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SUFFOLK CHARTERS

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XIX

THE BOHUN OF  
FRESSINGFIELD  
CARTULARY

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SUFFOLK CHARTERS

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THE BOHUN OF  
FRESSINGFIELD  
CARTULARY

Edited by Bridget Wells-Furby

The Boydell Press  

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Suffolk Records Society

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1 British Library MS Harley 2201, f. 37r.  
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Bridget Wells-Furby

## ABBREVIATIONS

- Blomefield, *Norfolk* F. Blomefield and C. Parkin, *An Essay Towards a Topographical History of the County of Norfolk*, 11 vols (London, 1805–10)
- Cal. Chart. Rolls* *Calendar of the Charter Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office*, 6 vols (London, 1903–27)
- Cal. Close Rolls* *Calendar of the Close Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office* (London, 1896–)
- Cal. Fine Rolls* *Calendar of Fine Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office*, 22 vols (London, 1903–27)
- Cal. Inq. Misc.* *Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous (Chancery) Preserved in the Public Record Office, 1219–1485*, 8 vols (London, 1916–2003)
- Cal. Inq. P.M.* *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem and Other Analogous Documents Preserved in the Public Record Office* (London, 1898–)
- Cal. Patent Rolls* *Calendar of the Patent Rolls Preserved in the Public Record Office* (London, 1891–)
- Copinger, *Suffolk* W. A. Copinger, *The Manors of Suffolk: Notes on their History and Devolution*, 7 vols (Manchester, 1905–11)
- Feudal Aids* *Feudal Aids: Inquisitions and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids, with Other Analogous Documents, Preserved in the Public Record Office, AD 1284–1431*, 6 vols (London, 1899–1920)
- GEC G[eorge] E[dward] C[okayne], *The Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom, Extant, Extinct or Dormant*, new edn., ed. V. Gibbs, H. A. Doubleday, D. Warrand, Lord Howard de Walden, G. H. White and P. W. Hammond, 14 vols in 15 parts (London and Stroud, 1910–98)
- Hist. Parl.* J. C. Wedgwood and A. D. Holt, *History of Parliament: Biographies of the Members of the Commons House, 1439–1509* (London, 1936)
- Index of Wills* *Index of Wills Proved in the Consistory Court of Norwich, 1370–1550*, ed. M. A. Farrow, Norfolk Record Society 16, 21/ British Record Society 69, 73 (1943–5), i/1

- Rix, *Edmund Bohun* S. Wilton Rix, *The Diary and Autobiography of Edmund Bohun Esq.* (privately printed, Beccles, 1853)
- RO Record Office
- Suffolk in 1327* *Suffolk in 1327, Being a Subsidy Return*, ed. S. H. A. H[ervey], Suffolk Green Books 9, 2 vols, (1894–1906), ii
- TNA The National Archives, Kew, London
- VCH Hampshire *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: A History of Hampshire*, ed. H. A. Doubleday and W. Page, 5 vols (London, 1900–12)
- VCH Norfolk *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: A History of Norfolk*, ed. H. A. Doubleday and W. Page, 2 vols (London, 1901–6)
- VCH Staffordshire *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: A History of Staffordshire*, ed. W. Page, L. Margaret Midgley, J. G. Jenkins, M. W. Greenslade, D. A. Johnson, N. J. Tringham, 13 vols (London, 1908–2007)
- VCH Suffolk *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: A History of Suffolk*, ed. W. Page, 2 vols (London, 1907–11)
- VCH Surrey *The Victoria History of the Counties of England: A History of Surrey*, ed. H. E. Malden, 5 vols (London, 1902–12)
- Visitation of Norfolk* *The Visitation of Norfolk, 1563, by William Hervey ... [et al.]*; *Enlarged with Another Visitation made by Clarenceux Cooke and also the Visitation made by J. Raven, 1613*, ed. W. Rye, Harleian Society 32 (1891)
- Visitation of Suffolk* *The Visitation of Suffolk, 1561, made by William Henry, Clarenceux King of Arms*, ed. J. Corder, Harleian Society new series vols. 2–3 (1981–4), i





## INTRODUCTION

### THE BOHUN OF FRESSINGFIELD CARTULARY

This small, late fifteenth-century cartulary of eighty-nine folios is now part of the Harleian collection in the British Library but its history is unknown.<sup>1</sup> It is concerned almost entirely with land transactions within the parish of Fressingfield (Suffolk) in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and its traditional association with Edmund Bohun of that parish, who died in 1501, seems secure. It is in extremely good condition but the pages have apparently been trimmed, which has cut into some of the marginal comments. There are, moreover, several signs of carelessness or difficulties on the part of the copyist. There are simple copying errors which might be expected, such as errors in forenames, evidence of omissions ranging from single words, to phrases, and whole lines, and the occasional placing of the date clause before the witness list with one instance of the separation of the date so that the day occurs before the witness list with the regnal year following it.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, it is likely that the copyist suffered from the common problem of identifying capital letters, and it is likely that, on at least a few occasions, he transposed the east/west and north/south boundary holdings.<sup>3</sup> This frailty is frustrating but should always be borne in mind. There are some more serious 'errors', such as the repetition of no fewer than eight deeds, although the present positioning of one folio out of place may perhaps be attributed to the later binder.<sup>4</sup> Most of it is written in what appears to be a single hand, probably soon after 1491 and certainly before 1501,<sup>5</sup> but additions of supplementary material occur in a large section between folios 70*d.* and 76 and at folio 89*d.* (numbers

1 London, British Library MS Harley 2201. G. R. C. Davies, *Medieval Cartularies of Great Britain and Ireland*, revised edition by C. Breay, J. Harrison, D. M. Smith (London, 2010), 247, no. 1200.

2 For instance Joan, daughter of Hugh Fish and wife of Robert Bacon, appears once as Juliana, and in a duplicated entry the widow Skinner appears as Joan in one and Juliana in the other and the witness Robert Shothowe as Robert Schothelie: 13-15, 19, 192, 218, 180/200.

3 A placename which is likely to be Ashwellthorpe is copied as *Sysshewellethorp*, and the witnesses Alexander and Roger le Brond are most probably Alexander and Roger le Grond: 212, 176, 279.

4 This has been silently corrected in the calendar but the original order is given in Appendix A. Folio 87 is clearly out of place and should be placed between folios 84 and 85. In addition to the sense of the text, folios 86, 88, and 89 are smaller than those of the main text and the intrusion of the larger folio 87 is particularly noticeable.

5 The latest dated deed in the main hand is of October 1491, and several of the headings indicate that it was completed within the lifetime of Edmund Bohun.

234–49 and 288). These comprise extracts from rentals and manorial accounts, mostly from the period c. 1490–1534 but with some later material up to 1567–8, in a number of different hands, the latest of which is probably of 1574.<sup>6</sup> There are also many marginal additions to the main text in various later hands of which two main hands may be identified. The earlier of these summarises the contents of the deeds to the left of each entry and the date to the right; the latter is the 1574 hand and usually notes the present tenant. They have not all been included but some have been noted as they serve to show that the lands concerned were in the tenure of several different tenants by that date. Still later, the page numbers 12–49 were added between folio 6*d.* and folio 25*r.*, probably by the same hand which neatly inscribed the date 29 *Octobris* 1722 at the top of folio 1*r.* and added two marginal comments, and the final additions appear to have been the numbering of the folios in the later nineteenth century by the same hand which added a note of the number of folios and the date October 1880 at the end. For the purposes of this calendar the different entries have been numbered successively with a note of the folio on which they appear. There are in all 288 entries, mostly deeds, although discounting the repetitions there are 280, and discounting the seventeen entries in the later hands, there remain the 263 entries of the main text. These are deeds and associated documents such as bonds, quitclaims, and powers of attorney for giving or receiving seisin, ranging from the late thirteenth century to the late fifteenth century. One is undated and probably of c. 1290; the earliest dated deed is of 21 December 1296 and the latest of 9 October 1491 with the majority falling in the earlier century.

Some of the original deeds, or their counterparts, survive in other collections. No fewer than nine survive in a group of eleven Fressingfield charters in the Ancient Deeds B series of the National Archives, and two survive in a collection of parish charities records in a series concerning the 'feoffment estate', now in the Suffolk Record Office (Ipswich branch).<sup>7</sup> The latter two deeds of 1491 are the two earliest in the series of the parish charity but the two latest in a series concerning the passage of the same message, scattered throughout the cartulary, from as early as 1349, but there is no apparent connection between the eleven charters in the Ancient Deeds series. The most important of the external collections, however, is the forty medieval charters catalogued under Fressingfield which form part of the Phillipps collection at the Ipswich branch of the Suffolk Record Office, and another two which were probably acquired with them but have been catalogued elsewhere. Only three of these are in the cartulary, but as they have great bearing on the Bohun family and also add significantly to the general interest of the cartulary they have been included as Appendix B.<sup>8</sup> Seventeen of these charters are concerned with the Sancroft family which later produced Fressingfield's most

<sup>6</sup> See below, p. 27, n. 134.

<sup>7</sup> TNA, E326/3813–16, 3821–2, 3824, 3826–9; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/1–11. Those in TNA are 136 (3813), 73 (3814), 209 (3815), 150 (3816), 32 (3821), 224 (3822), 216 (3826), 147 (3827), and 71 (3929). Those among the parish charity records are 286 (Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC/90/L3/1) and 287 (Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC/90/L3/2).

<sup>8</sup> The three charters which appear in the cartulary are 66, 85, and 139.

famous son, Archbishop Sancroft (*d.* 1693).<sup>9</sup> Another twelve are concerned with lands which were acquired by John Bohun and others and granted in September 1458, shortly after his death, by the survivor to a group of feoffees to carry out the instructions of his will for the benefit of his elder son Richard (*d.* 1495–6).

### THE BOHUN FAMILY

Edmund Bohun (*d.* 1501) was the second son of John Bohun (*d.* 1458) of Fressingfield, who, despite the attempts of his descendants to endow their earliest known ancestor with gentle status, was of comparatively humble background. Although John prospered sufficiently to be able to leave lands to Edmund and the eldest son Richard, he left only 5 marks to his third son, Robert, and 40s. each to his daughters Alice and Joan.<sup>10</sup> Edmund was the fortunate and successful younger son who was able to escape the confines of a remote rural parish and prosper in the wider world, eventually reaching armigerous status; he died leaving only daughters but bequeathed the greater part, if not all, of his wealth to his nephews, the sons of his brother Richard, whose descendants bore his arms and evidently held his memory in high regard, given the number who were called Edmund.

According to the Suffolk Visitation of 1561, John Bohun of Fressingfield, 'gentleman', married Alice, daughter and heir of Robert Dallinghoo of Fressingfield, but this designation, along with his alleged quartering of the arms of Bohun and Dallinghoo, is simply creative backdating of armigerous status to these ancestors as the Bohun arms were certainly granted to Edmund, and John Bohun is never designated as 'gentleman' in the cartulary.<sup>11</sup> His antecedents are unknown but it is unlikely that the family was connected even remotely with the comital Bohun family which had been earls of Hereford and Essex until the death of Humphrey de Bohun in 1373 leaving only two daughters, and it may be no more than coincidence that another John Bohun was abbot of the great abbey of Bury St Edmunds between 1453 and 1469.<sup>12</sup> A third John Bohun, 'of London, tailor', was a beneficiary of Edmund's will but the kinship, if any, is unstated. John's first appearance in the records is in 1410 and he died between 23 August and 2 September 1458.<sup>13</sup>

He was an assiduous acquirer of lands and some, if not all, of these lands were enfeoffed by him to trustees for the benefit of his sons Richard and Edmund. These were re-enfeoffed shortly after his death, one on 2 September 1458 very probably for Richard's benefit, and the other on 6 January 1459 to Edmund and others.<sup>14</sup>

9 R. A. P. J. Beddard, 'Sancroft, William (1617–1693), Archbishop of Canterbury and Nonjuror', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, 60 vols (Oxford, 2004), I. 244–50.

10 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, vii n.

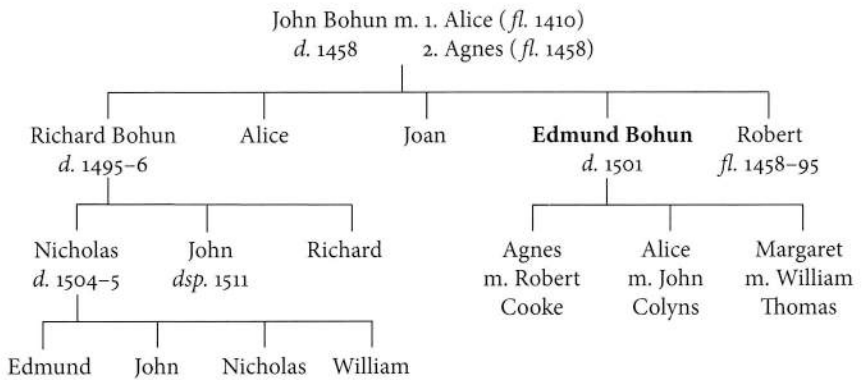
11 *Visitation of Suffolk*, 178–81. For the grant to Edmund, see below, p. 11, and for his collateral descendants bearing the same arms, see Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, xiii. V.

12 *GEC*, vi. 474; *VCH Suffolk*, ii. 72.

13 His will was dated 23 August 1458 and he was dead by 2 September: Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, vii n, B10.

14 233, B10.

## The Bohun Family



Although it is unknown what land Richard may otherwise have inherited from John, the lands which made up these two enfeoffments had been acquired by John between 1428 and 1450 and may be identified, evidence of the latter being found in the cartulary and of the former being found chiefly in the Phillipps collection. The cartulary shows that the lands which made up Edmund's bequest had been enfeoffed in 1450 to John, Roger Godbald, and John Calver by John (I) Dade, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald; it comprised lands in Fressingfield which had been accumulated by William Dallinghoo and granted by him, as all his lands, etc., to Dade, Fox, and Godbald in 1434, probably for Bohun's benefit. It is unlikely to have amounted to more than a dozen acres or so as Dallinghoo's known acquisitions comprised three separate purchases amounting to 5 acres and the lands formerly of John Felys which are unlikely to have been much larger.<sup>15</sup> In January 1459 the survivors Roger Godbald and John Calver confirmed these lands to Edmund and Richard Bohun, John (II) Dade, Robert Fox, and William Shelton and as Edmund is named first it is likely that these lands formed his bequest.<sup>16</sup> The second enfeoffment consisted of six separate acquisitions made by John and was much more significant. They had each been acquired by John jointly with John (I) Dade and John Fox, and on 2 September 1458 were granted by the survivor Fox to a very similar group of feoffees comprising his son Robert Fox, John (II) Dade, Hugh Fen, and William Shelton. One of these holdings was called Hodds, held by Richard in 1488-9, and the whole of those which comprised the enfeoffment were later, in November 1501, passed on by the surviving feoffee Shelton to another group of feoffees headed by Richard's sons John and Nicholas in order to carry out the last will of Richard Bohun. Consequently they can be identified with the bequest made in Richard's will to his younger son John of the lands which he (Richard) had received under the will of his

<sup>15</sup> 182, 203, 215, and see below, pp. 25-6.

<sup>16</sup> The charters concerning the passage of these lands from the grant by John Felys to his feoffees in 1404, *via* William Dallinghoo, to the grant by John Bohun's feoffees to his sons and others in 1459 occur as 226-33 in the cartulary.

father.<sup>17</sup> These acquisitions were more substantial than the lands bequeathed to Edmund.

The 1458 deed specifies lands lying in Fressingfield, Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale which had been granted to Bohun, Dade, and Fox by (1) Robert Good of Wilby on 15 January 1428, (2) John Bayle on 19 June 1429, (3) Thomas King of Whittingham on 13 December 1431, (4) John son of Roger Barber of Fressingfield, William Cooke of Linstead, and Richard Shep of Fressingfield on 8 July 1434, (5) Richard Shep and Robert Banyard on 16 June 1437, and finally (6) John Sherwynd, clerk, John Swan, clerk, and Henry Bateman of Mendham, husbandman, on 5 March 1439.<sup>18</sup> There is further evidence of four of these acquisitions. The most important was that from Robert Good in 1428 as this was a substantial holding of probably around 20 acres or more lying in Fressingfield, Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale. It had been granted by John Prick to Richard Waryn, probably as a feoffee, as in 1376 Waryn granted it to John's brother Richard Prick and his wife Christina. It then passed from Richard Prick to John Prick, rector of Ilkethall, John Seke (*alias* Tolle), and Stephen Barret in 1393, from the survivors Prick and Tolle to Thomas Sharp and his wife Katherine, excepting Picketslands, for 36 marks in 1403, by Sharp's widow Katherine Bell to John Levald, John Malves, and John Shep in 1418, by the survivor Levald to Robert Good of Wilby in 1420, excepting both Picketslands and Lintons which Sharp had granted to his daughters Juliana and Isabel in 1405, and finally by Robert Good to Bohun, Dade, and Fox, excepting Picketslands and Lintons, on 15 January 1428.<sup>19</sup> In 1432 Juliana Sharp, then the widow of Robert Goche, granted Lintons to Richard Shep and Robert Banyard, who confirmed it to Bohun, Dade, and Fox in 1437, while the deed of the acquisition of a plot of land from Bayle in 1429 is also in the cartulary.<sup>20</sup> The acquisition from Thomas King in 1431 was of a plot of 2 or 3 acres called Hodds in Whittingham which King had acquired from John de Hanworth in 1410; this may later have been called Longhaughe as it had previously been held by John de Longhache.<sup>21</sup> The other two acquisitions, those from Sherwynd, Swan, and Bateman in 1439, and Barber, Cooke, and Shep

<sup>17</sup> 236-7, B11.

<sup>18</sup> The grantees and the dates of the deeds are listed separately but it is possible to match them because of those that survive.

<sup>19</sup> B1-B6. After Richard Waryn's death his widow Agnes brought a suit of dower against Richard Prick in 1388 for half a messuage and 60 acres of land in Fressingfield: 17. By 1428 both Picketslands and Lintons had been alienated but Lintons was only 4 acres and Picketslands may have been no larger. John Bohun held 7 acres of the manor of Whittingham at a rent of 10s. 8½*d.* which had formerly been held by Simon Prick (*fl.* 1336) and after him by Richard Prick (*fl.* 1354-93): 235, 237. This may have been part of the holding.

<sup>20</sup> 191, 193-8.

<sup>21</sup> B7-B9. Extracts from Whittingham manor records in the cartulary show that Thomas King held a pigtle with one plot of land adjacent called Hodd, formerly of John de Longhache, abutting on the highway to Harleston, and paid 14*d.* a year, and that in 1488-9 Richard Bohun paid 14*d.* a year for the Hodd tenement: 236, 237. In the charters the road to Harleston is identified as Wynns Green.

in 1434, were probably those later identified as Taggs and Hunts.<sup>22</sup> The former is more secure as Taggs was closely associated with Mendham and Henry Bateman of Mendham, husbandman, is most likely to have been the possessor among the three grantees.<sup>23</sup> There is nothing more than likelihood to suggest that the 1434 grant was of Hunts, which lay north of Lintons and had been held by Thomas Sharpe in 1405 but no longer by 1432.<sup>24</sup>

There are various other charters in the cartulary which may be related to John's acquisitions. Two lie within a group of nine, 190–98, which are otherwise concerned with Lintons and the Bayle plot; the first is a grant of a plot of land to Matthew Prick in 1296 which is presumably a stray belonging to the Prick, later Goods, holding, but the other is a grant of 1407 by John Prick and John Tolle, the surviving feoffees from the 1393 enfeoffment of what was later called Goods, to John Fox, John Shep and his son Roger (possibly Richard), of a piece of land of 2 acres which was certainly not Hunts but which lay next to Linton Way; this may have been Picketslands which had been excepted from the grant to the Sharps in 1403.<sup>25</sup> Another four charters occur much later in the cartulary as a separate section and are grants to John Thormede, the first by Richard Waryn and the other three by John Prick.<sup>26</sup> In 1376 Waryn granted to Thormede two enclosed pightles which lay north and south of *le Grene* and Prick's three grants of 1405–6 amounted to 6 acres: in January 1405 and July 1406 two plots each of 1 acre of land, to John and his wife Alice, the first lying between land formerly of Roger Picket to the south and land formerly of Ralph Prick to the west, and on the same day in July 1406 4 acres of land lying south of Picket Way, to Thormede, John Fox the elder, and John Baker. These lands may not have been part of the 1393 enfeoffment as his co-feoffee Tolle was not involved, and this may have been a different John Prick altogether as, although he is identified as 'clerk', he is not said to be

22 In the 1501 re-enfeoffment to John Bohun and others the whole 'will estate' was described as all the messuage and lands, etc., called Goods, Taggs, Hunts, and Lintons, and in 1584 as the messuage called Goods with lands in Fressingfield, etc., and the lands called Taggs, Hunts, Lintons, and *Longhaughe*: **B11–B12**.

23 He is named last of the three and the actual possessor of the land is often named either first or last of a group of feoffees, and furthermore the other two were clerks. In 1495 John Bohun's grandson John acquired two pieces of land from Mendham Priory, one of which lay next to the lane formerly leading from Taggs to Harleston and the other of which was parcel of *Ouerlanghaughe* in Mendham and lay next to John's meadow called Taggs Meadow: **B18**.

24 The only references to a Hunt in the cartulary are to the land of Thomas Hunt in 1317 and 1338 which lay to the west and south of a plot of 2½ acres which was acquired by Matthew Roscelyn and his wife Matilda in 1317 and granted by Matthew to his daughter Margaret in 1338, the land to east and north being held by John Carpenter in 1317 and by Roger Picket in 1338: **57, 62**. A Nicholas Hunt witnessed a charter of 1420 in the Phillips collection: **B5**.

25 **190, 192**. The 1407 grant was of a piece of land with the portion of Linton Way adjacent to the east which lay between between the land of Eye Priory and Fouderslond to the south and land lately of Wakelin de Hartshill to the north, abutting to the west on land of John Baker.

26 **272–5**.



rector of Ilketshall as he is in 1393 and 1407, but these charters are lacking their witness lists and the copyist may have omitted Prick's full title. There is nothing other than their appearance in the cartulary to suggest that John Bohun acquired these lands, either those granted to Thormede or the piece granted by Prick and Tolle in 1407, but their location suggests that they were at least close to Lintons and the elusive Picketslands. Another likely acquisition by Bohun was a little grove and a piece of land from the feoffees of Nicholas Baron which they granted in 1435 to John Rush, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald; these three were used as feoffees by Bohun in the acquisition of the Dallinghoo lands in the previous year and the grove was bounded on three sides by land formerly of Dallinghoo and on the fourth by a road.<sup>27</sup>

Disregarding these unresolved queries, John's various acquisitions show that he was accumulating and consolidating small parcels and in particular was focusing on the lands formerly of Thomas Sharpe. His first known acquisition was of the messuage called Wynns in January 1410; this lay in Whittingham, the hamlet in the north east of Fressingfield parish, and was near Wynns Green, identified elsewhere as the road to Harleston.<sup>28</sup> At this time, when Thomas King acquired Hodds which lay to the west of Wynns and north of Wynns Green, Hodds was bounded to the north and west by a close and tenement formerly of Thomas Sharpe; by 1431 this close and tenement belonged to John Bohun, who, by acquiring Hodds was thus consolidating the four holdings. In 1403 Sharpe had paid 36 marks for the former Prick holding, later identified as Goods, which lay in Whittingham and the adjacent parishes and hamlets of Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale, and two years later had granted the part of it called Lintons to his two daughters, the remainder being alienated by his widow in 1418; Bohun acquired this remainder from Good in 1428 and Lintons from one of the daughters in 1432–7. Furthermore, Sharpe had also held Hunts, which lay north of Lintons, in 1405 but no longer by 1432 and Bohun at some point acquired this holding also. The Sharpe family had been prominent in the cartulary throughout the fourteenth century but Thomas was the last to appear;<sup>29</sup> his relationship with the earlier Sharpes is unclear. These were Alan (*fl.* 1314–36), Alice (*fl.* 1333–42), Hubert (*fl.* 1335–43) and his son William (*fl.* 1349–62), and two Johns, the elder of whom (*fl.* 1342–67) in 1367 granted his messuage and all his lands to John le Neve and Robert Barber, except a plot within the messuage which he was to continue to hold for the rest of his life.<sup>30</sup> The younger John is identified as both draper and merchant in 1368 when he acquired a village messuage and he was evidently very prosperous as in the same year he gave what was probably a considerable sum to Richard White in consideration of which White bound all his lands in an annuity

27 207.

28 B16, 237. Wynns was acquired from Joan, widow of Edmund Writh of Blakeney and had been granted to Joan and Edmund by Sir John Breouse (*d.* 1394–1402), lord of Whittingham manor.

29 Thomas Goche, who was one of the parish worthies who testified, aged 60 or more, in 1475, may have been the son of Sharpe's daughter Juliana, widow of Robert Goche in 1432: 118.

30 278.

## Introduction

of 20s. to him.<sup>31</sup> In 1373 he quitclaimed this annuity to Richard Waryn, who had acquired White's lands, and in 1388 he alienated the village messuage to Richard's widow Agnes Waryn, by which time he was identified as being of Needham, just across the River Waveney, although he might have been the John Sharpe who was engaged in renewing the rental of Whittingham manor in 1391–2.<sup>32</sup> Thomas may have been his son, investing the proceeds of his father's activities in buying land in 1403, but he may have been entirely unrelated to the earlier individuals of that name. The land he bought belonged to another long-standing Fressingfield family of which the earliest recorded member was Matthew, son of John Prick, of Whittingham, who in 1296 acquired a plot of 1 acre and witnessed charters between 1307 and 1332.<sup>33</sup> He was succeeded by Simon Prick (*fl.* 1336) and he by Richard Prick (*fl.* 1354–93), who were successive holders of the 7 acres held of Whittingham manor later held by John Bohun.<sup>34</sup> It seems likely that Richard, despite his marriage to Christina, was childless, that his brother John was the clergyman who was rector of Ilketshall and his feoffee in 1393, and consequently that the family died out. Even though his lands were granted to Thomas Sharp and his wife Katherine, it is unlikely that Katherine was the heir of the Prick family as Sharp was required to pay for them. It is unclear whether Hunts and the holdings north and east of Hodds were also part of the Prick holding, or whether Sharp had either inherited them or acquired them separately. In either case it is likely that, given the absence of any Sharpes from the record after Katherine's alienation in 1418, John Bohun had effectively replaced Thomas within the community and went to some trouble to accumulate various holdings previously held by him, although this does nothing to explain Bohun's sudden appearance in the parish.

As an incomer, it is of some interest to observe how quickly and with whom he established neighbourly relations. His first appearance as a witness comes from 1434, some twenty-six years after he is first known to have land in the parish, although this dilatory appearance may be due chiefly to the vagaries of the source material and he was evidently well enough established by 1437 to act as a feoffee for the longstanding Fressingfield family of Sancroft.<sup>35</sup> The charter of his first small acquisition of Wynns, held of the manor of Whittingham, in 1410 was witnessed by John Breouse, possibly a younger son of Sir John (*d.* 1394–1402), and brother of Sir Robert (*d.* 1424), lords of that manor.<sup>36</sup> By the 1430s John Bohun was associating on the closest of terms with families who were well established in the parish, the Dades, Foxes, Calvers, and Godbalds, and was evidently well

31 34, 11, 35.

32 12, 54, 235.

33 43, 56–8, 67, 190.

34 235, 237.

35 B34.

36 B16. The other witnesses were John Malveys of Whittingham, later a feoffee in the sale of Goods by Katherine Sharpe, Thomas King, who a month later bought Hodds and later sold it to Bohun, and who was a witness between 1405 and 1418 and a feoffee for John Felys, chaplain, 1404–21, Henry Palmer, a witness until 1437, and Robert Goche who married Thomas Sharpe's daughter Juliana.



integrated. His closest associates were John Fox and John (I) Dade *alias* Rush and his son John (II), who were employed in the sensitive role of feoffees in all six of his acquisitions between 1428 and 1439 and who were also involved in his acquisition of the Dallinghoo lands in 1434/1450. Fox was very probably the son of an earlier John who died between 1418 and 1420 and may have been the same John who appears as a witness as early as 1375. The younger John was evidently a highly trusted member of the community as he was a feoffee for several others, including John Waryn in 1419–57, Stephen and Margaret Spicer in 1436, John Barber the elder in 1443–51, and John Jacob in 1447–51. He died between 1458 and 1462 but was succeeded by his son Robert (fl. 1457–82), who was a feoffee of both Bohun re-enfeoffments of 1458–9. Nicholas Fox (fl. 1482–1501), who may have been Robert's son, was a feoffee in the 1501 re-enfeoffment of Goods, *et al.*, and another John Fox was alive in 1495. Both John (I) Dade (*d.* 1454) and his son John (*d.* 1470) were extremely active in the community as witnesses and feoffees, the elder from 1398 and the younger from 1419.<sup>37</sup> The particularly close association of the Bohuns with these two is seen in the appointment of Robert Fox and John (II) Dade as feoffees of both Bohun enfeoffments in 1458 and 1459 for the benefit of John Bohun's sons, and it is likely that Edmund Bohun married Dade's daughter.<sup>38</sup> They were not Bohun's only feoffees, however, as Roger Godbald and John Calver were employed in the enfeoffment of the Dallinghoo lands in 1450, and Thomas Godbald in 1434 and possibly 1435.<sup>39</sup> The Godbalds and Calvers were also well established in the parish. A Nicholas Calver occurs in 1375 and then two Johns between 1377 and 1462, a third, identified as 'the younger' in 1473, and a Nicholas who was a clerk in 1491. The first John was a feoffee for Hugh Miller in 1377 and witnessed charters between 1386 and 1415; the second, Bohun's feoffee, witnessed charters between 1439 and 1467 and acted as feoffee for Alice Carter in 1437, for John Barber the elder in 1443 and again 1451–6, for the Waryn family 1457–74, and for Robert Noyse and John Bocher in 1462, as well as for Bohun.<sup>40</sup> The two Godbalds were members of a family of which the earliest member occurs in the mid-fourteenth century and by the latter part of the following century had proliferated widely; Roger and Thomas also acted as feoffees for other neighbours.<sup>41</sup> It is also likely that Richard Shep and Robert Banyard were feoffees for Bohun in the acquisition of Lintons in 1432/7. Banyard occurs only in connection with this transaction but Shep also occurs witnessing charters of Hodds in 1410 and the acquisitions by Bohun of Goods in 1428 and Hodds in 1431. If the copyist erred in writing Roger instead of Richard in the charter of 1407 by John Prick to John Fox and John Shep and his son, Richard may have been the son of John (*fl.* 1393–1418), who had been a feoffee for Katherine Bell, widow of Thomas Sharpe, for Goods,

37 For the Dade *alias* Rush family, see below, pp. 85–7.

38 See below, p. 15.

39 230–3.

40 There was possibly a marriage alliance between the Bohuns and the Calvers as Edmund Bohun left 20s. to his kinswoman, Alice Calver, for her marriage: see below, p. 16.

41 See below, pp. 87–9.

*et al.*, in and around 1418.<sup>42</sup> Of higher associations, Thomas Breouse, esquire, the lord of Whittingham manor, witnessed two charters for John Bohun, Bayle's grant of 1429 and the demise of the Dallinghoo lands in 1450, but so he did for others of the parish and John witnessed other charters alongside him.<sup>43</sup> In 1456 he also witnessed alongside William Breouse, esquire, again for Alice Carter, but on other occasions he was usually in the company of John Dade *alias* Rush, and others of that ilk.

John's wife Alice was later said to have been the daughter and heir of Robert Dallinghoo but, although various members of the Dallinghoo family occur in the cartulary, there is no Robert among them. The most prominent member was the William who was connected with John. He is uniformly described as being 'of Fressingfield', and occurs as a witness between 1406 and 1432, and was probably dead by 1435.<sup>44</sup> He was a feoffee for John Waryn in 1419 and for Alice Carter in 1429.<sup>45</sup> He is also recorded as acquiring a few small pieces of land, a plot of 2 acres in 1418, three plots amounting to 2 acres in 1419, and 1 acre in 1430, and the lands formerly of John Felys in 1421.<sup>46</sup> In 1434 he quitclaimed all his lands, etc., in Fressingfield to Dade, Fox, and Thomas Godbald; in 1450 they passed them on to John Bohun and others, and these in 1459 formed the lands which were inherited by John's younger son Edmund. By 1437-8 the 2 acre holding William had acquired in 1418 was held by Elizabeth Dallinghoo, who may have been his widow.<sup>47</sup> Other individuals of the same name were Matthew Dallinghoo, who held land adjacent to one of the plots acquired by William in 1419, Roger, who followed William in a witness list of 1428, and Geoffrey, who in 1496 occurs as the former farmer of land of Sibton Abbey.<sup>48</sup> William's surname is subject to some curious spelling which may be simply due to the vagaries of the copyist. When he received a quitclaim in 1419 for the plot he had acquired the previous year, he appears as William Valavio and when he was appointed as feoffee for John Waryn in the same year he appears as Dalenio, while the 1418 grant was witnessed by a Geoffrey Valavio. Nevertheless, the cartulary sheds no light on any connection between John Bohun and the Dallinghoo family, apart from his acquisition of the lands of William which may have given rise to the later report of the parentage of John's wife. John was certainly married to one Alice in January 1410 when they acquired land in Fressingfield, but she evidently died before John as when he drew up his will, only days before his death, he was married to one

42 192, B4. Katherine had had the lands by feoffment of John Fox and John Shep and then granted them in December 1418 to John Levald, John Malveys, and John Shep.

43 153, 230, 231, 250, 252.

44 152, 184, 193, 198, 263, 69, 207. He was certainly dead by 1454: 155.

45 88, 227-9, 154.

46 182, 203, 215.

47 230, 231, 234. The 1450 re-ensfeoffment of Dallinghoo's lands to Bohun, Godbald, and Calver may have occurred on her death.

48 184, 241.

Joan.<sup>49</sup> Unfortunately, his will survives only as a *précis*, but it also mentioned his sons Richard, Edmund, and Robert, and daughters Alice and Joan; Edmund and Richard were bequeathed lands, while Richard was charged with paying 5 marks to Robert and 40s. to each of his sisters.

John's younger son Edmund, then, had what was probably a meagre inheritance from his father, although land, even only a few acres, was more substantial than the sum of 5 marks which appear to have been the only inheritance of his younger brother Robert. Edmund was also bequeathed a messuage in the village lying to the west of the churchyard, jointly with John's widow Joan, for the life of Joan if she remained unmarried and this was to remain to Edmund, his heirs and assigns.<sup>50</sup> From this unlikely background he was able to make a career for himself outside the confines of the parish, and rose to occupy a position in the Exchequer which earned him armigerous status. It was as an officer of the Exchequer Court that he received in 1486 a grant of the coat of arms *gules, a crescent ermine within an orle of eight martlets* or which were subsequently borne by the descendents of his brother Richard.<sup>51</sup> The Exchequer position was obviously a defining one for him, as in 1475 he is identified as 'Edmund Bohun of the King's Exchequer' and he appears in the same style even in a charter endorsement.<sup>52</sup> The importance of the connection was manifested in other ways, as one of the feoffees appointed for Richard's will estate in 1458 was Hugh Fen (*d.* 1476), originally of Great Yarmouth, who was then an auditor of the Exchequer but later rose to the position of Under-Treasurer and considerable status,<sup>53</sup> and when Edmund made his largest acquisition in 1473 one of his feoffees was Thomas Banyard, who had advised Sir Richard Illingworth, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, in his purchase of Hampshire manors from Henry Grey of Codnor.<sup>54</sup> Banyard was

49 **B16**; Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, vii n. As four of John's five children all lived until 1495 and later they may not have been Alice's children unless they were all born some time after John and Alice are known to have been married in 1410. According to the Visitation, Richard and Edmund were the sons of John and Alice 'Dallinghoo', and Richard was said to be sixty or more in 1475. Neither of these are particularly reliable indications, and it may be that the John who was married to Alice in 1410 may have been the father of the John who was acquiring land and witnessing charters from 1428. Richard died in 1495-6 when his brother Robert was still alive; their sister Alice was still alive in 1499 when Edmund wrote his will; and Edmund died in 1501.

50 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, vii n.

51 *Visitation of Suffolk*, 178-81; Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, viii n.

52 **115, B14**.

53 Fen, who had been MP for Great Yarmouth 1450-1, was auditor from 1455 until his death and was Under-Treasurer in the early 1460s: *Hist. Parl.*, 316-17; J. L. Kirby, 'The Rise of the Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer', *English Historical Review* 72 (1957), 666-77, at 675. His daughter and heir Margaret married George Neville Lord Bergavenny: *GEC*, i. 31.

54 **110**. Illingworth was Chief Baron 1462-71 and died in 1476: E. Foss, *Biographia Juridica: A Biographical Dictionary of the Judges of England from the Conquest* (London, 1870), 366. In 1465-6 Illingworth had been acting with Hugh Fen and

active as a lawyer both locally in Suffolk and Norfolk and wider afield, one of his associates being Christopher Willoughby (*d.* 1498–9), the eventual successor to the Lords Willoughby of Eresby, and his association with Illingworth was not his only connection with the Exchequer as in 1485–6 he was acting as the collector of rents and farms for Herringby Hospital which had been founded by Hugh Fen.<sup>55</sup> There was a particularly close association with Simon Toppesfield, who succeeded Edmund in his official position. Simon was admitted to the vacant position, *ad officium unius clericorum parcellarum Scaccarii*, during the Michaelmas term of 1501 after Edmund's death, he was one of the executors of Edmund's nephew John in 1511 and was thus responsible for lands which were still subject to the terms of Edmund's will, and the arms of Edmund 'of the King's Exchequer' with those of Simon and the date 1516 were formerly in a window of Fressingfield church.<sup>56</sup> Several of the Elizabethan marginal comments in the cartulary note that the land had formerly been held by Simon and he was still alive in 1533–4 but had apparently died by 1541–2 when his successor William first appears.<sup>57</sup> In 1584 and 1589 the lands formerly Simon's in Fressingfield, Mendham, Metfield, Weybread, and Withersdale were associated with Goods, *et al.*, which had passed from Richard Bohun to his son John, when they were acquired by William Midnall of Ipswich, merchant.<sup>58</sup> There was probably a local connection with Simon, as a Ralph Toppesfield of Gislingham was in 1457 appointed as a feoffee of the Waryn

William Essex who was King's Remembrancer in the Exchequer from 1451 until 1475 after which he, too, became Under-Treasurer: *VCH Surrey*, iii. 257, *VCH Hampshire*, iii. 382, iv. 174–6, Kirby, 'The Rise of the Under-Treasurer', 675.

55 **110**; TNA, E40/7688; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC 112/L2/1, HD 1538/341/34; Suffolk RO (Bury) FL550/3/39; Lincoln, Lincolnshire Archives, 2ANC3/1/24A; *GEC*, xii pt 2. 668–70; Norfolk Record Office, DN/EST 14/12. He may have been related to Robert Banyard 'of Fressingfield' who had been involved in the acquisition of Lintons by John Bohun in the 1430s, but it is perhaps more likely that he was related to the Banyard family of Spexhall. Edmund's other feoffee, Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, was probably a local connection: he occurs in 1472 acting with Sir Thomas Breouse of Fressingfield and Richard Bacon of Dickleburgh in a grant of land in Gissing and in 1493 acting in a grant of a manor in South Elmham to John Tasburgh who was to be named as one of the executors of Edmund's nephew Nicholas in 1505: Cambridge, University Library, MS 11/89; Suffolk RO (Lowestoft), H12/B2/6/65, 67.

56 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, viii n.

57 **73, 75, 241–2, 246–8**. In 1547 William surrendered the lease of the 'old' guildhall: Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/11/1–2.

58 **B12**. In 1584 the messuage called Goods with lands in Fressingfield, Mendham, Weybread, Metfield, and Withersdale, lands called Taggs, Hunts, Lintons, and Longhaughe, and all the lands late of Simon, were quitclaimed by Thomas Bateman of Flixton and Edward Glemham of Benhall to William Midnall of Ipswich. It is likely to be these same lands which in 1589 passed as the 'manor' of Fressingfield which, with all the lands in Fressingfield lately in the farm or occupation of Simon and William Toppesfield, was sold by Michael Wentworth to John Lawrence of Fressingfield: **B13**.

estate and was acting as such in 1473 and 1474 when the Fressingfield lands were acquired by Edmund.<sup>59</sup>

Edmund's only appearances in the published public records are as a small farmer of lands from the Crown. In 1461 lands in Bedfordshire were committed to John Holme and Edmund Bohun, by the mainprise of a saddler and a baker both of Westminster, for seven years at a farm of 53s. 4d. a year.<sup>60</sup> In May 1473 he and Thomas Debden took on the farm of various holdings in Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridge for ten years at 31s. 6d. a year, and this time the mainperners were John Somer of London and John Gylmyn of Huntingdon, both described as 'gentleman'.<sup>61</sup> By 1480 Edmund himself was described as 'gentleman', and said to be of London, when mainperning for John Bohun, and in 1492 his partner in another farming lease was the knight Sir Edmund Bedingfield, their mainperners on this occasion again both being gentlemen and one of them John Bohun 'of London', probably his nephew.<sup>62</sup> These few references seem to show his steadily rising social status over the thirty years, and his London contacts reflect his dual life as a civil servant based in Westminster and a minor landholder in Suffolk. A clue as to how this younger son of a family which could not claim even gentle status, and from a remote rural parish, was able to hold the post at the Exchequer which he evidently found so enviable and to prosper so notably may be found in his eminent neighbours. The puissant de la Poles, earls and dukes of Suffolk, held a manor within Fressingfield and their *caput* was in the adjacent parish of Wingfield. Possible evidence of a connection between Edmund and John de la Pole duke of Suffolk (*d.* 1491-2), brother-in-law of Edward IV, is found in the duke's interest in the resolution of a dispute which arose after Edmund made his largest acquisition in 1473. The duke commanded five of his local contacts to arbitrate, which they did, very satisfactorily and possibly not without bias, in Edmund's favour.<sup>63</sup> While this may have been no more than the usual activity of the local magnate in resolving disputes informally before they could escalate out of hand, the very small scale and comparative unimportance of this dispute suggests that the duke had a personal interest. It is not unlikely that Edmund may have entered the duke's service at a local and very humble level and thereupon proved his worth or abilities which brought him to the attention and approval of the duke, who subsequently employed his influence on Edmund's behalf.<sup>64</sup>

59 89-91, 112.

60 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1461-71*, 45. Holme may be the same man as John Holme of Dennington who was appointed in 1467 as their attorney by the abbot and convent of Sibton Abbey to deliver seisin of lands in Fressingfield to Alice Carter and her son John: 165.

61 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1471-85*, 182.

62 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1471-85*, 594, 1485-1509, 432. Thomas Debden may have been related to Roger Debden whose daughter married Edmund's nephew Nicholas.

63 117.

64 It is also possible that the duke had granted Edmund some land if a piece of land held by Katherine Waryn in 1437-8 is the same as that granted to Robert Atkyn and his wife Katherine, grantor unidentified, in 1483. This piece was said in 1437-8 to lie between Katherine's land to the east and land of the earl of Suffolk to the

Within the cartulary, inevitably, Edmund appears chiefly as the acquirer of lands. His largest acquisition was the holding of two messuages, 92 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, 7 acres of pasture, and 4*d.* rent which he bought for £68 13*s.* 4*d.* (or 103 marks) from Robert Storour in 1473.<sup>65</sup> From the complicated financial arrangements which surrounded this acquisition the possibility arises that Robert had owed £28 13*s.* 4*d.* to Edmund, an indication that Edmund had cash to spare. The remaining £40 was paid in eleven irregular instalments between July 1473 and June 1477. A second purchase possibly of similar magnitude was that of Carters holding with associated lands from John Carter, for which Edmund paid £25 14*s.* in part payment in 1479.<sup>66</sup> Smaller acquisitions were a piece of land called Thremers from John Bocher, yeoman, for 8 marks in 1466, half a piece of land called Duffields Close from Richard Barber which abutted on Edmund's close, for 2 marks in 1477, and the Jacob messuage, which lay between two other pieces of land which were part of the Storour estate, from Nicholas Buckenham, jointly with John Cooke of Eye, in 1482.<sup>67</sup> It is also likely that Edmund acquired lands formerly held by Robert Joseph and William Adred;<sup>68</sup> the former Adred holding was a cottage and a messuage and 6 acres of land, while the former Joseph holdings were lands formerly of Daniel Finch, a 'built tenement', and five pieces amounting to 8 acres; all lay adjacent to land already, or soon to be, held by Edmund.<sup>69</sup> Nevertheless, the cartulary gives a very limited notion of the extent of Edmund's land holdings as by the time of his death his estate was said to be worth around £40 a year and included three messuages and 138 acres of land, meadow and pasture, and 4*s.* 6*d.* rent in Fressingfield, at least two messuages

west, abutting on *Launcesmedewe* to the north; the grant in 1483 specifies a piece of land which also abutted to the north on *Launcesmedewe* but lay between the land of Robert Atkyn to the east and land of Edmund Bohun to the west: 234, 249. In 1483 this land lay in Veels manor which had been acquired by the Poles and in 1437-8 there was a query as to whether Katherine Waryn's land lay in the manor of Fressingfield Ufford or not.

65 95-118, and see below, pp. 22-4.

66 166.

67 254, 259, 270 = 83. John Cooke may have been related to Robert Cooke who married Edmund's daughter Agnes.

68 That Edmund held these lands is indicated by the fact that they appear in the extract from the 1437-8 rental of Fressingfield Ufford; apart from the lands of Joseph and Adred, these extracts were limited to the lands of Elizabeth Dallinghoo, William Warner, Katherine Warner (Waryn), and John Barber the elder and younger, all of which were certainly later held by Edmund: 234.

69 In 1437-8 Adred's holding lay next to land of Robert Joseph and immediately south of Overstreet, while Joseph's built tenement and a piece of land of 1¼ acres lay between Overstreet to the north and Redes Lane to the south; of the other four pieces of land, three lay adjacent on two sides to land held by John Barber, Katherine Waryn, or Alice Carter, and the fourth lay next to Thremers, acquired by Edmund in 1466. Adred had witnessed a charter for Alice Carter in 1423, while Robert Joseph, son of John (*fl.* 1406-20), occurs between 1435 and 1456 witnessing charters for the Barbers and Alice Carter, among others: 154, 157-9, 162-3, 207, 264.



and 90 acres of land and pasture in neighbouring Mendham, Withersdale, and Weybread, a messuage and 66 acres of land, etc., in Westhall further east towards the coast, two messuages and 73 acres of land, etc., in Ipswich and the adjacent villis of Rushmere, Playford, Kesgrave, and Tuddenham, a 'manor or tenement' called Jenetta with the appurtenances in Gosbeck, Ashbocking, and Helmingham, lands at Wakes Colne just over the border in northern Essex, and a property in London.<sup>70</sup> The lands in Westhall, worth £3 a year clear of charges, had been purchased from William Shelton and Thomas Auncell and two messuages and 90 acres in Mendham and Withersdale, worth £5 a year, from John Underwode, John Barber, and Robert Ballard.<sup>71</sup> It is likely that Edmund had also held property in Norwich as in 1475 he served as a tax-collector for the city and in January 1478 he and Henry Everard of Linstead granted a messuage with building, garden, dovecote, and an enclosure called the Great Garden, in Norwich, to the butcher Edward Magnus of Norwich, his wife Alice, and two other butchers who were to pay £48 in installments to Everard and Thomas Dade of Weybread in Fressingfield church.<sup>72</sup>

He appears as a witness only twice, once in 1462 when Thremers was acquired by John Bocher, and again in 1491 in the enfeoffment of two messuages south of the churchyard which became part of the parish charity estate.<sup>73</sup> This apparent evidence of a lack of involvement in the daily affairs of the parish may indicate his working life in the capital but may also be the result of the selective nature of the cartulary's deeds. There is no reference, either in his will or elsewhere, to Edmund's wife but he is said to have married a daughter of John Dade of Witton (Norfolk).<sup>74</sup> The Dade family of Fressingfield were certainly closely associated with the Bohun family as feoffees and are also prominent in the cartulary. John (I) Dade (*d.* 1454), who also used the name of Rush, was a feoffee for John Bohun in acquiring all the six holdings which went to make up Richard's will estate, while his son John (II) was a feoffee in the acquisition of the Dallinghoo lands in 1434/50 and of both the enfeoffments carried out after Bohun's death for the benefit of his sons Richard and Edmund. Thomas Dade of Weybread, who was involved in Edmund's sale of the Norwich holding in 1478, may have been related to the two Johns. It is unlikely, however, that either of the two Johns was the same man as John Dade of Witton, who is reported to have been Edmund's father-in-law. This John Dade married Margaret, daughter and coheir of Henry Pakenham who was born in October 1475 and proved her age in October 1495 when they were already married.<sup>75</sup> It is unlikely, therefore, that Edmund Bohun's wife was a daughter of this marriage. She may have been a daughter of John Dade of Witton by an earlier marriage, but it is perhaps more likely that, if she was a daughter of a John Dade, he was one of the Fressingfield John Dades.

70 TNA, C1/259/29, and see Edmund's will, below p. 16.

71 TNA, C1/309/56.

72 Blomefield, *Norfolk*, iii. 168; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC 91/L1/15.

73 258, 286.

74 *Visitation of Suffolk*, 178, 180; *Visitation of Norfolk*, 91.

75 *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, Henry VII i. 508, no. 1158.

## Introduction

Edmund died shortly before 23 November 1501 when a writ was issued to the sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and his will, which had been written on 14 May 1499, was proved on 31 January 1502.<sup>76</sup> He left three daughters, Agnes, Alice, and Margaret, but the chief beneficiaries of his will were his nephews Nicholas and John, who were also the executors. Agnes and Alice were already married to Robert Cooke of Cratfield and John Colyns. Margaret was bequeathed 100 marks for her marriage if she married with the approval of his executors, but only 20 marks if not, and Agnes only 40s., while Alice was bequeathed his lands at Wakes Colne (Essex) and the London property in Wood Street, except for a small tenement which he had given to his nephew John for his life which would revert to her on his death. It can only be speculated whether Agnes and Alice had received similarly handsome marriage portions, and whether the bequests of real property to Alice were the result of favouritism. He also left 20s. to his kinswoman Alice Calver if she married with the permission of the executors, and 6s. 8d. to his sister Alice Bohun. Other bequests were of 40s. to Edmund Carpenter, *compatri meo*, 6s. 8d. to another *compatri*, Edmund Barber, 6s. 8d. to Thomas Francis and his wife, 20s. to John Bohun of London, tailor, and 20s. to Nicholas Hunt.<sup>77</sup> His religious bequests were many and generous. The altars of Fressingfield and Mendham churches were left 13s. 4d. and 6s. 8d. respectively for forgotten tithes, while Fressingfield church also received £10, Mendham church 40s., and the church of St Albans in London 40s., and the paupers of Fressingfield were to receive £20. The houses of Holy Trinity, Ipswich, Butley, Leiston, Buckenham, and Thetford were each to have £3 6s. 8d., and the houses of Mendham, Redlingfield, and Sibton 40s., while Eye Priory, where he was to be buried, was to have £13 6s. 8d., these bequests totalling £38.<sup>78</sup> The two principal religious bequests, however, were of annuities to be paid to Eye Priory and Holy Trinity Ipswich to celebrate for his soul for a term of sixty years; each house was to have 14d. per week and 10s. on the anniversary of his death.<sup>79</sup>

Apart from the property left to Alice Colyns, the rest of his lands were divided between his nephews, although they came heavily encumbered. The lands in Fressingfield and Rushmere were left to John, subject to annuities of 5 marks payable to Eye Priory and Holy Trinity Ipswich respectively for sixty years, while the lands in Mendham and Westhall were left to Nicholas, subject to annuities of 40s. for the paupers and church of Fressingfield for ten and sixty years

76 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1485–1509*, 715; TNA, Prob/11/13. There is no surviving inquisition *post mortem* for Edmund. His will took the form usual by this time of falling into two parts, the first concerned with his goods and chattels, and the second instructions for the disposition of his lands.

77 His *compatri* may have been fellow guild members.

78 The heads of the houses which received 5 marks were to have 20s., and the heads of those which received 40s. were to have 13s. 4d.; the remainder was to be divided between the rest of the members. The Prior of Eye was to have £10, and the rest of the house £3 6s. 8d.

79 These sums total 70s. 8d. a year, but the annuities specified were of 5 marks (66s. 8d.).



respectively, and the lands in Gosbeck were left to them jointly, subject to a payment of 40 marks to Elizabeth Caldwell, widow of Ipswich, and the residue of the profits to be distributed to religious houses for the benefit of Edmund's soul for sixty years. As might be expected, such dispositions did not go undisputed. His daughter Margaret was married by 1502–3 when the three daughters, as Edmund's heirs, and their husbands Robert Cooke, John Colyns, and William Thomas were pursuing a suit against their cousins John and Nicholas Bohun. John and Nicholas themselves brought another suit against John Cooke, and after Nicholas's death in 1505 his executors and John were impleaded by the vicar and churchwardens of Fressingfield for rents charged on his estate for church repairs and other charitable uses.<sup>80</sup>

Edmund's brother Richard, usually identified as the eldest son, is said to have married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Hervy of Stradbroke but left a widow Agnes, and died in 1495–6.<sup>81</sup> He occurs in the cartulary between 1457 and 1489. In a bailiff's account of Whittingham manor from 1488–9 he appears owing free rents of 11s. 10½d. and customary rents for holdings called Brougar and Raysses, Comynclose and Milmontclose, and the Hodd tenement.<sup>82</sup> In 1457 he was appointed as one of the many feoffees of the Waryn/Stourour estate and was acting as such in 1473 and 1474 when the Fressingfield lands were acquired by his brother Edmund.<sup>83</sup> A dispute arose out of this and in 1475 Richard testified as one of the worthies of the vill aged sixty or more on his brother's behalf.<sup>84</sup> In 1462 he had been appointed as feoffee by the Gowyn family and in January 1459, shortly after his father's death, he was a feoffee of the Dallinghoo lands bequeathed by his father to his brother Edmund.<sup>85</sup> He witnessed several charters between 1462 and 1482, all in connection with lands certainly or probably acquired by Edmund: the Spicer lands and Thremers in 1462, and the Jacob

80 TNA, C1/247/45, 259/29, 309/56.

81 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, ix and note; *Visitation of Suffolk*, 178. Richard's will is dated 6 September 1495 and was proved on 6 December 1496. He may have been dead by 29 September 1495, when his son John was holding Taggs in Mendham, although John may have had possession before his father's death (see below, p. 21). The only references in the cartulary to the Hervy family are one to John Hervy of Worlingworth when he was a feoffee for Alice Carter in 1456, and another to Thomas Hervey of Fressingfield who, aged sixty or more, testified regarding Edwards Hill in 1475: 118, 162. From charters in the Phillips collection there was a Nicholas Hervy who witnessed charters in 1428 and 1432, and a Thomas, butcher, who witnessed one of 1428: B32, B38. Robert Bohun, brother of Richard and Edmund, was still alive in September 1495, when Richard bequeathed to him his best gown, and Alice Bohun, their sister, in May 1499, when she is mentioned in Edmund's will.

82 236. The Brouger holding may have previously been held by Richard Bruger or Briger, who was a feoffee for John Barber between 1451 and 1456, and for Alice Carter in 1454, and a witness in 1459: 159–61, 163, 233.

83 89–91, 112.

84 118.

85 233, 284.

message in 1467 and 1482.<sup>86</sup> His name follows that of Edmund in the 1459 enfeoffment and also follows Edmund's in a witness list of 1462 but this may be because Edmund was to be the beneficiary of the Dallinghoo estate and was to acquire Thremers; Richard's identity as the elder son may be perceived in the charge in his father's will to give cash sums to his brother Robert and his sisters. He left sons Nicholas (*d.* 1504–5) and John (*d.s.p.* 1511), who were to be close to their uncle Edmund, and another son Richard, who was bequeathed by his father his meadow in Stradbroke jointly with John but of whom nothing else is known.<sup>87</sup>

Richard's will reveals that his lands included not only those in Fressingfield, Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale which he had been bequeathed by his father, but also others in Fressingfield and adjacent Stradbroke, and in Tivetshall and Little Whittingham (*Parva Wetingham*) in Norfolk which had been granted to him and his wife Agnes by Sir Thomas Breouse (*d.* 1482), lord of the manor of Whittingham.<sup>88</sup> It also reveals how very much less wealthy he was than his younger brother. His religious bequests included, to Fressingfield church where he was to be buried, 6s. 8d. to the altar, 10 marks for the fabric, a sanctus bell weighing 100 lb., 6s. 8d. for sepulchre lights, and 6s. 8d. to the brotherhood of the guild of St Margaret. He also left 6s. 8d. to Stradbroke church, 10s. to the Austin Friars of Norwich, and 2s. for the paupers of Fressingfield. As well as leaving his best gown to his brother Robert Bohun, he left 40s. to his servant Alice Calver to her marriage if she was guided by his executors.<sup>89</sup> His wife Agnes was to have a third part of all his household utensils while the rest was to be equally divided between his sons John and Nicholas, who were to be his executors. The residue of all his goods and chattels were given to John and Nicholas to find a chaplain to sing in Fressingfield church for Richard, his wife Agnes, and all his ancestors, for one year. The second part contained his instructions to his feoffees, under which Agnes was to have 4 marks a year from his lands in Norfolk and Suffolk, his sons John and Richard, their heirs and assigns, were to have his meadow in Stradbroke, his son John the lands which he, Richard, had had under the will of his father John and other lands in Fressingfield, and his son Nicholas his close in Tivetshall and lands in Little Whittingham.<sup>90</sup>

Nicholas (*d.* 1504–5) appears in the cartulary as a witness in 1491, as a bailiff of Chippenhall manor in June 1496, and as a feoffee in the re-enfeoffment of Goods,

86 253, 258, 266–7.

87 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, ix n.

88 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, ix n. This 'Little' Whittingham in Norfolk cannot be identified.

89 It is curious that Edmund had left 20s. to his kinswoman Alice Calver and Richard's son Nicholas bequeathed cattle and cash to his niece Alice Calver in 1504; they may have been the same person if Alice was Richard's granddaughter, and thus a great-niece of Edmund, as well as his servant. It is possible that a daughter of Richard had married a Calver. Nicholas's godson John Calver was favoured above his other godsons in his will: see below, p. 20n.

90 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, ix n.

*et al.*, for the benefit of his brother John in 1501.<sup>91</sup> As well as the land in Tivetshall and Little Whittingham (Norfolk) bequeathed by his father, he had inherited from his uncle Edmund in 1501 a moiety of the 'manor' of Jenetta in Gosbeck, Ashbocking, and Helmingham, two messuages and 90 acres of land in Mendham, Withersdale, and Weybread, and a messuage and 66 acres of land in Westhall, all under the heavy conditions of Edmund's religious dispositions. He had amplified this inheritance by buying Lovers or Lomers in Withersdale and Thorpe Hall in Mendham from Robert Ballard in 1502 and Cockfield Close in Helmingham from John Tasburgh of Fressingfield, who was one of his executors.<sup>92</sup> The holding called Dershins (*Derishins*) in Brampton, mentioned in his will, lay near Westhall and may have been bought by him as well and it is probably significant that his wife is said to have come from a Brampton family. In addition to these, the will mentions holdings called Gooses (*Goosis*) and Betworths (*Betwrithis*) in Thorpe Hall in Mendham, and Thords (*Thordys*) in Mendham, some or all of which he may have inherited from his uncle, and lands in Tivetshall, Dickleburgh, Stratton, and Shimpling (Norfolk), as well as land in Fressingfield held at farm of Eye Priory, and Hanclee close and other lands formerly Kelyatts, parish unidentified.

His wife Elizabeth was said to be a daughter of Roger Debden of Brampton (Suffolk) and she was left a widow when he died young in 1504–5, leaving five children all under seven.<sup>93</sup> He left a most fascinating will which was written on 12 August 1504 and proved on 17 January 1505.<sup>94</sup> The usual small bequests to churches indicate how widely his territorial interests had expanded, as they included those of Brampton, Westhall, and Mendham (Suffolk), and Tivetshall and Shimpling (Norfolk), as well as Fressingfield, where he was to be buried. Miscellaneous bequests were made to servants, his niece Alice Calver, his godson John Calver, and other godchildren, but chiefly the will was concerned to provide for his widow Elizabeth and his children Edmund, John, Nicholas, William, and Isabel.<sup>95</sup> Elizabeth was bequeathed all the household items in brass, pewter, and

91 240, 288, B11. The other feoffees in 1501 were Nicholas Fox, Thomas Grendlyng, John Aldous, and John Cooke of Eye. Fox was probably the son of Robert Fox, who had been a feoffee of the 1458–9 enfeoffments, and grandson of John Fox; Grendlyng had been a feoffee in the enfeoffment of Godbalds Yard to village charitable purposes in 1491; Cooke had been the joint-acquirer of the Jacob messuage with Edmund Bohun in 1482; and Aldous was a member of a well-established parish family.

92 Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Service (Lichfield RO), D1851/8/121. Ballard granted Lomers to Nicholas, John Bohun, Nicholas Godbald, and John Aldous; he had granted a piece of land and meadow in Mendham formerly part of Lomers to Richard Bohun, and Edmund Bohun had bought two messuages and 90 acres of land in Mendham and Withersdale from John Underwode, John Barber, and Robert Ballard.

93 *Visitation of Suffolk*, 178, 180.

94 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, x n. His executors were John Tasburgh of Fressingfield and John Debden of Brampton who may have been his brother-in-law.

