

EFFINGHAM

SURREY

THE CHURCH

THE PARISH

THE HOUSES

EFFINGHAM

SURREY

THE CHURCH

THE PARISH

THE HOUSES

Guildford :

BIDDLES LTD., PRINTERS, MARTYR ROAD.

TO
THE FRIENDS
OF
EFFINGHAM.

EFFINGHAM CHURCH.

The history of a Church, and especially an old Church, is always of interest, and the more we know about it the more we are likely to become attached to it. Many parishes now have a short account available, and, too, a ground plan set up by the porch door. Two general sources of information are old documents and records as preserved in London, in the Cathedral and County libraries, and in the parish registers, and also the changes and style which mark the fairly well defined periods of architecture.

Here, at Effingham, the documents range from the Cotton manuscripts in the British Museum of the later part of the 13th century to the Victoria County History of this 20th century, and the architecture from windows of the 13th century to recent times.

The opening inquiries are the origin of the name and the place chosen for the church. Effingham has a simple derivation—"ham" is the same as home, "ing" means son, "eff" is a family name. The explanation in Manning and Bray's "History of Surrey," 1809, and attributed to a Vicar here 100 years before, is that Effingham was the habitation on the land given to Yffing, the son of Yffe, by Ella,

the first King of the South Saxons, about the year 493.

The building of a church here is probably due to a Roman road that ran straight from London to Ashstead, and then to Guildford by the lower road, through Fetcham, Bookham and Effingham, and in each place the church was built most likely by the lord of the manor.

The earliest date and name in association with Effingham Church is 1166, when William de Dammartin held one of the three manors. It has been thought that the South Transept may have been a chantry of prayer for him. The proportion of the two squares in the Nave is also said to be suggestive of the 12th century. A definite record is that William de Dammartin was alleged to have granted the advowson to the Priory of Merton in Surrey, in a successful claim made by it in 1278-79, and it remained in the patronage of the Priory until its dissolution in 1538. The last Rector was in 1296, and the first Vicar in 1321. A difference in their position was in the diversion and appropriation in greater part by the Priory of the titheable value of the parish, which, in the Ecclesiastical Domesday, about 1291, was stated to be £14 13s.4d., equivalent now perhaps to £1,000.

Six hundred years and more ago, the care of the church was thus in the keeping of the Priory of Merton, but in a hundred years the Chancel had fallen into such decay that an order to repair it was issued in 1388 by William of Wykeham. The windows at the end of each side wall belong to this period, and in their tracery have much of the spirit of the famous Bishop's work at Winchester

Cathedral. Two taller windows were earlier, but only that on the North side remains, and under the outside moulding, one of the heads, now a good deal broken away, is thought to be possibly that of a Prior of Merton, 1307-1335. The masonry of the wall may be many years older. These three chancel windows are distinctive features of the 14th century work. The present East end window is modern. In past days it used to have stained glass of the Coronation of the Virgin Mary. There was stained glass also in other windows, but later, as in a number of churches, the remains were gathered together and set in a kind of jig-saw puzzle. Fifty years ago, in what was left of this, a crowned letter "R," upside down, was noted, and it has been suggested it may have been for King Richard III. The only pieces of old glass still existing are in the two short windows in the transept, and give some idea of the general style there would have been in the past.

A 17th century low massive screen was in 1852 across the chancel arch.

The one transept, on the South side, is known as the Chapel of St. Nicholas, and both St. Lawrence, the Patron Saint of the Church, and St. Nicholas are among the ancient dedications in Surrey. The design is to some extent a problem, as it does not run from East to West, parallel to the chancel and nave, and the length and width are rather longer than the chancel itself. It is considered to be of the middle of the 13th century, 1250-70, and the narrow windows would be of the same date, though the large one in the East wall is probably two centuries later. The piscina, or basin-sink, with the aumbry or cupboard, are con-

temporary, and bear witness to an altar having been there.

Then for some four or five hundred years until the 18th century, there is scarcely any architectural items in the history. There is a note in the second Parish Register that in 1718 the timber steeple, 75 feet high, spire and all, being rotten, was pulled down, and that it appeared to have been built at the most, 150 years, and that, possibly as elsewhere, the first belfry was built upon the church roof for a saint's bell. A stone inscription transferred to inside the tower, has on it "1757," and the names of the Vicar and two churchwardens, and it refers to the tower being built or rebuilt. The burial entry of a bricklayer, 1770, mentions that in 1757 he built the steeple to the church. In the picture of 1823, by the porch door, the tower has no spire, and it was of brick, which in 1828 was covered with cement. The tower was again reconstructed in 1888, in flint, and with a high inside arch. A brass inscription of its erection is on the wall.

