

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



VOL. 2

No. 2

1958

39-65

SECRETARIAL NOTES

THE MEMBERSHIP of the Society for the year ended 30th September, 1958, stood at 148, with one junior member, so that loss by death or removal was fully restored by accession of new members.

The following fixtures were arranged for the year 1957/8:—

1957	
November 30th	Mr. C. W. Phillips, M.A., F.S.A. (Archaeology Officer of the Ordnance Survey) on some new aspects of Long Barrows.
1958	
February 26th	Dr. C. B. Cox, of King's College, London, on palaeontology, illustrated by lantern slides.
March 26th	Mr. John Harris of the Royal Institute of British Architects on "The Evolution of the English House of the 17th Century", illustrated by lantern slides.
April 23rd	Capt. A. W. G. Lowther, F.S.A. on "The Beckford Family of Ashted", illustrated by lantern slides.
May 31st	A visit to Headley Church, with a talk on its history by Capt. Lowther.
June 14th	A visit to the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley.
July 5th	A visit to West Horsley Place, by kind permission of the Marchioness of Crewe; followed by a visit to the parish church of St. Mary.
October 4th	A fungus foray to the Druids' Grove in Norbury Park, led by Dr. Phyllis Topping.

The first number of the second volume of the printed *Proceedings* of the Society was issued during the year and has been well received. The binding case for the first volume (price 2/6 each) has had a satisfactory sale, leading also to the sale of back numbers of the *Proceedings* to members desiring to complete their sets of numbers of the first volume. We would like to remind members who have not yet secured their binding case that these are still available on application to the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. S. E. D. Fortescue) who is also able to supply copies of back numbers of the *Proceedings*.

It will be remembered that when Mr. A. T. Ruby found himself obliged to lay down the burden of the Secretaryship Mr. P. G. Shelley undertook this task until such time as a new secretary could be found. Unfortunately Mr. Shelley, on account of leaving the district, had to relinquish his office during the year and Mrs. Taylor kindly carried on the duties until the Annual General Meeting, when Mr. K. Waite was elected to this office. The Committee is greatly obliged to Mrs. Taylor for this help, as for the excellent manner in which she carried out the programme arrangements for the year.

Twelfth Annual General Meeting

Held at the Council Offices, Leatherhead, 26th November, 1958

THE REPORT of the Executive Committee for 1957/8 and Accounts to 30th September, 1958, were adopted and approved. Mr. Shelley's resignation as Hon. Secretary, on leaving the district, was received with regret; and Mr. K. Waite was elected to fill this office. Miss E. Harrison was elected Programme Secretary in place of Mrs. Taylor, who was elected to the Committee together with the remaining members of the previous Committee.

At the conclusion of the formal business a general discussion took place, upon ways and means of increasing the Society's effectiveness and increasing its membership.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1958-59

Chairman: Capt. A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Hon. Secretary: K. WAITE

(12 Cannonside, Fetcham. Tel. Leatherhead 3812)

Hon. Treasurer: S. E. D. FORTESCUE

(Glyne Cottage, Lower Road, Great Bookham. Tel. Bookham 2606)

Hon. Programme Secretary: Miss E. HARRISON

(Common End, Eastwick Drive, Great Bookham. Tel. Bookham 2702)

Committee Members:

F. B. BENDER, J. G. W. LEWARNE, A. T. RUBY, M.B.E. (*Co-opted*),
MRS. TAYLOR

Hon. Auditor: A. H. KIRBY

Hon. Librarian: T. C. WILLIAMS, The Mansion, Church Street, Leatherhead.

Hon. Editor of the "Proceedings": F. B. BENDER

(Duntisbourne, Reigate Road, Leatherhead. Tel. 2711)

The Editor will be glad to consider suitable articles for publication in these *Proceedings*. The contributors are alone responsible for any statements made in articles in these *Proceedings*: and neither the Society nor the Editor will accept responsibility for the same.

PROCEEDINGS
of the
Leatherhead and District Local History Society
Vol. 2, No. 2
1958

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OCCASIONAL NOTES

AN 18th CENTURY RESIDENT OF LEATHERHEAD.—In the Parish Register of Richmond, Surrey, No. IV (printed by the Surrey Parish Register Society, Vol. III, 1905) is the following marriage entry under date September 8th, 1759:—*Gerard Vandergucht, bachr., of par. of Leatherhead, Surry, and Ruth Holden, spinster, of Richmond; licence. Witnesses: Geo. Clipsom, Clemt. Smith.* It seems probable that this entry may refer to the marriage of one of between thirty and forty children born to Gerard Van der Gucht the well-known engraver (1696–1776). Even though twin births are known to have been incidental to the Van der Gucht family it seems improbable that the elder Gerard could have achieved such fecundity within seventeen years of married life; and as his thirty-second child Benjamin is known to have been one of the original students on the formation of the Royal Academy Schools in 1768 the suggestion that this marriage entry refers to the elder Gerard becomes manifestly untenable. Nevertheless the Van der Gucht family is of sufficient artistic and bibliographical interest to note here some of its more notable members. MICHEL Van der Gucht, a Flemish engraver, was born at Antwerp in 1660, emigrated to England and studied under David Loggan. He was chiefly employed by the booksellers as an illustrator and engraved many of the portraits for Clarendon's *History of the Great Rebellion*. He died in 1725. GERARD Van der Gucht (1696–1776) was an elder son of Michiel. He studied drawing under Louis Cheron at the academy in St. Martin's Lane, practised chiefly etching, and like his father was extensively employed by the booksellers as an illustrator; but later in life became an art-dealer with a gallery in Lower Brook Street, Grosvenor Square. His younger brother JOHN was born in 1697, and also studied under Louis Cheron. He engraved the anatomical plates for William Cheselden's *Osteology*. He died in 1728. BENJAMIN Van der Gucht is said by Bryan (*Dictionary of Painters and Engravers*) to have been the son of John, but the *Dictionary of National Biography* states that he was the thirty-second child of Gerard. He was one of the original students on the formation of the Royal Academy Schools in 1768; and as well as being the proprietor of a noted picture-gallery was a portrait painter of some distinction, among his sitters being David Garrick. He was accidentally drowned in the Thames near Chiswick in 1794, when coming away from Lord Burlington's villa.

THE GROUPS

Owing to pressure on space the usual report on Group activities has been held over from this number to the next. The general outline has remained very much the same as that given in the previous number of the *Proceedings*, though Mr. Grimes' removal from the district has deprived the Ashtead team of an active and zealous member.

A MESOLITHIC FLINT AXE FROM OTTWAY'S LANE, ASHTEAD

THIS AXE, of the so-called "tranchet" type (from the method of forming, and re-sharpening, the cutting edge by removal of a transverse flake—at bottom left on present drawing), was found in 1919, presumably when the road was being made and a sewer inserted. It is now in Weybridge Museum. It is very similar to the axe found with other Mesolithic material, at the Leatherhead site in the Mole, near the Young Street bridge. (See report and illustrations in Vol. I, part 6, p. 10 of these *Proceedings*.) It is not so fresh and unrolled as the Leatherhead axe, but has several of the iron-stains typical of flints that have for long lain in ploughed fields and been repeatedly struck by plough or harrow. It is of grey flint with a milky-brown patina. A. W. G. L.

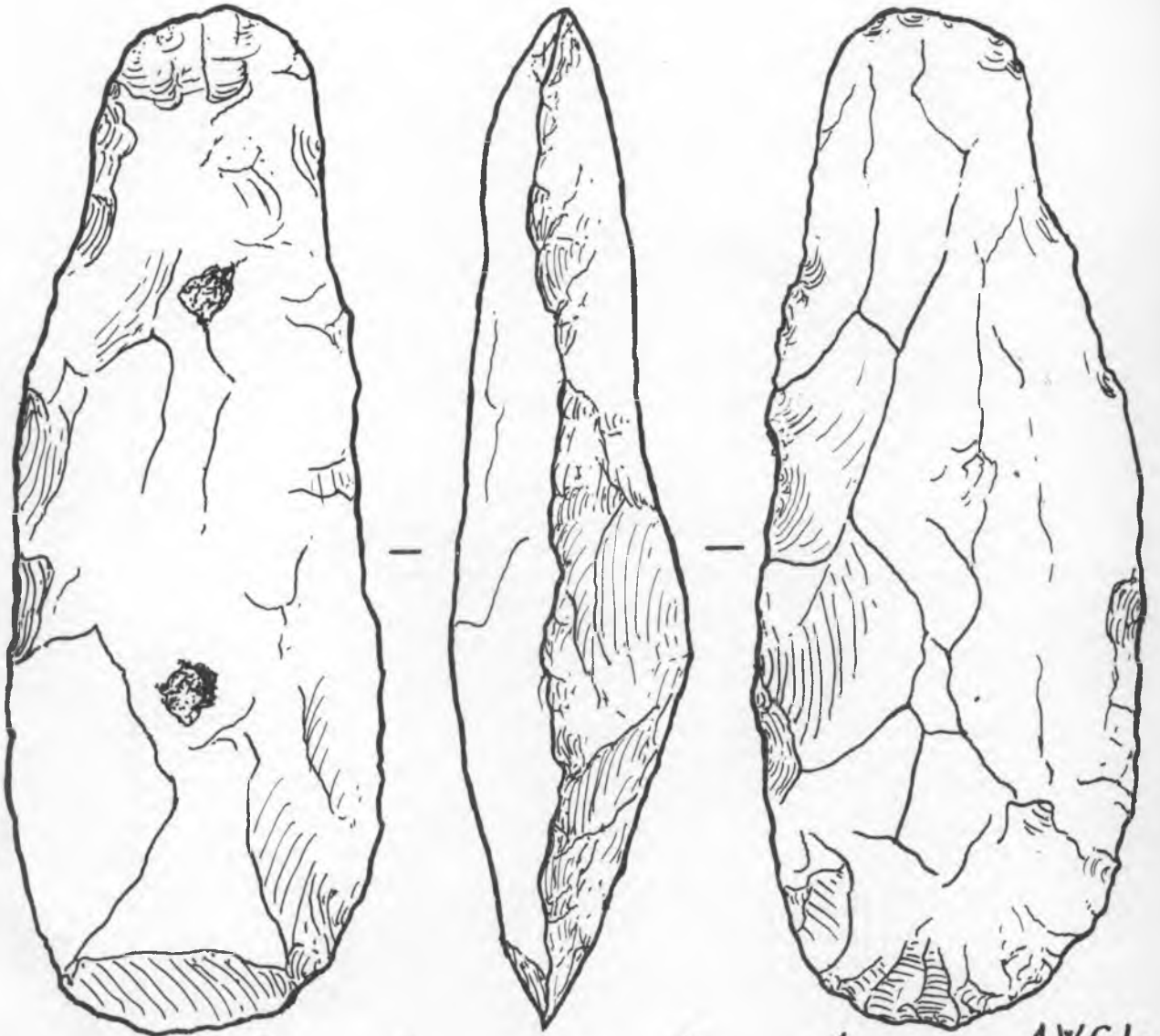
A CARTOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF THE AREA IV. THE ROMAN PERIOD (43–410 A.D.)

By A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A.

FOR AN INTRODUCTION to the map for this period the reader is referred to the article published in Volume 1, No. 4 of these *Proceedings* (pp. 23 and 24). Though that article (Part II of the series "Ashtead and its History", originally published in *The Ashtead Resident*) concerned Roman remains in the neighbourhood of Ashtead, very little has been found outside that area, or if found, has been recorded. The Roman tiles

MESOLITHIC FLINT AXE

FROM ASHTEAD



SCALE OF 0 1 2 3 4 INCHES. A.W.G.L.

