

DESCENDANTS OF MICHAEL le FLEMING

Generation 1

Sir Michael Fleming, Knight (1046-?); marr. Unk; ISSUE: 1. Michael le Fleming

NOTES:

- The Lancashire estates of Aldingham were in the hands of the Flemings from almost the time of the Conquest. Michael Flandrensis, or le Fleming, has been described as a military adventurer who came to England out of Flanders and to have been in the retinue of Duke William of Normandy wherein he took part in the struggle on the red field or Senlac, where the last of the Saxon kings fell, and Battle Abbey.... When the Conqueror had established his position, he rewarded his faithful followers with a grant of the Manor of Aldingham, of which the Saxon Thegn, Ernulf, had previously dispossessed. ~*Families of Lancashire and Cheshire*, pg. 243-245
- The manor of Aldingham, then nearly 2,500 acres, was granted by William the Conqueror to his friend **Sir Michael de fourneys** (of Fourneys or Furness, in the Netherlands) who being a Fleming by birth, and neither haughty as some Norman Knights were, was instantly on friendly terms with the Saxon families in the area, the descendants of Ernulph and Ternulph, who were previously the lords of these same lands before the Conquest. Sir Michael dropped the surname of de Fourneys preferring to use the simple title of Michael the Fleming, or le Fleming. ~*Records of the Family of Urswyk . . .*, pg. 1-2
- The Domesday survey 1086 notes that Ernulf held 6 caracutes of land in Aldingham and it is given to a **Michael le Fleming**(Domesday Survey)(Notitia Cestriensis)
- **Michael le Fleming**, appears in the *Black book of the Exchequer*. King Stephen founded the Abbey of Furness in 1126/27, and bestowed upon its abbot almost regal privileges. According to the *Black Book of the Exchequer*, the lands of Michael le Fleming were specially exempted from the exercise of the privileges claimed by the Abbey of Furness..... **Michael le Fleming** was a benefactor to the abbey, and in 1153, while **John de Cancefield** was abbot, bestowed up it the estate of Fordeboc. **Michael le Fleming** had three sons, William, who inherited Aldingham; Richard who married Elizabeth, daughter and eventually heiress of Adam de Urswick. It is through Elizabeth that he acquired the manor of Coniston, Coniston Hall became the residence of this branch of the family; and Daniel, the third son, was a cleric in the Chetham Library. ~*Families of Lancashire and Cheshire*, pg. 243-245

Generation 2

Michael le Fleming, Knight (Flandrensis) of Beckermet, Frisington, Rotington, Weddikar, Arlochden, Kelton, Salter & Brunrigg, co. Cumberland; d. ca. 1154; marr.

Note: **1126 Sir Michael le Fleming** resided commonly at Castle Caernarvon, Beckermet & was excluded from land of Abbey founded in Furness, as confirmed by Pope Eugenius; he was Lord of Manors Aldingham & Gleston in Furness, co. Lancaster. He also sometimes resided in Gleston & received the name of **Michael de Ferness** as well as Michael-land. He died in 19th year of King Stephen (1135-1154) ca. 1154. He wished to be buried near the monks habitations & also in their very habits.; ISSUE:

1. **William le Fleming** of Furness, Knight (rec'd Manor of Aldingham & Castle of Gleston, etc.)
2. Richard (rec'd Castle of Caernarvon & Manor of Beckermet)
3. Daniel, clergyman (rec'd Church of Urswic, etc. including abbot of Furness)
4. Anselm (took surname de Furness)
5. Jordan (took surname de Furness)
6. Godith (rec'd in marriage from her father 3 carucates of land in Adgaresslith.

Generation 3

William le Fleming of Furness, Knight; also Manor of Aldingham & Castle with Manor at Gleston; marr. Unk; ISSUE: 1. Sir Michael le Fleming of Furness, Knight

Generation 4

William le Fleming; marr. Unk; ISSUE: 1. Sir Michael le Fleming, Knight (drowned in Leven, reign of Henry III (1216-1272) & died without issue. 2. **Alice** (sister & heir to estate of Sr. Michael)

Generation 5

Alice le Fleming; marr. **Richard de Cancefield** (See [Cansfield Family](#)); ISSUE: 1. William 2. Agnes

Notes: William, son of Michael le Fleming, succeeded, who was in turn followed by another Michael, who appears to have died young, leaving a widow, Alina, but no issue. The manor passed to the next heir, **Alice, sister of**

Michael le Fleming, who conveyed it in marriage to **Sir Richard Cancefield**, Knight, Lord of Cancefield and Farlton. She survived her husband, and her name occurs during her widowhood as confirming a grant of lands to the Abbey of Cockersand. The issue of the marriage was two sons, John and William, and a daughter Agnes.

