

HORNINGHOLD

'Nichols History and Antiquities of Leicestershire'

In ancient writing called *Horningwold* and *Horniwale*, is bounded on the West by Hallaton, on the East by Stokerston, on the North by Alexton, and on the South by Blaston. It is only one mile distant from Hallaton, eight from Harborough; and twelve from Leicester; and, in the ecclesiastical division of the county, is within the deanry of Gartre.

In this lordship, containing three ploughlands, five ploughs were employed in the time of king Edward the Confessor. It was then valued at ten shillings; but was increased to thirty shillings at the Conqueror's survey, when it was held by *Robert de Todenei* immediately under the king. Two ploughs were in the demesne; and eight villans, and three socmen, with two bordars, had three ploughs. There were twelve acres of meadow; and a wood three furlongs long and two broad.

Robert de Todenei soon after gave this lordship to the priory of *Belvior*, who transferred it to the abbey of *St Albans*.

In the Testa de Nevill, no mention is made of Horninghold; but, in the itinerary of 1280, Horninghold, Hallaton, Slauston, and Hothorpe, answered collectively as one vill.

In the book of fifteenths and tenths granted by the laity in 1416, Horninghold was rated at £2. 15s.; and at the same sum in the subsidy of 1445, but an abatement was then made of 8s. 8d.

In 1553, it was granted by king Edward VI to *Edward Griffin esq.* afterwards attorney general to queen Mary.

In 1590, about which time Mr. Wyrley visited this lordship, it belonged to *sir William Turpin*, of Knaptoft, knt. who had an elegant seat here; and who in 1611 held the manor of Horninghold *in capite*.

Lady *Mary Villiers*, eldest daughter of *Christopher* earl of *Anglesey*, died at Horninghold, Jan. 21, 1625.

In 1655, there was collected in this parish, for the relief of the poor Protestants in Piedmont, the sum of 15s. 3d.

The freeholders here in 1630 were, *Edward Horsepoole*, gent. *John Palmer*, *John Horsepoole*, *John Pridmore*, and *William Chambers*.

In 1722, seven freeholders polled from this parish; and the same number in 1775.

The parish now contains about 20 houses.

In an act passed in 1730, for inclosing the common fields of *Horninghold*, called *Mor-field*, *Egg-field*, *Little-field*, and *Cow Pasture*, containing together about 916 acres, *Thomas Dummer*, esq. is described as lord of the manor, and impropiator of the rectory, and patron of the advowson of Horninghold, and entitled to the great tithes of the said parish, and also feifed of divers lands, tenements, and hereditaments,

within the manor and parish; and *Maidwell Mason*, clerk as vicar, fiefed of all the small tithes; and the said *Thomas Dummer*, *Thomas Roberts*, esq. *Everard Fletcher*, Gent. *John Norborne*, gent. *Catharine port*, *Spinster*, *William Plumpton*, gent. and *William Bernard*, gent. were then together fiefed of much the greatest part of the common fields, the lands belonging to the other freeholders and land-owners, amounting together to not above 52 acres; and the lands to proportionably divided, to be charged with the yearly payment of 10d. an acre to the vicar and his successors for ever, in lieu of all vicarial tithes; with a reservation of mortuaries, weddings, christenings, churchings, and burying fees, or other surplice-fees; and not to prejudice the right of the impropiator, for the time being, to inappropriate, predial, or rectorial tithes arising or renewing within the said parish.

	£.	s.	d.
Money raised for the poor, within the year ending at Easter 1776.	24	15	0
Expended in county rates etc.	7	6	9
Expended on the poor.	24	0	0
Rent of workhouse and habitations.	0	15	0
Expended in litigations.	0	0	0
Money raised for 1783.	28	16	6
Money raised for 1784.	20	15	1
Money raised for 1785.	25	5	5
Medium of these three years.	24	19	0
Medium of county expenses.	0	0	0
Medium of expenses not relating to the poor, repairs of church, roads, etc.	0	0	0
Medium of net annual expenses.	24	19	0
Medium of attending on magistrates.	0	7	6
Medium of entertainments at meetings.	0	0	0
Medium of law expenses.	0	1	8
Medium of setting the poor to work.	0	0	0

The register begins in 1661; the older one being lost.

It is signed 'John Horton, clerk, 1670: the year wherein I came to Horninghold'.

In 1698, Humfrey Mitchell signs rector.

