

= Norfolk Spaniel =

The Norfolk Spaniel or Shropshire Spaniel is an extinct breed of dog since the early 20th century . It was originally thought to have originated from the work of one of the Dukes of Norfolk , but this theory was disproven after being in doubt during the later part of the 19th century . The term was used to designate springer type spaniels that were neither Sussex nor Clumber Spaniels , and attempts were made to use it to specify a breed that would later become known as the English Springer Spaniel .

With a liver @-@ and @-@ white or black @-@ and @-@ white coat , the Norfolk Spaniel was described as being a large cocker spaniel . The Spaniel Club set out a breed standard for Norfolk Spaniels , but specimens of the breed varied greatly across England . Members of the breed were difficult to train , but formed a strong attachment with their owners and were useful for hunting both on land and in water . The breed ceased to exist after 1903 , when it was rolled into the new English Springer Spaniel breed created by The Kennel Club to contain all spaniels of this type .

= = History = =

The Norfolk Spaniel was believed to have come about from a cross of spaniels with the Black and Tan Terrier , which was cultivated by an unspecified Duke of Norfolk . However , later historians disagree with this theory , saying that the Duke of Norfolk 's spaniels were of the King Charles type and that terrier stock had nothing to do with the origins of the Norfolk Spaniel . The theory of the Duke of Norfolk @-@ based origins of the Norfolk Spaniel was thought disproved by the investigation of James Farrow , a 19th @-@ century spaniel breeder , who wrote to Henry Fitzalan @-@ Howard , 15th Duke of Norfolk in order to find out the truth about the origins of the breed . The Duke responded , denying any connection to the breed , although he did state that his grandfather , Henry Howard , 13th Duke of Norfolk , owned Sussex Spaniels . The letter from the Duke was printed in The Kennel Gazette in 1899 . An alternative origin was proposed by Rawdon Briggs Lee in volume two of his 1897 work A History and Description of the Modern Dogs of Great Britain and Ireland . Lee argued that the Norfolk Spaniel was descended from a crossing of a curly @-@ coated water spaniel and a Sussex Spaniel or another strain of land spaniel .

In the 18th century , spaniels were split into three categories : land spaniels , water spaniels and toy spaniels . The land spaniels were split into two further types , the cocker spaniel and the springer spaniel . It was within the springer spaniel type that the Norfolk Spaniel was placed , along with the Sussex Spaniel and the Clumber Spaniel . By the 1860s , the breed was described as the " commonest breed in England " , but with a description that varies so much that the only standard point is that they averaged 16 inches ( 41 cm ) in height at the withers .

The Spaniel Club was formed in 1885 , and issued a breed standard for the Norfolk Spaniel , recognising it as a variety of spaniel . However , the general public saw it only as a generic land spaniel . By the 1890s , the breed had become common throughout the counties of England , leading dog writers such as Rawdon Briggs Lee to question the authenticity of its origins , or that the various liver and white spaniels from around England constituted a single breed ; " Personally , I do not consider the liver and white spaniel any particular variety at all , nor do I believe that it has ever been indigenous to Norfolk . " He states that similar dogs exist in Devonshire that do not trace ancestry to Norfolk , and that liver and white spaniels pre @-@ date the breeding of the Black and Tan Terrier with an ordinary spaniel . F.H.F. Mercer described the breed in 1890 as being " virtually extinct in its purity " , with its liver and white colours running through any numbers of miscellaneous spaniels , and he too discredits the origins involving the Duke of Norfolk .

The Kennel Club ( UK ) designated all medium legged spaniels which were not Clumber nor Sussex Spaniels as English Springer Spaniels in 1902 . The Norfolk Spaniel was included under this designation , with the term " Norfolk Spaniel " considered for use to cover these types of spaniels , but ultimately rejected as the Club believed that the breed was always liver and white in colour . The change in terminology was not smooth or immediate , with James Watson in his 1905 work , The Dog Book , still referring to the Norfolk Spaniel as a breed name . In the modern era , the Norfolk

Spaniel is thought to be the previous name for the English Springer Spaniel , prior to recognition by The Kennel Club ( UK ) .

= = Temperament = =

The Norfolk Spaniel would typically be unhappy when they were separated from their owners , as they formed a strong attachment . Compared to the springer spaniels of the 19th century , they were more ill @-@ tempered , and could be headstrong and wilful if not successfully broken . Some members of the breed could be noisy , and were described as " babbling " and making noise on the hunt in a similar fashion to hounds , while others were far quieter .

Its use in hunting was varied , and the breed was useful both on land and in the water . In particular , it became successful in America and towards the beginning of the 20th century were popular in the area around Boston . They were described by the Spaniel Club of America as being as good in the water as the Chesapeake Bay Retriever .

= = Appearance = =

The breed was a freckled white dog with either liver or black markings , the breed standard in 1859 set their measurements at 17 ? 18 inches ( 43 ? 46 cm ) in height at the withers . It had long legs , feathered ears , a white area on forehead , which was said to " [ add ] a great deal to his beauty " , but there were differences from the English Springer , including a broader skull and shorter neck . It was also compared to the English Setter in its build , shape , and proportions , although it was a much smaller size . While other field spaniels of this era displayed colours other than liver and white or liver and black , the Norfolk did not . The breed @-@ specific qualities varied greatly as in some places the breeding lines were not kept particularly pure , those lines having had stock from Sussex and Clumber Spaniels bred into them .

By the end of the 19th century the description of a Norfolk Spaniel had changed slightly , The Spaniel Club breed standard for a Norfolk Spaniel in 1897 was for the animal to have a coat of either black and white or liver and white which was not curly , a reasonably heavy body and legs which are longer than other field spaniels but shorter than the Irish Water Spaniel , a deep chest with long sloping shoulders and strength in the back and loins , as well as features typical of a spaniel such as lobular ears . This standard also included the requirement for the tail to be docked . In brief , the standard described the Norfolk as simply looking like a large cocker spaniel .