

# The Last Years of Thetford Cluniac Priory

BY

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The Cluniac Priory of St. Mary at Thetford was one of the greatest monastic houses of East Anglia, and its possessions were widely scattered from Cambridgeshire to Essex, throughout Norfolk and Suffolk. The buildings of the convent itself were magnificent, and recent excavation of the site by H.M. Office of Works has revealed the ground plan and much interesting detail covering a large area. But in spite of its importance, remarkably little has been known of the history of the house, for the treasures of its muniment-room had disappeared, though not without leaving tantalising traces of a long post-Dissolution existence. It is unnecessary here to trace in detail the manner in which erroneous lists of the Thetford registers found their way into print through a process of recopying carried out for more than two centuries, with hardly any reference to the manuscripts themselves which became lost to view. It must however be mentioned that the five volumes referred to in the latest compilation on the subject, the *Guide to the Victoria County History*, are in reality three only, since that referred to as having been in the possession of Sir William Le Neve, Clarenceux, was later one of the two in the hands of

Peter Le Neve, Norroy, and either this, or the other of his volumes, was that in the Duke of Grafton's Library at the end of the eighteenth century. The third register is that purchased by Craven Ord in the late eighteenth century, of "Booth the bookseller." This was afterwards in the Clumber Library of the Dukes of Newcastle, and at its dispersal was purchased for the Cambridge University Library in the spring of 1938. Peter Le Neve's two registers became separated; one is now in the Bodleian (MS. Gough Norfolk 18; S.C. 18074), while the other is among the muniments of the Corporation of Thetford.

The volume in the Bodleian Library is described in the *Bodleian Quarterly Record*, vol. viii., no. 92, p. 264, as "written in different hands of the second half of the fourteenth century; 49 folios." Miss Rose Graham, who has recently studied it, has been so kind as to inform me that it is not a cartulary, but contains a number of miscellaneous documents, such as notes of payments made to the Exchequer, and a list of the churches belonging to the Priory, with their assessments for taxation.

The register at Thetford is calendared in the *Report on Various Collections*, vol. vii., published by the Royal Commission on Historic Manuscripts, 1914. It belonged to Peter Le Neve in 1705, and passed later through the collections of "Honest Tom" Martin and John Ives. At the Ives' sale it was bought by the Duke of Grafton, who presented it to the town of Thetford on 14th October, 1809. This is a register of grants to the Priory, 1311-1471, recorded on twenty-three leaves of vellum.

The two "Le Neve" registers are small in size, but the third now at Cambridge (MS. Add. 6969), contains over 300 folios, and consists of a complete series of the accounts of the Priory and its possessions for the years 1482-83 and 1483-84, and from 1498 to the surrender in 1540. The book seems to be a digest of the whole of the expenses of the house, prepared from the detailed accounts of the various responsible officers and from "bills," often referred to, but not now preserved.

Owing to its comprehensive nature, it reflects in a most unusual manner the whole of the activities of a busy monastery, from minor agricultural pursuits such as the "skeryng of rooks" from the crops to Royal visits and journeys on matters of high importance. A special feature of great literary interest is the frequent occurrence of payments to minstrels and strolling players, a few of which were quoted by J. Payne Collier in his *History of English Dramatic Poetry*, published in 1831.<sup>1</sup> Collier used the MS. while it belonged to Craven Ord, and later works have reprinted his extracts, but without access to the original. Much material for the economist is also to be found, both in the form of entries of wages paid to many different types of worker, and of long lists of purchases made at Ely Market, Stourbridge Fair and elsewhere.

The present writer's chief object in examining the register was to attempt to throw some light on building operations at the Priory, and on the arrangement of the various parts of the structure. In consequence, items which related to this subject were extracted throughout, and are included as an appendix, which is believed to contain all that directly concerns repairs and alterations to the fabric, though further sidelights may later be found among the great mass of entries under other headings. In addition, a collection of miscellaneous entries of interest was made, representing only a minute fraction of the remaining contents. These may serve to arouse the interest of several classes of research-workers in this remarkable document.

Since many of the buildings still remain incompletely excavated, it would be premature to attempt identification of the many details mentioned, though some are well known, such as the Cloister and Chapter-house. One tentative suggestion may be permitted. Was the chapel in course of construction in 1483-84 that in the angle between the nave and

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii., p. 142.

north transept? It seems difficult to place it anywhere else. Unfortunately the period covered does not seem to have been productive of any work of great importance, such as was in course of erection at the same time at many other religious houses, such as Bath Abbey, and the Evesham Bell-tower.

