

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

VOL. 4      No. 2

1978

## SECRETARIAL NOTES

THE FOLLOWING Lectures and Visits were arranged during 1978:—

January 20th	Lecture: "Pains Hill", by N. Kitz, O.B.E., M.Sc.(Eng.), M.I.E.E., F.B.C.S.
February 24th	Lecture: "The Excavations at The Mounts, Patchesham", by D. F. Renn, F.S.A.
March 17th	THE 31ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
April 14th	Lecture: "The River Thames around Egham and Runnymede", by R. Wykes.
May 14th	Visit to Windsor. Leader: R. South.
June 3rd	Visit to Claremont House, Esher. Leader: E. S. Barnwell.
July 1st	Visit to Clare, Long Melford and Lavenham, Suffolk. Leaders: E. S. Barnwell and members of the Clare Historical Society.
September 17th	Visit to Kingston-upon-Thames. Leader: I. West of Kingston Archaeological Society.
October 7th	Visit to Fetcham. Leaders: J. G. W. Lewarne, S. E. D. Fortescue, G. Hayward.
October 13th	The Dallaway Public Lecture: "Industrial Archaeology with emphasis on Surrey", by Dr. A. G. Crocker.
November 17th	Lecture: "Local History—a Personal View", by E. Royston Pike, President of the Esher District Local History Society.
December 8th	Leatherhead Historical Miscellany. Contributions by members.

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Number 1 of Volume 4 of the *Proceedings* was issued during the year.

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## THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Held at the Red Cross Hall on 17th March 1978*

THE REPORT of the Executive Committee and the Accounts for the year 1977 were adopted and approved. Officers of the Society were elected. The Accounts for the year 1977 are printed on page iii of the cover.

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## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1978

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*Committee Members:* W. MILLAR, S. R. C. POULTER, Mrs M. RICE-OXLEY  
(Co-opted) R. A. LEVER, M. SNELLGROVE

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## OCCASIONAL NOTES

### EDMUND TYLNEY IN LITIGATION WITH WILLIAM SYMES, WEAVER OF ASHTEAD

Tyllney himself filed two suits in the Court of Requests . . . . Tyllney filed another bill on 7 April 34 Eliz. [1591] against William Symes, Weaver, of Ashtead, Surrey.\* When Symes forfeited a £30 bond, Tyllney sued under common law and won. But an agreement was reached between the two parties through the effort of Thomas Goodman and Thomas Wicker to alienate and sell the lease of an eight-acre parcel of land called Slyfield's field and nine and a half acres of farm land in various parcels in the parish of Leatherhead to Tyllney. He was to pay Symes £16, drop the suit, and forgive the debt and the rents owed. Tyllney fulfilled his part of the bargain but, despite the "dyvers and sundry times in very gentle and friendly manner" he was urged, Symes refused to accept the final payment because he felt that Tyllney was acquiring the land too cheaply. Edmond sought a writ of privy seal directing Symes to appear in court and abide by its judgement.

\*P.R.O. REQ 2/154/31 and Order Book REQ 1/17.

(Extracted from article *On Edmond Tyllney's Biography* with the permission of the author, Professor W. R. Streitberger. The article appeared in *The Review of English Studies*. New Series, Vol. XXIX, No. 113, February 1978.)

### THE LEATHERHEAD-EPSOM TURNPIKE ROAD

John White was a founder of the well-known Dorking firm of Land Agents, whose ledgers are now housed in the Surrey Record Office at Kingston.<sup>1</sup> Throughout the 19th century they were responsible for the collection of the tithes in many Surrey parishes and some years ago, Messrs. White & Sons generously presented the papers concerning the collection of Ashtead Tithes since 1860 to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society.

In the archives of Arundel Castle is preserved a long series of letters,<sup>2</sup> 1744 to 1767, written by John White from Ashtead, Dorking and London to Charles Howard, descendant of Henry 3rd Earl of Arundel. He owned the manor of Dorking, rebuilt Dibden (Deepdene), and later became the 10th Duke of Norfolk (1720-1786).

The letters deal mainly with the administration of the Dorking Manor but include news of the whereabouts and welfare of other members of the vast Howard family. He clearly played a leading roll in the administration and repair of the Turnpike Roads. A letter dated 18th June 1756, quoted the state of the turnpike road from Leatherhead to Epsom. The same letter records the effect of the declaration of war with France (May 18th, 1756) and the storage of hay, straw and oats in magazines in Dorking and Reigate. It is reasonable to assume that a similar magazine may have been established in Leatherhead giving rise to the name Magazine Lane once the name of Church Road.

"Then there is another dividend on account of the Turnpikes to be paid as Treasurer at the end of this month and I intend waiting upon him [Mr. Talbot] that afternoon when I hope to succeed. I having great reason [to suspect] that the dividends paid into his hands are not always applied for the intended use. They have now made a beginning upon the road between Ashtead and Epsom which is the first shilling laid out between Mickleham and Epsom putting up the Toll Gate at Leatherhead which gate raises more than all the rest—which has given great offence to the inhabitants on that road though the lower part of your Estate will be a long time ere it is done if ever. You may depend on my paying what cash I can to Mr. Wright as fast as I receive it"

"The Hay Straw and Oats all Bought up for the Government Ten miles round here

are laid up in Magazines at Darking and Reigate but no place yet named where the encampment is to be found, the London gentlemen seem much fritend.”

G. J. GOLLIN.

By kind permission of His Grace The Duke of Norfolk, E.M., C.B., C.B.E., M.C., D.L.

#### NOTES

1. S.R.O.: 99/2, 99/3, Acc. 699, Acc. 1025.
2. Arundel Archive 1220.

# MEDIAEVAL DEEDS OF THE LEATHERHEAD DISTRICT

By W. J. BLAIR

## PART I

### GENERAL INTRODUCTION

THE LAST four issues of the *Proceedings* have contained texts and calendars of all known pre-1500 court rolls and rentals relating to the Pachenesham manors in Leatherhead. Manorial rolls, however, are only one of the two main documentary sources for mediaeval local history to be found outside the public records. The deeds which record land transactions are in many ways equally informative, as well as extending back to an earlier period. By 1200 it was usual to ratify transfers of free land with written charters, many thousands of which survive throughout England from the later middle ages. For the period between Domesday Book and the late thirteenth century, when manorial records first became numerous, they are often the only useful documentary source.

Despite this, mediaeval deeds have failed to receive due attention from local historians: many twelfth-century texts still remain unpublished, while only a tiny proportion of those from later periods are available in print. The main reason is certainly a practical one: to consult official material in the Public Record Office, or bundles of court rolls in local repositories, is far less time-consuming than the task of gathering together from numerous scattered sources all extant deeds relating to a particular parish. Each deed is normally confined to a single transaction, and provides only a modest amount of information embedded in verbose and repetitive formulae. Individually their value is limited, and they can only be used to best advantage when gathered together in large quantities. For conventional deeds later than the mid-thirteenth century, when set forms had become established, calendar abstracts including all significant information are both the most convenient and the most economical form of publication. An excellent recent example of a collection edited on these lines is the *Fitznells Cartulary* (ed. C. A. F. Meekings and P. Shearman, Surrey Record Society xxvi, 1968), which makes an important contribution to the mediaeval history of Ewell and Cuddington.

The aim of these articles is to make available a similar body of material for the Leatherhead area. With a few exceptions, all traceable private deeds dating from before 1500 and relating to transactions in the parishes of Ashted, Fetcham, Headley, Leatherhead and Mickleham will be included. It has obviously been impossible to examine all English record collections, but the major repositories of the Public Record Office (Exchequer Ancient Deeds and Feet of Fines only), the British Library, the County Record Office, Guildford Muniment Room and Merton College, as well as several minor ones, have been fully searched and all relevant material included. Significant royal charters and writs in the published calendars of the rolls of central government, together with private deeds endorsed on the close rolls, are also included for the sake of convenience; in each case fresh calendar abstracts have been made from the original documents.

It is important to emphasise omissions. The biggest of these is the large group of Merton College court rolls relating to Thorncroft manor, which contain many incidental references to deeds now lost. None of these will be included: it would be absurd to extract them from a body of material which is all of local interest and should be read by anyone undertaking detailed research on the mediaeval history of the area. For the same reason nothing has been extracted from the Surrey assize rolls in the Public Record Office; while any search of other administrative and judicial records is precluded by the enormous labour involved,



which would be disproportionate to the likely return. Inquisitions *post mortem* and *ad quod damnum*, and documents relating to Leatherhead parish church, are also regarded as outside the present scope.

Nearly all the documents are of common form, the great majority being grants, releases and fines, with a few agreements by indenture. Readers are referred to the *Fitznells Cartulary* (pp. cxl–cxlix) for descriptions of the standard formulae and an account of the calendaring procedure, which has been followed closely here except for the omission of the judges' names (of no local interest) in abstracts of fines. All deeds survive in the original, and are written in Latin, except where otherwise stated.

Apart from the isolated feet of fines and a handful of stray deeds, which will be printed last, the documents survive in several archival groups. There is rarely any evidence for the original order within these groups, and the abstracts have been rearranged here for the convenience of the modern user. Deeds relating to acquisitions by one person or family have been kept together, and arranged (a) by parish, (b) by property (in order of acquisition), and (c) by date. Grants and releases before c. 1300 are usually undated; the approximate dates suggested here in square brackets are largely subjective, based on the handwriting and other references to the people concerned, and may be modified by future research.

## PROPERTIES OF THE D'ABERNON FAMILY

### INTRODUCTION

In 1841 the British Museum acquired from S. Newman a large collection of deeds relating to Surrey properties of the d'Abernons, now Additional Charters 5526–5639 in the British Library. Several are concerned with the nearby parishes of Great Bookham, Effingham and Stoke d'Abernon. Thirty-six others dealing with properties at Fetcham, Leatherhead and Headley, together with four related fines (1, 14A, 36, 40, supplied from the feet in the Public Record Office), one royal charter and two writs (35, 38–9) make up our first collection, which will be published in this and next year's issues.

