

Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History.

ST. SAVIOUR'S HOSPITAL,
BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

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According to Taylor, there were at one time no less than seventy-four hospitals, leper-houses and God's-houses within the ancient bounds of the Diocese of Norwich, and, of this number, six were situated in the abbey-town of St. Edmundsbury. Various authors have left us fragmentary information, but the compiler of the *Index Monasticus* was the first to write systematically of these interesting institutions, and since then the *Victoria County History* has contained some notice of them; as yet, however, no complete history of the hospitals of Bury has appeared. It is indeed a problem to write such a history, for materials are few and scattered, and, when found, are often of little help. The following paper, which is the result of some few months' research, deals with St. Saviour's Hospital, the largest and the most important of those in Bury, the others being dedicated to Sts. Peter, Nicholas, John, Stephen and Petronilla.

I. SITE.

The Hospital of St. Saviour was situated on the Fornham Road some distance outside the North Gate of the town. Its remains stand on the east side of

the road, immediately beyond the present Railway Station, the position of the principal buildings being now covered by Messrs. Whitmore's timber-yard, and by the gardens of private houses. Opposite to the Hospital, on the western side of the road, stood St. Thomas' Chapel. It is open to question whether this latter was the chapel which served St. Saviour's, but I shall have more to say on the matter when discussing the buildings.

II. HISTORY.

Abbot Samson, one of the most famous of the Abbey's mitred superiors, was the founder of this Hospital, which was established in 1184 or 1185 for the maintenance of a warden or master, twelve chaplain priests, six clerks, twelve poor men and twelve poor women. His charter was not granted until 1199—1200, when the endowment of the house was finally settled; however, he seems to have issued a grant on the occasion of its first being built, for a bull of Pope Urban, dated 1186, takes under his protection the newly-erected hospital of St. Saviour, and ratifies to its use the Abbot's grant of the tithes of the newly-tilled lands at Redgrave and Rickinghall.¹ The Hospital was at first called Babwell, a name later given to the house of Friars in the adjoining parish of Fornham All Saints; thus it is termed by Jocelin the Chronicler when he speaks of Samson's activity in the recovery of the manor of Mildenhall, the expulsion of the Jews from the town, "and the founding of the new hospital at Badwell" as being "proofs of great virtue."² Gillingwater states, on unknown authority, that Samson "gave the aqueduct of our Saviour's hospital."³

In 1190 John, Bishop of Norwich (and later the prior and convent of the same city⁴) confirmed Samson's gift to the hospital of two-thirds of the tithes of

Melford Church, reserving the other third for the support of a vicar.⁵ This was likewise confirmed in 1200 by Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury.⁶ Pope Celestine III, by a bull dated 1192 and addressed to the master and brethren of the Hospital of St. Saviour, confirmed to them their possessions and took them under his protection.⁷

In the first year of King John (1199–1200) there was a dispute between Master Hervey, Vicar of Melford, and Walter, Master of St. Saviour's, as to the division of certain lands near Cranmoor (the Cranmere of Tanner) in Melford. Adelina, daughter of Richard de Bonard, held half a carucate of land in Cranmoor, and the suit arose as to whether she held the land of Bury Abbey or of the Church of Melford. Adelina, declaring that she owed service to the Abbey for her holding, was granted the same in return for an annual payment of 40d. About the same time a similar agreement was made between the hospital and Master Hervey concerning the land of Juliana, sister of Adelina.⁸

Abbot Samson's second charter, of 1199–1200, is printed in our *Proceedings* in Latin,⁹ of which the following is a translation:—

“To all sons of Holy Mother Church to whom this present writing shall come, Samson, by the grace of God Abbot of St. Edmund, and the whole convent of the same place, send eternal greeting in the Lord. Know all of you, that we, with our unanimous consent, and of our own free will, for the welfare of our Sovereign Lord, John King of England, and for the redemption of the souls of his predecessors, Kings of England, have granted and given in pure and perpetual charity to the Holy Father, and to St. Saviour's, that ground on which the hospital is situated with its appurtenances,

on the north side of the town of Bury, for the support of the poor in Christ and the relief of the necessities of the feeble and indigent of this place, or coming thereto. We further give and grant to the said hospital of St. Saviour for the maintenance of the poor folk £12 in money from our town of Icklingham, to be annually received through our Sacristan. Also, two portions of our Church of Melford, with all appertaining thereto. Further we give and grant to the same two-thirds of the demesne tithes of Wirlingworth, Saham, Tilney, Elmswell, Elveden, Herringswell, Newton, and Cockfield, and in the same town of Cockfield eight acres of produce annually; namely two of grain, two of siligo, two of barley and two of oats. And in these following towns of ours, one-third of the demesne tithes; viz., in Pakenham, Rungton, Tivetshall, Culford, Horringer and Chelsworth. We also grant to them all tithes of the newly-tilled woodlands in our towns of Redgrave and Rickingham, and of the houses and meadows in Thetford, with appurtenances, excepting the annual service of the monks there of 2s., and 12d. of the canons. And that this our gift may be forever valid and lasting, we have set forth this deed, and have there unto affixed our seal, etc." The Charter was confirmed in 1200 by King John.¹⁰

The value of these tithes varied from time to time; they were assessed as follows in 14 Edw. III, 1341.

