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THE DOMESDAY BOOK

INTRODUCTION

This document summarises information in the Domesday Book that is relevant to the Audley Surname and information relevant to other similar surnames which could have been confused with the Audley surname. All the information in this document has been taken from <http://domesdaymap.co.uk>.

This study contains the following information:

- 1 The Domesday information related to places associated with Audley namely:
 - a. AUDLEY
 - b. HEIGHLEY (the site of Heighley castle)
 - c. MADELEY (the nearest village to the site of Heighley castle)
- 2 The Domesday information related to places that are also surnames similar to the Audley surname namely:
 - a. HANDLEY (26 miles from Audley)
 - b. DUDLEY (50 miles from Audley)
 - c. ADDERLEY (16 miles from Audley)
 - d. ARDLEY (111 miles from Audley)
3. There is no information in the in the Domesday Book for places with the same name as the following surnames:
 - a. AUDSLEY
 - b. ALDERSLEY
 - c. HURDLEY
 - d. ADLEY
 - e. ADDLEY
 - f. AIDLEY
4. Domesday information about the following people
 - a. GODRIC OF LAWTON (the lord of Audley prior to the Conquest)
 - b. WULFRIC (the lord of Audley prior to the Conquest)
 - c. GAMAL SON OF GRUFFYDD (The Lord and Tenant-in – Chief of Audley in 1086.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions can be drawn from the Domesday Book regarding the Audley Name.

1. There is only one place in the Domesday book called Audley (even though it was spelt Aldidlege). It can therefore be concluded that the Audley surname had developed from this single village. Currently in England there are 5 other

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places with Audley in their name, it is concluded that those places were named after a person called Audley. It should be noted that although there is single locational source for the Audley surname this does not necessarily mean that that all people with the Audley surname share a Common ancestor. For example a number of unrelated people who lived in the village of Audley could have been styled as 'of Audley' which in time reduced to the surname Audley.

2. The village of Audley was in existence by 1066. P H Reaney in his dictionary of English Surnames proposes that the origin of the Audley name is Old English suggesting that the name is of Saxon origin rather than Norman origin. From this one can conclude that comments such as:

- *'The first known ancestor was a certain Adam de Audleigh or Aldithlega, so named from the paternal estate of Audithlegh in Normandy'* by James Croston FSA and published in 1887 'County Families of Lancashire & Cheshire'

and

- *'The first ancestor on record is one Adam de Audithlegh,....., and who derived his name from his paternal estate of Audithlegh in Normandy'* by Lionel M Angus- Butterworth FRGS FZS FSA Scot and published in 1932 (reprinted 1970) 'Old Cheshire Families and their Seat.

are almost certainly incorrect.

From the Domesday book it is more difficult to assess whether the ancestors of early people who bore the title Lord or Baron Audley were Normans who came over with William or Saxons who adopted Norman ways and names to fit in with their overlords. The Domesday book shows:

1. In 1086 the Lord and Tenant in Chief of Audley was Gamel son of Gruffydd. This appears to be a Saxon Name and not Norman.
2. In 1886 the Lord and Tenant in Chief of Heighley (where {Z5} Henry de Aldithley built his castle in the 1220s) was King William

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- **AUDLEY**

There is only one place recorded in the Domesday Book named Audley although the it is spelt Aldidlege. Website <http://domesdaymap.co.uk> provides the following information about Audley:

