ORDSALL HALL
322 Ordsall Lane, Ordsall, Salford, Greater Manchester
M5 3AN

A Tudor Manor House
But there was probably an earlier one

Around 1335, the Manor of Ordsall became the possession of the Radclyffe family

The Radclyffe Sirs of Ordsall (father to son, unless otherwise stated)

Inherited the manor in the mid-1300s
He was involved in the early part of the Hundred Years War against the French, when he attended to King Edward III

The King granted Sir John the use of what, as the Radclyffe family motto?
  a) Un, Deux, Trois
  b) Caen, Crecy, Calais
  c) Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

He enlarged the house

Built the Great Hall in 1512

John was William's 2nd son and he married Anne Asshawe. They were the owners of the only piece of original furniture now at Ordsall - their bed!

John and Anne had the bed built in 1572. It cost £4,800 in today's money.

Their bed was lost for centuries, and only rediscovered in the 1930s. In 2014 the bed was auctioned and sold to a wealthy businessman for £65,000.

How many times was Alexander the High Sheriff of Lancashire?
  a) Once
  b) Three times
  c) Five times

Answers: b,c,b,a
Why did he want the bed?

- He was related to the Radclyffe family
- He wanted it as a ‘princess bed’ for his daughter
- He wanted it for firewood

What was Margaret reported to have worn once at court, as a symbol of the Queen’s purity?

- A white dress
- A silver veil
- Her birthday suit (totally nude!)

What was the shape of the central hearth in the Great Hall?

The businessman lent the bed to Ordsall, so it could be displayed where it first stood.

Margaret was said to have died of grief because of the death of her twin, Alexander, in 1599.

1500s - Ordsall then had a few different owners and tenants over the next 2 centuries.

1600s - Alexander was John and Anne’s son and he had a twin, Margaret. The twins were a hit in Queen Elizabeth I’s court. Margaret was Elizabeth’s favourite Lady-in-Waiting.

1875 - Ordsall Hall by this time was surrounded by factories and housing. The hall was leased to Hawsworth’s Mill for a working men’s club. After the mill’s lease expired, it became a clergy training school. Restoration and the building of a chapel and a servants wing happened at this time. It opened to the public in 1972 and was restored in 2008-2011. Since demolished.

The shape of the central hearth in the Great Hall is:

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On-site: What was the shape of the central hearth in the Great Hall?