

Skipwith and the Pilgrimage of Grace

We know that the Parish was involved in the Pilgrimage of Grace of the 1530's, led by Robert Aske of Aughton.

He commanded that the rebel army meet on St Wilfred's day {1536} (October the 12th) on Skipwith Moor (Crook Moor – Victoria County Histories). All the common people were to muster there and to appoint captains. They were also to make proclamations to the King's issue and preserve the Church of God from spoiling.
(Above details obtained from Geoffrey Moorhouse's book "The Pilgrimage of Grace")

The entire following managed to acquire a number of other gentlemen including a priest from Brayton – Thomas Maunsell, and after discussing tactics and policy on the Moor they marched off for Market Weighton. We know (RW Hoyle p196 that Robert Aske was not there at this gathering)

"Whether any of these men or indeed any of the letter's signatories attended Skipwith Moor is unknown. Certainly Aske was not there. Thomas Maunsell- who was-, never refers to his presence.Aske was at Howden on Thursday and ended it camped at Market Weighton"

Note Skipwith Moor belonged to Skipwith Manor.

In the notes on the stained glass windows in Skipwith Church I mentioned that one of the coats of arms may well be that of the Hussey family who lived- amongst other places - at North Duffield Castle (in the Parish of Skipwith). This manor descended to the Husseys, whose castle stood on the banks of the Derwent. www.gatehouse-gazeteer.info

Lord Hussey, of this place, took an active part in the Pilgrimage of Grace, and was executed with the other leaders in 1537. *This statement cannot be correct as this Lord Hussey was from Sleaford in Lincolnshire and did not hold the manor of North Duffield; but a relative certainly did.*

We know this is not the same person as the John Hussey of North Duffield for two reasons:-

Firstly as the Lord Hussey of the Pilgrimage had all his lands and estates confiscated, and neither North Duffield nor Harswell (nr Market Weighton) are among those listed as belonging to him.

Secondly the following notes show who held the manor of North Duffield (and Harswell) around that time.

The castle was demolished long ago, but the site where it stood is still easily traceable by the unevenness of the ground. Near the spot is Duffield Hall, now a farmhouse.

Some further notes to back this up:-

From www.british-historyonline.ac.uk "At this time (1486) the manor of North Duffield was held by John Hussey and Thomas Ballard during the minority of Anne daughter and heir of Sir John Salvayne." Salvaynes were the Lords of the Manor of North Duffield. By 1496 Anne was the wife of Sir William Hussey. (he appears to have died in 1531 aged 61).

Reference to <http://whipplephoto.com/Genealogy/> tells us that Anne Salvin was born in 1475 at Thorpe Salvin Yorkshire and was married in about 1498 (most likely earlier) at Linwood Lincolnshire to William Hussey (a younger brother of the Lord Hussey executed in the Pilgrimage) born about 1470 Sleaford Lincolnshire died in 1531.

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558> tells us that this marriage brought with it lands in Yorkshire, specifically Harswell and North Duffield, and that the family later settled here.

Their first son George Hussey was born in 1497 (so they must have been married before this event) and he was born at Harswell. He died on 10th August 1537, and is buried at Hemingbrough.

George Hussey married in about 1518 an Anne Constable (born about 1504), daughter of Sir Robert Constable and Jane Ingleby Constable.

They had four children:

William Hussey b December 1522 Harswell

Frances Hussey b about 1524 North Duffield

Robert Hussey about 1526 Harswell

John Hussey b 1529 Harswell died 10 Jul 1589 aged 60 yrs

In http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gowenrf/husseymys_003.html we are told of other children:

George Hussey born about 1519 who died young, and Robert's date is given as about 1523, Frances' date is given as 1516, and John's about 1524. Also William's birth is given as 1523/24 in <http://historyofparliament.org/volume1509-1559> he is thought to have been a lawyer at Middle Temple and an MP.

William Hussey was reported to be aged 14 years and 9 months on the death of his father George. He inherited Harswell and North Duffield.

He (William) married in about 1547 an Anne Babthorpe daughter of Sir William Babthorpe of Yorkshire (of Osgodby and Flotmanby).

William became a judge in Feb 3rd 1561 by Queen Elizabeth

However another reference – www.historyofparliamentonline.org gives some different information.

It tells us that the William Hussey (the 3rd) was born in 1523 and died in 1570.

“After William Hussey died seized of it (the manor of North Duffield) in 1570 The Manor of North Duffield and Harswell passed to his brother John, (William is reported as having two sons so quite why they did not inherit remains a mystery), and then to John's daughter Anne who married Sir Robert Constable. In 1614 William Constable sold it to William Ingleby.

William and Anne Babthorpe had two sons:

Robert born about 1549 and John born about 1551 (Robert was still alive in 1586)

There is a note that John Hussey son of George Hussey and Anne Constable Hussey inherited the estate at North Duffield in 1537 on the death of his father.

Both of the underlined sections above come from the same source and cannot both be correct.

The John Hussey above (son of George and Anne Constable) died on 10th July 1589, he went to Pembroke College Cambridge (1550) and was affiliated to Grays Inn in 1553, he married in about 1554 Mary Norton. This would then match the information below.

Some information obtained from the North Duffield local History group and published on their web site (I have in fact seen the original document ref WYAS Yorks Arch Soc MD59/6MISC/119) says that:

“In a document from 1580 {Queen Elizabeth} John Hussey Esquire (possibly William's heir, his brother – see above – entered into an agreement with a Nicolas Nesbeck – waterman of Bubwith to maintain a ferry and build a new boat to carry 8 men and 8 horses”