

BRIDGE PLACE NEAR CANTERBURY, KENT. Photograph, taken in 1946, showing the south-east and south-west (front) wings. Photograph by Kenneth Jaggard.

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Lesser Known Buildings: Bridge Place, Kent

MALCOLM PINHORN

The Hundred of Bridge

Bridge Place is situated in the small village of Bridge, some three miles south of Canterbury on the Dover Road. The village is said to take its name from the bridge on the main road over the Nail Bourne river, which rises at Lyminge. At the time of the Norman Conquest the village was spelt Bregge.

The main road (A2) along which the older houses of the village are strung was originally the Roman Watling Street and relics of the Roman occupation have been found in the neighbourhood, although so far as is known there was no settlement at Bridge. But Bridge must soon have become an important centre for it gave its name to one of the districts or hundreds into which the counties of England were divided for administrative purposes. This probably indicates that the hundred court sat in or near the village; Bridge Place is built on the site of an ancient court house.

The Hundred of Bridge contains several parishes but it is interesting to note until recently Bridge itself never achieved parish status, being a chapelry of the neighbouring village of Patricbourne. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, contains fragments of Norman work but was extensively repaired and partially rebuilt in the mid-nineteenth century by Mrs. Gregory of Bridge Hill House, the widow of the Revd. Edward Gregory (1).

The Hundred of Bridge contained a number of manors including Patricbourne Cheney, Bridge, Blackmansbury, and Hautsbourne. The manor of Blackmansbury consisted of the property part of which today is known as Bridge Place.

According to the Kent historian Edward Hasted the Hundred of Bridge came into the possession of the Cheyney family during the reign of King Edward II (1273-1307) and it remained in the same family for some three hundred years until Henry, Lord Cheyney (d. 1587) sold it to William Partheriche towards the end of Elizabeth I's reign (2).

The Cheyney family came from Shurland in the Isle of Sheppey and one branch of the family is recorded in the herald's visitations of Kent in 1574 and 1619 as living at Higham in the parish of Milsted near Sittingbourne. Lord Cheyney's father, Sir Thomas Cheyney (d. 1556) lived at Shurland, but Henry, although he was member of parliament for Kent at one time, lived and died at Toddington in Bedfordshire. Lord Cheyney died in 1587 without male heirs, apparently owning a considerable amount of land and property in the county, much of which was either sold by him immediately before or by his widow shortly after his death (3).

It is doubtful if members of the Cheyney family ever lived in the hundred, although the manor of Patricbourne Cheyney, on part of which in the early 17th century Bifrons Park was built, commemorates their period of ownership.

William Partheriche's grandson, Sir Edward Partheriche, is said to have

conveyed the Hundred of Bridge to Arnold Braems, the builder of Bridge Place, in 1638.

The Manor of Blackmansbury

'Villare Cantianum' by Thomas Philipot (4) and 'The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent' by Edward Hasted (5) contain a basic account of the history of the manor of Blackmansbury which can be supplemented and corrected by recent research.

We know little about the beginnings of Bridge Place or the manor of Blackmansbury, as it was known until the seventeenth century, beyond the fact that during the middle ages it was part of the property of St. Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury and that the annual rental formed an important contribution to the funds of the Sacristy. Wallenbergs 'Place Names of Kent' lists Blackemansburye (sic) as recorded in 1253/4.

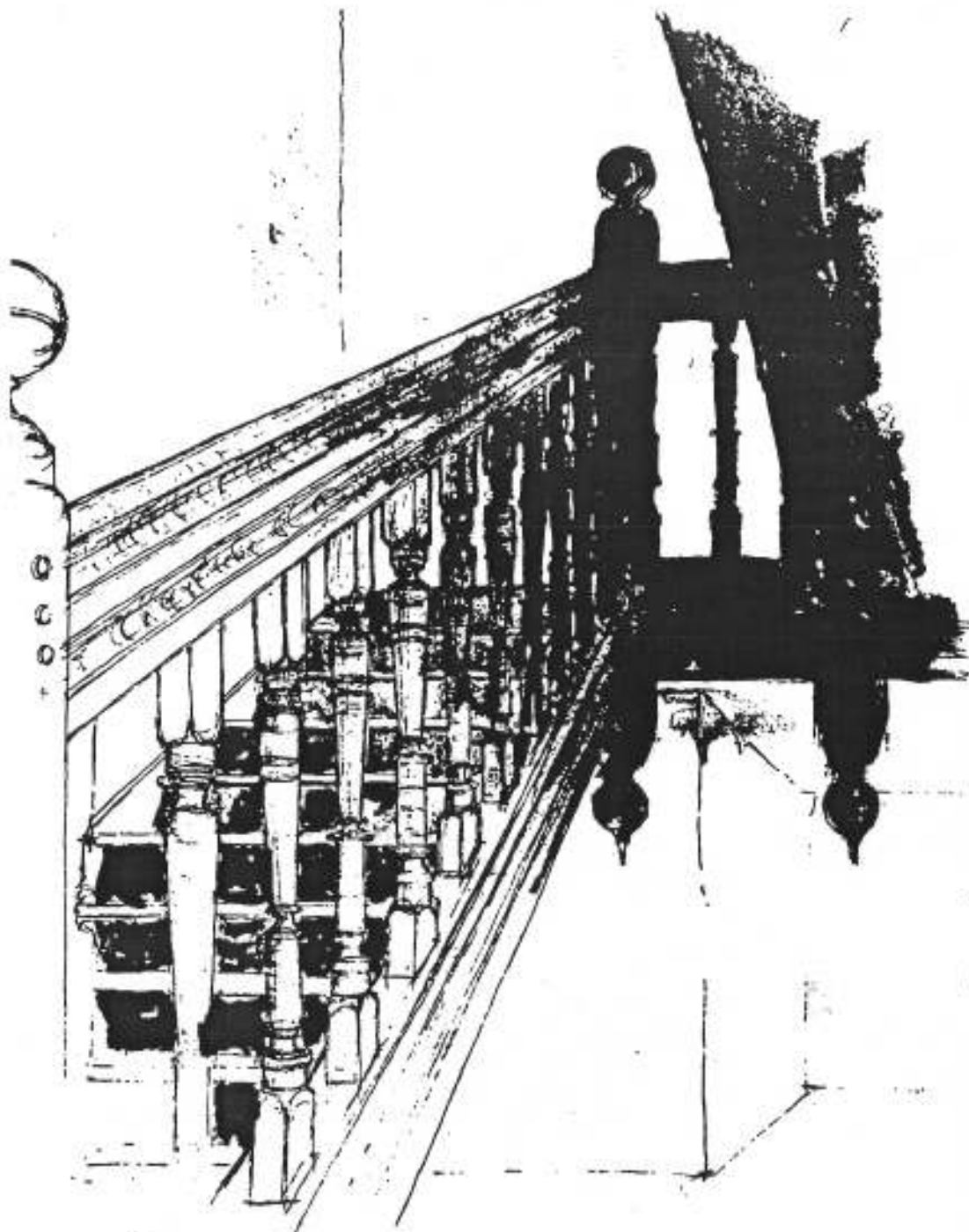
In 1538, at the dissolution of the monasteries, the manor passed into the hands of the Crown which retained it until 1544, when King Henry VIII sold the manor to Henry Lawrence, a barrister of the Middle Temple, London. Lawrence is listed as admitted to the Middle Temple with a William Lawrence, between February 1524/5 and February 1550/1 (6). In his will dated 1565 (no date or month given) Henry Lawrence described himself as 'gentleman' of Bridge. Lawrence occupied chambers in the Temple and the manor house at Bridge, but died about 1565 in the City of London, his will being proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in that year (7). His son, John, was under 21, but eventually sold the property in 1576 to William Partheriche of Eastry.

William Partheriche was a member of an interesting family, a number of whom played a part in the conduct of the nation's affairs. Partheriche held the position of Surveyor of the Ordnance Office, at that time the second principal officer. The office was, in the absence of a War Office or permanent military establishment, of some importance. "It also supplied the navy with armaments and some other equipment. It was responsible for the ordering, purchase, storage, maintenance, issue, recovery, and repair of all munitions of war both by land and sea; manufacture was in private hands, but the suppliers of both cannon and gunpowder were paid under officers in the department, as were those responsible for match, cordage, timber and iron ware. The ordnance was directly subordinate to the king and the Council" (8).

William's brother Edward Partheriche and Edward's son Nathaniel were also officers of the Ordnance Office, holding the positions (?jointly) of Keeper of the Hand (or Small) Guns. Nathaniel married, Joan, daughter of William Paymeter, who was Clerk of the Ordnance Office (1561-1594) (she re-married after his death). Paymeter, who lived at Twiddal Manor, Gillingham, Kent, was the author of 'The Palace of Pleasure' (1566) used by Shakespeare as a source of a number of his plots (9).

William Partheriche's first wife was the daughter of a Londoner; his second wife was the daughter of Sir Thomas More's secretary, John Wild. His third

BRIDGE PLACE. Photograph of a drawing by Willem Schellinks showing part of west-west (from) wing in 1681, courtesy Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Nederlande.



wife was Affra Morton (10) a half sister of the diplomat Sir Henry Wootton (a witness to William's will) and of the first Baron Wootton, and aunt to Sir Albertus Morton, Secretary of State to King Charles (11). In 1582 William was a member of a Commission appointed by Queen Elizabeth I to carry out extensive improvements to Dover harbour (12). William Partheriche died in 1598, but his wife, who in 1607 remarried Sir Anthony St. Leger, Master of the Rolls in Ireland (13), continued to live at Bridge.

At the time of William Partheriche's purchase the manor of Blackmansbury probably comprised the greatest part of the parish of Bridge. The manor of Patricksbourne claimed part of the side of the village of Bridge to the East of the Dover Road, but before the end of Elizabeth's reign William Partheriche had purchased the manors of Patricksbourne Merton (which included the advowson of Patricksbourne with Bridge) and Patricksbourne Cheney. In addition he appears to have held an interest in the manor of Kingston (14).

William Partheriche had a son Edward who married, firstly, Susan Stede of Harrietsham, and they probably lived at Greenway Court, Hollingbourne, Kent, the home of Susan's stepfather, Francis Colepeper. Edward was, however, buried at Bridge in 1612 (15).

