

Potted History



In the chancel of the Old Church, half hidden under the altar, lies the grave of Henry Wicks Esq. 1580-1657. His finely carved tombstone describes him as "*pius, just and very charitable, a true and real Christian*".



Coat of Arms for Henry Wicks Esq.
(Azure, a fess wavy between 3 towers, 2 and 1)

It seems that as a young man he joined the 'Office of Works' as a junior clerk during the reign of **Elizabeth I** and quickly rose through the ranks to become the Paymaster, under Indigo Jones during the reign of **James I** and would have been involved in the construction of many of London's famous buildings like the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall and the Queens House, Greenwich. Apparently, when **King Charles I** was executed in 1649 at the end of the Civil War he owed "a great deal of money" to Henry Wicks who, by this time, was wealthy with properties in Chobham, Stanwell, St. Martins-in-the-Field and in Covent Garden where he probably lived.

He retired to Shere and became a friend of the Rector of Albury, the mathematician, William Oughtred.

Researched by Miss Caroline Martin

Henry Wicks 1580 - 1657

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He was born in 1580 and as a young man in Elizabeth I's time joined the Office of Works as a junior clerk. In the reign of King James I he rose to become Paymaster under the architect Inigo Jones, and so must have been involved in the construction of such buildings as the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall and the Queen's House, Greenwich. There are no fiscal accounts after 1640 with the Civil War brewing and at his death, Wicks said he was owed a "great sum of money" by the late King Charles I and was also due his fee as Paymaster from that time. He was wealthy with properties in Chobham, Stanwell, Staines, St Martin-in-the-Fields and in Covent Garden where he probably lived, but at the end of his life he retired to Shere and became a friend of the Rector of Albury, the mathematician William Oughtred.

His will "on four sheets of paper", possibly written or dictated by Wicks himself does not start with the customary "I, XYZ being of sound mind..." but, feeling the imminence of his own death (he died four months later) began "Calling to mind the death of man in this earthly world is most certain, but the time so uncertain, and therefore being desirous and willing to have nothing to do with the things of this world as such time it shall please Almighty God to put a period to this mortal life do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament."

He commends his soul to God, and as was customary at that time gave to the poor of Staines and St Martin-in-the-Fields £10 each, to those in Shere £6 and to the poor of Albury £4. His will includes bequests to "my good friend William Oughtred now Rector of Albury £10 as a token of my love and to my honoured friend the Lady Baskerville £20 to buy her a ring to wear in remembrance of me". Properties in Covent Garden, together with the vinegar yards (yards for storing vinegar casks) in St Martin-in-the Fields and Covent Garden (both then in Middlesex) were left to his cousin and executor John Higend, and those in Chobham, Stanwell and Staines temporarily to John Higden and then to his kinsman Robert Durdant the younger on the death of his father, another Robert, who in his lifetime was to receive only the rents of these properties, without any claim to them, and an annuity of £20.

Other bequests include those to cousins, friends and godchildren, and one of £10 to "my good friend Mrs Smith", together with £5 to each of her children "as a token of my love to them", £3 to her manservant and 20/- (£1) each to her maidservants.

He may have lodged for a while with his "loving friend" James Rice to whom he left £50 and "all such bedding and household stuff of mine as they have now in use in their house (except plate)" i.e. pewter and silver, and latterly with his servant Arthur Haughton to whom he gave £50 for the same reason together with other money due from the Royal Exchequer because he took him in and cared for him at the end.

The "four sheets of paper", signed and sealed, were verified as his will by five witnesses including William Oughtred and his son Benjamin.

Caroline M Martin

With thanks to the staff at the Surrey History Centre, Woking

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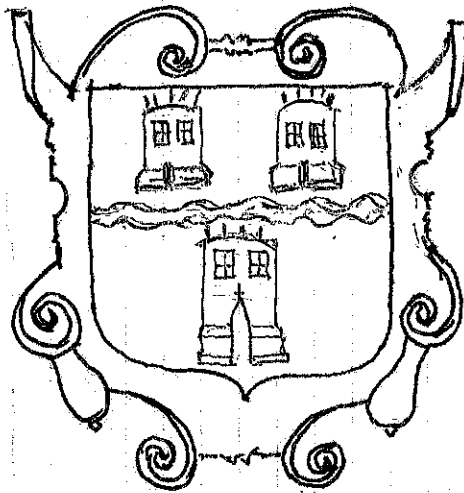
The "four sheets of paper", signed and sealed, were verified as his will by five witnesses including William Oughtred and his son Benjamin.

Caroline J. Martin.

With thanks to the staff at the Surrey History Centre, Woking.