Tivetshall	23s.
Stanton	6s. 6d.
Herringswell	34s.
Rungton	26s. 8d.
Harlow	} 45s.
Stapleford	
Elveden	14s.
Redgrave	} 24s.
Rickingham	

The lordships of Harlow and Stapleford were vested in the Abbot, but when the tithes were granted to the hospital I do not know. Further property is mentioned as belonging to St. Saviour's in Cockfield, Pakenham, Elmswell, Newton and Culford.¹¹ Blomefield states that the tithe of Rungton was valued at 6s. 8d.¹²

An undated assessment sets forth the portions belonging to St. Saviour's Hospital as under¹³ :—

Deanery of Fincham	4 marks
„ „ Redenhall	No value given.
„ „ Thingoe	1 mark, 15s., 3 marks.
„ „ Fordham	15s.
„ „ Sudbury	40s., 40 marks.

Three more of these valuations occur, all of them undated.

Taxation of spiritual goods of the Hospital of St. Saviour.¹⁴

			s.	d.	Marks
Pakenham	4 marks	Tenths	5	4	
Hargrave	1 mark			16	
Great Horringer	20 s.		2	0	
Newton	3 marks		4	0	
Elmswell	1 mark			16	
Culford	10 s.			12	
Elveden	20 s.		2	0	
Chelsworth	30 s.		3	0	
Melford	70 marks				7
Cockfield	3 marks		4	0	
Redgrave	5 s.			6	
Monks Soham	2 marks		2	8	
Wirlingworth	4 marks		5	4	

Taxation of goods spiritual of the same hospital by Master Richard de St. Fredeswytha, Archdeacon of Buckingham.¹⁵

	£	s.	d.
Icklingham	3	0	0
St. Edmund's Town ..	8	13	8
Culford	0	2	6
Forham St. Martin ..	0	6	0
Forham St. Genevieve ..	0	11	5

Taxation of goods pertaining to the Hospital of St. Saviour.¹⁶

Herringswell 40s.	Chelsworth ..	30s.
Elmswell .. 13s. 4d.	Melford ..	£31
Elveden .. 20s.	Cockfield ..	40s.
Culford .. 10s.	Saham ..	26s. 8d.
Redgrave .. 40s.	Wirlingworth	53s. 4d.
Stanton .. 13s. 4d.	Rungton ..	6s. 8d.
Hargrave 13s. 4d.	Tivetshall ..	20s.
Horringer 15s.	Tilney ..	16s.
Newton .. 40s.	Icklingham ..	£12
Pakenham 26s. 8d.		

Between 1240 and 1250 Thomas the Goldsmith, of St. Edmund's sold and quit-claimed to the Hospital of St. Saviour the service, etc., of William, son of Elric of the monastery, viz., 3s. of his fee in the fields of Fornham.¹⁷ About the same time Geoffrey, son of Luce of St. Edmund's, granted to the Hospital nine acres of arable land in the fields of 'Schihthornham' paying annually for the same ninepence.¹⁸ Henry de Horringer, at this period, c. 1250, gave to the Abbey his house in Churchgate Street, on condition that 20s. and 6s. should be paid annually to the Sacrist, and 12d. annually to the Hospital of St. Saviour.¹⁹

In 1266 the Pope confirmed Abbot Samson's charter of 1199-1200; dated at St. Edmund's, 12 Kal. March.²⁰

In 1281 a new division between the property of the Abbot and that of the Convent was made, sanctioned by the King for a consideration of £1,000. By this change the Hospital, with all goods spiritual and temporal, was assigned to the care of the Precentor of the Monastery.²¹ At this same time it was ordained that "the Hospital of St. Saviour, which is situated below the four crosses of the town of St. Edmund, beyond the North Gate, with all its goods and possessions, spiritual and temporal, is acknowledged to be assigned for the maintenance of certain chaplains, brethren and sisters, and of other poor people of the same place, in God's service.

"A monk of the Abbey, appointed by a full chapter, is to have the charge of this hospital, in so far as he has hitherto been accustomed to have it.

"Neither the said monk in charge, nor any other secular or ecclesiastical person, shall receive into the said hospital any brother or sister without the approbation of the Lord Abbot; no question of money payment, however, hindering the exception or admission of any person.

"Also there shall be a sum assigned to be received from the town of St. Edmund, and from other places, of 14s. a year, for the repair of the necessary utensils for food and other purposes of the refectory.

"There shall also remain to the brethren of this hospital and to their successors the full and peaceful enjoyment of all properties and appurtenances, beside the above, whether apportioned by royal license, and belonging to the convent or afterwards by their consent to be acquired, without claim thereto or obstacle on the part of the said Lord Abbot and his successors."²²

In 1287 a Rental of the Abbey lands and properties, known as the 'Iter Salamonis De Roff,' was compiled; from it we gather some particulars of the possessions of the hospital.

