NORAH: Saving Norfolk's Archival Heritage

EXHIBITION GUIDE

Includes transcripts and photographs of documents featured in the exhibition.

Norfolk Record Office

Norah
Norfolk Archives & Heritage Development Foundation

Nineteenth century photograph of Morningthorpe Hall, by Mason and Co. Norfolk Library and Information Service, 30129028225788.

Morningthorpe Manor Country House Sale

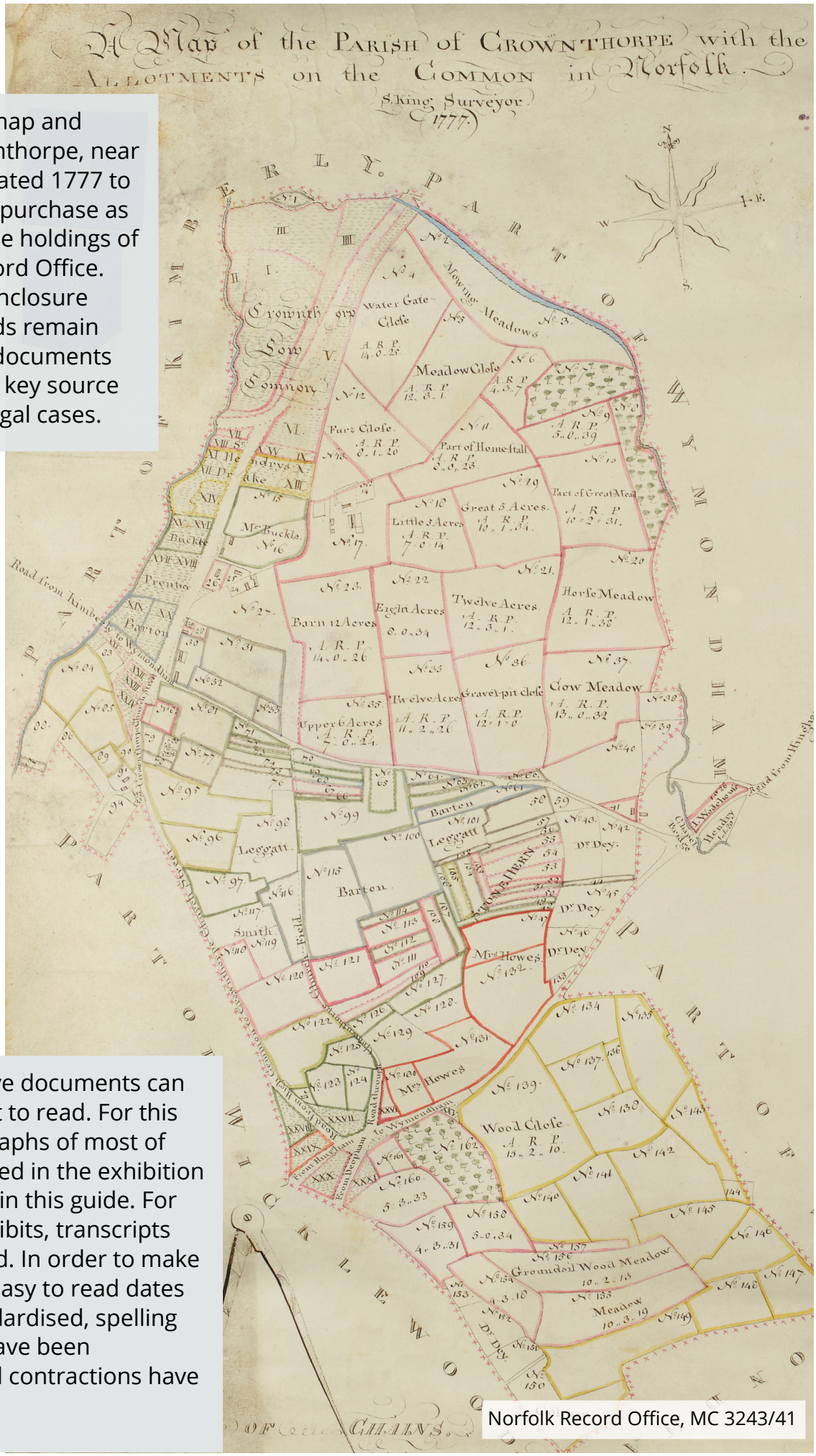
In September 2016, the Norfolk Record Office (NRO) purchased 91 lots of archives at an auction in Aylsham. Without the support of both the public and of the NRO's recently established charitable partner, the Norfolk Archives and Heritage Development Foundation (NORAH), this would not have been possible.

The quality and quantity of the archives on sale led to an ambitious funding target being set. The NRO was able to secure a grant of £5,000 from the Friends of the National Libraries, whilst NORAH led a public appeal for an additional £25,000.

NORAH received donations not just from Norfolk, but also from all over the UK and even as far afield as New Zealand. The public's generous response meant that, as the sale began, the £30,000 target was reached.

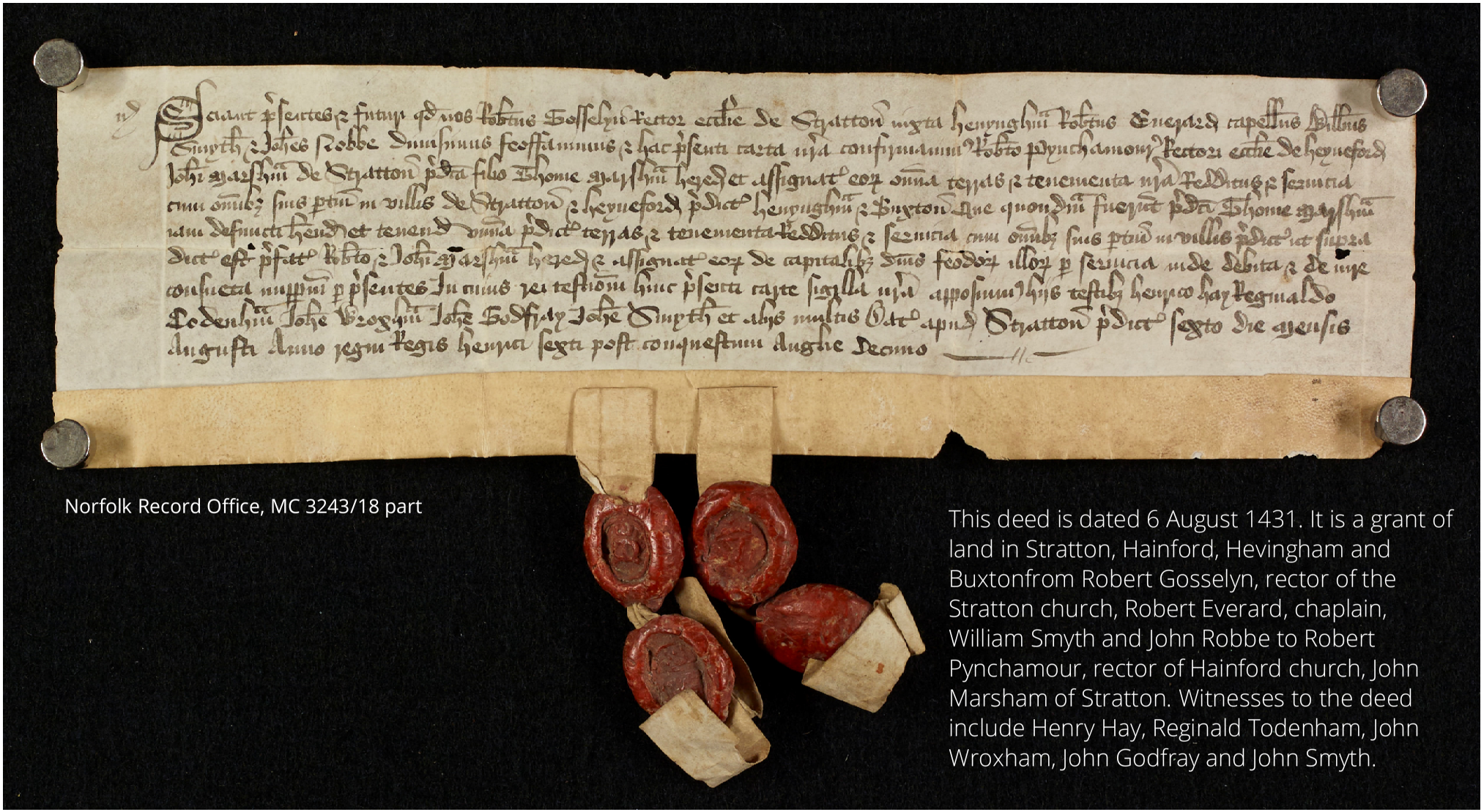
This has been a great start for NORAH, which continues to ask for donations so that it can secure more archives and help make them accessible to all.

This enclosure map and award for Crownthorpe, near Wymondham, dated 1777 to 1778, was a key purchase as it fills a gap in the holdings of the Norfolk Record Office. Parliamentary enclosure maps and awards remain very important documents as they can be a key source of evidence in legal cases.



Displayed archive documents can often be difficult to read. For this reason, photographs of most of the items featured in the exhibition are reproduced in this guide. For some of the exhibits, transcripts are also included. In order to make the transcripts easy to read dates have been standardised, spelling and grammar have been modernised and contractions have been expanded.

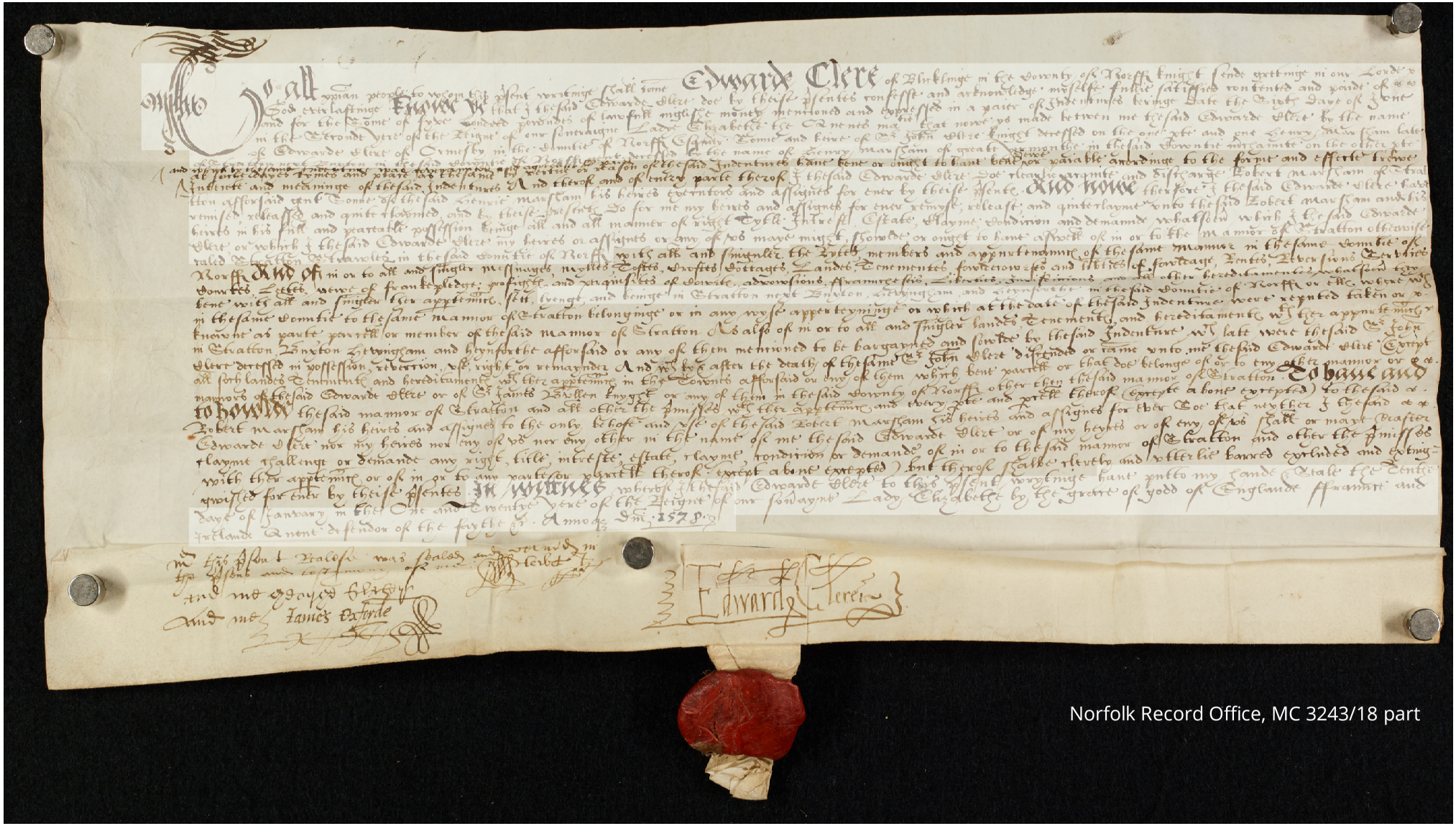
Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/41



Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/18 part

This deed is dated 6 August 1431. It is a grant of land in Stratton, Hainford, Hevingham and Buxtonfrom Robert Gosselyn, rector of the Stratton church, Robert Everard, chaplain, William Smyth and John Robbe to Robert Pynchamour, rector of Hainford church, John Marsham of Stratton. Witnesses to the deed include Henry Hay, Reginald Todenham, John Wroxham, John Godfray and John Smyth.

This title deed, and the one shown on the following page, relate to the Marsham family of Stratton Strawless, which lies between Norwich and Aylsham. The deed shown here is the oldest document purchased at the Morningthorpe sale. The Stratton Strawless deeds form one of several lots of title deeds which were purchased. Title deeds are particularly important as a source of names if they date from before the start of parish registers in 1538.



Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/18 part

This document also relates to Stratton Strawless and the Marsham family. It is a quitclaim of 10 January 1579 for the Manor of Stratton Strawless and was made between Edward Clere, knight, of Blickling and Robert Marsham, son of Henry Marsham. It is unusual in that it is written in English.