Bells would have been probably in the tower at all times. An inventory of 1553 says there were then four bells and a sacring bell, but in 1718 there were only three bells, and in 1804 one dated 1679 was hung while two rested on the ground, and now there are five bells, given in 1890, with a total weight of 20 cwt.

Two mementoes of past days are the stone frame with a renewed stoup or bowl, the old part of which was found embedded in a wall close by, and the well-designed 15th century fleur-de-lis bench end, in the transept, and which has been copied in the modern chancel seats.

The Communion Plate is Elizabethan and Georgian, a silver cup and cover paten with London hall-marks of 1569, and with the date 1570 and " E," the initial letter of the parish, pricked on the cover ; a pewter paten and flagon, and plate of the early 18th century ; a silver cup and standing paten and flagon given in 1828 ; but the silver-gilt vessels of 1891, the cup set with a large number of jewels, and in use until recently, were a personal gift.

In the outline from several sources of the history of the church, there is sufficient to show that it dates from an early period. Renovations of importance have been from time to time recorded. In 1828 there is a memorandum in a register, of general repair and of carrying off the water from the foundation, but in 1885 the fabric of the church is reported in a very dilapidated state. The extensive restoration in 1888, at a cost of £2,000, was the beginning of the dignity and beauty of the present interior. It was carried out through the devotion of a few benefactors. It consisted of the removal of unsightly galleries, one across the transept arch, and another at the West end, erected in 1827 for the singers and the Sunday School children, of high box pews of painted deal along the whole length to the altar rails, of the low arch between the nave and chancel, of all the floor and roof.

The reconstruction was from end to end, and provided seating for 300. The East wall, where unsound, was taken down and rebuilt to an increased height, and the large window inserted, the chancel roof was raised about three feet, and during the work a discovery was made of faint traces of a decorative character ; the three windows on the North side

of the Nave, and the Tower with the West window were erected ; the South side aisle, with a new porch, was added.

There were, at that time and in later years, these improvements ; a new altar ; a new reredos with carved figures of our Lord and the four Marys ; a new organ ; a new choir vestry ; a new pulpit ; new oak sittings ; a new font in alabaster ; a clock to mark the flight of every passing hour ; mosaic memorials of excellent standard, and several richly coloured stained glass windows.

It is a church to which a parish can become attached with a high sense of pride and satisfaction. The sacred purpose of the building has been kept clear in the line of vision that leads up to the altar. It is for the worship of God and the Administration of the Sacraments, and the call is made on each one to meet together, week by week, for the need and grace of the soul in humbleness of heart and in the spirit of thankfulness.

EFFINGHAM PARISH,

In the history of Effingham the names to which a reference might be made are many, but only a few who lived here can be mentioned in a short account. The sources of information are, the two early Parish Registers, the Memorial Tablets, Archæological Papers, and the Dictionary of National Biography.

The entries in the first Register from 1565 to 1624, by the regular handwriting, were obviously copied in at one time, and on the cover there is the date 1623, and that the book was bought for xviiiid.

Two unusual items are noted—a brief for a church collection in 1659 on account of a great loss which happened by fire in Fleet Street in the City of London; an account of a certificate given on November 30th, 1684, for the King's Evil, probably scrofula, such as enlarged glands.

In the transitional year of 1659, there is recorded of different infants, two sprinklings, two christenings, two baptisms. A triplet of boys was baptised on June 17th, 1659.

Marriages by licence begin in 1596, and are not infrequent during the next two hundred years, and in a number of them both bride and bridegroom are of another parish.

Two Vicars sometimes, after the entry of burial added the sickness—gradual decay, small pox,

accidentally drowned ; and of young children burnt to death. In one period the mortality of Foundling Hospital infants was considerable. A man, 1681, was near 100 years ; a woman, 1758, was 98 ; and in the last 250 years, several have been 90 and over. There is a notice in 1769 of the omission of an affidavit that an infant had been buried in sheep's wool only.

