

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PROPERTIES OF THE NUNNERY OF ST. MARY CLERKENWELL

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In preparing an edition of the cartulary of St. Mary Clerkenwell I find that the nuns of St. Mary Clerkenwell had received grants of rent and land in Cadmore End and Edlesborough. Evidently these outlying properties were lost or exchanged, perhaps within a relatively short time, and so were properties in Oxfordshire, Herts, and Surrey. The Nunnery retained property in Cambs. and Dorset until the dissolution.

There are no references to Buckinghamshire property in the surviving account rolls of the nunnery for 1490-1 and later¹.

In referring to the cartulary I cite both the number which I am assigning to each deed in the edition, a typescript of which is deposited in the Bodleian Library, and also to the folio of the original MS. in the British Museum, the Cotton MS. Faustina B.ii.

In no. 6 fo.9 on 20 March 1190, Richard I confirmed a grant of 5s. rent made to the nuns of Clerkenwell by Elias and Lawrence de Scaccario at *Cadmere*.

Cadmere, the old name for Cadmore End on the borders of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire is first mentioned, according to the *Victoria County History*,² in 1235, when Henry de Scaccario conceded the right of Roger de Scaccario to half a hide there. The association of the name of de Scaccario with Cadmore End confirms the identification of the *Cadmere* in the cartulary with this place, the charter of Richard I carrying the history of the name back another 35 years.

¹Ministers' Accounts Henry VII 396. Cf. Ministers' Accounts Henry VIII 2116, 2117, 2110 and 2396 in the P.R.O.

Simon de Scaccario, who held lands here of the bishop of Lincoln in 1292, when he died, left three daughters as his co-heirs².

The grant of Lawrence and Elias de Scaccario to the nuns would probably not have been earlier than 1181, as this grant is not mentioned in Henry II's confirmation of that year in no. 2 fo. 6. This renders probable the identification of Lawrence with the Lawrence de Scaccario who held $\frac{1}{2}$ a knight's fee of the honour of Wallingford in 1211-2.³

In no. 169, fo. 46, Miles de Beauchamp gives and confirms to the nuns in free alms a virgate of land in Edlesborough. Half the virgate was held by John son of Agnes his villein whom he gives together with his brood. Miles also gives a half virgate held in the same vill by Gladwin son of Ailward his villein, with his brood. This Miles de Beauchamp died c. 1212-3.

Most of the rural grants made to the Nunnery were earlier than 19 Oct. 1186, when they were confirmed in a bill of Urban III⁴. As neither Cadmore End nor Edlesborough are included in the many places mentioned in this bill, it is possible that both grants were made later,—though probable not much later.

²V.C.H., *Bucks*, III, 43.

³*Red Book*, II, 599. For Elias de Scaccario of Chequers, Co. Bucks, see N. Denholm-Young, 'Mathew Cheker,' *E.H.R.*, 59 (1944), p. 259.

⁴*English Hist. Review*, LVII, 97.