

CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



BULLETIN 17

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman

D.W. Copson
Widecombe
Harp Hill
Cheltenham
Tel: Cheltenham 510653

Editor

Mrs. M. Paget
Crab End
Brevel Terrace
Charlton Kings
Tel: Cheltenham 34762

Hon. Secretary

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

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 11-16 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 in the case of letters, the writer, 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.

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. An index to Bulletins 1-7 is available price £2.

Parish Register I 1538-1634 is available price £2.

Parish Register II 1634-1700 published February 1987 price £3.

History of Charlton Kings

We anticipate that this will be published by the County Library in the Autumn. Pre-publication price £6.95; post publication price £9.50.

Please give your name to the Treasurer if you wish to receive the benefit of the pre-publication price, which offers a very generous reduction; but note that it must be a firm commitment to purchase at least one copy.

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

CONTENTS

		<u>Pages</u>
Cover picture	- Elborough Cottage, Cudnall Street, drawn by K. Venus	
1.	Poem on the occasion of George Ryland's 90th birthday, 1982	C. Wise 1
2.	Trial by Fire-Water, told and illustrated by	G. Ryland 2-4
3.	The New Broom	M. Paget 4-5
4.	Elborough Cottage - history researched by M. Paget, E. Armitage, J. Paget	5-12
	architectural report and photographs	L. Hall 12-29
5.	Bygone Days	E. Cleevely 30-31
6.	A Charlton Kings Friendly Society	M.J. Greet 31
7.	The Origins of Rosehill Street	S. Blake 32-37
8.	A Lunatic in Bethlem Hospital : 1770-1782	M.J. Greet 38
9.	An Early Proposal for a Railway through Charlton Kings, 1836	A. Johnson 38-42
10.	Memories of Some School Days in Charlton Kings c. 1916-1921 School photographs lent by Miss Roche as I remember her	E. Linder B. Holloway M. Paget 43-46 47-48
11.	Notes	
	(1) The Ryland Family	G. Ryland 48
	(2) Charlton Ministers	E. Miller R. Ashe J. Sale
	(3) Wartime Peals	

Retirement of Chairman

M.J. Greet, Chairman of this Society since its inception in 1977, announced his decision to retire from the Chairmanship at our Annual General Meeting in January. Knowing how much the Society owes to his labours, we would like to thank him warmly for all that he has done to promote Charlton Kings Local History Society and forward its work.

1. A POEM COMPOSED BY THE LATE CICELY WISE ON THE OCCASION OF GEORGE RYLAND'S
90th BIRTHDAY 1982

Dear George, You've seen it all! -

The Lamp-lighter going his round each night,
To the turn of a switch and a blaze of light.

Comings and goings,

Toings and fro-ings -

Log-wood fire in a smoke-filled gloom,

Instant heat in a gas-warmed room -

Getting and spending,

Saving and lending -

Horse-drawn cab and staid bath-chair

To supersonic flight in air.

Teaching and playing,

Doing and saying -

Cat's whisker set and 2 LO

To Colour television's glow

Painting and sketching,

Drawing and etching -

War - with bombs and hate insane -

Peace - "All Prices Up Again----!"

You've seen it all!

But - Keep going -

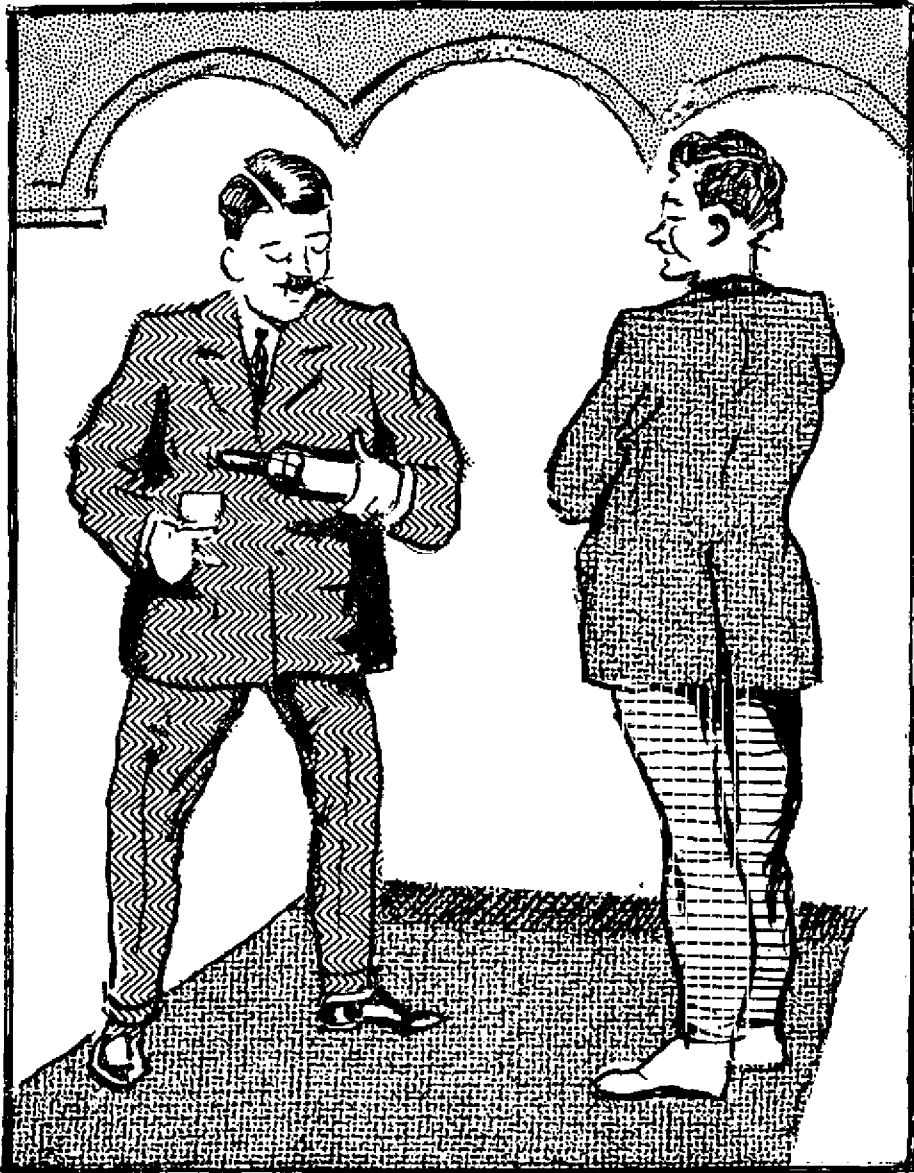
There may be surprises yet!

(The first ninety years are the worst)

The Best is yet to be!

C. Wise

2. TRIAL BY FIRE-WATER



I suppose that ever since man has dodged in and out of holes in the rocks for comfort and safety, there has been a silent but progressive revolution in domestic architecture. Often the speed of change has been determined by the availability of material. Most noticeable in our time, I suppose, is the replacement of wood by metal. Metal is playing a greater and greater part in building, thereby giving a rest to some of our forests. To those who are engaged in this replacement, we should be particularly grateful.

After the first World War, there lived a young Charltonian friend of mine. Let's call him MO (he was always called MO at school after his Skye terrier which had long tangled hair, "Moses in the Bullrushes", and continually haunted his father's shop). We spent a lot of our schooldays together and like myself he too was drawn during the war into the Forces. We were both eventually commissioned into the Machine Gun Corps, but did not meet until the ending of the war, when we bumped into each other at the Depot.

On November the 11th 1918 the War did end. I, who had been a teacher, was demobilised almost immediately - in fact I was home for Christmas. MO's demobilisation was not so quick but eventually he did get his 'civvy suit', and I ran into him one evening in the Belle Vue. After that we met frequently. He was as cheery as ever but, I thought, a bit dispirited. He had not yet got a job, but was helping his father in the shop. It was a good business, quite the best grocer's in the Village. But it was not MO's line. He did try for a week or so but his heart was not in it, and one evening he told me that he was watching all advertisements, and intended to branch away from Cheltenham.

Now don't think I have lost the thread of my story. I have told you all this about MO because he is the centre of my story - the village boy who made good! The prophet that is not without honour, save in his own country!

After we had met several evenings and at each meeting he reported that he had had no favourable replies, he did burst in one evening with the exciting news that he had been asked to attend an interview. Now to jump my story a bit, this interview did result in an appointment, and it is of this interview and appointment that I would like to write. As he described it to me at various later meetings, it struck me as unusually amusing and original. Indeed, I enjoyed it so much that I thought you might too. That is why I am attempting to record it.

They sent him his fare and requested him to arrive at Braintree, Essex, on Tuesday evening, and he was booked in at the local hotel. Then would he please call at the offices and meet the Managing Director on Wednesday morning.

His directions were clear enough. I saw him on Sunday evening and wished him luck and said I hoped he'd let me know how things went. Well, on his return he did so. We met in the Belle Vue and when we had got a couple of drinks, he -----but perhaps it would be better to let him tell the story himself.

I had their letter, I suppose, on the Friday. Would I care to call and see their Managing Director early the following week? The note-paper told me that it was quite a firm, with an international reputation in the building trade. They told me that accommodation had been reserved for me at the local hotel, and the Managing Director hoped to see me on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock.

Of course I was delighted. At least I had got an interview. Granted, to me, it seemed a remote part of the world from Gloucestershire! I knew little of Essex and certainly nothing of Braintree, but off I set and duly arrived. The hotel was certainly comfortable and in the morning they set me on my way to the Managing Director's office. He was versed in the courtesy of princes, he was there to meet me on the dot. After a little of the usual polite conversation, he suddenly asked me, what were my qualifications? This rather floored me because I had none as far as I could see. I did blurt out "A good education and two years in the M.G.C.Mess". Here he rather surprised me, because he was not unacquainted with the Corps Depot at Belton. I imagined that his eyebrows lifted

a bit, but to my surprise and disappointment the subject was politely dismissed. He said "You play bridge?" When I informed him that I did, he said that they generally had a friendly four on Wednesday evenings, would I care to come? Seven forty-five for eight?" I walked back to my hotel rather dispirited. This could not have been the interview? We hardly mentioned business.

I went round in the evening, looking forward to a good evenings entertainment. Ample refreshments were in evidence on a corner table of this warm and very pleasant room. However I did notice that on the corner of each bridge table was a full bottle of uncorked Johnnie Walker.

"You'll have a drink?" said the Boss, "Oh, and the two bottles on the tables are just for the game alone. If the players have behaved themselves during the game, these two should be empty before the end of the game".

"That sounds fun" I replied "I shall be delighted to subscribe to any such rules".

Well, we sat down to play and it was a typical good evening's bridge. You don't want me to detail an ordinary evening's four at bridge. That's what it was. At something like one o'clock, one of the players slipped off his chair. His partner attempted to help him up, but he didn't make a good job of it so we had to assist. We then found that they were incapable of continuing the game, so the evening was brought peacefully to a close.

When the room was left with just us two, mine host said "You'll have a night-cap? And if they couldn't finish their drink and you'd like to, please do". I did.

As we set down to our night-caps, he said "Well, when do you think you can start?" I said, "I beg your pardon, sir, do you mean that you have appointed me?" "I certainly do" he replied, "and I'd like you to start on Monday". "Thank you very much, sir, I shall be delighted to accept. But you said something about an interview?"

"This was your interview" he said "What you have disclosed to me tonight I could not have discovered any other way so easily. You will go out to represent this firm internationally. People of all kinds you will have to do business with. Much business will be done over a glass. I must be certain that I have a man that can keep his head. I think you will do the firm very well!"

In after years, MO did do the firm well. He moved his offices to Manchester and he had, I believe, a house out at Sale. He was never much of a golfer, but his house was situated by the side of the 17th and I am told it was the calling-place of many a well-known golfer coming in for a friendly on a Sunday morning; not the least of his visitors quite regularly was GEORGE DUNCAN.

G. Ryland

3. THE NEW BROOM

Here is a postscript to the story of MO - in 1919 I was six, going seven. MO was one of the many boys of his generation who were known in the family circle and to neighbours as Sony, an embarrassing pet name for a young man back from the War and regarded in our part of Charlton as a bit of a hero. The grocery

shop had been in the family for two generations and had at one time been the Post Office as well. But by 1919 the Post Office had moved and the shop looked distinctly old fashioned. Sides of bacon hung from hooks and MO's father could cut your rashers thick or thin with a sharp narrow-bladed knife. There were biscuit boxes in rows along the side of the counter and under the window, your sugar was scooped from sacks into blue sugar-paper bags - triangular bags for lump sugar - your sultanas and raisins were measured into similar bags of a curious mauvish-pink. Everything had a place, no doubt, but only the proprietor knew just where to find what he wanted.

A new broom was needed and why shouldn't the War Hero take over the greater part of the work and run the shop? So Sony got busy. He bought a bacon-slicing machine, the first in the village; he re-arranged the shop, he tidied and even (I think) repainted it; he threw away old boxes and out of date stuff, cleared away the sacks. In fact, it was all so clean and tidy that no one wanted to shop there any more!

Well, as we have heard, MO got a job and left Charlton, his father took over again, and once more the shop assumed its familiar and comfortable muddle. And the village began to use it again. The only lasting memorial to MO's reform was the bacon slicing machine which kept its place on the back counter; cutting slices from a side of bacon became a lost art.

But once every year there was a sort of clear out. MO's father would pile his handcart high with paper, cardboard, wooden boxes, risty bacon, rancid fat, and wheel the load (sometimes two loads) up to us for our November the 5th bonfire in our field. Which was why our bonfire was always the biggest and best in Charlton Kings!

M. Paget

4. ELBOROUGH COTTAGE - THE OLDEST HOUSE IN CHARLTON KINGS?

Elborough was a base tenement belonging to Ashley manor. When Walter of Ashley got his grant of £10 worth of land out of Cheltenham manor, he was given every alternate tenement in Cudnall Street as part of his share. This suggests that there was already a house on the site when Walter's grant was confirmed by Henry II, and it may well go back another generation or more, for alone of Ashley tenements, Elborough Cottage sometimes paid a Peter's Penny. This levy was collected for the church by the lord of Cheltenham and had been fixed at 5s for the whole of Cheltenham manor in the mid 12th century.

There are no Ashley records as such till the end of the 17th century and the court books don't begin till 1742, an earlier one having been lost since 1800. So we have to deduce who lived in this house from references to the adjoining Cheltenham manor tenements, in particular the one on the west between Elborough and Brookway Lane.

We believe (but can't prove) that ALICE ELBOROUGH widow, who made a will on 22 December 1542 proved 28 May 1545, lived here. (See Bulletin 4 p 11, GRO 1545/3). She had 3 sons, Richard a priest, William her executor and residuary legatee, and John, to whom she left 10s to help him out of debt. According to custom, the youngest son was heir to the tenement; if this were John, as seems probable, he may have needed to sell. At all events, Elborough had passed out of the family's possession before 1557.

The 1557 list of all tenants for both manors who had the right to common on the open fields gives us the name of THOMAS STUBBE, occupier of an Ashley tenement, with 40 acres of land. The next list in 1564 substitutes JOHN STUBB (GRO 855/M 68). This John married Joyce Marten, daughter of the miller at Charlton Mill, on 23 November 1559; and he was buried on 19 September 1583, in the year for which he was churchwarden. Perhaps he put in the stone chimney piece in the hall to please his wife.

John and Joyce seem to have been the parents of JOHN STUBB who became Steward of Cheltenham manor in 1607; but the heir to their Ashley tenement was the younger son RICHARD STUBB, baptised at Charlton on 23 March 1575/6. Richard certainly had a brother John, to whom he granted some Cheltenham property on 23 November 1610 (GRO D 855 M 8 f 83v). Dobell was mistaken in thinking that John the Steward lived as an adult at Elborough Cottage though he did have a house in Charlton, Welling hill farm, which he held in right of his wife Jane, widow of Robert Alexander alias Mansell whom he married in 1615. The arrangement was that after their deaths the farm should revert to Jane's son Samuel Mansell and as this did not happen till the late 1650s, we may conclude that the Jane wife of John Stubb who was buried on 16 June 1645 and the John buried on 5 June 1655 were the Steward and his wife.

Richard meanwhile was living in Cudnall next door to Roger Holder of "Cuddenhall's Mease". - When Roger built a second house on his property and gave it in 1625 to his brother John Holder, it is described as a house, garden, and orchard between the house of Richard Stubb clerk on the east and a certain lane on the west (GRO D 855 M 9 pt 2 f.139). So it seems that Roger's tenement occupied the space between the main road north, Wraxall House south, Brookway Lane west and Elborough east - it did not go right down to the Chelt for the land against the stream was demesne. The Elborough strip which was narrower did go down to the river.

Richard Stubb was a tenant under both manors when the Act to change inheritance rights was obtained in 1625. Henceforward the eldest son would be the heir to customary and freehold tenements. But the position of sons already born remained unchanged and so when Richard died in 1628, it was his younger son Thomas (baptised 29 January 1608) who was declared heir to his Cheltenham property and presumably to his Ashley property also. The elder brother was the Mr John Stubb clerk, baptised on 1 February 1606, who married Alice Watt on 21 September 1637, and had a daughter Hannah baptised on 15 July 1638. After that they must have moved away from Charlton.

Cheltenham court books after 1660 are missing. The next references to the Holder property and to Elborough are in 1697. Then the property to the east of Holder's is described as formerly of Richard Stubb and in another sentence as late of Daniel Ellis (GRO D 855 M 12 pp 267-8, 294). Ellis was a maltster who had settled in Charlton by 1666, farming his 40 acres and lending out money (GRO D 444 T 9). He died in 1684, leaving both a will and an inventory of his moveables.

Here we get the first picture of the interior of Elborough Cottage.

GRO 1684/231

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods chattles rights and creditts late of Daniell Ellis of Charleton Kings in the County of Glou' Maltster dec'd made and appraised by Thomas Bridge of Alston in the same county gent, Giles Grevile of Charlton Kings aforesaid gent. and Joseph Hall of the same Cordwayner the twelfth day of September Anno d'ni 1684.

