

**ASHTEAD ON FOOT**

**By**

**Adrian Trollope**

- **A. or (A.) indicates reference to 'Ashtead a Village Transformed' – (1977)**
- **B. or (B.) indicates reference to 'Bygone Ashtead' (1987)**
- **L. or (L.) indicates reference to 'History of Leatherhead (1988)**
- **T. indicates a personal observation**
- **O.S. means Ordnance Survey or O.S. map. The maps concerned are 25" to the mile. All sketch maps are to the normal orientation unless otherwise shown.**

# AGATES LANE

50 OTTWAYS LANE



FROM OTTWAYS LANE

1989

## SOUTHERN END

1988

LOOKING SOUTH





1989



10 & 12 AGATES LANE  
MURREYS COURT

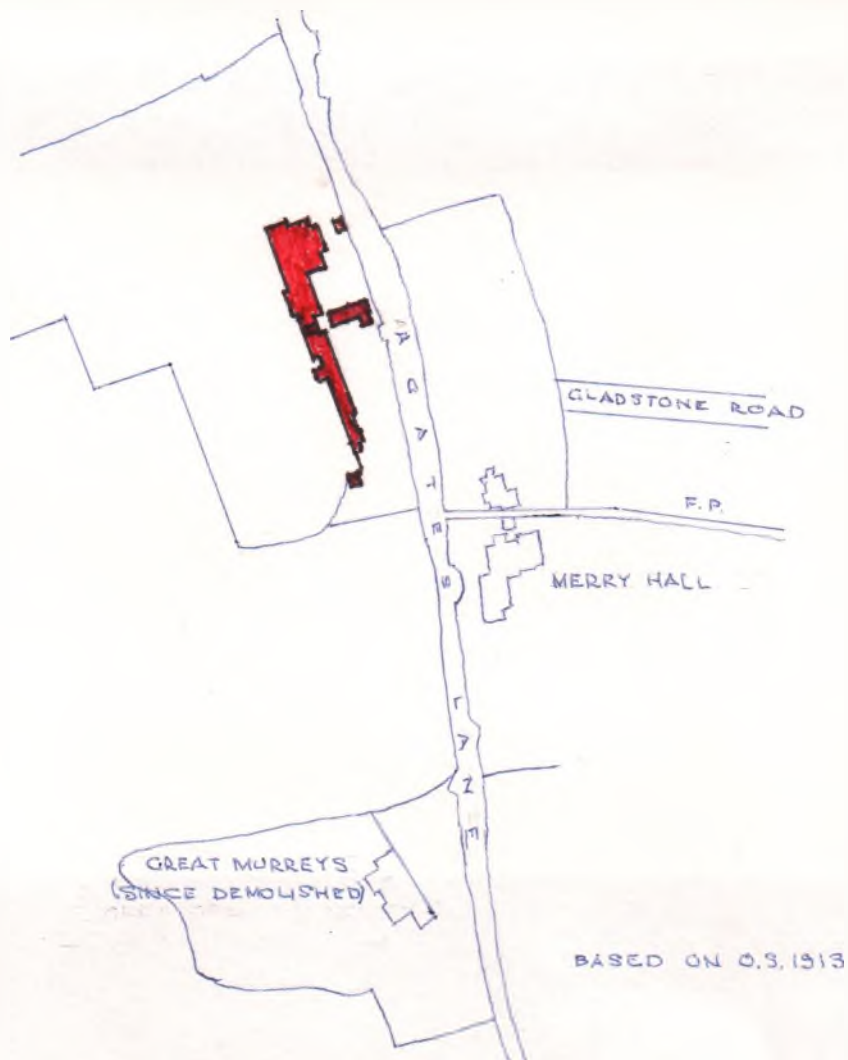


10



1989

OVER





## MURREYS COURT - 10 & 12 AGATES LANE

Between 1782 and 1796 the Hon. Richard Howard amalgamated various farms to form the 238 acre New Purchase Farm.

The subsequent occupants were -

1793 to 1797 - Thomas Lubbock

1797 to 1815 - John Lynn

1815 to 1819 - George Parnolle

1819 to 1822 - Mrs Parnolle

1823 to 1841 - Col. Fulke Greville Howard

1841 to 1880 - Michael Agate

1851 census - Elizabeth Agate

1861, 1871 censuses - John Agate

1879 - Auction

1851 census - Bailiff in charge

In 1878 the executors of the Hon. Mary Howard sold it and it was split up. Col. Glieg bought the farmhouse and enlarged it to its present residential form renaming it Murreys Court (he also owned the three fields to the south of it named Great Murreys and Murreys).

In 1899 the tenant was Sir Gerald Fitzgerald, in 1905 Charles M. Robinson grandfather of the present owner, Col. Gleig dying in 1922.

- B.

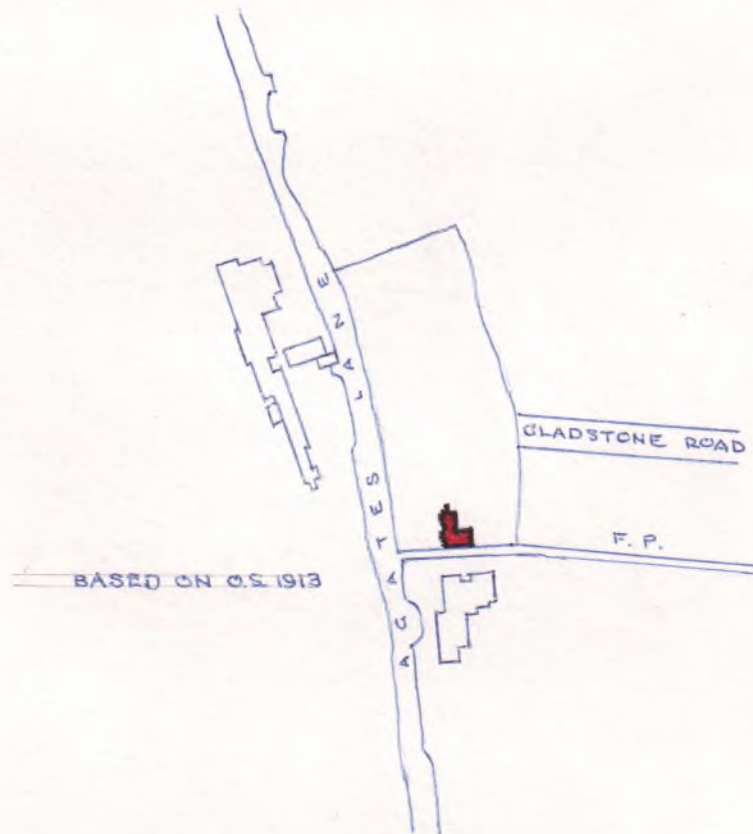
12



17 AGATES LANE  
ILEX HOUSE



1989



OVER



Called GREENES on the Lawrence map of 1688 it was then the property of Jeffrey Ottway.

After the widow Jordan Henry Eastland was the owner, at the end of the 17th C.

In 1748 R. P. Syms was in occupation. Ownership then passed to the Eastlands' housekeeper, Mary Cartwright, in 1773, who willed it to Michael Fawcett in 1778.

1760-85	Michael Fawcett
1786-99	Miss Mary Fawcett, tenant Mr Hardy, later Mr Wigg
1801-17	Miss Brownsmith, tenant Mr Wigg
1818-38	William Wilkins, occupant
1838-44	Samuel Wilkins
1845	Edward Bowry
1851-71	James Ford - called it ROSSHERVILLE COTTAGE
1881	Emma Halford, widow - called it THE LAURELS
1882-91	Edward Fox
1905-31	Alfred Haynes - stabled and housed the village fire engine; later it became THE LAURELS laundry
1985	ILEX HOUSE
1988-9	Refurbished

19 AGATES LANE  
MERRY HALL



Very probably John Morrays, owner of the three "Murrays" fields opposite, lived here early in the 17th C. In the Lawrence terrier the lane is called the middle lane. - B.

The house dates from the 18th C.

1638 James Styles was in MERRYALLS - A.

1681 William Page jun. was listed for MURYAL

1691&95 Richard Page for MERRYALLS - B.

1696 William Page, farmer, holds the freehold - A.

1707/1713 William Syms - later Page - now Richard Syms an enfant now occupied by Farnham

1748 Richard Syms, tenant Richard Syms.

The Syms were maltsters. In 1787 the lane is called Malthouse Lane.

1757 William Syms succeeded his brother

1777 William died

His widow Ann married an unrelated Syms - Joseph

1786 They have a son Joseph

1789 Ann died. The house was let to William Sadlier Bruere

1835 Joseph sold the brewhouse to William King, farmer.

1840 William King died and his widow Rebecca kept house until after 1871. - B.

1841 census calls it MARYLS

1845 mention of Sarah and Elizabeth King.

1861 census found Frederick and Alfred King in MERRY HALLS

1871 census recorded an assurance clerk

Additions were made in the 19th C.

1881 Bought by racehorse trainer George Masterman. - A.

1898 Auctioned.

Amongst owners since was writer Beverley Nichols. The housing close since built on most of the garden was named Oldfield after the fictitious name of the gardener in the book\* he wrote about the hall and its garden. - B.

1988/9 Capable recommissioning with new garage and entrance.

The hall displays the 'Building of Special Interest' plaque.

\* 'Down the Garden Path'





# 36 AGATES LANE APPIN COTTAGE



Around 1890 Col. Glieg gave this site to Miss Mary Stewart Beattie, a friend, probably a cousin, of his wife. Miss Beattie, born in 1844, was a Scot with associations with Appin, Argyle. - B



1988



# 60 & 62 AGATES LANE PEPYS COTTAGE



Formerly two farm labourer's cottages, with a mention in 1638, they were at one time called West Farm Cottages, later Rambler Cottage. No association with the Pepys family is known.

- A



1989

# ASHTEAD PARK

EAST LODGE



Sir Robert Howard, "not ill-natured but insufferably boring", bought the Manor in 1680. By 1684 he had built a new house some 200 yds SE of the medieval one, the equal of its neighbours, "rectangular, with sash windows, a high steep slated roof and simple main entrance". He enclosed the park and installed a herd of deer, planted avenues of trees and made fountains and gardens, acquiring 'Perricroft' and 'Blakes' in 1683 in the development. Water was drawn from an "exceeding deepe" well by horses - this "greate defect" he overcame by forming the

ISLAND POND

-A.







He lived in the Beckford gardener's house (today's Headmaster's House) during the building.

The old manor house was retained in some sort of use, there is good evidence as a dairy, and it was only in the nineteenth century that it was demolished.

-B.

Sir Robert had Charles II and James II amongst the visitors he invited to hunting parties. (As many as 35 men might be employed during 1701 to check night poaching of the deer.) Several times he entertained William, Prince of Orange, later William III. An opening was made in the park's boundary wall, directly opposite the Green Slade so that William should have a short cut to the Epsom races (ss Pleasure Pit). Probably it was Sir Robert who hung the gates in

#### KING WILLIAM III'S GATE



On his death in 1698 his son Thomas succeeded him. The son had had an operation "for the stone" in 1694 but never properly recovered and contemporary surgery and medication were too much for the poor man - he succumbed in 1701.

Lady Diana Howard followed. She married William Fielding in 1707 but he died in 1723 and she continued alone at the manor house till 1731, reaching 73.



## ASHTEAD PARK

In 1783 the manor came to Frances Bowes-Howard. When she married Richard Bagot he assumed her surname. They employed an architect named Bonomi to rebuild the manor house 1790-2, erecting what is the central block of the building today. Bonomi put all the main rooms on the north.

Both dying in 1818 they left the manor to their daughter Mary. Col. The Hon. Fulk Greville Upton had married her in 1807, adopting the Howard surname. He died in 1847, she occupied the manor for another 30 years. Her successor, Gen. Bagot, lasted only two, in 1879 the Park was bought by Sir Thomas Lucas.

Sir Thomas set about adding wings to the mansion, a billiard room and banqueting hall on the west side and a tropical conservatory with elaborate water effects on the east. He established the balustraded parterre before it to distance the deer from

THE MANSION



1986

He diverted the east-west road to its present position, the new west entrance requiring a

WEST LODGE



1986

and he further embellished his road with a



BRIDGE



9861

To contain the deer all the entrances required gates. He let the new West Lodge to the master of the Dene Road School for £40 a year provided that a child be always in attendance to operate the gates. Having learnt some reading and cross-stitch a girl of 12 left school to be gate girl. She always curtsied to the carriages passing through.

The present  
NORTH LODGE



9861



# ASHTEAD PARK

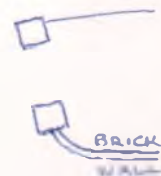
and the new west lodge, of stone and brick, since painted, are identical in every minute detail and respect and clearly were built from the same set of drawings. The 1867 O.S. shows a lodge on the east side of the northern entrance whereas all later editions put it to the west. Lucas included it in his general scheme for the upgrading of the Park - was it not from this that his London visitors would gain their first impression? So somewhere between 1879 and 1889 it was rebuilt. The gates must be contemporary.

Lucas gloried in his entrances. A. says that he formed the approach from beside the West Lodge to St Gile's. The 1867 O.S. shows this to be inaccurate for the drive was already in existence. However the 1895 edition might be evidence that he could have contributed the beautiful conifers along its eastern side to complement trees already existing along the other side. What is certain is that whilst achieving a



stately treatment for his western gateway he included the entry to the church drive in a single unified composition.

-T.





The mother of Greek banker Pantia Ralli bought the manor from Lucas in 1889 and gave it to her son as a wedding present. Ralli installed a lift and electric light, illuminated the main drive, had eight cars and built a chauffeur's cottage, employed some 80 staff, gave them an annual feast in a marquee and had many parties and receptions with very important guests. Fifteen of the 150-strong herd of deer went each year to his table. He fitted burglar alarms in 1907 and Gillow carved a ceiling for his entrance hall. He formed the large lake and equipped it with a boat house.

On Pantia Ralli's death in 1924 his widow put the Park up for sale. The deer were dispersed in 1925. The City of London Freeman's School transferred to the southern half, including the mansion, in 1926. A building layout was prepared for the whole of the area north of Rookery Hill and a start was being made on the sewer layout when war broke out. Some houses had been put up in the late '20s, the remainder was acquired by the S.C.C. in 1957, whence ownership passed to the Leatherhead UDC and thence to the MVDC.



## ASHTEAD PARK

The gates to the northern entrance were restored and redecorated in 1988.



MOLE VALLEY councillors turned out to see the re-hanging of Ashtead Park gates.

The wrought-iron gates were missing for several months for extensive repairs by local firm, Richard Quinnell of Leatherhead.

"We were lucky to have a firm with such a good international reputation nearby to carry out the work," said technical services chief, Bill Edden.

Pictured with Mr Edden, left, are council chairman Ian Lewis and his wife Claire Lewis.

- News 18.8.88

The bridge also was dismantled, refounded, repaired and rebuilt in 1988.



Many must have been amazed to discover that the balustrade of the actual span was not the stone it appeared to be but cast iron. It, with the decking, was carried by mild steel joists and it was these that created the danger. That new balustrade castings were necessary is surprising. The foundry mark, in elliptical format, proclaims -

MARSH BROS  
RESTORED 1988  
ENGINEERS BAKEWELL

In the formation of the large pond a considerable amount of embanking



was needed on the northern side. This has stood up well to its task. In 1989 the major part of the brick base of the boathouse remains, although somewhat ruinous.



1989

#### THE ENCLOSING WALL

It was some time between 1790 (say) and 1816 - the dates of the maps in Lever Proc. LDLHS 1986 - that the Farm Lane boundary wall was rebuilt in its present position.

The gain in privacy of the Mansion would have been so small, particularly if the wall's previous configuration was as Rocque shows it, that it is tempting to suspect some other explanation for such a costly exercise. Maybe they did try to keep the cost down because the story the brickwork has to tell is that the new wall was later increased in height at least once to bring it to the previous height. It is not difficult to identify Sir Robert Howard's original wall from the King William III Gate right round to the west lodge by its distinctive design. It is framed into panels by projecting piers and an equally projecting head band consisting of three courses of bricks, the top with its upper edge bullnosed, surmounted by a single plain course set back.

This motif is reflected in the treatment at the Gate, where there are flanking panels either side bounded by great piers with stone caps of a grandeur only secondary to the gate piers themselves.

There is something of a bend in the wall associated with the Gate and the wall was rebuilt tangentially northwards from here dead straight to the corner of Blakes Close.

The realigned wall is plain, its top course bullnosed for while maybe, but usually square. There is much evidence of repair, due in some measure to its inferior design.

-T.



