

BOROUGHS
in the Chester County Pleas,
CHES 29/1–22
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WYCH MALBANC
(Nantwich)

The burgages in the wiches were held by prescription, rather than by charter from upstart Norman lords.

Philip Burnell and Urian de Sancto Petro were coparceners of Wych Malbanc barony. 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 (Attewell), 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 xxvjs' viij^d

Abb's de Cumb'mare +x.s'.+ +p 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'unt coram Justic'o in Itin'e suo ap'd Wycum Malb' & pecierunt resp^ctum sup ostensione & pbac'oe mensurar & pond'um Braciator & m'cator in villa p'd'ca, & concessum fuit eis. Ita q'd essent nu'c hic cum pond'ib^s & mensur' pband', v'l ad ostend' q're 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're huiusmodi pond'a mesure probari no' deb'nt. n^c q're Justic's proced'e debet ad pbac'om mensurar illar +[&] pond'um+ I'o p'd'cs Abb's & alij in m'ia. Et p'd'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 pp'is 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'd'co & emendas inde p se & Balli'os suos fac'e; Vnde alias coram Justic'o in Itin'e suo, p'd'cs Abb's. Rob'ts de Brescy & ceter' Ball'i p'd'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're huiusmodi mesure & pond'a p Justiciu' pbari no' debeant. Et ad speciale aliq'd huiusmodi ostendd' v'l ad deferend' p'd'ca mensuras & pond'a ad Com' illum. & inde pleg' deuen'unt. & ad Com' illum no' ven'u't nec pond'a p'd'ca & mensuras detulerunt, n^c aliquid ostendiderunt, q^o minus pced'e deb'et +Justic'+ ad pbac'om illam faciend' p q'd p'd'cs Abb's & alij am'ciati fu'unt quia no' h'uerunt &c'. ven'unt hic & sup

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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^am p^cenarij sui sum' & p^rmuniant' 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 p^xm Com' p^st f'm s'ci Joh' Bapt'e.

The borough court had its own jurisdiction, and townshipmen were not sent to Wych Malbanc hundred court to present, but were subject to the county court, and the township was liable to appear and be amerced there. The justiciar's eyre was held at Wych Malbanc, so some of the cases heard there in eyre may be entered among the county court pleas.

From the chamberlain's accounts:

1303-1304

SC6 771/5, in CCA 55-58: 502, 519

The township of Nantwich for licence to agree 4s

The vill of Nantwich, for licence to agree 4s

Hugh de Cholmondley senior accused Robert Daa of Wych Malbanc, John his son, William son of William Mariot, Nicholas his brother, Robert Woodbird, Adam le Priestson, John the lad of William le Taylor, Adam son of Ralph Keyryk, Richard Craddock, Henry le Barber, Thomas Perkin, Walter Bully, Richard Woodbird, William Samyn and Thomas Balcok of having on Saturday 15 August 1304 attacked him in Wych Malbanc. A visne was summoned from Wych Malbanc, who found that no such attack had taken place, and Cholmondley was amerced for false claim.

16:85: 1 June 1305

p^r. M'ia. alibi

Rob'tus Daa de Wico Malbano Joh'es filius eius Will' fil' Will'i Maryot Nich'us fr' eius Will' fil' Ade le Taylleur Rob'us fil' Ric'i le Cachepol Nich'us fr' eiusdem Rob'i Rob'us Wodebrid Adam le Prestesone Joh's garc'o Will'i le Taylleur Adam fil' Rad'i Keyryk Ric'us Cradok Henr' le Barber Thom' Perkin Walt'us Bully Ric'us Wodebrid & Will' Samyn +& Thom' Balcok+ attach' fuerunt ad respondend' Hugo'i de Cholmu'del' seniori de pl'ito t^ans. Et vnde idem Hugo querit' q'd p^rd'ci Rob'us & om's alii die Sab' in festo asumpc' b'te Marie anno r'r'. E Tⁱcesimo s'cdo²⁹³ in ip'm Hugone' apud Wicu' Malbanu' vi & armis insultu' fecerunt & ip'm v'berauerunt vuln'aueru't & male t^actauerunt & alia enormia ei intuleru't cont^a pacem n'ram. vnde dicit q'd def'ior' est & dampna h'et ad valenc' vig' li' & inde pducit secta'. Et p^rd'ci Rob'us & om's alij ven' & def' vim & iniur' q'n &c'. & dicunt q'd de p^rd'ca t^ansgr' no' sunt culpabil' & de hoc ponu't se sup p'riam & p^rd'cus Hugo simil'r I'o prec' est vic' q'd de visn' de Wico Malbano ven' fac' ad p^xm Com' .xij. &c' p quos &c'. qui n^c &c'. Postea continuato processu vsq' ad diem M^art^s p^xm post

