



The following document is part of a Dulwich Society project to digitise, transcribe and translate the Dulwich Manorial Court Rolls. They begin in 1333 and continue, with some breaks, to 1908.

A typical Manor Court Roll starts with apologies for absence and fines for non-attendance without excuse, followed by a list of local tenants serving on the manor jury, or 'Homage'. The 'Court Leet' or 'View of Frankpledge' dealt with minor offences, disputes between neighbours, and such matters as failing to keep ditches clear. The early Rolls list those with goods worth more than 30 pence, and those keeping pigs (and how many they kept). The 'Court Baron' dealt with property transactions and inheritance matters. Sometimes the functions of the two Courts, almost invariably held one after the other on the same day, overlapped. In time, the 'Court Leet' became increasingly less important.

For more details and links to images of the rolls and other documents please go to <https://www.dulwichsociety.com/courtrolls/>

Text in **red**, apart from modern notes by the transcriber, indicates text missing from, or entirely illegible in, the original Roll. Text in various shades of **grey** indicates text which, in the original Roll, is to a greater or lesser extent difficult to decipher. Otherwise, all contemporaneous text is in **black**, except for presumed later additions which are indicated in **brown** or **blue**.

Roll I1 [previously G1] (front)

G.1.

Part 1 [Tuesday] 17 May 1552

Manor of Dulwyche ¶ Court with View of Frank pledge held there on Tuesday, namely the seventeenth day of May in the sixth regnal Year of Edward the sixth, king of England & France and Ireland, defender of the faith, & on earth supreme Head of the English & Irish church.

Excuses ¶ b none b none

Common } 4s Inquisition Taken for the lord King on the oath of Henry Knyghte, Henry Ode, John Webester, Henry Hunt, Walter Dove, Nicholas Bone, Arnold Woddene, Richard Cole[sic, Coke], Robert[sic] Whythyter, Roger Hamonde, Walter Symon, John Beckette, Humphrey Bone, Giles Robert, John Toplyff, Thomas Barres, Michael Casynghurst, William Daltone, John Lewys, John Badger, & Richard Brace, Who say & present that they give the lord as the Common fine, as always at this day, for themselves & their tithings, as appears in the Heading.

Stray – 2s. And that one ram coloured white, worth -2s, arrived within this lordship a whole year & more ago, & was proclaimed abroad & taken to market according to English law, And no-one came to claim it, &c And it remains in the custody of Walter Dove. Therefore it is ordered to be seized for the lord's benefit.

bakers and the Assize } 8d amercements ¶ And that Joan Lepar, widow, & William Croydon, are bakers of household [i.e. non-wheaten] bread there, And they break the Assize of the lord King, Therefore each of them is in the lord's mercy ----4d.

brewers } 8d amercements ¶ And the same Joan Lepar, widow, & Felicia Bostok, widow, are brewers, & break the Assize of the lord King. Therefore each of them is in the lord's mercy ----4d.

retailers }  
amercements } 4d And that Richard Coke & Stephen Sale are retailers of household bread & ale, and sell taking too much money [i.e. over-charging]. Therefore each of them is in the lord's mercy ----2d.

Sworn into the tithing } To this Court comes Christopher Curson, & he is Sworn into the tithing of the Lord King.

### Now of the Court

Default of }  
suit of court } 6d And that Elizabeth Draper, widow, & the heirs of Robert Draper, gent., are in default of suit of Court, And this day they make default. Therefore they are amerced of the lord, as appears on the[ir] Heads.

4d 2d

for five acres of land  
Hunt yearly rent 20d  
Fine -----5s

Fine ---5s.  
[19 Dec. 1519]  
[22/4/1527-21/4/1528]

At this Court it is testified by Henry Ode & John Webbester, Customary tenants of this manor, that Henry Hunt, outside the Court & after the last Court, surrendered into the lord's hands two acres of land, lately Robert Holland's, which the same Henry Hunt [had] from the surrender & concession of the lord, as appears in the Court with View in the Eleventh year of Henry VIII, and three acres of land called Goryland, to which he was Admitted after the death of Henry[sic, William] Hunt, as appears in the Court with View in the nineteenth year of Henry the Eighth, To the benefit of the said Henry for his life-time, And after his death the remainder thereof to his son John Hunt & his heirs, To Whom the lord by his Steward conceded seisin thereof, To Have & to hold to himself & the heirs of the said John of the lord in the aforesaid form, by the rod, at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, by the rent & services thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, And he gave the lord as a fine as appears on the Head [= in the margin], And the aforesaid Henry made fealty to the lord & c.

