

THE BRASSES OF MIDDLESEX

PART 24

NORTHOLT, NORWOOD, PINNER AND RUISLIP

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NORTHOLT

I. Henry Rowdell Esq, 1452; on floor of south aisle.

This is a small but good example of a man in full plate armour, (Fig. 1) similar in style to a number of brasses in the county and elsewhere around London and called style 'B' in a general classification¹. It is smaller than similar brasses described earlier in this series², measuring just 15½ inches high. The head is encased in a helmet and the feet rest on a lion. The most interesting feature is a livery collar around the neck. It has no engraving on it, but is recessed suggesting it was once filled with colour. The outer guard of the sword has been broken off and is now missing.

Immediately below this figure is an inscription in two lines of blackletter on a rectangular plate 16 in wide and 2¼ in deep. It reads:

Hic iacet Henricus Rowdell Armig^r. qui obiit x^o die
Aprilis A^o Dni M^o CCCC^o lii^o cui^o aie ppiciet^o de^o amē

At six inches below this inscription is the indent for a lost shield. This has been missing for many years; there is no old rubbing in our principal collections which shows it. The arms were described by Lysons³ as *three annulets on a chief*, but whether this was from his observation of the brass in the late 18th century is uncertain. The name does not appear in

Burke's General Armory, nor has a will been found.

I am grateful to Mr C. H. Keene, a long time resident of Northolt and a distinguished local historian, for the following information about Henry Rowdell.

According to W. H. L. Shadwell, steward and later lord of the manor from about 1880 to 1930, Rowdell by his will wished to be buried in St Stephen's Chapel at Northall, Northolt, Church. This chapel is the small area in the south east corner of the nave, the site of the brass. The area is still called St Stephen's Chapel.

The Northolt court rolls are extant only from 1463, so Rowdell is not recorded.

Shadwell states that in 1414 he held 'Cattons', later Catherines or Katherines Mead from John Stile who in that year assured to Henry Rowdell, 'a messuage & 16 acres of land in Northall'. This land is now part of Belvue Park lying south east of the church.

Henry Rundel, Roundell or Rowdell acquired copyhold land of the manor of Northall about the same time; 'a croft of land called 'Blakmers' containing 1 acre'. This land apparently lay between Iliots Green and Islips or Ryselipes Place, now part of Islip Manor Park. A road nearby is called Rowdell Road.

II. John Gyfforde, in armour, and wife Susan, 1560; on the chancel floor.

This brass is set in a large stone, 66in by 32½in, in the centre of the chancel floor (Fig. 2). The figures of John Gyfforde and his wife are quite small, 15in and 14½in high and are spaced widely apart, some 14in separating them. They are facing towards one another with hands joined in prayer. He is in armour of the period and is bareheaded, with a beard. He stands on a grass mound. Susan is elegantly dressed in a long costume reaching to the feet, which are just showing; she too stands on a grass mound. An outer gown which is almost as long as the dress has puffed and slashed shoulders and a fur collar. It is held together in front by two tied bows, but opens lower down where further ties are loose. An ornament hangs in front from a very long cord so that it almost reaches the ground. She wears on her head the attractive Paris bonnet with coverings for the ears and a drape hanging behind.

Immediately below these figures is a rectangular plate 26½in wide and 6½in deep. On it is the following inscription in six lines of blackletter:



Fig. 1 Northolt: Henry Rowdell Esq., 1452.

Behold in grave where Susan lies, somtyme John Gyffordes wiffe,
 who thyrty yeares of age in childbed chaunged her liff.
 The fourth of June, from christ one Thousand & fyve hudreth yeares,
 wyth odd thre score in trew accoumpte as playne appeares.
 To whom y^e almighty lord, thre tymes thre sonnes by course haith lent
 and daughters thre but on the last her lyfe she Spent.

of whose soule God have mcy

Spaced 4½in below this inscription are two groups of children. A plate 5½in square on which are nine sons in ordinary civilian dress is underneath the father and under Susan is a plate 5½in by 4½in on which are three daughters. Four large shields of arms, 7in by 6in, were spaced at the four corners above and below the

figures. These have been missing for a long time. In the bottom dexter corner of the stone is an incised cross, indicating its former use as an alter slab.

John Gyfford and Susanna Wadeley, of the diocese of London, were married on 29 January, 1546/7⁴. Her brief life thereafter was the customary role of continuous

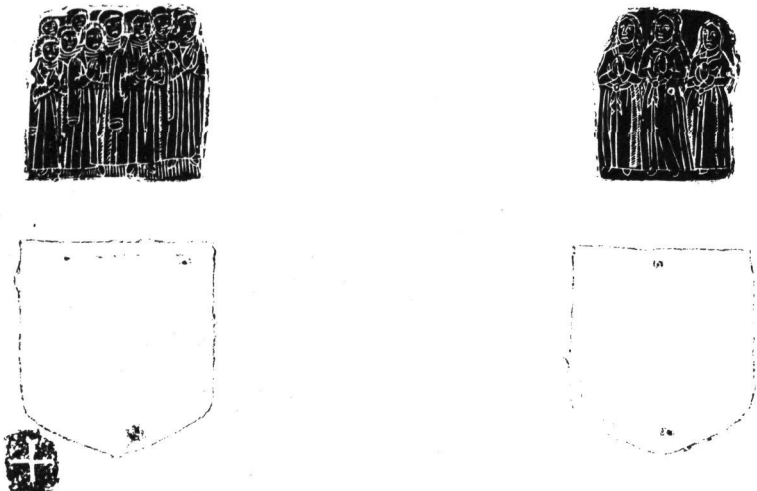
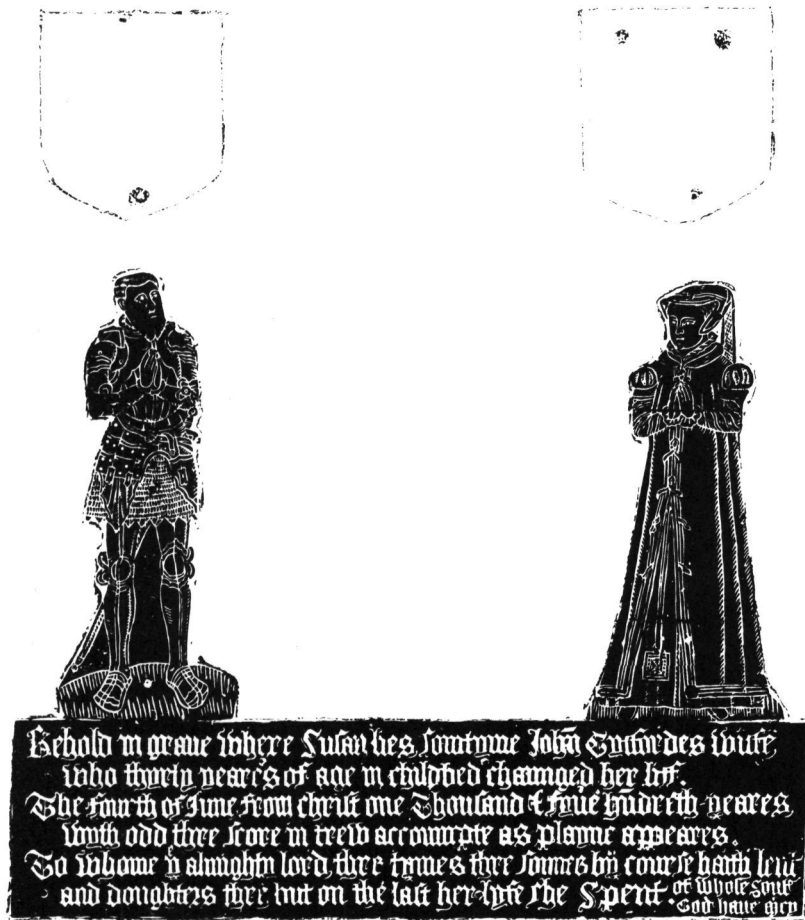


Fig. 2 Northolt: John and Susan Gyfforde, 1560.

child bearing until she succumbed on the arrival of the twelfth in thirteen years.