²⁹³ Saturday 15 August 1304

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f'm s'ci Petri ad vincula p̄x' seque's²⁹⁴ ven' ptes p^rd'ce & simil'r .xij. qui dicunt sup sac^rm suu' q'd p^rd'ci Rob'us Daa & om'es alii null' t^ansgr' p^rd'co Hugoni fecerunt p̄t idem Hugo quer'. I'o p^rd'ci Rob'us Daa & om's alii inde sine die & p^rd'cus Hugo p̄ falso clam' in m'ia.

17:478: 12 July 1306

p^r.

P^r. est vic' q'd tam de visn' de Wico Malb' q^am de Weston' iux^a Bertoml' ven' fac' .xij. &c'. int' Galfr' Griffyn & Will' de Praers in pl'it detenc' cuiusd' scⁱpti

In September 1306 the justiciar issued an order against those who were enacting pardons in Wych Malbanc without warrant from the earl.

17:572: 6 September 1306

p^r.

Prec' est vic' q'd attach' om's illos qui p̄clamare fecer' pace' d'ni Com' in vi[l]la Wici Malb' diu^r sor^r malef^r cor^r absq' Waranto d'ni Com' seu Justic' &c'.

17:667: 27 September 1306

[Prec' est vic'] Et q'd attachiare fac' om's illos qui absq' man[dat]o se]u p^rcepto Com' qui in villa Wici Malbani p̄clamare fecerunt pace' diu^r sor^r malef^r cor^r

In 1307 the township of Wych Malbanc presented that William Dawkin clerk and William Catchpole had beaten the pregnant Alice daughter of William le Tawer so that her child was killed in her belly; and William Catchpole and Richard Wisebird had raped Alice's sister Felicia: that Ralph son of Pote de London and Robert son of Ralph Alec held Felicia down by her hands and feet while Catchpole and Wisebird raped her; and that Laurence Gold, William Chap, Ranulph son of John son of Rose, Robert son of Geoffrey del Culme and William son of Ralph Kayrek had aided and abetted them.

19:49: 16 May 1307

Cap'.

Villata de Vico Malbano p^rsent' q'd Will'mus Daukyn +cler'+ & Will'ms Cachepol⁺ verb'auer' quand'm Alic' fil' Will'i le Tawer vnde infans in ventre p^rd'ce Alic' moriebat' Et q'd Will'ms Cachepol⁺ & Ric'us Wysebrid +•fo+ vi & armis rapueru't quamd' Felic' filia' Will'i le Tawer cont^a voluntate' suam. Et q'd Ran' fil' Pote de London⁺ & Rob'tus fil' Rad'i Alec⁺ tenueru't d'cam Felic' p̄ manus +&+ pedes du' d'ci Will'mus & Ric'us ip'am rapueru't, Et q'd Laur' Golde⁺, Will'mus Chappe⁺ Ran' fil' Joh'is filij Rose⁺ Rob'tus fil' Galfr' del Culme⁺, Will'ms fil' Rad'i Kayrek⁺ fu'nt in vi & auxilio cu' d'cis Will'o Ric'o Ran' & Rob'to ad p^rd'cam Felic' rapiend' I'o p^rd'ci Will'ms Daukin +& alii+ capiant' Et p^rceptu' est vic' q'd cap' eos &c' Et saluo &c' Ita q'd h'eat corpa eor^r hic ad p̄x'm Com' &c'

²⁹⁴ Tuesday 3 August 1305

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In August 1307 three cases were brought from Wych Malbanc for consideration (19:196-198). Henry son of Thomas de Bridgemere accused Robert de Huxley of having burnt down his houses. Huxley said that he had already been fined for this before William Trussel the justiciar in 30 Edward I (1301-2).

19:196: 8 August 1307

Wic' Malban' de villa Cap'.

