

Semley Glebe Terriers for the years  
1588, 1614, 1671, 1704, 1783, 1803

A Glebe Terrier, specific to the Church of England, is a detailed list describing the church's property in the parish and typically comprises the vicarage or rectory, fields, the church, its contents and graveyard. Glebe terriers often contain the names of tenants and the holders of adjoining land.

1588  
649 (D1/24/179/1)

A presentment of the glebe lands to be delivered to the Bishop's officers at his visitation held at Salisbury.

A pasture ground called the E.wood 6a., a coppice adjoining 3a., both bounded by the highway.

A close of pasture called Brache 6a., a meadow adjoining 5a., a close of pasture adjoining 8a., another close called Chethayes adjoining 2a., which 4 grounds are encompassed by the highway

A close called Culverhayes 4a., a close called Rooke Wood 1a., a close called Shepeland 8a., a meadow called Gorehayes 7a., a plot of land c.1a., all of which 5 grounds adjoin the parsonage house.

A tenement 4a., a tenement 2a., a coppice called Inox 1a., a coppice called Lesells 8a., which he holds as parcel of his glebe land for which he rebates us one offering day.

We pay to the parson whatever tithe is due to him according to our custom.

John Grey Snr, John Edwards, Churchwardens  
Walter Thorne, Thomas Hayne, Steven Burden, Sidesmen  
(Names in the same hand)

1614  
650 (D1/24/179/1)

The parsonage house, the backside and the orchard 1.1/2a.

A close called Shiplande 14a., abutting on the grounds of John Abbott and the land of Edmond Bennat on E and ground of John Bodman on W.

A close called Culver Hay 6a., abutting on the ground of John Bodman on the W and a way called Semlane on S.W.

A close called Rookewood 1a., abutting on the ground of John Bodman on W.

A meadow called Goarehay Mead and a little meadow 8a., abutting upon the highway called Semlane upon W and a ground of Thomas Pulley on E.

A parcel of ground called Applehay 9a.

A close called Chethay 3a., a meadow called Breach Meadow 8a., a close called Breach Close 10a., all which grounds lying in one compass bordering on the highway called Semlane on the N.W. and the highway from Shaftesbury on the S.W.

Inockes Mead and the coppice 7a., bordering upon ground of George Bragg called Collis on S and the last highway on W.

Liffields coppice and pasture 16a., bordering on the grounds of William Browne alias Clement upon W and the last highway on E.

Southwood coppice and the pastures adjoining 14a., bordering on the ground of Robert West on W and ground of Anthony Daines on S.

A cottage and a meadow 2a., bordering on the churchyard on N and the highway from Shaftesbury on W.

Another cottage with orchard and a meadow 1a., bordering on the last highway on E 1a., of ground in Hook farm called Parsons acre of which the parson had only the first share, namely the hay; a third part of hay in another meadow made to his hand, which we cannot say whether they be glebe or not only that the parsons of Semley have had these rights for the space of 50 or 60 years and never out of the parson's hand saving within this 3 years last past have been detained by the farmer of Hook and is now in controversy which we leave to the judgement of law.

Thomas Lawrence, Rector  
Henry Blanford, Walter Hayne, Churchwardens  
John Thorne [X] William Hascoll [X] Robert West, George Haskoll  
(Churchwardens names in the same hand)

1671  
651 (D1/24/179/3)

The names of the rooms in the parsonage house and outhouses; a parlour, a kitchen, a dairy house, a buttery, a chamber below stairs, a study, a parlour chamber, 3 other chambers, a barn, a stable, a woodhouse and a wash house.

Around the houses are 5 closes of pasture and meadow beside the Barton orchard and garden, namely:

A close called Sheplands 8a., another meadow called Goory meadow 8a., a close called Culverhay 7a., another called Rookhay 2a., another called Pondes 1a., all of which grounds are bound W side by Sem River and a meadow of Mr Coles (1) belonging to the tenement called Amberleas, N side by a meadow called Sheplands and a meadow belonging to Mr Lawes (2) E side with a close of Richard Knight (3) called Fords and 2 closes of Henry Lambert (4) S side by Sem lane, 4 other closes called Applehay 8a., another called Chetty 2a., another called Brach meadow 7a., another called Brach close 8a., all which grounds are compassed about with the highway except a close called Chetty on W side of Brach close belong to William Gray (5) of Sem.

A close and small coppice 6a., bounded E side with a close called Pond (6) close on S side both belonging to William Bennett (7) W side bounded by the highway, N side with Long meadow belonging to Mr Pinkney.

A meadow called Blackhouse meadow 2a., bounded with the highway and the churchyard.