In 1565 John Gifford, described as of Northolt, acquired the estate in Northolt known as 'Ruislips'⁵, thus named after a Ruislip family who had owned land in Northolt as early as 1301. The estate comprised a house and orchard with twenty acres of pasture and sixty acres of common field arable. This estate remained with the Gifford family until 1629 when it was acquired by William Pennifather, lord of the manor of Northolt, from one William Gifford. Subsequently 'Ruislips' or 'Islips' was associated with the manor of Northolt. When Charles Hawtreay of Ruislip acquired the estate in 1690 the house was referred to as Islips or Gifford's Farm and seems to have served as a manor house to Northolt manor.

I again quote from Mr Keene.

It is known that the Gyffordes owned the manor of Hooton Pagnall in Yorks. In 1556 John Gyfforde Esq. of Northall acquired that manor from his father John. John Gyfforde of Northall had three sons who survived after his death in 1596. The other six had already died. John the eldest son inherited Hooton Pagnall manor from his father in 1596 when it was promptly forfeited to the Crown as he was an unrepentant recusant who owed £300 in fines for persistent recusancy over 15 years. He died in 1596, aged 47.

William the second son inherited the Northall estate, Giffords Farm or Islips; he married Audrey or Anndra Lyon daughter of Richard Lyon of West Twyford. She also was a recusant and in 1599 Anndra Gifforde wife of William Gifforde appeared at the Middlesex Sessions charged with forty several true bills for not going to church, chapel or usual place of common prayer. William was probably also a recusant, but kept a low profile; on the other hand he provided seats for occupants of Islips in Northolt

church which in a petition of 1632 the parishioners desired to have the use of.

John Gyfforde bought Ryslepes Place, so called in a Terrier of 1489, and described as a messuage, with two chambers and a hall, a barn, a stable and a wood shed, value XXs. There were 100 acres of arable land in the common fields and six closes of pasture containing 54 acres and 9 acres of wood. 30 acres in close called Fremantells had been sold to William Gerrard of Harrow. The descendants of the Ryslepe family had sold by 1563 to Alan Horde who let to John Gyfforde in that year and who bought the estate in 1565. John Gyfforde is recorded as of Northall in 1563 in the Cal. of Pat. Rolls when he was committed to the Fleet owing a debt of £40 in January of that year but by July he was released as he had, with two others, acquired over £2000 rents in various counties.

Gyfforde was often away from Northall or Northolt, between 1571 and 1595, for the court rolls record that he was regularly presented for non attendance as a freeholder and other offences during that time.

John Gyfforde remarried after 1560 but no details are known of his second wife, other than her name 'Anne'.

The will of John Gyfforde Esq late of Northall was made on 21st March 1596, He was 'to be buryed in the Chauncell of the Parishe Church of Northall aforeseide by my last weife Susan Gyfforde'.

He made bequests to his eldest son John, his second son William and his youngest son Henry; also to his second wife Anne, to his daughter Marye £600 and if she died unmarried she was to leave to her sister's daughter Anne Moigne £100. He left one Goulde ring to his daughter Avys Hide.

It appears that three sons and three daughters were still living in 1596.

The burial register only shows 1596 as



John Gyfforde
obit xmo die mensis
aprilis anno dñi m^o c^o lxxx

Susan Gyfforde
obit xmo die mensis
aprilis anno dñi m^o c^o lxxx

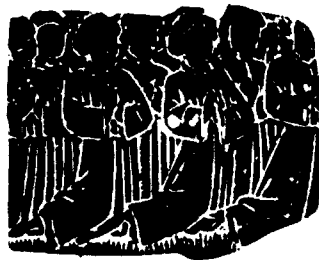


Fig. 3 Northolt: Reverse of the figures of John & Susan Gyfforde, c. 1480 and children.

the burial of 'Mr Gyfford'.

When examined by Mill Stephenson in 1902 the whole Gifford brass was loose in its slab⁶. With the exception of the inscription it was all found to be palimpsest: that is the metal had been taken from an earlier brass, cut up, turned over and reused. The figure of John Gyfforde was made from two pieces being part of an effigy in armour of date about 1480. On the larger piece are parts of the legs and feet which are resting on a hound. The smaller or upper portion shows some of the thighs of the earlier figure with the sword hung diagonally across the legs. The figure of Susan is made from three pieces, the top piece being from the same figure in armour showing part of the breastplate, the pommel of the sword and part of its belt. The other two pieces are of female dress, possibly contemporary with the armed figure. The sons of John Gyfforde are on two pieces of metal, crudely soldered together so that the detail of the blackletter inscription on the reverse is difficult to read. The two pieces must almost juxtapose, being the left side of the inscription. The right hand side of the inscription is missing. The following can be identified:

Orate p(ro) a(n)i(m)ab(u)s Will ... Wilkyns (quo(n)d(a)m)
 eius quidem Will s obiit xiiii die dec
 obiit xvii die Mai(A)nno dni mill(es)i(m)o CCC

J. Page-Phillips⁷ has identified this William Wylkins as a citizen and brewer of London who willed⁸ to be buried in the 'parish church of saint Martyn Orgar beside Candilwyke strete of London in the same place wher as the body of Alice late my wif now lieth buried.'

On the back of the daughters' plate is a group of kneeling sons, about eight in number, c. 1480, but much worn.

The reverse of the two Gyfforde figures is here illustrated (Fig. 3) by permission of the Society of Antiquaries of London from a rubbing in their collection made by R. H. Pearson when he repaired the brass in 1960. The brass has been illustrated in the Portfolio of the M.B.S., Vol. 2, Pl. 29 and the reverses by Page-Phillips⁹.

III. Isaiah Bures, vicar, 1610; mural, S. wall of chancel.

This monument was placed on the east wall of the church, but was moved to the east end of the south wall of the chancel about ten years ago. It is a composite memorial, with the brass set into a marble tablet. The brass figure of Isaiah Bures shows him in a long gown with arms projecting from false sleeves and wearing a ruff round his neck (Fig. 4). He is kneeling on a cushion with corner tassels, all on a tiled floor, the latter indicated by engraved lines in perspective. The plate is 14in high. The hands are joined in prayer and are held before his body which is half turned to his right, though with the head partly turned to face the observer. He wears moustache and beard in the

fashion of the time. Immediately above his head is a rectangular plate, 7½in high and 6in across, on which is a shield of arms surmounted by a helm and mantling and a crest of a dragon. The arms are those given by Burke: *ermine on a chief dancettée sable 2 lions rampant or.*

Below the figure is the inscription in eleven lines of Roman Capitals on a rectangular plate 8½in high and 20in wide.

SACRUM MEMORIAE ISAIAE BURES MARITI SUI CHARISSIMI
 QUI NON OBSCURIS ORTUS NATALIBUS BONIS LITERIS IN
 ACADEMIA OXNIENSI ERUDITUS IBIQ IN COLLEGIO



SACRVM MEMORIÆ ISAIAE BVRES MARITI SVI CHARISSIMI
QVI NON OBSCVRIS ORTVS NATALIBVS BONIS LITERIS IN
ACADEMIA OXNIENSI ERVDITVS, IBIQ IN COLLEGIO
BALIOLENSI MAGISTER IN ARTIBVS RENVNTIATVS HVIVS
NVPER ECCLESIAE PASTOR VIGILANTISSIMVS CVI DVM
OMNI STVDIO & ZELO MILITARET IN TRIVMPHANTEM
IN CÆLIS ECCLESIAM A CHRISTO EVOCATVS PLACIDE
PIEQ EMIGRAVIT & QVOD MORTALE FVIT CERTVS RESVR
GENDI HIC AD TEMPVS DEPOSVIT DIE 12 OCTOBRIS ANO
ÆTATIS SVÆ 64 & SALTIS HVMANÆ 1610
CATHARINA VXOR EIVS AMANTISSIMA DESIDERI MEMOR POSVIT

Fig. 4 Northolt: Isaiah Bures, Vicar, 1610.

