

# Barony of Ashby

Seat/County	Ashby Lincolnshire	Principal Source	Baronies IJ Saunders
Date	History of Lordship		Monarchs
871	<b>Creation of the English Monarchy</b>		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	<b>Norman Conquest- Battle of Hastings</b>		
1086	<b>Domesday</b>		
1162	King Henry grants the Barony of Ashby to Gilbert de Neville, whose father is believed to have been an Admiral to William the Conqueror.		William II 1087-1100 Henry I 1100-35 Stephen 1135-54 Henry II 1154-89
1166/9	Gilbert's lordships total 9 knights fees, which he has built up during his lifetime, when he dies aged 84 leaving a son and heir Geoffrey, the <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Baron</b> .		
1193	Geoffrey dies leaving a son and heir Henry, the <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Baron</b> .		Richard I 1189-99
1215	<b>Magna Carta</b>		John 1199-1216
1215-1217	<b>First Barons War</b>		Henry III 1216-72
1227	Henry dies with no direct heir, so his sister Isabel inherits becoming the <b>4<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> . Isabel is married to Robert fitz Maldred, a descendant of the Anglo-Saxon king Aethelred the Unready, who acts as Baron in the right of Isabel. Robert adopts the Neville surname as a recognition of Isabel's wealth and position in society. Robert is also feudal Baron of Raby and Brancepeth Durham. Isabel takes over the responsibility of Sheriff of Hutton and Brancepeth.		

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1230	Robert is sent overseas on the King's service.	
1235	Robert is named a commissioner to collect aid (irregular tax) in Northumberland.	
1238	Robert is appointed a commissioner to hold pleas (similar to a judge in a criminal court now) in Durham.	
1241	Robert fights in King Henry's campaign against the Welsh.	
1248	Robert is now a very old man and dies so Isabel re-marries. Her second husband is Gilbert de Brakenberg a Lincolnshire tenant.	
1254	Isabel dies, and as all Isabel's children have predeceased her the barony passes to her grandson, Sir Robert de Neville the <b>5<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> .	
1258	Sir Robert is made warden of the castles of Bamborough and Newcastle-on-Tyne and governor of the castles of Norham and Werk. He is also commanded to rescue the King of the Scots from the Scottish barons.	
1260	Sir Robert is called again into military service, this time against the Welsh.	
1261	Sir Robert becomes the Justice of the Forests beyond the Trent.	
1263	Sir Robert is appointed one of the Council of Fifteen who are responsible for ensuring that King Henry III accepts the Provisions of Oxford. The 15 create Parliaments that meet 3 times a year. He is made Sheriff of Yorkshire. He is made General Commander of the King's forces beyond the Trent.	
1264	Sir Robert is made Chief Justice of Forests. He visits King Henry in his captivity but remains loyal to the barons.	
1264-1267	<b>Second Barons War</b>	
1267	With the defeat of the barons Sir Robert is again made Chief Justice of the Forests beyond the Trent and appointed Governor of various castles.	
1275	Sir Robert is made Chief Assessor in the northern counties.	Edward I 1272-1307

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1277	Sir Robert receives custody of Scarborough Castle.	
1282	Sir Robert dies, his eldest son having pre-deceased him, the barony passes to his grandson Ralph, who is the <b>6<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> .	
1295	Ralph is granted a peerage, Lord Neville of Raby.	
1325	Ralph is appointed Keeper of the Peace.	Edward II 1307-27
1331	Ralph dies having been married twice and had 14 children. His heir is his son of the same name, the <b>7<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> .	Edward III 1327-77
1334	Ralph and Lord Percy are made joint wardens of the Northern Marches and entrusted with important negotiations with Scotland. Ralph is also Governor of Bamborough Castle and Warden of the Forests north of the Trent.	
1338	King Edward is badly short of money and Ralph is one of the barons to come to his aid with a loan of wool from his Yorkshire estates.	
1342	Ralph assists with the negotiation of a truce with Scotland.	
1346	David Bruce, King of Scotland invades England and Ralph with his eldest son and William de la Zouch take victory at Red Hills saving the city of Durham and taking David Bruce captive.	
1355	Ralph is made Governor of Berwick.	
1367	Ralph dies and is the first layman to be buried in Durham Cathedral. His heir is his eldest son Sir John the <b>8<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> .	
1368	Sir John is summoned to Parliament as a peer. He is put on the commission entrusted with the custody of the East March on the Scottish border.	
1369	Sir John is appointed Admiral of the Fleet from the Thames northwards.	
1372	The English are losing ground in France and Sir John is commissioned to negotiate an offensive and defensive alliance with the Duke of Brittany. He is ordered to take 600 men to Brittany and take charge of their joint force.	

