

16th and 17th century silver made in Gloucestershire

by Anthony Sale

Introduction

This article is a survey of early silver that was made in Gloucestershire and still survives today, but is restricted to those pieces which carry punched marks. The evidence for the attribution of the marks to particular goldsmiths is covered and aspects of their lives and work are included. Goldsmiths are workers in gold and silver although in practice almost all their work is in silver so they are sometimes referred to as silversmiths.

Most early silver was made in London and can be recognised by the hallmarks punched on the pieces. Hallmarking originated in medieval times and continues to the present day. The purpose has been to provide a customer protection service which verified that pieces were made from silver alloy of high enough purity to be of sterling standard.¹ Items were submitted for testing or assay at the Goldsmiths' Company's Hall in London, hence the term 'hallmark' for the marks punched on articles that passed the assay. In the 16th and 17th centuries there were four punched marks, viz: a leopard's head crowned for the London assay office, a lion passant for sterling quality, a letter indicating the year when the assay was done and a symbol or letters identifying the maker.

Before 1700 the main assay office was in London, the other assay towns being Chester, Norwich, Newcastle, Exeter and York. The Goldsmiths' Company had the responsibility of trying to maintain the sterling quality of the silver used throughout the country. To that end the Wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company carried out periodic searches around the country to check that gold and silver wares being sold in the provinces were up to standard. When they found substandard wares, they were confiscated and the offenders fined; they were recorded in the company minute books. It is hardly surprising that goldsmiths working in provincial towns would not incur the expense and risk of sending silver away for assay, rather the town councils supposedly maintained quality. The goldsmiths still punched their own maker's mark sometimes singly and sometimes up to four times to suggest hallmarks. Many examples occur of a second design of punch which is associated with the provincial town where the goldsmith worked.

Contemporary records of the marks of the goldsmiths have not survived, even if they existed. Linking marks with goldsmiths relies on putting together indirect evidence from many sources; it is an ongoing challenge and this paper brings my researches on Gloucestershire marks and the goldsmiths' lives up to date.

Elizabethan silver and its makers

Most of the surviving silver of the 16th century is church plate. In the late 1560's and 1570's there was a wholesale conversion of old Catholic chalices into communion cups. It was a phased programme so as not to overload the London goldsmiths. A significant amount of work was done by provincial goldsmiths, of which quite a lot survives nationwide. A similar situation applied in Gloucestershire, with some church plate produced locally. That which survives bears only a maker's mark or no mark at all. The unmarked plate is not considered here but could be the subject for future research.

This article is concerned with marks and the identification of the goldsmiths who used them. The relevant pieces have engraved dates ranging from 1570 to 1577, and fall into two groups. Although documentary evidence (presented in my earlier paper²) suggests that there were over a dozen goldsmiths working in Gloucester in the Tudor period there were only three men active in the relevant period who may be considered as the possible makers of the church plate. They were Thomas Apmericke, Thomas Hill I and Albert Williams.

First Elizabethan group and Albert Williams

One goldsmith used the mark of a heart with lobes and little ears in a dotted circle. This heart mark has been known for a long time. J. T. Evans³ listed nine parishes with communion plate having that mark; viz. Condicote, Cricklade, Elkstone, Lassington, Overbury, Somerford Keynes, Teddington, Temple Guiting and Winchcombe. There are, in fact, three more, which are Alstone, Swindon Village and Withington.⁴

They are all around Gloucester and Evans thought that the plate was made there. It is very convincing evidence, but no effort was made to identify the goldsmith. The cups and covers are in the typical Elizabethan style which is shown in the examples in figs [1 & 2]. The shape is characteristic and also the engraved arabesques between interlaced strapwork. They are well made, with dates engraved on the handles of the cover patens ranging from 1570 to 1577. All have the heart mark, but I found that the earliest cup and cover dated 1570 has a second mark made by a V punch struck twice to form a W; fig [3]. Four pieces dated 1571 have a second mark of a W made by an A punched twice; fig [4]. The pieces dated 1576 and 1577 have the heart mark alone.