Partial transcript to the 1579 quitclaim for the Manor of Stratton Strawless

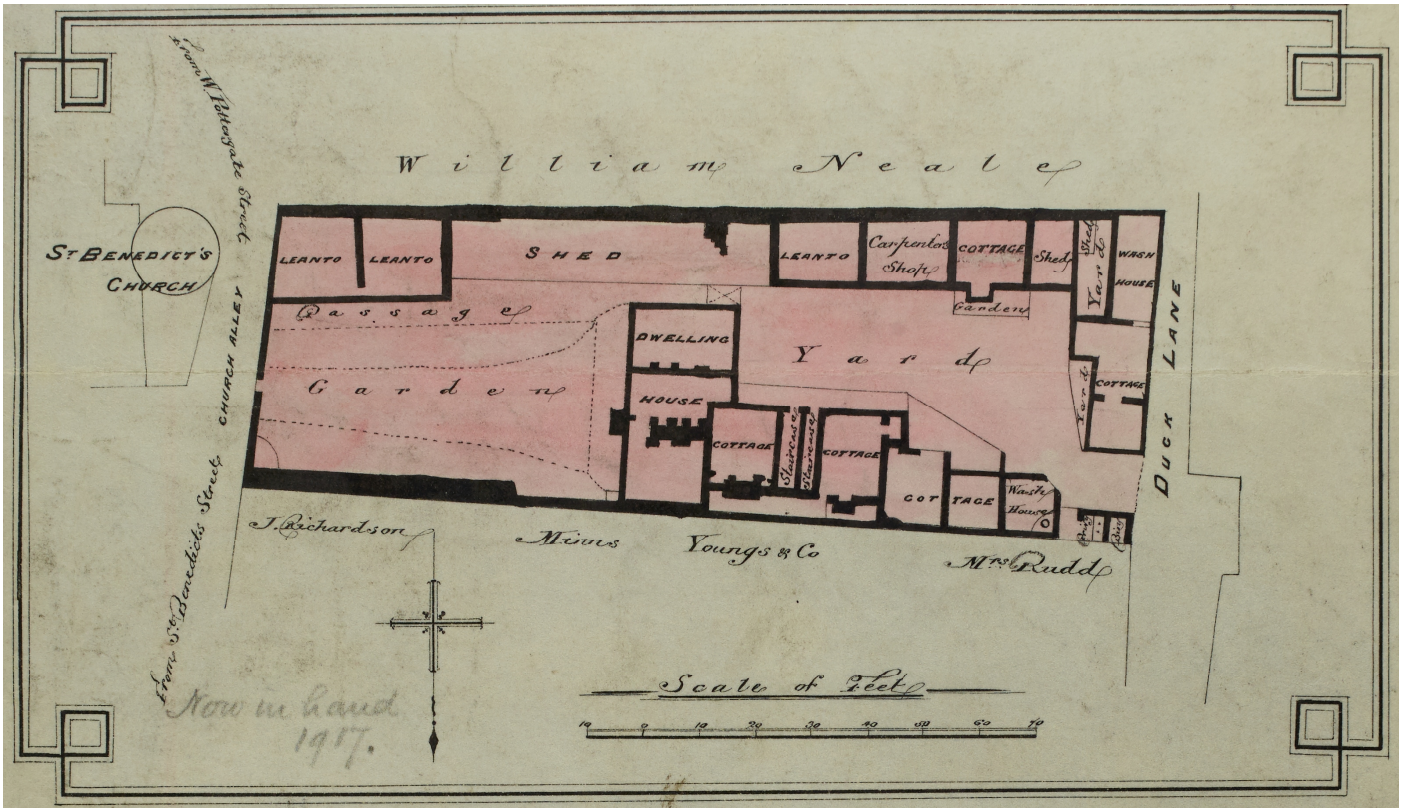
To all Christian people to whom this present writing shall come. Edward Clere of Blickling in the County of Norfolk, knight, sends greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Know it that I the said Edward Clere do by these presents confess and acknowledge myself fully satisfied, contented and paid of and for the sum of five hundred pounds of lawful English money mentioned and expressed in a pair of indentures bearing date the sixth day of June in the second year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Queen's majesty that now is made between me the said Edward Clere by the name of Edward Clere of Ormsby in the county of Norfolk, esquire, son and heir of Sir John Clere, knight, deceased, on the one part and one Henry Marsham late of Stratton next Buxton in the said county of Norfolk gent., deceased, by the name of Henry Marsham of Great Yarmouth in the said county, merchant, on the other part ...

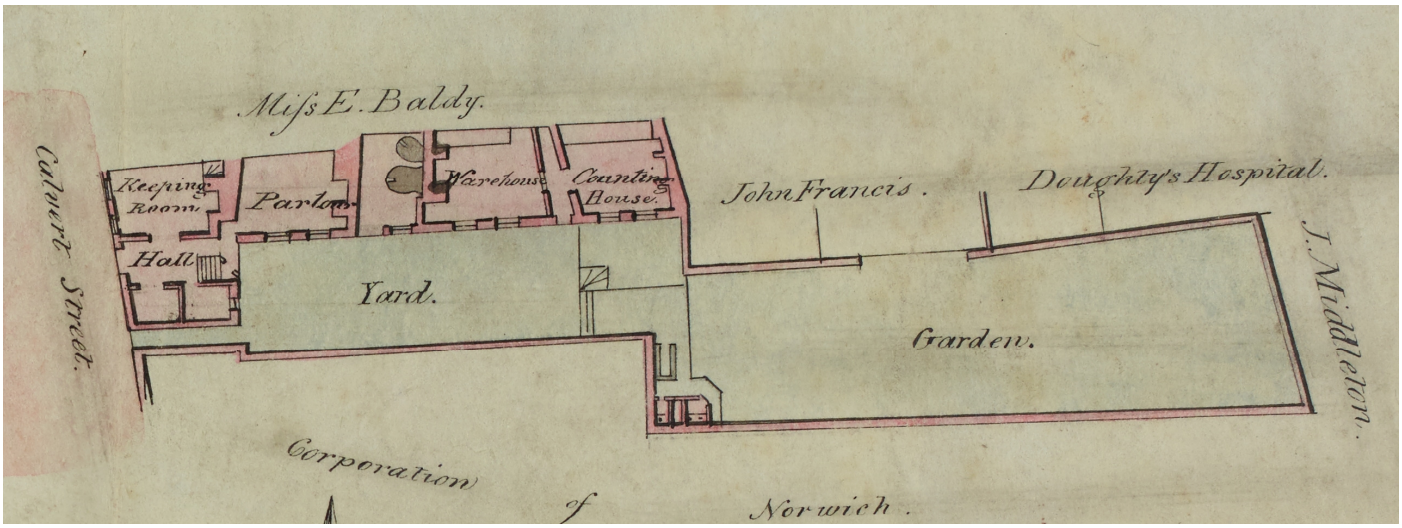
I the said Edward Clere do clearly acquit and discharge Robert Marsham of Stratton aforesaid, gent, son of the said Henry Marsham, his heirs, executors and assigns forever by these presents. And know therefore, I the said Edward Clere have remised, released and quitclaimed and by these presents do for me, my heirs and assigns forever remise, release and quitclaim unto the said Robert Marsham and his heirs in his full and peaceable possession being all and all manner of right, title, interest, estate, claim, condition and demand whatsoever which I the said Edward Clere, or which I the said Edward Clere, my heirs or assigns or any of us may, might should or ought to have as well of in or to the manor of Stratton otherwise called Stratton Strawless in the said county of Norfolk ... lying and being in Stratton next Buxton, Hevingham and Heynforth in the said county of Norfolk ...

In witness whereof I the said Edward Clere to this present writing have put to my hande and seale the tenth day of January in the one and twenty year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland, Queen defender of the faith etc. Anno Domini 1578.

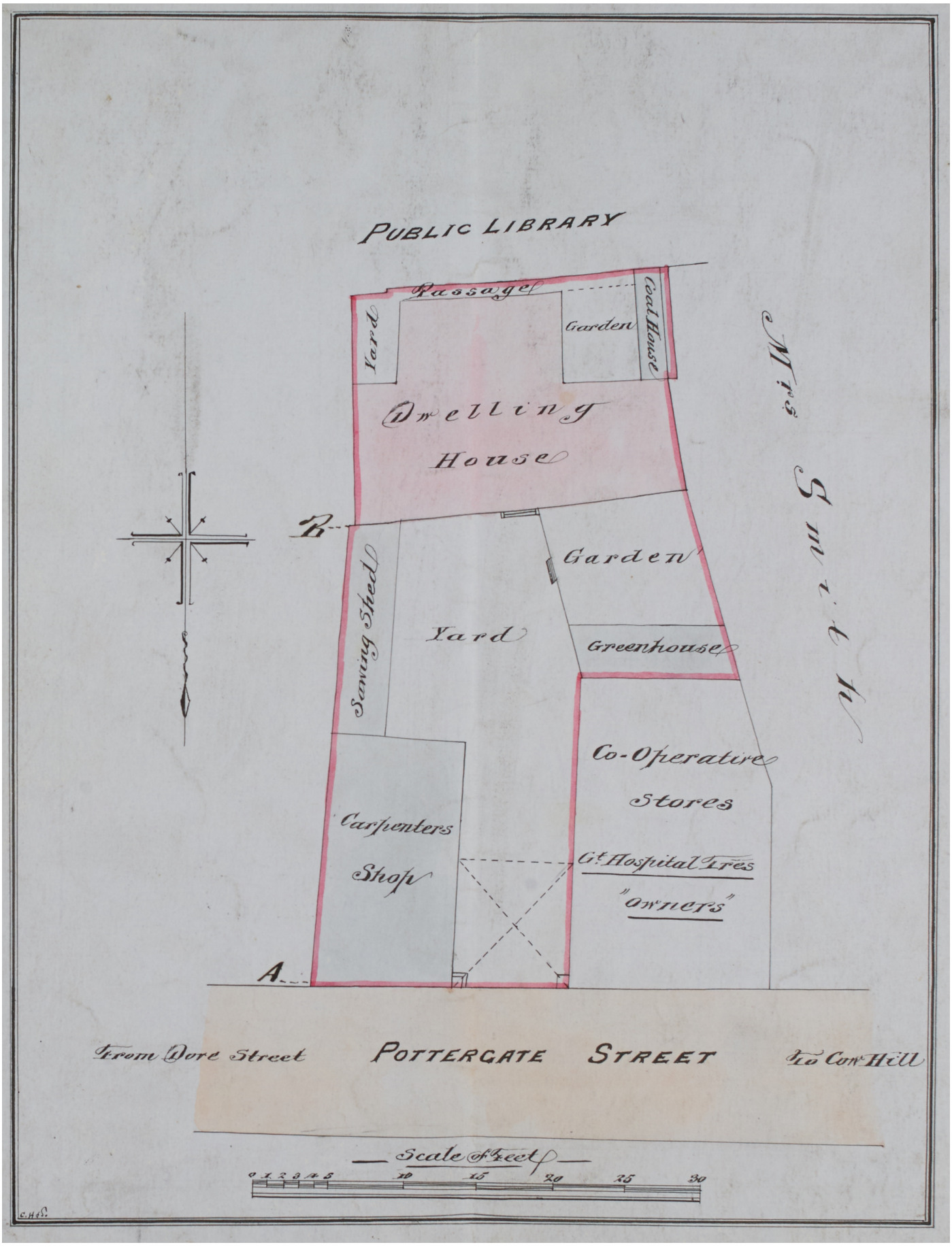
Please note that the date given in the document as 10 January 1578, has been changed to the New Style of date, i.e. the Gregorian calendar, whereby the start of the year changed from 25 March to the preceding 1 January.

These plans are for land owned by St Giles's Hospital at Norwich, known as the Great Hospital. They are a small selection from six boxes of deeds, which date from the late seventeenth century, all of which relate to the Great Hospital's estates. The plans shown relate to yards off Calvert Street, Pottergate Street and Duck Lane (now the bottom of Wellington Lane), all in Norwich. NORAH was keen for these records to be purchased as they complement the medieval records of the Great Hospital which are inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register.





All three documents have the reference, Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/33 part.


PUBLIC LIBRARY
Passage
Yard
Garden
Coal House
Dwelling House
B
Sawing Shed
Yard
Garden
Greenhouse
Co-Operative Stores
Carpenters Shop
Gt Hospital Tres
"Owners"
A
From Dore Street
POTTERGATE STREET
To Cor Hill
Scale of Feet
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 15 20 25 30
C.H.S.

Places

Many of the documents purchased at the Morningthorpe sale help us understand the history of particular places. They tell us about who owned and occupied specific pieces of land and the activities carried out there. Many of these documents have high evidential value as they can confirm information such as boundaries, rights of access and conditions of ownership. They also tell what it was like in a particular town or village and enhance a sense of place and belonging. Unsurprisingly, these records are vitally important for both local and family historians as they normally contain a large amount of names.

Where boats seldom come (left) and *Watching them unloading*, both by Walter Clutterbuck and dated *circa* 1919. These two photographs are of the quayside at Wells-next-the-Sea. They are from an album which was purchased at the Morningthorpe sale on behalf of the Norfolk Heritage Centre.

BIJOU THEATRE, ASSEMBLY ROOMS, WELLS

Under the Management of a

COMMITTEE OF GENTLEMEN.

THE SEVENTH

ENTERTAINMENT

AND LAST BUT ONE

Of the Winter Evening Series, will be given

ON FRIDAY MARCH THE 25TH 1870,

In the above Rooms, (Kindly placed at the disposal of the Committee by Mr. R. SPICER)

Commencing with the very Laughable Farce of

"TO PARIS & BACK FOR £5"

(Which is repeated by particular request) To be followed by

A MUSICAL MÉLANGE,

And to conclude with Broughs much admired Petite Historico Comical Burlesque, with appropriate Scenery, Dresses, & Appointments of

"ALFRED AND THE CAKES"

These Performances will be given in aid of the Wells

LIFE BOAT FUND.

Doors open at Half-past Seven o'Clock, and Overture to commence at Eight precisely.

Carriages may be ordered for 20 minutes past Ten.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:--To the Reserved Seats, 2s. Second Seats, 1s. Gallery, 6d. By Ticket only

N.B. A Plan of the Rooms can be seen at Mr. Howard's, where Tickets can be obtained, and Places secured for the Reserved Seats only.

☞ Tickets are only available for the Performance for which they are issued.

Howard, Printer, Wells.

Wells next the Sea late the priory of Birham

The Generall Court Leet there holden and kept for the s^d Manor the second day of October One thousand seven hundred and thirty Nine before Chris Bedingfold Esqr Steward there.

