

Sources for Epsom & Ewell History



Public Record Office Lists & Indexes

In late Victorian times there was a great drive among the keepers of Britain's official records to make their resources available throughout the country. Much of this was led by Henry Maxwell Lyte of the Public Record Office, and among his initiatives was the publication, from 1892 onwards, of volumes listing and indexing material held in the PRO. The series eventually produced 55 volumes and ran until 1936; since then there has been a supplementary series. The original series tended to concentrate on documents which had just been renumbered, or for which there was already an interim list: usually they were late medieval or Tudor in date. Few of the volumes are indexed in the ordinary alphabetical sense, but it has been possible to check most of them for entries dealing with Epsom, Ewell and Cuddington, which appear below.

The content of these old volumes is gradually being absorbed into the new search facilities for the National Archives at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/catalogues-and-online-records.htm>, but the work of Maxwell Lyte and his successors is still a useful resource for local historians.

List and Index of Court Rolls in the Public Record Office, ed Ernest S. Sharp (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 6, HMSO, 1896).

Different divisions of the Exchequer acquired court rolls when the manors for which these courts were held came to the crown. This list extends up to the reign of Charles I.

p300. Portfolio 204 no. 44. Cuddington. Courts and Halmotes of Thomas de St. Michael, 4 to 6, 15 to 23, 29 to 31, 38, 46 & 47 Ed.III. [1330–3, 1341–50, 1355–8, 1364/5, and 1372–4]. 16 membranes.

p300. Portfolio 204 no. 45. Cuddington. Courts of Ralph de Codyngton, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12 to 14 & 16 Ric.II; 10, 12 & 13 Hen.IV; 7 Hen.V. [1378/9, 1381/2, 1383–5, 1388–91, 1392/3, 1408/9, 1410–12 and 1419/20]. 7 membranes.

p300. Portfolio 204 no.49. Ewell, with Kingswood, Tullysworth, Talworth. Courts 33 to 38 Hen.VIII. [1541–7]. 7 membranes.

Index of Chancery Proceedings (Series II) in the Public Record Office, ed A.J.

Gregory (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 7, 24 & 30, HMSO, 1896–1909).

From the 14th century, the High Court of Chancery began to act as a court of equity to deal with cases for which there was no redress under the common law. This second or supplementary series of bills and answers is arranged alphabetically by complainant in groups under each successive Chancellor. It extends from the reign of Elizabeth to that of Charles II.

- 1 p30. Bundle 11 (1558–79) no.59. William Berryman, complainant; Francis Carewe and Robert Moyes, defendants; parcel of manor of Epsom.
- 1 p344. Bundle 154 (1558–79) no.83. Robert Roger, complainant and defendant; Ewell.
- 2 p73. Bundle 229 (1587–91) no. 29. Francis Saunders, complainant; Nicholas Fenner, defendant; Ewell.
- 2 p76. Bundle 229 (1587–91) no. 107. Agnes Tyther, widow, complainant; Humphrey Mylles and others, defendants; Epsom.
- 2 p108. Bundle 242 (1591–6) no. 11. John Hall, complainant; Edward Hall and another, defendants; copyholds of manor of Fitznells in Ewell.
- 2 p159. Bundle 261 (1596–1616) no. 39. Benjamin Bonwicke, complainant; Allen Crowcher, defendant; Ewell (mutilated).
- 2 p322. Bundle 326 (1617–21) no. 113. Christopher Vincent, complainant; Thomas Cater alias Carter, defendant; Ewell.
- 3 p309. Bundle 442 (1642–60) no. 67. Richard Evelyn and Elizabeth his wife, complainants; Sir John Baker, knight, and others, defendants; Horton, Epsom, Horley, Horne, Walton, Ashtead, Hertingfordbury, Bishops Hatfield, Steventon &c.

List of Proceedings of Commissions for Charitable Uses in the Public Record Office, ed Harley Rodney (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 10, HMSO, 1899).

By an Act of 1597, the Lord Chancellor was authorised to appoint commissioners who would review and redress abuses of charitable bequests. Their decisions, from that year up to the 19th century, were kept in the High Court of Chancery.

p105. Inquisition bundle 19 no.24, 18 & 19 Chas.II. [1666–8]. Charity in Southwark and Ewell.