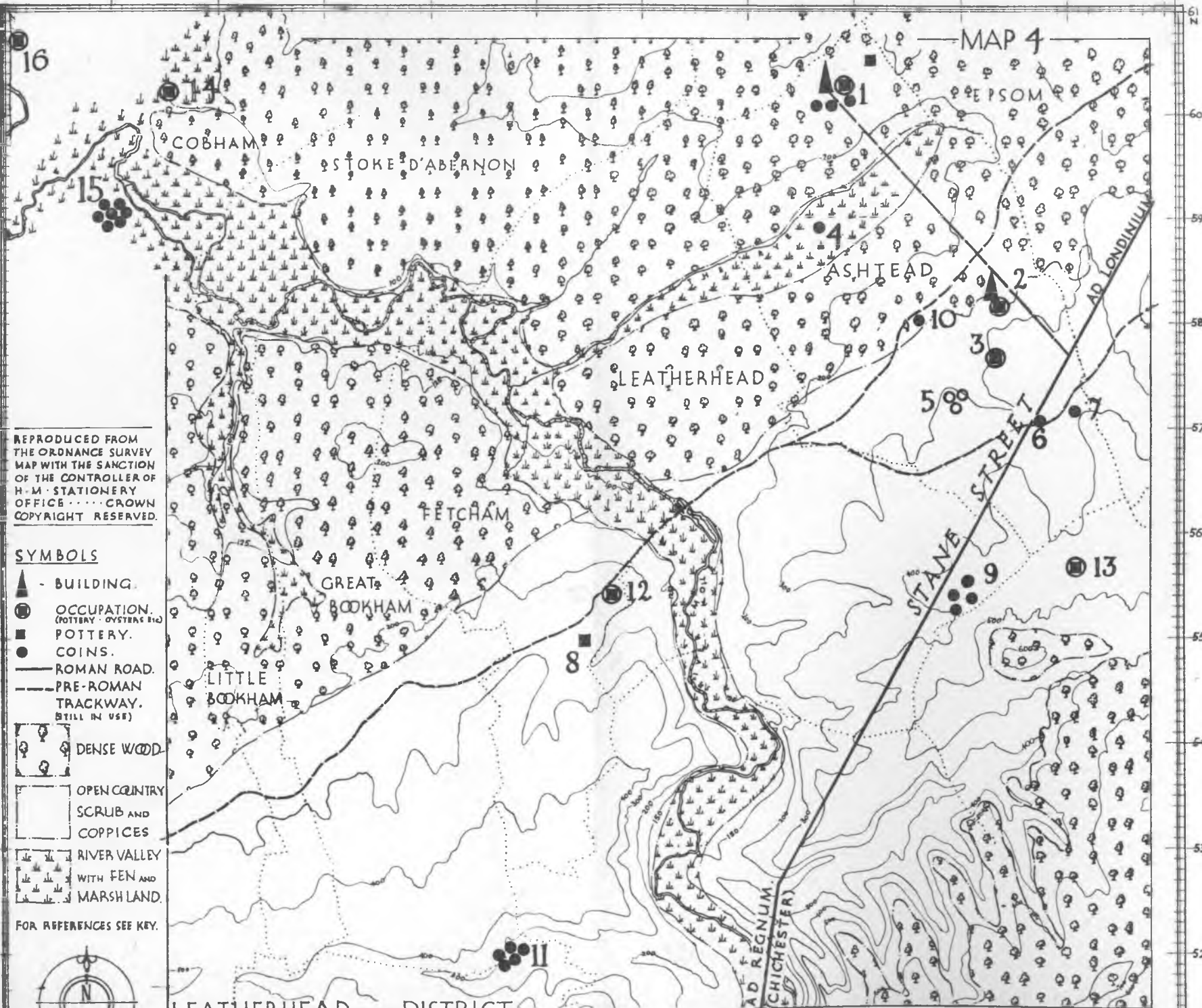
found (as recorded on the O.S. 6-inch Map, XVIII, S.E.) in 1859 close to *The Mounts* at Leatherhead, together with a "brass coin", have been omitted since there is little doubt that they are connected with the quantity of Roman tiles found during this Society's excavations on *The Mounts* of the XIIIth century moated manor-house of *Pachenesham Magna*, which, it was shown, had been brought to the site for use in the first (apparently c. 1200) buildings on the site, and clearly had been gathered for the purpose from several different Roman ruins in the area. Some Roman pottery, floor-tesserae, window-glass, and even a piece of "Samian" ware and of a fine glass vessel had reached the site, probably through being shovelled into carts with the tiles and flints from the Roman buildings as they were demolished. The tiles found in 1859, when the new main road was being constructed, may have been from an overturned cartload which came to grief on its way to the manor-house site in crossing the heavy clay-land to get there. Alternatively, they may have been for constructing the XIIIth century Dove-house which was (as the field-name "Dove-house Close" showed) near to that spot.

Of the late-Roman coin hoard which was ploughed up, with its container an earthenware pot, at Bagden Farm about 1715, there is the implication that a building, or at least a trackway, existed in the vicinity. Possibly a winter route, forming part of the pre-Roman "Pilgrims Way" track, pulled up on to the high ground along the line of the present road (Chapel Lane) from West Humble to Bagden, and then continued westwards, or south-westwards, rejoining eventually the main trackway. For the general course of this important prehistoric route which, like most of the prehistoric trackways, remained in use throughout the Roman period, see the map *Roman Britain* (third edition) published by the Ordnance Survey in 1956 (Price 7s. 6d.).

SCHEDULE OF SITES

1. The brickworks, villa (?manager's house), bath building, etc., with branch road leading to it (for carting the finished products to the main highway, Stane Street) on Ashted Common. Discovered by me in 1925 and excavated (1926-28) in three summers by the Surrey Archaeological Society, under my direction. [Reports—*Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vols. XXXVII, XXXVIII, XLI, XLII, and XLIII]. The site was, apparently, abandoned about 200 A.D. or a little later, and none of the pottery or the coins found were later than this. Most of the objects found can be seen in Guildford Museum.
2. Roman building close to Ashted Parish Church. One corner of the building and a contemporary ditch, in part destroyed by the large medieval ditch (which excavation proved to be of XIIIth century date, and to have been dug to take the metalled trackway leading to the medieval manor-house) still to be seen, were found in my excavation of 1933, June and July. The pottery found dated from Late 1st century to Early IVth century. [Report—*Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vol. XLII, pp. 77-84.]
3. Occupation site in the grounds of "Inward Shaw", Park Lane, Ashted. Discovered, 1929-32, when the present house and garden were being constructed for Mr. A. R. Cotton. The site with corn-storage pits and both pre-Roman and Roman pottery and occupation material (food refuse, quern-stones, animal bones, etc.) was clearly that of a native Romano-British village and, as much late Roman pottery showed, occupation here extended at least to the IVth century. In the first stage, apparently a Belgic farmstead (of the "Woodbury", Wilts. type, as the pits, pieces of corn-drying ovens, etc. showed), but in the later stages, possibly (or probably rather) occupation here was attached to a "Villa", of tile and flint built form (like the ones at Walton and Tadworth not far to the South) and of some size and pretensions. Part of the bowl of a bronze spoon and pieces of embossed sheet bronze from an ornamented (?wooden)

- vessel, also a coin of *Carausius* (of c. 290 A.D.), were amongst the considerable quantity of late Roman pottery found. [Note in *S.A.C.*, XXXVIII, but much still unpublished.]
4. Roman coin found (c. 1873) near Ashtead Station. No particulars. [O.S. 6-inch map XVIII, S.E.]
 5. Roman coins, about six, found when the house "High Warren" was being built in 1920. Seen by the writer, these coins, all radiates, included one of *Allectus* (galley on reverse) and were of mid- to late-IVth century date.
 6. An iron linch-pin, evidently from a large waggon (it is of well-known Roman type) found during the Ordnance Survey's excavation of *Stane Street* at this point. It was buried in the upper metalling of the road. [Report, with illustrations—*S.A.C.*, LI, pp. 147–151.]
 7. Roman coin found (no date, or other particulars) entered on O.S. 6-inch map XII, S.W., in a field beside the Headley Road, and about 400 yards from *Stane Street*.
 8. A few pieces of Late Roman pottery found by me, in 1938, when the new road (Young Street) was being commenced. One of the pieces is of a colour-coated ware circular box-lid, with rouletted ornament ("Castor ware": Late IIIrd or IVth century date, it is a fairly common vessel). [v. *The Roman Pottery found at Colchester*, by T. May; plate LIX, No. 290; for a drawing of a complete box-lid of this ware.]
 9. Numerous, but apparently scattered, Roman coins found during laying out of Tyrrell's Wood golf course and adjacent buildings. These, mainly of the IIIrd and IVth centuries, included a silver coin (*denarius*) of *Galba* (68–69 A.D.).
 10. A small bronze "key-ring" (the key part being at right-angles to the ring, and lying along the finger when the ring was being worn). Found, during road-work, in Ashtead Village, about 1900, and shown to me by the owner in 1928.
 11. Hoard of Roman coins found in 1715, at Bagden Farm, at extreme S. end of Great Bookham Parish. Found in "an earthen vessel", the find consisted of "nearly a peck" of Roman coins. V. C. H. states: "They were said to have been all of Lower Empire date." Salmon mentions some of *Gallienus* (A.D. 253–268) and of that period which were given to him [Salmon. *Antiquities of Surrey*, 1736, p. 89].
 12. Hawk's Hill, Fetcham. A Romano-British (and pre-Roman) occupation site (farm, or village) with corn-store pits, drying ovens, burnt grain, and pre-Roman and Roman pottery and Roman brooches. All similar to the finds at site 3 at Ashtead. [Most inadequately described in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XX, pp. 119–128.]
 13. In the grounds of Headley Court, close to the Headley main road, is an occupation site as is indicated by Roman tiles, nails, pottery, etc., found there. It is hoped that this site will shortly be excavated.
 14. Romano-British occupation site or village found at Leigh Hill, Cobham in 1906. As with the other similar sites mentioned above, it began with Iron Age occupation and extended well into the Roman period. Pottery from this site is in Guildford Museum. [Reports in *S.A.C.* XXI, pp. 192–203, and XXII, pp. 137–154.]
 15. Hoard of Roman coins found in Cobham Park in 1883. It consisted of 800 copper coins, mainly of *Magnentius* (350–353 A.D.), *Constantius Gallus* (351–354 A.D.), and *Constantius II* (337–361). [V.C.H., IV, 360.]
Another hoard was found at Cobham in 1772 "near a barrow, west of the town", and consisted of "a large quantity of Roman coins in an earthen pot. Two of the coins were silver coins of *Valentinian* and *Gratian* (375–383)." [V.C.H., IV, p. 360.]
 16. Romano-British occupation site near Cobham, with mid- to late-1st century pottery. Found in 1932 during works at the Sewage Farm. The pottery is in Guildford Museum. [Report, with figures of the pottery, in *S.A.C.*, XLII, pp. 111–113.]

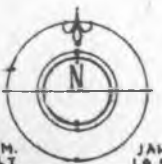


REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP WITH THE SANCTION OF THE CONTROLLER OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE. CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED.

SYMBOLS

- ▲ - BUILDING.
- OCCUPATION. (POTTERY · OYSTERS ETC)
- POTTERY.
- COINS.
- ROMAN ROAD.
- - - PRE-ROMAN TRACKWAY. (STILL IN USE)
- ☼ DENSE WOOD.
- OPEN COUNTRY SCRUB AND COPPICES
- ▤ RIVER VALLEY WITH FEN AND MARSH LAND.

FOR REFERENCES SEE KEY.



LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ROMAN PERIOD.





CHURCH HOUSE, LEATHERHEAD
1822

LEATHERHEAD FAMILIES OF THE 16th and 17th CENTURIES

By F. BASTIAN

II. GODMAN, GERARD, and DACRES

THE EARLIEST MENTION of the name of Godman in Leatherhead occurs in 1336, when at a Court of the Manor of Pachensham and Leatherhead it was ordered that distraint should be made upon the tenements and lands of Roger Godman for suit of court in arrear. His holding was probably subsequently forfeited, for a rental of the manor made in 1383 shows that the holding "formerly of Roger Godman", which seems to have consisted of two messuages and some 12 acres of land, had been broken up and was by then divided among eight different tenants.¹ The name does not reappear in Leatherhead for nearly a century, and if Roger Godman was an ancestor of the later Leatherhead family of that name, the missing generations are probably to be found in some neighbouring parish. The name occurs in Dorking in the 15th century.

