

THE MEDIEVAL BUILDING AND REPAIR OF THE CHANCEL OF DATCHET, IVER, LANGLEY, AND WRAYSBURY CHURCHES

SHELAGH BOND

The rich medieval endowment of the College of St George in Windsor Castle included rectories in the neighbouring county of Buckinghamshire. On 6th November, 1348 Edward III granted to his recently founded College the church of Wraysbury with Langley; and this benefaction was followed by similar grants of Datchet with Fulmer on 22nd May, 1350, and of Iver on 1st March, 1351.

Entries relating to the repair, furnishing, and building of the chancels of Datchet, Iver, Langley and Wraysbury, which were undertaken by the Dean and Canons in the Middle Ages, are to be found on the stewards' rolls and treasurers' rolls in the College archives.¹ Until 1416 the stewards' rolls are supplemented by those of the treasurers, but a change in accounting methods then removed the record of such repairs from the treasurers' rolls, a note occurring some six years later: "de reparacionibus nihil quia in computo magistri Johannis Corynham senescalli collegii hoc anno".² The two series are unfortunately incomplete, and so it is not possible to determine the total sums expended by the chapter on the upkeep and repair of the many churches within their care all over the country, or to calculate the proportion spent on the Buckinghamshire churches, or even to discover the relationship of expenditure to the income derived from such endowments.³

Nevertheless, the treasurers' and stewards' rolls provide valuable evidence, precise in date, for specific work, some of which has been destroyed, although some still survives.⁴ The main works covered by the entries printed below were the provision of panelling and desks at Wraysbury and of desks and paving tiles at Langley in 1385-6; and a new chancel and new roof at Iver between 1435-6 and 1437-8. The panelling and desks at Wraysbury and Langley have not survived, but some paving tiles at Langley which may be dated to the 14th century are still to be seen in the chancel floor. At Iver, although part of the chancel is ascribed to the 13th century, it contains a much restored East window and another in the South wall of which the inner jambs and rear arch are 15th century. John Wheteley's mid-15th century rood loft has disappeared, but part of the staircase leading to it remains. Datchet church was largely rebuilt between 1857 and 1860 so that nothing now survives of its altar, blessed by the Bishop in 1367-8, its re-roofing, and two glazed windows.

Within the account rolls, the entries are to be found under different heads. Major work was usually entered under *reparationes*, the name of the church being noted in the margin. Expenses incurred by members of the college when visiting and inspecting the work in progress were usually entered under *dona et placita et expensa necessaria*, as were other items such as the 113s. 4d. given to the churchwardens of Iver in 1404-5. The steward, who was primarily responsible for the upkeep of the properties within his care, seems to have taken considerable interest in what was being done, and some of his many annual journeys arose from his visits of inspection while work was under way. The chapter took its responsibilities with sufficient seriousness to provide a missal and altar cloths at Wraysbury in 1496-7, and to repair a breviary at Langley in 1448-9;⁵ they even went so far as to help with the repair of the nave at Langley in 1393-4. This was strictly outside the immediate care of the Windsor chapter, and seems to have been an isolated case. The repair and building of rectory houses, barns, and stables also lay within the chapter's responsibility, though they have not been included in the extracts below.

When the churches were farmed, payments for repair were made *en bloc* to the farmer. At other times workmen were paid individually, their names often recorded, and the amounts paid for materials are similarly itemised. Roger Lawrance, a carpenter, who worked at Iver in 1431-2, worked also at Windsor, Uxbridge and Langley, as did Nicholas Norgent, another carpenter;⁶ and John Wolfe, who made the desks at Langley and Wraysbury in 1385-6, made desks also at Whaddon and carried out repairs and construction work at St George's Chapel itself.⁷

In the extracts below, the original spelling has been preserved, although contractions and suspensions have been usually extended. Punctuation has been modernised, and arabic numerals substituted for roman. The normal modern practice with regard to capital letters has been observed. The forms *cancellus* and *cancellia* are both found, even in the same account roll (XV.48.11). A select glossary is provided on p. 7. In the first four entries relating to Datchet, the Latin has also been translated.

DATCHET

Michaelmas 1367-31 May 1368 (XV.34.5)

In altari in cancello de Dachett de novo facto ad tascham cum petris et calce	2s. 10d.
For the altar in the chancel at Datchet, newly made, at piece work, including stones and limestone	2s. 10d.
In 2 gradibus calcis emptis ad idem et in cariagio lapidum ad dictum altar	20d.
For two steps of limestone bought for the same, and for the carriage of stones for the said altar	20d.
In expensis episcopi venientis ibidem pro dicto altari benedicendo in pane et cervisia	16d.
For the expenses of the bishop coming there to bless the said altar, for bread and beer	16d.
In carne et volatilibus emptis et in expensis quinque equorum	3s.
For meat and fowls bought, and for the expenses of five horses	3s.

