

[illegible]

## A detailed black and white line drawing of a large, multi-story house with a steep, gabled roof. The house features several dormer windows and a prominent chimney. It is surrounded by dense foliage, including trees and bushes, suggesting a rural or wooded setting. The drawing is signed 'J. H. H.' in the bottom right corner.



# RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD AND EASTCOTE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## JOURNAL 2002

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Cover picture: The Old Shooting Box, Eastcote 1973 (Denise Shackell)

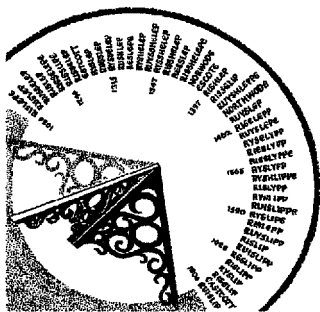
Designed and edited by Brian Grisdale

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*Membership of the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society is open to all who are interested in local history. For further information please enquire at a meeting of the Society or contact the Membership Secretary. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month from September to April and are open to visitors. (Advance booking is required for the Christmas social.)*

*An active Research Group supports those who are enquiring into or wishing to increase our understanding of the history of the ancient parish of Ruislip (the present Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote). Its members are largely responsible for the papers in this Journal, and for other Society publications which are produced from time to time.*



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## LECTURE PROGRAMME 2002-2003

### 2002

September 16	A Century of Cinema in the UK	Tony Moss
October 21	Ruislip Maps through the Ages (& AGM)	Simon Morgan
November 18	Isambard Kingdom Brunel	Trevor Burnard
December 16	Herga Consort of Early Music	Derek McLean

### 2003

January 20	London Bible College	Peter Cotterell
February 17	London before Londinium	[on Cotton
March 17	Ancient Ruislip Houses	Eileen Bowlt
April 28	Clerkenwell	Alan Cox

Meetings are on Mondays at 8.15 pm and are held in St. Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip.

## WELL GREEN, EASTCOTE

### Ramin, the Old Shooting Box and Park Cottages / Jacobean Cottages

by Eileen M. Bowlt

Ramin and The Old Shooting Box, the subjects of Pat Oarke's articles in this journal, historically stand at Well Green alias Long Marsh, although their present address is High Road, Eastcote. Three cottages called Park Cottages, later Jacobean Cottages, stood on the road edge to one side of the Old Shooting Box until 1926.

This paper sets out to explain the exact position of Well Green and the historical background of the two houses and the three cottages. It should be read in conjunction with my article 'The Grange at Well Green, Eastcote' in last year's journal.'

#### WELL GREEN alias LONG MARSH

Well Green alias Long Marsh in 1565. The King's College Terrier of 15652 names part of Eastcote as 'Well Green alias Long Marsh'. It seems to have been open land situated between the River Pinn and Eastcote High Road, from the bottom of Fore Street to Catlins Lane. Beyond that point as far as Cheney Street, the land between the road and the river was occupied by two houses with outbuildings and their pastures. They survived into the nineteenth century, appearing on the 1806 Enclosure Map' but not on the 1865 Ordnance Survey. Their sites are now part of the public open space called the Long Meadow.

One of the problems of working with historical documents is that houses are only rarely given a name and streets often had different names from those in use at the present day.

It should be noted that in Elizabethan times Catlins Lane was known as Popes End Lane; the road from Catlins Lane to the junction of Cheney Street was called Cocowes (i.e. Cuckoos) Lane; modern Cuckoo Hill was

part of Cheney Street; Field End Road was Oay Street Hill.

Only two house names occur, 'Hopkyttes' which later became Eastcote House (demolished 1964) and 'Plucketts' which is now Eastcote Cottage on the corner of Field End Road and the High Road.

In 1565 there were six dwelling houses and cottages between Fore Street and Field End Road described as lying north against Well Green alias Long Marsh. They can be identified with the site of New Cottages, Flag Cottage, the site of Eastcote Lodge (now Flag Walk), the site of The Black Horse, the Old Bam House and Eastcote Cottage. Three of them, Flag Cottage, the Old Bam House and Eastcote Cottage, are listed buildings, dating at least in part from the sixteenth century and therefore substantially the same as those mentioned in the Terrier.

The High Road runs along the southern edge of what was Well Green alias Long Marsh. The petrol station, Deans Cottage, The Rosery and the Old Forge now stand on the former marsh. One section remains open space and has been renamed Forge Green because of the proximity of Tapping's blacksmith's forge in the early twentieth century.

Eastcote House was owned by Ralph Hawtrey. The description in the Terrier reads: *'Ralph Hawtrey holds one cottage called Hopkyttes with an orchard and two closes of 4 acres and it lies at Well Green and it abuts north onto Well Green.....'*

Once Eastcote High Road crosses the Pinn on the Long Bridge, it runs along the northern edge of Well Green alias Long Marsh. The Terrier mentions two houses that can be identified as the present Grange and Ramin, as abutting south onto Well Green.

One of the demolished houses opposite the bottom of Catlins Lane was said to lie west against Well Green.

Thus Well Green alias Long Marsh was defined in 1565. The building that is now the

Old Shooting Box had not then been built.

Seventeenth century documents refer only to Well Green, the 'alias Long Marsh' seemingly having been dropped.

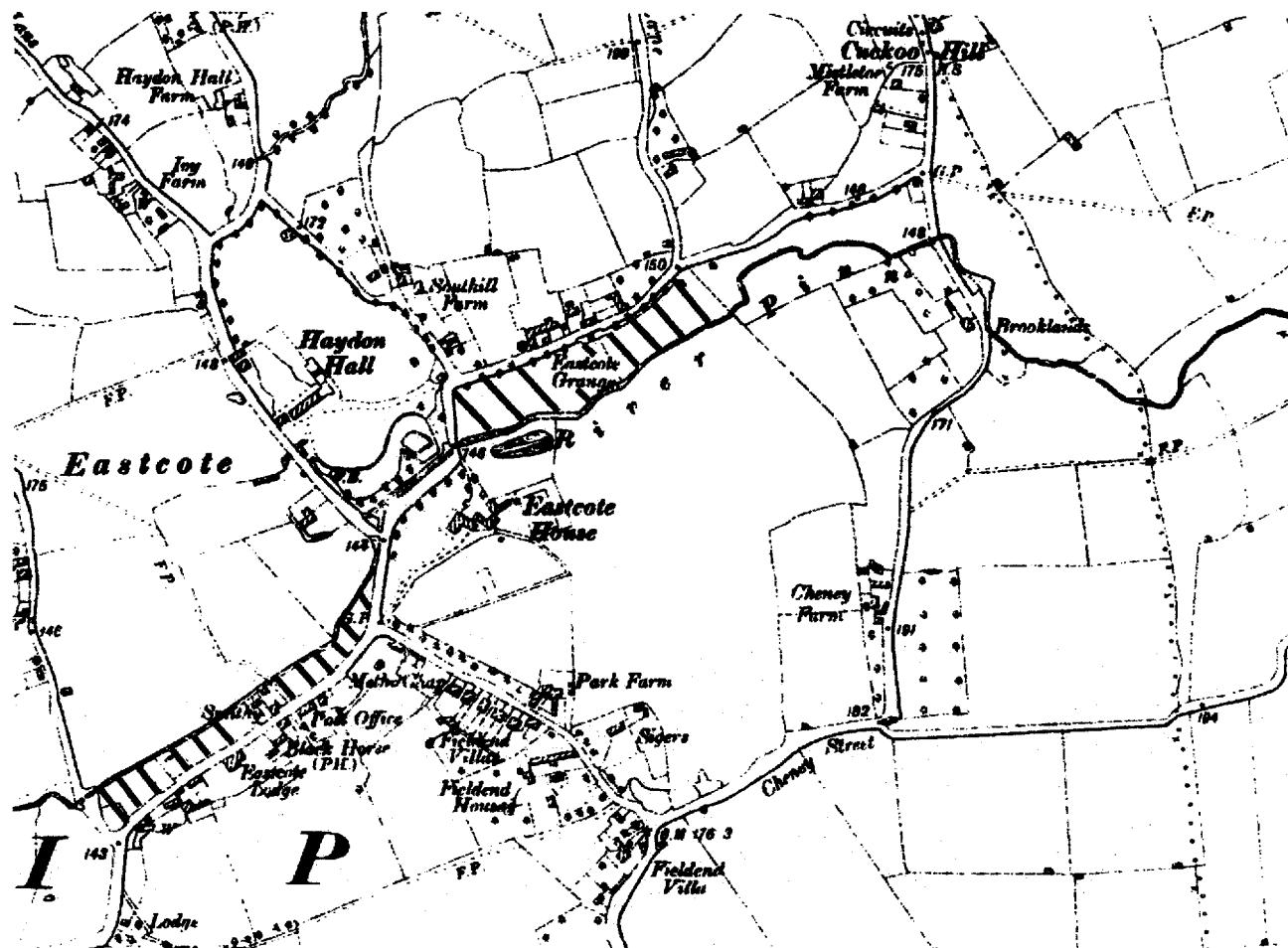


Fig.1. Map of Well Green as described in the King's College Terrier 1565  
Well Green is shown hatched and superimposed upon the 1897 OS 6in. Map.

#### The Enclosure Map and Award 1806-14

The Ruislip Enclosure Map of 1806 marks the area in front of Eastcote House as Well Green and interestingly shows a circular pond, well or possibly spring, with a watercourse leading from it into the River Pinn. A circular depression can clearly be seen today in the meadow directly opposite the Grange. Could this possibly be the source of the name Well Green? Further west at the back of Park Avenue, there used to be a spring, known as 'the boiling spring' that fed into the Pinn and only dried up when suburban houses were built,"

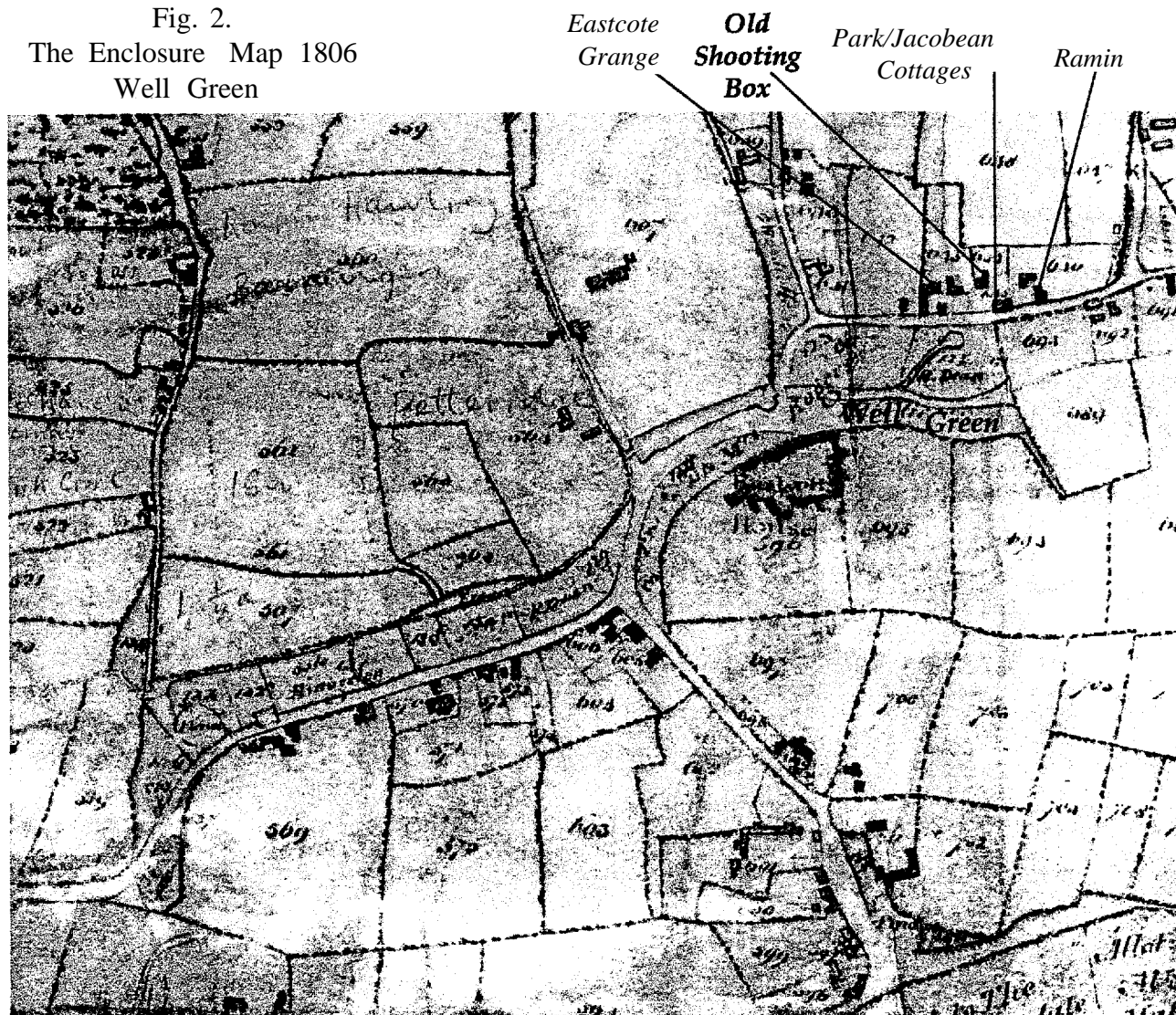
It would not be surprising if Well Green had a similar spring or well.

Well Green had been common waste, probably because it was boggy and unproductive. It was being enclosed in 1806. Ralph Deane, the descendant of the Hawtreys, who inherited Eastcote House during the Enclosure upheaval, was allotted the portion between the walled garden and the High Road numbered on the map as New Enclosure 122. This is now part of the public open space.

Another portion, New Enclosure 123, went to 'the trustees of the late Mrs Rogers'. She was Elizabeth Rogers who had died in 1803 and under whose will Ralph Deane eventually inherited Eastcote House and its estate in 1810.<sup>6</sup>

Part of what is now Forge Green was also granted to Ralph Deane and the section opposite Eastcote Lodge was given to John Hingston, its owner.

Fig. 2.  
The Enclosure Map 1806  
Well Green



#### RAMIN

James Feme owned both The Grange and Ramin in 1565, neither of course being named at the time. Two closes of land and orchards, amounting to 4 acres, went with the two cottages. The land extended to Pope's End Lane (Catlins Lane). For the sake of clarity I shall use the modern names in relation to these two properties.

From Court Books covering the years 1590-16817 it appears that Ramin as well as The

Grange remained in the hands of the Feme family until well into the seventeenth century. However, it must be said that the absence of names makes the precise identity of 'a cottage at Well Green' a little difficult. Identification has been achieved partly by a process of elimination and also from the description of the position of the dwellings. The existence of Abstracts of Title relating to The Grange, taken in conjunction with the Court Books, made a positive identification of that property possible" but that of Ramin is conjectural.

Johanna Feme seems to have been in possession of the cottage now called Ramin in the 1660s and sought a licence at the Manor Court held on the 26 April 1667 to let it for nine years. The licence was granted, but there is no evidence that the cottage was let. Johanna, did, however, sell the northern part of Hodgkins, a field along Catlins Lane, to Henry Gemell, in 1668.<sup>9</sup> She sounds to have been needing ready money. Eventually in 1675, at the same court as John Feme surrendered The Grange to John Meridale, Johanna surrendered what appears to be Ramin to Richard Hagger.w

A Survey made in 1685<sup>10</sup> shows that Richard Hagger was still in possession in that year and marginal notes show continued ownership to 1708.

#### The southern part of the house

Pat Oarke's survey of Ramin indicates that the timber-framed section with the picturesque jetty overhanging the road was built in the sixteenth century, but is merely the cross wing remaining from a larger house. The hall attached to it may have been earlier than the cross-wing and was perhaps demolished because of age and general decrepitude. A new bay and jetty were built onto the cross-wing, almost certainly at the same time as the demolition of the hall - the unanswered question being 'when?' Pat Oarke suggests that this is likely to have happened either late in the sixteenth or early in the seventeenth century, certainly before Richard Hagger took over.

The Femes would have been left with a fairly small house.

#### The middle part

Pat Oarke dates the middle portion of the house to the eighteenth century. Although it is certain that the Haggars owned the property between 1675 and 1708, there are no documents to show when they gave it up, although their names continue to appear in Ruislip parish registers until the middle of the eighteenth century.

#### Pritchard family ownership c1800-1922

The next definite information about ownership comes in the Enclosure Award and Map 1806-1814.<sup>11</sup> The cottage stands in Old Enclosure 646 and was 1 acre 0 roods 14 perches in size. The owner was James Pritchard. The shape of the building on the map seems to depict the southern portion and middle portion and a separate bam lying to the north.

Collaborative information from the Ruislip Valuation of 1807<sup>12</sup> shows that the property was then let by James Pritchard to William Biggs junior.

By 1837 when another Terrier of Ruislip<sup>13</sup> was taken, a James Pritchard was given as the owner of a cottage and 1a Or 14p, let to Thomas Gibbs. According to the parish rate books, Thomas Gibbs had been in occupation since at least 1827<sup>14</sup> and remained there until 1843, when 'Winter late Gibbs' appears alongside the name of Henry Hill who occupies a cottage and the 1a Or 14p.<sup>15</sup> The previous year Thomas Gibbs had a cottage and only 2 perches, instead of the 1a Or 14p he had rented previously. This may have been when the building was divided into two.

The Rate Book entries suggest that the southern and middle portions of Ramin were let as a single cottage as late as 1842 and that the north part was probably added later.

However, about twenty years ago the name Pritchard and the date 1816 were etched into a brick beside the doorway of the northern section. This can no longer be seen, but is remembered by Mrs. Neill, former owner, and by the present writer. There are still some inferior scratchings of the name Pritchard on bricks under the window. This points to the Pritchards having built on the northern part in 1816 and would fit in with the building style, as suggested by Pat Oarke who thinks that the north part was built as a separate cottage with its own front and back doors, probably before 1840.

The census returns for 1841 show that Thomas Gibbs was a labourer aged 40 and lived with a female called Gibbs, whose Christian name was not given and who was aged 84. She may have been his mother. It is possible that his father was also called Thomas and that the division took place because the younger Thomas and his mother needed less room.

By 1851 there were three occupied cottages.

Occupants of the three cottages that make up Ramin 1851-91

In 1851 Gilbert Lawrence, a Sawyer, with his wife and two children were in one.

An agricultural labourer called Thomas Townshend, with his wife, five children and his wife's young sister, was in another and no doubt somewhat overcrowded.

Henry Hill and wife and three children were in the other. He was a Journeyman Wheelwright.

The Pritchard family continued to own Ramin until 1922. The occupants of the three cottages changed from time to time.

Henry Hill, the wheelwright was still in his cottage in 1871, but by that time a 73-year-old widower and living alone.

The Townshends had gone by 1861 and Stephen Brumsden, a groom, had taken their place from Cirencester. He and his wife were still there in 1891, by which time he was 68 and working as a gardener.

Gilbert Lawrence had also moved on by 1861 and John Cox, a Master Carpenter from Amersham, with his wife, two children and a baby granddaughter were living there. 15-year-old son, William, was a carpenter as well. Ten years on, in 1871, John Cox was dead and William was head of the household. He was married and had two very young children and was also housing his niece and his mother. By 1881 he had six

children, but his mother had probably died and his niece was no longer with him. The Coxes had left by 1891.

#### 1891 Census

Apart from Stephen Brumsden, the other two cottages were occupied by Samuel Nash and George Hill.

Samuel Nash and his wife had three children and a lodger with them.

