	5 acres

(P.B., his forefathers and heirs liable to maintain BRODBRYDGGATE).

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WILLIAM KNYGHT (Droxford Phillippi):
Cottage, curtilage and garden
RENT p.a. 18d.

JOHN CHYLD Junior (Hill):
Enclosed land 2 acres
("RENT p.a. 8d. and 2s. "RESUS VISIOL" and WILLIAM APPULFORD and having services "ARI' AT FET"
.....").

JOHN CLEVERLEY (Hill) in right of wife ALICE:
(One quarter-virgate). No details, acreage(s) or rent given.

JOHN CHANNELL (see also THOMAS CHANNELL above):
(Holds site of Manor of SEYNTCLERES COURT by Indenture).
Manor house and buildings.
Enclosed land 210 acres
Other land 10 acres
Woodland 16 acres
Meadow (? enclosed) 6 acres
Two meadows (area not stated) ?
Land in common meadow 1 acre
243 acres

(Survey of Bishop of Winchester's Manors, dated 1552, held at Hants County Record Office).

1558

Last year of Queen Mary I's reign - she restores DROXFORD Manor to the Church (which keeps it until the Civil War period, the 1640's).

Court Roll of the Manor of MIDDLEINGTON shows:

"At the Court of WILLIAM FAWCONER Esquire, Lord of the Manor of MIDDLEINGTON, JOHN FRY was admitted Tenant to a certain Tenement called COURT GARDEN and divers other Lands and Tenements in MIDDLEINGTON, together with Common of Pasture to the said Premises belonging for One Bull and 12 Kine, 100 Sheep, 12 Hogs and one Ram with Pannage".

(From an "Abstract of Title" of 1770, held by H.C.R.O., ref. 45M69/98 or 105 – uncertain which).
[See also A.D. 1496 and A.D. 1598].

1559 to 1582/3

(Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, No. 122).

JOHN WILLYAMS: Rector Comp. Nov.16.1559. vice Will. Cowfold. non coningatus. mediocriter doctus. residet; hospitalis. ibidem degst. non predicat. null. al. beneficia.

1561

14 February: THOMAS MARKS of Droxford, native, aged 24 a deponent in Consistory Court (tithes) cause HUGO FOSTER v. ROB. BOLTON.

(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 13, pp. 172 and 175).

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1562

10 April: PHILIP BENSTED of Droxford, native, age 50 a deponent in Consistory Court cause (matrimonial) JOAN CRONDALL v. THOMAS HAWKYNS.
(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 13, pp. 145/146).

1567

26 July: RICHARD WASTLE, yeoman of Titchfield 9 years, native of Droxford, aged 40 – a deponent in Consistory Court (tithes) cause – UGHTRED v. THOMAS PERSE AND OTHERS.
(H.C.R.O., Consistory Court Book No. 24, p. 216).

26 July: ANDREW BENSTED, yeoman of East Meon 1 year, before of West Harting (Sussex) 7 years, native of Droxford – a deponent in Consistory Court (matrimonial) cause – COLES v. HENRY TILBOROWE (TILBERY).
(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 24, p. 343).

1581

23 February: STEPHEN CLEWER, husbandman, of Hambledon 20 years, native of Droxford, age 40 – a deponent in Consistory Court (tithe) cause – WINDOVER v. HUGO FOSTER.
(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 50, p. 367).

1583

(Hants Field Club, part 3, 1957, p. 253).

THOMAS BILSON - Rector of Droxford.

1571 to 1579	Headmaster of Winchester College
1580	Warden of Winchester College
1574 to 1577	Rector of Chawton, Hants
1576	Prebendary of the 8 th stall of Winchester
1577 to 1586	Rector of Michelmersh, Hants
1583	Rector of Droxford
1586 to 1595	Rector of Kings Worthy, Hants
1595 to 1597 (or 1616)	Bishop of Winchester
1615	Privy Councillor
1616	Buried in Westminster Abbey, aged 69 (so born in 1547).

1605: Bought 'manor' Buriton (Mapledurham in Buriton) from 'widow and sons of Henry SHELLEY, died 1585 in prison.' (VCH, Vol. 3, pp. 88/89).

1607: Bought Weston manor in Buriton. (VCH, Vol. 3, p. 90).
(Per Miss F. B. Collins).

1586 - LAY SUBSIDY ROLLS

DROXFORD

LANDS:	John Honyman	20s. (16d.)
GOODS:	Simon Bensted	£8. (8s.)
	Edward Bensted	£8. (8s.)
	John Frye	£8. (8s.)
	William Uvedale (gent)	£5. (5s.)
	John Hache	£4. (4s.)

