

of subjects, styles and dates, and it is not at all clear where it all came from. The most interesting glass is a series of scenes of the Passion. When the connoisseur George Vertue visited Wroxton before Miller had enlarged the chapel, he noted that he had seen glass in the chapel with the date 1632 and the name of the Flemish glass painter Bernard van Linge, who also made windows at several Oxford colleges. However, neither the signature nor the date can now be seen, and the Passion scenes are rather more in the style of van Linge's brother Abraham.⁴⁵ Furthermore, although the glass contains the coat of arms of Sir William Pope and his wife who died in 1625, Vertue does not mention these and there is no mention of the chapel in the inventory made when Pope, as Earl of Downe, died in 1628.

The present window contains glass from a number of different sequences, by a number of different hands. Besides van Linge's passion scenes, there are Apostles, Sybils, and a good many fragments that can no longer be identified and from sources that we do not know. In a surviving letter Sanderson Miller refers to other glass that Lord Guilford had and which evidently had to be used to make up the area of the new window.⁴⁶ All one can say is that none of these sequences is quite in the right order, that we do not know where much if it came from, and so it is better just to enjoy it for what it is: a fine collection of mainly seventeenth century glass in a number of different styles by several different painters.

5 *The Victorian House*

The first Earl of Guilford died in 1790, the second Earl his son (the former Lord North, the Prime Minister) in 1792, the third Earl in 1802. The third Earl had no sons, and the Earldom descended in succession to his two childless brothers. The fourth Earl claimed to have carried out some repairs, writing in 1813 that 'I found the place not habitable, in a most forlorn, and wretched condition, I have made it not only comfortable but handsome'⁴⁷ but it is not known what he may have done. On the death of the fifth Earl in 1827, the title passed to a descendant of the first Earl, but the North Barony had fallen into abeyance among the third Earl's three daughters. The third of these,

⁴⁵ I am grateful to Michael Archer for his views on this glass.

⁴⁶ William Hawkes 'The Architectural Work of Sanderson Miller', *Cake and Cockhorse*, IV.6, 1969, 99.

⁴⁷ TC, Old Bursary Cupboard Drawers, Wroxton, Earl of Guilford to the Master, 3.12.1813.