

A Survey of Wallingford in 1550.

THIS Manuscript, entitled *Supervisio de Wallingford*, is believed to have been acquired by the eminent Judge, Sir William Blackstone, the Commentator on the Laws of England, who was a keen antiquary and who died at Wallingford in 1780. It doubtless came into the market with the effects of the Judge's grandson, Mr. William Seymour Blackstone, about 1850. Its subsequent history is unknown until about 1907 when it was purchased of Messrs. Sotheby by the late Mr. John Mitchell Marshall of Wallingford. It is now in possession of his widow. It contains a contemporary ground plan of the Inner Ward of the Castle, a reproduction of which will appear in the forthcoming volume of the Victoria History of Berkshire.

The Survey is in Latin, and the following is a translation of the introductory passage :—

A Survey of the town and borough made by Roger Amyce, the lord King's Surveyor there, in the second year of the reign of King Edward VI., as of all and singular tenements, cottages, tofts, and curtilages, with gardens and other lands within the town and borough there, as also of all and singular rents annually issuing from the same.

An addition follows in a later hand :—

And examined in the third year of the lady Queen Elizabeth. There is there a chapel called St. Mary Grace at the bridge-foot, which is valued to the late college.

Against many of the tenements a certain value is stated in the left-hand margin, and in the right-hand margin are given the dues payable to the Lord of the Honour of Ewelme, the late Priory of the Holy Trinity, the College of St. Nicholas in the Castle, the Free Chapel of St. John Baptist Hospital, the late Priory of Dorchester, the Monastery of Osney, and the "brig-house" (for the repair and maintenance of the bridge).

It will be sufficient to give a general account of the contents of the Survey, which begins with the north side of the High Street, proceeding from east to west,

Folio 2.

- (1, 2) Richard Greneway esquire, Porter of the castle there, juror of the aforesaid office, holds two tenements lying at the town gate there called the east gate, which are now entirely in ruins ; hence they are one, containing in length 85 feet and in breadth 20 feet. He pays to the lord xij*ʒ*. [The payments are to be understood here as due to the lord when not otherwise specified.]
- (3) John Stampe holds one tenement and one garden adjacent in occupation of Robert Somerby [the name of William Eyle or Erle is substituted for each of these in 1561] lately held by Henry Norton, length 8oft., breadth 23ft. He pays v*ʒ*.
- (4) xiijs. iii*ʒ*. Henry Huntley holds one tenement in occupation of John Mathewe, with garden adjacent, 70ft. by 47ft., paying ijs.
- (5) xiiijs. Roger Whitley [corrected *Whicheley*, 1561] holds a tenement and garden formerly Robert Hynde's, 66ft. by 56ft., paying v*ʒ*. obit to the lord and v*ʒ*. to the Bishop of Winchester.
- (6) viijs. The same Roger holds a tenement formerly Robert Hynde's, now occupied by Robert Paulmer, 83ft. by 49ft., paying ijs.
- (7) viijs. [vs. 1551] Ralph Broke, clerk [rector, as presently appears, of St. Peter's], holds a tenement with garden formerly Sir William Rede's, now occupied by Richard Actone, 75ft. by 15ft. The rent is xij*ʒ*. but by ancient relief ij*ʒ*.
- (8) iijs. Agnes Myres holds a tenement with garden, 75ft. by 12ft. Rent, *nil*.

Folio 3.

- (9) xs. Lady Anne Rede, widow, holds a tenement formerly Alice Dalgate's, in occupation of William Leche, with garden adjacent, 53ft. by 29ft. Rent xij*ʒ*.
- (10) James Blande holds a tenement [*customarium* added, 1561], 90ft. by 38ft., paying vis. viij*ʒ*. to the late Priory.

- (11) *xxs.* Thomas Elmes holds a tenement in occupation of Hugh Clerk, with curtilage adjacent, 68ft. by 34ft. paying to the Bishop of Winchester *vij*℥**. obit and nothing to the lord. [The dues to the Bishop of Winchester probably indicate a connection with the neighbouring Manor of Brightwell.]
- (12) Susan Goswell, widow, holds [*add* 1561, by charter under seal of the dean granted 17 September 13 Hen. VIII.] a tenement with curtilage and garden adjacent, 115ft. by 42½ft. now in occupation of Richard Kyng [*add* 1561, called Harte Place; and one close or croft of land lying in the parish of St. Leonard in Wallyngforde aforesaid, and pays yearly at the two annual terms or within one month after any feast under penalty, *vis. viij*℥**]. His dues are *viijs.* and a pound of wax to the college of St. Nicholas.
- (13) Thomas Ivery holds a tenement with garden adjacent lately held by Robert Rose, 160ft. by 61ft., paying *ijs. xj*℥**.
- (14) Henry Denne and Richard Deane [now Thomas Donyngton, 1561] hold a tenement with garden adjacent, 146ft. by 74ft. [called the George, 1561], late Stephen Bereworth's. He pays *xvj*℥**. to the lord and *xs.* to the College.
- (15) The same holds a tenement with garden adjacent, 50ft. by 50ft., late Stephen Bereworth's, now in occupation of Thomas Donyngton, paying to the Bishop of Winchester *xv*℥**. per annum and *xs.* to the College.
- (16) William a Deane holds by indenture to himself and his heirs in perpetuity a tenement formerly of the College there and a close lying in Thamys Strete containing ½ rood of pasture with a certain ditch at the Toune. He pays *iijs. vj*℥**. to the lord and *vs.* to the College [*add* 1561, For he has enquired by R. Pollyngdon, in the book of Thomas Morys dated 15 May, 3 Edw. VI.].
- (17) The same William holds a tenement with garden adjacent, 64ft. by 32ft., late Stephen Bereworth's, now occupied by William Redyng, paying *viijs. x*℥**. to the lord and *xs.* to the College.

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(*To be continued.*)