

East Meon

The parish of East Meon, is situated 8.1 kilometres west of Petersfield, 26.6 kilometres east of Winchester and 23.3 kilometres north east of Fareham. At one time the parish included Oxenbourn, Coomb, Ripling, Peak, Langrish, and Ramsdean. In 1894 about the same time these tithings were separated Langrish, Ramsdean and Bordean, became a separate parish called Langrish.

East Meon is similar to that of West Meon in that the fertile land lies around the valley of the River Meon, whilst the downs provide the not so fertile land. The village with the 12th century parish church of All Saints. The Vicarage is a 18th century building in Church Street, and at one time known as The White House, it is of flint with brick dressings,

white plastered facade, and has a slate roof, further down Church Street is the George Inn, a 18th century building, of colour washed brick, with a tiled roof, and sash windows. The other Inn is The Izaak Walton almost opposite the church is The Court House, this building is believed to date from the 14th century, and was the manorial court house constructed of Malmstone and flint, with a tiled roof. Another building of the 14th century is Forge Sound, which was at one time 1 & 2 Hockley Cottages. It is a timber-framed structure with brick infill, and tiled roof. Riverside Cottages probably date from the 14th or perhaps the 15th century they are timber framed with a thatched roof. Tudor House in the Square is probably a 14th or 16th century timber-framed with Malmstone and flint structure. Drayton Mill is of 16th century, on a L-shaped plan,

timber-framed and a tiled roof. The School was built in about 1840 for 197 pupils

The five Forbes Alms Houses, were erected by his widow, in the memory of George Forbes in 1863, situated in Church Street. They are of flint with stone dressings and a Malmstone band between the storeys. Two miles west of the village is Westbury House rebuilt in the 20th century, to replace the earlier house which was burnt down in 1904 Colonel Le Roy Lewis rebuilt the house, and included electric lighting, telephones and a hot water system

From an early date, it was difficult to separate East from West Meon, however, the earliest mention of Meon, appears in a Saxon Charter of 790 by King Beortíc

The manor continued in the hands of

the Crown, until between 1154 and 1161, but no later than 1161, as one of the witness' Theobald, archbishop of Canterbury died in that year. King Henry II granted the manor with the churches to the church of Winchester, which was recorded in the Addition Charter. King John confirmed this charter, mentioned in the Charter Rolls of John, who also mentioned a charter of his brother Richard, which is no longer existing.

The manor was in the hands of the Bishop until 1648 and 1649, when during the time of the Commonwealth and the Root and Branch Bill, when these and other lands held by the bishop was sold. It appears that in 1648 The Court House and other property in East Meon were sold to Nathaniel Hallowes, which were recorded in the Close Rolls Charles I. In the same year South farm with its lands were also sold. In 1649 East Meon,

manor, East Meon park, Church Farm, The Shutt Mills, and other property were sold to a Frances Allein, mentioned in the Close Rolls, 1649.

At the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 the manor was restored to the bishop, which later in the 19th century came under the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

There appears to have been a dispute in the reign of Edward III 1327-77, between the bishop of Winchester and his men typifying the entries in the Domesday Survey to Menes, which were made in 1342 and 1343, which was at the request of the man and Adam Orleton Bishop of Winchester. In 1461, Edward IV went on a visit in Hampshire, the tenants in East Meon petitioned the king for the relief of certain services of hens and corn called churchscot, tithing pence, and pannage. The men also complain

that the Bishop's Court was held on the site of the parsonage and not the manor, and that the tenants were freeholders and not copy holders. In one account the bishop was seized, and was rescued by King Edward who then arrested the ringleaders.

The case was tried in the House of Lords on 14 December, 1461, and the judgement was found in favour of the bishop. In December 1581 the manor was leased by John Watson Bishop of Winchester, to Queen Elizabeth for a period of eighty-one years.

