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The Judges' Houses, East Grinstead.

The
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of the
EAST GRINSTEAD
SOCIETY

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THE EAST GRINSTEAD SOCIETY

The Society was founded in 1968 to protect and improve the amenities of East Grinstead and its environs. The town has a long history and a unique architectural heritage, entrusted for the time being to the hands of our generation. It should be our concern that such contributions as we in turn make are worthy of the past and a fitting bequest to the future.

The Society arranges regular talks, discussions and visits. It produces a *Bulletin* of articles of local interest and a *Newsletter* thrice yearly. Its 1969 report on the High Street conservation area was well received as a basis for future policy. It is very active in monitoring all planning applications and making representations to the authorities on planning issues. It has held six exhibitions, planted trees, restored the churchyard railings and financed tree-ring dating of some buildings in the High Street. It has also produced surveys of trees, seats and playground equipment, provided a plaque by the mass grave of victims of enemy action in Mount Noddy cemetery and presented seats in memory of leading former members to Sackville College and the High Street. It has published a book of reminiscences, three sets of postcards reproducing old photographs and two town trails (one of them also in French) and, with the Town Council, established the now independent Town Museum.

The Society is registered as a charity (no.257870) and with the Civic Trust and is a member of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. A copy of its constitution is available on request.

The strength of such a Society lies in the extent to which it can be seen to represent public opinion; the larger the membership the greater the influence. The subscription is £10 p.a., renewable on 1 January every year (except by those joining on or after 1 October). Persons wishing only to receive the *Bulletin* can do so at a special rate of £5 per calendar year, payable in advance to the Editor (address on cover).

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EDITORIAL

Our last editorial emphasised the preponderance in our pages of work in progress over 'definitive summation'. The hope must always be that anything of significance that makes its first public appearance in the *Bulletin* may eventually contribute to, or itself appear, in more widely circulated and more prestigious periodicals or even in books. We may thus hope both to give a first airing to aspects of the work of established researchers and also to give beginners their first appearance in print. Those with anything relevant to the ancient parish of East Grinstead to offer are urged to do so: and all readers are urged to show particular articles to those with particular interests – not only the scholars but all who know and love this part of the world.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO: *Bulletin* 22 (September 1977) reveals a most active Society. For the silver jubilee we had a 'very striking' stand, designed by Mr D.G. Joyce, at the exhibition of local organisations at King George's Hall, our junior members took part in the historical pageant procession as the conquerors of Everest, a group of members and friends led by Mr D.G. Jefferies and working with Granthams of Ashurst Wood restored the churchyard railings, and we launched our first town trail. The whole print-run of 1000 trails sold out within three months and so another 5000 were ordered. We also began the regular scrutiny of all planning applications that continues to this day. 'At a time when the Town Council is lamenting the lack of officers able to give specialist advice we are lucky to have among our members several trained in architecture, surveying and town planning, so that our comments can be reasonable and well informed.' At the Town Council's request we set up a sub-committee to report on the condition of listed buildings and relocated the Town Museum (then our responsibility) to the rooms it still occupies today. Most space, however, was devoted to historical articles, on various early 19th century local paintings, on cloth-working here, on a rare book, *Pious and religious advice* by a local resident, W. Trice (1794), and on a local map dated to c.1740. There was also a chronology of Chequer Mead and Sackville School and several shorter notes.

COVER PICTURE: 'The Judges' Houses, East Grinstead', drawn by Herbert Railton, from W.O. Tristram, *Coaching Days and Coaching Ways* (1893). 1-2 Judges Terrace, left centre, is the subject of an article on pp.4-7 below. On the right are the Round Houses, demolished 30 April 1891 (to be replaced by Constitutional Buildings) and therefore an indication of the date of the drawing. On Railton (1858-1910) see the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

AS OTHERS SAW US (17): 'East Grinstead ... shows, at one end, in the old High Street, harmony, order, and repose; and at the other, the approach from London, stridency, vulgarity, and aesthetic chaos. It is well that, as at Uckfield, the demarcation line between good and bad is clear, so that the quality of the High Street is not marred by any individual ugliness.' – Reginald Turnor in R. Lawrence & R. Turnor, *Vision of England: Surrey – Sussex* (1957), p.169.