## ASHTEAD PARK HEADMASTERS HOUSE



1889

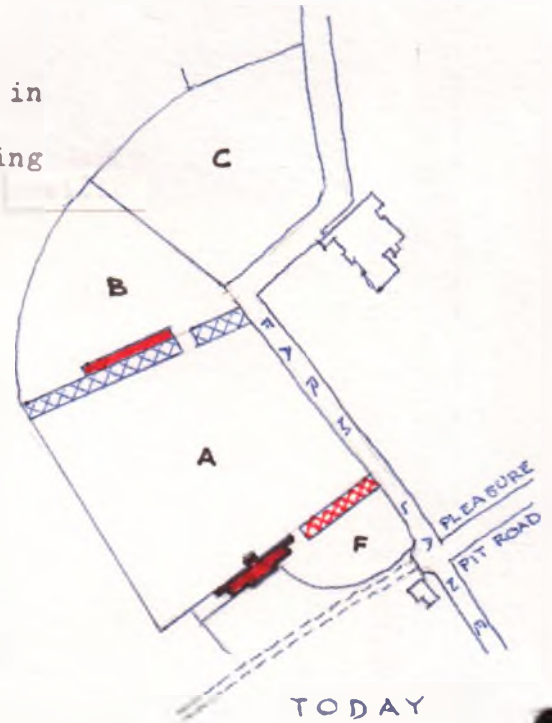


In the sketch plan (over) compartments A and B form the kitchen garden of the School and the house is the residence of its headmaster. Although its most open elevation is towards the kitchen garden he has no residential interest in it. I understand there are two staircases in the house, It is a building of special historical interest; and the great greenhouse beside it is also listed.

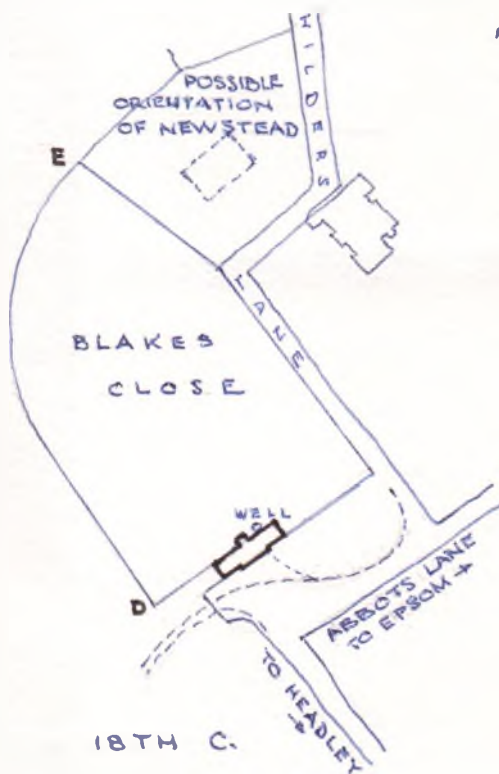
George Rouse occupied Perrycroft - later called Newstead. In 1862 he sold it to Sir Robert Howard and then lived in a house, now the Headmasters House, that he built in Blakes Close. Although (B.) dates this as c1685 Tedley refers to a 'close of arable land bounded by a dead hedge', presumably the boundary replaced by the front age of the house which may date it about three years earlier. Perrycroft being within

130 yards of this new house it must have been in compartment C.

The east wall of the Park and the road adjoining were then some 60 yards west of their present position. Pleasure Pit Road, then Abbots Lane led to a point some distance south of the park gates. This made an awkward junction and resulted in a small open space - well brought out in Rocque's map (Lever, Proc. LDLHS 1986). Facing this space was Blakes Close. It was then outside the Park. Tedley relates how Rouse appropriated some of this open space. This could well be the area F which is now the only open space that could be really private to the headmaster.



ADAPTING O.S. 1894



In 1700+ William Beckford leased the Blakes Close house (B.) and in 1708 he was installed in Newstead (A.), using the former as its laundry. The 1867 O.S. indicates a well alongside.

Apparently no-one saw any great distinction between the two properties and the menage got into the habit of going to church across the Blakes Close/Park boundary. As the most logical route would have been through the Park gates one can only assume that the Earl of Berkshire kept these locked and on Sundays there was no-one in attendance to open them (the park was filled with valuable deer). Could folk not be trusted to 'shut the gate' even in those days?

The link between the two properties was severed, if not before, when Thomas Beckford inherited in 1731 and went to live in the old laundry.

No doubt the Sunday trespass irritated him immensely, nor would invasive deer have sweetened his temper. He speedily erected a brick wall - D to E above is approximately the legendary 400 feet. No longer could the Earl put off the provision of a stile.

The sundial is dated 1734. What momentous event was it that resulted in such a commemoration?

(B.) thinks Thomas Beckford its probable creator but I am not happy about that idea. The dial does not appeal to me as having been designed for its present position - out of scale, odd background - and I suspect possible trouble with damp penetration. It is uneasy, alien.



## ASHTEAD PARK · HEADMASTERS HOUSE

I will let my imagination off the leash.

If Blakes Close had a new owner so too did Newstead. As we do not know him we can allow him all sorts of triumphs, one of which may have inspired him to celebration.

After Beckford's death Blakes Close had a succession of owners. From 1757 his widow: from 1763 distant cousin Francis from Jamaica: from 1768 Francis' first son: in 1781 it passed to another minor, on whose behalf it was sold to Epsom vintner Henry Saker. Six years later Saker sold it to Richard Howard. It was then incorporated in the Park (B.).

Sir Richard then installed his head gardener in the house, made the grounds his kitchen garden and (A.) pulled down Newstead House, probably to use the bricks for the garden walls.

Pity to waste such a magnificent sundial - the aspects of the two buildings were virtually the same (probably) - let the head gardener have it!

Such an explanation would satisfy me better.

-T.

# ASHTEAD POND



1985

In 1673 it was known as the Oxmoor Pond as oxen grazed the adjoining land.

About this, and the Outwell Pond north of The Street, used by the village, a contemporary court roll decreed "... no ducks or geese are to be kept in either pond and no sheep .. washed in the Outwell Pond! The water was used for domestic purposes and pollution would have been very serious. The penalty for each offence at the Outwell Pond 6/8.

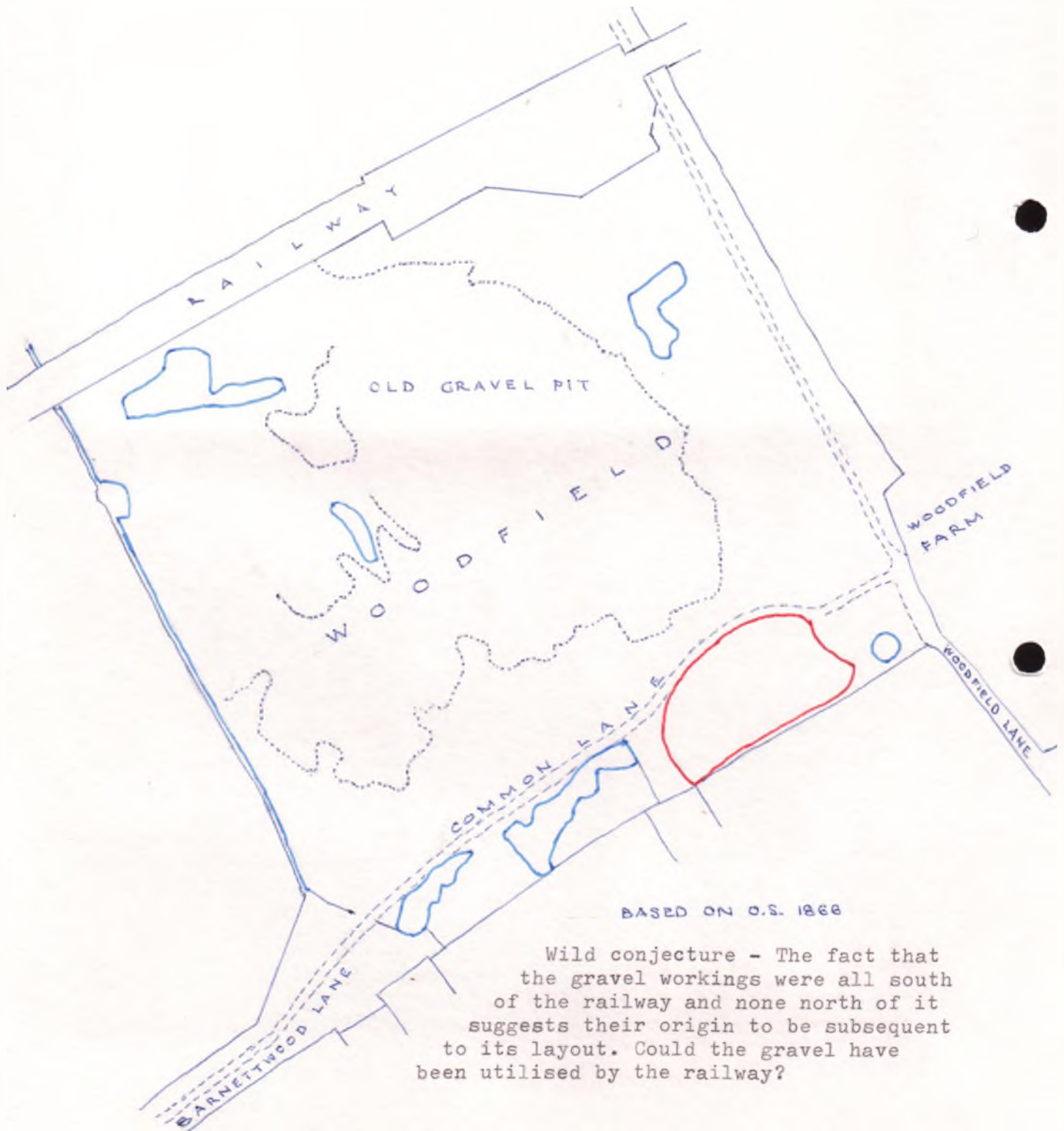
-A

In 1866 the Wood Field extended southwards to the present recreation ground, the portion south of the railway line (but not north of it) being described on the O.S. as 'Old Gravel Pit'. There were a number of ponds in addition to the present pond which have since disappeared (although not entirely without trace in very wet periods). Barnettwood Lane (along which there was then no building of any kind) entered the Wood Field near its south west corner and continued across it to Woodfield Lane as Common Lane, skirting to the north of three ponds along the southern edge of the Field. The present pond was then 1.273 acres (280'x150'), a pond in the SW corner was about 160' long and at most 40' wide and a pond between them was 220' long and 25' to 100' wide. The last two graded into a marsh to the boundary of the Field.

By the time of the 1894 revision of the O.S. the middle pond had disappeared and the Field had become rough grassland. The large pond seems unchanged but its acreage is .926.



By the 1912 revision Common Lane has become part of Barnettwood Lane widened to a common width and the pond was now reckoned to be '875 acres though looking no different from its predecessors. A strip along the north of the pond has since been lopped off to straighten the road and provide a decent footpath and the pond has shrunk to '55 acres (A.).



BASED ON O.S. 1866

Wild conjecture - The fact that the gravel workings were all south of the railway and none north of it suggests their origin to be subsequent to its layout. Could the gravel have been utilised by the railway?

# BARNETT WOOD LANE ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

In 1880 Sir Thomas Lucas paid for a small iron church on this site for use whilst St Giles was being repaired. Its use continued but by 1899 it had become inadequate and a fund was raised for a new church. The foundation stone of St George's was laid in 1905 and the church was erected in five months, apart from the south aisle and the vestries. It was finished by the end of 1906, the large stained glass window inserted in 1962 and the south aisle added in 1965. The iron church had been rolled across Barnett Wood Lane to a site in Woodfield (in 1905) and there it was used for many years as a meeting room. In 1920 it became the HQ of the 1st Ashted Pelham Scout Group. It has since been rebuilt in brick.

-A.





## 15 BRAMLEY WAY

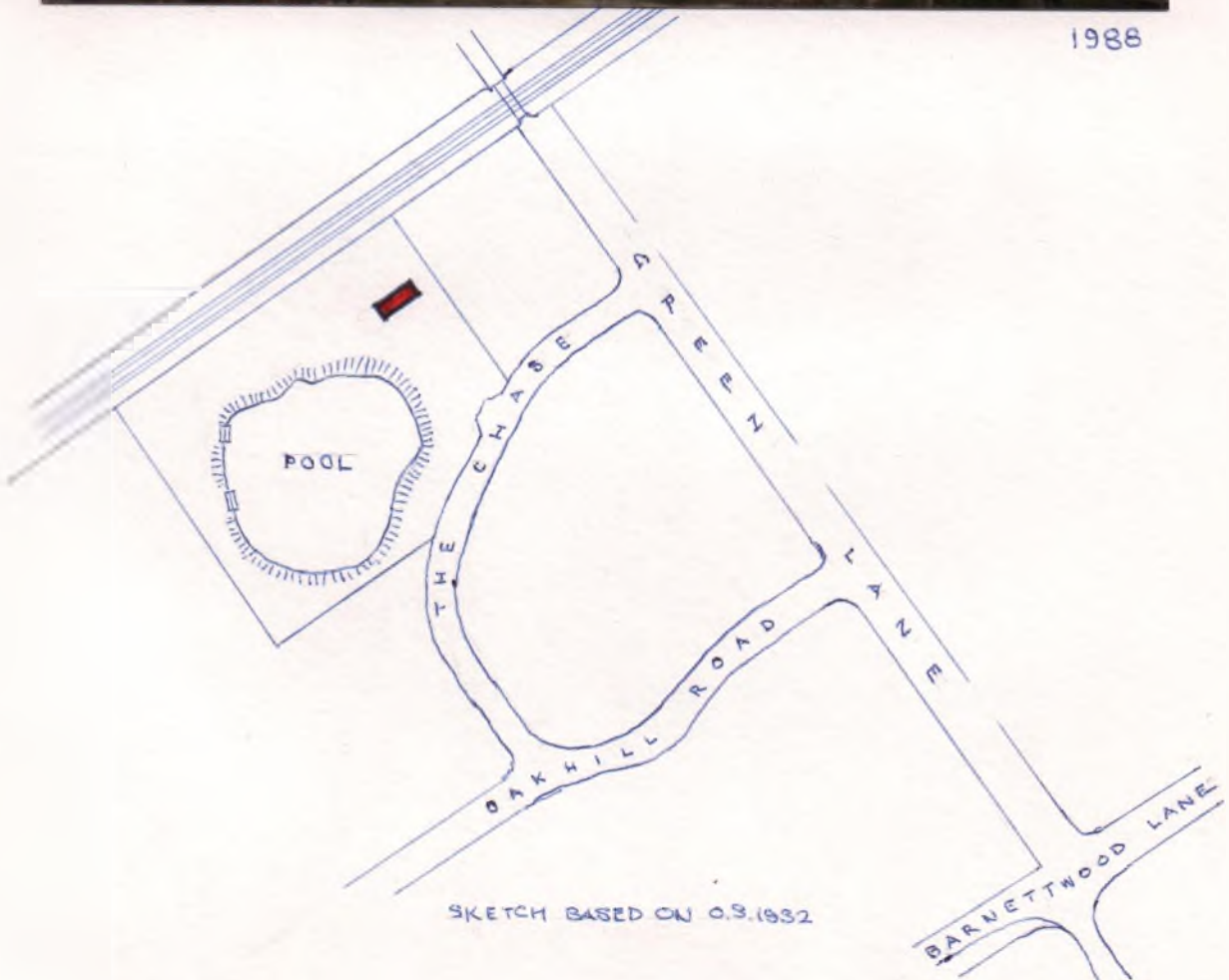


This limestone group, title and sculptor unknown, stands in the front garden. The owner is a retired dealer in garden ornament and statuary. This figure came from a house in the Kings Road, Chelsea. An attempt was made to steal it, however its weight was too much for the thieves.