Edward left a son Edward (later knighted) and a daughter Catherine. Catherine married Herbert Springett, whose father owned Broyle Place, Sussex. Their son William Springett, knighted at the age of 20, married Mary, daughter of Sir John Proud, and they boarded with his uncle, Sir Edward. Their granddaughter Guilelma Maria Springett, was the first wife of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania (16).

Sir Edward Partheriche married, firstly, Catherine, youngest daughter of Sir Arthur Throckmorton and a niece of Sir Walter Raleigh, and secondly, Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Fagge. Sir Edward, who was member of parliament for Sandwich (Kent) from 1640-1648, was an Adventurer in and a candidate for the Directorship of the drainage of the Bedford Level (17). Sir Edward appears to have lived firstly at Greenway Court, but after he sold the Bridge Place estates in 1638 is said to have moved at first to Faversham, where his wife had inherited property from her father (18). Afterwards he moved to Ely to be near his interests in the draining of the fens.

The purchaser of the Blackmansbury estates was Arnold Braems of Dover, a wealthy and influential merchant, who is mentioned several times in Pepys' Diary, and was knighted in 1660. Arnold Braems, who built the house known today as Bridge Place, about 1638-40, was succeeded by his son Walter Braema. Walter died in 1691 and under the terms of his will, the Bridge Place estate was sold.

By a series of transactions dated 8 June 1695 Sir Henry Palmer, Robert Cony and Abraham Parrott, as trustees of the will of Walter Braems, sold the estate to John Taylor (who had recently purchased Bifrons, a small estate in the neighbouring parish of Patricksbourne) subject to a mortgage in favour of amongst others, the celebrated admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell (1650-1707) (19).



It was Taylor who, preferring the Jacobean mansion of Bifrons built by John Bargrave, demolished two thirds of Bridge Place, which he then appears to have used as a dower house.

It is not yet known who occupied the remaining third of Bridge Place in the early years of the eighteenth century but John Taylor's (unmarried) granddaughter Mary Taylor lived in the house from 1742 to 1770, during which period she brought up the daughter of Brooke Taylor, the first secretary of the Royal Society, who died whilst his daughter was under age (20). This daughter afterwards became Lady Young, the wife of a colonial governor (21).

In 1772 the house was let to John Hardy, who was probably a relative of the Hallett family, the builders of Higham, now known as Highland Court, in the parish of Patricxbourne. Hardy's occupation probably dates from 1770 for on 26 April that year he married the daughter of the vicar of nearby Bekesbourne, the Revd William Bedford. Hardy died in 1778, but his widow Ann continued to live in the house until her death in 1783 (22). She was followed by William Hougham (d. 1828) who afterwards moved to his family home on Longport, Canterbury, now a girls school (23).

In 1766 when the then freehold owner Herbert Taylor mortgaged some of his property to a James Brockman (24) for £3000, the mortgage deed dated 18 December that year described the Bridge Place Estate as follows: "All that capital message or tenement situate and being the ville of Blackmansbury within the . . . parish of Bridge in the . . . county of Kent together with all Houses, Edifices, Buildings, Outhouses, Orchards, Gardens, Courts, Yards, Lands Arable Meadow Pasture and Woodlands with their and every of the appurtenances to the same capital message belonging in any wise appertaining or therewith used occupied or enjoyed containing by estimation 40 acres or thereabouts be the same more or less sometime in the tenure or occupation of Nicholas Heniker or his assigns and late in the tenure or occupation of Walter Breames or his assigns with all warrens for coneyes and grounds inclosed for coneyes to the same belonging or appertaining with the two . . . tenements thereupon theretofore built by William Partherick Esq deceased whereof one of the same tenements is within the said furclosed (sic) grounds commonly called Hounds Pitts and the other is in a close called Whitehill in Bridge near the highway leading to Dover".

We know from Hasted that the property was occupied by Lady Elizabeth Yates, after the death of her second husband in 1793 (25). She was married firstly to Sir Joseph Yates (1722-1770), who was employed by the Crown against John Wilkes when he was accused of libelling King George III. Lady Yates married secondly, on 12 January 1776 Dr. John Thomas (1712-1793), who was consecrated Bishop of Rochester and died in office on 22 August 1793. Lady Yates lived at Bridge until her death in 1808 (26). Her daughter married Col. Cholomeley Dering, guardian of Sir Edward Dering, the eighth baronet, who lived at nearby Howletts, built for Isaac Baugh a few years earlier (27).

The next tenant of whom we have knowledge was the Revd Charles Hughes, who was vicar of Patricxbourne for 35 years (28). Charles married in 1806

Francis Anne, the eldest daughter of Sir Edward Knatchbull, eighth baronet, of Mersham Hatch, Kent, and came to live at Bridge Place two years later, staying until 1813. It was whilst here that four of his twelve children were born.

In 1829 the owner of the Bifrons estate, with the consent of Herbert Edward Taylor, his eldest son and heir apparent, leased the estate for a year to one Ambrose Humphrys of Upper Wimpole Street, London (29). The estate, which had been part of a marriage settlement (dated 31 August 1802) between Edward Taylor and Louisa Beckingham, daughter of the Revd John Charles Beckingham of Bourne Place, prior to their marriage on 6 September 1802, is then described (as it related to Bridge Place) in the following words "... all that capital messuage or mansion house with the offices outbuildings and appurtenances thereto belonging and the cottage therewith used or enjoyed; and all those several fields closes pieces or parcels of land thereto belonging and therewith used and enjoyed situate and lying and being in the .. Parish of Bridge in the .. County of Kent containing by estimation 11 acres or thereabouts be the same more or less formerly in the tenure or occupation of Dame Elizabeth Yates her undertenants or assignees". This lease was probably the legal device current during that period for conveying the estate to a new owner, for it was at that time that negotiations were taking place with the first Marquess of Conyngham for the sale of the Bifrons Estate to him. Eventually he purchased it for the gross sum of £97,475. Of this sum Edward Taylor had to pay £18,083. 19. 8d. in settlement of outstanding debts (30).

Bridge Place was let, in common with many smaller country houses in Victorian times, to a farmer. In the 1830's it was occupied by Richard and Sarah Brice, Richard Brice being described as a yeoman (31). Later the Athill family lived at the house. In 1857 three of the children of George Athill, a farmer, were baptised at Bridge (32); one of them, Charles Harold Athill, MVO, FSA(1853-1922) was Clarenceux King of Arms from 1919 until his death.

By 1862, however, Bridge Place had ceased to be a farmhouse, for in that year George Henry Conyngham, Lord Mount Charles, later third Marquess of Conyngham, came to live in the house, staying until 1867. There followed a number of further tenants, including Julian Hedworth George Byng (1862-1935) later created Viscount Byng of Vimy (33).

In 1956 the freehold of the house was sold to the Hon. Mrs A. L. C. Neame of Hardree Court, near Canterbury (34) who only lived in the house a short period letting it for the rest of her ownership.

In 1962 the writer purchased the property and occupied it until 1967.

The Architecture of Bridge Place

When (Sir) Arnold Braems purchased the Bridge Place estate in 1638 the sale included the manor house which had probably been built by William Partheriche, Surveyor of the Ordnance Office, shortly after Partheriche purchased the estate in 1576 (35). Part of the semi-basement of this house (which was incorporated into the succeeding building and used as a kitchen) was discovered during excavations in 1964 and 1965 at the time of the writer's ownership of the property. This had centrally brick built hexagonal pillars (cemented over and the brick outlines redrawn) which doubtless supported a vaulted ceiling similar to the one which survives in the cellars of Chevening, Kent (36).

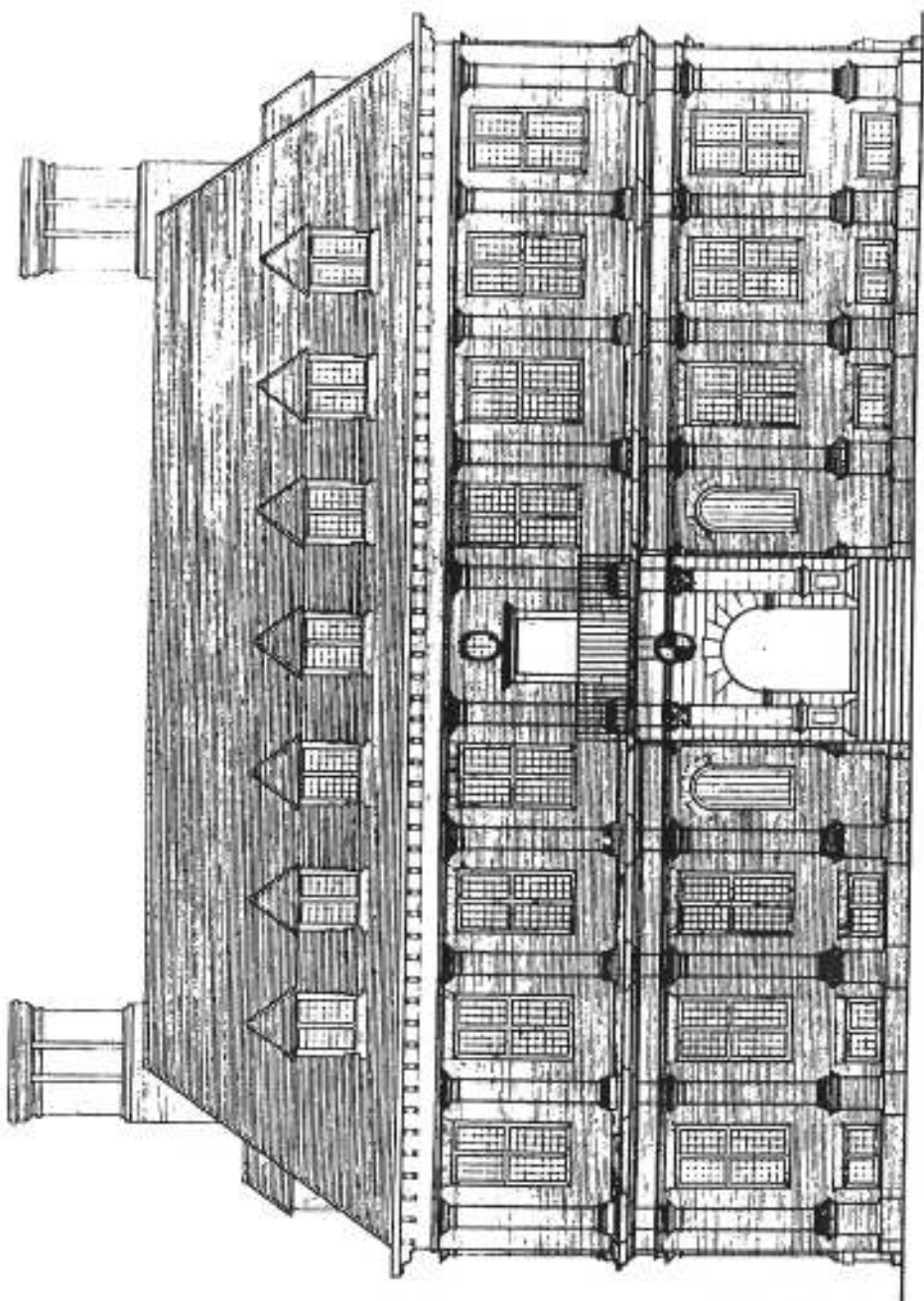
Braems, a wealthy merchant of Flemish descent with considerable business interest in Dover and London (37), probably, on purchasing the property, largely demolished the existing manor house to ground level and started the build a new house incorporating the semi-basement of the old house. In the words of Thomas Philipot writing in 1659 (38) - "Mr. Arnold Brame of Dover, ... upon the foundation of the ancient fabrick hath erected that magnificent pile which obliges the eyes of the passenger, both to admiration and delight, and which like a Phoenix seems to have arose more glorious out of the ruins".

