

## LANDOWNERSHIP

Before 888 King Alfred gave his elder son Edward lands at Carhampton, which he may have taken from the monastery at Cheddar into royal control because of the vulnerability of the coast. Before 925 Edward gave Cheddar other land in exchange for 20 hides at Carhampton, presumably in compensation.<sup>1</sup> Customary renders of sheep due to Carhampton manor from Allerford and Oare near Porlock, possibly in return for defence of the shore, had been withheld by the 1080s and others may have been lost earlier. The Crown retained Carhampton possibly until the 12th century<sup>2</sup> when it was divided. During the early Middle Ages there were two Manors of Carhampton, presumably based on divisions of the Royal manor. That of a younger branch of the Bozun family who were of West Bagborough on the Quantocks, appears to have centred on Eastbury and included the church. Its owners were called lords and ladies of Carhampton in the 13th century.<sup>3</sup> The second Carhampton manor comprising most of the arable land and the later Marshwood park was held of the Crown by the Mohuns and Luttrells and was also called Carhampton Barton from the early 14th century.<sup>4</sup>

As well as the Crown and William de Mohun several important landowners had estates in Carhampton in the 11th century including Alwi Banneson, Alfred d'Epaignes and Roger de Courcelles. For centuries there were several Manors and many freehold estates in Carhampton but from the 15th century the Luttrells acquired freeholds such as Aller. In the later 18th century John Fownes Luttrell bought most of the remaining larger freeholds and also many fields to create the new Dunster park. In 1767 there were 112 properties assessed for land tax of which 11 belonged to the

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<sup>1</sup> H. P. R. Finberg (ed), *Early Charters of Wessex* (1964), pp. 126, 129; S. M. Pearce, *The Kingdom of Dumnonia* (1978), 118.

<sup>2</sup> *VCH Som.* I, 428, 435—6.

<sup>3</sup> Below, this section, Eastbury; rel. hist.

<sup>4</sup> Above, Dunster, landownership; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VII, p. 218.

Luttrells but by 1832 there were only 70 of which the Luttrells owned 45. In 1840 the Luttrells held c. 3,860 a., nearly three quarters of the parish,<sup>5</sup> and continued to buy more small freeholds throughout the 19th century.<sup>6</sup>

#### CARHAMPTON BARTON MANOR

The first recorded lord after the division was William de Mohun (d. 1193).<sup>7</sup> The Mohun estate in Carhampton at only an eighth of a knight's fee,<sup>8</sup> was smaller than that of the Luttrells whose Carhampton Barton manor included most of their land in Dunster parish in the 15th century, except the castle grounds and burgages.<sup>9</sup> It descended with Dunster manor<sup>10</sup> except between 1514 and 1580 when it was held by Andrew Luttrell and his wife Margaret Wyndham (d. 1580).<sup>11</sup> The manor was sold in 1950 when most of the land was bought by the Crown and some by tenants. Lordship remained with the Luttrells.<sup>12</sup>

It is not clear where the original barton was situated. Lands called Old Court, let from the late 14th century,<sup>13</sup> lay north-west of the village near the former demesne fields.<sup>14</sup> However, the only recorded capital messuage was Little Carhampton, let to Robert Everard in 1456. The site had been divided by 1496 and no dwelling was then recorded. Its site is unknown.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> SHC, DD/L P19/4; *ibid.* Q/RE1 8/1; *ibid.* tithe award; below, this section.

<sup>6</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3a/32—3, 39.

<sup>7</sup> Above, Dunster, landownership; Chancellor's Roll 1196 (PRS NS 7), 198, 221.

<sup>8</sup> Feudal Aids, IV, 302, 341, 390, 431.

<sup>9</sup> Cal. Inq. p.m. XXIII, p. 288.

<sup>10</sup> Cal. Pat. 1367—70, 256; SHC, DD/L 1/32.

<sup>11</sup> TNA, C 142/106/55, C 142/159/43.

<sup>12</sup> TNA, CRES 59/1; above, Dunster, landownership.

<sup>13</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/3/2, P17/4/1, P19/6, P 38/1.

<sup>14</sup> SHC, tithe award.

<sup>15</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/125, P18/3—4, P19/4, P19/8/4; Cal. Pat. 1467—77, 194.

Marshwood

Marshwood park was in existence by 1279<sup>16</sup> but there is no record of a house or barton there until the very late 14th century when a tenement there was occupied by Patrick Everard for 40s., the highest rent in the manor.<sup>17</sup> By 1405 it appears to have been in hand and may be the house occupied by John Luttrell and his wife Joan who were licensed to have mass in their oratory in Carhampton in 1419.<sup>18</sup> The 15th-century house was altered and extended probably c.1569 when house and lands were divided,<sup>19</sup> and updated in 1621 for Thomas Luttrell and his wife Jane Popham whose arms survive on an overmantel. By the mid 17th century there were 15 hearths<sup>20</sup> and two 17th-century overmantels, featuring Abraham with Isaac and possibly St Stephen, have been set in the porch. Although several Luttrell sons and widows made their home at Marshwood until the death of Jane Luttrell (d. 1668) it was usually let as a farmhouse and occupied by prosperous farmers like the Withycombes, Badcocks and Heppers.<sup>21</sup> The long south-facing front range has a two-storey porch and two small back wings, one with attached stair turret. Most internal features were removed in the 19th century.<sup>22</sup>

## BRIDDICOTT AND EASTBURY

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<sup>16</sup> Cal Inq. p.m. II, p 174

<sup>17</sup> Cal. Pat. 1364—7, 196; H. C. Maxwell-Lyte, Records of the Honor of Dunster (Som. Rec. Soc. 33), 87, 124, 290; SHC, DD/L P17/1/17, 65; P17/4/1.

<sup>18</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/4/2; Cal. Close, 1413—19, p. 462; T. S. Holmes, (ed.), Register of Bishop Bubwith (Som. Rec. Soc. 30), p. 360; Cal. Pat. 1467—77, 196.

<sup>19</sup> SHC, DD/L P19/25/1, 4, 6, P2/10, P20/8/1, P20/11; 1/23/1B.

<sup>20</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/31/31/2.

<sup>21</sup> SHC, DD/L P20/13, 1/31/31/2, 2/47/21; Cal. SP. Dom. 1668—9, 346; below, econ. hist.

<sup>22</sup> SHC, C/P 5/6; DD/V/Wir 4.6.

