

CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



BULLETIN 34

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Cover picture - Old Dole Farm, sketched by Ken Venus

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1. THE STORY OF PERCY JAMES

Percy James died in 1993 - if he'd lived another week, he'd have been 93. He was born in 1900 in East End where his parents lived then, he remembered going ratting at the Beehive with his father when he was a little boy, the first place where he had a drink. But he was brought up mainly by his Uncle Randall in School Road. His better-known uncle was Charlie Randall of Woodland Farm, who used to sell milk in Charlton Kings (see Bulletin 27 p 46). Uncle Randall used to take Percy about on his bicycle, sometimes as far as Westrip to see a relation.

Percy's first work was at Bafford Farm milking cows for Mr Jones - there he lived in. He made a friend in Billy Peart who also helped with the milking. Next Percy went to work at Hasleton for Sam Hughes (grandfather of John Hughes who lives on Ham Hill). There he was gamekeeping and rabbiting which was what he loved most. While Percy was at Hasleton, one of Sam Hughes' sons, probably Hughie, went to Farmcote by Ford and Percy took a wagon with all his furniture from Hasleton to Farmcote for him. But when Percy became 16 he wanted to get back to Charlton Kings.

Then at 18 he was called up and went into the Remount - he was always horsy - they were people who organised horses for the Army. Percy went to Honeyborne where they were breaking in horses. When they were broken, he used to deliver them, 6 at a time, 3 abreast, riding one and leading the other five on halters. The first day was Honeyborne to Winchcombe where they were stabled and he stayed the night - then over Cleeve Hill to Southam, then to Swindon Lane, down Kingsditch Lane to the Cross Hands, across the road to Hayden Lane and all over Hayden Hill to Staverton by the Plough, then turned right on the old Cheltenham to Gloucester road, through Gloucester to the Remount camp at Quedgeley. They supplied him with one horse to ride home all the way back the way he'd come. About 25 years ago a lady in Charlton Kings told him she remembered him coming over the hill with the horses.

He did that 1918 to about 1920 and then they were looking for Volunteers to go abroad, so he went on a troopship to Asia Minor and was with the Remount there, looking after Officers' horses - used to ride the horses into the sea to cool them, it was so hot. The Officers had a pack of hounds! Then he rode in Turkey chasing bandits - was abroad a couple of years and eventually came back on a troopship calling at Cyprus, Malta, and Gibraltar. When he arrived back in Charlton Kings he went to see Sam Hughes who said "If you'd stayed with me, you wouldn't have needed to do all that!" But he'd enjoyed the experience.

His first job in England was at Crystal Palace guiding men being demobbed and taking them to the right Railway Stations - I don't know when he learnt his way about London!

Then Percy worked for a time at Northfield Farm. A friend lived in that little cottage on Aggs Hill and when he left Percy took his furniture in a wagon down to Bushey near Tewkesbury for him. Percy knew Herbert Lord at Lilleybrook who was selling the estate - financial difficulties - the Golf Club was starting and Percy went to help about 1922-3 when they were digging the bunkers and making the greens; and when my father did haymaking on the golf course for them, Percy used to pull the haycocks down on a tractor to load them into the wagon. They were quarrying at Leckhampton then, had a railway across Southfield Farm to Charlton Kings station. One day some loaded trucks ran away and smashed into a train!

Percy's brother Bill worked originally for Comley of Naunton at Westfield and at Minster Lovell, and while he was there Percy cycled over to see him. He rode a terrible bicycle so it was a real labour. Percy's bike was stolen outside a pub by a man said to have a funny walk -

Father said "If he stole Percy's bike, he would have a funny walk!" Percy and Dad used to go to the Cotswold together.

Rabbits were a problem up at Old Dole - Dad had grown corn on that square field that runs up into the wood, but the rabbits had become a real pest, trapping or shooting didn't keep them down. About 1950 I fell out with Percy over that - he'd been putting traps down our burrows in the Sixteen Acres - then someone told Dad he could clean all the rabbits out so I removed Percy's traps and he was very upset. I shouldn't have done it - of course the other fellows were no good, couldn't catch half. Myxymetosis was the best thing that happened for farmers - after that we could grow corn where we couldn't before.

Percy worked for the Council for 10 years till he was 65. Arthur Wright and Jack Barnfield were two who worked with him. But the Golf Course was half Percy's life (besides rabbiting up here!) and they wanted him back because he knew about the making of the course and where all the drains were, when they were making the reservoir. So Percy went on working for the Club till he was 75 - for 45 years altogether - and they gave him a gold watch.

Once Percy found a hedgehog on the road and to save it from being run over he took it to his garden - the plot was fenced with rabbit wire. After 10 years he was moving to Hearne Flats and thought he'd take his garden shed to his allotment, (where the school now is) and there under the shed he found the hedgehog still alive and active. So he took him to the allotment too. Hedgehogs aren't supposed to live as long as that.

Percy lived in several houses in Charlton, the first was in Hamlett's Yard in Horsefair Street; then in Thornton's Row; finally in a Council maisonette - No 1 Hearne Road Flats - he was there for 30 years. In the end as he couldn't get into Grevill House, he went into a Nursing Home in Hales Road.

BOB DAVIS

2. FARMING AS IT WAS

Percy building a rick at Old Dole



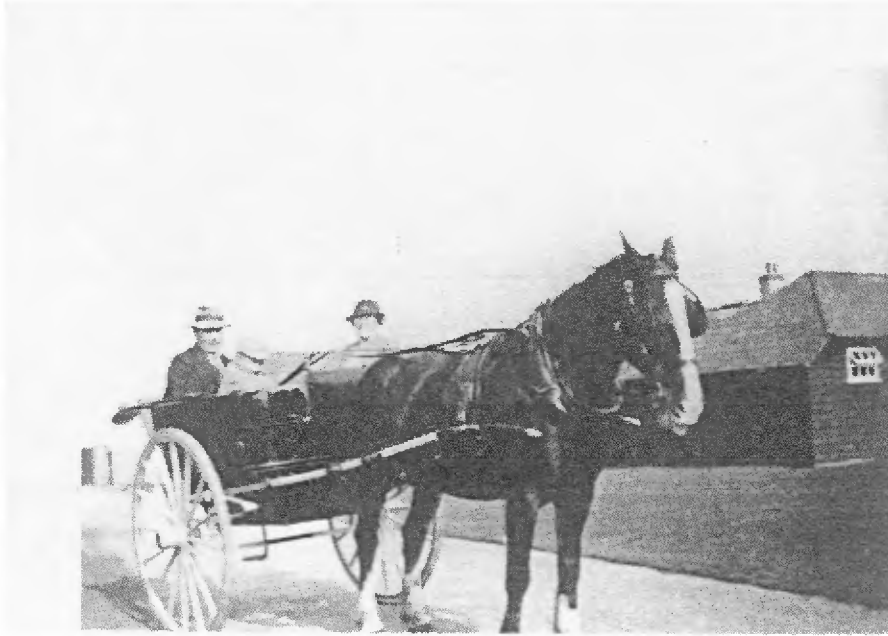
Hay and Corn Ricks at Old Dole



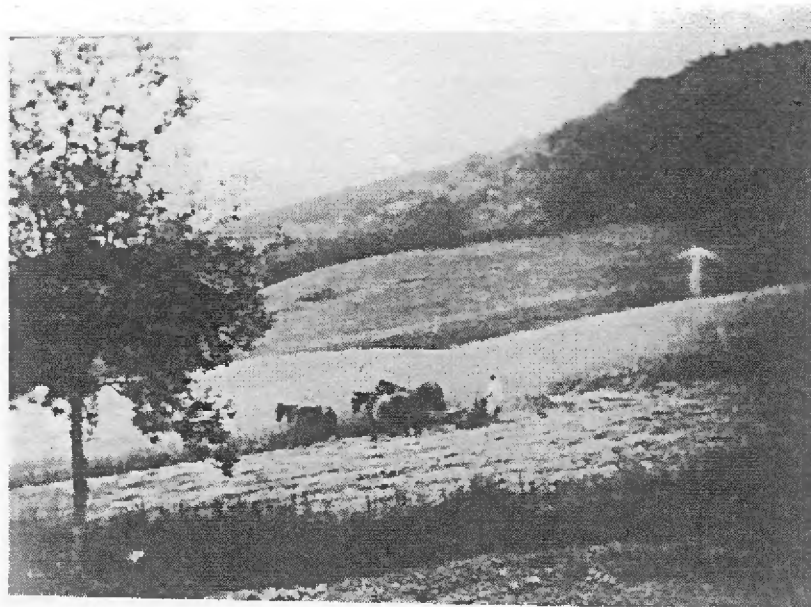
Moses Davis at Old Dole



Mr and Mrs Moses Davis and Starlight
(see Bulletins 5 and 7)



Harvesting in Oakley's Patch, Old Dole Farm about 1928



Hauling Corn, Old Dole 1928



The Last Horse-Harvesting at California 1948



"There's been more change this century in farming than will ever be again."

Photographs lent by Mr. R.DAVIS

3. OLD DOLE FARM

The name Old Dole goes back to 1557 at least. In the first inclosure list, Katherine Gale an Ashley base tenant holding 41 acres was allowed to inclose 3 acres in "Oldole". Seven years later, John Gale her successor for the same 41 acres inclosed 6 acres "in Ravensgate and Old Dole" and at the same time Henry Smith holding 44 acres was allowed to inclose 6, some of it at Old Dole (Bulletin 30 p 19). Smith's was probably the meadow or pasture which by 1702 was held by Edmund Welch and Mary his wife. On 5 May of that year they surrendered to Robert Gale husbandman and Mary his wife "all that close of meadow or pasture called Old Dole in Charlton Kings, with land of Robert Gale on the south and of Thomas Moulder on the north". The heriot was 5s (Ashley manor original surrenders D109/no 124). Then on 23 December 1727 Robert Gale the elder and his wife settled land including Old Doles and Little Old Doles on Robert Gale the younger and his wife Izard (ibid C91)

In 1775 the Gale family still held 3 closes called Old Dole, New Loons and Oakeys, with land at Ravensgate and under the hill. This they surrendered on 29 April 1775 to use of John Collet of Coln Rogers gentleman and Martha Humphreys of Charlton Kings widow (D109/1). She was a granddaughter of Richard Whithorne. Martha surrendered on 2 October 1780 to trustees a part of her share, consisting of a messuage or homestead at a place called Ravensgate late occupied by William Young and after by Nehemiah Robinson, with land including closes called Old Dole, New Loons, and Oakeys Ground. The rest of her land Martha surrendered in 1795 to Conway Whithorne of Dursley and a year later, in 1796, Collett surrendered all his moiety to Whithorne too (D109/1). So, though the phrase "a messuage and Homestead and land at a place called Ravensgate" could on the face of it apply either to Old Dole or to Hill Farm/California, the history of the two shows it must have been Old Dole farmhouse which was built before 1780.

Thomas Humphris sold Old Dole to Dodington Hunt in 1801 and the Charlton Park survey of 1843 shows John Rowland as tenant there with a total of 65.3.16 acres, 46.2.2 of it arable, 18.3.36 grass, 0.1.36 "other".(see History p 43) At that time and subsequently, Old Dole was predominately corn growing. Hill Farm/California belonged to the Coxhorne estate from 1796 to 1866 and was in the main a dairy farm.

Place Names of Gloucestershire has confused the story of Old Dole by suggesting (on the strength of a map of 1830) that "Old Dole" is really "Old Hole". But the map-maker was misled by the quarry hole near the farm buildings, from which the stone for the original house and existing barn may have been extracted between 1775 and 1780.

Between 1862 and 1870 the farmhouse was rebuilt by Sir William Russell. This is not likely to have happened before 1862 when Russell bought both Charlton Hill and Ravensgate Hill (subject to copyholders's rights) from the manor of Cheltenham (GRO D1388 SL4). Then he had suitable building stone within easy reach. The new house was in Russell's "simple tudor" style and the stone is beautifully cut, with dressed stone going right down below the then ground level to the foundations. Bob Davis says the stone came from the quarry at the west end of Ravensgate, where the workings can still be seen, and was brought along the cart track under the escarpment; according to Bob the work was never quite finished.

Tenants have included:

1858	(Rate book)	Thomas Ballinger
1881	(Burial register)	Sarah Tuffly of Old Dole farm buried 30 April
1882	(Rate book)	Robert Palmer Tuffley
1892	(Rate book)	Robert Palmer Tuffley buried 18 June aged 77
1897	(Rate book)	George Robert Burchall

Till the end of the century, the farm still belonged to Russell's mortgagees. After that, Bob Davis says, his grandfather Edwin Charles Davis (who died in 1928) bought Old Dole farm. He was a butcher and had shops in Cheltenham Lower High Street and for the classy trade one in Gloucester Road (that shop went on till a few months ago under the name of Gilbert Tudge). But his son Moses didn't want to be a butcher so Grandfather bought him the farm, and Bob was born there in 1932. Father used to drive him and other children to school in his trap. He got his dinner at the Merry Fellow kept by Tom Dyer (who died about 1940) and Mrs Dyer was always good to him. Then he went to the Grammar School under the head after Dobson - at 16 they wanted him to go on and take Higher Certificate but he wanted to farm.

