

**The Journal of the
Ruislip Northwood
& Eastcote
Local History Society**

CHAIRMAN	Leonard Krause
SECRETARY	Eileen Matling 7 The Greenway Ickenham Middlesex Tel: (0895) 673534
EDITORS	Derek Jacobs Denise Shackell

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EXTRACTS FROM THE FIRST LOG BOOK OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

by Denise Shackell

The school is on Rickmansworth Road next door to the Holy Trinity Church, Northwood. The School Master's house and the original two classrooms to the left of the house can still be seen from the road.

I studied in the log book (this and later ones are kept at the school) the entries made during the first year. The first entry was on March 2nd 1863. This predates the first important Education Act of 1870 which was designed to provide Elementary Education for all children between the ages of 5 and 10 and thereafter until 14 years of age. The Act of 1891 made possible free Elementary Education.

The School was supervised by the Union of Hillingdon School Attendance Committee and the Parish of Ruislip. The entries in the Holy Trinity School log book included Rates of payment demanded for each child; Reasons for Absence; Dates of school terms and holidays. Many entries included visits and lessons given by local ladies who came to the school for a morning or afternoon only. Other entries mentioned subjects that were being studied, when homework was given and reasons for detention.

Rates of Payment for each child depended upon the Father's work or position. Children of Farmers or Tradesmen paid 3d weekly, Labourers 1d, all others and Guardians 2d weekly. On April 22nd 1863 a child was sent home "for school pence owing a long time".

Size of School The dimensions of the original two school rooms are written down at the beginning of the log book. "The school room length 36ft, breadth 18ft, height 10ft 9ins—16ft. Class room length 16ft, breadth 12ft, height 10ft.9ins—16ft". The two height measurements indicate the sloped ceilings which go up into the pitch of the roof. There is a list of dates when the Vicar, the Reverend H.B.Sands checked the

Registers. The length of time between the dates varied from one week to four months.

The total number of children attending the school in 1863 was not written down. On November 24th, there were 60 children present. The number of children who may have been absent was not given.

The school had four classes. Class one and two were often mentioned together as were class three and four. "Standards" were also referred to "examined by Reverend Sands 2nd and 3rd standards in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic". "Examined the children in 1st standard Reading".

Subjects Taught. Entries which mentioned subjects taught were frequent. The number of times a particular subject was entered varied considerably from Grammar once to many detailed entries for Needlework.

Reading. On April 8th "the School adopted the Home and Colonial school system of Reading". Mrs.Sands, the wife of the Vicar "heard children read secular books."

Writing which must have been a very important part of the curriculum at that time had few entries. "the boys wrote in their copybooks" "the younger children printed in the afternoon". A more detailed entry stated "boys wrote three syllable words from memory, then divided them into syllables by hyphen. The exercise interested them".

There was more information about **Arithmetic** "The 1st class worked sums in all the simple rules from dictation". "The children were familiar with compound addition and multiplication." Sometimes individual children were mentioned by name. "M.A.Brown, T.Cox and E.Lawrence were taught short division." "On December 9th Whites Arithmetic cards began to be used."

Grammar was briefly mentioned in the summary of the Inspector's report on 28th May. S. Churchill (a pupil teacher) Grammar and **Geography**, which had one other entry "the 1st and 2nd classes copied abstract of their lesson on paper." The children wrote on slates. It merited a special entry in the log book if paper was used.

The Rev. Sands taught **Scripture**. The "1st and 2nd classes wrote part of the catechism." "The 2nd class wrote the first and second commandments from memory."

