

## THE SOMERSET RECORD OFFICE

### I. MAIN MANUSCRIPT ACCESSIONS

JULY 1966 — JUNE 1967

#### FAMILY AND ESTATE:

SAMBORNE OF TIMSBURY (incorporating Savage of Midsomer Norton): deeds of Timsbury, 1546-1892; agreements, etc., relating to coal works there, 1762-1874; valuation of Timsbury parsonage, c. 1700, and poor rate assessment, 1801. Deeds of Midsomer Norton, 1693-1911, and Bathwick, 1811-1872; survey book of Midsomer Norton, 1822; reports, accounts, etc., relating to coal interests there, 1887-1922.

DONNE OF CREWKERNE: deeds etc., of Crewkerne, 1557-1864, Martock, 1649-1767, Chard, 1700-1765, and South Petherton, 1675-1817. Wills, settlements, genealogical papers, etc., of the related families of Merefield, Donne and Donisthorpe, from 1581. Estate rentals (mainly Crewkerne), 1748-1854; survey of Crewkerne, 1772; maps of the manor of Hewish in Crewkerne, 1729, 1768, and of South Petherton, c. 1770. Records of John Donne (d. 1768), as an attorney, including accounts with clients (bill books), 1727-1768, schedules of Quarter Sessions records received by him when he became Clerk of the Peace, 1746, and transmitted after his death to his successor, 1768, bankruptcy records, 1725-1754, and court book for the manors of Yatton, Yatton Rectory, Kenn, Walton-in-Gordano and other manors belonging to Earl Poulett in N. Somerset, 1715-1740. Memoranda book kept by James Quantock containing instructions on surveying, carpentry, husbandry, etc., compiled from c. 1783, with additions to 1809. Kitchen accounts and workmen's wage accounts, 1833-1852.

RECORDS OF THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS (*Additional deposit*): Greinton manor estate: deeds, etc., of the manor, advowson and component farms, 1510-1874; leases, 1731-1877; court book, 1705-1770; maps, 1810, 1843; enclosure award and map (division of parochial allotment under the King's Sedgemoor award), 1796.

Wells Prebendary estates: Binegar (Whitchurch prebend), leases, etc., 1765-1895, court rolls, 1779-1872, valuations, 1812, 1835; Wells St. Cuthbert — out parish (Wormister prebend), leases, etc., 1779-1846, survey, c. 1795, court rolls, 1748-1795; Yatton, leases, etc., 1819-1895, court rolls, 1756-1876; leases, etc., for Henstridge, 1763-1841, Cudworth, 1809-1860, Barton St. David, 1750-1870, Compton Bishop, 1749-1853, and Burnham (Compton Bishop prebend), 1795-1869; parliamentary surveys, 1649 and 1650, for Litton, Haselbury Plucknett, Compton Bishop, Ashill, Timberscombe, East Harptree, Wanstrow, Wormister, Buckland Dinham, Yatton, Wiveliscombe, Ilton, Easton-in-Gordano and Whitelackington.

Taunton Archdeaconry estates: leases, etc., for Langford Budville, Thorne St. Margaret and Milverton, 1802-1876; valuations, surveys, rentals, 1847-1865; parliamentary surveys, 1649.

TROLLOPE-BELLEW (CAREW) OF CROWCOMBE (*Additional deposit*): deeds of Clatworthy, 1370-1852; estate and household accounts, rentals, etc., 1695-1884; correspondence, domestic and official, 17th-19th cents., including a letter describing the Great Fire, 1666, a copy letter book kept for Thomas Carew, 1755-1760, and letters relating to the education of Gerald Carew, 1821-1827; Civil War papers, principally concerning the delinquency of Thomas Carew of Stoodleigh, 1643-1658; trading journal and accounts and portion of ship's log relating to voyages in the East Indies,<sup>1</sup> 1698-1715; business accounts of J. Wheadon, a Chard dyer, 1778-1827, and his papers and accounts as churchwarden, 1791-1794.

