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Cover illustration: The Philipot Pedigree Roll, see pp. 16-40

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THE PHILIPOT PEDIGREE ROLL of 1620
PART 2 : A CASE OF HERALDIC MISDIRECTION

PAUL A. FOX, F.S.A, F.H.S.

Abstract

The beautiful Philipot of Compton pedigree roll was utilised by John Philipot, as a trusted member of the College of Arms, in order both to aggrandise his ancestors and to lay claim to a venerable coat of arms to which he was not entitled. Either through defective research or artful duplicity, he managed to convince both his colleagues and other historians that his supposed ancestors had been granted an augmentation of honour, which he then assumed for his personal use.

The beautifully executed Philipot of Compton pedigree roll, created in 1620 by John Philipot, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant (and from 1624, Somerset Herald), for his distant kinsman Sir John Philpot (d. 1634), was clearly a labour of love.[1] It is not only artfully balanced, but it includes those little vignettes and copies of seals which were so beloved by contemporary antiquaries. The commission provided him with the opportunity to 'prove' how he was related to the Philpots of Compton Wasseling in Hampshire[2], who were indisputably descended from a man of great repute, Sir John Philipot (d. 1384), who had been Mayor of London, and was knighted for his staunch defence of the city, both before and during the Peasants' Revolt of 1381. The attentive reader will notice that already two different spellings of the surname have been used. The modern spelling of Philpot was the version almost universally utilised in Rouge Dragon's day, but his great hero, the mayor, had styled himself Philipot, and so it was to this archaic spelling that he reverted. It was the style which he used when he signed the pedigree roll.

He certainly collected a good deal of information, some of it accurate, but a careful study of the genealogy reveals that a great falsehood has been perpetrated: while the descent of Rouge Dragon's client is mostly correct and accurate from the time of Sir John Philipot (d. 1384) [although the knight has been conflated with his son John (d. 1415) – of which, more later], he has slipped himself onto the pedigree in a quite improper manner. The descent is signed as being checked and authorised by the kings of arms, but this is likely to have applied only to the client's descent, with the pursuivant being trusted to record his own ancestors honestly and reliably.

In reality the herald's only notable male line ancestor, and the first to qualify as a gentleman, was his father Henry Philpot (d. 1603), who had three times been elected as mayor of Folkestone. It is this individual who heads Somerset Herald's family pedigree in the London visitation of 1633.[3] He was commemorated with a non-heraldic brass plate

[1] Hampshire Record Office MS 93M86W/1; the College of Arms has Philipot's draft pedigree, CA MS Ph. I: 81 Θ ff. 27b-29.

[2] The descent of this family from Sir John Philipot can be charted with reference to Paul A. Fox, 'Philpott of London', in *Great Cloister, a Lost Canterbury Tale* (Oxford, 2020), pp. 527-8; *VCH* Herts, vol. 3, pp. 240-44 (Woodhall); *VCH* Hants, vol. 3, pp. 406-8 (Compton), and vol. 4, pp. 387-91 (Thruxton).

[3] Joseph Jackson Howard and Joseph Lemuel Chester (edd.), *The Visitation of London 1633-5,* 2 vols (Harl. Soc. vols 15+17, 1880-83), vol. 2, p. 163.

in the south chancel aisle of Folkestone church.[4] Henry left money for his younger sons, John included, to be apprenticed when he reached the appropriate age.[5] He was duly apprenticed to a London linen draper in 1604, becoming a freeman linen draper in 1611, but the direction of his life changed following his marriage in 1612 to Susan Glover, the niece of Robert Glover, Somerset Herald (d. 1588).[6] This might well have been in keeping with the aspirations of John's mother Judith, whose father David Leigh had been a secretary of the Archbishop of Canterbury and came from a long line of Cheshire gentry, the Leighs of Adlington.[7]

Prior to Henry, the certain ancestors of John Philipot comprise a mere two generations of solidly affluent yeomen farmers residing in the parish of Sibertswold, now known by its alternative name of Shepherdswell, and located in proximity to Dover and Folkestone. William Philpot (d. c. 1553) left to his eldest son Sampson his messuage and tenement called Upton Court in Shepherdswell, then a farm, and previously the location of a manorial court.[8] John's father Henry (called Harry in his father's will of 1553) was the second son of William, who had married Rose Cloke at Elmsted in 1539. On the pedigree roll Rose's arms are given as *Per pale azure and gules three griffin's heads or*. So far as can be ascertained, the pedigree, on which Rose is not actually named, is the sole source for these arms.[9] There is no gentry family of Cloke listed in the 1530 visitation of Kent.