List of Early Chancery Proceedings in the Public Record Office, ed J.E.S.B. Sharp *et al* (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 12, 16, 20, 29, 38, 48, 50, 51 & 54–5, HMSO, 1901–36).

The early records of Chancery consist of two classes. Most are suits relating to landed property, in which application was made for a writ of *sub poena* to be directed to the other party, but some are appeals from local jurisdictions, applying for writs of *certiorari* or *habeas corpus cum causa* to be directed to an inferior court, transferring the suit to Chancery. The documents consist of bills of complaint and answers, along with interrogatories, depositions and exhibits. The first two bundles, not listed here, were published by the Commissioners of Public Records in 1827–30. The records extend from the reign to Richard II to that of Philip & Mary.

- 1 p318. Bundle 30 (1463–8) no.7. John Iwardeby, complainant; John Codyngton, feoffee, defendant; messuage and land in Ewell.

- (2 pp6, 27 and 28 (1467–72). There are suits relating to the manor of Ewell, late of Sir John Burcestre, conducted between William Lemyng, citizen and grocer of London, and John and Jane Lewkenore as complainants, and Bartholomew Bolney and Robert Redes and others as defendants. However, these appear to deal with the manor of Ewell alias Tylehouse in Stepney).
- 2 p38. Bundle 41 (1467–72) no.110. John Iwardeby, complainant; William Merston, defendant; manor of Fenelles with a mill and land &c. in Ewell, late of Robarde Leversegge.
- 2 p507. Bundle 69 (15th century) no. 181. William Bull, complainant; the justices of Surrey, defendants; detention in Guildford Castle at the instance of Thomas Sharpe, of Ewell – *corporis cum causa*.
- 3 p439. Bundle 212 (1493–1500) no.19. Margaret de la Pole, countess of Lincoln, complainant; Richard Drylond, defendant; detention of deeds relating to lands and tenements called ‘Wyghtes’ in West Cheam and Codyngton.
- 3 p448. Bundle 214 (1493–1500) no. 74. Anne, late the wife of William Merston, complainant; Edmund Dene or Denny, feoffee to uses, Henry Frowyke and Margaret his wife, and Anthony Forde, defendants; the manor of Bryttesgrave and other lands in Ebesham, and detention of deeds relating to the same (mutilated).
- 5 p194. Bundle 455 (1515–18) no. 16. Christopher Warde and Margaret his wife, granddaughter and heir of William, son of Laurence Codyngton, complainants; Thomas Hilton, defendant; detention of deeds relating to a messuage and land called ‘Quedkepe’ in Ewell, which the said Laurence had of the gift of John Scott and John Blaste.
- 5 p194. Bundle 455 (1515–18) no. 17. Same defendants and property, but with Richard Powlter and Alice his wife as defendants.
- 5 p465. Bundle 553 (1518–29) no. 5. John Puplett, yeoman, son of Thomas Puplett and of Emma his wife, complainants; Roger Assheley and Elizabeth his daughter, late the wife of Thomas, the complainant’s half-brother; bargain as to lands in West Cheam called ‘Bentleys’ and ‘Colpotters’, and in Cuddington and Banstead (mutilated).
- 5 p497. Bundle 563 (1518–29) no. 23. George Rolle, late of London, complainant; Roger Ascheley and Anne his wife, defendants; detention of deeds relating to lands in West Cheam and Cuddington bought of John Puplett (mutilated).
- 5 p498. Bundle 563 (1518–29) no. 32. John Russell of the Fryth in Surrey, brother and heir of Roger Russell, complainant; petition to examine Rauf Cok of Pelham, John Saynt, and other witnesses as to a devise by the will of Thomas Holgrave of messuages, land and rent in Epsom and Ashtead. (Another case, brought by Robert Broke and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Holgrave, against John Russell along with Robert Chaundler, dealt with the detention of deeds and the forged will of Thomas Holgrave, devising land elsewhere in Surrey: 5 p243).
- 6 p184. Bundle 688 (1529–32) no. 13. Christopher Warde and Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of Matthew Codyngton, complainants; Alice Pulter, widow, defendant; issues and profits of a messuage and land in Ewell, sometime of William Codyngton, father of the said Matthew, from which Robert Mannesworth deforced the said Matthew.
- 8 p202. Bundle 1057 (1538–44) nos. 63–4. Richard and Henry Rogers, complainants; Reynold Wylken, feoffee to uses, and Robert Rogers, defendants; messuages and land in Ewell, late of Robert Rogers, deceased, father of the said Richard, Henry and Robert (answer wanting).