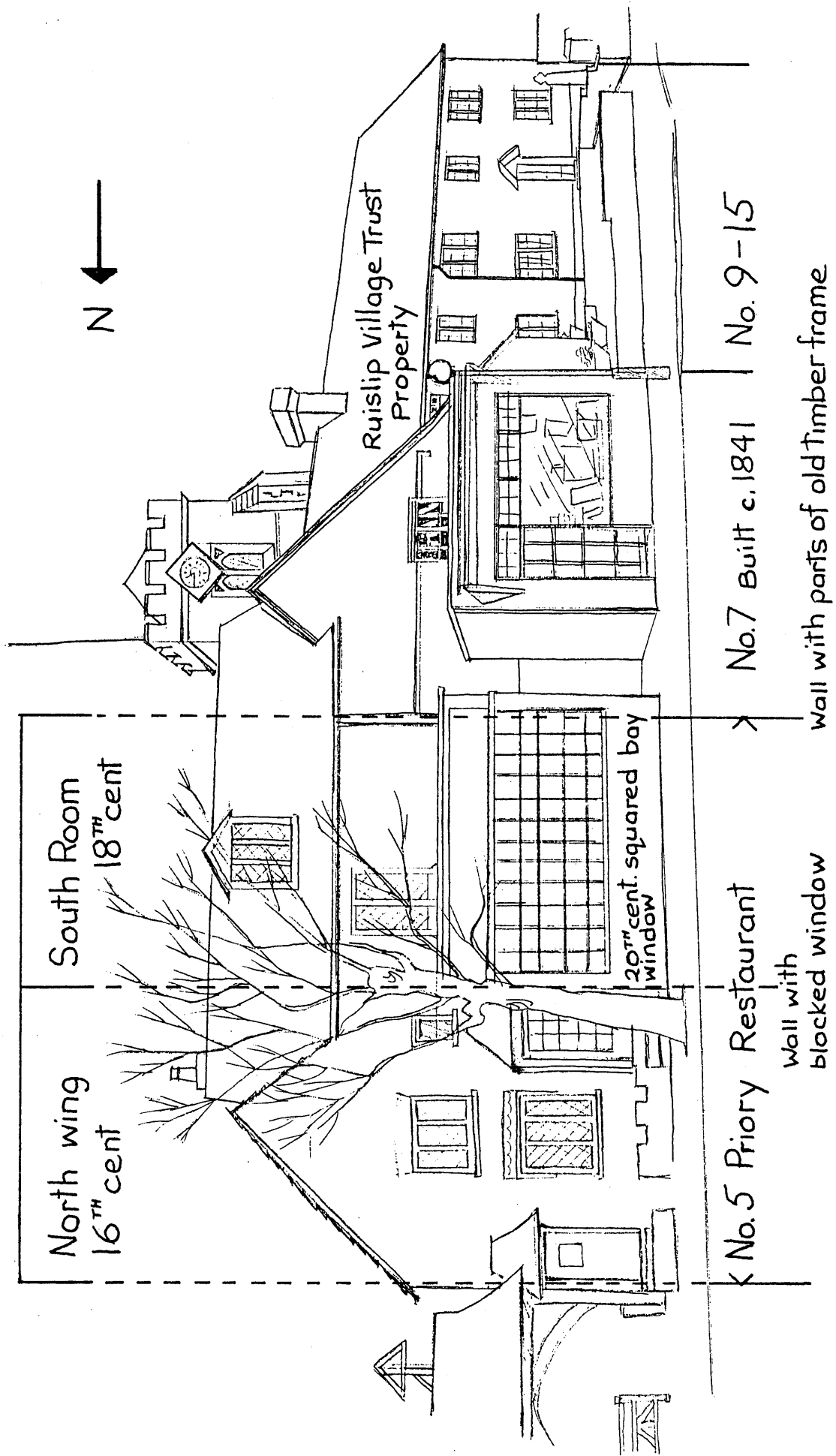
Drawing must have been considered a treat, once "they drew on their slates because they had taken pains with their figures." On another occasion "little boys drew on slates copying from the blackboard."

Singing. Several new school songs were learned. A concert was put on one evening. Christmas carols were taught.

Drill. One log book entry mentioned that "the boys drilled while the girls did needlework". If the boys drilled when the girls were doing needlework, they must have been a great deal fitter than the girls! On August 10th Lady Ebury introduced a new system of drilling.