The evidence for dating the house before the Commonwealth is primarily based upon three facts. Firstly the Hearth Tax Returns for Bridge shortly after the Commonwealth state that the house had 24 hearths (39); this would fit Braems' new house. Secondly the description of the house and grounds and the sketches of Bridge Place by William Schellinks when he stayed at Braems' house in 1660 indicate the rebuilt house (40). Thirdly, Braems was a strong Royalist and was heavily fined during the Commonwealth (41), suggesting he would not have been in a position to afford to build a new house after the Civil War.

If, as seems likely, the house was built before the Civil War the fact that Cornelius Johnson the portrait painter lived at the house a number of years as a guest of the owner before leaving for Holland at the outbreak of the war (42), suggests the new house had been completed when Johnson arrived. There is no reason why Braems should not have built his new house immediately he bought the estate - that is about 1638-1640.

The plan of the house was simple: it was square, having four wings round a small central (enclosed) courtyard which served as a light well (43). The front (south) wing incorporated the semi-basement of the old house which extended to approximately half the east and west wings, the latter having what appears to have been an indoor well. It was not possible to extend the semi-basement area further due to the water-table (44). Four of the bays of the original south (front) wing and five bays of the east wing survive with later (Georgian and Victorian) additions.

The new house was built of red brick made in a field adjacent to the building (45). On the outer face the bricks were laid entirely as stretchers, with



Page 54 BRIDOK PLACE. Photograph of a drawing of the south-east (front) wing as originally built, based upon the drawing of William Schellinks illustrated on page 48 (rebasise).

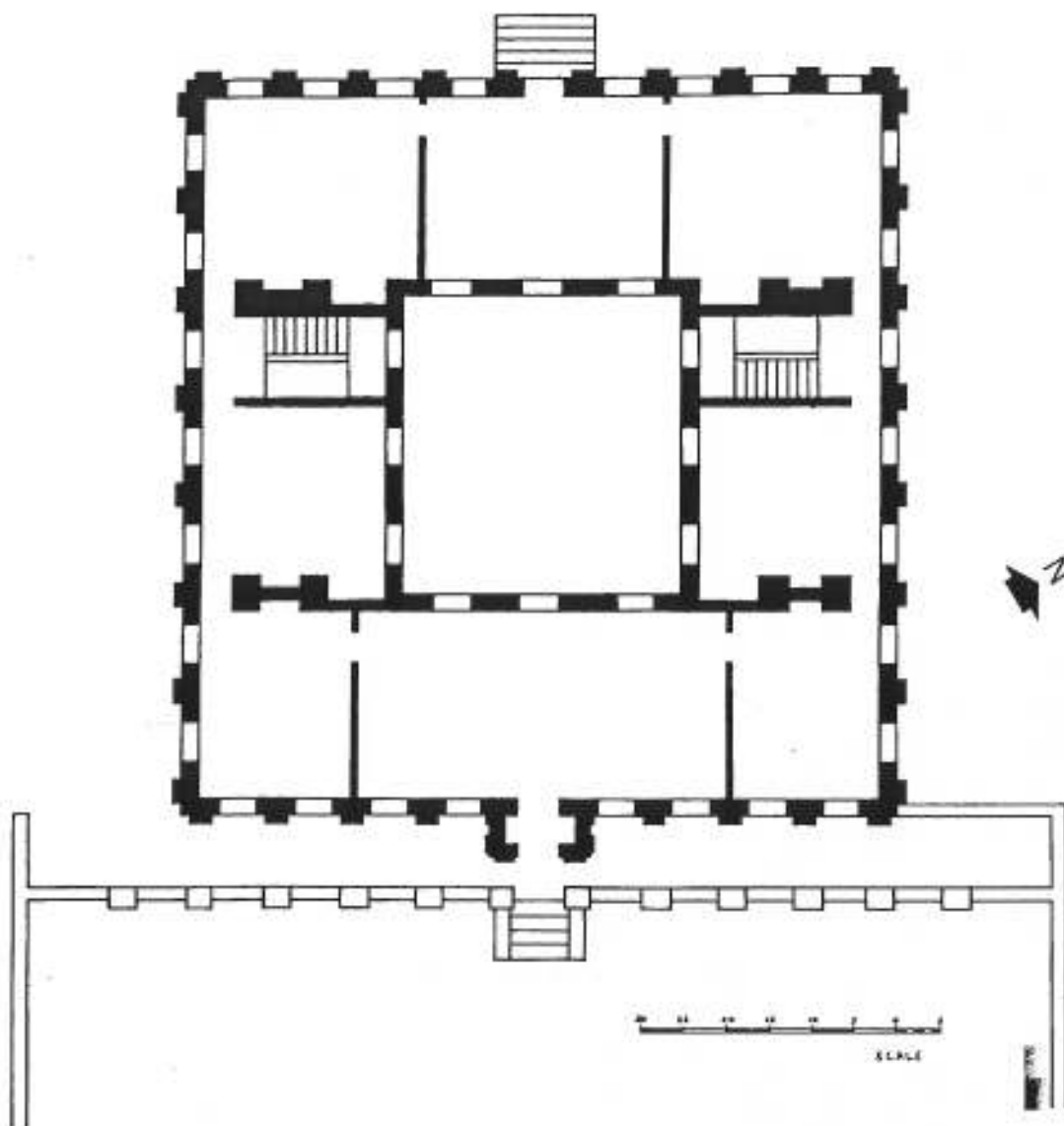
Flemish bond on the inner face. The bricks are soft and have not weathered well.

The south and north wings consisted of nine bays, the east and west wings of seven bays, with semi-basement, ground floor, first floor and attic storey. The semi-basement, ground and first floor window frames were of brick plastered over the simulate stone mullions and transoms. Some of these survive and it must be doubted whether wooden window frames had been introduced into England by this time as has been claimed (46). The semi-basement had two light and the ground and first floor four light windows. The attic two light window frames (some of which survive with contemporary glass) were of wood.

The principal front with wide outdoor terrace faced south east. The foundations of this terrace and the main entrance steps were discovered during the excavations carried out during the writer's occupation of the property. From the inventory of goods and chattels compiled on the death of Sir Arnold Braems (47) we know there was an open verandah incorporated into one wing providing a covered terrace. It seems likely this was the west wing as from aerial photographs it is clear there was an extensive water garden on this side of the house (48). The east wing faced the stables, of which only part of one wall survives.

The special external features of the house were firstly, the porch which, judged by the sketch of 1660 by William Schellinks, may have been of stone and is a single storey version of a typical Jacobean porch topped with a balcony (49). Secondly the pilasters with rubbed and cut bricks displaying the technical skill of the bricklayer-contractor, superimposed between all the windows. The pilasters do not represent an orthodox rendering of the Tuscan order but are "subordinated to the exigencies of the material". Thirdly, the windows between ground and first floor are separated by a full entablature, with a deeply projecting cornice. Fourthly, the roof is hipped on close-set eaves brackets. Fifthly, the plain, neatly grouped, chimney stacks. There were five stacks in all, one at each corner and the other in the middle of the front (south) wing (50). The second and fifth features were already to be seen at nearby Broome Park in 1638 when Arnold Braems bought the estate. It is tempting to suggest that the men employed at Broome by Sir Basil Dixwell moved on to Bridge (51).

Of the internal features only the secondary staircase, two wooden cornices, two fireplaces, some panelling and some doors survive of Braems' fittings (52). Approximately two thirds of Arnold Braems' house was demolished in the late 1890's, leaving, as has been stated four ninths of the principal (south) front and four sevenths of the east wing. The cornices, which are probably cut down from larger rooms, are of wood and carved. One has a scale pattern seeming to represent the scales of a fish (?to commemorate the owner's maritime connections) with carved heads (one, for example, with a Flemish hat, another with a full bottomed wig) which probably represent friends and relatives of the owner. The other cornice has a leaf design, punctuated with bunches of fruit. The fireplaces are of carved Bethersden marble. Finer examples of similar work survive at nearby Broome Park and other houses (53).



BRIDGE PLACE. Photograph of a drawing of the ground floor plan of the house as originally built, based upon recent excavations (reduced). Since this drawing was made it would appear there might have been a fireplace immediately opposite the main entrance.