The Master of St. Saviour's held in Fornham St. Genevieve 16 acres of land, which had been given to his predecessors by Thomas de Pampisworth in pure and perpetual charity.²³ In the same parish Richard Stingin held one messuage and one acre, land of the said hospital, paying to that house 12d.²⁴ In Stanton Nicholas de Stanton held lands of the hospital, for which he paid annually 5s.²⁵ Robert, son of Albred de Langham, held in Stanton 15 acres of land of St. Saviour's for which he paid 5s. yearly.²⁶

In West Stow a "monk of the Hospital" held two and a half acres of arable land of Sarra de Cruce, paying 1d. annually, four acres of arable land in pure charity of "Willelmus Longus," and one messuage and three acres of arable land of William le Parker, paying annually 31d.²⁷ In the same village the Master of St. Saviour's held one messuage and twenty-five acres of arable land of the Abbot of Bury by the service of 4s. 3d. yearly, and three quarters of oats, and owed suit to the Hundred of Blackbourne, and paid to Alexander de Wridewell for the said tenement 6s. 8d. per annum. Adam de Walsingham, Master of the Hospital, had unjustly appropriated to his house twenty-six acres of common land in West Stow, a common fishery extending from the West Mill of West Stow to Lackford Bridge, and free warren in the fields of West Stow and Wordwell where he had no right.²⁸

The hospital held a manor in Melford, with 136 acres of arable land, 7 acres of mowing meadow, 3½ acres of pasture, and 4 acres of wood, all parts

of the tenure from which Melford Church was endowed, and the gift of Abbot Samson to St. Saviour's. The Master of the Hospital also held various portions of land and wood of Gerard de Wachesham, Radulphus de Elmswell, and John de Cramawell; he had further the right of regulating and setting the price of flour, and of selling ale by his homagers, both which rights were given by Abbot Samson. St. Saviour's had also 72 acres of arable land, 1 acre of mowing meadow, and 3 roods of wood, which the villeins held with their messuages from the Hospital's manor; there were also two cottars, who held of the manor one rood and a half of land with their houses. The Hospital owned numerous lands and tenements in the village, the whole forming what was, and still is, known as "Melford Monks Manor."²⁹ The Vicar of Melford was accustomed to pay £3 annually for tithes to the Hospital; in the time of Henry VIII the amount had risen to £6 13s. 4d.³⁰

A charter of the Abbot, dated 1292, orders that the inmates of the Hospital henceforth must be poor; that 6s. 8d. was to be allowed to the clerks and laymen, and 5s. to the sisters; and that the warden was to be a person of "prudence and discretion." At the same time the endowment was augmented by 10 acres of land and 2 of meadow near the South Gate, and 22d. rent in the town.³¹

In 1301 Abbot John de Northwold founded the Chapel of the Charnel, the ruins of which stand in the centre of Bury Churchyard; in the foundation deed he mentions his distress at seeing the bones of the dead scattered about, and resolves to build for their reception a chapel, wherein two chaplains are to serve. When these chaplains become infirm they are to be taken to St. Saviour's, or, if afflicted by any contagious disease, to the Hospital of St. Peter or St. Nicholas.³²

In the time of King Edward I (1272-1307) there were only seven chaplains, and it was resolved to dismiss the poor sisters, and to maintain in their place old and infirm priests.³³

Abbot Richard presented John de Brochtone to the wardenship of St. Saviour's on 7 July 1316.³⁴ Peter de Shenedon occurs as Master of the Hospital in 1318.³⁵

In 1320-1 there was a suit between the Crown and Abbot Richard de Drayton, at the instance of certain of the townspeople, who contended that the Hospital had been founded by Henry II, and that the advowson belonged to the King. The following is an abstract of the proceedings, taken from the *Registrum Pinchbeck* :—³⁶

Plea before the King at Westminster ; our Lord the King on the one part, and Richard de Drayton, Abbot of Bury, on the other. Thomas de Whytene, Master of the Hospital ; before Henry de Scroop, King's Justiciar in 'termino Sancti Michaelis,' A.D. 1321. In a petition William atte Vine, Hamud Ballard, John Payne, Thomas le Blower, Henry de Westley, John le Chapeler, Robert Houlot, William le Cok, John le Ferrour, William Sheil, Bartholomew de Cressingham, Robert Epegamen, Thomas Ogod, Ralph de Fyston, John de Lolimer, Rand'Gar', Roger de Honewik, William de Hunston, and John de Thurston, leige men of the town of St. Edmund show to the King that he is possessed of the right of presentation to the Hospital of St. Saviour ; this they can prove by certain evidences and memorials possessed by the good men of the Hospital. (It appears by this that the 'good men' of St. Saviour's were dissatisfied with the Abbot's authority). They say that King Henry II journeyed to Rome in order to purchase

a bull by which he might obtain a confessor ; for this office he chose Samson, Abbot of Bury, and in penance he founded a hospital at Bury in honour of God and St. Saviour, and for himself and his posterity. And the said King endowed the Hospital with lands, rents, and possessions, that the inmates might for ever sing and pray for him and his heirs, reserving right of presentation to the Crown. "And Geoffrey Beaufouk has now for some years and days held the mastership, which belongs to the King." When the King went to the Holy Land he left his charter for a sum of money to the Sacristan and monks of St. Edmund ; these latter "have lessened the number of those profiting, and have appropriated to themselves the aforesaid lands, rents, and possessions," to the detriment of the Crown. Given at Bury, day of St. Thomas the Apostle, thirteenth year of the reign.

This petition was presented in Parliament in the presence of the Abbot of St. Edmund, who says that the Hospital of St. Saviour was not founded by our Lord the King or any of his ancestors, nor had they given lands and tenements thereunto, but that it was founded by the Abbot, and that one of the monks had been "gardeyn" (warden) from time immemorial. Abbot Richard has to prove these evidences, which he is to bring before the King.

