

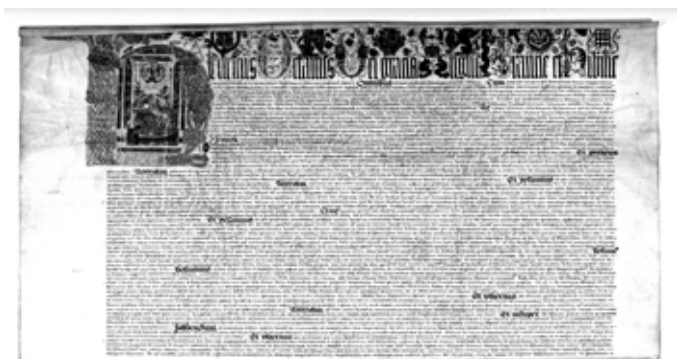
A R D E N



Kirtling Tower, where Alice lived when she met Tom Mosby and Thomas Arden



Abbey Gate, 80 Abbey Street, the Faversham home of Thomas and Alice Arden



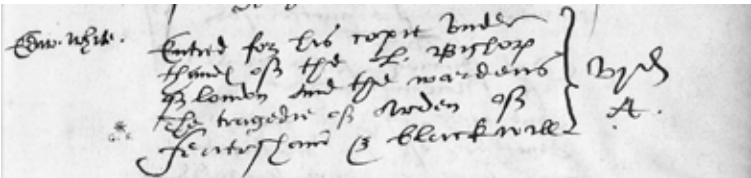
The Faversham charter negotiated by Thomas Arden in 1544 and signed by him



The Faversham moot horn which would have been blown at the start of the Arden murder trial



The author and the Faversham wardmote book



'Arden of Faversham' entry in the Stationers' Register. The asterisk and initials 'G.S.' on the left of the entry were made by the 18th-century Shakespeare expert George Steevens, who marked entries in the Register he thought were works of Shakespeare. The entry reads 'Entered for his copie under the handes of the Lord Bishop of London and the wardens The Tragedy of Arden of Faversham and Black Will'.

*The History of a moste horrible murder commytd
at fevershame in Kente.*

93

These dwelt at feversham in the county of Kent: a gentleman called
arthur arden, a full gentleman, & of a ready possessor. This arden
had a moste drectlyge in wolviche was named a baggonde, and he afforde
all meanes possible to keepe his woman; wolviche would not do, nor wiche
poultre, so have a signant deloyment to wolviche arden to his wife, and
when wolviche arden was maide of wolviche she was soothed, & a pinner
pall this arden out into his backe side, and wolviche arden that
was in it lapped pratede aside to the wallers of fives or fiftie poyllonge.
This wolviche arden committed in the night she, wolviche arden said it not
next day, when it was shewne that she was soothed, & wolviche arden
came to his house, and wolviche arden found, by the house in poyllonge
plated had up in poyllonge litle arden, not above ten yeres in one cloute.
That she had reposed from his baggonde, and willed to chuse who
shuld with his person, wolviche arden his wolviche arden, and wolviche arden
his ladone that wolviche arden remained of the ex. li. wolviche arden
and so it was done, wolviche arden she wolviche arden, wolviche arden
reposed from his baggonde, and willed to in gaile a pere of wolviche arden.
but wolviche arden after the wolviche arden of his wolviche arden if wolviche arden

*John Stow's account of the Arden murder, 'The History of a Moste
Horrible Murder Commytyd at Fevershame in Kente'*

About this time there was at Feversham in Kent
a gentleman named Arden, most cruellie murthe-
red and slaine by the procurement of his owne wife.
The which murther, for the horriblenesse thereof, al-
though otherwise it may seeme to be but a private
matter, and therefore as it were impertinent to this
hystorie, I have thought good to set it forth somewhat
at large, having the instructions deliuered to me by
them, that haue used some diligence to gather the
true vnderstanding of the circumstances. This Ar-
den was a man of a tall and comelie personage, and
matched in marriage with a gentlewoman, young,
tall, and well fauoured of shape and countenance,
who chancing to fall in familiaritie with one Fosbie
a tailor by occupation, a blacke swart man, seruant
to the lord North, it happened this Fosbie vpon some
misliking to fall out with hir: but the being desirous
to be in fauour with him againe, sent him a paire of
siluer dice by one Adam Foole dwelling at the
Floure de lice in Feversham.

1551
Anno Reg. 1.
Arden was
thered.

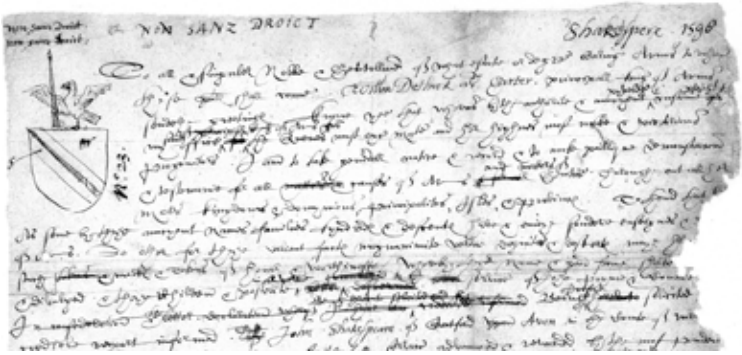
Arden de-
scribed.

Fosbie was
lust.

A paire of sil-
uer dice
wolviche arden
mischance.

*The account of the murder in Holinshed's
'Chronicles', based largely on Stow's account*

A R D E N



Shakespeare Coat of Arms application incorporating the Arden crest



*The strikingly similar
William Shakespeare
and John Stow
memorial statues*





Clockwise from top left: Sir Edward North, Alice's stepfather; Sir Anthony Aucher memorial plaque; Ben Jonson; Richard Burbage

A R D E N



Woodcut from the 1633 quarto depicting the Arden murder



Jenny Agutter (Alice) and Robert O'Mahoney (Mosby) in the 1982 Royal Shakespeare Company's production of 'Arden of Faversham'

THE
LAMENTA-
BLE AND TRUE TRA-
GEDIAE OF M. AR-
DEN OF FEVERSHAM
IN KENT.

*Who was most wickedlye murdered, by
the meanes of his disloyall and wanton
wyfe, who for the loue she bare to one
Mofbie, hyred two desperat ruf-
fins Blackwill and Shakbag,
to kill him.*

Wherin is shewed the great mal-
lice and discimulation of a wicked wo-
man, the vnsatiabie desire of filthie lust
and the shamefull end of all
murderers.

*Imprinted at London for Edward
White, dwelling at the lyttle North
dore of Pauls Church at
the signe of the
Gun, 1592.*

*