

Summary of Dorney Manor Court Roll (11 June 1546)

This summary outlines the main points from the Dorney Manor Court Roll of 11th June 1546. It covers various aspects of manor management, including attendance records, manor boundaries, rent collection issues, community regulations, land transactions, and the appointment of officials.

Key features of this court roll include:

1. The detailed description of the manor's boundaries, which provides valuable historical geographic information.
2. The persistent issues with major institutions (Windsor and Eton) withholding rent for a significant period (34 years).
3. The specific community regulations, showing how the manor court managed local issues and resource use.
4. The recording of a land transaction, demonstrating the manor's role in overseeing property transfers.
5. The election of officers to enforce manor ordinances, illustrating the self-governance aspect of the manor system.

This document provides valuable insights into the day-to-day administration of a Tudor-era manor, showcasing how the manor court system addressed a wide range of local issues, from property disputes to the maintenance of common resources.

Court Details

- Date: 11th June 1546 (38th year of King Henry VIII's reign)
- Lord of the Manor: William Garrard, citizen and haberdasher of London
- Steward: Thomas Butler

Key Points:

1. **Homage and Fines:**
 - Extensive list of homage members provided
 - Several free tenants fined for failing to attend (fines ranging from 4d to 12d)
2. **Manor Boundaries:**
 - Detailed description of Dorney manor's boundaries provided
 - Confirmation that Somertone Feld and Old Feld are within manor limits
3. **Rent Arrears:**
 - Dean and Canons of Windsor reported for withholding various rents for 34 years
 - Provost & Fellows of Eton College reported for withholding rents for 34 years
 - Bailiff ordered to distrain for all unpaid rents and arrears
4. **Community Regulations:**
 - Robert Mountegewe warned about damaging grass with horse-barges (4d fine per offense)
 - All tenants ordered to erect fences between common fields and Dorney grene/Lake ende (4d fine per perch)
 - Tenants with meadows in Southe mede ordered to scour ditches (4d fine per perch)

- Nicholas Forde ordered to make a gate at Hyghe Wey style (6s 8d fine if not done)

5. Land Transaction:

- Webbe alias Shepherd sold a cottage to John Heggere
- John Heggere paid 9d relief, performed fealty, and was admitted as tenant

6. Election of Officers:

- Thomas Grove chosen to replace Henry Lane
- William Mountegewe, Mark Sympson, and John Goldyng to supervise execution of Statutes and Ordinances concerning commons (3s 4d fine for non-performance)

7. Affeerers: James Norres, John Goldwyn, Thomas Dolwyn sworn in

Note on Spelling Variations:

- Mountegewe / Mountagewe
- Goldwyn / Goldyng
- Webbe / Webb