# THE CHASE FLORAL BUNGALOW & POOL



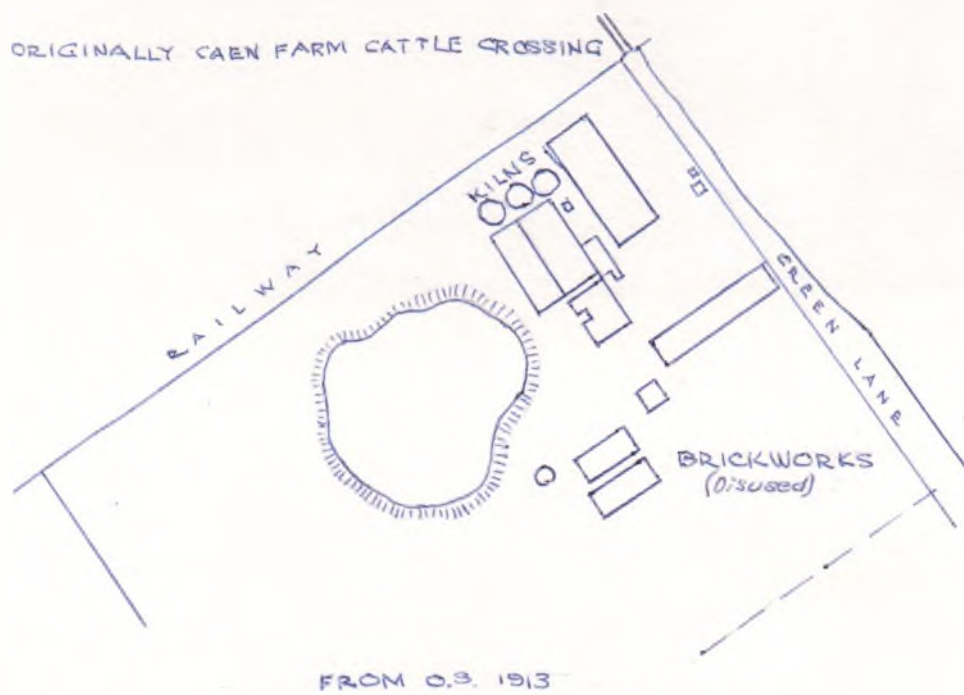
1988



SKETCH BASED ON O.S. 1932

OVER



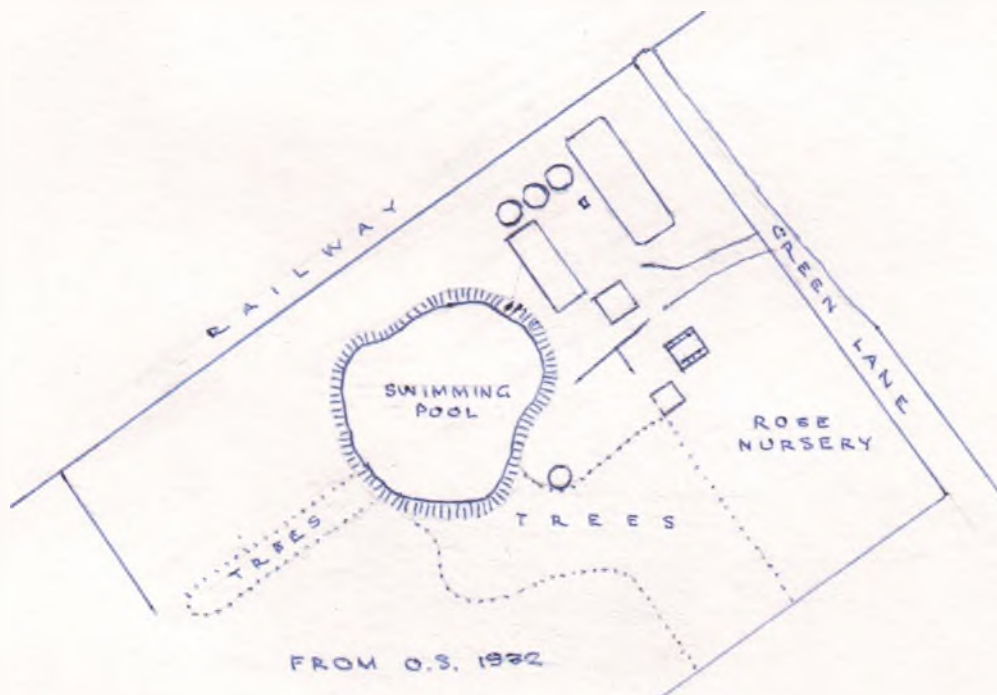


The Sparrow brothers established the Ashted brickworks about 1888. They closed some time before 1912. One of the kilns was still sufficiently intact to be used for an air raid shelter in World War 2.

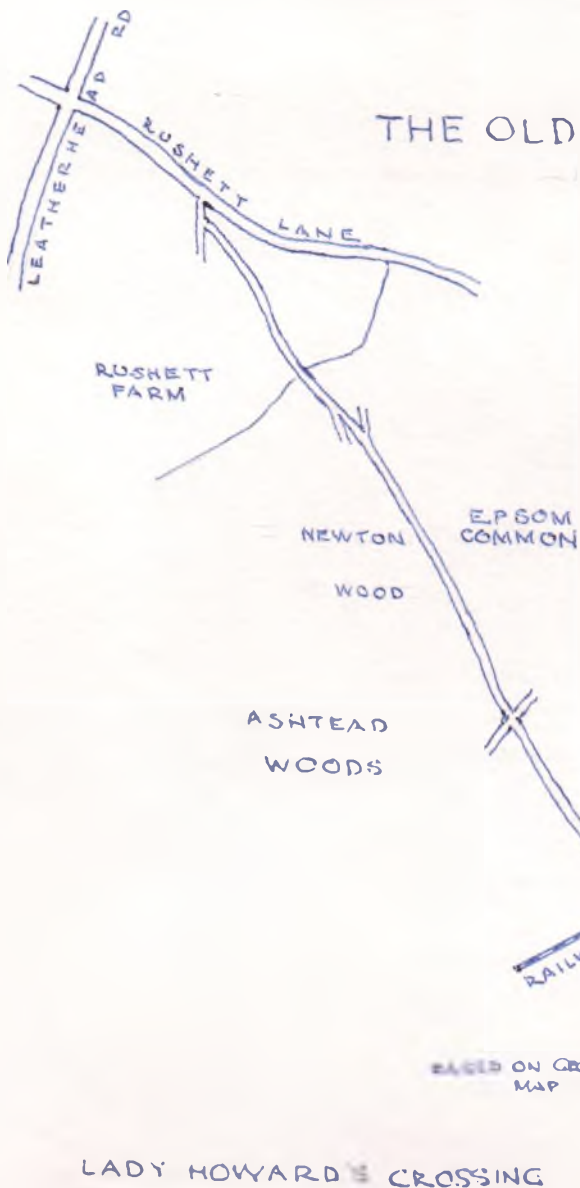
At the end of the Great War Henry Weller, a nurseryman from Ottways Lane, turned the site into a Rose Garden and the clay pit into a swimming pool. Swimming ceased after several drownings in the '30s. - A

Mr Weller charged 2/6 for a swim on the railway side, 1/- on the other.

Most of the area has been developed for houses but the pool and its immediate surroundings have been retained as a bird sanctuary. It is the duty of the occupant of the bungalow built in conjunction with it to feed the birds each day at four o'clock.



# THE OLD CHESSINGTON ROAD



The old Chessington Road roughly coincided in large part with the boundary between Ashtead and Epsom, Ashtead woods and Epsom Common. Its course is readily apparent, indeed such roads in those days were little more than the present track.

Probably its most exciting feature now is the foot passenger crossing the railway had to provide.

Doubtless it was the railway that deprived it of any prospect of development into the thoroughfare it ought to have become - a sad loss to the community and no credit to the powers that should have protected it.

LADY HOWARD'S CROSSING





CRAMPSHAW LANE  
THE OLD BAKERY



1988



1989



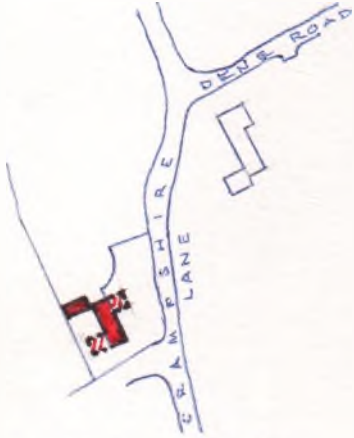
"This seems to be formed from two 17th C. farm cottages with later additions in the form of an early 19th C. bakehouse and a lean to. .. There was also a bread shop here at one time .. The 1841 census found baker Henry Harman in occupation .. In 1861 Harman is shown as employing three men and ten years later the business was carried on by his daughter Ann, who was still there in 1891"

Harman bought the freehold in 1879 for £640.

A. Sheath took over in 1892. The business was sold in 1928 and the building ceased to be used as a bakery



# CRAMPSHAW LANE OLD ROSE COTTAGE



BASED ON O.S. 1932

This cottage was in existence at the time of the first O.S. of 1866-7 but it is not immediately reconciled with the first four editions of the survey. This indicates that there have been extensions at some time since 1932.

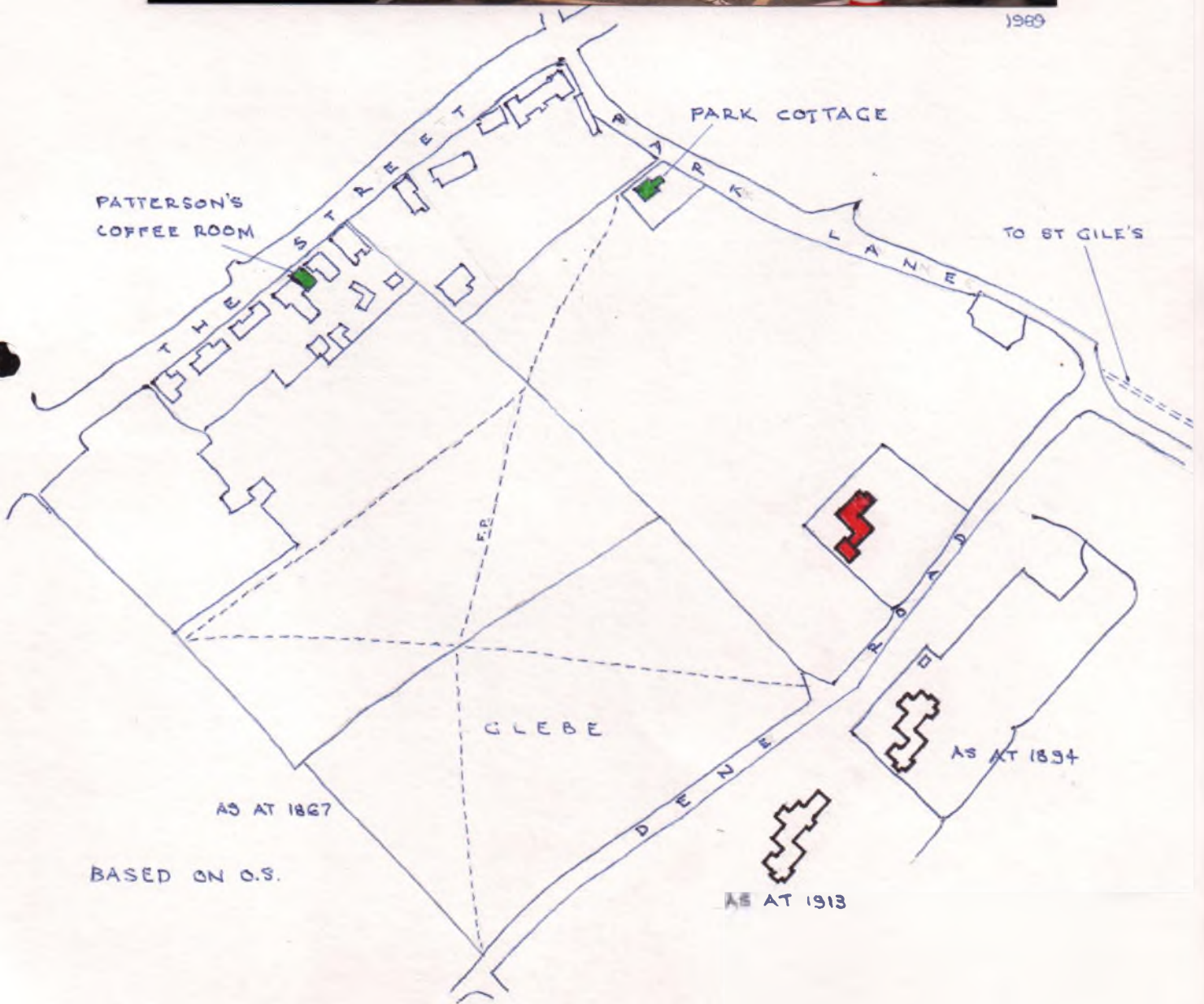


1966

# DENE ROAD SCHOOL



1989





AD HONOREM DEI  
ET IN MEMORIUM MATRI SUÆ  
FRANCESCÆ HOWARD (T. rest translated)

Mary Howard at her own expense built this school for children of either sex for the purpose of instructing them in the doctrine and discipline of the Anglo-Catholic Church and other subjects which would prove helpful in the pursuit of knowledge. In the year of our salvation 1852.

In 1856 The Hon. Mary added further land connecting with the old school house in Park Lane and The Street.

Infants were taught in Rectory Lane until 1878 when they had their own entrance and porch to the left of the Dene Road school. This became unsafe in 1885 and they used Patterson's Coffee Room in The Street whilst a new schoolroom was being built (1886) paid for by the Lord of the Manor, Sir Thomas Lucas. The older girls too used the coffee room for afternoon cookery lessons.\*

There were further enlargements in 1893 and 1901, achieving 300 places.

In 1861 John Penny looked after the boys (in later years he was post-master too) and Elizabeth Hack, with his daughter in a few years, the girls and infants. In 1871 it was Thomas Swindle aided by four schoolmistresses aged from 16 to 31. By 1895 A. Boyd was in charge. The National School monitor-teaching principle was followed until the 20th C. An 1878 report said the children to be "very backward in their reading, writing and ciphering but .. tidy, bright and happy. .. They are learning to sing and so far as .. space will, to march. A proper supply of books slates and reading cards should be provided".

The weekly fees were 3d for the first child, 2½d for the second and 2d for successive children. Hours were 9 to noon and 2 to 4, 30 - an hour earlier in winter. In addition to 8 weeks holiday the school closed for Derby Week. School children delivered the Parish Magazine.

The school was handed over to the S.C.C. in 1902 and the managers reduced from 12 to 6.

Brooker was master for much of the early 20th C. He was also organist and choirmaster, clerk to the Parish Council, Assistant Overseer, Collector of Rates, Secretary and treasurer of Ashtead Horticultural Society and a member of the village cricket team.

Damage by a landmine in 1940 made the pupils, and evacuees from Dulwich, variously to use the parish church and vestry, the Barnett Wood Lane School, the Peace Memorial Hall or rooms lent by parishioners until the school could be restored in 1941.

In 1975 it became a comprehensive First School for about 160 children aged 5 to 8.

-A.

See Park Lane - Park Cottage            also 18 & 20 Rectory Lane

\*Patterson's Coffee Room was at 82 The Street, now the premises of John Pearce, Butcher

See relation with West Lodge in Ashtead Park

EPSOM ROAD  
FOREST LODGE  
HAUNCH OF VENISON INN

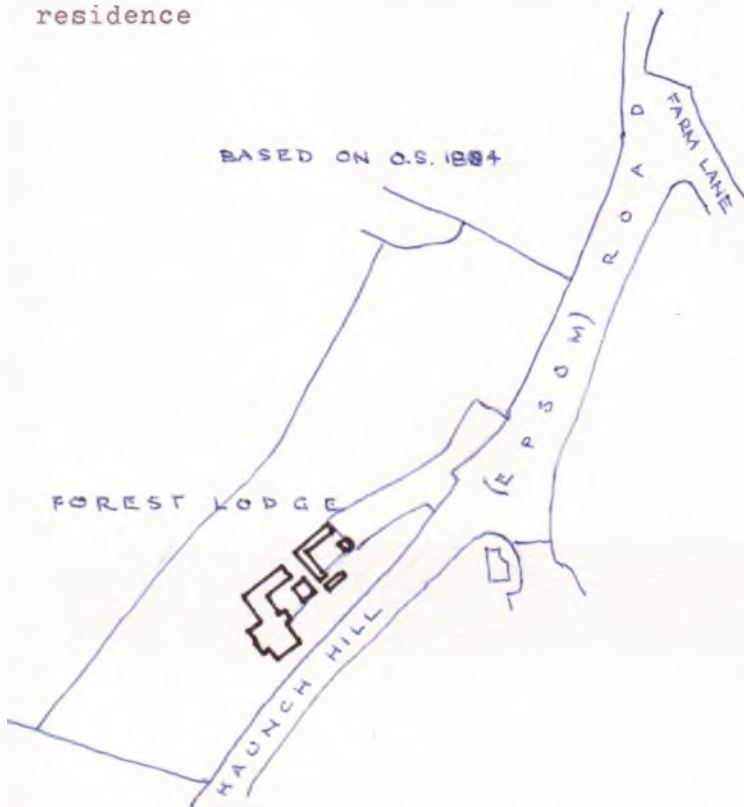




Pre-1800 the Haunch of Venison Inn, which was on this site, regularly served the carriers, was the venue of the local farmers' and tradesmen's club and as an unregistered friendly society it organised the village festivities, such as May Day held until c1850. Landlords - 1841 John Lawrence, 1851 William Short, 1855 Henry Makin. But the railway killed it, by 1860 it was no longer an inn.

The name arose from the distribution of venison to the poor from the usual autumn culling - some 8 to 10 pounds per family. There are relevant references in 1702 and 1823. The steep rise in the Epsom Road just here is locally known as Haunch Hill.

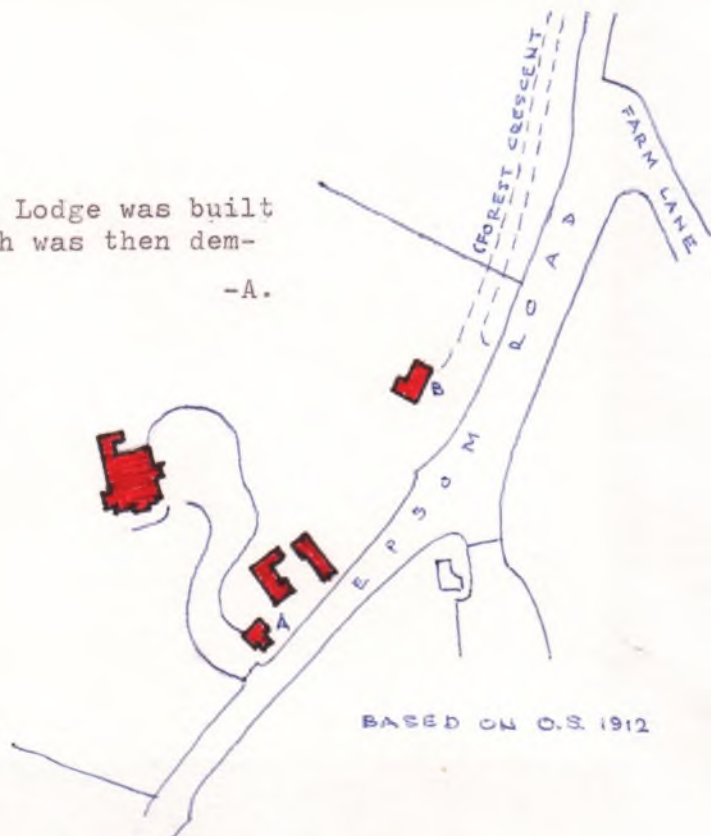
Between 1861 and '6 Henry Parsons converted it to a brick and tile residence



About 1900 the present Forest Lodge was built north of the old building which was then demolished.

