

## RUMBURGH PRIORY CHURCH.

By L. B. CANE, F.S.A.

The origin of the name Rumburgh is obscure. The late Dr. Raven considered Rumburgh to have been one of a number of "little re-doubts," constructed within a few miles of the Roman road from Norwich to Dunwich, for temporary occupation during the passage of convoys along this important route. Others have conjectured that "Rumburgh" must denote a "Roman burg." So far as I am aware, however, there are no definite remains or traces of Roman occupation anywhere in the parish.

Perhaps the original termination may have been "burh." Burhs were usually villages enclosed in some way, either by a ditch or bank, or perhaps just a thorn hedge. Around the Priory grounds there still remains a large rectangular moat, at the S.W. corner of which the late Rev. W. Linton Wilson found some indication of an ancient draw-bridge.

There are no records of Rumburgh before the foundation of the Priory, nor is the name mentioned in Domesday.

It has been surmised by Lord John Hervey, in his translation of the Suffolk Domesday (vide Wangford Hund., p. 3) that Riseburgh is another name for this place.

(Rumburgh is reputed to be the highest point in Suffolk. It has been suggested that this may account for the name Riseburgh.)

Probably it was included in the township of Wissett (the next parish): In Domesday, Lands of Earl Alan, following the description of Wissett is the statement, "In the same vill of Wisseta is a church . . . in this church are twelve monks and under it a chapel." Since no monastic establishment has ever been attributed to the Church at Wissett proper, it would seem probable that the chapel referred to was that of Wissett, the church being the monastic church of Rumburgh. (Dugdale).

As the foundation of the Priory at Rumburgh dates from 1064, i.e., only twenty-two years before the Domesday Survey, there may have been some confusion as to the infant settlement which would have been impossible with an older foundation.

The first Prior, Frater Blakere, with his fellow monks, was established here in 1064 by Ethelmar, Bishop of Elmham, and Thurston, Abbot of St. Benet's Hulme, a Benedictine house near Acle in Norfolk, as a cell or colony from that Abbey.

Bishop Ethelmar was a brother of Stigand, the Saxon Archbishop of Canterbury.

By their surrender to the new Norman regime they had avoided the forfeiture of their property, at a time when most of the other Saxon landowners in East Anglia were despoiled. They were, however, unable to continue thus favoured for more than four years after the Conquest, since in 1070 William seems to have found that their assistance could be dispensed with. Stigand was deposed, and deprived of his estates, which included the town of Bungay. This was transferred to William de Noyers, who raised there the first mound castle, and was still in possession of the burgh at the time of the Domesday Survey sixteen years later.

His brother's property at Rumburgh was transferred to Alan the Red, Earl of Richmond, second son of Eade, Duke of Brittany, one of the chief followers of the King. On his death soon afterwards it passed to his brother, Alan the Black, who gave the Priory to the great Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary at York, which already owned the churches of Wissett, Spexhall, Holton and South Cove, to which he also added those of Banham and Wilby.

In Domesday (Wangford Hund., p. 9, Lands of Earl Alan) is the following entry: "In Almeham are 40 acres. And 6 bordars. And 1 plough team and wood for 6 hogs. And they belong to the Church at Romburc. And they are included in the valuation of the same (? church)."

Further, in the Domesday record of the lands in Blything Hundred, which Roger Bigot holds for the King, is found under Blideburc the following curious item: "To this manor belongs the fourth penny of the rents of the "heia" of Riseburc between the King and the Earl." "Heia" is a hedged enclosure used for hunting in a forestal area. (Vinogradoff. "English Society in the Eleventh Century," p. 292).

Apparently Roger Bigot and the King shared the rents paid by the huntsmen using the "haye" at Riseburgh, wherever that may be. (Lord John Hervey in a footnote to his edition of the Suffolk Domesday writes: ? Rumburgh enclosure to be shared by the King and the Earl (Bigot).)

The Priory was dedicated to St. Michael and St. Felix. In 1086 there were twelve monks, under the first Prior, Frater Blakere: and in 1291, when it had possessions in eleven parishes, its value was given as £35 5s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. (Pope Nich. Tax.).

Little is known of its subsequent history. The last Prior, Joes Halton, was appointed in 1525. On September 11th, 1525, a Visitation was made by Dr. Stephen Gardiner, and three years later, on September 12th, 1528, the Priory was suppressed, the Commissioners being D. Newyns, D. Lee, Thos. Cromwell and T. Rushe.

#### GRANT TO CARDINAL WOLSEY.

Its revenues and property were granted to Cardinal Wolsey, and transferred to his newly founded college at Ipswich (which itself was dissolved in 1530).



