



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Bratton

County coroners were introduced in England in around 1194 once established other boroughs and liberties sought the right to have their own coroner. Often in Medieval times the coroner also assumed the role of the sheriff and his duties weren't limited to holding inquests on dead bodies although almost a full time post they were unpaid for the duties apart from those that were deemed murder or manslaughter when they would receive 13s. 4d. From the 24th June 1752 a law was passed allowing the coroner to claim £1 for every inquest they attended not held in a gaol and also to claim 9d per mile travel allowance from the place of residence. Inquests held in any gaol were performed at a rate totalling no more than £1. These costs were to be paid from the county rates. In cases of homicide the coroner also received the former fee of 13s. 4d. The coroners submitted their bills at the quarter session sittings for approval.

Year	Date	Surname	Given Names	Coroner		Details of Inquest	Place of Inquest	No. of Miles Travelled	Coroners Bill			Notes
				Surname	Given Names				£	s	d	
1772				Clare	William		Bratton	20	1	0	0	Paid to the tithingman of Bratton for conveying Margaret Sainsbury to Fisherton Anger Gaol for the murder of her bastard child

1770	23-Dec	Drewett	John	Clare	John	On 21st December found dead in Southdown Barn	Bratton	10	1	7	6	
1772	12-Apr	Sainsbury	Unknown	Clare	William	A new-born male bastard; Murder by its mother, Margaret Sainsbury; Margaret was taken by the tithingman of Bratton to Fisherton Gaol; At Salisbury Assizes on 1 August 1722 she was acquitted of the murder on both the indictment and the inquest	Bratton	10	1	7	6	