

SOME HAMPSHIRE DEDICATIONS  
GATHERED FROM  
PRE-REFORMATION WILLS.

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On the occasion of a visit to the interesting old church at Dibden the writer was told that its dedication was unknown. It appeared to be an easy matter to solve the question by a reference to early wills of inhabitants of the parish, as the name of the patron saint was usually or indeed always well known to the inhabitants in days before the Reformation, and this method was employed to obtain the solution. It seemed also, from the "Post Office Directory of Hampshire," that the dedication of some other churches was unknown or incorrectly given, and that a tentative paper on the subject might be useful.

A few explanatory remarks may perhaps serve by way of preface, and to prevent wrong conclusions being drawn. The dedications here given are from the transcript books of the wills in the Archdeaconry Court, at Winchester, and not from the original wills themselves and must be taken as the generally accepted dedications of the churches *at the date of those wills*, when the dedication was a fact of common notoriety. If we find, in confirmation of it, that the annual fair was held there on or about that Saint's day, the name day of the church, and that there has since been no re-dedication of the church, We may take it as almost positive that that is the

dedication of the church in question.<sup>1</sup> The parishes are here arranged for convenience of reference in alphabetical order, and, as most of the wills are in contracted Latin, the extracts are translated, with the exception of the words which indicate the dedication, which are given in extended form. The present received dedication has been taken from the Post Office Directory, and the letters A, C, D, &c., refer to the Books of Archidiaconal Transcripts in which these wills will be found. Where no reference to a page is given, the transcript of the will can be found by referring to the Index of the Volume mentioned.

**Abbot's Ann** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Ralph Dawnse, 8th Jan., 1508; to be buried in the churchyard of the church "Sanctæ Mariæ de Anna Abbats." A p. 269.

**Alresford, New** (*St. John the Baptist*).—So in wills of Robert Shipman and John Alexandre *alias* Smyth, dated 17th Aug., 1504, and 2nd Aug., 1504, respectively, who both desire to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Johannis Baptiste." A pp. 155 and 160.

**Alresford, Old** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Richard Brydeham, dated 21st Dec., 1506, to be buried in the churchyard "Beatæ Marie de vetere Alresford." A p. 285.

**Alton** (*St. Lawrence*).—So in wills of John Lambe, of Alton, 12th June, 1502, I leave to the parish "Sancti Laurentii de Alton," and of Nicholas Smith, husbandman, of Wynall, in the parish of Alton, dated 6th Dec., 1502, to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Laurentii de Alton." A p. . . . and 77.

**Andover** (*St. Mary*).—So in wills of Michael Cowper, dated 10th April, 1503, Thomas Brent, 1506, and William Farrar,

<sup>1</sup> Among other ceremonies connected with consecration, twelve crosses were cut or painted on the walls to make the dedication. After which so long as any part of the building remained the place was considered consecrated, and not to be consecrated again unless it should be *polluted* with bloodshed or other offence, or be *profaned*, which latter, according to Durandus (*Rationale Divinorum Officiorum* of the Dedication of a church l. ib. I. Cap VI.) "happeneth in three ways. *First*, if it hath been burnt so that the walls, or the greater part of them be destroyed. *Secondly*, if the whole church or the greater part hath been repaired, and not with the original stones. *Thirdly*, if it be doubtful whether it ever hath been consecrated." The second reason occasioned by extensive additions, or change of plan was the most common cause of a fresh Dedication.

dated 9th Aug., 1510, who all desire to be buried in the churchyard "Beatae Mariæ de Andover". A pp. 96, 289 and 366.

**Ashe** (*Holy Trinity*)?—This does not agree with the dedication of the church given in the will of Thomas Halyff, of Steventon, dated 14th June, 1503. A p. 116, who leaves a bequest to the church "Sancti Andree de Asshe."

**Avington.**—(*St. Mary*).—So in will of Nicholas Benett, of Avington, dated 13th July, 1528, who leaves a bequest "to the church of our Lady in Avington." D p. 136.