Disappointing in this respect, the register is on the other hand full of everyday details which are not to be found in a series of fabric rolls relating to some special work, and it may not be out of place to give a rather detailed description, with extracts from the various headings into which the accounts are divided.

I. *Description.* The whole volume is of paper, and comprises over 300 folios, but the pagination is not regular throughout, and a number of blank leaves at the end, and a few interspersed throughout the book bear no numbers. The size is  $11\frac{7}{8}$  inches by  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and though it has been rebound the margins have fortunately escaped cropping. The binding is stamped "Register of Thetford Priory; Manuscript; 1483-1540": there is no title to the MS. itself, the first page of accounts being headed:

"Expense Prioratus & Ad necessaria per Robertum Priorem a Festo Natiuitatis beate Marie Anno regnanti regis Edwardi iijti xxij usque ad idem festum Anno regni regis ejusdem xxij" (Customary contractions have been expanded; above 'Robertum' has been pencilled 'Weting,' the Prior's surname, supplied from the heading of a later account, f. 10).

II. *Period.* The above account is followed by headings for other accounts, such as "Expense Hospicij, etc.," for the same year, but the entries under most of these are missing. At f. 10 follow the accounts for the year from the Nativity of the Virgin in 1 Ric. III., but after this there is a gap until the account (f. 18) from the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in 13 Hen. VII., 1498. From this date until the year beginning at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in 31 Hen. VIII. (1539) there is a complete consecutive series of accounts; the surrender took place on the 16 Feb., 1540.

III. *Headings*. The main heads under which expenses were entered were the following: *Necessaria*, *Reparaciones*, *Redditus*, etc., *Pensiones*, etc., *Hospicij*; in some years there are extra sub-heads, such as *Vinum Oleum Cera Species et Mel*. There was also a general statement of account at the end of each year.

IV. *Entries*. The vast majority of the entries only consist of a single line, but in some cases a number are grouped under a single title, as (f. 262) "Grocery empt' ad nundinas Ely," where a long "shopping-list" follows. In some years, the long account for necessaries is divided into two parts, the second being headed "Post festum sancte Marie purificationis," *i.e.*, the 2nd of February.

V. *Necessaria*. Many widely differing types of entry are covered by the heading of necessaries: some are in respect of purchases of food, cloth, or materials for building, while others record payments to labourers and craftsmen, or 'rewards' to minstrels and various other types of strolling players, some of whom belonged to a corporate town, such as Norwich, while others are mentioned as the players of various noblemen, among whom the Earls of Derby and Rutland may be mentioned. Rewards to "the King's minstrel" are frequent, and "to Master Brandon the Kyngs ioguler—iijs. iiijd." occurs (f. 263b).

There was a Royal visit in 1498-9, and the sequel appears in the item (f. 28b, among the *necessaria* of Prior Roger) "per manus Roberti Whall to the beer-brewer for pewter loste whan the kyng was presente—vjs." It would almost seem that pewter, borrowed from the brewer for the occasion, had been appropriated by the Royal retinue when it moved on!

The costs of journeys by the various officials of the house are also recorded, as "in expensis Thome Riby versus London'—vjs. ijd.," surely not an exorbitant cost, even considering the vastly greater purchasing power of money (f. 18b).

Medicine, both for men and horses, and the services of the doctor and the "horsleech," or "vet" as we should say, appear, in addition to anomalous items, of which "solutum Johanni Mannyng for skeryng of rooks—xijd." may serve as an instance.

VI. *Reparaciones*. The accounts for repairs largely consist of work on farm buildings and mills, and the digging of mill-races, but they also contain the whole architectural history of the manors belonging to the Priory, and of the chancels of churches appropriated to it. Unfortunately, many items do not specify the exact work done, but a very large amount of topographical detail could be extracted from the record, of which a single example must serve: "Jorgio Drory pro reparacionibus factis apud Croxston in tenemento vocato Baxstors—xijd." (f. 254, year 26-27 Hen. VIII., 24 June, 1534 to 24 June, 1535).

The items which refer to the buildings of the Priory itself are dealt with in detail as an appendix.

VII. *Redditus. Pensiones*. The headings of "Redditus" and "Pensiones" cover a number of recurring annual payments, which have been printed, from other sources, in *Monasticon*; there is therefore little of special interest attaching to these entries.

