

John Darbie in 1674. The splendid memorial to Sir Michael Stanhope was restored between Davy's two visits, namely in 1828. He sketched the Hereford and Martin hatchments. He did not mention any Hertford hatchments. However he wrote that a certain Mr Brady possessed a medieval brass, once in the church, relating to someone who had died in 1472.

Orford

This church was restored in the late Victorian period, and the changes are covered in detail in Jane Allen's book, *The Wallace Connection*. Davy paid four visits to Orford between 1808 and 1842. He painted the hatchment in Orford church which is reproduced on page 28, issue number 16 of the *Bulletin*. This was for the 8th Viscount Hereford, killed in a duel in 1700. When Davy paid his last visit the 3rd Marquis of Hertford had recently died, and the pulpit was

hung with black cloth, along with an escutcheon of his arms.

The tower had partially collapsed in 1830 and only the treble bell still hung there; the other four stood at the west end of the north aisle. A seat for the Corporation survived, given by Clement Conance in 1712, one of the leading benefactors when the church was furnished with box pews and a new communion table and pulpit among other adornments.

Conclusion

Apart from the churches at Orford and Sudbourne, none have been embellished by wealthy estate owners. The churches at Butley, Boyton and Wantisden, along with the lost churches at Gedgrave and Capel St. Andrew had been served, before the Dissolution, by priests from Butley Priory. The canons lavished their estate profits on the Priory church, which was the centre of the second wealthiest monastic house in Suffolk. Thus these churches remained small until a surge in population in Victorian times resulted in galleries being erected.

Vic Harrup

Glossary

¹ *Decalogue* the Ten Commandments

² *impropriation* the annexation of an ecclesiastical benefice to a corporation or person

³ *synodalls* a payment paid by the lower clergy to the bishop

Translation of Latin phrases

Sante Petre ora pro nobis = Saint Peter, pray for us

Eternis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis = may the bell of John ring for eternity



A postcard of the font and bells in Orford church before the restoration.
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