

Bailiffs of the barony of Wych Malbanc

At this period the barony of Wych Malbanc (Nantwich) was in the hands of the Audley family and their descendants. See also BARONS: WYCH MALBANC.

William Chaplain had been caught with a stolen horse by the bailiffs of Wych Malbanc, but he declared that he was a liege, that the horse was his, and called for an inquisition. Because they could not hold such an inquisition, then, as customary, they took him to Chester castle. Brought before the bench there he called for an inquisition, which found that he was a thief and had stolen the horse: he was adjudged to be hung. However, the bailiffs of Wych Malbanc claimed the barony's right to hang him themselves, and he was delivered to them: but because the day was almost over they let him be gibetted there, reserving to themselves their right to have done so.

1:163: 1 June 1260

T^rminat^r

Mem^d quod Will' chapelein capt^s fuit cu' q^ada' equa furata p^r ball'os baronu' de Wico malbanc'. & posuit sein inqⁱsic'one quod fidelis erat & quod d'ca equa sua pp^aa fuit. Et quia d'ci baronis inqⁱsic' inde cape no' pot^ru't id'o ut moris est ip'm dux^rut ad Com' Cestr'. Et ibi it^ru' coram banco posuit se in inquis'. que dicit quod lat^o est & d'cam eq^am cepat. Id'o adiudicat' fuit q^d suspendat^r. Ball'i p^rd'cor^r baronu' exigu't d'cm lat^one' ad iudiciu' de se faciend'. & p^r iudiciu' sⁱ fuit delib^rat^s. & quia dies ppe fuit elaps^s aco'modauer't Gibettu' salua eor^r lib'tate.

Among the duties of the justices in eyre was the checking of the weights and measures used by brewers and merchants in the county. In March 1293 the abbot of Combermere, and James de Stafford, William de Fonte, William Joell, William de Fowlshurst and Richard de Fowlshurst bailiffs of the barons of Wych Malbanc failed to appear with their weights and measures, and were accordingly amerced 2 marks (26s 8d) in the county court. At the following sitting, Nicholas de Audley, Ralph de Vernon, Ralph his son, the abbot of Combermere, Urian de Sancto Petro, Philip Burnell and the other coparceners of the barony claimed that they and they alone had the right of checking the weights and measures in the town.

7:171: 3 March 1293

Lib' m'ie xxyjs' viij^d

Abb's de Cumb'mare +x.s'.+ +p^r se ip'o+ Rob'ts de Brescy +xl.d'+ Jacobus de Staff'. +xl.d'.+ Will' de fonte +xl.d'+ Will' Joell +xl.d'.+ Will' de Fuheleshurst +xl.d'+, & Ric's de eadem +Licenc'.+ Ball'i Baronum D'nce Lib'tatis de Wyco Malb', ven^runt coram Justic'o in Itin^re suo ap'd Wycum Malb' & pecierunt resp^ctum sup^r ostensione & pbac'oe mensurar^r & pond'um Braciator^r & m^rcator^r in villa p^rd'ca, & concessum fuit eis. Ita q'd essent nu'c hic cum pond^rib^s & mensur' pband', v'l ad ostend' q^are huiusmodi mesure no' deb'nt pbari &c'. Non veniunt nec mensuras v'l pond'a offerunt n^c protendunt nec aliquid ostendunt pro se q^are huiusmodi pond'a mesure probari no' deb'nt. n^c q^are Justic's proced'e

debet ad pbac'om mensurar illar +[&] pond'um+ I'o p^rd'cs Abb's & alij in m'ia. Et p^rd'cs Justic's pcedat in offic'o suo ad pbandd' &c'

7:239: 14 April 1293

p^r Lib'

Nich's de Aldithl' Rad's de Vernun Rad's fil' ip'ius Rad' +in ppⁱis psonis suis+ & Abb's de Cumb'mare p attorn' suu' qⁱ sim'l cum Vriano de s'co Pet^o. Ph'o Burnell. & aliis p^cenariis baron' de Wyco Malb' tenentib^s h're clamant pbac'om mensurar & pond'um in burgo p^rd'co & emendas inde p se & Balli'os suos fac'e; Vnde alias coram Justic'o in Itin'e suo, p^rd'cs Abb's. Rob'ts de Brescy & ceter' Ball'i p^rd'cor Baronu' sup pbac'oe mensurar & pond'um huiusmodi resp^ctum petierunt vsq' ad px'm Com' +sequent'+ Ita q'd tunc venirent & p se ostenderent c'tum q'd q^are huiusmodi mesure & pond'a p Justiciu' pbari no' debeant. Et ad speciale aliqⁱd huiusmodi ostendd' v'l ad deferend' p^rd'ca mensuras & pond'a ad Com' illum. & inde pleg' deuen^runt. & ad Com' illum no' ven^ru't nec pond'a p^rd'ca & mensuras detulerunt, n^c aliquid ostendiderunt, q^o minus pced'e deb'et +Justic'+ ad pbac'om illam faciend' p q'd p^rd'cs Abb's & alij am^rciati fu^runt quia no' h'uerunt &c'. ven^runt hic & sup clamio sup lib'tate p^rd'ca faciend' q'd cu' conpticipib^s suis sane no' possunt fac'e. petunt c'tum diem ad q^m p^cenarij sui sum' & p^rmuniant^r vt sim'l possint lib'tate' illam clamare & sup lib'tate illa. & omnib^s aliis in Itin'e Justic' p^rsentat' sim'l possint respondere. +&+ Et concessum est eis vsq' ad px'm Com' p^st f'm s'ci Joh' Bapt'e.