









### **Timeline of Chesham Bois Manor Ownership**

**1042-66** In the reign of King Edward the Confessor *CHESHAM BOIS MANOR*, assessed at 1½ hides, was held by two sokemen, one a man of Earl Leofwin and the other of Earl Harold. (fn. 4)

**1086** the manor had passed to the Bishop of Bayeux, who held it in demesne. (fn. 5) As in Weston Turville, (fn. 6) the manor passed to the Earls of Leicester, who subinfeudated it, and it was held of the honour of Leicester (fn. 7) and afterwards of the duchy of Lancaster, the overlordship being last mentioned in 1645. (fn. 8)

**13th and 14th centuries** there was an intermediary lordship held by the Goys family, and afterwards by the Bulstrodes of Bulstrodes Manor in Chalfont St. Peter (q.v.), but it seems to have lapsed after **1339**. (fn. 9)

**1213** The ownership in fee of the manor was obtained by the du Bois family, to whom Chesham Bois owes its distinctive name. William du Bois (fn.10) was holding in 1213 and Hugh du Bois at a later period (fn.11)

**1281** the manor had passed to Sir Bartholomew Brianzon

**1285** Sir Bartholomew Brianzon, (fn. 12) who received a grant of free warren in 1286 (fn. 13) and died in the same year, leaving a son William, aged three, (fn. 14) during whose minority Thomas de Hauville was appointed guardian .

**1310** (fn.15) William Brianzon died without issue about 1310 , and was succeeded by his brother John (fn.16)

**1316** John Brianzon died and Chesham Bois descended to his son and heir John, three years old, (fn. 17) his widow Elizabeth

**1319** Elizabeth Brianzon marries John Joyce, receiving dower from lands in Essex.

**1334** John Brianzon comes of age (fn.18) (fn.19)

**1337-1339** John Brianzon dies at sometime between these dates. (fn.20)

**1339** Chesham was assigned to his widow Margaret in dower, his daughter and heir Joan being a minor. (fn. 21)

**1340** Joan Brianzon's title to the manor appears to have been ignored to satisfy the demands of Sir John de Moleyns, who obtained such extensive grants of lands in Buckinghamshire at this period, for he was in possession in 1340.

**1341** De Moleyns, who had been lending money to Edward III is arrested and imprisoned in the tower. His properties are searched.

**1346** (fn.22) As in Stoke Poges, Sir John de Moleyns tenure underwent many vicissitudes, (fn. 23) but he had recovered seisin by 1346

**1350** Sir John de Moleyns conveyed Chesham Bois to William de Hanampstede, grocer and citizen of London. (fn.24)

**1351** (fn. 25) This was doubtless as a preliminary to its alienation to Peter de Braose, who in 1351 complained that his houses at Chesham Bois had been broken into.

**1365** (fn.26) Peter de Braose was still living in 1365, (fn. 27) but some time after this date the manor passed to the family of Winslow.

**1392** John Winslow presented to the church

**1423** (fn.28) John Winslow died leaving Chesham Bois by will to his wife Philippa with reversion to his son John (fn.29).

**1423 – 1433** Within the next ten years Chesham Bois had been acquired by the Cheyne family, (fn. 30) who made the manor-house their residence and were settled here for 300 years.

**1430** July, commission of oyer & terminer set up to investigate widespread complaints of oppressions, extortions, assaults and injuries committed by Thomas & John Cheyne. In September the Cheynes are indicted for robbery, embracery, and perverting the course of justice. The alleged crimes all took place in and near the manor of 'Maudeleyens' in Northchurch, which bordered the Cheyne's property in Chesham, and point to a major dispute over title to the manor. Even so, the brothers were acquitted in the King's bench. (DNB)

**1431** June, John and Thomas thrown into the Tower after 'Jack Sharp's' abortive Lollard uprising in Berkshire. They are released in August.

