

THE MANORIAL ESTATES OF LECKHAMPTON

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Introduction

An automatic reaction upon first encountering the subject of Leckhampton's manorial history is to think of Leckhampton Court and of the manor with which it has been associated since earliest times. After all, the history of the manor extends back to Saxon times and its descent is traceable through the great house of Despenser and later a series of prominent Gloucestershire families, the Giffards, Norwoods and Tryes, related by marriage. Together the three families formed a line of mainly resident lords of Leckhampton that continued for over 500 years until the estate was sold at the end of the 19th century. Less well known is that Leckhampton possessed two other possible manors. The first, and less recorded, can also be traced back to Domesday Book and, as the manor of Broadwell, through the medieval period. It was later evidently absorbed into the principal manor of Leckhampton. The Domesday origins of the third manor are less firmly established but the estate manifests itself quite clearly in the medieval and post-medieval periods. After being held for some time by a branch of the Berkeley family it descended, while steadily diminishing in size, through a series of lesser lords from the Gloucestershire gentry, most notably the Partridges of Wishanger. Within this framework of three possible manors, other estate holders are revealed in the records but, with one of two exceptions, they were relatively secondary figures. On the eve of the Norman Conquest the Saxon thegn Brictric held land in Leckhampton directly from the king. This direct association with the Crown is also reflected in Leckhampton's position in relation to the manor and hundred of Cheltenham. It is Finberg's thesis¹ that towards the end of the 8th century Cheltenham was developed as a royal manor whose 30 hides included a swine pasture at Swindon, a cheorls' (or free peasants') tun at Charlton Kings and what may have been a home farm at Leckhampton (at that time the manor and hundred of Cheltenham would have been one and the same). Towards the end of the 13th century, when the manor of Leckhampton was in the possession of the Despensers, part of

their estate was held directly from the Crown by the service of dispenser in the king's household.² At the same time, however, the Despensers' estate also included land held from the manor of Cheltenham and land 'on the hill' held from the neighbouring manor of Coberley, then in the hands of lords of Berkeley. Indeed these relationships with Cheltenham and Coberley continued for centuries and one 16th century lord of Leckhampton briefly leased Cheltenham manor from the Crown. In 1247 Henry III had granted Cheltenham manor, and thereby the overlordship of Leckhampton, along with other estates to the Norman abbey of Fecamp in return for the ports of Rye and Winchelsea. Fecamp's ownership ended in 1414 when Henry V seized the English estates of alien abbeys. Soon after, the manor of Cheltenham, with the overlordship of Leckhampton, was granted to the abbey of Sion, which retained it until its dissolution in 1539.

The histories of the other possible manors in Leckhampton also include aspects of overlordship and serjeanty tenure. The estate held by William Leuric in the late 11th century became, together with other of Leuric's estates, part of the honor of Wigmore/Richard's Castle by the end of the 13th century. It thus came into the possession of the Mortimers of Wigmore and was held from them by Walter of Broadwell, whose descendants seem to have retained it for a considerable period. It is not clear when the overlordship of the Mortimers ceased but by the early 17th century the manors of Leckhampton and Broadwell were in the same ownership.

The origins of the third of Leckhampton's Domesday estates are also rooted in serjeanty tenure, namely kitchen service to the king, possibly in association with the royal palace at Kingsholm near Gloucester. This estate was held later from the manor of Cheltenham, thereby falling under the overlordship of Fecamp and later Sion. For centuries it belonged to a succession of non-resident lords (of Monmouth and then Berkeley) and was left in the charge of stewards. Later owners included the Partridges of Wishanger.

The record concludes with two lesser so-called

"estates" in Leckhampton, namely those belonging to Iles and Tanty, neither of which appear in the annals until relatively modern times and both of which appear to have emerged from one or other of the main manorial estates.

The history of Leckhampton's estates is therefore a complex subject. While Leckhampton may not necessarily be prominent among multi-manor parishes in the county, it nevertheless offers valuable insights into serjeanty tenure, overlordship, the evolution of estate ownership, and the histories of a number of Gloucestershire's land-owning families.

The Manor of Leckhampton

It is generally agreed that the earliest record of this estate occurs in the Domesday Book (folio 170c, 78G). An entry under the rubric 'Lands of the King's Thanes' indicates that in Cheltenham hundred 4 hides in Leckhampton were held from the Crown by Brictric. A Saxon, Brictric is said to have held two of those hides in Edward the Confessor's time when the other 2 hides were held by Ordric. William I seems to have granted both sets of land to Brictric upon his triumphal return to Normandy. In 1086 Brictric's estate comprised 1 ploughteam in demesne, 9 bordars with 3 ploughteams, and 2 bondmen and 1 bondwoman. It has been suggested that Brictric was one of a number of Saxon lords who managed to retain at least some of their estates by formally paying homage to William just before his departure; by doing so, Brictric managed also to acquire the former Leckhampton lands of another, less fortunate, Saxon, Ordric.³

By the early part of the 12th century, ownership of the manor had passed to the Despenser family. Simon, dispenser to Henry I (1100-35) and to Stephen (1135-54), granted tithes from his demesne of Leckhampton to the priory of Llanthony.⁴ Thurstan of Leckhampton (*de Lechamtone*), probably the son of Simon, held half a knight's fee, probably at Compton Abdale, from the archbishop of York in 1166.⁵ In 1221 another Thurstan, surnamed Despenser, was said to hold 100s. worth of land in Leckhampton by the service of being the king's dispenser.⁶ Later, c. 1269, Adam Despenser, son of Thurstan, was granted free warren on his demesne in Leckhampton.⁷

The service of dispenser entailed allocating bread and wine to the king's household. Although not as

prestigious as the great offices of state such as constable, marshal and chamberlain, it nevertheless had a status greater than many other serjeanty tenures as it involved personal service to the king at the coronation feast. The last known member of the Despenser family to perform the service was Adam's father Thurstan, dispenser to Henry III.⁸ In 1236, Thurstan unsuccessfully claimed rights to perform the service of the napery (i.e. the king's table linen) at the coronation feast of Queen Eleanor.⁹ In 1285, Adam Despenser held land by service as the king's pant(l)er (i.e. providing bread and at times attending the king's table), a function he was to perform at Christmas and the other great feasts.¹⁰

As lord of Leckhampton, Adam could not ignore his local commitments. In 1286 and again in 1287, he exercised his right as the patron of Leckhampton church to present to the vacant rectory. In 1297, at the next vacancy, his widow Joan presented to the living.¹¹

An indication of the extent of the manor at that time is given in some detail in two separate inquisitions post mortem of Adam's land held in 1295 with different sets of jurors.¹² According to the first inquisition, held soon after 29 June 1295, Adam's Leckhampton possessions included 2 ploughlands (320 acres), 20 acres of meadow and the rents from customary tenants with 4 1/2 yardlands. All was held from the Crown in chief by the service of dispenser to the king. The value of this part of the estate was said to be £8 2s. In addition Adam held a ploughland (160 acres) and 4 acres of meadow from the abbot of Fecamp. The value of this part of the estate was £2 17s. 4d. Finally, Adam held 40 acres of arable land and a several pasture from the heirs of Giles of Berkeley (d. 1294), lord of the neighbouring manor of Coberley. For this last part of the estate Adam paid a rent of 4s. a year. The clear value of the whole was £10 19s.

The second inquisition was held at Birdlip barely two weeks later, on 12 July. It differs in a number of ways from the earlier inquisition in respect of the part of the manor held by serjeanty; e.g. the arable land was described as 173 acres and the meadow land as 10 acres. Significantly, details of the lands held from the abbot of Fecamp and Giles of Berkeley's heirs are omitted but the rents payable for them are given as in the first inquisition. The effect of the revisions was to reduce the overall value of Adam's manor to £5 17s. 10d., just over half that given previously.