Notes and References

1. The Revd Edward Gregory's will was dated 25 May 1846 and was proved on 23 August 1849. He left his wife and a brother George, of Willesborough, Esq. His widow died 27 March 1867 and her will was proved 13 April 1867 by the Revd Albert Cheese of Gosforth and Phillips Buchanan of Wychwardine Hall, Willington, Salop., the nephew and executors, estate under £60,000 (ex info. P. H. Blake, Esq).
2. Edward Hasted's 'The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent': Canterbury, 1790, vol. 3, pp. 724 and 725.
3. 'Complete Peerage', vol. 3, pp. 192 and 193.
4. Published in London in 1659 (p. 66).
5. See note 2 above.
6. Reynold's 'Admissions to the Middle Temple' vol. 1, p. 16.
7. PCC 29 Morrison.
8. G. E. Aylmer's 'The Kings Servants' 1961, p. 41.
9. For an account of William Paynter (or Painter) see the Dictionary of National Biography (vol. 43, p. 80). His will was proved in 1596 (PCC 6 Drake). His daughter Joan, married firstly, Nathaniel Partheriche, who was buried on 13 February 1587 at St. Peter ad Vincula (Parish Registers: will 1587 PCC 13 Rutland). She afterwards married John Orwell. (Visitation of Kent 1619 and Visitation of London 1568, published by the Harleian Society).
10. Her will was proved in 1631 (PCC 101 St. John). Affra (or Affara), the daughter of Robert Morton by his wife Eleanor (daughter of William Finch of The Mote, Canterbury), was the half sister of Edward Wootton, 1st Baron Wootton (1548-1626) and of Sir Henry Wootton (1568-1639), a witness to William Partheriche's will. For further details of Edward and Henry, and their father and grandfather (Thomas Wootton (1521-1587) and Sir Edward Wootton (1492-1555)) see the Dictionary of National Biography.
11. Sir Albertus Morton (d. 1625; letters of administration with will annexed PCC 138 Bowyer) was Affara Partheriche's nephew.
12. J. B. Jones's 'Annals of Dover', Dover, 1916, p. 93.
13. William Partheriche was buried at Bridge 26 June 1598 (Parish Register); his will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC 62 Lewyn). Sir Anthony St. Leger's will was also proved in PCC (PCC 12 Capel 1613).
14. See note 2 above. The home farm of the manor of Blackmansbury was the subject of an article in the "Vanishing Houses of Kent" series in a recent volume of 'Archaeologia Cantiana' (?1964). In 1830, the farm (then about 100 acres) was the property of Richard Barham and in the occupation of Joseph Huckstep (sic) (evidence from a map of the parishes of Patricbourne and Bridge and of the Bifrons estate in 1830 in private hands). His son William Huxstep was in occupation ca. 1841-1851 and William's widow, Mercy Huxstep, in occupation ca. 1861. In 1841, William is described as a

- Bailiff, but in 1851 as a farmer (Census Returns for the village of Bridge PRO HO 107/465; HO 107/1623, at Public Record Office, London).
15. Bridge parish registers.
 16. 'Gulielma: wife of William Penn' by L. V. Hodgkin (p. 11) and evidence of 'Alumni Oxonienses' and parish registers of Honeybourne and Langley, Kent.
 17. 'Draining of the Fens': Darby.
 18. Catharine (or Katherine) Throckmorton (1598-1632) was the first wife of Edward Partheriche. He married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Edward Fagge of Ewell, Faversham, Kent.
 19. Deeds in the possession of the author. Among the possessions of the Braems family was a 21 year lease of the rectory (i.e. the property which went with the office of rector) of Folkestone, Kent. Prior to 1640, when it was first granted to the Braems family, the lease of the rectory had been in the hands of the famous Dr. William Harvey (see DNB) and five of his brothers (article in 'Kentish Gazette' 12 July 1963).
 20. For Brooke Taylor (1685-1731) see DNB vol. 55, p. 404.
 21. See Young of Dominica GEC 'Complete Baronetage' vol. 5, p. 153.
 22. Based upon the Land Tax records at the Kent Archives Office, Maidstone. For an account of the Hardy family see 'Blackmansbury' vol. 2 no. 2.
 23. Land Tax returns, Berry's 'Kent Genealogies', and Hasted.
 24. The mortgage was dated 18 December 1766 (Kent Archives Office, Maidstone)
 25. Lady Yates was the daughter of Charles Baldwin of Munslow, Shropshire.
 26. Lady Yates was buried 16 April 1808 at Bekesbourne, Kent (Parish Register).
 27. For an account of the Dering family see Burke's 'Peerage' 1967 edition.
 28. Revd Charles Hughes-Hallett (1778-1846) was the father of Revd James Hughes-Hallett, the last member of the family to be a donor of the Dunmow Flitch (see Burke's 'Landed Gentry' 18th ed. vol. 1). He was the son of William Hughes by his wife Mary Hallett. Mary was the daughter of John Hallett of Little Dunmow, Essex, and sister of James Hallett, who in 1781 purchased and rebuilt Higham (now renamed Highland Court) about three-quarters of a mile from Bridge Place. When James died unmarried in 1823 his nephew, the Revd Charles Hughes, succeeded to the estate and assumed by Royal Licence the additional name and arms of Hallett, thus founding the family of that name.
 29. Conyngham papers at Kent Archives Office. The deed is dated 22 May 1829; Edward was then living in Brussels.
 30. Conyngham papers at Kent Archives Office. Lady Conyngham was notorious in her husband's lifetime as mistress of George IV, and it is probable that the King purchased Bifrons for her. Writing of Bifrons in 1838 Greenway in his 'History of Kent' states: "In 1798 the Revd Mr. Taylor was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward Taylor, Esq., of whom we believe it was purchased by the late King George IV". It is known that the King stayed in the district at Charlton Park in the next parish.
 31. Land Tax Returns at Kent Archives Office.
 32. They were all baptised on 18 August 1857 (Bridge Parish Register).
 33. Byng probably occupied Bridge Place from 1905 to 1907 when he commanded the 2nd Cavalry Brigade in the Eastern Command ('Complete Peerage' vol. 13, p. 317).
 34. Third daughter of John Alexander Dewar, first baron Forteviot, and widow of Lt. Col. Arthur Laurence Cecil Neame. (see Burke's 'Landed Gentry' 1952 edition). She died in 1967.
 35. The construction of the cellar discovered during the recent excavations suggests the Partheriche family built their house in the last quarter of the sixteenth century.
 36. Article in 'Country Life' vol. 47 p. 512 and p. 548.
 37. See article in 'Blackmansbury' vol. 4 Nos. 3 & 4 'Early Stuart Architecture'.
 38. See note 4 above.
 39. Hearth Tax Returns for Kent at the Public Record Office, London.
 40. Walpole Society vol. 35.
 41. The list of Compounders for Kent at the Public Record Office, London (SP28/157). Sequestered royalists could pay a fine and regain their estates. See also 'The Community of Kent and the Great Rebellion 1640-1660' by A. M. Everitt, Leicester 1966 for a general account of Kent at the period, although the conclusions of the author in the fields of architectural and family history are unsatisfactory.
 42. Walpole Society vol. 35.
 43. Compare Balls Park, Hertfordshire (see 'Blackmansbury' vol. 4 Nos. 3 & 4).
 44. The stream known as the Nail Bourne flows a few yards from the foundations of the north wing of the house and during recent excavations water soon appeared when holes a few feet deep were dug.
 45. A small brick works was still operating within living memory on the site.
 46. This is discussed in the article in 'Blackmansbury' vol. 4 Nos. 3 & 4.
 47. Transcribed and published with this article.
 48. Aerial photographs in the possession of the author taken for the Ministry of Housing.
 49. See drawing by Willem Schellinks in Walpole Society vol. 35. Schellinks described life at Bridge Place in 1661 in his journal. "This estate of Sir A. Braems lies in an exceedingly pleasant valley. Besides the manor house provided with very many rooms, a great hall and other fine apartments, it has its own deer park stocked with hart and hind, woodland, a rabbit conservatory on the hill, very fine and skilfully made pleasure gardens and orchards which are all irrigated with an ever running, fresh crystalline stream of wonderfully sweet water. This flows in various channels and sluices, and into several fish ponds throughout the estate. In these a certain type of fish called Trout is fed and taken, being very much like large carp, and is well prepared in the English way - a very delicate food. The estate also has a large vineyard around the garden, and outhouses so that

every year two or three hogshead of wine are made there from it. And its large dove cote, looking like a chapel, is so well provided with young doves that during the whole summer and longer, twelve or even fourteen dozen are taken out and put into pies or otherwise prepared. When the men go hunting dally they catch many partridges and pheasants, which we had every day at table, besides various other delicate foods, richly prepared with an extraordinarily tasty English sauce. The drink consists of different sorts of wine and perry which is made of pears. The estate has its own brewery, bakery, winepresses, hop gardens, barns, stables, oxen, cows, sheep, pigs, geese, ducks, etc., corn and fruit, and, finally, everything that one could desire. And since this gentleman is so amiable and hospitable and keeps a princely board, he has an extraordinary number of visits from knights and high born gentlemen and their ladies so that he is continually surrounded by his family and neighbouring friends at table."

50. This is based upon evidence discovered during recent excavations.
 51. See 'Blackmansbury' vol. 4 Nos. 3 & 4.
 52. Another fireplace survived until the present century but during the period of the tenancy of a Mrs. Penn it was apparently destroyed when the internal wall between the present dining room and the entrance staircase collapsed.
 53. See 'English Country Houses, Caroline 1625-1685' Hill & Cornforth, 1966.

Appendix: Memorial inscriptions to the Brice family
 in the churchyard of the parish church at St. Nicholas at Wade, Kent.
 Transcribed by PETER REID

Sacred to the Memory of Sarah/the wife of/John Dadds/of Crumps Place Farm in this Parish/and daughter of Mr. Richard Brice/of Bridge Place in this county/ She departed this life on the 12th of October 1838 aged 27 years/Also of Henry son of the above/John and Sarah Dadds/who died on the 25th of/September 1835 aged 4 months/Also of the above John Dadds/who died on the 18th June 1882/ Aged 77 years/Also of Harriett second wife/of the above John Dadds/who died on the 28th March 1891 aged 87 years/

Sacred to the Memory of/Mary/the wife of/Ambrose Collard/of St. Nicholas Court/in this parish and daughter of/Mr. Richard Brice/of Bridge Place in this county/who departed this life/on the 29th day of May 1844/aged 35 years/Also of Harriett/daughter of the above/Ambrose and Mary Collard/who died on the 16th day of/October 1843 in the/eleventh year of her age/also of Sarah Ellen third daughter of the above/Ambrose and Mary Collard/who died March 8th 1877/ aged 33 years.

The Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of Sir Arnold Braems kt

A True & Perfect inventory of all & Singular goods & Chattles of Sr. Arnold Braems Kt. of Bridge in ye County of Kent diseased, taken & appraised ye 7th day of Decemb(er) 1681 By Robt. Jacob Sen, of ye Towne & Port of Dover, and John Burton, Yeoman, in ye Parrish of Bishopsborne in ye County of Kent.