**1446** Sir Thomas Cheyne, is succeeded on his death, some time after 1446, (fn. 32) by John his son and heir. (fn. 33)

**1466** After John's death his widow Peryn married Robert Riley, (fn. 34) and Chesham Bois passed to his son and heir, another John Cheyne, (fn. 35) who



died in 1466, leaving a son John, then aged eight weeks, (fn. 36) during whose minority Guy Wolston had the custody of the land.

**1507** (fn.37) John Cheyne brought an action against his great-uncle Thomas Cheyne, who claimed £20 rent from Chesham Bois Manor, with power of distrain, granted to him by his mother Eleanor, wife of the Sir Thomas Cheyne who had acquired the manor.

**1517** 14 people evicted from Chesham Parish (Domesday of Inclosures)

**1522** Robert Cheyne living at Chesham Bois and is assessed at £20 for his land. (Musters)

**1524** Robert Cheyne now assessed for £40. (Lay Subsidies)

**1538** (fn.39) Robert, who already in 1521 had fallen under suspicion as to the orthodoxy of his religious belief, (fn. 40) turned out one of his tenants in 1538 for reading the New Testament and other books, (fn. 41) and had to enter into a recognizance for the appearance of his younger son Thomas Cheyne in 1541.

**1552** (fn.42) Robert Cheyne died in 1552, when Chesham Bois descended to his son and heir John, (fn. 43) who was one of the commissioners appointed in 1577 to examine the question of inclosures in Buckinghamshire.

**1585** (fn.44) John Cheyne died, when the manor, in accordance with a settlement of 1569, passed to his wife Joyce with remainder to his second son Francis. (fn. 45) His son and heir John Cheyne refused to abide by the settlement and brought an action to recover the manor from his brother Francis.

**1599** (fn.46) Francis Cheyne in possession of Chesham Bois in 1599

**1620** (fn.47) Francis Cheyne died without issue and it passed on his death without issue in 1620 to Francis, the second but first surviving son of his elder brother John.

**1620-1630** Francis living continuously at Chesham Bois (Certificates of Residence)

**1622** (fn.48) Francis married Anne, the daughter of Sir William Fleetwood

**1630** Anne writes a diary from April-May, and dies after giving birth to her fourth son.

**1644** (fn.49) Francis and Anne had four sons; the two elder, Francis and William, dying without issue in their father's lifetime, the third son Charles inherited the



manor on his father's death in 1644. (fn.50) He was then eighteen, but was exempted by a special Act of Parliament from all wardship and marriage.

**1655** (fn.51) Charles made a settlement of the manor, doubtless on the occasion of his marriage with Jane daughter of William Cavendish, first Duke of Newcastle

**1681** (fn.52) Charles created Viscount Newhaven

**1681-1685** William Cheyne MP for Amersham (DNB) (For more on their politics see Recs of Bucks Vol.14 – Anne)

**1698** Charles dies leaving a son and heir William, who in 1680 had married Gertrude sister of Evelyn Pierrepont, first Duke of Kingston.

**1699** William duels with former friend Thomas Wharton (DNB)

**1706** Lord Cheyne listed as living at Chesham Bois (Dissent)

**1716** Map shows Chesham Bois Manor House but is scratched out

**1728** (fn.53) William Viscount Newhaven died without issue and (fn.54) Chesham Bois appears to have passed by arrangement to John Leveson Gower, second Lord Gower, who had married Evelyn Pierrepont, the niece of Gertrude Lady Newhaven.

**1735** (fn.55) John Lord Gower conveyed the manor to John Russell Duke of Bedford, (fn. 56) in whose family it remained until 1903.