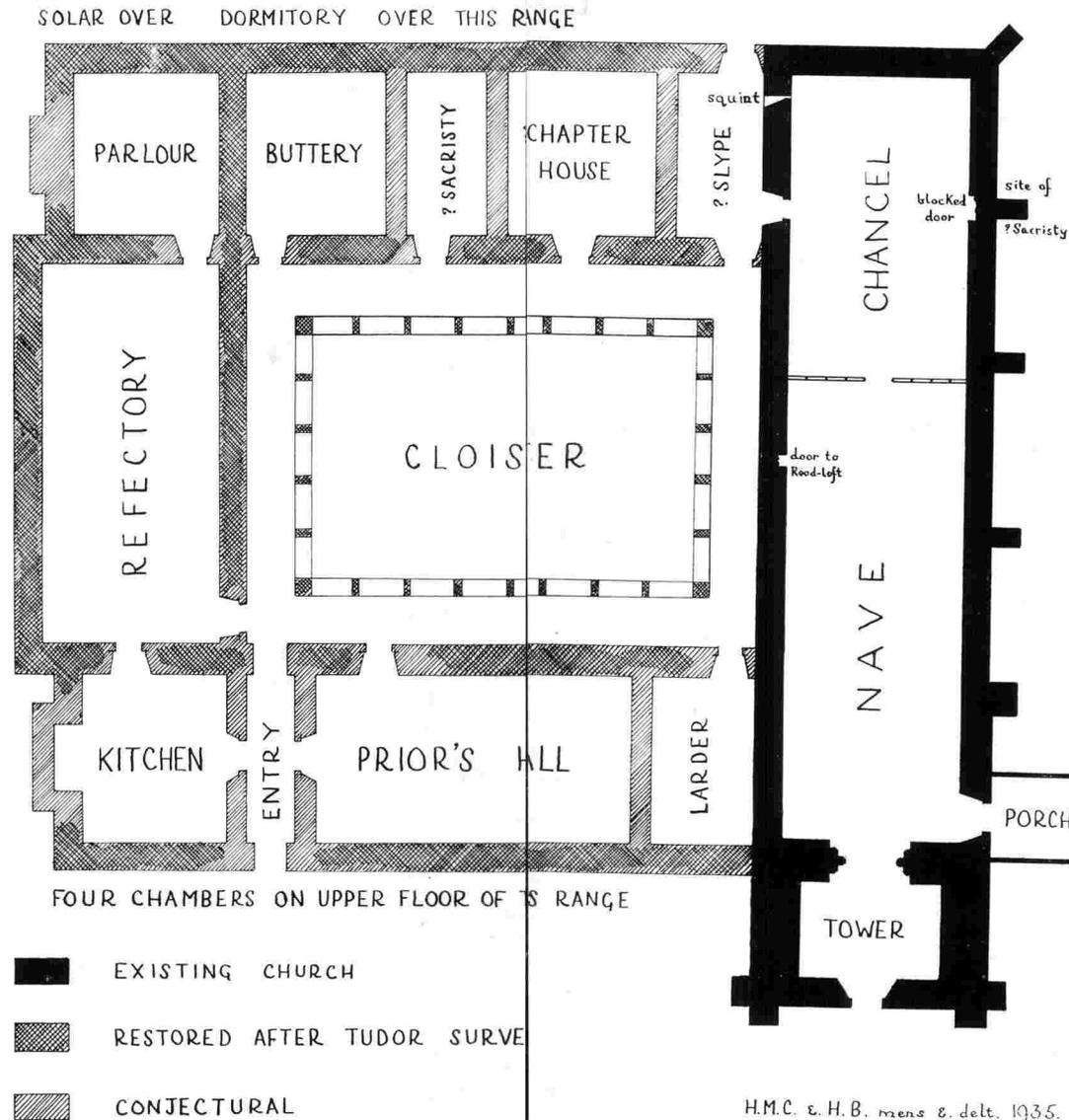
RUMBURGH CHURCH. SCREEN AND PULPIT.



RUMBURGH PRIORY CHURCH.

# RUMBURGH PRIORY SUFFOLK

SCALE OF 10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 FEET



H.M.C. E. H. B. mens & delt. 1935.

The bull of Pope Clement VII, granting Rumburgh and other priories to Cardinal Wolsey, is included in Rymer's *Foedera* (xiv, 240), and was published in full in an article on Blythburgh by the late Dr. J. J. Raven in *S.I.A. Proceedings*, vol. iv, no. 5, pp. 238-240 (d. 1872).

It is entitled

A.D. 1528. An. 20 H.8.

A Bull for the Suppression of the Monasteries of Romboro, Felixtow, Bromehil, Bliborow and Montjoie. Registered in the Apostolic Chamber by command of the Very Reverend Cardinal of the Four Saints, B. MOLTA.

