

**A Translation of that part of
the Pembroke Survey 1567
concerning the
Manor of Estoverton and Fyfield**

**By
Dr. Chris Grocock**

Judicial inquiry held in the same place on Wednesday 23rd April in the ninth year of the reign of Elizabeth queen of England, France and Scotland, Defender of the Faith, etc., in the presence of Charles Vaughan & Robert Grove, gentlemen, aforewritten commissioners to inspect the copies of written indentures and to examine the customary tenants who have sworn title and who have said and made recognition on oath as is set out below, viz.:

Freehold tenants in Fyfield

The Heirs of Christopher Dysmers, gentleman, have the freehold after the death of Jane Dysmers of certain lands and tenements in Fyfield in the aforesaid free soccage, together with 12 shillings a year for pannage, that is their principal messuage and three copses of land with associated properties, of which 44 acres in Northfield, five acres in Southfield, six acres in Roylands, three enclosures containing five acres held in severalty, up to 300 sheep in common rights with their tenants, and also a smithy with one paddock attached; total per year twenty shillings

Sum of the freehold twenty shillings

Customary Tenants in Fyfield

John Bushell holds according to the copy made on the last day of April of the 30th year of Henry VIII against the amount of £4 one messuage and one and a half virgates of land with associated properties of which four enclosures containing two and a half acres are held in severalty, and of arable land 30 acres in Northfield, six acres in Southfield, one acre in Ryland, and common rights for up to 150 sheep and numerous cattle; he is to perform three boon-works at harvest for the lord of Overton and he will heriot his best beast and fifteen pence, and pay rent per year 19s 4d

Matthew Studley and his brother John hold according to the copy made in the fourth and fifth years of Philip and Mary on May 2nd against the amount of £30 one messuage and one and a half virgates of land and certain lands of Bourdland with associated properties, of which one paddock containing one rood is held in severalty, and of arable land twenty-nine acres, one acre in Southfield, two acres in Ryeland, common rights for up to 150 sheep and cattle without limit and he shall perform three boon-works at harvest as before, and they will heriot their best beast and fifteen pence for half a virgate

of land, and rent of 17s

John Bond and Richard his son hold according to the copy made on 14th October in the 34th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 14s 4d a messuage and a virgate of land and a cottage with associated properties, of which 2 enclosures containing one rood are held in severalty, and of arable land 15 acres in Northfield, five acres in Southfield, one acre in Ryelands, common rights land for up to one hundred sheep and cattle without limit, and they will heriot their best animal and pay rent of 12s.

Alice Dymmer, widow, holds so long as she is a widow and with reversion at such time granted to John the Elder and John the Younger, her sons, against the amount of £30, one messuage and two virgates of land and four acres of land of Bourdland with associated properties, of which one acre of meadow lies along the Waylands called Stanley, two paddocks containing one rood and of arable land 34 acres in Northfield, eight acres in Southfield, one acre in Ryelands, common rights for up to two hundred sheep and cattle without limit, and she shall perform three boon-works as harvest-rent of Estoverton, and will heriot her two best animals and pay rent of 18s.

Andrew Dymmer and John Lovelow hold according to the copy made on 17th June in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £33 one messuage, one and a half virgates of land with associated properties, of which one enclosure called Mylhayes containing one rood is held in severalty, and two paddocks are held in common rights, and of arable land 27½ acres in Northfield, seven acres in Southfield, one acre in Ryeland, common rights for up to 150 sheep and cattle without limit, and he shall make no customary payments as rent, he will heriot his best animal and pay fifteen pence, and rent per year 16s.

II, m. xiv verso]

Elizabeth Streche, widow, with reversion granted to Richard and Mary her children on 17th June in the first year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £15 one messuage and one-and-a-half virgates of land called Temple Hays, of her native land a toft (house-site) of one messuage and half a virgate of land called Puthay and a cottage with curtilage containing three roods of land called Paynters Croft, and ten acres of Bourdland with associated properties, of which 32 acres in Northfield, one and -a-half acres in Southfield, four acres in Ryeland, one sheep enclosure adjacent to the house and another enclosure called Templehays containing half an acre, common rights for up to 100 sheep and she shall perform two boon-works at harvest and will heriot 2s 6d and rent 18s.

John Dymmer holds according to the copy made 16th October in the 22nd year of Henry VIII against the value of 20s one messuage and one virgate of land with associated properties, of which there are 17½ acres and one rood in Northfield, five acres in Southfield, two acres in Ryeland and half an acre of meadow in Clyffield, two enclosures containing half an acre of meadow held in severalty, common rights for up to 100 sheep and cattle without limit and

he shall perform three boon-works and will heriot his best animal and rent per year 10s.

