whom I am sure would give you any help needed. I would do it myself but I shall not be in Exeter again till after Christmas which would I fear be unduly hanging you up. If you are not able to get hold of a copy of the article Font on the font I could send you an abstract of it. I know how difficult some of these things are to get at away from town and I can get it any day in Penzance. If there is any thing further I can do for you or any further information you need I shall be pleased to do anything I can. I thought the facts about the earlier Rectors might interest you though I fear they are too fragmentary to be of use.

Yours sincerely
C A Raleigh Radford.

Corneto
16 IV 26

Dear Mr Maydew

Many thanks for your letter I apologise for the delay in answering it but it has been chasing me round Italy Rome Sicily Apulia and Rome again was its itinary. At present I am taking a short tour in northern and I have left it at Rome. I will answer it properly when I get back but I felt that I must send a preliminary apology for delay. I came here this morning from Rome and have walked round Etruscan tombs for a solid five hours. Most interesting. I have seen twelve all painted and dating from VI bcnt BC to II BC and one appeared even earlier than 600 BC. One or two were very Greek in feeling but the rest native. I at last met a really intelligent custodian who knew quite a lot about the subject, a rare thing in their country. I have spent most of last month in Sicily and have already started summer though the evenings are cold

Tomorrow I go to Toscannella and thence to Viterbo where I stop several days and then back to Rome. I expect to go South again at the end of the month and return to England at the end of next month. Excuse a letter which has nothing to do with yours but I was afraid of losing the photograph if I brought it. I will try and answer properly from Rome my address there is

Accademia Inglese
Valle Gintia
Roma

My kind regards to Mrs May dew & yourself
Yours sincerely
C.A. Ralegh Radford.

On Friday Sept 28th 1962 after the Harvest Home service, a man and woman from East Anglia, starting at Bampton called at the Church in order in particular to study the Font.

Font. Bond

He explained to me that Francis Bond had written a book entitled "Fonts and Font Covers" published in 1907 which had an article on Luppitt Font.

1907 See IV 141

Amphisbaena Druce 1910

The Amphisbaena on the Font is dealt with by G.C. Druce in the Archaeological Journal VOL 68 — 1910.

See page 102

From Rev F.T. Haydon

Typed historical details by C.A. Ralegh Radford.

Luppitt Church.

Font Piscina

Except the font and the Piscina in the chancel no traces of the norman Church remain and though portions of the masonry and of the foundations may go back to that period it is impossible to date them. The Church now standing is an aisleless cruciform building of the early 14th century with a long chancel which has been largely rebuilt in modern times.

IV Window

Except the north window of the north transept all the windows are modern restorations though the tracery of many is doubtless a copy of earlier windows. That in the north transept is typical of the period about 1300.

1300

Porch

Porch Heads

The south door of the Church inside the porch has a hood mould with two terminal heads. That on the right is a female head with a wimple and headdress of the period of Edward I. or Edward II. In the north wall of the chancel is an arched tomb recess with a cusped arch of early Decorated character and similar to others which can be dated to the reign of Edward II. Hamilton Rogers (Memorials of the West p 287) conjectured that this represented the tomb of Sir John Carew (died 1324). Its style would agree with this date and as Sir John held the manor of Luppitt and had seized the advowson it is very probable that he was buried in this Church. It is probable that the rebuilding of the Church was due to Sir John Carew and it is possible that the well cut heads which act as terminals to the hood mould of the inner south door are meant to be portraits of him and his wife. The placing of portraits of donors in such positions does occur in this period and these heads seem to me to

King

Chancel Arch

1324-1327

Rogers

Carew

1324

Memorial

Advowson

have too much individuality to be mere conventional representations but such suggestions are always risky). The roof of the nave and of the transepts is supported by four massive ribs which rise diagonally over the crossing and is a fine specimen which must be very nearly contemporary with the Church. The Chancel was unfortunately re-roofed in the 19th century.

Roof

Chancel

1451 In 1451 Elizabeth the widow of Sir Thomas Carew Baron Carew invested certain lands in the hands of Trustees to endow a chantry in the South Aisle of Clyst St Mary Church. The Chantry was to be dedicated to St Nicholas for the good of her soul and her husband's. The priest was to receive an annual salary of 8 marks and 6/8 on the anniversary of her death, and wine bread and wax were to be provided for the service of the Altar.