[slip attached in 1982, but not in 2022 :]

Rompence

in the last Court

To which Court came Richard Bracy, Stephen Sare, John Badger, & all others ^ who have a mark on the Heads [i.e. against their names] &c.,



Strays  
— 4s 6d [sic] And that one mare coloured white, worth fourteen shillings[sic] arrived within this lordship a whole year & more ago, & was proclaimed abroad & taken to market according to the law & custom of the rule of England, And no-one came to claim it &c. Therefore it is ordered to be seized for the lord's benefit, & it remains in the custody of Edward Dove &c.

Strays to  
proclaim And that three ewes coloured white arrived within this lordship at the Feast of the Purification of the blessed virgin Mary last [i.e. 2 Feb 1553], Therefore it is ordered to proclaim them abroad, and take them to market, according to the law &c. And they remain in the Custody of Michael Casynghurst.

More on the back

[End of I1 [previously G1] (front). I1 [previously G1] (back) follows below.]

Roll I1 [previously G1] (back) [Saturday] 3 Jun 1553 (continued)

G 1 v

Stray }  
proclaimed } 12d And that one sheep, called 'a tegg' [i.e. a yearling], arrived within this lordship at the feast of the Nativity of saint John the Baptist last past, & was proclaimed, And still no-one came to claim it. Therefore &c., & it was appraised at ---12d, And it remains in the custody of the said Michael.

Bakers & }  
brewers } 16d And that William Croydon & John Wodden are not only bakers of household [i.e. non-wheaten] bread, but also brewers of ale there, And they break the assize of the lord King. Therefore each of them is in the lord's mercy -----8d.

Retailer --- 2d And that Richard Coke is a retailer of ale & of household bread within this lordship, & breaks the assize of the lord King. Therefore he is in the lord's mercy, as appears in the Heading.

Election of officers At this Court & view they elected into the office of Constable there, Henry Hunt, in place of Nicholas Bone, formerly in the office.

And into the office of Head pledges there, Walter Symon & Richard Brasey, in place of Richard Coke & Roger Hamond, formerly in the

office.

And into the office of Taster of Ale there, John Topplyff, &c.

### Now of the Court

now tenant



amercement --4d

order to evict

complaint

Penalty

Relief -20d

And that John Elson is a Common breaker of his neighbours' hedges, by cutting down various trees growing upon the lord's Common, called Crab[apple] trees & oaks, without the lord's licence, and also that he and his wife Elizabeth maintain bad behaviour within this lordship, & are of ill repute & dishonest Dealings. Therefore he is *[sic, ?they are]* in the lord's mercy, as appears in the heading. And *nevertheless* they are entreated to amend, & not so to behave after the warning, or William Godderd is ordered to evict them out of this parish before the feast of saint Michael Archangel next to come, And no others within the same lordship to receive them, under penalty of ----40s.

To this Court comes Richard Lane, And in his own person complains against John Turnour & his wife Katherine on a plea of trespass, claiming damage to himself of 39s 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d ; prosecution pledges : John Den & Richard Fen *[i.e. the fictitious John Doe & Richard Roe]* &c.

Richard Lane is **ordered** to make thirty perches of hedge between Blanchdowne & Ammyngtonsmede, the same Richard Lane to make 8 perches of sufficient hedge between the Lord's land & mydlefield, before the feast of saint Barnabas the apostle next to come, under penalty for each perch of Them ----12d

The **Homage** present that Henry Ode, who held to himself & his heirs freely, by Charter, suit of Court, & fealty of the lord of this manor, one messuage with one Croft of land adjoining, containing by estimation one acre, & four Cottages, with one Croft to one of the same <sup>Cottages</sup> adjoining and appertaining, lying within this lordship, And he pays *[sic]* yearly twenty pence, at the usual times, payable [to the lord] of this manor, Which said Henry has died since the last Court, after whose death there falls to the lord as relief 20d, namely as much as is owed to the lord yearly ;

Fealty

however, before his death he himself, by his last will bearing date the first day of December last past in the sixth year of the present King, & produced & shown at this Court, gave & conceded the aforesaid messuage, Cottages & lands to one Thomas Ode, his son, his heirs & assigns in perpetuity, as in the said last will is more fully made plain & evident. Upon which to this same Court came the same Thomas, And in open Court not only made fealty to the lord for the premises, but also pledged to the lord for the aforesaid relief.