Impri(mi)s:The testators wearing apparrell & purree,.....	10.	0.	0.
Item in ye Halle three tables three formes four Chairs one Grate two Andiarms one forke one Clocke	4.	0.	0.
four Mapps & twelve small pictures	1.	0.	0.
Item in ye great Parlor one Couche two tables fourteen Chaiers one Carpit one looking glass one Seston & water pott one screen Two Andiarms Ten pictures	6.	0.	0.
Item in ye little Parlor Two tables & Carpitt one Coach eight Cheers Andiarns fire pan & tongs	1.	9.	6.
Item in ye Bake hous one Chest Mill table Two Kneading troughs one (?) two peales & a paire Andiarms	1.	2.	5.
Item in ye Larders one Safe three frying pans pestell & Mortor five trays one brine tubb one Chest one table	0.	15.	4.
Item in ye Kitchen one Jacke one table one pair grates fire pan & tongs five Spitts three Dripping panss three Kettles five potts Two Stew panss three Scillitts three paire potthooks three pott hangers	4.	15.	3.
Item in ye Milke house ten trays one (? one) Rings one table one Churmb one Cheese tub one milk paille two Chees bales one Starching tubb	0.	13.	6.
Item in ye buttry one binn on napkin press one table & one Safe	0.	16.	11.
Item in ye Sellers twelve Stillings ten Casks & Six Iron bound Casks	5.	9.	6.
I(te)m on ye Stayer case paper pictures & board pictures	0.	12.	2.
Item ye furniture of Sr. Arnolds Chamb(er) one Mohaire bed with all ye furniture belonging to it	40.	0.	0.
Seven Cane bottom Chetters & Coshins with ye rest of ye furniture belonging to ye Roome	5.	0.	0.
a ?pcell pict(ur)s	10.	0.	0.
one Screen	3.	0.	0.
one looking glass	10.	0.	0.
one Japan Cabinet	8.	0.	0.

a ?pcell (?)	5. 0. 0.
a ?pcell books	10. 0. 0.
one Necklas of pearl & one Lockett	130. 0. 0.
Two diamon rings	15. 0. 0.
Sr. Arnolds pict(ure)	60. 0. 0.
one Gould watch	12. 0. 0.
three Cornelians Rings & a Smalle Jewelbs	20. 0. 0.
Item one Chieffin dish two porring(er)s one Cupp & two Candle Sticks of one hundred forty Seven ounces at five shillings per oz	36. 15. 0. <u>364. 15. 0.</u>
Item in ye Billiatt Roome one billiate table aside table eight Chaiors one squobb one paire Stands a paire of Andiorns fire pan & tongs & Croopers	3. 18. 7.
Item in ye Dineing Roome two tables one side Marble table one pair Stands one looking glass eight & twenty Chaiors two squobbs one paire brass Andiorns Croopers fire pan & tongs Seven paire Curtians	13. 2. 4. 30. 0. 0.
Item in ye Dineing Roome Chamb(er) one Cloth bed lind with sasnett one Silke quilt two blanketts two quilts & a Fether bead one bolster two pillowes seven Cheiers one squobb one side table one Carpitt one Marble table two stands one looking glass three pr. Curtaines a pr. Croopers fire pan tongs Bellows & Snuffers	20. 2. 0.
Item in ye Staior Case Chamb(er) one bed bedstacke Curtaines Vallians two quilts three blanketts bolster two pillows one table one Stand four Cheers ten picturrs Croopers fire pan tongs & Bellows	4. 13. 8.
Item in ye little Staior Case one percian Carpitt one small table & Carpitt two Chests drawers two Chests two trunks	10. 0. 0. 2. 0. 0.
Seven pr sheets old Seven old diap(er) table Clothes thirty paire Sheets three paire Course Sheets (?) paire pillow Clothes Nine dozen damask napkins eight dozen diaper napkins thirteene damask table Clothes three diap(er) table Clothes five damask towells twenty diap(er) table Clothes fourteen diap(er)/towells six doz old diap(er) napkins six small diap(er) table Clothes	67. 8. 0. 5. 0. 0.
Item in ye dressing Roome two Looking glasses Chest drawers one table one press & a pcell pictures	2. 1. 8.

Item in ye Clossett next Sr. Arnolds Chamb(er) one Cabinet & frame two looking glasses one Couch two Cheers one paire Curtaines & a pcell Images & glasses	14. 3. 4.
Item ye red Chamb(er) over ye Kitchen bed bedstead Serge Curtains & Vallians three quilt two blanketts one bolster two pillowes three Cheiers two squabbs; side table one looking glass one pr Croopers fire pann & tonges	9. 10. 0. <u>181. 19. 7.</u>
Item in ye Rubd Roome over ye Terris walke one wrt. bed bed Steed Curtains Vallians one Rugg two blankett two bolsters two pillowes one Counter paine four Cheiers two squobb two stands one Screene two side tables Two looking glass one paire Andorns Croopers fire pann & tonges bellows Snuffers three window Curtaines	18. 5. 10.
Item in ye Chamb(er) next ye great Staiyer Case bed bed Steed Curtaines Vallians Rugg two blankett two pillows one quilt three Cheiers one table	4. 10. 0. 3. 0. 0.
Item in ye Maids Chamb(er) two feather beds two flock beds four Blankett two Coverlitts two bolsters two Chests looking glass & pictuer	0. 17. 6.
Sixteen dozen diap(er) napkins twelve diap(er) table Clothes two & twenty diap(er) sideboard Clothes twelve plaine sideboard Clothes eight plaine table Clothes twelve pr ordinary Sheets eighteen paire Servants Sheets two Callicoe & one holland ?Spitting Sheets Seven pr pillow Coats two pr fine quiltene Coats Seven fine towell Clothes three dozen ?hom made towells twelve Servants towells twelve dresser Clothes six plaine napkins	32. 19. 0.
Pewter five hundred one quarter weight at Six pence per pound Seven Brass Candle Sticks	14. 14. 0. 0. 10. 0.
Item in ye Chamb(er) next ye Maids one bed bedstead Curtains Vallians Rugg Blanketts Bolster & pillows one table two spices boxes one Case bottles Earthen platters Side Saddle Case & bridle	5. 10. 0.
Item in ye Steele house two Steeles & Limbucks	2. 0. 0.
Item in ye Brew house two Coppers two tonns three Coole backs five tubbs	19. 15. 8.
Item in ye men Servants Chamb(er) two flocks bed & Coverings	1. 0. 0.

Item one waggon two Courts (?) a hutch (?) three harrows one plow waggon harnis & plowharnis	4. 10. 0. <u>112. 12. 0.</u>
Item for five horses	25. 0. 0.
three Sheepe	1. 10. 0.
one Cow	3. 0. 0.
Six load of heiy	6. 0. 0.
ten (?) barly	10. 0. 0.
two piggs	1. 0. 0.
Ite(m) in ye Servants Chamb(er) flocke bed & Covering	0. 15. 0.
It(em) in ye Cornor Chamb(er) next ye Stable yard one bed bed Steed Curtains Vallians rugg two blankitt one bolster two pillows one looking glass one table three Chaiors one Stand one pair Croop(er)s fire pan & tonges	9. 0. 0.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) within ye Corner Chamb(er) one bed bedsteed one bolster one quilt two blanketts one Chaier one Stand	6. 0. 0.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) next to ye green Corner Chamb(er) one bed bedsteed bolster Curtaines three Coverlitts two pillowes one table & Chaire	5. 0. 0.
Ite(m) in ye green Corner Chamb(er) one bed bedsteed Curtains & Vallians of Serge bolster two pillows one Rugg two blanketts one side baord table one paire Croopers fire pan tongus & bellows	7. 10. 0.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) over ye Red Chamb(er) bed bedSteed Curtns & Vallians bolster two pillows one rugge two blankitts side bord table Carpitt four Chears one Stand one looking glass two pict(ur)s pr Croop(er)s fire pan tongus & bellows	5. 10. 8.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) next ye great Corner Chamb(er) bed bedsteed Curtains one bolsters two pillows:1: Coverlitt & two blanketts one sid bord table one Cheier	4. 3. 4.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) next ye back Stayers one bed bedsteed Curtains Vallians one bolster two pillows one Coverlitt two blankitts one side bord table one Window Curtaine one Chaier	5. 8. 6. <u>89. 17. 6.</u>
Ite(m) in ye Little Merchts, Chamb(er) one bed bedsteed Curtains Vallians one rugg three blanketts one bolster one sidebord table five Cheiers one Stand	4. 10. 0.

Ite(m) in ye drying Roome three Spanish tables one long table one Screene one paire Andiorns firepan & toungs Six Smoothing Irons	2. 0. 0.
Ite(m) in ye Chamb(er) over ye Billiett roome one bed bedsteed Curtains & Vallians one bolster one rugg two blanketts one side bord table & Carpitt two Cheters	4. 5. 0.
Ite(m) one Coach & harnis	40. 0. 0.
It(em) one table in ye great Stayer Case	0. 12. 0.
Ite(m) for plate two hundred Seventy Nine ounces plate at five Shillings per ounce	69. 17. 6.
It(em) Things vnseen & forgott as wood & other Lumb(er)	3. 10. 0.
	<u>124. 4. 6.</u>
	36. 14. 7.
	181. 19. 7.
	364. 15. 0.
	112. 12. 0.
	89. 17. 6.
	<u>910. 3. 2.</u>

The original inventory is at the Kent Archives Office, Maidstone, to the staff of which our thanks are especially due for the courteous assistance given in connection with the researches.

Threatened houses of architectural or historic interest

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings issued their eleventh list of threatened houses of architectural or historic interest for sale or to let in June 1968. Among the houses included for sale or to let were:

Bedfordshire - Goldington Hall
 Berkshire - The Manor Farmhouse, North Hinksey
 Lincolnshire - The Greyhound Inn, Folkingham
 Northamptonshire - Stanwick Rectory, Raunds
 Northamptonshire - The Old Grammar School, Gullsborough
 Wiltshire - Littleton Wood Farmhouse, Semington, Trowbridge
 Yorkshire - Grimston Park, Tadcaster
 Yorkshire - Stone Hall, Stokesley

Full particulars of these and other properties for sale and to let can be obtained from The Secretary, SPAB, 55 Great Ormond Street, London, W. C. 1.

The Laurence Sterne Trust has been formed to buy the freehold of Shandy Hall, Yorkshire, restore it faithfully and to maintain it permanently as a Sterne Museum with a collection of first editions, manuscripts and portraits. Further particulars may be obtained from The Honorary Secretary, 2 Clareville Grove Mews, London, S. W. 7.

