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Rural Deanery of South Forest

by M. E. Bagnall-Oakley
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PAINSWICK—CHURCH OF S. MARY THE VIRGIN.

N. aisle terminal chapel. N.W. not *in situ*.

1. (5) Judicial. Known to belong to John Seaman, D.C.L., *obit.* 1623, and his wife, Anne Norton, whose arms are described by Rudder as having been seen by him "on the tomb," which, however, has long since vanished.

2. The kneeling and praying figures have, without doubt, belonged to a framed monument of James I.'s time.

3. Alabaster.

4. Slightly under life-size.

5. His figure and costume compares closely with that of Thomas Stephens, in Stroud Church, and the description given of that conventional one will do for this example. They appear to be works of the same artist.

The female figure, which, like that of the man, has the hands gone, has also lost the front of the Paris hood, and her nose, and the tassels of cushion on which she kneels. Her hair is worn in ringlets, and she has a long veil, ruff, cuffs turned back, full gown, short stomacher buttoned down the front.

SOUTH FOREST RURAL DEANERY.

By M. E. B. OAKELEY.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, NEWLAND

I.

1. (2) Knight in armour.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. *See* below.
6. Tilting helme.
7. Lion.
8. No heraldry; no weepers; on modern, high tomb: a bad copy of the old one destroyed at restoration of church.

9. No old inscription: a modern brass on left side of tomb states it to be for Sir John Joyce of Clearwell, died 1349.
10. None.
11. Has been scraped, and all trace of chain removed except inside right arm, hands, feet, and face mutilated.
12. In south aisle.
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. vi., p. 364.
Atkins, 301.
14. Fair.
15. None.

This effigy is wearing close-fitting jupon, below which the chain hauberk shows, handsome jewelled bawdrick, from which sword hung on left side (now gone); bascinet, the top of which has been cut off; camail, the rings of which were scraped off at late restoration. Arms and legs in mixed mail and plate, but the former has been entirely removed by cleaning.

II.

1. (6) Lady lying by side of No. 1.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life size.
5. *See* below.
6. Cushion supported by angels.
7. Lion.
8. No heraldry; no weepers; on modern high tomb.
9. No inscription. Traditionally said to be Lady Joyce, of Clearwell (wife of last effigy), who died 1362.
10. None.
11. Has been scraped all over. Hands, face, part of veil, and cloak on right side mutilated.
12. In south aisle; was formerly in (?).
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. xvi., pp. 1, 16, pl. xiii.
14. Fair condition.
15.
This effigy lies on right side of No. 1. The lady is wearing

a sideless sur-côte, which shows girdle and tight sleeves of under-côte; long cloak with jewelled fastening (like belt of No. 1), the end of which hangs below her waist; reticulated head-dress and veil, with a frill of cap showing.

III.

1. (3b) Ecclesiastic.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. Young priest in long flowing eucharistic vestments without any ornament; long hair.
6. Cushion.
7. Dog.
8. No canopy; figure on slab, which rests on an iron support in north aisle.
9. No inscription, but of early 14th century work; probably an early vicar. No heraldry.
10. None.
11. Face and hands damaged.
12. In chapel at the end of north aisle. This monument has been moved several times.
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. vi., p. 363; vol. ix., plate 3, p. 66.
14. Good condition except the slight mutilation, and remarkably good workmanship.

IV.

1. (3b) Ecclesiastic.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. Priest in stiff ornamented eucharistic vestments; wears boots; feet rest on bracket.
6. Nothing under head.
7. Bracket.

8. This effigy rests on an iron stand.
9. No inscription. Early 15th century.
10. None.
11. This figure is not mutilated, but left corner of slab broken off.
12. Now lies by No. 3 in chapel at end of north aisle.
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. ix., plate 4, p. 66.
14. Good condition.

V.

1. (6) Lady.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. Long sur-côte tucked under each arm, showing côte below.
6. Head gone.
7. (?).
8. No tomb.
9. None.
10. None.
11. Much mutilated.
12. Lies at end of south aisle. Has been moved several times.
- 13.
14. In very bad condition; bad, coarse workmanship.
15. Nothing known; but from the dress is as early as, if not earlier than, the date given for the erection of the church.

VI.

1. (4) Civilian.
2. Recumbent effigy. (In churchyard.)
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. See below.
6. Cushion, with tassels at corners.

7. Hunting dog or brache.

8. On high tomb with panelled sides; a slightly sunk quatrefoil in each.

9. "Here lyeth Junk Wyrall Forster of Fee¹ the which dysessed the viii. day of Synt Lauroc the yeare of oure Lord mcccclvii. on his soule God have mercy. Amen."

The date 1457 was cut in old figures on the slab when probably the inscription was more legible.

10. None.

11. Slightly damaged on hands. The horn at his side has been chipped recently.

12. Now in churchyard on north-east side. Formerly in the church.

13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. vi., p. 361; vol. xviii., pl. 8, p. 14. Sir Henry Dryden in *L'art de Venerie* par Gullaume Twisi, p. 64.

