

Ar: Burholme is on the eastern side of the River Hodder about two and a half miles north of Fair Oak. Under the old name of Byreholm it was one of the original vaccaries within the forest and there are records which connect the Swinglehursts with it over a period of 250 years, **from 1418 in fact when John Swynhilhurst was granted a lease of five shillings and four pence per annum. This lease was confirmed for a further 20 years in 1422. In the accounts of Sir Thomas Stanley, the King's Receiver in the reign of Edward IV, it is confirmed that John Swynhilhurst was still a tenant in 1464, when the rent was 62s.10d. for half the vaccary, the other half being leased to Nicholas Bounds for a similar amount.**

[Wills in Borthwick Institute York. Probate: Jul 1737. Swinglehirst John, Barholm (Perogative Court Index)]

Ar: 1737: The tenure of Burholme finally ceased in 1737 when John Swinglehurst the last male member bearing that name died. He died intestate. Administration of an inventory of personal goods totalling less than twenty pounds was granted to Giles Houghton of Giggleswick who had married John Swinglehurst's daughter Margaret in 1708 and thus became his next of kin.

**So ended an era at Burholme. The Swinglehursts lived there from 1418 - an unbroken tenure of 319 years!**

Burholme remains a Royal farm as part of the estate of the Duchy of Lancaster. The Duke of Lancaster, Charles Prince of Wales visited Burholme in August 1989]

From this date it is evident that the vaccary had grown into a small settlement with dual and latterly multiple tenancies. Several dwellings were built and a small chapel was established. Forest Courts were held at Burholme before the court was moved to nearby Whitewell. Above the existing farm buildings, up on the hill side, the walls of these old dwellings can be traced and the high barn reveals stone-work and timbers of the early 16th century. A stone trough by the present farm house is said to be of an earlier age than 1550 and in the centre of what was the old hamlet is an ancient washing and drinking stone well fed by a natural spring. The old road, now covered over, can be traced winding its way up the hill side and recent excavations of the site of the Chapel are in evidence.

Paul: I was sure you knew about Bur(r)holme, so didn't mention it. It is mentioned a couple of times in the Chipping PR. It does still exist on the banks of the Hodder. The entrance is on a tight bend as you turn to cross over the Hodder en route to Dunsop/Trough of Bowland from Whitewell. The driveway seems quite long and the place is involved with horse-breeding, to judge by the "plaque" at the gateway - I'm not sure if "stud" is used (the tight bend requires concentration!)

David: In the matter of Burholme, the horsey bit is a fairly recent development. For 1000 years and more it was a standard mixed farm, with some reasonable quality arable in the intakes (given a decent climate - currently a bit cold) and the usual rough grazing for hardier breeds of sheep. There is a public right of way across the land, although it is (too) many years since I last walked it. Next time I pass it I will photograph the buildings (although they post-date the Swindlehurst occupation) and the bridge, which is a Grade 2 listed building.

-----  
1420?: NICHOLAS SWYNLRST & \_\_?

[Nicholas son of William Swynelhurste c1300 & \_\_?]

Nicholas marriage yet to be found

Children:

1. John Swynlrst. Birth <1420's?.>  
[Married \_\_? See John family 1440-1460]

? 2. Margaret Swynlrst. Birth <1420's?.>  
[Married Richard, son of William de Alston, 1443 Chipping, Lancs.]

St Bartholomews Church, Chipping, Lancs., founded before 1041  
-----

1421/2: The receiver's Account of the Duchy of Lancaster in 1421/2 shows entries paying Nicholas Swynhilhurst as carpenter for work at the Manor House of Whitewell whilst in 1435/36 William Swynhilhurst did repairs at the same place.

1422: Accounts of Henry de Worsley, Storer of Bolland 1422 - 18s from the farm of Spersmore granted to Nicholas de Swynehurst for this year and 8s.8d. from the farm of the certain place called Spaldingtonmon-close granted to the same Nicholas.

Nicholas de Swynehurst paid rents for two farms. 18s for Spersmore and 8s8d for Spaldyngtonmonclose.

Henry Langta paid 33s4d for the farm of Swynhulhurst. [in our Bowland records]

[Note: of Duchy of Lancaster records: depositions Standishe v Kirshaw [alias Kyrshaw/Kershaye] re land at

Anglezarke c1605-1607 [ref: DL 4/53/55]; deposition Anderton v Langton re land at Charnock Heath and Anglezarke c1585 [ref: DL 4/27/9]; and grant by Robert son of Richard lord of Lathom, to Burscough Priory, of part of his land called Swinlehurst in Anglezark, mid 13th cent [DL 25/645]]

Rent increases were also mentioned;

William Swynehulhurst for the vaccary of Fayrakhous and Greystonlegh.