BALIDLENSI MAGISTER IN ARTIBUS RENUNTIATUS HUIUS
 NUPER ECCLESIAE PASTOR VIGILANTISSIMUS CUI DUM
 OMNI STUDIO & ZELO MILITARET IN TRIUMPHANTEM
 IN CAELIS ECCLESIAM A CHRISTO EVOCARUS PLACIDE
 PIEQ EMIGRAVIT & QUOD MORTALE FUIT CERTUS RESUR =
 GENDI HIC AD TEMPUS DEPOSUIT DIE 12 OCTOBRIS AND
 AETATIS SUAE 64 & SALUTIS HUMANAE 1610
 CATHARINA UXOR EIUS AMANTISSIMA DESIDERII MEMOR POSUIT

'Sacred to the memory of Isaiah Bures her most dear husband, who was not of obscure birth, was learned and well read in the University of Oxford and acquired there Master of Arts in Balliol College; more recently a most vigilant pastor of this church; from which, while he served with all diligence and zeal, being called by Christ he passed over quietly and piously to the triumphant church in heaven; and being certain of resurrection from here in due course he put off what was mortal on the 12 day of October at the age of 64 and in the year of human salvation 1610. Catherine his most loving wife placed this in memory of her grief.'

It is surprising and curious that there is no mention of Isaiah Bures either in Wood's *Fasti Oxoniensis* or in Foster's *Alumni Oxoniensis*, yet the inscription says that he was an M.A. Unfortunately the earliest Admissions Register of Balliol College does not start until 1636 and no mention can be found of his name among the fragmentary information in the College archives between the years 1558 and 1570 when he is likely to have been in residence.

The church records show that he was vicar of Northolt from 1592 until his death in 1610.

In the will of 'Esaie Bewres Clerke and viccar of Northall' he left £300 to his son Richard Bewres and to his daughter Elisabeth his book called 'Beacon'. To his sister Newnham 'for a Ringe in remembrance fourtie shillings' and the same amount to his sister Dorothy Arundell.

After other small gifts he left his freehold land to his wife Catherine so long as she remained a widow; also the residue of all his goods and chattels. The witnesses who signed to testify this was his last will and testament were Peter Thornton, Catherine Bewres and Richard Bewres who made 'his marke'. (Was he illiterate?)

I am indebted to Mr C. H. Keene for allowing me the use of his notes on these families commemorated on brass in Northolt church. Mr Keene has been actively collecting local historical information for many years. His work is now deposited in the Ealing reference library for future availability.

NORWOOD

I. Matthew Hunsley, gent., 1618; mural, N. wall of chancel.

This figure is well drawn and a good example of the elegant dress of the period, worn by a man in the prime of his life (Fig. 5). The plate on which it is engraved is 17in high and the figure itself just under 16in. Matthew Hunsley is shown facing slightly to his left with hands before him joined in prayer. He is dressed in doublet and hose over which is worn a knee-length cloak with a wide collar turned back over the shoulders. He has a beard and his hair is parted in the middle, but with a forelock. The left leg is turned outwards and shows the shoe to be laced in front.

Below the figure is the inscription in 12 lines of Roman Capitals, on a plate 20 3/8in wide and 12in deep. It reads:

HERE LYETH MATTHEW HUNSLEY GENT LATE
 OF THIS PARISH BEING ABSENT FROM YE^E



HERE LYETH MATTHEW HUNSELEY GENT LATE
OF THIS PARISH BEING ABSENT FROM Y
BODY BVT PRESENT W THE LORD HIS DAYES
WERE NOT LONG YET HIS LIFE WAS NOT SHORT
FOR HE HAD WHAT HE SOUGHT GODLY FERRE
& TRVE FAYTH & NOW RESTS IN HOPE OF A IOY
FVLL RESVRRECTION HAVING FINISHED HIS
COVRSE IN MVCH PATIENCE & PEACE IN THE
35 YERE OF HIS AGE ON THE 10 OF DECEMB
AN DOM 1618 IN TESTIMONY WHERE OF
ELIZABETH HIS DERE WIFE HATH SET HERE
THIS SAD & DVARIABLE REMEMBRANCE

Fig. 5 Norwood: Matthew Hunsley, gent., 1618.

BODY BUT PRESENT WTH THE LORD HIS DAYES
 WERE NOT LONG YET HIS LIFE WAS NOT SHORT
 FOR HE HAD WHAT HE SOUGHT GODLY FERE
 & TRUE FAYTH & NOW RESTS IN HOPE OF A JOY
 FULL RESURRECTION HAVING FINISHED HIS
 COURSE IN MUCH PATIENCE & PEACE IN THE
 35 YERE OF HIS AGE ON THE 12 OF DECEMB
 AN DOM 1618 IN TESTIMONY WHERE OF
 ELIZABETH HIS DERE WIFE HATH SET HERE
 THIS SAD & DURABLE REMEMBRANCE

At the time the rubbing was made for the accompanying illustration the inscription plate was completely loose and was placed in the vestry. This has now been replaced on the north wall of the chancel. The stone in which this brass was originally laid is on the chancel floor with well preserved indents to which both figure and inscription should be returned.

II. Francis Awsiter Esq., 1624; mural, S. wall of chancel.

The figure of Francis Awsiter is in typical civilian costume of this date (Fig. 6). It is a small effigy, 17in high, and a not very distinguished engraving. His long gown has openings for the arms almost at shoulder level, with false sleeves or hangings from the shoulders to knee level. His inner doublet, buttoned up to the neck, can just be seen on his chest. The figure is half turned to his right with the hands joined in prayer. He is well groomed, with a moustache and a pointed beard which projects beyond his ruff. Standing on a round flat stone the feet are in shoes one of which shows that they are tied across the tongue as is modern practice.

Immediately below the figure is a rectangular plate, 19in wide and 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ in deep, with an ornamental foliage border. Within this is the inscription in 7 lines of bold Roman capitals followed by 4 more lines in smaller lettering, as follows:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF FRANCIS AWSITER
 ESQUIER AGED 67 YEARES HEE HAD TO WIFE
 FRANCES HORSEMAN THE DAUGHTER OF
 LARANCE HORSEMAN ESQUIER BY WHOME

The Awsiter family first appear in the local reports when one Richard Awsiter is said to have built or rebuilt the manor house on Southall Green in 1587. There is some uncertainty on which was the manor house of Southall manor. A large house called Dorman's Well, in the possession of Robert Cheeseman in 1547, descended as the manor house of Southall and became the seat of Lord and Lady Dacre though, as a widow, she devised the house to Sir Edward Fenner. The house, according to the account in the V.C.H.¹⁰, probably formed the manor house and demesne of Southall manor and perhaps adopted the style of a manor after Southall manor house, built by Richard Awsiter, had become divorced from its manor. The manors of Southall and Norwood were acquired by Gregory Fiennes, Lord Dacre and his wife Anne in 1578. Dacre died in 1594 and his wife in the following year, when her executors sold 38 acres of land in Norwood to Francis Awsiter. In 1602 the same executors sold him the manor of Norwood and two months later he bought the manor of Southall from Dacre's heir and sister, Margaret Lady Dacre and her husband Sampson Leonard. These manors were held by the Awsiter family until 1754, when they were sold. According to the V.C.H., Francis died in 1627 and was succeeded by his son Richard, who could hardly have been the Richard who built



Fig. 6 Norwood: Francis Awsiter Esq., 1624.

