



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 N5 [This Roll was previously named TT3.]

Roll N5 [previously TT3] (front)

TT3

Part 1 [Thursday] 10 May 1655 (continued from Roll N4, part 4)

Nicholas Staples'
Surrender

Whereas at a Court Leet and Court Baron here held on Thursday, the twentieth day of April, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Four, **It was** presented that Nicholas Staples, copyhold tenant, to himself and his heirs, of a certain copyhold messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, and of certain copyhold lands held of this Manor, **Did**, before that time, out of Court, surrender the same into the hands of the Lords, by the hands of the Steward, **And** all his right, title, and interest therein, **To** the use and benefit of Margaret Grimble, and of her heirs, at the will of the Lord, according to the custom of the said Manor, Upon Condition **That if the** [said] Nicholas Staples should pay, or cause to be paid, to the said Margaret Grimble, her heirs, Executors, Administrators, or assigns, the full & entire sum of Fifty three pounds lawful English money, in and upon the Nineteenth day of April which then should be in the year of our Lord god One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Five, at or in the dwelling house of the said Margaret, situated & being at or close to the Bridgefoote in Southworke, in the County of Surrye, called or commonly known by the name or sign of 'The Maidenhead', **then that** surrender to be void. **Now at this** Court came the said Margaret Grymbell, and she in open Court then and there did openly acknowledge and declare That the said Nicholas Staples **has** performed the said Condition, and paid the said Fifty three pounds accordinge to the tenor and effect thereof **And** that she did disclaim all right, title, & interest in & to the said messuage and copyhold lands, and every part thereof, **And now** thereupon the said Nicholas Staples, also present in Court, **did** in the same Court surrender into the hands of the Lords of this Manor, by the hands of their Steward, **the** said Copyhold messuage and premises, and every part thereof, with

the appurtenances, **To the use** and benefit of Richard Hunt, Citizen and Cooper of London, **To hold to** himself, the said Richard Hunt, his heirs and assigns, at the will of the Lord, according to the custom of the said Manor, **Upon Condition** notwithstanding, **That if the** said Nicholas Staples, his heirs, executors, Administrators, or assigns, or any of them, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, **To and** for the use of the said Richard Hunt, his executors, Administrators, **or assigns**, the full and entire sum of Sixty three pounds Eleven shillings of lawful English money, in and upon the thirteenth day of May which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Six, **At** or in the now usual Dining Hall of Dulwich College, situated within this Manor, **then** this Surrender to be void, or else to remain in force.

Constable **At this** Court was John Oxley chosen Constable for a year next ensuing, and was now sworn in Court.

Headboroughs **At this** Court William Lee and Benjamin Pursell were chosen Headboroughs for a year next ensuing, and the said William was now sworn in Court, But the said Benjamin was absent, & his Oath postponed, to be taken before some Justice of the peace.

Aleconner **Att** the same Court then also was chosen and sworn into the office of Aleconner : Edward Allen.

presentments **The** Jewry[sic] amerce Robert Dawlman for not appearing at the Court : three shillings and four pence.

amercement **The Jury** do also amerce Phillip Cruff, Baker, for making his penny Wheaten bread Four ounces less than the Assize, to : thirteen shillings and four pence.

amercement **The Jury** do amerce Phillip Cruff, Baker, for making his penny White bread two-and-a-half ounces less than the Assize, To : thirteen shillings and four pence.

pain The Jury present Benjamin Pursell, to scour his ditch lying at the south side of his ground called Eight Acres, beginning at Mr Portman's Pingle, and ending at the west end of Conny Acre, And for every acre[sic, rod] not scoured at Christmas next, to pay : twelve pence.

pain The Jury present Valentine Daniell and Robert Lovely, to scour their ditch lying at the south end of Eighteen Acres, beginning at the Conny Acre at the east, and ending at the Common Sewer at the west, and for every rod not scoured at Christmas next, to pay : twelve pence.

The end of this Court

Part 2 *[Thursday] 1 May 1656*

**The Manor
of Dulwich
in Surrey** }

The Court, or View of Frank Pledge, with a Court Baron, there held on Thursday the first[sic] day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Six by Thomas Edgar^{Esquire,} Steward there.

Essoins Roger Hamond, by Thomas Hamond ; Roger Harsnett, by John Eason ;
 Robert Budder, by Richard Alleyn ; Anthony Hamond[sic, Hancock], by Daniel Scrivener ;
 Thomas Collyns, by John Easton ; Silvester Cutter, by John Oxly ; Robert Holmes, by Richard Alleyn.