George Hill, from his age, 32, could well have been the son of Henry Hill. He was a horse carter on a farm. He and his wife had four children at home and George's stepbrother, William Weatherly, and an agricultural labourer from Long Crendon, were living with them.

#### 1902 Rate Book

(Uxbridge Library  
-Ruislip Parish Rate Books)

Stephen Brumsden, George Hill and Samuel Nash still occupied the three cottages that made up Ramin.

These details of the families dwelling in the cottages suggest that the larger groups may have required more space than, say, Stephen Brumsden and his wife and there may well have been some flexibility in the way the available rooms were used at different times.

#### SALE OF THE THREE COTTAGES 1922 - now Ramin<sup>16</sup>

Frank Pritchard who lived in Richmond, Surrey, sold the three cottages that now make up Ramin in 1922. The occupants were then George Hill, Mrs. H. Bray and F. Rogers. John David Marshall, MPS, LSA, paid him £850. Mr Marshall had purchased The Grange from the descendants of the Watts family the previous year.<sup>17</sup>

He sold The Grange to Charles Noel Gregory Dore of The Lawn, Pinner, soon after buying Ramin,"





Fig.3. Ramin in 1945 showing the dormers, other new windows and door put into the house by Mr. Marshall

Ramin as a single gentleman's dwelling is almost certainly his creation. When he sold it seven years later the alterations described by Pat Clarke had been carried out and some of the land on the corner of Catlins Lane had been developed.

He was responsible for the name 'Ramin', which appears in the Middlesex Deeds Registry Memorial of 1929, when Mr Marshall sold the house to Ralph Eustace Lovett Tennyson D'yncourt, of Ebury Street, Victoria. Mr Marshall was then living in Garence Gate, Regent's Park.

Mr Marshall seems to have believed that his house had at one time been an inn called The Ram. A licensed house called The Ram appears in Licensed Victuallers lists for Middlesex in 1780 and 1784.<sup>20</sup> The licensee

was William Bugbee and members of the Bugbeard family lived at The Grange earlier in the eighteenth century, but no direct connection between Ramin and William Bugbee's pub has been found.

Mr Clinton Dore remembers a family called Lucy living at Ramin in the 1930s.

Kelly's Middlesex Directory and Kemp's Directory of Ruislip-Northwood give the names of the occupants, but not the owners in more recent years. The Breretons were there by 1935. In 1956 P. M. Brereton occupied it and W. A. G. Kemp says that Mr R. J. Brereton was living there in 1962.<sup>21</sup> He was said to have had in his possession some deeds mentioning an inn at Well Green kept by two brothers. Unfortunately these have been lost.

At some stage, probably in 1966, the architects, Mr & Mrs T. P. Wurr (Mrs Wurr was formerly Noeline Dore of The Grange), purchased Ramin. During the next four years there were two short-term tenants. Kemp's Directory shows W. MacDermott at the house in 1966/7 and C.J. Ford, who was an American, in 1968/9. The Wurrs sold Ramin to Mr & Mrs Charles Neill about 1970. Mr Worler, the present owner, bought it from Mrs Neill in 2001.

## THE OLD SHOOTING BOX

See Fig. 4.

The early history of the house now known as the Old Shooting Box is extraordinarily difficult to establish. W. A. G. Kemp, in his 'History of Eastcote' reported the views of Bertram Park, an expert on roses and Vice-President of the Royal National Rose Society, who lived there in the 1950s, 60s and 70s. He believed that the house had formerly been three cottages, the one at the western end being the newest. He was also said to have had a deed dated 1710.

In fact he had a fine collection of deeds etc, but dating back to 1797, not 1710. After his death his daughter June Mardell deposited them in Uxbridge Library. They relate to the Old Shooting Box and to the cottages that used to stand in front and were called Park Cottages and then Jacobean Cottages in the 1920s.

See Fig. 5.

Pat Oarke believes from the architectural evidence that the house was built in the early eighteenth century and extended and refaced in the mid-nineteenth century.

I have traced the history of the house through a variety of documents.

The earliest document at Uxbridge Library,<sup>22</sup> dated 5 June 1797, is an admission at the Manor Court of Robert Anderson of St.

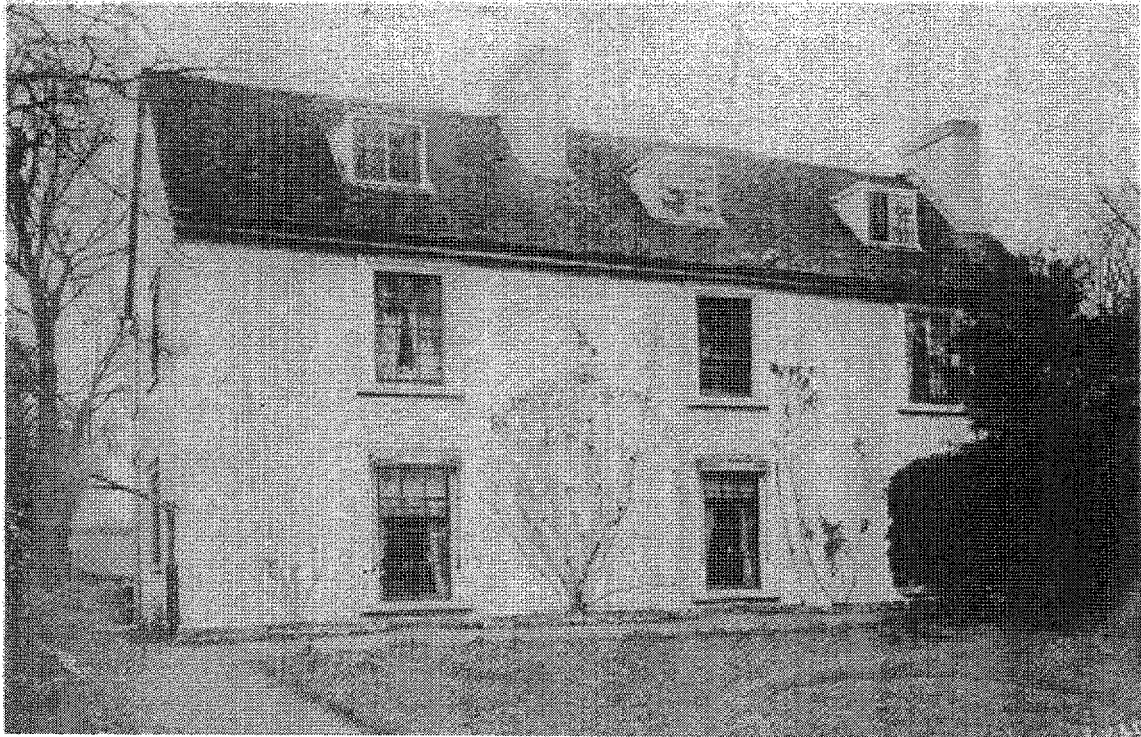
James's, Westminster, to a property lying at Well Green, surrendered to him 'out of court' by William Goodson. The description of the property is immensely interesting; *two copyhold messuages, tenements with the shop, barns, stables, outhouses, yards and garden and appurtenances thereto belonging*'. Descriptions in court rolls tend to become fossilised and the *'barns, stables, outhouses, yards and garden and appurtenances'* seems to be a catchall phrase, commonly employed and not necessarily to be taken literally. Nonetheless the Old Shooting Box then seems to have been two separate copyhold dwellings with a shop, probably a workshop of some kind, rather than a retail shop.

William Goodson appears in the 1790 rate book occupying property in Eastcote and a Mr John Goodson is mentioned in the 1771 rate book, (the earliest extant rate book) living on the Westcot side of the parish.<sup>23</sup> Nothing more is known of the family at this stage.

Anderson, the surname is found locally in the eighteenth and nineteenth century. It is increasingly obvious that many children from Ruislip, particularly younger sons went to work in London, sometimes being apprenticed there. Robert Anderson could have been one of these. On the other hand he could simply have been a successful businessman investing in property in rural Middlesex.

The next document <sup>24</sup> reveals that Robert Anderson had died, leaving his executors, Thomas Pearce, a brewer of Millbank, Westminster and John Barrett, a coal merchant of Westminster, to sell the property. Thomas Parker from Bermondsey, a stationer, bought it and took possession 2 June 1800.

From the third document <sup>25</sup> we learn that on the same day Charles Lawrence, a broker of the City of London, took it over. He might have lent Mr Parker money with the property as security.



*Ray Preedy 1908*

Fig.4 The Old Shooting Box 1908  
when it was still owned by the Deanes of Eastcote House



*Lena Grimwood 1910*

Fig.5 Photograph of the cottages that stood in front of the Old Shooting Box until 1926  
Ramin can be seen to the right, as it was before conversion to a single house

The house stands on Old Enclosure 644 and C. Lawrence was named as the owner in the Enclosure Award.> The plot was 1 rood 13 perches in size, just over a quarter of an acre. One of the parish rate books for the year 1800 has a note 'Charles Lawrence at Pinner'. He rented the house to Thomas Sweetman according to the 1806 rate book, but soon afterwards sold it to Mrs Susannah Long, widow. Her husband, Richard Long, had died at the age of 52 in 1799. He was a tenant farmer and she had continued to hold the tenancy until 1807 when she bought what is now the Old Shooting Box. She was admitted at a Manor Court held on 18 May 1807.<sup>27</sup>

An 1807 Valuation of Ruislip parish<sup>28</sup> shows Mrs Long occupying her own 'cottage and garden etc' and Robert Turner occupying a cottage and garden owned by Mrs Long. Unfortunately the area of the land is omitted for both entries, but this fits with the earlier references to the property being two premises, even though there is no mention of a shop in the Valuation. It might be the 'etc'! This Robert Turner is unlikely to be the man who owned Highgrove at the same time.

The 1837 Terrier <sup>29</sup> refers to the property as a house and aecottage, occupied by 'Edward Long's widow', presumably a relative. Unfortunately there is no separate reference to a resident at the cottage.

On 13 October 1841, it was reported-? that Mrs Susannah Long had died since the last court *'seized of two copyhold messuages or tenements with the shop, barns, stables, outhouses, yard, garden and appurtenances thereto belonging situate upon or near Well Green' 'formerly held by William Goodson'*. Mrs Long had died aged 80 and been buried at St Martin's in February 1841. Edward Long, farmer, of Eastcote, was her eldest son and heir. The 1851 census shows him to have been at St. Catherine's Farm in Catlins Lane.

However, James Long, a carpenter, who was probably his brother, paid him £120 and was admitted to the property, but immediately

mortgaged it to Mrs Jane Hill of Islington for £150. He repaid the money and interest to Miss Susan Hill by the end of May 1845.<sup>31</sup>

The fourth document also shows that the Widow Long died in possession of a piece of land opposite the other premises, said to adjoin the lands of Ralph Deane and William Bowles, 'upon which a barn had been erected'. I have not yet precisely identified this land, said to be 'now a garden and withy bed' in the sixth document dated 31 May 1845. It was perhaps somewhere between the River Pinn and Eastcote House.

Immediately after redeeming his property James Long remortgaged it for £225 at 5% interest, lent by Mr William Nash of Uxbridge. Interestingly and confusingly the description runs *'five messuages or tenements (formerly two messuages or tenements) with the shop, barns, stables, outhouses, yards and gardens on or near Well Green'*.<sup>32</sup> Was he renting out separate rooms to raise the money, which he seems to have needed, or had he extended the building, or possibly joined together two separate houses?

At the time of the 1851 census, only two households can be clearly identified, one headed by James Long, a Master Carpenter, and the other by William [oe]l, an agricultural labourer.

### Deane ownership 1852-1920

30 October 1852 the property was conveyed to Frands Henry Deane who had recently inherited Eastcote House upon the death of his father, Ralph Deane. He paid James Long £345 for *'all those five copyhold messuages, cottages, tenements, formerly two messuages or tenements with the shop, barns, stables, outhouses, yard, garden and appurtenances thereto belonging'*.<sup>33</sup>

Mr Deane is the most likely person to have refaced the frontage and restored the building to a single dwelling. He lived at Eastcote House until 1878 and improved the estate by building several cottages, such as



The Rosery and Deans Cottage on the former waste at Forge Green. The enhancement of the Long's cottage fits in with these activities.

Refurbishment in the early 1850s also fits in with Pat Oarke's idea that the uniform windows at the front date from 1840-60.

By 1857 the house was let to Dr Diamond who was also renting Haydon Hall from John Hamett.<sup>34</sup> Dr Diamond was a Medical Officer at St Pancras General Dispensary. It is not at all clear what he did with the Old Shooting Box, as he presumably lived at Haydon Hall.

Francis Henry Deane moved to Uxbridge in 1878. He must have contemplated selling the Old Shooting Box a few years later, as there is a sales brochure among the documents at Uxbridge Library<sup>35</sup> advertising an auction due to take place on 14 July 1887 at The Mart, Token House Yard in the City of London. By then the house was named South Hill House and described as a 'desirable' cottage residence, containing 8 bedrooms, box room, drawing and dining rooms and offices, set in pretty gardens, with stabling for two horses and a coach house. It was let until Michaelmas 1887 at a rental of £40 per annum. The brochure does not give the name of the lessee, but the 1886 rate book gives the occupier as 'late Burdock'.

**P I N N E R.**

In a pleasant situation about 2 1/2 miles from Pinner Station on the L. & N.W. Railway, and about 15 minutes' walk from the Village and Station on the Metropolitan Extension Railway, whence there are good services of trains to the City and West End.

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**The Particulars and Conditions of Sale**

**Freehold Cottage Residence**

**South Hill House**

**EASTCOTE,**

Co. Dist. Eight Bed Rooms, Box Room, Drawing Room and Offices.

Let from Michaelmas 1887 at a Rental of

**£40 per Annum.**

For Sale by Auction, by

**MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER & BRIDGEWATER,**

AT THE MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, NEAR THE BANK OF ENGLAND,

IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

**On THURSDAY, 14th day of JULY, 1887,**

At Two O'clock punctually.

THB AUCTIONEERS, QHBAPSMS. B.C.

N.B.—Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER & BRIDGEWATER'S Sales for the above date will include several other properties; intending purchasers and others who are interested therein are invited to refer to THE TIMES of Wednesday, July the 12th, in which the "Order of Sale" will be published.

Fig. 6 1887 Sales Brochure

As encouragement to prospective buyers the house was said to be 'about two and a half miles from Pinner Station on the L. & N. W. Railway, and about 15 minutes walk from the Pinner Village and station on the Metropolitan Extension Railway, whence there are good trains to the City and West End.' The Pinner Station referred to became Hatch End Station, while the Metropolitan Station is Pinner Station, which had just opened in 1885.

There is no record of the sale having taken place and Francis Henry Deane, followed in 1892 by his son, Ralph Hawtrey Deane, continued to own the house until September 1920, when it was sold to Charles Percy Duncan, who was the tenant at the time.<sup>36</sup> Mr Duncan, formerly of 176 Brompton Road, was an estate agent. He had come to live in Eastcote in 1916 and after four years as a tenant, paid £750 for the house.

There had been various tenants over the years. Gertrude Bellairs had lived there at the turn of the nineteenth/twentieth century. Mr Tasman, a builder, had moved in by 1907<sup>37</sup> and the name had changed to 'Shooting Box'.

The conveyance of 1920 says 'South Hill House otherwise the Old Shooting Box'.

In July 1923 Mrs Beatrice Fanny Duncan, an estate agent like her husband, bought three cottages (Park Cottages/Jacobean Cottages) standing by the roadside in front of the Old Shooting Box.<sup>38</sup>

By 1926 Mr & Mrs Duncan were raising money on the property. They borrowed £2500 from W. & S. Philp, Market Gardeners of Harlington/" The house along with the site of the cottages and extra land at the rear changed hands several times in the 1930s, a time when this area, part of Metroland, was developing rapidly. The Duncans sold it to Captain W.L. Hope for £2650 in 1932.<sup>40</sup> Within the year he made more than a hundred pounds profit, by selling it to Mrs Monica Lucy Thompson for £2775.<sup>41</sup> In 1937

she conveyed it to Norman Howard Bestall Trimmer, of Wembley, a Civil Engineer.<sup>42</sup>

Then came the war and the property boom was over for a time.

#### Bertram Park

Bertram Park lived at the Old Shooting Box until his death in 1973. As part of his work for the Royal National Rose Society, he edited the Rose Annual from 1948-63. He was awarded the Victoria Medal of Honour of the Royal Horticultural Society and a gold medal for his roses, 'Lady Zima' and 'June Park', the latter being named after his daughter. The gardens at the Old Shooting Box were planted with three thousand rose trees during his time there.

He was also interested in photography and received the Royal Warrant by appointment to King George VI. He was a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society.

After his death the house was put up for auction on 18 July 1973. P. W. Reglar, the estate agent bought it. The present owner is Mrs Frances Bennett.

#### PARK COTTAGES / JACOBEOAN COTTAGES

The group of three cottages in front of the Old Shooting Box, makes a charming rural picture in the photograph taken in 1908, although the condition of the interiors is unknown. The cottages, or at least a building on the same site, can be seen on the Enclosure Map of 1806 in Old Enclosure 645. The accompanying Award gives the owner as John Bray, senior. The plot of land was only 14 perches in size.<sup>43</sup>

Thomas Ballding (spelt variously as Balding and Baldwin) and John Shackell were living there in two cottages in 1807.<sup>44</sup> The elder John Bray died in 1807 and his wife took over his property. Thomas Ballding bought it in 1809 and continued living in one of the cottages." It looks as if throughout this period there were two cottages in Old Enclosure 645.

Thomas Balding, at a Manor Court held on the 23 August 1836, surrendered '*All those three cottages or tenements, then lately two cottages or tenements and formerly one cottage or tenement situate at Eastcote*'. William Bowles, a Pinner farmer, purchased them from him.<sup>46</sup> The same document says that the cottages were then late in the occupation of Henry Hill and Widow Temple and then or late of Henry Hill, James Hillyer and George Aldridge. This explains how a single tenement had already been divided into two cottages before the time of the Enclosure and into three cottages by 1836.

The 1865 OS 25-inch map shows the row of cottages to be two sets of two with a gap between them. The semi-detached cottage on the extreme right next to Ramin appears to have been owned by James Pritchard.

William Bowles died 30 October 1864. His widow, Hannah, and sons, William and Daniel, sold the cottages to Walter Greatrex Esq of Malvern Terrace, Barnsbury.<sup>v</sup> A little more information about the subsequent occupiers of the cottages - J. Webb, Frederick Axten and John Fort - is given when Walter Greatrex was admitted to the property in August 1865.<sup>48</sup> This may be the same Walter Greatrex who owned St Catherine's Farm in Howletts Lane 1864-98.

Frederick Axten's cottage was Eastcote's first post office in 1861.

The cottages next changed hands in April 1878 when Walter Greatrex sold them to Mr William Robinson of 33 South Street, Manchester Square for £330.<sup>49</sup> They remained in his hands until 1905, when Mrs Sarah Ann Robinson of 64 Whitecross Street, was admitted following his death on 4 March 1905.<sup>50</sup>

John Pratt Page of Eastcote, gentleman, paid her £300 for them in 1906, when they were occupied by Webb, R. Grimwood and Nightingale.<sup>v</sup>

Document 23, dated 15 June 1922 first names the cottages as Park Cottages. Mrs Evelyn Roberts formerly of Oxford Road, Ealing, bought them for £490 and lived in one herself. Her neighbours were Mr Hill and Mrs Hobb. A year later in July 1923 she sold 'Jacobean Cottages otherwise known as Park Cottages' to Mrs. Beatrice Fanny Duncan of the Old Shooting Box.<sup>52</sup> By the time the Duncans mortgaged their property in October 1926 the cottages had been demolished and the site thrown into the garden of the Old Shooting Box.