**Sum of the customary tenants
in Fyfield per year** £6 6s 4d

Customary tenants in Estoverton

John Benger by right of Joanna his recent wife, daughter of Andrew Pears, holds according to the copy made 19th October in the first and second years of Philip and Mary against the amount of £22 two messuages, one virgate and two half-virgates of land and ten acres of land with associated properties, of which arable lands are 27½ acres in Southfield, 29 acres in Eastfield, 13 acres and one rood in Northfield, one enclosure called Uphouseclose containing half an acre, one enclosure called Overhouseclose containing one rood, two other enclosures containing half an acre, and half an acre of meadow; common rights for up to 200 sheep, eleven draught animals and six pack animals¹ and he shall perform six boon-works at harvest, and heriot his best animal and 2s 6d and rent of 27s 4d

William Godwyn and John son of Philip Godwyn hold according to the copy made 14th April in the 3rd year of Queen Elizabeth against the value of £14 6s 8d one messuage and one virgate of land and two half-virgates of land of which 18½ acres are in Southfield, 14 acres in Eastfield, ten acres and one rood in Northfield, one acre of meadow in two parcels, an enclosure called Cokkes Close containing one rood, an enclosure called The Lane Close containing one rood, pasture for 160 sheep, nine draught animals and 6 pack-animals and they will perform as rent three boon-works, will heriot their best animal and money-rent for the aforesaid two half-virgates of land 2s 6d, and rent 20s

Robert Popejoye holds for his lifetime according to the copy made 20th October in the 28th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the value of 53s 4d, with reversion thence to Thomas and Robert his sons according to the copy made 14th April in the third year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £34, one messuage and one virgate of land and the toft of one messuage and half a virgate of land, and a messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties of which 12½ acres are in Southfield, 5 acres in Baresfield, 18 acres in Eastfield, 19 acres in Northfield, an enclosure called Deansclose containing three acres, an enclosure called Willsclose containing one rood, half an acre in Broodemead, common rights for up to 160 sheep, 9 draught animals and 6 pack-animals, and he will only one boon-work, because his greatest custom-rest is at harvest, will heriot his best animal and 2s 6d in money, and rent of 16s

¹ *affrus* and *auerius* are different ways of spelling the same word, which could mean pack- or draught-animal! I have consistently translated them as draught - and pack, keeping to the formulaic style of the Latin texts.

William Stretche holds according to the copy made 24th September in the 38th year of King Henry VIII against the amount of 60s with reversion then to Thomas the elder and Thomas the younger his sons by another copy made 3rd April in the 7th year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £30 one messuage one virgate of land and a messuage and half a virgate of land, a cottage with adjacent curtilage containing half an acre called Lyllebones and nine acres of Bourdland lying next to² Eastfield of Overton with its associated properties, of which of arable land 17½ acres are in Southfield, 23 acres in Eastfield, 9 acres and 1 rood in Northfield, one acre of meadow in Broadmead, one enclosure called Lyllebones containing half an acre and another enclosure containing three roods, common rights for up to 120 sheep, seven draught-animals and five pack-animals and will perform 3 boon-works and will heriot his best animal and 15d, and rent of 18s 4d

note: more under the title 'Churchetts'

Thomas Stretche the Elder and Thomas the Younger hold according to the copy made 19th October in the first and second year of Philip and Mary against the amount of £6 13s 4d a messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties of which there are 4 acres in Southfield, two acres in Eastfield, four acres in Northfield, one enclosure containing one rood, common rights for up to 40 sheep, 3 draught- and 2 pack-animals, and they shall perform one boon-work and will heriot 15d and rent of 5s

Thomas Webbe and Katherine his daughter hold according to the copy made 21st March in the second year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £20 one messuage and one and a half virgates of land with associated properties, of which 12 acres are in Southfield, 18½ acres in Eastfield, 8 acres in Northfield, 2½ acres in Broodmead, two plots containing one rood, one 'pleck' of meadow lying in Horsemead containing half an acre, one enclosure held in severalty called Laneclose containing one rood, another enclosure containing half an acre and an enclosure adjacent to the Tenement containing one rood, common rights for up to 120 sheep, seven draught animals and five pack animals and he will heriot his best animal and 15d in money, and rent of 18s

Edith wife of Andrew Flynte holds according to the record made 24th September in the 38th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 6s 8d, with reversion then granted to Andrew Flynte and Thomas Newman on the 30th March in the fifth year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of 100s, one messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties of which 2 acres are in Southfield, 4 acres in Eastfield, 6½ acres in Northfield, common rights for up to 40 sheep, 3 draught animals, 2 pack animals, and he shall perform one boon-work and a heriot of 15d and rent 5s

Alice wife of Bartholomew Malome holds according to the copy made on the last day of April in the thirtieth year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the

² *in lez* - actually Old French, not Latin - can mean 'beside' or 'along' according to context

amount of 40s and reversion thence granted to John and Roger sons of the said Bartholomew on 30th March in the fifth year of our Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £43 6s 8d, one messuage, one virgate of land and the toft of one messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties, of arable land 15 acres in Eastfield, 12½ acres in Southfield, 8 acres in Northfield and 3 roods of meadow held in common and 1 plot in the Broodemead, one enclosure held in severalty adjacent to the house containing 3 roods, common rights for up to 120 sheep, 8 draught animals and 5 pack animals, and she shall perform 3 boon-works for rent and heriot her best animal and 15d in money, and rent of 15s

ll, m. xv]

William Stephens and Thomas his son hold according to the copy made 5th November in the third year of the reign of King Edward VI against the amount of £6 13s 4d one messuage and two virgates of land with associated properties, of which 17 acres are in Southfield, 17½ acres in Eastfield. 7 acres in Northfield and in severalty half an acre and 3½ acres of meadow, common rights for up to 160 sheep, 9 draught animals, 6 pack animals, and they shall perform 3 boon-works at harvest and will heriot their two best animals and rent 12s, 3 bushels wheat