WEST

3' 2"



11' 9"

HERE LYETH INTERRED Y^E BODY
 OF HENRY WICKS ESQ A MAN PIOUS
 JUST WISE AND VERY CHARITABLE
 A TRVE & REAL CHRISTIAN WHO
 IN HIS LIFETIME SERVED THREE
 PRINCES OF THIS LAND QUEENE
 ELIZABETH KING JAMES AND KING
 CHARLES IN Y^E WORSHIPFULL OFFICE
 OF PAY M^R OF THEIR MA^{TIES} WORKS
 WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE VPON Y^E
 THIRD DAY OF OCTOBER 1657 BEING
 AGED 77 YEARES THAT W^H IN HIM
 WAS MORTAL RESTETH HERE IN
 EXPECTATION OF A BLESSED RESVR
 RECTION AND HIS IMMORTAL SOYLE
 IN THE HANDS OF HIS REDEEMER

EAST

MEMORIAL SLAB IN THE CHANCEL

THE OLD CHURCH ALBURY SURREY

Google: Albury Henry Wickes
 World WYKES web Wykes Heraldry Surrey
 "Henry Wickes Esq" Late Paymaster of
 His Majesties Works overall England, Paymaster
 to Elizabeth I, James I, Charles I. He died
 1657 77 years old "

Honourment in the old Saxon Church in
 Albury Park near Guildford Surrey.

Caroline M. Martin 9/2009
 Amended 3/2013

Arms:

" Azure a fess
 wavy between
 three towers,
 2 and 1 "

Granted 20 Feb.
 1649

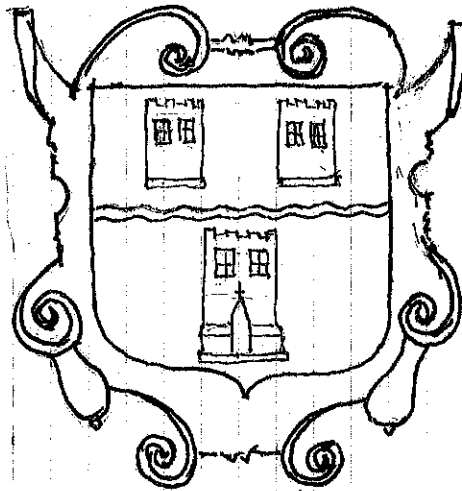
Victoria County
 History of Surrey.

Grantees of Arms
 K end of 17 century

Harleian Society
 1915

WEST

3' 2"



HERE LYETH INTERRED ^E BODY
OF HENRY WICKS ESQ A MAN PIOUS
IVST WISE AND VERY CHARITABLE
A TRVE & REAL CHRISTIAN WHO
IN HIS LIFETIME SERVED THREE
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WAS MORTAL RESTETH HERE IN
EXPECTATION OF A BLESSED RESVR
RECTION AND HIS IMMORTAL SONLE
IN THE HANDS OF HIS REDEEMER

6' 7"

EAST

MEMORIAL SLAB IN THE CHANCEL
THE OLD CHURCH ALBURY SURREY

Philip Johnstone. Arch. + H. Office of Works
1919-1920

? Surrey. Arch. Soc.

Albury Old Church.

13, KINGSMEAD

TOLSE HILLS

Summary of Discoveries resulting from excavations August 13th
to August 30th 1919.

1. Chancel. Encaustic tiles, 13th cent. patterns (3 varieties), about 4½" square: also plain red tiles of the same size and a few of triangular shape. These may belong to the 12th cent. chancel.

A quantity of rubble, stone & chalk, was thrown up & has been kept for future use in repairs.

The foundations of an older E. wall than the present were met with at about 9' 6" from inside face of existing E. wall, showing that the chancel was that much shorter in the 12th century, and that it had a square E. end, not an apse.

The extension to the existing length of 26' 3" internally would seem to have been made in about 1250, and the lancet windows that were then introduced in the new E. wall were destroyed to give place to the present Late Perpendicular windows in about 1480. The internal arches of this window by the jambs are those of the 13th century lancets, worked up anew.

2. The Sanctuary space was not excavated. Here is the ledge of slate covering the grave of Henry Wickes, servant to Queen Elizabeth, James I & Charles I, who died in 1657.

With the assistance of D. A. V. Peasling, F.S.A., I excavated the Western part of the Chancel, and we found on the S. Side the leaden Coffin of Abel Allegne, re-builder of Weston House, who died in 1727, at the early age of thirty-eight. It bore a breast-plate inscribed with his name, age &c. Another lead Coffin was found on the S. to the westward, and two others on the N. side, all without inscription: also a quantity of bones in the soil, some in wooden Coffins others loose, representing many Centuries of interment within the Chancel. The bricked grave of Sarah Shubrick in the centre of the Chancel, near the Sanctuary Step, was not disturbed. d. Nov. ~~18~~²¹? 1832

3. The footings of the Norman chancel on the S. were found to be about 1.3" within those of the 13th century wall at the east end of the 12th century work. The foundations of the Saxon Chancel E. wall (now the E. wall of the Tower) were found to continue beneath the Norman Chancel arch across the Chancel, in confirmation of my theory that the Saxon Church terminated eastward with the area now occupied by the Norman axial tower.