Imp's	£	s	d
One broad Jacobus piece of gold weighing about	01	12	09
One thicke Spanish piece of gold Ferdinand & Elizabeth weighting about	01	13	00
One Edward Spurr royall of gold about	01	00	00
One Jacobus piece of gold	01	00	00
One Jacobus piece of gold weighing about	00	11	00
Two guineas	02	03	00
In ready money	64	00	00
One 20L bond being a desperate debt	20	00	00
Due upon bonds	159	00	00
In wearing apparell	002	00	00
In the hall			
One cloke & case	002	00	00
One iron crane one per of iron tonges & fire shovell one per of andirons one iron barr & cheekes	000	07	00
One iron scale beame & wooden scales and lead weights weighing 50 [£]	000	08	00
One table board six joyned stools two old chaires one green carpett & two old Cushions	000	13	04
In the room within the hall			
Two flock beds two feather bolsters one Flocke bolster two feather pillows two bedsteds and four blanketts	002	10	00
One great old cupboard one box two old chairs one close stool & pewter and three old cushions	000	10	00
In the parlour			
One table board	000	03	06
In the kitchen			
One table board and form	000	05	00
One jack one iron crane with five iron hookes thereon, one cast iron back, two per of andirons one per of iron tonges three spittes one per of potthooks one iron fender one trevett one iron dripping pan & ladle one gridiron one skimmer one flesh forke two toasters two Locke steeles with five irons belonging thereunto, one per of bellows	001	06	02
32 pieces of pewter of several sorts weighing 90L at 8d per li	033	00	00
Two dozen of spoons	000	01	06
Four brass kettles two brass pottes two brass skillettes one brasse pan one warming pan all weighing 82L at 10d per lib.	003	08	04
One per of small brass scales with an Iron Beame	000	01	06
	269	17	1

One tinn dripping pann, two tinn flower boxes	000	01	00
One birding gunn	000	05	00
Six shelves	000	02	06
One Frying pan & an iron peel	000	02	06

In the Cellar

One small hogshead two halfe hogsheads two firkins & a beer tressel	000	15	00
ii dozen of Glass bottles	001	00	00
4 shelves	000	01	06
one safe fixed to the Freehold	000	02	00

In the buttery

Two small old hogsheads	000	08	00
Seven halfe hogsheads & two firkins	001	03	00
One brew fat four coweles four old pails two bucketts two skeeles one malt seive and two meal seives	000	16	10
20 earthen panns being milk panns & others	000	01	06
One barrell churne upon a frame	000	05	00
One cheese presse	000	04	00
Three leather bottles	000	03	00
Dishes bowles cheese fats & other treenware	000	05	06
Trenchers	000	02	06
Three pitch markes	000	01	00
4 shelves one beere tressel chopping block baskets and other things not particularised	000	05	00

In the Malt House

One Maltmill	000	13	4
Cider mill and presse	002	02	0
Two cisterns	001	00	0
One brass furnace fixed to the Freehold and Irons belonging to it	002	10	0
One old kneeding trough four formes one woollen wheel	000	04	00

In the room taken out of the Malt house

One old flock bed and bolster, three old blankets, one old bested one shelf and one lantern	000	11	00
---	-----	----	----

In the Parlour Chamber

One new feather bed and bolster	003	00	00
Three feather bolsters	001	00	00
four feather Pillows	000	04	00
two Flock Pillows	000	01	00
Four per of blanketts	001	00	00
Two Coverletts	001	00	00
A suite of browne Curtaines and vallences	001	00	00
One Bedsted cord mat and curtain rodde	000	10	00
One Window curtaine & rod & cupboard cloth	000	06	08
Six chaires covered with stuffe	000	18	00
One joyned chest	000	04	00
One box	000	01	06
	022	18	4

One large trunk with drawers upon a frame	000	08	00
One small trunk with drawers	000	04	00
One cupboard with drawers	000	08	00
One looking glass	000	01	06
One new pannell	000	05	00
One twiggen voider	000	00	06

In the Room over the Hall

One old feather bedd & two blanketts	001	00	00
One flock bolster	000	02	06
One bedsted truckle bedsted & curtain & rod	000	16	00
One course sheet	000	04	00
One holland sheet & three holland pillow beres	000	15	00
two flaxen table clothes	000	06	00
four course table clothes	000	08	00
two long towells	000	04	00
two dozen and a half course napkins	000	10	00
One Cupboard with a presse in it	000	06	08
Three old Coffers	000	01	06
One desk & 32 books therein	000	10	00
One great bible	000	04	00
Wool yarn & a pillow	000	05	00
One silver tankard	006	00	00
One sword	000	01	00
Two silver spoons and a silver sweetmeat spoon & two little strong water dishes	000	13	04

In the Cheese Chamber

One cheese rack & a cheese frame with two shelves thereon and five other shelves	000	12	00
One thousand of cheeses	010	00	00
Wheat & maslin	010	00	00
Six flitches of Bacon	006	00	00

In the room above the Kitchen

One barrell of salt	000	06	00
One malt trye			
Malt	002	00	00
two linnen wheelles	000	04	00
French beans garden pease & hopps	000	10	00
One kill hair	000	07	00

In the Malt chamber

One wainscoat cradle	000	06	00
----------------------	-----	----	----

In the Courte & outhouses

One pigwash cisterne	000	01	00
About 100 weight of old pipe lead	000	09	04
in wood coals furze & lumber	002	10	00
Five hogg piggs six stores and powltry	005	00	00
Three gelding one mare, one mare & colt			
one stone horse and one yearling mare colt	030	00	00
Gear for five horses to goe to plow and cart with one waggon rope	002	13	04
	088	07	08

One waggon with two pair of wheels two dung carts and one per of old wheelles	06	00	00
Two ploughs and irons with other plough tack	00	13	14
One per of new harrows	00	08	00
One large Iron drag tow	00	08	00

In the grounds

Six milch cows and a bull	17	10	00
Three young beasts	03	00	00
137 sheepe of all sorts	28	00	00
Four ricks of new & old hey & pt of a rick	20	00	00
Sheep racks & fold hurdles	00	06	08
Corn of all sorts in the barne	60	00	00
Eight old corne bagges two grist males white hide one corn fan corn measures seives ladders & one hand barrow	01	10	00
Picks rakes six horse locks & six loggers one hand saw one iron barr three sythes two old broad shovells, one spitting shovell one Twy-bill one mattock one plough timber and lumber not before mentioned	02	00	00
	139	16	00
Summe Total	518	17	01

The Bridges
Giles Grevile
Joseph Wall

Exp 20 Sept 1684

Daniel appears to have married late in life. The old cradle in the malt chamber must have been used for his son and heir Daniel, baptised in August 1675 and still a minor when his father died.

One item in the kitchen was a "birding gunn", valued at 5s. This was presumably the "handgun" with which Daniel the younger shot his neighbour Richard Overbury in the leg in 1697 - he was presented in court for this on 23 October and the gun was nearly confiscated; but somehow Daniel got it back and it appears again in his inventory of 1712. The clock and some other furniture from 1684 are mentioned in this second list, but it is obvious that the younger man had been less able and was much worse off than his father had been.

GRO 1712/186

A true and Perfect Inventory of all and singuler the Goods & Chattells of Daniel Ellis of Charlton Kings in the County of Glou' yeoman lately deceased taken and appraised by those whose names are hereto subscribed the thirtyeth day of Septem' in the year of our Lord 1712 as followeth:-

Imp ^s	£	s	d
In Purse and Wearing apparell	2	00	00
In the Kitchen one Iron Back one Table Board			
3 old Chaires one Joynd Stool & Jack and spitt			
2 paire of handeirons one paire of Tongues			
one Gun 11 Dishes of Pewter and Dozen of Plates			
one Warming Pan one Boyler One Bellmettell Pott,			
4 Kettells, and some other small things	3	00	00

In the Hall one Clock one tabell-board one forme two Joynt stooles, one Looking Glass, one paire of brass handireons and some Bookes	1	13	4
In the Room next the Hall: One Press and Cubboard, one Bedstead one Chare and some other small things	0	15	0
In the Hall Chamber, One Bed and Bolster one Bedsted Curtains Valians and healing to the same one table chaire one Chest of Drawers one Looking-glass one Paire of handireons 2 Chaires	3	00	0
In the same Room about a tod of Wooll	0	13	0
One Chest one Cofer 3 Boxes	0	6	8
Ten Paires of Flax & hemp sheets one Pair of holland sheets 4 Table Cloathes: 2 Dozen an half of Napkins 6 Pillowcases	3	11	0
In the Parlour Chamber Two Beds and 2 Bolsters 2 Bedsteads, one littell Pillow, one Sett of Curtains and valian and some healings to the Beds, 3 Chaires one Trunck and some other small things	3	4	6
In the Chese Loft about 2 hundred weight of Chese	1	15	00
In the Parlour one ovell Table and 2 Chaires	0	06	0
In the Dayhouse one Chese Press and some Dayry vesels	0	12	00
In the Seller 8 Drink Vessells	1	00	0
In the Brewhouse, One Furnace and some old Brew Vessells	1	00	0
In the Malthouse one malt mill one old --- stone a litell Quantity of Wood Without Dores a small quantity of Dung Pick & a shovel and some other odd things belonging to husbandry	0	10	0
In the Court one Pig:	1	00	0
At back, 6 sheep	1	19	0
A small Quantity of Garden Beans	0	12	0
Sum totall is	26	17	6

Walter Buckle
Robert Gale
Edmund Welch

Ex 4 Oct 1712 per Mary Ellis wid.

Daniel the second and his wife Mary had two sons, but only the younger John, was baptised at Charlton, on 18 December 1697. The heir was DAVID ELLIS, who claimed a tenement held under Ashley on 22 May 1714 (Ashley original surrenders GRO D 109 no 119) and property held under Cheltenham on 28 March 1715 (GRO D 855 M 15 p 38). He must have been born sometime in 1693 (when his father was 18) to be of age by 1714; the couple were presumably living then with Mary's people, not in Charlton.

David Ellis was ambitious for his eldest son RICHARD and apprenticed him to Thomas Price of Gloucester goldsmith in 1739 (GRO C 10/3 f 742). So when the father came to make a will on 21 July 1759, he made his daughter Mary the executrix and instructed her to sell all his copyhold and divide the proceeds between herself and the brothers and sisters. The property had been surrendered to uses of the will.

MARY ELLIS married William Overbury, so on 13 April 1761 she, her husband, and her brother Richard as eldest son, surrendered the tenement in Cudnall to use of DANIEL QUARINGTON of Gloucester maltster (GRO D 109/1). Quarington surrendered to uses of his will on 4 March 1769 and after the widow's death his daughters Mary and Amelia, with Amelia's husband, sold in 1774 to Walter Lawrence. (GRO D 2025 Box 47/7).

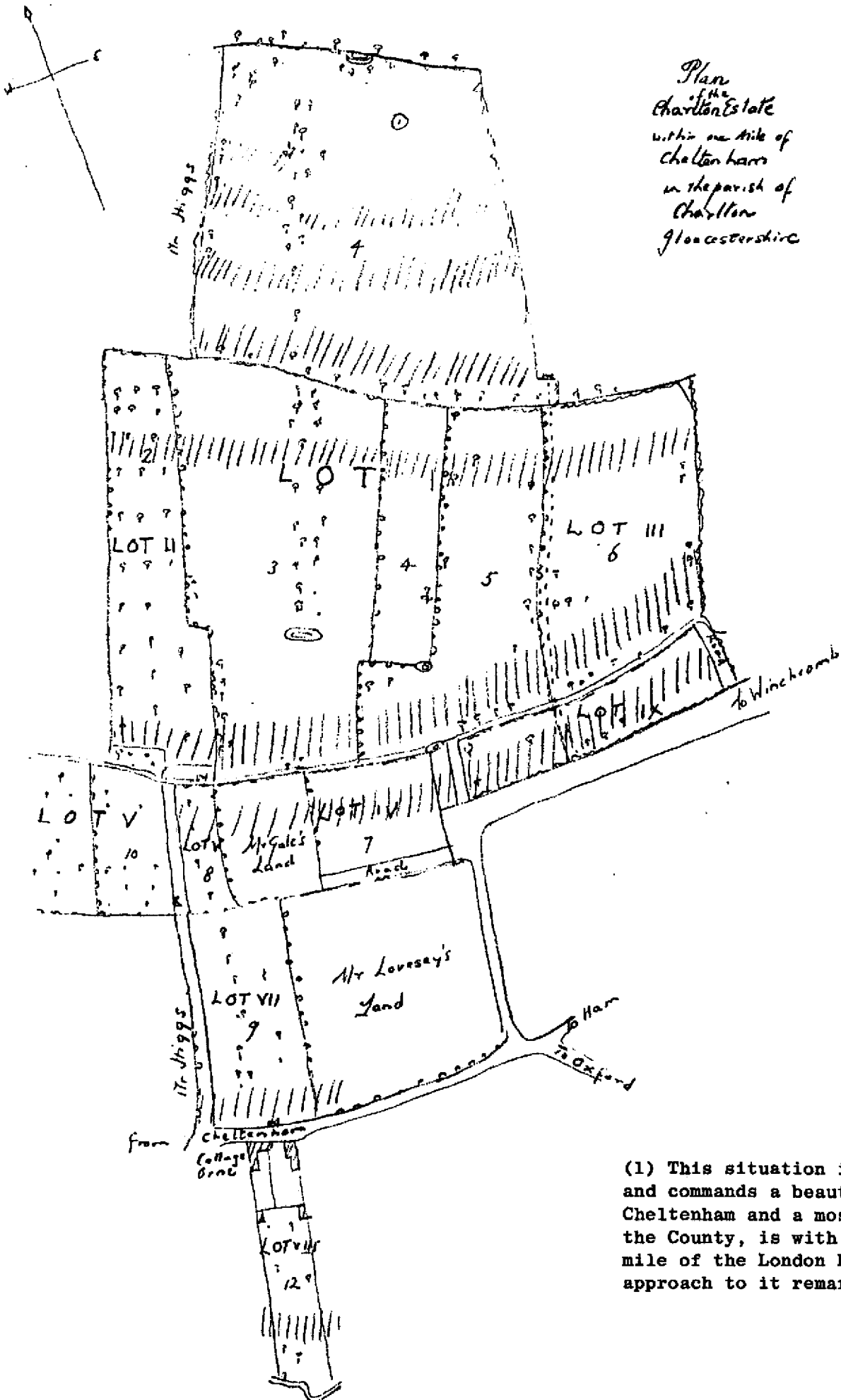
A year later, Lawrence bought from Daniel Cooke, tallow chandler, 3 closes "near Bunhall" (1.3.22) which Cooke had acquired in 1759 from William Deane and his wife. (D 2025 Box 47/12; D 2216 Box 31/478). All Lawrence's land had been re-arranged before the sale map of 1824 which names the three "Cook's Ground" closes but gives the area as 4.2.3. The farm's total acreage was now 37½ acres, not 40.

Lawrence died in 1810. His only daughter Mary married William Morris, and their son Walter Lawrence Morris, born in 1799, inherited the estate and took the surname Lawrence, becoming WALTER LAWRENCE LAWRENCE. His parents lived for a time at Elborough and converted a farm house into a "singularly Picturesque and Romantic Cottage Ornee"; so they were responsible for the Regency staircase and the pretty windows. The improvement of the London road by Telford in 1824-5 suggested that this would be a good time to sell as the land was "finely situated for building and containing Capital Brick Earth"; it was auctioned on 28 October 1824 and the house was bought by RICHARD PRUEN for £1750 (GRO D 1388 SL 3 no 25; D 109/2)

Charlton is lucky to have this very fine timber-framed house basically unchanged since the 17th century, and with a history unbroken since the mid 16th.

Material for this paper has been researched by M. Paget, J. Paget and E. Armitage.





Plan
of the
Charlton Estate
within one mile of
Cheltenham
in the parish of
Charlton
Gloucestershire

(1) This situation is very elevated and commands a beautiful view of Cheltenham and a most extensive of the County, is with in 1/4 of a mile of the London Road and the approach to it remarkably easy.

Reference

No of Lot	No of Parcel	Names of Parcels	State	Quantity of Each parcel	Quantity of each lot
1	1	Broad Battle Downs	pasture	9.1.25	20.3.2
	3	Long Pool Ground	"	6.2.27	
	4	Cooks Ground	"	1.1.28	
	5	Little Cops Hedge	"	3.1.26	
2	2	Long Ground	"	3.1.11	3.1.11
3	6	Great Copse Hedge	"	4.3.11	4.3.11
4	7	Butts	"	1.1.37	1.1.37
5	10	Cooks Ground	"	-3.30	2.0
	11	Nine Lands	"	1.0.30	
6	-	-	"	- 2.34	-2.34
7	9	Cook's Ground etc	"	2-25	2-25
8	12	Cottage Garden Orchard yard etc	-	1.0.33	1.0.33
9	6a	Part of Copse Hedge	pasture	1.0.0	1.0.0
TOTAL				37.2.13	

