

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



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CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Membership forms are available from the Hon. Secretary. Annual subscription £3.50 or £5.50 for a couple. Meetings are held monthly from September to May in the Stanton Room at Charlton Kings Library.

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Please apply to the Chairman, Mary Southerton, for past issues of the *Bulletin*, Indexes, Parish Register Transcriptions, and other publications as shown below:

Indexes are available to *Bulletins* 1-7 price £2, to *Bulletins* 8-17, 18-27 and 28-37 price £5. Indexed *Parish Register Transcriptions*: I 1538-1634 price £2; II 1634-1700 price £3; III 1700-1760 price £5; IV 1760-1812 price £5.

Reminiscences of John Bowen (1993), *Five Walks Around Charlton Kings* (1997), and *Five More Walks Around Charlton Kings* (1998) all at £1.

Note. Please send £1 for packing and postage on each of the above items if you would like any of them sent to you.

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Cover - The 'Ancient Message' drawn by Ron Phillips from a photograph taken by Lady Tovey just before the house was demolished.

Contents		Pages
1. The Development of Cudnall Street	Mary Paget	1 - 6
2. Terms Used in Title Deeds	Public Record Office	7 - 8
3. East End Development and the Harris Family	Reg Seabright	9 - 12
4. Francis Green - Wouldn't or Couldn't Pay?	Jane Sale	13 - 15
5. Francis Green's House and Lands	Jane Sale	16 - 18
6. Withyholt Park	David Morgan	18 - 20
7. Charlton Kings and the Boer War	Mary Southerton	20 - 22
8. Alice Hilda Yonge (1883 - 1934)	Derek Rowles	23 - 24
9. Leckhampton Quarry Railway and Charlton Kings	Mary Paget	25 - 26
10. Sydney Savory Buckman	Derek Copson	26 - 28
11. The Garden at Whithorn	Mrs J Haslett	28 - 30
12. William Greville's Family	Mary Paget	30 - 32
13. Land Tax and Poor Rate for Charlton Kings in 1715	Jane Sale	32 - 36
14. A Charlton Artist - Vic Holman	Mary Paget	36 - 39
15. Charlton Mill	Mary Paget	39
16. Review: The Flower Paintings of Thomas Robins the Younger	Mary Paget	39 - 40
17. Demise of a Noble Tree	Jane Sale	40

1. THE DEVELOPMENT OF CUDNALL STREET

(1) The Road

This is part of a road out of Cheltenham which led from Gallows Oak at the junction of Pilford Lane (Old Bath Road) with Coltham Lane (Hales Road). Here it originally took the line now Avenalls Parade (see map of 1776 in Gloucestershire Record Office QSR 1777 A/1, reproduced in *Bulletin 20* pp 33-37), coming out into the present London Road near the Beaufort Arms. There was no Cirencester Road, as we know it, till c 1787 when the "pitch" was cut, doing away with Cowell Lane (see *Bulletins 11 and 33*), but continuing up the old road past The Forden (Charlton Park). The new Cirencester turnpike was made in 1826-7, the new London Road up to Six-Ways in 1825, and Copt Elm Road in 1865. Cudnall Pitch was first widened in 1904 (GRO D109/6).

Beyond Six-Ways the road cut diagonally down the bank by Grove House - here it was called Shuts Lane - to Charlton Mill, went along the bottom by the Hearne brook and then up the bank to come out into East End Road. It continued up Balcarras Lane (a 19th century name), round to the south of Coxhorne House, into the present London Road by Coxhorne Farm and then to the Chelt, the old road now blocked by the reservoir dam; up Dowdeswell Hill past the church, and so into the Gloucester to Stow road or on to Withington. This route was in use by the 12th century and could be much older.

(2) Messuages and Fields

Land on the south side of Cudnall Street had been laid out in building plots by 1130 - not much earlier because only one house and one close (and those doubtfully) paid a Peter's Penny, as all would have done if set out c1100. About 1135 Walter of Ashley was rewarded for his support of Matilda's claim to the throne by a grant out of the royal manor of Cheltenham and this was confirmed by her son Henry II c1154. Walter was given £10 worth of land here and there: in Cudnall Street he acquired every other house. The three free tenancies, two for Cheltenham and one for Ashley may have been established then. Land on the north side of the street was an open field called Cudnall Bank and The Slad, further east was Ryeworth Field, nearer Cheltenham were Coltham Field and Mill Furlong. The Ewen was developed as an extra open field rather later.

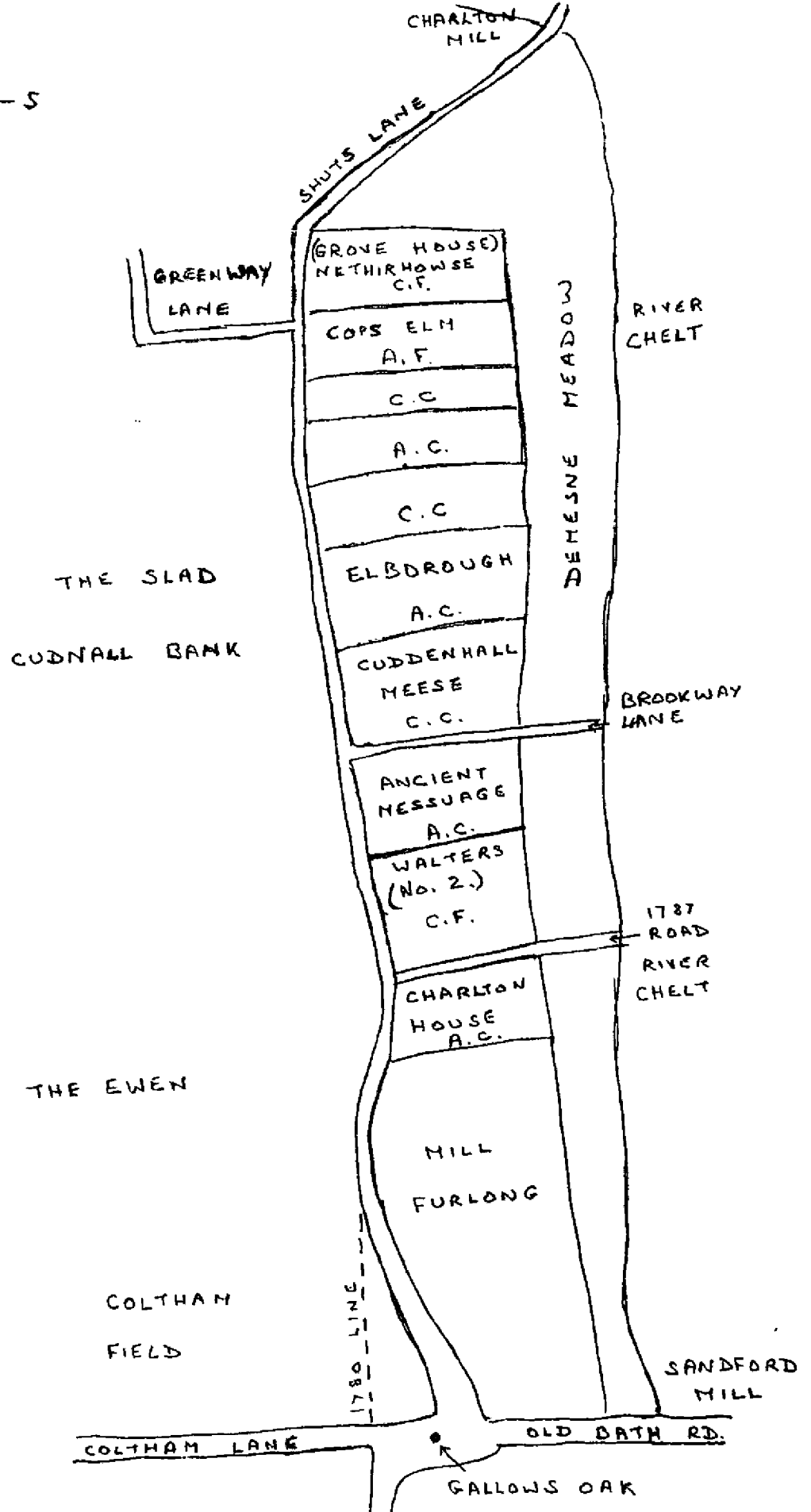
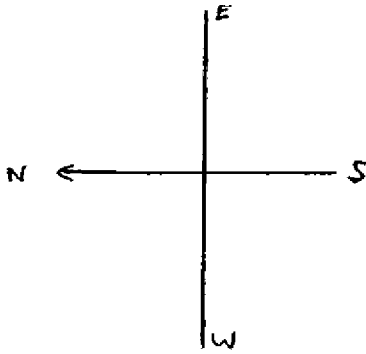
In Charlton each hamlet had its own open fields: no other tenants could trespass on Cudnall's fields, either when they were planted with crops or in winter when they were thrown open for common grazing (see *History* p29). Riverside meadow was reserved as demesne.

The sketch map on the next page shows how the road ran and the layout of the early properties. The letters C.F. refer to Cheltenham Manor Freehold; A.F. to Ashley Manor Freehold; C.C. to Cheltenham Manor Copyhold and A.C. to Ashley Manor Copyhold.

The Stokesay collection (GRO D7661) has told us a little more about some of the Cudnall houses.

(3) Walter's and houses on either side.

The first three houses in Cudnall Street were Charlton House (Ashley customary), a Cheltenham freehold called c1400 'Walter's' (on site of no. 2) and an Ashley customary holding on which were the "Ancient Messuage" and two of the Ashley beedle messuages,



(cottages to which originally some manorial duties were attached but which later became small alehouses).

The name 'Walter's' was given because in the 14th century it was held by Walter Henry. The mid-15th century rental of Cheltenham manor, which John Stubbs the 17th century Steward, copied into his memoranda book (D885 M68 ff39-43v) tells us that Thomas Wheler [alias Dowdeswell] c1450 holds one free messuage and 6 acres of land, late John Hore and formerly of Walter Henry, rent 3s 2½d. This ties up with documents about Hore and Dowdeswell.

In *Bulletin 1* pp 5-6 and *Bulletin 13* p 6, M.J.Greet abstracted for us two deeds both dated 9 December 1421, relating to this messuage. The grantee is named as "John Hore the younger" suggesting a predecessor John the elder in Charlton.

9 December 1421 (GRO D1252, *Bulletin 1*) - John Hore the younger of Charlton Kings agrees with his son-in-law Thomas Dowdeswell of Codynhulle and Isabell wife of Thomas, that after John's death they shall have the house called Walter's and meanwhile shall find him in boots and shoes, a pair of cart wheels (but not the tyres), two pigs each winter; and shall wash his clothes and bedding. They shall pay his church dues. John shall occupy the chief room in the house and have the use of the hall. He has given them possession of the house, but should they predecease him, he shall continue to occupy house and land for his life; then both shall revert to Thomas Dowdeswell's heirs.

9 December 1421 (GRO D1252, *Bulletin 13*) - John Hore the younger of Charlton Kings has conveyed house and lands to Thomas Dowdeswell of Codynhulle and Isabell his wife. Witnesses:- William Goderyche, Walter French bailiff of Cheltenham, Walter Goderych, Walter Hale.

A deed in the Stokesay Court collection (GRO D7661 box 5) shows us what happened next. Thomas and Isabell Dowdeswell did not have everything their own way after 1421. Perhaps John Hore lived longer than they had anticipated, perhaps he was dissatisfied with their provision for his comfort, perhaps he merely needed spending money or was tempted by an offer from John Grevell (son of the woolmerchant of Campden) who was adding to his Charlton properties. But before John Hore died, in spite of the deed to his son-in-law, he actually sold the house and croft, without any land, to John Grevel lord of the manor of Ashley. After Hore's death this double dealing came to light. A deed given at "Chorlton" on Tuesday in the week of Pentecost 6 Henry VI (25 May 1428) tells us that John Grevell esq, lord of Charlton Regis, has given and confirmed to Thomas Doadeswelle of the same "gentleman" a cottage, curtilage, and croft adjoining, which lie between a tenement called Wydecombe's now of said John Grevel on one part and a tenement of William Godrich on the other. Grevell lately purchased the cottage of John Hore, to hold from his death. Witnesses:- Walter Frensshe bailiff of Cheltenham, Walter Hale, John Coppe, Walter Godrych, and Thomas Grundell. Note that Thomas's name is spelt "Doadswelle", suggesting that this is how they pronounced it (as did some Dowdeswells down to the 20th century)

So John Grevell had to accept Thomas Dowdeswell's prior claim. Thomas is upgraded to 'gentleman', presumably because he held freehold land in Naunton, and John Hore's house is down-graded to cottage (which in Grevell's eyes it probably was) - just a hall, chamber at either end and no upper floor. By c1450 in the rental, Thomas the tenant (the original grantee or a successor) is called Thomas Wheler, indicating his occupation; and later members of the family are Wheeler alias Dowdeswell or simply Wheler, because by trade they were wheelwrights.

Sometime between c1450 and 1617, the Grevells re-acquired this small freehold. Norden's 1617 survey of the manor of Cheltenham (*Bulletin 18* p 36) shows Giles Grevill holding one freehold messuage called Wheelers, the house site, house and cottage, not much altered from its earlier state. So it must have been after 1617, though perhaps not much after, that the property was rebuilt round three sides of a courtyard, (as depicted on Bailey's turnpike map of c1787), some of the building will have been workshops and storage.

The Sollers/Sollis family first appear in the parish registers in the 17th century - that is about the time the Grevills began to sell off their estate. So presumably Robert Sollers bought the Cudnall Street wheelwright's from them. For the later history of the site, see *Bulletin 33*.

(4) Charlton House (Ashley customary messuage)

Mitchell's 1806 map shows this house also built round a courtyard. It too must have been rebuilt in the early 17th century, and again c1810. The deed of 25 May 1428 (D7661) tells us that it was held then by either the Goodrich or the Wyddecombe family and more probably the former (for there is no evidence of any Greville tenancy at any time). There were several branches of the Goodrich family, one in a Bafford freehold adjoining the Forden, one at Ham Court, and a third (possibly the Walter who witnesses this deed) at Old Ham Farm. So the one who lived at Charlton House in 1428 was probably William Goodrich, and his messuage had a common boundary with Hore's, without any road between.

There is a gap in our evidence from 1428 till the early 16th century. By 1522, the *Military Survey* lists no Goodrich but shows two tenants in Charlton called Combe. One was William Combe who held some freehold (5s) and moveables (£3) on which he was taxed. The other was Walter Combe who held no freehold but had moveables (£4). One of them could have held Charlton House.

No Combe tenants appear under either manor in the first inclosure list of 1557. However in the second list of 1564 (D855 M68, *Bulletin 30*) William Combe held 25 acres of free land and was to inclose 4 acres in Grassy leasow. We know that William Combe held one of the sections of Timbercombe wood. When it came to the new Act regulating custom on both manors in 1624-5, William Combe the younger contributed 15s as a Cheltenham tenant, but Samuel Deighton who had married the elder William Combe's widow Jane, paid £2.7s.8d as an Ashley tenant. William Combe senior had been buried on 25 March 1611 and his widow married Dr Samuel Deighton or Deyghton on 6 August following. Deighton was not buried till 18 September 1643.