The Sheriff of Suffolk is ordered to bring four chosen men of the town of St. Edmund as witnesses before the Parliament "a lendemain des Almes procheyn." On that day came William de Burgh, the Abbot's attorney, John de Lincoln, senior, bailiff of the said town; and likewise Stephen atte Curth, Edmund son of Luce, Michael Scabayle, and Robert de Creswell, four proved men of the town, who being sworn and examined, have nothing to say concerning the rights of the said Hospital. The Abbot states that the

Hospital was founded by Samson, whose charter, with King John's confirmation, he quotes.

Adam de Fyncham, for the Crown, states that the Hospital was founded by Henry II, and that Geoffrey Beaufouk, presented to the mastership by the King, has been and is now warden. The Abbot reiterates his former statements, and the King commands the Sheriff of Suffolk to bring forward at Easter twenty-four knights and other free and lawful men of the neighbourhood of Bury, who have no allegiance to the Abbot, and who may give evidence. On which day came said Adam (for the Crown), the Abbot's attorney, Ralph de Hemenhale, Edmund Necch, and John de Shelton, knts., William Cresson of Icklingham, Nicholas de Trowes of Hunston, John de Haverhill, Robert de Rookwood of Acton, Walter de Buklond of Hetham, Adam de Gedding, Bartholomew de Castello Murielthorpe, John de Helghston of Risby, and Osbert de Mundford, jurors. Who say on their oath that the Hospital was founded by Abbot Samson, and that the Abbots have successively appointed monks as wardens thereof. They also say that Geoffrey Beaufouk was never master, and the King has no right in the advowson, except that he is mentioned in the prayers of the inmates, as by King John's confirmation.

In 1321 the Hospital was charged 12d. for a house and tenement in Newton, and was paid 12d. annually for "terra in Campio."³⁷ St. Saviour's owned in Bury one acre of land "which lies at St. Mary's water," one acre next the Grange, one acre next five acres belonging to the Cellarer, and one acre next "The Lee."³⁸ The Hospital had also some property in Whiting Street.³⁹ The Grange above-mentioned was situated near to the Hospital buildings; some interesting entries relating to it are to be found in a survey.

of 1541. Tanner, on the authority of the *Registrum Nigrum*, states that lands in Gazeley were given to St. Saviour's by Alexander de Lakinsmere.⁴⁰

Between the Abbey and the townsmen there was frequently some quarrel, as is shown by the above law suit. In 1327 this friction broke forth into open revolt, and the people of Bury, aided by the neighbouring villagers, sacked the monastery and laid waste many of its manors, doing damage estimated at £140,000. St. Saviour's Hospital did not escape their hands; from it the insurgents stole 3 horses and carts, £4; 4 oxen, 53s. 4d.; 6 cows, £4 13s. 4d.; 36 pigs, 72s.; from William Stowe, chaplain, 20s. in pence; from N. de Wrotham, chaplain, 30s. in pence; from Master Helia, chaplain, 36s. in pence; from the Hospital, 6 silver spoons, 7s. 6d.; 2 "mappas," 10s.; 7 "manutergia" 12s.; 1 "mazer" (bowl), 1 mark, and divers small articles, 2s. Total damage, £21 9s. 6d.⁴¹

A roll of accounts of the Hospital for 1353-4 is among the MSS. of Bury Corporation.⁴² Robert Cotton is described as "claviger," and mention is made of a garden called the "duffuszerd." Receipts, £39 9s. 11½d. and expenses, £39 19s. 6¼d.

In 1357 Edward III issued a charter of indemnity in case a corrody in St. Saviour's should be granted at the instance of the King; this seems to have been consequent upon the suit of 1320.⁴³

In 1370 Abbot Richard granted a corrody in St. Saviour's to Bartholomew de Wilburgham Parva for his whole life.⁴⁴

John de Brinkley, Abbot of Bury, granted the Manor of Monks in Melford in 1372-3 to John Roughend

of that village for a term of three years from the Feast of St. Michael, 46 Edw. III; the said John Roughend was to pay annually £13 6s. 8d. to St. Saviour's Hospital, by equal portions, at the Feasts of the Purification B.V.M., Easter, Nativity of St. John Baptist, and St. Peter ad Vincula.⁴⁵

Nicholas de Banham was "claviger," and brother Nicholas de Snetterton master in 1374-5. Stipend of claviger, 1 mark. Among the receipts are oblations "from the box," 2s. 9d. "Nothing for the chaplain's stipend, because in the account of the master." Mention is made of the "vynezerd." Whether this refers to the Abbey vineyard, or to a separate property owned by the Hospital, does not appear; the latter case, however, is unlikely, for no vineyard is mentioned in the Reformation surveys. A deficiency of £38 0s. 10d. was made up from the "coffers of the master."⁴⁶

In the *Registrum-Kempe* two undated entries refer to the Hospital. Under the heading "of the Hospital of St. Saviour" occur the names of William Gerlynge and Robert Bacton⁴⁷; they appear to have been priests or chaplains therein. A Robert de Bacton was master of St. Peter's Hospital about 1260, but he can scarcely be the person in question, the Register being of a much later period. The second entry, of £2, is apparently the offering from the altar of the Hospital.⁴⁸

