

ANDREW BARTON

'Lord of Blackburn'



*Blackburn
Coat of Arms*



ANDREW 'Lord of Blackburn' BARTON (1498-1549)

and

AGNES STANLEY (1479-1530)

Andrew Barton was born c1498 at Smithills Hall, Lancashire, the son of John 'of Smithills' Barton and Cecelia (nee Radcliffe), the heiress of Smithills Hall.



In 1514 at Holme, Lancashire, England Andrew Barton married Agnes 'of Hooton' Stanley.

Agnes Stanley was the daughter of Sir William Thomas Stanley of Chester, Cheshire and Lady Ann Agnes Grosvenor.



Agnes Stanley was born in 1479 at Hooton Manor, Hooton, Cheshire, England.

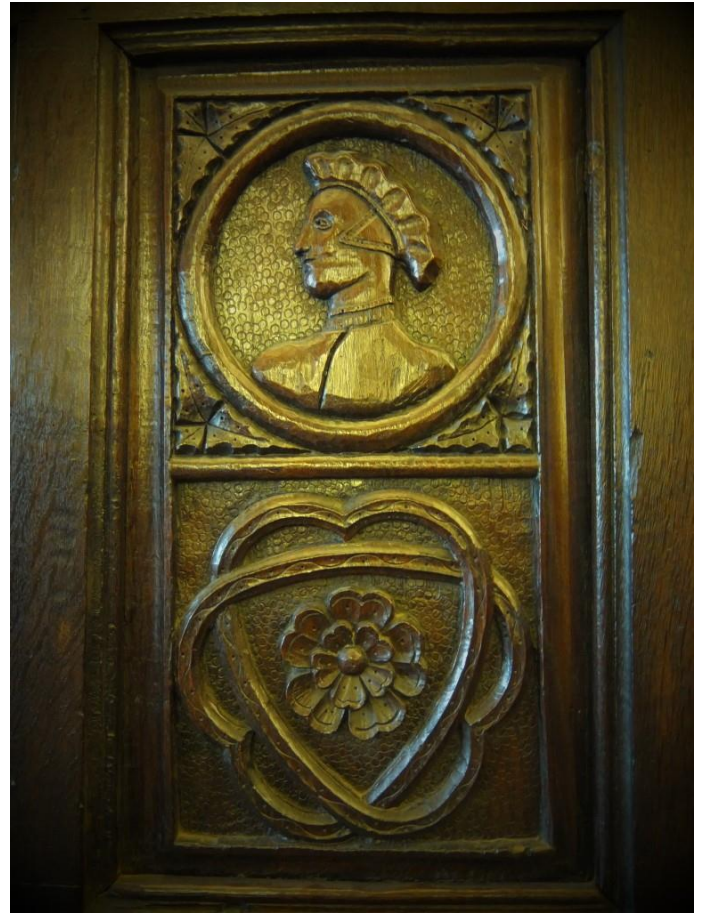
The **Barton family** at Smithills

A complex series of events was to see the Radcliffe Family ownership of "Smithills Hall" change to that of the Barton Family:

- *Sir Ralph 'of Smithills Radcliffe died in 1477*
- *Sir Ralph had a lone daughter Johanna who had married to Ralph Barton*
- *Smithills ownership transferred to Johanna's **cousin** another Ralph 'of Tyngrave' Radcliffe*
- *Ralph 'of Tyngrave' Radcliffe had a lone 12 year old daughter Cecily Radcliffe as heir to his estate.*
- *Johanna Barton (nee Radcliffe) gained permission for the young cousin Cecily Radcliffe to marry Johanna Barton's son John Barton.*
They married on 6 October 1486 at Smithills Hall, Lancashire and Cecily Barton's inheritance was thus taken up.
- *Smithills ownership was now transferred from the Radcliffe Family to the Barton Family.*

Andrew Barton significantly remodelled the hall when he came into his inheritance and his father's successful woollen business. Today we can see one of the real gems he had constructed- the large withdrawing room. It features oak wood panelling containing small carved portraits of the Barton family, all facing their spouses.

Visitors can see Andrew Barton and his wife Agnes in the carvings.



He can be recognised by his large forked beard while she has a flower and a linked hearts design beneath her portrait.

