

The north garden, the south garden, the Weare plot, the Rock-holes and the church close seemed to have formed the immediate precincts of the house, being bounded on the north by the river, on the south-west by the Home Park, on the south-east by Sonning village, and on the north-east by the vicarage and the church. The whole of this covered about ten or twelve acres.

The bishop's palace was succeeded by another house, erected presumably towards the end of the seventeenth century, placed to the south of the old kitchen and facing south-west with a straight drive to the present entrance to Home Park from Sonning village. Nothing of the earlier house was retained save some parts of the kitchen and the wall on the south side of the forecourt. This was continued across the site of the palace to the east side of the south garde robe block and then returned north as far as the outer side of the old palace, where were some garden steps to the lower level towards the river. A circular ice-house was made on the site of the chapel.

A plan of this house, though on a very small scale, with its surroundings are shown on "A plan of an estate situate in the parish of Sonning and county of Berks belonging to Daniel Rich, Esq., surveyed and delineated by James Crow, Anno Dom. 1752," which is here reproduced (plate 16).

The gardens and "Park" seem to include the same land as formerly belonged to the bishop's palace, though entirely re-arranged after the date of the Elizabethan survey.

A Surbey of Wallingford in 1550.

(Continued from page 113, Vol. 21).

Folio 4—continued.

The High Street on the south side, beginning at the west gate.

- (1) Robert Warfelde holds one garden in the parish of Holy Trinity there, between the alley (*venellam*) leading from the high street into Cany Crofte on the east side and another alley belonging to the said Robert on the west

side, having one head abutting on the King's highway northward and another head abutting on Cany Crofte, and containing in length x. feet and in breadth xxx. feet. He holds also half an acre of arable land in the field called Saincte Jesus felde.

- (2) John Woodehouse holds by charter i. garden in the parish of St. Mary there, between the land of the late Priory on the east and other land on the west, one head abutting on the King's highway and another head on the water there, and containing in length 12ft. and in breadth 12ft.
- (3) William Brokes holds a tenement and garden with a small close of one rood adjacent [*add* 1561, query purchased by Thomas Morys for Ralph Pollyngton as appears by letters patent dated 10th May, 4 Edw. VI.].
- (4) Thomas Leach holds at will one tenement and garden late in tenure of Thomas Hurste with a small close adjacent and $1\frac{1}{2}$ rood of pasture, and very ruinous in every way.
- (5) John A'Deane holds by indenture v. acres of land in Clopcote and ij. acres in Hungerhille and ij. closes called Goldesmythes.
- (6) William A'Deane holds one tenement called the Belle with garden, curtilage, and a small parcel of land containing one acre.
- (7) The Warden of Bissitor holds one tenement called Brasyers late in the tenure of William A'Deane, now occupied by Rose Cheyny, with one curtilage adjacent, in length xxxv. feet, in breadth xxx. feet.
- (8) Rose Cheyney holds one shop (*shoppam*) abutting on Fysshe strete eastward, late of William Cheyney.

These eight entries, then, describe the entire length of the south side of the High Street from the north-west angle of the Kine Croft as far as the entrance of Fish Street (so called until recent times), now St. Mary's Street. The Kine Croft was in old times known as the Kenny Croft, or Cany Croft, as here. At the time of the Survey it did not extend, as now, to the High Street; but its northern edge, where is now a row of elms, was occupied by gardens and tenements. Four of these eight entries, namely, 1, 4, 5 and 8, are repeated, more or less exactly, in the accounts of the Priory estates on folios

17-22 of the Survey, and scribe's errors in one place can be the more readily corrected by reference to the other.

(1) Robert Warfelde's garden is described in both places as being thirty feet in "breadth." On folio 4 a space is left for its "length," which has not been entered here, but is stated as ten feet on folio 19. The "length" gives the measurement on the street, and the "breadth" gives the distance extending back from the street. If this is stated correctly in the latter entry, the garden had a frontage or "head" (*caput*) of only ten feet on the High Street and the same on the Kine Croft behind; but the sequel leads us to infer that the "length" of the garden was much greater. Its "breadth" reached thirty feet southward under the Kine Croft banks with a private alley intervening. Another alley, forming a public entrance to the Kine Croft, passed along its eastern side. It was in the parish of Holy Trinity, for the Church of the Priory on the other side of the High Street was parochial as well as conventual. Rent-charges payable on the garden were xvjd. to the late Priory, ivd. to the lord of the honour, and ivd. to the "brig-house" or bridge estate. Warfelde held also a half-acre in "Sainte Jesus felde," which is not known elsewhere and appears to be a mistake for St. John's field lying beyond the Kine Croft on the south.

(2) The next garden, held by John Woodehouse, was in the parish of St. Mary. It had Priory land on the east of it and "other land" (namely, Warfelde's garden) on the west. It was only 12ft. square, abutting on the High Street in front and on a certain water at the back. Thus we learn that there was a pond in this part lying against the alley which passed between the two gardens into the Kine Croft. We learn also that the alley formed at this point the boundary between the parishes of Holy Trinity and St. Mary, and must presumably have existed when the Priory was founded by Robert D'Oyley in the 11th century. The garden paid dues of ivd. to the honour and ivd. to the bridge estate.

