

Brockman Coats-of-Arms

The details following are compiled from the following sources in, as far as possible, chronological order.

- (1) Text and Figures contained within Appendix VII of the "Record of the Brockman and Drake-Brockman Family compiled by Brig.-Gen. D.H. Drake-Brockman in 1936. I have changed it by inserting figures next to the text to which they refer rather than a separate page as in the Record. This is all left in Black & White.
- (2) I have also included (**text in Blue**) two sets of Arms sourced by Alan Jackson from the current owner of Beachborough.
- (3) I have also included copies of four coats-of-arms on plaques in Newington Church (**text also in Blue**) (courtesy of Patrick Brockman)
- (4) The descriptions of the Coats of arms from the visitations of Kent in 1574, 1619-21 and 1663-1668 and Essex of 1612 (**text in Green**). This also includes the arms sketched by Ann Glyd (in her day book) as a copy of the Visitation of Essex in 1634 (**text in Orange**)

I have added other comments - **Text in Red** – of my own.

SOME NOTES ON THE VARIOUS COATS OF ARMS BORNE BY MEMBERS OF THE BROCKMAN AND DRAKE-BROCKMAN FAMILY.

Unfortunately there seems some doubt as to the original Coat of Arms borne by the members of the BROCKMAN family prior to WILLIAM BROCKMAN, who died A.D. 1605. The first record of the original Brockman Coat of Arms was the first quartering on the coat emblazoned on the tomb of JOHN BROOKEMAN, the grandson of JOHN BROKEMAN, a Kentish man, who in the 13th year of the reign of King RICHARD II, on the attainder of Sir Robert Belknap, came into possession of the Manor of PIRRIE with lands extending to OLD ROMNEY and MEDLEY, with other lands in STOWTING and Crundale. The son of the above mentioned JOHN BROKEMAN, by name WILLIAM, married ELIZABETH FRYER, the Essex heiress, of POWERS - HALL, near WITHAM. The latter's son, another JOHN BROKEMAN, who married a ST. LEGER, continued to live at POWERS HALL, and died there A.D. 1500.

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In the Harleian MSS., 1541 and 4944, are notes of several coats of arms in the church of St. Nicholas, WITHAM. Among others there is mention, on a tomb of JOHN BROOKEMAN (owner of POWERS-HALL) and Florence, his wife which JOHN died 22 August AO 1500, and his wife died 18 March, an escutcheon of arms quarterly:

- 1 and 4. Partie per pale indented or and azure, three martlets counterchanged.
- 2 and 3. Argent on a bend azure three boar's heads erased or, impaling azure, fretty of eight pieces argent, a chief or. (ST.LEGER). Vide Fig. 1.

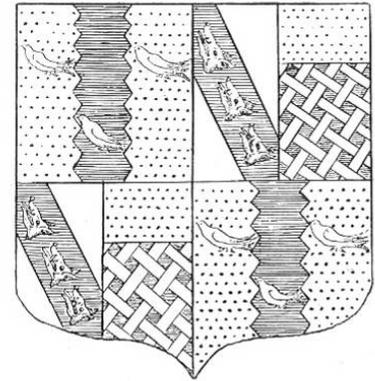


Fig. 1.

In later restorations in the parish church of WITHAM all trace of these Arms seems to have been lost, and there seems to be some doubt as to the present site of the tomb itself. In Dr. Harris's History of Kent, Vol. I, the first coat of BROCKMAN is given as:

Per bend embattled argent and sable, two martlets counterchanged. Vide Fig. 2.



Fig. 2.

According to Hasted, Vol III, this coat was:

Parti per fess dancette, argent and sable, three martlets counterchanged. Vide Fig. 3.

Thus it will be seen that we have three versions of the original Coat of Arms.

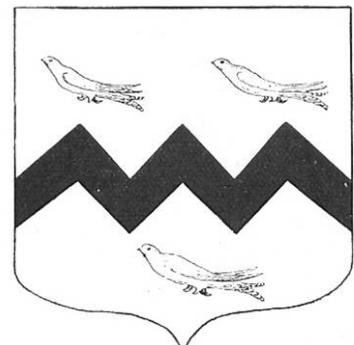


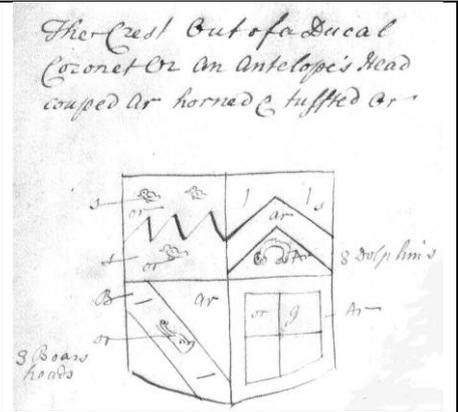
Fig. 3.

