



**Hammerbeam roof — these buttresses support the roof**

On our trip to England with TFA in 2012, our first visit was to **St. Mary's, Burstall**, where Christopher Eastie, grandfather of Mary Towne's husband Isaac Estey, was baptized on April 9, 1552. Christopher's brothers Thomas (1548), Jeffrey (1550) and William (1558) were also baptized here before the family moved to Hintlesham. The church, built in the early fourteenth century, has beautifully decorated windows on the north aisle.

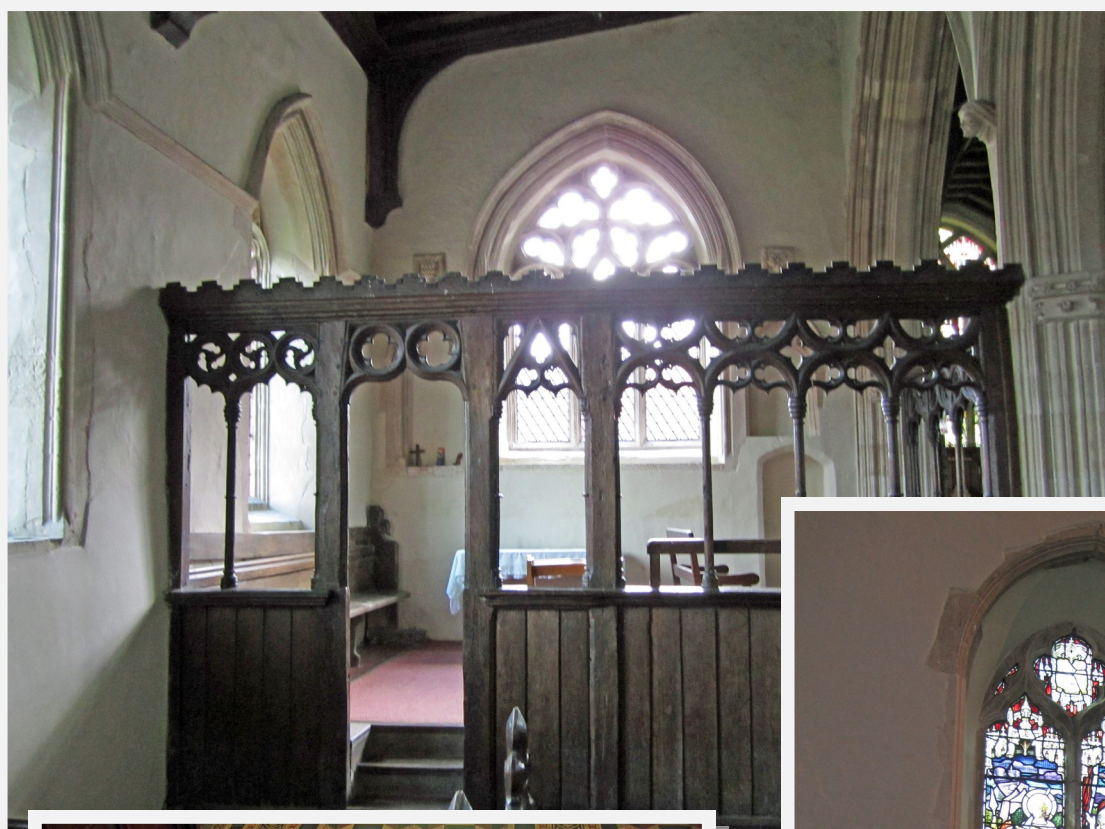
St. Mary's Church consists of a square west tower, nave, 15th century wooden south Porch, north Aisle, and Chancel, all of the early 14th century. This building is a fine example of a medieval country church, comparatively unspoiled by Victorian restoration, and a perfect introduction to the English Parish Church. Burstall, Suffolk, England is located about four miles west of Ipswich. ∞

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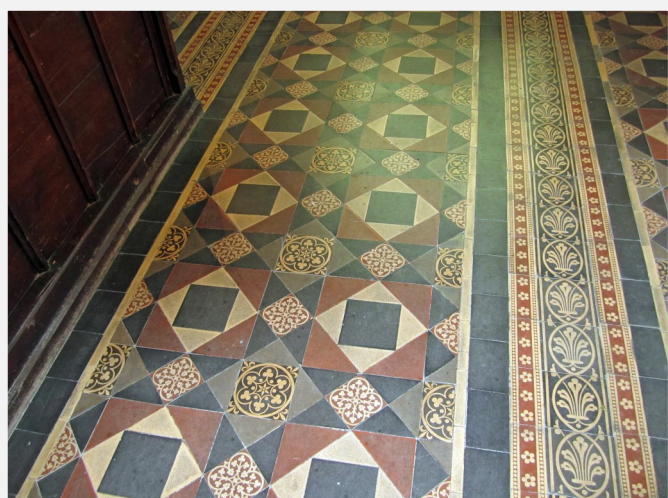
**Estey line: Jeffrey-1, Christopher (1552 - 1621), Jeffrey-2 (1587 - 1657), Isaac (1627 - 1712) . Isaac married Mary Towne**



