

Sulgrave Manor, The Ancestral Home of the Washington Family in the Village of Sulgrave, Northamptonshire, England

by Marjorie Gaestel



May 2017 – all photos by Mg except the kitchen which was taken from a Sulgrave postcard



Lawrence Washington purchased Sulgrave property from the crown in 1539-40. He built Sulgrave Manor Between 1540-1560



Sulgrave Manor was lived in by several generations of the Washington Family from about 1550 until 1657.

Col. John Washington, the great grandfather of Charles Washington, emigrated to Virginia in 1656.

My 2017 visit also included the Manor House, village of Sulgrave and St. James the Less, church of the Washington family.

I was invited to be a guest at the Home of the di Valmarana Family. Alex Valmarana is the daughter of Shepherdstown resident, Nigel Casserley. She is the Historic Architectural Advisor of Sulgrave.

The rear of Sulgrave is now a square courtyard with a Tea Room, Gift Shop, Offices and a large Event Room usually used for weddings



Visitors enter the court yard from the rear arched doorway



The Sulgrave Tour starts at the windowed door on the right.

This is the outside and inside of the modest Tea Room included as part of the courtyard square.





Sulgrave Manor is open from the end of April thru September. Thursday, Friday and Sunday 11am till 5pm.

A picnic/recreation area in the center of the small court yard. Sulgrave Manor is open to visitors 5 months a year.

Lets go inside Sulgrave Manor



Sulgrave Manor kitchen area.





This portrait of General George Washington had just been cleaned. Standing left to right Alison Ray, Chief Executive Officer of Sulgrave Manor, Alex di Valmarana, Historic Architect, and Nancy Stewart, Sulgrave Trustee.



Sulgrave Manor Great Room,

Notice the portrait of General Washington place of honor in the Great Room

SULGRAVE ARCHIVE ROOM

All important documents are kept here in this climate controlled archive/research room.



This elegant little ribbon tied box contains the 1539 deed to Sulgrave from the Crown. (King Henry VIII)



The Archive Research Room is located on the second floor above the offices. There is a large table for student and visitor research. (Thank you Helen Clark, Sulgrave archivist for the private tour)





The village of Sulgrave, County of Northamptonshire

The Church of St. James the Less

The South porch entrance of the church was built during Tudor times. The date 1564 and the letters ER (Elizabeth Regina) meaning Elizabeth I are carved above the door.

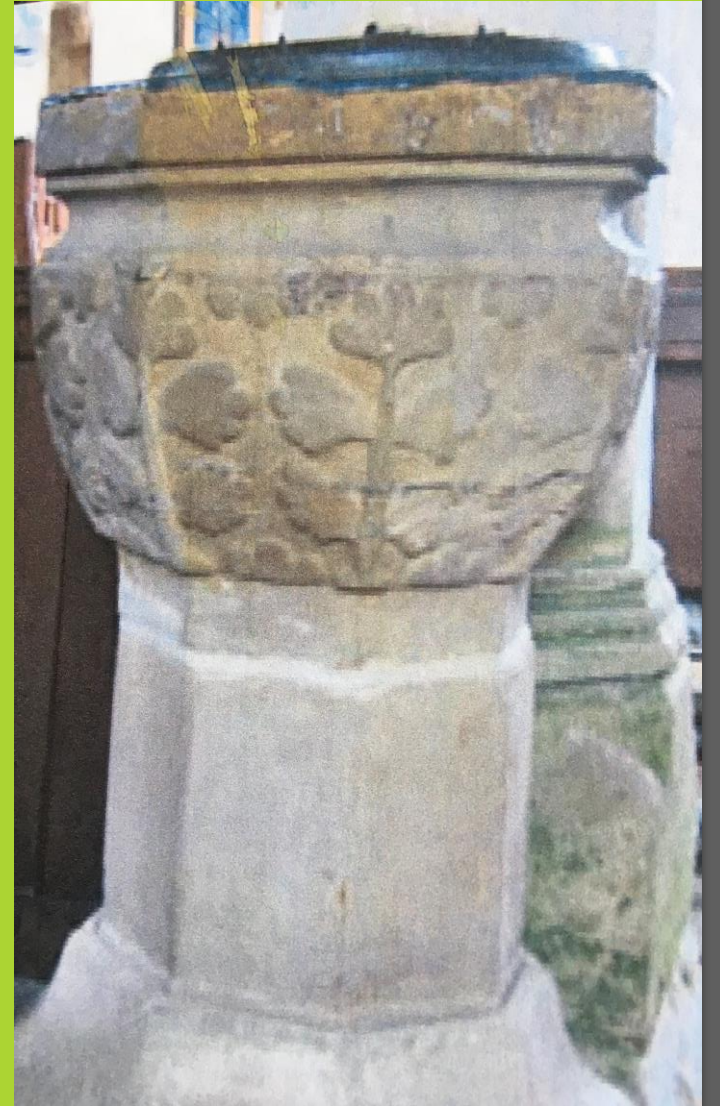
The next 2 slides show the inside of the church where Lawrence Washington and his wife Amee attended. Their pew is in the front of the church under the Washington stained glass window. Lawrence, his wife and son Robert are buried under their pew in front of the the window.



Inside St. James the Less – the
Washington pew is on the right.



The fifteenth
Century lead
lined octagonal
font is made of
local stone.





The Washington Crest stained glass window



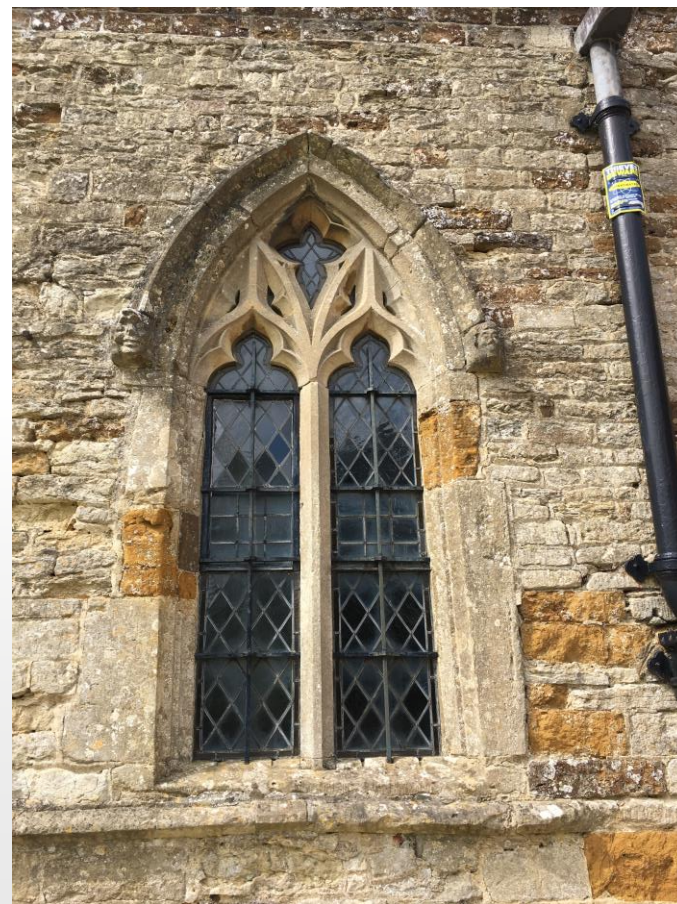
The Washington pew near the stained glass window.



The North Door 14th Century



The West Door-Saxon Style



North Window

Some of the beautiful architecture of
St. James the Less.



For those that don't behave