Homage — Robert Heydon, Matthew Thurlon } sworn — Chris Mendham } sworn

This Found by the homage of this Court that Stephen Doering Copyhold Tenant of the said Manor out of Court to wit the Eleventh day of September One thousand seven hundred and thirty Nine by the rod according to the Customs of the said Manor did surrender out of his hands into the hands of the Lord of the s^d Manor by the hands of John Namby in the presence of Matthew Lord & Robert Grove All Copyhold Tenants witnessing the same All and Singular the Messuages Lands Tenements & hereditts whatsoever of him the s^d Stephen Doering situate in Wells aforesaid, holden by Copy of Court Roll of the said Manor And the Reversion and Revertions Rent and Remainders thereof and of every part and parcell thereof To the use and behoofe of William Goldsmith of Wells next the Sea in the County of Norfolk Joyner his heirs and Assigns for ever Absolutely and without any manner of Condition whatsoever Now to this Court Cometh the said William Goldsmith and desireth the Grace and favour of the Lord to be admitted Tenant to the said premisses (that is to say) To a Tenement holden by Copyhold of this Manor situate in Wells aforesaid in a Certain Street leading from the Church of Wells aforesaid towards the Staith between the Tenement of John Knapp on the part of the South & the Tenement of Alice Mindham widow on the part of the North & abutts up upon the high way leading to wch the Staith to wch the East & a Tenement now or late of the heirs of John Poultney holden of the Manor of the —

Doll^m Goldsmith of the Sur^d of Stephen Doering fine 8^{lbs} 3^s 0^d

Copy made

Tho: Allen & wife admitted 7 May 1751 fo. 89 : 95

Norfolk Rec-

170

priory of Walsingham to wch the west with liberty of Ingress Egress and Regress in and by the yard to the said gate with horses and Carriages with the use of the well there paying a proportionable rate for the repairing the gate belonging to the said yard with liberty of hanging Cloaths in the garden there together with all liberty and appurtenances whatsoever to the said premisses belonging or in any wise appertaining Which premisses the said Stephen Doering had and took up to him and his heirs at a Court held for the said Manor the Ninth day of January One thousand seven hundred and Nineteen of the Surrender of John Clarke Gentleman And the Lord of the said Manor by the hands of his Steward doth deliver the Seizin and possession of the said premisses to the said William Goldsmith by the rod To hold to him and his heirs at the will of the Lord according to the Customs of the said Manor by the rents and Services therefore due and of right Accustomed Saving every ones right and he pays to the Lord a fine and so forth.

Afterwards sitting the said Court Cometh the said William Goldsmith and surrenders All his Messuages Lands and Tenements Copyhold of the said Manor To the use and behoof of his last will and Testament declared or to be declared.

Wm Goldsmith to his will

This Found by the homage of this Court that Anthony Allen late Copyhold Tenant of the said Manor before this Court dyed Seized of Certain Lands and Tenements Copyhold of the said Manor And whereas the said Anthony Allen before h[illegible] on the [illegible] his Ma[illegible] Manor [illegible] rule o[illegible] and Ste[illegible] about the Twentyeth day of May 1734 by which [illegible] Allen fo. 102. [illegible]

William Allen by the will of Anthony Allen fine 5^s

Copy made Wm Black 8th May 1763. fo. 103.

Manor court books are a vital source for tracing the history of land and families. Because they record when someone's ownership of a piece of

The administration of manors produced many other records in addition to court books, which can be equally useful to local and family historians. This document describes itself as a rental for the Manor of Watton Rockells. It is more of an account book of rents owed. Note the length of some of the arrears.

Urban District Council

Dhm.

1908						
Febry	11	½ Doz: long hemp, bullock ties, for market	470		5	6
	24	Van sad: new ld & fresh stuffed No 3			5	6
		Saddle flaps rep, girth & strap rep.			1	9
		New brass plate to tree, 1 octagon	498	16.3	1	.
	25	No 1. Sad: panel new ld & fresh stuffed			6	6
		New double end & loop to girth			1	6
	29	2 Stout slip lines			(1)	.
			£	1	1	9
Nov	16	1 brief bag	513		10	6
1909						
Jan	9	2 pieces of leather to harness			1	3
		1 horse Globe				4
		1 Slip Line				4
		1 bury bomb 6 1 Water brush 1/6			2	.
Feb	(10)	8th No 1 Van sad: rep all round, & stuffed			2	6
		New octagon 10. New strap 1/6	No 180		2	4 (4.10)
Mar:	3rd	No 2 Horse sad: new ld & stuffed, & panel rep			6	.
		½ new flap to each side, & rivetted			2	8
		New p: leather to girth & rivt.	266		9	(12.3)
		" strap for collar			1	10
		Hame chains shortd, & 2 new links			1	.
	4	¾ New flap: & p! new flap to night horse sad: & rivetted			6	6
		Panel stuffed & rep, new layer & rivt.	283		2	4 (8.10)
		Paid 6/5/09	£	2	1	6
Nov	11	¼ Stone 2 thread laned Line (478)			1	2
	20th 23	Saddle stuffed at flaps, fel. ld & stuffed			2	6
		Van " " p! " "	519		2	8
		New double end to girth rep & rivt.	644		1	2
Dec	24	" slip for night horse 6/6. 1 Stout slip line 6	629		9	.
		pd 3/2/10	£		14	6

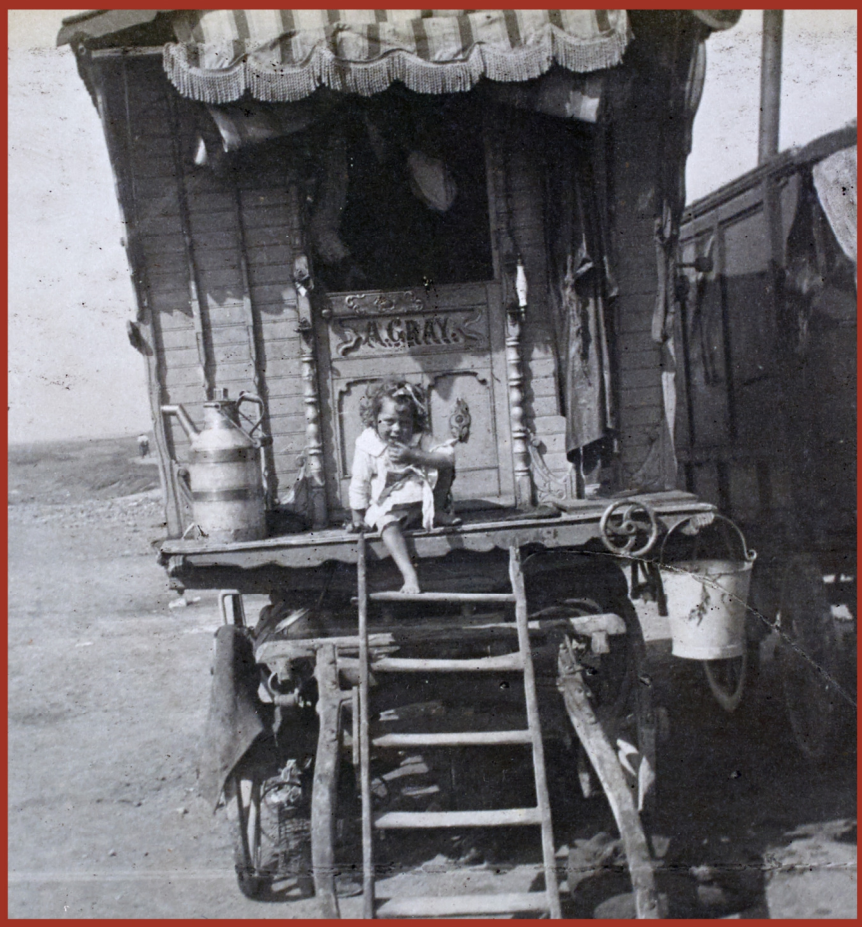
Keys Auctioneers advertised this customer account book as being of an unknown Norfolk saddler. Identifying the company concerned was possible using sources already held by the NRO. Named customers in the ledger indicate the business was located in the Dereham area. Information in the account book had to be matched with information in the records of a customer. An entry in the minutes of the East Dereham Urban District Council for a meeting held on 5 May 1909 sanctioning the payment of £2.0s.6d. to 'Middleton & Son', corresponds to an annotation in the saddler's account book confirming the same amount was paid on 6 May 1909.

Dr.

£	s.	d.	Debit Folio Ledger.	MINUTES. Account	Page	£	s.	d.
10	.	.		Salaries	H. K			
50	.	.		Wages	H.G.			
50	.	.						
5	.	.		Petty Cash	B. K			
2	14	.		Premium on Mr Brown's policy				
23	4	3		Election expenses				
.	15	.		Premium on Mr Hinson's policy	Mr			
4	5	6		Advert. Gas 2.14.0 Waterworks 1.11.6 £4.5.6	J.R.			
8	16	11			H. J.			
2	14	3			S.			
13	13	2			Glover			
33	2	.			Bradley & Setting			
34	4	9			Ellis & Everard	34	4	9
120	16	8			Brunton & Co	120	16	8
4	0	4			R. Gray	4	0	4
23	2	8			K. J. Evans & Co. Ld	23	2	8
4	1	5			J. Milne & Son	4	1	5
22	0	4			S. E. Rix	22	0	4
1	14	6			Barrows & Co	1	14	6
104	4	3			G. Took	104	4	3
23	10	4			W. Dent	23	10	4
4	2	4			J. S. Dent	4	2	4
1	2	8		Not paid	~~E. Peck~~	~~1~~	~~2~~	~~8~~
2	12	.			J. Thorpe	2	12	.
4	0	6			W. Fendick	4	0	6
8	12	.			Burton Sime Farms Coy	8	12	.
2	0	6			Middleton & Son	2	0	6
312	4	3			Rickett Smith & Co	312	4	3

Norfolk Record Office, DC 12/1/9

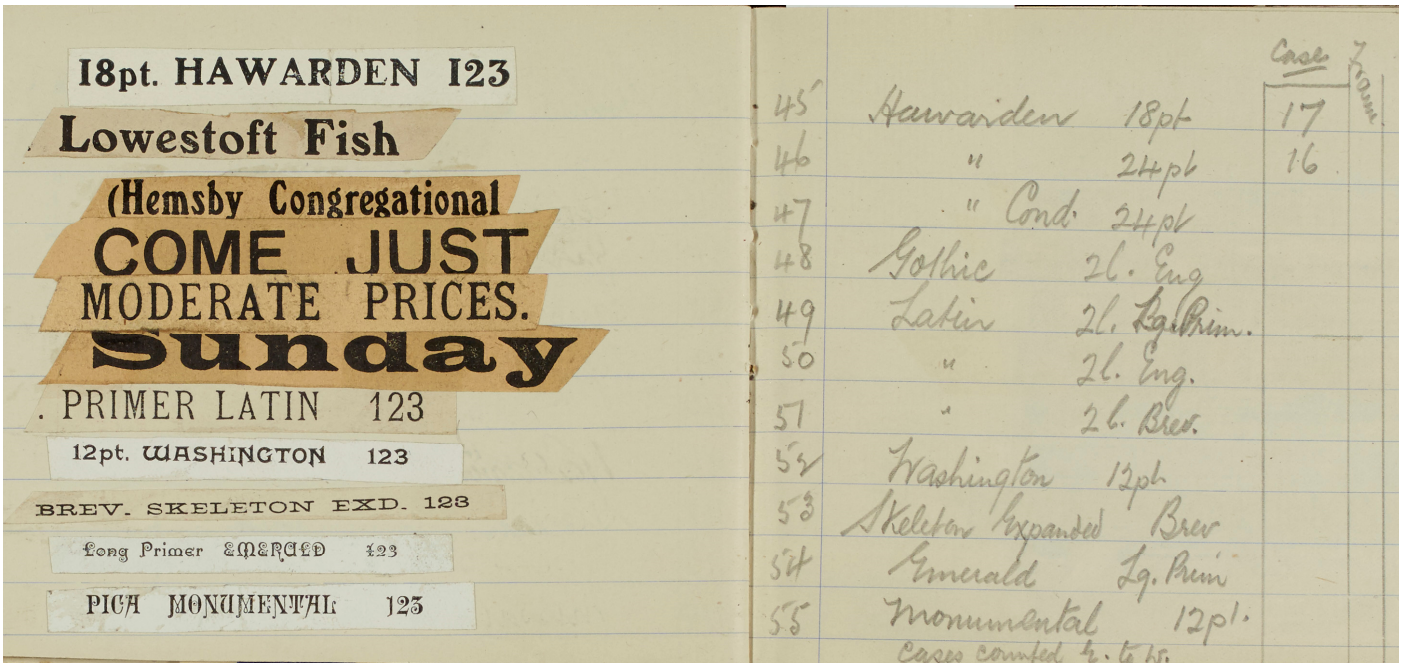
Merry-go-round (main) and *Behind the fair*, both by Walter Clutterbuck and dated *circa* 1919. Both photographs relate to A. Gray's business of operating a fairground carousel. The photographs are from an album which was purchased at the Morningthorpe sale on behalf of the Norfolk Heritage Centre.



Work, leisure and politics

Many of the lots purchased at the Morningthorpe sale record how people earned and spent money and how they governed themselves. They give an insight into how things were done and of networks of individuals and organisations.

Like most of the lots purchased, these records lend themselves to family and local history research but also to those studying quite specific aspects of history.



18pt. HAWARDEN 123

Lowestoft Fish

(Hemsby Congregational

COME JUST

MODERATE PRICES.

Sunday

PRIMER LATIN 123

12pt. WASHINGTON 123

BREV. SKELETON EXD. 123

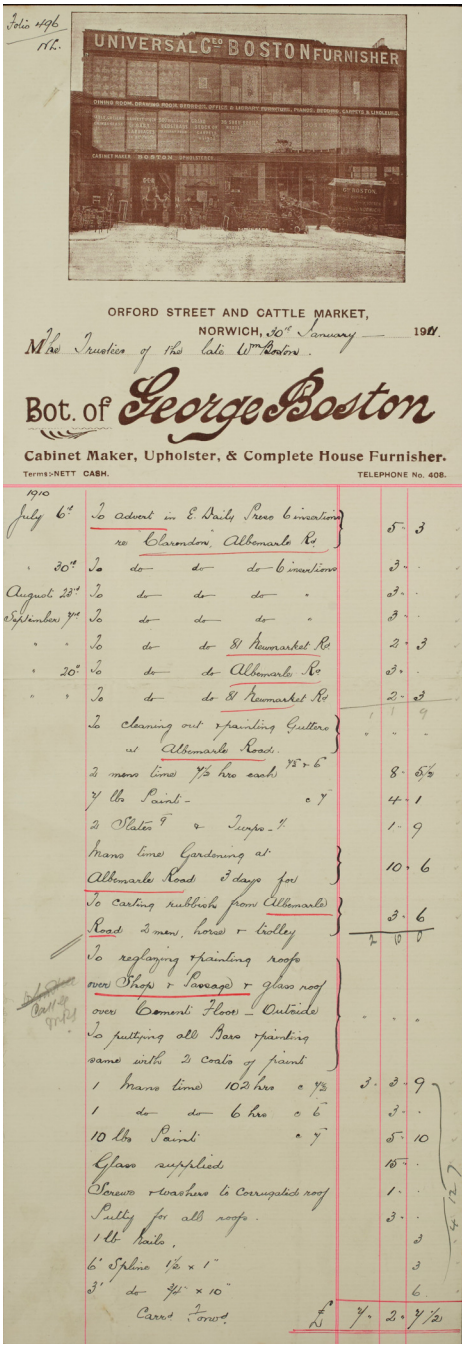
Long Primer EMERALD 123

PICA MONUMENTAL 123

			Cases
45	Hawarden	18pt	17
46	"	24pt	16
47	" Cond.	24pt	
48	Gothic	2l. Eng	
49	Latin	2l. Lg. Prim.	
50	"	2l. Eng.	
51	"	2l. Brev.	
52	Washington	12pt	
53	Skeleton Expanded	Brev	
54	Emerald	Lg. Prim	
55	Monumental	12pt.	

