

BARONIES
in the Chester county pleas,
CHES 29/1–22
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SHIPBROOK BARONY

Kinderton or Shipbrook barony has a history intermingled in some family lines with that of Wych Malbanc. When William Malbanc, the last of the Norman barons of Wych Malbanic, died in 1288, the barony then being divided between his daughters and granddaughters. According to the inquisition, these parts emerged:

A. A sixth part held by John de Ganlowe, being the part of the first daughter of the first daughter of William.

B. A sixth part held by Alexander de Venables and Johanna his wife, being the part of the second daughter of the first daughter of William.

C. A third part held by James Audley, being the part of the second daughter of William.

D. A sixth part held by Ralph de Vernon, being the part of the first daughter of the third daughter of William.

E. An eighteenth, being the part of the first daughter of the second daughter of the third daughter of William: sold to John de Sancto Petro

F. An eighteenth, being the part of the second daughter of the second daughter of the third daughter of William: sold to John de Wetenhall.

G. A 36th part, being the part of the first daughter of the third daughter of the third daughter of William: sold to Richard Leftwich.

H. A 36th part, being the part of the second daughter of the third daughter of the third daughter of William: sold to Ralph de Vernon the grandfather.

11 May 1288

Harley 2115 f. 135. Helsby iii 422-423

Dominus Willelmus Malbanck nuper tenuit baroniam Wici Malbani integralis, et quia obiit sine heredibus masculis baronia divisa fuit inter filias forma sequenti, ut patet per inquisitionem captam die Martis proximo post festum ascensionis domini anno regni regis Edwardi primi decimo sexto²⁰⁸ coram Reginaldo Grey tunc justiciario comitis Cestrie.

Prima filia habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani cum castro ibidem, exceptis illis terris quas idem Willelmus prius dedit abathie de Cumbermere, tertiam partem manerii de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurleston, Acton, et Haselington in dominico, et [tertiam partem] de Cowell et de Wolstanwoode; et habuit homagium et servitium dominorum villarum subscriptarum, viz. Bartumleggh, Crewe, Leghton, Aston in Mondrem, Cholmeston, Stoke, Lancan, duas partes de Tranmoll, Buyrton, Alvaston, Church Mynshull, Wistaston, Rope, Willaston, Wytpull, Norbury, Wirswall, Row Shotwick, et Thingwall. Ista filia habuit duas filias, inter quas terrae praedictae de purparte sua partitae fuerunt.

²⁰⁸ Tuesday 11 May 1288: 'date corrected from an exemplification at Chester'

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Prima habuit castrum Wici Malbani, sextam partem maneriorum de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurleston, Acton et Haslington, et sextam partem de Cowell et Wolstan woode in dominico, et alienavit inde diversas parcelas terræ ut patet per tenentes inde, et in homagio et servicio habuit Bartumleghe, Crwe, Leghton, Aston in Mondrem, Cholmeston, Stoke, Landcan, duas partes de Tranmoll, quæ quidem servicia redditata fuerunt, in manum domino Ranulpho comiti Cestriæ, per comitem de Warwico tunc tenentem, et quæ modo sunt in manu Johannis Griffin, et habuit servicium de Burton, Alvaston, et Church Mynshull, quæ dominus Johannes de Ganlowe nunc tenet.

Secunda filia habuit sextam partem Wici Malbani, sextam partem maneriorum de Newhall, Aston juxta Hurleston, Acton, et Haslington, et sextam partem de Cowell, Wolstan Wood, in dominico, et alienavit inde diversas partes, prout patet per tenentes inde et in homagio et servicio habuit Wystaston, Rope, Willaston, Witpull, Norbury, Wireswall, Roo Shoiwick, et Thingwall, quæ Alex. de Venables et Johanna uxor ejus modo tenent.

*Secunda filia habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani exceptis terris concessis abathiæ de Cumbermere, tertiam partem de Cowell, Wolstanwoode et ii partes manerii de Newhall, et Aston juxta Mondrem, Hurleston in dominico, et Acton, et habuit homagium et servitium dominorum villarum infra scriptarum, viz. de Becheton, Hassal, Worlaston, Wrenbury, Chorle, Backford, Monke Copenhale, Over Bebinton, ii partes de Barneston, Badington, Bromehall, Sonde, Alstanton, Bertherton, ii partes de Cherleton, ii partes de Teverton, quæ quidem tenementa cum servicio modo sunt in manu Jacobi Audlegh: et sciendum quod Hatherton est de hundredo Wici Malbani, sed in quam partem devenerit ignoratur; **et Blakenhall, Chackiley, Dudington, Briddesmere, Hunsterton et Lee, non sunt de baronia ista, sed de baronia de Kinderton, et Shipbrooke.***

Tertia filia habuit tertiam partem Wici Malbani exceptis terris concessis abathiæ de Cumbermere tertiam partem de Cowell et Wolstanwoode, partem manerii de Hurdleston et Acton, et ii partes de Haselington in dominico, et habuit homagia et servicia dominorum et villarum de Audlim, Hankelow, Titenlegh, Merbury, Stapelegh, Badelegh, Fadelegh, Burlond, Edlaston, Barrettespull, Weston, Wydinbury, Houghe, Savinton, Walkerton, Church Copenhall, Henhull, Alsager, tertiam partem de Cherlton, et Wightreson, et Penesby. Ista filia habuit duas filias inter quas tenementa prædicta cum servitiis partita fuerunt.

