

THE MONUMENT OF THOMAS ANGUISH IN
SAINT GEORGE, TOMBLAND, NORWICH

By M. Q. SMITH, B.A. (CANTAB.)

THE monument to the memory of Thomas Anguish was cleaned and repaired in 1957 under the guidance of Mr. Stanley J. Wearing. The cost was defrayed by the Trustees of Anguish's Educational Foundation, who administer the benefactions of Thomas Anguish. The monument was made by Nicholas Stone,¹ and is of a type common in the first half of the seventeenth century. Originally it was at the east end of the church,² but is now sadly hidden by the organ.

As was usual at the time of its execution, the whole monument is painted. The two columns are black, with the details of the capitals and of the mouldings of the entablature, etc., picked out in gold.

The following INSCRIPTIONS are painted in gold on a black ground :

on the freize :

TERRESTRIA SPERNO CÆLESTIA SEQUAR

below the figure of Anguish :

HERE VNDER LIETH YE BODY OF THO^S
ANGVISHE, LATE CITIZEN & ALDERMAN
OF NORWICH & SOME TYMES MAIOER
OF THIS CITTIE. WHO DECEASED THE
26 OF JANVARIE A^O, DM, 1617.

ÆTATIS SUE 79

below that of his wife :

WHO HAD TO WYFE ELIZABETH YE^e
DAUGHTER OF EDMVND THVRSTONE.
AND HAD YSSVE BY HER 9 SONNES.
AND 3 DAUGHTERS, WHEREOF AT
HIS DEATH THEIR WERE LIVINGE
5 SONNES ONLIE.

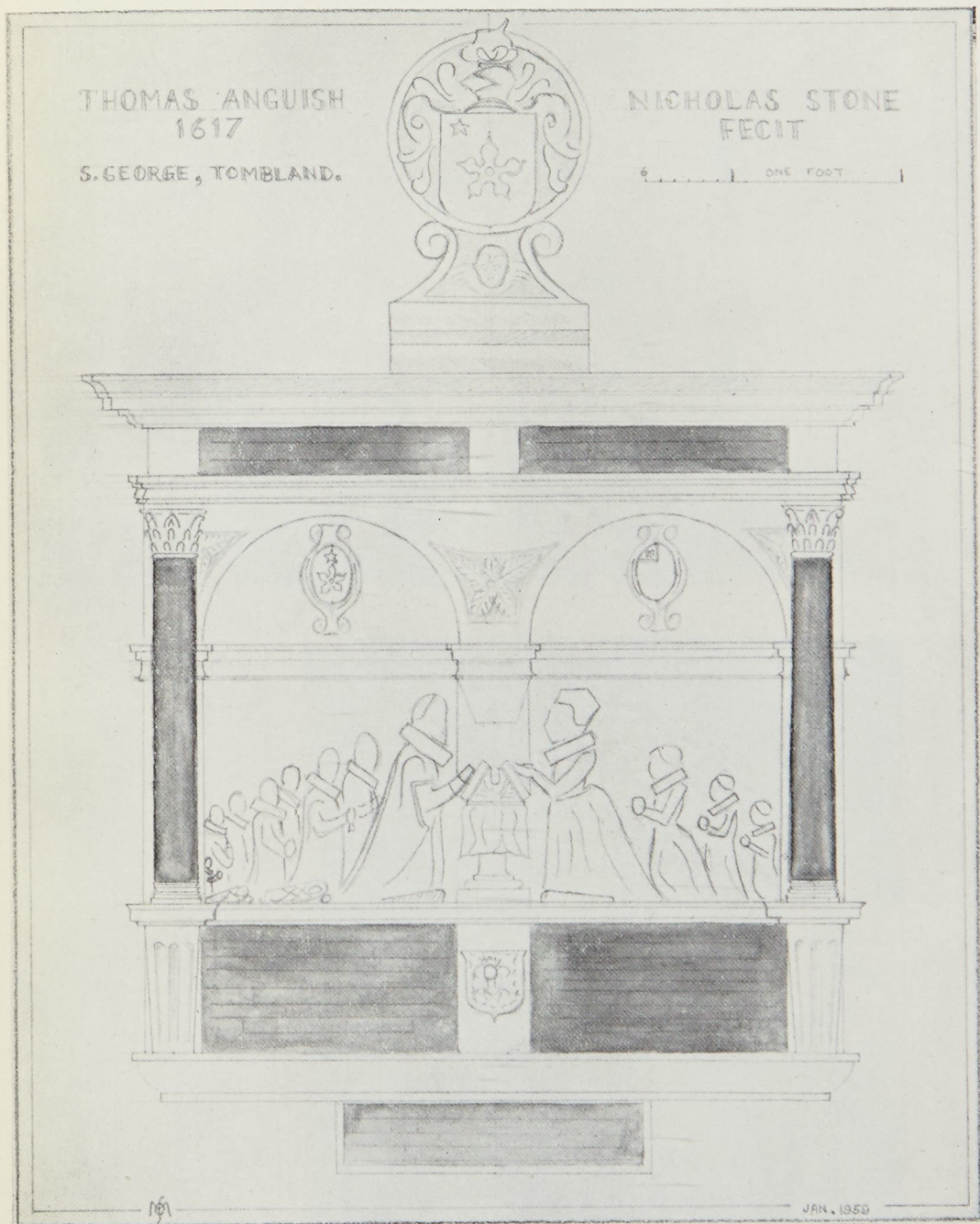
and on the tablet pendant to the main monument :