Photographs by Linda Hall



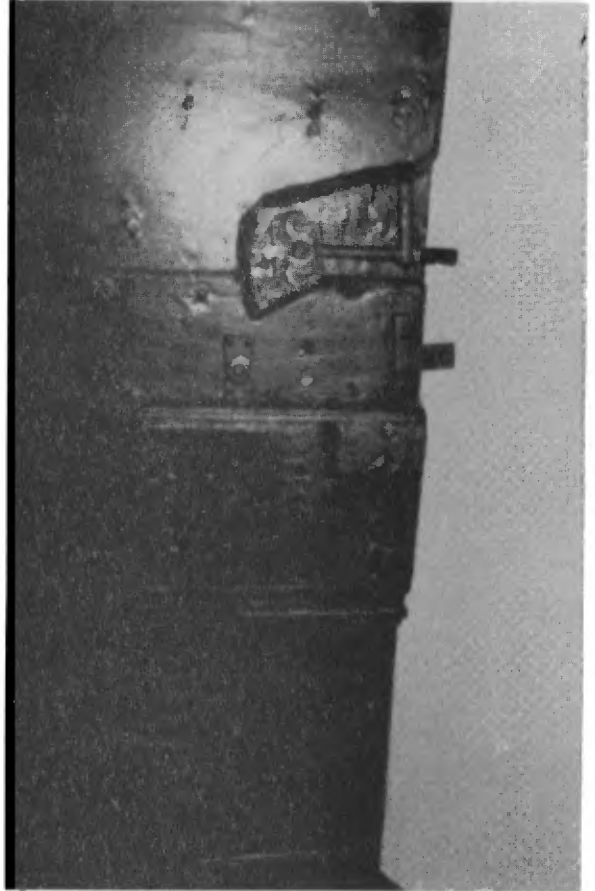
The porch and front door

The back of the house

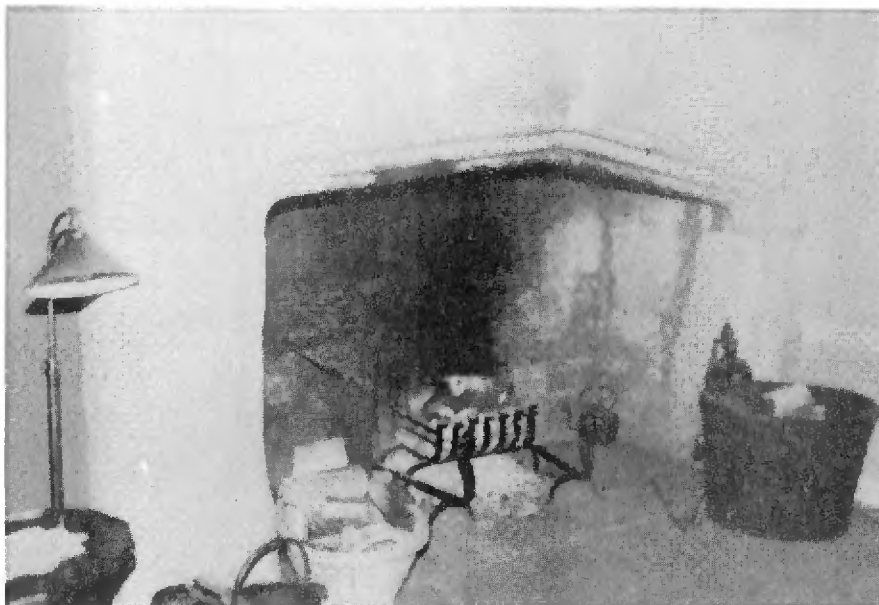




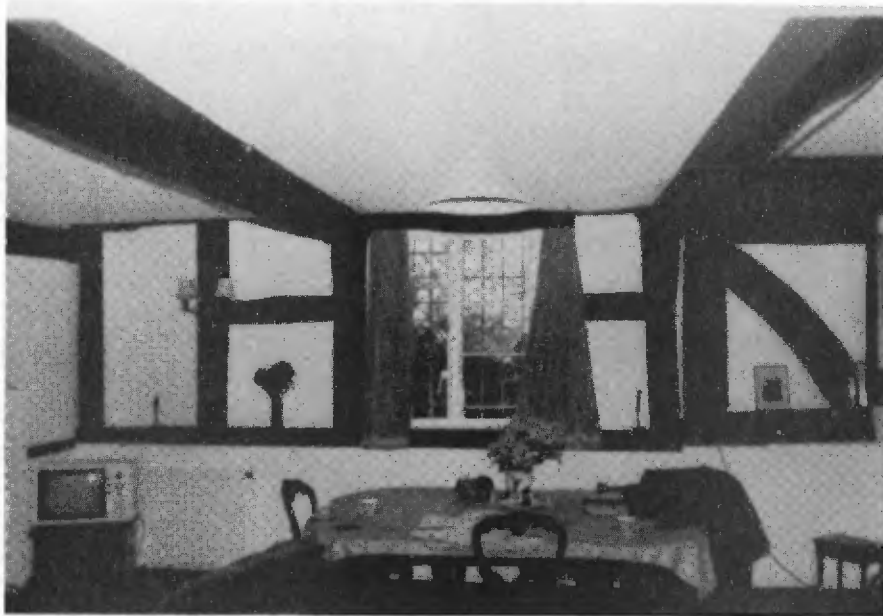
The west wing



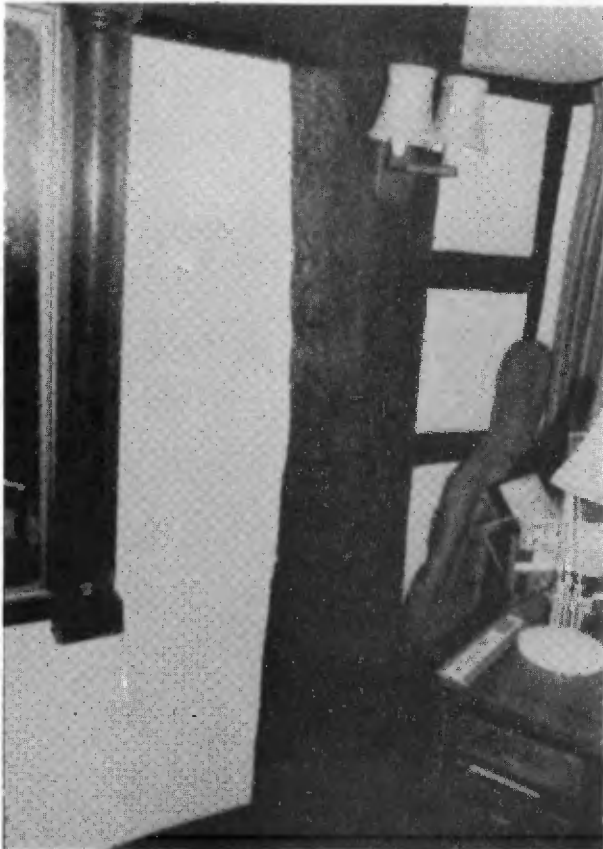
Front door detail



Hall fireplace



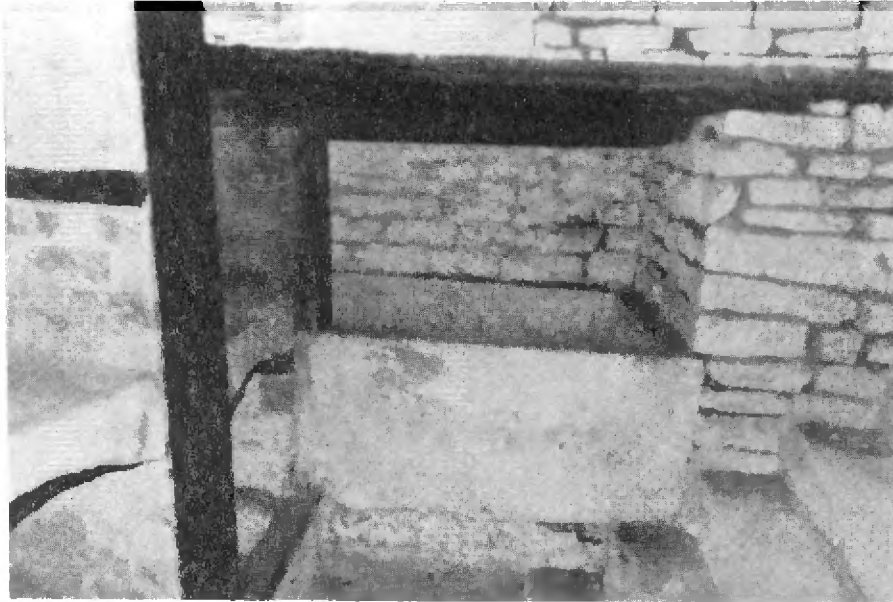
West wall of rear wing (Malthouse/Kitchen)



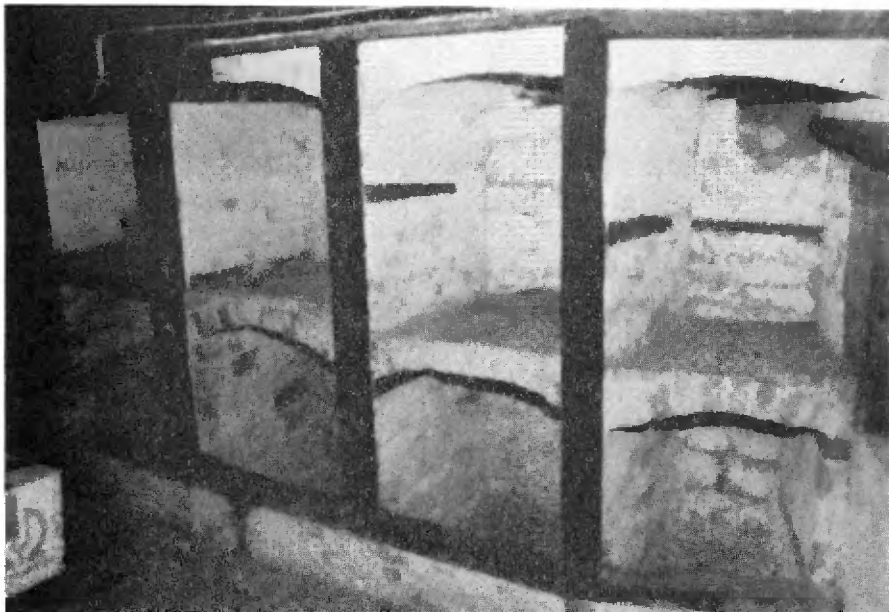
post (foot of cruck?)
in entrance hall



Window in malthouse

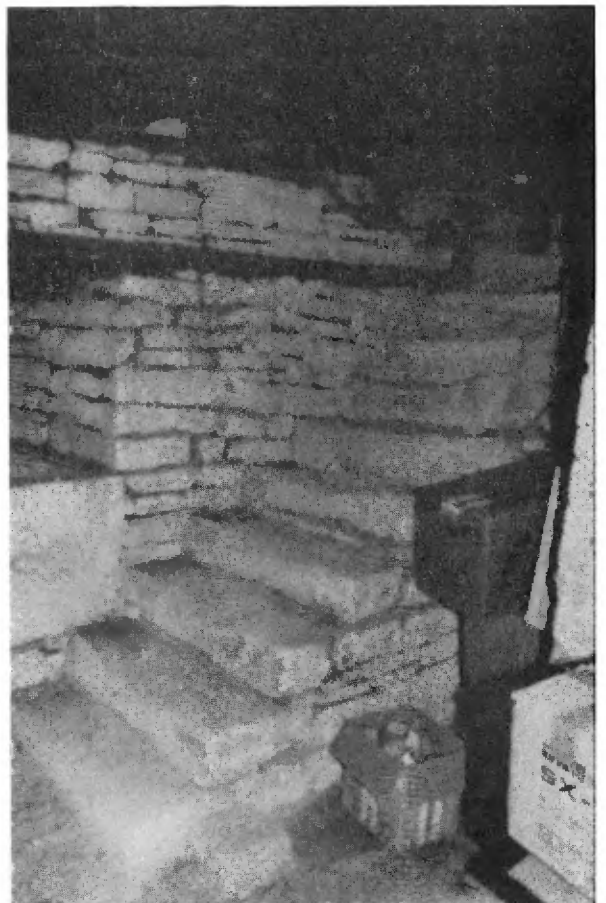


trough in cellar



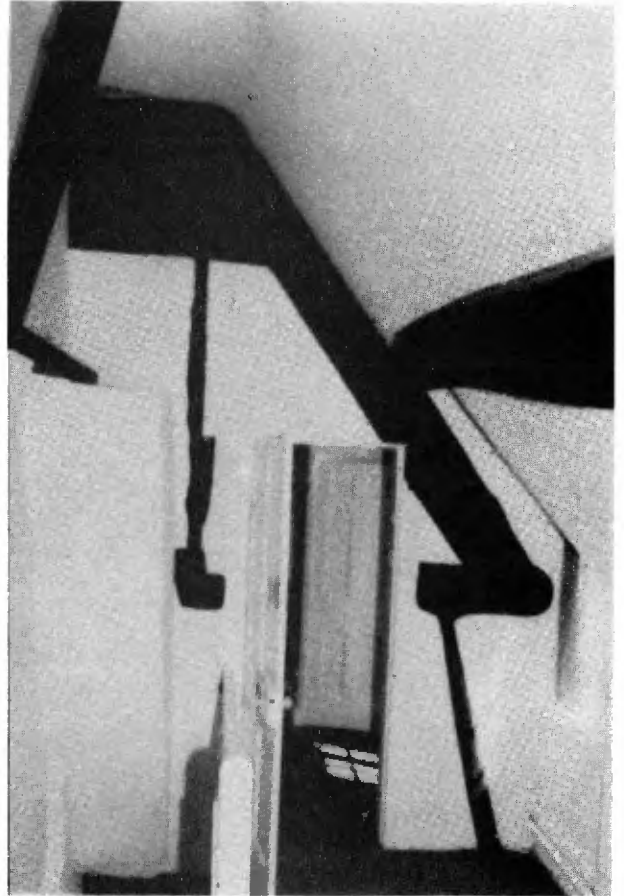
Shelves for barrels

Cellar steps

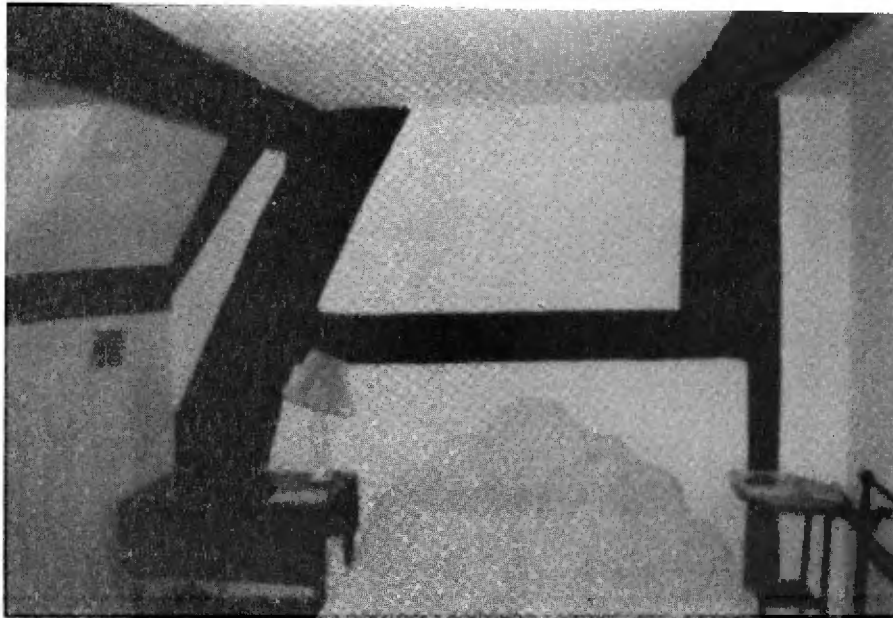




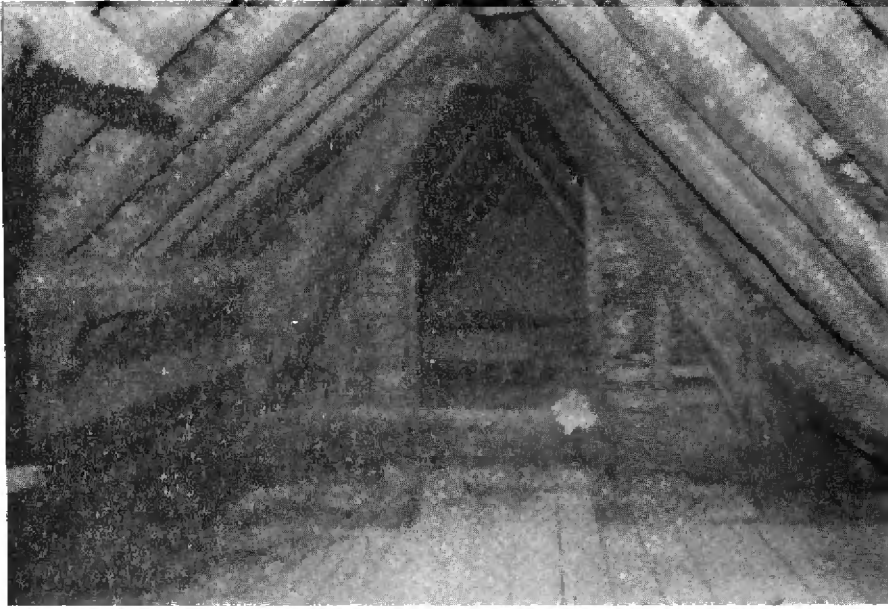
Regency staircase



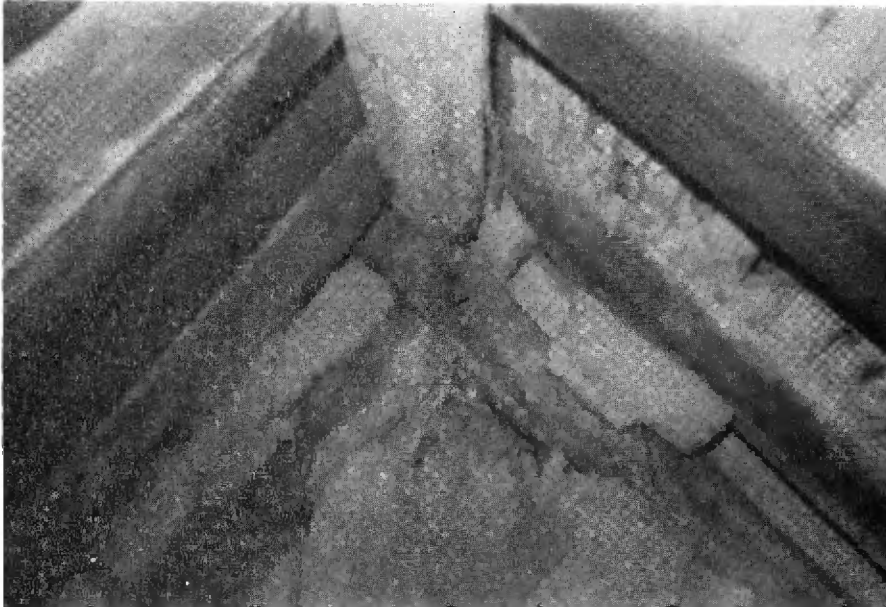
roof truss in rear wing



cruck in bedroom

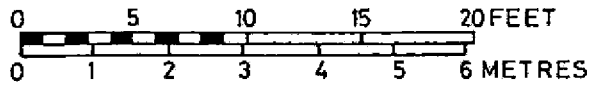


roof timbers

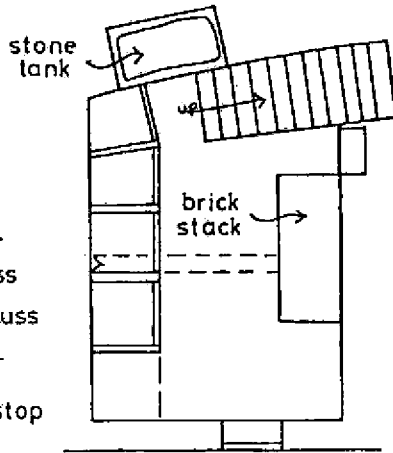


ELBOROUGH COTTAGE, 36 CUDNALL STREET,
CHARLTON KINGS, GLOS.