Cases counted 4. to 55.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/60/2



Folio 496

UNIVERSAL Co. BOSTON FURNISHER

ORFORD STREET AND CATTLE MARKET,
NORWICH, 30th January 1911.

Mse Trustees of the late Wm Boston.

Bot. of George Boston

Cabinet Maker, Upholster, & Complete House Furnisher.

Terms NETT CASH. TELEPHONE No. 408.

1910		£	s.	d.
July 6th	To advert in E. Daily Press 6 insertions re Clarendon, Albemarle Rd		5.	3
" 30th	To do do do 6 insertions		3.	.
August 23rd	To do do do "		3.	.
September 7th	To do do do "		3.	.
" "	To do do 81 Newmarket Rd		2.	3
" 20th	To do do Albemarle Rd		3.	.
" "	To do do 81 Newmarket Rd		2.	3
	To cleaning out & painting Gutters at Albemarle Road.		"	"
	2 mens time 7½ hrs each 7½ & 6		8.	6½
	7 lbs Paint - @ 7		4.	1
	2 Slates 9 & Tempo - 4		1.	9
	Mans time Gardening at Albemarle Road 3 days for		10.	6
	To carting rubbish from Albemarle Road 3 men, horse & trolley		3.	6
		£	0	0
	To replaying & painting roofs over Shop & Passage & glass roof over Cement Floor - Outside		.	.
	To putting all Bars & painting same with 2 coats of paint			
	1 Mans time 10½ hrs @ 7½		3.	3. 9
	1 do do 6 hrs @ 6		3.	.
	10 lbs Paint @ 7		5.	10
	Glass supplied		10.	.
	Screws & washers to Corrugated roof		1.	.
	Putty for all roofs.		3.	.
	1 lb Nails,			3
	6' Spline 1½ × 1"			3
	3' do 7/8" × 10"			6
	Carried Forward	£	7.	2. 7½

These two items provide a wonderful insight into the activities of two Norfolk businesses. The first is a font reference book of George Beech of Hemsby, general printer and stationer and is dated *circa* 1920. The business appears to have been short-lived.

The second document relates to the Boston family who operated significant companies in Norwich for many years. It is an invoice for work carried out by George Boston for the trustees of the estate of William Boston, who died in 1902. Other records from the same lot describe William as a pawnbroker, clothier, shoe seller and house furnisher.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/37 part

Extract from sale particular for Saham Hall. Norfolk Record Office, MC 3016/2.

This annotated inventory was bought at the Morningthorpe sale and complements a sale particular already held by the NRO. Both documents were created by W.S. Hall and Palmer of Watton and Wymondham, estate agents and auctioneers and both relate to the sale of Saham Hall, near Watton, in 1928, by the executors of Captain Charles James Randolph (1859 to 1928). They provide an insight into a building which stood for less than 70 years. Inventories are very useful for understanding the interests and activities of the occupant but also to art historians tracing the provenance of objects.

DINING ROOM (continued).

Tapestry Table Cover. H.

Serge Table Cover. H.

High Back oak elbow chair in marone morocco. H.

Stuffed-over winged chair with down loose squab in marone morocco. H. ~~Gone~~ here

Six old rosewood chairs with square panelled back stretchers in morocco. H.

Seven Open Back mahogany chairs on turned and fluted legs - in morocco. H

Wicker lunch basket. H.

Copper Coal Shoot and Scoop. G Gone

Two Oak Boxes (locked) marked 'Lady Jane Loftus' G Gone.

Indian Embroidered Table Stool. H.

China etc.

Part of an Early 19th. Century dinner service of green vine leaf pattern borders richly gilt, stencilled initials A. E. R. in centre of each piece, comprising:-

Two ice pails, libers and covers. H.
Pair of wine coolers. H
Pair of sauce boats, covers and stands. H
Four Large Meat Dishes - 17ins. to 22ins. H.
Four circular one handled dishes. H

Four Piece Chimney set in white frosted glass with blue and gold snake decoration in relief comprising:-

Pair of 15ins. Tazzai and plinths. H
Pair of flower vases and water ewer - same decoration. H

Mahogany case striking bracket clock by Dwerrihouse, Carter and Son, Berkeley Square - Circular white enamel dial and lattice work, brass sides. G Gone

Pair of Fluted Glass Vases. G

Pair of 6" Flower Vases. G

Pair of 8" Glass Flower Vases. G

Oak Decanter Case fitted with ~~two~~ one glass decanters. H

White Metal Spirit Lamp. G
Small Metal Handbell. G

PICTURES.

Half Length portrait of Mrs. Herbert Randolph - three-quarter face to left hand, wearing low neck dress in black with white frill and sleeves - hair in long ringlet over shoulder - rich golden brown mantle on left arm - an oval - by Godfrey Kneller - framed in carved gilt - 29ins by 24½ ins. H.

The companion portrait of Herbert Randolph Esq., "Recorder of Canterbury" wearing full bottomed wig falling on shoulders, puce coloured coat and lawn Jabot - by Godfrey Kneller - framed similarly. H.

Another half length seated portrait of Dean Jackson, full face, wearing a short wig, black gown and white cravat - hands folded in front - Old English School - framed in moulded gilt - 23ins. by 30ins. H.

Four mezzotints printed in colours - after Morland - in original gilt frames:-

Milkmaid and Cow Herd - by J. R. Smith. H

Selling Fish - by J. R. Smith. H

Breaking Ice - by J. R. Smith. H

The Fisherman's Hut - by W. Ward. H

BILLY THE NOMINEE,

To his worthy Friends and Partisans residing in the Ward of Great Wymer, in the City of GOTHAM.

March 20th, 1809.

Ye lovers of Liberty, souls Patriotic,
Ye *virtuous* voters of Wymer great Ward;
Ye steady oppofers of minions defpotic,
This tribute accept of my grateful regard:

And let me prefume in the name of fair Freedom,
Your Votes and your Int'reft once more to befpeak;
For rumour predicts we fhall very much need 'em,
Before the conclufion of next cleanfing week.

Tho' citizen Staff droppeth hints of feeding,
And Proctor paft fervice is laid on the fhelf;
You'll find all the Talents, the Wit, and Good Breeding
United in Yallop, and Purland, and SELF!

A fturdy and thorough paced patriot is Yallop,
And fit for our purpofe as patriot can be;
For him you muft hie to the poll in full gallop;
We've none more deferving *such* honor than he.

Tho' Purland addicted to frivolous prate is,
His fame as a practical Dentift ftands high;
And, he'll *to oblige you* draw *all* your teeth gratis:
Of courfe, fuch a Friend you can never deny.

Or fhould hungry children torment you with crying,
Of his anodyne cordial apply a few drachms;
The remedy's certain—you'll find upon trying
'Twill keep them for ever as quiet as lambs.

In praife of his med'cines what more can we urge—
They conquer all cafes, all ailments bewitch;
If narcotic you need, or emetic, or purge,
Or infallible unguent to banifh the itch.

Then freely elect us without hefitation,
And we fuch a *set* of associates will chufe,
Shall defy all burlefque, and command admiration,
The moment our worfhipful lift you perufe.

Perchance for perufing you may not find leifure,
Or haply in fpelling affiftance may need;
If fo, we'll remove that dilemma with pleafure,
And chufe Thatcher Lovick to teach you to read.

Or would you excel in political fcience,
*Ward, Ansell, and Grand, will their fyftem explain;
On them you may place an implicit reliance,
As men deeply read.....in the works of Tom Paine!

Now little remains my good friends to be done,
But the votes to fecure, and to furnifh the pelf;
Thefe trifles accomplifh'd, th' Election is won:
Huzza then for Yallop, and Purland, and Self.

* In the arrangement of this noted triumvirate, precedency devolved to the Citizens W. and A——ll of courfe; as they have each ferved the office of Sheriff, to the infinite aftonifhment of the gaping multitude.

To fee declining dignity fo fcorned,
To fee fuch *things* with purple robes adorn'd;
Such necks plebeian fwell in golden chains,
With heads that boaft—of any thing but brains.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/77 part

Numerous political notices and satirical writings were purchased at the Morningthorpe sale. They often relate to individuals or topics which are fleeting and are often difficult to interpret.

Billy the Nominee was written by William Foster, one of nine candidates in the annual election to appoint three common councilmen by the freemen of Norwich's great ward of Wymer. The three successful candidates would then choose 17 others to join them in representing Wymer. Foster and his colleagues John Harrison Yallop and Robert Purland were comprehensively beaten in the election. Note the use of the word Gotham, which was used in England in the sixteenth century to refer to the foolishness of a place's inhabitants. It was first associated with New York in 1807 and was adopted as the home of Batman by DC Comics in 1940.

In the General Election of 1802, Jacob Henry Astley (1756-1817), British peer and Whig politician of Melton Constable, was accused of being 'a liar, a coward, an assassin, a scoundrel [and] a murderer'. Astley won a subsequent libel action. This undated open letter probably relates to the episode. Astley's nervous and suspicious disposition suggest he was an unlikely politician, but as an ally of Thomas William Coke his position was secure and he served as MP for Norfolk from 1797 to 1806 and from 1807 to 1817.

The Representation of the People Act of 1832, more commonly known as the Great Reform Act, received royal assent on 7 June 1832. The *Norwich Reform Celebration (*left) appears to be marking that fact. The Act extended the franchise and amended constituencies so that new industrial cities were better represented and seats with low numbers of electors were abolished.

NORWICH REFORM CELEBRATION

JULY 5, 1832.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PROCESSION.

Those Gentlemen and Freemen who intend to form part of the Procession, are requested to observe the following regulations :—

Every Member of the Committee is requested to wear, besides the Cockade on his hat, a White Ribbon Rosette on the breast of his coat, and to be on the Castle Ditches at half-past Ten o'clock precisely, where his Ward will take up its ground, in order that he may assist in furthering the arrangement of the Procession.

He will continue to walk during the whole of the Procession where placed at first, and assist in keeping order and regularity, and to take care particularly that the line of Procession be not broken.

Every person who carries a Flag or Banner is requested to put the same into the place on the Booth or Ground to which his number corresponds.

There will be a Placard showing the Ground of each Ward.

The Horsemen will take up a position leading from Orford Hill Opening, with their heads towards Orford Hill.

The Union will take up their position along the road between the Opening and the Castle Gates, immediately following the Horsemen.

The Conisford Ward Electors will take up their position between the Castle Gates and the Shirehall Tavern.

The Mancroft Ward Electors will take up their position between the Shirehall Tavern and the Opening to Messrs. Gurney's Bank.

The Wymer Ward Electors will take up their position between Gurneys' Opening and Harvey and Hudson's.

The Northern Ward Electors will take up their position between Harvey and Hudson's and the Rose Tavern Opening.

ROUTE.

The Procession will march across Orford Hill, down Little Orford Stree the Market, up London Street to Bank Place, down Queen Street, To Wensum Street, Fye Bridge, by St. Clement's Church to St. George's Street, St. Andrew's Broad Street, Exchange Street, to the Market, wh Procession will terminate.

To the Gentlemen, Clergy, and Freeholders of the County of Norfolk.

Gentlemen,

I have learnt with no small degree of concern, that reports have been circulated with great industry amongst you, reflecting on my private character, and of which it is unquestionably the object, by lessening me in your esteem, to deprive me of the support I still flatter myself I may expect from you at the ensuing Election.

The charges brought against me are of such a nature, that if I were to attempt an answer, I must enter into a relation of the principal events of my private life, which even if I could consider as interesting to you, I should find it impracticable to do at the present moment.

All I can now do is, most earnestly to intreat that you will suspend your belief of the unjust imputations thrown upon me, and to pledge myself to answer fully and distinctly, and I will add very confidently to your satisfaction, any charge which any man of respectability shall think proper to alledge against me.

My anxiety to stand well in your estimation would be great at any time and under any circumstances, but you may be assured it is heightened when I inform you of my fixed determination to offer myself for your choice on Monday next. On that day I trust it will be found, that as the genius of the laws under which we have the happiness to live, permits no man to be condemned unheard, the generous spirit of the Freeholders of Norfolk will not suffer me to become the victim of calumny the most foul and scandalous.

Confiding in the candour and liberality of your sentiments, I flatter myself that the ambition of my respectable colleague and myself will be fully gratified at the ensuing Election. I beg leave to subscribe myself,

GENTLEMEN,

With great respect,

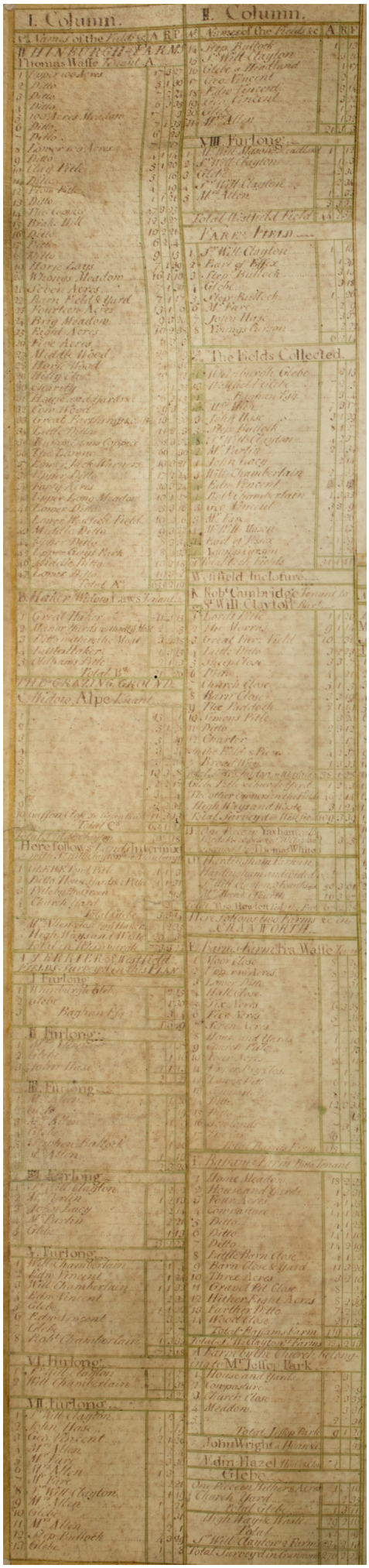
Your faithful and obedient Servant,

JACOB HENRY ASTLEY.

