

THE BRASSES OF MIDDLESEX

VI

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EALING

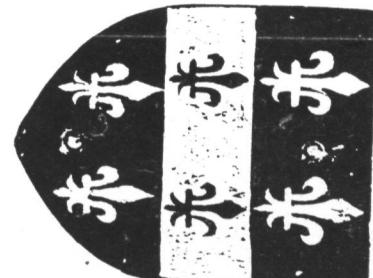
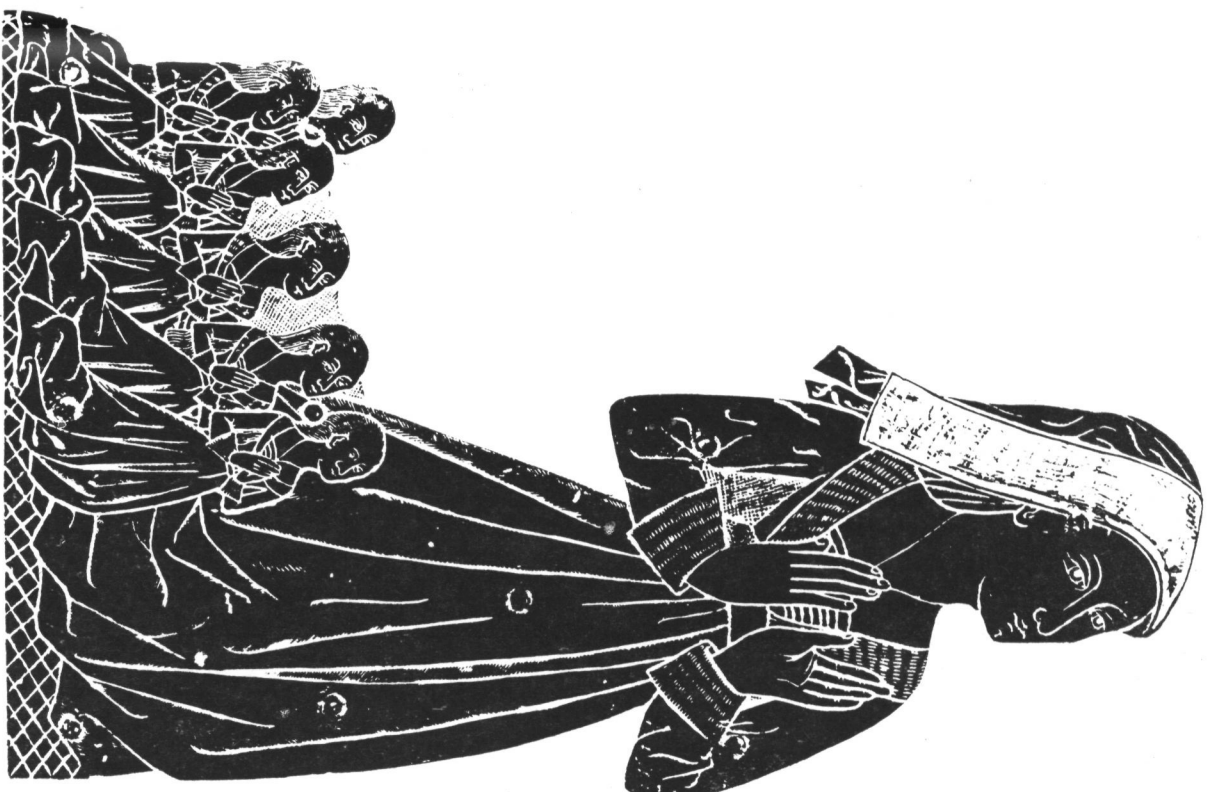
I. *Richard Amondesham and wife Kateryn, ca. 1490, with three sons and six daughters, inscr., shield, mural, W. wall of nave.*

Richard Amondesham (or Awnsham) is shown kneeling and in civilian dress. Upon the same tiled floor and immediately behind him are the three smaller kneeling figures of his sons. On a separate plate behind him is the kneeling figure of his wife on a similar tiled floor and with her the small kneeling figures of six daughters. The principal figures are about 19 in. high and all are shown in three-quarter face view, facing towards the sinister.

The civilian costume is typical of the fifteen-year period from 1475-1490. It is executed with careful engraving yet with lack of proportion; the hands are large compared with the head. The gown is close up to the neck, not unlike a cassock, the shoes are square-toed, and—a characteristic of the period—the hood now has all the appearance of a cap, perhaps of fur, hanging on the right shoulder, and attached by two straps to a scarf hanging in front. To the girdle is attached a gypcière and rosary of twelve beads. The sons wear similar gowns but without the hood, gypcière or rosary.

The lady's dress has an interesting fashion of bodice, with fur facings, which is repeated on the costume of the daughters. Fur is also shown on the turned-back cuffs. The headdress belongs to that period between the extravagances of the steeple and butterfly and the established pedimental headdress of early Tudor times. A frontlet of some rich material, such as velvet, is shown folded back off the forehead and falling on to the shoulders. In this example the metal has been hatched away perhaps to take a filling of coloured material which, while it no doubt enhanced the appearance of the brass when first prepared, has long since disappeared. The daughters are all shown with long hair and without headdress of any kind.

The hands of the two principal figures are not in the usual attitude of prayer, but extended in supplication. This, too, was not uncommon just at the period of this brass. There is considerable likeness between the two major figures of this brass and the two standing figures of Bartholomew Willesden and his wife at Willesden. Bartholomew Willesden died in 1492 and one would date the Ealing brass within the decade preceding.