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1376	Sir John is made Steward of King Edwards's household. He suffers the wrath of the Good Parliament and is impeached on 3 counts; buying up the King's debts, for allowing his troops to plunder and outrage at Southampton in 1372 and for causing the loss of several Breton fortresses by neglecting to supply the force of men he had undertaken to supply. The Commons petition that Sir John should lose all his offices and is sentenced to make restitution to those injured and pay a fine of 8,000 marks.	
1377	Parliament reverses the 1376 judgement. Sir John is entrusted with the Scottish border and on the accession of Richard II he is made Governor of Bamborough Castle.	Richard II 1377-1399
1378	Sir John is appointed Lieutenant of the King in Aquitaine and given authority to negotiate a treaty with the King of Arragon and the Count of Foix. Sir John obtains a licence to castellate and fortify Raby Castle which he has spent many years building.	
1381	During his lieutenancy Sir John is credited with recovering 83 towns, castles and forts.	
1388	Sir John is placed on a commission to negotiate a treaty with Scotland after being tasked with surveying the fortifications on the Scottish border. He dies leaving a son and heir Sir Ralph, the <b>9<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> .	
1389	Sir Ralph is made Keeper of the Forests north of the Trent for life.	
1393/4	Sir Ralph is employed negotiating peace with Scotland.	
1396	Sir Ralph's wife dies and shortly after he remarries, Joan Beaufort daughter of 1 <sup>st</sup> Duke of Lancaster and grand-daughter of Edward III.	
1397	King Richard makes Sir Ralph the 1 <sup>st</sup> Earl of Westmoreland as a reward for supporting him against the Lords Appellant.	
1398	King Richard banishes Henry Bolingbroke, Sir Ralph's brother-in-law. Sir Ralph supports Henry against the King.	

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1399	<p>Sir Ralph and the Earl of Northumberland are part of the delegation at the Tower to receive King Richard's abdication. Sir John carries the small sceptre at the coronation of Henry IV. Sir Ralph is also rewarded with a lifetime appointment as Earl Marshall, a lifetime grant of the Honour of Richmond, several wardships and appointed to the King's Council.</p>	Henry IV 1399-1413
1402	<p>Sir Ralph is made a Knight of the Garter and is a strong supporter of Henry IV.</p>	
1403	<p>The Percys, who are the other great northern family, take up arms against the King. King Henry orders Sir Ralph to raise troops and prevent the dissenter's army from advancing south. Sir Ralph is successful and as a reward he is given the wardenship of the West March which the Percys had held since 1399.</p>	
1405	<p>The Percys with 400 men make a surprise attack on Witton-le-Wear Castle to capture Sir Ralph. Their plan fails and Sir Ralph with King Henry's son, John of Lancaster gather an army to face an 8,000 strong Percy army led by Archbishop Scrope and the Earl of Norfolk. Sir Ralph is severely outnumbered but manages to trick the opposing armies' leaders saying they would agree to their demands and guarantee their safety. Once the Scrope army is disbanded the leaders are arrested and condemned to death for treason. Sir Ralph is sent north to seize the Northumberland castles. As a reward for quelling the rebellion with minimal bloodshed Sir Ralph receives a large grant of the Percy lands in Cumberland and Northumberland.</p>	
1415	<p>Sir Ralph defeats a Scottish army that has invaded England at the Battle of Yeaving.</p>	Henry V 1413-22
1422	<p>Sir Ralph is appointed a member of the Council of Regency while King Henry VI is a minor.</p>	Henry VI 1422-61 1470-71
1425	<p>Sir Ralph dies, his eldest son John having pre-deceased him in 1420 the barony passes to his grandson Ralph 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Westmoreland, the <b>10<sup>th</sup> Baron</b>. His grandfather leaves a substantial portion of his lands to his wife and her children. Ralph is to spend many years trying to recover these lands.</p>	
1426	<p>Ralph is knighted by King Henry VI. He marries the daughter of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland and widow of the Baron de Clifford.</p>	