Fig [1] Cup by Albert Williams



Fig [2] Paten cover by Albert Williams

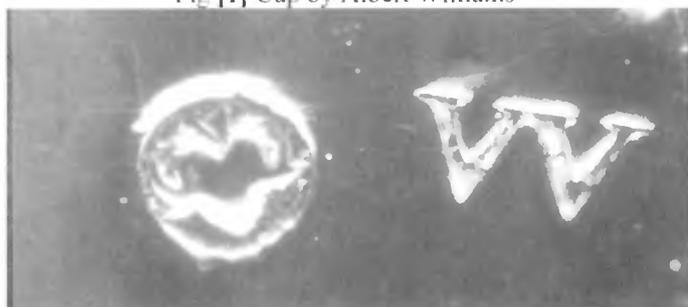


Fig [3] 1570 mark of Albert Williams



Fig [4] 1571 mark of Albert Williams

The W mark created from the two As points convincingly to Albert Williams as the user of the heart mark. He engraved the cups and covers with interlacing strapwork and arabesques - although one cup has the names of the churchwardens instead of the arabesques.

Williams evidently arrived in Gloucester in 1558 as an experienced goldsmith.⁵ He bought his freedom that year for 20s. being entered in the Burgess roll for Freeman as 'Albertus Wyllyams Goldsmith' proposed by Thomas Rede.⁶

The Stewards and Chamberlains Accounts have several entries mentioning him. In 1558 they recorded:

*in money paied to Albert the goldsmythe for new gyldyng of the chape and locket of the same sword ij s. iiij d.*⁷

In 1563 they

*paid to John Paynter for the drawing of Sir Thomas Bell's armes to the goldsmith aboute the cupe that Sir Thomas Bell gave to Mr Mayor of the said citie and his successors for ever xvij d. Also paid for one ounce of Amell [enamel] bestowed upon the same cupe ij s. Also paid for one ounce of silver to make scutchin of the same cup v s. Also paid Albertte Williams for his workmanship upon the same cup weiinge [weighing] with the cover and all three score and seven ounces xv s.*⁸

and under receipts of money

*Also with a pece of silver wayeinge newe an ounce being the tope of the cupe that was geven by Sir Thomas Bell knight this year to Mr Mayor and his successors for ever being valued at iiij s.*⁹ *Also delivered to Alberte Williams a pec of silver being the top of Sir Thomas Bells cupe geven to the said citie to make a seale of it for the bartilmewes landes for the towne which before this compte in the title of receypts of money we charged our selves for the same pece in value to be iiij s.*¹⁰

In the year 1564-65 they paid

*to Albert Williams the goldsmith for the makinge of a newe comon seale in silver for the said citie £ ij iiij d.*¹¹

Next year 1565-66 they

*paied to Albart Williams for the gravinge of the seale v s.*¹²

and in 1566-67

*Also pd to Albart Williams for the makinge and trimminge of the newe sword £ v. iiij s.*¹³

He was making things for sale to the public and trading away from Gloucester as well, for the wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company caught up with him in Bristol in 1571.¹⁴

Summer 1571. Wardens search at Bristol. Albert Williams of Gloucester found to have 6 rings of silver and gilte 51 dwt substandard. . .

At Bristol Albert Williams of Gloucester for his othe [oath] 3 s.

As for his domestic life, he married Elizabeth Adams on 13 January 1559/60 at St Michael's church,¹⁵ where there is the unusual entry in the churchwardens' accounts

*Item paied for bredd & wine when Alberte Williams was married 1 d. ½*¹⁶

Taxation records of the city burgesses - assessment for payment of Members of Parliament covering 1572 to 1581 show that he was living in the north ward of Gloucester.¹⁷ No later record of him has been found.

Second Elizabethan Group.

There are two cups and cover patens from parishes close to Gloucester [Hardwick and Tibberton] having a not particularly clear mark, being a sort of D with pips at the top and bottom; fig [5]. The cups and cover patens are very similar in style and engraved with non-interlacing strapwork, distinct from Albert Williams. The covers are engraved 1572.



Fig [5] Mark attributed to Thomas Apmericke or Thomas Hill I

One other cup [at The Leigh] appears to have a single punch mark which is so worn with polishing that it is indecipherable, but could fall into this second group.

Both Thomas Apmericke and Thomas Hill I are candidates for this D mark but I have found no clue as to which one it is. There is quite a lot of evidence of their other activities which follows.

