

OUR FARM OF GULES

The search for a lost site at Widcombe, Bath

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Part Two

In the year 970, King Edgar granted to Bath Abbey lands to the south of the city, then known as Clifton, now the parish of Lyncombe-with-Widcombe. Under successive bishops and priors some of the land became a hunting park and other parts were farmed by tenants. Although the church of St Thomas à Becket was rebuilt in Widcombe between 1492 and 1498 (replacing an older Norman Church), the manorial centre was initially established near a place where a stream joined the Lyn Brook. It therefore became known as the manor of Lyncombe. It was not until the late 1500s that it began to be called Lyncombe and Widcombe.



St Thomas à Becket Church - Widcombe¹

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The exact date that the farm known as Gules, situated in Widcombe, first came into being is not clear, but its oxen were particularly mentioned in a lease granted in 1526.² By the 1520s, the Prior (no doubt for a valuable consideration, but perhaps also mindful of the uncertain future of the Priory) had begun to grant leases and reversions of the estates for lives or long terms of years. The 1526 lease, granting the summer pastures of Hayes and Sidenham to William Cokke[s] (Coxe), also referred to land that was to be set aside for the oxen belonging to 'our fferme of Gules'. The pastures of Hayes and Sidenham did not belong to Gules, but were part of a substantial holding on the west side of the manor which included Lyncombe Farm, as well as land formerly known as Berewyk's.³

The Priory records also confirm that a lease in 1534/5 of a pasture or summer lease called Hayes in Lyncombe was granted to Richard Cokkes and that in 1538/9 Robert Cokkes became the leaseholder of a farm in Lyncombe with responsibility for its sizeable hog flock.⁴ However, no records have been found to prove that the farm of Gules in Widcombe – including its land, its two oxen and smaller 100-fold hog flock – had been leased out in the years leading up to the dissolution.

It was the custom to include stock along with the monastic farms; each farm kept a certain amount of livestock, mainly sheep – *'the hogge-flocks'* – and also a few oxen. The farm tenants had to maintain the number of the stock, and, should they fail to do so, make good any deficiency, either in kind or in money as the Priory might choose. Rents were chiefly in kind – perhaps grain or eggs – or in obligations such as church duties or feeding an ox during the winter.

The life of Bath Priory came to an end in January 1538/9, when Prior Holloway surrendered the monastery to the Crown and control of its property and land to Henry VIII. The king promptly confirmed the lease for the tenure of Lyncombe Farm including Berewyks, first granted to the Gayes by the prior in 1531, officially leasing it in reversion for the three lives of John Gaye, his wife Joan and their son Thomas.⁵ It seems likely that John Gaye was the man referred to as *'our well-beloved in Christ, John Gaye of Lyncombe'*⁶ in the Priory lease (1526) granted to William Cokke – and he is also known to have been the bailiff, with the responsibility of helping to supervise the manor and collect the rents.⁷ Following the dissolution he would be expected to welcome and entertain the royal stewards twice a year.

The first document (incomplete) found to confirm the lease of the farm of Gules was written in Latin and recited a previous lease dated 1564 (not found) granting *'Guyles with all its pertinences'* to one Thomas Gurner (or Garner).⁸ The available pages of the lease bore no date, but did include the useful information that there were still twelve years remaining of Thomas Gurner's 21 year lease – meaning that nine years had passed since the original lease in 1564. The date of the new lease would therefore have been 1573, by which time Gules was reported to be *'now or lately in the occupation of John Gay [sic] or his assigns.'*

On surrender of Gurner's lease, Gules, together with *'... all that stock of two oxen worth 13s a head, and the whole of that stock of a hundred sheep called hogs worth thirteen pence a head ...'* was granted in reversion for the lives of the present occupants, John Gay and his sons Henry and Benedict. The last part of the lease document was missing and there were no further details in the first two pages regarding geographical features, land acreage or field names.