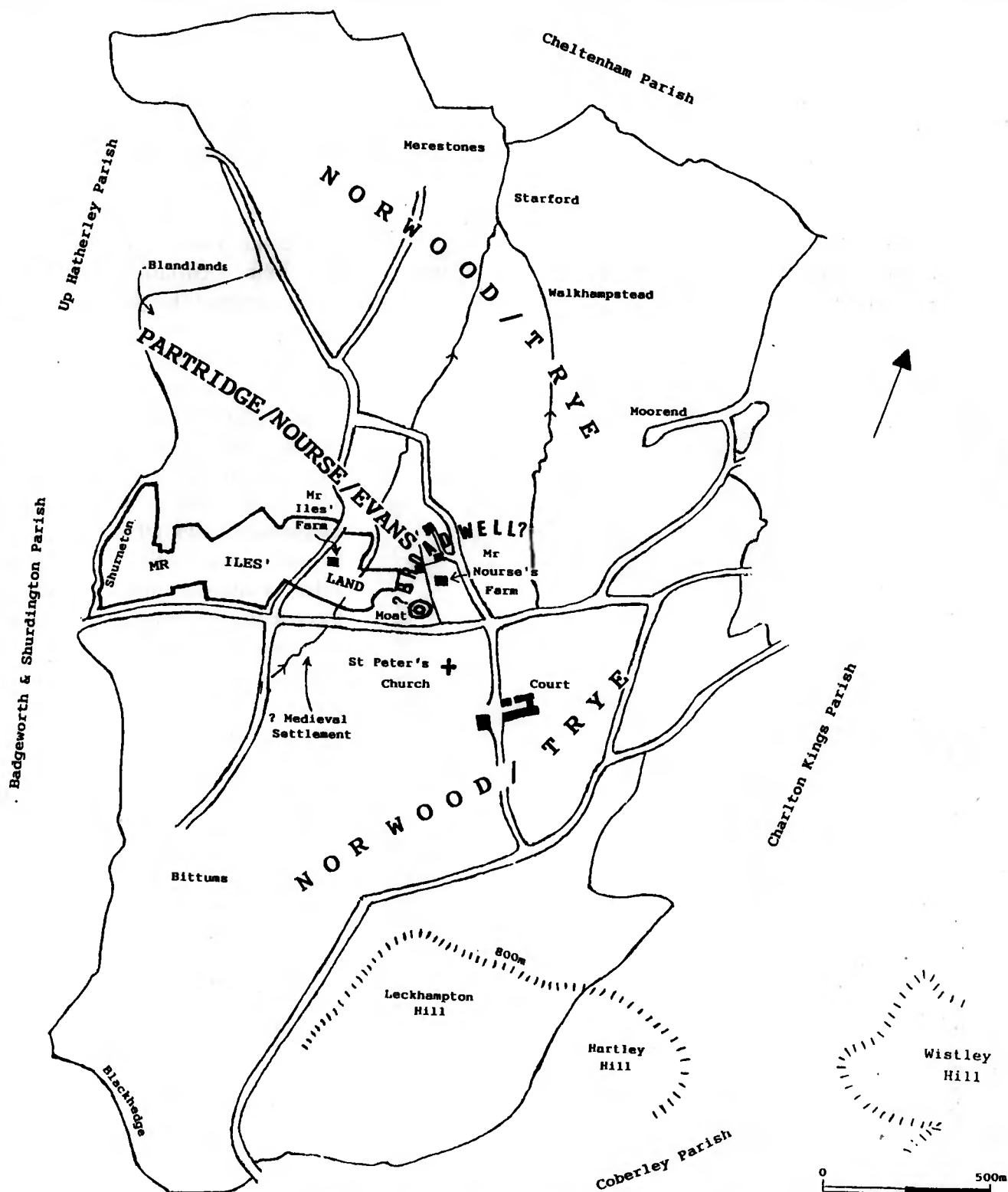


Fig. 1. Plan of the historic parish of Leckhampton and its manorial estates.

The second inquisition may therefore have been intended to correct the earlier record of Adam's holding under the Crown. The precise amount of land Adam held in chief must therefore remain uncertain but it would have been somewhere between 300 and 500 acres. In addition there were 160 or so acres held from the manor of Cheltenham as well as over 40 acres held from Coberley manor, the latter relating (as will be seen later) to land at Hartley and Wistley in Coberley

parish (Fig. 1).¹³ We thus see that Adam Despenser's manor was at this time a combination of lands held from the Crown in serjeanty (constituting the largest part), land held from the manor of Cheltenham, and a smaller area held from the manor of Coberley.

After Adam Despenser's death in 1295 the ancestral lands of the Despensers passed to his son and heir Amauri. He held them in 1303 but by that time the Despensers were alienating parts of their

inheritance and one of their chief possessions, the serjeanty of Great Rollright manor, had already passed to the bishops of Bath and Wells.¹⁴ By 1309 the manor and advowson of Leckhampton, together with land 'on the wold' held from the manor of Coberley, had passed to John Lovel of Snorscomb (in Northamptonshire) in the right of his wife Joan, a kinswoman of Amauri.¹⁵ Lovel still possessed the manor in 1316.¹⁶

Soon after 1316, the manor of Leckhampton was acquired by John Giffard of Brimpsfield. This

though was a turbulent time and, as a result of his participation in a rebellion against Edward II and his favourites, the Despensers, John lost his estates and, in 1322, he was hung and quartered at Gloucester. In the same year, and at the king's express command, the Giffards' castle and family seat at Brimpsfield was destroyed.¹⁷ Thus, Exchequer accounts for 1323-24 relating to the possessions of "contrairiants" indicate that in March 1324 John Giffard's manor in Leckhampton was granted by letters patent to

Hugh Despenser. These accounts also indicate that for the immediately preceding Christmas term receipts from Giffard's manor had amounted to 71s. 10½d. from rents and 19s 4d from various perquisites, totalling £4 11s. 2½d.¹⁸ As a result of Hugh Despenser's own attainder, however, he never took full possession and John Giffard's mother Margaret thereupon petitioned successfully for the manor to be restored to the Giffards,¹⁹ so re-establishing her family's ownership which continued for many generations.

By 1327, another John Giffard was in possession of the manor. He died in 1330 and it is assumed that he and his wife are commemorated by two effigies in Leckhampton parish church (Fig. 2).²⁰ Other John Giffards of Leckhampton are recorded between 1340 and 1412, and Joan Giffard was the patron of the parish church in 1349 and 1354.²¹ Exchequer accounts for 1359-60 for the Liberty of Cheltenham, but specifically relating to its one ploughland in Leckhampton, value the property at £40 and record various receipts from the holding totalling 13s.²² In 1486, another John Giffard died leaving no male heir and, through the marriage of his daughter Eleanor to John Norwood (d. 1509), Leckhampton manor passed to the Norwoods an ancient Kentish family said to have descended from Alnod the Kentishman (reputedly a son of King Harold) and with its seat at Northwood on the Isle of Sheppey.²³



Fig. 2. 14th century tomb effigies of Sir John and Lady Giffard in St Peter's church, Leckhampton (reproduced from *Trans. B.G.A.S.* 4 (1879-80), facing p. 246).



Fig. 3. Leckhampton Court from the west in the early 18th century: a reconstruction drawing based on early prints and evidence from the present building (reproduced by kind permission of Miss Eve Andrew).

The Norwoods remained lords of the manor of Leckhampton for a little over 300 years displaying, as a family, enterprise and taste. It was during this period, for example, that much work was done to improve Leckhampton Court, the manor house, which dates from the time of the Giffards in the 14th century (Fig. 3). The Norwoods made various bequests to the local church and with the manor owned the patronage of the rectory.²⁴



Fig. 4. Portrait of William Norwood of Leckhampton in 1619 (reproduced by kind permission of Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum).

