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**Collection List No. 89**

**DE VESCI PAPERS**

(Accession No. 5344)

Papers relating to the family and landed estates of the Viscounts de Vesce.

*Compiled by A.P.W. Malcomson; with additional listings prepared by Niall Keogh*

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# INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The de Vesci archive consists of c.30,000 documents, the uncounted (and largely unopened) contents of c.230 original bundles of receipts. etc, and over 1,200 volumes of widely varying sizes, and ranges in date from 1552 almost to the present day. The papers relate to the estate, financial, political, administrative, architectural, etc, concerns of the Vesey family (who were created Viscounts de Vesci in 1776) and the related families of Muschamp, Boyle/Blessington and Lane/Lanesborough, and mainly to estates in Queen's County (now County Laois), Cork City and County, County Down, Dublin City and County, Counties Carlow, Galway, Kildare and Kilkenny, King's County (now Offaly), Limerick City and County, Counties Mayo and Roscommon, Waterford City and County, County Wexford, and (outside Ireland) in Devon, Dorset, Hampshire, Kent and Wiltshire.

In a *Country Life* article of 26 September 1991, entitled 'Abbeyleix, County Laois ...', the late John Cornforth provided a short but still serviceable account of Vesey family history, largely based on the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (hereafter PRONI) list of the de Vesci papers as it then stood:

... The Vesseys first appeared in Ireland in the second quarter of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and, like a surprising number of families, rose through service in the Church of Ireland. The first of them, the Venerable Thomas, ended up as Archdeacon of Armagh in 1655 and died in 1662. Both his sons followed him into the Church, the elder one, John, becoming Archbishop of Tuam [in 1679], a Privy Councillor and a Lord Justice of Ireland. Three of the Archbishop's five sons also entered the church, with Thomas, the eldest, being made a baronet [in 1698] and a bishop [in 1713], in his father's lifetime. He had the foresight to marry, [in 1699, Mary Muschamp], the granddaughter of an even more distinguished Archbishop, Michael Boyle, who was both Primate [1678-1702] and Lord Chancellor [1665-85]. ...

[Through this marriage, Sir Thomas Vesey acquired the Abbeyleix estate, which was given to the couple as Mary's marriage portion], by her father, Denny Muschamp. Muschamp was a tax farmer and land speculator as well as adviser to his father-in-law, Archbishop Boyle, and he became involved in Abbeyleix in 1675 through buying the rest of a 99-year Crown lease from the trustees of the will of Sir Edward Massey, an act that immediately led to litigation with the trustees and the beneficiaries of the will. That, together with other complications, led to a series of claims and counterclaims that caused the case to drag on until 1769. ...

The name Abbeyleix has a medieval ring to it, and there is an air of antiquity to the relationship between the Monks Bridge over the River Nore, the old church and the tomb in the King's Garden of Malachias O'More, Prince of Laois, who died in 1486. The estate, on the other hand, has all the hallmarks of progressive management in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, ranging from the richly planted woods to the layout of the new town of Abbeyleix, some two miles from the present house. Much of the credit for this is usually given to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci between 1805 and 1855, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, whose wife was particularly keen on coronets, monograms and bargeboards. In fact, the tradition of improvement was established by the builder of the present house, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton, created Viscount de Vesci in 1776. ... [His father, the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, seems to have built and lived in Knapton, a house situated at the far end of the Abbeyleix demesne from the present entrance gates. But] in 1769, when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton decided to marry Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Arthur Brooke of Colebrooke, and when the case [over Denny Muschamp's lease] was nearing its

end, ... his thoughts ... turned to building [something bigger and better]. That year he had the Abbeyleix estate surveyed by Bernard Scalé, and on the plan of the demesne the new house is crudely indicated in pencil by another hand ... .

It may be added that, in order to free the site he had chosen for the new house and create a large demesne around it, he found it necessary to re-locate the then village of Abbeyleix to the nearby townland of Rathmoyle. Samuel Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland ...* (2 vols, London, 1837), i. 4, recorded approvingly that the 2nd Lord Knapton and 1st Viscount de Vesci had ‘... caused the old town to be entirely rased, and laid out the present on a more eligible site. ... The town ... [now] contains about 140 houses, of which the greater number are neatly built.’ Writing seventy years later, the Rev. Canon John O’Hanlon, PP, MRJA, and the Rev. Edward O’Leary, PP, commented (also approvingly) in their *History of the Queen’s County* (2 vols., Dublin, 1907), i. 154: ‘... The modern town, called at first New Abbeyleix, to distinguish it from the former collection of thatched houses, was laid out by Lord de Vesci ... . The houses of Abbeyleix present a neat appearance on the main street, which is wide ..., and in the semi-circular market place. ... Garden plots are attached to each of those dwellings. ...’

In his introduction to a sale catalogue of the residual contents of Abbeyleix House, dated 25 April 1995, John Martin Robinson provides the following information (partly drawn from the de Vesci archive):

[The 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton] ... chose James Wyatt as his architect, and Wyatt’s designs dated 1772 still survive, divided between the three Wyatt albums in the National Library, Dublin, the Metropolitan Museum, New York, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. As executed, the house has a simpler plan than proposed by Wyatt, with straightforward rectangular rooms rather than elaborate geometrical forms, and this no doubt reflects the fact that Wyatt never visited Abbeyleix but delegated the construction to local Irish builders. The foundation stone (at the north east corner of the house) is dated 1773 and the shell was finished by 1778. ... It seems that the interiors, with their fine Wyatt decoration including ornamental stucco ceilings and marble chimneypieces in the drawing room and dining room, date from the 1780s. The dining room is the best room in the house and has *grisaille* paintings in the manner of de Grée. ...

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount refurnished the main rooms in the Regency style, and ... the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount was responsible for the present [Italianate] external appearance of the house. He called in James Wyatt’s cousin, Thomas Henry Wyatt, who had been born in Ireland at Lough-Glinn House, County Roscommon; T.H. Wyatt was employed at Abbeyleix through the influence of Lady de Vesci, who was a Herbert from Wilton. She was the youngest daughter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Pembroke and Catherine Woronzow. T.H. Wyatt had built the magnificent church at Wilton for the Pembrokes and at Abbeyleix he designed a new Church of Ireland church with a tall spire in the town and embellished the house itself, adding the balustrade to the roof, the architraves to the windows, and the formal gardens, said to be inspired by the Villa Aloupka, the Woronzow house at Yalta.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount died in 1875, and his son the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount and ... [the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount’s wife, Lady Evelyn Charteris] (daughter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Wemyss), then moved into Abbeyleix. In their time the house enjoyed a golden age as an Irish outpost of ‘the Souls’ - that group of cultivated aristocrats which revolved around the Charteris, Wyndham, Manners and Paget families. Evelyn, Lady de Vesci, like all the Souls, was a great admirer of William Morris and redecorated Abbeyleix with his papers and textiles. ...

[The 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount died in 1903, and was succeeded by his nephew.] Under the direction of Ivo, 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce [1881-1958], influenced by his Aunt Evelyn, a successful carpet factory was established in Abbeyleix in 1903. ... The output of the factory was for the most part Turkey patterns, deep-pile and of good quality. It supplied carpets to ... English, Irish and Scottish houses, to the White Star Line for ships including the “Olympic” and “Titanic”, for the coronation of George V in 1911, to department stores including Harrods, [the] Army & Navy, and Marshall Field in Chicago, to decorating firms like Waring & Gillow, Watts & Cowtan[, etc]. A good proportion of the output was exported to America and the Empire ..., [and] the factory ... won medals at the Irish International Exhibition in Dublin in 1907, [the] Franco-British exhibition in Paris in 1908 and the Imperial International Exhibition in London in 1909. ... [It] subsequently amalgamated with [the] Kildare Carpet Factory [in 1911]. ...

[The 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount died in 1958, and was succeeded by his nephew, John, 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce (1919-83).] Abbeyleix has long been famed for its demesne and gardens, and these were very much enhanced by the ... Lord de Vesce’s ... [wife], Susan, who was ... the daughter of Anne, Lady Rosse (née Messel, a legendary gardener at Birr in ... [nearby County Offaly] and Nymans in Sussex) and the sister of Lord Snowdon. Lady de Vesce inherited the artistic tastes of her family, arranging the rooms at Abbeyleix with great flair, and replanting the gardens which were regularly open to the public. ...

In 1995, her son, the 7<sup>th</sup> and present Lord de Vesce, sold Abbeyleix and most of the demesne (excluding, however, the part which went with Knapton). The purchasers were Sir David Davies, an Irish-born and based international banker and businessman, and his wife, Linda, whose ‘spectacular restoration’ of the house carries forward the de Vesce tradition of improvement and is the subject of an article by Jeremy Musson entitled ‘Abbeyleix, County Laois ...’, published in *Country Life*, 24 July 2003. Prior to the sale of the house and its residual contents, Lord de Vesce had removed, among many other things, his collection of family portraits and the archive. But, later in 1995, agreement was reached for the sale of the latter to the National Library of Ireland (hereafter NLI), where it is now made more easily and widely accessible by the publication of the present catalogue.

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The de Vesce archive is of major importance in Irish national terms for three principal reasons: (a) because at least two of the Vesce forebears (Archbishop John Vesce and Denny Muschamp) were major figures in Irish history; (b) because the location of the Dun Laoghaire part of the property means that the archive is vital in documenting the development of South Dublin; and (c) because the archive is unusual in containing a disproportionately large quantity of material on the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In local terms, its importance is equally marked. The County Laois estate was compact and concentrated, and for this reason the ‘big house’ archive documents the life of an entire community and at all levels of the social spectrum. The fact that one head of the family, Sir Thomas Vesce, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, was bishop of Ossory as well as landlord of Abbeyleix gives additional weight to this consideration, as does the fact that no other Laois landowning family has left behind anything resembling the size and importance of the de Vesce archive.

In sheer bulk, the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century papers are dominated by the 7 NLI boxes of legal case papers generated by the Hundred Years’ War over the manor of Abbeyleix (four of which are transcribed in the appendix, and give a much fuller account of the litigation than the brief

resumé which follows). The manor of Abbeyleix, in the barony of Cullenagh, County Laois, had been acquired by the crown in 1637 from the future 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Ormond, and in 1663 had been leased for 99 years (from 1662) to Sir Edward Massey (1619?-1674). Massey, a distinguished Parliamentarian general in the West Country during the first Civil War, had been received into Charles II's favour in 1649. He was MP for Gloucester from 1660 until his death, and in the former year was voted £3,000 by his fellow-members of the British House of Commons in consideration of his losses and sufferings between 1649 and the Restoration.

Massey was a bachelor, and at his death was succeeded in most of his estates, including the long-leasehold manor of Abbeyleix, by a nephew and namesake, Sir Edward Massey Junior of Twickenham and of Lisbigny (Abbeyleix). Massey Junior's inheritance was, however, charged with sums of money bequeathed to other relations and subject to various trusts. In pursuance of these stipulations, the trustees of the will, Thomas Starkey and Capt. Henry Chambers (or, more probably, Starkey only), sold the Massey interest in Abbeyleix for £2,500 to Denny Muschamp. Litigation then ensued between Muschamp, on the one hand, and Massey and other beneficiaries of the will on the other, and also between Massey and Starkey, as a result of which a compromise agreement was entered into in 1683. By the terms of this agreement, Muschamp paid Massey the sum of £1,200 and leased the bulk of the estate to him for a 21-year trust period, during which the claims of the other beneficiaries of the will were to be satisfied out of the proceeds from the estate.

In the meantime, in 1675, the Crown had granted the fee simple of the manor of Abbeyleix to Sir John Temple, Master of the Rolls in Ireland, and in 1681 Temple had sold it (for just over £400) to Robert Ridgeway, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Londonderry. Lord Londonderry, who owned the nearby lordship of Ballinakill, clearly was anxious to extend his landownership in the area (although, for the duration of the 99-year lease, his purchase of the fee of Abbeyleix meant no more to him than a head rent of £100 a year from the chief tenant, Muschamp). Accordingly, in 1684 he acquired from Massey, in return for another sum of £1,200, the residue of the trust term of 21 years for which Muschamp had let most of Abbeyleix in 1683. Since the purpose of the trust was to pay legacies and other debts and clear Muschamp's title to the estate, this lease of 1684 was obviously a violation of the terms of the agreement of 1683. Further litigation accordingly ensued, both between Massey and Muschamp, and between Muschamp and Lord Londonderry. Having done the rounds of the Irish and English courts of law and the Irish and English Houses of Lords the case was eventually brought by Massey before the Irish House of Commons (where he sat as MP for Ballynakill), c.1698. Ultimately, it must have been determined in Muschamp's favour, by which time his interest in Abbeyleix had been transferred to Sir Thomas Vesey.

The second major phase of litigation was over the fee of the manor. In 1716 this was settled by Lord Londonderry's widow on her daughter, Lucy, and on the children of Lady Lucy Ridgeway's marriage to the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Donegall, which took place in that year. Between 1716 and 1718, Sir Thomas Vesey, by then Bishop of Ossory, succeeded in purchasing the fee for £4,000, by means which it was alleged were fraudulent, from the weak-minded Lord Donegall. As, however, Vesey was already in possession and enjoyment of the estate, subject only to a nominal head rent of £100 a year, this reversionary purchase was of no practical benefit to him until his lease expired, in 1761 (by which time his £4,000, if put out at interest, would have earned him over £33,000); so, it was hard for his opponents in the various law suits to demonstrate that he had paid less than the reversion in fee was worth. They might well have succeeded in getting the purchase quashed on the ground that it violated the terms of the marriage settlement of 1716. But as there were no children of the marriage and Lady Lucy

Ridgeway/Lady Donegall died young in 1732, this argument too was greatly weakened. As a result, the series of law suits over Abbeyleix ultimately went in the Veseys' favour, although this did not happen until 1769, when Bishop Vesey was long dead and the family titles and estates were in the possession of his grandson, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton.

Denny Muschamp, whose acquisition of the lease of Abbeyleix in 1675 inaugurated the near-century of litigation over the estate, is the pivotal figure in the archive and in de Vesci family history. This is because all the Irish estates which remained down the centuries in Vesey/de Vesci possession came from him: most obviously, the manor of Abbeyleix; less obviously, lands in the manor of Buttevant, County Cork, and in Cork City, in part acquired by Muschamp and in part inherited by him from his father, Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp of Buttevant and Ballybricken, County Cork (d.1658); and, least obviously of all, the de Vesci half of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Dun Laoghaire County Dublin, in and near Passage West, County Cork, in Cork City, in Limerick City and county and at Silchester, Hampshire.

The fee simple of the manor of Buttevant had been owned by the Hon. Robert Boyle, the famous scientist, and was conveyed to Denny Muschamp by Boyle's executors in 1693. The Dun Laoghaire property had been owned by Denny Muschamp's father-in-law, Michael Boyle, successively Archbishop of Dublin and Armagh (d.1702), and on failure of the slightly more direct heirs of Archbishop Boyle, it passed in 1778 in the awkward form of two undivided moieties to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his remote kinsman, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Longford. At the outset, it produced only £1,100 a year (plus £400 from the rest of the Longford/de Vesci estate), in relation to £4,675 from the existing de Vesci estate. Even by the 1880s (when it was valued at £31,713, out of a total annual valuation for the family's landed property of £45,214), it was producing to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount only a little over £3,000 a year. This was because a large proportion of it had been let for 99 years in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the result that the financial potential of it was not fully realised until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Quite apart from his crucial role in de Vesci family history, Denny Muschamp is clearly a figure of such importance in his own right that the discovery of a considerable quantity of papers deriving from him is greatly to be welcomed. He was a member of the syndicate which farmed the Hearth Tax in 1665-6 (an episode documented in his papers), and later (1678) became involved in the more extensive tax farm held by the Earl of Ranelagh. He was appointed a Commissioner of the Customs in 1663, Clerk of the Crown and Peace for Ulster in 1667 and Muster Master General of Ireland in 1677, and he purchased the constableness of Maryborough, Queen's County, in 1679. He sat as M.P. for Swords (a borough under the influence of the Archbishop of Dublin), 1665-6, and for the borough of Blessington, County Wicklow (which was owned by Archbishop Boyle in his private capacity), 1695-9. From the evidence of his papers, he seems to have acted as secretary and agent to Boyle c.1670-85, and to have assisted him in his private and public capacities during all of the time that he was Archbishop of Dublin (1663-78) and Lord Chancellor (1665-85), and part of the time that he was Archbishop of Armagh (1678-1702). The papers also show that Muschamp acted as Secretary to the Lords Justices during at least the first and last of Boyle's terms of office in that capacity (he was a Lord Justice from 12 June 1671 to 5 August 1672, from 5 July 1675 to 24 August 1676 and from 20 March 1684 to 9 January 1686). Muschamp's date of birth is unknown, although it is known that his parents, Agmondisham Muschamp and Anne (nee Denny), were married in or before 1637. He predeceased his patron, Boyle, by over two years, dying in December 1699. He was twice married: first (in 1661) to Boyle's elder daughter, Elizabeth, and secondly (in 1692) to Frances, daughter of Richard Sackville, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Dorset, and widow of George Lane, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Lanesborough. By his first wife he had at

least three children: Boyle Muschamp (d.1683); a 'second son' (living c.1675); and Mary, wife of Sir Thomas Vesey, his heiress.

Muschamp's papers include two boxes of title deeds, leases, bonds, etc, relating to the manor of Buttevant, barony of Orrery and Kilmore, the lands of Ballybricken, barony of Kerrycurrihy, both in County Cork, and property in Cork City, c.1600-1707. They also document his dealings with his County Cork connections, via Archbishop Boyle, the senior (Cork and Burlington) branch of the County Cork Boyles, and the junior Orrery and Shannon branches, and his dealings with the perennially improvident Earls of Barrymore (also Boyle connections, and the Hon. Robert Boyle's predecessors in the ownership of the manor of Buttevant), and the O'Briens of Counties Cork and Clare (one of whom, a daughter of the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Inchiquin, was the second wife of Archbishop Boyle). There is also similar material about Muschamp's Dublin City property, consisting of houses in Skinner's Row and Kevin Street, property in the Liberty of St Sepulchre's, in Cornmarket, etc (all or some of which derived from Archbishop Boyle), 1657-98. The estate affairs of the manor of Abbeyleix also feature prominently among his papers, as do parliamentary and municipal disputes in the Queen's County boroughs of Maryborough (where Muschamp's brother-in-law, Archbishop Vesey, also had a political involvement and proprietary interests), 1672-92, and Ballynakill, 1672-86.

Muschamp seems to have been a considerable speculator in land, because his papers reflect an interest in a number of estates all over the country, notably the barony of Lecale estate, County Down, of the Earls of Ardglass. In 1675, Thomas Cromwell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Ardglass, granted a rent charge of £300 a year to Henry Muschamp [Muschamp's cousin?], and this transaction seems to have been the origin of Denny Muschamp's association with the barony of Lecale. In the early 1680s Muschamp purchased, or at any rate thought that he had purchased, the whole estate from Vere Essex Cromwell, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ardglass, only to find himself involved as a result of the transaction in litigation with the Ardglass/Cromwell family and with one of their chief tenants, the Maxwell family of Finnebrogue, Downpatrick. The outcome of this litigation must have been unfavourable to Muschamp, as the Ardglass family continued to own the fee and the Maxwells to be chief tenants. This lawsuit generates a box and a half of case and other papers, including names and particulars of the members of Lord Ardglass's 'troop', 1682.

Another, and exceedingly scattered, estate with which Muschamp became involved was the estate of his second wife, Lady Lanesborough, which had come to her, either in fee or for life, through her first marriage. These lands were in Counties Cork, Dublin, Waterford, Kilkenny, Limerick, Galway, Roscommon (the town of Tulsk), Mayo, etc, etc (and are thus not always easy to distinguish from other Muschamp properties, and from properties which Archbishop John Vesey and Bishop Thomas Vesey held or owned, either in right of their sees or in their private capacities). Lady Lanesborough's title to some of these estates appears to have been disputed; which accounts for the bulk of the documentation (1639-40 and 1660-98). After Muschamp's death in 1699, there was half-hearted litigation between Lady Lanesborough and Thomas Vesey over the life interest Muschamp seems to have left her in his estates in Cork, Dublin and Waterford and even in part of his County Laois estate. Moreover, when she died in 1721 it was discovered that omissions from her will had the effect of leaving more property to the heirs of Lord Lanesborough, the Lane Fox family (of Bramham Park, Yorkshire), than either Muschamp or she had apparently intended. This involved Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, in litigation, particularly over the house in Skinner's Row and other components of Muschamp's personal estate.

A substantial proportion of Muschamp's papers reflect his association with Archbishop Boyle. They include two original commissions from Charles II to the Archbishop, as Lord Chancellor, to implement a new tax on ecclesiastical revenues, 1670, with related correspondence on this subject, a run of signed copies of warrants issued by the Lord Justices, with Muschamp as their Secretary, June-July 1671, and correspondence of Muschamp (again as Secretary to the Lords Justices) about the composition of the commission of the peace in various counties, 1685. There are also bundles of rentals and accounts for the 1670s relating to both the Archbishop's private estates and the estates he held in right of the Archbishoprics of Dublin and Armagh; these include building accounts for his mansion at Blessington (later, after it had passed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquess of Downshire, destroyed by the rebels in 1798), 1672-5, a rental of the see lands of Armagh, 1678, and 'A copy of the true state of the whole revenue of the Primacy ...', 1678 (which, confusingly, shares a volume with an Abbeyleix rent ledger). Another bundle consists of papers and calculations assembled/made by Muschamp in advance of the second marriage of the Archbishop's son and heir, Murrough Boyle, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Blessington, to Anne, daughter of Charles Coote, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Mountrath, 1672. Among the most potentially interesting parts of Muschamp's archive is a run of letters between Muschamp and his 'man of business', one Thomas Fitzgerald, who lived in the Archbishop's house in Dublin, 1688-98; this correspondence probably relates to Muschamp's as well as the Archbishop's affairs, and is continued in a similar run of letters between Fitzgerald and Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, 1699-1717. Some title deeds to the Archbishop's private estate in County Wicklow (Blessington and Brittas), 1668-81, also survive among Muschamp's papers, even though this property did not descend to Muschamp's heirs, the de Vescis, as does one Dún Laoghaire title deed of 1673.

The main series of title deeds to the Vesey/de Vesci estates is fairly voluminous. In view of the extent and duration of the litigation over Abbeyleix, it is not surprising that the title to that estate was complicated: with the result that inquisitions, deeds, bonds and other documents of title, 1552, 1635, 1663-1718 and 1800 occupy two boxes. Title deeds to separately and individually acquired lands in the barony of Maryborough, County Laois, 1622-4 and 1660-c.1700, occupy a further box. Three more box-fulls relate to estates, not all of them of the Veseys, in counties other than Laois and Cork, 1657-1781; these include the Vesey estate of Bray and Nicholstown, County Kildare, 1691-1781, and a 'mystery' estate at Stilton, Devonshire, c.1702-6. Another 13 boxes contain deeds of settlement, mortgage, annuity, etc, 1658-1984, mainly of the Vesey and Longford/de Vesci estates in Counties Cork, Laois, Limerick and Dublin, but also relating to the estates of families connected with the Veseys, notably the Pery estate in Newtown Pery, County Limerick, 1769 and 1833, and the Staples estate in Counties Laois, Londonderry and Tyrone, 1774-1873. There are also two boxes of Vesey and other wills, 1600 and 1658-1958, and two boxes of succession duty papers, 1856-1973. Expired leases occupy some 30 boxes. The majority of them relate to County Laois: the manor of Abbeyleix, barony of Cullenagh, and the adjoining lands of Colt, Corbally, Togher, the commons of Maryborough, etc, barony of Maryborough, from c.1620 (but mainly c.1775) to c.1930, arranged alphabetically by townland (which was, basically, the original Estate Office arrangement). The rest (some 10 boxes) relate to other properties, mainly in County Cork, 1668-1974.

In addition to all this 'parchment', there is a very large quantity of maps, surveys, rentals, account books, vouchers, etc, documenting the de Vesci estates from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century to c.1990. Some of the earliest of these were borrowed for microfilming by NLI in 1970, 25 years before it acquired the archive in the original. The microfilmed items (NLI, p.6797-6801)

include: an Abbeyleix rentroll, 1671-3, bound in with cargo lists from Flushing and other ports in the Low Countries, 1665; a return of forfeiting proprietors in Queen's and King's Counties, with maps of the townlands affected by their forfeiture, 1702; Vesey household accounts (Edward Wilson in account with John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam), 1712-13; Abbeyleix household and estate accounts, 1734-9, 1757-62 and 1776-93; rent ledgers, 1739-65, 1766-83 and 1801-11 (the last including household accounts, and the first used initially to record 'the true state of the whole revenue of, the Primacy ...', 1678); Abbeyleix wages books, 1766-84, 1771-9 and 1787-1807 (including sawmill accounts, 1800-04); an estate cash book, 1780-83; Abbeyleix day books recording expenditure on house, demesne and farm, 1805-17; accounts relating to the manufacture and sale of cotton and other textiles, 1806-10; and an inventory of farm stock and fodder, 1838-9.

It should be noted that the above material microfilmed by NLI by no means represents all the material of similar nature and of similar or later date which exists. Examples of the latter are a fine volume of maps of the Abbeyleix estate by Bernard Scalé, 1769, volumes of maps of the Longford/de Vescei estate in and around Passage West, County Cork, 1798, 1805 and 1832, and volumes containing 1829, 1847 and 1852 surveys of the County Laois estate and listing in convenient alphabetical order the townlands which then comprised it. The Longford/de Vescei estates at Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, and at Passage West, are documented by runs of receiving rentals and rent accounts, c.1845-c.1955. A long run of unbound County Laois rentals and agents' accounts, 1815-75, take the form of summaries, made for purposes of audit, rather than the earlier detailed Estate Office volumes of the type microfilmed by NLI. They are almost the only form of Abbeyleix rentals and accounts extant for the period concerned. But from 1878, the detailed volumes resume and multiply; so that there is a complete record of Abbeyleix estate income and expenditure from c.1740 to c.1810 and again from 1878 to c.1990. The huge 20<sup>th</sup>-century archive also documents, in great and overlapping detail, all manner of Abbeyleix Estate Company activity - home farm, woodlands, sawmill, etc. A little of it relates to the Abbeyleix Carpet Factory, 1904-13.

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The family, political, estate and business correspondence of the Vesey/de Vescei family spans the period c.1660-1960 and derives mainly from six members of the Vesey/de Vescei family (excluding Denny Muschamp, whose correspondence has already been described): John Vesey, Bishop of Limerick (1673-9) and Archbishop of Tuam (1679-1716); his son and successor, Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, Bishop of Killaloe (1713-14) and of Ossory (1714-30), who as well as being Muschamp's nephew was also his son-in-law; and Sir Thomas Vesey's successors, the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton and the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscounts de Vescei.

The papers of Archbishop John Vesey include many important documents about the organization of the Church of Ireland, principally in the diocese of Tuam, 1679-1716. These overlap with his political correspondence of the same period, which principally concerns the interests of the Church, the pretensions of the Dissenters, etc, etc. There is a long series of rentals and accounts between the Archbishop and his agent, Edward Wilson, c.1690-1716 (i.e. covering a much longer period than the few microfilmed by NLI in 1970), which seem to relate to his private estates (principally the Hollymount estate, County Mayo) as well as the estates of the diocese. Estate and business correspondence and accounts from other agents, lawyers, employees, tenants, etc, are also plentiful. The Archbishop kept a journal, 1683-1705, which, though primarily concerned with matters of accountancy, contains a good deal of incidental information besides.

The papers of the Archbishop's son and successor, Sir Thomas Vesey, also abound in material of great importance to any study of the Church of Ireland. His time at Killaloe is represented by only two documents, both of them formal commissions from the crown, 1713: one a commission to consecrate him Bishop of Killaloe, the other [a grant of the temporalities of the see?]. Although he did not succeed to the bishopric of Ossory until 1714, his papers include three boxes of earlier documents relating to that diocese, including title deeds to see lands in Counties Cork, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick and Offaly back to 1579 (the oldest original document in the archive), bishops' counterparts of many see leases back to the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, and many other documents relating to ecclesiastical administration which obviously must have been handed over to him by his predecessor. These last include some 'states' of individual livings returned by the incumbents to the then bishop of Ossory, 1672, a contract with carpenters for repairing the bishop's house in Kilkenny, 1672, and a detailed account and another paper concerning the hanging of the bells in St Canice Cathedral, 1675. There is also a 'state' of the whole diocese at the time Sir Thomas Vesey succeeded to it, 1714. It is hard to imagine how the temporal and financial affairs of the see were conducted post-1730 in the absence of these essential documents.

Numerous business letters and accounts also survive, relating both to the see and to the Bishop's private estate affairs (and they are often difficult to distinguish), particularly for the period 1720-30. There are, besides, a run of letters to him from Rev. Dr William Andrews, Provincial Registrar of Ossory, about see affairs, and many letters from clergy and their patrons soliciting episcopal patronage. One interesting business enterprise of the Bishop which is documented in the archive is a lease he obtained in 1725 of Glanballyvally, barony of Ida, County Kilkenny, and ensuing correspondence about his iron-mining operations there. There are also family and personal letters to him from his mother, wife, half-brother (Agmondisham Vesey of Lucan, County Dublin), and son-in-law, Caesar Colclough of Duffrey Hall and Tintern, County Wexford. In particular, there is correspondence about the financial embarrassments of Colclough. Politics are represented by a small, artificially created bundle of letters about electioneering in the episcopal borough of St Canice, County Kilkenny, in County Kilkenny itself, in Queen's County and in the Queen's County borough of Ballinakill, 1713-27.

Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, was succeeded in title and estates by his son, Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton (d.1761), and grandson, Thomas Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci (d.1804). Their papers, in addition to those about the law suit over Abbeyleix, consist mainly of tradesmen's accounts and letters about estate and business affairs, 1730-1804: the Muschamp estate in County Cork, 1730-90, the Hollymount estate, County Mayo (most of which appears to have been sold to Sir John Denny Vesey's uncle-by-marriage, Henry Bingham of Newbrook, County Mayo, c.1735), 1732-44, and the Longford/de Vesci estate in Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin, and at Silchester, Hampshire, Passage West, County Cork, Cork City and Limerick City and county, 1774-1804. In addition, the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount's papers include: some tradesmen's accounts, a contract and a couple of letters which throw light on the building of the house, 1761-1804, as do an (autograph?) ground plan for the house at Abbeyleix by Wyatt, 1772, with another not in his autograph; a letter describing the execution of 'Levellers' at Clonmel, County Tipperary, 1766; a notebook containing minutes by Lord de Vesci of the evidence heard before the Irish House of Lords in the Anglesey peerage case, [1771] (microfilmed by NLI, p.6798); and c.30 letters written to him and other members of his family about the French descent on Bantry Bay, December 1796-January 1797 (microfilmed by NLI, p.6799).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce's papers, 1800-55, include - in addition to extensive documentation of the administration of the Longford/de Vesce and County Laois estates - letters and papers about local government and charitable organizations in Abbeyleix and County Laois generally, and his papers as Lieutenant of the county, 1809, n.d and 1824-45. There is also correspondence about Queen's County elections, 1811-12 and 1818-20, and about the County Carlow election of 1835. The papers of his son, the future 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount (1803-75), include: schoolboy, undergraduate and sporting correspondence, 1812-25, while the Hon. Thomas Vesce was at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; his papers and correspondence as sheriff of Queen's County, 1827-8, and further Queen's County election material, 1832-5, n.d and 1864-5; an hilarious run of scurrilous letters from Robert Bermingham, Lord Clements, 1826-32; and voluminous (12 boxes) correspondence about the Longford/de Vesce and County Laois estates, 1840-75, including two printed notices to the County Laois and Longford/de Vesce tenants in connection with the Great Famine, 1845-6 (these last microfilmed by NLI, p.6801).

From the death of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount in 1875, letters and papers of a family, personal and political nature dwindle. This is regrettable, as the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount was a significant Gladstonian Liberal (up until the Home Rule crisis of 1885-6). It would seem that most of his political papers passed to his only child, his daughter Mary, who in 1910 married the Hon. Aubrey Herbert (of the Carnarvon, not the Pembroke, branch of the family), and who is now represented by the Dru family of Bickham Manor, Timberscombe, Minehead, Somerset. In the mid-1980s, the Dru and Herbert, incorporating some de Vesce, papers were deposited in the Somerset Record Office (DD/DRU). According to the Somerset RO list, in its current 'very basic' state, the deposit includes (DD/DRU/5/1-4): papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce, c.1872-1901, principally 23 volumes of his diary, 1879-1901, a file of political correspondence, c.1872-1900, three bundles of notes for speeches on Ireland, and military commissions and related papers; letters to Evelyn, Lady de Vesce from her husband, the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount, c.1870-1903; miscellaneous correspondence of Lady de Vesce, including some more letters from him; and miscellaneous Abbeyleix estate papers, including notebooks, photographs and printed matter, some of the material relating to local charities. There are also letters from Lady de Vesce, who lived until 1939, among the main Herbert and Dru sections of the archive.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount was succeeded in the viscountcy and at Abbeyleix by his nephew, Ivo, 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount, who is also represented by very little family and personal material. This is probably because his widow, Frances Lois, Viscountess de Vesce, destroyed it after his death in 1958. The 7<sup>th</sup> and present Earl of Rosse, her grandson by her previous marriage to the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Rosse, reports no discoveries of de Vesce papers at Womersley Park, near Doncaster, where she lived in retirement from 1958 until her death at over a hundred in 2001. The 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount was succeeded by a nephew, John, 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount (the father of the present Lord de Vesce), whose papers are fuller of family and personal material and include, for example, two boxes of newspaper cuttings about the wedding of his wife's brother, Lord Snowdon, to Princess Margaret in 1960.

Some notable components of the archive not hitherto referred to in this introduction, include: a box of papers about family history, c.1665-1986, and two boxes of patents, commissions, clerical institutions and other formal documents of appointment, 1677-1974.

One final important component, which has been engrafted on to the de Vesce archive from the papers of the long-established and now defunct Dublin solicitors, Barrington & Son, are estate

papers of the Vesey family of Lucan, County Dublin (the descendants of Archbishop Vesey of Tuam by his second marriage), and of the Pigott family, baronets, of Knapton, Abbeyleix (who leased that property from the de Vescei family, c.1760-1920). The Pigott papers amount to no more than a bundle, documenting Pigott property in Cork City and County, 1759-1820. The Vesey of Lucan papers are extensive. They occupy nine boxes, and consist of title and other deeds, leases, maps, valuations and sale papers, 1625-1939, all relating to the Sarsfield and (from 1696) Vesey estate at Lucan, on the Kildare-Dublin county boundary and in the baronies of Connell, County Kildare, and Newcastle, County Dublin.

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The previous history of the de Vescei part of the archive can be briefly told. In 1970, the late (6<sup>th</sup>) Viscount de Vescei invited the late Dr J. G. Simms of the Modern History Department, TCD, to examine and report on the archive, which Dr Simms did on behalf of the Irish Manuscripts Commission. He also made proposals for the sorting and listing of the archive which came to nothing. Later in 1970, the late Sir John Ainsworth, also of the IMC, visited Abbeyleix, and though no National Library of Ireland report on the papers resulted from his visit, he did borrow for microfilming by NLI a number of volumes and documents (see above). The basis on which these were selected is obscure, and it is possible that by no means all of the archive was inspected by him. PRONI first visited Abbeyleix in 1983, and its sorting and listing work ran from then until 1993.

In 1993, the Abbeyleix papers were most of them stored in the basement of the house, the majority in a large room which was once a 'train' room, and the rest (mainly consisting of volumes of accounts and a number of rolled maps, c.1875 onwards) in a strongroom beside the Estate Office and located along the corridor from the 'train' room and beyond the old kitchen. In general, the physical condition of the papers was good, although some 40 photograph albums were, subsequent to listing by PRONI, severely damaged by a burst pipe in the corner of the train room where they were located. (These were not included in the NLI purchase.) Although a good deal of the pre-1730 material had obviously at one point been scattered to the four winds and then subsequently (c.1875) tied up in bundles in any old order, a substantial minority of the bundles were original and coherent. Indeed, these latter seemed not to have been opened since the death of Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, in 1730.

It soon transpired that a further 2,100 documents, 1533-1968 (but mainly 1660-1775), had been separated from the rest of the archive and deposited (apparently in the late 1960s) in the Roscrea Heritage Centre, Damer House, Roscrea, County Tipperary. In that location, they were sorted and listed by PRONI according to the arrangement devised for the main part of the archive at Abbeyleix. This material was reunited with the rest of the archive in NLI at the end of 1995.

In 2003, the editor (who had been responsible for the sorting and listing work carried out by PRONI in the period 1983-93, and had retired from PRONI in 1998) asked IMC to cover the cost of the work which remained to be done and to undertake the publication of the resultant catalogue. This proposal (which was highly appropriate to IMC, granted the initiatives which IMC had taken in regard to the archive back in 1970) was readily accepted. A new, and the final, phase in the history of the archive then began.

PRONI had earlier produced on word processor a 'notional' version of its lists of the Abbeyleix and Damer House material in which they were united in the one sequence. The first

step was to translate this 'notional' version into reality, and at the same time to translate PRONI's in situ referencing system into NLI's MS and other numbers. The next step required much harder labour. In 1983-93, when the Abbeyleix Estate Office was still a going concern, the voluminous mainly 20<sup>th</sup>-century material housed in the strongroom there had not been examined or listed by PRONI. The contents of the Estate Office had, however, been included in NLI's acquisition in 1995, and were now an unsorted and unlisted component of the archive. Accordingly, Dr Niall Keogh, who had just completed a year's work as the NLI Research Student for 2002-3 and was familiar with NLI's house-rules and archival systems, was engaged by IMC to carry out this vital part of the work on the de Vesce archive. This he did in the period January-March 2005, when he also rearranged and listed most of Sections XV and XXI.

With the whole archive sorted and listed in an at least preliminary form, detailed editorial work could now begin. This required some further checking of the list against the originals and some rearranging of the latter, either to achieve greater consistency or to conform to NLI's archival systems. Most of these problems had been resolved by January 2005, and a final draft was presented to the IMC in July of that year.

The present publication, and the 35-year-long assault on the de Vesce archive, have been the collaborative work of a considerable number of individuals and institutions. Many of these have already been mentioned. Among them, particular thanks are due to Dr Niall Keogh for the work he did and, earlier, to PRONI for the backup it provided. Among the staff of PRONI, Mr John Perry and Mrs Deborah Duffy deserve to be singled out. The latter's word-processing and interpretative skills were severely taxed, as were those of Mr T.D. Scott of W.P. Plus, Killinchy, Co. Down, who has been responsible for the post-2003 production of the text.

Within the IMC, I owe special thanks to the Chairman, Mr James McGuire, who may have been lured into this project by the archive's unusual concentration on his own period of special interest (the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century) but, once committed, has given unstinting support. Among the Commissioners, my point of contact for editorial purposes was Dr James Kelly, who went to enormous trouble to improve the layout of the catalogue and exercised a vigilance which went far beyond what could reasonably be expected of a publisher.

The staff of NLI have contributed materially to the shape which the archive has taken. In this connection, I should particularly like to thank Mr Gerard Lyne, Mr Peter Kenny, Ms. Elizabeth M. Kirwan and Ms. Ellen Murphy; Mr Tom Desmond and (the by now almost equally indispensable) Ms. Ciara McDonnell helped me in ways which were of fundamental importance.

Outside these participating institutions, two other individuals have helped significantly. Mr John Bergin, like myself, took a fancy to that sometime mystery man, Denny Muschamp; I have benefited greatly in this introduction from Mr Bergin's draft entry for Muschamp in the *Dictionary of Irish Biography*. Likewise, the Rev. R.J. Massie Collins has shed new light on the uncle of one of Muschamp's victims in his book, *Major-General Sir Edward Massie: a Cavalier among the Roundheads?* (privately printed, 2002), and has thereby placed myself and others under a considerable obligation.

A.P.W. Malcomson  
Belfast  
July 2005

# I Title deeds, c.1533-1835

*Title deeds to the estates of the Vesey, Muschamp, Boyle and other families in Counties Laois, Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kildare, Limerick, Offaly, Roscommon and Wicklow, in Cork, Dublin and Limerick Cities, and in Devonshire, 1552, 1579, 1605-1781, 1800, c.1810, 1835.*

## I.i Muschamp estate, County Laois, 1552-1800

**MS 38,742/1-2** 1552: 1637: 1663-1718: 1800: 1814-15

Two boxes of title deeds to the manor of Abbeyleix, barony of Cullenagh, County Laois. (The tortuous title to this estate is fully documented in the appendix, where brief descriptions of most of the deeds in these boxes are provided.) The documents of 1552 and 1637 are non-contemporary copies. Also present are a number of discharges/releases from members of the Massey family for legacies under the will of Sir Edward Massey Senior (MS 38,746/4), and a rough draft of a deed of 1700 whereby the long-running dispute over the property was compromised on the condition that Sir Thomas Vesey paid an annuity of an unspecified amount to Sir Edward Massey Junior. (Receipts in MS 38,871/1-7 show that this annuity was subsequently paid and that it amounted to £50 a year; so clearly the dispute was compromised along the lines set out in the draft.) The document of 1800 is a patent from the Crown for fairs and markets, and that of 1814-15 is a map (1814) of Ballyroan bog by A. Nevill, integral to a deed of partition (1815) between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce and Hampden Evans of Mount Evans, Co. Dublin (see also MS 38,757/6). For correspondence about a subsequent grant of fairs and markets, see MS 39,054/1-2.

**MS 38,742/3** 1660: 1696-7: [?1709]: 1732

Title deeds to the townland of Colt, barony of Maryborough, acquired by John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, from Thomas and Anne Beard in 1696-7. The title deeds to Colt also include premises in Maryborough.

**MS 38,742/4** 1611: 1890

Non-contemporary copy of a James I grant of Kilrush, alias Ironmills, barony of Cullenagh, County Laois (but not in the manor of Abbeyleix), to Alexander King and Richard Sutton; with a related paper of 1890.