The following is a translation of the greater part of this Papal grant, (which in places, like even modern legal documents, may appear to the layman somewhat involved) :

CLEMENT, Bishop, Servant of the Servants of GOD, to his beloved son Thomas, Cardinal, Priest of St. Cecilia, Legate of Us and of the Apostolic See in the Kingdom of England, Greeting and our Apostolic Blessing.

Since today in Our other letter, in the matter of the monastery of St. Peter, of the Holy Order of Canons Regular of St. Augustine, in the Vill or Town of Ipswich, situate in the Diocese of Norwich, usually governed by a Prior, We have granted at your suggestion the Licence and Faculty of suppressing and extinguishing its Name, Dignity, Order, and Dependencies, and of placing the Name of a College on it, and of applying and appropriating its Income, Fruits, and Forthcomings to the College that is to be founded by you, according as it is comprised in them.

And because, as We have heard, the Income, Fruits, and Forthcomings of the said Monastery are far too small and slight to be sufficient for the Alimony and Sustentation of the Scholars who ought to have leisure for study there, and there are in those parts the Monasteries written below, whose Incomes, Fruits, and Possessions, if they should be converted and applied to such salutary uses, namely, that they should confer much benefit on Religion and Morals, and therefore more persons desiring leisure for study could be supported, and acquire the Pearl of Knowledge, by the acquisition of which they could afterwards serve the Realm, and contribute to the safety of faithful souls by their knowledge and virtue :

We, at your suggestion, which Your Highness has adorned by your remarkable Virtues and Gifts of mind, and your Prudence and Experience of Statesmanship in difficult Business which we have experienced, in which We show our full confidence in the Lord, of Our own initiative, not at the instance of any petition offered to us on this matter, but of Our own unaided deliberation, and out of the certain fullness of Our Knowledge and Apostolic Power, to your suggestion concerning Romboro, and Felixtow, alias Fylstou, and of Bromehil, near Brandonfery, moreover concerning Bliborow and Montisgaudii, alias Montjoy, Monasteries of St. Benedict and St. Augustine res-

pectively, in the said Diocese, usually governed by Priors, We have granted the License and Faculty of suppressing and extinguishing their Names, Dignities, Priorates, Orders, and Dependencies, in the cases of each one of them, if the Agreement of Our Beloved Son in Christ, Henry, Illustrious King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Defender of the Faith, be added: and of uniting the Monasteries with all their Rights and Appurtenances, to the same College for ever, and of transferring their Monks and Canons and Persons to other places or monasteries, of the same or of another Order, according as it seems expedient to you: moreover, of the Monasteries so suppressed and united the Incomes, Fruits, and Forthcomings, of whatever nature or kind they have been, whether they are Tithes or Payments by method of Union and Appropriation, or by any special or general Right of Charter, belonging or appertaining to the said Monasteries, or to any one of them: Moreover, all and each of the moveable and fixed property of the said Monasteries, concerning the valuation of all which said property, as of the Incomes, Fruits, and Forthcomings We have been informed of the annual value and here Will to be regarded as stated.

These We grant by the tenour of these Present (letters) full, complete, and free Licence and Faculty of Applying and Appropriating for ever, for the good of the said College, which is to be built by you in the Vill or Town of Ipswich in the Diocese of Norwich, and of Transferring them with all their Privileges, Rights, Dependencies, Appendences, and Appurtenances, by full and complete right to the said College, and also of uniting in the same way, of attaching and appropriating whatsoever parochial churches have been already united to and appropriated to the said Monasteries, or any one of them, just as We for greater Safeguard Unite, Appropriate, and Incorporate them in the event of a suppression of this kind.

And finally, each thing and all things which seem needful and convenient to establish, confirm, and perpetuate the said College's possession of the goods, lands, fruits, incomes, and forthcomings of the said Monasteries, to be held and kept in peace for the future: We give full, complete, and free licence to do, determine, and carry out these things by Pains and other Ecclesiastical Censures whatsoever.

And We extend to this, notwithstanding Our own interest, because in making Unions the true annual value of the Benefice to be united as well as of that to which the union is sought to be made, and whose interests are in question are summoned, notwithstanding other Apostolic Bulls, or the general or special Constitutions and Ordinances, proclaimed in the Provincial or Synodal Councils of Otto and Ottobonus, of Holy Memory, once Legates of the Apostolic See in the Kingdom of England\*, notwithstanding Customs and Statutes strengthened by oath of the said Monasteries, or by Apostolic Confirmation, or any other Confirmation, despite Privileges and Indulgencies and Apostolic Letters in form of a Brief, in whatever

\*Temp. Henry III.

form or language they may be couched, even if issued in the plenitude of the Apostolic Power, even when the grants have been repeated, confirmed, and introduced by Us and the same See, even if the precaution has been expressly stated that they cannot be repealed even by Apostolic letters, except if it seems the Roman Pontiff wished to repeal them.

.....