-A.

Building A is the Gate Lodge  
 Building B is now at the end  
 Forest Crescent





FOREST LODGE - EPSOM ROAD



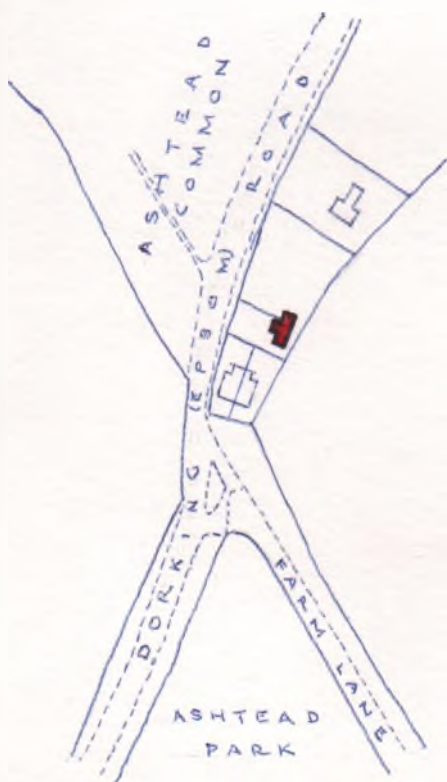
A - GATE LODGE



B



# EPSOM ROAD THE HATCHGATE



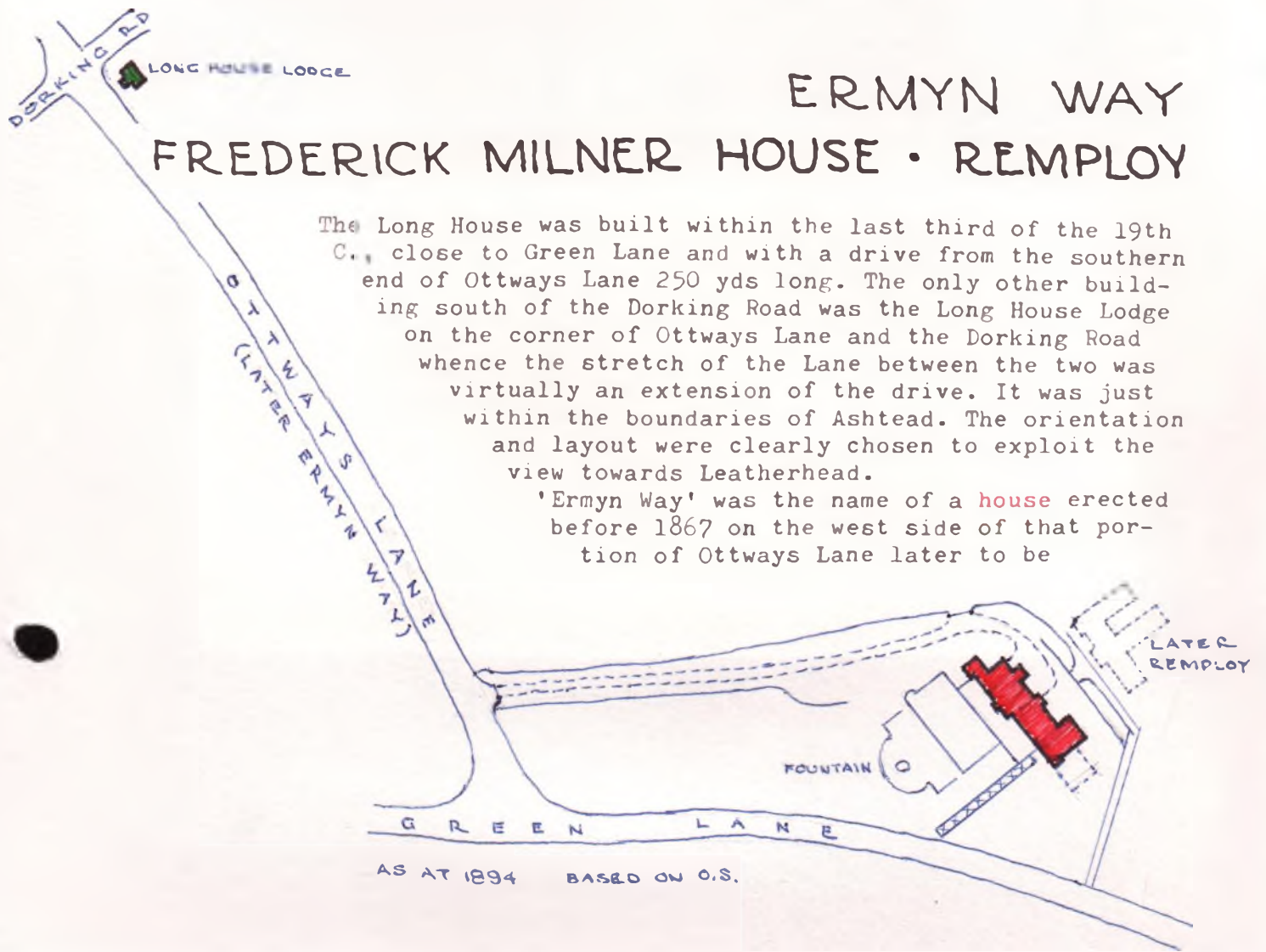
This took its name from the cattle res-  
training farm gate or hatch across the  
Dorking (now Epsom) Road at this point.

BASED ON O.S.  
1867

# ERMYN WAY FREDERICK MILNER HOUSE • REMPLOY

The Long House was built within the last third of the 19th C., close to Green Lane and with a drive from the southern end of Ottways Lane 250 yds long. The only other building south of the Dorking Road was the Long House Lodge on the corner of Ottways Lane and the Dorking Road whence the stretch of the Lane between the two was virtually an extension of the drive. It was just within the boundaries of Ashted. The orientation and layout were clearly chosen to exploit the view towards Leatherhead.

'Ermyrn Way' was the name of a house erected before 1867 on the west side of that portion of Ottways Lane later to be



1989





1988

renamed Grange Road. Around the turn of the century the local development potentialities began to be important and the southeast sections of Ottways Lane were 'elevated' to Grange Road and Ermyn Way - regardless of the use already being made of the latter. This part of Ashted's portion of the Dorking Road became Leatherhead Road.

In 1922 the owner of the Long House was Sir E F O Gascoigne. He sold it to the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (L.) and removed to Ashted Lodge (B.). The timing of the sale may well have been governed by the availability of the Lodge. The Long House was renamed Frederick Milner House.



1988



# MILNER HOUSE · REMPLOY · ERMYN WAY



LONG HOUSE LODGE

1989

(A.) places the Goblin offices in the Long House, no doubt a matter of mutual convenience. Goblin came to Ashted in 1938. It would certainly have provided them with an Ermyrn Way address.

As an Ex-Services Welfare Industries Centre a Remploy factory was put up in conjunction with it.

The drive has been replaced by the Ermyrn Close of a building scheme and an alternative access to Green Lane has developed.

-T.



1988



FARM LANE  
ASHTEAD HOUSE



1928



1929

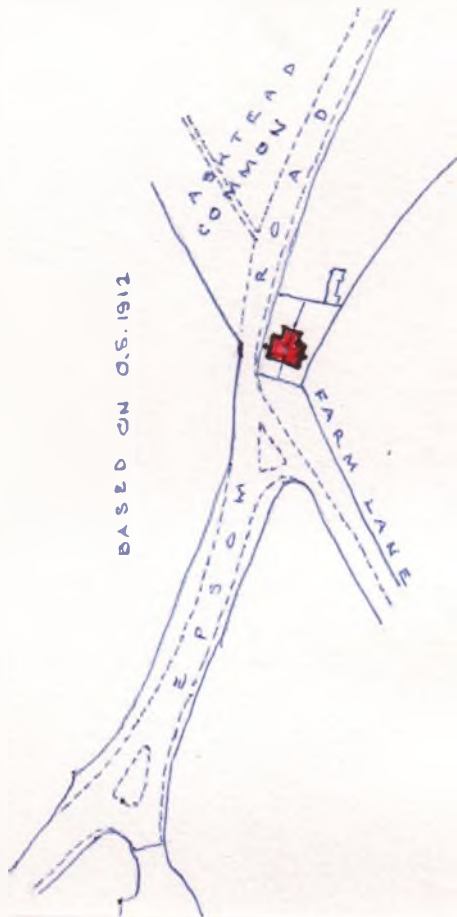


1928

Possibly a timber framed house was built on this site in the closing years of the 17th C. This probably became the core of the later Georgian house developed maybe around 1740, it has a 1746 Royal Exchange fire mark. c1780 the southwest bay front was added, the ball-room during the first half of the 19th C. There are letters dated 1758, 1764 and 1765 indicating that Frederick Lord North, George III's prime minister, then owned and lived in Ashtead House. In 1767 Francis Beckford was the owner, succeeded by his sons Thomas, dying in 1781, and Francis, dying in 1788. General Richard Burton Phillipson figures as proprietor in the 1780 and 1798 Land Taxes, though his niece Susannah had then inherited. In 1812-3 her husband sold it to Hester Smith, then the occupant. From about 1765 to World War II the house was occupied by Captain Nathaniel Smith and his descendants (through the Denshire line -A.) During the war Canadian Troops used it, after the war Cedric May bought it and divided it into three freeholds for sale.



# FARM LANE HATCHGATE COTTAGES



In 1802 this site would have been described as the corner of Griggs Lane and Hilders Lane. The name is derived from the hatch or gate across the Epsom (then Dorking) Road to prevent cattle straying. They are 18th C. or earlier.

-A.

A charming feature is the splay to the whole brick framing of the windows.



1989

See Epsom Road, The Hatchgate

# FARM LANE PARK FARM



1988



Regarded for nearly two centuries as the Ashted Park Farm House it was part of the Ashted Manor estate.

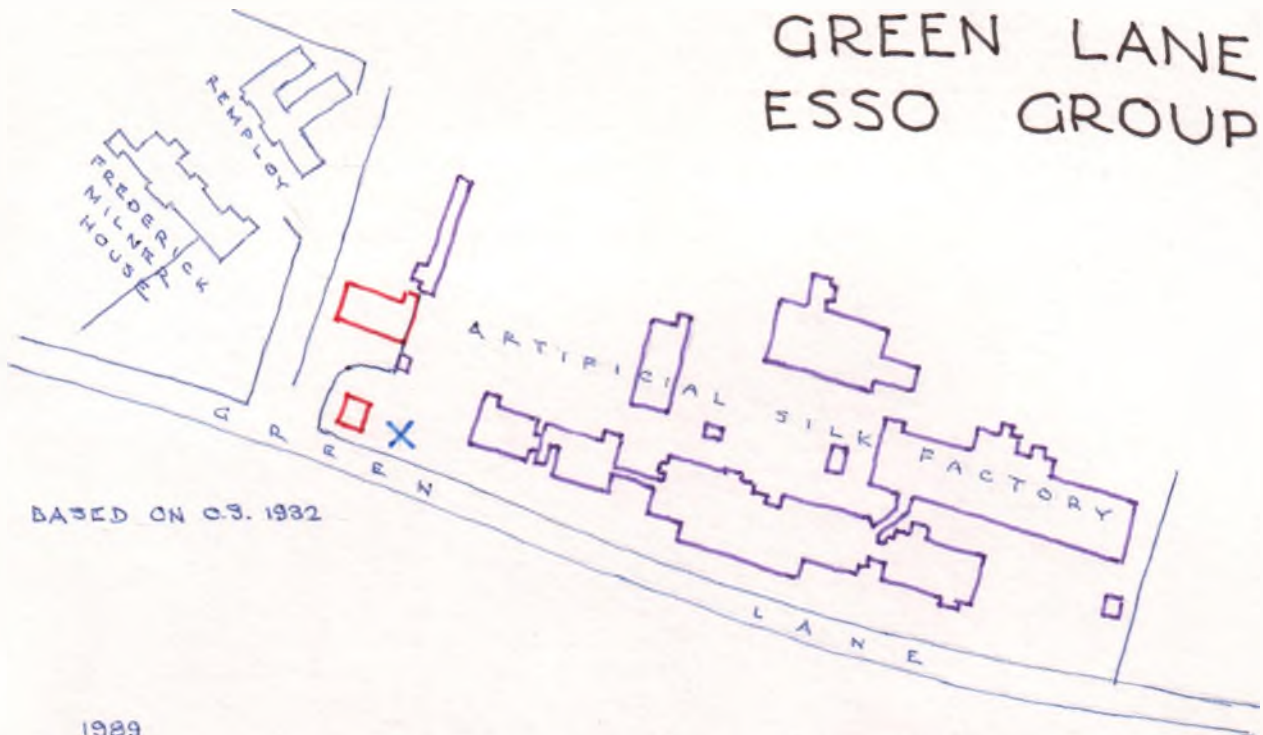
In 1638 William Hilder possessed the copyhold, his son, of the same name, inherited in 1651 and passed it to his widow Hannah in 1691. 1710-13 she shared it with Charles King. Their families' interests continued through the earlier part of the 18th C. although the actual occupant for part of the time was Thomas Tunnel.

Due to this long association with the Hilders the name of the road in which the farm stands, originally called East Lane, became Hilders Lane.

-B.



# GREEN LANE ESSO GROUP



1989



1989

The first known use for this site was as a cemetery and charnel. Preparations in 1927 for the erection of a rayon factory uncovered a large pit of mutilated or dismembered bodies, at point X on the sketch map. In 1974 more bodies and a Saxon spearhead were found. When the Goblin factory was demolished and redevelopment proposed in 1985 excavation produced some 35 graves. Of these some 17, cut into the chalk below the shallow top soil, were of early pagan Saxon men, women and children, maybe 6th C. These graves contained spears, knives, beads, a comb, a necklace and a Panther Cowrie shell from the Middle East. The other graves, possibly associated with a gibbet, were of later date, rough holes, bare of any artifacts, containing men with every evidence of having been beheaded or executed. Further excavations in

1989 have uncovered another 11 such cases. Advertiser 27.4,89 and L.

In 1928 The Rayon Manufacturing Co began to manufacture artificial silk but they were unable to procure adequate water from the ground nor calm complaints about odour. The enterprise ceased in 1932. -A.

Hubert Cecil Booth was the inventor of the vacuum cleaner. In 1904 he made the first portable model, in 1921 the first upright bag machine and a few years later the cylindrical type. In 1938 Goblin BVC moved to this site. In World War II the factory changed to mine-sinkers, shell fuses, camouflage netting and other munitions.

After the war Hoover began to dominate the market. H C Booth died in 1955. Goblin invented the 'Teasmade', made miniature electric motors (some were used in Concorde), but finally closed down in 1984. -L.

Now the Esso Group are erecting their U.K. headquarters here.

This site is wholly within Ashtead.

Goblin may have secured an Ermyrn Way address by taking offices in Frederick Milner House (A.) but Esso's buildings are in contact with Green Lane alone. Interesting to see what they do about it.



ESSO GROUP · GREEN LANE



MAY · '89







MAY '89





GREVILLE PARK ROAD  
G. CLOSE - GREVILLE WORKS



1987



1965

OVER



In the 1895 directory appears John Payne Jennings as of Greville Works.

-L.

Mason & Swann Photographic Dry Plate Works were established in what is now Greville Close just before 1890. In 1895 James Cadett and W Neall took over, becoming Cadett & Neall Ltd in 1897. Evidently the business went well for by the century's end they had built the Victoria Works at 1 The Street (q.v.) to make photographic plates and the Crampshaw Works, behind 2 to 42 The Street, to make photographic papers. Peto & Radford had recently started making electrical accumulators in the old laundry in Crampshaw Lane. They moved the venture to Greville Works and it was not until after World War I that they moved away to Dagenham.

Greville Woks were then converted to residential use - parts of them at least must be rather odd to live in!

(In 1903 Eastman Kodak bought out Cadett & Neall. Five years later they moved the plant to Harrow and auctioned off the two factories. The Brifex Co took the Crampshaw Works (1926) to make leathercloth for bus and car seats, furniture, bookbinding and passport covers. In 1972 the building was converted into offices.)

-A.



2, 4 & 6 GREVILLE PARK ROAD  
HAIG COTTAGES



1988

SEE 1 THE STREET

# 1,3,5,7&9 MAPLE ROAD INC ORDNANCE VILLA

The conjecture that one of the surveyors of the original O.S. may have stayed at Ordnance Villa does not appear very likely. It would seem at least 30 years out of time. If the surveyors can be believed to have performed their duties efficiently it was not built until after 1895, for it is first recorded on the 1912 edition.

Similarities in design, detail and materials clearly show that these three Maple Road blocks were erected as one project. It is also clear that whilst two of them were designed as pairs of semi-detached houses the one nearest Ottways Lane was intended for single ownership. Taking also into consideration the attempt to give the two pairs extra "purchaser appeal" by dolling them up and the building in of a name panel in the other the suggestion is strong that No 1 was reserved by the builder for his own occupation.