These two estates were usually held together under the lords of Dunster who named the fee Briddicott or Burcott, a small one-ploughland estate in the 13th century,<sup>23</sup> but the owners referred to their estate as Carhampton manor and from the 16th century as Eastbury.<sup>24</sup>

Robert Bozun (fl. 1166) was succeeded by Sir Simon before 1189 and the latter was followed by his son Robert who left an only daughter Ankaret, wife of William de Reigny.<sup>25</sup> In c.1244, after William's death, Ankaret (fl. 1255) married John Bretasch or Brutache and had a daughter Joan. William, son of William de Reigny and Ankaret, died without legitimate issue but his daughter Joan, wife of Robert of Acton, occupied the estate. In 1280 Joan Brutache, successfully recovered her mother's property, which she held under John de Mohun of Dunster for half a knight's fee.<sup>26</sup>

Joan Brutache, under age in 1282,<sup>27</sup> had married Roger Perceval by 1287 when her manor comprised a capital messuage and 202a. of demesne, seven messuages and 91 a. held by free tenants and seven messuages and 78 a. held by villein tenants.<sup>28</sup> Joan (d. c.1345) outlived Roger Perceval (d. by 1314) and two of her sons: John at Carhampton, presumably Eastbury, and Maurice who lived at Briddicott in 1327 and whose son John was sued for possession in 1348.<sup>29</sup> Joan's heir was her grandson Walter, son of John Perceval, who died under age c.1349 leaving an infant son John.<sup>30</sup> John died childless before 1376 and was succeeded by Ralph Perceval (d. after 1418), possibly his brother. Richard Perceval held the manor between 1429 and

<sup>23</sup> SHC, P17/1/8; L. Landon, *Somerset Pleas, 1280* (Som. Rec. Soc. 44), 91; *Feud. Aids*, IV, 296.

<sup>24</sup> *HMC Wells*, I, 495; SHC, DD/L P17/1/3; TNA, E 150/925/29.

<sup>25</sup> Maxwell-Lyte, *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 104; Maxwell-Lyte, *Honor of Dunster*, 5; *HMC Wells*, I, 29; SHC, DD/L P17/1/3—5.

<sup>26</sup> SHC, P17/1/8; Landon, *Somerset Pleas, 1280*, 91; *Feud. Aids*, IV, 296.

<sup>27</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1279—88, 149.

<sup>28</sup> Inquisition cited in Maxwell-Lyte, *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 106.

<sup>29</sup> *HMC Wells*, I, 495; *Feud. Aids*, IV, 303; F. H. Dickinson, *Kirby's Quest etc.* (Som. Rec. Soc 3), 245, 248; Maxwell-Lyte, *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 108; SHC, DD/HCK 9/1/16.

<sup>30</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/22—3; *Feud. Aids*, IV, 342.

1442 and Ralph Perceval did homage for it in 1455.<sup>31</sup> Ralph (d. 1477) was followed by Richard (d. 1482) whose three sons probably died under age and in 1495 Richard's brother John (d. 1497) succeeded.<sup>32</sup> John's son James (d. 1536) held the manor for only an eighth of a fee and was followed by his wife Joan (d. c.1547) and son Edmund.<sup>33</sup> Edmund (d. 1550) left the manor for life to his second wife Elizabeth who outlived his eldest son James (d.1594) and died in 1600 when the manor passed to James's son, also James, a minor.<sup>34</sup>

James Perceval died c.1646 a prisoner of the Royalists but his son Thomas, a Royalist, was fined heavily and divided and sold Carhampton manor, presumably to preserve Weston in Gordano the Percevals' chief estate. Briddicott farm was sold to William Orchard in 1651,<sup>35</sup> four farms were sold to Robert Bond the elder in 1651, another farm to John Leach in 1652, Little Briddicott was probably sold to the Worth family, part of Eastbury farm was sold to the vicar Peter Poole and the residue of the estate to Sir Hugh Wyndham Bt before 1663. Briddicott descended from William Orchard to a namesake who in 1747 conveyed it in trust for his daughter Joan, wife of William Withycombe of Eastbury,<sup>36</sup> whose daughter Joan married Thomas Escott.<sup>37</sup> Bond's farms descended to William Bond and by c.1725 to William Blackford but by 1769 had been acquired by the owners of Eastbury farm.<sup>38</sup>

Sir Hugh Wyndham (d. 1663) gave Eastbury to his granddaughter Mary Dayrell (d. c.1672) who left it to her brothers Wyndham and Marmaduke Dayrell. In

<sup>31</sup> BL, Add. Ch. Feud. Aids, IV, 391, 430; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes Som. Manors, 109; Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 198, 208.

<sup>32</sup> TNA, C 140/60/9; C 140/75/44; BL, Add. Ch. 74882—3; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes Som. Manors, 110—11; Inq. p.m. Hen. VII, II, pp. 331—2.

<sup>33</sup> BL, Add. Ch. 74884—5; SHC, DD/L P19/15; TNA, E 150/925/29; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes on Somerset manor, 112.

<sup>34</sup> TNA, C142/97/100; 264/145.

<sup>35</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/6; BL, Add. MS. 46920A f. 10; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes on Somerset manor, 113—14.

<sup>36</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/6—10; 1/34/6a; 1/36/8/14—15; 1/37/9/11, 1/37/10/21—2, 1/40/26/6.

<sup>37</sup> SHC, DD/AH 28/1/7; below, this section.

<sup>38</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/66—9, 71, 1/36/9/29, 1/37/9a/15, 1/38/11b/71/40/26/6; *ibid.* Q/REI 8/1.

1676 and 1678 they gave their shares to their sister Sarah who later married Francis Wyndham of Cromer, Norf.<sup>39</sup> In 1725 Francis and Sarah sold Eastbury to William Withycombe who in 1743 settled it on his son William.<sup>40</sup> The younger William married Joan Orchard heir to Briddicott and in 1766 settled his estate on himself and his only child Joan for life and then on her husband Thomas Escott.<sup>41</sup> Thomas (d. 1789) bought the rest of Eastbury from the heirs of Edmund Poole, probably great grandson of the Revd Peter Poole,<sup>42</sup> and left the reunited farm, after Joan's death, to his eldest son John. In 1793 Joan (d. 1796) bought Little Briddicott from the Worth family and left it and Briddicott farm to her younger son Francis who sold them in 1807 and 1817 to John Fownes Luttrell.<sup>43</sup> In 1809 John Escott left Eastbury to his sister Elizabeth, wife of Richard Leigh, to pay his debts and in 1819 he sold it to John Fownes Luttrell and Briddicott and Eastbury descended with Carhampton Barton manor.<sup>44</sup>

In 1786 Eastbury farm comprised hall, parlour, pantry, dairy, kitchen, three cellars, and at least 4 chambers.<sup>45</sup> It has since been rebuilt as a 6-bedroom farmhouse. The house and most other buildings at Briddicott farm were totally rebuilt in the late 19th century.<sup>46</sup>

### Bowerhayes

In 1612 Daniel Leigh bought Bowerhayes, part of the demesne estate of Eastbury, from James Perceval. It descended to Henry Leigh (d. c.1680) who left it to his wife

<sup>39</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/14, 16, 18; GEC *Complete Peerage*, II, 116.