VIII. *Expense Hospicij*. The Priory, like other religious houses, served as a hotel, and was often patronised by royalty and members of the nobility. Naturally, many purchases had to be made for such a hostelry, especially of food, spices and drink, though these items sometimes appear under the head of *Necessaria*, even when it is specified that they were for the use of non-members of the Convent. Examples of this occur in 1523-4 "pro vino pro domina ducchessa Norfolche—xd." (f. 166b) and "pro xvj plouerys pro domina comitissa Norfolg—ijs. viiij."; in 1524-5 "pro le galown of clarettwyne pro Magistro Tylneyu—xvjd." and "pro le quart' of mawsyn—vd." (f. 175); and in 1535-6 "pro halfe barell of bere pro domino Surrey—xxijd." (f. 263b); and

“pro le bere pro Count Surrey—vd. & alia vice iijd.”  
(f. 265).

Some examples of food prices may also be given:—  
(f. 25, 1498-9) “pro dimidia barell’

Mellis	xs	
pro dimidia libra gynger		viijd
pro ix libris amigdal’	ijs	vjd
Johanni Smyth pro Oleo pro coquina	xjs	ixd
Thome Riby pro j libra of Saffrom		xijd
per manus extracellulararij for a frayll of fyggs and a frayll of reysons	viijs	xd
for sugar		xxd
(f. 25b) pro iij Salmon		xviijd
pro Roberto Russell pro pykerellis et anguillis	iiijs	xd
Johanni Byxle pro ostriis in xla (i.e., Lent)	ixs	iiijd
(f. 26) pro a Weye of cheese	xs	

Another list from the account for 1539-40 contains  
(folio marked 209, and 199 struck through, but  
following early numbering, really f. 291):—

“pro halfe a syde of befe”	iijs	
a barell of Samon	xxiiijs	iiijd
le Barel of hoyle	xxixs	
le fyrkyn of hony	vijs	vjd
le Barel of pyke	xs	
x libris pepper	xvs	
dimidia clouys	ijs	xjd
quartyr mag’ (probably mace)		xvjd
j libra gyngyr	ijs	viijd
j libra Greynys (cochineal)		xiijd
dimidia Synamon	ijs	iiijd
xij libris Almonys	iijs	
vj libris coraund (? coriander seeds)	ijs	
xij libris Ryse	ijs	
viiij libris quartyr le Sugyr	vs	vjd
iiij libris dats		xijd

IX. *Miscellanea*. From various accounts come  
entries which cannot really be classed under any head,  
such as payments for masses and gravestones, and

costs of carriage of items purchased. All are usually to be found among the Necessaria. A number of interesting extracts will be given following those relating to the buildings of the Priory.

X. *Language.* As will have been seen from the extracts given above, the language of the register is based on Latin, but in the later years a large number of entries are in English, though often with the curious use of the French article 'le' or 'lez.'

The handwriting is, considering the period and class of document, unusually clear, and apart from a number of eccentric spellings of personal and place names, presents little difficulty.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ACCOUNTS FOR REPARATIONS TO THE BUILDINGS AND FITTINGS OF THE CLUNIAK PRIORY.

It is believed that the following extracts include all the definite references to the Priory itself to be gleaned from the accounts under the heading of Reparations, and a number of purchases of materials and other items from the accounts for Necessaries, but it is possible that other entries of interest have been overlooked.

All Latin words have been translated, and contractions (wherever it was possible to do so with certainty) expanded; English words in the original have been preserved as they stand, without alteration of spelling. Latin (Roman) numerals for numbers and prices have for clarity been altered to Arabic numerals.

1482-1483, from 8 Sep.

		£	s.	d.
f. 2	Robert Bole for carpentry work		5	0
	William Schereve       "       "		1	8
	after 2 Feb., 1483			
f. 2b	William Schereve carpentry work		1	4
	Robert Bole               "       "		3	0
	William Schereve       "       "		3	0
	Richard Large           "       "		3	0
f. 3	John Perkym for timber bought at Stanton (Santon) in part payment of 40/-	1	0	0
	Robert Bole for carpentry work		1	6
	William Schereve       "       "		1	6
	Richard Large           "       "		1	6



