

THE WREN FAMILY OF SUFFOLK, &c.

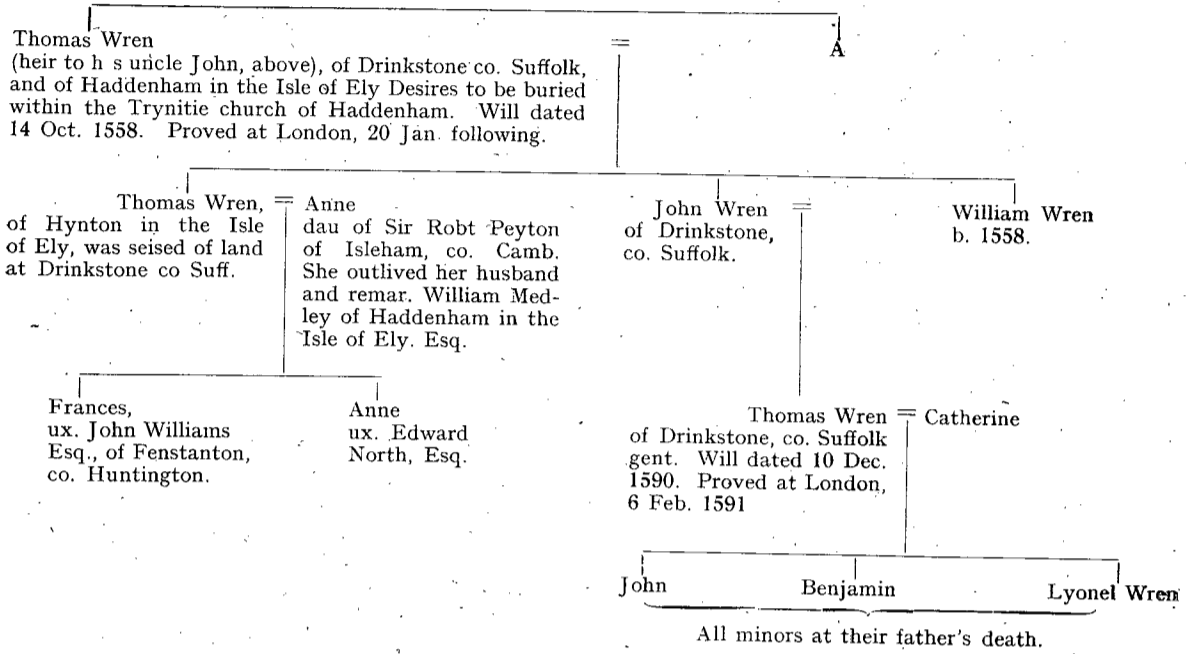
SHOWING SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN'S ASSOCIATION WITH EAST ANGLIA.

BY WALLACE GANDY.

The Grand Committee formed by the Royal Institute of British Architects and other interested bodies, including the Dean and Chapter of St. Pauls, have arranged for a special commemoration of the bi-centenary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren. Among other means of signalling this event an exhibition at the Museum of the Public Record Office, of autograph letters, &c., has been arranged. It, therefore, is fitting that the Suffolk Institute of Archæology should include in its Proceedings the following notes upon the Wren family and its East Anglian connections.

WREN OF DRINKSTONE, SUFFOLK.

John Wren (m. Elizabeth) of Drinkstone, co. Suffolk, and of Haddenham, within the Isle of Ely, co. Cambridge. Will, dated 16 Jan. 1531, proved at London, 31 Oct., 1531; desires to be buried within the church of Drinkstone. D.s.p.



A. Cuthbert Wren (brother of Thomas of Drinkstone, Suffolk). Was admitted a Student of Gray's Inn, 1524, of Newbold Revell in parish of Monk's Kirby, co. Warwick, and had land at Marston in co. Leicester. *Vide* his will dated 27 July 1558, proved at London, 6 Oct. 1558, wherein he desires to be buried in the chapel of St. John in the parish church of Monk's Kirby.

Mary dau. of William Jenkinson. (relict)

Francis Wren born 18 Jan. 1552 at Newbold Revell, Citizen and Mercer of London.

Susan

8 sons

4 daughters

Matthew Wren successively Bishop of Ely and Norwich. Mentions in his will, prov. 10 June 1667, that he was born on Thursday 23 Dec. 1585 in the house next on the west side of St. Peter's Church in Cheapside, London, then called the "Flower de Luce" Educated at Merchant Taylor's School, which he left 1600. D. 24 April 1667.

Elizabeth dau. of Thomas Cutler of Ipswich and Sproughton, co. Suffolk, bap. at Ringshall, Suff. Oct. 17, 1604. Marr. 1st 27 Feb. 1621 at Sproughton Suff., Robert Brownrigg. [Marr. 2nd 17 Aug. 1628, also at Sproughton, Matthew Wren.]

Robert Brownrigg, 1st husband, of Ipswich

Christopher Wren, D.D. Dean of Windsor. *Vide* below, B.

Elizabeth bap. 13 Jan 1623 at Sproughton = Joseph Beaumont D.D. Master of Peterhouse, and had issue.

Ann bap. 19 April 1625 at Sproughton.

Matthew eldest son, some time Secretary to H.R.H. the Duke of York, was born in Peterhouse Cambridge 20 Aug. 1629. Will, dated on board the "Royal Prince" 19 May 1672, proved in the P.C.C., 29 Jan 1673, by his brothers.

Thomas LL.D. of Wilberton. Isle of Ely (twin with Frances), born in Peterhouse 11. Jan 1632, was Archdeacon and Prebendary of Ely. By his will, dated 25 July 1670 and proved in the P.C.C. 10 Dec. 1679, he bequeathed all his property to his brother William, executor.

Charles of Feltwell, co. Norfolk marr. before 22 Sept 1665. Will dated 11 May 1681: proved in the P.C.C. by Dorothea his relict, 21 July 1681. Bequeathed a legacy to his dau. Ann on her marriage or attainment of 21 years.

Sir William Kt. of Wilberton and Middle Temple and probably Const of Wisbech Castle: Born at Ely House, Holborn; 19 March 1638. Dd a bachelor. Admon. granted 31 Mar. 1690 to John Wilson Esq., principal creditor; his sisters, Ann Ball and Maria Wren, having renounced their claim.

Ann (eld. dau.) born at Ipswich, 4 Sep 1630 = John Ball, Esq.

Susan b. St. Giles in the Fields, London 25 Jan 1633 = Robert Wright of Wangford, Suffolk, Serjeant at Law and had issue.

Mary died unmar.

Frances, b. at Tostock Suffolk.

B Christopher Wren D.D. Dean of Windsor, Registrar of Order of Garter, b. 17 Sept. 1589, d. 29 May 1658 at Blechington, co. Oxon. where he was buried. Educated, Merchant Taylor's, left 1605.

Mary dau and heir of Mr. Robert Cox of Founthill co. Wilts.

Sir Christopher Wren the famous architect, b. 20 Oct. 1632, at East Knoyle, co. Wilts.

Jane dau of Lord FitzWilliam, Baron of Lifford, Ireland.

Anne wife of Henry Brunzell, LL.D.

Catherine wife of Richard Fishbourne of New Windsor.

Susannah wife of Dr. William Holder of Blechington, co. Oxon, mathematician & musician