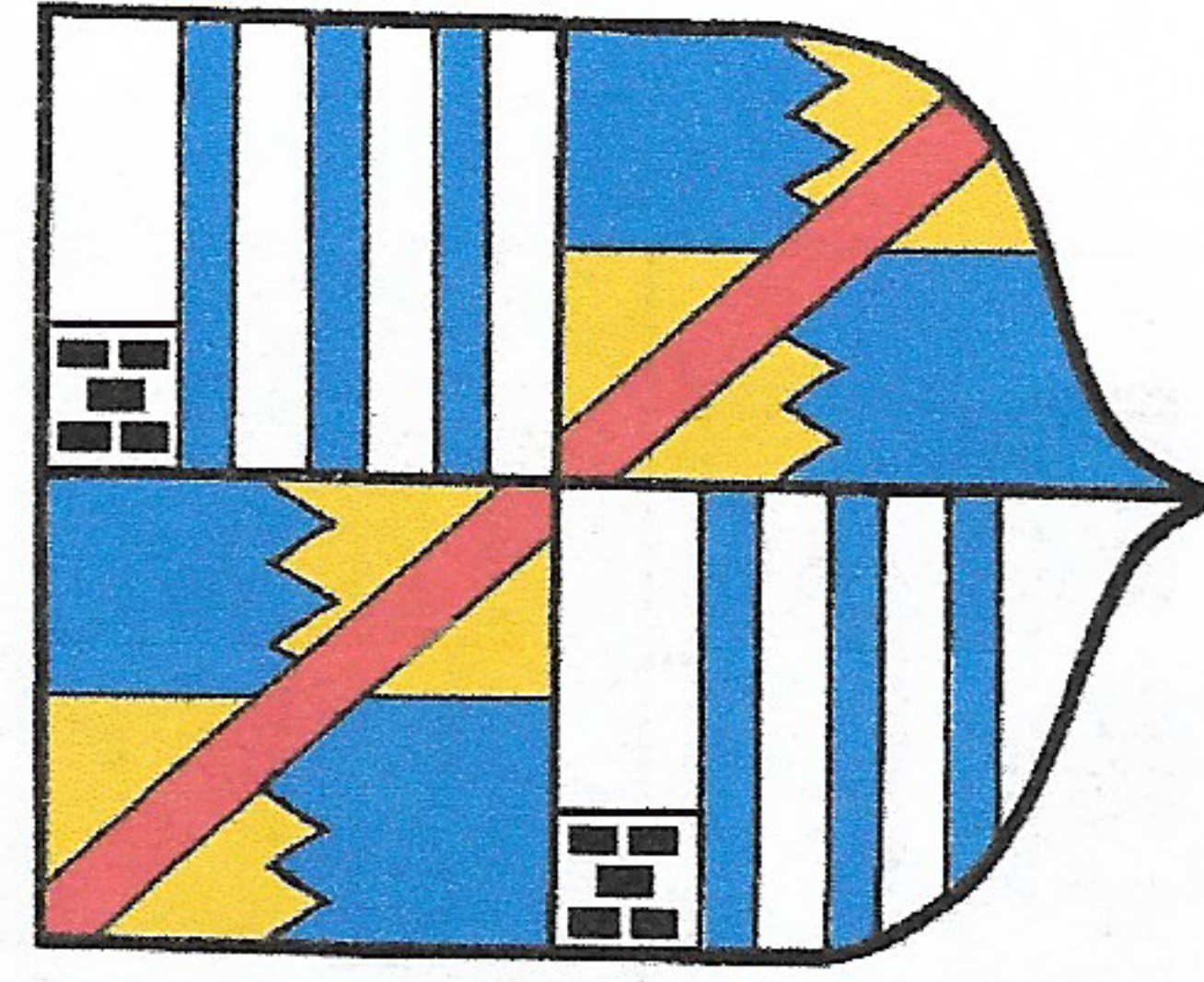