(50 963211)



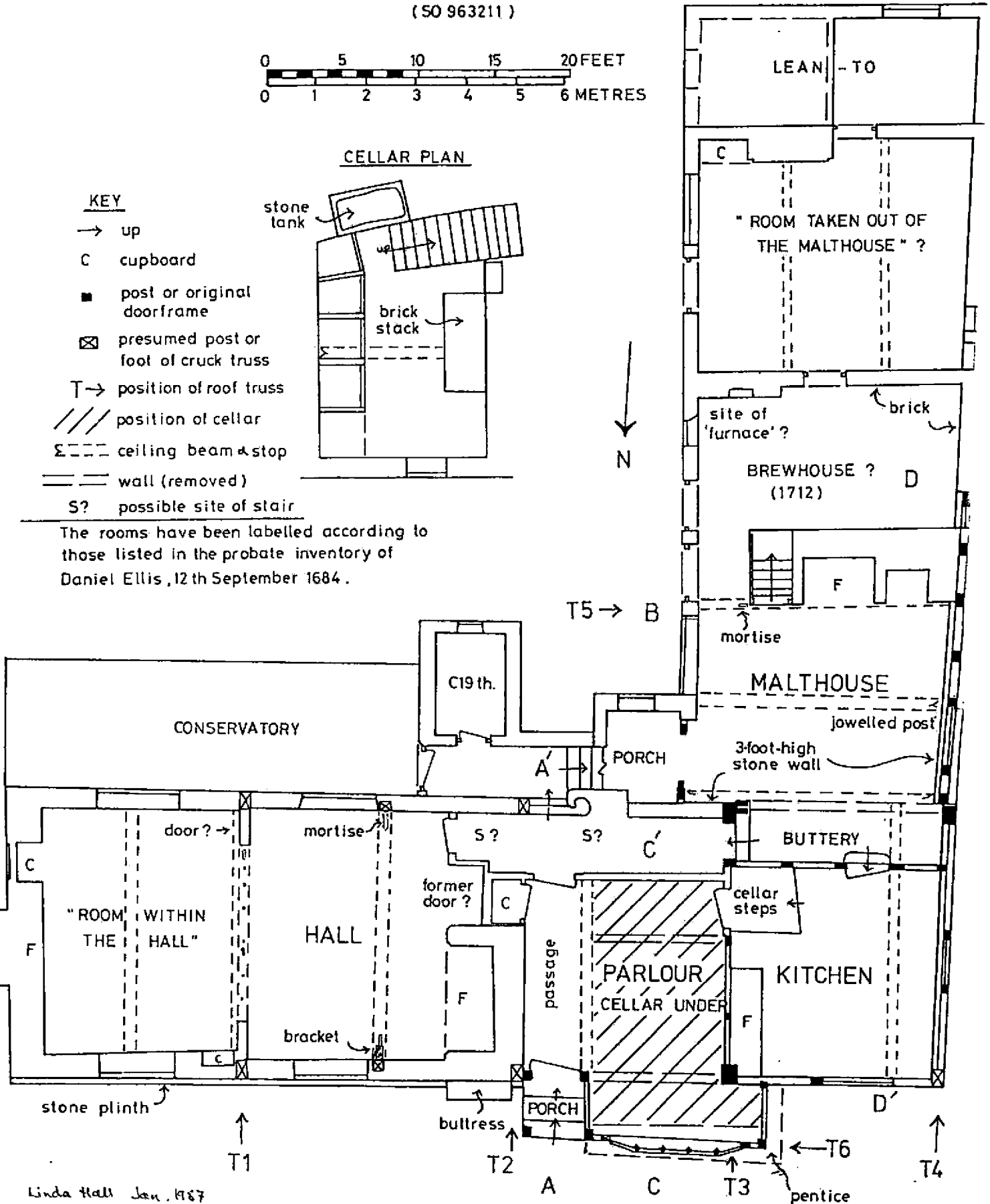
CELLAR PLAN



KEY

- up
- C cupboard
- post or original doorframe
- ⊠ presumed post or foot of cruck truss
- T → position of roof truss
- /// position of cellar
- Σ --- ceiling beam & stop
- — — wall (removed)
- S? possible site of stair

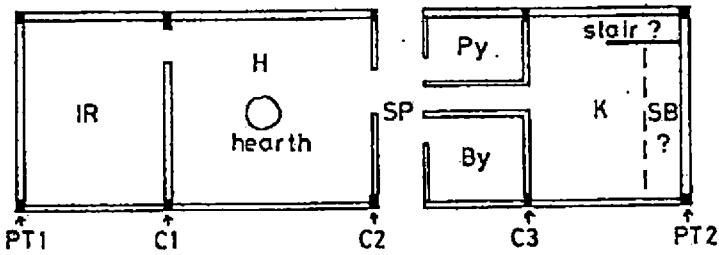
The rooms have been labelled according to those listed in the probate inventory of Daniel Ellis, 12th September 1684.



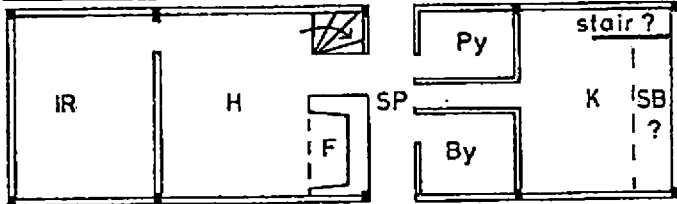
Linda Hall Jan. 1987

ELBOROUGH COTTAGE - CONJECTURAL DEVELOPMENT

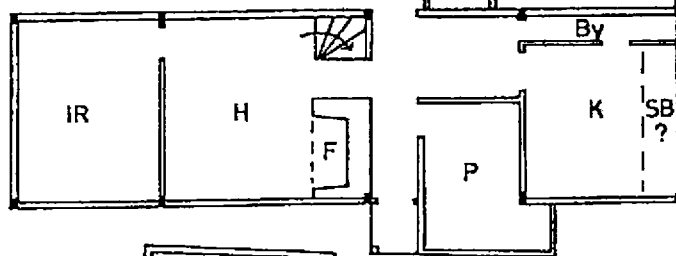
1. C15 th



2. Mid C16 th



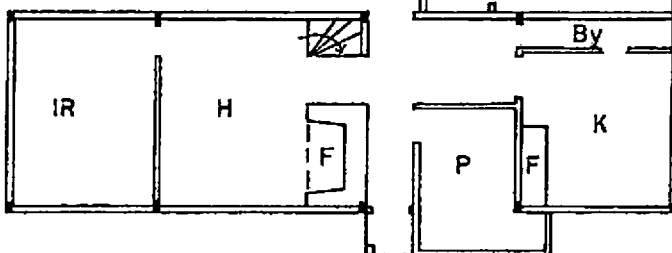
3. Late C16 th



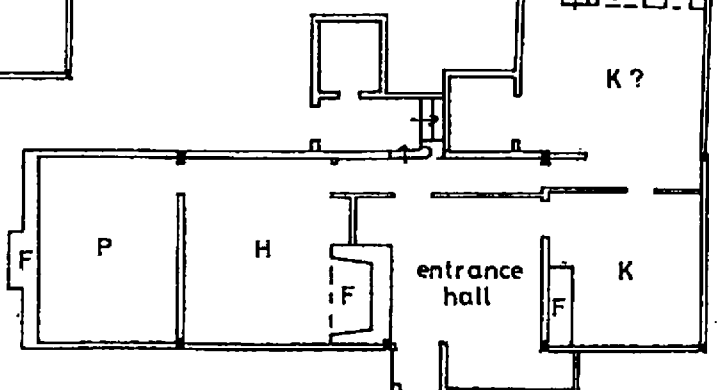
KEY

- By Buttery
- C Cruck truss
- F Fireplace
- H Hall
- IR Inner room (room within the hall)
- P Parlour
- PT Post and truss
- Py Pantry
- K Kitchen
- SB Smoke bay
- SP Screens passage

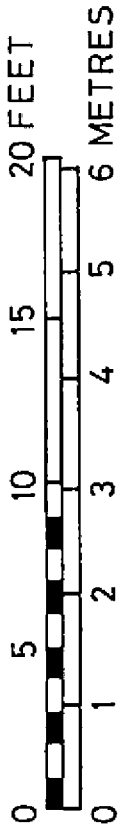
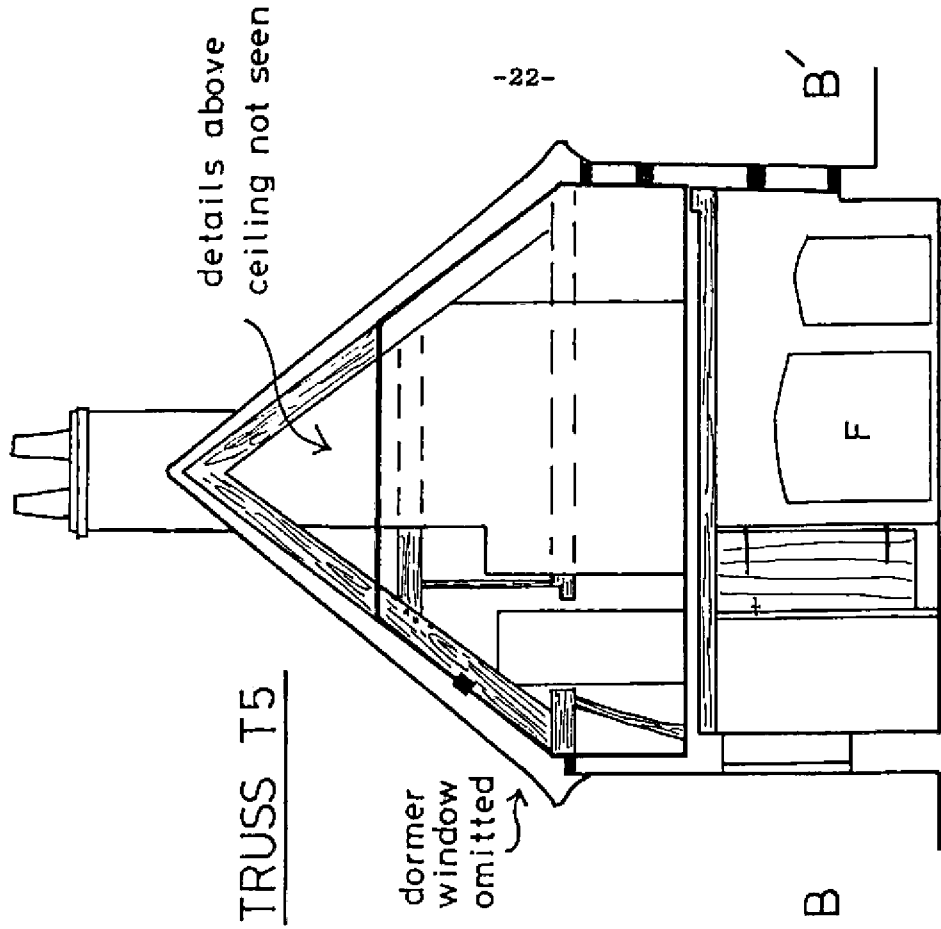
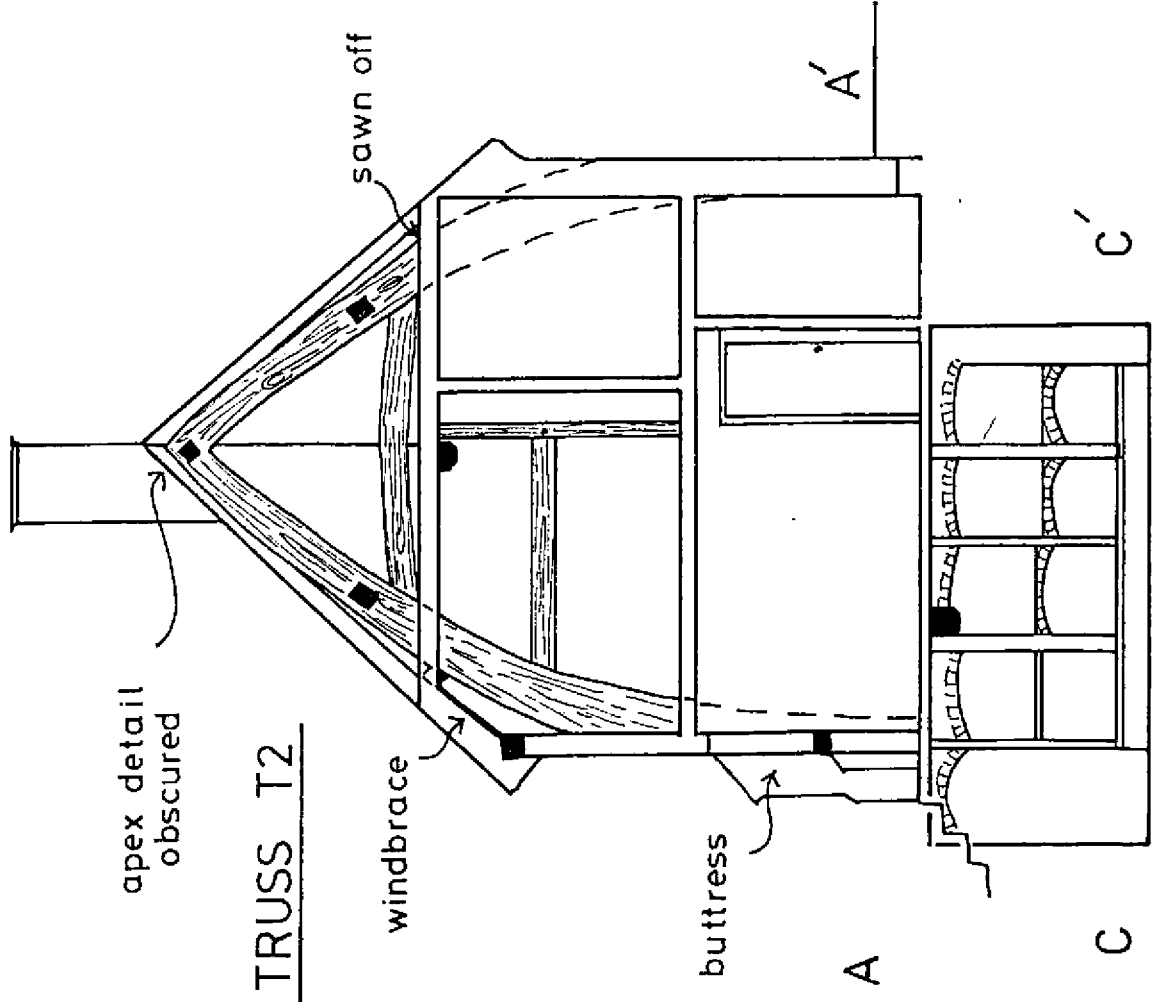
4. 1712

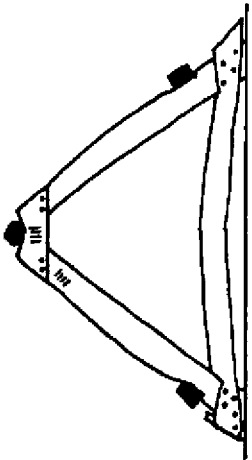


5. Early C19 th

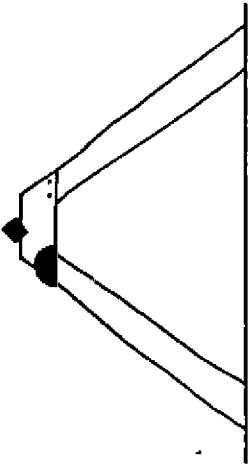


ELBOROUGH COTTAGE, CHARLTON KINGS

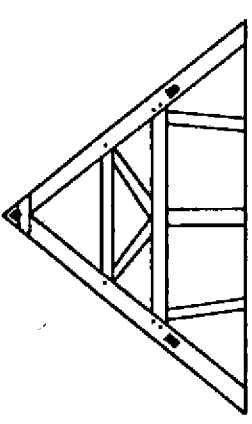




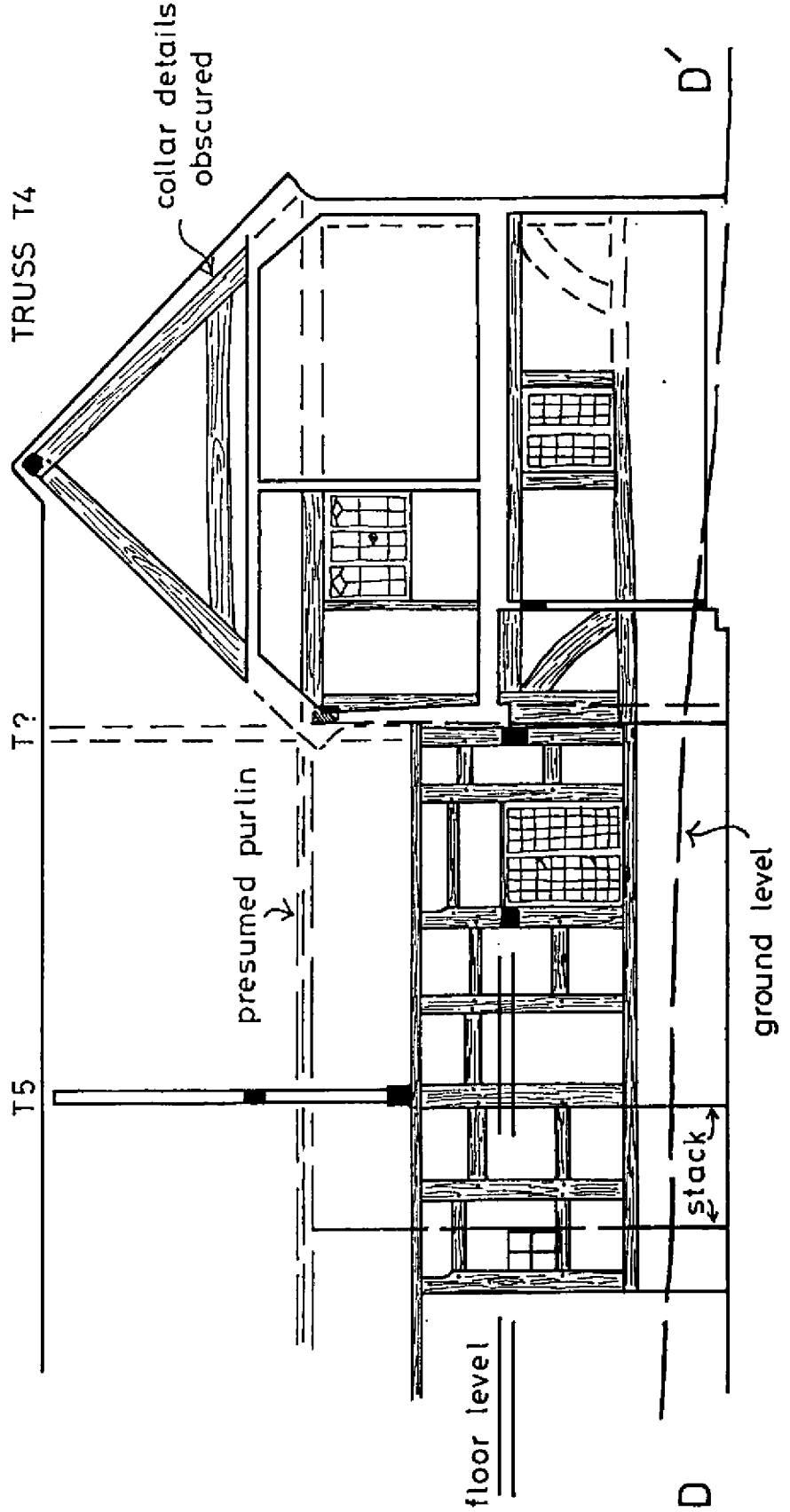
TRUSS T3
(looking west)



