Arms of Edward VI when Prince of Wales
(Formerly at Wroxton Abbey, Oxfordshire)
Ancient Stained and Painted Glass

BY

F. SYDNEY EDEN

Cambridge
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS
1933
Preface

To the First Edition

These pages make no pretence to give an exhaustive account of their subject, but only to supply sufficient data to ground an intelligent appreciation of such remains of stained and painted glass older than 1714 as are still to be found in ancient buildings.

In the introductory chapter I have shortly described the matter with which we have to deal—in particular, its fragmentary condition and the historical causes which have produced that condition. Also, I touch upon the subject of the connection between glass-painting and the other arts ancillary to architecture with special reference to their common objects and use.

The styles, which may be taken, roughly, to synchronise with those into which English architecture from the 11th century onwards is usually divided, are then briefly described, and I have, in the concluding chapter, ventured to say a few words upon latter-day treatment of old glass, and to make some suggestions which may, I hope, be found helpful towards, not only the preservation, but a reasonable use of what is left.

Several of the illustrations are taken from the county of Essex, which is generally supposed to be below the average in remains of old painted glass,
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and I may add that it would not be difficult to illustrate all the styles in painted glass by fine specimens from Essex alone. This fact affords reasonable justification for the inference that there is, in every county in England, an open book about old painted glass which only needs a little editing—*i.e.* copying and arranging the copies in some fairly accessible place—to make it of the greatest possible value to students and craftsmen, and to the public at large.

F. S. E.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX
1912
Preface

To the Second Edition

In preparing this revised and enlarged edition of my original book, published in 1913, I have borne in mind the objects with which that book was written, as they are expressed in its preface. Many additional illustrations are given, all of which, like those in the first edition, are directed rather to convey information as to detail than a merely general idea of a whole window.

In fact, pictures on the scale of this book of complete windows, except very small ones, would be of little use for the serious study of painted glass.

With reference to the last paragraph in the preface to the first edition, I may add that I have been able, with the help of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), to complete the work of copying the ancient painted glass in the counties of Essex and London and the City of London and that my drawings in colour and the full size of the originals—for Essex and a small selection of those for London—are now deposited in the Victoria and Albert Museum (Department of Engraving, Illustration and Design), where they are easily accessible, with the help of the very excellent Catalogues, to all enquirers.

F. S. E

Barnes, Surrey

1933
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Formerly at Wroxton Abbey

Note. The Le Mans examples are from Hucher’s Book on Le Mans Cathedral, those at Wilton, Westwell, Merton College, Kingsdown and Selling are from Winston’s Styles in Ancient Glass Painting, the arms at Ockholt are from Lyson’s Magna Britannia—Berkshire, and most of the remainder are from drawings by the writer in the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington. For permission to use photographs the writer is indebted to the courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum, Mr J. A. Knowles, F.S.A., Mr W. Marriott Dodson, Mr Wilfred Drake, to whom the panels illustrated on pages 114, 121 and 123 belong, and Mr Fitz Eugene Dixon; also, he has to thank the editors of The Burlington Magazine and The Connoisseur for the loan of blocks for printing some of the illustrations.