William Smith holds according to the copy made 21st April in the 27th year of the reign of King Henry VIII with reversion then to Richard Smith according to the copy made 14th April in the third year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £10 one messuage and half a virgate of land and the toft of one messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties of which 4 acres are in Southfield, 18 acres and 1 rood in Eastfield, in severalty in the eastern part of the said farm one rood and one rood of meadow lying in Lockridge, and in the commons 3½ acres, half an acre in Broodemead, common rights for up to 80 sheep, 5 draught-animals and 4 pack-animals and he shall perform one boon-work at harvest and will heriot 2s 6d and rent of 10s

Thomas Andrews and John his son hold according to the copy made 17th June in the first year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of 53s 4d one cottage with associated properties of which 3½ acres are in Southfield, 3½ acres in Northfield, common rights for one draught-animal and will pay rent of 4s 6d

William Bromesdon and Thomas his son hold according to the copy made 25th March in the second and third years of Philip and Mary against the amount of 41s one cottage with associated properties with no rights, and pay rent of 2s

William Smith and Thomas his brother hold according to the copy made 21st March in the fifth year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of 20s one messuage, one and a half virgates of land with associated properties called Lilornes, of which 17½ acres are in Southfield, 11 acres 3 roods in Eastfield, 7 acres in Northfield, and one acre of meadow lying at Sheldford, one acre of

meadow in Broodemead, an enclosure called Lylbornes containing one rood and in severalty one rood, common rights for up to 120 sheep 7 draught and 4 pack animals, and will perform 3 boon-works at harvest, and will heriot their best animal and for the aforesaid half virgate of land 15d in money, and rent of 18s 6d

Thomas Gooderde and Walter his brother hold according to the copy made 5th April in the 36th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 6s 8d one messuage and one cottage called Mawdyes with associated properties, of which 5 acres in Eastfield, 7 acres and half an acre held in severalty in Northfield, common rights of up to 3 draught animals, 2 pack animals and 40 sheep, and rent of 8s

The same Thomas and Walter hold according to the copy made the same day and year one cottage with associated properties of which there are 2 curtilages, 3 roods held in severalty, and in the northern part 2 acres of arable, common rights for 2 draught animals, and rent of 3s

**Total of customary tenants
in East Overton per year** £8 18s 8d

Conventional tenants in East Overton

Richard Kingsmill, squire, holds according to the indenture made 14th February in the sixth year of the reign of King Edward VI the whole site of the manor of Estoverton in the County of Wilts, and all structures and houses now standing and existing in and upon the said site, together with all demesne lands, meadows, grazing-lands, pastures and common pastures, hay meadows, roads and ditches belonging to the manor of standing on or appertaining to the lands of the said manor with each and every item belonging to them, late in the tenure and occupation of **Thomas Wroughton**, gentleman, and all the dues of all the customary tenants not let beforehand **And also** the benefice of Rector of the aforesaid Estoverton with all its glebe lands, fruits, oblations, emoluments and benefits belonging to or appertaining to that rectorship in as great a state and form as Thomas Godard previously held and occupied on the same condition, **Save that** the right of patronage and of advowson of the vicar of the aforementioned Estoverton be in all ways reserved to the Lord, his heirs and assignees, likewise the appointment to that position as often as it shall fall vacant during the present time. **And** the Lord grants, allows and hands over without let by these present three acres of meadow which lie and exist in Pateney in the County of Wiltes in the aforementioned meadow there called Broodemead and four acres of meadow in the aforesaid Pateney, in a certain meadow there called Westmead, the aforementioned site of the Manor of Estoverton and the aforementioned demesne lands and the rectory, glebe lands and other premises with each and every property appertaining to them **to be held and kept** by Alice his wife, late wife of Thomas Wroughton, deceased, from the last feast of St Michael the Archangel before the date of the said indenture until the completion and fulfilment of seventy years, if the same Alice and the eldest

son legitimately born to the said Thomas Wroughton and the said Alice or another of them shall live this long, **At a rent** thenceforth every year to be paid to the Lord and his heirs for as long as the agreement is in force of £33 14s 11d, in good legal English tender, payable twice in the year, that is at the feast of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary and St Michael the Archangel equally; **and the Lord** grants through the aforesaid indenture that the said Alice and her assignees shall have for the duration of their lives a sufficiency of timber for building, for hedging, for fire, and for ploughs in the wood belonging to the Lord and also in the view and free gift of the officers and heirs of the Lord or his assignees, 25s 8d shall be granted annually in money on their behalf for the election. . . of them for as long as the agreement shall be in force with divers other clauses, conventions, conditions and articles set out in the said indenture as may be clearly seen verbatim in the Register. **And are apportioned to them** of arable land viz. in the Forehill fourscore and 18 acres and in Whithill 30 acres, and of sheep-pasture viz. in Lyphams 120 acres, one pasture called Dyllinge 31 acres, an enclosure called Roddons close containing 25 acres, an enclosure called Pickedeane, 12 acres, a meadow called Northmead, 5 acres, a pasture called . . . with its tenants and in Broodemead 5 acres, and in Pittneymead seven acres, in the fields of Fyfield 108 acres and a meadow calledmead containing 3 acres croft on the above 600 ewes and 800 wethers, and also belong to the aforesaid rectory all tithes of corn of Estoverton and Westoverton Shaw and Fyfield ... demesne land of Westoverton and has the sure name of . . . and not . . . £33 14s 11d

[Note in margin] see below, under Roddon Cowdown, which is truly good pasture. Note that the measure here is 18 feet to the perch. Wiseman