Jury	Phillipp Collins, gent George Portman, gent Thomas Hamond Daniell Scrivener	} Sworn	John Easton John Oxly Thomas Oxly John Peacock	} Sworn	Nicholas Staples Arthur Peirse Valentine Daniell	} Sworn	John Barrett John Halfpenny	} Sworn
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Constable **At** this Court was Thomas Oxly elected Constable for a year next ensuing, and was now sworn in Court.

Hedbororoos[sic] **At this** Court was[sic] Edward Roberson and John Peacock were chosen Headboroughs for a year now next ensuing, and now in Court were both sworn.

Alconner **At** this Court was then also chosen Thomas Collyns in the office of Aleconner, now sworn in Court.

Nicholas Staples
Surrender **At this** Court came Nicholas Staples, copyhold tenant of this Manor, who at the last Court Leet & Court Baron here held on Tuesday[sic, Thursday] the tenth day of May last past, Did surrender into the hands of the Lords of this Manor, by the hands of their Steward, his copyhold messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, And all his copyhold lands held of this Manor, To and for the use of Richard Hunt, Citizen and Cooper of London, To hold to himself the said Richard Hunt, his heirs and assigns, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, Upon Condition That if the said Nicholas Staples, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, should well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, To and for the use of the said Richard Hunt, his Executors, Administrators, or assigns, the full and

entire sum of Threescore three pounds eleven shillings[= £63 11s], in and upon the Thirteenth day of this present May, at the place therein specified, **Then that** surrender should be void. **And the** said Nicholas and Richard, at this Court, in open Court, agreed that the said surrender should henceforth be void, And that the said Nicholas paying the sum of three pounds eleven shillings, parcel of the said sum, A
{new surrender

[End of N5 [previously TT3] (front). N5 [previously TT3] (back) follows below.]

Roll N5 [previously TT3] (back)

T T 3 v

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Part 2

[Thursday] 1 May 1656 (continued)

new surrender should be of part of the lands and premises, for securing the residue of the money with use for a longer time, whereupon the said Nicholas, now in open Court, did surrender upon agreement aforesaid, and after payment of three pounds eleven shillings into the hands of the Lords of this Manor, by the hands of their Steward, part of the said copyhold premises, Namely : two fields or inclosures of land, containing by estimation four acres, now in the occupation of the said Nicholas, One of which said inclosures lies upon the high way leading from the College to the Common in Dulwich, And the other of the said inclosures adjoins to the same first-mentioned inclosure on the part of the east, To the use of the said Richard Hunt, his heirs and assigns, At the wills[sic] of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, Upon Condition that if the said Nicholas Staples, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, shall pay, or cause to be paid, to the said Richard Hunt[sic], his executors, administrators, or assigns, the sum of threescore & one pound & sixteen shillings [i.e. £61 16s] of lawful English^{money} on the fourteenth day of November now next ensuing, at or in the dwelling house of the said Richard Hunt, situated in Camberwell, in the County

of Surry, that then this present surrender shall be void and of no effect, or else it is to remain in full force and virtue.

John Hathwaye
Admitted

Be it remembered **that** whereas Nicholas Staples is a copyhold tenant of this Manor, to himself & his heirs, amongst other lands and tenements, of one messuage or tenement and an orchard, copyhold, lying next to **[and west of]** the house and orchard of the Master, Warden, Fellows, Brethren, Sisters, and Scholars of the College of God's Gift in Dulwich, now in the tenure or occupation of Bathsheba Seppard**[sic]**, Widow, on the part of the west, and **[north of]** the Common of Dullwich within the said Manor on the part of the north, **which** said messuage and orchard of the said Nicholas lie between **[and west of]** the said messuage and orchard in the occupation of the said Bathsheba Sheppard and **[east of]** the Capital messuage and orchard, copyhold of this Manor, in the possession of the said Nicholas, on the parts of the east and west, **And** also of a parcel of inclosed land, copyhold of this Manor, adjoining to the said messuage and orchard, containing by estimation two acres, more or less, **Now this** fifteenth **[sic]** day of May in the year of our Lord god One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Six, at the Hall of the College of the said Manor, the usual place for the keeping of the Court Leet and Court Baron for the said Manor, came the said Nicholas Staples, and there, in the presence of the Lords of this Manor, **did** surrender into the hands of the said Lords, by the hands of Thomas Edgar, Esquire, Steward there, the said messuage and orchard of the said Nicholas, so diversely abuttalled and distinguished **[i.e. so variously bounded and separated]** as aforesaid, And the said parcel of inclosed copyhold land containing, as aforesaid, by estimation about two acres, with the appurtenances, **To the use** and benefit of John Hathwaye, Citizen and Plumber of London, and of his heirs, at the will of the Lords, according according **[sic]** to the custom of the said Manor **To** which said John Hathwaye the said Lords of this Manor, by