Nicholas Swynhulhurst for half the vaccary of Essheknottes and Denglegrene

John Swynhulhurst for Birgholme.

1422 - William Swynhilhurst granted 20 year lease on Fairdockhouse ....3s.4d. and Greystonlegh.

1422 - John Swynhilhurst granted 20 year lease on Byreholm ..... 5s.4d. this being the 4th year.

1422 - Nicholas Swynhilhurst for Essheknottes and Denglegrene .....3s.4d. for the same term.

1422 - 33s.4d. from the farm of Swynhilhurst so granted.

1422: Smith: Chipping, no doubt, would suffer under the terrible infliction of the plague, which (in 1422) was "by vulgar report and the credible testimony of honest men," raging \*\* in certain parts of Lancashire, and especially in the town of Lancaster," to such an extent " that a large portion of the people there, from the corrupt and pestiferous air, infected with divers infirmities and deadly diseases, were dying

From Bowland Forest website:

1422-3 Accounts of Sir Henry Hoghton master forester of Bowland:

'A new section of ditch dug'. Does this mean that the park has been increased in size?

Carpenters' repair to pale fence (Swynhillhurst and Crumbilholme) and the Laund enclosure fence

Also repairs to the lodge and thatching *divers* [various, or several] houses there

67 roods new ditch and fence (thorn planting) by Pemberton on north side of par

Henry de Worsley was the Storer, (Chief Cattle Keeper) of Bolland and his accounts for the year 1422 to 1423 make reference to Swindlehursts. As follows:

John Swynhilhurst granted 20 year lease on Byreholm 5s. 4d. this being the 4th year

Nicholas Swynhilhurst for Essheknottes – Denglegrene 3s. 4d. for the same term.

33s. 4d. from the farm of Swynhulhurst so granted this year.

1425: The accounts of Clitheroe Castle in 1425 show that Nicholas Swynhilhurst, again described as a carpenter, undertook repairs at the Castle and was involved in the construction of a new gate.

Ron Catterall: Clitheroe castle. References to Swindlehurst and the repairs to Clitheroe Castle prior to 1425.

Custus reparacionis domorum Castri de Clyderhowe (1425) Et in Stipendio Nicholai Swynhilhurst Carpentarii

operantis ibidem per viij septimanas et i diem, capientis pro septimana iij s.--- xxiiij s. vj d. Et solutis Nicholao

Swynhilerst pro lucracione de vj lattes, C ad vj d. --- iij s. (Receiver's Computus 3 & 4 Hen. VI Duchy of Lancaster, Class xxix. Bundle 220.)

1435/36 William, Richard and Nicholas Swynhilhurst are all engaged as carpenters at Leagram

1440/41 the accounts of the Master Forester show that Nicholas is employed as a carpenter at Radholm.

Ar: From the above records it appears that the family included skilled carpenters and that this skill was handed down from generation to generation. Involved not only in the construction of the deer parks of Leagram, Radholm and New Launde but also in finer work on many of the large houses in the district.

-----  
1440? - 1460?: JOHN SWYNLRST & \_\_?

[John son of Nicholas Swynlrst & \_\_? married 1420's?]

Children:

1. Robert Swindlehurst of Fairdakhouse. Died before 1507  
[Married Isabell \_\_? who later married James Helme of Chipping]

2. John Swinglehurst. Living 1506-7 and possibly in 1527  
[Married Elizabeth \_\_? c1520?]

Son John had tenement of the King for Fair Oak from at least 1483

Brother of:

Robert Swinglehurst (died before 1507) = Isabell =James Helme of Chipping];

Robert owned a moiety of Fair Oak, from his brother John for 24 years.  
His wife Isabell had tenancy for a further 4 years after her husband Robert died.  
Thus, John & Robert born before 1483

---

1443 - the Honor of Clitheroe listed among its Tenants - John Swynlhirst, William Swynlehurst and Nicholas Swynlehurst.

---

1443: MARGARET SWINGLEHURST & WILLIAM DE ALSTON

[Margaret daughter of Nicholas Swinglehurst & ?]

From 'History of Chipping':  
'In 22 Hen. VI. (1443-4), Richard, son of William de Alston, of Chipping,  
married Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Swinglehurst (Weld MSS)

1443/4: In 1443/4 (in 22nd year of Henry VI) - Richard, son of William de Alston of Chipping married Margaret,  
daughter of Nicholas Swynlyrst.

[Margaret Swinglehurst F Marriage: 1443 Of, Chipping, Lancs. [Nicholas 1420?]