Copies of some public records: (Admiralty) Comptroller's ledger, 1631, (Exchequer) accounts of public revenue, 1688-1705, and commissions of the peace (probably all England and Wales), 1667.

BENNETT (LAND AGENTS AND SURVEYORS) OF BRUTON: maps of the whole or parts of the following parishes, mainly dating from the early 19th century, Ashwick, Blackford, North Brewham, Bruton, Brympton, Charlton Horethorne, Charlton Musgrove, Chilcompton, Compton Pauncefoot, Croscombe, Evercreech (several), Henstridge, Holcombe, Kilmersdon, Lamyatt (several), Lovington, Lyncombe and Widcombe, Mells, Midsomer Norton (several), Nunney, East Pennard, Pitcombe, Sandford Orcas, Shepton Mallet, Stoke Trister, Temple Combe, Trent, Wanstrow, Whatley, Wincanton and Writhlington, 1726-1836; road, including turnpike, maps, for Batcombe, Bratton Seymour, Bruton, Evercreech, Holcombe, Lyncombe and Widcombe, Pitcombe, Poyntington and Stoke Lane, 1818-1869; records of the firm as valuers or surveyors for tithe apportionment purposes under the Tithe Act (1836), including earlier tithe papers, parish rates and valuations, books of reference to maps for Ansford, Baltonsborough, South Barrow, Blackford, West Bradley, Bratton Seymour, Brympton, North Cadbury, West Camel, Charlton Horethorne, Charlton Musgrove, Chilcompton, Chilton Cantelo, Compton Pauncefoot, West Cranmore, Dinder, Ditcheat, Evercreech, Farmborough, Henstridge, Holcombe, Ilchester, Ile Brewers, Kilmersdon, Kilmington, Lamyatt, Lottisham, Milborne Port, Montacute, Mudford, East Pennard, Penselwood, Preston Plucknett, Queen Camel, Shepton Montague, Shepton Beauchamp, Sparkford, Sock Dennis, Temple Combe, Timsbury, Trent, Weston Bampfylde and Wincanton; copies of tithe apportionment maps and numerous other estate, parish, etc., maps, *post* 1840 for parishes in E. and SE. Somerset; deeds, etc., of Milton Mill in Milton Clevedon, 1773-1818; estate management records for the Brympton estate, including surveys, valuations, estate correspondence and vouchers, 1838-1882, inventories of pictures and furniture in Brympton House, 1875; estate management records for Compton Pauncefoot, 1843-1896, and for the Hadspen Estate in Pitcombe,

<sup>1</sup> See *Proc. S.A.S.*, 106 (1962), 98, for other sections of the same records.

Castle Cary, etc., 1865-1910; records of Sexey's Hospital, Bruton, including various accounts (isolated volumes), 1791-1895, a small group of apprenticeship indentures and associated papers, 1840-1850, manor court presentments for the manor of Blackford in Wedmore, 1770-1840, and register of copyhold tenants there, *c.* 1820; records of Milborne Port, including manor court presentments, 1785-1822, and valuation and poor rate book, 1845; miscellaneous tenancy agreements, farm rentals and particulars, rating and valuation records for numerous parishes in E. and SE. Somerset, largely 19th century.

BOUVERIE OF BRYMORE: deeds, etc., of Bridgwater, 1531-1795, Woolavington, 1632-1825, and Cannington, including Brymore (few only), 1662-1766. Pym illuminated pedigree, 1583; papers and correspondence relating to estates in Bermuda, 1666-1690. Papers relating to Pym and Hales estates in Ireland, 1655-1686. Hales family settlements, etc., 1688-1834; estate correspondence, 1690-1706. Court books for the manors of Haygrove cum Bridgwater, 1782-1839, and Cutcombe Mohun and Cutcombe Rawleigh, 1782-1854; survey books and maps for the manors of Cutcombe Mohun, Cutcombe Rawleigh, Brymore in Cannington, Haygrove cum Bridgwater, Woolavington Pym and Woolavington Throckmorton, 1758-1836. Papers relating to Cutcombe school, including its building, 1868-1886.