They delivered milk to Rossley Manor and to places in Charlton Kings including Colonel Levison at Acomb House. Frank Fisher did the milk round, at that time he had a little cottage in Church Piece, near where the Stanton room now is.

Then Moses Davis sold Old Dole in 1942 to Mrs Cordeaux for what his father gave for it, and the family became tenants of the Whithorne estate under her husband Captain Cordeaux.

At California Farm the barn is well built and old but originally the house was only badly built cottages. Harry Hewer was there for most of the early part of this century, an old man who used to go round sawing up people's wood for them with a saw on the back of his car driven by the engine. In the '30s he used to run motor cycle scrambles at California - one of Percy's relations had her leg broken at one - and they were having scrambles at Ashgrove, Sid Holder's place, all the time. They wanted the Davises to do the same at Old Dole but they wouldn't, it wasn't worth it for the sake of a shilling people paid to watch, not so much the damage the machines did to the tracks as the way people would make gaps in the hedges. When Harry Hewer went to live in a Bungalow at the corner of Dowdeswell Wood, a chap called Russell took California and had a milk round.

By 1953 Moses Davis and his son were able to buy California from Captain Cordeaux, and later on they bought back Old Dole from Mrs Cordeaux. In 1961 it was sold again to Dr A.W. Mucklow, who dug out the basement and so without any re-building gave the farm an extra storey. I saw over the house in September 1981 at the sale of his effects.

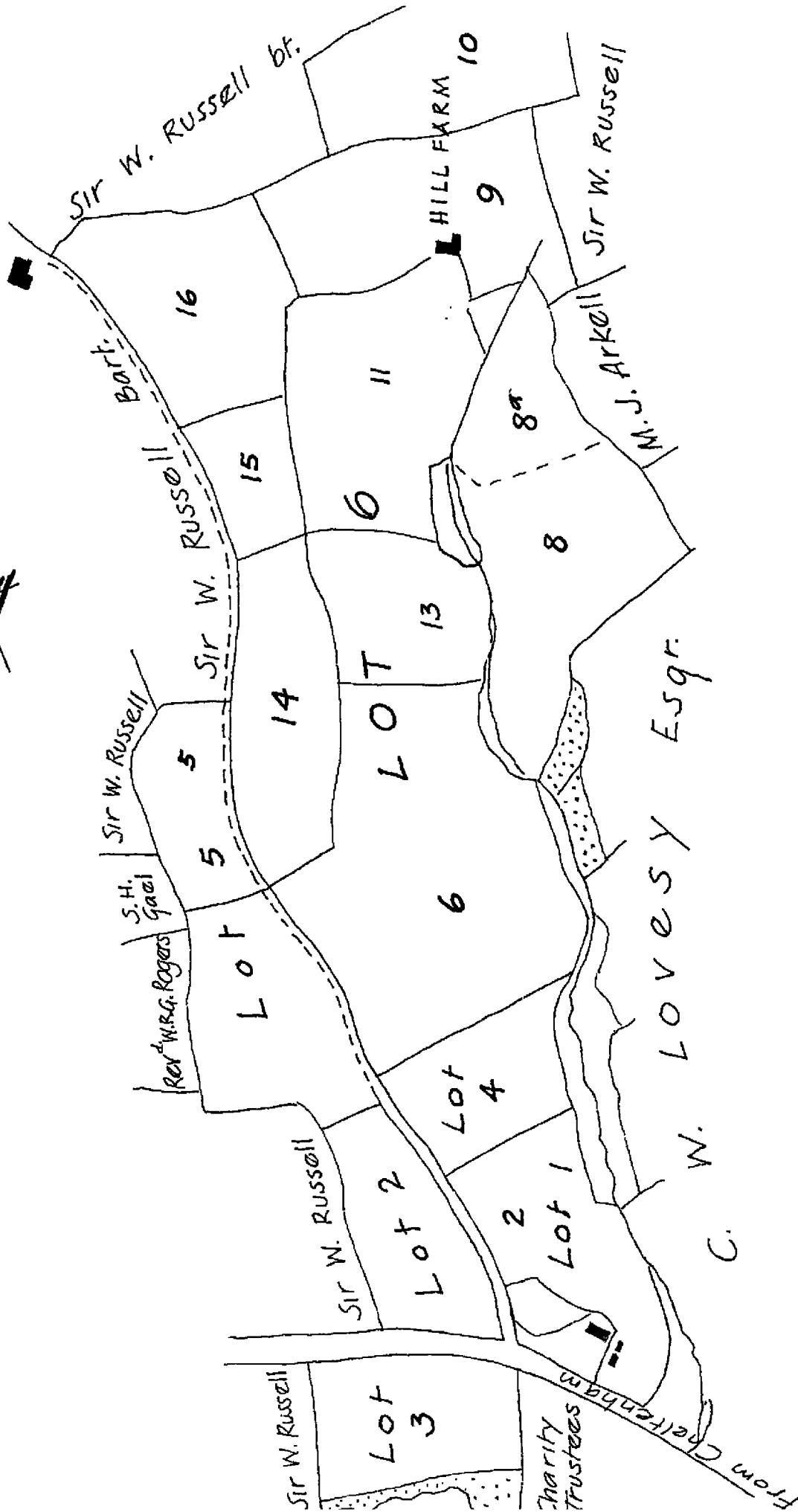
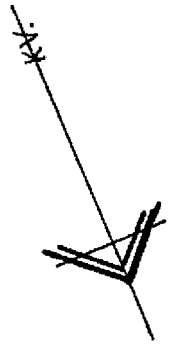
M. PAGET

4. WHITHORNE HOUSE

I saw this house on 3 September 1993 by kind invitation of Dr and Mrs Owen, and was happy to meet there a former owner Dr Haslett.

The house is marked on an early map and is often said to have been built by the Whithorne family as a dower house for Coxhorne. But this is unlikely. The Whithornes built this new house and gave it their family name some time before they improved Coxhorne and made it the principal family home. (see below)

The title apportionment of 1848 indicates that a cottage went with the house. The question arises, was this an earlier building?, was it added after the main house was built?, or was it built at the same time? Now it is roughly linked to the house but seems not to have been so in 1848. The brickwork and windows offer no obvious clue as to the date, and too many alterations have been made inside for firm conclusions to be drawn. My guess would be that the cottage was contemporaneous because any occupier of such a house (without land for farming) would require stabling and a dwelling for a coach-man. I shall describe the house presently.



6 chains = 1 Inch

Whithorne continued to be part of the estate, sometimes occupied by the owner and sometimes let. In 1856 (Post Office Directory) the tenant was the Revd. William Rogers Coxwell Rogers MA. Then in April 1858 (Rate book) Conway Whithorne Lovesy II was at Whithorne and Coxhorne was let.

In 1866 Lovesy decided to sell 6 lots near the London Road east of Coxhorne House and they were put up for auction on 6 May 1866 (see map on page 8) (D1388 SL4 no 102):

- Lot 1 Whithorne House (occupier Colonel Holmes) 8.0.29 acres
- Lot 2 Capel Orchard (J and R. Burrows) 4.3.7 acres
- Lot 3 Barelands and Coppice 6.1.16 acres
- Lot 4 Chesters Ground (William Shorey) 4.1.14 acres
- Lot 5 2 Fields called New Loons 9.3.11 acres
- Lot 6 The Hill Farm (J and R. Burrows) 74.2.27 acres

Lot 1 was sold to the sitting tenant and lot 6 to R. Burrows, acting for Sir William Russell. On the Charlton Park estate map of 1867 (D6748 P47), Hill Farm is shown as "Sir William Russell Bart late C.W. Lovesy Esqre". It appears that when the land going with Whithorne was measured for the conveyance, it was found to be only just over 6 acres in extent, not 8.

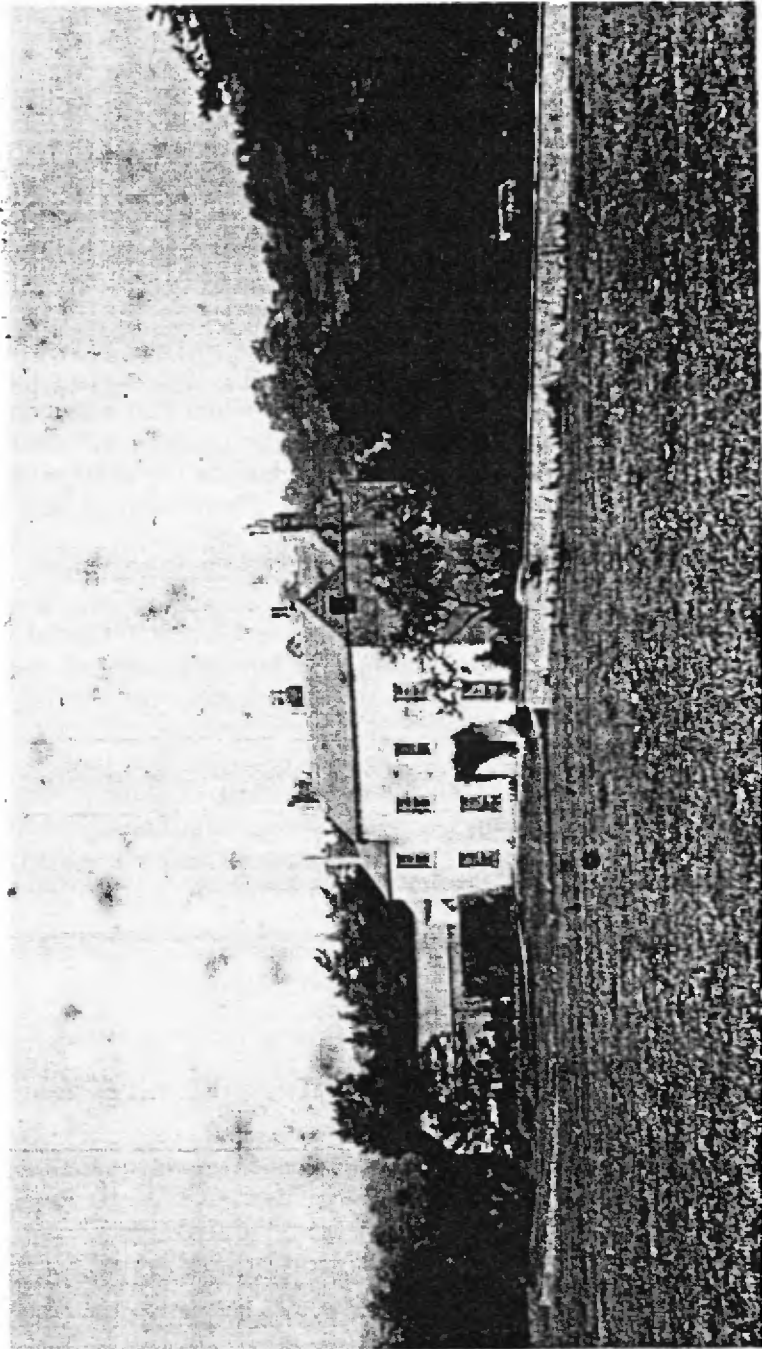
It was probably to protect his home from undesirable development to the south that Colonel Holmes sometime between 1874 (when Sir William Russell was declared bankrupt) and 1882 (Rate book) became the owner also of Hill Farm, now renamed California, with 91.3.2 acres. The rateable value of the farmhouse was only £15, of the land £202.13.0

Colonel George Beresford Brydges Holmes is still remembered in Charlton Kings for his warm temper. He objected strongly to the 1877 restoration of the church and at the parish meeting held in the Vestry hall (now the parish centre) he was said by the late F.W. Keen to have leaped on the table and shaken his fist in the Vicar's face! However, after tactful handling by Dundas, he agreed to be treasurer of the Restoration fund, a typical retreat on Holmes' part. When the railway came through his land, he insisted on having trees planted on the new embankment to hide the track from his view - those trees still belong to Whithorne, though the railway has ceased to run. While the embankment was being built, the Colonel found a navvy trespassing (as he considered) and nearly got into a stand-up fight with him, but thought better of it when he realised he was likely to be worsted. Finally, coming home from church one Sunday, Colonel Holmes RE started an argument with General Norman KCB of The Hearne, and struck his superior in rank! It is said that General Norman never spoke to him again or even recognised his existence.