We repeal all Last Wills and Testaments, Ordinances and Dispositions of deceased men, by what Authority so ever confirmed, corroborated, and determined, and by what Pains and Ecclesiastical Censures soever guarded, . . . . and We give a Dispensation for any Change, Alteration, Conversion, and Translation into the said use; and for any defect from the lack of expression of the correct value of the incomes or goods of the said Monasteries. . . . .

It is unlawful for any man at all to infringe this page of our Grant, Union, Appropriation, Incorporation, Extension, Amplification, Repeal, and Dispensation &c.

Given in the OLD CITY in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty Eight, on the 14th of May, in the 5th Year of Our Papacy.

CLEMENT VII Pope.

This was countersigned by Hen. de Busseyo, and a note (in Latin) at the end states that beneath it was a leaden seal hanging by a silken thread of a yellow and red colour.

It is recorded (Cott. MS. Cleop. E. iv, 46) that the Abbot of St. Mary's in York had sent certain valuables (muniments and other things) to Rumburgh for greater security. But when the Commissioners seized Rumburgh they possessed themselves of these treasures and refused to restore them. The Abbot protested in vain. It is said that he made the King's officers the offer of 300 merks (about £200) towards the endowment of Wolsey's College at Ipswich if the Priory could be spared. As the yearly income of the Priory was then only £30 this was a large promise, but it was not accepted, and only a few years later St. Mary's Abbey and the Lord Abbot himself were dispossessed.

#### SURVEY OF THE PRIORY.

A Survey of Rumburgh Priory, made some time in the reign of Henry VIII, probably soon after its dissolution, is now preserved in the Public Record Office. (Miscellaneous Books of the Exchequer, Treasury of the Receipt. Public Record Office, vol. 160). The following extracts are taken from Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. iii, p. 615, in which, however, the figures of measurements differ slightly in one instance from those given in the MS. Survey in the Record Office.

Near the beginning of this Survey is the statement: "The Township of Rumburgh claim their church to be a parish church but it is none, and the profits will not find a priest."

“ There is a saint in the church of Rumburgh called Saint Bay, to which there is much offering upon Michaelmas day of money and cheeses.”

It is doubtful who this “ Saint Bay ” was. Dugdale has St. Bory, which it has been conjectured may have been a corruption of Eboracum, the Latin form of York, to whose abbey of St. Mary the Priory belonged.

More likely it was Saint Beia, at one time head of the Benedictine House in Scotland, who died in 896, since Rumburgh was founded as a Benedictine Priory. The name persists at St. Bees, in Cumberland, and St. Bees' Head.

The Survey then describes in detail the buildings of the Priory, which to-day, with the exception of the church, have almost entirely disappeared.

(The archaic spelling and numerals have been modernised for convenience).

“ The hall of the late monastery there is covered with slate and contains in length 46 feet and in breadth 20 feet.

The cloister stands on the south side of the hall and it is covered with lead and contains in length on the south side and north side 45 feet and in length on the east side and west side 66 feet.

The breadth of the cloister within is 6 feet.

On the west side of the cloister is built a house, slated, wherein is contained a larder house, an old hall, an entree and the kitchen with four chambers over them, and contains in length 87 feet and in breadth 20 feet.

On the east side of the cloister one house covered with slate, where is a buttery, 2 low chambers, and a little chapel with the dorter chamber over them, and contains in length 66 feet and in breadth 19 feet.

At the east end of the hall there is built a parlour with a chamber overhanging . . . chimney, in length 19 feet and in breadth 18 feet.

On the south side of the cloister stands the church and chancel under one roof, and is covered with lead, contains in length 87 feet and in breadth 22 feet.”

The accompanying plan was prepared from these measurements, at my request, by Mr. Hugh Braun, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., who has added also the following notes :

The remarkable feature of the plan is that the church is to the south of the cloister, instead of its usual position to the north, where its mass would keep off the north winds from the cloister.

The “ hall ” is clearly the monks' refectory or dining hall, and presents no difficulties.

The dimensions of the cloister show quite clearly that it was divided up into square bays, having eight arches to the east and west, and

five on the north and south. This is unusual, cloisters were usually square.

The western range is always the prior's house. The chief building is the private hall of the prior, which is usually raised upon a basement in which the stores could be kept, so that he could keep an eye on them.

Here, however, we have a ground floor hall, with the "larder house" next to it. I have assumed that the man making the survey went along the cloister and noted the doors, coming to the larder first.

The sizes of hall and larder are not given, so I have had to guess these.

The "entry" is the main entrance to the priory, and is always through the entrance range continuing the range of the cloister.

The kitchen is of course at the "lower" end of the refectory, and here it can also serve the prior's hall.

The four rooms over on the first floor would be the prior's bedroom, and probably three guest rooms.

