

Transactions  
OF THE  
Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire  
Archæological Society

(FOUNDED A.D. 1900)



VOLUME IV. PART II.

---

EDITED BY THE REV. W. M. NOBLE, B.A.  
RECTOR OF WISTOW HUNTS.

---

Clg

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY  
G. H. TYNDALL, THE MINSTER PRESS

1917

PRICE (NON-MEMBERS) FIVE SHILLINGS

Contents of Part 11, Vol. 4.

---

Papers.

	PAGE
GREAT CATWORTH, HUNTS. by <i>The Rev. A. W. M. Weatherly</i>	45
HILDERSHAM CHURCH, CAMBS, by <i>The Rev. P. R. Phillips</i> . .	62
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, by <i>S. Inskip Ladds, Esq.</i>	69

# PROCEEDINGS

OF

## The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archæological Society

---

On Thursday, the 25th May, 1916, the Society paid a visit to Cambridge, when some thirty or forty Members and their friends were conducted to the principal places of interest by the Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare, a Vice-President of the Society, and the Rev. Dr. Stokes, the learned and genial Vicar of St. Paul's, Cambridge.

**CHRIST'S COLLEGE.** The origin of this College was a hostel called 'God's House', founded, on part of the site of King's College, by one William Bingham, in 1442, and removed from thence when King's College was founded in 1444. In 1505, Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII, re-founded it as Christ's College.

The western range of buildings faces the street, and has been much modernised, but the gateway-tower retains its original features. Above the archway are the arms of the foundress (*France and England quarterly, within a bordure compony Azure and Argent*), supported by two boldly carved heraldic antelopes, flanked by a crowned rose and a crowned portcullis, the ground-work round about being strewn with daisies or marguerites in allusion to the foundress' name.

The chapel was built in 1506, but retains little of interest except the brass of Dr. Hawford (1582)

The Library, in the south-west corner of the Court, contains many ancient manuscripts.

In the second Court is the ancient mulberry tree, said to have been planted by the poet Milton, who was a member of this College.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE GREAT**, in the Market Place, a very fine Perpendicular Church, standing on the site of an earlier building, was commenced in 1478, and the main part of the building completed in 1519; the tower, however, was not finished until

1608. The Church has been considerably restored, and the interior woodwork and fittings are mostly modern, except the roofs, which are of Perpendicular date and rather fine. The chancel retains a fine double piscina and a niche on the south side and a niche on the north side. The arches opening from the chancel into the north chapel (now a vestry) and into the south chapel (now the organ chamber) have good Renaissance oak screens under them. The nave has five lofty four-centred Perpendicular arches on each side, with two Perpendicular two-light windows over each. The spandrels of the nave arches are richly panelled. The font is of Renaissance design, octagonal with panelled sides, and rather good for its date, viz: 1632. There is a fine peal of twelve bells.

THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT (commonly called St. Benet) has an interesting Saxon tower, and the quoin stones of the Saxon nave still remain at the N.E., N.W. and S. W. angles\*.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE was founded by the union of the Guild of Corpus Christi and the Guild of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year 1352. The Court next the street is entirely modern, built, from the design of William Wilkins, during the first quarter of the eighteenth century. The old Court, which stands at the N. E. corner of the new Court, consists largely of the buildings erected in 1352: the original Hall, on the south side, (now used as a Kitchen,) has a large bay window of five lights with two transoms. The original Kitchen was more to the west, and its site is now occupied by the new Hall on the north side of the new Court. The Library contains many valuable manuscripts given by Archbishop Parker.

Originally the College had no Chapel, the Members using St. Benedict's Church. The present Chapel, built in 1827, stands on the south side of the new Court. It contains a fine series of windows, chiefly of foreign glass.

QUEENS' COLLEGE had its origin in St. Bernard's College which was founded in 1446 by Andrew Duket, Rector of St. Botolph's and Principal of St. Bernard's Hostel, and re-founded in 1448 by Queen Margaret of Anjou as the College of St. Margaret and St. Bernard;—later on, Queen Elizabeth Woodville added to its endowments, and it became known as Queens' College.