- MS 38,742/5** 1679: 1681-2: 1684-5: 1776  
 Title deeds to Knockmay and part of Togher, barony of Maryborough, County Laois, purchased by Denny Muschamp in 1681 and confirmed by a patent from Charles II to John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, in 1685; together with related title deeds to the lands of Gortinemallagh, Moher, etc, barony of Upper Ossory, Queen's County, likewise purchased from Henry and William Gilbert of Knockmay. See also MS 38,788.
- MS 38,742/6-7** 1622-4: 1631: 1660-88  
 Title deeds to premises in the commons of Maryborough, acquired piecemeal by the brothers-in-law, John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, and Denny Muschamp in the period 1660-88; including 3 earlier title deeds, one of them also comprising Togher.
- MS 38,742/8** 1627: 1631: 1675: 1678: 1682: 1684: 1687: 1691: 1708  
 Copies and originals of title deeds to Togher, barony of Maryborough, County Laois, conveyed by John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, to Denny Muschamp in 1687; some of them comprising premises in Maryborough itself as well as Togher.
- MS 38,742/9** [c.1685]  
 Lists, and a paper giving further details, of County Laois lands for which John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, wishes to pass a patent: Knockmay, Maryborough, Pallas (see also MS 38,786), etc.

## **I.ii Muschamp estates (excluding County Laois), 1584-1716**

- MS 38,743/1-2** c.1600-1707  
 Two boxes of title deeds, leases, releases, bonds, etc, etc, relating to the Cork estates of Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp and his son and successor, Denny Muschamp, principally the lands of Grange, in the manor of Buttevant, barony of Orrery and Kilmore, the lands of Ballybricken, Ballinree and Ringskiddy, barony of Kerrycurrihy, all in the county of Cork, and Kyril's Quay and other premises in Cork city. (For more detailed locations and for background information, see MS 38,856/1-4. Although in the arrangement of the de Vesce papers title deeds and leases are generally distinguished, they have not been so in this instance because the Muschamp estate in Cork was originally held by lease from the Earls of Barrymore, Cork, etc, and was subsequently converted into perpetuity-leasehold or fee simple.) Also present in this sub-section is a counterpart of a lease, 1613, from Agmondisham Muschamp Esq. to Richard Boyle, husbandman, both of Elrinsted, Sussex, of land in that parish. (This document gives rise to the speculation that the Muschamp and Boyle families were connected prior to their arrival in Ireland and association with each other through marriage and property in County Cork.)

- MS 38,743/3**      1584: 1611: 1657-98: 1709  
 Box of title deeds, leases and other papers relating to Denny Muschamp's property in Dublin city, all or some of it acquired by lease under his father-in-law, Michael Boyle, successively Archbishop of Dublin and Armagh: the property was situated in Skinner's Row, Kevin Street, the Liberty of St Sepulchre's, Cornmarket, etc.
- MS 38,743/4-5**      1633: 1664: 1675-88: n.d.  
 Two folders containing a deed of trust, title deeds and leases relating to County Down: a lease of Grayduff [location not stated] from Francis Annesley of Clough, 1664; and title deeds to the barony of Lecale estate of the Cromwell family, Earls of Ardglass (the subject of litigation between Denny Muschamp and them - see MS 38,785), 1633 and 1675-88, including a deed of trust and leases to Denny Muschamp and Henry Echlin.
- MS 38,743/6-7**      1663-1716  
 Two folders containing title deeds, a lease, a custodiam, an eligit, inquisitions, etc, relating to the jointure and other lands of Frances, Viscountess Lanesborough, widow of George Lane, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Lanesborough, Denny Muschamp's second wife, in Counties Dublin, Galway and Roscommon (all of them of Lane/Lanesborough, not Muschamp, provenance).
- MS 38,743/8**      1679  
 Conveyance by Muschamp of an advowson in the diocese of Meath which he had purchased from the Earl of Mountrath in 1677. See also MS 38,846/1-2.

### **I.iii      Primate Boyle's estates, 1666-1835**

- MS 38,744/1**      1666-7  
 Copy patents to Primate Boyle of lands in the baronies of Carbery [East] and Kerrycurrihy, County Cork, and in Cork city.
- MS 38,744/2**      1668-81  
 Title deeds to the Brittas and other estates in County Wicklow, confirmed to Theobald, Baron of Brittas in 1668 (but soon afterwards acquired by Primate Boyle), and lease of Brittanstown and Blakestown, barony of Talbotstown, County Wicklow, from Primate Boyle, 1669, and conveyance of the same by Denny Muschamp, 1681.
- MS 38,744/3**      1669-81  
 Title deeds and case papers relating to Philipstown, County Kildare, part of which was exchanged with Primate Boyle in 1681 for part of his Blessington estate, County Wicklow [but adjoining County Kildare].

- MS 38,744/4**     1673  
Title deed to what subsequently became Primate Boyle's Monkstown (ie Dún Laoghaire/Kingstown) estate, County Dublin.
- MS 38,744/5**     1685  
Copy of the patent to Primate Boyle confirming to him his estates in Cork, and granting him his estates in Dún Laoghaire and Limerick city and county (the future Longford/de Vesci estate). It is a cause of no little confusion that both the Dún Laoghaire estate and what came to be the principal component of the de Vesci estate in Cork were called Monkstown. For what in effect was the de Vesci family's title deed to these estates, see MS 38,746/12.
- MS 38,744/6**     1835  
Deed of partition whereby the 2nd Viscount de Vesci and the 2nd Earl of Longford divided most of their hitherto undivided moieties of the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork; Lord de Vesci received the lands of Monkstown, near Passage West, barony of Kerrycurrihy, surveyed as containing 1500 statute acres, and Lord Longford the Ballyhindon estate, baronies of Fermoy and Condons and Clongibbons, surveyed as containing 2,300 statute acres. The rest of the Cork estate remained undivided. See also MSS 38,766-73, MSS 39,260-61 and under MSS MAP 198-265.

## **I.iv            Miscellaneous title deeds to other properties c.1533-c. 1810**

- MS 38,745/1**     c.1533-5: 1579: 1585: 1605: 1611: 1638: 1641: n.d [first half the of the 17<sup>th</sup> century]: 1664: 1669: 1673: 1678: 1680: 1698: 1702: 1705  
Title deeds to lands and advowsons belonging to the see of Ossory or the bishop of Ossory's corporation of St Canice, County Kilkenny (present among the de Vesci papers because Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, was bishop of Ossory, 1714-30), including a copy of the charter of St Canice, 1611, and the originals of patents to the bishops of Ossory of the lands of Breaghmoe-Wheeler in the territory of Ely O'Carroll, King's County, 1641, and lands in Counties Cork and Limerick, 1678. For papers about these and other see of Ossory lands, see MS 38,774 and MS 38,889/1-4.
- MS 38,745/2**     1679: 1680: 1683-4: [?1704]: n.d  
Four title deeds to the County Limerick estates of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam's 'brother [ie brother-in-law] Wilkinson', who seems to have been Robert Wilkinson of Boskell [and Cahirelly], County Limerick, son and successor of Thomas Wilkinson of Cahirelly, County Limerick [d.1676 - see MS 38,746/5]. The deeds comprise head leases granted to Robert and Thomas Wilkinson, 1679, 1680, 1683, [?1704] and n.d respectively, and a mortgage granted by Thomas Wilkinson, 1684, all of them relating to the lands of Cahirelly, Maddyboy, Ballygeymore and Ballygeybeg, barony of Clanwilliam, County Limerick.

- MS 38,745/3-4** 1691-1781  
Two folders of title deeds to the lands of Bray and Nicholstown, County Kildare, acquired from the Annesley family, Earls of Anglesey, by William Vesey [fourth son of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam], and by him leased [and ultimately conveyed?] to Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton; one of the deeds also comprises part of the lands of St Molins [sic - St Mullins], County Carlow.
- MS 38,745/5** 1702-c.1710: c. 1810  
Miscellaneous title deeds and other papers, as follows: title deeds, etc, relating to the lands of Stilton, Devonshire, devised under the will of Thomas Draper of London, 1704; deed concerning a mortgage which Dr Marmaduke Coghill and Agmondisham Vesey, both of Dublin, hold on lands in the parish of Lanvair Duffringchyd, Denbighshire, 1705; and recovery registered by Erasmus Smith of Hamerton, Huntingdonshire, in the Palatinate Court of Clonmel, County Tipperary, of his lands in the baronies of Clanwilliam and Middlethird in that county, [1707?]. It is not clear what these documents are doing among the de Vescei papers.
- MS 38,745/6** 1710: 1714: 1718: 1722: 1731: 1734-6  
Title deeds to the Vesey estate in Counties Galway and Mayo (Hollymount, Togher [not to be confused with the County Laois Togher], etc), part of which appears to have been sold by Sir John Denny Vesey to his uncle, Rev. George Vesey, in 1731, and another part or the rest of it to (his uncle-by-marriage), Henry Bingham, in 1735-6.
- MS 38,745/7** 1726: 1757  
Copy lease from Lettice, Lady Bingham, to Thomas Dalton, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, of her house in Dawson Street, Dublin, 1726 [which subsequently became Sir John Denny Vesey's Dublin house and is now, as No. 19 Dawson Street, the headquarters of the Royal Irish Academy]; and a title deed to Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton's, leasehold interest in Owenstown and Booterstown, County Dublin, 1757 (presumably acquired by him for the purpose of building a villa).

*For title deeds to the Counties Dublin and Kildare estates of the Vesey family of Lucan, County Dublin, see MS 39,251-.*

## **II Wills, settlements, leases, mortgages and miscellaneous deeds, 1600-1984**

### **II.i Wills and succession duty papers, 1600-1911**

- MS 38,746/1** 1600  
Will of Margaret Fitzsimons of Dublin.

- MS 38,746/2**      1658  
*Précis* of the will of Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp of Buttevant, County Cork.
- MS 38,746/3**      1673  
 [Draft and copy?] of the will of [his son] Denny Muschamp of Buttevant.
- MS 38,746/4**      1674  
 Probate of the will (both dated 1674) of Sir Edward Massey of Abbeyleix, with ‘A true and perfect inventory of all the goods, chattels, debts and credits ...’ of the deceased and a document containing an explanation and interpretation of the will. [The probate inventory goes into the detail of the value of particular pieces of furniture.]
- MS 38,746/5**      1677  
 Wills and probates (both dated 1677) of Robert Wilkinson of Limerick city, by which he leaves to his eldest son, Thomas Wilkinson, his lands of Cahirelly East, Maddyboy, Ballygeymore and Ballygeybeg, barony of Clanwilliam, County Limerick, and his property in Limerick City to his second son, John; and will of John Delacourt of Ballyknockane, County Cork. [For the Wilkinson estate, see MS 38,745/2, MS 38,775/3 and MS 38,826/1-2.]
- MS 38,746/6**      1684  
 Will and probate (both dated 1684) of Philip Pakenham of Dublin (present among the de Vesci papers because Pakenham was a tenant of Primate Boyle’s estate at Swords, County Dublin).
- MS 38,746/7**      1687: 1689: [?1690]  
 Letters of administration granted to Daniel Green of Abbeyleix to the effects of the late Mabella Massey of St Marylebone, London, spinster [presumably a sister of the late Sir Edward Massey Senior?]; copy of the will (1689) of Miss Mary Massey of Chester, daughter the late John Massey of Coddington, Cheshire; and probate [?1690] of the will (1689) of Capt. Thomas Owen of Preston Monford, Shropshire [husband of Archbishop Vesey’s sister, Elizabeth - see MS 38,825/1-2].
- MS 38,746/8**      1692: 1693: 1697  
 Abstract of the will of the Hon. Robert Boyle, as it relates to his estate in the manor of Buttevant, 1692; three papers concerning the proceeds from the sale of this estate pursuant to his will, 1693; and deed empowering John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, to fulfil charitable bequests made under Boyle’s will.
- MS 38,746/9**      1716: 1734: 1739  
 Probate (1716) of the will of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam [so badly damaged that the date of the will is missing]; and non-contemporary copies of the will (1734) and probate (1739) of Agmondisham Vesey of Lucan, County Dublin, second son of Archbishop Vesey of Tuam and

half-brother of Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt. For subsequent Vesey of Lucan wills, see MS 39,252/1.

- MS 38,746/10**     1752  
Papers about the will of Mary, Lady Vesey, *née* Muschamp, widow of Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, and mother of Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton.
- MS 38,746/11**     1761-2  
Copy probate (1762) of the will (1761) of the Rev. Muschamp Vesey, Archdeacon of Leighlin, 1761, and will (1761) and probate (1762) of [his nephew], the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton.
- MS 38,746/12**     1778: n.d [c.1780]: 1784: 1789  
Copy of the will (1778) of Charles Dunbar of Blessington, County Wicklow [which, basically, constitutes the title of Lords Longford and de Vesce to the Longford/de Vesce estates in Cork, Dublin and Limerick], together with copies of two subsequent deeds concerning Dunbar's cash legacies to Sir Hugh Dillon Massy and John, Baron Dillon, 1784 and 1789. The document of c.1780 is a long, but torn and incomplete, case paper recording evidence for the defendants in a lawsuit taken by John [Baron?] Dillon and others against Lords Longford and de Vesce and the 1st Earl of Hillsborough over Charles Dunbar's will. See also MS 38,915/1-2 and MS 39,246/2.
- MS 38,746/13**     1794: 1821  
Copy of the will (1794) and original of the probate (1794) of Edward Johnson of Ballymullen [Abbeyleix], and letters of administration to the effects of Pitt Johnson of Clonkeen, [Abbeyleix], 1821, [both of them creditors of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce - see MS 38,751/5].
- MS 38,746/14**     1802: 1804  
Copy of the will (1802) and original of the probate (1804) of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesce.
- MS 38,746/15**     1802: 1806: 1815: 1817: 1825: 1831-2: 1835: 1837: 1856  
Copies of successive wills and codicils made by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce (an enthusiastic will-maker) between 1802 and 1835, with a copy of the last will he made (1837), and the original of the probate of that will (1856). For other papers relating to the death and will of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount, see MS 38,995, and for other executorship papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, see MS 39,003.
- MS 38,746/16**     1821  
Probate of the will (1816) of Bernard Browne of Cottage, County Laois (present because Browne was a tenant of the de Vesce family in respect of lands and premises in Boley, Abbeyleix, and of Cottage).
- MS 38,746/17**     1831  
Will of John Bruton of Boley.

- MS 38,746/18**     1849: 1876  
Original and copy of the will (1849) and probate (1876) of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,746/19**     1856  
Copy extract from the letters of administration to the effects of Lawrence Tobin of Rosebrook, Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,746/20**     1885  
Original bundle consisting of four letters from Thomas Fortescue, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Clermont [of the second creation] to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci. The letters include references to the foundation of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union, but their main topic is the terms of the will of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount Clermont. A copy extract from that will (1829) and a pedigree of the Fortescue family are also present. Lord Clermont's queries relate to the discovery that, under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount Clermont's will, the Ballymascanlan, Carlingford, Ravensdale and Newry property of the Fortescue family in Counties Louth and Armagh was due to descend, through failure of heirs male, to the descendants of Margaret Fortescue, wife of Sir Arthur Brooke and mother of Selina, Viscountess de Vesci. A small volume of newspaper cuttings about the death and will of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci (MS 39,073) show that a share in these estates did descend to him (in 1898 on the death, childless, of Lord Clermont's younger brother and heir, Lord Carlingford), that he left it to his widow for life, and after her death to their daughter, Mary Herbert. This explains why, apart from one lease (MS 38,775/6) and one fragmentary map (MS Map 244M), there was originally no documentation of these estates among the Abbeyleix papers. Subsequently, however, the interest in them formerly enjoyed by the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci was bequeathed, c.1980, to the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount, and more recently still, in 2003, a substantial cache of c.750 documents relating to them was handed over to the 7<sup>th</sup> and present Viscount, and remains in his possession in England.

This material occupies the equivalent of four NLI boxes, and runs from 1609 to c.1945 (the earliest original document is dated 1696). There is a bundle of deeds and leases relating to the manor of Ballyscanlan, 1834 onwards, including an 1835 copy of a patent of 1609 granting the manor to James Hamilton [of Clannaboy, Co. Down?]. A much larger bundle of deeds, leases, etc, relates to the manor of Carlingford, 1696 onwards, and includes surveys of the town and outskirts of Carlingford, 1797 and 1833 (two for the latter year), and a population census of Miss Brabazon's estate in the parish of Carlingford, 1841. One whole box is made up of case papers, c.1898-c.1945, documenting the litigation which ensued between and among the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his co-heirs to the estates (the other representatives of Margaret Fortescue). These, in 1903, were the Hon. Sarah Cecilia Mandeville [a member of the Mandeville family of Anner Castle, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary]; Louise Charlotte Fanny, Countess d'Espons de Paul; and Paul,

Algernon and Lyonell Barlow. This litigation, or aspects of it, was/were still 'live' when Evelyn, Viscountess de Vesci, the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount's widow, died in 1939.

- MS 38,746/21**      1890  
Copy of the will (1885), codicil (1889) and probate (1890) of Thomas Vesey Nugent, brother-in-law of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,746/22**      1897  
Copy of the will (1895) and probate (1897) of Major [later Colonel] Charles Berkeley Pigott, son and heir of Sir Charles Robert Pigott, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bt, of Knapton House, Abbeyleix, present because the Pigott family were from the second half of the eighteenth century tenants of Knapton. See also MS 38,759/10, MS 38,905 and MS 39,258.
- MS 38,746/23**      1901: 1903  
Original and copies of the will (1901) and probate (1903) of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,746/24**      1955: 1958  
Draft and copy of the will (1955) of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, proved 1958.
- MS 38,747**            1856-1973  
Box of succession duty accounts and papers.

*For other wills and testamentary material, see MS 38,748/7, MS 38,777, MS 38,845, 24 and 36, MS 38,876/1-2 and MS 38,923.*

## **II.ii            Settlements, mortgages and miscellaneous deeds, 1658-1984**

- MS 38,748/1**            1658  
Two sets of articles of agreement between Henry Moore, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount Moore of Drogheda [later 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Drogheda] and Primate Boyle [then Dean of Cloyne] over the repayment of £200 plus interest by Moore to Boyle.
- MS 38,748/2**            1667-8: n.d  
Deeds charging the jointure of Mrs Anne Muschamp [*née* Denny, widow of Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp and mother of Denny Muschamp], on the lands of Ballybricken, barony of Kerrycurrihy, County Cork; and undated copy of Mrs Anne Muschamp's engagement to make over to Denny Muschamp all her title and interest in the lease of Ballinree, County Cork, granted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Shannon to her late husband, Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp, in 1653. See also MS 38,865.

- MS 38,748/3**      1667-81  
 Bonds, deeds, calculations, etc, relating to the settlement made on the marriage of Primate Boyle's youngest daughter, Margaret, to the Rev. Samuel Synge, son of John Synge, Bishop of Elphin.
- MS 38,748/4**      1672: 1677-9  
 Copy of the settlement (1672) made on the marriage of Lady Anne Coote, daughter of Charles Coote, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Mountrath, and Murrough Boyle, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Blessington, son and heir of Primate Boyle, together with subsequent calculations of the interest due on the bride's as yet unpaid portion. For other papers about this settlement, see MS 38,837.
- MS 38,748/5**      1673: 1678: 1681  
 Declaration of trust by Denny Muschamp concerning the County Laois estate of Joseph Cuffe of Castleinch, County Kilkenny [document damaged], 1673; copy settlement made on the marriage of Dominick Browne FitzNicholas of Connogher, County Galway, and Mary, sister of Theobald Dillon of Brackclovin, County Roscommon, 1673 [this probably relates to the private estate affairs of Archbishop Vesey of Tuam - see MS 38,879/1-3]; and two papers relating to the settlement made on the marriage of Anne Vesey, sister of Archbishop Vesey of Tuam, and Jonas Stawell of Kilkerans, County Cork, 1678 and 1681.
- MS 38,748/6**      1684: 1687  
 Conveyance to Denny Muschamp by Thomas Sheridan of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, of Sheridan's pension from the crown [document damaged and hard to read], 1684; and two deeds relating to Denny Muschamp's mortgage for £400 on the County Limerick estate of John Stepney of Balgriffin, County Dublin, and Joseph Stepney of Abington, County Limerick, 1687.
- MS 38,748/7**      1692: 1698-9: 1721  
 Large bundle of deeds concerning the provision made by Denny Muschamp for his second wife, Lady Lanesborough, and for his daughter (and only surviving child) by his first wife, Mary, who married Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt. These comprise: the settlement made on Denny Muschamp's marriage to Lady Lanesborough, 1692; a brief note containing instructions from Denny Muschamp to his lawyer, and a fragment of a deed, both relating to the marriage settlement, 1692; a copy of this settlement which has annexed to it a copy of Lady Lanesborough's will, 1721, whereby she devised the lands settled on her in 1692 to her step-daughter, Mary, Lady Vesey; a draft of the settlement to be made on the marriage of Sir Thomas and Mary Vesey, 1698; and a deed whereby Denny Muschamp and Lady Lanesborough conveyed Muschamp's estate in the manor of Abbeyleix (which had been part of his settlement on Lady Lanesborough in 1692) to Mary Vesey as her marriage portion, 1699. For related correspondence, see MS 38,748/7.

- MS 38,748/8**      1700  
 Lease for a year from Oliver Wheeler of Grenan, County Laois, to Sir Thomas Vesey concerning the title to Wheeler's estate in County Laois and the liberties and county of Kilkenny.
- MS 38,748/9**      1713-14:n.d[post-1714?]  
 Large bundle comprising three deeds of settlement [two of them damaged] relating to the marriages of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam's, daughters, Leonora, who married the Rev. Archibald Stewart of Ballintoy, County Antrim, in 1713, and Catherine, who married the Rev. James Smyth, Archdeacon of Meath [and subsequently Bishop of Down - see also MS 38,886/1-3], in 1714. The damaged document is a fragment of a deed between Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, and James Smyth, Bishop of Down [his brother-in-law, probably deriving from the 1714 marriage settlement].
- MS 38,748/10**      1718: 1722: n.d [c.1722]  
 Deed, settlement and printed private act of parliament, all concerning the County Wexford estates of Caesar Colclough of Macorry [alias Duffrey Hall and, from 1723, of Tintern Abbey, Clonmines], County Wexford, and a marriage portion for his sister, Margaret. By the terms of the deed, Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, pays £1,000 to the trustees of the Colclough family settlement (the background to this transaction perhaps being that the £1,000 was all or part of the portion payable on the marriage of Vesey's daughter, Frances, to Colclough, which had taken place in 1718 and was shortly afterwards followed by the death of the bride). The act of parliament empowers Colclough to sell land in order to settle his debts. [Two of the three documents are damaged.] See also MS 38,748/12 and MS 38,876/1-2 and 11.
- MS 38,748/11**      1723-31: 1775  
 Deeds of settlement and re-settlement of the Muschamp estates in Counties Laois [excluding the manor of Abbeyleix] and Cork and in Dublin and Waterford Cities, which came to Mary, Lady Vesey, under the settlements and wills of her father, Denny Muschamp and Lady Lanesborough, and in turn were settled by her on her son, Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton. Included are fines of the Skinners' Row and Kevin Street properties, Dublin City, 1731. The deed of 1775 is a re-settlement of the same estates by his son and successor, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,748/12**      1725: 1746: 1725: 1753  
 Two deeds in connection with the marriage settlements of Caesar Colclough: an assignment by Martha Vigors, widow and executrix of Bartholomew Vigors, Bishop of Ferns, '... of 3 several judgements, one against [the] Bishop of Ossory, the other against Agmond[isham] Vesey [of Lucan, County Dublin, his half-brother] Esq., the other against Caesar Colclough [of Duffrey Hall and Tintern, County Wexford, who had inherited the latter estate in 1723 and had married his late wife's cousin, Henrietta, daughter of Agmondisham Vesey, in

- 1721], each for £5,600: sum paid her, £2,927.6s.5d.’; and deeds securing to Colclough by mortgage on the Lucan estate the unpaid £3,000 of Henrietta Vesey/Colclough’s marriage portion of £5,000, 1746 and 1753. See also MS,253/2.
- MS 38,748/13**      1725-6  
Mortgage by Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, of his County Cork estate, 1725, and lease for a year and mortgage of his Waterford city estate, 1726. Both estates had been inherited from his wife’s father, Denny Muschamp.
- MS 38,748/14**      1725-31  
Original bundle of ‘cancelled bonds’ binding the Bishop of Ossory and his son, Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, in various penal sums to pay the debts so secured.
- MS 38,748/15**      1730  
Settlement made on the marriage of Elizabeth Vesey, second daughter of Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory, and William Handcock of Willsbrook, County Westmeath. For related correspondence, see MS 38,885.
- MS 38,748/16**      1731-2  
Large bundle of deeds comprising a fine and recovery of the manor of Abbeyleix and of Colt and other County Laois lands outside that manor, preparatory to the settlement made on the marriage of Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, and Elizabeth Brownlow of Lurgan, County Armagh (see also MS 38,923); together with the original and a counterpart of that marriage settlement (1732).
- MS 38,748/17**      1735  
Deed whereby Sir John Denny Vesey grants a rent-charge of £700 a year on the manor of Abbeyleix to his mother, Mary, Lady Vesey (in lieu of the lands settled on her by her father, Denny Muschamp, and settled by her on Sir John Denny Vesey).
- MS 38,748/18**      1751: 1801  
Large original bundle consisting of the settlement made on the marriage of the Hon. Elizabeth Vesey, eldest daughter of Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, and Robert Handcock of Waterstown, County Westmeath, 1751 (see MS 38,899), and subsequent deeds of 1801 charging her widow’s jointure (the other provisions of the settlement having been inoperative, because the marriage was childless) on Colt and other parts of the de Vescei estate in County Laois.
- MS 38,748/19**      1761: 1769  
Bond and receipt relating to the marriage portion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton’s second daughter, Anne, wife of Thomas Knox, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Northland. They had married in 1753, but her portion was not paid

- until 1769.
- MS 38,748/20**      1768: 1833  
 Deed of trust (1768) and subsequent paper relating to the County Limerick estate of Edmond Sexten Pery, later Viscount Pery, second husband of Elizabeth Vesey/Handcock, the eldest daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton.
- MS 38,748/21**      1769: 1786  
 Settlement, with related deeds and papers, made on the marriage (1769) [see MS 38,909] of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesce with Selina, eldest daughter of Sir Arthur Brooke, Bt, of Colebrooke, County Fermanagh. The document of 1786 is a letter from Sir Arthur's successor, Francis Brooke, about the difficulty of paying the principal of Lady de Vesce's and her sister's marriage portions [of £5,000 apiece] because he is precluded by settlement from borrowing money at a higher rate of interest than 5%. For the remoter financial implications of this marriage, see MS 38,746/20.
- MS 38,748/22**      1774-82: 1791  
 Papers about the borrowings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesce: a series of legal searches against his predecessors and him, 1774, and bonds and receipts for repayment, 1774-82 and 1791.
- MS 38,749**      1774: 1804: 1807: 1815-16: 1823-4: 1833-8: 1873  
 Box containing a case paper, releases and other deeds, accounts and correspondence, all relating to the Staples family, baronets, of Lissan (Cookstown), County Tyrone, and Dunmore (near Abbeyleix), County Laois, and their two marriage connections with the Vesceys: the marriage in 1682 of Mary, eldest daughter of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, to Sir Robert Staples, 4<sup>th</sup> Bt, and the marriage in 1776 of Jane, youngest daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, to Sir Robert Staples, 7<sup>th</sup> Bt. The case paper (of 1774) - the only document deriving from the earlier of the two marriages - relates to a disputed succession to the Staples estates, in County Londonderry as well as in Counties Laois and Tyrone. The other papers relate to the Staples' claims, on foot of marriage portion, against the de Vesce estate, with the exception of one document, a mortgage of 1837 affecting the Staples estate, and involving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce in his capacity as a trustee of a Staples settlement.
- MS 38,750/1**      1796-1839  
 Box of settlements, mortgages, releases, etc, relating to the Longford/de Vesce estate, inherited under the will of Charles Dunbar (MS 38,746/12), 1778, and ultimately from Primate Boyle, in Cork and Limerick Cities and Counties. A couple of the deeds relate to the Limerick estate alone (the lands of Newtown and Carrigogunnell, barony of Pubblebrien, as well as premises in Limerick City), but as the Limerick estate is more usually comprised in the same document as the Cork, no attempt has been made to separate the two. Deeds

affecting the Longford/de Vescei estates in Cork and Limerick *in common* with estates elsewhere, have not been included, and will be found at MSS 38,751/19-24 and MS 38,752.

- MS 38,750/2**      1867-1981  
Box of settlements, mortgages, releases, etc, as above.
- MS 38,750/3**      1803-1965  
Box of settlements, mortgages, releases, etc, in respect of the Longford/de Vescei estate in Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin. For deeds relating to this estate in common with others, see MSS 38,751/19-24 and MS 38,752.
- MS 38,751/1**      1799-1800  
Large bundle comprising a deed re-settling the manor of Abbeyleix and the de Vescei estates in Counties Carlow and Kildare (see MS 38,745/3-4), preparatory to the marriage of the Hon. John Vesey [subsequently 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vescei] and Frances Letitia Brownlow, 1799; together with the settlement made on the marriage, 1800.
- MS 38,751/2**      1800: 1804  
Settlement made on the marriage (1800) of the Hon. Selina Vesey, only daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vescei, and Major Andrew Savage [who in 1812 changed his name to Nugent] of Portaferry, County Down; with subsequent releases (1804).
- MS 38,751/3**      1804-5  
Releases from the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey, Rector of Abbeyleix, and the Hon. Charles Vesey, younger brothers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vescei, in acknowledgement of payment of their respective portions. The portion of Charles Vesey was paid in land, not in cash, and consisted of the lands of East and West Grange, barony of Kerrycurrihy, County Cork, and premises on Kyril's Quay, Cork City (clearly the last remnant of the Muschamp estate in Cork city and county).
- MS 38,751/4**      1805-6: 1810: 1815: 1819  
Miscellaneous bonds, judgements, releases, indemnities, sureties, etc, all entered into by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vescei and most of them concerning legacies, portions and other debts payable by him. For the portions due to the Staples family, see MS 38,749.
- MS 38,751/5**      1806-7: 1817: 1820-21  
Bonds and related papers concerning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vescei's debt to Edward and Pitt Johnson of Ballymullen, Abbeyleix (see MS 38,746/13 and MS 34,401).
- MS 38,751/6**      1819  
Fine of the County Laois estate of the Bell family of Bellbrook, [later re-named Millbrook, and comprising part of the Abbeyleix demesne -

see MS 38,755/2].

- MS 38,751/7**      1828  
Mortgage granted by the Rev. John B. Johnston of Kilkenny City to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, charged on Johnston's property of Braghwy [sic - Breghey], barony of Turenny, County Armagh, and also making reference to other mortgaged lands (Fassaroe, etc) in County Wicklow.
- MS 38,751/8**      1829  
Deed of annuity granted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce to his elder son, Thomas, the future 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, clearly as a provision for him during his father's lifetime and prior to the provision made on his marriage ten years later.
- MS 38,751/9**      1833: 1836  
Large bundle comprising the original and a copy of the settlement made on the marriage of the Hon. Catherine Vesey, only daughter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, and her cousin, Patrick John Nugent of Portaferry, County Down (1833), with related deeds and papers, 1833 and 1836.
- MS 38,751/10**      1835: 1837  
Large bundle of releases (1835) from the Nugents and from Mrs Nugent's brother, the Hon. William John Vesey, second son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, acknowledging payment of their respective portions, together with the settlement made in 1837 on the marriage of William John Vesey and Isabella Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Francis Brownlow.
- MS 38,751/11**      1837  
Deed of annuity from Denis Mulhall of Graigenesmuttin, County Laois, farmer, to Samuel Edge, M.D. of Clonbrock, County Laois.
- MS 38,751/12-14**      1839  
Three folders containing the settlement and related deeds on the marriage of the Hon. Thomas Vesey, the future 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, and Lady Emma Herbert, daughter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Pembroke by his second wife Catherine, daughter of Count Simon Woronzow, and sister of Prince Michael Woronzow - see MS 38,985 and MS 38,989.
- MS 38,751/15**      1853  
Release from Arthur George Vesey, Edward Vesey, George H. Vesey and William M. Vesey, [sons of the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey, Rector of Abbeyleix], to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce acknowledging sums of money paid to them on foot of a settlement of 1811. See also MS 38,992.
- MS 38,751/16**      1858  
'Abstract settlement on [the] marriage of Henry F. Colley Esq. and Miss Elizabeth Isabella Wingfield, [daughter of the Hon. and Rev.

- William Wingfield, Rector of Abbeyleix]’, present because the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci was one of the parties to the settlement.
- MS 38,751/17**      1861  
Assignment to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci of a mortgage on the property of the Irwin family of Lowhill, County Kilkenny, with previous, related deeds of 1853 and 1860.
- MS 38,751/18**      1865  
Deed to which the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, his wife and elder son, the future 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount, are parties, ‘...barring the entail in certain sums of stock, and releasing the same from the jointure of the Viscountess de Vesci’.
- MS 38,751/19**      1867  
Disentailing deed, release, negative searches for judgements, etc, all relating to the entire Longford/de Vesci estate in Counties Cork, Dublin and Limerick, and mainly deriving from a deed of 1817 (of which a copy is present) concerning the debts of the Earls of Longford.
- MS 38,751/20**      1872  
Large bundle containing the settlement and related deeds on the marriage of the Hon. John Robert William Vesey, the future 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, and Lady Evelyn Charteris, eldest daughter of the 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Wemyss, and affecting the de Vesci estate in County Laois and the de Vesci half of the Longford/de Vesci estate.
- MS 38,751/21**      1877  
Settlement and related deeds on the marriage of the Hon. Eustace Vesey, second son of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, and the Hon. Constance Mary Lawley, third daughter of the 2nd Lord Wenlock.
- MS 38,751/22**      1895-1901  
Large bundle of mortgages affecting the County Laois and Longford/de Vesci estates.
- MS 38,751/23**      1906  
Settlement and related deeds on the marriage of Ivo Richard Vesey, 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, and Miss Georgiana Wellesley.
- MS 38,751/24**      1912: 1914: 1924  
Further mortgages of the County Laois and Longford/de Vesci estates.
- MS 38,751/25**      1936  
Conveyance (in trust) from Dunmore Farms [ie the Staples family of Dunmore] to the 5th Viscount de Vesci, of Dunmore and the remaining Staples estate in County Laois.
- MS 38,752/1-2**      1920-84

Two boxes of relatively recent papers about the title to the County Laois and Longford/de Vescei estates of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Viscounts de Vescei, including: papers about the releasing of parts of the estates from the mortgages affecting them all; deeds and papers about the formation of the Abbeyleix Estate Company [in 1900?] and its successor, Millbrook Ltd, [c.1960?]; papers and deeds about the arrangements entered into between the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount and his nephew and heir, the Hon. John Vesey, prior to the former's death and the latter's succession in 1958; deeds and papers about the provision for Frances Lois, Viscountess de Vescei, second wife and widow of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount; etc, etc. Included among the boxes is some correspondence with the family solicitors, Messrs S. S. & E. Reeves of Merrion Square, Dublin, which throws light on these various settlements and re-settlements, some letters and accounts concerning the charge on the de Vescei estate possessed by the Hon. Mrs Aubrey Herbert, daughter and only child of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vescei, and Irish Land Commission requisitions on title and other papers relating to the progress of land purchase on the de Vescei estates.

### **III Leases, 1608-1982**

*Leases of the estates of the Vesey/de Vescei family, mainly in County Laois and Cork City and County, but also including leases of estates elsewhere and leases of the see lands of Ossory during and prior to Sir Thomas Vesey's occupation of the see. County Laois leases are by far the most numerous, so they come first in the arrangement and - as seems to have been the Estate Office arrangement, however imperfectly carried out or subsequently disturbed - they have been arranged in alphabetical order.*

#### **III.i County Laois leases, 1669-1982**

MS 38,753/1-3

1780-1982

Three boxes of leases of Abbeyleix, mainly of urban premises in the present town, but also including leases of parts of the Abbeyleix demesne (excluding Knapton - see MS 38,759/10) - the mansion house, sawmills, old village and old church and the carpet factory premises (1911). The definition of Abbeyleix is complicated by the fact that the site of the village/town was moved c.1770, with the result that the original site has become demesne, and originally rural townlands (mainly Knocknamoe and Rathmoyle) have to a large extent been consumed by the modern town of Abbeyleix. Sometimes the leases themselves bear witness to this change, since they were originally granted under a townland name, which has then subsequently been crossed out and replaced by 'Abbeyleix'. Some of them actually call Abbeyleix 'Rathmoyle new town'. In sorting the leases, every effort has been made to place the urban parts of Rathmoyle under Abbeyleix, leaving only rural or at any rate suburban holdings under Rathmoyle. The whole of

Knocknamoe has been placed under Abbeyleix, although the lands of Cushenstown and Rosebank (which seem to have been sub-denominations of Knocknamoe and were kept separate in the original Estate Office arrangement) have been separated out and will be found in the appropriate place in the alphabetical sequence.

**MS 38,754**

1669: [?]1680]:1687: 1770-1873

Box of leases relating to Ballymaddock and Ballymullen, which have been kept together, not just because they are neighbours in the alphabetical sequence, but because a number of the leases comprise both townlands. The lease of 1687 includes Rathmoyle as well, and is to Capt. Thomas Owen and his wife, Elizabeth (see MS 38,825/1-2).

**MS 38,755/1**

1775: 1891

Three leases relating to Ballytrasna, the first of them also including Tonduff (see MS 38,762/4).

**MS 38,755/2**

1774: 1782: 1819-40

Large bundle of leases relating to Bellbrook, later changed to Millbrook and used during this century, first as the de Vescei agent's house and then as the home of the Hon. John Vesey prior to his succession as 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vescei in 1958. The name Bellbrook derived from the Bell family, who were the former tenants, and one of whom, William Bell, was also an agent - see MS 39,026/1-2 and MS 39,239/1-7. Bellbrook/Millbrook is actually a sub-denomination of Tullyroe - see MS 38,763.

**MS 38,755/3**

1817-31: 1867: 1877-80: 1902-9: 1927: 1973

Bundle of leases relating to Blackhills or Black Hill. The townland name appears originally to have been Blackhills, and the house on it Black Hill. The name of the house seems subsequently (post 1806 - see MS 38,760) to have been changed for a time to Bellview, having likewise been inhabited by the Bell family.

**MS 38,756**

1660-1917

Box of leases relating to Boley, alias Noreville, the latter having presumably been the name of a house on the townland of Boley. See also MS 38,746/15-17 and MS 38,757/8, MS 38,759/9 and MS 38,760.

**MS 38,757/1**

1797: 1806: 1817: 1880-94

Bundle of leases relating to Branra, a large concentration of them on 1817.

**MS 38,757/2**

1831

Lease of Castlecoole (which does not seem ever to have been part of the de Vescei estate).

**MS 38,757/3**

[c.1675]: 1697

Draft lease of Clohogue, and lease of the tithes of Clohogue, from Sir Edward Massey Junior. This townland seems to have been one component of the original manor of Abbeyleix which Denny Muschamp did *not* acquire.

- MS 38,757/4**      1819: 1826-7: 1836-7: 1840: 1864-1934  
Bundle of leases of Clonad/Clonadadoran, at least one of them including Clonbar - see MS 38,757/5 - as well, and a slim lease book relating to Clonadadoran during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- MS 38,757/5**      1693: 1701  
Title deeds, case papers and two lease-type documents relating to Clonagown, one of them involving Lady Lanesborough.
- MS 38,757/6**      1794  
Copy lease of Clonbar, granted by one Hampden Evans of Mount Evans, County Dublin.
- MS 38,757/7**      1669: 1676: 1695: 1713: 1731: 1762: 1770: 1826-34: 1878: 1893: 1899  
Large bundle of leases relating to Clonkeen. The lease of 1713 is a mining lease (see MS 38,930/1-2). As well as being a townland, Clonkeen seems to have been an alternative parish name to Abbeyleix, and the lease of 1762 is of tithes. For the tithes of Clonkeen, see also MS 38,791/1-2.
- MS 38,757/8**      1770: 1834: 1848: 1900  
Four leases of Clonohill, one of them including Boley.
- MS 38,758**      1736-1941  
Box of leases relating to Colt.
- MS 38,759/1**      1698: 1782-3: 1807-34: 1881-4  
Large bundle of leases relating to Corbally. [Several of the documents are badly damaged.]
- MS 38,759/2**      1770: 1780: 1820: 1831  
Bundle of leases relating to Curraghacronacon.
- MS 38,759/3**      1791: 1795: 1800: 1807: 1817-32: 1861  
Large bundle of leases relating to Cushenstown, part of Knocknamoe. [Some damaged.]
- MS 38,759/4**      1801: 1811: 1817: 1855: 1875  
Small bundle of leases relating to Derrylaban. [Some damaged.]
- MS 38,759/5**      1874: 1890: 1924: 1950  
Five leases, etc, relating to Farmleigh.
- MS 38,759/6**      1803: 1817: 1839: 1891

- Small bundle of leases relating to Graceswood.
- MS 38,759/7** 1778: 1781: 1879: 1885: 1889: 1893: 1897  
Small bundle of leases relating to Granafallow.
- MS 38,759/8** 1832  
Two leases of Kenilworth.
- MS 38,759/9** 1669: 1796: 1806: 1811: 1817: 1827: 1879: 1885-9: 1904: 1956  
Bundle of leases relating to Kilnamuck.
- MS 38,759/10** 1764: 1768: 1777: 1807-8: 1812-13: 1850: 1855: 1859: 1874-5: 1877: 1910: 1914: 1923-4: 1926  
Large bundle of leases and other papers relating to Knapton, both the townland and the 18<sup>th</sup>-century house situated upon it, which was leased to the Pigott family, baronets, who during the 1760s sub-let it to Capt. Robert Wallis (see MS 38,905) and during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey, Rector of Abbeyleix. The 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci was obliged to demolish the house, and now only the site and ruins of the offices remain. At least one of the leases also includes Boley. For the Pigott family, see also MS 38,746/22 and MS 39,258.
- MS 38,759/11-12** 1687: 1691: 1698: 1737: 1743: 1751: 1768: 1790: 1793: 1795: 1818: 1829: 1833: 1839: 1848: 1860-61  
Two large folders of leases and other papers relating to Knockmay.
- MS 38,759/13-14** 1679: 1735: 1753: 1782: 1790: 1795: 1851: 1860: 1868: 1872: 1880-87: 1894-5: 1905: 1910  
Large bundle of leases relating to Maryborough - the commons, the green, and premises in the town. [The lease of 1679 is in a fragile state.]
- MS 38,759/15** 1645: 1676: 1777: 1784: 1824  
Original and copy of a lease from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Londonderry of lands in the manor of Gallen Ridgeway [Ballynakill?] adjoining Ralish, 1645; and a small bundle of leases relating to Ralish. [This townland comes slightly out of the alphabetical sequence: for the next in the sequence, see below.]
- MS 38,760** 1672: 1683: 1785: 1786-8: 1799: 1801: 1806-11, 1818-19: 1837-8: 1883: 1909: 1917: 1924  
Box of leases and other papers relating to Poormansbridge, including leases of the Abbeyleix cotton mill and the Beechfield flax mill (see also MS 38,921, MS 39,067, MSS 34,433-7 and MS 39,025), even though neither of these enterprises was geographically contiguous to Poormansbridge. The lessees of the mill were successively or concurrently the Bells of Bellbrook [and Bellview? - see MS 38,755/2-3] (1717), Samuel Leigh of Black Hill (1806), the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey, Sir Henry Parnell and

Charles Doyne of Ballymullen (1809), John Lyster of Norefield, Abbeyleix (1818), Samuel Leigh of Abbeyleix (1837-8) and the Beechfield Milling Company (1898). Geographically the Abbeyleix cotton mill belongs in Tullyroe (MS 38,763) and the Beechfield flax mill in Blackhills (MS 38,755/3). One of the leases also includes Boley.