Michaelmas 1377-1378 (XV.34.14)

Et solutum vicario de Dachett pro factura cuiusdam domus infra rectoriam ibidem et pro celura cancelli ecclesie ibidem	43s. 4d.
And paid to the vicar of Datchet for the making of a certain house within the rectory there, and for ceiling the chancel of the church there	43s. 4d.

Michaelmas 1406-1407 (XV.34.24)

In reparacione cancelli de Datchet omnibus computatis preter staurum 3s. 4d.
For the repair of the chancel at Datchet, everything taken into account except stock used
3s. 4d.

Michaelmas 1433-1434 (XV.48.12)

Datchet ecclesia

Et in mille latthes emptis ad 5s. 2d.; 2100 rofnaill' ad 2s. 6d.; 4000 tegulis ad 12s.;
4 quarteriis calcis ad 5s. 4d.; cariagio tegularum et calcis ad 3s. 2d.; 1 buscello et 1 pecca
tilpynnes ad 13½d.; cariagio quattuor carectarum zabuli ad 12d.; et stipendio tegulatoris
et servientis sui ad 18s. 4d. 48s. 7½d.

For 1000 laths bought at 5s. 2d.; 2100 roof nails at 2s. 6d.; 4000 tiles at 12s.; 4 quarters
of chalk at 5s. 4d.; carriage of tiles and chalk at 3s. 2d.; 1 bushel and 1 peck of tilepins
at 13½d.; carriage of 4 cartloads of sand at 12d.; and for the pay of a tiler and his ser-
vant at 18s. 4d. 48s. 7½d.

Michaelmas 1437-1438⁸ (XV.48.14)

Datchet

Et in reparacionibus ibidem factis et solutis per Willelmum Sherman firmarium ibidem,
videlicet meremio empto cum cariagio eiusdem ad 3s. 6d.; stipendio 2 carpentorum per
3 dies ad 3s.; 100 latthes ad 7d.; 1000 rofnaill' ad 7d.; 1150 holoworkes tegul' ad 4s.;
1 quarterio calcis vivi ad 16d.; cariagio tegularum et calcis ad 12d.; clavis emptis ad 5d.;
stipendio tegulatoris et famuli sui per 3 dies ad 2s. 6d. 16s. 11d.

Michaelmas 1461-1462 (XV.48.27)

Et solutum Thome Knoll pro reparacione cancelli ecclesie de Datchet ut patet in
parcellis subsequentibus, videlicet solutum pro 26 tyle 3d.; et solutum pro lath' et nayle
1d.; et solutum uno tegulatori per dimidiem diem 2d.; et solutum uno servienti per
dictum tempus 1d. summa 7d.

Michaelmas 1462-1463 (XV.48.31)

Et solutum vitriario pro vitriacione duarum fenestrarum in cancello apud Datchet 16d.

Michaelmas 1479-1480 (XV.48.45)

Et solutum uni tegulatori pro reparacione super cancellum de Datchet predicto per
1 diem 6d.

Michaelmas ?1497 (XV.48.62)

Item solutum Johanni Ludeham pro emendacione pavimenti in cancello ibidem
[Datchet] 4d.

Michaelmas 1514-1515 (XV.49.12)

Et in denariis solutis pro diversis reparacionibus hoc anno facto super cancellam
ibidem [Datchet] 9s. 10d.

Michaelmas 1547-1548 (XV.49.24)

Et in denariis solutis 20 Januarii magistro Gyfferd pro injonctionibus et homeliis domini
regis pro ecclesia de Datchet 20d.

Michaelmas 1547-1548 (XV.49.23)

Et in denariis solutis pro diversis reparacionibus factis super rectoriam et cancellam
ibidem [Datchet] 24s. 4d.

IVER

Michaelmas 1366-1367 (XV.34.4)

Item liberatum Johanni Hunte preposito de Evere pro vadiis carpentarii super cancellum
£4 15s. 11d.

31 May 1368-Michaelmas 1368 (XV.34.6)

Et solutum fabrice campanilis ecclesie de Evere ex assensu capituli 66s. 8d.

Michaelmas 1385-1386 (XV.34.15)

Et datum parochianis de Ever pro expensis militum et pro pictura cuiusdam ymaginis
ibidem per manus Johannis atte Forde 20s.