- Estate Survey carried out, but surveyor declares '*House is not like to be let & will be of no more service than to be pulled down to Repair the rest of the Estate.*'

**1739** House let to Walter Griffin @ £40 p.annum

**1743** House let to Euphemia Norris, inventory of contents taken.

**1783** Map shows manor house gone, ditto with 1795 Map and 1802 Map.

**1802** Estate survey says there are '*a great many good Brick Walls about the Homestall which may be taken down and turned to good account, or might be removed to Chenies at no very great Expense, of they were wanted for the intended repairs there.*'

**1819** Bois Manor House '*hath been many years since rased, taken down and carried away and the same is no longer in existence neither is any dwelling house whatsoever erected or now standing on the site thereof.*'



**1903** (fn.57) it was purchased by Mr. J. W. GarrettPegge, J.P., of Chesham Bois Manor

## Footnotes

- 1 Statistics from Bd. of Agric. (1905).
- 2 *Bucks. Rec.* vi, 184.
- 3 Sheahan, *Hist. and Topog. of Bucks.* 842.
- 4 *V.C.H. Bucks.* i, 235.
- 5 *Ibid.*
- 6 *Ibid.* ii, 366.
- 7 *Testa de Nevill* (Rec. Com.), 252; *Feud. Aids*, i, 91, 116.
- 8 Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), dccxliii, 18.
- 9 *Ibid.* Edw. I, file 47, no. 4; 4 Edw. II, no. 44; 13 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 38.
- 10 Hunter, *Pedes Finium* (Rec. Com.), i, 253.
- 11 *Testa de Nevill* (Rec. Com.), 252.
- 12 *Cal. Close*, 1279–88, p. 116.
- 13 Chart. R. 14 Edw. I, no. 79.
- 14 Chan. Inq. p.m. Edw. I, file 47, no. 4.
- 15 *Feud. Aids*, i, 91.
- 16 Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. II, no. 44.
- 17 *Ibid.* Edw. II, file 47, no. 15.
- 18 Chan. Inq. p.m. Edw. II, file 47, no. 15.
- 19 *Ibid.* Edw. III, file 41, no. 3.
- 20 *Ibid.* 11 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 42.
- 21 *Ibid.* 13 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 38; *Cal. Pat.* 1338–40, p. 381; *Cal. Close*, 1339–41, p. 137.
- 22 Feet of F. Bucks. 14 Edw. III, no. 13.
- 23 Mins. Accts. bdle. 1120, no. 10, 11, 12; see also below under Stoke Poges Manor.
- 24 *Feud. Aids*, i, 116.
- 25 De Banco R. 360, m. 4 d.; 361, m. 107; Feet of F. Bucks. 24 Edw. III, no. 6.
- 26 *Cal. Pat.* 1350–4, p. 200.
- 27 Inst. to Chesham Bois, quoted by Lipscomb, *Hist. of Bucks.* iii, 271.
- 28 *Ibid.*
- 29 P.C.C. 2 Luffenham.
- 30 Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B 910.
- 31 *Ibid.*; De Banco R. Hil. 23 Hen. VII, m. 455.
- 32 Close, 22 Hen. VI, m. 29; Feet of F. Div. Co. 25 Hen. VI, no. 47.
- 33 *Cal. Pat.* 1452–61, p. 261; De Banco R. Hil. 23 Hen. VII, m. 455.