On 31 July, 1647 a survey was carried out of the manor giving every farm, field, tenant and tenement,

The Court House

The northern block is of two stories, the upper being reached by a wooden stair, dilapidated but still practicable, in the south west angle, opening to the courtyard close to the west entrance to the hall screens. The ground story is very scantily lighted by narrow single square headed lights, and contains three rooms, two with doorways side by side opening from the screens, and a third to the north west, reached only by the western of the other two rooms. These two occupied the normal position of pantry and buttery, and probably served as such; they are separated by a wooden partition, instead of being set, after the usual plan, on either side of a passage leading to the kitchen. The third room may have been a larder or dairy, and the kitchen can have formed no part of the existing block, but probably

stood to the east, where modern buildings now are, and in that case must have been approached through the eastern doorway of the hall passage. It may have been a wooden building, as in other instances, which would account for its disappearance. On the west side of the north west room the suggested larder or dairy is a large block of masonry containing a shaft 10 ft long by 3 ft 2 in wide, an opening into which has been broken from the north end at the ground level. It is probably the shoot of a latrine, but has been boarded over in the room above, and shows no evidence of this. The first floor rooms of this block have been living rooms or bedrooms, and in the south wall of that over the buttery, is a wide fireplace.

Nothing can be said of the arrangement of the south wing of the house, which must have contained the best living rooms, the parlour and dining room of

the Survey. The south east angle of the central block seems to have stood clear of any buildings to the south, and has a diagonal angle buttress, which, however, is not part of the original work. The return of the plinth on the south wall 4 ft to the west of the buttress gives the line of an abutment of a wall running southwards from this point, forming the eastern limit of the south wing.

The hop yard of the Survey, with the two little gardens, seems to have been to the southwest of the house, and the kiln for drying the hops may have been near by, though the Survey reads as if it were part of the main building, and in the northern block.

It appears that from a note in the Survey that the fuel for the Beacon on Butser Hill was supplied from the coppice from Hyden Wood. Stroud Common belonged to the manor and it

stated that

“this common is overgrown with bushes which the tenants claim a right unto for making and mending their fences, but the great wood belonging to the lord was of late destroyed except some very little and young oaks all at present not worth above 30s”

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The tenants' rights of the common were rigorously enforced. On 4 April, 1651, Giles Hall of Petersfield was fined 2s for cutting and carrying away two loads of bushes out of the Stroud to Petersfield, not being a customary tenant of the manor.

The boundaries of the manor were shown in great detail. Ambersham, Forcomb or Foxcomb, Aldersnapp, Froxfield, Longhurst, Ramsdean Week Oakshott Langrish Bordean, Rothercombe, Ashford, Oxenbourn, Meon Manor, Meoanchurch, Ripling,

and Coomb, Coomb was also shown as held by the lord of the manor of West Meon, which may have been a different manor, as "Coomb" means valleys.

"This manor lieth part in Hampshire and part in Sussex and is bounded as follows, viz. :

By a post standing in Basing Dean parting this manor and the manor of West Meon west and by the parish of West Tisted upon the north west to Hoar Thorns, and so by the manor of Colemeare and a wood called Colemearewood on the north, and from thence up the manor of Prior's Dean upon the north east to the rising of a little brook in Brooker's mead. And so by that little brook to the parish of Liss, and thence to Wheatham dell and the yew tree at Wheatham Green, and by a little lake to the Princes Bridge, and so by the river to Lord's Mill and thence by a little stream unto Kettler's brook

and so by the highway to Polehill, then by a footpath to Tilmer gate, from thence to Beerland boundring upon the manor of Berriton, from thence to a great oak standing in the midst of Chescombe and so abutting upon the parish of Clanfield, on the south from the aforesaid gate to Broad Halfpenny abutting upon the parish of Katheringtonm, thence to Pye lane abutting upon the parish of Hambledon, from thence abutting upon the parish of West Meon, upon the south west as far as Westbury, from thence towards the west upon certain lands belonging to Westbury, and so upon the land of Peak farm towards the north west upon the parish of Privett, and so to Basing Post standing in Basing Dean aforesaid.”