The eastern range presents a few difficulties. The "little chapel" is probably the Chapter House where the business of the priory was transacted.

There was clearly a little room next the church, where the squint looking towards the altar is situated. This should be the "slype" which contained the monks' entrance to the church, and through which their bodies were taken to the monks' graveyard beyond. I can only assume that this was one of the two "low chambers," and that the other was a sacristy for keeping vestments and church utensils.

The "buttery" is of course the "bottlery," where the drinks were kept in charge of the "butler" or cellarer.

Over the rooms of the eastern range was always the monks' dormitory, a long lofty room with the beds arranged along its sides.

The "parlour" is the room where the monks were allowed to talk. It is often at the upper end of the refectory. Here it seems handy for the drinks also.

Above the parlour in this case was a "solar" or sunny upper room, apparently with a fireplace, but the survey here is incomplete. It was of half-timber and overhung. It was possibly in this case used for sick monks or those who had been bled for their health.

It may be noted that the length of the church, found by actual measurement to-day, is some twenty feet longer than that given in the Survey. It is possible that in that survey the tower may have been omitted.

The Survey also mentioned a House covered with straw at the north end of the kitchen, 47 by 17 feet ; the milnehouse\* covered with straw 87 by 25 feet ; the dairy house covered with straw 84 by 22 feet ; the barn covered with straw 144 by 32 feet ; the cart house 30 by 15 feet ; the dovehouse covered with straw 24 by 14 feet : the stables and other houses necessary under one roof and covered with straw 128 by 13 feet.

As to lands, etc., " the ground whereon the said mansion standeth with the church and other buildings to the same belonging with courts, fishpools, orchards, gardens, and swineyard, contains—Site, 11 acres ; Pightle† next bake house, 2 acres ; Pightle next the wood, 6 acres ; The Woods, 60 acres ; The Cawsey close and Wood Close, 25½ acres 1 rood ; Monks' field, 34½ acres ; Grete Bombothe close, 32 acres ; Little Bombothe close, 26 acres 1 rood ; Bromerode, 26 acres 1 rood ; Grete Smith Hedge close with the grove, 14 acres, of which the grove 5 acres ; Close called Knyghts Hill, 25 acres. The House called Millmount is in the hands of the Lord of the Manor of Rumburgh.

In 1538 the Manor of Rumburgh with the buildings of the dissolved Priory and the Advowson of the Church were purchased by the Duke of Norfolk, who in the reign of Henry VIII (1546) was attainted, and condemned to die. It was restored to the Duke of Norfolk in 1553, and was purchased by John Holland.

Afterwards it became the property of the Bayning, Cobbold, Jessup, and other families.

#### THE CHURCH.

Of all these buildings practically nothing now remains except the church.

In its present form this consists of a Tower basement at the west end, and a Nave, the eastern part of which is separated from the western part by the original Screen (Perpendicular), so forming the chancel.

The roof is depressed, open timbered, and appears to have been reconstructed out of an old high pitched roof, while that of the chancel is new, but constructed as a continuation of the Nave roof.

There is also a south Porch with an Early English arch, leading into the Nave. The thickness of the Nave wall, in which this arch is formed, measures more than a yard.

What remains of the western Tower is a basement with Early English entrance, and above, three lancet-shaped windows. On this has been built a timber structure with latticed windows, as a bell chamber. This is surmounted by a high pitched tiled roof, with flag-staff and vane.

The wooden bell chamber, reached by a very narrow spiral staircase, is in a somewhat delapidated condition. It contains five bells, bearing the following inscriptions, as recorded by Dr. J. J. Raven (*Church Bells of Suffolk*, No. 399, pp. 228, 229) :

\*Millhouse ; probably a rotary mill worked by a horse.

†A small field.

“ 1 and 4, Anno Domini 1624, W.I.B., 2, R.S.I.T., Churchwardens, Anno Domini 1624, W.I.B. ; 3, Tho. Gardiner-Sudbury fecit 1728 ; 5, The Revd. Althills, Perp. Curate, John Briant Hertford fecit 1823, C. Reynolds.”

In the return of the Royal Commission set up in 1553 to find out how many church bells had been embezzled by churchwardens, mention is made of three bells and a sanctus bell. (East Anglian Notes and Queries, Vol. III, new series, p. 130).

On the north side, and proceeding eastward, are two perfectly plain, square-headed, domestic looking windows of about five feet by four, formed without much splay, and with no tracery whatever ; of these one is about fifteen feet from the ground, and the other about twelve feet from the ground.

A little to the right of these two windows is a narrow, lancet-headed door, leading to the stairway up to the rood loft. The stairs are still in position, though somewhat delapidated. The passage is built in the thickness of the wall.

Some ancient stained glass was found when these stairs were discovered, but apparently what became of this is not known.