HEE HAD YSSUE RICHARD ELIZABETH MARY
 ANNE AND REBECKA HEE DECEASED THE 10TH
 DAY OF MARCH 1624
 HIS SOULE ASCENDED IS
 HIS BODY HERE REMAYNES
 THE CHURCH ENJOYES HIS COSTES
 THE PARISHE HAD HIS PAYNES

the manor house on Southall Green. There is some confusion on this date of Francis' death. His extensive will¹¹ is dated 1625; yet the brass gives his death as 1624.

Francis Awsiter gave by will an annual rent charge of 30s. (deducting 8s. for a sermon and 2s. to the clerk) to be dis-

Here under lyeth the bodye of Anne Bedingfeld (the)
 Daughter of Eustace Bedingfeld gent who depected (her)
 lyfe y^c xxiiith of february 1580. & buried at the cha(r)dge
 of Margery Draper widow late wyfe of John Dra(per)
 Citizen and bere brewer of london her Graundmot(her)

tributed among poor widows attending the church on Good Friday¹².

Frances Awsiter, the wife mentioned on the brass, made her will in 1628¹³. She is described as of Southall, but leaves her charity of 50s. to the chapel of Norwood 'belonging to the parish church of Hayes'. She also left 50s. to be distributed to the poor who usually resort to the chapel of Norwood. She left £5 to her grandchild, Francis Awsiter 'at his age of one and twentie yeares' if her executor and overseer 'find that my estate shall beare it.' Any residue of her estate goes to her *only* daughter, Rebecca whom she appoints her executrix. The other daughters mentioned on the brass must have died within the previous three or four years.

PINNER

I. Anne Bedingfield, a baby, 1580; now kept in the vestry.

This is the small figure of an infant still in chrysom, (Fig. 7) clad thus in the first month of its life before the mother was churched. It is but 9in high and is accompanied by a rectangular plate on which is a five line inscription in black-

letter. This plate has been broken at some time in the last hundred years and a piece at the right hand end is now missing. What remains is 4½in deep and 16in wide. An early rubbing in the collection of the Society of Antiquaries of London dated 30th June 1810 shows the inscription complete and 17½in wide; it reads:

One wonders at the circumstance that prompted a grandmother to place a brass to the memory of this one of her grandchildren; perhaps fondness for her daughter, also called Anne, or perhaps because of the impecunity of her son-in-law. Margery Draper, the widow of a London brewer, was evidently well placed to afford such a memorial, as can be seen from her will¹⁴. She left freehold lands, tenements and hereditaments in 'Wymley' (Wembley) in the parish of Harrow to her son John, so long as he 'does not make or suffer any alienation or discontinuance'. If he does she gives it to her sons Robert and Jasper. Her freehold property near Enfield she leaves to Robert, who also inherits the leasehold of a property known by the name of 'The Bell' in Newgate Marshes in London and a lease of a property in Chancery Lane. All her other goods and chattels, described in some detail, she leaves to her daughter, Anne Bedingfeld or her executors. Anne therefore did not die in childbirth, but survived the death of her infant by at least twenty years. Margery Draper also left considerable money to her chil-

dren: £300 to Robert, £100 to Henry, £280 to Jasper and £200 to her daughter Anne Bedingfeld. What is perhaps of some significance is that she released a debt of £400 to Anne, which her late husband Eustace Bedingfeld 'did owe me'. She also released

On the reverse of the chrysom child is part of the inscription from a 16th century Flemish brass, no doubt originally part of a brass in a church in the Low Countries (Fig. 8), pillaged in the Calvinist iconoclasms of 1566 and thereafter. Some of

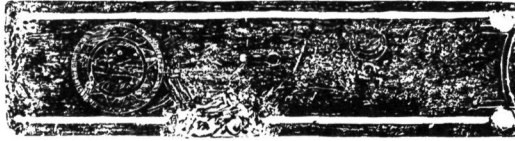


Fig. 8 Pinner: Reverse of Anne Bedingfeld.

a debt of £200 from her son John. She appointed her son Thomas Draper her full and sole executor. As he did not receive money or property it is likely he was the eldest son who presumably had inherited his father's business. His children, Thomas and Sara were left silver-gilt cups by their grandmother and rents were left for the benefit of the boy Thomas to be administered by his father. Margery Draper expressed the wish to be buried in the parish church of Islington, 'where I am a parishioner'. She left £20 to the poor of Islington, and £5 to any of the Company of Brewers of London who came to her burial.

The two plates comprising this memorial are palimpsest; they are engraved on metal that has been used before (Fig. 7).

these brasses found their way to London where the metal was reused by the local engravers. This piece shows the lines of the frame of a border inscription and, in large Roman capitals 'HIER . LIGHT', meaning 'Here lies', a common opening to such an inscription. On the reverse of the Bedingfeld inscription is a piece of scrap or waste, with two parallel lines in preparation for an inscription similar to the above, but then seemingly used by an apprentice for experimental doodling.

The obverse of this brass has been earlier illustrated in these Transactions (Vol. III, p. 178) and the reverses by Page-Phillips¹⁵.

II. Henry Edlyn, 1627; inscription only, now lost.

In the collections of the Society of Antiquaries of London is a dabbing or light rubbing of a brass plate on which is an inscription to Henry Edlyn. This early rubbing shows that the plate measured 20½ in wide and 6½ in deep and, in long hand, that it was taken on June 30, 1810 when the brass was on the floor at the entrance of the chancel at Pinner (Fig. 9). It was removed presumably during the restoration of the church in the middle of the nineteenth century when the Bedingfeld brass was also taken from the north aisle and the inscription broken and partly lost.

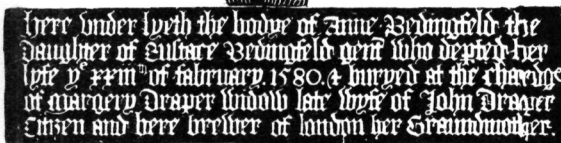


Fig. 7 Pinner: Anne Bedingfeld, 1580.

The inscription which is in six lines of Roman capitals reads:

HIC IACET HENRICUS EDLYN GENEROSUS FILIUS
RICHARDI EDLYN SENIORIS QUI OBIIT VICESIMO
SEXTO DIE OCTOBRIS ANNO DNI 1627

AUDRIA SMITH VIDVA SOROR & EXECUTRIX
TESTAMENTI PREDICTI HENRICI EDLYN HOC
MONUMENTUM IN AMORIS SUI TESTIMONIUM POSUIT

“Here lies Henry Edlyn, the noble son of Richard Edlyn senior who died the 26th day of October in the year of our Lord 1627. Audry Smith, widow, sister and executrix of the will of the aforesaid Henry Edlyn placed this monument in witness of her love.”

Henry Edlyn did indeed make her his sole executrix. In his will¹⁶, made on 8th August, 1627, he describes himself as yeoman of Pinner. He left all his freehold lands in Pinner and Harrow ‘to my loving sister Audry Smith, to her and her heirs for ever.’ He left to his wife Ann Edlyn ‘all bedding and household stuff which is in the chamber wherein she and I do usually lie.’ Various gifts were made to his nephew Henry Edlyn.

The Edlins had lived in Pinner and Harrow Weald at least since about 1300. The fortunes of different members of the

family varied. Some had built up estates during the next two centuries. In 1522/3 they ranged from John, a labourer worth 20s. in wages, to a Richard the lessee of Woodhall manor, worth £20 in goods. At least six Edlins held land in 1553. The two main branches were the Edlins of Woodhall Manor, and later of Pinner Marsh, and those of Parkgate. Their principal home through the 16th century and possibly until 1623 was Woodhall Manor which was leased in 1553 and *c.* 1609–10 to those of the name of Richard Edlin. A close called Marl pits which was part of the manor of Pinner was sold in 1553 to John Edlin of the Weald, but by *c.* 1600 it was in the hands of Richard Edlin of the Marsh¹⁷. This may well have been the father of Henry, on whose brass he is referred to as Richard Edlyn senior.