What arms HENRY BROKEMAN, the first squire of BEECHBOROUGH, grandson of the above-mentioned JOHN BROKEMAN of WITHAM, bore, seems nowhere to be recorded, but we presume that he and his descendants must have borne the same coat with its quarterings of FRYER and ST. LEGER, together with those of his wife, the daughter of THOMAS CHILTON, who was an heiress and whose Arms he was entitled to "bear" in pretence" or impale.

I have included this out of chronological order as it follows the above, which is also of Essex whilst those afterwards are from Kent. It is likely that the Kent Brockmans were not entitled (or perhaps as Cadets only) to the Essex Arms as they were the Senior Line.

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This was found in the Day Book of Anne Glyd (wife of William Brockman the grandson of Sir William Brockman) as a copy of the Arms registered in the Visitation of Essex in 1634 (p.88). Certainly there are similarities in some of the above Arms (see fig 1 & 3 from the 1936 record above).



The visitation of Kent of 1574, however, describes the coat-of-arms of William Brockman (it shows his father Henry and his brother John and his sonne and heire) as follows:

Visitation of Kent (1574)

ARMS. *Per bend argent & sable, a bend embattled counter-embattled between two martlets, all counterchanged.*

CREST. *A heraldic tiger sejant azure, maned, tufted and collared argent.*

This is very different from the Arms shown as granted 14 years later to William as held by the current owner of Beachborough.



Alan Jackson sourced the attached as the Arms granted to William Brockman in 1588. He was the son of Henry, the first squire of Beachborough.



Alan Jackson sourced the attached as the Arms granted to Henry Brockman in 1606. He was the son of William above. However, this does not match the Arms detailed by Brig.Gen. D.H. Drake Brockman in the next section (See Fig 4).

N.B. This matches one of the two coats-of-arms on the memorial chapel that used to be in the Cheriton Church. However, it does not match the description given for William in the 1936 record (see below).

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A second coat was granted by WILLIAM CAMDEN, Clar. to WILLIAM BROCKMAN, in A.D. 1606, the year after the latter's death.

Or, a cross pattee-fitchee sable, on a chief of the second, three fleur de lis, or. Vide Fig. 4 (I).

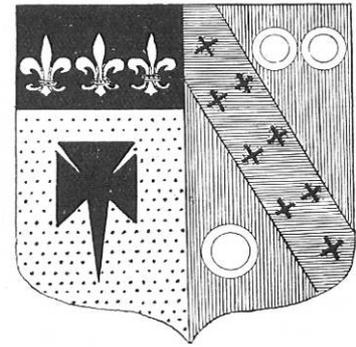


Fig. 4.

However, the 1619-21 Visitation of Kent records the following arms for Henry Brockman:

ARMS. Quarterly: 1. Or, a cross patée fitchée sable, on a chief [of the second] three fleurs-de-lis [of the field]; 2. Per bend argent and sable, a bend embattled counter-embattled between two martlets, all counterchanged; 3. [Argent,] a chevron gules within a bordure [azure bezanly; 4. ...on a fesse ... Between three boars passant ... as many eagles displayed....]

CREST. On a sword erect [argent], pommel and hilt or, a stag's head transfixéd [proper], attirez gold.

After this, presumably, both the Brockman Coats, with possibly the original quarterings of FRYER, ST. LEGER and CHILTON were born by successive squires until Sir William Brockman, in the reign of CHARLES I, married ANNE BUNCE, another heiress.

Their son JAMES BROCKMAN, was then entitled to add the BUNCE quarterings.

JAMES'S son, WILLIAM, married another heiress, ANNE GLYDD, and we have an authentic record of the Arms he bore, as they are emblazoned on his tomb in Newington Church. Vide Fig. 5. He bore:- Parti, 1 and 4. Second coat of BROCKMAN. 2 and 3. BUNCE.

With the GLYDD Arms "in pretence," thereby dropping the first Coat of BROCKMAN together with the quarterings of FRYER, ST. LEGER and CHILTON

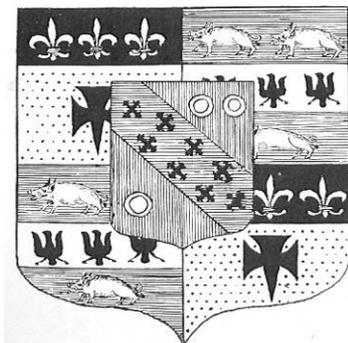
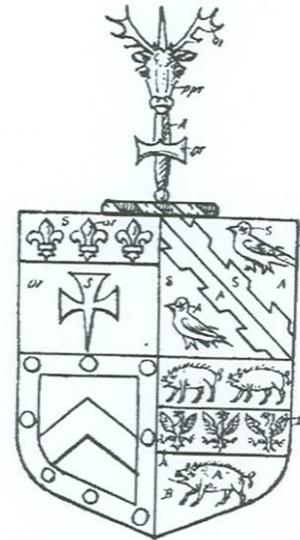


Fig. 5.