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From the manor various payments were made to the officials there. The steward and surveyor of the manor, the

measurer of the tithecorn and wheat of the rectory, the treasurer at Wolvesey, the bailiff of the bailiwick, the clerk of the bailiwick and two reeves and a beadle. The annual value being £281-5s-1½d

Park

In the 13th century the park at East Meon was in the hands of the bishop's of Winchester, who held the right of free warren and free chase. In the Patent Rolls Edward I 1279, Robert Fulconis and William de Brayboef were granted the commission of oyer and terminer, touching the persons who broke the parks of Nicholas, bishop of Winchester and East Meon, who hunted therein and carried away the deer. In 1371 in the Patent Rolls, Edward III, William, bishop of Winchester, brought a suit against malefactors, who as well as breaking into his parks and chases they had also fished in his fisheries and

carried away fish valued at £200, and the beasts of the parks and chases, included hares, pheasants, and partridges.

In a survey of the park in 1647 the park is described thus

“There is also belonging to this manor a park, situate and lying near the town of East Meon, known by the name of East Meon Park, lying between the way that leadeth from East Meon church and Petersfield called Hide Lane on the south, on the south, and another highway that leadeth from East Meon to Alton on the north west; on the east are the grounds belonging to Magdalen College Oxford and the lands of Sir William Lewis kt with lands of other tenants; on the south west is the church and churchyard of East Meon; on the north the grounds belonging to the manor of Bearly (Bereleigh). The park has a lodge with five rooms, two little

out barns, a garden, a hye yard all paled about and contained 1½ acres. This park is paled about, but hath not any deer therein. It is now stored with conies. It containeth by estimation 500 acres, and is worth per annum by improvement £70, and is now in possession of Sir William Lewis, bart. He claimeth to hold the office of keeper and the keeping of the park aforesaid and of the deer in the same park and al the herbage, pannage and agistment of it competent and sufficient herbage and feeding for eight score deer in the same park always accepted, and also the office of measuring the tithe corn and wheat of the rectory of East Meon with all the profits to the said offices belonging. There is not any tithe to be paid for this park.”

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The grant was made to Queen Elizabeth

by John Watson bishop of Winchester, amongst other things, by indenture 14 December. Elizabeth assigned over to John Stockman by indenture 28 March 24 Elizabeth, which was recorded in the Patent Rolls Elizabeth.

John Stockman granted the park to William Neale Lord of Warnford, which later passed to his son Sir Thomas Neale, Sir Thomas granted the lease of the park in 13 February 10 Charles to Sir William Lewis for 200 conies per year worth £5, with the herbage of the park for a hundred and sixty deer worth £40. In 1908 the profits of the park of beechen timber and firewood, were worth £900, all bots (wood) House-bot, post-bot, pale-bot, and rail bot allowed for domestic and repairs.

There is no longer a park in East Meon, probably Park Farm and Park Down is all that is left of this once large park.

In Fair Field or Chapel Close near South Farm an annual fair was held belonging to the lord of the manor of East Meon. It was held on Lady Day and the profits were assessed in 1647 at £1-10s. The fair appeared to have disappeared towards the end of the 19th century, when it was held in the village.

In the Survey of 1086 there were six mills mentioned in Menes worth forty-shillings, which is identical to East Meon in a rent Roll of 1567 South Mill was mentioned, held by Nicholas Write for 1s-3d, two mills at Oakshott, a fulling mill held by John Pagelham for 10s, and a water mill known as Sheet Mill held by Edward Roche for 10s-4d. A water mill in Ramsdean held by John Tribe for 15s. In a later Survey of 1647, two corn mills under the same roof known as Shutt Mill, which lie west of East Meon South Mill held by Thomas Searle, one mill held by William Heycroft in

Meonchurch, a water mill held by John Tribe in Ramsdean, and two fulling mills in Foxcombe held by Elizabeth Colebrooke and Jane the widow of Joseph Feilder.

In the valuation of East Meon May 1820 two mills are mentioned, Drayton Mill and Frogmore More Mill.