- 9 p15. Bundle 1104 (1544–7) nos.46–7. Richard Bray, complainant; Richard Graunger, defendant; maintenance of suits in the Court of Whitehall, etc., concerning lands in Ewell (damaged).
- 9 p27. Bundle 1111 (1544–7) no.22. Thomas Carter, complainant; Robert Broke, gentleman, defendant; lease of lands in Epsom already leased to — Elyott.
- 9 p174. Bundle 1195 (1547–51) no.48. Robert Broke of Nacton in Suffolk and Richard Bray of Ewell, gentleman, complainants; Andrew Norman of Reigate, beer-brewer, defendant; suppression of documents in an arbitration concerning the lease of a manor (damaged).
- 9 p183. Bundle 1200 (1547–51) nos.77–80. Henry Byrdwett or Burdett, complainant; Robert Elyott, steward of the manor of Epsom, defendant; messuage and land in Epsom, late of James Pottelwood *alias* Tegge (mutilated).
- 9 p218. Bundle 1224 (1547–51) no.9. Thomas, son and heir of John Goldyng, esquire, complainant; Thomas Lyle of Epsom, esquire, defendant; action on a bond for a legacy of the said Thomas to Ursula his wife, who receives rent in Belchamp St. Paul, Belchamp Otten and Belchamp St. Ethelbert in Ovington in Essex.
- 10 p176. Bundle 1433 (1556–8) nos. 34–5. John, son of William Graunger, complainant; Richard Braye, defendant; lands and a messuage in Ewell of the bequest of Richard Playstow – defendant pleads a previous trial in the Court of Requests.
- 10 p259. Bundle 1484 (1556–8) nos.14–19. Vincent, son and heir of William Warner, complainant; William Saunder of Ewell, esquire, defendant; manor of Parrock Inhams and messuages, iron-mill and lane in Hartfield in Sussex.
- 10 p274. Bundle 1492 (early 16th century; to the keepers) nos.7–8. Margery, late the wife of William Burton, complainant; Robert, grandson and heir of Nicholas Geynesford, feoffee to uses, defendant; lands late of John Mounshyll, in Cuddington and West Cheam – footnote to bill: *fiat ut petitur*.

List of Proceedings in the Court of Star Chamber in the Public Record Office, ed J.B.W. Chapman (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 13, HMSO, 1901).

Star Chamber was a court of the Chancellor, originally with a jurisdiction over acts of violence carried out by those maintaining private forces and therefore able to overawe lesser courts, but gradually extended to try other matters; many litigants preferred it because of its reputation for rapid despatch of business. This list covers the period 1485–1558.

- p299. Henry VIII bundle 24 no.236 (but in fact temp.Ed.VI [1547–53]). William Saunder, plaintiff; Denise Boyer, John her son, John Goorde, and others, defendants; assault at Ewell.

List of Ancient Correspondence of the Chancery and Exchequer in the Public Record Office, ed C.T. Martin (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 15, HMSO, 1902).

Early letters, mostly written by royal officers or clerics to give instructions of some kind, were grouped chronologically into volumes.

- p222. Volume 48 no.37, a letter from the rural dean of Guildford to the official of Canterbury is dated from Epsom, Easter Monday 1277.

List of Inquisitions ad Quod Damnum in the Public Record Office, ed C.G. Crump and J.B.W. Chapman (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 17, HMSO, 1904).

Enquiries were made under a writ of *ad quod damnum* when land was given to monasteries; they recorded the tenure and value of the land, theoretically to ensure that the granter was still able to perform obligations without it, but in

practice as a valuation for the fine which was paid to the Crown when a license to proceed was issued. The results were kept at Chancery. The Crown gave consent to proceed through Letters Patent, so the same business will usually be found recorded in the Patent Rolls.