We have a complete picture of the owners of the cottages from 1800 and a reasonable idea of most of the inhabitants. Unfortunately we do not know when the single cottage was first built, but know that it was subdivided by 1807 and again by 1836.

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- 50Ux Lib: 6651/15
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# RAMIN

## Eastcote High Road, Eastcote, Middlesex

by Patricia Clarke

### General

Ramin is the remnant of a timber-framed house, with additions at the rear. The following account, based upon a visit in January 2002, deals with the building according to the sequence of construction, suggests dates, and summarises its status. The present owner is Mr. Worler.

Ramin has three visibly distinct parts lying in a line north-south, all of two storeys with tiled roofs, plus a single storey extension at the north. The southern part is of three timber-framed bays with brick infill, and is jettied at the southern end. The middle and northern parts are of one bay each and are wholly of brick. The outshot is faced in weather-boarding. See Fig. 1.

### The southern part

See Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

This is the cross wing of what was once a larger house. As first built the wing consisted only of the two northern bays providing a single room on each floor, the upper one jettied at the south (A-C-C1-A1). The roof is of clasped-purlin type with collar, queen struts and wind braces. The walls are in large framing with jowled wall-posts. No scarf joints or coherent assembly marks were found. It is a complete frame in itself, in no way integrated with any adjoining part.

The wall posts indicate that the front had Kentish framing, using down braces, at upper floor level. One would expect a central window too, but the evidence for this was removed when the underside of the tie beam was deeply cut back to increase head room. Kentish framing was popular and can be seen at Church Farm, Pinner. Mortices in the soffit of the jetty sill (C-C1) show that at ground floor level the original

front wall had close studding. One would expect a central window between the two intermediate posts. There is no trace of others in the front bay.

In the upper floor of the northern bay shutter grooves for windows in the east and west wall plates about the cross frame (F-B, F1-B1), cutting through pegs which hold studs in place. The pegs for the original western window sill can still be seen outside, and one for the eastern in the post of the cross frame. There is still a modern window in-situ on the western side. In view of the pre-existing structure (see below) it is difficult to envisage windows in these positions originally, although it would be possible if that structure was very low or narrow. Examination of the interior side of the stud north of the western window, now concealed, should show whether the window is of primary or secondary installation. I would opt for secondary, installed at enlargement. Pegs at sill level suggest an off-centre primary window upstairs in the northern cross frame.

There is no direct evidence of staircases. In cross wings the staircase was usually in the rear bay. At Ramin the joists in the north bay show no other trimming for a staircase than the present one. It is quite feasible that the original one, whether straight flight or winder, was in the same place. There is no indication of where the door was.

The beams at each floor of the central cross frame are lightly decorated (B-B1). The chamfer on the southern edge of the lower one has been subsequently mutilated, but on the northern edge a scrolled stop at the west and a pyramid stop at the east remain in good condition

Non-identical stops are unorthodox but not rare. The beam at the upper level had at each end a small solid brace with chamfered edge, intended for display. It was not a very common feature in the area, although there are examples at Home Farm, Ickenham and 3 Ruislip High Street. The western brace remains, together with the original tiny plug of plaster filling the gap at its top corner, but the eastern was removed to admit the stack.

## Date

The cross wing is of 16th century build. The roof and decorative treatment are of 16th or early 17th century type, the floor joists are laid flat, a practice going out of use at the end of the 16th century; the mortices used for them (bare-faced soffit tenons with housed shoulders) are 16th century or later. The jetty began to go out of fashion in the 17th century.

### The earlier house

The cross wing would have been part of a house. Its separate frame implies that it was an addition to an older part, probably an open hall house, which was too decrepit to keep or modernise by the 17th century - see below for the enlargement. The cross wing may itself have replaced an even older part. The replacement by turns of parts was common and quite practicable in timber-framed houses, and is nowadays referred to as alternate rebuilding. Since the wing is separately framed it is not surprising that there is no evidence of the earlier part. If the first stairs were in the present position the demolished part was probably on the further, or western, side of the cross wing; there would have been only one communicating door, in the north bay downstairs between A and B, but the relevant timbers have been removed for the present entrance.

### Enlargement of the cross wing

The cross wing was subsequently enlarged, and common-sense suggests that this was

when the earlier part was demolished. Another bay was added at the south, bringing it forward virtually to the street frontage with a new jetty, leaving the timbers of the first jetty in place (C-D-D1-C1). An internal stack was inserted abutting the cross frame and facing north, while an external one was built against the east wall of the new bay. Each floor was divided into two rooms, the division apparently running along the rear, or southern side, of the internal stack.

There were two hearths in each stack so that all four rooms were heated. The northern hearth downstairs was originally the kitchen hearth, a huge inglenook with a simply-chamfered wooden lintel and the central part of the flue narrowed. The hearth above is entirely of brick, with a four-centred head and a wide continuous chamfer ending in run-out stops near the base of the jambs. The southern hearth downstairs is similar in size to the kitchen hearth but with a lower-set lintel. There has been much alteration to the brickwork, including apparently a narrowing of the opening by building new jambs beneath the lintel, and the creation of a cavity in the north flank. I think the other keeping holes in side and rear walls are not original though they may be replicas. The hearth above is similar, but smaller in scale and less altered. There is a cupboard in the adjoining southern cavity with what is probably the original door, made of three vertical planks, tongued and grooved, the two outer ones moulded along their inner edges.

In the south room downstairs between the two stacks there is a contemporary doorway, now blocked, in the east wall. The new dwelling would have needed some extra service space so this may have led to an outshot on the eastern side.

The logical place for the main entrance to the house would have been in the west wall opposite the internal stack, between B and

E, a very popular position in the 17th century, though no evidence remains here. This area of the house presents a problem of interpretation. Parts of some ground floor ceiling joists in the original south bay had to be removed to make way for the stack, but in fact all the joists were treated in this way. An auxiliary beam was introduced west of the stack at E to carry the replacement pieces, which were lodged upon it and on the cross beam, leaving the original joist mortices in the beam empty; several of the pieces continuing south are also replacements at this end. If another staircase was inserted here at some time there is no sign of it now.

The chimneys are the original ones, all with projecting courses at the top. The eastern chimney is a fine one with a triangular fillet down the eastern side.

#### Date

The extension was made in the late 16th or early 17th century. The brickwork of stacks and chimneys is 17th century, possibly late 16th. The brick fireplace is of a type popular in the later 16th century.

#### The middle part

The middle part of the house has one room on each floor. The stack was external and this, together with the narrower depth of this part, shows that it was constructed before the adjoining northern part. The roof, as far as could be glimpsed, is of poor scantling with the rafters butting against a ridge piece. The walls contain some timber framing - one stud is exposed in the east wall of the upper room, and a photograph of 1925 shows two in the north wall downstairs, though this is not to be relied upon as accurate. The downstairs fireplace has red brick which seems 18th century, but which forms a triangular shaped cavity which is decidedly quirky. I would say from its appearance, complete in the same photograph, that it was part of the 1925 refurbishment.

#### Date

The roof and walling, together with the external stack suggest a date at any time in the 18th century.

#### The north part

The northern part had two rooms to each floor. The rear room down was small, probably a scullery, and may have contained the stair. The roof is like that of the middle part, and the stack is external. The external doorways (and possibly the doors) and most of the windows are the original ones, though the upper west window has been enlarged and the two small ones at the rear are secondary.

Interior features date the house to the period 1800 to about 1840. The upstairs fireplace is a standard cast iron hob-grate of the period with neo-classical Greek-key decoration. The cupboards, set in the alcoves of the adjoining middle part's stack have glazing bars of thin section with arched heads. The lower door of the eastern cupboard has been replaced.

#### The outshut

I have not tried to date this but I would expect it to be late 19th or 20th century.

#### Later treatment

The brick infilling of the timber frame of the south part, shown in the photograph below and in that of 1910 which is Fig. 5 of Eileen Bowl's Well Green article, is of 18th or 19th century date. The quality of the brick-laying is good, with thin jointing. The brick facade of the middle part was probably part of the same work.

A window was inserted in the west wall down at the south and then blocked by the small external stack which still survives, though now itself blocked internally. Both features postdate the brick infilling and are probably 19th century. The stack shows that the front room downstairs was at one time subdivided into two smaller ones.

To the refurbishment of 1925 by Mr. Marshall I attribute the repositioning of the front door, all the bay windows, dormers and the present staircase. I would also include the carving of the ends of several joists of the first jetty into rough flower shapes, which I think happened when the mantel shelf, with carved brackets, was added to the eastern fireplace, and the lintel was pecked to make it look 'old',

The cutting of door heads into the east end of the northern wall plate (A-AI) and into the former eastern window (FI-BI) are not datable and could have happened at any time after the middle part was built. The widening of the middle part of the house may have originated as a single or double storey extension. It is curiously built of 20th century brick in thin timber frames of 18th or 19th century type. Who put the bricks there is puzzling, for they do not seem at all like the sort of bricks Mr. Marshall would have used.

#### Status

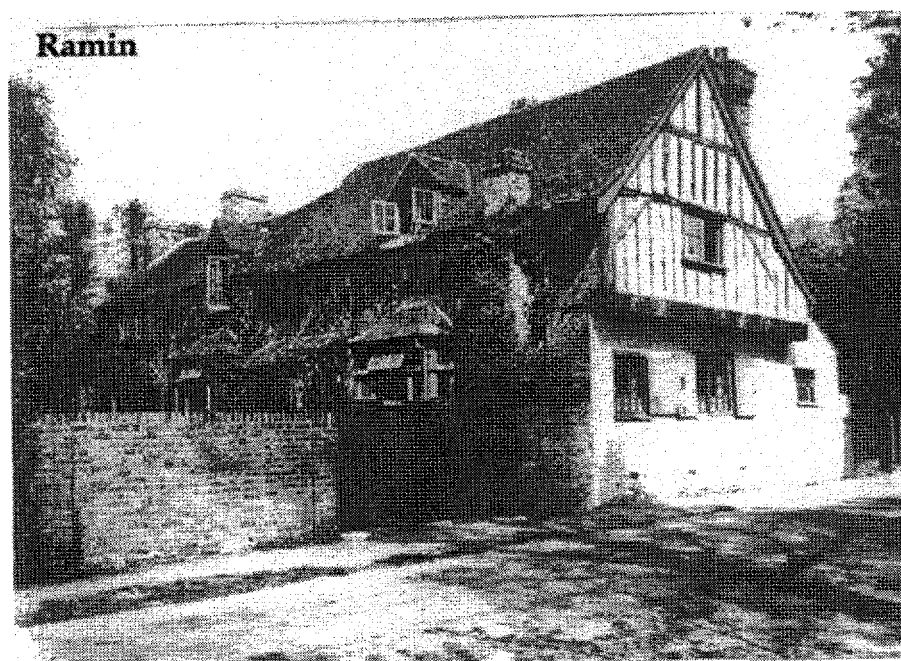
The style of the cross wing, particularly the solid braces and the close studding, were appropriate to someone like a yeoman of some substance, and the same should have been true of the earlier medieval house for which it was built.

This was the solar or high wing, reserved for the private use of the owner, away from servants and estate workers. After the demolition and enlargement it was probably a slightly smaller house, but the number and quality of its hearths showed it to be one of good quality. At this date it would have been rather small for someone with a large amount of land.

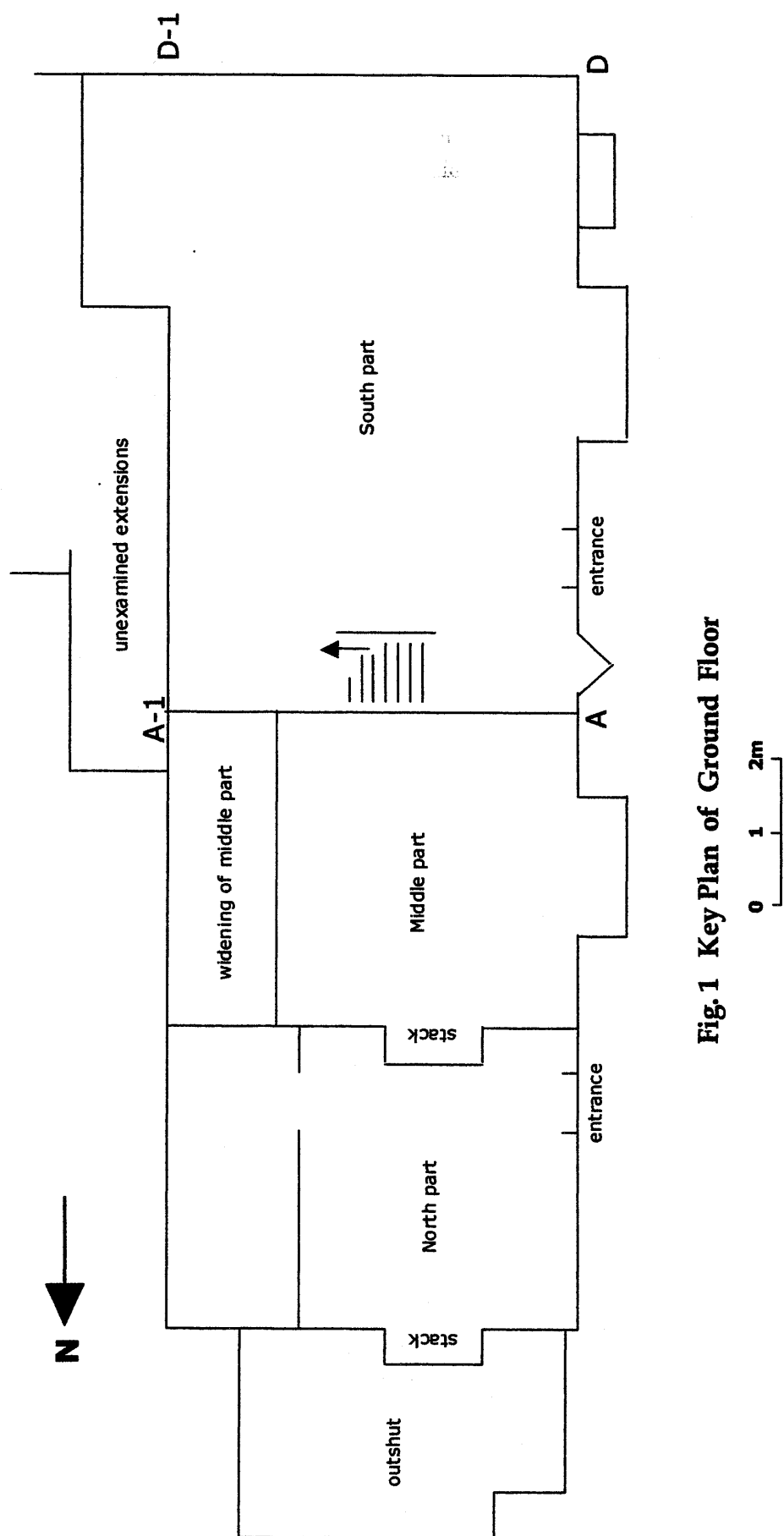
The middle part may have been built as an extension or as a separate small dwelling. The records imply that it was separate in 1807.

The northern part was built as a separate cottage with its own front and back doors, and a touch of style. The records also bear out the suggested dates for this part.

In the 19th century the three separate dwellings need not always have been occupied in the three parts outlined above. At that time houses were often recombined in various ways, and the census details suggest that may have been the case here. It has been said that the name Ramin alludes to an inn on the premises at some time. There is nothing about the structure peculiar to an inn, though it could easily have served as an alehouse or beer house.







**Fig. 1 Key Plan of Ground Floor**

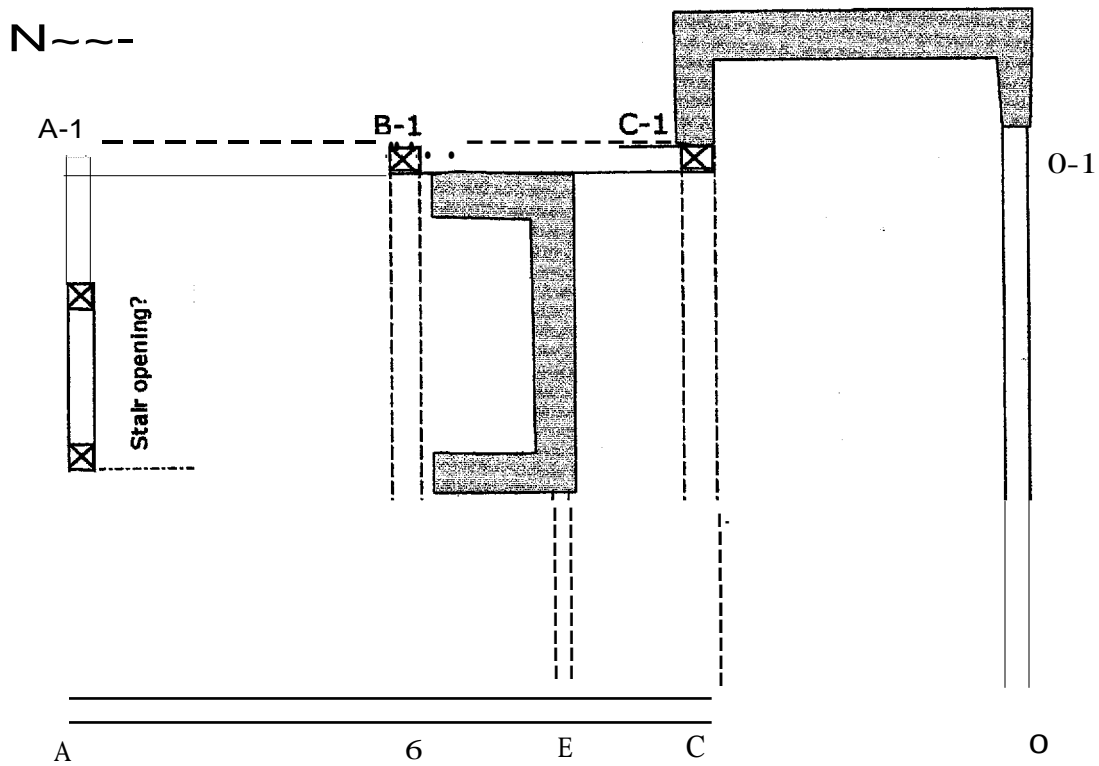


Fig.2 Plan of the ground floor after enlargement

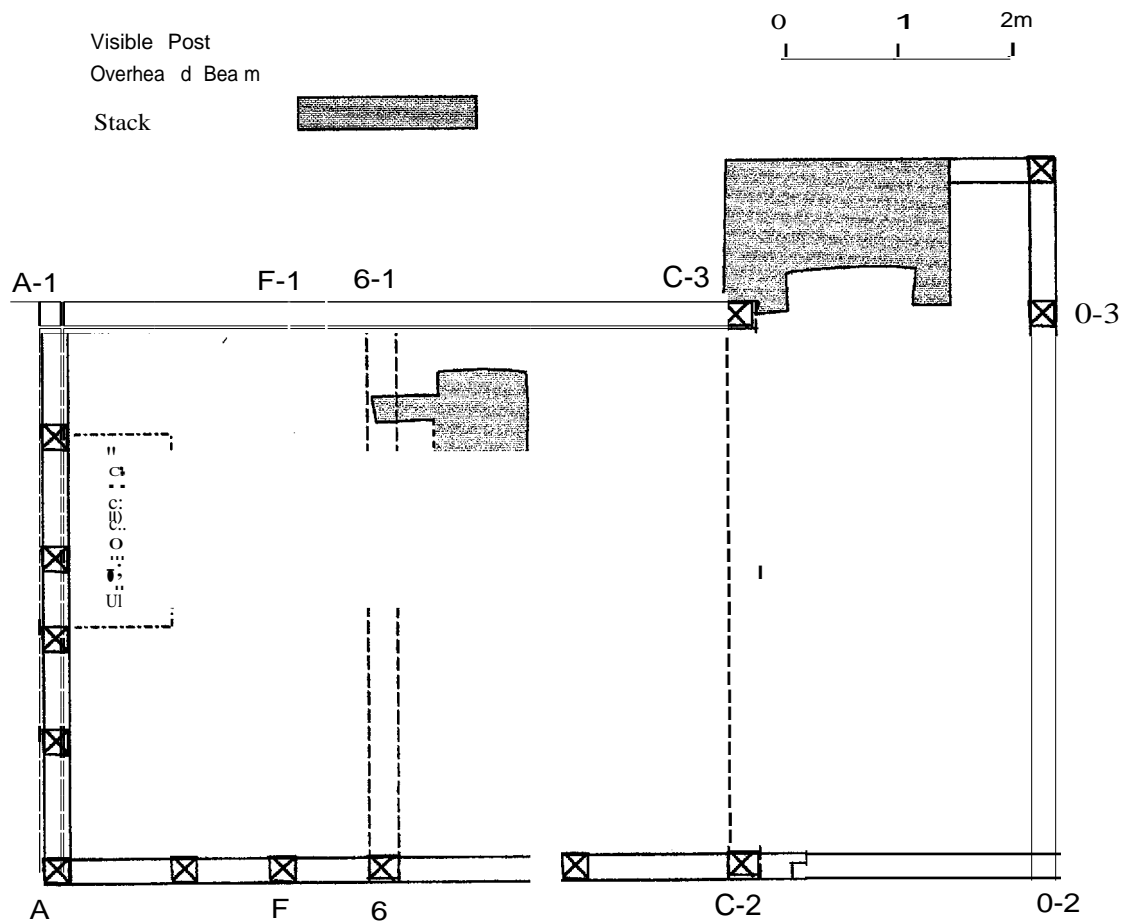
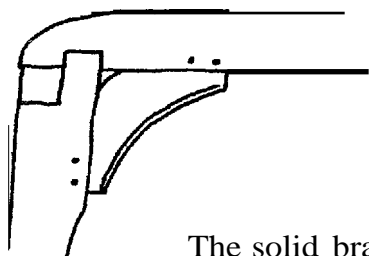
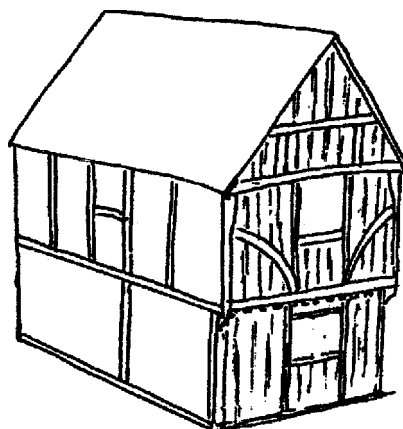