4. The Sussex marble Coffin slab, which I have already reported finding, and a large oblong slab of Sussex marble, about 7" thick, were found lying against the N. wall of the Nave, covering

H.M. Colvin. The History of the King's Works Vol III
1485-1660 pt. I. 1975

Chapter VII

THE SURVEYORSHIP OF INIGO JONES, 1615-43

INIGO JONES entered office on 1 October 1615. Describing the circumstances of his surveyorship some fifty years later, John Webb wrote:

The Office of His Majesty's Works, of which [Inigo Jones] was Supreme Officer, having through extraordinary Occasion, in the Time of *His* Predecessor, contracted a great Debt, amounting unto several thousands of Pounds, *He* was sent for to the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, to give them *His* Opinion, what course might be taken to ease His Majesty of it, the *Exchequer* being empty, and the Workmen clamorous; when *He* of *His* own accord voluntarily offered, not to receive one Penny of *His* own Entertainment, in what kind soever due, until the Debt was fully discharged: And this was not only performed by *Him Himself*, but upon *His* persuasion *His* fellow Officers, the then Comptroller, and Pay-master condescended to do the like also, whereby the whole Arrears were absolutely cleared.¹

The events which Webb describes probably belong to 1617. The Paymaster, Andrew Kyrwyn, died in March of that year and in April the workmen became, as Webb puts it, 'clamorous'. They addressed a petition to the Council begging that wages twelve months in arrear should be paid and stating that they had pawned or sold their 'household goods and stuff' to live and had nothing left.² Kyrwyn, clearly, had withheld wages in the last year of his life. His last account, ending 30 September 1615, shows the Exchequer owing him £473 18s. 5¼d. This is far from the 'several thousands of pounds' alleged by Webb;³ but the account was only declared in 1620 by which time all claims had been settled so that the figure shows the indebtedness of the Exchequer to the Paymaster at the date of declaration and not the actual state of affairs in 1617 which may, for a time, have been more critical. The account for the next year, ending 30 September 1616, shows an increased debt to the Paymaster of £486 12s. 0¾d., all but the small increase being now owing to Kyrwyn's brother-in-law (who was also his widow's executor) William Swarland.⁴ The next account (year ending 30 September 1617) contains a revelation. It seems that Andrew Kyrwyn had received before his death a sum of £568 17s. 0d. from Zachary Bethell, gentleman usher to the queen, for works at Somerset House.⁵ This was an unusual source for Works revenue and the payment had apparently been overlooked or just possibly concealed. It at once extinguished the debt to Kyrwyn's estate and left a balance of £82 4s. 11¼d. due from Swarland to the new paymaster, Henry Wicks. This Swarland declined to pay and the amount was carried forward in the accounts till 1630-31 when he was prosecuted by the Clerk of the Pipe and discharged the debt.⁶

¹ J. Webb, *A Vindication of Stone-Heng Restored* (1665; 2nd ed., 1725), p. 119.

³ E 351/3249.

⁴ E 351/3250.

⁵ E 351/3251.

⁶ E 351/3264.

² SP 14/97/ no. 49.

As disclosed in the accounts the story is rather less spectacular than in Webb's version. Not only are the sums involved smaller but the act of self-denial on the part of Jones and his colleagues can have served only to bridge an awkward gap between the crisis of April 1617 and the confirmation of the former payments to Kyrwyn on behalf of the queen. There is no reason to suppose that Jones and his colleagues were not eventually paid in full.¹

After this episode Wicks carried forward a 'surplusage' or debt to himself of thirty or forty pounds for some years. In 1623-4 this increased to more than £90 and in 1625-6 was over £660.² The high expenditure in these years began with urgent preparations at St. James's and Greenwich in anticipation of the Spanish marriage and ended with the king's extravagant scheme of building a nine-mile brick wall round Theobalds Park to preserve the game. For this, special warrants were issued under the privy seal in 1620 and 1622. In 1635-6 and 1636-7 there was again a heavy debt, again related to the incidence of a special privy seal warrant, this time for the painting of the Banqueting House as a setting for the Rubens ceiling.³ Already in November 1635 Inigo Jones's salary had been in arrears for two years to the extent of £45 12s. 6d. and Nicholas Stone's (the Master Mason) to the extent of £59 6s. 3d.⁴ The accounts for these years were never declared but, as engrossed and audited, they show that the arrears were eventually paid.

Although privy seal warrants for sums which proved inadequate, from time to time upset the equilibrium of Works finance, in general the money for the work in hand was supplied as required under the warrant dormant of 1608. This was confirmed in 1618 and again, at the beginning of Charles I's reign, in 1625.

Works expenditure on the main accounts from the beginning of Jones's surveyorship in 1615 till 1640—the date of the last account to be engrossed—totalled £259,106. This excludes buildings for which there were separate accounts: the Queen's House at Greenwich, the Banqueting House at Whitehall, the Queen's Chapels at St. James's and Somerset House and some work at Oatlands. The following figures give the relative expenditure on the seven most costly palaces as recorded in the twenty-five years (1615-40) of the extant main accounts:

Whitehall	£52,469 (average £2098 p.a.)
Hampton Court	22,037 (average £881 p.a.)
Greenwich	18,671 (average £746 p.a.)
Richmond	15,120 (average £604 p.a.)
Somerset House	14,369 (average £574 p.a.)
Newmarket	12,014 (average £480 p.a.)
St. James's	11,745 (average £469 p.a.)