WOODFORDE OF ANSFORD: deeds, etc., of Castle Cary and Ansford, 1691-1822; Ansford glebe and tithe accounts, 1784-1820; family settlement, wills, etc., 1775-1884; survey of Poyntington, *c.* 1783.

MISCELLANEOUS ESTATE DEPOSITS: deeds, etc., of Bath and Bathford, 1791-1896; Beckington, 1651-1850, Chilcompton, 1738-1819, and Midsomer Norton, 1767-1830 (Kelson family); Bradford (Burridge family), 1757-1846 and Langford Budville (Gardiner family), 1768-1861; Camerton and Dunkerton, including coal leases, 1544, 1677-1887, leases, partnership agreements, etc., relating to coal works in Timsbury, 1767-1918, rentals of the manor of Camerton, 1587, 1833 (Jarrett family); Ilminster, 1711-1836 (Bush family).

Map of Donyatt and Ilminster, *c.* 1760. Diaries of Elias Taylor, farmer of Martock and Brympton; 1753-1791.

PARISH: Chard<sup>2</sup> registers, 1649-1895; churchwardens' accounts, 1711-1867; pew register, 1778-1803; vestry minutes, 1825-1907, Charlton Adam: register, 1704-1812; churchwardens' accounts, 1815-1841; vestry minutes, 1842-1925. Charlton Mackrell: registers, 1575-1874; rectorial manor court book, 1728-1810; churchwardens' accounts, 1734-1953; vestry minutes, 1852-1923; conveyance of site for school, 1853, and school accounts, 1853-1868; minutes of West Charlton Friendly Society, 1872-1908. North Cheriton (*additional*

<sup>2</sup> Other parish records will be found with the deposited records of the borough of Chard.

*deposit*): register, 1558-1670; churchwardens' accounts, 1823-1892. Chipstable: registers, 1694-1876; copy inclosure award, 1837. Combe Florey: registers, 1566-1960; tithe map and award, 1839; churchwardens' accounts, 1818-1876; vestry minutes, 1846-1891. West Hatch: registers, 1604-1889; vestry minutes, 1783-1842. Huish Champflower: registers, 1559-1957; churchwardens' accounts, 1674-1744. Huish Episcopi: overseers' accounts, 1690-1837, with rates to 1822, and valuation, 1832. Lydeard St. Lawrence: registers, 1573-1956; churchwardens' accounts, 1763-1956, and accounts of the 'parish trustees', c. 1550-1559; select vestry minutes, 1819-1828; overseers' accounts with rates, 1768-1793; valuation, 1847; surveyors' accounts with rates, 1822-1837. Trull Parish Council: minute books, 1894-1959; accounts, 1895-1961; correspondence, 1909-1954; tithe map and award, 1842.

OFFICIAL: log books, etc., of schools (now closed) in Otterford, Preston Plucknett, Ston Easton and Whitestaunton, from 1874. A further transfer of copy wills from the Estate Duty Office, 1835-1848 (fully indexed). Clevedon U.D.C.: rate books, 1853, 1869-1951.

MISCELLANEOUS: 19th century scrap book of the Burnard and Chichester families of Northover and Stoke Lane, including genealogical material. Perambulations of Cheddar, 1620, 1630 (later copies).

## II. SUMMARIES OF CATALOGUES OF MS. HOLDINGS

These summaries are intended to give more detail of MS. holdings for which catalogues exist in the Somerset Record Office.

### LANGPORT BOROUGH MSS.

Langport's surviving, and probably earliest, charter is dated 1616. The records of the corporation, however, do not begin until some forty years later, but thereafter the volumes of its proceedings are complete to 1889. The corporation remained in existence until its dissolution in 1885 under the Municipal Corporations Act, 1883. Only one, a 17th century, volume of its court of record (for actions of debt, trespass, etc.) has survived, although the court probably had a longer existence.