**Beaulieu.**—The following extract from the will of Richard Browmall, of Beaulieu, dated 25th Sept., 30th Henry VIII., and proved 19th March, 1540 (C.p. 360), seems interesting "to be buryed in the church lytton<sup>1</sup> of beaulieu." "Item to the new church of beaulieu a yerling."

**Bentworth.** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Robert Hunt, of Bentworth, dated last Feb., 1502, to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church, "beatae Mariæ de Bentworth." A p. 104.

**Bishop's Sutton.** (*St. Nicholas*)?—Not so in will of William David, vicar of Bishop's Sutton, dated 20th Sept., 1503, who desires to be buried in the church "omnium Sanctorum de Sutton predict." A p. 123.

**Bishop's Waltham** (*St Peter*).—So in will of John Dipnall, 6th Aug., 1502, who desires to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "Sancti Petri [de] Waltham Episcopi," and of Agnes Emery of Waltham, to be buried in the churchyard of the church "Sancti Petri de Waltham." A p. 119.

**Blendworth** (*Trinity*)? [Old parish church used as a mortuary.] Not so in will of Henry Hyggyn, of Blendworth, to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "Sancti Egidii de Blendworth." D p. 126.

**Bossington** (*St. James*).—So in will of Nicholas Pyster, dated 2nd April, 1504, "to be beryed within the church of Sainct James of Bosyngton." A p. 159.

<sup>1</sup> *Church-litton*, a churchyard, *Wiltshire*. Bailey's Dict.

- Botley** (*All Saints*).—So in will of John Dymmerch, of Botley, dated 6th Nov., 1502, to be buried in the churchyard "omnium Sanctorum de Botley." A p. 61.
- Brookenhurst** (Dedication not given).—It appears to be St. Nicholas from the will of John Draper, dated 28th Aug., 1539, who desires "to be buryed in the churche erth of Saynt Nicholas in Brokenhurst." C p. 291.
- Bursledon** (*St. Leonard*).—So in will of Richard Prest, of Bryseldon, labourer, 7th Aug., 1503, to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Leonardi de Bryselden." A p. 120.
- Brown Candover** (*St. Peter*).—So in wills of Edward Smyth, dated 14th June, 1502, Richard Paskewe, dated 24th June, 1502, and Henry Sharman, dated 20th June, 1502, who all desire to be buried in the churchyard of the church "Sancti Petri de Brown Candeuer." A pp. .
- Catherington** (*St. Catherine*)?—Roger Wheler in 1502 desires to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "omnium Sanctorum de Kateryngton," and Thomas Hore, 11th Jan. 1502, also makes a similar request. Both however, in their wills mention the light of St. Catherine among others. A p. 87.
- Chalton or Chalkton** (*St. Michael*).—So in will of Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Love, 1502, who desires to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "Sancti Michaelis de Chalkton." A p. .
- Chilbolton** (*St. Mary*).—So in wills of Alexander Polhorne, dated 6th Sept., 1503, and of Walter Kember, dated 27th July, 1503, who both desire to be buried in the churchyard of the church "beatæ Marie de Chilbolton." A p.p. 112, 113.
- Christchurch** (*Holy Trinity before 1075, when rebuilt and dedicated to Christ*).—Robert Imberley of Christchurch Twineham, 14th July, 1502, desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancte Trinitatis de Cristchurch." A p. 80.
- Goodworth Clatford** (*St. Peter*).—So in will of Edmund Dollinge, of Nether Clatford, dated 1st Oct., 1555, and proved 15th Jan., 1555-6, who desires to be buried in the churchyard of St. Peter in Goodworth. K p. 148.