The record relating to one of the earlier Norwood lords, namely Ralph Norwood (d. 1561), is of sufficient interest to be worthy of note. Ralph's father Roger Norwood died in 1512 leaving a widow Alice, daughter of Sir John Butler of Badminton, and an under-aged son and heir Ralph. Alice then remarried to a Henry Knight of Shropshire²⁵ and it was he who is recorded in 1522 as the principal landowner in Leckhampton, having land worth £20 and goods worth £200.²⁶ A will made by Knight in 1520²⁷ attests to his personal wealth but also indicates that Knight desired that one or the other of his daughters should marry Ralph, a role that eventually fell to his daughter Jane.²⁸ By around 1540, Ralph, as lord of the manor, was involved in a land dispute with Coberley manor²⁹ but there is evidence to suggest that he was lord only by virtue of having been granted the manor by his mother Alice in return for an annual rent of £46 13s. 4d. (Alice having been granted the manor for life by her late husband Roger).³⁰

The next Norwood lord was William Norwood (1548-1632) (Fig. 4). Through his marriage to Elizabeth, daughter of William Lygon of Madresfield (Worcs.) (d. 1567), William acquired, for a time, a lease of the manor of Cheltenham.³¹ In 1594, William and Elizabeth Norwood settled the manor of Leckhampton together with that of Up Hatherley on trustees including probably a nephew William Lygon.³²

Norwood's lease of the manor of Cheltenham expired c. 1616 and the estate reverted to the Crown. Thus, in a survey of the tenants of the manor and hundred of Cheltenham compiled by John Norden in 1617³³ William Norwood is

recorded not as the lessee or farmer of the manor of Cheltenham but as the holder of the manor of Leckhampton and Broadwell for a yearly rent of 15s. (evidence for the original manor of Broadwell is dealt with in more detail later in this paper). William nevertheless retained land in the manor of Cheltenham: a survey of that manor's demesne lands in 1635 recorded that his executors held a pasture called Blandlands for a rent of 10s. Blandlands was a field straddling Leckhampton's western boundary with the parish of Up Hatherley (Fig.1) and the profits from part of it went to Norwood's mother Catherine.³⁴

In 1637, an inquisition into the property held by William Norwood on his death attributed to him the manor of Leckhampton, two pastures called Hartley and Wistley (both in Coberley parish) and the advowson of Leckhampton church, all held from the manor of Cheltenham for a yearly rent of 25s. and in all worth £3 per annum. For an annual rent of 22s., William also held the manor of Up Hatherley, in this case from the manor of Kings Barton.³⁵ A fine brass memorial depicting William and Elizabeth Norwood and their nine sons and two daughters can be seen in the south aisle of Leckhampton parish church.

William's eldest son Richard died before him so that Leckhampton manor in due course passed to Richard's son Francis Norwood (1603-83). Of him the most notable thing is that his wife presented him with nine sons and nine daughters, a circumstance responsible perhaps for Francis getting into financial difficulties and eventually, in 1667, selling the manor to his cousin Colonel Henry Norwood. Francis's brothers earned fame for themselves elsewhere. In 1648 William, later known as 'the Emigrant', emigrated to Virginia, following another brother, Richard, who had departed for the colony in 1643. The two became prominent pioneers in the New World and their descendants later served with distinction as educators, jurists, senators and landowners in a number of the American colonies.

Probably the most famous and colourful of the grandsons of William and Elizabeth Norwood was Colonel Henry Norwood (1614-89). Henry fought as a royalist during the first Civil War and in 1649 he decided to follow other members of his family by emigrating to Virginia. The hardships and trials of his voyage and his subsequent fortunes abroad and in England have been amply chronicled.³⁶ Suffice it to record that his service to the Crown did not go unrewarded. In 1650 the exiled Charles

II granted him the post of Treasurer of Virginia and in 1660 that of esquire of the Royal Body (enabling him to be present at the king's coronation in 1661). Other appointments included that of Deputy Governor of Dunkirk (1662) and Lieutenant Governor of Tangier (1666). Henry finally returned to England in 1669, taking up residence on his manor of Leckhampton and serving as a justice of the peace for Gloucestershire. In 1670, he acquired the manor of Tuffley, and became an alderman and in 1672 mayor of the city. In 1675 he was elected one of the city's Members of Parliament.³⁷

Henry died a bachelor in 1689 and the manor passed in succession to the three sons of the aforementioned Francis Norwood, Richard (d. 1690), William (d. 1693) and Thomas (d. 1734). From Thomas the manor passed in turn to his sons William and Charles³⁸ and eventually to Charles's son Henry, who was the principal beneficiary of the Leckhampton Inclosure Act of 1778, under which he consolidated his estate.³⁹ Henry died in 1797 without issue and left the manor to Charles Brandon Trye (1757-1811), grandson of Mary, daughter of Thomas Norwood (d. 1734). She had married Thomas Trye of Haresfield, a member of the Trye family of Hardwicke Court. Thus, for a second time, Leckhampton manor passed by marriage to a different family, one supposedly descended from a Norman and named after its place of origin in Normandy.

In Charles Brandon Trye, Leckhampton again had a lord of the manor of some distinction.⁴⁰ A lifelong friend of Dr. Jenner, Charles followed the profession of surgeon, being appointed in 1780 apothecary at Gloucester Infirmary and in 1784 senior surgeon there; he held the latter post until his death. He still found time to improve the land on his estate through experimental cultivation and he was the first to recognise the commercial benefits of the stone quarries on Leckhampton Hill. He died in 1811 after a life of 'exemplary virtue and eminent public utility' and an imposing memorial to him was installed in the north aisle of Gloucester Cathedral.

On the death of Charles Brandon Trye the manor passed to his eldest son Henry Norwood Trye, then only 13 years old. For a time the estate appears to have been managed by his mother and an uncle, but Henry's high living at Oxford and later unsuccessful investments led in the 1830s and 1840s to financial difficulties and large debts and the mortgaging of much of his property in

Leckhampton and neighbouring parishes. It was around this time that Henry sold numerous parcels of land in the northern part of Leckhampton earmarked for the planned Park estate and other housing developments on the southwestern fringe of Cheltenham town.⁴¹ In 1835, Henry owned c. 964 acres in both the north and south of Leckhampton, including c. 176 acres on Leckhampton Hill.⁴²

Eventually, in the 1840s, Henry Norwood Trye was forced to sell the estate. It was acquired by his brother the Revd. Charles Brandon Trye, the rector of Leckhampton from 1830 until his death in 1884. Sale particulars of 1841 indicate that the estate was made up of c. 464 acres centred on Leckhampton Court and, within Coberley parish, c. 196 acres in a ring fence on Leckhampton Hill.⁴³ In 1873, the Revd. C. B. Trye was returned as owning just over 557 acres in Gloucestershire; that land possibly included the glebe of the Leckhampton rectory. During his tenure, C. B. Trye undertook major alterations at Leckhampton Court and he was a notable benefactor to Leckhampton village, providing it with a school and allotments. However, in 1867 he chose to move from the Court into the nearby rectory house and to let the Court to tenants. His eldest son and successor in 1884, another Henry Norwood Trye, lived briefly at the Court but was for the most of the time an absentee lord of the manor and in 1894 he disposed of the remainder of the estate, comprising c. 464 acres including much of the village and an 'outlying portion' on the hill.⁴⁴

Leckhampton Court and the adjoining land were eventually bought by John Hargreaves who had lived at the Court as a tenant since the early 1870's.⁴⁵ Hargreaves was a grandson of the Lancashire cotton pioneer James Hargreaves, the inventor of the 'Spinning Jenny' and a close friend of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII). He is said to have rebuilt the north wing of the house to accommodate a suite for the Prince's use during his visits. Leckhampton Court subsequently passed to Hargreaves's daughter Muriel and she and her husband, Henry Cecil Elwes (d. 1950), lived there before moving to Colesbourne Park, which he inherited in 1922.⁴⁶ It was during the Elwes' time that the Court was used as a hospital for sick and injured servicemen throughout most of the First World War.⁴⁷ The following years saw a decline in the Court's fortunes. From 1939 to 1948 the house was requisitioned by the War

Office to house in turn British servicemen, American servicemen, and German prisoners-of-war. After the death of Mrs. Elwes, the house was sold and in 1957 it became a preparatory school. Use as a school did not last long and, unoccupied, the Court sank into a state of chronic neglect. Finally, in 1977 it was acquired by the Sue Ryder Foundation and a programme of restoration began to provide a home for the care of cancer patients, a function the house performs to the present day. Thus rehabilitated, Leckhampton Court stands as a dignified and tangible reminder of this historic manor.