Comparing these figures with those given for the surveyorships of Simon Basil and his predecessor, Cuningham (page 119), it will be seen how far the level of expenditure was reduced from that earlier period. Even if we take the Banqueting

¹ The accounts for 1614-15 and 1615-16 were declared in 1620; those for 1616-17, 1617-18, 1618-19 and 1619-20 in 1623. A block of annual accounts commencing 1 October 1620 and ending 30 September 1629 was declared in 1633. The accounts for 1629-30 and 1630-31 were declared in 1638. There were no further declarations under Charles I.

² E 351/3257 and 3259.

³ E 351/3269 and 3270; E 407/129.

⁴ SP 16/301, no. 9.

House into account the Whitehall average is still only £2723 as against £4000 in the first decade of James I's reign; if we add the cost of the chapel at Somerset House, the average becoming £814, that is still only one quarter of the average expenditure in the earlier period. In short, the great era of Stuart extravagance was over before Inigo Jones's surveyorship began.

Webb describes Jones's position in the King's Works as that of 'supream officer', an expression which perhaps deliberately underlines a degree of superiority over the general staff which would certainly not have been noticeable in Basil's case and perhaps not in that of any Surveyor since Sir Richard Lee. But Jones had a large and able staff and this is the appropriate moment at which to examine it. Of its general quality we have the assurance of a well-informed writer of 1667 who, looking back thirty years or more, claimed that 'there was . . . scarcely any one office in his Ma^{ty} Court of greater reputation both for able officers, good conduct, frugality of expence, and sure payment, then the office of his works.'¹

We have already seen that the Comptroller, Thomas Baldwin, had come into office in 1606. He would be forty-seven at Jones's accession and was probably of rather better family than most of the men in the office. Born at Watford he either inherited or acquired property at Berkhamsted where, in St. Peter's Church, there is a monument carved by Nicholas Stone and erected by Baldwin's widow after his death in 1641. He also owned a share in some springs near Hyde Park which he leased very profitably to the Crown and the rents from which he left in his will to be divided between the poor of the parishes of Watford, Berkhamsted and St. Martin-in-the-Fields.² Although probably an administrator rather than a surveyor or architect, he is known to have provided the 'devise' for the Jesus Hospital at Bray, Berkshire, in 1623.³ Erected by the Fishmongers' Company in pursuance of the will of William Godard (d. 1609), the hospital was completed in 1628. It is a quadrangular brick building in the vernacular style, devoid of Jonesian influence.⁴ Baldwin was succeeded in the comptrollership by his nephew, Francis Wethered, on 28 June 1641.⁵

The Paymaster, on Jones's accession, was Andrew Kyrwyn.⁶ He was, as we have seen, the perhaps rather dubious central figure in the affair of the surplusages. Dying in 1617 he was succeeded by Henry Wicks, his clerk, who had had the reversion since 1606 and had before that risen from being a junior clerk to being clerk engrosser. Wicks served from 1617, when he was about 37, till the Civil War. At his death in 1657, aged 77, he owned land at Sheere and Albury in Surrey and was friendly with William Oughtred, the famous mathematician, who was rector of Albury from 1610. He also had property at Staines and Stanwell, Middlesex,

¹ Shaftesbury papers, P.R.O., 30/24/7.

² H. Chauncy, *History and Antiquities of Herts.*, ii (1826), pp. 364, 542, 549. Baldwin's will, P.C.C. 90 Evelyn. The 'Visitations of Herts., 1572-1634', *Harl. Soc.*, vol. 22 (1886), p. 125, give a genealogy of Baldwin of Red Heath.

³ Guildhall Library, records of the Fishmongers' Company, Court Minutes, ii (12 May 1623). I am indebted to Miss Priscilla Metcalf for this information and to the Clerk of the Fishmongers' Company for permission to include it.

⁴ *V.C.H., Berks.* iii (1923), p. 111.

⁵ Wethered had been Surveyor of the Mews (*Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1625-6, p. 658; 1628-9, p. 378; 1637-8, p. 13). He was the son of Francis Wethered who married Baldwin's sister Joan. He lived at Ashlyns in Berkhamsted and presented a marble font to the church there after the Restoration (*V.C.H. Herts.* ii, p. 175).

⁶ For his origins see above, p. 107.