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	£	s.	d.
f. 3b	Richard Bere for 2 chaldron lime	6	0
	Thomas Bonyng for repairs of walls	1	6
	John Whitelok for labour for the same	1	0
	Richard Grauer for making a new board (tabule) for the hospice	2	4
	1483-1484 from 8 Sep.		
f. 10b	Alexander Freer for repairs	4	0
	Richard Beer for quick lime	15	0
	"    "    "    stone		6
	William Halle for repairs of the cellarium and elsewhere	1	4
f. 11	Edmund Drayton for 4 cartloads of stone for the chapel		8
	John Bolle for smith's work	1	8
f. 12	Robert Rustel and his mate for digging foundations	16	8
	the same Robert and his son for the same stone for the chapel	2	10
f. 12b	Peter Andrew for labouring about the chapel	2	4
	Richard Yowng "    "    "    "	3	4
	Thomas Bonyng for repairing walls	6	10
	Thomas Yowng serving the said Thomas	3	8
f. 13	Thomas Bonyng for repairing walls	2	6
	John Mannyng serving the same	2	1
	(N.B.—It should be kept in mind that the word "reparacio" at this period can mean either 'repair' in the modern sense of mending, or quite new work; it is here translated throughout as 'repair'.)		
	1498-1499 from 24 June		
f. 18b	For 430 boord	9	4
f. 21	for 'le chalder' of colys (coals)	3	8
f. 23b	Simon Smyth working in the bakhouse with his servant for five days	2	1
	By the hands of the outside cellarer for divers repairs as appears in the bill of the same	1	5 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1499-1500		
f. 29	Bought in Ely Market		
	3 payll		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1000 6 peny nayll	3	10
	2000 5 "    "	6	8
	4000 4 "    "	12	0
	3000 3 "    "	5	0
	6000 2 "    "	5	0

	£	s.	d.
		2	0
			2
f. 30			3
f. 31b	1	7	$\frac{1}{2}$
		1	7
	3	6	
		3	0
		3	4
		4	11
	16	6	
		15	8
f. 32			4
f. 44			8
f. 47b		1	6
		3	5
f. 54			
f. 60b	5	9	
			11
		1	7
		2	9
		1	6
	12	5	$\frac{1}{2}$
	1	4	
f. 67	5	0	
f. 73		1	0
		4	8
	1	1	4
f. 79b		1	8
f. 85b		1	1
		6	8

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	£	s.	d.
To Thomas Aldrych working in making of the Wyndowe at the heye Awteer	2	11	2

(N.B.—One Thomas Aldrych of North Lopham, mason, contracted in 1487-8 to build the church tower of Helmingham, Suffolk, of knapped flint, to be as the tower of Framsdon. See L. F. Salzman, *History of Building in England to 1549, Society of Antiquaries MS. 670, Appendix B, pt. ii.*)

and to Walter Mason	2	0	
and to Robert Cley working with him	13	11	
For 12 tune of frestone	3	16	8
For yren barrs		2	7
For glass	1	8	5
Thomas Hodmyn (glasier)	11	10	
John Glasier	8	0	
Robert Glasier	1	6	

1508-1509

f. 91b	To Robert Burton for mending the organs	3	4	
	To the plumer working	6	6	
	For repairs done by the outside cellerar	8	2	

1509-1510

f. 94b	For 4 barell of tarr bowgte at Steerbrygge (Stourbridge Fair) and for cariage	18	4	
f. 96b	For repair of the gabyll wyndow at the heye Awter for freston	5	0	
	and for glasse	2	6	
	to the glasere	5	6	5
	and for leede and sowde	1	0	4
	and for yren werke for barrs	2	0	
	Total (for window) £6 16s. 3d.			

1510-1511

f. 101b	To cleymen working in the bakhous	1	4	
	For repairs made by the hands of the Sacrist	1	2	0

1511-1512

f. 106b	For the making of the porche for breeke	4	5	6
	and for kyttyng of the breeke	1	0	0
	and for lyme	1	5	10
	and to the Masonys and ther servants	2	3	2
	and to the Wryts for tymber and Werkemanschepe	2	0	0

	£	s.	d.
and to the plomer for curyng		4	4
and for rede oker and other colors		1	4
and for yren werke		1	1
Total (for porch) £11 1s. 3d.			
1512-1513			
f. 111b For nayll		1	0
1513-1514			
f. 116 To cleymen werkyng in the bakhous		4	10
To them for hangyng of leds (?)		6	7
1514-1515			
f. 120b For curyng of the Castell wallys to John Dalton and William Candeler		18	8
1515-1516			
f. 125 To the glasere			8
1516-1517			
f. 129 To Thomas Mason working for different occasions with his servant	2	6	4
For 8 loads of stone		1	4
1517-1518			
f. 131 (First account of William Ixworth Prior)			
f. 135 To Arthur Freman for the repair of the logge	2	6	3
To Thomas Grene for the repair of "pendend" (?) of the Little Hall		4	0
To the same for repair of the Little Hall		2	0
To John Swett for makyng le grave of Lady Anne			3
John Swett for le makyng the wall of the new kitchen			7
Peter Just with his servants working upon the new kitchen		7	8
For 2000 le tyle		10	0
For 1000 tyle		5	0
John Swhett for le tylyng of the new kitchen and for other services		3	0
To a servant working 4 days			10
For 1000 tyle and for 32 le corner tylys		5	10
1518-1519			
f. 141b Thomas Carman for divers repairs pertaining to the stable		7	2

