

CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



BULLETIN 15

CONTENTS

Pages

Cover picture - Charlton Cottage, formerly Joyce's, drawn by	K.Venus	
1. Attwood's Corner postcards c.1900, lent by E. Dale	G.Ryland	1-5
2. Cheltenham (and most of Charlton Kings) in 1294 - An Extent of the manor, original document reproduced by permission of the Public Record Office	M.Paget	6-10
3. A Rental of Cheltenham Manor c.1450 - the Charlton Section	M.Paget	10-18
4. Charlton Cottage, 10 School Road, formerly called Joyce's (i) the History of the house (ii) an Architectural Report	M.Paget L.Hall	18-27
5. Barns Hay: the Site of the Baptist Church, the Vine, and property late Morris's photograph lent by Mr. Fisher	M.Paget	27-34
6. Running 'The British Workman'	E.Mason	34
7. Baptists in Charlton Kings, information abstracted from material in Gloucestershire Record Office	M.J.Greet	34-35
8. Thornton's Row - Site of Manse	M.Paget	35-36
9. Cop's Elm - Site of Charlton Lawn	M.Paget	36-38
10. Below Stairs at Charlton Lawn, with photographs of the house and the Family	M.Zebedee	38-47
11. 'The Skill in the Hands' - a life as a craftsman	F.Taylor	47-49
12. The Cheltenham and District Light Railway Company: Looking Back 70 Years	E.Green	49-51
13. Another Tocsin - poems of Isaac Bell on Parish Clerks	M.J.Greet	51-53
14. The Cleevelys in America - a postscript to the family story	D. and P.Milner	53-54
15. Notes		54
(i) John de Cheltenham	M.J.Greet	
(ii) Enquiry about the Smith family	H.Booty	
(iii) Glenfall - occupiers	M.Paget	
(iv) Unlawful Activity in 1731	M.J.Greet	

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman

M.J. Greet
102 Beeches Road
Charlton Kings
Tel. Cheltenham 525474

Hon. Secretary

Mrs. S. Fletcher
31 Ravensgate Road
Charlton Kings
Tel. Cheltenham 522931

Editor

Mrs. M. Paget
Crab End
Brevel Terrace
Tel. Cheltenham 34762

Hon. Treasurer

E.L. Armitage
9 Morlands Drive
Charlton Kings
Tel. Cheltenham 527533

Copies of this Bulletin are available from E. Armitage or from Charlton Kings Library.

Past Issues - Bulletins 6 and 7, price £1.45;
Bulletins 9, 11, 12, 14 price £1.50

Copyright and Responsibility

Unless otherwise specified, copyright of articles or photographs remains with the author or photographer; copyright of original documents remains with the owner, or with the relevant Record Office.

The Society does not hold itself responsible for statements in papers; but invites additions and corrections which will be printed as articles or in Notes and Comments.

Membership of this Society

Membership forms are available from officers. Annual subscriptions 75p or £1 for a couple.

Meetings are held monthly from September to May in the Stanton Room at Charlton Kings Library.

The Bulletin is published twice a year.

Printed by - Top Flight, 93 St. George's Place, Cheltenham, Glos.

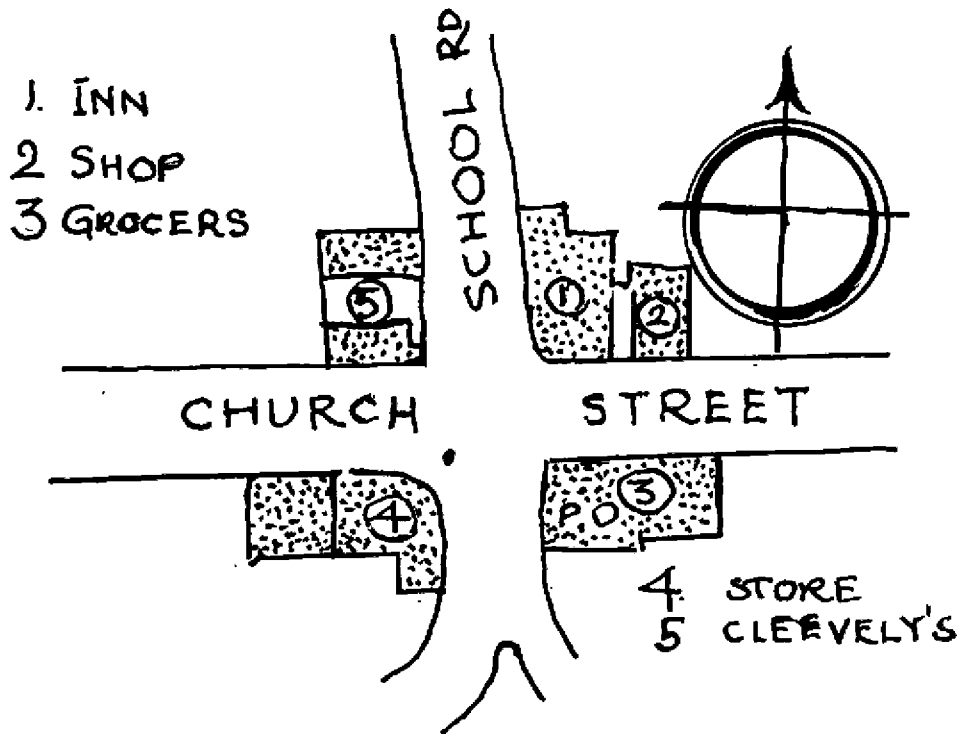
1. ATTWOODS' CORNER

They tell me that to a researching historian 'names' are only a whit less important than 'dates'. I wonder?

If in the early days of the century you should encounter after sunset a young member of the village community, swinging along, hands in pockets, and probably kicking a stone in the gutter, you might give him the vernacular QUO VADIS "Wot cher -- where off?" You could do the same in a number of cases and the reply would be the same, "Nowhere".

There was, of course, no such place in the village; but among the knowing ones, one soon developed. Follow one and see where he ends up - Attwoods' Corner! As time went on, the two places became one - Nowhere and Attwoods' Corner became names for the same place. It was a sort of 'meeting house' for the minor criminals of the village.

But it is 'the corner' which we have under discussion. It is rather a busy bit of the village, where CHURCH ST. is crossed by School Road. This of course forms four quadrants and it may be easier to describe and understand if I drew a rough sketch map of the area.



It will be seen that the N.E. Quadrant is taken up by the MERRY FELLOW Inn and a swingingboard over Church Street is there to prove it. It was owned by the STROUD Brewery, the tenant being a Mr. Attwood. I never knew his initials, he was always known as 'Doctor' - again for what reason I know not.

The S.E. and S.W. Quadrants were occupied by a Mr. Attwood, Mr. Arthur Lancelot Attwood, but there was no relation between the two families - no connection whatever. The S.E. Corner contained the village post office and A.L.Attwood was the local postmaster (as his father Edwin Attwood had been before him.)

The remaining Quadrant was occupied by the brothers Cleevely, where they carried on the business of builders, painters, and decorators.

So, considering the area in detail, the N.E. quarter was occupied by the MERRY FELLOW Inn. They sold Stroud Ale, which I have heard referred to as "Fighting Beer" as opposed to the "Singing Beer" sold at the Royal. I of course had no intimate knowledge of the potency of the respective beers. I was, at the time, too young to experiment, though I had occasionally to go inside the Merry. My Aunt Lil, who lived next door to us, occasionally liked a drop of beer and I was generally commanded to fetch it. My father much objected to my going, but mother was more lenient to her sister's weaknesses.

I don't know what the laws are now, but in those days, it was quite a job getting a bottle of intoxicating liquor from an off licence if one was under age. I would present myself at the little window by the bar, where there was a naked light such as one might see in a tobacconist's; the amount required was put in the bottle, the cork firmly replaced, and the top presented to the naked light and securely sealed, usually with a red wax. This, if it did not keep one from tampering with the contents, at least assisted in helping to trace the culprit! Whether all this is gone through now, I couldn't say, I haven't bumped into an off licence for many moons.

The 'house' was run by 'Doctor Attwood', his wife, and son who was in his early twenties, named Andrew. I never knew if he were married or not. There was frequently a lady about, much Andrew's age.

The 'Doctor' had an "old-fashioned" appearance. He was not stout, but shuffled along serving, doing odds and ends, and I suppose kept order if it were necessary. He was not big and I suspect short of hair, because he kept his hat, a three-quarter grey topper, always on his head. He had a reddish face with side-whiskers. As I implied, he had a thoroughly Dickensian look about him.

Mrs. Attwood was a pleasant motherly person. She was always very nice to me. She also served and moved about the bar and lounge, but she kept mostly to the 'Snug' which was situated between the bar and a small shop facing on to Church Street. I could see the Snug from the hatch when I was being served; and I remember, one wintry day, seeing from that vantage point Mrs Attwood using a 'shoe'. It is the only time I have ever seen it in use. It was a metal utensil, conical in shape with a metal handle. The shoe was almost filled with beer and for flavour a few crab apples were added. Then the whole was plunged into a glowing fire and heated. The result was a mulled ale, very acceptable on a cold morning.

Andrew hovered between the public house and the shop at the back, by means of a small connecting door.

The shop I should like particularly to mention. After all, it is part of the corner; but really because we children had a sneaking regard for the shop. For one thing, Andrew catered only for children and bore in mind the impecunious state of we minor members of the community. I could get a toy metal train for 6d. But above all was the sweetmeat. This was, I am sure, his most popular sale. It was a sweet of some caramel consistency, half an inch wide, about as thick as a penny, and I suppose 2 ft long. For decoration it was corrugated. This was called an Everlasting Strip and one cost me one farthing! We have often spent valuable periods of time in there deciding how best to spend 6d.

The other side of the cross-roads was the domain of Mr Attwood - Mr Arthur Lancelot Attwood. A.L. owned the property on both of the corners on the south

side. On the S.E. he had quite a good grocery shop, on the SW he had a store used, I think, for greengrocery. A.L. was a tall thin man - I think he was particularly interested in the postal side of his business, but in the grocery line he was prepared to deal with the richer and poorer of his customers.

I remember well his shop - long, narrow, and dominated in my memory by a large mahogany counter that ran down the middle. But on the left of the entry an important part of the furniture was three deep bins which contained the 'corn' which he sold as food for the poultry. And nearly everybody kept some fowls, this was a busy part of the shop.

For the rest, except for the part reserved for postal work, the shop was much as any other country grocers. But one thing must be mentioned - Mr. Attwood's ever present dog, of which he was very fond. This was a Skye terrier. He answered to the name of 'MO' and being about one foot high, resembled nothing so much as a deep grey walking mat. But the family was very fond of Moses, and once Mr. Attwood asked me to do a portrait of Mo. I did it in oils, about 20" x 16". Arthur was very pleased with the picture and gave me a shilling!

He had two children, a boy and a girl. The boy I got to know very well, both at school and when we were both commissioned in the Machine Corps. At school, he always had a strong mathematical bent and later he became an internationally important member of the business world. I would like to give you the story of how he got his first appointment --- but that would be too long, even for this lengthy diatribe!

In passing may I must say that neither of the two Mr Attwoods were seen by me off their premises. Doubtless they did leave their places of business, but I never saw them.

Of the shop in the S.W. Quadrant I know little. I was never in it. I have seen it dressed with vegetables, but whose they were I am uncertain. It had an excellent shop front and the gas-light that lit the corner stood outside it. Small wonder that it represented the ideal gathering spot for youngsters who delighted in meeting after the sun had gone down.

The last or N.W. Quadrant housed the business of A.E. Cleevely, the builder and decorator. A.E. did not live at the 'Yard' but Joe and his two sisters did. Joe was quite a character and seemed never to be separated from his bicycle and his white apron. One of his sisters was a favourite of mine. Frequently I had knocked at their back door with an empty medicine bottle in my hand and humbly asked for 2d worth of turpentine or linseed oil or boiled oil. I think Bertha knew what I was trying to do and approved - certainly never once did she complain or object to leaving whatever concerned her at the moment and deal with my paltry demand. This quadrant had but a small shop window, and I never saw anybody in the shop.

That, then, is an overall view of 'The Corner'. But it conveys nothing of the excitement it generated in a small boy at certain periods. Every other Sunday came the Band of the Salvation Army. This was certain to make us all late for Sunday School. And Friday mid-day! Then they replaced the empties at THE MERRY. It was my ambition to paint horses at work, the wonderful Shire type used by the brewery drays. Here I had the excitement of it, alive and brought to my door, as it were. I seldom missed a Friday, and it was hard to drag myself away. Yes, "The Corner" has been a very exciting place to me.

But now, how things have changed! I often wonder if the change is in me or in "The Corner", and my only conclusion is that we have both changed. No longer does

it, for me, cast any magic spell, no longer set up any unexplainable excitement. The changes in myself I am unable to discuss with any gainful result - they are quite unimportant. But "The Corner"! I dare not itemize all its changes but I will attempt to give a rough sketch of some that struck me. "The MERRY" has become a modern beer house, now up-to-date and thoroughly respectable. You will see no fighting men outside it, neither will you any longer encounter any Dickensian characters inside it; and if a customer asked for "a shoe", they would probably think he was discussing footwear! And, of course, my little shop disappeared years ago, no longer my 6d trains, no longer my farthing strips of toffee.

The lamp that lighted the area stands, but of course it is an electric lamp; and no longer does the police sergeant make his nightly swoops, this is all done with a police car. If the sergeant did try it, he would find the corner clear and the one time young disturbers of the peace either at the pictures, gone to a disco, or sitting at home watching "the Box". The shop behind it is an office, and mock timber applied to the house! The Post Office has long been moved to another part of the village but the grocery shop remained. Now that is gone and I could not understand the sign - I crossed the road to make certain and had the shock of my life! Arthur Lancelot's shop is now an oriental "take-away" food shop! And to cap the lot, no doubt to the extra safety of some young Charltonians, the presiding deity of "The Corner" is a Lollipop Lady or sometimes a Lollipop Man!

G. Ryland



Attwood's shop c.1900, with Arthur Lancelot Attwood outside it
Note posting box in the wall.



Looking up Church Street from the post-office c.1900

Note that the shop later Morris's was also Attwood's then; beyond it the sign of the British Workman is visible. On the right-hand side of the picture is the Merry Fellows with its sign; and the frosted window of Mr. Ryland's "shop". In the foreground is the corner of an adjoining house, now demolished.

From a postcard lent by Mr. E. Dale.

2. CHELTHENHAM (AND MOST OF CHARLTON KINGS) IN 1294 - an extent of the manor

After the 1086 Domesday description of the manor of Cheltenham, the next piece of evidence we have about this area is an Extent or survey taken on 15 September 1294 (1).

Cheltenham had been a royal manor, but in 1247 Henry III exchanged it and several other royal manors with the Norman abbey of Fecamp - this was to gain possession of Fecamp's Sussex estates including the ports of Rye and Winchelsea, which the abbey had held since the reign of Cnut. After the loss of Normandy to France, the king dared not leave this important coastal area in foreign hands. Edward I took a still tougher line - when he was at war with France in 1294, he ordered the temporary confiscation of the English properties of all "foreign" houses, which were to be administered by the crown for the time being. So in 1294 he sent to Cheltenham Master Richard of Abindon (a civil servant) to enquire into the lord's rights, rents, and total income from this Fecamp manor.

A jury of 12 men were sworn to give true information, and their names include three who may well have come from Charlton - Thomas Godrich, Joan Snel, and Thomas Freman (2). All of them will have been free men - only men who were free holders could act on these juries. In considering what they said, it must be remembered that two-thirds of Charlton Kings was still part of Cheltenham manor - the grant to Walter of Ashley confirmed by Henry II gave him no more than £10 worth of land, much of it undeveloped.

In 1086, all Cheltenham tenants (except the priests) held by custom - there were no free tenants at all. The king had 24 villani (villagers), 12 bordarii (small-holders), 7 servi (slaves); and to these we may perhaps add 5 millers, since there were five mills by 1086, one possibly Charlton mill in Spring Bottom. There were 3 demesne (home-farm) ploughs, 19 ploughs for tenants, and 2 ploughs for the priests' glebe.

By 1294, just over 200 years later, this simple set-up had changed dramatically. A manorial borough had been created - indeed, Cheltenham almost attained self-government before the king parted with it. At the end of the 13th century, there were 52 burgesses and 23 other free tenants, paying yearly as settled rent (rents which could not be increased) £13.19.3½. By this period, all lords needed free tenants, they had to have some men who could sit on juries and act at Inquests (enquiries like this one which were held from time to time to ascertain what land a man held at death, whether a new grant would interfere with the king's rights, and a host of other questions where accurate local knowledge was essential). This was a result of Henry II's legal reforms, extended by Edward I's legislation.

Besides burgesses and free tenants, there were 126 (or 127) villani, customary tenants. The text says 126 villani, but the figures given for their rents and services add up to 127. Altogether they paid in rent £41.14.11, quite a substantial sum, and the proportion of large to small holdings may still have been roughly two to one, as in 1086.

Of these customary tenants, 70 were supposed to plough twice a year (spring and autumn), weed one day, mow one day, ted and gather hay one day, reap corn three days, and carry hay and corn two days - a total of 10 days work in the year. Twenty-five villeins owed 2 days carting, one day tedding or collecting hay, 3 days reaping - total 6 days. Twenty-two did no work except at harvest. Ten paid a rent of 22 hens and 10 cocks.

We may conclude that conditions on the manor of Cheltenham had always been extremely good for tenants. The king had demanded no week-work from his men and only a very moderate amount of boon (or rush time) work. The reason for this may be gathered from the Domesday statement that there were still seven slaves on this manor and 7 at Leckhampton in 1086. Slaves were a normal feature of Saxon estates, and it is clear that Saxon kings had employed slaves on their royal manor of Cheltenham and had not expected customary tenants to do more than help with extra work at ploughing, weeding-time, hay-making and harvest. Bishop Wulfstan of Worcester (in which diocese Cheltenham then was) preached vigorously up to his death in 1095 against the Bristol slave-trade and got it stopped; by the end of the 11th century, slavery at home was dying out too. But custom is custom. The king could not suddenly add to the number of days worked by his tenants and in any case may have preferred to receive their rent in money. He could then employ labourers at a daily or weekly wage if he still ran his demesne as a home farm.