Chobham, Surrey, and in Covent Garden. He was uncle of Andrew Durdant who came into the Works as a clerk in 1615-16, godfather to the eldest son of another clerk, Nicholas Haughton, executor of the will of Francis Dod, the Purveyor, who died in 1618, and the 'lovinge and kind friend' of Nicholas Stone the Master Mason who thus describes him in his will. Wicks is buried at Albury where a monument describes him as a 'Man pious, just, wise, and very charitable; a true and reall Christian'. The inscription also states that he served Elizabeth I, as well as her two successors, as Paymaster, a statement oddly at variance with the documents. Wicks's will indicates that he died with a considerable sum owing to him from the Works.¹

The Master Mason in 1615 was William Cure, son of the previous holder of the office, Cornelius Cure, who had died in 1607. He conducted the family workshop in Southwark which produced many important monuments of the period.² Perhaps because this work was more profitable than work for the Crown or perhaps for some personal reason, Cure failed to undertake the conduct of the masonry work at the Banqueting House in 1619.³ On this account his wage was suspended from 1 June 1619 till 28 February 1621,⁴ though restored to him in the latter year. Meanwhile, Nicholas Stone was appointed 'chief mason' for the Banqueting House.⁵ Cure continued to hold office till his death in 1632 when Stone succeeded him.

Nicholas Stone, who was Master Mason from 1632 till the Civil War, was a major figure in the architecture and monumental sculpture of his time. Born near Exeter, probably in 1587, he came to London and was apprenticed to Isaac James, a sculptor of Dutch origin working in Southwark.⁶ When Hendrik de Keyser came to London in 1606 to study the Royal Exchange in connection with proposals for a similar building in Amsterdam, Stone attached himself to him, joined his workshop in Amsterdam and eventually, in 1613, married his daughter Maria. He then returned to London and set up business in Long Acre where he flourished as a leading mason-sculptor till 1641, the date of his last recorded monument (which happens to be that of Baldwin, the Comptroller, already mentioned). In 1640 he was 'disposed to bee but sickly' and he seems to have suffered imprisonment during the Civil War. He died in 1647, his wife and second son following him in the same year. They were buried in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields where the eldest son, Henry, erected a mural monument to his father.⁷

Stone's first connection with the King's Works was in 1619 when, owing to Cure's defection, he was appointed chief mason for the Banqueting House by warrant of the commissioners entrusted with its erection.⁸ He was then about 32. The appointment lasted only till 1621 after which he was occasionally employed on task-work—for instance, in the replacement of the old dial in the Privy Garden at Whitehall in 1621-2.⁹ He was appointed master-mason and architect at Windsor

¹ P.C.C. Wills of Francis Dodd, 123 Meade; Nicholas Stone, 31 Essex; Henry Wicks, 440 Ruthen; O. Manning and W. Bray, *History of Surrey*, ii (1809), p. 128.

² K. A. Esdaile, *English Monumental Sculpture since the Renaissance*, (1927), pp. 122-24; M. Whinney, *Sculpture in Britain 1530-1830* (1964), p. 17.

³ Hist. MSS. Comm., *4th Report* (Cranfield papers), 1873, p. 310. ⁴ E 351/3256.

⁵ W. L. Spiers, *The Note-book and Account Book of Nicholas Stone*, Walpole Soc., vii (1918-19), p. 4.

⁶ W. L. Spiers, *op. cit.*, p. 2; K. A. Esdaile, *English Church Monuments*, (1946), pp. 47, 75 and 82; M. Whinney, *op. cit.*, pp. 24 ff.

⁷ W. L. Spiers, *op. cit.* pp. 1-13.

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

⁹ E 351/3255.

" Small brass in N. wall, framed into tablet
commem's H. Wickes, a servant of Queen Elij:
King James & K. Charles 1657

12 c. chancel gate, New C. 1550

H+B: p. 129 On marble under Comm. Table (1809)
Brass tablet N. wall of N. chancel? Latin inscription 17/2/1709
No mention of Wickes's brass.

" To Anthony Duncombe 1709 is on the N. wall of the nave
It consists of a brass plate framed into a grey stone or marble slab
with a beautiful scroll design in silver relief on the frame.
Mr. Hill stephenson conjectures that Anth. Dunc. composed the
verses on the brass plate and that this was engraved in his
lifetime, the date of his decease being filled in by a different hand.
There are 6 couplets in Latin (Roman capitals) and a trans
also in 6 couplets, headed

Epitaph in English thus:

From gloomy clouds the sun still glides away,
And from black night results the break^d day:
Thus, my dear bones will quit this dark abode,
Raised by the voice of an almighty God:

And you, kind reader! must resign your breath,
Shatter'd by sickness, and subdued by death;

Thus to ye grave descend, & thence must come

At the great audit, to receive your doom;
Go then, believe, see, lay these truths to heart,
Truths, from my tomb, I solemnly impart,
And Truths, which from that world will when ye love
And guide ~~to~~ yr soul to yon bless'd world above.

