

BECKWITH OF SELBY HOUSEHOLD

Sir Leonard Beckwith of Selby was, according to W. Wilberforce Morrell "one of those enterprising individuals who elevated their social position and built up their houses on the ruins of the monasteries" (*The History and Antiquities of Selby* (Selby, 1867), 134. In 1541 Selby Abbey had been granted to Sir Ralph Sadler, who received licence from the king in the same year to transfer the manor to Leonard Beckwith. Selby was located on the River Ouse about 14 miles south of York. Taking advantage of his offices at St. Mary's Abbey in York, Fountains, and Selby and of his position as one of the commissioners "for ordering of bells, chalices, and other church goods" (Ibid.), for Yorkshire, Beckwith steadily amassed considerable property in Selby and elsewhere in the county. He served as High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1550, the same year in which he was knighted by King Edward VI, and he died in 1557. The terms of his will suggest that he remained faithful to Roman Catholicism throughout his years of service to three Protestant regimes.

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTIONS

1551-2 Travel Expenses

Hull, Univ Lib, DDLO (2) 8/27; 1551-2; English; 6 fols; 310mm x 210mm; paper cover; fair condition; title on f 1 "Expenses apud Ebor pro sessio domini Regis Edwardi sexti Quinto."

1554-5 Steward's Account

Hull, Univ Lib, DDLO (2) 8/34; English; paper; 1 leaf; 240mm x 170mm; poor condition; travel expenses, headed "Money laid fourth by mr Robt Cundall," apparently for Sir Leonard Beckwith, as the leaf is part of the Selby Abbey collection and Beckwith acquired the manor after the Dissolution.

RECORDS

In the transcriptions, italics are used for the extensions of abbreviations and square brackets for material crossed through in the manuscript.

1551

Travel Expenses

HULL, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

f 3v (*August 1551 at York*)

...

Item rewairde to the waites of yorke --- v s.

...

1554-5

Steward's Account

HULL, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

f 1 (*1 January*)

...

Item in Reward to playes¹ of yorke ye same day --- iiij s.

...

(3 January)

...

Item to players of Repon the iij^{de} of [ff] Ianuary --- v s.

...

NOTES

¹*possibly an error for players*