

Lordship of Legra or Layer

Parish/ County	Birch Essex	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
1066	Legra is held by the Saxon, Leofing. He is lord only answering to the King.		Harold II 1066 William I 1066-1087
1066	Norman Conquest- Battle of Hastings		
Unknown	The Saxon Lord is replaced by William the Conqueror with Hugh de Montfort. Hugh had fought with William at the Battle of Mortemer in 1054, participated in the Council of Lillebonne in which the decision was made to invade England and accompanied William in the invasion force supplying 50 ships and 60 knights. Hugh was an absentee lord being stationed at William's fortress at Winchester. In return for Legra Hugh had to supply forces to Dover Castle when called upon.		
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
1264-1267	Second Barons War		
1292	Legra has passed to Richard of Birch, his name being taken from the principle lordship in the parish. We can therefore assume Richard was local to the area.		Edward I 1272-1307

Lordship of Legra or Layer

Date	History of Lordship	Monarchs
Unknown	Richard dies and Legra passes to Hamon Birch.	Edward II 1307-27
Unknown	Hamon dies leaving a son and heir Robert.	
1342	Robert dies with no son and Legra passes to his brother Nicholas.	Edward III 1327-77
1369	Nicolas dies leaving a son and heir John.	Richard II 1377-1399 Henry IV 1399-1413 Henry V 1413-22
1415	John dies leaving a son and heir Richard.	
1455-1487	War of the Roses	Henry VI 1422-61 1470-71
1474	Richard dies leaving a son and heir William.	Edward IV 1461-70 1471-83 Edward V 1483 Richard III 1483-5
Unknown	William conveys Legra to William Tey.	
1502	William dies leaving a son and heir Thomas.	Henry VII 1485-1509
1529	Thomas is a servant to the Earls of Oxford and it is through this relationship that he is elected a Member of Parliament.	Henry VIII 1509-47
1532	Thomas serves as a Justice of the Peace in Essex.	
1534	The Act of Supremacy – Church of England	
1535	Henry VIII creates a new taxation for the church and Thomas becomes Commissioner of Tenths of Spiritualities for Colchester, Essex.	
1543	Thomas dies leaving a son and heir John.	Edward VI 1547-53 Mary I 1553-58 Elizabeth I 1558-1603
1568	John dies leaving a son and heir Thomas.	
1586	Thomas dies with no direct heir and so his brother William inherits Legra.	
1593	William sells Legra to Humphrey Burton and William Sibthorpe.	
Unknown	Humphrey and William may be trustees as Legra comes to Christopher Sibthorpe.	James I 1603-25

Lordship of Legra or Layer

Date	History of Lordship	Monarchs
1605	Christopher dies with no male heir. Legra passes to his two daughters Elizabeth and Anne, both minors.	
1642-1651	English Civil War	Charles I 1625-49 Charles II 1660-85 James II 1685-88 William III 1688-1702 Anne 1702-14
1750-1850	Industrial Revolution	George I 1714/27 George II 1727/60
1768	A Col. Brown has acquired Legra, but it is not known how it came from the two sisters.	George III 1760-1820
1789	Legra is now held by the last known Lord, being Montagu Burgoyne.	George IV 1820-30 William IV 1830-7 Victoria 1837-1901 Edward VII 1901-10 George V 1910-36 Edward VIII 1936 George VI 1936-52
2019	The title appears not to have been used for 230 years.	Elizabeth II 1952-