<sup>40</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/19, 22, 26.

<sup>41</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/36/9/29; 1/38/11/8—10.

<sup>42</sup> A. J. Webb, *Somerset Wills II* (Som. Rec. Soc. 94), 285; SHC, DD/L 1/17/63/4; 1/40/26/6; *ibid.* Q/REI 8/1.

<sup>43</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/66—9, 71, 1/37/9a/15, 1/38/11b/71/40/26/6; *ibid.* Q/REI 8/1.

<sup>44</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/23/3; 1/34/3/23, 25, 27, 66—9; 1/37/9a/15, 19—20; 1/37/10a/18—19; 1/38/11b/7.

<sup>45</sup> SHC, A/CRZ 2/1.

<sup>46</sup> TNA, IR 58/82221.

for life<sup>47</sup> and then to his son Henry (d. 1703) whose son Robert (d. by 1734) settled it in 1708 on his marriage to Grace Escott. Their son Henry settled it on his marriage to Susanna Escott in 1734 and it had passed to Robert, son of their son Robert, by 1789. Robert (d. c.1812) left it to his wife Jane for life and then to a kinsman Robert Leigh, tanner of Eastbury, Carhampton who mortgaged the reversion to Jane. In 1828 Jane Leigh and others conveyed Bowerhayes to John Fownes Luttrell and it also descended with Carhampton Barton manor.<sup>48</sup>

## RECTORY

In 1086 Carhampton church had a 1 ½-hide estate including nine tenant holdings.<sup>49</sup> Simon Bozun gave the church estate to found a prebend c.1189 but it was granted to Bath priory and formed part of the endowment of Dunster priory until the Dissolution.<sup>50</sup> Thereafter the lands probably formed part of the Dunster priory estate.<sup>51</sup> The great tithes were retained by the Crown and farmed out,<sup>52</sup> until 1565 when the reversion was sold to William Faber and Richard Driffield presumably in trust for Lewis Stewkeley and his wife Barbara on whom it was settled in 1566.<sup>53</sup> Before 1611 it passed to Sir Thomas Stewkeley (d. 1639) and descended with Dunster rectory<sup>54</sup> to Sir Hugh Stewkeley (d. 1719). Carhampton rectory was bought by Thomas Musgrave<sup>55</sup> of Nettlecombe who in 1723 left it to his great nephews George (d. 1741) and Thomas Frederick Musgrave. Thomas Frederick had no children nor did George's

<sup>47</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/1/6, 2/31/2.

<sup>48</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/2/5; 1/34/3a/34---5; 1/37/9/39; 1/37/10a/23—9.

<sup>49</sup> VCH Som. I, 471.

<sup>50</sup> Below, rel. hist.

<sup>51</sup> Above, Dunster, landownership.

<sup>52</sup> TNA, E 326/6475, 11975; SC 6/HenVIII/3144; SHC, DD/L P16/13.

<sup>53</sup> Cal. Pat. 1563—6, p. 205; Lincoln RO, Thor 1/1/4/2 [on A2A]; TNA, CP 25/2/204/8 Eliz. I, East.

<sup>54</sup> VCH Som. V, 27; SHC, DD/MY 11; Complete Baronetage, II, 26; above, Dunster, rel. hist.

<sup>55</sup> F. A. Crisp (ed.), Abstracts of Somersetshire Wills (1887—90), III, 40.

son Thomas and George's posthumous daughter Juliana, wife of Sir James Langham, inherited the rectory, which she sold in 1796 to John Fownes Luttrell.<sup>56</sup>

## ALLER

Aller, a half-hide estate held by Brictrmer and Edmer in 1066, formed one of a group of small estates in the Carhampton area, which were held by Roger de Courcelles in 1086. Roger's tenant at Aller was Ogis who had a demesne farm and two tenants there but whose main holding was probably Clatworthy in the Brendons.<sup>57</sup> His successors at Clatworthy the Arundel family were overlords of Aller, although in 1477 William Everard was ordered to do homage to Dunster,<sup>58</sup> and Aller therefore became part of Clatworthy tithing in Williton hundred.<sup>59</sup>

Aller may have been an early possession of the Everards, who held a manor in nearby Luxborough from 1280 or earlier,<sup>60</sup> but the first recorded at Aller was Robert Everard c.1405.<sup>61</sup> He was followed by John (fl. 1471), William (fl 1477), Thomas Everard (d. 1520) and Thomas's his son John Everard.<sup>62</sup> John (d. 1526) left a widow Elizabeth (d. c.1542) and an infant son William.<sup>63</sup> William (d. c.1590) settled it in 1561 on the first marriage of his son William who in 1610 left Aller to his son George (d. 1617). George Everard was heavily in debt and devised Aller to his wife Christian. In 1633 Christian and her second husband Peter Meade agreed with George's son William to sell outlying land and to retain the rest until all debts and legacies were

<sup>56</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/2/4, 1/37/10a/14—15; 1/38/12/1—3.

<sup>57</sup> VCH Som, I, 490.

<sup>58</sup> VCH Som, V, 33; Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 222; TNA, C 142/37/118.

<sup>59</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/40/26/6.

<sup>60</sup> Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 48.

<sup>61</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/71.

<sup>62</sup> Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 222; TNA, C 142/37/118; SRO DD/S/GLY 9.

<sup>63</sup> TNA, C 1/981/94.



paid; William having part of the house and lands.<sup>64</sup> By 1652 William had been succeeded by Lewis Everard (d. 1680) who after securing his inheritance against the claim of Martin Everard of Marlborough, Wilts<sup>65</sup> left Aller to his wife Florence and then to his eldest daughter Joan.<sup>66</sup>

Despite their father's will Joan's sisters Susanna and Elizabeth, who married Andrew Newton and Thomas Fry of Porlock respectively, claimed a third of Aller but Joan, wife of John Newton, occupied it. Elizabeth mortgaged then assigned her third in 1708 to John and Andrew Newton.<sup>67</sup> The two shares descended in the Newton family until 1774 when Susanna's great great grandson the Revd James Newton sold his half of Aller to trustees, presumably to merge with the rest of the estate held by James Newton, probably great grandson of Joan, for sale.<sup>68</sup> By 1840 Aller was a 154-a. farm owned by Richard Radford.<sup>69</sup>

Leland c.1540 referred to the Everards' manor place at Aller.<sup>70</sup> The medieval house had a three-bay open hall to which a probable later medieval parlour wing was added. In the late 16th century the hall was ceiled providing two chambers and fireplaces were added. A new north wing was built after 1617 and in 1680 the house comprised hall, parlour, kitchen, entry, two butteries, service rooms, seven chambers and lodging for menservants. The farmbuildings date from the 18th century or later.<sup>71</sup>

In 1416 Ralph Eyre conveyed a house and 16 ½ a. at Aller to John Luttrell, Constable of Dunster (d. c.1422), possibly an illegitimate member of the family, and Lady Joan his wife. John settled it with another house and 56 a. at Carhampton in trust

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<sup>64</sup> TNA C2/ELIZ/H14/37; SHC, DD/SAS H/70/1; DD/L P20/24; DD/S/GLY 19/1—5; DD/X/WLR 1.