The principal Court consists largely of the original buildings of Queen Margaret's foundation. The entrance Gateway-tower, in the eastern range of buildings, is the earliest gateway-tower in Cambridge. The old Chapel occupies the eastern end, and the Library is at the western end of the north range. The Hall, with a fine oriel window, is on the western side of the Court. All these buildings are built almost entirely of brick,—stone being very sparingly used,—and their date is 1448.

The passage between the Hall and the Buttery leads to the

---

\* For a further description of this Church see the Transactions, Vol. III page 155.

Cloister Court. The western range of this Court, which, like the buildings of the principal Court, is built of red brick and stone, was erected in 1460. This Court is surrounded on three sides by cloisters. Over the northern cloister a timber gallery was erected about the middle of the sixteenth century;—this wing has now become the President's Lodge. The Society is greatly indebted to the Rev. T. C. Fitzpatrick, the President of the College and Vice-Chancellor of the University, for kindly showing the party over his picturesque residence and exhibiting the many interesting objects which it contains.

On the south of the Cloister Court is a small Court known as Erasmus' Court, because in a tower in one corner the celebrated Erasmus had his lodging.

Northward of the principal Court is the Walnut Tree Court, of which the eastern range of buildings was erected in 1617.

There is an interesting timber bridge over the river, at the back of this College.

KING'S COLLEGE was first founded by King Henry VI as St. Nicholas' Hall, in 1441; three years later he enlarged his foundation under the name of the King's College of St. Mary and St. Nicholas. The original buildings consisted of a Chapel with a Court on its north side; this Court was purchased by the University, about 1837, and the buildings pulled down to provide room for a new wing of the University Library. The ancient gateway, however, still exists.

King's College itself had been rebuilt on the south side of the Chapel;—the Fellows' Building on the western side of the Great Court, in 1723, from a design by Gibbs; the Hall, Library, etc., on the south side, in 1824-5, by William Wilkins, who at the same time built the entrance gateway and the stone screen facing King's Parade.

The Chapel which forms the northern side of the Great Court is one of the architectural glories of Cambridge. It is designed in the best period of the Perpendicular style, and consists of twelve bays each occupied by a five-light window of great width and height. The piers between the windows have been restrained to their smallest dimensions, and are enriched inside the chapel with carved roses, portcullises, fleur-de-lis and coats of arms, surmounted by crowns which project very boldly from the surface of the wall; on the outside each pier has a well designed buttress carried up and finished above the parapet with a crocketed finial. The spaces between ten of these buttresses on each side are filled in with low walls forming small chapels;—each chapel having a double four-light window. The second bay from the west on the south side is occupied by a porch; but there is a western door, above which is a very fine nine-light window with transom and a richly traceried head. The east window of the chapel is a similar nine-light window. At the four angles are octagonal turrets carried up considerably above the rather flat roof. The

chapel is covered by magnificent stone vaulting of fan-tracery, over which is a strong oak roof covered with lead.

The foundation stone was laid in 1446, but the walls had probably not reached any great height when the Wars of the Roses put a stop to the work. From 1477 to 1483 the work proceeded but was stopped again in the latter year, and little or nothing further was done until 1508 when Henry VII caused the work to be resumed, and the stonework was finally completed in 1515. Several interesting Agreements relating to the building are preserved, especially one between Robert Hacombyn, the Provost, and John Wastell and Henry Semark, masons, for building the great vault; the work was to be executed in Weldon stone, within the space of three years, and its cost was £1,200.

The great windows are filled with interesting old glass, the Agreements for which are dated in the 18th year of King Henry VIII (1526). Two of the windows on the south and one on the north side, at the west end, appear to be earlier than the others, and are supposed to have been formed from the glass put into the east window in the reign of Richard III.

The oak screen and the stall-work are of Renaissance design;— the screen was erected in 1534 and bears the arms of King Henry VIII impaled with those of Queen Anne Boleyn.