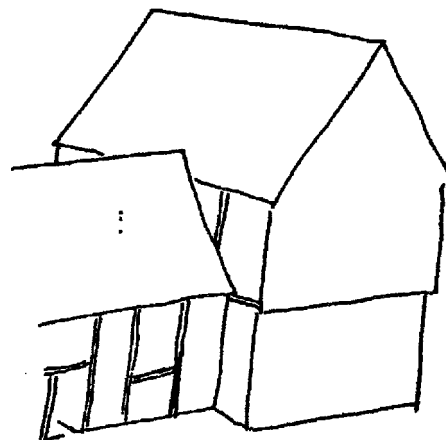
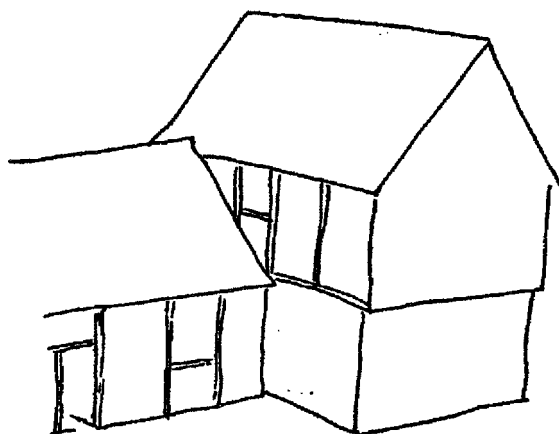
Fig.3. Plan of the upper floor after enlargement



The solid brace.



Conjectural appearance of the first cross wing,  
with the upper side window included.



Possible positions of the demolished part, with and without the upper side window.

**Fig.4. Building Details**

Glossary (applicable to both the RAMIN and THE OLD SHOOTING BOX articles).

architrave	the ornamental surround of a window or doorway
assembly marks	numerals incised on timbers to indicate matching members in a frame
axial	in line with the length of the house or wing
bay	a portion of a building between the principal posts
beam	a major horizontal timber
chamfer	a surface formed by cutting off an edge
clasped purlin	a purlin supported by a collar
close studding	decorative framing where the space between the studs is little wider than the studs themselves
collar	a transverse timber connecting rafters
cross frame	the framework dividing one bay from another
downward brace	a brace running from a post to a lower horizontal timber
jetty	the overhang of one storey over the one below it
jowl	the thickening of a post at the top
keeping hole	a cavity in the brickwork of a hearth for goods needing to be kept dry
lintel	a horizontal beam over a fireplace, door or window
lodged joist	one resting on top of a beam
mid-rail	a horizontal beam in a wall placed between sill and plate
mortice	a socket cut to receive a tenon
outshut	a compartment at the side of a house under a lean-to roof
plate	a horizontal timber, usually at the top of a wall
post	a substantial vertical timber forming part of the main framework
purlin	a longitudinal timber in a roof slope, supporting rafters
queen struts	a pair of struts between tie beam and collar
run out stop	a stop ending in a shallow curve
scantling	the measured size or dimensions of a timber
scarf	a joint between two timbers meeting end to end
sill	a horizontal member at the bottom of a framed wall, window or door frame
soffit	the lower or under surface of a timber
step stop	a stop where there is a step, or change of plane, between the chamfer and its end
stop	a decorative ending of a chamfer
stud	a less substantial or minor timber in a wall
tenon	a rectangular projection from the end of a piece of timber
tie beam	a main transverse timber connecting the tops of walls
trimmer	a short timber set across the ends of joists to allow for an opening, e.g. a staircase
wall plate	the horizontal timber forming the top of the wall frame
waney	irregular timber surface, part of the original outer surface of the tree
wind braces	a brace within the plane of a roof, usually between a purlin and a principal rafter
The open hall house	In an open hall house the chief living room, the hall, had a hearth near the middle of the floor, and as a result the room was left open to the roof to allow the escape of smoke and fumes through a louvre, or chinks in the roof. At one or both ends of the hall might be a two storeyed section, or bay, whose rooms were unheated.



# THE OLD SHOOTING BOX

## Eastcote High Road, Eastcote, Middlesex

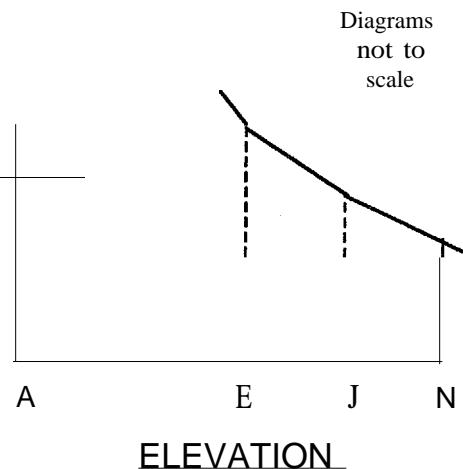
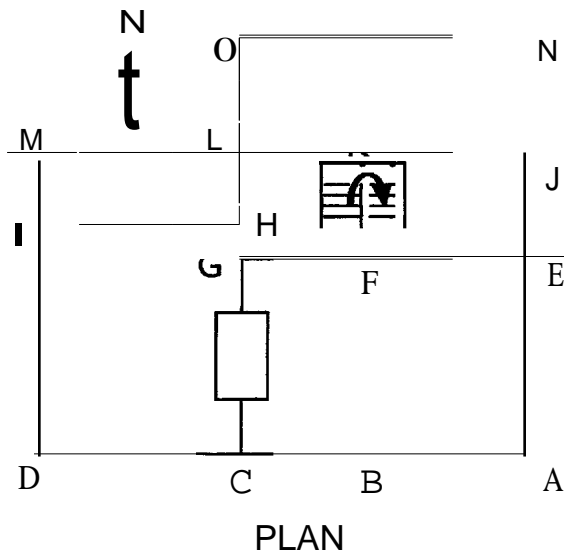
by Patricia Clarke

### Description

At present the building, as visited in December 1995 and owned by Mrs. Frances Bennett, forms one house, but it is reported that it was divided into three cottages in the 19th century, and that the western bay is a 19th century addition. The house is three bays long, aligned east west. The front range is one room deep and has two storeys plus attics. Behind the western bay is a single storey outshut. Behind the rest is a two storey outshut, continued northward by a single storey outshut all under a

catslide roof. The two eastern bays are timber framed with brick infilling, but the material of the western, concealed, is said to be brick. The whole of the upper floor is tile-hung.

In the east gable wall is an internal stack which had three hearths, one on each floor. A second stack between the middle and western bays has two hearths on the ground floor, and a western one on the first floor and the attic. The staircase is about the middle of the outshut.



The middle and eastern bays (A-C-O-N)

The framing of the front range (A-C-G-E) is not uniform, being partly of large panels with narrow studs and diagonal braces, and partly of small panels, both types with brick infill. A large proportion of the timber comprises re-used pieces of the period c.1480-1640. They include, for example, a tie beam re-used as a newel post for the staircase to the attic, and another used as a transverse beam in the ground floor wall from C to G; the ogee shaped brace in the upper floor of the same wall is another

re-used piece. The newer timber is of small scantling and often bent or waney. In the eastern room of the first floor the door of the cupboard south of the stack contains 17th century panelling.

The ceiling heights are typical of an 18th century house. The axial beam and joists in the ground floor of the middle bay (B-C-G-F) are probably original to the house; the joists have chamfers and step stops. Some of the timbers of the landing

and the first floor east room in the outshut (E-F-K-J) bear matching 18th century assembly marks, neatly chiselled. The upper front windows match those of the western bay. There have been many 20th century alterations and embellishments, mostly in the form of fancy or applied studding. There is a single storey extension (O-L-O-N) along the north of the outshut, probably 20th century.

#### The western bay (C-D-I-H)

This bay has front windows of the period 1830-60, and an attic fireplace appropriate to the same. The ground floor room has been covered with reproduction 20th century panelling, including an overmantel in Jacobean style. A reproduction fire surround in stone with a depressed head, which I think is also of 20th century date, has been removed from the fireplace. There is a single-storey rear outshut (H-I-M-L) to this bay, probably 20th century.

#### Opinion

No part of the present structure is earlier than the first half of the 18th century. It originated as a two bay house with an outshut containing the staircase and extra service rooms (A-C-I-J). I would expect the main entrance to have been about centre front, but there is now no evidence one way or the other. The attics were probably there from the start.

The western bay (C-D-I-H) was probably an addition to the 18th century house, rather than being the replacement of an earlier bay. When it was built the opportunity was taken to reface the whole frontage and give it uniform windows - a photograph predating the tile-hanging shows heavy architraves of the style popular from about 1840-60. French windows and a verandah have subsequently been installed at ground floor level, and the upper floor has been tile-hung in a way that has partly covered the window architraves.

The single storey outshuts, to both 18th and 19th century parts, are probably 20th century work, but I have not sought to establish clearly whether they might be of the late 19th century instead.

To summarise, the house was built during the first half of the 18th century towards the end of the timber-framing tradition, and it comprised only the two eastern bays with a full length outshut behind. It would have been suitable for a farmer. Just before the middle of the 19th century it was enlarged at the western end and given a new facade. It was apparently one dwelling at the time of the proposed sale in 1882 (or 1887) when it was known as Southill House. The 20th century alterations probably occurred after the house was sold by the Hawtrey-Deane estate in 1920.

#### Note about re-used timber

When a timber framed house was dismantled it was quite common to re-use sound pieces, either in the replacement building or in one on a different site. It is not usually possible to tell whether such timbers come from an earlier building on the same site. Doors likewise have often been moved around within a house or to a different house. It is likely that the re-use of timber in this house has given rise to the assumption that part of it dates from the 16th century.

See also Eileen Bowlts 'Well Green' article.

## THE MOORE FAMILY OF EASTCOTE

by Colleen Cox

My interest in the Moore Family was prompted by an enquiry from a descendant who still lives in the area. She is compiling her family tree - no mean task as she is related to a number of long-standing Ruislip families including the Weatherlys, the Alldays and the Edmonds as well as the Moores. I am indebted to her for sharing information about her family with me.



**PC Robert Moore**

Robert Moore, pictured in several of the Society's publications, was the village policeman in Eastcote from the latter part of the 1860s until 1891. He was born on April 29<sup>th</sup> 1842 in the Norfolk village of Fritton and was the youngest of six children. His oldest brother left home and went to London to become a policeman and Robert followed him, joining the Metropolitan Police Force on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 1863. He was recorded as living in Eastcote when on March 25<sup>th</sup> 1869 he married Emma Endacott in Marylebone. She was the daughter of a husbandman from

Throwleigh in Devon and it is possible that like many other girls of her age she had moved from the country to go into domestic service in the capital.

In the 1871 census Robert and Emma were living with their one-year-old daughter, Alice, in one of the old cottages in Field End, Eastcote owned by James Nightingale. Ten years later the family had moved to a cottage on Southill Lane where the accommodation was better suited to their growing family. This cottage was one of three built as part of the Haydon Hall estate and like other dwellings on the estate was designed by Peto and George. They are first mentioned as Southill Cottages in the 1881 census and it is likely that Robert Moore was one of the original occupiers. When Lawrence James Baker tried to sell the estate in 1883 the sales particulars described the cottages as 'Three new ornamental cottage dwellings' each with three bedrooms, a parlour, a kitchen, a coal-house, a larder, a wash-house and a closet and let to three excellent tenants at a rent of four shillings per week.

By the end of the 1870s the Moore family comprised Alfred John born in 1872, Emily [ane] (1874), Florence Mary (1876), and Charles Robert (1879). There was no mention of the first child, Alice and she was not known to family members until her death certificate was recently traced. This revealed that she was Alice Maud and had died in 1874 at the age of five years. On April 6<sup>th</sup> when the 1891 census was taken, Robert and Emma were still in Southill Lane and he was still a policeman, although not for much longer as he retired from the Force on May 7<sup>th</sup> of that year at the age of 49 years. All the surviving children lived at home. Alfred was a carpenter, Emily a pupil teacher, Florence a dressmaker and Charles was still at school.



**Southill Cottages, now known as 'Findon', Southill Lane**

A policeman's job in a village such as Eastcote at this time was not a particularly onerous one. The sort of crimes encountered included petty theft, stealing fruit from an orchard, poaching game, separating squabbling neighbours (especially members of the Nightingale family) and dealing with drunk and disorderly behaviour. There were also the driving offences such as driving a cart dangerously, falling asleep while driving and drunk in charge of a hay cart. Most references to the police are found in the local newspapers when the offenders were taken to Court. The names of a number of local policemen appear there but I can find no mention of P.C. Robert Moore. Either the locals were on their best behaviour when he was around, which seems unlikely, or he

adopted a laid-back approach and turned a blind eye. We shall never know but he obviously liked living in Eastcote as he stayed there for all his working life and had no reason to move after he left the Force.

During retirement Robert joined his carpenter son Alfred John in the building trade. Their close links with Haydon Hall probably meant that they were given work on the estate buildings and it is known that Alfred did other carpentry jobs including making coffins. In 1894 Alfred married Amelia Alice Bellamy who was from Huntingdon where the couple were married. It is not known how they met but links with the Huntingdon family were maintained.

Alfred's own family grew to include four girls and a boy and Amelia became the local midwife.

The 1902 Rate Book records Robert Moore as occupying the same cottage in Southill Lane and his son Alfred living in one of the others, all three owned by Lawrence James Baker. In addition Robert himself owned two cottages in Hallowell Road, Northwood occupied by Charles Dawkins and William Tillyard. At this time Northwood was expanding rapidly. The developer Frank Murray Maxwell Hallowell Carew had purchased land in Northwood in 1887 and had divided the area into plots of varying sizes planning to build larger houses to the north of Green Lane and west of the railway, with medium and small houses to the south and east. The houses in Hallowell Road were mainly built between 1900 and 1920 and were of the small to medium variety. While many were sold to newcomers to the area, a number were bought by local families either as an investment or for their own occupation. This may have been the case with the Moores as they were later recorded as living in Hallowell Road.

Further light is thrown on the activities of the family during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by two Abstracts of Title of 1950 and 1951 placed in the Local History collection by Jim McBean and relating to two cottages, 124 and 126 Fore Street, Eastcote. These had formerly been known as Wood Cottages and had also been part of the Haydon Hall estate and built, probably in the 1870s, by L.J. Baker for his estate workers. In 1908 however, according to the Abstracts, they belonged to Emily Jane Watts, wife of George Thomas Watts, carpenter of Hallowell Road who was also the daughter of Robert Moore described as a builder of Southill Cottages. Number 124 Fore Street (No.1 Wood Cottages) was occupied by her brother Alfred John but was conveyed to her father. In June 1909 Robert passed the property to his younger son Charles who in 1916 settled it on trustees for the benefit of his older brother Alfred for life and then to Alfred's wife, Amelia Alice for

her life and then to their children. This rather complicated series of events may have been because Alfred was already ill as it is known that he died of cancer on November 29<sup>th</sup> 1919, 25 years to the day after he got married. He is buried in St. Martin's churchyard, Ruislip.

The other cottage, 126 Fore Street (also known as Field View) was occupied in 1908 by Alfred Nash. Mer Emily's death in 1949, this cottage passed to Charles Moore, described as a retired plumber of Belmont, Ioel Street.

During the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century however, Alfred Moore seems to have been kept busy. The Moores had a yard next to the Old Barn House in Eastcote High Road and there is a picture of him driving his cart along the road in the Eastcote Pictorial History book.

Between 1908 and 1912 Haydon Hall, the Lodge and the Southill cottages were sold to the tenants, Captain and Mrs Bennett Edwards (see Mary Pache article) and the three cottages were converted into one dwelling. Much of the work of conversion was undertaken by Alfred and Robert and no doubt the plumbing skills of the younger son Charlie were also put to good use. When the property was inspected in 1914 in connection with the re-assessment of rateable values it was described as being 'three cottages now converted into one' with three tile-hung gables, four bedrooms, a bathroom with a geyser, two sitting rooms and a kitchen. It was connected to the sewer. The inspector commented that 'it would make a good sound institution or hospital', although to my knowledge it has never been used as either.

The Moores were an enterprising family. In addition to the houses in Hallowell Road and Fore Street, Alfred John owned property in Withy Lane, Ruislip Common, described in 1914 as 'a very old property in moderate condition'. He also had three other cottages nearby 'about 15 years old'. It is likely that properties were bought by the family which

could be renovated or repaired either for letting or for sale. After Alfred's death his widow and family continued to occupy 124 Fore Street. Of his four daughters, Alice, a nurse, married and moved to live in Huntingdon where her mother had come from. Louisa worked at Barclays Bank in Harrow, married and lived in Bushey. She had no children but there are fond memories of her husband, reportedly a member of the Magic Circle, who performed magic tricks for younger family members. Neither Constance, who worked at Barclays Bank in Northwood, nor her sister Elizabeth, married and they continued to live with their mother in Fore Street until her death in 1949. Elizabeth worked for the Ruislip Northwood Urban District Council in their offices in Oaklands Gate, Northwood. The only son, Alfred John Junior, joined the Navy in 1916 at 18 years of age and it is thought that it was during this time that he trained to become an electrician. In 1923 he married Elizabeth Weatherly from Hastings. The couple lived first in Harrow, then at the top of Wiltshire Lane before settling at 1 Coteford Oose.