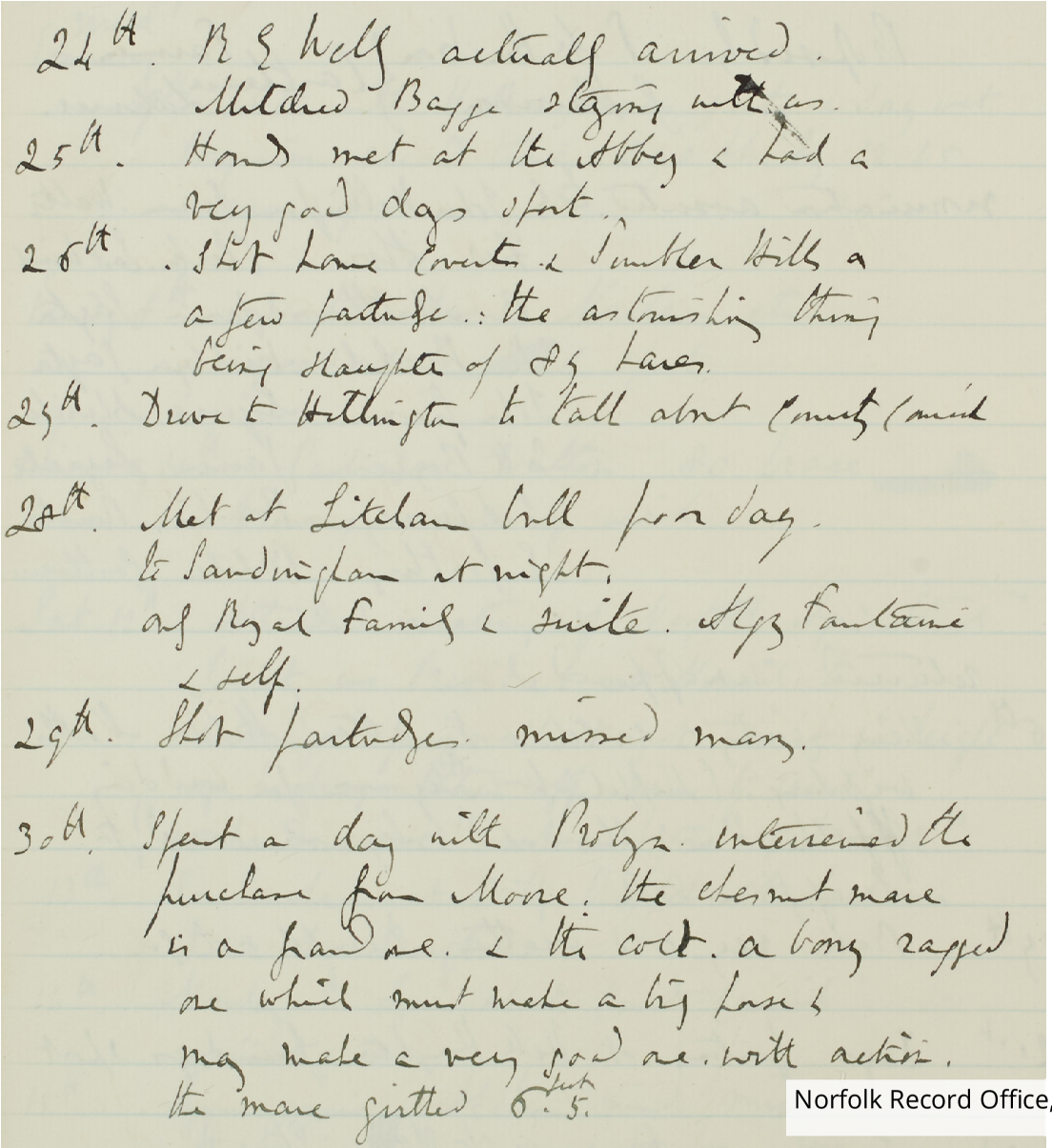
Both documents have the reference number Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/80 part.

This estate map of 1735 of Sir William Clayton (died 1744), British peer and politician, shows the demesne lands in the manors of Carbrooke, Westfield and Whinburgh. Sir William served as MP for Bletchingley in Surrey from 1715 to 1744 and in 1735, the same year this map was created, he bought the Harleyford Estate in Buckinghamshire.

Extracts from Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/65.



Featured in the exhibition is one of eight diaries of Anthony Hamond (1834-1895), of Westacre, near King's Lynn. This volume covers the period 1888 to 1892 and the pages displayed neatly summarise Hamond's work and interests of hunting, estate management, horse-breeding and local politics. The final entry relates to meetings regarding the newly established Norfolk County Council and the political manoeuvring by the first cohort of councillors to choose who they were going to nominate as aldermen.



24 Jan 1889	R.G. Wells actually arrived. Mildred Bagge staying with us.
25 Jan 1889	Hounds met at the Abbey and had a very good day's sport.
26 Jan 1889	Shot hare coverts at Sembler Hills and a few partridge: the astonishing thing being the slaughter of 89 hares.
27 Jan 1889	Drove to Hillington to talk about County Council.
28 Jan 1889	Met at Litcham Hall, poor day. To Sandringham at night. Only Royal family and suite, Algy Fontaine and self.
29 Jan 1889	Shot partridges. Missed many.
30 Jan 1889	Spent a day with Probyn. Interviewed the purchases from Moore. The chestnut mare is a grand one and the colt a bony, ragged one which must make a big horse and may make a very good one with action. The mare girthed 6 feet 5.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/21 part

31st. Audit: my tenants have had a real bad corn crop and I have to return them a good deal of rent. Much more than I can afford. However none are broke. I trust the whole estate with small exceptions is in a high state of cultivation. & houses & premises in good state of repair.

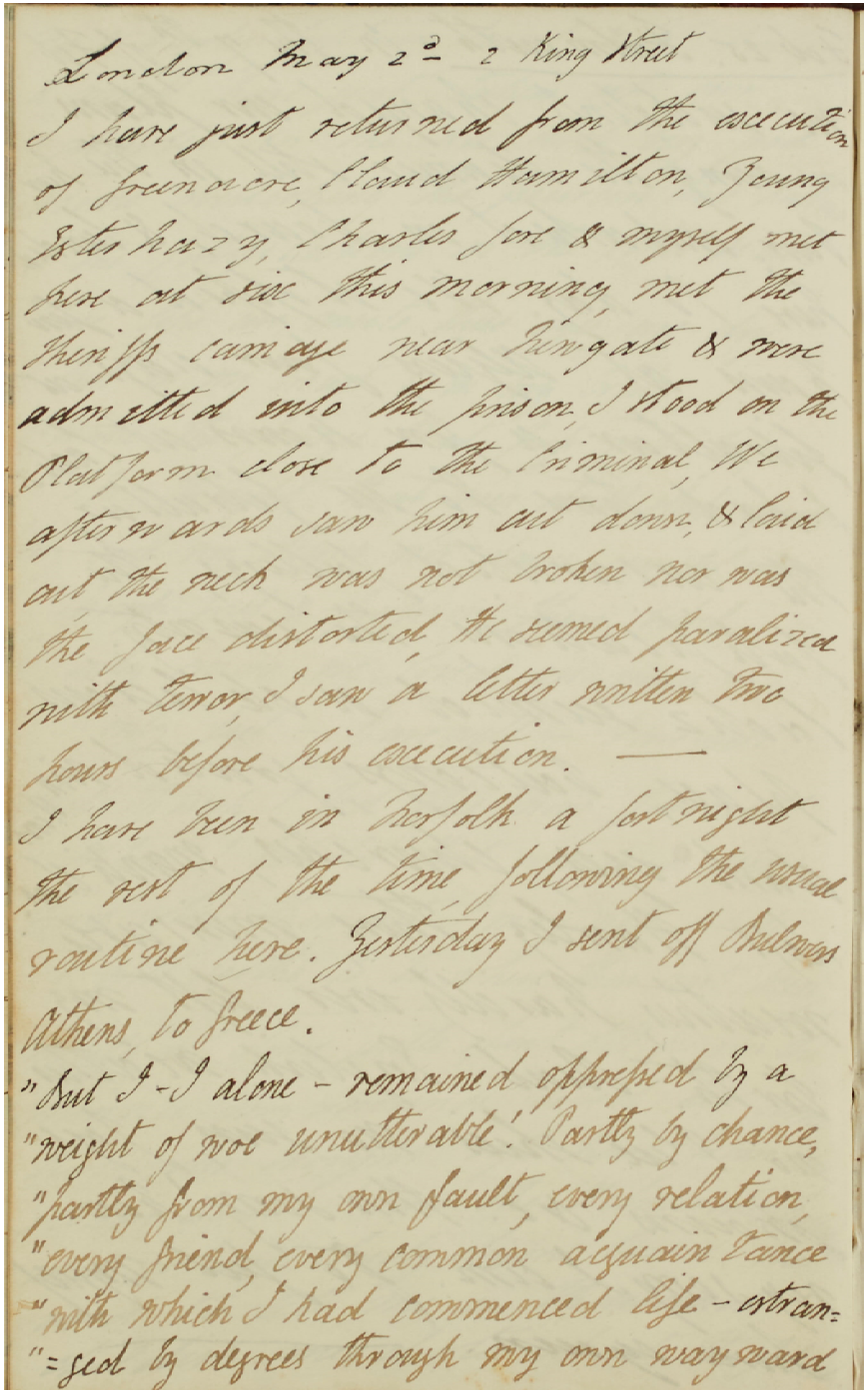
Feb 1st. Shot the Carr 25 time.

2d. 1st Meet at Bawdsey ("Sand boy") my coverts all shot & disturbed. Bagges all night.

I had to go to Norwich. 2 meetings were held one informal at the Club the other by letter at somewhere else. summoned by Kimberly or Woodhouse. Kimberly wisely attended both. At the Club we pretty well agreed on 19 Aldermen. & this was done fairly & with hardly a party word in it though some were terribly afraid of the ultra Radical. Gladstonian labourer or farmer. Saw Kimberly afterwards who seemed to think his so called friends would willingly vote for the Aldermen we had agreed on several of

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/21 part

31 January 1889	Audit: my tenants have had a real bad corn crop and I have to return them a good deal of rent. Much more than I can afford. However none are broke. I trust the whole estate with small exception is in a high state of cultivation and houses and premises in good state of repair.
1 February 1889	Shot the Carr 25 times.
2 February 1889	1st Meet at Bawdsey (*Sand Boy* [public house]). My coverts all shot and disturbed. Bagge's all night.
3 February 1889	I had to go to Norwich. 2 meetings were held. One informal at the Club, other by letter at somewhere else. Summoned by Kimberly or Woodhouse [probably John Wodehouse, 1st Earl of Kimberley, 1826-1902, Liberal politician]. Kimberly wisely attended both. At the club we pretty well agreed on 19 aldermen and this was done fairly and with hardly a party word in it though some were terribly afraid of the ultra Radical Gladstonian labourer or farmer. Saw Kimberly afterwards who seemed to think his so called friends would willingly vote for several of the Aldermen we had agreed on.



London May 2d 2 King Street

I have just returned from the execution of Greenacre, Claud Hamilton, Young Esterhazy, Charles Sore & myself met here at six this morning, met the Sheriffs carriage near Newgate & were admitted into the prison. I stood on the Platform close to the Criminal. We afterwards saw him cut down, & laid out the neck was not broken nor was the face distorted. He seemed paralized with terror. I saw a letter written two hours before his execution. —

I have been in Norfolk a fortnight the rest of the time following the usual routine here. Yesterday I sent off Bulwers Athens to Greece.

"But I - I alone - remained oppressed by a "weight of woe unutterable! Partly by chance, "partly from my own fault, every relation, "every friend every common acquaintance "with which I had commenced life - estran= "=ged by degrees through my own wayward

Transcript of Horatio Walpole's diary for 2 May 1837

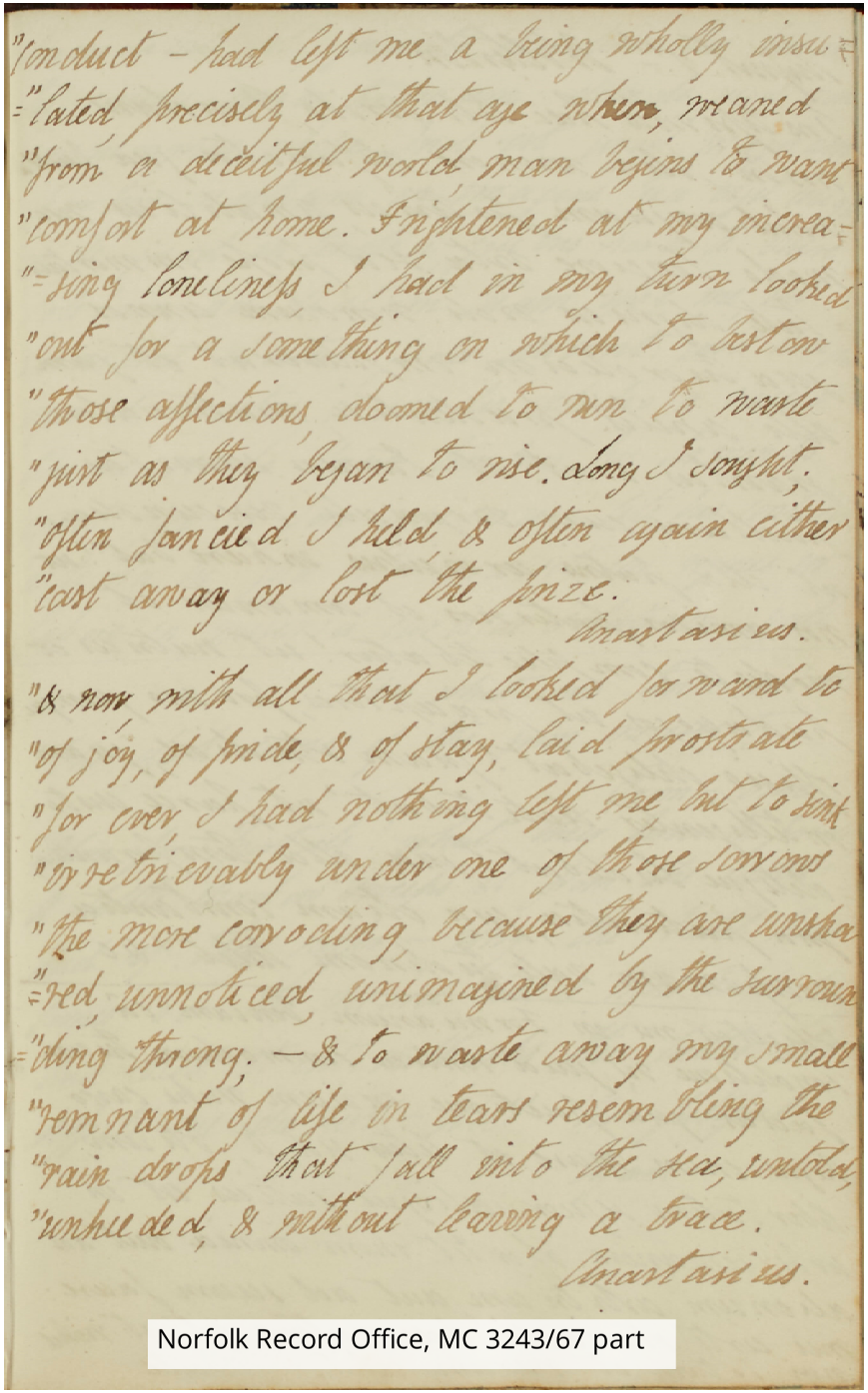
London, May 2nd [1837], 2 King Street

I have just returned from the execution of [James] Greenacre. Claud Hamilton, Young Esterhazy, Charles Sore & myself met here at six this morning, met the Sheriff's carriage near Newgate and were admitted into the prison. I stood on the Platform, close to the criminal. We afterwards saw him cut down and laid out. The neck was not broken nor was the face distorted. He seemed paralyzed with terror. I saw a letter written two hours before his execution.

