

PARISH PROFILE

FOR

THARSTON

Compiled from local records



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PARISH PROFILE FOR THARSTON

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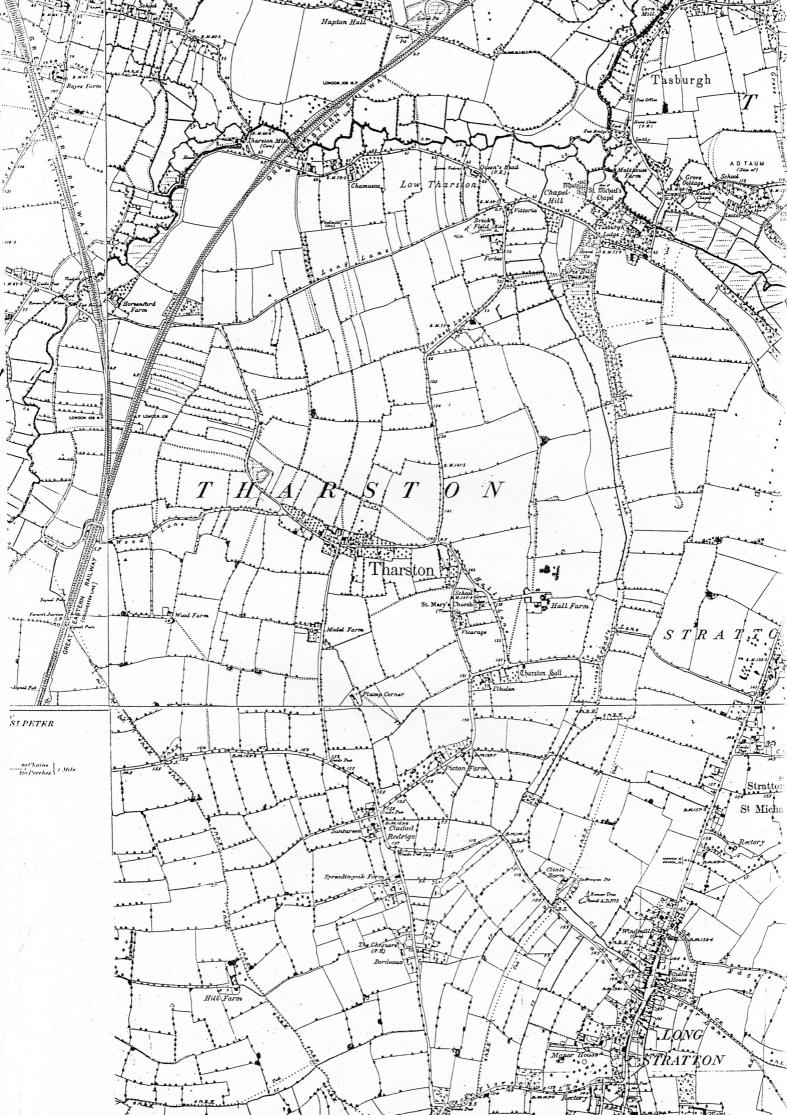
Census Information/Population 1981:1991:1995

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Further Reading





LAND OF ROGER BIGGOT

In KETTLETON 2 Freemen, 7 acres; then ½ plough; now 2 oxen. In HALAS 3 Freemen, 12 acres. Then 1 plough, now ½.

Value of the whole then 60s; now £6.

181 a

The whole of Halas (has) ½ league in length and 4 furlongs in width; tax of 4d. Forncett has 1 league in length and ½ in width; tax of 6½d. Aslacton (has) 1 league in length and ½ in width; tax of 9d. Swanton (has) 11 furlongs in length and 6 [furlongs] and 10 perches in width; tax of 11½d.

In FORNCETT Ulf held 30 acres before 1066.

Always 1 villager; 3 smallholders; 1 slave.