95 His niece Alice Calver was bequeathed two 'keene' (i.e. kine, cattle) and 6 marks of money at 1 mark a year, the first payment to be made on the day of her

bedding, except one locked chest and its contents which was to be kept by his executors for division of the contents between the children when they reached the age of twenty-two. She also had all the tenement in Whittingham with the appurtenances to give and to sell, and 40s. a year while she remained a widow, 26s. 8d. from his lands in Brampton and 13s. 4d. from Lomers in Thorpe Hall. In addition she was to have the parlour with the chamber above, the south end of the malthouse beneath the 'net howse' (calves' shed) to store fodder, the grass yard lately fenced, closes called the Forme close and Colys, and a meadow called the Dombil pit, for the term of her widowhood, paying 3s. 4d. a year for rent, and also six loads of wood cut and carted to the said chamber during her widowhood. The children were to remain in her care until they were seven and she was to have 13s. 4d. a year for each, but then they were to be handed over to the 'ruele' of his executors who were to 'sett them to scole or to sume scyens as thei thinke moste beste be there discrecion, at my coste and charge'. The daughter Isabel was bequeathed 40 marks if she married by the advice of his executors, but only 10 marks if not, and specific lands were bequeathed to each of the sons for them to have when they reached the age of twenty-two.<sup>96</sup> If any of them died before they were twenty-two, their portion was to be inherited by the others, and if they all died the lands were to be sold and the proceeds divided, half to Fressingfield church and half to be divided between the other churches he had mentioned.<sup>97</sup> Of the four boys, only John and Nicholas were mentioned in their uncle John's will of 1511, and the heir was Nicholas (*d.* 1572).<sup>98</sup>

John, Richard's younger son, was bequeathed by Richard the lands which he himself had had under the will of his father John, i.e. the 'will estate' of the messuage and lands, etc., called Goods, Taggs, Hunts, and Lintons, in Fressingfield,

marriage. To his godson John Calver he left 10s. and his third-best gown, to his godson Richard Holbek 6s. 8d. when he was twenty-one, and 13d. to each of his other godchildren.

96 According to the Visitation of 1561, there was another daughter Elizabeth who married William Cooke of Linstead, nephew of Robert Cooke who married Agnes Bohun, and she was living a widow with £10 in lands in Great Linstead in 1568: *Visitation of Suffolk*, 180.

97 The wording is curious but seems to indicate that the holdings were to pass successively to younger brothers, though if the youngest died then his portion was to be divided between the others.

98 *Visitation of Suffolk*, 180. He was said to have 20 marks in lands in Fressingfield in 1524 and £15 in lands in Chelmondiston in 1568, having purchased the manor of Bacons in Westhall in 1535. He was succeeded by his son Francis, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Edmund Knyvett of Ashwellthorpe and his wife Jane, daughter and heir of John Bouchier, Lord Berners: *Visitation of Suffolk*, 181. Nicholas, son of Francis, died in the lifetime of his father and Francis was succeeded by his grandson Edmund, whose son Baxter also died in the lifetime of his father, and Edmund was succeeded by his grandson Edmund (1645–99), the famous writer and diarist who was appointed Chief Justice of South Carolina in 1698 and died there the following year: Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, xii–xxxii. The use of Edmund as a favoured family name probably reflects the eminence of their successful ancestor Edmund (*d.* 1501) of the King's Exchequer.

Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale, as well as other lands in Fressingfield.<sup>99</sup> He was already holding Taggs by 29 September 1495 when he acquired from Mendham Priory a tenancy of two pieces of land which together made up 1 acre, to hold a rent of a penny a year.<sup>100</sup> From his uncle Edmund he inherited in 1501 lands in Fressingfield and Rushmere and a moiety of the 'manor' of Jenetta in Gosbeck, Ashbocking, and Helmingham, although under heavy conditions for sixty years. He was probably the John Bohun for whom Edmund mainperned in 1480 when he became the farmer of lands from the Crown and the John Bohun 'of London, gentleman' who mainperned for Edmund in 1492, and he may have been the John Bown who was auditor of Old Buckenham Priory in 1493.<sup>101</sup> In 1509 he was the leading feoffee of the Godbalds Yard parish charity which indicates his position within the local community.<sup>102</sup> He died without issue despite marrying twice. His will was written on 28 April and proved on 9 August 1511 and in it he mentions his former wife Margaret, buried in Fressingfield church, and his present wife Elizabeth. He left 6s. 8d. to each of his godchildren, who included Edmund Colyns, John Cooke, John Usher Wade, and Robert Godbald as well as his nephews John and Nicholas Bohun, and 5 marks to his brother-in-law Thomas Hall and sister-in-law Ursula Hall, provided that his widow Elizabeth, or anyone acting on her behalf, did not trouble or vex his executors, who were John Edward of Cratfield and Simon Toppesfield. His portion of Jenetta was left to Elizabeth for life with successive remainders to his nephews John and Nicholas Bohun, while Carters in Fressingfield, part of his inheritance from his uncle, was left to his servant Anne Tode, along with a croft, two small meadows, and two small pightles abutting on Ashby Way, then held at farm by Henry Sawer. The lands in Rushmere and the adjacent vill were to be held by his executors for the payment of Edmund's annuity to Holy Trinity for the remaining fifty years after which they were to be sold for charitable purposes, and the lands in Fressingfield, Mendham, and Withersdale were to be held by John's executors for twenty years for a chantry in Fressingfield church after which they were to be sold and the first option to be given to his nephews John and Nicholas Bohun, although they would remain subject to the payment of Edmund's annuity of 5 marks to Eye Priory for a further thirty years. It would seem that they did not take this up as in the 1580s Goods and the associated lands in adjacent vill were acquired by John Lawrence of Fressingfield and Nicholas's focus moved towards Westhall.<sup>103</sup>

99 **B11.**

100 **B18.** One piece lay next to the way leading from Taggs to Harleston and the other was parcel of *Ouerlanghaugh* and lay next to his meadow called Taggs Meadow.

101 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1471-85, 594, 1485-1509, 432; VCH Norfolk, ii, 376.*

102 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/5-8.

103 **B12-B13.**

## THE STRUCTURE OF THE CARTULARY

The charters in the cartulary occur in a thoroughly jumbled order and appear neither in date order nor in overt groupings concerned with the passage of individual holdings. For instance, a grant of 1359 by Sir Thomas Gurney and its associated appointment of an attorney to deliver seisin are **48** and **38**, while similarly a grant by Juliana Kembald and its associated appointment of an attorney are **42** and **29**. There are several blank sections, not all by any means at the end of pages and some in the middle of a page as though they had been deliberately left for the later copying of another document. The repetitions of eight charters, too, points to a lack of coherence in its composition.<sup>104</sup> While successive entries almost certainly relate to the same holding in some cases, it is certainly not the case that the original bundles of deeds concerning individual holdings were copied out in order. This, along with the increasing tendency towards the use of feoffees, ensures that it is extremely difficult to track the descent of individual holdings. Different charters relating to Godbalds Yard messuage in the village are numbered **185**, **187-9**, **281**, and **283-7**. Furthermore, while the cartulary is traditionally associated with Edmund Bohun and does certainly record his acquisition of holdings, it is not at all obvious that all the charters are necessarily connected with his acquisitions. In particular, Godbalds Yard later became a parish charity estate and had no known connection at all with any member of the Bohun family.

With these important *caveats*, it is possible to discern a very rough organization as the deeds appear to be grouped, as one might expect, in relation to the different acquisitions.

1. *Warynsplace* (1-119)

The first and largest group, comprising around two-fifths of all the entries and occupying folios 1-36r., is concerned with Edmund's single biggest acquisition. The estate of the Storour *alias* Waryn family lay in Norfolk and Suffolk and by the fifteenth century the principal family home appears to have been at Morningthorpe (Norfolk) but the Fressingfield lands had been granted by John (II) Storour to his son Robert, who sold them to Edmund in 1473. Robert was the great-grandson of Richard Waryn, who made most of the acquisitions which made up the Fressingfield lands and died in 1387. Richard was succeeded by his son John (I) Waryn (*d.* 1415), and he by his son John (II), who was still alive in 1475. The last thirty entries, **90-119**, are concerned with the actual acquisition by Edmund in 1473 and include a number of bonds, indentures, and acquittances for the purchase price, **111** being a duplicate of **110**. The last eight, **112-19**, are concerned with the resolution of the dispute which followed this acquisition as Robert Cooke of Wingfield claimed that Robert Storour had previously alienated part of the holding to him. The heading 'Evidences of land of Robert Storour, now Edmund Bohun' appears on folio 33, above **112**, and there is a further heading

104 **82** and **83** appear again as **269** and **270**; **179-81** as **199-201**; **81** as **114**; **86** as **113**; **110** and **111** are duplicates.



'Writings of Robert Coke' on folio 34*d*. Robert Cooke had possession of seven 'evidences', including a 'general' deed of Richard Waryn and a grant by Michael de la Pole. **113** is a duplicate of **86** which was one of a group of four entries, (**84-7**) on folio 24*d*., which are an interpolation in a slightly different hand and are identified as documents in the possession of Robert Cooke. These four are the grant by Richard Waryn to feoffees of all his lands in Fressingfield in 1387, probably the 'general' deed, the grant by the surviving feoffees to John (II) in 1415, a grant by Michael de la Pole to Richard Waryn in 1378 and Pole's appointment of an attorney to deliver seisin. **88** and **89** are general enfeoffments by John (II) of 1419 and 1457, while **81** is a copy of the fine formalising Richard Waryn's acquisition from Richard and Joan White, duplicated as **114**. **82** and **83** are grants of two plots of land to Richard Waryn in 1377 and of the intervening plot, the Jacob messuage, to Edmund Bohun in 1482, these last two being duplicated much later as **269** and **270**, within another group concerned with the passage of the Jacob messuage.

The first eighty are somewhat less coherent, but may be grouped. Five very early entries are concerned with early possessions of the Waryn family in Weybread which appear to have been alienated by Richard Waryn.<sup>105</sup> No fewer than nineteen entries are concerned with fourteenth-century acquisitions and settlements by the Kembald family which are probably associated with the acquisition of lands from Robert Kembald by John (I) Waryn in 1406.<sup>106</sup> Another ten are concerned with various acquisitions and settlements by Roger le Neve and his wife Constance which may be associated with the quitclaim by Constance to the Waryn feoffees in 1388 of all the lands which Richard Waryn had formerly held and occupied in Fressingfield, an indication that Richard had very probably acquired at least some of her lands.<sup>107</sup> Probably associated with these are a group of five concerning Richard Pyk, who acquired land from Roger and Constance and who married Constance's sister Matilda Baxter; in 1401 Matilda quitclaimed all the lands formerly of her father Alexander to John (I) Waryn.<sup>108</sup> Another group of eight are concerned with Richard's acquisition in 1370 from Richard White and his wife Joan of the lands she had inherited from her father Robert Roseson and a few months later from Richard White of a messuage which White had acquired in 1359.<sup>109</sup> A group of five concerns Sharps messuage and the lands of Hugh Fish which passed to his daughter and heir Joan, wife of Robert Bacon, and which were acquired in two moieties by Richard Waryn in 1376 and 1382.<sup>110</sup> A group of four records the passage of two pieces of land to Thomas Launce and their acquisition from him by Richard Waryn in 1377, later

105 1-2, 5-7.

106 18, 20-1, 23, 34, 41, 64-71, 75-9.

107 8-10, 22, 28-32, 42. 9 appears to be a piece of land acquired by the Neves in 1358 but which later passed to William Wright and was acquired from him by John Waryn in 1407.

108 2-6, 33, 72.

109 4, 11-12, 35, 38, 48-9, 52 (which is duplicated as 81).

110 13-16, 19.

identified as *Launcesclos alias Velesclos*.<sup>111</sup> This series shows that land that had been held by Thomas Roscelyn in 1367 had passed to Waryn by December 1377 and another small group of four comprises a grant to Waryn by Thomas Roscelyn of all his lands in Fressingfield in January 1378 along with two grants to Matthew Roscelyn in 1317 and one by Matthew to his daughter Margaret in 1338.<sup>112</sup> There are another two miscellaneous grants to Richard Waryn by Nicholas Calver in 1375 and Edward Kembald in July 1377.<sup>113</sup> In addition, there are two entries regarding Richard's widow Agnes Waryn, who at Easter 1388 claimed dower in two holdings alienated by Richard and acquired a messuage in the village in May 1388:<sup>114</sup> two acquisitions by John (I) Waryn in 1405 and 1407:<sup>115</sup> and the appointment of attorneys by Richard Waryn's feoffees to deliver seisin to John (II) in 1415, the grant being 85.<sup>116</sup> Finally there are thirteen with no apparent connection with an acquisition by the Waryns.<sup>117</sup>

## 2. Carters (120–66)

The second principal group is concerned with the acquisition made by Edmund before July 1479 of the holding called Carters with six pieces of land and meadow formerly held by John Barber the elder. It comprises forty-seven entries and occupies folios 37–51r. The dorse of folio 36 is blank, and folio 37 is headed *Ten' bov' cartes* (probably 'The Bohun tenement of Carters') and 'Hugh Meller', with another heading 'Evidences of Hugh Meller touching the tenement called Carters now in the hands of Edmund Bohun' on folio 40, above 131. Curiously, especially by comparison with the wealth of documentation surrounding the acquisition of Warynsplace, there is no direct evidence of this acquisition, only an acquittance by John Carter to Edmund of £25 14s. in part payment of a greater price, which is 166. The preceding forty-six entries are relatively straightforward and are concerned with the acquisitions of Hugh Miller in the fourteenth century and of his daughter and heir Alice Carter from William Warner and John Barber in 1454 and 1456. 164 and 165 concern two pieces of land held of Sibton Abbey and confirmed by the abbey to Alice Carter and her son John in 1467 which were excluded from John Carter's grant to Edmund, although a marginal note

111 43–4, 50–1, and see 94 for the later identification in 1475.

112 56–7, 62–3.

113 3, 53.

114 17, 54.

115 27, 39.

116 40.

117 Four are concerned with Edmund Shepherd, three grants of plots to him by Hugh le Meller and Robert Bobyr in 1354, 1355, and 1357, and Shepherd's grant to Meller and Bobyr of all his lands in Fressingfield in 1369: 36–7, 46, 61. Two are concerned with Walter Baxter, a lease to him for life in 1336 and a grant by him of two plots to the rector Richard de Harling in 1341: 74, 80. Some of the others may also be associated: 45, 47, 55, 58–60, 73.



confirms that they were then held by 'R Bowen'.<sup>118</sup> **137**, **151**, and **153** are two grants to William Warner and his grant to Alice, although it is difficult to match Alice's acquisition with either of the former two. **134-5** are an enfeoffment by Hugh Miller to himself and his wife Joan in 1377, and **154-5** and **163** enfeoffments by Alice Carter in 1423 and 1454 of the lands she inherited from her mother Joan Miller. Eleven entries concern several miscellaneous grants to Hugh Miller between 1343 and 1384.<sup>119</sup> A further group of six concern Robert Bobyr and his nephews Robert and Roger Barber: four miscellaneous grants to Bobyr between 1352 and 1364, his grant to his nephews in 1378, and Roger Barber's quitclaim to his brother Robert in 1386 of a messuage, two enclosures, and three other pieces of land which he had by grant of Robert Bobyr their uncle.<sup>120</sup> Another nine entries also concern the Barber family, three of grants to Hugh Barber in 1333, a quitclaim to Robert Barber in 1363, and a grant to John Barber and his wife Isabel in 1428, and six concerning the enfeoffments of John Barber the elder in 1443, 1451, and 1456, including the grant to Alice and John Carter and others in the latter year.<sup>121</sup> The final ten entries cannot be firmly associated with the rest, although the original of one of them is endorsed 'Evidence of Edmund Bohun of the King's Exchequer touching the Carter tenement'.<sup>122</sup>

### 3 *Dallinghoo lands (167-233)*

This section of sixty-seven entries between folios 52 and 70*d*. has the appearance of being unfinished, as there are numerous blank spaces and it is somewhat less coherent than the two previous ones. It certainly appears to form a separate section and the entries are chiefly concerned with the lands acquired by John Bohun from William Dallinghoo, but it also includes some others concerning John Bohun's other acquisitions.<sup>123</sup> At the top of folio 52 there is a heading 'Lands and holdings of John Bohun, father of Edmund Bohun, in Fressingfield' and there are similar headings at three other points, although they do not seem to mark off individual

<sup>118</sup> This addition appears to be in the same hand as the earlier of those responsible for the interpolations on folios 70*d*. to 76 and consequently after 1554; see below, p. 27

<sup>119</sup> **122-6**, **129**, **131-3**, **136**, **138**.

<sup>120</sup> **146-50**, **156**.

<sup>121</sup> **144-5**, **152**, **157-62**.

<sup>122</sup> **120-1**, **127-8**, **130**, **139-43**. **139** is also **B14** in the Phillips collection. It may be this plot which was later held by Robert Barret of Ufford Hall and acquired by Alice and John Carter in 1435: **164**.

<sup>123</sup> There is a very clear division after **166** as half the recto and the whole of the dorse of folio 51 is blank and folio 52 has the heading. There is a similar division after **233** where, after a consecutive eight entries recording the passage of lands granted by John Felys to feoffees in 1404 to the 1459 enfeoffment, begins the first of the later interpolations. Dallinghoo, or his immediate ancestors, evidently came from the Suffolk village of that name near Wickham Market.

holdings.<sup>124</sup> Within it are nine entries concerned with John Bohun's acquisition of Lintons and the Bayle plot, with two other probably associated entries.<sup>125</sup>

The final eight entries form a coherent series recording the passage of lands granted by John Felys to feoffees in 1404 to another set which included William Dallinghoo in 1421, a grant by Dallinghoo of all his lands to another group of feoffees in 1434, by them to John Bohun and others in 1450 and then to Edmund Bohun and others in 1459.<sup>126</sup> Another five are concerned with three small acquisitions made by Dallinghoo of 2 acres of land from John (II) Waryn and his feoffee John Levald in 1418, three pieces of land from Robert Green in 1419, and an acre of land from John Seaforth in 1430,<sup>127</sup> but the most important of his acquisitions appears to have been that from John Felys's feoffees in 1421. Felys had also made several acquisitions, but he may have been acting as a feoffee for the village messuage called Godbalds Yard which was granted to him by John Godbald in 1395 and which eventually returned to the overt possession of Thomas Godbald in 1439; four charters concerning this messuage are in this section, the remainder appearing later.<sup>128</sup> Two other charters are potentially more significant, as they immediately precede the culminating series and indicate from whom Felys acquired land. The first is a grant to Felys in 1382 by John Gernoun of all his lands in Fressingfield, and the second is a quitclaim made in 1384 by Isabel, widow of Thomas Edward, to Felys and others of dower in a piece of land which they had acquired from her late husband's feoffees John Caltoft and Robert and John Edward.<sup>129</sup> John Gernoun and his brother the rector William had acquired a village messuage, a pigthle with a garden, and a piece of meadow; these, along with the grant by John Gernoun to Felys, account for nineteen of the entries.<sup>130</sup> In 1394 the feoffees of Thomas Edward confirmed Davys Close and the adjacent pigthle to John Felys and John Beton, and this acquisition accounts for another ten entries,<sup>131</sup> while another seven are also concerned with the Edward family.<sup>132</sup> One of the remaining three (207) may be another small acquisition by John Bohun but the other two cannot be identified with any of the acquisitions.<sup>133</sup>

124 The first is at the top of folio 54*d.*, between 175 and 176, the bottom of 54*r.* and the top of 54*d.* being blank, the second is at the top of folio 60, there being a blank dorse between 196 (folio 59*r.*) and 197 on folio 60, and the third is at the top of folio 68, between 224 and 225.

125 190-8. 197-8 concern the Bayle plot; 191 and 193-6 concern Lintons, with which 190 and 192 are probably associated.

126 226-33.

127 182-3, 215, 203, and probably 184.

128 185, 187-9.

129 224-5.

130 174, 176-8, 208-14, 216-23. For this messuage, see below, pp. 35-7.

131 179-81, duplicated as 199-201, associated with 204-6.

132 167-72, 175, 186.

133 173, 202. For 207, see above, p. 7. It would appear that 202 belongs with the Kembald charters in Section 1 and probably concerns the same piece of land mentioned in 64.

#### 4. *Extracts from rentals and court rolls (234-49)*

Following on immediately after 233, on the dorse of folio 70, is the first of the series of extracts which occupy folios 70*d.* to folio 76*r.* These are additions of supplementary material in different and later hands. In Hand I are 234-7 and 248-9 on folio 76*r.* and are chiefly concerned with the Bohuns. The first and longest consists of extracts from a rental of the manor of Fressingfield Ufford, renewed in 1437-8, and is concerned with the holdings of Elizabeth Dallinghoo, William Warner, Katherine Warner (probably Waryn), Robert Joseph, John Barber the elder and the younger, and William Adred, of which Edmund Bohun certainly acquired those of the Warners, the Barbers, and Elizabeth Dallinghoo. 235-7 are extracts from rentals and accounts of Whittingham manor and concern lands which were held by John and Richard Bohun; 248-9 on folio 76*r.*, in the same hand, are an extract from a court roll of 1554 concerning a distraint on William Toppesfield, who probably then had possession of much of the Bohun lands, and a summary of a grant to Robert Atkyn and his wife in 1483. The intermediate entries 238-47 are in two hands which nevertheless appear to have been written by the same person, probably in 1574.<sup>134</sup> 238-41 and 244 are extracts from court rolls of 1496-1503 concerning Nicholas and William Godbald, 242 an extract from a court roll of 1533-4 concerning Nicholas Cotwan, 243 an extract from one of 1514-15 concerning Robert Debden, and 245-7 are summaries of three deeds by which 1 acre of land passed to Nicholas Bohun in 1491-2, from his son Nicholas to Nicholas Debden in 1541-2, and from him to Robert Aldous in 1567-8. These may provide a clue to the identity of the person who had possession of the cartulary in 1574.

The dorse of folios 75 and 76 is blank and there follows a number of shorter series.

#### 5. *Half of Duffields Close (250-4)*

These five charters occupy folios 77-78*r.* The first four are concerned with the lands inherited by Margaret, wife of Stephen Spicer, from her father Nicholas Rush, which in 1436 were enfeoffed to a group of feoffees which included John Barber and then in 1462 granted by John Barber and two surviving feoffees to another group. The fifth is an acknowledgement of 1477 by Richard Barber of the

<sup>134</sup> The entries from the lower part of folio 73*r.* to the upper part of folio 75*r.* (238-44) are in Hand II, but the latter part of 242, the last entry at the bottom of folio 74*d.*, degenerates into yet a different hand, probably Hand III, in which the last three entries on folio 75*r.* (245-7) are written. This latter hand (III) may be identified with the hand that added the later of the marginal additions, those noting the present tenants, and also with the date of '1574 xvii maii' at the top of folio 29. It is possible that, as folio 76 it is in the same (earlier) hand as folios 71-3, it originally followed these; if this is the case then the present binding is likely to have been carried out between the time when the additions of Hand I were made, probably c. 1555, and the later additions of 1574, as the entries in Hand II/III start on folio 73*r.* immediately below the earlier extracts from Whittingham accounts and rent rolls.

receipt of 2 marks from Edmund Bohun in full payment of the price of half a piece of land called Duffield Close, sold by Richard to Edmund, which abutted on Edmund's enclosure to the south and on Small Way to the north. It can only be assumed that this holding formed part of the Spicer 'estate' but again there is no direct record of Edmund's acquisition.<sup>135</sup> The dorse of folio 78 is blank.

#### 6. *Thremers* (255-9)

These five charters occupy the recto of folio 79 and the holding called Thremers was acquired by Edmund in 1466.<sup>136</sup> All five documents mention the holding and the last is an acknowledgement by John Bocher of the receipt of 8 marks from Edmund in full payment, although again there is no direct record of Edmund's acquisition. The dorse of folio 79 is blank.

#### 7. *The Jacob message* (260-70)

This section, which occupies folios 80-83r, is headed 'Evidences of John Jacob, now Nicholas Bokenham' and are related to Edmund's acquisition from Buckenham in 1482, although there is another heading at folio 82 of 'Evidences pertaining to Edmund Bohun' and the two deeds which follow (269 and 270) had also been inserted earlier as 82 and 83. This group provides a salutary reminder that the charters should not necessarily be taken at face value. The charter of 1482 (270) by which Nicholas Buckenham and two others granted the piece of land to Edmund Bohun and John Cooke states that this piece lay between two others to the north and south which Edmund had already acquired from Robert Storour and which Storour's great grandfather Richard Waryn had acquired in 1377.<sup>137</sup> At least one and probably both of the two 'Waryn' holdings adjacent to Jacobs abutted to the east on the highway from Norwich to Framlingham. The 1482 charter also lays out in impressive detail the passage of the intermediate holding through various hands between 1367 and 1482 and the preceding charters, 261-8, are the deeds of these several transactions, the dates and persons all matching. The first two give no detailed description of the holding but 263-8 all give an identical description of its location with the southern boundary being the highway to Halesworth; this is difficult to reconcile with its stated location as lying between the two Storour holdings to north and south.

135 Nicholas Duffield acted as a feoffee for John Felys and William Dallinghoo in 1421-34 and for Alice Carter in 1423, and in 1437-8 John Barber the younger was holding 1 acre of land formerly of Nicholas, although this does not appear to be Duffield Close: 154-5, 227-9, 231-2, 234.

136 The section is headed 'Thremers' with the Elizabethan note that it was then in the tenure of William Tudyfeld.

137 The 1377 grant to Richard Waryn is copied immediately preceding (169); both charters had also been copied earlier in the first section relating to *Warynsplace* as 82 and 83.

8. *Writ to sheriff of Suffolk (271)*

This, added on folio 83*d.*, is in a different and slightly later hand than the main text and concerns the abbey of St John, Colchester. No explanation may be suggested of why this was included.

9. *Thormede (272-5)*

This group of four charters on folio 84 are all concerned with John Thormede, a grant to him of two pightles by Richard Waryn in 1376 and then three grants by John Prick, clerk, in 1405-6. In January 1405 Prick granted to Thormede and his wife Alice 1 acre of enclosed land and then on 2 July 1406 made two grants, one to Thormede and Alice of 1 acre of land and another of 4 acres to Thormede and two others. All four are lacking their witnesses. They may be connected with the acquisition by John Bohun of the lands later called Goods which were formerly held by the Prick family.<sup>138</sup>

10. *Godbalds Yard and Sharps Yard (276-87)*

These final twelve entries, which occupy folios 85-89*r.*, are concerned with the village tenements of Sharps Yard and Godbalds Yard. 276-7 and 279-80 and probably 282 are concerned with Sharps Yard, while 281 and 283-7 are concerned with Godbalds Yard, and 278 does not appear to be connected with either. The earlier charters concerned with Godbalds Yard are 185 and 187-9. There is no overt connection of either of these holdings with the Bohun family.

11. *Extract from Chippenhall rental (288)*

Finally, there is a very faint extract from a Chippenhall rental, possibly of 1441-2 (288) on folio 89*d.*

Thus, of the eight apparent holdings, the village 'yards' have no known connection with the Bohun family, the Thormede charters only possibly have, and of the five acquired by Edmund, there is no direct evidence of the acquisition of Carters, Thremers, and Duffield Close. Furthermore, only a few of the interpolated extracts from rentals and court rolls are concerned with the Bohuns. This is not a conventional cartulary. Nevertheless, despite its chaotic structure and peculiar characteristics, it is undoubtedly a valuable document which illustrates life at a very humble level. The great majority of the deeds are concerned with the transfer of tiny areas of land which lie intermixed with those of others. The typical description is a 'piece' (*pecia*) of land lying between the land of A and B to the east/north and west/south and abutting on the land of C and D to the north/east and south/west.

<sup>138</sup> See above, p. 5.

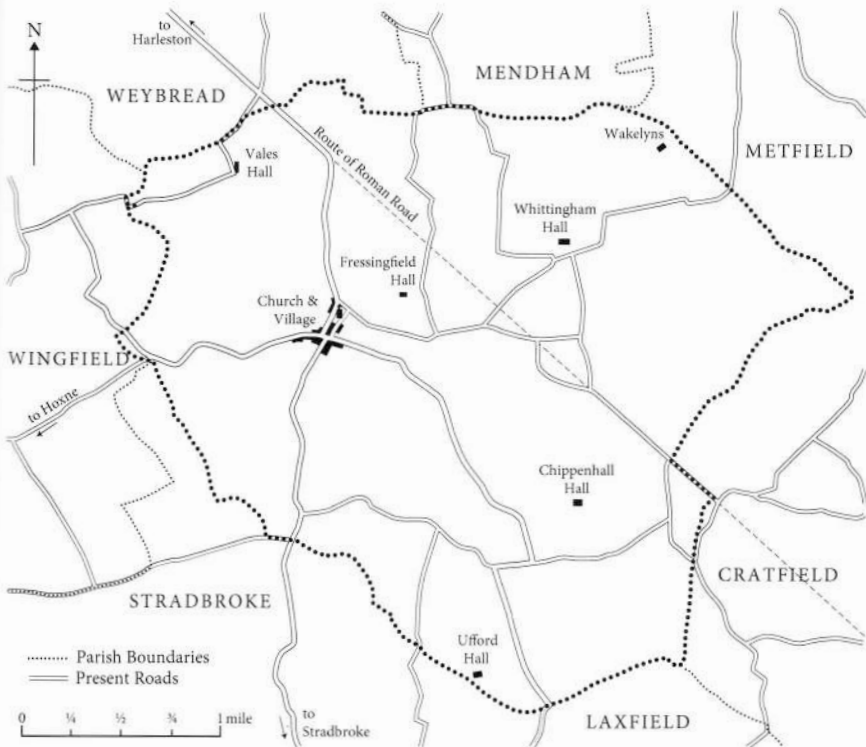


MAP 1 Fressingfield and its Environs

## FRESSINGFIELD PARISH AND VILLAGE

Fressingfield is a large parish of 4,618 acres lying near the northern boundary of Suffolk which is here delineated by the River Waveney. Its neighbours are Weybread to the north and then, in a clockwise direction, Mendham, Metfield, Cratfield, Laxfield, Stradbroke, and Wingfield. The village is on the south-western bank of a tributary which joins the Waveney 3 miles to the north-west. The underlying geology is the till plan of boulder clay of 'High Suffolk' which covers a layer of glacial Norwich Crag deposits overlaying chalk.

Numerous roads, highways and common ways, are mentioned in the cartulary, many of which had their own names. The two principal highways which crossed in the village ran east-west and north-south. The east-west route from Dunwich to Bury St Edmunds occurs most frequently, and was very probably the same road which also appears as the highway from Dunwich to Hoxne, from Fressingfield to Hoxne, and to Eye, which indicates its route to the west to Bury St Edmunds *via* Hoxne and Eye. While it certainly ran through the village south of the church its route further east is unclear, although it seems likely that for a short distance it was the same road as the north-south route, mentioned far less frequently, which ran from Norwich to Framlingham. This was probably the 'great road' from Fressingfield to Framlingham which passed through Dennington, and probably



MAP 2 Fressingfield Parish



the same as the highway from Fressingfield to Brundish and from Fressingfield to Harleston which indicates that its route was that of the B1116 today.<sup>139</sup> At a point less than a mile north of the village this route joins the old Roman road for a mile and a half or so to Weybread.<sup>140</sup> This road strikes prominently across the parish, running from the Roman road at Peasenhall north-easterly towards the Waveney, and it was probably known as Stone Street (*Stanstrete*) in the late middle ages, as was (and is) another Roman road to the east which ran from near Halesworth north to Bungay and passes through Ilketshall. Stone Street occurs only twice by name in the cartulary, once in the location of a village messuage in Weybread and once in the location of a piece of land in Fressingfield; in two probably associated charters of the latter it occurs simply as the king's highway.<sup>141</sup> The highway from Fressingfield to Stradbroke was probably a different route and that which is still called Stradbroke Road, travelling south from the village. While there are numerous references to unidentified common ways, there are a comparatively large number of individual names given to roads, the most frequent of which is Small Way, followed by Ashby Way, and others being Bolts Way, Bovpet Way, Church Way, Green Way, Hawthorn Way, Linton Way, Manbusks Way, and Picket Way, along with Redes Lane and Overstreet. The use of these routes for common grazing is indicated by references such as that of 'the common pasture called Ashby Way' and the 'common pasture called Small Way', while part of the road north to Harleston was also known as Wynns Green.<sup>142</sup> Within the village Barkers Lane and Cobbs Lane ran parallel either side of the church.

Several deeds in the cartulary reveal the layout of messuages in the village. A dozen or so may be identified by their location near the cemetery and the market-place, although others of the various messuages mentioned might also have been in the village. The market place evidently lay to the west of the cemetery, and there were messuages between them, and to the south and west of the market-place, and to the south of the cemetery, but it is not simple to reconstruct their layout in any detail. There was a guildhall earlier than that built in 1509; it is not mentioned in the cartulary but a piece of land 'called the old guildhall' was leased by St Mary in the Fields to Robert and Nicholas Cotwan in 1510 for ninety-nine years at a penny a year to the vicar, and in 1547, when it was described as the building and land called 'Le Olde Gyldehall'; the remaining sixty-two years of the lease was passed on by William Toppesfield of Fressingfield, gentleman, to James Woolnough of Fressingfield, husbandman.<sup>143</sup>

139 *Sibton Abbey Cartularies and Charters*, ed. P. Brown, Suffolk Charters 7-10 (1985-8), no. 126.

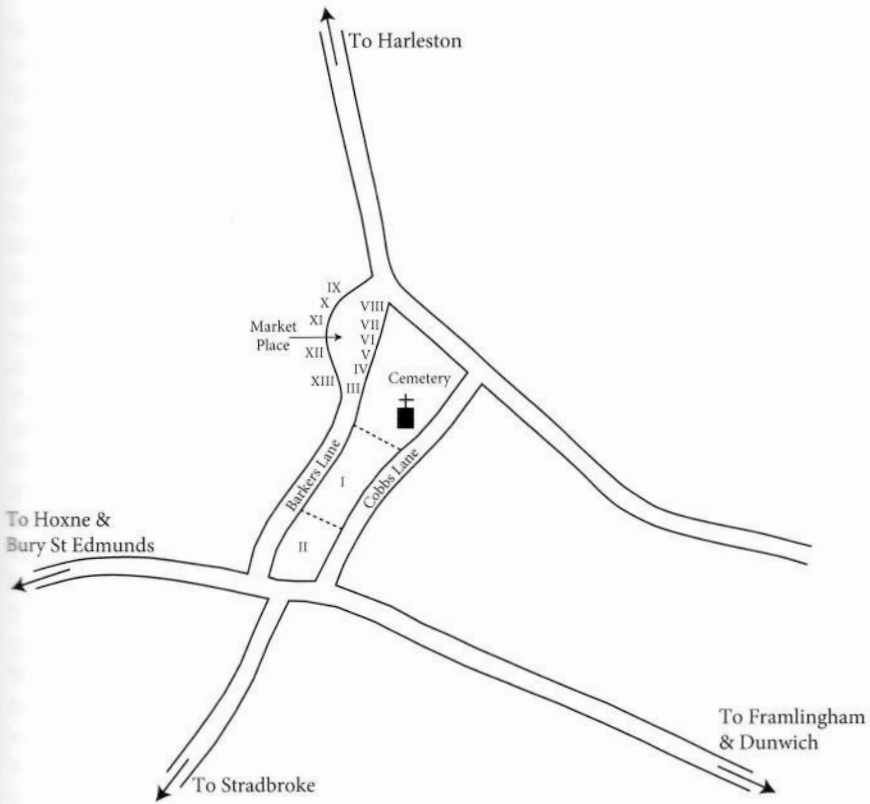
140 The present B1116 then diverges from it again in Weybread village to head for Harleston and crosses the River Waveney at a different point from that of the Roman road which, assuming it maintained its straight course, crossed the river at a point near Needham.

141 7, 182-3, 234(a).

142 164, 169, 255, 258.

143 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/9, 11/1-2.





MAP 3 Fressingfield Village

Godbalds Yard, the site of the new guildhall which is now the Fox and Goose, and Sharps Yard lay south of the cemetery, and were bounded by three roads corresponding with the present Laxfield Road, Church Road, and Harleston Road, the first being the main east–west highway, the second identified as Cobbs Lane, and the third as Barkers Lane leading to the marketplace. These were both extremely large messuages by comparison with the likely size of the others. Godbalds Yard (I on Map 3) lay immediately south of the cemetery.<sup>144</sup> Its discernible history begins when it was in the hands of John Edward in 1349. He divided it into two moieties, and granted the northern half to Geoffrey Barret

144 185, 187–9, 281, 283–7. The later history of this messuage, from 1491, occurs in the series of charters among the Fressingfield parish records and now in the Ipswich Record Office: Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/1–3, 5–8, 10. It was possibly the messuage of the messuage and lands acquired by Richard Edward from Rose Hubert and her daughter Margery before 11 June 1316; the pigtle and piece of land formerly of Rose, along with the messuage formerly of William Pese and the adjacent pigtle formerly Lepcys, was quitclaimed to Thomas Edward in 1356 by the feoffees Thomas de Wingfield, Richard Caltoft, and Geoffrey Waryn (*recte* Barret?): 186, 279.

and the southern half to John Rowe. At this time the southern half was described as two barns with a garden.<sup>145</sup> His brother Thomas Edward recovered both, the southern half in 1358 and the northern in 1361. He later granted the messuage to feoffees John Caltoft, Robert Edward parson of Swainsthorpe, and John Edward of Beccles, and in January 1394 they granted it to John Godbald by a deed which is in the parish series but not in the cartulary.<sup>146</sup> Godbald probably had possession before that date, however, as in 1392 Thomas Edward's widow Isabella had quitclaimed a messuage to Godbald. In 1395 Godbald granted it to John Felys, chaplain, who in 1404 granted it to feoffees, who in 1412 granted it to John Gowyn. In 1439 Gowyn granted it to Thomas Godbald, and in 1491 Thomas's son and heir John granted it to a group of feoffees headed by the vicar, evidently for charitable purposes.<sup>147</sup> It was then described as two pieces of land with appurtenances, formerly two messuages, the southern being 10 perches 3 feet long and 5½ perches wide, the northern 10 perches 2 feet long and 8½ perches wide. At the conventional rate of 5½ yards to the perch, the southern plot was 168 × 91 feet and the northern 167 × 140 feet. They were bounded to the north by the cemetery, to the west by a road called Barkers Lane which led to the marketplace, to the east by the king's highway called Cobbs Lane, and to the south by another messuage called Sharps. The later charters in the collection show that the two tenements were passed between various sets of feoffees in 1507 and 1509, and in February 1509 granted to a group headed by John Bohun so they were used 'for keeping of all church ales, guilds, yeerdays, buryings and other drinkings necessary for the profit of the church or parish'.<sup>148</sup> Sharps Yard *alias* Tenement (II on Map 3) lay directly south of Godbalds Yard and was bounded by roads on all other sides, Barkers Lane to the west, Cobbs Lane to the east, and the main highway from Dunwich to Bury St Edmunds to the south.<sup>149</sup> It was granted in 1349 by William son of Hubert Sharpe to John Edward, and in 1356 and 1358 was called Sharps cottage. It was granted by Richard White to John Caltoft and Roger Edward in 1366, when it was described as a cottage with a pigstie called Sharps Yard. In April 1368 Caltoft and Roger confirmed it to Thomas Edward, and two weeks later Thomas Edward granted it to Adam son of John Gowyn. It was still held by Adam Gowyn in 1395, but had passed to John Gowyn by 1412, and by 1491 it had passed to Thomas Gowyn.<sup>150</sup>

A further group of messuages lay to the west of the cemetery. Number III lay between the cemetery and the marketplace and abutted onto the highway to the south and on another messuage to the north. It was granted by Henry Sumpter to his daughter Agnes and her issue, with remainder to his daughter Matilda, in 1333, by Matilda Kembald to John Sharpe in 1368, and by Sharpe to Agnes

145 47, 187-8.

146 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/1a.

147 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/1, 2.

148 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC90/L3/5-8.

149 276-7, 279-80, and possibly 282.

150 276-7, 279-80 and probably 282 are concerned with Sharps Yard 276-7, 279-80, while 281, 283-7 are concerned with Godbalds Yard.

Waryn in 1388.<sup>151</sup> The messuage to the north (IV) was held in 1333 by William the smith, in 1368 by Roger and Constance le Neve, and in 1388 it was formerly held by Neve. Number V also lay between the cemetery and the marketplace, and in 1336 abutted to the south on the messuage formerly of William the smith (IV), and to the north on a 'plot' of Robert son of Agnes.<sup>152</sup> This passed from Beatrice daughter of John Pycock to her son William Cole, who in 1336 granted it, with the house built on it, to Walter, deputy dean of Hoxne. Number VII lay between the cemetery and the highway, evidently either north or south of where the road widened to become the marketplace, but probably to the north as number III appears to lie at the southern end of the marketplace; William Skinner acquired it from John Rowe and swiftly sold on to Richard Pyk of Merton in 1364.<sup>153</sup> It abutted on another holding of William's to the south (VI) and the holding of John Sharp (VIII) to the north.

Two messuages lay to the west of the marketplace and were apparently adjacent. Number X lay between the marketplace to the east and a messuage to the west which in 1306 had been acquired by the Kembalds from John and Juliana de Wingfield but by 1339 was held by the rector Richard Harling. To north and south it was bounded by messuages of John Wingfield (IX) and Roger and Alexander Baxter, Roger in 1306-7 and Alexander in 1339; which lay to the north and which to the south is not specified but it is highly likely that the Baxter messuage (XI) lay to the south. In 1306 it was granted by Juliana, daughter of Richard and Matilda Kembald, to her parents, who granted it back to her in the following year. She married Henry le Sumpter, and in 1339 settled it on herself for life with reversion to her son Matthew Kembald and his issue, and her daughter Matilda.<sup>154</sup> Number XI was the Baxter messuage which in 1337 was granted by Roger le Grand to his son Alexander. It was then described as lying between the messuage of Juliana Kembald to the north and the messuage of Matilda niece of the parson (XII) to the south, abutting on the marketplace to the east and the land of the church to the west. It is highly likely that Roger le Grand is the same person as Roger le Baxter, and consequently that this was the messuage which was adjacent to the Kembald messuage (X).<sup>155</sup>

Another messuage, number XIII, lay south of the marketplace. This was acquired by the rector Philip de Thorpe, who appears to have accumulated several small plots into one holding. In 1314 he acquired a curtilage with a pigeonouse from Robert de Fressingfield, son of Robert le Tanner, which lay south of Philip's curtilage or *curia* and west of the road to the church and marketplace; by the time

<sup>151</sup> 34, 54, 70.

<sup>152</sup> 127.

<sup>153</sup> 72.

<sup>154</sup> 64, 67, 75, 79.

<sup>155</sup> 73, 139, 173. The evidence for the identity of Roger le Baxter and Roger le Grand is circumstantial but compelling. In August 1314 Roger le Grand was described as 'baker' and was married to a wife Beatrice, whereas in December 1314 Roger le Bakestere was married to a wife Beatrice; Roger Baxter flourished between 1304 and 1339 and Roger le Grand between 1312 and 1337; Roger le Grand had a son Alexander in 1337 and an Alexander Baxter flourished between 1338 and 1347.

he received two quitclaims for this curtilage in 1317 the land to the west, which had belonged to Robert, belonged to Richard Edward. One of these quitclaims was dated 3 March; on the same day Master Philip also acquired a messuage south of the marketplace and north of his own holding. Philip probably died in this same year, but by 1339 this combined holding had passed to his successor as rector, John Fish, who granted to Hugh Fish a messuage and garden lying south of the marketplace, east and north of land formerly of Richard Edward, and west of the parsonage and the highway; in a subsequent quitclaim, it was described as a messuage with buildings and a garden with a pigeonhouse.<sup>156</sup> In December 1351 Robert Bacon and his wife Joan, daughter of Hugh Fish, granted a messuage next to the marketplace with a garden and pigeonhouse adjacent to William son of John Russell of Metfield; this William can be identified with the William who usually appears as William Skinner, because in a charter of the following year he appears as William Skinner, son of John de Metfield, and by July 1352 William Skinner had granted a messuage 'opposite the marketplace to the west' to Thomas de Wingfield, who in that month granted it to the rector William Gernoun, John Fish's successor.<sup>157</sup> In 1356 Wingfield, with Richard Caltoft, Geoffrey Barret, and Thomas Edward, confirmed to William and John Gernoun a pigtle with a garden which was probably part of this holding. Gernoun settled it on himself and his brother John by grant and regrant in 1361, probably shortly before his death, as this is his last appearance in the cartulary.<sup>158</sup> In 1382 John Gernoun granted all

156 For Philip see below, p. 38.

157 On 2 October 1349 William Esthawe and Alexander de Chippenhall granted to the rector William Gernoun a messuage which may have been part of this whole tenement. The charter is partially illegible, but it lay between the marketplace and another messuage, one head abutting on the highway and the other on the messuage formerly of Hugh Fish: TNA, E326/3828.

158 The identification of this messuage is complex and the most intractable element is the messuage granted to Philip de Thorpe in 1317, as, according to the cartulary, this lay between land of Hugh the merchant, chaplain, and Matthew Vise to the west, and land of Roger le Baxter and the church to the east. This may be resolved if the copyist had transposed east and west, as he is likely to have done in at least one other entry; if Baxter's land lay to the west this would probably have been messuage number XII, which lay next to land of the church and the messuage of Matilda niece of the parson. In January 1339 Matilda's son John had granted to John Fish, for life, a strip of land of his messuage which lay next to Fish's house and wall: 214. Also problematical is the confirmation of the pigtle and garden by Wingfield, Caltoft, Barret, and Thomas Edward in 1356, as this lay between the road to the marketplace to the east and the highway to the south, land formerly of John Edward to the west, and to the north the rector's garden and land of Richard White and John Kembald. The land formerly of John Edward may be identified with the land of Richard Edward in 1317, while Wingfield, Caltoft, and Barret frequently acted as feoffees with Thomas Edward. Perhaps the strongest evidence for the assimilation of these various holdings is that the entries concerning them occur consecutively in the cartulary, except for one interpolation: 208-14, 216-23. It is also probably significant that John de Metfield's only appearances in the cartulary are to quitclaim the curtilage with pigeonhouse to Philip de Thorpe in

his lands, etc., in Fressingfield to John Felys, but it was probably this message which was the message south of the marketplace which, with other holdings, was granted by John (II) Waryn and his feoffee Levald to John Seaforth in 1428 and possibly the message west of the cemetery bequeathed by John Bohun to his son Edmund, as John had almost certainly acquired other lands formerly held by Seaforth.<sup>159</sup>

## THE CHURCH AND THE CLERGY

The rectory of Fressingfield was held in moieties, but instead of the joint-patrons presenting alternately, two rectors served at the same time, each described as rector of half the church of Fressingfield.<sup>160</sup> The church held much land in the parish, and one reference indicates that each portion had its own land.<sup>161</sup> There is a single reference to the parsonage but nothing to indicate whether it was shared or occupied by only one rector.<sup>162</sup> In 1291 Mendham Priory had a portion of £11 from the rectory which made up over half its total income of just under £20 a year.<sup>163</sup> Until the fourteenth century the advowson of one mediety was held by Bury St Edmunds Abbey and the other by the eminent Norfolk family of Thorpe, of Ashwellthorpe (Norfolk), but by the early fifteenth century both were held by the college of Chapel-in-the-Fields, Norwich, which had licence to appropriate and after which a vicar served. The Thorpe family reached its highest point of eminence in Sir John de Thorpe (*d.* 1324), who played an active role in both local and national politics and received a personal summons to parliament from 1309 until his death, becoming thereby Lord Thorpe although the honour did not pass to his successors.<sup>164</sup> He was succeeded by his son Sir Robert, who died in 1330

1317, and to witness a charter of Robert le Tanner in 1299, and those of the grants to Thorpe of this curtilage by Tanner's son Robert de Fressingfield in 1314 and the message by Tydeman in 1317: 202, 209, 211, 216. His son William Skinner, although only briefly in possession in 1351-2, probably brought a suit against the eventual holder, John Gernoun, as in October 1363 he and his son William remitted all actions, etc., against John Gernoun, and others: 174.

- 159 If the above is a correct interpretation, then this message probably lay just at the point where the road widened to become the marketplace and adjacent to the Baxter message which was described as west of the marketplace; in these circumstances, it might be described as lying west of the cemetery and it had already been described as the message lying 'opposite the marketplace to the west' in 1361: 222-3.
- 160 This was not uncommon in East Anglia; the church of Shelton (Norfolk) was held in moieties until they were united in the 1440s and at Dickleburgh the church was divided into four parts: Blomefield, *Norfolk*, i. 192-4, v. 270.
- 161 173.
- 162 217.
- 163 *VCH Suffolk*, ii. 87.
- 164 For the family see *GEC*, xii pt 1. 717-25.

## Introduction

leaving a son and heir John, who until 1336 was a minor in the wardship of Oliver Lord Ingham (*d.* 1344), another eminent Norfolk peer. This John died without issue in 1340 and was succeeded by his brother Sir Edmund (*d.* 1393). The family's advowson of one mediety was held in 1349 by Joan, widow of John de Thorpe (*d.* 1340), and it would seem that this Joan was the daughter, and in 1349 sole heir, of Ingham.<sup>165</sup> Joan Ingham was married at the time of her father's death to Roger Lord Lestrangle of Knockin (*d.* 1349) and after Roger's death she married Sir Miles de Stapleton (*d.* 1364); on 24 June 1352, when Joan and Stapleton quitclaimed the Fressingfield advowson to Sir Edmund de Thorpe, the rector William Gernoun was the rector *ex parte Straunge* and had evidently been presented by her earlier husband Lestrangle.<sup>166</sup>

Five rectors occur in the cartulary, all from the fourteenth century: Philip de Thorpe (*fl.* 1309–17), John Fish (*fl.* 1334–9), Richard Harling (*fl.* 1339–41), William Gernoun of Burwell (*fl.* 1349–61), and Richard Caltoft (*fl.* 1356–77). Gernoun and very probably Thorpe and Fish were rectors of the Thorpe mediety, while Caltoft and probably Harling were rectors of the Abbey mediety. They appear chiefly in acting as feoffees for their parishioners, but occasionally as acquirers of land in their own right.

*Master Philip de Thorpe* (*fl.* 1309–17) Philip was probably the same Philip who was presented to Thorpe (Norfolk) in 1298 and is identified as a younger brother of John Lord Thorpe (*d.* 1324).<sup>167</sup> The land of Master Philip, rector, is mentioned in a deed of 1309, but he occurs as an active participant in 1314 and 1317, when he acquired at least two holdings south of the marketplace which were combined and later passed to his successor John Fish.<sup>168</sup> One John de Pagrave was presented to Thorpe in 1317 by Sir John de Thorpe and his wife Alice, and it is possible that Philip died in this year.<sup>169</sup>

*John Fish* (*fl.* 1334–9) John is also likely to have been rector of the Thorpe mediety, as in 1334 he exchanged this living with John de Pagrave for that of Thorpe, although they exchanged back again in the following year.<sup>170</sup> He occurs in the cartulary only in 1339 in connection with the messuage south of the marketplace which had formerly been held by Philip de Thorpe. In January he acquired a small strip of land beside it, for his life, and in October he granted it to Richard

165 *GEC*, xii pt 1. 722*n.*

166 222, 223; *GEC*, vii. 60–3; Blomefield, *Norfolk*, ix. 320. The suggestion that Joan Ingham was first married to John de Thorpe and can be identified with John's widow Joan was raised in *GEC*, xii pt 1. 722*n.*, and receives strong support from this connection of the Thorpe mediety with Lestrangle. Further evidence is that the seal used by Joan Ingham in 1352 showed a shield of arms of Lestrangle impaling Ingham with three shields at the edge of chey, on a fess three crescents, the latter being the arms of Sir Edmund de Thorpe: Blomefield, *Norfolk*, v. 145, ix. 320.

167 Blomefield, *Norfolk*, v. 162.

168 55, and for his acquisitions, see above pp. 35–6.

169 Blomefield, *Norfolk*, v. 162.

170 Blomefield, *Norfolk*, v. 162.



le Sergeant, chaplain, and Hugh Fish; Sergeant was evidently merely a feoffee, as he later quitclaimed this to Hugh, who may have been John's brother, and the messuage passed to Hugh's daughter.<sup>171</sup>

*William Gernoun of Burwell* (fl. 1349–61) William occurs as William Gernoun as well as William de Burwell. As he is identified in 1352 as rector *ex parte Straunge* he was evidently presented by Roger Lestrange in the period between his marriage to Joan Ingham, sometime between October 1340 and May 1344, and his death in July 1349. Gernoun occurs in the cartulary between 1352 and 1361, and elsewhere as rector of a mediety at Michaelmas 1349.<sup>172</sup> William and a colleague, William Esthawe of Wingfield, chaplain, acted as feoffees for Robert and Agnes Bobyr in 1355, but he occurs more frequently as an active acquirer of land with his brother John, also in holy orders as a chaplain.<sup>173</sup> In 1349 William Esthawe and Alexander de Chippenhall granted to William a messuage in Fressingfield, and in 1352 he acquired the messuage south of the marketplace formerly held by his predecessors Thorpe and Fish from Thomas de Wingfield, and entered into an indenture with Wingfield for the payment of 30 marks.<sup>174</sup> In 1356 Thomas Edward and his feoffees confirmed a pightle which may have been part of the same holding to him and his brother John; in 1361 the messuage and a piece of land were settled *via* feoffees Caltoft, his joint-rector, and John vicar of Weybread, on himself and John; and in October 1361 he and John were jointly granted a piece of meadow by Roger Alger.<sup>175</sup> This is the last that is heard of William, but his brother John occurs in 1363, when William le Skinner and his son William remitted all actions, etc., against John, his nephew Thomas, his servant Nicholas Joseph, and Alice Dade; this dispute may have been in connection with the village messuage as this had previously been held by Skinner.<sup>176</sup> He witnessed a charter of Robert Dreye in 1367, as John de Burwell, chaplain, and in 1382 granted all his lands in Fressingfield to John Felys, chaplain.<sup>177</sup>

On 6 June 1352 licence was given for the alienation of the advowson of a mediety of the church, said to be worth 52 marks, by William [Bateman], bishop of Norwich, to the dean and chapter of St Mary in the Fields, Norwich, with licence to appropriate.<sup>178</sup> This was eighteen days before Miles and Joan de Stapleton quitclaimed the advowson to Sir Edmund de Thorpe, who had presumably granted it to the bishop; it is probably not coincidence that, around this time, the bishop was instrumental in certifying the legitimacy of Sir Edmund's wife, with whom he had substantial lands as she was an heiress.<sup>179</sup> William Gernoun may well have died soon after his last appearance in the cartulary in October 1361 as in this year

171 For this messuage, see above, p. 35–7.

172 TNA, E326/3828.

173 146.

174 TNA, E326/3828.

175 178, 222–3.

176 174.

177 261, 224.

178 *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1350–4*, 292.

179 Blomefield, *Norfolk*, v. 145.

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the college had a further licence to appropriate one mediety, and in 1405 John Rickinghall was both dean of the college and rector of half of Fressingfield.<sup>180</sup>

*Master Richard de Harling* (fl. 1339–41) Master Richard acted as feoffee for Juliana Kembald in 1339, and in January 1341 Walter Baxter granted to him two pieces of land which may also have been as feoffee, although no regrant survives.<sup>181</sup> He is likely to have been rector of the Abbey mediety, as he was acting in April 1339, while John Fish, likely to have been rector of the Thorpe mediety, was acting in January and October of the same year.

*Master Richard de Caltoft* (fl. 1356–77) Richard is identified in a deed of 1482 as rector of the mediety *ex parte abbatis* and had the longest recorded career of the five rectors.<sup>182</sup> He was a feoffee for Thomas Edward in 1356 and 1367, and for his joint-rector William Gernoun in 1361.<sup>183</sup> In 1377 he granted to Richard Waryn two pieces of land, but it is not clear whether he was again acting as feoffee or whether this was a genuine transaction. He had an openly acknowledged son John Caltoft who was very long-lived, evidently being an adult by 1361 and still living in 1421, and who is identified as being of Redenhall or its hamlet Harleston. Like his father, John was acting as a feoffee for Thomas Edward in 1366 and 1368, and was still acting as such in 1384 and 1394.<sup>184</sup> In 1361 Juliana Kembald granted all her lands in Fressingfield to both Richard and John, and it was fifty years later in 1411 that John enfeoffed Robert Kembald in all the lands he had had by grant of Juliana.<sup>185</sup> He was also a feoffee for Richard Waryn in 1387, when Waryn granted to John, Ker, and Woodward all his lands, a responsibility discharged in 1415, when John and Woodward granted the lands to John Waryn.<sup>186</sup> In 1404 John Felys granted all his lands to John and others, and in 1421 two of them granted them on to Neve, Dallinghoo, and Duffield with the agreement of John and the others.<sup>187</sup>

In December 1413 licence was given to the abbey to alienate in mortmain the advowson of their mediety of the church to feoffees to hold to themselves, their heirs and assigns, at a rent of 40s. a year, and for them to grant the advowson to the dean and chaplains of the college of St Mary in the Fields, Norwich, at 40s. a year to the abbey, and for the college to appropriate, provided a vicarage was sufficiently endowed and a competent sum of money was distributed yearly

180 *VCH Norfolk*, ii. 455; Blomefield, *Norfolk*, iv. 171. He was dean until preferred to the bishopric of Chichester in 1426.

181 74–5, 79.

182 83 = 270.

183 170, 186–7, 208, 222–3. The Richard Caltoft who in 1368 quitclaimed to Richard Pick all the lands he and three others had acquired from Pick may have been another as he is not identified as rector, although this may simply be an error of the copyist: 24.

184 172, 206, 225, 283–4.

185 20–1, 23.

186 22, 40, 84–5.

187 226–7.



among the poor parishioners of the moiety according to the ordinance of the diocesan.<sup>188</sup> The serving rector probably died in 1420, when the college again had licence to appropriate this mediety.<sup>189</sup> With both medieties united in the hands of the college, the parish was served apparently by a single vicar. William Ketwood occurs as the 'perpetual vicar of the church of Fressingfield' in 1482, witnessing a local charter along with Richard Bohun, and again in 1491, as the leading feoffee for the grant by John Godbald of the two plots of land south of the churchyard which was a charitable bequest to the parish.<sup>190</sup>

As well as the rectors, and later the vicar, of Fressingfield, clergymen holding other benefices were also involved in the secular affairs of the parish. It is not surprising that the most persistent presence is that of vicars of neighbouring Weybread, a church appropriated by the Austin canons of Butley Priory.<sup>191</sup> The vicar John, who held the position in May 1361 but was formerly vicar by October, was a feoffee with the Fressingfield rector Richard Caltoft for the settlement by the other Fressingfield rector William Gernoun of lands on himself and his brother; what had happened to deprive him of his benefice during those five months is unknown.<sup>192</sup> An apparently more successful vicar was William de la Ker, who in July and October 1377 was a feoffee with John Calver for the jointure enfeoffment carried out by Hugh Miller with his wife Joan and again ten years later for Richard Waryn in an enfeoffment of all his lands in Fressingfield; he was alive in November 1388 but dead by February 1415.<sup>193</sup> John White, parson of Cookley a few miles east of Fressingfield, witnessed the grant in 1382 by the chaplain John Gernoun to his colleague John Felys; White may have been related to Richard White of Metfield who had married a Fressingfield heiress, was active in the parish between 1354 and 1370 and then sold her lands and apparently disappeared from the scene.<sup>194</sup> John Prick, parson of Ilketshall St John (*fl.* 1376–1407), was the last member of a long-established Fressingfield family and was the brother, feoffee, and probably heir, of Richard Prick and he appears only in that connection.<sup>195</sup> From slightly further afield in the west of the county came Andrew, parson of Stanton, who in 1361–2 was the feoffee with the Fressingfield worthy Robert Bobyr for Roger and Constance le Neve.<sup>196</sup> Undoubtedly the most surprising appearance, however, is that of John Doget, who was parson of Edmondthorpe in Leicestershire, appropriated by Tutbury Priory, and who held land in the parish in 1352; he may have been a kinsman of the John Doket who

188 *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1413–16*, 139.

189 *VCH Norfolk*, ii, 455.

190 268, 286–7. The vicar William Whight was holding land in the parish in 1533–4: 242.

191 *VCH Suffolk*, ii, 96.

192 222–3.

193 22, 84–5, 134–5, B17.

194 224.

195 192, 273–5, B1–B3, B6.

196 30, 32.

occurs in the latter part of the following century, and the pightle which belonged to him in March 1352 had passed to Robert Bobyr by January 1353.<sup>197</sup>

There were also several unbeneficed chaplains who played an active part in the community, although their position is unknown. Some may have served the Shelton chapel which had land in Fressingfield; others may have served chantries within the parish church; and others may have been family chaplains. Some came to the parish from outside, some were from Fressingfield families, and John Carter, son of Alice Carter and grandson of Hugh Miller, was probably Fressingfield born but served as a chaplain at Worlingworth and then at Dennington.<sup>198</sup> Roger Sergeant of Forncett (Norfolk) acted as a feoffee for the transfer of a village messuage between the rector John Fish and his probable kinsman Hugh Fish in 1339 and in 1343, when he quitclaimed the messuage to Hugh, his charter was dated at Ashwellthorpe. This is not far from Forncett and the *caput* of the Thorpe family who had probably presented John to the rectory of Fressingfield, while Hugh Fish's daughter and heir Joan married Robert Bacon of Forncett.<sup>199</sup> Clearly he became involved in Fressingfield affairs because of the Norfolk connections of the Fish family. William Esthawe, who acted as a joint-feoffee with the rector William Gernoun in 1355 for Robert and Agnes Bobyr and who granted Gernoun a messuage jointly with Alexander de Chippenhall in 1349, came from neighbouring Wingfield.<sup>200</sup> William Gernoun's brother John evidently came to the parish when his brother was appointed as rector and he granted the lands which he and his brother had acquired in 1382 to another chaplain and outsider, John Felys. Felys occurs from that date until 1427 and came from Mildenhall on the other side of the county. As well as the lands of John Gernoun, he further acquired in 1395 Godbalds Yard, the messuage immediately south of the cemetery in the village, from John Godbald, although this may have been simply as a feoffee. In 1389 he acted as feoffee with John Rook for Robert Jacob and discharged this responsibility in 1427 when he enfeoffed John Jacob the younger.<sup>201</sup> In 1384 Thomas Edward's widow Isabel quitclaimed dower in lands which Felys and Richard Gundell, Robert Bedon, and John Russell had acquired from her late husband's feoffees, and in 1394 these feoffees confirmed Davys Close and the adjacent pightle to Felys and John Beton, although it is not clear whether this was an acquisition by Felys or whether he was again acting as a feoffee. In 1404 he granted all his holdings in Fressingfield to John Caltoft, William Drowe, Thomas King, Thomas Russell, and Robert Beton the elder, and they granted the village messuage to John Gowyn. Contacts outside the parish are apparent from the fact that in April 1411 he was pardoned his outlawry for not appearing to answer John Karwent regarding a debt of 40s.<sup>202</sup> In January 1421 the feoffees confirmed all the lands, etc., that they had had by the enfeoffment of Felys to

197 90, 118, 167-8, 268; *VCH Staffordshire*, iii. 332.