Prima habuit sextam partem Wici Malbani, sextam partem de Cowell et Wolstanwoode, sextam partem maneriorum de Acton et de Hurdleston, duas partes de Haselington in dominico, et homagia et servicia habuit in sep'ali Audlem, Hankelow, Henhull, et Alsacher, quæ dominus Radulphus de Vernon modo tenet; cum omnibus serviciis quæ sunt in conjunctione inter ipsam et parcenarios suorum, viz. Johanne de Sancto Petro, Johannem de Wettenhall, et Ricardum Leftwich.

Secunda filia habuit sextam partem de Cowell et de Wolstanwoode, et sextam partem maneriorum de Hurdleston et Acton, sed de Haselington nihil. Quæ quidem habuit tres filias inter quas pro parte sua partita sunt, quæ tres filiæ vendiderunt, pro parte sua diversis tenentibus, viz. Johanni de Sancto Petro, pro parte unius, et Johanni de Wettenhall pro parte alterius, et Ricardo Leftwich medietatem propartis tertiæ sororis, et Radulpho de Vernon, avo ultimi dicti Radulphi, aliam medietatem propartis tertiæ sororis.

Memorandum quod dicta baronia tenetur de domino rege in jure comitatus Cestriæ in capite.]

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The division of Shipbrook barony is conventionally supposed to have taken place after the death of Warin Vernon leaving three sisters as coheireses:

Visitation of Cheshire 1580 (Harleian Society xviii pp 230-232):
Vernon ‘ex relatione Samp. Erdeswik, ar.’: Harley 1424 f.138v, 1505 f.142v]:

...
Warin^s de Vernon Baro de Shibroc
[married] Auda filia & hæres Will’mi de Malbank
[issue:]
Warinus s. p.
Ada vxor Will’mi Stafford.
Margeria nupta Ric’o Wilbraham.
Roisia vxor Joh’is de Litlebury

Vernon, Baron of Shubbroc, vulgo Shipbroke: Harley 1424 f.139]:

...
Warren de Vernon of Shipbroke
[married] Marian after married to John Litlebury. She was married 34 H. 3.²⁰⁹ as by deed appeareth.
[issue:]
Warren de Vernon s. p. ARMS. – Or, a fesse Azure.
Mary vx^r S^r Rich. Wilbraham.
[issue:]
Margery vx^r Rob. Winington
[issue:]
Rich. Winington of Leftwich: [issue]
Rose vxor John Litlebury
[issue:]
Roger
Auda vxor W^m Stafford & after to W^m Tromwin 46 H. 3.²¹⁰

If these pedigrees were broadly correct, then at the beginning of our period of interest there should have been thirds of the barony in the hands of the Littlebury, Stafford/Trumwin and Wilbraham families. Direct evidence that we have from the plea rolls is that at his death in 1295 Urian de Sancto Petro held (not by marriage, but by inheritance) one sixth part of the barony.

Richard son of Richard de Wilbraham who died in 1278 appears to have had the lion’s share of Shipbrook — 1½ and 1/6 knights’ fees:

²⁰⁹ 1249-1250

²¹⁰ 1261-1262

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Sybbroc Major and Minor, Syrlache and Badeford, Stanthurl, Hurdleston, Acton and Nantwich (Wyco Maubanc), many parcels of land, the whole worth 15l. 9s. 8½d. yearly, held of the king in chief by service of 1½ and 1/6 knight's fee.

He left two daughters, Agnes and Matilda, who then appear in the county pleas, as nieces of Warin de Vernon, William de Stafford, Roger de Littlebury being his nephews: all, as Warin's heirs, suing Urian de Sancto Petro and Margaret his wife for a messuage, 7 bovates of land and a sixth part of a watermill in Picton. This would indicate that the girls' mother Matilda [Mary in the pedigree], Stafford's mother or grandmother [Auda] and Roger Littlebury's grandmother [Roesia] were three sisters of Warin. Warin and his son Warin would both have been dead by 1250. Successive Warins de Vernon appear as witnesses in the earls' charters to as late as 1235.

