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# **Catalogue of the documents in the Weardale Chest**

**Date range of material: 1377-17th century**

Durham University Library  
March 2024

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## **Preface**

### **Creation of catalogue**

Handlist created Dr E. Pierce, 1967, additions made JLD. Re-keyed ES, and markup in SGML RIH November 1996.

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## Introduction

*Collection title:* Weardale Chest

*Reference code:* GB-0033-WEC

*Dates of creation:* 1377-17th century

*Extent:* 1 metre

*Repository:* Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

*Creator:* legal records of property disputed during the Commonwealth in Weardale, Co. Durham.

*Language of material:* English

## Contents

The documents relate to the Forest of Weardale & Stanhope Park in the parish of Stanhope, Co. Durham, parcel of the Bishop of Durham's manor of Wolsingham. They comprise evidence for a series of law suits concerning tenant right etc. between the tenants of Weardale and Sir Arthur Hesilrige who purchased the manor of Wolsingham in the Civil War, on confiscation from the Bishop. The original documents date from c.1579-c.1660 but there are sixteenth and seventeenth century copies of many earlier items from 1377. They include leases, conveyances, agreements, Forest Court papers and miscellanea.

## The Chest

The chest is of oak, 1"-2½" thick. It is ironbound in two directions, with a heavy lid resting on five hinges along the back. The lid was once covered with leather, perhaps decoratively stamped, which now survives only under the iron bindings. The chest is 3' 6" long, 2' high and 1' 10" wide including the heavy overfitting lid. At each end is an iron handle about 9" long. The keys are missing. The chest was relined with paper, (probably in the eighteenth century) over the existing wood and canvas lining. It is in good condition for its age.

(Description from article cited below)

## Accession details

This sixteenth century chest of documents was deposited in 1953 from Weardale, where it had been preserved for several centuries, by arrangement with J. Conway Davies, then Reader in Palaeography & Diplomatic at Durham University.

The chest had been guarded on behalf of the Weardale community by the occupier for the time being of Warden Hill farm and had been opened only when several key holders came together.

## Form of citation

The form of citation should be GB-0033-WEC, or the collection title Weardale Chest, and the *reference number*.

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

## Bibliography

"Sir Arthur Hesilrige and the Weardale chest", J. Linda Drury, *Transactions of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland* n.s. 5 (1980), 125-37.

Related material (internal)

Church Commission Bishopric deposit

Parliamentary survey of Manor of Wolsingham.

Mickleton and Spearman mss.

No. 100 contains depositions of witnesses in the case Geo. Harrison & others v. Sir Arthur Haslerigg regarding Stanhope Park and Weardale Forest.

## Weardale Chest Handlist

I Leases, Agreements and Conveyances (mainly copies), and papers relating to the same

### WEC.1

Copies and summaries of leases of land in Weardale by Bishops of Durham, up to 1511.

Including:

*Inspeximus* by Thomas (Hatfield [?]) of lease to Dame Alice Nevill of Brancepeth dated the eve of St. Helen 1373. 24 July 2 pont. (sic. 32 pont.[1377]?).

Lease by William Dudley to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, 2 May 3 pont. (1479).

Commission by Thomas Ruthall for a survey of the forest of Weardale and Stanhope Park. 1 March 2 pont. (1511).

*Language:* Latin

Paper 21ff.

### WEC.2 8 March 30 Hen. VIII (1539)

(Copy) Agreement between Christofer and Matthew Herrison, both of Swinhopeburne, yeomen, to divide the farmhold of Swinhopeburne equally between them.

Paper 1f.

### WEC.3

Memorandum of the lease of 13 messuages by Richard Barnes, Bishop of Durham to the Queen, 17 January 27 Eliz. (1585); and of the assignment of the said lease to John Stanhope 30 August 27 Eliz. (1585).

Paper 2ff.

### WEC.4 20 June 35 Eliz. (1593)

(Copy) Bargain and Sale of the whole tenement (divided into two moieties) of Whestnopborne in Stanhope Park by Ann Nevell of Whestnopborne, widow of Arthur Nevell, to Edward Dalivell, also of Whestnopborne, gent.

Consideration not stated.

Paper 1f.

### WEC.5 13 July 1603

Release by Alice Harrison of London, widow, to William Harrison of Swynopborne, Co. Durham, yeoman, of a messuage in Swynopborne.

Mark and seal of Alice Harrison.

Paper 2ff.

### WEC.6 22 September 1616

Schedule of writings relating to the reconveyance on 22 July 1616 of Pinfold House to William Stobbs to the use of himself, Nicholas Sheall, William Stobbs of Westyeate, and John Gibson.

Paper 2ff.

### WEC.7 - 33:

Bundle containing copies of Leases 1594-1637:

All bear the endorsement: Memorandum that the document was shown to witnesses in the case of George Harrison v. Sir Arthur Haslerigg, 13 September 1655.

## WEC.7 13 November 36 Eliz. (1594)

(1) Mathew (Hutton), Bishop of Durham

(2) George Emerson, Edward Emerson and Thomas Emerson, sons of George Emerson and of the'ast yeate in Stanhopp Parke

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called Th'east yeate in Werdaile and a piece of ground called the High of the Parke.

Term: the lives of (2).

Rents: £7. 6s. 8d. and £3. 6s. 8d. for the messuage and ground respectively.

Paper 6ff.

## WEC.8 21 January 40 Eliz. (1598)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Raiph Stobbes and William Stobbs of the West yate in Wardaile

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a piece of ground called the Parrock.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 10s. 0d.

Paper 4ff.

## WEC.9 28 August 2 James I (1604)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) George Phillipson of Lynsgarth in the forest of Weredaile, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Lynsegarth.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 6s. 8d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.10 28 August 2 James I (1604)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Agnes Whitfeild of Lynskarth in the forest of Werdaile, widow John Whitfeild, her son, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Lynskarth.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 6s. 8d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.11 4 September 2 James I (1604)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) George Baimbrigg of Windiside in Wardale, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage at Windiside.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 8s. 4d.

Paper 5ff.



## WEC.12 4 September 2 James I (1604)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Arthur Emerson of Birtreeforde in the forest of Weardale, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of two messuages at Birtreeforde.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 16s. 0d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.13 4 September 2 James I (1604)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Thomas Emerson of Windiside in Werdaile, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage at Windiside.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 8s. 4d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.14 17 April 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Cuthbert Layton of Newparke in Werdaile, gent.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called the New Parke.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: £5.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.15 11 May 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Ralph Trotter of Langlee in Weredaile, yeoman

Ralph Trotter, his son

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called Langlee in Weredaile.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 53s. 4d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.16 11 May 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Atkinson of Sunderland in Weardale, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Sunderland in the parish of Stanhopp.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 33s. 4d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.17 21 June 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Robert Emerson of Sunderland in Werdale, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Sunderland in the parish of Stanhopp.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 33s. 4d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.18 27 June 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) Tobie Bowes, son of George Bowes of Biddick, Esq., deceased

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of lands called Burnehopp in Weredaile.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: £4.