II, m. xv verso]

The same Richard Kingsmill, squire, holds by the indenture made 12th August in the 31st year of the reign of King Henry VIII a messuage and a virgate of land once belonging to Ralph Smith, and the toft of a messuage and a virgate of land called 'by Dean' (or 'by the Dean') and a messuage and a virgate of land called Hillhouse, with all associated properties, in such full form and manner as Robert Stevens lately held it or any other held it or occupied it before, **save that the following** are reserved for the Lord and his heirs: waivery³, the taking of animals from stock, the goods and chattels of felonious persons and other benefits and suits pertaining to the decision of courts regarding franc-pledge, viz. in money, pannage and fixed rents, **to have and to hold** from the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next after the date of this indenture until the end and completion of 65 years next following from this, **at a rent** then payable annually to the Lord and to his heirs in two instalments per year, viz. at the feast of Easter and St Michael the Archangel equally, the rent also to be rendered and paid up on the death or departure of any tenant which may happen during the stated time of 26s 8d in fixed rents and 20s as heriot, with various other clauses, conventions, conditions, and

³ presumably, the right to seize abandoned property

articles in the said indenture as may be clearly seen verbatim in the Register.

And are apportioned to them three virgates of land, or arable land 13 acres in Southfield, 33 acres in Eastfield, 3 acres in Northfield, 11½ acres in Conyesfield, an acre of meadow in Wayland, 3 roods in Horsemead, an enclosure held in severalty called Deans Close containing 2 acres, an enclosure called Westclose containing one acre, an enclosure called Houseclose containing one acre, an enclosure called Hillclose containing half an acre, common rights for up to 240 sheep, 12 draught animals and a bull, and 6 pack-animals⁴, and a rent per year 20s

**Total of conventional tenants
in Estoverton per year** £34 14s 11d

Fixed rents

The tenants of Estoverton pay an annual rent by common agreement, viz. at Easter 4s, and at Michaelmas 4s, for collection of the tithe 8s

The tenants of Fyfield similarly pay an annual rent by common agreement, at Easter 2s and at Michaelmas 2s, for collection of the tithe there 4s

Pannage and tallage

The tenants of Estoverton pay an annual rent for pannage and tallage at Michaelmas only, 4s

The tenants of Fyfield pay an annual rent for the same pannage and tallage at the said feast of Michaelmas 3s

⁴ see note above on terminology for these

Payment of church-scot

William Streche pays an annual rent for his church-scot, viz. 3 bushels of corn at a general price of 22d, and a cock and a hen, whose price is 2d each
2s 2d

William Stephens pays an annual rent for his church-scot of 3 bushels of wheat which has such value as it can fetch in the market in any year
3 bushels wheat of value 3s

Total of the fixed rents

Pannage, tallage and church-scot 21s 2d and 3 bushels of wheat

Total annual value of the aforesaid Manor

£52 13d 3 bushels of wheat

	{freeholders	20s
	{customary tenants	£15 5s
of which	{fixed lands	£34 14s 11d
	{church-scot and other dues	21s
2d	{and 3 bushels of wheat	3s

Payment annually to the vicar for his pension as of old
38s 9d

Settlement as annual fixed sum for his expenses⁵ 6s 8d and for fuel 20s as is shown in his indenture, annually
26s 8d

After which there clearly remains £48 15s 8d and 3 bushels of wheat

II, m. xvi]

Estoverton

Thomas Apjean alias Johnson, clerk, aged 70 years, present vicar of the benefice of Overton holds his benefice by the patronage of the Lord, and is worth per year £18 in a year of full value⁶, and the following belong to the aforesaid benefice: 3 virgates of land, of which ten acres lie in Southfield, 13½ acres in Eastfield, 17 acres and a plot in Northfield, and other lands in the fields of Fyfield, viz. 15 acres in Northfield, and 3 acres in Ryelands, and he shall have grazing with fixed rents for 100 sheep at Hackpen, and common

⁵ lit his livery - church vestments etc.

⁶ lit translation - *annui clari ualoris* may have a technical sense I haven't been able to find

rights for up to 12 draught animals, one bull and 2 pack animals with the cattle of the tenants in Estoverton, and shall receive every year as a pension from the Lord from the revenues of his Rectory 38s 9d, and shall have no tithes from the fixed revenues of the Lord for wool, hay, lambs or any other thing, and shall pay rent to the Lord every year
nothing

There is also relative to the tithes of Estoverton in the northern part a common hill called Hackpen Down, which hill is reckoned at a fixed rent, the tenants holding it for their draught animals from the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary until the feast of the Apostle Thomas, and then shall remain for the farmer until the next feast of the Annunciation; however the farmer shall make use of it at the Martinmas with 106 sheep and it contains, at an estimate, four score acres

There is there another hill called Rodden Cowdown which the fixed-rent renter and the tenants hold from Hockday⁷ to Michaelmas with their draught animals, and on the said Michaelmas day it shall revert to the fixed rent renter; additionally, as soon as the wheat of one part in the northern field is removed at harvest, the said tenants will enter it with their cattle and draught animals, and will graze down both meadow and stubble until the feast of St Denis. They will then transfer them to Hackpen Hill and the field will revert to the fixed renter; and the said hill of Rodden contains, at an estimate, 60 acres.