It is unlikely that John Gay of Gules was John Gaye the bailiff. In 1565, the lease of Lyncombe Farm with Berewyk's, granted to John Gaye, his wife Joan and son Thomas in 1539, was replaced by one in favour of Thomas Gaye and *his* sons William and Richard.⁹ This might well have been because John Gaye had died. Possibly the new leaseholder of Gules was another of his sons – a brother of Thomas.

No document has been found to establish exactly when Hugh Sexey was officially appointed by Queen Elizabeth to succeed Sir John Harrington of Kelston as administrator of the 280 acres of crown land and property within the manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe.¹⁰ However, in 1592, an Indenture reaffirming the tenure of Gules, first granted to John Gay and his two sons on *'the*

second daie of June in the fifteenth year of her Majesty's raigne' (1573), clearly stated that this particular lease was to be assigned to Hugh Sexey for the next sixty years.¹¹

From then until its demise, thought to have been in the 1730s, Gules would change hands a number of times. People came and went. Often, however, because a lease might be granted to one family for the span of three lives, it was simply a change from one generation to the next or from one brother to another. It would not be difficult to trace the occupants of Gules throughout the remainder of its existence. Discovering exactly where the house once stood presented a greater challenge.

As well as including details of the main dwelling and the land adjoining it, leases listed numerous field names – areas of meadow, pasture and arable land also granted to the new tenant at the time. These were often widely scattered, so would not help to pinpoint the position of the house itself. The location of Gules might only be identified by sifting carefully through all the available documents in search of information relating to specific topographical features or, crucially, being able to establish the acreage of the land immediately surrounding the house.

A manorial survey carried out in 1608/9 provided the hoped-for information regarding acreage.¹² By then it was Henry Gay who was living at Gules and running the farm: '*... Henry Gay holdeth by lease a faire house with a garden, a fair orchard and a backside containing 1 acre ...*' Adjoining the house was an adjacent meadow (4 acres), and a pasture which was newly enclosed (1 acre and a half). The approximate acreage of other named plots of land also belonging to Gules – pasture, meadow and arable – was also recorded. But the essential information was that the house itself, plus the meadow and pasture adjoining it, was reckoned to occupy an area of between six and seven acres.

There were no detailed maps for the time Gules was thought to have existed (probably until the 1730s). Thorpe's Map of Bath (1742) included the manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe and showed details of buildings, land layout and even field divisions, but did not record acreage.



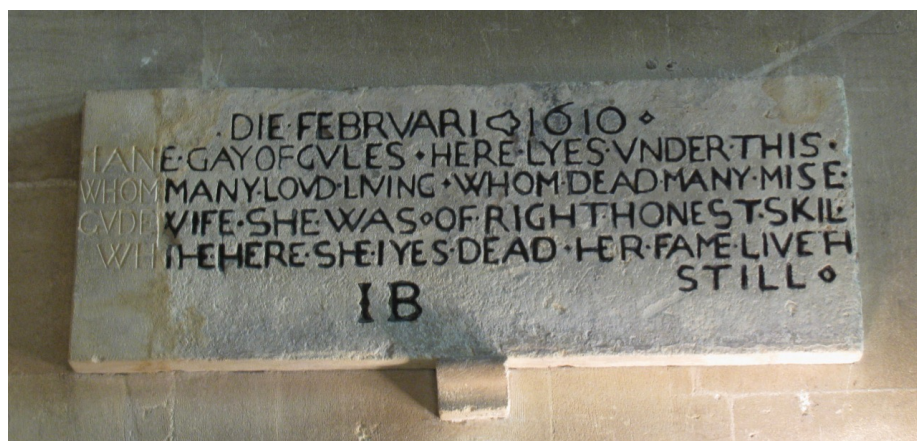
A Section of Thorpe's Map (1742) showing Lyncombe and Widcombe

The Charlton Map (1799), a section of which is shown later, included buildings, charted the layout and divisions of fields, identified leaseholders and recorded a number of field names. More important was the fact that measurement, in acres, roods and perches, was recorded for every individual piece of land.¹³ Unfortunately it was created more than sixty years after Gules is believed to have vanished from the landscape. Even so, if the acreage of backside, meadow and pasture adjoining Gules could be matched – ‘*be it more or less*’ – with the measurements of a similar area on the Charlton Map, it might be possible to locate the site of the house itself.