Thomas Apmericke

Thomas Apmericke was the son of Robert Apmericke, goldsmith of Gloucester, who died in 1537, leaving in his will money, property in

Bristol and Chepstow and his tools to Thomas.¹⁸ Thomas carried out various works for the city, recorded in the Stewards and Chamberlains Accounts. In 1556 they

*paid to Thomas Americke for di ounce silver bestowed upon the mase that John Smyth berith & workmanship of the same v s.*¹⁹

In 1562

*payed to Thomas Apmericke for the workinge of viij ounce of silver uppon John Smythes mase xxiiij s. also payed to the same Thomas for ij ounce and di of newe sylver & giltyngge of the same mase at viij s. the ounce xx s.*²⁰

In 1563

*paid to Thomas Apmericke for mendinge of one of the fower sergeanntes mase nowe in the custodie of William Hobbes that is to saie for makinge againe of two ounce and a half of owld silver for an ounce & three quarters of newe silver and for his gildinge & workmanshipe upon the same mase xxiiij s.*²¹

In 1565

*pd to Thomas Apmericke for three ownce of silver & gilte and one quarter of an ownce for the sword xxvj s.*²²

In 1573-74

*paied to Thomas Apmerricke for mendinge Thomas Harveys mace xj s. Allsoe paied for mendinge of John Masons mace viij s. Allsoe paide to Thomas Apmericke for silver and workmanshippe bestowed upon the mace that was delivered to the Quenes Majestie xxvj s. viij d.*²³

He was renting a tenement on the north side of Eastgate Street in 1548 from the city for 2d. per year.²⁴ He continued to live in the Eastward, paying taxes in 1557, 1558, 1559, 1562.²⁵ In 1564 he began to pay rent of 13s. 4d. to St Michael's churchwardens for a tenement and continued to do so until his death in 1578, after which his widow Joan continued as tenant.²⁶ He bequeathed to his son his shop and tools upon the remarriage or death of his wife.²⁷

Thomas Hill I

Thomas Hill I is recorded as a goldsmith in 1565, when paying his fee to become a burgess,²⁸ implying that he arrived as an experienced goldsmith. He, too, carried out various works for the city, recorded in the Stewards and Chamberlains Accounts. In 1567-68

*in money pd to Hill the goldsmyth for makinge of a mace and giltinge of iij oz and a quarter and a great waight at vij s. the oz xxij s. iij d. alsoe pd for workinge of vj oz of thold silver at ij s. the oz xij s.*²⁹

In 1568-69

*to Hill the goldsmith for working of xj oz and a quarter of ould silver of a masse that John Mason doeth beare at ij s. the ounce xxij s. vj d. more to him for three ounce and a quarter of his owne silver at iiij s. viij d. the ounce xv s.*³⁰

In 1583-84

*paide to Thomas Hill the Gouldsmith for the silver of the same sworde xij d.*³¹

In 1584-85

*paide Thomas Hill the goldsmith for furnishinge the beste sworde with gilte & three new roses gilte iiij s. vi d. paide for fower ounces of newe silver xvij s. viij d. three angelles to gilte with xxx s. paide the Gouldsmith for his woorkmanshipe xxiiij s. paide for castinge the crosse xij d.*³²

17th century silver.

The next period of interest is the second part of the 17th century and starts with the city corporation deciding to have a new seal with a new design.

In 1660 the Corporation Minutes recorded

*It is agreed at this House that the old City seale shall be broken and not used any more henceforth. And that the seale newly made and here produced shall be used for the City seale. And that the stewards shall pay to William Costley goldsmith five pounds for the say'd seale.*³³

This was duly paid by the Stewards in 1660-61.

Paid to Mr Costlee goldsmith for making the new city seale 5 - 0 - 0³⁴

For the seal they

rec'd of Mr Goffe goldsmith for the old City seale being 9 ozes less ½ quarter at 4s 9d. per oz 2 - 2 - 1 ¾³⁵

The old seal had been made by Albert Williams and of course does not survive; however wax impressions of the seal survive on old documents, for example fig [6]

The new seal, or strictly the seal matrix, made by Corsley survives in the Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery, fig [7]



Fig [6] Wax impression city seal made by Albert Williams



Fig [7] Matrix of city seal made by William Corsley

William Corsley

William Corsley is the best known local goldsmith. His name was written with various spellings. He carried out several other commissions for the city being recorded in the Stewards and Chamberlains accounts. In 1661-62

pd to Mr Costly Goldsmith for putting on the roses & flower de Luces on the sword 2 - 2 - 0³⁶

In 1667-68

paid to Mr Corsly for 5 silver badges etc £20 of this was lent 34 - 2 - 0³⁷

In 1670

Paid Mr Corsley for new gilding the City sword as per note 1 - 16 - 0³⁸

In 1683-84

pd Mr Corsley for amending the maces 1 - 0 - 0³⁹

He also made and mended verges for Gloucester cathedral. The Treasurer's accounts⁴⁰ include

1662/3 For the Vergers Rodd 06 - 09 - 06

24 Oct 1673 Payd Mr cosly goldsmith for ye new mace (or verge) 05 - 10 - 00

12 Nov 1677 Payd Mr Cosly for mending the verge 00 - 02 - 06

Nov 1682 pd Mr cosly for a new plate to ye top of ye verge and cutting ye Church coat upon it 00 - 05 - 00

The verges were repaired several times in the 18th century until new ones had to be made in 1832. However they retained the original plates at the top, which are actually engraved with the royal arms of Charles II.