Notes

1. From 'The Lady of the White House' by Eleanor Roosevelt. "Uncle Ted" was Theodore Roosevelt then President of the United States.
2. Forerunner of the Parish Church of St George's, Hanover Square.
3. General Monk who was principally concerned in effecting the Restoration of Charles II and was created 1st Duke of Albemarle.
4. The name then in fashion for the new Squares. It was soon dropped in favour of plain English.

Editor's Footnote

An account of the early history of the area in which Brown's Hotel is situated is to be found in 'Berkeley Square to Bond Street' by B H Johnson (1952).

Brown's Hotel was acquired by Trust Houses Limited (now Trust Houses Forte Ltd) in 1948, and it is thought that this paper, by the late Edmund Vale, was written about that time. It is published by kind permission of Trust Houses Forte Ltd.

BLACKWOOD AND SHOVELL FAMILIES

'Blackmansbury' Vol. 4 Nos 5 & 6 (Dec. 1967 & Feb. 1968) contained notes on the Blackwood and Shovell families. The recently published 'History of Charlton' by John G Smith (Part 7) (obtainable from Mrs A Latter, 8 Combe Lodge, Charlton, London SE7) states that Sir John Perceval, 1st Earl of Egmont (whose son is mentioned in the will of Ann Blackwood of Charlton dated 1737) took a lease of Charlton House in Kent in 1720. The first earl's diary records a visit to Ann's (second) husband John Blackwood in June 1731 and records the death of Ann's son (by her first husband) Lord Mansell of Margam in January 1744 - "This morning died Lord Mansel, a good natured youth of 24 years of age. He caught his illness, which was a spotted fever, yesterday at Charlton, by sitting that frosty night three hours in Mr Blackwood's garden to gaze on the comet". Mr Smith states that the Blackwoods lived in "the house built by Lord Romney". The house, which stood on the edge of Church lane near the parish church of St Luke, is no longer standing.

Readers of the previous note may remember that the first Lord Romney (d. 1724) was Ann Blackwood's brother-in-law being her (elder) sister Elizabeth's first husband. Doubtless Lord Romney's son (Ann's nephew) leased his Charlton house to her.

THE BRAEMS FAMILY OF KENT

Malcolm Pinhorn BA

Introduction

Alan Everitt's 'The Community of Kent and the Great Rebellion' (1) mentions a number of families which were once prominent in Kent but have now apparently died out. One of these families is Braems (2).

It is not claimed that this is a definitive account of the Braems family - so far as is known no grants are yet available to provide financial assistance for thorough genealogical studies - but it is believed to be the first major account of the English branch of this family. Corrections, amendments and additions will be very welcome.

Location

The English branch of the Braems family probably came to Kent from Brabant in the mid-sixteenth century as the result of Spanish political and religious policy. They apparently settled at first in Sandwich, a town five miles south west of Ramsgate, later moving to Dover.

Blackmansbury is the principal manor of the village of Bridge, three miles from Canterbury and twelve miles from Dover. The manor house built for Sir Arnold Braems is known today as Bridge Place (3).

Elmstead, where Colonel Walter Braems is buried, is six and a half miles from Ashford, Kent.

Narrative pedigree and biographical details

The English branch of the Braems family is said to descend from Jordan Villain, Count of Ghent, who was living about 1330 and had a son Jan dit Braem (4). A later descendant is claimed as Secretary to the Emperor Charles V for the Province of Flanders (4). The connected pedigree begins with Jasper Braems (5) who came to England in the time of Queen Mary and lived at Sandwich (6). He was probably a political or religious refugee settling at Sandwich because of the large refugee community of Flemings and Walloons (7), enjoying a status similar to the status he had in his native country, as he does not seem to be included in the returns of aliens or strangers (8). By the early 1570s he appears to have moved to St Mary's parish in Dover.

Jasper, about whom nothing further is known at present (9), possibly had issue

1. Jan Braems b. Mar. 1581 in Dover; m. 12 Jul. 1608 at Amsterdam (Netherlands) Abigaël van Harinckhouck (b. 1586 in Sandwich) da. of Revd Anthonie van Harinckhouck (10) by his wife Abigaël Wijts, and had issue
 - a. Daniel Braems ba. 4 Nov. 1612 in Amsterdam; m. in England or Amsterdam c1640 Marie le Maire da. of Johannes le Maire (by his wife Maria Mercier (11); d. 1645/5 in England of the plague; said to have

- been treasure keeper to King Charles I and held in great esteem by the court, but forced by the civil war to flee the country (12)
- b. Pieter Braems ba. 17 Feb. 1619 in Amsterdam.
 2. Lambert (or Lambrecht) Braems, d. before 1593 (13) leaving issue
 - a. Daniel Braems (14) living 1616 m. (1) Susan Carpenter and by her had issue
 - i. Daniel Braems (or Braam) of Dover and afterwards of Rotterdam, Netherlands; b. 1593 m. Petronille Tys and d. 1669 leaving issue a son Gilles van Braam (1621-1704), the ancestor of Aegidius van Braam, vice-admiral of the Netherlands who was created Jonkheer by patent dated at the Hague 8 Jul. 1816
Daniel Braems m. (2) Agnes, da. of Edward Grace of Eltham Kent and by her had further issue
 - ii. Edward Braems
 - b. Charles Braems (15)
 3. Charles Braems (see later)
 4. Jasper Braems, merchant of Haarlem, Holland; ba. Jan. 1575 (16); "stranger"; witness at wedding of brother Jan.
 5. Susannah Braems, of Dover, ba. 14 May 1578 (4) "stranger"; will pd 2 Oct. 1613 (17) m. c1596 Thomas Elwood of Dover, gent, who d. before 1613 (18)
 6. John Braems, ba. 19 Mar. 1581 (16)
 7. Pamela Braems, ba. 30 Jan. 1583 (16)

Charles Braems of Dover, merchant; m. Christian Souters "a Flemish woman" (5) d. c1593 (19); will dtd 20 Aug. 1593 pd 26 Apr. 1598 (20) left issue Charles Braems (see later), and seven other children, whose names are, as yet, unknown

Charles Braems of Sandwich (1595) and Dover, merchant; m. 1 Jul. 1595 at the Dutch Church, Austin Friars, London, Jossiken van der Spick of Antwerp; will dtd 1611; d. c1600s leaving issue

1. Jacob Braems, of Dover, esquire (21) Customer of Dover m. (1) Katherine, da. of Robert Bradnex of Cheriton (by his wife Joan Knight), who died before 1624 leaving issue
 - a. Charles Braems, ba. 24 Jan. 1621 (16) appointed sole executor of father's will Jun. 1641; probably died before 1673 (22)
m. (2) 5 Apr. 1624 at Bekebourne Kent Mercy (b. c1606) da. of Walter Harflete (23) will dtd c1641 pd 2 Jul. 1642 (24) ba. ?St Gregory Dover leaving issue by his second wife
 - b. unnamed child bu. 20 May 1622 (16)
 - c. Walter Braems, ?of Canterbury, ba. 3 Jun. 1625 at Bekebourne Kent (25) m. c1662 Sybilla Buits of St Margaret's Westminster (b. c1632) (26)
 - d. Jane ba. 22 Apr. 1627 at Bekebourne Kent (25) m. Edmund Peirce of Wilcott Shropshire, esquire (27) and left issue

- e. Margaret of Dover; ba. 24 May 1629 at Bekebourne Kent (25) d. unm. bu. 1 Nov. 1681 (16) will dtd 24 Apr. 1673 pd 8 Apr. 1681 (28)
- f. Arnold Braems, merchant of Dover; ba. 11 Aug. 1630 (16), left property in Dover under will of sister Margaret (1673) and by Sir Arnold Braems "wareing apparel" (1679); will dtd 15 Oct. 1681 pd 9 Jul. 1684 (29)
2. Arnold Braems (see later)
3. Christian b. c1598; m. 14 Apr. 1625 (16) Bartholomew Winsor, of Faversham Kent, gent. (b. c1587) (30)

(Sir) Arnold Braems of Dover and Blackmansbury (Bridge Place) Kent, merchant; ba. Oct. 1602 (16); m. (1) 21 Apr. 1631 at Bekebourne Kent (25) Joan (b. c1610), da. of Walter Harflet of Bekebourne, who was bu. 21 Jul. 1635 at St Mary's Dover (31) m. (2) 17 Aug. 1636 (32) at Chilham Kent Elizabeth Digges (ba. 28 Oct. 1617 at Chilham Kent who d. 27 May 1643 ("and was buried near the handsome tomb in the chancel of Bridge Church under a gravestone" (33)) second da. of Sir Dudley Digges, Master of the Rolls (34) m. (3) after May 1643 (35) Margaret (d. 1685) da. of Sir Thomas Palmer Bt of Wingham Kent; knighted 27 May 1660, member of Parliament for Dover in the 1660 Parliament (36) bu. 1681 at Bridge (37) will dtd 12 Aug. 1679 and 3 May 1680 pd 30 Aug. 1682 (38) left issue (by first wife)

1. Mercie ba. 20 May 1632 at Bekebourne Kent bu. 14 Jun. 1632 at Bekebourne Kent (25)
2. Walter (see later)
3. Jacob ba. 19 Mar. 1634 at Bekebourne Kent bu. 21 Mar. 1634 at Bekebourne Kent (25)

Walter Braems of Dover and Blackmansbury (Bridge Place) Kent ba. 3 Oct. 1633 at Bekebourne Kent (25) Colonel in Charles II's army (39); Comptroller of HM Customs Sandwich (40); Comptroller of HM Customs Dover (41); amongst those instructed to make a survey of the limits of the port of Dover and also of quays and wharfs 20 Jan. 1676 (42) m. c1663 (43) Mary (b. c1643, d. 27 Jan. 1684 bu. St Marys Dover (44) da. of Sir John Jacob Kt of Bromley Middlesex (45)) will dtd 10 Jan. 1691 pd 7 Oct. 1692 (46) bu. 7 Sep. 1692 at Bridge (47) leaving with other issue (48)

1. Jacob Braems, b. 27 Jul. ba. 13 Oct. 1664 (49) left £1,000 in father's will; a professional soldier (50) m. (before 1691)
2. Margaret Braems, ba. 25 Jan. 1666 (16) left £1,000 in father's will; m. (before 1695) Francis Gilborne Wheeler of Charing Kent, esquire, (1655 -?) son of Col. Charles Wheeler of the Palace, Charing (51) and had issue (52)
3. Mary Braems, ba. 15 May 1667 (16)
4. Arnold Braems, ba. 9 Apr. 1668, left £100 in father's will "as well provided for in grandfather's will"
5. Katherine Braems, ba. 26 May 1669 (16) ?bu. 20 Apr. 1687 Bridge Registers
6. Walter Braems (see later)