Then and later 1 plough in lordship, now none. Always ½ men's plough; meadow, 6 acres; woodland, 8 pigs. Then 1 cob. Then 3 head of cattle.

In KETTLETON 2 Freemen, 6 acres and in SWANTON 2 Freemen, 6 acres.

In WACTON 1 Freeman, 4 acres.

In MOULTON (St. Michael) 1 Freeman, 10 acres.

In ASLACTON 1 Freeman, 30 acres.

Always 1 plough.

2 smallholders. Meadow, 3 acres.

In TIBENHAM 2 Freemen, 66 acres.

8 smallholders.

Then 2 ploughs, now 11/2 ploughs. Meadow, 3 acres.

In THARSTON 2 Freemen, 45 acres. Then 1 plough, now ½. Meadow, 1 acre.

In STRATTON 1 Freeman, 12 acres.

In SHELTON 1 Freeman, 60 acres.

14 smallholders; 6 villagers; 1 slave.

1½ ploughs in lordship; 2 men's ploughs. Meadow, 3 acres; woodland, 8 pigs.

In HARDWICK 2 Freemen, 35 acres.

5 smallholders.

Always 2 ploughs; meadow, 2 acres; woodland, 2 pigs.

In FRITTON 1 Freeman, 8 acres. 2 oxen.

Value of the whole then 80s; now 100(s) 10d.

The King and the Earl (have) the jurisdiction.

99 Robert of Vaux holds THARSTON which Wulfric held under Stigand, 2 c. of land.

Always 1 villager. Then and later 26 smallholders, now 24. Always 2 ploughs in lordship.

1 church, 40 acres;

value 3s.

Then 2 men's ploughs, now 1, and 1 plough could be restored. Meadow, 12 acres; woodland, 10 pigs; 2 mills. Then 4 cobs.

Now 4 head of cattle. Then 40 pigs, now 20. Then 40 sheep, now 80. 1 beehive.

Also 33 Freemen, 1 c. of land.

Then 8 ploughs, later and now 4. Meadow, 2 acres.

Value then £5 6s; now the same.

It has 1½ leagues in length and 1½ furlongs in width; tax of 15½d.

Robert of Vaux has added 7 free men and a half to this manor; of all his predecessor had the patronage only except for 1 of them who was a Freeman of Stigand's. They have 82 acres. Then and later 3 ploughs, now 2. Meadow, 3 acres. Value 14s.

181 b

100 A(i)lwin of Thetford held HUDESTON, 2 c. of land; now Robert of Courson holds.

Always 1 villager; 21 smallholders; 2 slaves.

Then 1 plough in lordship, now 2. Then and later 3 men's ploughs, now 2. Meadow, 6 acres; woodland, 6 pigs. Always 1 mill; 1 cob; 3 head of cattle; 46 pigs.

Also 11 men in fold-rights and patronage before 1066; they could sell the land but the customary dues remained in the manor. They have 26 acres.

Then 1½ ploughs, now 1.

Also 1 church, 30 acres; meadow, 2 acres; ½ plough.

The King and the Earl (have) the jurisdiction.

Value then 40s; now 70s.

Also 5 Freemen; A(i)lwy had the patronage only of 2 and 1 smallholder, of the third R(obert) Malet's predecessor, of the fourth Ralph Berlang's predecessor and of the fifth Eudo son of Spirwic's predecessor. They have 42 acres. Always 1 plough; meadow, 3 acres.

Value 6s.

The King and the Earl (have) the jurisdiction.

101 Also in HEMPNALL 1 free man under the patronage only of A(i)lwy, 30 acres. 1 plough. Meadow, 1 acre; woodland, 8 pigs. Value 10s. Thorold holds.

DEPWADE Hundred

Nigel holds SHELTON which Aldwin, a free man of Stigand's, held, 30 acres.

Always 1 villager; 9 smallholders and a half.

1 plough in lordship; 1 men's plough; meadow, 2½ acres. Value then 10s; now 20.