Westbury

At the time of the Survey of 1086, the manor of Wesberie, was in the Hundred of Meonstoke and in the hands of Hugh de Port, and Jocelyn was holding it from him. Before 1066 it was held by Wulfnoth, who held it from King Edward the Confessor. It answered for three hides (360 acres). It had land enough for four ploughs, five villagers and six small holders who had land for two ploughs. Also in this manor were

two slaves, a meadow of three acres, woodland to support four pigs. The value in 1006 and 1086 was £4, but when it was acquired forty shillings.

*Land of Hugh de Port
In Meonstoke Hundred.*

Wesberie . Jocelyn holds from him.

*Wulfnoth held it from
King Edward. Then and now it
answered for 3 hides. Land
for 4 ploughs. In lordship 2 ploughs;
5 villagers and 6 small holders with 2
ploughs.*

*2 slaves; meadow, 3 acres; woodland at 4
pigs.*

*Value before and now £4; when
acquired 40s*

The overlordship passed to the St. John's, when Adam de Port changed his name to St. John. It later passed by marriage to the Poynings, and probably

to the Paulet's also by marriage, although the overlordship is not recorded after the 14th century.

After Jocelyn the major tenant of the manor is not mentioned until the 12th century, when in the Pipe Rolls Henry II. The manor was granted to the family of Westbury. Later in the Testa de Nevill, in the reign of Henry III 1216-72, John de Westbury was holding the manor of Westbury in the service of one knight's fee from Robert St. John, and this Robert St. John from the king.

John de Westbury appears to have conveyed the manor to William de Campania, who leased the manor to Peter and Margery de Campania for five years. However, some time later William quitclaimed for himself and heirs all the right and claim to Peter and Margery de Campania. Peter de Campania found himself in Westminster

jail in 1294 accused of the death of Adam Houel, however, John de St. John interceded and procured a pardon for him, which was recorded in the Patent Rolls Edward I.

When Peter died Margery his widow married Robert le Ewer a yeoman of the king, before 1316 as in that year he was recorded as holding the manor of Westbury in the right of his wife, which was recorded in the Feudal Aids . Robert in 1322 was granted permission to fortify his house in Westbury, and he was also at that time granted free warren in Westbury.

Robert le Ewer, appears to have led a colourful life. He was first mentioned in the Patent Rolls Edward I 1306, when Edward I granted him safe conduct, with others, to take money to Scotland for the king's subjects there. In the reign of Edward II, he was in favour of the

king and rose through office, and took over the jail at Somerton. In the following year he was granted the reversion of the manor of Warblington, and later in 1311 he was holding Odiham Castle for the king.

According the Patent Rolls Edward II, 1322, Robert fell out of favour with the king and King Edward I sent John de Felton and the serjeant at arms to arrest Robert. However, when they arrested him, he escaped by force, and threaten to kill them and cut them up. Nevertheless, Robert some how managed to make his peace with the king, and later in 1321 he had the custody of Odiham Castle restored to him.

The following year King Edward II summoned Robert to join him with the English army in Scotland. Robert ignored the summons and once more he

was deprived of Odiham Castle, and John de St. John took over the custody of the castle Robert then rebelled, and at the head of an armed force tried to seize the castle and entered the Royal Manor of Itchel carrying away the king's goods. Robert was arrested by Edmund de Kendale, the keeper of the peace in Hampshire. For this Edmund received a horse, a haketon, and a dagger, which appears to have belonged to Robert and were seized when he was captured. Robert, was charged with divers felonies and put before the king. Robert refused to submit to the law died in prison, which was recorded in the Patent Rolls of Edward II.

Margery, the wife of Robert le Ewer, fled, when her husband was arrested, taking with her two chests of jewels and goods, worth £200. According to the Close Rolls Edward III, she then took sanctuary in the abbey of St. Mary's,

Winchester, where her two sisters were nuns. However, Margery was dragged out and thrown into prison.