Paper 6ff.

## WEC.19 27 June 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Fetherstonhalghe, son of Raphe Fetherstonhalghe of Brancepeth, Esq.

(Raphe Fetherstonhalghe junior, brother of the above)

Alexander Fetherstonhalghe, servant to John Fetherstonhalghe of Stanhoppe Hall, Esq.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of pasture grounds called Kilhoppe and Welhoppe and a piece of ground called Sparke Sheele in the parish of Stanhoppe.

Term: the lives of (2).

The ancient customary rent (not stated).

Paper 8ff.

## WEC.20 27 June 4 James I (1606)

(1) Tobias (Matthew), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Fetherstonhalghe;

Ralph Fetherstonhalghe;

sons of Raiph Fetherstonhalghe of Brancepeth, Esq.

Alexander Fetherstonhalghe, servant to John Fetherstonhalghe of Stanhopp Hall, Esq.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a water corn mill at Stanhopp in Weredaile.

Term: the lives of (2).

Rent: £5.

Paper 7ff.

## WEC.21 20 December 9 James I (1611)

(1) William (James), Bishop of Durham

(2) Elizabeth Fetherstonhaugh of Newe Parke, pa. Stanhopp, widow  
Phillis Fetherstonhaugh, her daughter

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called the Newe Parke in Stanhopp Parke.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: £5.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.22 11 June 10 James I (1612)

- (1) William (James), Bishop of Durham
- (2) George Emerson the younger of the Eastgate in in Stanhopp Parke, gent.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called The East Gate in Wardaile, and a piece of ground called the High of the Parke.

Term: 3 lives.

Rents: £7. 6s. 8d. and £3. 6s. 8d. for the messuage and ground respectively.

Paper 7ff.

## WEC.22a 24 April 11 James I (1613)

- (1) William (James), Bishop of Durham
- (2) Mathew Whitfeild of Horsley Head, yeoman

Certified copy of a lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called Horsley Head alias Over Horsley in Stanhope Park heretofore demised to Raiph Maddeson. Term: 3 lives, Mathew and his sons Henry and George.

Rent: £3. 10s.

This is a photostat made in October 1981 from the 1655 copy of this document, once in the bundle and lent by the owner for copying.

Paper 7ff.

## WEC.23 20 February 11 James I (1614)

- (1) William (James), Bishop of Durham
- (2) William Stobbes and George Fetherstonhalhe of the Westgate in Weardale, yeomen.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a piece of ground called the Parrocke, in the forest of Weardale.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 10s. 0d.

Paper 6ff.

## WEC.24 16 March 11 James I (1614)

- (1) William (James), Bishop of Durham
- (2) Elizabeth Fetherston of New Parke, pa. Stanhopp

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of messuage called the New Parke, in Stanhopp Parke.

Term: 3 lives.

Rent: £5.

Paper 6ff.

## WEC.25 16 March 11 James I (1614)

- (1) William (James), Bishop of Durham
- (2) William Atkinson of Sunderland in Weredaile, yeoman

Certified copy of a lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Sunderland in the parish of Stanhopp.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 33s. 4d.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.26 12 September 16 James I (1618)

(1) Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Lewlyn of Burtrieford, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a tenement and seven acres of pasture in Burtrieford in the forest of Weredaile.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 8s. 0d.

Paper 7ff.

WEC.27 26 September 16 James I (1618)

(1) Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham

(2) Raiph Stobbes of the Westyate in the forest of Wardell

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of meadow ground called the Parrocks at the Westyate.

Term: 3 lives.

Rent: 10s. 0d.

Paper 6ff.

WEC.28 12 October 18 James I (1620)

(1) Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Whitfeild of Linsgarth in the forest of Weredaile, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a moiety of a messuage called Linsgarth; with covenant by (2) to make a survey of his land within three years to be renewed once every 10 years.

Term: 3 lives.

Rent: 6s. 8d.

Paper 11ff.

WEC.29 14 October 2 Chas. I (1626)

(1) Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Emerson of Windiside in Weredall

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage at Windiside.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 8s. 4d.

Paper 9ff.

WEC.30 20 November 3 Chas. I (1627)

(1) Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham

(2) Edward Liveley of Durham City, gent.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of lead Ewer called lott Ewer.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: £5.

Paper 4ff.

## WEC.31 15 February 12 Chas. I (1637)

(1) Thomas (Morton), Bishop of Durham

(2) George Stobbes of the Springhouse in Wardaile, yeoman

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called the Springhouse in Stanhopp Parke.

Term: 3 lives.

Rent: 24s. 0d.

Paper 6ff.

## WEC.32 5 May 13 Chas. I (1637)

(1) Thomas (Morton), Bishop of Durham

(2) John Richardson of Durham City, Esq.

Certified copy of lease by (1) to (2) of a messuage called Weareshead in Wardaile.

Term: 21 years.

Rent: 20s. 0d.

Paper 5ff.

## WEC.33

Rental of customary rents and lease rents in the park and forest of Weardale for 1637.

Paper 8ff.

## WEC.34 1649

*Several Acts and Ordinances of Parliament for the use of Trustees for sale of the Honors, Manors and Lands heretofore belonging to the late King, Queen and Prince.*

Printed Book: London: 1649.

97pp.

## WEC.35

Printed copy of Act of Parliament "for repealing of a Branch of a certain Act of the late Parliament, entituled An Act for subscribing the Engagement".

2ff. damaged.

## WEC.36 1650

Copies of documents relating to the sale of the manor of Wolsingham and Stanhope by the Contractors for the sale of Bishops' lands to Sir Arthur Haslerigg, comprising:

Particulars of the premises.

Contract for the sale, ratified by the Contractors, 25 April 1650.

Warrant to the Trustees to draw up a conveyance, 25 April 1650.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

48ff. and parchment cover.

## WEC.37 1 June 1650

(1) Trustees for the sale of Bishops' lands

(2) Sir Arthur Hesilrige of Nowseley, Leics., Bart.

(Copy) Bargain and Sale by (1) to (2) of the manor of Wolsingham and Stanhope, Bedburn Park, Stanhope Park and messuages, mills and lands in Wolsingham, Stanhope and Weardale.

Consideration: £6,764. 14s. 4d.

Paper 71ff.

## WEC.38

Survey of the Manor of Wolsingham, September 1652.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 -33.

Printed in *Parliamentary Surveys of the Bishopric of Durham*, ed. D.A.Kirby. (Surtees Soc. vol. 183). 1971, pp. 146-76.

For Nos. 38 - 40, see also Church Commission deposit of bishopric estate material for this and the other parliamentary surveys (also material in Halmote Court Miscellaneous book M80).

122ff., ff. 1 and 2 missing.

(No. 69)

## WEC.39

Copies of:

WEC.39 (a) 25 November 1652

Request by the Commissioners of Obstructions to the Surveyors at Durham for information concerning the collieries of Grewburn, Hargile and Linesack.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.39 (b) 17 December 1652

Supplementary survey of the manor of Wolsingham in answer to the above request.

