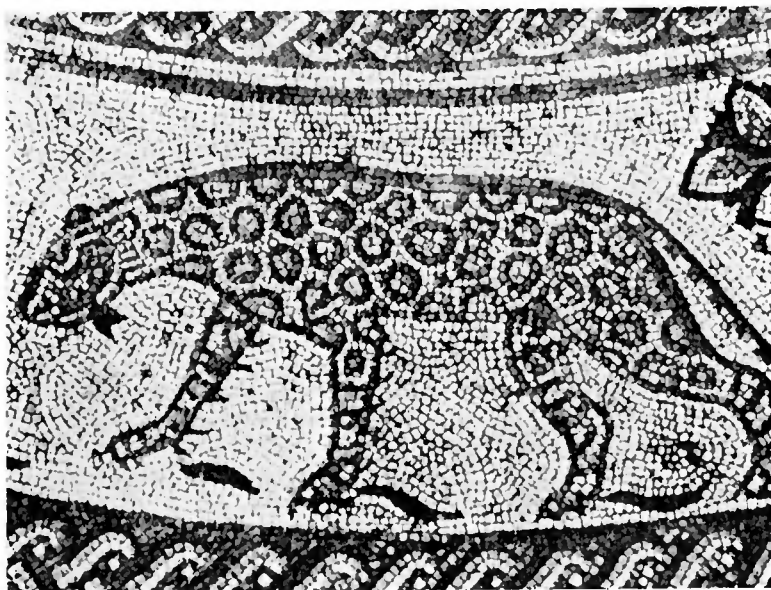


Local History Bulletin

AUTUMN 1973 — No. 28



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EDITORIAL

THE MOST IMPORTANT historical event of the year has undoubtedly been the unearthing of the great Roman pavement at Woodchester. The attendance broke all records and the good weather added to the numbers of visitors who sometimes formed long queues for admittance. A part of the pavement forms our cover illustration, and we have an excellent article about it from Giles Clarke.

The Local History School took place on the 15th, 16th and 17th of October and was intended for sixth formers reading history. The school assembled in the Shire Hall, and then proceeded, after a lecture on history, to the Records Office where Mr Brian Smith showed a study group the records of Cowley Manor. Then the school went by bus to Cowley Manor where they studied Cowley village, the mansion, and the church. It was a very enjoyable day.

This was followed on October 27th by a *Conversazione* in the Parliament Room in College Green. The occasion was to allow members of Local History Societies to meet socially, exchange ideas and display items of general interest to other Societies. The editor was happy to attend this event, but unfortunately not until after this Bulletin had gone to press.

The attention of readers is drawn to an important forthcoming publication. This is the Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology's Handbook. The Society, in conjunction with the Gloucestershire Community Council, is producing the handbook for Gloucestershire and it is edited by the Rev. W. V. Audry. It will contain contributions from Society members, and each chapter starts with a brief summary of the general theme, followed by a list of some of the places which can be visited. There will also be a centre-page map showing the location of all places of interest.

MERCEDES MACKAY, Hon. Editor.

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Taken from the intermediate zone of the Great Pavement at Woodchester, is the leopard, our cover illustration. This is one of the procession of animals, and like the birds depicted in the innermost zone are walking in a clockwise direction. Most have the head lowered, as though subdued. Lysons' engraving records ten animals, preserved in whole or in part, and shows room for two more. Remarkably, only one — the elephant — has entirely disappeared since 1796; and it is evident from the surviving figures — notably the splendid tigress — and from realistic details such as the tousled mane of the lion and protruding claws of the bear, that the designer was much better acquainted with the characteristic features of a number of wild animals than he was with those of birds.

*(Courtesy of Woodchester Roman Pavement Committee
and D. J. Smith, Esq., F.S.A.)*

IMPROVEMENTS AT STROUD MUSEUM

BY NOW MEMORIES of summer holidays will have passed and current thoughts will be of what places to visit that will be inexpensive but interesting for all the family. Most Museums are free, and do remember that the things you saw on your last visit could well have been changed by now. Often the changes may be little more than a revision of a theme, or the presenting of a special touring exhibition, but we have done rather better than that for our visitors to Stroud this year.