It would be a great advantage that many areas could be eliminated. Extensive research regarding tenure of property and use of land in Widcombe in the 17th and 18th centuries, previously carried out by the Survey of Old Bath and the Widcombe and Lyncombe Local History Society, meant that much was already known about who owned what – and what had been where. Especially useful was the comparison made between the Charlton Map and a large plan at Bath Record Office, based on several schedules of the Ralph Allen Estate.¹⁴

As Gules passed from one leaseholder to another, the recorded acreage of the house itself and the land adjoining it tended to increase slightly over the course of time. Before reaching any conclusions about where the house might have been, it is worth looking in more detail at successive lease documents, not only to trace variations in land measurements, but to discover more about the history of the house named Gules and the people who lived in it from the early 1600s until its demise in the 1730s.

Henry Gay was buried at the church of St Thomas à Becket in Widcombe in November 1610. The oldest plaque in the church, dedicated to Jane Gay of Gules who died in February 1610/11, is thought to commemorate Henry’s wife.¹⁵



Photograph by kind permission of Philip Bendall

The final member of the Gay family to hold the lease of Gules was Henry’s brother Benedict. Benedict Gay was not a farmer, but had served an apprenticeship as a joiner and gained his freedom in 1581.¹⁶ He continued to hold the lease of Gules until his death in 1619, but a letter he wrote to Hugh Sexey in October 1613 reveals that he was in two minds as to whether he should sell it, or keep it. ‘... *I would very willingly hold it in the name of the Gays; or else send me word what you will give me for it for I would willingly either buy or sell ...*’.¹⁷

A further letter from John Bygg (the bailiff) to Hugh Sexey, suggests that Benedict was still unsure how to proceed.¹⁸ In spite of an offer from a buyer,¹⁹ he continued to hold the lease, subletting the

land to tenants, but he did not renew it for the Gays. The lease would therefore no longer belong to the family when Benedict died. An inventory dated September 1616 listed the tenants, the area of individual plots of land belonging to the farm and the amount of rent paid.²⁰ *‘Three closes of meadow and pasture about the house’* were reckoned to contain eight and a half acres – two acres more than recorded in the 1608/9 survey. Eventually, in a letter to Hugh Sexey in May 1618, Benedict confirmed that he had reached an agreement over the tenure of the farm and land in Widcombe, held by the Gays for forty-five years, and that a new lease should be granted to Dr Ralph Baylie and his assigns.²¹

The year 1619 proved to be a milestone in the history of Gules. Benedict died and was buried in Axbridge at the end of March, Hugh Sexey died in August and Dr Ralph Baylie became the new owner/occupier of Gules,²² which would remain with the Baylie family until the death in 1672 of Ralph’s eldest son, Walter. Control of much of Sexey’s land and property in Lyncombe and Widcombe would pass to his Trustees, and in 1638, pursuant to his charitable Will, they founded Hugh Sexey’s Hospital – an almshouse in Bruton providing maintenance for the elderly.²³



Coat of Arms and Memorial Bust of Hugh Sexey at Bruton Hospital

‘ ... It is curious that the one person who ought to be celebrated in Bath’s memorials has often been passed by.’²⁴

Ralph Baylie was baptised in Marnhull, Dorset, in 1568 and was a nephew of Dr Walter Baylie, physician to Queen Elizabeth. His father was also named Ralph, but theories about the possible identity of his mother remain speculative. One suggestion is that her maiden name was Elinor Cokkes and another that she could well have been a member of the Cokkes family of Winford, Somerset.²⁵ A third possibility is that Elinor might have been related to the Cokkes family who became leaseholders of land in Lyncombe in the 1530s. If proved right, this could explain Dr.

Ralph Baylie's determination to settle in Widcombe – though, with a medical practice in Bath, Gules would certainly have been very convenient for him.

