

Flat 2,
49 High Street,
Ingatestone,
Essex

CM 4 OAT

23

July 1972

Dear Alan,

I believe I mentioned that we (Monumental Brass Society) are engaged in revising Mill Stephenson's Riser. My field-workers have been to Hempstead and have reported that the civilian, c. 1480, has not only lost the wife and inscription, as recorded by R.S., but also the two groups of children (5 sons and 2 daughters). The brass was illustrated in the Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist vii, 78 (1901) - the civilian and children were shown, but the description suggests that all the component parts were then loose at the vicarage. However, R.C.H.M. Vol. I (1916) refers to a brass

idents of wife & 2 groups of
children. This suggests that the
male effigy was relaid early
this century, but not the two
groups of children. My field-
workers have not been in touch
with the vicumbent - do you
think that anything is still
loose at the vicarage? Any
information gratefully received.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Briggs

Flat 2,
49 High Street,
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Essex

CM4 0AT

12 September 1972

Dear Alan,

Thank you very much for your letter and enclosure - I have only just returned from holiday myself (if you can call crawling round Wells Cathedral checking brasses ~~to~~ as part of the M.B.S. conference a holiday!)

From your information, it looks very much as if the 2 groups of children were never relaid - otherwise you would presumably have found traces of cement in the indent. I'm not clear from your comments whether the brass is loose and really needs relaying, or whether that would just be desirable. I am enclosing a Xerox copy of the illustration of the brass for your records, on condition, of course, that you notify me if the missing children

turn up!

The only piece of information
I can supply is that the
inscription to Richard Westley,
1518, is now thought to be
local workmanship, probably
Cambridge School, as is the
civilian, c. 1530 (Trans. Monumental
Brass Society, xi, table opp. p. 2).

With many thanks and best
wishes to you both,

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Briggs