(3) William Brokes' tenement, with garden and small close, is the "land of the late Priory" mentioned under the last entry. It paid no dues to the honour, but xvjd. to the Priory estate and viijs. iijd. to the bridge-house. It appears that it had passed by purchase before 1561 to Ralph Pollyngton, who has been named already* as holding the 16th tenement on the north side of the High Street, and of whom we shall hear more.

* Vol. xxi., p. 83.

(4) Thomas Leach's holding, now ruinous, belonged also to the Priory estate, the dues to which amounted to *xs.*, namely, for the tenement *vjs. viijd.* and for the close *iijs. ivd.* Insertions in 1561 state that it was held *per copiam*, that the garden was *customarium*, and that the pasture (or perhaps the whole) was now in the tenure of Ralph Pollington.

As with the portions of the Priory estate on the other side of the High Street, so with these, no measurements are given. But the second of these, or probably both, occupied the site where are now the brewery house and buildings, adjacent to Goldsmith's Lane.

(5) John A'Deane's tenure follows. Three plots of ground are enumerated both here and in the subsequent list of lands farmed of the Priory on folio 20. He holds 5 acres in Clapcot field, north of the town, and 2 acres in Hunger hill, which is the land at the northern end of Clapcot now commonly known as Shillingford hill; *hunger* or *hanger* being the wooded slope of the hill-side.† But John A'Deane's holdings are doubtless inserted here on account of the two closes called Goldsmith's; for we must infer that these faced the High Street between the tenement last mentioned and the Bell, of which we read next, and we infer also that they gave their name to Goldsmith's Lane, which led out of the High Street on the west of them. It has been suggested that the name of this lane seems to be connected with the mint‡ which existed in the town at least from the reign of Athelstan to that of Henry III.§; and in that case we may reasonably conclude that the Goldsmiths closes were the actual site of the mint. Later entries show that a rent-charge of *xs.* was due to the free chapel of St. John Baptist from one of these closes (measuring half an acre) and the Clapcot and Hungerhill lands jointly, and also *iijs.* to the Priory from the three united holdings.

(6) William A'Deane was a free tenant on the Priory estate, and his tenement, called the Bell, is described again on folio 17 in the rental of the Priory, "parcel of the possessions of Thomas Wolsey late Archbishop of York." It was therefore not included among the portions of this estate which had passed from the Crown to John Norris.|| The Bell has already been noticed in connection with the King's Head, which was opposite.* We shall find later that the garden, curtilage, and acre of ground belonging to it extended southward up St. Martin's Street as far as the site of the

† McClure, *British Place Names*, 287.

‡ Hedges' *Hist. of Wallingford*, i. 278.

§ Ibid. 171, 314.

|| Above, xxi. 112.

* Ibid. 113.

destroyed Church of St. Martin in the direction of the Market-place, which explains the fact that the Corporation Ledger of 1651 reckons it among six licensed houses *in* the Market-place.† The charges upon it were xvs. ivd. to the lord of the honour, viijs. and vijs. viijd to the Priory estate, with a further iiijd. for the land and yard held by customary tenure.

(7) The corner tenement on the east side of St. Martin's Street is called Brasyers. It belonged to the "Warden (*Gardianus*) of Bissitor," which is elsewhere written *Bissitter* and *Bissator*; and on folio 17 he is called the "Warden of the Church of Bissate." This is doubtless Bicester; and we must infer that the property had belonged to the Priory of Bicester, which had been dissolved fourteen years before, and that the "Warden of Bicester" was the person who had charge of the Priory estates on behalf of the Augmentation Office.‡ This tenement, which had lately passed from the tenure of William A'Deane to that of Rose Cheyney, had with its adjacent curtilage a frontage of 35 feet and extended 30 feet southward (*i.e.*, up the east side of St. Martin's Street). It paid ivs. viijd. to the lord "as appears by the ancient rental." We have already seen the 21st tenement on the north side of High Street called also Brasyers; the name probably indicating in each case the trade of a former occupant.

(8) The next tenement was a shop (*shoppa*) abutting upon Fish Street eastward. It was lately held by William Cheyney and now by Rose, who appears to have been his widow, and who lived next door at Brasyers. This shop, for which iijs. ivd. was due to the lord, but of which no measurement is stated, may have been one of the stalls in Fish Street from which the Church of St. Mary the Less in that street came to be called St. Mary de Stalles.§ It is now the Anchor public-house.

The point at which the two last-named tenements met is clearly to be seen in the line of frontage opposite the Lamb Hotel, where the Anchor and the next house stand forward while the other houses recede about three feet. The recess now marks the boundary between the parishes of St. Peter and St. Mary the More, and was doubtless the limit of the former parish of St. Mary the Less, which was united with St. Peter in 1374. The house called Brasyers would presumably be in St. Martin's, which became merged into St. Mary the More.

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† Hedges, ii. 157.

‡ I owe this suggestion to the Rev. H. Salter.

§ Hedges, i. 345.

(*To be continued.*)