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13

£ s. d.

1519-1520

f. 149	John Swhet for le wytyng of the Prior's chapel and vault	2	8	
f. 149b	John Smyth for 500 lede nayle for the refectory (refrectorio)	1	8	
	To Thomas Chirch de Bury for le sedyng Brass for kitchen	6	18	8
	For le Okyr			4
	To Desney de Ixworth for 1000 le Breketyle	6	4	

1520-1521

f. 155b	For the repair of the best gylte coupe			8
f. 156	Thomas Benet for le steynyng le clothyng in the parlor	8	0	
	Hodemy for Glazyng the window of the chapter-house and other things	2	0	
	John Gardyner for le paytyng of the Earl's Hall	4	4	
	To the same for le peytyng of the crucifix of Our Lord			3

1521-1522

f. 163	Robert Orage for repairing le loge Paule Plomer with his servant for repairing le lede in the bakehouse (pistrino)			10
		1	0	

1522-1523

f. 170	Ralph Flode working for 2 days with Dalton about the wall of the kitchen			4
	Paule Plomer for mending le spowte of the kitchen	1	0	
	Master le Mason for 5 days working about the great Altar	2	0	
f. 170b	To a man for 3½ days working in le setting upp my ladys glass	1	2	
	John Dalton working 13 days in redyng the bakehouse (pistrin')	3	6	
	For the repair of the organs			6
	By the hands of the Sacrist for the repair of the Altars of the Church and for other things	15	4	

1523-1524

f. 176	For the repair of the chamber of Master doctor Nob	3	4	
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		£	s.	d.
	For le grete fatte for the bakehouse	1	13	3
	after 2 Feb., 1524			
	Thomas Grene for repairing le carpentr' for the singers in the choir		1	4
	Goldsmyth for repair of 2 candylstecks		6	8
	1524-1525			
f. 193	Thomas Hodmyn for le glazyng of the porche & le halle		3	3
	To the same working in glazyng 14 days		4	8
	Peter Juste with a servant about the work of the church (twice)		14	7
			4	9
f. 193b	John Brown working 9 days about the work of the church		1	6
	(also a number of other entries of labourers on the work of the church, for sawing boards, etc.)			
	For 32 lods of stonne for the repair of the church		2	11
	1525-1526			
f. 199b	For le makyng of a new payer of dors for ye dortyr		10	0
	For le lokke for the dortyr dore			8
	John Dalton working one day upon the dormitory; & working 9 days in redyng ye Dortyr			6
			2	3
	Le mason working 15 days in the cloister		5	0
	His servant for as many days		3	9
	John Swhet working 7 days in the cloister		1	9
f. 200	Thomas Polet for le grete barre of yern for the new kechyn		2	10
	John Swhet working in the cloister and in the bakehouse, 6 days		1	6
	Paule Plomer for le ledyng the chapyr howse		16	0
	For 300 (weight) of lede for the repair of the chapter house		13	4
	John Swhet working 5 days in the bakehouse and in the cloister		1	3
	John Erle for le makyng of the carall in the cloystir		8	11
				4
	Robert Baldry for le sawyng for le caroll		14	6
	To le loksmyth for le makyng of the Engyllys for le carollys		1	2
				0