Needlework was the subject that was mentioned most frequently. Girls only were taught the subject. No talking was allowed during the lesson. On September 21st, girls were kept in until 5.15 p.m. because they talked during needlework. While the girls sewed, they were read to, usually by Mrs.Sands, also by Lady Ebury, Miss.A.Grosvenor and Mrs.Carnegie, a governess.

Fig.1 The Priory Restaurant and Village Trust property viewed from the High Street



**THE PRIORY RESTAURANT &
THE RUISLIP VILLAGE TRUST PROPERTY
Nos. 5-15 HIGH STREET**

by Eileen M.Bowlit

During 1988 the Priory Restaurant at No.5, High Street changed hands twice in quick succession. The restaurateur bought it from trustees set up under the will of Mr. J.W. Moulder, baker and sold it almost immediately to Pizza Piazza, a sub-group of Trust House Forte. Extensive renovations began in July 1989, with a view to opening in March 1990, but late in the year the property was bought by Mr. Franklin, who had originally been merely the concessionaire and he plans to run an Italian Restaurant under the name, Barzolzi's. The building has been stripped down to its timber frame, giving members of this Society an opportunity to examine the structure in detail.

At present, when viewed from the High Street, the restaurant (No.5) and the Art Gallery (No.7) have the appearance of a single tall building, flanked by gabled wings, divided by a ground floor passage running through from front to back.

Nos. 9-15 are set back and lie against the churchyard at right angles to the south wing. However, the northern wing (the part of the Priory Restaurant running alongside the path into the churchyard) is a timber-framed 16th century structure, while the Art Gallery is known from documentary evidence to have been built only in or about 1841, by Daniel Page, whose father already owned what is now the restaurant.¹ Daniel bought the line of timber-framed cottages (now offices) which run south along the edge of the churchyard in 1841 and had the new cottage built.² Daniel's father, William died in 1848, leaving his part of the property to his son. It seems likely that Daniel tried to give the buildings a composite appearance. (See fig.1)

As it stands, the north wing, which is the oldest part of the building consists of three timber-framed bays end onto the High Street, by the lych gate. There is a brick chimney of early date at the junction of the first two bays. An original door lintel is on the south side of the second bay, suggesting that when built, the door opened into a yard. The third bay has a jettied upper storey into the churchyard and appears to have been added at a slightly later period as the purlins are joined by rather crude lap joints and the joists there are of much poorer quality than those in the other two bays. (See fig.2)

The room to the south was built on part of the former yard, probably in the early 18th century. The rear portion of the yard remains. The room on the ground floor has a 20th century squared bay window addition onto the High Street and a chimney in the south-east corner. The south wall of this room, running alongside the passageway contains parts of an old timber frame which appears to have been the wall of another cottage, which once stood either on the site of the passage and Art Gallery or of the south room. (See fig.3)

The latter position is unlikely, however, as a blocked window (see fig.4) has been discovered at first floor level in the south wall of bay 1, of the early timber-framed building, which one assumes originally looked out onto an open space and to have been filled in, only when the 18th century south room was built. The window of two lights, each light sub-divided by two thin pine tie-bars is set and nailed into the timber frame under the wall

plate. It has a rebate for glass. The spaces between the tie-bars were filled in with large pieces of broken tile skimmed with smooth plaster on the interior side. On the outside the broken tiles were covered with plaster between the tie-bars, then lathes of split oak were nailed across and covered with more plaster.

In the window wall, the infill between the studs consisted of lathes nailed to uprights and covered with mud and straw (daub), lying flush with the studs on the outside. As the 18th century south upper room has its floor level 12 feet above that of the upper room of bay 1, and is in any case much taller, the wall was raised above the wall plate, the top 18th century portion of the wall being lathe and plaster (not daub).

The south room has an attic storey, lighted by a dormer window and reached by a staircase, inserted beside the chimney in the upper room of bay 2. The tie beam was cut to make space for these stairs. There are shaped splat balusters, moulded handrail and a shaped top to the square newel.

