

## Westminster Abbey Muniments 1838: (cf WAM 1839)

### Description

Royal writ to (John Salerne) Sheriff of Surrey to summon a jury of twelve persons from the view of Morden to try the case between (William of Colchester) Abbat of Westminster and John Prat, John Gerard sen., John Gerard jun., Walter Potter, Henry Hegger, John Heruy, Richard Waterseruant, potter, and Nicholas Waterseruant, potter, of Cheyham, whether on Tuesday in Whitsun week 16 Richard II (27 May 1393) they assaulted John Gildene, the Abbat's servant at Morden.

Witn. W(illiam) Thirnyng, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Dat. at Westminster 10 July 21 Richard II (AD 1397)

*No seal*

Richard, by grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the sheriff of Surrey, greetings. We direct you just as we usually direct you, that you will cause to come before our justices at Westminster on the octave of Saint Michael, twelve, both knights and other free and lawful men from the neighbourhood of Morden of whom each has 100 shillings of land, tenements or annual rent at least, by whom the truth of the matter may the better be known, and who neither the Abbot of Westminster, plaintiff, nor John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter and Henry Hegger touch by any affinity,\* to examine upon their oaths, whether they all, with John Hervy, Richard Waterservant, potter, and Nicholas Waterservant, potter<sup>of East Cheam</sup>, on Tuesday in Whitsun week in the sixteenth year of our reign, with force and arms, that is with swords and bows and arrows, assaulted John Gyldene, the servant of the Abbot himself at Morden, and beat and wounded and evilly handled the same, such that the same Abbot lost the service of his aforesaid servant for a great time, namely for six weeks following thereafter, against our peace, just as the same Abbot says, or if not, just as the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter Potter and Henry Hegger say, because both the aforesaid John Prat, John Gerard senior, John Gerard junior, Walter and Henry, and the aforesaid Abbot, between whom whereof there is the dispute, submit themselves to that jury. And have there the named jurors and this writ. Witness W. Thirnyng at Westminster, 10 July, in the twenty-first year of our reign.

### NOTES:

Although several of these writs refer to this case, only this writ and WAM 1839 give so much detail. The original offence had taken place on the Tuesday in Whitsun week 16 Richard II – 27 May 1393 – but was still

not settled in November 1397. In the meantime Walter Potter was frequently presented at the Morden manor court for trespass in the common pasture of 'Sparwefeld' (BL 56038-9).

- ie are related by any ties