- 34 Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 73, no. 72.
- 35 De Banco R. Hil. 23 Hen. VII, m. 455.
- 36 Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Edw. IV, no. 22.
- 37 *Cal. Pat.* 1461–7, p. 532.
- 38 De Banco R. Mich. 23 Hen. VII, m. 452; Hil. 23 Hen. VII, m. 159.
- 39 Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), lvii, 18.
- 40 *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii (2), 1928 (1).
- 41 *Ibid.* xiii (2), 253.
- 42 *Ibid.* xvi, 625, 1237.
- 43 Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), xcvi, 2.
- 44 *Acts of P.C.* 1575–7, p. 323.
- 45 P.C.C. 16 Windsor; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccx, 60; Recov. R. East. 11 Eliz. m. 747.
- 46 Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bdle. 342, no. 2; Eliz. C 12, no. 57.
- 47 Com. Pleas Recov. R. Trin. 41 Eliz. m. 16.
- 48 Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccclxxxiii, 83. John, the elder son, had died childless in 1596 (*ibid.* ccclvii, 74).
- 49 Recov. R. Mich. 18 Jas. I, m. 61; Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. 19 Jas. I; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* ii, App. vii, 151.
- 50 Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), dccxliii, 18.
- 51 *Ibid.*
- 52 Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin. 1655; Recov. R. Trin. 1655, no. 113; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*.
- 53 G.E.C. op. cit.; Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin. 32 Chas. II.
- 54 Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 10 Anne; G.E.C. op. cit.
- 55 G.E.C. op. cit.
- 56 Feet of F. Bucks. Trin. 8 & 9 Geo. II.
- 57 Recov. R. Mich. 1 Geo. III, m. 139; East. 27 Geo. III, m. 323; Lysons, *Mag. Brit.* i (3), 539; Sheahan, op. cit. 842.
- 58 *V.C.H. Bucks.* i, 235.
- 59 See Chesham Bois Manor.
- 60 Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. II, no. 44.
- 61 Duchy of Lanc. Pleadings, cxxxii, no. 15.
- 62 *Bucks. Rec.* vi, 207.
- 63 Hunter, *Pedes Finium* (Rec. Com.), i, 253.
- 64 *Ibid.*; *R. of Hugh of Wells* (Cant. and York Soc.), i, 9.
- 65 *Bucks. Rec.* vi, 184.
- 66 *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 224.
- 67 Cott. MS. Galba, E iii, fol. 134.
- 68 *V.C.H. Bucks.* i, 295.



69 Ibid.

70 Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Chedworth, fol. 18 d. See under Chesham.

71 *Cal. Pat.* 1467–77, p. 224.

72 *Bucks. Rec.* vi, 209.

73 Ibid.

74 Lysons, *Mag. Brit.* i (3), 539; *Accts. and Papers*, 1818, xviii, no. 137.

75 Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Chedworth, fol. 62 d.



**CHESHAM BOIS**  
**List of Documents with refs**

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**BROAD, John:** **Biography of William Cheyne, second Viscount Newhaven (1657-1728)** - Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

**CLARK, Linda:** **Biography of Sir John Cheyne (c.1390-1468)** - Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

**HUMPHREYS, Jennet:** **Biography of Lady Jane Cheyne [née Cavendish] (1620/21-1669)** – Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

**SAUL, Nigel:** **Biography of Sir John Cheyne (d. 1414)** - Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

**Will of Francis Cheyne 1644** – PRO cat ref.prob/11/192; image ref.78

**Will of Gertrude, Lady Cheyne 1728** – PRO cat ref.prob/11/652; image ref.125

**Will of John Cheyne 1535** – PRO cat ref.prob/11/8; image ref.269

**Will of John Cheyne 1585** – PRO cat ref.prob/11/69; image ref.142

**Will of William Lord Cheyne, Viscount Newhaven 1728** – PRO cat ref.prob/11/622; image ref.377

**1386-1486:** Robert Riley and Peryn, his wife, previously the wife of John, son of Sir Thomas Cheyne, deceased, knight. v. Thomas Cheyne, feoffee to uses.: The manors of Blakwels and Mourdevauns under the will of the said Sir Thomas.: Bucks. (C 1/73/72 – 28-30)

**1389:** 2 Hen V: Cheyne, Roger, esq: London, Oxon, Herts, Bucks (C 138/7/19 – 43-50)

**1386-1486:** William Brooke, of Chesham. v. Thomas Cheyne, esq.: Bond concerning petitioner's manor of Hundridge, shooting his dog, &c.: Bucks. (C 1/11/107 – 39-41)

