

11TH CENTURY

1066	William the Conqueror is victorious at the Battle of Hastings and is crowned King of England.
1067-70	William instigates his campaign to lay waste to lands and settlements in the north of the country which would become known as the Harrying of the North. The lands surrounding Helmsley are burned and destroyed. The manor of Helmsley is granted to the king's half-brother, Robert de Mortain.
1086	Domesday Book is completed by order of William. Helmsley is recorded in the Domesday Book as 'Elmeslac'.
1088	Robert de Mortain and Bishop Odo lead an uprising against William II but are defeated by the king's forces. The manor of Helmsley is confiscated by the Crown.

12TH CENTURY

1120	Helmsley Castle and its estate are granted to Walter Espec. During Espec's residence, Helmsley castle is either established or rebuilt on the rocky outcrop overlooking the River Rye.
1154	Walter Espec dies. Helmsley passes to Peter de Roos.
1157	Peter's son Robert de Roos is in possession of Helmsley.
1186	Robert's grandson Robert 'Fursan' de Roos rebuilds much of Helmsley, including a new curtain wall and the east and west towers.

13TH CENTURY

1227	Fursan dies and his son William de Roos succeeds Helmsley. William continues to expand Helmsley, building a new chapel.
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c.1243	William's son Robert de Roos III marries Isabel Daubeney. Following his marriage Robert embarks on further improvements
14TH CENTURY	
1316	William, son of Robert, dies and Helmsley is inherited by his son William de Roos III. Both remodelled the castle during their lifetimes, including a new hall, kitchen and apartments and the heightening of the west tower.
1334	King Edward III visits Helmsley Castle.
15TH CENTURY	
1464	Thomas de Roos III is executed for treason and Helmsley Castle is confiscated by the Crown and later granted to George, Duke of Clarence.
1478	At George's death, Helmsley is granted to Richard, Duke of Gloucester (later Richard III).
1485	Henry Tudor defeats Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth. Helmsley is restored to Edmund de Roos.
16TH CENTURY	
1508	Edmund dies without issue and the Helmsley estate is passed to his nephew, Sir George Manners.
1513	George's son Thomas Manners succeeds his father. Thomas is a strong supporter of the Tudor dynasty.
1533	Thomas assists in the removal of Abbot Edward of Rievaulx.
c.1536	The Dissolution of the Monasteries begins. Thomas purchases the site and estates of Rievaulx.
c.1563	Thomas's grandson Edward Manners carries out significant building at Helmsley, including new state apartments and a gallery. Materials are recycled from Rievaulx Abbey. The medieval hall is demolished.
1582	The Tudor mansion at Helmsley Castle is completed.
17TH CENTURY	
1620	Lady Katherine Manners marries George Villiers, 1st Duke of Buckingham.
1632	Katherine Villiers, Duchess of Buckingham, inherits Helmsley Castle, following the death of her father, Francis Manners, 6th Earl of Rutland.

1642	<p>Parliamentarian troops siege the castle in September. By November, the constable Sir Jordan Crosland surrenders the castle due to lack of food.</p> <p>Helmsley is partially dismantled on the command of Parliamentarian commander Sir Thomas Fairfax. The east tower is blown up but the Tudor mansion is preserved.</p>
1650	The castle and manor of Helmsley is granted to Fairfax and his heirs.
1657	George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham recovers his familial estate of Helmsley through marriage to Fairfax's daughter Mary.
1689	Following the death of George in 1687, the trustees are permitted to sell the Helmsley estate to settle his outstanding debts.
1695	Helmsley is sold to London banker Charles Duncombe, later Mayor of London for £90,000.
18TH CENTURY	
1711	<p>At Charles' death, the estate passes to his brother-in-law and business partner, Thomas Browne.</p> <p>Browne takes the surname Duncombe and begins to build Duncombe Park, leaving Helmsley as a picturesque ruin</p>
20TH CENTURY	
1923	Helmsley Castle passes into State guardianship.
c.1939	<p>Outbreak of Second World War.</p> <p>The castle earthworks are utilised as an anti-tank aspect of a defensive network around Helmsley.</p>
1984	Helmsley Castle passes into English Heritage control.
21ST CENTURY	
2016	The Duncombe family, Earls of Feversham, continue to own the Duncombe estate and Helmsley Castle.