- **Hundred:** Pirehill
- **County:** Staffordshire
- **Total Population 1066:** 7 households
(this is the number of heads of households so the population would be approximately 35 people and compared to other settlements recorded in the Domesday Book is considered to be quite small)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 0.5 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a very small amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 0.5 geld units
(The above is the tax assessment for the manor)
- **Value:** Value to the lord in 1086 £0.5
- **Households in 1086:** 4 villagers, 3 smallholders
(This is the number of households and not individuals. Villagers have the most land followed by smallholders followed by Cottagers)
- **Ploughland:** 3 ploughlands (land for) 1 lord's ploughteam 1 men's plough teams
(Each plough team has 8 oxen)
- **Other resources:** Meadow 1 acre. Woodland 2 by 1 leagues
- **Lords in 1066:** Godric of Lawton; Wulfric
(The lord before the conquest)
- **Lord in 1086** Gamel son of Gruffydd
(This is the new owner after the conquest and is the immediate lord over the peasants it may be the tenant in chief himself or a tenant to whom he had granted the estate)
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** Gamel son of Gruffydd
(This is the tenant in chief of the estate holding it directly from the crown)

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HEIGHLEY (spelt HEOLLA)

Heighley has been included in this study as it is the place where the Barons Audley built their Castle

- **Hundred:** Pirehill
- **County:** Staffordshire
- **Total Population 1066:** Not given
- **Total Tax assessed:** 0.1 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a very small amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 0.1 geld units
- **Value:** Not given
- **Households in 1086:** Not given
- **Ploughland:** 1 ploughland (land for)
- **Other resources:** Not given
- **Lords in 1066:** Alward
- **Lord in 1086** King William
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** King William

For definition of the above categories see the definitions in the section about Audley above

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MADELEY (spelt MADELEE)

Madeley has been included in this study as it is the nearest 2014 village to the site of Heighley Castle

- **Hundred:** Pirehill
- **County:** Staffordshire
- **Total Population 1066:** 12 Households
(Relative to other Domesday Settlements Madeley has a Medium Population)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 1 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a very small amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 1 geld units
- **Value:** Value to lord in 1086 £1.50
- **Households in 1086:** 5 villagers. 7 smallholders
- **Ploughland:** 4 ploughland (land for). 1 lord's ploughteams 2 men's ploughteams
- **Other resources:** Woodlands 1.5 by 1 leagues
- **Lords in 1066:** Swein
- **Lord in 1086** Wulfgeat of Madeley
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** Robert of Stafford

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HANDLEY (spelt HANLES)

The village of Handley has been included in this study as it also a surname, which could be confused with the Audley surname. The village of Handley is 26 miles from the village of Audley.

- **Hundred:** Duddeston
- **County:** Cheshire
- **Total Population 1066:** 4 Households
(Relative to other Domesday Settlements Handley has a very small population)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 1 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a very small amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 1 geld units
- **Value:** Value to lord in 1066 £0.70
Value to lord in 1086 £0.80
- **Households in 1086:** 2 villagers. 1 smallholder. 1 slave
- **Ploughland:** 4 ploughland (land for). 1.5 lord's plough teams
0.5 men's plough teams
- **Other resources:** not stated
- **Lords in 1066:** Grimkel
- **Lord in 1086** Osbern son of Tezzo
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** Osbern son of Tezzo

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DUDLEY (spelt DUDELEE)

The town of Dudley has been included in this study as it also a surname, which could be confused with the Audley surname. The town of Dudley is 50 miles from the village of Audley.

- **Hundred:** Clent
- **County:** Worcestershire
- **Total Population 1066:** 16 Households
(Relative to other Domesday Settlements
Dudley has a medium population)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 1 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property
relative to other Domesday Settlements this is
considered to be a very small amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 1 geld units
- **Value:** Value to lord in 1066 £4.00
Value to lord in 1086 £3.00
- **Households in 1086:** 3 villagers. 10 smallholder. 2slave 1smith
- **Ploughland:** 1 lord's plough team. 10 men's plough teams
- **Other resources:** Woodlands 2 leagues
- **Lords in 1066:** Earl Edwin
- **Lord in 1086** William son of Ansculf
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** William son of Ansculf

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ADDERLEY

The village of Adderley has been included in this study as it also a surname, which could be confused with the Audley surname. The village of Adderley is 16 miles from the village of Audley.

