



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Great Wishford

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	No. of Miles Travelled	Coroners Bill			Notes
				Surname	Given Names			£	s	d	
1754	15-Jan	Blake	George	Whitmarsh	George	On 17 December, coming from Great Wishford to Stoford over Stoford Bridge, fell in the river and was drowned.	3	1	2	3	Aged about 6, of Stoford
1786	07-Mar	Eve	Richard	Forsyth	Alexander	Inclement weather.	6	1	4	6	
1774	14-Jan	Ford	John	Forsyth	Alexander	Drowned in a gravel-pit: accidental death	6	1	4	6	