The Manor of "Broadwell"

The second estate in Leckhampton according to the Domesday Book (folio 167c,38.1) consisted of 3 hides which William Leuric held from the king. The estate, which had been held by Osgot in Edward the Confessor's time, included 2 ploughteams in demesne, 2 villeins and 8 bordars with 1 ploughteam, and 4 bondmen. Leuric is believed to have been a son of Osgot and possibly also a kinsman of Brictric, another of Leckhampton's Domesday lords, and that he (Leuric) was successful in retaining at least part of his father's lands has been taken as evidence of his readiness, along with Brictric, to submit to King William's rule.⁴⁸ It could also be relevant that, as his Christian name indicates, Leuric may have been half Norman.

Although Leuric's estate was quite substantial, by comparison with Leckhampton's two other principal estates its descent is only scantily recorded. It has been suggested that it centred on a place called Broadwell and that it was represented from the early 14th century, and possibly into the 15th century, by a third of a knight's fee held by the heirs of Walter of Broadwell from the Mortimers, as part of their honor of Wigmore.⁴⁹ Walter of Broadwell was named in 1294 as an executor of the will of Giles of Berkeley, lord of the neighbouring manor of Coberley, and in 1309 as a witness in an inquisition into the Leckhampton estate of Amauri Despenser.⁵⁰ He was one of four lords in Leckhampton in 1316¹⁶ and was assessed for tax there in 1327.⁵¹ In 1304, Edmund Mortimer was said to have held the third of the knight's fee in Leckhampton.⁵² The estate was recorded until at least the mid 15th century.⁵³ A possible connection between William Leuric's late 11th-century estate and that of Walter of

Broadwell over two hundred years later is suggested also by the descent of land in Shipton, where one of Leuric's other Gloucestershire estates was situated. In the 1220s Stephen of Elmbridge held a quarter of a knight's fee in Shipton from the honor of Richard's Castle.⁵⁴ The honor passed c. 1260 to a branch of the Mortimer family and in 1284/5 it was recorded that Robert Oliffe held a third of a knight's fee in Shipton from Adam of Elmbridge, who held it from Robert Mortimer.⁵⁵ It is therefore not unreasonable to conclude that Leuric's Domesday estate in Leckhampton passed to the Mortimers and to new owners when, in 1330, Roger Mortimer, earl of March, was attainted and all the Mortimer possessions and honors were forfeited. Little else is known of the Leckhampton estate save that it seems to have been subsumed into the manor of Leckhampton by 1617 when, as has been noted earlier, William Norwood held the so-called manor of "Leckhampton and Broadwell".³³

The existence of a place in Leckhampton known as Broadwell is also indicated in a court book for Cheltenham hundred and manor for the period 1597-1601. They record presentments from the separate tithings of Leckhampton and Broadwell.⁵⁶ The location of Broadwell tithing has, however, remained an enigma. A complex of earthworks some distance southwest of Leckhampton parish church may represent the site of an abandoned medieval settlement.⁵⁷ A more likely explanation though is that there were two main areas of habitation in medieval Leckhampton, one centred on the church and manor house (Leckhampton Court) and the other situated around and just north of the moated site (where some old cottages stood at the end of the 20th century). (Fig.1) Whether the moated site was part of Broadwell tithing can only be speculation but it has to be a possibility.⁵⁸

The Berkeley/Partridge Manor

Details of the early history of this estate are scarce but the existence of a third estate in Leckhampton is recorded as far back as the Domesday Book (folio 170a, 71.1). According to that survey Humphrey the cook held from the Crown 1 hide in *Lechetone* in the hundred of Salmonsbury (Slaughter) and had 1 ploughteam and 4 bordars on it. The land had previously been held by Osbern of Cherbourg and, in Edward the Confessor's time, by Ordric presumably the same

Ordric who lost land in Leckhampton to Brictric) Most historians have concluded that *Lechetone* was part of a hundred other than Slaughter but have not agreed on its precise location. Although Moore preferred to identify the place with Latton in Wiltshire,⁵⁹ Taylor propounded earlier that it was Leckhampton.⁶⁰ This latter theory is substantiated by evidence that in the 13th century some land in Leckhampton was held by the serjeanty of kitchen service.

According to a cartulary of Cirencester Abbey of c. 1162-1164, a settlement was reached whereby the priest of the chapel at Leckhampton paid the church of Cheltenham 2s. yearly for the chapel and for the tithes of land held by Geoffrey the cook.⁶¹ Probably it was the same Geoffrey the cook who held substantial land in Leckhampton c. 1163.⁵⁹ Reference to this estate next appears around 1212 when a Peter of Kingsholm, alias Peter of the hall (*de aula*), is recorded as having one ploughland in Leckhampton by serjeanty service in the king's kitchen.⁶² Peter's alias relates to the royal palace (*aula regis*) at Kingsholm, the existence of which can be traced back to Edward the Confessor. It was used as a royal residence up to the 13th century and doubtless featured prominently at each of the great crown-wearing days generally held at Gloucester at Christmas.⁶³ Soon after this, the estate appears to have been divided for, in 1226, two persons held land in Cheltenham hundred by serjeanty of cook to the king, namely Peter of the hall and a Roger of Monmouth.⁶⁴ By 1250, the holders of two estates, each a half yardland in size, were Henry of Monmouth and William Wyberd, although by this time the original serjeanty service had been replaced by annual payments (in Henry's case, of 12d.) and military service.⁶⁵ A connection between this Wyberd and Wyberd of the king's hall who held the manor of Kingsholm in the early 12th century seems likely.⁶⁶

At this point, the descent of the Wyberd estate in Leckhampton becomes quite involved. In 1280, William Wyberd granted a ploughland there to John Wyberd in return for one pound of cumin and two marks each year and service to 'the chief lords'. Seven years later, another Wyberd, this time Adam, is recorded as granting a messuage and 70 acres of land in Leckhampton to John of Bradenstoke and Alice his wife and to John's heirs, for a consideration of ten marks.⁶⁷ It was John's son, also called John, who was named as one of Leckhampton's lords in 1316¹⁶ and who, c.

1320, held land in Leckhampton comprising a messuage, one ploughland and 12 acres of land with a croft called 'Spencerescroft' and 13s. 6d. of rent. A moiety of this was demised to his wife Alice for life whilst the other moiety was eventually enfeoffed to Robert of Prestbury. Apart from the messuage, which was held from John Daubenny (at this time lord of several manors in Gloucestershire including Kingsholm⁶⁸), the property and land was now held from the abbot of Fecamp (the reference to 'Spencerescroft' perhaps indicating a Despenser connection at least for that property).⁶⁹

According to a record of 1324,⁷⁰ Robert of Prestbury's holding in Leckhampton had, between 1319 and 1322, been a whole ploughland (Alice's moiety by this time having presumably passed to Robert) and, between 1316 and 1322, a section of open field ('culture') of 20 acres called 'Banlond', also held from the abbot of Fecamp as part of his manor of Cheltenham.⁷¹ However in 1322, Robert's properties in Leckhampton were seized by the king because of his adherence to the rebellious John Giffard of Brimpsfield. Thus in 1324, Robert of Prestbury's lands in Leckhampton were in the hands of a Henry of Hatherley and, a year later, of Thomas of Hatherley for which payment was made to the royal manor of King's Barton.⁷² By 1327 though, the subsidy roll of that year shows Robert again in ownership.