By the early thirteenth century, the d'Abernon family had acquired a substantial estate at Fetcham as subtenants of the Warennes and Clares (*V.C.H.* iii, 285–6). It has been suggested elsewhere (*Proceedings* iv, 1, 6) that this property extended across the river into Leatherhead, to include the estate later known as Randalls. The bulk of the present deeds date from the century or so after 1250 and reveal the d'Abernons enlarging their holdings in the two parishes through piecemeal small acquisitions. They are a valuable source of placenames and topographical detail, including early references to the River Mole (16) and Borough Hill (now Gravel Hill) in Leatherhead town (27). Two indentures (26, 31) grant the wardships of the heirs to large holdings on the d'Abernon lordship, in the second case the Randalls estate after the death of its tenant John de Leddrede. Perhaps the most interesting is an agreement of 1287/8 (25, here illustrated) between Sir John d'Abernon, as lord of Stoke, and Sir Eustace de Hacche, lord of Pachenesham Magna, settling a dispute concerning enclosures of common on the claylands in the north-west of Leatherhead parish. This relates to other evidence for enclosures made by Hacche around the settlement site (later deserted) at Pachenesham (*Proceedings* i, 2, 8–10), and may hint at a deliberate policy of cutting new farmland from the waste to enlarge the demesne and accommodate a growing population.

The earliest items in the group (13–14) are two late twelfth-century deeds for Headley holdings. Their presence here may be explained by one of the fines (14A), suggesting a connection with a property in the parish, held of the honour of Clare, which the d'Abernons acquired in 1217–18 (*V.C.H.* iii, 291).

Abstracts of these documents are printed by permission of the British Library.



## TEXTS

### Fetcham

1 Final Concord, Westminster, Michaelmas in one month 30 Henry III [29 October 1245], between John de Albernun plaintiff and Richard de Stokes defendant, concerning a messuage and 37 ac. in Fecheham; and between the said John plaintiff and the said Richard, whom Adam Dru called to warranty, concerning 2 ac. in the said vill. Richard acknowledged the property as John's right, and quitclaimed. For this, at Richard's request, John gave the property to William de Albernun; to hold to William and the legitimate heirs of his body of John and his heirs forever, at rent of a pair of gilt spurs or 6d at Easter, and paying scutage whenever levied at the rate of 12d in 40s, for all service. Warranty. Reversion to John and his heirs if William dies without legitimate heirs. John gave Richard 10 marks. [Foot; P.R.O. CP 25(i)/226/12(303).]

2 Alexander son of Robert de Sywardeshulle and Helen his wife to Sir John Abernun knight. Grant of 7s 6d rent at Easter and Michaelmas in equal portions, owing us from Ralph le Wyte of Bokham and Joan his wife for 7 ac. which they held of us in the field of Fecham. To hold during our lives at a rose at St John Baptist for all service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses*: Sir William de la Leye, William de Sleuelde, John de Leddrede, Thomas ate Hale, Peter Monachus, Thomas le Leche, Thomas Aldwyne, and others. *Seal*: *Stag's head*; +S' ALEX' FIL' ROB' TI[NC]TORIS. *White wax*. [c. 1280-90] [Add. Ch. 5560.]

3 Juliana ate More and Alice, her sister, of Fechham parish, to Sir John Abernoun knight and his heirs. Grant of a ditch with hedges in Fechham parish, 24 perches long by 1 perch wide, between land of the said Juliana and Alice on the E. and land of the said John on the W.; the S. head abuts the royal road from Leddrede to Guldeforde, and the N. head the said John's millpond. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses*: John de Leddrede, Henry de Doune, Ralph de la Rouwebarne, William de Northwode, William de Slefede, Thomas de la Hale, Walter le Hore, Thomas Faukes, William Pistor of Leddrede, and many others. *Seals* (both vesica-shaped, in brown wax): (i) *Fleur-de-lis*; +S' IOL' ATE MORE. (ii) *Fleur-de-lis*; +S' ALICIE ATE MORE. [c. 1290] *Endorsed in late medieval hand*: "For the hedgerow betwene the more and the comen feld in Fetcham." [Add. Ch. 5561.]

4 Adam le Jeune son of Philip le Jeune of Ewelle to John de Abernoun knight. Grant of half my mill called Cutte and half the pond and ditches appertaining to it in Fecham parish. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses*: John de Leddrede, John de Aperdelee, Walter le Hore, Thomas le Leche, Ralph de la Roweberne, William de Slefeld, William de Northwode, Gilbert clerk of Horselegh, William de Rokeswrth' clerk, and others. Leddrede, Wednesday after Purification 21 Edward [I, 4 February 1293]. *Seal*: *Eight-pointed device*; +S' ADE IVVENIS. *Black wax*. [Add. Ch. 5573.]

5 Richard ate Chert, once son of John ate Chert of Dorkynge parish, to John Abernoun knight. Grant of all my meadow in a meadow called Litlemede, which I and Adam le Jeune (once son of Philip le Jeune of Ewell) had in Fechham parish; it extends lengthwise on a pond of the said John Abernoun towards Brythwelle to the N., and on meadow of William ate Nelme to the S. To hold of the chief lords of the fees for due service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses*: John de Leddrede, John de Bures, Nicholas de Ponshurst, John de Newenham, Ralph de la Rowebarne, William de Northwode, William de Slefeld, and others. Stok' Abernoun, feast of St Nicholas 22 Edward [I, 6 December 1293]. *Seal*: *Crescent moon and star*; *legend illegible*. *Yellow wax*. [Add. Ch. 5574.]

6 Thomas ate Hale of Great Bokham parish to John Abernoun knight. Grant of  $\frac{1}{2}$  ac. meadow in the common meadow of Fechham called le Ne3ewode, between meadow of the said John to the E., meadow of Robert Pogeys knight to the W., meadow of Walter de Geddyng to the S., and meadow of Nicholas Horsescho to the N. To hold of the chief lord of that fee for due service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses*: John de Leddrede, William de Northwode, Ralph de la Rouwebarne, William de Slefeld, Walter le Hore, Thomas le Leche,

William Pistor of Leddrede, and others. Fecham, Saturday after St John Baptist 22 Edward [I, 26 June 1294]. *Seal: Eight-petalled flower: + S' THOME ATE HAL'. Black wax.* [Add. Ch. 5575.]

7 Robert de Abernoun, parson of Fechham church, to Sir John Abernoun knight. Grant of all my meadow in Fechham, between meadow of Robert Alysandre to the S. and meadow of the said Sir John called Lyttlemede to the N., abutting meadow of Robert le Greye to the N. [*sic*]. Sir John has given me in exchange, to the use of my said church of Fechham, 1 ro. in the vill of Fechham, lengthwise between the said Sir John's court to the S. and the said Robert's court to the N.; the E. head abuts the royal road, and the W. head the said Sir John's curtilage. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Leddrede, Henry de Doune, Ralph de la Rouwebarne, William de Northwode, William de Slefeld, Walter le Hore, Thomas Faukes of Leddrede, William Pistor, and many others. Fechham, Saturday before St Peter in Cathedra 23 Edward [I, 19 February 1295]. *Seal lost.* [Add. Ch. 5576.]

8 Petronilla Wytheryld, once wife of Peter de Holryth' of Great Bokham parish, to Sir John de Abernoun knight. Grant in my widowhood of 2 ac. in the common field of Fechham in a place called Bonelesrudene, between land of the said Sir John which he had by grant of William le Wythe to the W. and my land to the E.; the N. head abuts land of Catherine once wife of Richard de Slefeld, and on the S. head one acre abuts land of Eustace Leefkyng and the other abuts land of Thomas le Prophete. To hold of the chief lord of that fee at rent of 3d at Michaelmas for all service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Leddrede, Ralph de La Rouwebarne, William de Northwode, William de Slefeld, John de Polsedene, James Haunsard, Ralph le Blount of Bokham, Thomas his son, Robert de Quercu, and others. Wednesday before St Barnabas 23 Edward [I, 8 June 1295]. *Seal: Eight-petalled flower: + S' PETRONILLE DE BOCHAM. Brown wax.* [Add. Ch. 5577.]

9 Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, between William Huse on one part and John de Abernoun knight on the other. William has released to John all his right in the common of Fecham called Fechamdoune, according to boundaries newly placed between them, that is, from la Fattegrove to a tree called Ellebein standing in the hedge which extends from Obbedone on the S. head to a place called le Faxteriste. Reserving to William a droveway (*chacia*) in the said common, from his common of Mikelham to the boundary ditch between the said John's common of Fechamdoune and Coledoune; which droveway shall be as wide as the range of a man standing in the wood of Obbedone and swinging (?) an implement (?) called in English a bill over the said common (*de latitudine iacture unius hominis stantis infra boscum de Obbedone et iactantis cum quadam fugia vocata Anglice Bil. super predictam comunam*). Sealing. *Witnesses:* Sirs Thomas de Chancombe and John Huse, knights, Robert de Thorncombe, Robert de la Sonde, Roger de Stratone, James Hansard, Thomas Faukes, William de Northwode, and others. Fecham, Monday before SS Simon and Jude 33 Edward [I, 25 October 1305]. *Seal (oval): Shield charged with a human leg: . . . ILLI HEVSE. Black wax.* [Add. Ch. 5581.]

10 Agnes la Franseyse and Gunnild her daughter to Sir John de Abernoun knight. Grant (for a sum of money) of a piece of land in Fecham parish, between a messuage of the said Sir John and a curtilage of Gilbert Hereberd to the N., and land of the said Agnes to the S.; the E. head abuts the royal street leading towards Thorncrofte, and the W. head land of Richard ate Chert. To hold of the chief lords of the fee(s) for due service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Sir John de Nevile, William de Northwode, Gilbert le Hore, Thomas Faukes, Richard Jolif, Henry le Moync, Geoffrey Pinchun, Gilbert Hereberd, and others. Fecham, Sunday after St Augustine 35 Edward [I, 28 May 1307]. *Seals (both vesica-shaped, in black wax): (i) Fleur-de-lis: + S' ANGNET' FRENS'. (ii) Fleur-de-lis: + S' GVNN[I]LD' F' AG' [Add. Ch. 5584.]*

11 Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, whereby William Croyser of Surrey gives his beloved in Christ Edmund Lodelowe of Berks licence to grant to the prior and

convent of Merton 14 ac. in Feccham on le Downe, which Edmund holds of William as of William's manor of Feccham. To hold of William and his heirs at rent of 8d, and fealty. William further gives the said prior and convent licence to receive and hold the said land without hindrance by him or his heirs, saving only the said service, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding. Stoke Dabernon, 2 September 8 Henry IV [1407]. *Seal (oval, fine but fragmentary): seated Virgin and Child in tabernacle, the background powdered with stars and crescents. Countersealed S E. Green wax.* [Add. Ch. 5614.]