The barn attached to Charlton House was still known as Combe's Barn. It stood roughly where the present drive enters the road and is probably the building shown there on Mitchell's 1806 map. By Combe's Barn was the gate put across the road every year to control cattle (see D855 M8 f66v, M9 pt 2 p273).

The history of the house under the Slopers, the Higgs and their successors has been dealt with in *Bulletin 10* pp 8-16.

(5) The "Ancient Messuage" and two beedle messuages (Ashley)

If I am right in assigning Charlton House to Goodrich, then the tenement east of "Walter's" was known c1400 as "Wyddecombes". The name appears to be from Witcombe (Great or Little) which Ekwall gives as Wydecomb in 1220 and 1291. The land attached to the main house stretched to Brookway Lane and later included the two Ashley beedle messuages, Cowell House (on site of Ivy Cottage) and Mansell's (on the unoccupied land in front of No 6) See *History* pp 85-6. John Wyddecombe from Witcomb presumably settled here and so

married the daughter of a Cudnall freeholder. By 1428 the main house had been sold to John Grevill senior.

It has always seemed odd that Ashley manor should have three beedle messuages - one in Bafford for the southern half of the parish and two in Cudnall Street for the northern half, as the area was divided by the Chelt. Is it possible that originally there was only one such messuage in Cudnall - the Ancient Messuage itself? Then as habitation north of the Chelt spread and this messuage came into the hands of its lord, John Grevell, he may have rebuilt the old house (without windows or door on the west side, to avoid any problem with "ancient lights") and instead built two small beedle messuages, Cowell House on Cowell Lane and the one which became later Mansell's on Cudnall Street? In 1428 the profitable corn trade with France was still in operation and Charlton flourished, though a very few years were to see the end of it with the loss of Gascony.

If this "Ancient Messuage" were rebuilt in this way, it must have been by John Grevell the elder (died 1444). His son John inherited as a minor; and new building in Charlton did not start again till much later, c1550-60. But Giles Grevell is an unlikely lord to have developed his manorial property, for he was fully occupied with the rebuilding of Forden House (Charlton Park) in the 1560s. If this Cudnall site were rebuilt c1430, it would fit the pattern of Charlton Kings set by Nappings (*Bulletin 23*), Park Cottage (*Bulletin 32*) and above all Elborough Cottage further down Cudnall Street (*Bulletin 17*). All these houses survive; many others were rebuilt again later.

We know nothing about the Ancient Messuage and the beedle messuages during the 16th and 17th centuries because Ashley court books have been lost. So it is unlikely that we shall ever know who added the upper storey.

The King family appears in the parish registers in 1544 and there seems a possibility that they lived in the Ancient Messuage and also held Cowell House, the beedle messuage. At the Hundred court of 23 October 1609, William King was ordered to make a sufficient chimney in his house or else remove his tenant out of it (GRO D855 M8 f55v-6). The Hundred court could issue such an order for houses belonging to either manor. Kings certainly appear regularly in 17th century parish registers and on 13 July 1714 Mary King widow surrendered Cowell House to use of her self for life and after to use of her brother Henry Atkins and his wife Judeth (Original Ashley surrenders D109/C22 6,17,136,139). Henry was duly presented as Mary's heir on his claim 20 March 1717/8 and Judeth Leech widow surrendered to use of Samuel Sloper 1 October 1733. This explains how it came to the Higgs family and was rebuilt as Ivy Cottage by Samuel Higgs in 1808. The heriot due was 15s by 1733. (See *History* p86). The photograph of the Ancient Messuage taken just before its demolition shows a big 17th century type chimney in the centre. (See *History* p86)

The other beedle messuage, held with a sizeable garden by the Mansells in the 18th century, was sold in two stages to Thomas Billings 1795-7. Its site is the blank space between the road and No 6 (See *History* p86).

(6) The second Cheltenham manor freehold in Cudnall, Nethirhowse

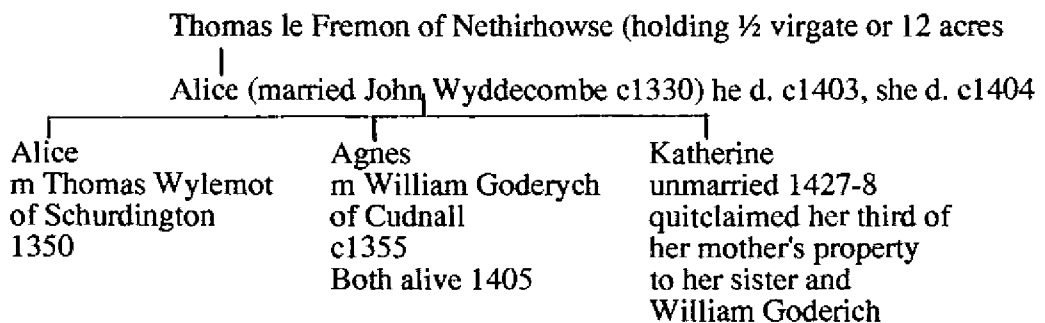
The Cheltenham rental of c1450 (See *Bulletin 15* p11) shows John Grevill jr holding this freehold with ½ virgate of land; it was previously held by his father John Grevill sr (died 1444) and before him by John Wyddcombe. This was known as Nethirhowse because it was the last Cudnall house as you come from Cheltenham. Now we have an earlier reference in a deed of 24 Edward III (1350) in D7661.

In this, John of Wydecombe leases to Thomas Wylemot of Schurdington and Alice his wife a messuage, curtilage, garden and croft adjoining, formerly of Thomas le Fremon of Cherletone. The Wylemots are to hold it for their lives at 3s a year rent. No field land is included. This is a family arrangement and if, (as seems likely) Alice is John Wydecombe's daughter, it is her jointure, and she has married into a family John knew before coming to Charlton. If the marriage happened in 1350, the couple were probably dead c1401, about the time when John Grevill sr became interested in acquiring extra property here, principally to gain influence because freeholders could sit on juries for the king. So John Wydecombe's representatives (if he himself were dead) were willing to sell.

M.J.Greet's paper on Brodcroft in 1403 (See *Bulletin 15* p28) suggests a Goodrich and Wydecombe link. The first five strips in this part of Lyefield were held by Walter atte Green chaplain. Strips 1 and 2 had been given to him by William Goderych and Agnes his wife, strip 3 by Alice Wydecomb widow, strips 4 and 5 again by William and Agnes.

If Alice Wydecombe, widow, had been John Wydecombe's wife and Agnes Godrich his second daughter, married to their neighbour William Goderich, and the five strips were given to the chaplain to say masses for John's soul, we have a very possible explanation. This makes John Wydecombe's death take place c1402 and his widow's not long after 1403. We know that Alice was the name of John's eldest daughter, married 1350; and that Katherine the 3rd daughter gave the third of her mother's property (left to her) to her sister Agnes, wife of William Godrich in 1427-8 (D7661). This third daughter had never married. Her third share included a meadow in Blakemore (by Capel Lane) next to meadows of William de Rosteleye and Isabel his wife on both sides - this adjoining meadow they sold in 1405 to John Grevill, when William Goderych and John Coppe (the Ashley freeholder of Coppe's Elm in Cudnall) were both witnesses.

We seem to have this family tree:-



The c1450 Rental shows that the Nethirhowse itself was sold to John Grevill the elder (d 1444) and was held next by his son John. We don't know when or why it was sold again. It is possible that the Grevills held it till c1560 when money was needed for the rebuilding or modernization of Forden House.

We have evidence of a William Addames marrying a Charlton girl in 1546/7 and having three children - the family may have lived with her parents. But later William Adams seems to have acquired Grove House and to have let it to a lawyer William Boughan (see *Bulletin 28* pp25-27). The story is by no means clear. But it does involve Nethirhowse and its land which was sold off piecemeal, explaining why, later on, the house had only its garden and no field land. For its later history, see *Bulletin 3* and *History* pp81-3.

MARY PAGET

2. TERMS USED IN TITLE DEEDS

Title deeds found in record offices can provide much information about properties, together with details of their owners, lessees, and mortgagees. Sometimes there is information about neighbouring properties as well, so they are important documents for local and family historians. The language used in them is very specialised so the following glossary, provided by the Public Record Office, may be useful to researchers and *Bulletin* readers:

ABSTRACT OF TITLE	List of deeds, with brief details, relating to a particular property
ADMISSION	See COPY COURT ROLL
ANNUITY	Annual income from a property paid to a person who is not usually the owner of the property
ASSIGNMENT	Transfer of a lease or mortgage to another person
BARGAIN AND SALE	Conveyance of a property
BOND	Agreement to pay a financial penalty if the agreed conditions are not kept
CODICIL	Addition to a will
COMMON RECOVERY	Record of a fictitious lawsuit in the Court of Common Pleas to secure title to a property. The document produced by the court is called an exemplification
COPYHOLD	Property held from the lady or lord of a manor
COPY COURT ROLL	Copy of an entry in manor court proceedings, recording the admission of a tenant to a property or the surrender (return to the lady or lord of the manor) of a property by the tenant
COUNTERPART LEASE	Second copy of a lease, usually signed by the tenant and kept by the owner of the property
COVENANT	Agreement
DATING	Before 1752, the year began on 25 March, not 1 January. This is known as the Old Style. The date may be shown as eg 27 February 1724/5. In the New Style, this date would appear as 27 February 1725.
DEFORCIANT	The seller of property in a fine or final concord
ENDORSEMENT	Something written on the back (dorse) of a document
EXEMPLIFICATION	See COMMON RECOVERY
FEOFFMENT	Conveyance of a property
FINAL CONCORD OR FINE	Record of a fictitious case in the Court of Common Pleas to secure title to a property. Three copies were made, left and right hand sides and the foot (bottom) of the fine
FURTHER CHARGE	Additional sum of money borrowed on an already mortgaged property
GIFT	Conveyance of property (usually medieval)

GRANT	Conveyance of property
INDENTURE	Deed with wavy top, one of a pair which would be fitted together to prove authenticity
INVENTORY	List
LEASE AND RELEASE	Conveyance of a property by means of a lease for possession for one year and a release, dated on the following day
LEASE FOR LIVES	Property leased for the lives of two or three named persons
LEASE FOR POSSESSION	See LEASE AND RELEASE
LETTERS OF ATTORNEY	Document appointing a person to act as an attorney (substitute) for another in a legal transaction
LETTERS PATENT	Grant of property by the Crown
MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT	Settlement of property on the occasion of a marriage
MESSUAGE	House
MOIETY	Half
MORTGAGE	The mortgagor (owner) leases the property to the mortgagee (lender of money) in order to borrow a sum of money
PLAINTIFF	The purchaser in a fine or final concord
POST NUPTIAL SETTLEMENT	Settlement of property following a marriage
PROBATE	Establishment of the legal validity of a will
QUERENT	The purchaser in a fine or final concord
QUITCLAIM	Document renouncing all rights in a property
SEISIN	Actual physical possession of a property
SURRENDER	See COPY COURT ROLL
TENEMENT	General term for property, often meaning land with a building on it
USES	Purposes for which a property is held, often specified in a settlement of some kind

3. EAST END DEVELOPMENT & THE HARRIS FAMILY

The history of the development of Cheltenham for the 1700s onward had little early effect on the further reaches of the village. Although the 'new' London Road was cut in 1787 and Hearne Road joined the new and old road, little impact was made on opened-up Castlefield and Flaxley. The further improvement to the London Road between Dowdeswell Hill and Sandywell, creating an easier road over the Cotswold escarpment, was no doubt the turning point.

The 1820's coach timetable showed two coaches a day (6.30 and 8.30 am) leaving for London, also an Oxford to London two day service (sleep Oxford), a 6.30 am Oxford daily service and wagons and vans for London three days a week and returns of these from their outward point. The additional use of private coaches attracted to Cheltenham gave the new London Road a considerable volume of traffic.

Bulletin 13 gives details of the sale in 1846-7 of Over House and land which was bounded on the west by Steels Alley and on the east by land of Mrs Ann Large (boundary of present garage) and the Tithe Map of 1848 reveals how East End looked with the farms of Detmore, Welling Hill and East End free of tithe. But what is interesting is that by 1848 the land at Over House, which had been purchased by Harris and Whitehead, had been resold to new purchasers.

Thomas Whitehead was tithed for the land William Harris had purchased from Charles Kerr (TM 242) and the land William Harris purchased from William Kerr was occupied by the newly built Duke of York and tithed to owner Thomas Jackson and occupied by William Taylor (TM 241). The land of Emily Kerr purchased by Thomas Whitehead extended from the approximate line of what is known as Duke's Alley and the previously mentioned boundary with land owned by Ann Large. This became owned and occupied by William Scriven and tithed to him (TM 240).

In keeping with the practice of building on one side of the village roads the only buildings at this time were the semi-detached cottages that divided the land tithed to Ann Large and the corner plot with land tithed to Mary Harris (TM 239 and 238 respectively).

On the north side of the new London Road only the tithe land opposite the Duke of York owned by John Bastin occupied by William Scriven (TM148) and a section of the land at Flaxley with a cottage was occupied by William Nelmes (TM356). As a matter of interest the existing 'Castlefield' development of the 1950s followed the exact line of Castlefields (TM 245) and the existing 'Chase' development is on land that had its tithe redeemed by 1848.

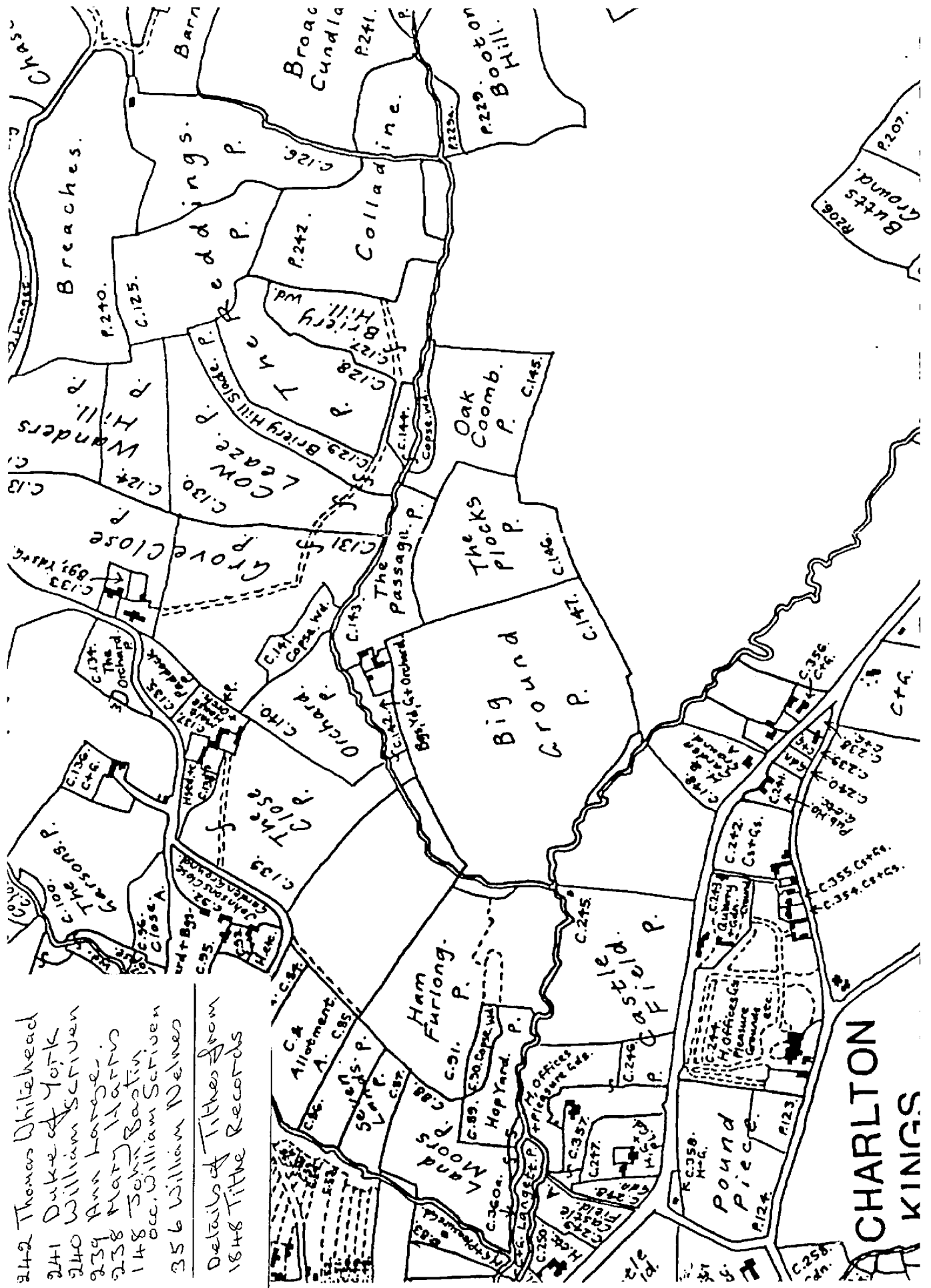
Bulletin 38 p17 augments the detail of the Over House given in *Bulletin 13* p23 and includes the will of Richard Bastin dated 1818. He gave the two daughters of Ann and Mary Kear one cottage each so the Ann Large and May Harris, listed in the tithe map, were the earlier beneficiaries of the Kear family.