WILLIAM ANGVISH GENT : DYED THE 6 DAY
OF JULY 1668. TO WHOSE MEMORIE JOHN
ANGVISH ESQ. HIS NEPHEW & EXECUTOR
DEDICATED THIS INSCRIPTION.

The ARMS displayed above the monument are :
gules, a cinquefoil pierced, a molet for difference, or.

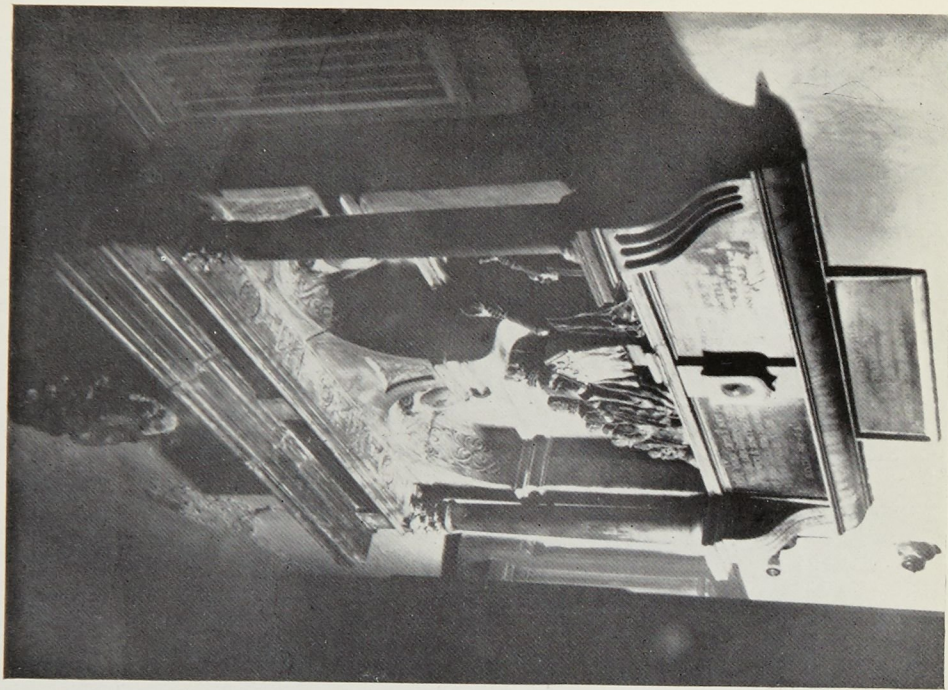
The crest, which is damaged, is :
a snake wreathed proper (canting for Anguish).