William I had expected his steward to farm the demesne, and at the same time bring extra land into cultivation for new tenant holdings. But by the time Henry III handed Cheltenham over to Fecamp, this was ceasing to be the case, and nobody in 1294 did any of the works they were supposed to do. All these labour services had been commuted, and the money rents paid in lieu reflect (generally speaking) mid-century wage rates. The 70 paid 3d a day instead of ploughing, 2d a day instead of mowing, $\frac{1}{2}$ d a day instead of weeding, 1d a day instead of reaping, $\frac{1}{2}$ d a day instead of hay-making (but 12d was deducted from the total for this because on the hayfield they would have received food or drink). They also paid 2d instead of bringing a cart for carrying and 3d for each of the 5 loads that cart should have taken to the barn or stackyard. But the 25 who owed 6 days a year paid 1d a day instead of carting, 1d instead of hay-making, 1d instead of reaping, the wage rates of a century before. The 22 tenants who did no work except at harvest time, paid 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d each for the harvest period. The 10 who paid hens and cocks now paid 1d each for them. These figures suggest progressive commutation; the 22 and the 25 had exchanged their work for money at an earlier stage than the 70. The total amount received from this was £3.11.10. In addition, 12s a year was paid instead of the work of an unspecified number of boys and girls. By 1294 there was, of course, no need for anyone to do any actual work; all the demesne was rented out, 149 acres of arable at 4d per acre, 30 acres of meadow at 18d an acre, 16s worth of pasture, and a mere 2s worth of wood. These were very moderate rents for the late 13th century; on some manors 1s an acre was a standard charge for good arable and 6d for poorer land; so perhaps these rates were fixed when the abbey first took over as lord. Very long leases of monastic land were not unusual. Fecamp needed money, not produce; its demesne and the services of its tenants represented so much hard cash.

There are other pointers to gradual commutation of duties, starting very early. The 70 tenants had to produce 17 ploughs, not more. Yet we know that there were already 19 villein ploughs on the manor by 1086. To carry the hay and corn, the same 70 tenants had to find 16 carts and do five trips with each cart. What about the other 50 odd? they must have had some implements of husbandry. It can't be a fact that the 1294 tenants, more in number, had fewer ploughs and carts than their predecessors of 1086. It looks as though the number of ploughs and carts needed had been fixed before 1086; even then, two tenants were not being required to bring ploughs. Had the numbers been settled for good as part of the change in manorial administration under Edward the Confessor? There must have been very drastic reorganisation when Edward gave away Swindon to the church, Leckhampton (the old home farm) to lay lords, parting altogether with 10 hides of land (1,000 acres).

But Edward was not recklessly generous. He could afford to give away old land because his steward in Cheltenham was busily clearing land for fresh arable to take its place. There was already a new demesne of 3 carucates; there were new open fields at Westall and Sandford, perhaps already a third field for Cheltenham at Whaddon; the king's ham (Keynsham) and the cold ham (Coltham) were being ploughed because they were no longer needed as meadow - new meadow up at Ham (OE hamme, meadow) had replaced them. It was the start of the process we see continuing under William I, when a further carucate was added by the king's steward (perhaps the Lye field), and so much corn was being produced that 3 new mills had to be built between 1066 and 1086 to cope. And development did not stop at 1086. Another new township at Naunton was created around 1100. Assarting at Charlton continued for the next two centuries.

By 1294, there was little or no waste left. This is indicated by the figure for pannage, the rights of tenants to put their pigs into the lord's wood in autumn subject to payment of so many pigs or so much in money. Cheltenham tenants only paid 6s a year for this and the demesne wood was rented at a mere 2s.

There were 52 burgesses in Cheltenham Town and 23 other free tenants on the manor. Between them, they produced no more than 19s 4½d in fixed rents; and the lord demanded another 12d for each curtilage and garden. Some of the free tenants will have had land in Charlton, but we can't estimate how many.

The manor paid 5s as Peter's Pence, collected by the lord, representing 60 pence for 60 households when the levy was fixed. This ancient gift to the pope was reintroduced by William I and the amount for the whole country fixed by the bishops in the 12th century. Excluding the very poor, 60 may well have been the number of households when that was done.

Profits from the Hundred court were estimated as 110, and from the Borough court as £8. These sums included the entry fines paid by anyone inheriting or acquiring a customary tenement or entering a freehold; since heriots are not mentioned, their value must be included also.

So how much did the abbey or the king receive from Cheltenham manor?

Burgess and free rents	£13	19	3½
Customary rents	41	14	11
works	3	11	10
demesne rent	5	12	8
profits of courts and entry	13	10	0
children not harvesting		12	0
pannage		6	0
Peter's pence (passed on)		5	0
rent for curtilages and gardens at 12d each (total not stated)			
Total as given	£82	4	5½

From this there would be certain expenses, steward's salary, maintenance of a court room (at the Great House on the site of St. Matthew's church), the apparatus of justice - gallows, tumbrel, stocks. When Fecamp received the profits, the abbey had to send monks to attend the audit, but as they probably came from the Fecamp cell at Cogges near Witney, this need not have been expensive.

Altogether, for abbey or king, the manor of Cheltenham was a good property and one which could be run with the minimum of trouble.

The 14th century was a period of constant war with France, and for much of the time Cheltenham was in the king's hand. No one can have been surprised when Henry V in 1415 confiscated all the property of foreign houses and used Cheltenham as part of the endowment for a new nunnery he was founding at Syon. (3).

- (1) Public Record Office E 106/2/3. I am grateful for permission to reproduce this document
- (2) Godrich and Snell's descendants had freehold land in Broadcroft furlong (see page 28) about 1400 William Goodrigge and after him Thomas Goodrigge held a freehold messuages in Bafford, and c.1450 William Fremons was 'late tenant' of another (see page 11). For a long time the stream entering the Chelt by Coxhorne was called Freeman's Brook.
- (3) Though the abbess did not get possession of her manor, on account of prior leases from the crown, till after 1441.

M. Paget

3. A RENTAL OF CHELTENHAM MANOR ABOUT 1450; THE CHARLTON SECTION (GRO D 855 M 68)

We don't know the exact date of this rental, but it must have been compiled soon after the manor came into the possession of the Abbey of Syon about 1441. The abbey needed a new rental to find out how much rent it could expect to receive yearly from its new tenants, and what, if any, duties they were accustomed to perform.

The rental names three generations of tenants, present, recent, and past, and so takes us back to men who lived in Charlton Kings in the last years of the 14th century. One interesting point is the way in which some of these personal names are still with us as place-names - Lucas, Bull, Hawthorn, Feysant or Pheasant, Brevel, Rose.

In the Abstract that follows, I have only dealt with the part of the rental that concerns Charlton Kings - free tenants in Charlton tithing and Bafford Hide, base tenants in the same two tithings, and leaseholders of the demesne lands in Ham.

There were comparatively few freeholders, 3 freehold messuages in Charlton tithing and 4 in Bafford (though there had once been another 4 there). Bafford was undoubtedly the first part of the parish to be settled; the use of the word 'Hide' for this tithing is one indication of this; and it was the most populous in the 12th century, when the king (then the lord) began to grant holdings to tenants who would not be bound by the obligations of custom. Otherwise the two tithings were roughly the same, 18 customary or base tenements in each. The rents charged for land per acre or per virgate are so variable that no 'average' rent per acre can be worked out - it probably depended how long the land had been in cultivation and when the rent was fixed. Margaret Childe paid 4d for one acre of freehold, yet two empty half virgates were reported as worth no more than 12d each. John Grevill held two freehold messuages with half virgates, one at 4s 10d, the other at 4s 1d, while Thomas Wheler for a messuage with the same amount of land only paid 3s 2½d. The same variations are found in the customary rents. All we gather from the rental about holdings is that the smallest had 3 or 6 acres, which indicates a 12 acre half virgate, a 24 acre virgate, and 48 acre carucate, rather than the more usual pattern of 7½ - 15 - 30 - 60 acres, or 8 - 16 - 32 - 64 acres. But this we should have expected. In the 1294 Extent, we were told that Fecamp had 149 acres of demesne, representing the 3 plough teams of Domesday, or a carucate of 50 acres. So this pattern may go back to reorganisation c 1050-1150. It is not likely to be earlier; a standard size for holdings seems to be part of the 12th century's love of regularity (as we see also in the lay-out of its new towns).

Because Bafford was the earliest settled, much of its land was regarded as worn out; consequently, all the holdings without tenants c.1450 were Bafford freeholds. Customary land still found takers, though in many cases tenants were holding more than one messuage. Thomas Gater in Charlton tithing had 6 acres besides his messuage and 6 acres, but this may have been new land, Gaters breach (referred to in 1557), not a separate tenement. The same cannot be said about William Goodrigge the younger, who held 3 messuages with two half virgates and 6 acres, beside a toft (house site) and 5 acres.

How much land was under cultivation? At 12 acres for the half virgate, the figures given work out at 24 acres freehold and 153 acres base tenure land in Charlton, total 177 acres; 181 freehold and 181 base tenure in Bafford, total 362; in all, 539 acres. (This leaves out most of Ham).

Now we have some figures to compare with these, the amount each tenant, free or base, held in the parish when the first inclosure agreement was made in 1557, just over 100 years later. That agreement concerned the tenants of Cheltenham (excluding Ham) and Ashley; and these must be accurate figures because on them was based the allowance of land each tenant might inclose, down to a mere quarter acre. Cheltenham tenants then held 77 acres freehold, 393 acres base, total 470; with an additional 340 acres said to be held of both manors but the greatest part apparently of Cheltenham. At its most extensive when first the steepest slopes on the escarpment and then the moors north of the Chelt had been converted into arable there were between 7 and 800 acres held of Cheltenham; the difference between 539 acres in 1450 and 7-800 in 1557 represents the ploughing up of the Deep Moors (Detmore).

So the figure of 539 acres at the time of the Rental seems about right; and if so, our hypothesis of a small virgate is right too.

FREE TENANTS

<u>Charlton Tithing</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>late</u>	<u>formerly</u>
1. 1 messuage and half virgate called Nethirhowse rent 4s 10d	John Grevill	John his father	John Wyddecombys
2. 1 messuage, 6 acres rent 4s 1d	John Grevill	Thomas Snell	-
3. 1 messuage, 6 acres rent 3s 2½d	Thomas Wheler	John Hore	Walter Henry
<u>Bafford Tithing or Hide</u>			
1. 1 messuage 1½ virgate rent 2s 8d	John Grevill	John his father	Thomas de la Forde
2. 1 messuage 2 virgates rent 16s	John Throckmarton & John Hopton	-	Hopton and Borowehopis
3. 1 messuage, 2 virgates rent 15s	Thomas Goodrigge	William Goodrigge	Roger de la Home
4. 1 messuage, 2 virgates rent 9s 4d	-	William Fremons	-

5.	1 acre rent 4d	Margaret Childe	Richard Chalde	Hugh at the Chirche
6.	half virgate rent 12d	-	John Wiker	-
7.	half virgate rent 12d	-	Walter Monmouthe	-

BASE TENANTS

Charlton Tithing

1.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 2s 11d	William Goodrigge	Walter Goodrigge	William Hathieil
2.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 2s 11d	Thomas Gryme	Sampson Gryme	Hugh Abraham
3.	1 messuage 3 acres rent 12d	John Bacon	Robert Bacon	Reginald Coppins
4.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 4s 6d	Thomas Cole	Roger Forthey	Walter de Fonte
5.	1 messuage, 3 acres rent 2s 1/4d	Agnes Balle	Walter Balle	Thomas Awust
6.	1 messuage, 3 acres rent 2s 1/4d	Agnes Balle	- Futte	Simon Sley
7.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 11s	John Groyndall	Thomas Callebusse	Hugh de Coddynhille
8.	6 acres rent 8s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d 1 messuage, 6 acres rent 8s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	Thomas Gater	William Gater	-
9.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 9s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	William at Welle	John de Fonte	-
10.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate called Lucas rent 8s 8d	William Goodrigge jr	Walter Goodrigge	Julian Holleway
11.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 9s 2d	William Goodrigge jr.	Walter Goodrigge	John Culverhouse
12.	1 toft, 5 acres rent 22d	William Goodrigge jr.	John Goodrigge	-
13.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 11d 1/4d	Margaret Forster	John Forster	-
14.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 13s 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	John Coppyng	John his father	William Toopas

15.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 3s 10d	Thomas Whittefar	Richard Whittefar	-
16.	3 messuages, 24 acres rents 30s 2d	John Dowdyswell Walter Crumpe Walter Hawthorne	Walter Crumpe	William Northefeld
17.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 3s	Walter More	Agnes Gynulse	-
18.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 5s	Walter More	John Fellowe	-
<u>Bafford Hide</u>				
1.	1 tenement, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 7s 4d	Walter Brevell	Adam Roses	-
2.	1 tenement, 7 acres rent 3s 4d	Walter Brevell	Robert Hore	Christian Hore
3.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate called Brevell rent 8s	Walter Brevell	Walter Brevell	-
4.	1 tenement, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 7s	William at More	John at More	Hugh at More
5.	1 messuage, 7 acres rent 4s 8d	Thomas Gryme	Sampson Gryme	John Gryme
6.	1 tenement, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 6s 5d	Walter Frensshe the elder	William Frensshe	Thomas de la Lane
7.	1 messuage, 2 acres rent 16d	Walter Frensshe the elder	William Frensshe	John Frensshe
8.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate, 1 ferndell, (quarter virgate) rent 8s 6d	Walter Frensshe the elder	William Frensshe	John Richold
9.	1 messuage, 6 acres called Fretherates rent 4s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	Katherine Goodman	-	-
10.	1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 5s 4d.	Katherine Goodman	Reginald Goodman	W.Hathewy
11.	1 messuage, 6 acres called Feysandes rent 5s 4d	John Feysand alias Chreisshire	Thomas Bulle	-
12.	1 messuage, 3 acres rent 4s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	John Feysand als Cheisshire	Thomas Cadell	Gunuld Bulle
13.	1 messuage, 6 acres rent 6s 8d	John Muggegrosse	Henry Muggegrose	-

14. 1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 6s 8d	Joan Muggegrose	Henry Muggerose	-
15. 1 tenement, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate called Birchyn rent 4s 2d	Richard Walter	William Brugge	-
16. 1 messuage $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 11s	John Gryndall	Thomas Callebusse	Walter Bafford
17. 1 messuage, 3 ferndells rent 8s 6d	Alice Clerke	Thomas Groyndall alias Clerke	-
18. 1 messuage, $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate rent 5s 4d	John Alexander	Richard Alexander	Matilda Alexander

TENANTS OF DEMESNE LAND AT HAM (HOMME)

1. parcels in the Moor called Lady Homme	Walter Wilshire	rents 11s a year/
2. 2 parcels meadow	Richard Stok	rent 3s 2d
3. Pasture called Lordysmersh	William de Cheltenham	rent 15s
4. Three acres and a half land in a cultivated ground called Sutttox furlong	Thomas Anford	rent 5s
5. pasture called Laverham and another pasture called Kyngesbecon and another pasture called Medefurlong	Thomas Anford and Thomas Stale	rent 26s 8d
7. Pasture at Homme on le Hochehille	Thomas Anford	rent 13s 4d
8. 6 sellions in Suttexeforlonge	Richard Balle	rent 4s
9. 3 sellions in the same	John Coweley	rent 18d
10. close called Lordisclose	Thomas Bocher and companions	rent 26s 8d
11. a pasture at Homme	John Coppyng	rent 20d
12. parcel of land at Homme	John Lovyer	rent 3s
13. parcel of pasture and land	Thomas Goodrigge	rent 3s
14. parcel in Okeley	late John Maltemon	no rent on account of the density of thorns and undergrowth
15. close called Lordysleyn next Okeley	Walter Frensshe the elder	rent 18d
16. a furlong of land called Pittesbreche	William More	rent 3s 4d
17. parcel of demesne land	Robert Danger	rent 4s

18. a field under Okeley called Lordisleyn	Richard Cook	Rent 10d
19. an acre of land called Tewcacre	Richard Parke	rent 14d
20. a parcel of pasture in le More next Lady Homme	John Newe	rent 12d

Can we identify any of these holdings or say anything about their later history? It has to be borne in mind that Charlton tithing included Cudnall and part of Ham, and Bafford tithing stretched from the Chelt up to the present Bafford Lane and Up End, and took in some tenements on Blind Lane (Croft Road), Hollow Lane (Horsefair Street), and Little Herberts.

Freeholds in Charlton Tithing

John Grevill the second had two freehold messuages here, one called Nethirhowse, with a half virgate and 6 acres of land, about 18 acres, altogether. My guess is that both were in Cudnall, and that Netherhouse or Lower House, stood just above the Chelt in Brookway Lane where Wraxall House is now. That would give it a position lower down the bank than any of the other Cudnall houses, only just clear of flood level. The other could be Grove House, if my guess about the next message is right (if not, reverse them!)

The third Charlton freehold was Thomas Wheler's message with 6 acres of land, previously John Hore's and before that Walter Henry's. This links it with the house called Walter's which John Hore gave to Thomas Dowdeswelle of Codynhulle and Isabel his wife, subject to their maintaining him for life, in 1421 (see Bulletin I pp.5-6 and 13 p.6). One branch of the Dowdeswell family was also known as Wheeler, from their craft of wheelwright. In 1617, Giles Grevill gentleman had a freehold message called Wheelers with 20 acres of land, in Charlton; and later there was a Cheltenham freehold on the site of Langton Lodge in Cudnall.

Freeholds in Bafford

First of the freeholds in Bafford Hide was the message with 1½ virgates which John Grevill the second held and his father had held before him. Before that it had been Thomas de la Forde's. So this was The Forden or Forden House, our Charlton Park (see Bulletin 8).

The next was a message with 2 virgates (about 24 acres) held by John Throckmarton and John Hopton; it had once been Hopton and Borowehope's. So it is the tenement referred to in a deed of 1403 as held by John Borouhulle, next door to Walter Aylrych's; Walter's neighbour on the other side being John Yoket or Joket (see Bulletin 10 pp. 18-19). Now in 1700, in a list of parish property, one item is a small tenement at the SW end of Blind Lane (Croft Road) "which place in Ancient times has been knowne by the name of Jocketts" (GRO P 76a CH 1/1). So these three houses stood roughly where the "laundry" houses, the Post Office and the Store are at the junction of Croft Road and Up End Street (which is now part of Cirencester Road but we have to remember that the continuation down to the Chelt was not cut till 1826-7). The 19th century made a sand and gravel pit on this site, so nothing remains of the medieval houses. John Hopton was probably the working partner, John Throckmarton a wealthy outsider who had invested money in this property.

Another message in Bafford Hide with 2 virgates was Thomas Goodrigge's, previously William Goodrigge's, and before that Roger de la Home's. This may have been in

Moorend Street (our New Court Road). All the dwellings in this street were on the west side of the road and an open field, Hencroft or Hempcroft, on the east. Old Charltonians still call that area Encroft.

Base tenements in Charlton

Agnes Balle held two messuages, each with 3 acres, one previously Walter Balle's. These were on the site of The Hearne (built on copyhold land, part Cheltenham, part Ashley). In 1628 tenants were being told to repair the lane from Dowdeswell Mill to Bailhowse (GRO D 855 M 10 f.7v); and long after the Balls were gone, adjoining land was Ballshay. (This family held a freehold as well in 1477 - see Bulletin 13 p.7).

The Charlton messuage of Hugh Abraham, held after him by Sampson and Thomas Gryme, was still known as Abraham's in 1617, when Samuel Ridgedalle held the one acre close called Abrahams for which he paid a peter's penny and 4d work silver, showing that a house had stood there.

All the Goodrigge tenements in this tithing were in Ham except the one called Lucas's which earlier had been held by Julian Holleway (or Hollow Way). Hollow Lane is now Horsefair Street; Lucas's messuage and half virgate was on the site of Churchend House (The Grange, demolished in 1933). It belonged to the Cartwrights of Ham in 1617 and two closes, Great and Little Lucas Hill (7 acres) went with it (GRO D 855 M 9 pt 2 p 103).