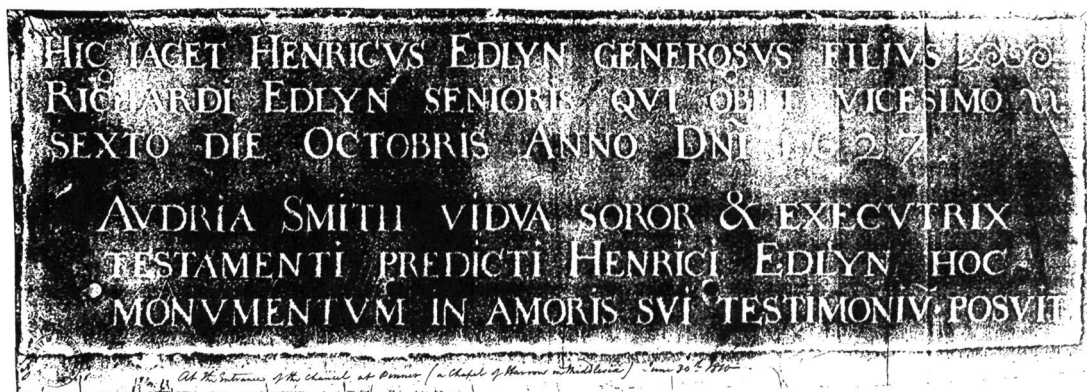


Fig. 9 Pinner: Henry Edlyn, 1627.

RUISLIP

1. Roger de Southcot, a stone with marginal inscription in Lombardic letters, early 14th C; chancel floor.

Lying on the floor of the chancel within the sanctuary is a large trapezoidal stone, measuring 65½in in length and tapering from 33½in wide at the top end to about 23in at the lower end (the bottom sinister corner is missing) (Fig. 10). Around the margin is an incised Lombardic letter inscription, starting from a diamond shaped indent in the centre of the top edge and reading from the inside:

ROGE/R : DE : SVTHCOTE : IADIS : IVS / /IEVS:
 LY : FACE : VERRAY : M/ERCI

If these letters were originally of brass, no trace now remains.

The relationship of the manor or freehold estate of Southcote to the parishes of Harmondsworth and Ruislip is complex, according to the account given in the V.C.H.¹⁸. The family of Southcote held land in both parishes from at least the 13th C. The land they held originally can be identified as that attaching to their hereditary office of forester of Har-

mondsworth, mentioned in 1230. In 1248 Roger de Southcote and Avice his wife held three virgates in the capital manor of Ruislip. Their son, Roger, acquired land in Harmondsworth late in the 13th C. Whether it was he who was commemorated in Ruislip church is unclear. His own son was named Robert and Robert's widow, Elizabeth, was holding land described as her manor of Ruislip in 1338.

2. Civilian and wife, with inscription, c. 1500, all now lost; slab with indents on floor of north aisle.

The original stone for this memorial lies on the floor of the north aisle; it is 72in long and 35in wide. Indents are still clear for the figures of a man in civilian dress and a woman with kennel headdress (Fig. 11). The outline and the stance of the figures suggests a date of about 1500. They are standing and half facing to one another. The figures are about 25in high

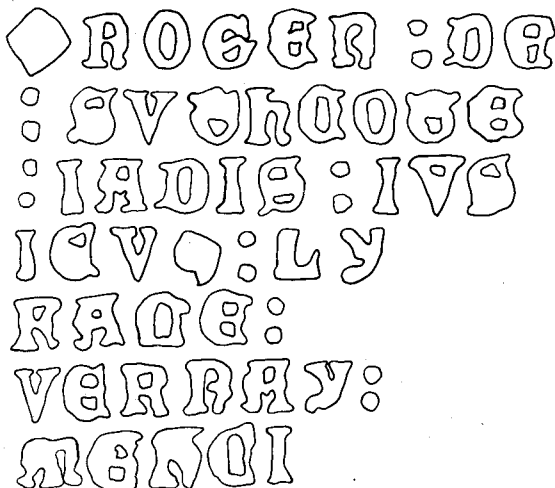


Fig. 10 Ruislip: Roger de Southcot, early 14th century: text of slab.

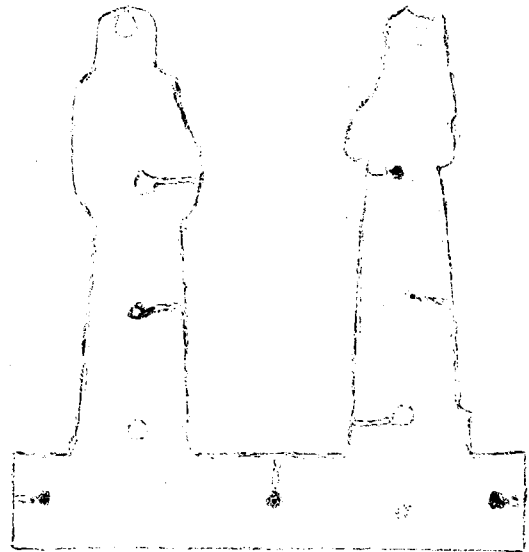


Fig. 11 Ruislip: Civilian & Wife, c. 1500.

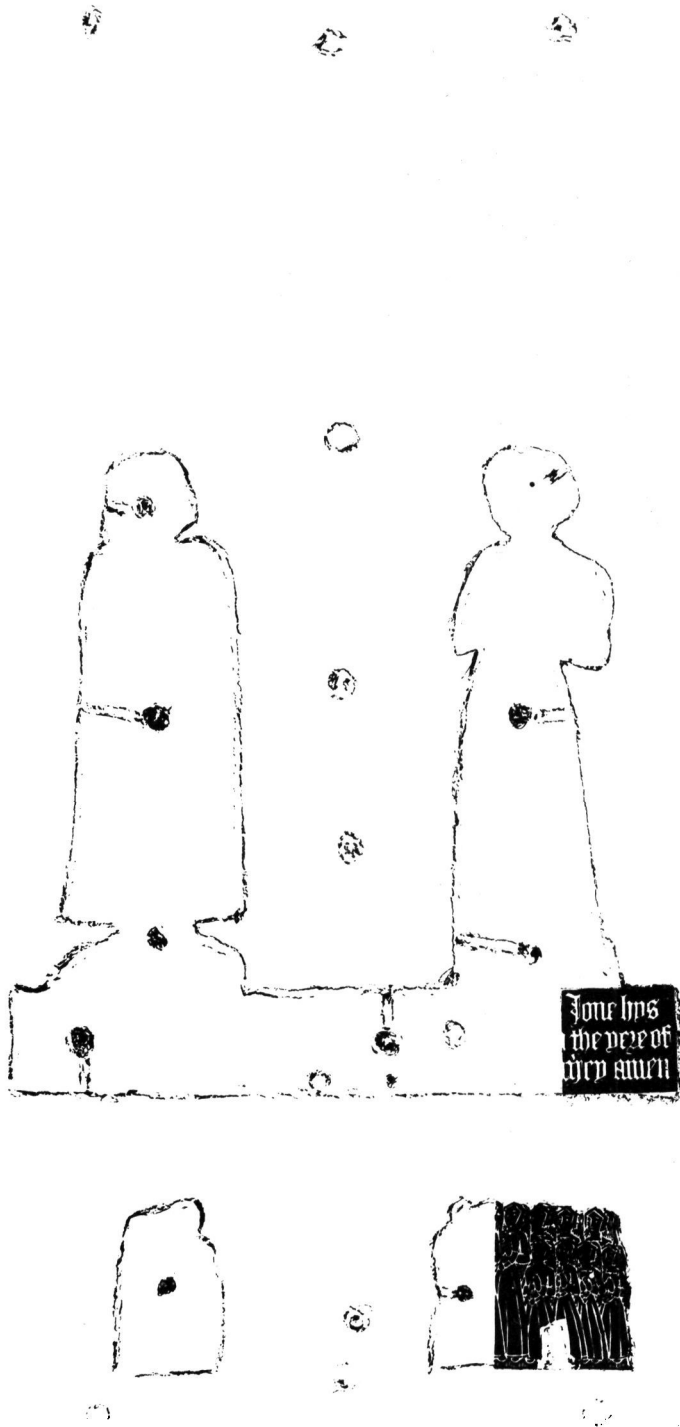


Fig. 12 Ruislip: Civilian & Wife, c. 1530.

and, immediately below, is a rectangular plate for the inscription, 28in wide and 5in deep.

