



St. Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H

Information about the Shields on the ends of the roof hammers.

In 1700, Beck and Edgar devised a new heraldic display to cover the stumps left when the iconoclasts of the 1640s sawed the angels off the ends of the roof hammers. The principal families of C17th Ipswich appear there, first the owners of Christchurch and the Red House. Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Seal to Elizabeth and his grandson Nathaniel Bacon, Town Clerk, are both there. Thomas Bunning features partly as a reward for moving his pew so that the Red House Pew could be large enough, but he was also a generous benefactor to the parish. The arms of Devereux Edgar and Richard Phillips occupy adjacent hammer-ends in the centre of the south side; they were churchwardens in 1694. The schoolmaster-minister Cave Beck was not armigerous, but he put up arms of his own invention at the south west end all the same: first Bek C14th Bishop of Lincoln and Norwich impaling Cave of London, then as an afterthought he had Bek painted over the whole shield, proof surely that these shields at least were painted locally. Even if his parents had been entitled to the two coats and his mother was a Cave, he should have quartered them.

The heraldic display can be dated precisely, as the shields were put up between August and October 1700, after the death indicated by shield N5 and before the marriage, which would have altered shield N1.

One of the most interesting aspects of this assemblage of arms of the great and the good of the parish at the end of a turbulent century is the extent to which people of opposing political and religious views are commemorated side by side. Some are living, but most are dead. Perhaps it represents a conscious effort by Beck and Edgar to include such able Puritan politicians and ministers as the Bacons and Fairfax. Compared with the Whigs rapidly rising to prominence in town and county, these old adversaries may in retrospect have appeared men of stature, wisdom and integrity.

North side from the East:

- N1** Per pale Or and Gules, 3 lions passant guardant in pale within a bordure, all counterchanged WITHIPOLL impaling Quarterly Ermine and Gules STANHOPE for Sir William Withipoll (c.1596-1645), son and heir of Sir Edmund Withipoll, who in 1621 married Jane, daughter and coheir of Sir Michael Stanhope of Orford, owners of Christchurch 1619 to 1645.
- N2** Argent a fesse and in chief 3 roundels Gules DEVEREUX impaling WITHIPOLL, surmounted by a viscount's coronet for Leicester Devereux, 6th Viscount Hereford who in 1642 married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir William Withipoll (N1). Elizabeth died in 1670 and her husband in 1676 leaving the children whose arms follow (N3 and N4) born to his second wife Priscilla Catchpole.
- N3** DEVEREUX impaling Quarterly 1 & 4 Ermine a fesse nebuly Gules on a canton Gules a ducal coronet Or NORBONNE 2 & 3 Gules on a chief Argent 2 mullets Sable BACON, surmounted by a viscount's coronet for Edward Devereux, 8th Viscount Hereford (1675-1700) who in 1690 married Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Norbonne of Calne, Wiltshire and Frances his wife, daughter of Sir Edmund Bacon, 4th Bt, owners of Christchurch from 1683 to 1700. Cave Beck was one of the guardians of the Hereford children, their tutor until they were 15, then their chaplain. Edward left Beck £10 in the will he made shortly before dying as a result of a duel.
- N4** DEVEREUX on a lozenge with a putto head above, for the Hon. Ann Devereux, who was born less than a month after her father the 6th Viscount died in 1676. On her marriage at St Margaret's on 29 October 1700 she brought Christchurch to her husband, a cousin, Leicester Martin. Martin, a close political confederate and fellow Justice of the Peace with Devereux Edgar, became Recorder of Ipswich in 1704.
- N5** NORBONNE quartering BACON on a lozenge with a putto head above, for Elizabeth (née Norbonne), Dowager Viscountess Hereford from her husband's death on 9 August 1700.
- N6** BACON impaling Gules a fesse between 3 crescents Argent a canton Ermine HOLLOWAY (putto head above) for Nathaniel Bacon, Esq., Recorder of Ipswich from 1642 and Town Clerk, 1651 and M.P. 1654, all to 1660 when he died, and his second wife Susan, daughter of John Holloway of Oxford and widow of Matthew Alefounder of Dedham. Bacon lived in the parish.
- N7** BACON quartering Barry of 6 Or and Azure a bend Gules QUAPLODE (putto head above) the arms granted in 1568 to Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Seal to Elizabeth I and grandfather of Nathaniel Bacon.
- N8** Quarterly Argent and Sable a cross between 4 escallops all counterchanged HOOKE impaling Vert a lion rampant Or VAUGHAN (but not the usual tinctures) (putto head above) for Theophilus Hooke, clerk, whose father Richard was a chaplain to Charles II. In 1679, Theophilus, then a widower, married Ann Vaughan, spinster of Ipswich. Hooke was incumbent of Hollesley and Sudbourne from 1666 to 1700 where the Devereuxs inherited the manor (with Chillesford and Orford)

from the Stanhopes. Hooke was executor of the 6th Viscount Hereford, and, like Cave Beck, was chosen one of the guardians of the Hereford children by their mother Priscilla before her death in 1681. The Hookes were buried at Tuddenham St Martin, Theophilus in 1700 and Ann in 1714.20