**MS 38,761/1-2**

1670: 1676:1770: 1779:1784: 1801, 1933

Two boxes of leases and other papers relating to Rathmoyle [as far as possible the rural and suburban parts of the townland only, the urban parts having been arranged under Abbeyleix town - see MS 38,753/1-3]. The lease (and counterpart) of 1670 probably but not certainly relates to Rathmoyle. Some of the leases also comprise Glanbaune. Also included are a number of deeds of 1858 involving the Hon. and Rev. William Wingfield, Rector of Abbeyleix, and relating to an exchange of the Rector's glebe lands (see MS 39,059). For another lease comprising Rathmoyle, see MS 38,754.

**MS 38,762/1-2**

1770: 1779:1818-20: 1824: 1831: 1845

Two folders of leases relating to Rosebrook, part of Knocknamoe. For the most part, this sub-denomination was kept separate in the original Estate Office arrangement, but many of the leases are endorsed 'Knocknamoe' in a later hand than 'Rosebrook'. Nearly all the leases are dated 1818.

**MS 38,762/3**

1682: 1744-6: 1765: 1800: 1811: 1829: 1835: 1878: 1880: 1920

Leases relating to Togher.

**MS 38,762/4**

1668: 1770: 1775: 1780: 1782: 1817: 1819-20: 1853: 1878-9: 1882: 1892: 1908

Leases relating to Tonduff, one of them including Ballytrasna (see MS 38,755/1).

**MS 38,763**

1666: 1683: 1697: 1705: 1796: 1801-7: 1770-71: 1782: 1817-23: 1826-7: 1833-4: 1840: 1865: 1870: 1877-82: 1891: 1907-9: 1922-42

Box of leases relating to Tullyroe. This townland included the site of the old village of Abbeyleix, and leases relating to the old village, where they are stated as so doing, have been placed in a separate envelope in the third box relating to Abbeyleix (MS 38,753/3). Where this is not stated or is unclear (e.g. in the case of the lease of 1666), they are still under Tullyroe. Included is a bundle containing an original series of leases granted to the trustees of the Abbeyleix Institution (see MS 38,928/1-4), who included John Synge of Roundwood, County Wicklow, 1821. For other leases of Tullyroe, see MS 38,755/2 and MS 38,760.

**MS 38,764/1**

1672: 1695

Two leases of 'the mill quarter' which, as it is stated to be on the road from Abbeyleix to Watercastle, cannot refer to the Abbeyleix

or Beechfield mills.

- MS 38,764/2**      1820: 1864:1871: 1899:1908-14: 1955  
Leases and reservations of shooting rights in and around Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,765/1**      1864-77:1884-99  
Box containing an oblong folio 'Agreement book, 1864 to 1877' for yearly tenancies, and bundles of letting agreements to yearly and weekly tenants. These latter are arranged (somewhat haphazardly) by year, not townland, and this original arrangement has been left undisturbed.
- MS 38,765/2**      c.1900 - c. 1903  
Box containing yearly and weekly letting agreements
- MS 38,765/3**      c.1903- c.1948  
Box containing yearly and weekly letting agreements

### **III.ii      Cork and Limerick leases, 1670, 1718-1974**

- MS 38,766**      1670: 1743-1856  
Box of leases of the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork, principally of the Monkstown and Passage West estate, barony of Kerrycurrihy, which became exclusively de Vesci property after the partition of 1835 (see MS 38,744/6). The townlands in this estate were, in alphabetical order: Ballyfonloo, Ballymot, Dark, Darkgarriff, Lackaroo, Maulbaun, Monkstown and Rathanker. However, the box also includes a lease and a related paper of the lands of Curragh and Maun, barony of Duhallow, 1764-81, and three leases of Ballyhindon (which became Lord Longford's exclusive property in 1835), 1778 and 1788, the former with a nice integral map.
- MS 38,767-  
MS 38,772**      1871-1978  
Six boxes of leases, conveyances, sale particulars and related papers, all concerning the Monkstown and Passage West estate, urban parts of which were being sold off to tenants up to very recent times. The documents in MSS 38,770-72 do not cover the entire period, but only the years 1895-1945.
- MS 38,773/1**      1734: 1758:1790: 1800:1804  
Six leases of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Cork city.
- MS 38,773/2**      1718-85: 1736: 1738: 1764: 1773: 1806: 1809: 1813: 1819:  
1852:1856:1863: 1873: 1886: 1946:1967  
Bundle of leases and other papers, including a clutch of papers containing abstracts of leases, 1718-85, of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Newgate and Nicholas Streets, Limerick City, and in the barony of Pubblebrien, County Limerick.

### **III.iii        Leases of other properties and estates, principally the Ossory see estate, in County Laois and elsewhere, 1608-1725, 1879-1974**

- MS 38,774**        1600-1725  
Box of leases, some of them granted by Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, but most of them by previous bishops of Ossory, of the see lands of Ossory in Counties Carlow, Cork, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick and Offaly. See also 38,745/1 and MS 38,889/1-4.
- MS 38,775/1**     1668  
Two leases of premises forming part of the Muschamp estate in Waterford city.
- MS 38,775/2**     1682: 1709: 1713: 1715  
Lease from John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, of lands in County Galway, 1682; two later County Galway leases from Archbishop Vesey, one of lands belonging to the church of Galway, the other of lands belonging to the wardenship of Galway (see MS 38,822/1-2), 1709 and 1713; and attornment to him of tenants in County Mayo (presumably of his Hollymount estate?), 1715.
- MS 38,775/3**     1687: 1700: n.d  
Lease from Thomas Wilkinson of Cahirelly, County Limerick, of the lands of Cahirelly East, and one from him to Capt. Thomas Owen [Archbishop Vesey's brother-in-law - see MS 38,825], of Maddeboy, etc, barony of Clanwilliam, County Limerick, both 1687; lease from Wilkinson, now described as 'of Maddyboy', and [his brother-in-law?], John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, to Francis Strange of Cahirelly, of the lands of Knockcurragh and Ballysillagh, barony of Clanwilliam, County Limerick, 1700; and two undated legal case papers deriving from this lease of Knockcurragh and Ballysillagh.
- MS 38,775/4**     1701: 1707  
Two leases from Lady Lanesborough of parts of the Muschamp estate in Dublin city. See also 38,743/3.
- MS 38,775/5**     1718  
Lease from Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, of part of the Muschamp estate in the manor of Buttevant, County Cork. See also 38,743/1-2.
- MS 38,775/6**     1902  
Lease from the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci of premises (inherited from the Fortescue/Clermont family in 1898 see MS 38,746/20) in Carlingford, County Louth.
- MS 38,775/7**     1969: 1974  
Schedules of premises in Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin, sold by 'the

Eustace Estate Company' [ie the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci. These are the only lease-type documents relating to the Dún Laoghaire estate. It is assumed that the rest are still with the Dublin solicitors, Messrs Reeves.]

**MS 38,775/8**     1708: 1879:1898: 1903: 1950  
Leases of unspecified premises or blank forms of leases; some of the premises would seem to be in County Laois, others in one or more parts of the Longford/de Vesci estate.

## **IV     Legal case papers, 1638-1769**

**MS 38,776**     1638: n.d: 1650: 1656:c.1663: n.d: 1679: c.1698-1707: 1725  
Box of case papers in various law suits over the Muschamp estate in the manor of Buttevant and elsewhere in County Cork, principally a law suit between Lady Lanesborough and John Ronan, the pretended lessee of Denny Muschamp, c.1700-07. For a deed of 1707 from Ronan to Lady Lanesborough, which marks the conclusion to this suit, see MS 38,743.

**MS 38,777**     1664-99  
Box of case papers in law suits over the Lane/Lanesborough estate, mainly over Lady Lanesborough's jointure lands and other lands in Counties Galway, Roscommon, etc, and money owed to her by one Giles Martin of Drumcondra, County Dublin (d.1693), including very detailed inventories (probate and otherwise) of the furniture and other effects in Martin's house in Drumcondra.

**MS 38,778**     1679-1714  
Box of case papers in law suits between Joshua and Alexander George, on the one hand, and Denny Muschamp and Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, on the other, over the lands of Togher, barony of Maryborough, Queen's County.

**MS 38,779-  
38,782**     1676-c.1700  
Four boxes of case papers in the wide variety of law suits between Denny Muschamp and Sir Edward Massey Junior, between Massey and Thomas Starkey, etc, etc, over the manor of Abbeyleix, which ranged through the various courts in Ireland and England, including the House of Lords, ending up in the Irish House of Commons, of which both Massey and Muschamp were members. The case papers on behalf of Massey include the understandable allegation that it is impossible for him to obtain justice in Ireland because the highest legal authority in that kingdom, the Lord Chancellor, is an interested party, being Muschamp's father-in-law, and Massey's consequent petitions to the King and English Privy Council. For full details, see the appendix.

**MS 38,783/1-3**     1680-98  
Small box and two envelopes of case papers in minor law suits spinning

off from the major ones over the manor of Abbeyleix (eg between Denny Muschamp and people who had taken leases from Sir Edward Massey Senior and Junior); the principal protagonists against Muschamp are John Weaver and Hugh Harding.

- MS 38,784/1-2** c.1680-94  
Two folders of case papers in a law suit between Denny Muschamp and one Edmund Quinn of Dublin, over the lands of Knocknavatt, barony of Upper Ossory, County Laois.
- MS 38,785** 1680-88: [?1691]: n.d.  
Box of case papers in the law suits between and among Denny Muschamp, the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ardglass and the Maxwell family of Finnebrogue, Downpatrick, over the estate of the Cromwell/Ardglass family, of which the Maxwells were leading tenants, in the barony of Lecale, County Down. Interestingly, the case papers on Muschamp's behalf usually describe him as 'of Downpatrick', as if to give him standing as a 'local'. See also MS 38,743/4-5 and MS 38,859/1-2.
- MS 38,786** 1682: c.1685  
Five case papers in law suits involving John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, and Denny Muschamp over the lands of Pallas, Ballybockane, etc, barony of Maryborough, County Laois.
- MS 38,787** c.1686-93  
Box of case papers in law suits between and among Henry Ridgeway, William Ridgeway, Edward Bolton, and Denny Muschamp and John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, over the lands of Clonagown and Clonruske [sic - Clonrud, barony of Maryborough], County Laois. Also present (by accident?) is a valuation of the parish of Burres, County Laois (1686).
- MS 38,788** 1683: 1687-99: n.d  
Bundle of case papers in law suits between Henry and St Leger Gilbert, on the one hand, and Denny Muschamp on the other, over Knockmay, etc., County Laois. See MS 38,742/5.
- MS 38,789** 1692-9  
Box of case papers in the law suits between and among the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Londonderry, Thomas Starkey and Denny Muschamp over Abbeyleix, including a couple of short, convenient statements of case explaining Lord Londonderry's involvement in the affair. See the appendix.
- MS 38,790** 1694: 1709: n.d  
Case papers and a related letter concerning a law suit between Denny Muschamp and one Anne Flaherty, alias Denny. (Muschamp's mother was a Denny, and part of the Muschamp estate in County Cork was of Denny provenance; so presumably Anne Flaherty was *née* Denny and had a claim to or upon this property.)

- MS 38,791/1-2**     1693-c.1699  
 Two folders of case papers in law suits between Denny Muschamp and the Rev. John Shaw, Rector of Abbeyleix/Clonkeen (see MS 38,798), over a house in Abbeyleix leased by Shaw and over the tithes of Clonkeen. These law suits were probably not unconnected with the major law suits over Abbeyleix, since one of the papers mentions that Shaw had sided with Lord Londonderry against Muschamp. (For a lease of the tithes of Clonkeen, see MS 38,757/7.)
- MS 38,792**     1700-21  
 Case papers in law suits between Lady Lanesborough and Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, over the terms and interpretation of Denny Muschamp's marriage settlement of 1692 and will, and between Lady Lanesborough and Thomas Fitzgerald, the Dublin-based 'man of business' who acted for Primate Boyle, Muschamp and Sir Thomas Vesey (see MS 38,830/1-6 and MS 38,870/1-8), over irregularities which Lady Lanesborough alleged that Fitzgerald had committed in the management of Muschamp's and her affairs.
- MS 38,793/1-2**     1725-45  
 Two folders of case papers in a law suit prosecuted by Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, and Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, against the Cuffe family of Killeagh, County Cork, over the lands of Grange, part of the manor of Buttevant. Included among the papers are a copy of a lease of Grange from Denny Muschamp to the then representative of the Cuffe family, Robert Cuffe, 1670, and the original of a letter from Muschamp to his 'sister', Martha Cuffe [wife of Robert?], 1681. For related correspondence, see MS 38,875/1-3 and MS 38,901.
- MS 38,794**     [1734]-69  
 Box of case papers in the successive rounds of litigation between Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci, on the one hand, and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Earls of Donegall and their trustees, on the other, over Abbeyleix, including a lengthy resumé of the case, from the Vesey side (in the handwriting of Edmond Sexton Pery, brother-in-law and, clearly, counsel to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton. For fuller details, see the appendix and, for related correspondence, MS 38,874/1-3 and MS 38,907). Included is a computation of the number of acres in the lordship and manor of Abbeyleix from the survey made in 1734 by Fanton Phelan.

*[For other case papers, which have been kept together with the deeds, leases, correspondence, etc, to which they relate, see MS 38,743/3, MS 38,749, MS 38,757/5, MS 38,775/3, MS 38,895, MS 38,898 and MS 39,251/2.]*

## V Patents, commissions and other formal documents, 1677-1974

- MS 38,795**      1677  
'Protection' issued by the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Longford to Denny Muschamp, whereby Lord Longford's privilege (as a peer) of immunity from arrest for debt was extended to Muschamp under the pretext that Muschamp was his servant or attendant.
- MS 38,796**      1685  
Warrant from Philip Frowde, General Letter Office, London, to Denny Muschamp 'to ride post' to Edinburgh and back again to London.
- MS 38,797**      [1685?]  
Patent from James II appointing Denny Muschamp Clerk of the Crown and Peace for Ulster. The date is difficult to make out, but probably this is a patent reappointing him after the demise of the crown.
- MS 38,798**      1694  
Presentation by the crown of the Rev. John Shaw to the rectory of Abbeyleix, diocese of Leighlin, and the rectory and vicarage of Rosconnell and Durrow, diocese of Ossory. For more papers about Shaw, see MS 38,791/1-2 and MS 38,800.
- MS 38,799**      1696  
Deputation from Denny Muschamp to Charles Campbell of Dublin of his duties as Clerk of the Crown and Peace for several counties in Ulster (but including the county of the town of Drogheda). [These probably equate with the North-East circuit?].
- MS 38,800**      1697  
Draft bonds of indemnity whereby Denny Muschamp and the Rev. Maurice Cuffe of Bonnystown, County Kilkenny, indemnify the Bishop of Leighlin against the cost of any legal proceedings which may arise as a result of Muschamp's presentation of Cuffe to the living of Clonkeen in opposition to the present incumbent, the Rev. John Shaw (see MS 38,798), and the Bishop of Ossory against the cost of any legal proceedings which may arise from Muschamp's presentation of Cuffe to the living of Rosconnell and Durrow.
- MS 38,801**      1698  
Patent creating Thomas Vesey a baronet.
- MS 38,802**      1712-14  
Papers in connection with the appointment by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Ormond, Chancellor of the University of Dublin, of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, as his Vice-Chancellor, with related correspondence and papers, one of them a letter from Ormond of 1714.

- MS 38,803**      12 June 1713  
Two commissions from the crown, one to consecrate Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, bishop of Killaloe, the other a grant of the temporalities of the see?
- MS 38,804**      1723  
Institution of the Rev. Muschamp Vesey, half-brother of Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, as rector of Dromcliffe and Killanamona, diocese of Killaloe. (Sir Thomas Vesey had ceased to be Bishop of Killaloe in 1714, so he cannot in this instance be accused of nepotism!)
- MS 38,805**      1750: 1772: 1776  
Formal documents relating to the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton and the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci: patent creating Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, Lord Knapton, 1750, with grant of supporters of the same date [both kept in their original, outsize patent box]; commission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton, later 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci, and others to administer the oath of a justice of the peace to Thomas Pigott of Knapton, who had recently been added to the commission of the peace for Queen's County, 1772; and patent creating Lord Knapton Viscount de Vesci, 1776, [also kept in its original, outsize patent box. The two patent boxes and their contents, together with a subsequent boxed patent of 1884 creating the short-lived UK barony of de Vesci (see MS 38,810 below), have been retained by Lord de Vesci.]
- MS 38,806/1-2**      1803: 1816: [1821]: 1831:1837:  
Two folders of formal documents relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci: his captain's commission in the Abbeyleix yeomanry, 1803; his passport, 1816; a patent renewing his tenure of the Lieutenancy of Queen's County following the demise of the crown, 1837; a patent appointing him Custos Rotulorum of Queen's County, 1845; etc, etc.
- MS 38,807/1-3**      1831: 1839: 1858: 1865-6  
Three folders of formal documents in respect of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci: his captain's commission in the Abbeyleix yeomanry; his Queen's County commission of the peace; a House of Lords proxy signed by him; his certificate of membership of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland; and illuminated addresses from the Abbeyleix Young Men's Christian Association to him for providing them with rooms in which to hold their meetings, and from the parishioners of Abbeyleix to Lady de Vesci for building them a new Church of Ireland church in memory of her mother, the Countess of Pembroke.
- MS 38,808**      1874-5: 1879  
Commissions in the army, etc, of the Hon. Eustace Vesey, second son of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,809**      1883  
Certificates of two Cork Industrial Exhibition prizes awarded to

Viscountess de Vesci for knitting and embroidery.

- MS 38,810**      1884  
Copy of the patent creating the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci a baron in the peerage of the United Kingdom. (This title died with him in 1903.)
- MS 38,811**      1904: 1913: 1930: 1937  
Formal documents relating to the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, including his Queen's County commission of the peace, 1904, and his summons to George VI's coronation, 1937.
- MS 38,812**      1906: 1908  
Two commissions in the Irish Guards of the Hon. Thomas Eustace Vesey, younger brother of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci (see MS 39,092).
- 1911  
Outsize volume containing an illuminated address to the Hon. and Rev. Algernon George Lawley, Rector of Hackney, Rural Dean of Hackney and Stoke Newington and Prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral, from the Bishop of Stepney, Mayor, parishioners and inhabitants of Hackney, wishing him well on his retirement. [Lawley was the brother of Constance Mary, widow of Capt. the Hon. Eustace Vesey, and mother of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci. The volume has been retained by Lord de Vesci.]
- MS 38,813**      1912  
Numerous copies of the marriage certificate of the Hon. Mrs Aubrey Herbert, daughter and only child of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,814/1-2**      1950: 1953: 1972: 1974  
Two folders of printed orders of ceremonial/service for various royal events, including the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and the funeral of her uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, some of them reflecting the role of Lady Cicely Vesey, widow of Colonel the Hon. Thomas Vesey, and mother of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, as a lady-in-waiting to Queen Mary.
- MS 38,815/1-2**      1960  
Invitations, printed orders of service, and other formal documents relating to the marriage of Princess Margaret to Anthony Armstrong-Jones, Earl of Snowdon, brother of Susan, Viscountess de Vesci, the wife of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount. See also MS 39,107-8.

## **VI Correspondence and related papers**

### **VI.i Correspondence and related papers of John Vesey and Denny Muschamp, 1670-1716**

#### **VI.i.1 Correspondence and related papers of John Vesey, Bishop of Limerick (1673-9) and Archbishop of Tuam (1679-1716), 1670-1716**

- MS 38,816**      [c.1670-1715]  
Box of sermons in the handwriting of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam. The first envelope in the box also contains originals or photocopies of four pamphlet printings of sermons by the Archbishop, including *A Sermon preached at Windsor before his Majesty, the second Sunday after Easter, 1684* (London, 1684), and *A Sermon Preached to the Protestants of Ireland in and about the City of London at St Mary le Bow in Cheapside, Oct. 23 1689, being the Day Appointed by Act of Parliament in Ireland for an Anniversary Thanksgiving for the deliverance of the Protestants of that Kingdom from the Bloody [sic] Massacre and Rebellion begun by the Irish Papists on the 23 of Oct. 1641* (London, 1689).
- MS 38,817**      1675-1710: 1716  
Accounts and receipts to Archbishop Vesey from tradesmen, workmen, rent-collectors, charities, etc, mainly in connection with his house and demesne at Hollymount, County Mayo, but also including some Dublin bills. Among the items in the bundle are a series of receipts for 'corporation rent' due to the crown out of the lands of Killcommon, barony of Kilmaine, County Mayo, 1694-9, payment for 'white barrabarr wine', 1706, and donations to the Dublin poorhouse, 1706-7.
- MS 38,818**      1676: 1678  
Two ecclesiastical/disciplinary papers of Archbishop Vesey when bishop of Limerick.
- MS 38,819/1-6**      1679-1715  
Six folders of letters and papers of Archbishop Vesey about the ecclesiastical affairs of the diocese of Tuam and metropolitan province of Connaught - procurations, proxies, excommunications, valuations of benefices, visitation returns, etc. Included are two papers relating to the preferments of the Rev. John Vesey, prebend of 'Killeedy', 1681 and 1693 [sic - Killeely, County Galway?] This presumably was Archbishop Vesey's second son by his second marriage, even though he surely must have been under-age for holy orders in 1681.

- MS 38,820**      1683-1705  
Folio volume, subsequently rebound in vellum gilt, containing a journal kept by Archbishop Vesey. Kept for purposes of accountancy, it contains a good deal of incidental information as well.
- MS 38,821/1-2**      1683-1713  
Miscellaneous political papers and correspondence of Archbishop Vesey about the state of the Church of Ireland, the pretensions of the Dissenters, etc, etc; and more specifically about electioneering in County Galway and Tuam borough (1693), and Vesey's role as a Lord Justice, the state of British high politics (1712) and the Houghers in Connaught. Included is a letter of 1693 addressed to Archbishop Vesey 'at his house near Maryborough'; which shows that, in addition to building up real estate in that neighbourhood (see MS 38,742/3/5-/9), he maintained a residence there. The letters and papers of 1698 relate to the conformity of the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Clanricarde, and the document of 1713 is a letter from the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Angelsey acknowledging a letter of thanks from the Archbishop on the promotion of the Archbishop's son, Sir Thomas Vesey, to the bishopric of Killaloe (see MS 38,803). The correspondents include Gilbert Ormsby (1693), William Godwin of Tuam (1695), Henry Bingham of Newbrook, County Mayo, Archbishop Vesey's son-in-law (1711), and John Hartstonge, Bishop of Ossory (1712), who claims to have had a conversation with Queen Anne about the Houghers! For further semi-political correspondence of Archbishop Vesey, see MS 38,802.
- MS 38,822/1-2**      1685: 1687-8  
Two folders containing an original bundle, with the addition of one letter of 1685, docketed by Archbishop Vesey as '... relating to the corporations of Tuam and Galway', and actually relating to the corporation of Athenry, County Galway, as well. The correspondents include James II's successive Lords Deputy, Henry Hyde, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Clarendon, and Richard Talbot, Earl and Duke of Tyrconnel, and the correspondence (and petitions) concern clashes of jurisdiction and patronage between the archbishop of Tuam and the corporations as remodelled and re-chartered by James II. A particular bone of contention is the wardenship of Galway, the right of nomination to that office and its jurisdiction over and patronage of the college and collegiate church of Galway. In this particular dispute over the wardenship, the line taken by Tyrconnel was that Archbishop Vesey was to be left to obtain redress, if he could, at common law.
- MS 38,823**      1687: 1689: 1711  
Letters to Archbishop Vesey from his 'cousin', the Rev. Richard Thomas, who appears to have been Chancellor of Tuam cathedral. Almost all the letters are dated 1687 and relate to the familiar business of getting in rents and other debts due to the Archbishop, in which connection Thomas seems to have been acting as his agent. The letter of 1698 is a very long one written from London, in the course of which Thomas gives a good deal of political news about the bill to restrict the

Irish woollen industry, etc, etc; it is endorsed by the Archbishop, 'his sham letter'. It begins with a lengthy apology for Thomas's absence from his cure, so it is not surprising to find that the letter of 1711 relates to the sequestration of the living.

**MS 38,824**

1687-1715

Box of rentals and accounts (apparently for the archiepiscopal estate, archbishop Vesey's private estate in Counties Galway and Mayo, and the household at Hollymount), kept by the Archbishop's agent, Edward Wilson. The rentals and accounts are accompanied by a couple of letters.

**MS 38,825/1-2**

1689-99

Two folders containing an artificial bundle of letters and papers of Archbishop Vesey (and of his brother-in-law, Denny Muschamp), relating to Capt. Thomas Owen formerly of Limerick city and of Rathmoyle (Abbeyleix), now of Preston Monford, Shropshire, husband of the Archbishop's sister, Elizabeth. Owen also features as a tenant of part of the Archbishop's property in the barony of Maryborough, County Laois, and of Denny Muschamp's in the manor of Abbeyleix, and he appointed the Archbishop his executor (see MS 38,746/5, MS 38,754 and MS 38,775/3). The papers also include documentation of the purchase of his captaincy in 1682, and references to his property at Rathmoyle and Ballymaddock, County Laois.

**MS 38,826/1-2**

1689: 1701: 1704-1753

Largely original bundle consisting of bonds, a copy of a deed, and correspondence, all concerning the estate and financial affairs of Archbishop Vesey's brother-in-law, Thomas Wilkinson of Cahirelly, County Limerick (see also MS 38,745/2, MS 38,746/5 and MS 38,775/3). The bonds are from Wilkinson to Archbishop Vesey, and the copy deed is between Wilkinson and his eldest son and namesake, and is a settlement of the Wilkinson estate in the barony of Clanwilliam, County Limerick. The correspondents, in addition to Thomas Wilkinson Senior and Junior, are Sarah Wilkinson, the Archbishop's sister, and Thomas Ievers of Mount Ievers, Sixmilebridge, County Clare, son-in-law of Thomas and Sarah Wilkinson. This Ievers connection presumably explains why Thomas Wilkinson Senior is described, in 1701, as 'now of Sixmilebridge'.

**MS 38,827**

1702: 1710: 1715-16

Small envelope of letters and accounts to Archbishop Vesey from his 'cousin', the Rev. Dr Fielding Shaw, who appears to have been Provincial Registrar of Tuam, all of them about money due to the Archbishop from his livings, tithes and other ecclesiastical sources of revenue.

**MS 38,828/1-3**

1693-1715

Three folders of miscellaneous letters and accounts relating to the private and archiepiscopal estates of Archbishop Vesey, the accounts

making frequent mention of Henry Bingham. Included in the sub-section are a letter of 1692 from Nept[une] Blood to the Archbishop about the lands of Kilfenora, County Clare, and a letter from the British Privy Council responding favourably to the Archbishop's petition that his Hollymount estate, on which he has planted a large number of protestants of the Church of Ireland, be erected into a manor, 1713.

## **VI.i.2 Letters and papers of Denny Muschamp (c.1637-1699) reflecting his secretaryship to his father-in-law, Primate Boyle, and involvement in Boyle's public and private affairs, 1639-1703**

- MS 38,829/1-2** Jan. 1673: May 1674: July 1685 Oct. 1688  
Two outward letter-books containing very short *précis* (1673-4) and full copies (1685-8) of Denny Muschamp's letters on all manner of public and private business, including copies of some of his official letters as Secretary to the Lords Justices (see also MS 38,836). These slim volumes have been placed first in the arrangement of Muschamp's papers because in subject-matter they straddle all the sub-sections into which his papers have been formed.
- MS 38,830/1-6** 1688-98  
Six folders of correspondence between Muschamp and Thomas Fitzgerald, the Dublin-based man of business who acted both for Muschamp and Primate Boyle, and whose letters accordingly run the full gamut of Muschamp's varied activities. For the continuation, see MS 38,870/1-8.
- MS 38,831/1-2** 1658-90  
Two folders of letters, bonds, receipts, schedules of lands, etc, reflecting Muschamp's involvement in the management of the estate and financial concerns of Primate Boyle and Boyle's son and successor, Murrough, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Blessington. The bonds and receipts are to and from the Boyles or to Muschamp himself. The estates concerned are in Counties Cork, Limerick (including the lands of Newtown, part of the future Longford/de Vesci estate), Wicklow, Dorset, Wiltshire, etc.
- MS 38,832/1-2** 1661-70  
Two folders containing an original bundle of accounts and papers relating to the affairs of Primate Boyle. Some of the accounts feature one Richard Smith, and all *seem* to relate to archiepiscopal and official income, though no doubt private estate income is intermingled.
- MS 38,833** 1666-88  
Official and other papers of Muschamp and Primate Boyle, reflecting the latter's functions as Archbishop of Dublin, Archbishop of Armagh and Lord Chancellor.

- MS 38,834**      1670  
Commissions from Charles II to [Primate Boyle] concerning a new tax on clerical incomes, with related correspondence.
- MS 38,835**      1670-79  
Bundle of rentals and accounts relating to Primate Boyle's archiepiscopal and private estates, 1670-75, his archiepiscopal estate as Archbishop of Dublin, 1678, and his archiepiscopal estate as Archbishop of Armagh, 1678. See also MS 39,237.
- MS 38,836**      1671: 1685  
Letters and papers of Muschamp as Secretary to the Lords Justices (one of whom was Primate Boyle): a fragment of a copy out-letter book kept by Muschamp as Secretary to the Lords Justices (see also MS 38,829/1-2), 1671; a series of warrants signed on their behalf, June-July 1671; a warrant from James II for the encouragement of the Greenland and Eastland trade, 1685; and letters, two of them from Colonel John Corry of 'Castill Cooll', Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, concerning the composition of the magistracy, 1685. See also MS 38,829/1-2.
- MS 38,837**      1672  
Papers concerning the (successful) negotiations for a marriage between Primate Boyle's son, Murrough, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Blessington, and Anne, daughter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Mountrath (see MS 38,748/4), mainly particulars of Primate Boyle's rental from the Blessington estate, County Wicklow, and his estates elsewhere.
- MS 38,838**      1670-75  
Building accounts for Primate Boyle's mansion at Blessington. See also MS 38,844. These accounts formed the basis for the late Brian de Breffny's 'The Building of the Mansion at Blessington, 1672', in *The Irish Arts Review Yearbook* (1988).

### **VI.i.3 Other political and administrative papers of Denny Muschamp, 1665-94**

- MS 38,839**      1665-6: 1671: 1678: 1682  
Letters and papers about Muschamp's participation in the farm of the Irish hearth tax, 1665-6, and in the Earl of Ranelagh's more extensive farm of the Hereditary Revenue, 1678.
- MS 38,840**      1672  
Set of accounts relating to the office of Muster Master General, which Muschamp held from 1677 until his death.
- MS 38,841**      1684  
Upholsterer's bill for work done in the office of the Commissioners for Defective Titles (who were established in that year, with Muschamp as their Registrar).

- MS 38,842**      Nov.-Dec. 1690  
 Letters to Muschamp from James Corry and Colonel J. Fitzpatrick (of Castletown, County Laois, ancestor of the Earls of Upper Ossory and the Lords Castletown) and others about the state of political and military affairs.
- MS 38,843**      1693-4  
 Copy deposition concerning an assault made upon Muschamp in the execution of his duty as Muster Master General, 1693; and a small bundle of correspondence between Muschamp, as Muster Master General, and his deputy, John Mercer, 1694.
- MS 38,844**      1673: [c.1675] n.d.  
 Three miscellaneous papers relating to politics and administration: a letter to Muschamp from Lord [?Conway] about British and Irish high politics, 1673; paper of memoranda and instructions by Muschamp for compliments to be presented on his behalf to various political magnates, for the details of the furnishing of ‘the rooms of Blessington’ (see MS 38,838), etc, etc, [c.1675]; and ‘An account of the several indictments’, n.d, which are too numerous and too atrocious for even such a litigious man as Muschamp to have been personally involved in them all, and which therefore presumably reflect his office as Clerk of the Crown and Peace for Ulster.

*For letters and papers about the local politics of the boroughs of Ballynakill and Maryborough, County Laois, 1672-96, see MS 38,846-7.*

#### **VI.i.4 Papers about Muschamp’s County Laois estates and interests, 1668-1700**

- MS 38,845**      1668-72  
 Original bundle of papers of Sir Edward Massey Senior, grantee of the manor of Abbeyleix (see the appendix) about the estate and debts of the late Sir Amos Meredith, Bt, of Ballynakill.
- MS 38,846/1-2**      1672-95  
 Two folders of papers, most of them Muschamp’s but a few deriving from his brother-in-law, John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, about disputes over the corporation of Maryborough, the election of a burgomaster (or mayor), etc, etc. Included are a deed whereby Muschamp purchased from William Handcock the office of constable of Maryborough (probably in exchange for the advowson which Muschamp sold to Handcock in the same year - see MS 38,743/8), 1679, and a letter to Muschamp signed by a number of inhabitants of Maryborough complaining about the misconduct of the postmaster of the town, 1695.
- MS 38,847**      1672-86: 1695-6  
 Papers [of Muschamp and Archbishop Vesey?] in relation to Ballinakill, including an oath roll signed by the freemen as they were admitted to

their freedom, a late 17<sup>th</sup>-century copy of the borough's James I charter, case papers over disputes concerning lands in the lordship of Ballinakill and corporation affairs, a copy memorandum about the removal of George Stringer, Lord Londonderry's agent, as a burgess of Ballinakill, and a copy of Muschamp's petitions to the House of Commons complaining of the undue election of John Weaver as M.P. for Maryborough, and the undue election of Edward Massey Junior and Walter Welding [sic - Weldon] for Ballinakill in opposition to Muschamp himself, who was duly elected and should have been returned.

- MS 38,848**      1686: 1689: n.d  
Three papers about Queen's County local government, including a list of lords and gentleman fit to serve the King in a military capacity, 1689, and an undated list of 'The names of the directors for the management of the linen manufacture for the Queen's County'.
- MS 38,849/1-2**      1675-99  
Two folders of letters to Muschamp and to each other from Thomas, Stanley and Hugh Starkey, all relating to the law suits over the manor of Abbeyleix. See the appendix.
- MS 38,850**      1675-8: 1695  
Accounts between Muschamp and his steward and seneschal for the manor of Abbeyleix, Daniel Green, 1675-8, and two letters to Muschamp from Green, 1695. See also MS 34,399.
- MS 38,851**      1678: 1681-2: n.d: 1693-8: 1700  
Correspondence between Muschamp and the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Londonderry about their law suit over Abbeyleix, 1681; accounts between Lord Londonderry and his County Laois agent, Robert McClellan, 1693-8; and a copy of a letter from Sir Edward Massey Junior to Londonderry roundly abusing him, asserting that Massey has sacrificed himself and his fortune for Londonderry's sake and announcing that Massey has been received graciously by 'Sir Thomas' and is in the process of coming to an accommodation with him (see MS 38,742/1).
- MS 38,852/1-2**      1678: 1681-3: 1686-98  
Two folders of correspondence between Sir Edward Massey Junior of Lisbigny, County Laois, and Twickenham, and Muschamp over Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,853**      1695  
Rough *resumés* of the stages, dates and facts in the various law suits over Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,854/1-3**      1675-1700  
Three folders of miscellaneous correspondence and papers about Muschamp's County Laois estate affairs, mainly the law suits over Abbeyleix, including a somewhat mysterious series of bonds (or attornments?), Feb. 1676, from tenants of parts of the manor of Abbeyleix

to one John Grose of Dublin, apparently entered into by them in opposition to Muschamps's interests and claims. Also included is a long and detailed inventory of the clothes and personal effects of Mrs Elizabeth Massey, 1678.

## **VI.i.5 Letters and papers about Muschamp's estates elsewhere than County Laois, 1626, 1639-40, 1654-98**

**MS 38,855**

1639-40: 1660-68: 1682

Original bundle of letters and papers of Sir Richard Lane, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, and his son and successor George, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Lanesborough (first husband of Muschamp's second wife), concerning the Lanes' financial affairs, particularly Sir Richard's debts to one Nathaniel Evanson.

**MS 38,856/1-4**

1654-98

Four folders of letters, accounts, receipts, schedules of lands, etc, of Muschamp and his father, Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp, concerning their County Cork estate, principally: lands in the manor of Buttevant, barony of Orrery and Kilmore, consisting of the seven ploughlands of Grange, and the lands of Boherscrob, Barryhill, Croganes, Ardrior, the profits of the manor court of Buttevant, and various chief rents; the lands of Ardlombard, Castlombard, Gortnefowlue, Baneminny, Baultane and Farrenweston, also in the barony of Orrery and Kilmore, and all or most of them near Buttevant; the lands of Knocknemaddery, parish of Doneraile, barony of Fermoy; the lands of Ballybricken, barony of Kerrycurrihy; and premises in Cork City, notably on Kyrl's Quay. A paper in the bundle, endorsed by Denny Muschamp 'The state of my interest in Buttevant', and dated c.1670, gives the following detail about how the Muschamps' interest in the manor derived:

'The late Earl of Barrymore mortgaged the lands of Buttevant, etc, to the late Earl of Cork [his father-in-law] and Mr Robert Boyle for £2,000 ..., 29 Mar. 1637, which deed ... the Earl of Cork took up and put in all the mortgages he had of the Earl of Barrymore into one entire mortgage of £7,150 bearing date the 1<sup>st</sup> of Apr. 1638, by which deed the Earl of Cork makes those estates over to feoffees in trust ..., and amongst other lands he makes over Buttevant to his youngest son, Robert Boyle, who makes a lease to my father, Agmondisham Muschamp, for 31 years at £120 per annum bearing date 18 Mar. 1653. ... Mr Boyle has given me a lease bearing date 3 July 1669 for 99 years of the said lands of Buttevant at £160 per annum, to commence from the end or expiration of the former lease made by Mr Boyle to my father. Mr Boyle and I are upon a farther treaty for the purchasing of the said lands, I to give him £1500 for the mortgage of £2,000. I am to pay him £300 the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1669, £800 after he gives me a year's warning, and the other £400 after a year's warning more. ... Because Mr Boyle agrees for interest at 10%, he makes a lease and release to my Lord Roscommon and Sir John Cole, both of Dublin, and delivers it to me for their use. These two

persons of the 1<sup>st</sup> part, I of the 2<sup>nd</sup> part and Sir William Ussher of Dublin of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, do covenant that Sir William Ussher shall have and enjoy these lands for 500 years at a peppercorn per annum, but if I pay the moneys according to the conditions mentioned, then the lease to Sir William Ussher to be void: otherwise to stand in full force and virtue in law. ...'

As other papers in the bundle show, Muschamp eventually acquired the fee simple of the manor of Buttevant from the Hon. Robert Boyle's executors in 1693, £1200 of the purchase money having been borrowed by him from John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, and repaid in the following year.

In addition to the Muschamps, the correspondents represented in the sub-section are Richard Boyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Cork and 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Burlington, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl and Countess of Barrymore (1657). For other papers bearing on the exceedingly complicated title to the Muschamp estates in Cork, see MS 38,743/1-2, MS 38,746/2, /3 and/8, MS 38,748/2, and MS 38,776.

**MS 38,857**

[early 1660s]: 1688-91

Letters and papers about Denny Muschamp's estate in Waterford city: Book of Survey and Distribution extracts, and other papers, recording allocations of premises in Waterford city to '49 officers; case papers in a law suit between Muschamp and one Henry Seager over Muschamp's Waterford city property; and a letter about the damage done to a house in Waterford during the Williamite War.

**MS 38,858/1-2**

1668-9: 1676-98

Two folders of letters, surveys, accounts, etc, relating to the estates and claims to estates of Muschamp's second wife, Lady Lanesborough. The estates concerned are in Counties Dublin (the lands of Killaallaghan, etc), Galway, Kilkenny, Leitrim, Longford, Mayo, Roscommon (the town of Tulsk), Waterford (the lands of Kilbarry, near Waterford City) and Westmeath.