198 162-3, 166, and for the family see below, pp. 63-4.

199 212, 217, 220.

200 146; TNA, E326/3828.

201 262-3.

202 *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1408-13*, 252.

John Neve, William Dallinghoo, and Nicholas Duffield, for £40 payable to Felys, Drowe, and Thomas Aunfrey, chaplain, over the next eight years. A week later the bond of £40 was defeated if Felys, Drowe, and Aunfrey had free access to all the lands, if the £40 was paid at the stated terms, in part or in all, and if Felys had free access to a chamber, a stable, and half the small garden in the holding. A week later still Felys quitclaimed the lands to Neve, Dallinghoo, and Duffield. In 1434 the lands were passed on from them to John Dade, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald, and in 1450 they confirmed the lands to John Bohun, Roger Godbald, and John Calver, the latter two confirming the lands to Edmund Bohun and four others in January 1459 after John Bohun's death.

John Edward, who occurs between 1347 and 1361 and was probably dead by 1367, is likely to have been the son of Richard Edward of Fressingfield (*fl.* 1316–33). He occurs first as chaplain or *dominus*, then as rector of Trunch in Norfolk (1353–4) and finally as lately parson of Badingham (1367). He was active in the land market and some of his lands passed to his brother Thomas Edward while some passed to Michael de la Pole (*d.* 1388), who granted them to Richard Waryn, along with the lands of Robert Spirard, chaplain, who had held a pigtle in Weybread before 1367.<sup>203</sup> Another member of the Edward family, Robert, also joined the church and was a chaplain in 1384 but parson of Swainsthorpe (Norfolk) by 1394.<sup>204</sup> John Tydeman, who is prominent in the cartulary between 1309 and 1336, had a brother William who was a chaplain and gave land to John, and Edward Traton, who held land in the parish in 1325, may have been a kinsman of Robert Traton of Fressingfield who occurs between 1323 and 1330.<sup>205</sup> John Levald (*fl.* 1406–30), who was a trusted associate of John (I) and John (II) Waryn and frequently employed by them as a feoffee, probably came from Norfolk where the Waryns also held land as he is identified in 1418 as being of Winfarthing (Norfolk) but in the following year he was said to be of Fressingfield.<sup>206</sup> The provenance of other chaplains who appear only briefly is unknown. Among them were John Huslagh, who was granted a piece of land by Richard Lepsy in 1346, possibly as a feoffee, John Smart, who held a piece of pasture in the parish in 1343, Thomas Aunfrey, who was involved in the arrangements of the sale of John Felys's lands, John Bewe, who witnessed the grant by John (II) Waryn of all his lands to feoffees in 1419, and John Church, who witnessed the quitclaim to Alice Carter by her feoffees in 1454.<sup>207</sup>

203 7, 86 = 113, 87, 116. The grant by Pole was of lands in Fressingfield and Weybread formerly held by the chaplains Edward and Spirard; it may be that it was Edward's lands that lay in Fressingfield and Spirard's that lay in Weybread.

204 206, 225. For the Edward family, see below, pp. 83–4.

205 216 (Tydeman), 120, 140, 142, 177 (Traton).

206 69, 88, 137, 151, 153, 182, 184, 203.

207 88, 122, 128, 155, 227, 229.

## THE GENTRY

Fressingfield was typical of East Anglia in its diffuse seigneurial structure. In 1316 the lords of the vill were said to be the abbey of Bury St Edmunds, Joan Launce, and Richard son of Giles de Breouse, then a minor in the custody of Edmund Bacon, but the feudal structure, as laid out in 1346, included half a fee held of the countess of Norfolk by Sir John de Breouse and his parceners, another half-fee held of Thomas Munchensy by Sir John de Wingfield and his parceners, a quarter-fee held of Robert earl of Suffolk by Sir John de Ufford, and one fee in Syleham, Earsham, Weybread, and Fressingfield held of Eve de Ufford by Nicholas Launce, John de Shelton, John Edrich, William Launce, Mendham Priory, Roger Alger, Margaret Cobbe, John Grille, Thomas Alger, Richard Alger, and John Charles, parson of Langham.<sup>208</sup> This plethora of feudal units is reflected in the number of 'halls' within the parish, mostly scattered around the boundary. Fressingfield Hall lies just outside the village while north of it is Vales Hall, with Whittingham Hall to the north-east and Wakelyns beyond it, Chippenhall Hall to the south-east and Ufford Hall on the southern boundary. It is difficult to reconcile either the 1316 'lords' of the vill or the feudal tenants of 1346 with the 1327 subsidy in which, although the largest taxpayer was Edmund Bacon, guardian of the Breouse heir, who paid 10s. 6d., the next largest payers were John de Hetherset (10s.), Eye Priory (6s. 8d.), John de Woodhill (6s.), John Gerard (5s.), Nicholas le Veel (4s. 6d.), and Wakelin de Hartshill and Henry Palmer (4s.).<sup>209</sup>

Copinger identifies eight different manors within the parish.<sup>210</sup> Those of Chippenhall Hall and Fressingfield belonged to the two largest religious houses in the country, the pre-Conquest foundation of Bury St Edmunds Abbey and the

208 *Feudal Aids*, v. 37, 62. Eve de Ufford was the daughter and heir of John de Clavering (d. 1332) who had held lands in Northumberland and East Anglia but had alienated the reversion of them after his death. Eve's second husband was Sir Thomas de Ufford, a younger half-brother of Robert, first earl of Suffolk, who was killed at Bannockburn in 1314 and by whom she had a son John: *GEC*, iii. 274-6. Of the many holders of the fee held of her, for the Launces, the Algers, and Shelton, see below, pp. 49-50, 51-2, 57. John Edrich, John Grille, and John Charles make no appearance in the cartulary but the latter held 80 acres of land, 6 acres of pasture, and 6 acres of wood in Earsham, Syleham, Wingfield, Weybread, and Fressingfield; in 1347 he was convicted of felony and the king's year and a day of waste in these lands was granted to John de Wingfield: *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1345-8*, 360. Charles had also held lands in Ringshall for life, of the inheritance of Edward son of Edward Charles, a minor, and in February 1349 these lands were granted to the king's yeoman John de Harling, and the Fressingfield lands to John de Wingfield, to hold during the minority: *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1348-50*, 265. John Grylle paid 2s. and Thomas le Grild 1s. in the 1327 subsidy: *Suffolk in 1327*, 52. Margaret Cobbe makes no appearance either; a William Cobbe occurs as a witness in 1419 and Cobbs Lane in the village may have taken its name from the family, but Margaret's name may have been Colle, as Juliana Cole or Colle held land in the parish in 1353-4, as did Beatrice Cole, daughter of John Pycok and mother of William Cole (*fl.* 1336).

209 *Suffolk in 1327*, 51-2.

210 Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 34-41.

post-Conquest foundation of Eye Priory respectively, and the abbey also held the advowson of a mediety of the church.<sup>211</sup> These two great houses occur in the cartulary only incidentally, their lands used as reference points. The manors of Whittingham and Fressingfield Hall belonged to the substantial gentry families of Breouse and Wingfield, subsequently de la Pole, respectively, while the smaller manors of Veales, Wakelyns, and Launces belonged to families of those names in the fourteenth century, of which Veales and Launces may have been the same and were joined with Fressingfield Hall in the mid-fifteenth century while Wakelyns was joined with Whittingham. With a great deal of justification, Copinger becomes confused over Ufford Hall and the different Ufford interests suggesting that the Bury St Edmunds manor was held by a cadet branch of the Ufford family during the fourteenth century until the deaths of Sir Robert by December 1393 but this manor appears to be that of Ufford Hall which soon afterwards passed to Sibton Abbey.

The *manor of Fressingfield Hall* was held by the Wingfield family and passed to the de la Poles on the death of Eleanor widow of Sir John de Wingfield in 1375 when it was said to be held of Robert son of John de Ufford (*sic*) by the service of 2s. a year for the ward of Eye Castle.<sup>212</sup> After the forfeiture of Michael de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, in 1388 this manor was extended as having 247 acres of arable, 13 acres of meadow, 16 acres of pasture, a wood of 20 acres of no yearly value on account of the abundance of large trees there, a further 180 acres of arable land, and £4 7s. 10½*d.* in rents. The land, meadow, and pasture was said to be worth £6 2s. 2*d.* a year but the manor was charged with rents totalling £3 10s. 8*d.* to Sibton Abbey, the abbey of West Dereham, Butley Priory, Mendham Priory, the honour of Eye, Robert de Ufford, Miles de Stapleton, Master Robert Hovel of Weybread, Eye Priory, and the manor of Walsham Hall in Mendham.<sup>213</sup>

The only member of this family to make a contribution, under Fressingfield, to the subsidy of 1327 was Giles de Wingfield, probably a younger son, who paid 3s. 4*d.*<sup>214</sup> The land, meadow, and messuage of John de Wingfield and his son Sir John (*d.* 1361) are frequently mentioned as locational identifiers in various deeds, but there is little evidence in the cartulary of active participation.<sup>215</sup> Richard and

211 The Bury St Edmunds manor belonged to the abbey's cellarer, while the priory manor was one of the five which formed the basis of the house's temporal wealth, along with Eye, Stoke Ash, Bedfield, and Occold elsewhere in the county: *Eye Priory Cartulary and Charters*, ed. V. Brown, Suffolk Charters 12–13 (1992–4), 82–4, 87. In 1355 Edmund de Brundish, parson of Caister, alienated to Bury St Edmunds a messuage, 44 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, 3 acres of pasture, and 8*d.* of rent in Fressingfield: *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1354–8*, 319.

212 *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, xiv. 217. The Robert de Ufford who held the honour of Eye in 1375 was the second earl of Suffolk (*d.* 1376), son of Robert; Robert son of John was a cousin: see below, p. 50–1.

213 *Cal. Inq. Misc*, v. 56.

214 *Suffolk in 1327*, 51. Giles's name suggests a marriage alliance between the Wingfields and Giles de Breouse (*d.* 1311), whose eldest surviving son Richard was born in 1302–3 but may well have had an older sister.

215 43, 50–1, 64, 67–8, 74–5, 79–80, 167–8.

Matilda Kembald and their daughter Juliana acquired from John de Wingfield and his wife Juliana a village messuage before December 1306, and a John de Wingfield witnessed charters in 1299 and 1307 but as his name appears fourth in the former and second in the latter, it is unlikely that he was the holder of the manor.<sup>216</sup> A later Sir John, who witnessed a 1388 charter, was presumably a member of one of the cadet branches descended from the brothers of the last Sir John of Wingfield and Fressingfield.<sup>217</sup> The most active member of the family in the middle of the century was Thomas de Wingfield, who was probably Sir John's younger brother of that name. He held land in the vill mentioned between 1353 and 1368 and by 1361 the path called the Mill Way, which in 1323 had belonged to Robert de Shelton, belonged to him.<sup>218</sup> He acquired a village messuage from William Skinner but sold it on to the rector William de Gernoun for 30 marks in 1352.<sup>219</sup> He was a witness to three charters in 1352, 1354, and 1355, but appears most frequently as a feoffee for John and Thomas Edward.<sup>220</sup> Sir John de Wingfield, who died shortly before 18 October 1361, left a widow Eleanor (*d.* 1375) and an only daughter Katherine, already married to Sir Michael de la Pole (*d.* 1389), the future earl of Suffolk.<sup>221</sup> Eleanor continued to hold the manors of Fressingfield, Wingfield, Stradbroke, Syleham, and Sternfield (Suffolk) and Netherhall in Saxlingham (Norfolk) until her death in 1375, when they eventually passed to Katherine de la Pole.<sup>222</sup> Probably in 1378 Michael de la Pole granted to Richard Waryn all the lands in Fressingfield and Weybread formerly held by two chaplains, Robert Spirard and John Edward.<sup>223</sup> Katherine died before Michael, who continued to hold the lands 'by the courtesy' until his forfeiture in 1388 but, shortly after his death, his son and heir Michael (*d.* 1415) successfully petitioned for their restoration, with others.<sup>224</sup> He was succeeded briefly by his eldest son

216 64, 67, 202.

217 22.

218 29, 30, 32, 36, 42, 45, 123, 171-2, 177-8, 284.

219 219, 221.

220 31, 35, 146, 170, 181, 186-7, 204-5, 208.

221 *GEC*, xii pt 2. 440. It is likely that this marriage had occurred around 13 July 1359, when Pole had acknowledged a debt of 1,200 marks to Wingfield, although according to Blomefield their Norfolk manor of Netherhall in Saxlingham had been settled by Sir John and his wife Eleanor on themselves with remainder to Katherine, wife of Michael, in the previous year.

222 *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, xiv. 217. All the Suffolk manors were apparently held of the honour of Eye, and Netherhall of William de Vesey, but an inquisition was taken because 69 acres of pasture in Wingfield was held in chief. In November 1361, shortly after Sir John's death, Eleanor had licence to grant to a chantry at Wingfield a messuage, 170 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, 24 acres of pasture, 2 acres of wood, and 12s. of rent in Wingfield, Earsham, Fressingfield, and Weybread, valued at a mere 37s. 4d. a year, in part fulfilment of a licence which had been granted to her and her late husband to alienate £30 of land and £100 of advowsons: *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1361-4, 104.

223 86-7, 113.

224 *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1388-92, 209-10; *Cal. Close Rolls*, 1389-92, 41, 1392-6, 502.



Michael, slain at Agincourt in October 1415, and he by his brother and heir male William, the younger Michael's daughters being excluded. William was raised to the Marquessate of Suffolk in 1444 and the dukedom in 1448 but was murdered in 1450. He was succeeded by his son John (*d.* 1491–2), who may have been Edmund Bohun's patron.<sup>225</sup>

The *manor of Whittingham* was held by the Breouse family throughout the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries until the death of William in 1489 left two daughters.<sup>226</sup> This family provides the most persistent knightly presence in the cartulary. Sir Richard de Breouse, a younger son of John Breouse of Gower and who was dead by June 1292, married Alice (*d.* 1301), daughter and heir of William le Rus of Whittingham and Akenham (Suffolk) and Stinton (Norfolk) by Agatha, daughter and heir of Roger de Clere of Bramley (Surrey) and Ludborough (Lincolnshire). Alice's park is mentioned in a deed of 1296.<sup>227</sup> Sir Richard was succeeded by his son Sir Giles (*d.* 1311), who married Joan daughter of Richard de Beaumont of Winesham, by whom he had sons Richard, Robert, John and Alexander; within months of his death Joan married Sir Edmund Bacon, who acquired the wardship and marriage of the young heirs from Robert Fitzpayn.<sup>228</sup> The sons Richard and Robert both died without issue as minors, and Sir Giles was eventually succeeded by John, who proved his age only in 1334 although he was said to have been born in August 1306 and was clearly an adult in 1328 when his brother Robert's widow Katherine, a daughter of John Lord de la Warr and then wife of Warin Latimer of Braybrooke, quitclaimed to him the manors of Winesham and Akenham which she held in dower.<sup>229</sup> Sir John witnessed a charter in 1365, a grant of a pigtle of 3 acres by William Skinner to Hugh Miller, along with Roger Breouse, possibly a younger brother or son.<sup>230</sup> Roger occurs

225 *GEC*, xii pt 2. 440–50.

226 *GEC*, ii. 304–7; *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, Henry VII ii. 33, no. 31.

227 190.

228 *Cal. Fine Rolls, 1319–27*, 361; *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1324–7*, 261–2. Bacon was holding the Breouse manor in Fressingfield by 1316 and in 1327 paid 10s. 6d. towards the subsidy under Fressingfield: *Suffolk in 1327*, 51. Joan was dead by 1326 when Edmund was married to Margery Poynings: *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1324–7*, 317.

229 *GEC*, vii. 453. It is likely that there was an extremely close connection between Sir John and Wakelin de Hartshill; in addition to the appearance of the unusual name of Wakelin in the Breouse family, Wakelyns manor in Fressingfield eventually passed to the Breouse family, and in 1329, when he was still a minor, John Breouse acknowledged a debt of 300 marks to his guardian Edmund Bacon together with Wakelin de Hartshill and Constantine de Mortimer: *Cal. Close Rolls, 1327–30*, 520. The connection cannot have been that John married a daughter of Hartshill as his wife was Eve, a sister of Robert de Ufford first earl of Suffolk: *GEC*, ii. 305*n*; Blomefield, *Norfolk*, viii. 268. Wakelin de Hartshill may have been godfather of Sir John, or his uncle (by marriage to a sister of Giles de Breouse), which would explain his connection with John in 1329 and the naming of a younger son Wakelin, while Wakelyns manor may well have been purchased by Sir Thomas Breouse (see p. 49).

230 131.

again in 1373 when, with Wakelin Breouse, he was a feoffee for Richard Waryn.<sup>231</sup> The family were to be much closer involved in the affairs of the cartulary in the fifteenth century.

Sir John, who was living in 1370, was succeeded by his son Sir John (II), who died between 1394 and 1402, and he by his son Sir Robert (*d.* 1424), who appeared as a witness to three important charters for John Waryn in 1415, 1418, and 1419.<sup>232</sup> On the last of these he was accompanied by his son Thomas, who succeeded him in 1424 and lived to extreme old age, dying in 1482. He witnessed no fewer than fourteen charters between 1428 and 1474, those between 1428 and 1459 as an esquire, and those in 1473 and 1474 as a knight.<sup>233</sup> He also sealed the declaration of the men of Fressingfield regarding Edwards Hill in 1475.<sup>234</sup> He was succeeded by his eldest son William, who had witnessed a charter in 1456 for John Barber and acted as Barber's feoffee in 1462, and in 1482 was to witness the Buckenham grant to Edmund Bohun.<sup>235</sup> On the latter he was accompanied by his brother Giles, who had witnessed the 1473 charter with his father Sir Thomas and in 1474 was appointed, with Robert Breouse, possibly another brother, as attorneys by Robert Storour to deliver seisin of Edwards Hill to Edmund Bohun.<sup>236</sup>

Before the death of Sir Thomas (*d.* 1482) the Breouses had also acquired the little manor of Wakelyns. William's daughter and coheir Thomasine, who married Sir Thomas Hansard, died his widow in 1497 holding a moiety of the manor of Whittingham and land, etc., called 'Watlynges' (*sic*) but in 1498 William Breouse, esquire, claimed that Wakelyns had been settled by Sir Thomas in tail male and on the death of Sir Thomas's son William should have passed to William's

231 2. A Roger Breouse of Mendham witnessed another charter in 1368 but may not have been the same Roger or have belonged to the knightly family, as he appears a long way down the witness list, although Wakelin and Roger Breouse were associated again in 1392 when they witnessed a Mendham charter: **11**; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/301/37. Roger Breouse of Mendham granted a messuage called Jakes in Mendham and other lands to Sir Robert Breouse (*d.* 1424) and others, and in 1436, in execution of Roger's last will, the surviving feoffee granted them to another group of feoffees which included Henry and Elizabeth Breouse: Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/301/42.

232 **41, 85, 88**. Sir Robert married Ela, daughter of Sir Miles de Stapleton, and in May 1406 carried out what was probably a comprehensive settlement of his lands, quitclaiming to a group of feoffees which included Stapleton his manors of Whittingham, Hasketon, Witnesham, and Akenham (Suffolk), Ludborough (Lincolnshire), and Stinton (Norfolk), with various advowsons: *Cal. Close Rolls, 1405-9*, 117-18, 120.

233 **90, 112, 152-3, 184, 198, 203, 230-3, 250, B9, B28**. In 1429 he was accompanied by a John Breouse who may have been a younger brother and who witnessed another charter in 1410: **B16**.

234 **119**.

235 **162, 253, 83 = 270**.

236 **90, 112, 83 = 270**.



brother Giles, as heir male.<sup>237</sup> He was evidently unsuccessful as Wakelyns was still attached to Whittingham in 1523–4.<sup>238</sup>

The *manor of Wakelyns* had been held by the Hartshill family. Sir Ralph de Hartshill, who had a grant of free warren in his demesne lands in Badingham, Dennington, Bruisyard, and Fressingfield in 1300 and who settled his manor of Badingham on himself and his wife Alice in 1308, occurs as a witness to a charter in 1319.<sup>239</sup> He was succeeded by Sir Wakelin de Hartshill, who paid 4s. towards the subsidy of 1327 under Fressingfield and 15s. under Badingham, who witnessed a local charter in 1367, and made his will in 1376.<sup>240</sup> A Ralph who witnessed five charters between 1356 and 1361 may have been a younger brother of Sir Wakelin.<sup>241</sup> Pernel, widow of Wakelin de Hartshill, held a half-fee in Chippenhall and Fressingfield in 1380 and 1382.<sup>242</sup> A charter in the cartulary of 1407 refers to the land lately of Wakelin de Hartshill and in April 1411 Elizabeth, daughter of John Winter, esquire, and of his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Eva Hethersett, quitclaimed the manor of Chippenhall and all other lands, etc., in Fressingfield, Wingfield, Whittingham, and Chickering (a hamlet of Hoxne), sometime of Sir Wakelin Hartshill, to a group of feoffees headed by Sir Simon Felbrigg, but her connection with the manor is unclear.<sup>243</sup> Before the death of Sir Thomas Breouse in 1482 'Wakelyns' had been acquired by him and thereafter passed with Whittingham.

*Vales Hall* on the north-west boundary can probably be identified with the manor of *Veels* or *Velez* in Fressingfield and Stradbroke. The manor appears overtly only

237 *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, Henry VII ii. 33, no. 31; 131, no. 199.

238 Suffolk RO (Bury), HA/507/1/30.

239 175; *Cal. Charter Rolls, 1257–1300*, 489; Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 10.

240 261; *Suffolk in 1327*, 51–2; Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 39–40.

241 47, 48, 71, 187–8.

242 *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, xv. 211, 622. The lordship of the fee passed to the Uffords and then to the Poles and this entry was repeated, anachronistically, in 1415 in the inquisition on the death of Michael de la Pole, earl of Suffolk: *Cal. Inq. P.M.*, xx. 451. According to Copinger, the Wakelin manor of Colston Hall, Badingham, was sold in 1367 by Margaret, wife of Thomas Wingfield, to John Bakepool, rector of Badingham: Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 11.

243 192; *Cal. Close Rolls, 1409–13*, 234–5. Elizabeth was the only child of John Winter by his second marriage to Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of William de Hethersett by his wife and cousin Eve, daughter of William's uncle Sir Thomas de Hethersett: Blomefield, *Norfolk* viii. 93, 97–8. Her father had evidently married for a third time as slightly earlier in the month she had quitclaimed to Felbrigg and others the reversion of the manor of 'Town' Barningham (Norfolk) with other associated lands which they had granted to John Winter and Eleanor his wife for their lives, and confirmed to Eleanor her estate for life in these lands: *Cal. Close Rolls, 1409–13*, 234. Given the emphasis in the quitclaim on her descent from Eve Hethersett, it may be assumed that her claim to the manor of Wakelyns came through Eve. John de Hethersett, father of William and brother of Sir Thomas, had paid 10s. in the 1327 subsidy under Fressingfield, but this cannot have been in respect of Wakelyns's manor as Wakelyns de Hartshill paid 4s.: *Suffolk in 1327*, 51.

once in the cartulary in a late interpolation of a grant of 2 acres of land in 1483 which is identified by a marginal comment as being part of Veels.<sup>244</sup> There are no references to the manor of *Launces* in the cartulary but the family of that name is reasonably prominent in the fourteenth century. According to Copinger the manor of *Launces* was united with that of *Vales* from 1530 and it is possible that this had always been the case and that the *Launces* and *Veels* were in fact the same family. This is suggested by the fact that Joan Launce was one of the three lords of the vill in 1316, while in 1346 Nicholas and William Launce were two of the eleven co-parceners of the fee held of Eve de Ufford, but curiously no Launce contributed towards the 1327 subsidy under Fressingfield while Nicholas le Veel paid 4s. 6d., the sixth highest sum, along with Alice Veel, who paid a further 12d.<sup>245</sup> Furthermore, a close called *Veels close* was also called *Launces close*, and *Launcesmedewe* lay within *Veels manor*.<sup>246</sup> William le Veel occurs *temp.* Edward I and witnessed six charters between c. 1290 and 1300, accompanied on four of them by Alexander le Veel. John Launce witnessed eleven charters between 1296 and 1309, while Nicholas witnessed no fewer than twenty-three between 1330 and 1349 and may have been the same person as Nicholas le Veel who witnessed one in 1332 and paid the subsidy. This charter of 1332 was a grant of a plot of land to the south of the *Greneweye* by Robert son of William Launce to John Veel. This Robert may have been the Robert le Veel of Fressingfield who in November 1331 received a pardon for the death of John son of Oliver de Pettaugh because he was killed in self-defence, and was possibly a son of William le Veel (*fl.* 1296–1300).<sup>247</sup> John le Veel, or another of the same name, witnessed two charters in 1361 and 1362, and then in 1365 granted the same plot of land to Thomas Launce of Weybread. Two years later Thomas son of Walter Launce of Weybread acquired land from Roger Edward, and in 1377 Thomas Launce of Mendham sold two plots of land, probably these two acquired in 1365 and 1367, to Richard Waryn; the three charters of 1332, 1365, and 1377 are accompanied by marginal notes identifying this land as lying in *Veels Close*. This is the last that is heard of either family, although reference is made in 1389, and again in 1429 in a suspiciously similar description, to the close formerly of Nicholas Launce.<sup>248</sup> By 1476 the 'manor' of *Veels* formed part of the Pole estate.<sup>249</sup>

The *manor of Uffords Hall* can probably be identified with the manor of Chippenhall held by John de Ufford (*d.* 1361), a cousin of Robert earl of Suffolk, by 1346 and passed on his death to his brother Edmund de Ufford (*d.* 1374) and thence to his son Sir Robert de Ufford (*d.* by 1393), who granted it, with other lands in Fressingfield and the adjacent vill, to Sir John Lestrangle and others who

244 249.

245 *Feudal Aids*, v. 37, 62; *Suffolk in 1327*, 51–2.

246 94, 249.

247 *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1330–4*, 221.

248 197–8. It is possible that, if Vally was an alternative spelling for Veel, Alexander Vally (*fl.* 1355–62) was a member of the family.

249 *Cal. Close Rolls, 1476–85*, 283; *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1494–1509*, 259; TNA, E40/10955, E40/13566.

in 1395 granted it to William Rees, and others.<sup>250</sup> It then passed to Sibton Abbey, possibly as early as 1416 and certainly by 1454, although in the intervening years it may have been held by the Poles; it was held of the manor of Benhall, i.e. of the honour of Eye, and in 1454 an agreement was made between Alice de la Pole, duchess of Suffolk, and the abbey for the payment of reliefs upon vacancies.<sup>251</sup> It was then described as the manor of Chippenhall *alias* Uffords. John de Ufford was holding a quarter-fee of his cousin Robert, earl of Suffolk and then holder of the honour of Eye, by 1346 but the earlier history of this manor is obscure. No Ufford contributed towards the 1327 subsidy under Fressingfield but, while it is unwise to rely too heavily on a record of this type, it may be of relevance that John de Hethersett paid 10s., the second highest contribution from the vill. Apart from the inexplicable quitclaim of Wakelyns by Elizabeth Winter, granddaughter of Eve de Hethersett, in 1411, there is no known connection of the Hethersett family with Fressingfield, but there is a connection with the Uffords as Margaret, wife of Robert earl of Suffolk, was a daughter of Walter de Norwich (*d.* 1328–9) and Katherine, sister of Sir Simon and daughter of John de Hethersett, although how this might explain the passage of a possible Hethersett manor in Fressingfield to Sir Robert's cousin Sir John de Ufford is unclear.<sup>252</sup>

The gentry of neighbouring manors also became slightly involved in the affairs of Fressingfield, and the Sheltons of adjacent Stradbroke are the most persistent. When lands in Fressingfield and Stradbroke were granted by Adam le Bavent to Henry de Sancroft in *c.* 1290, a rent of 2s. 4d. was owed to John de Shelton, among others; this charter was witnessed by John and Henry, sons of Jordan de Shelton, and John also witnessed a 1304 charter of Simon de Sancroft.<sup>253</sup> Between 1323 and 1341 land and pasture in this parish belonged to Robert de Shelton, who became Sir Robert between 1334 and 1340, and in 1333 he granted one rood of land to Hugh Barber, but his place in the family tree of the Shelton family of Shelton Hall in Stradbroke is unclear.<sup>254</sup> His presumed successor John occurs as one of the many parceners of the fee held of Eve de Ufford in 1346 and occurs in the cartulary as a witness in 1356 and 1359, but the path called Millway which belonged to Robert in 1323 belonged to Thomas de Wingfield by 1361.<sup>255</sup> Nevertheless, members of the family continued to be connected with Fressingfield. In 1419 William Shelton, esquire, and his son John were feoffees for John Waryn, and it

250 **B41**. In 1393 Sir Robert's widow Helen, or Eleanor, had quitclaimed the manor to Sir John Lestrange and the other feoffees: Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 37–9.

251 **234, 164–5**; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/345/1/32; *The Sibton Abbey Estates: Select Documents 1325–1509*, ed. A. H. Denney, Suffolk Records Society 2 (1960), 141; *Sibton Abbey Cartularies*, i. p. 130, no. 959. The extracts from the rental of 'Fressingfield Ufford' from 1437–8 do not, unfortunately, name the lord of the manor at that time: **234**. When the abbey confirmed two pieces of land to Alice Carter and her son in 1467, reference is made to manorial courts held in 1435 and 1416 although it is not necessarily the case that the abbey held those courts: **164**.

252 *GEC*, ix. 762–3.

253 **B19, B21**.

254 **74, 66, 8, 65, 177, 145**.

255 **177–8, 208, 48**; *Feudal Aids*, v. 62.

was presumably this John who appears as a witness in 1429 and again as feoffee for John Storour in 1457; he was dead by 1474.<sup>256</sup> It may have been his successor who was the William Shelton appointed as a feoffee of both Bohun enfeoffments in 1458 and 1459 and who was still living in 1501, although he was then identified as being 'of *Chesteyn*'.<sup>257</sup> In 1475 Ralph Shelton esquire witnessed the Edwards Hill dispute.<sup>258</sup> Land belonging to the 'manor' of Shelton is mentioned in 1437-8, and land belonging to the chapel of Shelton occurs in 1354.<sup>259</sup> Sir John Jermyn of neighbouring Metfield occurs as a witness in 1428 and John, esquire, in 1474.<sup>260</sup>

While these members of the gentry were indubitably an important element of the local society, even if only indirectly as landlords, they rarely became personally involved in parish affairs, and theirs was not the world of the cartulary. This was a world of much humbler folk, people identified as bakers, drapers, tailors, carpenters, sumpters, wheelwrights, yeomen, and husbandmen. Some of them, like Edmund Bohun, prospered, so that, by the fifteenth century, they had risen sufficiently to be encroaching on the skirts of the gentry, and their charters might be witnessed on occasion by local knights and esquires, but on the whole the cartulary is rooted at the level where transactions of land concerned small plots of quarter-acres to 3 or 4 acres, and not manors.

## PARISH SOCIETY

Hundreds of individuals are named in the cartulary, some appearing as parties to transactions, some as witnesses, and some as both, but it gives only a partial view of the community. The Sancroft family were a well-established presence in the parish throughout these two centuries and for much longer; they appear as witnesses and feoffees but their own charters of acquisitions and enfeoffments survive in a separate collection.<sup>261</sup> A more serious *lacuna* is revealed by the 1327 subsidy, which lists sixty taxpayers but only twenty-five of these occur in the cartulary, even if only by an indirect reference to their land,<sup>262</sup> along with Edmund

256 88-9, 198, 112. John Shelton was a feoffee for Thomas Douve in a settlement of Barleugh Hall, Stradbroke, in 1428: B38.

257 233, B10-B11.

258 112, 115.

259 36, 45, 234.

260 112, 152.

261 Henry Sancroft was a witness in 1299, Simon between 1306 and 1314, John (I) between 1356 and 1367, and John (II) between 1407 and 1421, while John (III) was a feoffee for the Waryn family between 1457 and 1474 and for Robert Noyse in 1462: 202 (Henry), 55, 64, 67, 209 (Simon), 170-1, 187-8 (John I), 23, 27, 215, 228 (John II), 89-91, 112, 258 (John III).

262 Thomas and Geoffrey Alger, John le Chapman, Alexander and William de Chippenhall, Richard Edward, Eye Priory, Richard Finch, Robert Gold, Roger le Grand *alias* Baxter, Wakelin de Hartshill, Matilda niece of the parson, Roger le Neve, Robert Payok, Roger Pykok (who occurs as Pegot, Pucote, and Pyket), Matthew Roscelin, Simon de Sancroft, Alan Sharp, John Spink, Henry le Sumpter,

Bacon, who was holding the Breouse manor of Whittingham in wardship, and two other possibles, if Walter le Baker was the Walter le Baxter and Matthew Pyk the Matthew Prick of the cartulary. In addition, another twelve taxpayers may be related to or ancestors of individuals in the cartulary,<sup>263</sup> but even so, no trace may be found of a third of the taxpayers.<sup>264</sup> A few of these were probably substantial individuals who were socially superior to the cartulary's world of the small peasantry,<sup>265</sup> and something may be due to changes of surname, but there were plenty of small payers who do not occur in the cartulary.

Nevertheless, the witness lists reveal to a certain extent the nature of the community. An analysis of the seventy-one charters concerning Fressingfield between 1351 and 1378 shows that the witness lists varied between three and nine people with an average of 5.9 per charter.<sup>266</sup> There were 421 witness 'places' in all and fifty-five individuals filled these places, but twelve men occupied nearly three-quarters of them.<sup>267</sup> Dominating the lists, and between them accounting for a fifth of all the places, were *Roger le Neve* and his son *John le Neve*, the former appearing forty-three times between 1351 and 1368 and the latter forty-five times over the whole period.<sup>268</sup> Each witnessed three-fifths of all the charters, and Roger no fewer than three-quarters of the fifty-eight until his last appearance in 1368; moreover Roger was a party to another seven.<sup>269</sup> Roger has no known antecedents in the parish, and he occurs first in 1325 alienating a messuage, but he paid 1s. 9d. in the 1327 subsidy and thereafter occurs acquiring land, especially in the 1350s with his wife Constance. He had witnessed three earlier charters, in 1339 and 1346, but ceased witnessing seven years before he and Constance made

John Tydeman, Nicholas le Veel, William Waryn, William son of John, and Robert de Woolnough.

- 263 Alice le Veel and Giles de Wingfield were probably related to Nicholas and John respectively, John Malveys, Henry Palmer, and John Rouk bear the same name as later individuals and there was also a Richard Palmer, John Wolfrich may have been related to William Wolfrich, Peter Aldous probably to the later William Aldous, Alexander le Greyne possibly to John and Richard le Greyve, while William 'Dale' may have been an ancestor of the Dades and two Skyps of the later Shep family.
- 264 Robert Aylmer, Roger de Eee, Robert Folgar, John Gerard, John Goodrich, Walter Gosling, Thomas le Grild, John Grylle, Simon Hemery, John de Hethersett, John Makely, John de Melford, Robert de Rongeton, John Roumhand, Richard le Spinner, Adam le Straunge, Robert le Syre, Robert de Wahagh, Robert de Wells, and John de Woodhill.
- 265 Four were among the top eleven taxpayers: John de Hethersett (10s.), John de Woodhill (6s.), John Gerard (5s.), and Adam le Straunge (3s. 4d.).
- 266 The most frequent numbers of witnesses were five (twenty-nine charters) and seven (twenty-seven charters); five charters had three witnesses, six had six witnesses, and four had nine witnesses.
- 267 297, or 73 per cent of the total of 421.
- 268 They occupied eighty-eight of the 421 places, or 21 per cent. Another John le Neve, possibly the brother of Roger, also witnessed eleven charters.
- 269 For Roger and the Neve family, see pp. 68–70.

a 'retirement agreement' in 1375, although he may have died quite soon after that. His son John, a carpenter, continued to witness until 1382; Robert Neve appears between 1369 and 1407, and Richard Neve between 1387 and 1421, but a later John Neve, although acting as a feoffee and witness for Fressingfield lands between 1415 and 1450, was of Stradbroke and the family may have moved away from Fressingfield.

The next most frequent witnesses were Richard le White and Robert Bobyr, with thirty-five and thirty-four appearances, i.e. on around half of all the charters. *Robert Bobyr* appears regularly as a witness for thirty years between 1352 and 1382. He was probably connected with Sarah Bobyr, who held a messuage in 1335, and Peter Bobyr, who had held land in the parish before 1344.<sup>270</sup> He was active in the land market, acquiring a pightle from John Doget between March 1352 and January 1353, a piece of land called *Tratnyspyktyll* from William Skinner in 1352, two pieces from Alice Tydeman in 1357, and another two pieces from her in 1364, although he also sold a piece of land, possibly *Tratnyspyktell*, to Edmund Shepherd in 1355 and another piece to Shepherd in 1357.<sup>271</sup> In 1355 he settled his messuage on himself and his wife Agnes, using the rector William Gernoun and a chaplain as his feoffees, but he was probably childless, as in 1378 he granted his built messuage and all his lands in Fressingfield to his nephews Robert and Roger Barber, for re-eneffment to himself and Agnes for life.<sup>272</sup> At this time he stipulated that, if both he and Agnes died before the re-eneffment, the nephews should sell the land for the souls of himself and Agnes, but the arrangement may have been changed, as in 1386 Roger Barber quitclaimed to his brother Robert a built messuage, two closes, and three pieces of land they had had from their uncle.<sup>273</sup> If this comprised the whole of Bobyr's 'estate', he was certainly not among the wealthiest of his peers, but he was nevertheless evidently a trusted member of the community as he was appointed as attorney to deliver seisin by Matilda Kembald in 1353, was employed as a feoffee by Roger and Constance le Neve in 1361-2, and probably by Edmund le Shepherd in 1369.<sup>274</sup>

*Richard le White* is likely to have been considerably better off than Bobyr but was apparently an incomer to the community and was a part of it only for sixteen years. He appears as a witness only between 1354 and 1369 and witnessed three-quarters of the charters between those dates, as well as being a party in four others. He was originally from Metfield but his wife Joan inherited lands in Fressingfield and Stradbroke from her father Robert Roseson which amounted to 32 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow.<sup>275</sup> It may be speculated that this marriage occurred shortly before he started witnessing Fressingfield charters in December 1354. In

270 68, 179 = 199, 237.

271 37, 46, 148-50. The pightle which belonged to John Doget, parson of Edmundthorpe, in March 1352 belonged to Robert by January 1353: 167-8.

272 146, 156.

273 147.

274 30, 32, 61, 126. In 1369 Shepherd granted all his lands in Fressingfield to Robert and Hugh le Miller; this was probably an enfeoffment, although no regrant survives.

275 52, 81.



December 1359, when he was still described as being 'of Metfield', he acquired from Sir Thomas Gurney all the lands formerly of John Barber in Fressingfield, and between September 1358 and August 1366 he acquired 1 acre of land, possibly from John Gaylye.<sup>276</sup> In 1368 he was apparently acting as feoffee with the rector Richard Caltoft, John Baude, and Richard Barber for Richard Pyk but he appears to have been running into trouble.<sup>277</sup> In 1366 he granted to Caltoft and Roger Edward, who were acting as feoffees for Thomas Edward, the 1 acre of land which he had apparently acquired since September 1358 and the village messuage called Sharps Yard, which he had apparently acquired from John Edward since 1349, and in September 1368, in exchange for 'a certain sum of money', he bound all his lands in Fressingfield and Metfield to pay an annual 'rent' of 20s. to John Sharpe, merchant, for ten years.<sup>278</sup> In these transactions he was identified as being 'of Fressingfield', but in March 1370, once again as 'of Metfield', he and his wife sold the lands of her inheritance to Richard Waryn, and two months later also sold to Waryn the messuage formerly of John Barber and its appurtenances.<sup>279</sup>

Another eight individuals witnessed ten or more times. *John Rowe* was also apparently an incomer with no known predecessors in the vill. In January 1356 he acquired the southern half of Godbalds Yard from John Edward, but in September 1358 he sold to William Skinner all his lands in Fressingfield except this moiety and one other piece of land which he then sold to Thomas Edward in the following month.<sup>280</sup> In the latter of these charters he is identified as 'of Fressingfield', but in the former as being 'of Redenhall', just across the Waveney. He ceases appearing as a witness abruptly after these sales, but he had witnessed half the charters between 1353 and 1358 (eleven of twenty-three).

*William Skinner* appears only between 1352 and 1364 but witnessed two-thirds of the charters between those dates (twenty-three of thirty-five). He, like White, originated from Metfield, but he also had roots in Fressingfield. He is described in 1352 as William Skinner, son of John de Metfield, and John de Metfield had been active in Fressingfield between 1299 and 1317 while a Joan Skinner held land in dower in the parish in 1335 and 1347; he was almost certainly the William son of John Russell of Metfield, who briefly held the village messuage south of the marketplace in 1351-2.<sup>281</sup> Between 1352 and 1354 he appears only in alienating

276 38, 48. The acre of land White granted to John Caltoft and Roger Edward in August 1366 appears to have been that acquired by John Gaylye from Seman Godbald in September 1358: 171-2.

277 24.

278 11 35, 172, 283.

279 49, 52, 81, 114.

280 47, 187-8.

281 179 = 199, 180 = 200 (Joan Skinner). See above, pp. 35-7, for the village messuage and John de Metfield, who appears to have been particularly closely associated with Robert le Tanner and his son and heir Robert de Fressingfield, *alias* Robert le Barber the younger, and may have been a kinsman. A William son of John paid 12*d.* in the 1327 subsidy and held a piece of meadow in 1325, while in 1304 William son of John de Fressingfield acquired a piece of land and pasture from Simon de Sancroft, but these were probably not William Skinner: 140, B21; *Suffolk in 1327*, 52.

## Introduction

land: a piece of land to Robert Bobyr and another piece to Roger and Constance le Neve in August 1352, and four pieces of land to John Edward in 1354.<sup>282</sup> There is no indication of how he had acquired these lands, but in September 1358 he acquired most of John Rowe's lands in Fressingfield.<sup>283</sup> In 1361 Skinner acted as attorney for Juliana Kembald but he was involved in an unsuccessful suit against John Gernoun, his nephew and servant, and Alice Dade, and in October 1363 he and his son William remitted all actions, etc., against them. This may have been concerned with the messuage acquired by William Gernoun in 1352 which had formerly belonged to the elder William.<sup>284</sup> In October 1364 he granted to Richard Pyk a village messuage which he had acquired from John Rowe but evidently retained the messuage next to it, while in June 1365 he granted to Hugh Miller a pigthle of 3 acres.<sup>285</sup> He had ceased witnessing charters in January 1364, and this is the last that is heard of him, but later Skinners and Russells appear in the cartulary.<sup>286</sup>

*Robert Barber*, who witnessed around a quarter of the charters (nineteen between 1352 and 1378), came from a well-established family. He was the son of Hugh who had witnessed four charters between 1338 and 1347, whose land is mentioned in 1330 and 1342, and who in 1333 acquired one rood of land from Robert de Shelton.<sup>287</sup> Robert granted a rood of land to Hugh Miller in 1358, but in 1363 Agnes, widow of Thomas Kembald, quitclaimed to him a built messuage formerly of her husband.<sup>288</sup> In 1367 John Sharpe granted to Robert and John le Neve his messuage and all his lands in Fressingfield, but Robert may then have been acting as feoffee for Neve or Sharpe.<sup>289</sup> It is not clear whether it was this Robert who, with his brother Roger, was the beneficiary of the generosity of their uncle Robert Bobyr in 1378 and who quitclaimed the lands to Roger in 1386, although the appearance of Roger as a witness in 1353 suggests that it may have been.<sup>290</sup> Similarly, it is not clear whether it was this Robert who witnessed two more charters in 1389 and 1395 and granted a piece of land to Hugh Miller in 1384 and another to John Bayle in 1389,<sup>291</sup> although it was certainly a different Robert who witnessed charters between 1420 and

282 31, 148, 169.

283 47.

284 21, 174.

285 72, 131.

286 John Skinner was a witness in 1404 and 1421, and Robert Skinner held 5 acres, possibly formerly Edwards, in 1437-8, and was a witness in 1457 and 1458: **89, 179 = 199, 180 = 200, 226-7, 234, B10**. John Russell was a witness in 1384, and Thomas Russell between 1404 and 1421: **225-7, 281**.

287 **62, 142-3, 145, 180 = 200, 181 = 201**. A possible earlier member of the family was Robert Barber 'the younger', *alias* Robert de Fressingfield, son and heir of Robert le Tanner.

288 133, 144.

289 278.

290 147, 156, 168.

291 136, 197.



1435.<sup>292</sup> Contemporary with Hugh had been a John Barber who witnessed charters in 1323 and 1325 and fifteen between 1330 and 1340 and whose land is mentioned in 1341, and two other Johns, distinguished as the elder and the younger, were also active in the fifteenth century, while James Barber testified as a worthy of the parish in 1475 and Richard Barber, wheelwright, sold land to Edmund Bohun in 1477.

*John Kembald*, who witnessed around a quarter of the charters between 1352 and 1369 (fifteen), was probably a member of the extensive Kembald clan, although he cannot be certainly linked with any of the others. In 1361 Robert Bacon and his wife Joan granted the messuage called Sharps and all the arable land in Fressingfield which Joan had inherited from her father Hugh Fish to John and his wife Arabel, but as early as December 1354 Kembald had been holding land which in January 1353 had been identified as being formerly of Hugh Fish.<sup>293</sup> He was dead by July 1377, when his kinsman and heir Edward, son of Arnold Kembald, granted eight pieces of land he had inherited from John to Richard Waryn, and he may have been dead by June 1376 if the Arabel then married to John Roys was his widow.<sup>294</sup>

*Thomas Alger* witnessed regularly throughout the period, appearing on seventeen charters between 1354 and 1377, or around a quarter of them. He came of a family well established in the parish, although he appears to have been the last of them. An earlier Thomas had also been a regular witness, appearing on ten charters between 1314 and 1333.<sup>295</sup> He had acquired a piece of meadow in 1312, and in 1323 granted a piece of meadow and a piece of arable land to his sons Geoffrey and Roger, one of which abutted on land of his son Robert.<sup>296</sup> In 1327 Thomas paid 3s. and Geoffrey 20d. towards the subsidy, but Geoffrey is not heard of again.<sup>297</sup> In 1346 Thomas, Roger, and Richard Alger were three of the eleven co-parceners of the fee held of Eve de Ufford.<sup>298</sup> Robert appears as a witness in 1343 and 1349, but by 1361 he no longer held the land he had done in 1323, and Roger appears as a witness in 1349, 1352, and 1362, and in 1361 sold his piece of meadow to the rector William de Gernoun and his brother John.<sup>299</sup> The relationship of the 1354-77 witness to these other members of the family is unclear, but the family disappears from the record after this, and in 1389 land which had formerly belonged to Thomas did so no longer.<sup>300</sup>

*Thomas Edward* occurs as a witness on ten charters between 1354 and 1378.

292 154, 207, 228, 234, 255.

293 36, 123. Arabel's name appears in the text as Orable and Orablee. A messuage which was formerly of John Kembald in 1386 was the same messuage as that held by John Drye in 1355: 146-7.

294 53. For his relationship with Arabel and Joan Bacon, see below, p. 64.

295 43, 56-7, 59, 65, 70, 120, 139, 210, 282.

296 176-7.

297 *Suffolk in 1327*, 52.

298 *Feudal Aids*, v. 62.

299 30, 122, 124, 167, 177-8, 280.

300 197.

He and his clerical brother John were active in the land market between c. 1350 and c. 1370 and were very probably connected with Richard Edward who occurs earlier between 1316 and 1330, but Thomas appears to have been the last member of the family in Fressingfield, and after his death his lands were dispersed, other members of the family having established themselves in Beccles.<sup>301</sup>

*Richard Suckling* was one of the most consistent witnesses in the latter part of the period, appearing on over two-thirds of those between 1365 and 1378 (eighteen of twenty-six) and again in 1382. He does not appear as a party in any of the charters in the cartulary, but by December 1361 he had acquired lands in Fressingfield from Agnes, widow of William Waryn.<sup>302</sup> At this time his feoffees, the rector Richard Caltoft, a chaplain Andrew, Ralph le Raa, and John Godbald, all of Fressingfield, quitclaimed the lands to him, and he was identified as being 'of Cratfield', although in 1368 he was said to be 'of Fressingfield'. No other Sucklings appear in the cartulary. Similarly, *Nicholas Dade*, who witnessed over half the charters between 1358 and 1378 (twenty-seven of forty-eight) and continued to witness until 1388, does not appear as a party to transactions, but was probably the son of Robert Dade, and his family were to be prominent in the next century.<sup>303</sup>

Of the remaining forty-two individuals, twenty-five witnessed only once or twice and accounted for less than 9 per cent of all the places; these included the 'gentry' Sir John de Breouse, Sir Wakelin de Hartshill, Roger de Breouse, and John de Shelton. A further seventeen witnessed between three and seven times and accounted for the remaining 18 per cent of the places, but in some cases this disguises the concentration of their appearances. John Rook and John Gyle each witnessed four of the latest six charters of the selection, and went on to appear on several others. *John Rook*, whose background is unknown, although an earlier John Rook had paid 12*d.* in the 1327 subsidy, is identified once as a tailor and continued to witness until 1398, appearing on another nine charters, and in 1389 he was a feoffee for Robert Jacob, but he was dead by 1427, when he is identified as having been of Weybread.<sup>304</sup> Similarly, *John Gyle*, who has no known antecedents in the parish, witnessed another seven charters between 1384 and 1404, and his land is mentioned in 1386 and 1394; William Gyle witnessed ten charters between 1418 and 1423, and in 1419 was appointed by John Waryn as one of the twelve feoffees of all his lands in Norfolk and Suffolk, but he had far wider connections, as in June 1414 he was pardoned his outlawry for not appearing to answer Robert Trees, citizen and mercer of London, regarding a debt of £100, and in October 1420 he was pardoned another outlawry for not appearing to answer Trees for a trespass.<sup>305</sup>

*John de Chippenhall* witnessed four of eight charters between 1351 and his last appearance in January 1353, but he had witnessed only one earlier one, in 1349, and, although probably connected with the eminent parish family of that name,

301 See below, pp. 83-4.

302 B40.

303 For the Dade family, see below, pp. 85-7.

304 262-3.

305 88, 147, 206; *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1413-16, 209, 1416-22, 287.*

is otherwise unknown.<sup>306</sup> Several members of this family appear frequently as witnesses from the late thirteenth century until 1358 but then disappear from the scene. Copinger refers to a suit of 1296 between William de Chippenhall and 'Edward', probably Edmund, de Chippenhall over a messuage, 80 acres of land, 7 acres of meadow, and 60 acres of pasture in Fressingfield and Chippenhall which was decided in favour of William, but it was Edmund de Chippenhall who appears most frequently in the cartulary at this time, witnessing nine charters between 1297 and 1309 and whose land is mentioned in 1309.<sup>307</sup> His son Alexander witnessed two charters in 1306 and 1309, and went on to witness several more between 1312 and 1344. His land is mentioned between 1333 and 1344, but land formerly of his in 1347 and 1367.<sup>308</sup> In 1349, with William Esthawe, he granted a messuage to the rector William Gernoun.<sup>309</sup> Alexander paid 2s. towards the 1327 subsidy, while William de Chippenhall paid 1s. 6d.<sup>310</sup> William, who may have been the victor in the suit of 1296, witnessed charters between 1314 and 1319, but it was probably a younger William who witnessed others between 1336 and 1344.<sup>311</sup> Contemporary with John de Chippenhall (*fl.* 1349–53) was Thomas de Chippenhall who witnessed nine charters between 1349 and 1358; he granted two pieces of land to John Edward in 1350 and land formerly of his is mentioned in 1367.<sup>312</sup> There is no clue from the cartulary of what caused their disappearance from the record.

*John Roseson* witnessed five of ten charters between 1351 and 1353, and six if he was the same man as John Rose, but he was probably dead by March 1354 when land is identified as formerly his.<sup>313</sup> His land is mentioned in 1352 and 1353, and he married Alice, daughter of John Tydeman.<sup>314</sup> She is not identified as Tydeman's heir, but this seems likely, as after Roseson's death she alienated land to Hugh Miller in 1355, to Roger and Constance le Neve in 1358, and to Robert Bobyr in 1357 and 1364; she was still alive in 1367.<sup>315</sup> Tydeman had witnessed twelve charters between 1309 and 1336, and in 1317 had granted to the rector Philip de Thorpe a village messuage which he, John, had had by grant of his brother William, a chaplain.<sup>316</sup> It may have been this William who witnessed one charter in 1349, although he is not identified as a chaplain, and another John witnessed two charters in 1358. Robert Roseson, who witnessed six charters between 1336 and 1349 and was probably dead by 1352, may have been John's brother; Robert's estate of

306 123, 213, 218–19, 277.

307 55, 64, 67, 76–8, 121, 130, 202; Copinger, *Suffolk*, iv. 38. He also witnessed two other charters: B20–B21.

308 55, 64–6, 68, 170, 181, 201.

309 TNA, E326/3828.

310 *Suffolk in 1327*, 51–2.

311 141, 173, 175, 209, 211, 216, 279 (1314–19), and 68, 74–5, 79, 127, 212 (1336–44).

312 171, 187, 205, 208, 213, 218–19, 221, 277, 167–8, 170.

313 30, 32, 169.

314 31, 167–8.

315 9, 129, 149–50, 170.

316 216.

32 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow passed to his daughter and heir Joan who married Richard le White.<sup>317</sup>

It would appear that at any particular period, a witness list would be made up of three or four individuals who formed part of a hard core of perhaps eight to ten, any one of whom might witness at least one in every two charters that survive, while the remainder was made up of a scattering of men who might witness far less frequently. This might be no more than expected, although perhaps not the degree to which the lists were dominated by so few men, but the most interesting point about the dozen men who witnessed most frequently is that they illustrate how surprisingly fluid was the village community, no fewer than three being merely temporary members for one reason or another, and only four of the others leaving descendants who remained in the parish.

Among the dozen, Robert Bobyr, his brother-in-law or nephew Robert Barber, John Kembald, Thomas Alger, Thomas Edward, and probably Nicholas Dade, William Skinner, and Roger le Neve and his son John came from established Fressingfield families. Bobyr had no children and left his lands to his Barber nephews; Kembald had no children and left his land to a kinsman who sold it to Richard Waryn; Alger appears to have been the last of his name in the parish; Edward and his clerical brother were the last of their name, their lands being dispersed, while the Neves continued to be part of the community until c. 1420, the Skinners until c. 1440, and the Barbers and the Dades continued to be prominent throughout the following century. William Skinner, who probably had connections with Metfield, witnessed two-thirds of the charters between 1352 and 1364, bought and sold land, quarrelled with his neighbours, sold some of his land, and disappeared. Of the apparent newcomers, Richard le White came from neighbouring Metfield, married a Fressingfield heiress, witnessed three-quarters of the charters between 1354 and 1369, ran into financial trouble, sold his wife's lands, and disappeared, all within sixteen years. Richard Suckling came from neighbouring Cratfield, bought land in Fressingfield in 1361, and witnessed two-thirds of the charters between 1365 and 1378 and another in 1382, but no others of his name appear in the cartulary. Finally, John Rowe's career was limited to the short period of five years between 1353 and 1358, during which he witnessed half the charters, then he sold his land and disappeared. Although White's appearance is amply accounted for by his marriage, and Suckling's perhaps by his purchase of land, there is nothing to suggest how Rowe came to the parish, although he obviously had land which he was able to sell. Similarly, although White, Rowe, and Skinner evidently sold all or most of their land at around the time they stopped witnessing, or soon after, there is no evidence of Suckling doing the same, although equally there is no evidence of him buying land within the cartulary and only the fortuitous survival of a charter in the Phillipps collection provides this information. White's selling-up is probably explained by his financial troubles, and Skinner's possibly by his legal dispute with some of his neighbours, but there are no such clues for Rowe or Suckling. Among the well-established group, only Barber and Dade had descendants, or at least later individuals of the same name, who remained prominent in the village until the latter part of the

317 37, 52, 60, 66, 74, 124, 128, 148-9.

following century, while Neve's descendents remained until *c.* 1420. Of the other four, two definitely died without issue and the consequences were very different, the lands of one passing to his nephews of the well-established Barber family and of the other being sold by his kinsman. Thomas Edward also appears to have died without issue, his lands being dispersed, although other probable members of the family had established themselves in Beccles. The Algers just seem to disappear, and if their lands were sold they were acquired by people who did not subsequently sell them on to the Bohuns.

Absence from witness lists is not, of course, evidence that individuals were no longer living in the parish but the absence of any mention of their land in the locational descriptions is more telling. There are plentiful examples of individuals who are known to have been active in the parish, acquiring land or acting as feoffees, who were rarely or never witnesses. One such was Richard Waryn who, originally from Weybread, was an assiduous acquirer of land in Fressingfield between 1370 and his death in 1387 but witnessed only five charters between 1376 and 1384. Roger Neve was clearly well established in the parish by the 1320s, but he witnessed charters only in 1336 and 1344 before starting his extraordinary career of witnessing three-quarters of the charters between 1351 and 1368 and he ceased appearing at least seven years before his death. Clearly, witnessing was subject to the personal inclination of the individual and possibly to their popularity or reputation. Individual and family histories are also subject to the limitations of the cartulary in being confined to lands later acquired by the Bohuns, and a false impression of the sudden appearance or disappearance of families may be given by changes of surname, but nevertheless the picture given by this group of frequent witnesses in the period 1350–80 of the fluidity of the parish community and the reasons for it is unlikely to be a completely false one.

#### FAMILY ARRANGEMENTS

As the source is a cartulary and consequently concerned almost entirely with charters and associated documents recording the transmission of land, it is inevitable that it sheds light on family arrangements. This is true, even though land would normally pass by inheritance within families and charters were usually only necessary for transactions which broke the pattern of inheritance by kin, because of the rapid establishment of the use of feoffees to provide flexibility in arrangements. This is particularly clear from the cartulary as a significantly large proportion of the charters from around 1400 onwards are concerned with such enfeoffments, to the extent, indeed, that it is sometimes difficult to establish who was the actual grantor, grantee, or possessor of the land, so common was the use of feoffees, although they had also been employed in the earlier century. Thus, even when the lands concerned simply passed from father to son, there was a succession of enfeoffments between different groups of feoffees, as seen in the series of various Waryn enfeoffments, and the arrangements made by Alice Carter for the lands she had inherited from her mother Joan Miller, and, outside the cartulary, the Sancroft series.

The added flexibility offered by enfeoffments is brought out very clearly, as has

been seen, in Richard Bohun's will of 1495 by which he left instructions for the disposal of his 'goods and chattels', in his case chiefly cash and household utensils, and further instructions to his feoffees in which he specified an annuity to his widow and the disposal of lands to his three sons.<sup>318</sup> The same is true of his son Nicholas's will, under which each of his four young sons was to have specific holdings if he lived to the age of twenty, and John Bohun's arrangements in the 1430s and 1440s to establish two separate enfeoffments, one for each of his two elder sons, even for such small inheritances, have already been discussed. Prior to the widespread employment of the enfeoffment, other arrangements were made for the provision of children which usually involved the parents depriving themselves of the use and benefit of the land once the arrangement had been made. Those made by Juliana Kembald and her husband Henry le Sumpter are particularly well documented because most, if not all, of these lands were later acquired by the Waryns and subsequently Edmund Bohun, and they provided separately for their sons Matthew, Richard, and Thomas, and daughters Joan, Agnes and Matilda.<sup>319</sup> There is little evidence of entailed settlements and what there is is chiefly limited to the Kembald family. In 1306 Juliana, then still unmarried, granted to her parents a village messuage, a half-acre of land, and another acre which she would inherit after the death of her brother Thomas, which they were to hold for their lives, with the tacit assumption that the messuage and land would then revert to herself as, if they outlived her, they were to remain to them and their heirs.<sup>320</sup> In 1339, she having duly outlived her parents, the village messuage was granted by her to the rector Richard de Harling, who regranted it to her, for her life, and her son Matthew, with remainder, if Matthew died without issue, to her daughter Matilda and her heirs and assigns.<sup>321</sup> Her husband had granted in 1333 a village messuage and four pieces of land to his daughter Agnes, with remainder to his daughter Matilda if Agnes died without issue, and nine pieces of land and one of meadow to his son Matthew, with remainder to his son Richard if Matthew died without issue.<sup>322</sup>

Given the priority given to male children in succession to land under feudal and customary law, land was inherited by women much more rarely than by men, and they could acquire land in their own right only as widows or, very rarely indeed, as spinsters. The cartulary reflects this male dominance in the sphere very clearly, but nevertheless it also sheds considerable light on the role, sometimes an unexpected one, that women could play. Most obviously, they might, in the absence of any surviving male siblings, inherit land, and several overt heiresses appear in the cartulary.<sup>323</sup> Most is known of Alice Carter, daughter and heir of

318 Rix, *Edmund Bohun*, ix n.

319 See below, pp. 70-4.

320 64.

