



Portrait of Joan Popley

Joan Popley's Charity

In 1570 Joan Popley gave 20 messuages in Basinghall Street, London, for the relief of the poor of Salisbury. The houses were destroyed in the fire of 1666, and the site was leased to Sir Thomas Clarges, who undertook the rebuilding. In 1768 the property was let in eight lots to different tenants on 21-year leases. Another house was bought for £500 in 1806 to make the property more compact. In 1833 the charity estate consisted of nine houses on the west side of Basinghall St., and the annual rent from them was £421 10s. During Sir Thomas Clarges's lease the charity contributed 6s. a week to Brickett's Hospital and allotted the remainder to the poor. About 1780 the allowance to the hospital was doubled, £140 a year was given to the Salisbury workhouse, and £55 a year was distributed to the poor. Other Salisbury charities were assisted out of Popley's charity when the need arose. In 1829 £300 was set apart for weekly allowances of 3s. 6d. to seven poor aged widows. The charity was included in the Salisbury Consolidated Almshouses and Other Charities Scheme of 1871 and its income was used to rebuild Eyre's hospital. The Basinghall Street property was sold in 1954 and 1955.

Wiltshire Section of the Victoria County Histories

1868

Joan Popley's Charity. Mrs. Dorrell of Winchester Street, was on Thursday elected to fill the vacancy which has occurred in this charity. **Salisbury Times & South Wilts Gazette, 25 July 1868**