Michaelmas 1404-1405 (XV.34.23)

Item datum procuratoribus ecclesie de Ever ad opus fabrice eiusdem 113s. 4d.

In 80 lb ferri emptis pro ferrant' cancelli ibidem 5s.

Et fabro pro factura 7s. 10d.

In 21 lb plumbi emptis pro eodem opere	12d.
In 100 cloutnayll'	3d.
In 100 latnayll'	2d.
Et solutum Ricardo Glasyer pro arte sua ibidem	13s. 4d.
Et datum pro [blank]	27s. 7d.
<i>Michaelmas 1431-1432 (XV.48.11)</i>	
Evere ecclesia	
Et solutum Rogero Laurence carpentario reparanti tectum cancelle ibidem per 6 dies per diem 6d.; Johanni Edred servienti suo per idem tempus ad 5d. per diem et Nicholao Norgent pro 4 diebus ad 6d. per diem et 4d. solutum pro 160 clavis ad idem opus	6s. 5½d. ⁹
<i>Michaelmas 1434-1435 (XV.48.13)</i>	
Et solutum Roberto Felawe carpentario pro tecto cancelle ecclesie de Evere de novo facto in parte £20 ad thesaurarium ex assensu capituli	£10
<i>Michaelmas 1436-1437 (XV.48.15)</i>	
Et in expensis senescalli apud Evere in vigilio Pentecoste ad videndum operarios fodentes et cariagium petr' pro muris cancelle	6d.
<i>Michaelmas 1437-1438 (XV.48.14)</i>	
Reman' in stauro de plumbo empto et de plumbo proveniente de veteri cancello de Evere 2353 lb	
Et de veterem meremio cancelli de Evere de rem'	
Evere ecclesia	
Et in factura cancelli de novo tam in muris carpentaria et coopertura inde cum plumbo ut patet per parcelas particulariter inde factas visas examinatas et probatas et presenti compoto annexatas	£76 16½d.
Dona et placita cum expensis necessariis	
In denariis datis carpentariis et lathamis de Evere in presencia custodis	3s. 4d.
In expensis jantaculi dominorum custodis et confratrum suorum canonicorum collegii 18 die Augusti ad videndum statum manerii de Evere et opus cancelli ibidem ut patet per billam examinatum	16s. 4d.
In expensis custodis et 7 canonicorum alia vice apud Evere, videlicet in festo Sancti Wulframi ad videndum opus cancelli, videlicet 1 buscello frumenti ad 2s.; carne bov' ovibus' et porco ad 2s. 10d.; 2 caponibus ad 8d.; 7 pullis ad 8½d.; 2 anceribus ad 10d.; 8 lagenis servisie ad 16d. et pipere et croco ad 2d.	8s. 6½d.
In expensis eiusdem seneschalli apud Evere 3 die Aprilis super provisionem murorum cancelli fiend'	12d.
<i>c. 1443 (XV.48.18)</i>	
Et datum apud Ever per mandatum domini decani Johanni Wheteley carpentario facienti 1 rodeloft in ecclesia de Ever predicta	12d.
<i>c. 1471 (XV.48.39)</i>	
Solutum Ricardo Plummer pro 8 lb de sowdyr et opere suo cum eadem super cancellum de Ever in mense Novembris anno precedente	4s.
<i>Michaelmas 1486-1487 (XV.48.52)</i>	
In reparacione facta per Laurencium Wycomb ¹⁰ in cancella ecclesie ibidem [Iver] ut patet per billam	£3 15s. 3d.
<i>Michaelmas 1505-1506 (XV.49.7)</i>	
Item pro uno [illegible] plumbi precii 20s. per quarterium empt' London pro reparacione ecclesie de Ever	£4 3s.
Item pro cariagio eiusdem usque ad le Warf	4d.
Item pro batillagio eiusdem usque Windesor	2s.
<i>Michaelmas 1514-1515 (XV.49.12)</i>	
Et in denariis solutis pro reparacionibus ibidem [Iver] factis super cancellam ibidem ut patet per billam	13s. 4d.

LANGLEY

<i>Michaelmas 1385-1386 (XV.34.15)</i>	
In 200 pedibus quarterborde emptis pro desks in capella de Langele cum cariagio eorundem	6s. 8d.
In clavis emptis pro dictis desks	11d.