260 a

In THARSTON he also holds 1 c. of land (which) 1 free man held.

Always 1 villager; 5 smallholders.

1 plough in lordship; ½ men's plough; meadow, 3 acres; woodland, 4 pigs; 1 mill.

Also 1 free man, 2 acres. 1 cob; 3 head of cattle.

Value then 10s; now 20.

15 Humphrey holds STRATTON which 1 thane held before 1066, 2 c. of land.

Always 17 smallholders; 2 ploughs in lordship. Then 3 men's ploughs, later 2, now 1. Meadow, 6 acres; woodland, 6 pigs; always 1 cob. Then 5 pigs, now 11. Then 10 sheep, now 26; 6 goats.

Also 7 free men, 17 acres, of whom his predecessor had the patronage before 1066 and he has them for land. Then 1

plough; meadow, 1 acre.

Value then 30s; now 40.

Gifard holds FRITTON which Ulfketel, a free man of Edric of Laxfield the predecessor of Robert Malet, held, 30 acres.

3 smallholders.

Then and later 2 ploughs. Then 16 pigs, now 8. Then 6 head of cattle and 60 sheep, now nothing. Always ½ men's plough; meadow, 1½ acres; fold-rights.

Also 7 free men who could sell their land if they had first

offered it to their lord. They have 14 acres.

Also 1 free man, 4 acres. Always ½ plough.

Value always 25s.

It has 1 league in length and ½ in width; tax of 9d. W(illiam) Malet had possession of this land when he went into the marsh.

He also holds in HADDISCOE; 1 Freeman of Stigand's, 30 acres. 3 smallholders.

Then 1 plough; meadow, 4 acres.

And under him 2 Freemen, 4 acres; ½ plough.

Value then 5s; now 11.

18 In IARPESTUNA 1 Freeman of St. Edmund's, 46 acres.

2 smallholders.

Then 1 plough, now 2 oxen.

Value then 20s; now 10.

260 b

This rectory is valued in the King's Books at 5l. stands there by the eme of WACTON-MAGNA Rectory, and being sworn of the clear arly value of 45l. is discharged of first-fruits and tenths, and is apable of augmentation.
The common called Wacton-Great-Green, is rated, and the going

feach beast is usually let off at 12s. per annum.

THARSTON.

HIS village is called by various names in old evidence, as STERS-TUNA, or Steres-Town, Therstun, Testun, Thurston, and Tharston; and was in divers parts at the Conquest, several of them belonging to the manor of Forncet, of which the capital manor was always held at one fee. ULURIC held it of Bishop Stigand at the Confessor's survey, and ROBERT DE VALLIBUS, Vals, or Vauz, of Roger Bigot at the Conqueror's.2 The church had 40 acres of glebe valued at 3s. per annum, the manor was worth 51. 6s, and the town was a league and a half

be baptized were usually brought in by that door, and nothing at all to the

"purpose, was it true."

Now as the author seems to have such an excellent knowledge in antique imagery as to fix exactly the time of a carving by the look of its phyz,* and such sagacity in explaining figures of many centuries duration, "as easily as if their names were wrote over their heads," as is evident from his own words in the mily; I should be very glad to know the age of these figures, or what other interpretation the learned Doctor would Please to put upon such an old painting as this; for as what I have formerly mentioned in relation to this saint, he says is false, (being no advocate for infallibility, though I have quoted the Colden Legend,) if any other explication of his, would come as near the Point, as the relation he hath made out between his Lady Rossia and Robin Hood; I could not but acknowledge his great judgment, and return him the thanks due for such information.

From the steers or young bullocks,

"haptism; 'TIS FALSE, that children to it being probably appropriated for 2 place to breed and bring up young cattle in, in the Saxon times.

9 See vol. ii. p. 110.

THERSTUNA, Doms. fo. 123; see it under Forncet at p. 223, 4.