I have been in Norfolk a fortnight, the rest of the time following the usual routine here. Yesterday I sent off Bulwer's Athens, to Greece.

'But I – I alone – remained oppressed by a weight of woe unutterable! Partly by chance, partly from my own fault, every relation, every friend, every common acquaintance with which I had commenced life – estranged by degrees through my own wayward ...

Horatio William Walpole (1813 to 1894) was a British peer and Conservative politician. Twenty of his diaries were bought at the Morningthorpe sale. The first of the displayed diaries includes an entry for 2 May 1837 which describes the execution of James Greenacre in front of Newgate Prison. Greenacre, originally of West Winch, was convicted of murdering his fiancée, cutting up the body and disposing of the pieces in various places in London. The case generated a lot of public interest, with more than 20,000 people attending the execution. It appears that Walpole recites a letter written by Greenacre which itself contains quotes from Thomas Hope's *Anastasius; or, Memoirs of a Greek* which was first published in 1819.


"conduct – had left me a being wholly insu=
=lated precisely at that age where, weaned
"from a deceitful world man begins to want
"comfort at home. Frightened at my increa=
"=sing loneliness I had in my turn looked
"out for a something on which to bestow
"those affections doomed to run to waste
"just as they began to rise. Long I sought;
"often fancied I held, & often again either
"cast away or lost the prize.
Anastasius.
"& now with all that I looked forward to
"of joy, of pride, & of stay, laid prostrate
"for ever, I had nothing left me but to sink
"irretrievably under one of those sorrows
"the more corroding, because they are unsha=
=red, unnoticed, unimagined by the surroun=
=ding throng; – & to waste away my small
"remnant of life in tears resembling the
"rain drops that fall into the sea, untold,
"unheeded, & without leaving a trace.
Anastasius.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/67 part

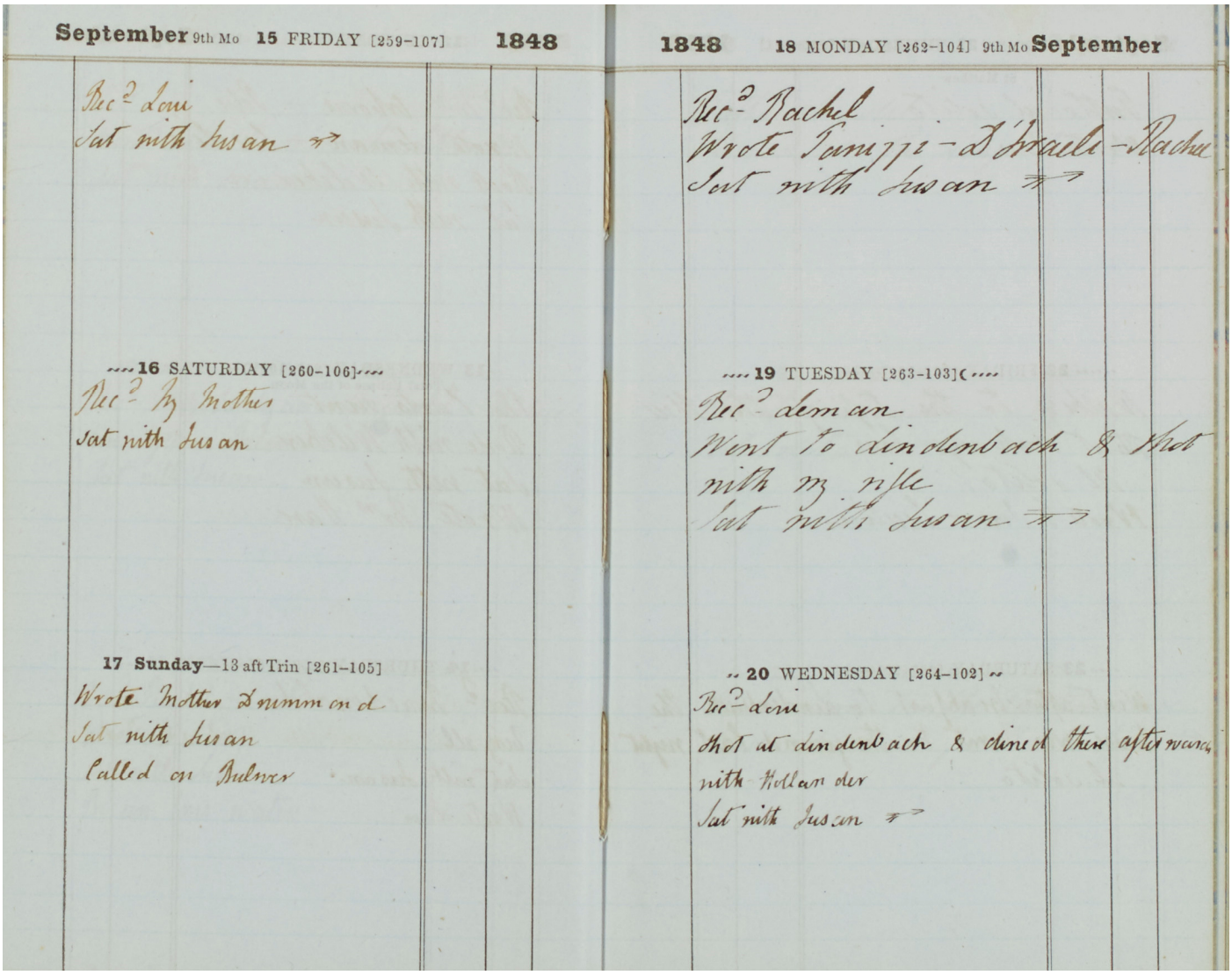
Transcript of Horatio Walpole's diary for 2 May 1837 (continuation)

... conduct – had left me a being wholly insulated, precisely at that age where weaned from a deceitful world man begins to want comfort at home. Frightened at my increasing loneliness, I had in my turn looked out for a something on which to bestow those affections, doomed to run to waste just as they began to rise. Long I sought; often fancied I held and often again either cast away or lost the prize.'

Anastasius

'And now, with all that I looked forward to of joy, of pride and of stay, laid prostrate forever, I had nothing left me but to sink irretrievably under one of those sorrows the more corroding, because they are unshared, unnoticed, unimagined by the surrounding throng; and to waste away my small remnant of life in tears resembling the rain drops that fall into the sea, untold, unheeded, and without leaving a trace.'

Anastasius



September 9th Mo 15 FRIDAY [259-107] 1848

Recd Louis
Sat with Susan →

16 SATURDAY [260-106]

Recd by Mother
Sat with Susan

17 Sunday—13 aft Trin [261-105]

Wrote Mother Drummond
Sat with Susan
Called on Bulwer

1848 18 MONDAY [262-104] 9th Mo September

Recd Rachel
Wrote Pannizzi - D'Israeli - Rachel
Sat with Susan →

19 TUESDAY [263-103]

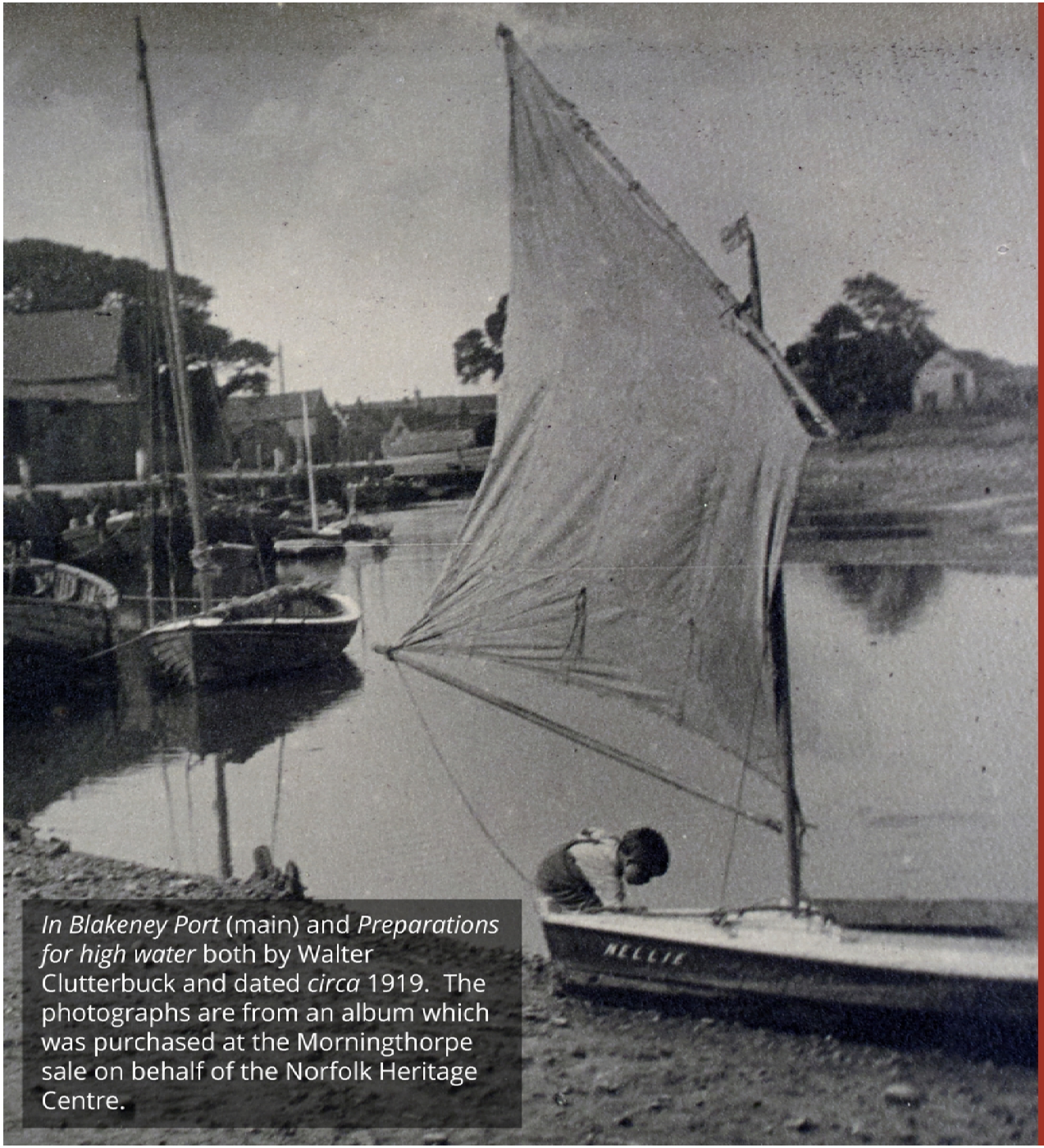
Recd German
Went to Lindenbach & shot
with my rifle
Sat with Susan →

20 WEDNESDAY [264-102]

Recd Louis
Shot at Lindenbach & dined there afterwards
with Hollander
Sat with Susan →

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/67 part (top) and photograph of Horatio William Walpole by Camille Silvy, 6 July 1861. The original is held by the National Portrait Gallery (their ref. NPG Ax7425). This image is reproduced under Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 3.0 licence. © National Portrait Gallery, London.

The second diary of Horatio William Walpole, which features in the exhibition, refers to Walpole's brief affair with Lady Susan Hamilton (1814 to 1889), wife of the Duke of Newcastle. Walpole has drawn arrows in several entries displayed. They appear throughout the diaries and it seems, from their context, they may refer to Walpole's sexual activity. In some instances, sums of money are written alongside the arrows. The diaries also document Walpole's gambling and drinking.



In Blakeney Port (main) and *Preparations for high water* both by Walter Clutterbuck and dated *circa* 1919. The photographs are from an album which was purchased at the Morningthorpe sale on behalf of the Norfolk Heritage Centre.