Further points of interest in the 1848 Tithe maps - the untithed section of land from the new London Road between Flaxley and TM 148 which in the 1848 ordinance map is shown leading past the Nelmes Row cottages down over the Chelt by a footbridge - a way for Detmore workers perhaps?

Finally *Bulletin 13* mentions the tithe that Mr Millward had redeemed on the purchase of what is now East End garage. I recall when my parents were arranging finance for the purchase of what is now 311 London Road a tithe had to be redeemed that had been

- 242 Thomas Whitehead
- 241 Duke of York
- 240 William Scriven
- 239 Ann Lodge.
- 238 Mary Martin
- 148 John Bastin
occ. William Scriven
- 236 William Davies

Details of Tithes from
1848 Tithe Records



incorporated in the previous rent. Was this due to the re-tithing of C238 and C242 in proportion to the land sold?

Rate Listings 1858 - Mary Paget sent me copies of the rate listings for years 1858-1882 and 1914 within the bounds of Steels Alley and the East End to London Road junction. From the few dwellings both tithed and untithed on the 1848 tithe map the 1858 rating list showed a growth of thirty eight properties. There were both home owners and property investors of several properties; from William and John Simmonds with five - Nos 193-197; Isaac Smallcombe with four - Nos 178-181; and the Harris family occupying six properties and owning another nine, giving them an involvement in fifteen of the thirty eight properties.

By 1858, Mary Harris (nee Kear) had moved into the property of Mrs Ann Large, her sister, and was also the owner of property Rate No 182, with a rate value of £10. William Harris was the owner of the New Inn - No 168 (Linden Lawn), occupier of No 180, owner of six properties Nos 184-190, and also occupier of house and land Nos 187-188 part of the six. Simon Harris occupier of No 159 and Simon Harris junior No 166 completes the list, but where did these properties lie?

I would suggest that the map of 1848 allied to the 1846/7 sale to Whitehead and Harris would point to all the properties being within the confines of the old Over House land. The 1886 Ordinance map shows that, except for the terraces of five houses on Ann Large's previous land known as East End cottages, they were mainly semi-detached cottages.

Rate Listings 1882 - The list of rateable properties had increased in the twenty four years to sixty one, including some land rating. The north side of the London Road shows the greatest development with twenty one listed and the south side increased slightly to forty. Apart from Mrs Nelmes with six properties (Nelmes Row) and Mr Woods with seven (Over House), the Harris family were four in number, with William and Frederick residing on the north side of London Road at Detmore Cottage (the house opposite the Duke of York). William also owned two cottages, rated as No 396, between Detmore Cottage and Oxford Lawn. On the south side of London Road Benjamin Wood had seven properties as owner but not as occupier of any of them. Simon Harris owned five cottages, rated Nos 438-4, being Duke Terrace, and is listed as both owner and occupier of the Duke of York and the adjacent workshop. No 1 Fairview Cottages (next to the Duke workshop) was owned and occupied by Frederick Harris, and No 8 by Elizabeth Harris. Nos 6, 7 and 8 Fairview were all owned by William Cleevely.

Therefore of the sixty one rated properties in 1882, the Harris family had an interest in sixteen - four as owner occupiers and twelve as owners. The Duke of York and the adjacent wheelwrights yard I will deal with as a separate conclusion.

Rate Listings 1914 - The rate book of 1914 lists a total of seventy five properties within Steels Alley to East End/London Road fork, with forty six properties on the north side and twenty nine on the south - an increase overall of fourteen properties in thirty two years and a doubling of the number listed in 1858.

The main properties erected and included in the 1914 book were the houses from Brooklands, a house and laundry occupied by Barbara Holloway, a total of ten properties. Without relisting all the rate book numbers we find the occupancy/ownership by the Harris family consisting of five properties in the Chase including one land rating - Detmore Cottages Nos 501-2, which were 1 and 2 Hill View Cottages, opposite the entrance to Flaxley; four cottages of Duke Terrace Nos 504-507; finally 8 Fairview Cottages No 511.

The marked difference between the 1882 book and the 1914 book is the different way in which the cottages of Fairview Row were identified. In 1882 No 1 was next to the Duke of York, owned and occupied by Frederick Harris (Rate No 448), Nos 6, 7 and 8 were owned by William Cleevely with No 8 occupied by Elizabeth Harris (Rate No 453). But in 1914, No 8 was next to the Duke of York, with Elizabeth Harris as both owner and occupier, while Nos 1, 2 and 3 were owned by Emma Cleevely.

The Harris Family - we have seen that the Harris family had considerable interests in East End property, and while connections between the various members are tenuous, my own recall takes me up to 1961 and the death of Miss Clara Harris at 8 Fairview Cottages (now 313 London Road). My sister and I were playmates in the late twenties of Doreen Jones, now Doreen Bliss, the beneficiary of Clara Harris's will, and she has sent me copies of various documents including Elizabeth Harris's birth certificate of 1845; marriage certificate of F C Harris of 1871 and other documents to 1896; will of Clara Harris and other documents from 1875, including the bill of sale of 313 London Road in 1961. All these documents Doreen Bliss has agreed I pass on to the Local History Society and its editor.

To try now to relate the Harris family - the 1871 marriage of Frederick Charles age 19 years, shows him to be the son of Simon Harris, carpenter who had between 1858 and 1882 become the owner and occupier of the Duke of York. Frederick Charles married Georgina Elizabeth Hogg, the daughter of Samuel Hogg butcher. The birth certificate of Elizabeth Harris (foster grandma to Doreen Bliss) shows that she was born in Sheepscombe, the daughter of Samuel Hogg butcher and Ann Hogg formerly Summers, proving that she was the wife of Frederick Charles.

In 1852 Simon had acquired plot 149 in the churchyard for the burial of his father Albert Francis Harris. In 1875 Simon conveyed to Frederick Charles a freehold cottage and premises at Charlton Kings and Messrs Walter Jessop prepared the documents for the Building Society to advance £100 for the transaction. In 1866 Frederick Charles instructed Chas H Jessop to arrange a further loan of £50 from the Building Society to enable him to settle a debt due on his previous mortgage. This additional loan was to be repaid in eleven years. Receipts from the sexton of Charlton Kings churchyard show that both Frederick Charles and Elizabeth Georgina Harris were buried in grave 149, in 1891 and 1931 respectively.

Among the documents relating to Clara Harris is a vaccination certificate dated 10 April 1875, stating that she was aged 6 months and the child of Frederick Harris. The vaccination took place in an unidentified parish in Berkshire - was she the daughter of Frederick Charles and Elizabeth? In her will she left 'my half-share in No 8 Fairview Cottages', and the bill for the disposal of it (then called 313 London road) includes an amount of 11s for the fee on the death certificate of F.C.Harris - there seems little doubt that she was, but Doreen Bliss has no record of Clara's birth certificate.

In addition to the above, our editor has discovered in the church records the deaths of Jane Harris of the Chase aged 68 on 28 March 1913, and of William Simon Harris aged 83 on 25 November 1932. So the Harris family takes us from the 1846/7 purchase of the Over House land right up to the move from the Chase in 1932 and had some considerable bearing on the development of East End.

REG SEABRIGHT

4. FRANCIS GREEN - COULDN'T OR WOULDN'T PAY?

The month of June in 1703 was a particularly traumatic time for Francis Green. Notice was sent out by two Justices of the Peace, Reginald Pinder and John Cocks, to all High & Petty Constables that Francis Greene of Charlton Regis, a Malster for Sale, "hath for three months last past neglected or refused to make his due, true and particular entry of the quantity of Malt made by him Monthly and every Month respectively and hath also neglected or refused to pay the Duty of Excise due payable to her Majesty for the same amounting to the sum of Sixteen Pounds fifteen shillings and two pence halfpenny". This duty had come into force under an Act passed in 1700/1, "in ye 13th & 14th years of the Reigne of our late Sovereign Lord King William the 3rd for Granting an aid to his said Majesty by laying Duteys upon Malt Manufacture".

Francis was called to appear before the two Justices of the Peace "at the Swan in Gloucester upon Monday the twenty first of June at ten of the clock in the forenoon to show cause (if any he can) why Judgement should not be given against him." He "neglected or refused" to appear, which resulted in the amount of Duty due from him being doubled. What is more the Constables for the county were given warrant to distrain the goods and chattels in his dwelling house and sell them in order to raise the necessary money. "And for want of Distress and in case of Opposition you are to take the body of the said Francis Green and convey him or cause him to be conveyed to the next Gaol in the county there to remain till payment be made or till he be otherwise released".

So what do we know about this Francis Green? Was he genuinely unable to pay the Malt Duty or was he perhaps rebelling against its imposition?

Francis was the descendant of a long line of Greens/Greenes living in Charlton Kings - there is a mention of the family in St Mary's Parish Registers as early as 1546/7. He was baptised on 28 June 1679, the son of Francis Greene senior. An entry in the Cheltenham Manor Court books, dated 13 April 1694, records the death of Francis Green senior and states that his son Francis was his heir. (D855 M12 p111) This entry gives no details of his father's holdings, but an earlier entry, dated 3 May 1652, is more informative. It records that Thomas Greene the elder surrendered to use of Francis Greene his son, his heirs and assigns, several parcels of arable land: 3 sellions in a furlong called Short Greenehall in the tything of Westal Sandford and Naunton and nine sellions in the same tything in a place called Ould Meade. (D855 M11 f88v)

Another court entry, dated 3 October 1656, reveals that Samuel Whithorne and his wife Joyce surrendered to the use of Francis Green and his heirs "One Little Close called Withyholt abutting upon a stream called Fordenbank towards the East and upon the highway towards the West lying in the tything of Bafford in Charlton Kings". And another, dated 5 October 1658, tells us that Linnet Pates and Mary his wife surrendered to the use of Francis Greene and his heirs "Two Butts or Sellions of Arable land lying in a place called Withyholt, land of Richard Gryndle on the south and land of said Francis Greene on the North, situate in Charlton Kings".

In addition to the Cheltenham manor copyhold property, an index to the Ashley manor records shows that Francis junior claimed to be admitted to his late father's property held in this manor too. The records themselves are missing for this period so we do not know where this property was, only that it had been surrendered by William Welsh in 1657.

A Deed of Partition, dated 1677, reveals that Ann, née Atkins, the second wife of Francis Green, was co-heiress to an estate at Uphatherley. Francis and Ann's share in this estate consisted of a messuage and about 20 acres of land. Clearly Francis Green senior had

inherited and acquired a considerable amount of property, which had been passed on to Francis junior. It seems that he should have been able to pay the malt duty. So why didn't he?

Francis was only a lad of fourteen when his father was buried on 26 February 1693/4. He automatically inherited the copyhold land according to the custom of the two manors. There is a will for Francis senior, made on 22 January 1693/4, in which he describes himself as 'malster'. He left Ann "my now wife a shilling and the use of my household goods for the term of her life upon condition she shall not imbezle and make havock and wast of the same but shall leave it in as good condition as she shall find it, or others as good in stead" (GRO 1693/296). Young Francis was left specific items of furniture together with the malt mill and a furnace. The rest of the goods and chattels were left to Dorothy, Francis' twelve year old daughter together with "my Close adjoining my dwelling house known by the name of Higgs Close", which was presumably freehold land. Surprisingly, Dorothy was named as executor of the will, but as she was a minor she elected Jane Dowdeswell of Charlton Kings spinster [her older cousin on the Greene side] to be her 'Guardian and Curatrix at law'. It seems that Francis senior did not have a very good opinion of either his wife's or his son's capabilities to carry out the provisions of his will.

We can presume that young Francis Green, with the help of his mother and sister, carried on managing the malting business and farming the land after his father's death. But in 1699 tragedy struck - firstly Dorothy was buried on 1 May and then Ann Green widow on 5 June. Francis was left on his own and perhaps found looking after business affairs more than he could manage.

We get the first indication that he was getting into financial difficulties when, on 20 December 1701, he mortgaged his land at Uphatherly to Thomas Norwood of Leckhampton, clerk, for £150. The land is described as "All that meadow or pasture ground called Moate ground or Great Ground, Also parcel of ground called the Moate adjoining said Great ground containing in the whole about 20 acres". Interest on the loan amounting to £4.10s was due on 24 June 1702, but rather than paying it Francis borrowed another £30 from Thomas Norwood.

Then came a flurry of activity in June 1703 when John Prinn steps into the picture, firstly with a loan of £10 on security of Francis Green's house, quickly followed by various indentures, court procedures and a declaration made by Francis as follows:

"Charlton 17th June 1703. Memorandum - it is agreed that Francis Green shall convey to John Prinn and his heirs All his lands tenements and hereditaments both Free land and Customary within ye County of Gloucester in consideration of two hundred and sixty pounds of which eleven pounds and one shilling and sixpence is paid in part by ye said John Prinn to ye said Francis Green and ye residue thereof is to be applyed towards ye payment of mortgages upon ye premises and ye said John Prinn is to have ye crop growing there and ye furnaces and implements of malting and Standard and the malt mill as incident to ye house part of ye premises and ye said John Prinn and Mr George Stevens are to have a Bill of Sale of all other ye personall estate of ye said Francis Green ye same may be sold to make up ye deficiency of ye purchase money in satisfying ye mortgages and debts above mentioned or such other debts of ye said Francis Green as to ye said George Stevens and John Prinn shall seem most advisable in their judgements witnessed our hands ye day and year above written". Signed by Francis Green and John Prinn and witnessed by Ed Hale and Geo Stevens.