321 79.

322 65, 70.

323 It may be assumed from the grant by Thomas Kembald of thirteen pieces of land to his daughter Alice and Simon Walter that Alice was his heir and married to Simon, but this is not necessarily the case: 68. There are no other references to Simon or Alice to elucidate the significance of this grant.



Hugh Miller and his wife Joan. She inherited the land in 1416 and was married to Thomas Carter;<sup>324</sup> he died between 1419 and 1423 but she survived him by fifty years and died between 1467 and 1479, having during her widowhood carried out several enfeoffments of her inheritance and having acquired additional substantial lands. It is perhaps surprising that she made these acquisitions, as she and Thomas appear to have had only one surviving child, a son John, who was an adult by 1435, had by the 1450s joined the church and was serving as a chaplain at Worlingworth, although by 1479, when he had sold his lands to Edmund Bohun, he was of Dennington.

Another evident heiress was Joan, daughter of Robert Roseson, whose marriage to Richard le White of neighbouring Metfield brought him into the village community of Fressingfield, although it was a short-lived association which ended unhappily when they were obliged to sell the lands of her inheritance to Richard Waryn in 1370. Margaret, daughter and heir or coheir of Nicholas Rush, married Stephen Spicer of Brockdish, just over the Waveney in Norfolk. It is unknown when her father died but in October 1436, having previously enfeoffed the lands to a group of Brockdish feoffees, they alienated them for 6 marks to John Cotton and Thomas Cooke of Wingfield, and John Fox, Nicholas Warner, and John Barber of Fressingfield, of whom Barber was probably the actual acquirer. The lands were then described as those she had had by assignment of her father and by inheritance after his death. In January 1462 the survivors Barber, Warner, and Cooke enfeoffed them again to another group, rather impressively headed by John Heveningham and William Brews, esquires, but including John (II) Dade and Robert Fox of Fressingfield and Thomas Cook of Stradbroke, and the half of Duffield Close which Richard Barber, wheelwright, sold to Edmund Bohun in 1477 was probably part of it.<sup>325</sup>

Another Joan, daughter and heir or coheir of Hugh Fish, married Robert Bacon of Forncett (Norfolk) and they were probably socially the most elevated of those who occur frequently and actively in the cartulary, although Robert came to a bad end in 1370. He, his son Nicholas and others were outlawed for the death of a chaplain, Walter de Wortham, and he forfeited his lands in Forncett, Dickleburgh, Stratton, Wacton, and Therston.<sup>326</sup> Her father was probably closely related to, and possibly brother of, John Fish, who was rector of the Thorpe moiety of Fressingfield before 1334 and between 1335 and 1339, and probably came to the parish with him, as no earlier Fishes are recorded. Hugh appears as a witness between 1336 and 1349 but was dead by December 1351, when Joan and Robert granted a village messuage which Hugh had acquired from his brother in 1339 to William Skinner and Hugh's widow Agnes quitclaimed to

324 He may have been an outsider, as there are no other references to Carters in Fressingfield in the cartulary, but an occupational surname is an unreliable guide.

325 250-4.

326 *Cal. Inq. Misc.*, iii. 780, 798, 841, 877, 883, 965, 998, 1047; *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1370-4*, 18; *Cal. Close Rolls, 1369-74*, 378, 488, 1374-77, 400, 491; *Blomefield Norfolk*, i. 203, v. 300.



Skinner.<sup>327</sup> In 1361 Robert and Joan granted the messuage called Sharps and all their land in Fressingfield which they had inherited after Hugh's death to John Kembald and his wife Arabel, but John Kembald died between 1369 and 1377 and probably before June 1376, when, on the same day, Joan, then Bacon's widow, granted one moiety of the messuage and land to John Roys of Weybread and his wife Arabel, and the other moiety to Richard Waryn, although in 1382 Roys, alone, 'conceded and confirmed' his moiety to Waryn.<sup>328</sup> This is one of the greatest puzzles presented by the cartulary. Waryn was originally from Weybread and John Roys was also of Weybread; they had been connected as early as February 1367 when Waryn was bound to Roys and his wife Joan in 10 marks to guarantee their peaceful possession of a messuage in Weybread which Roys had recently acquired from Waryn, and John occurs twice more in the cartulary, both times witnessing charters for Waryn.<sup>329</sup> The unusual grants of moieties by Joan Bacon in 1376, along with the confirmation by Roys to Waryn in 1382, suggest that Arabel and Waryn may have been her kin and possibly that Arabel was her daughter and Waryn the son of Arabel who had married first John Kembald and then Roys, Roys then confirming the lands to his stepson in 1382 after Arabel's death. This is, however, contradicted by the 1376 grants to Waryn and the Royses, both to their heirs and assigns, and, even if this was no more than convention, there is Joan Bacon's bond of £20 to warrant them on behalf of herself and her heirs. Furthermore, if Richard Waryn was a son of Arabel and she had been married first to John Kembald, then it is difficult to see how Edward Kembald can have been John Kembald's heir unless both Arabel and Kembald had been married before and he was the son of Arabel's previous marriage and Edward the descendent of Kembald's. Waryn's acquisition of these lands from Edward Kembald in 1377 is also significant. Another query is why the Fish lands, having been granted by Joan Bacon to John and Arabel Kembald in 1361, were apparently back in Joan's hands in 1376, unless Arabel had granted them back to her for the purpose of dividing them with her son; and another is why John Kembald was holding Fish land as early as 1354, when they were not granted to him and Arabel until 1361. The connection between Joan Bacon, Arabel, John Kembald, John Roys, and Richard Waryn is a delightful conundrum, but it is at least clear that, by one means or another, Richard Waryn appears to have acquired all or most of the lands in Fressingfield formerly held by John Kembald.

These four heiresses all married men from outside the parish, but to very different effect: Alice Carter remained in Fressingfield and acquired more land there; Joan le White brought her husband into the community if only briefly; Margaret Spicer's inheritance was apparently swiftly sold by her husband, who

327 **213, 218.** As noted above, the feoffee employed by Hugh and John Fish in 1339 was the chaplain Roger Sergeant of Forncett who dated a charter at Ashwellthorpe and was probably closely connected with the Thorpe lords: **212, 217, 220.**

328 **13-16, 19.**

329 **7.** This was probably the same messuage which Waryn had granted to John Potter the elder in March 1366, although whether John Potter was also John Roys is unclear: **6.** In 1373 he witnessed a Weybread charter, and in 1378 the grant to Waryn by Michael de la Pole of lands in Fressingfield and Weybread: **2, 86 = 113.**

made no appearance within the community; and Joan Bacon's was alienated, possibly to a daughter, a decade after the inheritance. It may be suggested that the difference lay in the death of Thomas Carter so soon after Alice entered into her inheritance, which enabled her to live out her long widowhood in single independence. The prospect of a woman becoming heir to lands after they had been alienated was a potential problem and in 1373 Roger Benett and his wife Alice quitclaimed to Wakelin and Roger Breouse and Richard Waryn all they had or might inherit in the vill of Weybread, under penalty of a bond in £10.<sup>330</sup>

Non-inheriting daughters might be given cash, often specified as being 'towards' their marriage, such as the 40s. bequeathed by John Bohun to his daughters Alice and Joan, the 100 marks left by Edmund Bohun to his unmarried daughter Margaret, and the 40 marks left by his nephew Nicholas to his daughter Isabel and 6 marks to his niece Alice Calver. They might also be granted land such as that granted to Joan, Agnes, and Matilda, daughters of Henry le Sumpter and Juliana Kembald, by Matthew Roscelyn to his daughter Margaret in 1338, and by Thomas Sharpe to his daughters Juliana and Isabel in 1405.<sup>331</sup> In some instances where a woman is acting independently it is not clear whether she was an heiress or not. This is particularly the case with Alice, daughter of John Tydeman, who married John Roseson, as while she is usually identified as the daughter of Tydeman she is never said explicitly to be daughter and heir. This seems likely, as after Roseson's death she alienated land to various individuals between 1355 and 1364, but a William Tydeman witnessed a charter in 1349 and another John Tydeman witnessed two in 1358.<sup>332</sup> Similarly Joan, by 1353 widow of Robert Swift, and her sister Agnes Cutfoul may have been coheirs as they jointly granted a piece of land to Hugh Miller in 1353 and jointly received a quitclaim of another piece of land from William Sharpe in 1354, although there is nothing to suggest to whom they may have been heirs.<sup>333</sup> A curious case is that of Matilda 'niece of the parson', who held land in 1314 and 1334 and a village messuage in 1337 and paid 1s. 6d. in the 1327 subsidy; her son John granted a strip of land to the rector John Fish for life in 1339, and his land is mentioned in 1344.<sup>334</sup> There is sadly nothing to elucidate how she came into possession of this land, although her relationship with one of the rectors was presumably a factor.<sup>335</sup> It is extremely probable that Constance, wife of Roger le Neve, and Matilda, wife of Richard Pyk, were daughters and eventually coheirs of Alexander Baxter. On 22 January 1362 Matilda,

330 2.

331 62, 191.

332 9, 124, 132-3, 129, 149-50, 170.

333 45, 123. This was probably the same piece of land but there are problems with the dating (see note to 123). Thomas Swift was a witness in 1365 and his land is mentioned in 1389 and 1429 and John Swift was a witness in 1407, while a John Cutfoul was a witness in 1376: 50, 198-8, 27, B1.

334 8, 73, 139, 214, 68. In the same charter of 1344 the land of Matilda is mentioned, but it is likely that this is a copyist's error in omitting 'John son of'.

335 See below, p. 71n, for the possibility that her son John was later called John Kembald and the very faint possibility that she had been married to Richard Kembald.

daughter of Alexander Baxter, quitclaimed to Richard Pyk all the lands formerly of her father in Fressingfield, while twelve days earlier Roger and Constance le Neve had granted to Pyk two pieces of land and the reversion of a third on Constance's death, and the second of the two pieces was very probably the same as that granted by Roger le Grand, *alias* Baxter, to his son Alexander, along with a village messuage, in 1337.<sup>336</sup> From this it seems probable that Constance was another daughter of Alexander and that she and Matilda had inherited the lands; Alexander's son Robert was alive in March 1361 but may have died before January 1362, especially in this plague year.<sup>337</sup> Matilda later married Richard Pyk, who is identified as being 'of Merton', probably in Norfolk, in 1362-4. Having acquired the two pieces of land from the Neves in January 1362, he further acquired a village messuage from William Skinner in October 1364, and occurs witnessing Fressingfield charters between August 1366 and September 1368.<sup>338</sup> In September 1368, at which time he was said to be 'of Fressingfield', Richard Caltoft quitclaimed to Pyk the lands he had acquired from Pyk, together with Richard le White, John Baude, and Richard Barber, and it is likely that Pyk had carried out some sort of enfeoffment of his Fressingfield lands.<sup>339</sup> This, however, is the last that is heard of him in Fressingfield, and in July 1401, by which time he was dead and his widow Matilda Baxter quitclaimed to John Waryn all the lands formerly of her father Alexander Baxter, he was identified as having been of Sibton.<sup>340</sup> His was a particularly brief flight through the Fressingfield community and, moreover, he appears to have bought the land from the Neves before his marriage to Matilda; what brought him to Fressingfield, what sent him on to Sibton, and what happened to his lands, are unknown, although it is likely that his former Baxter lands had been alienated to either Richard Waryn (*d.* 1387) or his son John Waryn by 1401.

Even if a woman inherited no land from, or was granted none by, her father she might still hold land as a widow in dower by her legal rights in the lands of her late husband. This was probably the case with many of the occasions where a woman is said to be holding land in the locational descriptions although only once, in that of Joan Skinner, is this so specified.<sup>341</sup> Dower rights were a potential problem when land was alienated, and steps were taken to ensure that widows would not claim in the future. Purchasers might take the precaution of obtaining a quitclaim from widows in land they had acquired, as occurred in 1319, when

336 25, 33, 73. The land lay in the Seven Acres; in 1337 it was described as lying between land of the church to the south and west and Bovpet Way to the north, while in 1362 as lying with the highway to the marketplace to the west and land of the church to the east and south. This may be a copyist's error.

337 71. Another connection is that Richard Waryn almost certainly acquired land from the Neves, as in 1388 the widowed Constance quitclaimed all the lands Waryn had held to Waryn's feoffees, while in 1401 Matilda, then the widow of Richard Pyk, quitclaimed all the lands of her father to Richard's son John Waryn: 22, 26.

338 25, 33, 72, 34, 51, 172, 276-7, 279.

339 24.

340 26.

341 179 = 199, 180 = 200.

Robert Perleman and his wife Margaret quitclaimed to Richard Edward all actions for dower in lands formerly of Robert Tanner, and in 1384, when Thomas Edward's widow Isabel quitclaimed to John Felys and his feoffees dower in lands they had acquired from her late husband's feoffees.<sup>342</sup> It was probably for the same purpose that Agnes, widow of Hugh Fish, quitclaimed a village messuage to William son of John Russell in 1351, this having been granted to William by Hugh's daughter Joan and her husband Robert Bacon a few days earlier, that Agnes, widow of Thomas Kembald, quitclaimed a messuage to Robert Barber in 1363, and that Constance, widow of Roger Neve, quitclaimed to the feoffees of Richard Waryn all the lands Waryn had formerly held in Fressingfield.<sup>343</sup> More stringent measures were sometimes taken, such as in 1366, when Richard Waryn alienated a messuage in Weybread to John Potter and Potter obtained a bond in the substantial sum of 60 marks from Waryn against the possibility that two others might claim the messuage or that Richard's wife Agnes might bring a suit for dower.<sup>344</sup> This was no distant possibility as six months after her husband was killed Agnes was bringing suits of dower against Thomas Bally of Wingfield for half a messuage and 24 acres of land in Weybread, and against Richard Prick of Fressingfield for half a messuage and 60 acres of land in Fressingfield.<sup>345</sup> Agnes was clearly a particularly assertive woman as, although the Weybread lands may have been a genuine alienation by Waryn, it is likely that he had been no more than a feoffee for the Prick family; a month or so later she acquired a village messuage.<sup>346</sup>

A woman might also acquire rights in land by joint enfeoffment with her husband. There are two examples of a formal enfeoffment of lands previously held by the husband alone to husband and wife. The first occurred in 1377 when Hugh Miller granted all his lands in Fressingfield to the vicar of Weybread and John Calver and three months later they granted them back again to Hugh and his wife Joan.<sup>347</sup> This may have been because Hugh, who had been active since

342 175, 225. Robert le Tanner had been a frequent witness to charters between c. 1290 and 1309, appearing on the last with his son Robert, and in 1299 had granted a piece of land to Thomas Kembald: 18, 55, 64, 76-7, 202. His son Robert occurs as Robert de Fressingfield and as Robert le Barber the younger so the elder Robert may also have been known as Robert le Barber, an interesting variety of trades if these names are indicative. A Robert le Barber had witnessed a 1307 charter: 67. The son Robert alienated a curtillage next to his croft in 1314 to the rector Philip de Thorpe and by 1317 this croft had passed to Richard Edward. Thorpe obtained quitclaims of the curtillage from Alice widow of Thomas Mannock and John de Metfield, who may have been kinsfolk, but whether Margaret Perleman was the widow of Robert the father or Robert the son, and whether these Roberts were ancestors of the prominent Barber family which appears frequently until the end of the following century, is unknown: 209-11.

343 22, 144, 213.

344 6.

345 17.

346 54.

347 134-5.

1343 and was probably then in his fifties, had recently married Joan, who is likely to have been far younger than him; Joan died in 1416 and their daughter Alice lived until 1467.<sup>348</sup> A similar arrangement was made in the following year by Robert Bobyr who, probably in his fifties and childless, granted all his lands to his nephews Robert and Roger Barber on the condition that they re-eneffed the lands to himself and his wife Agnes for their lives.<sup>349</sup> More frequent are examples of grants of land jointly to husband and wife throughout the two centuries. The earliest is in 1297 to Richard Kembald and his wife Matilda but subsequently two grants were made to Roger Baxter *alias* Grand and his wife Beatrice in 1314, two grants to Matthew Roscelyn and his wife Matilda in 1317, one to Robert Bobyr and his wife Agnes in 1355, two each of 1 acre to John Thormede and his wife Alice in 1405 and 1406, although another made on the same day in 1406 of 4 acres was made to John alone and two feoffees, one of three pieces of land to John Barber and his wife Isabel in 1428, while Thremers was granted to Nicholas Baron and his wife Margaret in 1420 and to John Bocher and his wife Alice in 1462, and at the end of the century Nicholas Godbald and his wife Alice acquired a messuage and 29½ acres of land, meadow, and pasture.<sup>350</sup>

Without doubt, the most outstanding examples of this sort of joint grant were those made to Roger le Neve and his wife Constance Baxter, who was evidently a remarkable woman. Roger, who was well established in the parish by the 1320s as he paid 1s. 9d. in the 1327 subsidy and in 1325 had granted a messuage to Hubert Seman,<sup>351</sup> is chiefly notable for the extraordinary frequency with which he witnessed charters between 1351 and 1368, during which period he appeared on three-quarters of all the charters in the cartulary. Prior to this he had witnessed three charters in 1339 and 1346, and in 1334 had acquired a piece of land by himself, but four grants between 1352 and 1360 were made to him and Constance.<sup>352</sup> It may be speculated that these were a result of Constance's personality alone, as she did not, as seems likely, become coheir to her father Alexander until the death of Alexander's son Robert sometime between March 1361 and January 1362. It is not known whether Robert's death had occurred before October 1361, when Roger and Constance carried out a most unusual enfeoffment. Five pieces of land, of which four were those granted to them both of which copies survive in the cartulary, were granted by Roger and Constance to Andrew, parson of Stanton, and Robert Bobyr, who in the following January regranted four of the pieces to them and the heirs and assigns of Constance, not those of Roger as might be expected.<sup>353</sup> At around this time, and certainly since March, Constance had probably become coheir with her sister Matilda to their father Alexander Baxter, and two weeks before the re-eneffment in January 1362 Roger and Constance had granted to Richard Pyk two pieces of land and the

348 See below, pp. 81–2.

349 156.

350 67, 139, 173, 56, 57, 146, 273–5, 152, 240, 255, 258.

351 120; *Suffolk in 1327*, 51.

352 8, 9, 28, 31, 42.

353 30, 32.

reversion of a third on Constance's death, of which one was certainly formerly of Alexander Baxter; as Alexander's daughter Matilda quitclaimed all the lands of her father to Pyk, this may have amounted to the entire inheritance.<sup>354</sup> Roger was then probably around sixty and continued to witness charters until 1368, although it was only in 1375 that he and Constance made their retirement agreement with William de Busshop, having granted him the reversion of two pieces of land, although unfortunately the grant does not survive and these pieces cannot be identified.<sup>355</sup> Roger was certainly dead by 1388, when Constance was his widow, and had probably died some time previously. It may be significant that Roger's burst of land acquisition with Constance in the 1350s coincided with the beginning of his extraordinary career of charter-witnessing, and that Roger's son John was an adult by 1351 when he started witnessing charters as frequently as his father. The combination of these factors suggests that Constance may have been a second wife and John the son of an earlier one. Constance very probably alienated at least some of the lands settled on her in 1361/2 to Richard Waryn as in 1388, six months after Waryn's death, she quitclaimed to his feoffees all the lands Richard had formerly held or occupied;<sup>356</sup> one of the four pieces, however, had apparently passed to William Wright by 1407 when Wright granted it to John Waryn.<sup>357</sup>

Her late husband's son John, who was as frequent a witness as his father from 1351, had ceased witnessing charters in 1382. He is identified as a carpenter between 1368 and 1370, and in September 1367 he and Robert Barber acquired from John Sharpe the elder a messuage and all his lands in Fressingfield, except for a certain plot in the chief house of the messuage which Sharpe was to hold for his life; it is not clear whether the actual grantee was Neve or Barber, but John le Neve is not heard of after 1382. Robert Neve occurs as a witness between 1377 and 1407, and Richard Neve frequently between 1388 and 1421; both witnessed Constance's quitclaim to Waryn's feoffee in 1388 and in November 1404 John Joseph and Robert were granted land in Fressingfield for £6 by John Dool, although again it is not clear who was the actual grantee.<sup>358</sup> A later John Neve, active in Fressingfield between 1415 and 1450, was of Stradbroke. In the fifteenth century lands formerly of Roger Neve had been dispersed. Two pieces, one of 3 acres and one of a rood, had passed to William Warner, probably a kinsman of John Waryn, who granted the first to Alice Carter in 1437, the other being held by Nicholas Warner at around the same time.<sup>359</sup> Other land formerly Roger's had passed to various members of the Godbald family, some making up part of the messuage and 20 acres surrendered by John Godbald in 1497, some then held by Nicholas Godbald and an enclosure held by Nicholas Godbald and previously by Roger Godbald, while three pieces containing 4½ acres, recently

354 See above.

355 10, and see below, pp. 74–5.

356 22.

357 27.

358 TNA, E40/3824.

359 234(b).



of Robert Godbald, were among those surrendered by William Godbald in 1502.<sup>360</sup>

Among the more interesting of the many women who appear in the cartulary were Juliana Kembald and her daughter Matilda Kembald, who provided what amounted to a matriarchal succession for nearly a century. The unusual role played by these two women is epitomised by the appointment by Juliana of Matilda as her attorney to deliver seisin in 1360, the only occasion in the whole cartulary when a woman was so appointed, and extremely rare outside it.<sup>361</sup> The earliest known members of the family were Richard Kembald and his wife Matilda, who had two sons, Richard Miller of Wilby and Thomas, and a daughter Juliana.<sup>362</sup> Richard and Matilda acquired a half-acre of land in 1297, and Thomas a piece of land called Middle Howe in 1299, while in 1304-5 the son Richard Miller granted to Juliana, for 24s., his messuage which lay next to her land to the south and west and the king's highway, to her and her issue with remainder to his parents Richard and Matilda and their heirs. In December 1306 Juliana granted to her parents a village messuage which lay next to land that she and they had acquired from Sir John Wingfield, the half-acre they had acquired in 1297, and the reversion of the acre called Middle Howe which her brother Thomas had acquired and she would inherit after his death; three months later they granted back to her the messuage and the half-acre. Richard and Matilda were still alive in 1309, but Richard Miller is not heard of again and presumably made his life in Wilby, while his brother Thomas Kembald may have been the Thomas the elder whose land is mentioned in a charter of another Thomas Kembald, presumably the younger, in 1344.

Juliana Kembald was married to Henry le Sumpter by 1309 and they had sons Matthew, Richard, and Thomas, and daughters Joan, Agnes and Matilda. Henry witnessed charters between 1316 and 1336 and was one of the more substantial members of the parish community as he paid 3s. 6d. in the 1327 subsidy, the ninth highest sum.<sup>363</sup> Although his land is mentioned in 1344, he appears to have died between 1336 and 1339 when Juliana Kembald was his widow. He had carried out several settlements for the benefit of his children. On 16 August 1333 he granted a messuage in the village and four pieces of land to his daughter Agnes, with remainder to his daughter Matilda if Agnes died without issue, and on the same day granted nine pieces of land and one of meadow to his son Matthew, with remainder to his son Richard if Matthew died without issue; among them were two pieces which lay next to the land of his daughters Joan and Agnes. Henry had another son Thomas, who occurs in 1338, 1339, and 1342 as son of Henry le Sumpter; he may also be the Thomas Kembald who was a witness in 1330 and 1332 and was appointed as attorney by the rector John Fish in 1339 but this may have been his uncle, Juliana's brother. It was almost certainly the younger Thomas, however, who in 1344 granted to his daughter Alice and Simon Walter thirteen

<sup>360</sup> 239, 240, 244.

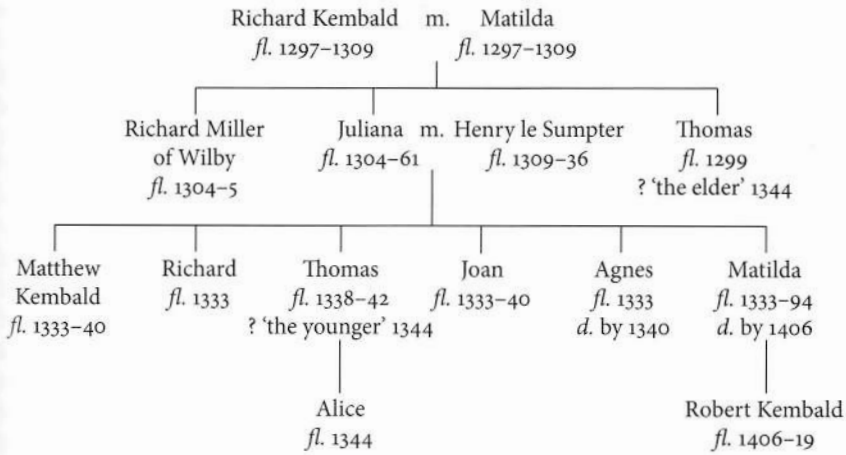
<sup>361</sup> 29.

<sup>362</sup> Richard and Juliana are identified as children of Richard and Matilda, and Thomas as the brother of Juliana.

<sup>363</sup> *Suffolk in 1327*, 52.



## The Kembald family



pieces of land as one of these lay next to the land of Thomas Kembald the elder; Simon was very probably not Alice's husband as this would almost certainly have been specified in such a grant, but may have been a feoffee.<sup>364</sup> In 1363 Thomas Kembald's widow Agnes quitclaimed a messuage to Robert Barber, and this Thomas is likely to have been the younger, if only on chronological grounds. The John Kembald who was such a frequent witness to charters between 1352 and 1369 and his heir Edward son of Arnold Kembald cannot, unfortunately, be linked definitely with any of Juliana's family although there is a small possibility that he was a brother of Juliana; his 'kinsman' Edward may have been a grandson.<sup>365</sup>

Juliana was long-lived as she was still alive in 1361, when she was at least seventy-one if she had been at least fourteen in 1304, and probably older, as her children were adults by 1333. She was usually called Juliana Kembald after Henry's death between 1336 and 1339, and their son Matthew, who was called 'son of Henry' in 1333, was known as Matthew Kembald by 1340. In June 1339 Juliana settled a messuage in the village on herself for life, with remainder to Matthew, and in June 1340 Matthew granted back to her the nine pieces of land and one

364 Simon Walter does not otherwise appear in the cartulary. He may have been Simon Charnell, a witness in 1347 and 1361, or possibly Simon Alcock of Weybread (*fl.* 1345-78), who held a pigtle in Fressingfield in 1345 and 1347: **2, 86, 181, 204** (Alcock), **180 = 200, B40** (Charnell).

365 If the identification of a pigtle with a garden in a charter of 1356 with a plot acquired by Philip de Thorpe in 1314 is correct, then John Kembald may have been the same man as John (*fl.* 1339), son of Matilda, niece of the parson (*fl.* 1314-34). The fact that the niece of the parson and the wife of Richard Kembald (*fl.* 1297-1309) shared this name may be no more than coincidence, but it is noticeable that, while Matilda niece of the parson paid 1s. 6d. towards the 1327 subsidy, no Kembald made a contribution.

## Introduction

of meadow which his father had granted to him in 1333. By this date Agnes was probably dead, as the land she had held in 1333 was now held by Matilda, although Joan was still alive.<sup>366</sup> Juliana's *curia* is mentioned in 1367 but this may be anachronistic, as a reference to her land in 1407 must certainly be. In May 1360 she granted a piece of land to Robert and Constance le Neve, in March 1361 another to Robert son of Alexander le Baxter, and in July 1361 she granted all her lands and holdings in Fressingfield to the rector Richard Caltoft and his son John Caltoft. The fate of Alice, daughter of Thomas, is unknown, and the only identifiable descendents of Juliana were her daughter Matilda Kembald and Matilda's son Robert Kembald. Although Matilda appears several times in the cartulary she is called either 'Matilda daughter of Juliana Kembald' (in 1353) or Matilda Kembald, and no husband is ever identified. In 1353 she granted a piece of land to Hugh Miller, probably no relation to her uncle Richard, as Hugh was the son of William, and in 1368 she granted to John Sharp the village messuage which had in 1333 been granted by Henry le Sumpter to his daughter Agnes, with remainder to Matilda.<sup>367</sup> Matilda's land, meadow, pasture, and wood, is mentioned in six charters between 1364 and 1394, but she had died by October 1406.<sup>368</sup> At this time her son Robert Kembald granted all the lands he had inherited from her to John (I) Waryn and John Levald, but five years later John Caltoft enfeoffed Robert in the lands which he had had by grant of Juliana Kembald, presumably the grant she had made in 1361, except for one piece of meadow which John Rush had acquired.<sup>369</sup> In January 1418 Robert quitclaimed seven pieces of land to John (II) Waryn but it is not clear whether these were the lands Robert had had from his mother or were a further grant, presumably from or of the lands he had had from his grandmother.<sup>370</sup> In April 1418 Waryn and John Levald granted a piece of land of 2 acres which they had had from Robert to William Dallinghoo, and this suggests that Robert had made a grant to John (II) Waryn as well as to John's father and consequently that the January 1418 quitclaim to John (II) was an additional alienation, but there is a possibility that the charter was inaccur-

366 It is possible that the sisters Joan and Agnes, daughters of Juliana, were the sisters Joan Swift and Agnes Cutfoul mentioned above, in which case they were both still alive in May 1354, when William Sharpe quitclaimed to them a piece of land which they either had recently granted or were shortly to grant to Hugh Miller: 45, 123 (see the note to 123 for the problems with the dating of their grant to Miller). This is suggested by the fact that Joan and Agnes granted a piece of land of half an acre to Hugh Miller apparently on the same day as Matilda Kembald granted to him a piece of three roods, although the two pieces were certainly not adjacent and it is true that on another occasion Miller bought two pieces of land, which were adjacent, on the same day from John Sharpe and Robert Barber. Also, as well as holding by 1340 the land held by Agnes in 1333, Matilda also came into possession by 1368 of the messuage which in 1333 had been granted by their father to Agnes and her issue, with remainder to Matilda.

367 34, 125-6.

368 44, 51, 69, 136, 147, 150, 206.

369 23, 69.

370 41.

rately copied and should have indicated that Levald had been granted them with John (I).<sup>371</sup> In July 1428 Levald and John (II) granted to John Seaforth a messuage, a close, six pieces of land, and two pieces of meadow which Levald and John (I) had had by grant of Robert Kembald, with other land; none of these appear to be among the seven pieces quitclaimed by Robert to John (II) in 1418.<sup>372</sup> Two months later Seaforth granted to John Barber and his wife Isabel three of the pieces of land, and in August 1430 a piece to William Dallinghoo which may have been a fourth.<sup>373</sup> By 1437–8 land formerly of Robert Kembald or ‘of the Kembald holding’ was held by Katherine Waryn, Robert Joseph, and John Barber, as well as by Elizabeth Dallinghoo, of which some of those held by Katherine and Robert Joseph had been granted to them by John Seaforth, who may have been no more than a feoffee for the Waryns.<sup>374</sup>

Robert had been appointed in February 1415 by Richard Waryn’s feoffees Caltoft and Woodward to give seisin of lands to John Waryn but his quitclaim of January 1419 is the last that is heard of him, or of the family which played such a significant role within the cartulary. This role is evidently so large because most, if not all, of the Kembald lands were acquired by the Waryns and then passed to Edmund Bohun, who also acquired the Kembald lands alienated to Alice Carter and probably those alienated to Robert Joseph and John Barber.<sup>375</sup> The most noteworthy point about the family’s 120-year recorded history is the role of the two women, Juliana and Matilda, in maintaining the name of Kembald. The gradual domination of the name over Sumpter, particularly after Henry le Sumpter’s death, is clear, and it is quite remarkable that Matilda, although presumably married, is never referred to as anything other than either ‘daughter of Juliana’ or as ‘Matilda Kembald’. This may have been because she was the only one of Juliana’s immediately family to have surviving issue, although, given the selective nature of the cartulary, this may be a misleading impression, and there remains the outside possibility that John Kembald was her brother and was succeeded by a grandson.<sup>376</sup> Juliana’s brother Richard evidently adopted the alternative name of Miller and settled in Wilby, but her brother Thomas presumably died without issue, or without sons. Nothing is heard of her son Richard after 1333, her son Matthew after 1340, or of her son Thomas after 1344 when he settled the thirteen pieces of land on his daughter Alice, and her daughter Agnes was presumably dead by 1340. Nevertheless, Juliana’s adoption of the name of Kembald was not carried out in order to maintain the name when there were no males left of the family as she was known unequivocally as Juliana Kembald by April 1339 while two Thomas

371 182. In January 1419 Robert quitclaimed this land to Dallinghoo: 183.

372 184.

373 152, 203.

374 234.

375 See above pp. 14, 17.

376 See above for the possibility that Matilda’s sisters Joan and Agnes were Joan Swift and Agnes Cutfoul, in which case later Swifts and Cutfouls may have been their descendents.

Kembalds, probably her son and her brother, were still alive, and John Kembald, possibly another brother.<sup>377</sup>

The cartulary shows that, even at this level of society, women played much the same role in landholding as their social superiors, holding by jointure and in dower as well as by gift or inheritance. Moreover, it confirms that, as with their social superiors, they could have a very significant influence, whether through the jointure created by Hugh Miller with his young wife Joan in 1377, or by the sway which Constance Baxter appears to have had over her husband Roger le Neve, or, most importantly, by the matriarchal Kembalds. This latter kind of effect was, however, somewhat old-fashioned among the gentry and nobility by this time. Changes of name upon inheritance through a female had occurred frequently in earlier centuries, but by the fourteenth, although such changes of name did still occur, it was more common to ensure that the name stayed with the land by means of entails in tail male.

The men in the cartulary generally appear in their active years, buying or selling land and witnessing charters, but there is also evidence of how they dealt with the problems of old age. It has already been seen how Hugh Miller and Robert Bobyr arranged for all their lands to be held in jointure with their wives in 1377 and 1378 respectively, probably when they were both in their fifties and childless, although Hugh had probably just married his Joan and left a daughter Alice, while Bobyr had been married to Agnes for over twenty years and, anticipating a childless death, had settled his lands so they would pass to his nephews Robert and Roger Barber.<sup>378</sup> Selling up might involve some complicated arrangements. While the sales by Thomas Roscelyn to Richard Waryn in 1378 and by John Gernoun to John Felys in 1382 were simple grants of all their lands in Fressingfield, and those by John Rowe to William Skinner and Thomas Edward in 1358 were similar, others might involve special exceptions.<sup>379</sup> When John Sharpe the elder granted to John le Neve and Robert Barber his messuage and all his lands in Fressingfield in 1367, he excepted a plot in the chief house of the messuage which he was to retain for life, with free access to the highway.<sup>380</sup> Similarly, when the chaplain John Felys sold all his lands to William Dallinghoo and his feoffees in 1421 for £40 payable over eight years, Felys was to retain a chamber, a stable for a horse, and half the small garden for the term of eight years.<sup>381</sup>

Roger Neve had a son John, but in 1375 he and his wife Constance, who was probably childless, made an agreement with William de Busshop. This stated that, whereas they had sold to William the reversion of a messuage and two pieces

377 As discussed above, Richard Waryn (*d.* 1387) may have been a son of John Kembald.

378 147, 156.

379 63, 224, 47, 188. Rowe sold all his lands, except a garden with two barns and a plot of land, to Skinner in September 1358, and the garden and plot to Edward in the following month. When Robert Kembald sold to John Waryn in 1406 all the lands he had inherited from his mother Matilda, he still had possession or the prospect of possession of lands enfeoffed by his grandmother Juliana: 69.

380 278.

381 229.

of land after their deaths, for 10 marks which was to be paid at one mark a year, they now agreed to share the messuage, Roger and Constance handing over use of a range of household items and equipment, ranging from a brass bowl, a pan, two chests, an andiron, and a lead measure, to a pair of querns and two barrels, so that William's wife Katherine would serve Roger and Constance. They would each take an equal part of the stipend while they agreed (presumably a reference to the annuity of one mark although this is not entirely clear), but if they fell out, then William would have a chamber within the messuage to occupy while Roger and Constance lived, but William would be responsible for the upkeep of the house.<sup>382</sup> A somewhat simpler arrangement was made in the following century by Robert Noyse (*fl.* 1419–55), who was probably childless. He was an apparent incomer to the parish, although he may have been related to Alan Noyse of Laxfield, who, with several others from Laxfield, was a feoffee for the Sancroft family between 1415 and 1434.<sup>383</sup> Robert, who appears as a witness to Fressingfield charters between 1419 and 1443 and held land there in 1428, was also a feoffee for John Sancroft in 1437, and Sancroft was one of his feoffees in 1452.<sup>384</sup> It seems likely that he acquired all the lands of Nicholas Baron in 1422, his feoffees being William Warner and John Jay of Needham and John Parlett of Dickleburgh, and in 1435 they confirmed a grove and a piece of land to John Rush, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald, probably as feoffees for John Bohun.<sup>385</sup> Between 1423 and 1445 he was a feoffee of the lands of Joan Miller for Joan's daughter Alice Carter, and in 1437 he was, as a trusted associate of both, a highly suitable feoffee when William Warner of Needham granted a piece of land to Alice.<sup>386</sup> In 1452, as Robert Noyse of Fressingfield, he granted all his lands to John de Sancroft, John Calver, and Robert Noyse of Wingfield, but in 1455 he granted all his lands except the holding called Thremers to John Woolnough the elder for 44 marks in cash and an arrangement by which he and his wife Agnes would be supported for the rest of their lives.<sup>387</sup> This was defined very closely in the indenture, which specified that John would provide food and drink, the washing of clothes, and other necessities, that they would have two chambers in the lower part of the hall with the solar below, and their 'easement' in sitting at the fire whenever they pleased. In 1462 Sancroft, Calver, and Noyse of Wingfield granted Thremers to John Bocher and his wife Alice; there is no indication of the relationship between the two Robert Noyses, of Wingfield and of Fressingfield, but it is perhaps unlikely that they were father and son, as this would almost certainly have been mentioned.

Over the past several decades interest in the peasant land market has been increasing and has recently culminated in the large-scale investigation using data drawn from the court records in the Winchester pipe rolls. As P. D. A. Harvey

382 10.

383 B26, B31–3.

384 184, 258, B34.

385 256, 207. That Noyse was the actual grantee of the Baron lands seems indicated by the fact that he later had possession of Thremers, which had been granted to Baron in 1420: 255, 257–8.

386 153–5.

387 257–8.

explained in his introduction to the published results of that project, the source material for the peasant land market falls into two groups: charters and/or cartularies, and court rolls. The survival of a complete series of court roll data, such as those provided by the Winchester estate, provides the fullest possible quantitative basis for analysis. Charters, or more frequently cartularies such as the Bohun of Fressingfield cartulary, provide only a partial view but are qualitatively superior and still have an important role to play in the ongoing and exciting field of peasant land studies.<sup>388</sup>

### THE WARYN *alias* STOROUR FAMILY

The Waryn *alias* Storour family of four generations, Richard (*d.* 1387), his son John (I) Waryn (*d.* 1415) and his son and grandson John (II) and Robert, both of whom were living in 1475, play a great role in the cartulary. In 1473 Robert Storour, who was then in possession of the family's lands in Fressingfield although at that date he and his father were usually identified as being 'of Morningthorpe' (Norfolk), a dozen miles to the north, sold all those lands to Edmund Bohun for £68 13s. 4d. (or 103 marks). These were described as comprising two messuages, 92 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, 7 acres of pasture, and 4d. rent.<sup>389</sup>

It was Richard Waryn *alias* Storour (*d.* 1387) who established the family in Fressingfield and he appears to have come from Weybread but there had been an earlier Waryn in Fressingfield. This was William Waryn of Fressingfield who occurs in 1311 in the company of merchants of Norwich and Lynn complaining of piracy by the men of Bruges against a ship of theirs, and it was presumably the same William who paid 12d. in the 1327 subsidy and who witnessed two charters in Fressingfield in 1343 and 1344.<sup>390</sup> Agnes, widow of William, had alienated lands in Fressingfield to Richard Suckling before December 1361 when Suckling's feoffees regranted the lands to him.<sup>391</sup> The relationship of Roger Waryn of Harleston, who alienated a piece of land in Starston (Norfolk) in 1329, to William or Richard is unclear, although he is likely to have been related to Richard as his charter survives in the cartulary; Starston lay just north of Harleston and south of Morningthorpe, where the family were settled by the early fifteenth century, and John Picket of Starston was one of John (II)'s feoffees in 1419.<sup>392</sup>

388 John Mullan and Richard Britnell, *Land and Family: Trends and local variations in the peasant land market on the Winchester bishopric estates, 1263-1415* (Hertford, 2010).

389 90-2, 110.

390 68, 212; *Cal. Close Rolls, 1307-13*, 438; *Suffolk in 1327*, 52. The merchants had sold wool at Bruges and had bought other cloth, spices, wax, and other merchandise for the return journey, shipped from Sluys for Yarmouth, but the ship was robbed between Orford and *Erewall*, their servants killed, and the ship stolen.

391 B40.

392 1, 88.



Richard Waryn almost certainly came from Weybread, just south of Harleston and the River Waveney, as in his earliest charters he is identified as being of that parish, and his connection with John Roys of Weybread, John Kembald, and Joan Bacon has already been discussed above. Whatever the nature of those connections he certainly acquired all or most of the lands formerly held by Kembald in Fressingfield, obtaining moieties of the Fish lands in 1376 and 1382 and the lands inherited by Edward Kembald in 1377, and may have been drawn to Fressingfield by inheritance. His earliest appearance is in alienating a messuage in Weybread to John Potter, possibly *alias* John Roys, in 1366 and in March 1370 he is identified as being of Weybread when he acquired from Richard le White and his wife Joan all the lands in Fressingfield and Stradbroke which Joan had inherited from her father Robert Roseson, described in the later fine as 32 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow; two months later White also granted to him a messuage he had acquired separately.<sup>393</sup> By October 1373, when he and Wakelin and Roger Breouse received a quitclaim of lands in Weybread from Roger Bennet of Weybread and his wife, he is identified as being of Fressingfield.<sup>394</sup> As well as the lands of John Kembald, Richard also acquired two pieces of land from the rector Richard Caltoft and two pieces from Thomas Launce in December 1377, the messuage and all the lands of Thomas Roscelyn in Fressingfield in January 1378, the lands in Fressingfield and Weybread formerly of John Edward and another chaplain from Sir Michael de la Pole probably in October 1378, and probably a messuage from Nicholas le Calver in 1375.<sup>395</sup> Although there is no direct evidence of any acquisition from Roger or Constance Neve, this is likely because of Constance's quitclaim in 1388, after his death, to his feoffees of all the lands he had formerly held or occupied in Fressingfield.<sup>396</sup> He also alienated land, as by March 1375 he had sold land in Mendham to John Gedynd of Mendham, and in November 1376 he granted to John Thormede two pightles;<sup>397</sup> in 1384 he was bound to John Cokerell in £4 to ensure that Cokerell had full tenure of a piece of land called Lynlond, probably in Earsham, and it may be that he had alienated this as well. Despite his heavy and frequent investment in buying land in the parish, there is little evidence that he became closely involved in the affairs of the community. He witnessed only six charters between 1376 and 1384, one of which was Joan Bacon's grant to John and Arabel Roys and three of which were for Hugh Miller, the grant and regrant for the jointure in 1377 and another in

393 6, 7, 49, 81 = 114. In 1359 Sir Thomas Gurney had granted all the lands formerly of John Barber to White and in 1379 Sir William Gurney quitclaimed the messuage 'of Barber' to Richard: 4, 38. In January 1373 John Sharp quitclaimed to Waryn the annual rent of 20s. in which White's lands in Fressingfield and Metfield had been bound by White to Sharp for ten years in 1368: 11, 35.

394 2.

395 3, 82 = 269, 44, 63, 86 = 113, 87.

396 22. This is also indicated by the survival of so many of Roger and Constance's charters in the cartulary and the fact that two holdings of a rood and 3 acres formerly held by Roger Neve later passed to William Warner: 234.

397 272; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD/538/301/35.



1384.<sup>398</sup> It is likely, however, that he was a feoffee for the settlement of the Prick lands on Richard Prick and his wife Christina in November 1376 when he granted to them the lands in Fressingfield, Mendham, Weybread, and Withersdale which he had had by grant of Richard Prick's brother John.<sup>399</sup> His widow Agnes later brought a suit of dower against Richard Prick for half a messuage and 60 acres of land in Fressingfield, so it is not clear whether her suit against Thomas Bally of Wingfield for a messuage and 24 acres of land in Weybread was an equally opportunistic claim or whether her late husband had actually alienated this land to Bally.<sup>400</sup>

Richard met a dramatic end. On 24 September 1387 he enfeoffed all his lands, etc., in Suffolk to John Caltoft of Redenhall, William Ker vicar of Weybread, and Thomas Woodward of Brundish; on the same day he was killed by Edmund Baker, *alias* Wright.<sup>401</sup> His feoffees are interesting, as his choice of the vicar of Weybread indicates that his loyalties still lay at least partly in that parish, but John Caltoft was the son of the former rector of Fressingfield Richard Caltoft, and Woodward appears as being of Chippenhall in the following year and of Fressingfield in 1415.<sup>402</sup> Richard was married to Agnes in 1366 and at his death, and a reference to his wife Matilda in 1375 is probably a copyist's error. As well as bringing the two actions for dower six months after Richard's death, Agnes acquired a village messuage in May 1388.

Richard's son and heir John (I) Waryn (*d.* 1415) was probably an adult at his father's death, as he first appears as a witness in 1389.<sup>403</sup> In 1405 Richard Waryn's feoffee John Caltoft enfeoffed John in a half-acre of land, and in 1407 he acquired another small piece of land from William Wright, but in the intervening year he made a much more important acquisition when Robert Kembald granted to him and John Levald, clerk, all the lands in Fressingfield which he had inherited from his mother Matilda Kembald. In 1414 he and Levald granted to William Warner, possibly a younger son, two pieces of land in *Aldefeld* containing approximately a half-acre and 2 acres, and in October 1415, after John's death, Levald granted to William another piece of land of an acre or so adjacent to a piece which William had had by grant of John.<sup>404</sup> William occurs as a witness between 1419 and 1427, and between 1422 and 1435 was a feoffee for Robert Noyse but appears to have moved to Needham, as he is identified as being of that hamlet in 1435 and 1437

398 13, 134-6, 156, 224. In the latter he appears as Richard Storour.

399 B1.

400 17.

401 84; *Cal. Patent Rolls, 1391-6*, 33, 1396-9, 166. On 19 February 1392, at the request of Robert Carry, Baker received a pardon for the death of Richard Waryn *alias* Storour of Fressingfield, killed on 24 September 1387, a pardon which was repeated on 28 June 1397. Baker does not appear in the cartulary.

402 84-5, 22, 40.

403 John is identified as Richard's son and heir in 1401, when Matilda Baxter, widow of Richard Pyk, quitclaimed to him all the lands of her late father Alexander Baxter in Fressingfield which may have been granted to Richard by Matilda's sister Constance Neve.

404 137, 151.

when he alienated one piece of land of 3 acres to Alice Carter.<sup>405</sup> At this time land formerly held by William was held by Nicholas Warner, who appears as a witness between 1437 and 1462 and whose land is mentioned in 1435.<sup>406</sup> He was a feoffee for John Barber in acquiring the Spicer lands between 1436 and 1462 and in 1475, aged sixty or more, he testified regarding Edwards Hill.<sup>407</sup> A later William Warner also testified on this occasion, aged between forty and sixty, witnessed a charter in 1482 and was the attorney appointed by William Godbald to surrender his land in 1502.<sup>408</sup> It is not clear whether Nicholas was the son of the earlier William but, if so, he had clearly decided to remain in Fressingfield despite his father's move to Needham.

John (I) was alive in November 1414 but recently deceased in October 1415; he may have been dead by February 1415 when Richard's surviving feoffees Caltoft and Woodward granted to John Waryn of Morningthorpe lands in Fressingfield as this John is not identified as either the elder or younger.<sup>409</sup> John Waryn left a widow Katherine, mother of John (II), who was still alive in 1437 holding a number of separate pieces of land formerly of the Kembald holding of Fressingfield Ufford manor. John (I) was succeeded by his son John (II), and in January 1418 Robert Kembald quitclaimed to him seven pieces of land in Fressingfield which may have been the lands formerly of Robert's mother Matilda which Robert had granted to John (I) and Levald in 1406 but may have been further lands from those he had had from his grandmother Juliana's feoffees in 1411. All were adjacent to land already held by John Waryn. Three months later John and Levald granted to William Dallinghoo a piece of 2 acres which they had had by grant of Robert Kembald but which does not appear to be one of the seven quitclaimed, and in 1428 John and Levald demised to John Seaforth a messuage to the south of the marketplace, a close called Stuncock, six pieces of land, and two pieces of meadow which had been granted to Levald and the elder John by Robert Kembald with other land. In 1419 John granted all his lands in Norfolk and Suffolk to a group of feoffees comprised of William de Shelton, esquire, William's son John, Richard Stonham of Hardwick (Norfolk), John Picket of Starston (Norfolk), John Peroch of Wymondham (Norfolk), John Waryn his elder son, William Barret of Cratfield, John Levald, and William Gyle, William Dallinghoo, John Rush the younger, and John Fox, all of Fressingfield. In 1457 he and Fox granted all their lands in Norfolk and Suffolk to another group of feoffees headed by Sir Edmund Mulso and Henry Tuddenham of Oxburgh and including

405 154, 183, 228, 255, 263, 207, 256, 153. Frustratingly, although there are similarities in the description of these pieces, none match completely, nor with a note from the rental of Fressingfield Ufford in 1437–8 which states that William had held two pieces of land, one of 3 acres and one of 1 rood, the former of which was then held by Alice Carter and the latter by Nicholas Warner: 234. William always appears as Warener or Warner and is never identified as John's son, but John's widow Katherine appears as Katherine Warner.

406 89, 153, 157–9, 207, 234(b), 258, 284.

407 118, 250–3.

408 83 = 270, 118, 244.

409 40, 85.

John's son Robert Storour, who by 1473 was John's son and heir, his elder brother John evidently having died without issue. John (II) lived to extreme old age, as he was still alive in 1475; he may have been born in the late 1380s, as he was almost certainly not a minor when he succeeded his father in 1415 and was the father of a son old enough to be a feoffee in 1419, but there is no doubt about the succession of only two Johns between Richard (*d.* 1387) and Robert. Other possible members of the family alive at this time were Thomas Waryn of Bungay, who acted as a feoffee with John Waryn and others for John Barber the elder in 1443 and 1451, Richard Waryn, who witnessed in 1436 and 1447 and may be the same person as Richard Storour who witnessed in 1434, 1450, 1456, and 1457,<sup>410</sup> and William Storour of Fressingfield, who testified regarding Edwards Hill in 1475 aged forty or more.

In 1473 Robert Storour *alias* Waryn is identified as the son and heir of John Storour *alias* Waryn when he, with the surviving feoffees of 1457 granted all the messuage, lands, holdings, etc., in Fressingfield which had been held by Richard Waryn, his son John Waryn, and his son John Storour *alias* Waryn, to Edmund Bohun. The grant was made by Robert and the surviving feoffees to Bohun, Ralph Pulvertoft, and Thomas Banyard on 7 July 1473 and their charter was witnessed by Sir Thomas Breouse and his son Giles, the grant being formalised by a fine made at Michaelmas. The stated price paid by Bohun to Robert was £68 13s. 4d., with a further £10 to John Storour, but the financial arrangements were complicated. Bohun paid £40, in eleven separate payments between 13 July 1473 and 17 June 1477, on his bond of 7 July 1373. An indenture between Edmund and Robert made on 7 July and Robert's final acquittance to Edmund state that Edmund had also paid £28 13s. 4d. on the day of the agreement, and the indenture states that the remaining £40 was to be paid once Robert had made 'sufficient security' in the said lands and had delivered to Edmund all the muniments concerning them. On 8 July William Vergeons and Thomas Callow were bound to Edmund in 40s. to be paid on 1 November next, and on 10 November an indenture was made between Banyard on the one hand and Vergeons and Callow on the other to the effect that Edmund's bond of £40 had been delivered to Banyard by Vergeons and Callow and would be returned to them by him when Robert Storour had delivered to Edmund sufficient acquittances to the sum of £6 13s. 4d. in part payment, and Banyard would retain the bond until that time. The confusion arises from a defeasance, apparently of the 40s. bond from Vergeons and Callow to Edmund, if Storour paid £28 13s. 4d. to Edmund at Michaelmas next. It is not clear whether Edmund paid the £28 13s. 4d. to Robert on 7 July and then Robert was obliged to repay this sum as part of the arrangements of the sale, or whether the statements that Edmund had paid the sum were a fiction, perhaps because Robert owed him this money. The additional 40s. is also a mystery, particularly as without it the sum apparently paid for the land would have been precisely 100 marks.

There was a further complication as one Robert Cooke claimed an enclosure called Edwards Hill of 16 acres which was part of the holding. On 6 January 1474 the Storour feoffees demised Edwards Hill to Edmund, Pulvertoft, and Banyard, stating that Robert had made over full seisin to them, and appointed attornies

410 89, 160, 162, 230-2, 250, 252, 264.

to deliver seisin. John de la Pole, duke of Suffolk, commanded a group of local worthies to settle the issue on 15 August 1474; they determined that, if it could be proved that the close had once been in the possession of Robert Storour, then it ought to belong to Edmund. In a statement of 19 July 1475 Robert stated that he had been informed that on 14 January 1475 Edmund had demanded of his father John Storour that he hand over certain muniments concerning Edwards Hill and was told by John that Cooke had come to him telling him that Robert had mortgaged the close to him for £4 and that John had given the muniments to Cooke. Robert stated that Cooke's claim was untrue and that he had never mortgaged the land to him but had leased it to him for 6s. 8d. a year until the sum of 4 nobles had been repaid, the enclosure being worth 20s. a year. In a statement made ten days later his father John confirmed this story and said he had handed over to Cooke seven charters. Finally on 10 December a gathering of fourteen elderly worthies of more than sixty and another thirteen of more than forty testified that to their knowledge Edwards Hill had never been in the possession of anyone other than John Storour, his mother Katherine, and his son Robert, except by a lease to farm from year to year or other term of years. On 14 November 1475 Robert was bound to Edmund in £100, to be defeased if Edmund had full seisin of Edwards Hill and two other pieces of land.

#### HUGH MILLER AND HIS DAUGHTER ALICE CARTER

Much is known of Hugh Miller and his daughter Alice Carter because the Carter holding, with additional lands, was acquired by Edmund Bohun shortly before July 1479. There is some doubt that the Hugh who appears in the cartulary between 1343 and 1384 was one man, because Alice, herself comparatively long-lived as she was an adult as early as 1416 and lived until 1467, is said to have succeeded him in 1416, and while, assuming that Hugh was born by c. 1320–5, it is not impossible that he might have lived into his nineties, this would have been highly unusual and unlikely. On the other hand, Hugh created a jointure with his wife Joan in all his lands in 1377, Alice made several enfeoffments of the lands she had inherited from her mother Joan, and it is possible that she had, in fact, succeeded Joan in 1416 and that the reference to her having succeeded Hugh in 1416 was a slight and understandable error.<sup>411</sup> Furthermore, there is nothing in the cartulary to suggest that there were two Hughs; consequently it would seem that Hugh was one man who married Joan possibly in his late fifties, having been unmarried or married but childless, that Alice was born probably not long before c. 1390 when Hugh may have been seventy (he was still buying land in 1384), and that Joan was probably far younger than Hugh and outlived him for many years, dying in 1416.

Hugh was the son of William le Miller whose message is mentioned in 1335 and was probably not related to Richard le Miller of Wilby (*fl.* 1304–5), son of Richard

<sup>411</sup> The reference is to land formerly held by Hugh of the manor of Ufford Hall, of which he died seized, after whose death Alice was admitted as his daughter and heir in a court of July 1416: 164.

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and Matilda Kembald.<sup>412</sup> He acquired from Hubert Seman a piece of land in 1343 and a messuage in 1349, possibly on the same day in January 1353 a piece of land of 1½ acres from Joan Swift and her sister Agnes Cutfoul and another piece of three roods from Matilda Kembald, in 1355 a piece of 1 acre from Alice Tydeman, on the same day in September 1358 1 acre in two pieces from John Sharpe the elder and 1 rood from Robert Barber which appear to have been adjacent and lying next to land he already held, in 1363 1 rood from Agatha Seman, and in 1365 a pightle containing 3 acres probably lying to the south from William Skinner. He also alienated a piece of land to Edmund le Shepherd in 1354, possibly that acquired from Joan and Agnes the previous year, and in 1369 Edmund granted his messuage and all his lands in Fressingfield to Hugh and Robert Bobyr, probably as feoffees. In 1377 Hugh settled all his lands in Fressingfield on himself and his wife Joan using as feoffees William Ker, vicar of Weybread, and John Calver, but he was not yet finished, as in 1384 he acquired from Robert Barber another piece of land.

His daughter and heir Alice was admitted to a half-rood formerly held by Hugh and later held of Sibton Abbey at a court held on 20 July 1416 and was still alive in 1467. She married Thomas Carter whose land is mentioned in 1418 and 1419 but was dead by 1423 when Alice, as his widow, granted to a group of feoffees all the lands which had come to her after the death of her mother Joan Miller. The feoffees quitclaimed these lands to her in March 1454 and in the following month she granted them to her son John Carter, chaplain, 'of Worlingworth', and two others. In 1435 she and her son John Carter were admitted to a rood of land held of Ufford Hall, formerly of Robert Barret, in 1437 a group of feoffees granted to Alice a piece of land of 3 acres formerly held by William Warner and in 1456 John Barber the elder granted to Alice, her son John, and four others, lands which may have been all his lands in Fressingfield. In 1467 Sibton Abbey confirmed to Alice and John the half-rood she had inherited in 1416 and 1 rood formerly of Robert Barret. Edmund Bohun acquired most of these lands from John Carter but the only evidence is an acquittance from John to Edmund for £25 14s. which Edmund owed him in part payment of a larger sum as the price of 'the holding called Carters tenement' with the appurtenances, and six pieces of land and meadow formerly of John Barber the elder but excluding two pieces lately pertaining to the manor of Ufford Hall, possibly the two confirmed to Alice and John by Sibton Abbey in 1467.

<sup>412</sup> 124, 179 = 199.

## THE EDWARD FAMILY

This family was important in the fourteenth century but does not occur in the fifteenth century. The earliest member was Richard Edward, who probably died between 1330 and 1333. By 1316 he had acquired a messuage and lands from Rose Hubert and her daughter Margery and in 1356 Thomas Edward received a quitclaim from his feoffees of a pightle and a piece of land formerly of Rose Hubert.<sup>413</sup> Richard also acquired a house and croft from Robert de Fressingfield, son and heir of Robert le Tanner, between 1314 and 1317 and, although no charter of this acquisition survives, in 1319 he received a quitclaim of dower rights in the lands formerly of Robert le Tanner.<sup>414</sup> Richard witnessed charters between 1323 and 1330 and paid 2s. 2d. in the subsidy of 1327, but in 1333 there is a reference to land formerly of his.

The two most active members of the family were Thomas Edward, who occurs between 1356 and 1378 and was dead by 1384, and his brother John Edward, a clergyman. Unfortunately there is only likelihood to suggest that the various references to John Edward between 1347 and 1361 are to the same person as in some he is referred to as *dominus* (1361) or as rector of Trunch (1353–4) and finally as lately parson of Badingham (1367), while in others, particularly in four appearances as a witness in 1351 and 1352, he is not. Apart from a reference to his pightle in 1347, he first appears in 1349, when he acquired the village messuage later called Sharps Yard from William son of Hubert Sharpe.<sup>415</sup> In 1350, Thomas de Wingfield and John le Greyve having acquired a pightle and a piece of land from Matthew and Hugh Davy, Richard le Greyve of Whittingham and his sister Isabella quitclaimed them to Wingfield and John Edward.<sup>416</sup> They lay together, the pightle south of the land and abutting on the Dunwich highway to the south, and the land lying between an enclosure of John and land of Thomas Edward. In March 1352 John acquired from Thomas de Chippenhall two pieces of land, one lying between John's pightle to the east and his land to the south, and the other abutting on the highway called Small Way to the north and in January 1353, when Chippenhall quitclaimed these pieces to John, he was identified as rector of Trunch.<sup>417</sup> In 1354, again identified as rector of Trunch, he acquired four pieces of land from William le Skinner, three of which lay adjacent to land he already held, including a plot he had earlier bought from Skinner, and lay near the junction of Small Way and Ashby Way; by 1437–8 Robert Joseph held the first of these pieces, then described as containing 5 acres.<sup>418</sup> By January 1356 he had evidently made over to a group of feoffees some of his acquisitions as in this month Thomas de Wingfield, the rector Richard Caltoft, Geoffrey Barret, and Thomas Edward, confirmed to John Rowe

413 186, 282.

414 175, 209–11.

415 280.

416 181 = 201, 205.

417 167–8. The advowson of Trunch belonged to Castle Acre Priory: Blomefield, *Norfolk*, viii. 179–81.

418 169, 234.