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Date	History of Lordship	Monarchs
1443	The dispute over Sir Ralph's grandfather's lands is at last settled however Sir Ralph only recovers the Barony of Raby and loses the disputed lands in Salisbury.	
1455-1487	<b>War of the Roses</b>	
1459 & 61	Sir Ralph is appointed Commissioner of Array (responsibility of mustering inhabitants at time of war).	Edward IV 1461-70 1471-83
1460	Sir Ralph's only military service is on the Lancastrian side at Durham. The reason being he had succumbed to a mental disorder and was put under the custodianship of his brother, Sir Thomas Neville.	
1484	Sir Ralph dies and having no children his nephew another Ralph inherits his titles and lands and becomes <b>11<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> of Ashby. Sir Ralph adds to his lands through his "good services against the rebels" from King Richard III with lands in Somerset and Berkshire. He is appointed a Commissioner to keep the truce with Scotland.	Edward V 1483 Richard III 1483-5
1485	The Yorkists are defeat at Bosworth and Sir Ralph enters into bonds to King Henry VII for £400 and 400 marks and custody of his eldest son is given to the King.	Henry VII 1485-1509
1497	Sir Ralph leads an army into Scotland.	
1499	Sir Ralph dies (allegedly of the grief of his son's death last year), his grandson Ralph Neville inherits (who is only an infant) and will become the <b>12<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Earl of Westmoreland.	
1520	Ralph attends King Henry VIII at the Field of the Cloth of Gold with King Francis I of France and at his meeting with Emperor Charles V at Gravelines.	Henry VIII 1509-47
1523	Ralph is knighted by Earl of Surrey after giving military service on the Scottish border.	
1525	Sir Ralph receives the Order of the Garter. He continues to serve on the Scottish border and is appointed Deputy Captain of Berwick and Vice Warden of the East and Middle Marches.	
1526	Sir Ralph is made a member of the King's Privy Council. He is the chief envoy charged with concluding a truce with Scotland.	

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1530	Sir Ralph is one of the signatories of the letter to Pope Clement VII urging the annulment of King Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon.	
1534	<b>The Act of Supremacy – Church of England</b>	
1534	Sir Ralph sees military service suppressing disorder in Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmoreland.	
1536	Sir Ralph is one of the peers who took part in the trial of Anne Boleyn, King Henry's second wife.	
1537	Sir Ralph is made a member of the Council of the North. He attends the funeral of Jane Seymour, King Henry's third wife.	
1544	Sir Ralph is in command of the East and Middle Marches during the invasion of Scotland.	
1549	Sir Ralph dies and his son and heir Sir Henry becomes the <b>13<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> of Ashby.	Edward VI 1547-53
1552	Sir Henry is made a member of the Privy Council and ambassador to Scotland. He also becomes a Knight of the Garter and lord-lieutenant of Durham.	
1553	Sir Henry participates in the coronation of Queen Mary.	Mary I 1553-58
1558/9	Sir Henry serves as Lieutenant-General of the North.	Elizabeth I 1558-1603
1563	Sir Henry dies and his son and heir Charles becomes the <b>14<sup>th</sup> Baron</b> of Ashby.	
1569	Charles has been raised a Catholic and opposes Queen Elizabeth who is Protestant. He joins the Northern Rebellion against the Queen. The rebels capture Durham however the Queen's forces crush the rebellion that fails to rescue Mary, Queen of Scots from prison. Charles flees and goes into hiding at Fernyhurst Castle, Roxburghshire.	
1572	Charles moves for Flanders; his vast wealth is confiscated so he has to live in extreme poverty. The Barony of Ashby therefore passes to the Crown and its parts are granted to new owners.	
1642-1651	<b>English Civil War</b>	James I 1603-25 Charles I 1625-49

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Date	History of Lordship	Monarchs
1750-1850	<b>Industrial Revolution</b>	Charles II 1660-85 James II 1685-88 William III 1688-1702 Anne 1702-14 George I 1714/27 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
2019	The title appears not to have been used for 447 years.	George VI 1936-52 Elizabeth II 1952-