3. (MS I)¹⁹ A civilian and wife, with inscription, sons and daughters, *c.* 1530; all now lost except fragment of plate with daughters; on floor of south aisle.

On the floor of the south aisle lies a large stone, 73½in by 26½in, on which are the clear outlines of the figures of a civilian and lady of date about 1530 (Fig. 11). They are 18in high and are half turned towards one another. His gown is long and he stands on a mound. Her dress is of full length. Below them was an inscription plate 22½in wide and 3½in deep and below this were two plates for their children. Part of the plate with daughters has survived and has been set in plaster on the jamb of the east window of the south aisle. This shows eight girls in pedimental headdress, the back seven in two rows. The eldest two girls are missing. The missing sons, probably two in number unless in two rows, were under their father and the girls under the mother.

A fragment of the blackletter inscription had survived and this too was set in the plaster of the same window jamb. It mentioned the name 'Jane'. This fragment has disappeared since the last war, leaving an imprint of blackletter in the plaster, indicating that this piece was palimpsest.

On the illustration can be seen not only the dowel pins that held these brasses down, with the accompanying channels in the stone for running in the lead, but also a series of dowel marks, mostly in a long central line with a spread at top and bottom. This is evidence of earlier use of the stone which was reused to accommodate the brass of the 16th C. The nature of the earlier brass is a matter of speculation; it could have been a bracket

brass, with a religious subject at the top of a stem and an inscription below.

4. (MS II). Ralph Hawtrey, gent., 1574, aged 79, and wife, Winifred Wollastom or Wallison, 1573, aged 71, with 6 sons & 6 daughters, under an arch; inscription and shield lost; on chancel wall.

This brass lay originally on the floor of the south aisle, whence it was removed, and lost, in about 1806. The rectangular plate on which the figures are engraved was recovered from dealers, following a public auction, by Miss Eleanor Warrender of High Grove who returned it to the church in 1913. It was mounted on the south side of the chancel in a new marble slab which is now covered by a glass plate for its protection. Its recovery is recorded on a small brass inscription.

This rectangular plate is 20½in high and 17½in wide (Fig. 13). The figure of Ralph Hawtrey in civilian dress and of his wife are standing beneath a double arch canopy with a large soffit between their heads. They are turned slightly towards one another and hold their hands before them in prayer. He wears a long, collared gown with false sleeves decorated with spiral bands. His beard protrudes beyond a very small ruff. The lady's dress is long, with high puffed sleeves and with a belt around a slim waist. She too has a small ruff showing above the turned down collar of her dress. On her head is a Paris bonnet. Six sons are standing behind their father and six daughters behind their mother, wearing clothes similar to hers. Above the head of each main figure is a scroll giving their ages: 'Estate 79' and 'Estate 71'. The arches are decorated with four-petalled flowers and in the upper corners are simple trefoils. The whole work is rather crudely drawn.



Fig. 13 Ruislip: Ralph Hawtrey, gent., and Wife, 1574.

5. (MS III). John Hawtrey Esq., J.P., 1593, and wife Bregget, with inscription, four shields & an achievement; on floor of chancel.

This brass, some twenty years later than that to Ralph Hawtrey, is one of a group of excellently engraved memorials produced toward the end of the century (Fig. 14). This was the last great surge of artistic merit on monumental brasses. Thereafter they declined in quality (with one or two notable exceptions) and went out of fashion by the middle of the next century.

The brass lies in its original stone (and was refixed in 1985) on the north side of the sanctuary floor. The two main figures are skilfully executed, if with the excessive shading then used to imply a third dimension. They are shown half turned to one another, holding their hands before them in the attitude of prayer. John, whose figure is 27½in high, wears a long gown with false sleeves, also banded in decoration, like his father. The ruff is now much wider; the face well groomed with moustache and beard. The wife is in the typical dress of the period; a long gown with a broad collar turned down and with a sash holding it to her around the waist but allowing it to part in front below to reveal an embroidered petticoat or dress. She too wears a ruff around the neck and a Paris bonnet on her head.

Immediately below these figures is a rectangular plate 26½in wide and 5¾in deep on which is this four line inscription in blackletter:

Here under lyeth Buryed y^e body of John Hawtrey
Esquyre on of our Maiestyes Justyces of Peace w^hin
y^e County of Medlecex & Bregget his wyfe he being
of y^e age of lxxviii yeares Deceased y^e xith of May 1593

At the four corners of the stone are shields of arms that are worn and difficult to decipher because they are mostly of lead, representing *argent*. They bear the

following arms:—

Top sinister: *Argent on a bend cotised (sable) 4 lions passant guardant (of the first)*, for Hawtrey; (lower dexter): *Argent 3 wolves passant in pale (sable)*, for Lovett; upper dexter and lower sinister: Hawtrey impaling Lovett.

Above the heads of the two figures is a rectangular plate 11in by 9¾in on which is a shield of arms surmounted by helm and mantling and a crest of a lion passant guardant. The coat is of twelve and of much greater complication than the four corner shields. This splendid achievement was missing when Mill Stephenson was recording the brasses in 1926, but had been returned by 1937 when the Royal Commission made its report. The identification of these twelve coats and the presence of this achievement alongside the more simple coats of the corner shields will be discussed later.

In a MS pedigree on vellum quoted by Lipscomb 'The Family of Hawtrey written in Latin De alta ripa, and in some records called d'Autrey, was of noble extraction in Normandy before the Norman Conquest as it appeareth in ye History of Normandy, written by Orderius Vitalis, a Monk of Roane & it is to be noted that those of Lincolnshire written in their Latine deeds de Alta ripa tooke the name of Hawtrey and came into Buckinghamshire by reason of the Inheritance that came by the match with ye Daughter and heire of the auntient Family of Checkers whose seats they possessed.'

The pedigree of Chaker, Chequers, or

Alta Ripa taken from The Harleian MSS 1533-6, and 7 and other authorities appears also in Lipscomb²⁰. This shows the sudden change of name from Alta

