DL 01 **Family Tree of the LOWDHAM family of LOUDHAM, Co.Suffolk, FRENZE Co.Norfolk and KELVEDON Co.Essex**

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Thanks to all who have contributed to these pages - please send additions & corrections to email: bjehan@BlennerhassettFamilyTree.com

The family of de Lowdham were Lords of the Manor of LOUDHAM Co.Suffolk, FRENZE Co.Norfolk and KELVEDON Co.Essex, for many years before the three manors passed to the Blennerhassett family by marriage c1423 (p.N 1)

The remote and beautiful manor of Frenze (locally pronounced 'Fi-renze') is on the banks of the River Frenze, 1 mile east of Diss, Norfolk.

In ancient times the spelling "Ludham", "Loudham" and "Lowdham" were used, seemingly at random, for both family name and Suffolk placename.
In modern times the place name is always Loudham, the family name usually Lowdham…
The manor of Loudham was sometimes known as "Loudham next Wickham", as close to Wickham Market. The ecclesiastical parish is now Pettistree with Loudham.

John de Lowdham (Ludham, Loudham) **b.est.1225**
of manor of Loudham (Loudham Hall), Pettistree, Suffolk
was also Lord and patron of the manor of Frenze (Frenze Hall), near Diss, Norfolk
earliest recorded Lord of the Manor of Frenze & Patron of Frenze Church holding Frenze in 1280
[BLOMEFIELD vol.1, p.140] **[COPINGER vol.3, p.108]**
perhaps(?) d.1297 when his son William de Lowdham gained Frenze, but not necessarily so…
m. <???>

William de Lowdham (Ludham, Loudham) **b.est.1250**
of Loudham
in 1297 the manor of Frenze in Norfolk was settled on John and his wife Alice **[BLOMEFIELD v.1 p.140]**
m. Alice <???>

Sir John de Lowdham, Knt **b.est.1275**
m. <???>

NOTE: >-----> **[BLOMEFIELD v.1 p.140]** has Frenze held in 1329 by "Joan, wife of Sir John Ludham, and John Lowdham, Knt. son of Thomas, was 21 years old, and held this manor [Frenze]"
This must surely be an error, the two Johns he mentions appear to be same man & he states elsewhere that the father of Sir John was another Sir John de Lowdham, not a Thomas de Lowdham

Sir John de Lowdham, Knt **b.c1308**
aged 21 years in 1329 **[BLOMEFIELD v.1 p.140]**
with his wife he held Loudham, Suffolk & Frenze, Norfolk, from 1329
in 1336 he purchased several large parcels of land from Ralph de Shimpling and Katherine his wife, including the manor of Boylands (Boylands Hall) in Scole; in 1343 by fine he settled Boylands on himself and his wife
(Boylands extends into Osmundeston, Frenze and Stirston; is part in Co.Norfolk and part Co.Suffolk)
in 1351 he and his wife held Frenze & Boylands
d.1355
m. Joanna "Joan" (or Jane) de Kelvedon, d.1371 only dau. & heir of Sir William de Kelvedon, Knt, of the manor of Kelvedon (Kelvedon Hall), Great Braxted, Chelmsford, Essex **[MORANT vol.2 p.153]**; i.p.m. 1346 (20 Edward III)
I could not find this i.p.m. in the [NA i.p.m. index], must revisit it…
held Frenze jointly with Sir John de Lowdham, Knt (below) 1329
following her husband's death in 1355 she held Frenze "of Edmund, son of Sir Thomas Ufford, Lord of Eye" for her lifetime **[BLOMEFIELD vol.1 p.140]**
[MORIARTY/1 p.275] becomes confused, showing this Joan married to her own great-grandson John de Lowdham, and others have followed him…

Sir Thomas de Lowdham, Knt **b.est.1331**
m. <???>

John de Lowdham **b.est.1352** d.1373
held Loudham, Frenze, Boylands & Kelvedon from 1355