It therefore appears that, with the removal of the serjeanty associations for this estate and (as will be seen below) the Monmouth portion, ownership for the greater part passed to the royal manor of Cheltenham. The subsequent descent of this particular portion of estate is unclear but, by the 17th century, the Banlond field at least was held by the Norwoods on lease from the manor of Cheltenham.⁷³

Returning to the Monmouth part of this estate, in 1265 land of Henry of Monmouth in Leckhampton was taken by John Giffard of Brimpsfield, but in what circumstances and with what result is not clear.⁷⁴ The Monmouth family continued to hold estate there however, for in an inquisition post mortem of the lands of Walter of Monmouth conducted in 1302, Walter's possessions were a ploughland held of the abbot of Fecamp for 40d. a year and a messuage with garden, 60 acres of arable land and 20 acres of meadow. The value of the whole estate was 22s. 6d. Walter had granted the ploughland to Matilda la Straunge and her son John for the term of their

lives.⁷⁵ Walter's son and heir, John of Monmouth, was only 13 years old at the time but it was he who retained an estate in Leckhampton in 1316.¹⁶ The Monmouth family's association with Leckhampton evidently ceased soon afterwards for, according to an inquisition of 1324, John of Berkeley held the ploughland and a messuage in Leckhampton of the abbot of Fecamp.⁷⁶ Earlier, in 1322, Exchequer accounts relating to the possessions of "contrairiants" indicated that John's holding in Leckhampton had produced rents amounting to 19s 3d., income from various "works" totalling 15s. 4¼d. and produce worth 19s., in all 53s. 7¼d.⁷⁷ John had purchased this estate from his father Maurice, Lord Berkeley but, because of his participation in the rebellion against Edward II, John's estate, like that of John Giffard, was seized by the Crown.⁷⁸ Hence, further Exchequer accounts for 1323 relating to Berkeley's possessions in Leckhampton indicate that at Easter 1324 these were all forfeited and granted "at farm" to a John and Nicholas Gamage for the sum of 60s., the former continuing to retain them into 1325.⁷⁹

The Berkeley interest in Leckhampton did not end there however. About 1347 Thomas Berkeley, Lord Berkeley (d. 1361), bought land in Leckhampton and c. 1352 he settled it on his son John, then 2 years old.⁸⁰ This John, the first of the Berkeleys of Beverstone, died in 1428 aged 76 seised in Leckhampton of a messuage, 30 acres of land, 6 cottages and 2 acres of wood held from the abbot of Fecamp.⁸¹ The estate, which the historian Fosbrooke declared 'appears to have been Monmouth's', passed to John's son and heir Maurice Berkeley of Beverstone.

At his death in 1460, Maurice Berkeley held 8 messuages, 80 acres of arable land, 10 acres of meadow and 4 acres of wood in Leckhampton from Sion Abbey, the lord of Cheltenham manor.⁸² His son and heir, also called Maurice (d. 1474), was succeeded in the Leckhampton estate by his son and heir William.⁸³ Because of his involvement in the unsuccessful plot against Richard III in 1483, William's lands were seized by the Crown but they were restored to him in 1485, following Richard's death at Bosworth.

For the following years until the mid 16th century there is no record of the Berkeleys' estate in Leckhampton, although the Beverstone estate remained in the family and descended to John Berkeley (d. 1582). But around this time the Berkeley fortunes were in decline and in 1559

John, the son of William Berkeley, sold his Leckhampton manor to William Partridge, the head of an old Gloucestershire family with its seat at Wishanger in Miserden⁸⁴ and William was in possession of it at his death in 1578.



Fig. 5. Monument to Anthony Partridge and his wife Alice (1625) in Miserden church.

William's Leckhampton manor passed with his other Gloucestershire estates to his son Robert Partridge. Robert, who also owned the manor of Heddington (Wilts.), died in 1600. In 1608 his son John owned the Leckhampton estate and another son Anthony had the Wishanger and other of the family estates.⁸⁵ It was Anthony however who held the estate in Leckhampton in 1617 and, when he died in 1625, this holding (rented from the manor of Cheltenham at a yearly rent of 4s. 4d.) was worth £4 per annum.⁸⁶ He and his wife Alice are commemorated by a fine monument in Miserden church. (Fig. 5) At the time of Anthony's death, his son and heir Henry was still a minor and not ready to take over the estate but we do know that in 1625 at least part of the Leckhampton manor was granted to Oliver Partridge for the term of his life. In 1632, both Oliver and his sister Mary, wife of Charles Williams of Monmouth, had life interests in the manor. At his death in 1653 Henry Partridge was succeeded by his son

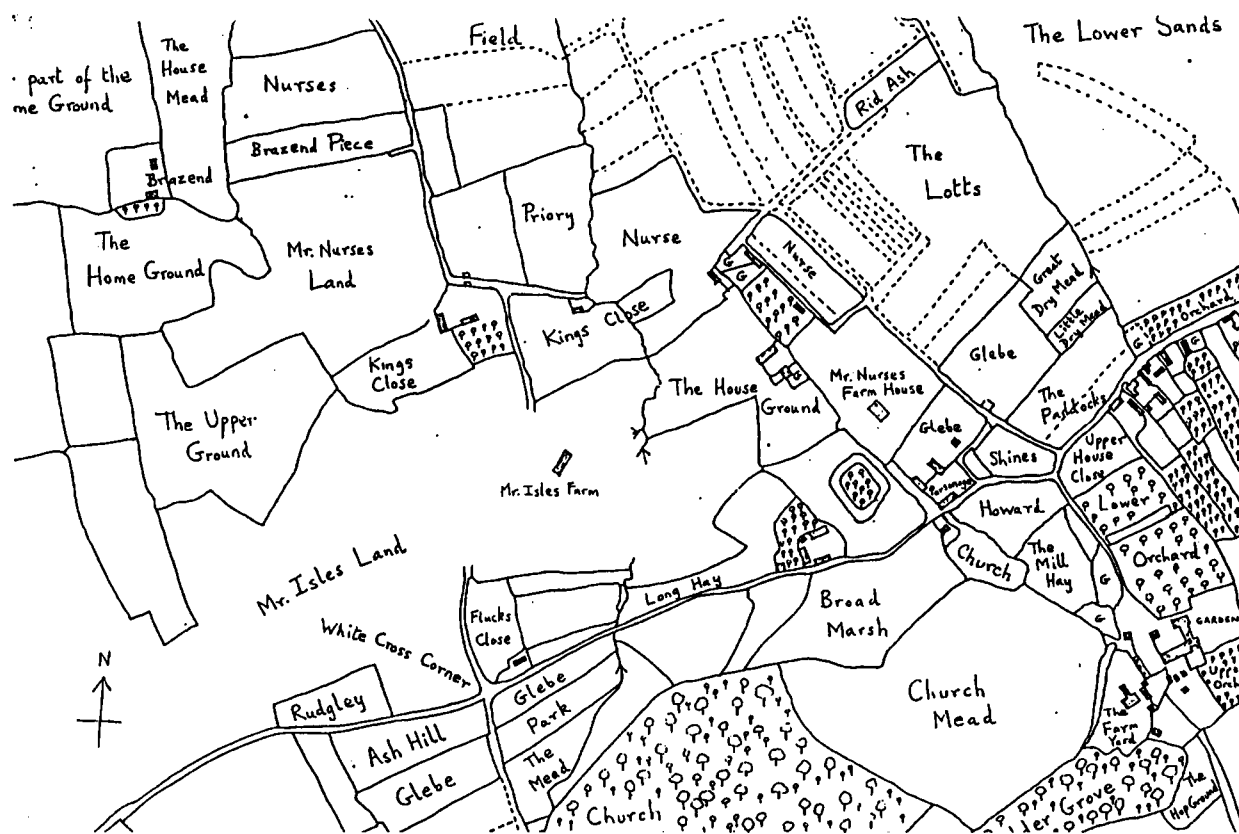
Henry, who in 1662 sold his Leckhampton estate to the landowner William Selwyn of Matson.⁸⁷ There was a distant relationship between the Selwyns and the Partridges.⁸⁸ Oliver Partridge retained an interest in the estate in 1691 and was buried at Leckhampton on 7 August 1697.⁸⁹

William Selwyn died in 1679 and his son and heir, William, conveyed the Leckhampton manor to Edward Nourse, a member of a prominent Gloucester family and related through marriage to the Selwyns.⁸⁸ It was this Edward who held a court of survey for the manor in 1691.⁹⁰ His namesake Edward Nourse (d. c. 1674) had been a benefactor to several parishes in the city. The Nourses retained land in Leckhampton for almost 70 years and a survey of 1746 clearly identifies their farm with land that had previously been held by Oliver Partridge. Their estate included individual land parcels scattered around the northern and southern parts of the parish and the main part was in the centre of the parish north and west of the moated site (Fig. 1). About 1758 the son of Edward Nourse sold the estate to John Hughes of Cheltenham. Hughes held it only a short time and by his will dated 1766 he devised it to his only child Sarah, wife of Richard Critchett.⁹¹ Richard and Sarah Critchett together were awarded land at the inclosure of Leckhampton under an Act of 1778 and Sarah appears to have remained in possession of the estate in the early 19th century. By 1835, the lands making up the estate (amounting to over 207 acres) were owned by W. S. Evans, who after Henry Norwood Trye, was the most prominent landowner in Leckhampton (Fig. 1).