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	£	s.	d.
1526-1527			
f. 207b			
Robert Baldry working in the bakehouse and elsewhere			8
To Paule Plomer for le makyn of the gotyr of ye erlys chamber	1	4	
To John Coket Tyler working 3 days with 3 servants tylyng ye erlys chamber	2	2	
To John Swhet working 4 days with a servant on le erlys chamber	4	8	
1527-1528			
f. 214			
To Thomas for le glasyng in the church	3	6	
For le glazyng le armys of the lord duke of Norfolk	2	4	
For le glazyng of the window of the erlys chamber	1	0	
John Swhet working 20 days in makyn le chymny at the deyr	5	0	
John Swhett for 9 loads of stone	2	2	
f. 214b			
Edward for repair and mending of le grete organys	1	13	4
Thomas Belle for le paytyng of the clothys in the kyngs chamber	2	0	
For repair in glasyng the erlys chamber	1	4	
1528-1529			
f. 220b			
Thomas Grene for repairing le costhous			5
John Swhet for le celyng of the chambyr before seynt marys chapell in part of 20/- received of the Lady Duchess of Norfolck	6	8	
Thomas Hodmyn for le glasyng of the window behynd the rod	1	0	
f. 221			
John Swhett working three days in the cloister and elsewhere		10	
Thomas Hodmyn for le glasyng of the lybrary	1	0	
To the same for repairing the window of the chapter house		8	
1529-1530			
f. 227b			
Thomas Nekyll for makyn a new church door	2	0	0
Thomas Nekyll working 50 days with his boy on the door	1	13	8
Robert Whetyr working 45 days on the said door	15	0	

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Nykyr for le new dore for le Botry		4	0
(N.B.—Thomas Neker of Fransham, Norfolk, in 1537-38 contracted to make the panelling for Hengrave Hall, Suffolk. See L. E. Salzman, <i>op. cit.</i> , and J. Gage, <i>History of Hengrave</i> , 1822, p. 42.)			
1530-1531			
f. 234b Fox for mending le clokk (in the dormitory		1	8
John Swett working at the malthous and elsewhere with a servant and for lyme		1	4
John Dalton working with a servant for 40 days in redyng the dormitory		16	8
f. 235 Edmund Hernold for repair of the great organs		3	6
			8
1531-1532			
f. 240b For le payer of cruetts			7
For 4 sacrybell			8
For 2 chenes & for le hangyng of them			4
f. 241 To Thomas Page mason			10
f. 241b John Swhett 8 days in the kitchen and in the bakehouse		2	0
1532-1533			
f. 244 (No repairs at the Priory)			
1533-1534			
f. 247 Swhett working 10 days in stoppyng of cadowis (Jackdaws') Holys		2	6
John Brown for as many days and for the same work		1	4
For 7 lods of stone for the same work		1	2
John Loksmyth for repair of the door in le tower			9
f. 247b (expenses made by the hands of the Sacrist)			
For le belropp		1	4
Benett & Fysser working 4 days upon the chamber of the outside cellarer		2	8
John Swhett 5 days with a boy (cum paruo) upon the chamber of the outside cellarer		2	1
1534-1535			
f. 254 For repairs made on the chamber of Master Nob			10½



THETFORD CLUNIAC PRIORY. 17

	£	s.	d.
1535-1536			
f. 260 Paule le Bury for repair of le lavers	5	0	
To ' Sir ' (dompno) J. Garboldisham for le makyng of a window of the chamber of le portir	1	4	
1536-1537			
f. 267b ' Sir ' John Garboldysham for le glazyng of a window of le botry		10	
1537-1538			
f. 274b John Swnett for le laying of a graveston for lord Thomas Howard			6
Peter Juste for five sacks of lyme	1	11	
to the same for le ston			3
John Gambon for le makyng a place for the arm of St. Philip	1	8	
Le smyth in the Balyende for (a) payer of engel			6
and again			6
f. 275 Nicholas Whyte working 8 days in the bakehouse	1	4	
1538-1539			
(No repairs at the Priory)			
1539-1540			
f. 290 To the repair of le Whethircok			4

Less than a year after the weathercock had been repaired the buildings had been deserted and were ready to become a quarry for the town.

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF  
THE PRIORY OR OF GENERAL INTEREST.

1482-1483			
f. 2 John Page for repairs at the Angel (apud Angelum)	7	8	
(Throughout the book there are a large number of entries for work at the Angel)			
f. 3 Richard Brightmer for labour about a barn	1	0	
to the servant of the same			9
Nicholas Brygthmer for the same	2	0	
to the servant of the same			8

