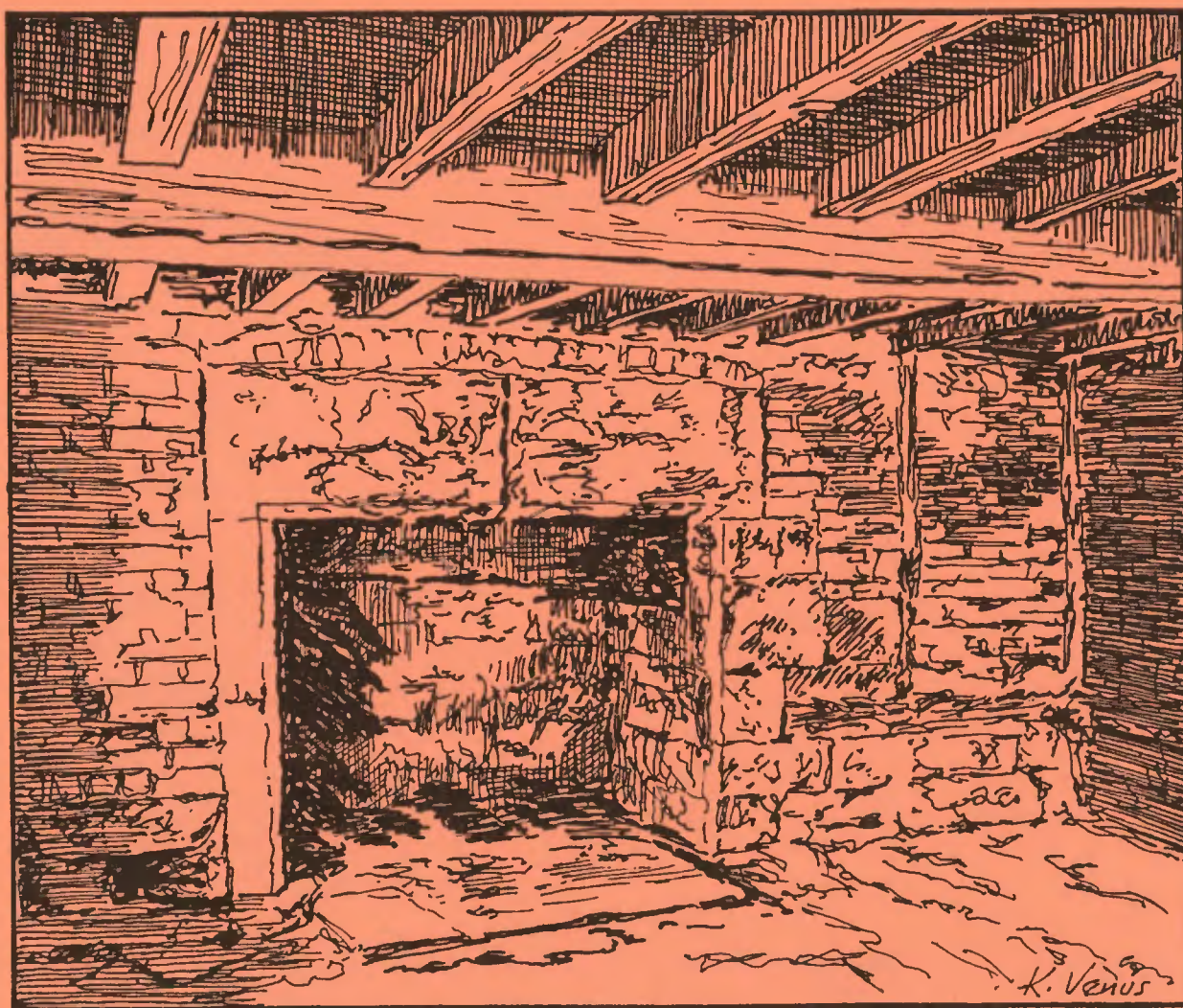


CHARLTON KINGS  
LOCAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY



BULLETIN 35

## CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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The Bulletin is published twice a year. Indexes are available to Bulletins 1-7 price £2, to Bulletins 8-17 and 18-27 price £5 each. Parish Registers: I 1538-1634 price £2; II 1634-1700 price £3; III 1700-1760 price £5; IV 1760-1812 price £5  
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Cover picture - The Open Fireplace at Park Cottage, drawn by Ken Venus

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Note. Our especial gratitude is due to Ken Venus for doing so many maps and drawings for this Bulletin

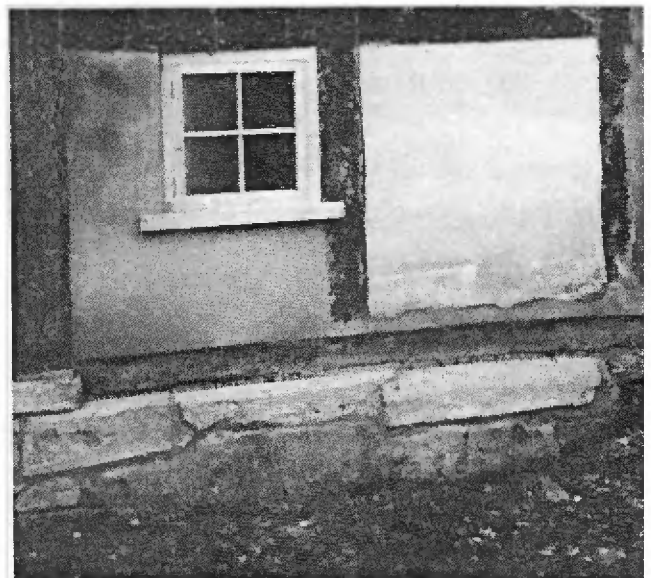
## 1. UPDATE ON PARK COTTAGES

The summer of 1995 saw the start of a much-needed rescue of Nos. 1 & 2 Park Cottages and their restoration to a single dwelling. Mary Paget and I were equipped with hard hats and allowed to examine the structure of the building and to take photographs. Our visit enabled us to update Linda Hall's survey made in 1993 and published in Bulletin 32. At that time access was limited to No.1, the north eastern half of the building, and many of its early features were concealed beneath later additions. It also provided answers to some of Mary's queries after her later look at No.2, also written up in Bulletin 32.

Our Director of Research  
at work, and the builder  
engrossed in Bulletin 32



The builders had cleared away the accumulation of soil against the back wall so we could see that Linda had been right in assuming that the timber framework on that wall was indeed supported on a low stone wall. The drawing and photograph below show the rotting wooden sill resting on a stone base and the same view after restoration.



An interior view shows the stone base continuing along the southern end of the building. It also shows the open fireplace below the large projecting stack, with two separate stones forming its lintel, and a bread oven incorporated in the side of it.



Linda considers this plain square style of lintel could date from the C15, C16 or C17, though C16 ones are more commonly moulded with a four-centred arch. She was interested in the way one side of the fireplace was made of a solid slab of stone while the other had been built up of several smaller stones, and wondered if this was because of the siting of the bread oven.

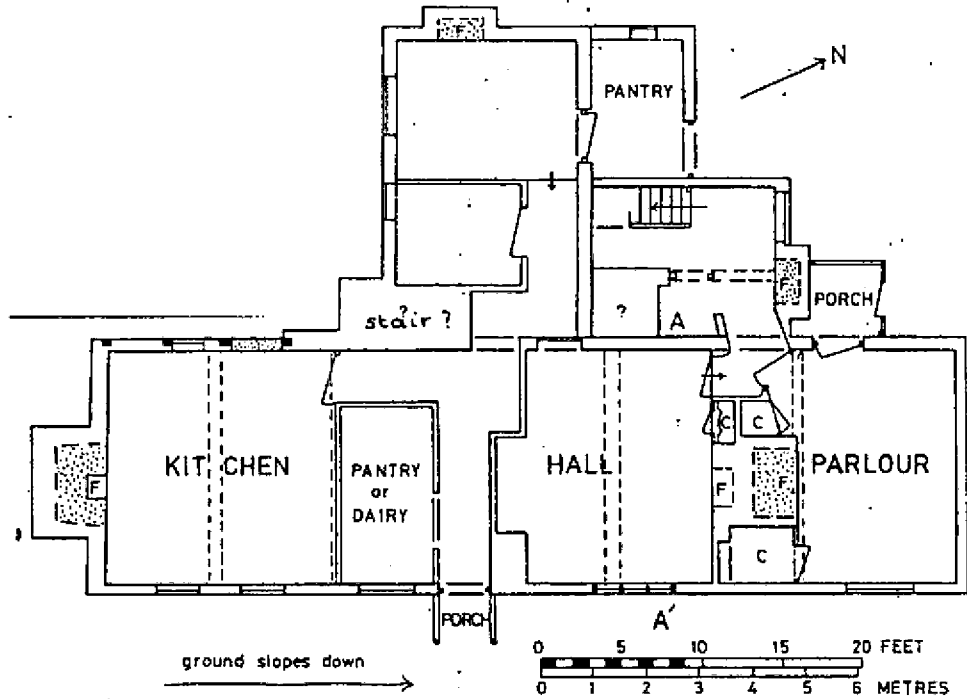
The back-to-back fireplaces below the second stack have brick arches and are a later addition.

The 1885 plan shows a single fireplace, so the smaller one (as on Linda's plan) is relatively recent.

Ken's drawing shows the hall side of this fireplace, with Linda's suggested doorway to the right of it. It also shows the curving cut-away beam which formed the alcove in the dividing wall between the two halves of the building.

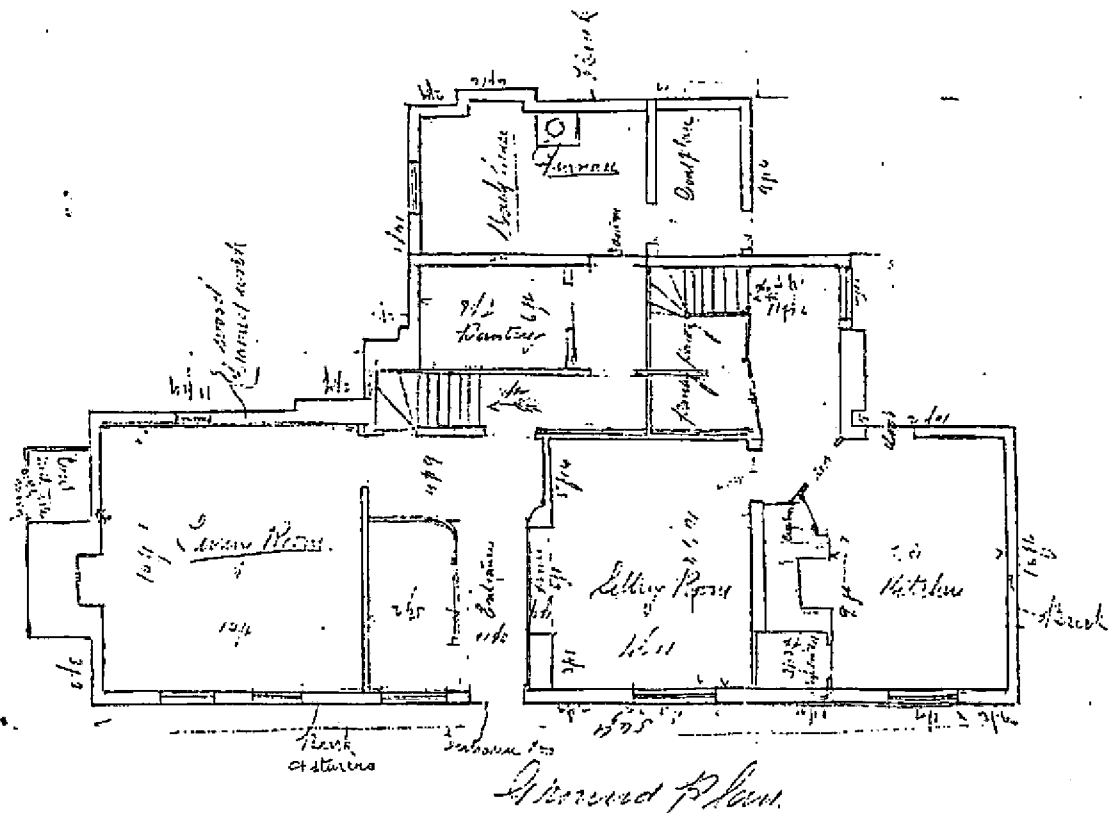


Plan drawn by Linda Hall in October 1993

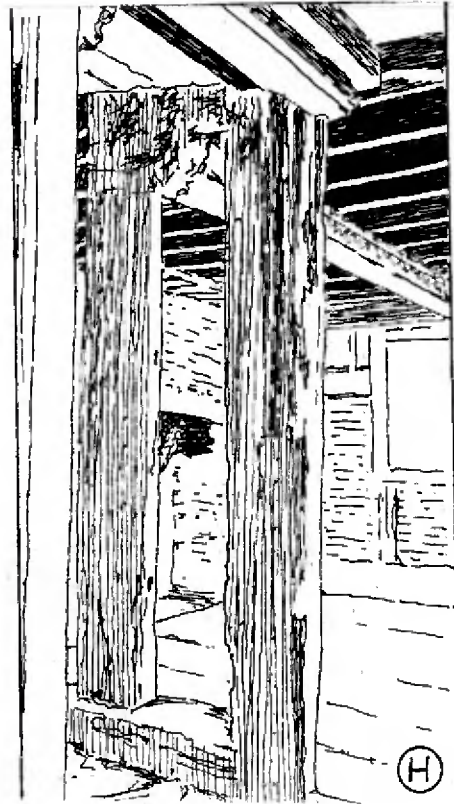


Plan drawn by Waller, Son & Wood, Architects, Gloucester. 1885. (GRO D 2593)