The three messuages and 24 acres held by John Dowdyswell, Walter Crumpe, and Walter Hawthorne (lately Walter Crumpe, previously William Northfield) represent Northfield Farm. Three Northfields had paid tax in 1327 (see Bulletin 7 pp. 35-7); Robert Hawthorne held one customary messuage and sheephouse (plus freehold land) on Northfield Down in 1617.

Base tenements in Bafford Hide

Walter Brevill held 3 tenements under Cheltenham (besides one under Ashley). The one called Brevills had been his father's before him and was obviously his home. In 1617 and after it was held by Thomas Horwood as a homestead with 6 closes, one known as Brevills-Hay through which there was a right of way mentioned in 1627. In 1693 the tenant agreed to make a sufficient footpath there across a watercourse that came from Mr. Rooke's Orchard End (at Little Herbert's Farm); other references place this house in Hollow Lane next to Church End House, and opposite the Emily Place houses. The right of way at the edge of the Cemetery and by stepping stones across rushy ground (where the swings are on the Beeches playground) would have continued the line of Blind Lane - it was only closed c.1918. So Walter Brevell's home was on the ground, now allotments, between the Grange field and the Cemetery entrance, which was a public drying ground for laundries in the last century.

There was a Bafford tenement held in turn by Hugh, John, and William at More. It became the Whitmore home, Moorend House (opposite New Court) and the last relics of the dwelling (a gardener's cottage attached to Moorend Park) were pulled down as recently as 1979.

The messuage which had been Thomas Bulle's and another which had been Gunuld Bulle's both came into the possession of John Feysand alias Cheshire (an incomer, presumably). The houses were in Up End Street opposite Bafford Lane, and John's name is still commemorated in Great and Little Pheasant Closes, and the Little Pheasant flats.

The tenement called Birchyn disappeared, but a close called Birchinbrandyard belonged to the Whithornes in the early 18th century and was acquired by William Prinn in 1745 (D 855 M 14 p 81, M 15 p 94). Had the house been burnt down?

In 1784 a bridle way between Moorend Street and Leckhampton was closed by Quarter Sessions (Q/SR^h 1784 C/1). It was called Grindell's Ford and on the plan a house is marked near the place where the track crossed the Lilleybrook a little below Bafford Farm. This was presumably John Gryndall's messuage which he took over from Thomas Callebusshe; before that it had been Walter Bafford's; and earlier still it may have been held by John Calebus(h), who was taxed at 3s 2d on the 1327 Lay Subsidy Roll. With the closure of the track leading to it, the farmhouse shown on the Quarter Sessions plan disappeared.

The Alexanders had held a messuage and half virgate for 3 generations by c.1450; this was the messuage still held by Robert Alexander alias Maunsell who died in 1601 leaving a widow Jane to pay heriot, an ox worth 54/4. (GRO D 855 M 7 p 225). In 1655 Robert Alexander alias Mansell and his wife Mary surrendered to use of their son Thomas 5 butts called the Home Close (D 855 M 11 p 158); and this acre of land called Alexander's Croft or Nupend Croft and Alexander's messuage place (i r) was recognised in 1750 (M 15 pp 193-4). It lay next to the homestead of Thomas Bastin in Up End.

Ham

We all recognise Okeley but other field names are more elusive. The pasture called Kyngesbeccon makes one wonder if this could possibly be Warden Hill or Wanders Hill (TM 123 and 124) an alternative name from OE weard, watch or ward, often found with words for hill (See Place Name Elements (1970) II 247)

The name of William de Cheltenham as tenant of 15s worth of pasture is interesting as bearing out speculations that this family lived at Ham Court (see Bulletin 13 p.8), the Court being already treated as sub-manor, as it was when the Packers acquired it in 1574. Lordsleynes is the name of fields by Hewletts Reservoir, including the one through which the footpath to Prestbury runs.

Services

All customary tenants owed suit of court, and so did freeholders. On this manor all the mills had originally been the King's, so nothing is said about an obligation to use them - there was no alternative. All were liable to pay tallage when the king tallaged his demesne but not otherwise. For the first four Charlton tenants on the list, this was all. Others were said to owe service as Walter Brevell of Bafford, who was theoretically liable to plough, weed, reap, and carry, though all this had been reduced to a rent and one bedripe or day in harvest. A few denied that they should plough, weed, or carry; and even in 1294, only 70 tenants on the whole manor had had to plough. The most interesting part of the entry about Walter concerns his children. He must redeem his son or daughter if they want to marry outside the Hide (Bafford) or tithing; if they stay within it, they are not liable to do bedripes but they must pay tallage to the king. If they remain within the manor in the service of a free man, again they are not liable for bedripes. That free day's work at harvest was not a personal obligation, it was a rent a man paid for his tenement.

The next full scale survey of the manor was John Norden's in 1617; and there we find 18 tenants holding between them 36 messuages in Charlton and Bafford who pay varying sums as work money or "custom money", sums ranging from 5s ½d to 4d. These are the 36 base tenements of Charlton and Bafford in the 15th century.

Six of the messuages of 1617 still paid Pater's Pence; so they were six out of the 60 on the whole manor who had to pay it in 1294. Custom was very persistent!

Mary Paget

4. CHARLTON COTTAGE, FORMERLY CALLED JOYCE'S

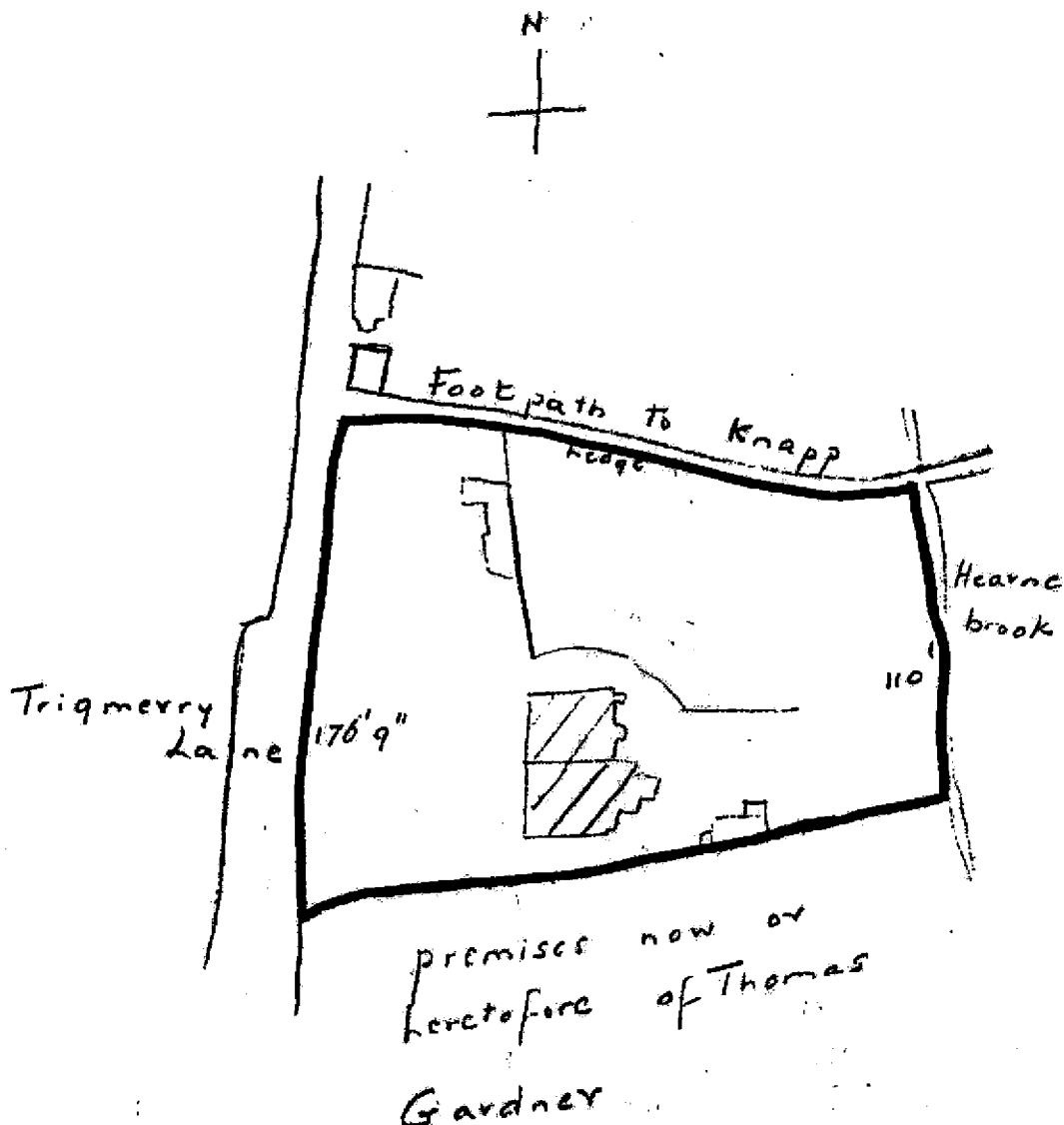
(1) The history of the house

This house was known as Joyce's in 1800 and had lately belonged to William Gale. That is all we know for certain of its past. But since Charlton names were often fixed in the 14-15th century, it is reasonable to assume that it got its old name from a tenant who held it about that time. Sometime in the 17th century, Joyce's was substantially altered and the roof line raised; this may have happened when it came into the possession of the Gales.

The Gale family presents difficulties to a genealogist because of the constant use in all branches of the same names. The only 18th century William, however, was William Tuckwell Gale, 3rd son of Robert Gale and Izard his wife (the daughter of Edward Gale and his wife Izard Tuckwell). Robert's father, another Robert, surrendered some copyhold property on behalf of his three youngest grandchildren (William included) in 1738 (D 855 M 14 pp 421-2). Like the second brother Thomas, William probably worked elsewhere; but he came back to Charlton in his later years - his wife Ann was buried at St Mary's on 19 February 1777 and William himself on 8 July 1799. So far as we know, there were no children

Joyce's was bought by William Flatcher and his wife Anne; he was a developer who often brought up older farm houses (Hawthorne's and Detmore were two of them) and divided them into cottages - there was a demand for cottage property. Joyce's was split into two. Eventually Flatcher's mortgagees got possession and on 14 April 1869 the house with a substantial home close was sold for £380 to James Chidgey the younger, a Charlton builder. It was bounded on the west by Trigmerry Lane (otherwise Mill Lane, now School Road) with a frontage of 176 ft 9 inches; on the north by the footpath to the Knapp (this ran down the middle of the school house in 1872, hence the archway - the path fell out of use about 1945 and has just been abolished altogether), on the east by the Hearne brook, 110 ft; on the south by property then or heretofore of Thomas Gardner, (the timber-framed and thatched cottages known as Crab End Cottages which used to stand on the site of the skittle alley and car park of the Merry Fellow).

Some farm buildings are shown on the plan.



Chidgey sold some of the land to Samuel Higgs Gael and the Revd F.S. Gabb, who wanted a site for the boys' part of the new school (GRO DC/E 14/2). He sold the rest on 6 May 1781 to Malathiah Mustoe Peacey a Charlton carpenter, with the two old cottages and five new ones he had built fronting the lane (tenants John Daniels, William Griffiths, Jesse Burrows, William Timbrell, Andrew Print, James Shayler, and Henry Baylis). The price was £440. By 1871 the adjoining Crab End cottages belonged to William Pates.

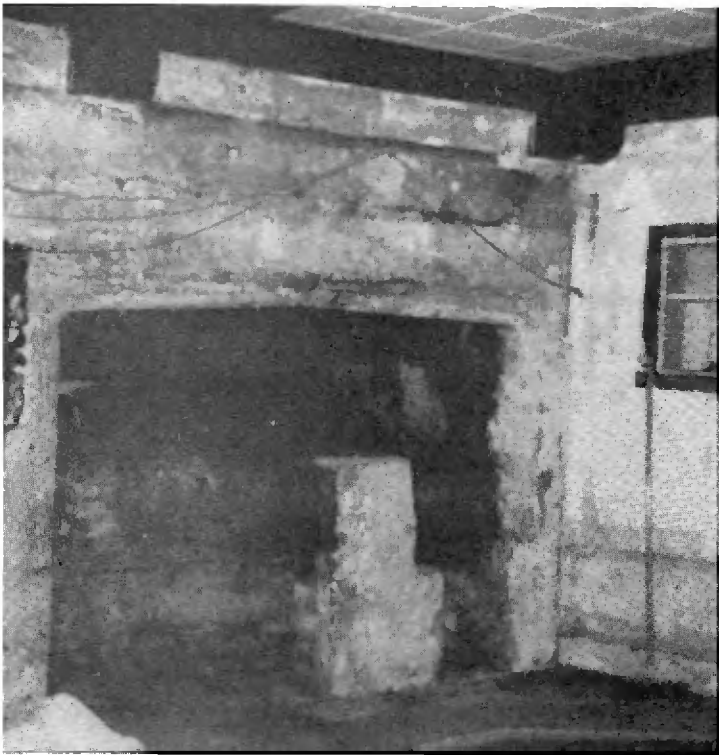
Peacey sold the five new cottages to Richard Wintle, manager of a hotel yard in Cheltenham. Copt Elm Cottage, built against the chimney stack of the old house, was sold by Peacey for £130 to George Cooper of Charlton, marble polisher; and Joyce's became three dwellings - the inter-relationship of the three was so complicated that it was known as the Puzzle House! (2)

Until 1920, the old house had stone tiles on its extremely steep roof, but the weight was making the walls bulge. So Albert Clevely the builder took off the old tiles and replaced them with asbestos. He sold the stone tiles to a firm in Oxfordshire and got more for them than he asked for doing the whole job! The old tiles were taken in small lots on Horace Matthew's dray to Charlton Kings station and there they were loaded carefully into a truck, with straw packed between the layers, and sent off to Oxford. It is believed they were re-used on one of the Colleges!

In 1954 the house was in great danger of being condemned and pulled down; but instead the main part was made one dwelling. A thorough restoration was needed in 1983-4; the asbestos tiles were replaced with slate, and most of the roof timbers were renewed - when this was done, many timbers were found to have been used with the bark still on them, as was often the way in Charlton. Renewing the outside plaster revealed the stone foundation on the west and part of the south sides. The 1954 alterations had left one small room by the chimney stack inaccessible, the winder stair and open hearth blocked; and these have been opened again. The house always had great character and it is now beautiful as well; though architecturally it still remains to some extent, a "Puzzle House".

- (1) Details from deeds of 16 School Road, seen through the kindness of Mr and Mrs McDevitt
- (2) The late Mr Frank Neather
- (3) Information from Mr Eric Cleevely, son of Albert Cleevely
- (4) I am very grateful to Mr and Mrs Holloway the present owners for allowing us to survey and photograph their home.

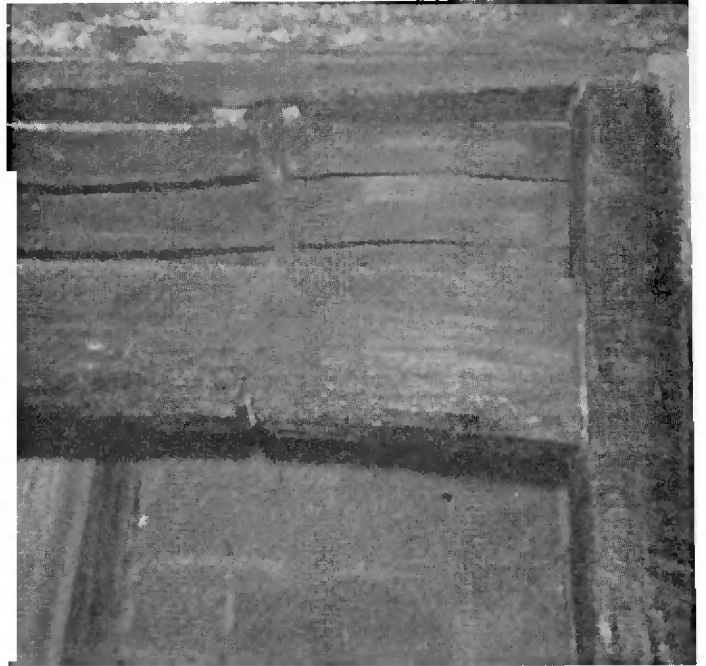
M. Paget



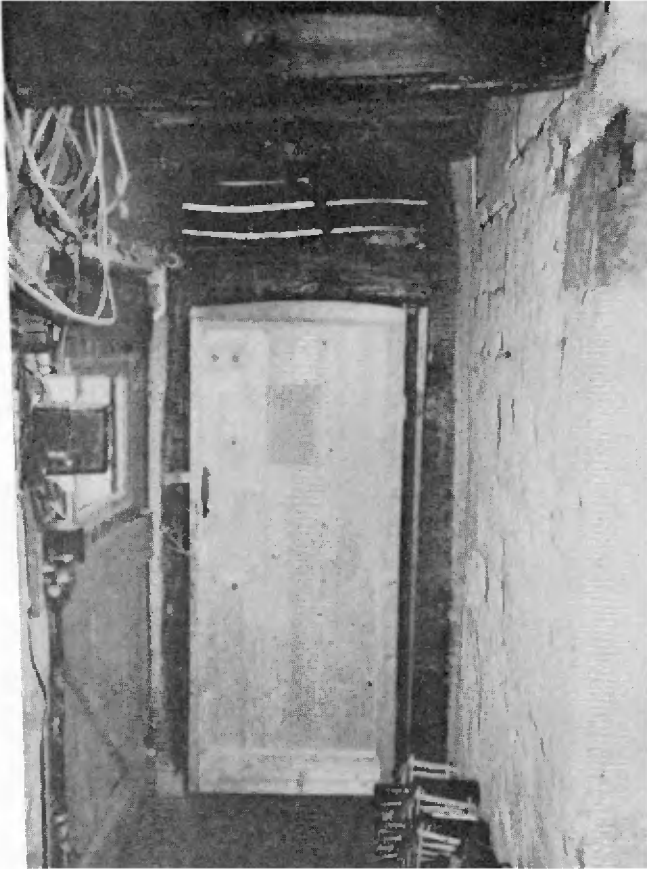
The hearth as uncovered



The winder stair and close-studding



West side of chimney breast and doorway



Stone foundation South side depth approx. 36"



Stone foundations - West side



A stone mullion window
partially blocked



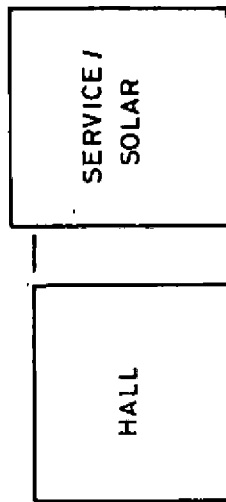
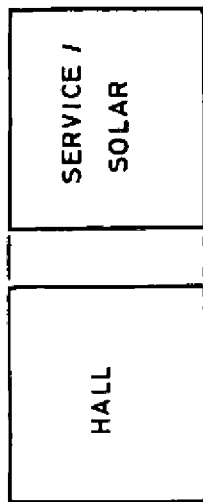
No stone foundation east of present
front door.