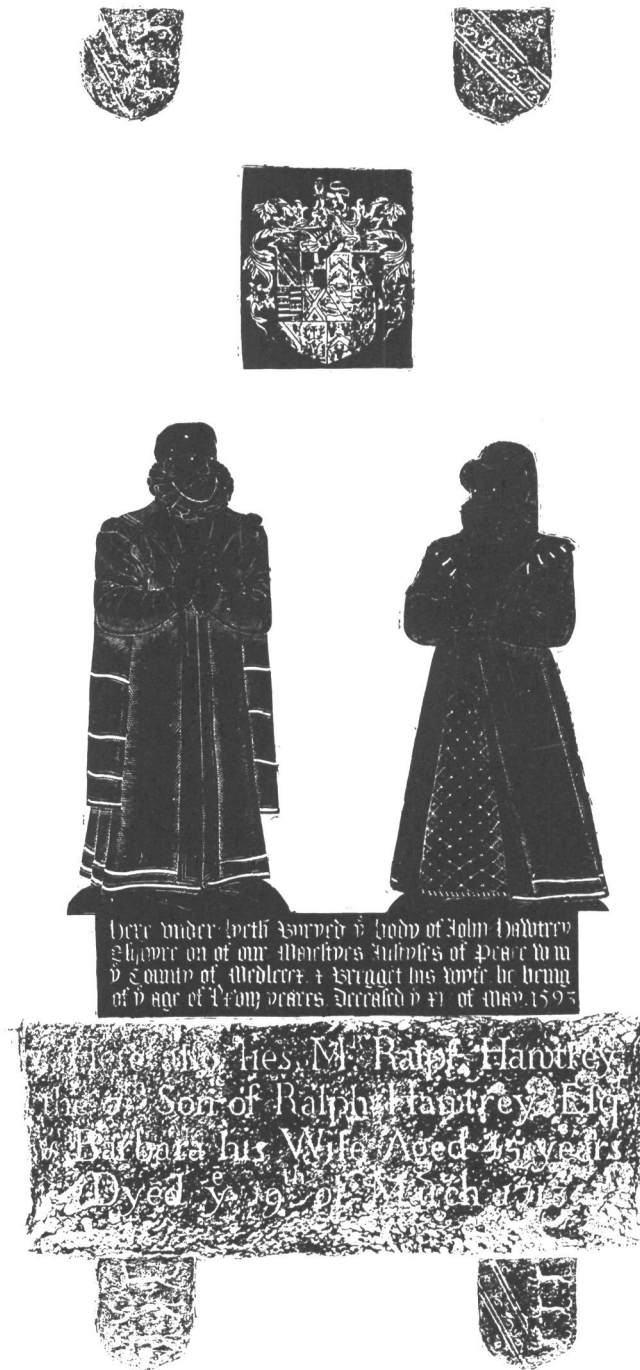


Fig. 14 Ruislip: John Hawtrey Esq., J.P., 1593, and Wife Bregget.

Ripa to Hawtreay, described as of Chekers. After several generations one Thomas Hawtreay married Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Parnell of Oxfordshire and their son, Thomas, married Katharine, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Blakenhall of Wing in Buckinghamshire. This marriage brought great wealth into the Hawtreay family, including the estates of the families of Pype and Harcourt. The grandson of Thomas and Katharine, also Thomas Hawtreay of Checkers, married Sybell daughter and co-heir of Richard Hampden of Kimble, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters. Thomas and Sybell were buried at Ellesborough where they are commemorated by a brass²¹. A younger brother of this Thomas was Rauffe Hawtreay of Rislip in Middlesex who married Winifrid Walliston also of Ryslip. This is the first mention of Ruislip in this pedigree and they are represented on brass No. 4. Though six sons and six daughters are shown on the brass the pedigree mentions only two sons and four daughters. The eldest son is John, the subject of brass No. 5. He married Bridget Lovett, whose surname is not identified in the Lipscomb pedigree, but is shown on that in the Harleian Society Visitation of Middlesex²². This John and Bridget died without issue.

His younger brother Edward is described as of Hedsor in Buckinghamshire, and is thus shown also in a further pedigree in Lipscomb²³. This is the pedigree of Hawtreay of Hedsor, Burnham, Eton, etc, from original documents in the possession of Henry Hawtreay Esq; Edward C. Hawtreay, D.D., Head Master of Eton School, parochial registers; and collated with ancient pedigrees of Hawtreay of Chequers etc. Edward Hawtreay of Hedsor married Elizabeth, daughter of Gabriel Dormer of Lee Grange, Co. Bucks. and it was through this couple that

the Ruislip succession continued. Their eldest son Ralph succeeded his uncle in their house at Ruislip and married Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Altham of Marks Hall, Co. Essex.

The sisters of John and Edward were Friswyde who married Robert Matts of Ruislip; Winifrid who married one Warde of Bedfont; Alice, married to one Shanke of Edlesborough; and Margaret, married to one Clement.

From the various inheritances shown in these pedigrees it is evident how the many coats in the achievement on the brass of John Hawtreay were derived, though it is not clear what claim he had to display them. Although he was the eldest son of Rauffe Hawtreay, Rauffe was only the fourth son of Thomas Hawtreay of Chequers and it was his eldest brother Thomas who was the heir to the Chequers estate. The achievement Fig. 15 might more properly have been attached to his brass at Ellesborough. It is possible with the help of these pedigrees to identify



Fig. 15. Ruislip: Heraldic Achievement from brass of John Hawtreay.

many of the coats on the achievement. They are: 1. (*Argent*) 4 lions passant guardant in bend (*sable*) crowned (or) cotised (of the second), for Hawtrey; 2. quarterly (or) and (*purpure*), for Chequers; 3. (*gules*) 2 chevrons within a bordure engrailed argent, for Parnell; 4. Party per bend azure and or, an eagle displayed counterchanged, for Blakenall; 5. Quarterly, 1 and 4 (*azure*) a fess between 6 cross crosslets or for Pype and 2 and 3 (or) two bars *gules*, for Harcourt; 6. (*argent*) a saltire (*gules*) between 4 eagles displayed (*azure*), for Hampden; 7. Barry wavy of 6, (*argent*) and (*azure*), on a bend (*sable*) 3 roundles (or), for Singleton; or Goldfrey 8. (*argent*) 3 cross crosslets fitchy (*sable*), on a chief (of the second) a demi-lion rampant (or), for Stokes; 9. (*argent*) a bend between 6 billets (*sable*), for Luton or Bonvillers; 10. (*sable*) a stag's head cabossed (*argent*) attired or, between the attires a cross patly fitchly (of the third), for Bulstrode; 11. (*azure*) a chevron (*argent*) between 3 bucks' heads cabossed (or), for Hertshorne; 12. ? This coat is unclear. The crest to this achievement is that for the Hawtreys of Chequers and not Hedsor: on a wreath (*argent*) and (*azure*) a lion passant guardant (*sable*).

That John Hawtrey had no children may be deduced from his will²⁴. He asks that his body be buried in Christian burial and leaves 40s. to the poor 'of Rislipp, Ellethorne, Lungersall and Quanton in Bucks; and 20s. to the poor in Northall, Pinner, Ickenham and Hillingdon'. The following gifts are then made to his relations: £40 to Mary, the daughter of his deceased brother Edward, £15 to his sister Margaret, wife of the said Clement, besides £5 presently given to her husband. To her daughter Margaret Bennet, £40 and to her son Rauffe Bennet, £20. He leaves to the children of his deceased sister, Warde, £20 to her son John Warde, £20 to her son Richard Warde, £5 to her son Raffe Warde; and £20 to her daughter Brigit, the wife of Edward Rawson of Col-

brooke, mercer, and if he will pay to John Hawtrey's executors the sum of £10 and not demand of them his £20 then he shall have and enjoy to him and to his heires forever the house in Colbrooke where he is living. He does not mention his sister Frisewyde, but refers to his brother-in-law Robert Matte, leaving £10 to his son Rauffe Matte, £40 to another son Edmond Matte and £50 to yet another son William Matte. To Robert Matte's daughter Ursula Fermor he leaves £5 and to John Fermor of Lee, presumably Ursula's husband, but curiously here described as 'my son-in-law' the sum of £10. He also leaves £10 to another he calls his son-in-law, Edward Arderne of Edmonton.

To his wife Bridget he leaves £100 and his plate and chattels during her life and after her death to go to Raffe Hawtrey, son of his deceased brother Edward Hawtrey. One curious arrangement was that of a yearly rent of £10 to one John English, alias Smith, alias Hawtrey 'my supposed base sonne', to be paid quarterly after the decease of his wife. The executors to this will were his wife Bridget and his nephew, Raffe Hawtrey.