2 Terra Rogeri Bigoti. Doms.

fo. 123. Depwade hund.

STERESTUNA tenet ROBERTUS DE VALS, quam tenuit ULURICUS sub STI-GANDO ii. car. in dom. i. ecclesia xl. acr. et val. iii. sol. tunc ii. car. hom. modo i. et i. car. posset restaurari xii. acr. prati, silva x. porc. et i. mol. tunc iiii. runcin. modo iiii. anim. tunc xl. porc. modo xx. tunc xl. oves, modo lxxx. et i. vas apum et xxxiii. soc. i. car. terre tunc viii. car. post et modo iiii. et ii. acr. prati tunc valuit v. lib. et vi. sol. et modo similiter et habet i. leug. et dim. in longo, et dim. in lato, et vi. den. et obol. de Gelto.

Huic manerio addidit Robertus DE VALS vii. lib. hom. et dim. de omnibus habuit suus antecessor commendationem tantum, preter ex uno qui fuit socmannus STIGANDI, et habent lxxxii. acr. tunc et post iii. car. modo ii. et iii. acr.

prati, et valent xiii. sol.

* A group made Aug. 10, 1173. A group cut Feb. 2, 1176, &c. Palæog. &c. P. 82. "These figures were made in the year 1188, &c." Ibid. p. 116. 1 Ibid. p. 115. † Ibid. p. 113.

1 Stamford, in 1746,

a terryble and fereful

him in the Legend,

e wall would permit, him, for that says,

st corner towards the on the upper part of

by them Solomon's the same side, is a NNA,3 and AARON'8 nical priesthood; in rete pole in his hand the water;" and on ild, " which prayed when Christopher

affe, and entred the e, and swelled more d alway as he went d th. Chylde more.

ofer had grete Anen he was escaped

set the Chylde a

ast put me in grete

World upon me, I

answered; Chrisonly borne all the

created & made all HRYST the Kyng

se that you know,

Erth by thy Hows,

loures and Fruyte.

1 Christofer set his

owe, he found his

lates."5 And after

ed his name and

ed, I was named

Be Jsm a Ca-orner towards the

n,6 by which we

wer corner of the

all this confirms

3 Saint is always

stood always be-

iptism," notwith-

, &c. Number II.

of p. 63, he adds a his fellow-labourer 13, St. Christopher is orth door, because tized, were usually : allusion to water in

long, and half a league broad, and paid 15d. ob. to the geld. This was after called Nerford's or Thurston-Hall manor.

Another part belonged to Robert Fitz Corbun, 3 which was worth 10s. per annum in rents at the first, and 20s. at the last survey; this constituted the

MANOR OF THARSTON'S, OR ST. OMER'S,

Taking both its names from the lords of it; in 1236, Richard de Tharston was lord, and held it at a quarter of a fee of Robert de Shelton, of whom he purchased it; and Shelton held it of Robert de Tateshale, lord of Bukenham-Castle, from which it had been formerly sold by the Albanys.

In 1317, Richard de Therston and Cecily his wife, settled it on themselves for life, and then on Ralf de St. Omer; and it soon after divided into two parts, for in 1329, Richard and Cecily held one part of Bukenham-Castle at a quarter of a fee, and William Jermy and Ellen his wife, held the other of the said castle, at the other quarter of a fee; but before 1401, St. Omer's part was joined in Will. Rees, Esq. who was lord of this, and

NERFORD'S, LOVENEY'S, OR THARSTON-HALL MANOR,

As it is now called, which continued in the Vauxes a long time; in 1275, John de Vaux had a charter for free-warren here, and in 1285, he had a lete held once a year, but the King's bailiff of the hundred was to be present, or the lord could not hold it, unless he agreed with him yearly; which was afterwards done constantly, till it was bought in perpetuity; and then the lord had view of frankpledge, assise of the bread and ale, and wenf.