Ralph Baylie was described by Thomas Guidott MB, a friend and personal acquaintance of the doctor's son Walter, as '*... a proper, comely person, charitable, and well read in the Ancient learning, witness a good Collection of old Authors, well markt with his own hand, now in my possession ... the only man, I think, that ever liv'd and dy'd without pain.*'²⁶

Dr Baylie's eldest son from a first marriage (Walter) would eventually inherit his father's estate in Widcombe, though not directly from his father, who died in 1645. Of the seven children born during a second marriage, only three survived beyond infancy – Thomas (who also became a doctor), Elizabeth and Mary.²⁷

In 1635 – ten years before Ralph Baylie's death – tenure of his estate in Widcombe, then mainly comprising the farm of Gules, was conveyed 'in trust' to his younger son Thomas.²⁸ The Indenture drawn up at the time also made particular reference to '*... one other Messuage and Copiehold Tenement in Lyncombe and Widcombe aforesaid in the County of Somerset commonly called by the name of Gayes Tenement late in the possession of Elizabeth Gay widow deceased, now in the tenure and occupation of Walter Bailie gent. son of the said Ralph Bailie or his assigns*'. This information would prove very helpful in later stages of the research.

Thomas Baylie finally signed and sealed his Will after adding a codicil on the last day of July 1643, but probate was not granted until 1646, by which time his sister Mary and both his parents (all mentioned in the Will) had died within the space of two years.²⁹ Thomas's two sisters Elizabeth and Mary were named as executors, but only Elizabeth remained by the time the Will was proved. Elizabeth died soon afterwards, but had the forethought to leave a Will (probate February 1647/8) which included the following bequest:

*... I give, devise and bequeath unto my brother Walter Baylie and his heirs for ever all those two tenements lately descended unto me by the death of my brother Thomas Baylie commonly called or known by the name of Gayes and Gules situate, lying and being within the parish of Widcombe and Lyncombe and all the landed meadows, pastures and commons ... thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining.*³⁰

Also relevant to this research was the discovery that there was a family link between Walter Baylie and the Colthurst family of Widcombe, who would become the final owners of the property and land eventually known as Gules, Gayes and Fishers.

Walter Baylie died in 1672. His Will (written in Latin) included several references to a Margaret and Elizabeth Lee, described as '*consobrinae*' [maternal female cousins] of Thomas, Edward and Anne Colthurst.³¹ A year later, before probate of Walter's Will was granted, Thomas Colthurst, by way of a written Indenture signed by Margaret Lee, heir of Walter Baylie, acquired land and property in Widcombe known as Gules, Gayes and Fishers.³²

Margaret Lee, daughter of Walter Baylie's wife Margaret, and named as Walter's heir after his death, was a first cousin of Thomas Colthurst (1636 - 1705). Their mothers were sisters.³³ So when Margaret Lee signed the 1673 Indenture, conveying Gules (10 acres including the 'Home Ground') and also Gayes and Fishers to Thomas Colthurst, she was transferring them to her cousin. After he died in 1705, Gules, Gayes and Fishers passed to his son, also named Thomas.

Thomas Colthurst Junior died in 1724, but two indentures drawn up after his death confirm that between 1708 and 1722 his holdings in Widcombe, including the tenements of Gules, Gayes and Fishers and the land belonging to them, were granted to a number of different lease-holders or tenants.³⁴

