

67.02 Introduction; selected transcriptions, William I, 1066–87

Introduction to the selected transcriptions 67.02–67.26

The transcripts and documentary excerpts are based primarily on the extensive documentary archive compiled by Coleman with additions by Baker, Bell, and Baily.

They are set out for this publication by Baker; comments, unless otherwise attributes, are by Baker. The number in brackets refers to the documentary archive. The most important documents are outlined.

William I, 1066–87

1086 Domesday Book, William I (1)

'M. Lestone a demesne manor of the king is now assessed at 47 hides. TRE there were but 30 hides (there). Of these 47 hides 43 are in the king's hands. There is land for 52 ploughs. On the demesne are 6 and the villeins have 46. There are 4 score and 2 villeins (82) and 30 bordars and 2 serfs and 2 mills worth 30 shillings, meadow (sufficient) for 40 plough teams and woodland (to feed) 100 swine. The toll from the market yields 7 pounds. In all it pays 22 pounds of weighed money and half a day's (provision for the) king's 'ferm'. For the queen's use it pays 2 ounces of gold; and for 1 packhorse and for customary payment for the dogs 70 shillings (£3 10s); and 100 shillings (£5) weighed money and 40 shillings (£2) of blanch silver which Ivo Talliebosc imposed in addition; and 1 ounce of gold for the use of the sheriff yearly.

Of the land of this manor Wenesi the chamberlain held 10 hides of King Edward which Ralf Talliebosc added to Lestone, whereto they did not belong TRE, and again the same Ralf added to this manor other 7 hides which were not in it TRE These 7 hides Starcher, a thegn of King Edward, held.

The church of this manor Bishop Remigius holds, with 4 hides which belong to it. These 4 hides are reckoned in the 47 hides of the manor. There is land for 3 ploughs (in them). On the demesne is 1, and the villeins have 1, and there could be another. There are 6 villeins and 6 bordars and meadow (sufficient) for 3 plough teams. This land, with the church, is and was worth 4 pounds. Bishop Wlwi held it TRE.'

VCH, Beds, I, 1904, 222:

[The entry covers Leighton (Buzzard), Billington, Eggington, Heath and Reach, and Stanbridge – the royal manor with the prebendal estate. The royal manor estate was enlarged by 17 hides between 1066 and 1086. Remigius was the almoner of Fécamp in Normandy and was moved to the bishopric of Dorchester by William I before being translated to Lincoln.]

1086 Domesday Book, William I

Heath and Reach

'The land of Gozelin the Breton in the half hundred of Stanburge Gozelin himself holds Gledai for 2½ hides. There is land for one plough and there are 4 oxen and one mill for 16 shillings, meadow for one plough team, woodland for 100 swine; TRE 40 shillings. This land Wigot, a huntsman of King Edward, held and could sell to whom he wished.'

[Possibly Gleadley or Gladley Wood present in 1630 (Coleman).]

