

Pride of Place



ARBORFIELD

Once a brothel, Swan has links with royalty

LOCALS in Arborfield have a choice of three pubs to visit, two in the centre of the village and one near the garrison.

The Swan in Eversley Road is a listed building that is part 15th century, part 16th century. It hasn't always been a pub — over the years it has been a butchers, a post office, a place of rest and even a brothel.

The pub also has links with royalty, says landlord Dave Woodward: "An old newspaper article said that Queen Victoria used to stop here on her way down to see the Duke of Wellington, as Arborfield used to be part of the Great Windsor estate."

It is also a substantiated rumour that George III regularly used The Swan in 1780 while deer hunting.

One of the rooms upstairs still has a priest hole that was used in the era of Oliver Cromwell.

The pub is a traditional and friendly establishment that offers a variety of food.

The Bull, which is located on the roundabout in Eversley Road, is a 17th century pub and a grade two listed building. Apparently, it was also once visited by Queen Victoria when she was on her way to visit the Duke of Wellington. Horses used to be stabled in a barn, which was attached to the side of the building but has now been knocked down.

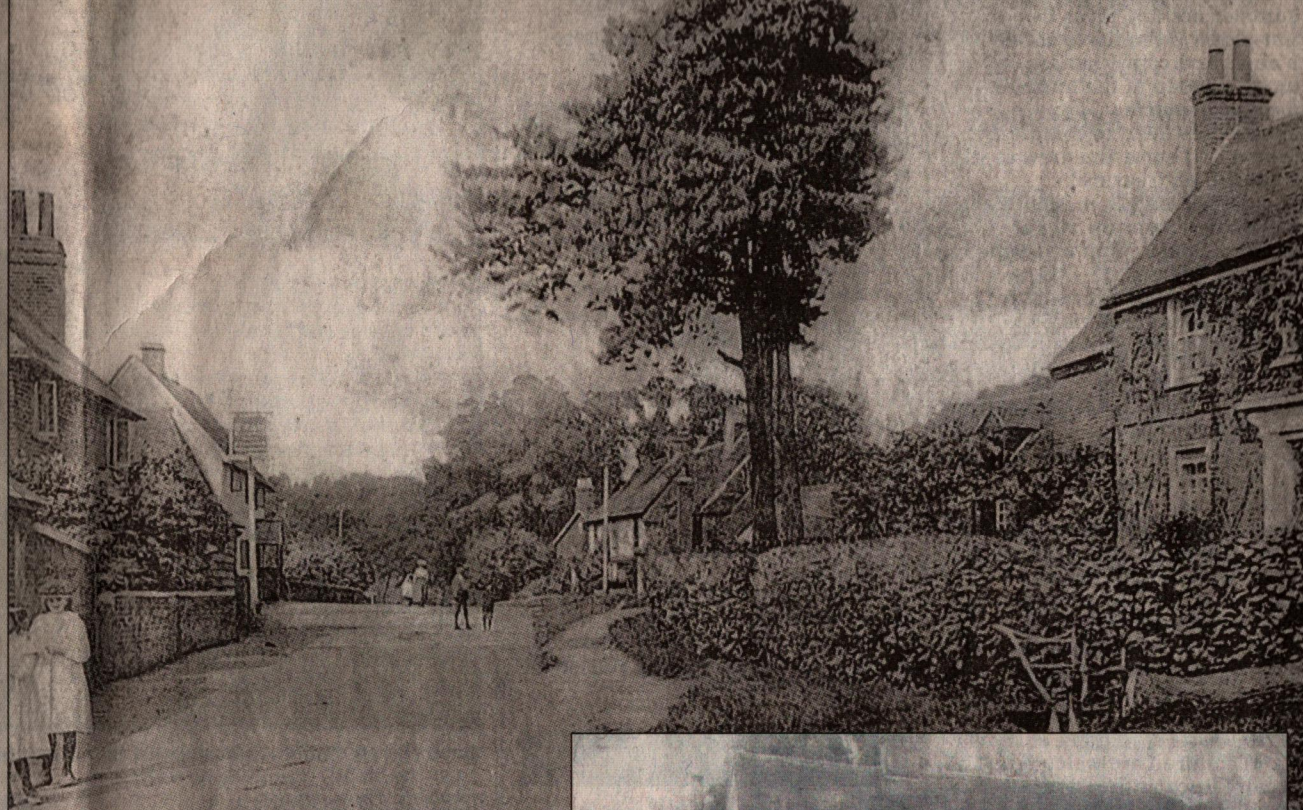
Dawn Jackson, a member of staff, said: "The Bull is a very friendly, typical



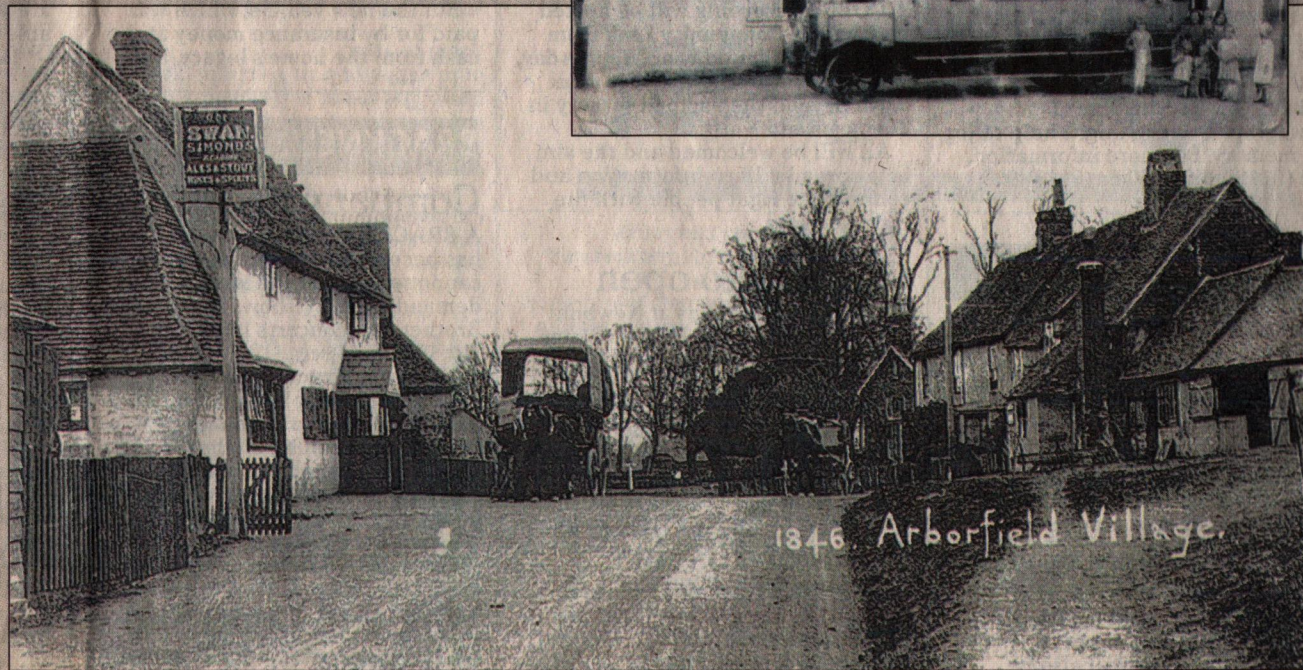
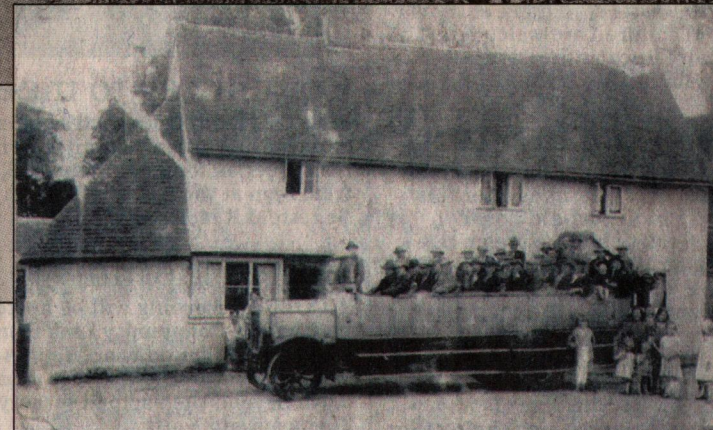
The Swan in Eversley Road is a listed building that is part 15th century, part 16th century. Inset left, landlord Dave Woodward pulls a pint



Arborfield Village. Photo: Whitten, Spencer's Wood.



The view along the main road through the village has changed quite a bit through the years. Above, girls in smocks (far left) play on the road, while boys complete with knickerbockers can be seen further up the street. Below, a pony and trap can be seen coming down the road opposite the Swan pub and bottom early motor vehicles can be seen. Right, villagers prepare for a day out in a charabanc.



1846 Arborfield Village.

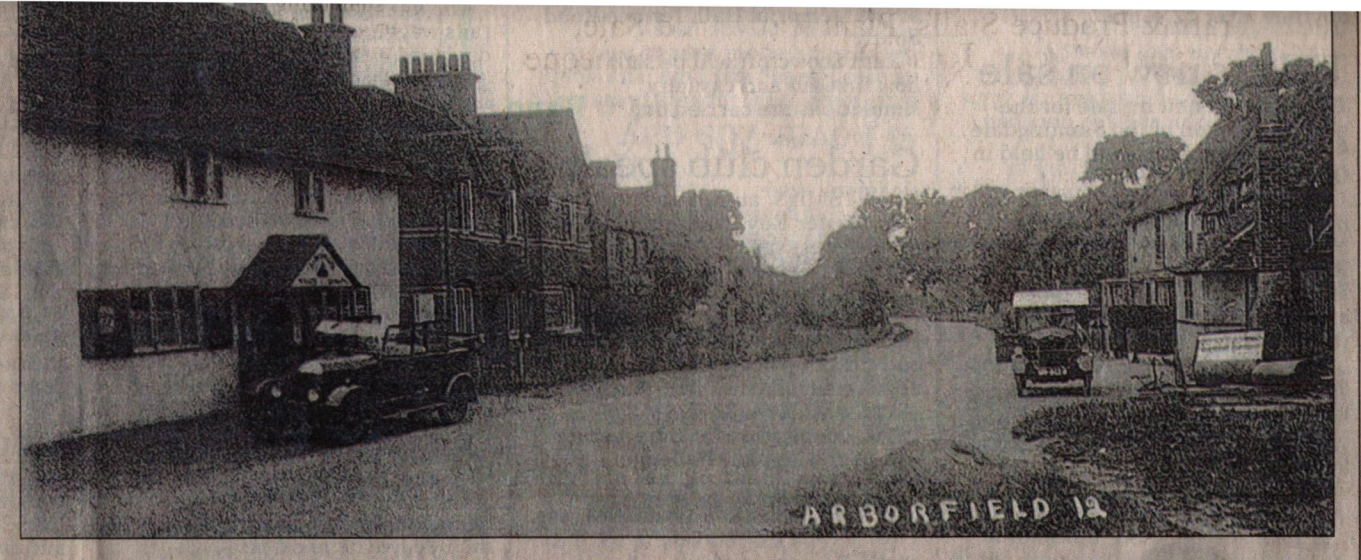
welcome and we have a big garden with a children's play area. It has friendly locals and offers a wide variety of food."

The Bramshill Hunt is in Bramshill Close. Although it is not known exactly when it was built, it is known that the Bramshill Hunt used to meet there and that is how it got its name. It also had a very strong link with the garrison from 1943 onwards but landlord Alan Smith is keen to let people know that it is not just an army pub.

He said: "The pub used to be very army orientated but it isn't any more. It has changed in both clientele and design and now attracts quite a mixed age group."



The Bull, located on the roundabout in Eversley Road.



Garrison set to celebrate more than a century of soldiering



Arborfield Garrison's passing out parade

ARBORFIELD Garrison is the biggest establishment in Arborfield and this year it is celebrating a centenary of soldiering.

The land for the Remount Depot was acquired in 1904 by the Walter family — prominent local land owners and the family who founded *The Times* newspaper — and was established to maintain a supply of animals for active units when required, and to take care of sick military horses.

In 1914 the depot produced 115,000 animals in just 12 days and in the next 20 years more land was added to the site. At any one time, it had 500 horses on more than 300 acres of land.

A large number of local civilians were employed at the depot, making it the largest employer in the locality until it closed in 1937.

Early in 1939, Poperinghe and Bailleul camps were used to train militia men and when the Second World War was declared in 1939, they formed 205 and 206 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiments, remaining as training units.

In May, 1939, the army technical school opened at the site. It trained more than 1,200 recruits aged 14

and above, over three years in technical trades.

The REME (Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers) was formed in October, 1942, and the Arborfield unit became the training establishment for the REME.

The barracks were taken over by the troops in transit that were moving south in preparation for D-Day in 1944.

During the years of World War Two, the garrison had a number of different functions. It was used for testing waterproof vehicles in a large wading centre, a medical centre in the Moat House for women's services, an air observation post and as a preliminary training school for agents of the Special Operations Executive in the large estate of the 13th century West Court Manor.

An RAF 'starfish' (a decoy airport) was also built near St Bartholomew's Church in Arborfield — it was hoped that if the area was bombed, this rather than Woodley airfield or Reading town centre would be targeted.

Trouble hit the village in 1955 when the garrison was targeted by the IRA, causing a national scare. The garrison was raided and 80,000 rounds of ammunition, 55 Sten guns, 10 Bren guns and three rifles were taken.

On October 21, 1978, the Corps of REME were granted the status of Honorary Townspeople of Wokingham.

As it is presently, the REME repair and maintain all of the army's equipment.

Today, Arborfield Garrison is home to REME research core headquarters and the museum. It also has training schools for members of the army.

Roses the speciality at Henry Street

HENRY Street Garden Centre is an independent family-owned garden centre in Swallowfield Road, Arborfield.

The business was set up by Henry Street at the beginning of the last century and has been based in Arborfield since 1985.

It was previously located in Woking, but Arborfield boasted

cleaner soil and larger premises for expansion.

Mr Street only had daughters so the family name didn't continue, but the business did and is now run by the Goold family and is in its fifth generation.

Tim Goold is one of the partners and works alongside four other members of the Goold family.