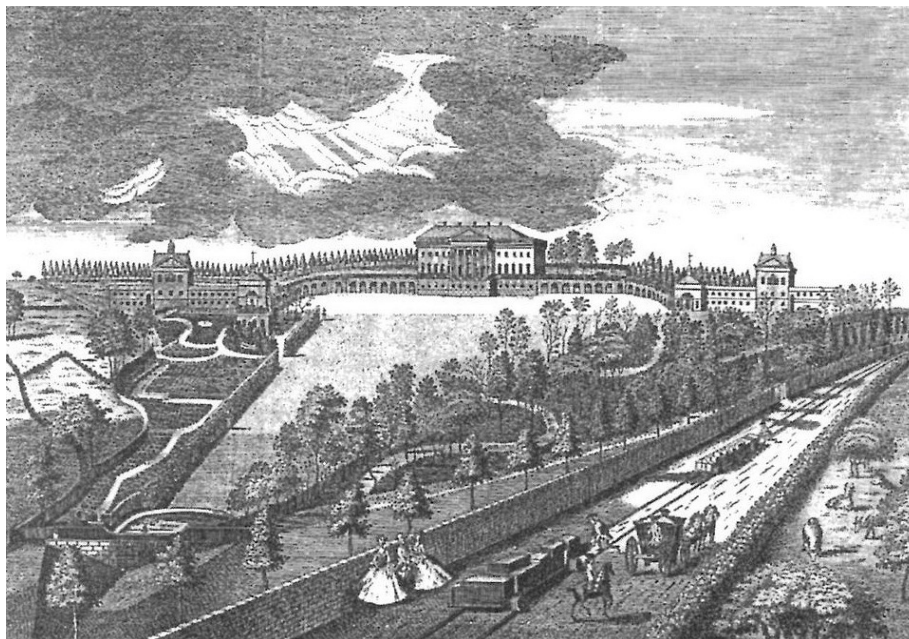
By 1727, Ralph Allen was anxious to develop his stone business and settle in Widcombe. One scheme he had in mind was the construction of a carriage way or rail road to transport stone from his quarries high up on Combe Down to a new stone-yard and wharf at the foot of the hill.



Ralph Allen's stoneyard ³⁵

Copied by Mike Chapman from 'A view of Widcombe, Bath'
by Copplestone Warre Bampfylde, c.1750

He also had plans for a grand new mansion, to be built high on the hill above Widcombe, with a magnificent view of the city beyond. The idea was that he would not only see Bath, but his house would also be seen and admired by the people who were there.



Prior Park, Bath and Ralph Allen's railway in 1750

from an engraving by Anthony Walker

Allen's purchase of property and land from the estate of Thomas Colthurst deceased was first recorded in an Indenture drawn up in 1731 and eventually settled in a further Indenture dated 1741.³⁶ Each of these documents recited in detail the history of the tenements and land conveyed to various people by the younger Thomas Colthurst in the years leading up to his death. He died bankrupt, presenting Ralph Allen with an opportunity to acquire the land he needed.

Previously granted to George Cobb in 1722, and now to be part of Ralph Allen's Widcombe Estate were *'tenements and appurtenances formerly called Gules, Gays and Fishers and the parcels of land thereunto belonging therein that is to say, all that pasture Ground adjoining to the said tenement called Gules, commonly called or known by the name of the Home Ground containing by Estimation ten acres, be it more or less ...'*³⁷ It was now possible (other areas being eliminated) to see where Gules and its adjoining land might neatly fit into the map below.

Section of The Ralph Allen Estate Map [revised]³⁸

Areas 14, 15, 16 and 17 almost certainly represent the land originally belonging to and adjoining Gules – later known as 'the Home Ground' – estimated area 10 acres 'be it more or less' .



Layout of fields retraced by John Hawkes

The most significant clue to the location of Little Gayes was found in the parish register of the church of St Thomas à Becket. It might well have gone unnoticed among the entries of all the christenings, weddings and burials that were recorded there. On a page adjacent to one headed Edward Colthurst, July ye 23rd 1710, was a list of the *Tythings* of the said parish.

Number 8 in the list was *'... Little Gays liveing: the house stood in Mr Colthurst's place where he [?] his oxen near the wattering place there; and part of his ?staul belonged to that liveing.'*

Next listed was *'... Baylise Liveing now Mr Colthursts'*.

Area 19 is known to have been the site of Thomas Colthurst's ox house, where there was also a watering place.³⁹ This can now be confirmed, therefore, as the site of the tenement known as Little

The late Peter Addison of the Bath Archaeological Trust was named as the source of a description of the White Hart in a listing found on historicengland.org.uk.⁴⁶ His opinion at the time (1998) was that the rear of the building may have belonged to an earlier date than its frontage. This is ambiguous. Possibly he only meant that the more formal facade of the building was a later addition. The original 18th century building must have undergone a number of alterations during its long history and is known to have been extensively modernised in 1998 when a former skittle alley to the rear of the main building was adapted for use as accommodation.