Other estate holders in Leckhampton

Iles (or Berry) Estate

The court of survey of his manor in Leckhampton held by Edward Nourse in 1691,⁹⁰ indicates that from as early as 1625 a Mr John Iles held land in the parish and that, in 1658, land held by John Iles adjoined at least four separate parcels of land belonging to Nourse's manor. A 1679 terrier of glebe lands in Leckhampton also mentions Iles as a landowner⁹² and a title deed of 1724 links John and Thomas Iles with a "Berry Farm" and a so-called "Berry Estate" in Leckhampton.⁹³



A 1746 plan of Leckhampton shows that a Mr Isles owned parcels of land of varying sizes scattered around the parish but the focus of his estate appears to have been an area (marked as “Mr Isles Land”) extending westwards from the centre of the village as far as the western edge of the parish. “Mr Isles Farm” is also shown within this area (Fig.6).⁹⁴ Bigland, writing in 1791,⁹⁵ confidently declared that of the two estates in Leckhampton independent of the manor, one had formerly been owned by the “Isles of Minchinhampton”.⁹⁶

How long after 1746 the Iles' interests in Leckhampton continued is not clear but, by the time of the Leckhampton inclosures in 1778, what had previously been Mr Isles Farm is described as Abraham Wallbank's Farm. Abraham Wallbank also appeared in the Inclosure Act as an allottee of land next in size only to Henry Norwood, the rector Edward Draper and Richard Critchett, lord of the second manor of Leckhampton.⁹⁷ Ownership of the property continued to change however for Bigland also records that the estate previously owned by the Iles' was in 1791 held by the Pride family and, by 1835, Berry Farm and many of the fields around it (including, as referred to earlier, much of the former Partridge/Nourse estate) were owned by Mr. W.S. Evans.

An explanation for the Iles' connection with Leckhampton is not immediately obvious. As has

been shown, the Iles' presence in Leckhampton seems to begin in the early 17th century, that is at a time when the Partridge (formerly Berkeley) estate seems to have started breaking up. It might be inferred therefore that the land acquired by the Iles's was purchased from the Partridges. The farm building serving the Iles estate at least during the 18th century, probably much earlier, was arguably the next most prominent residence in the village after Leckhampton Court itself, substantial enough possibly to have at one time been the centre of a manorial estate. One interpretation of all this may be that Iles had acquired a significant part the Partridge estate (though not the lordship of the manor itself) and, with it, the house that had originally been the working centre for that estate. It seems that after 1660, the only Partridge occupying property in Leckhampton was Oliver Partridge who lived in a much less imposing residence elsewhere in the village described in the 1679 glebe terrier as "Mr Partridge's Farm" then, in 1746, as "Mr Nourse's Farm" and eventually as simply "Manor Farm".

“Tanty Estate”

Particulars of the sale in the 1830's of land destined to become Cheltenham's Grafton or Park estate included details of named fields described

as being part and parcel of three estates known as Norwood's, Tanty's and Berry's.⁹⁸ A similar source dated 1841 also refers to a Tanty's Estate which had been sold by Henry Norwood to Thomas Billings, the person responsible for laying out the new Park estate.⁹⁹ Quite what this Tanty Estate amounted to is not clear but the name Tanty appears in Leckhampton records dating from as early as the 16th century. In 1545, William Tanty was a witness to a Leckhampton will,¹⁰⁰ and he is probably one or the other of two William Tauty's (elder and younger) referred to sometime earlier as tenants of Roger Norwood;¹⁰¹ also, in 1587, Thomas Tantie yeoman provided a surety of 100 marks¹⁰⁰. Various Tanty names also appear in Leckhampton parish records in the early 17th century¹⁰² and the entry for Leckhampton in Men and Armour for Gloucestershire in 1608 includes a John Tanty husbandman together with Ralph Tanty described as a servant of Margaret Tanty widow.

The picture conveyed therefore is that although the Tanty's of Leckhampton were a prominent family in the parish for a considerable time, their status seems at best to have been that of small owner and tenant farmers. Nevertheless, that the family held land of their own in Leckhampton well into the 18th century is shown by the inclusion of a John Tanty among the allottees of land under the 1778 Inclosure Award and it is presumably this at least that constituted the "Tanty Estate" referred to in the following century.

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References and Notes

¹ Finberg, H.P.R., *Lucerna: Studies of Some Problems in the Early History of England* (1964), pp. 158-159

² The Despenser's tenure by serjeanty of its manor and family seat at Great Rollright (Oxon.) is traceable back to Domesday and their other tenures, including that at Leckhampton, doubtless formed part of the same serjeanty. Moore, John S., 'The Gloucestershire Section of Domesday: Geographical Problems of the Text', Part 4; *Trans. B.G.A.S.* 108 (1990), p. 106; also J.H.Round, *King's*

Serjeants and Officers of State (1st edition 1911, new impression 1971), p. 186

³ Williams Ann, *The English and the Norman Conquest*, Woodbridge (1995), p. 8. The Brictric of Leckhampton is evidently not to be confused with the great Saxon thegn of the same name, son of Algar and lord of Tewkesbury, whose fortunes appear to have collapsed totally after the Conquest.

⁴ *Cartulary of Llanthony Priory, Pt.1*, item 90, f.119v (P.R.O. C115/77, Glos. R.O. microfilm 1104). This particular grant of tithes to Llanthony persisted through the 14th century up to the dissolution (by which time the tithes were being paid to the rector of Prestbury). *Ibid.*, f.314 and Val. Eccl. (Rec. Comm.), p. 425.

⁵ *Red Book of the Exchequer*, Vol. I, p. 415; also *Victoria County History of Gloucestershire* (V.C.H. Glos). Vol. IX, p. 33.

⁶ *Testa de Nevill*, *Trans. B.G.A.S.*, 13 (1888-89), p. 298; by 1228 the value of Thurstan's land had reduced to 60s.

⁷ *Calendar of Charter Rolls, Hen. III*, Vol. 1, p. 414. According to Rudder, later holders of the manor had the same rights reconferred on them in 1573 and 1619.

⁸ Round, p. 187.

⁹ *Ibid.* p. 224.

¹⁰ E.G.Kimball, *Serjeanty Tenure in Medieval England* (1936), p. 57

¹¹ *Hockaday Abstracts* no. 258.

¹² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 23 Edw. I, no.31; also *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, Vol. IX, p. 138; *E. Inq. p.m.* File 3(16); the same inquisitions also dealt with Adam's manor of King's Stanley.

¹³ Much later, around 1540, the then lord of Leckhampton manor, Ralph Norwood, was in dispute with Coberley manor over the latter's rights of access to 300 acres of land on Hartley Hill; Norwood's holdings in Coberley also included land at Wistley (P.R.O. C1/1040/50-52). Still later, in the 18th century, land on the hill (comprising over 300 acres) was in the ownership of Henry Norwood of Leckhampton and a trust deed of 1815 relating to the Leckhampton estate included Hartley Hill farm, part of Coberley parish (G.R.O. D303 E1).

¹⁴ Round, p. 196.

¹⁵ *Cal. Inq. ad q.d.*, 2 Edw II, p. 225, 116; also P.R.O. C143/74, no.24.

¹⁶ *Inquisitions and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids*, Vol. II (1284-1431), p. 273.