7. Joanna Braems, ba. 21 Dec. 1671 (16)
8. Charles Braems ba. 9 Sep. 1673 (16) d. 29 Jul. 1678 aged 2
9. John Braems ba. 26 Aug. 1674 (16); left "one heare trunk with drawers" by uncle Arnold Braems (1681); left £500 in father's will
10. Grace Braems, ba. 10 Jan. 1676 (16) alive in 1742 (53) m. Ryoos (dead by 1742 (53))
11. Anthony Braems, ba. 20 Sep. 1677 (16) left £500 in father's will
12. Thomas Braems d. 22 Jul. 1680 aged 1 year 8 months ba. 29 Jul. 1680 (16)
13. Elizabeth Braems ba. 28 Feb. 1680 (16)
14. Sarah Braems, under 21 in 1691 alive in 1742 (53) m. Read

Walter Braems of St Stephens, Canterbury, Kent, and St Margarets, Westminster, Middlesex; ba. 11 Aug. 1670 (16); left a "Camlet coate lined with red" by uncle Arnold Braems (1681); left £500 in his father's will (1691); Colonel in Major Elliot's Regiment of Foot (54) m. (as her second husband) Anna Christiana (d. 23 Mar. 1739 aged 62) da. of Sir William Honeywood Bt of Evington, Kent, and widow of John Dod, esquire, of Broxton, Cheshire (55); d. 16 Mar. 1741 (56); admon to his nephew Charles Wheler, March 1742 (53) ?leaving issue Walter Braems, ensign in Lord North and Greys Regiment of Foot (10th Regiment of Foot) 1702/3 (57).

Notes and references

1. Published by the Leicester University Press in 1966
2. Spelt Braemen by Mr Everitt, but as both Sir Arnold Braems and his son Colonel Walter Braems spell their surnames without the second 'e' their spelling has been preferred
3. There is no reference to Bridge Place in Mr Everitt's text or index, although there are numerous references to Blackmansbury. A history of Bridge Place (the manor house of the manor of Blackmansbury) was published in 'Blackmansbury' Vol. 5 Nos 3 & 4 (Aug. & Oct. 1968)
4. Information kindly given by Mr Van Kretschmar of The Hague, Netherlands
5. Visitation of Kent 1619 (Harleian Society); unless otherwise stated the early pedigree is based upon this, supplemented by facts from parish registers and by information from Mr Van Kretschmar
6. This is according to the printed Visitation. According to a Dutch account he settled at Dover (ex info. Mr Van Kretschmar)
7. 'The Registers of the Dutch Church Austin Friars, London' (Lymington 1884). This volume contains a valuable Historical Introduction by W J C Moens (see especially p. XX)
8. The surviving returns are at Kent Archives Office at Maidstone. The author is indebted to the staff of the Record Office for their assistance with his researches
9. It could be his widow who married, secondly, Harmon Boockholde, of

- London, goldsmith (Canterbury marriage licence dtd 12 Feb. 1596), she being described as Christian Breames of Dover, widow
10. A Daniel Harinchoech is recorded as a deacon (1610) and as an elder (1612) of the Dutch Church in London (Registers)
 11. Johannes and Marie were married in Amsterdam in 1607. Johannes, one of the most intolerant Calvinistic ministers of his time, was the son of a famous family from Tournai, and uncle of Jacob le Maire (1585-1616), the famous navigator. Marie's sister Susanna married a William Cooper of Essex (ex info. Mr Van Kretschmar).
 12. Ex info. Mr Van Kretschmar
 13. Left a beaker "redeemed by accident by my father" to keep for posterity (ex info. Mr Van Kretschmar)
 14. He is possibly the petitioner named in 1646 in the Calendar to the House of Lords Papers (HMC 8th Report)
 15. The information regarding the descendants of Lambert Braems is taken from Burke's 'Peerage' (1904 edition under Foreign Titles of Nobility). I am indebted to Mr Peter Reid of London for this reference. A Memorial of a Jacob van Braam "of the Royal American Regiment" enclosed with a letter dated 31 July 1777 is to be found in the Public Record Office (CO 5/116 p. 47). It states (inter alia) that van Braam raised a regiment of which "Mr Washington ... was Colonel".
 16. Transcript of the parish registers of St Mary's, Dover, at library of the Society of Genealogists in London
 17. This will is recorded by Edward Hasted (1732-1812) the historian of Kent (afterwards referred to as "Hasted") in a manuscript notebook preserved at the Canterbury Cathedral Library, but the will cannot be found in the modern calendars either of the local probate courts or the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Susannah, in her will, desires to be buried in the chancel of the church of St Mary, Dover, near her late husband.
 18. Canterbury marriage licence dtd 21 Jul. 1596; she described as Susanna Branes (sic). He was possibly the Thomas Elwood, mayor of Dover in 1592 and a member of Parliament for Dover for four years from 1594, who died in 1612.
 19. Hasted records a Charles Braems who was buried at the Church of St Peter, Dover, "by his father"
 20. PCC 31 Lewyn
 21. He was a merchant; his will refers to "my shipps and debttts of the Dunkirkers". Built the Old Customs House at Dover
 22. Not mentioned in will of sister Margaret Braems dated 24 Apr. 1673
 23. Canterbury marriage licence dated 5 Apr. 1624 for Bokesbourne, Kent. He is a widower about 27, she a spinster aged about 18
 24. There appears to have been three probates of his will - two in PCC - 89 & 104 Evelyn - and one in a local court.
 25. Parish Registers transcribed by Revd C H Wilkie (Canterbury, 1896)

26. Marriage licence (Bishop of London's Registry) dated 6 May 1662 for St Mary Magdalene, Old Fish street, London, she being a widow.
27. Canterbury marriage licence dated 27 Aug. 1661 for Bridge; she described as being of Bekesbourne, Kent, he a widower. The bondsman was Walter Braems of Bridge, gentleman, son of Sir Arnold Braems.
28. In Canterbury Archdeaconry Court. Kent Archives Office reference 16/305
29. In Canterbury Archdeaconry Court. Kent Archives Office reference PRC 16/154
30. Canterbury marriage licence dated 15 Mar. 1624. She is described as a maiden "whose friends being dead, she is now dwelling with Jacob Brames (sic) of Dover, Esquire, who consents"; at St Mary, Dover. The bondsman was Arnold Braems (sic) of Dover, merchant - her brother. The will of her son Jacob Windsor (sic) of Dover, gent., was proved in a local court in 1669. Bartholomew Winsor was appointed, with Sir Arnold Braems, an overseer of the will of Sir Arnold's brother Jacob Braems in 1641.
31. She was the sister of Mercy Harflete who married his brother Jacob Braems in 1624 (Canterbury marriage licence dated 15 Apr. 1631, for Bekesbourne). Paul Pettit of Canterbury, gent, is the bondsman.
32. Canterbury marriage licence dated 16 Aug. 1636 for Chilham. Thomas Harflet of Bekesbourne, armiger, is the bondsman.
33. Quoted by Zecharia Cozens (afterwards referred to as "Cozens") c1790-1808 (MSS notes vol. 1 p. 201) (in the possession of Dr W E Church, Bethersden, Kent, to whom the author is grateful for assistance and permission to quote)
34. The builder of Chilham Castle, Kent (see DNB and 'Blackmansbury' vol. 1 No. 4, Oct. 1964)
35. The date and place of the marriage remain to be discovered
36. Elected in April 1660 with Sir Edward Montague (to whom Pepys was secretary). Known as the Convention Parliament, it "completed the work of reform which the Long Parliament had abandoned in the autumn of 1641 by abolishing purveyance and feudal tenures in return for a grant in perpetuity of a portion of the excise" ('The Stuart Constitution', Kenyon, p. 351). It was dissolved early the following year. He is mentioned by the diarist Samuel Pepys and the Journal of Edward Montague, 1st Earl of Sandwich 1659-1665 (published by the Naval Records Society, 1929) records "1664/5 27th January, Friday. 3'o'clock in the afternoon anchored in the Downs. Sir Arnold Braeme (sic) and his son and Capt. Jacob from Dover dined aboard with me". A "Mr Breams" is stated to have been deputy to Colonel Stroud, governor of Dover Castle.
37. Cozens records "a handsome Tomb of White marble at the North side of the area within the Communion rails" in Bridge Church. Doubtless this was destroyed in the 1860s when the church was "restored". Cozens records the memorials to the first and second wives of Sir Arnold Braems (only) on the front tablet of the tomb.
38. In Canterbury Archdeaconry Court. Kent Archives Office Reference PRC 16/307. The reference for the inventory of his goods and chattels (published in full in 'Blackmansbury' vol. 5 Nos 3 & 4) is PRC 11/46/70.
39. Walter Braems commanded a troop "belonging to ye personall Guards" of King Charles II. He spent "above £500" for the king and petitioned for the command of a troop of horse or other employment in the regiment commanded by the Earl of Oxford (the Royal Regiment of Horse known as the "Oxford Blues" which was formed in January 1661). (State Papers Domestic)
40. In 1660 (SP 29/9) Walter Braems successfully petitioned for the position of Comptroller of HM Customs at Sandwich stating he had been "at 14 years of age fetched out of his sick bed by your Majesty's Enemies carried & imprisoned in Dover Castle which hath since esteemed for an honour to crown his fidelity to have been ye youngest prisoner in England for your Majesty's service".
41. In 1690 he petitioned for six years' arrears of salary (State Papers Domestic)
42. Quoted in Lyon's 'History of Dover' (1813)
43. London marriage licence (Vicar-general of Canterbury) dated 13 May 1663.
44. Cozen records that on a black marble slab were the following inscriptions: "Here lieth the Body of Dame Mary the daughter of Sir John Jacob of Bromly in the County of Essex Barn^t and wife to Walter Braems of Bridge in the County of Kent Esqre. who died the 27 day of January 1614 in child-bead of her 14 Childe having had 7 sons and 7 daughters" On the same stone: "Here lieth buried the body of Mrs. Joan Braems" "Here lieth the body of Charles Braems 4th son of Walter Braems Esq^e and Mary his wife daughter of Sir John Jacob Bar^{nt} He dyed the 29th day of July Ann^o 1678 nere the 3rd yeare of his age. Also here lieth buried the body of Thomas Braems 7 son of Walter Braems Esq^e and Mary his wife daughter of Sir John Jacob Bar^{nt} he died the 22nd of July ann^o dno 1680 aged one yeare and eight months".
45. See GEC 'Complete Baronetage' vol. 4 p. 3. A farmer of the Customs and a council clerk extraordinary to King Charles I, "thus combining an 'active entrepreneurial role' with a prominent position in the central executive" (G E Aylmer; 'The King's Servants')
46. In Canterbury Archdeaconry Court, Kent Archives Office reference PRC 16/325
47. "Colonel Walter Braems of Blackmansbury (sic) alias Bridge Place, in the East Chancel of ye Chappel of Bridge, on the 7 day of September 1692". Recorded in the bishops transcripts of the Bridge parish register in Cathedral Library at Canterbury.
48. According to Hasted Mary Braems died "in her bed of her fourteenth child". Certainly she had eleven children for that number are named in her husband's will of 1691. In all Walter Braems left legacies to them totalling