The White Hart, Widcombe – built before 1737



Frontage of the White Hart
The Ralph Allen Cottages on the right
– built at about the same time



Part of a former skittle alley
converted in 1998 to provide
accommodation

Tracing the history of the farm of Gules and matching acreage to area measurements recorded on a map were vital factors in this investigation, but, in the end, it was knowing who lived where in Widcombe and when; the layout of its meadows and pastures; the location of grazing areas and watering places, ox-houses and barns, woods and withy beds that made it possible to click the pieces of the puzzle into place. Without the ground-breaking research carried out and recorded by the Survey of Old Bath and the all-important input and guidance of local historians, the whereabouts in Widcombe of a farm named Gules might never have been discovered.

It is not difficult to picture a scene described in a note from bailiff John Bygg to Hugh Sexey. The note was found attached to a renewal of a lease of land in Widcombe to Thomas Parsons in 1613 and described how *'This was agreed on at the gate by Henry Gay's house going to the field in the presence of old Robert Fisher & my self ...'*⁴⁷

As the researcher and author P.J. Randell wrote in his biography of Hugh Sexey – *'The image of three men leaning on a gate, staring at a field, discussing and arranging a deal, is indicative of a very different world.'*⁴⁸

Further reading – Books, Booklets and Articles:

- Mike Chapman The J. Charlton Map of Lyncombe and Widcombe 1799
John Hawkes and Published for the Survey of Old Bath, 1998, with help from Bath & North East
Elizabeth Holland Somerset Council
- Documents of the Ralph Allen Estate and Other Papers:
Graphics: Mike Chapman and John Hawkes
Typesetting and Layout: Mike Chapman
Illustrations and text by John Hawkes and Mary Hawkes
Illustrations and text by Mike Chapman and Elizabeth Holland
Published by the Survey of Old Bath, 2008
Printed by MLD, 105 Midford Road, Combe Down, Bath
- L.G.H. Horton-Smith Dr. Walter Bailey (or Bayley) c. 1529 – 1592: Physician to Queen Elizabeth:
His Parentage, His Life, And His Relatives and Descendants:
The Campfield Press, St Albans, Herts, 1952
- Allan J. Keevil Barrack's Farm, Wellsway, Bath: The Estate and its Holders:
historyofbath.org: Bath History, Vol. 8 (2000), pp. 27- 55
- P.W. Randell The Life and Times of Hugh Sexey of Bruton: Auditor To James I:
Grosvenor House Publishing Ltd. 2015

References and notes:

General note: The surname of Dr Ralph Baylye and his descendants (spelt in a variety of ways in original documents) is recorded as Baylie throughout this article.