This resulted in John Prinn taking over the mortgage of the Uphatherley lands, together with Green's house, the close of meadow or pasture ground called Withyholt adjoining the house, also the lands lying in Short Grenoll and two butts of land in Needles Butts. The contents of Green's house were listed and sold, but only fetched £34.19s.6d.

Prinn listed how a total of £297.6s.8½d was spent on behalf of Francis:

To ye Queen for Excise	16.15. 2½
Charges incident to ye seisure	1. 1. 6
To Mr Norwood upon mortgage principle & interest	200. 0. 0.
To William Terret of Bushley principle & interest	61.10. 0
To John Prinn for principle money	10. 0. 0
To Tom Vick and Robt Sollars (if it can be raised but left to ye discretion of Mr Stevens & Mr Prinn	8. 0. 0
	<hr/>
	£297. 6. 8½

In addition to these debts, money was also owing to John Cooke and William Tanty. It is clear that Francis had been borrowing from several sources and was in deep financial trouble. He must have been quite unable to pay his malt duty and only drastic steps kept him from being removed to prison.

There is no further record of what happened to Francis Green until a document, dated 22 May 1710, relating to court proceedings taken by Francis against John Prinn. In it he accuses Prinn of taking advantage of him when he "being illiterate and relying on Prinns friendship" signed various documents. He claims to have been tricked into signing away his estate - "that Prinn made assurances that he would resurrender to Plaintiff [Green] upon Repayment but not regarding Promises and taking advantage of Plaintiffs circumstances and Designing to be master of all Plaintifs estate ... that Prinn having thus gotten Plaintifs writings pretends that Plaintiff has sold the same at above ye real value". The accusations conclude with a demand that John Dutton [Lord of the Manor of Cheltenham] may be decreed to admit Plaintiff to his copyhold.

Unfortunately the Prinn archives do not relate the outcome of the case, or whether in fact it actually came to court. Francis was no doubt correct when he stated that Prinn was "designing to be master of all Plaintifs estate" - this was the period when Prinn was acquiring by purchase or exchange all the land extending from Forden House to Charlton Common, on either side of the present Sandy Lane. But Prinn, being an experienced lawyer, would surely have made sure that everything he did was strictly within the confines of the law, even if not perhaps very neighbourly.

However, there is a Cheltenham Manor Court entry, dated 4 May 1720, which records that ten years previously, on 22 April 1710, Francis Green had surrendered to use of Thomas Kear "all that messuage in Charlton Regis, and orchard, garden and yard belonging and 3 selions in Short Grenall", which Kear then surrendered to John Prinn (D855 M14 p128). There is also an entry in John Prinn's 'expenditure account' for February 1709/10 which reads as follows: "paid to Mr Dutton to pay Mr Green £51.10.0". Both these happened before the date on the 'Green v Prinn' document. Were matters being 'tidied up' in the expectation of a court case? We shall probably never know the true circumstances, but one thing is certain - Francis Green could not rather than would not pay the duty on his malt in 1703.

[Ref: Except where noted the information is taken from the D7661 collection at the GRO]

JANE SALE

5. FRANCIS GREEN'S HOUSE AND LANDS

Fortunately we know exactly where Francis Green's house was situated as it is shown on a map of the Prinns' estate produced in 1746. It is marked 'Greens' even though it had by then become the Home Farm for the Prinn estate. The house stands on the site of the later Withyholt Farm (or The Withyholt), and may well have made up the core of the later building.

The inventory made in 1703 by order of two Justices of the Peace lists the house's rooms and their contents.

Downstairs there was a kitchen, which was the main room with cooking equipment, table boards, stools, a chair and a settle; a buttery, with hogsheads, barrels, kilderkins and firkins and pails of various types; a dayhouse or dairy, with a cheese press and 'dow trow' or dough trough, baskets etc; a killne roome which held various malting equipment including an intriguing item, a 'malt sieve with a leather bottom'; and the lower malt room.

Upstairs there were two chambers with bedsteads and bedding. One was called the 'hall chamber', so presumably the kitchen had previously been described as the hall, the other one the 'buttery chamber'. Both rooms had chests or coffers, books including a bible, and three swords. Both also housed quantities of barley - 24 and 20 bushels - were these rooms the driest and least infected with rats, I wonder? There was also the 'upper malt room' which housed "24 bushells of dry malt and 20 on ye floor and killne" together with shovels, sieves and other equipment.

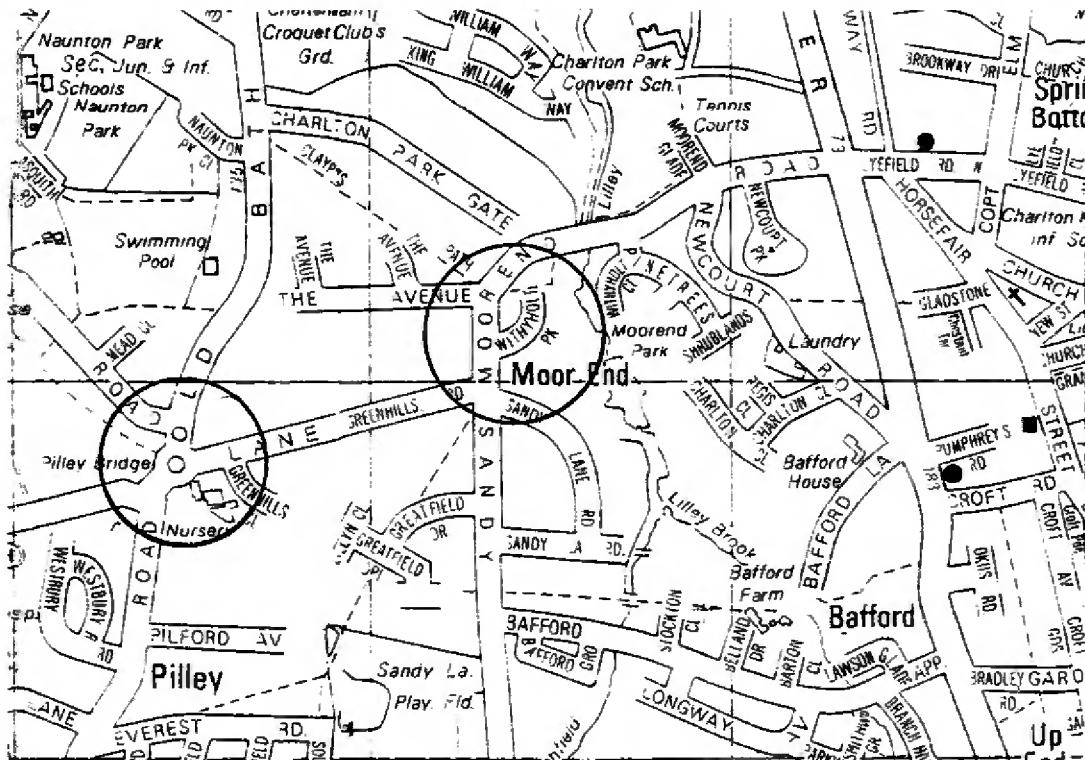
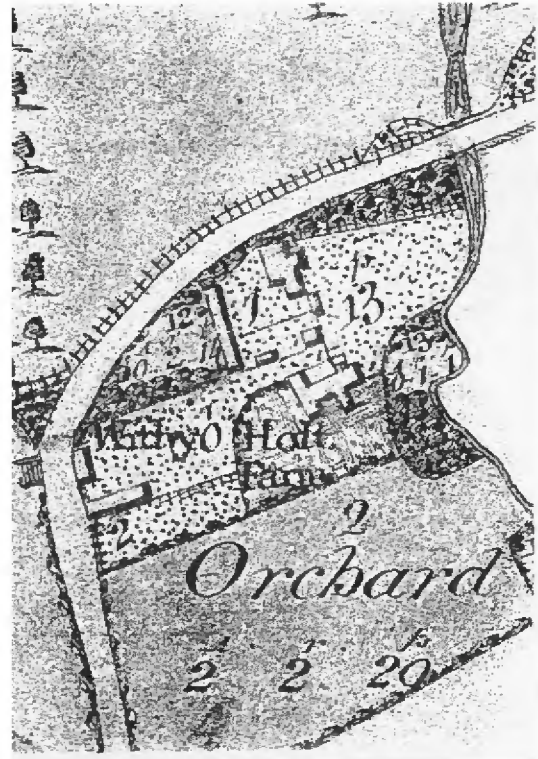
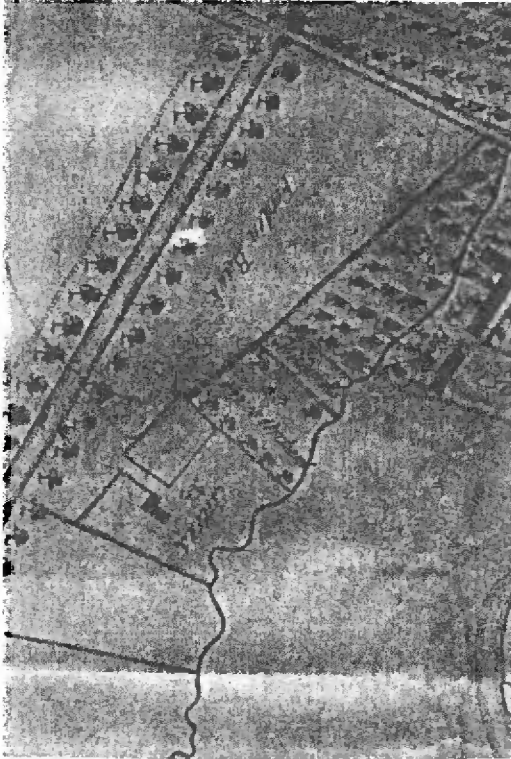
Outside there was a yard with sawed timber and bricks together with 2 pigs and 6 hens; an orchard and back orchard; a barn and pigsty and a garden with a 'stock' of bees.

The 1746 map and survey of the Prinn estate were made soon after William Prinn, the grandson of John Prinn, inherited the estate. He kept a Rent Book from 1745 which lists Green's house and about 200 acres as Home Farm. It was tenanted by John Pride until 1767, then his widow and later their son William until 1786. By this time extra land had been added and the rent had risen to £325 per year. The farm covered an area either side of Greenhills Road as far as Old Bath Road, and up the east side of Old Bath Road as far as the present Daisy Bank, and also included the land in Uphatherly that Green had owned. There is no mention of any alterations or improvements being made to the house during this period. We know that the Pride family supplied William Prinn with cheese, so the dayhouse would have been in use, and there is a note that William Pride bought a new furnace - presumably to heat the milk for the cheese-making process.

After William Prinn's death in 1784 the estate passed to his son-in-law, Dodington Hunt. He was responsible for building the new Moorend Road around his estate to replace the road that had previously bisected it. He could now 'enpark' his land and change the name of The Forden to Charlton Park. Another estate Rent Book survives and covers the period from 1785 to 1821, by which time Dodington Hunt had been succeeded by his son William Hunt Prinn. The area of the Home Farm remained fairly constant, but a new tenant, Isaac Baylis, appeared in 1786, followed by William Stephens in 1791.

In 1793 there is an important note - "Parlour and repairs at Home Farm £40". If we compare the shape of the house in 1746 and in 1811, we can see how the simple L shape has had additions made to it. There is also a note "Paved a barn at Home Farm £50" - presumably one of the bigger farm buildings shown on the 1811 map.

The maps below show (a) the L shape of the house and its position in 1746, before Moorend Road was made; (b) the shape of the house and the farm buildings in 1811, with Moorend Road skirting round them; and (c) a present day map of Charlton Kings with the Withyholt area circled. The arable land owned by Green is also circled in the Pilley Bridge area - note that the names have survived in Greenhills Close and Mead Close.



A new tenancy agreement was drawn up in 1802 - "Agreed with William Humphries to let him have the Home Farm at the expiration of Mr Stephens term for £350 p.a. He to make and keep the hedges in repair and to have the wood that comes out of them stakes if wanted to be found by me. I am to allow him 2 Guineas a year for coals, and if wheat comes down to 6s a bushel of great measure and cheese to 27s a hundred, I am to abate him the present rising of £40 p.a. as long as ye wheat and cheese continue at that price." This gives us a very clear idea of the major products from this farm. A year later Humphries took on extra land in Lyefield and the Croft and the rent was raised to £400 p.a.

When William Hunt Prinn took over the estate in 1804 a list was made of the rents paid by each tenant. By this time the farm was referred to as Withyholt Farm, as it is on the 1811 map. Prinn complained that the tenants were very bad at paying their rent - "by dribblets and very badly" - and William Humphries was among "ye worst". A later note dated 1809 records that "William Humphries died in the Autumn of 1808 and Mr Gale as Trustee for his children keeps the farm till Lady Day 1810. I allow him to put in Edward Greenwood, who becomes my tenant at Lady Day 1810". A list was made of any landlord's expenditure on the farms in the period 1804 to 1821, but nothing was entered for Withyholt.

No more Rent Books survive among the Prinn archives, but there are a few jottings at the back of an earlier expenditure book. One dated June 1843 states "Repaired the Withyholt Farm house. Rebuilt the Brewhouse removed the Pigsties. Laid new Barn floor with oak etc." This was during the period that the Jordan family were at Withyholt (see *Bulletin 20* pp 37 - 39 for more information on the Jordans and a map of the farm at that time.)

From the evidence provided by the Prinn archives it seems clear that Green's house, as described in 1703, formed the core of the later Withyholt Farm. It had additions and repairs during the 18th and 19th centuries but there is nothing to indicate that it was taken down and rebuilt. But when might that core have been built? Looking back to the 17th century transactions, we note the one in which Samuel and Joyce Whithorn surrendered to Francis Green "One Little Close called Withyholt abutting upon a stream called Fordenbank towards the East and upon the highway towards the West". This description ties in with the position of the house as shown in the 1746 map, and would explain its later name. [Withyholt means a wood of willow trees] It is logical to presume therefore that Francis Green senior built the house on that piece of land sometime between 1656 and his death in 1693. What a pity that The Withyholt no longer remains for us to examine this theory.