In the past four marks were assumed to be those of William Corsley on the basis of church plate in three parishes around Gloucester; viz. Rudford, Goodrich and Bishops Cleeve, and St Nicholas in Gloucester. To these can now be added Upton St Leonards [see below]. His church plate is of simple robust design typical of the 1660's.

He was also a prolific spoonmaker; at least fourteen spoons are known to survive, ten in the Gloucester City Museum and four in a private collection. E.g. Fig [8]

The four marks are:

Fig [9], a double headed eagle displayed

Fig [10] WC with three roundels above and five below

Fig [11] a horseshoe shape surrounding eight roundels and with horns above

Fig [12] C over W between two stylised roses and pellets in a shaped shield

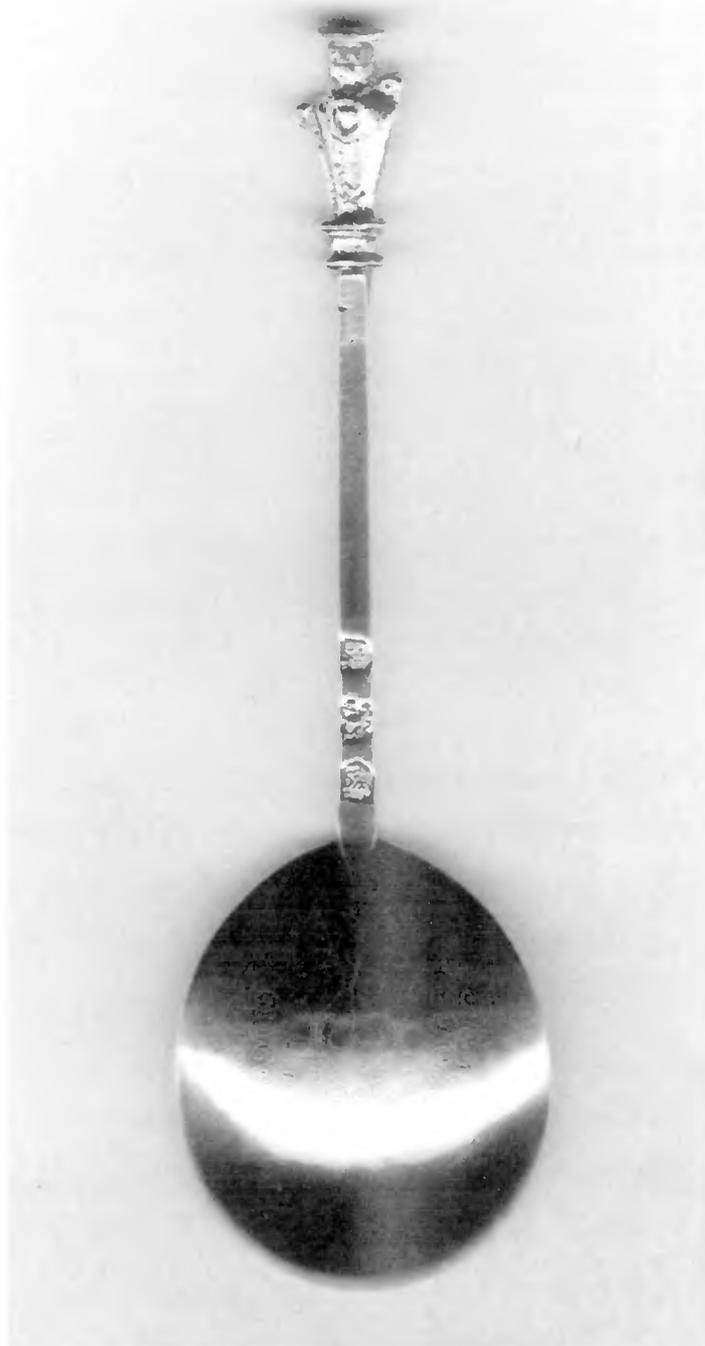


Fig [8] Apostle spoon by William Corsley



Fig [9] Double headed eagle mark



Fig [10] WC with roundels mark



Fig [11] Horseshoe shaped mark



Fig[12] C over W mark

Some of the church plate and spoons have dates engraved or pricked (i.e. punched with fine dots), and