Our Archaeology Room, being long overdue for redecoration, the opportunity was taken to redesign the entire room. By careful planning and the



*Part of an embossed bronze plate —
Roman — found at Uley
(I. W. Woodland collection)*

chance to acquire two new cases it has been possible to almost double our case display area with no loss of floor space. A vast number of the exhibits will be new to the visitor, having been donated since the last major re-arrangement of the room, and these have enabled us to explore themes in greater detail. Not only are these objects displayed in a more interesting, up-to-date way, but thanks to a gift from the newly formed Stroud Museum Association it has been possible to install internal lighting that they may be seen to better advantage. Many visitors have also commented upon the series of views of Stone Age life drawn by a local artist, Mr G. M. Jones.

During the weeks when the room had regrettably to be closed, interest was maintained by the use of small temporary displays, one being of

objects from the Woodchester Roman Villa found during previous uncoverings of the great mosaic, including some dating back to its first excavation in 1793-7. We have also been able to display some of the finds, reported in a previous issue, from the excavation of a Roman site at Tetbury Upton, and from a 'rescue dig' currently in hand at Kings Stanley.

Visitors will find that with the re-opening of the room, local archaeology has become easier to follow, whatever one's interests. The quest for information, often unpublished, whilst the work was in progress has led to a certain re-appraisal of some aspects of local pre-history — the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age in this area was for instance far better represented than had ever been expected. Neolithic long barrows now receive the attention that should be their due, and far more space has been devoted to the Roman and Medieval periods than hitherto. Much of this has been made possible by the work of one man whose searches in ploughed fields has added much to our local knowledge.

The same factor is also a salutary reminder of the fact that the current agricultural practice of deep ploughing is doing much to destroy many of our important local sites. A selection of the better finds made this year at Woodchester Roman Villa (for an account of this see page 12) is already on show, likewise material from the medieval Royal manor site at Kings Stanley where excavations have been in hand for several years. Later medieval objects include floor tiles from Berkeley and Kingswood, and the latest object of all a clock made by William Holloway in 1662. This is the earliest known Stroud made clock, and it is still in working order.

Readers may be interested to learn that because the Stroud museum has no full time staff other than the Curator, much of the work in the archaeology room had to be done by volunteer help. Some did specialised work on their own premises, some gave up an afternoon each week, and others came in evenings and weekends to undertake special tasks. Without their help the Museum could not have done what it has.

Within the next few months Local Government changes will become even more apparent than they are now. Few people realise how far museums are involved — even Stroud Museum which is still independently run. In many ways the creation of the new districts may help us to run a more efficient and more consistent service than ever before. Our responsibilities will be greatly increased, and there will be a far larger geographical area to cover, but these are challenges we intend to take in our stride. Talks are already taking place with allied organisations to revise old policies and draw up new ones. Some of our ideas may take years to mature, others, like the archaeology room, have been achieved already. Whatever the future may hold for Stroud Museum it looks like being eventful, and I hope it will prove very exciting for all our visitors.

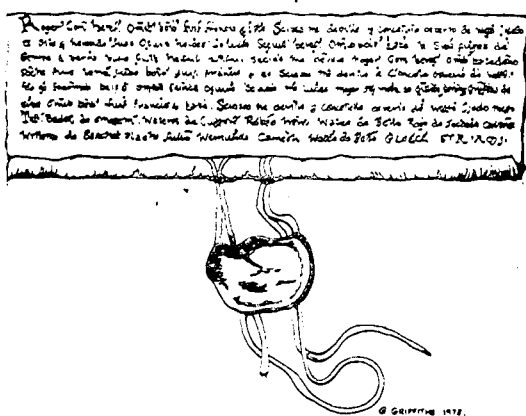
LIONEL F. J. WALROND.

EARLIEST CHARTER IN COUNTY RECORDS OFFICE

THERE WAS A short news item in the *Gloucester Citizen* in July 1972 about the purchase of a charter of Roger, Earl of Hereford, by the County Records Office. At that time the charter had not been thoroughly examined, and it is only as the result of more detailed research that all the interesting details of the charter have been revealed.

The Earls of Hereford were one of the great Marcher families of the Norman Conquest, with extensive estates in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and South Wales. They had, each generation in turn, governed Gloucestershire for the king and been castellans of Gloucester Castle. Miles of Gloucester had held the royal Forest of Dean, and his son Roger also held the Forest, founding Flaxley Abbey in 1148 on the spot where Miles had died in a hunting accident five years earlier.