**12** Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, between lady Anne Norbury on one part, and John Carleton gent. and John Parker 'scoryer' on the other. Anne has demised to John and John all the wood, underwood and timber in Oxelese, Little Mede and the Hilde in Feccham parish, between the river to the NW. and the prior of Merton's land and the High to the SW. To hold, with all fruit growing on the trees, and with free ingress and egress "with thair bestes Cariages servantes and deputees, and alle the saide Wode Underwode and Tymber to hewe throwedowne utter and cary a way" whenever they wish, from Christmas next until the feast of St John Baptist 1459; rendering to Anne at Shrovetide and Witsuntide next £10 16s 8d in equal portions. John and John "shal close at thair propre costes betwyne the Oxelese and the Hilde" during the term. Warranty for the term. John and John bind themselves to Anne in £11 to be paid at Easter next. 10 December 35 Henry VI [1456]. [*In English.*] *Seals (both in red wax): (i) Three acorns on a twig: black-letter legend bien myplet. (ii) (octagonal): Letter W.* The seal-tags are cut from a release, . . . to his apprentice Thomas at Welle, February 34 or 35 Henry VI. [Add. Ch. 5620.]

### Headley

**13** Agnes wife of Philip de Croili to Gilbert Blund of Haetleg'. Grant of all the field of Wurthefeld' in my vill of Hetleg'. To hold by such services and liberties as a charter of my lord Philip de Croil' testifies. *Witnesses:* Luke de Cla[r]ei, Robert de Est', Hugh de Parept', Gilbert de Dorking', and many others. *Seal (vesica-shaped, on green and red cord): Standing female figure: SIGILL' A[GN]ETIS [C]REVLENIIS.* Green wax. [*Late 12th cent.*] [Add. Ch. 5526.]

**14** Agnes, daughter of Gilbert de Tivleriis and wife of Philip de Croill, to Gilbert de Hasleia. Grant (for a gold talent) of half the land of Drew of Hasleia (*dimidium terram drivi de hasleia*), as the said Philip's charter testifies. To hold at rent of 18d at Michaelmas and the Purification in equal portions. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Henry de Croilli, Henry de Mathon, William de Escovill', Jordan de Misseio, Robert Corpus Hominis, Richard de Lefrede, Nicholas son of Anfrid, Gilbert de Lategue, and many others. *Seal: From same matrix as 13.* Green wax. [*Late 12th cent.*] [Add. Ch. 5527.]

**14A** Final concord, Westminster, Easter in one month 2 Henry III [15 May 1218], between Martin de Covenham and Eve his wife (with Martin as Eve's attorney) plaintiffs and Gilbert de Abernun and Maud his wife defendants, concerning  $\frac{1}{2}$  carucate in Hadlee, which Martin and Eve claim as Eve's reasonable portion of the free tenement which was of Gilbert de la Lote, father of Eve and Maud, in that vill; that is, 12 ac. called Potterescroft with a grove in the said field, 19 ac. in the big field of la Lote on the S. side, 7 ac. in the field called Drew's Field (*campus Drogonis*) on the N. side, and half of the 10 ac. wood called Inname towards the W. Gilbert and Maud acknowledged the property as Eve's reasonable portion. For this Martin and Eve gave the property to Gilbert and Maud; to hold for both their lives at rent to Martin and Eve and the heirs of Eve of 4s at Michaelmas for all service. Reversion after the deaths of both to Martin and Eve and heirs as Eve's reasonable portion, to hold of the chief lords of the fee for due service. Note that the half of the land and wood granted to Gilbert and Maud for life lies on the N. sides (*iacet versus partes boreales*). [Foot; P.R.O. CP 25(i)/225/4(3).]

## Leatherhead

**15** Peter son of Peter parson of Fechham to John de Abernu'. Release (for 8 marks) of  $\frac{1}{10}$  part of a knight's fee which I held of him in the vill of Ledered; which I had by grant of Walter de Bullucfelde who afterwards quitclaimed it to Engelram de Abernu' and his heirs; and which the said Engelram granted me by charter. To hold without obligation to me or my heirs; and I have released to him the charters which I had from the said Walter and Engelram. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Sir Giles de Chauncews, Sir John Haunsard, James Haunsard, Peter parson of Fechham, Adam Dryw, Ralph de Ymewrthe, Henry Monachus, William Monachus, William le Paie, and others. *Seal: Eight-petalled flower: . . . ET' · FIL' · PE . . . White wax.* [c. 1250] [Add. Ch. 5549.]

**16** William Monachus to John de Aberno'. Grant of 2d annual rent owing me from John de Apeldrele for a piece of meadow in the vill of Ledded, between land of Adam Dry to the E. and the water called Emele to the W. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Robert de Aberno' parson of Fecham, William Pikoth, Wigan de Cheleburhe, Gilbert le Hore, Henry Monachus, Gilbert Pistor, Richard Faber, Thomas Warin', John de la Hale, and others. *Seal lost.* [c. 1250-60?] [Add. Ch. 5550.]

**17** William Monachus of Hloslie to Sir John de Abernu' his lord. Grant of all rent and service owing me from Henry de Mapelderlie son of William de Mapelderlie for a tenement which he held of me in Leddered' parish. To hold without any hinderance from me or my heirs. Sealing. *Witnesses:* William Picot, Ranulf de Brok, Robert de Abernu' parson of Fech', Thomas then chaplain of Stok', William de Abernu', Wigan de Cheleburk, John de Mapelderle, Henry Monachus, William Pag', John de Punesherst, Walter the clerk, and others. *Seal: Crescent moon and star: + SIGIL' WILL'I MONACI. Yellow wax.* [c. 1250-60?] [Add. Ch. 5552.]

**18** William Monachus of Losle to John de Abernu' his lord. Grant and release of 1d rent owing me from John de Cheleburg' for a messuage and curtilage which he held of me in the vill of Ledrede. To hold without obligation to me or my heirs. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Robert parson of Fechham, Randulf de Brok', John de Mapelderle, Henry Bercarius, Henry Monachus, Richard Faber, William de Abernu', William de Brok', Peter Auverey, Walter the clerk, and others. *Seal: Crescent moon and star: + S' WILL' FIL' WILL' LE MOINE. Green wax.* [c. 1250-60?] [Add. Ch. 5551.]

**19** Maud who was wife of William de Apelderlye to John de Abernu' and his heirs. Release of the whole tenement which John acquired from my son Henry in Ledrede, saving to me 6d rent received during my life from Hugh Cissor. For this release (following a plea by writ of dower before Gilbert de Prestuna and his colleagues at Bermondsey, 39 Henry III, whereof we made a concord) John has given me 16s. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Randulf de Brok', John de Apelderlie, John Ruffus of Punesherst, Henry Bercarius, William Monachus, Walter the clerk, and others. *Seal lost.* [1254-6.] [Add. Ch. 5553.]

**20** Robert Chnote of Lederede to Maud his daughter. Grant, for service, of a messuage and adjoining curtilage in Ledered parish, built between a tenement of Walter le Hoere and my messuage, on the E. side of the royal road leading through the middle of the vill of Ledered' towards Dorekinge. To hold with curtilage, trees, hedges and other appurtenances, as I acquired it from Walter le Hoere as is more fully set out in his charter, and as bounds and stakes surround it, at rent to me of 8d at Easter, the Nativity of St John Baptist, Michaelmas and Christmas in equal portions, for all service saving the King's so far as it appertains to such a free tenement of that fee and vill. Warranty against Jews and Christians. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Apelderlye, Henry Bercarius, Henry de Apelderlye, William de Pachenesham, Robert Pinchun, Richard de la Wik, Walter Dru, and others. *Seal (vesica-shaped): Fleur-de-lis; + S' ROB . . . NOTTE. White wax.* [c. 1270-80?] [Add. Ch. 5554.]

21 Peter Driu of Fecham parish to Sir John de Abernu' knight. Grant of 12d rent owing me from John son of Richard Faber of Leddrede for 1 ac. in the field of Leddrede called Buntanlond. To hold at a rose at the feast of St John Baptist for all service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* Henry de Dun', John de Leddrede, Walter le Hor', Adam de Apeldelee, William Pistor, William de Sleulde, and others. *Seal: Fleur-de-lis: + S' PETR' DRYW. Red wax.* [c. 1280-90?] [Add. Ch. 5556.]

22 Peter Driu of Fecham parish to Sir John de Aubernun knight. Release of all my right in 12d rent owing me from John son of Richard Faber of Leddrede for 1 ac. in the field of Leddrede called Buntales lond. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Bures, John de Leddrede, Gilbert de Mykelham, John de Neunham, Walter le Hor', Peter Monachus, and others. *Seal: from same matrix as 21. Red wax.* [c. 1280-90.] [Add. Ch. 5555.]

23 Gilbert Sutor of Leddrede to Sir John de Abernu' knight. Grant (for 2 marks and service) of a messuage with adjoining curtilage in the vill of Ledrede, between messuages of the said Gilbert and William Sweyn; and a shop built adjoining the house of Thomas Messor on one side and the house of Henry le Polere on the other; and 1 ac. in the field of Leddrede at Rehures Cruch, between land of the said Gilbert of the King's fee on the E., and land which was William de Malevile's on the W., and the N. head abuts the fee of Pachensham, and the S. head land of Adam le Lepere. To hold at a rose at the feast of St John Baptist for all service; exception against alienation to religious or Jews. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Leddrede, Nicholas de Ponsherst, Walter le Hor', William de Nortwode, Henry de Dune, William de Sleulde, Ralph le Wyte, and others. *Seal lost.* [c. 1280.] [Add. Ch. 5559.]

24 Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, between John Abernu' on one part and Gilbert Sutor of Leddrede on the other. John has demised to Gilbert [*the three holdings as in 23; descriptions materially the same except for the spelling Reherescruch*]. To hold at rent of 3s at Michaelmas, Christmas, Easter and St John Baptist in equal portions, and one suit of court at Michaelmas, for all service saving forinsec so far as it appertains to those holdings; exception against alienation to religious or Jews. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Leddrede', William de Northwode, William de Sleulde, Walter le Hor', Ralph Cissor, Peter Monachus, Henry de Dun', and others. *Seal: Tree; + S' G[ILB]ER[TI] FIL' . . . . White wax.* [c. 1280.] [Add. Ch. 5558.]