**MS 38,859/1-2**

1626: 1682-3: 1685: 1687: n.d

Two folders of letters and papers relating to Muschamp's law suit with Lord Ardglass and the Maxwells of Finnebrogue over Ardglass's estate in the barony of Lecale, County Down (see MS 38,743/4-5 and MS 38,785), including financial calculations, papers about the collection of crown rent, and names and particulars of the members of Lord Ardglass's 'troop', 1682.

**MS 38,860**

1690-98

Letters to Muschamp and Thomas Fitzgerald (mainly the latter) from one William Shannahan, who writes from Kilbarry and Waterford City, where he acted as agent for Lady Lanesborough's and Muschamp's property in that vicinity.

## **VI.i.6 Miscellaneous letters and papers of Muschamp, 1642, 1653-61, 1668-1703**

- MS 38,861/1-2** 1642: 1653-61: 1693  
Two folders containing a largely original bundle of letters and related business papers of Colonel Agmondisham and Denny Muschamp, the letters being written mainly by cousins and brothers, particularly Denny Muschamp's brother, William (who was a very active tax farmer, a commissioner of the customs from 1663 and a member of the council of trade from 1670, and died in 1683).
- MS 38,862** 1668-72: 1679-84: 1686: 1689  
Bundle of bonds acknowledging various people's debts and obligations to Denny Muschamp, and Muschamp's debts and obligations to various people; including a Dublin coachmaker's warranty that the wheels of Muschamp's 'glass coach' will hold firm for a year, 1671.
- MS 38,863** 1671-c.1690: n.d  
Miscellaneous accounts and estate and business letters and papers of Muschamp.
- MS 38,864** 1671-1703  
Tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to Muschamp.
- MS 38,865** 1666: 1672-9  
Letters and papers of Muschamp from and about his 'brother', Richard Boyle, son of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Shannon (Muschamp's landlord in respect of Ballinree and other land in County Cork - see MS 38,743/1-2 and MS 38,748/2), including what appears to be a fragment of Richard Boyle's marriage settlement, a complete deed of 1672 deriving from it, and a series of receipts from Lord Shannon to Muschamp and his mother, Mrs Anne Muschamp, for the rent of Ballinree. Also included is a letter from Lord Shannon and a list of lands proposed to be settled by Lord Shannon as security for the jointure of Richard Boyle's wife-to-be, Elizabeth (daughter of Sir John Ponsonby).
- MS 38,866** 1678-9  
Papers of Muschamp as executor to one John Kelly, late of ?Ballymacoghlan, County Kilkenny.
- MS 38,867** 1688-1703  
Letters to Thomas Fitzgerald from miscellaneous correspondents [excluding Muschamp, John Hutchinson (the steward at Abbeyleix), William Shannahan and Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt], mainly from one John Healy who writes from London.
- MS 38,868** n.d: [c.1680s?]: 1693  
Two personal and family letters to Muschamp: one from his first wife, Elizabeth (eldest daughter of Primate Boyle); the other from his daughter, M[ary], subsequently the wife of Sir Thomas Vesey.

## **VI.ii Letters and papers of Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt (c.1663-1730), Bishop of Killaloe (1713-14) and Bishop of Ossory (1714-30), 1699-1730**

### **VI.ii.1 Boroughs and politics, 1680, 1713-27**

**MS 38,869/1-2** 1680: 1713-27

Two folders containing an artificial bundle of letters to Sir Thomas Vesey about parliamentary elections and jurisdictional disputes in the boroughs of St Canice, alias Irishtown, County Kilkenny, and Ballinakill, County Laois, and in Counties Kilkenny and Laois. The principal jurisdictional dispute arose out of the claim of the corporation of Kilkenny City to regulate trade in and billet soldiers on St Canice, which was an adjoining but separate borough, with a corporation of its own, under the patronage of the bishop of Ossory. There are depositions and/or case papers relating to the dispute, 1680 and 1718, and to the riots and commotions in St Canice which ensued (see also MS 38,893). There is also an undated [c.1720], parchment petition from the corporation of St Canice to Vesey, as Bishop of Ossory, complaining about a wall. Letters of 1720-21 discuss corporation and election affairs in Kilkenny City (see also MS 38,888), and letters of 1727 relate to the general election for County Kilkenny (a constituency 'known to be ... at your Lordship's devotion') and to the returns for St Canice, Gowran (another County Kilkenny borough) and New Ross, County Wexford. See also MS 38,893/1-2. The present sub-section has been placed first in the arrangement because it cuts across the division which has been made of all the rest of Vesey's papers. For background information, see Malcomson, *Archbishop Charles Agar ...* (Dublin, 2002), pp 92-6.

### **VI.ii.2 Papers relating to Vesey's private affairs, 1699-1730**

**MS 38,870/1-8** 1699-1717

Eight folders of correspondence and accounts between Vesey and Thomas Fitzgerald, whom Vesey inherited as man of business from his father-in-law, Denny Muschamp. This correspondence is in effect a continuation of MS 38,830/1-6. Included are a couple of letters from Fitzgerald to Daniel Green of Abbeyleix and a couple of letters between Fitzgerald and Lady Vesey.

**MS 38,871/1-7** 1699-1729

Seven folders of tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to Vesey and Lady Vesey, including an account and receipt for the fees of honour payable on Vesey's translation to the bishopric of Ossory, 1714, and three bills in respect of books for his library (see MS 39,246/3), 1725

and 1728.

**MS 38,872**

1697: 1701: 1707: 1711: 1715-16: 1720

Bonds from Vesey to Dean William Perceval, a friend as well as a creditor, including a couple of letters from bankers and others about Vesey's borrowings from Perceval.

**MS 38,873/1-4**

1700-26

Four folders containing a partly original bundle of letters and papers concerning Lady Vesey's step-mother, Lady Lanesborough, Lady Lanesborough's [life?] interest in the Muschamp estates in Cork, Dublin, Waterford and part of the County Laois estate (excluding the manor of Abbeyleix), Vesey's law suit against Lady Lanesborough, her will of 1721 (see MS 38,748/7), her bequests to George Fox, later Lane-Fox, the heir to the Lane estates of her first husband, Lord Lanesborough, etc, etc. The principal correspondent is one Richard Turner, executor to Lady Lanesborough, but the bundle also includes 4 letters from Lady Lanesborough herself, a letter from William King, Archbishop of Dublin about Lady Lanesborough's 'charitable bequest', and letters from William Burgh about the house in Skinners' Row, Dublin. Another important component is a *resumé* (in Vesey's handwriting), of the terms of Denny Muschamp's settlement on his marriage to Lady Lanesborough in 1692, and of the provisions of Muschamp's will (see MS 38,748/7 and MS 38,746/3).

**MS 38,874/1-3**

1702-3: 1706: 1710-27

Three folders of letters and papers of Vesey concerning Abbeyleix estate affairs, his negotiations and transactions with the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Donegall's agent, Thomas Vigors, and with Lord Donegall, and the (in his lifetime dormant) law suit over Abbeyleix (see MS 38,789 and MS 38,794), including copies of accounts between Thomas Vigors and Sir Alexander Cairnes, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt (a London banker of Irish background and with major Irish interests), and others, 1716-20, and a receipt for half a year's chief rent from Lucy, Countess of Londonderry to Vesey, 1724. For the background to these papers, see the appendix.

**MS 38,875/1-3**

1704-30

Three folders of letters and papers of Vesey concerning the Muschamp estates in Cork. See also MS 38,793/1-2.

**MS 38,876/1-2**

1702: 1713: n.d: 1727-9

Two folders of letters and bonds to Vesey from family members, including letters from his wife, Mary, who addresses him as 'my dearest dear mouse', his son, Sir John Denny Vesey, (later 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt and 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton), his mother, Anne (*née* Muschamp, second wife and widow of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam), his half-brother, Agmondisham Vesey of Lucan, County Dublin (see MS 38,746/9 and MS 39,251/2), Agmondisham Vesey's daughter, Anne, who subsequently, in 1730, married Sir John Bingham, 5<sup>th</sup> Bt, William Vesey (another half-brother of Sir Thomas), and Sir Thomas's 'sister', Lettice, who actually was no

closer a relation than the sister of his brother-in-law, Henry Bingham of Newbrook, County Mayo, and who was the second wife and widow of her kinsman, Sir Henry Bingham, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bt. Included in the bundle is a copy of the codicil to Lettice, Lady Bingham's, will, 1728 (Burke's *Peerage* is incorrect in stating that she died *before* 1728). The letters of Lady Vesey, dated 1713 and 1715 respectively, are primarily of interest as illustrating how illiterate great ladies were in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The letters from Agmondisham Vesey are almost entirely concerned with his dissatisfaction at the behaviour of his son-in-law (formerly Sir Thomas Vesey's son-in-law), Caesar Colclough of Tintern Abbey, Clonmines, County Wexford (see MS 38,748/10 and/12 and MS 38,880), 1728. One of Agmondisham Vesey's letters of 1727 refers also to changes in the Irish episcopal bench, and their implications for Sir Thomas Vesey.

**MS 38,877**

1707-11: 1713

Letters to Thomas Fitzgerald and his wife from John Hutchinson and Mary Nichols, the steward and housekeeper at Abbeyleix, about 'stays' and other minor household matters, 1707-11, and two papers about the settlement of a dispute over accounts between Hutchinson and Vesey, 1713. [Partly microfilmed by NLI, p.6797.]

**MS 38,878**

1712: 1725-6

Personal and patronage letters to Vesey from Sir Thomas Hanmer, 4th Bt, Francis Annesley and Richard Nutley. Also included are three letters to Vesey from John Gregory of the Office of Arms, Dublin, 1726, about Vesey's personal and episcopal arms and the combination of the two.

**MS 38,879/1-3**

1716-30

Letters to Vesey about Hollymount and his other property, inherited from his father, John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, in Counties Galway and Mayo, together with letters and papers about the winding up of the Archbishop's affairs.

**MS 38,880**

1715: 1720-27

Two folders of letters and papers of Vesey, several of the letters from his half-brother, Agmondisham, about the affairs of Caesar Colclough (see also MS 38,876), some of them from Colclough himself and from the Dublin banker, Hugh Henry.

**MS 38,881**

1722-7

Letters to Vesey from Alderman Richard Dawson of Dublin, another Dublin banker, about miscellaneous financial business. Dawson was Vesey's brother-in-law and a member of his parliamentary following, and seems to have been his banker as well.

**MS 38,882/1-3**

1724-9

Three folders of correspondence, receipts and acceptances between Vesey and his [other?] Dublin bankers, James Swift & Co. There are references in these papers to Vesey's 'company', which is presumably

the mining company which is the subject of MS 38,883.

- MS 38,883**      1710: 1725-7  
Letters, accounts and leases relating to Vesey's iron-mining enterprise at Glanballyvalley, barony of Ida, County Kilkenny. The leases are of the lands of Glanballyvalley and were granted to him by the 2nd Duke of Ormond and Richard Tisdall in 1710 and 1725 respectively. Two of the three letters to Vesey about this concern are from Agmondisham Vesey. See also MS 38,890/1-6.
- MS 38,884**      1721: 1727-9  
Letters, a draft, a receipt and 'English accounts' to Vesey from his Bristol banker, James McCartney.
- MS 38,885**      1730  
Letters and papers about the settlement made on the marriage of Vesey's daughter, Elizabeth, to William Handcock (which, among other things, conveyed the reversion of the Muschamp estate in Cork, Dublin and Waterford to Elizabeth Vesey on failure of heirs male to her brother, John Denny Vesey). See MS 38,748/15.
- MS 38,886/1-3**      1701-7: 1716-28  
Three folders of letters, bonds and other papers of Vesey, including letters from his brother-in-law, James Smyth, Archdeacon of Meath (see MS 38,748/9), about miscellaneous matters of business.

### **VI.ii.3 Papers relating to the Church of Ireland, principally to the diocese of Ossory, 1632–1730**

- MS 38,887**      1700-01: 1708  
Small bundle of letters and papers of Vesey as Rector of Drumcree, County Armagh, including a lease of the glebe lands of the parish, 1700.
- MS 38,888/1-6**      1632: 1670: 1672-1729  
Six folders of papers about the diocese of Ossory and the Church of Ireland generally, many of them deriving from Vesey's predecessors as bishops of Ossory, including: returns relating to some individual parishes in the diocese, 1672; a contract for repairing the bishop's house in Kilkenny, 1672; accounts for the erection of the bells and steeple of St Canice Cathedral, Kilkenny, 1675 and n.d; a state of the diocese of Ossory when Vesey was translated to it, 1714; a letter from Vesey's political client, James Agar of Gowran, Co. Kilkenny, which incidentally refers to the Kilkenny City by-election of 1721 (see MS 38,869); etc, etc. Also included are papers about a local charity founded under the will of Griffith Williams, Bishop of Ossory, and papers about an embarrassing dispute in which Vesey found himself, as a lay impropiator in County Laois, with his Provincial Registrar, the Rev. Dr William Andrews (see MS 38,893/1-2), over the tithes of

- Clonenagh.
- MS 38,889/1-4** 1638-9: 1661: 1668: 1676-7: n.d: 1682: c.1700-27  
 Four folders of letters, schedules and memoranda relating to the see lands of Ossory in Counties Cork, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Offaly, etc, mainly concerning the parts of the see lands where disputes over the bishop's title have arisen. Included in the bundle is a list of see leases, 1714. For title deeds to and leases of the see lands, see MS 38,745/1 and MS 38,774.
- MS 38,890/1-6** 1715-25  
 Six folders containing the contents of two original bundles of letters and accounts to Vesey from Nicholas Cormick (who appears to have been agent to Vesey as Bishop of Ossory). The letters from 1725 onwards also make reference to iron-mining at Glanballyvalley, County Kilkenny (see MS 38,883), which Cormick presumably managed for Vesey because this concern was geographically convenient to the episcopal property under Cormick's management. For the sticky end to Vesey's relationship with Cormick, see MS 38,895.
- MS 38,891** [c.1715-30]  
 Notes and drafts for sermons in Vesey's handwriting.
- MS 38,892/1-2** 1720-21: 1725: 1728-9  
 Two folders of letters to Vesey from clergy and their patrons soliciting ecclesiastical patronage within the diocese of Ossory, including a letter of 1725 from the Bishop of Meath about a whip-round for a Mrs Whitehead, and about an ordination.
- MS 38,893/1-2** 1720-21: 1728-9  
 Two folders of letters to Vesey from the Rev. Dr. William Andrews, Provincial Registrar of Ossory, who writes mainly from Kilkenny about all manner of diocesan affairs, including the dispute between the corporations of Kilkenny and St Canice (see also MS 38,869/1-2), 1720, the influence of the clergy in parliamentary elections in County Kilkenny and its component boroughs, etc.
- MS 38,894/1-3** 1721: 1723-7  
 Three folders of letters and papers of Vesey relating to miscellaneous see estate business. The main component is a largely original bundle of letters to Vesey from John Birch of Kilkenny (his attorney?), Thomas Vigors of Ballybare, County Carlow, Vigors's wife, Mrs M. Vigors, etc, etc, all about Vigors's lease of Ballyneboley, County Carlow, and of other lands held by him under the see of Ossory, the debts with which he has encumbered them, etc. Also present is a receipt in connection with an investment of £1,000 made by *a* Thomas Vigors in the Liffey navigation - but this may be the Thomas Vigors who was Lord Donegall's agent (see MS 38,874/1-3), not Thomas Vigors of Ballybare.

**MS 38,895**      1729  
Voluminous case paper in a lawsuit between Vesey and Nicholas Cormick (presumably over alleged malversation on Cormick's part), most of it consisting of a very detailed statement of accounts between them starting in 1714.

**VI.iii      Letters and papers of Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton (1709-1761), of his son, Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci (c.1735-1804), and of John Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci (1771-1855), 1730-1855**

**VI.iii.1 Letters and papers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton and the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1730-1804**

**MS 38,896**      1730-66  
Papers of Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, about John Burgess, a servant, the wages owed to him, the rent payable by him and the annuity settled on him in 1746.

**MS 38,897/1-9**      1731-61  
Nine folders of tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, and Lady Vesey [it is impossible in the period 1730-46 to distinguish his wife from his mother, as both were called 'Lady Vesey'], including some for fees of honour, arising from his elevation to the barony. One bill, of 1750, describes Sir John Denny Vesey as 'of Knapton', which suggests that he was living in that house at the time. (It seems to have been first let by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton in the early 1760s, when he moved to an interim dwelling near the stable yard and walled garden of the 1770s house - see MS 38,905 and MS 38,759/10.)

**MS 38,898**      n.d: 1732-4: 1737: 1744  
Letter, receipts, accounts and case papers concerning Hollymount and Sir John Denny Vesey's estates in Counties Galway and Mayo, including: receipts and accounts for expenditure by his uncle, George Vesey of Hollymount, on his behalf for improvements, payments to the sheriff, etc, 1732-4; receipts from Richard Dawson (see MS 38,881) to the agent for the estate, Peter Rutledge of Cornfield, near Ballinrobe, County Mayo, 1733-4; and two legal case papers relating to the estate, 1737 and 1744.

**MS 38,899**      1732: n.d: 1750-51: 1753  
Personal correspondence of Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton,

including: two letters from his step-grandmother, Anne, widow of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, one of them written from Hammersmith, 1732, congratulating him on his marriage to Elizabeth Brownlow; a letter [considerably damaged] from Sir John Denny Vesey to his sister Elizabeth, Mrs Handcock, who married as her second husband Agmondisham Vesey of Lucan, the son of her father's half-brother, n.d.; a copy of a letter from Sir John Denny Vesey to 'Dear Ned' declining to allow his daughter to marry John Cuffe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Desart (or a member of Lord Desart's family?) because of the ill-treatment Vesey had received from them, 1750; a letter addressed to Sir John Denny Vesey at Thomastown, Cashel (one of his residences prior to the building of the present Abbeyleix?), c.1750; a long and detailed letter from Gustavus Handcock of Waterstown, Athlone, County Westmeath, about the proposed marriage of his son and Lord Knapton's daughter, 1751 (see MS 38,748/18); and a charming, undated letter to him from Lady Knapton, [1751 onwards].

**MS 38,900**

1733: 1735: 1738: 1743: 1747: 1753: n.d.

Miscellaneous political letters and papers of Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, including: a letter from John Cramer of Kilkenny offering to stand as a candidate in Vesey's interest for a vacant burgesship in the corporation of St Canice, 1733; a letter about a by-election for Dungarvan, County Waterford (where it is hard to see how Vesey had any influence whatever), 1735; a draft of a Queen's County address to the King, 1743; and fragmentary papers relating to Pole Cosby's candidature for Maryborough, 1747.

**MS 38,901**

1734-5: 1739-45: 1747: 1753-5: 1773-4: 1786: 1789-1734-5: 1739-45: 1747: 1753-5: 1773-4: 1786: 1789-90

Letters and papers of Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, and his son and successor, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci, all relating to the Muschamp estates in Cork: the Kyril's Quay property in Cork City, the law suit over Grange (see MS 38,793/1-2), their title to the lands of Ardprior and Milteragh, etc, etc. A prominent correspondent is one Bel Pedder of Castle Barry, near Mallow, who appears to have been Sir John Denny Vesey's agent.

**MS 38,902/1-2**

1733-3: 1741-53

Miscellaneous business letters to Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton, about Abbeyleix estate affairs (including the law suit with Lord Donegall), rent for his Dublin City property in Skinners' Row, Cornmarket, etc. One of them is from Edward Johnson of Ballymullen, Abbeyleix, about County Laois estate affairs, 1747; most of the others are from bankers or about remittances and lodgements of money. The letter of 14 Feb. 1753 is a curious production from one Wreth. Watson, who met Lord Knapton 'at Mr. Clements'; in it he remarks on Lord Knapton's 'distress at not speaking French', claims that the writer speaks it 'tolerably well' and is also 'thought to have a little understanding in pictures', and offers his services 'to your Lordship in your tour' or as an agent for him in buying pictures on the Continent.

- MS 38,903**      1740  
 Copy of a letter from the Rev. Muschamp Vesey, Archdeacon of Leighlin (see MS 38,804), to the Earl of Arran (younger brother and successor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Ormonde and *de jure* 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ormonde) about Vesey's difficulties in collecting the tithes of Kilcolman, which are part of the emoluments of his living of Burnchurch, County Kilkenny.
- MS 38,904/1-3**      1761-88: 1804  
 Three folders of tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to Thomas Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci. For further tradesmen's accounts, see MS 38,919, MS 38,929, MS 39,058 and MSS 39,226-35.
- MS 38,905**      [1760s]: 1763: 1765-6  
 Small bundle of letters to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton about Abbeyleix estate affairs, principally the letting of Knapton and Boley. The chief correspondents are Capt. and Mrs Robert Wallis, sub-tenants of Knapton in 1766; the former discusses the furniture and effects in the house and the future of the adjoining meadows, and the latter (who presumably writes after her husband's death) enquires about sub-letting Knapton to the highest bidder and states that she sees no reason why 'Mr [George?] Pigott' (her immediate landlord?) should have the house on any terms but that. Also included in the bundle is 'An inventory and valuation of the furniture, cattle, corn, hay and brewing utensils of George Pigott Esq. at Knapton, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> 1763', presumably drawn up by him prior to the sub-letting of the house to Robert Wallis. See also MS 38,897/1-9 and MS 38,759/10.
- MS 38,906**      1765-74  
 Letters to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton from Cornet Richard Towers, one of them describing the execution of 'Levellers' at Clonmel, County Tipperary, 1766, another gossiping about Lord Dunluce's affair with a widow, 1774, etc, etc.
- MS 38,907**      1766  
 Letters to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton from one Henry Bassett about Bassett's negotiations in London to obtain permission to purchase Lord Knapton's majority. (According to *The Complete Peerage* Lord Knapton was a lieutenant in the Earl of Drogheda's regiment of horse, but there is no other reference to his reaching the rank of major).
- MS 38,908**      1767-8: 1770  
 Letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton about the concluding stages of his law suit with Lord Donegall over Abbeyleix (see MS 38,794), 1767-8, including a receipt to Lord Knapton connected with the establishment of his title to the property, 1770.
- MS 38,909**      1769

Letter from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton to Selina Brooke, written just before their marriage. (For a letter to him from her cousin about the less happy matter of the payment of her marriage portion, 1786, see MS 38,748/21.)

**MS 38,910**

1772-4

Five papers relating to the building of the new house at Abbeyleix. Two of them are fragments, but one is a detailed contract between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton and William Colles of County Kilkenny ‘for the stone-cutting of a house for the said Lord Knapton’. One condition of the contract suggests that the work was not being carried out to the detailed specification and design of an architect, since it ‘... is agreed that the said Lord Knapton shall not be permitted to alter the cornice mould from a plain Tuscan cornice to any other mould without first agreeing with said Colles for the rate thereof: if a better mould, a larger, and if a worse mould, a smaller, price. ...’ Also included are: ‘A list of sundries wanting at Abbeyleix’, either drawn up by or to be delivered to ‘Mr Goldsmith, master-builder, Rose Street, Covent Garden, London’, n.d; and a letter to Lord Knapton, Kildare Street, Dublin, from Mark Tidderman about ‘a scratch of the hall’, flooring for the house, a door-case for the hall, digging the foundations for the kitchen, etc, etc, 1774. For later designs for Abbeyleix House, see Section XXI.i (AD 3856).

**MS 38,911**

1762: 1780: 1782: 1786: 1788: n.d: 1804

Letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton/1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci about miscellaneous or unspecified matters of business, one of them from ‘F. Vesey’, n.d

**MS 38,912**

1769: 1772: 1784: 1789: 1797: n.d

Small bundle of letters and papers of Selina (*née* Brooke), Viscountess de Vesci, including a printed prospectus for the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, n.d, and a long letter from Henry Hamilton [Governor of Bermuda?] about the island, 1789.

**MS 38,913**

[1771]

Notebook in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Knapton has minuted the evidence heard before the Irish House of Lords in Arthur Annesley’s successful claim to the Irish viscounty of Valentia. [Microfilmed by N.L.I., p.6798].

**MS 38,914**

1772: n.d: 1778-9: 1781: 1783[-4]: 1788: 1790: 1795

Miscellaneous papers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci about politics and local government: printed ‘Heads of a bill [sponsored by Richard Robinson, Archbishop of Armagh] for erecting parochial chapels of ease in parishes of large extent ...’, 1772; a copy of the charter of Ballynakill borough, County Laois, n.d; ‘A list of the Protestant men of the parish of Ballynakill ...’, 1778; a Jacobite manifesto addressed to the burgomaster, etc, of Maryborough, County Laois, 1779 [N.L.I., p.6798]; depositions concerning local outrages, 1779 and 1795; ‘General return of the Queen’s County corps of Volunteer infantry reviewed at Maryborough, Aug. 20th 1781’; draft address of thanks to the Queen’s

County sheriff for *not* convening a meeting to elect delegates, [1784]; return of goods sold in Maryborough market, 1788; printed address from the Rt Hon. William Brownlow, brother of Lord de Vesci's mother, to the freeholders of County Armagh, 1790; and notes on the state of completeness of various Irish militia regiments, [pre-1798].

- MS 38,915/1-2** 1774: c.1780-1804  
Two folders of letters, rentals and accounts of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the Longford/de Vesci estate in Cork, Dublin and Limerick, inherited by Lord de Vesci and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Longford under the will of Charles Dunbar of Blessington (d.1778) (see MS 38,746/12). Included is a paper of calculations (by Lord de Vesci) of his income before and after this inheritance, which shows that his half of the Longford/de Vesci estate brought him in less than £1,500 net a year in 1789 (the Dún Laoghaire property accounting for only £1,100 in 1786), in relation to £4,672 net from his existing estates in County Laois and elsewhere. The principal correspondents are Lord Longford, Stephen Wybrants (the mainly Dublin-based agent for the whole estate) and Michael Parker (a prominent tenant on, and agent for, the Cork estate, who writes from Passage West).
- MS 38,916** 1786-95  
Letters and accounts to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Robert Blanch, agent for the Longford/de Vesci estate at Silchester, Hampshire, who writes from Mortimer [Hampshire?].
- MS 38,917** [c.1780?]  
Three letters/papers addressed to the Hon. Miss [Elizabeth?] Pakenham (an unmarried sister of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Longford?). It is not clear why they should be present among the de Vesci papers, except that two of them are addressed to Miss Pakenham at the Dublin house in Sackville Street of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci's brother-in-law, Edmond Sexten Pery, and possibly were left behind there.
- MS 38,918** c.1780-88  
Letters to Viscountess de Vesci from her eldest son, the Hon. John Vesey, later 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, including some from John Vesey to his grandmother and to his younger brother, Arthur, written mainly from the Grand Tour, 1787-8.
- MS 38,919/1-4** 1792  
Four folders containing a more-or-less original bundle of tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci and other members of his family.
- MS 38,920/1-2** Dec. 1796-Jan. 1797  
Two folders of letters to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci, his wife and other members of his family about the French descent on Bantry Bay. The correspondents include the Hon. John Vesey, later 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, Sir Robert Staples, 7<sup>th</sup> Bt, and his wife Jane, sister of the 1<sup>st</sup>

Viscount de Vesci, John FitzGibbon, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Clare, the Hon. George Knox, John Wolfe of Forenaghts, Naas, County Kildare, and Richard Neville Parker (son of the agent for the Longford/de Vesci estate in Cork), who writes from Passage West. The content of the letters is largely ephemeral (in that the threatened invasion never happened), although John Wolfe's letter is of interest because it contains an estimate of 20,000 men as the number currently enrolled in the Irish yeomanry. The bundle also includes a couple of printed Dublin Castle bulletins. [Microfilmed by N.L.I., p.6799].

### **VI.iii.2 Letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and of his agents, Stewart & Swan, later Stewart & Kincaid, 1799-1855**

**MS 38,921**

1799-1806: 1809: [1821]: 1824: 1832: n.d: [1835: 1799-1806: 1809: [1821]: 1824: 1832: n.d: [1835: c.1839]

Guard-book, bound in ½ buckram with marbled sides, containing letters and accounts of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, mostly in connection with the running of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Dublin, Limerick and especially in County Cork, 1799-1806, and including one letter of 1799 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount on that subject.

Much of the correspondence about the Cork estate concerns the role of the Parker family - Richard Neville Parker, son and successor of the former agent, Michael Parker (see MS 38,915/1-2), now deceased; Michael Parker's widow; and another of her sons, William. The Parker family applied (unsuccessfully) for a perpetuity lease of the whole of the townland of Maulbaun, which gave rise to a series of letters from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Longford to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci in which Lord Longford expresses his determination not to let a whole townland to any one individual or family, and never to grant a perpetuity. In the end the co-owners decide to replace Richard Neville Parker as agent by the Dublin firm of Stewart & Swan (whose senior partner, Henry Stewart, was married to Lord Longford's sister) - a decision which, when announced by joint letter to Parker in 1806, not surprisingly put him into a 'huff' (see also MS 38,957/1-2). The other letters and papers about the Longford/de Vesci estate consist of Parker's accounts, a letter from one Bernard Shaw, a tenant on the Cork estate, urging that a grant of fairs and markets be obtained for Monkstown, letters about the compulsory acquisition by the government of a small part of the Dún Laoghaire estate for military purposes, and letters about houses in Limerick City.

The other papers of the period 1799-1806 consist of letters and bills from the Dublin wine-merchants, Sneyd & Blackwood, to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscounts de Vesci, 1804-6, an account furnished in 1802 in connection with legal proceedings over the provision for the younger children of the late Rt Hon. William Brownlow (d.1794) (see MS 38,923), and a

draft of the deed of 1805 settling the remnant of the Muschamp estate in Cork on the Hon. Charles Vesey, younger brother of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce (for the final version of the deed see MS 38,751/3). The one item of 1809 is a proposal from Thomas Bewley for a lease of the cotton mill at Abbeyleix (see also MSS 34,433-7). The later letters and papers (1821-39) include: a letter from Viscount Ingestre (son and heir apparent of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl Talbot) to the Hon. Thomas Vesey, later 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, discussing sporting matters, the ‘egregious fool’ Lady Londonderry has made of herself in Dublin, and another item of gossip which appears to have been obliterated in black ink in a fit of modesty, 1824; letters to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount’s wife from the ex-Vicereine, the Duchess of Northumberland (wife of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke), 1832 and n.d.; a letter to Lady de Vesce from Emma, Countess of Darnley, widow of Lady de Vesce’s nephew, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Darnley, about Lord Darnley’s recent death, [1835]; and a letter to Lady de Vesce from her husband, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount, announcing his arrival in London to take his seat in the House of Lords (after being elected an Irish representative peer), his introduction to the Tory party leadership at the Carlton Club, etc, [1839?].

**MS 38,922**

1800

Two [related?] papers of the Hon. John Vesey, subsequently 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce: his marriage licence, 1800, and a list of ‘Jewels received from the Countess of Leitrim, 21 Oct. 1800’. The significance of this latter document is unclear.

**MS 38,923**

1800: n.d: 1807: 1739

Letters, accounts, etc, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce concerning the entitlement of the younger children of the Rt Hon. William Brownlow, including Frances, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount’s wife, under Brownlow’s will, together with executorship accounts involving Brownlow’s widow and Lady de Vesce’s mother, Catherine; also included is a copy of an earlier case and counsel’s opinion on the claims of Lady Elizabeth Brownlow (Lady de Vesce’s grandmother and also the mother-in-law of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton), 1739. Most of the letters in the bundle come from Robert Reeves (founder of the firm of S.S. & E. Reeves of Merrion Square), the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount’s solicitor.

**MS 38,924**

1802: 1832

Small bundle of papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce about the Abbeyleix yeomanry, including one spoof return of the men. See also MS 38,806/1-2.

**MS 38,925/1-2**

1805-27

Two folders of letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce about the Longford/de Vesce estate, mainly the Silchester property and its proposed sale to the 1st Duke of Wellington (Lord Longford’s brother-in-law), 1823-7.

**MS 38,926/1-7**

1807-26: 1833: 1835-41: 1844-6: 1849

Seven folders of correspondence between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Graves Chamney Swan of Stewart & Swan, who were the head agents for the de Vesci estate in Co. Laois and, from 1806, for the whole of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Ireland (see MS 38,921 and MS 39,239/1-7), and from c.1830 between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount and the successors to Stewart & Swan, Stewart & Kincaid of 6 Leinster Street, Dublin. The correspondence relates to the state of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount's account, the purchase of debentures for him, the running of the estates, etc, etc.

**MS 38,927**

1808

Printed '... Act for paving, cleansing, watching, lighting and regulating the streets and other public places within the town of Fermoy in the county of Cork ...', perhaps preserved among the de Vesci papers because of the proximity of Fermoy to what was left of the Muschamp estate in that vicinity.

**MS 38,928/1-5**

1809: n.d: 1836-45: 1976: 1985:

Five folders of letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about local institutions and affairs in Abbeyleix: the Abbeyleix [Pestalozzian] Institution, Loan Fund Society, Dispensary, Inn, Poor Law Union, etc, etc. Also discussed is a local riot, the activities of a local gang of shop-lifters, the complaints of the Roman Catholic parish priest, the Rev. Michael Kehoe, about the proselytising of the Church of Ireland incumbent, Mr Nugent, and letters from Father Kehoe on happier topics. Three secondary sources have also been included: two small text-books [of c.1830?], one of them entitled *Pestalozzi's Relations of Forms* and printed at The Kilfee Press, County Wicklow, and photocopies of [an M.A. thesis of 1985] and an article of 1986 by Philomena Sheeran entitled 'Pestalozzian Influence in Abbeyleix Schools'. For the continuation of these papers, see MS 39,054/1-2, and for leases to the Abbeyleix Institution, 1821, MS 38,763.

**MS 38,929/1-3**

1800: 1807: 1809-35

Three folders of tradesmen's, etc, accounts and receipts to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his wife, including a small original bundle relating to furniture bought in 1809, and an account for china dishes from Coalbrookdale, 1835.

**MS 38,930**

1810

Letters to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from one Andrew Fauld about prospecting for coal on Clonkeen, near Abbeyleix. For leases of Clonkeen, at least one of which relates to minerals, see MS 38,757/7.

**MS 38,931**

1811-22

Damp-press out-letter book of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci containing a few copies of letters written by him on the subject of Queen's County elections (one of them to the Chief Secretary, the Hon. William Wellesley Pole of Ballyfin, County Laois, 1811), County Laois estate affairs, patronage, etc.

- MS 38,932**      1814: 1830: 1835  
 Small bundle of miscellaneous patronage correspondence between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, on the one hand, and the Dublin Castle administration and the individuals seeking jobs, on the other. One of the letters is of uncertain *raison d'être* among the de Vesci papers, since it was written by Robert Peel, then Chief Secretary for Ireland, to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Rosse, 1814, and concerned a job for the son of [the M.P. for County Longford], Sir Thomas Fetherstone, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt. (The original of this document has been transferred to the Rosse archive at Birr Castle, County Offaly, so only a photocopy is present.)
- MS 38,933**      1818-20  
 Correspondence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci with Sir Henry Parnell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bt, later 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Congleton, Charles Henry Coote, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Castle Coote, etc, about Queen's County elections.
- MS 38,934**      1820-21  
 Small bundle of letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the amicable resolution of a dispute between Sir Robert Staples, 8<sup>th</sup> Bt, and the Rev. Sewell Stubber of Moyne, near Durrow, County Laois, over fox-covers at Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,935**      Paper-marked 1821  
 Memorandum 'On the non-alienation Bill'.
- MS 38,936**      1822-41  
 Papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci concerning servants and employees, including agreements, a power of attorney, lists of servants/employees, etc.
- MS 38,937/1-2**    1824-38  
 Two folders of letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci as Lieutenant of Queen's County, 1831-55 (see also MS 38,806/1-2): the composition of the magistracy, the tithe war, other local disturbances and crimes, Queen's County (and County Kilkenny) addresses to the Lord Lieutenant, etc, etc.
- MS 38,938/1-2**    1830-45  
 Two folders containing a highly artificial bundle of letters, printed prospectuses, plans, etc, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci relating to various projects and inventions: mills at Abbeyleix, the damming/diverting of the Rivers Gloreen and Gully, County Laois (see also MSS 39,041 - 2), the Portaferry steam packet (a project involving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount's cousin and brother-in-law, Patrick John Nugent of Portaferry), measures to be taken to ward off the potato blight, etc, etc. [Microfilmed by N.L.I., p.6801.]
- MS 38,939/1-6**    1832-55  
 Six folders of letters and papers (including maps, surveys and valuations), etc, relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's Kent estate of

Coombe Farm, near Rochester, bought in 1833 (partly, no doubt, because of its proximity to the Cobham Hall seat of Lady de Vesce's nephew, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Darnley), offered unsuccessfully for sale in 1844 and then mortgaged in the same year for between £6,000 and £7,000. The estate had a rental of c.£700 per annum at the time of its purchase, and was bought for £13,000-£14,000. The principal correspondents in the bundle are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount's agent for Coombe Farm, Messrs Bridges & Mason of Red Lion Square, London. For the continuation of these papers, see MS 38,997/1-2.

- MS 38,940**      1833-5  
Bundle of letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce about Maryborough Lunatic Asylum, Gaol and Infirmary. See also MS 39,028.
- MS 38,941**      1835  
Small bundle of correspondence and depositions about the allegation of undue influence brought against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce in connection with the County Carlow election.
- MS 38,942**      Jan.-June 1840  
Diary of Lady de Vesce kept by her during the last months of her life and finished, touchingly, after her death by her husband, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount; together with a letter (probably the last letter) to her from their daughter, Catherine, Mrs Patrick John Nugent, May 1840.
- MS 38,943/1-5**      1825-45  
Five folders of miscellaneous letters, accounts and other papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, including a few of the Hon. Thomas Vesey, the future 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, about Abbeyleix demesne and home farm, particularly timber and cattle accounts, and about County Laois estate affairs generally.
- MS 38,944**      1808-35  
Miscellaneous business letters and papers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, notably correspondence and accounts with his London bankers, Messrs Puget & Bainbridge.
- MS 38,945**      [c.1845]  
Table of contents to a now dismembered loose-leaf volume containing some of the letters and papers which now constitute Section V.ii.
- MS 38,946/1-5**      1841-6: 1848  
Five folders of letters to Stewart & Kincaid from the Abbeyleix agent, Edmond L. Swan, about the payment of sums of money into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce's account and that of the Abbeyleix savings bank, for which Swan also acted as agent. [See also MS 39,020/1-17 and MS 39,239/1-7.]
- MS 38,947**      1842-6

Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from Stanley Dobbs of the Abbeyleix savings bank (who may have been solely connected with the bank and not with the Abbeyleix estate at all).

- MS 38,948**      1841-6  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from William Bell of Bellview, Abbeyleix, who may have been a sub-agent (see MS 39,239/1-2), or perhaps just a trusted, upper-class tenant. See also MS 39,026/1-2-MS 39,027.
- MS 38,949**      1841-2: 1846  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid about books and a portrait for Abbeyleix House, and about the insurance of the house and contents.
- MS 38,950**      1841-4: 1846  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from one Thomas Millie, who writes from Derrycavin (Abbeyleix), Maryborough and elsewhere in the neighbourhood, and appears to have been a road surveyor superintending the Abbeyleix-Mountmellick road.
- MS 38,951**      1844  
One letter to Stewart & Kincaid from Henry Owen [Millie's boss?] about the Abbeyleix-Mountmellick road.
- MS 38,952**      1843  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from Alexander MacLean of Liverpool about a new forester for Abbeyleix.
- MS 38,953**      1843-6  
Pro forma notices to Stewart & Kincaid about the rates struck for the Abbeyleix Poor Law Union.
- MS 38,954**      1837-8: 1843: 1845  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid about surveying work carried out for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci at Kingstown/Dún Laoghaire and at some unspecified place. [N.B. this latter, unspecified work may not have been for Lord de Vesci.]
- MS 38,955**      1843-4: 1846  
Correspondence of Stewart & Kincaid about Dún Laoghaire business affairs relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci only and not to his co-owner, Lord Longford. [N.B. the Stewart & Kincaid archive relating to the joint estate has been incorporated in the Pakenham archive at Tullynally Castle, Castlepollard, County Westmeath.]
- MS 38,956/1-9**      1840-46  
Nine folders of letters to Stewart & Kincaid from Robert Baily of Cork, who appears to have been agent for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's estate at Monkstown and Passage West, County Cork, which had become a separate entity following the partition between Lords Longford and de Vesci in 1835 (see MS 38,744/6), and for other properties in the area as

well (that of Sir Thomas Pigott is specifically mentioned in one of the letters). [This sub-section is accordingly something of a hotch-potch, and does not relate exclusively to de Vesci estate and business affairs.]

- MS 38,957/1-2**     1840-46  
Two folders of letters to Stewart & Kincaid from Richard Neville Parker of South Mall, Cork, and other members of the Parker family of Passage West, who were prominent tenants and former agents on that property (see MS 38,921).
- MS 38,958**     1841: 1843-5  
Correspondence of Stewart & Kincaid about a holding in Monkstown, County Cork, let to The O'Grady of Killballyowen, County Limerick.
- MS 38,959**     1841: 1843-6  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from an individual who is alternatively endorsed 'Martin' and 'W.J.' Andrews of Passage West.
- MS 38,960/1-5**     1841-6: 1848  
Five folders of miscellaneous letters and papers of Stewart & Kincaid about the County Cork estate, with some references to the Glandore part of the property, as well as to Monkstown and Passage West.
- MS 38,961**     1841-3: 1846: 1849  
Letters to Stewart & Kincaid from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci making fleeting reference to all manner of estate and business affairs, including two printed notices, numbered 330 and 346, about the line of the 'Cork, Passage and Kinsale railway', which was going to cross the de Vesci estate, 1 Dec. 1845.
- MS 38,962/1-2**     1841-6  
Two folders of letters to Stewart & Kincaid about miscellaneous money matters relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci (remittances, interest payments, raising of loans, etc, etc); a number of the correspondents are members of the Vesey and Nugent families [with the exception of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount's sons, the Hon. Thomas and the Hon. William John Vesey, whose letters to Stewart & Kincaid will be found at MS 39,006 and MS 39,007].