Among their estates were the properties granted in this charter to Osbert of Westbury consisting of lands at Broughtons in Westbury-on-Severn, Awre and Minsterworth, a salmon fishery by Garden Cliff — here spelt 'Gerna' — and 'new land on the sand of Heyden' at Rodley. This last reference is especially interesting as evidence of land reclaimed from the Severn. The river was apparently changing its course a good deal at that period for it is reported that in 1172 land from Slimbridge was washed across to Awre, only to be washed back again about 1570 to form the New Grounds now occupied by the Severn Wildfowl Trust. The Hayden sand is said to have stretched from Framilode to 'Hukkleia', a place that does not appear in other records or *Place-names of Gloucestershire*. My belief is that this lay near Arlingham Warth, a ley or meadow in the hook of the Severn, the Saxon name for the great Arlingham bend still recalled at Hock Crib in Fretherne.



The charter is undated, as was the common practice at the time, but there are some clues. Roger succeeded his father as Earl of Hereford in 1143, and died in 1155. Early that year Henry II gave him additional estates in Awre, Minsterworth, Westbury-on-Severn and Dymock as a reward for his support during the civil war of Stephen's reign. It is possible that it was some of these new estates that Roger in his turn gave as a reward to Osbert de Westbury, who we know from other documents was his steward and perhaps his most important estate official. This would date the charter to 1155 and place it among the very oldest documents in Gloucestershire. The first royal charter of liberties from Henry II to the city of Gloucester is also believed to date from 1155. The king's original grant of Berkeley to Robert Fitz Harding of Bristol, ancestor of the Berkeley family, dates from 1153-4, and is still at Berkeley Castle. The marriage settlement of Robert's daughter Aldeva, in the County Records Office, is also of the same year. There is, however, good evidence for supposing that Earl Roger's charter is even earlier than any of these. Among the witnesses, who included Robert Fitz Harding, was William of Berkeley, and William is believed to have died in 1149.

The charter also contributes something about the organisation of a great Marcher lordship. Osbert the steward received his reward for service, undertaking to serve Roger personally anywhere in England, and among the witnesses were Earl Roger's chaplain, Senard, and two chamberlains, Nigel and Wimund. A little is known of all three men from other similar charters, enough at least to suggest that the Earls of Hereford, like the king, were surrounded by a small but highly professional household of officials.

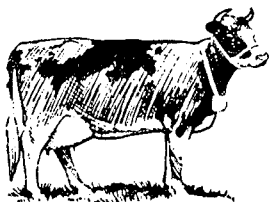
Very few documents of such an early date have survived. Of the forty-seven known charters of Earl Roger, all but three (or possibly four) are later copies; and of those three original charters this is the only one bearing even a fragment of Roger's seal. He is shown on horseback, apparently in a standing rather than the more usual galloping position, and the narrow curved head of the horse is strongly reminiscent of Viking and Norman carving, as for instance at Deerhurst church.

The charter was also the only one of the forty-seven that was still in private hands, being in the collection of Sir Thomas Phillipps (d. 1872), the great 19th century 'vello-maniac'. It appeared in one of the continuing sales at Sothebys of the Phillipps Collection and the County Records Office, with the aid of a grant from the Friends of the National Libraries, made the successful bid for its purchase.

BRIAN S. SMITH.

EDWARD JENNER — PHYSICIAN

EDWARD JENNER, THE English Physician and the discoverer of vaccination, was born at Berkeley in Gloucestershire on May the 17th, 1749, the son of a clergyman. His family were country gentlemen, parsons, farmers and doctors who were well-connected, well-respected and well-loved even before one of their number made their name world-renowned. Jenner wrote of Berkeley, "It has the name of a town but the size of a mere village."



He was born at the Parsonage, not the present one but an ivy-covered house, west of the Market Place. It would be a mistake to imagine that Edward Jenner was brought up in an obscure country village. His family, through their friends which included Admiral Keppel and Cranfield, were always in touch with the outside world.

His parents died before he went to school. He was educated at Wotton-under-Edge and at Cirencester Grammar School where he studied classical subjects. While he was still at school he was inoculated against smallpox.

Stephen, the eldest brother and his adopted father, doubted Oxford's advantages for a country doctor and decided against sending Edward there. For the first part of his training he was apprenticed to Mr Daniel Ludlow, a surgeon at Sodbury near Bristol. Here Edward could still watch birds and collect fossils as he had done at Berkeley, but now he had to learn to roll pills, make up potions, wash bottles, look after leeches, and clean and use the tools of his trade. He learnt a great deal from Ludlow and remembered well, especially the remark of a dairymaid who said that the skin infection she had could not be smallpox because she had had cowpox and nobody ever caught smallpox after that!