25 Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, between Sir John de Abernon on one part and Sir Eustace de Hacche on the other. John has granted to Eustace for enclosure 16 ac. of common pasture of *bruera* towards Kyngeston' in Ledred parish, nearer lengthwise to Eustace's park (*parc'*) and land, to Eustace's greater advantage and to the less grievance of John and his heirs and other commoners, within that purpresture which he made on the said common pasture appertaining to John's free tenement in Stok' and Ledred, whereof each acre is measured with a perch containing 18½ feet; which acres John has granted to Eustace by an acknowledgement, made before Sir William de Saham and his colleagues at Lambeth this year, for the releasing of the remainder of the purpresture to John and his heirs and other commoners. Eustace may enclose the 16 ac., by which John and his heirs and commoners shall suffer no damage through lack of fences. Eustace has granted that if the 16 ac. are thrown open and restored to common pasture by any of the commoners of the said common pasture, John and his heirs shall have common pasture there with all their animals as their ancestors had, the said acknowledgement notwithstanding. *Witnesses:* Sirs Hamo de Gatton', Ralph de Bernerys and William Ambesas knights, John de Ledred, William de Malewile, Gilbert de Mykelham, Henry Picot, John de Bures, Walter le Hore, and others. 16 Edward [I, 1287/8]. *Seal: Shield charged with a cross lozengy; . . . EVSTA . . . DE HACH . . . Red wax.* [Add. Ch. 5571.]

26 Agreement by indenture, sealed interchangeably, between Sir John de Aubernoun knight on one part and Henry de Somerbury on the other. John has demised to Henry the

custody of all lands and tenements of Walter son and heir of Walter de Hamedon' in Leddrede and Fechham. To hold till Walter comes of age, at rent to John of 40s, at Christmas, Annunciation, Nativity of St John Baptist and Michaelmas in equal portions, for all service. If Walter dies under age, Henry shall retain the custody till the next right heir comes of age, at rent to John of 4 marks at the said terms. John may distrain for arrears. Warranty for the term. *Witnesses:* Walter de Geddyng, John de Hethlegh, William de Weston', and others. Tuesday on morrow of St Peter ad Vincula 28 Edward [I, 2 August 1300]. *Seal: Bird or monster; legend illegible. White wax.* [Add. Ch. 5579.]

27 William de Clendone to William son of William Payn of Estede and Margery his wife. Grant (for 40s and service) of a messuage and adjoining curtilage in the vill of Ledderede, built on la Ber3the between a tenement of Roger Suterich and a tenement of William de Ewelle. To hold at rent of 20d, at Christmas, Easter, St John Baptist and Michaelmas in equal portions, for all service. Warranty against Jews and Christians. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John de Ledder', John de Aperderlle, Henry his brother, William de Pachenesham, Walter le Hore, William de Oxanecroffte, William Bercarius, Maurice de Grava, John Pinchun, Hugh the clerk, and others. *Seal: Eight-pointed device; +S' WILL' DE CLEND'. Green wax.* [c. 1280-90.] [Add. Ch. 5557.]

28 John Faber of Ledderede to Henry Payn of Ledderede and Alice his wife. Grant (for a sum of money) of 2d rent owing me at Christmas from John son of William Payn of Ledderede for a piece of land in the common field of Ledderede at Ruthercrouch between land of Adam Lepere and land of Maud Cormongere. To hold of the chief lord of that fee for due service. Warranty. Sealing. *Witnesses:* John Payn, Gilbert le Hore, Thomas Faukes, Geoffrey Pinchun, John Frilende, William Pistor, and others. Ledderede, morrow of Epiphany, 34 Edward [I, 7 January 1306.] *Seal: Fleur-de-lis; S' · IOHIS · FABRI. White wax.* [Add. Ch. 5583.]

[To be continued]

## THE DESTROYED MEDIAEVAL CHURCH AT HEADLEY

By W. J. BLAIR

BY the mid-nineteenth century the tiny church of Headley had ceased to meet adequately the needs of the parish. A total rebuilding was decided upon, and in 1855 the erection of the present church commenced on a new site to the north of the mediaeval structure. By 1858 the nave and chancel were ready, and on 22 May a faculty was granted for the demolition of the old church and the re-use of its materials in a west tower.<sup>1</sup> Only a slight tree-lined depression, and a small grotto or "baptistry" incorporating architectural fragments, now mark the original site.

Thus the nature of the old church has remained unknown to archaeologists and local historians. Fortunately, drawings by eighteenth and nineteenth century topographical artists, taken in conjunction with a survey of the site, provide enough information to justify a fairly detailed reconstruction. This evidence reveals that the nave and chancel were much older than the earliest known references to a church at Headley.

The earliest and most informative illustration is a watercolour of the exterior from the south-east, painted by Henry Petrie in 1798<sup>2</sup> (Pl. I). The same viewpoint is taken for a crude engraving in Hill's *The ecclesiastical topography of the county of Surrey* (London, 1819), and for a rather better one in C. T. Cracklow's *Views of the churches and chapels of ease in the county of Surrey* (London, 1827). An important collection of watercolours bound into an extra-illustrated set of Manning and Bray's *History of Surrey* in the British Library<sup>3</sup> includes paintings of the exterior from the north-west and north-east by Gideon Yates (1825) (Pl. II), internal views looking west and east by Edward Hassell (1829) (Pl. III), and various architectural details.

No large-scale plan of the church is known, but the Cracklow print includes a very small outline block-plan, on which the present reconstruction (Fig. 1, B) has been based in the absence of anything better. This shows a simple three-cell structure comprising chancel, nave and western tower, with buttresses at the angles and a small west porch. Cracklow's block-plans are usually reliable, and in this case the site itself provides corroborative evidence. Two rows of small yew-trees which mark out the line of the walls are spaced 21 feet 6 inches (6.5 m.) apart, corresponding exactly with the width of the nave as represented by Cracklow. Despite several marked (and probably many unmarked) graves which have disturbed the site since 1858, probing with a steel rod<sup>4</sup> reveals the presence of hard areas, usually some 60 cm. below the surface, which correspond with the expected line of the foundations (Fig. 1, C). While this method is no substitute for excavation, it confirms the basic accuracy of Cracklow's plan and shows that the "baptistry" stands on the site of the old western tower.

Incorporated in the "baptistry" are the remains of the late mediaeval chancel arch (Pl. IV), reduced to about half its original height and width. It was of two plain chamfered orders springing from responds with moulded capitals and bases. The responds are built of courses which ran the full thickness of the wall,<sup>5</sup> thus indicating that the wall dividing nave and chancel was 26½ ins. (67 cm.) thick. The discarded respond sections line the interior of the "baptistry"; measurements of these and of the surviving voussoirs, taken in conjunction with Hassell's painting (Pl. III), make possible a fairly accurate reconstruction of the arch (Fig. 2). Since the Hassell watercolour shows the relationship between the apex of the chancel arch and one of the tiebeams of the nave roof, it can in turn be calculated that the nave walls were about 14 feet (4.25 m.) high.

The evidence summarised above is the basis of the present reconstruction (Fig. 1, A-B).

It must be emphasised that it is only approximately to scale, that minor irregularities of construction and alignment may have passed undetected, and that except for the chancel-arch wall the thicknesses of walls are purely hypothetical. However, the consistency of the various independent sources in almost every detail is reassuring, and the development of the building may be interpreted with confidence.

The nave and chancel clearly belonged to a small and simple Romanesque church of standard type. The side walls of the nave retained a pair of tall round-headed windows (one shown by Petrie and the other by Yates) set opposite each other towards the eastern end. On Yates's watercolour, a red smear around the head of the northern window probably represents radially-set Roman tiles, as in a window at Fetcham and another formerly at Ashted.<sup>6</sup> There is no evidence for other original features in the nave; a second pair of windows, and a pair of opposing doors near the west wall, would represent the most likely original arrangement. The chancel retained its original square plan, and Petrie shows a pair of small round-headed blocked windows in its south wall; a matching pair, for which there is no direct evidence, had presumably existed on the north side. The known thickness of the later chancel arch may well represent that of the original walls, for such features were normally inserted into the existing fabric with a minimum of troublesome rebuilding. Petrie's watercolour shows face-alternate quoins on the angles of nave and chancel, with the walls themselves plastered flat. The text accompanying Cracklow's engraving states that "the whole building is constructed with flints plastered over", and the material re-used in the "baptistry" and modern tower consists of the rough field-flints ubiquitous in churches on the chalk belt.

The date of the western tower is uncertain. All illustrations agree on Gothic buttresses at its exposed corners, the north-western of two stages and the south-western of one. Petrie shows face-alternate quoins on the angles of the tower, with walls of exposed flint in contrast to the plastered nave and chancel. The British Library collection contains a very poor Hassell painting of the west door, which shows little except that it had a pointed head, and the nature of the opening between tower and nave is uncertain. The belfry windows appear as pairs of pointed lights on the illustrations of Petrie and Hill, but as small rectangular openings on those of Yates and Cracklow. This discrepancy, and Yates's depiction of the tower with white walls matching the rest of the church, is probably explained by Cracklow's statement (of 1827) that "the whole building has been recently repaired and plastered". This may have involved alterations to the top of the tower, and probably took place shortly before Yates made his paintings in 1825. It is not impossible that the tower was original, but all the known detail was post-Norman, and the different appearance of the walling suggests a different phase of construction. It was probably added to the church at some date between the thirteenth and early sixteenth centuries.