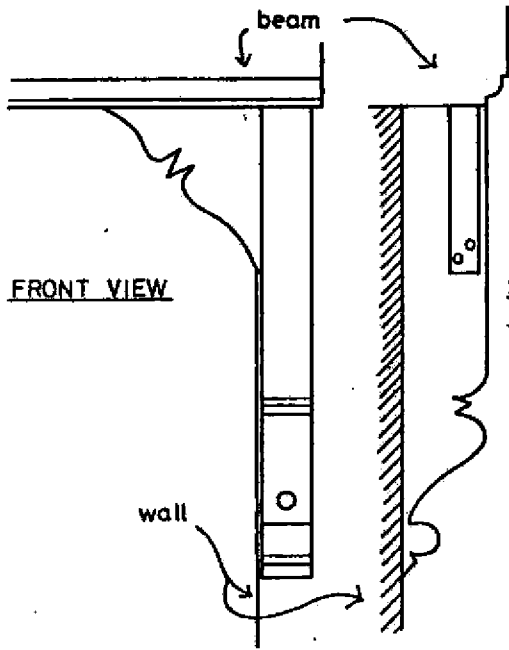
TRUSS T1
(apex details only)



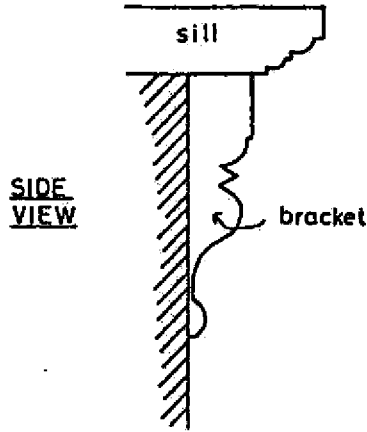
TRUSS T6
(not measured)



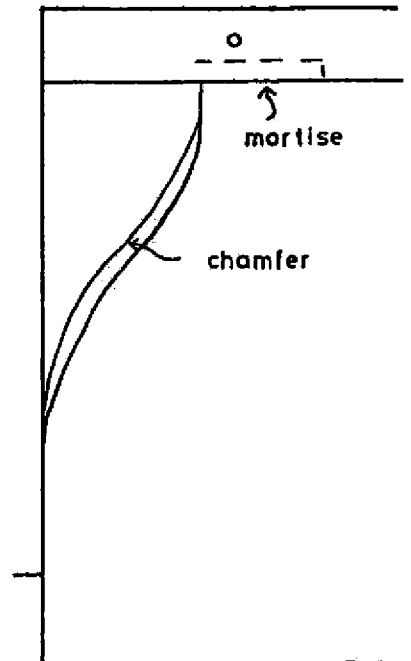
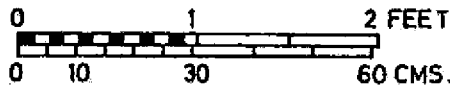
ELBOROUGH COTTAGE, CHARLTON KINGS



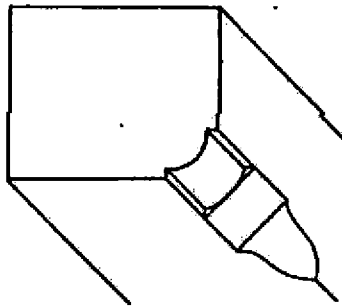
DETAIL OF PORCH BRACKETS



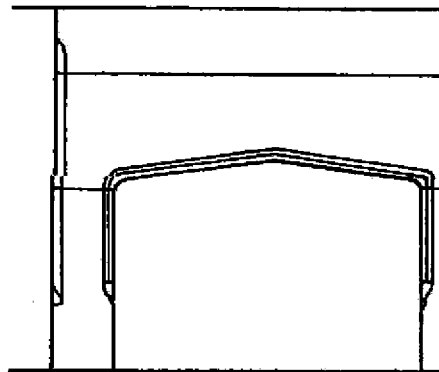
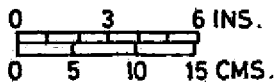
DETAIL OF ORIEL WINDOW IN PARLOUR



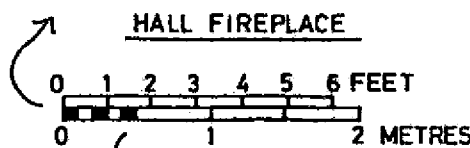
BRACKET AT NORTH END OF HALL BEAM



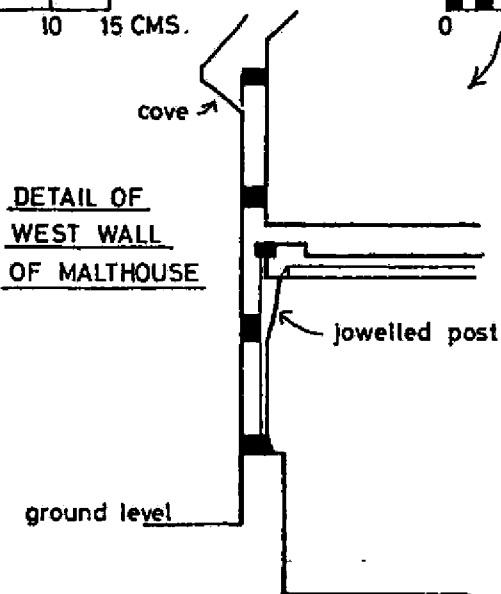
FRONT DOORFRAME



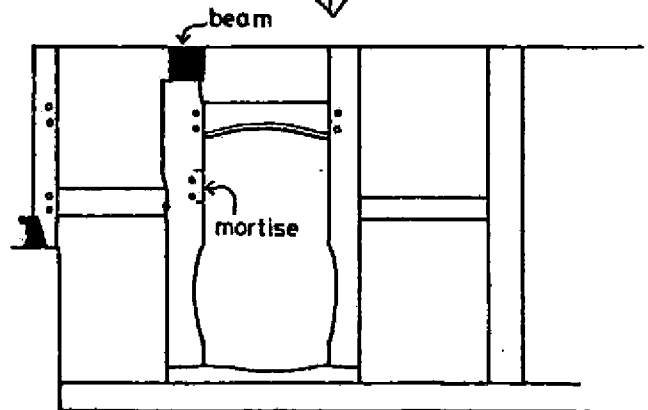
HALL FIREPLACE



HALL F/P MOULDING



DETAIL OF WEST WALL OF MALTHOUSE



DOORWAY FROM BUTTERY TO KITCHEN

ELBOROUGH COTTAGE, 36 CUDNALL STREET, CHARLTON KINGS

SO 963211

SUMMARY

Elborough Cottage is a medieval timber-framed house of cruck construction, probably dating from the C15th. In its original form it had a central hall open to the roof and heated by an open hearth. In the C16th the hall was given a fine stone fireplace and an upper floor. In the late C16th the parlour was created by adding a projecting gabled bay at the front, lit by large oriel windows and having some fine external decorative detail. Also dating from the C16th is the timber-framed rear wing, originally a malthouse. (Probate inventories of 1684 and 1712 provide a detailed picture of the house and its contents in the late C17th and reveal the functions of the various rooms.) The house was largely unaltered until the Regency period in the early C19th, when it received a new staircase and rear extensions, and the windows were given "Gothick" leaded lights.

SITE. Sloping ground, parallel to the road, facing N.

MATERIALS. Timber framing set on a 3-foot high rubblestone wall. Nearly all of it is rendered, but both timber-framing and the sill wall are exposed in the W wall of the rear wing. The roof is of stone tiles.

EXTERNAL FEATURES. The house has $1\frac{1}{2}$ storeys, the upper floor being lit by sloping-roofed dormers whose sills are below eaves level. All the eaves have a large plaster cove. At the front is a 2-storey gabled projection with oriel windows at ground and first floor and an open porch on the E side. A pentice roof protects the ground-floor oriel and continues around the west side of the projecting bay. The porch, pentice and the oriel window sills are supported by decorative carved brackets. The sills, the window mullions and the beam supporting the porch roof are all ovolo moulded. Above the upper oriel window is a decorative motif impressed in the rendering. The front door has an ovolo moulded frame with flat and scroll stops, mason's mitres and a flat lintel. The door itself is heavily studded, with massive strap hinges. Applied hollow-moulded fillets form a four-centred arch with spandrels, probably a later addition. To the left of the door a small section of sill-beam is visible on top of the sill wall, before it disappears behind a buttress. The windows all have leaded lights with arched heads in Regency Tudor style.

At the rear is a long $1\frac{1}{2}$ -storey wing. Its west wall reveals large panel timber-framing, the rest is brick or brick faced. The east wall has three doors and two windows, all with segmental heads, and two dormer windows. The windows all have leaded lights. In the angle with the main range is a small projection, and east of it a tall gabled projection with oriel windows.

PLAN. The front door now leads into a square entrance hall, but presumably originally into a screens passage partitioned off along the line of the ceiling beam. The probate inventory for Daniel Ellis, made in 1684, suggests that the rooms were as follows: to the east of the entrance was the hall and beyond it "the room within the hall", now one large room with a fireplace at each end. In 1684 the room within the hall was an unheated bedroom. To the west and including the projecting bay was the unheated parlour with cellar below; beyond the parlour was the kitchen, with a narrow buttery partitioned out of the south side. The later rear wing comprised the malthouse, and a "room taken out of the Malt house". The wing now consists of three rooms, and it is not

clear which partition was in existence in 1684 or indeed if the most southerly room is part of the original malthouse or a later addition. The malthouse had a doorway at the NE corner; the square projection may be an original porch, blocked off by the much later staircase. The first-floor rooms include "The Cheese Chamber", presumably the eastern chamber.

FEATURES, GROUND FLOOR

HALL. The room is dominated by a magnificent stone fireplace of C16th date, which has a large roll moulding and a depressed 4-centred arch. The southern jamb of the chimney stack is chamfered at the S corner, with a pyramid stop at the base and a runout at the top of the chamfer. The ceiling beam has a 2-inch hollow chamfer on the east side with a very shallow step stop at the north end. Also at the north end is a curved and chamfered bracket, a single central peg presumably fixing it to a post concealed in the wall. A filled-in mortise continues 8 inches beyond the bracket in the soffit of the beam; a similar mortise at the south-end measures 1' 2 inches long by 2 1/4 inches wide. The beam between the hall and the east room has two mortises and six round holes in the soffit, evidence of the posts and infill that have been removed and suggesting a doorway at the S end. There is a second, featureless beam up against the east side of this beam and another in the east room. The fireplace in the end wall is completely blocked.

PARLOUR. The projecting bay is timber-framed, with posts at each corner exposed and the west wall divided into three panels by two horizontal rails. The front doorframe and a massive post in the east wall show the position of the original front wall of the house. The post is curved and may be the foot of a cruck truss (T3), although its relationship to the beam it carries needs clarification.

KITCHEN. There is a blocked fireplace in the west wall and some visible wall-posts. The NW corner of the room was not accessible so the presence or absence of posts could not be determined. On the post in the W wall is a loop for fastening a window shutter. The south wall consists of large panel timber-framing; the doorway has a segmental-arched lintel, which is chamfered, and the jambs have been cut back for carrying barrels through. (The 1684 inventory lists almost a dozen barrels in the buttery). In the west jamb a mortise and two pegs 8 inches below the lintel suggest either an error, a reused timber, or that the doorway is a later alteration.

BUTTERY. The floor is 9 inches lower than the kitchen floor. The west wall consists of a 3-foot high stone wall surmounted by a square panel of timber framing. A curved tension brace, 10½ inches across, runs from the top of the post down to the sill-beam. The post also measures 10½ inches across, the sill and head beams are a little smaller. The south wall, the original outside wall of the house, has been removed so that the buttery is now part of the rear wing. At the east end a section of the original outer wall survives - a three-foot stone wall with a square panel of timber-framing. At the west end of this section are two adjacent posts, the outer one containing three 8-inch long mortises some 2 feet apart. It is clearly not in its original position, as the lowest mortise is only 2'3 inches from the floor (ie below the level of the original stone wall), and the post is attached to the sill beam on the 3-foot wall by a metal strap. East of these posts is another post, this time resting on the stone wall and supporting one end of a door lintel with a chamfered segmental head.

MALTHOUSE. The wing is divided into three rooms. The external and dividing walls are mostly brick or brick-faced, except for the west wall where the timber-framing is exposed inside and out with its large irregular panels. The beam at the N end of the first room has a 2-inch chamfer and diagonal-cut stops, and at its west end is supported by a brace from the wall-post. The central beam has a 3 1/4-inch chamfer, with diagonal-cut stops at the west end where it is supported by a slight jowl cut in the wall-post. The ceiling is slightly higher close to the west wall to accommodate the window. In the NE corner a doorway with a segmental lintel leads to the area under the present stairs, possibly once a porch. The N jamb supports the lintel, the southern one continues to the ceiling with the lintel tenoned into it. The S wall contains two segmental-headed recesses, one a fireplace, the other of unknown purpose. Embedded in this wall below the ceiling is a beam. Above the stair doorway the beam is chamfered, the chamfer continuing a few inches to the east and ending with a straight-cut stop at either end. East of it is a mortise for a doorpost, implying that there was a doorway here wider than the present stairs. It is not clear whether this beam is contemporary with the stack or predates it. The central room has few features, apart from a small window in the E wall whose original wooden frame is exposed. It has an internal shutter, two iron stanchions, and an iron casement with its original handle and fastenings. There is a blocked-off chimney stack above the SE corner of the room. The end room has a blocked fireplace and modern ceiling beams. Beyond it is a lean-to.

CELLAR. Access is by a straight flight of stone steps below a trapdoor in the kitchen floor. At the foot of the stairs a recess in the S wall contains a stone trough, either a small water cistern or a salting trough for bacon. The ceiling beam has 4-inch chamfers with scroll stops at the E end; the W end is concealed by the added stack. The E end wall has been divided into a series of recesses, to hold barrels and/or bottles of wine; both are listed in the 1684 inventory. STAIRS. The stair, housed in a narrow extension, is a Regency open-string stair, with decorative brackets below the tread ends, plain square balusters and a mahogany handrail.

FEATURES: FIRST FLOOR AND ROOF. In the kitchen chamber the wall plate on the S side, the SW corner and the tie-beam of truss T4 are exposed. Above the attic floor is a collar (details not noted), and at the apex the diagonal ridge is carried in a notch above a diagonal flush tenoned joint. T3 is only visible in the attic, where it looks like a cruck truss, but its relationship with the posts visible in the parlour and buttery is not clear. It has a lap-jointed cambered collar, fastened with four pegs each side - on the S side a fifth peg fastens the end of an additional timber which does not continue above the collar. Heavy purlins are trenched into the principals, which at the apex are tenoned into a heavy yoke which carries the ridge in a notch. The Carpenter's mark IIII is scratched on the yoke and the top of the S principal, suggesting that this is the fourth truss. T2 is a cruck truss, its N side visible in the parlour chamber, its S side cut off at attic floor level to accommodate the staircase extension. In the parlour chamber the wall plate and one windbrace are visible on the N side, with the corner of a purlin just protruding below the ceiling. The ceiling is carried on two later axial beams, the N one with a 3-inch chamfer and straight-cut stops. The central one with 4-inch chamfers and both straight and diagonal-cut stops. The truss is closed with a central post and one horizontal rail. In the attic it is now open, but with the hall stack built up against it. It has a cambered collar, tenoned (?) purlins, and a diagonal ridge apparently passing through the apex, but the details are all obscured. The E face of

the truss is smoke-blackened. T1 is only visible in the attic, probably a cruck truss, with the principals tenoned into a yoke similar to T3, but straight across the top and numbered I on yoke and principal. Both yokes have a central round hole in the soffit. It is smoke-blackened on the W side. A higher attic floor level conceals collar and purlins. There is no truss visible in the E end wall.

The malthouse wing has one truss visible at first floor level, with a tie-beam, tenoned collar and one trenched purlin visible as well as some sections of wall-plate in both E and W walls. The roof details above the ceiling were not checked. The tie-beam has been cut through for a later doorway and a brace supports the cut end.

DATE AND DEVELOPMENT. The smoke-blackening of the roof timbers between trusses T1 and T2 shows that this is a medieval open-hall house, probably dating from the C15th. T2 is a cruck truss, T1 and T3 are probably cruck trusses, while at the W end T4 is of post-and-truss construction. It is not clear if a further truss has been lost from or concealed within the E wall, and the numbering visible on the existing trusses (I on T1 and IIII on T3) is contradictory. It could be argued that the E end bay is a later addition, but further examination of the roof is needed to establish whether or not this is the case. The exact layout of the medieval house is not clear, but it can be conjectured that there were rooms either side of the open hall with chambers over them reached by simple ladder-type stairs. The unusually narrow buttery perhaps replaces one such stair. Entry would have been via a screens passage at the lower end of the hall, with a service room or rooms to the west. These could have been a buttery and pantry, with a kitchen beyond, as in Fig. 20. Some time in the C16th the hall was given a fine stone fireplace and an upper floor. The beam that was inserted to support this floor appears to have been strengthened by the presence of braces at either end, presumably fixed to existing posts in the timber-framed wall. These braces have since been removed and one replaced by a curved bracket.

In the late C16th or very early C17th the house was remodelled to include an unheated parlour between the screens passage and the kitchen with a cellar below. The usual place for the parlour in a house such as this was at the upper end of the hall, and it was quite common for the parlour still to function principally as a bedchamber until at least the 1660s. The 1684 and 1712 inventories show that here the "room within the hall" was a bedchamber (unheated, as there is no mention of andirons, the stack being a later addition). The parlour appears to have been created as a new-fashioned with-drawing room, well-lit by the oriel window in the projecting bay. Its status was revealed on the outside by the decorative detail, the whole bay giving an up-to-date Elizabethan appearance to the house and suggesting considerable prosperity at this period, on the part of the owner.

The precise internal layout is not clear, but it seems likely that the entry passage led to a large entrance hall S of the new parlour, with doors in the W wall leading to kitchen and buttery. There are no clues as to the type of stair that served this house. There are two likely suggestions, either a grand Elizabethan stair against the S wall of the proposed entrance hall, or a winder stair against the S wall opposite the hall stack. The latter is more likely given the available space. In the latter case the doorway to the hall from the passage would have been through the present cupboard, giving a layout extremely common in N Avon and S Gloucestershire.

The kitchen stack seems rather small for a kitchen, and the relationship of the stack with the cellar beam shows that it clearly post-dates the cellar. Possibly it is a C17th addition, as the 1684 inventory clearly reveals a fireplace. This raises the question of whether this room was always a kitchen and if so, where was the cooking done. The odd position of the ceiling beam, unusually close to the W wall, could suggest the presence of a smoke-bay here, but there is no definite evidence of this. The alternative is to suppose that the medieval house had a detached kitchen, a common feature for safety reasons, or that cooking was done in the hall, and that the present kitchen was used for food storage and preparation.