By the age of twenty-one Jenner knew all there was to know about a country doctor's practice, and it was decided that he should go to London to see something of hospital practice and serve under one of London's eminent surgeons. John Hunter, the surgeon at St. George's Hospital was prepared to take Edward for £100 a year which included board and lodging as well as hospital fees.

The journey to London in 1770 for one who had never been more than a day's ride from home was a great adventure. He rode to Bath and caught the London coach which took two days with an over-night stop at Andover, and to Jenner the smoke, smell and noise of London was appalling. Hunter, who lived in Jermyn Street, was pleased with his promising new pupil.

Hunter's methods were new and exciting, he taught Jenner that if the treatment failed it was probably wrong, whereas Ludlow had said that the fault lay in the patient or the disease. Hunter always demanded facts and to check the facts, experiments, and Jenner learnt from Hunter the need for research. Hunter held that medical literature was unscientific and that knowledge must be obtained at first hand in the dissecting room.

In 1772 Hunter acquired two live leopards, a dead whale, the skeleton of a dwarf and that of the seven foot seven inch Irish giant O'Byrne. These acquisitions kept Jenner occupied in London, and his certificate, issued on 15th May, 1772, was signed by William Hunter, the more famous of the Hunter brothers. It stated that he attended four courses on anatomy and surgery "with great diligence".

During the next few months Jenner attended courses on the practice of physic, materia medica, chemistry and midwifery. John Hunter approved of his studying under Thomas Denman, the accoucheur at Middlesex Hospital, because Denman relied less on tradition and more on his own observations. He had recorded that bleeding, then practiced, and the universal remedy for all cases of fever, was worse than useless in puerperal fever. Therefore Jenner learnt his midwifery from one of the most enlightened teachers of his time. He worked on throughout the year, learning much from Hunter's brilliant and original teaching, and in December 1772 collected his final certificate — one for the practice of physic, materia medica and chemistry which was signed by Doctor Fordyce, and another of attendance at a course of lectures on the theory and practice of midwifery signed by Thomas Denman.

Jenner's two years in London had taught him much, in surgery and anatomy he had had the advantages of the most modern school of his time, and in midwifery he was ahead of his contemporaries: but what mattered most was that for two years he had come directly under the influence of one of the most brilliant

minds of the century and had profited by this experience. He could now face the responsibilities ahead knowing that his qualifications were above the ordinary.

Meanwhile the idea of vaccination matured slowly in Jenner's mind. While an apprentice he had noted a popular belief in the county as to the antagonism between cowpox and smallpox. He had first investigated the subject in 1775 and satisfied himself that cowpox really included two different forms of disease, only one of which protected against smallpox, and that many failures to protect could thus be explained. He further ascertained that the true cowpox protected only when it was communicated at a particular stage of the disease, and at the same time he concluded that the disease of horses called "The Grease" was the analogue of cowpox and smallpox. Since cowpox was scarce in Gloucestershire at that time Jenner had no chance to test his theory until later.

Trusting too much in the stories of the country folk in his neighbourhood, Jenner believed that cowpox and perhaps smallpox originated in an infection of the heels of horses. The evidence he gathered however showed that the natural occurrences of cowpox started from the hands of milkers, afflicted with smallpox when the latter disease was widely prevalent. The infection was disseminated through the dairy herds by other milkers on whose hands it took the changed form of cowpox. Strains of good cowpox virus were artificially started by transferring the cowpox virus to the cow. Jenner himself lost many strains, using new ones from time to time derived from natural cowpox found in the dairy herds.

On May 14th, 1796 he inoculated an eight year old boy, James Phipps, with lymph from the cowpox vesicles on the hands of a milkmaid, Sarah Nelmes. In July the boy was inoculated for smallpox but the disease did not come. Jenner was unable to repeat his successful discovery until 1798 when he published his "Inquiry Into The Cause and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae". The remarkable fact is that his descriptions and pictures of the day-by-day appearance of the vaccinated arm have coincided exactly with the appearance of arms vaccinated with good strains of modern vaccine virus, particularly the rapid spread of the area of redness surrounding the vesicle after the seventh day, followed by the prompt subsidence in a previously unimmunized person. This is different from the appearance of any other sort of inoculation — even the obsolete inoculation with smallpox virus itself produced a different course of events on the arm besides later giving rise to an eruption of postules over other areas of the body.