Apart from this, there were few changes in the later middle ages. The most conspicuous addition was the fifteenth-century chancel arch, described above. The Perpendicular east window was of three lights with stock cusped heads (Pls. I–III); a small two-light window of similar form, shown by Petrie in the south wall of the nave, partly survives in the "baptistry" (Pls. I and IV, Fig. 1A). In the British Library collection is a sketch of a late mediaeval screen with conventional traceried heads, surmounted by a later royal arms; this may originally have been a rood-screen, though its final position in the church is unclear. The small west porch, perhaps late mediaeval, seems to have been almost featureless.<sup>7</sup>

Post-mediaeval work was represented by clumsy brick buttresses for the eastern angles of the chancel and a brick parapet on the tower. Both were probably added in 1666 by Mary Stydolf, who (according to an inscription formerly in the church) "beautified the Chancell" and "repaired the decayed belfry . . . and adorned it", as well as giving a font which survives in the modern church.<sup>8</sup> The tower parapet is shown by Petrie and Hill but



PLATE I



From the south-east (H. Petrie, 1798). *Minet Library*

PLATE II



From the north-east (G. Yates, 1825). *British Library*

PLATE III



Interior looking east (E. Hassell, 1829). *British Library*

PLATE IV



Re-set chancel arch fragments

PLATE V



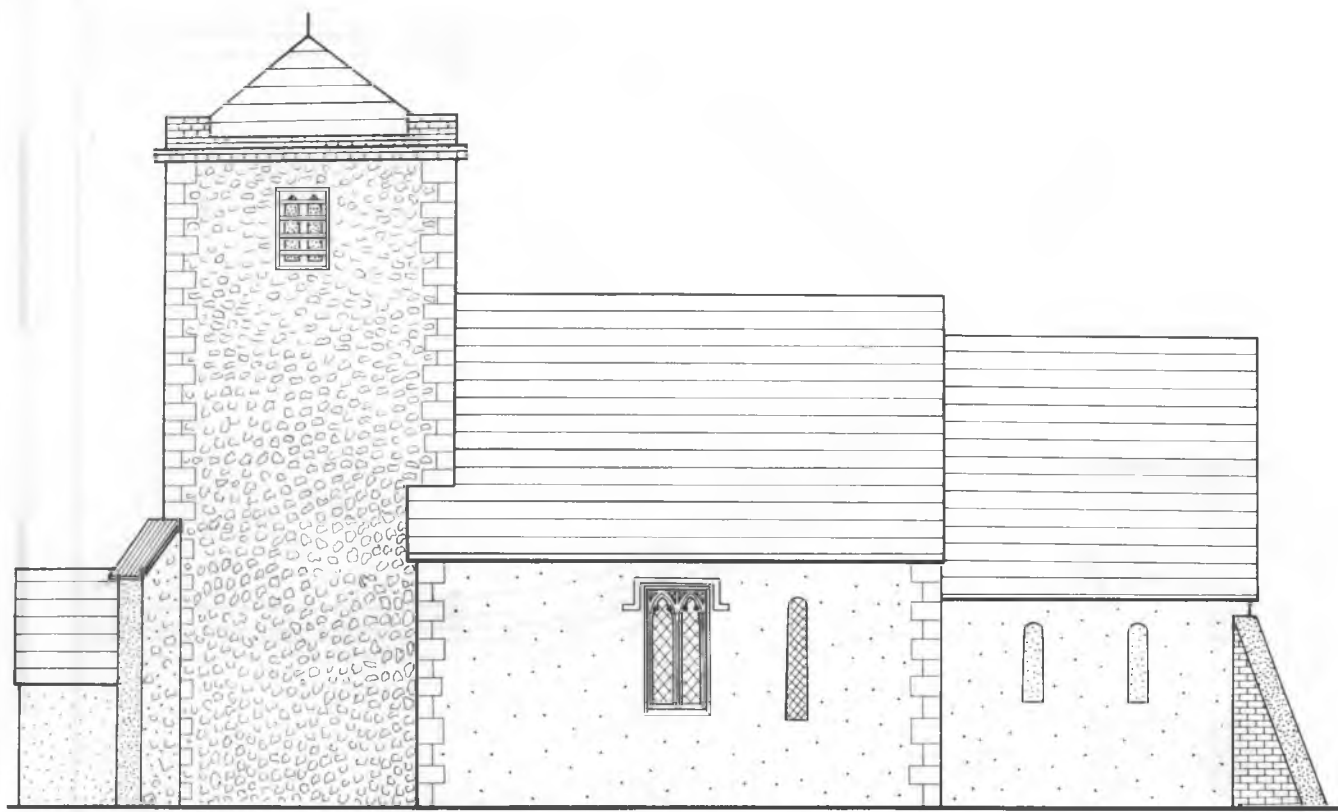
Re-set window fragments

FIG. 1: THE OLD PARISH CHURCH OF HEADLEY.

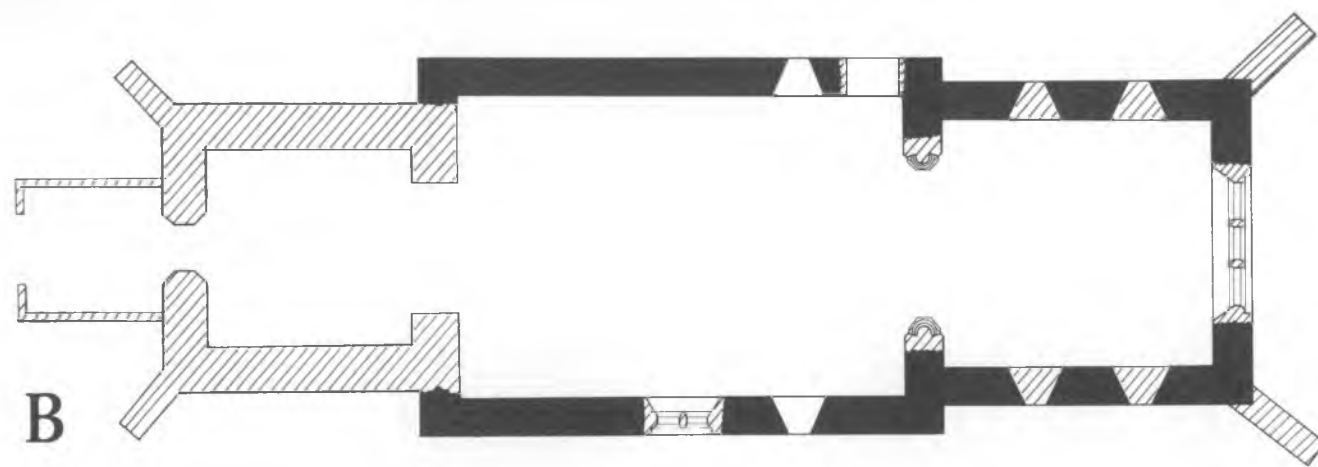
A. Reconstruction of south elevation in c.1800.

B. Reconstruction of plan in c.1800.

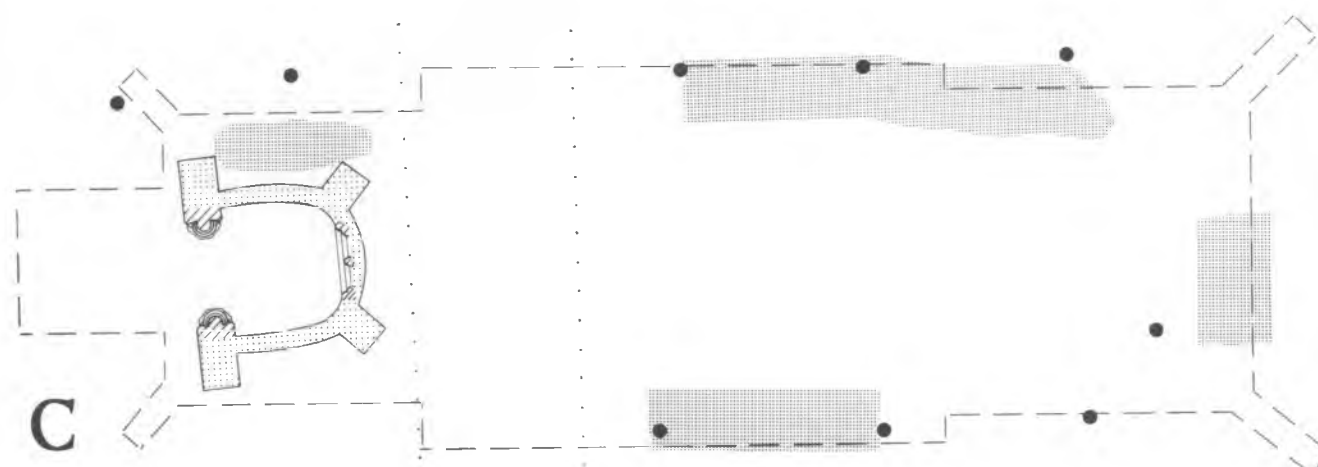
C. Plan of the site in 1978 showing hard areas revealed by probing, with the suggested position of the church marked on in broken outline.



