

From Domesday Book

In burgo de WARWIC habet rex in dominio suo CXIII domus et barones regis habent CXII de quibus omnibus rex habet geldum suum. Episcopus de Wirecestre habet IX masuras. Episcopus de Cestre VII. Abbas de Couentreu XXXVI et IIII sunt uastae propter situm castelli . . .

Hae masurae pertinent ad terras quas ipsi barones tenent extra burgum et ibi appreciatae sunt. Praeter has supradictas masuras, sunt in ipso burgo XIX burgenses qui habent XIX masuras cum saca et soca et omnibus consuetudinibus et ita habebant tempore Regis Edwardi.

Tempore Regis Edwardi vicecomitatus de Waruic cum burgo et cum regalibus maneriis reddebat LXV libras et XXXVI sextaria mellis aut XXIII libras et VIII solidos pro omnibus quae ad mel pertinebant. Modo inter firmam regalium maneriorum et placita comitatus reddit per annum CXLV libras ad pondus et XXIII libras pro consuetudine canum et XX solidos pro summario et X libras pro accipitre et C solidos reginae pro gersumma. . . .

Consuetudo Waruic fuit ut eunte rege per terram in expeditionem, decem burgenses de Waruic pro omnibus aliis irent. Qui monitus non ibat, C solidos regi emendabat. Si vero per mare contra hostes suos ibat rex, vel IIII batsueins vel IIII libras denariorum ei mittebant.

TERRA COMITISSAE GODEVAE. In Coleshelle hundredo. COMITISSA GODEVA tenuit tempore Regis Edwardi AILSPEDE. Ibi sunt quattuor hide. Terra est VIII carrucis. Ibi sunt VIII villani et I bordarius cum II carrucis et dimidia. Silua habet I leuugam et dimidiam longitudine et unam leuugam latitudine. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat XL solidos et post et modo XXX solidos. Ipsa comitissa tenuit in ADERESTONE III hidas. Terra est V carrucis. Ibi sunt XI villani et II bordarii et I seruus cum IIII carrucis. Ibi VI acrae prati. Silua II leuugas longitudine et II leuugas latitudine. Valuit XL solidos, modo LX solidos.

NOTE: The classical *ae* form in *uastae*, *hae masurae*, *appreciatae*, *praeter*, *quae*, *reginae*, *comitissae*, *Godevae*, *acrae*. For imperfects (*habebant*, etc.), see Chapter 23, 1 (b).

From Domesday Book

In the Borough of WARWICK the king has in his demesne 113 houses and the king's barons have 112, from all (of) which the king has his geld. The Bishop of Worcester has 9 messuages. The Bishop of Chester 7. The Abbot of Coventry 36, and 4 are (laid) waste for the site of the castle . . .

These messuages belong to the lands which the same barons hold outside the borough, and are valued there. Besides these above-mentioned messuages, there are in the same borough 19 burgesses who have 19 messuages with sac and soc and all customary rights and thus had (them) in the time of King Edward.

In the time of King Edward the shrievalty of Warwick with the borough and with the royal manors paid 65 pounds and 36 sesters of honey, or 24 pounds and 8 shillings for all (dues) which pertained to honey. Now, between the farm of the royal manors and the pleas of the county, it pays yearly 145 pounds by weight (*ad pondus*) and 23 pounds for the customary payment for (lit., of) dogs and 20 shillings for a sumpter-horse and 10 pounds for a hawk, and 100 shillings to the queen for a benevolence.

The custom of Warwick was that when the king went (ablative absolute: lit., the king going) by land on an expedition, ten burgesses of Warwick should go (*irent*: imperfect subjunctive after a command, 'custom' here implying an obligation) for all the others. (He) who did not go (imperfect of *eo*) when summoned, paid 100 shillings fine to the king. If however the king was going against his enemies by sea, they (i.e., the burgesses) sent him either 4 boatswains or 4 pounds of pennies.