Tabellam, suam spectas hic in fixam, religuiter exuvias
vras ad resurrectionem noster dependas exoptavir

Ad: Gene: svi devila decessir 17 die feb:

Ad Dni

1709

Shield surrounded by arms of Duncombe - 3 Tablets head
... crest coronet on a hooped lay covered at the three
shoe arg.

was on N. wall chancel moved to nave 1875

In the name of God: Amen;

The sixth day of June in the yeare of our Lord one Thousand six hundred fiftie seven I Henry Wicks of the parische of Shere in the County of Surrey Esq^r. Callinge to minde the death of man in this earthlye world is most certain but the time so uncertaين And therefore being desirous and willing to have nothing to doo with the thinges of this world as such time as it shall please Almightye God to putt a period to this mortall life

Doo make and ordaine this (to be) my last will and Testament in manner and forme following (that is to say) ffirst I doo render and yeld my Soule unto Almightye God the maker and creator thereof hoping and stedfastly believinge that through the meritts death and passion of my blessed Saviour Jesus Christ the same shall enjoy eternall life in heaven among the glorious Angells and blessed Saints And my bodie to the earth to be decently interred And for such meanes and estate wh^{ch} God in his goodnes and mercy hath bestowed upon me

I doo freely dispose of as followeth (that is to saie) I give to the poore of Graies tenne pounds and to the poore of the parish of St. Martin in the fieldes tenne poundes And to the poore of the said parish of Shere where I nowe reside six poundes And to the poore of the parish of Albury ffoure poundes And to my good friend Mr. William Doughtred nowe Rector of Albury the summe of tenne poundes as a token of my love Item I give to my honoured friend the Lady Basherwill twenty poundes to buy her a rize to weare in remembrance of me And I give and devise and bequeath unto my Cousin John Higdon the elder and Johanna his wife my neice and the heires of the body of the saide John Higdon on the body of the saide Johanna begotten and to be begotten All my messuages Stables Coachhouses landes Tenements and heritedaments in Covent Garden and vinegar yards in the parishes of St. Martin in the fieldes and St. Paule in Covent garden in the countie of Middlsex, Item I give and bequeath to my saide Cousin John Bigdon and his heires during the life only of Robert Durdant my kinsman oldest Sonne of my nephewe Andrew Durdant deceased All those my messuages landes Tenements and heritedaments in Staines and Stanwell in the County of Middx and in Chobham in the County of Surrey upon this trust and confidence that the saide John Higdon and his heires shall permitt suffer him the saide Robert Durdant from time to time during the Terme of his life to have receive(?) and take the rents and profits thereof (which shall yearlye growe dues payable for the saide last mentioned premises He the saide Robert committing no waste upon the same And for as the same Robert Durdant (after my decease) and within one month after request to be made to him shall make and execute to the saide John Higdon and his wife

and the heirs between them as aforesaid such good and sufficient release conveyance and assurance in Lawe of the said messuages landes and premises by me to them devised as aforesaid in St. Martin in the Fields and St. Paule Covent Garden as to them or any of their heirs or any of their Councell learned in the Lawe shall be reasonably devised or advised and required to them that the said John Higdon and his wife and their children may enjoy the same free from the clayme of the said Robert Durdant and his heirs And from and after the decease of the said Robert Durdant then I doo give and devise the said last mentioned landes and premises in Straines Stanwell and Chobham unto the heires male of the body of him the said Robert Durdant nowe living and to such other heires male or female as he shall hereafter happen to have of his body and for want of such heires then to the use and behoof of my cousin Gideon Durdant and the heires of his body And for want of such heires the same to be and remaine to the right heires of me the Henry Wickes And I doo give to the said Robert Durdant and Grace his wife for and during their joynr lives one Annuity or yearlie rent of Twenty pounds of lawfull money of England out of the foreaied landes and premisses devised unto the said Jo; Higdon Item I give to my said Cousin Gideon Durdant one hundred pounds to be paid to him at the end of two yeares next after my decease if he shall be then living And to his brother Andrewe Durdant the like sum of one hundred poundes to be paid to him at the end of two yeares next after my decease if the said Andrewe shall be then living And I give to my godsonne Henry Houghton Tenne poundes And to my lovinge friend James Rice and his wife fiftye poundes And also such beddinge and household stuffe of myne as they have nowe in use in their house (except plate) And I doo give to my servant Arthur Houghton the like sum of fiftye poundes, and also such beddinge and household stuffe as he hath nowe in use of myne in his house Also I give to my good friend Mrs. Susanna Smith Ten poundes And I doo give unto her children viz to Thomas Andrewe Mary Susan and Margaret ffive pounds a peice as a Token of my love to them And also I doo give to her other daughter Katharine Smith my god daughter Tenne pounds And I doo give to my Cousin John Harbord Twenty pounds And to William Astye (?) and Sarah his wife my kinswoman twenty pounds Item I give to Richard Sawyer servant to Tho. (?) Smith three pounds And also to every other of her maidservants as shall be living with her at the time of my decease Twenty shillings a peice And I doo remitt and discharge all such moneys as are due and owinge to me from Nicholas Houston deceased and I doo give unto my god sonne Nicholas Houghton Tenne poundes And lastly I doo will and appoint that all and every the legacies and summes of money aforesaid

