

GORE-END AND DOVER

By Alfred T. Walker c. 1975

Gore-end was probably a Non-corporate Limb of the Cinque Port of Dover as early as the time of Edward I, 1272-1307.

A.C.Vol XXV

The following appears in the Dover Chamberlain's Accounts.

"XIs received from the men of Goreshende in full receipt until the feast of Easter."

This appeared to be the earliest mention of being a non corporate limb of Dover. John Harris in his History of Kent 1719 says "Gore-end is the first place as is supposed that ever was united to Dover and hath been so ever since the time of Edward I." There is no doubt that in those early times Gore-end was a small port where ships sheltered etc, and there was a small village here.

In early documents sometimes Gore-end is included with Birchington and sometimes Birchington is included with Gore-end. From the White and Black Books of the Cinque Ports, 1521, King Henry VIII – At the General Brotheryeld held at Romney on 23 July 1521 representatives from Birchington and Goresdon attended – but unable to check the names.

At the General Brotheryeld held at Romney 25 July 1525, John Holmar Deputy attended for Goresend and Birchington. At this Brotheryeld William Hendy of Birchington "is to be seized and imprisoned wherever he lands within the ports until the Mayor of Birchington sends for him for punishment, he hath been disobedient and wyll nott obey the Mayor of Dover.

Note. From the Burial Register.

"1538 Willus Hendie paterfamilias sepult erat 13 Aprilis."

From **Barrett** p25

"In a document in the P.R.O. jurors from Gore-end and Birchington were summoned to Dover 1st June 1523."

"From Goresend and Byrchynnton were Thomas Holden

Ricus Cantes

Johes Cantes

A name erased – Johes Johnson

Henry Thorne"

Thomas Holden was C.W. in 1553 and also in 1580, but this may have been a son. John Cantis the elder was C.W. in 1537, 1555, if the same person John Jonson was C.W. in 1546, 1587. These four names appear in a document in the P.R.O. relating to the subsidy known as the Xth and XVth of 1541-2.

A.C.XII.

"1526 The Corporation of Dover received from various Limbs contributions towards the cost of its suit for the discharge of a subsidy.

"The Deputy of Birchington and Goresend 16s 8d"

"Dover appointed a Deputy to manage the affairs of the Limbs, usually one of the most influential men of the place. Commonly, the Deputy acted for Goresend, Birchington and Birchington Wood (Woodchurch)".