

Summary of Dorney Manor Court Roll (9 October 1638)

This summary outlines the main points from the Dorney Manor Court Roll of 9th October 1638. It covers court proceedings, including reports of deaths and inheritances, land transfers, violations of manor decrees, and new orders and appointments.

Key features of this court roll include:

1. The detailed recording of free suitors for different parts of the manor (Dorney Cisteriensis, Boveney, and Dorney Court).
2. The management of inheritance and land transfers, with specific mention of reliefs paid.
3. The enforcement of previous decrees, particularly regarding the number of animals allowed on common lands.
4. The imposition of significant fines for major violations, such as James Mackinson's £20 fine for keeping foreign sheep.
5. The appointment of a new Heyward (Edward Field) with a specified salary and method of payment.

This document provides valuable insights into the day-to-day administration of a 17th-century manor, showcasing how the manor court system managed land use, enforced local regulations, and maintained community infrastructure.

Court Details:

- Date: 9th October 1638 (14th year of King Charles I's reign)
- Lord of the Manor: James Palmer, knight
- Steward: Abraham Wake, esquire

Free Suitors:

1. Dorney Cisteriensis: William Mountague, William Weatherhead, William Oliver, Francis Norris, Robert Cox
2. Boveney: Henry Fellow, William Bell, Thomas Dollin, William Mountague
3. Dorney Court: Dean and Chapter of Windsor, Thomas Dollin, Richard Sedwin (for Master Hinde), Henry Fellow, William Oliver

Homage:

William Mountague, Thomas Dollen, Henry Fellow, Robert Cox, Richard Sedwin, Francis Norris, William Oliver

Key Points:

1. **Defaults:** William Wetherhead and William Bell fined 2d each for failing to attend
2. **Death and Inheritance:**
 - James Forde's death reported
 - Elizabeth Forde (daughter) named as heir, paid 8d relief and admitted as tenant
3. **Land Alienation:**
 - William Bell alienated Wickclose pasture to Francis Whitehead
4. **Violations of Decrees:**
 - John Taylor: Kept excess cattle and horses
 - Andrew Wethers: Kept an extra horse
 - Robert Browne: Kept excess horses and cattle
 - James Mackinson: Kept 200 foreign sheep in Okestubb field (£20 fine)

5. **Orders:**

- Repairs ordered for Tilston field gate and South field gate by Hentons
- Edward Field appointed as Heyward (commons keeper) with £8 yearly wage

Affeerers:

The whole homage