William (d. c. 1553) was the only son of William Philpot of Shepherdswell, who made his will in 1513.[10] The earlier William had lands and tenements in Shepherdswell and Ringwold, the former including land and tenements in Upton, which the testator's brother Thomas was to inherit if William's son died without issue. The testator's wife was named Joan, and the overseer of the will was Master John Boys.

Once again the wife's family is not named on the pedigree roll, but Joan is accorded the arms *Or three martlets sable on a chief azure a lion passant guardant or*, which were very similar to arms confirmed by Clarenceux Camden in 1609 (with the addition of a crest[11]) to John Meriwether (d.1634) of Shepherdswell, excepting that the Meriwether arms were charged on the chief with a sun in splendour and not a lion, as is shown by Philipot's own Kent visitation records of 1619-21.[12] This family was present in the parish in the earlier sixteenth century and, according to Hasted, took over ownership of the manor of Upton Court from the family of Boys during Elizabethan times.[13] Had William Philpot been married to a Meriwether our pursuivant would surely have given the arms

[4] W.D. Belcher, *Kentish Brasses*, 2 vols (London 1888-1905), vol. 2, p. 48, no. 149.

[5] Kent Archives, Consistory Court of Canterbury PRC 32/40/45b.

[6] Sir Thomas Woodcock, 'John Philipot (Philpot) c. 1589-1645, *New DNB*.

[7] David Leigh, being only a minor cadet of the house, does not feature either in the 1580 Visitation of Cheshire or in Ormerod's pedigree of the family in George Ormerod, *The history of the County Palatine and City of Chester* 2nd edn. revised by Thomas Helsby, 3 vols in 6 (London 1882), vol. 3, pp. 661-3.

[8] Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury PRC 17/30/84.

[9] Far be it from the author to suggest that Philipot invented the arms, but if he did do so he might have taken for his inspiration the arms of the local Kentish family of Boys: *Or a griffin segreant per fess azure and sable*.

[10] Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury PRC 17/12/275b.

[11] W. Harry Rylands (ed.), *Grantees of arms named in docquets and patents to the end of the seventeenth century (*Harl. Soc., vol. 66, 1915), p. 170.

[12] Robert Hovenden (ed.), *The Visitation of Kent taken in the years 1619-21 by John Philipot, Rouge Dragon* (Harl. Soc, vol. 92, 1898), p. 193.

[13] Edward Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*, 2nd edition, 12 vols (Canterbury, 1797-1801), vol. 9, pp. 378-9.

that had been 'confirmed' to the head of the family in the Jacobean era. Not knowing the surname of his great grandmother, he simply invented arms for her based on those of a local family well known to him.

It is quite evident that John Philipot did not have any information on the generation prior to William Philpot (d. c. 1513), and that his attempt to fill the void is a fabrication. He plugs the gap with the name Thomas Philipot, whom he says purchased the manor of Upton Court from the Guildeford family during the reign of King Henry VI. Unfortunately the herald's own son and heir Thomas Philipot completely undermined this statement in his book on the history of Kent, *Villare Cantianum.*[14] Thomas reported that the manor of Upton Court belonged anciently to the Uptons, and then to the Goldsboroughs until early in the reign of Henry VII, when it passed to the family of Guildeford; then during the reign of Henry VIII, it passed to John Boys, esquire, of Fredville. Edward Hasted in his history of the county inserts the Philpots as owners between Guildeford and Boys, and before the reign of Henry VII, using misinformation clearly derived from John Philipot.[15] William Philpot (d. c. 1513) only held the tenancy of part of the manor, and was certainly not its lord. In fact, it was probably because John Boys was the lord of Upton manor in 1513 that he became the supervisor of William Philpot's will in that year.