There is a fine brass lectern, the gift of Robert Hacombyn, who died in 1528 and is commemorated by a brass in the second chantry from the west on the south side. There are several other brasses in the various chapels, notably to William Towne (1496), John Argentein (1507), and Robert Brassie (1558).

CLARE COLLEGE was originally founded as University Hall, in 1326, by Richard Badew, Chancellor of the University. The buildings, however, were destroyed by fire, and Badew obtained the aid of Elizabeth de Clare, sister and co-heiress of Gilbert de Clare Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, and widow of Richard de Burgh Earl of Ulster, who was commonly known as the Lady of Clare. This lady re-founded the College, under the name of Clare Hall, in 1346; she bestowed upon it considerable estates and also the Rectories of Great Gransden, Hunts., Litlington and Duxford, Cambs., and Wrawby, Lincs.

The buildings, as we see them to-day, were commenced in 1638 and finished in 1715, the building operations having been much delayed by the Civil Wars.

There is a dignified stone bridge (built 1638-40) over the river at the back. An interesting feature of this bridge is that one of the stone balls which ornament the balustrade has had a considerable slice cut out of it; it is said that this was done by the mason, who made a wager with his colleagues that the mutilation would not be noticed,— and, in fact, the ball is so cleverly placed that the mutilation is rarely seen until pointed out. The ball is the one over the centre of the western arch, on the south side of the bridge, and it is best seen from King's College Bridge.

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, to which the party was courteously admitted, is built over the old Schools. These Schools formed a quadrangular building of which the western range had been built by the University; the northern range by Sir Thomas Thorp, Kt.; the eastern range by Thomas Scott *alias* Rotherham, Archbishop of York (1480-1500); and the southern range by Laurance Booth, Bishop of Durham (1457-1476); and, notwithstanding many alterations, considerable remains of fifteenth century masonry still exist.

Of the Library, the older part was built in 1755, and other portions have been added from time to time. Some of the newer buildings stand upon the site of the old Court of King's College,—i.e.: the Court which lay upon the north side of the Chapel,—and the original Gateway-tower of this Court still exists, but considerable parts of it are modern.

Of the many interesting manuscripts preserved in the Library, perhaps the oldest is the Codex Bezae, being a copy of the Four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles written in the third or fourth century, presented to the University by Thomas Beza. There are also some early printed books, amongst which may be mentioned Caxton's "Book of Chess," the first book printed in England (1474).

TRINITY HALL was founded in 1350 by William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich, for the study of Canon and Civil Law. It consists of three Courts, the buildings of which are all rather plain and mostly of eighteenth century date or later. It possesses a fine Library of legal works, which was kindly shown to the party by Dr. Bond, one of the Fellows.

The chapel contains a fine brass to Walter Hewke, D.D., twelfth Master of Trinity Hall (1512-1517) and Rector of Holywell, Hunts, who died in 1517.

GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE had its origin in a Hall founded by Edmund Gonville, in 1348, near St. Botolph's Church, but removed in 1353 to the present site by William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich, the founder's executor. The second name came from Dr. Caius, who in 1557 re-founded and re-endowed it. The buildings are of small interest, being mostly of late date, and in fact the more prominent portions of them are quite modern.

Three gate-ways have obtained a certain renown:—the gate of Humility built in 1565, the gate of Virtue or Wisdom, 1567, and the gate of Honour, 1587; they are all three designed in a somewhat Italian form of Renaissance.

TRINITY COLLEGE was founded by King Henry VIII by Letters Patent dated 19 December, 1546, and King Edward VI and Queen Mary completed the work. Like so many of the Colleges, it was formed by consolidating older and smaller Institutions:—Michael House, founded in 1324 by Hervey de Stanton; King's Hall,

founded in 1337 by King Edward III; Physwick's Hostel; St Katherine's Hostel; Bishop's Hostel and others.