There is on the north side of the Chancel a three light Perpendicular window, the sill of which is nine feet from the floor. Where the vestry door is usually found there is a low Transition doorway, which gives into what is now a garden, where formerly was a room on the ground floor of the eastern range of buildings, possibly the “ Slype ” (see plan).

Beyond this doorway, and about two feet from the east wall there is a Squint or hagioscope, and nearly above this a square opening, about fourteen inches high by ten inches wide.

The Sanctuary is raised two steps above the Chancel floor, and is paved with Minton tiles. Within the rails are four Memorial slabs. The largest of these is to the memory of John Norman, Gentn., with crest and shield of Arms.

There are also two slabs to the memory of members of the Aldred family, and one small slab in the extreme S.E. corner to the memory of Stephen Elmy, qui obiit 1688.

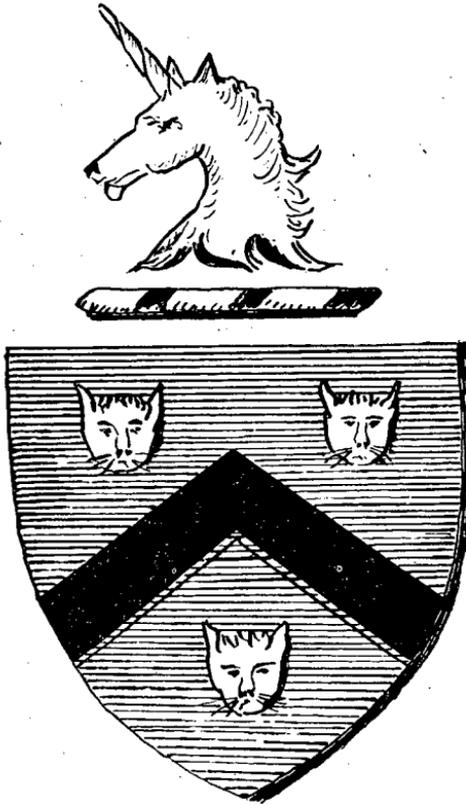
On the north wall of the chancel is a monument “ to continue the memory of Katherine, the wife of Samuel Chandler, and of Susan, his wife, of this parish, who was the daughter of Capt. Francis Saunders, and Katherine his wife, late of Great Yarmouth in ye county of Norfolk, which Susan ye wife of Samuel Chandler (aforesaid) lyeth interred in this place with ten sons and daughters besides her for whome this was erected, who was borne 20 May, 1661, and departed this life 12 September, 1705, aged 44 years, 4 months, and 3 days.”

The East Window is of four lights, modern Perpendicular with depressed arch.

On the south side of the Chancel there is a round-headed (arched) doorway, now built up, immediately opposite the Early English doorway in the north wall.

This probably led to a sacristy, or it may have been merely a door to the open air from the monks' part of the church, as none other appears to exist. It was obviously blocked when the fifteenth century buttresses were built (see plan).

Four feet from the doorway is a round headed recess for a Holy Water stoup.



ARMS OF JOHN NORMAN OF RUMBURGH.

There are two windows in the Chancel on the south side; one Decorated, the other Perpendicular. The first is of three lights, the other of two. In the upper tracery the painted glass has been removed, and the bosses of crown glass set in its place.

There are two good three-light Perpendicular windows in the south wall of the Nave, eight feet from the floor.

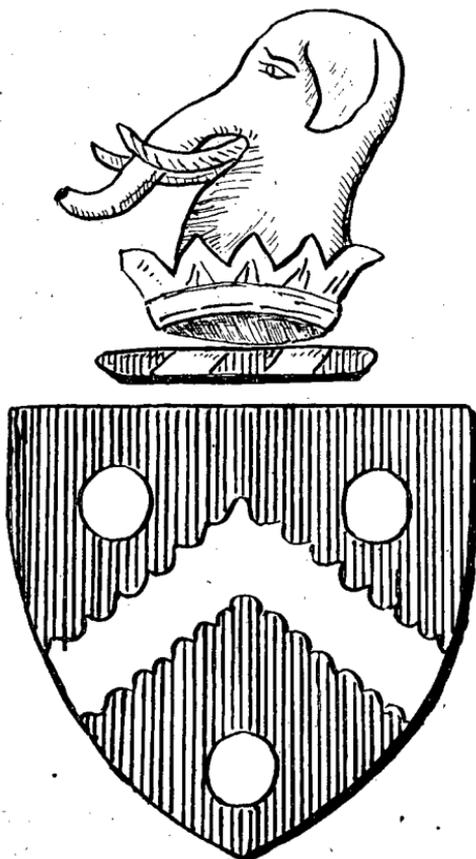
The Porch is 15th. century. Just inside is a large round-headed recess for Holy Water stoup.