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the southern half of the village messuage later called Godbalds Yard, and to the other rector William Gernoun and his brother John a pightle with a garden which lay next to the road from Fressingfield to Stradbroke to the east and abutted on the highway to the south. In 1358 Rowe granted the half-messuage and another piece of land to Thomas Edward, who also acquired in 1361 the northern half of the messuage which had passed from John to Geoffrey Barret.<sup>419</sup> John had also made over to Wingfield, Caltoft, and Thomas a pightle and four pieces of land; in 1367, when John was identified as lately parson of Badingham and was probably dead, Wingfield and Caltoft quitclaimed them to Thomas. Other land which had belonged to John Edward, chaplain, and Robert Spirard, chaplain, was granted in 1378 by Sir Michael de la Pole to Richard Waryn.<sup>420</sup>

Thomas Edward, having come into possession of some if not all of his brother's lands, lived somewhat longer and occurs as a witness between 1354 and 1378. In January 1356, two weeks after he with Wingfield, Caltoft, and Barret had confirmed John's pightle to William and John Gernoun, Wingfield, Caltoft, and Barret quitclaimed to Thomas the pightle formerly of Rose Hubert and a messuage with a pightle adjacent.<sup>421</sup> Having acquired in 1358 and 1361 the two moieties of Godbalds Yard previously held by his brother, and having had the pightle and four pieces of land confirmed to him by Wingfield and Caltoft in 1367, in 1368 John Caltoft and Roger Edward of Beccles confirmed Sharps Yard and another piece of land to him, they having acquired it from Richard White in 1366, but two weeks later Thomas granted Sharps Yard to Adam son of John Gowyn.<sup>422</sup> He seems to have granted at least some of his lands to feoffees which were dispersed after his death. His feoffees John Caltoft, Robert Edward of Beccles, and John Edward of Beccles granted one piece of land to John Felys and others and in November 1384 Thomas's widow Isabel quitclaimed this to them.<sup>423</sup> The same feoffees in 1394 confirmed an enclosure called Davys Close and the adjacent pightle to Felys and John Beton, and Isabel also quitclaimed Godbalds Yard to John Godbald in 1392.<sup>424</sup> The family lands were evidently dispersed as, in addition to those which passed to John Felys and later, except for Godbalds Yard, passed to William Dallinghoo and then John Bohun, the enclosure of 16 acres called Edwards Hill passed to the Waryns and was held by Katherine Waryn, widow of John (I), in 1437-8, and at the same time Robert Joseph was holding the enclosure of 5 acres called Boltshedge which John Edward had acquired from William Skinner in 1354.

Other possible members of the family are found only as acting in connection with Thomas as his feoffees, Roger Edward of Beccles in 1366 and 1368,<sup>425</sup> and John and Robert Edward of Beccles in 1384 and 1394; at the earlier date Robert was described as chaplain but he was parson of Swainsthorpe by 1394.

419 185, 188.

420 86 = 113.

421 186.

422 284, 286 = 76.

423 225.

424 189, 206.

425 Roger Edward also granted a piece of land to Thomas Launce in 1367: 51.



## THE DADE/RUSH FAMILY

It would seem from the evidence supplied by the cartulary and elsewhere that in the late fourteenth century a Dade changed his name to Rush but that soon after a later Dade, possibly a younger son, returned to the name of Dade and that this name was adopted more consistently by his descendents. In the latter part of the fourteenth century there lived a Nicholas Dade who witnessed no fewer than twenty-nine charters between September 1358 and 25 November 1388, while references are made to his land in 1358 and his pasture in 1361.<sup>426</sup> If the identification of a piece of land is correct, then Nicholas was the successor of a Robert Dade, and an Alice Dade appears as party to an action brought by William Skinner in 1363.<sup>427</sup> In July 1389 William Dade of Fressingfield was pardoned his outlawry for not appearing to answer Sir John Breouse in a case of trespass, and it may have been his daughter and heir Isabel who petitioned, probably sometime between 1399 and 1422, that her father had held lands in Fressingfield, Weybread, Syleham, and Earsham until he was forcibly dispossessed of them by John Dade, who continued to hold them and to collect the profits.<sup>428</sup> Within the cartulary there are no more references to Dades until 1421, apart from one appearance of John Dade as a witness in 1405, but thereafter they are again frequent. A Nicholas Rush witnessed two charters in May 1388 and 1392; the land of Nicholas Rush is mentioned in 1415; and in October 1436 Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Rush, and her husband Stephen Spicer of Brockdish granted to feoffees all the lands she had had by the assignment of her father and also of inheritance after his death.<sup>429</sup>

Meanwhile a John Rush who also used the name of John Dade was active from 1398 and died in or shortly before 1454, and left a son who was chiefly known as John Dade but also appears once as Dade *alias* Rush.<sup>430</sup> The younger John was also active from 1419, when John Rush 'the younger' was appointed as a feoffee for the Waryn estate and John Rush 'the elder' witnessed the deed.<sup>431</sup> It is consequently difficult to establish which John is acting in some of the many appearances of the names of John Dade and John Rush between 1419 and 1454, but it is certain that it was John (I) who was a feoffee for John Bohun in 1431 (as Rush), 1429 and 1437 (as Dade), as when these lands were re-ensfeoffed in September 1458 he is identi-

426 171, 176-8. The piece of pasture is possibly that held by Richard Finch in 1323 and Alexander Bene in 1312. Richard Finch (*fl.* 1316-27), who paid 2s. towards the subsidy of 1327, was not the last of the Finches, as a Thomas occurs 1336-49, a Roger in 1358, and another Thomas in 1398: *Suffolk in 1327*, 52.

427 171-2, 174, 277. Skinner's action against John Gernoun of Burwell, chaplain, his nephew Thomas, his servant Nicholas Josep, and Alice Dade may have resulted from Gernoun's acquisition of a messuage which Skinner had sold in c. 1352, but there is, unfortunately, nothing to elucidate Alice's involvement.

428 *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1388-92, 64; TNA, SC8/199/9904.

429 54, 189, 151, 252. Richard Rush had witnessed four charters between 1367 and 1370: 49, 52, 34, 285.

430 The will of John Dade *alias* Rush the elder, of Fressingfield, was proved in 1454: *Index of Wills*, 112.

431 88.

fied as John Dade *alias* Rush deceased. It was also probably John (I) who was a feoffee for John Sancroft in 1398, 1432, and 1437, who had acquired by 1411 a piece of meadow from the Kembald estate, and was probably again acting as a feoffee for Bohun in 1435 with John Fox and Thomas Godbald, all as John Rush.<sup>432</sup> It is uncertain which John Dade was the feoffee for William Dallinghoo in 1430, but it was certainly John (II) who was the feoffee of the Dallinghoo lands in 1434 and 1450, as he was still alive in 1459. Equally it is uncertain which John witnessed eight charters as John Rush and another eight as John Dade between 1405 and 1451, although it is likely that most if not all of the appearances as John Rush were John (I). John (II), as well as being a feoffee of the Waryn estate in 1419, also acted for the Sancrofts as a feoffee in 1425 and as attorney in 1432 as 'the younger', and for Alice Carter in 1423 as 'the younger' and again twice in 1454 by which time he was 'the elder'.<sup>433</sup> He was also a feoffee of the two enfeoffments of Bohun lands to carry out the will of John Bohun where he is identified as the son of John (I).<sup>434</sup> On all these occasions except for 1419 he was called John Dade, but in 1462 he acted as feoffee of the Spicer lands as John Rush *alias* Dade; this is his only certain appearance using the other name since 1419, and this may have been because the lands concerned had formerly belonged to Nicholas Rush.<sup>435</sup> He witnessed three charters, all as John Dade, in 1462 and 1467, was again appointed as a feoffee of the Waryn estate in 1459, and as such is known to have been dead by 1473.<sup>436</sup> He is likely to have died in 1470, when his will, as John Dade of Fressingfield, was proved.<sup>437</sup> It was presumably his son, a John (III), who testified in 1475 aged forty or more and whose will was proved in 1494.<sup>438</sup>

It would seem that the older John was more wedded to the name of Rush, passing under both names, and consequently it was probably he who continued to witness as John Rush until 1451, while the younger moved exclusively to the use of Dade between 1419 and 1423, except when acting as feoffee for former Rush lands in 1462. Both Johns apparently had long active lives, John (I) occurring as a feoffee as early as 1398 and dying probably in 1454, while John (II) was appointed as a feoffee in 1419 and probably died in 1470. It is likely that John (I) Dade *alias* Rush and his son John (II) who occurs once as John Rush *alias* Dade were connected with the Nicholas Dade of 1358–88, and the one or two Nicholas Ruses of 1388–1436 but the nature of the connection, and why there was apparently a brief change of name to Rush after 1388 and the gradual reversion to Dade again between 1405 and 1450, is entirely inexplicable. It may be speculated that Nicholas Dade married the heiress of Richard Rush (*fl.* 1367–70) and adopted the name of Rush from c. 1388, and that he was succeeded by another Nicholas Rush

432 39, 69, 85, 41, 215, 287, 157, 159 (witness), 23, 207; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/13–14, 28–9, 33.

433 88, 154, 153, 155, 163; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/24, 30.

434 230, 231, 232, 233; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/35.

435 253.

436 90, 91, 112.

437 *Index of Wills*, 112.

438 118; *Index of Wills*, 112.

(*d.* 1415–36) but had a younger son John (I) Rush *alias* Dade. It is also noticeable that, for all the many appearances of Dades and Rushes, there are very few references to their lands, as they appear mostly as witnesses and feoffees. The exceptions are the lands of Nicholas Rush which passed to his daughter Margaret Spicer, and the acquisitions of John Rush by 1411 and in 1435.

Other probable members of the family in the fifteenth century can be identified. William Dade of Fressingfield, possibly a younger son of John (I), was a feoffee for Stephen Sancroft in 1432 and witnessed a charter in 1462.<sup>439</sup> The Thomas Dade who witnessed three charters in 1457, 1459, and 1467 is identified in the latter as being 'of Fressingfield' but may be the Thomas Dade *alias* Rush, of Wingfield, whose will was proved in 1477 and whose alias connects him with the Johns.<sup>440</sup> The will of Roger Dade of Weybread was proved in 1459, while a Thomas Dade of Weybread was involved in Edmund Bohun's sale of a messuage in Norwich in January 1478 and probably died in 1503 when the will of Thomas of Weybread was proved, although Thomas Dade of Weybread, 'the elder', was alive in June 1504 when John Dade, gentleman, Nicholas Dade, and others granted to him and his wife Rose and others, the lands in Weybread that they had acquired from John Bumpstede in 1501.<sup>441</sup>

#### THE GODBALD FAMILY

The earliest member of this family who appears in the cartulary is Seman Godbald, who witnessed two charters in 1358–9;<sup>442</sup> it may be speculated that he owed his unusual forename to a connection with Hubert Seman, who occurs between 1316 and 1349, although he was probably not Hubert's heir as a William Seman occurs between 1398 and 1429 and a John Seman in 1428. A later Seman Godbald was living in 1415, a Nicholas in 1398, and an Alexander in 1420.<sup>443</sup> John Godbald, who may have been the John who witnessed a charter as early as 1361 or the John who witnessed another in 1428 but probably not both, had acquired the village messuage later called Godbalds Yard from Thomas Edward by 1392 and granted it to John Felys in 1395.<sup>444</sup> Felys's feoffees granted this to John Gowyn in 1412 and he to Thomas Godbald in 1439 and it was later granted by Thomas's son and heir John to feoffees for parish charitable purposes in 1491;<sup>445</sup> Felys and Gowyn may have been no more than feoffees for the Godbalds and the succession of John to Thomas to John may indicate one line of descent in the family. This is helpful as by the latter part of the fifteenth century the family had proliferated and there were numerous Godbalds in Fressingfield who are difficult to relate to each other.

439 281; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/31.

440 89, 233, 164; *Index of Wills*, 112.

441 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), FC 91/L1/15; TNA, C146/3404, C5789.

442 48, 171.

443 215, B5, B23–B24, B26.

444 189, 283, B40.

445 284–6.

Thomas Godbald occurs from 1434 acting as feoffee for Dallinghoo/Bohun between 1434 and 1450; he was also granted a piece of land with John Rush (Dade) and John Fox in 1435 when he may also have been acting as a feoffee for Bohun and was still alive in 1458.<sup>446</sup> His son and heir John was one of two or three John Godbalds alive at the end of the century. John son of Thomas was distinct from John Godbald of Chippenhall who witnessed his grant of the village messuage in 1491, while two Johns, the elder and the younger, appear together testifying in 1475, when both were aged between forty and sixty, and as witnesses to the same charter in 1482 by which the Jacob messuage was granted to Edmund Bohun.<sup>447</sup> It was presumably the elder, 'of Fressingfield', who was a feoffee of this messuage between 1467 and 1482 and presumably the younger who was 'of Chippenhall' in 1491.<sup>448</sup> It is unclear whether John the elder was also the son of Thomas, and whether John the younger was the son of John the elder, but although John of Chippenhall is not identified as the son of John son of Thomas in the charter of 1491, both seem likely because in June 1497 John Godbald surrendered a messuage and 29½ acres of land, meadow, and pasture which he had held of Chippenhall manor, of which the messuage with 20 acres of land had previously been held by Nicholas, Seman, Thomas, and John Godbald, as well as by John Wode and Roger Neve.<sup>449</sup> This seems to confirm a succession from an early Nicholas through Seman and Thomas to a previous John, with additional lands having been acquired from Wode and Neve, but the same document indicates that the 'said' Nicholas was still alive in 1491 and this may be an unreliable deduction. Another Nicholas was alive in 1398 when he witnessed two charters.<sup>450</sup>

The lands surrendered by John were then granted to Nicholas Godbald and his wife Alice and their issue. This Nicholas appears to have been particularly prosperous as, in addition to acquiring these lands, he was also in possession at that date of land previously held by Roger and Thomas Godbald, Roger Neve, Robert Greve, and Robert Brend, although he may have inherited some of them.<sup>451</sup> In 1496–7 he took on the farm of 3 acres at 5s. 6d. a year, probably of Chippenhall manor, and in October 1502 William Godbald surrendered 7½ acres of land, also held of Chippenhall manor, which were granted to Nicholas 'the elder' for a rent of 10s. a year. The reference to this Nicholas being the elder indicates that there were two active at the same time, but the Nicholas who was married to Alice in 1497 was very probably the Nicholas who died in 1505, as when he wrote his will on 7 May his wife Alice was pregnant; this will, in which he left his lands to his brothers Richard, Thomas, and William if the expected child was not born

446 207, 230–3; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/35.

447 118, 270.

448 267–8, 270.

449 240. This chief holding was held by a court record of July 1421, while 2 acres were held by a court record of October 1453, 3½ acres of land and pasture by a court record of October 1433, and 4 acres by a court record of February 1433. It is unlikely that all these court records referred to the same John: 240.

450 Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/13, 14.

451 He was also holding land formerly of Roger Neve, and land before of Roger Godbald and formerly of Roger Neve.

or did not survive, was proved on 20 September.<sup>452</sup> A Richard Godbald occurs in 1473 as a witness;<sup>453</sup> if this was Nicholas's brother, then the Nicholas who died in 1505 was very probably also 'the elder', and the William whose lands he took over in 1502 may also have been his brother. A Robert Godbald, the younger, of Chippenhall, was in 1482 appointed as attorney to deliver seisin of the Jacob messuage; it was presumably an older Robert who witnessed charters between 1432 and 1459, who was a feoffee for the Sancroft family in 1432, and who testified in 1475 when aged sixty or more.<sup>454</sup> Land belonging to Chippenhall manor which was formerly of Roger Neve and lately of Robert Godbald was among that which William Godbald made over to Nicholas in 1502.<sup>455</sup>

The last identifiable member of the family was Roger Godbald, land of whom had passed to Nicholas by 1497. Roger appears as a witness between 1427 and 1467 and was dead by 1473.<sup>456</sup> He was frequently employed as a feoffee, by Alice Carter in 1437 and again in 1456, for Thomas Godbald between 1439 and 1462, for John Barber the elder between 1443 and 1451, for the Jacob messuage between 1447 and 1451, for John Bohun between 1450 and 1459, and for the Waryn family in 1457.<sup>457</sup>

452 B42.

453 90.

454 270, 118, 232-3; Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/27, 28, 33, 35.

455 244.

456 Also Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/230/31-3.

457 153, 284-6, 157-8, 264-6, 270, 232-3, 162, 89-91, 112.

## EDITORIAL METHOD

As this is a cartulary and subject to potential alterations in spelling by the copyist, all placenames have been modernised where the identity is certain. Entries have been given in a standardised format of a summary of the contents, followed by the witness list and the date clause, regardless of variations in the original. The incorrect positioning of folio 87 has been silently corrected in the main text, although the original order has been given in Appendix A. The index has been compiled so as to distinguish between individuals of the same name as far as possible, and to indicate the dates between which they appear. Noted references to calendar entries in the main text (the Bohun Cartulary) appear in bold, thus **ooo**, while references to calendar entries of the documents given in Appendix B appear thus: **Booo**.

THE BOHUN OF  
FRESSINGFIELD  
CARTULARY

(f. 1) 29 Octobris 1722

Evidenct. [Further words almost entirely obliterated.]

[Marginal: Starston]

1. Roger Waryn of Harleston has granted to John son of Stephen Pecchon of Starston, for a certain sum of money, one piece (*peciam*) of land in Starston lying between the land formerly of William Mattock towards the south and on the land of Thomas Pecchon towards the north, to hold to him, his heirs and assigns, of the chief lord of the fee by the service owed, and Roger and his heirs will warrant John and his heirs.

Witnesses: John le parker, John lee Kyng, William le Claver (*sic*), John le Wryggeman (*sic*), William Wast, William Puttock, Richard Wast, Robert le Baxster, Robert le Cok, and others.

At Starston, Sunday after St Martin the bishop, 3 Edw. III [12 Nov. 1329]

[Marginal: Weybread]

2. Roger Benett of Weybread and Alice his wife have quitclaimed to Wakelin Breuse, Roger Breuse, and Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, their heirs and assigns, all they have or might inherit in all their lands in the vill of Weybread. If infringed, they, their heirs and executors, and all their goods and chattels, are bound (*interposito*) to pay in compensation (*subsidium*) for the land 200s. to the fabric of the church of Weybread 40s. [*sic*, possibly 'and' missing].

Witnesses: Simon Couper, Richard Perons, John Roys, Thomas Sebald, Simon Alcock, and others.

At Weybread, Thursday after Michaelmas, 47 Edw. III [6 Oct. 1373]

(f. 1d.)

3. Nicholas le Calwer of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Waryn of the same and Matilda his wife, all his goods and chattels within his messuage in the vill of Fressingfield.

Witnesses: Thomas Wor, Thomas Wysty, John Fox, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday after the Beheading of St John the Baptist, 49 Edw. III [1 Sept. 1375]



4. *Dominus* William Gerney, knight, has quitclaimed to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, his heirs and assigns, a certain messuage called the messuage of Barbour with all appurtenances as in his charter of enfeoffment to Richard, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and will warrant.

Friday after St Faith, 3 Ric. II [7 Oct. 1379]

5. Indenture to testify that whereas Richard Waryn of Fressingfield is bound to John Cokerell of Earsham the elder in £4 of silver, to be paid in the church of Earsham at Michaelmas next, the bond is defeased if John has full tenure of a piece of land called Lynlond.

At Earsham, Thursday after St Luke, 8 Ric. II [20 Oct. 1384]

(f. 2)

6. Indenture to testify that whereas Richard Waryn of Weybread is bound to John le Potter the elder of Weybread in 60 marks, John has granted that the bond is defeased if he is not disturbed by John son of Thomas de Blakemere, nor by Joan wife of Stephen Harr, nor their heirs, with regard to a messuage which John recently acquired from Richard in the vill of Weybread formerly of Thomas Joudy, or if Agnes wife of Richard brings no suit for dower.

At Weybread, Tuesday after St Edward, King and Martyr, 40 Edw. III [24 Mar. 1366]

7. Indenture to testify that whereas Richard Waryn of Weybread is bound to John Roys of the same and Joan his wife in 10 marks, that John and Joan will not be disturbed by John son of Thomas de Blakemere in a messuage which John and Joan recently acquired from Richard in the vill of Weybread, which lies between the messuage formerly of William Marche to the south and the messuage formerly of Thomas Endyn, chaplain, to the north, and abuts on the king's highway called Stanstrete to the east and on the pightle formerly of Robert Spirhard, chaplain, to the west.

At Weybread, Sunday after the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 41 Edw. III [7 Feb. 1367]

(f. 3)

8. Richard [*Roger* deleted] Lepsi of Fressingfield has granted to Roger le Neve of the same, for a certain sum of money, a piece of his land in Fressingfield lying between the land of Matilda called the niece of the parson to the east and the land of Robert de Shelton to the east (*sic*), one head abutting on the meadow of the said Robert to the north and the other head abutting on the land of the said Matilda to the south; to him and his heirs, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and Richard warrants.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, John le Barbour, Roger le Grond, John Tydeman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Luke, 8 Edw. III [24 Oct. 1334]

9. Alice Tygthemman of Fressingfield has granted to Roger le Neve of the same and Constance his wife, for a certain sum of money, one piece of her land in the said vill of Fressingfield, viz. between the land of John Kembald on each side, abutting on the land of Juliana Kembald to the south and on the king's highway to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and Alice warrants. [See also 27.]

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, John le Neve the younger, Robert Bobir, William le Skynner, Edward le Schepherd, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Faith, 32 Edw. III [7 Oct. 1358]

(f. 3d.)

10. On Monday after the Annunciation, 47 Edw. III [18 Mar. 1375], it was agreed between Roger le Neve of Fressingfield and Constance his wife, on the one part, and William de Busshop on the other part, viz. that whereas Roger and Constance have sold to William a messuage and two pieces of land with appurtenances lying in the vill of Fressingfield, as in their charter of enfeoffment, to hold after the deaths of Roger and Constance, for 10 marks to be paid to Roger and Constance or their attornies at the said messuage at the end of 10 years, viz. at Michaelmas one mark per year, Roger and Constance further concede to William to have all the following utensils, viz. one brass bowl (*ollam eneam*) and one pan (*patell*), two chests, one andiron, one grating and one tripod, and also one lead measure of 40 gallons, one pair of querns with stones, one *heyre ad trillum tressat*, two *kelels*, two barrels, one pipe (*tonnell*), two barrels and one barrel for *verons*, and also one *flestrewe*, so that Katherine, the wife (*mulier*) of the said William, serves Roger and Constance, taking each of them an equal part of the stipend while they agree, but if it happens that they do not agree then Roger and Constance concede to William, his heirs and assigns, a chamber in the said messuage to live in for the lives of Roger and Constance, and he will keep up the house of the messuage.

(f. 4)

11. Richard Wyth of Fressingfield has conceded, and by this writing binds himself and his heirs, to John Scharp of the same, merchant, for a certain sum of money, in an annual rent of 20s. from all his lands and holdings in the vill of Fressingfield and the hamlet of Metfield in the county of Suffolk, payable at Michaelmas. [See also 35.]

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng of Fressingfield, Roger le Neve, John son of the said Roger, carpenter, Robert Bobur of the same, Roger Brewes, Gilbert Alneve, and William Prudfote of Mendham, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, 42 Edw. III [10 Sept. 1368]

12. John Scharp of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Richard Waryn of the same an annual rent of 20s. from Richard le Wyth of Metefeld from all the lands of the said Richard le Wyth in the vill of Fressingfield and hamlet of Metfield, as in Richard's bond and the indenture between them.

*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, Nicholas Date, John le Neve, Robert Bobur, Robert le Barbourgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sun before the Conversion of St Paul, 46 Edw. III [23 Jan. 1373]

(*f. 4d.*)

**13.** Joan, formerly wife of Robert Bakon of Forncett, widow, has granted to John Roys of Weybread and Arabel his wife, half the messuage called Scharpes, with half all her lands and holdings in Fressingfield which formerly were of Hugh Fysch her father and descended to her of the inheritance of Hugh after his death, to hold to them the said half of the said messuage with half of the said lands, to them, their heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, Richard Waryn, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbourgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 50 Edw. III [26 Jun. 1376]

[Marginal – in tenure of John Barbour]

**14.** Joan, formerly wife of Robert Bakon of Forncett, widow, has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, half the messuage called Scharpes with half all her lands and holdings in Fressingfield [as 13].

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbourgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 50 Edw. III [26 Jun. 1376]

(*f. 5*)

**15.** Indenture to testify that whereas Joan, formerly wife of Robert Bakon, is bound to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, John Roys of Weybread, and Arabel his wife, in £20, the bond is defeased if Joan and her heirs warrant them.

At Fressingfield, Saturday after the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 50 Edw. III [28 Jun. 1376]

**16.** John Roys of Weybread has conceded and confirmed to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield half the messuage called Scharpes with half the lands and holdings in Fressingfield formerly of Hugh Fysch, to him, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: John Felys, chaplain, Richard Sucl ynge, John Neve, John Rouk, Robert Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Discovery of the Holy Cross, 5 Ric. II [4 May 1382]

(*f. 5d.*)

**17.** Suffolk. At the Easter term 11 Ric. II [1388] there came into our hands by the sheriff half a messuage and 24 a. of land with appurtenances in Weybread which Agnes who was the wife of Richard Waryn of Fressingfield claimed in the king's

court in dower against Thomas Bally of Wyngefeld, for default of said Thomas, etc., and against Richard Pryk of Fressingfield half a messuage and 60 a. of land in Fressingfield, for default of said Richard, etc., and a day given, etc.

18. Gruald Wythok of Fressingfield has granted to Alexander Kembald of the same, for 8s. 6d., a piece of land lying in the parish of Fressingfield, viz. between his land to the east and the land of Thomas Pole to the west, abutting on the road which leads to Gruald's house at the church of Fressingfield to the south and on the land of the said Alexander to the north, to him, his heirs and assigns, rendering the customary services i.e. 2½d. a year to the chief lord, and to Gruald and his heirs a clove of *gariopholi*, and warrants.

Witnesses: Gilbert Veel, William de Blancheville, Robert le Tanur, Robert de Riveshale, Hubert his son, Matthew Bene, Walter his son, William Spink, Peter the merchant, William the merchant, Thomas Mannok, Matthew Davy, and others.

(f. 6)

19. Robert Bakun of Forncett and Juliana his wife have granted to John Kembald of Fressingfield and Arabel his wife, their messuage called Scharpes with all their arable land in Fressingfield which were of Hugh Fyssh and which descended to them hereditarily after the death of Hugh, to them, their heirs and assigns, and Robert and Juliana warrant.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John Neve, William Skynner, Thomas Edward, Richard qwyte, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 35 Edw. III [15 Aug. 1361]

[Marginal – in tenure of John Barbour]

20. Juliana Kembald of Fresynfeld has granted to Master Richard de Caltoft, parson of the church of Fressingfield, and John his son, all her lands and holdings in the fields of Fressingfield, to hold, with the appurtenant meadow, pasture, etc., of the chief lord of the fee, to them, their heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John Neve his son, Richard Whyte, William Skynner, John Scharp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after Saints Peter and Paul, 35 Edw. III [2 Jul. 1361]

(f. 6d.)

21. Juliana Kembald of Fressingfield has appointed William Skynner her attorney to give seisin to Master Richard de Caltoft and John his son [as 20].

At Fressingfield, Monday after Saints Peter and Paul, 35 Edw. III [5 Jul. 1361]

22. Constance, relict of Roger Neve of Fressingfield, widow, has quitclaimed to John Caltoft of Redenhall, William Ker, perpetual vicar of the church of Weybread, and Thomas Wodeward of Chippenhall, their heirs and assigns, the

lands and holdings which Richard Waryn of Fressingfield formerly held and occupied in Fressingfield. [See 84.]

Witnesses: *Dominus* John Wyngefeld, knight, John Rouk, Nicholas Date, Robert Neve, Richard Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Wednesday the feast of St Katherine, 12 Ric. II [25 Nov. 1388]

23. John Caltoft of Harleston has conceded, enfeoffed, and confirmed to Robert Kembald of Fressingfield all his lands, holdings, etc., lying in the vill of Fressingfield, with the appurtenances, which he formerly had by grant of Juliana Kembald, except one piece of meadow which John Ruschey of Fressingfield acquired, to Robert, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: John Waryn, William Seman, Richard Neve, John Sancroft, John Malvis, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Katherine, 13 Hen. IV [26 Nov. 1411]

(*f. 7*)

24. Richard Caltoft has quitclaimed to Richard Pyk of Fressingfield all the lands and holdings which he acquired from the said Richard together with Richard le Whyte, John Baude, and Richard Barber, in the vill of Fressingfield.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John le Neve, Robert Bobyr, William Godyng, Robert Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Michaelmas, 42 Edw. III [30 Sept. 1368]

25. Matilda, formerly daughter [*filia quondam*] of Alexander Baxtere of Fressingfield, has quitclaimed to Richard Pyk of Merton, his heirs and assigns, all the lands, holdings, etc., formerly of Alexander her father in the vill of Fressingfield.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John his son, Richard le Whyte, William le Skynner, Robert Salman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday before the Conversion of St Paul, 35 Edw. III [22 Jan. 1362]

(*f. 7d.*)

26. Matilda, formerly wife of Richard Pyk of Sibton, widow, has quitclaimed to John, son and heir of the late Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, all the lands which were of Alexander Baxter, formerly her father, in Fressingfield.

Witnesses: John Caltoft of Redenhall, Richard le Neve of Fressingfield, Robert le Neve, John Calwer, John Gyle of the same vill, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after St James the apostle, 2 Hen. IV [29 Jul. 1401]

27. William Wryght of Fressingfield has granted to John Waryn of the same a piece of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield between the land of John Kembald on each side abutting on the land of Juliana Kembald to the south and on the

king's highway to the north, to John, his heirs and assigns, and warrants. [See also 9.]

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Sancroft, John Swyft, John Fox the elder, Robert Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, 6th June 8 Hen. IV [1407]

(f. 8)

28. Thomas Edward of Fressingfield has granted to Roger le Neve of the same and Constance his wife, for a certain sum of money, one piece of his land with the appurtenances lying in the vill of Fressingfield, *viz.* between the land of Alexander Vally to the south and the land of Richard le Whyte to the north, and abutting on the pightle of Robert le Barbourgh to the east and on the land of the said Richard le Whyte to the west, to them, their heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Geoffrey Baret, John Rowe, John le Neve, Robert Barbourgh, Robert Bobur, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Andrew, 31 Edw. III [3 Dec. 1357]

29. Juliana Kembald of Fressingfield, widow, has appointed Matilda, her daughter, her attorney to deliver seisin to Roger le Neve of Fressingfield and Constance his wife of a piece of land with the appurtenances lying in the said vill of Fressingfield between the land of Thomas de Wyngefeld on each side, as in her charter of enfeoffment. [See 42.]

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, William le Skynner, Nicholas Date, John Kembald, John le Neve the younger, Thomas Edward, Alexander Vally, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before St Dunstan, 34 Edw. III [17 May 1360]

30. Andrew, parson of half the church of All Saints of Stanton, and Robert Bobur of Fressingfield, have granted to Roger le Neve of Fressingfield and Constance his wife, four pieces of their land which they lately acquired from Roger and Constance, which lie in the vill of Fressingfield [32]: (1) one which lies between the land of Alexander Vally to the south and the land of Richard le Whyte to the north, abutting on the pightle of Robert le Barbourgh to the east and on the land of the said Richard le Whyte to the west [28, 32]; (2) one which lies between the land of Thomas de Wyngefeld to the east and the land formerly of Henry le Sumpter to the west, abutting on the land of Thomas de Wyngefeld to the south and on the king's highway to the north [32]; (3) one which lies between the land of the said Roger and Constance and the land formerly of John Rosissone to the north, abutting on the land formerly of John Rosissone to the west and on the way called AysbyWeye to the east [31, 32]; (4) and one lies between the land of John Kembald on each side abutting on the land of Juliana Kembald to the south and on the king's highway to the north [9, 27, 32]; to them and the heirs and assigns of Constance, and they warrant.

Witnesses: Richard le qWhyte, William le Skyner, Thomas Algier, John le Veel, Nicholas Date, Roger Alger, William Scharp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Conversion of St Paul, 35 Edw. III [23 Jan. 1362]

(*f. 8d.*)

31. William le Skynner has granted to Roger le Neve and Constance his wife, of Fressingfield, a piece of land lying in the same vill between the land of the said Constance and the land of John Rose to the north, abutting to the west on the land of the said John and to the east on AysebyeWeye, to them, their heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas de Wyngefeld, John Edward, John le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Assumption of BVM, 26 Edw. III [19 Aug. 1352]

[Marginal – Cartesfeld ... in Bolt]

(*f. 9*)

32. Roger le Neve of Fressingfield and Constance his wife have granted to *dominus* Andrew, parson of half the church of All Saints of Stanton, and Robert Bobur, five plots of arable land lying in the vill of Fressingfield: (1) one which lies between the land of Alexander Vally to the south and of Richard le qWhyte to the north, abutting on the pightle of Robert le Barbourgh to the east and on the land of Richard le qWhyte to the west [28, 30]; (2) one which lies between the land of Thomas de Wyngefelde to the east and the land formerly of Henry le Sumpter to the west, abutting on the pasture of Thomas de Wyngefelde to the south and on the king's highway to the north [30]; (3) one which lies between the land of Thomas de Wyngefelde on each side and at each head [42]; (4) one which lies between the land of Roger and Constance and the land formerly of John Rosissone to the north, abutting on the land formerly of John Rosissone to the west and on the way called AysbyWeye to the east [30, 31]; (5) and one which lies between the land of John Kembald on each side abutting on the land of Juliana Kembald to the south and on the king's highway to the north [9, 27, 30]; to them, their heirs and assigns, and warrant. [TNA E326/3821]

Witnesses: Richard le qWhyte, William le Skynner, Thomas Alger, John le Veel, Nicholas Date, Robert Salman, William Scharp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before All Saints, 35 Edw. III [31 Oct. 1361]

[Marginal, opposite (4) – in Cartesfeld *sen* in Bolt]

33. Roger le Neve of Fressingfield and Constance his wife have granted to Richard Pyk of Merton two pieces of land in the said vill of Fressingfield, one lying next to the land of Fressingfield church to the east, abutting on the king's highway to the north and on the way leading to Fressingfield church to the south, and the other called le Sevene acres lying with the ditch and trees pertaining between the king's highway leading to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west and between the land of Fressingfield church to the east, abutting on the land of the church to the south; and also the reversion of a third piece, after the death of Constance, *viz.* that which lies between the land of Richard le qWhyte to the south and the land



of the said Roger le Neve to the north, abutting on Aysbyweye to the east and on the land of the said Richard le qWhyte to the west; to Richard Pyk, his heirs and assigns, and they warrant.

Witnesses: John le Neve, Richard le qWhyte, William le Skynner, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobur, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after Epiphany, 35 Edw. III [10 Jan. 1362]

[Marginal (in 1722 hand) – v. *infra* p. 29 [55]<sup>1</sup>]

(f. 9d.)

34. Matilda Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to John Scharp, draper of the same, for a certain sum of money, a messuage with a house built on it and the appurtenances lying in the vill of Fressingfield, viz. between the cemetery of the church to the east and the marketplace to the west, abutting on the king's highway to the south and on the messuage of Roger le Neve and Constance his wife to the north; to John, his heirs and assigns, and she warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclyng, Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, Richard Pyk, Richard Resshes, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Michaelmas, 42 Edw. III [30 Sept. 1368]

[Marginal – in tenure of vill of Fressingfield]

(f. 10)

35. Indenture to testify that an agreement was made between Richard Wyth of Fressingfield on the one part and John Scharp of the same, merchant, on the other, that Richard and his heirs are bound to John and his heirs, for a sum of money given to him, in an annual rent of 20s. from all his lands in the said vill of Fressingfield and in the hamlet of Metfield (Suffolk) annually at Michaelmas and John has granted that the rent is due to be paid for 10 years. [See also 9.]

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, 42 Edw. III [10 Sept. 1368]

36. Hugh le Meller of Fressingfield has granted to Edmund le Chepherde one piece of land in the said vill of Fressingfield between the land formerly of Beatrice Coles to the south and the land of Thomas de Wyngefeld to the north, abutting on the free land of the chapel of Chelton to the west and on the land of John Kembald to the east; to Edmund, his heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas de Wyngefeld, Richard le Neve, Robert Bobyr, Richard le Wyte, John Rowe, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Christmas, 28 Edw. III [28 Dec. 1354]

(f. 10d.)

37. Robert Bobyr of Fressingfield has granted to Edmund le Chepherde a piece of land lying in Fressingfield between the land formerly of Robert Rose to the north

\* The connection between 33 and 55 is not immediately apparent.

and the king's highway to the south, one head to the west abutting on the mesuage of the said Edmund and on the land of the Robert to the east; to Edmund, his heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, Richard Wyte, Alexander Vally, John de Northawe, Hugh le Meller, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 29 Edw. III [3 Feb. 1355]

38. Thomas Gernye, knight, has appointed Patrick Gernye his attorney to deliver seisin to Richard le Wyte of all the lands which were of John Barbour in the vill of Fressingfield, as in his charter of enfeoffment. [See 48.]

At Fressingfield, Thursday after Christmas, 33 Edw. III [26 Dec. 1359]

39. John Caltoft of Harleston has enfeoffed John Waryn of Fressingfield in one half-acre of land lying in the field of Fressingfield between the land of Wingfield College and the land of the said John Waryn, abutting to the south on the land of the college and to the north on *Grendyll*; to John, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Ruschey, William Seman, John Fox, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Matthew, 6 Hen. IV [27 Sept. 1405]

[Marginal – half acre of land at Benecroft hill in tenure of ... ]

(f. 11)

40. John Caltoft of Redenhall and Thomas Wodeward of Fressingfield have appointed Robert Kembald of Fressingfield their attorney to deliver seisin to John Waryn of Morningthorpe (*sic*) of the lands and holdings in Fressingfield as in their charter. [See 84, 85.]

At Redenhall, Sunday after Purification 2 Hen. V [3 Feb. 1415]

41. Robert Kembald of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to John Waryn of the same vill, his heirs and assigns, seven pieces of land with appurtenances in Fressingfield; (1) the first contains one acre and lies between the land of John Kynge to the west and the land of Fressingfield church to the east, abutting on the land of the said John Waryn to the north and on the land of the said John Kynge to the south; (2) the second contains three roods and lies between the land of the said John Waryn to the north and the land of Thomas Carter to the south, abutting on the land of the said church to the east and on the land of the said John Waryn to the west; (3) the third contains three roods and lies between the land of the said John Waryn on each side, abutting on the land of the said church to the east and on the land of the said Waryn (*sic*) to the west; (4) the fourth contains two roods and lies at Benecroft hill, abutting on the land of the said John Waryn at each head; (5) the fifth lies in two places at Benecroft hill and contains in all one acre; (6) the sixth piece contains half an acre and lies between the land of the said church to the west and the land of the said John Waryn to the east, abutting on the land of

the said John Waryn to the north and on Aysbywey to the south; (7) the seventh contains one rood and lies at Septem Acres, viz. between the land of the rector of Fressingfield on each side, abutting on Manbuskwey to the east and on the land of the said John Waryn to the west; to John and his heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Robert Breuse, knight, John Russhy of Fressingfield, William Gyle, John Fox, John Kynge, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after Epiphany, 5 Hen. V [11 Jan. 1418]

(*f. 11d.*)

**42.** Juliana Kembald of Fressingfield, widow, has granted to Roger le Neve of the same and Constance his wife, for a certain sum of money, a piece of her land in the said vill of Fressingfield, between the land of Thomas de Wyngefeld on each side, abutting on the land of the said Thomas at each head; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants. [See 29, 32(3).]

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, William le Skynner, Nicholas Date, John Kembald, John le Neve the younger, Thomas Edward, Alexander Vally, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before St Dunstan, 34 Edw. III [17 May 1360]

**43.** Robert son of William Launce of Fressingfield has granted to John Veel of the same a piece of his land in the said vill lying between the land of John de Wyngefeld on each side, one head abutting on the land of the said John and the other head on the way called Greneweys to the north; to John, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants. [See 44, 50, 94.]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Nicholas Veel, Henry Sumter, John Barbour, Roger le Gronde, Thomas Kembald, Mathew Pryk, Roger Louhawe, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 6 Edw. III [2 Feb. 1332]

[Marginal – in le Veels close]

(*f. 12*)

**44.** Thomas Launce of Mendham has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield two pieces of land in the said vill, one of which lies between the land of *dominus* Michael de la Pool, knight, on each side, abutting on the land of the said Sir Michael de la Pool to the south and the way called Greneweys to the north, and the other lies between the land of the said Sir Michael to the south and the land of the said Richard to the north, abutting on the meadow of Matilda Kembald to the east and on the land of the said Sir Michael de la Pool to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants. [See 43, 50, 94.]

Witnesses: Richard Suclung, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, William Godyng, John Gyle, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Christmas, 1 Ric. II [27 Dec. 1377]

[Marginal – in le Veeles close]

(f. 12d.)

45. William Sharppe of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Joan, formerly the wife of Robert Swyft of Fressingfield, and to Agnes her sister, a piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield which lies between the land of Juliana Cole to the east and the land of Thomas de Wyngefild to the west, abutting on the land of John Kembald to the north and on the land pertaining to the chapel of Shelton in Stradbroke to the south; to Joan and Agnes, their heirs and assigns, and warrants.

Witnesses: Geoffrey Baret, Thomas Alger, Richard Pryk, Roger le Neve, John his son, John Rowe, John Kembald, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before St Augustine, 28 Edw. III [25 May 1354]

[Marginal (very faint) – piece of land ... Benecrofthill]

46. Robert Bobir of Fressingfield has granted to Edmund le Shepherde of the same, for a certain sum of money, a piece of land in the said vill, lying between the land of Roger le Neve and Juliana Kembald to the south and the land of *dominus* William parson of Fressingfield church and the said Juliana to the north, abutting on the land of Richard le White to the east and on the king's highway to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Geoffrey Baret, Richard le Whyte, John Rowe, Roger le Neve, John his son, John Kembald, Robert Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 31 Edw. III [19 Mar. 1357]

(f. 13)

47. John Rowe of Redenhall has granted to William le Skynner of Fressingfield all his lands and holdings in the said vill of Fressingfield, except two barns (*grangia*) with one garden formerly of John Edward, and one piece of land which he recently acquired from Stephen del Wode, as in the messuage, houses, buildings, land arable and not arable, meadow, pastures, common pasture, etc.; to William, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Ralph Hardynselle, Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the morrow of Michaelmas, 32 Edw. III [30 Sept. 1358]

48. Thomas Gernye, knight, has granted to Richard le qWyte of Metfield, his heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings which formerly were of John Barbourgh in the vill of Fressingfield, to Richard, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Ralph de Hardingselle, John de Shelton, William le Skyner, Roger le Neve, Seman Godbald, John Kembald, and others. [See 38.]

At Fressingfield, Thursday after Christmas, 33 Edw. III [26 Dec. 1359]

(f. 13d.)

49. Richard Whyte of Metfield, hamlet of Mendham, has granted to Richard Waryn of Weybread, all the messuage with the houses built on it and the appurtenances in Fressingfield formerly of John le Barburgh; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, John le Neve, carpenter, Robert Bobir, Robert Barburgh, Richard de Resshey, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St John before the Latin Gate, 44 Edw. III [9 May 1370]

50. John le Veel of Fressingfield has granted to Thomas Launce of Weybread, for a certain sum of money, a piece of land in the said vill, lying in the field called Estfeld, viz. between the land formerly of *dominus* John de Wyngefeld, knight, on each side, abutting on the land formerly of the said John to the south and on the way called Grene Weye to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants. [See 43, 44, 94.]

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, Thomas Swyft, Robert le Barburgh, John Kembald, Robert Bobir, William Launce, clerk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the feast of St Laurence the martyr, 39 Edw. III [10 Aug. 1365]

[Marginal – le Veelz close]

(f. 14)

51. Roger Edward of Beccles has granted to Thomas son of Walter Launce of Weybread, for a certain sum of money, a piece of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of Eleanor de Wyngefeld, formerly the wife of *dominus* John de Wyngefeld, knight, to the south and the land of Thomas Rocelyn to the north, abutting on the pasture of Matilda Kembald to the east and on the land of the said lady Eleanor to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Richard le Whyte, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Robert Barburgh, Richard Pyk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after Michaelmas, 41 Edw. III [30 Sept. 1367]

52. Richard le Whyte of Metfield, hamlet of Mendham, and Joan his wife, have granted to Richard Waryn of Weybread all their lands and holdings in the vills of Fressingfield and Stradbroke which descended to the said Joan of the inheritance of Robert Rosissone, father of the said Joan, with all appurtenances; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrant.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Nicholas Date, John le Neve, carpenter, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobur, Robert le Barburgh, Richard de Russhey, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 44 Edw. III [24 Mar. 1370]

(f. 14d.)

53. Edward son of Arnold Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield eight acres of land lying in various pieces, with the appurtenances, in Fressingfield which Edward inherited after the death of John Kembald his kinsman; to Richard, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: John le Neve, John Rouk, Robert le Neve, John Gyle, Nicholas Date, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Translation of St Thomas the martyr, 1 Ric. II [13 Jul. 1377]

54. John Sharpe of Needham, hamlet of Mendham, has granted to Agnes, formerly the wife of Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, a built messuage [*mesuagium edificatum*] in the said vill of Fressingfield which lies between the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the east and the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west, one head abutting on the messuage formerly of Roger Neve to the north; to her, her heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, Nicholas Ruysheye, Thomas Felys, Robert Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St John before the Latin Gate, 11 Ric. II [10 May 1388]

[Marginal – in tenure of vill of Fressingfield]

(f. 15)

55. William son of Walter the smith of Fressingfield has granted to Robert son of William Payock of the same, a piece of land which contains two acres, in the vill of Fressingfield, which lies lengthways between the land of William Spynke to the east and the land of Master Philip, rector of Fressingfield, to the west, and the land of John Payock to the north and the land of John Launce to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Launce, Edmund le Chepenhale, Alexander his son, William Endyn, Robert le Tanner, Robert his son, John Garneys, Simon de Sandecroft, William Spynke, John son of William Geoffrey, Walter de Bradstede, Roger le Baker, Matthew Davy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday before the feast of Philip and James, 2 Edw. II [29 Apr. 1309]

[Marginal (1722 hand) – v. *supr.* p. 18 [33]]

56. John son of William Spynk of Fressingfield has granted to Matthew Roscelyn of the same and Matilda his wife a piece of land which contains three acres, lying in his [blank space for one word] in Fressingfield between John's land and the land of Robert Gold, one head abutting on the land of the said Matthew on one part and the other head on John's curtilage; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Matthew Pryk, Roger Baker [*pistore*], Henry le Sumter, John Tedman, Robert Ware, Simon Payoc, Thomas Alger, Robert de Reveshale, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after the feast of the Circumcision, 10 Edw. II [4 Jan. 1317]

(f. 15d.)

57. Richard Eylmer of Chippenhall has granted to Matthew Roscelyn of Fressingfield and Matilda his wife a piece of land which contains two and a half acres lying between the land of Thomas le Hunte and the land of John the carpenter [*Carpenterius*], one head abutting on the land of the said John and the other head on the land of the said Thomas le Hunte; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, for 40s. they have given him, and warrants.

Witnesses: Matthew Pryk, Roger Baker [*pistore*], Henry le Sumter, John Tyedeman, Robert Ware, Simon Payoc, Thomas Alger, Robert de Reveshale, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after the feast of the Circumcision, 10 Edw. II [4 Jan. 1317]

(f. 16)

58. Alexander Frer' of *Aysch*\* has granted to Ralph de Freton, for a certain sum of money, a messuage and five and a half acres of land in Fressingfield between the land of Robert Gold and the land of Fressingfield church, abutting on the land of Robert Payock to the south and the land of Roger Pucote to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, John Endyn, Henry de Freton, Thomas de Kenton, Henry Sumter, Matthew Pryk, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of St Luke, 4 Edw. III [18 Oct. 1330]

59. Nicholas le Launce of Fressingfield has granted to John Spinke of Fressingfield, for a certain sum of money, a piece of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of Robert le Gold to the east and the land of the said John to the west, one head abutting on the common pasture *del lekgrene* (*sic*) to the south and the other head abutting on the land of Robert Payoc and William Luve to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebinhale, Richard Edwarde, Henry le Sumpter, John le Barburgh, Roger le Groond, Thomas Kembald, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after St Matthew, 4 Edw. III [25 Sept. 1330]

(f. 16d.)

60. John Payok of Fressingfield has granted to Robert Seyp' of the same, a messuage with buildings, trees, ditches and all appurtenances in the said vill of Fressingfield between the land of Beatrice de Freton to the east and the land of

\* Possibly Ash, now part of Ashbocking.



*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

Nicholas Launce to the west, abutting on the pasture called le grene to the south and on the land of the said Beatrice to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Hugh Fyssh, Robert Rosyssone, Simon Pryk, Thomas Fynche, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday after Michaelmas, 10 Edw. III [5 Oct. 1336]

**61.** Edmund le Shepherde of Fressingfield has granted to Robert Bobyr and Hugh le Meller of the same all his messuage and all his lands and holdings in the said vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, Richard le Whyte, John le Neve, carpenter, William Godyng, Robert le Neve, John Kembald, Simon le Smyth, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before All Saints, 43 Edw. III [28 Oct. 1369]

(*f. 17*)

**62.** Matthew Roselyn of Fressingfield has granted to his daughter Margaret one piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the land of Thomas Hunte to the north and the land of Roger Pegot to the south, one head abutting on the land of Roger Pegot to the west and the other head abutting on the land of Thomas Hunte to the east; to her, her heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebinhale, John Barbourgh, Roger Baxter, Thomas son of Henry Sumpter, Alexander Baxter, Hugh Barburgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the feast of Peter and Paul, 12 Edw. III [28 Jun. 1338]

**63.** Thomas Roselyn of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Waryn of the same all his messuage and all his other lands and holdings in the said vill of Fressingfield; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobyr, John Rouk, Robert le Barburgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Conversion of St Paul, 1 Ric. II [24 Jan. 1378]

(*f. 17d.*)

**64.** Juliana daughter of Richard Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Kembald her father and Matilda her mother all that messuage which she had by their grant in the vill of Fressingfield which lies between the messuage of Roger le Bakester and the messuage of John de Wyngefeld, abutting on the marketplace of Fressingfield to the east and on the messuage which 'we' acquired from John de Wyngeld and Juliana his wife; further, she has granted a half-acre of land called Hornehalfaker lying between the land of Matthew Davy and the land of Thomas Stoniekoc [see 76]; further she has granted one acre of land which she will inherit

after the death of Thomas her brother lying between the land of the rector of Fressingfield abutting on the land which was of William Sterlyng to the south and the on the said half acre of land to the north; to hold of the chief lord of the fee for their lives, and if they outlive Juliana, and if she dies without issue, then to remain to them and their heirs and assigns. [See 67.]

Witnesses: John Launce, Edmund de Chebenhale, Alexander his son, Robert le Tanner, Simon de Sandcroft, William Spink, John son of Geoffrey, Roger le Baxter, Walter de Bradestede, John Pese, Matthew Davy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday before St Thomas the martyr, 35 Edw. I [25 Dec. 1306]

[Marginal – in tenure of Elizabeth ... lately (Simon?) Toppesfield]

65. Henry Sumpter of Fressingfield has granted to Matthew his son of the same, for a certain sum of money, nine pieces of arable land and one piece of meadow in Fressingfield; (1) one piece of land lies between the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the east and the land of Alexander de Chebenhale to the west, abutting to the south on the king's highway and on the pasture of the said church to the north; (2) the second piece lies between the land of John Erburge to the east and the land of Joan, daughter of Henry, to the west, abutting to the south on Smaleweye and on the king's highway to the north; (3) the third lies between the land of Alexander de Chebenhale on each side and abuts to the south on the land formerly of Richard Edward and on Fallendepol to the north; (4) the fourth lies between the free land of the said church on each side and abuts to the east on the common way and on the free land of the said church to the west; (5) the fifth lies between the land of Agnes, daughter of Henry, to the south and the common way to the north and abuts to the east on the free land of the said church and on the king's highway to the west; (6) the sixth lies between the land of Hubert Seman on each side and abuts to the east on the free land of the church and on the land of John Barburgh to the west; (7) the seventh lies between the land of Alexander de Chebenhale to the east and the free land of the church to the west and abuts to the south on the land of Hugh Davy and on the land of John Erburgh to the north; (8) the eighth lies between the land of the said John Erburgh to the west and his (Henry's) land to the west and abuts to the south on the free land of the church and on the king's highway to the north; (9) the ninth lies between the king's highway to to east and the land of Alice (Athelesia) Scharp to the west and abuts to the south on the free land of the church and on his (Henry's) free land to the north; and the piece of meadow lies between the pasture of Robert de Shelton to the south and the meadow of the said Alexander de Chebenhale to the north and abuts to the east on the land of the said Alexander and on the land of the said Robert de Shelton to the west; to hold of the chief lord of the fee, to Matthew, his heirs and assigns, and if Matthew dies without issue, then to remain to Richard, son of Henry, and his heirs and assigns; and warranty. [See 66.]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, John le Barburgh, Roger le Baxter, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 7 Edw. III [16 Aug. 1333]

(f. 18)

66. Matthew Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to Juliana Kembald, his mother, nine pieces of arable land and one piece of meadow in Fressingfield; (1) one piece of land lies between the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the east and the land of Alexander de Chebenhale to the west, abutting to the south on the king's highway and on the pasture of the said church to the north; (2) the second piece lies between the land of John Erburge to the east and the land of Joan, Matthew's sister, to the west, abutting to the south on Smaleweye and on the king's highway to the north; (3) the third lies between the land of Alexander de Chebenhale on each side and abuts to the south on the land formerly of John Edward and on Fallendepol to the north; (4) the fourth lies between the free land of the said church on each side and abuts to the east on the common way and on the free land of the said church to the west; (5) the fifth lies between the land of Matilda, Matthew's sister, to the south and the common way to the north and abuts to the east on the free land of the said church and on the king's highway to the west; (6) the sixth lies between the land of Robert Rosissone on each side and abuts to the east on the free land of the church and on the land of John Barburgh to the west; (7) the seventh lies between the land of Alexander de Chebenhale to the east and the free land of the church to the west and abuts to the south on the land of Hugh Dave and on the land of John Herburgh to the north; (8) the eighth lies between the land of the said John Herburgh to the east and the land of Juliana, Matthew's mother, to the west and abuts to the south on the free land of the church and on the king's highway to the north; (9) the ninth lies between the king's highway to the east and the land of Alice (Athelesia) Scharp to the west and abuts to the south on the free land of the church and on the free land formerly of Henry, Matthew's father, to the north; and the piece of meadow lies between the pasture of Robert de Shelton, knight, to the south and the meadow of the said Alexander de Chebenhale to the north and abuts to the east on the land of the said Alexander and on the land of the said Robert de Shelton, knight, to the west; to hold of the chief lord of the fee, to her, her heirs and assigns, and warrants. [See 65, B15.]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chepenhale, Nicholas Launce, John Barburgh, Alexander Baxter, John Thexeman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of Saints Medard and Gildard, 14 Edw. III [8 Jun. 1340]

(f. 18d)

67. Richard Kembald of Fressingfield and Matilda his wife have granted to Juliana their daughter their messuage in Fressingfield which lies between the messuage of Roger le Bakester and the messuage of John de Wyngefeld and abuts to the east on the marketplace of Fressingfield and to the west on the messuage which they and Juliana acquired from John de Wyngefeld and from Juliana his wife; also they have granted to Juliana a half-acre of land which John son of Peter Martoris (*sic*)\* sold to them which lies between the land of Matthew Davy and the land of

\* *Recte mercatoris*, the merchant.

Thomas Stomalcok abutting to the south on the land of the rector of Fressingfield and to the north on the wood of Snapehall [see 76]; to hold of the chief lord of the fee to her, her heirs and assigns, and warranty. [See 64.]

Witnesses: John Launce, John de Wyngefeld, William Endyn, Edmund de Chebenhale, John Garnays, Simon de Sandecroft, Robert le Barber, Matthew Prik, John Tidman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 35 Edw. I [20 Mar. 1307]

[Marginal (*opposite the half-acre*) – in le marketfeld and thremers]

(f. 19)

68. Thomas Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to Simon Walter and Alice, daughter of Thomas, thirteen pieces of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield; (1) the first lies between the land of Thomas Alger and the land of Matilda niece (*nepte*) of the parson; (2) the second lies between the free land of the church and the land of Richard (*sic, recte* Hubert?) Seman; (3) the third lies between the free land of the said church on both sides; (4) the fourth lies between the land of Henry le Sumpter and the land of the said Hubert (*sic*);\* (5) the fifth lies between the free land of the said church and the land formerly of Peter Bobur; (6) the sixth lies between the land which was of the said Peter and the land of John son of the niece of the parson [*filie nepte persone*];† (7) the seventh lies between the land of the said Henry and the free land of the church; (8) the eighth lies between the king's highway which leads from Fressingfield to Hoxne and the land of the said Hubert (*sic*); (9) the ninth lies between the land of Alexander de Chebenhale and the said king's highway; (10) the tenth lies between the land formerly of William Charnell and the land of Thomas Kembald the elder; (11) the eleventh lies between the land of John le Chapman and the land of Nicholas Norman; (12) the twelfth lies between the land of Richard Lepsy and the land of the said Nicholas; (13) the thirteenth lies between the land of John de Wyngefeld, knight, and the land of the said Richard; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the free, and warranty. [See 237.]

Witnesses: Nicholas le Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, William de Chebenhale, William Waryn, Hugh Fisch, and others.

At Fressingfield, Wednesday the feast of St Dunstan bishop and confessor, 18 Edw. III [19 May 1344]

(f. 19d.)

69. Robert Kembald of Fressingfield has granted to John Lavald, clerk, and John Waryn of the same vill, all his lands and holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield which he inherited after the death of Matilda Kembald his mother; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lords of the fee, and warranty.

\* Probably Hubert Seman.

† See references to Matilda niece of the parson.

*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

Witnesses: Richard Neve, William Seman, John Rhuschey, William Dalanghoo, John Josapp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after Michaelmas, 8 Hen. IV [4 Oct. 1406]

(f. 20)

70. Henry Sumpter of Fressingfield has granted to Agnes his daughter a messuage in Fressingfield and four pieces of land; the messuage lies between the cemetery of the church to the east and the marketplace to the west and abuts to the south on the king's highway and to the north on the messuage of William the smith; (1) the first piece of land lies between the fee of Snepehalle to the west and the land once of Robert (*sic*) to the east and one head abuts on Grendelpol and other on the land formerly of William Scharnel; (2) the second lies between the land formerly of *dominus* Richard de Bruosa to the east and on the free land of the church to the west abuts to the south on Manbuskweye and on Tannesetepol to the north; (3) the third lies between the free land of the church to the east and his (Henry's) land to the west and abuts to the south on the the king's highway and on the free land of the church to the north; (4) the fourth lies between the land of Alice (Athelesia) Scharp to the south and the land of Hubert Seman to the north and abuts to the east on the free land of the church and on the land of John Barburgh to the west; to hold of the chief lord of the fee, to her, her heirs and assigns, and if she dies without issue then to remain to Matilda, daughter of Henry, and her heirs and assigns, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, John le Barburgh, Roger le Baxter, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 7 Edw. III [16 Aug. 1333]

[Marginal – messuage in tenure of vill of Fressingfield]

71. Juliana, formerly wife of Henry le Sumpter of Fressingfield, widow, has granted to Robert son of Alexander le Baxtere of Fressingfield, for a certain sum of money, a piece of land in the said vill lying between the land of the church to the east and the land which was formerly of the said Alexander le Baxter to the west, and abuts on the way leading to the church of Fressingfield to the south and on the king's highway to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA E326/3829]\*

Witnesses: Ralph de Hardonselle, Roger le Neve, John his son, William le Skynner, Thomas Alger, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobyr, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Edward the martyr, 35 Edw. III [23 Mar. 1361]

(f. 20d.)

72. William le Skynner of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Pyk of Merton his built holding (*tenementum meum edificatum*) which William lately acquired

\* According to the Catalogue, this charter is dated the Monday after St Mark, 35 Edw. III.

from John Rowe and lies between the cemetery of the church to the east and the king's highway to the west and abuts on another holding of William le Skynner which was formerly of John de Husshangh' to the south and on the holding of John Sharp to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John his son, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobyr, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Luke, 38 Edw. III [20 Oct. 1364]

73. Roger le Grond of Fressingfield has granted to Alexander his son, for a certain sum of money, a messuage with buildings and a piece of land called le Sefenacres in Fressingfield; the messuage lies between the messuage of Juliana Kembald to the north and the messuage of Matilda [blank] parson to the south, one head abutting on the marketplace to the east and the other head abutting on the free land of the church to the west, and the land lies between the free land of the church to the south and the common way called le Bovpeteweye to the north, one head abutting on the free land of Fressingfield (*sic*)<sup>†</sup> to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA, E326/3814]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, John Barbour, John Herburgh, William the smith, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Augustine, 11 Edw. III [probably 4 Sept. 1337]<sup>†</sup>

[Marginal: in tenure of Elizabeth Laney formerly Simon Toppesfeld]

(f. 21)

74. Walter le Baxster of Fressingfield has granted to Master Richard de Herlingg, rector of half of Fressingfield, two pieces of arable land in the said vill, one lies between the land of Nicholas Launce to the south and the land of Roger Edward to the north, one head abutting on the meadow of *dominus* John de Wyngefeld, knight called Estfeldemedwe to the east and the other on the land of Prior of Eye to the west and contains two acres and one rood, the other piece lies in the field called Hunderowe between the land of the rector of the church to the south and the land of *dominus* Robert Shelton, knight, to the north, one head abutting on the land of the said rector to the east and the other on the land of John Barbour; to him, his heirs and assigns, with warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, William de Chebenhale, Alexander Baxster, Robert Rosissonne, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday before feast of Fabian and Sebastian, 14 Edw. III [19 Jan. 1341]

75. Juliana Kembald of Fressingfield, widow, has granted to Master Richard de Harlyngg, rector of half of Fressingfield, a messuage in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the messuage of Alexander Baxter and the messuage of John

\* Probably 'church of' missing.

† There were four feasts of St Augustine.

Wyngefeld, one head abutting on the marketplace to the east and other on the land of the rector, the said Master Richard; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 79.]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebinhale, Nicholas Launce, William de Chebinhale, Roger le Neve, Alexander le Baxster.

