

## Richard Cunliffe

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No Picture Available

Born: 1520 Lancashire, England

Married: Ann Watson

Died: 1590 Lancashire, England

Parents: Robert Cunliffe & Unknown

CUNLIFFE—Cundeclive, Cunteclyve, xiii cent.; Cundeclif, Cuncliffe, xiv–xvi cent.

Robert de Cundeclive held estates in Billington and the adjoining township of Wilpshire before 1246, and attested local grants to Stanlaw Abbey during the time of Henry III. (fn. 83) He derived his name from a small estate in Rishton called Gundeclif or Cundeclive, which he held of Edmund de Lacy in 1258 for 2s. rent. (fn. 84) Robert his son occurs in 1276, and appears to have held for life the manor of Lostock in Deane parish, in which he had acquired an interest before 1288, probably by marriage. (fn. 85) Another Robert succeeded and died before 1319, when the wardship of Robert his son was claimed by Simon de Holand in respect of half the manor of Anderton. The last-named Robert had been married in his father's lifetime to Alice daughter and heir of Stephen de Hamerton of Tadcaster, the patrimony in Billington, Wilpshire and Salesbury being settled upon them and their issue. (fn. 86) He held a parcel of land in Billington of the Abbot of Whalley in 1347, (fn. 87) and settled his mesne manor of Ladyhalgh, or Ladyhall, in Anderton upon his son Robert and Margery his wife.

From Robert and Margery de Cunliffe this and the other estates of the family descended to their elder son Adam, whose son and heir Robert was in possession in 1394. Robert resigned his interest in the manor of Pleasington in 1396 to John Ainsworth, and died without issue before 1399, when his uncle Roger Cunliffe, a younger son of Robert and Margery, succeeded to the Anderton estate by virtue of some settlement, and apparently to the greater part of the family estates also. Although Roger had a daughter Ellen, wife of Peter Talbot, (fn. 88) the heir to the estates after Roger's death, which occurred before Christmas 1409, was his sister Margaret, wife of Adam de Lever, who at the date named was in possession in right of his wife of 'Cunliffe,' in the town of Billington, and of lands in Wilpshire and Tadcaster, co. York. (fn. 89)

Peter Talbot, ancestor of the Talbots of Carr Hall in Wilpshire, a younger son of Richard Talbot of Slaidburn, in right of his wife Ellen became possessed of the Cunliffe estates in Billington, Wilpshire, Salesbury and Tadcaster, except the messuage of Cunliffe, which by some means passed to Alan Cunliffe, possibly son of Richard brother of the half blood to Roger Cunliffe. Robert son of Alan Cunliffe, gent., was described as of Billington in 1468, and with Robert Cunliffe of Dinckley was a juror upon an inquest taken in 1477. (fn. 90) The year following he appears as tenant of the Abbot of Whalley of lands called Broadmeadow and Greenhey. (fn. 91)

Robert Cunliffe of Wilpshire, gent., was outlawed in 1514 for the murder of Elias Wood of Dinckley, at which time he held a messuage in Billington of the Abbot of Whalley, a tenement and 103 acres of land in Wilpshire held of the king by 12d. free rent, and another in Dinckley of the king in socage. (fn. 92) In 1521 his lands were in the hands of the abbot by forfeiture, but in 1538 Robert Cunliffe of Billington, gent., held his lands of the abbot freely by a yearly rent of 25s., and in 1543 was assessed to the subsidy in respect of lands here. (fn. 93) Richard Cunliffe, gent., was in possession in 1562, and with Anne his wife passed his estate to trustees in 1587, (fn. 94) by whom it was sold in or before 1591 to Thomas Walmsley, Justice of the Queen's Bench, (fn. 95) who leased it to John Talbot of Whalley, gent. By his will dated in 1594 Mr. Talbot assigned to Elizabeth his wife the 'farming houses and grounds' which he had by lease of Mr. Justice Walmsley in Billington and Wilpshire, late the inheritance of one Richard Cunliffe, together with his lease of the tithe corn of Cunliffe. In 1662 Cunliffe House paid duty upon four hearths. Since then this estate has passed with the manor.

From: 'Townships: Billington', A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 6 (1911), pp. 325-334. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=53126&strquery=huddleston>. Date accessed: 17 October 2008.

Cunliffe. Sable three coneyes courant argent.

