

TINTINHULL LOCAL HISTORY GROUP - LATIN DOCUMENTS

This section of the Database contains the Latin documents pertaining to Tintinhull. They have been divided into the following sections:-

Probate Records

Latin was used in some areas for these records until the 1730's. The general format of wills contained these elements:-

Beginning phrase - In Dei Nomine Amen - In the name of God, Amen.

Date.

Name of testator, occupation and where they lived.

State of health.

Dedication of soul to God, body to earth.

Parish Registers

The Parish Registers for Tintinhull are one of the most extensive records of its kind. The early years are in Latin. They follow a general format decreed by Thomas Cromwell in 1538. Words and phrases, such as, Baptizata est, Baptisma, Sepultus est, Cojunctus est are used frequently, see below in 'Common Phrases, Words and Abbreviations' for more examples. Some Latin personal names are a little unfamiliar to us e.g. Johannes meaning John, Hugo meaning Hugh.

Churchwardens Accounts

The early Tintinhull examples of these are in Latin. They follow a set format starting with the date and followed by 'Computus' and then the latinised names of the churchwardens e.g. Willelmi Strecche et Johannis Aste custodes. After this preamble would follow a list of expenses.

Deeds and Charters

The terms Deeds and Charters are often loosely used. However, a Charter is sometimes restricted to mean a grant by a King, Noble or other important person made to a town, institution or individual conferring a right or a privilege such as borough status or the right to hold a market. Deeds are legal documents of any and every kind concerned with ownership. They do tend to follow a set format of the date, followed by listing the names between whom the agreement is being made and indicating the sums of money involved. Some of the Latin phrases to look for are:- Salutem [greetings], Sciant presentes et futuri [know all men, present and future], Quod Ego [That I], Dedi concessi [Have given and granted].

Manor Court Rolls

The Court rolls are a record of the courts held by the Lord of the Manor. Except for the Commonwealth period, all records up until the early 18th century were in Latin. They reflect the varied functions of the Manor, which was an economic unit in which all the tenants were bound to the Lord. His free tenants, liberi, paying him rent and his unfree tenants, villani, doing weekly and seasonal service. All tenants were obliged to attend the courts to settle their disagreements, regulate their communal agrarian affairs and approve transfers of copyheld land. The more common Latin words to look out for are - Curia/curium [court including the name of the Lord holding the court], Essonia, followed by a list of names [excuses for non-attendance].

Common Latin Phrases, Words and Abbreviations

The following provides a listing [not exhaustive] of the more common Latin expressions to be found in the Latin documents described above.

Probate Records

In Dei Nomine Amen	In the name of god Amen
Lego animam meam Deo	I leave my Soul to God
Ordano	I appoint
Meos veros executor	My true executors
Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum	The above-written will was proven
De bene et fideliter administrano	To well and truly administer
In cuius rei testimonium huic testamento sigillum meum apposui	In witness of which to this testament I have affixed my seal

Parish Registers

Baptisma/Batizma/Baptizata est	Baptise/baptise/was baptised
Conjunctus est/Nuptis conjuncti	Were/have been married
Matrimonio conjuncti	Joined in marriage
Uxorem duxit	He took to wife

Deeds and Charters

Salutem	Greetings
Sciant presentes et futuri	Know all men present & future
Quod Ego	That I
Dedi concessi	Have given and granted
Et hac presenti carta mea conformavi	And by this my present deed have confirmed
Totum manerium meum	All my manor
Decimo acras terre	10 acres of land
Vocatum	Name of place
Comitatu	Name of county
Habendum et tenendum	To have and to hold
Reddendo et faciendo	Rendering and paying
Hiis testibus	These being witnesses [followed by names]
Querens	The first party [the buyer]
Deforciator	The second party [the seller]

Dating of documents

Saints' days were commonly used to define a date. A book listing the Saints' days is essential if complete accuracy is sought. Regnal years are also common in these old records. A regnal year ran from the day of the year of the monarch's accession -not from the start of that year. Both the Julian and Gregorian calendars are used. The former [known as the Old Style] was used by everyone from the Roman times until the introduction of the Gregorian calendar [New Style] in 1582, but note that Britain did not adopt it until 1752. The Latin documents used Roman numerals and Latin names for the months of the year which are readily recognised with our current usage.