At Fressingfield, the feast of Tiburtius and Valerianus, 13 Edw. III [14 Apr. 1339]

[Marginal: in tenure of Elizabeth Laney lately Simon Toppesfeld]

(*f. 21d.*)

76. John son of Peter the merchant has granted to Richard Kembald and Matilda his wife, for 13s., a half-acre of land in the vill of Fressingfield between the land of Matthew Davy to the east and the land of Thomas Stoniekoc to the west and one head abutting on the free land of the rector of the church to the south and on [wood added in different hand] of Snapehall to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 64, 67.]

Witnesses: William Veel, John Launce, Edmund de Chepinhale, Alexander Veel, Robert le Tannour, Robert de Reweshall, Hubert his son, William Metbord, William Spink, Walter de Bradested, Richard de Asholt, Matthew Davy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Bartholomew, 25 Edw. [I] [16 Aug. 1297]

77. Richard le Meller of Wilby has granted to Juliana daughter of Richard Kembald of Fressingfield, for 24s., his messuage in the vill of Fressingfield with the house built on it and the trees, which lies between the land of the heir of Henry Genne to the north and the land of the said Juliana to the south and west and abuts on the king's highway to the east; to her, her heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and if Juliana dies without issue, to remain to the said Richard Kembald his (Richard le Meller's) father and Matilda his mother and their heirs and assigns; warranty

Witnesses: John Launce, Edmund Chepenhall, Robert le Tannur, William Spink, John Geoffrey, Walter de Bradested, Roger le Bakester, Matthew Davy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Peter the apostle (*sic*), 33 Edw. I [1304-5]\*

78. Thomas Stumpecok of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Henry le Someter and Juliana his wife, for a certain sum of money, 2d. annual rent from a piece of land which lies between the land of Edmund de Chebynhale to the west and the land of Richard Kembald and Matilda his wife to the east, one head abutting on the path of John Launce to the north and the other on the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Launce, Edmund Chebynhale, Walter Bradested, John Tytheman, Roger le Baxster, and others.

\* This may be an error for Peter and Paul, apostles, in which case the date is 1 July 1305.



At Fressingfield, Monday before Christmas, 3 Edw. II [22 Dec. 1309]

[Marginal – ... in Marketfeld]

(f. 22)

79. Richard de Harling, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, has granted to Juliana Kembald, for her life, and Matthew her son and the heirs of his body, a messuage in the vill of Fressingfield between the messuage of Alexander le Baxster and the messuage of John de Wyngfeld, one head abutting on the marketplace and the other on the land of the said rector; to hold of the chief lord of the fee; and if Matthew dies without issue, to remain to Matilda daughter of the said Juliana and her heirs and assigns; warranty. [See 75.]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chepenhale, Nicholas Launce, William de Chepenhale, Alexander le Baxster, Roger le Neve.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Marcellinus and Peter, 13 Edw. III [3 Jun. 1339]

(f. 22d.)

80. Indenture to testify that Thomas de Brampton has demised at farm to Walter le Baxster of Fressingfield three pieces of land in Fressingfield; (1) one lies between the free land of the church to the east and the land of Henry Sumpter to the west; (2) the second lies between the land of John Barbour to the east and the land of John de Wyngfeld to the west; (3) the third lies between the land of the said John de Wyngfeld on each side; and all three abut on the way which leads from the marketplace to Gistym Broke to the north; for the life of Walter, rent 7s. a year at Michaelmas.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the feast of St Faith, 10 Edw. III [6 Oct. 1336]

81. Final concord, at Westminster, in quindene of St Hilary, 45 Edw. III [28 Jan. 1371 or 1372]; Richard Waryn, plaintiff, and Richard White and Joan his wife, defendants, regarding thirty-two acres of land and three acres of meadow in Fressingfield; Richard and Joan have recognized the right of Richard Waryn by their gift, and have quitclaimed, for them and the heirs of Joan; and for this Richard Waryn has given them 20 marks. [Duplicated as 114.]

(f. 23)

82. Richard de Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, two pieces of land in the vill of Fressingfield, one lying between the land of the cellarer of St Edmund to the south and the land of Robert Jacob to the north and other lying between the land of the said Robert Jacob to the south and the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the north and abuts on the free land of the said church to the west and on the king's highway leading from Norwich to Framlingham to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as 269.]

Witnesses: Richard Suklyng, Nicholas Dade, John le Neve, Thomas Alger, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobur, John Rouk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before Christmas, 1 Ric. II [21 Dec. 1377]

**83.** Nicholas Bokenham of Fressingfield, Henry Hendry of Diss, and William Baker of Fressingfield have granted to Edmund Bohun of the same [and] John Coke of Eye one piece of land formerly of Robert Jacob of Fressingfield, in the hamlet of Chippenhall in the same vill, lying between two pieces of land of the said Edmund Bohun lately of Robert Stor, *alias* Robert Waryn son of John Waryn son of John son of Richard Waryn, the which Richard Waryn acquired the said land from Richard Caltoft, then rector of half the church of Fressingfield of the part of the abbey in the first year of Richard II [1377],\* to north and south, and the other piece of land formerly of Robert Jacob abutting on the free land of the said church to the west and on the king's highway leading from Norwich to Framlingham to the east which he lately had by grant of Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte his son, John Godbald of Fressingfield, and John Barker of Lopham by the name of one messuage lying in the vill of Fressingfield by charter dated at Fressingfield on 12th January 21 Edw. IV [1482], the which piece of land Robert son and heir of Thomas Dreye in 41 Edw. III [1367] granted to the said Robert Jacob, son of Isabel Dreye, and Robert Jacob on Monday after St Leonard 13 Ric. II [8 Nov. 1389] granted to John Fylys, chaplain, and the said John Fylys on the feast of St Hugh 6 Hen. VI [17 Nov. 1427] granted it to John Jacob the younger of Fressingfield, and the said John Jacob on Tuesday before St Alban 25 Hen. VI [*sic* 20 Jun. 1447] granted it to Roger Godbald of Fressingfield, John Fox, and John Wolnawe the elder, and the said Roger Godbald, John Fox, and John Walnawe, on Tuesday the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 30 Hen. VI [14 Sept. 1451] demised it to Nicholas Berte of Fressingfield, clerk, John Bokenham of the same, and Robert Berte of Stradbroke, the which Nicholas Berte, clerk, and John Bokenham died and the said Robert Berte on Sunday after Michaelmas 7 Edw. IV [4 Oct. 1467] demised it to William Gerlynge of Stradbroke and the same William Gerlynge on 1 November 7 Edw. IV [1467] demised it to Joan late the wife of John Bokenham, widow, of Fressingfield and the said Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte son of the said Robert, John Godbald of Fressingfield and John Barker of Lopham, and afterwards the said Joan died and the said Robert Berte, Nicholas Berte son of the said Robert, John Godbald and John Barker demised to Nicholas Bokenham, Henry Hendry and William Baker, their heirs and assigns, on 12th January 21 Edw. IV [1482];† to Edmund Bohun and John Coke, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty from Nicholas Bokenham; and Nicholas, Henry, and William appoint Nicholas Fox and Robert Godbald of Chippenhall their attorneys to deliver seisin. [Duplicated as 270.]‡

Witnesses: William Brews, Giles Brews, esquires, Robert Fox, John Godbald the elder, John Bocher, William Warner, and many others.

At Fressingfield, 26th September, 22 Edw. IV [1482]

\* See 82 above.

† The grants of 1367–1482 are 261–8 below.

‡ In 270 the attorney Robert Godbald is identified as 'the younger' of Chippenhall.

(f. 24d.)\*

84. Richard Waryn of Fressingfield has granted to John Caltoft of Redenhall, William Ker, vicar of Weybread, and Thomas Wodeward of Brundish, all his lands and holdings, etc., in the county of Suffolk; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 22.]

Witnesses: John Rouk, Richard Neve, John Gyle, John Calwer, Thomas Felis, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday before Michaelmas, 11 Ric. II [24 Sept. 1387]

85. John Caltoft of Redenhall and Thomas Wodeward of Fressingfield have conceded to John Waryn of Morningthorpe all the lands, holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield, Earsham, and Weybread which they, with William Ker vicar of Weybread, had by grant of Richard Waryn of Fressingfield; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee. [See 40 and B17.]

Witnesses: Robert Brews, knight, William Baret, William Geyle, John Rusheye, William Seman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 2 Hen. V [3 Feb. 1415]

86. *Dominus* Michael de la Pole, knight and lord of Wingfield, has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, his heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings which were of *dominus* Robert Spyrerd and *dominus* John Edward, chaplains, in the vill of Fressingfield and Weybread and which the said Robert and John held of *dominus* John Brews, knight; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, rendering to Sir Michael, 6d. a year at Michaelmas. [Duplicated as 113.]

Witnesses: Richard Perires, Simon Couper, Simon Alcok, John Roys, John Neve, Richard Suklynge, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th October, [2?] Ric. II [1378?]<sup>†</sup>

87. Michael de la Pole, knight, lord of Wyngfeld, has appointed John Leef, his master chanter of Wyngfeld, his attorney to deliver seisin to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield of the lands which were of Robert Spyrerd and John Edward in the vill of Fressingfield and Weybrede.

At London, 18th October [sic] Ric. II [1378?]

\* The four items on this page (84-7) are written in a slightly different hand. A marginal note opposite 86 states that these four 'evidences' were delivered by Robert Cooke of Wingfield to Edmund Bohun on 2 September 22 Edw. IV [1482] and the said Robert received them at Morningthorpe in Norfolk from John Stourour the elder and the said evidences of the said Edmund [?and others] remain with the said Robert not yet delivered.

† The regnal year is omitted both here and at 87 and 113.

(f. 25)

88. John Waryn of Fressingfield has granted to William de Shalton, esquire, John son of the same William, Richard Stonham of Hardwick, John Peket of Starston, John Peroch of Wymondham, John Waryn his elder son, William Bareth of Cratfield, John lewald, chaplain of Fressingfield, William Gyle of the same, William Dalenio [*sic*, Dallinghoo] of the same, John Rossheye the younger of the same, and John Fox of the same, all his lands and holdings, etc., in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Robert Breus, knight of Whittingham, Thomas Breus his son, John Neve of Stradbroke, John Rossheye the elder, John Bewe, chaplain, John Ponteneye of Newton, and William Cobbe, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 7 Hen. V [21 Aug. 1419]

89. John Storour of Morningthorpe and John Fox of Fressingfield have granted to Edmund Mulso, knight, Henry Tudyndham of Oxburgh, John Byllyngford of Stoke, John Tasbour of Elmham, Hugh Buknam of *Lynmer*, Ralph Toppesfeld of Gislingham, John Dade, Robert Fox, Roger Godbald, John Sancroft, Richard Bohun, John Calwer, John Shelton of Fressingfield, and Robert Storour his son of Morningthorpe, all their lands, holdings, etc., in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard Storour, John Bowne, Thomas Dade, Thomas Gowyn, Roger Gowyn, Nicholas Warner, Robert Mydday, John Barbour, and Robert Skynner, and others.

At Fressingfield, 8th May, 35 Hen. VI [1457]

90. Robert Storour, *alias* Waryn, of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, son of John Storour of the same, John Tasburgh of Elmham, Ralph Toppesfeld of Gislingham, John Sancrofte, Richard Bowne, and John Calwer of Fressingfield, demise and enfeoff Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield, Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, and Thomas Banyard in all their messuages, lands, and holdings, etc., in Fressingfield in the county of Suffolk, which they had, with Edmund Mulso, knight, Henry Tudyndham of Oxburgh, John Byllyngford of Stoke, Hugh Bokenham of *Lynmer*, John Dade and Roger Godbald of Fressingfield, now dead, by grant of John Storour of Morningthorpe and John Fox of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty; and they appoint John Docket of Fressingfield, William Wolnawe, and John Shape of the same to delivery seisin.

Witnesses: Thomas Brewes, knight, Giles Brewes, his son, John Bocher, Richard Godbald, Robert Midday, Roger Gowyn, John Calwer the younger, and others.

At Fressingfield, 7th July, 13 Edw. IV [1473]

(f. 26)

91. Robert Fox of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield, Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, and Thomas Banyard, their heirs and assigns, all the messuages, lands, holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield, which he lately held with Edmund Mulso, knight, Henry Tudenham of Oxburgh, John Byllyngford of Stoke, Hugh Bokenham of *Lyn'mer*, John Dade and Roger Godbald, now dead, and with John Tasburgh of Elmham, Ralph Toppesfeld of Gislingham, John Sancroft, Richard Bowne, John Calwer, and Robert Storour, son of John Storour of Morningthorpe by the grant of John Storour of Morningthorpe and John Fox of Fressingfield by their charter dated at Fressingfield on 8th May 35 Hen. VI [1457]

At Fressingfield, 1st August, 13 Edw. IV [1473]

(f. 27)

92. Final concord, at Westminster, in the month of Michaelmas, 13 Edw. IV [1473], Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield, Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, and Thomas Banyard, plaintiffs, Robert Storour of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, son and heir of John Storour of Morningthorpe, gentleman, defendant, regarding two messuages, ninety-two acres of land, six acres of meadow, seven acres of pasture, and 4d. rent, with appurtenances, in Fressingfield; Robert has recognized the right of Edmund, Ralph, and Thomas, by his gift, and he quitclaims to them, and warranty, and they have given him £100 sterling.

93. Robert Storour of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, is bound to Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield in the county of Suffolk in £100 sterling by the Westminster staple, to be paid in the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist next coming.

At the said staple 14th November, 15 Edw. IV [1475]

(f. 27d.)

94. Indenture between Robert Storour of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, and Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield in the county of Suffolk, to testify that whereas Robert is bound to Edmund in £100 sterling, to be paid at the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist next, and whereas the said Robert by a fine made at Westminster between himself and the said Edmund and Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, and Thomas Banyard, at Michaelmas 13 Edw. IV, recognized two messuages, ninety-two acres of land, six acres of meadow, seven acres of pasture, and 4d. of rent in Fressingfield in the county of Suffolk of which (1) one enclosure called Edward Hill containing sixteen acres of land by estimation, and (2) one piece of land containing three acres by estimation lying in Launcelos *alias* Velesclos between the land of Lady Alice, late Duchess of Suffolk on each side, the north head abutting on le Grenewey [see 43, 44, 50], and also (3) one piece of land lying in Estfeld called le Mekhepacre between the land of the said duchess on each side and the north head abutting on the enclosure of Robert Fox, are parcels, to be the right of the Edmund by his gift to Edmund, Ralph and Thomas and

quitclaimed to them and the heirs of Edmund, then Edmund wills that the bond is defeased if they have full seisin, and if neither Robert nor his heirs make a claim to the land and have entry, and if Robert hands over all the muniments concerning the land in his possession.

14th November, 15 Edw. IV [1475]

(*f. 28*)

**95.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn holds a bond from Edmund Bohun in £40 sterling due on 29th August next following.

Dated 7th July, 13 Edw. IV [1473]

(*f. 28d.*)

**96.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun five marks in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 13th July 13 Edw. IV [1473]

**97.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun four marks in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 24th February, 14 Edw. IV [1475]

**98.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 40s. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 22nd July 15 Edw. IV [1475]

(*f. 29*)

**99.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun £10 10s. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 20th February 15 Edw. IV [1476]

**100.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun £4 in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 28th November, 15 Edw. IV [1475]

(*f. 29d.*)

**101.** Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 58s. 4d. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 5th July 16 Edw. IV [1476]

102. Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 26s. 8d. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 28th July 16 Edw. IV [1476]

(*f. 30*)

103. Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 53s. 4d. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 4th October 16 Edw. IV [1476]

104. Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 46s. 8d. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 26th February 16 Edw. IV [1477]

105. Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 108s. 8d. in part payment of £40 sterling in which the said Edmund is bound by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV.

Dated 19th May 7 [*sic, recte* 17] Edw. IV [1477]

(*f. 30d.*)

106. Robert Storour of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, has received from Edmund Bohun 56s. 4d. in full payment of £68 13s. 4d. sterling which he owed the said Robert for two messuage, ninety-two acres of land, six acres of meadow, seven acres of pasture, and 4d. of rent in Fressingfield, co. Suff, which formerly were of Richard Waryn, John Waryn his son, and John Storour *alias* Waryn his son, of which £28 13s. 4d. was paid on the day of the agreement and the remaining £40 by his bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV; and Edmund has also paid to John Storour, father of Robert, for his confirmation of the sale, £10.

Dated 17th June, 17 Edw. IV [1477]

(*f. 31*)

107. William Vergeons of Aylsham in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, and Thomas Calowe of Long Stratton in the said county, are bound to Edmund Bohun in 40s. to be paid at the feast of All Saints next.

Dated 8th July, 13 Edw. IV [1473]

108. Indenture of 10th November 13 Edw. IV [1473], between Thomas Banyard on the one part and William Vergeons and Thomas Calow on the other part, testifies that the said William and Thomas have delivered to the said Thomas Banyard a bond of 7th July 13 Edw. IV in which Edmund Bohun was bound to Robert Storour in £40 sterling, for safe custody under the following condition, *viz.* that whenever the said Robert Storour delivers to the same Edmund sufficient



acquittances to the sum of £6 13s. 4d. in part payment, Thomas Banyard will deliver to the said William and Thomas, or either of them, the said bond or else Thomas will retain the bond until such time as Edmund has sufficient acquittances from Robert Storour of the said £6 13s. 4d.

(f. 31d.)

**109.** Condition of 'this' bond [probably 107] is such that if Robert Storour pays to Edmund £8 13s. 4d. around Michaelmas next coming, then William and Thomas will pay to Edmund 40s., and if the said Robert Storour defaults in payment of the said £28 13s. 4d. (*sic*), because then ceases [payment?] of the said 40s. and the present bond is defeased.

**110.** Indenture made 7th July 13 Edw. IV [1473] between Edmund Bohun on the one part and Robert Storour *alias* Waryn of Morningthorpe on the other part to testify that whereas Robert has sold to Edmund all the messuages, lands, and holdings, etc., which were formerly of Richard Waryn, John Waryn his son, and John Storour *alias* Waryn his son, in Fressingfield in the county of Suffolk of which the same Robert now possesses seisin and Edmund, his heirs and executors, will pay to Robert, his heirs and executors, £68 13s. 4d., of which Edmund has paid to Robert in part payment this day £28 13s. 4d., and Robert will deliver to Edmund all the charters, writings, and muniments concerning the said lands around the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary next, Robert is bound by these presents to make to Edmund, at Edmund's cost, sufficient security in the said lands, *viz.* such as Henry Grey of Codnor, knight, made to Richard Illyngworth, knight, in the manors of Upton and Tunworth which the same Richard acquired from the said Henry with the advice and discretion of Thomas Banyard, and when security is made then Edmund will pay the remaining £40.

(f. 32)

**111.** Duplication of above.

*Evidences of land of Robert Storour, now Edmund Bohun\**

(f. 33)

**112.** Ralph Toppesfeld of Gislingham, Robert Fox, John Sancroft, Richard Bohun, and John Calwer of Fressingfield, have demised to Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield, Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, and Thomas Banyard, an enclosure called Edwardysshill in Fressingfield containing by estimation sixteen acres of land, one head abutting to the south on the pasture of Edmund Bohun, late of Robert Storour, and the northern head on the pasture of the Lady Alice, Duchess of Suffolk, the which enclosure they had, with Edmund Mulso, knight, Henry Tudenham of Oxburgh, John Byllyngford of Stoke, John Tasburgh of South Elmham, Hugh Bokenham of *Lenemere*, John Dade, Roger Godbald, and John Shelton of Fressingfield, now dead, by grant of John Storour of Morningthorpe and John Fox of Fressingfield, by the name of all the lands, holdings, etc., in Fressingfield in the county of

\* Very faint there is also 'Cotwan' in the corner.

Suffolk, and Robert Storour son of the said John Storour of Morningthorpe in the county of Norfolk, gentleman, made over full siesin of the said enclosure to Edmund Bohun, Ralph Pulvertoft, and Thomas Banyard, now Ralph, Robert, John, Richard, and John have appointed Robert Brews and Giles Brews, esquires, their attornies to deliver seisin to the said Edmund, Ralph, and Thomas.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, knight, John Jermyn, esquire, John Godbald, John Bocher, John Grendelynge, and others.

At Fressingfield, 6th January 13 Edw. IV [1474]

(*f. 33d.*)

113. *Dominus* Michael de la Pole, knight and lord of Wingfield, has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, his heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings which were of *dominus* Robert Spirard and *dominus* John Edward, chaplains, in the villis of Fressingfield and Weybread and which the said Robert and John held of *dominus* John Brews, knight; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, rendering to Sir Michael 6*d.* a year at Michaelmas. [Duplicated as 86.]

Witnesses: Richard Perers, Simon Cowper, Simon Alcoke, John Roys, John Neve, Richard Suklyng, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th October [2?] Ric. II [1378?]\*

114. Final concord, at Westminster, in quindene of St Hilary, 45 Edw. III [Jan. 1371 or 1372]; Richard Waryn, plaintiff, and Richard Whyte and Joan his wife, defendants, regarding thirty-two acres of land and three acres of meadow in Fressingfield; Richard and Joan have recognized the right of Richard Waryn by their gift, and have quitclaimed, for them and the heirs of Joan; and for this Richard Waryn has given them 20 marks. [Duplicated as 81.]

*Of the writings of Robert Coke*

(*f. 34d.*)

115. Robert Storour of Morningthorpe in Norfolk, gentleman, is credibly informed that on 14 Jan., 14 Edw. IV [1475] at Hempnall in Norfolk, in the presence of Ralph Shelton, esquire, Richard Blomeville of Newton Flotman, gentleman, William Seman of *Freton*, yeoman, and others being present, Edmund Bohun of the King's Exchequer demanded of his father John Storour of Morningthorpe, gentleman, to hand over certain evidences with others concerning a close in Fressingfield, in Suffolk, called Edwardshill, the which close with others the said Robert sold to the said Edmund and that his said father told the said Edmund, in the presence of those abovenamed, that one Robert Coke of Wingfield, in Suffolk, husbandman, came to him by a token from the said Robert Storour saying that Robert had mortgaged the said close to him, Robert Coke, for the sum of £4, and willing and desiring him in Robert's name to hand over all evidences concerning the same close, and so by that and other untrue and feigned tokens by the said

\* The regnal year is omitted both here and at 86-7.

Robert Coke, seven evidences of the same close and others were made over to him, where in very truth Robert Storour never sent any such token to his father, nor anything for the delivery of the said evidences, and moreover the said Robert Coke falsely and untruly noiseth him, Robert Storour, saying that he should have quitclaimed the said close called Edwardshill to him, Robert Coke, before the time he sold it to Edmund Bohun, which is untrue for he had never released it to Robert Coke in mortgage nor otherwise except that he had let it to him at farm for 6s. 8d. a year until the time that four nobles were [*ren*] whereas the said close is worth 20s. a year, and no other wise, and this he will depose before the lord chancellor of England or the king's council as largely as any Christian man may do, and that it is his full will and intent that Edmund Bohun should have the said evidences and close and a tenement called Warynsplace in Fressingfield aforesaid, to the which tenement with others the said close is parcel, to him, his heirs and assigns, for evermore, according to the true bargain, etc., made unto the said Edmund. Sealed by Robert Storour 19 Jul. 15 Edw. IV [1475] 'and subscribed my name with my owen hand'. [*In English*]

(f. 35)

**116.** John Storour, of Morningthorpe, gentleman, certifies that Robert, his son, he and his feoffees being in possession in fee simple of two messuages, 92 acres of land, six acres of meadow, seven acres of pasture, and 4d. rent in Fressingfield (Suffolk), bargained and sold the said messuages, land, etc., to Edmund Bohun for a certain sum of money paid to him, seisin was had, and recovery by fine [*reryt*] in the king's court made by his son to Edmund and others, etc., one Robert Coke of Wingfield (Suffolk), husbandman, then having in farm from his said son a close called Edwardyshill, containing sixteen acres of land by estimation, in Fressingfield, parcel of the said messuages, etc., sold to Edmund, the said Robert Coke falsely conspiring and imagining to have the said close to his private use and delivery of the evidences of the same falseley subtly [*sotely*] and untruly came to him, John Storour, showing him a writing not read to him but Coke told him that he had and mortgaged the said close from his son and paid him £4 of money in part payment and that his son prayed him (John Storour) to deliver to Coke all the charters and evidences concerning the said close and he (John), trusting to his untrue sayings and other false feigned tokens 'wenying' to him that Coke had meant 'very trowth' as a Christian man should have done, he delivered to him seven charters and evidences concerning the same close, a general deed of his 'great grauncer' [great grandsire] Richard Waryn of land in certain vills and another under the seal of Sir Michael de la Pole, sometime lord of Wingfield, specifying certain lands which were of Edward [*and omitted*] Spyrard, and five other deeds, the residue of the said seven evidences,\* contrary against all truth and good conscience. Sealed 29 Jul. 15 Edw. IV [1475] [*In English*]

\* See 84-7.

(f. 35d.)

117. Memorandum by William Harlyston, esquire, John Jerney, Henry Heydon, Richard Yaxle and John Lopham, commanded by the high and mighty prince John Duke of Suffolk, 15 Aug. 14 Edw. IV [1474], they called before them at Westhorp Edmund Bohun and Robert Coke to examine them upon certain variances hanging between them touching the right title and possession of a close in Fressingfield called Edwardishill containing sixteen acres of land and more by estimation as it is said, whereupon all their titles, allegations and answers, with the evidences of both said parties, having been showed to them and understood, they appointed that, if they could be credibly informed that the said close was once in the possession and hands of Robert Storour of Morningthorpe, then they thought that the said Edmund should have and enjoy the said close to him and his heirs for ever more, and that in the meantime the said close should be let at farm to John Gold of Wingfield, he to keep the profits in his hand until they should be informed [‘acertayned in the premises’], the said Robert not to deal with the occupation thereof in the meantime, ‘to the which on his part to be obeyed the said Robert permitted in the hand of me the said William Harleston by the feyth of his body’. ‘In wittnesse of all these premisses have subscribit our names with our owen hand’ – William Harleston, John Jerney, Richard Yaxle, John Lopham. [In English]

118. Robert Fox of Fressingfield (Suffolk), Nicholas Warner, John Grendelynge, Roger Gowyn, Robert Middy, Robert Godbald, John Bocher, William Cotewen the elder, Richard Bohun, James Barbour, Richard Reynbald, Thomas Goche, Geoffrey Cotewan, Thomas Hervy, all of the same town, each of 60 years and more, and John Hogon, William Storour, Robert Cotewen, John Deye, John Godbald the elder, John Godbald the younger, John of Wolnawe, Robert of Wolnawe, John Docket, William Baker, William Warner, John Barbour, John Dade, all of the same town and each of 40 years or more, testify that where Edmund Bohun ‘of late tyme passed’ bought a tenement of Robert Storour gentleman called Waryns place in Fressingfield, whereof a close called Edwardshill is parcel, and livery and seisin thereof was had by Edmund and other his cofeoffees, the which close has ever in their days been in the hand and occupation of John Storour, gentleman, Katherine Storour his mother and Robert Storour son of the said John as parcel of the said tenement and that never in their lives have they known any man to occupy the said close nor claim any title or occupation thereof except by the lease of the aforesaid John Storour, Katherine, and Robert Storour or one of them to farm from year to year or other term of years, and they never knew of any sale or state made of the said close but to the said Edmund Bohun in form above said. In witness whereof they have put their seals, 10 Dec. 15 Edw. IV [1475] [In English]

(f. 36)

119. And forasmuch as the seals of these persons above specified to various persons be unknown, and their persons also, therefore Sir Thomas Brews, knight, and Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, of the same town, certify that these persons above

*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

written be of good name and fame and have testified before all that matter aforesaid to be very true and they testify the same. In witness whereof they, the said Sir Thomas Brewes, knight, and Ralph Pulvertoft, clerk, to this present writing have put their seals, 13 Dec. the year abovesaid [1475].\*

[f. 36d. blank]

[f. 37] *Hugo Meller*

*Ten' bon' cartes*

[the Bohun Carters tenement?]

**120.** Roger le Neve of Fressingfield has granted to Hubert Seman of the same, his heirs and assigns, the messuage in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the land of Edward Tratoun, chaplain, and the path which leads to Ruyshale, one head abutting on the land of the said Edward and other on the common way which leads to Hoxne; to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard Edward of Fressingfield, Henry le Sumpter of the same, John le Barbour of the same, Roger le Graunte of the same, John Tryeman of the same, Alan Sharpe of the same, Thomas Alger of the same, and Robert Traton of the same, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after St Margaret the virgin, 19 Edw. II [22 Jul. 1325]

[Marginal – in the tenure of Edmund Cottwin]

**121.** Robert le Tournour of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to John Benedicite and his heirs and assigns all claim in the name of escheat in a piece of land which lies between the land of John Tournour to the west and abuts on the king's highway leading from the marketplace of Fressingfield to Hoxne on the north and on the way which leads from the gate of Robert de Ruyshale to the said highway. [See 130.]

Witnesses: William Veell, John Lance, Edmund de Chebenhale, Hubert de Ruyshale, Simon Bolt, Alan Marpet, Thomas Marpet, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of Mary Magdalene, 28 Edw. [I] [22 Jul. 1300]

[Marginal – in the tenure of Edmund Cottwyn]

**122.** Hubert Seman of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh Meller of the same one piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield which lies between the land of Hugh Fyssh to the north and the land of Thomas Kembald to the south, one head abutting on the land of Richard Lepsy to the east and the other head on the pasture of *dominus* John Smart, chaplain, to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, Roger Baxtere, William Pese, Robert Alger, John Ryveshale, Hubert Sharpe, and others.

\* This is in effect a kind of codicil to the document above, 118.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Mark, 17 Edw. III [27 Apr. 1343]

(f. 37d.)

123. Joan, late the wife of Robert Swyfh, and Agnes Cutfoull her sister, of Fressingfield, have granted to Hugh le Miller of the same, one piece of land containing one and a half acres in the said vill, lying between the land of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north and the land of Juliana Colee to the south, one head abutting to the east on the land formerly of Hugh Fysssh; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John de Chebenhale, Roger le Neve, Robert Bobyr, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, 20 [recte 27?] Edw. III [25 Jan. 1353]\*

124. Hubert Seman of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh son of William le Miller of the same a messuage with one house built on it, and the ditches and trees, in the vill of Fressingfield, between the way which leads from the king's highway to the house of John de Ryveshale to the east and Hubert's land to the west, one head abutting on the said way leading to the house of the said John and the other on the king's highway which leads from Fressingfield to St Edmunds on the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Hugh Fysssh, Robert Rosesson, Thomas Fynch, Robert Alger, John Ryveshale, William Tytheman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Quadragesima Sunday, 23 Edw. III [1 Mar. 1349]

[Marginal, bottom of folio 37d. – the messuage sometime Hugh Miller ... now Edmund Cotwyn in ...; on folio 38 – in tenure of Edmund Cotwyn]

(f. 38)

125. Matilda, daughter of Juliana Kembald, of Fressingfield, has granted to Hugh le Meller of the same, one piece of land containing three roods in the said vill, lying between the free land of the church to the south and the land of Robert

\* 25 January was a Wednesday in 1346, a Thursday in 1347, and a Friday in 1353. The date reads *vicesimo* but a later word may be omitted. By comparison with 125 and 126, the year is more probably 27 Edw. III (1353). On the other hand, this appears to be the same piece of land which Hugh Miller granted to Edmund Shepherd in December 1354 (36) and is very likely to be the same as that which William Sharpe quitclaimed to Joan and Agnes in May 1354 (45), if it may be assumed that the copyist confused the north/south and east/west boundaries in the latter. The December 1354 grant specified a piece lying between the land of Thomas Wingfield and Beatrice Coles to north and south and between land of Shelton Chapel and John Kembald to west and east, whereas Sharpe's quitclaim specified a piece lying between the land of Thomas Wingfield and Juliana Cole to east and west and between land of Shelton Chapel and John Kembald to south and north. If this is the case then this grant by Joan and Agnes to Miller ought to fall between May and December 1354, but this is precluded by the day being the feast of the Conversion of St Paul.

Barbour to the north, one head abutting to the west on the land formerly of Rose (*sic*); to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John le Neve his son, Robert Bobyr, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, at the beginning of 27 Edw. III [25 Jan. 1353]

**126.** Matilda, daughter of Juliana Kembald, of Fressingfield, has appointed Robert Bobyr her attorney to deliver seisin to Hugh le Meller in one piece of land containing three roods as in her charter.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, 27 Edw. III [25 Jan. 1353]

(*f.* 38*d.*)

**127.** William Colle of Fressingfield has granted to *dominus* Walter, deputy dean (*vicedecano*) of Hoxne, a plot (*placiam*) of land with the house on it, in the vill of Fressingfield which he acquired from Beatrice daughter of John Pycok of Fressingfield, his mother, which lies next to the cemetery of the church on one side and the marketplace on the other, abutting the messuage formerly of William the smith to the south and on a certain plot of Robert son of Agnes, merchant, to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, William de Chebenhale, Roger le Baxster, Henry le Sumpter, John Tytheman, Alan Sharpe, John Pese, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Martin, 10 Edw. II [18 Nov. 1336]

**128.** Richard Lepsey of Fressingfield has granted to *dominus* John Huslagh, chaplain, one piece of land with the ditch containing three roods, in Fressingfield lying between the land of Alice Hernyng on each side, one head abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmund on the west and the other abutting on the way which leads from the said highway to Ryveshalegrene to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Robert Rosesson, Hugh Fyssh, Walter Baxter, Thomas Fynch, Roger Neve, Roger Munsty, clerk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday before St Barnabas, 20 Edw. III [6 Jun. 1346]

[Marginal – in tenure of Edmund Cotwyn]

(*f.* 39)

**129.** Alice, daughter of John Tygdeman of Fressingfield, has granted to Hugh le Miller of the same one piece of arable land in the said vill, lying between the land of Juliana Kembald to the south and the free land of the church to the north, one head abutting to the west on the king's highway and the other to the east on the free land of the church, containing one acre; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.



Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John his son, Robert Bobyr, Richard le White, Alexander Vally, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Epiphany, 28 Edw. III [11 Jan. 1355]

130. John Benedicite, son of Rose Benedicite, has granted to Arnold Herburgh, for 8s., a piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of John Tournor to the west and between the way which leads from the gate of Robert de Ruysdale to the king's highway, abutting on the said way to the east and on the king's highway which leads from the marketplace to Hoxne to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 121.]

Witnesses: William Veel, John Launce, Alexander Veel, Edmund de Chebenhall, Robert le Barker, Gilbert de Ryweshall, William the merchant, Simon Holt, Walter de Stradbroke, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Mary Magdalene, 38 [recte 28]<sup>r</sup> Edw. I [24 Jul. 1300]

[Marginal – in tenure Cotwin]

[f. 40]

*Evidences of Hugh Meïier touching the tenement called Carters, now in the hands of Edmund Bohun*

131. William le Skynner of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh Miller of the same, his heirs and assigns, a pightle containing three acres of land in Fressingfield between the land of Hugh Miller to the east and the land of Stephen de Wode to the west, one head abutting on the common way formerly of *dominus* John Husforth, knight, to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: *dominus* John le Breause, knight, Roger le Breause, Richard Suklyng, Richard le White, and Roger le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before Nativity of St John the Baptist, 39 Edw. III [22 Jun. 1365]

132. John Sharpe the elder of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh le Miller of the same one acre of land in Fresyngfield lying in two pieces; one lies between the land of Juliana Kembald to the north and the land of Robert Barbour to the south, and one head abuts on the land of *dominus* William, rector of the church of Fressingfield to the west and the other on the land of Richard le Whyte to the east, the second piece lies between the land of Juliana Kembald to the east and the land of *dominus* William to the west and one head abuts on the land of the said Juliana to the north and other on the land of the said rector to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Row, Richard le Whyte, John Neve, John Tytheman, Roger le Neve, Robert Barbour, and many others.

\* See 121.

At Fressingfield, Friday before St Matthew, 32 Edw. III [14 Sept. 1358]

**133.** Robert son of Hugh le Barbour of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh le Meller of the same, one rood of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of John Sharpe to the north and the land of the said Hugh to the south, one head abutting on the land of *dominus* William, rector of Fressingfield, to the east and the other head on the land of Richard le Whyte to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Rowe, Richard le Whyte, John le Neve, John Tytheman, Roger le Neve, Robert Bobur, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday before St Matthew, 32 Edw. III [14 Sept. 1358]

(*f. 40d.*)

**134.** Hugh le Meller of Fressingfield has granted to *dominus* William de le Ker, vicar of Weybread, and John le Calwere of Fressingfield, all his free lands and holdings, etc., in Fressingfield; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard de Suclynge, Richard Waryn, John le Neve, Nicholas Date, William Bodyng, Robert Bobur, Robert le Neve.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Translation of St Thomas the martyr, 1 Ric. II [5 Jul. 1377]

**135.** William de la Ker, vicar of Weybread, and John le Calwere of Fressingfield have granted to Hugh le Mellor of Fressingfield and Joan his wife all the free lands and holdings, etc., in Fressingfield which they had by grant of Hugh; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard Sucl yng, Richard Waryn, John le Neve, Thomas Alger, Nicholas Date, Robert Bobur, William Bodyng, Robert le Neve, John Gyle, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after Michaelmas, 1 Ric. II [1 Oct. 1377]

(*f. 41*)

**136.** Robert Barbour of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh Meller of the same, one piece of land in the said vill which lies between the land of the church of Fressingfield and the land of Matilda Kembald, one head abutting on the east and the other on the west (*sic*); to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA, E326/3813]

Witnesses: *dominus* John Felys, Richard Waryn, Robert Neve, John Gyle, John Soroll, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Faith, 8 Ric. II [10 Oct. 1384]

**137.** John Levald, chaplain, and John Waryn of Fressingfield have granted to William Warener of the said vill, his heirs and assigns, two pieces of land in Fressingfield lying in the land [*territorio*] called Aldefeld, of which one piece lies

between the land of Thomas Dowe to the east and the king's highway to Hoxne to the west, abutting on the land formerly of Robert Wyngefeld to the south, and contains half an acre, more or less, and the other lies between the land of Hugh Milner to the west and the king's highway to Hoxne, one head abutting on the land of the Prior of Eye to the south and the other on the land of Lady Suffolk and Robert Kembald to the north and contains two acres, more or less; to William, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Kyng, Thomas Kyng, James Browne, Walter Gerlynge, John Calwere, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of All Saints, 2 Hen. V [1 Nov. 1414]

(*f. 41d.*)

138. Agatha Seman of Fressingfield has granted to Hugh le Meller of the same one rood of land in Fressingfield, lying between the land of William le Skinner to the west and the land of the said Hugh to the east, one head abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmund to the north and other on the way leading to Reveshalegrene to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, William le Skynner, Robert Bober, John le Neve son of Roger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday before the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 37 Edw. III [22 Jun. 1363]

(*f. 42*)

139. Robert de Wolvenhaghe of Fressingfield has granted to Roger le Bakestere of Fressingfield and Beatrice his wife, and their heirs, for a certain sum of money, his plot in Boltesyord with the ditches and osiers, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the plot of land of Richard de la Grene to the east and the land of Matilda niece of the parson to the west, abutting on the land of John called Richeman of Fressingfield to the north and the land of the said Roger to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See **B14.**]\*

Witnesses: Robert de Ryvesale, John Tytheman, Thomas Alger, Alan Sharp, John Clement, John de Northaghe, Arnald Herburgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Andrew, 8 Edw. II [1 Dec. 1314]

(*f. 42d.*)

140. William Starlyng of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Hubert Seman of the same a messuage with a piece of arable land and ditch, and a portion of land in his croft in Fressingfield, as in his charter, the messuage lying between his messuage

\* The original charter is endorsed 'Evidence ... Edmund Bohun of the King's Exchequer touching the Carter tenement'. It may be this plot which was later held by Robert Barret of Ufford Hall and acquired by Alice and John Carter in 1435:

and the garden of Henry le Sompter and the land lying next to the wood formerly of Robert de Ryvishal and the meadow of William son of John, one head abutting on the land of Robert Traton and the other on the meadow of the said son of John, and the ditch lying between his messuage and the messuage of the said Hubert, and the portion of arable land in the croft lying between his land and the land of the said Hubert; and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard Edward, Henry le Sompter, John Tytheman, Alan Sharpe, Richard Fynche, Robert Traton, Richard de Fressingfield, clerk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Conversion of St Paul, 18 Edw. II [27 Jan. 1325]

**141.** William Staulyng of Fressingfield has granted to Hubert Seman of the same, for a certain sum of money, one piece of arable land in the said vill which lies between the meadow of the said William and the meadow of Robert Snatim on the other, one head abutting on the wood of Robert de Ryuyschal and the other on the meadow of the said William; to Hubert, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhall, William de Chebenhall, John Garney, Robert de Ryvyschal, John Tytheman, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of St Matthew, 10 Edw. II [21 Sept. 1316]

(*f.* 43)

**142.** William Starlyng, son of William de Starlyng, of Fressingfield, has granted to William Pese of the same, two pence of annual rent from Alan Sharpe for a piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of Hugh le Barbour and the land of Henry le Sumpter, one head abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmund and the other on the land of the said William Pese; to hold with all wardships, reliefs, escheats, and other appurtenances, to him, his heirs and assigns, and warranty.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, Henry le Sumpter, John Barbour, Roger le Graunt, John Tytheman, Thomas Aleyn, Robert Traton, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after Easter, 4 Edw. III [9 Apr. 1330]

**143.** Alice Sharp of Fressingfield has granted to John Sharp of the same two pieces of land in the said vill, *viz.* one piece lying between the land of Hugh Barbour to the south and the land of Walter Baker (*Pystor*) to the north, one head abutting on the land of Fressingfield church to the east and the other on the land of Nicholas [blank] to the west, and the other piece lying between the land of the church to the west and the land of Juliana Kembald to the east, one head abutting on the land of the church to the south and the other on the land of Thomas son of Henry Sumpter; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander Chebenhale, Roger Baker (*Pystor*), Hugh Fyssh, Hugh Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Luke, 16 Edw. III [18 Oct. 1342]

(f. 43d.)

144. Agnes, formerly the wife of Thomas Kembald of Fressingfield, widow, has quitclaimed to Robert Barbour of Fressingfield, his heirs and assigns, a messuage with a house built on it with a piece of land adjacent, formerly of Thomas her husband, in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the free land of the church on each side, abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmund to the north, and the piece of land abuts on the pightle of John Garnoun of Burwelle, chaplain, to the south; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, William le Skyner, Roger le Neve, John his son, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobyr, Nicholas Date, William le Taylour, Edmund le Shepherde, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday before St Augustine the archbishop, 37 Edw. III [23 May 1363]

(f. 44)

145. Robert de Shelton has granted to Hugh le Barbour of Fressingfield one rood of land in the vill of Fressingfield between the land of Alice Sharp to the north and the land of Walter le Baxster to the south, one head abutting on the land of the church to the east and the other on the land of John le Barbour to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander de Chepynhale, Henry le Sumpter, John le Barbour, Roger le Grond, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Barnabas, 7 Edw. III [14 Jun. 1333]

146. William Gernoun, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, and William Esthawe of Wingfield, chaplain, have granted to Robert Bobyr of Fressingfield and Agnes his wife a messuage in the same vill lying next to the king's highway from Dunwich to Hoxne between the messuage of Hugh le Mellor to the west and the messuage of John Drye to the west (*sic*), with all the lands and holdings which they acquired from the said Robert, to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Thomas de Wyngfeld, Geoffrey Baret, Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John Rowe, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Easter, 29 Edw. III [12 Apr. 1355]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Godbald that ... John Barber]

(f. 44d.)

147. Roger Barbour of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Robert Barbour of the same a built messuage, two closes, and three pieces of arable land, which they had by grant of Robert Bobur, their uncle; the messuage lies between the messuage of John Kembald to the east and the messuage of Hugh Meller to the west, one head abutting on the king's highway to the south; one close attached to the said messuage to the south with one head abutting on the messuage formerly of John Kembald to the east and the other on Aysbyweye to the west; the second close lies

between the said way to the south and the land of Richard Waryn to the north, one head abutting on Boltisclos to the east and the other on the messuage formerly of Edward Shepherd to the west; the first piece of land lies between the land of Richard Waryn on each side, one head abutting on the land of John Gyle to the east and the other on Aysbyweye to the west; the second piece lies between the free land of the church to the north and the land of Matilda Kembald to the south, one head abutting on Aysbyweye to the east and the other on the land of Richard Waryn to the west; the third piece called Bovpetlond lies between the way called Bovpetweye to the south and the land of Richard Waryn to the north, one head abutting on the meadow of Richard Waryn to the east and the other on the land of Matilda Kembald to the west. [TNA, E326/3827]

Witnesses: John Rouk, John Gyle, John Calwer, William Godyng, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St John before the Latin Gate, 9 Ric. II [13 May 1386]  
[Marginals – in les homeclos (opposite first piece of land), in Cartesfeld, with later hand adding ‘in tenure of Richard Aldous’ (opposite second piece of land), and ... Hugh and Matilda Kembald and in tenure of Richard Aldous (with pointer to the third piece of land)]

(f. 45)

**148.** William le Skynner, son of John of Metfield, has granted to Robert Bobyr of Fressingfield one piece of land called Tratnyspyktyll with the adjacent ditch in the same vill, lying between the king's highway to the south and the land formerly of Robert Rose to the north, one head abutting to the west on the messuage formerly of John Pewere and the other to the east on Boltesbord (*sic*); to hold of the chief lord of the fee, to him and his heirs and assigns, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Edward, John Rose, Roger le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Laurence, 26 Edw. III [3 Feb. or 10 Aug. 1352]\*

(f. 45d.)

**149.** Alice Tygdeman, formerly wife of John Rosisone, of Fressingfield has granted to Robert Bobur two pieces of land in Fressingfield, the first lying in the field called Bovepet between the land of John Kembald to the north and the king's highway and the free land of the church to the south, and abuts to the east on the king's highway and to the west on the land of Juliana Kembald, and the other lies next to the croft formerly of Hugh Davy to the east and the land formerly of Robert Rose and the pightle of the said Robert Bobur to the west, one head abutting to the south on the messuage lately of Hugh Fyssh called Sharpys; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, John Rowe, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday after St Hilary, 30 Edw. III [14 Jan. 1357]

[Marginal – in tenure of Richard Aldous ...]

\* Both feasts of St Laurence fell on a Friday in 1352.

150. Alice Tygedeman, late the wife of John Rosysone, of Fressingfield, has granted to Robert Bobyr of the same, two pieces of land in the said vill lying between the land of Richard Whyte to the south and the land of John Kembald to the north, one head abutting on the way called Aysbyweye, one piece lies and abuts as said, and the other piece lies between the land of Matilda Kembald to the south and the free land of the church to the north, and one head abuts on the aforesaid way, the pieces lying separate [*divisivi*] in the field [*cultura*] called Boltishegh; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA, E326/3816]

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John le Neve his son, William le Skykker, John Kembald, Hugh le Meller, William le Talyour, Edward le Schepherde.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Conversion of St Paul, 38 Edw. III [28 Jan. 1364]

(f. 46)

151. John Levald, chaplain, has demised to William Warner of the same (*sic*), one piece of land in Fressingfield containing one acre, lying between the land late of John Waryn to the west and the land of the earl of Suffolk to the east, abutting on the land of the said William, once of John Waryn, to the south and on the land of the said John Waryn and on the land of Nicholas Russhey to the north, the which piece of land William Warner had by grant of the said John Waryn, recently deceased; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee. [see 153.]

Witnesses: John Kyng, Walter Gerlyng, James Broune, Thomas Kyng, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before All Saints, 3 Hen. V [27 Oct. 1415]

[Marginal – in Benecroft hill]

(f. 46d.)

152. John Seford of Fressingfield has granted to John Barbour of the same and Isabel his wife, three pieces of land in the said vill; (1) one lies between the land of the rector of Fressingfield to the east and the way called Bovepetweye to the west, and abuts on the king's highway from Dunwich to Bury to the south [see 184(6)]; (2) the second lies between the land of the said rector to the north and the land of John Waryn to the south, and abuts on the way called Ayllysby to the east; (3) the third lies between the land of the said John Waryn to the south and the land late of John Josep to the north, and abuts on the said way called Ayllysby to the east [see 184(5)]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Jermyn, knight, Thomas Brews, esquire, William Dalengeo, William Seman, John Fox, Walter Grendlynge, John Grendlynge, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday (*sic*) the feast of St Matthew, 7 Hen. VI [21 or 23 Sept. 1428]\*

[Marginal – in Cartesfeld]

\* The feast of St Matthew fell on a Tuesday in 1428.



**153.** John Dade, Roger Godbald, Robert Noyse, John Calwer, of Fressingfield, and John Davy of Brockdish and William Warner of Needham, have demised to Alice Carter of Fressingfield one piece of land containing three acres, more or less, in Fressingfield in the field called Aldefeld between the land of the said Alice and the land once of John Waryn to the west and the land of the earl of Suffolk to the east, one head abutting on the land formerly of John Waryn and the land once of Nicholas Russcheye to the north and on the land of the Priory of Eye to the south, which William Warner had by grant of John Waryn and John Leveld, now deceased; to her, her heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty from William Warner. [See **151 and 234(b)**.]

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, John Bohun, John Gowyn, John Barbour the elder, Nicholas Warner, and others.

At Fressingfield, 12th November, 16 Hen. VI [1437]

[Marginal – piece of land containing three acres in field Aldfeld next to Stokklondys and, in later hand, in tenure of Richard Aldous]

(f. 47)

**154.** Alice, late the wife of Thomas Carter, of Fressingfield, widow, has granted to Reginald Folkerede of Weybread, Nicholas Duffelde, William Dalangho, John Date the younger, and Robert Noys, all the lands, holdings, etc., which came to her after the death of Joan Miller, late her mother, in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: William Gyle, William Seman, William Warner, John Barbour, William Addreed, Walter Grendelynge, Robert Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of Michaelmas 2 Hen. VI [29 Sept. 1423]

**155.** Reginald Fokered of Weybread, John Dade of Fressingfield the elder, and Robert Noyse of the the same quitclaim to Alice Carter, formerly the wife of Thomas Carter of Fressingfield, all the lands, holdings, etc., which they had by her grant, with Nicholas Duffeld and William Dalangho now deceased, and which she had after the death of her mother, Joan Meller.

Witnesses: *dominus* John Chirch of Fressingfield, chaplain, Robert Baret of the same, John Calwer of the same, and many others.

At Fressingfield, 3rd March 32 Hen. VI [1454]

(f. 47d.)

**156.** Robert Bobyr of Fressingfield has granted to Robert Barbour and Roger Barbour his brother his built plot and all lands and holdings which he has in the said vill; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard Waryn, John Neve, John Rouk, Robert Neve, John Gyle, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before St Margaret the virgin, 2 Ric. II [18 Jul. 1378]

Also the said Robert Bobir wills that the said Robert and Roger re-eneoff the said Robert Bobir and Agnes his wife if it happens that the same status should be recovered and while he lives, however he wills that the said Agnes should be enfeoffed in all the lands and holdings for her life, otherwise the said Robert and Roger should sell the land for the souls of the said Robert and Agnes.

(*f. 48*)

**157.** John Barbour the elder of Fressingfield has granted to John Waryn of Morningthorpe, John Fox, John Calwere, Roger Godbald of Fressingfield, and Thomas Waryn of Bungay, all his lands and holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Russchey, John Bohun, Robert Noyse, Robert Josep, Nicholas Warner, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 21 Hen. VI [26 Mar. 1443]

**158.** John Waryn of Morningthorpe, John Fox of Fressingfield, John Calwer, Roger Godbald of the same, and Thomas Waryn of Bungay, have demised to John Barbour the elder of Fressingfield all the lands, holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield which they had by his grant; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Date, John Bohun, Nicholas Warner, Robert Josep, Henry Stannard, and others.

At Fressingfield, 10th December, 30 Hen. VI [1451]

(*f. 48d.*)

**159.** John Barbour the elder of Fressingfield has granted to Robert Baret of Cratfield, John Calwer of Fressingfield, and Richard Briger of the same, all his lands, holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Russchey, John Bohun, Thomas Gowan, Robert Josep, Nicholas Warner, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Silvester, 30 Hen. VI [31 Dec. 1451]

**160.** Robert Baret of Cratfield, John Calwere of Fressingfield, and Richard Briger of the same, have demised to John Barbour of Fressingfield the elder all the lands and holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield which they had by his grant; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Bohun, Roger Godbald, Richard Storour, Thomas Gowyn, Andrew Baron, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th January 34 Hen. VI [1456]

(f. 49)

**161.** Robert Baret of Cratfeld, John Calwere of Fressingfield and Richard Bruger of the same have appointed John Barbour of Fressingfield the younger their attorney to deliver seisin to John Barbour of Fressingfield the elder of all the lands, holdings, etc., in the vill of Fressingfield, as in their charter.

At Fressingfield, 20th January 34 Hen. VI [1456]

**162.** John Barbour of Fressingfield the elder has granted to John Cartere of Worlingworth, chaplain, Alice Carter of Fressingfield, widow, John Hervy of Worlingworth, John Malyng of the same, John Wolnehaghe of Fressingfield the elder, and Roger Godbald of the same, all the said lands, holdings, etc. in the vill of Fressingfield (*sic*);\* to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: William Brews, esquire, John Bohun, Richard Storour, John Calwere, Robert Josep, and others.

At Fressingfield, 24th January 34 Hen. VI [1456]

**163.** Alice Carter, formerly wife of Thomas Carter of Fressingfield, widow, has granted to John Carter, chaplain, of Worlingworth, John Dade of Fressingfield the elder, and Richard Bruger of the same, all the lands, holdings, etc., which came to her after the death of Joan Miller, her late mother, in the vill and fields of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Calwer of Fressingfield, Robert Baret of the same, John Barbour of the same the younger, Henry Stannard of the same, Robert Joseppe of the same, and others.

At Fressingfield, 4th April 32 Hen. VI [1454]

(f. 49d.)

**164.** Thomas, abbot of St Mary Sibton, and the convent, have confirmed to Alice who was the wife of Thomas Carter, late of Fressingfield, and John Carter, chaplain, son of the said Thomas and Alice, two pieces of land in Fressingfield: (1) of which one contains by estimation one rood which Robert Baret lately held at will as of their manor called Uffordhalle in Fressingfield by the service of 1½*d.* and suit, and rendered to the said Alice and John, their heirs and assigns, as appears in the court held on 12th May 35 Hen. VI [1435], the which land lies in Fressingfield in a certain pightle called Botyldysyerd, lately of the said Robert Baret and previously of John Barbour and now in the tenure of Alice and John, *viz.* in the east part by the ditch of the common pasture called Aysbyweye to the east (*sic*) and other land within the pightle called Botildisyerd to the west and abuts on the close meadow lately of Katherine Waryn to the north and on the common way to the south; (2) and the other piece contains by estimation half a rood which Hugh Meller, late of Fressingfield, father of the said Alice, held at will as of the

\* It is likely that the copyist omitted several words from this deed.

said manor and died seized, after whose death the said Alice, as daughter and heir of Hugh was admitted, as appears in the court held in the feast of St Margaret the virgin 4 Hen. V [20 Jul. 1416], which lies in Fressingfield between the land of the said Alice and John her son to the east and west and abuts on the king's highway to the north and on the common way called Rusalegrene to the south; to Alice and John, their heirs and assigns, rendering 2*d.* annually to the said manor and suit of court, viz. 1½*d.* for the said one rood of land and ½*d.* for the said half-rood.

Witnesses: Henry Row, esquire, John Dade of Fressingfield, Roger Godbald, Robert Wulnhagh, Thomas Dade of the same, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th June, 7 Edw. IV [1467]

[Marginal – R Bowen holds these two pieces]

(*f. 50d.*)

**165.** Thomas, abbot of St Mary Sibton, and the convent, have appointed John Holm of Dennington and Robert Snellyng of Sibton their attorneys to deliver seisin to Alice who was the wife of Thomas Carter of Fressingfield and John Carter chaplain, son of the said Thomas and Alice, in two pieces of land in Fressingfield [as **164**].

At Sibeton in the chapter house, 20th June, 7 Edw. IV [1467]

**166.** John Carter of Dennington in the county of Suffolk, clerk, the son of Thomas Carter and Alice Carter, late of the vill of Fressingfield in the same county, deceased, has received from Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield £25 14*s.* in part payment of a greater sum which the said Edmund owes to John for the price of a holding called Carters tenement with all appurtenances and six pieces of land and meadow late parcel of the holding of John Barbour the elder, now of John Hogon, but not two pieces of land lately pertaining to the manor of Uffordhall in Fressingfield [see **164**], which the said John lately sold to Edmund in the name of all the lands, holdings, etc., which were of the said Thomas, Alice, and John in Fressingfield.

Dated 20th July 19 Edw. IV [1479]

(*remainder of f. 51 and 51d. blank*)

(*f. 52*) *Headed 'Lands and holdings of John Bohun, father of Edmund Bohun, in Fressingfield'*

**167.** Thomas de Chebenhale of Fressingfield has granted to John Edward of the same two pieces of land in Fressingfield, of which one lies between the pigtle of the said John to the east and the land of Juliana Kembald to the west, one head abutting on the land of John de Wyngfeld, knight, and John Rosysson to the north and the other on the land of the said John Edward to the south; and the other lies between the free land of William parson of the church on each side and abuts at one head on the pigtle of John Doget parson of the church of Edmondthorpe to the south and at the other on the way called Smaleweye to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, Robert Bober, Roger Alger, John Rosysson, John le Neve, John Kembald, Robert Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday after the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 26 Edw. III [31 Mar. 1352]

[Marginal – Cotwyn]

168. Thomas de Chebenhale of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to John Edward of Fressingfield, rector of the church of [Trunch], his heirs and assigns, in two pieces of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield, of which one lies between the pigtle of the said John to the east and the land of Juliana Kembald to the west, one head abutting on the land of John de Wyngfeld, knight, and John Rosysson to the north and the other on the land of the said John Edward to the south; and the other lies between the free land of William parson of the church on each side and abuts at one head on the pigtle of Robert Bobir to the south and at the other on the king's highway called Smaleweye to the north.

Witnesses: John Rosysson, John le Neve, John Kembald, John Rowe, William le Skynner, Robert Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Conversion of St Paul, 27 Edw. III [28 Jan. 1353]

(*f. 52d.*)

169. William le Skynner of Fressingfield has granted to *dominus* John Edward of Fressingfield, rector of the church of [Trunch] four pieces of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield; (1) one lies in the field called Boltesheggth between the land of the said John to the south and the king's highway called Smaleweye to the north, one head abutting on the land which was of John Rosysson to the east and the other on the common called Aysbywey to the west; (2) another piece lies in the field called Polcroft between the land of the said John to the north and the king's highway called Smalewey to the south, one head abutting on the pasture of the said John and the common pasture called Asybywey to the west, the other on the land the said William sold to the said John to the east; (3) the third lies between the free land of the church to the east and the land of the said John to the west, one head abutting on the pasture of the said John to the north and the other on the land of the said John to the south and on the king's highway called Smalwey to the south (*sic*); (4) the fourth lies between the free land of the church to the north and a way which leads to Hoxne to the south, one head abutting on the king's highway to the east and the other on a way to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, Robert Bobyr, John Row, John le Neve, John Kembald, Robert Barbour, Thomas Edward, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Edward king and martyr, 28 Edw. III [20 Mar. 1354]

170. Thomas de Wyngfeld and Richard de Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, have quitclaimed to Thomas Edward of Fressingfield a pigtle lying between the close of Juliana Kembald and the close of Alice Tytheman, one head

abutting on the king's highway to St Edmund, with four pieces of land; (1) the first abutting on the common way called Boltyswey to the west and the other head on the land of Alice Tytheman to the east; (2) the second lies in the field of Middylhowe formerly of Thomas de Chebenhale and abuts on the way called Smalewey to the north and the other head on Daviscroft to the south; (3) the third lies between the croft formerly of *dominus* William rector of the other half of the church of Fressingfield called Edwardiscroft to the east and the land of Robert Bobyr and Richard White to the west, one head abutting on the *curia* of Juliana Kembald to the south, the which piece of land was enclosed by Richard White; (4) the fourth lies in the field called Aysbyfeld, one head abutting on Hawthornweye to the west and the other head on the land once of Alexander de Chebenhale to the east; the which pightle and four pieces of land they acquired with the said Thomas Edward from *dominus* John Edward, lately parson of the church of Badingham, as appears in the charter of enfeoffment of the same *dominus* John.

Witnesses: John de Sancroft, Nicholas Dade, John at Wode, Roger Neve, Robert Bobyr, and others.

At Badingham, Saturday the feast of Philip and James, 41 Edw. III [1 May 1367]

(f. 53)

171. Seman Godbald of Fressingfield has granted to John Gaylye of Fressingfield one acre of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of the abbot and convent of St Edmund to the west and the land of Nicholas Date to the east, one head abutting on the land of the said Nicholas to the south and the other on the land of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 172.]

Witnesses: Thomas de Chebenhale, William Skynner, Nicholas Date, John le Wode, John Sancroft, Roger Fynch, Richard White, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday before Michaelmas 32 Edw. III [28 Sept. 1358]

172. Richard le White of Fressingfield has granted to John de Caltoft of Redenhall and Roger Edward of Beccles one piece of land containing one acre in the said vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of the abbot and convent of St Edmund to the west and the land formerly of Robert Date to the east, abutting on the land which was of the said Robert to the south and on the land of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 171, 277.]

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Richard Pyk, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 40 Edw. III [16 Aug. 1366]

(f. 53d.)