3:28: 17 December 1286

m'ia. xl.d'

Iidem Will's & alij [Will's de Staff', Rog'us de Lyttelbur', Rob's de Winigton', Matill' vxor ei's, Ric'us de Lostok & Agnes vxor eius] q' tuleru't br'e .u's. Vrianu' de S'co ²¹¹ & Margareta' vx' eius de pl'o t're, ven' & petu't lic' quer' melius br'e Id'o ip'i in m'ia ppl' p'd'cor Rob'ti & Ric'i

3:73: 11 March 1287

Ad Jud'm

H'nt die' vs' ad px' Com'.

Ass^a venit recogn', si Warinus le Vernoun, Auunc'ls ²¹² +Will'i de Stafford & Rog'i de Littlebur'+ & Matill' & Agnet' filiar Ric'i de Wilburh^am fuit seis' in d'nico suo &c' die quo &c'. +de vno Mes'. septe' bouatis t're & sexta pte vni^s molend'i aquatici cu' p'tin' in Piketon'+. Et si obiit postq^a &c'. Et si p'd'ci Will's, Rog'us, Matill' & Agnes p'pinqiores h'edes eius sint. Et vnde Will's de Staff', Rog'us de Littlebur', Rob's de Wynigton' Matill' vxor eius, Ric'us de Lostok & Agnes vxor ei's q'runt' q'd Vrianus de s'co Petro & Margareta vxor eius eis deforc' ten' p'd'.

Et p'd'ci Vrianus & Margareta p attorn' suu' ven' & dicu't q'd assi'a no' debet inde pced'e, Dicu't eni' q'd p'd'ci Rog' & alij alias in Cur' ista tulerunt quodda' br'e de ingr'u u'sus p'd'cos Vrianu' & Margareta' de p'd'cis tenem'tis, Quod quide' br'e est de altiori natura & tangit ip'm ius & petu't iud'm si ad br'e assi'e mortis antec' quod est de ip'a poss'oe possint resortire, desicut br'e istud est inferioris nature q^am aliud br'e p'ius impet^atum.

Et p'd'ci Will's & alij d'nt q'd ass^a debet inde pced'e no' obstante eo q'd alias se impet^arunt p aliud br'e, & si br'e illud fuit br'e altioris nat'e, dicu't eni' q'd br'e de poss'one posterius impet^atum, pced'e debet in natura sua, eo q'd in alio br'i prius impet^ato no' fuit aliquis exitus placiti, nec visus exactus nec iud'm in pendulo sup ip'o iure, n^c iud'm exspectaru't, s'cdm natura' p'oris br'is de ingr'u, +~~nec fuit pete'o in alio br'i de t'ns~~

²¹¹ omitted: Petro

²¹² words erased

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~~ius inde s' de~~+ quia q^amcito circu'specti extit^rant q'd pⁱmu' br'e in casu suo Fuit eis min^s idoneu' an impet^acione illa recesseru't. Et petu't q'd ass' inde pcedat

Et p^rd'ci Vrianus & Margareta d'nt q'd Will's, Rog^rus & alij pⁱmu' breue de ingr'u impet^atum in Cur' ista p^sent' fueru't, & de seisina p^rd'ci Warini antec' sui narraunt vt de feodo & iure, ita q'd s'cdm forma' meri iuris in curia ista solempnit^r pⁿu'ciati sectam sua' manifeste fec^runt u'sus p^rd'cos Vrianu' & Margar' de ten' p^rd'cis, n'lla variac'oe graduu' f'co medio t'pre, & petit iud'm si ass^a debeat inde pced'e.

3:107: 22 April 1287

Jud'm int^r p^rd'cos Will'm & alios pet', & Vrianu' de s'co Petro & Margar' vx' eius de pl'o t're ponit^r i' respectu vs' &c'.

3:195: 3 June 1287

Jud'm int^r Will'm de Staff' & alios in br'i petentes & Vrianu' de s'co Pet^o & Margaretam vx' eius po^r in r^m vs' &c'.

A similar action was brought at the same time by the same heirs against Roger de Oldington over 2 bovates of (arable) land, 29 acres of woodland (except 1 acre) in Minshull.

3:28: 17 December 1286

m'ia. [xl.d']

Iid'm. qui tulerunt br'e .u^s. Ran' de Oldeton' de pl'o t're ven'. & petu't lic' quer' melius br'e. Id'o ip'i in m'ia.

