

# Highnam through the Centuries

## Pre 11th Century

- 780 Ethelmund, son of Ingeld granted an estate of 30 hides at Over, for Gloucester Abbey.
- 804 Ethelmund's son, Ethelric confirmed the estate to the secular clerks at the Abbey.

#### 11th-12th Century

- 1033 The earliest description of the land at Ham (Highnam). Wulfin le Rue gave Churcham and Highnam to the church of St. Peter.
- 1086 The manor Highnam is recorded in the Domesday Book. The manor of Lassington, as listed in the Domesday survey, belonged to the Archbishop of York.
- 1095 The earliest known reference to the Lassington church is it's re-dedication to St. Oswald on Palm Sunday 1095, after the building of the Norman nave, chancel and side chapel.
- 1100 Gloucester Abbey owned Churcham & Highnam. The eastern manor of Churcham became known as Highnam in 1100.

## 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1228 On the northeast of the original Highnam Court the Newent road was recorded as the great road from Gloucester to Newent.
- 1332 Gloucester Abbey was allowed to empare 80 acres.
- 1329 1337 John Wygmore, Abbot of Gloucester, believed to have built a greta grange at Highnam.

## 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1516 John Arnold leased Highnam Court; a mansion was included with the property.
- 1542 The manor of Highnam was granted by the crown to John Arnold.
- 1545 John Arnold died and left the manor to his son Nicholas who was knighted in 1552
- 1580 Nicholas's heir, Dorothy, died and she was married to Thomas Lucy who assumed ownership. Lucy was knighted in 1593 and died in 1605.
- 1593 Thomas Lucy knighted.

## 17th Century

- 1605 Thomas Lucy died
- 1607 Lucy's daughter Joyce took over Highnam Manor and was married to Sir William Cooke.
- 1618 Sir William Cooke died. The estate was taken over by Robert Cooke.
- 1621 Robert Cooke was knighted.
- 1643 Robert Cooke died and the early house was seriously damaged in the Civil War battle fought at Highnam.
- 1658 The new Court was built and its design was linked to Edward Carter, a pupil of Inigo Jones. The house was built for William Cooke, the son of Sir Robert Cooke, following the damage of the original structure in the English Civil War.

## 18th Century

- 1703 Following William Cooke's death, the estate was inherited by his son Edward Cooke.
- 1724 Edward Cooke died and the estate w as inherited by his son, Dennis Cooke.
- 1747 Following Denis Cooke's death the estate was inherited by his sisters. The estate passed by marriage into the Guise family.
- 1769 John Guise reunited the manor.
- 1783 John Guise inherited a baronetcy and took ownership of the manor following the death of his cousin Sir William Guise of Elmore.
- 1792 All Gloucester executions took place at Over prior to 1792.
- 1794 John Guise died and the manor passed to his son Sir Berkeley William Guise.
- 1796 Hereford & Gloucester canal. Building began and a canal was opened from Gloucester heading north westwards to Newent and then onto Oxenhall tunnel, a distance of eight miles.

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1834 Following Sir Berkeley's death he was succeeded by his brother Sir John Wright Guise.
- 1838 Sir John was forced to sell the manor following the crippling expenses of an election. Highnam Court was purchased by Thomas Gambier Parry.
- 1840 1855 The house was significantly renovated by the architect Lewis Vulliamy. James Pulham laid out extensive new gardens.
- 1844 Highnam Woods contain a pinetum, a collection of conifers that was started by Thomas Gambier Parry in 1844 and included over 300 species by 1863.

- 1849 Construction of Holy Innocents was started with completion in 1951.
- 1851 The Ecclesiastical parish of Highnam was established
- 1869 Further renovations were performed on behalf of Gambier-Parry and included a billiard room.
- 1871 Thomas Gambier Parry of Highnam bought Stone End farm in 1871.
- 1881 The H&G canal was closed. The original portion of the canal, from Gloucester to Ledbury was drained and the Ledbury to Gloucester railway was started on the canal bed.
- 1882 In 1882, Highnam, Linton, and Over had gained small parcels of land from Rudford and the North Hamlet division of Gloucester City.
- 1888 Thomas Gambier-Parry died. His wife Ethelinda Lear retained the manor until her demise.
- 1896 Ethelinda Lear died. Her husband's son, composer Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry, succeeded her.

#### 20th Century

- 1914 1918 World War 1
- 1918 Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry died. His half brother Major Ernest Gambier-Parry succeeded to the estate.
- 1935 In 1935 Highnam, Linton, and Over were united with Lassington to form the civil parish of Highnam
- 1936 The major died and the estate was passed to his one surviving son, Thomas Mark Gambier-Parry who resided at the estate until 1966.
- 1939 1945 World War 2
- 1950 Thomas Mark Gambier-Parry gifted the farms of the estate to W.P. Cripps, his cousin
- 1966 Thomas Mark Gambier-Parry died. He was succeeded by his cousin, Thomas Gambier-Parry's great-grandson Thomas Fenton
- 1977 The Court, gardens and part of the park were sold to Roger Smith. The freehold of the Garden House outbuildings and walled garden remained in Tom Fenton's hands, as did much of the park.
- 1992 A restoration plan for the estate, the Singleton Report, was put together.
- 1994 The Highnam Court Estate was purchased by Roger Head.