£8,600 and to ensure that all eleven children were adequately provided for his trustees to sell the estates "for ye best price". Hasted states "their only two sons are said to have come to an untimely end in their live's time" but, in fact, Walter Braems left at least five sons who survived him when he died in 1692. (Two other children died young - see note 44)

49. In spite of the fact that he had married without his father's consent, as recorded in his father's will.
50. A Jacob Braems is listed as a member of the Earl of Bath's Regiment of Foot in 1692 to be captain of the company of which Major Roger Elliot was captain ('English Army Lists 1661-1714' published in 1960 by Francis Edwards). Col. the Hon. James Stanley's Regiment of Foot included an ensign George Braems in 1694. An Anthony Braems was to be ensign in Sir John Jacob's Regiment of Foot in 1697.
51. He was the brother of the Revd Sir George Wheeler Kt (see Burke's 'Landed Gentry' 1952 edition under Wheeler of Otterden, where the marriage is given incorrectly).
52. Their issue included a son Charles Wheeler who was the administrator of the estate of his maternal uncle Col. Walter Braems in 1742.
53. PCC Pennyman March 1741/42 Administration. "Hon'ble Collonel Walter Braems" On the 31st Day Administration of the goods and chattels and credits of the Honourable Collonel Walter Braems, Esq., late of the parish of St. Stephens near Canterbury, co. Kent, but in the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster in the county of Midx, widower, deceased was granted to Charles Wheeler the nephew of the deceased being first sworn duly to administer. Grace Ryoos, widow, and Sarah Read the natural and lawful and only sisters of the said deceased first renouncing. March 1743.
54. Army Records relating to Walter Braems. He is not found in W H Powell's Manuscript index of 'Colonels 1680-1760' nor in 'List of Officers of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, 1716-1899'. In 'List of Half-pay Officers (English Estab.) 1714' (1900) the following appears under Major-General Elliot's Regiment of Foot: "Captains... Walt. Braems...". In 'George the First's Army 1714-1727' (C Dalton, 1910) (Add. MSS. BM. 22264, fol. 129)

Vol. 1 p. 202 "A List of Officers Displaced, etc."

Officers who have been Displaced either with leave to sell or otherwise.....	In what Regt.	Officers who have succeeded those who were displaced, etc.	Date of Commissions
Capt. Lombard deceased	Sankey's Foot	Walt. Breames Capt.	20 July 1716

" (This and other vols contain details of an Arnold James Breames - Ensign in 1715, 33 Foot, Major General Wade's Regt (Commissions renewed 25 Mar. 1715)).

In 'English Army Lists & Commission Registers 1661-1714' (C Dalton 1904) Vol. IV 1702-1707. p. 175 Col. Roger Elliot's Newly-Raised Regt. of Foot*

Captains
Walt. Braems 4

"NB All the Commissions, except the Colonel's were dated at St. James, 10 April 1703 d."

"*Embarked for Spain in Spring of 1705 and served at Gibraltar. Disbanded in Aug. 1713 and Officers placed on half-pay"

"4. Appointed Lieut. in Earl of Bath's Regt. of Foot, (10th Foot), 20 May 1693. Made Bt. Lt-Col. by Lord Galway 15 May 1708. Placed on half-pay as Captain in 1713"

Vol. IV. p. 45. Lord North & Grey's Regt. of Foot*

"*The 10th Regt. of Foot"

Ensigns
Walter Braems 34

P. 47 "34. Probably son of Capt. Walter Braems who left above Regiment in April 1703. Ensign's Commission not forthcoming".

Vol. VI. Walter Braems of Elliot's Regt. to be Lt. Col. of Foot. 10 May 1708 K.

55. By whom she had issue John Harbord Dod, also of Broxton, Controller of the Revenue of Tenths and First Fruits to Queen Anne's Bounty, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Mathews, gentleman, of Exeter, Devon, and who died 3rd July 1732 aged 34 (M. I. in Elmsted Church, Kent). (See Burke's 'Landed Gentry' 1847 ed. under Worthington)
56. M. I. in Elmsted Church Kent
57. Ex info, Mr Kenneth Myers of Southwick Sussex

APPENDIX

The humble remonstrance of Sir Arnold Braems of his services and sufferings (Public Record Office Reference SP 29/9)

When Dublin in Ireland declared for his late Majesty (1) and being in great want of corn he sent a ship of 300 tons laden with rye which was there disposed of to ye inhabitants relief and lost him above £2,000 the power of Parliament in England increasing so fast and they forbidding all trade with those parts of Ireland under his Majesty's power upon pain of confiscation of ships and goods, surprised part of his goods coming in return of his corn to the value of £1200 or £1400 and made prize of it in the Court of Admiralty at London, and the remainder he lost at Dublin, as also his ship having 20 pieces of ordnance hoping to escape the enemy's hands put into Milford Haven to have laden coals, and there was surprised by the Parliament's forces, all his ordnance and provision both of war and victuals, and about £200 in money which was on board

his ship to have laden here with coals, was all taken away, by which he lost above £2,000 more.

Before 1648 several times plundered for refusing commissions from the Parliamentary power, and to act with them.

In 1648 at Dover in the time of putting ourselves in armes to maintain our Petition to the Parliament for a Personal Treaty with his late Majesty, he made stay of 100 barrels of powder, of which were spent in that service 40 barrels for which he was sued, and paid for the same.

In the same year to the revolted fleet in the Downs he paid his due assistance and promoted their obedience to his Majesty, in which time we being over powered by land forces he retired himself to Callice (2), where shortly after his now Majesty (3) came, and at that time we holding yet the Castles in the Downs for his Majesty, a supply being wanting for their continuance, and holding out against a land seige, he did contribute a considerable sum of money, and promoted the like from other English Gentlemen there, which was presently turned into powder, and other arms and sent to them, as I presume my Lord Culpeper (4), I am assured Sir John Menez (5) and Mr Booth (6) do well remember.

After which when your Majesty was in the Downs in person aboard the fleet, and having many laden ships of London under your power, and being then in a Treaty with the City of London to have £2,000 for their release to be bestowed in provisions which the fleet wanted, during which time his Majesty being cautious in meddling with any of those goods, and their wants increasing, and the Treaty growing cold, he did persuade the sending of several goods to Callice which were turned into provisions, and their want of beer being most, he sent by his Majesty's approbation 14 chests of sugar which he took by consent of the Master of a ship then in the Downs and sent them to Zeland (7) to be turned into 100 tons of beer: which accordingly was done, and after that we were defeated in that design, and that most men were admitted to return home and make composition for their estates, of which himself being one, he was afterwards arrested and sued in London for the said sugars, and was forced to pay for the same.

After which part of your Majesty's fleet under the conduct of Prince Rupert (8) went for the southward, and some of them falling in at Lisbone where he had a ship with 30 pieces of ordnance new arrived from the Brasil, which said ship fitted herself in a warlike manner and declared for his Majesty, and after our defeat there, was seized on, and at this hour lyeth sinke upon ye place. In which his proper loss besides what have or ever shall recover there, is above £4,000 Sir John Menez then at Lisbone.

After which some of the seamen belonging to the said ship came into England, I made oath that he had given orders to Captain Morris then Commander of his ship, that he should not come for England, but put himself into service there for his Majesty against the Parliament, upon which he was tried for his life before the Judges of the Admiralty, in Southwark (9), and by

God's Providence avoided their sentence.

In all other times since 1648 until this present 1660 he was ready to pay all duty towards the restoration of his Majesty. And now in this last Expedition, and by his Majesty's particular Command by Letters, prevailing with Vice Admiral Lawson (10), in securing the fleet under his power for his Majesty's Service, his Majesty hath had a Particular of that success by the Lord Mordant (11) and from himself.

As to Trade in the time of his late Majesty when we had peace with Spain, then trading as a Merchant he paid in the Port of Dover for Customs six thousand and eight thousand pounds a year; and by his influence and Credit in foreign parts came through his hands in plate and bullion for many years five, six, and eight hundred thousand pounds each year, a great part of which he sent to several merchants in London to be coined in the Tower, and other part by permission of a Privy Seal he transported to the Several Proprietors in foreign parts paying his Majesty a duty for the same.

Notes on Remonstrance

1. King Charles I
2. Calais in France
3. King Charles II
4. Probably a reference to John Colepeper (d. 1660) Baron Colepeper of Thoresway
5. Sir John Menez (1599-1671) Comptroller of the Navy 1661-1671. After the Restoration he was appointed Governor of Dover Castle. See DNB.
6. Possibly George Booth (1622-1684) who, in April 1661, was created Baron Delamer of Dunham Massey. See DNB.
7. Zealand in the Netherlands
8. Prince Rupert, Duke of Cumberland (d. 1682), a commander of the Royalist Army, was the son of King Charles I's sister Elizabeth by her husband Frederick V, Elector Palatine of the Rhine and King of Bohemia.
9. Southwark in Surrey. It has not been possible to identify Captain Morris; there are several wills of mariners of that name proved in PCC during the second half of the seventeenth century.
10. Sir John Lawson (d. 1665), admiral, was commander-in-chief of the fleet 1659. See DNB.
11. Henry Mordaunt (1623-1697) Earl of Peterborough and Lord Mordaunt. See DNB.

The exact date in 1660 of this Remonstrance is unknown but possibly it is before July, when Lord Colepeper (see note 4) died.