<sup>65</sup> TNA, SC6/13/74; SHC, DD/SOG 204; DD/X/WLR 3; Birmingham RO, MS 3415/111.

<sup>66</sup> SHC, D/P/car 2/1/2; DD/S/GLY 19/6.

<sup>67</sup> SHC, D/P/car 2/1/2; DD/L 1/34/3/47; 1/37/10/2, 4; 1/38/13/2; 40/26/6.

<sup>68</sup> SHC, DD/SOG 205; D/P/car 2/1/3; DD/X/WLR 6; *ibid.* Q/REI 41/6; J. Savage, History of the Hundred of Carhampton (1830), 304.

<sup>69</sup> SHC, tithe award.

<sup>70</sup> 'Leland in Somerset', PSANHS XXXIII, 38.

<sup>71</sup> SHC, DD/S/GLY 19/3; DD/V/WIr 4.3.

in 1420. The lands were held by trustees until 1435 when they were settled on Sir John Luttrell's widow for life and then returned to the lords of Dunster.<sup>72</sup>

## BROADWOOD

Alric held a half-hide estate at Broadwood and other small estates in the area in 1066. and was tenant of Gilcott in Withycombe and Carhampton after the Conquest. Before 1086 Broadwood passed to William de Mohun who kept it in hand, possibly because of its proximity to Dunster and its wealth of timber and water and it remained part of the Dunster Castle estate.<sup>73</sup> However, one 60-a. farm, later known as Bryant's after its 17th-century tenants,<sup>74</sup> formed part of Luxborough Everard manor and was owned by the Wyndhams of Orchard Wyndham.<sup>75</sup> In 1847 earl of Egremont's trustees sold it to John Fownes Luttrell<sup>76</sup> and appears to have merged with the main farm at Broadwood.<sup>77</sup>

## RODHUISH

In 1066 Alfwy, probably Alwi Banneson, held Rodhuish, which was given with his other estates to Alfred d'Epaignes before 1086 when Hugh was his tenant.<sup>78</sup> Alfred's daughter Isabel and her husband Robert de Chandos founded Goldcliff priory in Monmouthshire in 1113 and endowed it with Rodhuish Thereafter it formed part of Goldcliff's Monksilver manor, and passed with the priory in 1441 to Tewkesbury

<sup>72</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/103—4, 106—9, 114—15, 120; TNA. C 139/33/32.

<sup>73</sup> VCH Som. I, 502—3; SHC, DD/L P8/2/97, P17/1/33, P20/27/1—2; above, Dunster, landownership,

<sup>74</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/1/9; 1/35/6/1.

<sup>75</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/2/6; 1/40/26/4; DD/WY 34; *ibid.* tithe award; VCH Som. V, 153—4.

<sup>76</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3a/36—8; DD/WY 296/1.

<sup>77</sup> SHC, tithe award; OS Map 1:10560, XLVII. NW (1888 edn).

<sup>78</sup> VCH. Som. I, 513.

Abbey and in 1474 to the canons of Windsor.<sup>79</sup> The Rodhuish estate, which totalled 120 a. in 1561, remained part of Monksilver until 1801 when George Notley sold them to John Fownes Luttrell.<sup>80</sup>

Other estates at Rodhuish included an estate held by the lords of Dunster by 1340 known as Rodhuish manor and later absorbed into Carhampton Barton.<sup>81</sup> It included Chesters farm was home to Hugh Luttrell, younger son of George (d. 1629), his son Thomas (d. 1714), and grandson Thomas (d. 1720).<sup>82</sup> Freeholds held of Oare manor from 1716 or earlier and others called Headford's and Baker's were bought by John Fownes Luttrell in 1788 and 1789.<sup>83</sup>

#### WEST RODHUISH OR UPHILL

In the late 13th and early 14th century West Rodhuish manor was divided between 1/15th fee held by Robert of Bristol, later Robert Palmer,<sup>84</sup> and 1/20th fee held by Walter de la Hull or Uppehull, possibly the later Uphill farm. The latter may have been a successor to Ralph Uppehull (fl. 1242-3) and Thomas Uppehyll of Rodhuish. The descent is unclear but in 1475 an attempt was made to distraint Thomas Whalesborough and the successors to Walter Uppehull for fealty for the 1/15th and 1/20th.<sup>85</sup> Sir John Trevelyan owed Withycombe manor a red rose for lands in Rodhuish and Gilcott in the early 16th century as heir to Bristol.<sup>86</sup> West Rodhuish manor was not recorded again but in 1670 John Smith of Exton and his wife Emott

<sup>79</sup> VCH. Som. V, 108, 193; Chart. R. 1257—1300, 362; St. George's Chapel, Windsor, XV.53.87; TNA C3/61/6.

<sup>80</sup> St. George's Chapel, Windsor, XI.M.1; XV.50.10; SHC, DD/L 1/34/3a/30—1; *ibid.* tithe award.

<sup>81</sup> TNA, C 143/252/22; CP 25/1/35/237/20 Hen.VIII Hil.; CP 43/784, rot. 357; VCH office, Taunton, Pole MS 4068; SHC, DD/L 1/35/7/18.

<sup>82</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/2/6/1, 1/26/18/12, 1/35/6a/9, 45; *ibid.* D/P/car 2/1/1.

<sup>83</sup> SHC, Q/RRp 1/30; DD/L 1/34/3/34, 37—8, 41—6, 1/35/7/20, 37/10/7, 15, 1/40/26/4.

<sup>84</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/19; Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 46, 50, 55, 63, 73.

<sup>85</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/10; C. E. Chadwyck-Healey (ed.), Somersetshire Pleas c. 1200—1256 (Som. Rec. Soc. 11), 303—4; Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 115, 197, 220, 233, 255, 281.