There is an interesting roll of accounts for the year 1385-6, when Walter de Tottington was master.⁴⁹ Oblations 2s. 5d., receipts £104 17s. 11d., expenses £185 5s. 10³/₄d. It will be noticed that the deficiency is ever increasing; this was doubtless due to mismanagement, a not infrequent occurrence in monastic institutions at the time. Nicholas de Banham was

still claviger. William de Palfreyman received a stipend of 12s. 10d. William atte Lee, William Rys and John Kyrkstede were given garments for the good they had performed on behalf of the Hospital. The priests, John de Alcunby, John Lomb, and John Baroun each received 40s. as stipend, a total of £6. There follows a further account of Tottington, in which receipts were 13s. 4d., and expenses £151 17s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. 25s. was spent in necessaries for five clerks at the Hospital; 20d. for a poor man to buy seed for his land; 20s. to the fabric of the Church at Melford, etc., etc. At the visitation of the convent on St. Saviour's day each professed monk had 6d. and the prior 12d.

In the next year, under the same hospitaller, oblations were 2s. 9d., receipts £106 2s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and expenses £234 3s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The priests were John Alcunby, John Lomb, John Baroun and William Chapman. This account is the only historical record we have concerning St. Thomas' Chapel; for the chapel was obtained a silver box to be placed beneath the saint's image, 12d.; a base for the image to stand on at the right side of the altar, bought of Simon the Abbey mason, 5s.; three red books containing the service of the passion and translation of St. Thomas, 13s. 4d.; several articles for furnishing the altar, 50s.; a great bell for the tower, 10s. W. Heynes received 8d. for expenses in seeking "unum portiforium," which had been lost at Wrabness for more than thirty years. Twelve "boulys" bought for the recreation of the priests, 10d. Sixpence was paid to John Lomb for his expenses in going to Clare to get a doctor in theology to preach on St. Thomas' day, and then on to Sudbury for tiles for St. Thomas' Chapel, and then on to Melford. The day of Sts. Fabian and Sebastian was observed with feasting. A supplementary account (as before) shows further

expenditure of £155 17s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. A horse was bought of Master Thomas Pope for 46s. 8d., and among the gifts are payments to the minstrels of the Countess of Norfolk and to those of the Earl Marshal, to a suffragan bishop, and to his chaplain and valet, to a valet bringing 24 rabbits from Sir John Eyr, to a preaching friar from Oxford and to Master J. Brompton "for his labour."

In 1389 Abbot Cratfield, at the instance of the Prior, granted an annual pension of 40s., in lieu of a corrody in St. Saviour's, to John Clement of Navestock (Essex), a relative of the said Prior. The grant was under the seal of the Abbot, and that of Adam de Lakenheath, warden of the Hospital. The condition is added that so long as master John de Gosford had the government of the Priory of St. Edmund, or some other benefice of equal or greater value, the said John Clement was to receive nothing on account of the pension. Next year he received a weekly corrody.⁵⁰

On 10 June 1390, Abbot William and Adam de Lakenheath, hospitaller, granted to Edmund Mersh of Ickworth a corrody in the Hospital, vacant by the death of John Botysham.⁵¹ Mersh died soon afterwards, and was succeeded in March 1391, by Robert Ryner.⁵²

An undated deed recites the grant by Master John de Brockley to Richard de Madingley, Rector of Snailwell, for £7, of his messuage in the "Little Brakelond," Bury, with his share of a spring, and 3d. yearly quit-rent from a messuage in the town, paying $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yearly to the provost of St. Edmund's for hadgovel, and 18d. to St. Saviour's Hospital without the North Gate. Witnesses: Geoffrey son of Robert, alderman, Nicholas son of Hulk, and John le Blund, bailiffs and others (named).⁵³

John Power is stated in the *Victoria County History* to have been Master in 1390; there appears to be some confusion here, for Adam de Lakenheath occurs as Master between 1389 and 1408.

In 1392 John Reve of Pakenham was admitted on these terms: he was to have his food and a chamber in the Hospital for life; and to receive annually a garment, with one pair of stockings and one pair of shoes. In order that the funds might bear this charge the better, the Master was to be allowed to retain in hand the corrody of one poor man for that period. A memorandum is added, that in consideration of this grant, John Reve is to pay to the hospitaller, towards the new fabric of the Hospital, 26 marks by the hands of Robert Ashfield.⁵⁴ This entry marks the date of a "rebuilding of, or addition to, the Hospital, part of which work still remains in the ruin of the entrance, which is of the period in question." In this year Adam de Lakenheath was still warden or master.⁵⁵

John Lomb appears to have been a troublesome inmate of the Hospital; in 1392 the Abbot went to law concerning his case, and was forced to withdraw his action and pay 30s.⁵⁶ By a deed dated at St. Saviour's, 8 April 1393, John Lomb, chaplain of the Hospital, states that he has received by permission of the venerable lord William, Abbot of St. Edmund, 30s. of silver owing from Adam de Lakenheath, the present, and Walter de Tottington, the late master of St. Saviour's Hospital.⁵⁷

Henceforth, the Abbey Registers contain the names of many recipients of corrodies; among them are the following:—