these allow his use of the several marks to be rationalised

In 1662 he used [9] punched four times

In 1663 he used [9] punched twice combined with [10] punched twice

In 1665 and 1668 he used [10] punched twice combined with [11] punched twice

In 1668, 1672 and 1686 he used [12] punched four times

Thus [9] was first used, then [10] was introduced, followed by [9] being superseded by [11] and finally [12] used on its own. The year 1668 for the transition to the final mark is particularly well established. The evidence for this date comes from a flagon given to St Nicholas church in Gloucester under the terms of the will of Richard Massinger of 1668.⁴¹

He appointed his executors to 'buy and procure a handsome silver flagon of the weight that Mrs Robbins her flagon is' for the parish. The Massinger flagon appears to be a local copy of the Robbins flagon and has the donation and date engraved on it Fig [13] and has the C over W mark punched four times. The marks are crisp and clear, whereas by the time he made a laceback trefid spoon in 1686 the punch appears well worn. [Presumably he had made many spoons in the meantime]



Fig [13] Inscription on Massinger flagon

He was the first Corsley to come to Gloucester from Bristol, where the family, who included goldsmiths, had lived for several generations. He was the son of Humphrey Corsley, goldsmith, baptised in 1638.⁴² He had settled in Gloucester by 1661, the year he bought his freedom for £20.⁴³ In 1662 he married Anne Fletcher, the daughter of a Gloucester mercer and alderman.⁴⁴ It used to be presumed that he lived and worked in a house in College Lane but this is a misinterpretation of the bequest in his will to his second son Henry of 'my house in Colledge Lane lately in the possession of Mr John Browne'.⁴⁵ This does not mean that he lived there; rather he would have bought the house as an investment to lease out as a source of income.

Fortunately I found in the churchwardens accounts of St Nicholas church reference to a charity

set up by Henry Windows funded out of the rents of three tenements, one of which was rented by William Corsley.⁴⁶ An examination of the will⁴⁷ revealed a codicil dated 1669 in which Henry Windows gave an annuity to the poor of the parish of St Nicholas to be funded 'out of three tenements in the Westgate Street in the City of Gloucester now in the possession of William Corsley, Godwin Pitt and Dorothy Till widow and Richard Till her son'. Richard Till was also a goldsmith.⁴⁸

William Corsley was a man of some importance in the city. He became a member of the council in 1668⁴⁹ and it was minuted that he

*shall be excused from serving his two stewardships paying to the present stewards to the use of the chamber the sum of twenty pounds upon the thirtieth day of November next And to take his place in this house next to Mr Nicholas Lane*⁵⁰

He was appointed a scrutineer of St Bartholomews and the other hospitals for the year in 1676⁵¹ and

almoner for the year in 1680.⁵² He evidently became lax about attending council meetings for in July 1685 it was minuted

that Mr William Corsley a member of this house shall be removed and dismissed from his place of office of common councilman, he not giving due attendance at this house having due summons⁵³

He must have redeemed himself for he had become an alderman in 1690.⁵⁴

He died in 1691 and was buried in St Michael's as was his wife Anne, although they lived in the parish of Holy Trinity.⁵⁵ Fosbrooke recorded the memorial⁵⁶

Arms; a cross between 4 swans or cranes impaling a cross engrailed between 4 bezants, each charged with a pheon. William Cossley, goldsmith, late Alderman of this city, and Anne his wife, daughter of Henry Fletcher, of the said city, mercer, died, hee May the first, 1691 aged 51, shee Januy the 30th 1683 aged 46. The memory of the just is blessed

He was actually older than 51, having been baptised in 1638.

So William Corsley lived somewhere in Westgate Street with another goldsmith as neighbour. He died in 1691 leaving considerable wealth in his will⁵⁷ including £280 and 'his tools and glasses in frames for holding of plate' to his eldest son Richard, who was a goldsmith and who probably continued to live in Westgate Street.