Among the local names, Cooke is one of the oldest, and an ancestor held a homestead with 40 acres in 1459 ; Killick first appears in 1577, and from that year in each generation it is found, and two, three or four times, on a single page ; Monk is that of a family of 14 children born 1732-57. A brass is in the Tower to John Cooke and Frances, his wife, 1629 ; and a tablet associates Tho. Killick and Geo. Monk, 1757. Churchwardens of the three names held office in these two centuries.

In the second Register, the names of Carpenter, Ottway, Payne, Ranger, Turrel, occur on the same or next page, 120 years ago. The entries in this book, from 1660 to 1710, were copied in from the earlier one, and at the beginning it is stated that it was bought, ruled and written by John Miller, Vicar, 1710. The following counsel is given by him to the succeeding Vicars :—

The order here observed let it remain
Unchang'd, and unmixt with words of for'n strain;
Enter yo'rselves and trust no weaker hand
Of wife, or child, or clerk, so it may stand
Fair as 'tis left you ; hurt to keep it from ;
So it may last a thousand years to come.

He was Vicar, 1696-1724, and left in the margins of five pages references to the glebe and other

matters, and also a manuscript general note-book. His bequest of books for a Vicarial Library was the gift of a talented scholar. Before coming to Effingham, as related in full in Manning and Bray's History, he was Chaplain of the King's Fort, New York, 1692-5, and while there he was asked to supply answers to seven questions on sorcerers and witches. His reply to a principal one was that if the incantations were performed by the assistance of the Devil it was witchcraft, otherwise it was not witchcraft.

His predecessor was William Walker, 1676-96. The tiles now in the Tower record the death of three of his children at the ages of 8, 3, and 2, and such inscriptions on floor-tiles are rare, and probably marked the position of a vault underneath.

The last three Vicars total between them 137 years.

William Farley, 1793-1837, 44 years, is described on a tablet in the chancel, as: "an ornament to his profession, who recommended the holy precepts he inculcated upon others by the consistency and brightness of his own example, and by his benevolence and suavity of manners was endeared to all classes of society."

Henry Malthus, 1837-1882, 45 years, son of the author of the classic "Essay on Population," married the eldest daughter of his father's college friend, William Otter, D.D., Bishop of Chichester, and there is a stained glass window to the memory of him and his wife.

Ernest Frederic Bayly, 1882-1930, 48 years, will be remembered in the history of the church, in the great improvements that have given it a distinction and endurance of high value.

In the last century two churchwardens claim special attention. John Marmaduke Teesdale, of Effingham Lodge, who in the account in the "Church Times" of the restoration in 1888, is referred to as a very valued and generous parishioner, who entered most heartily in the work, and through whose stimulus a great start was made, but who was taken to his rest before its completion. Charles Edward Lambert, of Effingham Manor House, in office at the same period and altogether for over 20 years, and to whom, and his wife, a window and mosaic memorials have been erected.

The oldest record of much interest to antiquarians, is the ancient slab formerly in the chancel aisle, and now beneath the matting under the Litany Desk. It has a marginal inscription in Norman French of the 12th century, as often seen in Brittany. In English, the wording is, "Walter de Geddyng lies here, God have mercy upon his soul." It is said to be to the Walter de Geddyng who about 1316, succeeded his uncle in the manor of Effingham. His father, of the same name, was a Sheriff of Surrey. The earliest brass plate, transferred to the Tower, is to "John Aley, 1507, on whose soul Jesu have mercy. Amen." One lost, was to Ameys Aley, 1482, with the same invocation.

A modern monument of two finely sculptured figures, is now also in the Tower. It is to Maria Frances Selina Parratt, who died in 1844 at the age of 17, and has an epitaph of those days :

Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear,
That mourns thy exit from a world like this,
Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here
And stay'd thy progress to the realms of bliss.

A tablet to her father and mother, who died both in 1868 is in the Transept.

Miles and Jane Stringer, Margaret and Elizabeth Susan Faris, and Francis Muir, have left additional memories in gifts to the church.