George Beresford Brydges Homes was buried on 4 June 1892; his widow Jane Holmes of Whithorne not till 23 January 1917 aged 86. To his family we owe the gloomiest window in St. Mary's, given in 1895.

Now for the house itself. The exterior of Whithorne as built was simple but dignified. Dr Haslett has given us a copy of a photograph taken c 1900 (page 10), which shows it without dormer windows and with the first floor windows on the south side (and presumably on the north side too) only 3 small panes wide. She thinks the dormers were added before WWI. They had Swiss chalet type eaves of wood, removed in the 1970s because of maintenance problems. Since Jane Holmes did not die till 1917 and at her age people seldom renovate their houses, I wonder whether in fact 1917-18 is not a more probable date for the dormers (though I must add that I cannot remember the house without them). At the same time, three windows on the south side and four on the north were widened by an extra pane on each side, and only the centre window over the south door remains as in 1900. When the photograph was taken, that door had a slight porch, replaced later by a glass verandah along the front.

Whithorne House c 1900



I have seen no early view of the north front but I suspect that the present porch and porch-room are additions.

The ground plan is simple, a through passage with diningroom and morning room east, drawing room west, a passage to kitchen, and the main staircase. The upstairs has been much altered over the years.

Major Mason bought Whithorn (Bob Davis thinks about 1918) and his widow lived there until she moved to Sandy Lane Road - this was about 1943. For a time during the war, Whithorne housed an evacuated nursery school (Damaris Hayman). Later, in the '40s Captain and Mrs Cordeaux bought it (Bob Davis). They still owned it in 1952 (Register of Electors), but seem to have let it to tenants - the last when he left took out all the gas fires and piping and sold them - when Dr Amy Haslett came she had to buy the gas fires back at auction (she paid 4s6d each) but the piping had been stolen!

Dr Haslett lived at Whithorne till 1971/2 and kept horses, cows and poultry, for which the stable block and the rooms in the cottage gave scope. The flag stones she put down by the conservatory came from Cheltenham St.James' station when that was demolished. She says there was originally a range in the kitchen with a bake oven in the wall beside it, but the range was removed and the oven filled in c 1950. Outside the cottage on the north, under flagstones, are 3 wells, also filled in about that time,. There used to be a greenhouse where they grew apricots and nectarines, but this demolished in the 1970s.

The Hasletts were followed in 1972 by Mr and Mrs Lancaster who remained till 1985-6. (Ugandan refugees were housed in the cottage during 1975 - it started as a single family which grew as other members of the clan came over but they were all re-settled in the end.) There is no entry for the house in the Register of Electors for 1987-8, but Mr and Mrs Williams were there 1988-1991.

The Owens bought the house in 1991 but had only lived in it for a year before September 1993 because they wanted to renew the central heating, make more bathrooms, and alter the arrangements upstairs. The south view up to Ravensgate and the garden make this a very attractive home.

M.PAGET

Cottage and Link with House



Whithome South Side and Front with Porch - 1993



5. THE TWO COXHORNES

The word 'horn' or 'horne' means a "projecting horn-shaped piece of land, especially one formed in a river-bend" (Place Name Elements p261). This fits Coxhorne, for it was land in the angle between the Chelt (previously called Rungebourne) and its tributary the Poulbrook (previously Freeman's brook). Part of the land was in Cheltenham, part in Ashley, manors; and at first it was all just an outlying piece of Middle Field, one of the open arable fields held in strips by tenants. The road from Cheltenham to Dowdeswell then ran from the top of Balcarras lane, round to the south of what is now the site of Coxhorne House - the 1882 map on page 19 shows the route of this old road quite plainly. About 1750 a diversion was made through Middle Field as far as East End (the present road).

The earliest use of the name 'Coxhorne' I have found is in 1609, when James Hicket was ordered to scour his ditch near the way at Coxhorne before All Saints (D855 M8 52v)

(1) Old Coxhorne

There are very few Ashley manor records before 1700, so we can't be sure that the house bequeathed in 1685 by Gyles Ashmeade of Charlton Kings yeoman to his nephew Gyles was in fact Coxhorne. But it seems likely because the Ashmeades did hold it all through the 18th century till the property became part of Charlton Park estate, and the Ashmeade probate is in the estate collection (D1224/). The family had ceased to farm. The will of William Ashmead of Gloucester in 1782 leaves his customary messuages and lands in Cheltenham and Ashley otherwise Charlton Kings to his wife Mary (GRO D4653 box 6 bundle 4); and she put Old Coxhorne up for sale on 2 August 1792 (Sale conditions marked "under which Mr Hunt purchased the Cockshorn Estate") as a "compact well Timbered Grazing Farm at Charlton Kings - held by John Turner at the yearly rent of 70£", with coppices in addition.

At the auction there was a contest between Conway Whithorne and Walter Lawrence, and the farm was knocked down to Lawrence for £2390; but it appears that he was actually bidding on behalf of Dodington Hunt. There was an agreement between Hunt and Lawrence that no conveyance should be made till Hunt's only son and heir came of age in 1793, when it was intended that he should take the name of Prinn. So it was not till 24 and 25 March 1797 that Mary, widow of William Ashmeade, conveyed to William Hunt Prinn esq the messuage, homestead and orchard, with Home Ground, Great and Little Partridge Breach, the Youngings, Hutcroft, Haw Breach, Barretts Hill, Runsburn, Upper and Lower Hill Ground, Cables Mead, Hyetts Hill, and several coppices. Most of this was Ashley copyhold, but a little was either Cheltenham copyhold or freehold. The Ashley surrender followed on 13 March 1798 (D109/1). As the field names show, most of the land was on the north side of the Chelt in Holbeach or Hawbreach field.

The tenant of Old Coxhorne claimed a vote as occupier in 1832-3 - this was William Timbrell. He was succeeded by Gabriel Balinger in 1843-4, and Charles Dowle in the 1858 Rate Book.

(2) Coxhorne House

Various closes of Cheltenham copyhold land were created out of the open field during the 17th century. The site of this house was a one acre close which Lynnett Pates and his wife surrendered on 1 October 1658 to use of Joseph Lewis and Susannah his wife (D855 M11 p211). On 1 April 1715 Joseph Lewis surrendered this one acre called Cockshorn to use of John James and Jane his wife (M14 p46). In each surrender the heriot was the same, 1s6d.

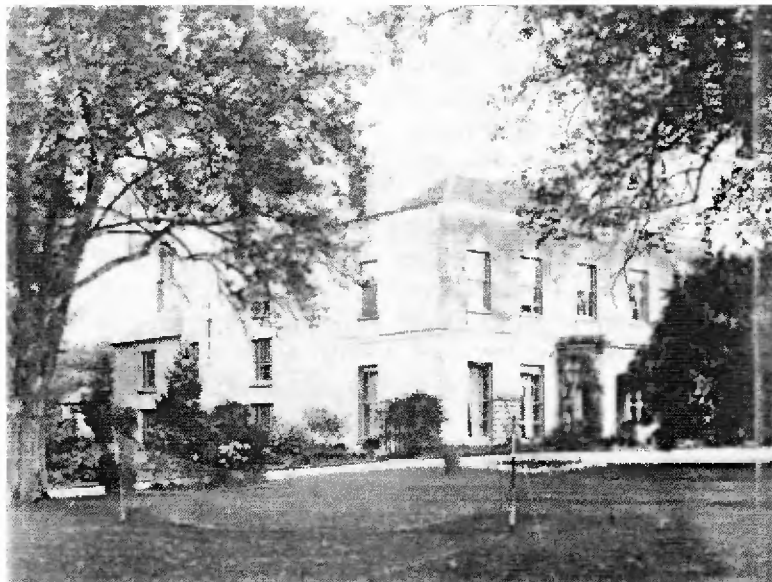
However, this transaction was flawed. Lewis should have associated his wife Elizabeth in the surrender since she had a life interest in a third of all his property in default of a marriage settlement. The wedding of John James of Charlton Abbots and Jane Cleevly of Charlton Kings had not in fact taken place on 1 April; they were married at St Mary's on 15 May. Joseph was buried on 20 June. So on 10 October 1715 when Lewis's surrender was presented in court, Elizabeth widow of Joseph Lewis had to be a party to a mortgage by John and Jane to Walter Mansell to secure £24. Between April and October 1715, John James and his bride had built A HOUSE ON THE CLOSE. The £24 in addition to what they could put down enabled them to do this (M14 p46). There are other cottages in Charlton Kings known to have been built for £25-30.

So in the case of Coxhorne House, we have an exact date for the first building on the site.

It seems that the £24 was not repaid. On 14 October 1738 John James surrendered to use of Mansell's heir Edward Wills of Charlton yeoman all his tenement or dwellinghouse, close and orchard, called Cockshorne (1 acre), and Wills with a mortgagee surrendered it to Roger Probert (M14 p425). Roger was buried 14 August 1741 and his widow Judith on 4 April 1749. How Coxhorne passed to the Whithorne family is not yet clear.

Mr and Mrs Peter Grainger who lived at Coxhorne in the 1970s tell me that the present front was put on the existing house about 1816; it does not align properly with the kitchen area which is on a lower level. Architecturally the front of Coxhorne could be dated from 1800-1820. (It is not unlike the front of Ham House built c 1800 - see [History](#) p91; [Bulletin 3](#)) The addition gave the family a pleasant dignified home but not a particularly large or imposing residence.

Coxhorne House
from John William's album taken by Nora Dobell c1876
(Note the older building behind)



6. THE WHITHORNE FAMILY AND COXHORNE ESTATE

The Whithornes started in Naunton, holding mainly freehold there; they acquired Moorend House (Cheltenham copyhold) c 1570, the Nap and Pen (Cheltenham and Ashley copyhold) c 1700, and a small farmstead at Coxhorne c 1750-60. But their accumulation of property and growth in status was slow, John Whithorn I was not called 'gentleman' till about 1771 and his son John II was not upgraded to 'esquire' till c 1802.

John Whithorne I inherited all the family property and so he owned the Knapp in 1769 when the Gloucester Journal of 23 January reported that "the Barn and Stable at a place called the Nep in the parish of Charlton Kings belonging to Mr John Whithorne of the the same place gent, with a large quantity of Corn therein, were burnt down and destroyed ..." (Bulletin 10 p50). The Nap had been let to Anthony Fowler who died there in 1761, his wife Ann in 1783. (The Italianate Knapp House demolished c 1976 was a rebuilding of c 1840)

In default of evidence, it seems probable that c 1775 John Whithorne I built a new house near Capel Lane and gave it the family name, intending it as a residence for himself now that his two sons were grown up. Then there would be the Knapp and Moorend House for the sons (until the elder inherited), and for his daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Lovesy of Arle, a farm her father had bought at Winchcombe. At that period, Whithorne was more like a "family seat" than the two old unimproved houses in Charlton, which explains why it was marked on an early map, when Coxhorne, a small farmhouse, was not. The Tithe apportionment of 1848 suggests this too, when it says that Whithorne had "pleasure grounds and garden" plus a paddock (2.3.12), but Coxhorne only a stable yard and gardens (1.3.21). Mrs Brassington, a garden expert who has been looking at Whithorne, thinks the "pleasure grounds" would have been artistic clumps of trees and shrubs in typical late 18th century style.

But whatever John Whithorne I intended, Conway his elder son died before him and was buried on 23 June 1796. So a fresh allocation of property had to be made.

In his will dated 6 July 1796, with codicil 31 March 1797, proved 17 June 1791 (Ashley Will Book 1), John Whithorne I left:-

- (1) a farm at Winchcombe, an inclosed common at Charlton, the house where his son-in-law William Lovesy and the testator's son John then lived called the Knapp and Pen, to William Lovesy and Elizabeth his wife and their heirs.
- (2) household goods in his dwellinghouse to Elizabeth, and £4000.
- (3) to his sister Sarah Shurmer (baptised at Charlton Kings 15 January 1719/20) the house in the parish of Charlton Kings where she lives, for her life (This was presumably Moorend). Her husband Richard Shurmer had been buried on 23 January 1791 and Sarah followed on 23 April 1801, so the arrangement was short lived.
- (4) A messuage (late of Thomas Overbury) to William Overbury for life and then to his son David Ellis Overbury (buried 14 May 1797) with £100 to release all claim. This was a mortgaged house in Cudnall - see Ashley Court book GRO D109/1 under 20 September 1797 and 25 October 1802.
- (5) Bequests to servants and mourning rings to friends.
- (6) His surviving son John to be executor and residuary legatee. This gave John both Whithorne and Coxhorne.