He said: "I would like to think that Henry Street will continue as a family run business. Our main speciality is roses and has been since we were first established. I think we are the biggest grower in the south, and we have won gold medals at Hampton Court flower show for our roses."

TIMES ^{x2} *Competitions*

WIN

Tickets to **LEGOLAND WINDSOR**

'BLUE' Concert

Top Boy Band To Perform Live at Legoland Windsor

On Saturday 4th September, legoland Windsor will host its second ever pop concert when platinum-selling boy band takes to the stage to perform live some of their greatest hits.

Guests can enjoy an amazing day out at the Park before catching Lee, Simon, Antony and Ducan in action at this fantastic concert, held within the grounds of the 150-acre theme park. The boys are set to perform some of their biggest hits including 'All Rise', 'One Love' and their latest hit 'Bubblin'.

Blue will be supported by up-and-coming Danish pop band 'Zynergy' who made their UK debut at LEGOLAND when they opened the show for Atomic Kitten last year. The Times has teamed up with Legoland and we have 2 sets of tickets (each admitting 2 adults & children) To give to the winners of our easy to enter competition.

To be with a chance of winning one of these great prizes, simply answer the following question:

How many acres of ground does legoland theme park cover?

Tickets, which include a full day at the park plus blue i concert, are on sale now for just £25 for children/seniors and £27 for adults. For real value for money, why consider buying a LEGOLAND Annual Pass? This offers 365 days of fun at the park, free entrance to the concert plus other great special events throughout the year. Prices start at just £37, Which works out cheaper than the price of two visits!

For further information or to pre-book tickets, call 08705 04 04 04 or visit www.legoland.co.uk

Send your completed entry form to: Legoland Competition, Promotions Department, Wokingham Times, Unit 5, Anvil Court, 4 Denmark Street, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 2BB.

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Terms and conditions: Editor's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. No cash alternatives to prizes on offer. Employees of Surrey & Berkshire Newspapers Ltd prohibited from entering. Competition closes Friday 20th August 2004.

LEGOLAND COMPETITION

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Tel:

Answer:

Please tick this box if you do not wish for your details to be used for marketing purposes by Surrey & Berkshire Newspapers LTD

ARBORFIELD STREET - 1910

S G BENTLEY

Take a deep breath, now look and listen while we take a stroll through our village street mid June about 1910; I am a small boy about 7 years old, just old enough to take an inquisitive interest in the activities of the grown-ups in our Village.

Meet me outside Newlands Farm at about five minutes to eight, the sun is shining, the birds are singing and faintly in the distance you can hear the chatter of a mowing machine cutting the grass to make hay (the tall grass always cuts cleaner while the morning dew is still about). Listen, if the wind is in the right direction we shall hear, dong, dong, dong, dong, eight times. This is the clock at Arborfield Hall striking eight; the man looking over the fence in the farmyard is Mr Charlie Lucas, he is checking his watch as will most of the locals, for Arborfield Hall clock keeps very accurate time. Mr Lucas has just fed a dozen fine young bullocks in the stock yard that he is fattening for the Fat Stock Market in Reading just before Christmas. There is very little activity in the farmyard, as most of the farm hands have been working in the fields for nearly an hour already.

We now move on for about fifty yards and stop at the village pond, where cattle and horses drink; the ducks on the pond going about their business with their rear ends up in the air, with their beaks very active beneath the water after minnows, tadpoles and other creatures that live in the pond. On the far side of the pond in a clump of rushes you will see Mr and Mrs Moorhen and some newly hatched chicks darting about playing amongst the rushes and pond weeds; there is a natural spring at the further side of the pond which keeps the water quite clear in spite of the many animal feet that walk through it during the day. This is where the children slide when the water is frozen for several days during the winter.

Pond Cottages overlook the pond and the one on the right is the home of Mr, or PC Prior, the local policeman. He is well liked by the majority of the local inhabitants. Just inside his gate is the POLICE NOTICE BOARD upon which are all the 'Official Notices' and local Bye-laws. His main problems are the occasional case of drunkenness, gipsy intruders, poachers and small boys who, in those days, required to be reprimanded for occasional mischief. His garden is very tidy and well cultivated and makes a very pleasant background to the village pond. In the house next door lives Mr Arbery, butler to Mr John Simonds of Newlands, who owns most of the property in Arborfield and Newlands. This house until a few years ago, was the home of a Mr Haines, the constable before Mr Prior.

Before we come to the main road, there is, on the right hand side, a triangle of grass where there are two horsechestnuts and one very large oak tree. On the three sides of the triangle there are hard surfaced gravel roads.

Over the main road to the Bull Inn; the landlord is Mr Joseph Bushell. He has not been in the 'Bull' very long before he came the landlord was Mr Rayner. Mr Bushell is commonly known as 'Jugger'. Most of his conversation is punctuated by 'jugger' this and 'jugger' that, and all those who meet with his disapproval are 'silly juggers'. He is also gamekeeper to Mr Alfrey, who lives at Farley Castle. Mr Bushell will no doubt be out on his rounds of the woods to keep his eye on the pheasants and other game. He will have several bags containing corn which he will scatter in the woods to encourage the birds to nest and remain within the cover. Strapped to the cross bar of his bicycle is a double barrel twelve bore shot gun and the bag slung over his shoulder contains the cartridges to have a shot at the numerous wild life that prey on the game birds; mostly weasels, stoats, jays and magpies. Most of the pheasants have been hatched and rear in the paddock adjoining the 'Bull'. In the spring Mr Bushell will have visited local farmers and those who keep poultry to collect broody hens under which the pheasants' eggs will have been hatched.

Opposite the 'Bull' there is a single storey building which contains almshouses, property of the Parish Council. The one on the right is occupied by an elderly widow, Mrs Love, and the one next door, by Polly Lunn (a local character) and her elderly brother, Alfred. Both are simple folk, but with odd jobs they do within the village and some assistance from the Board of Guardians, they always appear clean and tidy.

Now on to the builders' yard to the right hand side of the 'street'. The local builders, the Garrett Brothers, Arthur, Alf, and Ted -- three very popular members of the Cricket Club. Arthur is also Clerk to the two separate Parish Councils of Arborfield and Newland. In their yard a horse drawn van is being loaded with building materials; they will be off to do some house repairs or to decorate the outside or inside of one of the local houses. There are several cottages within the village that were built by Mr George Garrett, father of the present Brothers. The Garretts' house is next adjoining their yard.

Across the road is the most imposing house in the village street, facing straight down the Reading Road. Look over the front hedge -- the garden is laid out in small beds to an artistic design and bordered by small box hedging about eight inches high -- all beautifully clipped and the beds are planted with begonias. If the front door is open, look inside and you may see Mr Arthur Taylor, the local tailor, sitting cross legged on a very large table, making by hand a suit or breeches or perhaps a jacket of 'Hunting Pink' for a local landowner or farmer. It is reputed that any article of clothing made by Mr Taylor never lost a button before it was worn out by fair wear and tear. Mrs Taylor is probably pressing a garment made by her husband with a huge iron, heated on the hob built into the wall at the side of the tailor's workroom. Arthur is another stalwart member of the Cricket Club.

Now back to the other side of the street. There are two cottages adjoining the Garretts' house; one is occupied by Mr and Mrs Alexander. Mr Alexander could be just coming out of his gate wheeling a bicycle, dressed in a smart green uniform with a peaked hat and a black band over his left shoulder across his back and under his right arm - like a bandolier with a small oblong pack attached to it, which I understand contains First Aid requirements - for he is the first AA Patrolman in the district. His beat is from Reading to Eversley Bridge, to assist any unfortunate motorist whose vehicle has a puncture or has broken down. This is not at all uncommon as all the roads are gravel surfaced and the odd nail or stud that has dropped from the many horse drawn vehicles that go to and fro through the street may find its way into a tyre.

Now we are outside the last cottage of the block. Here live Mr and Mrs William Cox and their son, young Willie Cox, Arborfield's first Telegraph Boy, with his new red bicycle. He will deliver telegrams from Arborfield Cross Post Office over a wide area - Farley Hill, Bearwood and Sindlesham, Barkham and as far as West Court on the Eversley Road. His father works for the Garrett Brothers and is also the Sexton at Arborfield Church. As Garretts are the Undertakers this works very well as the Sexton is required to toll the knell when there is a death in the parish and to dig the grave and complete the task after the funeral service.

Next door 'Mileham Cottage' built by old Jim Taylor, named after his wife who was a Miss Mileham. Jim was a bricklayer by trade, working for old George Garrett. He built the cottage for himself and lives there with his two daughters. Both girls are teachers at Arborfield School, Nell the elder and Frances, who as well as teaching, is the Organist at Arborfield Church.

Across the road is a footpath that goes past three cottages to the School Road. The first is occupied by the Mabbett family; Mr Mabbett is chauffeur to Mr John Simonds. Next door Mr and Mrs Chambers, Edward or Teddy as he is generally known, is a carpenter, a skilled craftsman working for the Garrett Brothers. Any carpentry completed by Teddy is a work of art, perfect in every detail. He is a member of the Cricket Club - a very safe pair of hands behind the wicket. Next door, Mr and Mrs Charlie Selwood and Charles their son, known to every one as Sammy, both work for Mr Lucas.

Back now to the main road. Adjoining the Mabbetts' cottage is one occupied by Harry Salisbury, a widower with several children. He is a farrier working for Mr Mattingley, just a little further on beyond the Post Office.

It is only recently that Arborfield has had a proper Post Office, with a counter and telegraph facilities, with a small switch board to the few houses in the area that boast a telephone. Mrs Mattingley is the Postmistress; before, all postal business was conducted in the living room within the house. You can see the slot in the front door where letters were posted - at the time of writing the original door is still there! Arthur Emblen is the Postman, known to everyone as 'Plummy Emblen', he lives in Swallowfield Road; when out of uniform he repairs in his little workshop boots, shoes and harness in his spare time.

Next to the Post Office is the Blacksmith's Shop, owned by Mr Mattingley. All day long from dawn to dusk you can hear the ring of the anvil. Mr Salisbury will be shoeing a horse - each shoe is made individually from a bar of iron and fitted with great care. You can smell the tang of the burning hoof as it is fitted and trimmed. There is probably another horse standing outside awaiting its turn, and, during the holiday time groups of children stand and watch and listen to the conversation that Mr Salisbury keeps up with them and the horses - and language that only horses are supposed to understand. Opposite are two cottages built about twenty years ago by Mr George Garrett; they are tied cottages for the employees at Newlands Farm, Mr Hall in one and the other awaiting a new tenant.

Now we have the Swan Inn, Landlord Mr William Clark, a retired sergeant major and a very strict man who has retained his military bearing and discipline at all times. He has a very large garden, keeping several pigs in a big sty in the garden, and in the yard at the side of the inn there is stabling for several horses and also a large coach house. Mr Clark has no horses but the buildings are used to house poultry - hens, ducks and geese. From time to time a travelling 'Cheap Jack' sets up his booth in the yard, selling pots and pans, china and crockery, cutlery, cut throat razors, boot and shoe leather laces, and a hundred and one other household requirements. For the children there are dolls, toys and a very sticky kind of toffee which we call 'stick-jaw', anised balls and butterscotch. At night his display is illuminated with two paraffin oil flares and that, with his cries of "Walk up, walk up ladies and gentlemen" makes quite a gay setting to the 'Swan'.

You will have noticed many schoolchildren crossing the green opposite, going by the footpath across Mr Isaacs' field to school. They have come from many different directions, some even from Farley Hill and Maggs Green, some whose parents are poorly paid, wearing wooden soled clogs. These wear wonderfully well and easy for dad to repair. All will be wearing satchels or if there is more than one in the family, the eldest will be in charge and wearing the satchel containing their dinner. It is not uncommon for some child to have eaten his food before getting to school as hunger was well known in large families.

At the side of the Green is the stable and coach house of what is now known as 'Birch House' - occupant Major O'Rourke - one of the first officers to arrive in the village attached to the new Army Remount Depot on property recently purchased by the Military Authorities. Major O'Rourke takes a keen interest in the local Boy Scouts, organising paper chases, athletics and boxing. He is very keen on self defence and has provided boxing gloves and gives instruction, acting as Referee and peace-maker when fisticuffs get a little rough. There has been many a bloody nose on that piece of grass.

On the other side of the road a house occupied by Mr Palmer with his wife, son and daughter, Frank and Minnie. Mr Palmer is baker to Mr Seymour at the village shop. The bread that he has made sends a wonderful smell along the street. He would have been at work for over three hours now and from about seven o'clock when the first batch of bread came from the oven the smell of hot new bread has been whetting the appetites of passers by. The loaves will be loaded into two carts to deliver bread and flour throughout Arborfield and Newland, Farley Hill and parts of Barkham.

Now to the Wheelwright's workshop on the left hand side of the street belonging to my father, George Bentley, known to his fellow members of the Cricket Club as 'Chummy'. He has been a bell ringer with the Garrett Brothers and others, following their fathers, when the new church was built in 1863. The Wheelwright's business has belonged to our family for many years, there is no record of when the business first started, but it is known that Bentleys had lived there well before 1800. In the late 1800s the business was carried on by Mr William Vincent, Coachbuilder, who later was the founder of 'Vincents of Reading' in Castle Street. It was returned to my father in 1903. If you look through the large double doors you would see farm cart or waggon being made or repaired, milk floats, wheelbarrows, ladders and many other impliments for an estate or farm in the surrounding district. Each item or vehicle made was given a primary coat of paint before being put in the paint shop for its second and final coat of paint and a final coat of varnish. If you listen you will hear Alfred Attwood in the Blacksmith's shop at the back of the workshop making all the ironwork required for whatever is being made in the Wheelwright's shop. (Before Alfred the Blacksmith was William Harding who had worked here since boyhood and now in his eighties. He could neither read nor write but his skill with ironwork was wonderful.) Like all Blacksmiths he wears a leather apron to prevent the sparks from the red and often white hot iron burning his clothes. Mr Charlie Cox is the Wheelwright, a very gentle man but skilled and industrious, a perfect timekeeper, never a minute early or late.