173. Simon Payok of Fressingfield has granted to Roger le Grond, baker, and Beatrice his wife one piece of arable land containing one and a half acres in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the land of the said Roger and Beatrice to the east and the free land of one portion of the church of Fressingfield, the northern head abutting on the common way called Manybuskeswey and the other head on the land which was of Matthew Talbot to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, William de Chebenhale, Robert de Ryueshale, John Tytheman, John Pese, John Clement, Alan Sharp, Arnald Herburg, John de Northagh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the morrow of St Bartholomew, 8 Edw. II [25 Aug. 1314]

(f. 54)

174. William le Skyunner of Fressingfield and William his son remit all actions, transgressions, suits, quarrels, debts and demands to *dominus* John Gernoun of Burwell, chaplain, Thomas his nephew, Nicholas Josep, servant of the said *dominus* John, and Alice Date of Fressingfield.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Faith, 37 Edw. III [6 Oct. 1363]

175. Robert Perleman and Margaret his wife have quitclaimed to Richard Edward, his heirs and assigns, all actions for dower in all the lands and holdings which were of Robert le Tanur of Fressingfield.

Witnesses: Ralph de Hardeshille, William de Chebenhale, John Garneys, Robert de Ryueshale, Henry le Sumpter, Hubert Seman, Roger le Baxter, Robert de Myldenhale, Robert de Ormesby, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday before St Mark, 12 Edw. II [20 Apr. 1319]

(f. 54d.) *Heading – Evidences of John Bohun father of Edmund Bohun*

176. Alexander Bene of Fressingfield has granted to Thomas Alger of Fressingfield, for a certain sum of money, one portion of meadow in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the land of the said Thomas to the north and Alexander's meadow to the south, one head abutting on the pasture of John Ese to the west and the other on the king's highway which leads from Brundish to Fressingfield to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 177–8.]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, Walter de Bradestede, John Tytheman, Roger le Grond, Alan Sharp, Alexander le Brond, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of St Ambrose, 5 Edw. II [4 Apr. 1312]

177. Thomas Alger of Fressingfield has granted to Geoffrey and Roger, his sons, a piece of meadow and a piece of arable land in the vill of Fressingfield, the meadow lying between the land of Richard Fynch to the south and Thomas's land to the



north, the western head abutting on the land of his son Robert and the eastern head on the path of Robert de Sheltone leading to the mill, and the piece of land lying in the field called Weyescroft between the land of Geoffrey le Glamyle to the east and the land of Robert de Shelton to the west, the southern head abutting on the land of Matthew Davy and the northern head on the land of the said Robert; to hold of the chief lord of the fee, to them, their heirs and assigns, and warranty. [See 176, 178.]

Witnesses: Richard Edward, Alexander de Chebenhale, Henry le Sumpter, Roger Baker (*Pistor*), Alan Sharp, Robert Traton, Richard Fynch, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Conversion of St Paul, 16 Edw. II [30 Jan. 1323]

(*f.* 55)

178. Roger Alger of Fressingfield has granted to William, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, and John his brother, chaplain, a piece of meadow in the said vill of Fressingfield lying between the pasture of Nicholas Dade to the south and the pasture which was of Robert Alger to the north, abutting on a way of Thomas de Wyngfeld called le Mellewey to the east and on the pasture formerly of the said Robert Alger to the west; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 176-7.]

Witnesses: Richard le White, Roger le Neve, John le Neve, William le Skyunner, Thomas Edward, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Dionisius, 35 Edw. III [10 Oct. 1361]

179. Hubert Sharpe of Fressingfield has granted to Alexander Pole of the same, for a certain sum of money, one piece of land in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of Sara Bobyr and the messuage of William le Meller, and the land of Roger le Gronde to the south and Hubert's land which Joan le Skyunner holds in dower to the north, one head abutting on Aysbyweye to the west and on Hubert's land to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as 199.]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, John Tytheman, John le Barbour, Roger le Grond, Hubert Seman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of All Saints 9 Edw. III [2 Nov. 1335]

(*f.* 55*d.*)

180. Matthew Davy of Fressingfield and Hugh Davy of the same have granted to John le Greyve of the same two acres of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of the said John to the east and the land of Juliana le Skyunner (*sic*)\* to the west, one head abutting on the land of the said Hugh to the south and the other on the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as 200.]

\* Joan le Skinner in 200.

*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Robert de Shothowe, Simon Charnell, William son of Walter, Robert son of Rose, Walter le Baxter, Alexander le Baxter, Hugh le Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after Easter, 21 Edw. III [2 Apr. 1347]

**181.** Matthew Davy and Hugh Davy of Fressingfield have granted to John le Greyve, servant of Thomas de Wyngfeld, for a certain sum of money, two acres of land in the said vill of Fressingfield lying between the pightle of John Edward to the east and the land of the said Matthew and Hugh to the west, abutting on the pightle of Simon Alcock to the south and on the land formerly of Alexander de Chebenhale to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as **201.**]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Robert son of Rose, Walter le Baxter, Alexander Baxter, Hugh le Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday in Easter week, 21 Edw. III [27 Mar. 1347]

(*f. 56*)

**182.** John Levald, clerk, of Winfarthing and John Waryn of Fressingfield have granted to William Dalangho of Fressingfield, his heirs and assigns, one piece of land in Fressingfield, containing two acres, between the land of William Adred to the east and the land of Thomas Carter to the west, one head abutting to the north on the land of the rector of Fressingfield and the other to the south on the king's highway, the which piece they had by grant of Robert Kembald of Fressingfield as in his charter; to him, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: John Fox, Walter Grendelyng, John Kyng, Geoffrey Valavio, John Josep, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Mark, 6 Hen. V [28 Apr. 1418]

(*f. 56d.*)

**183.** Robert Kembald of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to William Valavio [*sic*, Dallinghoo]\* of the same, his heirs and assigns, a piece of land containing two acres lying in Fressingfield between the land of William Adred to the east and the land of Thomas Carter to the west, one head abutting to the north on the land of the rector of Fressingfield and the other to the south on the king's highway.

Witnesses: William Warner, Robert Noyse, John Jhoseph, John Fox, Walter Grendelyng, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after St John the apostle and evangelist, 6 Hen. V [3 Jan. 1419]

**184.** John Levald, clerk, and John Waryn have demised to John Seforth of Fressingfield the messuage lying next to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the south and one close called Stuncok, six pieces of land and two pieces of meadow

\* See **182** and Introduction.

in Estfeldmedwe, in Fressingfield; (1) one piece of land lies in le Marketfeld between the land of the said John Waryn to the east and the land of the earl of Suffolk to the west; (2) the second lies in Medelowe between the land of the rector of Fressingfield on each side; (3) the third lies between the land of Robert Noyse to the west and the land of the said John Waryn to the east; (4) the fourth lies at Honidwest between the land of the said rector to the north and the land of the said John Waryn to the south; (5) the fifth lies between the land of the said John Waryn to the south and the land formerly of John Josep to the north [see 152(3)]; (6) the sixth lies at Bovpetwey between the land of the said rector and the said way, and abuts on the king's highway from Dunwich to Bury to the south [see 152(1)]; the two pieces of meadow lies in Estfeldmedwe which John Levald recently had with John Waryn of Fressingfield, now deceased, father of the said John Waryn, by grant of Robert Kembald with other land; to John Seforth, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Jerny, knight, Thomas Brews, esquire, William Dalangoo, Roger Dalangoo, John Barbour, Walter Grenlyng, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Margaret the virgin, 6 Hen. VI [26 Jul. 1428]

(f. 57)

185.\* Geoffrey Baret of Fressingfield has granted to Thomas Edward of the same half a messuage with a house built on it which he formerly acquired from *dominus* John Edward, brother of Thomas, in Fressingfield lying between the half of the said messuage to the south and the cemetery of the church to the north, abutting on the common way to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard White, John son of Roger Neve, Robert Bobir, William Skynner, John Sharp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday the feast of Philip and James, 35 Edw. [*tercii* omitted] [probably 1 May 1361]

186. Thomas de Wyngfeld, Richard de Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, and Geoffrey Waryn (*sic*),<sup>†</sup> have quitclaimed to Thomas Edward (1) a pightle with one piece of land formerly of Royses Hubert in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of John Kembald and John Row to the west and the common way to the east, one head abutting on the close of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north, and (2) a messuage formerly of William Pesee with an adjacent pightle formerly Lepcys in the said vill lying between the common way to the north and the holding formerly Alger to the south.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Hilary, 29 Edw. III [17 Jan. 1356]

[Marginal – pightle called Rosehobert, and, in later hand, in tenure of James Aldous]

\* This and 187–9 are concerned with the messuage later called Godbalds Yard. Later charters concerning this messuage are 281, 283–7.

† This may be an error for Baret by comparison with the following entry and 208.

**187.** Thomas de Wyngfeld, Master Richard de Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, Geoffrey Baret, and Thomas Edward, of Fressingfield, have confirmed to John Rowe half a messuage formerly of John Edward in the said vill, with a barn built on it, lying between the half of the said messuage to the north and a cottage formerly Sharpys to the south, one head abutting on the common way to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Ralph Hardushill, Thomas de Chebenhale, John de Sancroft, William Skynner, John le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Hilary, 29 Edw. III [17 Jan. 1356]

[Marginal – in tenure of vill of Fressingfield]

(*f. 57d.*)

**188.** John Rowe of Fressingfield has granted to Thomas Edward of the same half a messuage formerly of John Edward, brother of Thomas, with a barn built on it, with a piece of land which pertains, in Fressingfield, the half messuage lying between the half of the said messuage to the north and a cottage formerly Sharpys to the south, abutting on the common way to the east, and the said piece of land lying between the land of John Kembald and Robert Gocond and the land of the said Thomas Edward, abutting on the way called Cherchwey; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Ralph de Hardushill, John de Sancroft, John le Neve, Richard le Whyte, Roger le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Dionisius, 32 Edw. III [14 Oct. 1358]

[Marginal – in tenure of vill of Fressingfield]

**189.** Isabella, late the wife of Thomas Edward, has quitclaimed to John Godbald of Fressingfield a built messuage in Fressingfield formerly of Thomas Edward her husband.

Witnesses: John Gyle, Richard Neve, and Nicholas Rushey, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Faith, 16 Ric. II [13 Oct. 1392]

(*f. 58*)

**190.** Simon Cokus of Whittingham, son of William Cocus of the same, has granted to Matthew son of John Pryk of Whittingham, for 12s., one piece of land containing one acre in Fressingfield lying between the land of Robert Cocus to the south and the land of Leticia Payock to the north, abutting on the park of Lady Alice de Brews to the east and the land of Thomas Carpynter to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: William Veel, John Launce, Alexander Veell, William Spynck, Matthew Davy, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of St Thomas apl, 25 Edw. [1] [21 Dec. 1296]

**191.** Thomas Sharp of Fressingfield has granted to Juliana and Isabel, his daughters, a piece of land containing four acres called Lentouns, in the vill of Fressingfield in the hamlet of Whittingham, lying between the land of Robert Brews, knight, to the east and the land of the lord of Wakelenys to the west, abutting on the land of the said Robert Brews, knight, called Oldecroft to the south and on the land of the said Thomas Sharpe called Hunttes to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Shepe, John Fox, John Date, Thomas Kyng, John Baker, and others.

At Fressingfield, 15th April, 6 Hen. IV [1405]

**192.** John Pryk, parson of the church of St John of Ilkeshall, and John Tolle of South Elmham, have confirmed to John Fox of Fressingfield, John Shep and Roger his son of the same, a piece of land containing two acres with a way adjacent, in the vill of Fressingfield, lying between the land of the Prior of Eye and the land called Fouderslond to the south and the land lately of Wakelinus de Hardyngsill to the north, one head abutting to the east on the way called Lynton Weye and the other to the west with the said way abutting on the land of John Baker; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Thomas Kyng, William Seman, Robert Bacon, John Baker, John Malneys, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 8 Hen. IV [27 Jun. 1407]

(*f. 58d.*)

**193.** Juliana Goche, late the wife of Robert Goche, of Fressingfield, has granted to Richard Shep and Robert Banyard of Fressingfield a piece of land containing four acres called Lentonys in the vill of Fressingfield in the hamlet of Whittingham, lying between the land of Thomas Brews, esquire, to the east and the land of the lord of Wakelynus to the west, abutting on the land of the said Thomas Brews esquire called Oldcroft to the south and on the land formerly of Thomas Sharp, her father, called Hunttes to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Date, William Dalangeo, Roger Godbald, John Fox, Thomas Veyse, and others.

At Fressingfield, 22 Sept. [*sic*, probably Dec.],\* 11 Hen. VI [1432]

**194.** Juliana Goche has appointed Henry Palmere of Fressingfield to deliver seisin to Richard Shep and Robert Banyard of a piece of land containing four acres as in her charter of enfeoffment [193].

At Fressingfield, 22 Dec. 11 Hen. VI [1432]

\* See 194, 195.

(f. 59)

**195.** Richard Shep and Robert Banyard of Fressingfield have confirmed to John Dade, John Fox, and John Bohun of the same, one piece of land containing four acres called Lentonys in the vill of Fressingfield, in the hamlet of Whittingham, lying between the land of Thomas Brews, esquire, to the east and the land of lord of Wakelynys to the west, one head abutting on the land of the said Thomas Brews called Oldcroft to the south and on the land formerly of Thomas Sharp called Huntys to the north, the which piece of land they had by grant of Juliana Goche by her charter of 22 Dec. 11 Hen. VI [1432]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee. [See 193-4.]

Witnesses: Henry Palmere, Thomas Veyse, Walter Gerlyng, and Thomas Barker, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Barnabas, 15 Hen. VI [16 Jun. 1437]

**196.** Richard Shep and Robert Banyard of Fressingfield have appointed John Hobert of Fressingfield to deliver seisin to John Dade, John Fox, and John Bohun of Fressingfield, of a piece of land containing four acres.

Sunday after St Barnabas, 15 Hen. VI [16 Jun. 1437]

(f. 59d. blank)

(f. 60)

*Lands and holdings of John Bohun, father of Edmund*

**197.** Robert Barbour of Fressingfield has granted to John Bayle son of John Bayle of the same a piece of land in the said vill, lying between the land formerly of Thomas Alger and the land of Thomas Swyft to the east and the land pertaining to the hall of Chippenhall to the west, one head abutting on the close formerly of Nicholas Launce to the south and the other on the land formerly of the said Thomas Alger to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrant.

Witnesses: John Waryn, John Rouk, Thomas Felys, Robert le Fuller, James le Bron, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Nicholas, 13 Ric. II [13 Dec. 1389]

**198.** John Bayle, son of John Bayle of Fressingfield, has granted to John Bohun of Fressingfield, John Dade and John Fox of the same, one piece of land in the said vill, lying between the land formerly of Thomas Alger and the land of Thomas Swyft to the east and the land pertaining to the hall of Chippenhall to the west, one head abutting on the close formerly of Nicholas Launce to the south and the other on the land formerly of the said Thomas Swyft, the which piece of land he acquired from Robert Barbour of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, John Brews, William Seman, William Dalangeo, John Barbour, John de Shelton, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday before the Nativity of St John the Baptist, 7 Hen. VI  
[19 Jun. 1429]

(*f. 60d.*)

**199.** Hubert Sharpe of Fressingfield has granted to Alexander Pole of the same, for a certain sum of money, a piece of land in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of Sara Bubyr and the messuage of William le Meller and the land of Roger le Grond to the south and Hubert's land which Joan le Skynner holds in dower to the north, one head abutting on Aysbywey to the west and on the Hubert's land to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee and warranty. [Duplicated as **179.**]

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, John Tydman, John le Barbour, Roger le Grond, Hubert Seman, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of All Souls, 9 Edw. III [2 Nov. 1335]

**200.** Matthew Davy of Fressingfield and Hugh Davy of the same have granted to John le Greyve of the same two acres of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of the said John to the east and the land of Joan le Skynner to the west, one head abutting on the land of the said Hugh to the south and the other on the free land of the church to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Robert de Schothelie, Simon Charnell, William son of Walter, Robert son of Rose, Walter le Baxter, Alexander le Baxter, Hugh le Barbour, and many others. [Duplicated as **180.**]

At Fressingfield, Monday after Easter, 21 Edw. III [2 Apr. 1347]

(*f. 61*)

**201.** Matthew Davy and Hugh Davy of Fressingfield have granted to John le Greyve, servant of Thomas de Wyngfeld, for a certain sum of money, two acres of land in the said vill of Fressingfield lying between the pightle of John Edward to the east and the land of the said Matthew and Hugh to the west, abutting on the pightle of Simon Alcock to the south and on the land formerly of Alexander de Chebenhale to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as **181.**]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Robert son of Rose, Walter le Baxter, Alexander Baxter, Hugh le Barbur, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday in Easter week, 21 Edw. III [27 Mar. 1347]

(*f. 61d.*)

**202.** Robert le ~~Fann~~<sup>Vanur</sup>\* of Fressingfield has granted to Thomas Kembald of the same, for a certain sum of money, one piece of land in the field called Midilhowe lying between the free land of part of the church of Fressingfield,

\* The copyist's first reading of the name as Robert le Tanner was probably correct.



[*inserted* above: one head abutting on the land of William Starlyng to the south and the other on the land of Richard Kembald]; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: William Veell, John Launce, Edmund de Chebenhale, John de Wyngfeld, John de Medefeld, Alexander le Veel, Henry de Sancroft, John Garneys, William le Chapman, and others.

Monday after St James the apostle, 27 Edward [27 Jul. 1299]

**203.** John Seforth of Fressingfield has granted to William Dalangeo of Fressingfield, Godfrey Kempe, John Date, and John Bohun, one piece of land containing one acre in Fressingfield, lying between the land of the church on each side, one head abutting on the close of the said William called Davysclos to the south and the other on the close of John Waryn to the north, which he had by grant of John Levald, chaplain, with another tenement and which lately was of Robert Kembald; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, Roger Godbald, John Fox, John Gowyn, Robert Noyse, and others.

At Fressingfield, Wednesday after St Peter in Chains, 8 Hen. VI [2 Aug. 1430]

(*f.* 62)

**204.** Hugh Davy of Fressingfield has granted to John le Greyve, servant of Thomas de Wyngfeld, a pightle lying in the parish of Fressingfield between the close of Simon Alкок of Weybread to the east and the message of the said Hugh Davy to the west, one head abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and the other on the land of the said Hugh to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Matthew Davy, William Pese, Hugh Fysssh, John Herburgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday before St Mark, 19 Edw. III [19 Apr. 1345]

**205.** Richard le Greyve of Whittingham and Isabella his sister have quitclaimed to Thomas de Wyngfeld and John Edward of Fressingfield, their heirs and assigns, a pightle and a piece of land which the said Thomas de Wyngfeld and John le Greyve formerly acquired from Matthew Davy and Hugh Davy in the vill of Fressingfield, the said pightle lying between the close of Juliana Kembald to the east and the message formerly of the said Hugh Davy to the west, abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and on the said piece of land to the north, and the said piece of land lies between the close of the said John Edward to the east and the land of Thomas Edward to the west, abutting on the free land of the church to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Thomas de Chebenhale, Roger le Neve, John Rosissone, John le Neve, John Kembald, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Faith, 24 Edw. III [10 Oct. 1350]

**206.** John Caltoft of Harleston, hamlet of Redenhall, *dominus* Robert Edward, parson of the church of Swainsthorpe, and John Edward of Beccles, have confirmed to *dominus* John Felis of Fressingfield, chaplain, and John Beton of Stretham a close called Davysclos and a pightle adjacent, the close lying between the land of the said John Felys to the east and the land of John Waryn to the west, abutting on the field called Medylhowe to the north, and the said pightle lying between the tenement of John Gyle to the west and the wood of Matilda Kembald to the east, abutting on the highway to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Waryn, John Rouk, Richard Neve, Robert Neve, John Gyle, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday in Pentecost week, 17 Ric. II [1 Jun. 1394]

(*f.* 63)

**207.** Robert Noyes of Fressingfield, William Warner and John Jay of Needham by Harleston, and John Parlett of Dickleborough, have confirmed to John Russchey of Fressingfield, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald of the same, a little grove (*grovet*) and one piece of land in the vill of Fressingfield, of which the little grove lies next to the king's highway to the south and the land formerly of William Dalangeo on all other parts, and the said piece of land lies between the land of Nicholas Warner to the east and the land of the church of Fressingfield to the west, abutting on Smalweye to the south and on the meadow by Prestyswode to the north, the which little grove and piece of land Robert, William, and John had by grant of Nicholas Baron of Fressingfield, now deceased, with all his lands and holdings, as in his charter; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Roger Godbald, John Gowyn, John Barbour, Robert Barbour, Robert Josep, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Barnabas, 13 Hen. VI [13 Jun. 1435]

(*f.* 63d.)

**208.** Thomas de Wyngfeld and Master Richard Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, and Geoffrey Baret and Thomas Edward of Fressingfield have confirmed to William, rector of half the church of Fressingfield and *dominus* John, his brother, a pightle with a garden lyng between the land formerly of John Edward to the west and the way which leads from the marketplace of Fressingfield to the vill of Stradbroke to the east, one head abutting on the land of Richard Whyte and John Kembald and on the garden of the said rector to the north, the other on the king's highway to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John de Shelton, Thomas de Chibenhale, William Skynner, John Rowe, John Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Circumcision, 29 Edw. III [3 Jan. 1356]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Tudyfeld]

**209.** Robert de Fressingfield, son and heir of the late Robert le Tannour,\* has granted to Master Philip de Thorp all his curtillage with the pigeonhouse within it in Fressingfield lying between the curtillage of the said Philip to the north and the way which leads from Robert's house to his croft to the south, one head abutting on the highway which leads to the church and marketplace of Fressingfield to the east and the other on his croft to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA, E326/3815]

Witnesses: John de Metefeld, Robert de Revyshale, Alexander de Chebenhale, Roger le Baxter, John Pese, Simon de Sancroft, William de Chebenhale, John Clement, Roger Dreye, Alexander Sharp, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 7 Edw. II [29 Mar. 1314]

(*f.* 64)

**210.** Alice, widow of Thomas Mannok of Fressingfield, has quiclamied to Master Philip de Thorp, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, and his heirs and assigns, a curtillage with pigeonhouse and pond to the south with all the ditches of the said curtillage and all other appurtenances in the vill of Fressingfield lying between the *curia* of the said Philip to the north and the way which leads from the house of Richard Edward to his croft to the south, one head abutting on the highway which leads from the church of Fressingfield to Stradbroke to the east and the other on the croft of the said Richard to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: Robert de Ryveshall, Thomas Algar, Alan Sharp, Roger le Graunt, John Clement, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after St Tiburtius and Valerianus, 10 Edw. II [15 Apr. 1317]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Tudyfeld]

**211.** John de Medefeld has quitclaimed to Master Philip de Thorp and his heirs a curtillage with a pigeonhouse and a pond to the south of the said curtillage, the which curtillage Philip had by grant of Robert le Barbour the younger in the vill of Fressingfield.

Witnesses: Robert de Roueshale, William de Chebenhale, Alexander de Chebenhale, Hubert Seman, Roger Dreye, Roger le Baxter, Henry le Sumter, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of St Wynewaldus, 10 Edw. II [3 Mar. 1317]

\* This is possibly the same person as Robert le Barbour the younger: see **211**.

(f. 64d.)

**212.** Roger le Sergaunt of Forncett, chaplain,\* has quitclaimed to Hugh Fyssh of Fressingfield a messuage with the buildings on it and a garden with pigeonhouse and other appurtenances in the vill of Fressingfield. [See **213**, **217-18**, **220**.]

Witnesses: William Chebenhale, William Waryn, \John de [Bysewll]/, Roger Petyfer, Richard Sybald, and others.

At *Sysshewellethorp* [*sic*, probably Ashwellthorpe], Monday after the Conversion of St Paul, 17 Edw. III [27 Jan. 1343]

**213.** Agnes, formerly the wife of Hugh Fyssh of Fressingfield, widow, has quitclaimed to William son of John Russell of Metfield a messuage with garden and pigeonhouse adjacent next to the marketplace of Fressingfield. [See **212**, **217-18**, **220**.]

Witnesses: John de Chebenhale, Thomas de Chebenhale, John le Neve, Roger le Neve, John Edward, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Conception of the Virgin Mary, 25 Edw. III [11 Dec. 1351]

**214.** Indenture to testify that John son of Matilda niece of the parson, of Fressingfield, has granted to John, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, a piece of land of his messuage lying next to the house and wall of the said John the rector to the south, in breadth one foot and in length five; to the said rector for his life, rendering annually to John son of Matilda 2*d.* at Michaelmas; warranty.

Witnesses: John Barbour, Roger Baxter, William the smith, Thomas son of Henry Sumpter, Richard Lepsy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after St Hilary, 12 Edw. III [19 Jan. 1339]

(f. 65)

**215.** Robert Grene of Fressingfield has granted to William Dalangho of the same three pieces of land in Fressingfield; (1) one lies between the land of Roger Neve and the land of the manor of Chippenhall, one head abutting on *le Oldpark* to the east and the other on the common way to the west and contains by estimation one acre and one rood; (2) the second lies in the field called *parkfeld* and contains half an acre between the land of the said Robert Neve and the land of Matthew Dalangho, one head abutting on the common way to the east and the other on the close of Seman Godbald to the west; (3) the third lies in the same field and contains one rood by estimation between the land of the manor of Chippenhall on each side, one head abutting on the common way to the east and the other on the close called *Carlawe* to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

\* The words *Sergaunt of Fornesete, chaplain*, have been added at another time to a blank left within the text. In the other two charters connected with this he appears as Richard Sergeant: **217**, **220**.

Witnesses: John Waryn, William Gyle, John Ruschee, John Sancroft, William Aldehous, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Andrew, 7 Hen. V [4 Dec. 1419]

(f. 66)

**216.** John son of Geoffrey called Tyghedeman of Fressingfield has granted to Master Philip de Thorpe, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, his messuage in the vill of Fressingfield which William the chaplain his [John's] brother gave to him and which lies between the holding of Roger le Baxster and the free holding of the church of Fressingfield to the east and the holding formerly of *dominus* Hugh the merchant, chaplain, and Matthew Vise to the west, one head abutting on the marketplace of Fressingfield to the north and the other on the holding of Master Philip de Thorp to the south; to him and his heirs, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [TNA, E326/3826]

Witnesses: John de Medefeld, Robert le Revyshale, William de Chebenhale, Hubert Seman, Roger Dreye, Roger le Baxter, Henry le Sumpter, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of St Wynewaldus, 10 Edw. II [3 Mar. 1317]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Tudyfeld]

**217.** John Fysssh, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, has granted to *dominus* Richard le Sergeaunt, chaplain, and Hugh Fysssh, his messuage and garden in Fressingfield lying between the land formerly of Richard Edward to the west and the parsonage and the highway to the east, one head abutting on the land formerly of Richard Edward to the south and the other on the marketplace of Fressingfield to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 212–13, 218, 220.]

Witnesses: Nicholas Launce, Alexander Chebenhale, Roger Baxter, John Barbour, William the smith, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Faith, 13 Edw. III [7 Oct. 1339] [See 220.]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Tudyfeld]

**218.** Robert Bacon of Forncett and Joan his wife have granted to William son of John Russell of Metfield their messuage in the vill of Fressingfield next to the marketplace of the said vill with all the garden and pigeonhouse adjacent to the said messuage and all other appurtenances; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 212–13, 217, 220.]

Witnesses: John de Chebenhale, Thomas de Chebenhale, John Edward, Roger le Neve, John le Neve his son, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday the feast of the Conception of the Virgin Mary, 25 Edw. III [8 Dec. 1351]

(f. 66d.)

**219.** Thomas de Wyngfeld has granted to William de Borewelle, parson of half of Fressingfield, all that messuage, land, holding, rents and services with garden and curtilage and all appurtenances which he recently acquired from William le Skynner in the vill of Fressingfield which lies opposite the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 221-3.]

Witnesses: John de Chebenhale, Thomas de Chebenhale, Geoffrey Baret, John Rosyson, Roger le Neve, William le Skynner, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Margaret, 26 Edw. III [23 Jul. 1352]

**220.** John Fyss, parson of half the church of Fressingfield, has appointed Thomas Kembald of Fressingfield his attorney to deliver seisin to Richard le Seriaunt and Hugh Fyss of a messuage with garden and other appurtenances in Fressingfield. [See 212-13, 217-18.]

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Faith, 13 Edw. III [7 Oct. 1339]

(f. 67)

**221.** Indenture to testify that whereas Thomas de Wyngfeld has enfeoffed William de Borewell, parson of a moiety of the church of Fressingfield in all his messuages, lands, holdings, etc., as fully as the said Thomas recently purchased them from William le Skynner in Fressingfield, as in his charter, the said William wills and has granted, for him, his heirs and assigns, that if he does not pay to the said Thomas or his executors or attorneys at the house of the said Thomas in Stradbroke at Easter next ten marks and at the following Christmas ten marks, and at the following Christmas ten marks, then Thomas will re-enter the lands. (*French*) [See 219, 222-3.]

Witnesses: Geoffrey Baret, Giles Garnays, Thomas de Chebenhale, John Rosissone, Roger le Neve, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Margaret the virgin, 26 Edw. III [23 Jul. 1352]

**222.** Richard de Caltoft, parson of the church of Fressingfield, and John, formerly (*quondam*) vicar of Weybread, have granted to William, parson of the other half of the said church, and John his brother, chaplain, all the messuage, lands, holdings, etc., which they acquired from the said William in the vill of Fressingfield, lying opposite the marketplace of the said vill the west, and also one piece of land lying between the land of the rector of half the church *ex parte Straunge*\* on the one side and the land formerly of John Herbour on the other part, abutting on the manor of the Prior of Eye and on the pasture of the said rector; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 219, 221, 223.]

\* This identification refers to the rector's probable presentation by Roger Lestrangle; see above, p. 38.

*The Bohun of Fressingfield Cartulary*

Witnesses: Richard White, William Skynner, Roger Neve, John his son, John Kembald, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Luke, 35 Edw. III [24 Oct. 1361]

(f. 67d.)

**223.** William de Burwell, parson of half the church of Fressingfield, has granted to Master Richard de Caltoft, rector of the other half, and *dominus* John, vicar of Weybred, all that messuage, land, holding, etc., which he recently acquired from Thomas de Wyngfeld in the vill of Fressingfield, lying opposite the marketplace of the said vill of Fressingfield to the west, and one piece of land lying between the land of the rector of William's half, and the land formerly of John Herbur, one head abutting on the manor of the Prior of Eye and the other on the pasture of the said rector; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [See 219, 221-2.]

Witnesses: Richard White, William Skynner, Roger Neve and John Neve his son, John Kembald, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before St Dunstan, 35 Edw. III [17 May 1361]

**224.** John Burwell, chaplain, has granted to John Felys of Mildynhale all his lands and holdings in the vill of Fressingfield; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: *dominus* John White, parson of Cookley, Richard Storour, Nicholas Date, John Rouk, Robert Bobir, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday after St Matthew, 6 Ric. II [23 Sept. 1382]

(f. 68) *Lands and holdings of John Bohun father of Edmund*

**225.** Isabel Edward, widow of Thomas Edward of Fressingfield, has quitclaimed to John Felys of Fressingfield, chaplain, Richard Gundell, Robert Bedon, and John Russell, their heirs and assigns, dower in a piece of land which the said John, Richard, Robert, and John acquired from John Caltoft of Harleston, Robert Edward of Beccles, chaplain, and John Edward of the same, feoffees of Thomas Edward formerly her husband.

Witnesses: John Rouk, Robert Neve, John Gyle, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Katherine the virgin, 8 Ric. II [25 Nov. 1384]

**226.\*** John Felys of Mildenhale, chaplain in Fressingfield, has granted to John Caltoft, William Drowe, Thomas Kenche, Thomas Russell and Robert Beton the elder all his lands, holdings, etc., in Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, Robert Fuller, John Skynner, John Gyle, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before St Peter in Cathedra, 5 Hen. IV [18 Feb. 1404]

\* 226-33 form a recognisable succession of tenure between 1404 and 1459.



**227.** William Drowe of South Elmham and Thomas Kyng of Fressingfield have confirmed to John Neve of Stradbroke, William Dalangoo of Fressingfield and Nicholas Duffeld of the same, all the land and holding, rents and services, which they had by grant and enfeoffment of John Felys, chaplain, in the vill of Fressingfield with the agreement of John Caltoft, Thomas Russell, and Robert Beton the elder; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, under the condition that the said John Neve, William Dalangoo, and Nicholas will pay to the said John Felis, William Drowe and Thomas Aunfrey, chaplain, the heirs or attorneys of the said John Felys, £40 at Fressingfield church in eight [years omitted] next following the date of these present, *viz.* at Easter next ten marks and in the six annual terms next following £30 *viz.* in each of the six years 100s. at Michaelmas, and in the last of the said eight years five marks at Easter.

Witnesses: William Seman, William Gyle, Richard Neve, John Skynner, John Date, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday before the Conversion of St Paul, 8 Hen. V [24 Jan. 1421]

(*f. 68d.*)

**228.** John Felys, chaplain, has quitclaimed to John Neve of Stradbroke, William Dalangeo of Fressingfield, and Nicholas Duffeld of the same, their heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings, rents and services which the said John Neve, William and Nicholas had by grant of the said John Felys, William Drowe of South Elmham and Thomas Kyng of Fressingfield in the vill of Fressingfield, and warranty.

Witnesses: John Date, Robert Noyse, William Warner, John Barbour, Robert Barbour, John Sancroft, William Gyle, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 8 Hen. V [7 Feb. 1421]

(*f. 69*)

**229.** Indenture made between John Felys, chaplain, William Drowe of South Elmham, and Thomas Aunfrey, chaplain, on the one part, and John Neve of Stradbroke, William Dalangeo of Fressingfield, and Nicholas Duffeld of the same, on the other part, to testify that whereas the said John Neve, William, and Nicholas are bound to the said John Felys, William, and Thomas in £40 to be paid at Fressingfield at Easter next, the bond will be defeated if (1) John Felys, William, and Thomas are not impeded by the said John Neve, William, and Nicholas, in entering all the lands, etc., which John Neve, William, and Nicholas acquired from the said William Drowe and Thomas Kyng and which were of the said John Felys, in fee simple, and if (2) the same John Neve, William and Nicholas, their heirs and assigns, without default pay £40 at the said terms as in the said charter in part or in all, and if (3) the said John Felys is not impeded in having a chamber with stable for a horse and half the small garden in the said holding during the said term of eight years.

At Fressingfield, Friday before the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 8 Hen. V [31 Jan. 1421]

(*f.* 69d.)

**230.** William Dalangeo of Fressingfield has granted to John Date of Fressingfield, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald of the same vill, all his lands and holdings, rents and services with all appurtenances in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, Richard Storour, John Bohun, John Gowen, Roger Godbald, John Barbour, Thomas Gowyn, and others.

At Fressingfield, Saturday before St Valentine, 12 Hen. VI [12 Feb. 1434]

**231.** John Neve of Stradbroke and Nicholas Duffield have quitclaimed to John Date of Fressingfield, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald of the same, their heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings, rents and services, which they had together with William Dalangeo of Fressingfield by grant of William Drowe of South Elmham and Thomas Kyng of Fressingfield and which were of John Felys, chaplain.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, Richard Storour, John Bohun, John Gowyn, John Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Valentine, 12 Hen. VI [15 Feb. 1434]

(*f.* 70)

**232.** John Date of Fressingfield, John Fox and Thomas Godbald of the same, have confirmed to John Bohun of Fressingfield, Roger Godbald and John Calwer of the same, their heirs and assigns, all the lands and holdings, rents and services, they lately had by demise and enfeoffment of John Neve of Stradbroke and Nicholas Duffield in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, Robert Godbald, Richard Storour, Thomas Gowen, John Barbour, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after Epiphany, 28 Hen. VI [12 Jan. 1450]

**233.** Roger Godbald of Fressingfield and John Calwer of the same have demised and confirmed to Edmund Bohun of Fressingfield, Richard Bohun, John Dade, Robert Fox, and William Shelton of the same, their heirs and assigns, all those lands and holdings, rents and services, which they had with John Bohun of Fressingfield, deceased, by demise and enfeoffment of the said John Date of Fressingfield the elder, John Fox, and Thomas Godbald of the same, in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, Robert Godbald, Richard Brouger, John Wolnawe, John Barbour, Thomas Dade, Robert Gowyn.

At Fressingfield, Saturday the feast of Epiphany, 37 Hen. VI [6 Jan. 1459]

(f. 70d.)

234. Fressingfield Ufford; in a certain rental of the same renewed 16 Hen. VI (1437-8) contains

(a) Elizabeth Dalengehoo holds one piece of land containing by estimation two acres formerly Kembaldes in Fressingfield lying between the land of William Alred (*sic*) to the east and the land of Alice Carter to the west, one head abutting on Stanstrete to the south and on the land of the rector called Bovesmere, on the land of the rector called les Goryng, and on the land of Katherine Waryn to the north, and renders 2*d.* a year [See 182-3.]

(b) William Warner holds freely three acres and one rood in two pieces, of which the first contains three acres and lies in Fressingfield between the land of Katherine Wareyn and Alice Carter to the west and the common way called Bovpetweye to the east, abutting on the land of Robert Spynke and John Barbour to the north and on the land of the Prior of Eye by Aldefeldbushe to the south, and the other piece contains one rood and lies between the land of Nicholas Warner to the south and the king's highway from Dunwich to Bury to the north, abutting on the land of the manor of Shelton to the southwest and on the said way to the northwest, and the said two pieces were formerly of Roger Neve, and he renders 4*d.* a year and now Alice Carter holds the said three acres and renders 3½*d.* and Nicholas Warner holds the said rood and renders ½*d.*

[Marginal - Edmund Bohun]

(f. 71)

(c) Katherine Warner his kinswoman renders 18*d.* a year of which in Boltesclos lies one acre of land of Kembaldes holding lying within the said close 4*d.*;

- the same Katherine holds one piece of land formerly Kembald which the same recently acquired from John Seford lying between the land of the said Katherine to the east and the land of the earl of Suffolk on the other side, abutting on the way called Small Weye to the south and on the meadow called Launcesmedewe to the north, but to enquire if this is parcel of the fee of this manor or not;

- the same Katherine holds one piece of land in Pentcrofthill *viz.* to the west with one ditch on the same and to enquire as above, and contains half an acre lying next to the land of the manor of *Chorlop* [possibly Thorpe];

- the same Katherine holds one piece of land of Kembaldes holding lying between the land of William Athered to the west and the land of the rector on the other side, and abutting on W athered (*sic*) to the south and on the land of the said Katherine to the north, and contains three roods by estimation and is of the fee of this manor;

- also she holds one piece of land of Kembaldes holding lying between the land of Alice Carter to the east and the land in the tenure of John Barbour on the other side, abutting on the land of the rector and the land of W. Dalengehoo to the south and on the land of the rector to the north, and is parcel of the fee of this manor

– also she holds one piece of land containing one acre and more lying between the land of John Barbour the elder to the south and the close of Robert Josep on the other side, abutting on the land of John Barbour the younger to the east and on Hasybywey to the west;

– and remember that the tenants of the manor of Ufford owe [*? coi'car'*] by virtue of lordship in the said way and in le Overstrete and not others, and that John Josep, father of Robert Josep, had the said piece at farm for 20 years and each year he did one plough boonwork and one further, and that John Waryn said once that [*? coi'car'*] in the said holding by virtue of the said *precarium*.

– also the same Katherine holds various lands formerly Edward, one piece called Edwardhyll, and Robert Skynner holds five acres of land [*10½d. above*] and John Gowyn holds a parcel of it [*5d. above*]

(*f. 71d*)

(d) Robert Josep holds freely various lands lying in five places in Fressingfield of which (1) one close called Boltishegge containing five acres formerly of Thomas Edward abutting on the land of John Barbour to the east and on the common way called Hasebyweye to the west, and lies between the land called Small Wey to the north and the land of Katherin Waryn to the south; (2) a piece called Lynslond containing one acre formerly of Robert Kembald and lies between the land of Alice Carter to the 'southwest' and the way called Hasebyweye to the east and abuts on the land of John Barbour to north and the land of the rector to the south; (3) the third piece contains half an acre formerly of Robert Fullere *alias* Frost lie between the land of John Barbour to the south and the land of the rector to the north, abutting on the land of Katherine Waryn to the west and on the land of the said way to the east; (4) the fourth piece contains one rood of land formerly of Robert Kembald and lies between the land of the rector on each side and abuts on the close called Fremers (*sic*)\* to the east and on the said way to the west; (5) the fifth is one built tenement lately in the hands of Nicholas Josep and lies between the land of the rector to the west and the land of the said Robert on the other side and abuts on the lane called Redeslane to the south and on le Overstrete to the north; *18d. annually*

– also he holds land formerly of Daniel Fynch; enquire of what because ignorant, and remember that Daniel Fynch ...; *5½d. annually*

– also he holds one piece of land containing one acre and one rood of land formerly Kembaldes acquired by the same from John Seford lying between the land of Robert Barbour to the west and the land of the rector to the east, abutting on Redeslane to the south and on le Overstrete to the north; *2½d. annually*

(e) John Barbour holds one piece of land containing by estimation two acres and one rood acquired by him from John Seford lying between the land of the rector to the east and the way called Bovpetweye to the west, abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to the south and on the land of the rector and the land of the manor of Shelton to the north; *7d. annually*.

\* Possibly the holding called Thremers elsewhere.

(f. 72)

– the same John Barbour holds one other piece of land containing by estimation one acre of the Kembald holding acquired from the same lying between the land of Katherine Waryn to the [blank] and the land of Robert Josep on the other side and abutting on Hasebyweye to the [blank] and on the land of Katherine Waryn to the [blank], parcel of the said 7*d.*

– also he holds one pightle called Boltespightell containing one rood by estimation lying between Hasebyweye to the east and the land of Katherine Waryn and the said John on the other side, abutting on the land of the said Katherine Waryn to the north and on le Overstrete to the south, and renders annually 1½*d.* and suit.

– Also he holds another piece of land of the said Kembaldes holding; enquiry ...

(f) John Barbour the younger holds one piece of land lately in the tenure of Nicholas Duffeld containing one acre lying between the land of Katherine Waryn to the west and the land of the rector to the east abutting on the land of Alice Carter to the south and the land of the said Katherine Waryn called Whytesmedewe to the north, and renders annually ½*d.* as said. *Viz.* the court roll of 4 Hen. IV [1402–3], owes 1½*d.*

(g) William Athered hold one messuage and six acres of land between the land of the rector and the land of Robert Josep on one side and the land of the rector on the other, abutting on the land of the manor of Shelton to the south and on le Overstrete to the north, and renders annually 12*d.*

– Also he holds freely parcell one cottage formerly [blank] and abuts on the land of the said William to the north and on [blank]

(h) and the rector of Fressingfield holds one piece of land called le Short acre and renders annually 2*d.*

(f. 72*d.*)

**235.** Enquiry into the rental made and renewed by Stephen Barrett, John Sharp, Robert dil Strete, John dil Strete and other jurors, 15 Ric. II [1391–2], contains, *viz.*

– Richard Pryk holds the tenement formerly of Simon Pryk containing seven acres and renders annually at the feast of St Andrew 4*d.*, at Easter 5¼*d.*, at the Nativity of St John the Baptist 4*d.*, and at Michaelmas 5¼*d.* [See 237.]

[Marginal – Whittingham]

**236.** In the account of John Barret, bailiff of the same, at Michaelmas 4 Hen. VII to Michaelmas anno 5 of the same king [1488–9], is contained:

– free rent of Richard Bowen 11*s.* 10½*d.*, two geese, and of customary rent the same Richard for the Brougar holding 9*s.* 4*d.*, and for the Raysses holding 7*d.*, and for Comynclos 2*d.*, and for the Milmontclose 8*d.*, and for the Hodd tenement 14*d.*, and for Castrward at the feast of St Peter 4*d.* [Marginal – rents of assise]

– 7*d.* from Richard Bowen for the farm of one meadow next to the meadow of the said Richard, demised this year; and 5*s.* from the same Richard for the farm of [blank] lying next to the new park, demised this year. [Marginal – farms of land]  
[Marginal – Whittingham]

**237.** In various others of the same manor of Wetyngham among others:

– John Bowyn holds the tenement formerly of Simon Pryk containing seven acres of land, and renders annually 10*s.* 8½*d.* [See 235.]

– Thomas Kenge holds a pigtle with one piece of land adjacent called Hodd formerly of John de Longhache, abutting on the highway leading to Harleston, renders annually 14*d.*

[Marginal – Whittingham]

(*f.* 73)

Thirteen (*sic*) pieces of land;\*

- (1) lies between the land of Thomas Alger and the land of Matilda niece of the parson
- (2) lies between the free land of the church and the land of Hubert Seman
- (3) lies between the free land of the said church on each side
- (4) lies [blank]
- (5) lies between the free land of Fressingfield (*sic*) and the land formerly of Peter Bobir
- (6) lies between the land of the said Peter and the land of John, son of the niece of the parson
- (7) lies between the land of the said Henry (*sic*) and the free land of the church.

**238.** Nicholas Godbald holds by charter dated 9th June 12 Hen. VII [1497], with Alice his wife, certain customary lands and holdings of which one piece lies next to the land of the rector of Fressingfield on the south and north and one head abuts to the west on the land of the manor of Ufford and the other on the land formerly of Roger Godbold, now of the said Nicholas Godbald to the east, two acres of land and meadow by estimation, in four pieces; the fifth piece contains half an acre and lies between the land of the said Nicholas Godbold to the east and west, the southern head abutting on the land of the church of Fressingfield; the sixth piece contains one acre and lies next to the land of the said church to the south and the land of this manor to the north, the eastern head abutting on the land of the said Nicholas and the western on the land of the manor of Ufford.†

\* These would appear to be the same thirteen pieces which were granted by Thomas Kembald to Simon Walter and Alice, Thomas's daughter, in 1344: 68.

† This refers to the same transaction as 240, although this is a much abbreviated version itemising only a few of the individual pieces.

(f. 73d.)

**239.** Nicholas Goldbold the elder, by a writing dated the Monday after St Dionisius 18 Hen. VII [10 Oct. 1502], nine pieces of customary land in Fressingfield of which five pieces lie in the field called Ferfeld and contain by estimation two acres, and three pieces of the said nine acres (*sic*), containing by estimation 4½ acres in the same, formerly Roger Neve and recently Robert Godbold, of which one piece containing 2½ acres lies between the land of the lord to the south and the land of John Bohun to the north, and the other two pieces lie between land late of Roger Neve to the north and south and abut on the king's highway to the west, and the ninth piece contains by estimation half an acre, late of Geoffrey Barrett, and lies to the north of a certain enclosure called Carlowe formerly of William Godbold. [See also 244.]

[Marginal – Chippenhall]

(f. 74)

**240.** At the court held on 9 Jun. 12 Hen. VII [1497] John Godbold surrendered to the lord by the hand of Nicholas Bohun, bailiff, one messuage, 29½ acres of land, meadow, and pasture, as specified, of which:

– the messuage with 20 acres of land, formerly of Nicholas Godbold, Seman Godbold, John Wode, Roger Neve, Thomas Godbold, and John Godbold, with appurtenances in Chippenhall, as appears by the court held the Tuesday before the Translation of St Thomas martyr, 9 Hen. V [1 Jul. 1421]

– he also surrendered two acres of land in four places of which (1) lies next to the land of the rector of Fressingfield to south and north, the west head abutting on land of the manor of Ufford and the other on land formerly of Roger Godbold and now of the said Nicholas Godbold to the east, (2) lies next to land of the manor of Ufford to the north and land late of the said Nicholas Godbold to the south, abutting on land late of Roger Neve and now of the same Nicholas to the east, (3) between land of the said Nicholas, and before of the said Roger, to the east and west, abutting to the north on Shortebrooke, (4) between land of the said Nicholas, and before of the said Roger, to the west, and land late of Thomas Godbold now of the same Nicholas to the east, and abutting on Shortebrooke, formerly Geoffrey Barrett, as appears in the court held on Monday after St Faith 32 Hen. VI [8 Oct. 1453]

– he also surrendered by the hand of Nicholas Bohun, bailiff, 3½ acres of arable land and pasture in Ferfeld in three pieces lying next to the enclosure of the said Nicholas Godbold, and before of Roger Godbold and formerly of Roger Neve, as appears by the court held on Thursday after St Faith 12 Hen. VI [8 Oct. 1433]

– and he also surrendered by the hand of the said bailiff four acres of land of Mollond in six pieces in Fressingfield, (1) containing 1½ acres, next to land of the manor of Ufford to the east and land of the same Nicholas Godbold to the west, abutting on land of the same Nicholas to the south and the other head on land formerly of Roger Neve to the north, (2) containing half an acre, next to land formerly of the said Thomas Godbold and now of the said Nicholas Godbold to the east and land of the same manor (*sic*) to the west, the north head abutting on



land of the same Nicholas Godbold, (3) containing one rood, next to land late of Robert Greve and now of the said Nicholas Godbold to the east, and land of this manor to the west, the northern head abutting on Sarlehanconse, (4) containing one rood, next to land of this manor to the east and land late of Robert Brend, now of the said Nicholas Godbold, to the west, the northern head abutting on Sarlehanconse, (5) containing half an acre, between land of the said Nicholas Godbold to east and west, the southern head abutting on land of the church of Fressingfield, (6) containing one acre, next to the land of the said church to the south and the land of this manor to the north, and abuts to the east on the land of the said Nicholas and the land of the manor of Ufford to the west, as appears in the court held Mon after St Valentine 11 Hen. VI [16 Feb. 1433], to Nicholas Godbold and Alice his wife, to them and his issue, rendering 14s. 1d. annually  
[Marginal – Chippenhall]

(f. 74d.)

*Anno 12 Hen. VII* [1496–7]

**241.** At this court the lord granted from his manor to Nicholas Godbold three acres of land called Beveley with appurtenances recently in farm to Geoffrey Dalynghoo in one enclosed piece between the land of the lord Abbot of Sibton on each side, the north head abutting on land of the said abbot and the other head on land lately of William Godbold; to hold from Michaelmas next for twenty years, at 5s 6d. a year.

[Marginal – these lands be at this day holden without copy and without payment of any rent and are either in the tenure of Master Toppesfield or Thomas Godbold, heirs are expired long since (*In English*)]

*Anno 25 Hen. VIII* [1533–4]

**242.** To this court came Nicholas Cotwan and he surrendered four pieces of land containing by estimation eight acres, of which the first lies in the field called Parke Close between the land of *dominus* William Whight, vicar of Fressingfield, to the north and the land lately of Nicholas [Bukhinham] to the south, the west head abutting on the king's highway and the other on Oldeparke to the east\* ... and the lord granted to the said Nicholas, Alice his wife, and Robert his son, two pieces of land ... Barkers... to the north and the land of Simon Toppesfild to the south and lies in Parkeclose, and the other piece lies between the land of Thomas ... manor of Chippenhall.

(f. 75)

*Anno 6 Hen. VIII* [1514–5]

**243.** At this court the lord granted from his manor to Robert Debden five acres of land in one close of which three acres lie next to the land of the vicar of Fressingfield to the north

\* At this point the hand degenerates and appears to be the same as that used for 245–7 (hand III).

Anno 18 Hen. VII [1502-3]

**244.** William Godbold surrendered by the hand of William Warner nine pieces of customary land in Fressingfield, of which five pieces lie in the field called Ferfeld and contain by estimation two acres, and three pieces of the said nine acres (*sic*), containing by estimation 4½ acres in the same, formerly of Roger Neve and lately of Robert Godbold of which one piece contains 2½ acres and lies between the land of the lord to the south and the land of John Bohun to the north, and two other pieces lie between the land late of Roger Neve to the north and south and abut on the king's highway to the west, and the ninth piece contains by estimation half an acre late of Geoffrey Barrett and lies to the north of a certain enclosure called Carlowe; granted to Nicholas Godbold, his heirs and assigns, rendering 10s. a year and suit. [See also **239.**]

**245.** Thomas Goodwyn has sold to Nicholas Bohun one acre of land lying between the land of Chippenhall Hall [*Chepnellsall*] and the land of the said Bohun by deed of date 7th Henry VII [1491-2]. [*In English*]

**246.** Nicholas Bohun of Westhall has sold to Nicholas Debden one acre of land sometime Bohuns lying between the land of William Toppesfild and the land of Richard Gowen, by deed dated 33 Henry VIII [1541-2]. [*In English*]

**247.** Nicholas Debden has sold to Robert Aldous one acre of land sometime Bohuns lying between the land of William Toppesfild and the land of Gowen by deed dated 10 Elizabeth [1567-8] in the custody of Elizabeth Aldous. [*In English*]

(f. 75d. blank)

(f. 76)

**248.** Ufford Hall in Fressingfield [marginal] Mon after the Feast of All Saints, Philip and Mary 1st and 2nd [5 Nov. 1554]

Dstraint on William Toppesfeld to come to the next court to do fealty and to show how he is in the fee of the lord *viz.* in one ... formerly of Robert [?Wisteleshangle] and formerly ... and formerly Hugh [?Wisteleshangle] and afterwards William B ... and lately Thomas Cooke, Robert Cooke, and Margaret Cooke,\* and lies between the land of the manor of ... [one line inserted and difficult to read] ... in ... next to land formerly of Thomas Moreby ... in Fressingfield, held by the service of 18d. a year which is in arrears for five years at Michaelmas aforesaid, and attached by 7s. 6d.

**249.** Tues after Christmas 1 Ric. III [30 Dec. 1483]

Grant to Robert Atkyn and Katherine his wife, their heirs and assigns, of two acres of land in Fressingfield, in the field called le Marketfeld between the land of

\* Margaret Cooke was probably the granddaughter of Edmund Bohun, the daughter of Robert Cooke and Edmund's daughter Agnes; Margaret married Richard Lany of London: Rix *Edmund Bohun*, vii.

Edmund Bowen to the west and the land of the said Robert Atkyn to the east, one head abutting on the meadow called Launcesmedewe to the north.

[Marginal – Velys in Fressingfield]

(f. 76d. blank)

(f. 77)\*

**250.** William Grys of Brockdish, John Goldyngham, John Trowant, and John Gundolf of the same, have enfeoffed John dil Cotton of Wingfield, Thomas Cook of the same, John Fox, Nicholas Warner, and John Barbour of Fressingfield, in all those lands, etc., which they recently had by grant of Stephen Spicer and Margaret his wife in the vill of Fressingfield; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, John Date, John Bohun, Richard Waryn, Roger Godbald, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Faith, 15 Hen. VI [11 Oct. 1436]

**251.** William Grys of Brockdish, John Gundolf, John Goldyngham, and John Trowant of the same, have appointed Nicholas Berte of Fressingfield, clerk, their attorney to delivery seisin to John dil Cotton, Thomas Cook, John Fox, Nicholas Warner, and John Barbour, in all the lands, etc., which they had by grant of William, John, John, and John as in their charter, and which they had by grant of Stephen Spicer and Margaret his wife.

Thursday after St Faith, 15 Hen. VI [11 Oct. 1436]

**252.** Stephen Spicer of Brockdish and Margaret his wife have granted to John dil Cotton of Wingfield, Thomas Cook of the same, John Fox of Fressingfield, Nicholas Warner and John Barbour all those lands and tenements which Margaret had by assignment of Nicholas Russheye, her father, and similarly of their inheritance after the death of Nicholas; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, under the following condition, *viz*, that the said John, Thomas, John, Nicholas, and John will pay to Stephen and Margaret or their attorney at Fressingfield church six marks as follows, *viz*. at Michaelmas next coming 40s., and at the following Michaelmas 40s., and if either payment is delayed by more than four days then Stephen and Margaret will re-enter the lands and have peaceable possession; and Stephen and Margaret warrant.

Witnesses: Thomas Brews, esquire, John Date, John Bohun, Richard Waryn, Roger Godbold, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after St Faith, 15 Hen. VI [11 Oct. 1436]

(f. 78)

**253.** John Barbour of Fressingfield, Nicholas Warner of the same, and Thomas Cook of Wingfield, have demised to John Hevenyngham, William Brews, esquires,

\* At this point the text reverts to the main hand.

Thomas Gardiner, clerk, John Rushey *alias* Dade of Fressingfield the elder, Robert Fox of the same, and Thomas Cook of Stradbroke, all the lands, etc., which they had, along with John Cotton of Wingfield and John Fox of Fressingfield, now deceased, by grant of William Grys of Brockdish, John Goldyngham, John Trowant, and John Gundolf of the same; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee; and they appoint John Nicholl their attorney to deliver seisin.

Witnesses: Roger Godbold of Fressingfield, Richard Bohun, John Calwer, Roger Gowen, John Gowen, and others.

At Fressingfield, 4th Jan. 1 Edw. IV [1462]

**254.** Richard Barbour of Fressingfield (Suffolk), wheelwright, has received from Edmund Bohun of the same, 26s. 8d. in full payment of the money owed by Edmund of the price of half a piece of land in Fressingfield called Duffeldcros sold by Richard to Edmund, the which piece of land lies between the free land of the church of Fressingfield on either side, the southern head abutting on the close of the said Edmund and the northern head on a way commonly called Smalewey in Fressingfield; and Edmund and his heirs are quit of the said 26s. 8d.

5th April 17 Edw. IV [1477]

(f. 78d. blank)

(f. 79)

*Thremers* [added at later date: *in tenure of William Tudyfeld*]

**255.** Richard Neve of Fressingfield has granted to Nicholas Baron and Margaret his wife of Fressingfield one piece of land with herbage adjacent called Thremers lying between the land of Robert Barbour to the west and the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the east, one head abutting on the free land of the said church to the south and the other on the common pasture called Smalewey to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: William Warner, Robert Noyse, Walter Grenlyng, Robert Barbour, John Josep, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Leonard the confessor (*sic*), 8 Hen. V [11 Nov. 1420]

**256.** Nicholas Baron of Fressingfield has appointed Thomas Jay of Needham his attorney to give seisin to Robert Noyse, William Warner, John Parlet, and John Jay in all his lands and tenements in Fressingfield as in his charter. [See 207.]

At Fressingfield, Thursday after Annunciation, 10 Hen. V [26 Mar. 1422]

**257.** Indenture made between Robert Noyse of Fressingfield on the one part and John Wolnawe the elder of the same on the other, testifies that Robert has sold to John, his heirs and assigns, all his lands and holdings, meadows, etc., with all

appurtenances in Fressingfield except one enclosure called Thremers; and John will pay to Robert forty-four marks at the following terms, *viz.*, at Michaelmas next nine marks, at the following Michaelmas five marks, and for six years following each year five marks at Michaelmas; and John will provide Robert and Agnes his wife, for their lives, in food and drink [*esculent et poculent*], washing of clothes, and other necessaries, and also they will have two chambers in the lower part of the hall with one solar below, and free entry and exit, and their easement in sitting at the fire when they please.

At Fressingfield, 20 Feb. 33 Hen. VI [1455]

(*f. 79d.*)

**258.** John de Sancroft and John Calwer of Fressingfield and Robert Noyse of Wingfield have demised to John Bocher and Alice his wife of Fressingfield one piece of land with herbage adjacent called Thremers in the said vill lying between the land of John Barbour to the west and the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the east, one head abutting on the free land of the said church to the south and the other head on the common pasture called Smalewey to the north, the which they had by grant of Robert Noyse of Fressingfield, along with all his lands as in his charter dated at Fressingfield Thursday after St Edmund king and martyr 31 Hen. VI [23 Nov. 1452]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Edmund Bohun, Richard Bohun, Robert Fox, Nicholas Warner, William Cotewan, and others.

At Fressingfield, Thursday after All Saints, 2 Edw. IV [4 Nov. 1462]

**259.** John Bocher of Fressingfield, yeoman, has received from Edmund Bohun of the same eight marks of money in full payment for a piece of land called Thremers with herbage adjacent in Fressingfield which John sold to Edmund for eight marks.

28 April 6 Edw. IV [1466]

(*f. 80*)

*Evidences of John Jacob, now Nicholas Bokenham*

**260.** Roger le Grond of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Thomas Vreye of the same three farthings of annual rent owed by the said Thomas for one piece of land in Chippenhall, hamlet of Fressingfield, lying between between the land of William Wlfrych to the east and the land of the cellarer of St Edmunds to the west, one head abutting on the common way to the north.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, John le Barbour, Hugh le War, John Herburg, Richard Lepsi, and others.

At Chippenhall, Sun the feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary at the start of 11 Edw. III [2 Feb. 1337]

**261.** Robert, son and heir of Thomas Dreye of Fressingfield, deceased, has granted to Robert Jacob, son of Isabel Dreye of the same, his messuage in Fressingfield with all buildings on it, gardens, etc., and all appurtenances; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: *dominus* Wakelin Hardingsele, knight, *dominus* John de Borewelle, chaplain, Roger le Neve of Fressingfield, Richard Wythe of the same, John le Neve of the same, Robert Bobur of the same, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, 41 Edw. III [12 Sept. 1367]

**262.** Robert Jacob of Fressingfield has granted to *dominus* John Felis, chaplain, and John Roke of the same, his messuage in Fressingfield with buildings on it, gardens, etc., and all appurtenances; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Robert Barbur, Robert Fuller, Nicholas Sexteyn of Fressingfield, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday after St Leonard, 13 Ric. II [8 Nov. 1389]

(*f. 80d.*)

**263.** John Felyce, clerk, has enfeoffed to John Jacob the younger of Fressingfield, a built messuage [*messuagium edificatum*] with gardens, etc., which he had by grant of Robert Jacob of Fressingfield together with John Rouke of Weybread, deceased, and it lies between the king's highway leading to Halesworth to the south and the enclosed land of the Prior of Eye to the north, one head abutting on the land of the same messuage to the east and the other on the way which leads to the bridge called Dryes to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: William Dalangho, John Fox, Robert Noyes, William Warner, Roger Godbold, and others.

At Fressingfield, the feast of St Hugh bishop and confessor, 6 Hen. VI [17 Nov. 1427]

**264.** John Jacob of Fressingfield, the elder, has granted to Roger Godbold of Fressingfield, John Fox, and John de Wolnawe the elder of the same, a built messuage with garden, etc., in Fressingfield [as **263**]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Waryn, John Bowen, John Calwer, John Barbour, Robert Josep, and others.