The portreeve was also coroner and a good series of inquests taken by him exists. The corporation acquired the manorial lordship in 1809 and with it inherited records of properties held of the manor to augment the full series of leases, surveys and rentals of the borough's own property.

*The Corporation, its court and financial administration:* charter of incorporation 1616, later transcripts and translations and matrix of the borough seal (a blackamoor's head); proceedings of courts and meetings of the portreeve and commonalty, 1657-1889; proceedings of the borough court of pleas, 1666-1685; accounts of the portreeve, 1701-1812, 1841-1889, and vouchers to the accounts, 1792-1884; coroner's inquisitions, 1669, 1733, 1761-1867.

*Litigation, etc.:* documents involving the corporation in litigation, including several cases relating to pontage, 1636-c.1689; liability of borough for Stanmoor Bridge in Stoke St. Gregory, 1673-1741; Aller Common Moor, 1785-1797. Papers relating to the bridge, river maintenance and drainage, 1824-1912.

*Manor of Langport Eastover:* deeds, etc., relating to the purchase of the manor, 1808-1809; manor court papers (presentments, lists of resiants, etc.), 1702-1889; court book, 1766-1771; rentals and surveys, c. 1700-1825; admissions, surrenders, leases, etc., 1691-1836.

*Borough estate administration:* court papers, 1669-1808; rentals and surveys, 1715-1889; leases (good series), 1655-1842.

*Langport School estate:* deeds, leases, etc., for Ile Abbots, 1625-1817; accounts and vouchers, 1707-1724, 1826-1827; settlement of cause in Chancery, 1692-1706.

*Miscellaneous functions:* register of alehouse recognizances, 1800-1857; papers relating to the celebration of peace, 1814, and to the proclamation of successive accessions and coronation celebrations, 1820-1838; rules for the fire engine and associated correspondence, 1844; returns to questionnaires affecting the borough, 1828-1846, and petitions to and from the portreeve, etc., 1817-1885.

#### POPHAM MSS.

This accumulation contains the muniments of the branch of the Popham family whose seats were at Hunstrete (Houndstreet) in Marksbury and Littlecote in Wiltshire and whose estates were based on and largely administered from these centres. The records here surviving relate in the main to estate management and the collection is particularly rich in leases and estate vouchers and accounts from the mid 17th century and estate maps and surveys from the mid 18th century. On the other hand, there is a disappointing absence of personal records and correspondence.

Additional material relating to these estates has been received from another source and was briefly noted in *Proc. S.A.S.*, 104 (1960), 134.

*Deeds, etc.:* Popham family settlement, trust and mortgage deeds affecting their estates in Somerset, Wiltshire, Devon, Berkshire, Glamorgan and Middlesex, 1662-1883, including the manors of Marksbury and Houndstreet, Compton Dando and Sewardswick in