On the other side of the road is the stable for our two horses, Joe and Cocker and two sheds for our own vehicles. A large open ended shed has just been built for seasoning timber. Outside in the paddock there are many trunks or butts of trees that are laid out awaiting the arrival of a mobile saw bench drawn by a big traction engine belonging to Mr Dixon of Finchampstead. The trees will be sawn into planks of various thicknesses, ash, oak and elm to any thickness from three to six inches and softer wood from four by two, down to less than an inch. The planks will be laid in the open ended shed each with strips laid between and stacked one upon the other to 'season'. These are very carefully placed, with a spirit level, to make sure that when they are dry they will be perfectly flat and level. The thicker planks will take at least a year before they can be used. Before the advent of the steam driven saw, the timber was sawn by hand in the saw pit in the yard, with a huge crosscut saw - one man at the top and one in the pit below; a very uncomfortable place to be in hot weather.

Next the house adjoining the Wheelwright's shop, my home. The house has been in our family since some time in the 1700s except for a short time between 1875 and 1900. An uncle of mine was born there in 1826 and he was the youngest of the fourth generation to have lived in this house. On the brick pillar at the gate there is a brass plate which reads "Doctors Walker and Malpin, Surgeons". Surgery is held in the sitting room of the house twice a week. Dr Walker is quite elderly and only treats patients at Swallowfield. Dr Malpin does his rounds on a motor bicycle, when he first came into the practice he rode a bicycle, but now talks of owning a motor car. It is necessary to go to Swallowfield to collect medicine and this is usually done by bicycle or pony and trap.

Now, on the right hand side of the street is the village shop where most of the local inhabitants buy practically all their requirements - groceries, meat, bread, chocolate, sweets, tobacco, cigarettes, snuff, chewing twist, drapery, children's clothing, crockery, ironmongery, corn and meal for poultry and pigs, coal, paraffin oil and a hundred and one other items. Mr F W Seymour is the proprietor and he took over the business about ten years ago. Before Mr Seymour it was a Mr Dundy and previous to him Mr Giles and earlier still Mr Hart, the first baker in the village.

The footpath next to the shop crosses the fields to Arborfield Court and through to Wokingham Lane and Farley Hill. Mrs Bruce lives in the Court, only recently built and completed in 1906. In the summer time the walk across the fields is very popular and pleasant. On Sunday evenings it is possible to see several families going for a pleasant stroll through the woods to Farley Hill Church. If you stand by the pond in the corner of the footpath by the gate on fine evenings you may hear music, either a brass band or someone playing a musical instrument, or singing a well known song. The sound is produced by a gramophone in the cottage across the footpath, it belongs to Mr and Mrs Harrington. This is the first gramophone that many village folk have ever heard and the records are cylindrical. It has a huge horn and when played by the open window the sound can be heard distinctly in the village.

Over the road from the footpath is "Whitewell Cottage" built in 1847 by my grandfather. Up to a few years ago the village well, "Whitewell", was in the front garden of the cottages but as most of the village folk get their drinking water from the well, the fence has been moved behind the well, giving easy access without going into the garden. All day long from dawn to dusk men will be seen going to and from the well carrying two buckets either in their hands or on a pair of yokes across their shoulders, fetching water for drinking and washing. This is a natural spring. If you lift the lid you will see the well is practically full of clear cool water. It is just over five feet deep and has never been known to run dry.

Now we have 'Peacock Cottage', the only **thatched** cottage in the village street. In the garden is a yew tree clipped to the shape of a peacock. It is one of the oldest dwellings in the district with a wooden frame. Some of the walls are wattle and daub and what brickwork there is has been hand made as the bricks vary in shape and size. There is a cellar beneath the bedroom with a spring in the corner, which obviously is connected to the 'Whitewell'. The District Nurse lives here, she is a widow, Mrs Hogg, with two children and she does her rounds on a bicycle.

Looking at the surface of the road, there are several damp patches and there is a trickle of water running down the verge of the road. This comes from the spring in the bank, including the 'Whitewell' there are seven active springs here. It is a local belief that if we are due for a spell of fine weather the springs are much more active.

On the right hand side, situated on the bank, there is a danger sign. On an iron stake with a red triangle at the top, and beneath an iron plate with the words 'WARNING - PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY THROUGH THE VILLAGE'. Quite frequently a horse and cart can pass at quite a sharp gallop and several motor cars may go through during the course of the day, leaving a cloud of dust, blown up from the gravel road. There are no footpaths either side of the road for the full length of the village street. On the left hand side on the bank for about 100 yards there are several very large elm trees. The field over this bank is known as 'Jagletts'.

We are now at the top of the hill, the highest point of the village street. During the summer holidays Mr Seymour allows us children to fly our kites from the field on the right, both home made kites and those purchased in Reading or Wokingham, can be seen high in the sky towards the 'Coombes'. The prevailing wind is usually from the west and many a penny ball of string has been purchased from the shop for the larger kites that fly quite high and a considerable distance away according to the strength of the wind.

Our stroll through the village has taken nearly an hour. At nine o'clock the school bell will ring and if you listen you will hear clip, clop, clip, clop, the sound of horses hooves and iron tyres on the gravel road. These are the milk floats returning from Wokingham Station to the local farms. The milk from last evening and this morning's milking has been taken in seventeen gallon churns to the station and is now half way to London on the 'Milk Train'.

From this spot in the winter on frosty mornings one can hear the trains shunting about in the Wokingham Goods Yard at the station. Should the wind be in the east it is possible to hear the empty milk churns being unloaded on the platform, and the trains on their run between Sindlesham Halt and Wokingham.

We are now near the end of the 'Village Street', just down the hill are a pair of cottages built for Mr Hart at the shop. Mr Hart was the first village baker in about the 1880s. He delivered the newly baked bread through the district carrying the bread in two large baskets which he carried on his arms. The cottages are occupied by Mr Tom Edwards, an employee at the Remount Depot. Next door live Mr and Mrs John Humphries and he is the 'Road Man'. Heaps of gravel are put at convenient places by the road from the Parish boundary between Shinfield and Arborfield to the Farley Hill turning on the Eversley Road, and John with his wheelbarrow, pickaxe, shovel and rammer repairs the pot holes as they appear throughout the village. Mrs Humphries is one of those wonderful women who are found in villages throughout England, taking in washing, acting as midwife and nurse (before the arrival of Mrs Hogg) and also there when there is a death in the village to comfort the bereaved and to do the laying out. She can be seen going to or from one of her many 'good deeds' always wearing a spotlessly white pinafore and carrying under her arm the tools for whichever task she had or was about to perform.

Opposite to Harts Cottages is the Chapel - Arborfield Free Church, with its stable and coach-house at the back. The preacher usually comes from Reading in a pony and trap. Several locals often take both the morning and evening services. There is always a good attendance, and on Sundays when the weather is warm enough the windows are open wide and the vocal effort of both the preacher and congregation can be heard for some distance away. One evening during the week there is 'Band of Hope' for the younger generation.

There are other interesting parts of the village and each road has its own little story - Lower Arborfield, from Arborfield Hall up to the Church and 'Reading Room', Hole Road, School Road and beyond the Chapel to the Branshill Hunt Inn and the Remount Depot. This and other events may be written about one day so the fortunate inhabitants of 'This Village' will learn of the past and of the difficulties and inconveniences that were experienced by our predecessors 75 years ago.

We are now near the end of the 'Village Street', just down the hill are a pair of cottages built for the first time. The first was the first village baker in about the 1800s. He delivered the newly baked bread through the district carrying the bread in two large baskets which he carried on his arms. The cottages are occupied by Mr. Tom Edwards, an employee at the Remount Depot. Next door lives Mr. and Mrs. John Humphries and he is the head of the 'Village' block of gravel and put at convenient places



BORFIELD CROSS, NEAR READING

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The Wokingham Paper, 25th Sept. 2015

New 1,200-pupil school is due to open next year

By **GEMMA DAVIDSON**
 gdauidson@wokinghampaper.co.uk

CONSTRUCTION work is due to begin on the new £32.5 million secondary school at Arborfield Garrison next month.

Following the appointment of Bohunt Education Trust (BET) as the school provider, a review has been carried out to determine how the school's internal layout can be adapted to meet Bohunt's science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) curriculum.

As a result, a number of improvements, including two additional laboratories, new STEM workshops and enhanced drama and art facilities, are now set to be made.

Delays have hit the development in recent months, with levels of contaminated soil being found on the site, something which is expected of brownfield land. This resulted in a delay in the handover of the school site to building contractors Dawnus, leading to concerns that the school would not be delivered on time.

In order to remedy this, Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) and BET

have taken the decision to alter the construction phasing to ensure the school is built on time, allowing contractors the freedom to work more efficiently and ensure the building work is completely, as planned, by May or June 2017.

The school is due to open to 180 Year 7 students in September 2016, with well-established legacy buildings on the garrison site set to be used while construction of the permanent buildings is finished on adjacent land.

The buildings will be brought in-line with BET's needs and provide a full suite of facilities within nine teaching spaces, including four classrooms, an art room, a laboratory, STEM workshop, a theatre with stage, ICT and dining facilities and an outdoor recreational space.

Cllr Charlotte Haitham-Taylor, WBC's executive member for children's services, said: "It has been a busy summer working with Bohunt and our contractors to see how best we can incorporate these design improvements, which will provide a high quality education offer at the new school, into the construction timetable.

"We're confident these design changes will ensure our students will have even



Executive member for children's services at Wokingham Borough Council, Cllr Charlotte Haitham-Taylor and deputy executive member for children's services Cllr Ian Pittock visiting the legacy buildings at Arborfield Garrison. Right: An artist's impression of one of the new buildings.



greater opportunities at the new school.

"By using the legacy buildings, which was an excellent training facility for the military, we can provide a high-quality education environment for the students, and minimise disruption to their learning in the first year of the new school."

Lloyd Watkins, chair of the Parent Reference Group (PRG), said: "Hearing of delays during site clearance obviously caused considerable concern within the community, particularly in families with Year 6 children, but I am pleased to say that at a face-to-face meeting with Bohunt and the borough council our concerns have been addressed."

The school will eventually have the capacity to educate 1,200 pupils from age

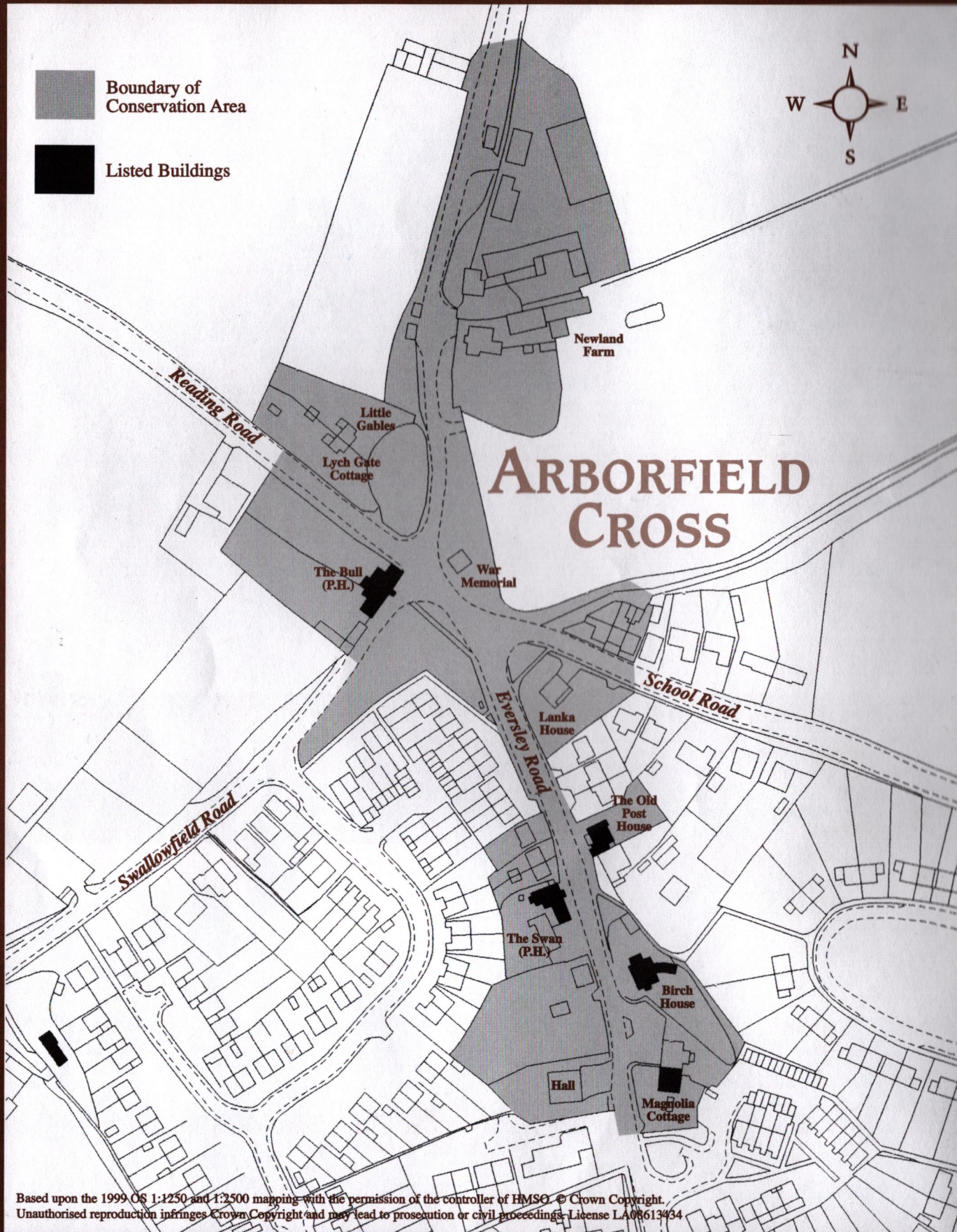
11 to 18, with space for a future growth of 300 pupils if required.

Applications for secondary school places for students going into year 7 can now be made and parents have until October 31 to submit their preferences.

Prospective students and their parents will have the chance to meet Bohunt staff and students and hear their plans for the school at two parents' evenings, taking place on the evenings of October 6 and 7 at Henry Street Garden Centre in Arborfield.