## **VI.iv            Letters and papers of Thomas Vesey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci (1803-75), 1812-76**

### **VI.iv.1   Family and personal papers, 1812-65**

- MS 38,963/1-3**     1815-20: 1824  
Three folders of school exercise books of the Hon. Thomas Vesey, including one of his younger brother, William John Vesey, on 'conic

- sections', 1824.
- MS 38,964**      1823-5  
 Letters to Thomas Vesey, while at Christ Church, Oxford, from his father, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, full of paternal advice, especially in the wake of a scandal in 1823 over the prevalence of heavy drinking among members of that college.
- MS 38,965/1-2**      1823-5  
 Two folders of letters to Vesey while at Christ Church from his mother, Lady de Vesce.
- MS 38,966**      1822-4  
 1822-4  
  
 Letters to Vesey from his younger brother, William, about puppies, family news, a great affray at Corbally (between Abbeyleix and Maryborough) in 1822, the opening of a new chapel and the sermon preached on the occasion by Dr James Warren Doyle, Roman Catholic Bishop of Leighlin, 1823, etc, etc.
- MS 38,967/1-2**      1822-5  
 Two folders of letters to Vesey from his sister, Catherine, later Mrs Patrick John Nugent of Portaferry.
- MS 38,968**      1820-28: 1831  
 Letters to Vesey from his uncle, the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey of Knapton, Rector of Abbeyleix, about personal and minor business matters, with some Protestant-extremist comments; the one document of 1831 is a 'Captain Rock' notice threatening 'Mr Vesey of Knapton'.
- MS 38,969**      [1812?]: 1821  
 Two letters to Thomas Vesey from two different W. Brownlows. The first is William, eldest brother of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Lurgan, who was killed in Spain in 1813; the second W. Brownlow was probably a son of Vesey's uncle, the Rev. Francis Brownlow.
- MS 38,970**      1823: 1831  
 Letters to Vesey from two more Brownlows, James and 'J.' Brownlow. James was his uncle, and 'J.' was presumably his cousin, Rev. John Brownlow, incumbent of Sandgate, Kent, whose letters discuss Christ Church news, Vesey's health, etc, etc. To make matters worse, the handwriting of the two Brownlows is hard to distinguish.
- MS 38,971/1-3**      1817-24  
 Three folders of letters to Vesey from the Nugents of Portaferry [exclusive of his sister Catherine, who did not marry Patrick John Nugent until 1833]: his aunt Selina Vesey, Mrs Andrew Nugent (mother of Patrick John), and his cousins, Patrick John and Thomas Vesey Nugent, who write about Eton, Christ Church, family news, etc.

Most of the letters were written by the two Nugent boys when young.

**MS 38,972**

1823-5: 1831

Letters to Vesey from his mother's sister, the Countess of Darnley, and Lady Darnley's son, Lord Clifton (who succeeded as 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Darnley in 1831): advice from Lady Darnley about the drunkenness at Christ Church, and comments on sporting and political events from Lord Clifton/Darnley. A letter of Sept. 1831 from Lord Darnley discusses parliamentary reform and inveighs against the U.K. peerage being given to '... that rebelly, rascally blanket merchant ... [the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Cloncurry], all because he and Milady [Cloncurry] kissed the Marchioness [of Anglesey]'s behind'.

**MS 38,973**

1818-25

Letters to Vesey from one William Blachford, who writes from Altadore [post-marked Newtownmountkennedy, County Wicklow], Hamwood (County Meath), Walton-on-Trent [Staffordshire?], Blois, Orleans, etc, about shooting, Christ Church news, the permission given by the Master in Chancery [Blachford presumably being a ward in Chancery] for Blachford to go abroad, etc.

**MS 38,974**

1818-22

Letters to Vesey from Thomas Pery Knox (son of the Rt Hon. George Knox and Vesey's great-aunt, Anne, *née* Staples), mainly about Knox's foreign travels to Paris, Montpellier, Florence and Venice, 1820-22.

**MS 38,975**

1819-24

Letters to Vesey from William Eyre Trench or possibly, in view of the inconsistency of the handwriting, from more than one William Trench. The most likely candidate is a William Trench who was an unmarried grandson of the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Clancarty and a lieutenant in the 26<sup>th</sup> regiment, as some of the letters are written from Windsor Barracks. Others are written from Kellistown, and are post-marked either Tallow or Carlow. The letters are full of Christ Church, sporting, family and social chit-chat.

**MS 38,976**

1820-22

Letters to Vesey from Francis Balfour, who writes from Townley Hall, Drogheda, and from Rutland Square, Dublin: personal news and jokes about Lady Conyngham, Lord Bective, Lord Mount Sandford, etc. In Feb. 1821 he writes: '... I suppose you've exhausted the subject of Lord Bective and Mrs Dalton. They've not a penny, and he's a very great fool. Lady Conyngham has turned off Lord Headfort [Bective's father] from his situation, as she thinks none but *decent* people should be about his Majesty. ...'. In Feb. 1822 he writes: '... I hear from a great many that ... [Lord Mount Sandford] is as great an idiot as ever, and moreover becoming a great Methodist and in the *odour of sanctity* with all the saints. ...'

- MS 38,977**                    1820-23  
 Letters to Vesey from Henry Sandford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Mount Sandford, who writes from Strokestown, County Roscommon and Castlereagh [the Mount Sandford seat, near Strokestown and also in Roscommon] with news of Christ Church, shooting and ‘Miss Parnell’.
- MS 38,978**                    1821: n.d  
 Letters to Vesey from John M. Scott, who writes from Upper Gardiner Street and Merrion Square, Dublin, with one from J. S. Scott, who also writes from Merrion Square: preparations for exams, and minor social chit-chat.
- MS 38,979**                    1821-3  
 Letters to Vesey from the Hon. and Rev. William Wingfield, his cousin (a future rector of Abbeyleix), who writes from Brasenose and Abbeyleix about Oxford news and his search for a curacy. For Wingfield, see also MS 38,751/16, MS 38,761/1-2 and MS 39,059.
- MS 38,980**                    1822-9  
 Letters to Vesey from his cousin, Francis Forde (Captain in the Royal Scots Greys): Oxford, sport, a grand fete at Mount Stewart, County Down, seat of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquess of Londonderry, 1824, at which ‘... Lady Londonderry changed her dress no less than four times during the night, and was splendid in the extreme ...’, Forde’s recovery from some accident, etc, etc.
- MS 38,981**                    1822: 1828  
 Two letters to Vesey from Thomas Parnell (younger brother of Sir Henry Parnell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bt) offering avuncular advice, and one from Parnell to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce advising him to send Vesey to Cambridge, not Oxford.
- MS 38,982/1-2**                1823-33  
 Two folders of letters to Vesey from Robert Bermingham Clements, Lord Clements, eldest son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Leitrim, whom he predeceased in 1839. The letters are of a very racy and entertaining character: sport and sporting accidents, Clements’s County Leitrim election campaign in 1826 (he was M.P. for Leitrim, 1826-30 and 1833-9), his whoring and the ‘gossiping sons of bitches’ of the Kildare Street Club, 1826, an M.P. called Baring Wall’s homosexual advances to a policeman in Harley Street, London, 1827, etc, etc.

The sub-section includes:

14 Apr. 1826

Lord Clements, Killadoon, to Vesey, Genoa.

‘... I am very dull and stupid, and not without reason. ... I have had between 400 and 500 canvassing letters to write to the respectable and independent gentlemen of the county of Leitrim, which is a very damnable bore. I went down to the county for three weeks before the

assizes and canvassed the beasts in person, which was rather fun to be sure. But Morgan's [his servant?] powers of description upon that head quite eclipse mine, and I understand, via the ladies-maids of the different houses that I have been to since, that his account of the doings, the bonfires and the rows, to the regions below stairs quite cut mine out; so that I am ashamed to enter into a particular detail, and will only inform you that I have become quite a popular hero in those unknown regions, and cannot move along the King's highway without exciting some charming and novel sort of demonstration of enthusiasm; but that, whereas I have always been noted for modesty, I am far from taking these signs of affection as intended for *me* personally. The worthies in that part of the world like a contest above all things, and however good the sitting members may be, if they join to exclude any more candidates from starting, these independent friends of competition invariably abandon them; so that I have all the mob for me, which insures me against being murdered at all events. As for [Lord] Brabazon, this junction of the County Leitrim members, one of whom is brother to his opponent, *White*, is all in his favour for the County Dublin, as the Catholics are angry at a White joining with an Orangeman and Beresford. But, on the other hand, a Mr Hamilton has sprung up against him, who is to turn out both White and Brabazon....'

20 July 1826

Lord Clements, Kildare Street Club, to Vesey, Abbeyleix.

'...I had a most delightful meeting with one Ellen.... She was formerly in Lord Conyngham's service and consequently knew my father very well in the days of her youth. This creates a sort of family feeling for *me*, which is truly charming....'

7 Sep. 182[?6]

Lord Clements, Dublin, to Vesey, Abbeyleix.

'... I wrote to you yesterday to say how happy I should be to embrace you once more, and today I find myself a victim to a certain unpleasant disease which, as it will prevent my drinking wine or walking or riding or making myself in any way bearable, forced me to ... contradict my former note...'

13 Sep. 1826

Lord Clements, Kildare Street, to Vesey, Abbeyleix. '... I have been for the last three days in a state of constant alarm, lying in bed and hourly expecting a swelled testicle. But the beast has thought better of it, and the doctor thinks me out of danger of that now, and says I may get up. ... Pray tell anybody whom it is necessary to inform *that I am confined*, that I have got a *strained back*, and do not tell *anybody* my real misfortune. More of this when I see you. Mind not to tell *anybody*, as it is of some consequence. ...'

- MS 38,983**            1828  
Letters to Vesey from Lord Henry Bentinck, fourth son of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Portland, who writes from Welbeck Abbey, Nottinghamshire, the Portland seat, about hunting.
- MS 38,984**            1833  
Letters to Vesey from Sir Joseph Copley, 2nd Bt, who writes from Sprotborough, Yorkshire (the Copley seat), and elsewhere: sporting arrangements and news, and regrets that Vesey did not stand for Queen's County when he seemed so sure of success.
- MS 38,985**            1841-2: 1855: n.d  
Letters to Vesey and his wife, Lady Emma, from her mother, Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, about Lady Emma's scarlet fever, designs of interior fittings and furnishings for Abbeyleix (see also Section XXI.ii), 'Montgomery's death' from the fall of an arch in Grafton Church, etc, etc. (This was the Rev. Mr Montgomery, Vicar of Grafton, Wiltshire, the parish in which Lord and Lady Pembroke's seat, Wilton, was situated. Following his death, his widow, Celia, spent much time with Lady Emma Vesey at Abbeyleix.)
- MS 38,986**            1846-7: n.d  
Two letters from Vesey to Mary [*née* Herbert, his sister-in-law], Countess Bruce [later Marchioness of Ailesbury], 1846-7, and two later letters from Vesey to his wife, Emma, n.d
- MS 38,987**            1865  
Original bundle of letters to Vesey, now 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, about the coming-of-age of his son, 'Yvo' [John Robert William Vesey, later 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, known as 'Yvo' in the family].
- MS 38,988/1-2**        1814: 1817: 1822-9: 1862  
Two folders of miscellaneous personal letters to Vesey, one of them containing a report that Lord Castlereagh, later 4<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Londonderry, has been expelled from Christ Church, 1823.
- MS 38,989**            1799: 1854: 1966: 1972  
Highly artificial bundle of letters and papers concerning Vesey's Russian connections, Count Simon and Prince Michael Woronzow (grandfather and uncle respectively of Vesey's wife, Lady Emma Herbert, Catherine, Countess of Pembroke having been *née* Woronzow): a letter from Count Simon Woronzow, Harley Street, London, to his bankers, 1799; a translation of a letter from Tsar Nicholas I to Prince Michael Woronzow accepting with reluctance his resignation as Commander-in-Chief of the Caucasian Army, etc, 1854; a copy of a list of jewellery and other effects left by Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, to Emma, Viscountess de Vesci, with an accompanying letter from the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Pembroke to the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1966; and an issue of *Country Life*, 2 Mar. 1972,

containing an article on the Woronzow palace of Aloupka, in the Crimea, on which the terraces on the garden front of Abbeyleix House were supposedly based (see Section XXI.iv].

## **VI.iv.2 Miscellaneous business correspondence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1817-75**

- MS 38,990**      1817-27: 1833: 1839: 1849: 1867  
Miscellaneous letters to Thomas Vesey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, on minor matters of business, mainly Christ Church bills, one of them a dunning letter from the optimistic executors of the college butler written as late as 1849.
- MS 38,991**      1837  
Letters and papers of Vesey concerning his lobbying on behalf of the Dublin Society to obtain for it a royal charter. Included in the bundle are printed minutes of the Society, a memorial from it, and letters to Vesey from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Thomas Spring Rice, later 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Monteagle, about the terms of the charter and the stipulation that the R.D.S. should not be empowered to alienate property without prior approval from the Treasury.
- MS 38,992**      1842-53  
Letters to Vesey about the payment of interest/portions to his cousins, the children of the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Vesey. See also MS 38,751/15.
- MS 38,993/1-10**      1848-75  
Ten folders of letters to Vesey, who succeeded as 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci in 1855, from his Dublin solicitors, S. S. & E. Reeves of Merrion Square, about all manner of business, though principally that of the Longford/de Vesci estate (see Section VI.iii), as follows:
- MS 38,993/1**      1848-55  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci
- MS 38,993/2**      1856-7  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci
- MS 38,993/3**      1859  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/4**      1860-64  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/5**      1865-6  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/6**      1867-8  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.

- MS 38,993/7**      1870-71  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/8**      1872  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/9**      1873  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,993/10**    1874-5  
Letters from Messrs Reeves to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 38,994**        1849-55: 1858-64  
Letters and accounts to Vesey in connection with the de Vesci townhouses at 25/26 Merrion Square, Dublin [the variation in the street number derives from a re-numbering of the houses in the square], 1849-55, and at 4 Carlton House Terrace, London, 1858-64.
- MS 38,995**        1855-6  
Letters to Vesey concerning the last wishes of his father, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci (particularly about the provision to be made for Vesey's younger brother, William John Vesey), the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount's death and will (see MS 38,746/15), the succession duty payable on his estate (MS 38,747), the establishment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount's claim to vote in Irish representative peerage elections and therefore of his succession to the viscounty, etc, etc.
- MS 38,996**        1855-67  
Statements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's debts and out-goings.
- MS 38,997/1-2**    1855-75  
Two folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the Coombe Farm estate, Kent, in continuation of MS 38,939/1-6.
- MS 38,998/1-3**    1856-70  
Three folders of letters, receipts and printed matter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about Church of Ireland charities: the Clerical Relief Fund, the Clergy's Sons's Education Society, a proselytising bible society, etc, etc.
- MS 38,999**        1845: 1856-72  
Printed matter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about all manner of charities [excluding the foregoing, and also excluding charities which can be described as 'local' to the Longford/de Vesci estate in Cork and Dublin - see MS 39,009, MSS 39,012-13].
- MS 39,000**        1864  
Letter to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about lobbying the government into forming a committee to improve the breed of Irish horses.

- MS 39,001**      1865  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the production by him of a title deed which is crucial to a transaction involving Newtown Manor (Dromahair), the County Leitrim property of Colonel T. Whyte.
- MS 39,002**      1865-6  
Original bundle of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci as trustee of the marriage settlement of the Hon. Henry Lowry Corry, younger brother of the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl Belmore.
- MS 39,003**      1865-72  
Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci [as executor to?] Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, his mother-in-law.
- MS 39,004**      1867-9  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Longford (see also MS 39,014/1-5), the 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Meath and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Portarlington about the Irish land question.
- MS 39,005/1-3**      1868-71  
Three folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, a member of the Ecclesiastical Commission and subsequently of the Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland, about Disestablishment at national, diocesan and parochial level. The principal correspondent is the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Courtown, who like Lord de Vesci was a leading layman in the united diocese of Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin, but there are also letters from the Bishop of Ossory, the Archbishop of Armagh and many other clerics and laymen. Included in the bundle are a few letters from the Lord Lieutenant, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl Spencer, who writes about the vacant living of Ballyroan, near Abbeyleix, which was in the gift of the Crown, but which Spencer was asked to keep open until after Disestablishment so that it could be filled by the post-Disestablishment authorities of the Church of Ireland.

### **VI.iv.3 Correspondence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the Longford/De Vesci estate, 1840-75**

- MS 39,006/1-7**      1840-48  
Seven folders of correspondence between the Hon. Thomas Vesey and Messrs Stewart & Kincaid of 6 Leinster Street, Dublin, agents for the Longford/de Vesci estate, about all manner of estate business, including a printed notice about preventative measures against potato blight, 25 Nov. 1845 [this last item microfilmed by N.L.I., p.6801].
- MS 39,007**      1841-5  
Letters from Thomas Vesey's younger brother, the Hon. William John Vesey, to Stewart & Kincaid.

- MS 39,008/1-32** 1849-75  
Thirty-two folders of letters to Thomas Vesey, later 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid, as follows:
- MS 39,008/1-3** 1849-51  
Letters to Thomas Vesey from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/4-6** 1852-4  
Letters to Thomas Vesey from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/7-8** 1855-7  
Letters to Thomas Vesey, who succeeded in 1855 as 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/9-11** 1858-9  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/12-14** 1860-61  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/15-17** 1862-3  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/18-20** 1864-5  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/21-23** 1866-7  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/24-25** 1868-70  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/26-28** 1871-2  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/29-31** 1873-4  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,008/32** 1875  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,009/1-2** 1855-74  
Two folders of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from and about the Rev. George Hazlewood, Vicar of Monkstown, County Cork, dealing with all manner of charities and parochial affairs.
- MS 39,010/1-3** 1857-75  
Three folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about charities, institutions, organisations, churches, hotels, sporting and social events (eg. regattas), all connected with the Longford/de Vesci

estate in Cork.

- MS 39,011/1-4**      1857-75  
Four folders of printed matter in the same connection.
- MS 39,012/1-5**      1857-74  
Five folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about improvements, charities, organisations, etc, etc, connected with the Dún Laoghaire estate.
- MS 39,013/1-5**      1857-74  
Five folders of printed matter in the same connection.
- MS 39,014/1-5**      1862-74  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Longford about their joint estate interests. As most of the Cork estate had been divided in 1835, almost all these letters relate to Dún Laoghaire, and they are also sprinkled with references (many of them apt and amusing) to political and social events of the day.
- MS 39,015**            1872-5  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Carbery B. Egan, who writes from Monkstown, County Cork, and clearly acted as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount's agent there.

*For correspondence relating principally, but not exclusively, to the Longford/de Vesci estate, see MS 38,993/1-10.*

#### **VI.iv.4 Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about County Laois estate and other affairs, 1827-76**

- MS 39,016**            1827-8  
Letters to the Hon. Thomas Vesey from William Lewis of Talbot Street, Dublin, Vesey's sub-sheriff, about Queen's County shrievalty business in the year when Vesey held that office.
- MS 39,017**            1831-5: 1845: 1852  
Letters and papers of Vesey about the Abbeyleix yeomanry (see also MS 38,807/1-3), the Queen's County grand jury, the Custodia Rotulorum for Queen's County (see also MS 38,806/1-2) and Queen's County local government and administration of justice generally.
- MS 39,018**            1832-5: n.d.: 1876  
Letters and papers of Vesey, including one letter to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, about Queen's County elections, most of the letters being from Sir Henry Parnell and Sir Charles Henry Coote, 9<sup>th</sup> Bt; also included in the bundle is a printed supplement to the Queen's County electoral register, 1834, and a photostat of an obituary of Vesey, by then 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, in *The Leinster Express* for 1 Jan. 1876, which goes into considerable detail about his role as Conservative M.P. for

Queen's County, 1835-7 and 1841-52. See also MS 39,044.

- MS 39,019**      1841: 1846  
Two letters to Vesey from the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl Stanhope (whose ancestors had succeeded to the Ballinakill estate, adjoining that of the de Vesci family at Abbeyleix, of the Earls of Londonderry - see MS 38,789 and MS 38,851), about estate business, 1841, and with a proposal that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci might like to purchase the Ballinakill estate, 1846.
- MS 39,020/1-17**      1847-69  
Seventeen folders of letters to Vesey from the Abbeyleix agent, Edmond L. Swan (see also MS 38,946/1-5 and MS 39,239/1-7), about all manner of County Laois estate business, as follows:
- MS 39,020/1**      1847-9  
Letters to Vesey from the Abbeyleix agent, Edmond L. Swan
- MS 39,020/2-3**      1850-55  
Letters to Vesey, who succeeded as 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci in 1855, from Swan
- MS 39,020/2-3**      1856  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/4-5**      1857  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/6-7**      1858-9  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/8-9**      1860-61  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/10-12**      1862-4  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/13-15**      1865-7  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,020/16-17**      1868-9  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan
- MS 39,021**      1869-70  
Amalgamation of two original bundles of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about Swan's death, measures to get in the rents in spite of this event, the re-letting of his house and of the farm which he held from the de Vesci estate, and other arrangements, including those to be made for his widow, consequent on his death.

- MS 39,022/1-2**      1870-71  
Two folders of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Swan's successor, Colonel Frederick Bull.
- MS 39,022/3-6**      1872-3  
Four folders of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Colonel Frederick Bull.
- MS 39,022/7-9**      1874-5  
Three folders of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Colonel Frederick Bull.
- MS 39,023**            1849-71  
More-or-less original bundle of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the claim of the Misses Case for compensation in respect of timber planted by their late father, Fenton William Case, on Islandgrove, Tonduff.
- MS 39,024/1-2**      1850: 1874-5  
Two original bundles of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, some of the letters from Messrs Reeves, about the letting of Knapton House. See also MS 38,759/10.
- MS 39,025**            1852-72  
Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about Beechfield flax mill and mill-race. See MS 38,760.
- MS 39,026/1-2**      1853: 1855-6  
Two folders of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from William Bell of Bellview, Abbeyleix, including some from an architect called John Louch, about structural alterations to Abbeyleix House, 1853 and 1855, and other events which took place during a period when the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount was away from home. For earlier letters from Bell, see MS 38,948, and for alterations to the house see Section XXI.i-ii.
- MS 39,027**            1856: 1860: 1867  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Bell's son, Arthur, about his (unfulfilled) plans to emigrate to New Zealand, and about repairs to Bellview carried out with the help of a loan from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount.
- MS 39,028**            1854-75  
Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about Queen's County (and County Kilkenny) local societies and institutions, including the Queen's County Asylum and Gaol (for previous papers about which, see MS 38,940) and the Kilkenny Hunt.
- MS 39,029**            1855-6  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from George Barker, stableman at Abbeyleix.

- MS 39,030**      1855-9  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Lady de Vesci from Isaac Wager, a former gamekeeper, who writes telling hard-luck stories and asking for money.
- MS 39,031**      1856-72  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Jonathan Miller, tenant of Tonduff, about the new house being built there (including plans and specifications), drainage, etc.
- MS 39,032**      1857-62  
Begging letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from John Collins (apparently a tenant in Abbeyleix town).
- MS 39,033**      1857-74  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the vacant position of gamekeeper at Abbeyleix, and about gamekeeping with particular reference to the trapping of rabbits.
- MS 39,034**      1858  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Frederick J. Nicholl of Carey Street, London, about raising a loan of £12,000 or £14,000 from Lady de Vesci's trustees for the purpose of buying property 'intersecting' the Abbeyleix estate.
- MS 39,035**      1858  
Correspondence about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's possible purchase of Joshua Evans's part of Clonad (near Abbeyleix).
- MS 39,036**      1859  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the repair of Tonduff bridge.
- MS 39,037**      1859-65  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Mary Sutcliffe (apparently the widow of a former employee, William Sutcliffe, and the recipient of a pension from the de Vesci estate).
- MS 39,038/1-3**      1859-62: 1865: 1869: 1873: 1875: 1877  
Three folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Lady de Vesci about the new Abbeyleix Church, which she built in 1865 in memory of her mother, Lady Pembroke, and about alterations/repairs to Abbeyleix House: the 'new library', 'old library', 'terrace', 'offices', 'cornice', etc, etc. There is a long run of letters from the architect of the new church and of the alterations to the house, T.H. Wyatt, and a few from the builder, George Pratt. See also Section XXI.i-ii.
- MS 39,039**      Dec. 1862  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about a Queen's County meeting to raise subscriptions for the alleviation of distress among the

- ‘Lancashire operatives’ (presumably as a result of the ill-effects on the cotton industry of the American Civil War).
- MS 39,040**      1862-8  
Correspondence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about assistance to tenants emigrating to North America and Australia or about the progress of former tenants who had emigrated.
- MS 39,041/1-10**      1864-74 (mainly 1870-74)  
Ten folders containing a mainly original bundle which relates predominantly to the draining of the River Gully and the operations of the Gully drainage board. See also MS 34,484.
- MS 39,042**      1871-4  
Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about drainage schemes and work other than the Gully.
- MS 39,043/1-3**      1860-73  
Three folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci concerning the Kilkenny Junction Railway, a proposed colliery railway from Shillelagh, County Wicklow, to Abbeyleix, and other railway projects affecting his County Laois estate. See also MS 39,069.
- MS 39,044**      1864-5  
Letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about electoral registration and elections in Queen’s County and County Carlow. See also MS 39,018.
- MS 39,045**      1866  
Original bundle of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about a Queen’s County declaration against the Fenian movement. The correspondents include Lord Naas (Chief Secretary for Ireland, as well as the son and heir of the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mayo, who owned land and lived at nearby Palmerstown, Naas, County Kildare), Lord Strathnairn (Commander of the Forces in Ireland), Lord Portarlington, J.G. Adair, R. Cosby (of nearby Stradbally Hall), etc, etc.
- MS 39,046**      1868: 1875  
Original bundle of applications and recommendations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesey for the vacant job of steward at Abbeyleix, 1868; together with a letter to him from the successful candidate, John Lindsay, 1875.
- MS 39,047/1-2**      1868-9  
Two folders containing an original bundle of letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the recruitment of a shepherd.
- MS 39,048/1-2**      1869-74  
Two folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about

- the joint purchase, by Robert Staples of Dunmore and himself, of the Watercastle estate, situated between Abbeyleix and Dunmore, of R.U. Penrose Fitzgerald, and its subsequent partition between them.
- MS 39,049**      1872  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Allan Leigh (apparently an accountant or clerk in the Abbeyleix estate office) about his departure from Abbeyleix to take up a better position elsewhere.
- MS 39,050**      1873  
Correspondence between the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Mrs Isabella Guthrie (the widow of an employee), who seeks a pension.
- MS 39,051**      1873  
Original bundle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's 'Correspondence relative to establishing a paper vice [the] *Leinster Express*'.
- MS 39,052**      1873: 1875  
Letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Andrew Cairnduff, an estate employee at Abbeyleix.
- MS 39,053/1-5**      1858-74  
Five folders containing a largely original bundle of letters and petitions to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from County Laois tenants.
- MS 39,054/1-2**      1859-75  
Two folders of letters and papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the town of Abbeyleix: Lady Emma Vesey's [his wife] baby linen society (see also MS 34,483); the Abbeyleix workhouse, church clock, post office, malt-house, savings bank, loan fund, Baptist meeting house, band, dispensary, etc; the bankruptcy of Mrs Susan Pratt, owner of the local hotel; the celebration of the first visit after her marriage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount's daughter, Frances, wife of the 4<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Bath, whom she married in 1861; the new public lighting installed in the town, and an application for a new patent for fairs and markets, both early 1860s; Fenian and other conspiracies in the town and neighbourhood; etc, etc.
- MS 39,055**      1858-74  
Miscellaneous begging and hard-luck letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci from inhabitants of Abbeyleix, ex-tenants, employees, etc.
- MS 39,056**      1859: 1869-72  
Miscellaneous patronage correspondence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, mainly about minor local offices.
- MS 39,057**      1843: 1848: 1859-75:  
Miscellaneous County Laois estate and business correspondence of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci.

**MS 39,058**            1856-64  
Small bundle of Dublin and Abbeyleix tradesmen's accounts.

**MS 39,059**            1858: 1870: 1881  
Original bundle [straddling the divide between the papers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Viscounts de Vesci] about the Hon. and Rev. William Wingfield's exchange of glebe land (see MS 38,761/1-2).

**VI.v            Letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Viscounts de Vesci, and of Capt. the Hon. Eustace Vesey and Colonel the Hon. Thomas Eustace Vesey, 1817, 1852, 1870-1986**

**VI.v.1    Letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1872-1903**

**MS 39,060**            1872  
Slim commonplace book kept by Lady Evelyn Charteris, wife of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, up to and including the time of her marriage in June 1872.

**MS 39,061**            1876  
Letters and addresses of congratulation to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Lady de Vesci from his tenantry on his succeeding to the title.

**MS 39,062**            1876  
Letters to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci from Messrs Reeves, Stewart & Kincaid and Thomas Vesey Nugent about family finances at the time of his succession.

**MS 39,063**            1878: 1885: 1889: n.d  
Miscellaneous business letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, including his comments following an inspection of the Longford/de Vesci estate in Limerick city, 1889.

**MS 39,064**            [c.1880-1900]  
Newspaper cuttings and proofs of *Hansard* recording the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci's participation in House of Lords debates on the Irish Land Acts.

**MS 39,065**            [1882]  
Typescript copy of a journal of the British army's campaign Egypt, kept by the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, who served in this campaign as a major in the Coldstream Guards.

**MS 39,066**            1882  
Almost empty visitors' book, in which the names and London addresses

of callers on Lady de Vesci, at her town house, 4 Carlton House Terrace, have been entered.

- MS 39,067**      1884  
Original bundle of correspondence of the de Vesci agent, Capt. H. C. Fitzherbert, about the Rev. William Lyster's lease of the Abbeyleix [cotton?] mill (see MS 38,760?), with abstracts of leases and sub-leases of the mill and mill-race back to 1774.
- MS 39,068**      1891-7  
Original bundle of letters and papers (back to 1838) about Land Court cases affecting the Abbeyleix estate, including a letter to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci from the Irish Landowners Convention.
- MS 39,069**      1894-6: 1900  
Letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the Kilkenny Junction Railway Company's proposed merger with the Waterford and Central Ireland Railway Company, and the extension of their lines to Mullingar, County Westmeath, including evidence of Lord de Vesci to the House of Lords regarding the extension of the railway, 1900.
- MS 39,070**      [c.1890]: 1899  
Return of Queen's County magistrates by the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, as Lieutenant of the county, [c.1890]; and printed matter about army manoeuvres at Abbeyleix, 1899.
- MS 39,071**      1893  
Letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the Blackrock and Kingstown Drainage and Improvement Bill and its bearing on the Longford/de Vesci estate.
- MS 39,072/1-4**      1899-1900  
Four folders of letters and papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci about Preston School, Abbeyleix ('The Abbeyleix School'), and particularly about the departure of the headmaster, A. E. M. Carleton, as a result of alleged irregularities in leaking to the pupils information about the content of the annual Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge examinations, and about the recruitment of a successor. [N.B. This school was a S.P.C.K. foundation, and is distinct from the Pestalozzian Abbeyleix Institution - see MS 38,928/1-4.]
- MS 39,073**      1903  
Small quarto volume containing newspaper cuttings about the death and will of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci. The cuttings give considerable information about his record as a landlord, soldier and politician, and in particular mention that he made a celebrated and successful stand against the Plan of Campaign, that Gladstone (who stayed once at Abbeyleix) wrote public letters to him as a means of testing opinion on Irish land legislation and on Home Rule, etc, etc. Mention is also made of the fact that he left his interest in the Ravensdale, Carlingford and

Newry property, in Counties Louth and Armagh (see MS 38,746/20), to his widow for her life, and thereafter to his daughter and only child, Mary (who in 1910 married the Hon. Aubrey Herbert of Pixton, Dulverton, Somerset).

For a few other papers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, see MS 39,059.

## **VI.v.2 Letters and papers of Capt. the Hon. Eustace Vesey, 1817-85**

- MS 39,074**      1817: 1852: 1870: 1877: 1883  
Five very miscellaneous papers of Eustace Vesey, younger brother of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, and father of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount: small quarto journal in which Caroline Lawley Thompson, the newly married wife of Paul Beilby Lawley Thompson, later 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Wenlock, grandfather of Vesey's future wife, the Hon, Constance Mary Lawley, has recorded their experiences on their honeymoon tour through Calais, Paris, Geneva, Lausanne, Zurich, Cologne, Quatre Bras, etc, 1817; printed obituary tribute to the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Wenlock, 1852; diary of a holiday in the South of France and Belgium spent by a member of the Lawley family in company with (the two sisters), Constance and Alethea Lawley, May-July 1870; newspaper cutting about Vesey's marriage to Constance Lawley, [1877]; and address of farewell to Vesey from the permanent sergeants of the Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry Cavalry on his resignation from the regiment, 1883.
- MS 39,075**      1884-5  
Box containing volumes of exercise books in which Vesey has made notes on the lectures he was given at staff college.

## **VI.v.3 Personal and political letters and papers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1897-1932**

- MS 39,076**      1897-9  
Letters to Ivo Richard Vesey, later 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, from the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount, his uncle, about Vesey's getting into the army.
- MS 34,867**      1903-6  
Personal cashbook of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 34,868/1-2**   1903-8  
Personal ledger of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci (2 volumes).
- MS 34,869**      1903-10  
Personal receipt book of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 39,077**      1906: 1916: 1918: 1921: 1924

Newspaper cuttings and other papers about the two marriages of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount, the first to Georgiana Victoria Wellesley, 1906, and the second to Frances Lois, Countess Dowager of Rosse, 1921, together with letters and papers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount and the second Lady de Vesci about public affairs (the 1916 Rising, the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount's secretaryship to the Southern Irish Group in the House of Lords, 1924, etc, etc).

- MS 34,870**      1908-12  
Personal ledger of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 39,080/1-2**   1911  
Two folders containing a combination of two original bundles of letters to the agent for the Co. Laois estate, Capt. H.C. Fitzherbert, Millbrook House, Abbeyleix, about the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci's endeavours to raise a loan of £20,000 (described as being 'for Canada', although presumably it was not his intention to blow it all during the trip to Canada on which he was about to set out). The Guardian Assurance Company, with whom Abbeyleix House was insured to the tune of £30,000 (see Section XIX.x), were not prepared to advance the money, and the letters are instructive about the contemporary view of Irish security. See also MS 39,081.
- MS 39,265/1**      1911  
Miscellaneous correspondence between the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his solicitors S.S. & E. Reeves & Sons.
- MS, 39,265/3**      1911  
Miscellaneous correspondence of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, including references to investments, his Rolls-Royce, etc.
- MS, 39,265/2**      1911-3  
Miscellaneous business correspondence of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS, 39,265/4**      Apr. 1911-Aug. 1912  
Correspondence about a legal case brought by the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci against a Captain North.
- MS 34,871**      1912-16  
Personal ledger of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 34,872**      Apr. 1912-July 1916  
Typescript letterbook of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci recording personal and domestic information, with many references to the First World War.
- MS 34,873**      Apr. 1916-Sept. 1919  
The same.
- MS 34,874**      1916-21  
Personal ledger of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 34,875**      Mar. 1921-Mar. 1922

Personal ledger of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.

**MS 34,876**

1925-32

Personal cashbook of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century

Collection of autograph fragments cut from the end of letters. [Retained by Lord de Vesci.]

#### **VI.v.4 Estate correspondence of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, 1908-22, 1943-8**

**MS 39,078**

1908

Almost empty damp-press letterbook containing copies of two letters from the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount, one to Capt. H.C. Fitzherbert, Millbrook House, Abbeyleix, and one (about the Longford/de Vesci estate) to Stewart & Kincaid.

**MS 39,079/1-4**

1908-9

Four folders containing a largely original bundle of letters and accounts to Capt. H.C. Fitzherbert of Millbrook, including some from the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci written from his London house, 1 Hyde Park Street, about Abbeyleix House, garden and demesne, and all manner of business concerning the remaining County Laois estate, principally in and around the town of Abbeyleix.

**MS 39,081**

1911-13: 1916

Folio volume containing carbon typescript copies of out-letters from the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci on all manner of estate and business matters (including the Kildare Carpet Factory ([into which the Abbeyleix Carpet Factory - see Section XIX.xi - had been subsumed])).

**MS 39,082**

1911-13: 1916

File of in-letters to the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount relating exclusively to the Kildare Carpet Factory; and one letter to him from John Redmond about legislation in relation to forestry in Ireland, 1916.

**MS 39,083/1-5**

1911-15

Five folders containing original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert from C. O'Connell Fitzsimon, solicitor, of Abbeyleix, who was employed on the local legal business of the estate.

**MS 39,084**

1914-17

Original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert.

**MS 39,085**

Sep.-Dec. 1919

Original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert, some of them from the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.

- MS 39,086/1-3** 1920  
 Three folders containing an original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert, some of them from the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, who writes from Hestercombe, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton, Somerset, the house where his remarried mother lived with her second husband, the Hon. Edward William Berkeley Portman, eldest son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount Portman. [For photographs of Hestercombe, see the first part of Section XX.]
- MS 39,087/1-6** 1920-22  
 Six folders containing an original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert.
- MS 39,088/1-4** 1943-8  
 Four folders containing an original bundle of letters to Fitzherbert, docketed 'Demesne and personal' (personal apparently meaning personal to Fitzherbert, as at least one of the letters is addressed to 'Dear Uncle Cecil').

## **VI.v.5 Letters and papers of Colonel the Hon. Thomas Eustace Vesey and his wife, Lady Cicely, 1895-1955**

*Most of the documents in VII.v have been retained by Lord de Vesci.*

- MS 39,090** 1895: 1900: 1911: n.d: 1939: 1945  
 Five miscellaneous, personal letters to and from the Hon. Thomas Eustace Vesey, and a photocopy of a newspaper describing his wedding to Lady Cicely Browne, daughter of the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Kenmare. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]
- MS 39,091** 1901: 1912: 1936-8: 1940  
 Three letters to and from 'Delia' (Lady Cicely Vesey's first cousin, Lady Adelaide Margaret Peel): one from 'Delia' to her mother, 1901, and two from the Hon. Thomas Vesey to 'Delia'; together with a folder of Christmas cards. [Retained by Lord de Vesci, except for the Christmas cards]
- 1906-22: 1942: 1944  
 Letters and pro forma and printed matter of Colonel the Hon. Thomas Vesey relating to his military career, including a letter from Rudyard Kipling about Kipling's regimental history of the Irish Guards in the Great War, 1917, a letter from 'Alex' (the future Field-Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis), written while fighting the Bolsheviks in Latvia, 1920, and accompanied by a hair-raising cartoon, and letters to Vesey on his retirement as Lt-colonel of the Irish Guards, 1942. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]
- 1913  
 Letter to [Lady Cicely Vesey] from a Browne aunt. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]

1914-15

Quarto volume containing letters home from the Front and obituaries of Lieutenant the Hon. Dermot Browne of the Coldstream Guards, Lady Cicely Vesey's brother, who was killed at Loos in 1915 at the age of only 21. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]

Nov.-Dec. 1920

Slim, typescript journal of a tour [by Lady Cicely Vesey?] of the First World War battlefields. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]

1927

Letters to the Hon. Thomas and Lady Cicely Vesey from their son, John, the future 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, written mainly from prep school. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]

1939-40

Letters to the Hon. Thomas Vesey about the acquisition of and necessary repairs to his new house, Park Hill, Englefield Green, Surrey. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]

**MS 39,098/1-2**

1939-46

Two folders of Letters to the Hon. Thomas and Lady Cicely Vesey from and about their son, John, his career in the army, his being reported missing in 1943, confirmation that he was in fact a prisoner-of-war, etc, etc.

**MS 39,099/1-5**

1946: 1951-55

Four folders of letters and papers of Lady Cicely Vesey about the death of her husband, the Hon. Thomas Vesey, in 1946: letters of condolence, newspaper obituaries, letters of thanks for mementoes she has sent to Vesey's friends and letters about her financial position in widowhood. MS 39,099/3-5 are original bundles.

**MS 39,100**

1949

Letters to Lady Cicely Vesey congratulating her on the engagement of her son, John, to Susan Armstrong-Jones.

## **VI.v.6 Letters and papers of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his wife, Susan, 1934-74**

**MS 39,101**

1935-7

Post-cards addressed to John Vesey, the future 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, mainly from his mother and mainly while he was at Eton.

**MS 39,102/1-4**

1943-5

Four folders of letters to John Vesey from his parents, mainly while he was a prisoner-of-war.

- MS 39,103**      1944-5  
Box of papers written or kept by John Vesey while in prisoner-of-war camp at Stalag VIIA, Moosburg, Bavaria.
- MS 39,104/1-2**   1955  
Two folders of letters to Mrs John Vesey congratulating her on the birth of her son, Thomas, now the 7<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.
- MS 39,105**      1935: 1951: 1956-77  
Very miscellaneous correspondence and printed matter of Mr and Mrs John Vesey/the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount and Viscountess de Vesci. Many of the letters are from her sister-in-law, Princess Margaret, and brother, Anthony Armstrong-Jones, Earl of Snowdon, some others relate to the visit to Ireland and Abbeyleix of Princess Marie-Astrid of Luxembourg, 1970.
- MS 39,106**      1916-74  
Folder of very miscellaneous newspaper cuttings.
- MS 39,107-39,108**      1960  
Two boxes of newspaper cuttings and other printed matter relating to the marriage of Anthony Armstrong-Jones to Princess Margaret. See also MS 38,815/1-2. For other letters and papers of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci and his wife, see MS 39,248/3.
- MS 39,109**      1986  
Letters of condolence to Thomas Vesey, 7<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, on the death of his mother.