On the floor of the Nave are five sepulchral slabs to the memory of members of the Davy family. Also one to the memory of a Harvey of Yoxford. David Elisha Davy, the great collector of Suffolk Memorials

and Historic Notes, who afterwards resided at the Grove, Yoxford, was born in this parish.

In the last century there was a Gallery, put up by the Rev. Lombe Athill (1823-1850), which was afterwards removed by the Rev. Regd. N. Durrant (1854-1866).

On the wall beneath its site hangs a clarionet that had been played by a Mr. James Day, one of the minstrels in that gallery long ago.



ARMS OF DAVID DAVY.

The oaken rood screen is lofty, and the tracery under its pointed arches most graceful; but all is disfigured with hideous paint and varnish, which should be removed. Were this done it is possible that considerable remains of figure-painting might be disclosed. Even now one or two robes can be made out on the unvarnished space of panel beneath the pulpit, and the dado-band, marking the shoulder-level of a vanished figure, can be seen on a panel near the doorway. There is no record available of these paintings. (S.I.A. Proceedings, vol. xxi, p. 192).

The Pulpit is a plain and rather poor Jacobean construction. It stands now by the north wall, just outside the Screen. Prior to the restoration of the church by the late vicar, the Rev. W. Linton Wilson, in 1896-7, the pulpit stood in the middle of the nave, faced by two exceptionally large box pews, which with others were then replaced by modern seats. Many of these have excellent poppy-head ends, and in the others modern reproductions in oak. There is some good carving, apparently Jacobean, on the backs of several seats at the west end of the church.

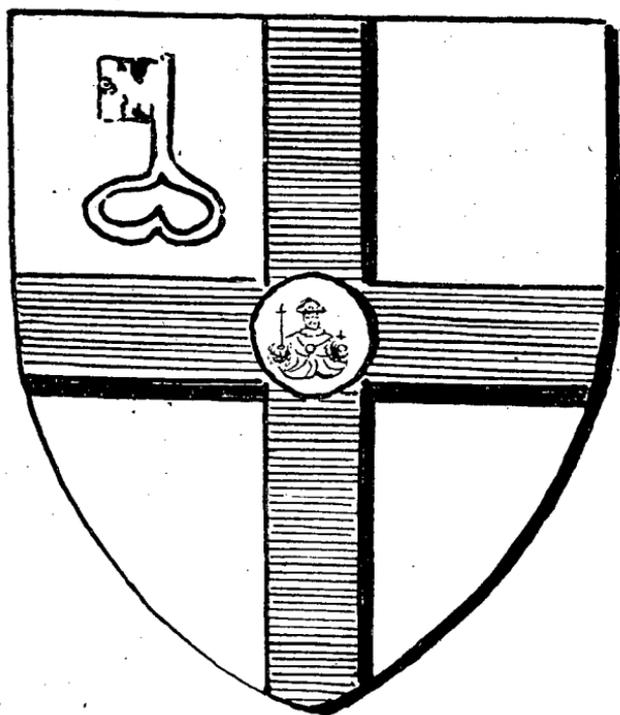
The Font is octagonal, with quatrefoils in each panel, on a modern base.

Inside the church is preserved an old rough stone coffin, which was discovered, fairly recently, buried in an adjoining orchard on the south side of the nave.

The Arms of Rumburgh Priory, discovered during the restoration in 1878, were painted and framed by the late Vicar, and hung on the west wall of the Nave.

The Arms are given in Richard Taylor's *Monasticus*, 1821, p. 85 :—

“Argent on a Cross gules, a besant, thereupon a demi-King in his robes all proper, in the dexter quarter in chief a Key in pale of the second.” (These are the arms of S. Mary, York.)



ARMS OF RUMBURGH PRIORY.

In the compilation of these Notes on Rumburgh Priory I am especially indebted to the late Rev. Alfred J. Bedell, vicar of Cratfield from 1908, a former member of our Society, for some detailed notes, now in the possession of J. A. Bailey, Esq., of Rumburgh; and to Hugh Braun, Esq., F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., for drafting the plan of the Priory buildings from the data given in the Tudor Survey (which will be seen to differ considerably in several respects from the outline plan published in S.I.A. Proceedings, vol. XIV, page 322).

I am also indebted to my daughter, H. M. Cane, for the drawing of the plan, with Mr. Braun's assistance, and for detailed measurements of the church: to my wife for the drawings of the Arms; to C. H. Lockitt, Esq., F.R.HIST.S., for translation of the Papal Bull; to the Vicar, the Rev. D. Stewart, for information on certain details; and to the Editor of the Proceedings, the Rev. H. A. Harris, for assistance in various ways. The list of the Priors and Vicars was compiled by the late Vicar, Rev. W. Linton Wilson, and is given as an appendix.

Photographs by Allan Clarke, Bungay, and A. Leyneek, Beccles.