A



B



C

M F

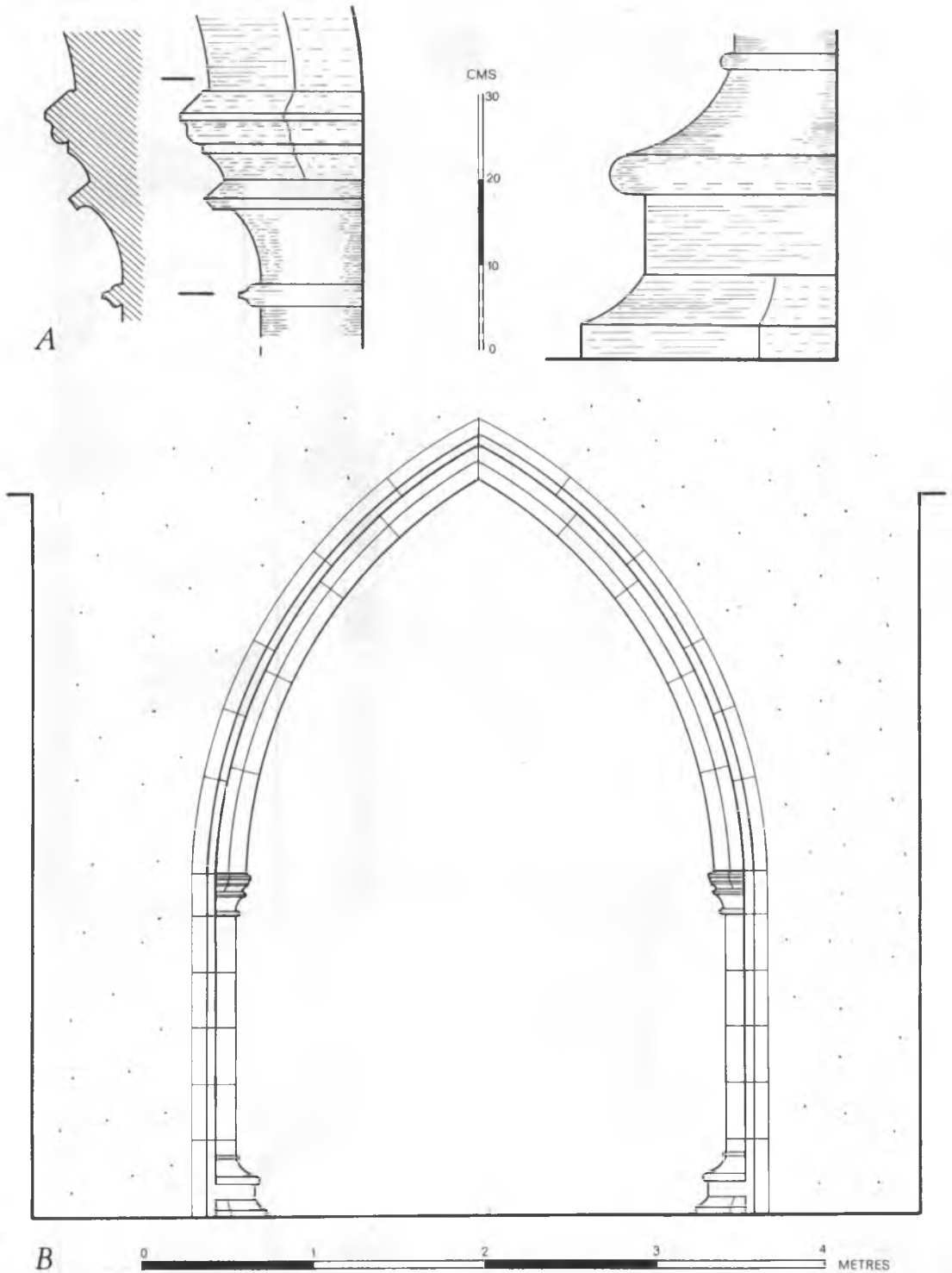


- Saxon or Norman
- Later additions
- Buried hard areas
- Baptistry, c.1860
- Yew-tree

FIG. 2: THE CHANCEL ARCH OF HEADLEY OLD PARISH CHURCH.

A. Details of surviving capitals and bases.

B. Reconstruction of original appearance, based on surviving remains; the width and the curvature of the arch are only approximately to scale.



not by Yates and Cracklow, suggesting that it was removed in the alterations already mentioned. Hassell's painting of the nave (looking west) shows a standard post-mediaeval queenpost roof of three bays. The only other late alteration of note is a round window pierced through the north nave wall at its eastern end; this was evidently to light the pulpit, "an irregular hexagon, with a sounding-board, [which] is very small, and is placed in the angle on the left of the entrance to the chancel".<sup>9</sup>

The early church is impossible to date precisely on either documentary or architectural grounds. It clearly existed long before the first recorded reference in c. 1270,<sup>10</sup> and the lack of any mention of a church in the Domesday Book entry for Headley is not conclusive evidence that none stood there in 1086. The simple vernacular style of the building and the single-splayed windows turned with tiles would be consistent with a date either before or after the Conquest. Walls well under three feet thick point to builders working in the Anglo-Saxon tradition,<sup>11</sup> but at Headley the evidence for this is unfortunately inconclusive. It can only be suggested that the church should be placed somewhere in the eleventh or early twelfth century.

The small Downland estates of eastern Surrey were surprisingly well provided with churches at this date. Domesday Book lists them at Banstead, Chaldon, Chelsham, Coulsdon, Waddington and Woodmansterne, while the existing buildings at Caterham and Farley can scarcely have been erected many decades after 1086.<sup>12</sup> As at Headley, most of these buildings were very small, and the distinction between village churches and private manorial chapels can scarcely have been clear-cut. In the twelfth century the present parish of Banstead contained no less than four churches or chapels serving different manors, three of which have long since disappeared.<sup>13</sup> The desire to provide the occupants of an independent estate with their own church was evidently a more significant factor than pastoral convenience on geographical grounds alone.

Headley can now be added to the list of small Downland estates whose owners felt it necessary to provide themselves and their tenants in this way. Despite its high, inhospitable location, the estate had a listed population of fourteen peasant householders and eight serfs in 1086. It belonged before the Conquest to King Edward's sister Godgifu and in 1086 to the Norman Ralph de Feugeres, neither of whom held any nearby church from which Headley could be served. Motives of convenience and proprietorial pride easily explain the foundation of a church here at an early date; the tiny glebe, listed as five closes totalling 15 acres and 3 roods in 1616,<sup>14</sup> may well represent an original endowment of one local customary virgate. By the eleventh century this traditionally "marginal" area had a settled and well-established population, of which the old parish church of Headley remained until 1858 a physical reminder.

Pl. I is reproduced by permission of the Archives Department, London Borough of Lambeth, and Pls. II-III by permission of the British Library. I am also very grateful to the Rev. R. D. Robinson, Rector of Headley, for his helpful co-operation; to my father for his photographs (Pls. IV-V); and to my mother for helping to survey the site.

#### NOTES

1. Greater London Record Office DWOP H79.
2. Minet Library LO9541/68.
3. Department of Printed Books, shelfmark Crack. 1 Tab. 1 b. 1, vol. xiv.
4. Graves, trees and a gravel path hindered the survey in many places, and it is likely that more of the footings survive than appear on Fig. 1, C. A resistivity survey would be useful here.
5. This is confirmed by details of the mouldings in the British Library collection.
6. D. F. Renn, "The early church at Fetcham", *Proceedings*, iii, 2 (1968), 56-7; W. J. Blair, "Churches", in *Ashted: a village transformed* (ed. Alan A. Jackson, Leatherhead, 1977), 116-8.

7. The porch appears in the background of another Yates painting, reproduced *Proceedings*, iii, 4 (1970), 101.
8. O. Manning and W. Bray, *The history and antiquities of the county of Surrey*, ii (London, 1809), 642.
9. E. W. Brayley, *A topographical history of Surrey* (London), 1850, iv, 423.
10. *Registrum Johannis de Pontissara*, ed. C. Deedes, ii (Canterbury & York Series XXX, 1924), 606.
11. H. M. and J. Taylor, *Anglo-Saxon architecture*, i (Cambridge, 1965), 12.
12. See *V.C.H.* under respective parishes.
13. I am very grateful to Mr. D. J. Turner for assembling details of unpublished excavations on two of these sites from the *Surrey Archaeological Society Annual Reports* for 1952, 1953 and 1954, and the *Croydon Advertiser* for 22 August 1952. For the third lost church (at Burgh), and the present parish church, see *V.C.H.* iii, 253, 260–2.
14. Greater London Record Office DW/5/58b (glebe terrier).

## THE EARTHWORK IN ASHTEAD WOODS AND ITS SUGGESTED AGE

By R. A. LEVER

THE TRIANGULAR earthwork on the high ground north of Ashtead Common (map reference TQ 15 176600) is shown on most maps; it remains unexcavated. One of the earliest accounts is by Brayley and Walford<sup>1</sup> who suggest that this irregular feature extending over two to three acres was perhaps used as a summer camp by its early constructors. A brief mention is made by Lowther<sup>2</sup> in a report on his excavations of Roman buildings where a pre-Roman age is suggested; this is repeated in a cartographic survey of the area covered by the activities of our Society.<sup>3</sup> Lastly, this feature is referred to by Clinch<sup>4</sup> whose appendix in the *Victoria History* mentions that it does not fit in with any moated earthwork in Surrey.

The writer recently came across a series of notes and sketches in the British Library which gives information and makes a novel suggestion as to the dating of this earthwork. Indirectly, it also provides a solution to a place-name in the adjacent Woodfield area.

This document (Add. MS. 37973) is a privately produced volume by E. E. Downman<sup>5</sup> prepared from sketches made in 1903 and written up in 1910. The Ashtead earthwork is said to be 290 feet above sea-level—the accepted height is 275 feet (85 metres on the new metric O.S. map). Its position on a slope is noted as offering no natural defence for which higher ground would have been an obvious choice. Downman's sketch, at a scale of 25 inches to the mile, shows a triangular feature with its base running east and west for about 600 feet, an entrance at the eastern corner and traces of an inner rampart at its western side. From his examination and trial sections of the trenches, Downman suggested it represented a moated homestead standing on made-up banks.

This matter was referred to Mr. D. G. Bird, County Archaeological Officer, who agreed that a mediaeval origin was more likely than any other and was also good enough to state that this was also the opinion of an Ordnance Survey field inspector after a visit in 1966. If we now accept a moated mediaeval building on this site we have an explanation of the alternative name for the nearby Woodfield. In the manorial map of 1638 by John Lawrence (said by W. E. Tate<sup>6</sup> to be an early tithe map), we find that the names used were "The Moatefeild or the Woodfeild". The former name has always been puzzling as there are no recognizable signs of a moat in the vicinity. However, even if all traces of a building on this very isolated site had already disappeared by Stuart times, the name of Moatfield could well have persisted before being supplanted by that of Woodfield, as it has for long been known. As to why a moated building should have been erected here, we are at a loss unless it was associated as a residence with brick-making which is known to have had a long history in this part of the parish.

Fortunately this structure is a Scheduled Ancient Monument so that attempts to make unauthorised excavations would render the offender liable to an appearance in a magistrate's court.

### NOTES

1. Brayley, E. W., and Walford, E., "A topographical history of Surrey", 4, p. 148, 1879.
2. Lowther, A. W. G., "Excavations at Ashtead", *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, 38 (2), p. 137, 1930.
3. Anon. A cartographic survey of the area, Pt. III, *Proceedings of the Leatherhead & Dist. Loc. Hist. Soc.*, 2 (1), p. 5, map, 1957.
4. Clinch, G. [In] *Victoria History of the County of Surrey*. Appendix on ancient earthworks, 4, p. 391, 1 fig., 1912.
5. Downman, E. E., *Early ancient earthworks in Kent, Middlesex and Surrey*. 1910. (B.M. Add. MS. 37973).
6. Tate, W. E., *The Parish Chest*, 3rd edition, p. 143, 1969.

## THE MEDIAEVAL MANOR HOUSE OF ASHTEAD

By G. J. GOLLIN

**T**HE ESTATE SURVEY of c. 1706 shows that Sir Robert Howard built his mansion in 1684 roughly 250 yards to the south east of the existing mediaeval manor house at Ashtead. The present mansion, built in 1790, is on the same site as Sir Robert's. There is good evidence that the mediaeval manor house continued to exist and to be used as a dairy. John Evelyn was responsible for the description in Bishop Gibson's editions, dating from 1695, of Camden's *Britannia*, of the old manor house as "a small mean decayed farmhouse". This was repeated in the *Topographer* Vol. IV, p. 135, of 1791, and by many historians of Surrey after that date. The Household Accounts of Lady Diana Howard (1659-1731) contain a number of references to the old house, which was not demolished until after the end of the 18th century.