There is also there a common pasture called Priors Ball, Full Ridge and Hurseley, which is available to the tenants all year round and contains at an estimate 100 acres

And a hill called Brode Down containing at an estimate 34 acres, and a hill called Little Down containing at an estimate 8 acres, which pertains to the tenants for their sheep and contains in total 42 acres

And a small area of land called Stonydean containing 2 acres and a small area of land containing two acres called Horsemead and the whole drove-road leading to Westclose pertain to the tenants and contain at an estimate 3 acres

And it should be noted what the said tenants shall share common pasture in the western part of Baresfield and from Old Berye as far as Stony Dean and in Connyfield.

And the said tenants shall present that which is listed under 'Estoverton', and use two common springs called Common Wells which are for the use of the inhabitants.

And there is situate in Estoverton a coppice called Little Wood, planted with

⁷ 2nd or 3rd Tuesday after Easter

small oaks and hazel, aged 12 years, and it contains at an estimate 16
acres

And a coppice called Wolles Grove, similarly planted with small oaks and hazel, aged 6 years, and it contains at an estimate 40
acres

And it should be known that it is the custom that any tenant who does boon-work at harvest as part of his fixed dues should provide his own breakfast, and afterwards shall have drink at the farmer's expense, a penny loaf, and as much food as can be bought for a penny.

Fyfield

There is also a Sheepdown on Hackpen called North Down, beginning at Monkton's Down beside⁸ the peak of Balmere, proceeding to Lollingthorne, thence to Rudge Bank, and then descending to Bury Way via Mapple Dyrley, and from there as far as Stanchslede by established paths between Clatford and Fyfield. It contains at an estimate
130 acres

The bounds in the North-East part of the said hill begin at Balmere Pyke, then to Balmers Pond at Temple Hookes, and then along the ditch at Clatfords Down, then beside the corner of Roddon Cowslease, then through (or by) Roddon Coppice gate (?) and hedge by Cattborough, by Roddon Somerdown to Stachslade, by established paths between Clatford and Fyfield.

Afterwards we enter the north field from the said hill, and thus between Fyfield and Clatford by established tracks to London Way opposite Myles Close, and Master Kingsmill, now farmer of Overton, has 108 acres there and the vicar has 15 acres, for mowing only, and the said field contains at an estimate
364 acres

The bounds to the south-eastern part of the said hill and its fields, viz. Rowdon, Dyllinge, Lockridge Down, and thus by the Corner of Cleve End to a piece of land belonging to Estoverton farm, the pasturage of which is a parcel of land of the northern field of the tenants, and then are well known between Lockridge and Fyfield along London Way, and so to the croft of Jane Dysmers, gentlewoman and freehold tenant.

There is also a meadow called Berrymead, from which the first cut⁹ belongs to the farm of Estoverton, and reverts to the tenants after the feast of St Peter in Chains, and it contains
3½ acres

⁸ or 'along'

⁹ first cut of hay, presumably

II, m. xvi verso]

There is also a hill called Atlee's Down, containing at an estimate fourscore acres, and an area called Sheeproode containing at an estimate 14 acres. Between this area and the said hill is an enclosure called Atlee's close, belonging to the farm of Estoverton, containing one acre, surrounded by a hedge. The said hill called Atlee's Down is available to the tenants in common from the Feast of the Annunciation of Mary until Martinmas, and after the said feast of Martinmas it reverts to the farm of Estoverton, for its sheep until the next Feast of the Annunciation. However the tenants say they may graze their cattle there if they wish. Another hill called Freedown containing 6 acres, which is in the same place, belongs to the tenants all year, as does the aforementioned Sheeproode. This gives a total of
100 acres

The bounds and meres¹⁰ between Clatford and Fyfield, that is in the eastern part from Nayle gate at Clatford by Ryell Hedge, and from the corner of Ryell to a stone under the hedge, descending to beside the bottom where there is another stone, by a bank and then by the yew-tree¹¹ pastures along the side of the hill as far as the ditch below Clatford Wood, and from there as far as Sadell Stone between Fyfield Wood and Clatford.

The bounds and meres between Fyfield and Lockridge, that is from Rayland hedge by an enclosure called Goores, presently held by Henry Rainger, Lockridge Breach and Housestead, belonging to the tithe of Lockridge in the western part

The Drove-Roads between Clatford Wood and Fyfield Wood for the cattle of the tenants run from Saddlestone as far as Haywards Thorn at Oxehams Ley and then beyond Wansdyke beside Heath; their routes from there are not known

The Drove-Roads for the tenants of Fyfield for their sheep in the western part of Fyfield Wood runs from Sheeproode by Atleys Close, mentioned above, as far as the side of Great Sherd Wood of Fyfield at the back of Atley, and then over Holowey by Priest's Green as far as the well-known Mere Oak between Fyfield and Fortesbury, Bariscourt, Groves and Hardings once called Bengers, and then from the aforesaid Mere Oak over Hendley up to the Wansdyke, and so on to beside the said Heath.

Note that there is there a small grove containing one acre called Priest's Grove which belongs to the vicar of Overton

It should be noted that there is there a well-known wood called Fyfield

¹⁰ another word for boundary, limit - 13th c. onwards

¹¹ lease - Latham, Revised Medieval Latin Word-List, refers to lesura (as in 'The Leazes')

Wood, well planted with coppice planting¹² and oak saplings; much of the coppice planting is hazel, willow and maple, now four years old, and it contains 40 acres

And a coppice called Atlee's Copse, moderately planted with coppice planting and oak saplings. two years old, containing at an estimate 8 acres

Moreover it should be known that the Lord retains his franchise and free warren over both the Manor and over the woodland there, and the sign of his frankpledge and freedom as is shown and recorded in Patney. And also such and similar custom on this subject may be seen there, etc.