She was released in 1324 and taken to Ralph Camois, who was appointed in 1325 to ascertain who had taken and hidden the goods and chattles of Robert le Ewer. Later in 1327, it was evidenced that Ralph and Elizabeth Camois, and their son Hugh had dispossessed Margery of the manor of Westbury.

The matter was laid before Ralph Bereford, John de Scures, and John de Tichborne, where it was beyond doubt that Robert had held the manor in the right of his wife Margery and that the manor should be restored to her, and be awarded £160 damages.

It appears that shortly afterwards Margery married for the third time to Nicholas de Overton, as in the Feet of Fines Hants 1328, Nicholas and

Margery de Overton with John de Thyngenem chaplain, settled the manor on Nicholas and Margery and the heirs of Margery. Margery appears to have died before 1342, leaving a daughter Margaret the wife of James de Molyns.

In 1342 on the death of Nicholas de Overton and with Sir Aumary de Wykort, granted the reversion of the manor to Nicholas le Devenish. In the Feet of Fines Hants, six months after the manor was settled on Nicholas and Edith, it was recorded that the remainder went to Thomas Son of Nicholas and Matilda, probably Nicholas's first wife.

In 1350 Nicholas le Devenish died and the manor passed to his son Thomas a minor aged 17 years. This Thomas died in 1373, passing the manor to his son John aged 10, who appears to have died soon after, then the manor passed to his

brother Thomas.

This Thomas died in 1382 still a minor. The manor then passed to his sister Nichola, who seemed to have married Sir John Englefield of Warwickshire, and later as her second husband John Golafre of Blakesley Northants. Nichola died before 1428, for in that year according to the Feet of Fines Hants, John Golafr was recorded as holding the manor of Westbury of half a fee, which Nicholas Devenish held.

The manor of Westbury passed with the manor of Greatham to the Fawconer's a recusant family, who held the manor for two hundred years. During the reign of Elizabeth, William Fawconer recusant paid £72-4s-4d annually to the Crown, for two-thirds of the manor of Westbury.

In the Close Rolls, William and Mary, it

is mentioned that Katherine Fawconer conveyed the manor to John Katherine Holt. Their son Richard Holt in 1694, sold the manor to Richard Markes for £4,000. After Richard died his widow Mary, with her son Richard, came into financial trouble and was forced to sell the manor for £7,400 to Philip Cavendish. In the Feet of Fines Hants, 1737, Philip was recorded as dealing with the manor, which was probably on the marriage with Anna Carteret.

Sometime before 1747 the manor was bought by Admiral Sir Peter Warren K.B., as of that year the admiral was forced to resign his commission on the account of his ill health and retire to his country seat in Westbury Hampshire. He was commissioned in 172 and rose rapidly through the ranks. He added the Colonies during the war with France. Later in 1745, in company of General Pepperill, he captured

Louisbourg, and made rear -Admiral of the Blue. He captured three French ships on the capitulation of Louisborg Warren, the ships valued at £1,000,000 and amassed a large fortune. He won a great naval victory in 1747 off Cape Finisterre, and made Knight of the Bath. In his retirement he became M.P. for Westminster in 1750, but died of fever in 1752, whilst in Dublin, where he had gone to purchase estates. He had married Susanna de Lancey in 1735 of New York.

The admiral left three daughters' Anne, who had married Lieutenant-General Hon. Charles Fitzroy, first Lord Southampton, Susanna who was the wife of Lieutenant-General William Skinner; and Charlotte who was the wife of Willoughby Bertie, fourth earl of Abingdon. The manor was then divided among the sisters.

In 1772 Charles and Anne and Willoughby and Charlotte gave up their inheritance to William and Susanna. Her daughter Susanna Maria married Major-General Henry, third Viscount her cousin. Their son Henry, fourth Viscount Gage conveyed the manor to Mr John Delawar Lewis, who passed it on to Colonel Le Roy-Lewis.

Langrish

The manor was at one time dependent upon East Meon. It was said to be a copyhold of inheritance, held under the bishop of Winchester. The East Meon Court Rolls states that the manor came into the bishop's hands on the death of the holder, whose successor made a payment to take up his inheritance, however, it was always surrendered to the bishop before any sales or settlements.