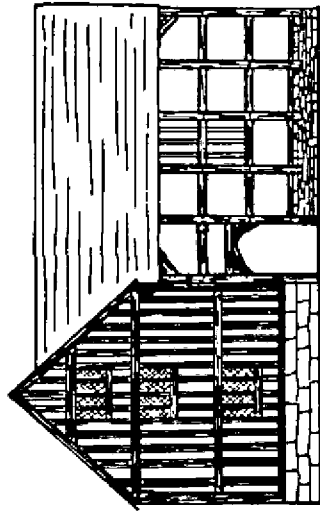
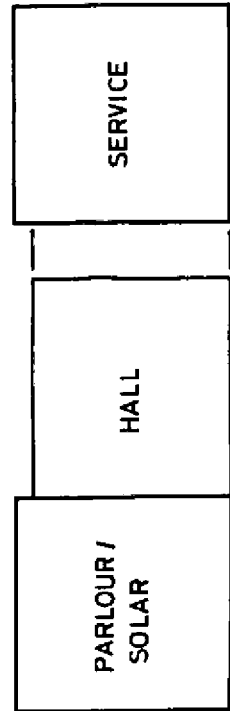
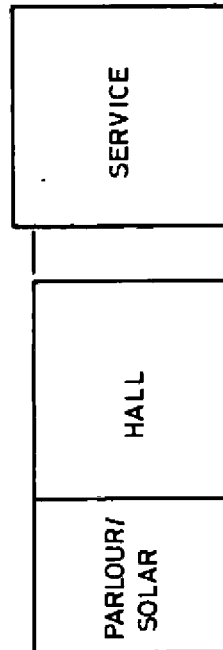
Chimney stack and
post (first floor)

CHARLTON COTTAGE, 10 SCHOOL ROAD, CHARLTON KINGS, GLOS.

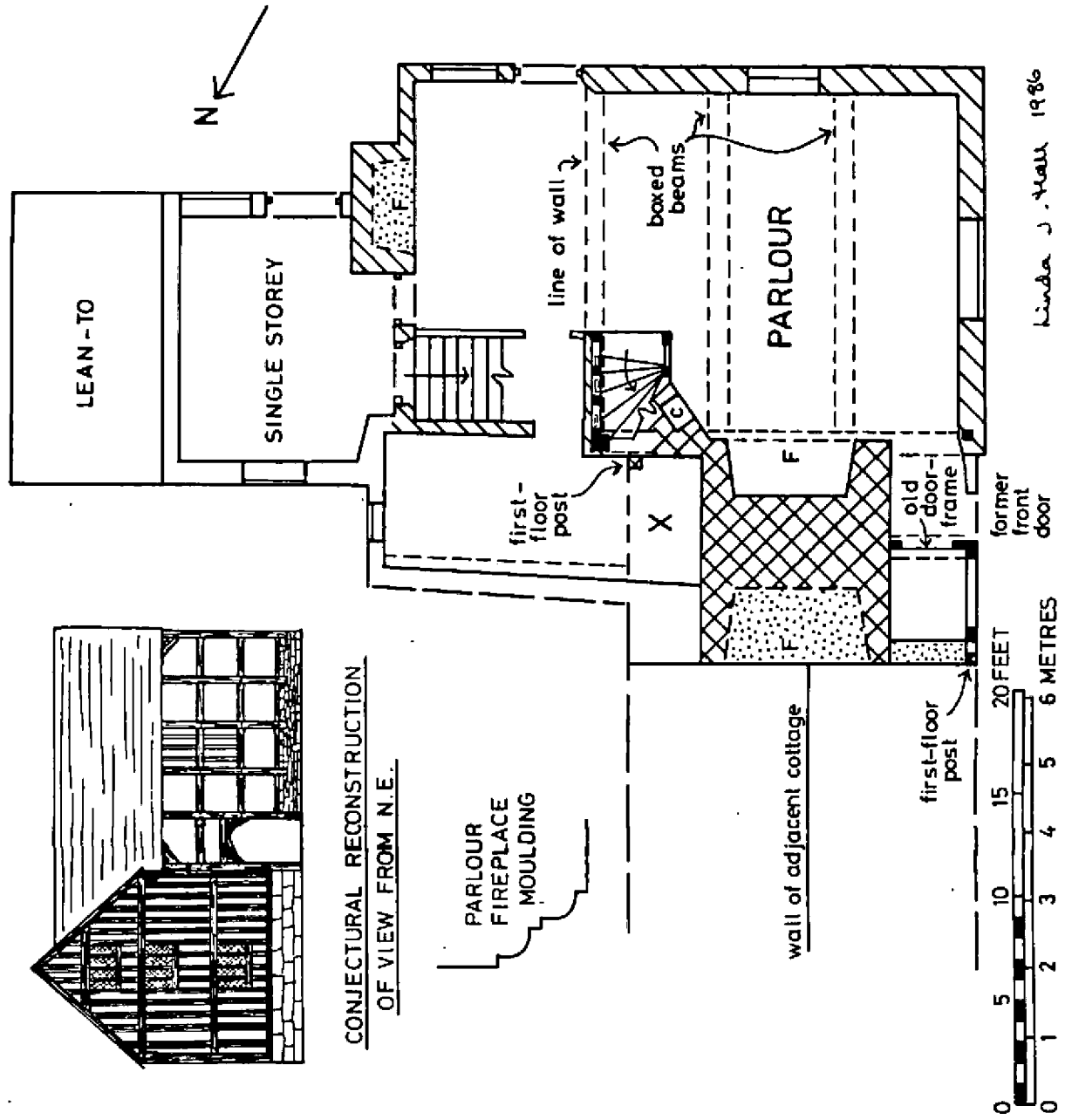
(SO 966205)



ALTERNATIVE LAYOUTS











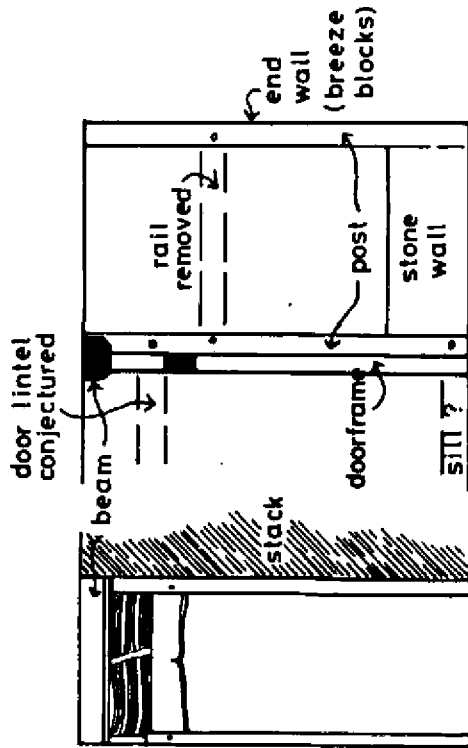
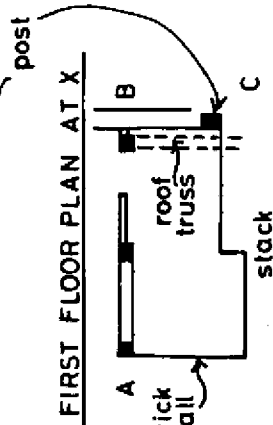
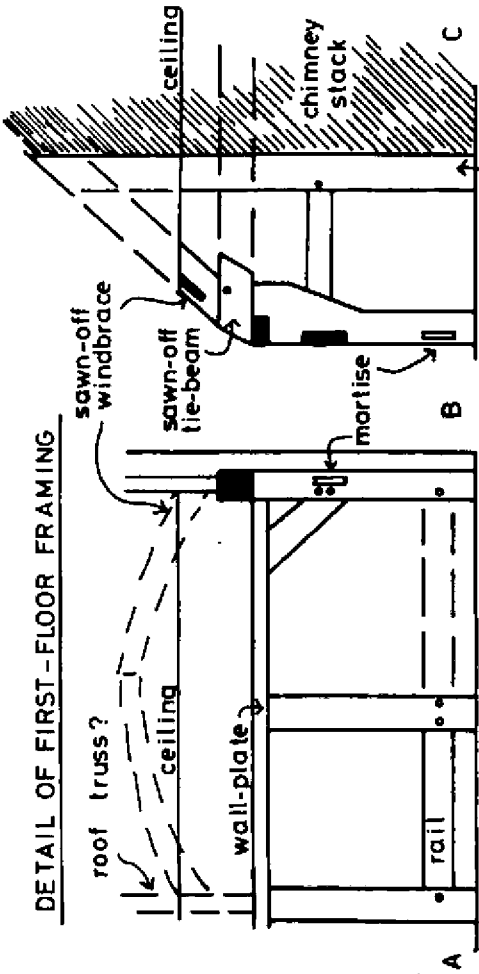
CONJECTURAL RECONSTRUCTION
OF VIEW FROM N.E.



Linda J. Hall 1986

KEY TO DRAWINGS

-  wall post, stud or old doorframe
-  C16/17 masonry of stack
-  later C17 brick walls
-  blocking (all periods)
-  wall of uncertain date
-  ceiling beam
-  conjectural (wall, timber)
-  → up



DOORFRAME IN LOBBY

WALL FRAMING IN S.W. WALL OF LOBBY

CLOSE STUDDING BY WINDER STAIR

Linda J. Hall 1986

(ii) CHARLTON COTTAGE, 10 SCHOOL ROAD, CHARLTON KINGS, GLOS. - AN ARCHITECTURAL
REPORT
SO 962205

The house is set back from the road on sloping ground and now faces SE. A former door faced SW. The house is rendered with a slate roof. It comprises a tall gabled block of two and a half storeys and, on the NW side, a very short two-storey block with a large chimney stack. Adjoining this block is a much later cottage. At the NE end a single-storey block abuts a projecting stack, with lean-to's, to the NW and NE. The windows are all modern casements. A stone-mullioned window was found in the SE wall on the first floor. The house is mostly built of brick, but the SE and SW walls of the main block, between the two doorways, have a base of large ashlar blocks; these were briefly revealed during restoration work and stood approximately 3 ft high. Encased in the brickwork are the remains of a timber-framed house.

The main block contained two heated rooms (now one large room), with a winder stair in the centre of the NW wall and a much later straight stair in the N corner. The two-storey section is entirely taken up with a massive chimney stack with back-to-back fireplaces. There is a lobby entry on the SW side, once the front door. A similar lobby on the other side of the stack is now reached on both ground and first floors from a one-and-a-half storey lean-to. Clearly the house once extended further to the NW.

It is in the lobbies beside the stack and by the winder stair that timber-framing is visible. On the ground floor the SW lobby has two wall posts, with a third on the other side of the former front door. The first two have peg holes for a central rail which has been removed, forming large panel timber-framing. Ceiling beams are tenoned into the posts, which are set into a low stone wall about 1ft 8ins high on the inside. The third post is probably set into a stone wall in the same way, although here the low stone wall has only been seen from the outside. The middle post goes down to the ground, where there is a peg hole, probably for the sill of the original back door; a third peg-hole above the rail marks the level of the original door lintel (see reconstruction of elevation).

Abutting the middle one of the posts is an old doorframe. The lintel has a small chamfer and a decorative notch in the centre, and it is tenoned into the plain jambs. One jamb stops just above the lintel, the other continues to a modern piece of wood fixed to the soffit of the ceiling beam. The doorframe is therefore not fixed to the beam in any way, although directly beneath it. At first floor level a post is visible on the outside of the W corner; it appears to be further W than the ground floor post. However, various structures against the SW wall make it difficult to be certain of exact measurements, and this post may be a continuation of the one in the lobby.

The ceiling beams in the lobby have unstopped three-inch chamfers. The SE one is boxed where it crosses the chimney stack, as are the other beams in the parlour. It reappears at the back of the winder stair, where it is supported on a roughly jowelled post. At right angles to it is a short section of timber-framed wall. This wall has a chamfered beam with a diagonal-cut stop. There are three studs, and seven-inch long mortises in the soffit of the beam show that they replace the earlier and larger studs of a close-studded wall. The lower part of the wall is covered with horizontal planks, perhaps masking a low stone wall, just over 3 feet high. The beam also contains two mortises showing where floor joists were sawn off when the stair was put in. The stair itself is a simple winder, the steps composed of separate treads and risers. The parlour fireplace is of freestone with a double ovolo moulding and a shallow depressed four-centred arch.

The moulding suggests an early C17th date. Above it the weight of the wall is carried by another beam immediately below two (?) wooden corbels which support the ends of the ceiling beams. The end of another such beam for the hall fireplace 4 feet above the floor, is visible at the N end of the stack.

Until recently the parlour fireplace was blocked; restoration work revealed a large upright stone, roughly L-shaped, in the centre of the fireplace. It was presumably used to form the new jamb of the reduced fireplace, but its original location and function are a mystery.

The third visible portion of timber-framing is on the first floor in the small lobby on the NE side of the stack. The NE wall of this lobby is timber-framed, and it is not in line with the close-studded wall below. It consists of a wall-plate, two posts with a rail between them, and in the E corner a post with a massive jowelled head. This post contains a mortise and peg where the rail has been removed, and a short straight brace to the wall-plate. There is a round hole in the soffit of the wall-plate halfway between the jowelled post and the central post, presumably for a panel of wattle and daub infill. The adjacent panel is still infilled and plastered over. On top of the jowelled post is a sawn-off tie beam into which a principal rafter is tenoned. A mortise in the post suggests a brace to the tie-beam. Just below the present ceiling is a sawn-off windbrace. The SE wall of this small room is very close to the post and truss; it consists of a post and rail with (?) wattle and daub infill. A sketch made by a previous surveyor of the house suggests that above the ceiling and forming the gable of the two and a half storey block are two beams and two posts, with stone infilling between the posts and wattle and daub above the upper beam. The NW wall of the room is brick, with a blocked doorway to the adjoining property. The side of the stack has freestone quoins and rubblestone walling.

It appears that the roof of the tall block consists simply of an extended collar running between the SE and NW gables and purlins running NE-SW, a typical late C17th roof structure in this part of the country.

DATE AND DEVELOPMENT

The basic development is quite clear, although various details are still uncertain. Here was an open-hall house of the C15th or early C16th. It consisted of a hall block built of large panel timber-framing on a low stone wall, with a cross-wing at the SE end beyond the screens passage. The NE wall of the cross-wing projected slightly beyond the hall block and was composed of the more expansive and therefore more prestigious close studding. Presumably therefore this was originally regarded as the front of the house. The nature of the timber-framing of the other walls of the wing is not known, but it was built on top of a good quality stone wall. The contrast between a hall block of large panel timber-framing set on a low rubblestone wall, and a cross-wing of close-studding set on a taller wall of good quality ashlar is well-known in the area and can be seen in many of the photographs in Picturesque Gloucestershire, published in 1928.

In the early C17th the open hearth of the hall was replaced by a stone chimney stack on the same site. A second fireplace back-to-back to the first blocked the old screens passage and turned what was presumably the service end of the house into a parlour. The winder stair was probably inserted at the same time, perhaps replacing a medieval ladder stair. The sawn-off ceiling joists show that the original stair was located elsewhere in the wing. Either at the same time or later in the C17th the timber-framed SE and SW walls were rebuilt or encased in brick, on top of the original low stone walls. It had stone-mullioned windows, a combination of materials that is quite common in the C17th. This rebuilding probably included the extension of the cross-wing to the NE, although this could

have taken place as a separate and later phase of development. It seems likely that the ceiling beams belong to the timber-framed house and pre-date the rebuilding of the walls. The date of the old doorframe in the lobby is not certain; it could be early C17th, added at the same time as the stack, or it could have belonged with the earlier house and been reused in the C17th. The stack is unusually massive, perhaps to accommodate baking ovens in the back of the hall fireplace, although this is pure conjecture.

The main point of uncertainty is the exact form of the medieval house. It is likely that the C17th lobby entry marks the site of the original screens passage and that the surviving house is therefore the service end of the medieval house. The house could have had one of two forms; either a hall with a parlour at one end and service room(s) at the other, both with chambers over, or an end hall with a solar over the service room(s). Structurally, this could take three forms; a simple rectangle, a hall block with one cross-wing, or a hall and two cross-wings. The other uncertainty is whether the hall and cross-wing arrangement which clearly existed here was the original form of the house, or whether a simple rectangular house had its lower end rebuilt as a cross-wing in the C16th with the then fashionable close-studding.

There are (or were) many houses in the region which have large panel timber-framing set on a low stone wall, as revealed by many of the photographs in Picturesque Gloucestershire. Most have walls three panels high, as here, and a number have the short straight braces in the upper panels. The combination of large panels and close studding is common; usually it is a wing which is close-studded, but a few houses had a stone wall, then a row of close-studded framing with two rows of large panel framing on top. Cross-wings are moderately common, but usually project further than the one at Charlton Cottage. The change-over of service and parlour ends of a house is very common in the timber houses of SE England and probably elsewhere too. The reason was that in a timber house it was easiest to provide two heated rooms with a single stack, and the location of the stack was usually determined by the location of the open hearth in the hall. In a stone house it was much easier to add chimneys wherever convenient, but even so it is fairly common for room functions to have changed over the centuries. Likewise many houses have been "turned round", in that the original front door has fallen out of use or become the back door, and vice versa.

Glossary

beam - a horizontal timber supporting the ceiling joists
jowl or jowel - the enlarged head of a post where it supports a tie-beam
post - a main vertical timber in a timber-framed wall
stud - an intermediate vertical timber
soffit - the underside of a beam
wall-plate - horizontal timber at the top of a wall, on which the roof trusses and rafters sit

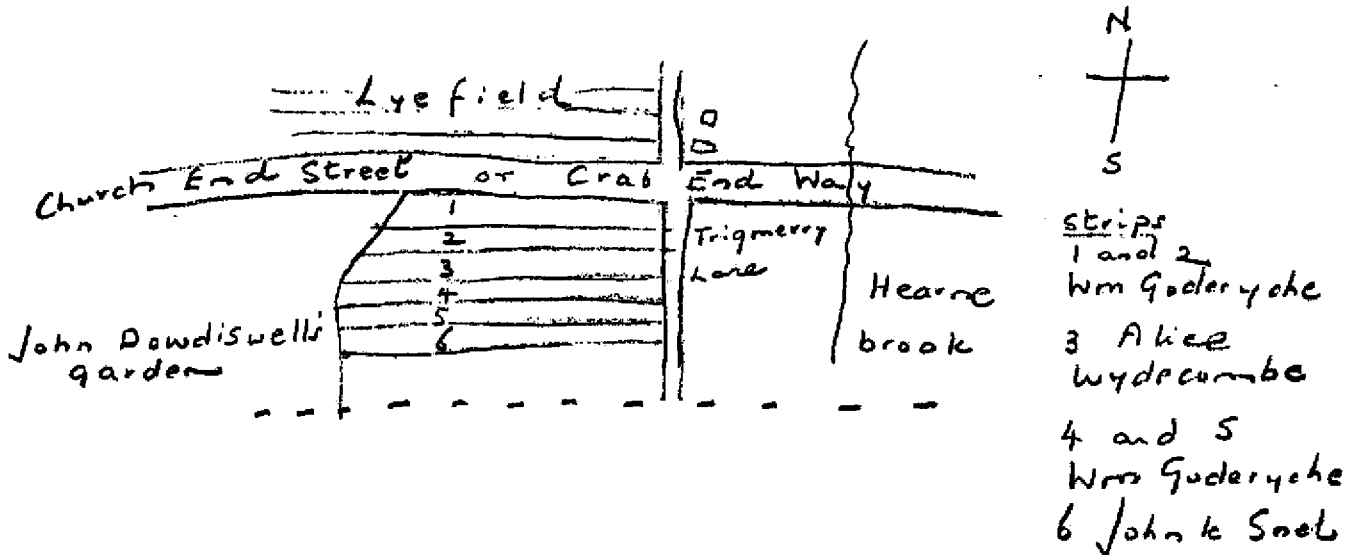
Linda Hall January 1986

5. BARNS HAY: THE SITE OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH, THE VINE, AND THE PROPERTY LATE MORRIS'S

This is an interesting block of property because we can trace its history back to the very beginning of the 15th century; it gave us a site for a church, and very recently a part of it has been brought back to its 19th century function in the community.

