



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 N1 [This Roll was previously named SS.]

Roll N1 [previously SS] (front)

SS

Part 1 [Monday] 28 April 1645

**Manor of
Dulwich**



View of Frank Pledge With Court Baron there held on Monday the twenty-
eighth day of April in the twenty-first Year of the reign of lord Charles, now King of
England, &c., A.D. 1645

by me  Steward there

Excuses

William Mathewes, bed-ridden by serious illness, is excused through Richard Welles;
Robert Holmes and John Kempshall, bed-ridden by serious illness, are excused through Phillip Collins;
Valentine Daniell, bed-ridden by serious illness, is excused through Thomas Downer;
George Lopye[sic, not Loxlye] is excused through William Staples;
Thomas Bristo is excused through Edward Collins;
Roger Hamon is excused through x x x Daniel Scrivener;
Barnaby Gamon is excused through Robert Ballett.

Jurors

Phillip Collins	Sworn	Matthew Sheppard	Sworn	Richard Perry	Sworn	John Barrett	Sworn
Robert Parker		John Starkey		Edward Cozins		Richard Wells	
Thomas Downer		Daniel Scrivener		Thomas Stevens		Hugh Cope	
Thomas Hamon		John Bodger		William Staples		Henry Collins	

Richard Welles was elected in the office of Constable, to execute the aforesaid office for one whole year next to come, and he undertook his oath.

Daniel Scrivener & } were elected in the office of the Headboroughs, to execute the aforesaid office for one whole
Robert Glover ----- } year next to come, and they undertook their oath.

to execute

James Deacon was elected in the office of Aleconner, \wedge the aforesaid office for one whole year next to come, and he undertook his oath.

First, they present that John Abbott (3s 4d), George Portman (3s 4d), and Henry Leyton (1s 6d), are residents within the purview of this aforesaid view of frank pledge, and at this day, although they were warned in lawful manner, nevertheless they and each of them made default. Therefore each of them is amerced, as appears over their heads.

Also, they present that Daniel Buttes, to the great detriment of the inhabitants of Dulwich aforesaid, caused one Robert Worsely, a very poor man, to reside within that liberty without permission of the inhabitants, and without security previously given for the protection of the aforesaid inhabitants from liability, and that the aforesaid Robert Worsely has so resided within the aforesaid liberty for six months, and
amercement it ^{is} ordered that the aforesaid Daniel Buttes be amerced for each of those months ----- 10s.

Also, they present that Thomas Downer, to the great detriment of the inhabitants of Dulwich aforesaid, caused one Valentine Daniell, a very poor man, to reside within that liberty without permission of the inhabitants, and without security previously given for the protection of the aforesaid inhabitants from liability, and if the aforesaid Valentine Daniell has resided there from the first day of May then next, the aforesaid
amercement Thomas Downer be amerced for each month of such residence ----- 10s.

Also, they present that John Dunn, to the great detriment of the inhabitants of Dulwich aforesaid, caused one Thomas Bristowe, a very poor man, to reside within that liberty without permission of the inhabitants, and without security previously given for the protection of the aforesaid inhabitants from liability, and if the aforesaid Thomas Bristowe has resided there from the first day of May then next, the aforesaid John Dunn to be amerced for each month of such residence ----- 10s.

amercement

Also, they present that Robert Worsely, miller, for taking excessive tariff; therefore amerced --- 10s.

amercement

It is Ordered that Richard Payre shall cleanse his ditch lying from the water-course to his house, and for each rod uncleansed at the feast of All Saints next to come, to be amerced --- 12d.

amercement

It is Ordered that Richard Perry shall cleanse the common water-course called '*the Common sewer*' between his lands and the lands of Thomas Downer, and for each rod uncleansed before the feast of All Saints, to be amerced ----- 12d.

amercement

It is Ordered that Nicholas Bodger shall cleanse his ditch lying next to the high-way, from Thomas Hamond's house to the end of his orchard, and for each rod uncleansed before the feast of All Saints next, to be amerced ----- 12d.

amercement

Also, it is presented that Nicholas Bodger hung decaying meat, in English '*his carrione*', near the High-way, and that for each month after the third day of May next, if it is continued, the same Nicholas to be amerced ----- 10s.

amercement

It is Ordered that Nicholas Bodger shall not keep '*Canes sagaces*' [lit. '*scent-dogs*'], in English '*houndes*', to the harm of the neighbours, and that for each month after the third day of May next, [if] the same Nicholas shall so keep his hounds, to be amerced ----- 20s.

amercement

It is Ordered that George Portman shall cleanse the water-course adjacent upon the west part of his orchard, from the south-west corner to the corner of Newlands, and for each rod uncleansed at the feast of All Saints next, to be amerced ----- 12d.

amercement

It is Ordered that Robert Parker shall cleanse the water-course adjacent upon the south part of Newlands, next to George Portman's land, containing about forty rods, and for each rod
amercement uncleansed [at the feast of All Saints next], to be amerced ----- 12d.