Margaret Swinglehurst F Birth (??): 1443 Of, Chipping, Lancs.  
Father: Nicholas Swinglehurst [Nicholas 1420?]  
[Gt, gt, gt ? grandson of Nicholas(1)?]

From 'History of Chipping':  
'In 22 Hen. VI. (1443-4), Richard, son of William de Alston, of Chipping, married Margaret,  
daughter of Nicholas Swinglehurst (Weld MSS) [Nicholas 1420?]

Derived evidently from Swynehurst, the name of Swinglehurst or Swindlehurst has been for centuries closely  
connected with the district [Chipping]. In 22 Hen. VI. (1443-4), Richard, son of William de Alston, of Chipping, married  
Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Swinglehurst (Weld MSS.).

1446 William Swynhilhurst and Richard Smithies, chaplain granted to Richard and Margaret de Alston a message  
called Wrights Place in Chipping.

---

Ron Catterall: Around 1451 there was a major survey made of the king's forest land in Lancashire and Cheshire. This  
included a description of the Swindlehurst property at Fence south of Pendle Hill)  
Bowland Forest held by Lease John Swinglehurst hathe of Carbige land on gronde called the Fence conteyninge 30  
acres, which gronde is fitt to be in Coppice. Mr. Swinglehurst, of Saplinges 30, at ij s. the peece, iij list Of Ashe 60, at  
xviij d. a peece, iiii li x s. Of Underwoode 120 loade, at xij d. ye lode, vj li Fitt for Coppices 30 acres Total value 13  
pounds 10 shillings

1465 the family names in Bowland is listed as follows - Parker, Harrison, Bleasdale, Swinglehurst, Bond and  
Crosdale. In 1551 the accounts of Sir Thomas Stanley ( Kings receiver in the 4th year of Edward VI) list the same  
names and that John Swynelhurst is paying 64s.6d. for the Vaccary of Fairdakhouse and that (another ?) John  
Swynelhurst is paying 62s.10d. for half of Byreholm vaccary. Nicholas Bounde is paying the same amount for the  
other half. Yet another Swynelhurst - Nicholas - is at the Legh paying 27s.

---

1466. Very kindly contributed Oct 2014 by Chris Spencer, professional Historian:

... I am also currently working the King-Wilkinson deeds for Slaidburn etc (over 300 boxes, much material  
uncatalogued therein). Would you believe I found this today .... in Latin, but I've translated it for you. Reference  
Lancashire Archives DDKW Box 318. Please feel free to share this within your circle. Perhaps you might credit me for  
finding and translating it.

Grant given at Chipin on feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross 6<sup>th</sup> Edward IV. [original in Latin in good condition]

Know all men present and future that I, Geoffrey Surrays of Chipin have given, granted and by this my present charter  
confirmed to John Swynilhyrst son of the late William Swynilhyrst the elder, a parcel ['placeam'] of land with the  
houses built thereupon in Chipin and 1a of land with the appurtenances as the same lies in length and breadth  
beginning at Qwyt-lesike at the north ['aquilone'] following the Sike as far as the boundary of Dobholme and so the  
middle of the rivulet of Chipinbroke, following Chipinbroke as far as Siketu', following Siletu' [sic] as far as  
Batsongrene, from Robybonke which falls into Chipinbroke. To have and to hold the said parcel of land with the  
houses built thereon and 1a of land with their appurtenances to the afsd John Swynilhyrst, his heirs and assigns, of  
me, my heirs and assigns, by the services due in respect thereof and of right accustomed, freely, quietly and  
hereditarily together and in peace, with all commons, easements, libertiesto the said lands belonging within the  
township of Chipin ..... paying in respect thereof to me and my heirs at the Assumption of the Blessed Mary one

peppercorn if demanded for all services and demands to me and my heirs belonging, and to the chief lord of that fee the services due and accustomed yearly. And I truly the afsd Geoffrey and my heirs all the afsd land with the appurtenances to the afsd John, his heirs and assigns, for the afsd service, will warrant and forever defend against all men ... in witness whereof I have to this my present charter set my seal, these being witnesses: Robert Bradlay, Thomas Bradlay, John Stertivant, Wm Alston, Edmund Swynilhirst, Robert Swynilhyrst, Giles Chapmon, and many others. Given at Chipin on the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, 6<sup>th</sup> Edward IV. [3 May 1466]

With regards

Chris Spencer  
www.chrisspencer.co.uk  
www.lancashireresearch.co.uk

Mike,

I've had a look at a map of Chipping. There is nothing conclusive. Some sort of more specialised map is probably needed.

