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ROTHAMSTED
RESEARCH

The Manor of Rothamsted

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THE MANOR OF
ROTHAMSTED
AND ITS OCCUPANTS



3. The Pictures at Rothamsted

Rothamsted Research

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3. THE PICTURES AT ROTHAMSTED

All are executed in oils on canvas, unless other indications are given; and all are anonymous except where the painter's name is stated or suggested. Detailed information concerning many of the subjects may be found by referring to the index.

PICTURES IN THE GREAT DRAWING-ROOM

- 1 SIR JOHN WITTEWRONGE, 1st Bt. (1618–1693), at the age of 70. [Painted in 1688; attributed by the family to Peter Vanderbank, who was born in Paris in 1649 and died at Bradfield, Herts, in 1697.]
- 2 A lady of the MYDDELTON family, with which Sir John Wittewronge was connected by his mother's second marriage and by his own first and second marriages. [School of Lely.]
- 3 A girl of the WITTEWRONGE family, seated, having a dog on her lap.
- 4 JAMES WITTEWRONGE the Younger (1720–48); great-great-grandson of Sir John Wittewronge.
- 5 THOMAS WITTEWRONGE (1723–1763); great-great-grandson of Sir John Wittewronge and last of the Rothamsted Wittewronges.
- 7 MARTHA WITTEWRONGE, *née* STRANGE (d. 1758); wife of James Wittewronge the Younger.
- 9 ELIZABETH WITTEWRONGE, afterwards BENNET (1675–1734); granddaughter of Sir John Wittewronge. She was a daughter of James Wittewronge the Elder and Elizabeth Diconson.
- 12 JACOB WITTEWRONGLE (1558–1622); father of Sir John Wittewronge. [Oils on oak panel.]
- 14 JACQUES WITTEWRONGHELE (1531–93); came to London from Ghent in 1564; grandfather of Sir John Wittewronge. [Oils on oak panel; dated 1574.]
- 17 ANNE WITTEWRONGE (born 1678, died young); sister of no. 9 above.

PICTURES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE HOUSE

(These pictures are not always on view)

- 22 JACOB WITTEWRONGE the Elder (1671–93), grandson of Sir John Wittewronge. [Painted by I. Z. Cole, 1688.] *Dining-room*
- 27 MARY WITTEWRONGHELE, *née* EVERDEY (d. 1595); wife of Jacques Wittewronghele (no. 14) and grandmother of Sir John Wittewronge. [Dated 1574.] *Corridor*
- 34 ELIZABETH WITTEWRONGE, *née* COGHILL (born 1673 or–74); wife of Jacob Wittewronge the Elder. *Dining-room*
- 37 SIR JOHN WITTEWRONGE, 1st Bt. (1618–93), at the age of 51. [Painted in 1669.] *Foot of Stairs*
- 39 KING CHARLES II. *First floor landing, Main Staircase*
- 40 ANNE BENNET (d. 1727); wife of Jacob Wittewronge the Younger. [School of Kneller.] *Dining-room*
- 41 JOHN LAWES (1699–1770); great-grandfather of Sir John Bennet Lawes. [School of Gainsborough.] *Half-landing, Main Staircase*
- 45 JACOB WITTEWRONGE the Younger (1693–1728); great-grandson of Sir John Wittewronge. [School of Kneller.] *Dining-room*
- 46 SIR JOHN WITTEWRONGE, 1st Bt. (1618–93); painted about 1643 when he was Commander-in-Chief of the local Parliamentary forces. [Attributed to Henry Stone (known as ‘Old Stone’), who died in London in 1653.] *Hall*
- 47 ELEANOR FOXCROFT, *née* WITTEWRONGE (born 1682); granddaughter of Sir John Wittewronge. She was a maid-of-honour to Queen Anne. [School of Kneller.] *Dining-room*
- 48 MARY WITTEWRONGE, *née* COCK (born 1658); second wife of James Wittewronge the Elder. [Painted in 1689; attributed by the family to Michael Dahl, who was born in Stockholm in 1656 and died in London in 1743.] *Hall*
- 52, 53. Two still-life paintings. [Oils on wood, signed by Jacob van Hulsdonck, who was born at Antwerp in 1582 and died there in 1647.] *Dining-room*
- 72 MARY WITTEWRONGHELE, *née* EVERDEY (see no. 27 above). [Oils on oak panel.] *Dining-room*

THE PICTURES

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132 KATHARIN LLOYD, *née* WITTEWRONGE (born 1652). [Pastel on paper. Signed and dated by Van Wessell, probably Isaac van Wessell of Delft.]

133 HELEN GIBBS, *née* WITTEWRONGE (born 1658).

133a ANNE SIDDERFIN, *née* WITTEWRONGE (born 1657).

Still life, dated 1638 and signed by S. Tilman. [Oils on an oak panel lined with canvas. Simon Peter Tilman or Tilmans (also called Schenk) was born in Bremen in 1601 and died after 1668, probably in Vienna.]

Dining-room

Last Supper, attributed to Floris. [Tempera on oak panel. Frans Floris, 1516–70, whose real name was de Vriendt, a native and citizen of Antwerp, spent some years in Italy. He became a master of the Guild of St Luke, Antwerp, in 1540 and founded a large school.]

Tapestry Room

Landscape. [Oils on canvas. Flemish, *c.* 1720.]

Blue Room

Prints of livestock, the collection of the late Lord Northbrook, may be seen in the Library, the Tapestry Room, and the residents' dining-room.

4. THE WITTEWRONGES OF STANTONBURY

A number of the landed gentry in Hertfordshire during the seventeenth century purchased estates for their eldest sons to settle in when they married, so that we frequently find the titles moving from one house to another. Sir John Wittewronge followed the current practice. Twelve years after taking up his residence at Rothamsted, he bought the estate of Stanton, also known as Stanton Barry and later Stantonbury, near Wolverton in Buckinghamshire, about twenty-five miles from Harpenden.