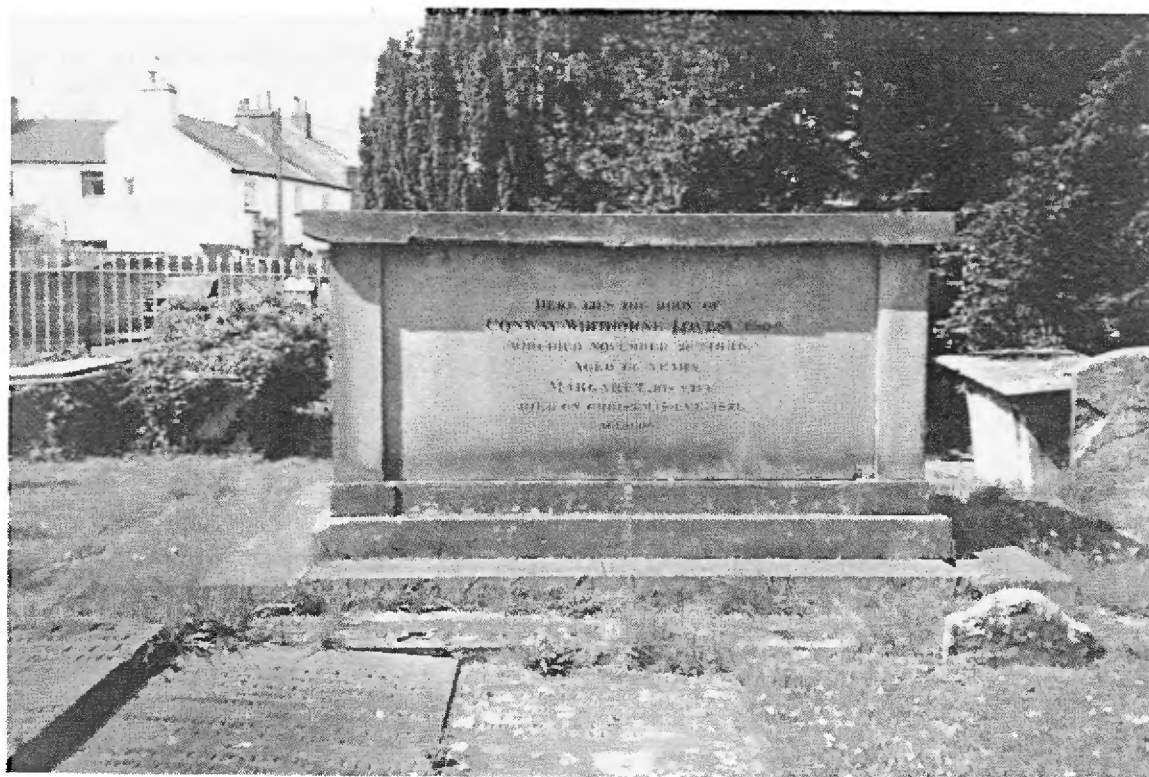
John Whithorne I gentleman was buried on 10 May 1797 and John II claimed his Cheltenham manor land on 30 October 1797 (M18 p498-9)

In 1800 John bought up the valuable tithes, advowsons, and rectorial rights of the parish - he actually owned the churchyard and the parish had to pay £200 for it in 1854.

However, Mary wife of John Whithorne esq was buried on 24 October 1802, leaving John childless. From this time onwards his heir presumptive was his sister Elizabeth and then her son Conway Whithorne Lovesy. John was buried on 13 October 1815. So it would seem that the improvement of Coxhorne, if it happened c1816, was the work of Elizabeth Lovesy when she inherited. The property was enfranchised and Elizabeth Lovesy lived there till her death. She was buried on 23 March 1835 aged 82. After the improvements, Coxhorne seemed more modern and desirable than Whithorne.

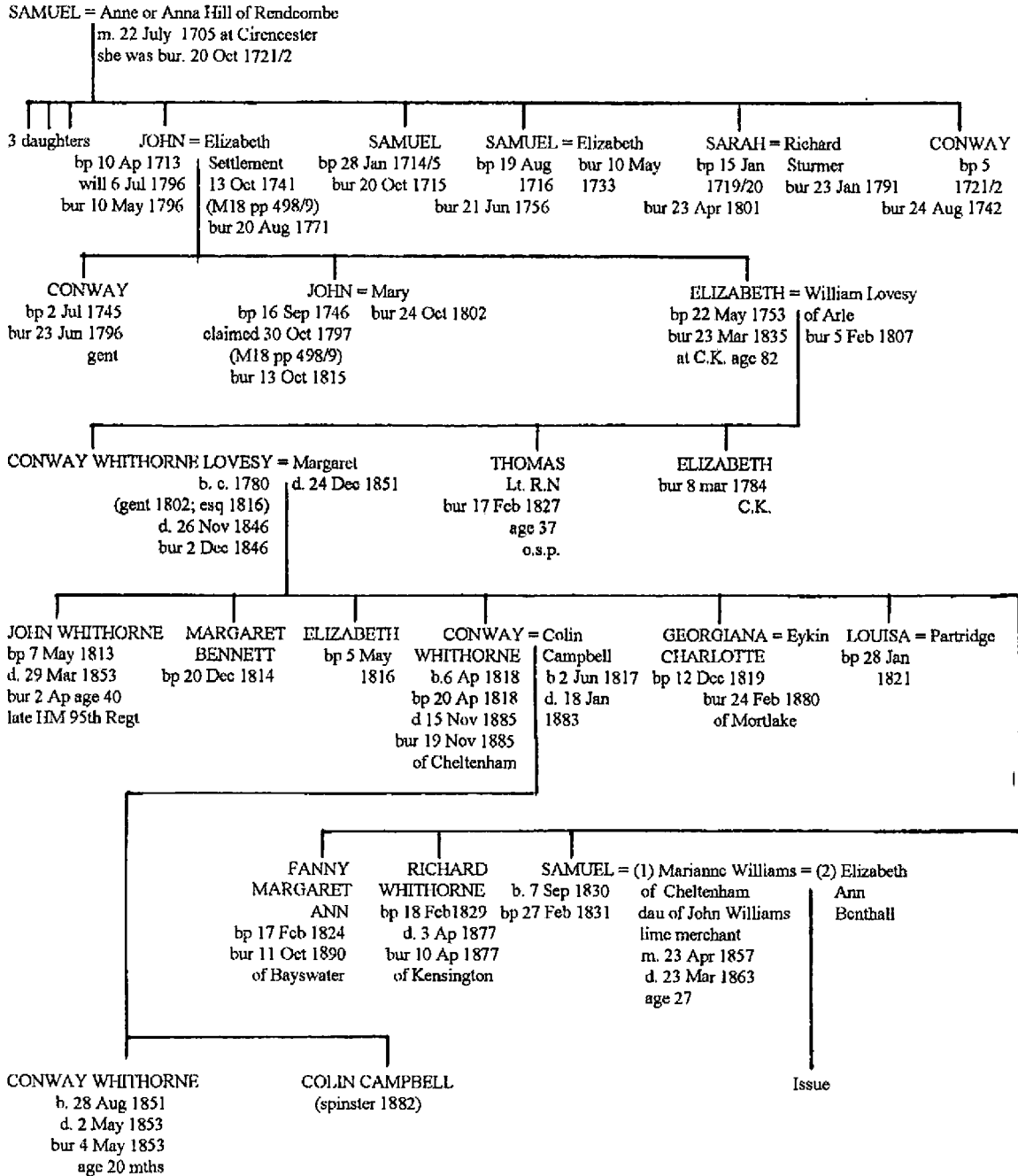
Conway Whithorne Lovesy and his wife Margaret had 4 sons and 4 daughters, all baptised in Charlton Kings. Presumably they lived with his mother, but as he did not yet own Coxhorne (though "of Coxhorn House" in Piggot's Directory 1830 and in the 1832-2 Register of Electors) until 1835 he could only claim a vote in respect of freehold land and houses unspecified and Ham farm.

The reputation Conway Whithorne Lovesy I left behind him when he died on 26 November 1846 aged 66 was of an impropriator who extorted as much as he could for vaults and graves in the churchyard, and a man given to fits of anger - John Bowen declares he died of a stroke brought on by his violent language when snow stopped hunting! (Reminiscences of My Life p24) - Bowen remembered the episode because the school had a holiday to attend the funeral on 2 December.



WHITHORNE FAMILY

(abbreviated tree)



Conway Whithorne Lovesy's will dated 3 February 1838 (with codicil changing his trustees on 7 April 1845) divided his properties between his 8 children. His widow was to live at Coxhorne but had to pay rent for the privilege, a very unusual stipulation. Subject to this, he left Coxhorne House and the estate west of the watercourse and up to Hill Barn and Kitewell to his eldest son John Whithorne Lovesy; Hill Barn and land and the messuage held by the Revd James Walker (presumably Whithorne) to Conway Whithorne Lovesy II; property at Ham to Richard Whithorne Lovesy; and the Knapp to Samuel Whithorne Lovesy. All the property was tied up and the Tithe Apportionment of 1848 enters it as belonging to "representatives of Conway Whithorne Lovesy".

Margaret the widow died on 24 December 1851, so John Whithorne Lovesy (with an Army career in the 95th Regiment) should have been in possession of Coxhorne when the next register of electors was compiled, but (as in 1842-3) he was put down as having a vote in respect of a "freehold cottage at Crab Bridge" i.e. Hearne Villa which he appears to have built. His brother Conway Whithorne Lovesy II was living at Brick Court, Temple, pursuing a legal career and he only claimed in respect of a freehold cottage in Church Street. About this time he married a lady named Colin Campbell (possibly one of the Campbells of Glenure). Coxhorne had been let for 5 years from 1848 to the poet Sydney Dobell and this lease John refused to renew because he intended to live there himself. At that time Dobell said the house was smothered with ivy which John stripped.

But misfortune dogged this family. On 29 March 1853 John died aged 40, a bachelor - he was buried on 2 April. Thus the two parts of the Coxhorne estate were reunited. But on 4 May 1853, only a month later, Conway's only son Conway Whithorne Lovesy III (born 28 August 1851) was buried aged 20 months and his only heir now was a daughter Colin Campbell Lovesy (who was still a spinster in 1882).

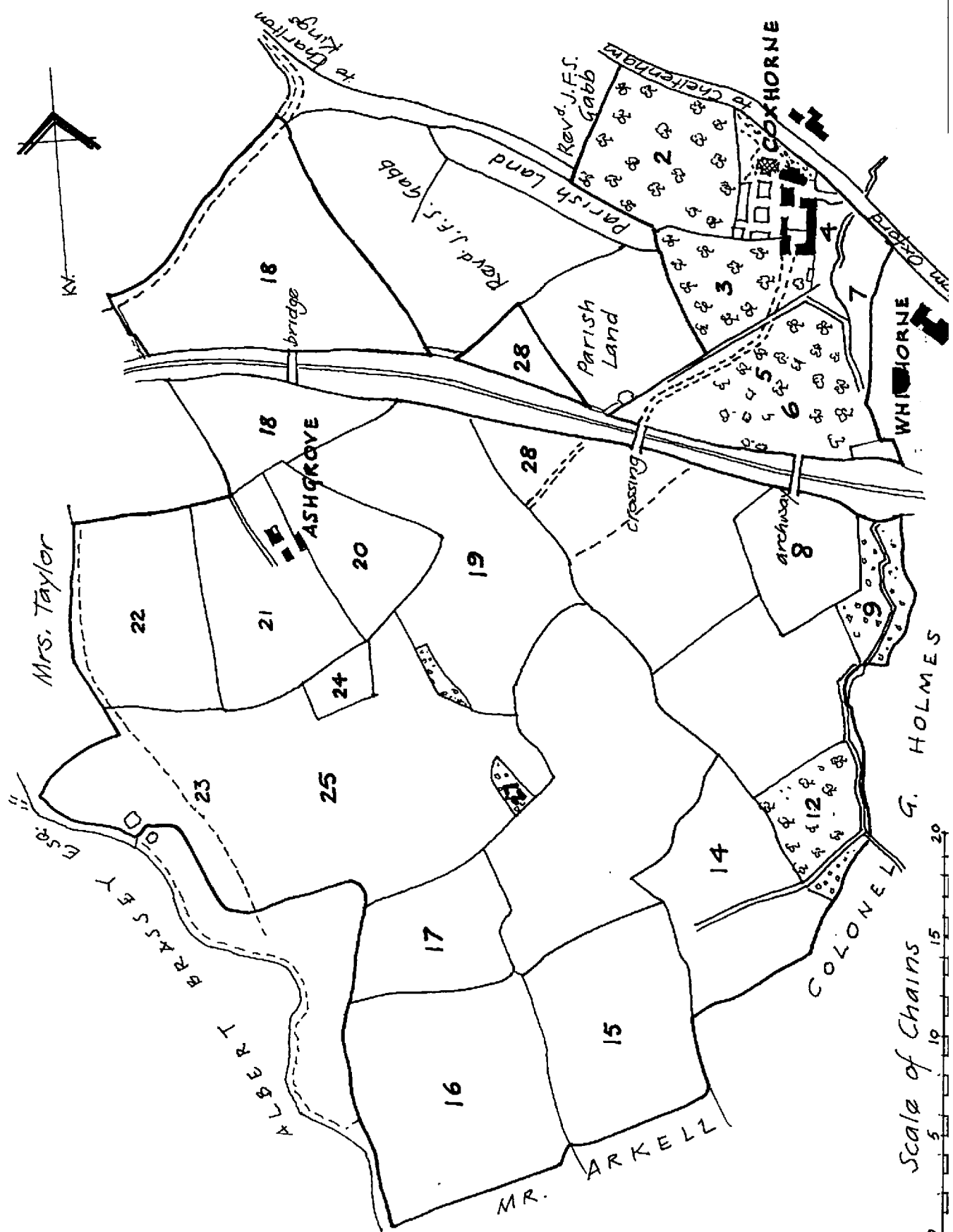
By 1858, Conway Whithorne Lovesy was occupying Whithorne and Coxhorne was let, (though he claimed a vote for it in 1862-3). The tenant of Coxhorne was Mr Charles Holliday a Cheltenham butcher (whom I knew as a very old man - later on his daughter told me stories about a walnut and other trees he had planted while living there)

All the Ashley copyhold was enfranchised in 1868.

On 4 June 1868 the Coxhorne estate with 150 acres of land was offered for sale in 5 lots (D1388 SL5).

- | | |
|-------|--|
| Lot 1 | Coxhorne House with orchard, 2 parts of Swimploes orchard, a plantation and paddock - 12.3.36 acres |
| Lot 2 | Part of Swimploes orchard with grove, paddock, Blakemore, Lowes ground and Trabon Hill grove (Mr Turk) - 24.1.20 |
| Lot 3 | Fursey Leasow, Trabon Hill, Rook's meadow, Ravensgate Leasow and Fracknells (Mr Turk and Mr Coates) - 39.3.38 |
| Lot 4 | Rights in the Rectory of Charlton Kings, Chancel and Churchyard; Ashgrove farm (Mr Coates), Hither Strouds, Hanging Hill, Harp Grove, Broad breach, Lucas Hill, 3 coppices (one now arable), Fracknells.
"The cider mill on this lot belongs to the tenant" |
| Lot 5 | Goldfinch (Mr Turk). "This site is well adapted for the erection of a Villa Residence, having the command of an extensive and beautiful view and a good supply of pure spring water." |

A note is added "The several lots will be approached by a new Road to be constructed from the Oxford and Cheltenham Turnpike, as shewn on the Plan ...". The new road would have separated Coxhorne and Whithorne. "Coxhorne Land is proverbial for its excellent Dairy Produce. The orchards are all young and in full bearing ..."



The Schedule herebefore referred to.

No on plan	Description of premises	State.	Quantity		
			a.	r.	p.
1	Cochrane House, Gardens, Farm Buildings, Yards &c		1	0	25
2	Further Orchard	pasture	5	3	6
3	Swimplotes Orchard	ditto	2	3	34
4	Plantation Garden &c		1	1	14
5	Swimplotes Orchard	pasture	5	2	0
7	Paddock	ditto		1	22
8	Swimplotes	ditto	3	0	11
9	Grove adjoining	Wood	1	3	22
10	Blakemore	pasture	5	2	7
11	Lowes Ground or Blakemore	pasture	6	1	31
12	Thabon Hill Grove	Wood	2	2	.
13	Fursey Leasow	pasture	12	0	25
14	Thabon Hill	ditto	6	2	29
15	Rookes Meadow	ditto	7	.	14
16	Ravensgate Leasow	ditto	10	1	13
17	Tracknells.	pasture	3	2	37
18	Wether Grounds (in two pieces)	pasture	12	1	0
19	Hanging Hill	pasture	19	3	21
20	Harp Grove	ditto	3	1	17
21	Suppercombe (with house and buildings)	ditto	5	3	16
22	Broad Beach	ditto	6	1	22
23	Lucas Hill				
25	Tracknells. } in one piece.	ditto	19	1	11
24	Coppice.	Wood		3	14
26	Coppice	Wood		1	0
27	Coppice.	Wood		1	3
28	Goldfinch in two pieces.	pasture	5	0	29
Total A.			140	0	26

Signed Sealed and Delivered
 by the above named Conway
 Whitmore Loversy and Colin
 Campbell Loversy in the
 presence of
 J. P. Loversy
 Mill Hill
 Barrow
 Loversy

Conway & Loversy
 Alex. Glen
 Robert Loversy

This time there were apparently no takers. Russell must have bought part of the land privately. The 1882 Rate book shows Coxhorne (the farm) as owned by the mortgagee of Sir William Russell and occupied by George Mitchell - rateable value of the land (47.2.11) £109.4.0 and of the house £15.0.0. William Heathorn (Lady Prinn's second husband) occupied 2½ acres in addition, rateable value £4.5.0. California had been sold to Colonel Holmes who owned and occupied the house £15.0.0 and the 91.3.2 acres of land £202.13.0. The Ravensgate land was now occupied and owned by John Arkell.

Meanwhile, Coxhorne House was let. In 1876 it was occupied by Cyrus Faulkner Dobell and it was during his tenancy that his sister Nora Dobell took the photograph on page 14. Lovesy himself was probably living in Cheltenham, as he was in 1882 when he decided to put all the Coxhorne estate up for sale. Its rateable value was £154.8.0, total acreage 140.0.26, the purchase price £10,450 and the purchaser was John Holder. The conveyance with map is now in the possession of Mr R.Davis and I am very grateful to him for showing it to me and letting me copy it.(see pp 20 and 21)

In 1897 Major Thomas Cregan was living at Coxhorne House (Kelly's Directory)

By 1906 Coxhorne House had been sold to Mr Reginald Sharp, but Ashgrove farm remained in the Holder family till it was sold in the 1980s by Laura Holder's executors. Harold Campbell bought the top part, about 50 acres. But Close bought two fields (nos 16 and 17 on the 1882 estate plan), one level, the other wet and banky, he was willing to pay a high price for them because he had bought 50 acres of Coxhorne land south of the London Road and wanted to put his acreage up to 70 acres (Bob Davis).

So where the 18-19th centuries saw the build-up of larger estates, this century has seen their break-down into smaller units again, farms which fluctuate as to acreage and are less predictable as to crops than in former days.

M.PAGET

7. SAMUEL WHITHORNE LOVESY'S DESCENDANTS

A descendant of Samuel Whithorne Lovesy, Christopher J.S.Palmer, has kindly sent a family pedigree which carries on where the tree on p 17 finishes. Samuel and his second wife Elizabeth Ann Benthall had six children: Richard, Elizabeth, Maud, Eva Georgina (the direct ancestor of our correspondent), Margaret and Thomas Whithorne.

Space prevents publication of the full tree, which carries on down to descendants born in the 1960s and '70s, but a copy of it is available if any of our readers would like more information regarding this family.

8. ASHGROVE AND SAPPERCOMBE FARMS

At the date of the tithe apportionment of 1848, Conway Whithorne Lovesy I held both farms, Sappercombe (the farm we know by that name) occupied by Charles Yeend (total acreage including the field called Aucotts 44.3.9) and Ashgrove (not so called) occupied by Gabriel Ballinger with a cottage (TM 218) and fields including Sappercombe (TM 220), Lucas Hill, Broad Ditch, and Hither Strouds (total acreage 27.2.11). At that date, Ashgrove was the smaller holding.

Conway Whithorne Lovesy I in his will (Ashley Manor will book I No.40) left Yeend's farm

and The Knapp to his son Samuel Whithorne Lovesy. But Ashgrove alias Sappercombe was not mentioned because it went with the rest of the Coxhorne estate.

The name Ashgrove appears for the first time when Conway Whithorne Lovesy II wanted to sell in 1868 and was offering this farm and some land as a separate lot (D1388 SL5). It did not sell and the 1882 conveyance still calls Ashgrove farm Sappercombe (see above). However, the 1882 Rate book (D3 510/1) clearly distinguishes nos 520-1 Sappercombe farm owned by Charles W Lawrence and occupied by Joseph Pates with 37.1.38 acres; and No 522 Ashgrove, a house and 74.0.39 acres still owned by Conway Whithorne Lovesy on 12 April of that year - the name "Holder" has been pencilled in. So by 1882, Sappercombe had lost about 11 acres, while Ashgrove had gained around 47 acres from the estate.

I hope to deal with the present Sappercombe farm in a later Bulletin. Oddly, directories down to the 1920s give Sappercombe as the address of Charles Edward Holder, when Ashgrove must be meant. (see Bulletin 33 and Eric Cleveley's story in Bulletin 22 p27)

M. PAGET



Photographs of Ashgrove
taken by Mary Wilcox in 1986
before the farm was sold
(It has been much altered since)





Farm Buildings

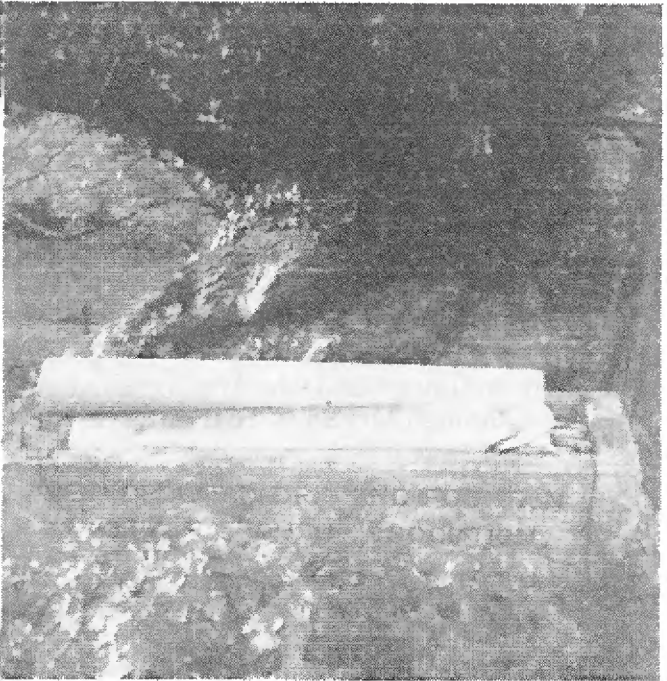
Older Farm Buildings



Cider Mill, mentioned in 1868



The Spring



Drinking Trough - Proof
that it was on the farm
before the sale to Mr Campbell



Oak near Farm probably
planted c1564 at the time
of the first permanent
inclosure of the open fields

9. THE OTHER LOVESYS

There were several other Lovesy families in Charlton Kings who have apparently no connection with the Conway Whithome Lovesys.

The parish registers give us Benjamin Lovesy with a wife Sarah who had 5 children baptised (5 girls and one boy Henry) between 1815 and 1824. Justinian Lovesy with wife Hannah, a farmer or butcher, had 3 sons baptised between 1821 and 1826 - Edward, William and Charles. Henry Lovesy baker with wife Sarah had a son George and a daughter baptised 1830-4. John Lovesy with wife Eliza had one daughter baptised in 1835. George Lovesy with wife Anna or Ann, labourer, had 5 children, sons John, George, and Henry baptised 1855 and 1859, and two daughters 1858 and 1861. All these may be related.

If Justinian Lovesy butcher had another son after Charles, not baptised in Charlton Kings, he might be the Henry Lovesy son of - Lovesy butcher who was summoned on 14 June 1850 accused of stealing a sovereign from John Coombes at the Beehive Inn. Thomas Humphris a Cheltenham butcher was going home in his cart with Lovesy when they stopped at The Beehive on the London Road - it was stated in court that Lovesy's father had an extensive business with a farm at Whittington and a shop in Cheltenham. When the two men came in, John Coomb's son Charles was counting money with his father and later missed a sovereign, but one witness asserted that Lovesy never came into the room. The case was sent to Quarter Sessions. (Cheltenham Free Press 15 June 1850 - kindly extracted by Eric Armitage.)

The 1856 Rate book mentions two Henry Lovesys in Charlton. One occupied a cottage and garden in Thornton's Row (site of manse car park) - owner David Bridgman, rateable value £5. The other Henry occupied a cottage near Hearne Villa (apparently the one behind it) - owner John Willis, rateable value £18. By the 1882 Rate book a Henry Lovesy both owned and occupied this cottage (now rated at £10.4.0), the only Lovesy in the parish except Conway Whithome Lovesy's descendants.

We are on firm ground when we come to family information supplied by Miss Joan Barbara Lovesy through Mrs Shill. Together with the registers, it gives us this tree:

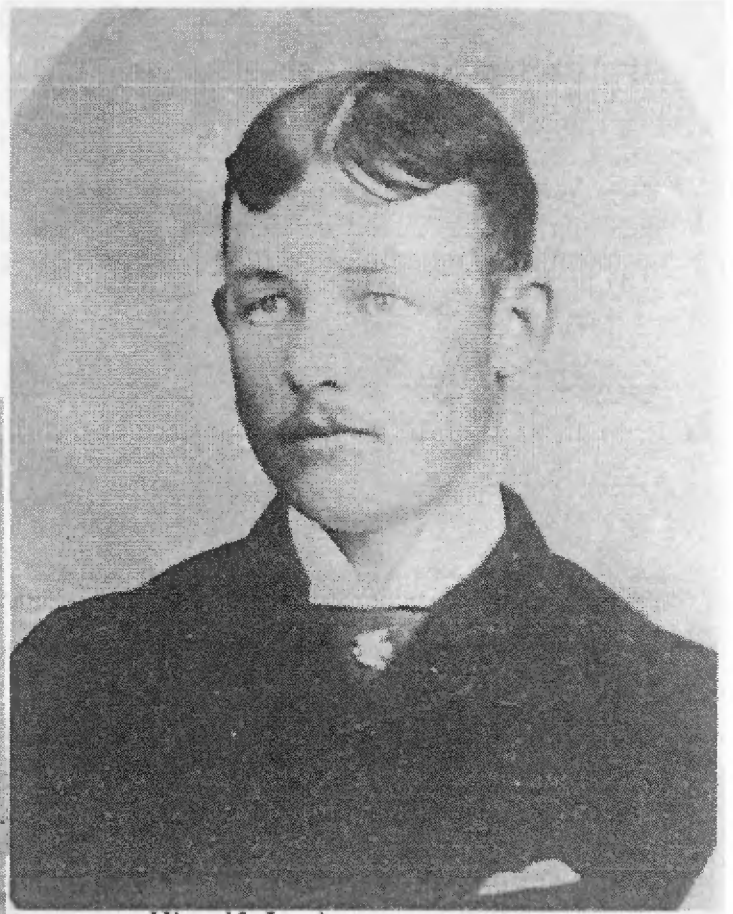
I - Henry George Lovesy - gamekeeper (dead by 1888)

II - Henry George, drayman, born c 1864, aged 24 on 31 March 1888, when he married at Charlton Kings, Louisa (23) sp., daughter of George Locke labourer of Charlton Kings. (She was Louisa Sophia daughter of George and Annie Locke baptised 20 July 1865)

III -
1) Henry George - born 2 Jan 1890, bp 5 Nov 1890, d 29 Oct 1970.
m. Elsie Mildred. Children: William Henry, two unnamed daughters,
and Joan Barbara b.1925
2) John (Jack) bp 1 May 1891, killed WW1.
3) Ernest Clifford bp 26 Oct 1892
4) Albert Edward bp 1 Aug 1893. Children: Thomas, Henry, Ronald, Nell
5) Ethel Winifred Louisa bp 2 Oct 1895, d May 1979
m Albert Frederick Cox 1929, d June 1977. child: Brenda m Sandalls
6) Beatrice May born 13 Aug 1901, bp 15 Sept 1901, d 26 May 1995
aged 93
7) Vera Nellie bp 4 December 1904

Miss Lovesy says: "I am inclosing the photographs of my grandparents. My grandfather died before I was born (1925) and I can only just remember my grandmother.

Henry George Lovesy c1888
photographed at
The Woodlands Photographic
Studio, Rodney Terrace



His wife Louisa
with baby Henry George c 1890
photographed by J.Joiner
408 High Streer

I do recollect going to Cheltenham to visit my paternal and maternal grandmothers when I was very young, probably before I was 5 years old. In those days I was told that the return fare from Birmingham to Cheltenham was five shillings. I only visited Grandma Lovesy at Canterbury Villa in Copt Elm Road and was unaware of any previous addresses. I am afraid I have never heard that my great-grandfather was a gamekeeper. I have been told that Uncle Cliff started to trace the family history but did not proceed as he discovered something that upset him and he would not tell any of his sisters what it was."

So perhaps the Henry Lovesy in trouble in 1850 became a gamekeeper afterwards, possibly at Whittington if his father had interests there, or at Dowdeswell, and diligent search of the registers and census returns might establish this.

10. THE VILLAGE 1973

This photograph, taken from the church tower, shows Church Street when the 1826 Alms Houses with Laburnham and Woodbine cottages have been knocked down but before the erection of Coopers Court. Across the road the butcher's shop still stands (but not the adjoining cottages) and the fishshop by the hairdressers - they were all to be demolished before the end of that year, except the eastern part of Buckles Row - Glynrosa is still standing - that too was demolished in 1973.

**Photograph taken by John Godwin
Lent by Mrs Hazel Parkes**



11. TURNPIKE INCIDENTS EXTRACTED FROM CHELTENHAM FREE PRESS

- 7.5.1836 Edwd Coxwell Rogers summoned by Jas Tidmarsh for refusing to pay horse fly toll at Dowdeswell Gate. Coxwell Rogers claimed to be exempt as a resident of Dowdeswell. Tidmarsh alleged that Rogers lived with an aunt at Charlton. Case dismissed.
- 9.9.1837 Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls to be let by auction to the highest bidder at the Fleece Cheltenham Tuesday 10 Oct. For period 1 Nov 1837 to 1 Nov 1838
Lot 1. Tolls at London Gate, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gates and side gate at foot of Leckhampton Hill
Lot 2. Shackles Gate and gate adjoining.
These two lots produced £2610 last year.
Lot 5. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate adjoining.
produced £1310 last year.
6 lots all told in this Cheltenham District
Deposit 1 month's rent, and monthly payments thereafter.
Sureties are required.
- 24.1.1838 Advt - excellent brick earth to be let - to make bricks within or without London Turnpike. Enquire Beaufort Arms, London Rd.
(Note: London Gate Turnpike is at Beaufort Arms)
- 2.11.1839 Birth - 5th Oct at Charlton Park Gate - a son for Mrs Chick.
- 26.9.1840 Letting by auction of Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate, side gate Leckhampton Hill, Shackles Gate - tolls produced £2580 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate adjoining produced £1330 last year.
- 18.9.1841 Letting by auction of Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate with weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate at foot Leckhampton Hill and Shackles Gate produced £2590 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate produced £1045 last year.
- 13.11.1841 Public Office - Joseph Meek charged with demanding toll at Leckhampton Gate after Geo.Prescott Whalley paid at Charlton Gate. Whalley had shown his receipt and ticket. Meek fined 10/- costs 4/6d.
- 4.12.1841 Birth - 1st Dec at Charlton Park Toll Gate - d for Mrs Clark.
- 22.1.1842 Public Office - John Scales, keeper of Charlton Gate summoned by Edwd Dangerfield with charging too much toll. Case dismissed.
- 29.1.1842 Public Office - Giles Meek, keeper of London Turnpike Gate, C Kings, summoned by Sgt Shekelton for illegally demanding toll of Robt Pell who was taking prisoners to Northleach. Meek fined 10/-, costs 5/- and ordered to return the toll.
- 16.7.1842 Public Office - John Harris summoned by John Scales, keeper of Charlton Gate, for driving coach and horses through the gate without paying or showing a ticket. Harris had previously paid on a monthly basis. Harris ordered to pay 1/- toll and 3/6 costs.
- 23.7.1842 John Harris summoned by Giles Meek, keeper of C Kings turnpike, for evading toll. Harris ordered to pay the toll, a fine of 5/- and costs 3/6d.
- 24.9.1842 Advt - Auction of Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate foot Leckhampton Hill, and Shackles Pike produced £2550 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate produced £680 last year.
- 8.2.1843 Public Office - Harris summoned by Giles Meek, keeper of London Gate, for evasion of toll. Harris had used 2 horses for drawing uphill, but as it was downhill from the London Inn, he had left one horse at London Inn and paid toll on 1 horse. Case dismissed.

- 8.7.1843 Public Office - Wm Ellis summoned by Giles Meek, toll collector London Gate, for evading toll by going through Coltham Fields. Case dismissed. Ellis had a right of way there and he had left road at enclosure.
- 19.8.1843 Letting by auction of Cheltenham District Turnpike Tolls for period 1.11.1843 to 1.11.1844. London Gate with weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate at foot Leckhampton Hill, and Shackles Gate produced £2470 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and gate adjoining produced £720
- 10.8.1844 Letting of Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate at foot of Leckhampton Hill and Shackles Gate produced £2530 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate produced £605
- 9.8.1845 Letting of Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate foot Leckhampton Hill, and Shackles Gate produced £2046 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate adjoining produced £601 last year.
- 8.8.1846 Letting Cheltenham Turnpike Tolls. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate, and Shackles Gate produced £1700 in tolls last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate produced £600 in tolls.
- 5.6.1847 Public Office - John Wakefield was summoned by Giles Meek, keeper of the London Turnpike, for evading toll. Case dismissed - mistake in person summoned. Wm Simmons was summoned instead and fined 5/- with costs of 4/6d.
- 7.8.1847 Public Office - Abraham Cockhill was summoned by Giles Meek, keeper of London Gate, for evading toll, by taking horses over new road Cotham Fields (Hales Rd.). Ordered to pay 6d toll, fine 5/- and costs 4/6d.
- 9.10.1847 Auction of Cheltenham District Turnpike Tolls (E L Newman clerk). London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate, and Shackles Pike produced £1710 last year. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate.
- 11.3.1848 Birth - 1 Feb Charlton Park Gate - s for Mrs Stuart
- 10.6.1848 Public Office- Daniel Blake summoned by Giles Meek, keeper of C Kings Turnpike Gate, for evading toll. Blake on coach and had horse waiting. To pay toll, fine 1/- and costs 5/6d
- 8.12.1849 Public Office - Cirencester Turnpike Trust v C Kings Parish. The clerk to the trust applied for order against the surveyor of the highways C Kings, to compel the Parish to repair the bridge, across the Chelt in Cirencester Rd.
- 7.9.1850 Public Office - Henry Rigsby, carrier, Leckhampton was summoned for refusing to pay toll at the London Turnpike Gate, when demanded by Giles Meek, the toll collector. Rigsby refused to pay 6d for a horse and cart. Rigsby produced a ticket for Leckhampton Gate, and it was argued that this should have cleared him for the Charlton Gate, providing the horse and cart was not used for hire as a carrier. Witness Amelia Atkins said that she took passengers every Monday and no charge was made. The case was dismissed and costs were refused. The Magistrates said that if it was later proved that Meek made toll charges (in these circumstances) Meek would be summoned.
- 21.9.1850 Letting by auction of Cheltenham District turnpike Tolls for period 1 Nov 1850 to 1 Nov 1851 including:
1. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate and Shackles Pike. Produced £1800 last year.
2. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate, producing £680 last year.

The following extracts are from the Cheltenham Examiner

- 13.8.1851 Letting by auction of Cheltenham District Turnpike Tolls, including:
1. London Gate and weighing machine, Charlton Park Gate, Leckhampton Gate and side gate, and Shackles Pike producing £1810 last year.
2. Dowdeswell Gate and side gate producing £665 last year.
- 10.12.1851 Public Office - Acteon Barnes, toll keeper at Charlton Gate, charged with exacting illegal toll of W Melvin London Inn. A wagon and 3 horses of Melvins went through the gate and a toll of 1/6d was demanded and paid. The wagon and horses returned at 9pm and a toll of 1/6 again demanded and paid. Barnes said he was entitled to charge double tolls. The wagon went up empty and returned loaded with cyder. Wagon had Hawkes' name on it. It was said that Barnes must prove that the wagon was used for hire and reward. In fact Hawkes had lent the wagon provided Melvin paid the wages and tolls. It was argued that there were precedents for charging double tolls. Double tolls were taken all over the country. Barnes said that if he did not take double tolls he would lose £300 yr. Melvin claimed that the wagon was not hired, as no reward was expected or claimed. Magistrate Pilkington decided that the toll was taken illegally, and must be returned and 3/6d costs paid. This was done and the case withdrawn.
- 7.1.1852 Public Office - Jas Hicks charged with assault on John Stables. Stables going to Withington on Wednesday and had a day ticket - showed ticket at Charlton Gate, where Hicks, the toll keeper said it was not right and wantd to charge 1/9d. Hicks took hold of the horse's head when Stables refused to pay. It would appear that the toll keeper thought he had the right to detain the horse on non payment. Stables got down from his fly and was knocked down. No mileage shown on ticket and so it was not right. Straford, a solicitor from Cheltenham, was passing and saw incident. He had never witnessed worse conduct. Stables had ticket to Withington and back. Hicks was fined 10/-and costs of 8/6d - these were paid. Defendant said he would refer the matter to the Commissioners.
- 26.5.1852 Thos Packer summoned under 3 Geo Sec 4 Cap 20 for evading tolls at Charlton Common Gate. This gate is a weighing machine at which all loaded wagons which pass through the gate are required to be weighed. Packer is in the habit of hauling stone through gate. Empty wagons returning to C Kings took the shortest route and passed through the gate. Proof was submitted that weighing machine is as contemplated by Act. Jackson, who keeps the weighing machine is also a haulier, and it was alleged that he sometimes weighed his wagons, but never fined himself if wagons were overweight. Road taken by Packer to avoid gate is 296 yards further than road through gate. Bain the clerk to E L Newman, proved that the weighbridge was an authorised public weighbridge. Case adjourned.
- 2.6.1852 Public Office - Thos Packer - see above. Magistrates decided that there was no evidence that Packer drove wagons to avoid weighing machine. He had the right to choose his way. The case was dismissed.
- 2.6.1852 Public Office - Grinnell, fly driver, drove hired horse through Coltham Turnpike, representing that it was not a hired horse, driving horse and phaeton with 2 ladies and said ladies owned the carriage and horse. Ladies denied this - phaeton was theirs but horse was hired from Glover's Livery Stables, Park Lane. Grinnell admitted the horse was hired - he had forgotten to bring ticket. 1/9d was demanded and he could not pay. Glover had sent him out without ticket and money. Fined a mitigated penalty of £2.10.0 with 30/- costs.
- 4.8.1852 Letting of Cheltenham District of Turnpikes by auction at Fleece Hotel.