The Great Court is entered from Trinity Street by a fine Gateway-tower, known as the King's Tower, which originally formed one of the entrances to King's Hall. The large gateway facing Trinity Street has a smaller archway by its side, and above them are the seven coats of arms of King Edward III and his sons:—Edward Prince of Wales, called the Black Prince; Lionel, Duke of Clarence, Earl of Ulster; Edmund, Duke of York, Earl of Cambridge; William of Hatfield, who died an infant; John, Duke of Lancaster, called John of Gaunt; and Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, Earl of Essex. Above the central coat is a statue of King Henry VIII under a rich canopy and between two late three-light windows. On the side next the Court there is but one large arch, over which is a three-light window; in the wall above the window there are statues of King James I, his Queen, and Charles Prince of Wales (afterwards King Charles I) in inserted niches of the period.

The Chapel, which stands in the north-east corner of the Court, was built in the reigns of Queens Mary and Elizabeth, viz: between the years 1555 and 1564; its style is a very late Perpendicular with somewhat debased details. The interior woodwork is in the Renaissance style. It contains a statue of Sir Isaac Newton, by Roubiliac (1755), another of Lord Bacon, by Weeks (1845), and several others. The stone of which it was built was brought partly from the Grey Friars' Monastery of Cambridge, partly from Ramsey Abbey, and from the quarries of Barrington and Weldon; and some of the lead came from Ramsey Abbey.

At the west end of the Chapel is an ancient gateway tower known as King Edward's or the Clock Tower,—originally built in 1377, but taken down and re-built on its present site in 1601. Over the archway is a statue of King Edward III.

The Hall, which was built in 1604, is on the west side of the Court. The stonework is of a debased Gothic style, but the woodwork is Renaissance. The roof is a somewhat interesting specimen of a late hammer-beam roof.

The southern part of this Court was formerly the Court of Michael House, the Hall of which has become the present kitchen. The gateway in the south range of buildings also belonged to this House; it is now called the Queen's Gateway, because there is a statue of Queen Elizabeth over the archway.

In the centre of the Great Court is a very interesting Renaissance fountain or conduit, first built by Dr. Nevile, in 1602, but re-built in 1716. It consists of eight Renaissance columns supporting semi-circular arches, above which is an Elizabethan frieze surmounted by cartouches of Elizabethan strap-work. Eight ogee arches form a kind of corona to the whole.

Nevile's Court lies to the west of the Great Court, and was originally formed, about the year 1609, by Dr. Thomas Nevile, Master of the College; the buildings on the north and south sides

are of his time but have been extended towards the river at a later date. The magnificent Library which forms the whole of the western side of this Court was built in the years 1676-1686 from designs by Sir Christopher Wren.

South of Nevile's Court is the King's Court, so called from the fact that King George IV contributed largely towards the cost of its erection.

**ST JOHN'S COLLEGE.** The origin of this College was a Hospital for Regular Canons, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and founded about the year 1134. Lady Margaret Beaufort, who died in 1509, and who had already founded Christ's College, left instructions to her executors to convert the Hospital of St. John into a College. The buildings were commenced in 1511 and completed in 1516.

The first Court is entered from St. John's Street by a most interesting Gateway-tower built of red brick and stone. Over the archway are the arms of the foundress supported by boldly carved heraldic antelopes flanked by a crowned rose and a crowned portcullis, and the groundwork strewn with daisies, very closely resembling those over the archway to Christ's College. Above this heraldic panel is a statue of St. John under a Gothic canopy and between two Perpendicular two-light windows.

The north side of the Court is occupied by the Chapel, which was built in 1864-1869, from the designs of Sir George Gilbert Scott. It replaced the original Chapel of Lady Margaret's foundation, which stood on the edge of the present grass plot just southward of the new Chapel.

The Hall is on the west side of the Court, and, like most of the other buildings of this Court, is largely the original building of 1516.

The second Court was erected chiefly at the expense of Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury, 1595-1602.

Of the third Court, the northern side is occupied by the Library, built in 1624 at the expense of John Williams, Bishop of Lincoln 1621-1641 and Archbishop of York 1641-1650.