¹² Or 'underplanting'

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Westoverton

A judicial inquiry held in the same place on Tuesday 22nd April in the ninth year of the reign of Elizabeth queen of England, France and Scotland, Defender of the Faith, etc., in the presence of Charles Vaughan & Robert Grove, gentlemen, aforewritten commissioners, etc.

Freehold tenants

William Skyllinge, squire, holds in free tenure a messuage and half a virgate of land called Woodlands containing at an estimate 13 acres of arable land and a rood of meadow on which he claims common rights for 2 draught-animals, 2 pack-animals and 40 sheep, and the Lord shall have the guardianship, marriage-portion, heriot and succession duty when they occur, as is clearly shown in the old Customary made in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward son of Edward, and a rent of 3s

John Trewe, gentleman, claims in freehold a messuage and two virgates of land containing at an estimate 42 acres of arable land and an acre of meadow next to the common meadow, and an enclosure containing one and a half roods for which he claims common rights for 2 draught animals, 2 pack-animals, and 140 sheep, and the said draught and pack animals are in any place except Southmede. And he owes a suit of court and guardianship, marriage-portion, heriot and succession duty when they shall occur. **He also hold** the freehold of a water-mill, an acre of land and a pleck of meadow, for a rent of 13s 4d, which may be terminated at the usual limits for all his services, and he thus pays rent in total of 32s 2d (?payable in four instalments?)

The heirs of Thomas Smythe, gentleman, hold the freehold of half a virgate of land with associated properties called Quynntons lands, and 2 acres in severalty called Woodhayes, once property of Robert of Berwyke and before him Henry Attwood; he¹³ must watch over the Lord's wood and makes common suit for the Lord's court as regards rights over its brushwood¹⁴ in the said wood and shall have free common rights in the said wood, and shall pay rent of

1 lb. cumin

Total of freehold

per year

35s 2d paid quarterly, and 1lb cumin

¹³ should really be 'they' but Latin has singular

¹⁴ this may sound odd, but see Latham Revised ML Word-List!

Customary tenants

Richard Frankeleyn holds, according to the indenture made under the Lord's seal on 15th November in the sixth year of our Queen Elizabeth, against the amount of £120, the entire capital messuage and the site of the Manor of Westoverton in the County of Wiltes, all the crops and buildings within and upon the said site of the said Manor, and all animal meadows, pastures, common lands and sheep pastures with each and every item belonging to them or affecting that capital messuage or pertaining to it in any way, situate and present in the fields and parish of Overton, in the said County of Wiltes, which for some time previous were occupied, let or transmitted with the said capital messuage and the site of the said Manor of the aforementioned Westoverton, and received, valued, taken, known or occupied, or any part or parcel of them; **Save that** all guardianships, marriage-portions, heriots, reliefs, dues, fishing rights, fowling rights, wood and underwood, guardianship rights, court-rights, leets, perquisites and profits of court and leet judgements, free view and everything pertaining to the right of free view¹⁵, goods and chattels of criminals, fugitives, seizure of abandoned property, stray animals, royal prerogatives and freedoms belonging to the said Manor of Westoverton shall be reserved by the said present deed and referred to in the indenture for the Lord, his heirs and assignees. **Ownership and Tenure** of the said capital messuage and each and every item previously leased with all pertaining to them (apart from exceptions noted) shall belong to the same Richard Frankleyn, to his executors and assignees, from the feast of Michaelmas last passed before the making of the said Indenture until the completion and termination of 21 years following next and being fully complete from this date, **with a rent** every year to the Lord and to his heirs of £11 15s in good legal English money equally twice a year, viz. at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and at Michaelmas, with various other articles, clauses, conventions and conditions as can be seen clearly set out in the said Indenture placed in the Register; and there belong to it, as is reliably said, at an estimate 168 acres of arable land lying in various furlongs, and 7 acres of meadow and 2 acres held in severalty lying next to the house of the aforementioned site, which may stock 600 sheep, 20 draught-animals and 10 pack-animals, etc., with a rent of £11 15s

Robert Hall holds according the Indenture made under the Lord's seal on 13th November of the sixth year of Queen Elizabeth, against the amount of £26 13s 4d all that portion of tithes recently held by the late Christopher Dysmers, gentleman, to be taken and used within the Manor of Westoverton in the County of Wiltes. **Ownership and tenure** of the share of the said tithes shall belong to the same Robert Hall, to his executors and assignees, from the day of the making of the said Indenture until the completion and termination of 21 years [m/ xxxiiii verso] immediately following and fully completed, **at a rent** from then paid annually to the Lord and to his heirs of £4 at the feast of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary and Michaelmas equally,

¹⁵ presumably rights of access, or valuation?

with various other clauses and conventions set out in the said Indenture as is shown clearly in it in the Register.