Without any proof that a Philpot owned land at Upton during the reign of Henry VI the herald's pedigree falls apart, and no evidence can be found to substantiate the family having even resided in the parish at this time. Moreover, John Philipot has aggrandised his ancestors as owners of a manor when they were in fact mere yeomen who were not eligible to bear arms, although they might theoretically have inherited arms from ancestors who had been gentlemen. In order to address the question of whether Philipot might have been descended from Sir John Philipot the mayor we need to consider the pedigree from the opposite direction, taking the knight as the starting point.

Sir John Philipot (d.1384) was a wealthy wool merchant who was residing in London by 1357, and who was elected to represent London in parliament eight times between 1369 and 1383.[16] During his period as mayor in 1378-79 he both improved the city's defences and dealt effectively with pirates. He was knighted by Richard II on 15th June 1381with three other Londoners, on the day that Wat Tyler, leader of the Peasant's Revolt, was executed.[17] As is explicitly stated in the pedigree roll, Philipot by 1620 was advocating the idea that Sir John had been granted an 'augmentation of honour' by Richard II in 1381 with the arms *Gules a cross between four swords in pale argent*. One of the most prominent features of the pedigree roll is the figure of Sir John in a suit of armour, wearing his chain of office, and holding a banner which quarters these arms.

The arms are reminiscent of those which had apparently only been granted to the city of London just before the Peasants' Revolt: *Argent a cross and in dexter chief a sword gules*.[18] Thomas Philipot makes further mention of the 'augmentation' in *Villare Cantianum*.[19] His father had been so successful in promoting as fact what was no more than a personal theory that it was widely picked up by other historians, and until now has never been seriously challenged.

[14] Thomas Philipot, *Villare Cantianum* (London, 1659), p. 321.
[15] Hasted, op. cit., vol .9, p. 377.
[16] Pamela Nightingale, 'Sir John Philipot (d. 1384)', *DNB*.
[17] Sir Charles Oman. *The Great Revolt of 1381* (Oxford, 1906), p. 203.
[18] Fox*, Great Cloister*, op. cit., p. 459.
[19] *Villare Cantianum, op. cit.,* p. 167.