There are also three open mornings planned at Bohunt School in Liphook (October 12 to 14); further details on these visits are available by attending one of the open evenings, or by emailing: info@bohuntrust.com

II. CONTEXT



ARBORFIELD CROSS



CONSERVATION AREA STUDY

I. INTRODUCTION

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL DESIGNATE NEW CONSERVATION AREAS AND REVIEW EXISTING CONSERVATION AREAS IN RECOGNITION OF, AND IN ORDER TO PROTECT THEIR ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE. IN ADDITION THE COUNCIL WILL IMPLEMENT SCHEMES OF ENHANCEMENT FOR CONSERVATION AREAS.

(Deposit Draft District Plan 1996-2006)

I. INTRODUCTION 1. WHAT IS A CONSERVATION AREA ?

"A Conservation Area (as defined in section 69 (1) (a) of the Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990) is an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance".

The character of conservation areas can vary considerably, but they are normally historic areas centred on a concentration of listed buildings. All the elements of the area will be important in creating the character of

the conservation area, including street patterns, open spaces, trees and groups of buildings. The designation of a conservation area means that the planning authority can exercise stronger control over the development of the location, so that its special character can be protected and enhanced.

2. LOCATION

The Arborfield Cross Conservation Area is focused on the crossroads and extends to the south along the A327 Eversley Road. It includes Newlands farm to the north of the intersection.



The Swan Public House

II. CONTEXT



Eversley Road, prior to surfacing with tarmac

II. CONTEXT

1. THE NEED TO REVIEW THE CONSERVATION AREA

In 1995 English Heritage (Oct. 95) produced guidelines for the designation of a Conservation Area and which recommended that a detailed analysis of the area be undertaken to include possible enhancement aimed at not only preserving but also enhancing the Conservation Area. The need to review the qualities of the Conservation Area is evident in other examples in the District. A five-year action plan is proposed for all Conservation Areas in the District after discussions with the Parish Council to co-ordinate any enhancement proposals.

To support and provide a record of the special character of the Arborfield Cross Conservation Area, a detailed photographed and physical survey has been carried out by the District Council.

This provides archive information to monitor change in the future, whilst at the same time recording the character which makes Arborfield Cross special.

This record will be held at the District Council offices.

2. POLICY CONTEXT

The local authority is able to enhance, preserve and protect its conservation areas through the following planning law and policy documents.

a) Designation

The Arborfield Cross Conservation Area was designated on 21 September 1998 to preserve the village qualities of the settlement. This designation allows controls on development which do not apply elsewhere in the Planning Acts and includes the control of demolition, work on trees and advertisement boarding within the designated area.

b) The Local Plan

The protection of Arborfield Cross Conservation Area is undertaken by the District Council's planning policies outlined in the Loddon Area Local Plan (adopted 1995) and the District Local Plan Deposit Draft 1997. The adopted and draft plans include both site specific and general policies for preservation and enhancement of the Conservation Area and other historic parts of the district.

c) Supplementary Guidance

More detailed information and the council's recommended approach to the treatment of elements such as shop frontages, listed buildings, landscape schemes and disabled access to listed buildings is outlined in the council's planning guidelines. This is an ongoing programme of supplementary guidance notes.

3. OTHER AREA BASED STUDIES/INITIATIVES

A number of studies were carried out in the preparation of the Local Plan which provide recommendations which directly relate to the Conservation Area. These include the Built Environment Studies which outline the characteristics of the built form within areas of traditional local character within the district. Areas which are considered to possess special townscape qualities were identified and considered as possible new conservation areas or additions to existing ones.

III. APPRAISAL

1. HISTORICAL AND MORPHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

The name Arborfield is derived from the Saxon word for settlement or clearing. The recent discovery of Roman pottery and the fact that the Devil's Highway (London to Silchester) is less than a mile away from the crossroads suggests links with a Roman settlement.

The original settlement of Arborfield was established near the River Loddon approximately 1km to the north west of the present crossroads.

The settlement included a manor house and wooden church dating from Saxon times, both were later re-built, the church in c13 in flint and chalk, the house much later in 1842. A mill using power and water from the river produced high quality paper.

The ravages of fire has resulted in the loss of Arborfield Hall, which replaced the manor, the mill and Newlands Farmhouse, which was the home of the Simonds family, bankers, brewers and benefactors of Arborfield.

A group of buildings had already been established at, or near the crossroads by the c15, with the two coaching inns creating a centre for trade for the local farming community and travellers.



Lych Gate and Little Gable

III. APPRAISAL



Birch House

VISUAL ANALYSIS

The conservation area is focused on the space at the crossroads with the Bull Inn and war memorial creating the visual elements in contrast to the open farmlands to the north and new housing to the south.

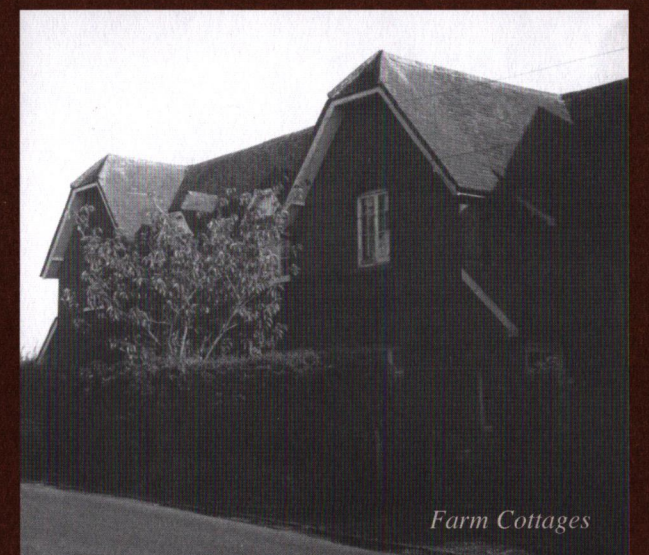
The two Inns provide the historic links to the important coaching route, with the c16 cottages and Post House reinforcing the architectural and historic significance of this hamlet, tightly grouped along the road edge. The crossroads are located at the high point of an elevated plateau with the land to the north and west falling towards the River Loddon

3. EXISTING FABRIC

The Conservation Area is centred around Arborfield Cross and the Eversley Road. The old street pattern is reinforced by listed buildings dating from the c15 along the road edge including the former coaching inns with later Victorian and contemporary infill.

The Bull Inn, duck pond and later war memorial established the visual focus at the intersection of two historic tracks. This area has now lost it's pond and is dissected by a principal distribution road, linking north Hampshire to Reading

and the Midlands. A busy network of minor roads lead from The Cross to Wokingham, Swallowfield, Winnersh and Twyford.



Farm Cottages

III. APPRAISAL



The Bull Public House

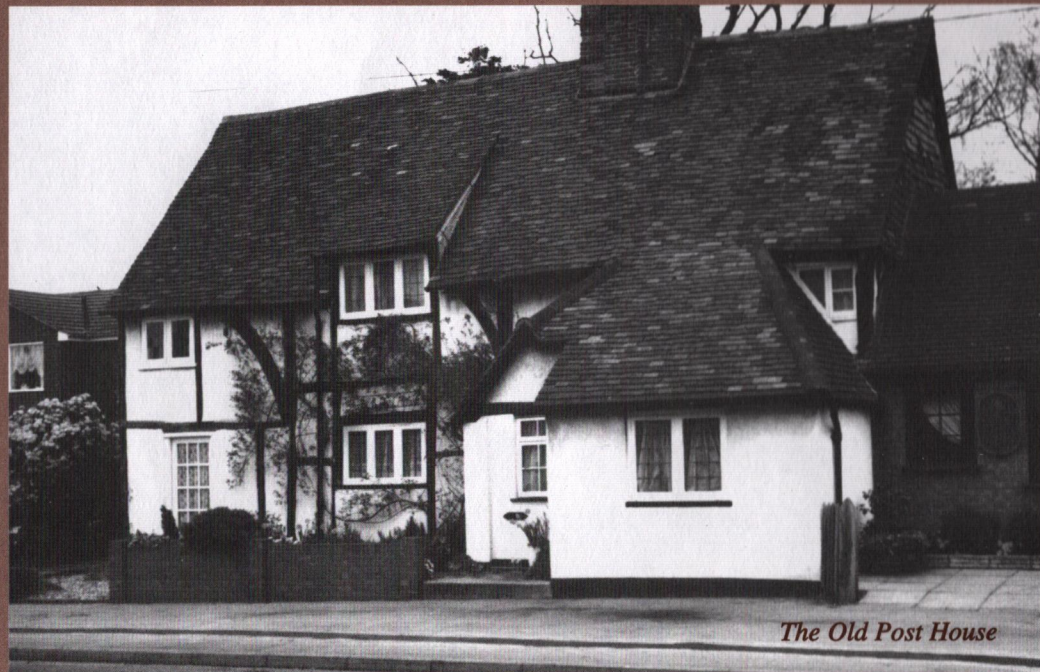
4. CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER

The buildings vary in appearance from timber framed c15 cottages and Inns to red bricked larger houses with greater decorative detailing, mostly with Berkshire red clay roof tiles.

The area is tightly contained by the boundaries of Eversley Road housing to the south, the crossroads at the centre and Newlands Farm to the north.

The buildings of special architectural and historic interest which establish the character of this area are;

- ◆ *The Bull Inn* - an early c17 part timber framed with thin timbers and painted brick in-fill with old clay tiled roof.
- ◆ *The Old Post House* - Hall house, now cottage c15 with timber frame and painted brick infilling, with old tiled clay gabled roof.
- ◆ *Birch House* - c17 house, re-fronted in c18,



The Old Post House

brick faced with diaper pattern at first floor, irregular plan with flanking chimneys.

- ◆ *Magnolia Cottage* - late c16, rebuilt in c18, decorative brick front with part timber frame to gable ends with painted render infill. Central chimney on ridge.
- ◆ *The Swan Public House* - Hall house late c15 with c17 extensions. Timber framed with painted plaster and brick infill, old tile gabled roof. 3 framed bays front part with one bay hall now floored.

In addition, the following buildings are of traditional local character and reflect the farming and reference to the area at the turn of the century;

- ◆ *Newlands Farm*
- ◆ *cottages north of the green (former duck pond)*
- ◆ *nos. 1-3 School Road*
- ◆ *Sunrise*
- ◆ *group of cottages immediately to the north of the Swan Inn.*

IV. OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCEMENT

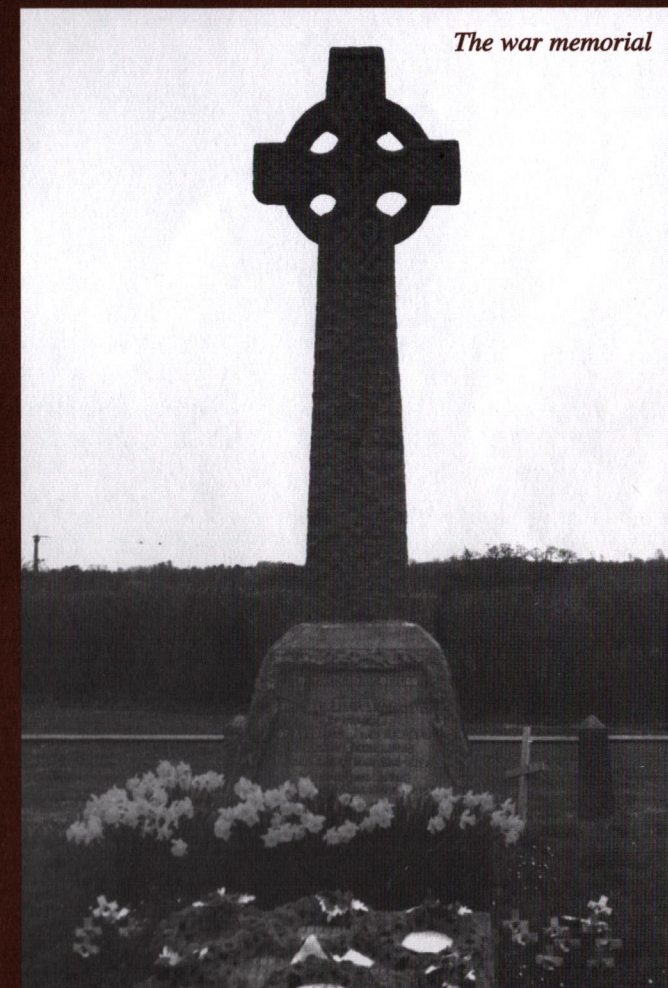
Arborfield is acknowledged to be one of the best kept villages in Berkshire and the Parish Council and residents are dedicated to its continued improvement to retain this accolade.

Issues to enhance the Conservation Area include;

- ◆ Reduce speed and level of through traffic.
- ◆ Landscape frontage to Village Hall
- ◆ Redesign the crossroads to include the integration of an improved highway intersection.
- ◆ Improve Eversley Road garage forecourt
- ◆ Re-site the war memorial
- ◆ Enhance the landscaped edge to recent housing development
- ◆ Re-introduction of the village pond.



Lanka House



The war memorial

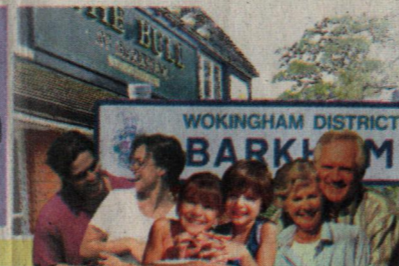
Acknowledgement to Arborfield Parish Council for their contribution to the contents of this publication. Historical photographs for the front cover and Eversley Road supplied by the Rural History Centre of the University of Reading.

Further information is available from:
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 CIVIC OFFICES,
 SHUTE END,
 WOKINGHAM,
 RG40 1WR
 TELEPHONE: (0118) 9746465

Published March 2000



Pride of Place



BARKHAM

Church one of most popular amenities

ONE of Barkham's most prominent and thriving amenities is St James' Church in Barkham Street.

A church has been there since around the seventh century but the current building has stood since 1861.

It is home to two of the four congregations of Arborfield and Barkham Churches, with the other two being at Arborfield Church and White House School.

Rev Piers Bickersteth is the rector of all the congregations but Rev Tim Silk is the minister for St James'.

Two weeks ago *The Wokingham Times* reported how a new church (at White House School) had to be planted because the swelling congregation at St James' was getting too large for all the parishioners to fit in.

So what makes the Sunday morning and evening sermons so popular? Rev Silk, who has been minister at the church for two years, says the congregation has been growing since before he arrived.