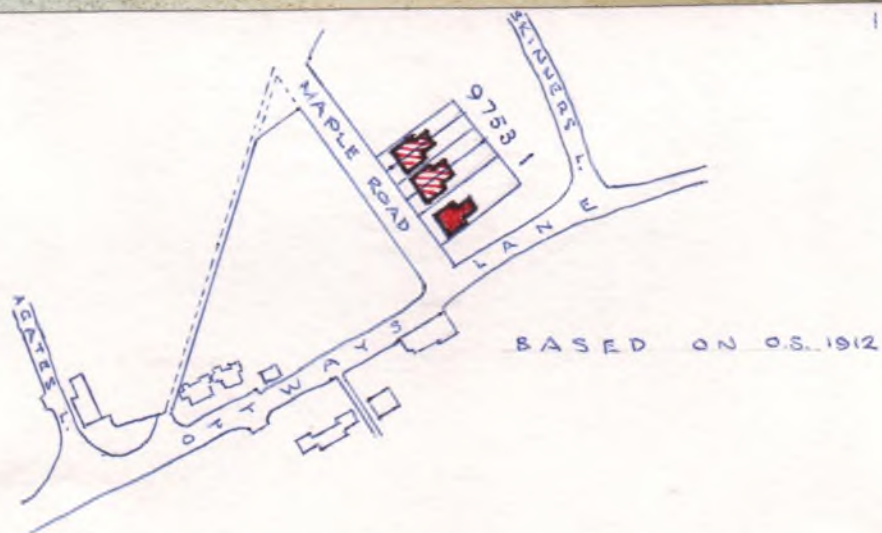
Although No 1 has since been subdivided the original name can still be deciphered as "Ordnance something" probably "Villa".

Shall I make a wild suggestion? Could it be that during the course of his labours one of the surveyors developed such links and likings with Ashted that he decided to settle there and make it his home? When an opportunity arose for him to put up his new house near the base for so many years could he somehow have contrived to do so?

-T-



1989

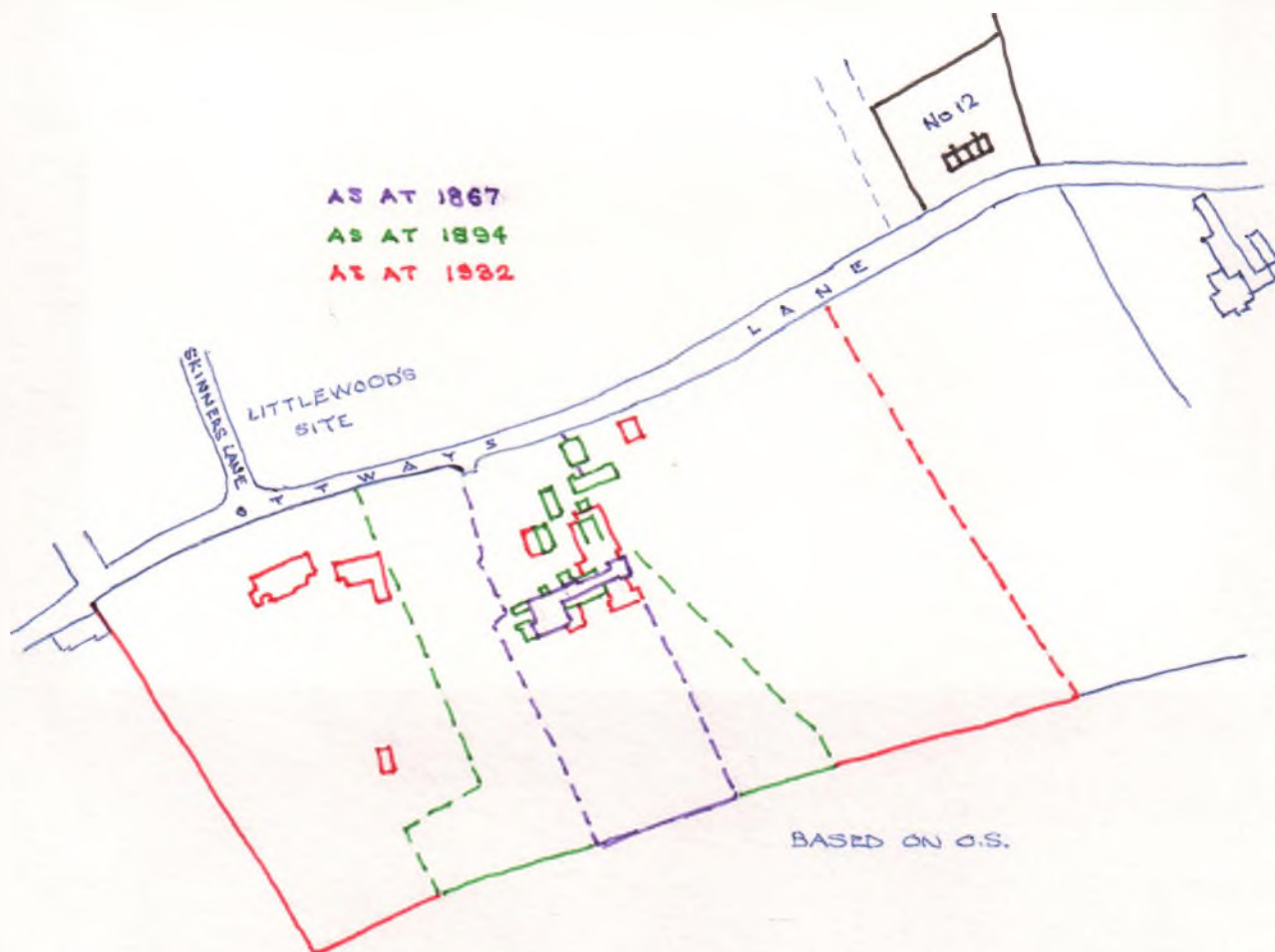




# OTTWAYS LANE PARSONS MEAD SCHOOL & NO 12



1989



Parsons Mead could be the 15th C. 'Clerkencroftes'. -A.

Hackblock bought Parsons Meadow at the sale of the Dackombe estate in 1851.

In 1859 Col. Alexander C Gleig purchased it from Hackblock. It was described as in the 'Lower Ashtead Road formerly called Whitehouse Farm Lane'.\* Gleig built the house he named 'Parsons Mead'.

In 1976 he let it to Frederick Peake and 1880 sold it to him. -B.

\*on the 1867 O.S. it is Ottways Lane however - see 32 to 38  
Ottways Lane

In 1904 Miss Elliston moved her school of 45 girls to Parsons Mead. She had originated St Ann's at 19 Station Road (now Woodfield Lane) in 1897 and moved to Claverton next to the Cricket Ground (now replaced by flats - T.) in 1901.

At Parsons Mead "pupils played netball, hockey and tennis adorned in white blouses, navy knickers and navy drill slips", they went by pony and trap to Weller's swimming pool or later walked to the adjacent Littlewood's Pool (corner of Skinners and Ottways Lanes - T.)

By 1918 there were some 95 girls. For a time boarders were housed in The White House opposite. Part of the old polo ground next door became a playing field and the paddock was acquired from Mrs Hornby in 1954, The school became a public school and an educational trust in 1957, It now has some 400 girls from 5 to 18 (1977). -A.



NO 12

1981

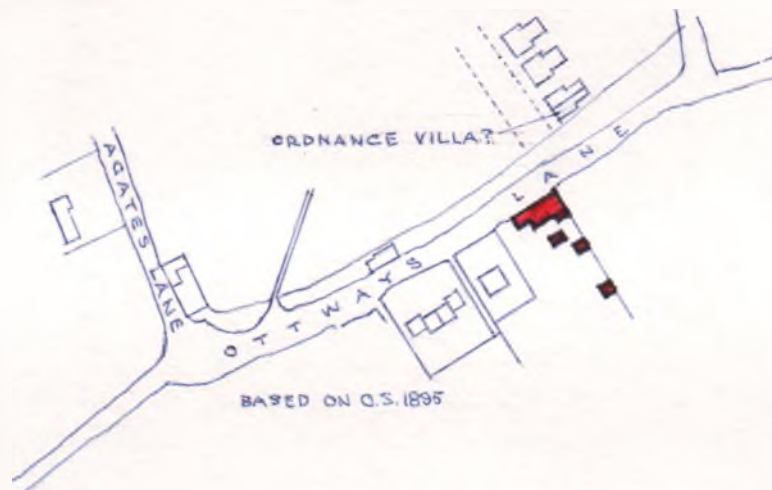


## 11 OTTWAYS LANE THE OLD COTTAGE

Occupied by Robert Arthur in 1691 and William and Sarah Arthur in 1762, in 1840 William died and the 1841 and '51 censuses list William Grant-ham, baker. In the next census David and Matilda Taylor ran the bakery calling it a grocers shop in the next. Between these dates the name Ordnance Cottage evolved. Very probably this and Ordnance Villa opposite were rented by the surveyors of the 25" O.S. map, published 1868. David Taylor was still baker at the century's end. By 1911 Henry ran a rose nursery here; some ten years later Norman Thrupp Nightingale took over as a nurseryman and changed the name to The Olde Cottage. He was still in occupation in 1932.

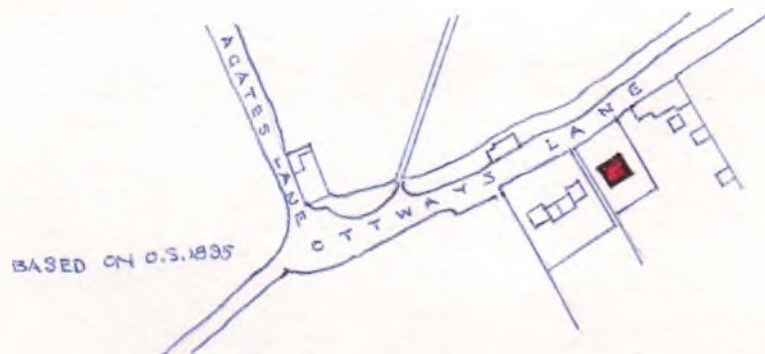
- B

\*but see 1 Maple Road



1988

# 13 OTTWAYS LANE TANGLETREES



About 1851 William and Sarah Arthur, owners but not occupants of No 11, built this house alongside, where they lived with their three children. It is now called Tangletrees.

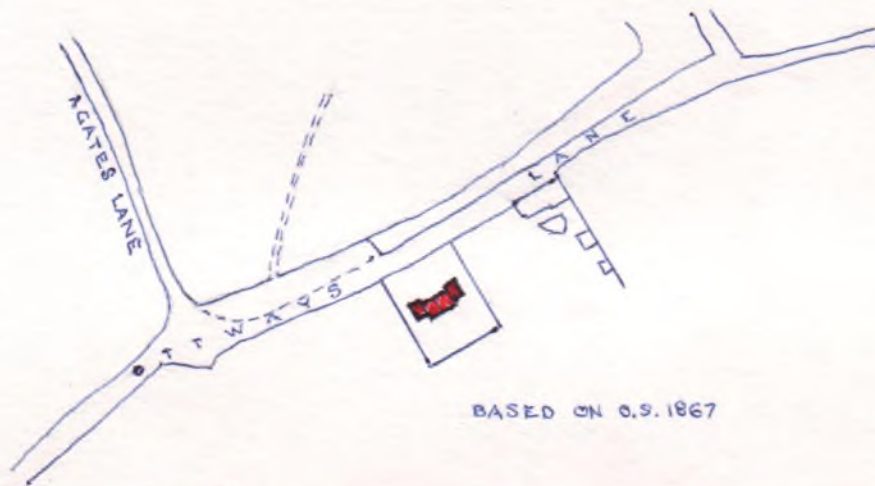


# 15, 17, 19 & 21 OTTWAYS LANE GRANGE MOUNT COTTAGES

The name is perplexing. The occupants believe it to have an association with the house "Grange Mount". Unless the name was acquired no further back than the turn of the century this is untenable as no Grange Mount building appears on either of the first two editions of the O.S. whilst the cottages pre-date 1867.

Possibly the house took its name from the eminence on which it was erected and maybe the cottages had some sort of association with that physical feature. It is not immediately apparent what it could be however.

-T.



BASED ON O.S. 1867



1988

# 32 to 38 OTTWAYS LANE THE PARSONAGE .. THE HAVEN



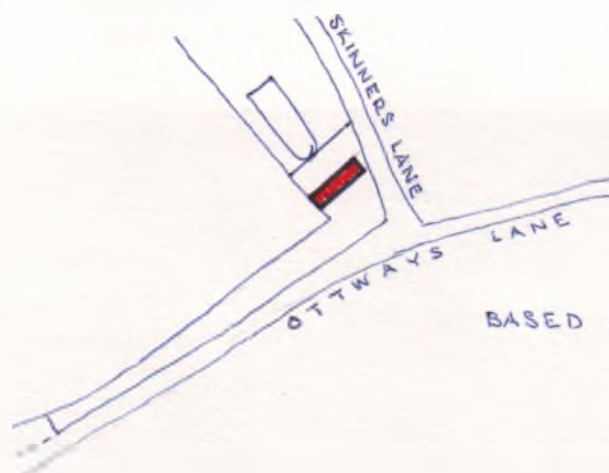
1989

The Lawrence map marks the Parsonage on this site in 1638. There was a pond before the rectors door, into which, in 1670, poor Elizabeth Sparks, spinster, "casually" fell and was drowned. By the next evening she had been sat on by the coroner and buried. When the Rev. William Carter died in 1821 use of the house ceased and it was demolished some two years later.

Col. A C Geary acquired this site at the auction of Ashted Manor in 1878, having previously been the tenant. Shortly afterwards he gave it to Miss Mary Stewart Beattie, a friend, probably a cousin of his wife, who built this alms house. It was for four spinsters or widows aged 50 or more, of unblemished character who had passed their lives mainly in domestic service. She called it "The Haven" and created a trust in 1892. The first occupants were Scottish. There were two residents at the 1881 census.

-5.

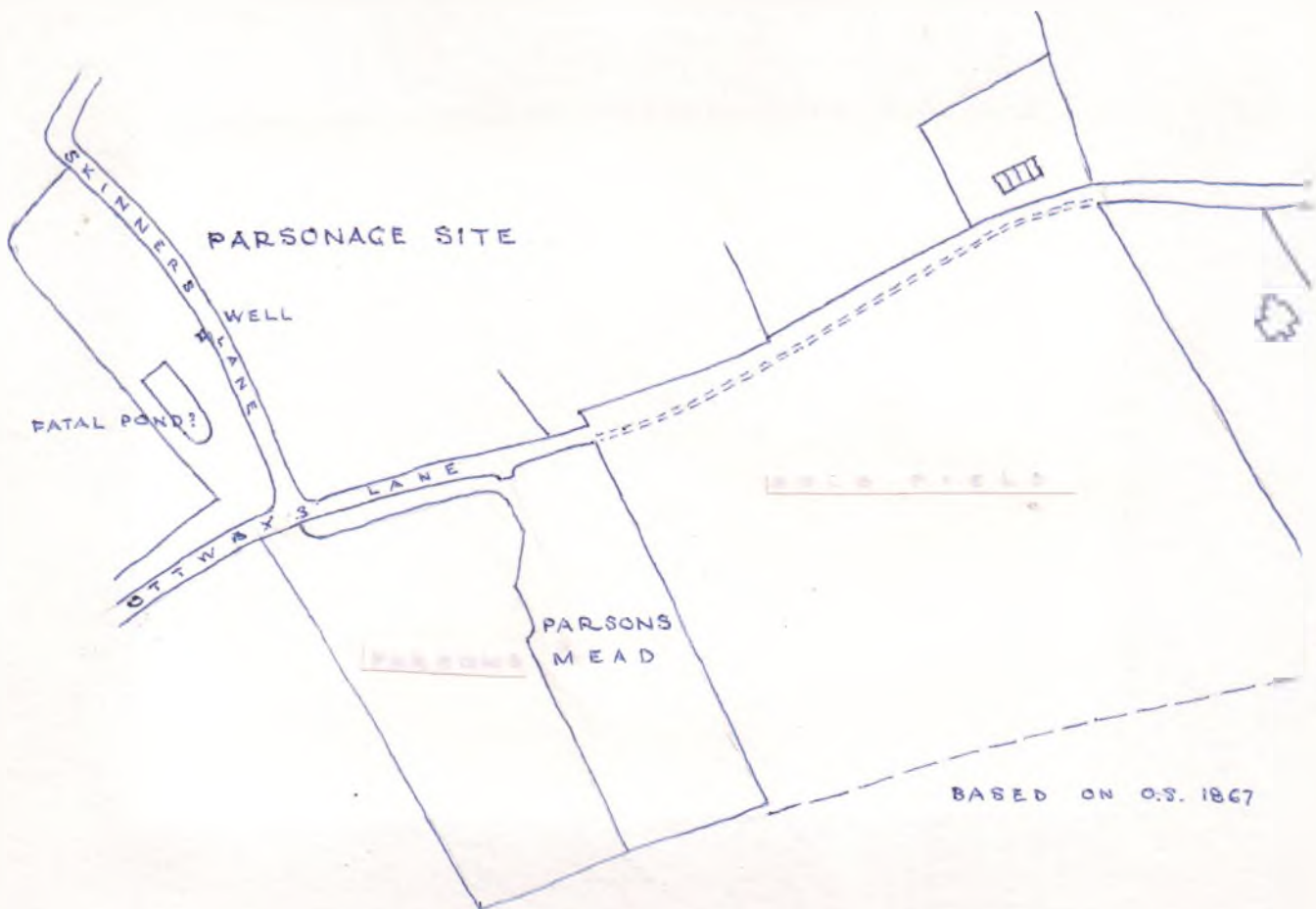
The accommodation has recently been enlarged at the back. The land in front is a pleasure garden, that at the back acts as a drying ground, etc.