John, the eldest son, married, but died childless. The inheritance went to his younger brother William, who was a minor at the time and a ward of the abbot of Furness, who in right of his wardship entered into possession of the manor. The feeling of hostility entertained by the lords of Aldingham towards the fraternity at Furness, though it had slumbered for a time, was manifested with renewed vigor by the William. It is recorded that William Cancefield with the aide of several friend, ejected the representative of the abbot from the possession of his lands, for which offense the sheriff was directed to seize the manor and deliver it into the custody of the abbot until the offender should be of age. William reached an age of majority in 1292, in which year he made proof of his titled to the various manorial rights. he married, yet died without issue. His estates passed to his sister who was married to Robert de Haryngton, who in his wife's right, became the lord of Aldingham.

~*Families of Lancashire and Cheshire*, pg. 246-247

Generation 6

Alice

le Fleming Lady of Aldingham dau. William le Fleming; marr. Sir Richard Cansfield Lord of Cancefield & Lancaster; (See [Cancefield Family](#)) ISSUE: 1. John 2. William 3. Agnes

Generation 7

Agnes le Fleming, Lady of Aldingham, b. ca. 1264 Aldingham & d. ca. 1293 in Adlington, Cheshire, Eng. (dau. Sir Richard Cansfield, Lord of Cancefield & Lancaster & Alice le Fleming, Lady of Aldingham); marr. **Robert de Harington**; b. bef. 1262, Eng.; d. 1297 Aldingham, Lancashire, Eng; (See [Harrington Family](#)) ISSUE:

1. **Sir John de Harington**, Knight. 2. Michael 3. Elizabeth

Note: The first Haverington appears to have owned lands in Lancashire was Robert de Haverington, or Haryngton, of Harrington, who in the latter half of the thirteenth century married Agnes, daughter of Sir. Richard Cancefield, lord of Cancefield, or Cantsfield with Farlton, in the parish of Tunstall, in Lonsdale Hundred, by his **wife Alice, or Alina, daughter of William le Fleming, Lord of Aldingham**, an ancient Saxon manor in Furness, on the western shore of Morecambe Bay, and who in 1273 acquired the lordship of Aldingham, which had come into his hands in right of his wife after the deaths of her two brothers, John and William Cancefield, both of whom died in their minority, and while in the ward of abbot of Furness.

[James Croston, *County Families of Lancashire and Cheshire*, Published 1887 by J. Heywood, Lancashire (England), found on [Google Books](#).]

Research Log

1153 - Charter charter granting land to the church of St. Mary of Furness where his son Daniel is a clerk before **1153** - **Michael le Fleming** described as extremely old, granted a 2nd charter to the church of St. Mary at Furness.(Furness Coucher p. 454) Confirmed by William Count of Bologne(Pipe Rolls p. 307) (Furness Coucher p. 454) This charter was signed by William , Michaels' son and heir, Gregory his grandson and Hugh.....

1175/77 William son and heir of Michael (dec'd 1175/77) confirms what his father had granted in exchange for Berdsea. Michael, son of William(preceeding) son of Michael confirmed the same. This Michael is when the family is called de Furness.... " I William, son of Michael son of William de Furness confirm to the abbot of Furness what my grandfather did give, Crimelton and Ros with the fisheries....)(Antiquities of Furness, p100) This William de Furness/Fleming, reached his majority and received livery of his lands 1186(Pipe Rolls p.60) died before 4/18/1204 (Patent Rolls p.41) that married Alyna dau. of Thomas fitzCospatric who she married 2nd William Pincerna(LeBoteler) 1215/16.

Sources:

1) <http://www.cyberata.com>

2) ~Weis' *Ancestral Roots* . . . , 8th Edition, 34:29) mentions she was Lady of Aldingham. Names given for her are Aline, Alicia or Aliénor. ¹⁶⁰

3) ~*Cokayne's Complete Peerage*, 2nd Edition, (Harington), Vol. VI, p 314

4) ~*Families of Lancashire and Cheshire*, pg. 246-247