The fourth or new Court is on the other side of the river and is quite modern (1827-1831); it is approached by a covered bridge of Gothic design, commonly known as the Bridge of Sighs.

**THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE**, commonly called the round church, was consecrated in 1101, and is said to be the oldest of the five round churches in England. It appears never to have belonged to the Knights Templars but to be simply a parish church built in the form of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem.

The circular part has eight massive columns carrying semi-circular arches enriched with the chevron ornament. Above these, the triforium has eight large arches each subdivided into two smaller arches with a centre column. Above these again, is a clerestory with eight modern windows of Norman design sur-

mounted by a conical stone roof; these were all substituted for Perpendicular windows and an embattled parapet when the church was thoroughly restored by the Cambridge Camden Society, 1841-1844.

The chancel and its north aisle were added in the Perpendicular period, and the south aisle was built at the time of the aforesaid restoration.

It may be interesting to record that the other round churches in England are:—the Temple Church, London, founded by the Knights Templars after their removal from the Old Temple (which was situated on the south side of Holborn), and consecrated in 1185 by Heraclius, Patriarch of Jerusalem; the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, said to have been founded by the first Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton, in the year 1100, and completed in 1115; the Church of St. John the Baptist, Little Maplestead, Essex; and the Church of St. John the Baptist, Temple Bruer, Lincs., built by the Knights Templars in the time of King Henry II, but of which the foundations alone remain. There is also a ruined round chapel in the inner court-yard of Ludlow Castle, but this is not usually counted amongst the round churches.

JESUS COLLEGE occupies the site of a Benedictine Nunnery dedicated to St. Radegund, founded in 1133 and enlarged in the time of King Henry II. In 1497 John Alcock, Bishop of Ely, obtained the suppression of the Nunnery and converted the buildings to the use of a College which he founded in honour of St. Mary, St. John the Evangelist and St. Radegund.

Considerable remains of the buildings of the Nunnery still exist:—the Church, greatly mutilated, serves as the College Chapel; the Prioress' Lodging is the Master's Lodge; the Refectory is the Hall; the Kitchen still serves its original purpose; and some of the other buildings may still be identified.

The entrance to the College is by a fine Gateway-tower of red brick and stone, built by Bishop Alcock. It leads into a Court of which the greater part of the buildings were erected in 1643 and 1718.

The second Court is the ancient Cloister Court of the Nunnery, but, while many of the Conventual buildings still remain, the cloisters themselves are of the time of Bishop Alcock.

A third Court is composed of modern buildings erected at various times in quite recent years.

The Chapel is a very fine specimen of Early English architecture. The choir has lancet windows, a double piscina with intersecting semi-circular arches, and graduated sedilia. On the east side of the piscina is a narrow recess, probably for a processional cross. Two fine Early English arches, enriched with the dog-tooth ornament, open into the north chapel. The north transept has an Early English arch to the chapel, and in the wall above an arcade of semi-circular arches gives light to a passage in the

thickness of the wall. The south transept has a blocked Early English arch, formerly leading to a south chapel. The central tower is carried on four arches enriched with the dog-tooth ornament. The walls of the stage above have an arcade of four arches on each side grouped two and two. A fragment of the nave remains, and has a Perpendicular stoup by the north door. A slab with a Lombardic inscription round the edge,—

**+ HIC JACET FRATER JOHANNES DE PYKENHAM  
MAGISTER SACRE THEOLOGIE QUONDAM PRIOR  
HUIUS LOCI. CUJUS ANIMAE PROPICIETUR DEUS,**  
—has evidently been removed from some other place.

The Hall is of late Perpendicular date; it has an open timber roof, under the principals of which are corbels bearing Bishop Alcock's rebus of a cock, or a cock standing on a ball. There is a good oriel window of Perpendicular date at the north-east corner.

A fine thirteenth century doorway is all that remains of the Chapter House of the Nunnery.