In stipendio Johannis Wolff pro dictis deskes faciendis per 23 dies capientis per diem ut supra 11s. 6d.
 Et pro serviente eiusdem per idem tempus pro dicto opere capiente per diem 4d. 7s. 8d.
 In quattuor milibus pavngtyles emptis pro dicta capella 24s.
 Et pro cariagio eorundem cum expensis Johannis Wolff 12d.
 In una carrecta conducta pro luto et zabulone per 2 dies carrecta capiente per diem 10d. 20d.
 Et in uno alio homine conducto pro dicto opere per 2 dies 8d.
 Item in 3 quarteriis calcis emptis ad idem 2s.
Michaelmas 1393-1394 (XV.34.16)
 Et solum Nicholao Karter pro stramine ad sternendum in capella de Langele 4s.
 Et datum parochianis capelle de Langele pro reparacione navis ecclesie 6s. 8d.
Michaelmas 1431-1432 (XV.48.11)
 Et solum Johanni Crokker tegulatori tegulanti super cancellum ecclesie ibidem [Langley] per 4 dies ad 6d. per diem 2s.
Michaelmas 1436-1437 (XV.48.15)
 Langley Mareys
 Et in emendacione novi hostii pro vestiario in cancella ad 3s. 4d.; cera una ad dictum hostium empta pro 6d.; emendacione fenestrarum vitrearum in cancella 8s. 8d.; et emendacione hostii cancella ad 6d. in toto 13s.
 Et solum pro consecracione summi altaris in ecclesia de Langley 6s. 8d.
c.1443 (XV.48.18)
 Reparaciones facte super cancellum de Langley
 Et in 2 milibus tiles emptis de Johanne Lebbyn ad cancellum de Langley de novo tegulandum precii mille 4s. 8s.
 Et in 1 quarterio de holewarke de eodem Johanne ad idem opus 12d.
 Et in 5 quarteriis de limestones emptis de prefato Johanne precii quarterii 16d. 6s. 8d.
 Et in stipendio Johannis Lobbyn cum carecta sua cariantis 2 milia de tiles de Burnham usque ad cancellum predictum capientis pro cariagio mille 12d. 2s.
 Et in stipendio dicti Johannis cum carecta sua cariantis 5 quarterios calcis de lymestones de Tappelowe usque cancellum predictum 12d.
 Et in stipendio Johannis Walter tyler tegulantis super cancellum de Langley per 17 dies capientis per diem 8s. 6d.
 Et in stipendio Thome Walter laborarii deservientis eidem tegulatori de petris et morterio et de aliis per 17 dies capientis per diem 4d. 5s. 8d.
 Et solum Johanni Walter pro 3 bussellis de tylepynnes per eundem emptis ad opus predictum unde 2 busselli precii busselli 9d. et 1 bussellus precii 8d. 2s. 2d.
 Et in stipendio Ricardi Reve de Langley findentis meremium apud Thorneywode pro lathes inde de novo faciend' pro cancello predicto et aliis locis per 3 dies ad 6d. per diem 18d.
 Et in 6 milibus de lathnaill' emptis pro cancello predicto et pro grangiis infra rectoriam de Langley predictam sic emptis in grosso precii mille 14d. 7s.
 Et solum Johanni Parker cum carecta sua carianti aquam zabulonem et lathes ad dictum opus cancelli per 3 dies ad 16d. per diem 4s.
 Et solum Davy Whitechurch pro 700 lathes ab ipso emptis ad opus cancello [sic] predicto precii centene 7d. per magistrum Gardener 4s. 1d.
 Summa 51s. 7d.

Michaelmas 1449-1450 (XV.48.22)
 Et solum pro ecclesia de Langley per consensum domini decani et capituli ad emendand' unum porteforium ad deserviend' in dicta ecclesia 13s. 4d.
Michaelmas 1494-1495 (XV.48.58)
 Et in diversis reparacionibus factis per Laurencium Wicombe tam infra rectoriam ibidem quam super cancellam ecclesie ibidem ut patet per billam super hunc compotum ostensam infra tempus huius compoti £6 9s. 8½d.
Michaelmas 1496-1497 (XV.48.61)
 Et in denariis solutis pro panno lineo vocato auterclothes pro altaribus in ecclesiis de Langley et Wirardesbury infra tempus huius compoti 6s. 8d.
 Et in denariis solutis vicario de Langley pro 1 mortuario accidente infra parochiam de Langley infra tempus huius compoti pro diversis consideracionibus per capitulum concess' etc. 8s.
Michaelmas 1537-1538 (XV.49.21)
 Et in denariis solutis pro diversis reparacionibus factis ibidem hoc anno ut patet per billam 32s. 5½d.