THE LAND OF COUNTESS GODEVA. In Coleshill Hundred. Countess Godeva held Alspath in the time of King Edward. There are 4 hides. (There) is land for 8 ploughs (*carrucis*: dative meaning 'for', see Chapter 2). There are 8 villeins and 1 bordar with 2½ ploughs. The wood is (lit., has) 1½ leagues in length and 1 league in breadth. In the time of King Edward it was worth 40 shillings, and afterwards and now 30 shillings. The same countess held 3 hides in Atherstone. (There) is land for 5 ploughs. There are 11 villeins and 2 bordars and 1 serf with 4 ploughs. There are 6 acres of meadow. The wood 2 leagues in length and 2 leagues in breadth. It was worth 40 shillings, now 60 shillings.

A Gift (c. 1250)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Adam filius Rogeri de Denbye dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Waltero de Floktun ac heredibus suis pro homagio et servicio suo totum boscum meum in villa de Denbye sine aliquo retenemento; habendum et tenendum sibi et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis iure hereditario libere et quiete integre plenarie cum omnibus libertatibus et esiamenis predicto bosco pertinentibus, Reddendo inde annuatim michi et heredibus meis unum denarium argenti in die Assumptionis beate Marie Virginis pro omni seculari servicio exactione et demanda tam forinseco domini Regis quam alio. Et ego vero et heredes mei predictum boscum Waltero predicto et heredibus suis contra omnes gentes warantizabimus et defendemus imperpetuum. Hiis testibus Johanne de Mittun, Roberto de Lintun . . . et aliis.

A Gift (1522)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willelmus Parett de Fylyngull et Elizabetha uxor mea unanimi consensu et assensu dedimus concessimus et hac presenti carta nostra confirmavimus Thome Wyghtman unum messuagium et dimidiam virgatam terre cum omnibus pertinentiis suis iacentia in villa et in campis de Fylyngull, quod quidem mesuagium quondam Willelmus Warrener tenuit, Habendum et tenendum predictum messuagium et dimidiam virgatam terre cum omnibus suis pertinentiis in villa et in campis de Fylyngull predictis prefato Thome Wyghtman heredibus et assignatis suis libere quiete bene et in pace de capitalibus dominis feodi illius per servicia inde debita et de iure consueta, et nos vero Willelmus et Elizabetha predicti et heredes nostri predictum messuagium et dimidiam virgatam terre cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in villa et campis de Fylyngull prefato Thome Wyghtman heredibus et assignatis suis contra omnes gentes warantizabimus et imperpetuum defendemus. In cuius rei testimonium huic carte presenti nostre sigilla nostra apposuvimus, Hiis testibus Willelmo Wardley, Thoma Shewall . . . et aliis. Data apud Fylyngull xii die mensis Martii anno regni regis Henrici octavi tertio decimo.

Endorsement—Hiis testibus ad deliberacionem seisine messuagii infra specificati cum pertinentiis, videlicet Waltero Torbett de Fylyngull, gentilman, Edwardo Menny de eadem, draper, et multis aliis.

A Gift (c. 1250)

Know (men) present and future that I, Adam, son of Roger de Denbye, have given and granted and by this my present charter confirmed, to Walter de Floktun and his heirs, for his homage and service, all my wood in the vill of Denbye, without any reservation; to have and to hold to him and his heirs, of me and my heirs, by hereditary right, freely and quietly, wholly, fully, with all liberties and easements pertaining to the aforesaid wood, rendering* thence annually to me and my heirs one silver penny on the day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for all secular service, exaction and demand, both foreign (service) of the lord King and other (service). And verily I and my heirs will warrant and defend against all people the aforesaid wood to the aforesaid Walter and his heirs forever. These (being) witnesses, John de Mittun, Robert de Lintun . . . and others.