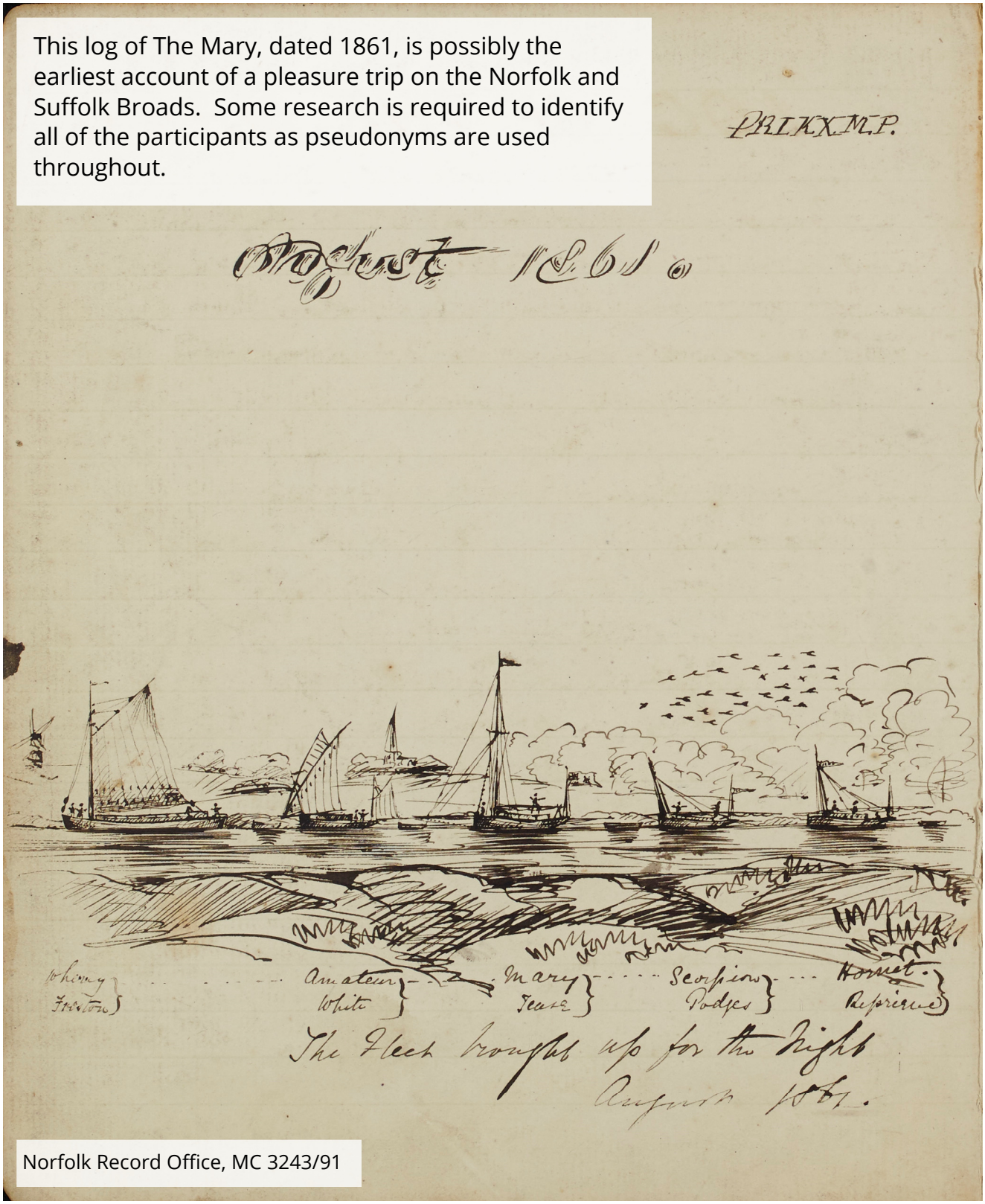
People

Many of the documents bought at the Morningthorpe sale relate to people. Diaries, letters and journals can offer detailed insights into people's interests, connections and the way they lived. They can tell us about events of the day as seen from the people involved.

Transcript of the first page of the log of *The Mary*

Log of the Mary

About the middle of July, 1861, it was proposed by the Reverend James Reprieve, rector of Fornham, County Norfolk, that a few friends in their respective yachts, should accompany himself and his two sons in the Hornet, for an excursion up the rivers of Norfolk and Suffolk, for a period of 10 days. Different yacht owners were written to, and after some



This log of The Mary, dated 1861, is possibly the earliest account of a pleasure trip on the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads. Some research is required to identify all of the participants as pseudonyms are used throughout.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/91

considerations the following gentlemen agreed to join the party, to form a small fleet, and put themselves on a certain appointed day of rendezvous, under the direct orders of the originator of [the] scheme, Mr Reprieve.

Mr Reprieve chartered and fitted up the Hornet, [a] lateen yacht, taking with him his two sons and Captain Cuttle (alias Cutts) as master. Mr Treston and his son Penny, hired one of Lucas Brothers' wherrys, Mr and Mrs Bob acting as master ...

LOG OF THE MARY.

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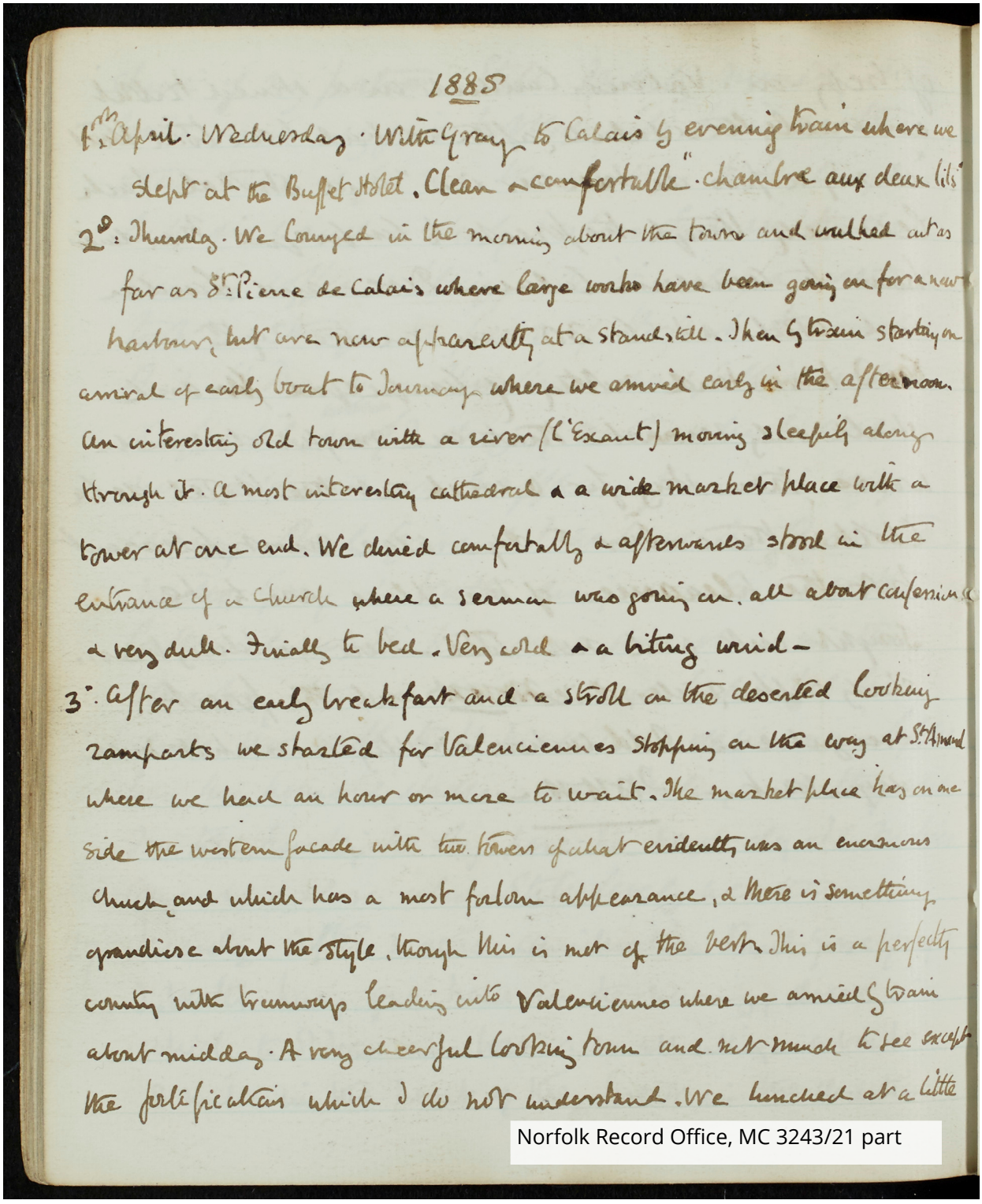
Mr. Reprieve chartered & fitted up the Hornet, Lateen yacht, taking with him his two sons, and Captain Cuttle, (alias Cutts) as master. Mr. Treston and his son Penny, hired one of Lucas Brothers wherrys, Mr & Mrs Bob acting as master

Transcript of Thomas Astley Horace Hamond's travel journal for 2 - 3 April 1886

Wednesday, 1 Apr 1886: With Gray to Calais by evening train where we slept at the Buffet Hotel. Clean and comfortable, "chamber aux deux lits".

Thursday, 2 April 1886: We lounged in the morning about the town and walked out as far as St Pierre de Calais where large works have been going on for a new harbour, but are now apparently at a standstill. Then by train starting on arrival of early boat to Tournai where we arrived early in the afternoon. An interesting old town with a river (l'Escaut) moving sleepily along through it. A most interesting cathedral and a wide market place with a tower at one end. We dined comfortably and afterwards stood in the entrance



1885

1st April. Wednesday. With Gray to Calais by evening train where we slept at the Buffet Hotel. Clean & comfortable "chambre aux deux lits"

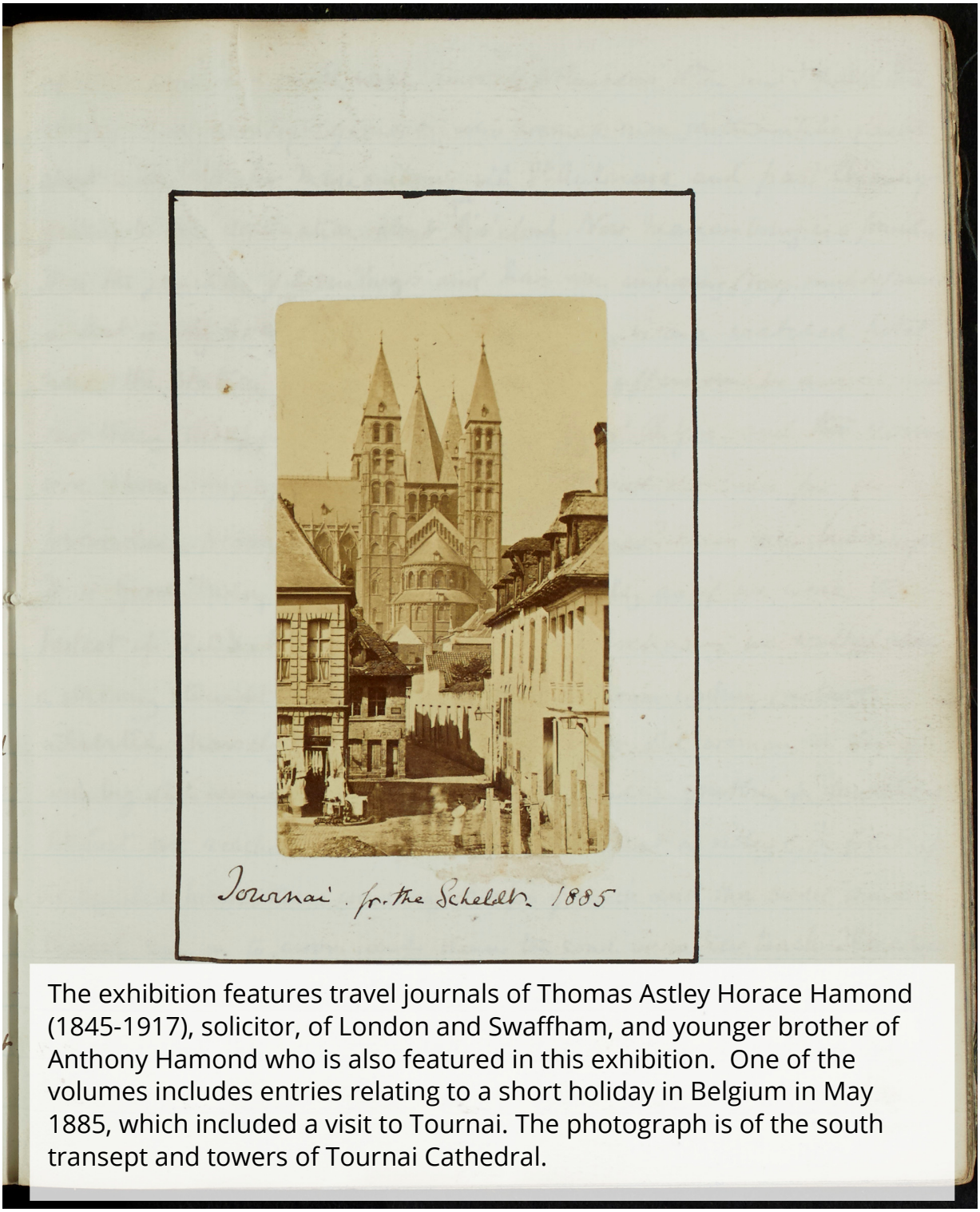
2d. Thursday. We lounged in the morning about the town and walked out as far as St. Pierre de Calais where large works have been going on for a new harbour, but are now apparently at a standstill. Then by train starting on arrival of early boat to Tournay where we arrived early in the afternoon. An interesting old town with a river (l'Escaut) moving sleepily along through it. A most interesting cathedral & a wide market place with a tower at one end. We dined comfortably & afterwards stood in the entrance of a Church where a sermon was going on. all about confession & a very dull. Finally to bed. Very cold & a biting wind –

3d. After an early breakfast and a stroll on the deserted looking ramparts we started for Valenciennes stopping on the way at St Amand where we had an hour or more to wait. The market place has on one side the western facade with the towers of what evidently was an enormous church, and which has a most forlorn appearance, & there is something grandiose about the style, though this is not of the best. This is a perfectly country with tramways leading into Valenciennes where we arrived by train about midday. A very cheerful looking town and not much to see except the fortifications which I do not understand. We lunched at a little

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/21 part

of a church where a sermon was going on, all about confession and very dull. Finally to bed. Very cold and a biting wind.

Friday, 3 Apr 1886: After an early breakfast and a stroll on the deserted looking ramparts we started for Valenciennes, stopping on the way at St Amand where we had an hour or more to wait. The market place has on one side the western façade with two towers of what evidently was an enormous church, and which has a most forlorn appearance, and there is something grandiose about the style, though this is not of the best. This is a perfect county with tramways leading into Valenciennes where we arrived by train about midday. A very cheerful looking town and not much to see except the fortifications which I do not understand. We lunched at a little ...



The exhibition features travel journals of Thomas Astley Horace Hamond (1845-1917), solicitor, of London and Swaffham, and younger brother of Anthony Hamond who is also featured in this exhibition. One of the volumes includes entries relating to a short holiday in Belgium in May 1885, which included a visit to Tournai. The photograph is of the south transept and towers of Tournai Cathedral.

I sincerely congratulate you on the victory obtained over malice & brutality, the first night of your appearance. from Mr Lawrence a friend of Sheridans, who was present upon the occasion, & who is just come down here, I have received the whole account. nothing has pleased me more than the stile of your address, which completely removes any regret for the necessity of delivering it. it spoke the only language proper for the ~~[illegible] person on the~~ occasion, the language of innocence, disclaiming favour, & calling ~~only~~ for justice ~~& protection~~ against calumny & outrage. I request that [illegible] not [illegible] in the house all the time. you will not wonder I spoke that the matter shall end, and that nothing shall provoke you to further explanation. —

Yours most &c.

