

Ketteringham Hall, Norfolk

Standing in an estate of 36 acres of woodland and open grassland, Ketteringham Hall has had a long history. The estate itself is known to have been in existence during the time of Edward the Confessor (1004–1066) and was mentioned in the Domesday Book when it was in the possession of two Saxon lords: Ulf and Ketel. It is from Ketel that the name of Ketteringham is derived.

The hall itself originated in the late 15th century when it was built by Sir Henry Grey. It was later inherited by Thomas Heveningham whose family occupied it for nearly 200 years. After a short tenure by the Heron family it was bought by Edward Atkyns whose wife, Charlotte, mortgaged the hall to raise funds for an attempted rescue of Marie Antoinette from the revolutionaries in France. The attempt was a failure and Charlotte died penniless in France in 1836.

After a fire in the early 1800s the hall was rebuilt to its present form and in 1836 it was sold to Sir John Peter Boileau whose family resided there until 1948. Their coat of arms with the motto, *De Tout Mon Cour* (with all my heart) can still be seen above the front entrance. A fuller history and some lovely old images can be found on the Ketteringham Hall website:

www.ketteringhamhall.co.uk/about/history.html

Of particular interest is a collection of stained glass panels installed in 1844 in a large staircase window which include 17th - century glass originating from Rouen. Stained glass in other windows mainly consists of 19th century roundels depicting Boileau family coat of arms.

The Main Staircase Window

The glass was installed in 1844 by St John Boileau, who bought the estate in 1844 and subsequently rebuilt the house.

The lower of the two large central panels depicts 'Christus Bonus Pator' (Christ the Good Shepherd) above which is an image of St John the Baptist. Both are believed to have been imported to England in the first decade of the 19th Century by the Norwich-based dealers, John Christopher Hampp and William Stevenson. They have been painted using a grisaille technique. They are believed to have been made for the Carthusian House at Rouen. (The Carthusian Order, also called the Order of Saint Bruno, is a Roman Catholic religious order of enclosed monastics. It was founded by Saint Bruno of Cologne in 1084.) It is possible that the glass dates from the early 17th century. Furthermore, David King, believes that the sophistication of the panels' design and painting suggests that a Parisian provenance should be considered.

The smaller roundels are also likely to have been imported from the continent by Hampp and Stevenson. They are probably from the Netherlands and mainly depict religious scenes including a rather splendid Daniel in the lions' den and the raising of Lazarus.

The coat of arms in the tracery dates to the 19th century and belongs to the Boileau family whose motto '*De Tout Mon Coeur*' translates as 'with all my heart'. It would have been made specifically for the window.