

Lady Clare. The Roos family derive their surname from the Lordship of Roos in Holderness in Yorkshire. Robert de Roos, Lord of Helmsley or Hamlake Castle in that county, married Isabel daughter and heiress of William de Albini, also named Todney, Lord of Belvoir Castle in Rutlandshire, by whom he had William, Robert, and Emlin married to William de Thany. Sir Robert, the second son, was knighted by King Henry III. Of his two sons, Robert and Sacer, the first was a knight templar, who after his return from Jerusalem died in Yorkshire, from whence his portraiture was brought and deposited in the Temple Church in London.

Sir John "de Roos" possessed the estate (of Little Samford Hall) in the reign of Edward III., as did also Alice his widow, who died in 1375, and was succeeded by her grandson, John de Roos of Brockholes in Radwinter. The noble family of Manners, Dukes of Rutland, derive the title of Lord "Roos" from "Alinore," eldest sister and one of the co-heiresses of Edmund, Lord "Roos," married to Sir Robert Manners.

The mansion house of Giffords is in that part of the parish of Little Samford which is named "Tinning End," the old house was on an enclosure containing about two acres, and surrounded by a moat, at an equal distance from the new house, and a farm house called Godmail. It was holden of the chief manor under the "Roos" family. Ellen, daughter of Sir John, son of John, and grandson of Sacer de "Roos," was married to Sir Godfrey Brockhole, who, on her decease in 1419, left him two daughters (in her right heirs of this estate of Giffords, also named Stanley). The manor was holden of Philippa, Duchess of York, as of her manor of Wimbish, Ellen had also the manor of Roos in Radwinter, and of Newhall in Asheldam. Joan married to Thomas Aspell, and Margery John Sumpter of Colchester, whose son and heir was John, on whose decease in 1425 he left a moiety of this manor to his daughters Christian and Elene, by whom it was conveyed to their husbands; Elene to Ralph Holt, and Christian to Thomas Bernard, Esq., and this lady dying without issue, the manor became the undivided property of her sister, Elene Holt. Afterwards it was successively the property of the Rev. John Baker, in 1637, and of the Rev. William Byatt, Rector of Foxearth, and in 1743