The rear wing also appears to be C16th in date. The segmental doorheads in the E wall of the wing and in the E and N walls of the buttery are very similar, and suggest that the buttery was partitioned off or replaced a staircase in the C16th alterations, to replace the one lost by the creation of the parlour. In 1684 it held a surprising quantity of things for such a small room, including a cheese press. This was still there in 1712 but the room had been redesignated as the Dayhouse (the C17th word for dairy). The rear wing was the malthouse, and presumably had no direct access to the house. It would have been reached via the back door of the screens passage and its own porch and door at the NE corner. In 1684 there was also a "room taken out of the Malt House", containing an old bed. It is not clear which of the present three rooms this refers to, or even if the most southerly room is part of the original malthouse or a later addition.

Certainly no old features are visible in this part of the wing. In 1684 the malthouse contained a malt mill, a cider mill and press, and "one brass furnace fixed to the freehold". The latter was perhaps in the SE corner of the middle room, where the wall is thicker and there is a chimney over. By 1712 this furnace is described as being in the Brewhouse, with the Malthouse still containing the malt mill, but no reference to the room taken out of the Malthouse. A possible explanation is that the latter was the most southerly room and contained nothing worth mentioning, while the Malthouse had been divided into two rooms, probably by a timber partition whose headbeam is now embedded in the stack at T5.

The two inventories provide further information as to how the house was used in the later C17th. The E room on the first floor was the Cheese Chamber; in 1712 it is referred to as a Cheese Loft, perhaps suggesting that it was not ceiled but was open to the roof. The parlour chamber and perhaps the hall and kitchen chambers were ceiled in the C16th alterations. The hall chamber had acquired a fireplace by 1712. The parlour chamber seems to have been the best chamber, having a window curtain, a very rare luxury at this period when shutters were still the norm. The kitchen chamber was a general store room.

The next major alterations appear to have been in the early C19th Regency period, when the windows were "Gothicized" and the old staircase was replaced by a new stair housed in a narrow extension on the S side. The tall S bay was added at the same time. It may have been at this period that the wall between the buttery and malthouse was removed and the malthouse chimney stack inserted, and that the parlour was removed to make a large entrance hall. The addition of the E end stack would have turned the old inner room into a parlour now. Later still this room and the hall were made into one large room.

Further investigations of the structure may clarify some of the problems relating to the earliest phases of the house.

5. BYGONE DAYS - (1) Spring Bottom

"Ma-am, can I go and see Ted?" - this was after tea on a summer day - "Well, yes, but come straight back, mind you" - so off I would go down "Springy" pitch, without falling over; somewhat of a feat for me, for I seemed to have acquired a habit of doing this in my seventh year of life, but that is now 73 years ago. So having reached the bottom, I would walk along the road by a well-kept hedge until I came to a green painted gate, somewhat past its better days for it always seemed to creak and mourn every time you opened it. After closing the gate I would walk along a garden path to a cottage, the home of Mr and Mrs Harry Lawrence and their two daughters, and there I would knock on the door and when someone came I would say "Please can I go and see Ted?" "Oh yes of course you can, but mind your fingers". Well, I did, I have all of them still. The only water supply they had was a spring which came out of a bank, just like the public spring at Spring Bottom Cottage; but under that spring where Mr Lawrence lived was a large cast-iron trough and in that trough one would find "Ted", a large trout. On some summer evenings that is where you would find me, waiting for Ted to leap out of the water and with its large mouth open, catch as many gnats as it could and then back down into the water - this would happen three or four times. To me it was wonderful to see that, and it still is when I'm watching a nature film on TV to see those salmon leaping over the rapids; to me its one of nature's secrets, but still very wonderful.

I don't quite know how old I was when somehow some six girls and around eight boys, all of them from Copt Elm Road, came and played with me in my father's orchard. The attraction wasn't me, far from it, it was the swing and see-saw, the small roundabout and the slide (later taken down because father said it had become unsafe) and the games we played. Sometimes we boys would play skipping with the girls, we had to, otherwise they wouldn't play our games. Those girls always managed to get the upper hand of us boys! We no doubt thought the world was rather a one-sided affair and owing to this thought, we left the girls and found ourselves in Spring Bottom, to play cowboys and indians. So with our bows and arrows made from nut sticks, we spent many happy hours - some of us was around thirteen years of age when we played this game.

Towards evening, the younger ones would go home, leaving three of us older boys behind there. The three of us would lean on that old iron gate which led into "Peggy" Allen's mill-house, which was surrounded by trees of all sorts which to us boys when the light was fading gave a ghostly appearance to the whole building. All boys at sometime in their days at school would turn to their little world of imagination. Ours was ghosts, so some evenings the three of us would lean on that gate talking about ghosts, sometimes we even saw one flitting about in the distance - perhaps it was imagination!

I can remember the month quite well, for it was September and I think towards the end of that month, and it was nearly dark when the moon came up out of that eastern sky later on, to cast dancing shadows on the ground. We boys were leaning as always on that iron gate, and may I add in full moonlight, when it happened. For right up where that rough road had a slight bend appeared not one but two ghosts dancing about from one side to the other, sometimes they would disappear behind a tree, only to appear again a little nearer to us. To say we were "scared stiff" is not quite right, for somehow we became rooted to the ground we stood on, our legs like so much jelly, someone was pouring icy water down our backs, our hair was standing straight up. Anyway that's how it felt to me! I don't know how we broke away from that gate but

we did, for those ghosts were getting nearer and nearer to us; and so up over that steep bank and then along the path to the bridge and then turning left up Church Walk we ran - straight into the arms of the Law! "Now then" said Sergeant Day "what's all this about, my boys?" I don't know who it was that said "Sergeant, there's two ghosts in Spring Bottom!" "There's what?" said the Sergeant. "Two ghosts" came the reply. "Oh, there is, is there? Well now, we'd better go and have a talk with them".

"Talk to ghosts? you can't talk to ghosts" we thought. "Now" said the Sergeant, "you boys follow behind me and be quiet and no talking". Somehow we had lost our fear and became brave little boys, anyway no harm could come to us with the Arm of the Law by us; so off we went, back down Church Walk. But when we arrived at Spring Bottom no ghosts did we see. So we remained under the shadow of a tree and I think there was a look of suspicion on the Sergeant's face - when all at once we heard someone laughing and then another would join in and it came from somewhere by the mill! We never found out if our Sergeant found the "ghosts" or not.

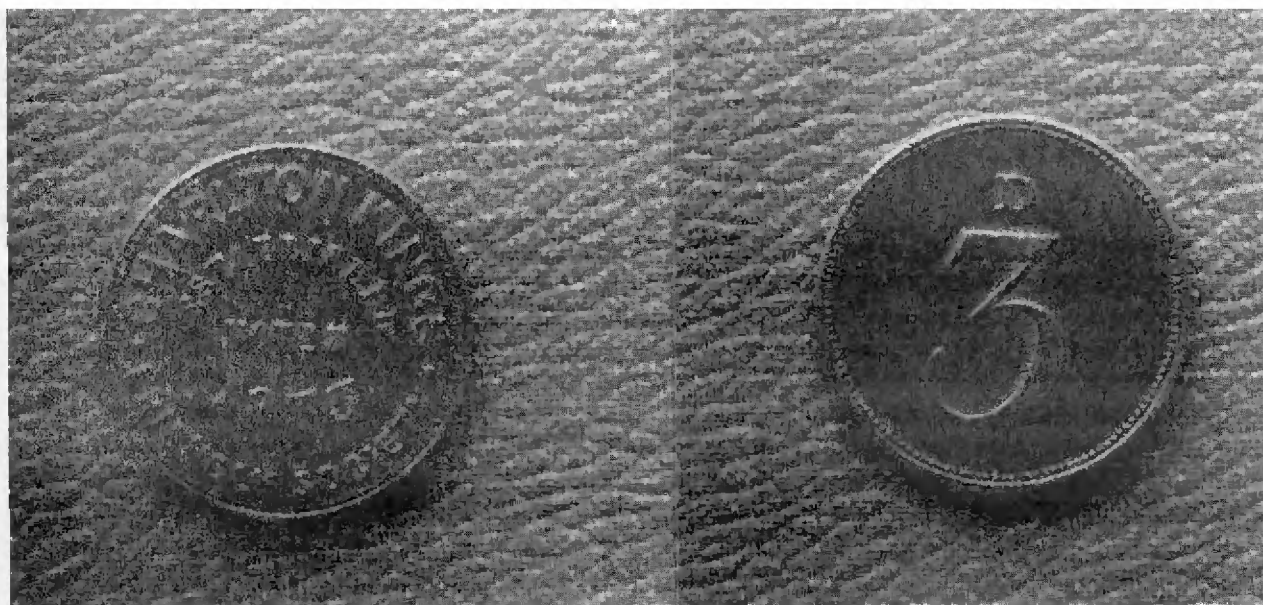
Sometimes now I walk along Spring Bottom, I stop and look across the road to where that gate used to be, and I can still see three boys and the mill and trees. I smile to myself, turn and walk on, on towards the King's House and I stop again and look over the road; yes, I can see that green gate, the path and cottage. Ted, well of course Ted's been gone many a year now, and so have some of those boys and girls, some sailed away to distant shores, some I'm sorry to say lie in the cemetery. Now there's just three of us left in this village from those childhood days, when we played in the orchard and Spring Bottom. One is Charles Isher, another one Vera Cox (maiden name) - and then there's myself.

Eric Cleevely

6. CHARLTON KINGS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Cheltenham Museum has two copies of a 3d token issued by Charlton Kings Friendly Society, established on November 3rd 1833. The token has a 27 mm diameter and a milled edge. Has anyone any further information about this Society?

M.J. Greet



7. THE ORIGINS OF ROSEHILL STREET 1832-1857

Amongst the new artisan housing that was built at Charlton Kings during the first half of the 19th century was that in the southern part of Coltham Field, immediately east of Coltham Lane (now Hales Road) and north of London Road. Building development was concentrated in two new streets - Park Street (now known as Upper Park Street), in which the earliest houses date from the mid-1820s, and Rosehill Street, the early development of which is the subject of this article.

Between 1778 and 1813, the site of Rosehill Street, along with other land in Coltham Field totalling a little under 5 acres, was the property of William Truman, a Cheltenham grocer, who for at least a part of that time occupied a house in Coltham Field.¹ In 1813, under the terms of Truman's will, the property passed to his housekeeper, Anne Rowles², who, on 12 June 1824 sold approximately one acre of the land to John Sadler, a Charlton Kings builder.³ That land almost certainly formed part of the site of Upper Park Street. Anne Rowles died in 1831⁴ and, once again under the terms of Truman's will, the remainder of the property reverted to the Reverend Thomas Hooper of Elkstone. On 27 March 1832, Hooper sold the land, for £700, to Thomas Dangerfield of Cheltenham, who was described in the conveyance as a yeoman. Dangerfield's purchase comprised "the messuage or dwelling house and premises in which the said William Trueman (sic) and Ann (sic) Rowles formerly lived and which is now occupied by the said Thomas Dangerfield and also six cottages or tenements now or late in the several occupations of Messieurs Slade, Hawkins, Harding, Smallcomb, Leech and Barnett and three acres and three roods and twenty eight perches of tillage or arable land more or less, now in the occupation of Messieurs Harding, Brawn and others."⁵

From Henry Merrett's 1834 plan of Cheltenham, it is possible to ascertain the position of the pre-1832 houses. These lay partly on the west side of a lane leading out of Coltham Lane into Coltham Field and partly in a narrow road to the north of the future site of Rosehill Street, now known as Coltham Fields. Whether or not any of these pre-1832 houses have survived is uncertain, although it is possible that the present 2 Rosehill Street (also known as Waverley Lodge), a large house at the north-west corner of Rosehill Street, is the house successively occupied by Truman, Rowles and Dangerfield. If so, that house may have been known in 1840 as 3 Rosehill Street, for it was at that address that Dangerfield's wife Sarah died in July 1840.⁶ Dangerfield is himself listed as resident in Rosehill Street in the 1841 census, which also records the continued presence of several men mentioned in the 1832 conveyance to Dangerfield, namely gardeners Thomas Leech and Thomas Slade and agricultural labourers Samuel Brown (or Brawn) and William Harding.⁷

Thomas Dangerfield was responsible for establishing Rosehill Street sometime between 1832 and 1836, the year in which the first conveyances of building land in the street are recorded, and in which the street's earliest houses were built. Initially, Dangerfield's new 30 foot wide street ran eastwards for 420 feet from the already-mentioned lane leading out of Coltham Lane into Coltham Field. Not until later was it extended the short distance westwards into Coltham Lane, and although the earliest conveyances of building land in the street speak of "a road or street to be made by the said Thomas Dangerfield in a continuation of and of the same width as Rosehill Street in a direct line down into Coltham Lane", that continuation is not shown on the 1839 revised edition of Merrett's plan, and it may not in fact have been constructed until after the widening of Coltham Lane, and its re-naming as Hales Road, in

1847. However, once Rosehill Street had been extended westwards, the southern part of this original lane from Coltham Lane was no longer necessary, and its access from Coltham Lane (or Hales Road) was cut off and part of its site was turned into garden ground. It is now represented by the driveway on the west side of 1 and 3 Rosehill Street and by the narrow lane between 4 and 6 Rosehill Street.

Between 1836 and the drawing of the Cheltenham 'Old Town Survey' in 1855-7, a total of 35 houses and a small infant school was built in Rosehill Street.⁸ It seems likely that four houses on its north side were built by Dangerfield himself, including the present 24 Rosehill Street, which from at least 1844 until comparatively recent years served as the 'Black Horse inn'⁹. The remaining houses were built by a number of speculators from Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, each of whom purchased one or more plots of building land at prices averaging a little under £2 per foot of frontage. From the evidence contained in the Cheltenham Manor Court Books, it has been possible to identify the builders of 26 of the houses. They included such varied individuals as Samuel Onley jnr., a prominent Cheltenham architect and surveyor, who was responsible for building 7 houses; Job Bubb, a Cheltenham hairdresser, and William Ruck, a bath-house manager. The available evidence for the building of each house is as follows; in each case, the house numbers are those in current use:-

A. North side.

Nos. 18-24. No definite evidence, but probably built by Thomas Dangerfield, from whom No. 24 was conveyed, for £158, in 1844 (D855 Vol. 16, p.42). See also note 9, below.

No. 26. A plot 13 ft. x 84 ft. sold to Job Bubb, Cheltenham, hairdresser for £23-10-0 on 27 May 1836 (D855 Vol. 10, p.203).

No. 28. A plot 15ft. x 84 ft. sold to Job Bubb, Cheltenham, hairdresser for £30 on 13 March 1842 (D855 Vol. 10, p.254).

Nos. 30-34. A plot 42 ft. x 84 ft. sold to the Reverend J.F.S. Gabb, for £70 on 19 May 1837 (D855 Vol. 10, p.560). The site of Coltham Fields Infant School and schoolmistress' house. See also note 8, below.

Nos. 36-40. No information available.

Nos. 42-46. A plot 33ft. x 80 ft. sold to Samuel Onley jnr., Cheltenham, architect and surveyor for £49-10-0 on 3 November 1837 (D855 Vol.11, p.49).

Nos. 48-52. A plot 36 ft. x 80 ft. sold to Thomas Dyer, Charlton Kings, plasterer for £72 on 8 November 1850 (D855 vol. 21, p.14).

No. 54. A plot 11 ft. 9 3/4 ins. x 80 ft. sold to William Pratt, Charlton Kings, grocer for £60, March 1848; this purchase price also included the site of No. 64 (D855 Vol. 19, p.20).

Nos. 56-62. A plot 47 ft. 9 ins. x 80 ft. sold to Samuel Onley jnr., Cheltenham, architect and surveyor for £70 on 22 November 1839 (D855 Vol. 12, p.405).

No. 64. A plot 18 ft. x 80 ft. sold to William Pratt, Charlton Kings, grocer, March 1848. Purchase price included in details for No.54, above (D855 vol. 19, p.20).

No. 66. A plot 20 ft. x 83 ft. sold to Leonard Winters, Cheltenham, statuary mason for £40 on 4 March 1844 (D855 Vol. 15, p.459).

B. South side

Nos. 1-5. A plot 25 ft. on the north to Rosehill Street x 46 ft. at rear x 74 ft. to the old lane from Coltham Lane into Coltham Field sold to William Hooper, Charlton Kings, builder for £50 on 25 August 1836 (D855 vol. 10, p.295). On 8 December 1838, Hooper raised a £100 mortgage from William Draper, Cheltenham, brazier and tinman on the security of Nos. 1-3, then being built (D855 Vol. 11, p.460). On 28 May 1841, the completed houses were sold to William Nelmes, Charlton Kings, timber merchant for £210 and the mortgage was repaid (D855 Vol. 13, p.360).

Also on 8 December 1838, Hooper sold the site of No. 5 (a plot 12 ft. x 74ft.) to Benjamin Hill, Cheltenham, tailor for £26. Hill subsequently built the house (D855 Vol. 11, p.459).

No. 7. A plot 15 ft. x 68 ft. sold to Joseph Graham, Cheltenham, plumber for £30 on 11 November 1836 (D855 Vol. 10, p.387).

No. 9. A plot 15 ft. x 70 ft. sold to Charles Green, Cheltenham, carpenter for £30 on 11 May 1838 (D855 Vol. 11, p.201).

No. 11. Not built until after 1855-7.

Nos. 15-17. A plot 22 ft. x 70 ft. sold to Richard Crosier, Charlton Kings, plasterer for £40 on 19 March 1846 (D855 Vol. 17, p.268).

Nos. 19-21. No information available.

