

5. The History of Essex, by a Gentleman, published in 1771: and

6. Collier's Peoples History of Essex, published in 1862, have much merit in particular branches, and in bringing down the History of the County to their respective dates.

It is however, from Salmon and Morant that I compile and arrange the history of the earlier possessors of the estate up to the time that it was purchased by my ancestor Mr. Cleeve, in 1695.

In Edward the Confessors reign, Greensted was held for a manor and two hides, by (1) Gotild but at the time of the Survey (2) Hamo Dapifer was possessed of it, and died in 1107. His niece (3) Isabel, daughter of Robert Fitz Haman, inherited her uncle's estates, and married Robert, illegitimate son of Henry 1st. He became in her right Earl of Gloucester, and died in 1147. Whether King Stephen took this estate from him is not clearly ascertained, but Stephens third son William, the Earl of Mortagne and Surrey gave Greensted and Chipping Ongar to (4) Richard de Lucy, Lord of Diss in Norfolk, who was Lieutenant of the kingdom during Henry 2nd absence in Normandy, in 1166. This Richard died in 1179, and there appears some doubt whether (5) Maud de Lucy who was given by King John in marriage to Richard de Riparis or Rivers, in 1213, was his daughter or granddaughter.

After having remained in the possession of the Rivers family till the commencement of 1300, this estate came into the hands of (6) William de la Hay, but in what manner does not appear, nor how it passed from them into those of (7) Ralph, Earl of Stafford.

Under this family it was held with very numerous manors in Essex, by (8) Robert Bouchier, who possessed it at the time of his death, in 1349.

Here for the first time since the Conquest there was a