BASED ON O.S. 1855

OVER





The first O.S. shows the Parsonage site, by then cleared, much as the parsons must have known it - see the sketch above.

It must not be assumed that the parson's house stood on the same spot as the Haven now occupies. The strangely square end of what must be the notorious pond suggests the close proximity of a building. Additional evidence is afforded by the position of the well. These details point to a house roughly in the centre of the site. Such a position would make Elizabeth's mishap more understandable. Maybe the parson kept ducks - I almost feel I know him.

This map also gives significance to Parsons Mead, for the meadow, which surely was his, was across Ottways Lane opposite his home. Indeed his small empire closed Ottways Lane as a highway, beyond his boundary it was no more than a track across a field until it reached the house later called Timber Lodge. An earlier name for Ottways Lane was Whitehouse Farm Lane. The parson was on the edge of the sphere of influence of the Little Manor, the field was the watershed between the two manors.

-T.

90-92 OTTWAYS LANE  
THE GRANGE





The Lawrence map of 1638 describes an area of land as "Mr Cole's", formerly Little Ashtead or Prior's Farm - the prior being probably of Merton, possibly of Reigate.

In 1578 Little Ashtead had been granted to Robert Newdegate and Arthur Fountain as trustees. It had been conveyed to Francis Newdegate and on his death Henry Newdegate had claimed it but had had to yield it to George Cole in 1602 - after the Reformation London merchants had been making such acquisitions. The site of The Grange can be identified with Mr Cole's garden with reasonable certainty.

-A-

George Cole, of the Middle Temple, died in 1624 aged 70 (and was buried in Petersham with his four year old grandson who had died 5 days earlier). Cole's son Thomas, Merchant Taylor, took over until 1650, when he sold the property to George Wall.

Sir Robert Knightley bought it in 1761. He was a miller in Kingston, probably owner of the Hogs Mill, and had a house in London. Ownership passed through his son Robert to his grandson John but the line ceased with his daughter in 1772. The estate was bequeathed to Aquila Wyke (No 4).

Sir Robert had had a sister Mary who married Aquila Wyke (No 2), the lessee and governor of the Gatehouse prison of Westminster Abbey, and their son Edward was the father of the said Aquila Wyke (No 4).

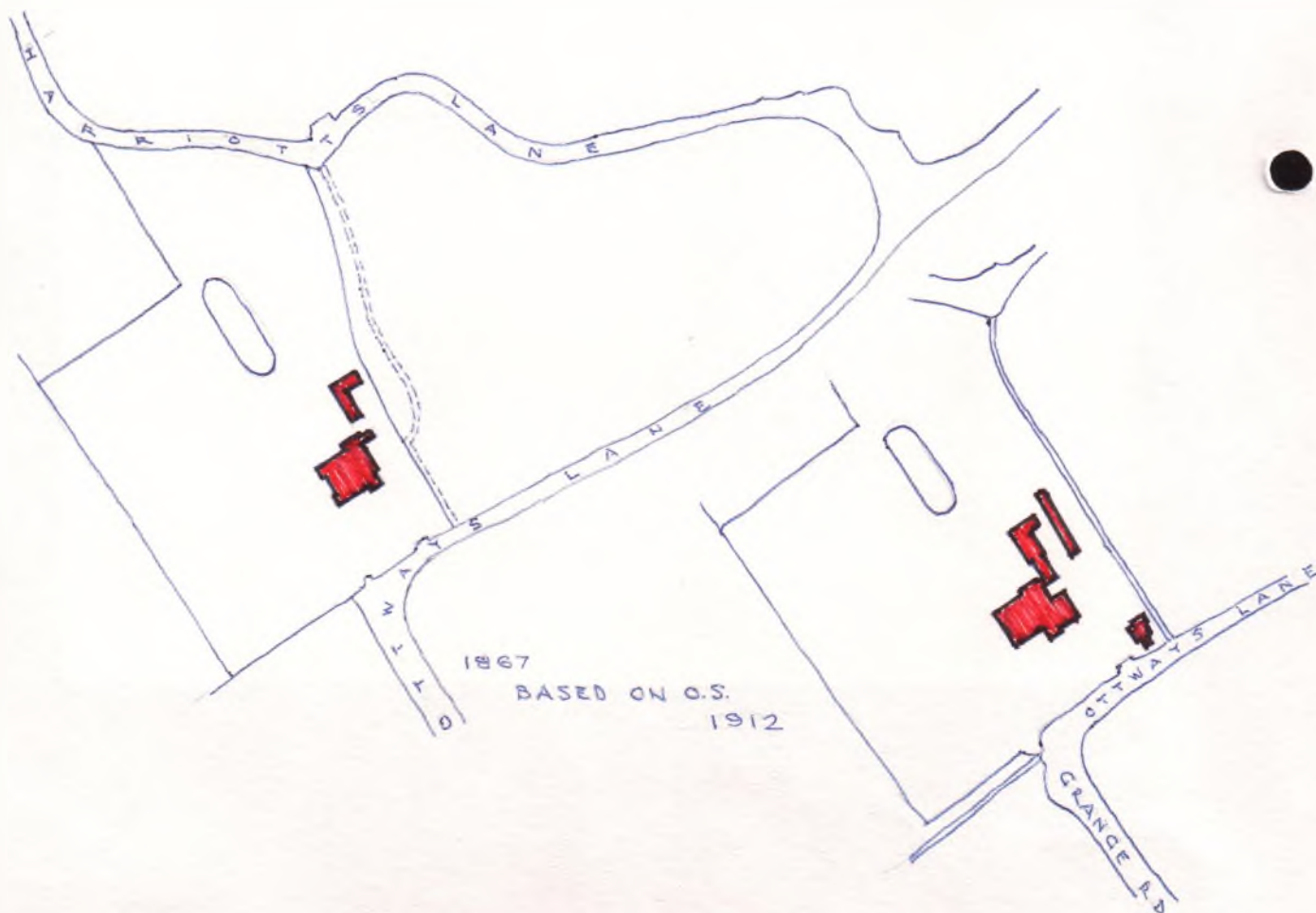
With this Aquila childless the manor went to his nephew Charles Browne and then in like case in 1795 to Aquila Dackombe, fourth generation descendant of Mary, daughter of Mary Wyke, and a Wrexham man named Dackombe.

The property passed by descent to Daniel Dackombe jun. He died in 1844 and the Dackombe estate was auctioned in 1851, to be bought by Thomas Fricker. He sold the Ashtead holding to John Hackblock in 1853.

Some time before 1871 (indeed before 1867) Hackblock built the house called The Grange for his daughter Matilda, married to stockbroker Clifton Whiting.

It became a school in 1945

-B-



## 90-92 OTTWAYS LANE - THE GRANGE

Owners are not necessarily occupants, nor even builders, and a house might be better known by its tenant than an absentee landlord. Whilst much is known of the owners of the Grange site little is known of the residents before the middle of the 19th C.

However, built into the east wall of the present Grange, within a pavilion, is a delightful tablet. This is carved with a label bearing the date 1697 and a cartouche displaying a monogram formed of the initials A, B and probably W. It is a fair assumption that this commemorates a rebuilding of the manorhouse.

The geneological table in B. suggests a possible explanation.

When Mary Wyke's husband died, in 1659, she retained the prison governorship. In a year she married again, to one of her political prisoners Sir Edward Broughton. She may well have deemed it prudent to hold on to the name that brought her to her position and to style herself Mary Broughton Wyke.

By Wyke she had had a second legitimate son named Aquila - Aquila (No 3). Maybe his stepfather was the only father this son could remember, might he not have honoured him by following his mother's example? If nothing else Aquila Broughton Wyke - A B W - would have differentiated him from all the other Aquila Wykes. Does this explain the cartouche?







Examination of the O.S. shows that between 1895 and 1912 the house was extended eastwards (providing the 1697 tablet with its third resting place!) Also the lodge appears. This dull Victorian essay bears the initials WJLB and the date 1896. These points would seem to identify a change of owner and a fresh injection of capital.

Passing note. The O.S. of 1867 and 1895 show Ottways Lane turning SE at the Grange and continuing as far as Green Lane. Ermy Way was the name of an isolated house in what is now Grange Road (later to become school offices).

In 1912 both sections of this southeastern stretch have been given the present names, no doubt as being more residentially attractive.

To me the great enigma is the actual positioning of the Grange. A glance at old small scale maps will show the existence of an ancient trackway from Chessington to Headley. Pebblecombe was - is - the only practicable way across the North Downs between the Dorking and Reigate gaps. It was the function of Headley to gather together the tracks heading for the combe (and the church spire to be a signpost!) How came the manor house to straddle this trackway and force the southern end of Harriotts Lane into such an extravagant detour?

We may never know.

It is tempting to imagine the footpath alongside the present eastern boundary growing out of driveways to the entrance of an earlier manor house.

# 1 & 3 PARKERS LANE ASHTEAD COTTAGE\*



- 1638 - The Lawrence map shows John Head's house.  
 1802 - The Wyburd schedule gives Joseph Symes as owner  
           resident: John Larpent  
 1838 - Thomas Parker has become owner  
           resident: Charles Morris  
 1841 -        residents: George (gardiner) and Mary Morris  
                           John White; Samuel Askew  
 1851 -        David (blacksmith) and Sarah Richardson  
                           George and Martha Cook
- 
- 1861 -        William (gardiner) and Mary Webb  
                           Isaac (blacksmith) and Ann Marshall  
 1871 -        William (blacksmith) and Ann Buckland  
                           George Wood  
 1881 -        Edward Peake, curate  
                           William and Ann Buckland



\* -B.

1988

OVER





1887 - owner and resident: William Buckland (title No 246)  
owner and resident: Marie Cuthbert (title No 247)

Originally a single house it has long been divided into two. -D.

The list of residents strongly suggests that Parker made the division into two dwellings between 1838 and 1841.

Presumably W. Buckland and M. Cuthbert bought themselves free of the Parker estate when it was sold by the Howard Estate to Edward Adams.

4 & 6 PARKERS LANE





8 PARKERS LANE  
ASHTEAD LODGE



1988

1989



OVER

Ashtead Lodge was built on or near the site of an earlier house called 'Penders'. - B  
 The rector in 1638 was living in a house on the site of the present garden. - A  
 A number of churchmen owned or occupied Penders -

- prior to 1476 - John Plumpton, vicar
- 1476 - William Clark, vicar
- 1638 - Robert Quinnell, rector\*
- 1681 - Robert Downes, brother of the rector

In 1691 Samuel Carcock became the owner and Mr Bond, and later Edward Haines, lived in it.

When Carnock died in 1730 the purchaser was Thomas Beckford. Succeeding in 1757 his son Francis built the house anew (a pumphead found in the basement carried a 1765 date).

When Francis Beckford died in 1768 his son Thomas was a minor and William Roos acted for him until 1778. Thomas died in 1781 and once again a minor - his brother - succeeded. The family solicitor Thomas Mainwaring bought the property in 1778. There followed

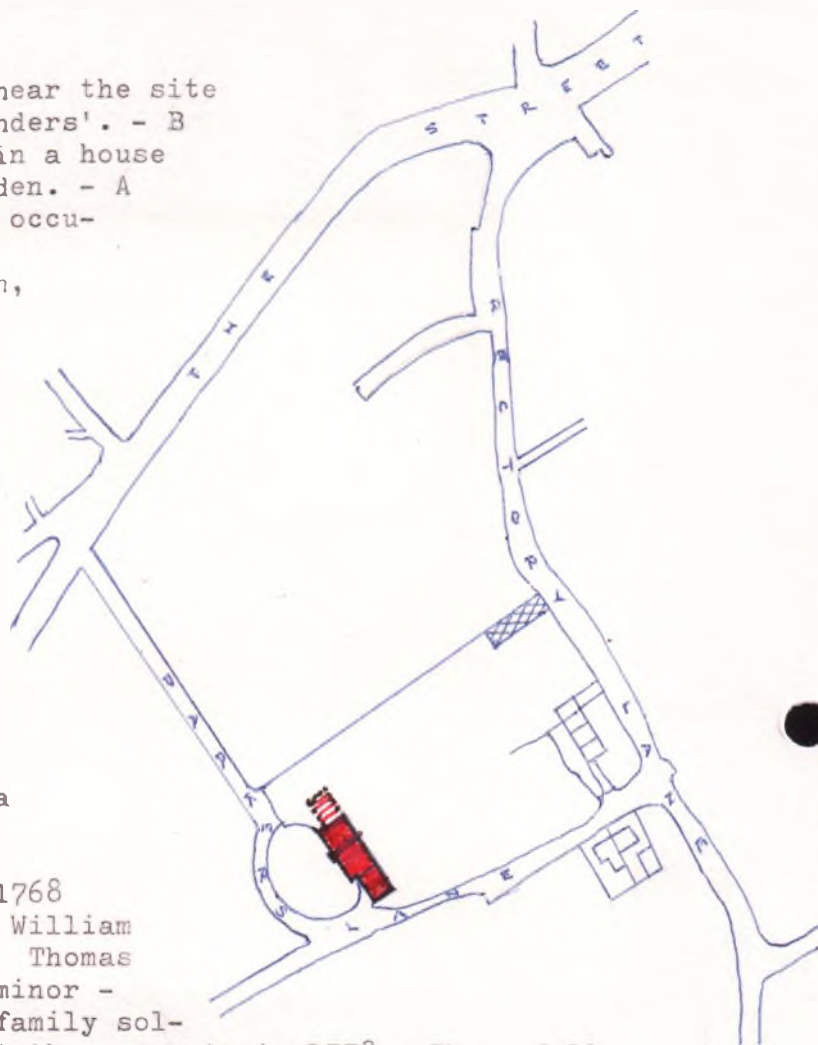
- 1789 - his widow Penelope
- 1793 - Mrs Adams, only sister to Penelope
- 1800 - Thomas Badcott Adams, her brother

At this time the name 'Prospect Place' was being used

- 1803 - Charles Munro
- 1806 - Charles Walsher
- 1825 - Thomas Parker, lawyer (hence Parkers Lane and Hill)
- 1862 - Mrs Parker
- 1874 - Rev. Charles Parker

in 1880 Thomas Parker exchanged this house, inter alia, with the Howard Estate for property elsewhere and in

- 1891 Edward Adams bought it from the Howard Estate and added the service wing - B - A
- 1905 - Robert Wigglesworth was resident
- 1914 - William Drew
- 1922 - Brig. Gen. E.F.O. Gascoigne - B  
 Gentleman at Arms to K. George VI, general manager of the Army & Navy Stores - TV personality Bamber Gascoigne was his grandson - A
- 1950 - Lady Gascoigne
- 1961 - The building was converted into flats - B



\* or Quennell - died 1643 in apoplexy - proc. LDLHS 4.10



## (9) PARKERS LANE LEGACY OF HOWARD HOUSE

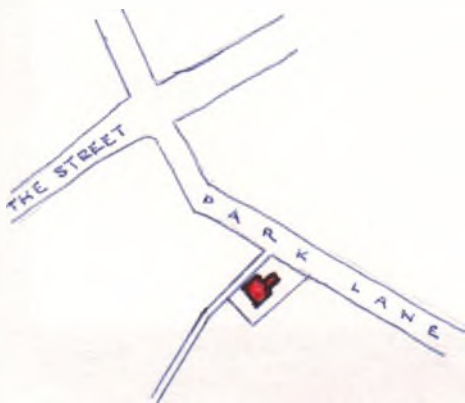


1961

At one time used as a dower house by the Howards it was rebuilt in late Victorian times in a style rather like Gayton House. Empty when World War II began Canadian officers were quartered there until there was extensive bomb damage.

In 1962 it was in such dangerous condition it had to be destroyed and now all that remains of it is the cedar tree.

# PARK LANE PARK COTTAGE



Early in the 19th C. Richard Howard Bagot built a charity school here. The door at the rear (now covered by a garden shed) was probably the school-room entrance. In the garden are the original well and pump. In 1818 some 70 children attended, in 1846/7 45 boys and 38 girls, with an annual budget estimate of £131. They were taught by James Penny and Elizabeth Huck, using the National System in which the older pupils taught the younger and were paid about 1/- a week. In the 1879 catalogue the property was listed as a solitary house, let to the curate Rev. Bonnington Taylor MA, then





aged 76 years.

Towards the end of the century the Dene Road schoolmistresses used it for their living quarters.

-A.