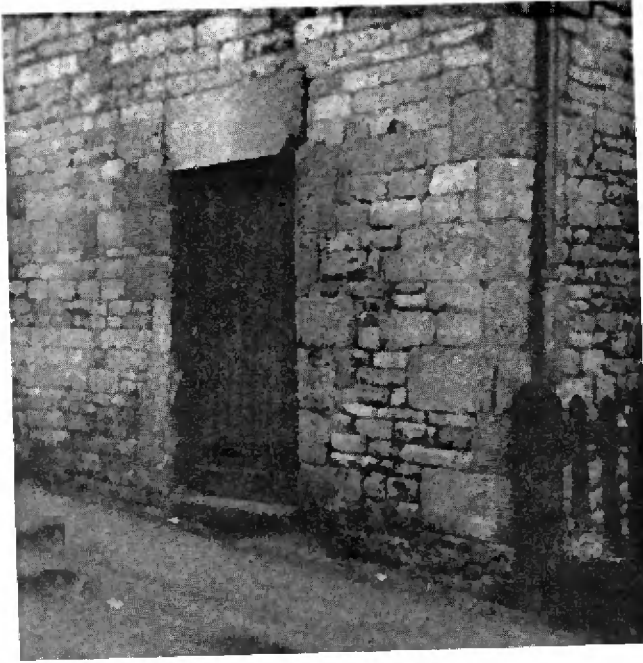
The £10 worth of land given in the 12th century to Walter of Ashley included a stretch on the south side of Church Street from Hollow Lane down to the Hearne brook. This was called Brodcroft furlong and its southern boundary was roughly the line now marked by the wall at the back of the Buckle's Row cottages. Part of Brodcroft was copyhold, but a good deal of it, including the area under discussion, was freehold.

The deeds abstracted by M.J. Greet (Bulletin 13 pp 6-7) tell us that in 1403 a chaplain named Walter Grene or Walter atte Grene, acquired 5 strips in Brodcroft furlong 'between a way called Crabbe Ende' (ie lower Church Street) on the north and a strip belonging to John le Snell on the south. William Goderyche and Agnes his wife gave Walter the two strips next the road; then came a strip held by Alice Wydecombe widow which she gave him; then two more strips given by William and Agnes. On the west was a garden of John Dowdiswell webber (ie weaver) and the greatest length from east to west was 10 perches or 55 yards for the southern strips. It looks as though the footpath we used to call Bobby's Alley which ran slantwise from Church Street to Grange Walk represented this western boundary. Walter Grene must have been the chantry priest of the time, who would have been thankful to have a supplement to his meagre income of 19s 4d a year. On his death, presumably, the 5 strips came into possession of someone called Barns or Barnes and were inclosed into a 'hay'.

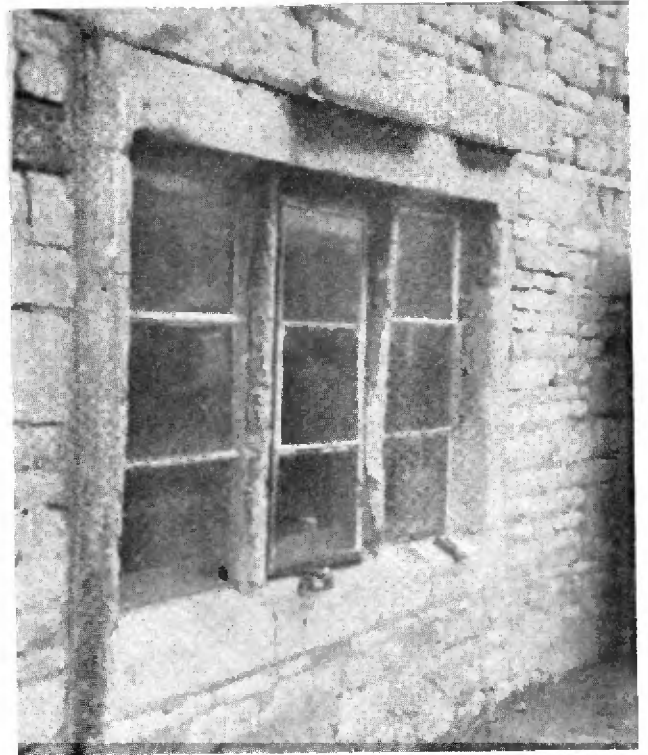


One sizeable house, timber-framed and thatched, was built in the course of the 15th-16th century. It stood back from the street, roughly where the church is now, It was large enough to be divided later into 3 cottages, one much bigger than the other two, so we may presume a hall with fireplace and one unheated room to start with; a kitchen added later, with upper rooms inserted over all three.

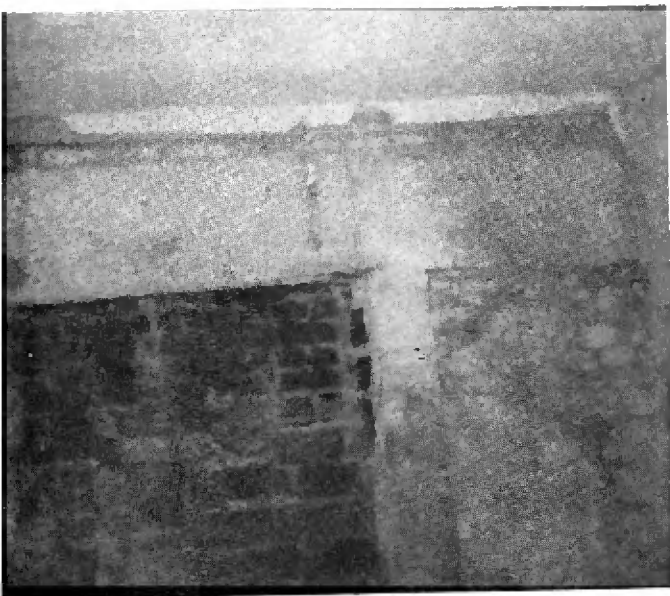
About 1660, at a guess, the stone cottage in the lane was built on part of the close. Until the 1985 alterations, this cottage had one room down, one up; and a window looking into the yard, with stone mullions set diamond-wise to deflect wind. This window had an iron catch of later 17th century type. The downstairs room had an open hearth with a great stone lintel.



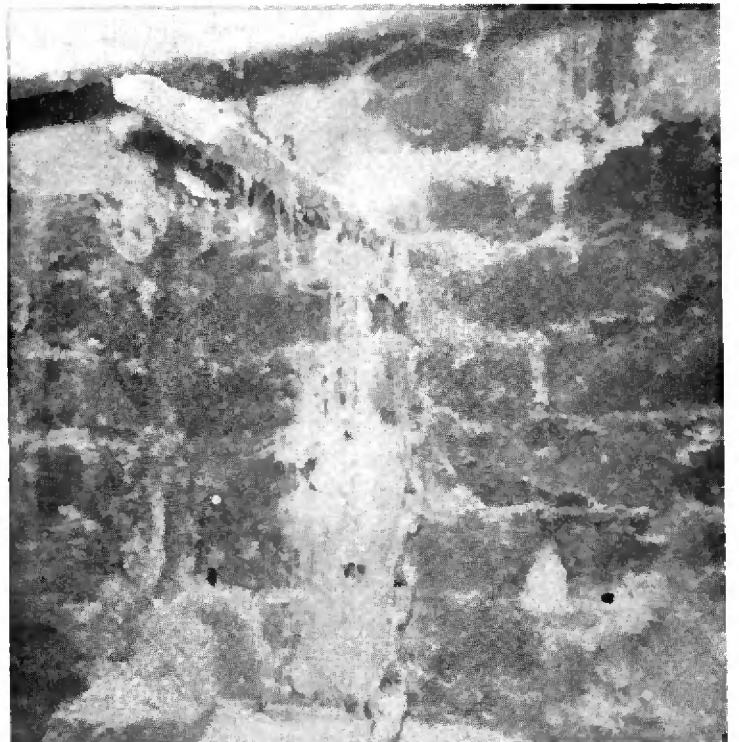
East side - no window on
ground floor



West side - stone
mullion window



Hearth with stone lintel
and supporting stone pillar

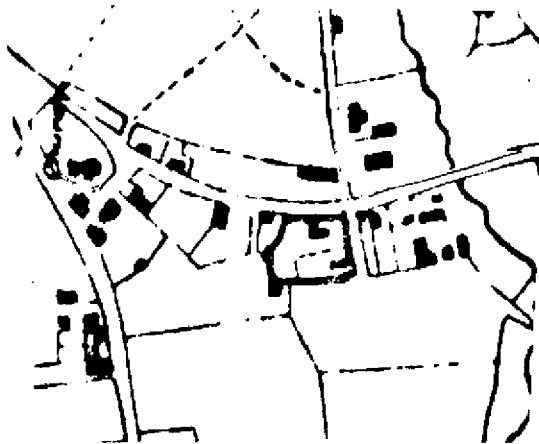


Iron pot-bar and chain

On the 1671-2 Hearth Tax list, Richard Randell and William Randell, with one hearth apiece, were among those discharged from paying the tax. It is very likely that they lived here; for in 1708 the next property up the street had land of Ralph Randle on the east. Ralph Randle or Randell (1692-1728) was the grandson of William Randell and his wife Anne (who was buried on 17 March 1667); William then married again but had no children by his second wife Margaret - he already had a family of four. So in 1671-2 he may have been living in the larger house, the timber-framed one, while the stone cottage was inhabited by a relation Richard (1643-1677) who does not seem to have had a wife or children at all.

Soon after Ralph's death, Barn's Hay became the home of one branch of the Hall family, an old Charlton name - some other Halls lived in Horsefair Street. When Thomas Hall married Edith Cleevely on 12 February 1745, it was a case of neighbours linking up for she lived in the next house up the street. Edith was the daughter of a carpenter; while the Halls were always plumbers, glaziers, slaters, plasterers, all trades connecting with building.

Thomas and Edith's grandson William (1) lived in the timber-framed house and had a shop for his plumber's equipment on the site of The Vine. House and shop and stone cottage are shown on Mitchell's map of 1806.



Mitchell's map (part) enlarged

William Hall (1781-1844) married Margaret Hopkins at Charlton on 5 January 1804 and their two eldest sons were born here. But when the second boy died in 1812 and they buried him here, they were entered in the registrar as of "Cheltenham"; so they had moved to the Fairfield area where William had property. They were back in Charlton by 1827. In that year Barns Hay and the existing messuages were mortgaged for £150, and the mortgage was assigned in 1831, when the property was described as an acre of land, 3 cottages, stable, slaughter house, other buildings, garden, yards and backsides. It looks as if the first mortgage was to raise money to divide and update the old timber-framed house, and the second to build on to the stone cottage where the date 1831 is scratched on the stone lintel. Part of the cottage wall was removed and replaced by a brick wall with a doorway in it, to allow communication between the old dwelling and the new house (lately Morris's). In the cottage, the lintel over the hearth had cracked, and this was now supported; a small iron range was put into one part of the reduced hearth and the rest turned into a cupboard. At some time during the 19th century, the communicating door was blocked.

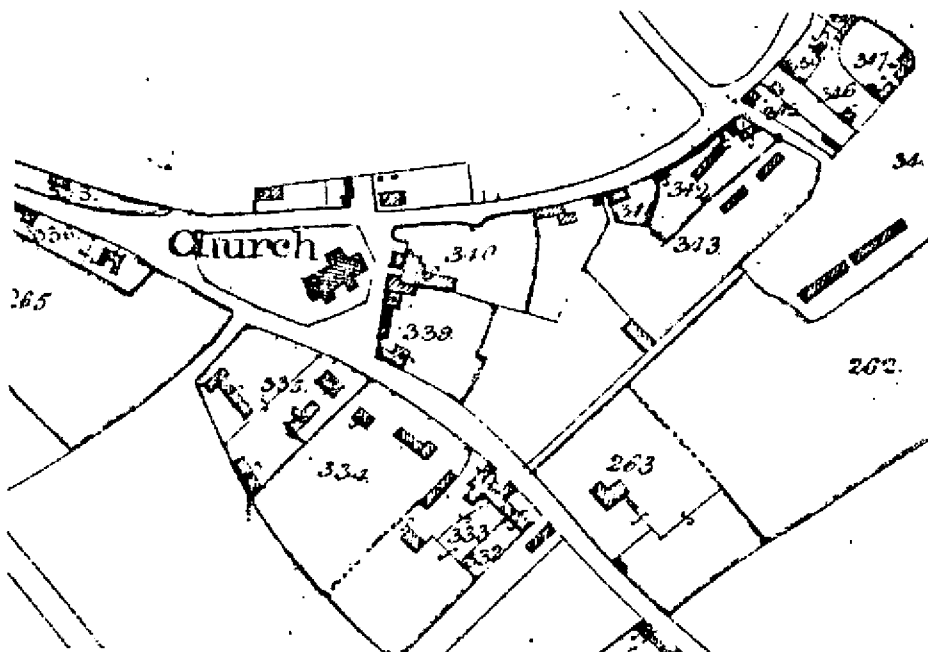
Between 1831 and 1844, Hall built two new houses west of his old messuage. When he made his will on 16 July 1844, he and his wife were living in the larger of the three old cottages.

By this time there were six living children, the youngest only 14. So William left his wife all his property (except a house in Sherborne Street) and all his household goods, to enable her to educate the younger children. To his son John he left the Sherborne Street house and the reversion after Margaret's death of one in Fairview Street. To his son William Henry he left the reversion of the two messuages in Charlton Kings "at the eastern extremity of and adjoining to the premises in which the testator dwells", that is, the stone cottage and the corner house. William Henry Hall had married Jane daughter of William Thornton gardener on 26 February 1841 and the couple were already living in the corner house. They had the right to draw water from the well in front of the ancient messuage and to put in pipes from the well to their pump; but William Henry was to be responsible for half the mortgage, £75 principal. To son Thomas, the testator left the reversion of the 3 old cottages and gardens, subject to use of the well by the other children. To son Charles he left the reversion of a parcel of land measuring 20 ft E-W and 79 ft N-S, west of the property devised to Thomas, with right to take water, but subject to Ann's right to use a footpath 4 ft wide intended to be left on the western side of Charles' land. Daughter Ann was eventually to have the two messuages occupied by James Perbrick and John Lawrence, with a right to take water and use the footpath. So Henry was given 5 houses in Sherborne Street after Margaret's death; and 3 other houses there were to be sold immediately. A codicil added a small piece of land 8 ft wide N-S and 20 ft E-W to Thomas's share. This was bounded on the south by William Thornton's garden (the site of Thornton's Row).

William Hall died on 29 July 1844 and his will and codicil were proved on 26 December.

By 1845, Thomas Hall had moved to Birmingham, and was prepared to sell out to his brother William Henry. He was to get £20 and be relieved of his share of the £150 mortgage. What he sold then is shown on the plan - it included the old plumber's shop, two wash-houses (one with a room upstairs), the cellar under the shop, and a right of way along a footpath 3 ft wide. William Henry was going to build a new dwelling house on the site of the old shop and he agreed to insure it for £150. This is the property now The Vine.

By a separate transaction (no deed survives) the ancient messuage also passed into William Henry Hall's possession.



Tithe map 1848 (enlarged)

Our next information about Barns Hay comes from the 1858 Rate book (the only one to survive). Margaret Hall was still alive, so most of the property was still owned by her.

Church Street - property owned by Margaret Hall:-

- 301 cottage - tenant Jane Fry - gross estimated rental £3.10.0 (the stone cottage)
- 302 house and shop - tenant Alfred Keen - g.e.r. £11.0.0 (late Morris's)
- 303 house and shop - tenant William Henry Hall - g.e.r. £13.5.0 (The Vine)
- 304-6 3 cottages - tenant of first William Burrows - g.e.r. £6.6.0, £3.10.0 and £2.15.0 (the ancient message)
- 309 cottage and shop - tenant Henry Karn - g.e.r. £5.0.0. (Mrs. Timbrell's now demolished)
- 310 cottage - no tenant - g.e.r. £4.10.0 (Evan's fish shop, now demolished)

property owned by Benjamin Buckle:-

- 307 house - himself g.e.r. £7.10.0 (shop formerly Flowers, then Kilminster's, now hair dresser's)

The three shops west of the Baptist Church show their origin very clearly in this old postcard of Church Street, lent to us by Mr Fisher in 1979. The two built by William Hall share a roof-line; and Mr. Stanton told me that when they were demolished, the fish-shop roof timbers were rough branches still with the bark on them. The house which survives is clearly better built; it seems that Buckle built it for himself and his wife Ann (Hall) on a site acquired from her brother Charles.



By 1858, the shop extension had been built on to the corner house; Alfred Keen its tenant was a grocer (so the tradition of a grocers shop here goes back 125 years). His son was Alfred William Keen, 1860-1953 (see Bulletin 7 pp. 50-3), and his grandson was Bill Keen, who died in January 1985 . According to Bill Keen, his grandfather moved up the street to the shop later Dale's, where the first police station had been; and then or shortly afterwards the corner shop and the shop on the other side of the lane became Edwin Attwood's grocer's shop, corn chandler's, and post office.

In 1858, the rate book shows that William Henry Hall was living at the house now the Vine and had his workshop there. Shortly after that, he let it to William Dyer as a pub, the Prince of Wales

The Baptist Church

On 25 June 1875, for £245, William Henry Hall and his mortgagee conveyed to 5 trustees, John Burgh Rochfort of Charlton Kings esq, Charles Wilson of Cheltenham gentleman, John Lance of Cheltenham draper, Henry Beard of Cheltenham grocer and William Cleevely of Charlton Kings builder "all that messuage or tenement, baker's shop, yard, garden, buildings and erection thereon --- now or late in the occupation of Charles Wheeler baker, James Belcher, and Henry Baylis, on the south side of the highway or street called Church Street---", with right to use a 4ft path on the west of the adjoining premises belonging to Ann Buckle. On the site of the 3 old cottages, the trustees were to erect a chapel or meeting house, vestry room, school rooms and other offices, as a place of public worship; and very strict rules were laid down as to its form.

