



## Report on Research at Kent Archives

The task was to follow up on the William Hunter who was baptised in 1653 in the parish of Ingleby Greenhow and his father Nicholas Hunter of Battersby to see if they or people who may have been associated with them, such as the wider Hunter, Rountree and Sayer families, appeared in the records of the manor of Ingleby Greenhow and Battersby held at the Kent Archives with the papers of the Foulis family. The overall aim of the Hunter research, of which this is a small part, is to establish whether William Hunter of Nansemond, who was named in the Headright of Charles Rountree dated 1685 along with Nicholas Hunter, Joane Hunter, Rebecka Hunter, Robert Rountree and John Sayer, was the same person as the William Hunter who was baptised in Ingleby Greenhow in 1653.

Maxine Willett, in her report of 14 August 2023, identified records of the manor of Ingleby Greenhow and Battersby in the catalogues of the Kent Archives which are in the Kent History and Library Centre in Maidstone, Kent. The records are held as part of the deposit of Lord De L'Isle of Penshurst Place and permission had to be sought from Lord De L'Isle to view the records. This permission was sought and given but no photography or other imaging of the documents was permitted and the request was made that Lord De L'Isle should receive a complimentary copy of any published work based on research in the Foulis papers.

Maxine Willett had identified specific references within the Kent Archives catalogue as U1886/M1-M12. Further detailed perusal of the catalogue prior to a visit to the archives to view the documents identified a number of other documents which might be of use, mostly being rentals of the manor. Such rentals are generally a full listing of the tenants of the manor, with details of how much rent they pay in any one year and so they form a type of census of the manor, although only noting the individual tenants rather than their wider households. Rentals may also include freeholders, that is those who lived in the manor paying rent to the lord of the manor, rather than just the copyhold tenants who were direct tenants of the manor. Some of the Ingleby Greenhow rentals do include such freeholders. The permission from Lord De L'Isle was kindly extended to include the additional documents and some other documents which were identified and which relate to Hutton Rudby (see below).

One problem with manorial documents is that the major ones, such as the court rolls which list the passing of tenancies to one generation from another (amongst other things), is that they only refer to the direct manorial tenants rather than sub-tenants as well. Sub-tenants may appear in the records of, for example, the Court Leet of the manor which had the right to try minor offences committed within the manor but would not otherwise feature in the manorial records. There might, therefore, be no evidence in those records of them having lived in the area.

The following documents were examined at the archives on 19 October 2023, all as original documents:

U1886/M1: List of inhabitants (1682-1700)

U1886/M2: Engrossed court roll (1701-1711)

U1886/M10/2: Note of four 'pains' (nd [c17th-18th century])

U1886/M10/5: Transcript of U1886/M10/4 (nd [c17th-18th century]) which was a very detailed roll of pains signed by 15 tenants (1617-1727)

U1886/M9/1-21: Estreat rolls (1625-1711)  
U1886/E44/2: Rental of Ingleby (1607)  
U1886/E44/7: Rental of Ingleby, Battersby and Greenhow (1613)  
U1886/E44/8: Note of yearly rents (1629)  
U1886/E44/9: Rental of Ingleby, Battersby, Greenhow and Ayton (1629)  
U1886/E44/11: Rental of Ingleby, Battersby, Greenhow and Ayton (1634)  
U1886/E44/12: Michaelmas rent account (1634)  
U1886/E44/13: Rental (1661)  
U1886/E44/18: Rental of Ingleby and Battersby (nd [17th century])  
U1886/E44/24: Valuation and division of rents of Ingleby, Batter... (nd [17th century])  
U1886/E44/25: Particular of farms in Greenhow (nd [17th century])  
U1886/E21/1: Draft rental of Ingleby and Battersby tenants as t... (nd [c1606])

The following documents, included in the M1-12 identified by Maxine Willett, were not examined as being either too early, or too late, in terms of the relevant period covering the dates 1653 to 1685 and some years either side.

U1886/M3: Engrossed court roll (1712-1727)  
U1886/M4/1-7: Engrossed court roll (1728-1739)  
U1886/M5/1-7: Engrossed court roll (1740-1752)  
U1886/M6: Draft Court roll (1725)  
U1886/M12: Court roll (1591)

The following documents were also not examined, as being too early:

U1886/M13: Court roll (1595)  
U1886/M14: Court roll (1598)

No trace was found of the Hunter, Rountree or Sayer surnames (or any variants of those surnames) in any of the examined documents with the exception of the following:

1. **U1886/M2 Court roll 1701-1711.** Johes Rowntry appeared in the list of tenants in Battersby from 1704 until at least 1710. Johannes was the Latin version of the first name John.
2. **U1886/M9 13-19 Estreat Rolls 1647-1651.** From 1647 to 1651 Nicholas Hunter (presumably the Nicholas Hunter of Battersby who had a son William baptised in 1653 in Ingleby Greenhow) was fined each year at the court, along with a number of other people, for selling ale contrary to the form of the statute. Specifically in 1651 he, along with four other people, was fined because he was "a brewer of Ayle and because he hath sold it contrary to the forme of the statute". There was a gap in the records between 1651 and 1657 and Nicholas Hunter did not appear in the 1657 record. There was then a larger gap in the records between 1659 and 1709, the 1709 record being in a different, shorter form and in Latin. Nicholas Hunter did not feature in the 1709 record.

As you will see from the dates of the records above there are no manorial rentals or court records listed in the catalogue for the period from 1634 to 1661. If Nicholas Hunter was a manorial tenant (as opposed to a sub-tenant) then he could have moved into and out of the manor within that period without there being a surviving record, other than the fines. If, however, he was a sub-tenant then he and his family could have been living in the area of the manor for years either side of the dates he was fined without leaving any trace in the records. All that the fines establish is that Nicholas Hunter was resident in the area from 1647 and 1651 and brewing and selling beer. Since he had a son baptised in 1653 it can be assumed that he remained resident there until at least that date.

Turning back to the perusal of the catalogue of the Foulis papers mentioned above, and referring to Maxine Willett's report in which she noted a William Hunter was a witness to Henry Ogle's will in Rudby in 1683/4, Hutton Rudby being about 9 miles east of Ingleby Greenhow with Stokesley roughly in the middle, a spreadsheet was made of the details of all documents where the Hunter or Rountree surname appeared. This is attached and, as can be seen, there was a Hunter family present owning or leasing land in the parish over the nearly a century covered by the papers, a court case generating a certain amount of the paperwork involved. A number of the documents specify relationships between the individuals named but it is unlikely that a full family tree of the Hunters of Hutton Rudby could be constructed from these documents. One document (U1886/E45/15) was examined at the archives. This was a note written by a lawyer in reference to a claim over a particular piece of land. The land was originally owned by Lawrence Hunter who did not leave any living sons. Originally he left it to his daughter Ann for life and her heirs, but if that failed then to his daughter Margery for life and her heirs. A subsequent document referred to the land being left directly to Margery for life with the remainder to her second son Thomas. Lawrence died before 1634 and potentially many years earlier.

Whilst the contents of this document probably do not assist in the search for William Hunter they do demonstrate the information that can be obtained from a viewing of the original document. The catalogue entries are fairly full, but they cannot, of necessity, give all the information included in the document.

Maxine Willett stated the following on page 4 of her report:

*"I'd also like to refer back to the William Hunter who is a witness to Henry Ogle's will in Rudby 1683/4; I believe this might be the same individual who is listed as a Linen Weaver in Hutton Rudby (about 9 miles east of Ingleby Greenhow) in a bond dated 1659; there are also property disputes dated 1638 which refer to a deceased father of this name, so unlikely to be the individual we seek."*

I looked at the 1638 property disputes in the catalogue entries (not the documents themselves). The catalogue entry for U1886/L14 states that the land was owned by "William Hunter, yeoman, who died about 80 years ago" (about 1558) and that it was passed to his sole daughter and heir Elizabeth Hunter who married William Robinson. This William Hunter was, therefore, a different William Hunter to the William Hunter who was a linen weaver in 1659. The linen weaver in 1659 may or may not have been a witness to the will in 1683/4 and hence the witness to the will is not excluded from being the William Hunter who was baptised in 1653 in Ingleby Greenhow.

The permission to view the documents (which includes the Hutton Rudby documents identified in the spreadsheet) is valid for six months so if you would like me to make a further visit to view any or all of these documents then please let me know.

In conclusion, the Foulis papers for the manor of Ingleby Greenhow and Battersby, as examined, do not show any particularly relevant information. They do establish that Nicholas Hunter was living in the area in the period 1647-1651 (and presumably until at least 1653). He could, as noted above, either have been a sub-tenant and so just featured as having being fined for breaching the laws of the time, or he could have been a manorial tenant who moved into and out of the manor within the time period 1634-1661. The name Nicholas Hunter does not appear in the catalogue entries in reference to the land in Hutton Rudby.

Please let me know if you have any questions on the above report or would like further research undertaken.