- ¹ Image reproduced by kind permission of the Victoria Art Gallery, Bath: 19th Century Watercolour; artist unknown
- ² Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club - Vol 1 - by the Rev. Leonard Jenkins, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S.: Feb. 1864; Bath S. Hayward, "Express" Office, Green Street. Copy made by the Secretary, of the Deed in the possession of Edward Howes Esq. conveying the Lease of the Summer Pasture of Hayes and Sidenham to William Cokke, 1525/26; pp. 111- 114. Pastures of Hayes and Sidenham also marked on Charlton Map (1799) – leaseholder Miss Allen
- ³ A.J. Keevil: Barrack(s) Farm, Wellsway, Bath: The Estate and its Holders: Bath History, Vol. 8, 2000, pp. 27-55
- ⁴ Two chartularies of the priory of St Peter at Bath. I. The chartulary in ms. register in the library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. II. Calendar of the ms. register in the library of the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn by Bath Priory: Hunt, William, 1842-1931 (ed); introduction lxxiv (74) Publisher [London] Printed for subscribers only [by Harrison and sons]; 1893
- ⁵ See ref. ³, p.35 and ref. ²⁴ (p.50)
- ⁶ See ref. ², p. 113
- ⁷ See ref. ³
- ⁸ Somerset Heritage Centre [SHC] : DD/SE/28/13: Copy Lease for Lives: Queen Elizabeth to John Gay and his sons Henry and Benedict. [Incomplete]. Not dated - date estimated from information in document 1573. Transcribed from Latin by Mike Chapman
- ⁹ Calendar of Patent Rolls, Elizabeth I, Vol. III, No. 1100, Crown lease to Thomas Gay, 6 August 1565
- ¹⁰ P.W. Randell suggests a queried date of 1592 in his biography: The Life and Times of Hugh Sexey of Bruton: Auditor to James I: Grosvenor House Publishing Ltd., 2015; Appendix 1
- ¹¹ SHC: DD/SE/21/2: 1592: Lease of Gules entrusted to Hugh Sexey for sixty years
- ¹² SHC: DD/SE/23/1: Visitors of High Sexey's Hospital, Bruton: letters and memoranda concerning tenancies, etc. of property in Lyncombe and Widcombe c 1600 – 1619
- ¹³ Drawn for the Feoffees of the Hugh Sexey Estate; fold-out reproduction in *The J. Charlton Map*

of Lyncombe and Widcombe 1799: Chapman, Hawkes & Holland: published for the Survey of Old Bath with help from Bath & North East Somerset Council, 1998

- ¹⁴ Bath Record Office: Survey of the Manors of Hampton, Claverton with Widcombe belonging to Ralph Allen Esqr. and large map of the Ralph Allen Estates at Bath
A copy of the map by John Hawkes, together with a numbered terrier, can be found in the booklet *The J. Charlton Map of Lyncombe and Widcombe, 1799*, pp. 20-21
- ¹⁵ The Widcombe parish register lists the burial of Joane (not Jane) Gay in February 1610/11. Henry Gaye married Joan Masie at Weston All Saints Church (Bath) in 1578.
- ¹⁶ Somerset Record Society Vol. 38: "Accounts of the Chamberlains of the City of Bath 1568-1602" p 50 Roll 11, 1581: Casual Receipts: of Bennett GAYE for his freedom 3/-d
- ¹⁷ SHC: DD\SE/23/1: Correspondence relating to tenancies 1600-19
- ¹⁸ Ibid. 1613 Letter from Benedict Gaye to Hugh Sexey
- ¹⁹ Ibid. 1614 Letter from John Bygg to Hugh Sexey re offer from a Mr Bromley, gent.
- ²⁰ Ibid. Lyncombe & Widcombe: A note of the Landes belonging to Benydicke Gaye's Ten't. all by him 25 Sept 1616
- ²¹ Ibid. 19 April 1618: Ralph Baylie to Hugh Sexey informing him that he had agreed with Bennet Gay for Guyles at Widcombe 31st May 1618. Ralphe Bayie to Sexey about the agreement between him and Bennet Gay touching Gules farme. Benedict's letter confirming agreement with Ralph Baylie
- ²² SHC: DD/SE/28/14: Copy Lease for 99 years and lives: Hugh Sexey to Ralph Baylie of Bath, doctor of Physic: 1619
- ²³ P.W. Randell: *The Life and Times of Hugh Sexey of Bruton: Auditor to James I*; Grosvenor House Publishing Ltd. 2015; Chapter 15, pp. 211-226
- ²⁴ Mike Chapman: (Speaker): The Bruton Estate in Bath: History of Bath Research Group, Newsletter 64, Autumn 2012, p.11
- ²⁵ L.G.H. Horton-Smith: *Dr. Walter Bailey c. 1529 – 1592: Physician to Queen Elizabeth*: The Campfield Press, St Albans, Herts, 1952, p. 28
- ²⁶ Thomas Guidott: *A discourse of Bathe, and the hot waters there with an account of the lives, and character, of the physicians of Bathe*: printed for Henry Brome, London, 1676. p.175
<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebo2/A42300.0001.001?view=toc>
- ²⁷ See ref.²⁵: p.84
- ²⁸ SHC: DD/SE/52/2: Visitors of Hugh Sexey's Hospital, Bruton:
Indenture dated 1635: Gules granted to Thomas, son of Ralph Baylie, 'in trust'.
Walter Baylie living at 'Gayes'
- ²⁹ ancestry.co.uk : Burials: Mary Baylie, Bath Abbey 29 JUL 1643;
Anne Baylie, Bath Abbey 5 AUG 1643; Ralph Baylie, Lyncombe & Widcombe 16 NOV 1645
- ³⁰ Ibid. Wills & Probate: Elizabeth Baylie, Bath, Somerset; probate 18 FEB 1647/8
- ³¹ Ibid. Gualteri (Walter) Baylie: probate 10 JUL 1674
- ³² SHC: DD\VA/1: 1673 Lyncombe and Widcombe deed recording
Lease and Release of 3 Tenements and land in Widcombe known as Gules, Gayes and Fishers.
From Margaret Lee, heir of Walter Bayley (son of Ralph Bayley), to Thomas Colthurst
- ³³ Margaret Lee was the daughter of Margaret Lee, who became the wife of Walter Baylie.
Thomas, Edward and Anne Colthurst were the children of William Colthurst and Elizabeth (nee Lee).
The fact that Walter Baylie's Will described the younger Margaret Lee as 'consobrina' (a maternal cousin) of the three Colthurst children, strongly suggests that Margaret Baylie (nee Lee) and Elizabeth Colthurst (nee Lee) were sisters.
- ³⁴ SHC: DD/X/OBN/1: Lyncombe and Widcombe deeds etc. 1715 – 1816