The Master's Lodge, which contains a portion of the nave of the Conventual Church, was very kindly shown to the party by Mr. Arthur Gray, the Master.

Luncheon was partaken of at Hawkin's Dining Rooms, and tea at the Café.

Amongst those present were the Rev. Dr. Stokes, the Reverends J. W. E. Conybeare, A. G. Cane, C. F. Bolland, J. A. Griffin, A. L. Grimley, P. J. Hulbert, A. Peskett and E. W. Porter; Mr. A. E. Wright, High Sheriff of Cambs and Hunts.; Dr. Newton, Mr. A. Bull, Mrs and Miss Bolland, Miss Carnegie, Mrs and Miss Farrer, Mrs. Garrood, Mrs. Hedding, Miss Parsons, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Yeatherd and others.

## The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archæological Society

---

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION, 1915-1916.

The Council has the honour of laying before you its seventeenth Annual Report with the Accounts made up to 30th September, 1916. It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of both our late President, Lord Sandwich, who has held the office since the birth of the Society, and of Mr. Emery who as a keen antiquary had for many years been of the greatest assistance to us as Treasurer and of late as Secretary as well.

The war has deepened its shadow upon us; the increase of taxation and the cost of living have been the cause not only of reducing our numbers but also of restricting our rural excursions. Eleven members have resigned, we have lost three by death and only four have joined; there remains only 70 members on the books. We must hope for better times when peace has been restored.

To the war also must be laid our failure to publish the Transactions up to date. At one time it was impossible to procure paper; some has at last been obtained so that a new part is in the printer's hands and it is hoped it will be issued before the end of the year.

The only excursion it was thought advisable to make was a visit to Cambridge on May 25th., when about 37 members and guests visited many of the Colleges; the Rev. Dr. Stokes and the Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare acting as guides. The President of Queens' and the Master of Jesus College kindly showed the visitors round their respective lodges.

On the death of Mr. Emery the Rev. A. G. Cane took over the duties of the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer until the next Annual Meeting.

The Council recommends the appointment of the Venerable Archdeacon Hodgson as President, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Sandwich, Mr. Howard Coote, Lord Lieutenant for Hunts., and the Rev. A. G. Cane as Vice-Presidents; the Rev. W. O'F. Hughes and Mr. Norman Heathcote to fill the vacancies on the Council, and the Rev. J. A. Griffin as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

During the year the sum of £30 arising out of last year's balance has been invested in the war loan at  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; this stands in the names of Revs. W. M. Noble and A. G. Cane. The amount standing in favour of the Society, exclusive of the sum invested, is £57 8s. 8d. A balance sheet is appended:

The following Members of the Council retire by rotation:— Messrs. Bull and Ladds, Mrs. Yeatherd and Miss Parsons, and being eligible, they offer themselves for re-election.

The Council offers its thanks to the officers and all who have kindly assisted in the work of the Society during the year.

W. O'F. HUGHES,

30th. October, 1916.

*Chairman.*

# Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archaeological Society

## HON. TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MICHAELMAS, 1916.

*Presented at the Annual Meeting, 30th October, 1916.*

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank, 1st Oct., 1915.....	76	1	5
Subscriptions and arrears.....	36	4	6
Interest .....	1	6	7
Excursion tickets.....	4	5	0

£117 17 6

W. O'F. HUGHES, *Chairman*  
30th October, 1916.

### Payments.

	£	s.	d.
Invested in War loan .....	29	15	0
Printing .....	20	14	8
Congress of Archaeological Societies.....	1	3	9
Armorial bearings licence .....	1	1	0
Use of rooms for meetings.....	17	0	0
Deed box.....	19	6	0
Insurance .....	7	0	0
Excursion expenses:—Luncheons.....	3	15	0
Stamps and Stationery.....	1	15	11
Balance in Bank 30th Sept. 1916 .....	57	8	8

£117 17 6

A. G. CANE, *Hon. Treasurer.*  
S. E. ARMSTRONG, *Auditor.*