Two blocked 18th century windows in the south room are to be replaced. One looks onto the High Street and the other onto a yard at the back. All the windows in the upper storey are to be made uniform sash windows instead of the present casements, to conform with those shown in late 19th century photographs. The yard between the south room and the churchyard is to be glassed over and used as a room in the new restaurant. Digging a hole 1 metre square for a new brick pier, has revealed large flints, similar to those in the cill of the Great Barn and water-logged oak piles like those found underneath the Cow Byre during excavations in 1980. (See fig.5) These finds are almost certainly from a medieval house, predating the present 16th century structure. It is known from the Customal c.1245 that Roger Cok had a messuage in front of St. Martin's church.³

The cottages (now offices), Nos.9-15, High Street are listed as 16th century and originally formed a single, long building, joined to a one bay structure, standing behind the Art Gallery. It is possible that the timbered south wall of the south room of the restaurant, was in fact, the north wall of a cottage which stood on the Art Gallery site and extended back towards the churchyard. In which case the east side of the High Street, south of the lych gate, probably looked like this in the late 16th century. (See fig.5)

Later, perhaps soon after 1700, the cottage on the Art Gallery site was demolished except for the one wall, which was incorporated into the new south room, built on the former yard.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE BUILDING No. 5 HIGH STREET.

High Street. After the Customal, there is no further mention of the site in extant documents until a court roll of 1525, which tells us that Richard Sanders had died, in possession of a shop, formerly occupied by John Dawson.⁴ Thomas Sanders, aged 30 or more was his son and heir. In the Terrier of 1565, John Sanders was said to have both a cottage and a shop, by the churchyard gate.⁵ In "The Goodliest Place in Middlesex", page 115, I suggested that the wing by the lych gate, No. 5 was John Sanders' shop and

Fig.2 Priory Restaurant and Ruislip Village Trust
Property viewed from Churchyard

