

Inquisitions post mortem

- Sworn enquiries into the lands held at their deaths by direct tenants of the crown (tenants-in-chief)
- Survive from about 1236 to 1660 (when feudal tenures were abolished) in more-or-less continuous series at the National Archives
- Usually created by *escheator*
- Designed to record and enforce royal feudal rights, especially
 - *Wardship*, when a tenant died and their heir was not of full legal age
 - *Primer seisin* and *relief*, when an heir was of full age
- Related documents:
 - *Proofs of age*
 - *Assignments of dower*

John Longe, esquire

Inquisition taken at Marleborough, 28th March, 13 Charles I [1637], before *Knollys Hawkins, esq.*, escheator, after the death of John Longe, esq., by the oath of *John Purnell, gent.*, *Robert Kingsman, seniot, gent.*, *Robert Kingsman, junior*, Thomas Freeman, William Burden, Bartholomew Smith, *William Wake, Richard Webb, Thomas Trebrett, William Cooper, William Lewis, Richard Glasse, Stephen Orrell, and Thomas Smith*, who say that

John Longe and Walter Long, esq., his brother, were seised of the manors or lordships of Wraxall and Atworth alias Atford with all their rights, members, and appurtenances in South Wraxall, Afford alias Atworth, Box, Wadeswicke, Hatford Farley, Mouncton Farley, Chalefeild, and Bradford; the manors or lordships of Tytherton Kellawayes and Tytherton Lucas, Aven and Foxam; certain lands and tenements in Christen Malford; the office of baliff or beadle for the hundred of Bradford; the advowson, free gift and right of patronage of the church of Kellawayes; a certain portion of the tithe of grain and hay; and of other tithes growing in Aven in the parish of Bremble; the advowson, gift and right of patronage of the vicarage of Twirton alias Tiverton in co. Somerset; a certain yearly rent or pension of 4 marks, issuing out of the vicarage of Twirton, all the messuages, lands and tenements in Draycott Cerne and Langley Buriell, then or late in the several tenures of *Thomas Aprice, John Yorke, John Fillimore, Henry Whalton, Robert Richman, Walter Elton, Richard Rudman, Jeronimus Harford, Alice Necke, Isaac Power, Arthur Edwardes, William Ady, Henry Pullin, Richard Lord, Ralph Rewe, John Harford, Nicholas Blincombe,*

Richard Attwood, Henry Metcalfe, Richard Thorne, Richard Palmer, and John Messiter; and a close called Cranwell in ----- in the tenure of *Jasper Goule*.

So seised, the said *John* and *Walter Longe*, by indenture quadripartite dated 1 January, 19 James I [1622], made between the said *John Longe* and *Anne*, his wife, of the first part; the said *Walter Longe* and *Anne*, his wife, of the second part; *William Eyre*, knight, and *Henry Lee*, knight, of the third part; and *Gregory Reynolds* and *Henry Norman*, gent., of the fourth part, conveyed the said premises to the uses following, to wit, as to the manors of Southwraxall and Atford, and all the premises in Southwraxall, Atford, Box, Wadeswicke, Hatford Farley, Mouncton Farley, Chaldfeild, and Bradford, and the said office of bailiff, to the use of the said *Walter Longe* until the third day of April next following; afterwards to the use of the said *John Longe* for his life; after his decease to the use of the said *Anne Longe*, wife of the said *John*, for her life for her jointure; after her death to the use of *William Longe*, eldest son of the said *John*, and his heirs male, for default, to the use of *John Longe*, second son of the said *John*, and his heirs male; for default, to the use of *Robert Longe*, third son of the said *John*, and his heirs male, and for default, to the use of the right heirs of the said *John Longe* for ever. As to the manors of Kellawayes, Titherington Kellawayes and Titherington Lucas, Aven and Foxam, the advowson of the church of Kellawayes, the lordships of Aven, the premises in Christen Malford, the yearly rent of 4 marks issuing out of the vicarage of Twirton, and the advowson of the vicarage of Twyrton, first for confirmation of a demise of parcel of the demise of parcel of the premises in Tytherington Lucas and Kellawayes, made by *Walter Longe*, knight, now deceased, father of the said *John* named in the writ, and Dame *Katherine*, his wife, deceased. To *Robert Longe* and *Thomas Longe*, younger sons of the said *Walter*, by indenture dated 8th April, 3 James I [1605], for 99 years, if the said *Robert* and *Thomas Longe* so long should live, and as to the reversions of the premises so demised and the rents thereupon reserved and all the premises last mentioned to the use of the said *John Longe* and his heirs for ever. As to the premises in Draycott Cerne and Langley Buriell, and the close called Cranwell, to the use of the said *John Longe* and *Robert Eyre*, gent., and the heirs of the said *John* for ever.

So seised the said *John Longe* made his will 9th August 1636 and thereby bequeathed to the said *Anne*, his wife, all his manors, lands, etc., whereof she was not already 'estated', for the payment of his debts and the maintenace of his younger children. If the said *William*, testator's son and heir, should give to the said *Anne*, his mother, such maintenance for the said younger children as she should think fit, then he shall have two parts of all the said premises, notwithstanding the devise to the said *Anne*.

The manors of Southwraxall and Atford and other the premises there are held of *John* Marquis of Winchester, as of his manor of Bradford, by fealty, and are worth per annum, clear, £28. The office of bailiff of Bradford is held of the King in chief by knight's service, and is worth per annum, clear, 12d. Of whom or by what service the manors of Kellawayes, Tytherington Kellawayes and Titherington Lucas, Aven and Foxam, the advowson of the church of Kellawayes, and the portion of the tithes of grain and hay in Aven are held the jurors know not: they are worth per annum, clear, £10. Of whom the advowson of the vicargae of Twirton, and the yearly rent of 4 marks issuing out of the same are held is not known: they are worth per annum, clear, 53s. 4d. Of whom the premises in Draycott Cerne and Langley Buriell, and the close called Cranwell, are held is not known: they are worth per annum. Clear, 20s.

John Longe died at Wraxall, 14th August last past; *William Longe* is his son and next heir, and was then aged 21 years and more.

The said *Anne*, late the wife of the said *John*, still survives at Southwraxall.

Inq. p.m., 13 Charles I, pt. 29, No. 5 "Abstracts of Wiltshire Inquisitions Post Mortem," 1901, edited by George S. Fry & Edw. Alex Fry.