Thomas Hill II

Not long ago a private collector found a seal top spoon which has added to the knowledge of Gloucester makers. It has the double headed eagle mark identical to that on the Corsley silver and clearly made by the



Fig [14] T over H mark

same punch. It has another mark T over H, previously unknown. See Fig [14]. It is pricked 1661, so it would have been made then or at an earlier date and pricked later. But who used the mark? In the mid 17th century the only goldsmith with the initials TH was Thomas Hill,⁵⁸ so the T over H must be his mark.

He was listed in Men and Armour in Gloucestershire in 1608⁵⁹ as aged about 20 living in the East ward of Gloucester. The churchwardens accounts of St Michael covering a period up to 1639 show that he was renting a property from the parish from 1605.⁶⁰ He leased from the

corporation a property in Southgate Street in 1639 and three little shops by the south side of St Michael's church in 1644.⁶¹ The churchwardens accounts describe him as goldsmith and also his civic responsibilities. He became a councilman in 1616, was sheriff in 1626 and was an alderman from 1639 to 1652 which is probably the year he died, for his will is dated 12 Feb 1652 and proved 6 June 1653

⁶²
He appears in the Stewards and Chamberlains Accounts for 1640

paid Mr Alderman Hill for repaying one of the City Swordes as by his note appeareth xxx s.⁶³

Gloucester town mark

The double headed eagle on the spoon by Thomas Hill establishes that that mark was in use by 1652, when Hill died and before the arrival of William Corsley. So it was in use over an extended period, at least until 1663, and by two goldsmiths. It is



Fig [15] Upton St Leonards paten

therefore established to be the Gloucester town mark, but why the double headed eagle displayed was chosen is unknown.

Richard Corsley

The only surviving work that can be attributed to Richard Corsley is some engraving on a paten. Fig [15].

The churchwardens' accounts of Upton St Leonards record

2 April 1694 pd Mr Cossly, Gouldsmith for engraving upon ye silver plate ye Chancellor's directions & Coate of Armes. 00 - 04 - 06⁶⁴

This was a remarkably generous payment for the simple bit of engraving, between the brackets, which reads

The Gift of Rich Parsons Dr of Laws, Chancellour of Glouc the most beloved minister of this Parish wch he supplied not for gain but Affection from the 24 June 1670 to this present day of 8 April 1694 and is still minister of this place

Opposite are the arms - a leopard's face between three crosses patée fitchée at the foot

Outside the brackets is engraved

Upton St Leonards in Com: Glouc: 1672

in lettering that is subtly different from the other engraving. Opposite are punched C over W four times.

All this can be interpreted as evidence that William Corsley made the paten in 1672 and the later engraving was done, after William's death in 1691, by his son Richard in 1694. Richard was apprenticed to his father in 1683⁶⁵ and became a freeman in 1691.⁶⁶ Many of his activities as a goldsmith are documented. He carried out several works for the corporation. The Stewards and Chamberlains in 1696/7

payd Mr Richard Corsley his bill for mending the maces and new boiling them several times and mending the canns 2 - 11 - 0⁶⁷

In 1727 the corporation decided that the four maces be amended and new gilt⁶⁸ and paid

to Mr Cossly for gilding the maces 31 - 17 - 0⁶⁹

He was summoned in 1699 and again in 1706 by the Goldsmiths' company for selling gold and silver wares 'worse than standard'.⁷⁰ He became a councilman in 1703, sheriff 1704/5, alderman 1719 and was mayor 1719/20.⁷¹ He lived in the parish of St Nicholas with his wife Mary nee Roberts, whom he married in 1695.⁷² Mary died in 1717 and there is a memorial in Gloucester Cathedral recorded by Fosbrooke⁷³

Arms: a cross between four birds, impaling a lion rampant Mary, the wife of Richard Cosley of the City of Gloucester, gent (eulogy) Died Oct 22 1717 aged 44.

While he was a widower he evidently ran into cash flow problems. I found amongst the papers of the Guise family of Elmore a letter written to Edward Cook Esq. (of Highnam) appealing for financial help.⁷⁴

He says his finances

which at this time are very deplorable and unless you and Mr Stephen Cooke will out of your abundant goodness jointly assist me I and my children are inevitably ruined and necessity will oblige me forthwith to quit my native country and retire into some foreign parts and end my days there, for I cannot stand my ground without your assistance

He lays out his assets, which appear to be enough to cover his debts and which are not readily realisable, but could be offered as security. He asks

whether you will be pleased to raise £1000 which sum will clear me of all demands whatever as you'll see by the account on the other side. Twill be a fatherly kindness to me and my children otherwise they and I must inevitably fall. For God's Sake, let me stand my ground now, and suffer me not to be torn to pieces and if you please to comply with this.

