

Lordship of Hartley

Parish/ County	Shinfield Berkshire	Principal Source	Victoria County Histories
Date	History of Lordship		Monarchs
871	Creation of the English Monarchy		Alfred the Great 871-899 Edward Elder 899-924 Athelstan 924-939 Edmund I 939-946 Edred 946-955 Edwy 955-959 Edgar 959-975 Edward the Martyr 975-978 Ethelred 978-1016 Edmund II 1016 Canute 1016-1035 Harold I 1035-1040 Harthacnut 1040-1042 Edward the Confessor 1042-1066 Harold II 1066 William I 1066-1087
1066	Norman Conquest- Battle of Hastings		
1086	Domesday		William II 1087-1100 Henry I 1100-35 Stephen 1135-54 Henry II 1154-89 Richard I 1189-99 John 1199-1216
1215	Magna Carta		
1215-1217	First Barons War		Henry III 1216-72
1261	The early Lords of Hartley are unclear, however the Vachell family are known to have an estate in Shinfield parish. Walter Vachell (or Fachell) is one of the jurors for the borough of Reading at the assizes. It would seem likely that he heads the family and is Lord of Hartley at this time. He is married to Susanna.		
Approx. 1264	John Vachell and Roger Vachell attend the assizes as jurors for the borough.		
1264-1267	Second Barons War		

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1297	John Vachell is appointed one of the commissioners to buy wool in the counties of Oxford and Berkshire. He is also recorded as Lord of an estate in Coley, Berkshire. From this we can assume he is the head of the family and is probably Lord of Hartley.	Edward I 1272-1307
1303	John dies leaving a son and heir of the same name.	Edward II 1307-27
After 1329	John dies leaving Hartley to his son Sir John Vachell.	Edward III 1327-77
Unknown	Sir John and his two sons die. With no direct heir Sir John's brother, Nicholas becomes Lord of Hartley.	Richard II 1377-1399
1411	Nicholas' son William appears in a document as William Vachell de Colle.	Henry IV 1399-1413 Henry V 1413-22
1433	William is probably Lord of Hartley as he is listed in a return by Commissioners for the Berkshire gentry.	Henry VI 1422-61 1470-71
1455-1487	War of the Roses	Edward IV 1461-70 1471-83
1481	William dies and is succeeded to Hartley by his son Thomas.	
Unknown	On the death of Thomas, he is succeeded by his son of the same name.	Edward V 1483 Richard III 1483-5 Henry VII 1485-1509
1534	The Act of Supremacy – Church of England	Henry VIII 1509-47
1540	Thomas was a zealous Protestant and increases the wealth of the family considerably. He is a friend and correspondent of Thomas Cromwell. He is made overseer of the possessions of Reading Abbey, of Leominster and bailiff of the town of Reading. For these duties he receives the sum of 40 marks. He also receives large grants of land in Reading, Coley (the family home) and elsewhere.	
1553	Thomas dies leaving his eldest son of the same name as heir.	Edward VI 1547-53 Mary I 1553-58 Elizabeth I 1558-1603
1610	Thomas is a recusant (remains with the Catholic faith and will not attend services of the Church of England) and dies. His estates pass to the Crown. This is the last reference to the Lordship and Manor of Hartley.	James I 1603-25

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1611	The family estates are re-granted to his nephew who is his Thomas' heir but there is no mention of Hartley.	
1642-1651	English Civil War	Charles I 1625-49 Charles II 1660-85 James II 1685-88 William III 1688-1702 Anne 1702-14 George I 1714/27
1750-1850	Industrial Revolution	George II 1727/60 George III 1760-1820 George IV 1820-30 William IV 1830-7 Victoria 1837-1901 Edward VII 1901-10 George V 1910-36 Edward VIII 1936
2018	The title appears not to have been used for 407 years.	George VI 1936-52 Elizabeth II 1952-