AS WE SAW OURSELVES (9): 'I dwell in a Grinstead lane, / Grinstead every town surpasses! / Elsewhere you may seek in vain, / for such bonny blooming lasses.' – from Edward Gardner's, 'Sally Gardner' [written in the South Atlantic in 1847 on the *Edmonstow*], in his *Home Revisited; and other attempts at poetry* (1851), p.36. See pp.12-14 below for an account of the poet and his works.

BULLETIN 76 (Spring 2002): The editor apologises for several careless errors with names. William Infield should be William Inwood (p.7), James Edward Alfrey should be James Arthur Alfrey (p.11), Edward Underhill should be John Underhill (p.13), *Broadstone Warren* should be *Broadstone House* (p.16).

THE SOCIETY'S DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT

An interim summary of the findings of this project was printed in *Bulletin* 73 (Spring 2001) and more detailed study of one of them, 7-9-11 High Street, in *Bulletins* 75 (Winter 2001-02) and 76 (Spring 2002). Since then two more buildings have been tested, Amherst House, 68 High Street, and Tickeridge, near Kingscote station. Full details are awaited but it can be revealed that Amherst has been dated to 1369-70, some three decades later than had been suggested on other grounds.

What follows is addenda and corrigenda to the articles on 7-9-11 High Street and a more detailed study of 1-2 Judges Terrace from the final report on the initial project and as gathered from documentary sources.

7-9-11 HIGH STREET

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

M.J. Leppard

The suggestion on p.13 of *Bulletin* 76 that the 17th century rear bay of the crosswing might be the penthouse erected by William Payne must be ruled out; the penthouse is explicitly stated to be 'in the street' and, as recognised in *Bulletin* 75 (p.15), 7-9-11 is not necessarily the property to which it was added. On the same page, 'Edward Underhill' should be John Underhill.

Identification of the *Green Dragon* with 7-9-11 (p.14) was repeated in good faith from Mr Wood's study of the topography of the borough¹. Unfortunately none of the known references to the *Dragon* gives any precise indication of its location, but collation of the names of occupants of High Street properties in a wider range of documents shows that it must actually have been at no.13, replaced in 1892 by a bank (now a restaurant). Everything else said about the *Dragon* was correct.

It has not proved possible to establish with any certainty who occupied the building in the greater part of the 18th century, when documentation of our history is much sparser than in the centuries before or after. However, an 1881 abstract of Lord De La Warr's title to properties in the town, though far from reliable in every particular, clearly refers to 7-9-11 in its listing of 'one burgage bought of Benjamin Driver, formerly Blatts, then James Sales and George Wood, rent £15'.² James Serles and George Wood are given consecutively as occupants of a house, outhouse, yard and garden, rents £8 and £7 respectively, in the 1811 Sackville Settlement Act.³ In that document the properties are listed in order along the street and the identification is confirmed by the appearance in the right places of James Searles, taylor, and Mrs Tooth, dealer, in the same year's draft census return⁴. Mrs Tooth, perhaps a sub-tenant of Wood, is thus at our nos 7-9 and Searles at 11. A tailor named Serles is listed in Palmer's 1799 rhyming directory of the town, perhaps this James, perhaps the William Searles, taylor and salesman, of the *Universal British Directory* five years earlier. William Serles, a tenant of Lord Sackville, seems to be in the right place in the 1785 land tax⁵. Mrs Tooth is still at 7-9 in 1815⁶ but after that there is as yet a gap in our knowledge.

Concerning later occupants of the building, Mr Gould kindly informs us that Müller was at no.7 in the 1890 directory but only as non-resident shopkeeper, hence his non-appearance there in the 1891 census. Frankie Peirce, a bachelor, latterly worked at his home, 101 Queens Road, dying 27 June 1935 aged 67⁷. Mr G. Wickenden points out that there is still Horsham stone on the hipped roof at the eastern end of the building. He adds that it was Miss Edith Miller who had the shop at no.11 by 1923, subsequently passing it to her sister Elsie Alice Miller, a relative of the Wickenden family which still runs it today. A summary history, prepared by the present writer, is now displayed in his shop-window.