Andrew also had carvings of his initials 'AB' and a 'rebus' put into the panelling.

This is a pun on his name and shows a piece of timber (a 'bar') across a barrel (called in the Tudor times a 'tun'), so Bar-tun or Barton.

As leading dignitaries of the area Andrew and Agnes both had carved misericords seats at Bolton Parish Church and these can still be seen.

Andrew Barton - Biography

As Andrew Barton became a Member of Parliament in the “House of Commons” of the United Kingdom, quite an extensive ‘life story’ exists.



Barton Andrew (1497/98 – 1549), of Smithills in Deane, Lancashire and Holme, Nottinghamshire.
Published in ‘The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1509-1558’, ed. S.T. Bindoff, 1982
(much of the text had abbreviations which have been expanded)

Biography

<u>Constituency</u>	<u>Dates</u>
LANCASHIRE	1529

Family & Education

Born: 1497/98, 1st son of John Barton of Smithills by Cecily, daughter and heir of Ralph Radcliffe of Smithills.

Married: Anne, daughter of Sit William Stanley of Hooton, Cheshire

Family: seven sons including Ralph - four daughters

Succeeded father: July 1516

Education: The biography indicates that Andrew Barton was educated at the Inner Temple.

- ✓ *The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, commonly known as the Inner Temple, is one of the four Inns of Court (professional associations for barristers and judges) in London. To be called to the Bar and practise as a barrister in England and Wales, a person must belong to one of these Inns. It is located in the wider Temple area of the capital, near the Royal Courts of Justice, and within the City of London.*

Offices Held

Justice of the Peace for Lancashire 1529 – 1549

Justice of the Peace for Nottinghamshire 1537 – 1543

(Andrew Barton was just over 30 years of age when he was appointed and held that position until his death)

- ✓ *An act of 1327 had referred to "good and lawful men" to be appointed in every county in the land to "guard the peace". The title justice of the peace derives from 1361, in the reign of Edward III. The "peace" to be guarded is the sovereign's, the maintenance of which is the duty of the Crown under the royal prerogative.*
- ✓ *In the later medieval period the Anglo-Saxon community-based system of law enforcement was gradually undermined by the creation a new local official: the Justice of the Peace, or JP. JPs were different in two ways:*

1. They were appointed by the king, not the local community. They were thus part of central government (royal) power, which increased through the later Middle Ages.

2. They were appointed because of their local power, wealth and rank. They were not great magnates, and they were local, but they were definitely not just ordinary villagers, like the members of the tithings.

JPs gained their powers only gradually. As you can see, in 1344 they were called "Guardians of the Peace". By 1361 they were called Justices of the Peace and allowed the considerable expenses of 4/- (20p) a day. By the end of the Middle Ages JPs were the mainstay of local government and law enforcement.

Commander for Tenths and Spiritualities for Nottinghamshire 1535

- ✓ *The Court of First Fruits and Tenths was established in 1540 to collect from the clergy certain moneys that had previously been sent to Rome.*
- ✓ *Clergy had to pay a portion of their first year's income (known as annates) - and a tenth of their revenue annually thereafter. Originally, the money was paid to the papacy, but Henry VIII's 1534 statute diverted the money to the English Crown as part of his campaign to pressure the Pope into granting him an annulment of his marriage with Catherine of Aragon.*

Subsidy for Nottinghamshire 1541 & 1543

- ✓ *Subsidy Rolls are records of taxation in England made between the 12th and 17th centuries. They are often valuable sources of historical information.*

Steward for the Stanley Manor of Ingleton (North Yorkshire)

- ✓ *In medieval times, the steward was initially a servant who supervised both the lord's estate and his household.*
- ✓ *However over the course of the next century, other household posts arose and involved more responsibilities. This meant that in the 13th century, there were commonly two stewards in each house—one who managed the estate and the other, to manage domestic routine.*
- ✓ *Stewards commonly earned up to 3 to 4 pounds per year. Stewards took care of their lord's castles when they were away. Also, stewards checked on the taxes of the serfs on his lord's manor.*
- ✓ *The Lord High Steward of England held a position of power in the 12th to 14th centuries, and the Lord Steward is the first dignitary of the court.*

Biography

The Bartons were a Nottinghamshire family which had acquired Lancashire estates through the marriage of Andrew Barton's grandfather to an heiress of the Radcliffes of Smithills. Barton's father also married a Radcliffe, who was his cousin, but after her death he entered the house of Observant Franciscans at Richmond, Surrey, in July 1516. The choice of order may well have been significant. The Observants, the Carthusians and the Bridgettines were the three religious orders which 'in different ways and tempers, opposed the designs of the King'.