The continuous story of the family begins in 1472 when, at a Court of the Manor, RICHARD GODMAN and three others were presented as brewers who had broken the assize by charging prices in excess of those permitted, and were amerced 2d. each.² This seems

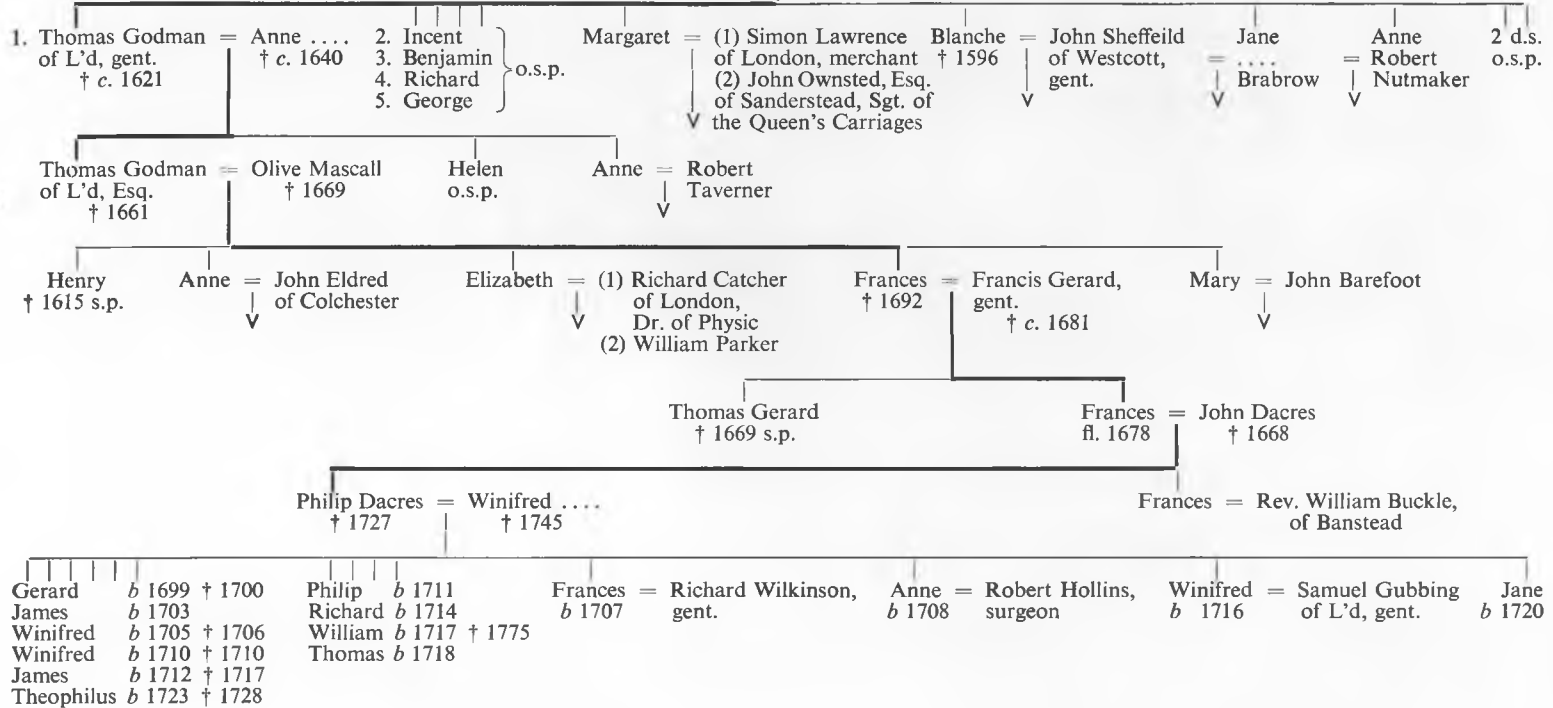
GODMAN, GERARD and DACRES of LEATHERHEAD

Roger Godman (early 14th cent.)

Richard Godman, of L'd, innkeeper fl. 1472

Richard Godman, of L'd, innkeeper
fl. 1520 † c. 1543

Thomas Godman, = Margaret, d. of
citizen and mercer of London, of Dedham, Essex,
†1559 † c. 1596



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by this time to have become merely a technical offence, the nominal fines helping to swell the profits of the court; and in fact Richard Godman was himself one of the jurors at this Court. It is known that in the 17th century the Godman family owned the Swan Inn, at the main crossroads of the town, and perhaps at this early date Richard Godman was the host there.

For some time our information remains very sketchy. In 1497 a John Godman was paid 5s. for fifteen days' work on the rebuilding of Thorncroft,³ and in 1525 a Thomas Godman was assessed for the Lay Subsidy, paying at the lowest rate of 4d. for his wages.⁴ The same list includes another RICHARD GODMAN with the second highest assessment in the town, £15 in goods, on which he paid a tax of 7s. 6d. An unbroken run of Court Rolls from 1520 to 1540 shows that, though he was a prominent member of the homage, he was regularly presented with others as "common brewers of ale, keeping common hospices and selling ale, bread and other victuals at excessive prices".⁵ Presumably he was the son or grandson of the earlier Richard Godman. His will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Surrey on 4th February, 1543/4, as we know from the Index. Most unfortunately, the will itself is missing, and the descent of the Godman property at this point remains obscure. The next member of the family of whom we have any knowledge has so different a background that we can only hazard a guess that he may have been a younger son or nephew not originally intended to inherit the property.

He was THOMAS GODMAN, citizen and mercer of London, who died in 1559. Though in his will,⁶ made in the same year, he declared, "my substance . . . (the number of my children considered) ys not suche as theoppynyon of the worlde hath conceyved of me", he was clearly a wealthy man. It is unlikely that he had made his money entirely across the counter. John Quinby, who was his "servant", but also a family friend, made a will⁷ in 1556 in which he asked his master to recover such debts as he had abroad, and referred to his apparel left in Spain. One of the overseers of Godman's will was his friend Benjamin Gonson, whose daughter about this time married Sir John Hawkins, and who was himself, as the owner of the Merlin, an adventurer in the Guinea trade, and was before long to become Treasurer of the Navy. Though we have no direct evidence of Godman's own trading interests, his background suggests that he may have been among the pioneers of England's mercantile expansion. His London house, in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less, was not his own property. To his wife, Margaret, he left for life his lands in Dedham, Essex, "as well that purchased as that which will come to me by her father or other ancystors". For the upbringing of his eleven children, all minors, he earmarked the profits of his lands at Byfleet; and these were to be sold at his wife's death and the proceeds divided amongst them. His freehold and copyhold lands in Leatherhead were to go to his eldest son, Thomas, though his wife was to have one third of these for life as her dowry. The most interesting provision was that "my wife shall have my mansyon house in Lethered adioynge to the churche . . . there to bring up my youngest children". This was undoubtedly the large house which once stood between the Church and the Dorking road, formerly known as Church House, and subsequently as Emlyn House. Early in the 19th century Dallaway wrote of it: "The only house now remaining in the village, which exhibits any appearance of antiquity is one near the church, with carved gables ornamented in the style of Queen Elizabeth's reign".⁸ In Manning and Bray's History of Surrey, it is described as "of timber frame, at least as old as the reign of Elizabeth".⁹ It would thus seem probable that Thomas Godman, having inherited the Leatherhead property, had devoted some of the profits of trade to building himself a country house there, not long before his death. Evidence from a century later shows it to have been one of the most substantial in the town; and apart from the manorial houses of Thorncroft and Randalls it was the first large house of residential character to appear. Here lived three generations of Godmans, for over a century, and their heirs for several generations more.

MARGARET GODMAN survived her husband by over 35 years, living at Leatherhead throughout most of the reign of Elizabeth I. In her will,¹⁰ made on 18th February, 1594/5, she declared herself to be whole in body and of good and perfect memory; and we may well believe her, for she made a most detailed division of her money, plate, jewels, furniture, linen and kitchen utensils among her five surviving children, fourteen grandchildren, a great granddaughter and two godchildren. Years before, her husband had left certain legacies to be paid to his sons at 21, and to his daughters at 23. Perhaps the distinction had rankled, for the widow now left money to be paid to her granddaughters at 21 or marriage, while her grandsons were to wait until they were 24. Of the six daughters left by her husband, four had survived, and were now all married, with families of their own. Of two of these we know only the names of their husbands and their children. The eldest daughter, Margaret, who was in occupation of her mother's London house, had married Simon Lawrence, a London merchant and a prominent member of the Barbary Company. His name appears in the Leatherhead assessment list for the Lay Subsidy of 1593,¹¹ being assessed at £30 in goods, and paying more tax than anyone in the town except Edmund Tylney. He may have moved to his mother-in-law's country house in search of health; but on 2nd December, 1594 a licence was granted for the marriage of his widow to John Ownsted, Esq., of Addington.¹² As Sergeant of the Queen's Carriages, the latter had the unpopular task of raising transport from the county and organizing the elaborate migrations of the Court from palace to palace. Another daughter, Blanche, was the wife of John Sheffield, gentleman, of Westcott near Dorking. Blanche Sheffield herself died in 1596, leaving a will¹³ in which we are startled to find the formal legal phrases suddenly shattered by the cry: "Come Lord Jesu come I saye quicklye". She could only make her mark, and her husband signed and sealed the will for her on 10th April, 1596. A reference in it to her mother's will seems to imply that Margaret Godman was then already dead, though the old lady's will was not proved until 8th March, 1596/7.

The second THOMAS GODMAN, the only survivor in 1595 of five sons, was probably born about 1540. A mention in his father's will of his "exhibytion" suggests a university education. He next appears as Thomas Goodman (*sic*) of Leatherhead, when on 12th May, 1579 he was granted arms: *per pale ermine and ermines on a chief indented or a lion passant vert armed and langued gules*.¹⁴ He did not at first live at Leatherhead, for he does not appear in the Lay Subsidy lists of 1571 and 1576,¹⁵ and when listed as defaulter at the Surrey Muster at Cobham in 1583, he was apparently exonerated because "he dwelleth owt of this countye."¹⁶ In 1587, however, he appeared personally to acknowledge that he held 105 acres of freehold land of the Manor of Pachensham and Leatherhead,¹⁷ some of it bought only in the previous year. If he was not already resident in Leatherhead, he had certainly come to live there before his mother's death, for in 1593 he was assessed there at £10 in lands, which we may compare with his mother's assessment of £6. References to him now become frequent. He was often named as overseer of Leatherhead wills; his neighbour, Edmund Tylney, Master of the Revels, made him an executor in 1610; and in 1611 he was the first-named of the original trustees of Skeete's charity. In the following year we have a glimpse of John Sands and Edward Skeete—then at loggerheads with the latter's stepfather, Richard Oxenbridge—in the house of Mr. Godman, "neare adioyninge to the open streete".¹⁸ Though Oxenbridge included him among those who had conspired against him, the only offence alleged was that he had bought from Skeete several bushels of hay which Oxenbridge claimed as his own. In fact, the Godman family, though clearly respected and prominent in local life, seem to have been very successful in avoiding the legal, financial and political difficulties in which most of the other leading Leatherhead families became involved during the 17th century. He died about 1621, and, as we know from his widow's will, was buried in the parish church. His failure to make a will appears to belie the impression of unobtrusive efficiency which is left by other evidence, but it may be that he had already settled his estates.¹⁹

His widow Anne must have lived to a great age. We know of four great-grandchildren living in 1634, but it was not until 7th April, 1639 that she made her will,²⁰ and it was not proved until 26th June, 1640. Her most cherished possessions seem to have been her books: Turner's *Herball*, a book of medicines, "my bookes of Gower", a Bible, and "my new booke of psalmes" which was to go to her neighbour the Countess of Nottingham. The will was witnessed by Thomas Mell, presumably serving as a curate several years before he succeeded the aged John Levitt as Vicar of Leatherhead.

The third THOMAS GODMAN, probably born about 1580, was married at Mickleham on 18th December, 1604, to Olive Mascal. In 1610 he was granted a 100 years' lease of Rolles (later the White Horse) and Tephams, in Dorking.²¹ As his son Henry was buried at Dorking in 1615, he may perhaps have been living there, though the Dorking Register calls him Thomas Godman of Leatherhead. After his father's death he seems to have lived continuously and uneventfully at Church House until his own death in 1661. While Charles I was struggling to control a fractious nation, we know of no greater problems facing Thomas Godman than those presented by a household consisting of a wife, an aged mother, and four marriageable daughters. When the Civil War came his age permitted him to remain safe at home. After his death, his widow Olive continued to live at Church House, being in occupation when it was taxed for 13 hearths in 1664. She too, must have been very old, for she lived almost 65 years after her marriage, and had been a great-grandmother for several years when she died in 1669.