Robert and his wife moved to Hallowell Road after leaving Southill Cottages, presumably to one of the properties that they owned. In the 1915 street directory he is recorded as living at 'Wemyss' which is almost certainly 131 Hallowell Road and the house he occupied until his death in 1925. Like his son Alfred, Robert is buried in St. Martin's churchyard. His widow Emma, stayed in the Northwood house with her daughter Emily Jane Watts, the owner of the cottages in Fore Street. No trace has yet been found of her husband and it is possible that she too was a widow. Emma died in 1938 and is buried with her husband in Ruislip.

According to the 1915 street directory Charlie and his wife Louisa lived at 1 Ferndale Villas, 23 Hallowell Road, presumably the other property owned by the family. He was both a plumber and builder and there are signs of his workshop in the garden to the present day.

After the deaths of his brother and father, Charlie took over the responsibilities of head of the family. He gave the girls away when they got married and was held in awe by younger members of the family. He seems to have been a lively active man who took an interest in local affairs. In 1902 he was on the committee which organised the local celebrations for the Coronation of Edward VII. He was also a keen cricketer and played for Eastcote from the age of 16 years being successful with both bat and ball. After moving to Northwood about 1911 he changed his allegiance and played for Northwood Cricket Club as a slow bowler. He was also on the committee for 19 years between the wars.

Charlie continued to live in the area and was still going strong when in 1963 and in his eighties he was interviewed by W.A.G. Kemp for his book on Eastcote. At this time he was living at Belmont, Joel Street conveniently next door to the Ship Inn!

I started research on the Moore family using the traditional Local History resources of the censuses, rate books and sales particulars but thanks to Julia Powell and her work on her family's history, I was able to fill in some of the gaps in my knowledge. I now feel that I know them well and hope that I have built up a picture of this enterprising and hard-working family who lived in the area during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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# FORE STREET, EASTCOTE

by Denise Shackell

The majority of people in Eastcote in the 19th century lived in scattered farms or cottages on the old road network. Fore Street or Frog Lane as it was also known, was one of these old roads.

The first record of Fore Street is on a survey of 1565, which mentions the street and some of the owners of property there. A map drawn by John Rocque in 1754 shows the position of Fore Street. Fig.1.

From the Old Enclosure map of 1806 with its schedules it is possible to position two farms, Four Elms Farm and Fore Street Farm.

The 1841-1891 Census Returns give more information about the people who lived in Frog Lane, as it was then called. See Fig. 2 The Census Returns give the occupations of those who worked and whether they lived in separate or shared accommodation with another family.

## 1565

In 1565 a Terrier, or survey, was made by King's College, Cambridge, the Lords of the Manor of Ruislip, of their demesne lands. This gave tenants names with a description of their holdings. From this it can be seen that there were two messuages and eight cottages on the west side and two cottages on the east side of Fore Street. A messuage was a dwelling house with out-buildings, a cottage was a small humble dwelling house.

Two of the cottages referred to in the Terrier were in the possession of Isabel Mosse, these cottages were just south of the present Grangewood School, which were to pass to her son John after her death. In the Court Roll of 21st May 1577 John Moss, her son, was in possession of these two cottages. He was '*of the parryshe of Stanmoer the more*' (was this Great Stanmore?). The Court Roll continues '*out of the court doe surrender - Two cottages with their appurtenances there unto*

*belonging sett lying and being in Fore Street - to the belwoJeand use of Agnes Wynchester of Ryslyppe and her heyresfor ever according to the Custome of the manor.*'

The Terrier also names Richard Nicholas, who had two cottages in the angle between the ancient park boundary and the road, just north of the present Grangewood School.

The two messuages or farms mentioned in the Terrier were both on the west side of Fore Street. Four Elms Farm, now number 19 Fore Street, is on the west side, but the other farm that we know about, Fore Street Farm, now demolished, stood near the corner of the present Wentworth Drive at the top end of Fore Street on the east side.

## 1754

The map drawn up by John Rocque in 1754 shows the position of Fore Street, but the street is not named on his map. There are carefully drawn buildings on either side of the street and it is possible to count a total of ten buildings, of which six separate buildings are on the east side. Whether these were all dwellings or farm buildings it is not possible to be certain. There are four larger building shapes on the west side (the woods side), but it is not possible to be certain whether these individual blocks consist of more than one building.

At the time of the 1841 census most of the land and properties on the west side were owned by small landowners, those on the east side were owned by the wealthy Deane family. Most of these plots were not occupied by the owners.

## 1841

In 1841 a census was taken. Eleven households were listed, nine of which lived in separate accommodation, two other households shared accommodation. A total of ten houses were needed to accommodate these families.

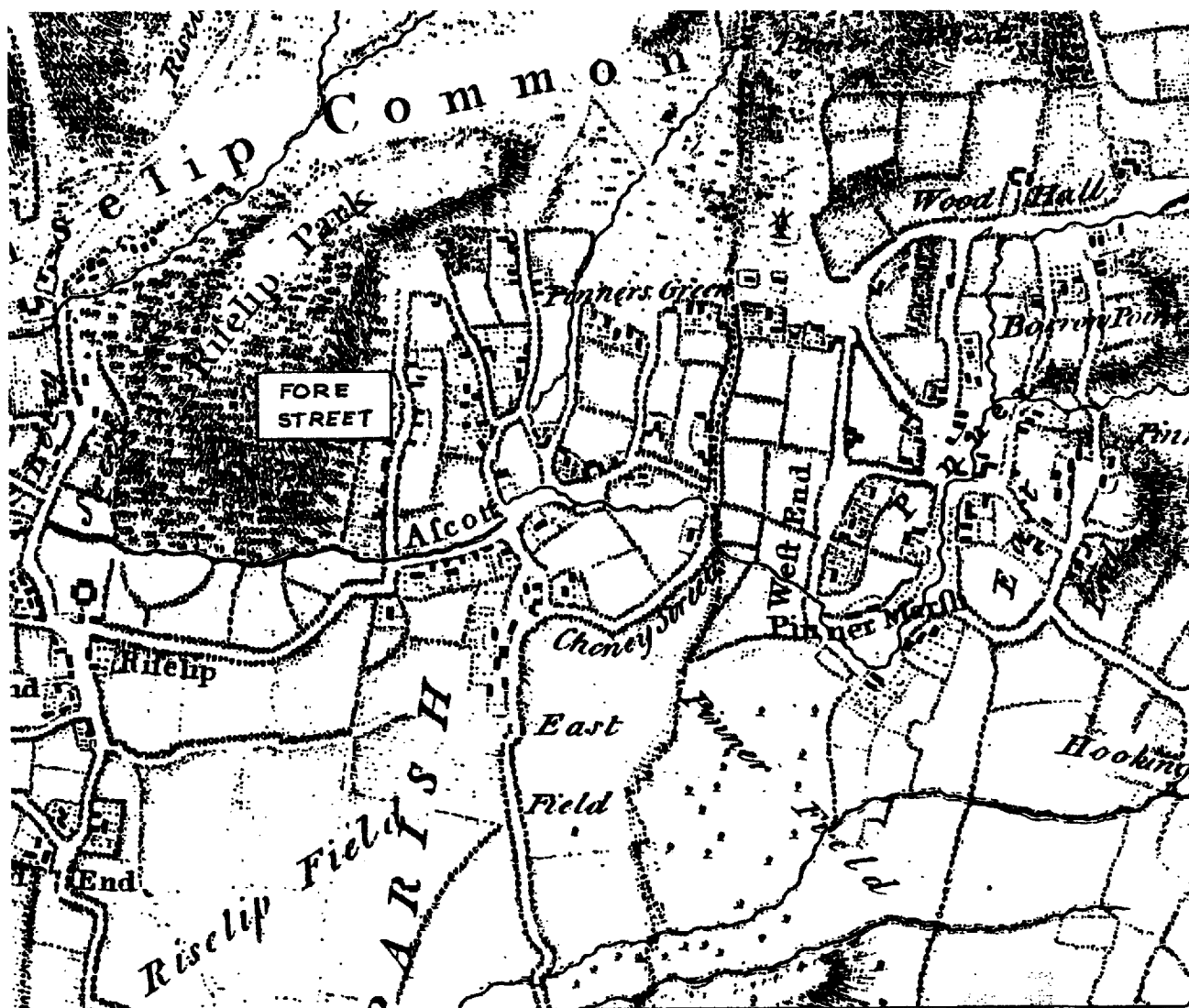


Fig. 1

The Rocque map, made eighty-seven years before, showed ten buildings, indicating that no extra houses had been built in the years between 1754 and 1841.

The occupations of those living in Frog Lane were one bricklayer, six agricultural labourers and three labourers. There were ten children between the ages of four and fourteen living in the street, none were listed as scholars.

#### 1851

The 1851 Census lists eighteen households living in separate accommodation. One house was uninhabited. Eight new properties must have been built in the previous ten years to house the extra households.

For the first time a farm is named, Frog Lane Farm. Charles Tillet was the farmer, of land owned by the Deane family. He was fifty-nine years old living with his wife Elizabeth aged seventy-five years, sixteen years older than her husband. They had no children living at home, but they did have a servant, Jane Rowbottom aged eighteen years. Charles Tillet farmed seventy-nine acres with the help of four agricultural labourers.

The occupations of the other workers in 1851 included a total of twenty-six agricultural labourers, one carpenter and a retired mason, John Page aged seventy-eight years, living with his two daughters, one unmarried and one a widow, who had no listed occupations.

Two women were working as charwomen. One Eliza Templa was a widow aged forty-three, with four children under the age of eleven years. Eliza also had two lodgers living in her home to supplement her income.

William Bailey aged forty-seven years, a carpenter, had a wife Mary aged fifty-one years who worked as the other charwoman. They had four children, but two of these, sons, were working as agricultural labourers. The two daughters aged seven and eleven years were not at school. It did not seem to be necessary for the mother to be doing such hard work.

In 1851 there were twenty-eight children living in Frog Lane. Only two were scholars, the children of an agricultural labourer, William Biggs aged thirty-seven years. He had five sons, the eldest, fifteen-year-old George, worked like his father as an agricultural labourer, but his brothers, Christopher and John, nine and eleven years old, went to school. Their father was obviously keen to have some of his children educated.

#### 1861

The 1861 Census lists only twelve households, a drop of six families during the last ten years. It is still not possible to identify the exact position of the houses they occupied.

The occupations of those living in Frog Lane were now more varied. There were still plenty of agricultural labourers, twelve in total, but no farmer is listed.

There was a seamstress, Sarah Gregory aged seventy-two, married to John also seventy-two years old who was still working as an agricultural labourer possibly only occasionally. They had a forty-three-year old son James, an agricultural labourer, living at home. There were two incomes, from the men, coming into the home. The additional income from Sarah's sewing must have improved their standard of living.

John Bignell, an agricultural labourer, and his wife Jane had a son David, a boy of fourteen years, who was listed as a gardener and domestic servant. living with the Bignell family was Elizabeth Jennings aged fourteen years, she worked for them as a general servant.

There was one agricultural drill man and a hay-dealer.

George Smith aged twenty-six was a gamekeeper who lived with his wife and four very small children aged four years to four months.

In 1861 there were fourteen children, four of them listed as scholars. Two were small daughters aged three and five years, of James Powell an agricultural labourer. Another was Florence Aaron, aged four years, a visitor at the house of Henry Douglas a carter servant. There was John Evans aged sixteen years listed as a scholar, still living as a boarder, as he had been for the last ten years, with William Lawrence. Was John at sixteen years of age possibly a helper to the teacher?

#### 1871

In the 1871 Census the number of households living in Frog Lane had risen to twenty-two, none were sharing accommodation. an increase of ten households in ten years. There must have been some extra houses built to accommodate them. The census does not give this information

There were now three farmers. Henry Powell farmed eighty-two acres of land. He had two sons, eighteen and fifteen years of age, with no occupations given on the census. It is possible they worked for their father on the farm. Daniel Holdford worked twenty-five acres of meadowland. Thomas Crawley farmed only five acres of land.

There were now three members of the Lavender family living in Frog Lane. George aged forty-six years was a wood bailiff, another George aged twenty-four years and William aged thirty-eight years were agricultural labourers.

Samuel Coulter was a head gardener domestic servant. There were two other gardeners. One David Bignell was still, after ten years, working as a gardener. He was now married with a small daughter four months old.

Frog Lane now had one laundress, two grooms, one sawyer, one boot-maker and a hay-dealer living there.

George Smith was still a gamekeeper, his family had now increased from four to six children.

There were now twenty-seven children living in Frog Lane. Thirteen of these were now scholars, a large increase in the last ten years of those attending school.

#### 1881

In this Census only fourteen households are listed, eight less than ten years earlier. There were now twenty-one children, nineteen of whom were scholars. The Education Act of 1870 had been passed and in 1876 education was made compulsory.

Two families had boarders living with them. George and Charlotte Ioel had three children two of whom were five and three year old scholars. They had one boarder Thomas Andrews an eighteen-year-old gamekeeper, probably to help with their living expenses.

William Lawrence, an agricultural labourer and Alice Lawrence aged sixty-six and sixty-four years old, had two boarders, one Henry Baldwin, a sixty-three year old widower, a retired blacksmith and John Evans, unmarried at thirty-six years of age was now a general labourer, living in their home.

Daniel Holdford, now a farmer of only fifteen acres, possibly because of old age, had two young grandsons living with him.

Henry Powell, now sixty years old, still had his two unmarried sons William and Edward, now twenty-eight and twenty-five years of age, living with him. They were now listed as farmer's sons, presumably still helping their father on his farm.

Joseph Raynor aged thirty-three was now the gamekeeper. George Smith, who had been the gamekeeper, was now an agricultural labourer living with four of his children, together with John Hill listed as father aged seventy-three years, a widower, and Sarah Elizabeth Hill aged twenty years and Emily Hill aged sixteen years.

One of George Smith's daughters, Mary Ann Sarah seventeen years old, and Sarah Elizabeth Hill, who lived with her, were both dressmakers. Another dressmaker was the daughter of widow Elizabeth Weatherby.

Jane Lavender was a seamstress, a thirty-three year old widow, who supported with her needle, five children, three of whom were scholars.

In addition to these occupations there were two hay-dealers, one cowman, three general labourers, two domestic and one general servant.

#### 1891

The number of households in this census was fourteen, the same number as was recorded in 1881. In this census Frog Lane was now called Fore Lane.

The occupations listed in 1891 included a gardener and two garden labourers. There was a coachman groom and two other grooms. There were now two gamekeepers.

The occupations of those now living in Fore Lane indicated the needs of families living in Eastcote in 1891.

There were several large houses in Eastcote at this time. A gardener with two garden labourers, would be needed to work in large gardens attached to large houses. A coachman and two grooms would only be needed in prosperous households. Two laundresses probably worked for such households. The two gamekeepers would be needed to raise the game birds for the shooting parties arranged for the guests at these houses.

The other occupations of the people living in Fore Lane were one greengrocer, a wood bailiff, four wood-cutters, two general servants and a sewerage labourer.

The people working on the land were still there. Hemy Powell at seventy years of age was still farming, but the number of acres he was farming is not given. His son William, unmarried at thirty-eight years, is still living with his parents and working as a farming employee.

In addition to the occupations above were six farm labourers, one cowman and one agricultural labourer.

The number of families who lived in Frog Lane for long periods of time was relatively few. John Gregory, an agricultural labourer remained in Frog Lane for thirty years, from the age of fifty-two until he was eighty-three years old, from 1841 to 1871.

William Lawrence also lived in Frog Lane for thirty years from 1861 to 1891, from the age of forty-seven to seventy-eight years. He was an agricultural labourer, a sawyer, and in his old age he was a garden labourer, during the time he lived in Frog Lane.

John Bignell lived in Frog Lane from the age of fifty-nine years until he was ninety years old. He was still working at eighty years of age. By the time he reached ninety years of age he was living on means.

The other families were sometimes listed in two Census Returns but were never mentioned again. Others moved away and then returned later. Most of the families lived in rented accommodation, it was easy to move to another property elsewhere if it suited them better.

