

(LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL)

# SURVEY OF LONDON

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G. H. GATER (*for the Council*)

WALTER H. GODFREY (*for the Survey Committee*)

VOLUME XV

THE PARISH OF ALL HALLOWS BARKING  
(PART II)

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PAINTED ALTAR-PIECE WITH ROBERT TATE'S ARMS (p. 2)

## THE PARISH OF ALL HALLOWS BARKING

*Standing under tower.*

## 87. ELIZABETH CEAL, 1763.

Here lieth the Body of *ELIZ<sup>TH</sup> CEAL*  
 Wife of *FRANCIS CEAL* of this Parish  
 Who departed this life the 19<sup>th</sup> of Sep<sup>r</sup> 1763  
 Aged 38 Years  
 Also the Bodies of *ELIZ<sup>TH</sup> CEAL* Aged 3 Y<sup>rs</sup> 10 M  
*FRAN CEAL* Aged 6 Years and 2 Months  
*CEAL* Aged 3 Weeks  
*FRAN<sup>S</sup> & ELIZ<sup>TH</sup> CEAL*  
 died  
 Aged 32 Years

## (D) MONUMENTS IN THE CHURCHYARD

## 88. JOHN GASKARTH, 1732.

In fra Iacet  
 IOANNES GASKARTH. S. T. P.  
 Huius Ecclesiae  
 Per quadraginta [septem] annos  
 Vicarius,  
 Gregis Custos afsidius,  
 Bonorum fautor,  
 Miserorum Perfugium  
 Certifsimus, Inopum patronus  
 Qui Fide dives et Operibus  
 Annorum Satur  
 Animam Deo rededit  
 Decembris Xmo An Dom MDCCXXXII  
 AETAT LXXXVI

John Gaskarth was vicar from 1686. He twice repaired the church, largely at his own expense, and bequeathed £50 to the Green Coat School and £50 for the relief of poor housekeepers of All Hallows parish.\*

## 89. SAMUEL GITTENS, 1777.

Near this place  
 Lyeth the Body of  
 SAMUEL GITTENS. M.D.  
 and SAMUEL & MARY GITTENS  
 of Barbadoes who died  
 Feb<sup>r</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1777.

\* Joseph Maskell, *Par. Hist. Allhallows Barking*, p. 177.

## APPENDIX ON RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT ALL HALLOWS\*

The following discoveries were made in the course of excavations carried out from 1928 to 1933 in connection with the underpinning of the nave and chancel of the church. Remains of structures of two periods—Roman and medieval—were found and demolished during this work.

### (a) ROMAN

Part of a pavement was found at a depth of 6 feet beneath the floor of the tower. The fragment measures about 7 feet by 4 and consists of plain red tesserae about 1 inch square. Across the middle, in an east-to-west direction, the pavement is cut by a gutter 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, possibly a sleeper-trench for a wooden partition. There is no edge on the portion of pavement now preserved *in situ*, and it may have extended some 8 to 12 feet further to the east, where a large number of loose red tesserae were found. These have now been relaid where found, but 1 foot 3 inches below the level of the pavement under the tower. The date of this pavement must remain uncertain until the material under it has been excavated. However, the tesserae have the same direction as the third-century walls next described, so that the pavement is probably of this date.

As excavation proceeded further to the east under the nave, occupation debris of the Roman period was found to extend over the whole area. The layers contained a quantity of pottery, some pre-Flavian, but mostly of the period Flavian to Antonine, and also fragments of painted wall-plaster and brick. It seems clear that the site was first occupied, probably by timber houses, about the middle of the first century, and that occupation became denser in the second century up to the Antonine period.

In 1930 part of a stone-built house was uncovered near the centre of the church. Three sides of a long narrow room or corridor remained, running in a N.N.E. direction, and measuring 9 feet in width and at least 20 feet in length. The side walls were  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, and the cross-wall at the north end 2 feet thick. The walls were preserved to a maximum height of 6 feet above the base of the foundations, which were of large squared blocks of chalk, with wide joints set in hard yellow mortar. Four feet above the base of the walls was a single bonding-course of flanged tiles, and above this the walls were of Kentish rag and a few flints. The foundation trenches for the walls were cut down through the occupation layers containing pottery

\* This summary report is published by permission of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries.