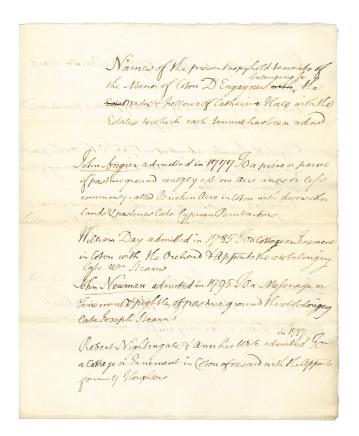
"Names of Tenants in Coton Manor"

Robert Woodlark, the College's founder, began buying land in Coton in the 1450s. In 1475 Woodlark transferred his acquisitions, amounting to *c*. 133 acres, to the College. In 1513 the college bought Maidenbury's manor in Coton. Subsequent small purchases brought the College's land in Coton to 275 acres after inclosure; all of which was sold in 1920. The College therefore has a great deal of material relating to Coton within its archive and this article focus on a list of tenants from 1801.



Henry Meadley admitted in 1770 To a Barn & Mard
Nhow to belonging

And also to the fourth part of an dere of passure ground called
Brick Mice dere ush the appeals

Elizabeth Launder admitted in 1746 To the north part
of a Majoragein Coon near Upfield there concrishing of his
low Prooms Hafrotody

And also to one rood by est more olds of oursomany and be
land in Upfield in Jon in a certain fureous than orded

Burlings furling

John Poe Sligabeth Poe Midow and had

Clig Orath Widow is her only child & neather

Lists such as this list of tenants are incredibly useful for family historians, those researching land history and social historians, as they often provide a wealth of extra information as well as confirming who lived in a particular place at a particular time. Here the focus is on two of the entries in particular, that of John Angier (the first tenant listed) and Elizabeth Launder (the last tenant listed).

John Angier admitted in 1777 To a pièce or parece of pasture ground consgly est one aere more or less commonly called Brichin acre in loton wish dwersoker lands & pastures late fyprian Pembertons

From this entry we can see that Angier was admitted as a tenant in 1777 and the piece of land he occupied was commonly known as Buckin Acre, previously occupied by Cyprian Pemberton. John Angier was from a long line of Angiers who had lived and farmed in Coton. He died in 1835 and the lands were inherited by his son Henry who sold all their land and left the parish in 1855.

Elizabeth Launder admitted in 1746 To the north pair of a Melonage in Coton near Upfield there consisting of two low Prooms Halowlodge

Und also to one rood by est more orkers of customary drawle cand in Upfield in Gon in a cortain furlong there called Burlongs furlong

Elizabeth Launder's entry is very interesting: as well as providing information about the land she held - two low rooms and a low lodge near Upfield in Coton and one rood of arable land known as Burlongs Furlong, it gives information on her personal circumstances. The Steward has noted that Elizabeth first married John Bull, and latterly married John Coe. Coe died, as perhaps Bull had done earlier, though this is not recorded. Her daughter, also called Elizabeth, is also listed as her heir, but she too is a widow, having married a Mr Pratt. It is not clear which marriage she came from. This level of biographical detail can be invaluable and in the 19th century, when women rarely held property in their own right, it is interesting to see a single woman listed as a tenant.

References:

St. Catharine's College Archive, XVII/1/6/12

Diane K. Bolton, G. R. Duncombe, R. W. Dunning, Jennifer I. Kermode, A. M. Rowland, W. B. Stephens and A. P. M. Wright, 'Parishes: Coton', in A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 5, ed. C. R. Elrington (London, 1973), pp. 189-198 http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol5/pp189-198 [accessed 23 April 2015].

Further information:

Search the Janus website for material relating to Coton held by the Cambridge Colleges (http://janus.lib.cam.ac.uk/).

Search the Cambridgeshire Archives and Local Studies catalogue for Coton material held in the County Archives (http://calm.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/calmview/default.aspx).

The Archivist is always pleased to answer questions about the College. Enquiries should be directed to archivist@caths.cam.ac.uk, or call 01223 338343. The Archivist only works for the College on Thursdays and Fridays so there is sometimes a delay in being able to answer queries.