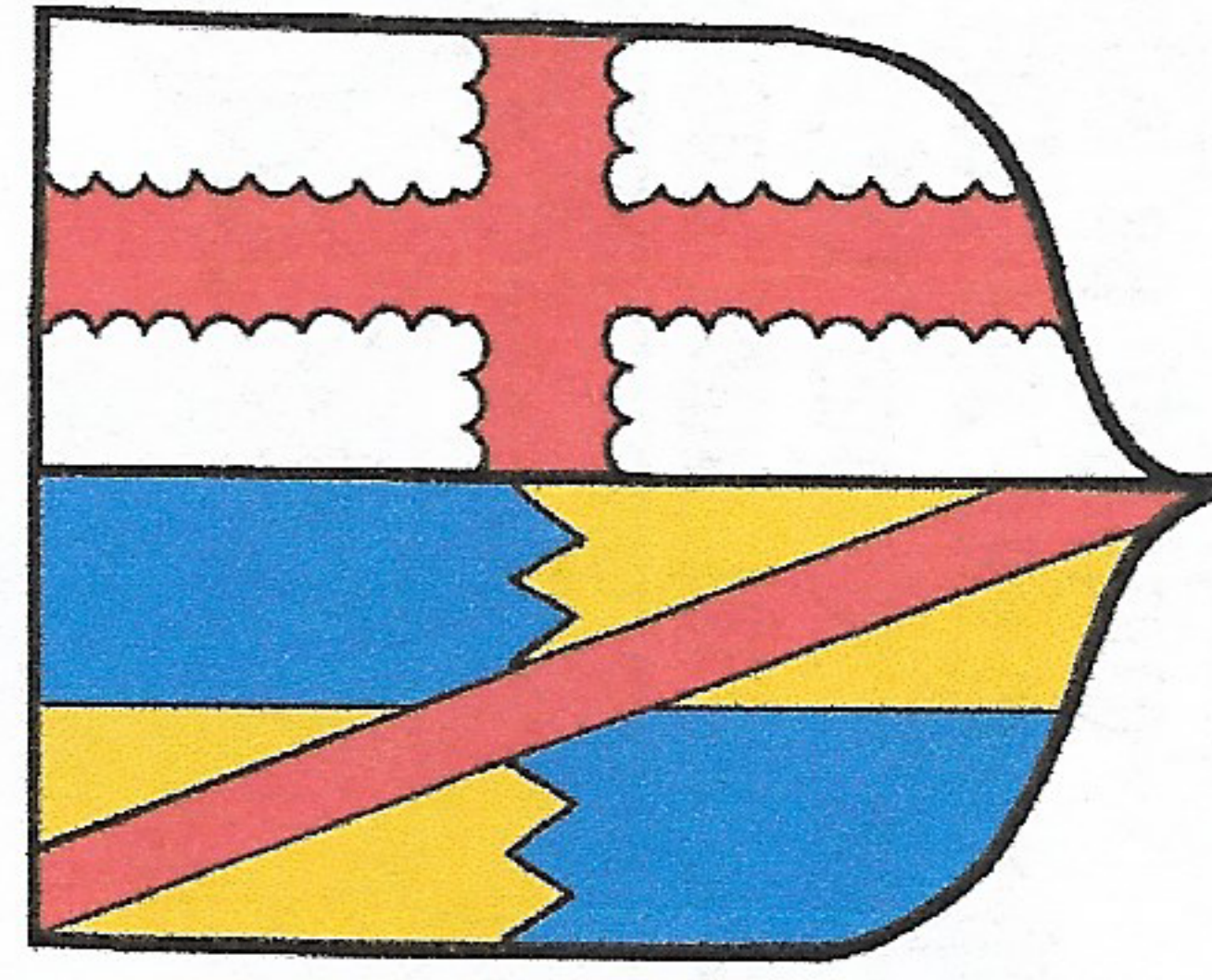
