

The Owners of Baconsthorpe Castle

John Heydon (died 1410 – 1480)

Married Eleanor Lomax

Was a lawyer and JP.

Started construction of Baconsthorpe Castle in 1475.

Sir Henry Heydon (died 1503)

Married Anne Boleyn (the great aunt of **Queen Anne Boleyn**)

Was a Lawyer and JP and accumulated great wealth and lands.

Finished construction of Baconsthorpe Castle in 1486.

Built Salthouse Church, finished in 1503.

Sir John Heydon (1468 – 1550)

Married Catherine Willoughby

Attended King Henry VIII

Sir Christopher Heydon I (1495 – 1541)

Married Ann Heveningham.

Died before his father.

Sir Christopher Heydon II (1517 – 1579)

Married

1. Lady Ann Drury (she is the Lady Ann Heydon in the brass in Baconsthorpe church).
2. Dame Temperance Carewe
3. Agnes

Was a magistrate and MP.

He is said to have entertained thirty head, or master shepherds of his own flocks at a Christmas dinner at Baconsthorpe.

He is buried in the south aisle of Baconsthorpe church

Sir William Heydon (1540 – 1594)

Married Lady Anne Woodhouse.

Was a JP.

The alabaster Heydon memorial in Baconsthorpe church is for William and Anne.

William had to sell land at Baconsthorpe to pay debts.

Sir Christopher Heydon III (1561 – 1623)

Married

1. Mirabel Kivet – buried in Saxlingham church
2. Ann Dodge – buried in Baconsthorpe church

Was a scholar

Christopher openly rebelled against Elizabeth I in 1600 and was arrested, imprisoned and had all his houses, goods and chattel's seized. He was released from prison in 1602 and fined £2000.00 which resulted in his financial collapse.

Christopher is buried in Baconsthorpe Church.

Sir William Heydon II (died 1627)

Died in battle at the invasion of the Isle of Rhe in France.

Sir John Heydon (died 1653) brother of Sir William Heydon II

Married Mary Phillips.

Known as “one hand” having lost the other in a duel.

Fought for Charles I in the Civil War.

Having forfeited his estates as a consequence of the Civil War John was allowed to buy them back. To do this he had to demolish Baconsthorpe Castle in 1650 and sold much of the stone to the Felbrigg Estate.

William Heydon III (died 1689)

Last male of this line of the Heydon family.

He sold Baconsthorpe Castle.

Mr. Daniel Bridges

A woollen dealer from London who went bankrupt.

Mr. Zurishaddai Lang

Bought Baconsthorpe Castle from the commissioners and left it to his son.

Mr. John Lang

Bequeathed Baconsthorpe Castle to the rector.

Reverend Zurishaddai Girdlestone

John Thruston Mott

Bought the estate in 1801 to become part of the Barningham Estate.

Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe, put the ruins in the guardianship of the Ministry of Works in 1940.