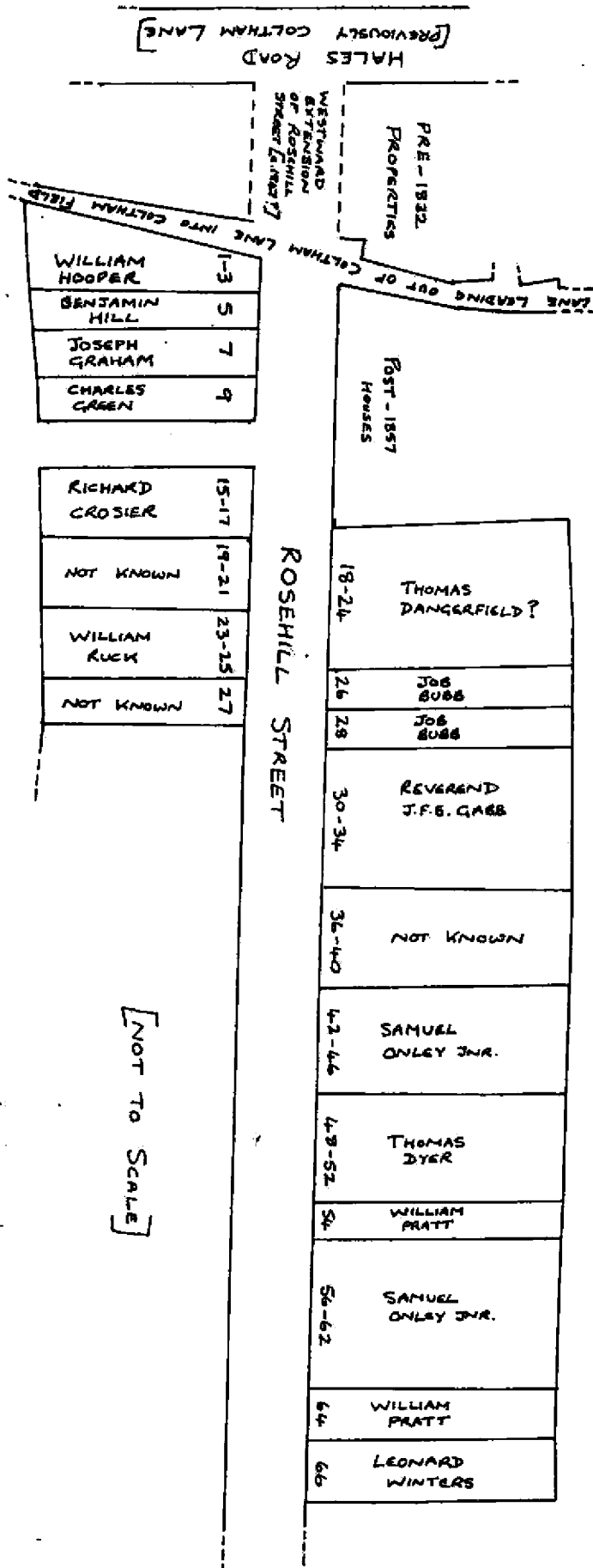
Nos. 23-25. A plot 23 ft. x 72 ft. sold to William Ruck, Cheltenham, Manager of the baths for £40 on 11 November 1842. (D855 Vol. 14, p. 424).

No. 27. No information available.

Notes

1. The admission of William Truman to the land, which was copyhold of the manor of Cheltenham is recorded in G.R.O. D855 (Cheltenham Manor Court Books) Vol. M16, p.478 (21 Feb. 1778). The surrenders and admissions of land in Coltham Field and Rosehill Street contained in the Court Books are the major source for this account.
2. G.R.O. D855 Vol. M24, p. 438 (21 Oct. 1813).
3. G.R.O. D855 Vol. 1, p.216.
4. The burial of 'Ann Rolls', aged 80, is recorded in the Bishops' Transcripts of the Charlton Kings Parish Register, 28 Aug. 1831 (G.R.O.)
5. G.R.O. D855 Vol. 7, p.444.
6. Cheltenham Journal, 6 July 1840.
7. Census Enumerators Books, on microfilm in Cheltenham Library.
8. Details of all the known conveyances are given below, and are shown on the accompanying plan of Rosehill Street, which is based on the 1855-7 Old Town Survey (copy in G.R.O.). For the history of the Infant School see S. Blake, 'Some notes of Coltham Fields Infants' School' (CKL.H.S. Bulletin 4, pp. 33-5).
9. 24 Rosehill Street was purchased by John Humphreys, yeoman, on 10 May 1844 (G.R.O. D855 Vol. 16, p.43); by August 1846 Humphreys is described as a publican (G.R.O. D855 Vol. 17, p.444). In 1844, the house was known as 5 Rosehill Street.

Building plots in Rosehill Street, based on Court Book evidence and the 1855-7 'Old Town Survey'.





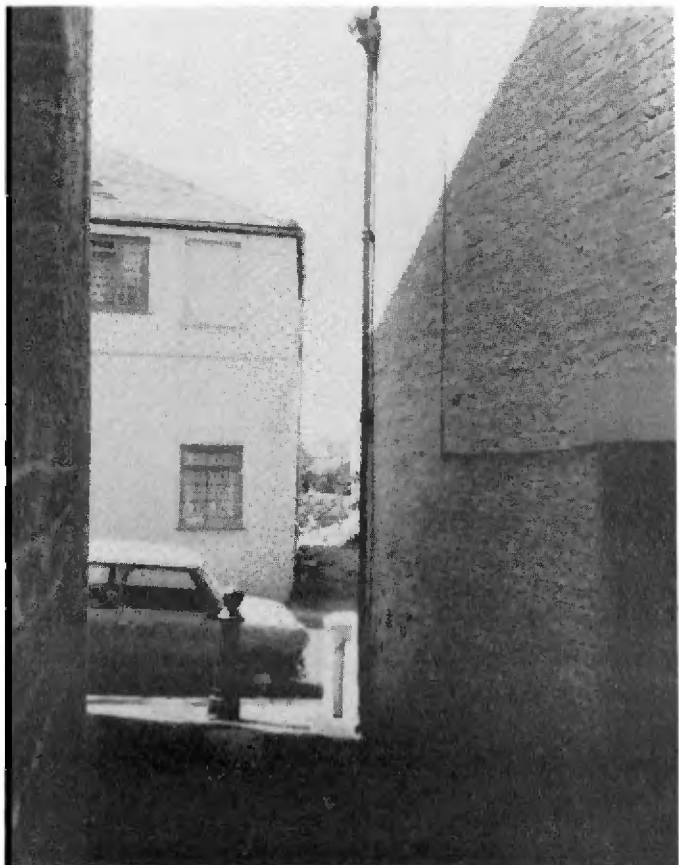
1. The south side of Rosehill Street, showing Nos. 3-15; No. 1 Rosehill Street is at the rear of No. 3. There is no No. 13.



2. The north side of Rosehill Street, showing Nos. 6-8 and 18-28. The metal bracket which once held an inn sign may be seen on No. 24, formerly the 'Black Horse Inn'.



3-4. Two photographs of the former lane leading from Coltham Lane into Coltham Field, seen approaching Rosehill Street from the north, between Nos. 4 and 6 Rosehill Street. Opposite the lane, on the south side of the street, is No. 3 Rosehill Street.



Dr. Steven Blake

8. A LUNATIC IN BETHLEM HOSPITAL: 1770-1782

Between 1770 and 1782 the Overseers of the Poor in Charlton paid for the maintenance of Richard Holliday in Bethlem Hospital, London. Bills covering a year's expenses were sent out each December and paid promptly. Maintenance cost 2s 6d per week plus necessaries, which included the cost of clothes. "Necessaries" cost £2.12.6 in 1774; £4.1.8 in 1775; £2.11.6 in 1776.

In 1779 Holliday's requirements evidently included

4 April 1779	2 pair shoes, 2 pair stockings	13s 6d
1 July 1779	1 pair shoes, cap, handkerchief	6s 9d
3 December 1779	Coat, waistcoat, breeches	£1.12.2
	2 pair shoes, 2 pair stockings, 3 shirts, cap, handkerchief	£1.2.6

Clothes provided by the Hospital were charged for at the rates below:

	<u>Men</u>		<u>Women</u>
Coat	16s 6d	Gown/Petticoat	19s 0d
Waistcoat	6s 4d	Under petticoat	3s 3d
Breeches	9s 4d	Shift	3s 4d
Shirt	3s 11d	Apron	2s 2d
Shoes	4s 6d	Shoes	3s 1d
Stockings	2s 3d	Stockings	1s 10d
Cap	1s 0d	Cap	1s 0d
Blanket gown	10s 6d	Blanket gown	10s 6d
Strait waistcoat	13s 6d	Handkerchief	1s 3d
Buckles	0s 8d	Buckles	0s 8d

Source:- GRO P 76 OV 2/15

M.J. Greet

9. AN EARLY PROPOSAL FOR A RAILWAY THROUGH CHARLTON KINGS. 1836

In accordance with legal requirements, the proposers of a Railway to link Cheltenham with London deposited their plans with the Clerk of the Peace in Gloucestershire, and these are now in the Gloucester Records Office. (Q/RUM 145). The following article is based on an examination of the plans, together with the Book of Reference which contains "the names of the owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessees and occupiers of the lands in, or through which the Railway is proposed to be made".

Map no. 1 shows the line as it affected Charlton Kings, whilst Map no. 2 is an enlargement of sections A - D.

The engineer whose plans these are was Captain W.S. Moorsom.

The proposed line was to start from "the junction of the Birmingham, Gloucester & Cheltenham & GWU Railways near the 'new' Gloucester Road, to follow the line of the Gloucester to Cheltenham Tramway through Alstone, Cheltenham East, & then Northeast across Tivoli, Park Place, Great Norwood Street, Bath Road and London Road...." entering Charlton Kings south of the London Road through

orchards and pasture owned by John Humphris.

The Book of Reference gives the names of the owners and occupiers of each property numbered on the map, but space forbids a complete list here. One or two details of interest can be noted:

No. 7 was a brick ground owned by Charles Cooke Higgs. No.46 was a garden with a lime kiln, owned by William Whitmore, leased by Richard Bastin, whilst no.47 and 47a were gardens and a fishpond owned and leased by the same two. Richard Bastin lived at no.48 where he had a cottage and shed...William Whitmore owned, in fact, all the land from no.46 to no.51a., with the exception of no.49a which was a brick ground owned by Mary King but leased by Whitmore and no.50 which was the Beaufort Arms, stables and outbuildings. The owners here were Charles Turk and John Craddock, but it was mortgaged and the mortgagee in possession was Samuel Tumbrell an Infant Heir at law of Mrs. Jephthah Tumbrell, Mortgagor. The occupier was John Mann.

Other properties shown from nos. 3 to 51 are cottages and gardens in various ownership and occupation.

The Turnpike gate and tollhouse were owned by the Trustees of the Cheltenham District Turnpike Roads and leased to Thomas Hale. Pasture and arable land follow here, together with brickyards at nos. 54 and 56 all land in the ownership of Charles Cooke Higgs, mostly leased by John Hayward. Nos. 60 to 62 were orchards and pasture owned by Higgs whilst John Hayward owned gardens 63a-c.

The small cottages and gardens marked 72 to 76 were all owned and leased by various people. No.77 was a timber yard and workshop. The larger plots with houses were variously owned and leased, the Gales and Higgs owning parts. No.87 was a farmhouse with outbuildings whilst the surrounding land was pasture, with a marle pit at no.84 all owned by the Gales, leased by John James. There were brick fields at no.91 where the clay pit is marked on the map. Pasture, orchards and arable land all follow, with the small cottages and gardens (97-101) all owned and leased by various people. Another brickfield at 106 and the pasture land up to the boundary with Dowdeswell was in the ownership of several families namely Lawrence, Sanderson, Prinn, Skelton, Lovesy, Gale and others. Nos. 170 and 173 were held by the Trustees of the Poor of Charlton Kings (Higgs, Lovesy, Bradshaw & Skelton).

These plans were deposited with the Clerks of the Peace and were open to public inspection. There must have been many objections of which we have no knowledge, but one that has survived in the Gloucester Record Office is a letter from Hester Rogers of Dowdeswell which must be typical of many. (D269A Z2).

"To the Hon. the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled. The Humble Petition of Hester Rogers of Dowdeswell in the County of Gloucester, Spinster. Against the Act for making a Railway from Cheltenham to join the London & Birmingham Railway at Tring in Herts, and to be called the Cheltenham, Oxford and London & Birmingham Railway".

Her letter states that she is the owner of a large and valuable Family Estate at Dowdeswell forming a compact estate of 1000 acres combining as well a commanding view of the some of the most beautiful and picturesque scenery in the County of Gloucester...She goes on to say that about five years previously she had pulled down the old Family Residence and erected her present mansion at an expence of upwards of £15000 on the same site which "commands a delightful view of Dowdeswell Wood."

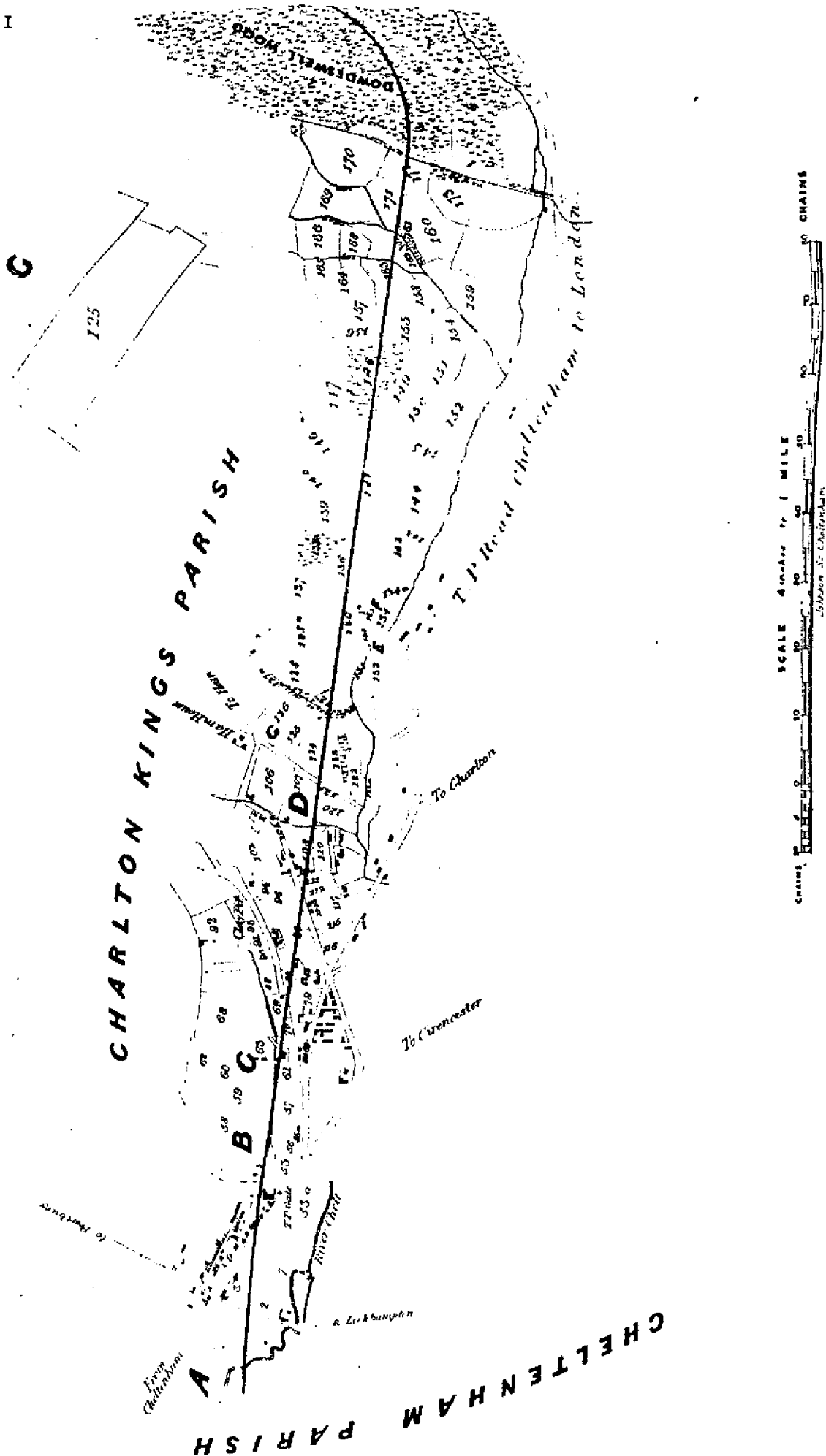
In short, her objections were such as can easily be imagined:

1. that the gradient of the inclined plane along the side of the hill would be a danger to the public
2. that the stationary engine and steam engine needed to haul the train up the said inclined plane would be visible from her mansion and so near it as to become "a great Desight and Nuisance thereto";
3. that her view would be ruined and her property greatly devalued
4. that the line would involve 70 miles of track at vast expence
5. that the line would be of no value to Cheltenham, which was not a manufacturing or commercial centre, but a fashionable watering place
6. that it "would sanction an unnecessary and wanton invasion of private property, without any public advantage...."
7. no adequate compensation had been offered

She ends by reminding the Commons of the Constitutional Privilege "that protects any individual of this country from being dispossessed of his freehold against his consent without paramount public necessity". In the event, she won this battle, but her successors continued to battle with both Railway proposers and Water Boards, with what results you are all familiar.