1-2 JUDGES TERRACE

EARLY STRUCTURAL HISTORY, prepared for the survey by the late Peter Gray

1-2 Judges Terrace was constructed as a four-bay hall house with apparently a two-bay open hall. Early alterations to the west end of the building make the original details a little uncertain. As it now stands it was built up against the end of Clarendon House with the party wall being part of the Clarendon House structure. It is not possible to say whether it was earlier or later than Clarendon House. Certainly they were both built at about the same time, c.1450. The actual alterations at the west end next to Clarendon House could have been up to 20 years later. The location with a lane to the east probably marks and dates an extension to the borough. The lane (now a passageway to some back development) originated as the continuation of London Road before it was diverted to Ship Street.

LATER STRUCTURAL HISTORY, summarised from report 1391 (A.D. 2000) on project 1286 of Archaeology South East, part of the Institute of Archaeology, University College, London

In the mid-16th century a first floor was inserted in the open hall and a chimney in the hall's low end. In the 17th century the present chimney was inserted in the high end, quality ceilings put in, the front fenestration updated, the eastern end wall partially reconstructed, a cellar intruded and a rear range added. In the mid-18th century a new brick façade including new windows and a high parapet completely transformed the external appearance. Various alterations and subdivisions in the next two centuries included division into two dwellings. In the 20th century the present large rear range was constructed and the building restored to single occupancy.

NOTE: In his more detailed account of 1-2 Judges Terrace and Clarendon House in *Bulletin* 56 (Spring 1995), pp.11f. Mr Gray considered that 1-2 Judges Terrace was older than Clarendon House and shortened to accommodate it. He subsequently revised that view in the light of the survey summarised above and held that 1-2 Judges Terrace was extended westwards by 5 feet to meet it.

DENDROCHRONOLOGICAL

D.H. Miles and M.J. Worthington

This building originated as an unjettied three-bay hall house. Like a number of other nearby buildings it had a two-bay open hall with plain crown-post truss. It appears to have been built originally (felling date winter 1447-48) on a two rod plot but, judging by the date range of a single sample from the rear wall plate (felling date range 1432-64), it was extended by 5 feet (1.5m.) very soon after it was built to abut against the adjoining Clarendon House.

DOCUMENTARY

M.J. Leppard

The belief that 1-2 Judges Terrace was a late addition to the lay-out of the borough is supported by the earliest documentary reference, in the survey of 1564, where it has no portland, merely accounting for one burgage, owned and occupied by William Stanford⁸. He, or a namesake, is first found in the borough in 1524 in the subsidy roll, where he is assessed on goods worth £2, at the lower end of the scale of prosperity⁹. Assessment on goods implies that he held no land of any significance, if any at all, and that the goods were stock in trade. He was buried 7 January 1576¹⁰. Thomazin Stanford, who must be his widow, appears in the homage, i.e. as one of the burgage-holders, at the Court Baron of the borough on 6 October that year¹¹. There is no record of her death or any remarriage in East Grinstead and no further mention of the family in the borough, though another William Stanford, presumably her son, was buried 21 January 1599¹². There are no clues to the Stanfords' occupation or the use they made of the building.

In the rental of c.1645¹³ Mr Thomas Dyne is listed for the property, one burgage without a portland. The title implies a person of some social standing, whose use of the building was purely residential. In his will, dated 1656, he leaves to his grandchild John Atkin 'all that my house and portland with appurtenances in the burrow of East Grinstead'¹⁴. Mention of a portland is confusing, though no more so than the similar complication at 7-9-11 High Street noted in the articles on that property. Nothing has been ascertained about John Atkin, who seems to have disposed of the place quite speedily, for in the next rental, in 1662¹⁵, Mr Charles Payne holds it, again one burgage with no portland. John Cripps has it in the 1669 rental¹⁶ and Jeremy Johnson gent. in that for 1678-83¹⁷, still one burgage without a portland.