It is only recently that it has been discovered that certain drawings made about 1800 have survived to show the form and nature of the old manor house—or possibly a substantial portion of it—still standing at that time. Moreover, these drawings have the additional interest of being the work of two notable artists of the early English water-colour school.

Rev. Francis Edward Paget (1806-1882) author of "Some Records of the Ashtead Estate and of its Howard Possessors", printed for private distribution in 1873, first visited Ashtead in 1817 at the age of 11. Although he never saw the building, he must have spoken to many familiar with its situation and appearance. He may even have viewed the foundations after the building had been demolished. He states that the ground plan was shaped like a T or half the letter H, that is the section at right angles to the main block was comparatively short. The main block ran north to south across the axis of the nearby church with the transept gable running east-west. It is very significant that in the park survey of c. 1706, the plan of the old manor house is shown as L-shaped. This could be explained if the south part of the main structure had been demolished before the survey was made. The two sketches of the building as seen from the west seem to confirm this hypothesis.

### **The Sketches and Engravings of John Sell Cotman**

The details of the life of J. S. Cotman are derived from the excellent biography written in 1937 by Sydney Decimus Kitson, who made an important collection of his works. When he died, he bequeathed part of his collection to Leeds City Art Gallery.

### **John Sell Cotman and Dr. Thomas Monro (1759-1833)**

In 1799, Cotman, then aged 17, went to London and for a time was employed by the publisher Rudolph Ackermann. He left and became a pupil of Dr. Thomas Monro, who inherited the position of chief alienist at Bethlehem Hospital and consultant to George III. Monro was an enthusiastic supporter of the arts and taught young artists, among them, Turner and Girtin, at his home in Adelphi Terrace and at his country house in Bell Lane, Fetcham. On vacation there in 1799, Cotman made sketches in Ashtead churchyard, of the Well House in Ashtead Park, a view in West Humble and a water mill at Dorking. Illustration No. 1 shows the sketch made in Ashtead Churchyard. This was one of the six drawings which he exhibited at the age of 18 in the Royal Academy in 1800. At Christies in May 1824, five sketches by Cotman were sold to Peacock for £2-10-0, among them one is described disparagingly as "Cottages in Ashtead Churchyard".

Better known than the sketch is the soft ground etching, which is No. 39 in the collection of engravings published in 1838 by Bohn in three folio volumes under the title *Liber*



FIGURE 1



John Sell Cotman. Monochrome water-colour sketch, Ashted Churchyard 1799  
*Leeds City Art Gallery. Reproduced by permission*

FIGURE 2



John Sell Cotman. Soft ground etching, No. 39 "Liber Studiorum". Published 1838  
*By courtesy of Surrey County Library, Ashted*

Studiorum (Illustration No. 2). The etching was probably made before 1818. The sketch and etching differ materially. First, the etching is the reverse of the monochrome sketch, which is proved to be the correct version by comparison of the etching with the elegant portrait by Henry Edridge, A.R.A. (1769–1821) of Thomas Hearne (1744–1817), sitting on a tombstone in Ashted churchyard making a sketch of the manor house, shown in the background. This is preserved in the Victoria and Albert Museum (Illustration No. 3). Secondly, in the etching two figures are in the manor house garden—in the original sketch, they are in the churchyard going along a path towards the new manor house. In the etching, there is a ladder shown leaning on the roof, which might indicate the beginning of demolition. The most important detail in the monochrome sketch is a pile of masonry, just behind the corner of the church. This is not shown in the etching. Paget, p. 65, states “It (the manor house) stood so close to the churchyard that one of its doors opened into it, and the wall (for which, at a later period, paling was substituted) that was a boundary of the garden, was on the other side, that of the burial ground. A drawing which has been preserved, must represent the back of the house”. The masonry in the sketch may be a remaining portion of this wall which divided the manorhouse from the churchyard.

Edridge’s portrait of Hearne is initialled and dated 1800, so the dairy portion of the old house survived into the 19th century.

#### Location of Mediaeval Manor House

In examining the eastern boundary of the churchyard (Fig. 4), it would be helpful to know the exact location of the mediaeval manor house. At the time of writing it is only shown on two maps, the John Lawrence of 1638 and the Park Survey *c.* 1706. The former carries a compass rose but the latter has none although A. W. G. Lowther (*Proceedings of the L.D.L.H.S.*, Vol. 2, p. 123) introduced one in his sketch reproducing part of the 1706 Survey.

An attempt can be made by a comparison between the Lawrence, the 1706 Survey, the Wyburd Survey of 1802 and the 1932 “25-inch” Ordnance Survey. The last is aligned true north, while of the other three, two, Lawrence and Wyburd, give compass roses as a basis. To correlate the two, it is necessary to know the compass magnetic deviation during the period involved. This is given below. (Brit. Encyc. 1929.)

Year	1638	1706	1802	1932
Deviation	3½° East	8° West	24° West	12° West

In the 1706 Survey, the north-west corner of the Park is shown at a point 230 feet east of the junction of Park Lane with the Street. Here, on the Ordnance Survey map is a Bench Mark. It is therefore possible to take, as a “base line” for comparison purposes, the line joining the Bench Mark and the centre of St. Giles’ church tower. A second key measurement lies between the Bench Mark and the centre of the main block of the 1684 Manor House.

Map	Lawrence	1706 Survey	Wyburd	Ord. Survey
Scale: feet to inch	641 (H.A.L. 1930)	187	302	208·3
Church to B.M.: feet	1350	1525	1530	1552
1684 Manor to B.M.	—	2310	2396	2360
Bearing of Base Line	53° W.	—	57° W.	56° W.

It will be seen that both the 1706 Survey and the Wyburd are reasonably accurate by Ordnance Survey standards. If one assumed that the centre point of the 1790 manor house coincides with that of the 1684 house, one can derive from the 1706 Survey the approximate position of the corner of the ‘L’-shaped manor house relative to the eastern boundary of the churchyard. This could be roughly in line with the north wall of the new vestry of the

FIGURE 3



Thomas Herne (1744-1817) seated in Asstead Churchyard, sketching the Old Manor House  
Pencil and wash sketch by H. E. Edridge, 1800

*Victoria & Albert Museum. Crown Copyright*

FIGURE 4

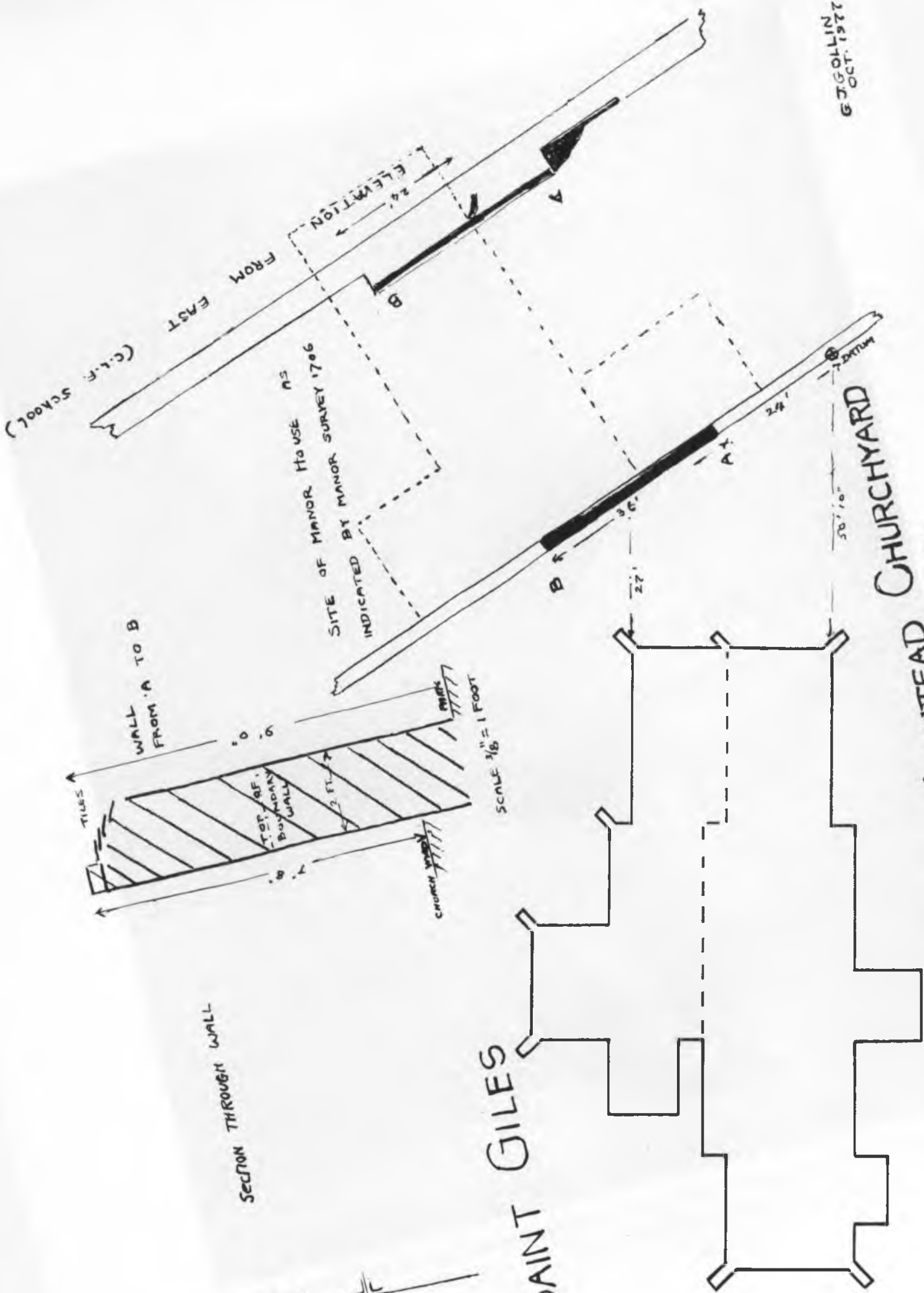


SECTION THROUGH WALL

SAINT GILES

MANOR HOUSE WALL - ASHTEAD

CHURCHYARD



G. J. GOLLIN  
OCT. 1977

church. This vestry covers the site of the tombstone on which Thomas Hearne is shown sitting in Henry Edridge's beautiful sketch (Fig. 3).

