

Summary of Dorney Manor Court Roll (1 July 1560)

This summary outlines the main points from the Dorney Manor Court Roll of 1st July 1560. It covers various aspects of manor management, including attendance records, boundary definitions, new regulations, land disputes, community maintenance orders, appointments of officials, and livestock management.

Key features of this court roll include:

1. The detailed description of the manor's boundaries, providing valuable historical geographic information.
2. The introduction of new regulations, showing how manor management adapted to current needs.
3. The court's role in addressing encroachments and settling disputes over land use.
4. The emphasis on community responsibilities in maintaining common areas and infrastructure.
5. The appointment of officials to oversee the commons, with a system of rewards for enforcement.

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

Court Details

- Date: Monday, 1st July 1560 (2nd year of Queen Elizabeth I's reign)
- Lord of the Manor: William Garrard, knight, Alderman of London
- Steward: Richard Forsett

Key Points:

1. **Attendance and Fines:**
 - Several individuals fined 2d-4d for failing to attend
 - Multiple tenants fined 4d each for topping willows on Dorney Common
2. **Manor Boundaries:**
 - Detailed description of the manor's boundaries provided
 - Note that Dorney Wood, while part of the manor, is outside these bounds
3. **New Regulations:**
 - Common meadow to be separate until St. Matthias' Day (24th February)
 - Ban on placing sick horses on the common (3s 4d fine)
 - Prohibition on letting commoning rights to foreigners (40d fine)
4. **Land Encroachments:**
 - Thomas Heittone and Thomas Abroke fined for encroaching on lord's land
 - Henry Manfild reported for cutting elms and widening a ditch
5. **Community Maintenance Orders:**
 - Orders to scour ditches and repair fences, with fines for non-compliance
 - Commoners ordered to mow thistles in the common (6d fine for default)
 - Detailed instructions for making and maintaining a gate in Fitzwaters lane
6. **Overcharging Commons:**
 - Five individuals fined 2d each for overcharging the common with sheep
7. **Appointments:**

- Robert Webbe, Richard Tirrey, William Kyng, and Ralph Hiw elected as "dryvers" and overseers of commons
- Reward system established for reporting transgressions

8. Livestock Regulations:

- Order to provide sufficient common bull or boar (3s 4d fine if defective)

9. Affeerers: Robert Foster and John Goldwyn, junior, sworn in