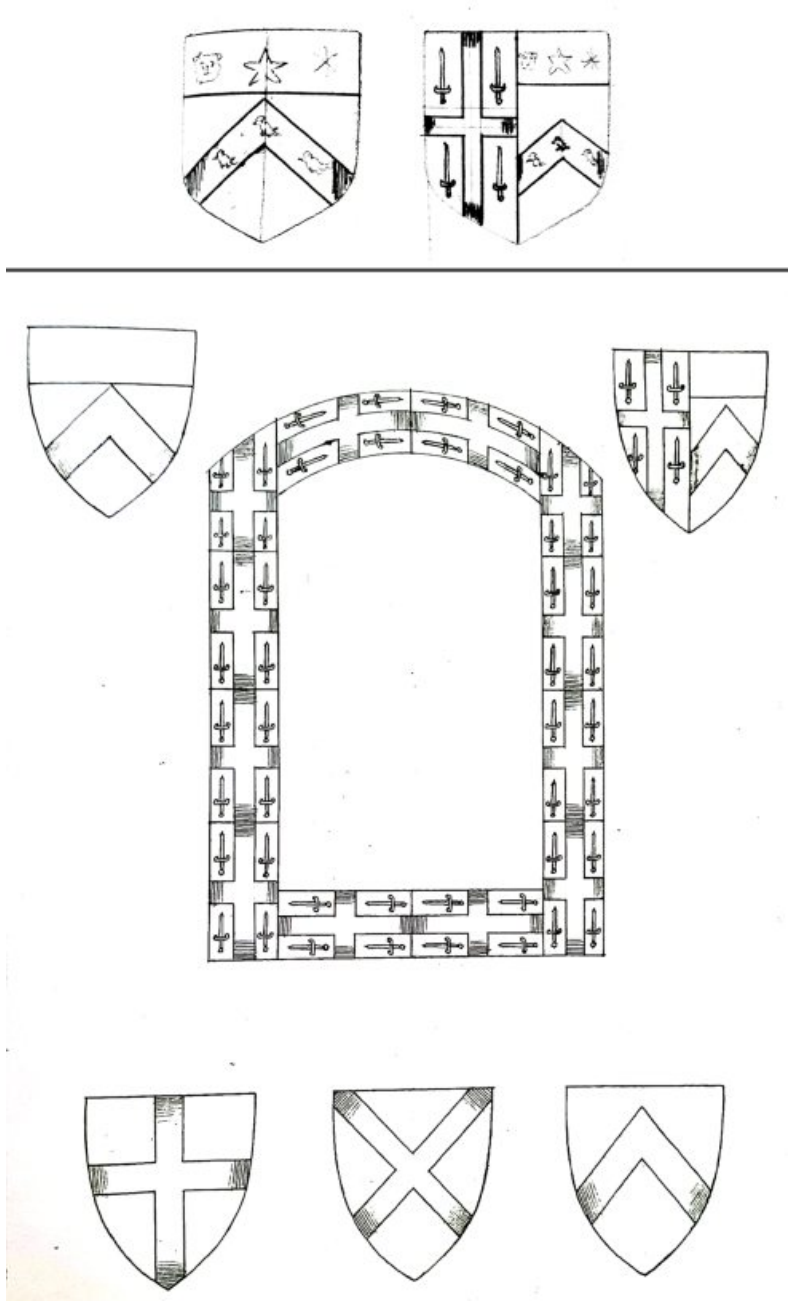

Figure 1: John Philipot's record of the heraldry from the manor of Grain in Gillingham, *BL* Egerton MS 3310A, f. 24. Above this are Hasted's additions to the two upper shields from his own annotated copy of Philipot's church notes, BL Add MS 5479, f. 69. Both manuscripts ©British Library.

No record of the grant was enrolled by the central administration, and it is important to consider on what evidence Philipot made his claim. There is ample evidence for the mayor's arms *Sable a bend ermine*, which were recorded from his tomb.[20] Philipot would have found the cross and swords arms ascribed to his surname in the records of the College of Arms, and specifically in Garter Wriothesley's Book of Crosses.[21] He visited the chapel of the manor of Grange in the parish of Gillingham in Kent which was sold by the mayor's grandson John Philipot (d. 1436) in 1431. There he discovered, surrounding one of the windows, the cross and swords arms (**Figure 1**), which he was happy to attribute to the former mayor. The chapel had other arms carved into the stonework, among them an impalement with the cross and swords arms on the dexter side, while on the sinister side he identified a chevron and a chief. It did not worry him that this did not match arms attributable to the wives of Sir John Philipot. These were Lady Joan Samford (d. 1374), whom Sir John married before 1357, Margaret Croydon, and Margaret Stodey, the widow of John Birlingham.[22]

When Edward Hasted visited the chapel in the eighteenth century he was able to perceive some further features of the impaled arms, which he added to the copy which he had made of Philipot's church notes: *On a chevron three martlets, on a chief a mullet of six points between two leopard's faces* (Figure 1).[23] Hasted was unable to identify the arms, but it is quite certain that they belonged to Simon Dolsely (d.1362) who was Mayor of London in 1360, and who died without surviving male issue.[24] What we have therefore, is not an augmentation, but a straightforward impalement for the man who married Simon Dolsely's daughter. This was John Gisors (d. 1351), who had served two terms as mayor, from 1311 to 1313 and in 1314-15.[25] Joan Gisors, his daughter, was a principal beneficiary of the will of her grandfather Simon Dolsely in 1362. She married John de Stodey (d. 1375) and her daughter Margaret married Sir John Philipot (d.1384) and later Adam Bamme (d. 1397) of Gillingham.[26] It appears that the manor of Grange came to the Philipot family through the Gisors-Dolseley inheritance, and there is no evidence that the Philipot arms ever appeared in the chapel attached to the manor. In the Philipot pedigree roll we are presented with a very garbled version of the ancestry of Margaret Stodey, and are supplied with arms for her Gisors ancestors of *Azure billetty a lion rampant or in bordure argent*. These arms are not attested for any member of the complex Gisors family tree prior to the fifteenth century, when they were ascribed to an

[20] *DBA*, vol. 1, p. 343.

[21] *DBA*, vol. 3, p. 199.

[22] The antecedents of Joan (or Jane) Samford (sometimes Stamford) are unknown, but she might well have belonged to the Sandford family of Westmorland which had strong links to London, and who are discussed by the author in *CoA* no. 237 (2020), pp. 139-142. The arms of Croydon and of Stodey are discussed below.