A Gift (1522)

Know (men) present and future that we, Wm. Parett de Fylyngull and Elizabeth my wife with unanimous consent and assent, have given granted and by this our present charter confirmed to Thomas Wyghtman one message & half a virgate of land with all its appurtenances lying in the vill and in the fields of Fylyngull, which message indeed the late Wm. Warrener held, to have and to hold the aforesaid message and half virgate of land with all its appurtenances in the vill and fields of Fylyngull aforesaid to the aforesaid T. W., his heirs & assigns freely quietly well and in peace, of the chief lords of that fee by the services thence owed and accustomed by right, and verily we, W. & E. aforesaid, and our heirs will warrant and defend forever the aforesaid message and half virgate of land with all its appurtenances in the vill and fields of F. to the aforesaid T. W., his heirs and assigns, against all people. In witness of which (thing), we have affixed our seals to this our present charter, these (being) witnesses, W. Wardley, Thomas Shewall . . . and others. Given at Fylyngull on the 12th day of the month of March, in the thirteenth year of the reign of King Henry the 8th.

*Endorsement—*These (being) witnesses to the delivery of seisin of the message within-specified with appurtenances, namely W. T. de F., gentleman, E. M., of the same (place), draper, and many others.

* *Reddendo*—ablative of gerund—so means 'by rendering', but is generally translated simply as 'rendering'.

A Bond

Noverint universi per presentes nos Carolum Field de in comitatu, armigerum et Edwardum Field generosum filium predicti Caroli teneri et firmiter obligari Thome Stocks de in comitatu, mercer, in quinquaginta libris bone et legalis monete Anglie solvendis eidem Thome S. aut suo certo attornato vel executoribus suis ad quam quidem solutionem bene et fideliter faciendam obligamus nos et utrumque nostrum per se pro toto et in solidum heredes executores et administratores nostros firmiter per presentes sigillis nostris sigillatas Date vicesimo nono die Augusti Anno Regni domini nostri Caroli dei gratia Anglie Scotie Francie et Hibernie Regis fidei defensoris etc. undecimo Annoque domini 1635.

Power of Attorney

Pateat per presentes quod nos Johannes de Brailes et Agnes uxor mea ordinavimus et loco nostro constituimus dilectum nobis in Christo Gilbertum de Norton attornatum nostrum ad ponendum dominum Johannem de Linley capellanum Robertum le Mercer et Willelmum le Mareschall in plena seisina in toto illo tenemento cum suis pertinenciis de quo predictos dominum Johannem Robertum et Willelmum per cartam nostram in feodum feoffavimus. Dantes eidem plenam potestatem nomine nostro facere in premissis sicut et nos faceremus si personaliter interessemus. In cuius rei testimonium hiis presentibus sigilla nostra apposuimus. Date apud Norton die Martis proximo post festum sancti Ambrosi anno regni regis Edwardii tercii post conquestum vicesimo secundo.

A Fine

Hec est finalis concordia facta in curia domini Regis apud Westmonasterium in octava Sancti Michaelis Anno regnorum Edwardi sexti Dei gratia Anglie Francie et Hibernie regis fidei defensoris et in terra ecclesie Anglicane et Hibernice supremi capitis a conquestu quinto coram Henrico Makin, Ricardo Hunte et Edwardo Leke Justiciariis et aliis domini regis fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus INTER Willelmum Stone armigerum et Nicholaum Stone generosum querentes et Johannem Barton et Agnetem Colford viduam sororem

A Bond

Know all men by (these) presents that we, Charles Field of in the county of, esquire, and Edward Field, gentleman, son of the aforesaid Charles, are held and firmly bound (lit., know us to be held & to be firmly bound) to Thomas Stocks of in the county of, mercer, in fifty pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid to the same Thomas S. or his certain attorney or his executors, to making which payment indeed well and faithfully, we bind ourselves and each of us by himself for the whole (sum), and (we bind) for the whole our heirs executors and administrators firmly by these presents sealed with our seals. Given on the 29th August in the eleventh year of the reign of our lord Charles by the grace of God King of England Scotland France and Ireland defender of the faith, etc., and in the year of the Lord 1635.

Power of Attorney

Be it known by (these) presents that we, John de Brailes & Agnes my wife have appointed and set up in our place Gilbert de Norton, beloved to us in Christ, (as) our attorney for placing Master John de Linley, chaplain, Robert le Mercer & William le Mareschall in full seisin in all that tenement with its appurtenances, of which, by our charter, we have enfeoffed in fee the aforesaid Master John, Robert and William. Giving to the same full power in our name to act in the premises just as we would act if we were present in person. In witness of which we have affixed our seals to these presents. Given at Norton on Tuesday next after the feast of St. Ambrose in the 22nd year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the conquest.