At Fressingfield, Wednesday before St Alban, 25 Hen. VI [21 Jun. 1447]

(*f. 81*)

**265.** Roger Godbold of Fressingfield, John Fox, and John Wolnawe the elder, have demised to Nicholas Berte of Fressingfield, clerk, John Bokynham of the same, and Robert Berte of Stradbroke a messuage with garden, etc., in Fressingfield [as

**263**], except one piece of land lying between the land of the manor of Chippenhall to the north and the land of the said Roger Godbold to the south and contains three roods of land; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Dade, John Bown, John Calwere, John Barbour, Thomas Gowen, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 30 Hen. VI [14 Sept. 1451]

**266.** Robert Berte of Stradbroke has demised to William Gerlynge of Stradbroke a messuage with garden, etc., in Fressingfield [as **263**], which he had with Nicholas Berte, late of Fressingfield, clerk, and John Bokenham of the same, now deceased, by enfeoffment of Roger Godbold of Fressingfield, John Fox, and John Wulnawe of the same, the elder; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Dade, Richard Bohun, John Calwere, Thomas Gowyn, Robert Mydday of Fressingfield, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Michaelmas, 7 Edw. IV [4 Oct. 1467]

(*f. 81d.*)

**267.** William Gerlyng of Stradbroke has demised to Joan, late the wife of John Bokenham of Fressingfield, Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte son of the said Robert, John Godbald of Fressingfield, and John Barker of Lopham, a messuage with garden, etc. [as **263**], which he had by grant of the said Robert Berte along with Nicholas Berte clerk and the said John Bokenham late of Fressingfield, now deceased; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard Bohun of Fressingfield, Robert Mydday, Geoffrey Cotewan of the same, and many others.

At Fressingfield, 1st Nov. 7 Edw. IV [1467]

**268.** Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte son of the said Robert, John Godbald of Fressingfield, and John Barker of Lopham have demised to Nicholas Bokenham of Fressingfield, Joan his wife, Henry Hendry, and William Baker a messuage in Fressingfield [as **263**] the which they had with Joan Bokenham, mother of the said Nicholas, now deceased, by grant of William Gerlyng of Stradbroke by charter dated 1st November 7 Edw. IV [1467]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee; and they appoint John Schepe and John Doget their attorneys to deliver seisin.

Witnesses: Richard Bohun of Fressingfield, Robert Atkyn of the same, William Ketwode, vicar of Fressingfield, Roger Gowyn of the same, and many others.

At Fressingfield, 12th Jan. 21 Edw. V [1482]



(f. 82) Evidences pertaining to Edmund Bohun

**269.** Richard Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield, has granted to Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, two pieces of land in the vill of Fressingfield, one lying between the land of the cellarer of St Edmund to the south and the land of Robert Jacob to the north and the other lying between the land of the said Robert Jacob to the south and the free land of the church of Fressingfield to the north and abuts on the free land of the said church to the west and on the king's highway leading from Norwich to Framlingham to the east; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warranty. [Duplicated as **82.**]

Witnesses: Richard Suklyng, Nicholas Dade, John le Neve, Thomas Alger, Thomas Edward, Robert Bobir, John Rouk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before Christmas 1 Ric. II [21 Dec. 1377]

**270.** Nicholas Bokenham of Fressingfield, Henry Hendry of Diss, and William Baker of Fressingfield, have granted to Edmund Bohun of the same and John Coke of Eye one piece of land late of Robert Jacob in Fressingfield, in the hamlet of Chepenhale, lying between one (*sic*) piece of land of the said Edmund Bohun late of Robert Storour *alias* Robert Waryn son of John Waryn son of John son of Richard Waryn, the which Richard Waryn acquired the said two pieces of land from Richard Caltoft, rector of half the church of Fressingfield of the part of the abbey, in the first year of Ric II [1377] to the south and north, and the said piece of land late of Robert Jacob abuts on the free land of the said church to the west and on the king's highway from Norwich to Framlingham to the east, which they lately had by grant of Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte his son, John Godbald of Fressingfield, and John Barker of Lopham under the name of one messuage in the vill of Fressingfield by charter of 12 Jan. 21 Edw. IV [1482], the which piece of land Robert son and heir of Thomas Dreye granted in 41 Edw. III [1367] to Robert Jacob son of Isabel Dreye [**261**], and the said Robert Jacob on Mon after St Leonard 13 Ric II [8 Nov. 1389] granted it to John Fylys, chaplain [**262**], and the said John Fylys on the feast of St Hugh 6 Hen. VI [17 Nov. 1427] granted it to John Jacob the younger [**263**] and the same John Jacob on Tues the feast of St Alban 25 Hen. VI [*sic*] granted it to Roger Godbald of Fressingfield, John Fox, and John de Wolnawe the elder [**264**], and on Tues the feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross 30 Hen. VI [14 Sept. 1451] they granted it to Nicholas Berte, clerk, John Bokenham and Robert Berte of Stradbroke [**265**], the which Nicholas and John afterwards died and the said Robert Berte on Sun after Michaelmas 7 Edw IV [4 Oct. 1467] demised it to William Gerlyng of Stradbroke [**266**] and on 1st Nov. 7 Edw IV [1467] he demised it to Joan late the wife of John Bokenham, widow, of Fressingfield, Robert Berte of Stradbroke, Nicholas Berte his son, John Godbald of Fressingfield, and John Barker of Lopham [**267**], and they confirmed it to Nicholas Bokenham, [*Joan his wife* deleted] Henry Hendry, and William Barker, on 12th Jan. 21 Edw IV [1482] [**268**]; to Edmund Bohun and John Coke, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and Nicholas Bokenham warrants; and Nicholas, Henry, and William appoint Nicholas Fox and Robert Godbald the younger of Chepenhale their attornies to deliver seisin. [Duplicated as **83.**]

Witnesses: William Brews, Giles Brews, esquires, Robert Fox, John Godbald the younger, John Godbald the elder, John Bocher, William Warner, and others.

At Fressingfield, 26th Sept. 22 Edw. IV [1482]

(f. 83d.)

271. Suffolk. Writ to the Sheriff of Suffolk regarding the Abbey of St John, Colchester.

(f. 84)

272. Richard Waryn of Fressingfield has granted to John Thormede of the same an enclosed pightle with a house built on it and another enclosed pightle, the first lying between the enclosure of John Golde to the east and the land of Richard Waryn to the west, one head abutting to the north on the common pasture called *le grene* and the other head to the south on the land of the said Richard, and the other pightle lying between the land of Michael de la Pole, knight, to the east and the land of Richard Waryn to the west, one head abutting to the north on the land of the said Richard and the other to the south on the common pasture called *le grene*; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Katherine, 50 Edw. III [30 Nov. 1376]

Witnesses: [blank]

[Marginal – in tenure of William Baker]

273. John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede and Alice his wife one acre of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of the earl of Suffolk and the land of the Priory and convent of Eye, abutting on the land of the said earl of Suffolk to the south and the land of the said prior and convent to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

At Fressingfield, the feast of Saints Processus and Martinianus, 7 Hen. IV [2 Jul. 1406]

(f. 84d.)

274. John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede of Fressingfield and Alice his wife, one acre of land enclosed in Fressingfield, between the land of *dominus* Michael Pole earl of Suffolk to the north and the land formerly of Roger Pyket to the south, one head abutting on the land of the said earl to the east and the other to the west on the land of John Baker formerly Ralph Prykys; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

At Fressingfield, the octave of Epiphany 6 Hen. IV [13 Jan. 1405]

275. John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede, John Fox the elder, and John Baker of Fressingfield, four acres of arable land with a path (*via*) at the end towards the north called Pykottwey, between the land of the Prior and Convent of Eye on each side, abutting on the said path to the north and the land of the said priory to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

The feast of Saints Processus and Martinianus, 7 Hen IV [2 Jul. 1406].

(*f. 87*) *Evidences of holding called Sharpes late of John Gowyn\**

276. Richard le Whyte of Fressingfield has granted to John de Caltoft of Redenhall and Roger Edward of Beccles a cottage with a pightle called Sharpisyerd in Fressingfield, between common ways on each side and abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and on the messuage of Thomas Edward to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrant. [See 172.]

Witnesses: Roger le [deletion] \Neve/, John his son, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Richard Pyk, Robert Bobir, Robert Barbourgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 40 Edw III [16 Aug. 1366].

[Marginal – in tenure of James Aldous]

277. John de Caltoft of Redenhall and Roger Edward of Beccles have confirmed to Thomas Edward of Fressingfield a cottage with a pightle called Sharpisyerd and a piece of arable land, the said cottage with pightle adjacent lying [as 276] and the piece of land lying between the land of the Abbot and Convent of St Edmunds to the west and the land which was of Robert Date to the east, abutting on the land which was of the said Robert Date to the south and on the land of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee. [See 172.]

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Thomas Philys, Richard Pyk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Easter, 42 Edw. III [16 Apr. 1368]

[Marginal – in tenure of James Aldous]

(*f. 87d.*)

278. John Sharpe the elder of Fressingfield has granted to John le [Neve] [*blank but name given later*] son of Roger le (*sic*) of Fressingfield and Robert le Barbourgh of the same, his messuage and all his lands and tenements in Fressingfield except

\* Of this last section, 276–7, 279–80, and probably 282 are concerned with Sharps Yard, while 281, 283–7 are concerned with Godbalds Yard; 278 does not appear to be connected with either. Earlier charters concerned with Godbalds Yard are 185, 187–9.

a certain plot in the chief house of the said messuage in the south part which he reserves for his life with free entry and egress to the king's highway; to have the said messuage and lands, with the reversion of the said plot after John Sharpe's death, to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Richard le Whyte, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobir, John Kembald, Richard de Resshy, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday the feast of St Matthew, 41 Edw. III [21 Sept. 1367]

(*f.* 85)

**279.** Thomas Edward of Fressingfield has granted to Adam son of John Gowyne of Cratfield, for a certain sum of money, a cottage with a pightle adjacent and appurtenances called Sharpisyerd, in Fressingfield, between common ways on each side and abutting on the king's highway leading from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and on [grantor's] messuage to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Richard le White, Nicholas Date, Roger le Neve, John his son, Richard Pyk, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbourgh, John Kendale, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Mark, 42 Edw. III [30 Apr. 1368]

[Marginal – in tenure of James Aldous the younger]

**280.** William son of Hubert Scharpe of Fressingfield has granted to John Edward of Fressingfield a messuage with appurtenances lying between the king's highway called Cobbislane to the east and another way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west, one head abutting on the king's highway which leads to Eye to the south and the other on the garden of the said John Edward to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: John de Chepynhale, Thomas de Chepynhale, John le Jeve [Neve?], Roger le Jeve [Neve?], Roger Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Faith, 23 Edw. III [11 Oct. 1349]

[Marginal – in tenure of the same James]

(*f.* 85d.)

**281.** William Drowe of Homersfield, Thomas Kynge of Whittingham, Thomas Russell, and Robert Beton of *Stretham*, have granted to John Gowyn of Fressingfield a built messuage in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of the said John Gowyn to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north, and to the king's highway to the east and the common way which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee. [See also **226.**]

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Calwer, John Waryn, John Balye (*sic*), Roger Sperk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before St Luke 14 Hen. IV [17 Oct. 1412]

[Marginal – in tenure of the vill of Fressingfield]

**282.** Richard Fynch of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Richard Edward, for a certain sum of money, the messuage with appurtenances and all lands and tenements which Richard Edward recently acquired from Rose Hubert and Margery daughter of the same Rose, as in the charter; to him, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: William [blank], Alexander de Chepenhale, William de Chepenhale, Nicholas [blank], John Gernes, Robert de Ryvshall, Henry le Someter, Roger le Brond, John Sutheman, Alan Sharp, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Barnabas 9 Edw. II [11 Jun. 1316]

(*f. 86*)

**283.** John Godbald of Fressingfield has granted to John Felys, chaplain of the same, a built messuage in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of Adam Gowyn to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north and on the king's highway to the east and on the common way leading to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Rowk, Robert Fuller, Robert Barbourgh, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after St Mark 18 Ric II [30 Apr. 1395].

[Marginal – in tenure of the vill of Fressingfield]

(*f. 86d.*)

**284.** Robert Eytard of Wingfield, Roger Godbald, and Thomas Godbald of Fressingfield, have granted to Thomas Gowyn of Fressingfield, Richard Bohun, John Hogon, John Colwer the younger and Richard Barbour, all the lands, etc., in Fressingfield which were of Adam Gowyn, and which they, together with Richard Epyyd late of Cove, now deceased, had by grant of John Gowyn of Fressingfield, now deceased, with a pigtle adjacent to the south of the cemetery of Fressingfield called Godbaldyerd; to hold the said lands with the said pigtle of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Date, Robert Fox, William Date, Nicholas Warner, Robert Wolnawe, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th April 2 Edw. IV [1462].

[Marginal – in tenure of the vill of Fressingfield]

(*f. 88*)

**285.** John Gowen the elder of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Epyyd of Cove, Robert Eytard of Wingfield, Roger Godbald, and Thomas Godbald of Fressingfield, all his lands and tenements, etc., in Fressingfield; to the said Richard, Robert, Roger, and Thomas Godbald, their heirs and assigns, and warrants

Witnesses: John Bohun, John Ruschey, John Fox, Robert Noyse, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, 13th April, 17 Hen. VI [1439]

**286.** John Godbald of Fressingfield, son and heir of Thomas Godbald, late of the same, deceased, has demised to William Ketwod, perpetual vicar of the church of Fressingfield, Nicholas Fox, Thomas Grendelyng, Richard Grendelyng, of the same, two pieces of land with their appurtenances formerly two messuages late of John Edward and Thomas Edward and afterwards of John Fylys, chaplain, and then of John Gowyn of the same vill, lying together in the said vill, the first piece of land lying between the messuage of the said Thomas Gowyn late of Adam Gowyn and afterwards of John Gowyn called Sharpystenement to the south and the other piece of land, lately built on, to the north, one head abutting on the king's highway called Cobbislane to the east and the other abutting on another way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west and contains in length 10 perches and 3 feet and in width five and a half perches, and the second piece of land formerly a messuage lies between the said piece of land to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north, one head abutting on the king's highway called Cobbeslane to the east and the other on the said other way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west, and contains in length 10 perches and 2 feet and in width 8 and a half perches; which he inherited after the death of the said Thomas Godbald his father, and which the said Thomas had by grant of John Gowyn the elder together with Richard Epyyd of Cove, Robert Eytard of Wingfield, and Roger Godbald of Fressingfield who died within the life of the said Thomas Godbald, by charter dated at Fressingfield 13th April 17 Hen. VI [1439]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee; and John Godbald has appointed Nicholas Calwere, clerk, and Robert Natkyn of Fressingfield his attornies to deliver seisin. [Suffolk R.O. FC90/L3/1]

Witnesses: Edmund Bohun, John Potell, John Bocher, John Godbald of Chepenhale, Nicholas Bohun, and others.

At Fressingfield, 3rd October, 7 Hen. VII [1491]

[Marginal – in tenure of the vill of Fressingfield]

(*f. 88d.*)

**287.** Thomas Gowyn of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to William Ketwod, perpetual vicar of the church of Fressingfield, Nicholas Fox, and Thomas Grendelynge of the same, two pieces of land lying together which were of John Gowyn (as above), and warrants it to them. [Suffolk RO, FC90/L3/2]

At Fressingfield, 9th October, 7 Hen. VII [1491]

[Margin – in tenure of the aforesaid vill]

(*f. 89d.*)

**288.** [very faint]

Chippenhall [marginal]: a certain rental renewed [?20] Hen. VI [1441-2], free tenants

- Richard [W . . .] holds a half acre of land abutting on Launceswode, formerly of Robert Roseson, rent *4d.* and suit of court

- John [G . . .] holds one acre of land lying above Bolteshill, rent per annum *2d.*

- Robert Joseph holds a half acre of land formerly of Cecily [...], rent per annum *2d.*

(*f. 90*)

89 folio ... October 1880.





APPENDIX A  
ORIGINAL LAYOUT OF FOLIOS 84-90

(f. 84)

**A1.** Richard Waryn of Fressingfield has granted to John Thormede of the same an enclosed pightle with a house built on it and another enclosed pightle, the first lying between the enclosure of John Golde to the east and the land of Richard Waryn to the west, one head abutting to the north on the common pasture called le grene and the other head to the south on the land of the said Richard, and the other pightle lying between the land of Michael de la Pole, knight, to the east and the land of Richard Waryn to the west, one head abutting to the north on the land of the said Richard and the other to the south on the common pasture called le grene; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Katherine, 50 Edw. III [30 Nov. 1376].

Witnesses: [blank]

**A2.** John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede and Alice his wife one acre of land in Fressingfield lying between the land of the earl of Suffolk and the land of the Priory and convent of Eye, abutting on the land of the said earl of Suffolk to the south and the land of the said prior and convent to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

At Fressingfield, the feast of Saints Processus and Martinianus, 7 Hen IV [2 Jul. 1406].

(f. 84d.)

**A3.** John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede of Fressingfield and Alice his wife, one acre of land enclosed in Fressingfield, between the land of *dominus* Michael Pole earl of Suffolk to the north and the land formerly of Roger Pyket to the south, one head abutting on the land of the said earl to the east and the other to the west on the land of John Baker formerly Ralph Prykys; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

At Fressingfield, the octave of Epiphany 6 Hen IV [13 Jan. 1405].

**A4.** John Pryke, clerk, has granted to John Thormede, John Fox the elder, and John Baker of Fressingfield, four acres of arable land with a path (*via*) at the end towards the north called Pykottwey, between the land of the Prior and Convent of Eye on each side, abutting on the said path to the north and the land of the said

priory to the south; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: [blank]

The feast of Saints Processus and Martinianus, 7 Hen IV [2 Jul. 1406].

(f. 85)

**A5.** [286. *End of folio 87: Thomas Edward*] ... has granted to Adam son of John Gowyne of Cratfeld, for a certain sum of money, a cottage with a pigtle adjacent and appurtenances called Sharpisyerd, in Fressingfield, between common ways on each side and abutting on the king's highway leading from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and on [grantor's] messuage to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Richard le White, Nicholas Date, Roger le Neve, John his son, Richard Pyk, Robert Bobyr, Robert le Barbourgh, John Kendale, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Mark, 42 Edw. III [30 Apr. 1368].

**A6.** William son of Hubert Scharpe of Fressingfield has granted to John Edward of Fressingfield a messuage with appurtenances lying between the king's highway called Cobbislane to the east and another way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west, one head abutting on the king's highway which leads to Eye to the south and the other on the garden of the said John Edward to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: John de Chepynhale, Thomas de Chepynhale, John le Jeve [Neve?], Roger le Jeve [Neve?], Roger Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after St Faith, 23 Edw. III [11 Oct. 1349].

(f. 85d.)

**A7.** William Drow of Homersfield, Thomas Kyng of Whittingham, Thomas Russell, and Robert Beton of *Stretham*, have granted to John Gowyn of Fressingfield a built messuage in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of the said John Gowyn to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north, and to the king's highway to the east and the common way which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Calwer, John Waryn, John Balye, Roger Sperk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Monday before St Luke 14 Hen. IV [17 Oct. 1412].

**A8.** Richard Fynch of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to Richard Edward, for a certain sum of money, the messuage with appurtenances and all lands and tenements which Richard Edward recently acquired from Rose Hubert and Margery daughter of the same Rose, as in the charter; to him, his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: William [blank], Alexander de Chepenhale, William de Chepenhale, Nicholas [blank], John Gernes, Robert de Ryvshall, Henry le Someter, Roger le Brond, John Sutheman, Alan Sharp, Thomas Alger, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday the feast of St Barnabas 9 Edw. II [11 Jun. 1316].

(f. 86)

**A9.** John Godbald of Fressingfield has granted to John Felys, chaplain of the same, a built messuage in Fressingfield lying between the messuage of Adam Gowyn to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north and on the king's highway to the east and on the common way leading to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Neve, John Rowk, Robert Fuller, Robert Barbourgh, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, Friday after St Mark 18 Ric. II [30 Apr. 1395].

(f. 86d.)

**A10.** Robert Eytard of Wingfield, Roger Godbald, and Thomas Godbald of Fressingfield, have granted to Thomas Gowyn of Fressingfield, Richard Bohun, John Hogon, John Colwar the younger and Richard Barbour, all the lands, etc., in Fressingfield which were of Adam Gowyn, and which they, together with Richard Eppyd late of Cowe, now deceased, had by grant of John Gowyn of Fressingfield, now deceased, with a pightle adjacent to the south of the cemetery of Fressingfield called Godbaldyerd; to hold the said lands with the said pightle of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: John Date, Robert Fox, William Date, Nicholas Warner, Robert Wolnawe, and others.

At Fressingfield, 20th April 2 Edw. IV [1462].

**A11.** John Gowen the elder of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Eppyd of Cove, Robert Eytard of ... [*continues with 287, folio 88*]

(f. 87)

*Evidences of holding called Sharpes late of John Gowyn*

**A12.** Richard le Whyte of Fressingfield has granted to John de Caltoft of Redenhall and Roger Edward of Beccles a cottage with a pightle called Sharpisyerd in Fressingfield, between common ways on each side and abutting on the king's highway from Dunwich to St Edmunds to the south and on the messuage of Thomas Edward to the north; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrant.

Witnesses: Roger le [Neve?], John his son, Nicholas Bate, Thomas Alger, Richard Pyk, Robert Bobir, Robert Barbourgh, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 40 Edw. III [16 Aug. 1366].

**A13.** John de Caltoft of Redenhall and Roger Edward of Beccles have confirmed to Thomas Edward of Fressingfield a cottage with a pightle called Sharpisyard and a piece of arable land, the said cottage with pightle adjacent lying (as above) and the piece of land lying between the land of the Abbot and Convent of St Edmunds to the west and the land which was of Robert Date to the east, abutting on the land which was of the said Robert Date to the south and on the land of Thomas de Wyngfeld to the north; to him, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Roger le Neve, John his son, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Thomas Philys, Richard Pyk, and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after Easter, 42 Edw. III [16 Apr. 1368].

(f. 87d.)

**A14.** John Sharpe the elder of Fressingfield has granted to John le [Neve] [*blank but name given later*] son of Roger le (*sic*) of Fressingfield and Robert le Barbourgh of the same, his messuage and all his lands and tenements in Fressingfield except a certain plot (*placia*) in the chief house of the said messuage in the south part which he reserves for his life with free entry and egress to the king's highway; to have the said messuage and lands, with the reversion of the said plot after John Sharpe's death, to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee, and warrants.

Witnesses: Richard Suclynge, Richard le Whyte, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Robert Bobir, John Kembald, Richard de Ressay, and others.

At Fressingfield, Tuesday the feast of St Matthew, 41 Edw. III [21 Sept. 1367].

**A15.** Thomas Edward of Fressingfield ... [*continues with 276, folio 85*]

(f. 88)

**A16.** [(282) *End of folio 86: John Gowen the elder of Fressingfield has granted to Richard Eppyd of Cove, Robert Eytard of...*] ... Wyngfeld, Roger Godbald, and Thomas Godbald of Fressingfield, all his lands and tenements, etc., in Fressingfield; to the said Richard, Robert, Roger, and Thomas Godbald, their heirs and assigns, and warrants

Witnesses: John Bohun, John Ruschey, John Fox, Robert Noyse, John Calwer, and others.

At Fressingfield, 13th April, 17 Hen. VI [1439].

**A17.** John Godbald of Fressingfield, son and heir of Thomas Godbald, late of the same, deceased, has demised to William Ketwod, perpetual vicar of the church of Fressingfield, Nicholas Fox, Thomas Grendelyng, Richard Grendelyng, of the same, two pieces of land with their appurtenances formerly two messuages late

of John Edward and Thomas Edward and afterwards of John Fylys, chaplain, and then of John Gowyn of the same vill, lying together in the said vill, the first piece of land lying between the messuage of the said Thomas Gowyn late of Adam Gowyn and afterwards of John Gowyn called Sharpstynement to the south and the other piece of land, lately built on, to the north, one head abutting on the king's highway called Cobbislane to the east and the other abutting on another way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west and contains in length 10 perches and 3 feet and in width five and a half perches, and the second piece of land formerly a messuage lies between the said piece of land to the south and the cemetery of the church of Fressingfield to the north, one head abutting on the king's highway called Cobbeslane to the east and the other on the said other way called Barkerslane which leads to the marketplace of Fressingfield to the west, and contains in length 10 perches and 2 feet and in width 8 and a half perches; which he inherited after the death of the said Thomas Godbald his father, and which the said Thomas had by grant of John Gowyn the elder together with Richard Eppyd of Cove, Robert Eytard of Wingfield, and Roger Godbald of Fressingfield who died within the life of the said Thomas Godbald, by charter dated at Fressingfield 13th April 17 Hen. VI [1439]; to them, their heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lord of the fee; and John Godbald has appointed Nicholas Calwere, clerk, and Robert Natkyn of Fressingfield his attornies to deliver seisin.

Witnesses: Edmund Bohun, John Potell, John Bocher, John Godbald of Chippenhall, Nicholas Bohun, and others

At Fressingfield, 3rd October, 7 Hen. VII [1491].

(f. 88d.)

**A18.** Thomas Gowyn of Fressingfield has quitclaimed to William Ketwod, perpetual vicar of the church of Fressingfield, Nicholas Fox, and Thomas Grendelynge of the same, two pieces of land lying together which were of John Gowyn (as above), and warrants it to them.

At Fressingfield, 9th October, 7 Hen. VII [1491].

(f. 89d.)

**288.** [very faint]

Chippenhall [marginal]: a certain rental renewed [?20] Hen. VI, free tenants

– Richard [W . . .] holds a half acre of land abutting on Launceswode, formerly of Robert Roseson, rent 4*d.* and suit of court

– John [G . . .] holds one acre of land lying above Bolteshill, rent per annum 2*d.*

– Robert Joseph holds a half acre of land formerly of Cecily [...], rent per annum 2*d.*

(f. 90)

89 folio ... October 1880

APPENDIX B  
FRESSINGFIELD CHARTERS  
IN THE PHILLIPPS COLLECTION

This collection, which is wholly artificial, was made by Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792–1872) and purchased from his grandson in 1914 by the first earl of Iveagh. Sir Thomas, antiquary and bibliophile, and by his own description ‘a perfect vello-maniac’, was the pre-eminent manuscript collector of his age. The son of a Worcestershire landowner, Phillipps was already collecting books while still a schoolboy at Rugby. As a student at University College, Oxford his taste for old books and manuscripts increased, and on succeeding to his father’s estates in 1818 he embarked on the main business of his life, the collection of rare manuscripts of all ages, countries, languages and subjects. Even before it came into Phillipps’s hands, much of this material already had a distinguished history of ownership by successive Suffolk antiquaries of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The collection includes manuscripts owned, worked over, annotated or written by the herald and genealogist Peter Le Neve, by ‘Honest’ Tom Martin of Palgrave, and by John Ives, who in turn had access to the Le Neve-Martin manuscripts before his own early death in 1776 at the age of twenty-four. Dominating the collection in terms of provenance, however, are the manuscripts of Craven Ord and William Stevenson Fitch, because these were from libraries dispersed in Phillipps’s own day.

The principal part of this Appendix consists of the forty charters grouped under Fressingfield, but it also includes two others which were very probably part of the original collection but were placed elsewhere, one under neighbouring Mendham and one in a series of volumes which were compiled and arranged with the intention of providing material for a county history by Craven Ord. While the ‘parish’ groups are now arranged in chronological order, they have been rearranged below in an ‘archival’ order, as far as possible.\*

\* This introduction to the Appendix has been drawn from the website of the Suffolk Records Office on The National Archives ‘Access to Archives’ webpage. The principal group of forty is Suffolk RO, HD1538/230/1–40, and the other two are HD1538/301/19 (Mendham) and HD1538/8, vol. 8/f. 57.



I BOHUN

1. 'Goods'

This holding was one of the six which comprised the Richard Bohun 'will estate' of 1458 and was granted to Bohun, Dade, and Fox on 5 March 1439 (see below, **B10**).

**B1.** [HD 1538/230/10]

Richard Waryn of Fressingfeld has granted to Richard Pryk' of the same and his wife Christian, all the lands and tenements which he formerly acquired from John Pryk', brother of Richard, in Fressingfeld, Mendham, Weybrede and Wytheresdale; to hold of chief lords of fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Roger le Breuse, Richard Sucl yng', John le Neue, Nicholas Date, Thomas Alger, Thomas Swyft', John Cutfoul and others.

At Fressingfeld, Sunday after feast of St Martin, 50 Edw. III [16 Nov. 1376]

[Endorsed *Godys ... ii*]

**B2.** [HD 1538/230/11]

Richard Pryk of Fressingfeld has granted to John Pryk, rector of St John, Ilketeleshale, John Seke, son of Robert Seke of St Peter Sowthelmham,\* and Stephen Baret of Wetyng ham, all the lands and tenements which he formerly acquired from Richard Waryn in Fressingfeld, Mendham, Weybrede, and Wetherisdale; to hold of chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Thomas of Mendham, John Platon of Ilketeleshale, William Baret, John Schep, John Malueys and others.

At Ilketeleshale, Friday after feast of St Luke, 17 Ric. II. [24 Oct. 1393]

[Endorsed *Godes ... iii*]

**B3.** [HD 1538/230/15]

John Pryk, parson of the church of St John in Ilketelishale and John Tolle of Southelmham have granted, delivered, and confirmed to Thomas Sharp' of Fressingfeld and his wife Katherine all the messuages, lands and tenements which they lately had jointly with Stephen Baret, deceased, by feoffment of Richard Pryk in Fressingfeld, Mendham, Weybrede and Wederysdale, except lands called Pycotyslondys; to them and the heirs and assigns of Thomas, to hold of chief lords of fees for customary services; on condition that Thomas and Katherine pay

\* In November 1398 Mendham Priory granted lands in Mendham at farm to Richard Skarf, clerk, Robert Cooke, farmer, and John son of Robert Feke of South Elmham: Suffolk RO (Ipswich), HD1538/301/16. In 1396 John son of Robert Feke of South Elmham quitclaimed a piece of land in Flixton to Henry his brother: Suffolk RO (Lowestoft), HA12/B2/5/41.

ten marks at each of the next three feasts of the Discovery of Holy Cross and six marks at the said feast in the fourth year.

Witnesses: Thomas Kynge, John Malueys, John Fox, William Seman, Richard Neue, John Shep, John Swyft and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Tuesday after feast of Discovery of Holy Cross, 4 Hen. IV [8 May 1403].

**B4.** [HD 1538/230/22]

Katherine Bell, formerly widow of Thomas Scharpe of Wytyngham, has granted to John Levald, chaplain of the parish of Fresyngfeld, John Malues of Wytyngham, and John Schep of the same, all the messuages, lands, tenements, meadows and pastures which she lately had by feoffment of John Schepe and John Fox of Fresyngfeld in Wytyngham hamlet of Fresyngfeld, Mendham, Weybred, and Wyderysdale; to hold of chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Waryn, Richard Neve, William Gyle, Thomas Kenche, John Fox and others.

At Wytyngham, Tuesday *tercia* after the Conception of the Virgin Mary, 6 Hen. V [13 Dec. 1418].

[Endorsed *God' vii*]

**B5.** [HD 1538/230/23]

John Levald, clerk, has granted to Robert Goode of Wylbey, all messuages, lands, tenements, meadows and pastures which he lately had jointly with John Malvice, John Fox and John Schepe, deceased, by grant and feoffment of Katherine Belle of Fresyngfeld in Fresyngfeld, Mendham, Weybrede, and Wetheresdale, except lands called Pycotyslondys and Lyntounslondys and a piece of meadow which John Malvice formerly held; to hold of chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: William Gyle, William Dalanghoo, Thomas Keynche, Nicholas Hunt, Alexander Godbald and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Monday after Epiphany, 7 Hen. V [8 Jan. 1420].

[Endorsed *God' viii*]

**B6.** [HD 1538/8, vol. 8/f. 57]

Robert Gode of Wylbey has granted to John Bowen of Fresyngfeld, John Date, and John Fox of the same, all the messuages, lands, and tenement which he lately had by grant of John Levalde, clerk, in Fresyngfeld, Mendham, Weybred, and Wetheresdale, which formerly were of John Pryke, rector of the church of St John of Ilketeshale and John Tolle of Suthelham, excepting the lands called Pycotyslondys and Lyntounslondys; to hold of the chief lords for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: William Gyle, William Dalanghoo, Thomas Keynche, Richard Schepe, John Godbalde, and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Thursday the feast of St Maurus, 6 Hen. VI [15 Jan. 1428]

[Endorsed *Godys*]

2. '*Hodds*'

This holding was another of the six which comprised the Richard Bohun 'will estate' of 1458 (see below, **B10**).

**B7.** [HD 1538/230/18]

John Haneworth of Pulham, son and heir of John Haneworth of Wetyngham, has granted to Thomas Keenge of Wetyngham, two acres of land in Fresyngfeld lying between Wynnesgrene to the south and the close formerly of Thomas Sharp to the north, one head abutting to the east on tenement formerly of the said Thomas and the other head abutting to the west on the tenement called Wynnes; to hold of the chief lords of the fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: William Deye, Richard Sheep, John Goche, Richard Neue of Fresyngfeld, John Malueys, Thomas Cove and others.

At Wetyngham, 4 Feb. 11 Hen. IV [1410].

[Endorsed *hodys*]

**B8.** [HD 1538/230/19]

Joan, formerly wife of John Haneworth of Wetyngham, has quitclaimed to Thomas Keenge of Wetyngham, the land as above (**B6**).

Witnesses: William Deye, Richard Sheep, John Goche, Richard Neue of Fresyngfeld, John Malueys, Thomas Cove and others.

At Wetyngham, 1 Mar. 11 Hen. VI [1410].

[Endorsed *hodys*]

**B9.** [HD 1538/230/26]

Thomas Keenge of Wetyngham has granted to John Boughne of Fresyngfeld, John Russheye, and John Fox of the same, a piece of land of three acres lying in Fresyngfeld between Wynnesgrene to the south and the close of the said John Boughne to the north, abutting to the east on the tenement of the said John and to the west on the tenement called Wynnes, which Thomas lately had by grant of John Haneworth of Pulham; to hold of chief lord of fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas Breuse, esquire, William Dalengeo, Henry Palmere, Richard Scheep, John Barbour and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Thursday the feast of St Lucy, 10 Hen. VI [13 Dec. 1431].

[Endorsed *hodys iii*]

3. The 'will estate'

The enfeoffment below (B10) can very probably be identified with the lands bequeathed by John Bohun to his elder son Richard in his will of 23rd August 1458, and which were then bequeathed by Richard to his younger son John.

**B10.** [HD 1538/230/35]

John Fox of Fressingfeld has granted to John Date, son of John Date *alias dict'* John Russheye, deceased, Robert Fox of Fressingfeld, son of John, Hugh Fen, one of the auditors of the King's Exchequer at Westminster, William Shelton of Fressingfeld, all the lands and tenements which he lately had together with John Bowen and John Date *alias* Russheye both now deceased, as by gift and feoffment of Robert Gode of Wylbey as by that of John Bayle, son of John Bayle of Fressingfeld and Thomas Keenge of Wytyngnam, and also John Barbour, son of Roger Barbour of Fressingfeld, William Cook of Lynstede magna and Richard Schep of Fressingfeld, and also [*ac eciam*] of Richard Schep, Robert Banyard of Fressingfeld, John Sherwynd, clerk, John Swan, clerk and Henry Bateman of Mendham, husbandman, in the villis of Fressingfeld, Mendham, Weybrede, and Wetheresdale (Suff.), by six separate charters dated at Fressingfeld on Thursday the feast of St Maurus the abbot 6 Hen. VI, at Fressingfeld on Sunday before Nativity of St John the Baptist 7 Hen. VI, at Fressingfeld on Thursday the feast of St Lucy 10 Hen. VI, at Mendham on Thursday after Translation of St Thomas the Martyr, 12 Hen. VI, at Fressingfeld on Sunday after St Barnabas, 15 Hen. VI, and at Mendham on 5 Mar. 17 Hen. VI; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Calwere, Robert Godbald, Thomas Godbald, Richard Bohun, John Barbour, John Wolnawe, Robert Skynnere, Thomas Date, John Sandecroft and others.

At Fressingfeld, 2 Sept. 37 Hen. VI [1458].

**B11.** [HD 1538/230/36]

William Shelton of Chesteyn has enfeoffed John Bohun of Fressingfeld, Nicholas Bohun, Nicholas Fox, Thomas Grenlyng, John Aldehowse of Fressingfeld, and John Cook of Eye, in all messuages, lands and tenements called Godys, Taggys, Huntys and Lyntonys in Fressingfeld, Mendham, Weybrede, and Wyderisdale (Suff.), which he lately had jointly with John Dade *alias* John Russhey, Robert Fox and Hugh Fenne, all now deceased, by feoffment of John Fox late of Fressingfeld dated 2 Sept. 37 Hen. VI [1458]; to hold of the chief lords of fees for accustomed services, according to form and effect of last will of Richard Bohun now deceased. Also William has appointed John Goldwyn and John Feke his attorneys to deliver seisin.

At Fressingfeld, 20 Nov. 17 Hen. VII [1501].

**B12.** [HD 1538/230/38] 30 Dec. 27 Eliz. A.D. 1584

Thomas Bateman of Flixton, gentleman, and Edward Glemham of Benhall, esquire, have quitclaimed to William Midnall of Ipswich, merchant, a messuage called Goodes with lands in Fressingfeld, Mendham, Waibred, Meteld, and Withersdale; also lands called Tagges, Huntens, Lintons and Longhaughe in the said vills of Fressingfeld, Mendham, Metfeld, and Withersdale; and also all the lands late of Simon Toppesfelde, esquire, in same towns of Fressingfeld, Mendham, Metfeld and Withersdale.

**B13.** [HD 1538/230/39] 2 May 1589

Bargain and sale by Michael Wentworth of Steeton (Yorks.), esquire, to John Lawrence of Fressingfield, gentleman, of the manor of Fressingfield which he had by grant of Michael Wentworth and Edward Glemham, esquires, and all the lands in Fressingfield lately in the farm or occupation of Simon Toppesfild, gentleman, and William Toppesfild, gentleman, his father, and other lands (detailed); for £870.

#### *4. Miscellaneous*

**B14.** [HD 1538/230/4, cartulary 139]\*

Grant of a plot of land by Robert de Woolnough to Roger le Baxter and his wife Beatrice, 1 Dec. 1314

**B15.** [HD1538/230/8, cartulary 66]†

Grant of nine pieces of land and a piece of meadow by Matthew Kembald to his mother Juliana, 8 June 1340

**B16.** [HD 1538/230/17]

Joan, widow of Edmund Writh of Blakeneye, has granted to John Boun of Fresyngfeld and his wife Alice, a messuage called Wynnys in Fresyngfeld in the hamlet of Wetyngham, which Joan and her late husband jointly had by grant of Sir John Brewes, knight, lord of Wetyngham; to hold of the chief lord of fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Brewes, John Malveys,‡ Thomas Keng, Henry Palmere, Robert Goche and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Wednesday after Epiphany, 11 Hen. IV [8 Jan. 1410].

\* The charter is endorsed 'Evidence ... Edmund Bohun of the King's Exchequer touching the Carter tenement'.

† Kembald lands later passed to John (II) Waryn and probably formed part of the estate which passed to Edmund Bohun in 1473.

‡ John Malveys witnessed a Mendham charter in 1414 and was also employed as a feoffee by John son of Oliver de Mendham and Roger Breouse of Mendham: Suffolk RO, HD1538/301/39-40, 42.

**B17.** [HD1538/230/20, cartulary 85]\*

Grant by John Caltoft and Thomas Wodeward to John Waryn of all the lands in Fressingfield, *Hersham*, and Weybread which they had, jointly with the late William Ker vicar of Weybread, by grant of Richard Waryn of Fressingfield, 3 Feb. 1415.

**B18.** [HD 1538/301/19]

Prior Thomas and the convent of St Mary of Mendham have granted to John Bohun a piece of land, parcel of tenement Deyes, 47 perches long and 2 perches 6 feet wide at the east end and 18 perches wide at the west end, lying next to the common lane formerly leading from the tenement Tagges to the marketplace of Harleston on the north, and also a piece of land, parcel of Ouerlanghaugh in Mendham, lying next to John's meadow called Tagges Medewe on the north, 39 perches long and 20 feet wide, both pieces together containing one acre; to John, his heirs and assigns, to hold of the chief lords, *viz.* of the prior and convent and their successors, for the service of a penny, John to enclose and ditch the property at his own expense. The prior and convent appoint John Fox and Richard Bakere their attorneys to deliver seisin.

At the chapter house at Mendham, 29 Sept. 11 Hen. VII [1495].

## II SANCROFT

**B19.** [HD 1538/230/1]

Adam le Bavent, son of Roger le Bavent, knight, has granted to Henry son of William de Sancroft and his wife Margery, and the heirs of Henry, for their homage and service and a fine of eighty marks of silver, a messuage with houses and buildings in the parish of Fresingfeud, in the hamlet of Chebenhale, and all his lands and tenements in Fresingfeud or Stradebroch; to hold of Adam and his heirs; proviso against grants to religious houses; performing due services to chief lords of fee, *viz.* to the heirs of Reginald de Brokedi' 6s. rent, to Richard de Breuse and his heirs, 5s. 1d., to Godfrey le Garneis, 14d., to John de Scheltone and his heirs, 2s. 4d., to John Garneis and his heirs, 4½d., and to Adam and his heirs 6d. when King's scutage is levied, for all services and demands, with warranty.

Witnesses: John son of Jordan de Scheltone, Robert de Sancroft, Godfrey Garneis, William de Blancheville, Henry son of Jordan de Scheltone, William le Veel, Ralph son of Richard, Alan de Arches, William de Limburn', Roger de Sancroft, John de Brom, John son of the Smith and others.

\* Edmund Bohun later acquired all the Waryn *alias* Storour lands in Fressingfield in 1473.

n.d. [1265–92]\*

[Endorsed II]

**B20.** [HD 1538/230/2]

Henry de Sancroft has granted to William, son of Christian de Stradebrok, for nine shillings, one rood of land lying in Stradebrok between the land of Henry on the south and the land of William on the north, abutting to the west on the land of Henry and to the east on the land of William; to hold of the chief lords of the fee; proviso against grants to religious houses; paying a penny annually at the feast of St Michael for all services and demands, and warrants.

Witnesses: Edmund de Chebehal, John Garneys, John the merchant, Hubert de Riushal, William the merchant, Matthew Daup', Richard de Brom, Richard de Audington, Robert le Glanvile and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday the quindene of Easter, 24 Edw. I [8 Apr. 1296].

[Endorsed III]

**B21.** [HD 1538/230/3]

Simon de Sandcroft has granted to William, son of John de Fresingfeld, for his service and twenty shillings, a half-acre of land and a piece of pasture in Fresingfeld, of which said land lies between Simon's land and land of Robert de Wlnawe, one head abutting to the north on le Blakacer and the other abutting to the south on William's land, and the pasture lies between Simon's land and the land of John Bricrich, one head abutting to the north on the highway and the other abutting to the south on William's pasture; to hold of the chief lord of the fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Sir Robert le Chaumberleyn, knight, John de Schelton, Edmund de Chebenhale, John Garneys, John Launce, Hubert de Ryueshale, Robert le Barker, Matthew Davi and others.

At Fresingfeld, Sunday before feast of St Luke, 32 Edw. I [11 Oct. 1304].

[Endorsed V]

**B22.** [HD 1538/230/7]

John de Sanecroft of Fressyngfeld has granted to John Garneys of Laxfeld an annual rent of one hundred shillings to be paid out of all John de Sanecroft's lands and tenements in Fressyngfeld and Stradebrok, viz. fifty shillings at the feasts of St Michael and Easter; proviso for distraint in case of arrears.

\* The reference to Richard Breouse dates it to the period 1265 to 1292, between Richard's marriage to Alice, daughter and heir of William le Rus, who brought him the manor of Whittingham and Richard's death: *GEC*, ii. 304. Adam de Bavent (*d.* 1292), who held lands in Suffolk as well as elsewhere and was the father of Roger de Bavent born in 1280 who was later summoned to parliament, was the son and heir of another Adam de Bavent: *GEC*, ii. 33.



*Appendix B: Fressingfield Charters in the Philipps Collection*

Witnesses: John Cloutyng, Robert Robyn, Geoffrey Crisp, John Kertil, Robert Archir and others.

At Laxfeld, Sunday after the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 12 Edw. III [16 Aug. 1338].

[Endorsed VI]

**B23.** [HD 1538/230/13]

John Russhegh, Richard Neve of Fresyngfeld, John Brokedisch, and Edmund Rowe of Mendham have enfeoffed to John Sauncroft of Fresyngfeld, all the lands and tenements formerly of John Sancroft, father of the said John Sancroft, in Fresyngfeld and Stradebrook, which they lately had by grant of the said John Sancroft, son of John Sancroft lately deceased; to hold of the chief lords of the fee for the customary services.

Witnesses: John Doull, William Seman, Nicholas Godbald, John Rook, tailor, Thomas Fynch and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Sunday after feast of Invention of Holy Cross, 21 Ric. II [5 May 1398].

[Endorsed VII]

**B24.** [HD 1538/230/14]

John Sancroft of Fresyngfeld has granted to John Russhegh of Fresyngfeld, Edmund Cryssp of Laxfeld, John Brokedisch, and Edmund Rowe of Mendham, all his lands and tenements in Fresyngfeld and Stradebrook; to hold of the chief lords of the fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Waryn, Nicholas Godbald, John Doull, Richard Neve, Thomas Fynch and others.

At Fressingfield, Sunday after feast of St John Before the Latin Gate, 21 Ric. II [12 May 1398].

[Endorsed VIII]

**B25.** [HD 1538/230/16]

John Sancroft of Fresyngfeld has granted to Robert Garneys, William Garneys son of the said Robert, Peter Garneys son of the said Robert, and Roger Depeden the messuage and all lands and tenements lately of John's father John Sancroft in Fresyngfeld and Stratbrook; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas Dowe, John Smyth, John de Brokedysch, John Russheye, Richard Neve and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Tuesday after feast of the Virgin Mary, 6 Hen. IV [31 Mar. 1405].

[Endorsed IX]

**B26.** [HD 1538/230/21]

John Sancroft of Fressingfeld has granted to William Garneys, esquire, William Ede of Laxfeld, John Crispe of Laxfeld, Alan Noyse of the same, and Richard Neve of Fressingfeld, all the lands and tenements which were of John Sancroft, father of the said John, in Fressingfeld and Stratbrook; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas Dowe and John Neve of Stratbrook, William Seman, John Malveys and Seman Gotbald of Fressingfelde, and others.

At Fressingfeld, 20 Feb. 2 Hen. V [1415].

[Endorsed XII]

**B27.** [HD 1538/230/24]

John Sancroft of Fressingfeld has granted to John Pisehale, esquire, William Goode, esquire, Robert Goode, esquire, John Date the younger of Fressingfeld, and Alan Noyes of Laxfeld, all the lands and tenements formerly of John Sancroft, father of the said John, in Fressingfeld and Stradbroom; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas Dowe, John Neve of Stradbroom, William Gyle, William Seman, William Dalanghoo, John Date the elder, William Aldhouse of Fressingfeld and others.

At Fressingfeld, Tuesday before feast of Ascension, 3 Hen. VI [15 May 1425].

[Endorsed XIII]

**B28.** [HD 1538/230/27]

John Sancroft of Fressingfeld has granted to Stephen his son all his lands and tenements in Fressingfeld and Stradebrook; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Thomas Breuse, esquire, John Neve, John Russheye, Roger Smyth, William Dalengeo, Robert Godbald, William Aldhows, and others.

At Fressingfeld, Sunday after feast of St Gregory the Pope, 10 Hen. VI [16 Mar. 1432].

[Endorsed XV]

**B29.** [HD 1538/230/28]

Indenture made between John Sancroft of Fressingfeld, Roger Smyth of Laxfeld, John Russheye of Fressingfeld, and Robert Godbald of the same, and Stephen son of John Sancroft, to testify that whereas the said John Sancroft has granted all his lands to Stephen, and whereas Stephen is bound to John, Roger, John, and Robert in £40, John, Roger, John, and Robert have granted that if Stephen pays twenty marks to the executors of John Sancroft immediately after his decease, and implements John's will and all covenants between John and Stephen concerning lands comprised in the grant [as above], the said bond shall be void; Stephen grants that

in case of default, bond shall remain in force and John, Roger, John, and Robert may distrain.

At Fresyngfeld, Sunday after feast of St Gregory the Pope, 10 Hen. VI [16 Mar. 1432].

[Endorsed XVI]

**B30.** [HD1538/230/29] Counterpart of above.

[Endorsed XVI]

**B31.** [HD 1538/230/30]

William Goode, esquire, has appointed Robert Goode, esquire, John Date the younger of Fresyngfeld and Alan Noyse of Laxfeld as his attorneys to deliver to John Sancroft of Fresyngfeld, seisin of all lands and tenements in Fresyngfeld and Stradebrok which William lately had jointly with Robert, John, and Alan, and John Pysehale now deceased, by grant of John Sancroft.

Given at [... ?] 9 Apr. 10 Hen. VI [1432].

[Endorsed XIV]

**B32.** [HD 1538/230/31]

Stephen Sancroft of Fresyngfeld has granted to William Ede of Laxfeld, Roger Smyth of the same, Alan Noyse of the same, and William Dade of Fresyngfeld, all the lands and tenements which he lately had of John Sancroft in Fresyngfeld and Stradbrook; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: John Dade, Roger Godbald, Nicholas Hervi, John Fygge, William Aldous and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Saturday after feast of Nativity of B.V.M., 11 Hen. VI [13 Sept. 1432].

[Endorsed XVII]

**B33.** [HD 1538/230/32]

William Ede of Laxfeld, Roger Smyth of Laxfeld, Alan Noyse of Laxfeld, and William Dade of Fresyngfeld, have confirmed to John Sancroft, son of John Sancroft of Fresyngfeld, all their lands and tenements in Fresyngfyld and Stradbrook which they lately had by grant of Stephen Sancroft of Fresyngfyld, dated at Fresyngfeld on Saturday after feast of Nativity of B.V.M., 11 Hen. VI [above]; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services.

Witnesses: John Dade, Roger Godbald, William Aldhows, Robert de la Grene, Thomas Worlych and others.

At Fresyngfyld, 14 Jun. 12 Hen. VI [1434].

[Endorsed XVIII]

**B34.** [HD 1538/230/33]

John Sancroft of Fressingfeld has granted to John Russchey of Fressingfeld, Roger Smyth of Laxfeld, John Bown, Robert Noyse, and William Aldows of Fressingfeld, all his lands and tenements in Fressingfeld and Stradbrook; to hold of the chief lords of fees for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Roger Godbald, Robert Godbald, John Cove, Thomas Worlych, John de Wolnawe and others.

At Fressingfeld, 4 Mar. 15 Hen. VI [1437].

[Endorsed XIX]

**B35.** [HD 1538/230/34]

Edmund Em, chaplain, has quitclaimed to Robert Sancroft of Laxfeld all actions, real or personal, from the beginning of the world to the present day.

20 Jan. 20 Hen. VI [1442].

[Endorsed XX]

### III MISCELLANEOUS

#### 1. *Thomas Dreye*

**B36.** [HD 1538/230/5]

John Herborough of Fressingfeld has granted to Thomas, son of Roger Dreie of the same,\* for a certain sum of money, a piece of pasture in Fressingfeld between the free pasture of the church of Fressingfeld on the south and the land of the Prior and convent of Eye on the north, one head abutting to the east on the pasture of Roger Dreye, the other head abutting to the west on the free pasture of the said church and John's messuage; to hold of the chief lords of the fee for the customary services, and warrants.

Witnesses: Alexander de Chebenhale, Richard Edward, John le Barbour, Henry le Sumpter, Alan Scherpe and others.

At Fressingfeld, Sunday after feast of St Matthew, 17 Edw. II [25 Sept. 1323].

**B37.** [HD 1538/230/6]

John Herburg' of Fressingfeld has granted to Thomas, son of Roger Dreie of the same, a half-penny of annual rent which John used to receive from Roger Dreye

\* Thomas Dreye appears in the cartulary; in 1337 Roger le Grand quitclaimed to him a rent of three farthings for a piece of land in Chippenhall: 260. In 1367 Thomas's son and heir Robert granted to Robert Jacob, son of Isabel Dreye, a messuage which later passed into the hands of Edmund Bohun in 1482; 261, 83, 270.

Thomas's father Roger was a witness to three charters in 1314 and 1317: 209, 211, 216.

for a piece of pasture in Fressingfeld, lying lengthways between the free land of Fressingfeld church and the land of the Prior of Eye; and he warrants.

Witnesses: Nicolas Launce, Alexander de Chebenhale, Henry le Sumpter, Roger Dreye, Roger le Grond and others.

At Fressingfeld, Wednesday the feast of St Mary Magdalene, 6 Edw. III [22 Jul. 1332].

## 2. *Barleugh Hall, Stradbroke*

**B38.** [HD 1538/230/25]

Robert Bolton, clerk, Edmund Bedyngfeld, esquire, Robert Roves, and John Balston of Laxfelde, have granted to Thomas Douve of Stradebrook, the manor called Berlaghe in Stradebrook, Brundysch, Tatyngton, Wylbeye, and Fresyngfeld, except lands and tenements, parcel of said manor, which Thomas sold to John Neve, John Seman, Walter Hawys, John Shelton, William Throwere of Wylbeye and William Hoker *alias* Eldestede, the which manor Robert, Edmund, Robert, and John lately had by grant of William Hert and John Thatchere jointly with Thomas who quitclaimed to Robert, Edmund, Robert, and John; to hold to Thomas and his executors for his life and until the feast of St Michael after his death, then for three years from said feast, with remainder to Roger, son of Thomas, and the heirs of his body, to hold of the chief lord of the fee for the customary services; on condition that after Thomas's death, his executors or son pay annually to Agnes, wife of Thomas, 40s. for life, in equal portions at the feasts of St Michael, Christmas, Easter and the Nativity of St John the Baptist; proviso for distraint in case of arrears, and if Roger dies without heirs of his body then it is to remain to Thomas and his heirs.

Witnesses: William de Bedyngfeld, Nicholas Hervy, Thomas Hervy, 'bocher', William Hoker, Thomas Heryng, John Heryng, William Dalengeo and others.

At Stradebrook, Monday after feast of St Barnabas, 6 Hen. VI [14 Jun. 1428].

**B39.** [HD 1538/230/40] 28 Sept. 1613

Bargain and sale by John Leman, citizen and alderman of London, to Peter Marchant *alias* Tyler of Stradbroke, of manor of Barleugh Hall in Stradbroke with lands in Stradbroke, Wilby, Hoxne, Horham, Wingfield, Fressingfield, Laxfield and Brundish, for £750.

## 3. *Miscellaneous*

**B40.** [HD 1538/230/9]

Richard de Caltoft, rector of Fresyngfeld church, Andrew, chaplain of Fresyngfeld, Ralph le Raa of the same, and John Godebald of the same, have quitclaimed to Richard Sucl yng' of Cratfeld, all the lands and tenements in Fresyngfeld which Richard de Caltoft, Andrew, Ralph, John, and Richard Sucl yng lately purchased jointly of Alice, formerly wife of William Waryn, and they warrant.

*Appendix B: Fressingfield Charters in the Phillipps Collection*

Witnesses: Roger le Neve, John his son, John le Neve the elder, William le Skynnere, Nicholas Dade, William Franceys, John Gerald, Simon Charnel and many others.

At Fresyngfeld, Sunday after feast of St Andrew, 35 Edw. III [5 Dec. 1361].

**B41.** [HD 1538/230/12]

John Straunge, knight, Henry Lompnor, citizen of Norwich, John Glemham, and John Baddyng, have enfeofed William Rees, esquire, William de Blyklyng, citizen of Norwich, and Master John de Thorp, clerk, in the manor called Chebenhale in Fresyngfeld and all the other lands and tenements in Fresyngfeld and other adjoining villis in Hoxne hundred, which John, Henry, John, and John lately had by feoffment of Robert de Ufford, knight; to hold of the chief lords of the fee for the customary services, provided that William, William, and John pay £86 13s. 4d. at Fresyngfeld on the next morrow of the Purification.

Witnesses: Thomas de Bedyngfeld, knight, William Phylipp, William Cloutyng, Richard del Chyrch, John Caltoft and others.

At Fresyngfeld, Thursday after feast of St Valentine, 18 Ric. II [18 Feb. 1395].

**B42.** [HD 1538/230/37]

Probate copy will of Nicholas Godbald of Fressingfield; made on 7 May 1505, proved 20 Sept. 1505.

It mentions the usual religious bequests, including to Fressingfield church where he was to be buried in the churchyard, and his wife Alice who was with child. His lands were to be left to Alice for her life, with remainder to the child if it survives, and if Alice dies before the child is of age then his executors were to hold them for its use until it was aged twenty. If Alice is not with child, then the lands are to go to his brothers Richard, Thomas, and William.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

Suffolk Record Office (Ipswich Branch):

HD 1538/230/1	<b>B19</b>
HD 1538/230/2	<b>B20</b>
HD 1538/230/3	<b>B21</b>
HD 1538/230/4	<b>B14</b>
HD 1538/230/5	<b>B36</b>
HD 1538/230/6	<b>B37</b>
HD 1538/230/7	<b>B22</b>
HD 1538/230/8	<b>B15</b>
HD 1538/230/9	<b>B40</b>
HD 1538/230/10	<b>B1</b>

*Appendix B: Fressingfield Charters in the Phillipps Collection*

HD 1538/230/11	<b>B2</b>
HD 1538/230/12	<b>B41</b>
HD 1538/230/13	<b>B23</b>
HD 1538/230/14	<b>B24</b>
HD 1538/230/15	<b>B3</b>
HD 1538/230/16	<b>B25</b>
HD 1538/230/17	<b>B16</b>
HD 1538/230/18	<b>B7</b>
HD 1538/230/19	<b>B8</b>
HD 1538/230/20	<b>B17</b>
HD 1538/230/21	<b>B26</b>
HD 1538/230/22	<b>B4</b>
HD 1538/230/23	<b>B5</b>
HD 1538/230/24	<b>B27</b>
HD 1538/230/25	<b>B38</b>
HD 1538/230/26	<b>B9</b>
HD 1538/230/27	<b>B28</b>
HD 1538/230/28	<b>B29</b>
HD 1538/230/29	<b>B30</b>
HD 1538/230/30	<b>B31</b>
HD 1538/230/31	<b>B32</b>
HD 1538/230/32	<b>B33</b>
HD 1538/230/33	<b>B34</b>
HD 1538/230/34	<b>B35</b>
HD 1538/230/35	<b>B10</b>
HD 1538/230/36	<b>B11</b>
HD 1538/230/37	<b>B42</b>
HD 1538/230/38	<b>B12</b>
HD 1538/230/39	<b>B13</b>
HD 1538/230/40	<b>B39</b>
HD 1538/301/19	<b>B18</b>
HD 1538/8 vol. 8/f. 57	<b>B6</b>



## GLOSSARY

- Advowson** The right to nominate (present) a clergyman to a benefice.
- Annuity** A regular annual payment.
- Appropriate (to)** The action of a religious house in appointing itself as the rector of a benefice. The house thereafter took the income from the parish and appointed a clergyman as their vicar who received a stipend to carry out the spiritual duties in the parish on its behalf.
- Armigerous** 'Arms-bearing' i.e. in possession of a coat of arms.
- Attorney, power of** The appointment by one individual of another as his representative to deliver or receive seisin of land.
- Bond** An undertaking to pay money or recognition of such an obligation.
- Cartulary** A collection of copies of charters, usually in book form.
- Close** An enclosed piece of land, i.e. one which was not subject to common rights.
- Comital** Belonging to an earl.
- Courtesy** A peculiarity of feudal tenure. If a man married an heiress and they had issue, even if the child did not live, he was entitled to hold her lands for the rest of his life 'by the courtesy of England' if she died before him.
- Defeasance** The cancellation of a bond if certain conditions are met.
- Dorse** The back of one page.
- Dower** The lands held by a widow of her late husband's estate after his death for her life, under traditional feudal rules amounting to a third of the estate.
- Enfeoff (to)** To grant land.
- Entail** The establishment of rules of descent for land by grant to the grantee and his/her issue, or issue male (tail male), with a stated right of reversion if the issue failed. The grantee and his/her descendants were unable to sell the land as it was subject to the right of reversion.
- Extent (to extend)** A detailed description of a manor or holding.
- Farm (to), farmer** To hold land on lease, the rent being termed the farm.
- Fee, *alias* knight's fee** The service owed in feudal tenure. Originally land held by the service of one fee was literally held in return for serving as, or supplying another to serve as, one knight for a period of forty days. By the early 14th century this concept was largely antiquated, but the service still denominated a tenure and those who held by knight service of another owed certain payments to their landlord.

**Feoffee** Grantee usually in the sense of a trustee.

**Folio** One complete page comprising both the front (recto) and the back (dorse).

**Free warren, grant of** A licence to take minor game on one's own land.

**Indenture** One half of an original document upon which two copies of an agreement had been made; the two copies were then separated by cutting in an indented line; one half was kept by each party. If there was a subsequent dispute, the two halves could be matched to ensure that they were genuine.

**Jointure** Lands held jointly by husband and wife.

**Mark** A monetary unit of account but not a coin, two-thirds of a pound, i.e. 13s. 4d.

**Messuage** A holding of a small area of land upon which were buildings, usually including a domestic dwelling.

**Moiety** Half.

**Mortmain** Tenure by an ecclesiastical institution.

**Pightle** An odd plot of land.

**Quitclaim (to)** To renounce all rights to the land quitclaimed, for oneself or oneself and one's heirs.

**Recto** The front of one page.

**Seisin** Formal possession of land.

**Vill** A village with its associated settlements, farms, lands, etc., comprising a manor or series of manors.

**Witness, witness lists** The names of those who were present at the making of a grant of land, their names being appended to the written record of the grant.

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