Oxford.
Oct. 18th. 1784.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/49

Many letters were purchased at the Morningthorpe sale. Two feature in the exhibition. The first is by William Windham (1750-1810), Whig politician and member of the Windham family of Felbrigg, to Sarah Siddons (1755-1831), actor. Siddons was extremely popular during the 1780s and 1790s, especially for her portrayal of Shakespearean characters at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Transcript of letter by William Windham to Sarah Siddons

I sincerely congratulate you on the victory obtained over malice and brutality, the first night of your appearance. From Mr Lawrence a friend of Sheridan's, who was present upon the ovation, and who is just come down here, I have received the whole account. Nothing has pleased me more than the style of your address, which completely removes any regret for the necessity of delivering it. It spoke the only language proper for the ovation, the language of innocence; disclaiming favour, and calling only for justice against calumny and outrage. I regret that I was not in the house at the time. You will now [? rest]. I hope that the matter shall end, and that nothing shall prompt you to further explanation.

Your most etc.

Sarah Siddons by John Downman, 1787. National Portrait Gallery, NPG 2651. © National Portrait Gallery, London.

Letter from William Taylor (1765-1836), of Norwich, essayist, scholar and polygot to Mr Serjeant Firth. It relates to the life and suicide of Elton Hamond (1786 to 1820), businessman and writer, on 1 January 1820. The letter is dated 6 January 1820.

William Taylor by Thomas Goff Lupton, after J. Barwell, 1833. National Portrait Gallery, D4356). © National Portrait Gallery, London.

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/50

W. Firth Esq London

William Taylor

Norwich 6 January 1820

My dear Firth

I am obliged by your attention in forwarding to me the particulars of Elton Hamond's melancholy & awful end. He had an aspiring & a generous soul; & had his ambition been early directed into professional rather than commercial pursuits, he would probably have avoided this fatal shipwreck. How I first became acquainted with him I can hardly recollect, whether through Mrs Barlands with whom his sister was an inmate, or through Dr Gooch who took me I think to his table. When in London I have been repeatedly indebted to his hospitality, & had once the pleasure of his company for a fortnight at our Surry Street residence. The commercial misfortunes which obliged my father to dispose of those premises, & to retire hither, were probably overstated by report; for he wrote me a letter, which I ought ever to remember with cordial gratitude,

Transcript of letter from William Taylor to Serjeant Firth

W. Firth Esq., London

Norwich, 6 January 1820

My dear Firth,

I am obliged by your attention in forwarding to me the particulars of Elson Hamond's melancholy and awful end. He had an aspiring and a generous soul; and had his ambition been early directed into professional rather than commercial pursuits, he would probably have avoided this fatal shipwreck. How I first became acquainted with him I can hardly recollect, whether through Mrs Barlauld with whom his sister was an inmate, or through Dr Gooch, who took me I think to his table. When in London, I have been repeatedly indebted to his hospitality, and had once the pleasure of his company for a fortnight at our Surry Street residence. The commercial misfortunes which obliged my father to dispose of those premises, and to retire hither, were probably overstated by report; for he wrote me a letter, which I ought ever to remember with cordial gratitude, offering me a hundred a year during my mother's life, for whose inconvenience in having to remove after her blindness I had perhaps expressed a strong feeling. This offer was of course declined, and I have secretly wished it had never been made, because it bestowed the burden without the utility of obligation; and my circumstances were such as not to permit, when his misfortune shortly after occurred, the retaliation of reciprocity. I proposed to him, indeed months of hospitality; but with an income insufficient for the wants of the family I had no pecuniary aid to lend to his new enterprises. Something of disappointment and coolness may have arisen from this; at least our correspondence grew less frequent, and when he went to Scotland, he did not provide me with his address. I thought he had been still there, when your letter came with its thunderclap. He was always subject to depressions, not to say flights of spirits; and some of his letters to me are so incoherent, that they would supply symptomatic evidence of insanity, if his friend Robinson could not have given it. His habits were, I suspect, continent; and this, in my judgement, often produces a dangerous exaltation of the ideas; his metaphysics rather removed the impediment than occasioned the determination. After all suicide is one of the rights of man which is rarely exercised unwisely; it is surely better to prefer instantaneous removal to the lingering imprisonment of a madhouse. I can hardly reconcile to probability the very early date assigned to the sealed letter – was there not in this something of contrivance to give the greater dignity to his determination. If Mr Robinson is about to publish a Memoir of Elson Hamond, and finds letters of mine at all conducive to the favourable display of our friend's qualities, I shall not pertinaciously oppose the insertion of copious extracts, but it would appear to me quite as pious and amical a form of proceeding to return all the correspondence to the writers respectively. Hamond's opinions of mankind are not those of an unprediced philosopher; he often saw with the jaundiced eye of the hypochondriac. Excuse my long prate and believe me sincerely yours, W. Taylor.

Both the NRO and NORAH were keen that this patent book of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich Cathedral remained in Norfolk and was secured for public access. The volume covers the period 1621 to 1675 and fills a gap in the Dean and Chapter's archive, which is held by the NRO. A patent book records privileges, rights, appointments and title to property. It was a key evidential record for the day-to-day running of the Dean and

And the said Leonard Robinson for himselfe his Executors Administrators & assignes covenanteth & graunteth to & with the said Deane & Chapter & their successors by these presents That he the said Leonard Robinson his Executors Administrators & assignes shall & will sufficiently mainteyne & keepe all the walls pales rayles & stubbes belonging to the said Garden or ground in good & sufficient reparations during all the said terme And so shall leave the same well & sufficiently repaired in the end of the said terme.

Provided allwayes that if the said Leonard Robinson his Executors Administrators or assignes or any of them shall at any time during the continuance of this present lease alienate assigne or sett over his or their state or interest of or in the demised premisses or any part thereof And shall not deliver or cause to be delivered unto the Deane Dire Deane or generall Governor of the Cathedrall Church aforesd for the time being a true Counterpt of such alienation Assignement or setting over under the hand & seale of him or them to whome the same shall be made with sufficient Witnesses thereto subscribed within ten dayes next after the same shall be made That then and from thence forth this present demise & lease to cease & be utterly voyd any thinge in these presents to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

In witnes whereof to the one part of these presents Indentures remaining with the said Leonard Robinson the said Deane & Chapter have put their common or Chapter seale And to the other pt of the same Indentures remaining with the said Deane & Chapter the said Leonard Robinson hath put his hand & seale the day & yeare first above written.

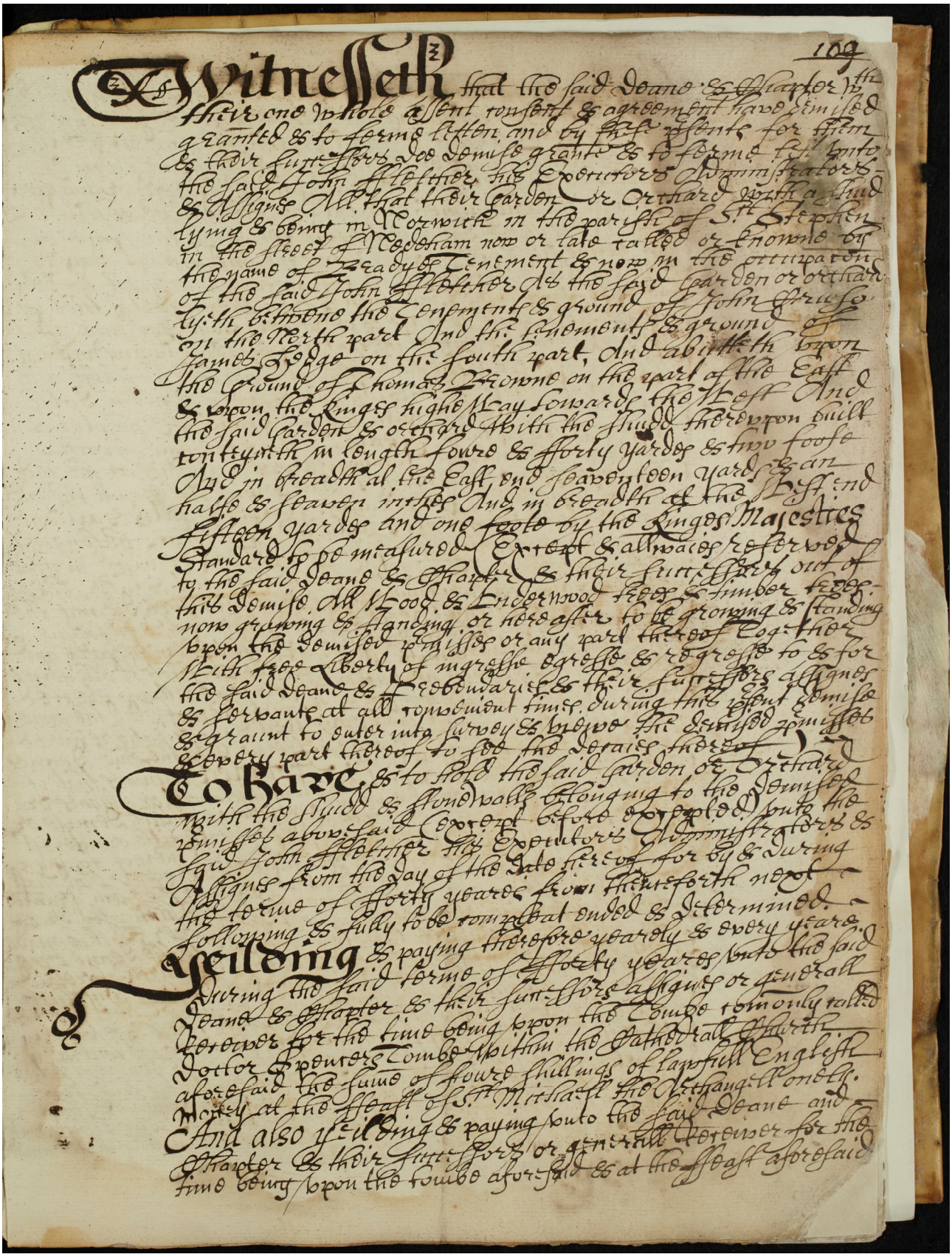
A garden in St Stephens to John Fletcher

This Indenture made the third day of December in the nynteenth yeare of the reigne of our most gracious Soveraigne Lord CHARLES the second by the grace of God of England Scotland ffrance & ffreland King Defender of the faith &c. and in the yeare of our Lord Christ one thousand six hundred sixty & seaven Betwene John Gross Doctor of Divinity Deane of the Cathedrall Church of the holy & undivided Trinitie of Norwich of the foundation of King Edward the sixth & the Chapter of the same Church of the one part And John Fletcher of the City of Norwich Carpenter of the other part

Witnesseth

Norfolk Record Office, MC 3243/58

Chapter but is also a key resource for the study of the Church during this turbulent period in English history. The pages displayed contain a transcript of a lease of 3 December 1667 of a 'garden or orchard with a shud', known as 'Bradyes Tenement' on Nedeham Street in the parish of St Stephen's, Norwich by the Dean and Chapter to John Fletcher, carpenter.



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Witnesseth that the said Deane & Chapter with
their one whole assent consent & agreement have demised
granted & to farme letten, and by these presents for them
& their successors doe demise grante & to farme let unto
the said John Fletcher his Executors Administrators
& Assigns All that their Garden or Orchard with a shud
lying & being in Norwich in the parish of St Stephen
in the street of Nedeham now or late called or knowne by
the name of Bradyes Tenement & now in the occupation
of the said John Fletcher As the said Garden or orchard
lyeth betweene the Tenements & ground of John Gruse
on the North part And the tenements & ground of
James Legge on the South part, and abutteth upon
the Ground of Thomas Browne on the part of the East
& upon the Kings highe Way towards the West And
the said Garden & orchard with the shudd thereupon built
contayneth in length foure & forty yardes & two foote
And in breadth at the East end seaventeen yardes & an
halfe & seaven inches And in breadth at the West end
fifteen yardes and one foote by the Kings Majesties
Standard to be measured Except & allwaies reserved
to the said Deane & Chapter & their successors out of
this demise All Wood & Underwood trees & timber trees
now growing & standing or hereafter to be growing & standing
upon the demised premisses or any part thereof together
with free liberty of ingresse egresse & regresse to & for
the said Deane & Prebendaries & their successors assignes
& servants at all convenient times during this present demise
& graunt to enter into survey & view the demised premisses
& every part thereof to see the decaies thereof

To Have & to hold the said Garden or Orchard
with the shudd & standwalls belonging to the demised
premisses aboveesaid Except before excepted unto the
said John Fletcher his Executors Administrators &
Assigns from the day of the date hereof for by & during
the terme of forty yeares from thenceforth next
ensuing & fully to be compleat ended & determined.

Yeilding & paying therefore yearely & every yeare
during the said terme of forty yeares unto the said
Deane & Chapter & their successors assigns or generall
Receiver for the time being upon the Tombe commonly called
Doctor Spenceres Tombe within the Cathedrall Church
aforesaid the sume of foure shillings of lawfull English
money at the feast of S.t Michaell the Archangell onely.

And also yeilding & paying unto the said Deane and
Chapter & their successors or generall Receiver for the
time being upon the tombe aforesaid & at the feast aforesaid

A Norfolk Record Office conservator cleaning seals of a 1286 deed prior to its repackaging in a bespoke box. The deed is an agreement between the woad merchants of Amiens and the bailiffs and citizens of Norwich (NRO, NCR Case 10b/1).

NORAH: Saving Norfolk's Archival Heritage

The Norfolk Archives and Heritage Development Foundation, usually referred to as just NORAH, is a recently established registered charity. It aims to further everyone's understanding of Norfolk's past through unique archival documents and rare printed works. It does this by providing grants to purchase, preserve and process Norfolk related archives, so they can be made accessible to the public by the Norfolk Record Office and its partners. NORAH also aims to fund projects and activities which engage different audiences with Norfolk's archives.

The NRO is funded by Norfolk County Council. This allows it to do a lot towards collecting, preserving and making available Norfolk's archives, but there is always more it would like to do. NORAH enables the NRO to become more resilient and to respond to events, such as the Morningthorpe Sale. This exhibition highlights some of the records secured for the general public by NORAH's first fundraising appeal.

To help NORAH and the NRO save, secure and share 1,000 years of Norfolk's history through its unique archives and rare printed works please make a donation. If you would like to hear about future fundraising campaigns and NRO events please complete and return to reception a 'Keep in Touch' postcard which you will find in the Long Gallery.

The Norfolk Record Office and the Norfolk Archives and Heritage Development Foundation would like to thank all those who contributed to the Morningthorpe Appeal; including the following organisations.

Audrey Muriel Stratford Trust

Blakeney Area Historical Society

Federation of Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Societies

Friends of the National Libraries

Hingham Society

Martham Local History Group

The Martin Laing Foundation

Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society

Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Research Group

Norfolk Record Society

Prospect Insurance Brokers

Ramblers Association

Wayland Partnership

Wymondham Town Archive