- ³⁵ Documents of the Ralph Allen Estate and Other Papers: drawing by Mike Chapman, p.2:
<https://historyofbath.org/images/documents/Records%20of%20Bath%20History%20Vol%201.1.pdf>
- ³⁶ See ref.³⁴ : 1731 and 1741 Indentures
- ³⁷ Ibid. 1731 Indenture
- ³⁸ From *The J. Charlton Map of Lyncombe and Widcombe, 1799*: Published for the Survey of Old Bath, 1998: enlarged section of the map on p. 21 (by John Hawkes) – colouring added to indicate probable location of Gules and its ‘home ground’
- ³⁹ Ibid. p.20
- ⁴⁰ SHC: Visitors of Hugh Sexey’s Hospital, Bruton; DD/SE/38/2; survey labelled ‘Edward Wykes gent.’ 1619 – 1620. Includes a survey of Lyncombe & Widcombe dated 20 OCT 17 James (1619)
- ⁴¹ See ref.³⁸
- ⁴² Mike Chapman (ed.), with additional material by John Hawkes and Elizabeth Holland: Documents of the Ralph Allen Estate and Other Papers; Published 2008 by the Survey of Old Bath, p. 3
<https://historyofbath.org/images/documents/Records%20of%20Bath%20History%20Vol%201.1.pdf>
It was not until 1808 that Widcombe Crescent was built on the site of what had once been known as ‘Thomas Colthust’s Living’ - (area 17 on the Ralph Allen Estate Map).
- ⁴³ Ibid. p. 46
Also see: Andrew Swift and Kirsten Elliott: *The Lost Pubs of Bath*; Akeman Press, 2005; p.65 (map)
- ⁴⁴ Relevant section of the ‘pull-out’ J. Charlton Map (see ref.³⁸) – colouring added to indicate probable location of Gules and its ‘home ground’
- ⁴⁵ See ref.⁴² ; p. 56
- ⁴⁶ Peter Addison: [Author of *Around Combe Down*: Millstream Books 1998]
Reference to the White Hart: <https://historicengland.org.uk>: List Entry Number: 1395771
- ⁴⁷ P.W. Randell: *The Life and Times of Hugh Sexey of Bruton: Auditor to James I*: Grosvenor House Publishing Ltd., 2015; Chapter 8, p. 115
- ⁴⁸ Ibid.

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