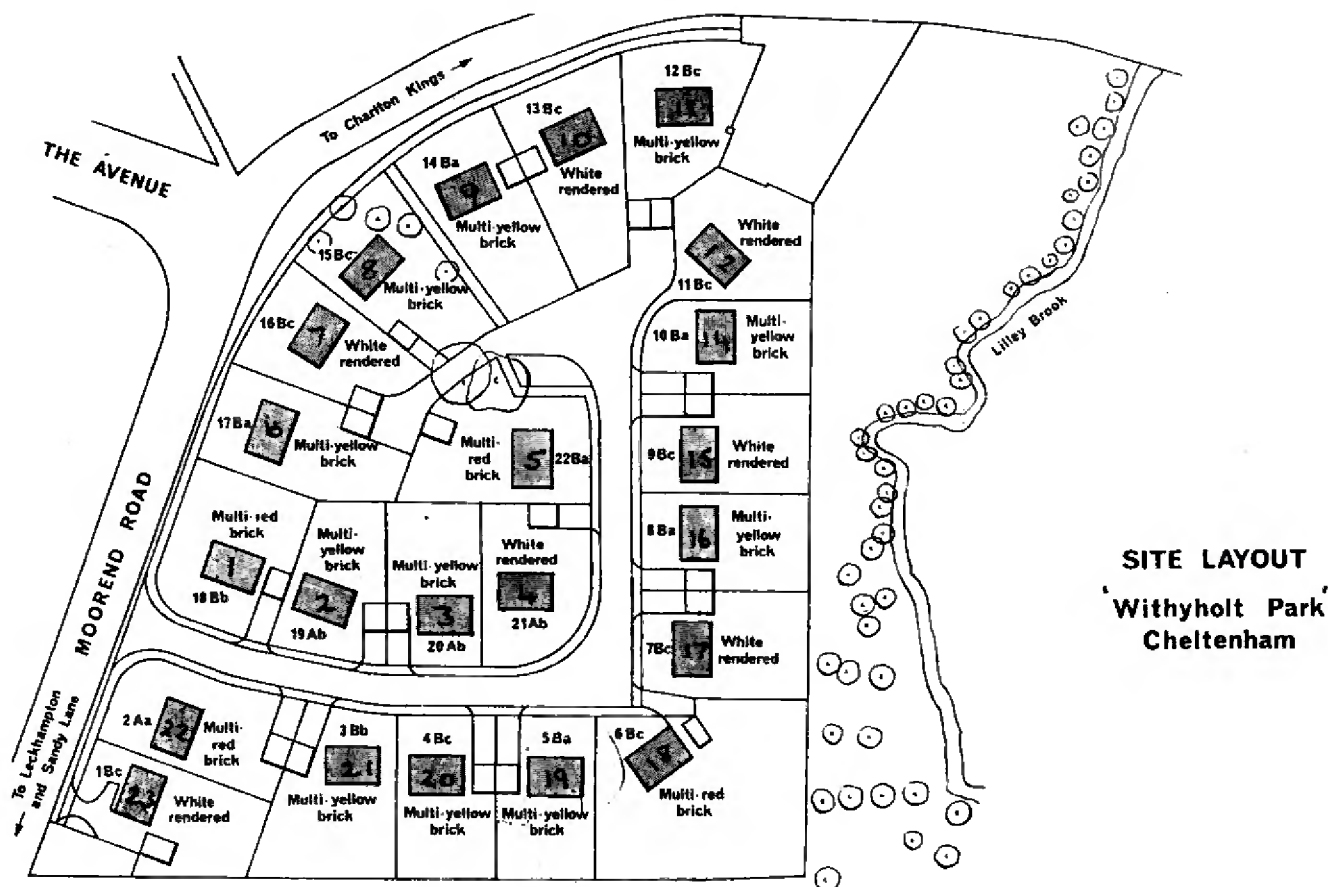
(Ref: All material for this article comes from the D7661 collection - the Prinn archives.)

JANE SALE

6. WITHYHOLT PARK

"The architectural grace of nearby Cheltenham is echoed in this elegant residential development in Charlton Kings". This is how Withyholt Park was described in the February 1973 issue of *Gloucestershire Life*.

The area previously occupied by the Withyholt and its farm buildings and orchards was developed by the Twyford Property Company after the house's demolition in 1964. Twenty two detached houses were constructed, described in the sale particulars as "designed to recreate the charm of the Regency style and, combined with the latest building techniques, to produce these luxury easy-to-run houses". Most of them were on the market by 1966/67, though the six facing Moorend Road were not completed until 1969/70.



SITE LAYOUT
'Withyolt Park'
Cheltenham

The numbering of the plots did not conform to the final numbering, which I have superimposed on the individual houses. Note No 13 has been left out. 50% of the houses were specified to be multi-yellow brick, but this was changed leaving only multi-red brick and white rendered. The tree marked in the garden of No 5 was a fine Wellingtonia, which sadly was struck by lightning in June 1992 and had to be cut down.

Prices for the houses were considered high locally - about £10,500 for the larger houses and £9750 for the slightly smaller ones. That was in 1966/67, the latest price advertised in February 2001 was £280,000, an increase by 26 times in 34 years.

Bayleys, the selling agents, furnished No 20 as a show house and employed Mrs Iris Stainton and Mrs Nan Forbes to front the selling. After that was sold in 1968, they moved to No 4 which didn't sell until 1970.

The first residents were Mr and Mrs Drew-Smythe, their son John was one of the directors of the Twyford Property company. They moved into No 17 early in 1966. Professor Jimmy Drew-Smith was an eminent gynaecologist spending most of his life in Bristol. He was born around 1890 and entered the first World War as a newly qualified doctor in the Royal Army Medical Corps. He won the Military Cross for liberating a small French town - he had marched his field hospital into the town ahead of the advancing troops! In the second World War he was senior medical officer in India and Burma. Mrs Drew-Smith died in the early 1970s, and Jimmy in 1983 at the age of 93.

Another of the early residents was Miss Barbara Abel-Smith, who was distantly related to the Queen. She moved into No 20 in 1970 with two elderly companions. Sadly Barbara died at the early age of around 50 - she refused medical treatment for cancer because of her religion.

The first baby to be born in Withyholt Park was my son, Martin, on the 8th June 1968, at No 19, my present home.

A Residents Association was formed in 1972 and drew up a 'code of practice' to prevent unfortunate developments on the site. Although there have been modifications to some of the houses - conservatories added, windows changed, shutters removed etc - on the whole The Park retains much of its original character. We have also been able to exercise a 'body of opinion' to the Borough Council over planning applications for houses just outside the perimeter of Withyholt.

Finally, there are two or three reminders of the old Withyholt: the tiles on the 'canopy' over the stocks alongside the Parish Centre by St Mary's church; the stone bricks in the wall behind No 5, bordering the road to the garages at the end of the Park; the little stone wall attached to the side of No 4 - these all come from 'The Withyholt'.

DAVID MORGAN

7. CHARLTON KINGS AND THE BOER WAR

The Second Boer war took place between 1899 and 1902 and was fought between the Boers and the British for control of the rich South African gold and diamond mines. It was the first war to have almost spontaneous reporting, as the telegraph system now allowed reports to be sent back very quickly, although photographs still had to come by ship.

The young men of Charlton Kings were anxious to serve their country and the residents of the village were justifiably proud of their young men. A memorial was erected "in honour of and to record the names of their fellow parishioners who fought for the Empire in the South African campaign 1900-1902". Thirty eight names are on this memorial which can be seen in the Parish Room. Among them is Charles Martin Vassar-Smith of Charlton Park, who went into the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry in 1901 as a 2nd Lieutenant, and who gained the Queen's South African War Medal with four clasps.

From the Cheltenham Free Press dated 26th May 1900 we know that the village came out in force to welcome two of its men home. As the report says: "the village of Charlton Kings gave a right royal welcome to two heroes on Monday last, Midshipman Hodson, son of the Vicar and Trooper Monger. Midshipman Hodson on HMS Terrible, distinguished himself while serving with the Ladysmith relieving force at Colenso, he was mentioned in dispatches by Commander Ogilvie for his bravery. Trooper Monger of the 9th Lancers, from East End was present with Lord Methuen's division at the battles of Belmont, Graspan and Modder river.

When the village heard that the men were coming home a committee was formed, W Price chairman, F J Peacey Hon Sec, and Horace Edwards Treasurer. On the day the whole village turned out. The houses were decorated with flags and there were streamers across the roads. The train arrived at 4.20pm, the Vicar and Mrs Hodson were with them on the train. Cheering crowds were at the station to meet them. The school children sang Rule Britannia, detonators were exploded on the railway line and the church bells began to ring. Our heroes, in carriages, moved off followed by the cheering crowd. Arriving at the Vestry hall our Heroes were addressed by Mr Price and both were presented with addresses. The Vicar replied on

behalf of the heroes and there was much applause. Three cheers were given for Our Gallant Heroes and the National Anthem was sung.

That evening a patriotic concert was held in the St Clair-Ford Hall. General Smith presided and the following entertained - Misses Forbes-Robertson, Miss Rome, Miss Hayward, Rev Parkinson, C E Gael, W Raynor, F J Fry and Walter R Boroughs."

Again from the Cheltenham Press of 9th June 1900, we learn that the village celebrated the battle victories (on the Wednesday evening after Cheltenham had celebrated on the Tuesday. (Did people go to both?) "Mr Mitchell placed Ryeworth Farm at the disposal of the demonstrators. The Band of the Rifle Volunteers played for the dancing and games. An effigy of the Kruger was duly tried and sentenced to the flames. Mr Mitchell invited some people into the farmhouse for supper and provided beer and perry for those in the fields.

Sadly not all the young men came back. Four, all from the Gloucestershire Regiment died and were buried in South Africa. They are remembered by a memorial in the south aisle of St Mary's church. It was made by Fry - presumably the W H Fry who carved the reredos in 1901 - and reads as follows:

ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF
THE MEN OF THIS PARISH WHO
LOST THEIR LIVES SERVING THEIR
COUNTRY IN THE BOER WAR
SOUTH AFRICA 1900 - 1902
PRIVATES:
W. J. BOND, 2ND GLOS. REG^T.
KILLED IN ACTION AT DEWETSDORP
NOV. 23. 1900, AGED 25
GEORGE CLAPHAM, 2ND GLOS. REG^T.
DIED AT BLOEMFONTEIN
DEC. 30. 1900. AGED 24
C. H. HOOPER, 1ST GLOS. REG^T.
DIED AT LADYSMITH
APRIL 6. 1900. AGED 26
W. G. TURNER, 3RD GLOS. REG^T.
DIED AT BLOEMFONTEIN
AUG. 17. 1900. AGED 22

Do we know anything about these gallant young men?

W. J. Bond was the son of Henry and Agnes Bond, who in 1891 lived at 3 Mill Lane. William John was entered in the census as John aged 15 and a farm labourer. He is also mentioned on his parents' headstone in St Mary's churchyard.

George Clapham has not as yet been traced but he is presumed to be a member of the Clapham family who lived at 'The Ark' at East End.

Christopher Harry Hooper was the only son of Charles and Sophie Hooper of 19 Church Street. There is no Christopher at home for the 1891 census, but a young Henry Hooper aged 17 who was at Ryeworth Farm working as a servant for George Mitchell. Was this Henry the Christopher Harry who died? The age suggests so.

W. G. Turner was the son of Frederick and Rose Turner and nephew of Charles Randall of Coxhome. In the 1891 census the family were living at 2 Lyefield Road East and William George was still a scholar. He was awarded the Queen's South African Medal with two bars, Cape Colony and Orange Free State. On 18th October 1900 the Cheltenham Press printed the following: **Charlton Soldier's Death** - On Saturday Mr William Price (Chairman) and Mr F J Peacey (Hon Sec) on behalf of the welcoming home Committee waited upon the parents of Private Turner and presented them with a neatly framed memorial card "In memoriam of the late Private George Turner aged 22 who died from enteric fever at Bloemfontein nobly doing his duty for Queen and Country. The inhabitants of Charlton Kings gratefully record their warm appreciation of duty ably performed and of a hero's death. They respectfully tender to their late fellow parishioner's family and friends their deep sympathy in their sad loss. The war has been marked by the pluck and endurance, courage and devotion of the British soldiers and sailors of all ranks and by a large number of men who have freely laid down their lives in the cause of liberty and justice. The sacrifices thus endured will confirm for ever the principles of equality and freedom for all her Majesty's subjects (coloured and white) in South Africa and spread to an incalculable extent the cause of civilization. May this reflection help to soften the hour of affliction".

(We are grateful to Maureen Leigh, nee Turner, for allowing us to use this photograph of Private William George Turner)



MARY SOUTHERTON

8. ALICE HILDA YONGE (1883 - 1934)

[Hilda Yonge came to Charlton Kings in the early 1900s as governess to the children of Mr and Mrs Herbert Owen Lord at Lilleybrook. When she died her name was commemorated by a brass plaque in Gloucester Cathedral. We are indebted to Derek Rowles who has sent us this account of his research into her remarkable life.]

It was almost by accident that I learnt about Alice Hilda Yonge. One of my retirement projects has been to research the history of our home in Cheltenham, to discover the origin of its unusual name "Charnes", and to find out about the families that lived there prior to our arrival in 1972.

The Yonge family were recorded as having lived at the house between 1920 and 1929. Initially there seemed very little information about the family, other than that the mother, Mrs Alice Yonge, was a widow and came from Shrewsbury. But then, while investigating the name "Charnes" I discovered that there was a "Charnes Hall" at Eccleshall, Staffordshire which had been owned by the Vernon Yonge family. With the help of Burkes *Genealogical & Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain & Ireland* I discovered that Alice Yonge had married Vernon Cave Yonge in 1883 and that her husband had inherited the Charnes Estate in 1914.

We set off to Staffordshire in an attempt to find a place named Charnes. The visit was quite eventful. It started at the beautiful parish church at Eccleshall, where several impressive Yonge family plaques were found. Then we came across a pub named the "Vernon Yonge Arms", so we decided to lunch there. We learnt that the Charnes Estate still existed, and that descendants of the family still lived nearby. Our village contacts could not have been more helpful.

Our crowning achievement was to make contact with Alice Yonge's granddaughter, the niece of Hilda Yonge. She repeatedly referred to a plaque designed to commemorate her Aunt Hilda's death. Soon considerable information started to be exchanged between us, even photographs of Mrs Alice Yonge and some of her daughters posing in their 1920's dresses outside our front door. I discovered that Vernon Yonge had sold the Charnes Estate and moved to Shrewsbury, where he died in 1919 after an accident. But what, I wondered, had made Alice Yonge move to Cheltenham, and what had happened to the plaque.

My next clue came from our neighbour, a member of the local history society. While carrying out some research of her own in Gloucester Cathedral, she had come across a plaque bearing the name of Alice Hilda Yonge. It was one of two plaques in a side chapel dedicated to Gloucestershire College of Education and read: **REMEMBER/ ALICE HILDA/ YONGE/ WARDEN OF WOTTON/ G.T.C.D.S./ 20-4-1934.**

Having Hilda's date of death enabled me to find an obituary, which recorded that for the three years prior to her death, at the age of 51, she had been working as Warden at Wootton House Gloucester. Before this, she had been a Red Cross worker and, during the war, she had been Secretary of the Cheltenham Red Cross Society - ultimately being appointed Assistant County director and later County Secretary. It was stated that she received the decoration A.R.R.C. from the King and afterwards became superintendent of St. Martin's Hospital for disabled soldiers in Cheltenham.

A photograph of the Gloucester Cathedral plaque was sent to Hilda's relative in Staffordshire, but this was not the design of her childhood memories, now described to me as a much more elaborate "cartouche" containing a picture of a cottage. More Yonge family clues led me to the tiny Gloucestershire hamlet of Stanley Pontlarge, its ancient miniature church and a brass

oval plaque bearing a picture of a country cottage and garden and the words: *In happy Remembrance of the life of/ Alice Hilda Yonge,/ who in this loved Church and place/ found friendship and rest/ refreshment and delight/ her family have asked that these words/ might be written here/ORA ET LABORA/ 1883 - 1934.*

With two plaques to commemorate her life - one in the grandest church in the county and another in one of the smallest, Hilda Yonge must have been quite a lady.

This time my photographs were greeted by Hilda's niece with delight, it was exactly as she had remembered it. The cottage featured on the plaque was eventually found. It was easy to identify from the Latin words "ORA ET LABORA" (Prayer and work) featured on both the plaque and the cottage itself.