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Thomas Frye	£4. (4s.)
German Lyntor	£3. (3s.)
John Wassell	£3. (3s.)
	(44s. 4d.)

SWANMORE

LANDS:	Stephen Crowcher	40s. (2s. 8d.)
	William Prowtinge	20s. (16d.)
	Blanche Evered	20s. (16d.)
	William Grante	20s. (16d.)
	Edward Wassell	20s. (16d.)
	John Cleverlye	20s. (16d.)
		(9s. 4d.)

GOODS:	Edward Serell	£10. (10s.)
	John Knight	£7. (7s.)
	William Holte	£7. (7s.)
	Gilbert Proutinge	£5. (5s.)
	William Cleverlye, younger	£4. (4s.)
	Philip Wassell	£4. (4s.)
	William Cleverlye, elder	£3. (3s.)
	Robert Kirbye	£3. (3s.)
	Philip Cleverlye	£3. (3s.)
	Jasper Knight	£3. (3s.)
		(58s. 4d.)

SHIDFILDE

LANDS:	Richard Pytt, gent	£4. (5s. 4d.)
	Robert Harmsworth	£2. (2s. 8d.)
	John Barry	20s. (16d.)
	Thomas Cossen	20s. (16d.)
		(10s. 8d.)

GOODS:	William Colbrooke	£6. (6s.)
	Richard Clewer	£6. (6s.)
	William Abraham	£6. (6s.)
	Hugh Grantham, gent	£5. (5s.)
	Thomas Barrye	£5. (5s.)
	John Colles	£4. (4s.)
	Nicholas Clewer	£3. (3s.)
	Richard Markes	£3. (3s.)
	Gregory Cossen	£3. (3s.)
		(51s. 8d.)

1595

(Easter Term, 38 Elizabeth I)

WILLIAM FAWCONER, Esquire suffers a Recovery of the Manor of MIDDLEINGTON to BENEDICT WINCHCOMBE and JOHN WEBB, Esquires, "To the only Use of him the said WILLIAM FAWCONER and his Right Heirs for Ever."

(From an Abstract of Title dated 1770, held at H.C.R.O., ref. 45M69/98 or 105 – uncertain which).

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1596 to 1613

JOHN HARMER is Rector of Droxford
(Per Miss F. B. Collins).

1597

Droxford Manor House (Hants C.R.O., 155642, pp. 22 et seq.)

8th July 1597: Lease of various manors from the Bishop to Queen Elizabeth, including the site of the manor of Droxford as defined in Lease from Bishop Gardiner to Philip BENSTED of Droxford, yeoman, 27th July 1554 (excepting advowson, rents of assize, courts etc.).

N.B. The Bensted family had held the Lease of the Demesne Lands since at least the early 1500's (per Bishopric Pipe Rolls).

It is clear from the Pipe Rolls that the BENSTED Family continued as farmers of Droxford and lessees of the site of the Manor until 1617 (ref. 155944).

7th October and 5th November 1597

JOHN FRYE (7th October), yeoman, of Droxford 40 years, native of Froxfield, age 67 and THOMAS FRY, husbandman, of Weston (Southampton) since Trinity, native of Droxford, age 29 (5th November), both deponents in Consistory Court cause of – REVES v. REVES alias FRYER (re. Will of GREGORY REVES).

(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 67, pp. 92 and 96).

1598 (41 Elizabeth I)

Court Roll of Manor of MIDDLEINGTON shows:-

“JOHN FRY surrendered to JOHN his son and AGNES his Wife the abovementioned Premises” [see A.D. 1558] “with the Common of Pasture ut supra” [see A.D. 1558] “for 1 Bull and 12 Kine, 1 Ram and 100 Sheep and 12 Hogs with Pannage.”

(From an “Abstract of Title” dated 1770 at H.C.R.O., ref. 45M69/98 or 105 – uncertain which).

[See A.D. 1614].

1599

DROXFORD Church - the Tower (with stair-turret) is built (or re-built).

(Reign of Queen Elizabeth I).

NOTE: In an Inventory of Church goods at Droxford made 15th July 1552 (Public Record Office) is included “ ... Foure belles in the Steple ... “. (Therefore, perhaps the tower was first capped by a steeple and extended as a tower in 1599).

(“Memorabilia”).

1600

14th June: JOHN MEE, husbandman, of Droxford since Lady Day last, before of Exton 16 years, native of Droxford, age 31 – a deponent in Consistory Court (defamation) cause of TRISTRAM TERER v. THOMAS PORE.

(H.C.R.O., Court Book No. 67, p. 318).