At that time, William Cleevely owned a plot of land which bounded part of the chapel site on the south west, and had a right of way into Church Street, but he gave this way up when the schoolroom was built. Church and schoolroom were built by him.

The British Workman

On 5 January 1876, Hall and his mortgagees conveyed to John Burgh Rochfort, Henry Jordan coal merchant, Benjamin Wood nurseman, William Cleevely builder and Edwin Attwood grocer, all of Charlton Kings, for £300, a parcel of land measuring 27 ft 6 ins x 80 ft down the middle, with the messuage built by Hall formerly known as the Prince of Wales public house. It was now to become "The British Workman", an institution "lately formed in the Parish of Charlton Kings for the purpose of providing accommodation for reading and the profitable employment of leisure time and for supplying Refreshments on Temperance Principles and at fixed prices to the Members and under certain conditions to the Inhabitants in General of the said Parish". Members were to pay 4s a year and the institution was to be run by a committee of nine chosen by subscribers from the members resident in the parish or within 5 miles of the parish church. The place was "never to be used for Religious Services or Political Lectures or discussions or for any theatrical entertainments or concerts nor to be used or allowed to be used as a place for the sale of any intoxicating liquors".

This was an ecumenical effort on behalf of the parish, Rochfort and Cleevely were staunch supporters of the chapel, while Wood and Attwood were churchmen.

There was a clause in the foundation deed permitting the trustees to sell if the trust in their judgement had failed of effect or was incapable of being performed; and in that case any surplus after sale was to be paid to Cheltenham General Hospital and Dispensary. So on 16 September 1915, three trustees having decided that the objects had failed, the property was sold to Alice Mary Wood; she had already renamed it Woodlea. It was sold again in 1920, and bought in 1921 by Mrs Wakefield, who started the shop we knew as "Wakefield's" in her front parlour.

Perhaps it was not surprising that The British Workman no longer had a useful function in 1915, and not only because the War had taken away so many men. The Working Men's Club, started in 1888, had attracted the younger and livelier elements in Charlton, concerts and entertainments could be held there in the big upstairs room, and it was not tied to Temperance principles. It seems that in the early 1900s, the Workman did not offer men much reading matter, and not even a drink of coffee. In this sense it had certainly failed.

- (1) Deeds for Barns Hay seen by permission of Mr Russell in 1980; deeds for the church by permission of the Rev Basil Hill.

6. RUNNING THE BRITISH WORKMAN

My father (1) was the last Steward of The British Workman, and we lived on the premises. The club was open from 6 to 10 in the evening, so it was a part-time job. Outside was a big sign that creaked in the wind and the ground floor was up two steps. Downstairs was a long panelled room with blinds to the windows; it was furnished with comfortable wooden armchairs and a strip of matting over the bare boards. Under each chair was a white china spittoon - these had to be emptied every night and a new layer of sawdust put in the bottom. There was a long table pitted with much usage, down the middle of the room and on it draught boards and dominoes for the men to play with - they got the newspapers from the Working Men's Club up the road a day old, passed on to them secondhand. Darts were not allowed, but there would have been nothing against their bringing in cards. Mostly they sat and talked. They brought their own pipes and tobacco or cigarettes, Woodbines. There was a patriotic picture over the mantelpiece and the men used to stock their cigarette cards into the frame "for missie" or they would leave me the little badges that were sometimes substituted for cards - football team colours, with 'legs' that slotted into a man's coat. There was no piano and they never sang. No drink was allowed and no refreshments were provided.

Father's job was to have a good coal fire lit and to open the door at 6. He had nothing to do with the finances and never handled any money. A Committee ran it. I used to go into the room first thing in the morning to collect my cards from the picture, and it always had a nice warm tobacco and coal ash smell.

Upstairs, the parent's room was the one nearest Marge's and mine the long one at the back. That left a small square front room which was let to the Scouts, and used by boys in the age group 12-13. They were often noisy, but when father went up the stairs to rebuke them, they always heard him coming however quietly he tried to walk and then they'd barricade the door and put the gas light out! One day a boy named Chubby Attwood leant out of the window and dropped something on to the hat of a man walking underneath --- it was his own father! After that, the boys' club came to an end, the Committee feared a boy might fall out.

When the British Workman was given up, about the beginning of the War, we moved for a time into a house in Chestnut Terrace, the second house at the head of the T. Then we moved back to Church Street as Miss Wood's tenants. The panelling in the long room had been painted eau de nil - rather a cold colour for a north-facing room, but it looked beautiful.

Ethel Mason

- (1) Alfred John Mason (1860-1946)
Alfred Mason registered as a parochial elector, dwelling house The British Workman, in 1895.

7. BAPTISTS IN CHARLTON KINGS

This brief account is based on notes in Gloucestershire Record Office, D 2052, about non-conformity in Gloucestershire.

Over the years 1592 to 1640, there were from time to time people who were reported to the bishop for not coming to church or not receiving communion; but we have no

means of knowing why they stayed away. During the Commonwealth period, however, a Baptist named Harrison trooper to the Earl of Essex was placed at Charlton Kings by the Vigilant Committee of the County (Trans Baptist Hist. Soc IV 208), presumably the Richard Harrison "constant preaching minister" mentioned in 1650 (Hockaday Abstract 66). He was receiving £40 p.a., the stipend arranged in 1629. From Charlton he moved to Netherton near Fairford and Maiseyhampton, and his place here was filled by a Thomas Harrison, ejected in 1662 (Calamy Account of Ejected Ministers II 331), who is apparently found preaching in London as an Anabaptist in the 1670s.

From this period, there seems to have been a small but continuing Baptist group in Charlton Kings. The 5 reported in 1682 for not frequenting the parish church, Patience Danford, Widow Cleeve, Thomas Pumfrey, William Randell and Thomas Shewel, could represent this congregation (though later the Pumfreys turn up as Quakers). A Dissenting Meeting House in the home of William Welch was registered at Quarter Sessions in 1690. A little later, we can be sure there were Baptists here: 16 Anabaptist families in 1735 and again in 1743 (Parochial list of Dissenting Families GDR 285B; Diocesan Survey 1743 GDR 397) Private houses were licensed from time to time, Lawrence Dyers' in 1810, Oliver Watts' in 1822, John Bridgeman shoemaker's in 1828 and 1834, John James' in 1836; and it does not seem likely that any of them were connected with the various Charlton Methodist groups. The Bridgman family was Baptist at a later date - John Bridgman aged 70 and Mary Bridgman aged 77 were both buried without rites in 1891, and could have been children of the older John. At any rate, we know that the present Baptist congregation goes back a long way before its official start in 1865, when Captain John Burgh Rockfort took up residence at Bafford Cottage (now Bafford Grange). The rest of the story is told in the Centenary booklet.

Extracted by M.J. Greet from material in G.R.O.

8. THORNTON'S ROW (NOW THE SITE OF THE MANSE AND CAR PARK): AND BREVEL COTTAGES

The history of this land is complicated. First the site of Thornton's Row, the strip of land which was held by John le Snel in 1403. In 1832 it belonged to William Thornton a Charlton gardener and on it he built five cottages facing south, without any windows to the north (where a six foot way gave access to the back of William Hall's property). There were three cottages together, then 3 wash-houses and privys, recessed; then originally two more cottages, but at some stage the last cottage was burnt down and it was thrown into the next, with a make-shift corrugated iron roof. (Edgar Skinner's information). Each cottage had one main downstairs room and one main bedroom, with a narrow slip room on each floor at the side of the door; these (described as "not the width of a car") were mainly intended for storage. There was a common pump in front of the block.

Before 1858, Thornton had sold his 5 cottages to David Bridgman (Rate book nos 245-249). The tenants were Samuel Short, Richard James, Harry Lovery - Mitchell, and William Turner. The two cottages listed first were rated at £3.10.0 only, while the others were rated at £5; so those were presumably the two at the west end. Mrs. Bridgeman owned the Row in 1875.

Across the alley which gave access to the cottages was a piece of ground going with the 16th century hosue called Brevel's Hay - it is described as close and orchard. Ths house was copyhold of Ashley Manor and Thomas Buckle the younger was admitted to it on 17 April 1769. In 1818 his nephew, another Thomas, inherited;

and on 3 August 1832 Thomas and his wife Elizabeth, in consideration of £100, surrendered to William Thornton gardener a parcel measuring 189 ft in length and in depth 27 ft at the east end and 38 ft at the west. It was bounded north and west by other land of Thornton's (GRO D 109/1-2).

There was a tradition in the Buckle family that Thornton never fully paid the £100 agreed on - Elsie and Bill Keen were 'convinced of this!

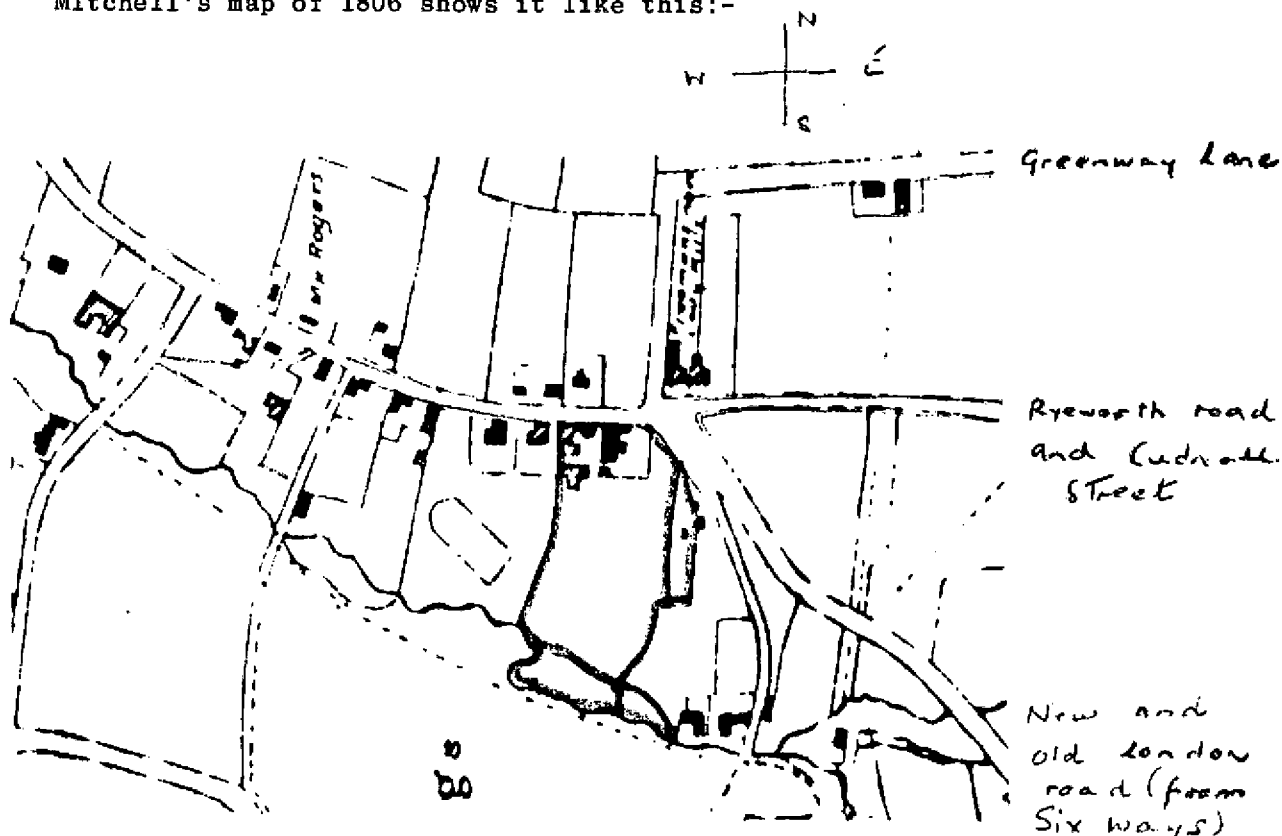
Thornton probably allowed his tenants to have gardens on part of this land (as later tenants of the Row did) but he always treated it as a separate property. In 1851 he mortgaged the Buckle land and in 1855 sold it to William Henry Hall (D 109/3). Hall took a strip off the west end, reducing the length to 169 ft, and then built the two Brevel Cottages at the east end - they were up by 1858, and were occupied by William Hamlett and George Brooks - g.e.r. £5 each; in 1869, when a mortgage was transferred, the tenants were Thomas Mitchell and - Bloxsome.

By 1866, if the plan on the British Workman deed is correct, Mrs Bridgman owned the Brevel Cottages and William Henry Hall owned Thornton's Row with the gardens. The fire that destroyed the last cottage must have happened before 1895 - the Register of Electors for that year shows 4 tenants only in the Row, Charles Hemming, Thomas Smith, Thomas Phipps, and Frederick Green.

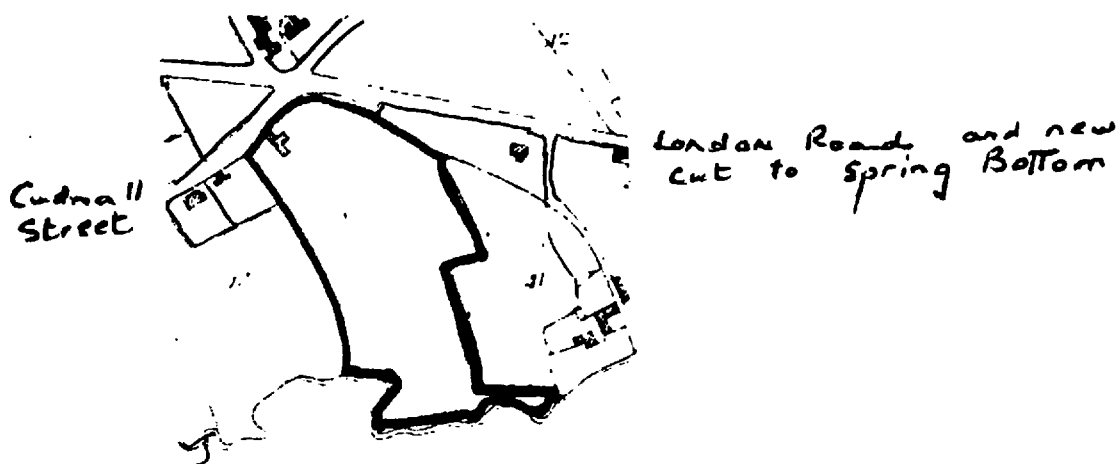
9. COPS ELM, THE SITE OF CHARLTON LAWN

On 26 June 1391, a group of men, perhaps all related through their wives, conveyed a messuage and carucate of land in Charlton Kings, formerly belonging to John Freme, to John Coppe of Charlton Kings (Bulletin 13 p 7) - John Hore of Cudnall was one of the witnesses. From this transaction, we get the name Cop's Elm or Copt Elm for a close and house in Cudnall. It was freehold of Ashley manor, so it does not appear on the Cheltenham manor rental of c.1450. It does turn up again in the first Ashley manor court book to survive (GRO D 109/1) when John Gale in 1751 and John his eldest son in 1771 in turn did fealty for it.

Mitchell's map of 1806 shows it like this:-



and the 1848 tithe map as:-



The farm buildings have disappeared between 1806 and 1848.

It remains in the Gale family till the mid 19th century, when the owner was Samuel Higgs Gale (eldest surviving son of John) who preferred to spell his name Gael. He still had it in 1858, but the Rate book does not name an occupier - perhaps it was empty. There under entry 487 it is described as a house and premises called Copt Elm, g.e.r. £80, with pasture land and orchard (3.1.20), g.e.r. £10.19.0. Gael himself lived at Battledown Knoll.

By an indenture of 5 January 1864 (recited in the deeds for Grove House), Samuel Higgs Gael sold to Sir William Russell a close of land called Copt Elm, and several other hereditaments with it. Russell then made the road across the close and divided the land on either side into building lots. The first to be sold was No 8 (site of Lexham Lodge). None of the other lots had been sold in 1868, when Russell was declared bankrupt. So Lot 1 across the road (site of Charlton Lawn house) and lots 2-4 down to the stream (the garden) must have been sold then, and a house built immediately.

It was well-planned; all the main rooms faced south and had the benefit of a wonderful view across the Chelt to the hills and the church. Originally even the basement must have been well-lit. Occupiers listed in Cheltenham Annales are:- (1)

1869-1875	Robert Hunt;	1875-1880	Mrs Frances Hunt		
1880	W. Birch				
1881-2	W. Baring Bingham				
1883-4	no name given	1885	Lionel Inglis	1886	no name
1887-1894	Captain (later Major) Braddish			1895	no name
1896	the Revd. W.N. Berkeley.				

The original reasonably compact house was enlarged by Bingham in 1881-2. I have been told that he was a Ward in Chancery, brought up by people who lived at Lexham Lodge; his servants wore a green livery; and when in 1883 he moved from Charlton Kings to Cowley Manor, he kept his own pack of hounds! Later still he moved to a house called Roseleigh near the Race Course. He must have been in his early 20s when, with more money than sense, he bought Charlton Lawn for £3,500 and spent £3000 on "improvements".

Charlton Lawn was offered for sale on 22 March 1883. (2) "The residence, which has a two-storey elevation and recently had been considerably enlarged and decorated regardless of cost, is approached from the main road by a carriage sweep. It contains on the ground floor:- Vestibule and entrance hall, Drawing Room and Dining Room, Morning Room, Library, very handsome Billiard Room, Smoking Room, Lavs and WCs. On the first floor:- four best bedrooms, three dressing rooms, bathroom, housemaid's closet, two linen rooms. In the wing:- 2 bedrooms and dressing rooms.---" There were bedrooms for 5 servants and the usual offices; "gas laid on and a comfortable supply of hot and cold water". "The house has a garden fronted with terrace, fountain, and two large aviaries heated with hot water. Adjoining the residence is a piece of old pasture land 1 acre - roods, also two ornamental fishponds--"

The Sale particular continues, "The owner W.Baring Bingham Esq has purchased Cowley Manor Estate for his residence. Originally Mr Bingham purchased the estate for £3,500 and spent £3000 enlarging and decorating". However, bidding at the sale did not rise above £3,400 and the house was withdrawn.

The 1883 aviaries may explain two curious iron erections about half way down the lawn which survived into the 20s; the fountain had disappeared.

The photograph on page 39 was probably taken in 1896 or 7, when the Revd. W.N. Berkeley first went there - the people on the terrace are believed to be Mr and Mrs Berkeley and their two daughters.

- (1) We are all indebted to Eric Armitage for extracting Charlton information from the Annales and analysing it.
- (2) I am grateful to Mrs B. Parkinson for noticing this sale particular at an exhibition at Cheltenham Public Library in 1981 and copying it for us.