In this register is a loose paper, containing the copy of a release of a close, called Nab-hill Close, in Horninghold lordship, containing, by estimation, 5 acres, 2 roods, and 31 perches, now in the occupation of Richard Shelaker; the rent of which is laid out in bread, and distributed every Sunday to the poor. The release expresses, that the rents and profits arising from the said close shall be for ever weekly laid out in bread, and distributed every Sunday immediately after morning-service in the parish church of Horninghold to the indigent poor; who shall be these present, and come there early to divine service, and do attend there until the same is ended; and to such persons as Thomas Roberts, esq. of Wardley, Rutland, shall appoint during his natural life; and, after his decease, as William Roberts, his heirs and assigns, shall from time to time for ever appoint. Twelve penny worth of bread is ordered by the indenture to be given always weekly, more or less, as the rents and profits will allow. The indenture is made the 26th day of March, 1737 to George II between Thomas Roberts, of Wardley, esq. and William Roberts, gent. of Glaston, Rutland, his son.

In the presence of:

Tho. Forster, } [signed] Tho. Roberts.
 Geo. Andrews. }

The bread given in 1796 was two sixpenny and three three-penny loaves.

The CHURCH,

Dedicated to *St Peter*, consists of a tower, in which are three bells; a spire, a North porch, a nave, chancel, and two ailes, the nave and South aile separated by three round arches, and the North aile by three pointed arches, having over each a clerestory window. There is an arch of curious workmanship over the South door; in which the figures a. and b. [supposed to be emblematical of the enmity Satan bears against the Christian church] are cut in relieve upon the stones which form the capitals that support the inner extremities of the arch. The stone being good, the figures, though rude, are neatly chiselled.

An old octagonal font, supported by four round pillars, and a large pillar in the center.

A small locker in the South aile.

The church was given by *Robert de Todenei* to the prior and covenant of Belvoir; and in the *Matriculus* of 1220, it is stated to be under the patronage of the priory, who held the same *in proprios usus*; and to them it was formally appropriated in 1277 by archbishop Kilwarby.

In 1344, the procurations were 7s.6¾d.; the church was taxed at 7 marks, and paid 1s. 8d. for Peter-pence.

In 1534-5, the procurations and synodals were 11s. 1d.; the priory of Belvoir's pension 10s.; and the value of the vicarage £7.

In the state of the archdeaconry returned in 1564, Horninghold is omitted.

In 1650, the vicarage was returned worth £20, and the incumbent as "insufficient and scandalous".

In the king's books it is stated, as a discharged living, at £6. 16s. 8d.; clear yearly value £20.

The Episcopal procurations are, for the rectory. 1s. 8d.; the vicarage 10d. the archidiaconal, 3s. 6d.

Vicars

Walter de 1249.
Thomas, vicar, occurs in the Belvoir Necrology.
Thomas Hand, 1534.
John Horton, Dec. 6th 1670.
Humphrey Michell, May 23rd, 1676.
Anthony Mainwaring, March 29th, 1723.
Maydwell Mason, Dec. 22nd, 1729.
William Bartholomew, June 12th 1746.
William Kingsman, Jan. 29th, 1769.

Patrons

Sir John Heath, knt.
Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B.
John Atkins, esq.
}
} Thomas Dummer, esq.
}

Monumental Inscriptions:

On a white stone in the floor, under the center of the upper arch, between the North aisle and nave:

"H. S.
Theodosius silius Johannis Brailsford,
hujus ecclesie curati,
et
Elizabeth. uxor ejus, obit infans Jan. 18, A.D. 1727.
Beati sunt innocents."

On a free-stone on the floor in the South aisle:

"Here lieth the body of Tobias Clarke,
who departed this life Feb. 11, anno Dom. 1717,
aged 65 years."

On two tablets against the outer wall of the church, at the East end of the North aisle:

1. "Near this place lies interred
Maydwell Mason,
Vicar of the church 17 years.
He died the 21st of April, 1746,
in the 45th year of his age,
much lamented by all his parishioners.
Here also lie two of his daughters."
2. "In memory of Mary Mason,
who died Oct. 26. 1788,
in the 83rd year of his age.
She was widow of the rev.
Maydwell Mason of this
place, and sister to William
Fortrey, esq. of Galby."

In the church-yard:

On the North side of an alter-tomb:

"Near this place lies interred
the body of Samuel Porter,
who departed this life Aug. 20. 1770, aged 81."

On the South side:

"Here lieth the body of Ruth,
the wife of Samuel Porter,
who departed this life June 26, 1763,
aged 75 years."

Elizabeth Stafford, Sept. 12th, 1781, aged 77.
William Godfrey, Oct. 18th, 1778, aged 76.
Thomas Marshall, Oct. 18th, 1780, aged 81.
Samuel Jones, Sept. 23rd, 1784, aged 70.