		£	s.	d.
	Richard Brygthmer another time for the same		1	8
	to his servant for the same			8
	John Bolle smith for labour			9
f. 3b	John Parkyn for 350 of timber		8	10
	John Whytelok for digging dedlyme & clay		1	8
	N. Basyle and his mates for carting timber	1	0	0
	N. Wasboorn for making lez fagotts	10		0
f. 4	Simon Wasteney for 8 dozen lez hyrdel		8	8
	1483-1484			
f. 10b	Henry Lily for repair at the Pitmyll		1	0
	1498-1499			
f. 18b	In divers expenses and costs when the lord King was entertained here	16		6
	John Mannyng for skeryng of rooks		1	0
	In regard to the Wayts of Norwich		1	4
f. 19b	At Ely Market for 2 barell of tarr		7	4
	Thomas Pyke for horse medicine		1	11
f. 20	To the brasyer of Bury for pewter to the same		6	8
	For byrdlym		1	10
				1
f. 20b	To Menstrell and pleyers on the Feast of Epiphany (6 Jan., 1499)		2	0
f. 21	For scheryng of 24 yerds of cloth and fullyng		1	6
	Thomas Rookewoode for his fees	3	0	10
	to his wife for repair of a couerlygte			11
f. 21b	In regard to John Aleyn for hunting the fox			8
	Margarett Horsley for spynnyng		3	0
f. 22	Item sol' Domino Rege pro Decimo beneficorum non taxatorum in plena solucione	10	6	8
	for makyng of the tayll 1d. And for Wrytyng of them 1d. and for joynyng of the taylls 4d. and for the receyvng of them in to the courte of the excheker 2d. and for the takyng of the acounte 20d. and for the Acounte allowed and recorded 4d. and for the quietus est 3s. 4d.			
	Total		6	0
	In the expenses of Thomas Ryby to London for the same cause	10		8½

THETFORD CLUNIAc PRIORY. 19

	£	s.	d.
f. 23			
For the repair of the Wheell at the			
Bysshopys Mylle and for the makyng of			
bothe Water Woves	1	4	0
Nicholas Crowe working at Snarishill			
chyrche			11
f. 23b			
By the hands of the outside cellarer			
for tylyng at the Angell	2	8	
1499-1500			
f. 30b			
John Lloyd for his Corrody for			
Michaelmas term	2	5	7½
Henry Crowe for cariage for heryng			
from Southwold	8	0	
f. 33b			
For 3 lbs. of reysons of corens			5
For 2 lbs. of grete reysons			2
1500-1501			
f. 36b			
To the kyngs menstrell	1	0	
For medycyn			10½
f. 38b			
For a fryng panne	1	4	
f. 39			
For ale on the day of Pentecost			7
1501-1502			
f. 44			
In regard to the Kyngs Swanherds	1	0	
f. 46			
To the horsleeche	1	8	
f. 47			
Robert Love for dying 48 yerds of			
cloth	8	0	
1502-1503			
f. 54			
John Thurgode 18d. and Robert Lowe			
12d. and Robert Waren 10d. labouring			
about repairing the Castelwallys			
Also . . . labouring at Castellwallys and			
Nunnysmylle	3	4	
For divers repairs done at Yoxford over			
the berne and the chancel	1	16	4½
1503-1504			
f. 57b			
For 2 tubb of ale	1	0	
1504-1505			
f. 66			
In regard to the pryncs trompetts	1	0	
1506-1507			
f. 76			
In regard to menstrell of the			
Duchess of Norfolch			8
To an herowd of Armys in regard	1	8	
f. 77b			
In regard to the players and menstrell	1	5	

		£	s.	d.
f. 78b	In regard to the halwyng of Hocham chyrch		3	4
	1508-1509			
f. 88b	For velym		1	8
f. 89	For 2 keyyll and a knyfe		3	0
f. 91b	For repairs done at Oston' for the gabyllende of the chancell and the gabyll wyndowe and other things	7	5	0
	1509-1510			
f. 94	In regard to the Wayts of Norwych		1	4
	1510-1511			
f. 99	For makyng of syluer sponys		2	4
	1511-1512			
f. 105	To pleyers in Crystemesse		4	0
	1517-1518			
f. 135	John Dalton for 4 days working upon the chancel of St. Marie		1	0
	the same working upon the chancel of St. Marie		3	8
	(This must refer to St. Mary's parish church, on the Suffolk side of the river at Thetford)			
	1526-1527			
f. 208	(Contains a number of entries for watch- ing at night at the 'owtshott' of a mill)			
	1527-1528			
f. 210	For skynnys for repairing books			10
f. 214b	John Dalton working 10 days upon the chancel of the church of St. Nicholas (Thetford) & 2 days within the monastery		5	0
	1534-1535			
f. 254b	To the fetherbed dryuer for le dryvyng 7 bedds & for le makyng of 2 pelues with other things		5	4
	For food and drink for the men working at Bolneston (?) in settingup le gate			5
	1535-1536			
f. 257	To Symon Baxter burges for medicine for all who feared the disease called pokks		6	8

THETFORD CLUNIAE PRIORY.

