



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 N7 [This Roll was previously named U2.]

Roll N7 [previously U2] (front)

Part 1 U2r [Thursday] 28 April 1659 (continued from Roll N6, Part 3)

Admittance of Charles Wytherby

And thereupon the said Charles Wytherby, present in Court, did desire of the Lords of this Manor that, of their grace and favour, he might be admitted to the said copyhold messuage, lands, and tenements, with the appurtenances, to himself and his heirs, absolutely and without condition, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, **Whereupon** the Lords of this Manor, in open Court, by their Steward, did grant seisin, by the wand, of the said copyhold messuage, lands, and premises, with the appurtenances, to the said Charles Wytherby, **To have and to hold** to and for the use of the said Charles Wytherby, his heirs and assigns, at the will of the Lords, according to the custome of the said Manor, by the rents and services therefor due and of right accustomed, and gave to the Lords for a fine, and was admitted tenant thereto accordingly; saving everyone their right &c.

Release of ----- }
Thomas Cursons }

And the said Thomas Cursons, in open Court, did also release all his estate, right & title to the to the said Charles Wytherby, and his heirs, of, in, and out, of the aforesaid messuage, lands, and premises.

And the said Charles Wytherby immediately thereupon, sitting [in] the Court, in open Court, did surrender the said messuage, and the other copyhold lands, tenements, and premises, To which he was so admitted as aforesaid, into the hands of the Lords of this Manor, by the hands of their

Steward, To the use of himself, the said Charles Wytherby, and his now wife Rachell, for their lives and the life of the longer liver of them, and to the heirs of the said Charles, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, And humbly desired the grace and favour of the said Lords for admittance accordingly, **Whereupon** the Lords, by their Steward, did in open Court grant seisin to the said Charles and Rachell, by the wand, of the said messuage, lands and premises so surrendered, **To hold** to the said Charles and Rachell, and for their uses, during their lives and the life of the longer liver of them, and the heirs of the said Charles, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, by the rents and services therefor due, and of right accustomed, and gave to the Lords for a fine, and were admitted tenants thereto accordingly, saving everyone their right &c. [= saving the right of whomsoever might have a claim, etc.]

Admittance of Charles
Wytherby & his
Wife ----- }

Charles Wytherby, copyhold tenant of this Manor of a messuage and copyhold lands & tenements held of this Manor, did surrender the same into the hands of the Lords of the said Manor, by the hands of their Steward, to the use of his last Will and Testament, after the death of his wife, Which said surrender was so made after the preceding surrender, made as aforesaid, to the use of himself and his wife and the heirs of the said Charles as aforesaid.

Charles Wytherby
his surrender to
the use of his Will }

Constable

The Jury present Nicholas Staples to be a Constable for the year next ensuing within the precinct of this Leet, and he was sworn accordingly.

Headboroughs

They also present John Eason and John Bowden to be Headboroughs for this year next ensuing within the precinct of this Leet, and the said John Eason was sworn accordingly, and John Bowden, being absent, is to be sworn before some Justice of the peace.

Aleconner

They also present Edmond Redman to^{be} Aleconner for the year next ensuing within the precinct of this Leet, and he, being absent, is to be sworn before a Justice of the peace.

Part 2

[Thursday] 17 May 1660

Manor of
Dulwich
in Surrey }

The Court leet and view of Frank Pledge, with a Court Baron, there held on Thursday, the Seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty, by Thomas Edgar, Esquire, Steward there.

Excuses

John Rudman and William Budd, essoined by John Bowden ;
Henry Scaldwell and Thomas Oxly, essoined by William Lee ;
George Portman, essoined by Thomas Collines ;
Simon Hewitt, essoined by John Eason.

For the Leet

Benjamin Pursell
Charles Wytherby
Nicholas Staples
John Hathway

sworn

John Starky
Thomas Hamond
Nicholas Bodger
Henry Stonesleet

sworn

Valentine Daniell
Daniel Scrivener
Richard Welles

sworn

John Eason
Thomas Collins
John Oxley

sworn

[sic, Stonestreet]

On the part of } Charles Wytherby } sworn } John Hathwaye } sworn
the homage } Nicholas Stables[sic] }

Thomas Collyns }
Mathew Sheppard } took the Oath of Allegiance, & were sworn as Tithingmen.
Edmond Rudmond[sic] }
John Bowden -----}

The homage present that Robert Dowleman, copyhold tenant of this Manor of several parcels of land containing six acres, held of this Manor by copyhold rent, and heriot at the death of the tenant, namely his best beast &c., since the last Court died seised of the said copyhold to himself and his heirs, having two sons: Richard, the eldest, & Esaiah, the youngest, which said youngest son has been a long while, as the Jury are informed, 'bound sea' [= ?sea-bound]

proclamation That if any lay claim to the lands of Robert Dowleman, &c.