The two pedigrees of Hawtrey in Lipscomb are uninformed about the identity of John Hawtrey's wife Bridget. In one she is unnamed and he is dismissed as *sine prole*; in the other she is named as just Bridget. The Visitation of Middlesex shown in the Harleian Society volume identifies her name as a Lovett, and the arms on the brass confirm this. Elsewhere, however, in Lipscomb²⁵ she is to be found in the pedigree of Dormer of Lee Grange in Quanton. Here she is shown as married to Gabriel Dormer Esq of Shipton-Lee and is described as the daughters of Thomas Lovett of Astwell in the county of Northampton. It also tells that she married, secondly, John Hawtrey Esq. of Chequers. This pedigree indicates that Gabriel Dormer and Bridget his wife had

one daughter, Elizabeth, who married Edward Hawtrey of Chequers, John's younger brother. If this pedigree is correct then we have the curious circumstance that Bridget becomes sister-in-law to her own daughter and that her co-executor to her second husband's will, Raffe Hawtrey, is both her nephew and her grandson.

In her will²⁶, made in January 1597, Bridget asks to be buried in Ruislip church by her last husband, John Hawtrey. She leaves money to the poor of Ruislip, Hillingdon and other local parishes and also at Quanton. She leaves to 'her daughter Arderne' the rents of Readnights house in Rislip during her life and the littel house in Rislip with such ground as Mr. Rauffe Hawtrey shall think good during her life.' She also leaves her £10 and 'whereas John Arderne my son-in-law hath had a little house and three shops(?) and should have paid her rent but hath not done so doth freelie forgive him all the arrears thereto which shall be behind at the time of my death'; and 'whereas her son Fleetwood Dormer gent. should have paid her £20 yearly she doth freelie forgive him all the arrears . . . except for £30 to be paid to her son Raffe Hawtrey towards the charges of her burial.' The terminology of personal relationships is evidently somewhat loose. Rauffe was her grandson, not her son and there is no evidence in the Dormer pedigree that she had a son called Fleetwood. The most likely attribution would be Sir Fleetwood Dormer of Shipton Lee

Elizabeth, after the death of her husband, Edward Hawtrey of Hedsor, had married again.

Among the more interesting of Bridget's personal bequests were twelve rings of silver bestowed upon such twelve of her friends for remembrance of her; and, to the late wife of John Newdigate late of Harefield one ring of gold being a hoop ring 'with this posie in it "Let likinge laste"'. She also left ten shillings to Mr Studley to preach a sermon at her burial.

It is clear then that it was Rauffe Hawtrey who succeeded his uncle as the senior member of the family to live at Ruislip. He became deputy-lieutenant of the county and a Justice of the Peace. His wife Mary was the daughter of Sir Edward Altham of Marks Hall in Essex and by her he had three sons and one daughter Mary who became the wife of Sir John Banks of Keswick, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and Attorney General to Charles I. Lady Banks became celebrated for her spirited defence of Corfe Castle against the Parliamentary forces. Rauffe and Mary Hawtrey are commemorated in Ruislip church by a fine alabaster and marble monument on the north wall of the chancel. The family remained prominent in Ruislip for many generations and there are no fewer than eighteen memorials in the church to those of the name of Hawtrey later in date than the two brasses here described. One such memorial is indeed inscribed on the stone of John Hawtrey's brass, between the inscription plate and the two lower shields. It reads:

Here also lies M^r Ralph Hawtrey
the 3rd Son of Ralph Hawtrey Esq.
& Barbara his Wife Aged 45 years
Dyed y^e 19th of March 1713

and Lee Grange, then in his twenties, who was son to her half-brother, Peter Dormer. The identity of her daughter 'Arderne' is uncertain. It is possible that

Although the two Hawtrey brasses are the earliest memorials to members of the family at Ruislip and although the earlier of the two is the first of his name to appear

This marble Supporteth the Hoys memory of Mary
 Second Daughter of Mr Richard Laving of this
 Parish and Wife of Abraham Keene Citizen and
 Coachmaker of London Who departed this Life
 September the 5 1696 In the 49 year of her Age

SEE HERE HOW WAITING FOR THAT GLORIOUS DAY
 WHEN THE GREAT IUDGE HIS JUSTICE SHALL DISPLAY
 IN THESE LONG WISID FOR DOES A PATTERN EAT
 OF GREAT AND EXEMPLARY PIETY
 BY WHICH HER PIETY HER VIRTUES WERE
 AT THE GREAT ADJUT ONES WILL APPEAR
 WHO SO DESIRES AN PEACE LIKE HER TO ENDE
 MUST LEARNE TO LIVE LIKE HER AND LIKE HER DIE



Fig. 16 Ruislip: Civilian, c. 1600, with four daughters.



Fig. 17 Ruislip: Mary Keene, 1696.

in the pedigree as of Ruislip there is evidence that others were here earlier. It was in 1532 that the Deans and Canons of Windsor farmed out the Rectory of Ruislip to Ralph Hawtreys, said to be of Eastcote, and the Hawtreys were for many generations lessees of the rectory. The ancient seat of the Hawtreys, so says Lysons²⁷ is situated at the hamlet of Ascot, or Eastcot. Ruislip manor was granted by King Henry VI in 1441 to his new foundation, the College of St Mary and St Nicholas, later Kings College, Cambridge. The lease thereof was in the hands of the Cecil family until 1669, when it was acquired by Ralph Hawtreys of Eastcote. The Hawtreys and their descendants, The Rogers' and Deanes, retained the farm until it was taken up by the College in the late 19th century.

There was one by the name of Hawtreys among the group of men and women from Ruislip who, in July 1563, 'assembled in warlike manner, and broke riotously into the close of William Says' carrying away four wainloads of wheat. This curious and turbulent episode has been mentioned earlier in an account of William Say and his brass in Ickenham church²⁹.

6. (MSIV) Civilian, *c.* 1600, with 4 daughters; on floor of Nave

The remaining parts of a brass of *c.* 1600 have been reassembled in an unlikely grouping in a too economical act of conservation. (Fig. 16). Much of the length of the new stone is occupied, on one side, by the figure of a civilian, 36in high. He is facing slightly to his left with hands in the attitude of prayer. He wears a ruff and a long gown with false sleeves

which hang from shoulder height and are decorated with spiral banding. He has a moustache and long pointed beard, well shown by the considerable use of fine line shading. To the left of this figure is a rectangular plate with a much later inscription (see No. 7). Below this is a plate 11½in wide and 11in deep on which are engraved four female children. By date of costume these could be contemporary with the civilian. They are standing on a tessellated pavement whereas the civilian stands on a plain mound or paving. The girls are facing slightly to their right. This suggests that if these two plates belong to one brass there was originally a wife, beneath whom the daughters would have been placed, with possibly another plate with sons under their father. No inscription remains.

There are also two curious indents in the stone for missing brass. The small one between the man and the daughters may have carried a biblical quotation or a statement of age, originally above his head. The other indent is even more curious. It appears that subsequent to the brass being lost the stone has been further cut down reducing the size of the indent. Its shape suggests an inscription plate set up on end.

7. (MSV) Mary Keene, 1696; inscription; on same stone as 6

This inscription is on a rectangular plate 22½in high and 15in wide (Fig. 17). The inscription consists of five descriptive lines followed, in capitals, by a verse of eight lines. This does not completely fill the plate.

This marble Supporteth the Pious memory of Mary
Second Daughter of M^r Richard Living of this
Parish and Wife of Abraham Keene Citizen and
Coachmaker of London Who departed this life
September the 5th 1696 In the 49th year of her Age

SEE HERE HOW WAITING FOR THAT GLORIOUS DAY
 WHEN THE GREAT JUDGE HIS JUSTICE SHALL DISPLAY
 IN REST LONG WISHD FOR DOES A PATTERN LYE
 OF GREAT AND EXEMPLARY PIETY
 BUT WHAT HER PIETY HER VIRTUES WERE
 ATT THE GREAT AUDITT ONELY WILL APPEARE
 WHOSO DESIRES IN PEACE LIKE HER TO LYE
 MUST LEARNE TO LIVE LIKE HER AND LIKE HER DYE

Once again I must express my grateful thanks to Mr. D. A. Chivers for his excellent rubbings taken to illustrate this paper.

NOTES

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