



GREAT BEDWYN

GAOL DELIVERY AND TRAILBASTON TRIALS 1275-1306 Public Record Office - Justices Itinerant

Trailbaston was a special type of itinerant judicial commission first created during the reign of Edward 1 of England and used many times thereafter during the reigns of Edward 11 and Edward 111, primarily to punish felonies and trespass at the king's suit. The first trailbaston commissions date back to 1305, when Edward 1 directed several teams of justices to visit each English county and seek presentments for felonies (homicide, theft, arson, and rape) and certain trespasses (premeditated assault, extortion, and violent disseising). Edward I added conspiracy to the list of presentments in late 1305. In 1307 Edward I issued a revamped trailbaston commission that directed the justices to try assizes and deliver all prisoners in the counties they visited, not just those charged in previous trailbaston sessions. The 1307 trailbaston commission also directed justices to audit local compliance with the Statute of Winchester and to investigate local efforts to arrest felons.

The declared intention of the trailbaston commissions was to combat increasing levels of violence and public disorder, but an added bonus for the crown was the revenues brought by forfeiture, which was the punishment for conspiracy.

J. I.3/71 rot. 1

Kinwardstone. Nicholas Issak, indicted before the sheriff by inquest imprisoned at Wexcumbe (Wexecombe) which prison he broke and escaped therefrom, **William atte Stock** (atte Stokke, Attestok), taken at Bedewinde (Bedewynde) for burgling the house of Helewise la Daye, of Chippingbedewinde (Cupingbedewinde), and Emme daughter of William Edward of Forstesbur' (Forstebur'), taken at Chut for burgling a house, namely Adam Scular's grange. 12 of Kenewereston hundred say not guilty So 3 quit.

Trespasses:

John Hilde of Bedewynde, for beating Gilbert le Knight at Bedewynd of malice aforethought.

Kymbr', Blakyngrave, Swanbergh, Worth, **Bedwynd**, Caudon [i] William Smart, indicted and taken for burgling John Not's house in Bluntesdon, taking goods worth 100s., and being a common thief; [ii] Walter Beauvyleyn, indicted and taken for striking Isabel daughter of William le Taillur at Stepelavynton so that she miscarried;- [iii] Philip Drynkewater, indicted and taken for robbing Geoffrey, the abbot of Malmesbur's reeve, at Bradene and for a robbery of 3s.; [iv] Walter Kyde, indicted and taken for burning his father's house at Senderrewe; [v] Robert de Mycheldevere, likewise for slaying Maud Suewyng in Claryndon forest and taking and imprisoning a man carrying firewood (buscam) in the forest so that he died within 3 days by Asschcote and for other felonies; [xii] Ralph le Skynner,² indicted and taken for slaying Alice Bonjour at Merton; [xiii] John Stoford, chaplain, and Nicholas le Erl of Gillynham, indicted and taken for slaying a monk of

Montacute at Iryshepathe and because Nicholas slew Geoffrey Braye; [xiv] William de Blakemore of Semelegh, indicted and taken for slaying Robert Serteyn at Semelegh; [xv] Simon Leyman, indicted and taken for burgling James de Groundewell's grange and for being a common thief; and [xvi] Alexander Gos,³ indicted and taken for slaying Ellis de Stodelegh in Malmesbur'. Come. [v], [vii], [viii], [xi], [xiii] plead clergy and are claimed by master Robert Fromund. Adam de Poulesholt, coroner of Old Salisbury, testifies that [vii] is a clerk and records that he confessed himself a thief and turned approver before him and is delivered to the bishop as a clerk convict and purgation is forbidden to him (interdicta). Pro quali for the others who pleaded clergy. [i-iv], [vi], [ix], [x], [xii], [xiv-xvi] pleaded not guilty. Jury say [i-iv] not guilty of the felonies imputed nor of any others. So 4 quit. And that [v], [vi], [viii], [xi], [xiii] are guilty. So 6 delivered to the bishop. And that [vi], [ix], [x], [xii], [xiv—xvi] are guilty. So 6 hanged. Chattels of [ix], 3shillings of [x], half a mark; of [xi], 7s. 6d.; of [xii], 12shillings.; of [xiv], 8pence.; of [v], £8 13s. 4d.; of [vi], 9shillings; also of Jordan de Kendale, approver, [who is bracketed with ix,] 8shillings, whereon the sheriff. J. Gylberd, is answerable.

J.I. 1/1015 rot. 18(i).1

Names of the jurors of the hundreds of the county of Wyltes

Borough of **Bedewynd**: Nicholas de Caperugg, Thomas Vincent, John Tulye, Edward le Irmongere.

Information courtesy of the Wiltshire Record Society