In 1238, upon the partition made between the two daughters and coheirs of John de Vaux, Maud married to William de Roos, and Petronel to Will. De Nerford, who had this manor, and that of Shotesham in Norfolk, Wisete in Sutfolk, and the moieties of Holt and Cley; the whole advowson of Holt, with divers knights fees in Thorp, Winch, Bichamwell, Thurneton, Moringthorp, &c. and it continued in

³ Terre Roberti filij Corbutionis. Depwade H. Doms, fo. 270.

In STERSTUNA tenet idem i. car. terre, tenet i. lib. hom, semper i. vill. et v. bord, i. car. in dom, et dim, car. hom, iii. acr. prati, silva iv. porc, et i. mol, et i, lib. homo ii. acr. et i. runcin, et iv. anim, tunc valuit x. sol, modo xx.

4 In 1303, John Jermy and Isabell his wife purchased of Roger de Hales, 3 messuages, 120 acres of land, 4 of meadow, 8 of pasture, 15 of wood, and 20s. rent, in Tharston, Waketon, and Forncet, this was held in Henry the Third's time, by Roger de Wynthsted, by the serjeanty of finding one SLINGER, with a sling to cast stones with, in the King's grmy. Jenmy's manor continued in

that family, and in 1514, Sir Robert Clere, John Shelton, and Sir Philip Boothe, Knt. purchased the wardship and marriage of John Jermy, of Thomas Duke of Norfolk, for 100%. which John, in 1526, was a kn ght, and lord here; in 1561, Francis Jermy had livery of it, and in 1609, Robert Cock, Junior, had it, and held it of Forncet manor, and soon after it seems to be purchased of George and Francis Cocke, Gents. by Sir Edw. Clere, Knt. and joined to the other manor.

See for many of this family at p. 43, 4.
6 Placita Corone apud Norwic, in crast.
Sci. Hillarij A. 15 E. I. Rot. 16 in
dorso.

he Nerfords; for after the death of William and Petronel, John de deford and Agnes his wife, in 1328, settled this, Shotesham Nerford's, the advowson of Pentney priory, the church of Holt, &c. in Norfolk, advowson of Rumburgh priory, Wisete manor, &c. in Suffolk, on hemselves and their heirs, in tail. This AGNES was daughter of filliam de Bereford, sister and heir of Edm. de Bereford, widow to John Argenteyn, and married after Nerford's death, to John Mautrars, senior; she died seized in 1375, of this and Shotisham, and they went to John de Brewse son of Peter de Brewse, Knt. and Margery his rife, who was a Nerford; and Kat. de Brewse, his sister, a nun at Dertford, released her right in it. In 1383, Sir John settled it on William de Cobham and William de Bergh, his trustees.

Sir Thomas Roos of Hamlake, Knt. and Beatrix his wife, who deseended from Maud, the other daughter and coheir of Vaux, had it; and in 1894, Margery de Nerford released and conveyed all right in

WILLIAM Roos or REES, Esq. and his heirs, who held it in 1403, of Thomas Mowbray's manor of Forncet, at one fee. In 1410, this William Rees, Esq. by will gave his two manors in Therston, the one called Nerford's, and the other St. Omer's, to be sold by his executors, with his manors of Caxton and Wrotyng in Cambridgeshire, to found a chantry in the college of St. Mary in the Fields in Norwich, and to pay Sir Thomas the anchorite near that college, 2s. a week for life; and soon after it was sold to William Loveney, and after purchased by