1989

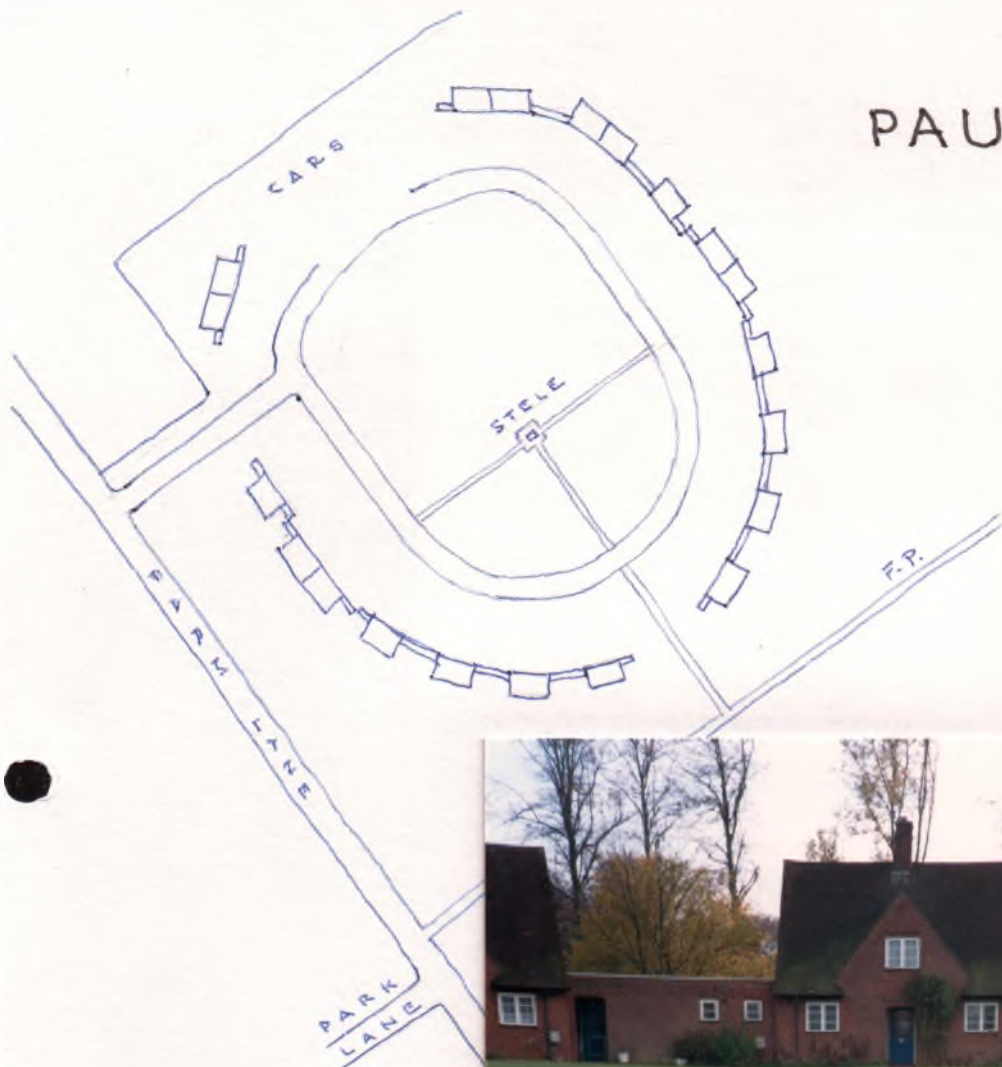


PARK ROAD  
GAYTON HOUSE





# PAULS PLACE



1988

OVER

The inscription on the stele reads as follows:-

THESE HOUSES WERE ERECTED BY  
HERMAN MARX  
FOR WIDOWS OF AIRCREW  
& MEMBERS OF THE  
FLEET AIR ARM AND ROYAL AIR FORCE  
WHO WERE DISABLED  
IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR  
  
IN MEMORY OF HIS SON  
PAUL MANFRED DANIEL MARX  
WHO GAVE HIS LIFE IN FEBRUARY 1943  
WHILE ON ACTIVE SERVICE  
WITH THE ROYAL AIR FORCE  
"TO GIVE AND NOT TO COUNT THE COST"



# PLEASURE PIT & COAL DUTY BOUNDARY MARKS

The Pit is very old and for the major part of its history was called Abbot's Pit. A. notes that the abbot was probably the Abbot of Chertsey, Lord of the Manor of Epsom: Abbot Thomas was engaged in a lawsuit in 1492-3 with Aston Lord of Ashtead Manor, probably in respect of it.

It is conceivable that the pit grew on the boundary line, pushing Headley Road to the east and the boundary line to the west - in the opinion of the Abbot. Certainly today, and at the time of the first O.S., the boundary line is along the western brink of the pit.

The O.S. of 1867 shows it shaped like a Conference pear, 1000ft long north to south and 400ft wide - 6.007 acres (cf Warren Pit 2.618). It was designated Pleasure Pit, chalk pit, so this name had been long enough in use to become established and predominant. Apart from Ashtead Woods this was conceivably the largest area where the public might freely wander and congregate.

Study of the O.S. of 1867, 1895 and 1812 suggests that its exploitation began at the Pleasure Pit Road (Abbots Lane) end and proceeded steadily southwards. The area actually being worked at any one time would be comparatively small. The map symbols indicate that by 1867 vegetation had spread over the whole area away from the main entrance from Headley Road. There were some trees to the

LARGEST SIZE OF FOOTBALL PITCH

EPSOM & EWELL BOUNDARY

GREEN SLADE

SKETCH BASED ON O.S. 1867

ASHTEAD PARK

ABBOTS LANE

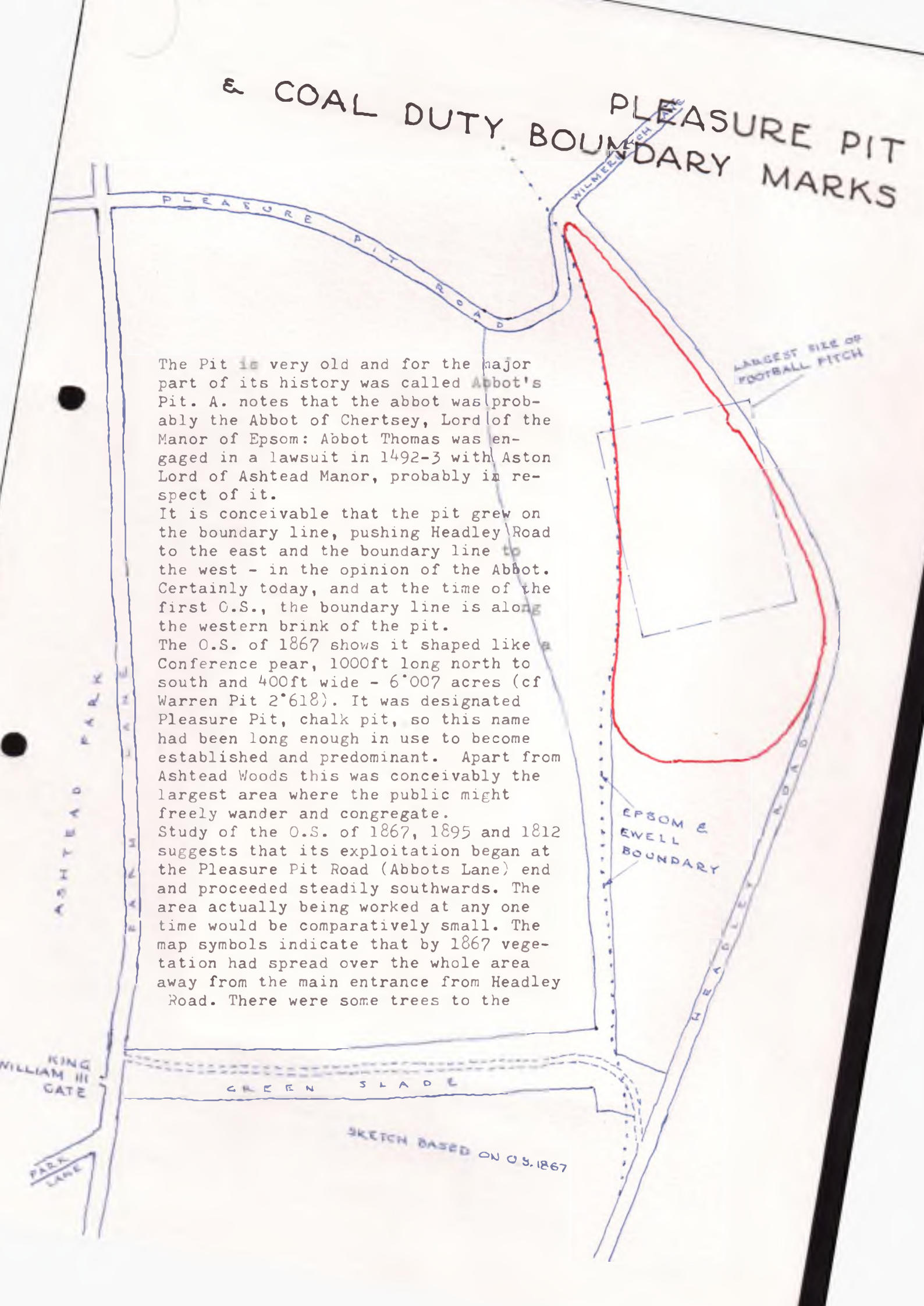
HEADLEY ROAD

WILMER

PLEASURE PIT ROAD

KING WILLIAM III GATE

PARK LANE



south and west but particularly so in the north. The pit was still being drawn upon, maybe sporadically. In 1895, although the acreage remains unchanged the trees at the southern end have been cleared and the vegetation reduced. In 1912 the acreage has become 6'213, pushing out the southern corners somewhat. Vegetation is now everywhere except in the southwest corner where the signs indicate that it was straining so much against the constraints of its limits that the quarry walls had become precipitous. A. records that the Home Guard used the pit as a firing range during World War II. Today it has been almost filled in by the Epsom and Ewell Council, who now own it. Perhaps in a few more years it may again be a place for Pleasure.

COAL DUTY BOUNDARY MARK



1988

At entrance to Pleasure Pit in Pleasure Pit Road.

This post marks the Epsom/Ashted boundary. Even before the Great Fire, when earlier records were destroyed, the City of London charged duty on coal and wine



## PLEASURE PIT & COAL DUTY MARKS

brought into the Port of London. As railways, canals and roads developed and presented other modes of entry Parliament decreed that the duties be payable on "Coal, Culm and Cinders" brought from any direction into the London District.

The powers were of limited duration and there were five successive Acts from 1831 to extend them. The fourth Act, in 1851, defined this District to be within a 20 mile's radius of the City's General Post Office and required a "Boundary Stone or other Permanent Mark" to be provided at every turnpike road or public highway at that distance.

The last Act, in 1861, substituted the Metropolitan Police District for the 20 mile radius. These cast iron posts were adopted as the "permanent marks". Cast in relief on these posts are the symbols -

24 & 25 VICT  
CAP 42

This is the technical label for the Act, which was "An Act to continue the duties levied on coal and wine by the Corporation of London".

The revenue from the duties paid, inter alia, for the Thames Embankments. - Geoffrey Penn, The Advertiser 29.4.01

Culm is inferior coal, slack.

Although for practicable purposes the powers of the Act expired in July 1889 the marks are still carefully recorded and preserved. They have just been repainted by the local authority on behalf of the City Corporation.

The Rye rises hereabouts and links the Pleasure Pit post with another where it carries the boundary across the Epsom Road.

There are two posts just outside Ashtead where Rushett Lane becomes Christ Church Road.

## POST BOX - EDWARD VIII

"Although only 132 Edward VIII post boxes were erected in the whole United Kingdom two of them are in Ashted" -A.



There is one at the beginning of Overdale

The other stood outside the postal counter on the south side of Craddock's Parade. When the counter was transferred to the north side in Elizabeth's reign this box was removed.

Edward reigned from January to December - 325 days - of 1936. Elizabeth came to the throne in 1952.



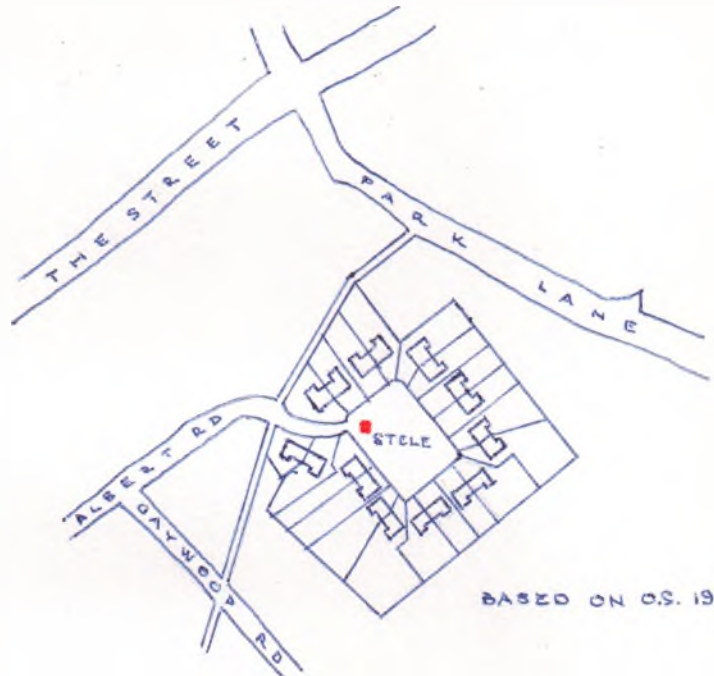
# PURCELL'S CLOSE

PURCELL  
CLOSE

Enshrines for those  
who dwell here the  
name of one who  
loved and served  
them well  
KATHLEEN  
PURCELL  
LADY WEAVER  
18th January 1927



FRONT OF STELE



BASED ON O.S. 1932

There is still an original  
potter in the first house (1988)



1988

In 1925 These Homes were  
built by the Ashted  
Potters Housing Society  
for which Kathleen  
Purcell, Lady Weaver  
collected a gift fund  
of £5310



In 1929 a mortgage of  
£6071 was paid off by  
the Trustees of the  
Douglas Haig Memorial  
Homes. Purcell's Close  
is now held by them  
for the benefit of Ex-  
service men for ever

BACK OF STELE



12 RECTORY LANE  
FOWLERS COTTAGE



1988

1989



OVER





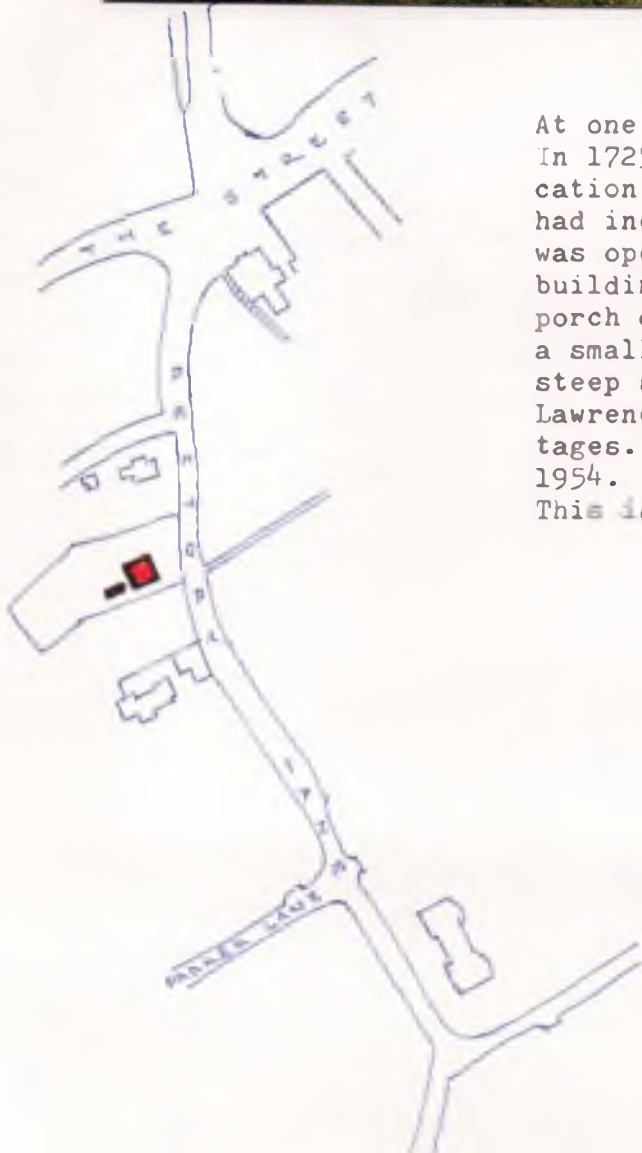
The name is derived from John Fowler, a carpenter, the occupant for the latter half of the 19th C., survived by his sisters. - A.  
This is a 'Building of Historic Interest'.



# 18 & 20 RECTORY LANE APPLEBOUGH COTTAGE



1988



At one time 'Barons Cottages'.

In 1725 David White left money for the education of 8 poor children and when this sum had increased to £10 p.a. a small school was opened, possibly in the small brick building behind the cottages. This has a porch or cloakroom, a schoolroom heated by a small hearth and a loft store room up steep steps.

Lawrence's map of 1638 shows the two cottages. They were converted into one in 1954.

This is a 'Building of Historic Interest'. - A.

OVER



Some dates:-

- 1731 - copyhold passed from Thomas Lamb to Richard Cartwright
- 1742 - Cartwright dies and copyhold passes to daughter Elizabeth,  
married to George Bullworthy, a Hacknet raylor.
- 1755 - school comes into use?
- 1762 - Elizabeth dies, George admitted.
- 1764 - a son registered to Thomas and Mary Kneller.
- 1767 - George dies, his sister Marion inherits and sells the property  
to Thomas Kneller, schoolmaster, for £42.
- 1767 - Kneller surrenders copyhold to William Pinnion, blacksmith of  
The Street.
- 1770 - a daughter recorded to the Knellers.