Sir Thomas de Lowdham, Knt **b.est.1354**
heir to his elder brother John, holding Loudham, Frenze (with part of Boylands) and Kelvedon from 1373
d.1384/5
(not d.c1416/17)
m. Maude <???>
held Loudham, Frenze, Boylands & Kelvedon from c1398/9 (when aged 21 yrs, his father having predeceased him), holding Kelvedon of the Prior and Convent of St.Botolph's, Colchester;
aged 7 years when his father died c1384/5; during his minority Frenze was held, as guardian, first by Sir Robert Corbet, Sr, Knt then by his son Sir Robert Corbet, Jr, Knt; Boylands was in 1401 held in dower by the widow of Robert Corbet Sr.
He granted to John Woodhouse that part of Boylands not bequeathed to his daughter Joan

John de Lowdham **b.c1377/8**
d.c1423/4
i.p.m. 1423/4 (2 Hen.VI) **[MORANT v.2 p.153]** **[MORIARTY/1 p.275]** & **[NI]** give this date **[BLOMEFIELD vol.1 p.141]** has him
d.28.4.1428 in error
m. Alice <???>
d.post 1428

Joanna "Joan" (or Jane) de Lowdham
b.c1409/10 (not b.c1404), as aged 14 years at her father's i.p.m. 1423/4 (2 Henry VI) **[NI]** **[MORIARTY/1 p.275]** **[BLOMEFIELD vol.1 p.141]**
d.20.6.1501 - this date of death is from a transcription of her brass in Frenze church as described by **[ANSTIS G.6 f.39]**; the brass had gone by **[BLOMEFIELD]'s** time, but he quotes **[ANSTIS]**
[MORIARTY/1 p.275] *says her i.p.m. in Essex is dated 12.10.1501 (17 Hen.VII), thus thus supporting this 1501 date of death*
however, another reference to her i.p.m dates it 15 Henry VII, vol.2 p.290 (467-9), i.e. 1499-1500, so this needs to be checked
Joan died aged c91/92 yrs; **[ANSTIS]** gives no age at death; **[BLOMEFIELD vol.1 p.141]** has her aged 97 yrs in error

only daughter & heir; on her father's death she inherited property as follows:
1. Manor of Loudham (Loudham Hall), Pettistree, Suffolk
2. Manor of Frenze (Frenze Hall) Frenze, Diss, Norfolk **[BLOMEFIELD vol.1 pp.140-1]**
3. one of two parts of the manor of Boylands (Boylands Hall), Scole - half in Norfolk, half Suffolk
4. Manor of Kelvedon (Keldon, Keldey or Kelden Hall, or Easterford Hall), Great Braxted, Essex was held "of Robert Southwell in right of his wife as of the manor of Fillwell Hall" (her i.p.m. 12.10.1501, 17 Henry VII) **[MORANT v.2 p.153]**
5. Toddenham, Suffolk
6. Halvergate, Suffolk

m.1st est. c1422 (aged est. c13 years)
Thomas de Heveningham (Hevenyngham) d.c1422/3 (dsp)
[MORIARTY/1 p.274] has Heveringham

m.2nd c1423 (she aged c14 years)
Ralph (Ralf, Rafe) de Blenerhayset; b.c1400 Cumberland and still "of Carlisle" 1437
5th son of Ralph de Blenerhayset of Carlisle & Great Orton (he being the 5th son is indicated by his family in East Anglia charging their arms with an annulet for difference, the annulet being a mark of cadency indicating descent from a fifth son)
Thus the manors listed above passed to the Blennerhassett family
NOTE: Their eldest child John Blennerhassett was b.c1423/4 (p.N 1)
Ralph d.17.11.1475 at "an advanced age"; bur. in the church of St.Andrew the Apostle, Frenze, Norfolk; the exact day of his death, recorded in inscription on his monumental brass at Frenze, is difficult to read and recorded variously as xvii (17th) **[HAMLINE]**, xiiii (14th) **[BLOMEFIELD]** & **[L'ESTRANGE]**, ximo (10th) **[KERRICH]**;
in addition **[BIFR p.133]** & **[MORIARTY/1 p.275]** have d.8.11.1475 in error;
[OKR p.4] & **[BROWNE]** have d.1400, in error;
his will is dated 20.9.1465, pr.8.12.1483 **[NRO, NCC Caston, f.183A]**

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