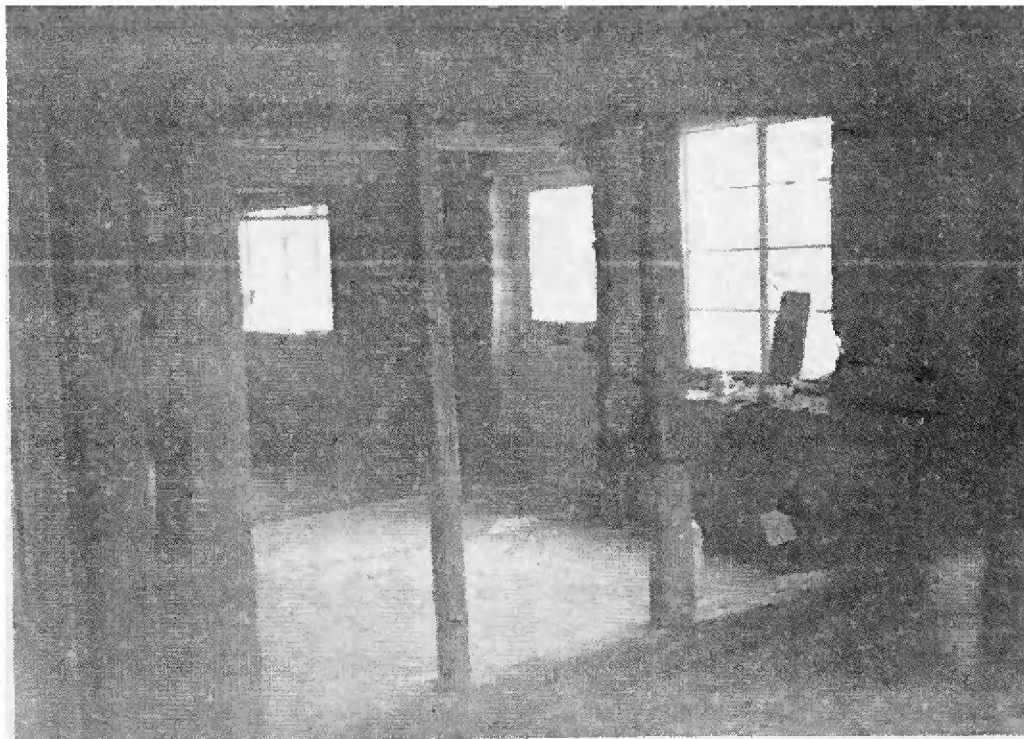
N.B. The internal fireplace has only one hearth at this period.



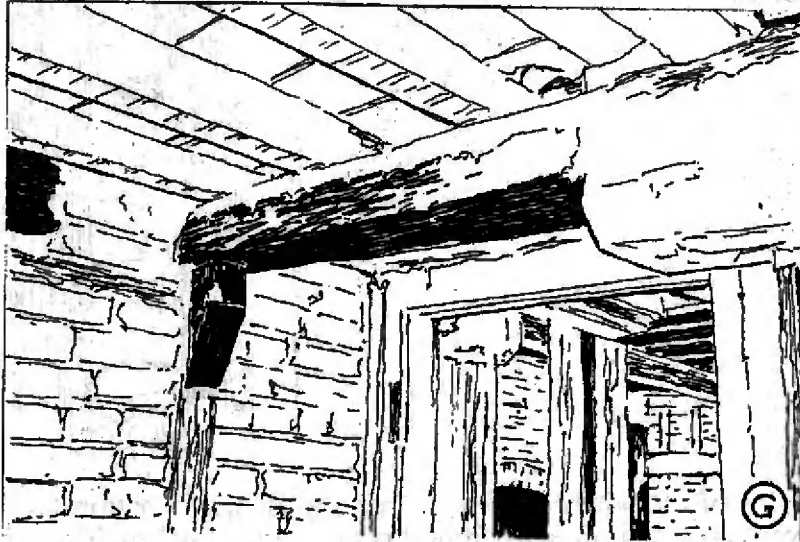
Most of the ground floor dividing walls had been removed by the time we got there, but some timber framing without any infill could be seen, such as this wall at the back of the hall, dividing it from an outshot.



The partition separating off the kitchen has a sill running along the bottom of the frame, so there would not have been a door directly from this area to the kitchen. This casts doubt on Linda's idea of it being a pantry/dairy - it seems more likely that the centre of the building was originally one large open area. A C19 plan of the building shows this area partitioned off and accessible only to the entrance hall. As the cottage then housed an estate steward it is possible that this area was a 'farm office', where business could be carried on without entering the main area of the house.

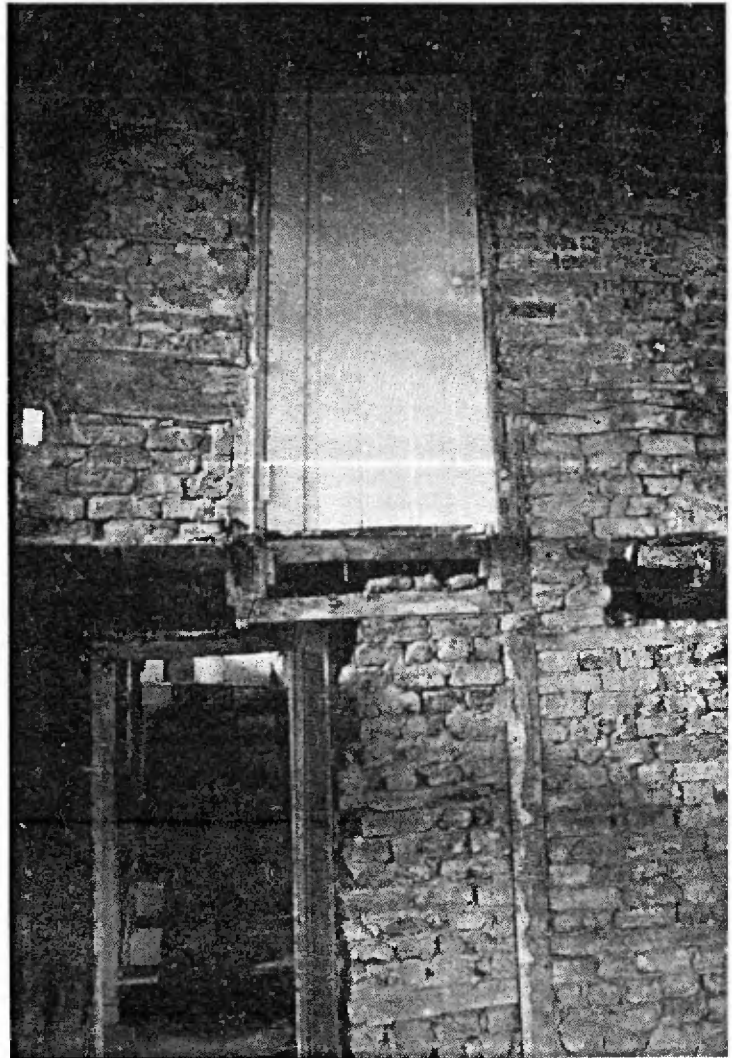


A very large beam, later partly cut away, in the extension at the back suggests that this part of the building was older than previously supposed - probably it took the form of an 'outshot' to house the stairs.



Other timbers, such as the beam shown in this photograph, cut across by an upstairs doorway, and the one in the ceiling of the downstairs bathroom of No.2., commented on by Mary in Bulletin 32, suggest that the extension was added to in stages.

The mystery of the two stone brackets previously noted by Mary can also be explained by signs of another staircase having been sited at the back of the extension which would have been supported by these brackets.

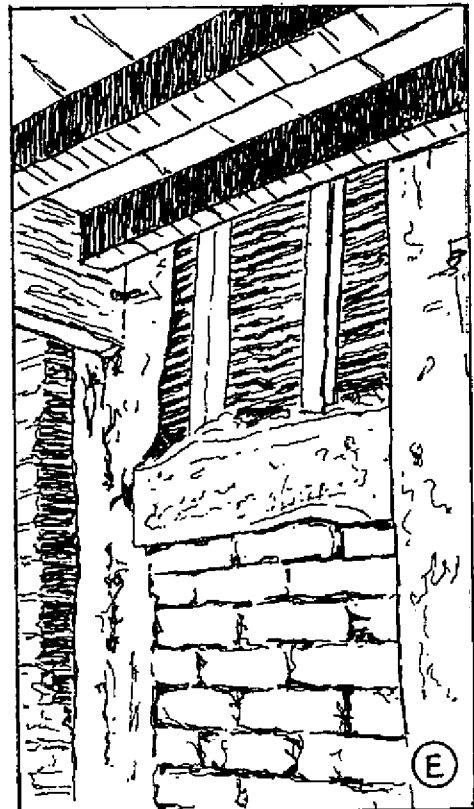




A feature that Linda found particularly interesting was the remains of an early window found under the stairs. This she described as 'with its diamond mullions - a typical medieval unglazed window'. She thought it might have been reduced in height and could be evidence for a medieval open hall with tall windows set fairly high in the walls.

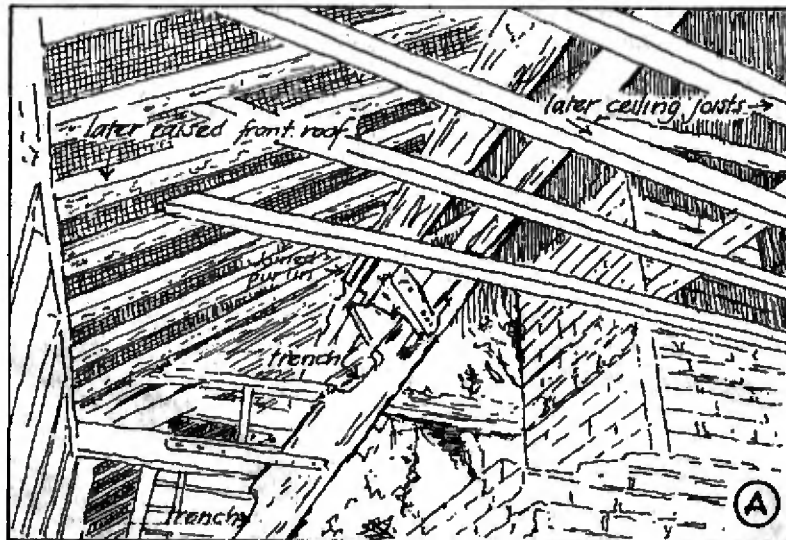
Another possible early window was uncovered on the front wall of the house. Linda was less convinced about this one - 'the unshaped, square-set studs do not look very much like window mullions to me. Could it in fact be a blocked doorway with its dated timber its lintel?' To me though, it seems rather narrow, as well as rather low, for a door and more likely to have been a high window. The early mullions could have been replaced, perhaps at the time when the date '1605' was scratched into the sill.

Ken's drawing F is the one under the stairs and E the one in the front wall.



The upstairs of the building proved particularly interesting as we could see clearly the structure of the roof, the close studding at the front of the house, and the internal wall divisions.