21

	£	s.	d.
f. 257b For 158 lbs of candill for the church	17		6
For 9 dozeyn pownd candill for the Prior's chamber	11		3
f. 258 To 'Sir' Robert Wetyng for the cele- bration of the mass for the soul of Thomas Mone in All Souls Day in the Infirmery			4
f. 258b To three men singing at Christmass	1		0
For 2 payer of septacul			4
f. 263b Master Foster at beryall of my lord Rychemond for le reward	7		6
To his servants for reward	1		8
f. 265b For le expens of John Goch for le Warnyng le Jury	1		4
1536-1537			
f. 267 Robert Barette de Rusworth for le grouncellyng of the Hall of our manor there		5	0
(groundsilling—laying the sill or longi- tudinal beam of timber on which the up- rights of a timber-framed house stand) For repairing the glazyng of a window of the chancel at Watton		1	4
f. 267b Symon for repairs done in Snarishill by the hands of William Sponer for repairs of the chancel of White Notley	5		0
	1		4
1538-1539			
f. 282 For repair of the chancel at Hakham	3		4

AN INDEX OF THE REGISTER OF THETFORD  
PRIORY: 1483-1540.

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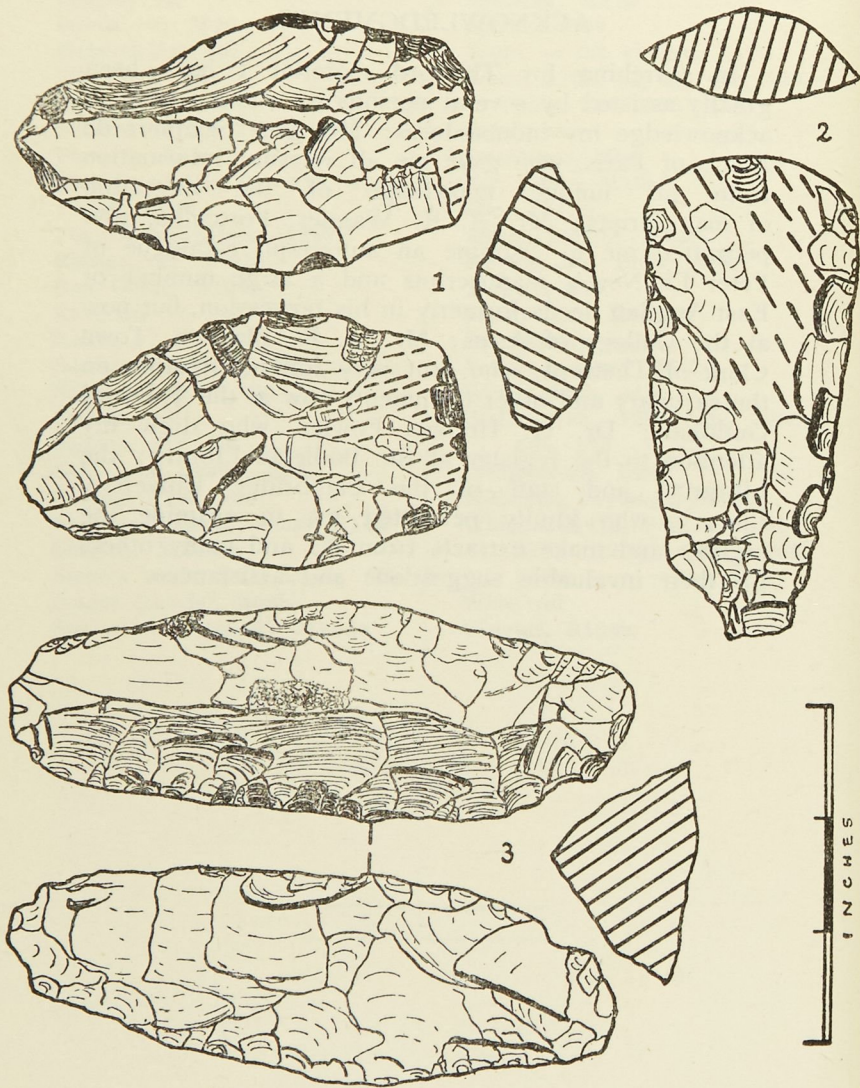
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THREE FLINT IMPLEMENTS FROM SHIMPLING.