

The Shrewd Queen of Suffolk

‘The heart lovyt ye wood,
The hare lovyt ye hill,
The knight lovyt hys sword,
The carll lovyt hys byll,
The fowlle lovyt hys folly,
The wysseman lovyt hys skill,
The property of a schrod queen ys to have hyr will’

This is from a manuscript book called ‘The Boke of Brome’ (which is actually mostly about Stuston). This was written about 1470 during the Wars of the Roses. The book was sold at auction when the Brome Estate was broken up. Its whereabouts is now unknown, but a few pieces were previously transcribed in 1886 by Lucy Toulmin Smith for a private publication entitled ‘Extract from the Boke of Brome’, a copy of which is in Durham University Library and The Old Rectory.