There also belong to the said share all the tithes of wheat, hay, sheep's wool and other tithes of any kind paid as dues in Westoverton during the recent occupation of Richard Frankeleyne there, etc.,

Total of conventional tenants per year £15 15s

Customary Tenants

John Browne holds according to the copy made on the last day of May in the 36th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 100s one messuage, one and a half virgates of land with associated properties of which one acre is held in severalty, half an acre of meadow, and of arable land 11 acres and 3 roods in the western field in the part south of the stream¹⁶ and 17½ acres in the southern field towards the woods, common rights for up to 6 draught-animals and 2 nags¹⁷, 6 pack-animals and 120 sheep and he will heriot his 2 best animals, and pay rent per year of 13s

Thomas Lewes holds after the death of Joanna his mother according to the copy made on the last day of May in the nth year¹⁸ of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 46s 8d one messuage and one half-virgate of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, one rood of meadow, and of arable land 4 acres in the northern part and 2 acres and one rood in the part of the western field south of the stream¹⁹, and 5 acres and 1 rood in the southern field towards the woods, common rights for up to 3 draught-animals and 1 nag, 2 pack-animals and 40 sheep and he will heriot his best animal, and pay rent per year of 7s

John Pyle and Thomasina his sister hold according to the copy made on the 19th October in the first and second years of King Philip and Queen Mary against the amount of £8 one messuage and one virgate of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, and two plecks of meadow containing half an acre, and of arable land 6 acres and 1 rood in the northern part, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 4 acres²⁰ and 12 acres in the southern part towards the woods, common rights for up

¹⁶ you know the topography of the place and will be better placed to identify this. At first I wondered if *aque* might mean 'a good 40 acres' etc. (from Latin *aeque*), but later usage - and it is fairly consistent - seems to make it refer to a feature of the locality.

I've therefore assumed *aque* = *aquae*, 'a stream' or water of some kind.

¹⁷ *Rouncinus* is from OFr *roncin* and means a hack, pack-horse, work-horse etc. of no particular quality.

¹⁸ no number mentioned!

¹⁹ or 'a good, fair reckoning'? I think this is a likely rendering

²⁰ see above

to 4 draught-animals and 1 nag, 4 pack-animals and 80 sheep and they will heriot their best animal, and pay rent per year of 8s

Margery Myles, widow, holds so long as she is a widow, with **reversion** then to Anne, daughter of John Myles and Richard Cheyne, made on the 26th March in the fifth years of our Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £16 one messuage with curtilage and one virgate of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, and half an acre of meadow, and of arable land a good 6½ acres in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 4 acres, and 7 acres in the southern field towards the woods, common rights for up to 4 draught-animals and 1 nag, 4 pack-animals and 40 sheep and she will heriot her best animal, and pay rent per year of 13s 4d

Augustinus Lyles holds according to the copy made on the last day of May in the 36th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 40s one messuage and half a virgate of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, and one rood of meadow, of arable land 5 acres in the part north of the stream²¹, and in the western field in southern part south of the stream 1½ acres²², 6½ acres in the southern part towards the woods, common rights for 2 draught-animals and 1 nag, 2 pack-animals and 40 sheep and he will heriot his best animal, and pay rent per year of 6s 6d

Henry Scorye holds according to the copy made on the 4th December in the 36th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of £11 one messuage and one and a half virgates of land with associated properties of which 2 enclosures containing one acre are held in severalty, and three plecks of meadow containing at an estimate one acre, and of arable land 9 acres in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 6 acres and 1 rood²³, 16 acres and 3 roods in the southern field towards the woods, common rights for 6 draught-animals and 2 nags, 6 pack-animals and 120 sheep and he will heriot his two best animals, and pay rent per year of 16s

Edward Dykman and Thomas his son claim according to the copy made on 21st April in the 33rd year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of 20s one messuage and one cottage with associated properties, 2 acres of land and common rights for 1 cow, and pay rent per year of 4s 4d

Andrea Mersheman holds according to the copy made on the 26th May in the first year of Edward VIth against the amount of 100s one messuage and one-and-a-half virgates of land with associated properties of which two enclosures containing at an estimate one acre are held in severalty, and two

²¹ see above

²² see above

²³ see above

plecks of meadow containing at an estimate half an acre, of arable land 12 acres in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 3 acres and a rood²⁴, 16 acres in the southern part towards the woods, common rights for 6 draught-animals and 2 nags, 6 pack-animals and 120 sheep, and he will heriot his best animal, and pay rent per year of 14s

John Masham Senior and John Junior, his brother, hold according to the copy made on the 21st March in the second year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £12 one messuage and one virgate of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, and half an acre of meadow, of arable land 8 acres and 1 rood in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 2 acres²⁵, 11½ acres in the southern field towards the woods, common rights for 4 draught-animals and 1 nag, 4 pack-animals and 4 score sheep and he will heriot his best animal, and pay rent per year of 8s

John Browne Junior holds according to the copy made on the 26th May in the first year of the reign of King Edward VI against the amount of £13 6s 8d one messuage and two virgates of land with associated properties of which one rood is held in severalty, and one and a half acres of meadow, of arable land 13 acres 3 roods in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 6 acres and 3 roods²⁶, 25 acres in the southern part towards the woods, common rights for 8 draught-animals and 2 nag, 8 pack-animals and 160 sheep and he will heriot his best two animals, and pay rent per year of 16s

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Robert Kingsman and Matthew his brother hold according to the copy made on the Friday in the vigil of All Saints in the third year of Queen Elizabeth against the amount of £32 13s 4d one messuage one cottage and two virgates of land with associated properties of which half an acre is held in severalty, and one acre of meadow, of arable land 13 acres 1 rood in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in the part south of the stream 6½ acres, 22 acres and 1 rood in the southern part towards the woods, common rights for 8 draught-animals and 2 nags, 8 pack-animals and 160 sheep, plus one draught-animal for the cottage, and they will heriot his best two animals at the appropriate time, and pay rent per year of 20s 10d

