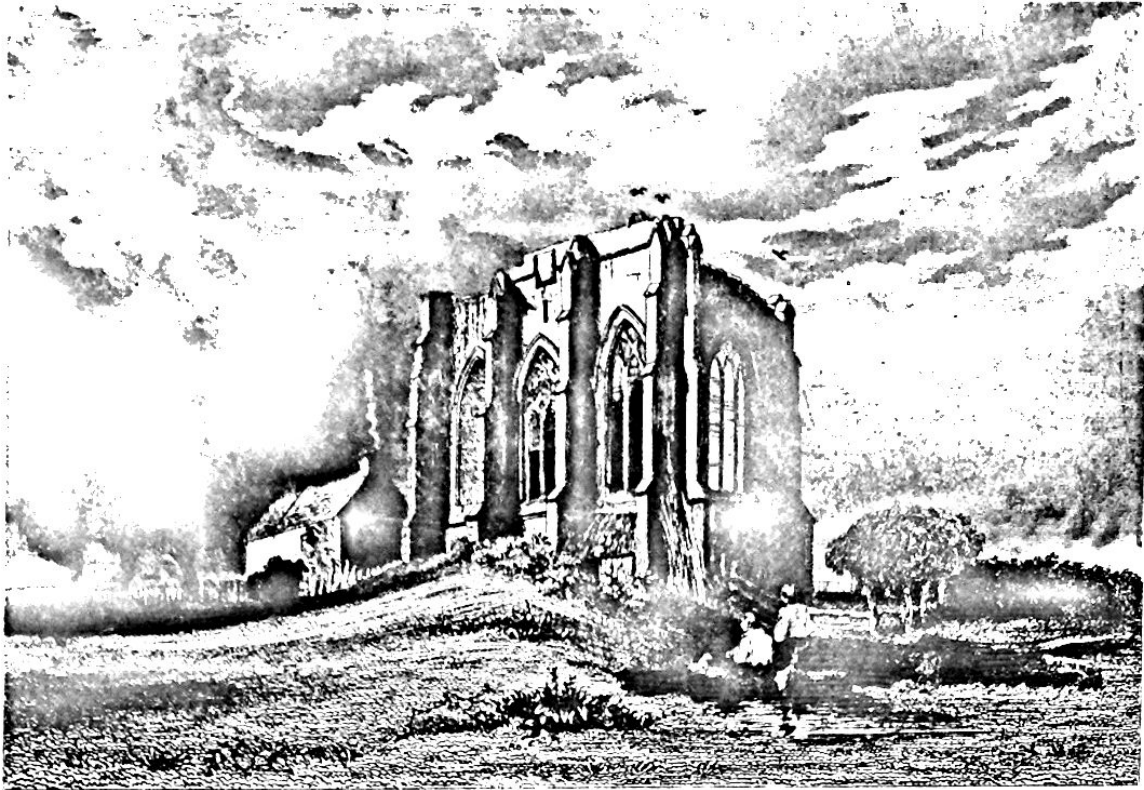


## FACES AND PLACES

### Wykeham Chapel, Spalding



Recently on the market is the little known seventeenth-century farmhouse at Wykeham, in the parish of Weston, together with gatepiers of c.1700 and the medieval chapel (Scheduled Ancient Monument no. 45). The chapel was part of the grange complex at Wykeham, built in 1311 by Spalding's Prior Clement of Hatfield. The write-ups in local papers, enthusiastic if not quite accurate, seem to have suggested that the area was doing a lot of trade with Holland at the time, but there is no evidence for this. The illustration shown here is taken from Thomas Allen's *History of Lincolnshire* (1834).

The 'moats' in the grounds are of some interest, being typical 'dylings', broad flat ditches apparently constructed to help improve drainage. Herbert Hallam, in *Settlement and Society* (page 153), quotes from the Spalding Priory chronicler:

he [Prior Hatfield] endowed with lands and pastures not only the Chapel of Wykeham at no small cost but the whole manor or mansion, just as it is built, and suitably planted trees round it. And he established the manor of Thornholm with the dyking and raising of the lands, both there and at Wykeham, and elsewhere in various places.

[Thornholm is believed to be the site at Fulney where a rather neglected medieval brick building survives]

There are other more recent associations of interest at the site, including a more recent burial ground of the Welby family, with burials or memorial plaques (two of these on exterior walls of the chapel) dating between 1909 and 1985. The most interesting of the latter is a tall cross to Glynne Everard Welby, Major in the 1st Battalion S. Wales Borderers 24th Regiment. He was born in 1872 and 'Fell whilst leading his company against a German attack at Vendress, France, on the 26th September 1914. Buried there with 3 officers and 60 men in the trenches which they defended.'

The earliest memorial inside the chapel is of interest in connection with the history of the building. It is a memorial to Tyringham Norwood, late of Astwood Buckinghamshire. He 'Repayr'd this chapel in the Year of our God 1625 and left maintenance for a preaching minister.' He died 16 September 1629.

It is to be hoped in the future that this interesting building will occasionally be open to the public.  
[Notes compiled by Hilary Healey and Gerald Lewis.]