More pictures of St. Mary's , Burstall — a grave “bedstead,” the wooden porch, the Rood Screen (the decorative wooden panel that separates the altar from the congregation), the tiled floor and the window mentioned in the article



Notice the decorative Poppy-heads on the ends of the pews in the picture below.







**St. Nicholas' Church, Hintlesham, Suffolk** was built on the same site as an earlier church existing at the time of the Domesday Book of 1086, which was a survey of much of England done for William I (the Conqueror) of

England. The present church had to have been built or was in the process of being built in 1375 because a will from that time period mentions "building stone in the church." It is basically an early English church with a square west tower, wooden porch, with decorated windows from a later period. Although parish registers have been lost, we know that Jeffrey 1 Estie, father of Christopher, lived here in 1568 from a 1568 Subsidy Payment and from his will made in 1592.<sup>∞</sup>



More pictures of St. Nickolas Church in Hintlesham, located about halfway between Ipswich and Hadleigh. It is west of Ipswich.



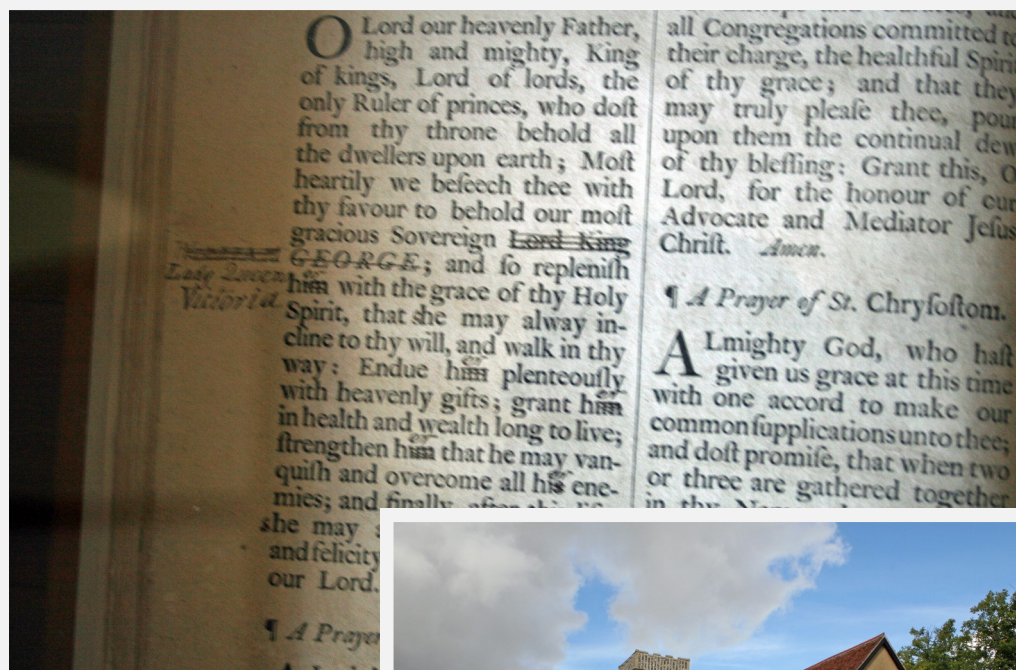
Both the picture and the gargoyle are inside the church. The gargoyle is toward the front, near the altar of the church.



↑ The back of the church with the organ pipes and two diamond shaped Hatchments that were donated by wealthy families.







Notice that in the prayer book that 'Lord King George' is crossed out and is replaced by 'Lady Queen Victoria.'

↑ Collage, courtesy of Peter Seager, Churchwarden

St. Mary's Church, Old Newton, was the site of the marriage of Jeffrey-2 Estie and Mary Salmon in 1624. They were the parents of Isaac Estey who married Mary

Towne. The ends of the seventeenth-century benches at the back of the church are decorated with poppy-heads, and there are remnants of medieval stained glass in the north nave windows. ∞







A Child's grave

**St. Peter's Church, Freston,** is the church of Jeffrey-2 Eastie and Mary Salmon Eastie, and where they brought Isaac Eastie (Estey), husband of Mary Towne, to be baptized in 1627. Jeffrey's father, Christopher, married An Arnold here in 1586. An's family had lived here for several generations. The church with its 'medieval fabric' was restored after it fell into ruin in the late 19th century. We were intrigued by the small Devil's Door, on the north side of the church opposite the

font through which the devil could escape during the baptism of infants. The devil had to have his own door because he was forbidden to use the same door as the "saints" or congregation. Much of the tower



World War I statue for the soldiers who died

is original, and an unusual statue of *The Lady of Peace*, cut and carved from a solid piece of oak, stands in the churchyard. The monument was to honor the memory of the English soldiers who died in WWI. ∞



More pictures from St. Peter's in Freston — Freston is northwest of Ipswich.