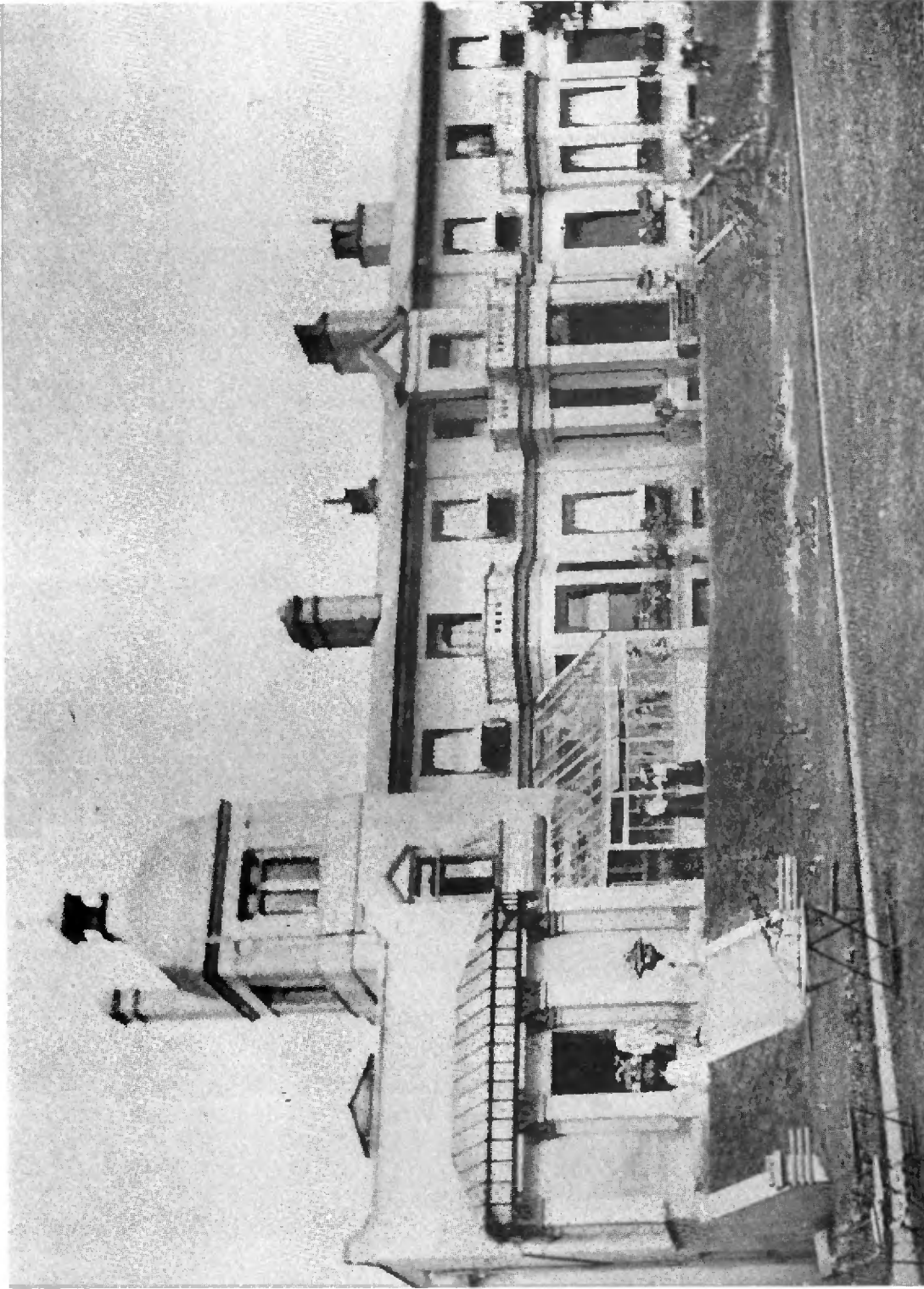
M. Paget

10. BELOW STAIRS AT CHARLTON LAWN

My mother, then Hilda Smith, started service as kitchen maid at Charlton Lawn in November 1912 when she was 14.

The four "upstairs" were the Revd William Nichols Berkeley (second son of the Revd William Berkeley of Cotheridge Court. Worcs), his wife Mrs Janet Berkeley Calcott Berkeley, and his daughters Miss Ethel Gwendoline Berkeley (the elder) and Miss Muriel May Berkeley. Mrs Berkeley emphatically confirmed to Hilda that this family was related to the Berkeley Castle family; and all round the billiard room were coats of arms of families with which the Berkeleys had intermarried.

Here, as my mother remembers it, is a plan of the ground floor and basement. A former owner of the house had had a grassy bank constructed outside the rear basement windows so that no "prying" could be indulged in by the servants on the family's activities in the garden! Needless to say, this obliterated almost all the daylight.



Billiard room
with glass canopy
and steps to lawn

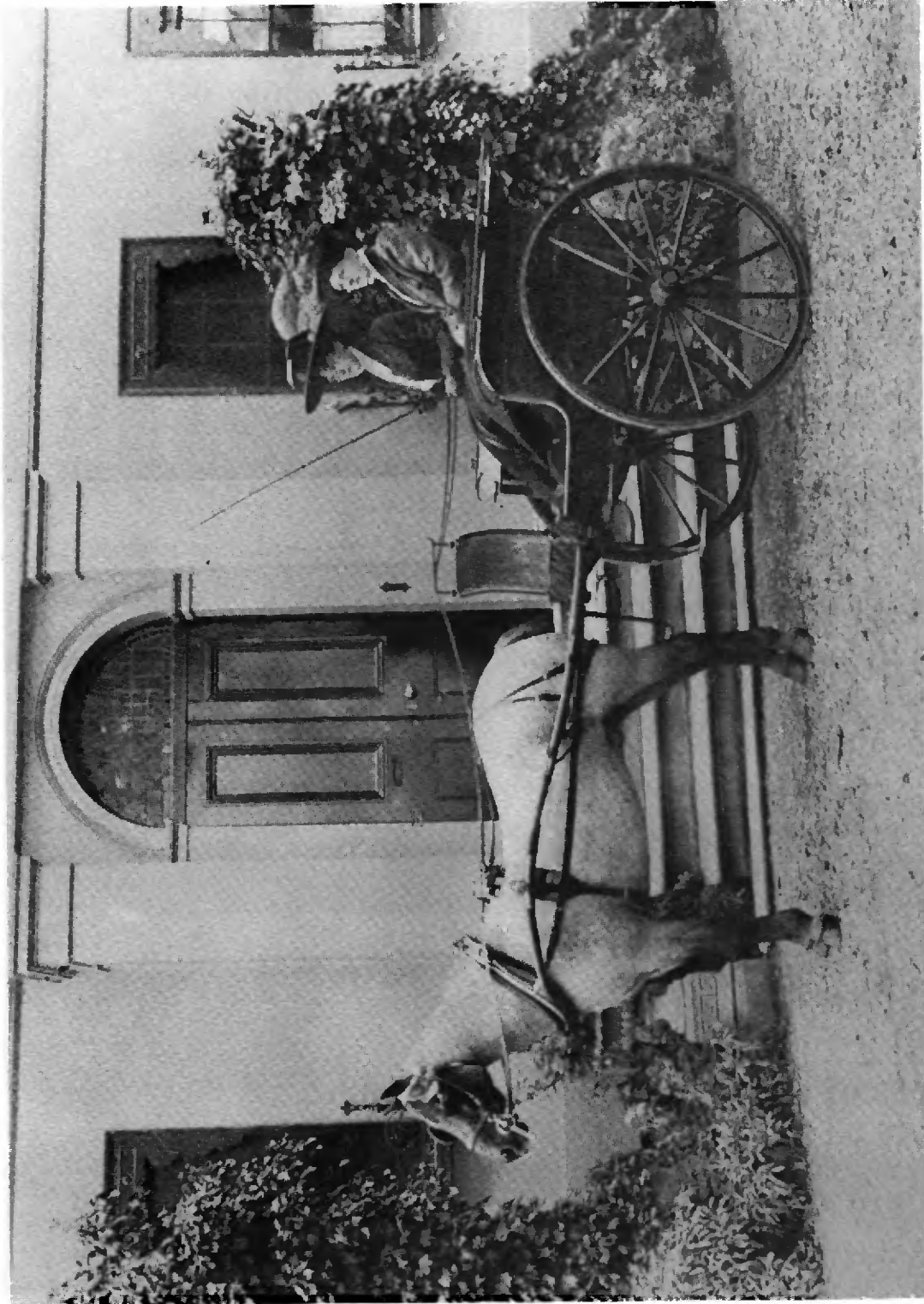
Tower
and
conservatory

Blue
Room
with bay
window

Dining Room
with
steps to lawn,
and bay window

Drawing
Room
with bay
window

The house about 1897 with the family



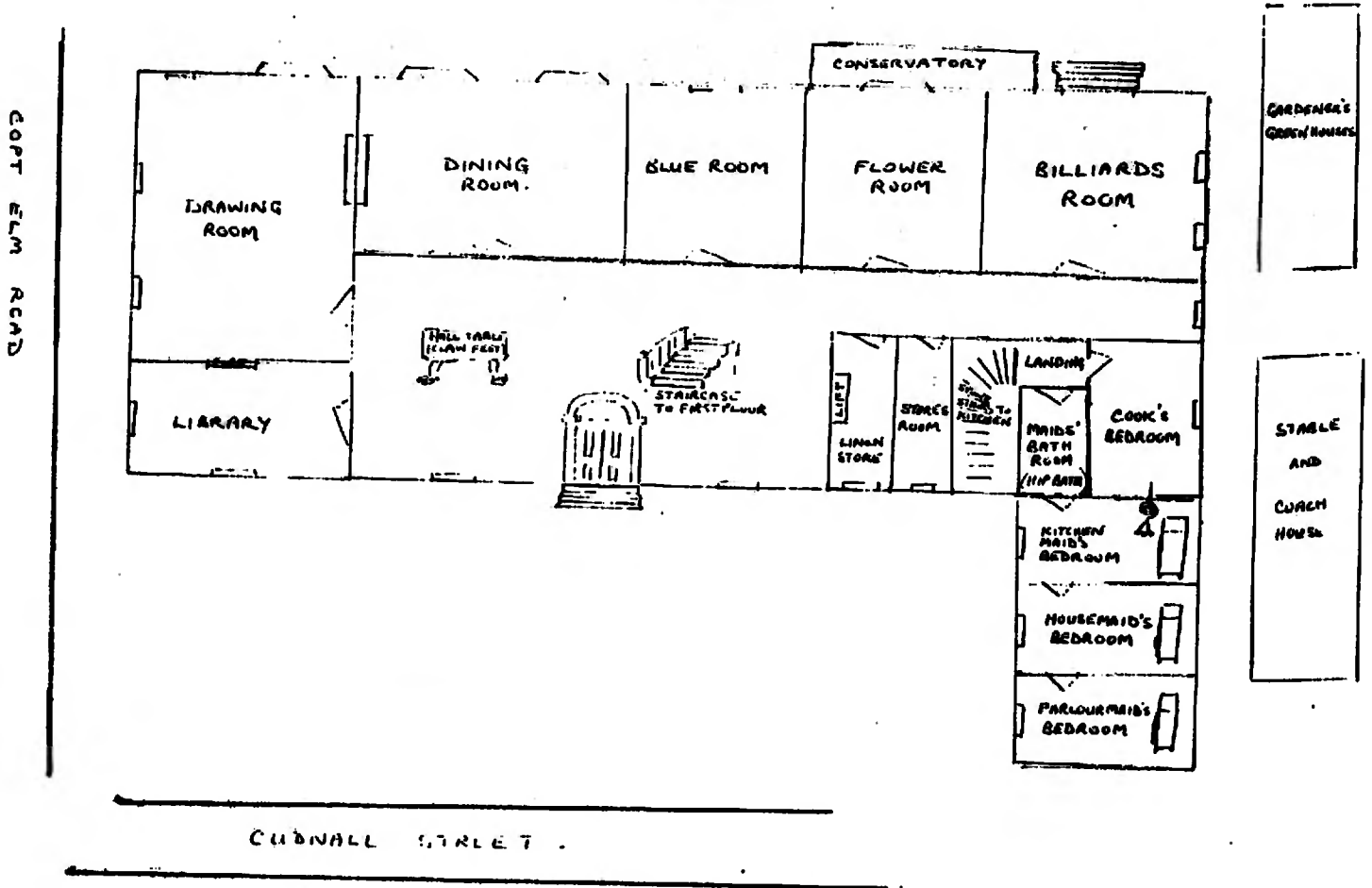
Miss Berkeley and Miss M. Berkeley with Bobby;
and the front of the house

The room on the left of the door was the Library

CHARLTON LAWN, CHARLTON MINDERS.

LAYOUT OF GROUND FLOOR -
NOT TO SCALE AND
ONLY AS MEMORISED.

GARDEN



The conservatory outside the tower in the 1877 photograph was still there when mother started work at Charlton Lawn; later it was removed and glass houses built at the side of the billiard room. (1) Hilda recalls the giant cucumbers!



The house in 1920

There was a tunnel by which tradesmen came in from Cudnall Street, unobserved by the family. Above that tunnel were three of the servants' bedrooms, interconnecting, so there was no privacy; and a "bathroom" for the servants which was just a room with a hip-bath. Access to their bedrooms was through the staff bathroom!

On the ground floor, the room with the lacy curtain in the photograph on page 40 was a room where all the table linen was kept. Also on the ground floor was the store-room, where Mrs Berkeley gave out dry provisions and cleaning materials at 10 oclock every morning; and a lift which brought the food up from the kitchen - it then had to be carried across the hall to the dining room.

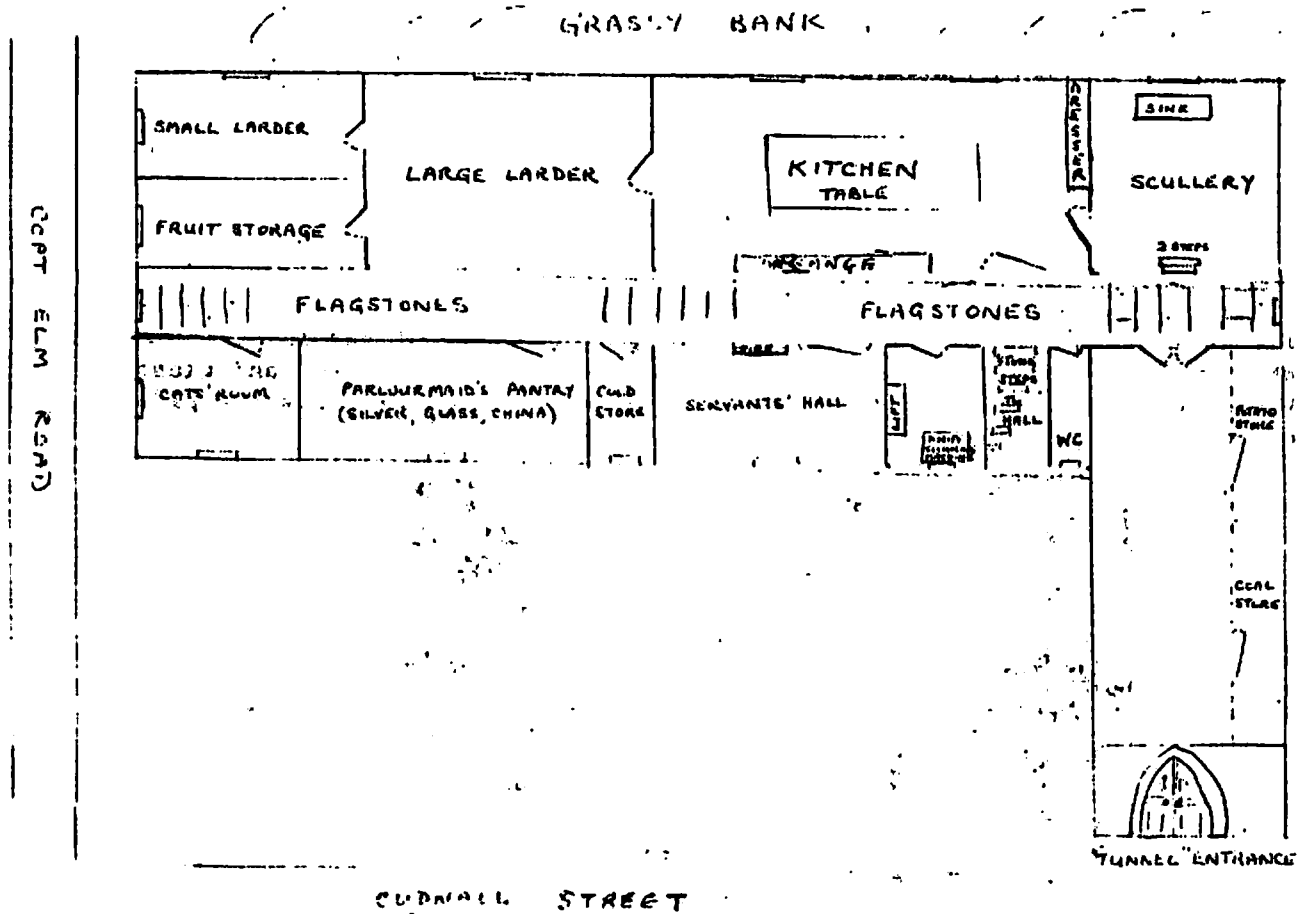
On the kitchen dresser was the complete dinner service with a floral pattern. Then (perhaps after the War) they disposed of that and had a plain white china set, with a royal blue band round the edge and their coat of arms.

Preston was the coachman. The first parlourmaid Mum knew was Ada Moss; later came Edith Townsend.

Mrs. Berkeley was very much the Lady of the House, but she was always very civil.

"CHARLTON LAWN" CHARLTON KINGS

LAYOUT OF BASEMENT -
NOT TO SCALE AND
ONLY AS MEMORISED



Hilda slept in a room adjoining that of the Cook, who operated a pull-bell hanging above Hilda's bed, so that at 6 am each day, Hilda was startled into action by the loud clanging of this tradesmen's-type bell on a coiled spring. Hilda then had to clean the flues in the range and light the fire for the Cook to prepare breakfast.

After breakfast, Hilda would take her bucket of water and scrubbing brush and tackle the entire floors and stairs in the basement. It was a very large area (as depicted in the sketch plan) and all the floors were mosaic tiles and flagstones plus stone stairs. It was such hard-going that she wore out a scrubbing brush every two weeks and "My Lady" called in the supplier, Silk and Son of the High Street (2), to complain about the apparent lack of quality. The reply was that the brushes were the best obtainable and it was to the credit of the maid that she was so zealous in her work! Hilda's legacy of that scrubbing era was recurring housemaid's knee - a painful reminder. The daily routine went on endlessly and on Saturday evenings Cook expected Hilda to leave the supper table at 9.30 p.m. to scrub out her scullery ready for Sunday morning.

The flower room was under the tower; and access to the tower was from the first floor, wooden stairs going up to a disused room. Hilda called it the fly trap - it was always full of dead flies and other insects which she had to sweep up! She hated it.