Lot 1. London Gate and weighing machine adjoining; Charlton Park Gate and weighing machine adjoining. Leckhampton Gate and side gate near foot of Leckhampton Hill; Shackles Gate. Product of tolls last year £1780.
 Lot 4. Dowdeswell and side gate adjoining. Product of tolls £600

Note:- during the 16 year period of these extracts the tolls from the London Gate, Charlton Park Gate and Leckhampton Gates went down by a third from £2610 to £1780; the Dowdeswell Gate tolls by more than half from £1310 to £600. One indication of the decline of the Turnpike system.

E.ARMITAGE

12. THEN AND NOW

(1) The Cost of Education - 1942

Note the 2d stamp for tax on transactions of £2 and over

CHELTENHAM: PATE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS 1943

Received from W. A. Adams Esq.
 on behalf of Mavis in respect of Fees for
~~Autumn~~ ~~Spring~~ ~~Summer~~ Term, 1942., the undermentioned amount as
 per Account No. 306

£ 2 : 5 : 6



(2) The Cost of a Funeral - 1945 (Mrs Prout's Grandmother)

5, Church Street, Charlton Kings,

(Private Address: Conway Cottage, Church Street.)

M^r Adams

5th May 1945

Dr. to

A. J. Dyer,

Undertaker and Complete Funeral Furnisher.
Burial of the Late Sarah Marie Claydon

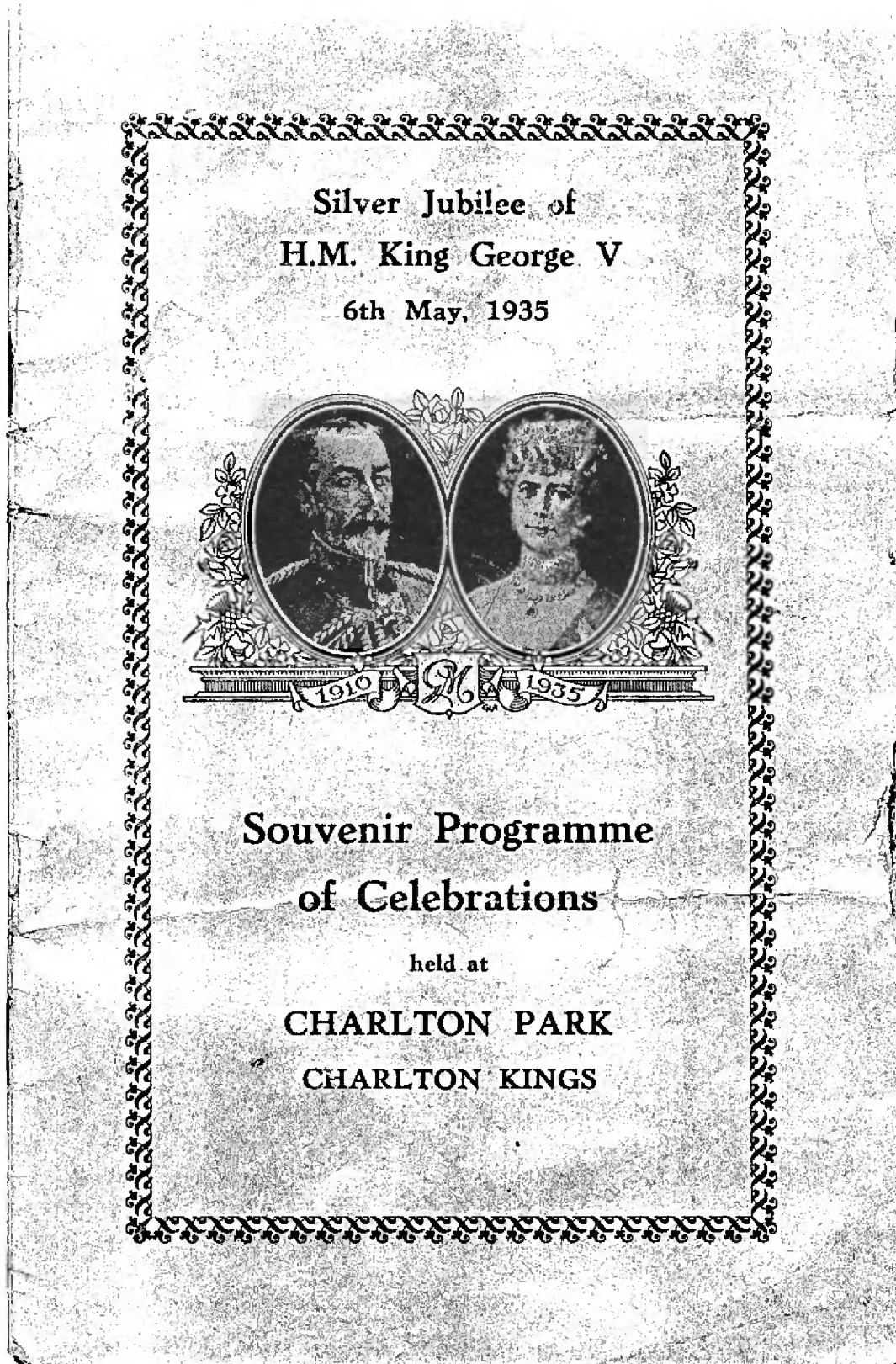
Coffin waned elm complete
Cemetery Fee with Purchased Ground
Church Fee
1 bearse & 1 car
Beasers & Attendance

8	15	0
4	2	6
	5	0
3	6	0
3	1	6
<u>£ 19</u>		<u>10 0</u>



Received with thanks
J Dyer
17th May 1945

(3) How we celebrated the King's Jubilee - 1935



PROGRAMME

Prior to the opening of the Celebrations in Charlton Park, a Thanksgiving Service will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church at 10.30 a.m.

-
- 2 p.m. **OPENING CEREMONY.**
National Anthem and breaking of the Flag.
Short address by Rev. R. H. M. Bouth, M.A., J.P.,
introduced by Mr. W. S. F. Harris, Chairman of
Charlton Kings Urban District Council.
*The flag will be broken by the Charlton Kings Troup of
Boy Scouts, supported by the Holy Apostles' Company of
Girl Guides.*
- 2.15 p.m. Children's Sports.
- 4.15 p.m. Children's Tea.
- 5.15 p.m. Children's Sports (continued).
- 7.40 p.m. Greetings to the King from the Empire broadcast by
loudspeaker.
- 8 p.m. His Majesty's Jubilee Speech to the Empire, broadcast
by loudspeaker.
- 8.10 p.m. Adult Races.
- 8.15 p.m. Presentation of Prizes. Dancing on the Green. All
the Fun of the Fair.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

During the afternoon and evening side shows available include :—

Bowling for Live Pig (Pig kindly presented by Mr. S. Shenton)	
Miniature Golf.	Coconut Shies
Spot the Stars	Roll the Penny
Table Skittles	Darts
Pin Table Bagatelle	Treasure Hunt
Ring Games	Lawn Skittles
Bowls	etc., etc.

Prizes of cigarettes or chocolates will be offered in most of the above.
Teas and refreshments for adults will be available at Popular Prices.
Music during the afternoon and evening will be provided by
Radio-Gram arranged by Mr. E. J. Fear.

Mrs MAVIS PROUT nee ADAMS

13. CHELTENHAM SETTLEMENT EXAMINATIONS - 1815-1826

The following extracts were taken from the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Record Series, edited by Irvine Gray.

Under the system of poor relief created by the Elizabethan Acts of 1597 and 1601, Overseers of the Poor were appointed annually for every parish. Their task was to provide work or maintenance for the 'indigent poor', paid from parish rates. The upheavals of the Civil War

greatly increased the numbers and mobility of the poorer classes, causing alarm over rising demands on parish rates, and resulting in the Settlement Act of 1662. This Act enabled overseers to remove, forcibly if necessary, any person likely to become chargeable to the parish, to the place where they were legally settled, 'either as a native, householder, sojourner, apprentice, or servant'.

In 1691 several means of acquiring a legal settlement were defined: serving a parish office, paying parish rates, being apprenticed in the parish, and serving a year's hiring in it if unmarried and childless. Ownership of an estate could also confer settlement at the court's discretion. From 1697 poor persons were authorized to settle in another parish if they could produce a certificate from their parish of legal settlement, undertaking to receive them back if they became a charge on the poor rate. Various further modifications of the ways in which a settlement could be gained were introduced over the years in order to mitigate some of the more inhuman aspects of the system: e.g. a wife could take the settlement of her husband and children that of their parent, so that families were not split up.

A right of appeal to Quarter Sessions against removal was included in the 1662 Settlement Act, and documents relating to such appeals together with settlement certificates, bonds, examinations and removal orders have survived. This group of Cheltenham Examinations were chosen for publication because, although rather late in date, they appear to be a complete record for the period which saw a rapid growth in the town. They relate to the Cheltenham Petty Sessional Division, then comprising the Hundreds of Cheltenham and Cleeve, plus the parish of Prestbury. The following extracts refer to the parish of Charlton Kings. A typical Examination, transcribed in full, would commence with the named person 'being sworn saith on his oath' and finish with 'he/she has never done any other act to gain a settlement elsewhere'.