How more both Religion and Honour
 Stopp'd of Dawis and Richard his Wife

RICHARD AMONDESHAM and Wife, c1490
 EALING

Immediately below the figures is a rectangular plate 32 ins. wide and 2½ ins. high on which is a raised letter inscription of two lines of black letter. This reads:—

Here under lyeth Richard Amondeshm oder wise
 callid Awnshtm sune tyme Mercer and Marchaunt of the
 Stapull of Calyx and Bateryn His wyf -----

The latter half of the second line has been erased. This was a not uncommon practice after the Reformation, probably by the relatives of the deceased, who, by removing words offensive to current views, hoped thereby to preserve the remainder of the memorial. It is sometimes suggested that defacement was the work of reformers, but it is more likely that zealots would tear out the whole plate than devote considerable time and care to removing just the offending words.

One shield of arms remains associated with this brass and bears:—
or on a fess between 4 fleur-de-lys 2 and 2 (gules ?), two fleur-de-lys of the field.

Gules is indicated by traces of colour still on the brass (although this may derive from a restoration!). These are the arms of Devile or Deyvill, of the county of York and may perhaps be the arms of the wife.

The arms of Awnsam are given by Burke as *Arg. on a canton sa. a fleur-de-lys or*, and a shield (all brass) showing *ermine on a canton*, a *fleur-de-lys* is associated with the brass of Richard Awnsham (ob. 1612) at Heston. He was the youngest son of William Awnsham and probably the great grandson of this Richard at Ealing.

Another family of Agmondesham lived in Surrey and had quite different arms: *Arg. on a chevron az. betw 3 boars' heads couped sa langued or 5 cinquefoils of the last.* These are to be seen at Ewell on the brass to Jane Iwarby (ob. 1519), the daughter of John Agmondesham of Letherhead.

While no will has been traced of this Richard Awnsham it would seem not unlikely that one of his sons or grandsons was Richard who died in 1539 and who lived at Heston. However in his will⁵² he asks to be buried in the chapel in the parish church of Heston where 'my fader and moder lyeth'. Further, this Richard leaves his property in Heston to his wife Elenor and then to his eldest son and heir William; property in Bedfont 'late belonging to the freres of Howndslowe' to his second son Richard, and to his youngest son John the lands he holds of the Bishop of London of the Lordship of Yeling.

The manor of Coldhawe or Cold hall in Ealing was in the possession of the Awnsham family in the 17th century and, it is suggested by Lysons, may have been held by Richard Awnsham in the 15th century!

This brass at Ealing has been previously illustrated in T. Faulkner's History of Brentford, Ealing and Chiswick, p. 60 (inaccurately); Girls Own Paper, XIV, 156; Mon. Brass Soc. Portfolio, V, Plate 23.

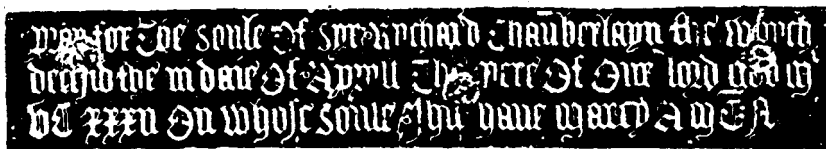
EDGWARE

I. *Sir Richard Chamberlayn, 1532, inscr. only, mur. S. wall of chancel.*

A rectangular plate 15½ ins. wide and 2¾ ins. high has upon it, in three lines of black letter, the following inscription:—

Pray for The soule of Syr Rycharde Chauberlayn the whych
decesid the iii daie Of Apryll The yere Of Ore lord God mi
MCCC xxxii On whose soule Ihu have marry AMEN

The quality of the lettering is not good, as the illustration reveals. This monument was not noticed by Lysons in his survey, although the Childe brass was.



II. *Anthony Childe, 1599, child in swaddling clothes, inscr., mur., N. wall of chancel.*

The small figure of a child in swaddling clothes, 8 ins. high, is now mounted on the wall upright. The engraving is now worn, but shows clearly the face of the infant with a small ruff collar and a pleated garment embroidered at the lower end. The lower part of the body is wrapped and a kind of cowl is over the head. The eyes are closed.

Beneath is a rectangular inscription plate 16 ins. wide and 4½ ins. high, with the following five lines incised in Roman capitals and a further line in small Roman letters below:—

HERE LIETH BVRIED THE BODIE OF ANTHONIE
CHILDE, THE FIRST BORNE SONNE OF IOHN
CHILDE GOVLDSMITHE OF LONDON, AND THE
FIRST FRVITES OF ELIZABETH CHILDE HIS WIFE
WHO DECEASED THE XVTH OF MARCH AN^O 1599.

Aetatis suae tertia hebdomuda.

Three years later the father too was dead. In his will⁵³ John Childe appointed his wife Elizabeth as his sole and only executrix. It appears that no other son was born as legacies were left to his daughters Elizabeth and Anne, but there is no mention of a son. John Childe was a citizen and goldsmith of London, in the parish of St. Peter in Westcheape. The will refers to his brothers Arnolde Childe of Cheswick in the County of Middlesex, yoman and William Childe of North Mims in the County of Hertford, yoman. Edgware is not mentioned.

52 P.C.C. 29 Dyngeley.

53 P.C.C. 81 Montague.



HERE LIETH BVRIED THE BOÐIE OF ANTHONIE
 CHILDE, THE FIRST BORNE SONNE OF IOHN
 CHILDE GOVLDSMITHE OF LONDON, AND THE
 FIRST FRVITES OF ELIZABETH CHILDE HIS WIFE
 WHO DECEASED THE XVTH OF MARCH AN^O 1599.
 R.atis sua tertia hebdomada

ANTHONY CHILDE 1599
 EDGWARE, MIDDX.