10ff.

WEC.39 (c) 10 February 1652/53

Order by the Commissioners of Obstructions that the words "Court Leetes" be inserted into the conveyance of the manor of Wolsingham to Sir Arthur Heslerigg.

Paper 1f.

WEC.39 (d) 11 June 1652

Order by the Commissioners of Obstructions for information from the Surveyors of the manor of Wolsingham concerning Courts Leet and other matters.

Paper 1f.

WEC.39 (e) 8 December 1652

Certificate in answer to the above Order.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.39 (f) 29 June 1649

Supplementary survey relating to franckland wood.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.39 (g) 19 June 1649

Supplementary survey relating to woods and the 13 tenements.

Paper 4ff.

## WEC.40

Another copy of the above items (a) - (f).

21ff. and 2ff.

## WEC.41

Copies of documents relating to the sale of 13 messuages at the Westgate by the Contractors for the sale of Bishops' lands to Sir Arthur Hesilrige, comprising:

Particulars of the premises based on a survey, 14 February 1648/49.

Contract for the sale of the premises for £1,190, ratified by the Contractors, 10 March 1653/54.

Warrant to the Trustees to draw up a conveyance of the premises, 10 March 1653/54.

Paper 5ff.

## II Miscellaneous Papers

## WEC.42

Survey of the Bishop of Durham's lands and rights in the parishes of Stanhope and Wolsingham.

Contains:

(Copies) Instructions to the surveyors.

Depositions. 19 September 37 Eliz. (1595).

Presentments. 4 February 38 Eliz. (1596).

This is a copy, in a mid-seventeenth century hand, of an original in the Church Commission deposit of bishopric estate material (No. 277863).

Leather-bound note book 34ff.

## WEC.43

Another copy of the Presentments for the above Survey, 4 February 38 Eliz. (1596), with the marks of the jury.

Paper 7ff.

## WEC.44 26 May 1601

Copy of the Presentments concerning the custom of the forest of Weardale.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 15ff.

## WEC.45 1602

Copy of Orders to be observed by the inhabitants of Weardale, drawn up by jury and the officers of the forest.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.46 1602

Verdicts and presentments of the forest jury.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.47. (i) - (v)

Copies of Proceedings in the court of the forest of Weardale:

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33, on each item.

WEC.47 (i) 23 October 40 Eliz. (1598).

Parchment 2 mm.

WEC.47 (ii) 4 May 41 Eliz. (1599).

Parchment 1 m.

WEC.47 (iii) 11 April 42 Eliz. (1600).

Parchment 2 mm.

WEC.47 (iv) 16 April 5 James I (1607).  
Parchment 2 mm.

WEC.47 (v) 15 October 5 James I (1607).  
Parchment 2 mm.

WEC.48 (i) to (iv)

Copies of Proceedings in the court of the forest of Weardale:  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33, on each of the above items.

WEC.48 (i) 23 October 40 Eliz. (1598).  
Paper 13ff.

WEC.48 (ii) 4 May 41 Eliz. (1599).  
10ff.

WEC.48 (iii) 16 April 5 James I (1607).  
Paper 13ff.

WEC.48 (iv) 15 October 5 James I (1607).  
Paper 16ff.

WEC.49 7 December 1612

Opinion of Wandesford that the tenants of Weardale should make known to the Bishop of Durham, by petition, that the question of tenant rights (by border service) being brought to an end by the union of Scotland and England is pending a decision in the Court of Pleas at Westminster.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.50

Copy of the above Opinion.

Paper 1f.

WEC.51 29 May 1613.

Copy of presentments.

Paper 1f.

WEC.52 3 February 1616/17

Bond by William Stobbes of Swinnopbourne in Weardale, yeoman, to his father John Stobbes, of the Westyeate for the payment of £36. 4s. 6d.

Seal torn off.

Paper 1f.

WEC.53 Undated

Draft of Quitclaim by John Stobbes to his eldest son William Stobbes in respect of all demands.

Paper 1f.

WEC.54

Verdicts of the Park jury, 1617.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.55 17 June 1618

Copy of Presentments relating mainly to hunting in the forest of Weardale, made by jury on the instructions of John Richinson and Hendry Blaxton, chief forester and steward of the Bishop of Durham.

Paper 2ff.



WEC.56

Draft of the above.

Paper 1f.

WEC.57 13 April 1619

Verdicts of the Park jury at Stanhope.

Paper 1f.

WEC.58 5 June (year not given)

Copy of Presentments by the forest jury.

Paper 1f.

WEC.59 Undated

Copy of Presentments (?) relating to common and deer within the forest of Weardale.

Paper 1f.

WEC.60 Undated

Presentment (?) made by a jury headed by Richard Watson concerning the custom of the forest of Weardale.

Paper 1f.

WEC.61

Copy of the above Presentment.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.62 Undated.

Verdicts of the Park jury.

Paper 1f.

WEC.63 Undated

Part of document containing examples of husbands who sold customary tenements inherited by their wives.

Paper 1f.

WEC.64 29 September 1619

Draft letter (by the parishioners of Weardale) concerning an offer to provide a minister for the chapel in Weardale forest.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.65 29 August 1620

Letter from Thomas Carleton to Mr. Pleasance concerning the interpretation of a proclamation relating to tenant right by border service, citing parallel cases tried at Carlisle and Kendal.

Paper 1f.

WEC.66 Undated

Opinion of Barn. Ellys that the tenants of Weardale should not answer in the (forest) court as tenants at will but as tenants according to custom of tenant right.

Paper 1f.

WEC.67

Copy of the above Opinion.

1 piece.

WEC.68 Undated.

Opinion of John Richardson that the customary tenants of Weardale should refuse to answer at the forest court under any style but tenants by custom of tenant right.  
Paper 1f.

WEC.69 Undated

Opinion of Robert Pleasance that customary tenants within a manor may refuse to allow a survey to their lands by the lord, but may not refuse to serve on a jury in the court so long as they are not called under the style of "tenants at will".

Dorse: Opinion of Wandesford that the tenants should allow the survey.

Paper 1f.

WEC.70 Undated

Opinion of John Richardson that customary tenants are not bound to allow surveyors to measure their land, but may not refuse to serve on juries.

Paper 1f.

WEC.71 Undated.

Copy of Petition by William Stobbs (imprisoned for his refusal to allow his lands to be measured) to Sir Richard Hutton, Chancellor of Durham, for his release on bail.

Paper 1f.

WEC.72 Undated

Minutes for a letter from the tenants of Weardale to the Bishop of Durham concerning various suits relating to tenures.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.73 28 and 29 September 1621

Accounts relating to cessments.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.74 20 July 20 James I (1622)

Copy of letter from James I to the Bishop of Durham informing him that the judges of Assize have been instructed to adhere strictly to the proclamation abolishing customary estates held by border service.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.75 Undated.

Copy of opinion of Sir John Bankes [1589 - 1644; Chief Justice of Common Pleas] concerning the tenures of the tenants of Weardale (in respect of the above mentioned proclamation).