Rob'tus de Huxlee captus ad sectam Henr' fil' Thom' de Briddismere p' combustionem domor' ip'ius Henr' p' p'd'cm Rob'tm felonice combustar' Vnde id'm Henr' ip'm Rob'tm appellauit Et quia p'd'cus Henr' no' est ps' appellu' suu' I'o p'd'cus Rob'tus quo ad secta' ip'ius Henr' ind[e] quiet^s Et p'd'cus Henr' quia no' sequit' &c' capiat' &c'

Et p'd'cus Rob'tus ad secta' d'ni Regis ques' qualit' se velit acquietare &c' dicit q'd no' debet inde respondere quia dicit q'd ip'e alias coram Will'mo Trussel Justic' Cestr' anno regni d'ni R' E' p'ris d'ni Regis nu'c xxx^{mo} 295 in Cur' hic de ead'm felon' & om'ib^s aliis p' ip'm ppet^a[t'] fine' fecit d'no Com', &c' Et de hoc pon' se sup' recordu' rot'lor' p'd'ci Justic' de anno p'[d'co] vnde d'cm est ei q'd h'eat recordu' p'd'cm ad px'm Com' &c'

Huxley was also accused of having stolen a cow belonging to Robert son of Thomas de Shirardbridge. He was mainperned twelve-handed to appear at the next court.

19:197: 8 August 1307

Wicu' Malbanu' de Villa.

Id'm Rob'tus de Huxle captus, p' vna vacca Rob'ti fil' Thome de Shirardbrigge p' ip'm Rob'tm de Huxle furata, ven' Et ques' qualit' se velit inde acq'etare defendit om' felon' &c' Et de bono & malo pon' se sup' p'riam &c' Set modo no' p'cedit ad eius delib'ac'om p' defectu Militu' & alior' Jur' &c' I'o remittit' p'sone &c' — Postea Joh'nes de Wetonhale, Ric'us de Cawardyn, Wi[ll's] de Bulkilegh', Rob'tus fil' Will'i de Huxle, Joh'es fil' Nich'i de ead'm, Joh'nes de Huxle, W[ill's] de Dutton', Will's de Bromburgh', Nich'us de Wetonhale, Rob'tus de Bulkylegh', Ran' de Bradeford & Ran' del Hope, Man' p'd'cm Rob'tm de Huxle h'nd' eu' hic ad px'm Com' &c'

Margery daughter of William Bulkeley was accused of having stolen 10½d from Stephen le Barber, and her father for harbouring her. The jury found in their favour.

19:198: 8 August 1307

Villa Wic' Malban'. Q' Q'

Marg'ia fil' Will'i Bulky capta p' decem solid' & ob' p' ip'am de Steph'o Le Brabere furatis Et Will's Bulky indictat^s de receptam'to p'd'ce Marg'ie ven' Et p'd'ca Marg'ia ques' qualit' se velit acq'etare &c' dicit q'd no' est inde culp'. Et de bono & malo pon' se sup'

²⁹⁵ 20 November 1301–19 November 1302

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p'riam. Jur' d[ic'] sup sacr'm suu' q'd p'd'ca Marg'ia no' est in aliquo culp' de p'd'co crimine ei inposito t'xit &c' I'o ip'a inde quieta, Et p'd'cus Will's indictat^s de eius receptam'to inde quie[tus]

On Thursday 7 September 1307 in Wych Malbanc, John Silkin made a premeditated attack on Ranulph Hereward and stabbed with a knife Hereward, who died in the arms of Matilda his wife. Matilda accused Silkin of murder, and also John son of Robert Roter, knowing what had happened, of having received Silkin at his house. John Silkin and Roter were taken and imprisoned, but Thomas son of William Silkin and Thomas son of Robert Hereward, implicated in the attack, fled. When the matter was brought before the court, the jury exonerated both John Silkin and Roter, and Matilda was imprisoned for a false claim. Because she was pauper she was allowed to purchase release for only two shillings. Meanwhile, Thomas son of William Silkin and Thomas son of Robert Hereward having evaded justice, proceedings were started to outlaw them.

20:140: 19 September 1307

Quietus finis .ij.s'. Ex' & vtl' ex p. inq^{id}. de cat'.

Matill' que fuit vx' Ran' He'ward appellat Joh'em fil' +Rob'i+ Rotar', Joh'm Silkyn Thom' fil' Will'i Silkyn & Thom' fil' Rob'i He'ward +fin'.xl.d'+. de morte Ran' He'ward viri sui felonisse occisi int' brachia sua. vnde ead'm Matild' app'llat Joh'em filiu' Rob'ti Rotar' de morte p'd'ci Ran' q'nd' viri sui de eo q'd +cu'+ id'm Ran' fuisset in pace d'ni Regis nu'c in vigilia Nat' b'e Mar' vltimo p'r'ito²⁹⁶ apud Wycum Malbanu' Id'm Joh'es d'cm Ran' virum ip'ius Matild' in corpe suo cum quodam Cultello felonit' & contra pacem d'ni Regis insultu p'meditato mortal'r wlnerauit. vnde cito postea int' Brachia ip'ius Matild' obiit &' se aliud wlnus no' habuisse &c'. & hoc pata est pbare u'sus eum sicut femina u'sus ho'iem put Cur' considerau'it &c'.