Edmund Wylmett holds according to the copy made on the 14th October in the 30th year of the reign of King Henry VIII against the amount of £8 one messuage and one and a half virgates of land and 15 acres of Bourdland in

²⁴ see above

²⁵ see above

²⁶ see above

Eastownefeld, with associated properties, of which half an acre is held in severalty, and one acre of meadow, of arable land 10 acres in the part north of the stream, and in the western field in part south of the stream 7 acres, 11 acres in the southern part towards the woods, plus 15 acres of Bourdeland in Estoverton, common rights for 6 draught-animals and 2 nags, 6 pack-animals and 120 sheep and he will heriot his best two animals, and pay rent per year of 18s 6d

These tenants will pay a fixed sum annually for the pannage of their pigs in the Lord's wood, to be collected among themselves as they were accustomed to of old 2s

Total for Customary tenants per year £7 7s 6d

**Total revenue for the said Manor
for the whole year** £24 17s 8d ob. qdr.

Of which	Freeholders	35s 2d ob. qdr.
	Customary Tenants	£7 7s 6d
	Renting farmers	£15 15s

It should be noted that there is there a hill lying in the northern part of the stream called Westoverton Cowdown, abutting on Kennett on one side, and the meadow and field of Overeton and next to Hackpen Down on the other side, containing at an estimate 100 acres, of which half is allocated as follows: that part which is called Goores lies fallow from the feast of the Annunciation of Mary until the feast of Pentecost; the part between the road which leads to Deviez as far as London Way lies fallow between the feasts of Easter and Pentecost, while the other part of the said hill lies fallow from Hockday until the said feast of Pentecost, and at the said feast the Lord's farmer and his tenants shall enter it with their plough-animals and will have common rights on it until Martinmas, and it shall then be reserved for the farmer for his sheep until the feast of the Annunciation of Mary. The remainder, that is the other half of the said hill, shall be allocated every other year exclusively to the farmer for his sheep, its bounds and boundaries being well known, and in the other alternate years it is allocated to the farmer and to the tenants for their draught-animals and cattle. It contains at an estimate 100 acres

There is also a hill called and known by the name of Allyns Down, lying in the southern part of the town next to the Lord's wood called Alyns Coppice. This lies fallow during alternate years from the feast of the Annunciation of Mary until the feast of Pentecost, and the farmer and tenants will then enter it with their draught animals and cattle, and will common rights over it until Martinmas; for the remainder of the year it shall revert to the farmer for his sheep, that is, until the feast of St Thomas the Apostle, and afterwards to the tenants until the feast of the Annunciation, while in the other years the farmer shall enter it on the feast of the Annunciation of Mary and shall have use of it from then until the feast of St Denis, and on the said feast the farmer shall enter the stubble fields and other available fields, while the Tenants will

occupy the said hill until the feast of the Annunciation of Mary with their sheep, alternating each year. It contains at an estimate 40 acres.

The tenants and farmers have common rights and grazing rights of the woods and pasture called The Comen Woods, which contain at an estimate 30 acres

It should also be known that the Lord owns a common-land called the Heath or Abbes Wood which lies beside Savernake Forest where the Lord's tenants of Westoverton, North Newton and Hulcoote shall have common rights. It stretches from Brodeleete and then to Reddsherd, thence as far as fayreponde, and thence as far as Meere Oak, and from Mere Oak as far as the coppice called Weekeham Hasset, thence to Huyshepoint and from there back as far as Rowbarrow, and thus again to Brodeleete; it is a mile and a quarter round, and contains at an estimate 64 (acres)

There is within the said Manor a coppice called **Wykeham Hasset** containing at an estimate 4 **acres** and a coppice called **Allans** containing at an estimate **27 acres** and another coppice called **Chechangers** containing at an estimate 25 **acres**; the Rector or Vicar shall have no tithes from these, and the aforementioned coppices or other underwoods within the said Manor are Purlew, and the Lord and his servants may hunt there without interruption from the tenants of Savernake Forest or any servants of the said forest. These contain in total at an estimate 56 acres

m. xxxv verso] **It should be noted that** the tenants of this Manor hold their lands and customary tenancies by the same and similar customs which are set out, recited and recorded in the book of the Lord's Manor of Chalke, where they may be found.

It should further be noted that the said bounds begin at Hachetts gate, thence along the valley Bottom as far as Trippingstone, from there as far as Foxbury and from Foxbury to Buckpitt, and so to the ash standing at Clarksbye; from there they descend along the valley bottom at Hurseley as far as the stone called Pannestone, then to another standing stone, a carved stone at Poked Stone, as far as Wansdykeherd and then descend to Sertridge bottom, thence to a ditch dividing Overton and Shawe; thence they rise up to Graveley, and along Graveley Way as far as an oak standing on a hillock²⁷ on the top of Shawridge, and thence to a stone called three cornered stone, from where they rise to Derehill, then along the ditch and hedge beside the fields as far as Hachetts gate, where they began.

²⁷ 'balla' I can only find in Med Lat sources as 'bale', and I wonder if it is an odd spelling for 'bailey', normally 'baillium'.