Paper 1f.

WEC.76 3 January 1623/24

Receipt by Raphe Stobbes of the Westyeate in Weardale, yeoman, for £10 paid by his brother William Stobbes, being five years rent due to their father John Stobbes. Signed and sealed.

Paper 1f.

WEC.77

Rental for the park and forest of Weardale (customary and lease rents) 1624.

Paper 7ff.

(No. 69)

## WEC.78

The same.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 8ff.

## WEC.79

Gilbert Stapleton v. Ralph Jobson and others, concerning customary estates in the manor of Kentmyre, Westmorland. In Chancery:

Copy of Order dismissing the case from Chancery, May 1625.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.80 Undated

Opinion of William Smyth on the action to be taken by the tenants in respect of a house and bier [byre] built by Christopher Harrison on stinted pasture.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.81 25 February 1629/30

Letter from Michael Richardson to Toby Pilkington informing him that he will send a Commission of Rebellion against -- Emerson for him to execute.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.82 27 February 1629/30

Letter from Michael Richardson to Toby Pilkington informing him that he has sent the Commission of Rebellion and giving advice on the arrest (of Emerson).

1 piece.

## WEC.83 18 April 1639

Receipt by John Fetherstonhalgh to the customary tenants of the forest of Weardale for £6. 1s. 4d., being the wages for 13 soldiers maintained (at Berwick) for 14 days, with names of the soldiers concerned.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.84 25 August 1640

Summons of the customary tenants of Weardale to border service. Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

2ff. and wrapper.

## WEC.85 2 December 1644.

Demand by Henry Vincent, q[uarte]r m[aste]r to the Lord Cooper, to the officers of Stanhope Park and Forest for payment of the November cess, amounting to £28.

13s. 4d.

1 piece.

## WEC.86 27 February 1644/45

Warrant from a Justice of the Peace to the officers of Stanhope Park to arrest Toby Pilkington of New Park, gent., on a charge of hiring a Scottish ensign to murder William Stobbs of Swinhopburne, yeoman.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.87 11 May 1645

Covenant by 32 inhabitants of the Park Quarter to commence a petition against the Officer of the Quarter if he continues to refuse to render an account in respect of the £40 - £50 they have disbursed in cesses.

(Marks against nine names only).

Paper 1f.

WEC.88 13 March 1645/46

Orders by the Earl of Leven, Lord general of the Scottish army, to officers and soldiers in Co. Durham that they observe the Ordinance of 22 February 1645/46 freeing the county from all cesses for the maintenance of the Scottish army.

Paper 1f.

WEC.89 30 October 1647.

Letter from John Husband, George Dailes and Christofer Mickleton to William Stubbs and the rest of the jury impanelled at the last Court of Survey arranging for a meeting between them.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.90 29 October 1650

Receipt for £9. 16s. 0d. paid by William Stobbs of Swinhoopburn, being a year's rent for his farm at Brotherlee.

1 piece.

WEC.91

Copy of Verdicts and Presentments made at a Court Leet held at Stanhope, 11 October 1652.

Paper 1f.

WEC.92 8 June 1671

List of writings relating to the custom of Weardale, made by John Westgarth.

Paper 1f.

### III Papers relating to law suits

WEC.93/1 and 2

William Emerson v. Francis Conyers, claiming that he holds a messuage (Brotherlee) in Stanhope Park by ancient custom of tenant right.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.93/1

(Copies)

Bill of Complaint.

Answer.

Interrogatories for the plaintiff.

Depositions. 11 June 1579.

Decree for the plaintiff. 12 August 1579.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

3mm. sewn together.

WEC.93/2

The same.

Paper 18ff.

WEC.94/1 - 3

Arthur Nevill and his wife Anne v. William Cornefurthe, claiming a messuage (Westenhope Burn) by ancient custom of tenant right.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.94/1  
(Copies)

Bill of Complaint.

Answer.

Interrogatories for the plaintiffs.

Depositions. 6 December 1578.

Decree for the plaintiffs. 17 August 1579.

Endorsements: As in No. 7 - 33.

2mm. sewn together.

WEC.94/2  
(Copies)

Another set of Interrogatories.

Depositions for the plaintiffs. 4 October 20 Eliz. (1578).

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Parchment 1 m.

WEC.94/3  
The same.  
Paper 9ff.

WEC.95/1 - 3

William Cornefurth junior v. Arthur Nevell and his wife Anne, and Ralph Nevell, concerning a farm in Stanhope.

Durham Court of Pleas (non-suited):

WEC.95/1  
(Copies)

Proceedings in Ejectment on a lease by William Cornefurth senior, 3 August 21 Eliz. (1579) - 10 August 26 Eliz. (1584).

Writ of *Habeas Corpora Iuratorum*. 15 August 24 Eliz. (1582).

Panel of jurors showing which were sworn.

Endorsement: As in No. 7 - 33.

Paper 16ff.

WEC.95/2  
(Copies)

Writ to summon a jury, 5 August 21 Eliz. (1579).

Panel of jurors.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 5ff.

WEC.95/3  
Panel of jurors.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.96/1 - 3

Alice Emerson v. Alexander Vessye and his wife Anne, claiming a tenement in Lanskarth according to the custom of the forest of Stanhope.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.96/1

(Copy) Bill of Complaint.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 1f.

WEC.96/2 19 August 1579

(Copy) Answer.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 1f.

WEC.96/3 8 June 1580

(Copy) Decree for the plaintiff.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 1f.

WEC.97/1 - 4

Cuthbert Richardson v. Christopher Walton and Percivall Lee, claiming a messuage called Pindfield House according to the custom of tenant right in the forest of Weardale.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.97/1 25 November 1581

(Copy) Bill of Complaint.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 1f.

WEC.97/2 27 November 1581

(Copy) Answer.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 1f.

WEC.97/3

(Copies)

Interrogatories and Depositions for the plaintiff. 20 April 24 Eliz. (1582).

Decree for the plaintiff. 23 August 24 Eliz. (1582).

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

2mm. sewn together.

WEC.97/4

The same.

Paper 7ff.

WEC.98 1 March 1582/83

Letter from Sir George Carey to the tenants of the south part of Stanhope Park urging them to accept leases of their lands rather than stand upon the custom of tenant right.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.99/1 - 29

(Copies) Declarations in Ejectment, on leases by Richard (Barnes), Bishop of Durham, in respect of messuages in Stanhope Park.

All endorsed as in Nos. 7 - 33. Durham Court of Pleas:

- WEC.99/1 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. John Bainbrigge of Swinnoburne.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/2 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. George Emerson of Stanhopp.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/3 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. John Emerson of Brotherley.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/4 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Richard Emerson of Ludwell.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/5 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Robert Emerson of Ludwell.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/6 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Robert Emerson of Gatecastle.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/7 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. William Emerson of Lowhorsley.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/8 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Lionell Fetherstonhalgh of Stanhopp.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/9 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Bartholomew Harrison of Swinnoburne.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/10 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Matthew Herison of Swinnoburne.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/11 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Sir George Carey v. Richard Watson of Brotherley.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/12 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Gilbert Tawle v. John Emerson of Stanhopp.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/13 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Gilbert Tawle v. Ralph Emerson , formerly of Stanhopp.  
Paper 4ff.
- WEC.99/14 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)  
Gilbert Tawle v. George Myers, late of Stanhope.  
Paper 5ff.