Two names known in all English History, are the first and second Lord Howard of Effingham. William Howard was the eldest son of the second marriage of the Duke of Norfolk. He was granted the Manor of Effingham by Edward VI. in 1550, and received the title of Baron Howard, in 1554, as a reward for his services in suppressing Wyatt's rebellion. His son and heir, Charles Howard, was the famous High Admiral in command against the Spanish Armada, in 1588, and subsequently was created Earl of Nottingham, a title that lapsed after the next generation through no descendant. He has claims also upon the gratitude of English Churchmen, in exposing the fabrication connected with the consecration of Archbishop Parker. They were related, and he was present at the service in Lambeth Chapel. At a Privy Council held by James I. upon the question, he spoke of what he knew, and the attempt to sap the Episcopal succession was frustrated and defeated. It was of his wife that the story was told that Queen Elizabeth shook her on her death-bed, for having withheld the ring of the Earl of Essex, who had been beheaded, and which, if it had reached the Queen, would have saved him. The second Lord Howard had seven residences, and one of them was in Effingham. Both he and his father are buried at Reigate.

The Churchyard contains its brief records of several generations, and on passing through it

they are always before us, and bring up their memories of the past. Placed near one of the entrances is the Shrine of Honour to the 17 men from Effingham, who died for England in the Great War, and the flowers laid there from time to time, are a recognition of the general tribute to their supreme sacrifice.

In every parish a Book of Remembrance and the entries in the Registers of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, contain the great events in the life of a family, and as neighbours we are called to show an interest and sympathy at such times. The fellowship and unity of a parish depends on realising we belong to a Society with one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, and one God and Father of us all.

EFFINGHAM HOUSES.

Effingham in early times was probably a place of consequence from the various records in the Domesday Survey of William the Conqueror, 1086, of the Effingham Hundred and the Manors and Land. A Hundred originally was a county division with a hundred families or freemen. A manor was a grant of land by the Sovereign for services, with rights of overlordship. The land at Effingham before the Conquest was held by the Abbey of Chertsey, the first and perhaps greatest religious house in Surrey, but soon after it came into the possession of the Crown. Three of the old manors no longer exist. The extinct Pechingeorde contained Polesdon and Bagdon. Oswold, a Saxon, held it in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and of William I., and it was assessed for one hide, 120 acres or thereabouts. and was worth forty shillings. The Bishop of Bayeux claimed from this land every year for the King's use, two marks of gold or two hawks for the trial by battle which the Abbot, a previous owner, ought to have done against Geoffrey the little. Oswold was the brother of Abbot Wulfwold of Chertsey, and held most of the manors and land in Effingham.

The following families are among several with historic names—in the Victoria County History, 1911—that have been lords of the three principal manors :

The Manor of Effingham La Leigh.

675. The Abbey of Chertsey, and reputed to have been granted 20 dwellings at Bookham-cum-Effingham.

1086. Oswold, and in the time of Edward the Confessor.

c.1101-1320. Oswold de la Leigh—John de la Leigh.
About 1201 also a tenement in Polesdon.

1478. The Manor apparently amalgamated with the Manor of Place Court.

“Magna Britannia, 1730,” mentions the ruins of an ancient seat belonging to the family of At-Lees, overgrown with bushes and shrubs.

Manning and Bray’s “History of Surrey, 1809,” adds that in the upper part of the parish is a house still called Lee House, and in the lower part is a wood called Lee Wood, in which is a moat nearly square, inclosing something more than an acre of land, overgrown with copse, wood and trees.

“The Victoria County History, 1911,” regards the moated inclosure in Lee Wood as probably the site of the old Manor house of La Leigh.

In recent times old bricks have been occasionally dug up inside the moat.

The Manor of Effingham Place Court,
after 1527 The Manor of Effingham.

...1316. Thomas de Geddyng died seised of lands at La Place which included a Hall, Chamber, Granary, Fishery and a Dove-house.

1347-67. Sir John de Pulteney, five times Lord Mayor of London—his son.

- 1550-1647. Lord William Howard of Effingham—Charles, third Earl of Nottingham. The first Earl was the Lord Admiral Howard.
- 1704-1832. William Urry—Thomas Fitzherbert Brockholes.
- 1832-42. Sir Thomas Hussey Apreece, Bart.—his son. His lineage is traced on one side from Ap Rhese, Prince of Wales, in 1202.
- 1842-1921. Colonel Evelyn Latimer Parratt—Trustees.
1921. Robert Reitmeyer Calburn.

The Manor of Effingham East Court.