Richmond was in close touch with the Carthusians of Sheen and the Bridgettines of Syon. There is some evidence of a Lancashire circle connected with these houses, although the link might more properly be expressed as service or relationship to the earls of Derby - the 2nd Earl, for example, was buried at Syon. Andrew Barton was distantly related to the earls of Derby through his marriage to a Stanley of Hooton. His cousin and friend Thurstan Tytdestey had a brother at Sheen, as did William Bromley and Thomas Fleetwood. Bromley also had a sister at Syon and Alexander Barlow, the 3rd Earl of Derby's brother-in-law, was to have a daughter there. Moreover, Sir Robert Rochester, who became chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster on Mary's accession, was the brother of the Carthusian martyr John Rochester and was himself much associated with that order. John Barton was among the surviving Observants listed in 1534: he and William Craforth were then in Kent 'at the pleasure of' the archbishop of Canterbury.

When Andrew Barton succeeded to his inheritance, on his father's withdrawal from the world, he may have been studying law. Although when he came to make his will he professed to be 'not learned in the law' and to have too little 'experience and knowledge sufficiently to make and declare' the will, this disclaimer need not rule out his identification with the Andrew Barton of Smithills, late of the Inner Temple, who sued out a pardon on x 1 June 1547; after more than a quarter of a century he may well have thought he had forgotten his law. He had since become a considerable and well-connected Lancashire landowner. The 3rd Earl of Derby wrote to him in 1533, thanking him for his diligence in raising troops for service against the Scots and appointing him (should the appointment lie in the earl's gift, the evidences having been mislaid) his deputy as steward of Ingleton. Barton joined the earl in 1536 at the head of 172 men and afterwards took part in the examination of rebels.

He and Sir William Stanley, his father-in-law, shared a lease from Derby of the grazing rights at Knowsley, and at his death he held certain property in Hoole, Lancashire, of another member of the Stanley family, Thomas, 2nd Lord Monteagle. To such connexions Barton could add, in support of his nomination as second knight of the shire in 1529, the fortunate circumstance that the sheriff, Sir Alexander Radcliffe, was his kinsman; Radcliffe was also related to his fellow-Member, Henry Farrington, and to Thurstan Tyldesley, who was to be returned for the county in 1547, when Sir Alexander was again sheriff.