WEC.99/15 13 January 27 Eliz. (1585)

Gilbert Tawle v. Henry Robinson.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/16 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. John Emerson of Brotherley.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/17 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Richard Emerson of Ludwell.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/18 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Robert Emerson of Ludwell.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/19 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Robert Emerson of Gatecastle.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/20 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. William Emerson of Lowhorsley.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/21 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Lionel Fetherstonhalgh of Stanhope.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/22 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Bartholomew Harrison of Swynnoborne.

Paper 5ff.

WEC.99/23 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Matthew Harrison of Swinnoborne.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/24 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Richard Watson of Brotherley.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/25 11 January 28 Eliz. (1586)

Sir George Carey v. Richard Watson of Brotherley.

And: (Copies) Writ of *Habeas Corpora Iuratorum* 25 July 28 Eliz. (1586).

Panel of juror showing which were sworn.

Paper 9ff.

WEC.99/26 21 July 31 Eliz. (1589)

Gilbert Tawle v. John Emerson of Westyate.

Paper 5ff.

WEC.99/27 21 July 31 Eliz. (1589)

Gilbert Tawle v. Ralph Emerson of Westyate.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.99/28 21 July 31 Eliz. (1589)

Gilbert Tawle v. George Myers of Westyate.

Paper 7ff.



WEC.99/29 21 July 31 Eliz. (1589)  
Gilbert Tawle v. Henry Robinson of Westyate.  
Paper 4ff.

WEC.100  
Instructions to search for, and procure copies of, documents relating to the cases of Sir George Carey v. Richard Watson and Gilbert Tawle v. Ralph Emerson.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.101 Undated (1589 or after ?)  
(Copy) Petition to the Queen by William Emerson and his son Arthur concerning a dispute with Gregorie Butler over their tenement at Brotherlee.  
Parchment 1 m.

WEC.102  
Peter Wright v. Arthur Wright concerning a messuage called Billingsheild.  
Before the Council of the North:  
(Copies)  
Interrogatories and Depositions. 19 June 34 Eliz. (1592).  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
Parchment 1 m.

WEC.103/1 - 10  
John Stanhope v. William Stobbs, Nicholas Fetherston, Ralph Emerson and 10 others, claiming 13 messuages at the Westgate by virtue of a lease by Richard (Barnes), Bishop of Durham, to the Queen, reassigned to John Stanhope, 13 August 27 Eliz. (1585).  
Exchequer:

WEC.103/1 Trin. Term 34 Eliz. (1592).  
(Copy) Bill of Complaint.  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
Paper 9ff.

WEC.103/2 10 January 1592/93  
(Copy) Answer by William Stobbs and Nicholas Fetherston.  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
20ff.

WEC.103/3 11 January 35 Eliz. (1593)  
(Copy) Answer by Ralph Emerson.  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
Paper 7ff.

WEC.103/4 Hill. Term 35 Eliz. (1593).  
(Copy) Replication.  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
Paper 15ff.

WEC.103/5 Easter Term 35 Eliz. (1593).  
(Copy) Rejoinder to the Replication.  
Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.  
10ff.

WEC.103/6

(Copies) Writ of *Dedimus Potestatem*, 28 May 35 Eliz. (1593).

Interrogatories and Depositions for both parties, 7 August and 4 September 1593.

Endorsement: As in Nos. 7 - 33.

Paper 68ff.

WEC.103/7

(Copies) Interrogatories and Depositions as above.

Paper 42ff.

WEC.103/8

(Draft) Interrogatories for defendants.

Paper 12ff.

WEC.103/9

Summaries of Bill, Answers, Replication, Rejoinder and Depositions.

5ff. and wrapper (damaged).

WEC.103/10 Undated.

(Copy) Petition by the defendants to have the case heard as soon as possible.

Addressed to Sir John Fortescue, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/1 - 15

William Emerson v. Ralph Nevell senior, Edward Emerson and Ralph Nevell junior, claiming a moiety of a tenement at Whesnopburne by virtue of a bargain and sale by Anne Nevell to Edward Dallivall.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.104/1 15 November 1599

(Copy) Bill of Complaint.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.104/2

The same as No. 104/1.

3ff. (Damaged)

WEC.104/3 11 December [1599]

(Copy) Petition by the defendants for time to put in their Answer.

1 piece.

WEC.104/4 8 [March ?] 1599/1600

(Copy) Replication.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/5

(Copy) Interrogatories for the plaintiffs.

Paper 1f.

WEC.104/6

(Copy) Interrogatories for the defendants.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/7

The same.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/8

(Copy) Part of Depositions.

See No. 104/11.

Paper 6ff.

WEC.104/9

(Copy) Part of Deposition.

Paper 1f.

WEC.104/10

Part of summary of Depositions.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.104/11 29 July 42 Eliz. (1600)

(Copy) Part of Deposition by John Gibson of Saugheale.

No. 104/8 is part of this document.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/12

Summary of above Deposition by John Gibson.

Paper 1f.

WEC.104/13

Account of what was proved by John Gibson in his answer to the 11th Interrogatory.

Paper 1f.

WEC.104/14 [1602]

(Copies) Deposition by Ralph Nevell senior, 19 October 1602.

Order discharging Ralph Nevell senior from a Commission of Rebellion obtained by the plaintiff, and allowing his Answer to be taken in the country, 17 November 1602.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.104/15

Part of Draft Petition (by Ralph Nevell).

Paper 2ff.

WEC.105/1 - 3

William Emerson v. Ralph Nevell senior, George Emerson, Cuthbert Emerson and Ralph Nevell junior, alleging trespass on a close and house at Whesnopburne.

Durham Court of Pleas:

WEC.105/1 20 October 1 James I (1603)

(Copy) Declaration.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.105/2

The same.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.105/3 15 April 2 James I (1604)  
Instructions from the court concerning the next hearing.  
1 piece.

WEC.106 To 2 October 9 James I (1612)  
(Copy) Record in proceedings against Thomas Faraleis of Isopburne for resisting  
distrain on his goods ordered in respect of a fine imposed by the court of the forest  
of Weardale.  
Paper 8ff.

WEC.107 To 2 Oct. 9 James I (1612).  
(Copy) Record in similar proceedings against John Peart.  
Paper 8ff.

WEC.108/1 - 4  
Rowland Harrison, Cuthbert Natrass and Nicholas Walker v. Cuthbert  
Fetherstonhalghe and Richard Emerson of Ludwell, alleging that two cows and a  
mare which were pastured in the forest of Weardale were unjustly impounded by  
the defendants.