<sup>86</sup> SHC, DD/L P32/55.

sold Uphill to their son John who in 1682 settled it for his wife Margaret.<sup>87</sup> Edward Smith had succeeded by 1718 and sold it to George Musgrave in 1740.<sup>88</sup> It descended with Carhampton rectory and was sold in 1796 to John Fownes Luttrell.<sup>89</sup>

#### CROYDON AND COMBE

Gilbert of Croydon was recorded in 1327.<sup>90</sup> Croydon later belonged to Dunster merchant William Taillour (d. c.1386) and his son John Dunster but sold his lands to settle his debts.<sup>91</sup> Part of Croydon belonged to the Sydenham and Wyndham estate in Luxborough.<sup>92</sup> Croydon, with Combe, was said to have belonged to the Pyncombe family and passed to the Siderfins with Exton manor by the 17th century. Thomas Siderfin (d. c.1675) was followed by his son Thomas (d. c.1675) who left Croydon to his wife Anne and brother Robert. In 1682 Anne released Croydon to Robert (fl. 1719) who c.1724 was succeeded Robert Darch<sup>93</sup> and by the 1730s by Jonathan Hall (d. c.1764) who left his estates to his great nephew Richard Hall Clarke.<sup>94</sup> Richard sold Croydon c.1825 to Robert Hole, the owner of East Beazley.<sup>95</sup>

#### OLD KNOWLE

In 1066 Paulinus, possibly a Briton, held Ernole, later Oule Knowle, Old Knowle or Knowle, and in 1086 Roger held it under William de Mohun.<sup>96</sup> It was a detached part

<sup>87</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/3/12—13, 1/35/6a/15.

<sup>88</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/37/10/8, 11, 13, 16, 18—20.

<sup>89</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/38/12/1—3; above, this section.

<sup>90</sup> Dickinson, *Kirby's Quest*, 248.

<sup>91</sup> TNA, C 131/205/13; C 145/245/103; SHC, DD/L P17/1/55, 63

<sup>92</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/207/37&38 Eliz. I Mich.

<sup>93</sup> Crisp, *Som. Wills*, III, 90; SHC, DD/MY 38; DD/L 1/23/2/3, 1/35/6a/13, 1/40/26/6, 2/33/6.

<sup>94</sup> TNA CP 25/2/1398/14 Geo. III Hil.; SHC, DD/L 2/16/93a, 2/17/94—5, 2/33/6; D/P/car 13/2/1—2; *ibid.* Q/REI 8/1.

<sup>95</sup> Savage, *Hist. Hund. Car.* 307; SHC, Q/REI 8/1; *ibid.* tithe award; below, this section.

<sup>96</sup> *VCH. Som.* I, 503.

of Carhampton between Dunster and Timberscombe and later included land at Timberscombe, Dunster and Rodhuish.<sup>97</sup>

In 1225 Ralph le Tort acquired a ¼ fee at Binworthy from Robert Fitz William. By 1249 he had been succeeded by Geoffrey le Tort who added another half carucate of land and by 1284 had combined Binworthy with his quarter fee at Knowle. Binworthy was last recorded c.1440<sup>98</sup> and its site, presumably near Knowle, is unknown. Geoffrey was succeeded by Ralph le Tort (fl 1294—1313) and Lawrence le Tort<sup>99</sup> who in 1327 settled his estates after the death of his wife on Andrew Raleigh, rector of Nettlecombe, possibly his nephew. Andrew predeceased Lawrence who made Andrew's brother John Raleigh, lord of Nettlecombe, his heir.<sup>100</sup> Lawrence died c.1330 and his widow married William Everard who held the estate in 1332 and 1348.<sup>101</sup>

In 1364 John Raleigh (d. 1372) conveyed land in Carhampton, Cutcombe and Dunster to Thomas Raleigh, probably in trust for Ismania, John's third wife. Ismania (d. 1420) lived at Knowle after the death of her third husband Laurence Berkerolles (d. 1411) and was succeeded by her third son Simon Raleigh (d. 1440) and his wife Joan (d.1455). The Raleighs and their successors regarded Knowle as a manor embracing all estates between Carhampton and Luccombe and held for a knight's fee.<sup>102</sup> Simon and Joan had no children and the manor passed to Simon's nephew Thomas Whalesborough (d. 1481), his daughter Elizabeth (d. c.1488), and her son John Trevelyan (d. 1521).<sup>103</sup>

<sup>97</sup> SHC, DD/WO 1; 49/3; DD/FR 15.

<sup>98</sup> Maxwell Lyte, *Honor of Dunster*, 53, 115; *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 78; SHC, DD/WO 1.

<sup>99</sup> SHC, DD/WO 10/2/2,7, 10—11; 23/3.

<sup>100</sup> SHC, DD/WO 1/19.

<sup>101</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1330—3, 48; Maxwell-Lyte, *Honor of Dunster*, 72; SHC, DD/X/JF 15.

<sup>102</sup> SHC, DD/WO 1/28—9; 49/3; E. Green, *Feet of Fines 1399—1485* (Som. Rec. Soc. 22), 49—50; Maxwell-Lyte, *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 80.

<sup>103</sup> SHC DD/WO 1; Green, *Feet of Fines, 1399—1485*, 186, 203; Maxwell-Lyte, *Hist. Notes Som. Manors*, 82.

John left the estate to his son Thomas but when Thomas died childless his eldest brother John (d. 1546) succeeded. John's son John (d. 1563) settled Knowle on a younger son Edward for life but John's ownership was disputed by his younger brother Thomas (d. 1565). Edward surrendered Knowle to his brother John before 1573. The estate was disputed between John and Thomas's son Hugh but they died in 1577<sup>104</sup> and in 1578 Hugh's son Anthony Trevelyan won possession. Anthony's son Hugh (d. 1601) was succeeded by his son Anthony (d. 1634) who settled the estate in 1622 on his son Hugh for his marriage to Margery Wyndham (d. 1644), which took place at Knowle.<sup>105</sup> Hugh (d. 1664) was followed by Sarah (d. 1667) widow of Hugh's son Thomas. Her son Thomas Trevelyan died without issue c.1677 when his heirs were his sisters Sarah, wife of Hugh Butler, and Margaret who released her share to her cousin John Trevelyan.<sup>106</sup> John was succeeded by Anthony Trevelyan who with Sarah and Hugh Butler mortgaged the manor from 1688 and agreed a sale in 1693. In 1700 under a Chancery decree the manor was divided and sold.<sup>107</sup>

In 1702 Charles Orchard from Cornwall bought Knowle, which before 1719 passed to his son Paul (d. 1740) whose son Paul sold it in 1771 to his tenant Thomas Court.<sup>108</sup> By 1786 Michael Hole (d. 1810) had acquired Knowle farm and in 1802 his sister Mary Hole bought the tithes and other farms.<sup>109</sup> Their brother James (d. 1847) was succeeded by another James Hole (d. 1876) and his daughter Mary who married Alexander Wynch. In 1884 they sold it to Worsley Battersby whose heirs sold it to Alexander Luttrell after 1916.<sup>110</sup>

<sup>104</sup> SHC, DD/WO 2, 4/1, 32/8, 32/9/13, 43/3, 49/2, 56/2; TNA, C1/1164/30; VCH. Som. V, 113.