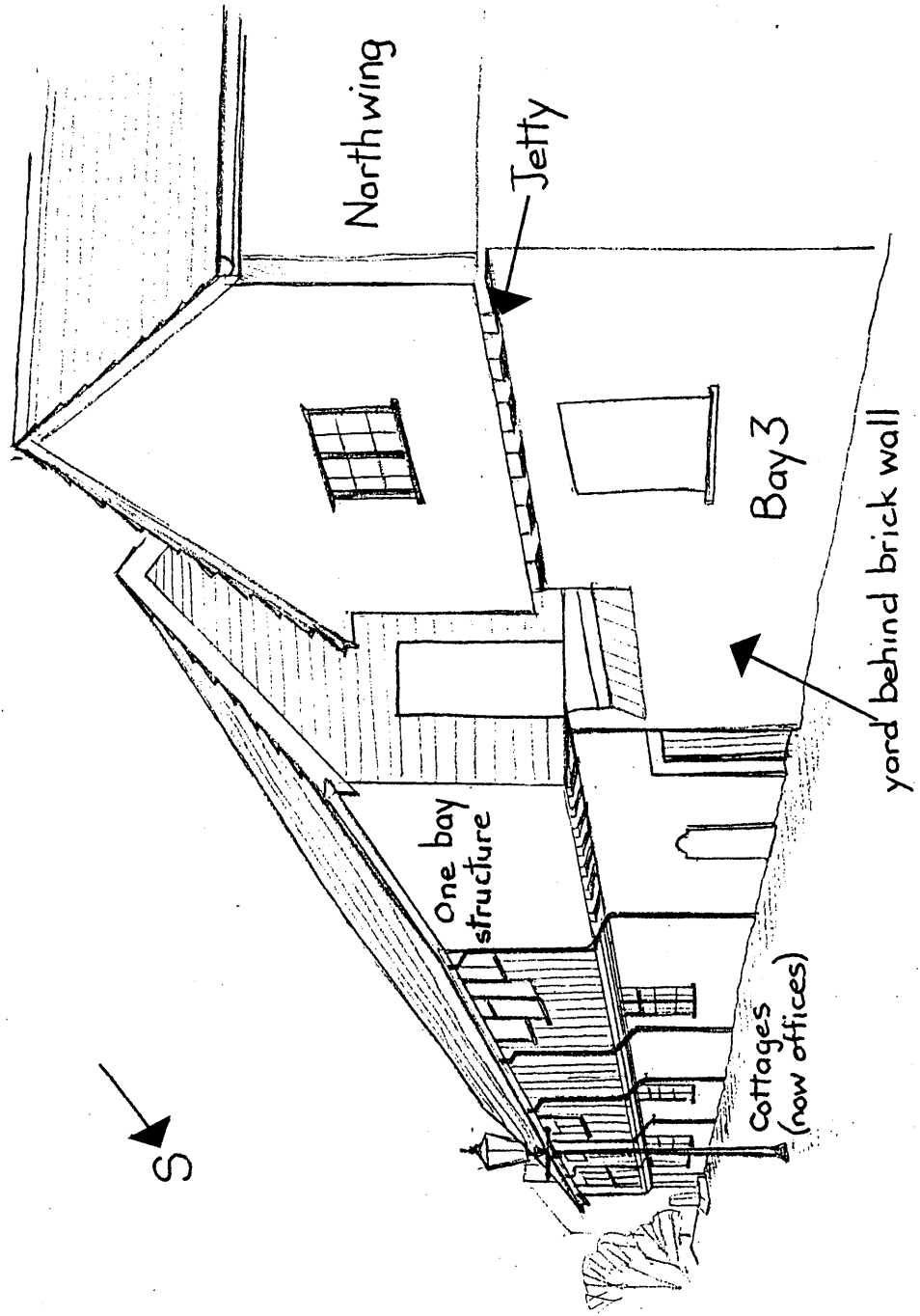


Fig.3 Ground plan of No.5 High Street

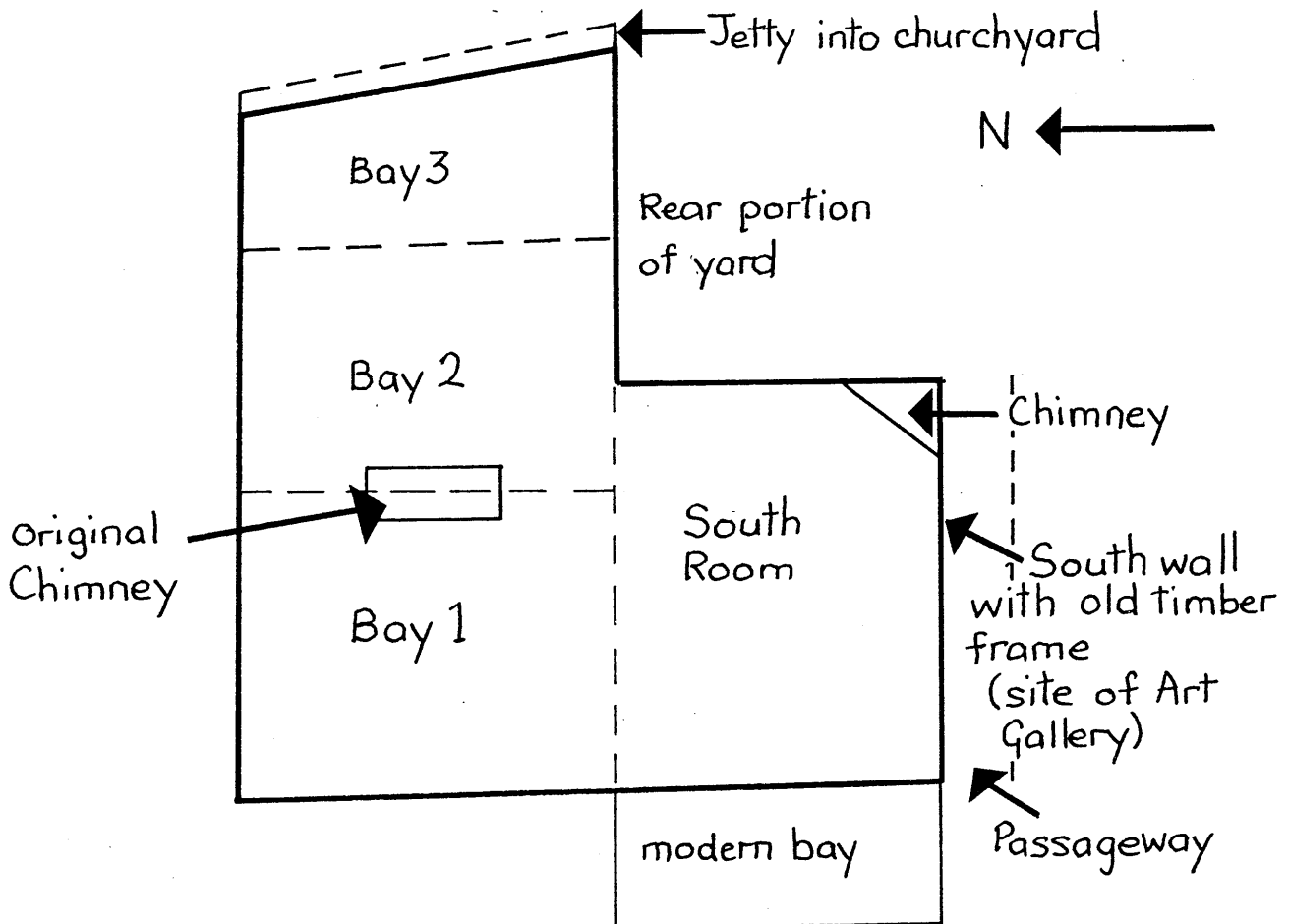


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In the window wall, the infill between the studs consisted of lathes nailed to uprights and covered with mud and straw (daub), lying flush with the studs on the outside. As the 18th century south upper room has its floor level 10 feet