Further research in the Cheltenham Reference Library revealed that Hilda had come to the Cheltenham area in the early 1900s and taken up a position as governess to the children of Mr and Mrs Herbert Owen Lord of Lilley Brook, Charlton Kings. By 1909 Mrs Owen Lord had taken over the position of Vice-President in charge of the Cheltenham branch of the Gloucestershire British Red Cross Society. Hilda Yonge became Mrs Lord's assistant and honorary secretary of the branch. Hilda clearly took a major part in organising the "Field Days" held at Lilley Brook to rehearse the treatment of Territorials thought likely to be wounded in the event of the country being invaded. The Cheltenham Looker-On reported these Field Days extensively and included photographs of some of the people involved, including Mrs Lord and Hilda Yonge. [See *Bulletin 39* for more about the Lord family and the Red Cross Field Days]

1919 was the year that St Martin's Hospital was formed in a house in Cheltenham known as "Lisle House" where Hilda was appointed Superintendent. Within a collection of Red Cross archive material at Cheltenham's Reference Library was a booklet which turned out to be a tribute and record of St Martin's Hospital and the staff, led by Hilda Yonge its "Commandant" and "Secretary to the Committee of Management" of the hospital. The committee included the Duchess of Beaufort and Mrs Owen Lord. A five page article on St Martin's explained how Lisle House had been made available for use as a hospital by Mr J P Winterbotham, how the original Voluntary Aided Hospital had been staffed by the Ladies College Detachment and how the patients were crippled ex-servicemen. It was written by A.H.Y. - initials which could only have been those of Alice Hilda Yonge. Another article written by one of the patients included the following passage: "A special word of praise is due to Miss Yonge, the commandant, whose untiring zeal and sympathy was the means of bringing into our lives some of the sunshine that the War has banished". I was beginning to understand why this lady had been so highly regarded.

Later my feelings were confirmed when her family sent me a document written as an appreciation of her work by Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss K.B.E. During the First World War he had been a member of the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross and St John's. After the war he became Chairman of the Committee of Management at St Martin's and would therefore have known well of Hilda's work.

Electoral registers show that Hilda Yonge lived at Lisle House until the hospital closed in 1925, and moved to Stanley Pontlarge in 1927. It is thought she lived with her mother at our house in the intervening two years. We are proud of the association that the Yonge family has with our home and it has been a privilege to be able to find out how Alice Hilda Yonge came to have two memorials in Gloucestershire and why we should remember her.

Derek Rowles

9. LECKHAMPTON QUARRY RAILWAY AND CHARLTON KINGS

Mrs Nellie Baldwin has given this Society the deed of 18 October 1922 between
(1) Caffin and Co Ltd of 25 Craven Street, Strand, London and
(2) The Leckhampton Quarries Company, with its office at 6 Regent Street, Cheltenham, for making the proposed branch railway from Charlton Kings Station to the quarries on Leckhampton Hill. Attached is the specification set out by the engineer, George W Blackall in June 1921.

There were no houses on this part of the hill in 1921 that would interfere with the line laid down; but it did cross two public roads, one at Daisy Bank, where a temporary bridge on the south side of the cutting was required, and another at Sandy Lane, where access to Southfield Farm (as it then was) and Charlton Common were involved.

The detailed instructions about the quality of the fencing and about the erection of earthworks are particularly interesting. The total cost was estimated at £11,215.6s.3d. The plans Mr Fred Baldwin allowed me to xerox some years ago.

I well remember the work being done. I think it was in the winter of 1921 that I heard my uncle Joshua Monro Briggs speaking to my father about the Quarry proposals - it was said that the upper beds of Leckhampton limestone were particularly valuable for lime burning - and my uncle intended to take shares in the Company. My father, while recognising the value of the natural material, was doubtful about the scheme and its inevitable effect on the landscape, so he did not agree. Later he was much distressed to see how the new quarries were altering the western profile of the hill - this is hidden now by the growth of trees.

Creating a line from the top of the hill, where the four huge lime burners were sited, to Sandy Lane was not as difficult as carrying the line across the road by a level crossing and through the edge of the Lilleybrook estate. Here there was a deep bed of very stiff blue-grey clay. The season was wet. The company, it was said, got on the wrong side of an employee engaged to stop springs - so he deliberately neglected some and the deep cutting became a lake, difficult to drain. My brother Colin and I used to walk up there most Sunday afternoons and very often in the holidays to see progress and watch the engine *Fashoda* engaged, once the lake had gone, in bringing up ballast and rails. There is a photo of *Fashoda* (her name indicates her date) in D.R.Bick's *Old Leckhampton* p33. Colin thought she was much like his battered clockwork engine that had come from our older cousins, so he christened his engine *Fashoda* too. I don't remember seeing the other locomotive used, a rather younger engine *Lightmoor*. Both were housed in the old brick barn at Southfield.

It was at the quarry workings and the "lake" that we first became acquainted with Tom and John Williams, considerably older than us, who were there nearly as often as we were.

The clay excavated was dumped on an adjoining plot (now part of the golf course). It was several years before any weed grew on that clay and many more before it was grassed over.

A footbridge was needed to take the path from Bafford Farm over the new line and across to the stile opposite Southfield. When the rails were being laid by that footbridge, a man who lived near us in Thornton's Row, dropped a rail on his foot. We saw his bloody footprints as he limped home and we had to follow. It was a long time before the injury healed, though some Charlton people did say he wasn't over eager to get back to work!

Trouble arose between the Quarry Company and the GWR, which owned the main line, as to the number of train-loads to be taken into Charlton station to be hitched on to a through train. Eventually the number was much reduced, which interfered considerably with the Company's

working. Then Cheltenham people complained about the vibration caused by blasting, which shook their houses - it was felt a long distance away. I certainly remember the Upper Hall of Cheltenham Ladies' College shaking severely after an explosion, as we did a summer exam there in 1925. So the blasting was restricted too, and by 1926 the Company was bankrupt. At a sale in 1927 the plant and equipment only fetched £8000 and the site remained unsold. Eventually Cheltenham Corporation bought the Common for £6500 and saved the hill for our enjoyment.

I last walked up the hill in 1997. The site of the four great blast furnaces was quite difficult to locate. When the photo in *Old Leckhampton* was taken, there wasn't a tree or bush anywhere in the vicinity. Now vegetation shrouds the whole cliff face and the path. It takes an oldie like me to visualise this as an industrial scene.

MARY PAGET

10. SYDNEY SAVORY BUCKMAN

From notes taken at the Lindsall-Richardson Lecture of the Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club given by Professor Hugh Torrens of Keele University, on 29th March 2001.

Sydney Buckman, resident in Charlton Kings from 1894 until 1904, was one of the most significant geologists of the late nineteenth century. His major work was in stratigraphy, being a pioneer in documenting the precision with which rocks can be dated (1). He also resolved the complex relationship between the thickness of strata and the time taken to deposit the materials making up this strata. This was achieved by his realisation of the rapid evolutionary changes which took place in ammonites. He first observed this in the Jurassic oolitic beds of Dorset and subsequently the Cotswolds.

Sydney Savory Buckman was born in Cirencester in 1860, the eldest son of James and Julia Buckman. His middle name was his mother's family name, she being a member of the Savory family of the chemists Savory and Moore. James, who was born in Cheltenham, was Professor of Botany, Zoology and Geology at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester from 1848 to 1863. Whilst working there he became a fervent supporter of the Darwinian Theory of Evolution, having done much independent work in botany in this field, but the College, then an institution with connections to the Church of England, did not support his work and he was dismissed from his post (2). The family moved to Dorset, where Julia Buckman died in childbirth shortly afterwards, in 1865.

By great good fortune the family had settled, through Cirencester connections, near Bradford Abbas in Dorset, the site of thin beds of excellently preserved Inferior Oolite fossils. It was the study of these beds, especially the varieties of ammonites, which proved a key factor in initiating Sydney Buckman's later studies.

In 1871, at the age of eleven, Buckman was sent to Sherborne School. Like most public schools of its day it was largely a training ground for the Church and the armed services. Buckman however had the strength of character to resist these pressures and pursued his interest in science at every opportunity. In this he was fortunate to have the support of one of the masters, Edward Cleminshaw. His enthusiasm and knowledge brought him some early fame when, at the age of seventeen, he was awarded a major prize by the Dorset Field Club for a paper on geology. The fact that his father was Hon Secretary and Editor of the Club was clearly crucial (3).

In 1878 he left school, initially with a vague notion of entering the Church. However his scientific instincts took over and he spent the next year in Germany studying chemistry at the laboratory of Dr Fresenius in Wiesbaden, with the objective of joining his mother's family firm. Any religious inclinations seem soon to have deserted him and he became a confirmed atheist for the rest of his life.

On his return to England he trained as a land agent in Cheshire and then became a Cotswold farmer. This gave him an opportunity to continue his geological studies and in 1881 he wrote a paper on the comparative ages of the oolite beds of the Cotswolds. In 1882 he married Maude Holland and turned his hand to farming at Hampen near Andoversford. Unfortunately the agricultural depression made this an unprofitable venture and so in 1886 he moved to Standish near Stonehouse for his first professional geological job, as a fossil dealer. He also became a scientific author. His studies continued and in 1887 he started to produce a monograph on Inferior Oolite ammonites published by the Palaeontographical Society; the first of a beautifully illustrated series which was to run for twenty years.

Buckman proved his wide ranging abilities by turning to the writing of novels. The first, *Arcadian life*, appeared in 1891, to be followed shortly after by *John Darke's sojourn in the Cotswolds*. They were hardly best sellers but reveal another of his abiding interests, local culture and dialect. He co-operated in the compilation of a national dialect dictionary (4) and improved the *Gloucester glossary* which appeared in 1890 (5).

In 1894 Sydney Buckman followed in his father's footsteps and was appointed temporary Lecturer in Geology at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. He moved to Ellborough Cottage(6), Charlton Kings in that year. His decision to move nearer to a thriving town was to help his scientific work. He also had access to the oolitic beds exposed by quarrying on the scarp slope of the Cotswolds. Any journeys to Cirencester would have been made possible by the Midland and South Western Junction Railway, which was opened in the 1880s between Cheltenham and Swindon. Charlton Kings Station, the third stop on the line from Cheltenham, being a ten minute walk from Ellborough Cottage.

Whilst in Charlton Kings Buckman was active in many aspect of the local community. He wrote *Cheltenham as a holiday resort*, published in 1897, which was based on a series of articles which he wrote for a local paper. From 1898 to 1904 he was Secretary of the Cotswold Naturalists Field Club besides being an active contributor to the Club's activities. He also supported the cause of feminism and was Hon Secretary of the Western Rational Dress League, of which his wife was Captain (7) (8). His support went further when in 1910, under the pseudonym of James Corin, he published a book entitled *Marriage, mating and the status of women*.

Just before his move to Charlton Kings Buckman produced a paper which was to have far-reaching consequences in the geological world. Until that time it was assumed the sedimentary rocks were laid down at a steady rate and that geological time was directly related to the thickness of the strata. By his studies of ammonites in the Cotswolds and Dorset he proved that this was an unsafe assumption and that the rates of deposition varied enormously, not only between strata but also within the same strata, the main causes being differential rates of deposition, differential compaction and subsequent erosion. This paper caused dissent within the geological establishment and Buckman was accused of over-complicating what was thought to be a simple process. As so often happens with pioneers, he was later proved to be correct and his work is seen as contributing a fundamental concept to the modern study of sedimentary rocks. One result of these disputes was that the Palaeontographical Society refused to publish any more of his monograph.

In 1904 Sydney Buckman suffered a breakdown to his health through over exertion on his geological field work, sold Ellborough Cottage and moved to Thame in Oxfordshire. The choice of town was decided by its access to London and Oxford so that he could continue his studies using library and museum materials. Having been an active field geologist for twenty-five years he now became an armchair one, his papers becoming somewhat less original as a result.

Public recognition of his pioneering work was rather slow in coming, as so often happens. In 1914 he was awarded the Lyell Medal by the Geological Society of London and in 1925 he was made an Honorary Member of the Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club.

He died in 1929. He was cremated, and later, with no religious ceremony, his ashes were scattered on Thomcombe Beacon in Dorset. His widow was awarded a pension from the Civil List.

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I am greatly indebted to Hugh Torrens, Professor of History of Science and Technology, Keele University, for taking the time to correct and enhance the notes taken at the lecture and for adding the references.

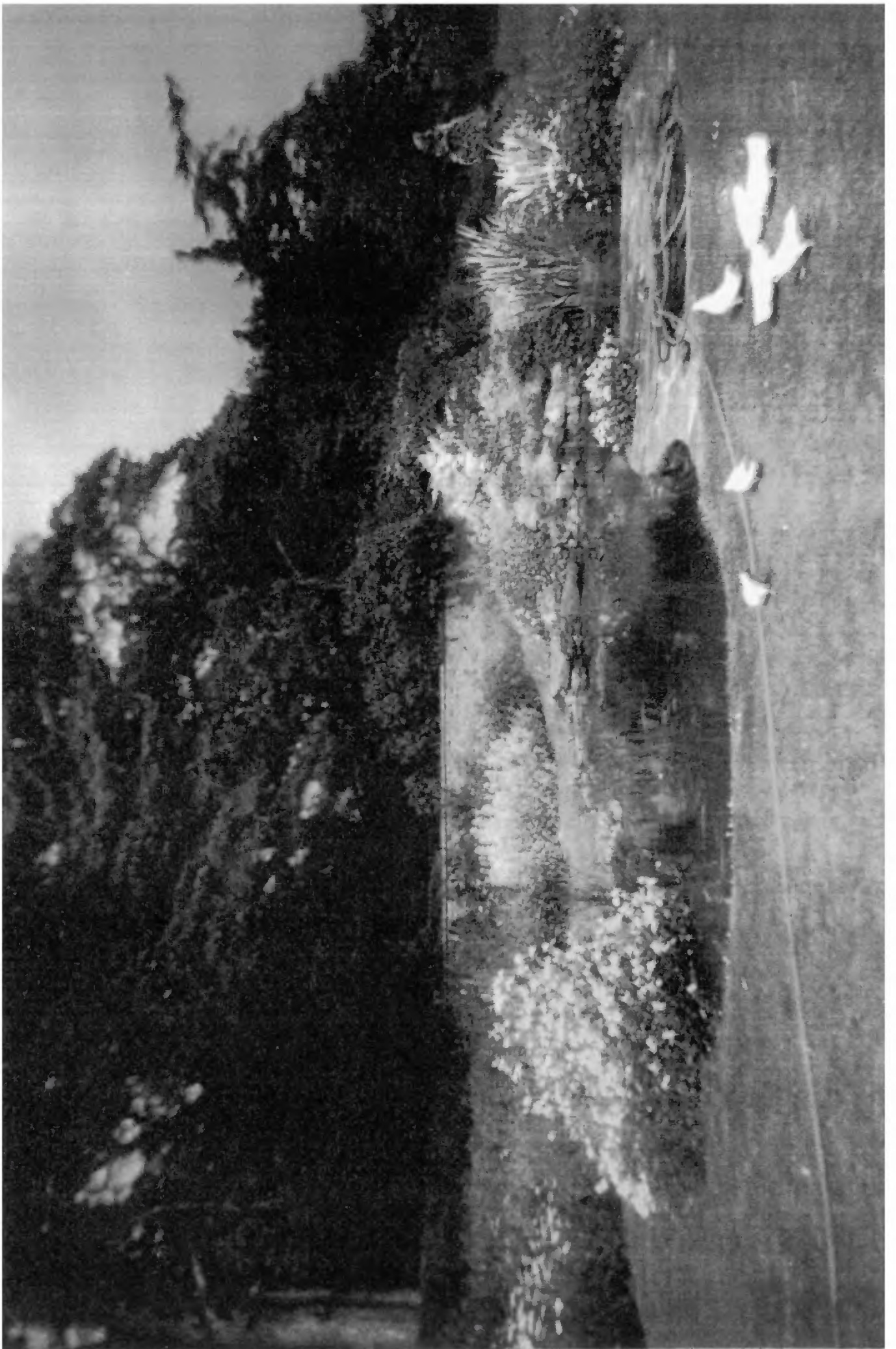
A number of Sydney Buckman's books and papers are available for study in Cheltenham Reference Library.