-B.

26 RECTORY LANE  
WISTARIA & FORGE COTTAGES



WISTARIA COTTAGE

1988

FORGE COTTAGE



WISTARIA COTTAGE

1989



Both appear on Lawrence's map of 1638,  
both are listed.  
The early Victorian forge was last used  
in 1950. - A.  
Now only the south and west walls of  
the smithy remain, providing the back  
for an ornamental garden.  
The unpretty traces on the other side  
of the high brick wall on the southern  
boundary of the site remain from the  
greenhouse of Ashtead Lodge.



# RECTORY LANE OLD RECTORY

John Bulcock bought the site in 1777, built a large mansion and lived in it till his death in 1789. It was subsequently bought by Mrs Sarah Syms, second husband Thomas Wilkins. In 1797 William Hambly bought it, his grandson Hambly Knapp inheriting it in 1823. Two years later he sold it to Col. Fulk Greville Howard.

When the Rector William Carter died in 1821 his successor not living in Ashted his duties were performed by the curate, the Rev. JW Broderick until the arrival of William Legge. Broderick lived in the house.

When, in 1838, the common fields were abolished the church exchanged its thirteen glebe strips with Col. Howard for land either side of Dene Road (then School Lane) and the Hambly house, which thus became the Rectory. The 1841 census shows Mrs Howard living in it as the guest of Mr Legge. Peter de Wint made several sketches of it.

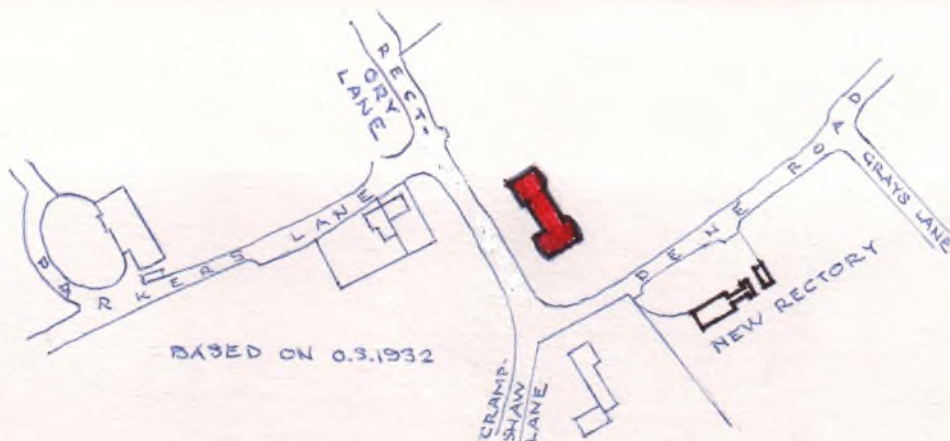
As a rectory it was too large and Mr Waddilove lived at Corner Cottage on the corner of Skinners and Ottways Lanes till the new Rectory was built in 1923.

- B

It is now divided into flats.



1988



OVER





FROM  
CRAMPSHAW  
LANE



THE NEW RECTORY IN DENE ROAD

1989



SHEPHERDS WALK  
THIRTY ACRES BARN



1988



# STANE STREET

Idle thoughts -

No doubt about the pebbles!

1986



I tread where Roman feet have trod.



The newest highway defers to the most ancient

Stane Street is aligned from Chichester to London.

From Tyrrells Wood known as Pebble Lane (Pybyl-stret in 1358) it reaches near to 30 Acre Barn. It continues in a straight line for a short distance, then becomes slightly more northerly and parchmarks suggest a reduction in width. In 1949 Fox found the surviving top layer of the road 100 yds north of 30 Acre Barn to be about 15 feet wide - large flints set in a sandy soil.

-A.

The 1894 and 1912 O.S. also use the name 'Ermyrn Street' most prominently.

With a better known Ermine Street running north from London and another Ermine Street in Wiltshire curiosity is aroused!

None of our names for roman roads are roman, they are the contributions of subsequent folk and tongues.

Walking Crampshaw Lane in miry weather I am struck by the chalk staring out of the greyness underfoot. I am reminded of the fancied derivation of the name of Richmond Park's Isobella Plantation - thought to allude to the colour of the soil, isobel being a dun yellow.

One of the heraldic quasi-tinctures is ermine, a white fur with black tails attached. I could accept the application of the term 'ermine' to be a description of appearance.

-T.



# SKINNERS LANE

18 TO 26



PLEASANT TERRACE - 1904

1988

19 TO 33



BEFORE 1912

1988

15 THE STREET  
THE BREWERY INN



1988





Apparently it began c1800 as a small beer house. In 1839 it was owned by Rhoda and William Carter; from 1850 to the 1910s it prospered as inn and brewery under George Sayer, the brewery in wooden buildings at the rear -

"The Trade and Families supplied with genuine ales and porter"  
It was rebuilt c1900 and reconstructed in the 1930s.

-A.

The roof over the single storied portion was badly attacked by dry rot and was refashioned in 1939 into a most absurd fake 'historical legacy' All that now recalls the one-time brewery are some sickly sentimentally painted boards.



## 48 THE STREET LEG OF MUTTON & CAULIFLOWER

The first innkeeper was Thomas Kitchin, 1707 to 1737. The brick frontage dates from the 1890s, at the rear are the remains of the timber framed structure.

In 1860 Thomas Skilton, Wine and Brandy Merchant, Dealer in Ales, Porter, etc. (also dairyman and cowkeeper) respectfully informed the numerous and respectable Visitors that he had added to and considerably improved its capabilities and modified the Charges to the times. Families and Gentlemen who had not hitherto availed themselves of its comforts were respectfully solicited to give it a trial. The Bedrooms were large and well ventilated. Families could be accommodated with Private Apartments. Good Stabling and Coach Houses, Loose Boxes for Hunters, etc. The beer came from Barclay Perkins.

In 1879 the innkeeper was William Hutchins.

-A.

The agreement, 4.10.1838, to inclose the Common Fields was made at the Inn.

In 1800 the Lord of the Manor, Richard Howard, owned all three Ashtead inns.

In 1862 the Post Office was at this inn and still in 1874 (but was elsewhere in 1882).

-B.

In 1769 it was owning farming land. By 1860 it was a dairy farm of 73 acres, mostly in the area which includes the present recreation ground also the land behind it to Dene Road and a paddock on the corner of Woodfield Lane and The Street which was replaced by single story shops in the 1930s.

In the 1880s its fields west of Woodfield Lane were being replaced by housing plots.

-A.



1986



# THE STREET



SOUTH SIDE FROM NEAR WOODFIELD LANE

1988

## THE STREET AS AT 1989

### NORTH SIDE

#### Greville Park Road

- 1 - Limetree Court;  
residential for MVDC
- 3 - Ashtead Park Service Stn,  
(Shell)
- 9 - Rowenta offices
- 11 - Debbies, Post Office and  
stationers
- 13 - Hampton Bridgers, estate  
agents  
Ashtead Telephone  
Exchange at rear
- 15 - Brewery Inn

#### Woodfield Lane

- 17 - Hair Technique
- 19 - Daves Shoe Repair
- 21 - Burgerland, restaurant
- 23 - Abbey National Building  
Society
- 25 - La truffière,  
delicatessen
- 27 - Fabrique, dress materials
- 29 - A & H Feeds, pet foods
- 31 - Rayner (Opticians) Ltd

- 35 - Nationwide Anglia  
Building society
- 35a - Victoria Wine Co Ltd
- 37 - Capeland Electrical  
Services Ltd
- 39 - Sweet Things, confectionery
- 41 - amanda, ladies' fashions
- 43 - The China Glass Gift Shop
- 45 - Jackie, florist
- 47 - The Hopper Shop
- 49 - Abracadabra Fairy Dress  
Hire
- 53 - Ashtead Service Station  
(Esso)
- 61a - Curry House restaurant
- 63 - Bordeaux Direct, wines
- 65 - empty
- 67 - empty
- 69 - Hair Technique
- 71 - Da' jon, school casuals  
The Marld

### SOUTH SIDE

over

SOUTH SIDE

Parkers Lane

Wellington House -  
WS Atkins Group

- 4&6 - CharlotteHouse, flats
- 8 - house
- 10 - Ken Hewlet, cycles
- 12 - house
- 14 - house
- 16,18 - Discount Car Spares
- 20 - house
- 22 - house
- 24 - The Shoe Shoppe
- 26 - house
- 28 - house
- 30 - house
- 32 - house
- 34 - Bart's Wholefood Restaurant
- 36 - house
- 38 - house
- 40,42 - Traffic (Garages) Ltd

Rectory Lane

- 44 - T & L Arthur, greengrocers
- 46 - Circle K, supermarket
- 48 - Leg of Mutton and  
Cauliflower
- 50 - National Westminster Bank
- 52 - Kingswood Chemists
- 54 - Vinroy Ltd, closed
- 56 - Midland Bank

Grove Road

58 - Michael Everett, estate  
agents

- 60 - Alick Page, butcher
- 62a - Advantage Sports
- 62,64 - offices
- 66 - Tudor House
- 68 - Lloyds Bank
- 70 - Ashtead DIY
- 72 - Newsfare
- 74 - Wisbeys, Fruiterers
- 76 - Jennifer's Cake Shop
- 78 - Barclays Bank
- 80 - Ashtead Quality Cleaners
- 82 - John Pearce, butcher
- 84 - Gianni and Elio,  
hairdressers
- 86 - Gadsby Antiques Ltd
- 88 - empty
- 90 - empty
- 96,98 - Craddox Reproductions
- 100 - Gayfere Shoes
- 102 - Memory Lane Antiques
- 104 - Ashtead Village Club
- 108 - Ashtead Travel Centres Ltd
- 110 - Bamboo Inn, restaurant
- 118 - Vanessa Hair Fashions
- 122 - Coral, turf accountant
- 124 - house
- 126 - Park Lane Fine Art  
Fielding Almshouses

Park Lane



BACKS OF 44, 46 & 48 FROM RECTORY LANE

1989



# THE STREET

6

4



1983

84

82

80

78



No 82 was once Patterson's Coffee Room - see Dene Road School

88

86



No 86 is associated by Gollin with the shadowy Three Horseshoes. No 88 is "probably the only shop in The Street with a cellar". Soon after the photograph was taken (mid 1988) Gadsby Antiques transferred from 88 to 86.



# I THE STREET (INTER ALIA) ASHTEAD POTTERY



FROM A PAINTING BY GEOFFREY FLETCHER  
IN THE POSSESSION OF THE LDHS

Cadett and Neall Ltd (see Greville Close) built the Victoria Works, by 1900, to manufacture photographic plates. It was three storey, in brick and stucco, with a tiled roof. It was set well back from the main road behind flower beds, lawns, trees and a quick set hedge.

Eastman Kodak bought them out in 1903. They moved the business to Harrow in 1908.

William Galloway & Co of Gateshead acquired the works in 1912 and made steam motor cars.

In World War I it served as an Army clothing depot.

After the war it functioned as the Ashtead Pottery (see below).

Between 1946 and 1964 the NcMurdo Instrument Co used it to make small plastic articles - photographic equipment, valve holders, plug sockets and OO gauge railway items.

Then the Leatherhead UDC purchased the site to meet future objectives, in the meanwhile releasing the buildings for warehousing.

-A-

The main building was demolished (some time before 1987) but the later structures to the east lingered on for laboratory uses until demolition in 1988.

In 1989 the Mole Valeey UDC built LIMETREE COURT - "sheltered accommodation for the Elderly".

The ASHTEAD POTTERY was a venture promoted in 1923 by Sir Lawrence Weaver, Stafford Cripps, Dorling and Clough Williams Ellis to find employment for rehabilitated ex-service men. Starting with three potters on the ground floor of the Victoria Works it increased to thirty men. Weaver was the driving force, as he was of the British Empire Exhibition, and there was quite a bit of cross association between the two. The pieces produced were of the widest variety, uses and colours. In-

spiration was drawn from many sources, the most predominant influence being 'art moderne' (later ignorantly labelled art-deco). Percy Metcalf made a particular contribution, from Wembley Lion to Johnnie Walker. The Duchess of York visited the works during her honeymoon at Polesden Lacey.

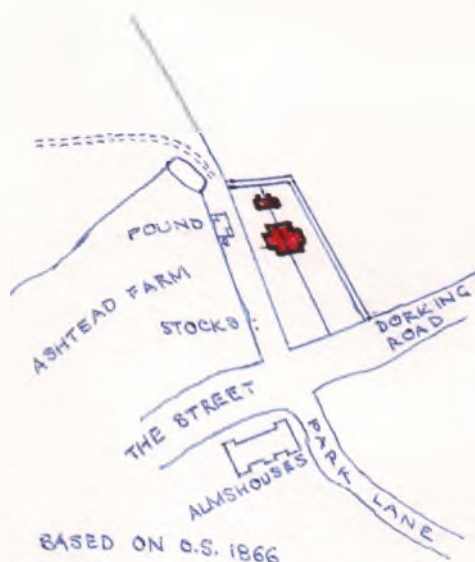
Additional land northwards was acquired for extensions and more buildings. Part of this land was used for the erection of the three Haig Cottages (q.v.) to house some of the workers. Another group of similar cottages was instigated by Lady Weaver off Albert Road (see Purcell's Close).

When the Weavers died the drive died too and the pottery closed in

9.1.1935. - largely based on a talk by Mrs Hallam 21.10.1988.



# THE STREET FOUNTAIN COTTAGES



'Fountain Cottages' cannot have been the original name as they predated 1866 and the fountain could be no earlier than 1877. In 1866 they were separated from Ashtead Farm to the west by a short lane. The pound and the stocks were in this lane and it is conjecturable that they were brought here to be under the eye of the constable who can be imagined living in one of these cottages. An indication on the O.S. suggests a pond where impounded animals might have been watered.

A piece of land from No 2 cottage was used for the Howard Memorial (q.v.) some time after 1877. By 1894 the stocks had gone

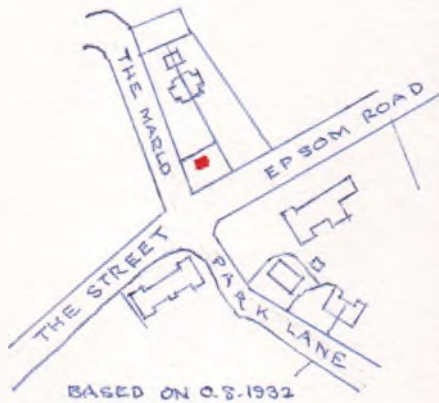
but the pound is still described.

The 1912 O.S. shows the short lane to have become the first length of The Marld and the pound would appear to be resited where the pond(?) used to be to avoid obstructing the roadway.



1989

# THE STREET HOWARD MEMORIAL



1988

This Cross & Fountain  
The Honourable  
By the Parishioners of  
She was beloved  
Life spent in  
When taken to

Are erected in  
Mrs Mary Greville  
Ashted and Many  
And Honoured  
Doing Good and  
Rest in Oct 19 1877  
Aged  
92

Her Works  
Do Follow Her

Memory of  
Howard  
of her relatives & friends  
During a long  
Mourned by all  
At Ashted Park

I N S C R I P T I O N   O N   P L I N T H

OVER



The site of the Howard Memorial is roughly that of

THE BERKSHIRE ARMS

which probably opened early in the 18th C. and disappeared between 1820 and 1835.

- A

(after the death of Lady Diana Fielding, 1731-2, the Manor had passed to Henry Bowes Howard, Earl of Berkshire).

The landlord in 1747 was William Weston.

- B

# THE STREET FEILDING ALMSHOUSES



BASED ON O.S. 1932



1986





This Hoſpital was erected and an annual proviſion  
 made for the better ſupport and maintenance  
 of Six poor Widows of this Pariſh for ever  
 By the appointment of y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Lady DIANA FIELDING  
 Relict of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> THOMAS HOWARD her firſt Husband  
 and afterwards of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> WILLIAM FIELDING  
 To whoſe Memory this ſtone was ſet up  
 By y<sup>e</sup> Earl of Berkſhire y<sup>e</sup> preſent Lord of this Manor  
 and one of the Governors of this Hoſpital  
 Feb J736  
 We praife thee O God

This Houſe firſt erected and endowed by the  
 LADY DIANA  
 Widow of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> THOMAS FIELDING ſome time Lord of this Manor  
 was reinstated A·D·1873  
 with a previous addition of rooms for two poor Widows  
 by the laſt ſucceſſor of the Race of Howard  
 and inheritreſs of y<sup>e</sup> Aſhſtead Eſtate  
 BENEDICAT  
 D·O·M

# WOODFIELD LANE ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

About 1942 the Constitutional Club hall in Barnett Wood Lane was used as a meeting place. The site of Mormead Shaw in the Marld, destroyed in an air raid was bought and the surviving corrugated iron garage was used. Soon after that Rushmere was bought as a presbytery and the first resident priest arrived in 1948. in 1949 a hut formed a temporary church. Peter French drew up plans in 1965 and the church was finished in 1967.





33 & 35 WOODFIELD LANE  
INC. FARRELL'S COTTAGE



One of these is 17thC., the other probably 18th C. in origin.  
-A.  
No 33 was extensively restored in 1988-9.

80,78,76,74,72 & 70 WOODFIELD LANE



FARMWORKERS COTTAGES

1988