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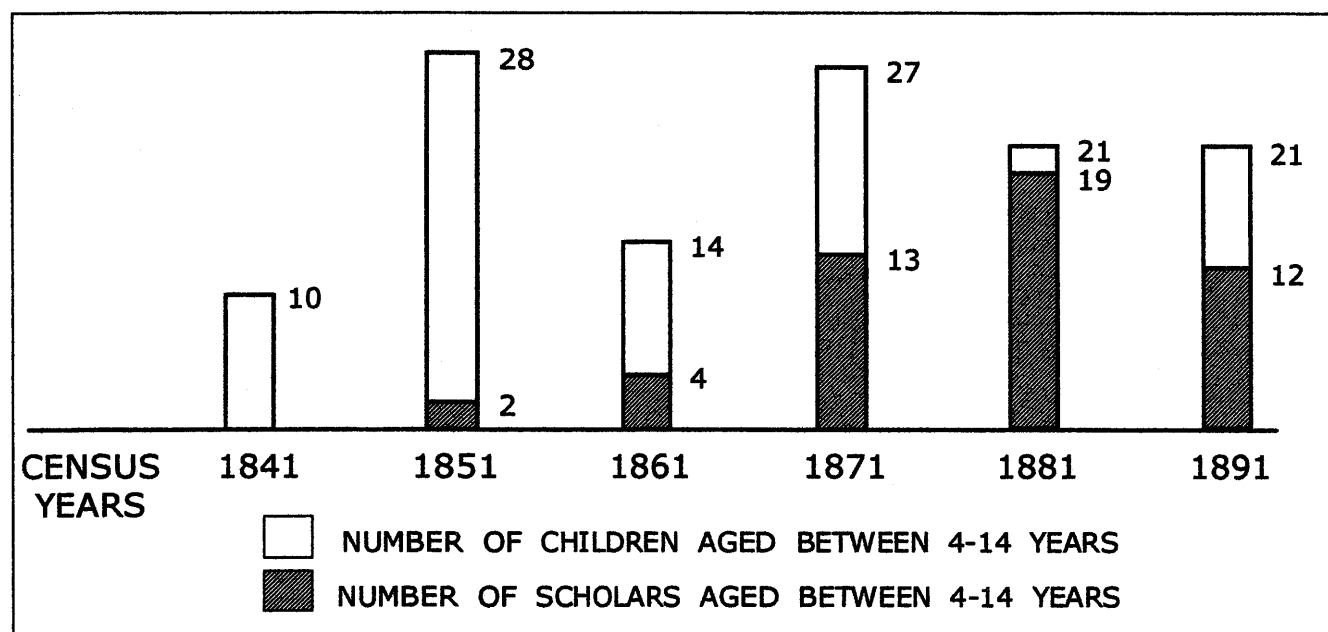
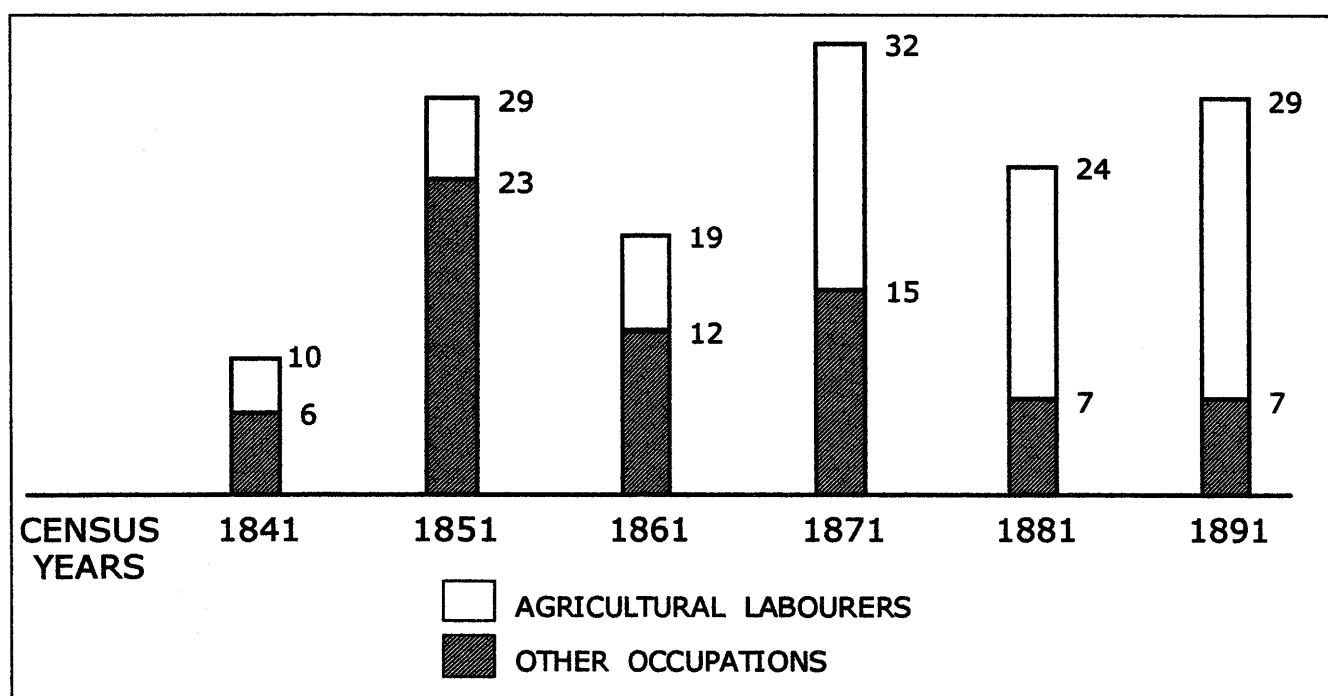
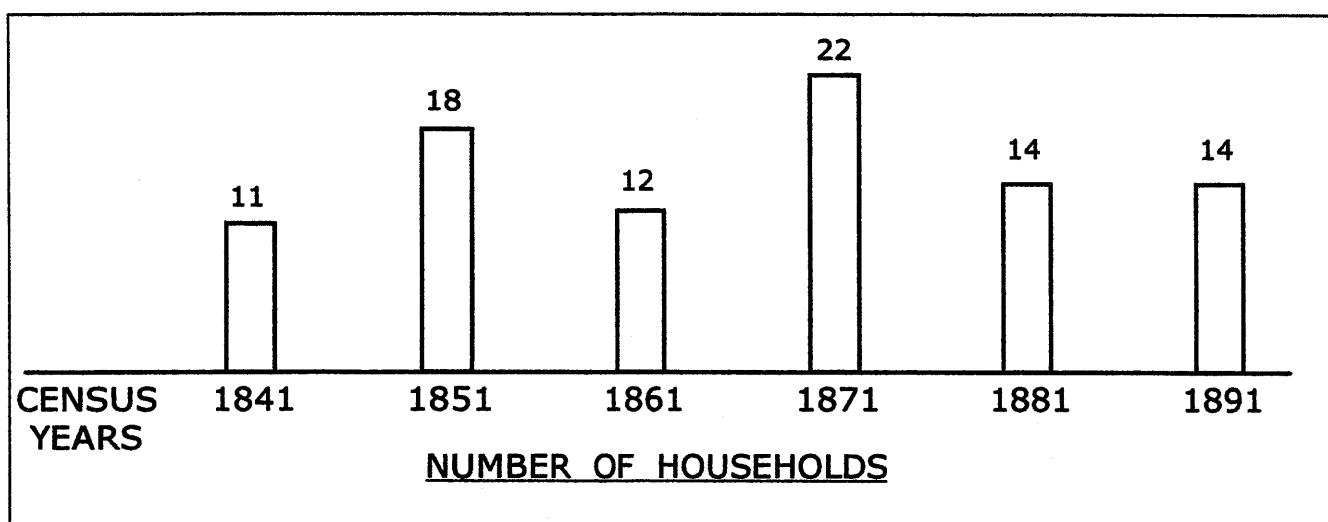


Fig. 2.



# COINCIDENCES AND CONNECTIONS

## The Barters and the Powells

by Karen Spink

Some years ago I studied the owners and occupiers of Field End House Farm, Eastcote and connected the fairly well-to-do Lawrences from outside the parish to the local Lavender and Powell families.'

### Coincidences

The Powells had lived at Park Farm, Eastcote during the 1850s and 60s and were succeeded by a farmer from Hampshire called William Barter. It was not until I came across an article, by a Pinner resident, in the Pinner History Society Newsletter about George Barter of Hope Farm, Pinner,<sup>2</sup> that I realised George could be a member of this same Barter family, and that this was the same man who owned some cottages (at the end of the nineteenth century) in Field End". It was with even greater surprise that I learned that George Barter married into the Powell family. So it is now possible to connect the Barters to the Powells, the Lavenders and the Lawrences.

With further investigation and co-operation with the author of the above-mentioned article, it has been possible to update the story of the Powell family, and identify a number of small properties in the parish of Ruislip owned by the enterprising George Barter.

Henry Powell was born in Harrow about 1821, the son of a labourer, James Powell of Roxeth, Harrow. He started his working life as a labourer and in 1846, at Pinner, married Charlotte Wilson, a servant from Reading who had been born in Caversham, Oxfordshire. By 1851 he had improved his status and was described as a farm bailiff. He and his wife lived at Park Farm in Field End, the home farm to Eastcote House which was part of the large estate owned by the Deane family.

The Powells were still in Park Farm in 1861. They had four children, all born there, Mary Ann, Maria, William and Edward. However, by 1871 the Powell family had moved to another Deane farm, Fore Street Farm (see article by Denise Shackell), and this is where the Barters enter the picture.

By 1871 the Powells place at Park Farm had been taken by the Barter family: William Barter, aged 62, from Sopley in Hampshire, and his wife Priscilla, also from Hampshire, (though the census incorrectly says Surrey), with their 26 year-old son George, also born in Hampshire, described as a joiner. William farmed 49 acres, employing one man and a boy. George, described as a joiner, was an apprentice carpenter with Gillows of Oxford Street.

### Connections

How much contact these two families had prior to this date is not known. Had George come to Eastcote when he was working in London, or even lodged out here? Did he persuade his parents to move here? Both ideas are open to speculation. However it is known that in 1873 George Barter married the eldest Powell daughter, Mary Ann (known to her family as Polly) at St Martin's Church, Ruislip. The ceremony was performed by the curate Rev. Roumieu, who had himself, until recently, been living in Field End opposite Park Farm.

In that same year, George's mother, suffering from TB, returned to Hampshire where she died in 1874. It would seem that George and Polly lived with William at Park Farm until William returned to his native Hampshire in 1876.

Needing their own accommodation then, George and Polly moved to Pinner, to Hope

Farm. The owners of this property were Polly's brothers, Ted and William Powell. Hope Farm, later referred to as Hope Cottage, was a dairy farm. Now demolished it stood in Pinner Road opposite where the fire station and Nower Hill School are today. George and Polly are recorded in the 1881 census living there with three children (their first two born in Eastcote and their nine month old baby in Pinner). They went on to have three more children, all born in Pinner.

George Barter now described himself as a dairy farmer of 61 acres, employing one man and two boys. He usually had about sixty head of cattle and did his own milk deliveries in the neighbourhood, and as Hope Farm in the early years did not have its own water supply, George would collect water from his in-laws at Fore Street Farm.

Although George Barter was living in accommodation rented from the Powells, from the 1880s she started acquiring a number of properties. His mother came from a reasonably well-off family and some money may have come to him from this side of the family.

Barter is a name that for some reason has proved difficult to decipher in census returns and rate books being variously transcribed (including by me) as Baker, Baxter and Barber. However, there is a useful reference for properties that existed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Finance Act of 1910 provided for the levy and collection of a duty on the increment value of all land in the United Kingdom. Two sets of books were created: Domesday Books, now kept in local record offices, and bound volumes of Field Books, compiled after the surveys (made from 1910-1915) were completed, now deposited in the Public Record Office at Kew.

The information in these Field Books gives details about every property, its owner, usually the occupier, the condition of the building, and sometimes the date when it was built (though in some cases this appears not to be accurate) and also when the

property last changed hands. From this source it has been possible to identify the properties that George Barter owned in 1910 and consequently confirm the name Barter on local records where it had previously appeared but had been incorrectly recorded. This shows how important it is, when possible, to refer to an original source.

#### Barter's properties

The following are properties that George Barter owned in the parish of Ruislip in 1910.

Field End Cottages, near Tudor Lodge in Eastcote, had formerly belonged to the notorious Nightingale family.<sup>s</sup> They were a row of three similar two-bedroom cottages. Downstairs had only a single living-room with a kitchen range and there was a lean-to washhouse with water. The cottages were connected to the sewer and were described as 'very old and in poor condition'. Barter sold these in 1925 to the owner of Tudor Lodge, B.J. Hall, who not surprisingly knocked them down.

Mount Pleasant Cottages, also in Field End, next to the above cottages, sounded more desirable, and survived until the 1960s. These were a pair of two-bedroom semis with a front room, kitchen and scullery, outhouse and Wc. The WCs and sinks were connected to the sewer. Said to be built in 1856, the cottages were of brick and slate, in good condition, and occupied by James Nightingale and Mr. Lavender.

Ivy Farm, in Wiltshire Lane, with a meadow of three acres was occupied by Reuben Lavender. There were also five cottages nearby, one of which was also let to R. Lavender.

There was also a pair of semi-detached cottages with gardens at the top of Wiltshire Lane, at Hill Corner, Haste Hill. These were two-bedroom with kitchen and sitting-room and shed, brick-built and part weatherboard and tile. Water was laid on.

Woodbine Cottages at Tile Kiln, near Breakspear Road, had been an old farmhouse that was divided into two. The smaller cottage was only one up, one down, but the other had a large kitchen, large scullery, front room and three bedrooms and an outside lean-to washhouse. There was an orchard and an acre of land. Water was laid on, but there was no sewer.

There were also five cottages with gardens in Bury Street, Ruislip, near The Plough. One of these was also occupied by a member of the Lavender family.

In addition, George Barter also rented 19.5 acres of good quality meadowland, consisting of two level fields situated at the crossroads, Field End, owned by the Deanes of Eastcote House.

As well as his Ruislip parish properties, in 1904 Barter owned several shops in Pinner High Street on the right-hand side just past The Victory public house and, in 1914, six cottages in Rickmansworth Road, Pinner.

Also, from the 1880s, he had rented 28 acres of land east of Nower Hill, adjacent to Pinner Park Farm, and when this came up for sale in 1910, not one to miss an opportunity, Barter bought it, and rented it out to Hall's Farm. He also owned a parcel of land where The Chase is today, and Orchard Cottage, Waxwell Lane.

George Barter must have cut a striking figure, driving round in his horse-drawn trap to collect the rent, sitting in splendour on an old armchair because he suffered from painful lumbago. In the 1920s he moved to Hillview, 12 Marsh Road, Pinner with his daughter, Margaret, which is where he died in 1939 at the good old age of 95. If you ever walk up Pinner High Street and cut through to Sainsbury's think of him as you walk along Barter's Walk which was named after him.

## The Powells

Continuing the story of the Powell family, Henry Powell's second daughter Maria married William Bray from Pinner, and they moved to London where they had two children, one born in Euston and the other in Islington. In the 1891 census they turn up at Fore Street Farm, where they may just have been on a visit.

Henry Powell also had two sons; William, born in 1853, and Edward, known as Ted, born in 1856.

They moved with their parents in the 1860s to Fore Street Farm. In 1890 Ted married Fanny Louisa from Kent and moved out of the farm, though he continued to work it with his brother William. William married Gertude Lavender. She was the sister of Reuben Lavender, who was at Ivy Farm in one of George Barter's properties.

William Powell lived in Fore Street Farm until about 1913 when he moved to Hayling, Maxwell Road where he died a couple of years later. There were three children: Walter who died as a baby, Phyliss and George.

Meanwhile, brother Ted, who had moved out of Fore Street Farm after his marriage, moved back to Field End, opposite Park Farm, into No. 4 Field End Villas (now 14 Field End Road). It is most likely his only son Charles Henry was born here.

By 1902 Ted and his wife were living in Southill Cottages, next door to two brothers, Alfred and Robert Moore (see article by Colleen Cox).

In 1907 Ted and Fanny Powell were in a new house called Oakwood in Catlins Lane, opposite St Catherine's Farm. Then in 1910 they were back in Field End, this time at No. 2 Field End Villas (now 10 Field End Road), owned by Reuben Lavender. Ted and Fanny finally moved to a newly-built house, 14 North View, Eastcote, where Ted lived till he died in 1939.

## Conclusion

So, to summarise, in 1910, William Powell was living on a farm on the Deane estate, though with his brother he owned a property in Pinner which was occupied by George Barter. Barter owned many properties, one of which, Ivy Farm in Wiltshire Lane, was occupied by the Lavenders, who owned property in Field End occupied by Ted Powell. This confusing situation only begins to make sense when the connection between these families is realised.

Henry Powell, who died in 1904, left £3964 Ss. 5d., a good sum. for someone who was born to a labourer. He and his wife Charlotte are buried in Ruislip churchyard, as are William and Gertrude Powell together with their baby son Walter, and also William's brother Ted with his wife Fanny.

William Barter and his son George are buried in Paines Lane Cemetery, Pinner. George Barter did very well for himself and his family. When he died in 1939, much of his estate still tied up in properties, he left the handsome sum. of £31,026 15s. 7d.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following people for providing me with information:

Therese Lanning, who also kindly gave permission to reproduce photos of her ancestors.  
Pat Clarke of Pinner Local History Society.

The late Jim Golland who put me in touch with Mrs Lanning, and was always generous with his help.  
I shall miss his enthusiasm and encouragement.

## Footnotes

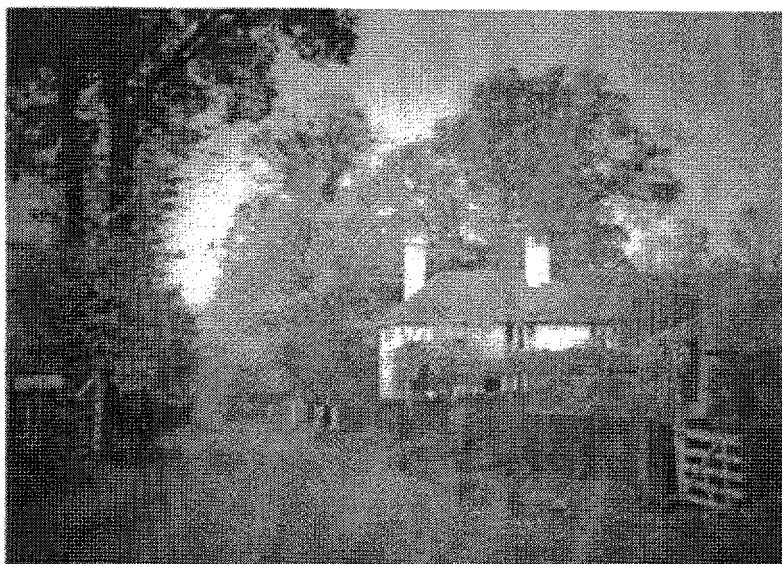
1. RN&E LHS Journal 1987, p37-40
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4. RN&E LHS Journal 1987, p37-38

## Portrait Photographs

- Fig. 1 George Barter, c1920  
at Hope Farm, Pinner. (T. Lanning)
- Fig. 2 Polly (nee Powell) Barter, 1890s.  
(T. Lanning)
- Fig. 3 Ted Powell. (M. Forrest)
- Fig. 4 Fanny Powell, wife of Ted Powell,  
with son Charlie, 1891. (T. Lanning)

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Ruislip Rate Books - transcripts in Ruislip Library  
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Family Division, Holbom  
Original research by T. Lanning



Jim Golland collection

Park Farm, Field End, c1907, Home of the Barters and Powells

James POWELL

William BARTER

1846

1834

Henry = Charlotte  
b c1821 b c1820  
d 1904 d 1895

William = Priscilla Shotter  
b 1809 b c1809  
d 1888 d 1874

1890

1884

1873

William = Gertrude Lavender

Edward = Fanny ?

Maria = William Bray

Mary Ann (Polly) = George

also:

b 1853  
d 1915

b c1861  
d 1920

b 1856  
d 1939

b c1862 b 1851  
d 1942 d

b 1847  
d 1929

b 1844  
d 1939

William  
Priscilla  
Elizabeth  
Charles  
Alfred  
Henry

b 1835  
b 1837  
b 1839  
b 1840  
b 1842  
b 1847

Walter Phyliss George

Charles Henry

Henry E. Charlotte

George Charlotte Jessie Agnes Margaret William Henry

William Henry

b 1895  
d 1895

b b  
d d

b 1891  
d

b 1880 b 1882  
d d

b 1874 b 1876  
d 1918 d 1917

b 1880 b 1882  
d 1918 d 1969

b 1885  
d 1965

b 1894  
d 1982

# Family Tree linking the Barters and Powells

Ruislip Properties owned by George Barter, 1902 Rate Book				Ruislip Properties owned by George Barter, 1910-15 Field Books			
Location	Description	Occupier	Extent	Rateable value	Description	Occupier	Further Information
Field End	cottage & garden	Emmanuel Moore		£3. 10. 0	cottage	Charles F. Baker	Field End Cottages
	cottage & garden	Henry Frost		£3. 10. 0	cottage		block of 3 all the same
	cottage & garden			£3. 10. 0	cottage		
Wiltshire Lane	cottage & garden	Thos. L. Whiting		£6. 0. 0	semi	Lavender	Mount Pleasant Cottages
	cottage & garden	Jane Nightingale		£6. 0. 0	semi	James Nightingale	Mount Pleasant Cottages
	cottage & garden	Mary Joel		£4. 0. 0	cottage	H. Vines	
	cottage & garden	Moore		£4. 0. 0	cottage	Mary Moore	
	cottage & garden	Alfred Elmes		£4. 0. 0	cottage	A. Elmes	
	cottage & garden	Ralph Weatherly		£4. 0. 0	cottage	A. Weather	
	cottage & garden	Wm. Thos. Lavender		£4. 0. 0	cottage	R. Lavender	
	house & garden	Reuben Lavender	3a 2r 9p	£9. 0. 0	house	R. Lavender	Ivy Farm
	agricultural land	Reuben Lavender		£5. 10. 0	meadow	R. Lavender	3.288a
Hill Corner	cottage & garden	Henry Vries	0a 0r 24p	£4. 0. 0	cottage & garden	Pasmore	Pair of semis
	cottage & garden	Henry Brill		£3. 10. 0	cottage & garden	Williams	
Tile Kiln	cottage & garden	Marie Collins	1a 0r 0p	£3. 0. 0	pair of cottages & orchard (1.036a)		Woodbine Cottages (Orig. farmhouse) RV £12
	agricultural land				agricultural land		1a 3p
Bury Street	house & premises	Walter James Bray	0a 0r 27p	£6. 0. 0	cottage & garden	Walter J. Bray	
	cottage & garden	Louisa Dixon		£4. 0. 0	cottage & garden	J. Neale	
	cottage & garden	John Neal		£4. 0. 0	cottage & garden	W. E. Lavender	
	cottage & garden	Edward Lavender		£4. 0. 0	cottage & garden	William Collett	
	cottage & garden	William Collett		£4. 0. 0	cottage & garden		

Ruislip Land occupied by George Barter, 1902 Rate Book				Ruislip Land occupied by George Barter, 1910-15 Field Books			
Location	Description	Owner	Extent	Rateable value	Description	Owner	Further Information
Cheney St. Lane	agricultural land	R. H. Deane	23a 0r 0p	£43. 0. 0	meadowland	R. H. Deane	19a 2r 11p





Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

# THRILLS AND SWOON IN EASTCOTE

by Mary Pache

These excitements were provided by the pen of Mrs. Harry Bennett-Edwards from her study in Haydon Hall, Eastcote in the eighteen-eighties. Had she been born a hundred years later she might have been a queen of romance producing small paperbacks instead of the tomes that appeared on my desk in the British Library.