3:74: 11 March 1287

Ass^a ven' recogn', si +p^rd'cs+ Warinus p^rd'cus auunc'ls p^rd'cor Will'i &c', fuit seis' in d'nico suo vt de feodo, de duab^s bouatis t're, viginti & noue' ac's bosci cu' pⁿtin', excepta vna ac^a t're in Monishull iux^a Wermingh^am die quo &c'. Et vnde p^rd'ci Will' de Staff', Rog's de Littelbur', Rob's de Wynington' Matill' vx' eius, Ric's de Lostoke, & Agn' vx' eius querunt^r, q'd Ran' de Oaldeton' eis deforc'. Et ip'e ven' & respondit eod'm m'o sic' fec^runt p^rd'ci Vrianus & Margareta & pet' iudiciu' simil'r. Et p^rd'ci Will's & alij d'nt sic' p^rdix^runt in pxi'o pl'o, & pet' q'd ass^a capiat^r. vnde ad iud'm eod'm m'o quo p^rus. Et p^sea ad Com' die M^art^s p^xa p^s f'm s'ci Barth'i²¹³ testific' e' q'd vna de p^cenar' p^rd'cis .s. Matill' q' fuit vx' Rob'i de Wynington mortua est, I'o p^rd'cs Ran' inde s'n die. Et p^rd'ci Will' & alij, p^quirant s' nouu' br'e si volu^rint.

3:106: 22 April 1287

Jud'm int^r p^rd'cos Will'm & alios pet', & Ran' de Oldeton', de pl'o terre ponit^r in respectu vs' &c'.

3:197: 3 June 1287

Jud'm int^r eosdem pet'ntes & Ran' de Oaldeton' ponit^r in r^m vs' &c'

From December 1286 William de Stafford, Roger de Littlebury, Robert de Winnington and Matilda his wife and Richard de Lostock and Agnes his wife sued out several cases as heirs of Warin de Vernon.

²¹³ Tuesday 26 August 1287

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A third action was brought by the heirs at the same time against Robert de Winnington and Matilda his wife; a fourth action against Ralph de Vernon, and a fifth against Emma who was wife of Richard de Lostock, and a sixth against Ranulph de Thornton and Katherine his wife.

Agnes and Matilda (née Wilbraham) are revealed as the wives of Richard de Lostock and Robert de Winnington respectively.

3:24: 17 December 1286

Dies datus Will'o de Staff' & aliis in br'i pet', & Rob'to de Winigton' & Matill' vx' eius +de pl'o t're+, vs' &c'. p^rce ptiu'.

Idem dies dat^s est eisd' petent', & Rad'o de Vernun de pl'o t're vs' &c' p^rce ptiu'.

Id' dies datus eisd', & Emme q' fuit vxor Ric'i de Lostok, de pl'o t're vs' &c'. p^rce ptiu'

m'ia. [xl.d']

Will's de Staff', Rog'us de Lyttelbur', Rob's de Winigton', Matill' vxor ei^s, Ric'us de Lostok & Agnes vxor eius qⁱ tuleru't br'e .u^s. Ran' de Thornton' & Kat'inam vx' eius de pl'o terre, veniu't & petu't licenc' quer' melius br'e. Id'o ip'i in m'ia ppl' p^rd'cor Rob'ti, & Ric'i.

3:75: 11 March 1287

Ass^a ven' recogn', si id'm Warinus auunc'ls p^rd'cor Will'i & alior in p^rd'ca ass^a fuit seis' de t^bs bouatis t're & medietate vnus bouate t're & sexta pte vnus Molend'i aq^atici cum p^rtin' in Piketon', die quo &c'. Et si &c. Et vnde Will' de Staff' & alij quer'ntes in p^rxi'o pl'o querunt' q'd Ran' de Thornton' & Kat'ina vx' eius eis deforc'. Qui ven' & respondent eod'm m'o sic' p^rd'cm est, vnde h'[ent diem] inde ad iudiciu' in forma p^rd'ca.

3:105: 22 April 1287

Jud'm int' p^rd'cos Will'm & alios pete'tes, & Ran' de Thornton' & Kat'inam vx' eius de pl'o t're ponit' i' respectu &c'

3:198: 3 June 1287

Jud'm int' eosdem pet'ntes & Ran' de Thornton' & Kat'inam vx' eius pon' in r^m vs' &c'

3:30: 17 December 1286

m'ia. [xl.d']

Id'm qui tuleru't br'e .u^s. Joh'em de Wetenhal ven' & petu't lic' quer' melius br'e. Id'o ip'i in m'ia.

3:104: 22 April 1287

Jud'm int' Will'm de Staff' & alios i' br'i petentes, & Joh'em de Wetenhal +de pl'o t're+ ponit' in respectu vs' ad p^rx' Com'

3:196: 3 June 1287

Jud'm int' p^rd'cus Will' & alios in br'i petentes & Joh'em de Wetenhale poni' in r^m vs' &c'

On this basis, by 1287 Agnes wife of Richard de Lostock would be claiming one sixth of Shipbrook barony; Matilda wife of Robert de Winnington

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one sixth; William de Stafford one third; and Roger de Littlebury one third. For the Vernon share, see the Vernon Share of Wych Malbanc barony.