St. Peter's altar, windows, baptismal font and Devil's door

Isaac Estey was baptized in this font!

Notice the defacing of the figure on the baptismal font. This damage was done during Cromwell's reign by Cromwell's men. Cromwell's followers believed that any human or animal likenesses in a church were considered idols and symbols of the Catholic Church. ↓



A small door on the north side of the church where the Devil could escape during an infant baptism. →





### St. Peter's of Freston continued

1. Jeffery Estey of Hintlesham had a son named Christopher who married in Freston.
2. Christopher Eastie married An Arnold on 5 May 1586 at St. Peter's Church in Freston.

(Note that May 5th is correct, not May 1st)

Christopher Eastie died 7 Nov 1621 in Freston. Will dated 7 Nov 1621 and proved by his widow Ann at Ipswich England, 20 Feb 1620/21. New York Genealogical Biographical Society Record Vol. 49 page 90-91.

3. An Arnold was baptized on 30 April 1564 at St. Peter's Church in Freston. She was the daughter of George Arnold and his wife Grace. George and Grace married at Stonham Aspoll Church 13 May 1563. Grace was the daughter of John Felgate of Stonham Aspoll according to the Marriage entry, and this is confirmed by the Will of John Felgate made in 1566. Unfortunately the Parish Register does not start early enough to give her Baptism. The same also goes for George Arnold at Freston.

**T**he Arnold family was established at Freston for at least two generations before George, for we have the Wills of both Roger Arnold his father (1553) and Thomas Arnold his grandfather (1544), as well as his grandmother Avyse (1545). There are even earlier Arnolds in the area.

Christopher Eastie and Ann Arnold had several children: Jeffery b. 1586-87, Ann b. 1589, Edmond b. 1591, Christopher b. 1592, George B. 1594, Edmond b. 1597 and Thomas b. 1605. Thomas died in 1624. Our Estey line follows their son Jeffery Eastie.

Jeffery Estie and Mary Salmon married on the 1 Sept 1624 in the Parish of Old Newton. Jeffery called his first child Mary as we know, and this fits nicely with the name of his wife. They moved to Freston prior to their children being born. It is believed that Jeffrey Estey was born about 1586-87 in Freston or Hintlesham. Other spellings of Estey include Esty, Este, Estye, Eastey and Eastwick. He died 4 Jan 1658 in Huntington, Suffolk, New York, USA.

There is a will from Jeffrey Estey that names his son Isaac Estey and daughter Catherine.

The children of Jeffrey and Mary Estie are Isaac, Catherine and Mary.

1. Mary Eastie was baptized 16 Feb. 1625 in Freston.
2. Isaac Eastie was baptized at St. Peter's Church in Freston. The parish records record the baptism: "1627 Nov. 17, Isaac, son of Jeffery Eastie baptized." He was only a young boy when his family arrived in New England.
3. Catherine was baptized in Freston about 1629.

Our line follows Isaac Eastie the son of Jeffrey and Mary Estey. The following comes from the "About Towne Newsletter" Vol. XXV No. 1 March 2005 Page 4: "The Esty family ranks among the first families of New England. Jeffrey Esty was granted twenty acres of land in Salem, Essex Co., Massachusetts, in 1636. His son, Isaac, baptized on 17 Nov. 1627 at St. Peter's Church at Freston, England, was only a young boy when his family arrived in New England. The baptism record reads: 1627 Nov. 17, Isaac, son of Jeffery Eastie baptized."

**F**rom the book: "Isaac Esty of Topsfield and some of his Descendants" by Gay Esty Bangs, Historical Collection of the Essex Institute, Vol 36 page 1: "Isaac Esty, the son of Jeffrey, was born probably, in England, previous to the year 1630, and was quite young at the time of his father's settlement in Salem. He was a cooper by trade, and the following is the first reference to him that we have: "2-5-1653, Job Hilliard of Salem, fisherman, hath sold to Isake Esty of Salem, cooper, one house and land adjoining, being nearly half an acre for 20 li. to be paid as follows..." ∞