He continues

Query, whether twill not be for mine and the childrens good, if I can find a good old woman have no child and some fortune, to marry, provided her fortune, or part thereof, will sink in my family

Unfortunately I did not find a reply from Mr Cook but he did marry a widow Mrs Joan Viner in 1725⁷⁵ and they evidently settled in Westbury on Severn, where he was churchwarden.⁷⁶ There is a memorial in the cathedral, next to that of his first wife, which recorded⁷⁷

Richard Corsley Alderman and Mayor of this city, died Aug 29 1742

He died intestate leaving Joan again a widow; the administration describes him as goldsmith of the city of Gloucester.⁷⁸

Nathaniel Winter

Some churches have plate that is stylistically eccentric and appears to have been assembled from odd



Fig [16] Marks on Purton cup



Fig [17] Marks on Minety cup

pieces of silver. They have peculiar punch marks. The Purton cup is engraved 1666 and has marks shown in fig [16]; the Minety cup is engraved 1663 and has marks shown in fig [17]; a paten from Down Ampney incorporated what might have been an embossed part of a sweetmeat dish and is engraved around the rim

The Gift of Robert Alford Master of Arts and Vicar of Down Ampny 1654



Fig [18] Down Ampney paten

and with four peculiar marks fig [18]. An unusually shaped paten from Ampney Crucis has four marks shown in fig [19]. The marks on these four pieces have a common characteristic of being made from three or four extremely worn and damaged punches and with two sharper fringed devices.

The four parishes are close to Cirencester, so it may be concluded that the pieces of plate came from there and were made by Nathaniel Winter who was the only goldsmith working in the town during the mid 17th century. He was the son of Nathaniel Winter goldsmith of Marlborough, as can be deduced from their wills.^{79,80} Evidently he was in business in Cirencester by 1654, where he remained until his death in 1672, being buried on 31 December.⁸¹

He left his 'plate, rings, things, tools and materials whatsoever pertaining to my trade as goldsmith' to his



Fig [19] Marks on Ampney Crucis paten



Fig [20] Nathaniel Winter's mark on spoon

wife and daughter.

Although Nathaniel Winter assembled some rather unusual pieces of church silver, he was nevertheless a competent spoon maker. An Apostle spoon and a seal top spoon survive that can be confidently attributed to him, having the mark fig [20] which is the same as on the Ampney Crucis paten.

Conclusion

The research has clarified the marks on the silver made by William Corsley and thrown new light on the Corsley family and has revealed the identities of the other goldsmiths whose marks appear on early silver of the county.

Acknowledgements

I acknowledge help from the Gloucestershire Archives, Gloucestershire parishes, Gloucester Museum and Art Gallery, and the librarian at Goldsmiths' Hall.

References

abbreviations

GA Gloucestershire Archives

GBR Gloucester Borough Records - in GA

GDR Gloucester Diocesan Records - in GA

PCC Prerogative Court of Canterbury; wills held in the National Archives, Kew

¹ Sterling silver has to contain 92.5 % silver with the remainder being mostly copper. The alloying strengthens the metal as pure silver is too soft to withstand normal use.

² A.J.H. Sale. Goldsmiths of Gloucestershire, 1500-1800. *Trans BGAS*. Volume 108, (1990) pp.135-169.

³ *The Church Plate of Gloucestershire*. Edited by J.T. Evans. BGAS. 1906.

⁴ There is another, poor example at All Saints Cheltenham but as this church was only founded in 1865 the plate must have originated at another unknown parish

⁵ It could be that he was an immigrant, for Albert was not an English name at the time and Williams may be an anglicised version of Willaume (for example there was a David Willaume who was a Huguenot refugee goldsmith who settled in London at the end of the 17th century)

⁶ GBR C9/6. It was necessary to become a freeman to be allowed to trade.

⁷ GBR F4/3 p55v

⁸ GBR F4/3 p100

⁹ GBR F4/3 p97

¹⁰ GBR F4/3 p101v

¹¹ GBR F4/3 p107

¹² GBR F4/3 p113

¹³ GBRF4/3 p118

¹⁴ Goldsmiths' Company Court Book H p74-75 (Held at Goldsmiths' Hall)

¹⁵ GA P154/14 IN 1/1

¹⁶ GA P154/14 CW1

¹⁷ GBR B2/1 Custumals (official memoranda)

¹⁸ PCC will 1537/6 Crumwell.