The name of Godman now disappeared from Leatherhead, though the arms granted in 1579 continued to be used by another, and presumably related family, descended from a Thomas Godman, yeoman who had flourished at Wivelsfield and later Barcombe in Sussex during the 16th century. The property of the Leatherhead family now passed to the four daughters of Thomas and Olive Godman. The eldest, Anne, had married, probably about 1630, John Eldred, of a prominent Colchester family,²² and it seems likely that they obtained the Dedham estates, of which nothing more is heard. He was probably the John Eldred who served on Essex committees during the Civil War and Commonwealth, and their son, the eldest of three children living in 1634, was probably the Mr. John Eldred who in December 1657 married Margaret Harlakenden at Earls Colne. The bride, according to Ralph Josselin, the vicar,²³ had made her father "exceeding angry" by spending £120 on her wedding clothes—and this was in days of Puritan austerity—"yett he paid the scores" and "kept the wedding three dayes, with much bounty; it was an action mixed with piety and mirth; *die* 18 the company departed the priory". Perhaps old Thomas and Olive Godman were among them. Their second daughter, Elizabeth, had married Richard Catcher of London, a "doctor in phisick",²⁴ and after his death a William Parker. The youngest daughter, Mary, married John Barefoot (or Barfoot). The marriage settlement of 9th November, 1637 assigned to them the Swan Inn, of which perhaps her ancestors had been the hosts, and a messuage called Bishopps in Leatherhead.²⁵ John and Mary Barefoot also appear in 1659 with a reversionary interest in 39 acres of copyhold land in Leatherhead. Though they seem never to have lived in the town, as late as 1693 the Swan Inn was still owned by their grandson, another John Barefoot; but by 1713 it had been purchased from him for £375 by Edward Toy, who himself kept the inn, and who, on the evidence of the parish registers, seems to have been there, presumably as tenant, as early as 1682.

It was to the third daughter, Frances, and her husband FRANCIS GERARD that Church House and the bulk of the freehold property in Leatherhead passed. Thomas Godman's will,²⁶ made in 1652, consists almost entirely of a *verbatim* recital of the indentures by which he had created a trust to enable him to entail these estates upon himself, his wife Olive, their daughter Frances, her husband Francis Gerard and their heirs. The property

included an estate at High Palinghurst, in Cranleigh, and the mansion house in Leatherhead, with some 60 acres of land, specified in detail. Although the property did not pass to the Gerards until the death of Olive Godman in 1669, they were certainly living there soon after the death of Thomas Godman in 1661, and perhaps very much earlier. Francis Gerard had himself bought land in Leatherhead as early as 1641, and the Thomas Gerard who was Steward of the Manor of Pachensham and Leatherhead in 1654, 1658, and 1659, was probably his brother, who acted with him as executor of Olive Godman's will. Thomas Godman's will seems so concerned to protect the interests of the Gerards, his trustees all being members of that family, that we may suspect either that Frances was a favourite daughter or that her husband and his relatives were in a position to exercise undue influence over the old man. His widow, at least, was scrupulously fair: for she left linen chests to three of her daughters, and to the fourth, the money to buy one.²⁷ Whatever the hopes of Francis Gerard when he at last became master of Church House in his wife's right in 1669, they must have been cruelly dashed by the death of his only son Thomas, only a month later. There remained an only daughter, Frances, who early in 1663 had been married at Leatherhead to a John Dacres, who had himself died in 1668, apparently leaving his widow with two small children, Philip and Frances. The will of Francis Gerard,²⁸ made in 1678, makes no mention of a grandson nor of any property in Leatherhead, presumably because it was already entailed upon him by the settlement which Thomas Godman had confirmed in his will. He refers only to his wife, daughter, and granddaughter, all named Frances. His own property, in the parish of St. Giles in the Fields, included a number of houses in Drury Lane, a district with an unsavoury reputation. This will was proved in 1681, and as far as can be told, old Mrs. Frances Gerard continued to live at Church House until her own death at the end of 1692. She, too, must have lived to a ripe old age. Whether her daughter, Frances Dacres, who had been alive in 1678, lived to inherit the property we cannot say. In 1684 a licence had been granted for the marriage of the younger Frances Dacres, then aged 18, to the Rev. William Buckle, of the well-known Banstead family.²⁹ The statement that "he hath ye consent of her father ——— Dacres" seems too vague to outweigh other evidence that John Dacres had died long before. It is uncertain who was living at Church House during the middle 1690s, but the burial at Leatherhead in 1695 of an Edward Gerard of St. Clement Danes suggests that the family connection was unbroken.

Although we have no evidence of the existence of PHILIP DACRES, gentleman, before he appears on the annual list of Leatherhead freeholders in 1698, he can hardly be other than a son of John and Frances Dacres. In the following year a son, Gerard Dacres, was baptised at Leatherhead, the first of fourteen children born to him by his wife Winifred. Several of these died young—three daughters were named Winifred—but enough thrived for their father to resign himself to the necessity of selling his estates to provide for them. Even before his family was complete, he made his will³⁰ in 1718, authorizing his wife, either during her lifetime or by her will, to arrange for the sale of his properties in Cranleigh, Leatherhead, and Drury Lane, and to divide the proceeds among the children in equal shares, a double share for the eldest son being the only concession to the principle of primogeniture. Philip Dacres died in 1727, leaving his widow to cope with a straggling family of five sons and four daughters. The youngest son died a year later, but the others were probably apprenticed away from home; for though the third son, Mr. William Dacres, was buried at Leatherhead in 1775, there is no evidence of his presence there, or that of his brothers, during the intervening years. The daughters, though their fortunes cannot have been great, may have been well endowed by Nature, for we know that three at least made early marriages. Frances was married at 20, a month before her father's death, to Mr. Richard Wilkinson of St. Giles in the Fields. Anne was 23 when a licence was granted on the 11th May, 1732 for her marriage to Robert Hollins of Leatherhead, described as "surgeon" here, but elsewhere as "apothecary". One of the sureties was Richard Wil-

kinson, now also of Leatherhead. When a licence was granted on 14th August of the same year for Winifred to marry Samuel Gubbing of Leatherhead, gentleman, her age was given as 21: the parish register reveals that she was only 16.³¹ In 1732, then, the Dacres were still living in Leatherhead, and presumably still at Church House. When Robert Hollins died in 1737 his widow would probably have returned to live with her mother, so that the burial of their daughter Frances Hollins at Leatherhead in 1741 suggests a still unbroken residence. Mrs. Winifred Dacres, the sixth successive wife to outlive her husband, was buried at Leatherhead on 10th March, 1744/5, and it was probably after her death that Church House was sold.

NOTES

1. Records of this Society W.93.
2. Surrey Record Office. S.C. 6/6r.
3. Merton Coll. Estate Muniments Roll 5777 b. Extracts in the Society's Records, W.7.
4. P.R.O. E 179/184/150.
5. Surrey Record Office and some extracts in the Society's Records, W.22.
6. P.C.C. 62 Claney.
7. See H. F. Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England*, p.1434. There are other Godman references quoted in later Quinby wills.
8. Dallaway; *Leatherhead* p.10.
9. Manning and Bray, *History of Surrey*, Vol. II, p.664.
10. P.C.C. 42 Drake.
11. S.A.C., Vol. XVIII, p.211.
12. S.A.C., Vol. VII, p.3.
13. Arch Sy. 90 Herringman.
14. Grantees of Arms to End of 17th Cent.
15. P.R.O. E 179/185/303. E 179/257/19.
16. Surrey Musters p.182.
17. Surrey Record Office. S.C. 59/1/4.
18. Proceedings, Vol. 2, No. 1, p.11.
19. P.C.C. Admon. to his son Thomas Godman, 1621.
20. P.C.C. 76 Coventry.
21. S.A.C. Vol. LIV, p.73.
22. Visit. Essex, 1634. Eldred.
23. Ralph Josselin's Diary, Camden 3rd Series Vol. XV, pp.122-3.
24. Visit. London, 1634. Catcher.
25. Abstract of Barefoot's Title. The Society's Records, W.19.
26. P.C.C. 140 May.
27. P.C.C. 140 Coke.
28. P.C.C. 109 Cottle.
29. Allegations for Marriage Licences issued by the Commissary Court of Surrey, p.11.
30. P.C.C. 228 Farrant.
31. *Op. cit.* Note 29, pp.65, 71.

A SHORT HISTORY OF BOOKHAM, SURREY—Part V

By JOHN HARVEY, F.S.A.

BOTH GREAT AND LITTLE BOOKHAM are unfortunate in that their extant Parish Registers, instead of going back to the institution of registration in 1538, begin only in 1632 and 1642 respectively. In Little Bookham, the Court Rolls also are missing before 1633, but those of Great Bookham start as a more or less consecutive series in 1554, while the sub-manor of Eastwick has records beginning in 1540. From the Court Rolls it is possible to glean something of the history of local administration, which in the sixteenth century was divided between the secular representatives of the Manor, and the officers of the ecclesiastical organization of the Parish.¹ The parishioners, with the incumbent, had from a much earlier date chosen two churchwardens annually, who were placed in effective control of church funds. From about the end of the fifteenth century the affairs

of church and parish began to be controlled by the Vestry, a body sometimes elected by the parishioners at large, but often consisting of a self-perpetuating group of principal landowners and substantial farmers. Each year the Vestry chose the churchwardens, from the Highways Act of 1555 surveyors of highways also, and from 1572 overseers of the poor as well; this last office probably grew out of that of collectors of voluntary alms.

Meanwhile, a separate series of officers was appointed by the Manorial Court to have jurisdiction over police and agricultural matters: namely the Constable, assisted by one or more headboroughs or tithingmen, elected for the different tithings or hamlets of the manor; an ale-conner or taster of bread and ale, and a pinder or pound-keeper. These officers were appointed by the Court Leet at the View of Frankpledge, an ancient jurisdiction granted by the Crown to certain lords of substantial manors, as was Great Bookham.² Manors such as Little Bookham, whose lord did not have the View of Frankpledge, had their constables appointed by the Hundred Court, in this case that held for the joint hundreds of Copthorne and Effingham. The Court Baron, the normal court held in all manors, dealt only with the transfer and inheritance of property and the collection of the rents and other dues involved. Its records are of the greatest value in tracing the descent of families and the title to property, sometimes also the history of houses and the repairs carried out on them by order of the Court. Under the manorial system every tenant was responsible for maintaining the tenement and for the good husbandry of his land.

The first court recorded on the surviving rolls of Great Bookham is a good example of the mixed business transacted at the View of Frankpledge and Court Baron. The heading runs, translated from the abbreviated Latin of the roll: Great Bookham—View of Frankpledge with Court of Sir William Howard, Lord High Admiral of England, held there on the 29th day of October in the years of the reigns of Philip and Mary by the grace of God King and Queen of England etc. the 1st and 2nd. Next come the formal presentments of the manorial officers: Edmund Durden, constable, sworn, says that all is well in his office; whereupon the Court elects Lawrence Croocher as his successor for the year following. John Hudson, headborough, paid into Court the common fine for Bookham, 6d., and likewise presented that all was well; Ralph Stephen, headborough for Northend, brought the common fine of 8d. and presented that Robert Stephen and John Stevyn dwelt within the lordship and owed suit to the Court but had not come; whereupon fines of 2d. each were marked against their names. John Hibberd, headborough for (Sir) Urian Brereton (lord of the sub-manor of Eastwick in right of his wife, Lady Joan Bray), presented all well and brought a common fine of 10d.

The Court presented that John Denby had forfeited 3s. 4d., part of the pain laid upon him at the last Court, because he had not repaired his tenement which was very ruinous; he was given until All Saints to repair it under a fresh pain of 6s. 8d. By assent of all the tenants order was made that henceforward no one of the manor was to keep any cattle upon the common (arable) fields other than those he kept on his own (enclosed) lands, and then not before the farmer had first laid open the field, on pain of 6s. 8d. Likewise no pigs were to be run in the fields before they had been laid open. Thomas Astile was ordered to make up his hedges and gates towards the Common Field at Preston before next Whitsun, on pain of 2s. A further order was that no tenant should pasture his sheep on the north common (i.e. Bookham Common) from 6th May to St. Martin's day (11th November) on pain of 20s.