As Master Jeremy Johnson he was at 26-28 High Street in the 1669 rental but certainly at 1-2 Judges Terrace by 1674, for on the overmantel in the parlour appear that date and the initials I over I and A, i.e. Jeremy and Alice Johnson. His burial in 1707 and that of Alice his wife in 1719 are recorded in the parish register¹⁸ as are the baptisms of their nine children, starting in 1668, the first record of the family in this parish. In the hearth tax of 1670 he is listed for 10 hearths¹⁹, perhaps still at 26-28, perhaps at Judges Terrace. 1674 might be the year they took possession and/or the date of completion of some or all of the 17th century improvements noted in the structural history report summarised above. In the 1679 schedule of encroachments²⁰ (by which time John Cripps had removed to the Common) he is presented for postes and railes before his house, which seems to indicate that he had fenced off part of the highway, possibly the minuscule brick-paved forecourt we see there today. In that year he served as bailiff²¹ and in 1678 as one of the overseers of the poor²², in both cases styled gent. There can be little doubt that he is the Jeremy Johnson of Charlwood in 1664, who from that year to 1701 rented Woodcock Forge at Felbridge²³. The iron industry was thus the (or a) source of his wealth and the social status and town house that went with it. By the time his youngest daughter died in 1723 the family had acquired a coat of arms: argent a pheon between three voided lozenges gules²⁴.

Omnibus deeds of Sackville properties in the borough executed in 1747²⁵ and 1785²⁶ both include this property, described in the latter as a burgage, yard, garden, etc. of ¼ acre heretofore William Purchase, late of Philippa Johnson, widow, purchased from Philippa Johnson. William Purchase, mentioned also as a co-tenant of 1-3 High Street, was possibly an agent of the Sackvilles. He served as borough constable for the year 1732-33²⁷.

1-2 Judges Terrace is probably the property occupied by Rowland Park, an excise officer, in the 1785 land tax²⁸ and definitely that occupied in the 1790 church rate book²⁹ by Evan Jones, who is listed among the gentry in 1794³⁰. In Palmer's 1799 directory of the town we read 'Should you a lodging wish to take/ at JONES' you a choice may make', presumably Evan's widow making ends meet. Certainly by 1806 what had been Mrs Jones's house was now Mrs Brook's, a widow.³¹ In its list of recent occupants the 1827 Dorset Act reads 'formerly Elizabeth Jones after John Stenning since John Tulley after Benjamin Arnold now Thomas Charlwood junior'³². Stenning, a carpenter and founder of the well-known timber-merchants, is here in the 1811 census, his occupation given as 'agriculture', with four males and four females in the house.³³ His move to 'the house he has built on the Common' was reported by John Hoath in a letter dated 14 September 1812.³⁴ Tully was mentioned by the same writer as a horse farrier in the following year.³⁵ Arnold is listed as a grocer and hatter in 1823.³⁶

Thomas Charlwood is still here in the 1851 census, a 56-year old currier and harness-maker living with his wife, son, servant and lodger, replaced in the 1861 census by his 35-year old son, also Thomas and in the same trade, his rentier [pensioner] mother and his son. Edward Steer recalled that he had his saddler's shop at 1-3 High Street but his leather-cutter's shop at Judges Terrace,

adding that he was man of considerable ability, a Nonconformist with a very fulsome epitaph in the Queens Road cemetery³⁷ [printed, with the name omitted, in our *Bulletin* 24 (May 1978), p.6].

