



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 19 [previously H6] (front)      [Tuesday] 12 Nov 1566      [Note: This Roll, in excellent condition, is beautifully written.]

**Dulwiche**      // Court baron with view of Frank pledge of Margaret Caulton, widow, there held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November in the eighth  
*H.6*              year of the reign of the lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god queen of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

Excuses            // John Webster, through his wife Elizabeth ; John Longe, through John Cole.

free tenants      // Matthew Draper, gentleman ; Thomas Hunte ; John Crofte ; Thomas Ode ; Henry Knighte.  
& suitors

|   |  |         |  |         |  |         |
|---|--|---------|--|---------|--|---------|
| xij <sup>cem</sup> tam pro Regina<br>quam pro domina huius<br>Manerij | // John Dove c-----<br>John Crofte<br>John Mathewe<br>Richard Wryghte<br>Thomas Feeringe ----- | } Sworn | John Hunt c-----<br>John Lewes<br>Walter Bowier<br>Thomas Calton[sic, Dalton]<br>Thomas Ode c----- | } Sworn | Henry Henley c-----<br>John Casinghurste<br>Christopher Cursoye[sic]<br>John Coxe c----- | } Sworn |
|---|--|---------|--|---------|--|---------|

presentment of // Richard Wryghte, constable there, presents upon his oath that all's well, & nothing else, and in place of the aforesaid  
the Constable    Richard Wyghte is elected Thomas Ode, & he was sworn to exercise his office.

Head              // John Hunte & John Casinghurste present that all's well, & nothing else, & in their place were elected Henry Huscrofte  
pledges            and Henry Henley.

Taster            // Thomas Feeringe presents that all's well, & nothing else, and in place of the aforesaid Thomas Feeringe is elected John Hunte.  
of ale

// A Day is given to the above-stated 12, not only for the lady Queen but for the lady of this manor too, to give their verdict, & that they should appear in the presence of the steward on the next Wednesday after the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary next to come.

// At which day indeed the 12, not only for the lady Queen but also for the lady of this manor, came & affirmed all & singular the above presentments [to be true], and further they say that they assuredly gave the lady of this manor at this day, of ancient custom,

4s, & they paid.

And further they present a certain Matthew Draper, gentleman, appropriating to himself ground of a certain John Dove there, by placing his hedges crookedly, And therefore the same Matthew is ordered to place his aforesaid hedges, being between the land of the said John Dove & the land of the said Matthew, in their right and proper line, and to give up the said encroachment before the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary next to come, under penalty of forfeiting, for each rod of the aforesaid land appropriated and still not relinquished, c----- 20d.

And also they present the same Matthew appropriating, as above, ground of [... blank ...] at The Newland there, And therefore the same Matthew is ordered to put his hedges in their right line, and to give up the said encroachment before the next View held there, & thereafter to keep them in the right line, under penalty of forfeiting c-----20s.

+ Likewise they present Henry Knighte, for an Encroachment upon the demesne land of the lady of this manor called the Newe medowe there, by a certain ditch lately dug & made there by the same Henry, Therefore &c. And nevertheless the same Henry is ordered to fill in the aforesaid ditch, and to give up the said encroachment, before the first day of May next to come, under penalty of c-----20s.

Likewise they present a certain Robert Brooxebye, having a certain ditch at the Lower end of the Kenelles there, containing by estimation 8 rods of land, blocked to such a degree that the flow of the water course is held back, to the common nuisance of the subjects of the lady Queen, therefore &c, And nevertheless the same Robert is ordered to scour the aforesaid ditch before the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord next to come, under penalty of forfeiting for each rod not well & sufficiently scoured c----- 20d.

Likewise they present that Richard Wryghte has diverted the watercourse flowing from the existing Fold of the same Richard there, to the nuisance &c, therefore &c, And nevertheless the same Richard is thus ordered that he should turn the said watercourse aforesaid before the next View held there, lest thereby from that cause arises nuisance to any of his neighbours there, under penalty of c-----10s.

Likewise they present that Thomas Hunte, who held of the lady of this manor freely in socage one tenement & 12 acres of land with its appurtenances there, by suit of court & fealty, but by what other services they are altogether ignorant, died since the last court, being seised thereof. And that Agnes , aged 12 years & more, is his daughter & nearest heir. And now to this same court comes a certain Elizabeth, recently relict of the said Thomas, & claims to hold all & singular the premises, with its appurtenances,

for the term of her life. And she gave the lady that, by way of a heriot, 5s. And she made fealty to the lady.

### Now of the court baron

And To this court came John Dove, In this open court, & sought of the lady of this manor a licence to lease, or demise to farm, to one John Mathewe, one tenement there called Morkens, one croft containing by estimation three acres of arable land, two closes called Northcroftes containing by estimation 12 acres, one other close called litle Nappes containing by estimation five acres, And one other close called Stounie nappes containing by estimation five and a half Acres of land, from the feast of Saint Michael Archangel last past before the date of this view-with-court of the aforesaid manor, until the end and termination of 16 years, to which said John Dove the lady, out of her special grace, granted licence to lease or demise the aforesaid tenement and the other premises to the aforesaid John Maithewe for the above-stated term, if the aforesaid John [Dove?] should live so long, and if the aforesaid John Maythewe should die before the aforesaid termination, then Thomas Simons should have and occupy for the rest of the years then to come, and he gave the lady as a fine £6 13s 4d and two cartloads of firewood, called Faggots.

[End of I9 [previously H6] (front). I9 [previously H6] (back) follows below :]

### Roll I9 [previously H6] (back)

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| for 15 acres of land  |
| Wright yearly rent 5s |
| Fine c----- £3        |

[slip attached upside down]

H6V

To this Court came John Crofte, And in open Court Surrendered into the lady's hands one Tenement with fifteen acres, by estimation, of arable land in Dulwiche, lately Lane's land, with its singular appurtenances, To the benefit and use of Richard Wright and his wife Katherine, and the heirs of their body[sic] lawfully begotten, And for lack of such heirs

the Remainder therein to the right heirs of the aforesaid John Crofte, whereby befalls to the Lady a heriot. To which said Richard Wright and ~~Katherine Wright~~ his wife Katherine the Lady, by her Steward, conceded the said Tenement, with fifteen acres of arable land, with all its appurtenances, **To Have** and the hold the aforesaid Tenement and fifteen acres of arable land, with appurtenances, in Dulwiche aforesaid, to the aforesaid Richard Wright and his wife Katherine, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, and for lack of such heirs the remainder therein to the right heirs of the aforesaid John Crofte, at the will of the Lady, according to the Custom of the Manor. And further it is decided that the aforesaid Richard Wright and his wife Katherine, and the heirs of their body, Pay yearly during the natural life of the aforesaid John Crofte to the same John Crofte c---- £4, And for Rent each year, to the lords of the aforesaid manor for  
And other services thereof ~~hitherto~~ hitherto owed and by law accustomed.  
the time being c----- 5s  $\wedge$  And they gave the Lady as a fine for having such estate  
and seisin was delivered to him by the rod,  
£3, And the aforesaid Richard Wright made fealty,  $\wedge$  And he was admitted Tenant thereof.

[End of Roll I9 [previously H6].]