- p26. Bundle 15 no.20, 19 Ed.I. [1290/1]. The abbot and convent of Chertsey to retain land in Epsom acquired of Hugh de la Lane of Epsom, who holds other tenements of the said abbot.
- p109. Bundle 75 no.13, 2 Ed. II. [1308/9] The prior and convent of Merton to impropriate the church of Cuddington.
- p321. Bundle 224 no.1, 7 Ed III. [1333/4] John de Foxton of London, vintner, and Thomas de Esthall, parson of the church of Hethfeld, to grant land at Leigham in Streatham and at Epsom to the priors and brethren of the Holy Cross by the Tower of London, the said John retaining a messuage and land in Wandsworth.
- p360. Bundle 245 no.8, 12 Ed.III. [1338/9]. Peter atte Mulle to grant land in Epsom to the abbot and convent of Chertsey.
- p364. Bundle 247 no.21, 12 Ed.III. [1338/9]. Richard de Horton to grant land to the abbot and convent of Chertsey in exchange for land there, retaining land in the county.

List of Proceedings in the Court of Requests in the Public Record Office, ed P.S.L Hunt, H. Rodney and J.B. W. Chapman (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 21, HMSO, 1906).

The Court of Requests, which began as a division of the Privy Council, heard cases of two main kinds: those involving royal servants, and those in which the plaintiff was in humble circumstances and the defendant much wealthier. Records begin with the Tudors and extend to the Civil War; this list covers them up until partway through the reign of Elizabeth.

- p14. Bundle 3 no. 59, Henry VII and Henry VIII. [1485–1547]. John Granger, plaintiff; Richard Braye defendant; the manor of Ewell.
- p20. Bundle 3 no.234, Henry VII and Henry VIII. [1485–1547]. Christopher Warde and Margaret his wife, plaintiffs; Richard Shipton defendant; the manor of Cuddington, and lands in Sutton and Ewell.
- p161. Bundle 24 no. 41, Philip and Mary. [1554–8]. Thomas Raynold, warden of Merton College, the scholars of the same, their tenants in Malden, and others, *ex parte*; additions to Nonsuch Park.
- p183. Bundle 27 no.107, Elizabeth I. [1558–1603]. James Langton, groom of the Queen's stable, and Margaret Whitfield, plaintiffs; Thomas Fletcher, defendant; price of lands in Ewell late of William Whitfield.
- p274. Bundle 54 no.9, Elizabeth I. [1558–1603]. Alice Laughton, plaintiff; Thomas Fletcher defendant; land in Ewell.
- p393. Bundle 95 no.61, Elizabeth I. [1558–1603]. Agnes Tyther, plaintiff; Roger Lamborde, defendant; messuages and lands in Epsom, late of John Evell.

List of Rentals and Surveys in the Public Record Office, ed Horace Headlam (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 25, HMSO, 1908).

These are surveys of lands which had come into the possession of the Crown, as well as others which had been the subject of an official enquiry; the coverage extends up to the 19th century.

- p298. Rentals & Surveys (General Series) roll 624. Rental of the manor of Cuddington, temp Ed.III. [1327–77]. 1 membrane.
- p298. Rentals & Surveys (General Series) roll 625. Rental and custumal of the manor of Cuddington, temp Ed.III. [1327–77]. 1 membrane.

- p298. Rentals & Surveys (General Series) portfolio 15 no.28. Rental and custumal of the manor of Cuddington, temp Ric.II. [1377–99]. 1 membrane.
- p298. Rentals & Surveys (General Series) roll 669. Rental of the manor of Cuddington, temp Ed.IV. [1461–83]. 1 membrane.
- p298. Rentals & Surveys (General Series) portfolio 15 no.29. Plan of lands in the vicinity of Banstead Heath (Cuddington, Banstead), temp Eliz. [1558–1603].
- p301. Miscellaneous Books (Augmentation Office) vol. 414 ff.3–16. View and survey of the manor of Cuddington, temp Hy.VIII. [1509–47].
- p302. Miscellaneous Books (Treasury of the Receipt) vol 168 ff.117–24, 134–7. Survey of lands in Epsom, 2 Ed.VI. [1548/9].
- p305. Miscellaneous Books (Land Revenue) vol. 190 ff.55–73. Survey and rental of the King's possessions in Epsom (late of Chertsey Abbey), 1–3 Ed.VI. [1547–53].
- p305. Miscellaneous Books (Land Revenue) vol. 190 ff.90–7. Survey and rental of the King's possessions in Ewell (late of Merton Abbey), 1–3 Ed.VI. [1547–53].
- p312. Parliamentary Surveys, Surrey, nos. 39–41. Survey of the house and park of Nonsuch, under the Commonwealth. [1649–60].