DEREK COPSON

11. THE GARDEN AT WHITHORNE

The photograph shows the pools at Whithorne constructed about 1962. One of our daughters was away in Canada and the other working in London, so we didn't need all the vegetables and fruit that we grew. We decided to make it all simpler and less work.

As we had this lovely spring, which used to supply the house, I said we should have a pool and rockery for the spring to fall through. I started digging and any young friends who felt energetic were given a spade. Considering the size of this piece of garden, it needed to be a feature.



One day my husband asked me if I had considered the price of lining it? Of course I hadn't even thought of it. Then something incredible happened. It was a dark day with heavy threatening rain clouds. Somehow a lorry, loaded with bags of cement, crashed through the hedge and wall of the house belonging to Peggy Lloyd Jones. It ended an inch from the wall under her drawing room window. The top load had tipped off, luckily on top of the tarpaulin sheet, so the grass was saved - cement all over, but a fair number of just-damaged bags. I borrowed a trailer from the farmer next door (Mr Close) and any available help. The driver said 'just take as much as we could'. The rain had now started! I suggested the driver, with his uncovered remaining load, made for shelter under the railway bridge at Andoversford. So we had all the cement we needed!

We employed a lanscape gardener, who lined the pool, deep one end and shallow in parts for water plants. He produced some lovely rocks and made the waterfall. However, he did one silly thing, he planted all the shrubs still in their plastic pots! We only discovered this when one or two stronger plants started to wilt.

Another lucky thing happened. A house further down the London Road was demolished for a development of houses. There was all this lovely top soil which they were glad to get rid of - for free! It seems incredible nowadays. I felt the large area of our grass looked too flat and uninteresting, so I borrowed the trailer again and brought up as much as I had time for. I wanted to make some rise and fall - it probably all looks flat now.

The spring ran down the field. Near the fence there was a shed with a cattle trough which it supplied, plus a tap. We took a pipe off it, across the lawn to the pool. It ran through and drained with the rest of the water. We had huge golden carp in it which a friend had given us from his lake.

Someone has removed the cattle trough and I suppose cut off the spring supply, which was only just below the ground surface. If that is the reason for the loss to the pool, it would be easy to find.

MRS J HASLETT

12. WILLIAM GREVILLE'S FAMILY

This is a postscript to *Bulletin 8* pp8-18 and *Bulletin 37* pp21-2. We have already published corrections to our first attempt at an accurate Greville pedigree. Now thanks to the efforts of Mr and Mrs M G Barton of South Australia, Mr E J Grivvell of Crawley, Sussex, Mr B J Grivell of South Australia, (all Greville descendants) and the helpfulness of The Centre for Kentish Studies at Maidstone, further amendments and suggestions can be made.

William Greville, or Grevell, the wool merchant invested his money in property over a wide area. Part of this he settled on his two elder sons when they married, part he settled on his second wife, and part he divided in 1401 among his younger children. The deed by which this was done is at Maidstone, U 269 T 176/1.

William Greville married twice, firstly Mary (d 1386) and secondly Joan Thornbury, who after William's death married secondly Edward Benstede. She died 1449. William Greville's eldest sons Lewis (Ludovic) and John, and I think William, were children of his first marriage; probably also his daughter Alice who married Edward Ludelowe. Ludelowe was one of William's trustees in 1401 (*Calendar of Patent Rolls 1401-5 II* p2)

LEWIS - We know that Lewis was the eldest son because he is so described when, after his father's death in 1401, he entered into fourteen messuages and two virgates of land at Camden (Chipping Campden), eight messuages and one virgate at Mykelton (Mickleton) and 5s rent at Olynton (Ullington), co Glos, without waiting for the court to give him livery. (*CPR 1401-5 II* p157) He received a pardon on 4 October 1402. This Lewis married Margaret, granddaughter and co-heiress of Sir Giles Ardern - their eldest son Lewis was alive in 1434.

JOHN - John was William's second son and worked with his father. In 1385 Lasborough was settled on John; and after Ashley alias Charlton manor had been bought by William on 4 July 1387 from Sir John Roos (*Calendar of Close Rolls 1385-1389 III* pp240-1), it too was given to John, enabling him to marry an heiress Sibyl Corbet. John would need property to settle on such a marriage, so that his estates could be used to provide for offspring, while the wife's would be her jointure if she survived him.

The Corbets are a family who certainly did "come over with the Conqueror" but Sibyl was not in the main line. Her family tree is given in *Shropshire Victoria County History, Telford XI*: (consulted for me by Mrs M Roberts, to whom I am very grateful).

Alan of Hadley (d c1194)

|
Cecily m Roger Corbet of Tasley (d c1204)

|
Thomas (d 1247)

|
Roger (d c1259)

|
Thomas (d c1300)

|
Roger (d c1349)

|
Robert (his widow d 1353)

Sir Robert Corbet, probably nephew (d c1404)

|
Sir Robert (d c1417)

|
Sibyl, only daughter and heiress,
m John Grevel of Seizincote
d 1444, no issue

John did not get possession of all the Corbet property till after the deaths of Sir Robert in 1417 and Robert's widow in 1420, which brought him manors in Shropshire, Staffordshire, Gloucestershire, Berkshire, Oxford and Suffolk. He ceased to be a wool merchant soon after William's death in 1401. John was Sheriff of Gloucestershire 1405, 1415-17, and 1426; MP 1414-1427; and held other offices.

As they had no children, John and Sibyl settled the reversion of her estates on a kinsman of hers, Guy Corbet, before 1422. But as, in right of his wife John could legally hold it all for his life, it was Guy's son Robert who succeeded.

After Sibyl's death, John married secondly Joyce Cokesay and had by her a son John who was aged 17 in 1444 when his father died. The boy had already been endowed with the

manor of Ashley, conveyed by his father to trustees for him in 1442. (Greville MS pedigree Box 832/58)

WILLIAM - The 1401 deed of settlement suggests that William was also a child of the first marriage of William (d 1401). Property left to Richard was to go, if he should die without male heirs, to Edward or Thomas, then to John, Lewis or William in that order, with the daughters Mary and Alice coming last (U 269 T176/1). Mr E.J. Grivell takes this to imply that Thomas may also have been born of the first marriage - I am not sure but would think not.

William married Joan, sister of Lewis's wife Margaret and co-heiress with her. She outlived him and after his death (soon after 1434) she married secondly Sir Richard Arches.

RICHARD - Richard was a child of the second marriage, to judge by the 1401 settlement. He was alive in 1434, but had died without issue before 1442.

EDWARD and THOMAS - Both appear to have been children of the second marriage. William's feofees are instructed to pass tenements to Edward and his heirs male, or if he have none to Richard or Thomas. I have not discovered any reference to their marriages. In default of male heirs, John, Lewis or William, or William senior's two daughters were to succeed. It has been suggested that Edward and Thomas were twins - but there is no clear evidence.

ALICE - Alice must have been a child of William's first marriage, for she married Edward Ludelowe before 1401 - Ludelowe was one of William's trustees in the 1401 settlement. He died in 1409 leaving a daughter Margaret, who married Sir Baldwin Strange by 1410 (*CPR 1405-13* p159). Margaret died young, leaving only a daughter Elizabeth, who became a ward of court.

MARY - The settlement places her after her brothers but before Alice, so I presume she was Joan's daughter.

Thus when William Greville the wool merchant came to make his will on 2 April 1401 (Lambeth Palace Library) he had only to think of himself, his soul and his church at Chipping Campden. He left small gifts to friends, established a chantry with four chaplains to celebrate for four years, gave a moderate amount for the rebuilding of the church, probably for a chapel, and made his wife Joan, his son John and Richard Boschell his executors, with the abbot of Evesham and Sir William Bradley as overseers.

MARY PAGET

13. LAND TAX AND POOR RATE FOR CHARLTON KINGS 1715

Land Tax was first imposed in England and Wales in 1693. At first it took the form of a national poundage rate on both personal and real property, but in 1698 the direct poundage rate was replaced by a system of quotas, at county, hundred and parish level. During the 18th century the tax evolved into a true land tax, assessed on land, buildings, and various forms of rents. Throughout the 18th century the rate of tax fluctuated between 1s to 4s in the pound, based on the annual value rather than the acreage of the land. In 1798 it was fixed at a rate of 4s. Relatively few records of land tax assessments survive before 1780, so we are fortunate to have found a record dated 1715 among the papers in the D7661 collection at Gloucestershire Record Office.

As well as listing the land-holders who were being assessed for Land Tax, this record also shows the amount due for the local Poor Rate. Deciding on the level of Poor Rate would have been the responsibility of the Parish Overseer, an officer chosen at a vestry meeting of the parish. He was empowered to raise taxes in order to meet the demands for poor relief, and had the tricky task of deciding the merits of appeals for relief against the knowledge that the ratepayers of the parish would demand an explanation of his expenses. In 1715 the rate works out at a ninth of the Land Tax assessment. The job of overseer could be an onerous task, a large amount of his time was spent on checking the likelihood of incomers becoming a burden on the poor rates and on seeking their removal to the parish in which they were legally settled. This involved the signing of certificates by JPs and sometimes attendance at quarter sessions to argue a case. He also had the duty of apprenticing poor orphans to local householders. An overseer received no payment for his work, nor any recompense for loss of earnings, but the position was considered an honour which marked him out as a person of some stature in the parish.

	Years Tax at 2s per £ £ s d	Poor Rate s d	
Mr Percival	2 7 3	5 3	HAM
- Percival	3 7 6	7 6	
Walt Buckle	4 1 9	12 1	
Edw Godrich	1 4 9	2 9	
Jno Holder	0 9 9	1 1	
Mr Hacket	0 15 0	1 8	
Tho Kench	2 7 3	5 3	
Wid Mason	2 5 0	5 0	
Do Dowdeswell			
Ric Welch	0 12 4¼	1 4¼	
Jno Westmacot	0 7 10½	0 10½	
Mr Percivall The yr	0 7 10½	0 10½	
Tho Ballinger	1 19 0	4 4	
Wid Hulls/Hutts?	0 5 7½	0 7½	
Tho Jelf	0 6 4½	0 8½	
Edw Jelf	0 18 4½	2 0½	
Rob Hawthorn	1 17 1½	4 1½	
Jos Pumphy	0 10 6	1 2	
Hen Cleevely	0 9 2¼	1 0¼	
Walt Mansell	0 18 9	2 1	
his wives	1 3 3	2 7	
Wm Holman	0 8 3	0 11	
Jno Pace	0 3 0	0 4	
Jno Portlock	0 0 4½	0 0½	
Wm Pumphy	0 1 1½	0 1½	
Edw Potts	0 2 0¾	0 2¾	
Jno Kent	0 3 0	0 4	
Wid Vick	0 2 0¾	0 2¾	
Walt Wait	0 2 0¾	0 2¾	
Jno Prinn	4 14 1½	10 5½	MOREND
Tho Mansell	0 6 6¾	0 8¾	
Mr Layt	0 1 6	0 2	
Tho Harding	0 7 10½	0 10½	

Saml Whithorne	0 12 4½	3 1½	
Do Jelfs	0 15 9	- -	
Jno Prinn hides land	0 2 3	0 3	
Wm Ballinger	0 6 0	0 8	
Tho Jakeman	0 6 0	0 8	MOREND cont
Tho Kear	0 4 1½	0 5½	
Jno Clark	0 0 2¼	0 0¼	
Tho Green	0 1 1½	0 1½	
Wm Jelfs	1 10 4½	3 4½	
Wid Jordan	0 10 1½	1 1½	
Jno Harding	0 6 0	0 8	
Wm Robins	0 3 9	1 1¾	
Jno Welch	0 10 3¾	1 1¾	EASTEND
Edm Welch	0 19 3¾	2 1¾	
Do for Tythes	5 2 4½	11 4½	
Robt Gale	3 2 7½	6 11½	
Saml Whithorne	0 16 6	1 10	
Tho Molder	0 16 6	1 10	
Ri Bowyer	0 4 6	0 6	
Tho Harris	0 4 6	0 6	
Ric Ballinger	0 10 1½	1 1½	
Wm Robinson	0 4 1½	0 5½	
Wid Lucas	0 5 7½	0 7½	
Tho Gardner	0 11 0¾	1 3¾	
Ric Caffold	0 3 9	0 5	
Cartwright Buckle	0 2 3	0 3	
Ri Brereton	1 2 6	2 6	BAFFORD
Tho Pates jnr	2 8 4½	5 4½	
Wid Wm Pates	3 2 3	6 4	
Jno Batten jnr	1 13 4½	3 8½	
Do for Baford	1 13 11¼	3 9¼	
Mrs Litle	0 13 6	1 6	
Ric King Burrows	0 1 1½	0 1½	
Hen Collet	0 13 1½	1 5½	
Jno Batten snr	0 8 3	0 11	
Jno Cherington	1 1 9	2 5	
Jno Mansell	0 6 9	0 9	
Mr Surman	1 1 6¾	2 4¾	
Wid Churches	0 5 7¼	0 7½	
Jno Churches	0 6 9	0 9	
Ri Lewis	0 1 1½	0 1½	
Tho Ashmead	2 0 6	4 6	
Walt Ballinger	0 0 9	0 1	
Humphry King	0 13 8¼	1 6¼	CUDNELL
Wid King	0 8 7½	0 11½	
Henry Baylis	0 0 9	0 1	
Upton Mansell	0 1 6	0 2	
Edw Gale	1 3 7½	2 7½	
Mr Ludlow	0 0 2¼	0 0¼	
Wm Tanty	1 13 4½	3 8½	
Jos Hall	0 12 9	1 5	

Tho White	0 9 4½	1 0½
Jno White's heir	0 6 2¼	0 8¼
Cha Bowyer	0 3 0	0 4
Rob Sollars	0 0 9	0 1
Jno Atwood	0 13 6	1 6
Edmd Welch's wives	2 0 6	4 6
Wm Ballinger	0 1 1½	0 1½
Mr Cooper	6 18 4½	15 4½
Do Stiles	0 0 0	
Wid Goodrich	0 14 3	1 7
Ja Cleevely	0 1 6	0 2
Jos Williams	0 0 9	0 1
Wid Lawrence	0 0 9	0 1

CUDNELL cont

William Rogers Esq	0 2 3	0 3
Giles Web	1 11 6	3 6
Mrs Wright	0 8 3	0 11
Mr Smallpeece's land	0 6 0	0 8
do Ham Close	0 1 6	0 2
Wid Chester	0 12 0	1 4
Jno Sturmy	1 9 3	3 3
Wm Mason	1 10 2	3 4
Wm Ashmead	2 9 10½	5 6½
Mr French	0 1 1½	0 1½
Mrs Ireland	0 2 3	0 3
Do Tythes & Battledon	2 0 6	4 6
Char Ellis	0 1 8	0 2¼
Jno Chester	0 11 7½	1 3½
Ri White	0 2 3	0 3
Wid Mason	0 6 0	0 8
Ja Wood	0 0 4½	0 0½
Toby Sturmy	0 5 3	0 7
Ric Hyet	0 3 0	0 4
Rob Cox	0 6 9	0 9
Mr Michell	3 16 3¾	8 5¾
Mr Sloper	0 16 1½	1 9½
Do	0 0 0	
Jno Higs	0 6 0	0 8
Mr Tho Buckle	0 12 4	1 6½
Do	0 0 0	
Wid Tomkins	0 4 6	0 6
Geo Griffin	0 1 10½	0 2½
Sarah Higs	0 12 0	1 4
James Hill	0 1 1½	0 1½
Dan Chestro	0 4 6	0 6

OUT DWELLERS

OUT DWELLERS cont

<u>Totals:</u>		
Ham	20 11 0	
Churchend	7 3 8¼	
Morend	10 8 1½	
Eastend	13 13 6¾	
Bafford	17 1 3	
Cudnell	16 4 6¾	

Out Dwellers	19 6 5¼
<hr/>	
The Years Tax	104 8 7½

Below these totals are notes headed '1715 Memorandum' showing that in future Prinn and his tenants should pay £1.1.0 of Mr Michell's assignment being 'ye Tax for ye Mannor'. Edward Mitchell had been the Lord of the Manor of Ashley until October 1714 when he had sold the Lordship with some properties to John Prinn. That recent purchase is probably the reason that this taxation record has survived among the Prinn papers in the D7661 collection.

