



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 1903.

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 N20 [This Roll was previously named Y.]

Roll N20 [previously Y] (front)

Part 1 [Thursday] 24 May 1685

Manor of Dulwich 1685

Y

1685

Court view of frankpledge with Court baron, there held on the twenty-fourth day of May in the first year of the reign of king James the second, by the grace of god King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, &c. and in the Year of the Lord 1685, in the presence of Lancelot Johnson, Esquire, Steward there.

Jurors for the lord King : John Siston, John Starkey, John Bowden, Thomas Cranwell, Thomas Wrench, David Playne[sic, Payne], Robert Budder, Grevill Lewis, John Rosington, John Hamond senior, Edmond Terry, Robert Maxwell, William Marlow, Daniel Wood, John Perry, Edward Stone, Richard Chitty, John Scrivener. John Watkins 3s 4d, Richard Perry 3s 4d, William Hix 3s 4d, [Edward] Harwood 3s 4d, James Ireland 4d, Simon Hewett 6d, Robert Holmes 6d, John Goodman 6d, are residents within the precinct of this aforesaid view of frank pledge, and at this day make default. Therefore each of them is amerced, as appears over their names. Likewise they present that Richard Strange, yeoman, received and entertained certain persons as lodgers for one month before the date of this court. Likewise they present that Nathaniell Nelham yeoman received and entertained certain persons as lodgers for one month before the date of this court. Likewise they present that [blank] Lee, widow, entertained and received certain persons as lodgers, contrary to the form of the Statute Therefore it is ordered that

they shall remove the Lodgers within one month, under penalty of ten shillings for each month .

Also, they elected :

}	Daniel Wood	-	Constable.	
}	Richard Chitty			} Headboroughs.
}	Richard Strange			
}	Thomas Vereor		Aleconner.	

Now follows of the Court Baron

Part 2

[Tuesday] 29 May 1685

Manor of Dulwich 1685.

Court baron there held on the twenty-ninth day of May in the first year of the reign of King James the second, by the grace of god King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, &c. and in the Year of the Lord 1685, in the presence of Lancelot Johnson, Esquire, Steward there.

Homage :

}	Robert Thompson	Esquire
}	Anthony Bennett	
}	Rachel Bennett.	

The Homage present upon their oath that John Hathway of the parish of Saint Saviour's, Southwarke, plumber, one of the customary tenants of this Manor, who held to himself and his heirs, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, one messuage or tenement and a customary orchard, in English '*an Orchard*', lying in Dulwich aforesaid, in the County of Surry, next to the house & orchard of the Master, Warden, Fellows, Brothers, Sisters, and Scholars of the College of Dulwich, now or late in the tenure of Bathsheba Sheppard, widow, on the west part, and the Common of

Dulwich within the aforesaid Manor on the north part, **And** also one close of customary land adjacent to the same messuage and orchard, containing by estimation two acres, be it more or less. On the twenty-second of October last past he surrendered into the hands of the lords of the aforesaid Manor, by the hands of the Steward, according to the custom of the aforesaid Manor, All his customary lands and tenements held of this Manor, **To the benefit** and uses of his last Will in writing, and that on the same day he made his last Will in writing, and by the same devised the aforesaid tenement and lands to his nephew, George Righton, and to his heirs, and afterwards died. **Now**, to this court, came the aforesaid George Righton, and humbly sought to be admitted tenant to the aforesaid premises, to whom the Lords of the aforesaid Manor, by their aforesaid Steward, conceded seisin thereof, by the rod, **To have** and to hold the aforesaid premises to the aforesaid George Righton and to his heirs, by the rents, services, and customs thereof hitherto owed and by law accustomed, and he gave to the lords for a fine as appears on his head, & he was admitted tenant thereof, and he made fealty to the lords.

fine [blank]

Examined by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L.A. Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the steward.

Steward there.

End of N20 [previously Y] (front). N20 [previously Y] (back) is entirely blank.]

[End of Roll N20 [previously Y].]