The business of the Court Baron on this occasion was limited to granting licence to Thomas a Stile (evidently identical with Astile) to sublet to John Marter junior 8 acres of his customary land, viz. 6 acres and 3 roods let to Thomas Marter senior for a term of years, and 1 rood at "Yarborne Hole" (near Preston), and another rood at "Bokeham

Deane", for 12 years after the expiry of the lease to Thomas Marter, at a rent of 2s. a year to the lord of the manor. For the licence A Stile paid a fine of 4s.

A later Court, that of 6th April, 1557, gives the full styles of Philip and Mary: "King and Queen of England, Spain, France, the two Sicilies, Jerusalem and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Archdukes of Austria and Dukes of Burgundy, Milan and Brabant, Counts of Hapsburg, Flanders and Tyrol", a reminder of the short-lived attachment of England to the great agglomeration of kingdoms under the rule of Philip II of Spain. The earliest Court to name the homage, or manorial jury, is that of 30th April, 1555, which begins with the statement that John Hilder is essoined (excused attendance on the plea of sickness) by Thomas Hilder (who had come to bring the excuse to Court). The list of the homage then follows: Thomas Martir senior, Thomas Atwood senior, Nicholas Elliott, Edmond Durdon, Richard Wilkyn, Thomas Atwood junior, Richard Hilder, John Hibberd, Thomas Hilder, John Marter, Richard Martir, James Rogers, John Gardiner, John Hudson, William Elliott, Ralph Steven, Thomas Dudley, John Rogers of Wisley, John Ottwey, Thomas Roger senior, and Robert Crocher; who then stated upon oath that Henry Lord Burgavenny, Sir Urian Brereton, Edmund Slyfield esq., Henry Snellinge, Richard Newman, John Dudley and John Denbye were suitors of the Court who had defaulted. Theoretically, the total of those essoined, the homage, and the defaulters should provide a complete list of the tenants of the manor, but this was not usual in practice. It may be that a number of the defaulters were not presented out of consideration for their poverty.

In 1498 the Manor of Little Bookham had come into the hands of Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey and later Duke of Norfolk, and it was settled in 1536 on Lord William Howard his son, created Lord Howard of Effingham in 1554. But before this Lord William had obtained, in 1550, a grant of the Manor of Great Bookham from the Crown. Thus the whole of Bookham came for a short time under a single lord, though this lasted only until 1573 and no effort was ever made to unite the two lordships. At William Howard's death in 1573 Little Bookham descended to his heir Charles, who in 1588 was to command the fleet which beat off the Spanish Armada. But Great Bookham had in 1569 been settled on the younger son William, and neither of the brothers seems ever to have lived at Bookham. The younger William sublet Great Bookham in 1580 to Henry Goldwell Esq., but in 1607 it returned to Howard's son Sir Edward in whose line, afterwards Earls of Effingham, it remained until 1801. Little Bookham belonged to Charles Howard until his death in 1624 and to his widow until 1635, after which it was sold out of the family.

During the period of Sir Edward Howard's lordship of Great Bookham, a detailed survey of the manor was made with a map, probably the first of Bookham ever produced. Great impetus had been given to surveying by the break-up of monastic estates in the mid-sixteenth century, and the new landlords were eager to know what their lands were worth and how they could get the best yield from them. A numerous new profession arose, of land surveyors skilled in the making of measured plans by the use of the recently invented plane-table and theodolite, and who in many cases also wrote treatises on estate management.

One of these was Thomas Clay, a Reigate man who married in 1609-10, and later published *Brief easie and necessary tables for the valuation of leases* and *A chorological discourse of the well ordering disposing and governing of an honorable estate*. He surveyed various estates in Surrey, among them Great Bookham, where he began to work under a commission of 1st June, 1614. His map³ was "viewed platted and admeasured" on two sheets of parchment sewn together to form a total area of 62 inches by 19, the scale being 30 perches to an inch or $10\frac{2}{3}$ inches to 1 mile (1:5940). It is finely drawn and beautifully lettered in brown ink, and coloured to show the holdings of the various manors and the different land tenures, freehold, copyhold, indenturehold and the demesnes. The map is

remarkably accurate and enables all the houses and plots of ground to be identified on the modern Ordnance Survey except where, as in Eastwick Park, the whole area had suffered a major change in the interval.

The value of such a survey is naturally very great and makes direct comparisons possible with the state of the village at earlier and later periods. Much of the written survey of 1548, otherwise obscure, can be explained, while the contrast with modern times is visible at a glance.

As compared with the Ordnance Survey map of 1895, made before recent development of the district, the amount of change is very slight. The boundaries of the parish remained the same except that it became enlarged at the north-east by extending to the Mole opposite Woodlands Park. The two great wastes, Ranmore Common and Bookham Common, were almost identical, though a few more small enclosures were made after 1614. The main differences concern the agricultural pattern and the roads. The open arable fields, cultivated in common, disappeared at enclosure in 1822, giving place to several new farms, while some old roads had gone out of use and the main highway between Leatherhead and Guildford had been diverted to avoid the eighteenth century mansion of Bookham Grove. The lost roads were the White Way, which linked Townshot Close to Connicut Lane as a continuous route, and the old causeway over Bookham Common which had extended Church Road to Stents Lane and went on through the meadows to River Lane at Cobham Tilt, crossing the Mole by the old ford a quarter-mile west of Stoke D'Abernon Church. The Admiral's Road had been made to give Admiral Geary a direct access from the Leatherhead turnpike to his house at Polesden.

One important house, originally the most important in Great Bookham, had disappeared altogether: the old manor-house or monastic grange, Bookham Court, which had stood close to where Park View now is, and described in Clay's survey⁴ as let to Robert Marshe: "well and sufficiently builte and covered wth Tyle together wth . . . ij greate Barnes wherof one covered wth tyle and sufficiently boarded rounde aboute . . . and the other covered wth thatche and walled about wth loame . . . one Stable covered wth thatche . . . one Stable or Oxehouse, a gatehouse and a granarie on ye south side of the Courte covered wth tyle, the gatehouse being now much in decay and wth age and for want of reparacion ready to fall."

Analysis of the survey-book, which gives acreages, shows that in round figures the old enclosures accounted for 45% of the total area, the common arable fields for 25%, and the wastes for 30%. This contrasts sharply with the percentages at Aspley Guise in Bedfordshire, a classical open-field parish of the Midlands, which are 30, 50, and 20 respectively.⁵ The figures show how much more important enclosed lands were in Surrey, and how correspondingly less vital to the villagers were the open lands. The greater proportion of waste land reflected the still prevalent sheep-farming of the North Downs and possibly some survival of pig-keeping in the oakwoods of the clay. Another instructive set of figures shows that while 80% of the freehold land was enclosed, the figure was only 57% for indenturehold, 54% for copyhold, and 27% for the glebe. The parson's holding was least affected by the progressive modernization of land-tenure.

NOTES

1. For the parish and its officers, see W. E. Tate: *The Parish Chest* (2nd ed., 1951).
2. For the manor and its officers, see N. J. Hone: *The Manor and Manorial Records* (3rd ed., 1925).
3. In the possession of the National Trust.
4. Surrey Record Office, Kingston; fo. 14.
5. G. H. Fowler: *The Strip Map of Aspley Guise, etc.*, Beds. Hist. Record Soc., Quarto Memoirs, vol. III, pt. iii, 1932, Table II.

THE WATERER FAMILY OF ASHTEAD

CIRCA 1660 to 1790

By A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A.

MUCH FAMILY HISTORY can be recovered and pieced together from the entries in the Parish Registers of marriages, baptisms, and burials; and, for many families (especially those of modest means), this is almost the only source of information. If they held "freehold" or "copyhold" land or buildings from the lord of the Manor, they will, of course, figure in the "Court Rolls", "Rent Rolls", and other manor documents or accounts, though mostly only when, through death or other causes, these holdings changed hands or were disposed of by the tenants.

Except when there were members of these families who fell foul of the law, either through minor misdemeanours or more serious crime, when they may be the subject of entries in the Sessions Rolls or other legal documents, these are seldom mentioned or the necessary documents have all been destroyed, as is the case with all the early Parish records at Ashtead. Some sources, such as "Jury Lists" are helpful where members of the families concerned qualified, as freeholders, to serve on juries, or, for the limited periods in which those taxes were in force, "Hearth Tax Returns" or "Window Tax" lists may contain some of their names.

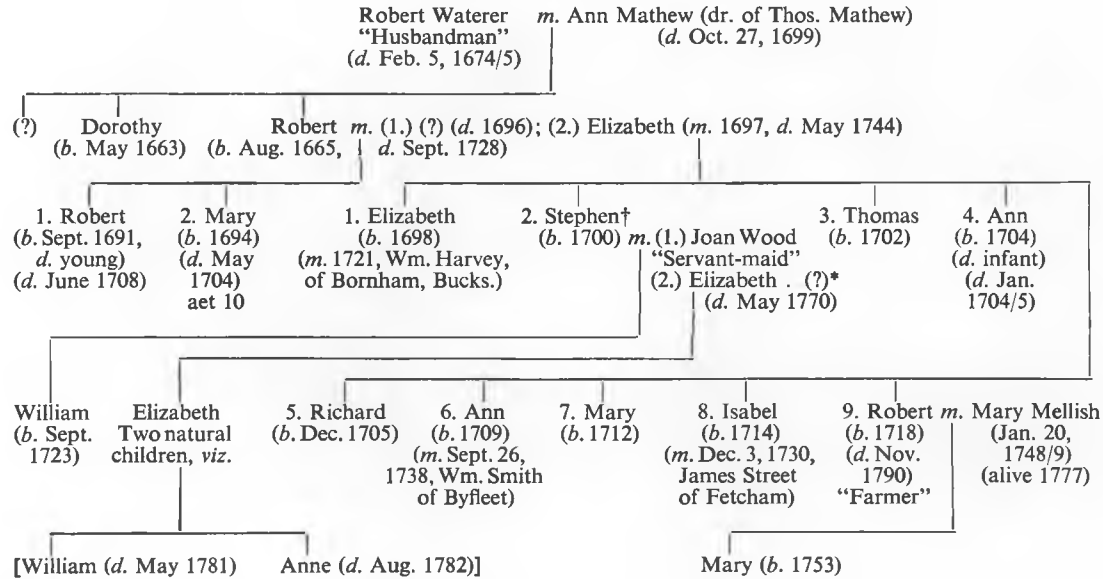
In the case of the family under consideration, the Waterers, a family of yeoman farmers, the entries which have enabled this study to be compiled have come almost exclusively from the Registers, but supplemented by Court Roll entries. No persons of this name have been traced as living in Ashtead, or holding property there, prior to a date about 1660. In fact, when, on 4th February, 1662 (present style) Thomas Mathew of Ashtead made over to his son-in-law, Robert Waterer, who was at that time married to his daughter Ann,¹ all his holding, lands, etc., in Ashtead, it is the first mention of the name and seems likely that Robert came to Ashtead and settled here only when the marriage took place and he received the gift of this property. There is no suggestion that he made any payment to his father-in-law for it and, in fact, it was made over to Robert and Ann jointly, presumably as dowry on their marriage. Thus we have a date about 1660 for the setting up of the Waterer family which lasted here for five generations.

Of Mary, daughter of Robert and Mary, and born in 1753, the last and only legitimate member of the last generation of the family, we have no details, nor does it appear that she married anyone in Ashtead but probably someone outside the area (if she married at all and did not leave the area to live with relatives elsewhere).

The Waterer property we can, from the description, identify with certainty (see plan). Situated at the south end of Skinner's Lane, it was opposite the old Parsonage of 1638 (Lawrence Map of Ashtead), and consisted of a house and orchard and five acres of land. As the map shows that the holding consisted of 5½ acres, the orchard was presumably the half acre and the remainder plough land and pasture. (It is situated on clay soil, with a steady fall in level to the south.)