He said: "The morning would attract people with families and anyone who wants to go to church at the more traditional time."

"The evening session has grown through friendships or relationships and tends to attract people in the 20s to 30s age group."

"But there is no exclusivity — it's open for anyone to find out about the Christian faith and life-saving message."

"Both congregations are friendly and warm hearted and are keen to welcome new peo-

ple. I think it reflects the community spirit in this area, not just Barkham."

"I think it's becoming this safe place to find out about the teachings of Christ. It's a place where people have been changed by the teaching of the Bible."

"They are challenged to think through for themselves and what Christ says about his people."

St James' has a strong children's base, with a crèche, Sunday club and 14-18-year-olds club too.

The church has attendances of about 90 adults on Sunday mornings and 70 on Sunday evenings since White House School has opened and with 150 seats Rev Silk says there is still plenty of room for more people.



The Rev. Tim Silk at St James' Church in the village. W041553 Andrew Batt.

Antiques Centre a great asset to village



ONE of the biggest collections of historical artefacts and gems in the district can be found in the Barkham Antiques Centre in Barkham Street.

Slightly hidden away by large hedgerows on the roadside, the centre, which is set in an old barn and stables, caters for 50 different

around. Sam Hosgood, ex-chairman of the parish council, said: "It's a great asset for the village and it brings people in from all over the place."

"We get lots of Americans coming over as they all want to see the place where George Washington's family come from."

The opening times are

TIMES x2 **Competitions**

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Confidential, a leading dentist based in Sandhurst, is throwing open its doors on the evening of the 26th October 2004 from 7.30pm to officially launch its new company name and to demonstrate to the people of Wokingham how they can achieve their very own Hollywood smile.

The evening will consist of a champagne reception and the unique opportunity to see the results of cosmetic dentistry live, a first for the region. A member of the Confidential team will perform the BriteSmile procedure on a fortunate recipient demonstrating how their state of the art technology can make teeth up to eight shades whiter in just one hour.

In addition, a number of question and answer sessions will be held throughout the evening.

Barkham Antiques Centre on Barkham Street. W041576a.

Bull keen to preserve the history of the pub

BARKHAM'S only pub is The Bull which, like many of the rural ale-houses in Wokingham district, has a long and fascinating history.

Opinion is divided about when the pub was first built, although it is thought that, along with the pub of the same name in Arborfield, it was named after the Bullock family who ceased to be lords of Barkham manor in 1589.

The grade II listed building that currently exists dates from the early 1700s and was famous because it doubled up as a blacksmith for hundreds of years.

In 1982 the smithy was finally closed down and converted into a restaurant, despite resistance from most of the villagers.

Sam Hosgood, former parish council chairman, talks fondly of the days before gambling was legalised and the pub was on the route of a local gambling 'runner', who took bets from residents around the county to place them at an illegal bookmakers in Wellington Road, in Wokingham.

He said: "The Bull was the centre for many things in the village. Before gambling was legalised in 1966 the runner used to pass through here and all the parishes."

These days it is owned by Enterprise Inns and run by live-in managers Adrian and Susie Brunswick, who are keen to preserve the history of the pub as well as offering a full a la carte menu.

Mrs Brunswick said: "We've tried to keep it a country pub. It's a place where

Helping needy

THE Barkham Parochial Charities are a collection of five individual charities which from 1698 to 1893 had the objective of helping the poor people in the parish.

In 1933 the Charity Commission approved the administrative amalgamation of the charities under one set of trustees while preserving the individual identity and finances of each.

They still perform a valuable function today, and dispense small amounts of money to the needy in the parish each year, and they also give to those in the surrounding areas where necessary too.

Wearing another hat, Sam Hosgood is chairman of the trustees, and said the charities have moved with the times to provide the same type of service.

He said: "When I first came here my father-in-law used to use one of the milk floats to deliver coal to the old age pensioners who could not afford it.

"These days we will assist in other areas where we can help people financially."

Further information and requests for assistance should be addressed to the Mr Hosgood at webmaster@Barkham.org.uk

people come for a drink and a chat.

"We've kept it traditional because the customers like it that way. They all know who we are and I think people like that."

The pub is a relaxing place to sit with a pint of real ale, with a log fire roaring in the winter, and with the restaurant section serving up fresh food it's no wonder The Bull is featured in the Les Routiers guide.

The Brunswicks have also preserved the old smithy area in the restaurant, and are keen to put up copies of any old photos that villagers may want to donate.

Mrs Brunswick said: "Some of our locals used to work as apprentices in the smithy so we want to put it back to how it was as much as possible."

The pub is open every day from 11am to 3pm and then 5.30pm to 11pm. Food is served at lunchtimes (12pm to 2.15pm) and in the evenings (6pm to 9.15pm).

There is both a bar snacks menu and an a la carte menu for the restaurant section.



The Bull at Barkham. W041374c Picture by Andrew Batt.

making it one of the most interesting

every day including bank holidays.

Teeth Whitening and BriteSmile®

For whitening at the clinic, BriteSmile® facilities are available. Developed by a former NASA scientist, BriteSmile® (often referred to as a laser whitening process) can be completed from start to finish in just one hour. Following a consultation to ensure your teeth and gums are healthy, we protect them with an isolating material and take a 'before' picture.

The gentle BriteSmile® whitening gel is then applied and activated by a gas plasma light. After three 20-minute applications over a one-hour period, your whitening is completed and your 'after' picture is taken. This process can make your teeth up to eight shades whiter.

How to enter:

Answer the following question and send your completed entry form to:-

Confidential Competition, Wokingham Times, Unit 5, Anvil Court, 44 Denmark Street, Wokingham, RG40 2BB.

Question: What was Confidential formerly known as?

Closing date for entries is Friday 22nd October 2004. The winning entry will be drawn at the open evening.

Rules and Conditions:-

The basic terms and conditions of the prize must be that the person has a good level of oral health - to ascertain this a consultation will need to happen with Confidential prior to the whitening taking place. (This is included with the prize) If the person does not have the level of oral health needed we can't proceed - we will however allow them to transfer the prize to someone else. (This can happen once).

The winner if under 18 must have parental consent.

The prize must be used within 6 months after the closing date of the competition.

Usual Surrey & Berkshire Newspapers Ltd rules apply.



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Address:

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Answer:

Please tick this box if you do not wish for your details to be used for marketing purposes by Surrey & Berkshire Newspapers Ltd.

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HELP NEEDED WITH DEVELOPMENT BLUEPRINT



WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL

If you have an interest in shaping the future of the district then now is the time to have your say!

Wokingham District Council is asking for ideas on where different buildings - from homes, shops and offices to schools, leisure and health facilities - should be built as it draws up its plan for land use up to 2016.

To make your views known:

- Log on to www.wokingham.gov.uk and complete the survey available on the Planning pages or
- Collect a paper copy of the questionnaire from the Council's Shute End offices in Wokingham or from libraries throughout the district or
- Call (0118) 974 6478 or email policyandplans@wokingham.gov.uk to request a copy of the questionnaire...

...before October 29, 2004!

And, anyone with suggestions of any land in the district that could be considered for development in the future, subject to strict planning criteria, should also contact the Council on (0118) 974 6478.

Pride of Place



BARKHAM

Residents' Association has brought the village together

Essentially a rural community

EVIDENCE of human activity in the village of Barkham goes back 5,000 years although in recent centuries it has become famous throughout Berkshire for the quality of the milk from its dairy farms.

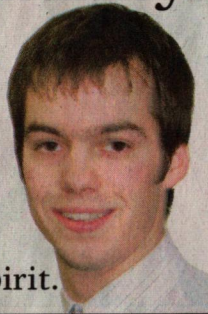
The Anglo-Saxon name recorded in 952 was 'Beorchamme' — meaning 'birch-tree meadow' — although the current day spelling has been used since the mid-16th century.

It is also famous for the connection with first US president George Washington, whose forebearers — the Ball family — come from the village.

One of the village's enduring legends is that the President's mother, Mary Ball, is buried in St James' churchyard.

The smallest parish in Wokingham district, dairy farming dominated its residents' lives until the early 1960s.

STEVEN HUGHES visits Barkham and discovers connections with first USA President George Washington, a strong sense of belonging and a very good community spirit.



One man who knows more about the village than most is Sam Hosgood, who retired earlier this year from the parish council after 36 years, 30 of those spent as chairman. The 75-year-old said: "The whole area was nearly all dairy farms. We used to collect the milk, pasteurise it and deliver it all round the area."

"Round here it was mostly Guernsey and Jersey herds, which produced quality milk. It was all about quality and not quantity."

"We were the first dairy farm anywhere in the world to use electric milking machines from Gascoigne's of Reading in the 1940s."

"That was actually the only reason they installed electric in the village. The cows didn't know what to do when they heard the noise it made — it frightened them to death."

When milk prices became standardised in the early 1960s most of the farmers changed to farm cattle for meat, as it became too expensive to continue with Guernsey and Jersey dairies.

has remained essentially rural with a strong sense of belonging and a good community spirit, solidified with the formation of Barkham Village Residents' Association in 1987.

Mr Hosgood said: "I think the main drawback with Barkham is that we've got no village centre, but since the residents' association has been formed it really has brought the whole village together as a community."

"There is a good membership from the estate in Elizabeth Park. Most of them are new to the district and it's formed a community."

"The village centre is the residents' association. There is a strong community spirit, which has been created by the parish council and the association working together."

"The residents association is one of the best things that happened to Barkham — it's gone from strength to strength."

The association and the parish council have joined forces on many occasions to arrange village events in recent years, most notably



A familiar village landmark, St James' Church, Barkham. W041551a Pictures by Andrew Batt

From a pressure group to a sociable organisation

Family of the first President of the US lived here

THERE is at least some evidence to suggest that the family of the very first president of the USA — George Washington — descended from Barkham.

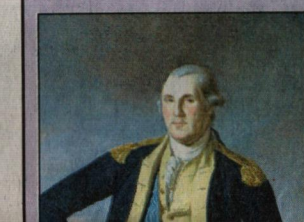
The village church register confirms that there was a family named Ball in Barkham from 1400 to 1600 — the same surname as Washington's mother Mary.

Evidence lies in a 1750 letter from Joseph Ball (George Washington's uncle) to Mary Johnson, who returned home to Wokingham from Virginia, which is seen as a connection between the Barkham and Virginia families.

Even stronger evidence lies in the fact a United States Congressional Committee of 1928 was of the opinion that William Ball of Barkham (who died in 1480) was the ancestor of George Washington.

Rumours have always floated round the village that Mary Ball is buried in the churchyard at St James', although this has never been fully backed up.

However strong the connection, the stories have resulted in a number of Americans visiting the village to see the place where their very first president's family emigrated from.



BARKHAM Village council was ditched, association is and the known as The Coombes.

Ex-chairman of Barkham Parish Council, Sam Hosgood. W041325d

1984 with the building of the Elizabeth Park Estate in The Junipers, the village

brations in 2000 and the Queen's golden jubilee celebrations in 2002.

Manor had many owners



The entrance to Barkham Manor. W041576b

BARKHAM manor as it now stands is an 18th century building split into eight different living apartments, accessible off Barkham Road just before The Bull roundabout as you travel from Wokingham.

There are few surviving records about the building before 1750, although it is known that the lordship was sold by Thomas Bullock (of the family that the pub is supposedly named after) to Edmond Standen in 1589.

The lordship passed through several families — you can read all about the wranglings and conflicts of the different lords of the manor in David French's and Janet Firth's *Barkham — a History*, which is just about the most detailed book on the village you will find.

The lake and gardens, which contain a plane tree (*Platanus orientalis*) which is reputedly some 450 years old, indicate that the manor may well have existed from early Tudor times.

It is thought the lake may have been a moat at one point. Barkham manor has remained a prominent feature in the village and is now a grade II listed building of special architectural or historic interest.

(BVRA) was initially created in 1987 as a pressure group to react against a huge development proposed for The Coombes.

The group succeeded in getting the proposal thrown out but continued as a social group for the whole village, providing a quarterly newsletter and website and organising various events.

With more than 500 households as members, it is seen by many as the fulcrum that keeps the village as a true community.

Digby Carter, chairman of BVRA, said: "Once that

idea to become a sociable organisation.

"The BVRA is the hub in which the village is joined. The main reason for continuing is that Barkham is a rather sprawling village. The post office is as close as you get to a village centre.

"A lot of people tend to commute to London and don't often say hello to their next door neighbour. We try to bring the village together with these events and they thoroughly enjoy themselves — it's about people getting to know each other."

The membership alone shows how popular the

ular too. Mr Carter always puts an April Fools' joke in the spring edition — last year he was inundated with calls from concerned residents after reporting there would be a naturalists' meeting on April 1 at The Junipers. Sadly no-one turned up *au naturel*.

Throughout the year the residents' association organises many events.

For more information visit www.barkham.org.uk □ ALTHOUGH the village is a rich rural area, the most notable nearby woodland is in the small valley between Barkham, Arborfield and Sindlesham

wildlife and a network of footpaths and bridleways. The Coombes' has been granted the status as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

It was the threat of housing on the Coombes that first triggered the launch of the Barkham Village Residents' Association (BVRA) and the area is well-loved by walkers and horse riders alike.

Bearwood Lake and the private grounds of the Bearwood College are nearby, while parking is available at the head of Coombes Lane, close to its junction with Bearwood Road, north of Barkham.



Portrait of George Washington

Over development the greatest danger



Cllr Pam Stubbs runs the village post office — the perfect place for residents to bend her ear about district issues.

MOST people who live in Barkham visit the post office in Bearwood Road on a fairly regular basis.

Quite appropriately it is owned and run by Barkham's only Wokingham District councillor, Pam Stubbs, who is also the chairman of the parish council following the retirement of Sam Hosgood earlier this year.

Cllr Stubbs hears all the village gossip from her position in the post office, and is also in the perfect place for resi-

dents to bend her ear about district issues.

She said: "It's now the only shop in Barkham village. It doesn't matter where I go in Wokingham I will bump into umpteen people who know me well.

"It's surprising how much people don't know how much you can hear through the glass. I hear lots of amusing stories and bits of excitement.

"If people want me to represent them they just come into the

shop. They know where to find me — it's very convenient."