Mr Michell, a Cheltenham resident was listed among the 'outdwellers' who were owners of Charlton Kings land, but who lived elsewhere. Many of the other 'outdwellers' appear in *Cheltenham Probate Records 1660 - 1740* so they were presumably Cheltenham residents too.

It is interesting to note the importance of Ham in the parish's economy in 1715, and to note the dominance of the Percival and Buckle families there. Churchend made the lowest contribution; although it had rather more tax payers listed than in Ham the properties must have been smaller. One name stands out in Church End - Robert Hawthorn, the owner of the timber-framed building in Spring Bottom, now called Kings. Robert Gale, listed under East End, lived in what is now Balcarras House, then a farm. The Pates and Batten families seem to dominate the Bafford area, while the name 'Cooper' stands out in Cudnell. This would have been Samuel, of Cooper's Charity renown, who lived in an earlier house on the site of Charlton House.

John Prinn, who had bought The Forden (Charlton Park) in 1701, was already the main landowner in the Morend area. By 1745 his descendants had become owners of about 900 acres in Charlton Kings and they would later own a large part of the parish before Sir William Russell finally became too greedy and went bankrupt in the nineteenth century.

JANE SALE

14. A CHARLTON ARTIST - VIC HOLMAN

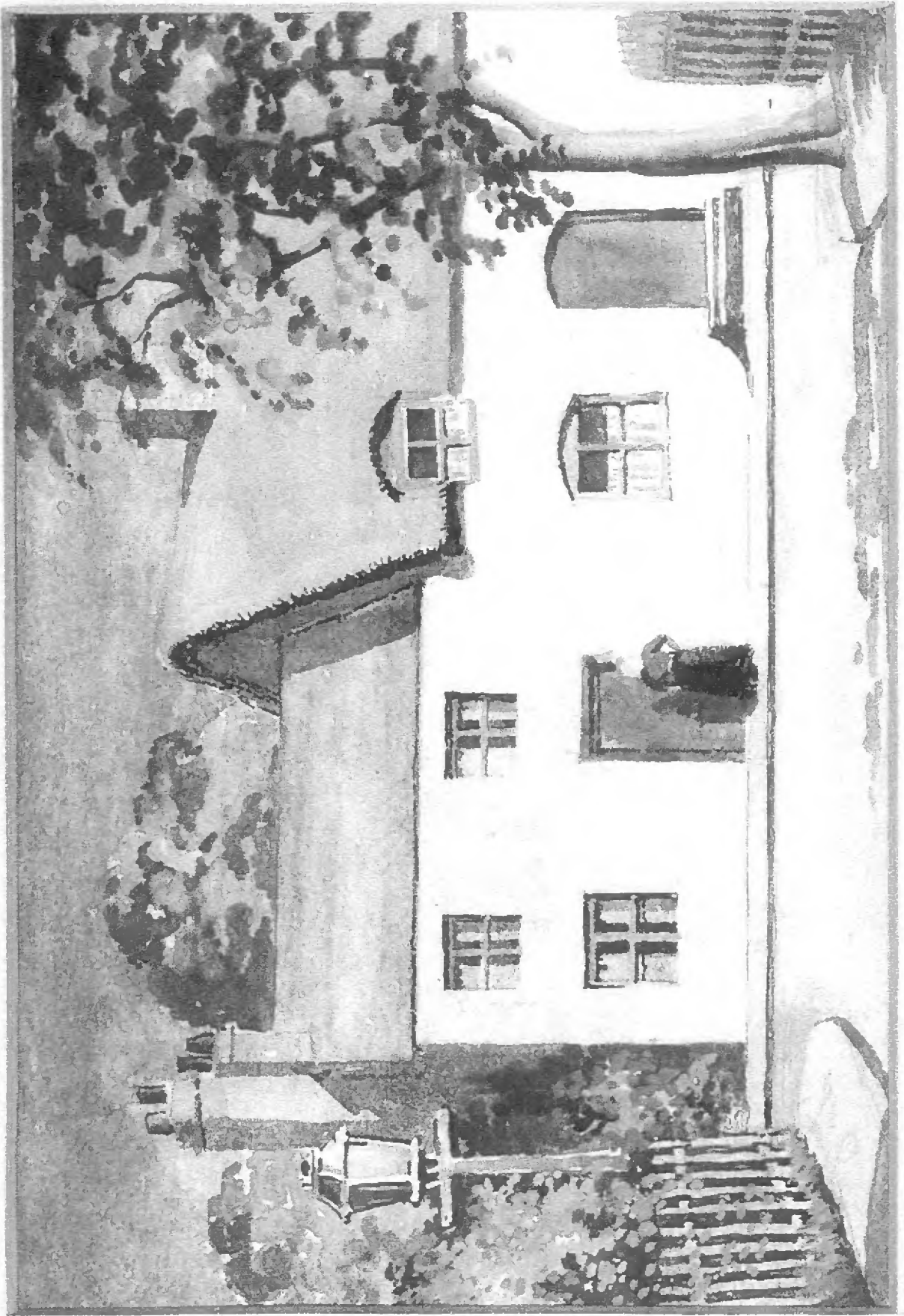
Mrs Parkes has lent two sketches by this artist, one intended simply as a reminder of a couple of Charlton houses, the other a finished sketch.

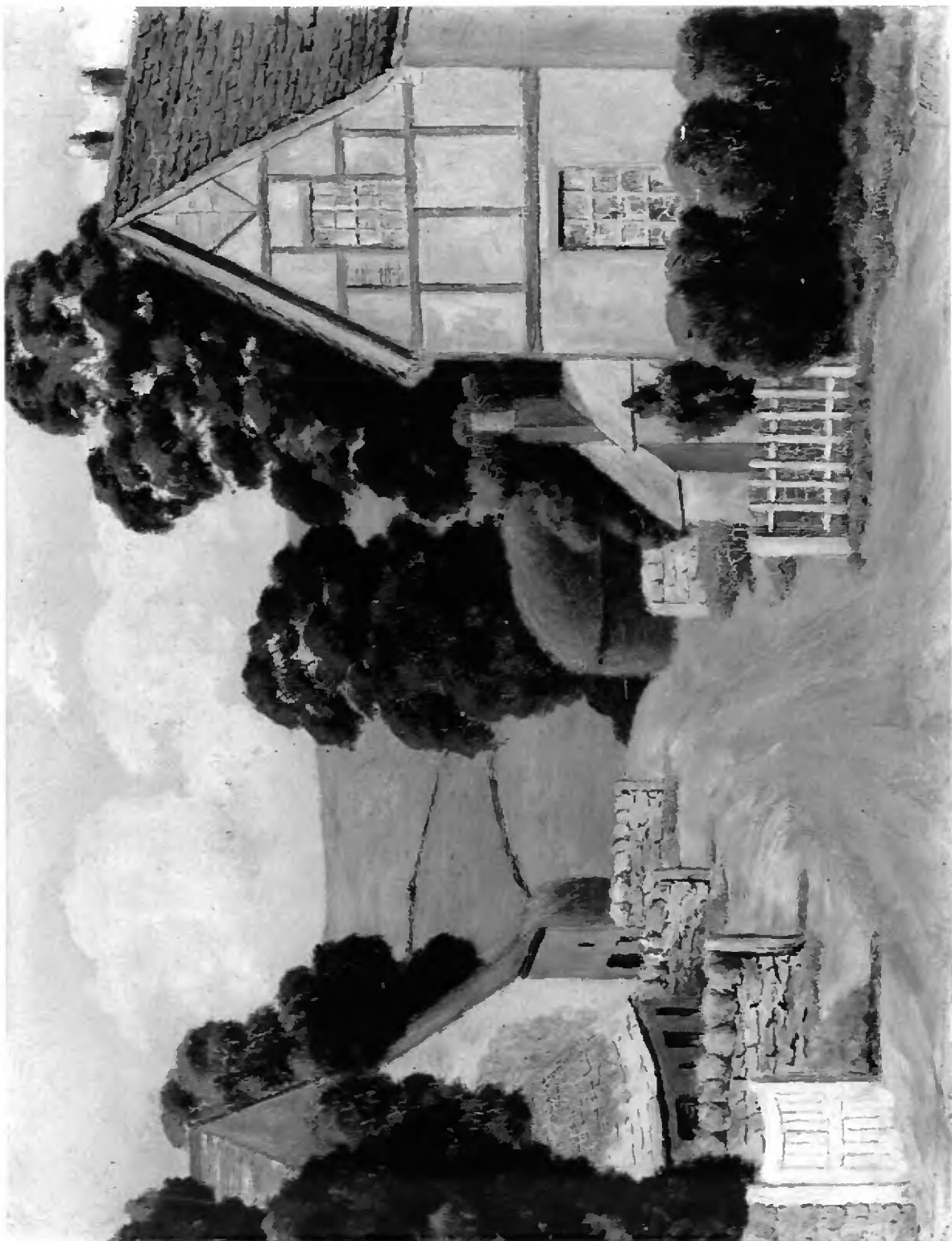
(1) **The thatched cottage in School road and its neighbour** - The original was done for Mr Frank Neather who was born in the cottage with a slate roof. In the 19th century this was inserted between the thatched farmhouse and its barn and the barn divided into dwellings. It was demolished in 1912 and the three red brick houses built in its place. Thatched cottage and slate roof cottage were both replaced c1955 by the Council flats.

Mrs Parkes' sketch is an accurate copy of the original, done by George Ryland for her nephew Edward Neather. The present whereabouts of the original is unknown.

(2) **A Cotswold farm**

When this sketch was made, elms and hayricks were common features of Cotswold farms. This may be somewhere behind Cleeve, for the background hill looks rather like it. Mrs Parkes thinks it may be up the London Road. If anyone can identify the scene, please let us know.





(3) **The artist** - See *Bulletin 13* pp 41-2

Victor Herman Cleevely Holman was the child of Henry Holman who married Alice Cleevely 12 June 1889. All three are in the family portrait outside Thorntonville, which means that photo must have been taken in 1897 (not 1893), for Victor who died aged 85 in 1980 seems about 2 years old. The group does not include William Cleevely senior who died 24 February 1896.

Those who remember the Church Restoration Centenary exhibition in 1988 will recall the many local sketches Vic then lent for display - before his death he had given most of them away. But I was able to secure for CKLHS one showing the Laundry with chimney and works building (see *History* p74). My mother had bought at a charity sale the sketch of Tantys Cottage (see *History* p80) and this my brother passed to me. I dare say there may be others still in Charlton.

MARY PAGET

15. **CHARLTON MILL** - Addition to *Bulletin 42* p16

The loss of the Cheltenham manor court books for the 1680s and 1690s has now been made good to a large extent by the discovery of D855 M34 and M37, two draft books.

We now know that on 9 April 1683 (M34 and M37 f101v) Thomas White surrendered to Daniel Gibbins and Mary his wife the water mill with buildings, a parcel of land belonging to it and a parcel in Castlefield, and 10s heriot was paid. The property was then occupied by Thomas Gibbins.

Then on 24 April 1691, after Daniel's death, Thomas Ballinger Daniel Gibbins (presumably a son) and Mary Gibbins widow surrendered to use of John Gibbins and his heirs the water grist mill occupied by George Mustoe with all buildings and land. Heriot 10s, rent 3s 4d. (M37 f167V)

Neither the elder Daniel or his wife Mary (by 1691 a widow) appear in our parish registers and it looks as if there may always have been a sitting tenant at Charlton Kings. Mary wife of John Gibbons was buried here 5 May 1684. John apparently remarried very soon for on 25 May 1686 John son of John Gibbons was baptised at St Mary's.

MARY PAGET

16. **REVIEW: THE FLOWER PAINTINGS OF THOMAS ROBINS THE YOUNGER**

A selection of thirty five plates privately published by John Robins 1999 (but not in fact printed till 2001), with commentaries on insects by Robert Gooden and on plants by Adrian Whitely. The volume contains also paintings of Thomas Robins and his wife Ann by W Steveley RA in 1781; and two examples of flower studies by Thomas Robins the elder (perhaps painted for his son's instruction) c1768.

Both Thomas Robins the elder and his son were born in Charlton Kings (see *Bulletin 24* p26) and did not settle in Bath till c1755, (later than John Harris suggested in *Gardens of Delight*). It is interesting that Thomas the elder, starting as a fan painter and then illustrating and designing Rococco gardens with delicate flowers and insects in the borders, went on to do the formal flower arrangements of Plates I and II, while his son's are more naturalistic studies

with a great many foreign plants and butterflies of which he could only have seen examples in Bath.

Nancy Armstrong, the author of *Fans*, writes that Thomas Robins the Elder worked in close co-operation with George Speren, fanmaker and toymaker of Bath. Speren's daughter, Mary, married John Atwood of Bath, a butterfly collector. We can see how the young Robins would have had the chance to study and paint exotic butterflies.

The book is superbly reproduced and it is not surprising that it costs £400. John Anthony Robins (of 12 Churchfield Crescent, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2GS) is much to be congratulated on its superb production.

MARY PAGET

17. THE DEMISE OF A NOBLE TREE

Those of us who live in the Moorend Road area were reluctant witnesses to the recent felling of a fine Wellingtonia. This tree was one of the last remaining specimens from the Moorend Park grounds and had a preservation order on it. However, the Council decided that it constituted a danger to the family living in the adjacent house - it was certainly very close. Unfortunately the work was carried out in May, causing considerable disturbance to the tree creepers and squirrels that nested in it.



JANE SALE