The Cook was Parry who was very jealous of her position. Once when Parry went on a holiday, Hilda pleaded with Mrs. Berkeley to be given a chance to cook (instead of getting in a temporary) and she did it to everyone's satisfaction, bouquets all round. But when Parry came back, she wouldn't let Hilda see anything she did, and worked her into the ground!



Parry the Cook is marked with a cross.

The Servants' Hall was never used, though a fire was lit in it every day to air it. The servants never had time to sit - the cook used to clear the end of the kitchen table for them to eat their meals!

Whilst at Charlton Lawn, mother was seldom above stairs, but on a few occasions she did assist the Parlourmaid with setting out the dining table. At breakfast there was a large wooden revolving stand in the centre, with various flavours of marmalade, honey etc, so that individual preferences could be easily selected without physical effort! Late dinner required a formal lay-out and the parlourmaid kept a drawerful of wide strips of silk chiffon in the full spectrum of pastel colours. These would be arranged in whatever style and colouring suited the centrepiece.



A corner of the Blue Room

Mrs. Berkeley was a keen and talented watercolour artist - two of Hilda's daughters each have one of her paintings.

Miss Gwennie Berkeley was a keen musician, loved animals, and had a 'dark room' upstairs, which Hilda was privileged to visit from time to time to assist in the developing of photographs. All the photographs illustrating this paper were processed by Miss Gwennie in her dark-room. She was a member of Miss Alice Gardiner's balalaika orchestra which performed in Russian costume, giving concerts in aid of various good causes. Here is Miss Gwennie in costume, taken in 1913.



Miss Gwennie



Miss Muriel (Mrs Hadden)



Miss Muriel (Mrs Hadden)
about 1918

Miss Muriel was a very keen horsewoman and followed the hounds - hanging in the house were two masks and two brushes presented to her. She and Miss Gwennie were VADs in the Great War, serving at The Priory (two houses in London Road, now demolished)

Hilda has been keen to "work up" to a Cook's position, but in that household there was no scope for advancement, so about 1917 she secured a post at Ashleigh, Cleeve Hill, a house owned by a Miss Beale. Miss Beale was terrified of a German invasion and fitted up a last-ditch stand under the iron staircase, with supplies of food, two narrow air vents, and a mattress for herself. Mother was expected to protect her when the Germans came by jabbing with a pitchfork at the legs of the first soldier down the stairs!

However, in 1918, Mrs Berkeley wrote to Hilda, to enquire if she was happy in her new situation and offering her the post of housemaid, then vacant, if she was interested. So Hilda went back to Charlton Lawn and stayed there till she married in 1922 and left Service for her own domestic life.



The left hand photograph shows Mum (on left) as housemaid, parlourmaid on right, taken 1918. They are sitting on the grass bank below the drawing-room window - just one corner of a basement window visible. The second photograph shows Mum as housemaid (left), kitchenmaid (centre), parlourmaid (right), coachman-gardener (kneeling); this was taken on 28 May 1920.

Miss Muriel married Capt. Reginald Innes Hadden, and, following the Great War, they set up a Polo Pony Stable in Cairo. This was well patronised and one of their horses was used in a film and ridden by Marlene Dietrich. Capt. Hadden

was an Old Boy of Cheltenham College and he provided the handsome clock which still has pride of place on the Bath Road side of the main building. He was a close friend of Lt Col. A. Forbes and they jointly patented a horse bandage which was acknowledged with favour in polo circles. Colonel Forbes was and is a supplier of copper-backed appliances in both animal and human cases of rheumatism.

Although Hilda left the Berkeley household, her path crossed that of the family some years later. The Revd. William Nichols Berkeley died on 4 June 1938 aged 91, and his wife Janet Berkeley Calcott Berkeley on 9 February 1941 aged 92 (3). Following the death of the parents (but not till after 1945) Miss Gwennie moved to 66 Leckhampton Road, to which address Capt. and Mrs. Hadden returned after Col. Nasser's purge in Egypt. They lost all their possessions overseas and settled permanently with Gwennie. It was following a chance meeting with Hilda in the Bath Road one day, that Hilda offered her help; and she, in fact, cared for all three of them before their deaths. Ethel Gwendoline Berkeley died 26 October 1956 aged 77, Muriel May Hadden died 18 August 1961 aged 77, and Reginald Innes Hadden died 1 January 1974, aged 92. The family grave is in Charlton Kings Cemetary.

M.M. Zebedee

- (1) Later, I believe, the stone steps from the billiard room to the lawn were replaced by iron steps and the bank here cut away. This was probably to give light to basement rooms - the original windows on the west would have been blocked by the greenhouse. M.P.
- (2) Mrs. Berkeley was a careful housekeeper - my mother Mrs. A.M. Hill, was in Silks one day and heard Mrs Berkeley complain that she had been charged a halfpenny too much on her last account! M.Paget
- (3) The Berkeleys achieved their golden wedding; but Mrs Berkeley said they could not have any celebrations to mark the event, on account of Gwennie being still unmarried! M.Ryland

11. "THE SKILL IN THE HANDS"

Charlton Kings has reason to be proud of one of its sons, a great craftsman, now 81 years of age. Mr Fred Taylor of Cooper's Court has agreed, after much persuasion, to let us publish a brief account of his life in this Bulletin. It can be no more than a very abbreviated story - the list of major works of which he was in charge numbers 109! For photographs of many of these and of Mr Taylor himself I must refer readers to John Whittaker's splendid book The Best, an account of "H.H.Martyn and Co, specialists in Architectural Decoration, and the Gloster Aircraft Co", published in 1985 and beautifully illustrated - those of us who remember the Suningend works will enjoy being reminded of the wide range of work produced there and its perfect quality. Mr Taylor is referred to on pp 99-101, 133, 260, 262.

Fred Taylor was born here in 1904 and lived as a boy next door to the New Inn (now the Little Owl) in Cirencester Road. He went to the local school and at 12+ had reached Standard 7, so he was allowed to leave a month before his 13th birthday and went straight to Martyn's as trainee metal worker. There he worked an 11 hour shift, a fortnight days and a fortnight nights alternately. That was in 1917, when the Gloster Aircraft Co had just been formed. Fred tells how he had to stand on a soap box to reach the Capstan lathe where he was drilling and tapping the knob on the control column for Bristol Fighters. One day he snapped the tap off one and was so frightened

he would lose his job, he popped the broken piece into his pocket and during a Sunday walk with his father, threw it into the pond on Bull Hill, making believe it was only a stone!

At 23 he became outside foreman, when he was paid the princely salary of 1s 5d an hour plus 3d for being in charge and a guinea lodging allowance a week when away. He was allowed one weekend home in 6 weeks and one week's holiday (without pay) a year! But his pride and pleasure in his work makes him look back and think it all well worth while. Beside the natural gift of hand and eye, he had the artist's ability to see the job completed before it was begun.

Most of the work for which he was responsible was in enriched cast bronze and silver bronze. It included work on the nickel silver bedstead for the Rajah of Indore, and Crown Jewel cases for the royal palace at Bucharest. He was in charge of the erection of the toll booths and lighting features for the Mersey tunnel - at the opening he paraded before King George V and Queen Mary. His later work included doors, balustrades, war memorials, fountains; finishing the bronze fret-work on the Dispatch boxes on the table in front of the Speaker's Chair; the bronze rail around the balcony of the Commons' Chamber; work at the American Military Cemeteries here and in France - in all he went to France and Holland six times.

In his scrapbook he treasures the signature of General Eisenhower, to whose memory he made a shrine in beaten metal which he presented to the American Battle Monuments Commission in 1969.



Taken with Colonel G.M. Ver Hulst and other officers at Paris, July 1969

The Casket base reads: "1969. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Silent, as a falling leaf, he rejoins his fellow heroes. We will remember him."

When Martyns competed with other well-known firms to install entrance doors to the Bank of England in 1947, Mr. Taylor was told it was his workmanship that clinched the deal. To test the competitors, the firms were required "to set up a big bronze door in the basement of the Bank which had to swing and fit perfectly to the wall to the finest tolerance. Fred Taylor had made his own needle tool for such work and his fit at all points was perfect".

Martyns were responsible for the largest doors of their kind in the world when they fabricated the steel doors, panelled in cast aluminium, for the new offices in Whitehall. That was in 1951. Downtys installed the electro-hydraulic system which operates them so that they open at a touch though each leaf weighs 6 tons. They are 23 ft high and their total span is 33 ft. Of these doors Mr Taylor says "hinged from the back, still with no running tracks - it was my task to pioneer the fabrication and fixing" with "adjustible floor box, my own design". He adds "Congratulated by Sir Charles Moule, Director General, Ministry of Works, for completing installation in record time. All our competitors refused to quote for this contract due to the magnitude of the entrance".

Here is an example of Mr Taylor's ingenuity in making use of simple means to achieve his ends. In 1952 he was sent to Paris. The American First War Cemetery at Suresmes had been enlarged and Martyns had the contract for bronze entrances to the wings of the chapel and the terracing outside. Lt Colonel Burpitt was in charge. The doors arrived and he called his Clerk of Works to erect a scaffold to get them up. Mr Taylor told him no scaffolding was needed. Colonel Burpitt said "You can't lift those doors, 15 cwt each, without a scaffold". Mr Taylor told him "I've come over from England to do the job, just let me get on". He got six Frenchmen, 3 a side, to get the door upright, then he cantilevered it up with a piece of timber and just lifted it on to the hinges!

After 36½ years with Martyns, Mr Taylor suffered a breakdown in health; but after he left the firm, he was called back many times in connection with contracts on the Continent. So in all, he was connected with Martyns for 53 years.

Fred Taylor had had a deeply satisfying life, even if it has never been a highly paid one; as he says of himself, he was born with this great gift "the skill in the hands".

And add to that, in November 1985 he and his wife celebrated their Diamond Wedding!

F. Taylor and M. Paget

12. THE CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT LIGHT RAILWAY COMPANY - LOOKING BACK 70 YEARS

A chance remark made to me by the Editor a few months ago led me to ponder on my childhood days and how in these far off days children used their imaginations to entertain themselves to a greater extent than they seem to do today.

I remember how I "was" successively soldier, sailor, cowboy, Red Indian, and so on - and each guise was so real to me. These recollections led me to remember my imagined role as the Captain of one of the ocean-going liners, although at the time I had never seen one or the sea itself - not even at Weston-Super-Mare.



This appointment to the Merchant Navy was always connected with the Trams - the vehicles operated by the Cheltenham and District Light Railway Company which came to the village in 1905 and ceased to operate on December 31st 1930. The "Trams" were a great boon to all, giving quick access to the town centre and beyond at a nominal fare and, if my memory is correct, no charge for children under six years of age.

I was first taken on the Trams in 1911 and used them thereafter as child, school-boy and apprentice until they ceased to run and were superseded by petrol omnibuses. It was always an adventure to travel on them and how I envied the driver - particularly in the early days.

I still remember the thrill I got when travelling from Holy Apostles to the terminus in Cirencester Road, which lay between the New Inn and the Railway bridge. We mounted the tram at the passing loop at Holy Apostles and proceeded with the clang of a bell along London Road towards its junction with Copt Elm Road, flying past cyclists, horse-drawn vehicles, pedestrians and so on at what seemed to me to be an enormous speed but which was sedate compared with what was to come. We pulled up just short of the junction in the loop provided for this express purpose, to allow a tram travelling in the direction of the town centre to pass. And now the real adventure began. We turned (with a mighty squeal of wheels grinding against the rails) into Copt Elm Road, where to me the conveyance ceased to be a tram and became a sea-going liner soon to be tossed by the mighty seas.

We hurtled down the centre of the road to the dip at the bottom and then up the other side until we reached the junction with Lyefield Road. As we lurched along at a breakneck speed rolling a little from side to side, it was natural for a child to imagine he was the Captain of a ship. My imagination was enhanced if I was allowed to travel on the upper deck, particularly if I could sit in the front seat, dressed as I so often was in those days in a sailor suit.

Calm waters had now been reached. We took the right angle turn into Lyefield Road West at a slow speed but with a shriek of metal against metal and in a few

yards became becalmed in the Lyefield Road loop to await the "incoming liner". This having passed us, there was a sharp clang of the ship's bell and we were off again. In a short distance we turned left into Cirencester Road with a renewed shriek of metal. We then quickly gathered speed and proceeded quickly and smoothly but with a slightly pitching action to the terminus just short of the railway bridge. Always a memorable voyage which I have thoroughly enjoyed once again whilst writing this essay.

If I were lucky enough to be allowed to wait at the terminus for a few minutes, I was rewarded by seeing the conductor detach a rope which was attached to the trolley arm. He then pulled the rope downwards causing a brilliant white flash as the trolley wheel became detached from the overhead wire, walked to the other end of the tram and proceeded to "juggle" the wheel back on to the wire - all accompanied by a series of flashes until a clean contact was made. This was sometimes followed by the treat of a return journey, engendering similar excitement.

I often made another trip which perhaps was even more exciting - that from the town centre to the top of Cleeve Hill - but that is nothing to do with the Tramway in Charlton Kings and is another story.

Eric Green

13. ANOTHER TOCSIN

Those who read the articles about Isaac Bell (Bulletin 8 pp 59-65) will have noted the value of his poems as a local history source.

Three poems, probably dated between 1825 and 1832 or 3, mention the resignation of one Parish Clerk (possibly named John F - to judge from one poem) and the appointment of his successor Robert Arnott. We learn that the post of Clerk carried a salary of £20+; and note an indirect reference to the place of the Clerk in the three-decker pulpit (see Bulletin 14 p 27) - "thee stuck up there". The Clerk usually stood in the bottom level of the pulpit to say the responses ("Amen! Amen!")

On the Clerk of C. losing his place

'Twas in that place, call'd Ch-n K-gs,
Where old wives' gossip ever rings
About the very smallest things
 In wispering sound
Tales fly as swift as they had wings
 The parish round.

Nothing can be kept in the dark,
Not even about the parish clerk,
For one calls hush! another hark,
 I'll tell you news,
So and so has had a lark,
 Which now he rues.

He's lost a tidy place, I hear,
Exceeding twenty pound a-year;
For him, alas! this is bad cheer,
 And his young wife,
'Twill make it harder now to steer
 Through chequer'd life.

To some, perhaps, it might seem funny,
Thus for to sport the parson's money,
But stolen things are sweet as honey,
 Solomon says;
So all around the clerk seem'd sunny,
 For a few days.

Until when the money was all spent,
Then he began for to repent,
And wish'd he had the money sent
 Back to the priest,
And then to make it good
 In part at least.

But far beyond his expectation,
The parson ask'd an explanation
About the money and his station,
 In such a hurry,
That John made simply the quotation,
 Of "Sir, I'm sorry"

But surely, A--, on my life,
This place is ever causing strife,
For maid and widow, man and wife,
 'Tis all their cares
To cut as keen as sharp-edged knife
 The name one bears.

But may their tongues be never still,
And noisy clatter like a mill,
Who vent on us their base ill-will,
 We still will trust
That death all enmity will kill,
 When in the dust.

Robert Arnott of Cambrian Cottage and Cambrian Nurseries in Church Street was a gardener who is known to have been Parish Clerk in January 1847 (witness of Thomas Smalley Potter's will). He also seems to have acted as a general clerk in 1846. He died on 25 June 1853, and his effects were sworn to be under £300. (I am grateful to Mr Eric Armitage for this information).

M.J.Greet

14. THE CLEEVELYS IN AMERICA - A POSTSCRIPT TO THE CLEEVELY STORY PART 3

James Cleevely (1845-1884) and his wife Jane had 7 children, the third being a daughter Selina baptised in 1875. Her descendants are:-

Winifred Vera
b July 15, 1917
buried June 21, 1981
m. aged 26, Aug. 2, 1943
to: Robert Lee Milner (American)
d. Nov. 30, 1976

Nigel Robert
b. Nov. 14, 1944
m. aged 39, July 21,
1984 to: Elizabeth
Allen Pierce, aged 33

Derrick Bowen
b. Mar. 8, 1947
m. aged 26, June 28,
1973 to: Pamela Gail
Bowman aged 17

Paul Lee
b. June 27, 1950
m. aged 23, Nov. 17, 1973
to: Sandra Jean Divine aged 21

Shelley Lynn
b. Nov. 17, 1978

Emily Elizabeth Pierce

Derek Martin
b. June 10, 1974

Shannon Gail
b. April 4, 1977

Leonard Conrad
b. July 5, 1957
m. aged 26, Nov 18, 1983
to: Melissa Lynn Martin,
aged 20

Sylvia Jane
b. Sept. 16, 1963

Christopher Alan
b. July 13, 1984

All Vera's children live in Mississippi. Nigel Robert lives in Yazoo City and is a diesel mechanic on an off-shore oil drilling rig. Derrick Bowen lives in Pocahontas, and is a master craftsman in an electrical switchgear plant. Paul Lee lives in

Raymond and is a hydraulics mechanic. Leonard Conrad lives in Jackson, and is a diesel mechanic on an off-shore oil drilling rig. Sylvia Jane lives in Flora and is a cashier at a Truck Shop.

It is interesting to see how the old craftsmen's building skills have adapted to the needs of the 20th century.

Derrick and Pam Milner
Jackson, Miss .

15. NOTES

1. An Oratory in Charlton 1339-40? (Bulletin 13 p 8)
Further to my article. A John Cheltenham died seized of land in Cheltenham near Arle in 33 Edward III (1359-60) according to Rudder New History of Gloucestershire p 336. See also T.B.G.A.S. 36 pp 292-3. M.J. Greet
2. William Smith born in Charlton Kings 1815-17
Mr Harold Booty is looking for information about his great great grandfather William Smith, a London butcher; according to census records he was born in Charlton Kings. He was not baptised at St Mary's unless he is the William son of William and Elizabeth Smith baptised 29 July 1821. William the younger married twice and by his first wife Mary Ann Matthews had a son Edmund Charles Smith, also a butcher, (Mr Booty's great grandfather); he lived in Peckham, Putney, and latterly Kingston-upon-Thames. Any information as to relatives in Charlton Kings will be welcome, especially as Mr Booty's brother moved here 21 years ago and two of his daughters have been married at St. Mary's.
Harold Booty, 2 Monica Court, Lewis Road, Streatham, London SW16 6JS
3. Glenfall (Bulletin 12)
A Thomas Cook from Gutterfall was buried on 4 August 1790; but we can't tell whether he were a farm servant or a tenant there.
1868 is the last year for which Mrs Molyneux is listed as occupier in the Cheltenham Annales - for 1869, R.J.B. Bentley is given.
Captain Willis became a member of Charlton Kings Local Board about 1889, so he must have been a resident in the parish before that date.
M.Paget
4. Unlawful Activity in 1731
A note in the Parish Book of Charlton Kings (P 76 VE 2/1), opposite the Poor Law accounts for 1730, remarks on "A Sessions order made by the Justices 7th of April 1731 against Wakes and Revells and unlawfull assemblyes for wrestling, cudgell-playing for hatts or other prizes for the future in any part of the County particularly Birdlipphill and Needles Hole" (near Seven Springs).
M.J. Greet
5. The Society is pleased to acknowledge a grant from Cheltenham Arts Council towards the cost of this Bulletin.