Before the Council of the North:

WEC.108/1 6 July 1612  
(Copies) Bill of Complaint.  
Replication.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.108/2 11 August 1612  
(Copy) Answer.  
4ff. damaged

WEC.108/3 26 January 10 James I (1613)  
(Copy) Depositions for the plaintiffs.  
Paper 12ff.

WEC.108/4 27 February 1612/13  
(Copy) Order for the next hearing of the case.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.109/1 - 13  
Robert Cooper, attorney of Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham v. Raph Emerson  
and others.  
Durham Chancery:

WEC.109/1 4 January 1619/20  
(Copy) Part of Information against Raiph Emerson, Arthur Emerson of  
Billingsshield, William Emerson, Arthur Emerson of Gatecastle, John Sheild,  
William Stobbs, Raiph Stobbs, and John Johnson, concerning their refusal to  
appear at the court of the forest of Weardale under the style of "tenants at will  
of the lord".  
Paper 9ff.

WEC.109/2 8 January 1619/20

(Copy) Part of Information against Raiph Emerson, Arthur Emerson of Brotherlee, Arthur Emerson of Ludwell, William Emerson, John Sheild, William Stobbs and John Stobbs, concerning their refusal to appear at the court of the forest of Weardale under the style of "tenants at will of the lord", and their refusal to pay fines imposed by the court.

Paper 15ff.

WEC.109/3

(Copy) Part of Answer by Raphe Emerson and William Stobbs.

Paper 1f.

WEC.109/4

(Copy) Part of another Answer by Raphe Emerson and William Stobbs.  
1f. damaged.

WEC.109/5

Two copies of the defendants' case headed "Questions propounded for the customarie Tenants within the Parke and forrest in the parish of Stanhop in Wardell, in the countie of Durham".

(Note: This could refer to the later case against Arthur Emerson and others.)

Paper 2ff.

WEC.109/6

Draft Rejoinder (to the Information of 8 January 1620).

Paper 1f.

WEC.109/7

Part of copy of Interrogatories for the defendants (to the Information of 8 January 1620).

Paper 1f.

WEC.109/8 4 September 18 James I (1620)

(Copies) Depositions for the plaintiff.

6ff. damaged.

WEC.109/9 6 September 1620

(Copy) Order for a new Commission to examine witnesses.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.109/10 14 August 19 James I (1621)

(Copy) Writ to administer Interrogatories.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.109/11 25 August 19 James I (1621)

(Copy) Depositions for the defendants (to the Information of 8 January 1620).

Paper 41ff.

WEC.109/12 6 September 19 James I (1621)

(Copy) Decree for the plaintiff against Arthur Emerson of Billing Shiele, Arthur Emerson of Gatecastle, and William Stobbs.

Paper 6ff.

WEC.109/13 5 January 1621/22

Receipt by Robert Cooper for the fines and costs imposed in the above Decree, amounting to £4. 3s. 4d.

Paper 1f.

WEC.110/1-10

Robert Cooper, attorney of Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham v. Arthur Emerson and others, claiming that the defendants are tenants at will of the lord and not by custom and border service.

Durham Chancery:

WEC.110/1 14 October 1620

(Copy) Information against Raiph Maddeson, Arthur Emerson of Brotherley, Arthur Emerson of Westnophurne, William Emerson, Arthur Emerson of Ludwell, William Emerson of Gatecastle, Christopher Harrison, William Stobbs and John Harrison.

Paper 22ff.

WEC.110/1a

Attached:

Notice of the service of subpoenas.

Paper 1f.

WEC.110/2

Summary of the Information.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.110/3

Draft Answer (ff. xix and xx found separately).  
20ff.

WEC.110/4 20 August 1621

(Copy) Replication.

Paper 17ff.

WEC.110/5

Draft Rejoinder.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.110/6

Draft Interrogatories to be put to witnesses for Arthur Emerson of Ludwell and John Harrison.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.110/7 12 April 1622

(Copy) Order adjourning the case until the next sitting to allow for the examination of witnesses for the defendants.

Endorsement: Note to Mr. Cooper that Raphe Emerson is not a defendant in this suit.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.110/8

(Copy) Depositions for the plaintiff.

32ff. (last folio found separately)

WEC.110/9 12 September 20 James I (1622)

(Copy) Decree for the plaintiff against Arthur Emerson of Ludwell and John Harrison.

Paper 5ff.

WEC.110/10 26 September 1625

(Copy) Sequestration Order in view of the refusal of the defendants to comply with the decree of 12 September 20 James I (1622).

Paper 6ff.

WEC.111 13 June 1623

Robert Cooper, attorney of Richard (Neile), Bishop of Durham (v. the inhabitants of Weardale. Durham Chancery:)

Draft Demurrers and Answers by Raiph Emerson, Nicholas Fetherston, George Emerson, Richard Emerson, Eliz. Emerson, Christofer Harrison, George Stobbes, George Emerson, Nicholas Sheile, Peter Westwood, Thomas Emerson, Arthur Emerson, Raph Nattres, Roland Nattres, Cuthbert Fetherston, Robert Rutter, George Harreson, and William Gibson to Information laid by Robert Cooper... late deceased.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.112 6 September 1623 (altered from 1622)

Reasons for a decree being given against the tenants of Weardale.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.113 Undated

Comments on the custom of Weardale and the need for a new trial outside the Bishop's jurisdiction to settle points at issue.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.114 Undated

Opinion of Mr. Dalton on the position of the tenants of Weardale after the decree against them in Durham Chancery, and his advice concerning a petition.

Paper 3ff.

WEC.115 c.1623

(Copy) Petition by the tenants of Weardale to the House of Commons against decrees obtained in Durham Chancery.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.116 and 117

Two drafts of the above Petition.

2ff. and 1f.

WEC.118

Last folio (f. 70) from a copy of Depositions and counter Depositions for the defendants in a case brought by Robert Cooper.

Paper 1f.

WEC.119 10 September 1625

Letter from Th. Ja. to William Stobbs informing him that he has obtained and is sending the Opinion of Mr. Dalton, a lawyer in York.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.120 Undated

Opinion of William Smyth that a man may make a gate from his close on to the King's highway as and where he chooses.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.121 June (?) 1626

Account of affrays between the Harrisons (Christopher, Rowland, Ralph and Matthew) and Cuthbert Peart, servant to William Stobbs (concerning right of way across the lands of William Stobbs ?).

Paper 1f.

## WEC.122 Undated

(?) v. William Stobbs, to obtain payment of certain rents due to his father John Stobbs deceased.

(Copy) End of Bill of Complaint.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.123 28 August 1627

Ralph Stobbs v. William Stobbs.

Before the Council of the North:

Notice to William Stobbs that the Commission for examining witnesses will be held 11 September next.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.124

Part of description of events in September 1628 similar to those described in Nos. 121 and 125.

1 piece.

## WEC.125

Account describing the pulling down of a wall built by William Stobbs, 28 May 1631 ;

Receipt for rent paid by William Stobbs, 20 June 1631 ; and other memoranda.