Compton Dando, East and West Chelworth (Chelwood), Farmborough Grevill, Farmborough Rosewell and Barrow in Farmborough, Timsbury, Pensford, Publow and Woollard, Chew Magna and North Elm in Chew Magna and Dundry, Queen Charlton and Chewton Keynsham, Cheddar Berkeley and Nyland *alias* Andersey with Batcombe, Priddy and Rodney Stoke, Wellington Borough, Wellington Landside and Jurston, Bridgwater with Durleigh, Middle Lambrook in Kingsbury Episcopi, Milverton, and Pykes Ash in Martock, the advowsons of Marksbury, Wellington and Durleigh, all in Somerset, the manors of Colebridge, Churchstanton (now Somerset), Clayhidon, Madford, Rawridge, Shapcombe and Upottery, and the advowsons of Churchstanton, Clayhidon and Hemyock in Devon, the manors of Littlecote, Chilton Foliat with Soley, Northstanden with Oakhill in Hungerford and Froxfield, Rudge, Winterbourne Monkton and Barwick Bassett, and the advowson of Chilton Foliat in Wiltshire, the manor of Cadoxton East Barry in Glamorgan, and the manor of Newington in Stoke Newington in Middlesex; deeds of subsidiary estates or later acquisitions in Compton Dando, 1546-1877, Farmborough, 1732-1884, Pensford and Publow, 1695-1873, Chelwood, 1541-1663, 1871-1875, Nyland with Batcombe, 1677-1883, including references to decoy pool, Chilton Foliat, etc., 1689-1867, including Bigg family settlements, and Avebury and Winterbourne Monkton, 1606-1895. Leases for Cheddar, 1629-1758, Chelwood, 1632-1793, Chew Magna and Dundry, 1604-1759, Keynsham, 1639-1683, including a grist and paper mill at Chewton Keynsham, with brief inventory of contents, 1683, Compton Dando, 1619-1796, Farmborough, 1662-1793, Marksbury, 1611-1790, Pensford with Publow, 1650-1794, Timsbury, 1661-1759, Wellington, 1649-1698, and a small number of leases of coal works and other mineral rights in N. Somerset, 1649-1771.

*Manorial records:* court book for Farmborough Grevill and Farmborough Rosewell, 1627-1654, and court papers and presentments for the manors of Compton Dando, 1725-1796, Marksbury and Houndstreet, 1657-1795, and Pensford, Publow and Woollard, 1671-1841.

*Estate management:* Littlecote estate: stewards' accounts and vouchers, 1720-1838, weekly live and dead stock returns and labour work sheets, 1810, and farm accounts, 1781-1783; Houndstreet and Nyland estates: stewards' accounts and vouchers (many bundles), 1649-1818, rent and account books, 1806-1846, labour and wages books, 1883-1884, carpenters', smiths', etc., accounts for work at Houndstreet, 1782-1796, and farm surveys and cropping records, 1824-1844; Wellington estates (including Devon properties): stewards' accounts and vouchers, 1725, 1735; estate letter books written by the Houndstreet agent, including references to coal, railway and water projects, 1843-1852.

Surveys of the manors of Farmborough Grevill and Farmborough Rosewell, 1631, and of Compton Dando and Farmborough, 1656. Registers of leases, contract books, valuations, generally for Marksbury, Chelwood, Compton Dando, Farmborough, Pensford and Publow, *c.* 1740-1871. Maps of Marksbury, 1758, 1759, 1806, *c.* 1828, 1846, 1866, Chelwood, *c.* 1776, 1806, *c.* 1828, 1846, 1866, Compton Dando, 1758, 1806, *c.* 1828, 1846, 1866, Farmborough, 1759, 1806, *c.* 1828, 1846, 1866, Nyland with Batcombe, 1755, 1773, *c.* 1790, 1813, *c.* 1828, and Pensford and Publow, 1776, 1806, *c.* 1810, *c.* 1828, 1846, 1866, all in Somerset, and Winterbourne Monkton, 1809, *c.* 1845, Chilton Foliat, 1815, Froxfield, 1832, and Ramsbury, 1782, in Wiltshire.

#### STRANGWAYS MSS.

This small, but interesting, accumulation of records relates to the Shapwick estate, centred upon the rectorial manor, which was purchased by William Bull in 1619 and passed by marriage with the Bull heiress to the Strangways family in the 18th century. Perhaps the most useful section is that containing the maps and surveys, which show the state of the parish before the enclosure of the extensive arable fields there. These records have an added importance in that enclosure must have taken place privately or gradually, as there is no enclosure award under Act of Parliament.

*Deeds, etc.:* Shapwick, including the rectory manor, 1599-1839, Wyke Champflower, 1349-1726, manor of Sydenham in Wembdon, 1534-1700; Shapwick, leases and copyholders' admissions, 1593-1776.