1398. 25 Jan. Granted by John Holford, on behalf of the Abbot, to Robert Barker. Adam de Lakenheath, master.
1399. Granted to John Baret of Cratfield. He was doubtless a relation of the John Baret buried in the south aisle of St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmund's.⁵⁸
- 5 Nov. Granted by the Abbot to John Hundon.
- 21 Nov. Granted by Abbot William to William Rudon of Honington, father of William Rudon, a monk.
1408. 1 Nov. Master William Semere, late Vicar of the parish church of Neketon, received into the fraternity of St. Saviour's Hospital by Abbot William and Thomas Plumpton, Master of the Hospital.
- 1 Nov. Granted by the Abbot and the warden of the Hospital to Master John Morawnt, chaplain, of Norton.⁵⁹

At the Feast of the Assumption, 9 Hen. IV., the Hospital was charged 13s. for lands and tenements in West Stow, and elsewhere, of annual value 79s. 6d.⁶⁰

Further corrodies, of early fifteenth century date, occur as follow :—

1412. 3 Oct. Granted by Abbot William to John Cook of Wirlingworth for his whole life; vacant by decease of Alexander Gardener.
1415. 15 May. Granted by the Abbot to William Bakhot of Icklingham for life; vacant by death of Henry Luk.

1417. Granted by the Abbot to Richard Handworth for life; vacant by death of Geoffrey Denham. This Geoffrey had been appointed Cellarer of the Abbey in 1403 to succeed Thomas Creeting.
1420. Granted by Abbot to Nicholas (MS. defective); vacant by death of John de Wirlingworth. The latter is doubtless the John Cook to whom a corrody had been granted in 1412. About the same year a corrody in the Hospital was granted to Thomas Parker.⁶¹

In the time of Abbot Curteys (1429–1446) we meet with grants of corrodies in the Hospital. William Cobbold and his wife, the Abbot's sister, Thomas Hert, William Monk and his wife, Walter Hildeyerd, and John Crakle of Saxham are mentioned as recipients.⁶² About the same period occurs the "indictment of Master Clement Denston, Archdeacon of Sudbury, made at Bury, concerning his clandestine flight from the Hospital of St. Saviour to his house at West Stow."⁶³

On 11 October 1432, Abbot William presented John de Ashton, clerk, to the wardenship of the Hospital.⁶⁴ The accounts of the farm bailiff of St. Saviour's for 1438–9 show receipts £23 16s. 9d., and expenses £21 14s. 8d. Adam Babington, bailiff.⁶⁵

Abbot Curteys' Register contains further grants of corrodies, as under:—⁶⁶

1441. 17 Aug. Granted by Abbot to Alice Pye. John Charles, Master of the Hospital.

1442. 26 Feb. Granted by Abbot to Margaret, relict of Hugo de Babington. John Charles, master.
1443. 25 Jan. Granted by Abbot to Agnes, wife of Simon Gillot, "lately taken from this light."
- 5 Feb. Granted by Abbot to John Andrewe; vacant by the "pure and free resignation of Thomas Parker of Wickhambrook." John Charles, master.
1444. Nov. Granted by the Abbot, "at our manor of Elmswell," to Roger Hirby, chaplain. John Harlowe, master.
1445. 17 Jan. Granted by Abbot for life, to Simon Breggeman de Harlow (Essex), father of John de Harlow, monk. (See under 1444). Vacant by the death of Alice Pye.
- Feb. Granted by Abbot in the presence of John Harlowe, warden of the Hospital, to William Bridgham, clerk.
- 15 Mar. Granted by Abbot to Robert Curteys; the latter was probably a relative of the Abbot.
- 24 Sept. Granted by Abbot for life to Thomas King.
- 21 Nov. Granted by the Abbot to Thomas Bird, clerk; by consent and in presence of John Harlow, master.

An indenture made at Bury on 28 February 1445, between "William Curteys, Abbot, on the one part, and William Bridgham, clerk, and John Baret, Esqr., on the other part, witnesseth that whereas said John and William are bound in 20 marks to the Abbot

to be paid to him on St. Gregory's day next ; notwithstanding, the Abbot grants that if, upon admission to the Hospital of St. Saviour said William shall claim nothing belonging by right to a brother thereof, and shall pay for his commons as he has been accustomed until a brother shall die, then, upon the decease of a fifth brother, he shall be granted a corrody therein, with full liberties of an inmate."⁶⁷

In 1447 Parliament met at Bury, and was presided over by King Henry VI., who sat in the great chair of state in the Abbey Refectory. There can be little doubt but that this assembly was convoked in Suffolk by Cardinal Beaufort and his allies "only for to sle the noble Duke of Gloucester."⁶⁸ Here he was in the midst of his enemies' retainers, who saw that he should have little chance of escape, and who had mustered ostensibly to guard the King's person. The Duke had made no preparation beyond an escort of eighty horsemen, and little suspected his impending fate. It was on 18 February in "a fervent coolde weder and a bytynge, Shroffe-Sonedays even," that he entered the town, reaching the South Gate at "about 11 on the clokke afore noon."

The Duke rode on to his "loggyng" at St. Saviour's Hospital, where, after having eaten his dinner, he was visited by the Duke of Buckingham, the Marquis of Dorset, the Earl of Salisbury, Lord Sudley and Viscount Beaumont ; the last of these noblemen, as High Constable, placed Gloucester under arrest. His personal servants were removed from him and arrested, and for three days he lay in a state of coma. On 23 February he recovered slightly, confessed his sins, and, receiving the last rites of the Church, died, so it is said, about three in the afternoon. Popular tradition has always ascribed his death to the agency of the monks, who are related to have poisoned or

smothered the Duke, but the truth will probably never be known. The news of his decease was proclaimed, and his body "exposed so that all might see that no mark of violence was upon him." On the Saturday following, his body was carried to Babwell Friary in Fornham, and after Mass had been celebrated for the repose of his soul on Sunday, the corpse was taken for burial to St. Alban's Abbey.