shall be paid and satisfied to the severall and respective persons
and legates before named by my covin the above named John
Higdon whome I doo hereby make and ordaine sole and only
Executor of this my last Will and Testament And whereas there
is a great sum of money due and owing (?) to me from his late
Majesty as well as for my fee as paym^{ts} of his Mat^{ties} workes
which of right ought to have bene paid to me out of his Mat^{ties}
Exchequer Also for moneys otherwise due to me from his said
Mat^{ties} the which money or soe much thereof^{as} shall be had and
received (?) I dispose of as followeth viz one fifth part thereof being
deducted I give to the above named James Rice and the residue
there of my will shall be equally shared and divided betwene my
said Executor and my servant Arthur Houghton in respect of his
care and paines to be taken in and about the getting in of the same
In witness herof I the said Henry Wicks have hereunto sett my
hand and seale the day and yeare first above written, Henry Wicks
Tlemorand that the Testator Mr. Wicks did acknowledge to us
whose names are hereunderwritten, that he had heard read over
unto him by his servant Arthur Houghton these fower written sheetes
of paper containinge his last Will and Testament and after such
acknowledgement the said Testator Mr Wicks did subscribe his
name under the writinge in the four sheetes of paper And then
he the said Mr. Wicks did putt his seale to the wax upon the
labell affixed to these fower sheetes of paper, and that he the
said Mr. Wicks did then immediately after publish and declare
that that which was conveyned in those fower sheetes of paper
should stand and be his last Will and Testament and desired so
whose names are underwritten to signifie the same
William Doughtred, Thomas Smyth Geo(?) Houghton
Beniamyn Doughtred Richar Sayer

This will was proved at London the three and twentieth day
of November in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six
hundred fiftie and seven before the Judges for probate of Wills
and granting administrations lawfully authorized by the oath of
John Higdon the Executor therein named to whome was comitted
administration of all and singular the goods chattells and debts of the
said Deceased He being first sworn well and truly to administer

Tel: 01483 518737
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Please ask for: Enquiry Desk



Surrey Heritage
Surrey History Centre
130 Goldsworth Road
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Surrey GU21 6ND

Miss C.M. Martin
Meadow Cottage
Brook Hill
Albury
Guildford
GU5 9DJ

Our ref: Surrey Heritage/NC/3411/09
Your ref:

21st July 2009

Dear Miss Martin,

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION OF HENRY WICKS, ALBURY

Thank you for your letter of 7th July 2009.

Unfortunately I cannot find reference to Henry Wicks within our archives database, collections catalogue, library catalogue or name card index. I did find an entry for him within the *Victoria History of the County Of Surrey* (London, 1902-1912) volume III page 77. This only confirmed that the inscription was in the form of a small brass on the North wall framed into a tablet. I found a further entry for him within the *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, O'Manning and W Bray (London, 1804-1814) volume II page 129. However, this merely provided a history of the Albury church and a transcription of the various monumental inscriptions within it.

I did find several entries for Henry Wicks on pages 101 and 131-32 respectively, in H.M. Colvin's *The History of the King's Works* volume III 1485-1660 (Part I), London, 1975. I have provided the extracts below:

"Under Blagrove, no new clerks were engaged, nor in the ensuing years when the surveyorship was in abeyance... Under Spicer in 1597-8 three more new names appear, including Robert Stickles and Henry Wicks, Both made some mark in the world of building, Stickles earning a mention by Stow for his invention of a demountable pinnace and Wicks becoming Paymaster under James I."

"The paymaster, on Jone's accession, was Andrew Kyrwyn. He was, as we have seen, the perhaps rather dubious central figure in the affair of the surplusages. Dying in 1617 he was succeeded by Henry Wicks, his clerk, who had had the reversion since 1606 and had before that risen from being a junior clerk to being clerk engrosser. Wicks served from 1617, when he was about 37, till the Civil War. At his death in 1657, aged 77, he owned land at Sheere and Albury in Surrey and was friendly with William Oughtred, the famous mathematician, who was rector of Albury from 1610."



He also had property at Staines and Stanwell, Middlesex, Chobham, Surrey, and in Covent Garden. He was uncle of Andrew Durdant who came into the Works as a clerk in 1615-16, godfather to the eldest son of another clerk, Nicholas Haughton, executor of the will of Francis Dod, the Purveyor, who died in 1618, and the 'lovinge and kind friend' of Nicholas Stone the Master Mason who thus describes him in his will. Wicks is buried at Albury where a monument describes him as a 'Man pious, just, wise, and very charitable; a true and reall Christian'. The inscription also states that he served Elizabeth I, as well as her two successors, as Paymaster, a statement oddly at variance with the documents. Wicks's will indicates that he died with a considerable sum owing to him from the Works."

You may be interested to know that The National Archives have digitised the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury under the heading DocumentsOnline. Within this database I have found a will entry for a Henry Wicks of Shere, Surrey dated to 23rd November 1657. The reference for which is PROB 11/269. This document is available to view online at the following address: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline>. There is a £3.50 charge to download the images.