Index of Placita De Banco, AD 1327–1328, in the Public Record Office (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 32, HMSO, 1909).

The Court of Common Pleas came into existence in the 13th century, when the business of royal justice was first divided into different courts. Common Pleas was the court with most litigants as it dealt with property law. This index covers rolls 268–75 from the first two years of Edward III.

- 2 p653. Easter 1 Ed.III [1327] m.88. Thomas de Sancto Michaele, plaintiff; John Betayle and Margery his wife, defendants; tenement in Ewell. Fine paid for licence to agree.
- 2 p653. Trinity 1 Ed.III [1327] m.108. Joan late the wife of Henry de Say, plaintiff; Richard Colman, defendant; account as bailiff in Brettegrave.
- 2 p654. Easter 2 Ed.III [1328] m.40. Joan late the wife of Henry de Say, plaintiff; Richard Colman, defendant; account as bailiff in Epsom.
- 2 p654. Easter 2 Ed.III [1328] m.40 and Michaelmas 2 Ed.III [1328] m.108. Joan late the wife of Henry de Say, plaintiff; Thomas son of Henry de Say and others; trespass at Epsom.

List of Various Accounts and Documents Connected therewith formerly Preserved in the Exchequer in the Public Record Office (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 35, HMSO, 1912).

These are accounts from different divisions of government, their only common bond being that they had been audited at some point by the Exchequer; the coverage extends up to the 19th century.

- p286. Accounts (Works) bundle 477 no.12, 30 Hy.VIII. [1538/9]. Account book of building Nonsuch Palace (paper), 290pp.
- p286. Accounts (Works) bundle 477 no.13, 9–10 Jas.I. [1611–13]. A bill of the charges of the Little Park of Nonsuch (paper), 4pp.

List of Special Commissions and Returns in the Exchequer, Preserved in the Public Record Office, ed Horace Headlam (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 37, HMSO, 1912).

The Court of Exchequer could appoint commissions to look into anything that affected the revenues of the Crown, instructing the sheriff of a county to organise a jury and witnesses for the commissioners. The jurisdiction of the

court was gradually extended to cover the interests of private individuals as well.

- p97. No.2262. Epsom, 41 Eliz. [1588/9]. Inquisition showing the holders of land within the parish and their contribution to tenths and fifteenths.
p97. No.4604. Nonsuch Park, 4 Jas.I. [1606/7] Survey of land to be added to park.
p97. No.4631. Ewell, 17 Jas.I. [1619/20]. Inquisition as to spoil and waste done by John Newman to a capital messuage belonging to the King.

Index of Chancery Proceedings, Bridges' Division, 1613–1714, Preserved in the Public Record Office, ed A.J. Gregory (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 39, 42 & 44–5, HMSO, 1913–17).