- ...1086. Oswold.
- ...1166-1248. William de Dammartin—Alice de Dammartin. The condition of a herony was in dispute in 1231.
- 1498-1521. Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, beheaded for high treason.
- 1528-33. John, Lord Berners, in recognition of his translation, by command of the King of the Chronicles of Froissart into English.
- 1533-38. Henry Courteney, Marquis of Exeter, beheaded for high treason.
- 1660-1790. Bought by Matthew Tayler, a merchant of London, with a tenement and farm called Nice Court, and the Rectory, and Parsonage, for £3,000—descendants.
- 1806-39. Miles Stringer.
- ...1874-1900. Lady Caroline Maxse, daughter of the 5th Earl of Berkeley—her son, Admiral Maxse.
- 1900-12. Caesar Czarnikow—Trustees.
1916. Robert Reitmeyer Calburn.

Aubrey's "Surrey, 1718," records a small fair on the Feast of St. Lawrence, August 10th. It was transferred to July 15th, St. Swithun's Day, before the end of the 18th century, and has since been abandoned.

In past times there were a number of farm houses, but half of them, in recent days, have been converted into private residences.

Norwood Farm, on the edge of Effingham Common, is of exceptional interest. The house, with a fine old tithe barn, 103 feet long, was built about 1244, probably by the Bishop of Winchester for the residence of a bailiff. It has some early Jacobean oak and yew panelling, and in an upstairs room there is a remarkable fresco on plaster, discovered in 1928, in red and blue Gothic characters, of the Ten Commandments from Tyndale's version of the Bible, which it is considered was inscribed in witness against a variation by the Church of Rome, soon after 1601.

Slater's Oak has retained some structural work of two centuries or more ago.

The Pound for strayed cattle is on the Common, outside Lower Farm, and it is reported in the Manorial Court Rolls to have been in decay in 1651 and in 1820.

Indian Farm, probably acquired its name in consequence of an East Indian native that at one time was employed there.

The Home Farm in the village is said to date from 1500.

Brown's, previously the Manor Farm, has structural evidence of an early period, and before the date, 1686, on an oak beam.

Portions of West Lane Farm are also old.

Orestan Farm is designed in the characteristic flint of the Earl of Lovelace, and has a date-stone, 1862.

There are a few interesting cottages of past days.

Westmoor House, known for a generation or two as Widdington, has a Tudor projecting brick porch of about 1600-20, but the house itself is earlier.

The "Plough" cottages, two of which used to be the Inn, are a similar age.

The "Sir Douglas Haig" had its name changed from the "Prince Blücher" in the great War, and it was built in place of a house with the same name, and formerly the "Black Horse" at the corner of the turnpike road and the Dorking road leading to Beech Avenue, and which in coaching days had busy times during the Epsom races.

The Almshouses near the Church, no longer used as tenements, were rebuilt in 1774.

There are three spacious mansions.

Effingham House—since 1927 the Effingham Manor Golf Club House—was much enlarged by General de Lancey, Barrack-master General, shortly before 1799, and in 1804 was taxed for 47 windows.

Effingham Hill—since 1928 a Convent School—was built by General de Lancey on the estate of Tib Farm in 1799, and in 1804 was taxed for 48 windows, but five years later for 69 windows.

Effingham Lodge—since 1929 a Home for Blind Women—was the residence about 100 years ago of Charles Francis Robinson, and in 1882 of his nephew, who enlarged it; later, considerable additions were made by George Pauling, and the property continued in this family until recently.

Crocknorth, with beams said to be from ships of the Spanish Armada, is Elizabethan, and built of brick, faced about 60 years ago with flint, and restored in 1919.

The Vicarage in 1804 was taxed for 28 windows, and £762 was spent on it in 1838.

The Effingham School was built in 1856, the Wesleyan Chapel in 1854, and the Roman Catholic Church in 1913.

The Parish measures four miles from N. to S. and one mile from E. to W., and has an area of 3,183 acres. The North side is clay, the middle is gravel, the South is chalk.

The census of 1811 returned 64 inhabited houses, 71 families, 62 families employed in agriculture, 7 families in trade, 220 males, 223 females, 443 altogether. A hundred years later the population was 643, in 1921 it was 605, and soon it is likely to be near 1000, from the addition of several large houses and many cottages and bungalows. In all the changes of the centuries, however, these old words carry their truth and thought:

“Every house is builded by some man,
but he that made all things is God.”

H. M. LARNER,
1930.