1 piece.

## WEC.126 11 April 8 Chas. I (1632)

Durham, General Sessions of the Peace (Copy) Indictment against William Stobbs of Swinhopeburn for an encroachment on the King's highway from Swinhopeburn to Stanhope where it crosses a close called the East field.

2ff. damaged

## WEC.127 11 April 8 Chas. I (1632)

Names of the Grand Jury for the county sworn at the Sessions of Peace at Durham.

1 piece.

## WEC.128 28 April (no year)

Rex v. William Stobbs: (Copy) Panel of jurors (for the information of Cuthbert Peart ?).

1 piece.

## WEC.129

Part of Interrogatories (?) for the case against William Stobbs concerning the Easter field.

Paper 1f.



## WEC.130 Undated

Draft petition (by William Stobbs) to the Bishop of Durham concerning a highway at Swinhopeburn.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.131 Undated

Draft Petition (by William Stobbs) to the Bishop of Durham to have his dispute with Christofer Harrison, John Harrison and John Banbridge settled by arbitration.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.132 1 July 1632

Certificate by surveyors and neighbours that the road complained of by Christofer Herrison is as wide as other roads in the neighbourhood and is as wide as is necessary.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.133 11 July 8 Chas. I (1632)

Durham, General Sessions of the Peace (Copy) Indictment against William Stobbs and Richard Stobbs for making an affray on Matthew Harrison.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.134 11 July 8 Chas. I (1632)

Durham, General Sessions of the Peace (Copy) Indictment against William Stobbs for an encroachment on the King's highway in a place called the Wester Intack in Dandrey Sheele.

Paper 3ff.

## WEC.135 11 July 8 Chas. I (1632)

Durham, General Sessions of the Peace (Copy) Indictment against William Stobbs for an encroachment on the King's highway leading from Sherwynforde to Stanhope at Sherwynford.

Paper 3ff.

## WEC.136 3 October 8 Chas. I (1632)

Three copies of writ of *Venire facias* to try the case against William Stobbs on charges of trespass and contempt.

Sealed together.

1m. each

## WEC.137 6 (?) August 1633

Account of charges incurred by William Stobbs in his suit against the Harrisons.

1 piece.

## WEC.138/1 and 2

Richard Osbaldeston (in the absence of George Radcliffe, H.M. Attorney) on the Information of William Stobbs v. Christofer Herrison, John Bainbrigg, John Harrison, Guy Watson and Raiph Harrison, concerning the alleged highway across the Easterfield.

Before the Council of the North:

## WEC.138/1 26 August 1633

Notice to William Stobbs of the Commission's intention to take the defendants' Answers 4 September next.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.138/2

Interrogatories to be put to the defendants.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.139

Opinion of William Calverley concerning actions in Ejectment against the tenants of Weardale on a lease by Sir Arthur Haslerigg, with his advice on the course to be taken by the tenants after a verdict has been given.

Paper 1f.

## WEC.140

Minutes concerning the case of the tenants against Sir Arthur Haslerigg.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.141

Copy of the custom of the tenants of Weardale with minutes concerning the tenants' case against Sir Arthur Haslerigg.

Paper 2ff.

## WEC.142/1 - 12

George Harrison and others v. Sir Arthur Haslerigg and others, claiming that they hold their lands by tenant right, custom and service and not as tenants at will, and asking for Injunctions to prevent further actions by the defendants at Common Law. In Chancery:

## WEC.142/1

(i) - (x) Draft of Bill of Complaint:

## WEC.(i)

Draft not setting out the titles of the tenants.

Paper 71ff.

## WEC.(ii) a-c

Parts of a draft containing the titles.

111ff. (ff. 72-95 found separately), 2ff., 1f.

## WEC.(iii)

Draft of beginning and ending.

10ff. and 1m.

## WEC.(iv)

Draft of last section (ff. numbered 32 - 55).

Paper 24ff.

## WEC.(v)

Draft of last section (ff. numbered 53 - 73).

Paper 21ff.

## WEC.(vi)

Draft of last section (closely written).

Paper 1f.

## WEC.(vii)

Draft of last section.

Parchment 1 m.

WEC.(viii)

Part of draft of the titles.

38ff. (f.1 found separately).

WEC.(ix)

Draft of paragraph ending the section on titles.

Paper 1f.

WEC.(x)

Draft of paragraph ending the section on titles.

Paper 1f.

WEC.142/2

Summary of Bill of Complaint.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.142/3

List of tenants involved in the dispute.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.142/4 16 February 1653/54

(Copy) Plea and Demurrer of Sir Arthur Haselerigg to part of the Bill of Complaint and of his Answer to the other part.

Paper 35ff.

WEC.142/5-8

Summaries of Bill, Plea and Demurrer, and Answer.

Four copies.

6ff., 6ff., 7ff., 5ff.

WEC.142/9

Part of Summary of the Bill.

Paper 1f.

WEC.142/10

Summary of Plea and Demurrer, and Answer.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.142/11

(Copy) Exceptions by the tenants to Sir Arthur Haslerigg's Answer (ff. 1 - 17 only).

Paper 17ff.

WEC.142/12 (i) - (vii)

Seven documents fastened together.

WEC.(i) 6 December 1653

(Copy) Order granting defendants time for making their Answer.

Paper 1f.

WEC.(ii)

Minutes relating to the case.

1 piece.

WEC.(iii) 21 June 1654

(Copy) Order postponing a decision on the defendants' Plea and Demurrer and ordering that the plaintiffs should consider a proposal by the defendants to file a Cross Bill so that the whole matter may be decided by this court.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.(iv) 3 July 1654

(Copy) Order over-ruling the defendants' Plea and Demurrer, ordering that the defendants make Answer, and granting them liberty to take a Commission for this Answer, and the same to the plaintiffs for answering the Cross Bill.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.(v)

Draft of the Order of 3 July 1654.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.(vi)

Another copy of the Order of 3 July 1654.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.(vii) Undated

Anthony Pearson v. George Harrison in an action for trespass and ejectment on a lease by Sir Arthur Haslerigg:  
Draft Deposition by John Harrison of Swinhopeburn that he has given notice to Sir Arthur Haslerigg of his intention to inform the court that the under-sheriff, having return of writs and panels of juries in this case, is also Sir Arthur Haslerigg's steward for the manors of Wolsingham and Stanhope where the lands in question lie.  
Paper 1f.

WEC.143/1 - 7

Sir Arthur Haslerigg v. George Harrison and 86 others.  
Cross suit in Chancery:

WEC.143/1 16 June 1654  
(Copy) Bill of Complaint.  
Paper 12ff.

WEC.143/2

Another copy of Bill of Complaint of 16 June 1654, with marginal comments on behalf of the tenants.  
Paper 53ff.

WEC.143/3

Summary of Bill of Complaint.  
Paper 3ff.

WEC.143/4

(Copy) Answer.  
Paper 81ff.

WEC.143/5

Draft of above Answer.  
124ff.