Sir Robert Clere, Knt. who held it in 1432, and it passed in that family as Keswick, at p. 44. In 1549, Sir John Clere was lord, and the manors were valued at 30l. but he manumised much, and died Aug. 21, 1557, leaving Sir Edward his son and heir, then 25 years old, who was to permit Sir Richard Fulmerstone, and his other executors, to take the profits for 5 years, to pay a legacy to Walter Haddon his son. He made a long lease of the demeans, to John Woolmer, and settled the manor as at p. 166. He left it to Sir Edward Clere of Ormesby his son and heir, who sold it to John Smith, Esq. 2 of Ameringhall, and he in 1617, to Sir Thomas Knyvet of Ashwelthorp, Knt. when there were 319 acres 3 roods and an half of copy-hold, which paid 101. 2s. 3d. quitrents, besides 6 capons, 2 hens, 3 geese, 10 eggs, bushels of oats, 7 days work and an half in harvest, 7 days work in winter, half a day's work in hay-seele, and half a day's work in weeding; which were even now paid in kind. The freehold rents of

Esch. 49 E. III. No 17. Eleanor her daughter and heiress by Mautravers, married John son of Richard Earl of Arundel. Sir John her son and heir, by John Argenteyn, was 50 years old at his mother's death. Sir John Nerford, Knt. her husband, died 3 E. III. 1329, and Sir Thomas Nerford his brother and heir, died 18 E. 3,1344, leaving Sir John Nerford, Knt.his son and heir.
Vol. iv. p. 175, 6.

It seems as if his wife Margery was BREWS, for he gives legacies to SirRob. Brewes, Knt. Will. Appleyard his brother, and to Thomas Uvedale, and Margaret his wife.

1 Scitum manerij i. mes. 60 acr. terre 31 acr. prati, 120 acr. pasture, 80 acr. bosci nuper parcel. manerij post mortem Johannis Woolmer descendebant Anne uxori Roberti Wood, Elize. uxori Henrici Bastard, et Francisce Woolmer filiabus et co-heredibus ejus.

Wood purchased all the parts.

3 In 1616, John Smith covenanted to convey to Francis Jones, alderman of London, and Will. Webb of Ewston, this manor, which the said John Smith, together with Dame Agnes Clere, widow, his mother, purchased of Sir Edward Clere, Knt. but it did not take place.

ancient tenure, were 61. 2s. 4d. per annum, 12 capons, 5 hens, 1 comb of wheat, half a pound of pepper, and one July-flower. The freehold rents of the new purchases or manumissions, were 21.7s. 5d. one capon and one red rose. The rents of 159 acres of demeans granted of free, 61. 17s. ob. and one capon. The profits of the court one year with another, 81.10s. The lord hath had a warren of coneys at Holmehill, and hath letten Holme chapel to farm. It then paid 3d. per annum to Forncet, and 1s. to Stratton manors. In 1626, Thomas Knevet of Ashwellthorp, Esq. sold it to

ROBERT WOOD of Bracon-Ash, Esq. and it hath passed ever since. as at p. 84, and Thomas Wood, Esq. of Bracon-Ash, is now lord.

WELHOLME'S OR WELHAM'S MANOR

Laid in Stratton St. Michael, and this town, for which see p. 202. Before the Welholmes removed to their new made manor-house at Stratton, they dwelt in the old site of their manor by Holm-hill in this parish, to which belonged an ancient free-chapel dedicated to St. Giles, called Holme or Welholme's chapel; the site of which now belongs to the manor of Tharston: and on account of this it is, that we often meet with the churches of Tharston mentioned, but the manor united to STRATTON-HALL.

The advowson of the rectory of the church of St. Mary the Virgin at Thurston was given in King Stephen's time, to the priory of PENT-NEY in Norfolk, by Rob. de Vaux, founder of that house, to which it was appropriated before 1273;3 it was first valued at 15, after at 18 marks, and had a house and 40 acres of glebe. The vicarage is valued in the King's Books, by the name of Thurston, at 51. Is. 8d. and being sworn of the clear yearly value of 45l. it is discharged of firstfruits and tenths, and is capable of augmentation. It paid 7s. 8d. procurations, 16d. syuodals, 16d. Peter-pence, and 7d. carvage; and in 1571, the Queen's receiver general paid to the vicar out of the impropriate tithes, a yearly pension of 31. 68. 8d. There was a GILD held in honour of the Blessed Virgin, and the following religious persons had temporalities valued as follow; the Prior of Thetford monks at 2s.; the Abbot of Creke 6d.; the Prior of Bukenham 2s.; the Prior of Norwich 4s. 6d.; and it paid clear to every tenth 4l. 12s.