To commemorate his death the late Mr. G. G. Milner-Gibson-Cullum placed on the front of the Hospital a stone tablet bearing the Duke's arms (France quartering England within a bordure arg.) and the inscription :

Humphrey Plantagenet
 Duke of Gloucester
 Son of Henry IV
 Brother of Henry V
 Uncle and Guardian
 To Henry VI

Lord Protector of the Realm
 Died within this Hospital of
 St. Saviour's, 23 February 1447.

On 23 December 1501, the Abbot and Convent granted the Manor of Monks to Sir William Clopton, of Melford, knt. If the Hospitaller shall fell any trees he shall have one half of the wood, etc., and Sir William the other half.⁶⁹ Further leases of the Manor occur in 1516, 1531, and 1539.⁷⁰

By indenture dated 10 September 1520, Abbot John grants to William Markannt of Bury a garden and grange in Old Baxter Street, abutting on a garden belonging to the Hospitaller of St. Saviour's, to whom said William shall pay annually 8s. of lawful money of England at Easter and at St. Michael

Archangel.⁷¹ On 21 November 1526, the Abbot and Convent of Bury granted to John Crofts the Manor and lands belonging to the Abbey Hospitaller in West Stow, one of the conditions being that said John should graze his lambs upon the liberty of the Hospital of St. Saviour.⁷² A corrody in the Hospital was granted by the Abbot to William Page, vacant by the death of William Bagard. Dated 22 November 1526.⁷³

In 1528 it was ordered by a bull of Pope Clement, that the profits of the Hospital were to be annexed to the Abbey, and specially assigned for the exercise of hospitality at the Abbot's table.⁷⁴ It is on account of this fact that the accounts of the Hospital are not entered separately from those of the Abbey in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535; there are, however, several dues payable to St. Saviour's from certain Abbey lands, including 10s. in Chelsworth and 60s. in Melford, amounting in all to £6 2s. 3d.⁷⁵ Tanner says that the temporalities belonging to the Hospital amounted to 150 marks 10s. 4d.⁷⁶

Since the Hospital had become directly dependent upon the monastery in 1528, there can be little doubt but that it fell with its parent house at the Dissolution in 1539. Mr. Claude Morley has come to this conclusion in his check-list of Suffolk buildings.⁷⁷ Sir William Parker says that the Hospital and all its possessions came to the Crown in 1539.⁷⁸

The First Ministers' Account of the Abbey property was made in 1541, when there was entered "8s. ferm of a curtilage called Stobbing, being "assart" land in Redgrave, in the tenure of the Rector, late to the use of the Hospitaller."⁷⁹ The assessments relating to the Grange are as follow:⁸⁰

"Hospitalle Graunge without the North Gate of Bury. Account of John Atkyns, the King's farmer there.

Arrears, none.

Sum, nil.

"Ferm.

£6 6s. 8d. ferm of the Graunge with its buildings, etc., except the great barn within the Graunge let to John Atkynnes 1 March 28 Hen. VIII., (1537) for twenty years: Atkynnes to have a livery or 6s. 8d. For the profits of the barn he does not account, since it is let to Christopher Peyton⁸¹ with the site of the late hospital there.

Sum,	£6	6s.	8d.
Sum Total	£6	6s.	8d.

"Out of which 6s. 8d. is allowed to the farmer for livery, and 18d. for repairs to the hall of the Graunge. There remains 123s. 6d., which he handed over to Richard Southwell, knt."

In 1542-3 the hospital site and the buildings, with the exception of the lead on the roofs, was granted by the King to Sir John Williams and Anthony Stringer, but they very soon obtained licence to alienate to Nicholas Bacon and Henry Ashfield.⁸² The Grange was granted in 1544 to Sir Robert Riche, one of those grasping courtiers who received a vast amount of confiscated church property.⁸³ The tithes were granted to William Cordell, who afterwards settled them as part of the endowment of the Hospital of Holy Trinity, which he had founded at Melford.⁸⁴

There is no mention of St. Saviour's in the Chantry Certificates of 1546, and it is expressly stated that

the only hospitals then in the town were those of St. Nicholas, St. Peter and St. Petronilla;⁸⁵ this, combined with the accounts of 1541 detailed above, proves fairly conclusively that the Hospital of St. Saviour had been dissolved in 1539.

Little more remains to be said concerning the history of this interesting institution; a great part of its story is buried for ever, and one cannot help regretting that there is no real record of its inside life and daily work. A roll relating to the confirmations of the hospital bears endorsement of being used in a suit in the Exchequer, in 1755, *Burton v. Holden*.⁸⁶ At the present time the property belongs to the Town Council.