WEC.143/6  
Summary of Answer.  
Paper 6ff.

WEC.143/7  
(Copy) Interrogatories for the defendants.  
Paper 3ff.

WEC.144/1 - 8  
George Harrison and others v. Sir Arthur Haslerigg (continued from No. 142 above):

WEC.144/1 4 December 1654  
(Copy) Answer of Sir Arthur Haslerigg (incomplete ?).  
Paper 87ff.

WEC.144/2  
(Copy) Replication.  
Paper 35ff.

WEC.144/3  
(Copy) Interrogatories for the plaintiffs.  
Paper 21ff.

WEC.144/4  
Folios 15 - 17 and 19 of draft of the above Interrogatories.  
Paper 4ff.

WEC.144/5  
Draft of 21st and 22nd Interrogatories.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.144/6  
Summary of Interrogatories.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.144/7  
Opinion of J. Turner concerning procedure in the case.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.144/8 Trin. Term 1655.  
(Copy) Order for nominating a jury for trial.  
This order concerns the Pearson v. Harrison case (see No. 142/12 (vii), not Harrison v. Haslerigg.  
Paper 1f.

WEC.145/1 - 43  
Sir Arthur Haslerigg v. William Dobbs, Nicholas Fetherston, Ralph Emerson, William Emerson, Widow Banebrigg, George Mers, John Emerson, William Harrison, George Robinson, Thomas Younger, John Fryer, Nicholas Stobbs and Raiph Stobbs; concerning 13 tenements at the Westgate purchased by Sir Arthur Haslerigg. Before the Committee for removing obstructions in the sale of Bishop's lands (at Worcester House):

WEC.145/1 (i) - (iv) 28 November 1655

Four copies of Order that the defendants appear before the Commissioners 13 February next.

Paper 1f. each

WEC.145/2

Summary of the custom of the forest of Weardale and of suits previous to Sir Arthur Haslerigg's petition to the Committee of Obstructions.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/3 (i) and (ii)

Two copies of Summary of Petition and Answers.

9ff. and 12ff.

WEC.145/4

Summary of Petition and minutes for the Answer to the same.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.145/5

Parts of Draft Answer.

10ff.

WEC.145/6 13 February 1655/56

(Copy) Order that depositions and writing concerning suits between the parties in other courts be referred to Mr. Jewks for him to report to the Commission 30 April next.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/7

Part of another copy of the above Order.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/8 20 March 1655/56

Memorandum of where various documents concerning the custom are.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/9 9 April 1656

Title of the customary tenants to 12 of the 13 messuages.

Delivered (to Mr. Jewks ?).

Paper 19ff.

WEC.145/10

Part of similar document with part of earlier Bill of Complaint attached.

Paper 4ff.

WEC.145/11

Schedule of documents relating to the custom of Weardale taken to London, Easter Term 1656.

Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/12 - 28

Copies of Depositions (taken 13 February - 7 May 1656 ?):

WEC.145/12

(Copy) Deposition by George Bainbridge.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/13

(Copy ) Deposition by George Bainbridge.  
Paper 31ff.

WEC.145/14

Draft Deposition by George Bainbridge.  
Paper 15ff.

WEC.145/15

(Copy) Deposition by Ralph Bainbridge.  
20ff.

WEC.145/16

Draft Deposition by Ralph Bainbridge.  
Paper 14ff.

WEC.145/17

(Copy) Deposition by Thomas Gray.  
Paper 23ff.

WEC.145/18

Draft Deposition by Thomas Gray.  
10ff.

WEC.145/19

Part of Draft Deposition by --- Gray (belonging to 145/18 ?).  
Paper 1f.

WEC.145/20

Draft Deposition by Thomas Lonsdale.  
Paper 9ff.

WEC.145/21

(Copy) Deposition by John Ouston.  
Paper 25ff.

WEC.145/22

Draft Deposition by John Ouston.  
Paper 12ff.

WEC.145/23

(Copy) Deposition by Cuthbert Peart.  
Paper 28ff.

WEC.145/24

Draft Deposition by Cuthbert Peart.  
Paper 12ff.

WEC.145/25

(Copy) Deposition by Robert Robinson.  
Paper 3ff.

WEC.145/26

Draft Deposition by Robert Robinson.  
Paper 7ff.

WEC.145/27  
(Copy) Deposition by Cuthbert Tod.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/28  
Draft Deposition by Cuthbert Tod.  
Paper 4ff.

WEC.145/29  
Draft Deposition by John Westgarth.  
This deposition does not belong with this case, but concerns the Survey of the Manor of Wolsingham carried out in 1647 (No. 38 above).  
1f. damaged.

WEC.145/30 7 May 1656  
(Copy) Order referring the case to the 2nd sitting of Michaelmas Term.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/31  
Schedule of documents concerning the custom of Weardale, most of which were taken to London. Mich. Term 1656.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/32 After 29 October 1656  
Part of Brief for the defendants.  
2 pieces of 1f.

WEC.145/33 After 29 October 1656  
Case for the tenants.  
Paper 5ff.

WEC.145/34  
Minutes relating to the tenants' case.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/35 Mich. Term 1658  
(Copy) Order that the case be left to law [12] November [1656]; with note of papers taken to London by Robert Colthirst.  
1 piece.

WEC.145/36  
(Copy) Certificate relating to the above Order of 12 November 1656.  
Paper 1f.

WEC.145/37 16 July 1658  
Letter from Robert Colthirst to John Westgarth informing him that Sir Arthur Haslerigg has revived his petition and that Mr. Jewkes has been ordered to make his Report as ordered on 13 February 1655/56.  
Paper 2ff.

WEC.145/38 Undated  
Draft Deposition by William Stobbs explaining why witnesses cannot be brought from Weardale to London.  
Paper 1f.



WEC.145/39

Draft Deposition by John Westgarth explaining why many witnesses cannot be examined *viva voce* by the court in London.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/40 16 December 1658

Letter from Robert Colthirst to John Westgarth concerning the case against Sir Arthur Haslerigg.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/41 16 February 1658/59

Dismissal of the case on the refusal of Sir Arthur Haslerigg to proceed to hearing or have witnesses examined.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/42

List of documents proved at Worcester House.

Paper 1f.

WEC.145/43

Bills for charges incurred by the tenants of Weardale, in the case against Sir Arthur Haslerigg, mainly for the copying of documents.

3 pieces.

WEC.146 Undated

Draft Petition to Parliament by the customary tenants of the forest of Weardale to confirm the custom of the forest.

Paper 1f.

WEC.147 [1653]

Bond (of the tenants of Weardale) to John Harrison, John Westgarth, George Emmerson and George Brummells etc. (concerning payment for the defence of their title).

Marks or signatures and seals of 69 people. (Partly illegible.)

2mm. sewn together.

WEC.148

Queries and minutes relating to one of the cases.

Paper 1f.

WEC.149

Bundle of labels. These were tucked inside bundles of documents but did not always describe accurately the contents of these bundles.