4. 6 June 1815. Thomas Tale, labourer
Born in the Co. of Wilts. Three years ago last Michaelmas was hired by Mr Giles Chapman of Smithfield [perhaps a mistranscription of Southfield] in Charlton Kings for a year. About ten weeks before its expiration he asked leave to visit his friends and staid away three days. His master was dissatisfied with him for staying so long and refused to take him in unless he allowed an abatement out of his wages; he consented to allow 7/6 and served the remainder of the year. The following year he stayed with friends, but at Michaelmas 1813 he was hired by Giles Chapman for another year, which he served, and received his wages less 2/6 for two days absent. (mark) [Giles Chapman - see [Bulletin 6 p21](#)]
9. 19 September 1815. Mary Holland of Withington
Born at Withington. About 3 years ago she was hired at Cheltenham statute fair before Old Michaelmas Day by Mr John Crump of Sudeley Tenements for a year. About 7 weeks previous to Old Michaelmas last she was hired by Mrs Ballinger of Charlton Kings until Michaelmas Day, and again for a year. She continued in service until 17 August last, when her mistress finding that examinant was with child discharged her and paid her wages up to that day. (mark) Note: 'Orders made to remove to Sudeley Tenements'
14. 14 November 1815. John Combe, residing at Charlton Kings
Born in Halling [Hawling]. About 7 years ago was hired by Mr Cull of Sandford Mill for a year and continued in his service the following year, sleeping in the house attached to the mill. (mark)

15. 21 November 1815. William Page, residing in Charlton Kings
Born in Gotherington. five years ago Old Michaelmas Day last was hired in Cheltenham ... (unfinished)
28. 9 April 1816. Sarah Hemings
Born in Charlton Kings. About 3 years ago was hired by Mr Coxwell of that parish for a year. (mark)
100. 6 May 1817. Dinah Denby of Charlton Kings, singlewoman
Born in Coberley. After several services short of a year she was in August 1805 hired as a servant by the wife of (blank) Yates, then living in Grove Street, Cheltenham, for a year at £10:8:0 wages. (mark)
188. 30 June 1818. Mary Peacy, of Charlton Kings, singlewoman
Born in Cheltenham, and has lived there all her life but never gained a settlement there. Her father William Peacy has often told her he was a parishioner of Winchcomb, and he did during his lifetime to her knowledge receive parochial aid from the officers of Winchcomb. (mark)
237. 13 April 1819. Mary Bond
Born in Charlton Kings. About 2½ years ago Mrs Pates of Charlton Kings sent for her to assist her in household work one day; in the evening Mrs Pates said she should like her to stay as long as she wanted her and that she would give her two shillings a week for her purse. Under this contract she continued in Mrs Pates's service 2¼ years and received her wages as she wanted it and at some times as much as £1. When she left she received £1, being the amount of her wages to that time. (mark)
278. 11 January 1820. Joseph Lowe
Born in Badgeworth. About 8 years ago he was hired by Daniel Walker of Up Hatherley for a year at wages of £14. Two years ago last Michaelmas he took a house in Badgeworth of Mr Sadler of Bentham for a year at 4 guineas, continued for about two months, then went to Charlton Kings and took a house of John Hamlet for a year at 6 guineas, and has lived there ever since. (unfinished)
313. 22 June 1820. Hannah Parker, of Strensham, Worcs., singlewoman
Born at Southam in Bishop's Cleeve. About four years ago she lived with Mr Lawrence of ?Ham Dayhouse for a year. She afterwards went to live for two years with her friends at Southam. Last Michaelmas twelvemonth she was hired by Mr Merryman of Strensham, Worcs. for a year at wages of 2 guineas. (mark)
322. 15 August 1820. Hester Smith
Born in St. Mary's parish, Devizes, Wilts. About 3 years ago she was married to Joseph Smith in Charlton Kings, who was legally settled by apprenticeship to his father in the parish of Castle Morton, Worcs. She has had one child Elizabeth now aged about one year, and her husband has been dead about six months. (mark)
325. 29 August 1820. Mary Boswell, singlewoman
Born in Arlingham. Two years ago last Michaelmas was hired by Mr Midwinter of Charlton Kings for a year, and at the end thereof was hired by him for another year at the wages of 6 guineas. She served a fortnight in Charlton Kings and then removed with the Midwinter family to Whalley Farm in Wittington [Whittington], where she served the remainder of the year. The following year

she was hired by Mr Greenwood of Charlton Kings but quitted his service about a fortnight ago. (mark)

376. 19 June 1821. Elizabeth Hall
Born in Charlton Kings, where her parents were legally settled. About 3 years ago she was hired by Mrs Cherrington of Leckhampton for a year at wages of 3 guineas, and continued under another yearly contract the following year. She has lived in two services since, both short of a year. She is a singlewoman and is now pregnant. (mark)
377. 21 June 1821. Elizabeth Birch
Born in Elkstone. About three weeks before Michaelmas 1819 she was hired by Mr Burrows of Charlton Kings for a year. (mark)
390. (No date). John Crump, now residing in Charlton Kings
Born at Gt. Hampton, Worcs. Hired a tenement in Cheltenham of William H(illeg.) from January 1816 at the yearly rent of £12 and continued in possession for two years. (signs) Note: 'Sarah, wife, Sarah 12 years, Isaac, Jacob 9 years'
404. 4 December 1821. Elizabeth Hawkes
Her daughter Mary Hawkes was born at Wittington [Whittington]. About 28 years ago she hired her daughter to Farmer Timbrell of Charlton Kings for a year at wages of 50 shillings, and at the end of the year for another year. About two years ago her daughter was deprived of her reason. (mark)
441. 24 December 1822. Richard Colley
Born in Badgeworth. Three years ago last Michaelmas he was hired by Mr Greenwood of Charlton Kings for a year at wages of 7 guineas. In the spring he was taken ill and went home for about a fortnight; he returned to his master's service and continued until Michaelmas, when he received his wages deducting 2/6 for the time he was absent. The following year he was hired at Gloucester first Mop to Mr Hill of Wotton for a year. A few days before New Michaelmas, his master having been dissatisfied with him, discharged him, deducting three shillings for the term he had to serve ... (unfinished)
458. 27 March 1823. Susan Stroud of Charlton Kings, singlewoman
Born in Prestbury. At Michaelmas 1821 she was hired by Mr Barton of Charlton Kings for a year at ten guineas, and at the end thereof was hired by him for another year and continued in the same service until a week before Christmas. (signs)
- 490a 16 December 1823. William Clevely
Born in Charlton Kings, and has done no act since his apprenticeship to gain settlement elsewhere. (mark)
- 490b William Bliss saith that about 46 years ago the pauper William Clevely was apprenticed to him for 7 years by the parish officers of Charlton Kings, and served him two years when they parted with consent. (signs)
- 490c John Burrows, overseer of Charlton Kings, saith that the parish book he now produces was delivered to him by Mr Lovesy, the churchwarden, wherein an entry appears 8 April 1778: Paid Wm. Bliss cons[ideratio]n money with his apprentice Cleevely £8 for Ind(entu)res £1: 0: 0, for inrolling 4s.

498. 24 January 1824. Joseph Willis
Born at Badgeworth. About 5 or 6 years ago he rented a house in Newnham of Mr John Morse for a year at £14; he lived there upwards of two years and paid more than a year's rent. About the year 1809 he was married to his present wife Elizabeth at Charlton Kings, by whom he has five children: William of the age of 14, John 11, Mary Ann 8, Elizabeth 6, Caroline 2 years. (signs)
592. 17 December 1825. Jacob Constable
Born in Kempford, Worcs., where his parents were settled. Last Whit Monday, he was married in the parish church of Charlton Kings to Elizabeth Ruck, who is now dead. (signs)
640. 17 June 1826. Joseph Drew
Born in Cubberley. About 26 years ago he was hired by James Humphries of Southfield Farm in Charlton Kings for a year at six guineas. Has since married wife Mary, by whom he has had six children. One of these, James, lived with him until he was about 16 or 17, and is now married to Elizabeth who has one child by his son, an infant. About 6 years ago he was present when his son was hired to Mr Greenwood of Charlton Kings for a year at £6. (mark)

The above extracts demonstrate something of what can be learnt from settlement examinations, indeed they have been described by W.E.Tate in *The Parish Chest* as 'virtually autobiographies of persons in a class of which other biographical records are rarely found'. It can also be seen that none of the above can fairly be described as 'indigent poor'. They appear to have merely suffered those misfortunes against which the modern welfare system is designed to protect us - unemployment, sickness, early widowhood, and the occasional mistimed pregnancy.

J.SALE

14. CAPTAIN WILLIAM F.H. MORGAN - WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT

2/Lt Morgan, 1892

Captain Morgan is commemorated on the memorial in St. Mary's Hall which lists those from Charlton Kings who served in South Africa during the Boer War.

He was commissioned 2/Lieut on 5.5.1891 in the 4th (Militia) Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment and promoted Captain on 5.11.'92. By 1899 he had passed the School of Instruction.

In 1900 the 4th (Militia) Bn was re-numbered 6th (Militia) Bn.

Under a new regulation in 1900

Morgan was granted the Honorary rank of Captain in the (Regular) Army and he must have volunteered for service abroad as he was attached to the 1st Battalion and left Aldershot with that unit on 8.3.1900 to embark for S.A. He took part in operations in the Orange Free State, Feb-May 1900 (the official dates of the operations, though the Bn arrived in S.A. after they had begun); in operations in the Orange River Colony, May-October 1900, including



actions at Wittebergen, 1-29 July, and received the Queen's S.A. Medal with three clasps.

From a later entry in the Army List he appears to have had a satisfactory report for the rank of Captain following his service with the Regular Army.

He was promoted Major on 7.4.1906 and by 1910 is shown as retired, but in August 1915 he was listed as a retired Militia officer but a Major on the Reserve with effect from 23.9.1914. He does not appear in the Army Lists for July 1916. (Regimental Archives hold a good number of Army Lists, but not a complete run.) It seems, therefore, that he offered his services again soon after the outbreak of war in 1914, but, for reasons unknown, did not/could not continue to serve.

N.B. It has not been possible to trace the Colour-Sergeant and two Privates who also appear to have served in the Worcestershire Regiment from details on the memorial.

P.LOVE

15. GENERAL SIR HENRY RADFORD NORMAN K.C.B.

When General Norman died at The Hearne on 16 December 1899, Charlton Kings was not fully aware how distinguished a career his had been. Lady Norman used to tell the garden boy, Alfred Keen, stories of adventure in the Indian Mutiny but neither his son Bill nor his daughter Elsie Keen could remember what they were!

The information that follows has been extracted for us by A.J.L.Davies of the Museum of Lincolnshire Life from The History of the Tenth Foot - the 10th became part of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and that in turn part of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Lieutenant Norman took part in the Sutlej campaign of 1845-64 and the Punjab Campaign of 1848-9 (for which he received medals and 2 clasps). He was commanding two Companies when the Sepoys mutinied at Benares, and took part in subsequent actions including the siege and capture of Lucknow. He was several times mentioned in Dispatches and received a medal and clasp.

Then came a little-known episode in British history. From 1865 a multi-national protection force was kept in Japan to safeguard Legations there and to protect Ministers and their staff and any merchants or other nationals in a country where the law allowed foreigners using the sacred road to be killed. At that time Britain had a greater stake in Japan than had America. So on 4 April 1868 the Tenth arrived at Yokohama under the command of Colonel Norman and were stationed in the Hut Barracks. "Threatened outbreaks were almost everyday occurrences and the men were frequently called to arms at night - in addition to such matters of minor import as typhoons, small-pox epidemics and earthquakes". Colonel Norman maintained his Battalion in a "fine state of efficiency" and comment was made "on the smart soldier-like appearance of the men, on the freedom with which they handled their arms and the perfect manner in which they performed the bayonet exercise."

This Japanese service ended on 8 August 1871, and after a period at Hong Kong and Singapore, Lt Colonel Norman retired on half pay in 1873. He and Lady Norman settled at The Hearne (which they leased) in 1874. They had no local connection and were not related to the Norman family referred to in Bulletin 33.

General Norman was given the rank of Major General antedated to 1870 and then Lieutenant General in 1881. When he died, his widow presented the south transept window in his memory. She was buried on 11 June 1914 aged 89.

A.J.L.DAVIES

(grandson of Mrs Eva Davies of Little Herberts flats)



LT.-GEN. SIR HENRY RADFORD NORMAN, K.C.B.

16. HOLY APOSTLES CHOIR PHOTOGRAPH

Bulletin 33 showed a photograph of Holy Apostles Choir lent to us by Mrs Joyce Young. Since then more information has come to light - the date was 1948 and the following choir members have been identified:

1. Roger Apperley (Lived in Oakland St)
2. Mavis Bishop (now Allenack) Her husband still sings in H.A.Choir (live in Sandford Mill Rd.)
8. Maureen Blatchford
10. Stephanie (Blair?) Teacher at H.A.School
12. Keith Soule. Son of Six Ways Blacksmith Fred Soule (not Ken Mills)
13. Joan James. Married to Rev. Peter Absolon
15. Tony Middleton. Grandson of Middleton, Builder, Cirencester Rd.
16. George Nourse - Rosehill St.
20. Rev. Peter Baker
26. John (Elstone?)
27. Brian Appleyard
30. Jeremy Furness. Father was a gifted music teacher who also played Gaumont Organ (now Odeon)
33. Michael Bond
34. Richard Apperley - younger brother of No.1

BRENDA PARR

Member of Holy Apostles Choir 1944 - 1984

17. NOGLINS - A CORRECTION TO BULLETIN 32

Everything I wrote about the medieval Barrowhope freehold stands except my identification of it, and of the sketch by Powell in 1824 with the cottages known as Noglins.

The 1858 Rate book proves that Noglins were 5 cottages belonging to Charlton Brewery, which stood next door to Brunswick Villa on the west side of Cirencester Road. The ancient house on the end of Blind Lane/Croft Road, marked on the tithe map as the only building on the inclosure called Pumphreys Piece (TM 264) had passed into the ownership of the Pumphrey family in the later 17th century and by 1824 had been divided into cottages still called in the 1858 Rate Book 'Pumphreys Cottages', though the family had left Charlton long before. The owner in 1848 was Conway Whithorne Lovesy's representative, in 1858 his daughter Georgiana Charlotte Eykyn, and in 1882 and 1897 the widower J.H.Eykyn.

The modern house called Pumphreys House is first marked in 1901. A building shown on the 1888 25" O.S. probably belonged to the brewery and is marked as more or less where Pumphreys Road now runs.

M.PAGET