Lowther states that "Part of the Dairy with its brick floor and drain for washing down with a pit to take ice blocks (from the nearby ice-house) to keep the building cool in summer months, were exposed in 1955 and partially explored when the School Pavilion was erected." The building to which Lowther refers must be the pavilion and clubhouse of the Old Freemen Association, which was rebuilt since the war. It is 50 yards or more from the small rail enclosed copse which covers the site of the manor house, hence Lowther must have referred to some other component of the farm complex in his 1960 paper. It is unlikely that the L-shaped building shown on the 1706 Survey represents the whole of the mediaeval manor house. Possibly the foundations of this last surviving portion together with the foundations of the earlier portion may still remain in situ. It is hoped that one day the manpower and finance will become available to enable a thorough exploration of the site to be made.

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I would like to acknowledge the valuable help given me by Lord Hayter, K.C.V.O., C.B.E. Without it I could not have traced the Cotman source.

## THE WELL HOUSE, ASHTEAD PARK

By G. J. GOLLIN

**I**N 1799, when John Cotman made his sketch of the manor house, he also made two sketches of the Well House in the park. The pencil sketches are rather indistinct but the building is shown in the tracing Figure 5.

The structure is of two storeys, the upper probably housing the cistern from which the water would have gravitated to the house. On the ground level, one can discern the large wheel which was rotated by two, three or four horses. John Evelyn, in his diary, 10th May 1688, in describing Sir Robert Howard's new mansion, states "There is with all this one great defect, that they have no water save what is drawn up with horses from an exceedingly deep well."

Several kinds of horse-driven pumps are described by George Agricola in "De Re Metallica" 1561. Herbert Clark Hoover and Lou Henry Hoover published an English translation in 1912. The horses were driven in a circle and rotated a vertical shaft. This was usually topped by a crown wheel, which, by means of a lantern wheel turned a horizontal shaft carrying a wheel at high level, over which the pump mechanism was driven.

Book VI, pp. 173, 174 and 175 show an endless chain of buckets; pp. 177 to 189 show plunger pumps; p. 191 shows a chain and rag pump.

In the 17th century the Frenchman Jacob de Caus showed a horse-driven, two-cylinder plunger pump. John Leake produced a translation of de Caus in 1701.

Of the various types of pump, the one most likely to have been employed was an endless chain of buckets.

*Among Lady Diana Howard's Accounts are the following (there were two wells, the upper by the new house).*

1704	30th October	Paid for curing the well mare's eye . . . . .	2s 6d
1705	27th July	Paid a man for going into ye well for the buckets . . . . .	5—0
1713	8th August	Paid Mr. Tulley for 60 yards of well rope . . . . .	2—0—0
1719/20	2nd January	To Mr. Abbot for mending 3 well pails . . . . .	10—0

(Abstracted by the late A. W. G. Lowther, F.S.A.)

## REPAIRS IN 1661 TO THE MEDIAEVAL ASHTEAD MANOR HOUSE

By R. A. LEVER

**I**NCLUDED among a large collection of documents which were formerly owned by Mr. A. R. Cotton (one time Lord of the Manor of Ashtead) are two indentures which concern repairs to the first manor house in Ashtead and so are relevant to the above article by Mr. Gollin. Only a brief account is given here of their contents.

These papers were found by Mr. David Cotton in November 1977 and handed over to the present lord of the manor, Lord Barnby, C.M.G., C.B.E., M.V.O., T.D., who kindly allowed the writer to examine them.

During most of the first half of the seventeenth century, the lords of Ashtead manor were the joint Earls of Arundel and Surrey, heirs of the Duke of Norfolk and thus absentee

FIGURE 5



The Well House, Ashted Park. Tracing of pen and ink sketch. John Sell Cotman, 1799

*From a sketch in Leeds City Art Gallery. Reproduced with permission*

landlords from Sussex. At the time these indentures were made in 1661, the owner of the estate was Henry Howard, second son of Henry, Earl of Surrey, deceased. (It was the latter who, as Lord Maltravers, engaged John Lawrence to prepare the survey of Ashted in 1638.) He was succeeded by his son Thomas who became the 5th Duke of Norfolk and was followed by his brother Henry as 6th Duke in 1677, finally selling the manor of Ashted to Sir Robert Howard in 1680.

The text of the two documents is identical except the names of the parties associated with Henry Howard whose purpose was to lease the manor for repair to one Samuel Blackwell of Twittenham [=Twickenham]. Both are dated 5 November 1661, Howard's witnesses being Arthur Onslow of West Clandon and William Turner, citizen and merchant tailor of London; the counterpart copy also survives. The second indenture bears the name of Sir Henry Playter of Sotterley, Suffolk, Knight and Baronet.

Blackwell, who we know from the Surrey Hearth Tax for Lady Day, 1664, was living in Ashted manor with its fourteen hearths, undertakes for his part to pay an annual rent of £140 for twenty-one years and within seven years to pull down the hall and parlour of the manor house and "sufficiently rebuild over them fair and large chambers", also to pull down the great barn and use its timbers for rebuilding and repairs.

The names of the manorial fields with their acreages are given besides the 60 acres of the Park; conditions are made about the preservation of trees, coppices, etc.; hawking, hunting, fishing and fowling are prohibited; ploughing was allowed only during the first seven years; gates, ditches, palings, etc., were to be maintained; marl and chalk could be dug from the common chalk pit [at the Warren]; 24 loads of firewood could be cut per year and coal hearths and sawpits could be made for the extensive restoration work needed.

Hence from these two indentures we learn that the mediaeval manor house was put into good shape so that when Sir Robert Howard bought the estate twenty years later it was probably fit for immediate occupation. The terms of the lease were designed to ensure proper maintenance of the whole estate.



# LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

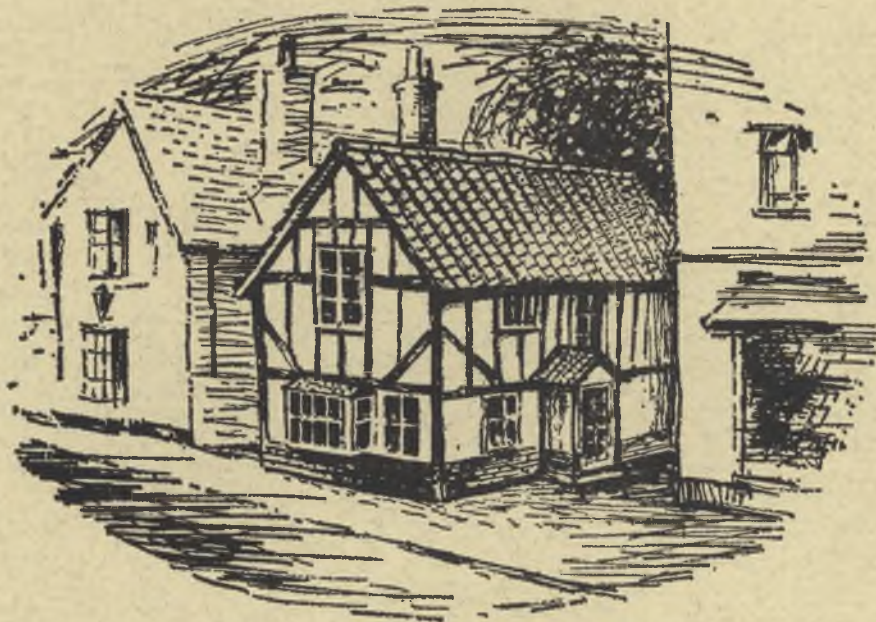
	<i>Previous Year 1976</i>	<i>Year under report 1977</i>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions .. .. .	548.25	521.25
Donations .. .. .	41.25	65.75
Grant from Surrey County Council .. .. .	Nil	25.00
Grant from Mole Valley District Council .. .. .	100.00	Nil
Lecture Fees donated by Members .. .. .	23.16	8.00
Sale of <i>Proceedings</i> , Books and Leaflets .. .. .	152.54	147.95
Profit from Visits and Functions .. .. .	3.08	10.90
Collections .. .. .	—	20.85
Profit on Teas, etc. (two years) .. .. .	—	9.65
Donations to Museum Fund .. .. .	—	69.39
Sale of Ashtead History Book .. .. .	—	40.00
Interest from Lloyds Bank Deposit A/c .. .. .	37.30	23.80
	<u>£905.58</u>	<u>£942.54</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Printing .. .. .	866.60	656.42
Expenses of Administration .. .. .	96.75	72.88
General Disbursements (Duplicator, etc.) .. .. .	25.73	20.95
Subscriptions to:		
Surrey Record Society .. .. .	2.00	2.00
British Council of Archaeology .. .. .	6.00	Nil
Surrey Archaeological Society .. .. .	5.00	5.00
Surrey Local History Council .. .. .	1.05	2.00
Hire of Hall for Lectures .. .. .	19.00	11.25
Fire Policy Premium for Museum (two years) .. .. .	Nil	51.00
	<u>£1,022.13</u>	<u>£821.50</u>
Excess of Expenditure over Income .. .. .	—116.55	Nil
Excess of Income over Expenditure .. .. .	Nil	£121.04
The Income comprises:		
Money held on behalf of Museum Fund .. .. .	41.20 plus	18.39
Money held on behalf of Ashtead History Fund .. .. .	Nil	40.00
Money owing for production of Occasional Paper No. 2 .. .. .	Nil	26.65
Net surplus of Income .. .. .	Nil	36.00
Bank Balance at beginning of the year .. .. .	749.23	673.88
Bank Balance at end of the year .. .. .	<u>£673.88</u>	<u>£794.92</u>
Made up as follows:		
Lloyds Bank—Current A/c .. .. .	226.47	323.71
Lloyds Bank—Deposit A/c .. .. .	447.41	471.21
	<u>£673.88</u>	<u>£794.92</u>

I certify that the above Statement is in accordance with the Books and Records produced to me and is, in my opinion, correct.

A. H. KIRKBY,  
*Honorary Auditor.*

H. J. MEARS,  
*Honorary Treasurer.*

18th February 1978



**HAMPTON COTTAGE, 64 CHURCH STREET, LEATHERHEAD**

A modest timber-framed dwelling built *circa* 1630 on Glebe land  
D.o.E. Statutory Listed Grade II

Acquired by the Society for use as a Heritage Centre and Museum  
Donations still urgently needed to complete its repair and equipment

*Sketch by Mr. Vernon Wildgoose*

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