This new discovery of Jenner's superseded the older form of inoculation. This old inoculation, or variolation, was the artificial implantation of the smallpox (*Variola*) virus itself. The inoculated smallpox had a fatality rate much lower than that of naturally acquired smallpox, but spread the severe disease to the unprotected. The new vaccination, one of the great discoveries in the history of medical science, was the artificial implantation of a living virus of cowpox (*Vaccinia*) in a person to protect him against smallpox. Jennerian inoculation against smallpox was the first, and for nearly a century the only successful immunising procedure against any disease, other than by inoculation with, or exposure to, the disease itself.

In 1802 Parliament granted Jenner £10,000 to continue to vaccinate the poor free of charge. As many as three hundred people a day were vaccinated. In 1803 the Royal Jennerian Society for the proper spread of vaccination in London was established. In the first eighteen months twelve thousand people were inoculated and the annual average of deaths from smallpox fell from 2,018 to 622. Dissensions within the society however led to its disbandment in 1808 when the National Vaccine Establishment was founded.

In England Jenner's merits were slowly recognised, Lord Henry Petty proposed an address to the Crown, praying that the College of Physicians should report on vaccination. Since the report was favourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed a further £10,000 for Jenner, and the sum was finally raised to £20,000, at the same time India raised a subscription of £7,383.

In 1813 Oxford conferred on Jenner a honourable M.D. In 1822 he published his last work, "On the Influence of Artificial Eruptions in Certain Diseases", and in 1823 he presented the Royal Society with his final paper "On the Migration of Birds".

A few days later he died on the 26th January, 1823 from a stroke. John Baron wanted him buried with all the pomp and ceremony of a public funeral and burial in Westminster Abbey, but far more appropriately, he was buried in the church that overlooked his home. Louis Pasteur used the terms "Vaccine" and "Vaccination" for the prophylactic inoculation in general, as homage, he said, "To the merit and immense services rendered by one of the greatest of Englishmen — Jenner".

C. A. REYNOLDS.

THE LAST DUEL IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE?

THURSDAY THE 19th April, 1804 dawned cold and dull with promise of rain or sleet and Captain Nathaniel Wathen, commanding officer of the Kings Stanley Riflemen, looked out of his window at Stanley House and wondered what the day would bring. Little did he realise that his actions, and those of others, would eventually result in an appearance before the King's Bench at the Gloucester Lent Assizes of 1805.



On the Thursday in question a shooting match had been arranged to take place on Broadborough Green between teams from the Severn Rifle corps and the Kings Stanley Riflemen, the former volunteer unit was also commanded by a Wathen, Major Samuel Wathen. An account of the event is recorded in 'The Gloucester Herald' of 21st April, 1804.

The challenge was given by the Kings Stanley corps to fire three rounds at 150 yards, and a further three rounds at 200 yards. Chance gave precedence to the Kings Stanley corps in firing but the Severn Rifle corps proved pre-eminent the number of the shots in their target at 150 yards being in the proportion of 8 to 5, and at 200 yards 7 to 1. After the match the two corps dined, at the expense of the losing party, as previously agreed on, at the King's Arms, Stroud, where the utmost unanimity reigned.

The dinner was unusually well provided, and the wines excellent. The cloth being drawn 'The King' and several other loyal toasts were drunk; amongst which was the following given by Captain Nathaniel Wathen of the Kings Stanley corps; 'May the Gallic cock never roost upon the British Oak; but should he succeed in his attempt to land, may the Severn Volunteer Rifleman do their duty, and the Kings Stanley corps stand in the rear to look on.' This toast was amended by a Lieutenant Snowden of the Severn Rifle corps to, 'May each of the corps perform an active duty in their respective stations.'

A week later on 28th April, 1804 the Gloucester Herald published the following announcement:

'Learning that, through the medium of our last paper, we unintentionally gave a mis-statement of the toast which was drank by Captain Nathaniel Wathen of the Kings Stanley Rifle corps, and also of the amendment we are happy in possessing authority to correct any impressions which must have arisen from such misrepresentation, by stating that the sentiments given were highly creditable and complimentary to both these very respectable corps, and aimed solely at maintaining that harmony between them which has ever subsisted. We have also the same authority to add that this harmony has not in the least been disturbed by the erroneous paragraph so incautiously communicated to us.'