He died in 1871, in which year the census records George Hooker, a 53-year old baker, in one half of the building and Jane Chapman, a 23-year old servant, in the other. This dates the division into two residences noted in the survey summarised above. Hooker is still there in the 1881 census, with John Chitty, a 35-year old carpenter, in the other half, and in 1886³⁸. In the 1891 census William Goodwin, a 60-year old carman, is at no.1 and George Hills, a 74-year old tailor, at no.2. Ten years later Edward Martin a 42-year old decorator, formerly of 69 West Street, and Stephen John Brackpool, a 40-year old plumber, are in residence. Directories list Mrs Gobell at no.1 from 1916 to 1930 and Harry Cecil R. Nightingale, an architect, at no.2 from 1916 to 1938, though he had had offices in the building as far back as 1899³⁹. No.1 was empty in 1938 but by 1953 it housed F. Jones, with Margaret Nightingale and M. Jarvis in no.2. By 1963 the two parts had been re-united, following demolition and rebuilding at the rear, during the course of which a 96' deep well was found.^{40A} It then served as the offices of Whitley Hughes and Luscombe, solicitors, previously of 102 London Road. This firm was taken over by Donne, Mileham and Haddock, which has now removed to Crawley, giving the opportunity for the structural survey undertaken two years ago. It is now a private house again.

No early name is known for the building, and Judge Terrace [sic] has not been traced before 1886⁴⁰, one year after the first record of The Judges House as the name for what is now called Old Stone House, at the opposite end of the terrace⁴¹. In 1868 J.C. Stenning, referring to that building as Mr Covey's for want of a house-name, stated as a fact that it 'was built for the reception of the judges coming from London for the assizes'.⁴² No evidence has ever been produced for this since oft-repeated assertion, however. By 1893 The Judge's or Judges' Houses began to be used as an alternative name for the whole terrace.⁴³

The building was listed grade II in 1946.

REFERENCES: C.K.S. = Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone E.G. = East Grinstead E.G.O. = E.G. *Observer* E.S.R.O. = East Sussex Record Office, Lewes Hills = W.H. Hills, *History of E.G.* S.A.C. = *Sussex Archaeological Collections* S.R.S. = Sussex Record Society W.S.R.O. = West Sussex Record Office, Chichester

- ¹ S.A.C., vol.106, p.61 ² Hills MSS (W.S.R.O.) ³ An Act for vesting certain estates of George Viscount Sackville deceased in Trustees, schedule ⁴ W.S.R.O. PAR 348/26/2/6 ⁵ S.R.S., vol.77, p.90 ⁶ E.S.R.O. SAS FB 604 ⁷ E.G.O. 6 July 1935 (I owe this reference to Mr D. Gould) ⁸ P.R.O. DL42/112 (S.A.C. 106, p.51) ⁹ S.R.S. 56, p.137 ¹⁰ Parish register (S.R.S. 24, p.133) ¹¹ P.R.O. DL30/126/1876 ¹² as note 10, P.149 ¹³ C.K.S. U269 E180 ¹⁴ British Museum, Add. Charter 41,849 ¹⁵ as note 13 ¹⁶ as note 13 ¹⁷ Hills p.41 ¹⁸ W.S.R.O. PAR 348/1/1/1 ¹⁹ P.R.O. E179/191/410 ²⁰ as note 13 ²¹ Poll, list of voters (C.K.S. U269 E178) ²² Apprentice indenture (W.S.R.O. PAR 348/33/1/2) ²³ *Wealden Iron*, second series, no.22 (2002), p.34; H. Cleere & D.W. Crossley, *The Iron Industry of the Weald* (2nd ed., 1995), pp.189, 199, 366, 392 ²⁴ Her monument in Hurstpierpoint church (S.A.C., vol.71, p.154) ²⁵ E.S.R.O. SAS B 475 ²⁶ E.S.R.O. De La Warr MSS 336 ²⁷ E.S.R.O. SAS ²⁸ S.R.S. vol.77, pp.90, 94 ²⁹ W.S.R.O. par 348/4/9 ³⁰ *Universal British Directory* ³¹ Church pew plan (Hills MSS, W.S.R.O.) ³² An Act for vesting certain real estates ...late ... Duke of Dorset ... in Trustees, schedule ³³ as note 4 ³⁴ Hall MSS (W.S.R.O. Add. MS 39,854, f.13) ³⁵ ibid, f.15 ³⁶ Pigot's directory ³⁷ Reminiscences serialised in E.G.O., 1899 ³⁸ Pike's directory of the Northern division of Sussex ³⁹ as note 37 ⁴⁰ as note 38 ^{40A} E.G.O., undated cutting in my possession, c.1960 ⁴¹ E.G.O., Oct. 1881 ⁴² S.A.C., vol.20, p.143 ⁴³ W.O. Tristram, *Coaching Days and Coaching Ways* (1893), p.219; E.V. Lucas, *Highways and Byways in Sussex* (1904), p.228