**1430** – 9 Hen VI mm 1-40 term file mm 41-73 returned oyer and terminer commission, held on 11-13 Sept 1430 at Berkhamsted by John Cokesmore and associates, under commission dated 6 July 1430 (CPR 1429-1436, 75-76) into alleged misdeeds of John Cheyne, Thomas Cheyne, John Watkyns and Hugh Billyngdon: file (panels and precepts), mm 41-70; roll, mm 71-73 (KB 9/225 – 1-3)

**1430:** 9 Hen VI: Memorandum of the appearance before the council of John Cheyne and Thomas Cheyne (C 49/49/7 – 36-38)

**11 Jan 1432:** 4 January, 11 Henry VI: Indenture between John Popham, knight, and Thomas Wedon, John Underwode, of Chesham in the co. Buckingham, and others relative to a yearly rent payable to him out of the manor of Chesham Boys; and also to a demise to him of the manor of Rolleston in the co. Bucks. Leic (E 326/910 – 51)

**22/04/1509 – 28/01/1547:** PLAINTIFF: Edmund Barton and William Elburie  
DEFENDANT: John Cheyne PLACE OR SUBJECT: Pulling down a house, taking away the materials, &c. (pleadings in draft or copy)  
COUNTY: Bucks (STAC 2/33/58 – 13-27)

**1518-1529:** Thomas Cheyne.: Petition for examination of witnesses (named) as to the manors of Champneys and Fosters in Tring, and messuages, land, and rent in Tring, Wiggington, Albury, Berkhamstead, Northchurch, Little Gaddesden, Hawridge, Tollesbury, and Chesham, late of John Cowper, gentleman, complainant's father-in-law.: Hertford, Buckingham (C 1/490/37 – 52)

**1538-1544** - Robert, son and heir and executor of John CHEYNE, v. William FAWKENOUR, esquire.: Action on a contract by the said John to build eight bays of housing at the manor of Ashendon, complainant having administered all his estate, being pasture called Helpstrop with stock.: BUCKS. (C 1/968/13-14 – 4-12)

**28/01/1547-06/07/1553:** PLAINTIFF: Edmund Berton and William Albury  
DEFENDANT: John Cheyne PLACE OR SUBJECT: Puulling down house of William Pygot near Stony Stratford and carrying away materials (Replication) COUNTY: Bucks (STAC 3/10/57 – 42)

John Lord Lovelace, Baron of Hurley, and others, Wm. Pryor, "and others." v. Tristram Woodward, Philadelphia Lady Wentworth, Henrietta Maria Wentworth, Sir Willm. Smith, Bart.: Manors of Tingreth and Hartington and Tuddington, and other lands of Henry Lord Cheyne and Jane his wife, in the county of Bedford, the late Earl of Cleveland, his son Thomas Lord Wentworth, Edmund Pooley, Charles Glenham, &c., &c.: Bucks; Bedford (E 134/21CHAS2/MICH31 – 31-35)



**1620-1630:** Certificates of residence for Francis Cheyne & John Cheyne (E 115/78/137, E 115/84/118 & 122, E 115/92/91, E 115/99/79, E 115/93/17, E 115/110/153, E 115/102/104, E 115/103/34, E 115/108/47; 53-62)

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– Publications of the Harleian Society vol.58, 1909 p.27-8 & 152-3 (MSS 929.341)

**LEADAM, Isaac Saunders: The Domesday of Inclosures, 1517-1518** –  
London, 1897, Vol.1 p.209, 211; Vol.2 p.576-9, 582, 585-6, 590-1, 595, 604, 610, 620, 633

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London, William Edward Bownes (late W Whellan & Co), 1862 p.663-7 (Drayton Beauchamp) & 842-3 (Chesham Bois) (W3/1237 DSC)

- **Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies**

**1386 Deed for the Manor of Chesham Bois** – D/X787/8,9 (51-52)

**1639/40 Copy deed of gift of the free chapel of Chesham Boys: Francis Cheyne to Holland Brandreth, clerk** – D/A/We/34/64 (23-25)

