

specifically numbers 8 to 13. However the schedule shows that William Beversham had numbers 12 and 13. It also reveals there were two houses built near Castle Green, one pertaining to 'the town' and the other to James Beversham. Building on the manorial waste without permission from the lord usually resulted in the structures being demolished. However in these cases permission must have been granted, but they would have been the first recorded houses on these sites.

Passing by these you come to Broad Street, and on the corner stood buildings belonging to 'Mr. Devorix'. When Robert Bence wrote his will in 1611, he bequeathed the house he had purchased from Sir Walter Devorix to his widow, Anne. Devorix, later spelt Devereux, was the family name of the Viscounts Hereford and they were the owners of Sudbourne Hall, after Sir Michael Stanhope, and Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich. In 1601 Walter also had 420 acres including Raydon Marsh. Robert Bence also owned houses he bought of John Sellett, and these are designated by the letter 'R' on the map. When he died Bence was living in Harwich, but still owned many properties in Orford where he had earlier resided, as well as a farm in Dovercourt.

Opposite these houses stood John Cutting's house at the end of Garfish Lane. It had been owned by the Mayor James Coe, and John was his Town Clerk. Beside the 'lane of an ill name', as Norden dubbed it, was the plot belonging to James Edmundes. His father, Robert, who died in 1582, left his wife and James his tenement, stall boat and goods equally. His three milch keen were hers alone until her decease. Perhaps they grazed this small curtilage when it was able to provide enough grass. The 'lane of ill name' is identified in a will of 1629 and it incorporates a four-letter word not usually found in print, not even in these days!

Also somewhere in Broad Street was the cottage of the widow Joan Marshall, possibly the sister-in-law of Robert Bence. Thomas Chall made his last will and testament in 1625 and he may be identified with the Thomas Chowe whose house stood in Broad Street at the crossroads with Bridge Street. He was a mariner and left the unexpired part of his lease of 'the Fryer' to Richard Copping. The profit from this property was to be distributed annually among Orford's poor. Was 'the Fryer' the site of the old Friary in 1625?

Crossing Bridge Street and passing John Campe's house 'near the well', next door on the north side stood a property belonging to Edward Sawyer. He was the great-grandson of John Sawyer who was the wealthiest man in Orford in 1562, owning goods worth in excess of £400. Edward, however, fell on hard times and sold this property to Jonas Reynold, one of his main creditors. A malting office stood here in 1620.

Opposite was an acre also belonging to Edward Sawyer, with two buildings shown on the map, but not in the schedule. Adjoining was another piece of land, and two houses, of Alex Dam, again not in the schedule. Both his names are abbreviated, but his Christian name is obviously Alexander, and several of his ancestors bore the same name, appearing as Sander in a will of 1554. Dam may be Diamer, a name that occurs in a will of 1591 or else it is derived from Damme, a town three miles from Bruges. Alexander was a mariner, and his houses were purchased by his grandparents, one from Agnes Edmondess, widow.

The complex of buildings (no. 40) was owned by the fisherman Robert Haughfen. In 1611 he left his 'houses, buildings, edifices, yards, garden and hempland' to his wife. After her death his children, Curtys and Susan Haughfen, were to inherit. The former also inherited property in Gorleston from his grandfather Raphe Curtys. Clearly Robert was not just an 'ordinary' fisherman. He also left his wife and daughter plate and jewels. Norden wrote that 'the term now none can certify' in respect of 'Clyettes', (no. 38). This property may be connected with an Ipswich family. William Clyatt was a Portman of Ipswich some 50 years later. His son secretly married the niece of Viscount Hereford

Widow Atkinson occupied the tiny cottage (no 42). She is likely to be the widow of John Atkinson. She and Tobias Edmondess (alias Cooke) were bequeathed a stall boat and a cock boat by the shipwright George Raydon who died in 1587. Perhaps she was his daughter. A condition in his will required the two of them to pay £4 to his mother, Elizabeth or else forfeit the bequest. The mariner John Rudde had numbers 44 and 45. When he died in 1611 he mentioned only one house in his nuncupative will, which he left to his wife. The woman who had cared for him during his last illness was bequeathed his sea gown and the things he had in London. Perhaps the woman's husband was also a mariner. Two seamen and two women were the witnesses.