<sup>105</sup> TNA, C 142/264/119; C 142/437/94; SHC, D/P/car 2/1/1.

<sup>106</sup> SHC, D/P/car 2/1/1; DD/FR 9; MI in Car. ch.; TNA CP 25/2/717/Trin. 28 Chas II.

<sup>107</sup> TNA CP 25/2/795/Hil. 3 Jas II Som.; Ches. RO, DDS/384 [accessed through A2A]; SHC, DD/FR 9, 12.

<sup>108</sup> SHC, DD/FR 10, 12; *ibid.* Q/SR 329/1/35; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes Som. Manors, 85; TNA, CP 25/2/Trin Geo. III Som.

<sup>109</sup> SHC, D/P/car 4/1/1; DD/FR 11; DD/L 1/38/12/2—3.

<sup>110</sup> SHC, DD/NA 18; D/D/Cf 1881/2; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes on Som. Manors, 85.

Ismania Raleigh had mass celebrated at Knowle in 1413<sup>111</sup> but her successors lived elsewhere and the 'manor place' was divided and let by 1526. In 1538 the two families undertook to vacate if a Trevelyan wanted it.<sup>112</sup> The house was rebuilt c.1800<sup>113</sup> and again in the late 19th century in Jacobean style with 18 bedrooms, lavishly plastered and panelled interiors, marble fittings and substantial service areas. The house, of sandstone and ironstone with blue pennant dressings and diapered lead windows, has a nine-bayed main front and attached ten-bayed conservatory. A stable was built in matching style and in 1916 there were extensive glasshouses and gardens, a farmery including kennels and duck house and a water-powered sawmill. The road was also diverted further north away from the house, which is now a holiday home.<sup>114</sup>

## BEAZLEY

Bardeslegh, Bradesley or Beazley was held by the Tort and Raleigh families of the honor of Dunster for a quarter knight's fee and descended with Old Knowle.<sup>115</sup> In 1480 Thomas Whalesborough claimed unsuccessfully that it had been illegally sold in 1439 to William Dodesham, owner of Escott, who had tricked him into confirming the conveyance.<sup>116</sup> Dodesham's heirs did not pay the fealty and rent demanded by the Luttrells and last claimed in 1523.<sup>117</sup>

By 1713 Beazley was part of Robert Siderfin's estate and was divided into West or Great and East Beazley. Siderfin retained East Beazley, which descended like Croydon,<sup>118</sup> but sold West Beazley to John Beague of Selworthy (d. c.1731) who left

<sup>111</sup> T. S. Holmes, Register of Bishop Bubwith (Som. Rec. Soc. 29), p. 145.

<sup>112</sup> SHC, DD/WO 32/9/11, 49/2.

<sup>113</sup> Savage, Hist. Hund. Car., 304.

<sup>114</sup> SHC, DD/X/LRY 3; *ibid.* tithe award.

<sup>115</sup> Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 50, 56, 72, 115, 128, 220; Cal Close, 1447—54, 442.

<sup>116</sup> SHC, DD/WO 49/4; Green, Feet of Fines 1399—1485, 94; Maxwell-Lyte, Hist. Notes Som. Manors, 233.

<sup>117</sup> VCH. Som. VI, 82; Maxwell-Lyte, Honor of Dunster, 133, 255, 271, 275; below, this section.

<sup>118</sup> SHC, DD/L 2/33/6; DD/MY 38; above this section.

it to his son John (d. by 1781).<sup>119</sup> John was followed by Charles, John (d. 1817), Charles (fl. 1823), John (fl. 1832) and Charles Heard Beague of Dulverton owner in 1840 when it was a 97-a. farm.<sup>120</sup> Charles's daughter Charlotte assigned it in 1885 to her son Charles Beague St John Mildmay (d. 1923).<sup>121</sup> In 1924 Mr Mildmay's estates including Beazley farm were divided up and sold.<sup>122</sup>

## DUDDINGS

Duddings near Knowle takes its name from its 16th-century owners who sold it in 1564 to Charles Wyndham.<sup>123</sup> Between the 1720s and 1840 or later it was held with Avill in Dunster<sup>124</sup> but by 1884 it was part of the Knowle estate and had a long low 5-bedroomed farmhouse.<sup>125</sup> The farmhouse and outbuildings have been converted into holiday homes.

## ESCOTT

Walter de Meriet (d. 1345) held Escott, which passed to his nephew Simon de Meriet.<sup>126</sup> This may have been the estate that John Durborough (d. by 1352) and his wife acquired from John de Mohun and which their son Hugh held of the king.<sup>127</sup> Sir Hugh (d. c.1386) was followed by his son James whose son also James released the estate to his brother Ralph.<sup>128</sup> Ralph Durborough (d. 1432) having no son appears to have sold it before 1421 to William Dodesham (d. 1480) who was followed by his great nephew John Perryman of Cannington (d. 1512). At this period Escott was held

<sup>119</sup> A. J. Webb, *Somerset Wills II* (Som. Rec. Soc. 94), 21.

<sup>120</sup> SHC, Q/REL 8/1; *ibid.* DD/BR/ju 5; *ibid.* tithe award

<sup>121</sup> SHC, DD/BR/wa 5, 7; Burke, *Peerage* (1949), 1385.

<sup>122</sup> SHC, DD/X/LRY.

<sup>123</sup> TNA, C 3/210/26.

<sup>124</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/40/26/6; *ibid.* Q/REL 8/1; *ibid.* tithe award; above, Dunster, landownership.

<sup>125</sup> SHC, DD/X/LRY 3.

<sup>126</sup> *Cal. Inq. p.m.* VIII, p. 429.

<sup>127</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/38 [1/16]; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* X, p. 17 [1/50].

<sup>128</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/50, 54, 58—9, 67.



of Withycombe manor. John's daughters and heirs were Dorothy, wife of Philip Courtenay and later of James Matthew, and Joan, wife of William More, and late of Bartholomew Coombe.<sup>129</sup>

Both women were childless and by 1574 it had passed to their cousin Erasmus Pym (d. 1579), great grandson of William Dodesham's great niece Joan Gilbert. Erasmus let the capital messuage to his youngest son Walter but was succeeded by his elder son Alexander (d. 1585).<sup>130</sup> By 1628 Escott belonged to the Revd Richard Chilcott whose son Richard (d. c.1645) was probably succeeded by his sister Joan Berryman.<sup>131</sup> By 1759 it belonged to Richard Escott (d. 1785) who left it to his cousin Catherine Sweet and her sons Thomas and Charles who took the surname Escott.<sup>132</sup> Revd. Thomas Sweet Escott (d. c.1842) was probably succeeded by his granddaughter Anna Sweet Escott (d. 1872) and her cousin Revd. William Sweet Escott (d. 1913). William's son William Sidney Sweet Escott divided and sold the estate and in 1921 Escott farm was bought by Thomas Yandle. He went bankrupt in 1938 when the farm was sold to John Bridges.<sup>133</sup>

## FOREMARSH

Marsh was divided between the parishes of Dunster and Carhampton. The two principal estates were the so-called Foremarsh manor, which included the estate later known as Lower Marsh in Carhampton, and Higher Marsh, mainly in Dunster.<sup>134</sup> The Luttrells bought small freeholds at Marsh such as the 24-a. estate that Robert Homond held of John de Mohun in 1354 bought by Sir Hugh Luttrell and his son John in

<sup>129</sup> SHC, DD/L P4/26/1, P11/4, P17/4/2, P32/53/9; VCH Som. VI, 93.

<sup>130</sup> SHC, DD/BW 96, DD/MAL 14/2; SHC, DD/L P20/14/2; VCH Som. VI, 78, 93.

<sup>131</sup> Crisp, Som. Wills, II, 69; TNA, PROB 20/486.

<sup>132</sup> SHC, DD/CNY 1/2/1; D/P/gst 23/3.

<sup>133</sup> SHC, DD/CH 119/7; TNA, CRES 38/1922.

<sup>134</sup> Above [or below], Dunster, landownership.

1411<sup>135</sup> and the Dodington estate in Marsh, which John Fownes Luttrell bought in 1760s.<sup>136</sup>

In 1276 Robert Cok conveyed land at Marsh to Robert Ace and in 1322 his son Nicholas Cok sold Robert and his wife Isobel property either side of the highway near Marsh bridge.<sup>137</sup> Before 1430 the Ace estate passed to the Lotys<sup>138</sup> who already held an estate at Marsh, which had until 1405 or later belonged to the Ryvers family, woodwards and bailiffs to the Luttrells. John Loty the younger (d. 1462), constable of Dunster Castle in 1451—4,<sup>139</sup> was followed by his son John who sold the former Ace estate to Sir Hugh Luttrell in 1488.<sup>140</sup> The rest including Lower Marsh was probably settled on his family.<sup>141</sup> His widow Joan (d. 1518), daughter of Richard Chichester,<sup>142</sup> occupied Lower Marsh and sued her ‘unnatural’ son Robert on behalf of her daughters after he was said to have taken bedding, linen, brass, silver, grain and livestock.<sup>143</sup> Robert (d. 1510), being childless, settled Foremarsh in 1510 on himself, his wife Joan, daughter of Thomas Flamank, and his sister Elizabeth Poyntz. His brother Nicholas and Elizabeth’s son Richard Poyntz unsuccessfully claimed the estate<sup>144</sup> from Joan who married Sylvester Sydenham (d. 1525), John Luttrell (dissolved), and finally Peter Fauntleroy. She was brutally harassed and intimidated by John Luttrell who clearly resented the loss of her estate by the dissolution of the marriage.<sup>145</sup>

<sup>135</sup> Cal. Pat. 1354—8, 149; 1361—4, 235; 1405—8, 225; SHC, DD/L, P17/1/35, 47, 92; DD/NNF 7/3; DD/WY 7/V1.

<sup>136</sup> TNA C1/774/13—14; SHC, DD/X/KL 1; DD/L 1/4/12, 1/28/23/58, 1/34/3/57—8, 1/34/3A/23, 1/40/24.

<sup>137</sup> SHC, DD/L P8/2/19, 45.

<sup>138</sup> Cal. Inq. p.m. XXIII, p. 289.

<sup>139</sup> Maxwell Lyte, History of Dunster, II, 459; SHC, DD/L P17/1/123—5, P17/4/2, P28/19/1.

<sup>140</sup> SHC, DD/L P8/2/226; Maxwell Lyte, History of Dunster, II, 460.

<sup>141</sup> TNA, C 3/89/43.

<sup>142</sup> SHC, DD/L P28/19/1.

<sup>143</sup> TNA, C 1/332/97—8; SHC, DD/HCK 9/1/16.

<sup>144</sup> TNA, C 142/14/139; C 1/426/43; SHC, DD/L P8/2/232; F. W. Weaver, (ed.), Somerset Medieval Wills, 1501—30 (Som. Rec. Soc. 19), 142.

<sup>145</sup> Maxwell Lyte, History of Dunster, II, 461; TNA STAC 2/15/34.

Joan (d. c.1536) was succeeded by Elizabeth Poyntz's son Richard despite the claim of John Huett, grandson of Elizabeth's sister Margaret Loty to a half share. Richard's son Edward Poyntz (d. 1583) held Foremarsh manor in free socage of Carhampton manor.<sup>146</sup> Edward's son Robert (d. 1611) lived at Leigh, Old Cleeve,<sup>147</sup> and his son Giles (d. 1666) was a Roman Catholic who lost his estate for treason in 1653 but recovered it later.<sup>148</sup> Giles's son Clement (d. 1685) left Foremarsh to his mother Prudence (d. 1691) who left it to her kinsman Robert Rowe, complaining of the unkindness of her husband's kinsman and namesake, Giles Poyntz.<sup>149</sup> However, under her will Giles was allowed to purchase Lower Marsh c.1693.<sup>150</sup> Giles (d. 1715) left the manor to his wife Anne (d. 1734) for life. Anne outlived her eldest son Giles (d. 1731) and was succeeded by her second son John who sold part of the land to Henry Fownes Luttrell in 1756 and the rest with the capital messuage to him in 1760.<sup>151</sup> The manor descended as part of the Dunster Castle estate.<sup>152</sup>

The manor house had a chapel in the 1520s where the family chaplain said mass.<sup>153</sup> Lower Marsh Farm, renamed the Old Manor in the late 20th century, is a 15th-century house, probably built by the Loty family, with a detached kitchen. Soon after the hall and cross wing were built a large north wing was added and a porch with chapel above, which retains its piscina, statue niches and fine windows. The late 16th-century barn was possibly built as a domestic wing to link the kitchen, now gone, to the house, possibly when the hall was ceiled.<sup>154</sup> In 1653 the house was ruinous<sup>155</sup> and

<sup>146</sup> TNA, C 1/1365/63—6, C 3/89/43; C 142/230/5

<sup>147</sup> SHC, DD/L P14/44; Crisp, *Som. Wills*, VI, 34.

<sup>148</sup> M. J. Hawkins, *Sales of Wards in Somerset, 1603—41* (Som. Rec. Soc. 67), 143; TNA, C 54/3719, no. 27; CP 25/2/347/22 Jas I Mich.; Crisp, *Som. Wills*, VI, 36.

<sup>149</sup> *VCH Som.* V, 45; Crisp, *Som. Wills*, VI, 38.