Chantry

Altar

See p 105. 83. Oliver's (Bishop Lacy Register Vol III fol. 490. I have taken this account from Dr Oliver's Monasticon Dioceesis Exoniensis and I am unable at the moment to verify it. I have however a suspicion that south may be an error for north transept, where there is a piscina about this date and where the blocked up arch may represent the tomb of the foundress.

Piscina Arch.

Some of the fragments of carved stone screen preserved in the vestry probably belong to this chantry which would certainly have been screened off from the nave. In particular the fragment of the cornice with the running vine leaf and cone pattern probably comes from here. In the north transept are a bricked up arch probably of a tomb and a piscina of 15th century date with a trefoil arched head. The tower and the south porch were added to the Church about 1500. The outer arch of the porch has a hood mould

Screen

Vestry

Arch.

Piscina

Tower

1500

Porch

ending in well carved conventional heads.

Tower — The west door of the Tower has a similar hood mould and terminals. The soffit of the tower arch is ornamented with dogtooth panels. The lowest stage of the tower possesses

Ceiling — an oak ceiling of early Tudor character.

Church of Lifton.

Font — The best account of the Font is in Devon and Cornwall Notes and Queries Vol VII P 201.

Clarke — by Miss Kate Clarke. I went through it with the notes which I took when I was at Lifton and I have come to the conclusion that I agree with everything except the suggested date, and as the description is much fuller than anything I was able to take during my visit I cannot do better than refer you to this. Some of the suggestions as to the legend of the supposed saint seem to me to be a little far fetched, I believe that much of the so called symbolism in this as in many other cases is purely decoration arising out of the sheer love of ornament for its own sake. With regard to the date this is mainly based on the details of the costume, weapons etc, and I do not think that it is safe to assume that such details had appreciably changed by the end of the eleventh century in a remote Devon parish. Blanche plates would represent what was the latest fashion at the period to which they are ascribed. Incidentally

Druce on Amphisbaena — I may remark that Mr G. C. Druce in his paper on the amphisbaena (Archaeological Journal LXVII 268) there referred to evidently does not regard this font as indubitably as a Saxon example. Summing up the subject of the amphisbaena and after

mentioning its appearance on the Lupfit font he concludes that this beast made its appearance in England as early as the twelfth century. The fact that the beast is represented is to me a rather strong argument against a Saxon date as I believe that most of these fabulous animals with their quaint symbolism appear in England with the Normans and not earlier. In fact I know of no Saxon work that offers an altogether satisfactory parallel while I have seen Norman work much resembling it. Personally I should suggest a date about 1100.

1100

Piscina

The piscina in the south east corner of the chancel is typical Norman work of the 12th century and late rather than early in that century. The cable moulding at the base of the bowl and the star and pellet band immediately below it are typical Norman motives and the same may be said of the ornament of the bowl with the flowing patterns issuing from the mouth of the mask.

Dependencies of the Church of Lupfit.

Chapel 1308

In 1308 a licence was granted to Sir Symon de Monte Acuto to have an oratory in his manor of Le More in the parish of Lupfit. This was given with the consent of the Rector and was to be for the lifetime of Sir Symon only.

1329

In 1329 a licence was granted to Sir Oliver de Servington Lord of Dalditch

Dolish

to have an oratory in his manor of Dalditch.

1382

In 1382 licence was granted to Vincent Hill Vicar of Lupfit to celebrate mass in

Minchill

the Chapel of St Mary of Minchill in the parish of Lupfit on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin.

The two oratories were probably only temporary concessions of which I expect all traces have disappeared, but the Chapel at Mirihill sounds like a permanent Chapel and it would be interesting to know if any traces remain today. I have no record of the name in the parish of Lyffit and I have here no maps to which I can refer.

The manor and Advowson of Lyffit.

Manor — The manor ~~xxxx~~ of Lyffit was held of the Honour of Marshwood in Somerset.