[23] *BL* Add MS 5478, f. 69, published with Hasted's additions in Irene J. Churchill (ed.), *A Seventeenth century Miscellany*, Kent Records, vol. 17 (1960), pp. 112-3. Hasted published this blazon in his *History of Kent*, op. cit. vol. 4, p. 237, where he accidentally converted the chevron into a fess, and consequently failed to identify the bearer.

[24] *DBA*, vol. 2, p. 448, *Gules on a chevron argent three martlets gules, on a chief azure a mullet of six points between two leopard's faces or*; Sylvia L Thrupp, *The merchant class of medieval London 1300-1500* (Chicago, 1948), p. 337. Dolseley's son predeceased him and his only surviving issue in 1362 was Joan, a nun.

[25] Thrupp, op. cit., p. 345; Elspeth Veale, 'John Gisors (d. 1351), *DNB*.

[26] 'Adam Bamme (d.1397), of London', by C.R. in *The History of Parliament: The House of Commons 1386-1421*, online at www.historyofparliamentonline.org.

unspecified member of the family in Fenwick's Roll.[27] This source was well known at the College of Arms.

Having dealt with the pursuivant's erroneous theory that Sir John Philipot was granted an augmentation of honour, we must also consider another source for the supposed augmentation illustrated on the pedigree roll, a husband and wife wearing the cross and swords arms (**Figure 2**), copied from the glass of Old Romney church. Sir John Philipot had no connection with Old Romney, but it is recorded that the family of Brockhill donated a window to that church, of which no vestige remains.[28] One of the versions of the Brockhill arms was *Gules a cross between four crosslets fitchy argent*, sufficiently similar to the Gisors arms or 'Philipot augmentation' to have been easily confused with them.[29] All that remains to suggest the possibility of a second coat of arms belonging to Sir John Philpot is the surname recorded in Wriotheley's Crosses, which must have been based on faulty information; perhaps the Gisors arms once appeared on a Philipot family tomb. Two final criticisms of the fallacy of the 'augmentation' are that firstly, the concept of such an augmentation was anachronistic during the reign of Richard II; and secondly, it would not have been granted to Sir John Philipot alone. The three other men who were knighted on 15th June 1381, including the mayor, Sir William Walworth, would surely also have been granted the same privilege, for which there is no evidence.

It is ironic that a seal known only from the pedigree roll effectively disproves the earlier part of the pedigree. This is the seal of Sir John Philipot's son and heir,[30] the London mercer John Philipot (d.1415) who was a king's esquire to Henry IV in 1400-1 and who in 1407 made a quitclaim concerning the manor of Grange in Gillingham. Rouge Dragon Philipot illustrated the seal of the king's esquire on the pedigree roll, stating that it was appended to a charter of 1402-3.[31] On this seal the paternal Philipot arms at 1 and 4 (*Sable) a bend ermine* (quartering *On a bend a chevron between three billets* for his paternal grandmother) quarter at 2 and 3 what has been drawn as *On a chevron between three eagles displayed multiple roundels*. These are not the arms of Stodey, so on the basis of this seal Sir John Philipot's third wife Margaret de Stodey cannot have been the mother of his son John, ancestor of the later Philpots, and the three quarterings which were added on her behalf to the family arms need to be removed.[32]

[27] *DBA*, vol. 1, p. 244.

[28] *Archaeologia Cantiana* vol. 13, p. 417.

[29] DBA, vol. 3, p. 187.

[30] There was an eldest son Edward who must have predeceased his brother John without leaving male issue, and a young son Thomas who only appears in a late codicil of his father's will of 1381, and who almost certainly died in childhood, see Thrupp, p. 360 and R.R. Sharpe (ed.), *Calendar of wills enrolled in the Court of Husting, London*, 2 vols (London, 1889), vol. 2, pp. 275-7.

[31] Pedigree roll line 8, no. 3., illustrated on p. 29. He adds much confusion at line 8 no. 4 with the suggestion that he had found the arms of a bend ermine impaling the bend with the chevron between three billets on a seal appended to a deed of John son of Sir John Philipot dating to 1418. This cannot be correct as the younger John died in 1415, but perhaps there was a minor transcription error which made the 5th year of Henry IV the fifth of Henry V. If so the date could be amended to 1404, but the seal he was using would have been an ancestral one. These arms cannot be identified.

[32] The Stodey quarterings are nos 4 to 6 in the quartered shield attached to the pedigree roll.