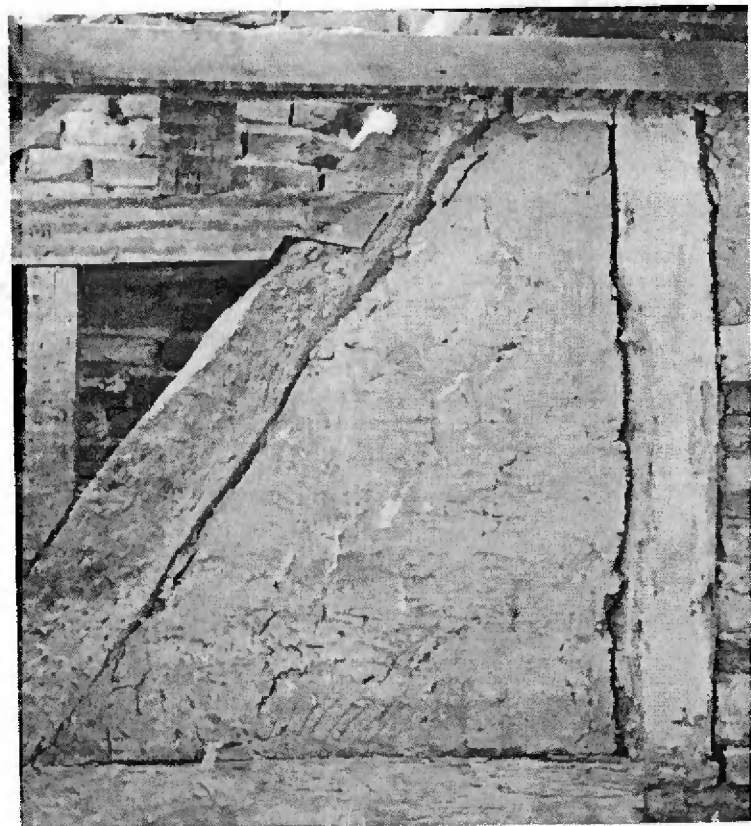
Drawing A is a view looking up into the roof from the room at the north end. It shows the pair of purlins linked together which I had photographed through a hole in the back roof (see Bulletin 33). It also shows clearly how the brick chimney was set against the wall rather than being incorporated into it.



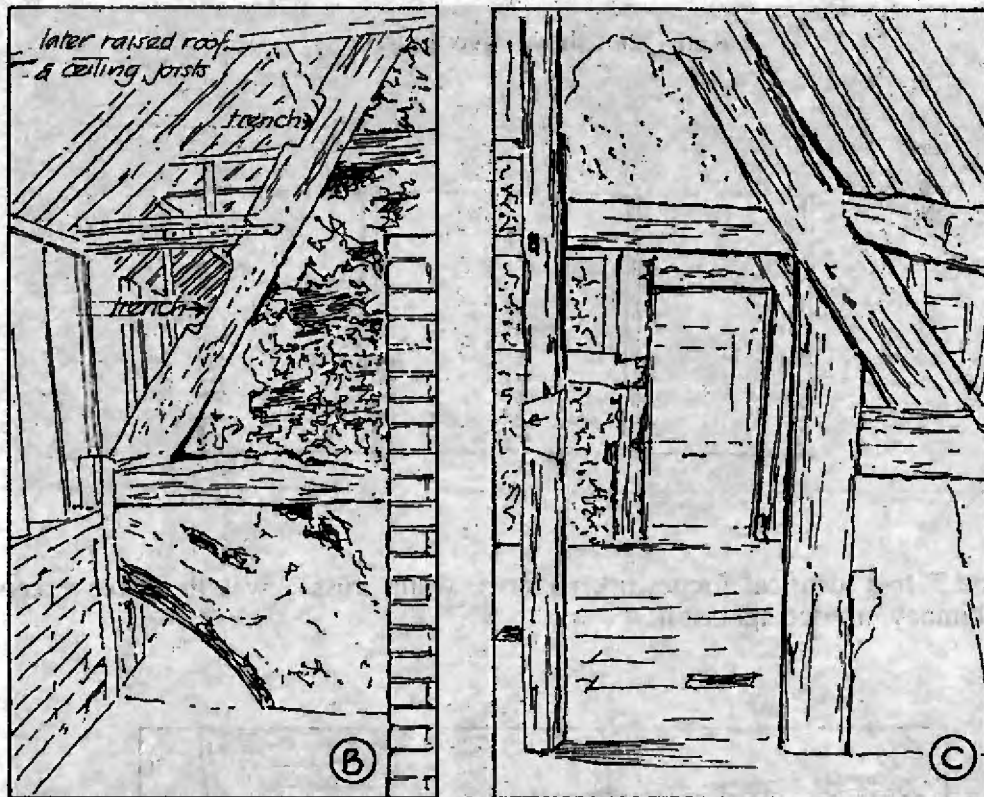
The back roof of the building was steep, with the rafters resting directly on 'wall plates' - horizontal beams forming the top of the wooden framework.

The front roofline had been raised to provide height for first floor windows.

In this case the rafters were attached to the exterior frame by wooden lap joints.



Drawing B illustrates examples of 'trenching' in a principal rafter where earlier purlins would have rested in the way shown in C - a view of the back roof.



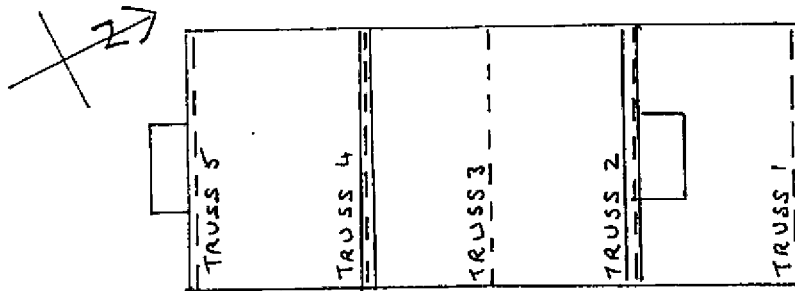
It is probable that the insertion of the studding in the upstairs of the front wall took place at the same time as the raising of the roof line. The use of close studding became popular in some parts of England in the C15 but has not been found in this area earlier than the mid-1500s. It continued to be fashionable during the following century, especially in buildings of some social status, such as those of the gentry or prosperous farmers, and perhaps added to the appeal of the house to Dr.English when he was appointed Curate of Cheltenham.

Mary Paget feels that the closeness of this studding dates it to c 1600.

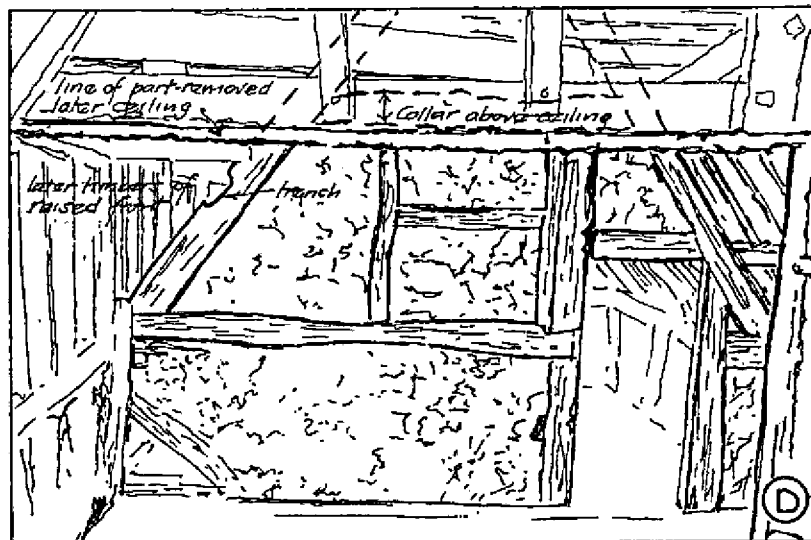


The upstairs wall divisions consisted of roof trusses, with additional timber bracing, infilled with wattle and daub. Mary noticed that there was no sign of cow's hair in the daub, only mud and straw - both of which were readily available from the nearby Chelt and adjacent tythe barn.

Ken's plan shows five trusses



Trusses 4 and 5 had identical framework patterns, while truss 2 was the same except for having the chimney inserted against it.

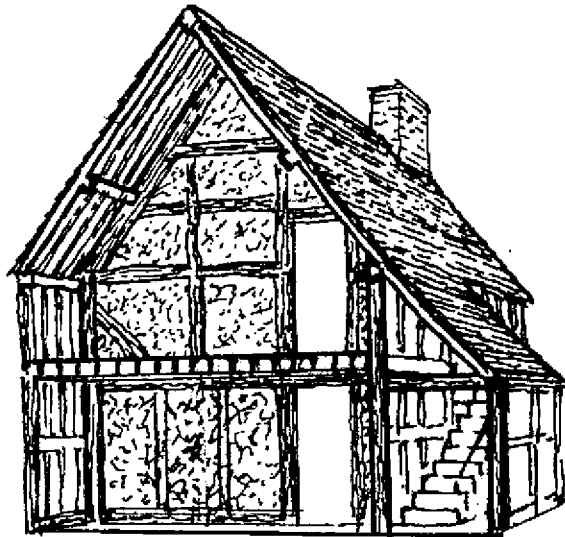


No.3 was merely a lightweight wattle and daub construction, and no.1 a plain brick wall supporting the roof timbers.

From this pattern of trusses, it seems that the original building extended from Truss 5 to Truss 2, and that the fireplace and room at the northern end were later additions

To sum up my thoughts on the development of this building - from the evidence provided by the square timber panelling on the back wall, the early window under the stairs, and the style of the stone fireplace it is perfectly possible, but not proven, that part of this house could date from the C15. At that period it is likely that the central area, between trusses 4 and 2, was open to the roof - the height of the early windows gives an indication of this. At some later stage, an outshot was added at the back to provide space for the stairs and maybe at this stage the central area was ceilinged and the room above partitioned by truss 3. Later still the house was extended northwards, providing an additional fireplace and the room beyond it, and the outshot enlarged to provide service rooms. In the early C17 the front roof was raised, and the close studding and upstairs windows inserted. Documentary evidence shows that the house was first divided into two dwellings in the early C18. The plan drawn up in 1885 shows it very much as it has been in living memory until the recent return to one dwelling.

(Mary Paget's comment on the extension northwards: later than the original hall house but not much later than c1605, perhaps by 1626, otherwise the house would have had no parlour and not been suitable for Dr.English. Alternatively, the original truss may have been replaced by John Prinn?).



Ken's drawing shows a section through the building, complete with 'outshot'.

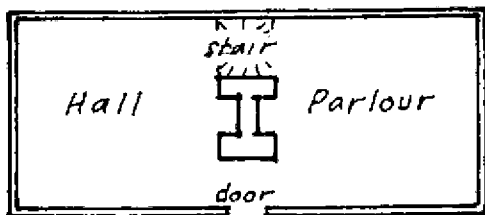
This 'artist's impression' gives an idea of how the building may have looked in its early days.

My thanks go to the builders, Mansion House GB Ltd, for their willing co-operation and kind concern for our well-being.

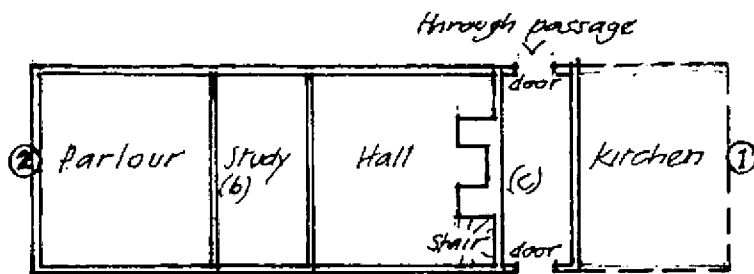
Photographs by Tony Sale and myself. Drawings by Ken Venus, whose help in the preparation of this article was invaluable and much appreciated.

**JANE SALE**

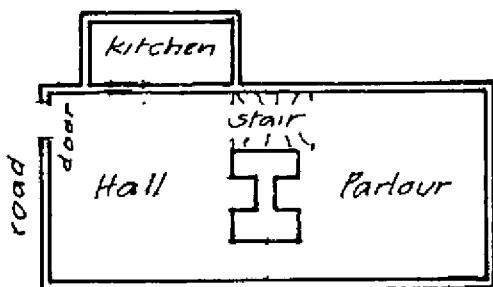
These diagrams omit later features.