It is Ordered that Daniel Buttes shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for each month such inclosure will
amercement so remain x x the same Daniel Buttes to be amerced ----- 5s.

It is Ordered that Henry Leyton shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for each month such inclosure will
amercement so remain x x the same Henry Leyton to be amerced ----- 10s.

It is Ordered that Robert Glover shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for each month such inclosure will
amercement so remain x x the same Robert Glover to be amerced ----- 1s.

It is Ordered that Edward Letbitter shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for each month such inclosure will
amercement so remain x x the same Edward Letbitter to be amerced ----- 3s.

more on the back.

[End of N1 [previously SS] (front). N1 [previously SS] (back) follows below.]

Roll N1 [previously SS] (back)

SSv

5
1623
[sic]

It is Ordered that Robert Holmes shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for each month such inclosure will so remain x x the same Robert Holmes to be amerced – 10s.

It is Ordered that George Portman shall re-instate the part of the Common which he has enclosed before the feast of Whitsuntide next, and if he then defaults, for month such inclosure will so remain x x the same Robert Holmes to be amerced ----- 12d.

Also, they present that Nicholas Mitchell, Aleconner, will present [*sic, has presented*] a false report and misleading bill of weights of bread; therefore amerced ----- 10s.

Also, they present that Nicholas Bodger for not erecting a stile, in English 'a style', and a bridge in the accustomed place next to the south-eastern corner of his house; therefore amerced ----- 10s.

[Gap of c.two inches]

Part 2

[Tuesday] 25 November 1645

Manor of
Dulwich

Court Baron there held on Tuesday the twenty-fifth day of November in the twenty-first Year of the Reign of our lord Charles, now King of England, &c., and *Anno Domini* 1645.

Homage { Edward Cursons
John Dunn } Sworn
Richard Welles -----

Fine £5

To this Court came John Dunn et his wife Mary, in open Court, and the aforesaid Mary examined alone and privately by the Steward, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, & surrendered into the Lords' hands three pieces of native [i.e. copyhold] land held of this Manor, of which one piece contains by estimation two acres, and lies upon land of the College in the occupation of John Barrett towards the north, and upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of John Starkye towards the east, and upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of Edward Cursons towards the south and west; the second piece contains by estimation two acres, and lies between lands of the aforesaid College in the occupation of the aforesaid Edward Cursons on the other side; and the third piece contains by estimation two acres, and lies upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of Roberti Dolman towards the east, and upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of Elizabeth Downer towards the south and upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of Thomas Downer, partly towards

the west and ~~zzz~~ partly towards the north, and upon land of the aforesaid College in the occupation of William Staples in the other part towards the north, To the benefit and use of Thomas Richardson and his wife Ellen, and of the heirs of the same Thomas, in perpetuity, by the rod, at the will of the lords, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor; To which said Thomas and Ellen the Lords, by their Steward, conceded seisin therein to them of the aforesaid three pieces of land, To Have [and to hold] to the same Thomas and Ellen and to the heirs of the same Thomas, by the rent and services thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed; And they gave the Lords as a fine &c.

Part 3 *[Monday] 20 April 1646*

Manor of Dulwich } View of Frank Pledge With Court Baron there held on Monday the twentieth day of April, in the twenty-second Year of the Reign of lord Charles, now King of England, &c., and A.D. 1646

Excuses | George Portman is excused, through Richard Perrye;
 Roger Hamon is excused, through Thomam Hamond;
 William Mathewes is excused, through Robert Glover;
 Barnaby Gamon is excused, through Robert Glover;
 John Rumsey is excused, through Richard Perrye;
 John Underwood is excused, through Robert Glover.

Jurors	Phillip Collins	Sworn	Richard Wells	Sworn	John Dunn	Sworn
	Thomas Downer		John Starkye		Henry Collins	
	Thomas Hamon		Matthew Sheppard		John Barrett	
	John Bodger		Richard Perry		Daniel Scrivener	
					Thomas Stepus[sc]	

John Abbott was elected by the Jurors in the office of Constable for one whole year then next to come, and because he was absent, gave &c.

John Redman and Nicholas Bodger were elected by the Jurors in the office of Headborrowes, and undertook the oath &c., for one year then next to come.

Thomas Oxley was elected by the Jurors in the office of Aleconner for one whole year now[sic] next to come, and undertook the oath &c.

the end

[in a later hand, in pencil :]

SS

1646

1645

[End of Roll N1 [previously SS].]