- Thomas Brydges, one of the Six Clerks of Chancery from 1715 onwards, assembled this division of suits covering the century before he began office.
- 1 p250. Bundle 457 no.37. Thomas and James Bird, complainants; William Brond and others, defendants; 1666; Cuddington and Ewell.
1 p253. Bundle 589 no.81. Thomas Banckes, complainant; Frances Eaton, widow, with John, Adam, and William Eaton, defendants; 1659; Ewell.
1 p331. Bundle 230 no.26. Roger Earl of Castlemaine and another, complainants; Anne Green, widow, defendant; 1701; Nonsuch Park.
1 p385. Bundle 460 no.102. Thomas Charlewood, complainant; Edward Tyler, defendant; 1671; Chipstead and Ewell.
2 p10. Bundle 82 no.96. Alice Dendy, widow, and others, complainants; Thomas Clayton, Elizabeth his wife, and others, defendants; 1689; Epsom.
2 p49. Bundle 471 no.102. Anthony Dewey, Anne his wife, and others, complainants; George Vernon and others, defendants; 1679; Epsom, personal estate of George Parsons.
2 p114. Bundle 319 no.50. Joseph Fells and others, complainants; Barbara, Duchess of Cleveland, defendant; 1700; Ewell, Cheam etc. (answer).
2 p136. Bundle 483 no.88. Edward Fowle, complainant; Anne Mynne, widow, and another, defendants; 1652; Epsom.
2 p145. Bundle 606 no.82. Daniel Franke, complainant; George Lee and others, defendants; 1616; Ewell, watermill, &c.
2 p160. Bundle 123 no.15. Anne Greene, widow, complainant; Barbara, Duchess of Cleveland, and others, defendants; 1696; Ewell, Cheam and Malden.
3 p52. Bundle 170 no.13. Thomas Kidgell, complainant; Thomas Kidgell and others, defendants; 1692; Ewell, copyhold of manor.
3 p205. Bundle 523 no.6. John Maund, complainant; Robert Rogers and others, defendants; 1671; Epsom.
3 p364. Bundle 623 no.151. Elizabeth, dowager Countess of Peterborough, complainant; Charles Cocking, defendant; 1651; Chipstead, Ewell and Sutton.
4 p24. Bundle 265 no.26. Charlotte Rouse, widow, with Mary, Anne, Charlotte and Frances Rouse, complainants; Felix Rouse and others, defendants; 1704; Epsom, personal estate of Felix Rouse.
4 p28. Bundle 328 no.33. Charlotte Rouse, widow, and others, complainants; Felix Rouse and others, defendants; 1705; Epsom.
4 p73. Bundle 38 nos.57 and 67. John Scott and others, complainants; George Nevill and others, defendants; 1660; Edworth [*sic*, perhaps Tolworth] and Ewell.
4 p74. Bundle 46 no.60. William Saunders, complainant; Henry Saunders and another, defendants; 1664; Ewell.
4 p101. Bundle 199 no.64. John Stafford, complainant; Henry Clayton and Mary his wife, defendants; 1699; Epsom.
4 p115. Bundle 319 no.77. Charles, Duke of Southampton, complainant; Barbara, Duchess of Cleveland, defendant; 1704; Ewell, Cheam etc.

- 4 p207. Bundle 188 no.22. Thomas Turgis, complainant; Adam Boddens, defendant; 1695; Camberwell, Ewell, Gatton, Horne and Effingham.
- 4 p265. Bundle 571 no.9. George Vernon, complainant; James Willmott and another, defendants; 1683; Epsom.
- 4 p275. Bundle 24 no.128. Robert Wakeman, complainant; Robert Coytemore and others, defendants; 1654; Cuddington etc. manors.
- 4 p308. Bundle 277 no.22. Henry Whistler and another, complainants; Anthony Ettrick and others, defendants; 1698; Epsom.

Index of Chancery Proceedings (Series I) Preserved in the Public Record Office, ed J.V. Lyle (Public Record Office Lists & Indexes 47, HMSO, 1922).

The first series of bills and answers is arranged alphabetically by complainant in groups under each successive reign. It extends from the reign of Elizabeth to the Commonwealth. The *Proceedings in Chancery in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth* were published by the Commissioners of Public Records in 1827. A manuscript calendar was later begun for the reign of James I, but only got as far as the letter K; it is this which is printed here.

- p177. C9 no.23. Sir Alexander Clifford, complainant; Sir Nicholas Saunders, Thomas Johnes, Roger Marshall and — Stevyns, defendants; the *Black Lion* and lands held of the manor of Ewell.
- p382. G15 no.21. Sir William Gardiner, complainant; Sir Nicholas Saunder and Elizabeth his wife, and Henry Saunder, defendants; manor of Lagham alias Langham Park and advowson of Ewell.
- p470. I/J6 no. 7. James Ireland, complainant; Bartholomew Fromonde, defendant; messuage and land in Epsom.