I am indebted to the tabulations and transcriptions of Mr P.D. Wood and Mr D. Gould for much of the census and directory information used in this article.

For membership and subscription details and for availability of earlier issues of the Bulletin (including index numbers) see page 2.

The name of Wellington Town Road is all that remains to remind us that the area at the edge of the Common east of Lingfield Road was once called Willington(s) Town. This name, first noted in 1776 in the will of Henry Carter¹ and on a map of Moat Farm drawn up then², undoubtedly derives from the family of George and John Willington who were among those convicted in 1679 of encroaching on the Common, with a cottage and garden plot each³. ‘Town’, as in Rogers Town at Holtie and Jumpers Town on Ashdown Forest, denotes an ad hoc settlement on the edge of a common.

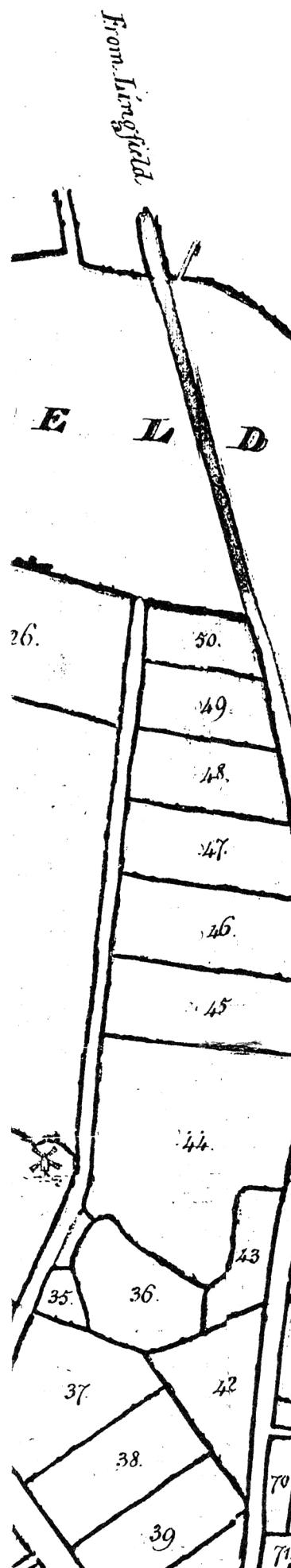
On the right here, from a copy given to me by Mr P.D. Wood, is an extract from William Figg’s map of the Common in 1816, on a scale of 3 chains to an inch (30" mile) but here slightly reduced. Wellington Town is the whole area north and east of London Road and Lingfield Road (plots 51-80) as it appeared after the enclosure of the Common north and west of those roads. The Hermitage, the mill that gave name to Windmill Lane and the road from Imberhorne (Park Road to us) help one get one’s bearings. The pond in the bottom right hand corner stood in front of our fire station site. It is the earliest map of the Common in existence.

It illustrates perfectly the original, pre-enclosure, line of Lingfield Road along its right hand side, from plot 80 to our Wellington Town Road, then across plots 57, 55 and 56 to the current line at Baldwins Hill. It thus also complements, and should be compared with, the maps in Mr Gould’s article on the development of the Lingfield Road area⁴ by showing the position before that development began. It also illustrates the probable western boundary of our ancient Hamlet, discussed and more diagrammatically plotted in one of my articles on that area.⁵

A family named Willington appears in our parish registers in the 1580s, which, together with the reporting of 19 other people for similar encroachments on the Common in 1679, may mean the process was under way well before then, not necessarily all in the same area.