As to the members of this family, those of the main line, described as "husbandmen", probably lived by farming this smallholding and, if their wills can still be located and studied (no search has yet been carried out), there may be much more to be learnt about their material wellbeing and friends and relatives. Clearly they were not of the same standing as that of the leading farmers, such as the Willoughbys who occupied the Manor farm in the early eighteenth century, or the Pages or the Hilders before them, but it seems clear that it was possible in those days to make a living from quite small farmsteads, no

WATERER OF ASHTEAD

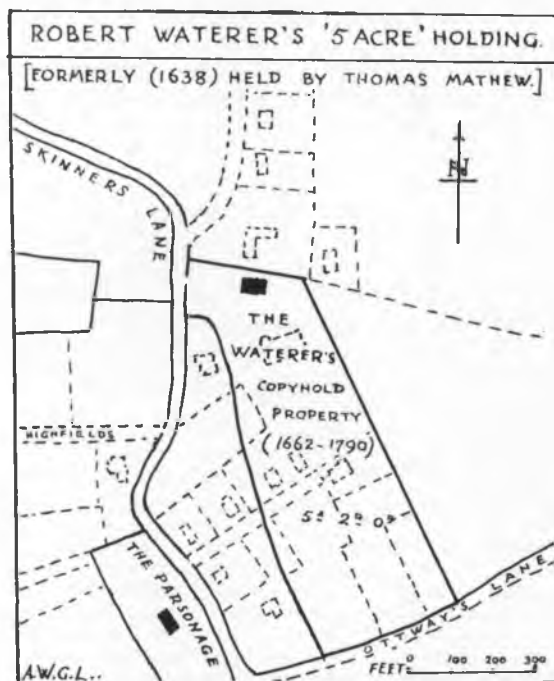


*(N. Burial—1770, May 13. "Elizabeth, wife of Stephen Waterer").

†(Register of Burials)

Ditto—1780, May 21. "Stephen Waters (*sic.*)

doubt supplemented by other occupations (e.g. hurdle-making, the cutting of “bavins”,² preparing firewood, etc.), while it was usual, as the manor accounts show, for the sons of even leading farmers to work as labourers on the manor lands, especially at harvest time.



Finally, the study of a family such as that of the Waterers shows how they (and there are a number of similar examples) came into the area and remained for several generations, only to disappear entirely after a comparatively short period of time. By the latter part of the eighteenth century there were no doubt many more opportunities and inducements for the sons of such families to seek their fortunes elsewhere, especially in London or other of the cities and in industry and manufacture, pottery-works in Lambeth or Fulham, the Coad artificial-stone works at Southwark, or especially with the gradual introduction of machinery and eventually of steam-power to drive it, of the mass of small factories and works that came into being both north and south of the river. This no doubt accounts for the fact that by 1780 or 1790 there are many of the male members of such “yeoman” families for whom we know only that they were baptised at Ashted on such and such a date. Had the early Parish records of Ashted not, as they have, been lost or destroyed, we might be able to trace at least those who took part in local activities. Admittedly there are still some avenues of research into Ashted’s history that remain unexplored, and of these, the Quarter Sessions Records at the County Record Office, Kingston, can be expected to yield results, especially as regards the doings of the less law-abiding inhabitants of Ashted.

NOTES

1. We have no record of the marriage, the Ashted Registers dating only from 1660, but the inference that it was several years prior to this date seems justified by the other entries and by the likelihood that there were actually more children than the two recorded.
2. Faggots of brushwood; a term used frequently in the Ashted Manor accounts.

**A SCHEDULE OF THE RECORDS OF THE WATERER FAMILY OF ASHTEAD
(Circa 1660 to 1790)**

I. Extracts from the Court Rolls of Manor Courts held on Wednesday, 19th August, 1663, and subsequent dates.

Surrender of Thomas Matthew and Admission of Robert and Anna Waterer

Thomas Matthew, customary tenant, etc. on 4th Feb: 1661[/2] Surrendered (per Thos. Smith and Wm. Syms) all his holding etc., and lands to the need and use of Anna Waterer, daughter of the said Thomas Matthew, and Robert Waterer her husband for life. They are admitted and pay in open Court a fine of £7 for their admittance.

Robt. Waterer first appears as a member of the Homage Jury at the next Court, that held on Thurs: 1st Sept. 1664 and thence onwards at each Court.

(In 1669 the Court Roll [21st Sept.] begins with a list of names of tenants, including that of "Robt. Waterer".)

1673. (. . .) August. (Date illegible. A.L.) The List of Copyhold Tenants includes: "Robt. Waterer"

1673. Wed: 10th December. No mention of Waterer.

1679. List of Tenants in Default includes "Ann Waterer, Widow (excused)"

1680. 3rd August Ditto.

1681. List of Tenants of the Manor:—"Anne Waterer, Widow"

1682. No mention of a Waterer.

1683. 14th Sept. Tenants in default include:—"Anne Waterer, Widow (excused)"

1684. Tues. 2nd December. "Anne Waterer, Widow (excused)"

(Court Rolls lost between 1684 and 1730, save for some extracts made in XVIIIth century. A.L.)

1701. Mon. 7th July (Extract):—

Admission of Robert Waterer

Ad hanc Curiam Homagum putant quod *Anna Waterer*, Vidua, una Tenenta customaria hujus Manerii, citra ultima Curia, obiit Seista de uno customario messuagio et certa terra customaria jacentia infra hoc Manerii tenta de Domina Manerii predicti (per copia) Rotulorum Curiae, ac predicta redit herietta, secta Curii, etc. ac Servicie, unde accidit Domine de herietta una vacca sect. ad non Dne. Et quod Robertus Waterer est ejus filius et proximus Heres et plenus aetatis, et super hoc in ista eadem Curia venit predictus Robertus Waterer, et humiliter petit Admissionem sibi et heredis suis . . . (etc.)

(He was admitted and the fine for admittance paid was £10.)

1726. Memorandum of Court Roll (as follows):—

Surrender in Mortgage from Robert Waterer to John Hodges

Memorandum that on the five and twentieth day of January, A.D. 1726 *Robert Waterer of Ashted, Yeoman*, surrendered, by the acceptance of Richard Geale and John Chitney, Yeomen, All that his Tenement and Lands mentioned and expressed in one Copy of Court Roll, bearing date the 7th July, 1701, in Ashted, to the use of John Hodges of Ashted . . . (etc.) (Provided payment of the sum of £87 and interest thereon at a rate of 5% p.a.)

It is signed "The Mark X of Robert Waterer", 1732, 21st November.

Admission of Robert Waterer by Guardian

Admission of Robert Waterer, youngest son of Robert Waterer, 14 years old, by Elizabeth Waterer, his mother and Guardian. Messuage, Orchard and 5 acres. Fine for admission—£12. Rent per annum, 8/-, to be paid at the Manor House on the 12th April next.

Extract from the Court Roll of the Court. (A Special Court Baron of the Hon. Thomas Howard) held on Monday, 14th May, 1753.

Edward Shove to Mary the wife of Robert Waterer; Surrender.

Admission of Mary Waterer

At this Court Edward Shove of Ashted in the County of Surrey, Wheeler, a customary Tenant of the said Manor (as in and by the Rolls of a Court Baron held for the said Manor on the fifth day of November, 1717, appeareth) came in his proper Person and did surrender out of his Hands into the Hands of the said Lord of the said Manor by the Rod and by the acceptance of the Steward aforesaid according to the Custom of the said Manor All that his customary Messuage or Tenement, Barn, Stable, Buildings, Garden, Orchard and five Acres of Land (more or less) to the same Messuage or Tenement belonging with the Appurtenances situate lying and being in the Parish of Ashted

aforesaid and Parcel of the same Manor and now in the Occupation of the said Edward Shove . . . (etc.). To the only proper Use and Behoof of Mary the Wife of Robert Waterer and Daughter of William Milles (*sic* should be Mellish) both of Ashted aforesaid, Yeoman, her heirs and Assignes for ever which said Mary being personally present here in this Court humbly prayed of the Lord of the said Manor to be admitted Tenant of the aforesaid Premises according to the Tenor of the said Surrender—(Granted and she is admitted. Rent—a blank: not stated. Fine for admission—£7.)

COURT ROLL OF 22nd APRIL, 1772

Will of William Mellish enrolled. Sarah Mellish came to the Court by Robert Waterer her Attorney (and her son-in-law. A.L.) bringing the Will of William Mellish, her late husband. Admission of Sarah Mellish, widow, to all her late husband's property. This, besides buildings, and garden in the Common Lane in Ashted, includes—"five acres of Land lying in the Common Fields of Ashted aforesaid, *now in the occupation of the said Robert Waterer*"—Sarah Mellish is admitted to the property.

AT THE COURT HELD ON 22nd APRIL, 1772

Robert Waterer and Mary his wife surrendered to William Syms, *one acre of land in The Dean*. He, William subsequently surrenders "*an acre of land in the North Field*" to Mary Waterer, the wife of the said Robert Waterer.

COURT OF 16th JANUARY, 1777

Presentment of the Death of Sarah Mellish.
Her daughter Mary Waterer appears and is admitted to all her mother's property.
(These holdings are recited, and again include five acres in the Common Fields, and in the occupation of Robert Waterer.)

II. From the Surrey Freeholders Lists, etc., at the County Record Office, Kingston.

- 1762. "Robert Waterer" is seventh in a list of eight freeholders for Ashted.
- 1763. "Robert Waterer, Farmer", fourth in a list of six freeholders for Ashted.
- 1764. "ditto" last in a list of ten names.
- 1765. "Robert Waters (*sic*), Farmer" ninth in a list of thirteen.
(The subsequent lists for Ashted have not yet been copied. A.L.)
- 1775. "Robert Waterer of Ashted held a Freehold at Leatherhead and voted at 1775 election."
(Information from Mr. F. Bastian.)
- 1748/9 22nd Jan. John (error. A.L.) Waterer (called Robert Waterer in the Bond) of Ashted, husbandman, bachelor, 29 and Mary Mellish of Ashted, spinster, 21, at Ashted.
(See Surrey Allegations for Marriage Licences.)
- 1788. Court Roll of 12th September. The Homage Jury includes a "Robt. Waters" (*sic* Waterer. A.L.)

III. Extracts from Rent Rolls of Ashted Manor.

- 1681. 27th June. Under "Copyhold Tenants" "of Ann Waterer, Widow, for a Messuage near the Parsonage . . . 4s. 0d."
- 1696. (In Guildford Muniment Room) "Ann Waterer, Widd. for a messuage near the parsonage . . . 8s. 0d."
- 1707. The "Copyhold Rents" include:—

"Robert Waterer—Tenant in Possession	Rent p.a."
Himself	8s.

IV. Parish Registers.

MARRIAGE REGISTER

- 1723. April 25. "*Stephen Waterer* of this parish and Joan Wood, dwelling and servant maid in this parish; by banns."
- 1748/9. (Differs slightly from the "Allegations of Marriage" copy quoted above.)
- Jan. 20. Robert Waterer, bachelor, and Mary Mellish, spinster, both of this parish; by licence. B.W.

REGISTER OF BURIALS

- 1696. March 30. "The wife of Robert Waterer" (i.e. Robert the son of Robert. A.L.)
- 1674(5) Feb. 5th. "Robert Waterer, husbandman. Friday. On whose soul God had (*sic*) mercy."
- 1699. Oct. 27. "Ann Waterer and Ann Tedley, both the same day."
- 1790. Nov. 9th. "Robert Waters, Senr." (*sic*, clearly in error)

REGISTER OF BAPTISMS

1663. May 29th. "Dorithe d. of Robert Waterer and Ann, borne Sunday, May 27 and baptised 29 of the same."
(Surrey Quarter Sessions Order Book Rolls for 1663-1666;—1663, Oct. Robert Waterer to serve on a Jury at Kingston (called but excused).
1665. Aug. 24th. "Robert son of Robert Waterer* and Ann, † Thursday". Elk: Downes, Rector (1665, 4th April. Robt. Waterer appeared on a Jury at Reigate).
1691. Sept. 27th. Robert son of Robert Waterer (Blank) (Died June 1708. (bd. June 3): "Robert Waterer, son to Robert.)
1694. May 13th. Mary dr. of Robert Waterer (Blank) (Died May (bd. May 17th) 1704 "Mary Waterer dr. to Robert").
1698. Dec. 11th. Elizabeth dr. of Robert Waterer (*sic*) and Elizabeth.
- 1699/1700. March 10th. Stephen son of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
- 1701/2. Feb. 11th. Thomas son of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
1704. Aug. 27th. Ann d. of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth (buried Jan. 31, 1704/5) "Ann Waterer, dr. to Robt."
1705. Dec. 5th. Richard son of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
1709. Oct. 2nd. Ann dr. of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
1712. May 4th. Mary dr. of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
1714. April 25th. Isabell dr. of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
1718. Sept. 17th. Robert son of Robert Waterer and Elizabeth.
(This Robert Waterer mortgaged his holding in 1726. In 1732, he surrendered it in favour of his son, Robert, aged 14. Elizabeth, his wife, was stated to be the boy's guardian.)
1723. Sept. 29th. William son of Stephen Waterer and Joan.
(Stephen was married to Joan Wood on April 25th, 1723. He was born March 1700.)