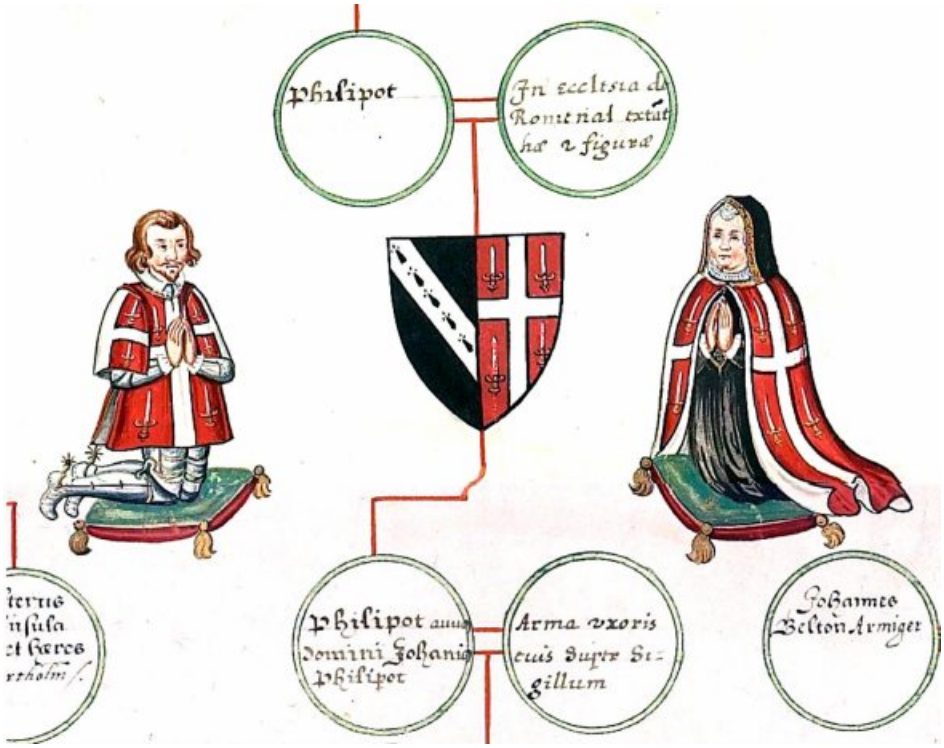

Figure 2: Husband and wife wearing heraldic mantles, probably with the arms of Brockhull, recorded by Philipot from Old Romney church in Kent, and illustrated on the Philipot Pedigree Roll, Hants Record Office 93M86W/1. The impalement associated with this couple was not recorded in the church. As a reconstruction it negates Philipot's later contention of an augmentation granted to Sir John Philipot, whom the pedigree places three generations later.

The arms of the mother of John Philipot, king's esquire, do have something in common with the arms of his presumed grandfather Richard de Croydon (d.1375), fishmonger, as are known from his seal, *On a fess between three dolphins three roundels*.[33] Rouge Croix Philipot could be quite inaccurate in his antiquarian recording, and a fess might easily become a chevron, or a dolphin an eagle.[34] There is the commonality between the badly worn seal and the seal of Richard de Croydon of having three charges, and three roundels in the centre. The pursuivant has ascribed these arms colours on his pedigree roll: *Argent* o*n a chevron between three eagles displayed gules as many plates,* and has wrongly made them the arms of Sir John Philipott's mother, giving the name as Clynderne, which might well be a mis-transcribed version of Croydon. He has gone on to make these arms the most ancient Philipot ancestral quartering at number three on his multiply quartered

[33] Thrupp, op. cit., p. 336.

[34] This statement is based on an in-depth study of his rather inaccurate church notes collected from Canterbury Cathedral, *BL* Egerton 3310A.

shield appended to the pedigree roll. The author contends that the seal was inaccurately copied by Rouge Dragon from the muniments of the Compton Philpots, and he likely had only his own notes to reference when the pedigree roll was compiled. This would explain why he only managed an approximation of the arms that can only have come from Margaret Croydon.