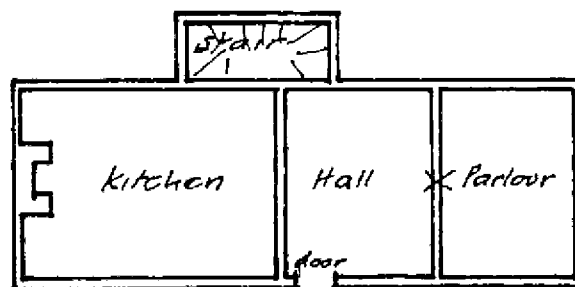
TYPE 1 road



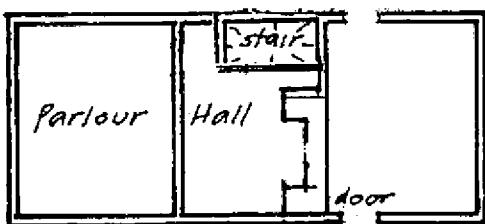
TYPE 5 (a) road



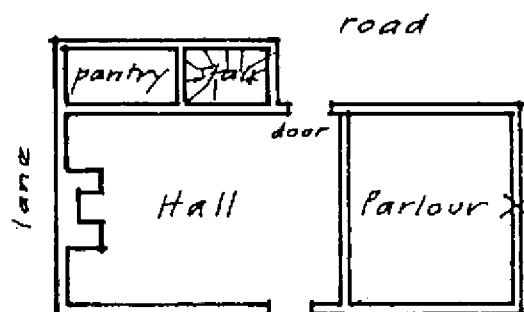
TYPE 2



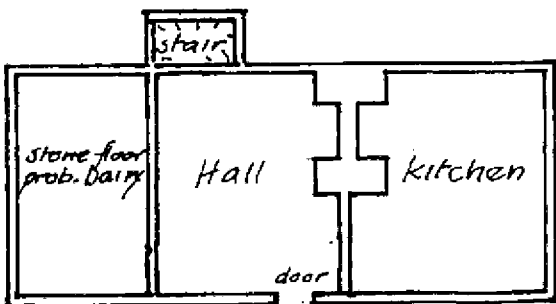
TYPE 6 road



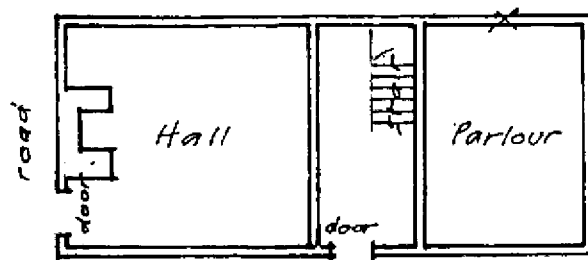
TYPE 3 buttness road



TYPE 7



TYPE 4 road



TYPE 8

## 2. DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSES IN CHARLTON KINGS c 1560 - 1620

By the mid 16th century, desire for more accommodation and fear of fire risk from open hearths induced people to add an upper floor (usually reached by a winder stair) a stone fireplace and stone chimney stack. By the early 17th century, Cheltenham courts were forcing tenants to follow suit. We have now looked at enough Charlton Kings houses to be able to make some generalizations about the pattern of development here.

### I. All these houses were basically an oblong block

There were two options, a central stack (with one or two fire places) and a winder stair against it, or a single fire with external stack on an end wall, the stair sometimes in an outshot on one side of the house. If the house already had a through passage, which could be partitioned from the hall, a straight stair might be put there. Chimney stacks were built of stone although the houses were all timber framed.

#### A. Chimney stack in Centre

Type 1. Double fireplace in central stack, winder stair against stack, main door from road opening on to stack. e.g. Knappings - 15th century, added to later. (Bulletin 23) and Charlton Cottage, late 16th century, altered in 17th. (Bulletin 15)

Type 2. Central stack, double fireplace and winder stair, but door in corner of hall, because that side faced the road. e.g. Hawthorn's/King's House, rebuilt c 1610. The kitchen may be slightly later. (Bulletin 18)

Type 3. Central chimney stack built against the outside wall, necessitating a buttress to support it. Single fire (position of through passage and front door show there could not have been a second fire. e.g. Elborough Cottage, Cudnall St., 15th century, chimney probably added on marriage of John Stubbe and Joyce Marten in 1559, stair by stack. (Bulletins 17 & 19)

Type 4. Similiar but with double fire, stair in outshot. e.g. Wager Court, 16th century, as it was before the 1912-14 rebuilding of the oldest part. (Bulletin 1)

Type 5. A minor manor house. e.g. Ham Court (Bulletins 20 & 21) Rebuilt c 1608-11. Single hearth and stack with winder stair at (a) replaced later by staircase at (b). Through passage. Later stair (c) put against back of stack. The 17th century kitchen (dotted lines) later replaced by stone one, may have had a hearth at (1). Parlour fire added c 1680 at (2). Inventory 1685 speaks of parlour, hall, study and kitchen.

#### B. Chimney stack and hearth at one end (only one fire)

Type 6. Stone chimney at end, stair in outshot, later fire at x to serve parlour added about 1627. e.e. Park Cottage, 15th century partly rebuilt 1605. (Bulletins 32 & 35) Old Ham Farm is apparently of this type but with no second chimney (position of stair not known).

Type 7. Stair and pantry in outshot, pantry appears to be original. e.g. Brevels Haye, newly built c 1560 (Bulletin 29)

Type 8. Chimney at end, later fireplace at x. Through passage re-used for stair. Entry by stack. e.g. Ryeworth Farm, rebuilt c 1560-70. (Bulletin 27)

## II. Houses with cross-wings

1. New Court, built c 1550, probably for Sir Henry Compton - no previous house on the site. (Bulletins 9 & 29) Staircases to upper floors over wings. Hall open till c 1613.

2. Forden House/Charlton Park, rebuilt c 1564-9 by Giles Grevill. (Bulletin 8)

Both these houses to be discussed in Bulletin 36.

M.PAGET

## 3. TIMBERCOMBE WOOD

We used to think that the medieval landscape was densely wooded. Oliver Rackham's books, The History of the Countryside (1986) and Trees and Woodland in the British Landscape (revised edition 1990) have made us aware that, on the contrary, very little thick woodland remained even in 1086 - in Gloucestershire east of the Severn only 9.6% of the land area compared with 4.7% in 1895. (1) Consequently the exact history of any woodland is very important.

### 1. Timbercombe - an ancient woodland

In the whole of Charlton Kings, the only ancient woodland is a small part of Timbercombe wood, the area (1a 1r 38p) marked as woodland on the tithe map of 1848. This assertion is proved by Charlton Park estate records.(2)

By the end of the 18th century, when Dodington Hunt redeemed his land tax, that estate owned more than three quarters of the whole parish, the only other major landowner being John Whithorne. There was very little woodland of any sort on Hunt's property, 20 "groves" are listed (artificial plantings of small groups of trees) and 35 small coppices (mostly on steep edges, along roadsides, and by streams.) The only area called "wood" is a section of Timbercombe, much of it turned into meadow or pasture.

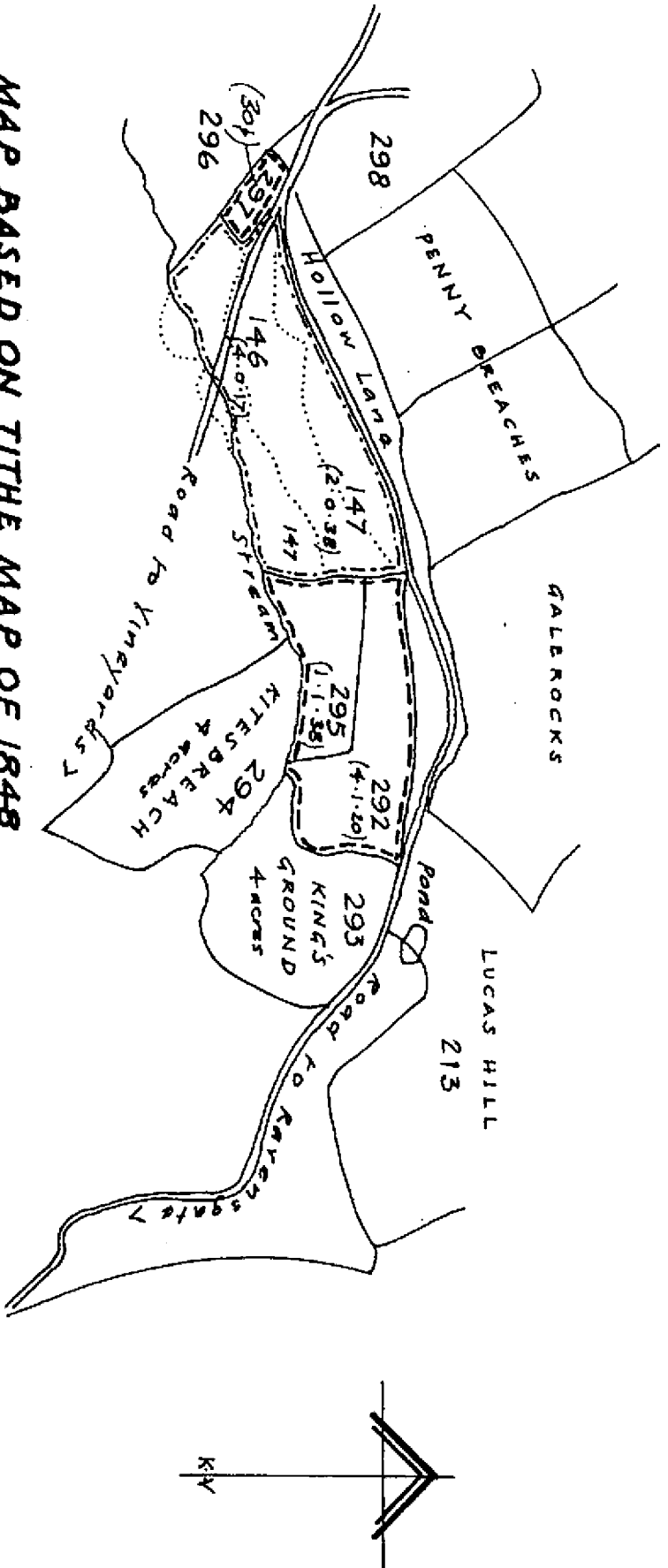
Slightly more woodland, but again in very small patches is shown on the estate map which accompanied the dis-entailing deed of 31 May 1843. Then the only sizeable area of wood was Humbly How Grove (9a 2r 21p). (Later to be replanted with conifers, "The Larches", which were felled during the 1914-18 War and not replanted again for 25 years.) Even the promontory by Vineyards Bank, above Lynch Lane, was not wooded in 1843. It is named on the map Harras Grove, but the centre had been cleared and just a fringe of trees remained round the steep edges.

At Timbercombe, the total 6a 1r 13p belonging to the estate was divided between furze (the middle section of No. 147) and grove (along the road and above the stream No. 146). Both gorse and plantation were meant to encourage foxes, a shift in interest from agriculture to hunting. (Mitchell's map in 1806 marked Kennels in the park). By 1888 (OS 25"), all the Charlton Park land was wooded again.