The same arms appear on the oval above Anguish.



The Monument of Thomas Anguish, Norwich.

Plate II.



The Monument of Thomas Anguish, St. George Tombland, Norwich.

Above his wife is :

or, on a canton azure a falcon standing wings displayed, or.

On the desk below are the arms of the Mercers' Company :

gules, a demi-virgin couped below the shoulders proper, vested and crowned with an Eastern coronet or, her hair dishevelled, all within an orle of clouds.³

The FIGURES are painted. Anguish wears the red robe of an alderman and this figure resembles closely the portrait of him in the Council Chamber of Norwich Guild Hall.⁴ Behind him, dressed in black and wearing ruffs are seven kneeling sons, the fourth and fifth of whom hold skulls. There are two babies in swaddling bands, whose heads rest on skulls. The three daughters behind their mother also hold skulls. These four figures are also in black with ruffs or stiff collars.

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There were several branches of the Anguish family.⁵ It was a Royalist family, probably of Scottish extraction, the name originally being Angus. It is found spelled in many ways : Angows, Anguesh, Anguishe, Anguish, Angwish, Angwishe, Angwissh, and Angwysh.

Thomas Anguish was the third son of Thomas Anguish of Foulsham, by Ann, daughter of Edmond Themelthorpe. He was apprenticed to Edmond Thurston, a Norwich grocer, and became a freeman⁶ of the city in that trade on 25 February 1573. He married his master's daughter, Elizabeth, in St. Clement's, Norwich, on 20 February 1567. She died in December 1619.

Of their children, Hester married Richard Mann of Norwich, but died before her father. Cicely and Margaret both died young. Of the sons who predeceased their father, Richard was a Fellow of Corpus Christi, Cambridge. He is buried in St. Peter Mancroft. John, the eldest surviving son, became a freeman (Mercer) in 1607. He was an alderman, serving as Sheriff in 1618 and Mayor in 1635. The second surviving son was named Edmund. Alexander, the third, became a freeman as an Ironmonger in 1615. An alderman like his brother, he served as Sheriff in 1617, and Mayor in 1629. He was buried in St. Peter Mancroft in 1654. Thomas was a freeman as a Mercer (1619). He was buried in St. George Tombland in 1622.

The fifth and last surviving son was William, whose monument is pendant to that of his father. In his will, he directs that he "be buried in St. George Tombland parish where I was born. £10 to the parish for his burying place in that church near my father . . . cousin Mr. John Anguish of Gt. Melton, now of Lynn, son of bro. Edmund, deceased ; to said John, garden, &c., bought of Alderman Rose and Abraham Leman, now occupied by widow Dix, gardiner ; houses &c., in St. Tedmond to cousin John Anguish of Gt. Melton, which my father, Mr. Thomas Anguish of Norwich, Alderman, dec., gave me. Residue to said cousin John, sole executor."⁷

Thomas Anguish's own will "directed that he should be buried in church, chancel, or north aisle of St. George Tombland near the place where he sat. He

left 40s. for a godly sermon at his funeral ; £5 towards the breaking up of the ground and repairs of the church. . . . He directs his executors, with the advice of his supervisors, to give £10 at least for some handsome and plain monument to be placed on the wall of the church or chancel near where he sat, in remembrance of him."⁷

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¹C. Linnell and S. J. Wearing : *Norfolk Church Monuments*. Walpole Society : Stone.

²E. A. Tillett : *St. George Tombland, Past and Present*.

³E. Farrer : *Church Heraldry of Norfolk*, Vol. III.

⁴B. Cozens-Hardy and Kent : *Mayors of Norwich* (frontispiece). W. Rye : *Norfolk Families*.

⁵Harleian Society : *Visitations of Norfolk 1563, 1598 and 1613*. Norfolk Record Society : 1664 *Visitation*. G. A. Cartbew : *The Hundred of Launditch*.

⁶P. Millican : *Freeman of Norwich, 1548-1713*.

⁷G. B. Jay : *The First Parish Register of St. George, Tombland, Norwich*.