A close and a coppice called S wood 10a., bounded E side with a close called Reads belonging to Mr Joyce (8) S side with a close of wid. Ambrose (8) and a meadow belonging to the tenement called Oysters W side with Hayell (9) meadow belonging to the last tenement N with a ground belonging to Samuel West (10) and the highway.

A close of coppice and furze called Liffiels (11) 4a., bounded on E side with the highway, S and W with 2 grounds belonging to Mr William Knipe (13) N with a close of Henry Strong (14).

Hook farm pays in lieu of tithe £3 and the fore shear of 1a., of ground on the farm called the Parson's acre bounded N side with a close belonging to the same farm, called Hook woods and the third of fore shear of another meadow called Cranne meadow bounded N side with a close called Hooke wood, S side with a coppice called Aldernwood coppice (15).

The rest of the parish pay the tenth pook of corn, the tenth pook of grain, the tenth calf, tenth lamb, tenth fleece of wool, tenth pig, tenth goose, tenth fruit of the orchard and 3d for cow white for a cow, 1.1/2d for offerings, 4d for churching of women, 10d for marriage.

Thomas Smith, Rector  
Walter Blanford, John Lush, Churchwardens

- (1) Mr Powell 654
- (2) William Ogden Esq. in 652 and 654
- (3) Peter Browne in 652, John Bennett in 654
- (4) Late Lamberts now Mr Powell in 654.
- (5) Thomas Blanford in 652, John Phelps Esq. in 654
- (6) Pound close in 654
- (7) John Bennett in 654
- (8) Robert Hyde Esq. in 652, Hyde Parker and [---] Strode in 654
- (9) Hazell in 654
- (10) Farmer Rixsen in 654
- (11) Liffields in 654
- (12) 10a. in 652 and 654
- (13) Mr. George Knype in 652, Mr Edward Knipe in 654
- (14) Roger Strong in 652, John Bennett in 654.
- (15) Reference made to the custom as recorded in manor court presentment 2 Oct 1672 together with 650, 651 and 652 in 654.

1704  
652 (D1/24/179/4)

As 651 (with amendments in footnotes)  
Thomas Smith, Rector  
Thomas Gray, Isaac Branford, Churchwardens

1783  
653 (D1/24/179/5)

The parsonage house was entirely new-built by Dr Gregory, late dean of Christchurch (Oxford), of stone and covered with slate; contains 4 rooms on a floor, namely a hall and a kitchen ceiled and bricked, 2 parlours floored with oak, the larger wainscotted, the other half wainscotted and papered. The barn measures 85 ½ ft by 18 ½ ft the stable 41 ½ ft by 22 ft.

C.100a., 60 arable, 20 pasture, 10 coppice wood and the rest furze and waste ground, enclosed and abutted chiefly by common; has no right of common.

The garden, orchard and court contain 2 a. partly paled, partly hedged.

In the churchyard are 10 elm trees each valued £1-10s. On the glebe a number of young oaks, value uncertain. The rector receives great and small tithes by composition at so much in the pound.

2a. of land were formerly given, when and by whom unknown (no deed in being) for repairing the church.

4 bells in the tower. The pulpit has a cushion and furniture of crimson velvet, the communion table of purple velvet. A silver flagon holding c.3 pints inscribed "The gift of Mrs Ann Willesford of the ancient family of Woodwards of Gloucestershire". A chalice inscribed "Semley Wilts 1714", a patten inscribed "Semley Parish Wilts 1769, Thos. Powell, Church Warden", each of silver. No mark of weight on either utensil.

The church is repaired and the fences kept by the parishioners; the chancel by the rector. The clerk and sexton (both in one) paid by the parish £3 p.a. appointed by the rector.

L[ewis] Stephens, Rector  
Thomas Powell, Churchwarden

1803  
654 (D1/24/179/6)

The parsonage house rebuilt in the incumbency of Dr. Gregory is a neat substantial dwelling house and with offices which were much improved by Rev. Lewis Stevens, late incumbent.

Land and tithes as 651 with amendments in footnotes

"and because the memory of the same custom in part or in all may be continued in times to come and unimpaired, we the churchwardens and overseers of the poor [.....] with the inhabitants, enclose names herein subscribed, do request and direct that the presents may be also deposited in the registry of the Bishop."

John Bracher, Churchwarden for the Rector  
John Merchant, Churchwarden for the Parish  
James Bracher, John Bracher, Overseers

John Benett, John Goddard, John King, Mary Marsh,  
John Maidment, Thomas Andrews, John Rixsen,  
William Hacker, John Pond, Samuel Baker,  
Thomas Powell, George Parham, James White,  
Anthony Targett Snr, Thomas Brockway,  
John Sanger, Vincent Harris, Edward Knype,  
Sarah Baker, Thomas Baker, Isaac Blanford, Anthony Targett Jnr.

Transcribed by Maureen Stewart from  
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