**MAP BASED ON TITHE MAP OF 1848  
& CHARLTON PARK ESTATE MAP 1843**

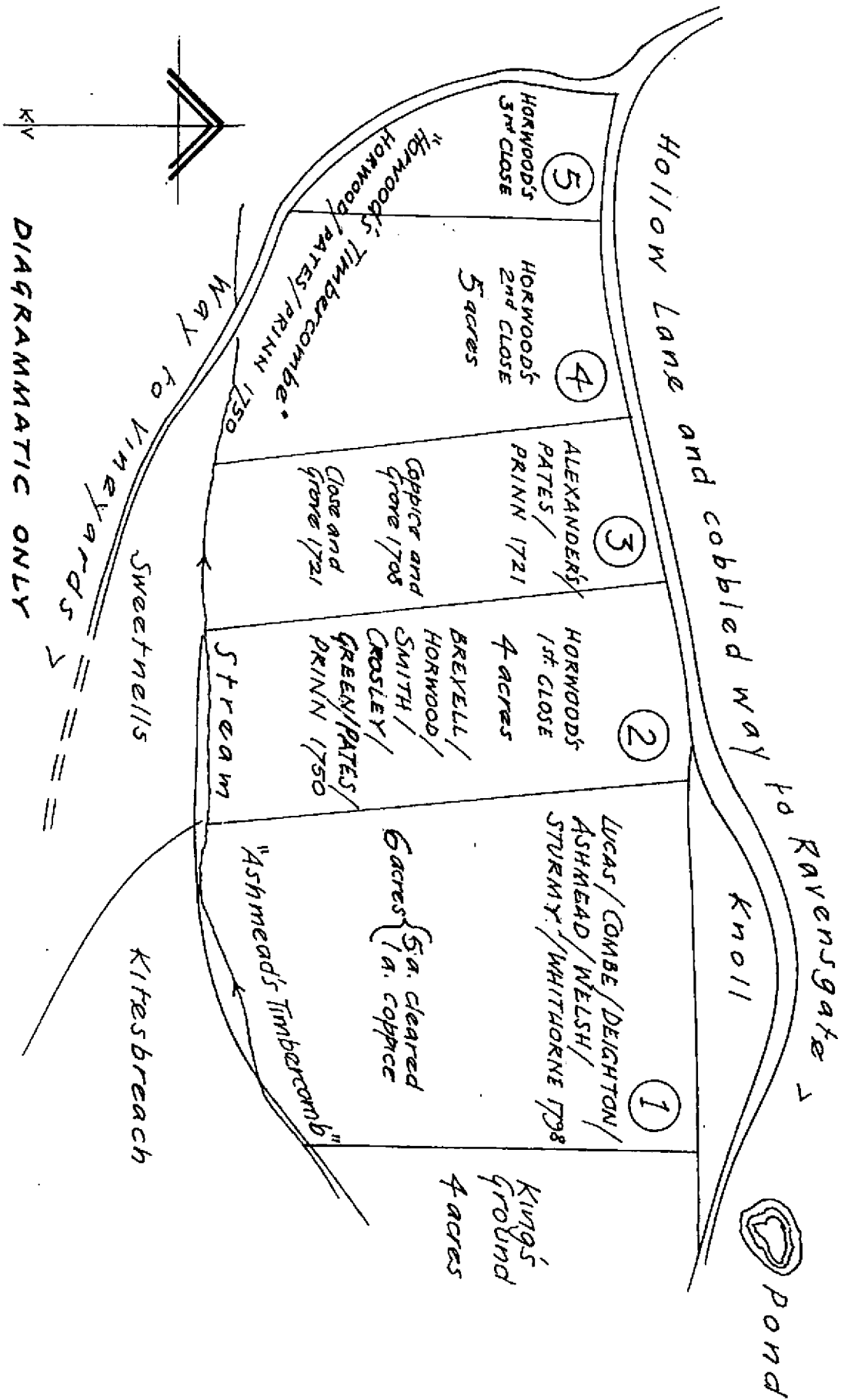
figures in brackets (4.0.17) = area in Acres. Roads. Poles



..... dotted lines on parcels 146 & 147  
show boundaries between types of land use  
in 1843 from a map: this was { 146 Grove  
of Charlton Park Estate 147 Furze

bordered thus }  
from the tithe map 1843  
Parcel no. 146 } Charlton Park Estate  
Parcel no. 147 }

bordered thus }  
from the tithe map 1848  
Parcels no. 292 & 295 } Timbercombe ground  
Conway Whitthorne Lovasy, Esq.



The area of Timbercombe which has never been cleared belonged in 1848 to John Whithorne's eventual heir, Conway Whithorne Lovesy.(TM 295) It is the lower part of the present wood, just above the stream; and can be identified by the old coppice stools still managing to survive in spite of years of neglect. Some stools were cut in the 1950s and '60s, but not the laurels and not all the sycamore. As a result the very large ancient stools are now much decayed through competition.

## 2. Timbercombe in 1995

On 13 November 1995, Jane Sale and I measured the circumference of two large wych-elm stools and the largest sycamore stool we could find. They were 48ft, 39ft and 26ft round (leaving out extra inches). The largest is at least 15ft across from east to west (perhaps rather less north to south because the fall of the ground encouraged a sideways spread.) The girth of these stools shows that coppicing has been practised here for a very long time.

This was a wych-elm wood, one of those described by Rackham as "fringes at the bottom of slopes", common anywhere between Devon and Scotland.(3) Wych is the only kind of elm that does not sucker. So the larger stools in Timbercombe are the result of regular coppicing, not of invasion. It is a fast growing tree and a stool will be fit to cut again in 20 - 30 years if intended for studs, rafters or even beams. The wych-elm in my garden, cut down in 1975, is now a tall tree again with a trunk 3ft 3ins in circumference at 5ft from the ground and 7ft 8ins at ground level. Another of the same age had a trunk 21ins in diameter at ground level when cut down in 1994. Of course an elm in Timbercombe would not grow quite so big in 20 years because of the poorer soil. Elm wood was commonly used in houses because it is fast growing and (except between air and soil) resistant to rot.

The sycamore stools show that they were coppiced too, though not over so long a period. Sycamore may have been deliberately planted. It is a dreadful seeder so that one tree will soon produce a hundred, and its fallen leaves rot slowly which damages undergrowth. Ash is nearly as bad at seeding, though its leaves rot faster and are not so troublesome. It too grows fast. The ash in Timbercombe may have come from the line of ashes planted on both sides of the cobbled track beyond the pond. (When they were planted, this was still a minor highway.) Because they were pollarded regularly, they did not seed excessively. There is very little hazel in this wood - one old field maple remains by the cobbled path.

Under the stools in the old wood is dogs mercury, "a good indication of ancient woodland in the Midlands" (4), and ransoms which flourish in the damp soil near the stream. Bluebells, another plant of ancient woodland, were always present and spread considerably after a major tree-felling c 1922-3. Now they grow wherever there is enough light. They will probably spread again since ash and sycamore have been singled last autumn and much of the c1898 laurel (not bushes but tall trees) cut right down.

## 3. The medieval wood

The name "Timbercombe" is recorded in 1610 and must go back much further. It indicates that this area lying on the south-west slope of a ridge contained some fairly large trees as well as much underwood, and had been left deliberately when the north-eastern slope was cleared for cultivation in the 14-15th centuries to create arable, the Penny Breaches, Gale-rocks, and Lucas Hill. The Timbercombe slope runs down to the stream already mentioned, a tributary of the Lilleybrook. Below the stream are fields called Sweetmells and Kitesbreach, "Breach" again indicating late medieval clearance. One reason for allowing the Timbercombe slope to remain as woodland may have been its exposure to the SW wind and its heavy soil.

Stools in Timbercombe 1994 - with dogs mercury and bluebells



It was not left because access was difficult. At the crest of the ridge is one of our oldest roads, the Hollow Way (in use by 1154 at least). Parallel to it is the cobbled track which used to be sign-posted "To Ravensgate and Pegglesworth", a route from Charlton to the Gloucester to Stow road and a main road in the 16th century.

In a parish where all houses were timber framed, it was necessary to preserve a source of wood for building and fuel. Every medieval woodland contained a few medium or large trees to provide the major timbers for housebuilding - witness the size of the crucks and beams in a 15th century house like Knappings - but it had a great deal more coppice from which wood could be cut at 20 year intervals for rafters and timber-framing. Rods for wattle and daub could be cut at 7-10 years growth. The trash and dead wood served for fuel.

- (1) Rackham Trees and Woodland p 51
- (2) Gloucestershire Record Office D1224
- (3) Rackham op cit p228
- (4) ibid p 133

#### 4. THE HISTORY OF TIMBERCOMBE FROM COURT BOOKS (GRO D855)

There is no evidence for any clearance in Timbercombe at the time of the second inclosure agreement in 1564. (D 855 M 68; Bulletin 30)

Nothing appears to have been done for the next 40 years either, which covers a period of active house rebuilding, when timber must have been in great demand. Timbercombe was part of Cheltenham manor and all customary or freehold land of any kind ought to have been included in Norden's 1617 Survey. (M17; Bulletin 18 pp35-40) Yet he only mentions two inclosures here, each of 2 acres. So it would seem that the clearance of the wood did not start in earnest till after 1617 and was accomplished in the next 25 years, leaving only a small area of difficult land near the stream.

It seems that some Charlton and Bafford tenants: Lucas of Churchend House (The Grange), Pates of Alexander's messuage (Bafford), and the Brevells of Moorend Street (Park Cottage), had had the right to cut underwood in Timbercombe; later these men were allotted or purchased sections of the wood to hold in several.

- (1) Combe's Close, previously Lucas's

Lucas's messuage passed to the Goodrichs and then to the Cartwrights (see Bulletin 29 pp 23-7); and Cartwright sold his allocation in Timbercombe to William Combe of Charlton House in Cudnall - there is a reference back to the transaction in M11 p218.

The first mention of any activity in the wood is in 1610, when ditches along the cobbled road were being cleared and William Combe was said to have a 'wayneshard' or hard standing for carts in Timbercombe next the way leading towards Ravensgate. This standing could have been used by men coppicing, to get fallen timber and wood away. But it could mean that William Combe was preparing to clear his section completely (M 8 f 66v). However, he died early the following year and was buried on 25 March 1611.

His widow married the doctor Samuel Deighton (see Bulletin 10). Unfortunately for us, Norden in 1617 left the entry about Deighton incomplete. His was after all only a life interest. His wife was holding all her first husband's property for her life and 12 years according to

manorial custom before the 1625 Act. In 1629 there is a reference to Deighton's close in Timbercombe (M 10 f 22); he was not buried till 18 September 1643.

Meanwhile some other land which had gone with Lucas's messuage was sold on 25 November 1646 by Thomas Cartwright and Elizabeth Heyward, widow to Thomas Ashmead senior, and his heirs. These were the 2 closes of pasture on the north-eastern slope of the ridge, called Lucas Hills (6 acres) and Little Frecknell (M 11 f 8). Ashmead was picking up any odd bits of land in Charlton or Naunton that he could get. He lived at Up End, probably in a house on the site of Lilleybrook (now Cheltenham Park Hotel) - this accounts for his interest in the Timbercombe area. In 1660 it is noted that he had previously bought of William Combe part of a messuage late Cartwright's; and this means (I think) that Combe had sold him the reversion of his section of the wood after his wife's interest came to an end. Certainly Ashmead's family did own part of the wood as well as the named closes.

Thomas Ashmead (I) was buried on 24 October 1663; and the death of his heir Thomas (II) was reported in court on 12 October 1694, John his son being the next heir (M 12 p137). Thomas Ashmead (III) married Amy Hathaway and on 27 May 1725 settled closes including Lucre Hill and Timbercombe. The trustees of the settlement were to raise money on them for Amy, three daughters, and a younger son (M 14 p280). This they could only do by selling. Consequently on 22 October 1742 the trustees with Thomas Ashmead (IV) the heir and Mary his wife surrendered to Edmund Welsh of Charlton Kings yeoman the closes called Lucre Hill, Gaylerock, and Frecknell (total 10 acres) and also a close called Timbercomb (6 acres) which had Ravensgate Lane on the north and a close of Judith Probert widow likewise called Timbercomb on the west (M 15 pp 55-6).

Soon after, all these 4 closes were joined to the Sturmy's small farm based on Sturmy's cottage on the then London Road (Balcarras Lane). John Sturmy of the Custom House, London, gentleman, inherited this family property, and after a mortgage in 1762 (M 15 p538) John Sergeant of co Middlesex and Henrietta his wife sold the farm to John Whithorne on 23 November 1798. It included Luca's Hill (9 acres) and Timbercombe with the coppice adjoining (5a 1r 10p). This purchase accounts for the Timbercombe closes held by Conway Whithorne Lovesy in 1848: TM 292 (4a 1r 20p) which was meadow or pasture, and TM 295 (1a 1r 35p) which was wood (the coppice adjoining Timbercomb of the 1798 sale). As late as OS 25" 1885, the upper close TM 292 was open, not wooded; the eastern bit was planted with conifers after 1922-3.

## (2) Horwood's first close (previously Brevell's)

The close westward from Combe's was one of three held by Thomas Horwood (of Park Cottage). He had cleared 2 acres by 1617 and all three closes by 18 June 1628 (M 10 f 6) when he leased them to his neighbour Francis Smith of Bafford. On 30 September 1629 he sold Smith one close, a 4 acre plot against the lane leading to Ravensgate, with Samuel Deighton's close east and Edith Pates' west (M 10 f 22).

Between 1629 and 1639 this close passed to Francis Crosley who settled it on himself and his wife on 4 October 1639 (M 10 ff 177v-178). Then on 29 March 1654 he and his wife surrendered to use of Thomas Greene (of Sandy Lane or Horsefair Street) the 3 acre close called Timbercombe (then occupied by Francis Greene), with land of Lynnett Pates gentleman west and of Thomas Ashmeade east (M 11 p 116). The discrepancy in acreage could mean that Crosley was keeping back a quarter of the original area; if so as a source of fuel. But the difference is more likely to reflect accurate re-measurement.

