

Coat of Arms

Richard's first known job was joint-Surveyor General of Victualling with Edward Baeshe for the navy of Edward VI, from 1547 to 1550; supplying biscuit, beef, beer, and other provisions for ships at London, Gillingham, Dover, Ipswich, and Portsmouth.

Richard had special responsibility for the victualling of the King's ships at Rochester and often travelled from London to Rochester and Gillingham to receive consignments from the naval storehouses in Deptford and Woolwich. When Edward Baeshe was appointed General Surveyor of Victuals for the Seas in 1550, Richard continued to work under Baeshe as victualler in Ireland during 1551.

It was for this naval provisioning work that Richard received his coat of arms designed by Thomas Hawley Clarenceux, King of Arms, on 2 April 1552.

The design can be explained by;

The hares—"watt" or "watte" was the 16th-century word for hare

The pansy—or "pawnsey" is a pun on an archaic meaning of "pawn" as a warehouse where items were stored or displayed for sale and references Richard's role as victualler