## **VII      Account books, wages books, cashbooks, ledgers, inventories, stock books, 1684-96, c.1720, 1734-c.1950 (but mainly to 1900)**

*MS 34,487, MS 34,401, MS 34,488, MS 34,408, MS 34,410, MS 34,435, MS 34,436, MS 34,437 and MS 34,441 have been microfilmed by NLI (p.6797-6801).*

### **VII.i      Account books, etc, 1684-96, 1734-1805, 1847**

- MS 34,399**      1684-96  
Disbound, small octavo notebook in which Daniel Green (Denny Muschamp's seneschal of the manor of Abbeyleix - see MS 38,850) has made many jottings about accounts (some of them to do with baronial cess?).
- MS 34,487**      1734-62

Small folio, disintegrating account book recording expenditure of all sorts in connection with the house, home farm and demesne at Abbeyleix. [When this volume was microfilmed by N.L.I. (p.6798), the pages covering the years 1740-56 had become detached and were omitted from the microfilm; almost all of them have since been recovered and reassembled.]

- MS 34,400**      1766-93  
Narrow folio volume, bound in green vellum, recording purchases for household consumption by one Michael Brett. [Microfilmed by NLI, p.6798]
- MS 34,401**      1776-93  
Taller but similarly shaped volume recording settled accounts between the 1st Viscount de Vesce and Edward Johnson (of Ballymullen? - see MS 38,751/5 - who seems to have been the agent). [Microfilmed by NLI, p.6798]
- MS 34,402**      1778-85 (with later entries)  
Small quarto volume, bound in green vellum, in which (the housekeeper?) has kept accounts with Viscountess de Vesce for goods and provisions bought for Abbeyleix.
- MS 34,403**      1783-7: 1800  
Disbound and incomplete, small folio volume recording further disbursements by Michael Brett, 1783-7, and then re-used to record purchases of potatoes and other foodstuffs and the distribution of them to (the poor?), 1800.
- MS 34,404/1-2**      1793-9: 1803-5  
Two small octavo, soft-backed account books, kept in the same handwriting and both recording household and incidental expenses. The first relates to the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesce and his employees, the second to the Hon. Mr Vesey (who succeeded as 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount in the course of the volume) and includes a section on yeomen's pay.

## **VII.ii      Wages books and cashbooks, 1766-1807**

- MS 34,488**      1766-84  
Small quarto account book, bound in green vellum, recording the payment of servants' wages, board, etc. [Microfilmed by NLI, p.6799]
- MS 34,406**      1771-9: 1800-04  
Same format of account book, recording servants' wages, 1771-9, and a number of other things as well, principally sawmill accounts, 1800-04. [NLI, p.6799]
- MS 34,407**      1787-1807

Same format of account book, recording servants' wages. [NLI, p.6799]

**MS 34,408**      1780-83  
Estate cashbook (same format). [NLI, p.6799]

## **VII.iii      Ledgers, 1786-1879**

**MS 34,409**      1786-1800  
Folio, full calf ledger recording payments to numerous individuals or for particular purposes (eg 'stock') - mainly the former - on household, demesne and home farm business. Many of the individuals pay rent to the estate, and the payment of their rent therefore becomes involved in these other transactions. However, the volume is not primarily a rent receiving book, and the confusion arises from the fact that tenants were selling things to the estate and also doing labouring and other work for the estate.

**MS 34,410**      1801-11  
Ledger (in continuation). [NLI, p.6799]

**MS 34,411**      1811-24  
Ledger (in continuation).

**MS 34,412**      1825-43  
Ledger (in continuation).

**MS 34,413**      1855-66  
Ledger (in continuation).

**MS 34,414**      1796-1807  
Ledger, parallel and complementary to the foregoing, with which it overlaps in date. It is arranged exclusively according to the purposes for which expenditure was made - 'carriers', 'wax candles', 'flour', 'coals', 'mutton', not according to the individuals to whom payments were made.

**MS 34,415**      1844-65  
Ledger, continuing on from MS 34,412 in date, but resembling MS 34,414 in layout and content.

**MS 34,416**      1866-75  
Ledger, continuing on from MS 34,412 in date, but resembling MS 34,414 in layout and content.

**MS 34,900**      1876-9  
Ledger (William M. Vesey in account with the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vescei). [The Hon. William Muschamp Vesey of Upton House, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vescei's uncle and, at this stage, agent?]

## **VII.iv Account books, 1800-35**

- MS 34,417** 1800-15  
Small quarto account book recording purchases of provisions for consumption by the household at Abbeyleix.
- MS 34,418** 1800-27  
Small folio account book: the same.
- MS 34,419** 1827-35  
Small folio account book: the same.

## **VII.v Workmen's account books, 1796-1839 (with gaps), 1867-75**

- MS 34,420** May-Nov. 1796  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,421** 1800-09  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,422** Jan & May 1803:Sep.-Dec. 1805  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,423** Jan. 1803: May-Sep. 1805  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,424** May-Aug. 1805  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,425** Dec. 1813- May 1814  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,426** Apr.-July 1816  
Slim folio workmen's time and account book.
- MS 34,427** 1839  
Workmen's account book for work done in Colt wood.
- MS 34,428** Sep. 1867- Nov. 1869  
Large folio workmen's account book for workmen at Abbeyleix House.
- MS 34,429** Sep. 1872- May 1875  
Large folio workmen's account book for workmen at Abbeyleix House.

## **VII.vi Day books, 1800-17**

- MS 34,430** 1800-05  
Narrow folio 'day book' recording all manner of expenditure on house, demesne and farm.
- MS 34,431** 1805-14  
Narrow folio 'day book' recording all manner of expenditure on house, demesne and farm. [NLI, p.6799]
- MS 34,432** 1805-17  
Ledger [in the same shape of volume as the foregoing, kept in the same hand and clearly complementary]. [NLI, p.6799]

## **VII.vii Abbeyleix cotton mill account books, 1806-10**

- MS 34,433** 1806-7  
Narrow, folio ledger recording receipts and expenditure of the Abbeyleix cotton mill (see MS 38,760, MS 38,921 and MS 39,067).
- MS 34,434** 1807-8  
Narrow, folio ledger recording receipts and expenditure of the Abbeyleix cotton mill (see MS 38,760, MS 38,921 and MS 39,067).
- MS 34,435** 1806-10  
Folio 'Warehouse book' of the Abbeyleix cotton mill. [NLI, p.6801]
- MS 34,436** 1806-8  
Large folio account book for the Abbeyleix cotton mill. [NLI, p.6801]
- MS 34,437** 1806-8  
Smaller folio account book or ledger for the Abbeyleix cotton mill [in a different format from the foregoing]. [NLI, p.6801]

## **VII.viii Miscellaneous account books, 1800-17, 1825-6, 1832**

- MS 34,438** 1800-04  
Disbound, small quarto account book containing very miscellaneous accounts in connection with household and farm.
- MS 34,439** 1805-17  
Similar volume, but bound, and concentrating on accounts for carpenters', masons' and plasterers' work in the glebe house, yard, scullery, school house and (1817) 'session house in the new town'.
- MS 34,440** 1800

Slim, soft-bound 'Abbeyleix. ... Feed book for horses, etc'.

- MS 34,441**      1800-05  
Small quarto, soft-bound 'Dairy book'.
- MS 34,442**      [c.1810]  
Slim, disbound calculation of the number of trees in the demesne.
- MS 34,443**      1832  
Small octavo, soft-bound volume kept by one William Preston: the same.
- MS 34,444**      1811  
Small quarto, disbound 'Account of lace'.
- MS 34,445**      1816  
Almost empty, small quarto, vellum-bound account book, containing a few lines of accounts of flour used at Abbeyleix.
- MS 34,446**      1825-6  
Small quarto account book recording expenses on postage for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce; written in French, and presumably relating to travels on the Continent.

## **VII.ix      Household inventories and catalogues, c.1720, 1792-1858**

- MS 39,246/3**      [c.1720]  
Library catalogue, mostly in the handwriting of Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory. For details of some of the books purchased by him, see MS 38,871/1-7.
- MS 34,447**      1792  
Small, disbound octavo volume containing a list of the books at Abbeyleix, Jan. 1792.
- MS 34,448**      1812  
Disbound, folio catalogue for a 'Sale by auction at Rosconnell [Durrow, County Laois] commencing the 25 May 1812'.
- MS 34,449**      1815-1902  
Fat, quarto library loan book.
- MS 34,450**      [c.1820]  
Small folio, half-calf volume containing a library catalogue or a list of books purchased for a library, [probably not for Abbeyleix House itself, but for some 'improving' institution founded by the de Vesce family].
- MS 39,223**      [c.1825?]

Envelope containing a loose-leaf, small quarto library catalogue [incomplete?], and a similar octavo catalogue bound in red leather.

**MS 39,224**      1822-58  
Folder containing loose inventories of plate.

*For other household inventories and library catalogues, see MS 38,746/4, MS 38,777, MS 38,854/1-3, MS 38,905, MS 38,922, MS 38,989 and Section 16.1 (MSS 34,451-7 and 34,538-9. The foregoing library catalogues relate to the library prior to its reduction in size by one-third in 1966, as part of an internal re-modelling of the house, and the consequent disposal of the surplus books. A typescript catalogue of the library, as it stood in 1974 and as it stands (in Lord de Vesci's possession) today, has been retained by Lord de Vesci.*

## **VII.x      Stock and crop books, 1821-74**

**MS 34,458**      1821-2  
Oblong folio, half-calf volume containing an inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,459**      1822-3  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,460**      1824-5  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,461**      1825-6  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,462**      1826-7  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,463**      1829-30  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,464**      1833-4  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,465**      1834-5  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,466**      1836-7  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,467**      1837-8  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

**MS 34,468**      1838-9  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.  
[Microfilmed by N.L.I., p.6801.]

- MS 34,469**      1840-41  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,470**      1842-3  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,471**      1843-4  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,472**      1846-7  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,473**      1850-52  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,474**      1855-6  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,475**      1857-8  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,476**      1858-9  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,477**      1866-7  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,478**      1867-8  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,479**      1868-9  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,480**      1871-2  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.
- MS 34,481**      1873-4  
Oblong folio inventory of stock and crops.

## **VII.xi      Miscellaneous, 1812-1950**

- MS 34,482**      1812-1950  
Box containing c.25 pocket books, bank books, etc, of a very miscellaneous nature, recording personal and estate expenditure of successive Viscounts de Vesci, their agents and stewards. For similar books kept by the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci, see under VII.iv.

- MS 34,483**      1845-1922  
 Bundle of bank books and account books relating to charities, sick pay and pensions: account book for Emma Viscountess de Vesci's Abbeyleix baby linen society, 1845-1922, and pocket-sized bank books and account books for charities, sick pay and pensions, 1895-1907 and 1922. For the Abbeyleix baby linen society, see also MS 39,054/1-2.
- MS 34,484**      1869-85: 1899-1900: 1908  
 Cashbook, minute book, and related papers, all deriving from the Gully drainage board. See also MS 39,041/1-10.
- MS 39,225**      1883-5  
 Incomplete bundle of monthly accounts for the Abbeyleix, farm, gardens, woods, game, etc.
- MS 34,897**      1885-92  
 Abbeyleix House stables account book.
- MS 34,898**      1893-6  
 Abbeyleix House game book.

## **VIII Receipts to the de Vesci agent or steward from tradesmen, charities, insurance companies, tax- and rate-collectors, etc, 1806, 1809-10, 1816-25, 1843-4, 1862-90, 1917-22**

*These receipts were all given to the de Vesci agent or steward, and were subsequently produced by him as vouchers for the payments made. There do not seem to be many Abbeyleix and other local tradesmen among the recipients of payments, so this section of the papers is probably not of as much interest to the local historian as runs of vouchers often are. For receipts from tradesmen, etc, which are technically not vouchers in that they were addressed to the head of the family direct, not to the agent or steward, see MS 38,871/1-7, MS 38,897/1-9, MS 38,904/1-3, MS 38,929/1-3 and MS 39,058. Bundles for the following years are missing: 1869-73, 1882-3. The vouchers are arranged as follows:*

- MS 39,226-8**      1806-44  
 Three boxes containing c.45 small bundles of County Laois estate vouchers and vouchers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci's 'private account', all kept by Stewart & Swan or Stewart & Kincaid. [In common with a sizeable fraction of the de Vesci papers, these turned up at Tullynally, Castlepollard, County Westmeath, the seat of the co-owners of the Longford/de Vesci estate, to which they at some point had been mistakenly delivered. The County Laois estate vouchers accompany the rentals and accounts in MS 39,239/1-7.] The material is arranged as follows:

- MS 39,226**      1806-19  
Box of vouchers.
- MS 39,227**      1820-24  
Box of vouchers.
- MS 39,228**      1826-44  
Box of vouchers.
- MS 39,229/1**    1862-3  
Original bundle of vouchers, inscribed 'De Vescei estate: vouchers for year ending 31 Jan. 1863'.
- MS 39,229/2**    1863-4  
The same, to 31 Jan. of the latter year.
- MS 39,229/3**    1864-5  
The same.
- MS 39,229/4**    1866-7  
The same.
- MS 39,229/5**    1867-8  
The same.
- MS 39,229/6**    1868-9  
The same.
- MS 39,229/7**    Feb.-Nov. 1869  
Original bundle of vouchers.
- MS 39,230/1**    1873-4  
The same to 31 January of the latter year.
- MS 39,230/2**    1874-5  
The same.
- MS 39,230/3**    1875-Feb. 1876  
Original bundle of vouchers (mainly July 1876-Feb. 1877). For a separate series of Monkstown, County Cork, vouchers, 1876 onwards, see MS 39,235.
- MS 39,230/4**    1877-8  
Original bundle of vouchers to 31 January of the latter year.
- MS 39,230/5**    1878-9  
The same.
- MS 39,230/6**    1879-80  
The same.

<b>MS 39,231/1</b>	<u>1880-81</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/2</b>	<u>1881-2</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/3</b>	<u>1883-4</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/4</b>	<u>1884-5</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/5</b>	<u>1885-6</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/6</b>	<u>1886-7</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/7</b>	<u>1887-8</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,231/8</b>	<u>1888-9</u> The same.
<b>MS 39,232/1</b>	<u>1917-20</u> Original bundle of vouchers produced by Iver Olesen Sidelmann, steward at Abbeyleix.
<b>MS 39,232/2</b>	<u>1918-19</u> Original bundle of vouchers produced by Iver Olesen Sidelmann, steward at Abbeyleix.
<b>MS 39,233/1-2</b>	<u>1919-20</u> Original bundle of vouchers produced by Iver Olesen Sidelmann, steward at Abbeyleix (now divided into two folders).
<b>MS 39,234</b>	<u>1920-22</u> Original bundle of vouchers, inscribed 'De Vesci sundries'.
<b>MS 39,235</b>	<u>1876: 1878: 1880-90</u> Box containing 13 original bundles of Monkstown, County Cork, vouchers.

## **IX Rentals, rent receipt books, etc, 1671-3, 1678, 1739-1986**

- MS 39,236**      1671-3: 1665  
Rentroll for the lordship of Abbeyleix with, in the same slim disbound volume, lists of cargoes consigned from Flushing and other ports in the Low Countries, 1665. [Microfilmed by NLI, p.6797]
- MS 34,489**      1678: 1718-20: 1748-65  
Rentroll of the estates of the Archbishop of Armagh, 1678, with subsequent unrelated accounts (kept in the same volume) of Archbishop John Vesey's borrowings from the Dublin banker, Hugh Henry, 1718-20, and of receipts of rent from the tenants of the Abbeyleix estate, 1748-65.
- MS 34,490**      1739-65  
Narrow, vellum-bound, folio rent ledger for the County Laois estate. [NLI, p.6798]
- MS 34,491**      1743-65  
Similar volume in shape and content. [Binding much more defective.]
- MS 39,237**      1761-5: 1678  
Incomplete folio volume containing particulars of rent receipts, contents of holdings, terms of leases, etc, for the County Laois estate with, at the other end of the volume, '... a copy of the true state of the whole revenue of the Primacy presented in a rentroll or particular thereof to his Grace, Michael, Lord Archbishop of Armagh ..., by Dr John Coghill, the 28<sup>th</sup> day of Feb. 1678'. See MS 38,835.
- MS 34,492/1-2**   1775-92  
Larger folio rent ledger for the County Laois estate.
- MS 34,493**      1792-1815  
Larger folio rent ledger for the County Laois estate.
- MS 39,238/1-2**   Nov. 1819- May 1824  
Two small, slim volumes containing a receiving rental for the County Laois estate.
- MS 39,239/1-7**   1815-75  
Seven folders containing an apparently complete run of unbound, summary rentals, with accompanying agents' accounts (back to 1804), for the County Laois estate. In 1815, the earliest year for which a rental exists, the half-year's rent stood at £2,300. In the early years, rents were collected by the local agent, William Bell (of Bellview? - see MS 39,026/1-2) and paid over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesce's Dublin agents, Stewart & Swan (see MS 38,926/1-5), who managed his half of the Longford/de Vesce estate for him, and out of all the rents which they

received paid the pensions, annuities, interest and settlement charges, etc, to which the estate was liable. By the late 1820s, the County Laois rents were being received direct by Edmond L. Swan (see MS 38,946/1-5 and MS 39,020/1-17), the brother of Graves Chamney Swan of Stewart & Swan. G.C. Swan seems to have retired from the partnership at about this time, being succeeded by Joseph Kincaid; hence the change of name from Stewart & Swan to Stewart & Kincaid. The rentals and accounts have been broken up according to decade. MS 39,239/1 = 1810s, MS 39,239/2 = 1820s, etc. For vouchers, 1806-44, accompanying these accounts, see MS 39,226.

- MS 34,494**      1843-61  
Folio volume containing a receiving rental for the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork, consisting by this time of Viscount de Vesci's exclusive property at Monkstown, Passage West, etc and the undivided 'Glandore estate' (Inchintersillagh, Inchisarafiela and Glandore), barony of Carbery East - [ie the Cork city property had either been sold or was part of Lord Longford's exclusive estate]; the rental was compiled by Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 34,495**      1861-87  
Folio volume containing a receiving rental for the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork, as above.
- MS 34,496**      1888-1910  
Folio volume containing a receiving rental for the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork, as above.
- MS 34,497**      1911-20  
Folio volume containing a receiving rental for the Longford/de Vesci estate in County Cork, as above.
- MS 39,241**      1835: 1866-7: 1874: 1895: 1900  
Envelope of loose rentals and valuations of the same Cork estate or of Monkstown only.
- MS 39,242/1-2**      1875: 1894  
Unbound rent-rolls for the undivided Longford/de Vesci estate of Kingstown Dún Laoghaire, signed by Stewart & Kincaid (who, by 1894, had become J.R. Stewart & Son). The 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci's share of the rental is stated as £3,172 in 1875, and the combined rental as £7,914 in 1894.

## **IX.i      'No. 2' rentals, 1870-1984**

- MS 34,498**      1870-83  
Folio, half-calf volume titled 'No. 2 rental', and clearly containing, not the Estate Office working version of the County Laois rental, but a summary or analysis which presumably was produced for purposes of

audit.

<b>MS 34,499</b>	<u>1885-92</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,500</b>	<u>1893-1903</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,501</b>	<u>1903-12</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,502</b>	<u>1912-22</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,503</b>	<u>1922-29</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,504</b>	<u>1929-39</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,505</b>	<u>1947-58</u> Rental no. 2.
<b>MS 34,506</b>	<u>1958-84</u> Rental no. 2. [In 1984 the practice of keeping separate rental summaries or analyses was discontinued, with the computerisation of the accounts.]

## **IX.ii           ‘No. 1’ rentals, 1878-1986**

<b>MS 34,507</b>	<u>1878-86</u> Folio volume containing ‘Rental no. 1’ – the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
<b>MS 34,508</b>	<u>1887-96</u> Folio volume containing ‘Rental no. 1’ – the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
<b>MS 34,509</b>	<u>1897-1905</u> Folio volume containing ‘Rental no. 1’ - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
<b>MS 34,510</b>	<u>1905-15</u> Folio volume containing ‘Rental no. 1’ - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
<b>MS 34,511</b>	<u>1916-25</u> Folio volume containing ‘Rental no. 1’ - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.

- MS 34,512**      1926-35  
Folio volume containing 'Rental no. 1' - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
- MS 34,513**      1936-45  
Folio volume containing 'Rental no. 1' - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
- MS 34,514**      1946-55  
Folio volume containing 'Rental no. 1' - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.
- MS 34,515**      1956-65  
Folio volume containing 'Rental no. 1' - the detailed, day-by-day Estate Office version.

### **IX.iii      Weekly rentals, 1892-1986**

- MS 34,516**      1892-96  
Small folio volume recording rents received from weekly tenants.
- MS 34,517**      1897-1901  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,518**      1902-6  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,519**      1903-7  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,520**      1908-12  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,521**      1913-18  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,522**      1918-23  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,523**      1923-8  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,524**      1928-33  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,525**      1933-8  
Rental of weekly tenants.

- MS 34,526**      1938-43  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,527**      1943-8  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,528**      1948-53  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,529**      1953-8  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,530**      1958-63  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 34,531**      1968-73  
Rental of weekly tenants.
- MS 39,243/1-2**   1909-76  
Two boxes containing small quarto, slim, paperback rentals of the weekly tenants; presumably the rough, working originals from which information was subsequently fair-copied into the foregoing more formal volumes.

## **IX.iv      Miscellaneous rentals, valuations, etc, 1819-80**

- MS 34,532**      1819-24  
Rent book for [de Vesci?] estates in Fermoy, County Cork and in County Dublin. Leather binding frayed.
- MS 34,533**      1824-47  
Rent book for estates in Fermoy, County Cork, and in County Dublin, 1824-47. [Leather binding frayed, and first 15 pages missing.]
- MS 34,536**      1831-7  
Poor Law valuation volume for the counties of Cork and Dublin.
- MS 39,244**      1850  
Three printed copies of the volume of the General Valuation of rateable property in Ireland which covers the baronies of Maryborough West, Maryborough East and Cullenagh., County Laois.
- MS 39,245**      8 Dec. 1877.  
Printed Landed Estates Court decree relating to a sale of lands at Doary, barony of Cullenagh, County Laois.

## **IX.v            Rental accounts for the Longford/de Vesci joint and separate estates, 1834-1957**

- MS 39,260/1**            1834: 1836  
Office copies of Viscount de Vesci's account with Stewart & Kincaid for sundry disbursements by them charged against the rents received from the joint estate and from his Monkstown estate, Co. Cork.
- MS 39,260/2**            1836  
Office copy of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint rental account with Stewart & Kincaid for their joint estates, and rental of Viscount de Vesci's Monkstown estate, County Cork.
- MS 39,260/3**            1846-8: 1950  
Viscount de Vesci's account with Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,260/4/1-4**        1850: 1853: 1855: 1860 (two copies)  
Four bundles containing the office copy of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint rental account with Stewart & Kincaid for their joint estates, and rental of Viscount de Vesci's Monkstown estate, County Cork.
- MS 39,260/5/1-3**        1851: 1854: 1857  
Three bundles containing Viscount de Vesci's account with Stewart & Kincaid.
- MS 39,260/6/1-11**      1860: 1861: 1862: 1863: 1864: 1865: 1866: 1867 (two 1860: 1861: 1862: 1863: 1864: 1865: 1866: 1867 (two copies): 1868: 1869  
Eleven bundles containing the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint rental account with Stewart & Kincaid for their joint estates, and rental of Viscount de Vesci's Monkstown estate, County Cork.
- MS 39,260/7/1-14**      1870-79  
Fourteen bundles containing the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint rental account with Stewart & Kincaid for their joint estates, and rentals for the Dún Laoghaire, city of Limerick, Cork joint and separate estates and Monkstown, County Cork.
- MS 39,260/8/1-10**      1880 (two copies): 1881 (two copies): 1882: 1883 (two 1880 (two copies): 1881 (two copies): 1882: 1883 (two copies), 1884 (two copies): 1885: 188  
Ten bundles containing the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint rental account with Stewart & Kincaid for the same.
- MS 39,260/9/1-6**        1891-8 (minus 1897)  
Six bundles of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci in joint account with J.R. Stewart & Sons for rent and arrears of Kingstown, Glandore and Limerick joint estates.

- MS 39,260/10/1-3** 1890-95  
Three bundles of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's in joint account with J.R. Stewart & Sons for rent and arrears of Kingstown, Glandore and Limerick joint estates and of the de Vesci Monkstown estate, County Cork.
- MS 39,261/1/1-7** 1900: 1903: 1904: 1908: 1909 (two copies): 1910  
Seven bundles of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint account with J.R. Stewart & Sons for the same.
- MS 39,261/2/1-7** 1900: c.1900: 1927: 1939  
Four copies of the valuation of the Monkstown estate of the Viscount de Vesci for those years.
- MS 39,261/3/1-8** 1911: 1912 (two copies): 1913-17  
Eight bundles of the Earl of Longford and Viscount de Vesci's joint account with J.R. Stewart & Sons for rent and arrears of Kingstown, Glandore and Limerick joint estates, for one year to 31 January.
- MS 39,261/4/1-5** 1925-9  
Five bundles of the same.
- MS 39,261/5/1-5** 1930-34  
Five bundles of the same.
- MS 39,261/6/1-7** 1941-9 (minus 1946)  
Seven bundles of the same.
- MS 39,261/7/1-4** 1946: 1948-50  
Four bundles of Dún Laoghaire rentals.
- MS 39,261/8** 1950-52: 1956: 1958.  
The Pakenham Estate Company and the Abbeyleix Estate Company in joint account with J. R. Stewart for the rent and arrears of the Dún Laoghaire and Cork joint estates.
- MS 39,261/9/1-11** 1956-64 (minus 1957)  
Eleven bundles of joint capital account for the Pakenham Estate Company and the Abbeyleix Estate Company.

## **IX.vi Mainly twentieth-century rentals, rent receipts and rates receipts for the Abbeyleix estate, 1901-89**

- MS 34,894/1-2** 1881-1897  
Viscount de Vesci rent and poor rate receipt book (2 vols).
- MS 34,803** n.d. (20<sup>th</sup> century)  
Rents paid on the Abbeyleix estate.

- MS 34,804**      1901  
 ‘Descriptive rental of Abbeyleix and town parks.’
- MS 34,805/1-2**   1905  
 ‘Descriptive rental [of] Abbeyleix and town parks (2 vols).
- MS 34,806**      May 1915: Nov. 1919  
 Rent receipt book for the Abbeyleix estate.
- MS 39,263/1**    1920s-1960s  
 Rent receipts for seasonal lettings, bundled by decade.
- MS 34,807**      1944-5  
 Abbeyleix estate: revised record of all demesne lands, all tenancies, and all yearly, weekly and seasonal lettings.
- MS 34,802**      1947-88  
 Rate book for the Abbeyleix demesne, the Gully drainage rate and the small dwellings rate.
- MS 34,808**      1949-52: 1962-87  
 Thirty-four rent receipt book stubs.
- MS 39,262/1**    1949-50  
 Book containing a list of tenants (location unstated).
- MS 39,262/2**    1950-51: 1955-6  
 Bundle of receipts for rates paid for lands in the electoral divisions of Colt, Portlaois Rural and Clonkeen.
- MS 39,262/3**    1950-1960s  
 Bundle of receipts for rent for cottages 6-49 belonging to the Abbeyleix Estate Company.
- MS 39,262/4**    1950-1960s  
 The same in respect of cottages 51-135 belonging to the Abbeyleix Estate Company. Numbers missing.
- MS 34,809**      1951-70  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company receipt book.
- MS 39,263/3**    1955-62  
 Rent book for Ballymullen, Abbeyleix and Clonkeen.
- MS 34,810**      1963  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company weekly rental.
- MS 39,262/5**    1964-7  
 The same in respect of seasonal lettings from the Abbeyleix Estate Company, bundled by year.

- MS 39,262/6     1968-72  
The same.
- MS 39,262/7     1973-85 (minus 1983-4)  
Annual bundles of the same.
- MS 39,262/8/  
1-10     1974-81: 1987-9  
Ten bundles of rates demand notifications.
- MS 39,262/9/  
1-13     1977-89  
Thirteen small volumes of weekly rentals for the Abbeyleix estate.

*For other rentals (not included in Section X), see MS 38,837 and MS 39,250/3.*

## **X     Letters and papers about the history of the Vesey and allied families, the history and content of the de Vesci papers, and the history of Abbeyleix House and the Abbeyleix vicinity, 1674-1987**

- MS 39,246/1     1674  
Two pedigrees of the Sackville family, Earls of Dorset, compiled by Sir George Lane, later 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Lanesborough, on the eve of his marriage to one of them, Frances, the future Mrs Denny Muschamp.
- MS 39,246/2     [c.1680]-1830  
Miscellaneous genealogical papers about the Vesey/de Vesci family, including a simplified and abbreviated pedigree, drawn up in 1807, to show the descent of Lords Longford and de Vesci from daughters of Primate Boyle, and also how the rival claimants to the estates of Charles Dunbar, the Dillon family, were (like Dunbar) descended from Boyle's son, the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Blessington, *not* from his daughters. For Dunbar's will and the ensuing litigation with the Dillons, see MS 38,746/12.
- MS 39,246/4     1822-32  
Small octavo notebook in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount de Vesci has noted the source and content of some of the letters and papers received by him over that period. See also MS 38,945.
- [c.1840-1900]  
Large bundle of very miscellaneous pedigrees and genealogical information of and about the Vesey and allied families. [Retained by Lord de Vesci]
- 1842: 1848: 1886: 1896-1902: 1919-39: [c.1955]  
Scrappy and miscellaneous papers about Abbeyleix House and garden,

including a letter of 1848 about the insurance implications of 'the completion of additional rooms' to Abbeyleix House, 'Evelyn, Lady de Vesce's account of the making of [the] pool or pond in 1884-1886...', a largely empty, vellum-bound volume in which [the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce] has recorded alterations to the 'garden and pond', 1920-39, 'Design for new rose garden at Abbeyleix', [c.1955], etc, etc. See section 21.4. [Retained by Lord de Vesce]

**MS 39,247/3**

1863: 1874: 1879: 1883: 1954

Various schedules of County Laois leases, the last being the second half (the first half having apparently disappeared) of the 'key' to the old Estate Office arrangement of its deeds and leases.

**MS 39,247/4**

[c.1750]: c.1900

Two pieces of papers containing details of deeds and leases, [c.1750], and two schedules, sufficiently detailed to be called brief calendars, of de Vesce deeds and papers in the possession of Messrs S.S. & E. Reeves, one of them with a chronological index.

[c.1910]-66

Papers about portraits, engravings, silver, etc, in Abbeyleix House, [much more detailed, and also more episodic, than the information contained in any of the inventories - see Section XVI. These papers, however, have been retained by Lord de Vesce.]

1913-75

Papers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce about the genealogy of the Vesey family and the history of Abbeyleix, including the typescript of a set of reminiscences entitled 'Rambles round Abbeyleix', typescript notes on Alnwick Castle (Northumberland, where the Vesseys are supposed to have lived before the Percys were invented!), on Lucan House (Co. Dublin, seat of Agmondisham Vesey and his descendants, the issue of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, by his second wife (the Vesseys of Abbeyleix being descended from his first wife)), in the Sarsfield-Vesey papers in the National Archives of Ireland, etc, etc. [Retained by Lord de Vesce]

**MS 39,248/1**

[c.1930]

Multiple typescript copies of a 'Memoir of John Vesey, D.D., Archbishop of Tuam, b.1639, d.1716, written by his daughter, Lady Bingham, and added to by de V.', some of the copies with additional typescript matter. (There seems to be some confusion over the identity of 'Lady Bingham', who was not Archbishop Vesey's daughter, but the sister of his daughter's husband - see MS 38,876/1-2.) One respect in which this 'Memoir' is informative is the information it gives about the chronology of Archbishop Vesey's two marriages: it says that Mary, the second child of the first marriage, was not much more than three when the Archbishop married his second wife. (A bible preserved among the papers of Mary's descendants, the Staples family of Lissan, County Tyrone [PRONI, T/1988], shows that the Archbishop's first wife, Rebecca Nelson, who

appears to have been a niece of Primate Boyle, married him in 1662 and died in 1668.)

- MS 39,248/2** 1950: 1953: 1962-7: 1976: 1986  
Printed booklets and issues of journals/periodicals containing histories of Abbeyleix, Ballyroan, the Vesey family, etc.
- MS 39,248/3** 1961-84  
Voluminous bundle of letters and papers of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce and Susan, Viscountess de Vesce, about family history (that of the Armstrong-Jones as well as the Vesey family), local history, the family archive, etc, including letters and reports on this last subject from Sir John Ainsworth, Bt, and Dr J.G. Simms, both of them acting on behalf of the Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1970. Also included are letters and papers of Mr and Mrs Pat O'Brien of the Estate Office, Abbeyleix, 1961-8, about family and local history.
- 1985-91  
Smaller bundle of letters and papers of the 7<sup>th</sup> (and present) Viscount de Vesce on the same subjects, notably letters from James Grant, Dean of Tuam, about Archbishop Vesey, letters from A.P.W. Malcomson of PRONI about the archive, and a copy of a letter from Edward [Duke of Kent] to Mrs Vesey, ['widow of General John Agmondisham Vesey (d.1811), 1818. Included in this sub-section is a photocopy of the relevant pages of the Staples family bible described at MS 39,248/1 above, together with an accompanying letter and gloss of 1989 pointing out its significance in establishing the chronology and other basic facts of Archbishop Vesey's two marriages and amplifying and correcting the various *Peerages*' and *Baronetages*' versions of these events. [Retained by Lord de Vesce]

## **XI Miscellaneous papers (mainly recipés), c.1670-1947**

- MS 39,249/1** c. 1670-1750  
Scrappy bundle of very miscellaneous accounts, not readily attributable to any one section or sub-section of the archive.
- MS 39,249/2** [c.1680]  
Clutch of notes on legal terms.
- MS 39,250/1** 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> centuries: 1793-4  
Bundle of miscellaneous recipés and prescriptions, 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> centuries, together with a folio menu book (compiled by the cook at Abbeyleix?), partly in French, 1793-4.
- MS 34,537** 1839-c.1885  
Three recipé books: two exclusively compiled by Emma, Viscountess de

Vesci, wife of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, the other begun by her and continued by her daughter-in-law, Evelyn, wife of the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount.

- MS 39,250/2**     [c.1910-20]  
Recipés compiled by Lady Roberts of Ash and Guildford, Surrey, mother of Susan, Viscountess de Vesci's paternal grandmother.
- MS 39,250/3**     [c.1720?]  
Mystery rental of a 'Cavan estate', comprising the lands of Carnone, Macherihee, Ruskie, Carrickbrack, Fendrum, Killenure, Upper Cavan and Milltown, with a rental of £415 per annum. It seems to be signed 'James Nisbet' (and may therefore relate to the estate of the Nesbitt family of Lismore, County Cavan?, and conceivably to a projected marriage between a Nesbitt and a Vesey?).
- MS 39,250/4**     [c.1720: c.1750]  
Two miscellaneous 18<sup>th</sup> century printed ephemera.
- MS 39,250/5**     17th -19th centuries  
Small bundle of mainly indecipherable fragments of verse and worse.
- MS 39,250/6**     19<sup>th</sup> century  
Miscellaneous documents relating to wages, map references, etc, and two covers of missing mapbooks.
- MS 39,250/8**     1903-14  
Seven fire insurance policies covering dwelling houses in Kingstown, Sandycove and Corrig Castle, County Dublin.
- MS 39,250/9**     1944-7  
Six County Fire Office Ltd. Irish Free State 4 1/2% land bonds.

## **XII     Vesey of Lucan title deeds, wills, mortgages, leases, maps, surveys, rentals, etc, 1625-1939**

### **XII.i     Vesey of Lucan title deeds, 1625-1927**

- MS 39,251/1**     1625: 1632: 1638: 1662-3: 1666: 1701-2  
Original and copy title deeds of the Sarsfield and Vesey families to the manor of Lucan, with the lands of Westpanstown, Great and Little Ballinakap, Rathcoole, etc, Counties Dublin and Kildare, including the original of a 1625 patent from Charles I to William Sarsfield, and the original of a conveyance from the Trustees of the Forfeited Estates, 1702, the latter forming part of the saga of litigation over the Lucan estate during the 1690s and early 1700s (see MS 39,251/2).

- MS 39,251/2** 1696-1712  
 Case papers about the claim of Agmondisham Vesey, second son of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, and half-brother of Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, to the estates of the Sarsfield family at Lucan, County Dublin, Roseberry, County Kildare, etc., etc. This claim derived from Agmondisham Vesey's marriage, in 1696, to Charlotte Sarsfield, daughter and heiress of William Sarsfield of Lucan (d.1675). The inheritance was disputed on account of the forfeitures incurred by a mortgagee of William Sarsfield and by rival claimants (including his brother, Patrick Sarsfield, Earl of Lucan) in consequence of the Williamite War, with the result that Agmondisham Vesey had to pay a consideration for the estate in 1702, was involved in heavy legal costs (including the cost of two private acts of parliament) and did not secure undisturbed possession of it until c.1712.
- MS 39,251/3** 1699: 1875: 1884: 1919  
 Original and copy title deeds to the lands of Pettycannon, outside Lucan, so called because originally they belonged to the Petty Canons and Choristers of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.
- MS 39,251/4** 1734: 1757: 1873: 1876: 1904  
 Title deeds to bits and pieces of the lands of Lucan, including leases (or leases-back?) from Simon Luttrell of Luttrellstown, County Dublin, and Robert Clayton, Bishop of Clogher, to Agmondisham Vesey Junior (son and successor of the already-mentioned Agmondisham Vesey), 1734 and 1757 respectively, and various conveyances of 1873 and 1876 from the Church Temporalities Commissioners.
- MS 39,251/5** 1785: 1787: 1813: 1833: 1835: 1837: 1840: 1848: 1785: 1787: 1813: 1833: 1835: 1837: 1840: 1848: 1853: 1870 1902: 1924-7  
 Original bundle of title deeds and leases to 'The Jervis Birney leasehold' in Lucan, which seems to have been a property originally leased by the Vesseys and subsequently sub-let back to them by their tenants.
- MS 39,251/6** 1709: 1717-18: 1750: 1769: 1804: 1885: 1907  
 Title deeds to a part of Esker, barony of Newcastle, County Dublin, some of which was purchased by Agmondisham Vesey Senior in 1718, and the rest (apparently) by his successors at a much later date. The documents of 1769 are two perpetuity leases, both of which have integral maps by a surveyor called John O'Brien.
- MS 39,251/7** 1735: 1831: 1908  
 Title deeds to Cooldrinagh, also in the barony of Newcastle, County Dublin, purchased by Agmondisham Vesey Junior in 1735.
- MS 39,251/8** 1754-5: 1772: 1779-80: 1792: 1800: 1811: 1827-8: 1754-5: 1772: 1779-80: 1792: 1800: 1811: 1827-8: 1831  
 Head leases, mainly from the Rt Hon. Thomas Conolly of Castletown, County Kildare, to Miss Ann Vesey, and other title deeds to the Vesseys' leasehold interest in the lands of Tymon, lordship of Rathfarnham,

County Dublin. (This property seems to have been settled on or bequeathed to Ann Vesey. She is not mentioned in Burke's *Landed Gentry* but presumably was an unmarried sister of Agmondisham Vesey Junior? See also MS 39,252/1.)

**MS 39,251/9** c. 1850-1920  
Seven long and detailed abstracts of the title of Capt. Charles Colthurst Vesey and his ultimate successor, Capt. Richard St John Jeffereyes Vesey, to the Lucan and outlying estate, barony of Connell, County Kildare, and barony of Newcastle, County Dublin.

**MS 39,251/10** 1918  
Bundle of abstracts of title and sale papers relating to Capt. Richard Vesey's London House at 56 Hans Place, Chelsea.

## **XII.ii Vesey of Lucan wills and deeds of settlement, mortgage, etc, [pre-1727]-1921**

**MS 39,252/1** 1792: 1826: 1836: 1854: 1864: 1886: 1895: 1903: 1792: 1826: 1836: 1854: 1864: 1886: 1895: 1903: 1911: 1915-16  
Wills of members of the Vesey family of Lucan. The pre-1858 documents are as follows: copy probate (1811) of the will and codicil (1792) of Miss Ann Vesey of St Stephen's Green, Dublin; copy administration (1826) to the will (1825) of Beresford Burston of Tymon, County Dublin; probate (1836) of the will and codicils (1831) of George Vesey of Lucan; and probate (1854) of the will (1851) of Mrs Emily Vesey, widow. For an earlier Vesey of Lucan will see MS 38,746/9.

**MS 39,252/2** [ ? ] George I: 1785  
Two recoveries of Vesey property in County Kildare.

**MS 39,253/1** 1740  
Agreement between Agmondisham Vesey Junior and Lady Butler (his mother) over the rents to be assigned to her in payment of jointure.

**MS 39,253/2** 1779: 1781  
Mortgage and assignment of mortgage for £3,000 affecting Agmondisham Vesey Junior's lands of Scarletstown, Rickardstown, Piercetown, etc, barony of Connell, County Kildare. (This mortgage is for the same amount, although the lands affected by it are much fewer, as that documented in MS 38,748/12; so the present bundle may be a continuation of MS 38,748/12.)

**MS 39,253/3** 1819: 1829: 1846: 1848: 1850: 1858: 1860  
Deeds of settlement, release, etc, including the settlement made on the marriage of Elizabeth Vesey, only child and heiress of Colonel George Vesey of Lucan, nephew and successor of Agmondisham Vesey Junior, and Sir Nicholas Conway Colthurst, 4th Bt, 1819, and a copy of *The*

*Dublin Gazette* recording the assumption by their son and successor, Capt. Charles Colthurst, of the additional surname of Vesey, 1860.

**MS 39,253/4**     1884-8  
Sundry deeds of mortgage, assignment, appointment, etc.

**MS 39,253/5**     1916-21  
Sundry deeds of mortgage, assignment, appointment, etc.

## **XII.iii     Vesey of Lucan leases, 1735-1939**

**MS 39,254/1**     [c.1815]  
'List of Colonel George Vesey's leases, County Dublin.'

**MS 39,254/2**     1818: 1878: 1880  
Leases of Clongowna, barony of Connell, County Kildare.

**MS 39,254/3**     1804: 1808: 1825: 1832: 1859  
Leases of Coldblow (one of them including Westpanstown [see MS 39,255/6]), barony of Newcastle, County Dublin.