above that of the upper room of bay 1, and is in any case much taller, the wall was raised above the wall plate, the top 18th century portion of the wall being lathe and plaster (not daub).

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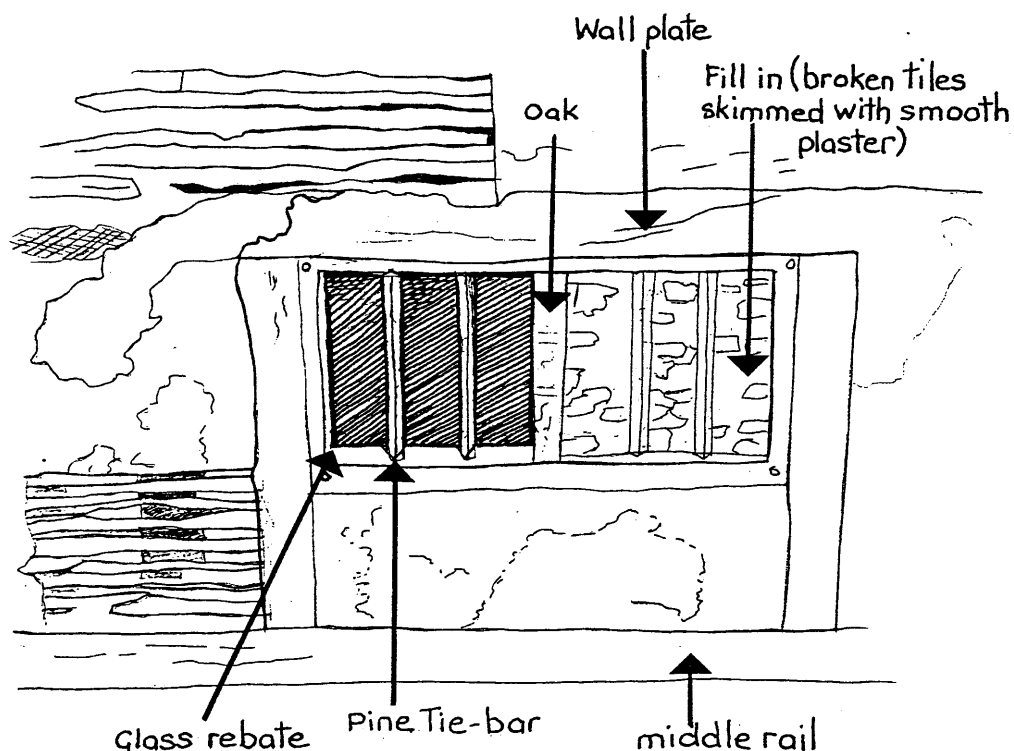
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Fig.4 Blocked window in south wall of Bay 1, upper storey from south side