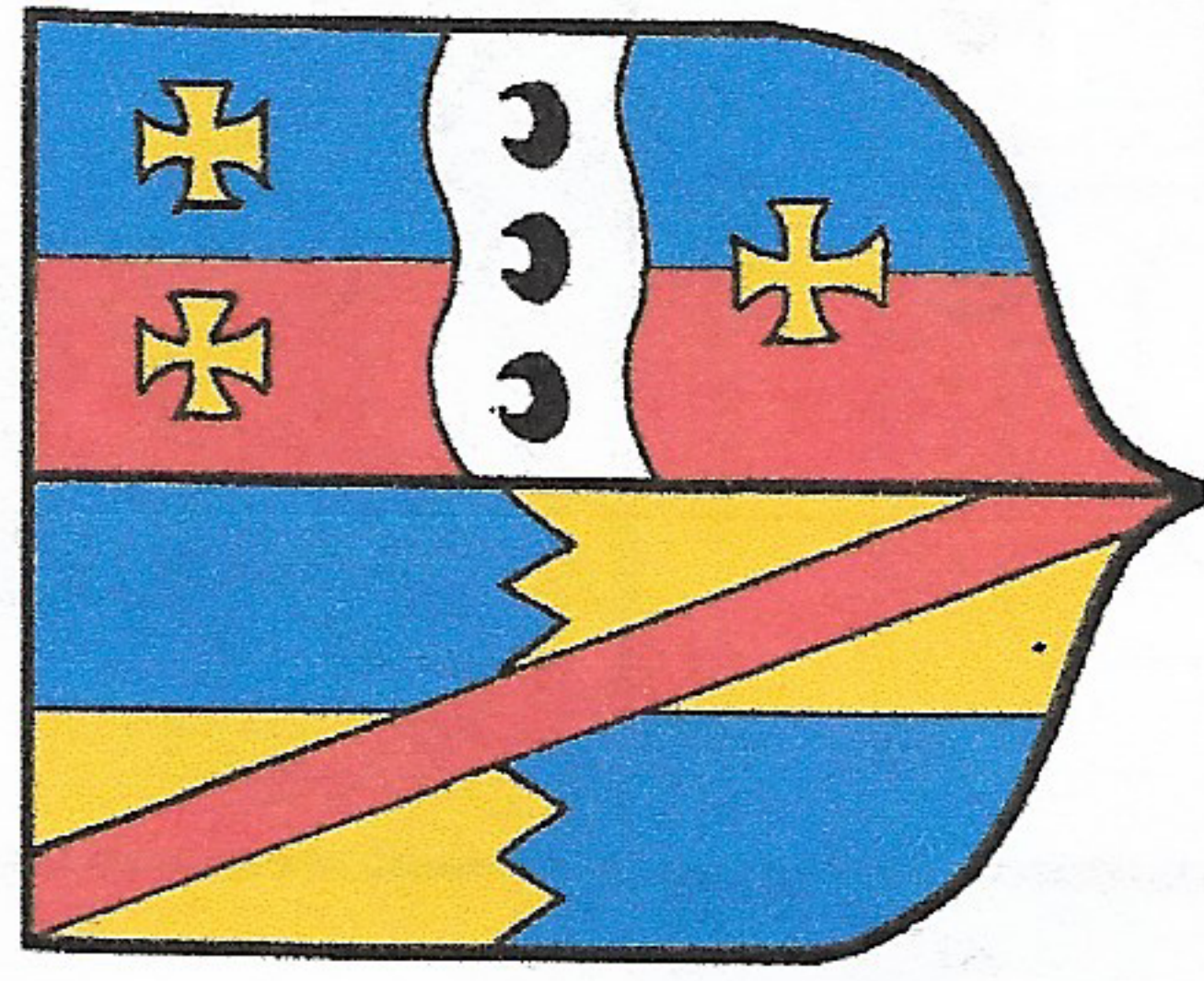