The reality is that she was born Ada Cox in 1845 into a prosperous family at Mill Hill. Her father's business and legal interests were legion, but the one with most significance for Ada was his ownership of magazines, *The Field*, *Queen*, *The Law Times* and *Exchange and Mart*. She married when she was twenty-two and from thenceforth became known to the world as Mrs. Harry Bennett-Edwards. The couple lived in the Haydon Hall mansion from 1886, and Ada stayed there for fifty years until she died in 1936, shortly after the abdication of Edward VII.

There were other writers and also artists in the immediate neighbourhood of Haydon Hall at the time. An apocryphal story is told that Baroness Orczy wrote part of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* sitting under a tree at nearby South Hill Farm, but the presence of George Calderon, author of novels and plays, translator and illustrator, is authenticated, also that of other artists in Field End Road. It is possible that these neighbours gave Ada ideas for her novels, as most of them feature artists and closet writers.

At Haydon Hall there was a staff of thirteen to organize, including a nurse, a governess and a schoolroom maid to help look after the five children. Ada was a dog lover, a keen member of the Fox Terrier Club and on the committee of the ladies' branch of the Kennel Club. She was a familiar figure in the neighbourhood walking in Wellington boots over the marshy fields with her twelve dogs,

which accounts for the two kennel men living in neighbouring cottages.

Both husband and wife contributed to the local activities which, in the absence of easy travel and nationwide entertainment, were an essential part of community life. W. A. G. Kemp records an evening at the Village Institute, located in the meadow opposite present-day Flag Walk. Ada recited two very different poems, 'The Burial of Sir John Moore' and 'Little Vulgar Boy'. There was another performer at this event, Mme. de Fonblanque, and as this was Ada's mother's maiden name I venture to conclude that this lady was a relative. She was also the author of a poem on the title page of one of the novels. I hope she didn't give it a public airing on this village occasion as it is called, 'I Wish You Were Dead'.

A regular festival was on Guy Fawkes night when there was a huge bonfire in the grounds of Haydon Hall, but the main event was the Summer Treat for over 500 children which was more than a mere bonfire. There was all the fun of the fair with a steam merry-go-round, swings, a shooting gallery and a coconut shy; also races and a tug-of-war with money prizes. At teatime, in addition to the regulation bread and butter, 'there was an abundance of fruit, cakes, and biscuits of various kinds'. The day ended predictably with 'incessant cheering for Mrs. Edwards and her family'.

The people of Eastcote who read her novels would have been aware that she was not the upholder of conventions that we associate with a Victorian Lady Bountiful. Her obituary in *The Times* describes her as a 'rich lady who seemed to delight in ignoring strait-laced conventions and lifted eyebrows'. The only eyebrow-lifting behaviour I could trace was being a pioneer in the 19C

movement for the emancipation of women and a member of the Independent Labour Party.

The radical opinions of Guy Oldcastle in *The Pharisees*, her three-volume opus of 1884, show that she was familiar with socialist ideals. The stereotype of the main male character is immortal. It started life as the masterful Mr. Rochester in *Jane Eyre* and lives on to this day between the pages of *Mills and Boon*. In this novel he is Guy Oldcastle, a man who 'never requested, always commanded' and it was recommended that 'people should be obedient always to his will.' However his hypocritical neighbours in the county, the pharisees referred to in the title, aren't shy of expressing their disapproval of his marriage to romantically named Star. She has risen from the gutter and is both an actress and an artist and, to cap it all, infuriatingly beautiful. According to the custom of the time Guy should have kept Star as his mistress in some secluded nook away from the public gaze. Perhaps Ada had read George Eliot's novel *Daniel Deronda*, published eight years earlier and become aware of problems that could arise from this practice.

The narrative in *The Pharisees* continues with our couple emigrating to Australia to live in a more liberal society, but returning with a young son when Guy's father dies to take on the duties of the title and the estate. He breaks the chain of tradition by failing to get elected to Parliament. His cousin encourages the renewal of their former loving friendship, and her suggestion, also voiced by his election agent, that he lost votes because of his unsuitable wife takes root in his mind. Meanwhile Star has been fuelling adverse public opinion, however innocently, by drawing close to her artist brother-in-law and, I quote, 'showing more ankle than was becoming to modest womanhood'. Guy is estranged and doesn't respond to her affectionate advances. He reneges on his former beliefs in the 'extinction of hereditary rights' and the 'equal division of property' and insists, with characteristic verbal

forcefulness, that his son must be 'brought up fittingly to take his place as the future heir' and trained 'to conform to Society's decrees'. Star takes this as severe criticism of herself, especially when she overhears him tell a friend that everything would be all right if she were dead. She acts nobly and runs away to remove the blot of her presence, then obligingly drowns herself. Guy disappears into obscurity and leaves his son to carry on the family name.

Another three-volume novel, this one undated, is *The Unwritten Law*. There is a short Foreword at the beginning which states that 'the work does not pretend to anything beyond whiling away an idle hour.' This is a gross underestimate of the time required for reading it, and a contradictory sentiment as the novel raises serious questions. Annas Holt, a blacksmith's son, is a talented artist and a 'would be leveller of society'. These three attributes ensure that nobody will call and leave visiting cards. He rebels against the custom of legalizing marriage, and condemns the law of the time which allowed only adultery as a ground for divorce. He has the good fortune to share mutual love with Lisa, the well-born daughter of a free-thinking father.

Lisa is ostensibly unfeminine in the Victorian sense, and spends the time, while Annas is painting, in hunting, shooting and fishing in company with a local squire. However it is made clear that the two are just good chums. Annas voices his radical opinions to Olga, a rich lady of the neighbourhood. She is a closet writer, the secret author of a best seller, but the two have something in common as she also is shunned by the local gentry. She is suspect from the start because her name is foreign and has the flavour of Bohemia. Furthermore, her provenance is a mystery and she has a child but no visible husband or evidence of widowhood. The concealed truth is that she is taking care of the child while the parents fight a custody battle and, echoes of Mrs. Henry Wood and *East Lynne*, the nursemaid turns out to be the mother in disguise. Annas is consumptive and meets a

tragic end. The unwritten law of the title seems to be the moral that anyone who defies convention will be defeated.

The main character in *The Tantalus Cup* is Ellis Lyndon, another artist, who lives with his parental family in a country mansion. While I was reading this my fancy placed me in Haydon Hall and I imagined I could see the characters moving about the leafy lanes that we see in some of our archive photographs. Tantalus is one of the many mythological references in Ada's novels. I had to look it up in Brewer to find out that Tantalus was plunged up to his neck in a river with a cluster of fruit above his head just out of reach and water below that receded every time he tried to have a drink. He was well and truly tantalized. From this we can guess that Ellis is not going to have a happy life.

He is embittered from childhood when his mother destroys his picture of God and His angels because she considered it to be blasphemy, and his father killed his little dog because it damaged some potted plants. As an adult he draws and paints secretly by night in a shed with a beautiful village girl for his model. She is the first drop in the Tantalus Cup as he desires her but his strong moral sense prevents him from having his way. He forms a friendship with Enid, the local doctor's daughter; but her feelings for him are stronger. She wonders why, 'when his hand lay in hers, it sent the blood coursing through her veins and throbbing in her temples' and when affected in this way, she trembles 'as a young aspen leaf trembles before the soft summer breeze'. Ellis feels obliged to feign a response to all this, and he kisses her even while he is thinking of the forbidden personal assets of his model, 'the roundness of her limbs ..... the rich fullness of her lips ..... her long waves of golden hair'. He is somewhat relieved when his father spots the model leaving the shed at dawn, and banishes him to London. However the doctor has heard wedding bells for Enid and Ellis, and considers them betrothed.

From this frying pan Ellis leaps into the fire of a relationship with prosperous Zare whom he meets on the London train. She is a 'brilliantly-coloured exotic .... a grand fiery-eyed tiger' who enslaves the 'pale-faced, fair-haired, dreamy-eyed boy' from the moment they meet. The cliffhanger at the end of Volume 1 is when she captures Ellis and takes him home with her. Far from objecting, he falls passionately in love, but the second drop splashes into the Tantalus cup as, in spite of 'the electric love-touch of his hands' and Zare's 'thrillingly, burningly' ways of responding, his conscience won't let him betray his commitment to Enid. Eventually Enid releases him, but once Ellis and Zare are married the excitement of the affair drains away. Even so, Zare is incensed when she witnesses his chance meeting with his former betrothed, and she puts on a jealousy spectacular. There was, 'in her eyes the fire-flash of a wild beast at bay' and she takes her revenge by destroying Ellis's picture that was destined for the Royal Academy.

After more twists and turns of the plot Ellis and Enid meet again in Australia and marry. By now he is a broken man who never touches brush and canvas again, so success in Art stays beyond his reach and fills the Tantalus cup to the brim. I see similarities in this novel with *Three Weeks* by Elinor Glyn, but as this was not published until 1907, twenty-nine years after *Tantalus*, perhaps Ada provided the inspiration.

There are copies of seven of Ada's novels in the Rare Books Room of the British library. One will remain a part mystery for a while yet as some of the pages of *In Sheep's Clothing* are uncut. I had to restrain myself from getting to work with my fruit knife but special permission has to be sought for cutting and, if granted, it is carried out reverently by hands more expert than mine. I gathered from the pages I could read that the wolf in this particular sheep's clothing is Claud Lewis, the pseudonym of a man who was acquitted of a murder charge but, disguised by the passage of time, marries a girl whose particular horror and disgust is

the man whom she regards as a murderer who escaped justice. I noted that Ada gives a puff to one of her father's magazines when a Colonel in the story looks up reluctantly from his copy of *The Field*.

After Ada's death Haydon Hall became the property of the Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council and it was demolished in 1967. The lodge house, built by Bennett-Edwards' predecessor, survives on stilts at the corner of Southill Lane and the grassy bank along [oel street where the greenhouses used to be, is colourful with daffodils and crocuses in early Spring.

### Acknowledgements:

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Mrs. Harry Bennett-Edwards.

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# EXPERIENCES OF WORKING ON THE H047 SERIES OF RECORDS AT THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

by Susan Toms

Since Autumn 2001 I, along with twenty or more other volunteers, have been involved in a project organised by the Public Record Office to list and index a series of records, entitled H047 - Judges Reports on Criminals, 1784-1829. These records comprise letters from individuals and groups petitioning on behalf of convicted criminals, usually citing mitigating circumstances and requesting a more lenient sentence from the judge, as well as the reports on the case from the relevant judge. Only the monarch at that time could grant a more lenient sentence, but in practice they were guided by the recommendations made in the judges' reports. A point to stress is that these were pleas for mercy not justice. At that time there was no Court of Appeal for wrongful convictions so the only available means of influencing a sentence was a petition requesting mercy and a favourable report from the judge.

Sometimes the recommendations were in the form of lists of prisoners from different counties tried by different judges for capital offences, who had been reprieved with lesser sentences recommended. These were entitled 'Memorials to the King'.

The documents are bound into seventy-five annual or bi-annual volumes and are at present only listed by date with no indices to names, place or crime. Hence their potential use to local history researchers is severely limited since any search would be very time-consuming and would depend to a large extent on pot-luck in finding a relevant reference.

Therefore the aim of the project is to create a fully searchable index under a variety of headings - namely place, area, individual names, crime, judges, sentences and date, by

inputting details of each petition and report into the Public Record Office's computerised catalogue. This should provide a wealth of information on the social and legal history of the period as well as information on specific individuals.

I have been working on Volume 5 which contains eighty-three cases between 1785-1786. The majority of crimes cited are property related rather than crimes of violence against individuals. The most common references are to stealing livestock, such as sheep, horses, geese, and stealing other goods, like linen, clothing, handkerchiefs and wine. There are also many cases of housebreaking, burglary, pick pocketing and a few for highway robbery.

All these crimes were capital offences but in some cases the sentence was reduced immediately to transportation to the colonies or imprisonment and so the petitions were aimed at further reducing the sentence to a shorter period of transportation or imprisonment.

Transportation was the most common sentence since it literally removed the criminal from the country for very little cost and there would be no further cost to the state. The sentence of transportation was passed always for a period of seven, fourteen or twenty-one years, or for life.

Only a very small number of convicts managed to return at the end of their sentence, by working their passage on board a ship. In practice a sentence of transportation was often a death sentence since many prisoners died in the atrocious conditions prevalent either en route to the colonies or when they arrived.



A sentence of transportation to Africa was a death sentence since no Europeans survived the rampant tropical diseases when they were literally left on the shores with no food or shelter. Therefore a judge's recommendation that a prisoner be transported to a colony other than Africa was seen as a sign of mercy and a reduction in the sentence.

As is the situation now the system was overwhelmed by the number of prisoners being sentenced and therefore the pleas for mercy were based often on pragmatism to combat overcrowding. I have seen several cases where the judge has recommended a pardon for the prisoner on the grounds that after seven years they are still in a gaol in this country awaiting a ship to transport them. In effect the prisoner had served their sentence already so it was only fair that they be released. This problem was especially acute in the years following the loss of the American colonies after the American War of Independence had ended in 1783.

Similarly many of the Superintendents of the convict ships and the Governors of the Gaols recommended that some of their prisoners be pardoned and released for their good behaviour when in reality there was so much overcrowding they needed to free up some space. Sometimes the authorities would specify that a prisoner had helped to prevent a disturbance on board ship or had provided valuable information to prevent the escape of other prisoners and as such was worthy of mercy.

Many of the petitions on behalf of the prisoner would claim they had a wife and children or aged parents to support. However these were often signed by churchwardens and other parish officials who were influenced as much by the fear that these dependants would be a burden on the parish if the prisoner was transported or imprisoned rather than a conviction that the prisoner deserved any mercy.

If an offer of employment was made with the petition this would usually exert the strongest influence for the case to be viewed favourably. The main aim was to prevent the prisoner and their family being a drain on anyone. The expectation by judges was that petitioners 'should put their money where their mouths were' with offers of securities for prisoners to remove themselves to another country in lieu of transportation or with offers of employment. Without these practical offers of help to demonstrate the petitioner's belief that the prisoner was worthy of mercy the judges could be very dismissive of a petition. My volume contains several scathing comments by different judges on how some petitions are signed by people who hardly know the prisoner and are offering no practical support.

One plea for mercy involving a Joseph Pratton, convicted of stealing ten feet of lead piping fixed to a house, was dismissed by the judge, despite a petition signed by thirty professional people claiming he was about to join his brother in America, 'when a youthful and unguarded folly was construed a crime'. The judge did not believe a word of the petition and he recommended that the prisoner was 'not a fit person for his Majesty's mercy'.

In another case where a Peter Melling was sentenced to seven years transportation for stealing a cotton handkerchief even a collective petition from four tradesmen willing to employ him did not sway the judge, who felt that the prisoner's young age was not sufficient reason to recommend mercy and the original sentence should stand.

However, individual judges could act with humanity and understanding. Judge Adair the Recorder of London, who certainly wasted no sympathy in many of his reports, nevertheless showed some compassion when he recommended that a prisoner who had stolen a gold watch from himself be pardoned on condition he left the country for

seven years instead of being transported for seven years. His recommendation for mercy was based on the fact that the prisoner had offered no violence when the judge had struggled with him to regain his watch and he had since behaved well during his confinement.

Another judge recommended a free pardon for a woman prisoner Margaret Manning sentenced to imprisonment for keeping a disorderly house, on the grounds of her age, she was seventy, and her ill-health. He felt a longer confinement would result in her death.

In one case a free pardon was requested because of wrongful imprisonment. This concerned a prisoner Shawell who was sentenced for assault with intent to extort money from the 'victim' Charles Brawn, despite the prisoner claiming that he had been assaulted by Brawn with intent to 'commit a crime against nature'. But the prisoner had not been believed at his trial. However when a later case involving the same Charles Brawn and a young boy came to court with Brawn again claiming that he had been assaulted by the boy while the boy claimed he had been defending himself from a 'crime against nature' this time the evidence of three irreproachable witnesses corroborated the story of the youth and Brawn was seen as the perpetrator of the terrible crime. In the light of these unusual circumstances the judge felt obliged to recommend a free pardon for the prisoner Shawell whose original claim had not been believed.

One of the few cases reported involving physical violence seems to carry a very

lenient sentence. A female servant was attacked on the open road and her clothes were torn from her and cut into pieces. She was then forced to tread down the pieces in a ditch and was threatened with death if she told anyone about the attack. Despite these threats her attackers were found and charged, but the sentence of three years transportation appears inappropriate in comparison with sentences of seven years for crimes of sheep-stealing. It was also unusual to have a sentence of transportation which is not a multiple of seven years.

Occasionally a judge would not offer a final recommendation as to whether the prisoner was worthy of mercy or not but would leave the decision to the monarch. The monarch would be given but the final decision was left to 'the humanity of your disposition'. One judge gave the opinion that 'mercy I have always looked upon as one of the most amiable attributes of the Throne'.

At the end of my volume I made an unexpected discovery when I found a report from Judge Thomas Bayley asking for help in dealing with a death threat letter he had received. He mentioned that he had been threatened often in recent times but was confident that the authorities would support him in continuing to perform his duties.

Perhaps this suggests that, although the judges seemed confident of their position in society when they implemented a harsh penal code, matters were not as stable as they appeared. People were already beginning to question the system, which led to the legal reforms of the nineteenth century.

# COINS FROM A RUISLIP ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

by Colin Bowlt

During 1986 the West London Archaeological Field group carried out a small excavation on the north side of Bury Farm, 123 Bury Street, Ruislip, prior to the construction of a garage. The finds were never properly assessed and appear to have been 'lost' among the vast collections of the London Archaeological Research Centre. An account of the excavation has never been published.

A pit was discovered in the southwest corner of the site, which in its lowest level contained much late eighteenth century pottery and other items. Included in these were eleven halfpennies of the reign of George III (1760 - 1820). These were the only coins found. Some were worn flat, indicating very heavy usage and the two where the date could be read, were minted in 1771.

Quite why so many halfpennies occurred together remains a mystery, but John Mills, the Excavation Director, made the comment 'these coins undoubtedly saw regular use for shove ha'penny games in the local hostelryes'. If that is so, the Plough on the opposite side of Bury Street, could well have been the

'local' used. Ralph Weedon was publican at the time.'

Two of the coins were Irish halfpennies. These were smaller than English halfpennies, the reason being that until 1824 thirteen Irish pence were reckoned to the English shilling.

The 1770-74 copper coinage was the only minting in this metal at the Royal Mint in George III's long reign. In 1797 Boulton and Watt produced copper coins under licence at their Soho Mint in Birmingham using coin presses driven by Watt's rotative steam engine.

This was a time when the economy was rapidly expanding under the impact of industrialisation and there were growing armies of workers to be paid. With so little of the small denominations available many employers and traders produced their own token money from 1787 onwards. In addition there was much recourse to counterfeiting. Interestingly, one of the Ruislip coins was a contemporary forgery.