<sup>150</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/869/5 W. & M. Mich.

<sup>151</sup> Crisp, *Som. Wills*, VI, 39; SHC, DD/L P1/4/12; DD/L 1/28/3; N. Devon RO 50/11/103/15.

<sup>152</sup> TNA, CP 43/784, rot. 357; SHC, DD/L 1/28/23/1, 58; above, Dunster, landownership.

<sup>153</sup> TNA, STAC 2/15/34.

<sup>154</sup> SHC, DD/V/Wir 4.4.

<sup>155</sup> TNA, C 54/3719, no. 27; SHC, DD/L 1/34/1/5.

the 17th-century windows may have been part of subsequent remodelling. The house was altered in the 19th century and again in the 20th-century when it became a guest house.

## OAK

The farmstead called Hok, Oke or Oak was held by an eponymous family in the 14th century. Although in Carhampton parish it was held of Withycombe Hadley manor for a red rose delivered at the ash at Gilcott before sunrise on 24 June with a breakfast of white bread, cheese and ale and also to witness the delivery of roses by other free tenants of Withycombe manor.<sup>156</sup> Gilbert atte Oak was a freeholder in 1348<sup>157</sup> and is probably the Gilbert son and heir of Robert atte Walle who in 1359 leased to John atte Oak and his wife Margery, possibly Gilbert's daughter, for their lives all the land he held of Dunster in return for food, clothing and lodging.<sup>158</sup> John (fl. 1376) and Margery, were followed by Gilbert atte Oak (d. by 1386) and his widow Christine. In 1400 John Bailly of Dunster bought it from Gilbert's children John, Gonilde and Christine,<sup>159</sup> possibly in trust for Richard Pykenutte and his wife Ellen who settled at Oak, bought additional land in 1412 and 1428 and in 1433 obtained a quitclaim to Oak from Gilbert's daughter Christine, wife of John Cok.<sup>160</sup> Richard (d. by 1437) left his estates after Ellen's death to his daughters Joan, wife of John Houndell and Katherine who married William Reeve. In 1454, with their mother's consent, they partitioned the estate.<sup>161</sup> Katherine's share descended to her grandson John Wethers

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<sup>156</sup> SHC, DD/L P32/22/5; below, Withycombe, landownership.

<sup>157</sup> SHC, DD/L P32/4/3.

<sup>158</sup> SHC, DD/L P8/2/85.

<sup>159</sup> SHC, DD/L P8/2/113—14, 116—18, P17/1/42, 56—7, 68—9.

<sup>160</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/88—90, 94—7, 110, 112.

<sup>161</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/116—17, 124.

who in 1535 conveyed her lands to Sir Andrew Luttrell.<sup>162</sup> Joan was probably succeeded by John Houndell and his son John (fl. 1470)<sup>163</sup> and George Houndell by 1489. In 1513 George gave Oak to his son William.<sup>164</sup> By 1536 William had been succeeded by his son George who sold it that year to trustees for Sir Andrew Luttrell.<sup>165</sup> Thereafter Oak descended as part of the Luttrell estate<sup>166</sup> and the farmhouse was rebuilt in the mid 17th century.<sup>167</sup>

## FOWLERWELL

Also known as Birdewell or Fowlwell, Fowlerwell was held in 1496 by John Darch for a pair of gloves.<sup>168</sup> By 1654 it was part of the Pyncombe estate and in 1698 was shared between the three sisters of Richard Pyncombe.<sup>169</sup> Charles Prowse purchased their shares in 1723—5 and sold them in 1730 to John Towill (d. c.1768) whose son John sold Fowlerwell to John Fownes Luttrell in 1786. It descended with the Dunster Castle estate.<sup>170</sup>

## SLADE

In 1417 East Oaktrow was given by Walter Oaktrow to John Stert the younger.<sup>171</sup> John and his wife Isabella settled in 1472 on Elena or Elinor daughter of Hugh Stert and possibly their granddaughter.<sup>172</sup> Elena married John Hugh and let East Oaktrow in 1514 to William and Elinor Slade, probably relatives who gave the farm its later

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<sup>162</sup> SHC, DD/L P19/17.

<sup>163</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/126.

<sup>164</sup> SHC, DD/L P17/1/128, 134.

<sup>165</sup> SHC, DD/L P19/13, 18, 21.

<sup>166</sup> SHC, DD/L P2/13, 23; P20/21; *ibid.* tithe award.

<sup>167</sup> SHC, DD/L D/PC/wyco 7/5.

<sup>168</sup> SHC, DD/L P19/4.

<sup>169</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/35/6A/46.

<sup>170</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/34/2/2; 1/34/3/49—56; above, Dunster, landownership.

<sup>171</sup> SHC, DD/SAS PR 136.

<sup>172</sup> SHC, DD/SAS PR 131—3.

name.<sup>173</sup> In 1578 Elena, then a widow, gave the reversion after her death to her son Henry Hew.<sup>174</sup> Its descent is uncertain but Slade had passed by 1655 to the Siderfin family of Croydon.<sup>175</sup> In 1737 it belonged to Samuel Kent and remained in the Kent family until 1840 or later<sup>176</sup>

#### TROWBRIDGE'S

In 1724 Charity, widow of Hugh Blackwell (d.1722), settled Trowbridge's,<sup>177</sup> also called Blackwell's, on her only son Thomas for his marriage to Mary Court.<sup>178</sup> Thomas Blackwell (d. 1752) left nine daughters Mary, wife of Lewis Taylor, Elizabeth, Joan, Ann, Jane, Sarah, Margaret, Grace and Hannah.<sup>179</sup> Grace died young and her sisters each held one eighth share.<sup>180</sup> Mary died c.1780 and the estate was held by the numerous descendants of the six sisters who married and by 1840 it was split into many small parcels and even the early 17th-century farmhouse, now called Footlands, had four owners.<sup>181</sup>

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<sup>173</sup> SHC, DD/SAS PR 138.

<sup>174</sup> SHC, DD/SAS PR 134

<sup>175</sup> SHC, DD/BR/nr 2—5; DD/BR/ely 5/35.

<sup>176</sup> SHC, DD/BR/nr 6—7; *ibid.* Q/REL 8/1; *ibid.* tithe award.

<sup>177</sup> A Roger Trowbridge had land in Carhampton in the late 15th century: SHC, DD/L P20/38/1.

<sup>178</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/38/11/13, 1/40/26/6; box 291/1; DD/SAS H70/7/2.

<sup>179</sup> SHC, DD/L, box 291/1.

<sup>180</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/38/11/14; DD/SAS H70/7/2.

<sup>181</sup> SHC, DD/L 1/38/11/14; Bristol RO 6609/53; *ibid.* Q/REL 8/1; *ibid.* tithe award.