

THE MANOR OF HINTON.

The geographical position of the Manor of Hinton within the Parish of Eardisland is illustrated on the "Introduction" page of this work. The boundaries shown are based on those which are described in a record of the "*Court Baron of Ann Crowther, widow, manor of Hinton, 18th October 1760*",¹ but an attempted use of field names associated with the Tithe Map to establish the exact course of the boundary as described then, was successful only to a very small extent.

By the time of the Tithe Map (1844) the field layout may well have been different, although the land which was then subject to Tithe is easy to trace by use of the associated Schedule.² It is hoped that further work on, for example, land transactions at various dates in the area around Broome, will help establish the exact course of the manor boundary.

The present day Hinton Manor Farm, whether or not on the site of the dwelling of the early lords of the manor, is at very least a good starting point from which to expand this Paper. It lies within the parish of Eardisland, about 3/4 of a mile north, and slightly west of the centre of the modern village of Eardisland.

The place name "Hinton" causes no problems of interpretation, unlike some others in the parish. Authorities on this subject concur that it signifies a "high(up)" settlement or dwelling.³ In relation to the flood plain of the river Arrow, not far to the south, a good description.⁴

What then of the people who had control over, worked within, had families and died in this manor over the centuries?

The earliest documentary reference of which I am aware relates to the year 1091 when the King (William II, "Rufus"), gave lands in Herefordshire to William (i) de Braose of Bramber (in Sussex). De Braose brought various knights from Sussex to this region, to one of whom he may have given lands at Newcastle in Radnor, and at Hinton, here in Eardisland. It is suggested that this knight may have been by name "des Yveteaux".⁵ But the first specific mention of this family in this vicinity is not until 1211/1212 when William des Yveteaux owed the barony of Radnor the service of 1/4 of a knight's fee.⁶

However, in 1213 'Bacton' is recorded as holding Hinton from the de Braose family.⁷ I do not know what happened to William des Yveteaux, but those were troubled times.

In 1230 William (iv) de Braose was hung⁸ by Llwyelyn the Great leaving four

¹ HRO O58/2/xiii.

² Both Map and Schedule (1842) are available at Hereford Archives.

³ Specific mention of 'Hentun in Eardisland' is made in 'Ekwall, Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names' where he gives '*TUN situated on high land*' .

⁴ Ekwall also gives a second meaning: "OE *Higna-tun* 'the monks' or nuns' TUN' ". It would be wrong to ignore the possibility that this might just be relevant in the light of nearby Monks Court, and even more remote a possibility, also nearby, Nunhouse. See my separate Papers on these subjects.

⁵ Coplestone-Crow: 'Other'.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Wendy Corke Mss.

⁸ Deservedly so by some accounts.

infant daughters as heirs, one of whom (Maud) was betrothed to Roger son of Ralph (ii) de Mortimer of Wigmore. Roger too was an infant and did not reach his majority until 1247 when he came into the barony of Radnor, which included Hinton, in right of his wife. For at least part of the intervening years eg.1242-1243 the barony had been held of the Crown by his father, Ralph (ii) de Mortimer, on behalf of his infant [under age] son.⁹

Time passed.....1760.

Brief mention has been made earlier in this Paper that a description of the boundaries of this manor is to be found in the Court Rolls under the date 18th October 1760. Whilst field boundaries and types of use of fields will have changed many times over the centuries, the area within the boundaries described is likely to be a close approximation to the geographical extent of the manor in early times. The 1760 description reads:

"Court Baron of Ann Crowther, widow, manor of Hinton, 18th October 1760.....after much else.....The Homage further Present and say that the Boundaries of the said manor (Hinton) are as follows-(viz) The said Manor is bounded on the East by a field of Mrs Crowthers called the great Field. On the West by a brook or Riverlet at the head of the Green or Comon at the Broome called Hintons Comon. Adjoining to a piece of land of Colonel Fitzroy called the White Field, to the gate on the road that leads to Pembridge. On the North to the River Pinsley, And the South by a Field of the Rt.Hon. the Ld. Viscount Bateman called the Broomway field." ¹⁰

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A very considerable amount of material remains to be assessed and interpreted in detail before this narrative account can be continued, the gap between 1242 and 1760 filled and the story continued into more recent times.

Work is in progress.

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⁹ Coplestone-Crow: Other.

¹⁰ HRO O58/2/xiii.