Et ead'm Matild' app'llat p'd'cm Joh'em Silkyn. de eo q'd postq'm p'dictus Joh'es filius Rob'ti d'cam feloniam nequit' ppet'uerat id'm Joh'es Silkyn ut felo d'ni Regis felonie p'd'ce concensiens, p'd'cm Joh'em filiu' Rob'i ad domu' ip'ius Joh'es Silkyn apud Wycum Malbanu' cont' pacem d'ni Regis recptauit &c'. Et hoc pata est pbare &c'.

Et p'd'ci Joh'es filius Rob'ti & Joh'es Silkyn capti & in p'isonati ven'. Et p'dictus Joh'es filius Rob'ti. sic app'llatus de morte p'd'ca absq' aliquali calumpnia d'co app'llo obicata in forma u'l mat'ia g'tis Respondet +.... om'em felon' &c'+ & dicit q'd no' est in aliquo culpabilis de morte p'd'ca; Et de bono & malo ponit se sup patriam &c'. Jurat' dicu't sup sacr'm suu' q'd p'dictus Joh'es filius Rob'ti no' est in aliquo culpabilis de morte p'd'ci Ran'. I'o ip'e inde quietus Et p'dicta Matild' comittit' Gaole

Et postea ead'm Matild' qa paup est fecit finem pro .ij.s'. p pleg' Joh'is de Wrennebur'.

Et p'dictus Joh'es Silkyn app'llatus de receptam'to p'd'ci Joh'is fil' Rob'ti. quia id'm Joh' fil' Rob'ti p'ncipal' &c'. acquietatus de facto &c'. ip'e Joh'es Silkyn quiet^s de recepta'mto p-Judicium.

²⁹⁶ Thursday 7 September 1307

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Et p^rd'ci Thom' fil' Will'i Silkyn & Thom' fil' Hereward no' ven'. Et p^rcept' fuit vic' q'd capet eos & saluo &c'

Et vic' mand' q'd non sunt inue'ti. I'o exigant' & vtlagent' &c'. Et querat' de eor +t^ris et+ catall' &c'.

20:200: 7 November 1307

Thomas fil' Will'i Silkyn & Thomas fil'²⁹⁷ Herward exact' +primo+ p morte Ran' H'ward p apellu' Matild' que fuit vx' eiusd' Ran' no' ven'. I'o exig' s'cdo.

Alice daughter of William de Edlaston accused Richard le Strider of Audley of having assaulted and beaten her at Wych Malbanc. William de Edlaston himself and Margery his wife brought a like action against Strider for having assaulted Margery.

20:131: 19 September 1307

Alicia fil' Will'i de Edlaston' po. lo suo. Will'm de Edlaston' p'rem suu'. u^s. Ric'm Le Strider. in pl'ito t^{ns}'

20:132: 19 September 1307

Marg'ia vx' Will'i de Edlaston' po. lo suo Will'm de Edlaston' maritu' suu'/ u^s/ eund'm Ric'm in pl'ito t^{ns}.

20:273: 23 January 1308

p^r m'ia.ij.s'

Essoniator Alicie filie Will'i de Edlaston'. op. se. u^ssus Ric'm le Stridere de Audelegh'. de pl'ito quare vi & armis in ip'am Aliciam apud Wycum Malbanu' insultum fecit & ip'am v^b'auit. wln'auit. male tractauit. & alia enormia &c'. ad dampnu' ip'ius Alicie. & cont^a pacem &c'. Et ip'e no' venit. Et p^rceptum fuit vic'. q'd attach' eu' &c'. Et vic' modo mandat. q'd p^rd'cus Ric'us attach' est p Will'm de Wystanston' cl'icum & Rog'm de Bradefeld'. Ideo ip'i in m'ia. Et p^rceptum est vic'. q'd distring' eum p om'es t^ras & catall' &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s. &c'. Et q'd h'eat corpus eius ad px'm Com'. &c'.