Brockman Coats-of-Arms

However, the 1663-1668 Visitation of Kent actually shows the Coat-of-Arms (rather than describes it) and again it varies from the version shown above in Fig 5 of the 1936 record as being James'



There seems some doubt whether the first Coat of BROCKMAN, or any of the earlier quarterings, were ever taken up again, but a remark of Hasted's seems to indicate that some members of the family bore the first Coat of BROCKMAN up to the time of JAMES DRAKE-BROCKMAN, who died in 1832.

According to Hasted, JAMES DRAKE-BROCKMAN bore the second Coat of BROCKMAN only, quartered with BUNCE, GLYDD and DRAKE (Vide Fig. 6), but as he had no BUNCE blood in his veins he was obviously not entitled to the BUNCE quartering.

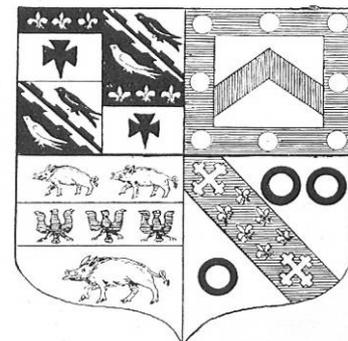


Fig. 6.

It will be noted that Hasted's description of the first BROCKMAN coat only agrees with that described in the Harleian MSS as shown on the tomb of JOHN BROKEMAN, in the similarity and number of the charges. In his description, a "fess dancette" replaces the "pale indented," while the colours are totally different.

(Vide Figs. 1 and 2).

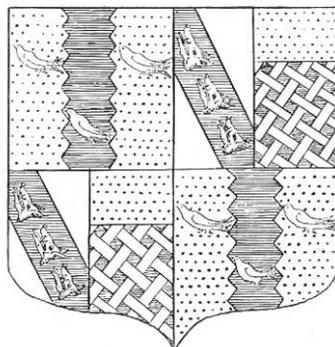


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

Brockman Coats-of-Arms

In Dr. Harris's History of Kent, Vol. I, the Arms of WILLIAM BROCKMAN, who died in 1741, and who was one of the subscribers to the History, are given as above-mentioned (Vide Fig. 4), but this is obviously incorrect, as his arms can be seen at the present day emblazoned over his last resting place in Newington Church.

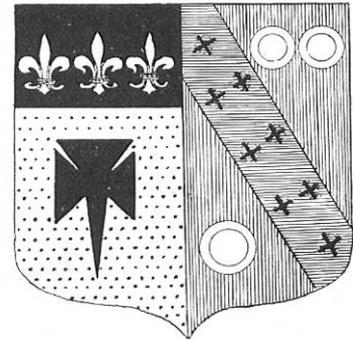


Fig. 4.

With the death of JAMES BROCKMAN, “the last male heir of the BROCKMANS” as he is described on his memorial tablet in Newington Church Chancel (App. IV), the BUNCE quartering passed out of the family, and the DRAKE arms took the premier place. The sons of the Rev. RALPH DRAKE, who inherited the BROCKMAN estates, became entitled to the following quarterings, DRAKE, GLYDD, BROCKMAN (two coats) and CHILTON, in the order named. These, then, together with the DRAKE crest, form the correct armorial bearings to which the descendants of the Rev. RALPH DRAKE-BROCKMAN are entitled (Vide 2nd Frontispiece).

N.B. This matches one of the two coats-of-arms on the memorial chapel that used to be in Cheriton Church.



Frontispiece 2

It will be seen that the original BROCKMAN crest also passed out with the death of JAMES BROCKMAN in 1767 (Vide 1st Frontispiece).



Frontispiece 1

Brockman Coats-of-Arms

Below are pictures from Newington Church



This matches the top left quarter of Fig 6



This matches (exactly) Fig 5



Elements of this (top left quarter & left half of bottom left quarter) match top left quarter of Fig 6.

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The Visitations of Essex (1612) shows that Thomas Brockman of Witham had these arms

ARMS. -Quarterly- 1. and 4. Per fess indented or and azure three martlets counterchanged [BROCKMAN] 2. and 3. FREER or FRYAR

CREST.- FREER or FRYAR