14. It is much to be regretted that this almost unique effigy is lying in the churchyard without any protection from wind and weather, and the wilful damage from children and passers by. It has suffered much quite recently.

VII.

1. (4) Civilian.

2. Incised figure. (In churchyard.) Plate.

3. Stone (local).

4. Slightly under life-size.

5.

6.

7.

8. Raised tombs, with panels of Jacobean type (round arches and scroll work).

9. No inscription.

10.

11. Nearly overgrown with moss.

¹ Near this figure are two slabs lying on the ground with some human figures in low relief upon them, but too much worn to say if they are ecclesiastics or civilians,

12. On south of churchyard.

13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. vi., p. 362; vol. xviii., p. 267.

14. Will soon be entirely obliterated from the effects of weather and moss.

15. Figure of a man carrying a bow and three arrows.

It is supposed to represent some member of the family of Wyrall, as the office of "Bow-bearer" to the King, and Chief Forester of Fee, continued with them till the family became extinct in the 18th century. The figure is represented in jerkin or doublet buttoned in front, and girt round the waist with a belt, long tight sleeves slightly puffed at the shoulder, falling bands (or collar) of a kind which came into fashion early in the 17th century. His breeches are stuffed and fastened at the knees with ribbons; tight hose, with shoes cut low and slightly pointed. A low-crowned, broad-brimmed hat. In his left hand he carries a long bow ready strung, his right hand holds an arrow, and two spare arrows stuck into his belt.—*B. and G. Transactions*, vol. xviii., p. 267.

VIII.

1. (5) Judicial.

2. Bust.

3. White marble.

4. Rather larger than life.

5. Wears wig with long curls, falling bands.

6.

7.

8. The bust stands on a white marble sarcophagus, with pyramidal slab of grey marble behind it. Upon the slab are the arms and crest of the Probyn family—

Erm., on a fesse gu. A lion passant or. Crest: An ostrich's head erased arg., ducally gorged or, holding in the beak a key, wards downwards, of the last, with motto, "Manus hæc inimica tyrannis."

9. Upon the sarcophagus above mentioned is the following inscription:—"John Probyn, Esqre., nephew &

heir of S^r Edm^d Probyn. Died 22 March, 1773, aged 70. Ann, his wife, daughter of John Howell, Esqre., of this place; and Elizabeth Ann, his sister."

On a marble slab below is the following:—"Sacred to the memory of S^r Edm^d Probyn, Kt., Lord Chef Baron of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, who died the 17 day of May, 1742. Dame Elizabeth Probyn, the Widow & Relict of S^r Edmund Probyn, the daughter of S^r John Blencowe, Kt., one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas at Westminster. Died 22 day of October, 1749, & at her particular desire was buried in this chancel near the remains of her deceased husband."

10. None.
11. Perfect.
12. On east wall of chapel in south aisle.
13. (?).
14. Perfect.
- 15.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, ST. BRIAVEL'S.

1. Doubtful.
2. Slab, with head let in.
3. Stone.
5. Head with veil and wimple.
- 6.
- 7
8. Coffin slab, with triple cross.
9. None.
10. None.
11. Slightly damaged on edge.
12. See below.
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. . . . , p. 76, pl. ix.
- 14.
- 15.

The Rev. W. Taprell Allen, late Vicar of St. Briavel's, says: "I have thought it probable that this coffin-slab once

covered the remains of Robert, Abbot of Lire (de Lyrá), in Normandy, who died 1272, and who was a Canon Residentiary of Hereford Cathedral. He and his house transferred the patronage of Lydney, with St. Briavel's, to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford. When I went to St. Briavel's in 1867, I found this coffin-lid in the porch, and removed it into the church, and later on placed it in the Easter tomb, in the south transept, which I discovered, re-opened, and restored."

(The date is about 1312, and the ball-flower ornaments are in favour of its being the work of a Hereford sculptor who had been employed on the ball-flower work of the Cathedral. It may very well be the memorial of a Hereford canon.—A.H.)

II.

1. (4).
2. Effigies.
- 3.
4. Life-size.

5. Man's costume is a civic gown, &c. A fine monument for William Warren and his wife (Mariania Catchmay) was pulled down when the old chancel was rebuilt in 1861, and various parts of this monument are still lying against the new chancel walls, and stowed away on the stairs to the old rood loft. They were rescued from destruction by the late Vicar (Rev. W. Taprell Allen), who tried to induce the representatives of the family to re-erect the tomb, but without effect. The following is Mr. Allen's description: "The two recumbent figures lay under a handsome canopy, supported by marble figures I—P. Above the canopy were three figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and in the panels of the lower part of the monument were the figures of a son who died, aged 20, and behind him a swaddled infant. On another panel are figures of his daughters—Mary, who married George Gough of Hewelsfield, Esq., and Margaret, married — James, Esq., of Sully or Sorlwell. He was a Deputy-Constable of St.