¹⁷ Dodd, Arthur & Moss Philip, *The History of Brimpsfield Castle and the Giffard Family*; Glevensis no.25 (1991), pp. 34-37.

¹⁸ P.R.O. SC6/1147/12

¹⁹ Parl. 1 Edw.III no. 43.

²⁰ Ida M. Roper, *The Monumental Effigies of Gloucestershire & Bristol* (Gloucester 1931), p. 389.

²¹ *E. Pat. Roll*, 14 Edw. III, p. 500; *Pat. Roll*, 5 Rich. II, p. 40; Harl. ins. p. 1429; *Hockaday Abstracts* no. 258, (1354).

²² P.R.O. SC6/856/13.

²³ Callam, Marion Norwood, *The Norwoods I: An Introduction to their History* (1963); also *Hockaday Abstracts* no. 258 quoting *Gen. Mag.* 4, p. 452.

²⁴ *Hockaday Abstracts* no.258 quoting G.D.R. 2 doc 29.

²⁵ *Visitation of Gloucestershire* 1628, pp. 117 and 241

²⁶ *Gloucestershire Military Survey 1522* (B.G.A.S. Record Series vol.6 (1993), p. 48).

²⁷ *Hockaday Abstracts* no.258, (1526).

²⁸ P.R.O. C1/1371/58.

²⁹ P.R.O. C1/1371/58.

³⁰ This is evident from a petition to the Lord Chancellor made by Alice and a later husband Richard Banaster seeking a subpoena against Ralph Norwood for non-payment of rent and detention of deeds relating to the rent of the manor of Leckhampton (P.R.O. C1/748/1). The date of this document is not provided but a Richard Banaster, at the time apparently the rector of Leckhampton, is recorded as having witnessed a Leckhampton will in 1546 (*Hockaday Abstracts*)

³¹ The Madresfield Muniments (1929), pp. 23-24.

³² Maclean, Sir John, 'Pedes Finium or Excerpts from the Feet of Fines in the County of Gloucestershire from 30 Eliz. to 20 James

I'; *Trans. B.G.A.S.*, 17 (1892-3), p. 154.

³³ *Extracts from the Survey of the manor and hundred of Cheltenham made on 16 July 1617 by John Norden the Elder and John Norden the Younger his deputy.* *Glos. R.O. D855 M50.*

³⁴ *Glos. R.O. D855 M51.*

³⁵ *Abstract of Glos'shire Inq. p.m.*, Charles I (British Record Society (1895)), p. 4.

³⁶ Trye, Capt. J.H., 'Colonel Henry Norwood of Leckhampton, Co. Gloucester', reprinted from *Trans. B.G.A.S.* 47 (1926).

³⁷ *V.C.H. Glos. Vol. IV*, p. 394.

³⁸ *Hockaday Abstracts* no. 258 record William Norwood as presenting new incumbents at Leckhampton in 1735, 1738 and 1744 and Charles doing so in 1767.

³⁹ The extent of the manor about this time may be judged from James Crow's 1746 plan of the Norwood estate indicating that Norwood owned most of the land and property around the Court and on the hill above it, a great deal of Blackhedge and Moorend and most of the open fields dispersed around the parish.

⁴⁰ Lysons, Rev Daniel, *A Sketch of the Life and Character of the late Charles Brandon Trye Esq.* (1812).

⁴¹ *Glos. R.O. D303/P4, D6128 1/1 and D303 E13.*

⁴² *Glos. R.O. P198A/VE 2/1-2.*

⁴³ *Glos. R.O. 637 VII/18.*

⁴⁴ *Glos. R.O. D303 E11.*

⁴⁵ *Cheltenham Annuaire*

⁴⁶ *V.C.H. Glos. Vol. VII*, p. 186.

⁴⁷ *Souvenir of Leckhampton Court V.A. Hospital 1914-1919*, edited by Sydney Harrison, 1919.

⁴⁸ Williams, p. 11.

⁴⁹ *Trans. B.G.A.S.*, 108 (1990), pp. 106 and 117; also *Domesday Book, Vol 15 Gloucestershire* (edited by John Moore, 1982), item 38.1.

⁵⁰ *Hockaday Abstracts* for Coberley; also *P.R.O. C143/74/24*

⁵¹ *Gloucestershire Subsidy Roll, 1 Edw. iii, 132; 50.* It also shows Walter of Broadwell as the principle landowner in the parish of Broadwell in the Slaughter Hundred (Franklin, P., *The Taxpayers of Medieval Gloucestershire: An Analysis of the 1327 Lay Subsidy Roll with a New Edition of its Text* (1993), p. 167).

⁵² *Cal. I.P.M.*, 32 Edw I.

⁵³ *Cal. Close*, 1396-9, p. 458; *Cal. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Com.)*, pp. 4, 96; *Cal. I.P.M.* 3 Hen IV.

⁵⁴ *Red Book of the Exchequer*, II, ed. H. Hall (Rolls Series 1896), 604; cf. *Book of Fees*, I (H.M.S.O. 1920), p. 55.

⁵⁵ *Feudal Aids*, II (H.M.S.O. 1900), p. 238; for Richard's Castle and the Mortimers, see Sanders I.J., *English Baronies* (Oxford 1960), p. 75.

⁵⁶ *Glos. R.O. D855 M30.*

⁵⁷ *N.G.R. SO 394300 - 219300; Glos. S.M.R. ref. 7150.*

⁵⁸ Archaeological excavation of Leckhampton's moated site carried out in 1933 provided evidence suggesting occupation from the 12th to at least 15th centuries; Major J.G.Clift, 'Leckhampton Moat', *Trans. B.G.A.S.* 55 (1934), pp. 235-248.

⁵⁹ Moore, J.S., 'The Gloucestershire Section of Domesday Book: Geographical Problems of the Text', Part 1; *Trans. B.G.A.S.*, 105 (1987), pp. 126-127.

⁶⁰ Taylor, Charles S., *An Analysis of the Domesday Survey of Gloucestershire* (published by B.G.A.S. 1989), pp. 19, 143.

⁶¹ Ross, C.D., *The Cartulary of Cirencester Abbey*, Vol. 2 (1964), 412/443.

⁶² Kimball, E.G., *Serjeanty Tenure in Medieval England* (1936), p. 42; *Book of Fees* I, p. 51; Moore, pp. 126-127. The manor of Kingsholm, which the same Peter held just prior to 1239, was at the centre of the much larger royal manor of Kings Barton. The latter was also held by serjeanty. in this case through service as usher at the door of the King's pantry (*V.C.H. Glos Vol. IV*)

⁶³ Round, p. 318; also *V.C.H. Glos Vol. IV*, p. 392.

⁶⁴ *Book of Fees* I, p. 376; also Barkly, Sir Henry, 'Testa de Nevill Returns for County of Gloucestershire No.3', *Trans. B.G.A.S.*, 13 (1888-89), p. 299.

⁶⁵ *Book of Fees* I, pp. 1187-8 and 1249-50; Testa de Nevill, 78

(365); Kimball, p. 42

⁶⁶ *V.C.H. Glos Vol. IV*, p. 391.

⁶⁷ Abstract of Feet of Fines relating to Gloucestershire (1199-1299), nos. 838 and 907.

⁶⁸ *V.C.H. Glos Vol. IV*, pp. 392, 440; *C. Inq. Misc. File 94(6); Cal. I.P.M.* 17 Edw. II. *C. Inq. Misc.* 26(19).

⁶⁹ *C. Inq. Misc. File 91(3).*

⁷⁰ *C. Inq. Misc. File 94(6)*

⁷¹ There are several references to the field name Banlon, landlands or Banlond; it is situated in the western end of the parish at approx. S0930197.

⁷² *Cal. Inq. ad q.d.* 18 Edw II; also *Cal. I.P.M. Vol. IV*, pp. 433, 6 and 7; and *C. Inq. Misc. File 94(5)*, p. 728 and File 98(9), p. 823.