III. LIST OF MASTERS.

Walter	occurs in	1199-1200
Adam de Walsingham	„ „	1287
John de Brochtone	presented in	1316
Peter de Shenedon	occurs in	1318
Thomas de Whytene	„ „	1321
Nicholas de Snetterton	„ „	1374-5
Walter de Tottington	„ „	1385-6-7-8
Adam de Lakenheath	„ „	1389-90-2-3-8
Thomas Plumpton	„ „	1408
John de Ashton	presented in	1432
John Charles	occurs in	1441-2-3
John Harlow	„ „	1444-5

IV. THE BUILDINGS.

About the year 1886 what was left of the Hospital was in danger of being pulled down on account of sale of the land for building plots. At the last moment its fate was averted by the action of five gentlemen

of the town, who purchased, and afterwards sold the site to the Town Council, with express stipulations for its preservation. The fragment known as the "Gate-house"—all that stands above ground—was fenced in, and the surrounding land sold.

Before, however, any building of houses took place, the late Mr. Prigg, in the summer of 1887, commenced excavations on the site. His results were of great importance, but unfortunately, they have never really seen the light of day. He intended publishing his account in these pages, but his paper has now vanished. A small extract from the work appeared in the *Bury Post* of July, 1891.

It had been hitherto thought that the ivy-clad fragment was a gatehouse distinct from the other apartments, but to the surprise of all it was found to be "the western end of a long quadrangular building of the character of a hall," internally 66 by 23-ft. 3-in. Beyond this again the excavations indicated a second apartment, of the same width by 33-ft. 6-in., and with continuous walls, 2-ft. 6-in. thick. "Presuming that both these apartments existed together, which at one time they doubtless did, the modest end that remains to us was that of a building over 100 feet in length, with probably a continuous open-timbered roof, the apex of which would be from 30 to 35 feet in height." The building was strengthened on the south side by buttresses at 18 feet intervals, and by diagonal buttresses (remaining to-day) at the west end. "At the eastern end of the building the character of the work was superior to the rest. The internal angles were of dressed stone, and the external angles finished with narrow buttresses of the same material. The floor line of the larger apartments was distinctly traceable, and upon it here and there were fragments of the yellow, red and green glazed tiles, with which

it was once paved." Fragments of glass quarrels from the windows were picked up, and "nearly midway in the building another transverse wall was found, evidently that of a more ancient building, as it had been levelled down to beneath the clay-floor of the western apartment. (This would seem to be the wall AB on my plan, which is taken from that prepared by Mr. Prigg, and now in the possession of Mrs. B. M. Andrews). In width and fabric it corresponded more with the eastern end of the building, which has all the character of the work of the latter part of the twelfth century." The lighter wall of the western extension is apparently that which was in course of erection in 1392. Beneath the west face of this transverse wall (? AB) were found the remains of five skeletons, embedded carefully in concrete, but without order; human bones have since been discovered on the site. "It is probable that in digging for the foundations of the western extension the graves of some of the older brethren of the Hospital were disturbed, and their remains carefully interred where we found them."

Mr. Prigg thought that this was the main building, and that for two-thirds of its length it had a lower and an upper floor, the lower being the common day-room of the inmates, and the upper the dormitory. He hoped to prove this in his paper, and it is unfortunate that the evidence which he would have adduced in support of his statements had disappeared. He speaks of the eastern apartment as being the chapel, "which was open to the roof, and separated from the dormitory by a screen of open work, through which the sick and infirm inmates could both hear and assist in the celebration of Masses and the regular services of the establishment."

We may now consider the question, is this the Chapel of St. Thomas mentioned in the accounts of

1386-7? The trouble is the existence, on the other side of the road, of the site of St. Thomas' Chapel (commonly called Hospital) which might possibly have been the Hospital's chapel. Mr. Prigg's theory, though ingenious, is probably correct: his chapel faces east, and it is very unlikely that aged inmates would have been tramped across the road to hear Mass. Until further light is thrown upon matters, I shall accept his theory of the situation of the chapel.

Of the Chapel of St. Thomas on the western side of the road two fourteenth century gargoyles and some walling remain. This wall, though much repaired, is of interest, and is constructed of huge stones, rubble and brick. It runs for some distance parallel to Fornham Road, then, turning westwards, it follows Northgate Avenue to become merged in nineteenth century work. The plinth and stone coping are in some places intact, and there are numerous hewn and carved stones embedded in the surface. At the north-west angle is a massive buttress, set diagonally, and 4 feet in thickness. In the grounds is a large seventeenth century house, consisting of a main block, with a wing projecting eastwards; this was very probably built on the site of the chapel, and was, in 1804, the residence of Mrs. Sulyard.⁸⁷

The western fragment of St. Saviour's Hospital now standing is of late Decorated work, and was, we have seen, built in 1392. Gillingwater speaks of a tower (above this portion) which "appears to have been at first of considerable altitude as well as magnitude"; perhaps this was the tower for which a great bell was bought in 1386-7.⁸⁸ At the angles are buttresses set diagonally, and a shallow plinth may be noticed at the base. In the centre of the west front is the doorway, of two plainly-chamfered orders, and a simple dripstone. Immediately above are

the sill and jambs of a large, three-light window, which probably gave light to the upper floor; both apertures, however, are now blocked up. The north and west sides exhibit rough rubble-work, which suggests that there were adjoining buildings. There was formerly a long tract of wall which surrounded the whole Hospital; this existed well into last century, and its remains at the west end may still be seen.

Kirby in 1754 mentions that an "entire window is still remaining."⁸⁹ In the British Museum⁹⁰ is a small drawing by John Carter, F.S.A., dated 1786, when the boundary walls were standing; similar views are engraved by Davy and Yates.

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