*Manorial records:* rectorial manor of Shapwick *cum* Moorlinch, court books, 1609-1778, court papers, 1649-1788, and rentals, 1674-1791. Copy of Glastonbury customal, 1592.

*Estate management, etc.:* surveys of Shapwick, *c.* 1700-1785; maps of Shapwick, *c.* 1750, 1754, *c.* 1760, 1764, *c.* 1785, 1787, 1839, and King's Sedgemoor, 1791, *c.* 1795; Shapwick tithe books, 1753-1761; litigation papers involving tithes of Moorlinch and its chapelries, 1623-1679, Shapwick tithes, 1754-5, with copies of various public records of the 16th century relating to the rectory, tithes and the repair of the chancel, the repair of Shapwick churchyard wall, 1731-1763, and rights of common in Loxley Close, 1754-1766; copies of documents, presumably obtained for use in various legal cases, including extracts from public records relating to Sedgemoor, 1279-1555 and occasional church and poor rates for Shapwick, 1660-1827.

*Official functions and personal interests:* lay subsidy roll for the hundreds of Whitley, North Petherton, Cannington, Andersfield, and Huntspill and Puriton, 1640; collector's *quietus* for same hundreds, 1627; Henry Bull's *quietus* and writ of assistance as sheriff, 1683-

1684; commissions of various members of the Bull and Strangways families in armed forces, militia, etc., 1645-1830; Bull grant of arms, 1624; genealogical papers and pedigrees for Bull and Strangways, to late 19th century.

#### MATTOCK (SOUTHWOOD) MSS.

These documents were found at Lowton House in Pitminster and deposited by the owners of the house, the Mattock family, but in fact they largely concern the estates and personal interests of the previous owners of the property, the Southwood family. With them were also found some records of the manor of Taunton Deane, which augment the two main series of records relating to the manor, held elsewhere, partly at Winchester in the Hampshire Record Office and partly in the Sheppard MSS in this Office. These present records, however, represent only a small proportion of the total surviving, a fact which should be borne in mind, particularly when referring to the account rolls.

*Deeds, etc.:* Churchstanton, 1557-1803; Pitminster, 1642-1854, and Angersleigh, 1650-1820; map of the manor of Leighland in Old Cleeve, 1823; Southwood rent accounts and general disbursements, 1770-1819; accounts of receipts and disbursements for the Dipford, Sweethay and Staplehay estates in Trull, 1718-1735.

*Official functions and personal interests:* wills, inventories, etc., of the Southwood family of Pitminster, Churchstanton and Angersleigh, 1605-1761, and of the Tucker family of Clayhidon (Devon), 1713-1754; papers of Thomas Southwood as captain of the Pitminster Volunteers, 1798-1802; Assize calendars, 1796-1823; Pitminster poor rate book, 1813-1832; Churchstanton vestry minutes, 1769-1782; Simon Soper's account book in Spain (written in Spanish), 1624.

*Manor of Taunton Deane:* compotus or annual account rolls for the various hundreds and other jurisdictions comprising the manor (earliest and latest dates of accounts here surviving added in each case); rolls exist (sometimes for individual, sometimes for all hundreds, etc.) for 33 isolated years between 1408 and 1600, but for two thirds of the years between 1600 and 1745, and the following are represented: Holway, 1561-1628; Hull, 1423-1745; Poundisford, 1413-1745; Staplegrove, 1408-1745; Nailesbourne in Kingston St. Mary, 1485-1745; Otterford, 1561-1665, Rimpton, 1411-1745; Taunton Borough, 1500-1744, Taunton Castle, 1561-1727, and Taunton Liberty, 1561-1727; court rolls for Rimpton, 1493-1534 (four isolated years), and Taunton Castle, 1520-1, 1533-4; volume of lawday presentments (inscribed, 'Thomas Southwood'), 1682-1748; reeve's book (rental) for the hundred of Poundisford, kept by Thomas Southwood, 1707.