In the early 15th century John Langrish

son of John was holding the manor, and in 1419, he held his first court. In 1424 at a court held in May, John granted his brother Thomas property to hold for his life. Thomas Langrish held his first court on 21 December 1466, and his son Robert received a messuage and other property in Langrish, to hold with his wife, this was probably when he was married.

Nicholas Langrish aged 16 years a kinsman and heir of John Langrish priest in 1489, held his first court on that date. He eventually had five sons, but Edmund the eldest died childless. The manor then passed to his brother William, recorded in the Feet of Fines, Hants. He had a son Nicholas, who in 1634 was known as lord of Langrish.

Nicholas, passed the manor to his son William, who it appears sold the manor to Nathaniel and Mary Long, who settled the manor upon themselves in

1663, with the remainder to Hugh Webb and Abigail Long, Abigail being the elder daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Long.

A dispute arose with Nathaniel Long and Edmund Bruning, who was the lord of Rothercombe. It appears that the dispute was over the right of way through lands which were a parcel to Rothercombe, and woods named Beechenleigh or perhaps Beechencliffe Woods and his right to the timber there. The manor went to Chancery Court, where the judgement went in favour of Nathaniel, the court also awarded him £250 damages to be paid in East Meon at the sign of the George.

When Nathaniel died the manor passed to Hugh and Abigail Webb. On their deaths the manor passed to their son Nathaniel. The manor was sold in 1719 by his widow Lucy and their son

Nathaniel, to a Thomas Ridge of Portsmouth for the sum of £2,850.

Thomas, passed the manor to his son Humphrey, who died in 1730, childless. The manor passed to his brother Thomas, who was either a brewer, or distiller, and wine merchant of Portsmouth. Thomas was knighted in 1746, but it seems he shortly was in financial trouble, he owed his mother £8,215, which came to light on her death in 1750. He also borrowed money from his brothers' George and Richard. He then in 1764 was declared bankrupt.

The chosen assignees to his estates were John Ridge and Thomas Hampton. The estate was then put up for an auction and thus described as

“The manor, lordship, or royalties of Langrish, the Farm called Court Farm, £93 per annum; Stroode Farm, £35 per

annum. There is a fee payable to the bishop of Winchester out of these estates annually the sum of £3-6s-6d or thereabouts, viz £2-10s for the manor and Court farm, and 16s-6d for Stroode Farm. Langrish is situated in an exceeding fine sporting county, and there is a great plenty of game o the manor. The house stands on top of a beautiful hill at a convenient distance from the road, and commands an extensive and romantic prospect. The hill and inclosures between it and the road are now exceeding fine pasture and may be greatly improved. The whole estate is a very desirable object, being equally capable of improvements in husbandry and elegance”

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It appears that a payment of £7 was due to the lord of East Meon from the heir when taking up residence.

Thomas Ridge died in October 1766. In

his will dated October 1765, he left the residue of the estate to his younger brothers George and Richard, with a contingent remainder to Mary Ridge Daughter of John Ridge.

The estate was sold in 1771 to William Joliffe of Petersfield for £4,400, and continued with the Joliffe family until the beginning of the 20th century, when it sold by Lord Hylton to William Nicholson D.L J.P. of Basing Park.

In a Court Roll of the manor 1479 and mentioned in the Additional Charters, John Baker was granted a messuage and land in Langrish from the lord of the manor, to hold for his life for the service of a rent of 13s, and finding two men for the great fishery of East Meon, and paying 6d per year tithing silver. His successors were also to find two bushels of corn every Easter at their own expense, to make bread and deliver

the loaves to Thomas Langrish and his heir to the parish church of East Meon, to distribute to the poor. In return Thomas Langrish reduced the rent to 13s.