However, my sort of best guess is that the document may refer to the land now occupied by Swinglehurst Lane and Swinglehurst Cottages. These are close to a stream that enters Chipping Brook eventually, having joined another stream, which enters Chipping Brook near to Dobson's Hall, presumably Dobholme in the document.

There may be one too many assumptions here to be taken as historical truth, as watercourses can alter their flow over time.

"Sike" etc in the document is simply a word for a stream, quite often unnamed.

You may already be aware of this, but with middle-ages confusion over "g" and "y", names became altered, hence Swinglehurst and Swinleyhurst can perhaps be taken as the same name.

The land appears to have been bought, rather than "granted", so there may be other transactions waiting to be discovered.

Paul

Mike,

The land appears to have been given for services rendered. However, the surname was clearly already in existence. The later wording appears to suggest that John S. was a yeoman.

Paul

-----

**Ar:** 1485 Edward Stanley became master Forester and lessee of much of the property. Christopher Parker became Chief Agent.

Ron Catterall: Sir Thomas Stanley was the Receiver for the North for King Edward 1V. In his accounts for 1464/1465.

1485. From the BBC News website: Richard the Third had a wild boar as his personal emblem. He died at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. The death of Richard ended the Plantagenet dynasty and ushered in the first Tudor king, Henry VII. The battle ended decades of civil war, which is now known as the Wars of the Roses. [There is a common theory that the Swin part of our name may refer to boars. Richard's remains were found under a Leicester Car Park. The DNA team who identified him were the same ones who, years earlier, researched our family and found we are of Norwegian Viking origin]

**Ar:** From the above records we learn quite a lot of the early history of the family. They certainly came from a place called Swynhilhurst or Swynhulhurst (pig grazing wood.) The spelling varies in almost every document, but as most of these are written in Old French or Latin it is not surprising for the scribe was only putting his own interpretation on the sounds of the Anglo Saxon tongue. Thus at a time when surnames were being allocated the family from this small settlement became known as de Swynhilhurst.

Where do we find this place? Early records say it is a place near Browsholme Hall and there is certainly a valley running north from Cow Ark called Hogg Clough which has the same meaning. But as for the settlement called Swynhilhurst, no such place exists today. It does not appear on any Ordnance Survey map. However, John William Swinglehurst, in his reasearch at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century pinpointed it as being on a tributary called Middle Lees. This is a steep sided and well wooded valley (perhaps once known as Swindale.) In his research JWS questioned a local farmer and learned that a wood was known to him as Swindelhurst lngs and that piles of stones may be the remains of a settlement.

It is a short distance only from here to Leagram Park across the Hodder – a matter of 2 miles, so the family were on the doorstep as it were, in the construction of Leagram Park in the 1300's. From the accounts of the Master Forester of 1322 – 1340 it is easy to build a picture of the workmen felling the oak trees for the paling or fence on top of the outer ditch. Then digging out of the trench to the depth of 4 ½ ft. and with a breadth of 8 ft. The outer slope, planted with three sets of hawthorns and its fence of oak boards must have presented a real obstacle to the deer. Walk across Leagram Park today – the remains of this 6 ½ mile fence are still visible!

Later we find the Swinglehurst's as tenants of farms outside the pale at Leagram, for as early as 1324 William de Swynelhurst had a vaccary at Faredokehouse (Fair Oak) just across the river from the original home.

In the 1400's sons and their families had taken the tenancies of farms all around Whitewell. Burholme is just north of Whitewell. The legh is almost on the spot of the original Swynhilhurst. Greystoneley is next to Fair oak. Spaldingtomonclose was a waste plot in the Chace of Laithgrun (Leagram) so all these settlements were within a mile or so of each other.

1485-1509 Ar: In the reign of Henry VII (1485-1509) John Swinglehurst had a lease of the estate [Fair Oak] from the Crown and the wedding of Margaret, daughter of Nicholas to Richard de Alston in 1443 almost certainly refers to the Fair Oak family.

Smith: Fair Oak - In the reign of Henry VII. (1486-1609), John Swynlyrst had a lease of the estate from the Crown, in whose decendants it remained during the next century and a half, when it passed by marriage to the Harrises of Torrisholme, the Parkinsons of Sykes, and the Parkers of Harden

1497: Ar: Christopher Swynlehurst of Burholme was born in 1497. A later Christopher (born in 1577) had three sons - Anthony, Richard and Christopher; it is difficult to draw up a definite family tree due to the probability of three families of Swinglehursts living there at the one time.

Ar: These Swinglehursts were by all accounts, hard working farmers, and Sir Richard Sherbourne had seen fit before his death, to appoint Thomas Swinglehurst as Deputy Keeper of Radholme, a fact that enabled him to escape persecution for taking the timbers for his house.

-----