It would seem that this item of news had been communicated to the editor of the Gloucester Herald by a Mr John Burden, himself a corps member, as an 'Article of Intelligence to insert in his paper' and it duly appeared. On the day after publication Mr Paul Wathen, brother of Captain Nathaniel Wathen, called on the commanding officer of the Severn Riflemen and said that his brother was much disturbed at the paragraph in the paper and that it had produced a bad effect on the minds of his corps. Major Samuel Wathen agreed to do all in his power to remove any ill feeling and would himself write to the editor of the Gloucester Herald. On the following day the two commanding officers met and during their conversation Captain Nathaniel Wathen observed, 'that some other person should call Mr John Burden to account, and that he should not, for that Mr Burden was beneath him.'

On the following Monday two members of the Kings Stanley corps, Mr Joseph Cam and Mr V. Harding, called on Mr Burden and demanded an apology to which the reply was given, 'that if there were errors in the newspaper statement a most readily correction would be made.' Mr Burden then called on the editor and remonstrated with him on the impropriety of revealing his name as author of the paragraph in question, and that evening wrote a long letter to Captain Wathen which he forwarded through the medium of Major Samuel Wathen. This letter dwelt on the misconception which had arisen and which had resulted in an apparent insult to the officers and gentlemen of the corps. The insult Mr Burden strongly denied saying that the news item had certainly been passed to the editor of the Gloucester Herald by him with the exception of the toasts and the amendment which someone had added later, and for which he had no responsibility. Mr Burden agreed however to make an apology if the officers of the corps, judging his conduct, thought one was required. On the Wednesday Mr Cam and Mr Harding again called on Mr Burden at his lodging in Glou-

cester and insisted that he should sign a paper, prepared by Captain Wathen, accepting blame and making apology for the offending toast. Mr Burden again refused to sign the document whereupon Mr Joseph Cam addressed him in the following words, 'Sir, as you refuse to sign this paper Mr Lewis insists upon your meeting him tomorrow morning to fight him either with swords, pistols or rifles,' which challenge Mr Burden refused to accept. The challenger it should be noted was a Mr Lewis described as a carpenter but employed as a gamekeeper by Captain Wathen who, a day or so earlier, had endeavoured unsuccessfully to persuade members of the Kings Stanley corps to vote a brace of pistols and a silver hilted sword for his agreement to take part in the duel and 'for standing forward and venturing his life on behalf of and for the credit of the corps'. Finding that few members supported him Captain Wathen declared he would buy the pistols and sword himself and those in the corps that did not agree could leave. Lieutenant Perry also brought pressure to bear on Mr Burden saying that if he did not sign the paper he would have to meet Mr Lewis the next morning. Mr Burden again declined and said he had written to Captain Wathen fully and expected a reply, this he did not get, but the editor of Gloucester Herald, Mr G. F. Harris, wrote to him in the following terms:

'Sir,

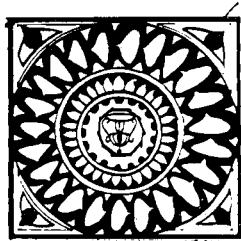
Notwithstanding the dissatisfaction you express at the wording of the paragraph I have to assure you that had I not exerted as much influence as I possessed one of a far more acrimonious nature would have been inserted, by desire of, and signed by the officers of the Kings Stanley corps. Let me too call your attention more minutely to the paragraph, when you will see I have taken far more blame upon myself than I might have been expected and more indeed than is attributed to you. I repeat therefore that solely to my private friendship for you was so little said, and I will only add, that if you consult your own advantage and you will not say a syllable more upon the business. If you are silent the affair will rest where it now stands. It remains for you to provoke more asperity. A gent unconnected with both of us was present at a meeting which two of the officers had with me yesterday and will if necessary authenticate what I have here said.

I remain, Sir, as much your friend
as ever,

G. F. HARRIS.'

The matter remained unresolved, the duel was never fought, Mr Burden, obviously a man of principle, suffered from imputation. In the following year a prosecution was brought in the King's Bench at Gloucester Lent Assizes in the matter of *The King v. Messrs. Nathaniel Wathen, Joseph Cam, and Henry Perry* charged with conspiracy and other misdemeanour including provocation to incite unlawfully John Burden to fight a duel with and against one of the members of a certain Volunteer Corps of Riflemen commonly known as the Kings Stanley Riflemen. The jury found the three not guilty and they were discharged sine die; the case occupied five sides of parchment, but the judgement only a few lines.

