SHORTER CONTRIBUTIONS

WALTON PRIORY: A CORRECTION

by Diarmaid MacCulloch, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

In her commentary on the history of Walton Priory (Proc. S.I.A. xxxiii, 141–9), Miss Katharine Davison cites at length a document from State Papers Henry VIII in the Public Record Office (P.R.O., SP1/52/101), which she states is a memorandum on the state of Walton Priory sent to Cardinal Wolsey at the time of its suppression in 1528. However, this inventory does not refer to Walton, although the editors of Letters and Papers . . . Henry VIII ascribed it to Felixstowe when calendaring it (Letters and Papers iv, pt. iii, 5145). In fact the paper is headed ‘A Remembrans unto Mr. Cromewell of certain utensiles that I sawe at Filston’; this place-name the editors misread as Filstou, and assumed that it referred to Walton Priory in Felixstowe since Cromwell was involved in the suppression of several East Anglian monasteries for Wolsey, including Walton.

‘Filston’ should really be identified with Filston Hall near Shoreham in Kent, as is confirmed by associated documents in the State Papers. This document should therefore be ignored in connection with Walton, and the fact that it seems to suggest a similar layout for the Priory to a set of monastic accounts of 1499 is mere coincidence.

THE CHOROGRAPHY OF SUFFOLK: ADDENDUM AND CORRIGENDUM

by Diarmaid MacCulloch, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

Mr Henry Hallam of Abingdon has recently drawn my attention to a further fragment of the text of the Chorography of Suffolk, consisting of half a page of the main text giving entries for Holton St Peter and Holbrook. It is to be found at p. 67 of a copy of Kirby’s Suffolk Traveller grangerised by Craven Ord and now in the Bodleian Library (MS Top. Suff.b.2). The fragment runs as follows:

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In the south side of the church is a chappell where are 2 grave ('stones' interlined by Peter Le Neve), the one never had any brasse the other is reaved. In the windowe is this coate, Arg. fretty of 8 pieces azur charged w'th a fleur de lis in ech crossing or on a canton gules a soleil of the third.

Domsd. Prior de Rumburgh h't eam in p'rios usus. H't mansu' cu' 10 acris terre. Aest. 16 mar. Proc. 6s8d Syn. 12d.


The king is patron, to it belongeth a ruinous dwelling house a barne & an acre & an halfe besides the churchyard of gleabes. To it belonged more acres. All tithes are p'd in kinde save lactage instead wherof is p'd for every fallowe cowe & drie beast 1d for every cowe & calfe vd for a tithe lambe ijs. For tithe wool for every tithe pound vjd for every orchard iiijd for every pecke of hempseed sowing iiijd in stead of hay for every acre of bottome medowe vd for hardland iiijd for hartsilver (blank). No waxe nor hony ever p'd. They pay tithe peascodes gathered.

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(On the reverse of this leaf, p. 133, is an entry for 'Holbrock n St. 13' which was transcribed in full and with his usual accuracy by Thomas Allen, amanuensis to Peter Le Neve, and which I have included in my main text of the Chorography, MacCulloch 1976, 47).

The first part of the Holton entry, consisting of church notes, was transcribed by Bishop Tanner's amanuensis and is already included in my published version of the main Chorography text: the rest is all new. The page numbering of the fragment confirms my reconstruction of the order of the text at this point (MacCulloch 1976, 138).

I would like to correct an unfortunate error in my commentary on Ellough in the Chorography (MacCulloch 1976, 114, note 44). It is the porch at Kessingland, not that at Ellough, which is dated 1578.

Reference