

HISTORICAL SOURCES

DETAILS OF ENTRY:

Place: Howle [Hill]

Hundred: Archenfield

County: Herefordshire

Total population: 30 households

Head of manor: Archenfield.

Households: 12 villagers. 12 smallholders. 1 female slave. 4 other population. 1 smiths.

Ploughland: 2 lord's plough teams. 11 men's plough teams.

Other resources: 1 fishery.

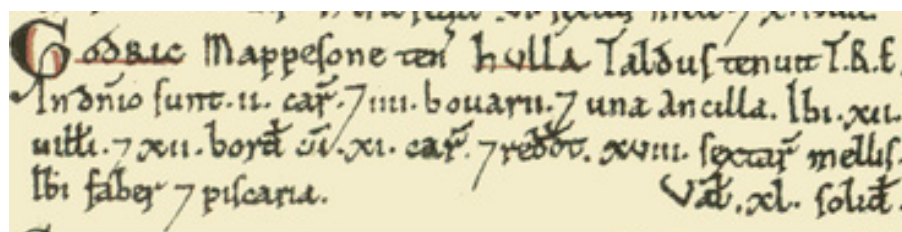
Lord in 1066: Taldus.

Lord in 1086: Godric Mapson.

Tenant-in-chief in 1086: King William.

Extract from the Domesday Book entry for 'Howle', 1086. The Domesday Book was a survey of all landowner's property in England and parts of Wales, created by order of William the Conqueror in 1086.

This is the entry for 'hulla', belonging to Godric Mappeson. Hulla is possibly Howle, which is 5 km away from Goodrich Castle. There is no mention in the Domesday Book of a castle, but by 1101/2 other documents refer to 'Godric's Castle'.



Godric Mappesone ten hulla Taldus tenet l. & t.
In dno sunt. ii. car. 7 iii. bouaru. 7 una ancilla. Ibi. xii.
uilli. 7 xii. boyat. vi. xi. car. 7 reddo. xviii. sextar. mellis.
Ibi faber 7 piscaria. Val. xl. solid.



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‘Item 10 shillings 6 pence in procuring 3 carts to transport the mistress’s property by road. Item 6 pence for a horse to carry the mistress’s money by road. Item 2 shillings, 5 pence for 8 horses and 4 carters, loaned by abbot of Gloucester and the abbot of Nutley for transporting the mistress’s property by road, staying a night across the river Wye, unable to get across. Item 3 shillings and 6 pence for the 4-horse cart of the abbot of Nutley, taking 3 days to return from Goodrich Castle to Nutley...’

‘Item 16 pence to John the baker for 8 days travelling from Exning to Goodrich Castle to bake bread there before the mistress’s arrival.’

‘1 penny for a lock for the door of the building where the horses’ feed is kept. 6 pence for buying a storm lantern for the kitchen window. 4 pounds, 5 shillings and 6 pence for 114 pounds of wax bought at Monmouth...8 pence for making surplices for the mistress’s chapel, 18 pence to the chaplain for making wax tapers for the chapel. A halfpenny for mending the door to the chapel where oats are kept.’

Extracts from the 18th November, the day of the arrival of Countess Joan at Goodrich. William Marshal died in 1296. His wife, Countess Joan, lived in the castle for many years after his death. These sources are taken from the manuscripts of her household accounts kept in The National Archives. The manuscripts provide a rare insight into a great castle household at the end of the 13th century.

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- **the steward, responsible for the running of the household**
- **the treasurer: who oversaw the household's finances**
- **several clerks in the chapel – ordained clergymen who sang the religious services**
- **(different to office clerks that exist today)**
- **an usher and a herald**
- **carters to help with repairs to the castle**
- **grooms, coachmen, a farrier, a palfreyman and porters for travelling**
- **cooks, a baker, a laundress and 'John of the Wardrobe'**
- **security staff, under the command of the Goodrich constable**
- **the poor; twenty poor people lived with the Countess and were dependent on her charity**

Extract from Countess Joan's household expenses, showing a staff list from 1296. Countess Joan's household fluctuated between 122 to 196 people.

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'3 quarters of beef and 1 ½ bacons, 1 ½ unsalted pigs, half a boar, half a salmon, all from the castle's store, half a carcass of beef costing 10 shillings, mutton at 15 pence, 9 kid at 3s 8d, 17 capons and hens at 2s 7d, 2 veal calves at 2s 6d, 600 eggs at 2 shillings, pigeons at 2 pence with 24 pigeons from stores in Shrivenham, cheese at 4 pence and a halfpenny for transport by boat, all told, 22s 6d halfpenny'.

Extract from Countess Joan's household expenses, showing provision for Easter Sunday in 1297.

Extract from *The strong castle of Gothridge taken by Colonell Birch, 1646.*

The story of the Civil War siege negotiations at Goodrich Castle in 1646 is told in detail in contemporary letters and in later accounts written by Colonel Birch and his secretary. Some of these letters are kept in the Manchester Library. They detail who was taken prisoner and also the food that the Royalists had in stock at their surrender.

- **30 barrels of beer**
- **A 'great stoke of corne'**
- **60 'flichers of bacon'**
- **'A good stoke of butter, chease and beefe'**
- **150 'bushels of pease'**