Can do it myself if told, for £3.50

If you do not have internet access you may be interested to know that you can view these images free of charge within The National Archives Compound. Their contact details are: The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, TW9 4DU (Tel: 020 8876 3444; email: enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk; web: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk). Alternatively, the Surrey History Centre does offer a paid research service. I recommend commissioning a search of half an hour at £11.75 plus the £3.50 fee for downloading the images. I enclose a paid research request form if you wish to go ahead with this.

I hope this information is helpful to your research. This enquiry has been answered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), Data Protection Act (1998) and the Environmental Information Regulations.

Yours sincerely



Natalie Cohen
for Team Leader, Heritage Public Services

For news and further details of talks, displays and events at Surrey History Centre, see <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents>

Surrey Archaeological Collections Vol 34. 1921

Philip Painwaring Johnston FSA FRIBA

Albury Church and its monuments

S.A.S. 532454



THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

Miss C M Martin
Meadow Cottage
Brook Hill
ALBURY
Guildford GU5 9DJ

Please reply to:
John Vigar
Development Manager, South East
England
Trehaun
20 City Way
Rochester ME1 2AB

27 August 2009

Dear Miss Martin

Albury Old Church

Your letter of 16th August addressed to Rebecca Rees has been passed to me for reply.

We do recognise the importance of Henry Wicks to the history of Albury and agree that he deserves to be better known. If the guidebook is revised I will certainly make sure that he is included.

I am afraid there is not a lot we can do to stop wear to his ledger slab. We have not noticed much wear to it over recent years, but will continue to monitor the situation. Contrary to popular belief it would make matters worse to place a carpet on it – it speeds up erosion by something like 40%, so this is not something that we advise.

Yours sincerely,

John Vigar MA FSA Scot FRSA
Development Manager, South East England

07884 436649

Email: jvigar@tcct.org.uk



SIR PAUL BERESFORD, M.P.
Member of Parliament for Mole Valley

Miss C.M. Martin,
Meadow Cottage,
Brook Hill,
Albury,
Guildford,
GU5 9DJ

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW1A 0AA

24 August 2009

Dear Miss Martin,

Thank you very much for your letter regarding Albury Old Church.

As you will recall, I took a photograph of the wall plaque in the Church to see whether I could make something of it.

Unfortunately, even with the zoom lens this has proved to be impossible.

Regarding Henry Wicks. Firstly, I have contacted Councillor Jenny Wicks to see whether there is any family link.

Secondly, I note your letter to Ms. Rees. I would suggest that it would be sensible that a small barrier be placed as is at present around one of the other floor plaques rather than coverage with a carpet. Ms. Rees has also agreed to see whether there is any way in which the legibility of the stone could be improved without damage.

I am copying this to Ms. Rees for her consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Beresford
Member of Parliament for Mole Valley.

Miss C. M. Martin
Meadow Cottage
Brook Hill, Albury
Guildford GU5 9DJ
Shere (01-483) 20-2513

16⁸/09.

Dear Mr. Rees,

Albury Old Church - Henry Wicks.

I was glad to meet you and Sir Paul Beresford the other day in Albury Old Church, so that I could voice my concerns about the Wicks memorial.

1. He was an important man in his time, retiring to Shere, a friend of William Oughtred the mathematician Rector of Albury. He should be mentioned in the new church guide, and possibly a small notice placed in the church telling about him.
2. His memorial slab half under the altar is being worn away by people walking on it. Could not a loose carpet be placed on it to protect it?
3. The small brass on the North wall that we looked at is said by the Victoria Surrey History, Vol III, 1902-12 to have an entry on Henry Wicks which "only confirmed that the inscription was in the form of a small brass on the North wall (framed in a tablet)". Flanning and Bray, Vol. II. 1809, speaks of a brass Tablet on the N. wall of the N. chancel commemorating Anthony Dracombe, 17/2/1709. This is likely to be correct. There is no mention of a Wicks brass.

I enclose a drawing of Wicks' very fine memorial slab.

Caroline M. Martin.

c/c. Sir Paul.



ALBURY OLD PARISH CHURCH
of
SAINT PETER & SAINT PAUL
Vested in the Churches Conservation Trust

HON. SECRETARY
(Mrs.) Daphne Foulsham
Vale End
Albury, Guildford
Surrey GU5 9BE

27 Nov 2012

HON. TREASURER
(Mrs.) Monica Cassels
Rosehill, Water Lane
Albury, Guildford
Surrey GU5 9BD

01483 202594

01483 202962

Dear Miss Martin,

Thank you for your letter of 22 Nov which I have discussed with Daphne. The Wicks memorial is of great importance in the Church and although it is recorded in the book of monuments which is kept on the information table it deserves more prominence.

We are at present researching methods by which information can be displayed and where this requires notices to be fixed to the walls we have to obtain the consent of the CCT who may wish to do it themselves. We are continually frustrated by the length of time they take to approve anything. For example it has taken 7 years of struggle before we got consent for the installation of the Calling Bell and were longer to get them to act on the wall decorations of the Drummond Chapel although our committee financed the initial survey. They simply say they have no money.