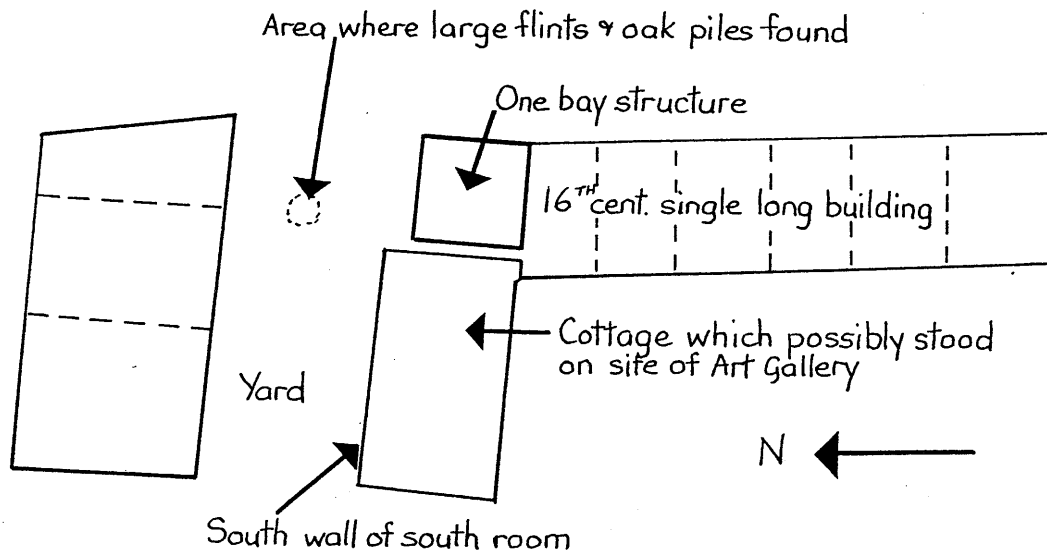


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the long building, Nos. 9-15 his cottage. Following my recent examination of the building, I now think it likely that his cottage was on the Art Gallery site and the long building perhaps not built until some years after 1565. John Hawtreay of Eastcote House purchased two shops and a cottage by the churchyard gate, from the Sanders in 1590, which seems to indicate an extension of the property.⁶ The Hawtreys were still owners in 1658,⁷ after which time there is a gap in our records until copies of court roll in the possession of the Ruislip Village Trust, take up the story again in 1775.

Fig.5 Suggested layout of buildings in 16th century



John Ford had defaulted at the manor court and John Brice was admitted copyhold tenant, paying 6d per annum to King's College. By 1779 he was dead and no heirs came forward, although proclamation was made three times at the court in successive years. John Gregory, bailiff took possession on behalf of King's College in 1783 and William Page, blacksmith was in occupation by 1793 and lived there until his death in 1848. From 1810-37 Ralph Deane, the manorial lessee appears in rate books as the owner of the property, but it is under William Page's name in the 1840s. Daniel, his son inherited it and left it in the hands of trustees at the time of his own death in 1876. Daniel's niece, Ann Batchelor took possession, as the residuary legatee in 1895. She and Stephen Batchelor sold it to Mrs. Ada Minnie Radford in 1899 and John William Moulder, baker, the then occupier, bought it in 1924.