Cllr Stubbs warns the biggest threat to the village, as with many others in the district, is over-development and a loss of identity.

She said: "We're fighting to not become just another suburb. It seems to be the case that if developers are turned down then they just come back with an appeal.

"If we're not careful then villages will dis-

appear. So far we've been lucky — it's very gratifying when the council achieves something almost immediately."

But despite the threat, Barkham can boast that it has the lowest crime rate in Wokingham district and people can generally get on with their lives quietly.

Cllr Stubbs added: "We're a very peaceful village — it's a nice place to live."

□ A NUMBER of groups and associa-

tions meet in Barkham — mostly in the village hall in Barkham Street, which must rate as one of the most utilised buildings in the village.

The parish council, Barkham pre-school, Barkham Wives, the karate club and the youth club are just a few of the organisations that meet in the hall on a regular basis.

For more information you can join visit www.barkham.org.uk/diary

Guide dogs will be missed

JUST outside the parish boundaries of Barkham village is what used to be one of the seven largest guide dog training centres in the country.

Opened in 1977, the Guide Dogs for the Blind centre on Barkham Road has trained around 2,400 dog and owner partnerships and at its peak trained 100 a year.

With 5,000 active dogs at any one time in the UK, the centre had an impressive turnover, catering for the needs of visually impaired people in most of the South East and all of London.

The organisation started a strategic review five years ago to reconfigure into smaller district team service bases to be nearer the client, and Wokingham effectively closed as a large centre at the end of 2003.

Despite the more office-style format, there are still eight dogs trained at any one time at the centre, and district team manager Brianey Ilott says the location has always helped get the best out of the dogs.

She said: "From Wokingham we now serve Oxford, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire. We've always been very welcomed in the locality and

people have always been very supportive of our work.

"We have used the back lanes for teaching country walks as it has given us options for training and country walking."

The centre has always relied on local people to help with housing the dogs when they are not being trained, as well as looking after puppies and being on call to deal with dogs that need care in emergency situations.

Because there are no longer kennels at the site the dogs that are being trained need to be housed locally for 12 weeks in a 'bed and breakfast'.

More pressing a need is that for puppy walkers — people who are able to look after the young dogs full-time for the first year of their life, familiarising them with day-to-day life.

Ms Ilott said: "We're always interested in puppy walking. In this scheme they will have the dog full time for the first year with the support of the staff who manage them.

Temporary boarders are also needed to look after dogs that have been treated at the vets and need

time to recover.

Ms Ilott said: "We're always looking for people who would be able to take a short term dog in an emergency situation.

"In times where a dog might have needed medical treatment and the owner cannot cope with it, we're looking for people who could board it for a day or two with 24 hour attention."

It has been well publicised that the guide dogs group will soon be moving away from the centre, as it is now too large for their needs.

But Ms Ilott said the organisation fully intends to remain in the Wokingham area. She added: "We've always been rather pleased that we're on the Barkham Road. We always thought it was quite appropriate.

"We're going to be office based but still within the Wokingham area. We find the support we've had invaluable in this area. It's been a lovely site to work at."

If anyone would like more information about any of the above schemes they should call Janet Parkinson on (0118) 989 5853.



Brianey Ilott and 18-month old Charlie, who will shortly complete his training and start life as a Guide Dog. W041551c

Nearly wiped off the map

IN 1985 the then Home Secretary Douglas Hurd tried to get rid of Barkham altogether by proposing boundary changes that would have seen Arborfield and Newland parish become Arborfield, Newland and Barkham parish.

The land that is known as Barkham would have been split between this new parish and the parish of Finchampstead.

Barkham Parish Council chairman Sam Hosgood led the campaign to save the village from being wiped from the map, and hundreds of residents wrote letters to Mr Hurd pleading with him to reconsider.

In October 1985 Cllr Hosgood wrote to all the villagers informing them

of the good news that the Home Secretary had changed his mind.

He said: "The Secretary of State has announced his decision on the boundary commissions proposals.

"He has decided that Barkham parish should not be abolished. The boundaries will be different but Barkham will continue as a parish.

"How did this happen? Because so many of you wrote and told him that you wanted it to! He recognised the strong sense of community within Barkham.

"On behalf of all the members of the parish council, may I thank you all for your wonderful support, without which we would never have won."

ST. JAMES' CHURCH BARKHAM

G. E. Cullimore

July 1976

The church of St. James at Barkham has a history of long and faithful services to the Church of England and to the village of Barkham. It also has a history of having exceedingly long serving Rectors spanning the years between the first recorded Rector in 1569 to the present time.

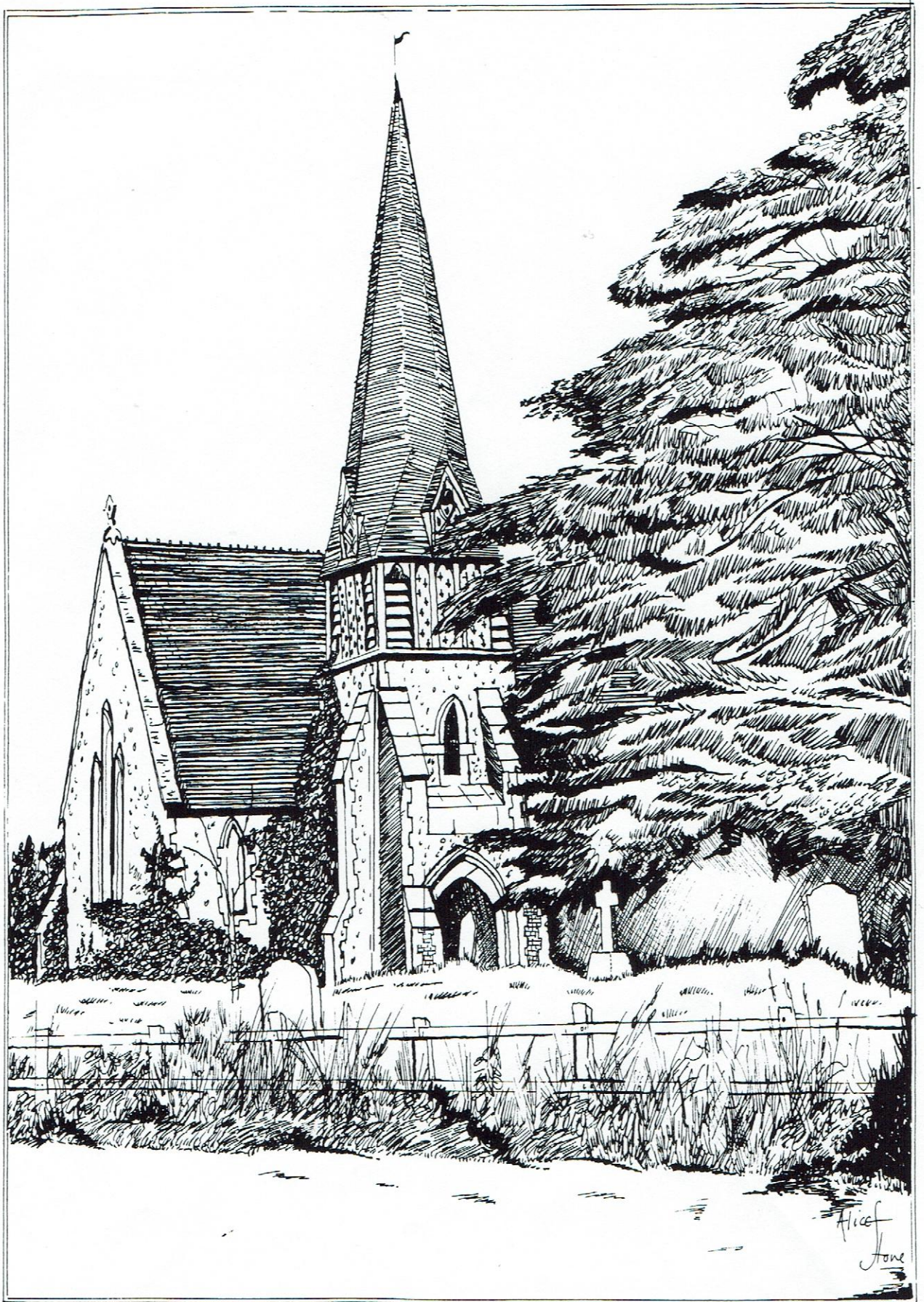
Christianity was brought to this part of Britain by St. Birinus in about the 7th century, and it was around this time that the monks of Abingdon Abbey were responsible for preaching at the village, most likely it is thought, by a preaching cross, as was the custom in those days. In those days Barkham was Beorcham (community round the Beech trees).

In Norman times Barkham's first church was built – and since then, there have been a succession of churches built on the same ground – upon rising ground, centre to a very widely spread village, stretching to Bearwood, Arborfield, Finchampstead and Wokingham.

A list of Rectors might serve to set the place of St. James in the ecclesiastical history of the village of Barkham.

1569	John Langridge	Queen Elizabeth I
1603–1623	Richardus Windeatt	James I
1653	Richard Bigg	Charles I
	(No Record – Civil War – Oliver Cromwell 1649–1660)	
1743–1769	Arthur Dawes	George II
		George III
1768–1782	John Gabriel	George III
1782–1819	David Davies	George III
1819–1863	H. E. St. John	George III
		George IV
		William IV
		Queen Victoria
1863–1886	Arthur Roberts (Curate, then Rector)	Queen Victoria
1886–1930	P. H. Ditchfield	Queen Victoria
		Edward VII
		George V
1930–1938	G. Gregory	George V
		Edward VIII
		George VI
1939–1974	C. C. Roycroft	George VI
		Queen Elizabeth II
1974–1975	F. T. Starbuck (Priest in charge)	Queen Elizabeth II
1978–1982	Ian H Bull	Queen Elizabeth II

Of these Rectors, Rev. David Davies vigorously supported farm workers – he wrote a book entitled "Care of the Labourers of Husbandry", he was so distressed by the condition of Barkham families. The story is told of the old clerk Elijah in the mid 19th century who, when Barkham Church was being rebuilt, attended nearby Bearwood Church. The old clerk arrived late, just when the Rector was giving out his text "What doest thou here Elijah?" Elijah gave a respectful salute and replied: "Please sir, Barkham Church be undergoing repair, so I be cummed 'ere!"



ST. JAMES' CHURCH
BARKHAM

The Parish Clerk was a vital member of Church Life until this century. He thundered out his sonorous "Amens", announced hymns and read the alternate verses in the psalms. He was really the sole representative of the minor orders, with which the ecclesiastical changes of the 16th century have left us. His duties were to assist the parish priest in the services – he not only attended services as a clerk, but also was the 'dog-whipper', to chase dogs out of church, wake up those slumbering during long sermons, and discipline unruly children with a hazel rod.

At the back of Barkham Church is the Clerk's Desk – now not used, but as part of Barkham Church History it is very valuable. (No. 4 on the plan)

As Barkham has always been essentially a rural parish, it is not surprising that its registers contain an interesting selection of rural occupations:

gamekeeper, brewer, maltster, smith, coachman, servant, shepherd, carter, yeoman, gardener, cordwainer (maker of leather boots), wainwright (wagon maker), cartwright (maker of carts), wheelwright, brazier, groom, corker, brick maker, stone mason, – in addition are other descriptions of the 'station' of the person e.g. Esquire, Publican, Bailiff, Gentleman!

Many of these people, until this century, were illiterate, and it is only their 'mark' to be found in the marriage registers, confirmed by the Parish Clerk or the Rector as being "The mark of"

The present building is comparatively new, having been built in the 19th century. The old Church was demolished in 1859 and the new Church consecrated in March 1861. The work was carried out under the instruction of John Walters of Bearwood, Grandson of the Founder of The Times Newspaper. A picture of the old Church hangs opposite the door of the Church.

Materials from the previous Church were used, and so we have the picturesque flint/stone for the main part of the structure. However by the time the east end was reached, there was no more flint stone and we are left with a contrast in stone work. The Tower and Spire contain mostly wooden materials but the back of the Tower can be seen, from one or two places in Church Lane, to have been built of Victorian brick.

The magnificent Cedar tree (No. 1 on the plan) is a tree of real beauty. It was given to the Church by Mrs Leveson Gower in 1788. It is interesting to note that, in the picture of the previous Church, the Young Cedar tree, although obviously considerably smaller, stands in relatively the same position to the Church as it does today.

It is interesting to reflect on the changes of Christian attitudes and ways of life in the days of the planting of that tree in 1788 and this year of 1976.

It is recorded in the Burial Register:–

1770 – August 15th – Mary Leslie, a Papist.

1775 – John Allright from Hurst – one of the people called a Methodist, therefore not carried into church.

Just before that time we have:–

1662 – Ockingham in the Diocese of Sarum.
(Wokingham) (Salisbury)

1706 – Yately in the County of Southampton.

Other amazing tit-bits from bygone days are such entries in Accounts, as:–

1827 – Paid for Sparrows	£1. 1.0
1827 – Paid for catching moles in Churchyard	£ 1.0
– Paid for 68 doz. Sparrows	£1.14.0

The Church has several interesting characteristics which I will number for the convenience of those not familiar with it.

