

Glebe Terriers

Here is the description of Glebe Terriers, taken from Wikipedia:

A **glebe terrier** is a term specific to the [Church of England](#). It is a document, usually a written survey or inventory, which gives details of [glebe](#), lands and property in the parish owned by the Church of England and held by a clergyman as part of the endowment of his benefice, and which provided the means by which the incumbent (rector, vicar or perpetual curate) could support himself and his church. Typically, glebe would comprise the vicarage or rectory, fields and the church building itself, its contents and its graveyard. If there was an absentee rector the glebe would usually be divided into rectorial glebe and the rest. "Terrier" is derived from the Latin *terra*, "earth".

The glebe terrier would be drawn up at the time of each visitation, an official visit usually by the [archdeacon](#). The Archdeacon would visit each parish annually, and the bishop visited outlying parts of his diocese every few years to maintain ecclesiastical authority and conduct [confirmations](#).

Each church was entitled to a house and glebe. The glebe lands were either cultivated by the clergyman himself, or by tenants to whom he leased the land. In those cases where the parsonage was not well-endowed with glebe, the clergyman's main source of income would come from the [tithes](#).

Glebe terriers are useful historical documents as they may contain the names of tenants and the holders of adjoining lands. As the [open field system](#) comprised many narrow strips, often isolated from each other, within the larger fields, the terrier can provide useful information on the strips and furlongs in the parish. They may also contain information on how income from tithes was calculated and collected.

Full lists of the holdings of each parish were first required in 1571. They vary greatly as the compilation of the survey was undertaken by and at the discretion of each individual clergyman. The surveys were then collected together in the Church of England Registries, but a copy was often kept in the parish. Many are now kept in county record offices.

The churchwardens of every parish are now required to maintain a terrier of all church property in the parish, together with an inventory and log-book.^[1]

Sampford Peverell has only 3 glebe terriers that have survived from the early period. They are held at Devon Heritage Centre. As indicated above, their compilation varies greatly, at the discretion of the individual clergymen. Transcriptions (made in December 2021 by Peter Bowers) follow:

Glebe terrier (undated, but probably late 16th c or early 17th c)

Sampfurd Peverell

A terryer of the gleebe lands belonging to the rectorye or parsonadge of the pish abovesayd

Im primis there is belonging unto the Rectorye or pasonadge abovesayd a mansion or dwelling howse twoe barnes a shippen a stable and other outhowes with a large courtledge and a garden contayninge one acre of ground or neere thereabouts. And what implements doo belong unto the sayd Rectorye or parsonadge house wee knowe not

Item there are belonging to the Rectorye or parsonadge abovesaid three closes or p(ar)cels of land and one meadow thereunto adioyning all which premisses are comonly called or knowen by the name of Hyghwood and doo contayne in the whole seven acres or neere thereabouts

The lymitts or boundes of the pische abovesayd

The sayd psh one the west part is next adioyning unto the psh of Halberton at the crosse waye and on the north part it is next adioyning unto the parish of Uplowman and the north part and further end of Sampford Ball. And one the East and Sowth east part it is next adioining unto the psh of Burlescombe at the middle of Leonard Bridge where it endeth And on the north East part it is next adioyning unto the psh of Holcomb Rogus and endeth at the further end of Burtridge

Church { James Bennet
Wardens { Willyam Saunder
Willm Hurford

Thomas Torner }
John Aylond } Sid(es) men
Nichas wealond }

Per me Henricus Wilson cleric

Glebe Terrier (1605)

A terrier of the Glebelands belonging to the Rectorie of Sampford Peverell A° 1605 Jacobi 3

Imprimis a garden plot next adioyning to the house having the street lying on the South and East syde ; And Muckland Orchard now in the occupation of Nicholas Morrell on the Northsyde : conteyning by estimation an Acre.

There are also belonging to the sayd Rectorie 4 closes, comonly called by the name Highwoods.

1. The greatest close conteyning 3 Acres or thereabout hath the lane on the west and Southsyde and the little mead on the East.
2. The middle close conteyneth by estimation an Acre.
3. The Northerclose adioyning to Munckland Orchard now in the occupation of Hugh Escott comonly called the footeacre conteyneth by estimation an acre and a halfe.
4. There is alsoe a little meadow plot lying on the South East Syde of the ground conteyning an Acre or somewhat more.

The whole Glebe is 7 Acres and an halfe.

There are also 9 tenements which have bin withheld by the Pouletts from the sayd Rectorie sithens the days of King Edward the sixt, whereof the First tenement is now in the occupation of Tho Warren: who yet holdeth the same by coppye graunt of parson West.

Second tenement in the occupation of the widow Blackmore

The third tenement in the occupation of Samuel Mayne, who holdeth it in the right of his wife his sonne Isaac Stone.

Fourth tenement in the hands of the widow Shepherd dwelling right over agaynst the Parsonage house.

Fifth in the occupation of Thomas Turner.

Sixth in the hands of John Coome tanner.

Seventh in the hands of William Cottey weaver.

Eyghthe in the hands of Simon Land of Butterly.

Nynth in the occupation of Hugh Escot Chapman.

The annual rents of these 9 tenements is vi £ and odd money and are to be let at a justment rent for 60 £ by the yeere, or thereabouts.

Emmanuell Maxey, ibidem Rector

Glebe Terrier (1680)

A true & perfect terrier of all the Glebe lands & other lands houses & belonging to the parsonage of Sampford Peverell in the County of Devon made by John Gawler Rector of the said parish & Thomas Rowe & Nicholas Curwood Churchwardens 1680.

Imprimis there belongeth to the Rectory of Sampford Peverell one dwelling house two barns one stable two courts one garden containing in all be estimation one Acre Item fower closes of land meadow arable & pasture called by the name of Highwood lying altogether containing by estimation seven acres be it more or lesse bounded on the east side with Mary Norrish her estate on the west side with William Bradfords estate on the north side by Thomas Rowes estate and the high-way on the south side by William Willy and William Bradfords estate. Item in Humphrey Pullens south meadow there belongs halfe an acre to the parsonage. Item a burgesse acre in David Yaws western meadow called by the name of more lake. Item for justments the parishioners do pay twenty pence of a pound and all the rest tythes in kinde excepting aples for which they do pay two pence a hoghshead for sider and excepting hay if it be old stock meadow & not let out to a yearly rent for which they do pay two pence of a pound and excepting milk for which they do pay fower pence for a cow and three pence for a heifer. *(Added subsequently in a different ink, by the same or a similar hand: for easter dutyes fower pence for a man & his wife & two pence for a single person above the age of sixteen yeares.*

This is a true and perfect terrier given by us witnesse our hands

John Gawler Rector

Thomas Roe

Nicholas Curwood (his marke)

Churchwardens