H.G.B.



EXCAVATIONS AT WOODCHESTER IN 1973

THE 1973 EXCAVATIONS were the first serious archaeological research to be undertaken at Woodchester since Samuel Lysons published his account of the villa in 1797. The 64 rooms that he found were grouped round two main courtyards, with hints of a third one beyond, all on a north-south axis. The room with the Great Pavement as its floor was the centre piece of the building and stood at the head of the inner court. The floruit of the villa can be dated to the fourth century, when it was so lavish that many people have felt it would be more appropriately described as a palace.

The 1973 excavations were sponsored by the Woodchester Villa Research Committee. For about six weeks an average of 20 volunteers worked on the site, almost all of them local and attending school in the Stroud district. Most of the funds were contributed by local bodies. The aim of the excavations was to see how much the application of modern archaeological techniques would cause Lysons' conclusions to be modified. In particular it was hoped to see if the villa extended much beyond where Lysons dug, and to find out something of the history of the building.

Excavations were carried out in four places:

(1) A limited amount of work was done to coincide with repairs being made to the Great Pavement. Part of the elaborate hypocaust heating system was explored: it consists of a grid of tunnels four feet high and eighteen inches wide, underlying the entire pavement. Some fragments of plaster and marble were found that had decorated the room above. The plaster was painted with elaborate designs, in which the main colours were red, blue and purple.

(2) Two small areas of the west range of the inner courtyard were exposed, in the garden of The Old Priory. It was clear that that whole area had been remodelled on at least one occasion, and it was only its final form that was recorded by Lysons.

(3) The east range of the outermost courtyard was found, in Park Field. It matches the west range, which was all that Lysons exposed, and it is now possible to be certain about the existence of a third courtyard. A fair quantity of pottery came from this part of the excavation: it ranged in date from the early second to the later fourth centuries.

(4) The area west of the villa (in the Lawn field) was extensively explored in advance of a housing development. The only feature of interest was a stone water channel, which may be presumed to have been the main villa water supply. The lack of other Roman remains in the area may be explained by the fact that the best rooms of the villa seem to have faced in this direction.

The main result of the excavation has been to establish that the villa developed over a period of at least three centuries: this is clear from the Park Field pottery. What Lysons recorded was merely the end result of a long process. Probably the villa was a modest establishment in the second century, which gradually expanded, and, certainly, it was drastically remodelled shortly after 300. The 1973 excavation, in proving the existence of the outer courtyard, also has enabled one of the most distinctive aspects of the villa to be emphasised, its axial layout. Any future work on the villa would have to elucidate what is clearly a complex structural history, as well as trying to complete the plan to the north, south and east.

GILES CLARKE.



A LOST DRIVE IN THE COTSWOLDS

A Correction

IN MY ARTICLE in the Spring number of the Bulletin I confidently stated that the boundary between Worcestershire and Gloucestershire ran along the old Ryknild Street and that Springhill House was in Worcestershire. I was wrong. The boundary was altered in 1965 as I discovered from the latest edition of the 1" to the mile O.S. map. I had been using the 2½" to the mile O.S. map which only gives the old pre-1965 boundary.

In fact this seems to be a confusing part of the Cotswolds. Barbara Jones in her 'Follies and Grottoes' gives Broadway Tower in Gloucestershire whereas it was and still is in Worcestershire. The mistake is repeated in the National Benzole book on follies.

If you want to look up Blockley and Northwick Park in the Eighteenth century County Histories you must consult Nash's 'History of Worcestershire' as they were then in that county but are now in Gloucestershire. The Four Shires' Stone outside Moreton-in-Marsh is now properly the Three Shires'

Stone as the little island of Worcestershire which made up the four now no longer exists.

If you wish to look up the architectural details of Springhill House now therefore, you must use Pevsner's guide to Worcestershire in his 'The Buildings of England' series and not David Verey's book on 'The Cotswolds', as its location has been changed from Worcestershire to Gloucestershire.