In summary it is clear that the figure in the central compartment is that of Thomas Blundeville (1522-1606) with, to one side, his two wives Rose and Margaret accompanied by their two daughters Elizabeth and Patience and, on the brass on the other side, that of his father Edward, his grandfather Ralph and his great-grandfather Richard. If we need any further evidence we can find it in the will of Thomas dated 1 November 1605:

to 'my wife Margaret whom I constitute my executrix, yft I dye at Newton Flotman or any where ells within the precincts of England to bury my body (without any pompe of funerall more than a sermon, & a dynner for my good neighbours) in Newton Flotman chancel under suche tome as I have already in my lyff tyme caused to be made for my self, my two wyfes, my two daughters Elizabeth and Patience & for a monument of three of my next former auncestors, vidz, my great Grandsyre, my Grandsyre & my father.....' (6).

In the will Thomas makes provision for his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, who was born in 1584 and was to marry in 1610, Rowland Meyrick of County Radnor. He does not mention by name, and makes no provision for his other daughter, Patience (1585-1638) presumably because she had already married, in 1605, Robert King of Culpho in Suffolk. He also makes no mention of his unmarried son, by his first wife, Antony (some say Andrew), who had been 'slain in the Low Countries'. It is curious that he is not included on the monument.

As to the heraldry on the monument, the three shields under the brass plaque have survived because they are carved. When they were coloured they would have looked as follows:-

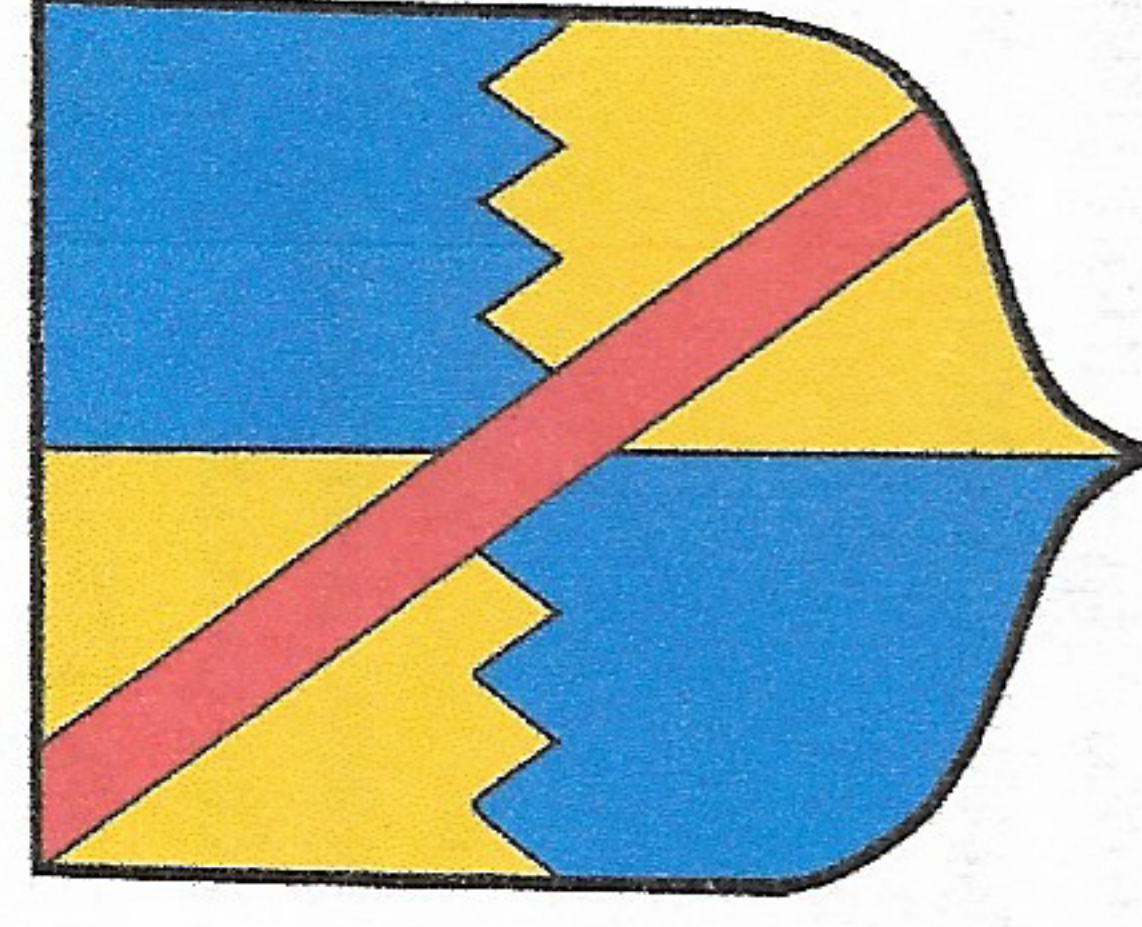


We have already seen that the first two shields record the marriages of a Blundeville and a Godsvalve (7), and between a Blundeville and a Gurney (8). The third shield is different being divided into four quarters, the first and fourth bearing the Blundeville arms, the second and third bearing the arms of Inglose. Such quarterings denote the marriage of an ancestor with an heiress. In this case the marriage of Richard Blundeville with Catherine the daughter and heir of Robert Inglose. In effect, as the male blood had run out, she was bringing her