REGISTER OF BURIALS

1728. Sept. 19th. "Robert Waterer, aet 64. Cancere necat[us]."
1744. May 17th. "Elizabeth Waterer, widow."
1759. March 24th. "Elizabeth, dr. of Stephen Waterer."

V. Surrey Hearth Tax Returns for 1664

ASHTHEAD

Names listed include:—

"10. Robert Waterer. 1 Hearth."

(The Waterer Copyhold property, described as near the Parsonage and "of 5 acres", was the holding, which in 1638 Thomas Matthew held—it is shown on the Lawrence Map as being of 5 acres, 2 roods, 0 poles. It stretched from present Ottways Lane, northwards east of Oakfield Road and the house, or cottage, was at the North end. See Map.)

*Died February 5th 1674/5 †Died October 27th, 1699.



ASSTEAD PARK FARMHOUSE, 1959

ASHTEAD AND ITS HISTORY—Pt. X

By A. W. G. LOWTHER, F.S.A.

Ashtead Park Farm and the Origin and Descent of some of the Separate Holdings

ASHTEAD PARK FARM, in Farm Lane, has already been the subject of some mention (and of an illustration) in a previous issue. Now it is proposed to deal with it at greater length as, due mainly to recent research, certain particulars about it have come to light which enable a fairly connected history to be presented both of the farm and its occupants during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

The first definite information available is obtained from the Lawrence Map of Ashtead Manor of 1638. This shows that one William Hilder held the building and lands which then constituted Ashtead Farm, though we have no direct evidence that then (or prior to 1683) it was actually known by that name. It may have been called "Hilder's", since Farm Lane was (according to the same map) "Hilder's Lane", though *East Street* is the name assigned to this road in one of the Court Rolls (that for 1650 or '51—the exact date is uncertain as the opening portion is now missing).

William Hilder died at this date (about 1650) and though he had a son (also named William—who died in 1691) the latter did not take over the farm if, as seems fairly certain, the following entry does actually concern Ashtead Farm:—

"Proclamation. At this Court the second proclamation was made that if William Hilder, only sonne of William Hilder decd., would come and take out of the hands of the Lorde one messuage or tenement, two Barnes, garden, orchard and two and fortye acres of land, or thereabouts thereunto belonging scituate, lying and being in or neere the East Streete of Ashted, held of the Lorde of this Mannor by the yearly rent of (*a blank*) and other services. And also a cottage and twelve acres of land hereunto belonging scituate lying and being in or neere the Middle Streete of Ashted, held of the lords of this Mannor by the yearly rent of (*a blank*) and other services, which came to the Lords hands by the death of William Hilder his father that he should come and (etc.) . . . and noe person came, etc."

It seems then to have been rented by one "Thomas Rogers the younger" who appears to have occupied it during the period of the Commonwealth, and until 1660 or '61. Anyhow, about 1662, on the death (between May and October) of a William Page, his son, also a William, took over his father's holdings (these included the lands called "Poundage" and "Picked Close") and it seems that at this date he already held Ashtead Farm and as a tenant of the Lord of the Manor. We may reasonably assume that his tenancy dates from the reinstatement of the Lord of the Manor, Thomas Howard Earl of Arundel, on the Restoration of the Monarchy.

This William Page and his wife, Mary, are those mentioned by Samuel Pepys in his diary and with whom he stayed on his visit to Ashtead on the 25th July, 1663, when he obtained a room at "Farmer Page's", and when he visited, while his supper was being prepared, the house which was formerly his cousin's. (This was possible as the two buildings—Ashtead Farm and John Pepys' house, called, as we now know, from a document of 1683 "The Breaches"—were only a short distance apart, on opposite sides of Farm Lane.)

It is from the Marriage Settlement which was drawn up when Thomas Howard was about to marry the Hon. Diana Newport, in August 1683 (a voluminous document recently made available to the writer) that we learn a good deal about the manor.

Ashtead Farm was, we learn, a part of the so-called "demesne" (the Manor-house and lands which went with it which remained in the hands of the Lord of the Manor) and so formed part of the settlement. It is stated to have been ". . . formerly in the tenure of occupation of Thomas Rogers the younger, of Ashtead aforesaid, and now . . . of Mary Page and William Page, or one of them".

As to the farm house itself, it is fairly certain that it was at this date, and like the manor-house, entirely rebuilt. The new manor-house was a handsome brick building as we know both from surviving drawings and written descriptions such as that in the *Diary of Celia Fiennes* (published 1888, as "Through England on a Side Saddle in the reign of William and Mary"; republished recently)—page 290 on: "About 4 miles off is Sir Robert Howard's house which I went to see. Its a square building, the yards and offices very convenient about it, and several Gardens walled in. All the windows are sashes and large squares of glass; I observed they are double sashes to make the house the warmer, for it stands pretty bleake. It's a brick building. You enter a hall which opens to the Garden, thence to two parlours, drawing roomes and good staires; there are abundance of Pictures; above is a Dineing roome and drawinge roome with very good tapistry-hangings of long standing. There is severall bed chambers well furnish'd; good damaske beds and hangings and window Curtaines of the same, and so neatly kept ffolded up in Clean sheets pinn'd about the beds and hangings. There are severall other good beds and ffurniture, one roome all ye beds and hangings are of a fine damaske made of worsted; it looks pretty and with a Gloss like Camlett, of a Light Ash Coullour. There are good pictures of the family, Sr. Robert's Son and Lady, which was a Daughter of the Newport house, with her Children in a very Large Picture. There is fine adornments of Glass on the Chimney and fine marble Chimney pieces; some Closets with Inlaid floores; its all very neate and fine, with the severall Courts at the Entrance."

The check pattern arrangement of the brickwork forming the front wall of Ashtead Farm is clearly original work of this period and is all that survives of the late XVIIth century building, for as we now know, it was burnt down and completely gutted in 1731. When it was rebuilt after this fire the upper part of the main walls had evidently also to be rebuilt, as can be seen since the check pattern was not retained in the new brickwork then erected. The tenant-farmer of Ashtead farm at this date was one Thomas Willoughby, a well-to-do yeoman farmer whose father, William Willoughby, rented the farm (at £15 per annum) and appears to have relinquished it to his son Thomas long before his death in October 1722. ("Senex" is written after his name in the Register of Burials indicating that he was of considerable age when he died.)

The fire was clearly a serious matter for Thomas Willoughby and a collection on his behalf was organized by the Rector, Peter Hamelot. The original appeal and list of subscribers and their donations has survived and is a most interesting document. A corner of the document has been destroyed by mice and the words in brackets are surmised. It reads as follows:—

"We the Minister, Officers, and In(habitants of) The Parish of Ashted In the Co(unt) of Surrey) Certifie:

"That on Wednesday the 5th of this in(stant May at) Ten o'clock in the morning there hapened in the Parish aforesaid, a most Dismal Fire, which in the space of three Quarters of an Hour entirely Consumed The late Dwelling House Barnes Stable Cart House and other Out Houses belonging to Thomas Willoughby, together with 2 Ricks containing by Computation near 25 Load of Hay, Several Quarters of Wheat, Oats and Horse beanes, a new waggon, a cart, all His Harrows 2 Plows, and all others His Implements of Husbandry except such as were then on The Horses, who were at that time at Plow, The Violence of the said Fire was so great, that it did not give Him the leasure to

save almost any of His Household furniture, nor any of His, His Wife's or their Children's wearing apparel, except what was on their backs, that on the ni(cest) Calculation we can make, we consider His loss to amount to near Two Hundred Pounds, exclusive of what will fall on His Land Lady.

"We likewise Certifie, that the said Thomas Willoby is a sober, Regular, Diligent Labourious Man, that he has a Wife and four Children who by this unhappy accident are greatly Reduced, and want the assistance of well Disposed Christians.

"Dated in Ashted this 8 Day of May 1731.

Dudley & Ward.
Baltimore*

Peter Hamelot, *Minister*.

John Otway	}	<i>Church</i>
John Thornton		<i>Wardens.</i>
Richd. Syms	}	<i>Overseers.</i>
Edwd. Vergo		
Wm. Beckford, W. Cooke"		

The actual amount raised cannot now be computed as the items were not originally totalled up, and the corner of the document which bore the first two donations, those entitled "The Honable Lord Dudley" and "Esqr. Beckford", probably the two largest of them, has been destroyed. Since however 10s. 6d. is the largest sum given in the surviving list only about £15 or £20 can have been raised. This calamity did not, however, shorten the life of Thomas Willoughby as he did not die until September 1747, though we do not know whether he occupied the rebuilt farmhouse of Ashtead Farm at the date of his death.

Before proceeding further into the eighteenth century, it may be as well to deal with some of the more interesting of the Ashtead "place-names", and describe how they appear to have come into being and how some of them became altered as time went on.

Research into the Court Rolls and other documents of the Manor has made this possible and one can follow the history of certain of the properties from 1380 onwards. Most of their names have now dropped out of use, and mostly for the reason that the land to which they applied has been cut up into smaller plots and built upon. Some few of the names still survive. Almost all are the names, or corrupted names, of early tenants of these properties, and of families that held them from father to son for several generations. Others represent occupations and especially is this so in the case of occupations such as "tile-maker", "cofferer" (box maker) where clay or timber was required, and we had at Ashtead, amongst other similar names, "Tiler's-place" and "Cofferer's grove".

In this category was one mentioned in 1381 but which disappeared during the next century. This was "Saulpeterers Croft", i.e., the place of the maker of saltpetre, presumably for gunpowder, and this name reminds one that in early times saltpetre was made from manure and manure impregnated soil (such as from cattle sheds, etc.) as well as from certain vegetation (bracken especially). This occupation was for some centuries carried on in the country, on a small scale and at many different places.

We do not know where exactly this Ashtead saltpeterer carried on his business, but possibly it was at a site near Ashtead Common, with its supply of bracken. Possibly, too, near the later "Chaffers Mead" near Rye Brook, as much water was used in the process of making saltpetre.

*From the Gents. Mag. 1731 page 267:

"Preferments in June, 1731," Ld. Baltimore, appointed Gentleman of the Bedchamber to His R.H. the Prince, in the room of the E. of Ashburnham.

Another local name that has disappeared is that of "Windmillhill". One that occurs fairly frequently in the Court Rolls (e.g. in 1679 we have: "3 rods of land lying near Windmillhill in the Southfield"). Clearly it was somewhere at the southern end of the manor and close to Stane Street, or "Pebble Lane" as it was called. Since the hill on which it stood and not the mill itself was mentioned in the seventeenth century, the latter had probably disappeared by then. It was, however, in existence in 1323 when in a deed of that date we have a reference to land lying in "Le Sutfelde de Asstede, apud le molde" (i.e. near the mill).

We now turn to properties of a different nature; those which were of some size and mostly "copyhold" (being held "by copy of court roll" as it was termed) and which, in accordance with the customs of Ashted Manor, passed in succession to the youngest son of each tenant (Borough English as the custom is called).