- Deane** (*All Saints*).—So in will of Thomas Halyff, of Steven-ton, dated 14th June, 1503, who leaves a bequest to the church "omnium Sanctorum de Deane." A p. 116.
- Dibden**, Dedication not given (*All Saints*).—John Pelatt, 15th Feb., 1504, commences his will Ego Johannes Pelatt, parochiæ omnium Sanctorum de Depden, (Book A) and the previous will is that of Walter Shurshe, who leaves his body to be buried "in sacra sepultura omnium Sanctorum de Depden." Robert Yatman, of Dybdeyne, in 1529, after bequests to the rood light and our Lady's light, leaves "to the lyght of Allhallowes, 4d." D. fo. 171.
- Eling** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of John Wymond, penultimate day of March, 1503, "Ecclesiæ beatæ Mariæ de Elyng." A p. 86.
- Ellingham** (*All Saints, now called St. Mary's*).—The dedication appears to have been St. Mary's at an early date, for John Hopkyns, alias Hurst, 17th July, 1503, desires to be buried in the churchyard of the church "beatæ Mariæ de Elyngham," and 12th Jan., 1503, Agnes Harrys makes a similar request. A p.p. 105, 158.
- Eversley** (*St. Mary the Virgin*). — So in will of William Orcher, 13th Nov., 1502, who desires to be buried in the chancel "beatæ Mariæ Virginis de Eversley." A p. 72.
- Fordingbridge** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of John Romesay, of Bicton, in the parish of Fordingbridge, 21st Dec., 1503, who desires to be buried beneath the choir "ecclesiæ parochialis beatæ Mariæ predictæ." A p. 135.
- Froyle** (*St. Mary*).—Thomas Dunce, of Froyle, 3rd Aug., 1503, and Dionisia Hew, widow of Froyle, 27th Aug., 1503, both desire to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ Assumptionis de ffroyll." A p.p. 100, 110.
- Harbridge** (*All Saints*).—So in will of Simon Aylrich, 20th October, 1502, who desires to be buried "in cimiterio capellæ omnium Sanctorum de herbryge. nuper sepultura Willielmi filii mei." A p. 57.
- Houghton** (*All Saints*). — So in will of John Hewys, of Houghton 13th Aug., 1503, who desires to be buried in



the churchyard of the parish church, "omnium Sanctorum de Houghton." A p. 103.

**Hursley** (*All Saints*):—So in will of Thomas Langlonds, 5th Dec., 1502, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "omnium Sanctorum de Horsley." A p. 74.

**Laverstoke** (*St. Mary, formerly St. Andrew*).—The dedication in 1502 appears to have been St. Mary, for John Gye, 16th Oct., 1502, desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sanctæ Mariæ de Laverstoke," and William Webbe, of Laverstoke, desires burial in the churchyard "Sanctæ Mariæ virginis de Laverstoke" A p. 72:

**Liss or Lyss** (*St. Peter*).—So in wills of Robert Hamond, of Liss, 6th July, 1502, and of William Lucas, of Liss, who both desire to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Petri de Lisse." A p. 56:

**Longparish alias Middleton** (*St. Nicholas*).—So we find it in the will of Edith Buclond, 10th Jan., 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Nicholai de Middelton." (A p. 137).

**Lymington** (*St. Thomas à Becket; PO.D. but St. Thomas the Apostle*).—John Redyng last Jan., 1502, leaves to the parish church "Sancti Thomæ Apostoli de Lymington." A p. 86.—Thomas Stocker, 26th Sept., 1503, desires to be buried in the church, "Sancti Thomæ Apostoli de Lymington." A p. 124.—J. C. Challenor Smith, Esq., also kindly gave me references to the wills of Thomas Alwyn, Esq., of Lymyngton (34, Hölgrave), and George Kente, of New Lymyngton (7, Bennett), in Prerogative Court of Canterbury, which confirm the dedication to St. Thomas the Apostle.

**Lyndhurst** (*St. Michael*).—So in will of Richard Pocock, of Lyndhurst, dated 18th Aug., 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Michaelis de Lyndhurst." (A p. 103).