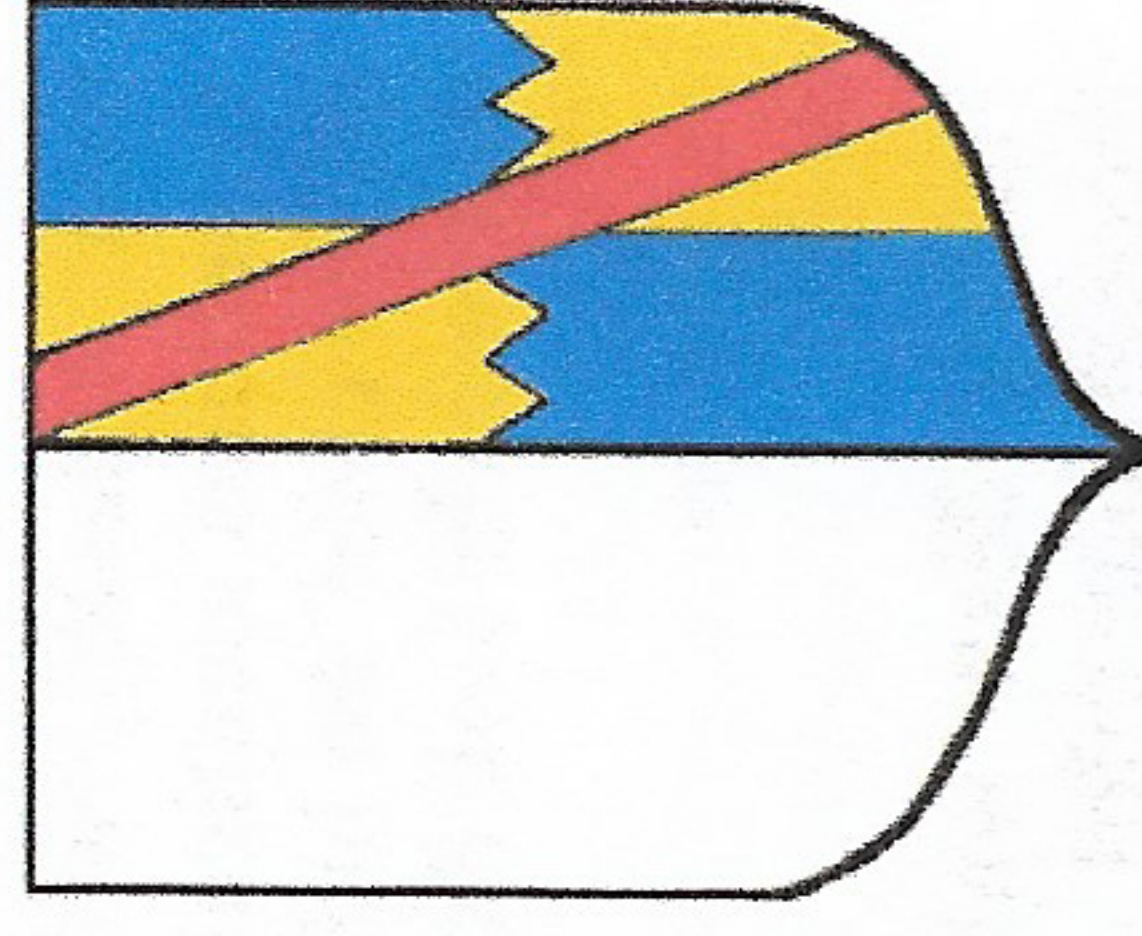
family arms to her husband. However the shield would not have been used by the couple themselves, only by any of their descendants.