**1695 Tax assessment for Chesham Bois Parish** – PR4/28/3 (22)

**1716 'Map of the Parish of Chesham Bois & other lands in the Parish of Chesham & Amersham belonging to William Lord Viscount Cheyne'**  
– Ma 256 R (2-10)

**Buckinghamshire Record Society vol.8: Lay Subsidy Roll for 1524** – p.16-17, 92-93 (31-33)

**Buckinghamshire Record Society vol.17: Certificate of Musters, 1524** – p.8-9, 184-185, 234-235, 240-241 (34-38)

***Buckinghamshire Record Society vol.28: Buckinghamshire Dissent and Parish Life 1669-1712*** – p.104-07, 150-51 (18-21)

***Lease of Chesham Bois by William Cheyne, 11 Mar 1708*** – D21/16 (11-17)

***Notes on Chesham Bois Manor – Chiltern District Parks & Gardens of Historical Interest*** – Box File 21 (26-30)

***Plan of the Old and New Road from Amy Mill to Bois Common as leading from Chesham to Amersham*** – Q/11/70 (1)

***Records of Buckinghamshire Vol.i*** – Drayton Beauchamp Manorial History, p.237-245 (43-48)

***Records of Buckinghamshire Vol.vi (1887-91)*** – The Church & Parish of Chesham Bois, Charles Harold Evelyn White p.182-85, 198-201 (39-42)

***Records of Buckinghamshire Vol.41*** – p.239 (ref. to mid-C16 hall being excavated) (49-50)

- ***Buckinghamshire SMR***

***APs held by Bucks County SMR*** – Dec 1946, Jan 1947, Mar 1985, Jun 1989

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- ***Bedfordshire Archive – Russell Papers***

***1735 Map of Ranes Manor*** – R1/84 (7-9)

***1735 Map of Ranes Manor (2)*** - R1/85 (10-11)

***1736 Map of Chesham Bois Manor*** – R1/93 (1-5)

***1735/6 Fieldbook (to accompany R1/93)*** – R2/129 (28-29)

***1744 Inventory of Chesham Bois Manor House*** – Box 274 (18-21)

***1759 Account Book for Bois House*** – R5/762 (34-36)

***1783 Map of Chesham Bois Manor*** – R1/95 (6)



**1795 Map of Chesham Bois Manor** – R1/96 (14-15)

**1799 Map of Canhams Mill** – R1/92 (12-13)

**1802 Survey & Valuation of the Chesham Estate** – R1/189/3 (30-33)

**Lease of Chesham Bois Manor in 1743 to Euphemia Norris** – Box 274 (22-24)

**'Plan of Bois House' (undated)** – Box 267 (25-27)

- **Anne Paton – Local Historian**

**List of Victuals Consumed Apr-May 1630, Anne Cheyne** – (Transcript by Anne Paton); held in Huntingdon Library, ref 10753

**PIKE, L Edgar: A History of Chesham Bois** – 1976, p.4-9

**Records of Buckinghamshire Vol.14 Pt.5 (1945)** – p.288-293

**Records of Buckinghamshire, Vol.19 Pt.2** - The First Fall of Sir John Moleyns, G.R. Elvey – p.194-198

**SMITH, Comm. S.N.: Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp** – Manuscript Copy, no date

**VINEY, Elliott: The Sheriffs of Buckinghamshire** – p.80

- **CVAHS Material**

**Bryant Map 1825** – Laminate Copy, CVAHS

**Jefferys Map 1770** – Laminate Copy, CVAHS

**John Rocque Map 1762/64 Sheet 7** – Laminate Copy, CVAHS

- **Misc**

**Stirnet Cheyne Family Lineage** – Online Source  
([www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/british/cc4aq/cheyne/cheyne.htm](http://www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/british/cc4aq/cheyne/cheyne.htm))