¹⁹ GBR F4/3 p55v

²⁰ GBR F4/3 p88v

²¹ GBR F4/3 p100

²² GBR F4/3 p113v

²³ GBR F4/3 p158v

²⁴ GBR B2/1 p151

²⁵ GBR B2/1

²⁶ GA P154/14 CW1

²⁷ GDR will 1579/169

²⁸ GBR F4/3 p110v

²⁹ GBR F4/3 p123

³⁰ GBR F4/3 p127v

³¹ GBR F4/3 p225v

³² GBR F4/3 p232v

³³ GBR B3/3 p206

-
- ³⁴ GBR F4/6 p408
- ³⁵ GBR F4/6 p390. Richard Gough was a goldsmith who bought his freedom of Gloucester for £10 in 1661 and appears in several Gloucester records. He may well be the Richard who was the son of William Gough of Marlborough, Wilts, and who was apprenticed to George Hatton in London in 1646 and did not become free of the Goldsmiths' Company
- ³⁶ GBR F4/6 p443
- ³⁷ GBR F4/7 p97
- ³⁸ GBR F5/15 p18
- ³⁹ GBR F5/27 p9
- ⁴⁰ Treasurer's Accounts TR2 and TR3 (Held in the Gloucester Cathedral Library)
- ⁴¹ GDR will 1668/172
- ⁴² Parish Register of Christ Church Bristol. Bristol Record Office P/XchR/1a
- ⁴³ *A Calendar of the Registers of the Freemen of the City of Gloucester 1641-1838*. Transcribed by Peter Ripley and revised and edited by John Jurica. BGAS Gloucestershire Record Series Volume 4.
- ⁴⁴ B Frith. *Marriage Allegations* BGAS Record Series 2. 'William Corsley Gloucester city goldsmith 24 and Anne Fletcher Gloucester city 20.'
- ⁴⁵ PCC will 1691/78 Vere
- ⁴⁶ GA P154/15 CW 2/1
- ⁴⁷ PCC will PROB 11/336
- ⁴⁸ He is recorded as having cleaned the city sword in 1670 (GBR F5115 P 17) and he was fined by the Goldsmiths' Company for selling substandard wares in 1699 (Goldsmiths' Company Court Book 10 p.196a)
- ⁴⁹ P.J.C. Ripley. *The City of Gloucester 1660-1740*. Unpublished M. Litt thesis. Univ of Bristol 1977. (GA holds a copy)
- ⁵⁰ GBR B3/3 1 Oct 1668
- ⁵¹ GBR B3/3 20 Oct 1676
- ⁵² GBR B3/3 8 Nov 1680
- ⁵³ GBR B3/3 23 July 1686
- ⁵⁴ Ripley loc cit
- ⁵⁵ GA P154/14 IN 1/3
- ⁵⁶ T. D. Fosbrooke. *Original History of the City of Gloucester*
- ⁵⁷ see 45
- ⁵⁸ see 2
- ⁵⁹ John Smith. *Men and Armour in Gloucestershire in 1608*. p.9
- ⁶⁰ GA P154/14 CW 2/1
- ⁶¹ GBR J3/3
- ⁶² PCC will 1653 folio 200
- ⁶³ GBR F4/5
- ⁶⁴ GRO P347 CW 2/1
- ⁶⁵ GBR C10/3
- ⁶⁶ see 43
- ⁶⁷ GBR F4/7 p661
- ⁶⁸ GBR B3/9
- ⁶⁹ GBR F4/8 p516
- ⁷⁰ Goldsmiths' Court Book 10, p195a and 310
- ⁷¹ Ripley loc cit
- ⁷² B. Frith. *Marriage Allegations* BGAS Record Series vol 9 'Richard Corsley Gloucester city 25 and Mary Roberts Cheltenham 21'.
- ⁷³ Fosbrooke loc cit
- ⁷⁴ GA D326 F45
- ⁷⁵ GA P354 IN 1/2
- ⁷⁶ In the Westbury on Severn register 'Rich Cossley' signed as churchwarden at the end of a page of marriages in June 1731.
- ⁷⁷ Fosbrooke loc cit
- ⁷⁸ GDR will 1745/100
- ⁷⁹ GDR will 1672/96
- ⁸⁰ Wilts RO, Consistory Court of Salisbury, will and inventory of Nathaniel Winter of Marlborough, goldsmith, proved 10 Aug 1669.
- ⁸¹ GA P86 IN 1/2