For the six shields on the bottom of the monument, only faint traces remain of the last one (no.6 below). We therefore have to rely chiefly on former authorities (9). Reading from left to right they were ascribed as follows:-

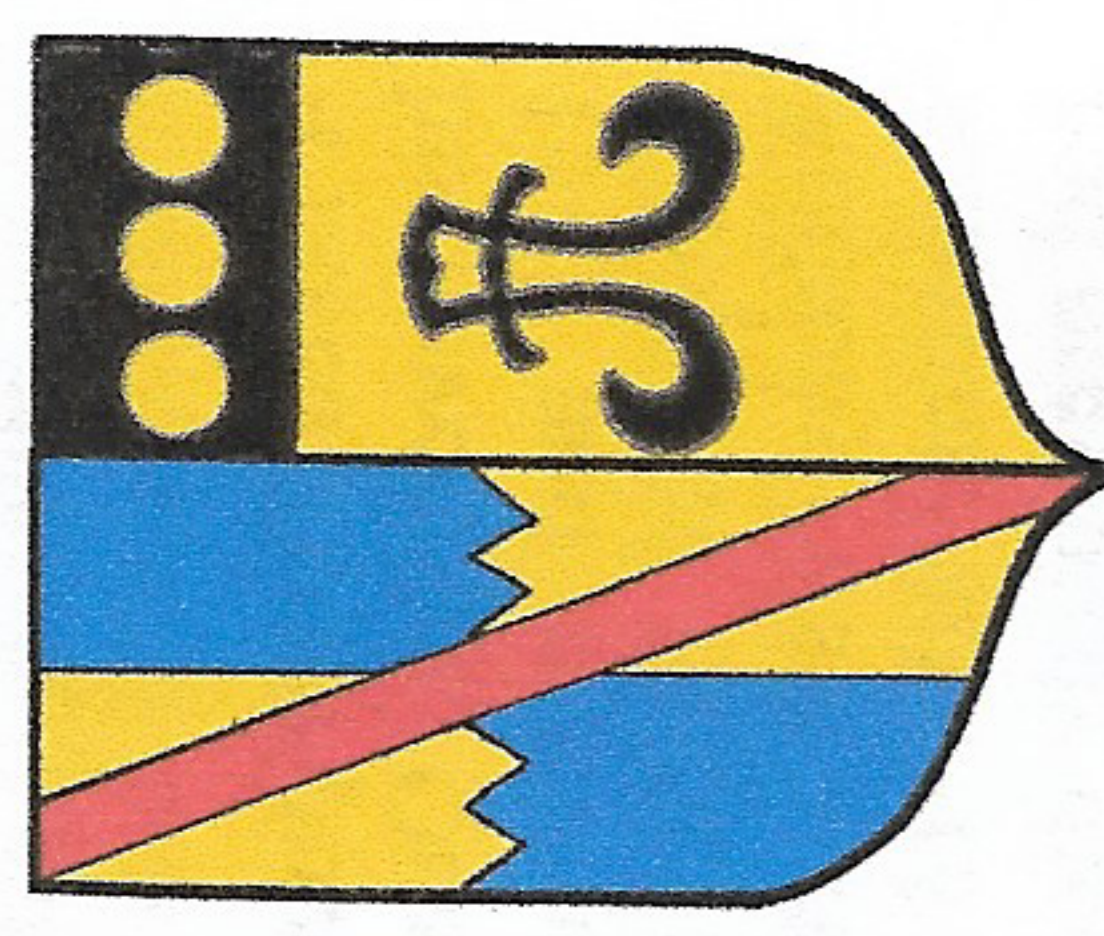
1. Blomefield recorded this as *Sable, a lion rampant between three cross crosslets Argent* (for Robert King of Culpho who married Thomas Blundeville's daughter, Patience). Armstrong says it impaled Blundeville which, on account of the incised impalement line, seems likely.



2. Blomefield and Armstrong say this was for Blundeville alone. If so it must have been painted over the impalement line. Alternatively it could mean that only the Blundeville arms appeared on an impaled shield. In any case it would represent Thomas Blundeville's other daughter, Elizabeth, awaiting Marriage.



3. Blundeville impaling: *Or a water-bouget, Sable on a chief of the second, three bezants* (for Thomas Blundeville's second wife, Margaret Johnson).



4. Blundeville impaling: *Quarterly, 1 & 4 Sable crusily and a stork Argent* (For Thomas Blundeville's first wife, Rose Puttenham), *2 & 3 Lozengy Or and Azure* (for Warbleton, an heir, whose arms were taken by a Puttenham).