their said Steward, did then and there immediately grant seisin, by the verge[= rod, or wand], of the said messuage, orchard, and two acres of land, by estimation, so surrendered by the said Nicholas, as aforesaid, **To have** and to hold to himself, the said John Hathwaye, and to his heirs and assigns, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, at the rents and services therefor due, and of right accustomed, And gave to the Lords a fine, And was accordingly admitted tenant thereto, saving to everyone his right [= saving the rights of whomsoever may be entitled] &c.

fine £6

Apportionment of Rent **Be it Remembered** that upon the Admittance of the said John Hathwaye, **It** being the said fifteenth[sic] day of May One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Six, **It** was agreed between the said Nicholas Staples and the said John Hathwaye, That the whole copyhold rent of the said Nicholas, for that copyhold which he still holds and for that which he has surrendered as aforesaid, is three shillings and five pence a year, Now hereafter shall be apportionment[sic, apportioned] as follows, namely the said Nicholas to pay thereof two shillings and one penny, and the said John Hathwaye shall pay the residue, being one shilling and four pence.

2s. 1d.

1s. 4d.

presentments

The Jury amerce John Starkey, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 2s 6d ;
The Jury also amerce Thomas Wingfeild, for his default in not appearing at this Court : --- 2s 6d ;
They also amerce John Hall, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 2s 6d ;
They also amerce Thomas Butterfeild, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 1s ;
They also amerce Ambrose Hussie, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 3s - 4d ;
They also amerce Robert Dawlman, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 3s - 4d ;
They also amerce Thomas Godfry, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 2s - 6d ;
They also amerce John Redman, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 2s ;

They also amerce Barnaby Gammon, for his default in not appearing at this Court : ----- 1s.

They likewise amerce Benjamin Pursell, for not scouring his ditch, the same being presented at the last Court, beginning at the east corner of his Eight Acres, to the lower end of his Conney Acre, it being ^{by} estimation twenty rods, or thereabouts ----- 20s.

It is ordered that Benjamin Pursell shall scour his ditch, lying at ^{the} east end of his Eight Acres, to his Conney Acre, under pain for every rod not scoured at Christmas next, of : 12d.

It is also ordered that John Hall shall rail-in the end of the pond, being in the high way next to his house, upon pain for not railing in the same before Christmas next, of : ----- 5s.

Orders

It is also further Ordered that whosoever shall hereafter keep any unringled[sic] hogs going or being upon any part of the waste of this Manor, rooting or turning up the sward of the same waste, & that after three days' notice thereof given by any of the Jurors or tenants belonging to this Manor, or the Bailiff of the said Manor, shall pay for every Hog six pence, over & besides the fees due to the said Bailiff for impounding & driving the said Hogs, which said sum or sums so forfeited as aforesaid shall be paid forthwith to the Churchwardens & Overseers for the time being, for the use of the poor, the same to be given to the poor as they shall think fit.

presentment

* recorded only once, in May 1641.

The Jury likewise present a cottage lately erected by Arthur Rothmeale upon the waste of the said Manor, which said cottage, together with some land lying between the moat & the said cottage, belongs to the Common or waste of the said Manor, from the hedge at the south end of the barn to the orchard at the north end of the house commonly called Hall Place, All which we find to be the Common, Which said cottage has, at several Courts* since it was erected, been presented by the Jurors, & and the Jurors humbly desire the Lords of this Manor, & according to the custom of the said Manor, That the said

Cottage so erected as aforesaid may be taken away.

They also Order Martha Peirce, Widow, to lay a whelm at her field gate commonly called Cokers, for the conveying of water off the Common belonging to this Manor.

They also Order Richard Welles to lay a whelm at his field gate called Cokers, for the conveying of water off the Common belonging to this Manor.

The end of this Court.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Edgards". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "W" and a long, sweeping tail.

[End of Roll N5 [previously TT3].]