

C16th Painted Room

Written by John Eager

Thursday, 09 April 2009 09:54 - Last Updated Thursday, 09 April 2009 13:49

The decorative paintings in the original wattle-and-daub at 1, Church Lane, were discovered during major restoration work in the building in 1988.

The paintings have been dated to Tudor times and are thought to have been done during the 1560s. The building, one of the oldest in Ledbury, was thought to be a Booth Hall and, records reveal, was probably occupied by the then town constable Sergeant Richard Skull, married to one Elizabeth Skynner.

Thanks to Ledbury Town Council for permission to film the C16th Painted Room and to Elisabeth Galvin for her help in making this video.

The most complete surviving biblical texts on the walls:

thy most holy hill. The man whose life is un corrupt

whose works are juste and straight: whose heart doth

then a great treasure and trouble therwith. Better is a dinner with

greene hearbs where love is, than a fat oxe and hatred herwith

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The feare of the Lord, is the beginning of wisdom.

A good understanding have they that doe ther after



Morgan shoe shop with the tannery behind it at the top of Bye Street, where the Clock Tower now stands. Painted by A. Gee in 1892, Bye Street used to be the main Hereford - Worcester Road, which continued up Church Street.

Indenture dating from the late C17th which sets out the terms of employment of the Ledbury

Town Constable:

This indenture made the third day of January in the tenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord William the third by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith. The Year Anno Domini 1698 between Richard Drewe of the parish of Dymocke in the county of Glos and William Wintour Esq., Elizabeth Skipp widow, John Tryst Esq., John Phillips Gent, Benjamin Prichard, Clerke, William Bissell, Edmund Rose Gent, John Moreton Gent, Anthony Vobe Gent, and John Thorne Gent, all Lords of the Mannor of this Burrough and Fforren of Ledbury in the county of Herefordshire of the one part and Thomas Pantall of Ledbury aforesaid cutler of the other part. Witnesseth that the same Richard Drewe, William Wintour, Elizabeth Skipp, John Tryst, John Phillips, Benjamin Prichard, William Bissell, Edmund Rose, John Moreton, Anthony Vobe and John Thorne as well for and in consideration of the Yearly rents herein after reserved and of the covenants and agreements herein offer contained and on behalf of the Said Thomas Pantall, his executors, administrators, assigns to be Performed and paid have demised, granted and lett on and by these presents demise grant and let unto the said Thomas Pantall all his executors and assigns all that their house and building called Boothall House situate and being in the Burrough of Ledbury aforesaid now in the possession of the said Thomas Pantall together with all outhouses, buildings, barksides, garden, profits and appurtenances of the same belonging or appurtenancing together with all the toll and proffitts of the three several ffares there yearly kept called Easter ffaire, Michaelmas ffaire and Christmas ffaire with all the profits and benefits thereto belonging or be due to the said Lords or any of them for or in respect of the same ffares (except and out of this demise and grant always reserved the Court Chamber, the Prison House, the Park House with the said Boothall House upon all occasions for the keeping of all Courts to be kept for the said Mannor and also for the safe keeping of prisoners and malefactors withing the said Mannor and Burrough to have and to hold the said building called the Boothall House and all other the premises herein beforehand granted with their and every of their appurtenances (except before excepted) unto the said Thomas Pantall his executors and assigns from the second day of February next ensuing the date hereof for and during and until the full end and Term of twenty years from the henceforth next immediately ensuing fully to be completed and ended yielding and paying therefore yearly and during the said terme unto the said William Wintour, Elizabeth Skippe, John Tryst, John Phillips, Benjamin Prichard, William Bissell, Edmund Rose, John Moreton, Anthony Vobe and John Thorne their heitd and assigns the yearly rent or sum of Ten pounds of lawfull money of England on the ffirst day of August and the second day of February by even or equal portions the ffirst payment thereof to begin and be made on the ffirst day of August next ensuing the date hereof and also yeildinge and paying yearly the sum of thirteen shillings and fourpence of like money being the chief rent issuing out of the said Boothall house att the accustomed daies for payment thereof to the person hereinafter named the owner thereof. And if it shall happen the said yearly rents or either of them or any part of either of them to be behind or unpaid by the space of eight and twenty daies after either of the said daies of payment (the same being lawfully demanded) that then it shall and may be lawfull for the said Lords or any of them into the said demised premises for entry and the same to have again and and enjoy as in their former estate anything herein before conteyned to the contrary notwithstanding and it is declared convenanted concluded and agreed between the said parties

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to these presents And any of them that the said Thomas Pantall his executors and assignes as Bayliffe in and for the said Mannor during the said terme of twenty yeares shall not only collect and gather of all and any private tenants of the said Mannor of Ledbury all such chief rents and other rents as are due from them to be gathered and paid out of the said Mannor by the said Lords their heirs and assignes for the time being according to such a true and just rent roll as the said Lords shall deliver unto the said Thomas Pantall his executors and assigns under their hands subscribed and sufficiently authorise the said Thomas Pantall his executors and assigns to receive and if need to destrayne for the same att or before the tenth day of March next coming but also shall and will well and truly pay or cause to be apyd the same unto William Skynner of London haberdasher or his assigns And that the said Thomas Pantall His executors and assigns shall att least once in any year during the said Terme of Twenty years shall or before the first day of August procure from the said William Skynner or his assigns a full and sufficient acquittance or acquitted discharge of discharged for the payment of the said chief rents and shall deliver or cause the same to be delivered to the said Lords or such of them as shall be appointed by the said Lords or any three or more of them to receive the same

This indenture was purchased at auction in Church Stretton in 2003 by the Ledbury and District Society. It now hangs framed in the C16th Painted Room.