At this point we can see the herald's pedigree beginning to unravel from the other direction, a trend which is set to continue. Returning for a moment to the verified historical pedigree of Philipot, John Philipot the king's esquire was twice married, firstly to Idonia Austin, and secondly, in 1407, to Elizabeth Ruyhale (d.1428) whose maiden name was probably Brugge.[35] Elizabeth brought him lands in Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and they had three sons, John (d.1436, ancestor of the Compton branch), Thomas and Edward. Rouge Dragon has moved John (d. 1415) from his correct place in the pedigree, making him the son of his own son Thomas, and married to Idonia Bamme instead of his actual wife Idonia Austin.[36]

This is probably a deliberate misplacement to provide a father for the fictional Thomas Philpot who 'purchased Upton Manor in the reign of Henry VI'. In the pedigree roll reference is made to a Tudor memorial inscription for a Thomas Philpot at Downe church in the north-west of Kent. This had recently been noticed by a colleague, Nicholas Charles, Lancaster Herald.[37] What makes this Thomas especially interesting is that in the glass of Downe church were once the arms *Sable a bend ermine*.[38] Thomas Philpot of Downe, however, died without male issue leaving four daughters, and could not have been the individual of that name whom Rouge Dragon confabulated and placed in fifteenth-century Sibertswold.[39] The inclusion of Philpot of Downe in the pedigree reveals a cynical manipulation of facts, its purpose being to imply that the herald's ancestors had some connection with north-west Kent, thereby linking them with the descendants of Sir John Philipot.

If, as seems heraldically probable (based on the lost glass from Downe church), Thomas Philpot of Downe was the younger son of John Philpot, esquire (d. 1415) then the only possibility of the herald being descended from Sir John Philipot would be if he was descended from Edward Philipot, who is last attested in the will of his mother Elizabeth Ruyhale, made and proved in 1428.[40] There are, in fact, far more probable potential ancestors. In 1388 Robert and Stephen Philpot were tenants of William Guildeford in areas of Romney Marsh and the adjacent Kentish Weald not far removed

[35] Fox, *Great Cloister*, op. cit., p. 528.

[36] The arms supplied are based on the legitimate arms of Bam or Bame, *Ermine on a chief indented sable two trefoils argent*, see *DBA*, vol. 3, p. 53. It has already been noted that Sir John Philipot's widow Margaret de Stodey married Adam Bamme.

[37] *BL* Lansdowne MS 874, f. 40v. Lancaster visited the church in 1611. The inscription was reported in John Weever, *Ancient funerall monuments within the united monarchie of Great Britaine, Ireland, and the islands adjacent* (London, 1631), p. 331.

[38] *Kent Records*, vol. 22 (1980), pp. 36-7. These were recorded by Thorpe in *Registrum Roffense* (London, 1769) p. 949, and also noted by Thomas Philipot in *Villare Cantianum*, op. cit., p. 133.

[39] Hasted, op. cit., vol. 3, p. 55; Nicholas Rogers, 'Nicholas Charles's notes on Cudham and Downe', *Archaeologia Cantiana*, vol. 99 (1984), pp. 109-114 (112). This Thomas Philpot appears to be the same individual who held Philipott's Manor at West Leigh in the Lowy of Tunbridge, *Villare Cantianum*, op. cit., p. 215.

[40] *TNA* PROB 11/3/188.

from Folkestone.[41] Given that the herald himself connected his remote ancestors with the Guildefords, one or other of these men is a likely candidate to be his ancestor. The surname Philpot probably originated in Kent, and was present in diverse places within the county in the fifteenth century; another potential ancestor was Henry Philpot (d.1430) who was MP for Hythe 1406-19.[42] In terms of the herald's connection with Sir John Philipot the most that can be said is that the two men almost certainly shared a common ancestor. The London mayor's father was probably Adam Philpot (d.1348) of Halstow on the Isle of Grain.[43]