⁷³ *A Survey of the Demesne Lands of the Manor of Cheltenham 1635; Glos. R.O. D855 M51.*

⁷⁴ *C. Inq. Misc.* 26(19)

⁷⁵ *Inq. p.m. for Gloucestershire*, Part V, p. 4; published by British Record Society Ltd. (1910); also *Cal. I.P.M.* 30 Edw. I. The 1327 subsidy roll lists a Matilda la Straunge among residents of Aldsworth parish. (Franklin, no. 123). It would appear that the La Straunge family was linked by marriage to the Giffards of Brimpsfield (*Inq. p.m. for Gloucestershire*. Part V (1302-13), 58).

⁷⁶ *C. Inq. Misc. File 95(15).*

⁷⁷ *P.R.O. SC6/1147/12.*

⁷⁸ *Hockaday Abstracts* no. 258 quoting *P.R.O. Chan. Inq. p.m. Edw. II* no. 120.

⁷⁹ John Gamage is recorded as having been inducted to the Leckhampton living by Joan Despenser in 1297 (*Hockaday Abstracts*).

⁸⁰ An account of the Beverstone line of the Berkeley family is given by John Smith in his *The Berkeley Manuscripts, Lives of the Berkeleys*, Vol.1 (edited by Sir John Mclean for B.G.A.S.), pp. 347-356.

⁸¹ *Esc.* 6 H. VI no. 50.

⁸² *Cal. I.P.M.* 38/39 Hen. VI.

⁸³ *Cal. I.P.M.* 15 Edw. IV.

⁸⁴ *V.C.H. Glos. Vol. XI*, p. 51; *V.C.H. Glos Vol. VII*, pp. 228-9; also Partridge, C.H., *The Partridge Pedigree* (1903), p. 90.

⁸⁵ Rudder, Samuel, *A New History of Gloucestershire*, republished by Alan Sutton in collaboration with Gloucestershire County Library (1977), pp. 520-522; also Smith, John, *Men and Armour for Gloucestershire in 1608.*

⁸⁶ *Inq. p.m. for Glos'shire*, Charles I, Pt 1 (1625-1636).

⁸⁷ An earlier link between Leckhampton and Matson occurred in the 15th century when the manor of Matson was leased out by John Giffard of Leckhampton; that manor, like Leckhampton, eventually passed by marriage to new owners towards the end of that century (*V.C.H. Glos. Vol. IV*, p. 441).

⁸⁸ *The Visitation of Gloucestershire 1682-83* also Bigland's *Gloucestershire Collection* Part II (Matson).

⁸⁹ Transcripts of Leckhampton Parish Register; *Glos. R.O. P1198/1 IN 1/30*, p. 6, no. 64.

⁹⁰ British Museum (B.M. Add. 32972); see also Capt. J H Trye, *The Manors of Leckhampton*, published in successive issues of *Leckhampton Parish Messenger* between August 1925 and February 1926.

⁹¹ Fosbrooke, quoting unspecified title deeds; a marginal note to this effect also appears in Norden's survey (*Glos. R.O. D855 M7*).

⁹² *Glos. R.O. D303 E12.*

⁹³ *Glos. R.O. D303 E1. Glos. R.O. D303/P2.*

⁹⁴ The building known as Mr Isles Farm later became Leckhampton Farm, itself a Grade II listed building parts of which dated from at least c.1800 but with an outbuilding dating from as early as the late 16th century (Cheltenham Borough Council Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural and Historic Interest).

⁹⁵ Bigland, Pt.II, p. 798.

⁹⁶ The Iles family of Minchinhampton were heavily engaged in the cloth and milling industry of the Stroud valley throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, their name being perpetuated in Iles' Mill at Chalford (*V.C.H. Glos.* Vol. XI, p. 27).

⁹⁷ This is very likely the same Abraham Wallbank, an attorney, who in 1780 possessed a house close to the Iles' Mill in Chalford (*V.C.H. Glos.* Vol. XI, p. 27).

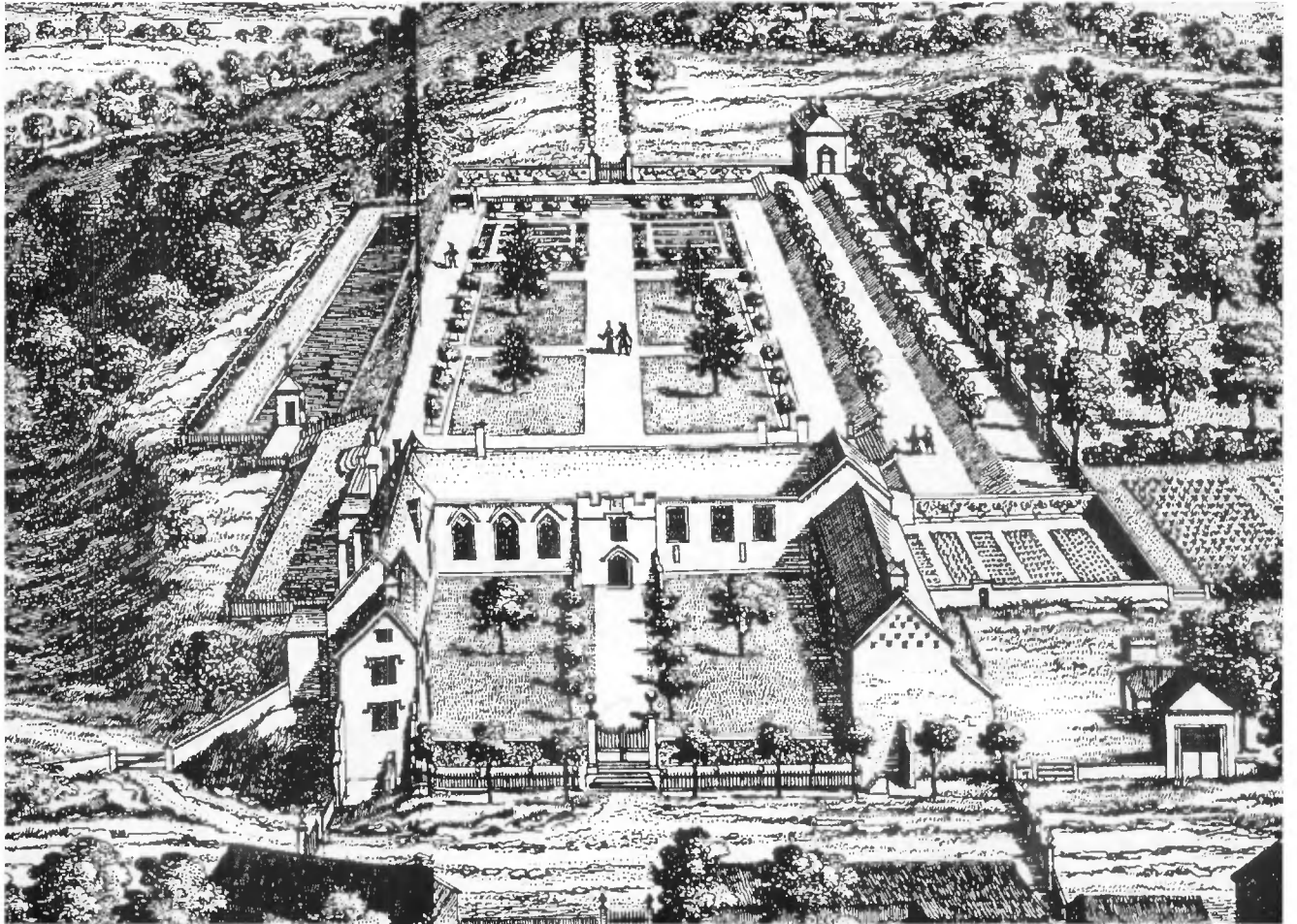
⁹⁸ Glos. R.O. D6128 1/1.

⁹⁹ Glos. R.O. D303 E1 and D4778 1.

¹⁰⁰ *Hockaday Abstracts* no.258.

¹⁰¹ P.R.O. C1/1371/58.

¹⁰² Glos. R.O. P198/1 IN 1/30, also I.G.I. Index.



An engraving of Leckhampton Court by Johannes Kip, taken from *The Ancient and Present State of Gloucestershire* . published in 1712

[Image from front cover]