Briavel's Castle. William Warren resided at Willsbury, and died, seized of the manors of Stowe and Willsbury, in 14th Elizabeth, 1572, leaving only the above-mentioned daughters co-heiresses."

Bigland, in his *History of Gloucester*, has a partial representation of this monument.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, LYDNEY.

EFFIGY IN THE CHURCHYARD—TO BE REMOVED INTO
THE CHURCH.

Reported by Rev. F. Eales, R.D.

A black stone slab with life-size figure of a man in low relief, clothed in a long flowing robe and with hands closed upon the breast, and apparently holding between the palms a heart. The initials "G. P." are carved on the right and left of the head, and upon the right of the head and neck the date "April the 13, 1630."

Mr. Saunders, the aged Parish Clerk, declares the following traditions:—

"At the restoration of the tower," presumably in 1630, "one of the workmen lost his balance and his life in leaning over to catch an apple thrown up to him from below."

(This story occurs with slight difference at several other places.)

I do not feel quite sure that the initials "G. P." or the date are as ancient as the figure, but the latter at any rate appears to be so.

I find that T. Philpotts was vicar (1623 or 1628 to 1638). I had at first thought the long flowing robe to have been clerical.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, ENGLISH BICKNOR.

I.

1. (6) Lady. Plate.
2. Recumbent effigy.

3. Forest stone.
4. A little larger than life, 6 ft. 6 ins.
5. Lady wears wimple and veil, cote high at the neck, with long sleeves; over this a long sur-cote which falls in folds to the feet, and is tucked up under each arm. A mantle hangs over the shoulders and is fastened across the chest with cords.
6. Plain cushion.
7. Dog.
8. None.
- 9.
10. Shows traces of gesso.
11. Nearly perfect.
12. On floor of north aisle.
13. Nowhere to my knowledge.
14. Good.
- 15.

Probably Cecilia, heiress of the Manor of Bicknor in her own right. She married (second wife) Robert de Muchegros of Kemerton. She died 1301.

II.

1. (6) Lady.
2. Recumbent effigy. (Plate.)
3. Red sandstone.
4. Larger than life.
5. Wears wimple and veil, cote with long sleeves. Sur-cote very long, tucked under each arm; mantle over.
6. Cushion.
7. Bracket.
8. None.
9. None. Probably Hawisia de Muchegros, who held the Manor as heiress of Cecilia (*see* previous entry). She married John Lord Ferrars, son and heir of Robert, eighth and last Lord Derby. She died 1350.
10. Shows traces of gesso.



103

CECILIA, 2nd wife of ROBERT DE MUCHEGROS, died 1301.

In North Aisle, English Bicknor Church.



MB

HAWISIA DE MUCHEGROS, died 1350.

In North Aisle, English Bicknor Church.

10. None.
12. Lies by No. 1 in north aisle.
13. (?).
14. Good.

III.

1. (3*b*) Priest in eucharistic vestments.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size.
5. Eucharistic vestments, but neither stole nor maniple are visible.
6. Cushion.
- 7.
8. Now under recessed arch, quite plain.
9. None.
10. None.
11. Head is modern, of wretched workmanship; eyes and nose are mere slits.
12. At present in vestry, on north side of church. Locally known as "the Lady of the Manor." Probably it represents Ralph de Abenhale, presented to the living by Cecilia de Muscegros in 1288, or Walter de Otree, "admitted to the Church" June 23, 1340.
13. *B. & G. Transactions*, vol. i., p. 82; vol. ix., p. 266.
14. Fair.
15. None.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST, RUARDEAN.

Reported by Rev. F. Eales, R.D.

In this church are the fragments of one or more effigies, and a recessed arch in the north wall of the nave, which, however, appears earlier than the remains of the effigies. The fragments consist of—

- (a) A funeral urn, with ornamental cover, all in one stone; in good order.

- (b) Figure of infant boy, reclining; perfect.
- (c) Figure of infant; headless.
- (d) Trunk of large recumbent figure, with folded hands; head and lower part gone, dress perfect.
- (e) Female head, with wimple, nearly life size: does not fit (d).

RURAL DEANERY OF BITTON.

By M. E. B. OAKELEY.

Deanery—BITTON.

Parish—PUCKLECHURCH.

Church of St. Thomas à Becket.

Date of visit, &c.—W. E. B. May 18, 1901.

I.

1. (4) Merchant. (Plate.)
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Stone.
4. Life-size; head rather large, well carved.
5. Recumbent figure, hands together: wears a long robe, with tight sleeves ending below the wrist, and a wrist-band also tight and buttoned. A tippet over the shoulders comes down between shoulders and elbows. In left of the robe is a slit, through which is a cord fastened to a purse. The eyes are open, the hair long and hanging down on each side of the face. A slight moustache and short beard; the upper and lower lips are either partly shaved, or do not grow much hair.
6. Cushion, with knobs at corners, and laid crossways on another cushion.

Supporting angels are at each side.

7. Dog.

8. The figure rests under a flat-topped canopy, with