1. The Cedar tree – 1788.
2. The door from the Church, which was demolished in 1859.
3. The wooden effigy of the Lady Agnes Neville, one of very few in the country – possibly 13th century.
4. The Clerk's desk.
5. Historic notice publicly displayed to state that the Church could only have a rebuilding grant of £90 last century if they numbered the pews and allowed 105 seats for the poor.
6. The font, which is decorated with winged cherubs, bears the family motto of the Clive family, who lived at the Manor between the 18th and 19th centuries. There is a memorial plaque to this family on the North Wall of the Church and the motto can be seen there. This is the only indication as to the possible donor of the font.
7. Hanging on the North Wall is a small engraving of the old Church of Barkham, previous to 1859. This was given to the Rev. Roycroft some years ago and he thought the right place for it was inside the Church: it hangs there to illustrate the continuation of Christian worship through the centuries in Barkham – the building may change, style of dress may change, attitudes to life may change, but the spirit of Christian unity in the Community must remain.
8. The memorial slabs in the floor of the central aisle and near the lectern and pulpit illustrate the variations in our written English over the past two centuries. These slabs were inset in the floor to preserve them when the Church was rebuilt, but because of their position they are becoming sadly worn and cracked. Some interesting facts are as follows:–
 - (i) y or y^e instead of the word 'the'
 - (ii) long \int instead of s in all but the first and last letter in a word. e.g. 'also' is 'al \int o'
 - (iii) words ending in 'full' such as 'dutiful' have double 'l' e.g. dutifull
 - (iv) in the white slab by the lectern, virtuous is spelt vertiovs, loving is spelt loveing, Wokingham is spelt Wockingham and the name Simonds is badly mis-cut, the 2nd and 3rd letters being hopelessly incorrect.
9. The Processional Cross, placed by the Rector's stall, was presented to the Church in memory of Edward Ball, who lived locally and is said to be an ancestor of George Washington. Mary Ball, his mother, appears to have lived in Wokingham in the 18th century. The cross bears an inscription relating to an earlier Edward Ball, 1560, reputed ancestor of George Washington. He is said to have left 5 shillings in his will in 1558 to buy a processional cross for the Church of Barkham.
10. The Hatchment is a coat of arms always used in the 17th or 18th century. Its design tells the story of the married states of a deceased person. It was hung for some months in front of the house of the deceased person and then hung in church. The word "Resurgum" is not a motto but a statement of belief. "I will rise again".

The background is either completely black or half black and half white according to the married state of the deceased.

Batchelor - Arms are single

Widower - Arms are divided into two (husband's and wife's arms)

Spinster - Arms are single, lozenge shaped

Widow - Arms are divided into two, lozenge shaped

Half black, half white background.

If the married man dies before his wife, the left side is black and the right side is white (as you look at it).

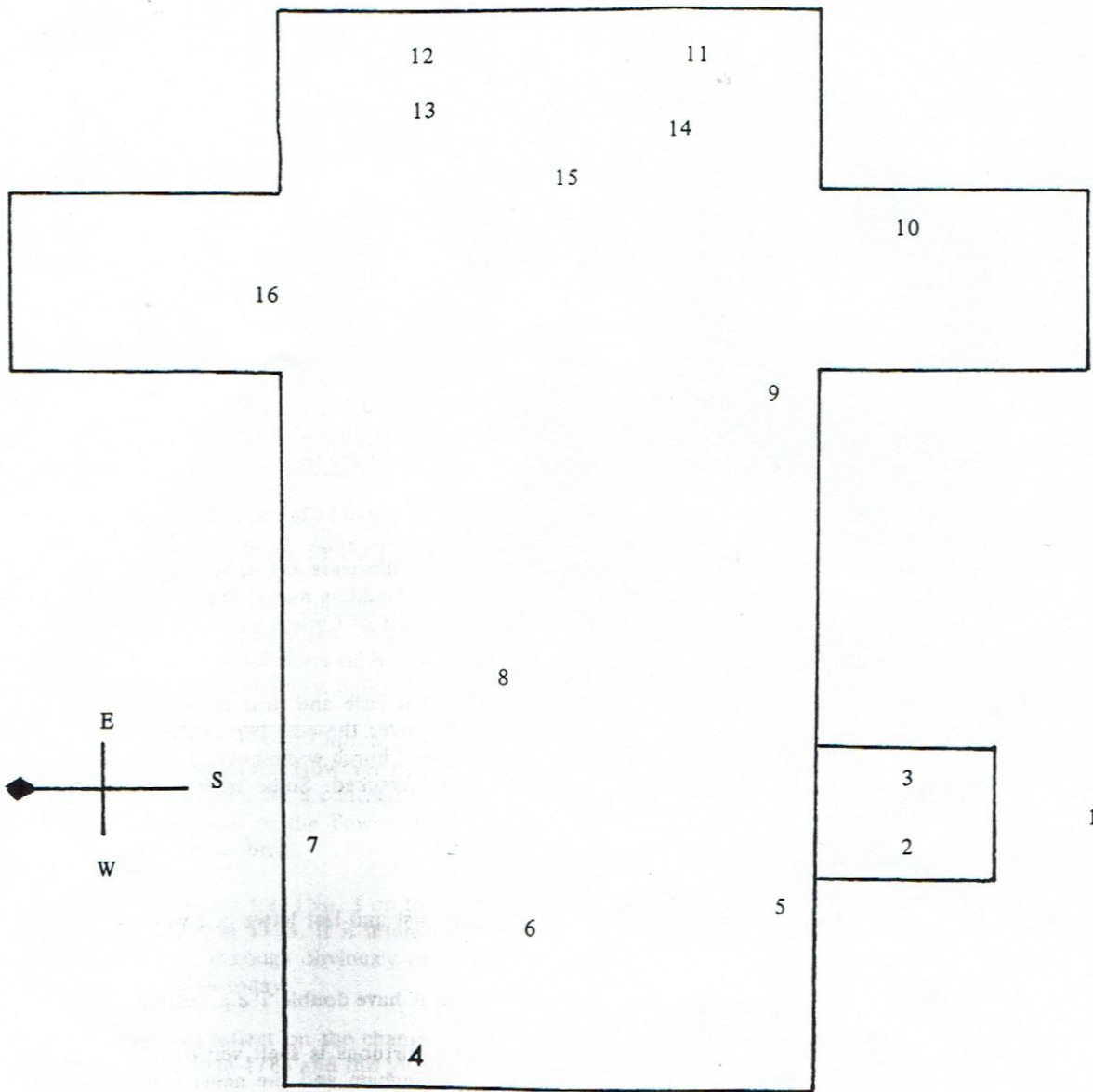
If the married woman dies before her husband, the left side is white and the right side is black.

11. The Reredos was presented to the Church in memory of the Rev. Ditchfield by the Berkshire Archeological Society, of which society, he had been a very active member. He was the author of many books on local history.
12. The Candlesticks were donated to the Church by Mr. Brown who is described as "a dissenter".
13. The brass 'alms dish' was given by Mrs. Ditchfield in memory of a Mrs Allwright who taught in the infant school and conducted the choir.
14. Two of the Altar frontals, the Red and the White, were made for the Church by Mrs. C. Pigott, the wife of a former headmaster of the school.

16. The Organ is a conglomeration of odds and ends of many organs spanning a long period of time, so I was told by the organ builder who overhauled it a few years ago. It was handpumped until recently, which gave great joy to the pumping boy (to whom the Rector gave 6d a service!) - frequently the boy would cease to pump - enjoying the sound of wailing notes as the pressure declined and the sound faded away.

This brief outline of the history of St. James' Church Barkham, serves to underline the results of labours, love and interest we have been fortunate enough to inherit.

In order to fulfil our obligations and responsibilities to posterity, we must all continue to support our Church in every possible way.



ST. JAMES' BARKHAM
 built to the Glory of God in the perfect form of a cross

SAXON CHARTER A.D 952

GRANT OF BEORCHAM BY KING EADRED TO HIS VASSAL ELFWINE

Description of bounds of land granted

This synd thara threora hida londgemaero to Beorcham:

These are the land boundaries of the three hides at Barkham:

*1. Aerest thaet of Ceollanwylle and lang Rithe to thaes Hagan
End;*

1. First from Ceolla's Spring along the Streamlet to the End
of the Game Fence or Enclosure;

2. Thonne and lang Hagan to Cnottinga Hamme;

2. Then along the Game Enclosure to the Enclosure of the
Family of Cnotta;

*3. Thonne of Cnottinga Hamme for be Wyrtwalan and lang Slades
to Hwitan Stane;*

3. Then from the Enclosure of the Family of Cnotta by the
Hillfoot along the Slade [valley] to White Stone;

4. Thonne from Hwitan Stane and lang Straet to Loddera Straet;

4. Then from White Stone along the Made Road to Beggars'
Street [made road];

5. Thonne of Loddera Straet eft to Ceollan Wylle.

5. Then from Beggars' Street to Ceolla's Spring again.

ENTRY FOR BARKHAM IN DOMESDAY SURVEY 1086

IN CERLEDONE HD.

Rex teñ in dñio Berchehã. Elmer tenuit de rege
E. Tċ 7 m̄ p̄ iii hid. Tr̄ a ê iii cār. In dñio
ċ una 7 vi uilli 7 iiii bord̄ cū iii cār. Ibi v
āc pti. Silua de XL porc. Valuit iiii lib
T.R.E. 7 m̄: iii lib.

IN THE HUNDRED OF CHARLTON

The King holds Barkham in demesne. Elmer held it
of King Edward [the Confessor]. Then, as now, it
was rated for three hides [c.360 acres]. The land
is three ploughlands. In demesne there is one
ploughland. There are six villeins, four bordars
with three ploughs. There are five acres of pasture.
Wood for the pasturage of forty hogs. It was worth
£4 in the time of King Edward [1042-66], afterwards,
and now £3.

ARCHDEACONRY COURT OF BERKSHIRE

B.R.O. ref. D/A1/103/231

Willm prytye of Barkham

In the name of god Amen The second day of november in the yere of our lord god 1575 I Willm pretie of the p[a]rishe of Barkham Beinge sicke in my bodie But whole in mynd & memorye thanks be to god do orden & make this my laste will & testament in maner & forme ffolowinge **ffirste** I bequethe my soule to Almightye god my maker & Redemer & my bodye to be buried in the churchyarde of Barkham Aforsayd **It[e]m** I bequethe to the mother churche of new Sar[um] ij.d **It[e]m** I will & geve to katherin my wiffe two kine w.^{ch} I have now in vfe & all the chese w.^{ch} ys Remayninge & left beinge made of the same two kine Also I geve to katherin my wiffe Rie & haye liynge in the Barne w.^{ch} ys knowen by viewe & iij.li in monye to be payd yerelye xx.s duringe iij yeres & x shepe w.th one Bedd & all that belongethe thereto w.^{ch} she Brought w.th her & the Best coffer **It[e]m** I will & geve to Jane Biddle my wiffes doughter one cubbard **It[e]m** I give to ffraunces pretie ij pewter platters **It[e]m** I geve to margeret pretie ij pewter platters **It[e]m** I geve to Alice pretie the Bedd w.th thapp[a]rell w.^{ch} she now liythe on **It[e]m** I geve to John pretye one cubbard in the hall & ij pewter platters w.th one litle Brasse pott & the Bedd w.^{ch} he lyethe vpon **It[e]m** I geve

to Alice prettye Aforsayd one pewter platter one candilstike &
one posnete All the Residue of my goods vngeven & bequethed I
will & geve to Thomas prettie my Sonne whom I make my Wholle
executore payinge my debtes & legasies & seinge my bodie to be
desentlye layd in the yerthe **It[e]m** I orden & Electe Thomas
Symes & R[ob]arte Bullocke to my overseers of this my Laste
will & testament & do geve them Aucthoritye to se the same
ffullfilled & to have for there paynes ...d A pece

Witnesses Willm pigote

Richerd Bullocke

Grant of Probate 15th February 1575 [1576]

william pretty of Barkham

In the name of god Amen The second day of November in the year
of our lord god 1575 I William pretty of the parishes of Barkham Berke
shire in my body but words in mynd & memorye have be to god do order
& make this my last will & testament in waight & forme followinge
First I bequeeth my soule to Almighty god my spirite & Redemer & my
bodye to be buried in the churchyarde of Barkham & praye that I bequeeth
to the mother church of new Bary ij s I thinke I will & geve to the vicar
my wyffe two shillings w^{ch} I geve now in w^{ch} & ad the w^{ch} w^{ch} becomynge
& left Kinge made of the said two shillings & geve to the vicar my wyffe
two shillings lynes in the Barre w^{ch} be known by the w^{ch} in the m^{ch}
to be payd yearlye w^{ch} duringe ij years & x p^{ch} w^{ch} out w^{ch} & all
that belongeth thereto w^{ch} I bequeeth w^{ch} for & the best rooster I thinke
I will & geve to Jane Biddle my wyffes daughter one rubbard I thinke I geve
to Annas parson ij pewter platters I thinke I geve to Margaret parson ij
pewter platters I thinke I geve to Alice parson the w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch}
now lynes and I thinke I geve to the vicar one rubbard in the said & ij pewter
platters w^{ch} one little brass w^{ch} & the w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} I
geve to Alice parson & praye that she pewter platter one candlestick & one pocket
w^{ch} the vicar of my goods & bequeeth I will & geve to Thomas
parson my Sonne upon I make my w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch} w^{ch}
& bequeeth & praye my bodye to be buried in the church I thinke I order
& direct Thomas Symes & the vicar of Barkham to my church of this my
last will & testament & do geve my authority to the said vicar
& to paye for the payme of the vicar witnesses william pretty
Richard Fullorke

Robt. nova ... 1575

Will of
William
Pretty

An inventorye Taken the xxix^{ti} daye of december in
y.^e yere of o.^r Lord god 1575 of the goods of Willm
prettye of Barkham in the countye of Barkes Late
deaceassed preased & valued by ffrauncis Bouthe gent
Thomas Simes Robart Bullocke & Will[i]am pigoote

Inprimis in the hall ij tables one forme ij cubbards & ij chayres	v.s
It[e]m in the chamber ij flockbeds w. th the healinges iij payre of Shettes & one tableclothe	xxxiiij.s iiiij.d
It[e]m his App[a]rell	xx.s
It[e]m of tubbes Boles kevers treen dishes & trenchers	v.s
It[e]m in the kitchin ij Brasse pots ij kettles one chaffer & one candilstike	xiiij.s
It[e]m of pewter vij platters one pottinger one saucer & a salte	vij.s
It[e]m one Brotche ij cobards A payre of pothokes one payre of pothangers one Bill one axe & all other implements of Iron	iiij.s iiiij.d
It[e]m iiiij oxen & ij geldinges	viiij.li x.s
It[e]m xxviiij sheppe	iiij.li x.s
It[e]m ij kine	iiij.li vj.s viij.d
It[e]m in the filde ix Acres of Rie	iiij.li
It[e]m ij yokes & ij chaines A plowe w. th other Irons	vij.s
It[e]m of otes & Rye xiiij Bushels	xix.s
It[e]m iij hoggs & one flitche of Bakon	xiiij.s iiiij.d
It[e]m ij Lode of haye	xij.s
It[e]m halfe A q[ar] ^{tr} of Rye	v.s vj.d
It[e]m otes ij quarters	ix.s