The CHURCH hath a square steeple and four bells, the nave is leaded, the chancel and north porch are tiled.

There are two monuments of black marble thus inscribed,

Here resteth the Body of ROBERT WOOD Esq; Sonn and Heire to Sir Robert Wood of Aylesham in the County of Norfoll Knt. who departed this Life in this Parish the 23 Day of May 1023. Here also resteth the Body of Anne Wood, Wife to

holm, mentioned in a deed without date. 1280, Robert son of Rob. de Wel- Field near Ulsonne's-Street in Tharston. Inne and Lucy his wife, had it; in + See vol. ii. p. 110, 12. holme and Lucy his wife, had it; in 1295, Tho de Welhelme of Thurston

Thomas son of Alexander de Welgranted land to John son of Henry de
blin, mentioned in a deed without date.
Welholme or Welham, at Welholme's

⁵ See p. 84.

the said Robert, Daughter and one of the Co-heirs of Robert Woolmer Esq; sometimes Clark of the Assizes for this Circuit; the said Anne departed this Life at her House at Brakene-Ash in this County, the 7th Day of Jan. 1646. The said Robert and Anne had Issue 3 Sons and 2 Daughters, Sir Robert their eldest Son, married Elizabeth the 3d Daughter of Sir Thomas Richardson Knt. late Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Edmond their 2d Son, married the Daughter of William Adams of Patterchurch in the County of Pembrookeshire Esq; Phillip 3d Sonn un-married. Frances their eldest Daughter married Thomas Fletcher of St. Edmonds-Bury in the County of Suffolk Esq; Alice the youngest Daughter married Inthony Penning of Little-Baddo in the County of Essex Esq.

Here lieth the Body of JOHN WOOLMER Esq: sometimes Clark of the Assizes for this Circuit; a Man of excellent Learning, ingenuous Conversation, and of singular Piety and Integrity of Lite; and the Body of ALICE his Wife, a modest, discreet, industrious and religious Gentlewoman, both which have left behind them a perpetual good Name, answerable to such everliving Vertues. The said John Woolmer died in this Towne, the 2 Dec. 1593, and Alice his Wife died at Croxton in this County's the 9th of Dec. 1610, after they had enjoyed each other the space of 32 Years; they left Issue 3 Daughters, Anne the eldest, married to Robert Hood of this Town Esq; who had Issue 3 Sonns, Robert, Edmund, and Phillip; and two Daughters, Frances and Alice; ALICE the 2d Daughter married to Henry Eastard of Great-Dunham in this County Gent. who had Issue 6 Sonus, Richard, Henry, Robert, Thomas, Leonard, and John; and 5 Daughters, Elizabeth, Anne, Margaret, Alice, and Frances; FRANces the youngest, married to Mathew Good of Croaton aforesaid Gent. and had Issue 4 Sonns, Woolmer, Mathew, Thomas, and Francis; and one Daughter Catherine.

Hoc pietatis Monumentum posuit. Matheus Goad, 28 Junij 1617.

VICARS

PRESENTED BY THE PRIORS OF PENTNEYE.

1273, Roger.

1306, Stephen de Shotesham.

1319, Roger de Beccles.

1349, Stephen de Bowthorp. 1412, John Redgrave, resigned.

1414, Tho. Edwards, resigned. 1416, John Marye, resigned.

1420, Edm. Ovisson, or Quysson, resigned.

1427, Simon Towe, resigned.

1436, Tho. Umfrey, ob. 1439, Rob. Caley.

1455, Henry Stevenson.

Sec vol, ii. p. 154.