

Summary of Dorney Manor Court Roll (2 December 1616)

This summary outlines the main points from the Dorney Manor Court Roll of 2nd December 1616. It covers various aspects of manor management, including attendance records, land transactions, violations of manor rules, and the enforcement of fines.

Key features of this court roll include:

1. The detailed recording of fines for both court non-attendance and violations of manor rules.
2. The documentation of a significant land transaction, including the payment of relief and performance of fealty.
3. The emphasis on maintaining order in the use of common lands and the manor pound.
4. The role of the manor bailiff in reporting offenses.
5. The process of affeerment, where initial fines were adjusted.

This document provides valuable insights into the day-to-day administration of an early 17th-century manor under James I, showcasing how the manor court system addressed issues of land management, community order, and local governance. The mention of mixed language use and document damage also highlights the challenges in preserving and interpreting historical records from this period.

Court Details:

- Date: 2nd December 1616 (15th year of King James I's reign)
- Lord of the Manor: Dame Elizabeth Garrard (implied)
- Steward: Richard Ball, gentleman

Key Points:

1. Defaults and Fines:

- Several free tenants fined for default, including:
 - William Clarke, knight (12d)
 - Provost & Fellows of Eton (12d)
 - Dean & Canons of Windsor (12d)
 - Henry Bell, gentleman (4d)
 - Churchwardens of Burnham (4d)

2. Land Transaction:

- John Garrat alienated two tenements and lands to Henry Fellow
- Rent: 6s 3d
- Relief paid: 6s 3d
- Henry Fellow performed fealty

3. Pound-related Offenses:

- Multiple instances of animals impounded reported
- John How accused of attacking the hayward and rescuing impounded cattle
- Fines imposed:
 - Francis Norris (20s)
 - Richard Foster (10s)
 - Nicholas How (10s)
 - John How (10s)

- Thomas Dollin (12d)

4. Common Land Violations:

- Thomas Dollin fined 3s 4d for putting one sheep in the common against orders
- Richard Foster fined 16s 8d for putting five sheep in the common against orders

5. Affeement:

- Pound-breach and rescue fines reduced from 40s to the amounts listed above

6. Ordinances:

- Previous ordinances confirmed to remain in force

Note:

The document mentions some damage resulting in missing words and notes a mixture of Latin and English in the latter part of the entry.