"Outons," (or "Owtons" as it was later spelt) obtained its name from the family of Outon living here in 1380–1400 and of which there is no mention after that of a "William Oueton" (so spelt) of 1408. The property consisted of 13 acres and a cottage, and is so described in 1613¹ and again in 1680 when the rent was still nine shillings per annum. It is mentioned again in 1730 as being occupied then by one "Adam Mountford" (thus in the court roll, but entered as "Adam son of Adam Mumfort and Jane" in the entry of the baptism of his son in 1722. On his death, in July 1771, he is entered as "Adam Mulford". His wife, entered as "Jane Mumford" died in 1739). When eventually he died he had outlived all his family and was buried at the expense of the parish.

A family named Duke (sometimes spelt Duck, or even Duk) was living at Ashted in early days and members of it are mentioned down to 1486, when one Peter Duke is complained against by the manor court for remaining at "Crauley (*sic*) in the county of Surrey though a native of this manor." No doubt he was not made to return as there is no further mention of the family. (Richard Duke is mentioned in 1387 and 1409, John Duke in 1433 and '35 and a Henry Duke in 1434.)

A Beadle's account for 1381 mentions "one virgate, recently Duke's at a rent of 8 shillings per annum" and in 1383–4 there is mention of a property ". . . recently called Dukestenement which used to yield 21s. 4d. per annum but is now held by Robert Constable at 13s. 4d. per annum." Clearly the Duke family was becoming less prosperous at this early period. However, their name remained attached to their former holding through the centuries, and "Duke's" or "Dukes Haw" culminating in "Ducks Hall" (court roll 1679) and finally the "Dukes Hall" of the eighteenth century residence built on this site (beside the Rye Brook and at the foot of Ashted Common) and which has now disappeared entirely though foundations and traces of the outbuildings and garden could still be seen there 30 years ago.²

The origin of "Merry Hall" is similar, though it cannot (perhaps because it was a "freehold" and not a "copyhold" property) be traced so far back in the manor records, since there was seldom occasion for it to be mentioned. It originated as "Merryalls" and as such is entered in the two surviving Rentals of the Manor of seventeenth century date, viz. (1681), "of William Page, junior, for Merryalls . . . xxiiid."³ and (1696) "Richard Page, for Merryalls . . . 1s. 11d. The map of 1638 shows that James Styles held this property at that date but does not mention it by name. Who Merryall was we do not know, but it is possible that this holding once (before the dissolution of the Monasteries) formed a part of "Prior's Farm" (or "Little Ashted Manor") and it is uncertain whether any of the records of this Merton property are still in existence.

"Swallows" is one of the earliest of these different holdings of which we have mention, and it can be followed in the manorial documents from the fourteenth century onwards.

In 1381, in a Beadle's account, it is entered as being rented for 6s. 8d. per annum and is spelt "Swalwes", a form of spelling that persisted for some time. John Swallow is mentioned in this year and down to 1410 and appears to be one of the last of this family. The field-name "Swallows" or "Swallows Hay" (a piece of land just over an acre in extent and just north of Ashtead Farm) is in the rolls for 1381, 1387, 1409, 1410, and 1490, and in seventeenth century court rolls (1613 "A croft and 7 acres called Swallows"). Its location is shown on the map of 1638.

"Seymours" (later corrupted to "Semers") was held by the family of that name in 1381-1391 ("Robert Semore" in some deeds of this period). In 1409 Walter Seymour is the last one of this family mentioned in the court rolls. By the sixteenth century it had become the property of the Leighs of Stockwell, and Sir John Leigh, who died in 1523, left it in his will under the grandiose title of "My Manor of Seamers in Asshested." It was then worth 42s. 2d. per annum and of about twenty acres extent. In 1696 it was held by "Richard Onslow of Drungewick (*sic*) in Sussex" who paid a rent of five shillings for it, while previously (in 1638) it was the freehold of the Rector, Mr. Robert Quennell.

There are a number of other holdings whose history can be traced over considerable periods of time ("Penders" and "Gunners" are two of these) but it is not possible to deal with them here. In conclusion I will mention only the small piece at the north end of the park, once called "Gooses" or "Goosce Acre" (map of 1638). This has nothing to do with geese, as one might suppose, but to a family called Goose (or Goese as it was also written) and one Nicholas Goose in particular, who (between 1490 and 1500 and probably longer) held much Ashtead property and was also at one time a member of the so-called "Homage Jury" of the Manor Court.

It is interesting to observe how many of these names have come down to us from families living in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and remained attached to their holdings long after the families themselves had died out or at any rate had ceased to hold land within the manor of Ashtead.

NOTES

1. The entry reads: "Phillip Croskeys rents, at ix shillings per annum, a cottage and 13 acres of land in Ashtead . . . which he surrenders to the need and use of Henry Lucas, son and heir of Ralph Lucas."
2. The baptism at Ashtead of "Thos. Natural son of Elizabeth Bambridge, late servant to Mr. Chambers of Dukes Hall", on Feb. 4, 1787, is our only clue as to who lived there.
3. The entry regarding Merryalls in the court roll of 1682 reads as follows (translated from the Latin of the original roll): "Item they (the Court) are aware of the death of William Page junior, who held to himself and his heirs the freehold of a messuage or tenement, and certain lands, with appurtenances, called Merryalls at a rent per annum of 23 pence, suit of court and other services. That he has died seised of the same since the last court. That Richard Page is his next of kin and heir and is of age" etc.

LEATHERHEAD JUST OVER A CENTURY AGO

Continuation of the Extracts from the Journal of Miss Amelia Hunter.

1853 (*Continued*)

April 30th (Continued) . . . A Dab Chick in the Mill Pond. [At Fetcham.] Bees busy on the Anemones. Fleecy clouds; some blue sky. Vegetation still backward.

May 2nd. The above temperature [57°] in the morning. Wind N.E. Clear Sky; very fine. The Birds filling the air with their music for several hours. The Garden looking very fresh and pleasant . . . The Thrush sitting on her nest, though the Eggs had been taken from under her.



THORNCROFT BRIDGE
LEATHERHEAD
1839

- May 3rd.* 55[°]. W. Very dull; a showery morning. Misty the rest of the day. I heard the Nightingales several times during the night. The song not quite full yet. Black-birds began at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3.
- May 5th.* 60[°]. E. High blue sky. A few light, breezy [deleted] veering clouds. A lovely day. I saw a Robin teaching its little one to follow, by tapping it on the head.
- May 9th.* N.W. 50[°]. Stormy. Hail Showers. Very cold. Occasional Sunshine in the afternoon. Birds singing at every interval. Whitethroats.
- May 16th.* Whit Monday. Very fine weather all day. I spent the day in London. Country very pleasant and fresh-looking from the train. Furze in full blossom. Stamford Hill in the Evening. Lovely evening.
- May 17th.* Still very fine. Journey through and from London. Country views quite charming. High wind.
- May 24th.* 64[°]. Lovely day. Took a walk in the fields behind Elm Bank. Very full of Buttercups. East Wind.
- May 25th.* Still dry. 66[°]. East [Wind]. Derby Day. . . . [Temperatures not entered regularly after this date. A. L.]
- May 27th.* "The Oaks". Fine till about 4 p.m. Heavy rain and Hail Storm.
- May 28th.* Showery and not very bright. Walk to Headley Downs with my Nephew John Hunter.

- June 4th.* Walk towards Mickleham; Little Sunshine. Laburnums in very full blossom at Elm Bank. The Judas Tree at Thorncroft very beautiful. A full rich pink color. [Sic. Always spelt so in the Journal, this being the Old English spelling. A. L.] Not a green leaf to be seen upon it. Grass crops look fine and soft.
- June 10th.* Journey to Odiham. Showery in the morning. Kingston Wood fresh and green. Saw a Naturalist catching butterflies (?) close to a Hedge. Yellow Furze, splendid in color.
- June 27th.* Journey home; Windy, very fine all the afternoon. Hay Makers busy in most of the fields beside the Railroad. Our own Roses quite first-rate. A lovely profusion of choice blossoms.
- July 16th.* . . . When I was at Odiham, after the hay-cutting we found a Mouse's nest. It seemed to be formed of very fine grass, and contained 4 or 5 little ones.
- Augt. 6th.* Went to the Camp at Chobham; We passed through Stoke, Cobham, Byfleet. The Heath very fine on Woodham Common. The weather rather cloudy but no rain throughout the day. The Redoubt near Col. Challoner's grounds [Probably "visited" has been omitted. A. L.].
- Augt. 27th.* Damp. Tolerably fine in the afternoon. Called at Hill Cottage and Mrs. Richardson's. Grapes far from ripe. Cactuses trained against the G(reen) House wall. R. Mole very much swollen. Autumnal appearance in landscape and garden.
- Sept. 3rd.* Drive to Pebble Hill. Cool and Soft Showers. Views beautiful.
- Sept. 6th.* Misty morning. Went by the Train to London. Quite hot in Regent St. Splendid Sunset. Fine scene on Epsom Common. Trees and Shadows.
- Sept. 14th.* Misty morning. Hot day. Walked to Box Hill Gate and back.
- Sept. 17th.* Mr. Humphrys drove us to Effingham and Bookham. Fresh Wind. Bright Sunshine. [The next entries mainly of Fine Weather. A. L.]
- Sept. 27th.* Dull weather. Walked to the Farm at Ashtead. [? the Farm then existing in the centre of Ashtead, or one of the several other farms then—and until recently—in existence. A. L.] Still no rain.
- Oct. 1st.* Very showery. Leaves turning very much within this week; Late this year . . . The Slope at Norbury very brown in the sunset owing to the Beech plantation.
- Oct. 10th.* 58[°]. W. I saw from twenty to thirty Martins on the Terrace Houses. Chilly and damp in the morning. Pleasant afternoon. Leatherhead Fair.
- Oct. 11th.* Very damp. No rain. Martins gone. Leatherhead Fair.
- Oct. 31st.* Fine Weather. Nice Walking. Paid Mrs. Foster a visit, with Julia, at Bookham.
- Novr. 14th.* Dull, Cloudy. Went out into the Village [Leatherhead] to pay farewell visits. [The next day she left for Hastings, returning to Leatherhead, via Tunbridge, on Dec. 12th.]

1854

- January 18th.* Ther[mometer] 50[°]. N.E. Walk to the Common. Very chilly. Huntsmen on the opposite hill.
- January 20th.* 50[°]. Fine morning. Clear Sky. Pleasant walk to Highlands. We saw Larks, but could not detect their Song. White [i.e. Gilbert White, the Selborne naturalist. A. L.] gives the 21st in his Calendar.
- Feb. 2nd.* Slight Frost. Dull morning. Smoke going up nearly strait. Brown shot a Male Bird (of) The Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. The Barred Woodpecker. Description in Yarrell good. At 2 o'clock, Bright Sunshine.

(To be concluded)

LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30th September, 1958

RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward at 1st October, 1957			38 1 6	Printing etc.: <i>Proceedings</i> 1957			120 0 0
Subscriptions (151) Members			69 8 6	Maps for <i>Proceedings</i>			2 6 8
Grants: Surrey County Council	15	0		General			15 5 3
Leatherhead U.D.C.	10	0		Binding Cases			13 15 0
			25 0 0	Subscriptions and Affiliation fees: ..			
Donations: General Fund	1	4	6	Surrey Record Society	1	0	0
Publications Fund	19	14		South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies		12	6
			20 18 6	Field Studies Council	1	1	0
Sale of <i>Proceedings</i> and Binding Cases ..			27 8 6	Council of British Archaeology		12	7
							3 6 1
				Visitors and Meeting Expenses	8	18	0
				Less: Receipts	8	12	0
							6 0
				Balance carried forward:			
				Midland Bank Limited	25	5	9
				Cash in hand		12	3
							25 18 0
							£180 17 0
			<u>£180 17 0</u>				<u>£180 17 0</u>

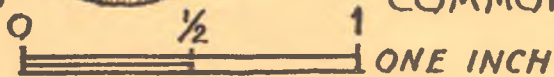
I certify that I have examined the above Statement which is in accordance with the Books and Records produced to me and in my opinion correct.

6th November, 1958.

(signed) A. H. KIRKBY
Hon. Auditor

(signed) S. E. D. FORTESCUE
Hon. Treasurer

LID OF A SEAL-BOX OF
BRONZE, ENAMELLED.
FOUND AT THE
ROMAN VILLA
ASHTEAD COMMON
1926.



A.W.G.L. '59