

Summary of Dorney Manor Court Roll (4 December 1549)

This summary outlines the main points from the Dorney Manor Court Roll of 4th December 1549. It covers various aspects of manor management, including attendance records, inheritance matters, misconduct in court, community regulations, land use agreements, and fines for various offenses.

Key features of this court roll include:

1. The serious fine imposed on Thomas Dollyn for disrespecting the court, showing the importance of maintaining the court's authority.
2. The detailed regulations about maintaining ditches, fences, and gates, illustrating the manor's role in community infrastructure.
3. The agreement between the lord and tenants regarding the enclosure of Seven acres close, demonstrating how changes in land use were negotiated.
4. The continued strict regulation of common land use, with significant fines for overcharging.

This document provides valuable insights into the day-to-day administration of an early Tudor manor under Edward VI, showcasing how the manor court system addressed a wide range of local issues and maintained order in the community.

Court Details

- Date: Thursday, 4th December 1549 (3rd year of King Edward VI's reign)
- Lord of the Manor: William Garrard, Alderman of London
- Steward: Thomas Butler

Key Points:

1. **Essoins and Homage:**
 - Thomas Mountegawe excused, represented by Robert Pultone
 - Extensive list of homage members provided
2. **Fines for Default:**
 - Several free tenants fined 2d-4d for failing to attend
3. **Death and Inheritance:**
 - Robert Ingby's death reported; brother William Ingby to inherit
 - Heriot of a cow (value 13s 4d) paid; relief of 6s 6d to be collected
4. **Misconduct in Court:**
 - Thomas Dollyn fined 40s for abusing and slandering the Steward in court
5. **Community Regulations and Penalties:**
 - Orders to scour South mede dyche (4d fine per perch)
 - Orders to repair fences in various locations (4d fine per perch)
 - Fines for not making/repairing fences and ditches in Asshforde (8d each)
 - Fines for not making a cart gate in Fytzwater lane (8d each)
 - Nicholas Forde of Boveney fined 20d for not replacing a boundary stake, ordered to do so by Christmas (3s 4d fine)
6. **Agreement on Enclosure:**
 - Tenants to assemble after Christmas to set metes and bounds in common fields (12d fine for non-attendance)

- Lord William Garrard allowed to enclose Seven acres close in exchange for 12d yearly payment for highway repairs

7. Overcharging Commons:

- Eight individuals fined 3s 4d each for overcharging Dorney Grene and common fields
- Robert Pultone fined 3s 4d for pasturing a mare in Dorney Grene

8. New Regulation:

- Ban on taking animals for agistment from other parishes (3s 4d fine)

9. Affeerers: James Norrys, William Mountegewe, John Goldwyn, Robert Shepperd sworn in

Note on Spelling Variations:

- Mountegawe / Mountegewe
- Goldwyn / Goldwin
- Pultone / Poultone
- Norrys / Norres