Rothercombe

The manor of Rothercombe is mentioned in the East Meon Court Rolls as a tithing of that manor. The only remains of the manor is a farm called Rothercombe Farm in Langrish. Geoffrey de Lucy Bishop of Winchester in the 12th century, granted free alms of all the lands of his manor in East Meon, to John prior of Aldebrí, also known as the priory of Newark. The grant was worth 100 shillings annual.

On the Dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII, King Henry granted the manor of Rothercomb and the woods

known as Cherry Copse, Beching Cliff, and Brokewode, to Thomas Knight, which was recorded in the Patent Rolls Henry VIII.

It appears that soon after Thomas Knight, sold the manor to Thomas Uveale, which included rents and land in East Meon, for £126, which was entered in the Feet of Fines Hants.

The manor passed to Anthony Thomas Uevale's son, Anthony had married Ursula Norton, and they had a daughter Ellen. Ellen, married Richard Bruning, and on this marriage the manor of Rothercomb came into the Bruning family.

Apparently, due to the recusancy of Richard and Ellen Bruning, an order was made in 1608 in to the goods and chattels, lands, and tenements held by them, as they owed the Crown money for their recusancy. It was found that

Richard was holding the manor of Roscomb, with 30 acres of arable land, twenty acres of meadow, and a pasture in East Meon, valued at £6-10 annually, which was mentioned in the Patent Rolls James I. However, the manor was not sequestrated, as in 1612 Richard died still holding the manor of Rothercombe.

Richard left a son Anthony, and the manor remained with the Bruning family until 1715, when Richard Bruning sold the manor with lands in Steep and East Meon to John Clement of Steep for £1,730.

John Clement passed the manor to William his son. His son sold the manor in 1763, to George Clark, which at that time consisted as a dwelling house, known as Rothercombe Farm, and 169 acres for £2,00. George Clarke was known as a carrier and also an inn keeper of neighbouring Petersfield. It

appears that he was quite wealthy, buying some substantial amounts of land around Petersfield.

George Clark bought a farm known as Tilmore Farm in 1755, from Richard Baker and later he purchased, Bell Farm in 1763, from John and Mary Rogers. The following year a messuage or perhaps a tenement and farmhouse known as Buckmoor was conveyed to his by Henry Smith in 1764.

George Clark died in 1768, and his property was divided between his grandsons William, Richard and George Clark-Rout, who were the sons of James and Mary Rout. For some reason he had bypassed his wife Elizabeth and his three sons' Thomas, Richard and George, and also his daughters' Anne, Rose and Elizabeth. They appealed against the will, but the appeal was dismissed in the Court of Chancery.

The three grand children were William

Rout of Romsey, maltster, Richard Rout of East Wellow. Yeoman, and George Clark Rout of Romsey, brewer, they came of age in 1774, 1776, and 1777. However, these grandchildren had already before their inheritance borrowed and came into debt, and had to sell their inheritance. These properties were put up at a public auction in 1778, and sold to the highest bidder, which was William Jolliffe from Petersfield, and followed the same descent as Langrish.

Peak

This manor is three and half miles north west of East Meon. The site of the manor of Peak, probably corresponds with Tigwell Farm. The farm was in the hands of the Tygall's, for a number of years. The first mention was in 1326, when a messuage, a carucate of land, 20 acres of land and 26s-8d rent in la Stock

and Peak were granted to Thomas and Maud de Tygall, which was recorded in the Feet of Fines Hants, Later in 1333 Thomas de Tygall granted a messuage, 3 virgates of land and 4 acres of wood in Westbury and West Tisted, to a Thomas de la Stoke to hold for his life, for the rent of a rose, with the reversion to Thomas de Tygall.

William and Joan Tygal in 1505 sold the manor and 3 messuages, 10 tofts, 400 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 120 acres of pasture, 60 acres of wood, and 20s rent with the rent of 1lb of pepper in Peak, East Meaon and Meonstoke, to Sir William Wareham, archbishop of Canterbury, for the sum of £200. On the death of Sir William in 1532, the manor passed to William his nephew, which was settled in 1552 on him and his wife Elizabeth in tailmale.