Greene must have sold this close to Lynnett Pates (who already had the next close to the west) because by 1742 the close west of "Ashmead's Timbercombe" was held by Judith

Probert widow. She was a daughter of Lynnett Pates and was born in 1680; she married first John Grevill, second Thomas Pates, third Roger Probert; and died 1749 (see Bulletin 26 pp 36-8). Presumably she inherited this close from her father.

Judith had four children by John Grevill, an elder son Pates who predeceased her, a daughter Ann, a son Edward who claimed 2/3rds of her Cheltenham and Ashley property in 1749, and a daughter Hester who married Thomas Britton and claimed the remaining 1/3rd. A son by her second marriage William Pates surrendered his claim to Judith's Ashley land to her Grevill heirs on 27 March 1750 (D 109/1) and probably had no claim to her Cheltenham land.

(3) Pates' close (formerly Alexander's)

Pates' close on the west of Horwood's had been part of the family's Bafford messuage called Alexanders (M 11 p 209). Richard Pates held it in 1617 and his widow Edith in 1629. It passed to her son Lynnett and was settled by him on Mary in 1657 (M 11 pp 208-9). When another Richard Pates died in 1708, his widow Elienor claimed dower on 27 October 1708 and was allotted inter alia one coppice or grove called Timbercomb (M 13 p 147)

But little by little the Pates were having to sell their property to the wealthy John Prinn or his son John rector of Shipton. Consequently on 1 June 1721 Bedford Pates and Anne his wife and their trustee surrendered to use of John Prinn clerk (the son) a messuage in Bafford and land including Timbercomb Grove and a close called Timbercomb (M 14 p 140).

(4) Horwood's second close

The next 5 acre close was another of Thomas Horwood's in 1628. It passed to the Pates and, through Judith Pates' first marriage to John Grevill, was claimed after her death by her Grevill heirs.

(5) Horwood's third close

This must have been the final section of Timbercombe down to the fork between the Ravensgate Road and the way to Vineyards farm, a fairly small area. It was thrown into the adjoining close and so passed with it in 1750.

On 27 March 1750 Edward Grevill and his wife and Hester Britton and her daughter Mary surrendered to use of William Prinn "Horwood's Timbercomb" with Prinn's "grove" on the east (M 15 p 194). The grove was, of course, the land Bedford Pates had sold to John Prinn clerk.

(6) This left a tiny inclosure by the road side at the fork, TM 297 (30p), which by 1848 belonged to Conway Whithorne Lovesy. Its previous history is uncertain.

(7) So by 1848 the whole of Timbercombe was divided between the Charlton Park estate and the Lovesy estate; and this state of affairs continued into the 1870s. After Sir William Russell's bankruptcy, his share of Timbercombe was acquired by the Lilleybrook estate, and at some point after 1880, that estate purchased the Lovesy share also; in both cases solely for their hunting value.

In c 1922 Timbercombe was sold (I understand) to a local timber-merchant Hawkins.

M.PAGET

#### 4. OH, WHAT A LOVELY WAR!

##### CHARLTON KINGS BOYS' SCHOOL IN WORLD WAR I

When the Autumn Term began on September 2nd 1914 at the Boys' School, Charlton Kings, the country had been at war for a month. Conscription was not at once introduced, but men flocked to join the colours. Teaching was not a reserved occupation and loss of masters was one of the earliest effects of the war upon the school.

On September 10th the following entry appears in the school log book: "A call was made on the Scouts at school this afternoon to attend a send-off of recruits from the Railway Station. The batch includes a number of Senior Scouts. The Commissioner's letter asking for them to attend stated that their attendance at the function would count as an attendance at school. S.M. [Scout Master] Ryland took charge of this". On September 15th comes the following note: "As Mr Ryland leaves today, having joined Kitchener's Army -- I have asked Mrs.F.Mills who will take temporary work in this department to commence her duties on that date". On September 16th it is noted "Mr Ryland left this morning for Horfield Barracks. The Scouts attending School accompanied him and others to the M.R. [Midland Railway] station". There were too many such occasions. On October 15th is the following entry: "Received a letter from the Official Correspondent, a copy from one received from the Ed. Auth. sec. stating that if Boy Scouts are withdrawn from School for any Red Cross or other duties, their attendance must be cancelled".

However, masters continued to join the forces. On January 22nd 1915 it is noted "Mr Hollister resigns his duties today as Uncertificated Assistant, having enlisted in the R.A.M.C." There are numerous other entries of a similar nature. Since those who joined the forces were assured that they could return to their old posts when the war ended, appointments made to fill the vacancies were temporary. Some were filled by young men waiting to be called up [that is a guess], others were filled by women. Even these appointments were sometimes of a few months duration only. There were so many new openings for women to take posts previously filled by men.

Some temporary appointments were of an irregular nature. For instance, "Feb 26 1915 Progress has been made with the garden during the week, the Secretary having granted me permission to employ the caretaker, who is a capable gardener, to help with the instruction of the boys in that subject."

The frequent changes of staff affected both the timetable and the standard of work in the school. For instance, for July 1915 in recording the result of the internal terminal examinations the headmaster notes "St. VI & VII Owing to the war the Geography, History and General Knowledge have deviated very much from the Syllabus set out" and "St. II, 30 children, Changes in staff have affected the work detrimentally. Arithmetic is weak". This weakness did not end with the war. In the Easter examination in 1919, it is noted "ST. V. Arithmetic spoiled by carelessness and a muddling of methods, owing to changes of teachers". Such weaknesses show themselves until the wartime generation of pupils had worked through the school.

Another way in which the war affected the school was in the increased use of juvenile labour, particularly in agriculture. Men had joined the forces, women were engaged in work previously done by men. There was the aircraft factory and work in munitions. But food production had to be maintained and there was no other source of labour. It became more urgent as the war continued "May 2nd 1917. Mr Curtis came for 8 boys to plant potatoes on the land being cultivated by the Council". "May 11th Mr Curtis visited the school and asked for some boys to help with potato planting in the District Council's grounds".



Some boys left permanently. "July 10th 1916. A number of the older boys are availing themselves of the Act which allows boys of 13 years of age, who have made 350 attendances during any five years of their compulsory age, to leave school for work. It is most unfortunate for the boys concerned because of late the boys are those to whom another year at school would mean a very great deal".

"There have been several applications to me lately for the use of boys to help in hay-making owing to the shortage of labour". These factors made it easy for attendance at school to be irregular. On September 26 1917 Mr Fry noted "The attendance is very poor indeed. There are 30 to 40 boys away for various excuses at every session. Some are hopping, others at work without permission are under age, while some are gone with a man to market. Others are ill [There was much sickness about]. A few are helping to get up potatoes."

Then, in season, was the interruption of lessons for blackberrying. On September 17th came the note "The school is closed this afternoon in order that the boys might go blackberrying. This was done in accordance with instructions from the Secretary of the Gloucestershire Ed. Comte." In 1918 the order was that "the boys were to go blackberrying one day each week, weather permitting." Charlton boys were not saints! On October 11th 1917 "A number of boys make these half holidays an occasion for playing in the streets and annoying householders". So they were kept in school and only the older, more reliable, boys were allowed out under supervision. On September 13th 1918 came a graver offence "Several boys in connection with these expeditions, have been guilty of very dishonourable conduct, gathering blackberries for the school (ostensibly) and disposing of them in Cheltenham at a higher price than the school pays". [Fred Turner, Bulletin 32 p2, remembers taking blackberries to a fishmongers in the High Street where they collected them for the dyeworks.]

Another reason for boys being permitted out of school early appears on October 30th 1917 "Some of the boys went out a few minutes early this afternoon, at 3pm, to gather horse chestnuts for munitions work". [I have an idea they were used to make high quality charcoal for gas masks.]

In the last year of the war another cause of lateness if not absence was noted. By then rationing had been introduced and meat supplies were particularly difficult. It was not always possible to get one's due. February 15 1918 "Another small attendance, owing to boys fetching meat from the butchers". February 28th 1918 "The numbers this morning dropped 21 owing to meat queues." There are similar notes for March 7th and 14th.

Britain had for many years needed to import much of her food, and naturally in war time there were difficulties. Quite apart from the submarine menace and blockade, shipping was needed for other purposes. Food prices rose, and it was necessary to produce as much home grown food as possible. This is why the help of boys was requested to plant potatoes in the District Council's ground, as mentioned above. On December 6 1916 the following entry appears in the log book "Messrs Carter and Edwards visited this morning. In view of the fact that food will be dearer next year than this, I suggested that we should break up some part of the playground little used, for planting potatoes". Potatoes were the crop which gave the highest food yield per acre. Every effort was made to see that the school gardens were as productive as possible, in spite of shockingly bad weather. It is clear that whenever the soil was workable, the regular timetable was set aside to take advantage of favourable conditions. The instances are too numerous to quote but here is one for March 24 1915 "we took advantage of the weather to get in some of our seeds, broadbeans, onions, parsnips, and peas. These should have been in earlier but owing to delay in despatching them from Gloucester we were unable to get them in before the bad weather".

The greatest economy was needed in the use of school supplies. Paper and materials for handwork were in short supply - above all, the costs of the war had to be met. On April 11 1916 "Mr Household visited the School this morning and addressed the boys on War Savings [newly introduced] and Economy". But the most serious shortage of all was that of coal.

It is not easy for us today to realise that the whole British economy and war effort depended on coal. Foundries and factories were powered by coal. Practically all heavy transport was by rail and such heavy loads as did go any distance by road were pulled by steam traction engines. Above all, the Navy and the Mercantile Marine depended on coal. We are an island, without steamers men and war supplies could not have reached the scene of war, and without the merchant ships the country would have starved. These demands on our vital fuel supplies left little for domestic use.

Here are a few allusions to the effect of this on the school. The winters of 1914-18 were severe, and the school was chilly. April 20th 1915 "As the weather keeps very cold, and there are no fires, parents and children are complaining of cold and some of the latter are absent for that reason. I consented to have fires lighted in the various rooms of the three departments [Boys, Girls, and Infants] using wood and coke for that purpose, there being no coal in stock". Coke was available from the Gasworks; and gas from coal was the only form of lighting in Charlton Kings, apart from candles (not allowed in schools) and oil. February 29th 1916 "Received notice from the official correspondent that the schools will be closed for the afternoon and tomorrow, to reopen on Thursday. This closing is due to inclement weather". May 7th 1917 "The official correspondent's letter also instructed the head teacher how to deal with exemptions and irregularities and difficulties owing to the exhaustion of stocks of coal".

Because gas was made from coal it had to be used as economically as possible. This affected the school timetable. 11 October 1914 "In Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. and March, afternoon school will begin half an hour earlier and close at 4pm instead of 4.30, allowing the children to get home before dark" - this saved half an hour's gas lighting. By February 5th 1915 it is official policy. "In accordance with the Circular Letter from the Education Com. re Economy of fuel, it is directed that from Monday next, regular instruction both morning and afternoon should be restricted to the minimum of two hours required by the Code, and that the midday interval should be reduced to one hour. This would mean that morning school would end at 11.45 and afternoon school would begin at 12.45 and end at 2.50". According to a note on February 14th the system "is answering very well". October 18th "School begins working according to the Circular from county Council (as above) 4 half hour lessons in afternoon". However, snags became evident. February 17th 1916 "A number of boys are always a few minutes late at the opening of afternoon school at 12.45 owing to their dinners not being finished. I have asked the managers to make it 1 o'clock instead. The school to assemble at 5 mins to the hour so that registers may be marked at once, and dismiss a quarter of an hour later". [There were no school dinners at that date] Then on May 22nd 1916 comes the entry "The new Daylight Savings Bill came into force in school this morning. Lessons had been given previously on the bill, so that very few were not at school punctually".

On November 11th 1918 the Armistice is recorded quietly "The Armistice between Germany and the Allies was signed this morning. On receipt of the news the school flag was hoisted, the National Anthem was sung, the children [of all three schools presumably] were addressed by the headmaster and cheers were given. In the afternoon a number of boys absented themselves without permission".

There followed a period of readjustment. On January 7th "Mr G. Ryland resumed his duties as Uncert. Assistant Master after being in the army since September 15th 1914". Mr Hollister resumed his duties on April 1st. Not all came back. Thomas Henry Fry [the verger's son]

a student teacher who had joined up in April 1917 had died of wounds in France, the school received this news on May 3rd 1918.