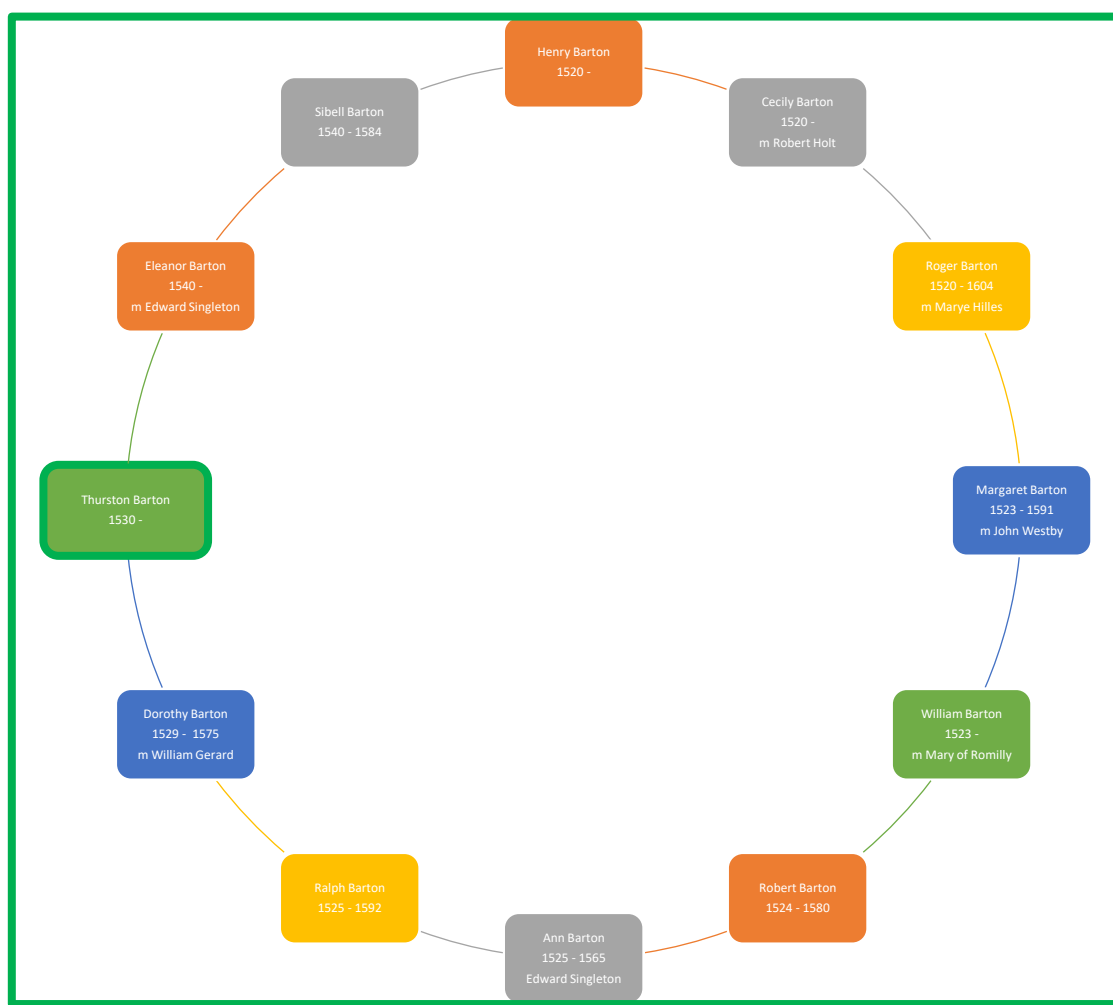
Whether Barton sat again in 1536, and even in 1539 and 1542, we cannot say, as the names of the Lancashire Members in these Parliaments are unknown.

Barton was an active justice of the peace, attending sessions fairly regularly from 1529 to his death. He was appointed to a number of commissions, including one in 1534 to inquire into the finding of some gold and silver in Furness. In July 1540 he acquired from Sir Alexander Radcliffe the lands in Ramsgreave in Blackburn which Radcliffe had himself received after the suppression of Whatley abbey, and in 1548 another Radcliffe, Henry, 2nd Earl of Sussex, sold to him Oswaldtwistle in Whattey. For their part Barton and his wife sold Salford Hall to Adam Byrom in 1540. He was assessed for the subsidy of 1524 at £30 in lands, on which he had to pay 30s, and for those of 1541 and 1543, when he was himself a commissioner, at £60, on which he had had to pay £3.

Barton made his will on 7 Feb. 1549. He asked to be buried in the chancel of Bolton church. His executors were his wife, his eldest son Robert, Thurstan Tyldesley and his son-in-law, Robert Holt. An inventory of his debts included £40 owed to Sir Henry Farrington.

Barton died on 14 March 1549 and Robert Barton, then aged 24, had licence to enter on the lands on 11 July 1549. One of the daughters married a more eminent lawyer, William Gerard II.

Family of Andrew Barton and Agnes (nee Stanley)



Son of Andrew Barton and Agnes (nee Stanley)

*In 1554, Queen Mary Tudor's reign had led to an upswing in religious persecution. A preacher, **Reverent George Marsh**, was active in the area and some considered his views heretical.*

It is claimed that when Marsh was being led out from being questioned by Robert, he stamped his foot leaving a footprint in the stone floor.



Local folklore has it that a footprint shape can still be seen today at the entrance to the Withdrawing Room of Smithills Hall.



Marsh was sent to stand trial at Chester.

It didn't end well for him as he paid the ultimate price for his beliefs, being "burnt at the stake", one of many people during the religiously turbulent Tudor period.