Heriot 26s 8d

[17 Jan. 1521]

The Homage present that the same Henry Ode who held to himself & his heirs at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, eleven acres of land outside Cortmede, within the aforesaid lordship, sometime Thomas Deble's, upon which was lately one messuage, now derelict, heriotable, to which the same Henry was admitted after the death of his father, Richard Ode, as appears in the Court with view of Frank pledge  
^ held there in the [blank] year of Henry the eighth, And two acres of land lying in Midelfild called Lytle Midlefeld which he had from the surrender of Agnes Hunt, as appears in the Court with View held there in the twelfth year of King Henry the eighth, Which said Henry has died since the last Court solely seised thereof, according to the custom of the aforesaid manor, after whose death falls to the lord ^ one bull worth 26s 8d, And they further say that Thomas Ode is his youngest son, and nearest heir thereof according to the custom of this manor, And of full age, who, present in Court, seeks to be admitted to the aforesaid lands, with appurtenances, And he was admitted tenant thereof by the lord's Steward, To Have & to hold to himself & his heirs, of the lord, by the rod, at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, by the rent & services thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, Who gave to the lord as a Fine for having such status & entry, as appears in the Heading, And made fealty to the lord.

Fine ---- 12s

Liberty of Common  
----22d.

To this Court came Henry Hunt, Walter Dove, Nicholas Bone, Arnold Woddene, Richard Coke, Robert Whythyter, Roger Hamond, Walter Symon, John Beckett, Humphrey Bone, Giles Robert, John Topylff, Thomas Barres, Michael Casynghurst, William Dalton,  
of Commons,  
John Lewys, John Badger, Richard Brasey, & others, gave the lord for having liberty ^ of pasturing upon the lord's Common with their pigs & cattle to the value of two shillings six pence & above, namely for each of them 1d, according to the custom of this manor, from ancient usage to this day.

To this Court came John Dove, youngest son of John Dove senior, in open Court, in the Steward's presence, And surrendered into the lord's hands two Crofts of land, of which one is called Carterscroft, containing by estimation one acre and a half, more or less, as it were

Fine 18d enclosed, And the other Croft, called Carters garden, containing by estimation one acre, more or less, as it were enclosed, To which the same John was admitted tenant after the death of his grandfather John Dove, as appears in the roll of the Court, to the benefit of Katherine Turnour, now wife of John Turnour, for her life-time, And after her death the remainder therein to John Dove, son of the said Katherine, & his heirs, who comes by the said John [Turnour] her husband, and seeks to be admitted to the aforesaid Crofts of land, with appurtenances, And she was admitted tenant thereof by the lord's Steward, To Have & to hold for the term of her life, further remainder therein to the aforesaid John [Dove] & his heirs in the aforesaid form, of the lord, by the rod, at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, by the rent & services thereof hitherto owed & by law accustomed, And the aforesaid John gave to the lord as a Fine, as appears in the Heading, And the aforesaid John Turnour made fealty to the lord, &c.

Later in better form To this Court came Henry Knyght in open Court, in the Steward's presence, And surrendered into the lord's hands all his Customary lands & tenements lying & being within this lordship, with the intention that the lord would re-grant the aforesaid lands & tenements to the aforesaid Henry for his life-time, And after his death the remainder therein to his son Henry Knyght & his heirs in perpetuity. And the lord thus re-conceded having seisin therein &c.

Fine 36s 4d To this Court came John Dove, and sought to be admitted to all the customary lands & tenements within this lordship of which his father John Dove died seised within this lordship[sic], And, by the lord's Steward, he was admitted tenant thereof, And he gave the lord as a Fine as appears in the Heading.

The Homage presents that John Dove is the youngest son of John Dove senior, [and] is the the heir, and has the right to all the customary lands & tenements within this lordship of which the same John, his father, died seised &c.

More in the following Roll

[End of Roll I1 [previously G1]. This Court record is continued on Roll I2 [previously G2].]