Peace was signed in the Summer of 1919 and on July 26th "The Children attending the Council and Holy Apostles Schools held their Peace Day Celebrations this afternoon. The programme included an excellent tea in a marquee in Mr Watkin's field, sports etc in Sir R.Vassar-Smith's grounds, patriotic songs and addresses by the Chairman of the District Council and Chairman of the Managers. Everything passed off most satisfactorily". July 29 "Received notice that an extra week's holiday in commemoration of the Peace will be added to the usual summer vacation".

After that the real work of reconstruction began.

J.PAGET

### 5. THE SCHOOLS IN THE TWENTIES

School photographs lent by Mollie Denton (4th child of Aubrey Walter and Eliza May Protherough of 1 Brevel Cottages), now living at Bunbury, Western Australia. The family were Winnie, Vera, Gerry, Mollie, Ken and Phyllis.

#### (i) Girls c 1920-21

The little girls still wear white pinafores and boots, which were normal until after 1921, but were not worn much after that. The eldest of the family, Winnie, may be in this photo.



(ii) Infants - photograph taken about 1925



Teachers - Mrs Bailey (left), and Mrs Roberts (right)

Top Row, left to right

1 and 2 unknown; 3 Pat Brooke; 4 unknown; 5 Phyllis Moore; 6, 7, 8 and 9 unknown

2nd Row

1 unknown; 2 Mollie Protherough; 3 Ken Protherough; 4 unknown; 5 Veronica Bond;  
6 unknown; 7 Kathleen (Kit) Brooks; 8 one of the Moores

Front Row

1 - 6 unknown; 7 Gladys Short; 8 - 11 unknown

(iii) Boys - photograph taken late 1920s



The headmaster was Mr Thorne (on right)

Top Row,left to right

1 Eddie Timms; 2, 3, and 4 unknown; 5 Bob Smith; 6 Les Davis; 7 Bill Mobley; 8 and 9 unknown; 10 Dan -?

2nd Row

1, 2, 3 and 4 unknown; 5 Reg Thorne; 6 and 7 unknown

3rd Row

1 Gerry Protherough; 2 and 3 unknown; 4 one of the Frys; 5 and 6 unknown; 7 Ken Tasker

Front Row

1 Ken Protherough; 2 and 3 unknown; 4 Alec Mayo; 5 and 6 unknown; 7 ? Sadler; 8 Edward Neather (Kit's brother)

(iv) Girls - photograph probably taken 1925



Top Row, left to right

1 Enid James; 2 Freda Tasker; 3 Eva Peacey; 4 unknown

2nd Row

1 Elsie Drake (girl in dark tunic); 2 May Cooper; 3 Frances Peacey; 4 Ivy -?; 5 Monica Brunsden; 6 unknown; 7 May Stubbs

Front Row

1 Evelyn -? (lived in Cudnall); 2 Hilda Roberts; 3 Kit Neather (Mrs Carter); 4 Veronica Bond; 5 Pat Brooks; 6 Winnie Griffin; 7 and 8 unknown

It looks as though one or two girls on the right have been lost.

(v) Girls - photograph probably taken 1927



Top Row, left to right

1 (only a shoulder); 2 Dorothy Williams; 3 Minnie Miles; 4 Lily Protherough (of Croft Avenue)

2nd Row

1 May Woodward; 2 Nancy -?; 3 unknown of Ham; 4 Freda Tasker

3rd Row

1 unknown; 2 May Stubbes; 3 unknown; 4 Enid James; 5 her sister Dorothy James

Front Row

1 a corner of Kit Neather; 2 Ivy Hannis of Lyefield Rd; 3 her sister Rosie Hannis; 4 Mollie Protherough; 5 Jean -? of Croft Rd

Identification of these photographs by

Mrs Carter née Kit Neather

## 6. SCHOOL DAYS REMEMBERED

..."I enjoy the Bulletin, there are many memories it reminds me of. I remember all the teachers in the lower school and the big boys' school. Miss Joblin was my first teacher who I heard got real sick, her mind failed her, [she had a breakdown but recovered and farmed at Ham for many years after that], she was a gem. Mrs Robertson was the head mistress in that school. We moved across to the big boys' school and my teacher was Miss Higgins, we boys would meet her at the gate and push her bicycle around to the back of the school. I only had Miss Higgins, as I left Detmore Cottages and East End, and moved into Cheltenham. Portland Square was the place near Pittville where I went to school for a short time till I went into Barnados Home.

I remember Miss Weaver, Mr Bull, the headmaster Mr Fry; when he retired [in 1924] the head was Mr Thorne; Mr Frampton; the art teacher was Mr Martin. Mr Fry was a real caring man, I can see him in my mind yet with his waxed moustache never a hair out of place. Mr Thorn was a huge man to me with huge feet. Oh yes, Mr Mason was the janitor.

I have many happy memories of East End and Charlton Kings and very few of the first few years I was in Canada. I can still walk the fields and the hills in my memory as if it were just yesterday. I know exactly where you live, no doubt I've walked by it many times [there was a public footpath from East End across the brook on the then allotments] ..."

ALLAN B.THOMAS, Wellandport, Ontario

I am sorry to have to report that Allan Burrowes Thomas died on 14 January 1996 - his reminiscences in Bulletins 13, 19, 26 & 28 have given so much pleasure to us all.

M.P.

## 7. GEORGE - A MILK COLLECTOR'S VIEW OF LIFE

Note On 10 January 1991, Mr Holborow (formerly of Bafford Farm) introduced me to an ex-employee of the Gloucestershire Dairy who had retired at the age of 82 five years before that. I am very sorry that this note on a milk collector's view of life was put aside and not published till now, some months after Mr Holborow's death.

George used to collect the TT milk from all the farms and take it to the Depot in Imperial Lane (where Harry Attwood was in charge). He collected from Yarnolds, Bill May, and Sam May in Shipton Oliffe and Chedworth. Miss Monckton at Withington had race horses. He picked up milk from her farm, the farm at the end past the mill where you turn right to go up the hill. She had a Lagonda racing car and when she gave up racing, it was kept in a barn, fetched a mint of money when it was sold. Her milk was never right, she used to swear when Mr Holborow's father came round to test it! Drove a tractor from Withington to Cheltenham every day.

Carriers's carts were very important then. Perrott of Shipton Oliffe, Pegleg Perrott, had a horse-drawn carrier's cart before they started the bus. Another carrier was Neighbour Williams from Brockhampton, he used to come down once a week to collect groceries. Dave Simpson from Sevenhampton used to shop for different people and coming back never got further than Whittington - too drunk! Had to sleep it off! Dick Collett from Winchcombe ran a horse bus - then he started farming up at Dowdeswell. Chandler had Church Farm, Dowdeswell, and used to serve the Rectory up the bank.



Besides collecting milk, George used to take the farmers' beer, whiskey, and papers as well; and take their cats to the vet! In the bad winter of 1947, George emptied all the post boxes at Charlton Abbots because of the snow - he had a Ford 3 tonner that would go through anything, even getting through very deep snow to Shipton Sollers and Shipton Oliffe.

During the War, George was a Special and out 3 nights a week. One farmer had a brother who was a bully - George found he had beaten up his farm worker, so George went in and beat him up!

M.P.

## 8. OUR MILITARY RECORD

(1) Lt. Col. Martin Leggat, 36th Regt. (see Bulletin 33 p19)

Lieut HP 104th Ft. 9 Jul 1803 Capt 3rd Bn of Reserve. 23 May '05 Capt 50th Ft. 1810/11 Extra ADC to Maj Gen Hon W Lumley in the Peninsula. 30 Jan '12 Major 36th Ft. First appeared in 2nd Bn monthly for Jan '12 - "Sick Certificate received". He joined in Mar as CO (Vice Lt Col Lewis Davies to 1st Bn); on Major Wm Crosse's return from the Peninsula (as CO 1st Bn) because of ill health, he handed over 2nd Bn to him in Jul '12. After a period of absence by leave of C-in-C, embarked for 1st Bn in about Jun '13. (A) He arrived with the 1st Bn at Sorauren on 30 Jul and immediately took over comd. He handed over to Wm Crosse in Sep but continued with the Bn through Urdax, Nivelle, Airhoa, Nive, Bayonne, Orthes and Toulouse. When Wm Crosse was wounded at Toulouse he became CO again until May '14 when Crosse returned. He remained with 1st Bn until the end of Sep when he became CO of 2nd Bn, and Disbanded it on 24 Oct '14. He rejoined 1st Bn at the end of the year in Ireland, then Paris (Jul-Dec '15) followed by Portsmouth. While in Portsmouth he had 9 months leave in two batches. 21 Jun '17 Bt Lt Col. To Malta with Bn in Jul '17. In Apr '18 he was granted one year's leave (private affairs) by the Comd of the Forces, returned Apr '19 and to similiar leave in June '20, later extended to Jun '21. In Aug '21 he was notified as exchanged to HP 101st Regt 31 May '21, vice E Browne. 1825 Lieut Col Retired. Awarded Gold Medal for Pyrenees and Toulouse. (A) see Blakenny's record of service.

(B) see Cannon particularly pages 83, 84. Herewith from Historical Record - 1853:

"On the 28th of July the battalion was in position near Pampeluna and was warmly engaged, the light company under Captain William Campbell being detached in smart skirmishing. On the following day both armies remained quiet; but on the 30th of July the battalion was again engaged early in the morning, the light company being, as before, detached, under Captain Campbell, to expel the enemy from the village of Sorauren. About eight o'clock Major **Martin Leggat** arrived, and assumed the command, when Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Ward immediately proceeded to join the light company in Sorauren. Marshal Soult was however foiled, and about two o'clock in the afternoon the enemy was in general retreat, being pursued by the whole army. In approbation of the conduct of **Major Leggat**, Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Ward and Captain Campbell on the three last-mentioned days, His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and behalf of His Majesty, was graciously pleased to present each of them with a medal for the battles of the Pyrenees, and to promote Captain Campbell to the brevet rank of Major. The THIRTY-SIXTH subsequently received the Royal authority to bear on the regimental colour and appointments the word "Pyrenees", in commemoration of the services of the first battalion in the actions which occurred there, which have been designated the 'Battles of the Pyrenees.'"

P.LOVE

(2) Captain William F.H. Morgan (see Bulletin 34)

His full name was William Frederick Holroyd Morgan. He had a wife Jessie Emma and a daughter who married a Porteous, producing three children named Osra Aubrey, Jessie Elspeth and a final flourish in Holroyd Armitage Boardman Porteous. The family were resident at Battledown View, Oakley Road, Battledown as tenants in 1878 and 1879 and later lived at Oak Villa, Charlton Kings and in 1935 at The Sundial House, Charlton Lane. Major Morgan was a friend of G.E. Brydges, the Cheltenham Town clerk, to whom he left £50 in his will.

(3) Lt Gen Sir Henry Radford Norman, KCB (see Bulletin 34)

Some may wonder how Sir Henry retired from the Army as a Lt Colonel in 1871 but became a Lt General in 1881. He was not alone in this and local historians will have no doubt found many others who apparently had meteoric careers after they had retired. Cheltenham's Chief Constable from 1865 to 1910, Henry Christian, assumed the appointment as a Captain RN (Retired) and left it as a full admiral, having been a policeman the whole time. Similarly, George Pringle, an Indian Army Officer who lived at Glendower, Oakley Road, Battledown after retirement as a colonel in 1881, lies buried in the Cheltenham Cemetery as a full General. Officers on retirement went on to the unemployed supernumary or inactive list on half pay and did not leave the Service. The promotion system of both the Army and the Royal Navy at the time worked on a fixed number of appointments at the higher ranks. Thus if the War Office wished to promote a serving colonel to major general, they had to find a vacant slot. Since slots at the top of the rank structure were the most likely to fall vacant through death, all those below were shunted upwards to allow room for promotion at the lower end. The longer you lived, the higher you got. General Pringle made it to the top by living to 95, and Admiral Christian to 88.

Although he served in India, General Norman was in the Lincolnshire Regiment and hence an officer in the British and not the Indian Army. At that time all officers in infantry and cavalry regiments of the British Army required a private income to survive. At the turn of the century a junior officer on commissioning was paid 5s3d per day, or £95.16s a year: he then had to buy his own horse and uniform, the latter costing £70 for the infantry and £300 for the cavalry. For the line infantry a private income of at least £50 and preferably £100 was advised, and for the cavalry at least £300. For those unable to afford these sums, the option was to join the British Indian Army. The government offered large incentives to young men willing to live in India, learn a language and command native troops: an Indian Army junior officer was paid three times as much as his British counterpart and could easily live on his pay alone. His pension rights were better and his family was pensioned too. The incentives to serve in India were not only offered to the Army: appointments in the Indian Civil Service were similarly well paid in comparison to those at home. Careers advice in a 1904 encyclopedia describes posts in the Indian and Colonial Civil Service as possibly the finest in the world, with pay from £300 to £3000 per year. However, an elderly general once told me that to be alive and an officer in the Indian Army in the reign of King Edward VII was the nearest thing to paradise that any man was likely to achieve on earth.