A Fine

This is the final agreement made in the court of the lord King at Westminster in the octave of St. Michael in the fifth year of the reigns of Edward the Sixth from the conquest, by grace of God King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith and supreme head on earth of the church of England and Ireland, before the Justices Henry Makin, Richard Hunte, and Edward Leke, and other faithful (subjects) of the lord king then there present, BETWEEN Wm. Stone esquire, and Nicholas Stone, gentleman, querents, and John Barton

Probate Copy of a Will

In Dei nomine Amen. In vigilia Sancti Jacobi Apostoli A.D. millesimo cccc^{mo}, ego Nicholaus Westerne, ville de S., grocer, compos mentis licet eger in corpore, condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti, beate Marie virgini et omnibus sanctis eius, corpusque meum ad sepeliendum in ecclesia parochiali Sancti Michaelis de S., iuxta Sarram Westerne, nuper uxorem meam. Item lego et volo quod omnia debita mea de bonis meis plenarie persolvantur. Item lego domino Gilberto Bradley rectori ecclesie parochialis predictae iij^s iiii^a. Item lego fabricae ecclesie parochialis predictae iij^s iiii^a Item lego Agneti filie mee et heredibus eius de proprio corpore legitime procreatis unum burgagium cum suis pertinenciis situatum in villa de S. in quodam vico vocato Welle Strete in quo modo habito, inter tenementum Rogeri Baker et tenementum Johannis Warde Habendum et tenendum etc. Et si contingat quod dicta Agnes obierit absque heredibus tunc lego et do predictum burgagium custodibus, quicumque sint, ecclesie parochialis predictae de S. Item lego omnia residua bonorum meorum non legatorum debitis meis prius solutis filie mee predictae. Huius autem testamenti mei executorem meum ordino facio et constituo dilectum mihi in Christo Willelmum White.

(Dorse) Probatum fuit presens testamentum coram nobis officiali domini Archidiaconi D. in ecclesia parochiali de S. die Sabbati unde commissa exstitit infrascripto executore administratio bonorum dicti defuncti in forma iuris.*

* See Word List for *existo*.

Probate Copy of a Will

In the name of God, Amen. On the eve of St. James Apostle, 1400 A.D., I, Nicholas Westerne, of the town of S., grocer, (being) of sound mind (lit. sound of mind) though sick in body, make my will in this wise. Firstly I leave my soul to God Almighty, to the Blessed Virgin Mary and all His saints, and my body to-be-buried in the parish church of St. Michael of S., by the side of Sarah Westerne, my late wife. Item I leave and will that all my debts be fully discharged (pres. subj.*) from my goods. Item I leave to Master Gilbert Bradley rector of the aforesaid parish church, 3s 4d. Item I leave to the fabric of the aforesaid parish church 3s 4d. Item I leave to Agnes, my daughter, and her heirs of her own body lawfully begotten, one burgage with its appurtenances situated in the town of S., in a certain street called Welle Street, in which I now dwell, between the tenement of Roger Baker and the tenement of John Warde. To have and to hold etc. And if it should happen that the said Agnes should die without heirs then I leave and give the aforesaid burgage to the wardens, whosoever they may be (pres. subj.†), of the aforesaid parish church of S. Item I leave all the rest of my goods not bequeathed after the payment of my debts (lit. my debts having first been paid—ablative absolute), to my daughter aforesaid. But of this my will I appoint, make and set up as my executor, my beloved in Christ, William White. (Dorse) The present will was proved before us, Official of Master Archdeacon D., in the parish church of S. on Saturday whereon administration of the goods of the said deceased was committed to the executor overleaf (lit., within-written) in legal form.

* After the command.

† The subjunctive here indicates possibility rather than fact. *Quicumque sunt* would mean 'whosoever they are'.