**East Meon** (*All Saints*).—So in will of William Fleit, of East Meon, 23rd Aug., 1503, who desires to be buried "in cimiterio omnium Sanctorum in ecclesiâ predictâ." A p. 109.

- West Meon** (*St. John the Evangelist, P.O.D. but All Saints*).—John Lanseford, of West Meon, 15th Sept., 1502, Henry Clammes, of West Meon, 12th Aug., 1502, and Richard Cheseman, 25th Oct., 1502, all desire to be buried in the churchyard "omnium Sanctorum de Westmeon." A. p.p. 51, 55, 81.
- Middleton** *see* Longparish.
- Milford-on-Sea** (*All Saints, P.O.D., but St. Mary*).—John Mower, of Milford, 20th Aug., 1503, desires to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ de Milford." A p. 102).
- Milton** (*St. Mary Magdalene*).—So in wills of Walter Penny, 20th July, 1502, John Stelle, 1st Feb., 1502, and Richard Gederych, 16th Aug., 1503, who all desire to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ Magdalenæ de Middilton." A p.p. 62, 81, 101).
- Netley Abbey** (*S.S. Mary and Edward*).—Philip Mandy, 1st Feb., 1503, desires to be buried "in cimiterio monasterii Sancti Edwardi de leto loco." A p. 146.
- Nutley** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Ellen Smyth, of East Stratton, 13th March, 1500, who leaves a bequest to the church "beatæ Mariæ de Nutteley," but Richard Norton, Esq., of Nutley, 21st Nov., 1503, desires to be buried "in Boreali parte cancelli Sancti *Swithini* de Nutley." (A p.p. 114, 127).
- Owslebury** (*St. Andrew*).—So in will of Nicholas Glaspole, 20th July, 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Andree de Ozilbury." A. p. 117.
- Petersfield** (*St. Peter*).—So in wills of Richard Braon, 5th July, 1503, and of William Aden, 4th July, 1503, who both desire to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Petre de Petrisfeld." A p.p. 98, 99.
- Popham** (*St. Catherine*).—So in will of Richard Norton, of Nutley, Esq., 21st November, 1503, who leaves a bequest to the church "Sanctæ Katherine de Popham." A p. 127.
- Portsmouth** (*St. Thomas à Becket*).—Peter Byclle, of Portsmouth, 3rd February, 1503, desires to be buried in the church "Sancti Thome de Portysmouth." A p. 134.

**Privett** (*Holy Trinity*).—So in will of Richard Cheseman, 25th October, 1502, who leaves a bequest "Capellæ Sanctæ Trinitatis de Pryvet." A p. 81.

**Romsey** (*St. Lawrence, North Aisle of Minster*).—So in wills of John Wright, 9th February, 1502, "to be beried in the church yerde of Saint Laurence in Romesey (A p. 79) of Maud Mede, 20th February, 1504, and of Robert Lore, 6th August, 1504, who both desire to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "Sancti Laurentii de Romesey." A p.p. 144, 153.

**Sheet**.—(*St. Mary* 1869).—So in will of John Bygald Capellanus Cantariæ<sup>1</sup> de Shutte," who leaves a bequest "beatæ Mariæ de Chutte."

**Sopley**.—(*St. Michael*).—So in will of Giles Raulff, of Sopley, last September, 1502, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Michaelis Archangeli de Sopley." A p. 60.

**Southwick**.—(*St. James*).—Thomas Westmyll, of Suthwyke, 7th November, 1502, desires to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church "beatæ Mariæ de Suthwyk," as does also John Yermouth in his will, dated 13th October, 1502, in "cimiterio beatæ Mariæ de Suthwyk," but John Massy, of Southwick, while desiring to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ de Suthwyk," leaves a bequest to the high altar "ecclesiæ Sancti Jacobi de Suthwyk." A p.p. 65, 67, 74.

**Steventon**.—(*St. Nicholas*).—So in will of Thomas Halyff, of Steventon, 14th June, 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Nicholai de Steventon." A p. 116.