Constable Henry Constable[sic] elected & sworn in the office of a Constable for the year next ensuing.

amercement Robert Budder, being chosen to serve as one of the headboroughs, present in Court & being required (to take the office upon himself) to take his Oath, obstinately refused, and thereupon is fined -----3s 4d *more of this Court*

[End of N7 [previously U2] (front). N7 [previously U2] (back) follows below.]

Roll N7 [previously U2] (back)

U2v

1657
to
1665

Part 2 *[Thursday] 17 May 1660 (continued)*

Hedborough Henry Scaldwell, being elected & chosen for one of the headboroughs for the year ensuing, present in Court, took his Oath.

Aleconner Mathew Sheppard, being chosen as Aleconner to serve for the year ensuing, was sworn in open Court.

[The Court must then have adjourned until 6 June 1660, although this fact goes unremarked.]

Richard
Dawlinges[sic]
Admittance

Esaiah

Whereas at a Court Leet and Court Baron there held on Thursday, the Seventeenth day of May last past, It was presented by the then homage that Robert Dawleman, copyhold tenant of this Manor of several parcels of land, containing by estimation six acres, held of this Manor by copyhold rent, and heriot at the death of the tenant, namely the best beast &c., since the then last Court died seised of the same copyhold land to himself and his heirs, having at his death two sons: Richard, the eldest, & Esaiah, his youngest son, which said youngest son has been a long while, as the said homage were informed, sea-bound, And inasmuch as at this Court of the Seventeenth of May now came to take up the said lands out of the hands of the Lords of the said Manor, the first proclamation was then and there made, concerning the said lands, according to the custom of the said Manor, **Now** this Sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty, came the said Richard, eldest son of the said deceased Robert (his said youngest brother, to

whom by custom of the said Manor the copyhold land does descend in case he be alive, being absent, and it being uncertain whether he be dead or alive) **did** desire of the Master and Warden, both present on behalf of themselves and the other Lords of the said Manor, by their grace and favour, to be admitted to the said copyhold lands, **To whom** the Lords of this Manor, and by the particular assent of those two aforementioned, by their Steward, **did** grant seisin, by the wand, in manner following, namely: of **One** piece or parcel of land containing by estimation two acres, be they more or les, lying upon the lands of the Colledge towards the north, and upon other lands of the said Colledge towards the east, and upon other lands of the said Colledge towards the south and west, **And of One** other piece or parcel of land, containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, amongst certain lands of the said Colledge, **[And of One** other piece or parcel of land, containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, amongst certain lands of the said Colledge,] **And of One** other piece or parcel of land, containing by estimation two acres, be they more or less, lying upon certain lands of the said Colledge towards the east, west, north and south in the several parts thereof, **To have** and to hold to the said Richard, his heirs and assigns, at the will of the Lords, according to the custom of the said Manor, by the rents, heriot and other services therefor due and of right accustomed **And** the said Richard thus having seisin and being admitted, paid to the said Lords for a Fine, And also paid them Three pounds of lawful English money in satisfaction, and in lieu, of a heriot due to the Lords upon the death of the said Robert Dawlinge **[sic]**, in respect of the said lands and tenements, saving to everyone their right &c.

[...] accidental repetition (either that or the holding was 8 acres, not 6).

Fine
Rent
Heriot



Constable

William Lee is elected by the Jurors in the office of Constable for one whole year, & is sworn in open Court for the executing of that office.

Headborough,

Headboroughs

Thomas Butterfeild & John Barrett are likewise elected in the office of [^] & each of them is sworn in open Court for the executing of that office.

William Hearne is likewise elected in the office of Aleconner, & is sworn in open Court &c.

The Jurors present that all's well.

Part 4

[Thursday] 24 April 1662

Manor of Dulwich in
the County of Surrey

—H—
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At the Court view of Frank pledge, there held on Thursday, the Twenty-fourth day of April, in the Fourteenth Year of the reign of lord Charles the Second, now King of England^{&c.}, and in the Year of the Lord 1662 :

Jurors

| Benjamin Pursell
| Charles Wetherby
| John Hathway
| Nicholas Staples

Sworn

| John Starky
| Daniel Scrivener
| Thomas Oxley
| John Oxley

Sworn

| Richard Wells
| Nicholas Bodger
| John Bowden
| John Barrett
| Thomas Collins

The Jury present Robert West in the office of Constable for one whole year - absent & not sworn.

And also Matthew Sheppard & John Hamond in the office of Headboroughs, each sworn in open Court.

And also Richard Eaton, Aleconner, &c., sworn in open Court.

The Jury present these tenants and residents within the aforesaid Manor, in that they made default, in not appearing at this Court, as appears over the heads of each of them:

Michael Webb^{5s} Robert West^{5s} John Cutter^{5s} George Portman^{5s} Richard Dawlman^{5s}

[End of Roll N7 [previously U2].]