ILondon Metropolitan Archive: MR LV/69

## NATIONAL LOCAL HISTORY WEEK 2002- 4to12 MAY

As a contribution to the National Local History Week the RNEllis organised six afternoon and evening walks around the district, each with a local history theme. The walks were led by members of the RNElHS and were quite well attended, aided by favourable weather. Short descriptions of each walk are given below.

MAY 5

VICTORIAN AND EDWARDIAN  
NORTHWOOD - Colleen Cox.

On a pleasant Sunday afternoon in May a group of some thirty people assembled in the car park at Green Lane, Northwood at the start of a walk to discover Victorian and Edwardian Northwood.

Mer a brief introduction to the history of Northwood the group turned west along Green Lane, formerly a deeply-rutted track through what had been farm land in the 19th century. This land had belonged to the owner of The Grange, the oldest inhabited site in Northwood, and was later sold off for development of the area. Approaching The Grange from Green Lane along the original drive, the group was met by Simon Morgan and invited into his garden to view the house from the rear and to learn something of its history. The front of the old house was viewed from Rickmansworth Road. It now belongs to the London Borough of Hillingdon and is used partly as a school and partly for private functions.

The walk continued up Rickmansworth Road as far as Holy Trinity Church and School, built in the mid 19th century at the heart of the original hamlet of Northwood. The group then retraced its steps and walked to the east along Rickmansworth Road past a handful of Victorian cottages and the village pub towards the land which was sold for development, pausing at Maxwell Road.

In 1887 the Metropolitan Railway reached Northwood and land adjacent to the line was purchased by Frank Murray Maxwell Halliday Carew. He had a vision for the development of the area, drawing up plans for the roads with plots of various sizes. Larger houses were to be built to the north and west of the railway for the professional and business people who he hoped would be attracted to the area. To the east were plots for smaller houses for craftsmen and labourers to work in the area and whose families would provide servants to work in the large establishments. Today we might call this social engineering. Although Carew was only associated with Northwood for some five years, by giving his names and those of family members to the roads, he has certainly left his mark.

The walk continued to the east under the railway bridge and up Northwood High Street with its trim terraces on one side of the road and small shops on the other. A number of the houses had been built by 1891 and the shops followed shortly after. As had been foreseen, people were attracted to the area and the population doubled from 250 in 1881 to 500 in 1891 and had risen to around 2500 by 1901. In addition to houses and shops, new churches and a school were built. The newcomers had other demands too, such as a good water supply, proper drainage, refuse collection and street lighting, which were considered to be too expensive by the original inhabitants and were the cause of some ill-will between the two groups. The wishes of the newcomers eventually prevailed however and most were in place by the end of the Edwardian period.

The group crossed the footbridge over the railway line to Murray Road where many of the typical Edwardian houses can still be seen, as can the early shops at the top of Maxwell Road and on Green Lane.

The walk ended at Oaklands Gate now converted into offices but originally one of the large houses to the north of Green Lane which were part of Carew's grand plan for the area.

MAY 6

#### RUISLIP'S DOMESDAY PARK AND MEDIEVAL WOODLAND

- Colin Bowlt

On Bank Holiday Monday, Colin Bowlt led about thirty people around parts of the surviving earthbanks and ditches that surrounded the 'park for woodland animals' mentioned in Ruislip's entry in the Domesday Book.

The group met at Manor Farm, where maps were displayed to show the way that Bury Street, Eastcote Road and Fore Street all sinuously follow the curves of the Park. Having briefly noted the moated site and the deep and impressive ditch at the bottom of the orchard, believed to be part of an earthbank that once surrounded the entire village of Ruislip, the group crossed the River Pinn, and entered the southernmost tip of the wooded section of the Domesday Park. The portion of the park along the river, had been cleared of trees and managed as meadowland for centuries and is now the Pinn Fields.

Indicators of ancient woodland, bluebells, wood anemones, coppiced hornbeam and a small bank and ditch were all noted in the wooded area at the bottom of Sherwood Avenue. Further along the road similar features had survived from the original park, in the suburban gardens.

Once inside what remains of Park Wood, the group soon arrived at the massive earthbank, somewhat eroded after a thousand years or so, that marked the northern boundary of the park and divided it from the remaining woodland, known in medieval times as the 'outwood'.

Through Park Wood the group followed the earthbank and ditch, sometimes very marked, at others hardly visible except with the eye of faith, to cross Grub Ground and out into Fore Street by Grangewood School. Just to the north an excellent piece of the earthwork could be seen.

The group returned to Manor Farm via the Pinn Fields with St Martin's in view all the way, just as our forebears must have seen it while working in the meadows centuries ago.

MAY 7

#### OLD EASTCOTE

- Karen Spink and Susan Toms

The aim of this walk was to give an idea of life in the original village of Eastcote, an area which encompassed three great houses, a few shops and public houses along the High Road and the humbler cottages of labourers and workers. Basically until the 1920s, when the rapid development of modern Eastcote began in the area around the station, this was the accepted settlement of Eastcote.

The walk began in the grounds of the oldest of the three great houses, Eastcote House, to which there was a reference in 1494 when it was in possession of the Walleston family and was called Hopkyttes. It came into the Hawtrey family in 1527 and proceeded to remain in this family and their descendants, the Deanes, for the next 400 years until it was sold to the council. During this long period of tenure a large estate was built up and they came to be regarded as the most important of the local gentry families. Unfortunately the House was demolished in 1964 but three structures remain: the Coach-house dated early 17th century, the Dovecot of the 18th century and the Walled Garden, where some of the bricks have been dated as 17th century. These remaining buildings gave an impression of life in 'the great house'.

Two buildings nearby, that had been part of the Eastcote House Estate, were Eastcote Cottage, opposite the original entrance to

Eastcote House and known as Plucketts when the Hawtreys bought it in 1616, and Park Farm which could just be seen along Field End Road. The 1930s development, Eastcote Park Estate was built on farmland that was sold by the Deanes.

The group walked along Eastcote Road to Forge Green, the centre of the old village. There across the road was the Old Barn House, an obvious timber-framed building, listed in the 1565 Terrier, which has been variously a barn, house, carpenter's workshop, dance hall, restaurant and post office. Next to the Barn was a shop built in 1900 and two cottages, although the second cottage was demolished in 1963 to make way for the modern Black Horse Parade of shops. The Black Horse public house, despite its obvious 20th century look has been on this site since the early 18th century when it was probably a cottage. It too was a centre of the village community where the vestry met, inquests were held and timber and underwood from Park Wood was sold.

Before moving on, the site of the village smithy was noted, run by the Tapping family until the mid 1950s which is now a bungalow called 'The Old Forge'. Next to this building are two cottages, named 'The Rosery' and 'Deans Cottage' which were built in the late 19th century as Eastcote House Estate cottages for their workers. These cottages along with several others in this vicinity served as tea-gardens to cater for the many cyclists and day-trippers who came to Eastcote from the more built-up centres of inner London.

Further along the road the group paused at another building mentioned in the 1565 Terrier, Flag Cottage. For many centuries it was known as Spring Cottage on account of having its own spring, but it gained its present name during World War I when the occupant erected a flag pole in the garden. The cottage also contains some fittings from a neighbouring building, Eastcote Lodge, which was demolished in 1963.

The next stop was on the corner of Eastcote Road and Fore Street, known as Pretty Corner, to view three cottages opposite called New Cottages. These were built in 1879 for the estate workers of Haydon Hall, which was then owned by Lawrence James Baker; hence the initials L J B and the date 1879 at the head of the rain-water downpipe. They were designed by George and Peto with attractive decorative parquetry. The name Pretty Corner dates from the 1930s when the area was laid out and the original pond, Gut's pond, was drained.

Further on the group crossed Eastcote Road and walked up the drive to Highgrove House, the only one of the three great houses still standing. The current house, now used for social housing, dates from 1881 when it was built for the Hume-Campbells after the previous house was damaged by fire. Warrender Park, named after Eleanor Warrender who lived at Highgrove in the 20th century, and Highgrove Swimming Baths were built on Highgrove land. Part of the ornamental garden has been turned into a nature trail and this was passed on the return to Eastcote Road.

The group then walked up Fore Street, which during the 19th century was called Frog Lane, to Coteford Infant School. The original school started life in the Eastcote Village Institute Hall in 1926. The Hall was built with voluntary contributions raised by the wealthier families of Eastcote to replace the inadequate tin hut in the Eastcote Road and provide a social centre for the village. It was almost as an afterthought that it was rented to the education authority for use as a school and only in 1932 did the Council buy the building. The school opened with eighteen pupils between the ages of five to seven and expanded over the years until in 1982 a new Junior School was sited further up Fore Street. The original Institute building remained in use by Coteford Infant school until its demolition in 1986, when the site was sold for sheltered housing. It was the last remaining public building in the Borough of

Hillingdon, which was built privately for public use.

Past Coteford Infant School was Four Elms Farmhouse, dated 1560, and the bam next to it known as 'The Shuttle'. During the 1920s a Miss Collins set up a Home Textiles Centre in the bam where fleeces which came from Field End Farm were scoured, dyed, spun and woven by hand. The property is still in the Collins family.

The next stop was on the corner of Fore Street and Coteford Close where in 1914 four cottages (two pairs) were built by the then recently formed Ruislip Manor Cottage Society to provide suitable accommodation at a reasonable rent for workers in the area. The intention was to build thirty-two cottages on the site, but World War I intervened and after the war the remainder of the land was sold to the council who later developed it. This development represented a social change in that it was no longer realistic to rely solely on the estate-owning families to provide the necessary accommodation for workers in the area.

Continuing up Fore Street, several attractive cottages were passed which Lawrence James Baker of Haydon Hall had built to house the workers on his large estate; he owned over 300 acres and leased shooting rights of over 2000 acres. Keeper's Cottage, Cowman's Cottage and Wood Cottages were well-built in decorative styles.

A walk across the open space to Egerton Close gave a good view over Eastcote, across to where Eastcote House and Haydon Hall had once stood and westward to Park Wood. The group paused to look at 16<sup>th</sup> century Ivy Farm and Cherry Cottage.

In the gathering evening gloom 'The Woodman' in Joel Street was passed, which started life as a cottage in the 17<sup>th</sup> century before being converted into a public house in the 1860s. Its roots are older still, since a building on this site was listed in the 1565

Terrier. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was a popular venue for cricket teams to celebrate or commiserate after their matches.

Finally the group reached the site of Haydon Hall, a public open space used by Eastcote Cricket Club. A house was built here in 1630 for Lady Alice, Countess of Derby, but was rebuilt in 1720 by Thomas Franklin. Lawrence James Baker, who purchased it in 1864, added two new wings to the house and a magnificent conservatory and glasshouses. The group looked across to Southill Cottages, also built for workers, and the finest of his estate cottages, Haydon Lodge (next to the remains of the ornamental lake), designed by architects George and Peto.

After L. J. Baker left Eastcote, Capt. and Mrs Bennett-Edwards (see Mary Pache article) were resident at Haydon Hall, and hosted many village entertainments. The Hall was purchased by the local council in 1936 and, having been allowed to fall into disrepair, was demolished in 1967.

In darkness the group was just able to make out Southill Farm, an attractive farmhouse built in the Queen Anne style. The final stop was at 'The Case Is Altered' public house which was only a cottage when it was listed in the 1565 Terrier. It was licensed as a beer-house in 1828 and largely rebuilt after a fire in 1890. From the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century it was owned by Gutterbuck's brewery of Stanmore. Tradition has it that the Eastcote cricket team based at Haydon Hall took their refreshments here, while the opposing team went to 'The Woodman' in Joel Street.

To conclude the walk three more historic buildings of old Eastcote, along the High Road, were mentioned, namely Ramin, The Old Shooting Box and The Grange, but unfortunately it was now too late and too dark to view them. Karen and Susan hoped they had whetted the appetite of fellow walkers to visit these at a later date. (In the meantime see the Eileen Bowlt and Pat Oarke articles).



MAY 9

## BEATING THE BOUNDS BETWEEN HAREFIELD AND RUISLIP

- Eileen Bowlt

This was a joint meeting held with the Harefield Society on Thursday evening. Between thirty and forty people met in Bayhurst Wood, where the common boundary between Harefield and Ruislip parishes was shown, marked on a copy of the Harefield Enclosure Map of 1813.

The 9 May 2002 appropriately enough was Ascension Day, a movable feast in the church's calendar, that marks the end of Rogationtide. In medieval times processions were led through the fields at that time of year to ask a blessing on the crops. After the Reformation this custom was changed and the processions wound their way along the parish boundaries, stopping at particular landmarks, such as a large tree, and beating the ground and often young boys as well, with willow wands, so that in old age, they would remember the spot and be able to adjudicate in boundary disputes.

Only a portion of the boundary could be walked because some of it lies on privately owned land. The boundary goes around Warren Farm (Ruislip parish), following a small stream, marked by trees. The group made its way along the northern edge of Mad Bess Wood stopping frequently to note the position of the boundary, a field or so away to the left. At the top of the hill, near Youngwood Farm (Ruislip parish) was found the remains of the old cartway that used to run along the parish boundary from Jacketts Lane.

The group left the boundary and followed the green lane that is actually a continuation of the former cartway, down through the middle of the wood, noting the embankments marking the divisions of the wood, North Riding, Youngwood and Mad Bess. The green lane passes the Scout Chapel and crosses the camping ground to emerge in Breakspear Road.

The road is the parish boundary at that point and the walk continued along it. The group looked at the present Willow Farm and Rose Farm (both in Harefield parish) and heard about their predecessors. They saw the site of several pairs of nineteenth century cottages just above the Breakspear Arms. One of them was once a Dame School run by Old Bett Willis, about whom some scurrilous tales are told. There were frequent disputes about the position of the Breakspear Arms, both parishes from time to time claiming rates from the occupiers.

Crows Nest Farm in Harefield is still the ancient building that was part of the sub manor of Moorhall in the sixteenth century. A pond mentioned in old documents can still be seen in the front garden.

By the time the group reached Tile Kiln Lane (Ruislip parish) darkness had fallen, so they returned to Bayhurst Wood Car Park, vowing to renew the perambulation along another part of the boundary on some other occasion.

MAY 11

## MANOR FARM AND ITS SURROUNDS

- Eileen Bowlt

Saturday found another large group of people, about fifty, gathered at Manor Farm.

The tour started at the site of the motte and bailey castle, part of the moat of which survives. A brief history of the medieval owners of the manor was explained and the possible reason for the building of castle.

Moving off the motte to the flat area outside Manor Farm House, the extent of the bailey could be seen, and where the land dropped away, to where the northern portion of the moat had been, leading down to the village earthwork at the bottom of the orchard. The group saw how close the area was to the River Pinn, yet high enough above it to be safe from flooding.

There were renaissances of the 'digs' organised by the RNEllis in the 1970s, across the earthwork, in a corner of the moat and beneath the present Cow byre.

Before going inside Manor Farm the group was shown where archaeologists found the possible foundations of the Abbey of Bee's priory on the north side of the house in 1997. Various features in the timbers and brickwork of the house were pointed out and interpreted.

Inside, an exploration of the ground floor revealed finely moulded roof timbers in the main rooms and panelling in the hall, although the present use of the building does not show these off to the best advantage.

The Manor Farm Working Party hopes that the Manor House will be used as an Interpretation Centre, with some rooms furnished in keeping with the building's age and status.

The tour continued around the former farmyard, into the Little Barn, now the Library and the magnificent Great Barn built c1300. Some details of the Barns' construction were explained.

The tour finished beside the rickyard (now bowling green) and the horse pool (duck pond).

MAY 12

GRAND UNION CANAL FEEDER

- Denise Shackell

At 2pm a group gathered at the Ruislip Lido car park. There was a special Friends of Ruislip day at the Lido, with many interesting activities being offered that afternoon. Nevertheless thirty people were ready to explore the route of the Canal Feeder which was constructed to provide water to the Grand Union Canal.

The tour commenced by walking around the west end of the lido to find the outlet from the reservoir, originally constructed to provide the water for the feeder. Looking behind the dam it is still possible to see the miniature 'locks' that controlled the water supply.

The group then followed as close to the feeder as possible, now no more than a ditch, through the woods to Cannon Brook Farm, noting that the feeder runs parallel to Cannons brook. The feeder is piped under Bury Street to the field opposite, then is open across the field to Howletts Lane, where the feeder is again piped at an angle beneath the road to a good path on the opposite side of the road. The path, with Whiteheath School on the left, has two small bridges made of brick that cross the feeder, one of which is dated 1930.

On reaching a field, Tile Kiln Lane house roofs can be seen to the right. At the end of this field there is an aqueduct, of which about thirty feet is still in good condition, built to cross the River Pinn.

Passing the end of Woodville Gardens, the feeder ditch is visible here and there to the left of the field.

The group then walked between some trees on a section of the Hillingdon Trail, crossing over two golf course fairways. They passed a well preserved low brick bridge (1929) carrying an old trackway to the tile kilns.

The feeder continues into a tree-lined grassy lane, formerly Clack Lane. Another bridge also dated 1929 takes the lane over the feeder.

The Ruislip Ickenham parish boundary is crossed just before reaching the main-line railway (formerly the Great Western). On going through a gate the feeder passes through a tunnel on the left with the footpath in a tunnel to the right.

This was the end of the walk on this Sunday afternoon. The two hour time limit only allowed the walk to come this far but the course of the feeder continues until it reaches the Grand Union Canal.

The group returned across the golf course and field, along Woodville Gardens, and continued beside the River Pinn to Bury Street and back to the starting point at the Lido car park.

The comment of the group was astonishment that Ruislip was so rural. Several of the group had never walked this area before and the information on the historical background to almost the entire walk made for a very enjoyable afternoon.

## Library Displays

During National Local History Week, in addition to the walks, the Society mounted displays in the Borough Libraries pertaining to local history and research.

# **JIM GOLLAND**

## **Schoolmaster and Local Historian**

by Jessica Eastwood

Leonard Krause, President of Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society, reminisced to me about his memories of Jim Golland who died this year.

Len first met Jim through Len's son Jeremy while he was at Harrow County School for Boys, where Jim taught English during the 1960s. Jim set the boys projects on their local areas which aroused Len's interest. One wonders what became of these researches.

When Harrow County became a comprehensive school in the 1970s, Jim left to teach in the English Department at Harrow School where he stayed for ten years. He became very interested in the history of both the School and Harrow-on-the-Hill. During his researches at the school he found stacks of old photographs, mostly of Old Boys but also of general local history interest, in a forgotten cupboard. He also acquired some local sketches of places of interest in the local area drawn by the Harrow Boys during their art classes.

Jim became involved in the Pinner Local History Society although he lived in Eastcote. He was especially interested in Pinner Fair and wrote about its history and the

importance of keeping this traditional event going. Len was chairman of the RNEUIS and the two men, together with like-minded people, helped to keep alive the Local History Conferences by holding them at Winston Churchill Hall after they ceased at Harrow College of Further Education in 1983. The Pinner Society organised the first one and Jim was especially keen on using local speakers rather than paying 'foreign lecturers'. He was a frequent contributor to the Conferences, giving talks and writing playlets.

Jim and his wife lived in Eastcote, not far from Len, so they shared concerns about the preservation of local historical landmarks. Len said that Jim always admired our Journal with its in-depth reporting of local historical research. Recently Jim had also become very interested in family history.

Jim Golland gave his last talk to us at our Christmas meeting and as usual it was informative and humorous. It was a shock to most of us to hear of his death. Len went to his funeral service at Breakspear Crematorium and said that it was as much a celebration as a cremation. Jim's contribution to local historical research will not be forgotten.