Please note that whilst you are welcome to share the information in this report with other interested parties it is requested that you do not publish it, either in whole or in part, and particularly not on the internet, without prior permission.

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Reference	Date	Names	Details
U1886/T45/1	1568.02.07	Laurence Hunter of Hutton near Rudbie	Land in Hutton, Robert Layton indenture of covenant
U1886/T41/2	1568.10.29	Thomas Hunter	land adjoining that of Thomas Hunter on the north in Huton
U1886/T45/2	1582.11.06	Richard Hunter and others plaintiff, Lawrence Hunter defendant	Land in Hutton near Rudby. £80 paid by Richard Hunter and others to Lawrence Hunter
U1886/T42/1	1598.08.20	Roger Hunter, yeoman of Hutton juxta Rudbye	land in Huton juxta Rudbye
U1886/T42/2	1598.08.20	Roger Hunter, yeoman of Hutton juxta Rudbye	land in Hutton juxta Rudbye, bond
U1886/T42/3	1598.10.09	Roger Hunter defendant	Exemplification of a fine, land in Huton Rudbie
U1886/T10/2	1611.07.24	Agnes Rountree of Stopley, widow and Ralph her son, gent	2 acres of land in Ingleby in exchange for 5 lands of Sir David Foulis in Ingleby
U1886/L7	1626.05.16	Thomas Hunter, late of Hutton juxta Rudbie	Inquisition post mortem. Thomas died possessed of 2 bovates of land in Hutton on 30 Nov 1625. Francis Hunter, aged 23, son and next heir.
U1886/T43/1	1636.06.18	Francis Hunter yeoman of Hutton near Rudbye	land in Hutton, covenant by Francis Hunter that he will performacts for the better assurance of title to the property of William Kitchin and his 2nd son John Kitchin
U1886/T43/2	1636.06.18	Francis Hunter	Bond to William and John Kitchin, moiety of two Oxgangs (probably land in Hutton near Rudby)
U1886/T43/3	1636.06.18	Francis Hunter	Bond to William and John Kitchin, moiety of two Oxgangs (probably land in Hutton near Rudby)
U1886/T43/4	1638.05.10	Francis Hunter	Bond to William and John Kitchin, moiety of two Oxgangs (probably land in Hutton near Rudby)
U1886/T43/6	1638.05.10	Francis Hunter of Hutton near Rudbye	Land in Hutton near Rudbie. £50 paid by William Kitchin to Francis Hunter
U1886/L14	1638.05.16	Peter Hunter, Thomas Hunter etc	complaint re land in Hutton near Rudby which was owned by William Hunter, yeoman, who died about 80 years ago (c 1558) passed to his sole daughter and heir Elizabeth Hunter m.

			William Robinson c 1558. Mary Walker their daughter inherited it on death of William Robinson c 1583 and Elizabeth thereafter. Mary m George Walker c 1608. Peter and Thomas Hunter acquired the deeds and held them, entering the land about 1628.
U1886/L15	1638.06.21	Peter Hunter, Thomas Hunter etc	answer to complaint that thy have concealed the deeds which prove Mary Walker's title to land in Hutton near Rudby inherited from her grandfather William Hunter
U1886/T41/11	1638.07.20	Thomas Hunter, yeoman of Hutton Rudby, father Roger Hunter	Indenture of feoffment, land in Hutton Rudby
U1886/T41/12	1638.07.20	Thomas Hunter	Signed by Thomas Hunter although not a party to the deed
U1886/T43/5	1638.10.09	Francis Hunter and his wife Anne	William and John Kitchin plaintiffs, Francis and Anne Hunter defendants, exemplication of a fine land in Hutton juxta Rudby
U1886/E45/15	1639.01.01	Laurence Hunter and heirs daughters Anne and Margery	Laurence died w/o issue male. Counsel's notes on tenure of lands in Hutton near Rudby
U1886/E21/12	1649.03.20	Christopher Hunter	Lease of a farm in Thoroughby now in tenure of Christopher Hunter
U1886/E21/13	1649.03.20	Christopher Hunter	Bond of Christopher Hunter to Sir Thomas Layton to keep the covenants of the lease of farm in Thoroughby
U1886/T77/7	1658.01.01	John Rountree of Bishopton, yeoman and others	1669.07.24 assignment of debt due to Elizabeth Fowlis following default on a debt, bondsment including John Rountree
U1886/T47	1662.01.01	William Hunter and others	Land in Hutton juxta Rudby, fine. William Hunter, Peter and Eleanor Consett defendants