- **Hundred:** Hodnet
- **County:** Shropshire
- **Total Population 1066:** 6 Households
(Relative to other Domesday Settlements Adderley has a quite small population)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 3 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a medium amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 3 geld units
- **Value:** Value to lord in 1066 £0.80
Value to lord in 1086 £0.80
- **Households in 1086:** 4 villagers. 2 ploughmen
- **Ploughland:** 6.5 ploughlands (land for) 1 lord's plough team.
1 men's plough teams
- **Other resources:** None stated
- **Lords in 1066:** Edric
- **Lord in 1086** Nigel the doctor
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** Nigel the doctor

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ARDLEY

The village of Ardley has been included in this study as it also a surname, which could be confused with the Audley surname. The village of Ardley is 111 miles from the village of Audley.

- **Hundred:** Kirtlington
- **County:** Oxfordshire
- **Total Population 1066:** 23 Households
(Relative to other Domesday Settlements Ardley has a quite large population)
- **Total Tax assessed:** 5 geld units
(The Total Tax Assessed on each property relative to other Domesday Settlements this is considered to be a quite large amount of tax)
- **Taxable Units** Taxable value 5 geld units
- **Value:** Value to lord in 1086 £6
- **Households in 1086:** 8 villagers. 15 ploughmen
- **Ploughland:** 11 ploughlands (land for) 4 lord's plough team.
6 men's plough teams
- **Other resources:** None stated
- **Lords in 1066:** Not stated
- **Lord in 1086** Drogo of Les Andtlys
- **Tenant-in Chief in 1086** Earl Hugh of Chester

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GODRIC OF LAWTON

Godric of Lawton is associated with 17 places before the conquest and no places after the conquest. These 17 places are listed in the table below together with the names of the Lord in 1086 and the Tenant in Chief in 1086.

| Places where 'Godric of Lawton' was the Lord in 1066 | Lord in 1086 | Tenant in Chief in 1086 |
|---|--|--|
| Ollerton, Cheshire | Earl Hugh of Chester | Earl Hugh of Chester |
| Bosley, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Cranage, Cheshire | Robert son of Hugh | Robert son of Hugh |
| Kermincham, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Marton, Cheshire | Earl Hugh of Chester | Earl Hugh of Chester |
| Marton, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Byley, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Church Lawton & Buglawton, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Church Lawton & Buglawton, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Goostrey, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Hassall, Cheshire | William Malbank | William Malbank |
| Old Rode, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman William son of Nigel | Hugh son of Norman William son of Nigel |
| Somerford, Cheshire | Hugh son of Norman | Hugh son of Norman |
| Audley, Staffordshire | Gamal son of Gruffydd | Gamal son of Gruffydd |
| Betley, Staffordshire | Wulfwin | Wulfwin |
| Talke, Staffordshire | Gamal son of Gruffydd | Gamal son of Gruffydd |
| Wilkesley, Cheshire | William Malbank | William Malbank |

It should be noted that the above analysis assumes that all references to 'Godric of Lawton' refer to the same person

WULFRIC

The Name Wulfric is associated with 195 places before the Conquest and 30 places after the Conquest. A similar analysis to that undertaken for Godric of Lawton cannot be undertaken for Wulfric as the name Wulfric clearly refers to several people with the same name.

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GAMAL SON OF GRUFFYDD

The name 'Gamal son of Gruffydd' is associated with 4 places before the conquest and 9 places after the conquest.

Gamal son of Gruffydd was Lord of the following places before the conquest:

- Little Saredon, Staffordshire
- Rochdale, Cheshire
- Salford, Cheshire
- Poulton Lancelyn, Cheshire

Gamal son of Gruffydd was Lord AND Tenant-in-Chief of the following places after the conquest:

- Audley, Staffordshire
- Balterley, Staffordshire
- Talke, Staffordshire

Gamal son of Gruffydd was Lord of the following places after the conquest:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Cheadle, Cheshire | Earl Hugh of Chester |
| • Mottram St Andrew, Cheshire | Earl Hugh of Chester |
| • Salford, Cheshire | Roger of Poitou |

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