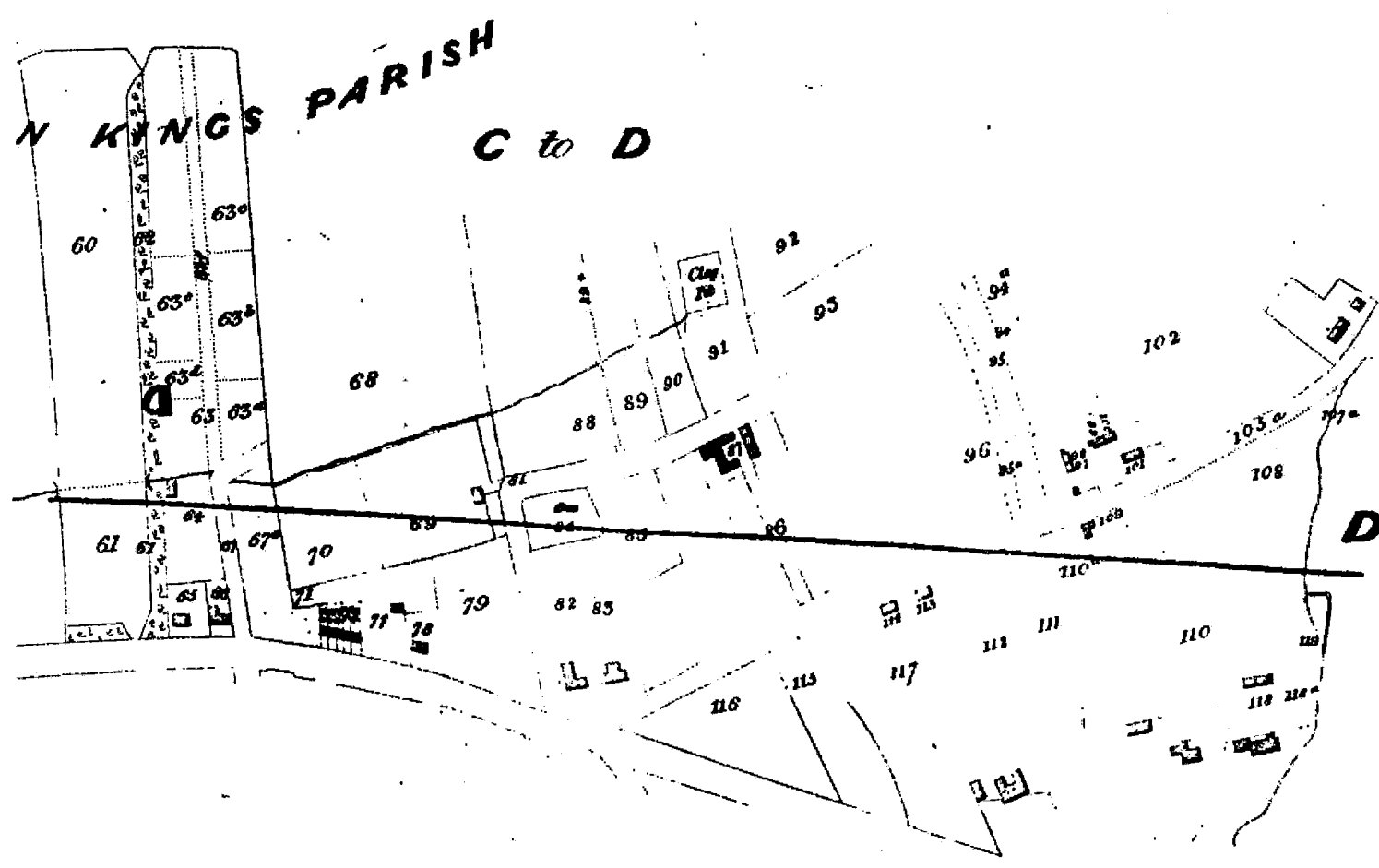
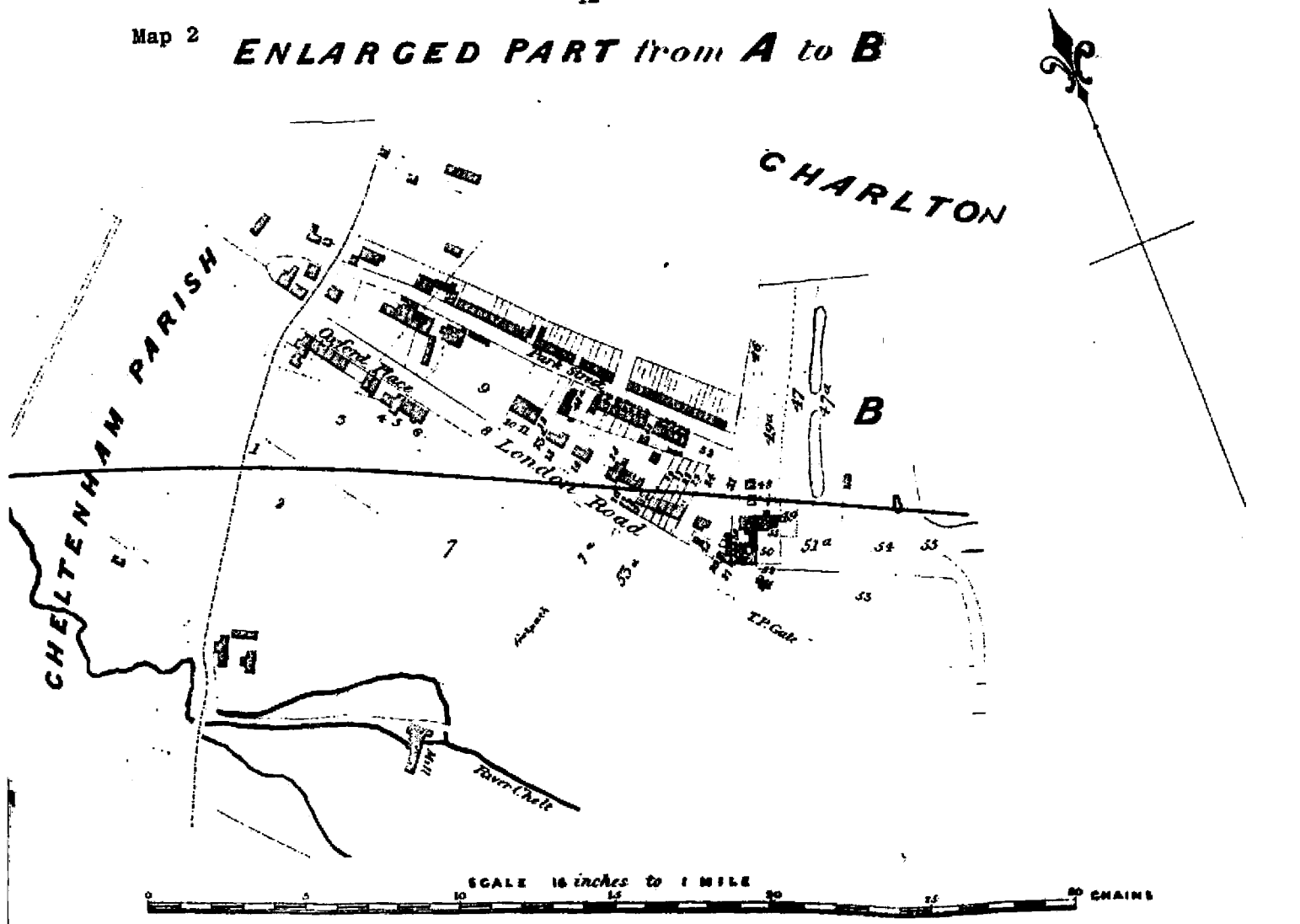
A. Johnson

Map I



Map 2

ENLARGED PART from A to B



10. MEMORIES OF SOME SCHOOL DAYS IN CHARLTON KINGS c 1916-1921

A familiar sight in London Road during the years of the first World War was a sedate crocodile of school children, mostly girls, directed from the rear by a lady of somewhat stern appearance - Miss Alice Elizabeth Howman Roche - who was taking the boarders from Trefaldwyn to the Council Chambers (Charlton King's UDC offices at Six Ways, the red brick building with two "pavilions" for the Rates Office and the Weighbridge Office, built in 1901). This building was rented by Miss Roche as a "Girls' School, Preparatory for Boys and Kindergarten" as the brass plate announced. Day girls who lived near joined the procession and those from surrounding parts of Charlton Kings went direct to the Council Chamber.

I remember the large Council table on the left, desks in the space on the right, a curtain separating the main room into two parts and a narrow room with a trestle table beyond that. When the monthly Council meeting was held, we had an afternoon holiday.

About the actual syllabus I remember little. One eccentric teacher was Miss Jordan who dealt with history and treated us from time to time to a recitation with the refrain "King Charles, King Charles, King Charles" delivered with fully expressive melancholy. She always taught in a hat - big flat hats - and her hair in a big bun with whisps hanging out. I called her "Gabble Jordan" because that was how she talked. We learnt some French and our pronunciation was basically good as there was a resident exchange teacher/student from time to time. In the School generally there was little study of English, either language or literature. There was greater stress on elementary Mathematics, Arithmetic, Geometry, and above all, Algebra! All those were based on a thorough learning of multiplication tables; but Algebra was done to a very high standard. When I went to the Grammar School I found myself already doing Fifth Form algebra and Maths when I was put into Upper 3 A!

Two outstanding Courses were "extras" at a guinea a term! Art was in charge of Miss Ethel J. Wingate, who came weekly and gave us some introduction to painting, often based on grouped articles with drapery or on a supply of pictures we had to copy. Miss Wingate held an annual exhibition of the work of her pupils in various Cheltenham schools and prizes were awarded after adjudication by an artist known to her.

The Course which has been of great benefit to me throughout my life was Elocution with Madame Ethel Irving. I have always been thankful for the thorough training she provided, of the utmost benefit to me in my training and study of English and in later teaching and my training of others. She was meticulous about final consonants, facial and vocal expression, and above all - audibility.

The uniform for boarders, optional for day-girls, consisted of a navy alpacca yoked dress with double box pleats at back and front and a white collar, with long black stockings. A felt or straw hat was worn, with a hatband with TS for Trefaldwyn School, subsequently "Charlton Kings Collegiate School".

One or two boarders lived with Miss Roche all the year round and occasionally were taken to Welshpool for the Summer. A local "fly-proprietor" provided a horse-drawn cab to take them to the Station, St. James, and I was sometimes invited to go with them in the "fly" for the ride!

In later years the School was held at Linden Lawn, using converted stabling as well as the house itself. I believe that eventually it moved into Cheltenham, but that was after my day - so my recollections of "Miss Roche's" have come to an end.

Ethel M. Linder (nee Walker)

A SCHOOL GROUP AT LINDEN LAWN - lent by Barbara Holloway, c.1921.

members identified by Barbara Holloway and Sybil Turner.

Back Row

1. Pat Smith (boarder) 2. Clarice Hacker (her parents had a laundry at East End)
3. Rita Turner. 4. Margaret Lawrence from Bourton on the Water
5. Peggy New from Andoversford 6 and 7 Geoffrey Wilfred and William Edwin
Clifford (known as Will and Edwin) 8. Burrows 9. George Finch from
Andoversford 10 - 11. ? Walter Dale from Andoversford.

Row 2

1. Gladys Burrows 2. ? Mary Youngs 3. 'Nippo' Norman 4 -
5. Winnie Smith (boarder) 6. ? - Connell 7. - 8. Muriel Glead
9. Ethel Walker 10 Bessie Finch 11 - 12 -
13. Sybil Turner of London Road.

Row 3

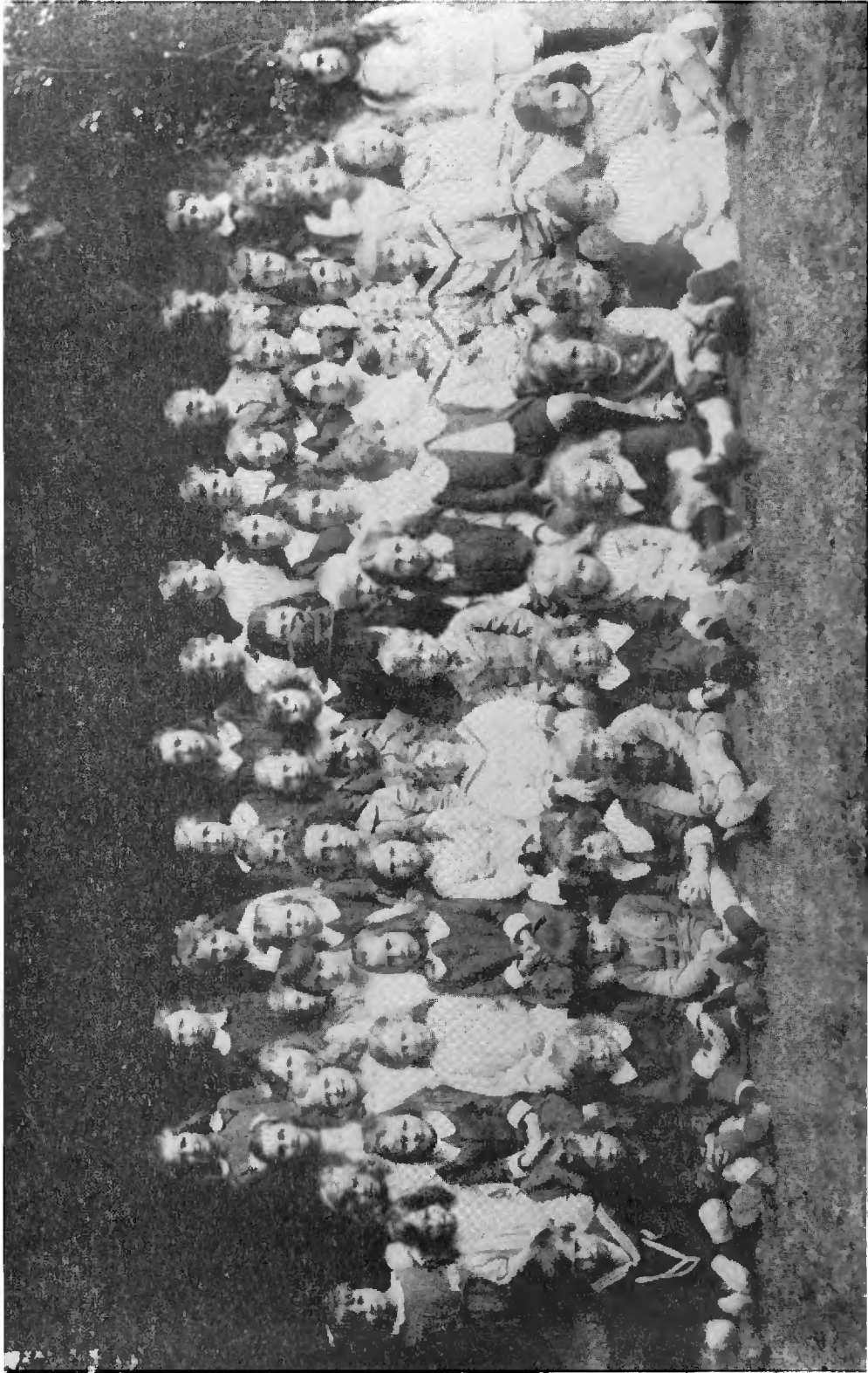
1. Margaret Hawkins 3. Sybil "Bunchie" Turner 3. Sunshine Edwards
4. A teacher 5. Miss Jordan 6. - Jackson
7. Miss Roche 8. - 9. Miss Amy Roche (a niece)
10. Mdlle Blanche Tourraille 11. Betty Williamson 12. Louise Alcorn
13. - Campbell

Row 4

1. ?Grace Davis 2. - 3. Merrily Thomas 4. - New 5. -
6. Billy Burnett, now in Canada. 7. - 8. - 9. Francis Van Nest
10. - 11. Willie Bloxham 12. Gladys Thomas

Front Row

1. - 2. Margaret Parkin 3. Ruth Davidson 4. Bobby Holloway
5. Barbara Holloway 6. Biddy Norman 7. -
8. Evelyn Harden of Lyefield Road East 9. - ?Randall
10. Ivy Glover 11. - 12. ?Esme Norris
13. Barbara Joan Hawkins





MISS ROCHE AS I REMEMBER HER

My connection with "Miss Roche's" goes back to 1919, when she was still using the Council Offices as a schoolroom. Faith Lamb and I shared a governess but one winter we were taken an afternoon a week to join Miss Roche's girls' gymnastic class at Miss Woodward's in Royal Crescent - we two were about the youngest there. For gymn we all wore navy blue gymn slips and white girdles, twice as wide as ordinary school girdles - Miss Woodward or her assistant hung on to these as we tried to climb the ropes or negotiate the parallel bars! I much admired the crocodile of big girls in their navy blue outfits and orange hatbands - later the colour was changed and they wore pale blue, pale green, and white in stripes.

I was sent to Pates in 1921 and to CLC in 1923. But in September 1922 my brother Colin started at Linden Lawn along with Harry and Douglas Freegard and their elder sister Evelyn. Even then it struck me, that the house with its big room running right through might have been an inn at one time (as indeed it had). I was much taken with Miss Roche's ostrich egg on a carved stand, and her globe - the first I'd seen - so when she saw I was interested she told me about the theory of Continental drift, an unpopular notion at that time. Later on she lent me a book on costume which revealed medieval people as fashion-conscious - I'd vaguely pictured them all as they were drawn in story books, with high hinnies and hanging sleeves!

Miss Roche herself was an impressive person - slight and bony, with brown eyes like a bird's, sunk deep in her face - I've never seen anyone with such huge eye sockets. She always insisted on good manners and correct speech - her children had to say "Yes, Miss Roche", "No, Miss Roche", which sounded old-fashioned even in those days. I believe she was a strict teacher - I'm told no one dared to misbehave when she was in the room - thought I do remember one of the little boys in trouble for putting a pea up his nose by way of diversion! Anyway I know Colin learnt to read and write in double-quick time.

One of the permanent boarders was Winnie, a handsome auburn-haired girl, who often came to our house in holiday time - she acted in the plays we devised every holiday and we all went long walks together. I recall an especially pleasant summer holiday walk led by Miss Roche in person through Dowdeswell Woods, to a part I'd never previously reached, to find some less common wild flowers.

Then for two summers running, our parents sent us on holiday with Miss Roche's party of children to the Welsh coast, the first year to a remote farm near Towyn and the next year to Harlech. She had a knack of making very simple things seem special - a late evening walk (when we would normally have been going to bed) to see the sun sink in a glorious fiery ball into the sea, a visit to Shell Island, a walk through foxglove-filled lanes to a distant country church for Sunday Service, an evening with a dressing-up box. I guess now that she always had to manage on a shoe-string and I know she had much trouble with her landlord over repairs - this led to the removal of the school from Linden Lawn to Darley House in Carlton Street, where I often called to see Winnie. Then when I was thinking of teaching as a career and was going on a walking holiday in Germany, Miss Roche let me give history lessons to her children in return for German lessons from her student, a very helpful arrangement from my point of view. I ought to have benefitted more than I did, but it was the long vacation, lovely summer

weather, and tennis every afternoon----!

As an education, Miss Roche's was a bit haphazard and muddle-y, no good for the ambitious; but there was no sense of being pressured and perhaps for some children that wasn't a bad thing. Many of her little boys went a long way and have done very well.

M. Paget

11. NOTES AND CORRECTIONS

(1) The Ryland Family

George Ryland writes "Far be it from me to criticize anything in the work of such a meticulous Lady. But as she has made such a point of emphasizing her errata, I can do nothing but attempt to help.

My last article describes the Ryland family as a "lovely family". The Rylands LOVELY!!! Never in my most egoistical moments could I have fathered such a prevarication. LIVELY - yes, but LOVELY, NO!!

But you see, we would drop on a word that if you poke its intestines about comes back at you! In my youth I wrote to a maiden and I hoped to tell her she was lovely. But this is a case in point, she also misread my writing - and never spoke to me again!"

(2) Ministers of Charlton - Bulletin 16

(a) Humfrey Randoll (page 48)

Mr. Humfrey Randell was preaching minister at Leckhampton in June 1650 (Hockaday s.v. Leckhampton). This explains his availability to baptise Robert Gale at Charlton Kings in March 1650/1.

Eric Miller

(b) pp 48-9 Two misprints in dates - 1622 for 1662 for Thomas Harrison and 1700 for 1710 for Morgan Leyson's BA.

Rosemary Ashe

(c) page 50 Who was John de la Bere, said to have been Minister in 1783? A John de la Bere, cousin of Kinard de la Bere, is mentioned in the latter's will dated 1732 (GRO D 1637/P 34) but this is too early for a man who was active here in 1783. John Bagott de la Bere was incumbent of Badgeworth 1759-1779 before moving to Prestbury, so we must rule him out too.

J. Sale

(d) Susanna wife of the Rev. Mr. Glasse was buried here on 7 May 1800. But Glasse cannot have been minister at Charlton Kings, for according to the 1629 arrangement, our ministers had to be celibate; he was probably a Cheltenham visitor.

(3) Wartime Peals page 26

Bells were silenced during the War. But the peal rung 16 February 1944 was (I am informed) the Allamein Victory peal, which was allowed.