**MS 39,254/4**     1775: 1787: 1843: 1856: 1876: 1919  
Leases of Cooldrinagh, barony of Newcastle, County Dublin. See also MS 39,254/5.

**MS 39,254/5**     1782: 1786: 1834-5: 1838: 1856-7: 1888: 1974  
Leases of Dodsborough (at least one of them including Cooldrinagh [see MS 39,254/4]), barony of Newcastle, County Dublin; those of 1786 have integral maps by John Brownrigg.

**MS 39,254/6**     1786: 1864: 1868: 1871: 1878  
Leases of Cornelscourt, Rickardstown, Piercetown and (in one instance) part of Roseberry (see MSS 39,254/9 and 39,255/2), barony of Connell, County Kildare, one of them with a large, integral map of 1786 by John Brownrigg. (These townlands have been grouped together because they are so grouped in some of the leases.)

**MS 39,254/7**     1735: 1755: 1770: 1772: 1786: 1821-2: 1824-5: 1829: 1837: 1854: 1868: 1880-81: 1883  
Large bundle of leases of Esker, barony of Newcastle, County Dublin. The leases of 1755 and 1821 have integral maps by Walter Walshe and Neville & Son respectively.

**MS 39,254/8**     1758: 1760: 1778: 1782: 1793: 1810: 1814: 1816: 1818: 1832: 1848: 1859-62: 1889: 1895: 1908: 1919-26: 1939  
Large bundle of leases of premises in the town of Lucan and its outskirts. The lease of 1782 has an integral map which is a copy of a 1741 map by Thomas Cave.

- MS 39,254/9**     1766  
Two leases of Roseberry, barony of Connell, County Kildare, one of them being of a part of Roseberry called Hawkfield. This Hawkfield lease has an integral map of 1764 by John Netterville. For Hawksfield, see also MS 39,255/2.
- MS 39,254/10**   1806  
Series of leases of Roseberry, all with integral maps by Thomas Lynch.
- MS 39,255/1**     1815: 1818: 1863: 1879: 1851: 1860: 1902-3  
Leases of Roseberry. See also MS 39,254/6.
- MS 39,255/2**     1851: 1870-71: 1877-9  
Leases of Hawkfield, part of Roseberry.
- MS 39,255/3**     1818  
Series of leases of Scarletstown, barony of Connell, County Kildare.
- MS 39,255/4**     1814: 1853  
Two leases of Tubbernaclug, parish of Lucan, barony of Newcastle, County Dublin.
- MS 39,255/5**     1759-60: 1793: 1800: 1828  
Leases of parts of Tymon, lordship of Rathfarnham, County Dublin, principally of Furrhouse and Sallypark. One of the leases, dated 1760, includes a furniture inventory of a house. (In the case of Tymon, leases and title deeds are particularly hard to distinguish, so see also MS 39,251/8.)
- MS 39,255/6**     1787: 1799: 1830: 1844: 1854  
Leases of Westpanstown, barony of Newcastle, County Dublin, including one with an integral map of 1786 by John Brownrigg. See also MS 39,254/3.

## **XII.iv     Vesey of Lucan maps, surveys and valuations, 1680, 1764, 1775, 1802, 1815, c.1860, 1911-c.1930**

- MS 39,256/1**     1680  
'An accompt of the survey of the lands of Lucan according to the meares and bounds showed Mr Abra[ham] Carter ...'.
- MS Map 266M**     1764  
'Edward Ellis Mayne Esq.' 'A survey of Esker in the Barony of Newcastle in the County of Dublin by Scalé and Richards, 1764'
- MS Map 267M**     1775  
Late 19th-century, hand-coloured lithograph of a 'Map of 1775

- showing [the] portion of Mr [Edward] Ellis's estate [Esker], exchanged for glebe land'. Endorsed: 'Maps of Esker made out for trial Hegan v Clarke and Mayne but which never came to hearing.'
- MS Map 268 M** 1802  
 'A map of part of the lands of Esker in the Barony of Newcastle and county of Dublin the property of Edward Ellis Esq., by John Roe, 1802.'
- MS Map 269 S** 1815  
 'Map of ground on each side of Lucan Bridge on the south side of the River Liffey in the county of Dublin, leased to George Knowles by George Vesey Esq., 1815'. Surveyed by James Cooke, 23 June 1815.
- MS Map 270 L** [c.1860]  
 Large, hand-coloured 'Map of Lucan demesne and its environs, part of the estate of Mrs Vesey, enlarged from the Ordnance Survey by Thomas Dicher', with a small vignette showing Lucan House. [In need of conservation.]
- MS Map 271 M** [c.1860]  
 Lithographed Landed Estates Court map of Pettycannon, endorsed 'Transfer of property under Landed Estate Court, the estate of James Annesley Gandon'. Map 1. Ordnance Survey of Ireland, county Dublin, Lucan.
- MS Map 272 M** Early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.?  
 'Map of premises in the village of Lucan, for Charel C. Vesey Esq.'
- MS 39,256/2** 1916-17: 1919  
 Valuations of the Vesey estate.
- MS Map 273 (a-d) M** [c. 1919]  
 Four tracings of parts of the Vesey estate in the town of Lucan, as follows:  
 (a) 'Town of Lucan copied from Valuation Office Map for the year 1849'. Scale of 5 feet to one statute mile.  
 (b) 'Capt. R. St J. Colthurst Vesey. Tracing of premises held by Ed. Cosgrove from Mr Boxwell'. Stamped 'Boxwell & Brownrigg, solicitors, 18 June 1919'. Attached trace drawing.  
 (c) 'Draft map of premises, Lucan. Colthurst to Lyons'. Drawn by P.J. Munden [acting for the Valuation Office]. Trace drawing.  
 (d) Trace drawing of ?Lucan.
- MS Map 274 (a-g) L** 1911: 1917: 1919: 1923  
 Seven maps of parts of the Vesey estate, marked up and coloured in connection with its sale through the Irish Land Commission, as follows:  
 (a) Map of St Catherine's Park (part) [barony of Newcastle, county of Dublin]. Issued by Land Registry, Central Office, Dublin, 14 Nov. 1923.

- (b) 'Map 4' (Lucan) based on the Ordnance Survey. Lots 11 to 47 [for sale]
- (c) Ordnance Survey 1911, Dublin, sheet 17. Marked up. General Valuation Office stamp, Dublin 18 July 1917. Lucan.
- (d) County Dublin Ordnance Survey, sheet 17. Marked up. Barony of Newcastle. Includes list of registered owners. Land Registry of Ireland stamp, 8 Mar. 1919.
- (e) County Dublin Ordnance Survey. Village of Lucan. Marked up. c.1917.
- (f) 'Colthurst'. 'Map number 1, the estate of Capt. R. St J. Jefferyes Colthurst is edged red'. Surveyed by William Kenny & Co. Dublin. c. 1911.
- (g) County Kildare Ordnance Survey, sheet 11. Stamp of General Valuation Office, 10 May 1923. Marked up. Leixlip.

- MS 39,256/3**      [c.1920]  
Two envelopes of valuations, schedules, etc, in connection with the sale.
- MS 39,256/4**      [c. 1920-30]  
Valuations, accounts, correspondence, etc, about the bogs on the Vesey estate, particularly Newbridge Bog, County Kildare.
- MS 39,256/5**      [c.1750]: 1916: 1925  
Three valuations/inventories as follows: schedule of very miscellaneous deeds, [c.1750]; probate inventory of the assets of the late Charles Nicholas Colthurst Vesey, including a furniture inventory of Lucan House, 1916; and printed sale particulars for Lucan House and demesne and for Ounavarra, Lucan, 1925.

## **XII.v      Vesey of Lucan rentals and accounts, 1804-1925**

- MS 39,257/1**      1804-7: 1811-12  
Rentals of the estate of Colonel George Vesey and accounts between him and his agent, James Symes.
- MS 39,257/2**      [c.1825]  
Rental of the Esker estate of T.T. Ellis.
- MS 39,257/3**      [c.1860]  
Rental of the estate of Charles Colthurst Vesey.
- MS 39,257/4**      1902-4  
Court of the Land Commission: preliminary appeals list for hearings in Limerick, Dublin, Waterford and Cork; 15 items.
- MS 39,257/5**      1905-7  
Court of the Land Commission: preliminary appeals list for hearings in

Limerick, Dublin, Waterford and Cork; 26 items.

- MS 39,257/6**     1915-25  
Large bundle of rentals and accounts, some of the latter being executorship accounts, for the estate successively owned by Capt. Charles Colthurst Vesey, Capt. Charles Nicholas Colthurst Vesey, Edward Colthurst Vesey and Capt. Richard St John Jeffereyes Vesey.

## **XII.vi     Miscellaneous Vesey of Lucan papers, 1876-1930s**

- MS 39,257/7**     1879-1932  
Very miscellaneous and fairly scrappy letters and papers about the Vesey estate.

- MS 39,257/8**     1799  
Lease of the glebe lands of the parish of Killfaughnabegg [Kilfaughnabeg, barony of East Carbery, County Cork], by the Rev. Arthur Herbert to John Roche at the yearly rent of £10, 1 sheet.

- MS 39,266**     1876-1930s  
Box of solicitors' correspondence about the Vesey of Lucan estate, including leases, Land Commission papers, abstracts of title, documents regarding the conveyance of properties in the barony of Newcastle, Co. Dublin, etc.

*All the papers in this section originated in the office of Barrington & Son, solicitors, 10 Ely Place, Dublin. For references to the Vesey of Lucan in the original Abbeyleix archive, see MS 38,746/9, MS 38,748/12 and MS 38,876/1-2.*

## **XIII     Pigott of Knapton papers, 1759-1820**

- MS 39,258**     1759: 1763: 1784: 1789: 1792: 1804: 1816-17: 1820  
Mortgages, leases, case papers, etc, relating to the estates of General Thomas Pigott and his son and successor, Sir George Pigott, 1<sup>st</sup> Bt, both of Knapton, Abbeyleix. The estates concerned are all in Cork City or county: Chetwynd (the Pigotts' former seat), Killeenrindowney, etc, in the south liberties of Cork city; and Ballynamony, Ballyvard, Mountowen, Farranecarrig, Rathnerogy, etc, County Cork.

*These papers also originated in the office of Barrington & Son. For references to the Pigotts in the original Abbeyleix archive, see MS 38,746/22, MS 38,759/10 and MS 38,905.*

## XIV Maps, 1701-1985

1686

Extracts from the Civil Survey relating to the lands of Togher, barony of Maryborough, County Laois (see MS 38,742/8). [Not received by NLI?]

**MS Map 199 M**

1701

'Map of Upper and Lower Kealaghs [bounded by the River Gully and therefore near Abbeyleix]. Survey'd the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 1701 by me, John Russell.'

**MS Map 198 M**

1702

'A survey of the King and Queens counties', 1702. Survey of forfeited lands. Includes survey folios 1 to 10 (fo. 11 blank) and maps sheets 12 to 48. Extracted from the Down Survey. Copies of maps by surveyors who include Joseph Burton, Francis Boggost, John Connor, Florence Fitzpatrick, Patrick Bath, Augustin Dowdall, Coursey Ireland, Richard Ireland and John Lawrence. Some copies by Bartholomew More and [J. Pole Chaine]. Includes letter 11 Aug. 1702 delivered by St Leger Gilbert, Richard Warburton and John Despard concerning a distributed boundary and 2 related notes about the survey. [Microfilmed by NLI, p.6797]

1734

Framed map of the manor of Abbeyleix by Fanton Phelan. [Retained by Lord de Vesce.] For Phelan's computation of the number of acres in the manor, made in connection with lawsuit over it between Sir John Denny Vesey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bt, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Donegall, see MS 38,794.

**MS Map 200 (a-c) S**

1736/7: 1743: 1791

'Tulloroe maps' - a dismembered, small oblong folio volume containing the remnant of a series of maps by different surveyors (including Phelan, 1736 and 1743) of lands in the manor of Abbeyleix:

(a) 'A mapp of part of Tulloroe, that Marks [sic - Marcus?] Ward Holdes from Sir John Vesey Barrt. Date 15<sup>th</sup> Day of Aprile 1743'. Signed by Fanton Phelan.

(b) Survey of land, occupiers named, Feb. 21, 1736/7. Signed by Fanton Phelan.

(c) Survey relating to layout of grounds and gardens, 1791.

**MS Map 201 M**

1764

'A survey of three plowlands of Currah and Majore in the Barony of Duhallow and County of Cork,...., part of the Estate of Charles Dunbar, Esqr., Cork, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> 1764, by James Rochford.'

	<u>1769</u> Volume of maps of the manor of Abbeyleix by Bernard Scalé. These are technically and aesthetically of a very high quality and interesting on many accounts, but of particular interest because one of them seems to show the location of the house (near the stable yard and walled garden) in which the 1 <sup>st</sup> Lord Knapton reputedly lived after leaving Knapton and prior to the building of the present Abbeyleix. The map also includes pencil doodles marking the location of the projected new house and, apparently, of an eye-catcher to be visible from it (which was never built) and marking the line of the new front drive more-or-less as it was built. [Retained by Lord de Vesci.]
<b>MS Map 202 (a-e) S</b> <b>Ms Map 202(f) M</b>	<u>1769</u> (a) 'Part of Ballymaddock, 1769.' (b) 'Part of Ballymaddock, 1769.' (c) 'Part of Knocknamoe, 1769.' (d) 'Part of Tunduff, 1769.' (e) 'Part of Ballytarsna, 1769.' (f) 'Part of Ballytarsna and part of Tunduff, 1770.'
<b>MS Map 203 (a-b) M</b>	<u>1770</u> 'Part of Boaley, 1770' (2 copies).
<b>MS Map 204 M</b>	<u>1770</u> 'Part of Ballymaddock 1770.'
<b>MS Map 205 S</b>	<u>1771</u> 'A map of Intricilla [County Cork], the estate of Charles Dunbar, Esquire situate in the Liberties of the City of Corke...1771 by Richd Frizele & Chas. Frizele Junior' 1 sheet. This was originally located in a Poor Law valuation volume for Counties Cork and Dublin, 1831-7 (MS 34,536).
<b>MS Map 206 S</b>	<u>1787</u> 'A map of Mellonhill in Brownstown [near Kilcullen] in the Barony of South Naas; and county of Kildare, let by William Billing Esqr. to David Burtchell Esqr; ... by Chars. V[au]ghan.' In fragments.
<b>MS Map 207 S</b>	<u>1791</u> 'Map of the Heath'. 'A Survey of Tutters Heath, part of the estate of [...] Rt. Honrble. Lord [de Vesci] ... Feby 26 <sup>th</sup> 1791, by Robert Sirr.'
<b>MS Map 208 S</b>	<u>1794</u> '[Map of] Northumberland for the Agricultural Survey by Messers Bailey & Culley 1794.' Engraved map.
<b>MS Map 209 M</b>	<u>1796</u>

‘Map of part of Corbally: a part of the estate of the Right Honourable Lord Visct. De Vesce in the Barony of Maryborough in the Queens County. Surveyed Feb. 1796 by John Sullivan.’

**MS Map 210 (a-b) M**

1798

(a) ‘A map of part of the lands of Monkstown in the Parish of Passage Barrony of Kerrycurrihy and County of Cork the joint estate of the Rt. Honble Earl of Longford and Lord Visct. De Devesee, surveyed Decr. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1798 by Corns. ONeil.’

(b) ‘A map of part of the lands of Monkstown in the Parish of Passage Barrony of Kerrycurrihy and County of Cork the joint estate of the Rt. Honble Earl of Longford and Lord Visct. De Devesee, surveyed Decemr the 4<sup>th</sup> 1798 by Corns. ONeil.’

**MS Map 211 S**

1799

‘The County of Devon, reduced from the large map by Benjamin Donn, London, W. Faden, July 31<sup>st</sup> 1799.’ Engraved map.

**MS Map 249 M**

c.1800

Map of Clonking [sic - Clonkeen], part of the estate of Viscount de Vesce, 1 sheet.

**MS Map 213 L**

1805

‘Map of the whole Monkstown estate.’ ‘A survey of Monkstown in the Parish of Monkstown, Barony of Kerricurryhy and County of Cork, the estate of the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Longford and the Rt. Hon. Viscount de Vesce. By Sherrard & Brassington, 1805.’

**MS Map 214 M**

1805: 1956

Townland survey of the Monkstown estate, also by Sherrard & Brassington, 1805, preceded by a very handsome title page with cartouches. Volume containing 11 folios with maps and an accompanying table of reference (the latter giving occupiers’ names). Volume also includes a note of 19 Mar. 1956, and a letter from William James Roe to George Stewart, undated.

1822

Copy of the foregoing townland survey volume, by John Hill. [Not received by NLI?]

**MS Map 215 M**

[1828?]

Map of ‘Abbeyleix Manor’. 1 mile to one inch scale. [By John Hill? - see MS 39,250/7 below.]

**MS 39,250/7**

1828

Empty leather map case, from which MS Map 215 M may have become detached, titled ‘Hill’s map of the Abbeyleix estate’.

- MS 34,534/1-2** 1829: 1880  
Two volumes in the one leather sleeve, comprising a ‘Terrier of contents of part of the estate of the Viscount de Vesci situated in the barony of Maryborough, by John Hill, 1829’, and a ‘Terrier of contents of part of the estate of the Viscount de Vesci situated in Queen’s County, 1880’.
- MS 34,535** c. 1829  
Volume containing a ‘Terrier of contents of the estate of the Lord Viscount de Vesci situated in the parish of Abbeyleix, barony of Cullenagh and Queen’s County, by John Hill’. [The other part of MS 34,534/1]
- MS Map 218 (a-k) L** 1820: 1829  
Volume of Abbeyleix estate maps:  
(a) ‘Knockman & Togher surveyed by John Hill, 1829’.  
(b) ‘Tulleroe and Mill Farm’.  
(c) ‘Rathmoynes and Knockmoe’.  
(d) ‘Clonking, Brandra & Granafallow’. Includes notes produced by J. B. Crean about a hearing before the sub-commissioners at Abbeyleix, 15 Jan. 1917, Mary Sheil, tenant, and Viscount de Vesci, landlord.  
(e) ‘Colt & Colbally surveyed by John Hill, 1820’.  
(f) Clonohill and Knapton Bogs.  
(g) ‘Boaley’.  
(h) ‘Ralish and Ballymullen’.  
(i) ‘Ballytarsna, Poorman’s Bridge and Blackhill’.  
(j) ‘Killamuck and Gallow Bog’.  
(k) ‘Ballymaddock’.
- MS Map 212 (a-b) S** [post-1829]  
(a) ‘Colt’. ‘This division according to Hill’s survey.’  
(b) Calculations of ‘the true distance from Abbeyleix Gate to the Cross Roads at Shortolo both through Balliroan and Colt.’ 2 items.
- MS Map 250 M** 1822  
‘Distribution of large bog at Colt etc., etc’ by William Russell and signed off by J. Brownrigg and A.R. Nevill & Son, 20 Dec. 1822, 1 sheet
- 1825  
Framed map of the town of Abbeyleix by Joseph Dobbs Junior. [Retained by Lord de Vesci.]
- MS Map 216 M (a-b)** [Early-to-mid-19<sup>th</sup> century]  
(a) ‘Monkstown, Cork’. Ordnance Survey map of County Cork [possibly sheet 87], fragment. Marked up.  
(b) ‘Monkstown, Cork’. Ordnance Survey map of County Cork

[possibly sheet 87], fragment. Marked up.

**MS Map 219 M**

1832

‘A map of part of the lands of Malbaune and part of the Town of Passage West in the County of Cork, surveyed Decr. 1832, Patrick Aher.’

**MS Map 220 M**

1834

‘Map [of] Mr Clancy’s holding Mary Street, Limerick.’  
Surveyed by P. Hanlon, 20 Aug. 1834.

**MS Map 221 L**

1839

‘Plan of ground in Passage West the estate of Lord Visct. de Vesci as laid out for building, by G. R. Paine [*sic* - Pain], architect, Cork, 1834, copied by Martin H. Carroll, 1839.’

**MS Map 251 L**

1837

‘Survey of the manors of Rathangan and Kildare in the county of Kildare, the estate of the Most Noble Augustus Frederick, Duke of Leinster, by Clarges, Greene & Son, Dublin, 1837.’  
Linen backed, fragile condition, 1 sheet.

**MS Map 222 M**

1841

Volume of Ordnance Survey maps of Queen’s County, Sheets 1 to 37. Scale: 6" to one mile. Includes index to the Townland Survey of the Queen’s County. Lacks half of Sheet 23. Ownership signature of James William Butler. Front cover is gilt-tooled and bears the crest and name of ‘James Edward Scott Esquire, Anngrove Abbey’. The crest is also on the rear of the volume.

**MS Map 223 (a-g) L**

c.1841-c.1846

Volume of Ordnance Survey maps of Queen’s County, marked up [to denote parts of the Abbeyleix estate] by Hodges & Smith. All maps are 6" to one mile scale.

(a) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 13’, marked up [forestry], c.1846.

(b) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 13’, marked up [arable], c.1841.

(c) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 13’, marked up, c.1841. Includes occupiers’ names.

(d) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 17’, c.1841. Marked up [arable], c.1846. ‘Part of Colt’.

(e) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 18’. c.1841. Marked up and includes occupiers’ names. ‘Map of Clonadadoran, part of Colt, part of Togher’.

(f) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 29’. c.1841.

(g) ‘Ordnance Survey, Queen’s County, sheet 29’. c.1841. Abbeyleix demesne marked up.

- MS Map 224 (a-g) L** c.1839-c. 1845  
 Similar volume. All maps are 6" to one mile scale.  
 (a) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 13'. c.1839.  
 (b) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 17'. c.1841.  
 Marked up and signed Richard Griffith, 1845.  
 (c) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 18'. c.1841. With note, early 20<sup>th</sup> century.  
 (d) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 23'. c.1841. Marked up. Stamp of W.B. Soady.  
 (e) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 24'. c.1841.  
 (f) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 29'. Marked up (pencil marks on margin), c.1841.  
 (g) 'Ordnance Survey, Queen's County, sheet 30'. c.1841. Marked up.
- MS Map 255 (a-i)** c. 1841  
 Ordnance Survey maps of Queen's County. Scale: 6" to one mile. Marked up  
 (a) sheet 29  
 (b) sheet 30  
 (c) sheet 18  
 (d) sheet 23 [on verso 'Abbey Leix, Corbally, Donore, Scotchpath']  
 (e) sheet 18 [on verso 'Timaheo, Coolnacarrick, Togher, Colt']  
 (f) sheet 17 [on verso 'Colt, Clonkeen, Forrest, Mount Rath']  
 (g) sheet 23 [on verso 'Boley, Abbey Leix']  
 (h) no sheet number [on verso 'Ballimullin, Ballinafunshin, Dairy Hill, Ballicolla']  
 (i) sheet 18 [on verso 'Map of Clanadadoran, part of Colt, part of Togher']
- MS Map 225 (a-b) L** 1843  
 (a) 'Map and survey of part of the lands of Rathanker [Monkstown, County Cork], the property of Lord de Vesci, by M. Deasy, 1843'. Includes list of occupiers.  
 (b) Detail of Park-Garriff ('Mr Cagney').
- MS Map 226 L** c. 1845  
 'Copy of the first railway maps'. Ordnance Survey map of Monkstown, marked up, c. 1845. Scale: 6" to one mile.
- MS Map 248 L** 1846  
 'Map and s[urvey] ..., illustrative of the propos[ed] [d]rainage improvements on Abbeyleix demesne. For the Right Honble. Lord de Vesci by John Linehan, 1846.' In fragments.
- MS 34,405** 1847  
 Volume containing a 'Reference to the valuation of the estate of the Rt Hon. Lord de Vesci, Queen's County' by Hodges & Smith, Dublin.

- MS Map 253 L** c.1850s  
‘Map of Abbeyleix’ [town]. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 254 L** c.1850s  
Map of Abbeyleix town. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 257 (a-b) L** c. 1850s  
‘Map of Abbeyleix’ (a) with additional tracing (b).  
2 items.
- MS Map 256 L** c.1850s  
Map of the Great Heath of Maryborough, Queen’s County. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 228 L** mid 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Survey for the new intended public road and the railroad from the estate of Lord de Vescei [at Monkstown, County Cork?] through to the estate of Lady Cavan and Hamilton Fitzgerald Esq. Land occupiers are named.
- MS Map 258 M** Apr. and May 1860  
‘Map of the lands of Monkstown, called The Castle- Farm, in the parish of Monkstown, barony of Kerricurrihy, and county of Cork’ by Joseph Conroy. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 227 L** 1868  
Line of the ‘Monkstown-Cork Railway’, surveyed by John Benson, 12 Oct. 1868.
- MS Map 229 (a-c) L** c.1872-84  
Ordnance Survey maps, sheets 7 and 45 and one torn.  
Scale: 6" to 1 mile. Coloured sections. 3 items
- MS Map 252 S** 1873: 1878  
Map of part of Corbally and Colt [Abbeyleix estate]. Occupiers listed. With attached documentation, namely: letter from [Sam.] Leigh to Lord de Vescei, 15 Apr. 1873; survey of Corbally by Stanley Dobbs, 22 Mar. 1878; and pencil estimates relating to the construction of mill race from railway bridge to [Clintigeaf?]. 4 items
- MS Map 232 (a-c) M** 1876-7  
(a) ‘Section of public road from Thornberry bounds to school garden wall opposite Dr Stoney’s, Abbeyleix’, by Stanley Dobbs, 21 Feb. 1877. [Endorsed on verso ‘Waterworks plans’.’]  
(b) plans of watercourses for Abbeyleix, by Stanley Dobbs, 17 Nov. 1876.  
(c) ‘Abbeyleix Water-Works, Sheet 2. Scale 1:2,500.’ Undated.

See also XXI.iii.

- MS Map 259 L** 1879  
'Map and survey of Denis and Stephen Fitzpatrick's farms at Togher and Knockmay, on the estate of Lord de Vesci, in the Queen's County.' Signed by [M. Leeson?], dated July 1879. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 230 L** 1887  
'Survey of graveyard at Monkstown, County Cork. Plan showing new boundary wall, W.C. Ryder, 11<sup>th</sup> June 1887.'
- MS Map 231 M** 1887  
Booklet 'Map of Derrylahan situate in the Barony of Cullenagh, Queen's County'. Includes named land occupiers. Signed by William Long, Feb. 1887.
- MS Map 260 M** [1890s?]  
'A chart of the upper part of Glandore harbour', accompanying an application from Mr Hussey de Burgh, Kilfinnin Castle, Glandore, County Cork, to plant an oyster bed. 1 sheet.
- MS Map 233 L** 1868: 1897  
'Plan A: Limerick'. Survey of property on Nicholas Street, surveyed by Pat. W. Mahon, 28 Feb. 1868. Stamped Mar. [18]97 on verso.
- MS Map 234 L** 1868  
'Limerick'. Survey of property on Mary Street and George's Quay, Limerick, surveyed by Pat W. Mahon, 28 Feb. 1868.
- MS Map 235 M** mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Manuscript map of the 'Monkstown estate of Viscount de Vesci. Sheet LXXXVII. 6.'
- MS Map 236 L** 19<sup>th</sup> century  
'Rough plan of part of the lands of Monkstown, county of Dublin. Joseph Home Esqre.'
- MS Map 237 (a-b) M** c. late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
(a) Abbeyleix demesne. Marked up Ordnance Survey Map.  
(b) Fragmentary Ordnance Survey map of County Cork, sheet 87 (Monkstown).
- MS Map 238 M** late 19<sup>th</sup> cent.  
Map (on linen paper) of 'Monkstown, barony of Kerricurrihy, county of Cork'.
- MS Map 239 (a-j) L** 1841: 1934-5: 1976: 1982  
(a) Photocopy of Ordnance Survey map of County Laois

(Cullenagh), sheet 23-16. Marked up by Thomas R. White, 28 Sept. 1982.

(b) Fragment of Ordnance Survey map of Laois, sheet 23-16, 1976. Scale of 1:2,500.

(c) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey.

(d) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey.

(e) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey. Marked up.

(f) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey. Marked up.

(g) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey. Marked up in relation to woods and forestry.

(h) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey. Marked up for 1934-5 planting.

(i) 'Home Farm Abbey Leix' based on the Ordnance Survey. Marked up.

(j) Ordnance Survey 'Map of the Queen's County', 1841, marked up by Hodges & Smith, Dublin.

**MS Map 245 (a-h) L**

c.1890: 1930

(a) Map of 'The Home Farm, Abbeyleix', with an attached 3-page letter and note, 14 Mar. 1930 from Cecil Fitzherbert to the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci concerning forestry.

(b) Fragment of an Ordnance Survey map of 'Part of Abbeyleix Town'..

(c) Ordnance Survey map, sheet no. 23, Queen's County. Scale: 6" to one mile. Marked up with the names of Abbeyleix tenants.

(d-h) Plans based on the Ordnance Survey map of Abbeyleix demesne. All are marked up with details of garden and parkland planting. 5 sheets.

8 sheets in all

**MS Map 242 (a-b) L**

1906

(a) Booklet containing a marked up Ordnance Survey map of 'The Home Farm, Abbeyleix'.

(b) Ordnance Survey map marked up to which is appended 'De Vesci Estate: index of season's lands showing statute area and amount of rent obtained 1906'. 4 pp

2 items

**MS Map 261 L**

1907

Map of the 'Town of Abbeyleix', with a General Valuation Office date stamp, 6 Nov. 1907. 1 sheet

**MS 34,546**

1908-9

Volume containing an index to a survey of the Abbeyleix estate.

**MS Map 243 M**

1920

Marked up, fragmentary Ordnance Survey map, 11 Nov. 1920:  
Togher Wood.

- MS Map 244 M**                    1920  
Fragment of an Ordnance Survey map, County Louth, sheet 8.  
Note relating to [Evelyn] Lady de Vesce's tenants [at  
Ballymascanlan, Carlingford, Ravensdale, etc - see MS  
38,746/20]. Signed by [George] Burke and A. [V.] FitzHubert  
on 12 Oct. 1920. General Valuation Office Stamp 2 Sept. 1920.
- MS Map 241 L**                    1923  
Fragmentary Ordnance Survey map, County Cork, sheet 87;  
endorsed 'Donald McDonald'.
- MS Map 263 (a-b) L**            1925  
(a) 'Millbrook Mills, Abbeyleix, James O'Donnell, May 1925.'  
(b) 'Millbrook Mills, Abbeyleix. Plan and section shewing  
improved mill race. James O'Donnell, May 1925.'  
2 sheets
- MS Map 246 (a-b) L**            n.d.  
Two copies of a map of Abbeyleix demesne/Baggottspark; both  
'Lands of Abbeyleix Estate Company'.
- MS Map 240 L**                    n.d.  
Fragmentary Ordnance Survey map of 'Part of Abbeyleix  
Town'.
- MS Map 265 L**                    n.d.  
Tracing from an Ordnance Survey map of Abbeyleix: 'Woods  
map'. 1 sheet
- MS Map 247 (a-b) M**            n.d.  
Two copies of a map of 'Lands of Abbeyleix Estate Company'  
[townland of Poormansbridge, County Laois].

## **XV      Abbeyleix House and farm, 1900-83**

### **XV.i      Abbeyleix House accounts and inventories, 1900-65**

- MS 34,451**                    1900-20  
Small folio volume, bound in black morocco, recording the names of  
guests staying at Abbeyleix House and the number of meals served to  
them and to servants.

- MS 34,452**      1903-8  
Quarto, half-calf cellar book for Abbeyleix House.
- MS 34,453**      1904  
Very small quarto 'Inventory of furniture, etc, in Abbeyleix House ...'.
- MS 34,454**      June 1906  
Very small quarto exercise book containing a list of 'Furniture sent over from Abbeyleix ...' to Evelyn, [Dowager] Viscountess de Vesci.
- MS 34,455/1-2**      1907: 1912  
Very small quarto 'Plate list', 1907, with a further plate list of 1912 inserted loose in its pages.
- MS 34,456/1-2**      1915  
Two matching, oblong folio volumes containing an Abbeyleix inventory.
- MS 34,538**      June 1921  
Inventory of furniture, etc, in Abbeyleix House.
- MS 34,539**      June 1921  
Inventory and valuation of the same.
- MS 34,457**      1943  
Small quarto volume containing an Abbeyleix House inventory.
- MS 34,540**      Aug. 1932-Aug. 1939  
Cashbook for Abbeyleix House.
- MS 34,541**      Aug. 1939-July 1943  
Cashbook for Abbeyleix House.
- MS 34,542/1-2**      1952-4  
Account book for supplies to Abbeyleix House and Millbrook House (2 vols).
- MS 34,543**      1956-61  
Abbeyleix House household account book.
- MS 34,544**      Jan 1961 - June 1965  
Abbeyleix House vegetables and flowers account book.
- MS 34,545**      n.d  
Abbeyleix House household account book.

## **XV.ii      Abbeyleix farm administrative records, c.1898-1983**

- MS 34,893**      c. 1898-1933  
Herd book
- MS 34,548**      1912- Oct. 1923  
Farm dairy book
- MS 34,549**      1917-20  
Farm payments book.
- MS 34,550**      1918  
Farm receipts book.
- MS 34,551**      1929  
Dairy receipts book, itemising farm charges against the department.
- MS 34,552**      1930-33  
Stock book.
- MS 34,553**      1931-4  
Farm produce account book.
- MS 34,554**      1943  
Time book for work on a stream at Ballymullen.
- MS 34,555**      1944-53  
Hereford herd book. Record of all the cattle in the herd and their offspring. 23 cows in total.
- MS 39,259/1**      June 1947  
List of full time employees of the Abbeyleix Estate Company. 7 sheets.
- MS 34,556**      1947-62  
Farm cultivation records for the Abbeyleix Estate Company home farm.
- MS 39,259/2**      1948-53  
Hereford herd book. Record of all the cattle in the herd and their offspring. 10 cattle in total.
- MS 34,557/1-10**      1950s  
Series of folders relating to the administration of the home Farm at Abbeyleix; as follows;  
/1 Bogland  
/2 Employment applications  
/3 Estate Office  
/4 Farm cattle  
/5 Farm cropping  
/6 Farm general

/7 Insurance: workmen's compensation  
/8 Irish Sugar Company  
/9 Machinery: farm and general  
/10 Wages

- MS 39,259/3** 1951-2  
Milk records
- MS 39,259/4** 1952  
Wage sheets for the year 1952, recording the duties, and wages of the employees.
- MS 39,259/5** 1954-8  
Select daily milk records; loose sheets.
- MS 34,558** 1961-2  
Farm employment book.
- MS 34,559** 1961-3  
Attested herd register.
- MS 34,560** 1961-9  
Farm employees book.
- MS 34,561** c.1965  
Farm miscellaneous records.
- MS 34,562** 1967-Aug. 1983  
Monthly stock returns.
- MS 34,563** 1968  
Goulding farm record book.
- MS 34,564** 1977-Aug. 1983  
Monthly stock returns.
- MS 34,565** 1980-3  
Cropping record.
- MS 34,566** n.d  
Attested herd register (blank).
- MS 34,896** n.d  
Farm cultivation record (blank).

## **XV.iii      Cashbooks and wages books for the Abbeyleix farm, 1897-1976**

- MS 34,889/1-3**      1897-99  
Abbeyleix farm wages books (3 vols).
- MS 34,567/1-2**      1900-1  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (2 vols).
- MS 34,568/1-2**      1902-3  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (2 vols).
- MS 34,570/1-3**      1904-6  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (3 vols).
- MS 34,569/1-2**      1906-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (2 vols).
- MS 34,571/1-2**      Mar. 1909-Dec. 1910  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (2 vols).
- MS 34,572**              1911  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,573**              Mar. 1912-Oct. 1913  
Abbeyleix Estate Company Cashbook and workmen's Wages Book for the Farm
- MS 34,574**              Mar. 1913-Mar. 1914  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,575/1-3**      Mar. 1914-Feb. 1917  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (3 vols).
- MS 34,576/1-2**      Mar. 1917-Sep. 1919  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (2 vols).
- MS 34,577**              Apr. 1920-Aug. 1921  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.

- MS 34,578/1-5**     Sept. 1921- Feb. 1928  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm (5 vols).
- MS 34,579**        Mar. 1930-Dec. 1931  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,580**        Jan. 1932-Aug. 1933  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,581**        Sep. 1933-May 1935  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,582**        June 1935-May 1937  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,583**        Mar. 1936-Feb. 1938  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,584**        Mar. 1938-Nov. 1940  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,585**        1940-June 1943  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,586**        July 1943-Apr. 1946  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,587**        Apr. 1946-Nov. 1948  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,588**        Dec. 1948-Mar. 1949  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,589**        Apr. 1949-Aug. 1950  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,590**        Sept. 1950-Feb. 1952

- Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,591**      7 Mar. 1952-27 Feb 1953  
Workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,592**      Mar. 1953-Feb. 1954  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,593**      Mar. 1954-Feb. 1955  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,594**      Mar. 1955-Feb. 1956  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,595**      Feb. 1956-Mar. 1957  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,596**      8 Mar. 1957-28 Feb 1958  
Workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,597**      Feb. 1958-Mar. 1959  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,598**      Feb. 1959-Mar. 1960  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,599**      Feb. 1960-Mar. 1961  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,600**      Mar. 1962-Feb. 1963  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,601**      Feb. 1963-Mar. 1964  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,602**      Feb. 1964-Mar. 1965  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,603**      Feb. 1965-Mar. 1966  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm and gardens.
- MS 34,604**      Mar. 1966-Feb. 1967  
Workmen's time book for the farm and gardens.
- MS 34,605**      Mar. 1967-Feb. 1968  
Workmen's time book for the farm and gardens.
- MS 34,606**      Mar. 1968-Feb. 1969

- Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm and gardens.
- MS 34,607**      Mar.-Dec. 1969  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm and gardens.
- MS 34,608**      Jan.-Dec. 1970  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the farm.
- MS 34,609**      Jan. 1971-Dec. 1972  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.
- MS 34,610**      Jan. 1975-Jan. 1976  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the farm.

## **XVI Woods and gardens, 1897-1979**

### **XVI.i Cashbooks and workmen's wages books for the woods, 1897-1971**

- MS 34,890/1-3**      1897-9  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (3 vols).
- MS 34,611/1-2**      Mar. 1900-Feb 1902  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (2 vols).
- MS 34,661**      1902  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods.
- MS 34,612**      1903  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods.
- MS 34,613/1-4**      1904-7  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (4 vols).
- MS 34,614**      1908  
Tonduff wood.
- MS 34,615/1-2**      Mar. 1908-Feb. 1910

- Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (2 vols).
- MS 34,547**      1909-11  
Account book for the Abbeyleix plantations.
- MS 34,616**      Mar. 1910-Feb. 1911  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods.
- MS 34,617**      1910-16  
Workmen's time book Togher wood.
- MS 34,618**      Mar. 1911-Mar. 1912  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,619**      1913-16  
Colt workmen's time book.
- MS 34,667/1-3**      Mar. 1912-Apr. 1915  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (3 vols).
- MS 34,620/1-2**      May 1915-July 1917  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (2 vols).
- MS 34,621/1-4**      July 1917-Aug. 1921  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods (4 vols).
- MS 34,622**      Oct. 1921-Jan. 1923  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods.
- MS 34,623/1-2**      Mar. 1923-Feb. 1925  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings (2 vols).
- MS 34,624/1-5**      Mar. 1925-June 1932  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings (5 vols).
- MS 34,625**      July 1932-Apr. 1934  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,626**      May 1934-Mar. 1936  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for

- the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,627**      Mar. 1938-Dec. 1939  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,628**      Jan. 1940-Nov. 1941  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,629**      Nov. 1941-June 1943  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,630**      July 1943-May 1945  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,631**      June 1945-Apr. 1947  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,632**      Apr. 1947-Mar. 1949  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,633**      Mar. 1949-Feb. 1951  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book woods and buildings.
- MS 34,634**      Mar. 1951-Feb. 1952  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book woods and buildings.
- MS 34,635**      Mar. 1952-Feb. 1954  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,636**      Mar. 1954-Feb. 1955  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,637**      4 Mar. 1955-24 Feb. 1956  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,638**      1956-7  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.

- MS 34,639**      Feb. 1957-Mar. 1958  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,640**      Feb. 1959-Mar. 1960  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book for the woods and buildings.
- MS 34,641**      Feb. 1959-Mar. 1960  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,642**      Feb. 1960-Mar. 1961  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,643**      Mar. 1961-Feb. 1962  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,644**      Mar. 1962-Feb. 1963  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,645**      Mar. 1963-Feb. 1964  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,646**      Mar. 1966-Feb. 1967  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34, 647**      Mar. 1967-Feb. 1968  
 Workmen's timebook for the woods.
- MS 34,648**      1968-9  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,649**      1969-70  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,650**      1970  
 Workmen's time book for the woods.
- MS 34,651**      1971  
 Cashbook and workmen's time book for the woods.

**XVI.ii      Woodland management, 1959-79**

- MS 34,652**      1959  
 Abbeyleix woodlands working plan.
- MS 34,653**      1959-61  
 Abbeyleix forestry register.

- MS 34,654**      1959  
Abbeyleix woodlands working plan.
- MS 34,655**      1961-7  
Abbeyleix forestry register.
- MS 34,656**      1971  
Private woodland survey.
- MS 34,657**      1972  
Woodland management account book.
- MS 34,657A**     1972-6  
Woodland management account book.
- MS 34,658**      Jan 1975-Dec. 1979  
Woodland management account book.

### **XVI.iii      Garden records, 1897-1965**

- MS 34,891/1-3**    1897-99  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (3 vols).
- MS 34,659/1-2**    1900-01  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (2 vols).
- MS 34,660**        1902  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,662**        1903  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the gardens.
- MS 34,663/1-3**    1904-6  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (3 vols).
- MS 34,664/1-2**    1906-7  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the gardens (2 vols).