J. P. NELSON.



'THE VINEYARD HOUSE' AT OVER

SHORTLY AFTER THE refounding of the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester in 1022, "A lord of great nuisance, named Ulfine Lew Ree" slew seven of the monks. As penance, he gave the abbey the Manors of Churcham and Highnam to provide seven monks to pray "world without minde". Included in these manors was the hill, still known as Vineyard Hill, which is on the right as one passes out of Gloucester to the west, across Over Bridge. At first the hill was used to grow fruit and vines — the wines of Gloucestershire were much famed, and considered the equal of French ones. However, at some time in the middle of the fourteenth century a temporary dwelling was made, possibly as an escape for the abbot from the Black Death. Abbot Horton (1357-77), and possibly also Abbot Froucester, added to the house a hall and a chapel, and walled and moated it round.

'The Vineyard House' became a favoured residence of the abbots, taking them away from the noise and smell of their lodging inside the abbey wall. Escape from the plague was always a thought present in their minds, and if it followed them out to Over they were always able to withdraw to their manor at Highnam. In the sixteenth century Prinknash Park was also used as a residence, but the royal visits of Queen Elizabeth, wife of Henry VII, and King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, were both to the Vineyard.

At the dissolution of the abbey and the subsequent foundation of the see of Gloucester, 'The Vineyard' alone of all the Manors of Churcham and Highnam remained property of the see, together with its park extending from Lassington Lane to the River Leadon. It became the principal residence of the bishops; Gloucester was a poor see, and the house became dilapidated, but Bishop Ravis (1604-7) restored the house, and it was used regularly until the Civil War.

The bishop immediately prior to the Civil War was Godfrey Goodman, who was known to lean strongly towards Rome (and may have died a Roman Catholic), and the opposition he engendered in Puritan Gloucester was released in the Christmas holidays of 1642 by the plundering and burning of 'The Vineyard' under Lord Stanford. The lead was stripped from the roof and taken into

Gloucester, and later cast as bullets; this was most useful as the defenders of the city ran short of munitions.

Col. Massey fortified and garrisoned the site, and it was used as a base for raids and to protect the western approaches to the city. When Lord Herbert's Welsh army advanced to Highnam in March 1643, it served as a base for diversionary raids from the front whilst Sir William Waller crossed the river and attacked in strength from the rear. In August of the same year the siege of Gloucester began, and shortage of men made the defenders to abandon the hill; its important strategic position caused the Royalists to garrison it in turn: "The Welsh forces under Sir William Vavasor advanced to the wine-yard, where after 2 houres solemnity they with great valour tooke it, nobody being there to make a shot against them. Yet upon their entry of the outward worke, when they saw another within, they according to their knowne prowess, immediately ran out; yet taking hearte againe, they at last to their eternall glory tooke it."

During the Commonwealth the bishop's lands were surveyed, and it was reported of 'The Vineyard' "Nothing remains but a few ruinous Stone walls". The first lessee was a stone-mason, who hauled stone from the site into Gloucester; subsequently Thomas Pury held the land, and used part of the profit to buy bread for the poor and prisoners in the city. At the Restoration the hill reverted to the see, but the house remained in ruins and the land let.

The house was rebuilt, at least in part, by Bishop Frampton (1680-90). His life tells us that he caused the large old hall "to be paved with handsome white stone, and much repaired the other parts, especially the Chapel, which he raised in the floor, new wainscotted and seated, as now it stands." Bishop Frampton was deprived as a non-juror in 1690, and his successor, Edward Fowler, "set himself upon altering, I cannot say repairing, the house by pulling down three chambers in a floor". However, this life implies that a portion of the house was still standing in 1710, whilst Atkyns and later authors state that the house was destroyed in the Civil War and not repaired. We certainly hear no more of the Vineyard as a house, and the hill was eventually let to the Guise family of Highnam.

Parts of the hill were taken for the Hereford canal and for the railway, but the final change came at the end of the nineteenth century, following the small-pox epidemic of 1895-6. The hill was brought by the Corporation of Gloucester in order to build an isolation hospital, which was done in face of considerable opposition (particularly from the Gambier Parry family).

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Nothing now remains of the house, except for mounds showing the extent of the foundations. It has not been excavated, but it seems to have been a substantial house, nearly two hundred feet long. The fortifications, presumably dating from the Civil War, are in excellent condition except on the east side

where the outworks have been demolished and used to fill the moat. Some stones from the house were incorporated into the mill cottages at the foot of the hill, but these cottages were demolished last year to make way for the road to the new bridge.

BOOK REVIEWS



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Available from J. Armitage, Bookseller, Chipping Campden, Glos.

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