N9 Argent 5 [should be 6] barrulets Gules over all a lion rampant Sable FAIRFAX impaling BACON on a lozenge (putto head above) for Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Bacon (N6) and widow of Nathaniel Fairfax M.D., whom she married at St Margaret's in 1683. Ejected from his living of Willisham in 1662, Fairfax practiced medicine and heraldry and antiquities until his death in 1690. He commended Beck to the officers of the Royal Society as suitable correspondent on matters of scientific interest in the county.

N10 The tenth shield is blank.

South side from the East:

S1 Quarterly 1 & 4 Per chevron Or and Azure in chief 2 fleurs-de-lis Gules and in base 5 fusils conjoined in fesse Or each charged with an escallop Gules EDGAR 2 & 3 Gules a chevron Or between 3 leopards' faces Argent EDGAR ANCIENT impaling Azure a fesse engrailed Ermine between 3 lions passant guardant Or POWLE for Thomas Edgar (1602-1692) of Grimstone House, Recorder of Ipswich 1671-1691, who in 1635 married Mary, daughter and heir of Philip Powle of London. She lived from 1616 to 1695. Thomas built Red House for his son Thomas in 1658.

S2 Sable semée of fleurs-de-lis and a lion rampant Or a canton Ermine PHILIPS impaling Argent on a bend Gules 3 roses Or DEPDEN for Nicholas Philips (1599-1673) merchant and linendraper, five times Bailiff of Ipswich, who married Mary Depden who died in 1642. She was first buried in St Nicholas church where Matthias Candler the antiquary, seeing her stone, wrote 'she was accounted the unparalleled beauty of her age'. Before his own death her husband willed that her body should be reinterred next to his in St Margaret's; their black marble slab lies in the centre nave aisle. The inscription mentions that 'in his fifth Bailywick [he] carried the mace before King Charles the second' on his visit to Christchurch in 1668.

S3 EDGAR quarterly as before (S1) impaling Argent on an escutcheon between 3 crosses formy fitchy Sable each pointing to the centre of the shield a cross Or MILESON (putto) for Thomas Edgar (1649-1677) 3rd son and heir of Thomas the Recorder, who married Agatha, daughter of Borrodaile Mileson of Little Haugh, Norton, Suffolk. They lived at the Red House.

S4 [Lost but restored in facsimile painted by Spencer Sands of IFACS Ltd and put up on 4 May 1995] PHILIPS impaling BURROUGH for Richard Philips, four times Bailiff of Ipswich and twice M.P, and Frances, eldest daughter of Charles Burrough (S6), his wife. Churchwarden when the roof panels were installed in 1694.

- S5** EDGAR impaling SPARROWE for Devereux Edgar Esq. (1651-1739) younger brother of the last Thomas, and Temperance, daughter of Robert Sparrowe, senior, gent. of Wickhambrook, his wife who lived from 1655 until 1754 or 1755. Edgar, joint designer of the display with Cave Beck, was Churchwarden with Richard Philips in 1694. Though Devereux lived and died at Grimstone House, he was also master of the Red House after his brother Thomas's death and in the minority of his nephew Mileson, heir to that estate.
- S6** BURROUGH impaling BETTESWORTH for Charles Burrough, gent., lawyer of Staple Inn, of Sproughton and Ipswich, died 1690 aged 78 and Amy his wife. She was the daughter of Thomas Bettesworth of Chidden, Hambledon, Hants and died in 1701 aged 77. Her arms included the crossed weapons on the canton, probably an augmentation of honour for service in the Royalist cause; on the ledger slab in the south aisle they appear as a plain saltire.
- S7** NORTH impaling CULLUM for Henry North Esq., B.D., counsellor-at-law, and Mary Cullum his wife.
- S8** BUNNING impaling LEA for Thomas Bunning, gent., and Elizabeth Lea, who agreed to move to another pew so that the Red House pew could be enlarged to please Devereux Edgar.
- S9** BEK painted over BEK impaling CAVE for Cave Beck, minister of St Margaret's from 1657 to his death in 1706. Joint designer, with Devereux Edgar, of the roof painting schemes.
- S10** The tenth shield is blank.

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