**DAVID O'CONNOR**

Additional note: There are memorial stones in St. Mary's churchyard to Martin Leggatt and General Norman. The inscriptions read as follows:

(1) UNDERNEATH/ are deposited the remains/ of/ Martin Leggatt/ late of the 56th Regiment/ who died 3rd August/ 1830.

(2) In memory of/Lieut-General/ Sir H. Radford Norman K.C.B./ Col. 10th North Lincoln/ Hony Col Manchester Regt./ Born Nov 20 1818 Died 16 Dec 1899.

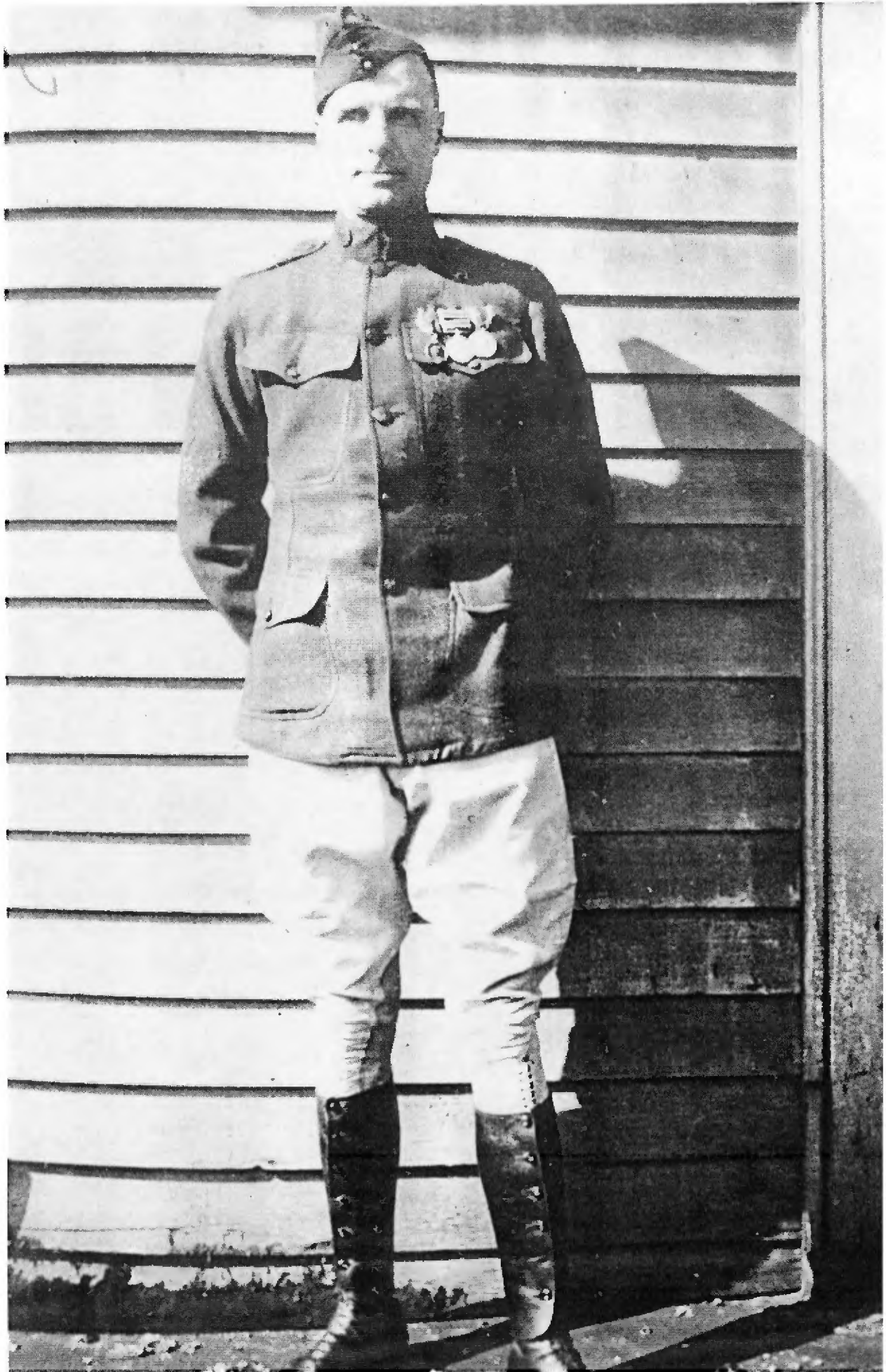
9. LOVESY FAMILY (see Bulletin 34)

Photographs from C.J.S.Palmer

- (1) Elizabeth Ann Benthall, 2nd wife of Samuel Whithome Lovesy,  
through whom this line continues.



(2) Richard Whithome Lovesy



Mr Palmer has pointed out some mistakes in the pedigree on page 17 of Bulletin 34. It should read: John Whithorne bp 10 Apl 1713, bur 10 May 1797; Samuel Whithorne bp 28 Jan 1714/15, bur 30 Oct 1715; Conway Whithorne bp 5 Jan 1721/2; Elizabeth Lovesy bur 8 March 1785; Louisa Lovesy bp 28 Jan 1822; Marianne Lovesy bur 23 March 1861. I do apologise for hasty proof reading.

Elizabeth (Whithorne) and William Lovesy had a second daughter christened Elizabeth (bp 10 May 1795), as well as the Elizabeth who died in 1785.

M.P.

#### 10. THE REVD. THOMAS NASH DD

My attention has been drawn to The History of the Parish of Great Witcombe by Cox and Clifford, which states that the Revd Friston was the first incumbent to live at the Rectory there. His predecessor Thomas Nash, Rector 1769 - 1826, let the house, being also Rector of Leckhampton and Charlton Kings and living in Prestbury.

Till 1800, Charlton ministers (not rectors) were appointed by Sir Baptist Hicks' descendants who were obliged to accept one of three names put forward by Jesus College, Oxford, to hold for 6 years only unless reappointed and not to hold any other living. These conditions still applied after the advowson was sold to John Whithorne, otherwise the minister would not receive the Hicks endowment of £40. The only time Thomas Nash took a marriage here was on 11 July 1803, during a vacancy. He was probably just a stand-in, not an assistant curate as I suggested in the index to Parish Register IV.

M.P.

#### 11. PEWING THE CHURCH 1824

The following document was noticed by a passer-by as it lay on a skip outside a Charlton house. The paper must at some time have been taken from the parish chest. By indirect means it was eventually deposited with the rest of the parish records in Gloucestershire Record Office. The moral seems to be, never pass a skip without looking!

"Parish Church of Charlton Kings on Wednesday the tenth day of March 1824. It was resolved that the new pewing the old part of the church is indispensable; and that, in order to effect this, it be now determined that every person laying claim to any Pew, or any sitting in any Pew, shall hereby bind himself or herself to pay his or her respective proportion of the price of the new pew; and that Mr John Humphris (whose estimate for new pewing the old part of the Church is £220) shall receive from the parish annually 5 pr cent of the capital with 5 pr cent interest (according to the principle of Gilbert's Act) for the sum which may remain over and above that which is contributed by the several claimants. All pews paid for by the Parish shall be henceforth free for the uses of the Parish.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this tenth day of March 1824 - Conway W.Lovesy, C.C.Higgs, Wm Morris, T.Barton, Robt Mansell, John Coxwell, John Humphris, Wm Bradshaw, James Humphris, Thos Hamlett, Saml Hamlett, William Peates, Saml Carter for Col.Prowse, Thomas Ballinger, Thos Buckle, Wm Turner, the mark of Wm Hall, Robert Lawrence, Daniel Humphris, for Mr Nicholson James Humphris, Thomas Pates his mark, the mark of Wm Coats, John Burrows."

The pews so paid for were removed in 1877-8.

M.P.

## 12. DIVERTING A RIGHT OF WAY 1676 (GRO D 1252)

In 1676 John Moulder was living at Balls House (on the site of The Hearne) and Richard Whithorne was living at The Knapp (on the site of some of the lower houses in Ledmore Road). The then London Road divided the properties (see map in [History](#) p21) but Whitmore also had a garden on the south side of that road, adjoining Moulder's orchard called Balls Hey.

Through Balls Hey ran a footpath giving people from The Knapp and East End a right of way into Trigmerry Lane/Mill Lane/School Road on the other side of the Hearne or Crab Brook.

To get rid of this right of way, Moulder was prepared to surrender 20 perches of his land and shift the boundary between his orchard and Whithorne's garden. Had people found his fruit too tempting? So at the Ashley Manor court of 18 April 1676 it was presented that the previous January, John Moulder had surrendered to his neighbour a strip of Ballshey (20 perches) as then marked out by stones. Whithorne and his heirs gave up any claim to a way across the rest of the orchard and agreed to hedge the new boundary and keep the hedge in repair. The Court entry does not indicate whether this strip was to be a footpath but that seems to have been the intention. A path from School Road across the brook (on the line of the old road) was reserved when the old London Road was closed in 1787 and was in use till the footbridge collapsed about 1945.

I suspect that on the west side of the brook this path was diverted likewise. Did it originally lead first to Joyce's/Charlton Cottage? If it did it would explain why the "best" side of that 16th century timber-framed house faced east towards the London Road and not west towards the village (See [History](#) p55). By the 19th century the footpath ran along the boundary between Joyce's/Charlton Cottage and Yew Tree Cottage land (land of the old thatched house in School Road) extending to the middle of the 1872 school.

When that school was built, partly on land from Yew Tree Cottage and partly on land from Joyce's/Charlton Cottage, there was an archway between the girls' and the boys' sections of the school through which the public footpath continued to run. The archway was not closed till the property was sold about 1980.

M.PAGET

## 13. BALLENGERS 1514 to TODAY

Mr Bruce Ballenger, from Charlotte in North Carolina, U.S.A., believes his family to have originated from Charlton Kings. He tells us that the earliest members of the family to arrive in America came in 1677 and settled in the area that is now New Jersey. He has sent us this provisional family tree, part of which is reproduced below, and would dearly love to confirm some of his suppositions. If any reader has any information regarding the Ballenger family, perhaps they could send it to our editor who can then forward it to him.

Bruce has used the Mormon International Genealogical Index for his Charlton Kings entries. You will note that Americans have a different way of writing dates (11-13-1539 rather than 13.11.1539). This can be confusing in cases like 9-12-1630, which is in fact 12 Sept 1630 in our [Parish Register Transcript 1](#). It should also be pointed out that when Robert was baptised son of Richard on 8 Nov 1595, there were two Richard Ballingers having children baptised at that time.

Bruce suggests that the children of Francis Ballenger, born 1630, are likely ancestors because of the similarity of names in the next generations. Many of James and Dorcas children's names repeat. Francis, born about 1720, who married Sarah Conner is suggested as James father. They both are recorded in identical simultaneous deeds in 1769 leasing land from George Washington. The difference in their estimated ages suggests such a relationship.

Charlton Kings

William born about 1514  
m. Isabell 11-13-1539  
I  
Richard  
1542  
I  
Robert  
1595  
I  
Francis  
9-12-1630  
m. Elizabeth Randle 11-2-1657  
I  
Richard 1659 - Margaret 1663 - Robert 1666 - John 1673 - William 1669 - Elizabeth 1667  
Francis 1661 - Hanna 1676

Virginia

?  
Francis  
1720-25  
m. Sarah Conner  
?  
Edward---?---James---?---Frances  
1740/45 - 1813  
m. Dorcas Dodson 1767-68  
I  
John----William----Edward----James--Elijah--Francis--Margaret--Tabitha  
1782-1849  
m. Judith Foster  
I

The next two generations were born in Spartanburg County, South Carolina; then one generation in Tryon, North Carolina; the next generation includes Bruce and his brothers who were born in Hickory, North Carolina in the 1920s and '30s. Today Bruce, Bruce Jr and family live in Charlotte, while his married daughter lives in Oregon.

Last summer Bruce and his wife made a 'pilgrimage' to Charlton Kings, when they met Mary and were thrilled to find Ballinger headstones in the churchyard.

J.SALE