**Stoke Charity**. (*St. Mary*).—So in the will of Richard Waller, Esq., lord of the manor of Old Stoke Charity, dated 26th Sept., 1547—"I give to the Church of Saint Mary, *i.e.*, the church of Olde Stoke-Charytie, of the diocese of Winchester, 20s." This does not agree with the Ordnance Survey Map, 1876, on the 1 inch scale, where the church is called *St. Michael's*.

<sup>1</sup> *Cantaria*, a chantry—an ecclesiastical benefice, to which was assigned the singing of mass. The person holding it was called *cantor* and *capellanus*.



**North Stoneham**—(*St. Nicholas*).—So in the original will of Thomas Mariner, of North Stoneham, 19th September, 1518 (original wills in the Bishops Court at Winchester) who desires burial "in Cimiterio Ecclesie parochialis Sancti Nicholai de North Stonam."

**South Stoneham** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Robert Knyght, 20th July, 1504, who desires burial in the church "beatæ Mariæ de Southstoneham." A p. 156.

**East Stratton** (*All Saints, P.O.D., but (?) Holy Trinity*).—William Leyff in his will, dated 12th July, 1503, desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sanctæ Trinitatis de Estratton." A p. 116.

**Thrupton** (*S.S. Peter and Paul*).—So in will of Peter Rede, 27th July, 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard of the church "Sanctorum Petri et Pauli de Throkleston." A p. 111

**Tichborne** (*St. Andrew*).—So in wills of John Avenell, 6th Dec., 1502, and Alice de Menie, 2nd Sept., 1502, who both desire burial in the churchyard "Sancti Andree Apostoli de Tychborne." A p. 52.

**West Tisted** (*Not given, but St. Mary*).—Richard Cheseman in his will, dated 25th Oct., 1502, leaves a bequest to the parish church "beatæ Mariæ de Westisted." A p. 81. William Andrew, of West Tisted, in his will dated 22nd Sept., 1508, desires to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ de Westisted."

**Titchfield** (*St. Peter*).—So in wills of Richard Bocher, 22nd Sept., 1503, who desires to be buried in the churchyard "Sancti Petri de Tychfeld." A p. 114, and of William Warner, of Titchfield, who desires burial in the churchyard "Sancti Petri ibidem." A p. 142.

**Twyford** (*St. Mary, rebuilt 1878 P.O.D.*).—The will of Agnes Glaspole, 24th Aug., 1503, has "sepeliendum in cimiterio Sancti Benedicti de Twyford." A p. 118.

**Nether or Lower Wallop** (*St. Andrew*).—So in will of Gilbert Scory, 12th April, 1503, who leaves a bequest to the church "Sancti Andree de Wallop Inferiore." A p. 129.

**Upper or Over Wallop.** (*St. Peter rebuilt, 1866*).—Henry Geram in his will, dated 16th July, 1503, desires burial in the churchyard "Sancti Andree de Wollop Superiore." A p. 113.

**Wherwell** (*St. Peter and Holy Cross consecrated on site of older church, 1858 (?)*) Edward Tatford in his will 10th March, 1502, desires burial in the churchyard "Sanctæ Trinitatis de Whorwell." A p. 94.—William Howell, of Wharwell, 11th June, 1504, leaves bequest to the fabric "Ecclesiæ Monasticæ Sanctæ Crucis de Wharwell," and also "Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Wharwell." A p. 138.

**East Worldham** (*not given; rebuilt on old site, P.O.D.; old dedication St. Mary*).—Richard Aslatt, 7th November, 1503, desires to be buried in the parish church "beatæ Mariæ de Estwarlham." A p. 129.

**King's Worthy** (*St. Mary*).—So in will of Richard Newman, of King's Worthy, 7th March, 1503, to be buried in the churchyard "beatæ Mariæ de Kyngsworthy." A p. 143