



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Broughton Gifford

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	
1755	23-Feb	Mortimer	Unknown	Clare	John	A female infant bastard, supposed to be born of the body of Ann Mortimer; Ann was accessory to its death by not having proper assistance during her delivery	Broughton Gifford	9	1	6	9	At Salisbury Assizes on 8th March 1755, Ann was acquitted of the child's murder

1754	04-Jan	Russel	Martha	Clare	John	Threw herself into a well and drowned; lunacy	Broughton Gifford	10	1	7	6	
1773	15-Feb	Sainsbury	William	Clare	William		Broughton Gifford	10	1	7	6	