#### LIST OF THE PRIORS OF RUMBURGH.

(As far as can at present be completed).

The following list, compiled by the late Rev. W. Linton Wilson, and put up in the Church in 1897, differs somewhat from that published in the Victoria County History of Suffolk (vol. II, p. 78), as indicated below.

|      |                       |  |
|------|-----------------------|--|
| A.D. |                       |  |
| 1064 | Frater Blakere        |  |
| —    | Humphrey de Woneham   | (Not in V.C.H.; Dugdale has Woucham, and gives Leland as reference). |
| 1199 | John de Akaster       |  |
| 1308 | Willm. de Tolberton   |  |
| 1311 | Matt. de Eboraco      |  |
| 1316 | Jacob de Maylound     | (James in V.C.H.)  |
| 1319 | Wm. de Toulthorp      |  |
| 1320 | Galfridus de Kudston  | (Rudston in V.C.H.)  |
| 1331 | Adam de S. Botulpho   |  |
| —    | William de Newton     |  |
| 1332 | Joes de Maghenby      | (John in V.C.H.)   |
| 1343 | Roger de Aslaby       | (Aslakby in V.C.H.)  |
| —    | Joes de Mannurby      | (John de Manneby in V.C.H.)<br>(?Same as Maghenby above).            |
| —    | Alex de Wash, or Wast | (Wath in V.C.H.)   |

- 1347 Ricardus de Burton  
 — Joes de Gaterig (Gayton in V.C.H.)  
 1357 Joes de Marton  
 1360 Alex de Wath (See above: V.C.H. has not  
 this entry).  
 1361 Richd. de Appilton  
 1370 Thos. Lastils  
 1373 Joes de Garton  
 — Mich. de Kelfield (Nich. in V.C.H.).  
 1392 Thos. de Helmsley  
 1394 Wm. de Dalton  
 1405 Joes Lellay (Selby in V.C.H.)  
 1407 Willm. Hewyk  
 1412 Thos. Ampelford (Ampulforth in V.C.H.)  
 1417 Thos. Stavely  
 1425 Thos. Gasgill  
 1428 Wm. E syngwold  
 1439 Thos. Goddesburgh (Goldesburgh in V.C.H.)  
 1447 Thos. Bothe  
 — Hugo Belton  
 1464 Joes Ward  
 1478 Joes Brown  
 1483 Rich. Mowbray  
 1484 Walt Hotham  
 1492 Joes Lovell, S.T.D.  
 — Walt. Hotham  
 1495 Thos. Burton  
 — Wm. Skelton  
 1498 Ric. Wood  
 1507 Joes Ledell  
 1523 Launcelot Wharton  
 1525 Joes Halton

(Note the large number of Yorkshire names evidencing the connection with St. Mary's Abbey, York.—Editor).

- 1528 On September 12th the Priory was suppressed, the Commissioners being  
 D. Newyns  
 D. Lee  
 Thos. Cromwell  
 T. Rushe.

## LIST OF THE VICARS OF RUMBURGH.

| A.D. |                     | A.D. |                                    |
|------|---------------------|------|------------------------------------|
| 1550 | Richard Arton       | 1771 | Jno. Amyas                         |
| 1599 | Thos. Elmy          | 1774 | Thos. Paddon (Curate)              |
| 1609 | Wm. Wills           | 1775 | Humphrey Waring                    |
| 1613 | John Colbeck        | 1779 | D. H. Potts                        |
| 1625 | Benjn. Fairfax      | 1805 | J. F. B. Bohun                     |
| 1705 | James Dier          |      | In this year the benefices of Rum- |
| —    | Henry Kifford       |      | burgh and St. Michael, South       |
| 1738 | Jno. Cutting        |      | Elmham were consolidated,          |
| 1754 | Jas. Lumby          |      | Nov. 2nd.                          |
| 1755 | R. English          | 1816 | Wm. Tyson                          |
| 1759 | Thos. Whittaker     | 1823 | Lombe Athill                       |
| —    | Jos. Price (Curate) | 1850 | Thos. R. Mayhew                    |
| 1760 | Saml. Freeman       |      |                                    |
| —    | Charles Broun       | 1851 | S. P. Downing                      |
| 1762 | Saml. Burrough      | 1854 | Regd. N. Durrant                   |
| 1763 | B. Dodson           | 1866 | R. E. Meredith (Curate)            |
| 1764 | Jas. Banks          | 1868 | Percival Frost                     |
| 1766 | Geo. Cannell        | 1878 | Jno. Geo. Ash                      |
| 1767 | J. Richards         | 1880 | C. G. Lynn Frier                   |
| 1769 | T. Price            | 1871 | W. Clarke                          |
| 1770 | T. Reeve            | 1896 | Wm. Linton Wilson                  |
| —    | Jno. White          | 1933 | D. Stewart                         |