It[e]m cheses	iiij.s iiiij.d
It[e]m iiij coffers	ij.s vj.d
It[e]m A pouderynge Troffe	xx.d
It[e]m vj hennes & one coke	ij.s viij.d

Som[ma] in Totalis xxvj.^{li} ix.^s iiiij.^d

The condicon of this obligacon is such That whereas William Prettie late of the parissh of Barkham in the countie of Berkes deceased made his last will and testament and in the same did constitute and appoynt Thomas Prettie his sonne his sole executor and gave divers legacies in the said testament as by the same more at large appeareth If the said Thomas Prettie his executors administrators & assignes do well and truly content satisfie and pay to the legataries vnder age all such legacies and bequestes dew vnto them by vertue of y.^e last will and testament of the said William Prettie deceased according to y.^e trust reposed in hym And do make a full true and p[er]fect accompte of and vppon his doinges in this behalf when so ev[er] he shall be there vnto lawfully required That then this obligacon to be voide and of none effecte Or els to stand in full strength power force and Vertue

Sealed & deliu[er]ed as the deed of y.^e w.thin named Thomas pretty to the vse w.thin named in y.^e p[re]sence of vs Edward Blagraue John norman & Robart ...ye

Bond in Latin of Thomas Prettie of Barkham, husbandman and Thomas Sims of Barkham, yeoman for £30

ANALYSIS OF WILL AND INVENTORY

Testator: William Pretty
Date of Will: 2nd November 1575
Date of Burial: 24th December 1576
Date of Probate: 15th February 1575 (1576 new style)
Court: Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire
B.R.O. ref: D/A1/103/231
Executor: Thomas Prettie (son), husbandman
Overseers: Thomas Symes, yeoman
Robert Bullocke
Witnesses: William Pigote
Richard Bullocke

Bequests:

Mother Church of New Sarum: 2d.
Katherin wife 2 cows, cheese therefrom, rye & hay in barn, £3 (in 3 equal annual instalments), 10 sheep, a bed, best coffer
Jane Biddle a cupboard
(wife's daughter)
Frances Pretie 2 pewter platters
Margaret Pretie 2 pewter platters
Alice Pretie a bed, a pewter platter, a candlestick, a posnet
John Pretye a cupboard, 2 pewter platters, a brass pot, a bed
Thomas Prettie son residue of goods
Overseers ..d. each

Inventory:

Date	29th December 1575		
Appraisers	Francis Bouthe, gentleman Thomas Simes, yeoman Robert Bullocke William Pigoote		
Sum Total	£26.	9s.	4d.
Chamber & clothes	£ 2.	5s.	10d. 9%
Hall	£ 0.	5s.	0d. 1%
Kitchen	£ 1.	10s.	0d. 6%
Animals	£16.	2s.	8d. 62%
Rye (9 acres)	£ 3.	0s.	0d. 11%
Grain	£ 2.	5s.	6d. 9%
Equipment	£ 0.	7s.	0d. 1%
Cheeses	£ 0.	3s.	4d. 1%

Although the sum total in the probate inventory is £26. 9s. 4d., the above break-down totals £25. 19s. 4d.

C190
Jou. Almynt

In the name of god Amen the xxijth day of the moneth of October Anno Dni 1588. in the xxth year of the
Reigne of our soveraigne Lady Elizabeth quene of Englande ffraunce & Irelande Defender of the faith
ff Joan Almynt of Warvetham in the countie of Warke married beinge weake & sicke in body but in god
and perfect remembrance god therefore be thanked make & ordeine this my last will & testament in
manner & forme followinge. first I bequeath my soule into the handes of almyghty god my maker & redemer
And my body to be buried in the churche of the Holy Trinity ward of Warvetham aforesaid from I give & bequeath to my
dearest sonne Edward a summe of xxij^{li} s. from I give unto William ffraunce peboroll a summe of xxij^{li} s. to be
to him from I give unto my sonne Edward my biggest brother & my eldest brother from I
give to my daughter Joan peboroll two shrotes or els so far from from I give to my daughter
Annye one shrote or els in money too shillings. from I give to my daughter Agnes a one
shrote that I like best. from I give to margaret peboroll my eldest wyfe in the chamber
Dore. from I give to my daughter Joane one fawne bedsted standing in the best chere the fytton
from I give unto matheo hedges xij^{li} s. from I give unto my sonne Edward his fyve
children in money xij^{li} s. a peere from I give to ffraunce peboroll a home from I give to
ff Jone quene my goddaughter xij^{li} s. from I all the rest of my goodde, unbequeathed I give & bequeath
unto my sonne Nicholas. whome I make my whole executor of this & my last will & testament
& further my will is that he & mynde it that my sonne Nicholas shall see me well & orderly brought
to the yerte. & shall give & bestowe at the day of my buriall one barrell of beere & xij^{li} s. of bread
In witness whereof I the said Joane have to this my last will & testament sette my hand this
xxijth day of October 1588.

Witness beinge Robert white the writer herof
and Christopher Dye & Nicholas Hornd

Will of
Joan Almynt
of Warvetham
1588

CIPD

The Inventorie of all the goods & cattell of Joana Alnot of
 Barthelem, in the countie of Barthelem, late dissolved
 taken & indifferently prayed, the xxijth day of April
 Anno Domini 1589, by George Alwade & Nicholas Stone of
 Barthelem aforesaid xx

Item for wearing apparell prim	xxij
Item for bedding prim	viii
Item one ^{bed} bolster, ij pillows one rokerlet & a bedsted. prim	xxvi
Item a subbord in the chamber prim	liij
Item ij covers prim	vi
Item the painted stoves in the chamber	
Item one bedsted, a painted stove and a testerns in the loft prim	ij
Item a table, ij stools & a chayer in the hall. prim	iiii
Item one board and the bench	ij
Item the painted stoves in the hall prim	xxv
Item ij brasse pottes prim	iiii
Item ij ^{brasse} prim	viii
Item a panno & ij bottles prim	v
Item the penster. prim	
Item ij sandelstikes & a raffing dyge. prim	ij
Item a brose & a dropping panno prim	xxvii
Item ij andirons a payre of pott hangars & a payre of tongs	xxviii
Item olde tubbes in the kitchen prim	xxix
Item ij billes	xxx
Item a wedge & a pair of shoes	xxxij
Item for an arse & a halfe of vis prim	xxxiii
Item a quarter of vis xxvii a buff ball prim	xxxiv
Item w th shewte prim	xxxv
Item ij Linc prim	xxxvi
Item ij bullockes prim	xxxvii
Item ij mares. prim	xxxviii
Item a stoke of haye prim	xxxix
Item ij horses and a cowe prim	xl

Summa totalis xli. xviij

Christoforo Colombo e Margarita de Soto
 de Barthelem, mercaderes de Barthelem, Escriba de mandado
 de su señoria, para el presente de su mandado
 de Barthelem a 15 de Mayo de 1589

Bonds

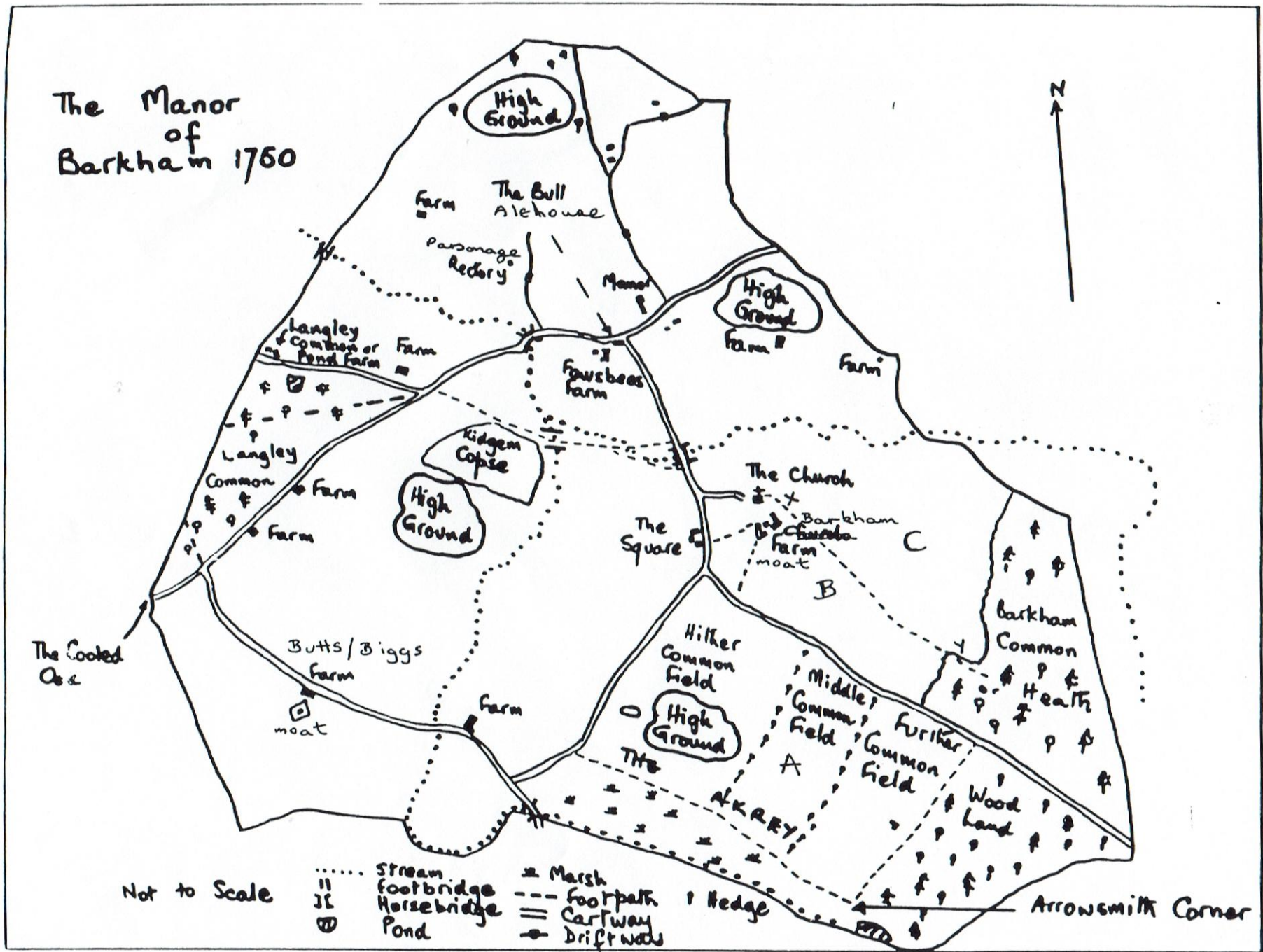
An Inventory of the goods & chattels of James Davis
writen in the parish of Bartsam, London May 12th 1642.

	l	s	d
Inprimis, 2 kins, 1 bullitt, 1 mare	6	10	0
Item the goods in the cheambox, 2 ffatex bods, 2 ffatex bolts, 1 fflockbod, 1 Lugg, 2 blanketts, 1 ioynd bodstod, 1 boardd bodstod	2	5	0
More in the cheambox, 1 supboard, 3 thefts, 1 box, 1 safe, 1 trunk	1	0	0
More in the cheambox, 5 kottels, 2 pans, 5 skottels, 3 brass handloftitts, 2 brass pott	2	6	8
More in the cheambox, 12 portex plattens, 1 portex salt toller, 1 aquixita bottle, 1 portex cheambox pott, 2 portex pott, 3 sawter	1	0	0
More in the cheambox, 4 fixtins	0	4	0
More in the cheambox, 5 payre ons foot, 1 supboard slot, 1 table slot, 4 napkins, 1 tousing for a bodstod	1	2	0
More in the cheambox, 3 sculob, fflat , 1 ladon, 1 tgidob tgyro, 2 fruit disstod	0	2	2
Item in the staffole, 5 ioynd stool, 1 boardd bodstod, 1 salt loadd bodstod, 3 thefts, 1 table, 1 ffatex bod, 2 pillows, 1 wooden wgeol	0	10	0
Item in the gall, 1 supboard, 1 table, 1 foxing, 1 plank, 1 portering troug, 2 sculob, 2 kinnon wgeols, 2 tgyro, 2 stool, 1 mousing tubbo, 2 kinnon, 1 portering tubbo, 1 butter tgyro	1	0	0
More in the gall, 1 payre of karkob, 1 payre of long, 1 fix of cowell, 1 barre for tuxte, 2 pott sanger, 2 payre of pott soter, 2 frying pan, 3 silob, 3 bills, 1 satter, 1 sand fan, 1 spitt, 1 thowox, 1 iron kollott, 1 brooding kmp, 1 tammox, 1 basting kadd, 1 wooden mextox, 1 iron postoll, 2 putong, 2 spades, 1 basting iron 2 loadon, waigne	0	16	0
More in the gall, 6 wooden disstod, 12 spoon, 1 dozen of trons, 1 wooden platt, 2 vartex platt, 1 butter basett, 1 lantorne, 2 sautegob, 8 tgeob fatt, 3 butlets, 5 vartex milkepan, 2 boult, 1 leatgerne bottle, 1 grindstone, 3 pipkins	0	8	0
More in the gall, 3 flittes of baton	1	16	0
Item 1 saddle, 1 bridel	0	1	0
Item 1 wearing apparell	1	0	0
Item 4 gont, 1 totto, 1 tjetton	0	5	0

Item an obligation or debt of 60, due from
Gor Ritgair Lydall knight to the intestate } Summ 20 - 5 - 10
60 - 0 - 0

Inventory of
goods
James Davis?
1642

Exhibitur fuit tunc invenit apud London cartam de mensura
in Anno dñi 1642. pro Johanne de illis pro et nomine
e domini videlicet de bono et p[ro]prietate Jacobi
m[er]iti in sui p[ro]prietate pro damno p[ro]prietate pro reo p[ro]prietate
m[er]itavio bono et qua cartam de sub p[ro]prietate
d[omi]ni p[ro] James Hallway Reg[is]trarius



settlements of the parish were in the sheltered southerly facing re-entrants below the Coombes on the

and footbridges in the domain with wood provided by the Lord of the Manor



Duns Ford

Hilary Common

BARKHAM PARK

Barkham

Ward

West Court

Duns Ford

Sharnstead

Everly

New Mill

Sinch

Moss