- MS 34,665**      Mar. 1909-Feb. 1910  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,666/1-2**      1910-11  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (2 vols).
- MS 34,668/1-2**      1913-16  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (2 vols).
- MS 34,669/1-2**      Nov. 1916-Aug. 1921  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (2 vols).
- MS 34,670**      1914-15  
 Nursery book.
- MS 34,671/1-2**      Aug. 1921-May 1925  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (2 vols).
- MS 34,672/1-3**      Oct. 1925- Feb. 1931  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden (3 vols).
- MS 34,673**      Nov. 1923  
 Gardens account book.
- MS 34,674**      Mar. 1931-Nov. 1932  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,675**      Dec. 1932- Aug. 1934  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,676**      Sept. 1934-July 1936  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,829**      July 1936-Jan. 1939  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,677**      Mar. 1939- Feb. 1943  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.

- MS 34,678**      Mar. 1943-Feb. 1948  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,679**      1948  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,680**      Apr. 1949-Oct. 1951  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,681**      Mar. 1954-Feb. 1955  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book garden.
- MS 34,682**      Mar. 1951-Feb. 1952  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,683**      Mar. 1952-Feb. 1954  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the garden.
- MS 34,684**      Feb. 1955-Mar. 1956  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,685**      1956-9  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,686**      Feb. 1959-Mar. 1961  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,687**      1961-3  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,688**      1963-5  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,689**      Feb.-Aug. 1965  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book for the garden.
- MS 34,835**      1901-6  
 Garden sales book.
- MS 34,834**      Feb. 1955-Nov. 1956  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company: gardens produce for the house.
- MS 39,264/2**      1955-8  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company: gardens account book.

## **XVII Abbeyleix estate sawmill records, 1904-94**

### **XVII.i Sawmill cashbooks and workmen's wages books, 1954-67**

- MS 34,690**      Mar. 1954-Feb 1955  
Sawmill workmen's time book.
- MS 34,691**      May 1953-Feb. 1954  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook and workmen's wages book for the sawmill.
- MS 34,692**      1954-60  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book (sawmill).
- MS 34,693**      Mar. 1955-Feb. 1956  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book (sawmill).
- MS 34,694**      2 Mar. 1956-1 Mar. 1957  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill salary book.
- MS 34,695**      Mar. 1957-Feb. 1958  
Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's wages book (sawmill).
- MS 34,696**      Mar. 1958-Feb 1959  
Sawmill workmen's time book.
- MS 34,697**      Mar. 1960-Feb 1961  
Sawmill wages book.
- MS 34,698**      Mar. 1961-Feb. 1962  
Sawmill workmen's time book.
- MS 34,699**      Mar. 1962-Feb. 1963  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill salary book.
- MS 34,700**      Mar. 1963-Feb. 1964  
Sawmill workmen's time book.
- MS 34,701**      Mar. 1964-Feb. 1965  
Sawmill workmen's time book.
- MS 34,702**      Mar. 1966-Feb. 1967  
Sawmill workmen's time book.

## **XVII.ii Sawmill administrative accounts, 1904-94**

- MS 34,485**      1904-7  
Sawmill ledger.
- MS 34,703**      Mar. 1907: Dec. 1908  
Sawmill account book.
- MS 34,704**      1932-9  
Sawmill sales book.
- MS 34,705**      Feb 1949-Jan 1959  
Sawmill sales book.
- MS 34,706**      1954-6  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill cashbook.
- MS 34,707**      1954-8  
Sawmill invoices book.
- MS 34,708/1-2**   1955-64  
Box of material relating to the forestry and sawmill business of the  
Abbeyleix Estate Company.
- MS 34,709**      1957-9  
Sawmill account book.
- MS 34,710**      Mar. 1962-Feb. 1963  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,711**      Mar. 1963-Feb. 1964  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,712**      1964-5  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,713**      1965-6  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmills analysis book.
- MS 34,714**      Mar. 1967-Feb. 1968  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,715**      Mar. 1968-Dec. 1968  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,716**      1969-70  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,718**      1971-2

- Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,717**     1976  
Abbeyleix Estate Company sawmill analysis book.
- MS 34,719**     1972-8  
Sawmill purchases book.
- MS 34,720**     1973-4  
Sawmill account book.
- MS 34,721**     Mar. 1974-May 1975  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book containing typed correspondence about the woods and sawmill (1 folder).
- MS 34,722/1-3** Jan. 1975-Feb. 1978  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books containing typed correspondence about the woods and sawmill (3 folders).
- MS 34,723**     Oct. 1987-Nov. 1988  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book containing typed correspondence about the woods and sawmill (1 folder).
- MS 34,724/1-3** Sept. 1989-Sept. 1994  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books containing typed correspondence about the woods and sawmill (3 folders).

## **XVIII Abbeyleix Estate Company administrative records, 1877-1985**

### **XVIII.i Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis books, 1960-78**

- MS 34,725**     Mar. 1960-Feb. 1961  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,726**     Mar. 1961-Feb. 1962  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,727**     1962-3  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,728**     1965-6  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,729**     1966-7  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.

- MS 34,730**      Mar. 1968-Dec. 1968  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,731**      Jan. 1969-Dec. 1969  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,732**      Apr. 1970-Dec. 1970  
Abbeyleix Estate Company analysis book.
- MS 34,768/1-5**   1974-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Company departmental analysis book (5 vols).

## **XVIII.ii      Abbeyleix estate accounts, 1877-1983**

- MS 34,895**      1877-9  
Abbeyleix estate annual account.
- MS 34,901**      1883-97  
Abbeyleix estate annual account.
- MS 34,882**      1889-90  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,883**      1890-92  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,884**      1892-4  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,885**      1894-7  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,886**      1897-9  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,892**      1897-1910  
Abbeyleix estate annual account no. 3.
- MS 34,887**      1899-1900  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.
- MS 34,733**      1900-02  
Abbeyleix estate cash accounts.
- MS 34,734**      1902-3  
Abbeyleix estate cash account.

<b>MS 34,734A</b>	<u>1903-5</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,735</b>	<u>1904-25</u> Total weekly outgoings for the estate.
<b>MS 34,736/1-2</b>	<u>1905-9</u> Abbeyleix estate cashbook (2 vols).
<b>MS 34,737</b>	<u>May 1909-Mar. 1911</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,740</b>	<u>1910-31</u> Abbeyleix estate annual account no. 4.
<b>MS 34,741</b>	<u>1911-13</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,742</b>	<u>Apr. 1913-May 1915</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,739</b>	<u>1915-19</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,738</b>	<u>1917-20</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,745</b>	<u>Mar. 1920-June 1922</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account.
<b>MS 34,744</b>	<u>1922-5</u> Abbeyleix estate cash account
<b>MS 34,743</b>	<u>1923-7</u> Abbeyleix estate cash book.
<b>MS 34,746</b>	<u>1927-31</u> Abbeyleix estate account.
<b>MS 34,747</b>	<u>1931-5</u> Abbeyleix estate account.
<b>MS 34,748</b>	<u>1932-46</u> Abbeyleix Estate Company annual account no. 5.
<b>MS 34,749</b>	<u>1935-9</u> Abbeyleix estate account.
<b>MS 34,750</b>	<u>1936-51</u> Abbeyleix Estate Company receipts.

- MS 34,751**      1939-40  
Abbeyleix estate account.
- MS 34,752/1-12**      Mainly 1950s  
Series of folders relating to the administration of the Abbeyleix and (in one instance) Dún Laoghaire estates, as follows:  
/1 Accountancy.  
/2 Coal.  
/3 Fitzsimon & Ryan, solicitors. [See also under XIX.ix.]  
/4 Guardian Assurance Company.  
/5 Houses applications.  
/6 J.R. Stewart.  
/7 Laois County Council.  
/8 Motor taxation.  
/9 Rates, Laois.  
/10 Returns for abatement.  
/11 S.S. & E. Reeves & Sons.  
/12 Town Tenants Commission, 1927: Dún Laoghaire.
- MS 34,753/1-2**      Mar. 1952-July 1955  
Abbeyleix Estate Company weekly outgoings (2 vols).
- MS 34,754/1-2**      July 1955-Nov. 1958  
Abbeyleix Estate Company weekly outgoings (2 vols).
- MS 34,755**      15 Nov. 1958-13 Aug. 1960  
Abbeyleix Estate Company account book.
- MS 34,757**      Mar. 1963-Feb. 1964  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,758**      1964-5  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,756**      1967-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,761**      1971  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,765**      1972-5  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,759**      1972-83  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,762**      Dec. 1972-Apr. 1984  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.

- MS 34,760      1973  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,764      Jan 1973-Dec. 1974  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,763      1973-5  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,766      Jan 1976-Dec. 1980  
Abbeyleix Estate Company estate account.
- MS 34,767      1974-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Company invoice book.
- MS 34,769      Jan. 1976-Dec. 1979  
Abbeyleix Estate Company account book: outgoings.
- MS 34,770      Jan. 1977-Dec. 1977  
Abbeyleix Estate Company account book: outgoings.
- MS 34,771      Jan. 1980-Dec. 1980  
Abbeyleix Estate Company account book: outgoings.
- MS 34,772      June 1982-1983  
Abbeyleix Estate Company account book for the Longford/de Vesci estate, Dún Laoghaire.

### **XVIII.iii    Abbeyleix estate cashbooks, 1959-62**

- MS 34,773      1959-61  
Monthly cash statements.
- MS 34,774      Aug. 1960-Feb. 1962  
Cashbook.
- MS 34,775      Mar. 1962  
Cashbook.

*For a separate series of cashbooks, 1940-73, see XIX.viii.*

### **XVIII.iv    Abbeyleix clerk of works account and wages books, 1897-1922**

- MS 34,888/1-3      1897-9  
Clerk of works account and wages books (3 vols).

- MS 34,777/1-2      1900-1  
Clerk of works account and wages books (2 vols).
- MS 34,778            1902  
Clerk of works account and wages book.
- MS 34,779/1-4      1903-6  
Clerk of works account and wages books (4 vols).
- MS 34,780            1908  
Clerk of works account and wages book.
- MS 34,781/1-2      1907-9  
Clerk of works account and wages books (2 vols).
- MS 34,782            1909  
Summary of clerk of works accounts.
- MS 34,783            1910  
Clerk of works wages book.
- MS 34,784/1-2      1912-14  
Clerk of works wages books (2 vols).
- MS 34,785            July 1914-June 1916  
Clerk of works account book.
- MS 34,786            Nov. 1916-July 1919  
Clerk of works account book.
- MS 34,787            July 1919-Mar. 1922  
Clerk of works account book.
- MS 34,788            Apr. 1922  
Clerk of works account book.

## **XVIII.v      Abbeylex Estate Company letter books, 1953- 85**

- MS 34,789/1-11      July 1952-Aug. 1959  
Abbeylex Estate Company letter books: eleven bundles of typed correspondence.
- MS 34,904            May 1954-Feb. 1955  
Abbeylex Estate Company letter book (all typed correspondence).

- MS 34,790**      Mar. 1955-Dec. 1955  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book.
- MS 34,791**      Oct. 1957-Sept. 1958  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book.
- MS 34,792**      Sept. 1959-Feb. 1961  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book (1 bundle).
- MS 34,793/1-3**      Mar. 1961-Oct. 1966  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books (3 folders).
- MS 34,794**      Mar. 1962-Feb. 1963  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book.
- MS 34,795**      Mar. 1963-May 1964  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book (1 bundle).
- MS 34,796**      1 Nov. 1966-31 Mar. 1968  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: copies of correspondence.
- MS 34,797**      1 Apr. 1968-28 Feb. 1969  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: copies of correspondence.
- MS 34,798/1-3**      1 Mar. 1969-6 Mar. 1974  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books (3 folders).
- MS 34,799**      1 May 1970-30 June 1971  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: copies of correspondence.
- MS 34,800**      June 1975-Feb. 1978  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books (3 folders).
- MS 34,801/1-3**      Nov. 1978-Oct. 1985  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter books (3 folders).
- MS 34,902**      Oct. 1985-Oct. 1987  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book.
- MS 34,903**      Dec. 1988-Sept. 1989  
Abbeyleix Estate Company letter book.

**XVIII.vi      Abbeyleix Estate Company wages books, 1919-  
87**

- MS 34,811**      Oct. 1919-Mar. 1920  
Workmen's account book.

- MS 34,812/1-2**      1960-2  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's account books (2 vols).
- MS 34,813**        Mar. 1964-Feb. 1965  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's timebook.
- MS 34,814**        Mar. 1965-Feb. 1966  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company workmen's time book.
- MS 34,815/1-2**    Mar. 1973-Jan 1975  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book (2 vols).
- MS 34,816**        1972-3  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.
- MS 34,817**        Jan 1976-Dec. 1976  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.
- MS 34,818/1-2**    Jan 1978-Dec. 1979  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.
- MS 34,819**        May 1979-May 1980  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.
- MS 34,820**        1980-82  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.
- MS 34,821/1-2**    Jan. 1981-Aug. 1987  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company wages book.

### **XVIII.vii Miscellaneous records of the Abbeyleix Estate Company, 1880-1983**

- MS 34,899**        c. 1884-1905  
 Memoranda of houses repaired and furniture, etc, supplied.
- MS 34,822**        1880s  
 Water rates book, and an unused receipt book for bogs.
- MS 34,823**        Late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
 General Valuation of Ireland, Union of Abbeyleix, Electoral Division of Abbeyleix (printed volume).
- MS 34,830**        Late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
 The Park: letter book (blank).
- MS 34,831**        Late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
 Land Valuation register (blank).

- MS 34,827**      1907-17  
Poor Rates book.
- MS 34,828**      n.d  
Blank cashbook.
- MS 34,826**      1946-52  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: garage records.
- MS 34,752A**      1951-2  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: Income Tax schedules, assessments, etc.
- MS 39,264/1**      1950s  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: miscellaneous business letters and receipts,  
etc. c.30 items.
- MS 34,825**      1962-3  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: repairs department.
- MS 34,776**      Nov. 1963-Feb. 1966  
Abbeyleix Estate Company Turnover Tax register.
- MS 34,836/1-3**      1970-83  
Tourist takings at Abbeyleix (3 vols).
- MS 34,832**      1972-Sept. 1983  
'WMS Purchases.'
- MS 34,833**      1972-Sept. 1983  
'WMS Accounts.'
- MS 34,824**      1973-83  
Abbeyleix Estate Company: garage purchases.

### **XVIII.viii Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbooks, 1940-73**

- MS 34,837**      1940-48  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.
- MS 34,881**      1948-54  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.
- MS 34,838**      1954-58  
Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.

- MS 34,839      1958-61  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.
- MS 34,840      1961-65  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.
- MS 34,841      1965-69  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.
- MS 34,842      1969-73  
 Abbeyleix Estate Company cashbook.

*For a separate series of cashbooks, 1959-62, see XIX.iii.*

### **XVIII.ix    Land agents' and solicitors' correspondence, mainly regarding the management, valuation and sale of property in Dún Laoghaire, 1946-80**

- MS 39,263/2      1946-54  
 Miscellaneous correspondence between Viscount de Vesci and  
 solicitors J.R. Stewart & Sons. 100 items.
- MS 34,843/1-2      1957-72  
 Folder of correspondence with Fitzsimon & Ryan [See also MS  
 34,752/.
- MS 34,844      1960  
 Valuation of the Longford/de Vesci Estate.
- MS 34,845      1964-6  
 Kingstown Management Committee reports.
- MS 34,846      1965  
 Kingstown Management Committee reports.
- MS 34,847      1965-7  
 Urban property sales.
- MS 34,848      1967  
 Folder of correspondence with W.J. Ryan and E. Preston.
- MS 34,849      1967-8  
 Kingstown Management Committee reports.
- MS 34,849A      1967-68  
 Sale of property by Abbeyleix Estate Company: correspondence with  
 Osborne King & Megran.

- MS 34,850**      1967-9  
Sale of property: Fitzsimon & Ryan and Osborne King & Megran.
- MS 34,851**      1969-70  
Sale of property: Fitzsimon & Ryan and Osborne King & Megran.
- MS 34,852**      1971-2  
Osborne King & Megran, Ernest Preston, Fitzsimon & Ryan.
- MS 34,853**      1972-4  
Property conveyancing.
- MS 34,854**      1973-4  
W.J. Ryan and E. Preston.
- MS 34,855**      1973-5  
W.J. Ryan and E. Preston.
- MS 34,856**      1978  
W.J. Ryan and E. Preston.
- MS 34,857**      1979-80  
W.J. Ryan and E. Preston.

## **XVIII.x      Insurance records, 1903-72**

- MS 39,247/5**      1903-4: 1908: 1923: 1933  
Letter about the insurance of Abbeyleix House and the de Vesci employees in it, and insurance policies.
- MS 34,858**      1912  
Volume recording contributions paid by employees on the Abbeyleix estate under the Insurance Act of that year.
- MS 34,859**      1952-71  
Record of insurance policies taken out by the Abbeyleix Estate Company.
- MS 39,264/3**      1923-72  
Box of insurance policies, mainly covering Abbeyleix House and its outlying buildings, but also covering the cars, jewellery, travel, etc, of individual Veseys/de Vescis.

## **XVIII.xi      Abbeyleix Carpet Factory records, 1904-13**

- 1904-13  
Bundle of account books, address book, visitors' book, photographs of all operatives at work, etc, all relating to the Abbeyleix Carpet Factory;

included in the bundle is a licence from the Hon. R.T. Flower to the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci transferring his patent for carpet and rug manufacturing to Lord de Vesci, 25 January 1904. [Not received by NLI. Retained by Lord de Vesci?]

- MS 38,486**      1904-13  
Large quarto ledger relating to the Abbeyleix Carpet Factory.
- MS 34,860/1-3**      Feb. 1904–Aug. 1906  
Abbeyleix Carpet Factory workmen’s time book. (3 vols).
- MS 34,861**      June 1909-June 1911  
The same (2 vols).

## **XVIII.xii Postage and petty cash books of the Abbeyleix Estate Company, 1952-78**

- MS 34,862**      1954-62  
Abbeyleix Estate Company postage book.
- MS 34,863**      1959-70  
Abbeyleix Estate Company postage book.
- MS 34,864**      1952-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Office petty cash book.
- MS 34,865**      1952-4  
Abbeyleix Estate Office petty cash book.
- MS 34,866**      1972-8  
Abbeyleix Estate Office petty cash book.
- MS 39,264/4**      c.1970s  
Miscellaneous box of Abbeyleix Estate records - mostly petty cash books.  
24 items.

## **XIX Photographs, c.1860-1984**

*In general, the most significant photographs and photograph albums, c.1870-1975, have been retained by Lord de Vesci. These comprised (in 1995):*

c.1870-1975  
Tin deed box, inscribed ‘Viscount de Vesci estates’, and PRONI box, together containing c.350 loose or framed photographs; together with 41 (mainly water-damaged) photograph albums varying in size from large oblong folio to small octavo.

The loose photographs tend to be of the ‘family snap’ variety, although they do include a good many views of Abbeyleix House and demesne, including a 1963 set of interior shots (important because the ground floor of the house was extensively re-modelled in 1966). The scrap-books and albums are of greater importance; they are also on the whole coherently arranged. There are c.8 scrap-books/albums of Lady Cicely Vesey (née Browne), which include interesting views of Killarney House, the County Kerry seat of her father, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Kenmare, both inside and out, [c.1900], as well as a great many ‘period’ images of Edwardian high society. There is also a run of 7 photograph albums neatly kept by the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce, which contain many interesting shots of Abbeyleix, Hestercombe (where the Portmans [see MS 39,086] commissioned Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll to lay out new gardens), Monk Hopton (Bridgnorth, Shropshire, the 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount’s English house), and other houses which feature prominently in recent de Vesce family history. [The Hestercombe gardens are now administered by the Hestercombe Gardens Trust and are open to the public. The Trust has copied, with Lord de Vesce’s permission, these historic photographs, which are of great importance to the interpretation and restoration of the gardens.] The shots of the celebrations at Abbeyleix for the arrival of Lord de Vesce and his new wife in 1906 (see MS 39,077) are particularly memorable. A shorter series of 3 slightly earlier albums contains shots of Abbeyleix, inside and out, in the 1890s, including shots of the long library, created (in 1848?) by means of an extension at ground level to the original Georgian block, and then, in 1966, divided into three rooms. These appear to be the only surviving shots of the library. In general, the photographs of Abbeyleix interiors give a fascinating impression of the effect of Victorian ‘clutter’ on a Georgian house. [Retained by Lord de Vesce.]

*The photographs acquired by NLI have not yet had reference numbers assigned to them. They have been listed as follows by Ms.Ciara McDonnell and Ms. Ellen Murphy of NLI:*

**NPA**

[c.1900?]

Various loose photographs in an envelope addressed to ‘Mr J.P. Manning, 16 Arnold Way, Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 8NJ’; annotated in pencil ‘Signed by Hayden’. They include:

Two of Edward Vesey, third son of the Hon. Arthur Vesey, b.1821, d.1916.

One of Jean Evans (née Beard), daughter of Geraldine Vesey.

One of Geraldine Vesey (m. Frederick Beard).

Two unidentified.

**NPA**

[c.1860-1920?]

Mainly studio portrait photographs in an envelope addressed to ‘Mr Manning’, as follows:

‘The Prince Imperial of France, son of Napoleon III.’

'Mrs FitzHerbert'; 'Married, 1838' on reverse.  
 'Henry FitzHerbert'; 'Parents married, 1838' on reverse.  
 'Major Arthur Vesey, second son of Rev. A. Vesey, uncle of G[eraldine] L. Beard.'  
 'Captain Charles Vesey, fifth son of Rev. A. Vesey, uncle of G.L. Beard.'  
 Annotated in pencil 'Born 1825, d.1904'.  
 'FitzHerberts'; annotated in pencil 'Parents married 1838'.  
 'Louis Vesey, aunt to G.L. Beard'; annotated 'Died 1920, aged 91'.  
 'Miss L. Vesey'; annotated 'Died 1920, aged 91'.  
 'Edward Johnstone, cousin of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Arthur Edward Vesey with "Mick", brothers of G.L. Beard.'  
 Envelope endorsed 'Miss L. Vesey' containing (11) miniature photographs of Miss L. Vesey and one of 'John Vesey, uncle to G.L. Beard'.  
 'Captain Herbert Vesey, brother of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Mrs [Hall].'  
 'Miss J. Nugent.'  
 'Hadleigh, Suffolk' (photograph of a drawing).  
 'Selina Vesey, aunt to G.L. Beard.'  
 'Arthur Vesey and Geraldine Vesey'. On reverse; 'Arthur Vesey born 1859;.  
 'Kathleen Vesey.'  
 'Edward Vesey, second son of Edward Vesey, brother of G.L.B.'  
 'Constance Vesey.'  
 'Arthur Vesey with "Chow", brother of G.L. Beard, taken at the Grange, Kent.'  
 'Louisa Vesey, youngest daughter of Rev. A. Vesey, aunt of G.L. Beard, died 1920, aged 91.'  
 'Herbert Charles Vesey, third son of Edward Vesey, brother of G.L. Beard.'  
 'General George Vesey, fourth son of Rev. A. Vesey of Abbeyleix, Ireland.'  
 'Mrs Forde, godmother of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Arthur Vesey, eldest son to Edward Vesey, brother to G.L. Beard.'  
 Three photographs of 'Blackcastle, count [sic] Navan, Ireland.'  
 'Hon. Mrs A. Vesey, grandmother of G.L. Beard, married 1810, died July 1860.'  
 'Mrs E. Vesey, mother of G.L. Beard, née Anne Julia Page.'  
 'Herbert Vesey, brother of G.L. Beard and son of Edward Vesey.'  
 'Arthur Henry Vesey, eldest son of Edward Vesey, brother of G.L. Beard.'  
 'E. Beard.'  
 'Edward Vesey, brother to G.L. Beard.'  
 'Richard FitzHerbert, cousin of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Michael FitzHerbert.'  
 'Arthur FitzHerbert.'  
 'Major [Hall].'  
 'William Vesey, sixth son of Rev. A. Vesey, uncle of G.L. Beard.'  
 'William Vesey.'  
 'Earl of Carlisle.'

'Sidney FitzHerbert.'  
 'John Vesey, uncle to G.L.B.'  
 'The Rev. John Wallis, Rector of [ ] for 50 years. Uncle of Anne Julie Vesey, née Page and great-uncle of G.L. Beard. (A[nne] Vesey died 1900.'  
 'Tom FitzHerbert, married Fanny Vesey, aunt to G.L. Beard.'  
 'George Knox.'  
 'Colonel Vesey, brother of E. Vesey.'  
 Envelope marked 'H.C. Vesey' containing photographs of 'Broken up horse stalls drift ashore ... 1903. Vesey ... killed at [Enmburn.]. Taken from the point.'  
 'Edith Fitzherbert.'  
 Harriet Vesey, née Grace, wife of Capt. C. Vesey.'  
 'General George Vesey, uncle to G.L. Beard.'  
 'John Vesey, eldest son of the Rev. A. Vesey of Abbeyleix, Ireland, uncle of G.L.Beard.'  
 'Maud Vesey, married Count Metaxa, cousin of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Edward Vesey, third son of the Hon. [and] Rev. A. Vesey of Abbeyleix, Ireland, father of G.L. Beard.'  
 'Louisa Vesey, Aunt Low.'

Also includes untitled photographs, including one of a drawing of a house.

#### **NPA**

##### c.1875-1930s

Miscellaneous, mainly loose photographs as follows: black wallet with transparent sleeves containing a photograph of Thomas, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci in old age, c.1875, and one of [Frances Lois?, Lady de Vesci], c.1930s; 4 more versions of the photograph of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord de Vesci in old age, one of them framed; photograph of a stained glass window commissioned in memory of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci and Emma, his wife; studio portrait of man in army uniform, early 20<sup>th</sup> century; framed portrait of a young man in a suit, early 20<sup>th</sup> century; photocopies of 2 drawings of a house, one of the originals annotated 'If you like a whimsical house, I will make you a very smart one, and the balcony turns the corner'; some photographs marked on the reverse 'Elsie'; a studio photograph of a lady marked on the reverse 'Dick's'; and a photograph marked 'The Hon. Mrs Arthur Vesey, grandmother to G.L. Beard; daughter of Mrs Jane Johnston, granddaughter of Lady Araminta Monck.

#### **NPA**

##### c.1900

Envelope of loose photographs, endorsed 'Complete set of photographs in R. Brandon's album, taken by his father about 1900'. The photographs are listed on the envelope as follows:

'Main Street, Abbeyleix, looking South.'  
 'Millbrook, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Hon. Ivo Vesey and Hon. Osbert Vesey as children.'  
 '4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci.'  
 'Study, Abbeyleix House.'

'Main Street, Abbeyleix: hay fair.'  
 '4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce and Hon. Mary Vesey.'  
 'The Hall, Abbeyleix House.'  
 'The square, Maryborough, May fair.'  
 'The square, Maryborough, Castle fair.'  
 'Knapton House.'  
 'Old church Abbeyleix.'  
 'Tomb of Emma, wife of 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesce. Old church, Abbeyleix.'  
 'De Vesce Arms [Hotel], Abbeyleix.'  
 'Thornberry House, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Woods, Abbeyleix, by old oak facing north.'  
 'Tombs [of the] 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesce, Hon. Eustace Vesey, Eustace T.B. Vesey his son; bronze centre as erected on wall inside old church owing to weather damage.'  
 'Hon. Mary Vesey.'  
 'Blackhill House.'  
 'Memorial Fountain, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Monks Bridge, Knapton, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Hambridge (groom), Hon. T.E. Vesey, Duke of Leinster, Hon. Mary Vesey, and Hon. Osbert Vesey [as children].'  
 'Abbeyleix House.'  
 'White drawing room, Abbeyleix House.'

**NPA**

c.1900

Photographs of the interior and exterior of Abbeyleix House, including: 'Picture of Abbeyleix', painted in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century; 'Front hall, Abbeyleix (painter and date unknown); the exterior of the house; a group of ladies sitting underneath a tree, etc.

**NPA**

c.1910

Brown paper parcel labelled 'Photos of hotel, Abbeyleix, taken by Capt. Fitzpatrick who was staying at [ ]; endorsed in pencil 'For Mrs Hughes, Ballinakill, Queen's County, Ireland'. The bundle contains postcards (some of which are reproductions of photographs listed earlier) together with some original photographs:

'Tea house, demesne, Abbeyleix.'  
 'De Vesce Memorial Hall, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Lower fountain, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Abbeyleix House.'  
 'Market day, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Church of the Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Old aqueduct bridge, demesne, Abbeyleix.'  
 'Lower fountain, Abbeyleix.'  
 'The terrace, Abbeyleix House.'

The original photographs are as follows:

'The Nore looking south from Seven Arch Bridge in the demesne, Abbeyleix, 17 July '09.'

‘Demesne, Abbeyleix, 17 July 1909.’  
Untitled river scene at Abbeyleix.  
Abbeyleix Hotel.  
Abbeyleix town showing the hotel.

**NPA**

[c.1900-1910?]

Further loose photographs of Abbeyleix and neighbourhood, as follows:

Two of Abbeyleix town, marked on reverse ‘Elsie’.  
Photographic print of a house.  
Photographic print of Abbeyleix House, showing the glasshouse.  
Photographic prints of the interior of Abbeyleix House.  
Photographic print of the gardens of Abbeyleix House.

**NPA**

1957

Collection of ‘record’ photographs (ie. taken for security/insurance purposes) of portraits in Abbeyleix House. The photographer was Barry Mason of Dublin, who writes an accompanying letter. The portraits photographed are:

‘Thomas Vesey, Archdeacon of Armagh, father of John, Archbishop of Tuam.’

‘[The Rt Hon. William] Brownlow, whose daughter married John 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount.’

‘Lady (Margaret) Brooke, wife of Sir Arthur Brooke, mother of Selina, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscountess de Vesci.’

‘Miss Thompson who married Lord Wenlock, and she owned Escrick Park, York.’

‘Lord and Lady Wenlock, and their daughter Jane Lawley (Stuart Wortley).’

Painting (no title) of a boar and a rabbit.

‘The Misses Lawley by John Downman.’

‘Thomas 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount (who built this house), son of John Denny Vesey who was 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Knapton.’

‘John 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount, son of 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount.’

‘Thomas 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount, son of 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscount, married Lady Emma Herbert, daughter of Catherine Lady Pembroke.’

‘Selina Brooke married 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount.’

‘John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Knapton, son of Sir Thomas Vesey, Bishop of Ossory.’

‘Sir John Denny Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Knapton.’

‘Sir Thomas Vesey, 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet (son of John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam). Entered holy orders and became Bishop of Killaloe and afterward translated to Ossory.’

‘John Vesey, Archbishop of Tuam, son of Thomas Vesey, Archdeacon of Armagh.’

‘Lady Evelyn Charteris, married 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount, daughter of Earl of Wemyss.’

**NPA**

1958?

Box of 'record' photographs, including:

Photographs of a child, a young man in uniform, the interior of Abbeyleix, furniture, shooting scenes and other paintings.  
Two photographs of a Jan Ten Compe painting, 1713.  
Five photographs of 2 other paintings (title and artist unstated).  
Two of a portrait 'Lady in [?the order] of Golden Fleece. Blue dressing room, Abbeyleix, original subject unknown.'  
'Detail of picture at Abbeyleix, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, front hall ...'.  
Two photographs of an ornament: 'Portuguese, given by Lady Rosse to John de Vesce from the Colonel Leonard Messel's collection.'  
Photograph of a portrait of 'Frances Lois wife of 5<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce by May'.  
Photograph of a portrait of 'Sir John Denny Vesey by Slaughter, 1745; picture given to John de Vesce summer 1958 by Mrs Dorothy Vesey, widow of late Lt-Colonel Charles Edward Gore Vesey and hung in drawing room at Abbeyleix over the drawing room/library door. Photographed by de Vesce.'

**NPA**

c.1960

Loose photographs connected with Lord Snowdon and his sister Susan, wife of the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce, as follows: 3 photographs of a little girl as a bridesmaid/flower girl at a wedding [Princess Margaret's and Lord Snowdon's?]; 4 photographs of Princess Margaret, some with Lord Snowdon; envelope addressed to 'The Viscountess de Vesce, Abbeyleix, Co. Leix, Eire', and marked 'Old photos of RAJ, Kate, Emma and S. de V.', and containing 15 family holiday snaps; and envelope addressed to 'The Viscount de Vesce, Abbeyleix, Co. Leix, Eire', marked 'Photos of S. de V. by Snowdon', and containing 11 copies of the same photograph.

**NPA**

1962-3: 1984

Envelope of 'Fishing photographs', as follows:

'T. Loyd, T. Cleeve, Roscrea and Clonegall, 1962.'  
'Self 14 ½ lb, Quay Pool, March 10 1963, R[iver] Slaney Huntingdon Castle [Clonegall].'  
'Looking down from hut Moss House and Quay Pool, Huntingdon Castle, R. Slaney, March 1963.'  
'Monday March 11 1963, Huntingdon Castle, R. Slaney.'  
'Rock Sheain, R. Slaney, Huntingdon Castle, March 1963.'  
'New Strand Huntingdon Castle, R. Slaney, March 1963.'  
Two photographs of 'General and Mrs Moore, T. Phillips, Huntingdon Castle, R. Slaney, March 1963.'  
Three photographs endorsed on reverse 'J. Mills, Ridge Pool, Ballina, R[iver] May, April 1984.'  
'John Mills, 40 lb, Avon, August [] '84.'

## **XX Architectural material, 1772, c.1850-1967**

### **XX.i Architectural plans of Abbeyleix House, Monkstown Castle, etc, 1772, c.1800-1967**

1772

[Autograph?] ground plan of the new house at Abbeyleix by James Wyatt [more-or-less as it was built, except for the positioning of the main stairs], and another, apparently contemporary ground plan for a similar but slightly more elaborate house, with a bow on the drawing room. [Retained by Lord de Vesci.] For other papers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount de Vesci about the building of the new house, see MS 38,910.

**P&D AD 3586**

1772

Photostats obtained by the 6<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesci in 1972 of three of the Wyatt drawings of Abbeyleix held in the original by NLI in an album of Wyatt and Thomas Penrose 'Plans of houses, 1772' (NLI, P&D, AD 3125-3138). There are two photostat copies of each of the following: 'A plan of the principal storey of a new design for a house intended for the Rt Honble Lord Knapton in Ireland, James Wyatt, Archt.' (AD 3130); 'Plan of the bedchamber storey' (AD3131); and front elevation (AD 3125). AD 3130 is similar to the first of the plans (above) retained by the present Lord de Vesci. Other plans in the NLI album which relate or seem to relate to Abbeyleix are AD 3129, AD 3132, AD 3167-3168 and AD 3184.

1772

Photostat of Wyatt's design for the ceiling in the white drawing-room at Abbeyleix, obtained from The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, where the original is. [Not received by NLI? Retained by Lord de Vesci?]

**P&D AD 3586**

[c.1860-75]

Sketches and plans of Abbeyleix House taken from an envelope marked 'Old plans, Abbeyleix, including front and side elevations by T.H. Wyatt'. 20 plans.

[c.1860-75]

Sketches and ground plans of houses [Abbeyleix House among them?] by T.H. Wyatt, including drawings of a stable bay, brick arches, etc. For Wyatt's letters to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount de Vesci, see MS 39,038/1-3.

[mid-19<sup>th</sup> century?]

Architectural drawing of the dwelling house at Monkstown Castle, by Henry and Arthur Hill. 1 sheet.

[c.1880]

Two plans relating to the 4<sup>th</sup> Viscount de Vesce's London house, No. 4 Carlton House Terrace.

[c.1890]

Series of 6 (unexecuted) plans by Howard Ince for a new, columned porch, entrance front and entrance hall for Abbeyleix House and for a grand staircase which would run the full height of the house.

1892

Photocopy of Howard Ince's (executed) design for the chimney-piece and inglenook in the study at Abbeyleix. [Not received by NLI? Retained by Lord de Vesce?]

[c.1890s]

Two (unexecuted) elevations for an orangery at Abbeyleix House, by Detmar Blow. [Not received by NLI? Retained by Lord de Vesce?]

**P&D AD 3586**

1 Mar. 1965

Correspondence with Desmond FitzGerald, FRSAI, regarding alterations to 'Abbeyleix Castle [sic], County Kildare [sic]', including rough architectural sketches. c.15 sheets.

1965

Architectural sketches by Desmond FitzGerald, FRSAI, regarding alterations to Abbeyleix House. 10 sheets.

Feb. 1966

'Specification of materials and workmanship to be used in the proposed alterations at Abbeyleix.' c.20 bound sheets.

1966

Nine architectural sketches by James S. Cousins, regarding alterations to Abbeyleix House. 11 sheets.

1966-7

Further plans by James Cousins for alterations at Abbeyleix. c. 10-15 plans.

## **XX.ii Drawings for internal fittings in Abbeyleix House, and miscellaneous sketches, c.1839-84**

**P&D AD 3586** [c.1839-84]

Designs of monograms [for the adornment of buildings sponsored by her], by Emma, Lady de Vesce. 27 items.

[c.1839-84]

Nine French ciphers or monograms, one sketch of a Galway cutter, one sketch of a man leaving a horse to drink at a pool, etc. 13 items.

[c. 1845?]

Sketches of internal house fittings, curtains, hangings, library shelves, furniture, etc, by Emma, Lady de Vesci. 14 sheets.

n.d

Drawings in pencil, one of Abbeyleix House.

## **XX.iii Architectural plans of Abbeyleix town, 1847-1921**

**P&D AD 3586**

1847

Designs by [Sir] Richard Westmacott for the school-house at Abbeyleix, with a drawing for a desk.

1861

Plan of a boys' school.

1865

Three plans and elevations by T. H. Wyatt [see MS 39,038/1-3] for the new Church of Ireland church in Abbeyleix, erected by Emma, Lady de Vesci, in memory of Lady Pembroke.

[c. 1865]

Architectural plans for the proposed new agent's house (by W.I. Chambers) and a plan of Abbeyleix Church.

1871-92

Various plans and examples of agricultural labourers' cottages, including (incongruously) an ink sketch of an orthodox priest. 18 sheets.

1876

Plans and sections of the Ballyeagle River by H.U. Townsend. 3 sheets.

1877

Plans of the Abbeyleix water supply and filtering beds and correspondence regarding the water quality at Abbeyleix. 3 sheets and one plan.

[c. 1877]

Plan for Abbeyleix farm buildings and for the Abbeyleix waterworks. See also MS Map 232M.

[1884]

Elevations of the new agent's house at Millbrook, Abbeyleix. 1 sheet.

1884-5

Contract for the building of Millbrook House, plan, and correspondence. 13 items.

10 Nov. 1911

Proposed design for the de Vesci Arms Hotel. 1 sheet.

[c.1911]

Plans for the first floor of the de Vesci Arms Hotel, including three pages of notes on the hotel.

[c. 1911]

Plan of Mrs Dunne's shop in Abbeyleix. 1 sheet.

c.1911

Plan of Abbeyleix Market Square buildings and a labourer's cottage. 2 plans.

[c.1911-12]

Abbeyleix town: plans of houses and drainage, as follows: Mrs. Dunne's holding 10 Nov. 1911; 'Drainage plan for five houses at market square'; two plans for a dwelling house at 'Station Road', 1911; proposed additions and alterations to premises known as McCormack's and Dunne's, 26 June 1912; proposed additions and alterations to O'Neill's, Market Square, c.1911-12; proposed elevation of Market Square, 1912; and plan of Mr Harding's premises, Market Square. 8 plans in total.

[c.1913-18]

Abbeyleix town: plans of a site, Station Road, for an extension to Mrs Kennedy's premises, Market Square, for alterations to Rushborough House, [1918], for the proposed post office, c.1913, for Mrs Dunne's shop and house [1913], for farm cottages, c.1913, an elevation of Market Square, 1913, a bay window design for O'Neill's, Market Square, c.1913, etc.

[c.1913]

Two sets of front elevations for the new town centre of Abbeyleix.

1916

Plans for proposed new houses at Stucker Hill, Abbeyleix, part of the de Vesci estate. 5 sheets.

**MS Map 262 (a-e) L**

1916

'De Vesci Estate, Abbeyleix: proposed houses, Stucker Hill', with related plans. Architect, A. O'Malley Lovell of Waterford [who seems to have been the architect for most of the 1911-18

developments in Abbeyleix town], 6 Mar. 1916. 5 sheets.

**P&D AD 3586**     29 July 1921  
Plan of Francis Kelly's house, Ballinakill, Abbeyleix, with related correspondence. 11 items.

## **XX.iv       Designs for the gardens at Abbeyleix House, c.1850-93, 1908, 1939**

**P&D AD 3586**     [c. 1850]  
Abbeyleix House: 4 sketches for the gardens.

[c. 1850]  
Abbeyleix House: 9 sketches and plans for the terrace and garden, including a sketch of a tomb and 9 copies of a plan for a formal garden, and letters and other papers. These designs - influenced to an extent by the Woronzow Villa, Aloupka - are the handiwork of Emma, Viscountess de Vesci, her mother, Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, and Celia Montgomery (widow of the crushed clergyman - see MS 38,985).

[c. 1873-84]  
Abbeyleix House: sketches and plans for the terrace and garden by Emma Lady de Vesci. 38 sheets.

[c. 1873-84]  
Abbeyleix House: sketches and plans for the terrace and garden by Emma Lady de Vesci. 34 sheets.

1893  
Abbeyleix House, contents of an envelope marked 'Plans of terrace, 1893, Sir Herbert Jekyll: terrace beds as altered'. 8 sheets.

1908  
Abbeyleix House: plan and estimate by Maguire & Gatchell Ltd for the extension of the iron drainage system in the gardens and demesne.

1939  
Design for the layout of the terrace at Abbeyleix House.

**MS Map 264 L**     1939  
Plan for 'The terrace, Abbeyleix, 1939.