Throughout Mrs. Radford's time as owner, the house and shop were occupied by bakers. C. Laurence lived there in 1901 and was followed before 1913, by Mr. Moulder. He was an excellent baker and not only of bread, because Mr. and Mrs. Tait have related how Ruislipians attending divine service at St. Martin's on Christmas morning would take their turkeys into Mr. Moulder to be part cooked as his ovens cooled off after the early morning bread making. He baked Hovis bread and having won a competition run by Hovis, was employed by them as an inspector. Although the Moulder family continued in residence, the Wright Cooper and Harrow Bakers traded there. It became a restaurant called "Barbara's Pantry" and was latterly known as "The Priory".

THE RUISLIP VILLAGE TRUST PROPERTY, Nos. 7-15 HIGH STREET.

After 1658 when the entire property still belonged to John Hawtreay, there is no information about ownership of Nos. 7-15 until the Ruislip Village

EARLY MEMORIES OF MRS LUCY HAYWARD (née ALLEN)

by Celia Cartwright

CHILDHOOD & SCHOOLDAYS

Life was hard in those days and any able bodied child had to supplement the family income. Lucy used to get up at 5 a.m. and go with her mother & 3 brothers together with her auntie & her 6 daughters to fetch acorns in an old pram. They were paid 7^d a bushel for these and a favourite spot for picking was a large row of oak trees where the blue-roofed houses now stand near Highgrove. At that time the family lived in Swan Alley and coal cost 10^d a cwt. The cottage belonged to Mr Aylesbury whose father kept the White Bear. They also picked mushrooms from a field near the school (in Eastcote Road) and blackberries for 5^d a pound. These were obtained by sneaking into the woods and hiding if a gamekeeper appeared. Hayley's and Mrs Bray (in the High Street) bought the blackberries. When they had filled the basket they knew they had 5 shillings worth.

Another source of income was fetching the newspapers from the station. Mr Riddle used to put out a box on wheels which Lucy and her brothers trundled down to the station. If they were lucky a porter carried the papers across the line, if not they had to struggle over the footbridge. For this errand they were paid 5/- a week.

Mr Ewer at Manor Farm used to keep them a quart of milk which they had to fetch themselves early otherwise he threw it away.

In a photograph in Ruislip Library's local history collection, Lucy can be seen as a little girl aged 4 with her cousin 9 year old Cissy Bell (Silver) and grandfather outside Park Cottages in the Oaks. He worked at Edwin Ewer's farm which was called Wilkins Farm which was where Woolworths now stands. The High Street was so narrow that in summer blackberries met in the middle. Her grandfather Bell was a shepherd and went blind suddenly one day in the fields and the men had to fetch him home when he did not re-appear at the end of the day.

On the front wall of the two cottages (in the Oaks), runner beans can be seen growing and originally there had been honeysuckle. Because the two cottages contained two large families and there was only a small back yard, each did their washing on alternate days! The boundary wall of Park House was so high that you couldn't see over it even from upstairs in the cottages.

Lucy started school when she was 4 and 14 was the usual leaving age. However for good attendance, pupils were allowed to leave earlier so, when her mother who worked at the "Poplars" for Mrs Wyatt got Lucy a job at Molders, the bakers, she left at 13. She did well at school in needlework & knitting for which she got a prize of a book and she still knits & sews dolls clothes at the age of 89. All the girls had to wear "tammys" on their heads and a clean white apron. Lucy used to wash hers out every night and then iron it in the morning as she only had one.

She was given a penny or halfpenny a week pocket money. With a penny she could buy 3 gobstoppers on which an eye appeared when you licked it, or a "kalibunker". This was a sort of yellow hard toffee about the size of an orange, but flat. She and each of her brothers had their own tins for