1086 Ludo — In 1086 the manor was held by Ludo. In the 12th century it was in the possession of the Fleming family of Fleming whence it passed to the Mohuns by marriage. It was given by Mohun Reginald de Mohun to his second son William on whose decease without male heir it passed to Carew who had married William's daughter Carew 1280 and co-heiress (1280).

Advowson — The Advowson remained attached to the manor 1248 till 1248 when Reginald de Mohun gave it to Newenham the newly founded Newenham Abbey, to which house it was confirmed by a Bull of Alexande 1257 IV (1257). The Abbey exercised its right of 1266 presentation to the Benefice in 1266 but in the following year William de Mohun claimed and exercised the right in the presentation of Baldwin. The Abbots case was lost by default though from what reasons does not appear. After this, the Carews as heirs of the Mohuns claimed the right to present to the living and appear to have made good their 1340 claim till about 1340 when Abbot Walter Howe persuaded them to disclaim all rights in return for a cash payment. After this trouble the rights of the Abbey appear to have been undisturbed until the Reformation.

1344 See P 137 Bishop Tithes Newenham

Originally the living was a Rectory but in 1344 a division was made and confirmed by Bishop Brantyngham (Reg p. 1344). In virtue of this the living became a Vicarage and the greater part of the Tithes and offerings were appropriated to the Abbey of Newenham, certain lands in the parish being reserved to the Vicarage.

Luppitt Church

Brass 1907 Lysons 1810 Bonville Carew P 106 King 1431

Palimpsest Brass. Addition to the account appearing in Devon and Cornwall Notes and Queries for Oct 1907.

Lysons Devonshire P. 324 published circa 1810 Luppitt. In the Parish Church are some ancient monuments of the Carew family without inscriptions. (note) One of them is in memory of Sir Thomas Carew who married a daughter of Sir Nicholas Bonville, tempore Henry VII. Henry VII must be a misprint of or Henry VI as the only Sir Thomas Carew of this period died 9 Henry VI (1431)

Bonville's name is also given as William. ~~in Vivian Visitation of Devon P.134.~~

The Carew pedigree is given in Vivian Visitation of Devon. P. 134.

List of Incumbents

Vicars Oliver 1855

This list was published by Doctor Oliver in the Exeter Flying Post on 1 May 1855. (Devon and Cornwall Notes and Gleanings Vol V p 3)

The list in the vestry at Luppitt is probably a contemporary copy of Dr Olivers list. The list cut from the paper along with others so published at various times is said to be pasted into a book now preserved in the Devon and Exeter Institution.

Lapitt Church

Memorials

In the South Transept is a stone slab at the head on which the following inscription is carved:—

Hic iacet Jo(han uxor) Willi Wenard et filia Johis Bevyle, cui' aie ppciet[ur] ds̄.

Wynard

Here lies Joan wife of William Wenard and daughter of John Bevyle to whose soul may God be merciful.

Wynard 1404 1430 1409

William Wynard or Wenard was Recorder of Exeter in 1404 and died in 1430. He founded the Alms Houses known as "Gods House" in Exeter in the year 1409. In the Chapel attached to these houses is a later shield on which are the arms of Wenard quartering among others Bevyle.

1403

John Bevyle was Sheriff of Devon 1403

In a window of the Chancel of Blyst St George Church is a shield of ancient glass bearing the Wynard arms and an inscription Jones W(enard et Isabe)lla ux' commemorating the father and mother of William.

Rogers P55

(Hamilton Rogers Sepulchral Effigies of Devon p156)

The cutting from the Flying Post referred to on the opposite page is still at the Devon and Exeter Institution. 7 The Close Exeter.

← notices by the Rev.d George Oliver of various parishes in Devon.—

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From Rev. F T Maydew

Church of Luppit

Vicars	Name	Patron	Date
1266	Henry le Flemmynge	Reginald de Mohun	Before 1266
	Baldwin de Mohun	Abbot of Newenham	1266
1267	Robert de Toneworth	William de Mohun	1267 Oct
	John de Goodleigh	—	—
1273	Robert de Pentelowe	—	1273
1313	William de Leycestre	Sir John Carew	1313 Feb. 28
1327	John de Whiteby	Sir John Carew	1327 Aug 31