20:280: 23 January 1308

p^r m'ia.xij.d'

Esson'. Will'i de Edlaston'. & Marg'ie vx'is eius op. se u^ssus Ric'm Le Stridere de Audelegh'. de pl'ito quare vi & armis in ip'am Marg'iam apud Wycum Malbanu' insultum fecit & ip'am v^b'auit wln'auit male tractauit & alia enormia &c'. ad dampnu' ip'ius Will'i & Marg'ie et cont^a pacem &c'. Et ip'e no' ven'. Et p^rceptum fuit vic' q'd attach' eu' &c' Et vic' modo mand'. q'd p^rd'cus Ric'us attach' est p Rog'm de Bradefeld. & Will'm de Wystanston' cl'icum. I'o ip'i in m'ia. Et p^rceptu' est vic' q'd distr' eu' p om'es t^ras & catall' &c'. Et q'd de exitib^s &c'. Et q'd h'eat corp^s eius ad px'm Com'. ad respond' p^rd'cis Will'o & Marg'ie de p^rd'co pl'ito. &c'.

20:347: 5 March 1308

m'ia.xij.d'

Alicia filia Will'i de Edlaston' que tulit br'e de t^{ns}. u^s. Ric'm le S[tri]der de Audelegh' non est ps' Ideo p^rd'cs inde sine die & pred'ca Alicia & plegii sui de proseq'nd' in [m'ia Sci]lic' Ric's de Edlaston' & Ric's filius Rad'i de Hanewale

²⁹⁷ omitted: Roberti

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Richard de Ravenscroft and Thomas de Stenkhull were indicted and taken for the death of brother Richard de Dounes, a monk of Combermere by an assault and burning down of the abbot's houses in Wych Malbanc, and for robbery and theft of the goods of the abbot and of others found there, to the value of £100; and Adam Coleman for burgling the house of Peter Cashe and taking his goods, to the value of 100s; and for the rape and abduction of Sibilla wife of Roger de Vernon; and Gregory de Dodleston, for helping William son of Roger de Dodleston outlawed for killing Robert de Lachford. The jury acquitted them all.

22:111: 7 October 1309

Ric'us de Rauenescroft + & Thomas de Stenkehull+ indictati & capti p morte fr'is Ric'i de Dounes monachi de Cumbrem'e insulto & incendio domor Abb'tis de Cumbrem'e apud Wicu' Malb'. Rob'ia & asptac'oe bonor eiusdem Abb'tis & alior ibid'm inuentor' ad valenc'. Centu' libr'. felonit' & cont^a pacem &c' — Et Ad' Colemon indictat^s & capt^s p burgar' dom^s Petⁱ Casshe & asptac'oe bonor eiusdem Petⁱ ad valenc'. Centu' solid' felonit'. &c'. Et de raptu et abducc'oe Sibill' vx'is Rog'i le Vernon'. cont^a pacem. &c'. Et Gregor' de Dodeleston' capt' p eo q'd fuit in vi auxilio cu' Will'o fil' Rog'i de Dodeleston'. vtlagat' ad int'ficiend' Rob'tum de Lacheford felonit' & cont^a pace' &c'. Et quesiti qual'r se velint inde acquietare; defendu't om'em felonia'. & totu'. &c' Et q'd in n'llo sunt inde culpabiles. de bono & malo ponu't se sup p'riam. ~~¶~~ Jur' dicu't sup sacr'm suu'. q'd. p'd'ci Ricard' Adam & Gregor' in n'llo sunt inde culpabiles. Immo om'ino inde q'eto. nec se ret^axeru't. I'o ip'i inde quieti. &c'

The coroner of Wych Malbanc hundred presented deaths in the town not with four villate annexe from adjoining townships, but with twelve townshipmen alone.

22:533: 31 March 1310

Infortun'

Coronator & simil'r .xij. villate de Wyco Malbano present' q'd Marger' fil' Will'i Dogoun qued' puerc'la etatis vni^s anni &c'. iacebat in cunab'lis ppe ignem in domo p'd'ci Will'i Dogoun, et matre p'd'ce puerc'le absente Ignis adhesit cunab'lo p infortuniu' & p'd'cam puerc'lam iacentem in Cunab'lo vn' h'uit mortem Et nullus inde male credit'. Jud'm Infortuniu'

m'ia.ij.s'.

Th'm fil' Hug' fil' Walt'i +vj.d'+, Th'm Barcloft +vj.d'+, Joh'es del Kelne +vj.d'+, & Giliot del Kelne +vj.d'+ quia no' ven' ad Com' ad p'sentand' casu' em'gente' in Wyco malbano de p'd'ca Marger' in m'ia