Later in 1560 the manor was settled on William with a remainder to Francis and Anne mores, and their issue, with a contingent to the heir of William. It appears that William had died before 1588, as of that year William Wright was holding the reversion of the manor of Peak. This was depending on the estate of Dame Elizabeth Warham, widow of Sir William, which had been sold to William Neale lord of Warnford for the sum of £630.

The manor remained with the Neal's for nearly a hundred years, when in 1676 it was bought by Thomas Bonham, William Morgan, and Lawrence Cooke. Later in 1679 it was settled on Lawrence and his heirs, and passed to his grandson Lawrence Cooke of Steep. He went bankrupt and in 1735 the manor was sold, to John Bouverie, lord of Warnford, which was mentioned in the Close Rolls, George II. The manor then

followed the same descent as Warnford, until the 18th century, when in 1764, John and Mary Waight quitclaimed the manor to John Noss, which was recorded in the Feet of Fines Hants.

The manor changed hands a number of times. In 1787, the manor was in the hands of Richard and Anne Woolls, they with Thomas and Sarah Hall, and William and Jenny Harris quitclaimed the manor that year to Thomas Bonham, which was recorded in the Feet of Fines Hants. Michael Hoy was holding the manor in 1820, and later at the beginning of the 20th century it was in the hands of Colonel Le Roy-Lewis, becoming part of the Westbury Estate.

Bereleigh

The manor was dependent upon the manor of East Meon, held by the de Burlee's at an early date. John and

Agatha de Burlee in 1369, quit claimed tenements, 1 messuage, a mill, 205 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood, and 40s-6d rent in East Meon and Drayton, with the rents and services of Richard Tygenore, Richard Hethere, Reginald Tygall, John Southonore, and John Knollere, to William de Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, which was recorded in the Feet of Fines Hants.

This grant was confirmed in 1382, in the Close Rolls of Richard II, and at that date Clarice the wife of William Fisher, who was also the sister of Agatha gave up any claim to this property.

After this date the history of the manor is hazy until 1569, when at this date Burley was settled by a payment upon Sir Thomas and Cecilia Sackville in fee tail, which was mentioned in the Feet of Fines Hants.

Although the history of this manor is vague, it is possible that the manor returned to the bishopric after the death of William de Wykeham. Sir Richard Sackville was patentee of the lands of the bishop of Winchester. On the death of Sir Thomas in 1566 it passed to his son also called Sir Thomas Sackville, however, this is just speculation.

The manor was sold in 1582 to John Baker for the sum of £200, recorded in the Feet of Fines. John Baker died in 1606, passing it to his son Sir Richard Baker. In 1620, Sir Richard was granted a licence of free warren in his manor of Burly, also he was granted a licence to stoke his manor with stags, does, hares rabbits, pheasants, and partridges. Which was mentioned in the Patent Rolls James I.

The manor was sold in 1631 to William Coldham of Stedham, Sussex, however,

how long the family held the manor for is difficult to ascertain, but it appears the manor was sold sometime during the middle of the 18th century, when it was in the hands of Bartholomew Smith of Winchester. He left two sons James, who joined a religious order, and Bartholomew, who came into the manor. Bartholomew left three sons and four daughters. The three sons all died of small pox, at the same time and were unmarried. It appears that one of the daughters took holy orders and became a nun.

The manor was then divided among the three remaining daughters, Elizabeth, Anastasia, who was the wife of William Seldon, and Frances, the wife of Alexander Wells, of Brambridge. Both Elizabeth and Frances died childless. The whole of the manor then came into the hands of Edward Sheldon, the son of Edward and grandson of William and

Anastasia. Edward mortgaged. The manor in 1775 to a Nicholas Baconne, but after this date once more the history is vague. It is probable that the manor came into the hands of R Eyles of East Meon, who built the later Bereleigh House, at the beginning of the 19th century. The old manor house apparently had fallen into disrepair. During the 19th century the manor changed hand a number of times, and at the beginning of the 20th century came into the hands of H Curtis Gallup