Having got away with his various impostures John Philipot proceeded to adopt both the ancient arms of Philipot and the augmentation of honour which he had invented. These he quartered, with the 'augmentation' in the first and fourth quarters, as can be seen on his book stamp.[44] In 1622 his widowed mother Judith married Robert Dering of Egerton, the uncle of Sir Edward Dering (1598-1644), thereby bringing her son into the orbit of another individual who was intensely interested in his own Kentish ancestors.[45] Dering, although a younger man, was considerably higher up the social ladder than Philipot, having already been knighted by the time that Philipot became a pursuivant; he went on to receive a baronetcy in 1627. Both men recorded heraldry from Kent churches, Philipot from 1613 and through the 1620s, and Dering from 1628 to 1634. Both men made records of the Canterbury cloister vault, without which this author's reconstruction of that monument would not have been possible.[46] Both men hoped to find their ancestors in the cloister vault, and Philipot in particular is likely to have been particularly drawn to it because the arms of the London Philipots occur there twice. It is notable that on the pedigree roll he chose to include certain arms which he had noted in the cloister, but which were of little relevance to the pedigree.[47] Both men discovered that their genealogical researches did not quite match their hopes and expectations, and so both men falsified their own pedigrees and adopted bogus arms for themselves and their ancestors. In Dering's case he authenticated these in various ingenious ways, including the creation of fake brasses in Pluckley church, for which he sponsored blocks to be made as illustrations for Weever's *Funerall Monuments* of 1631.[48] Given the family connection it is hard to imagine that Philipot was not at the very least involved in putting

41 *TNA* CP 25/1/110/237 no. 731.

42 A.P.M. Wright, 'Henry Philpot' in *Hist. Parl.*

43 Charles Johnson (ed.), *Registrum Hamonis Hethe Diocesis Roffensis 1319-1352*, 2 vols (Cant & York Soc vols 48-9, 1948), vol. 2, pp. 968, 1027; and Nightingale, op. cit.

44 Hugh Stanford London, 'John Philipot, M.P., Somerset Herald 1624-1645', *Archaeologia Cantiana*, vol. 60 (1947), pp. 24-53 (52).

45 Ibid, pp. 26-7.

46 Dering's sponsorship of *Soc. Ant*., MS Thorpe 162, which records the cloister, must be considered as a near certainty given the Dering arms on the frontis, and the pressmark which shows that it initially belonged to a large library, in keeping with a volume from Surrenden Dering.

47 The arms which coincide between pedigree roll and cloister are Pelham, Botreaux, Clevedon and St Lo. He may have included certain other families in the roll because he believed he might have observed them in the cloister, although they were not tinctured, and might therefore have belonged to a variety of families (the deduced correct identification supplied in parentheses): Cooke (Batisford), Ryther (Monins), Cheverall (Chiche), Moules (Devereux), Hungerford (Devereux), and Cormayles (Framlingham).

48 R.H. D'Elboux, 'The Dering Brasses', *Antiquaries Journal,* vol. 27 (1947), pp. 11-23; Weever, op. cit., pp. 292-3.

in a good word for Dering with Garter Segar so that his impostures could receive the official seal of approval.

Philipot's own misdeeds included the forgery of documents at the College of Arms for which he was found guilty and suspended in March 1639, and not reinstated until he was pardoned a year later.[49] He attempted to gild the lily of the Philipot pedigree roll with the quite unnecessary invention of arms for a fictitious Nicholas Philipot, the supposed royal barber to an unnumbered King Henry whom the herald stated was granted Aspenden Hall in Hertfordshire by that monarch.[50] This story appears to be founded on the herald's awareness of the ownership of Aspenden by John Philpott, but the manor was only acquired in 1553, having been granted by Edward VI.[51]

The sad conclusion of this story is that John Philipot, as Somerset Herald, through his adherence to Charles I during the Civil War, suffered sequestration and imprisonment in 1645, and died shortly afterwards. The two surviving younger sons of Sir John Philpot of Compton (d. 1634; for whom the roll was created), namely Henry and Thomas Philpot, both compounded for 'delinquency' as staunch royalists the previous year, 1644, and after suffering great hardship, they died in the early 1650s. The Philipot pedigree roll survived through the offspring of the two daughters of Sir George Philpot, eldest son of Sir John Philpot (d. 1634), while the hugely useful collection of antiquarian records made by Somerset herald came to be dispersed through various repositories.

[49] Woodcock, loc. cit.

[50] Philipot Roll line 8 no. 4. Aspenden was called "Apstan Hall", but its location was given as near Buntingford in line 11 no. 5, which confirms this as Aspenden. There is no record of the arms in any known armorial.

[51] Robert Clutterbuck, *The history and antiquities of the county of Hertford*, 3 vols (London 1815-27), vol. 3, p. 347. The author would like to thank Dr Nigel Ramsay for his comments on this paper.