By 1867 there was a Wellington Town Meeting House⁶, probably the same place as the Methodist Schoolroom on the Common, founded c.1830 and recorded in the religious census of 1851 with seating for 50 and an attendance on census Sunday of 20 adults and 8 Sunday School children. It could not sustain a minister by itself and was too far from any Wesleyan circuit for any of its own denomination to supply it but the Congregational Chapel in the town [Rocks Chapel] occasionally sent a minister to preach. The clerk was Benjamin Andrew of White House Farm, Lingfield.⁷ These facts suggest both a gathered congregation converging from some distance and an immediate local population sufficient to need some sort of focus for the area. Such a population would no doubt also justify at least one shop but as directories of the time usually just give ‘Common’ as an address we cannot be sure without supporting evidence if Wellington Town is intended or the edge of the town, Baldwins Hill or North End. Wellington Town is not given as an address in the 1851 census but in 1861 22 households are listed under that heading and in 1871 45. By then, however, the term embraced the new developments in Lingfield Road which shifted the focus there. The name of Wellington Town Road is first noted in 1916⁸, perhaps chosen to perpetuate a place-name by then passing out of use.

¹ Deeds of White Lion (seen c.40 years ago when at Tamplin’s brewery, Brighton) ² Saint Hill estate maps, British Library c.7.e. 18.(1) ³ Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone U269 E180 ⁴ ‘The Lingfield Road area, c.1860-1900’, *E.G.S.B.* 67 (Spring 1999) pp.7-16 ⁵ ‘The Hamlet of East Grinstead: origins, access and area’, *E.G.S.B.* 75 (Winter 2001-02), pp.7-13 ⁶ Harrod’s directory of Sussex ⁷ Sussex Record Society, vol.75, p.63 ⁸ Dixon’s East Grinstead directory



plots 27, 29 and 36 to the current line at Baldwins Hill. It thus also complements, and should be compared with, the maps in Mr Gould's article on the development of the Lingfield Road area⁴ by showing the position before that development began. It also illustrates the probable western boundary of our ancient Hamlet, discussed and more diagrammatically plotted in one of my articles on that area.⁵

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19th CENTURY MOAT ROAD: ADDENDA

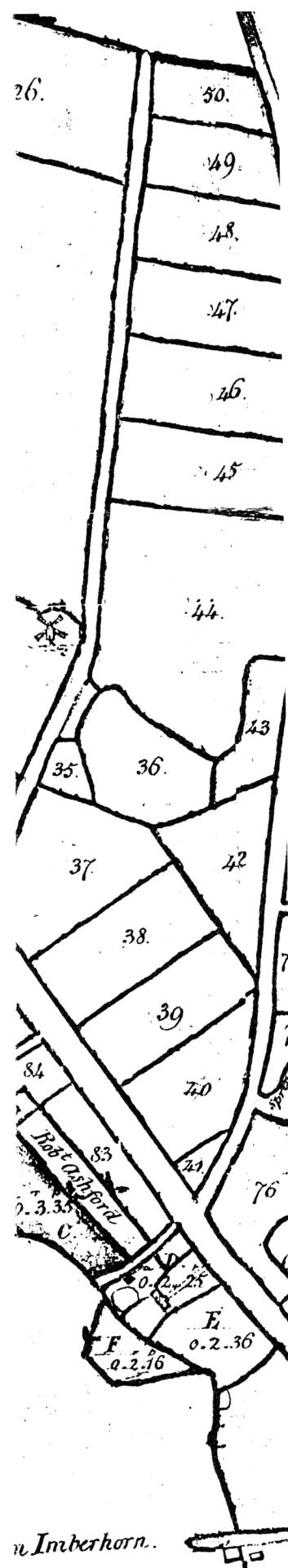
Editor

An article by Mr Gould on 19th century Moat Road, on the same lines as his Lingfield Road area article mentioned above, appeared in *Bulletin* 71 (Autumn 2000), pp.8-16. We are grateful to readers for the following additional information.

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WELLINGTON TOWN

M.J. Leppard

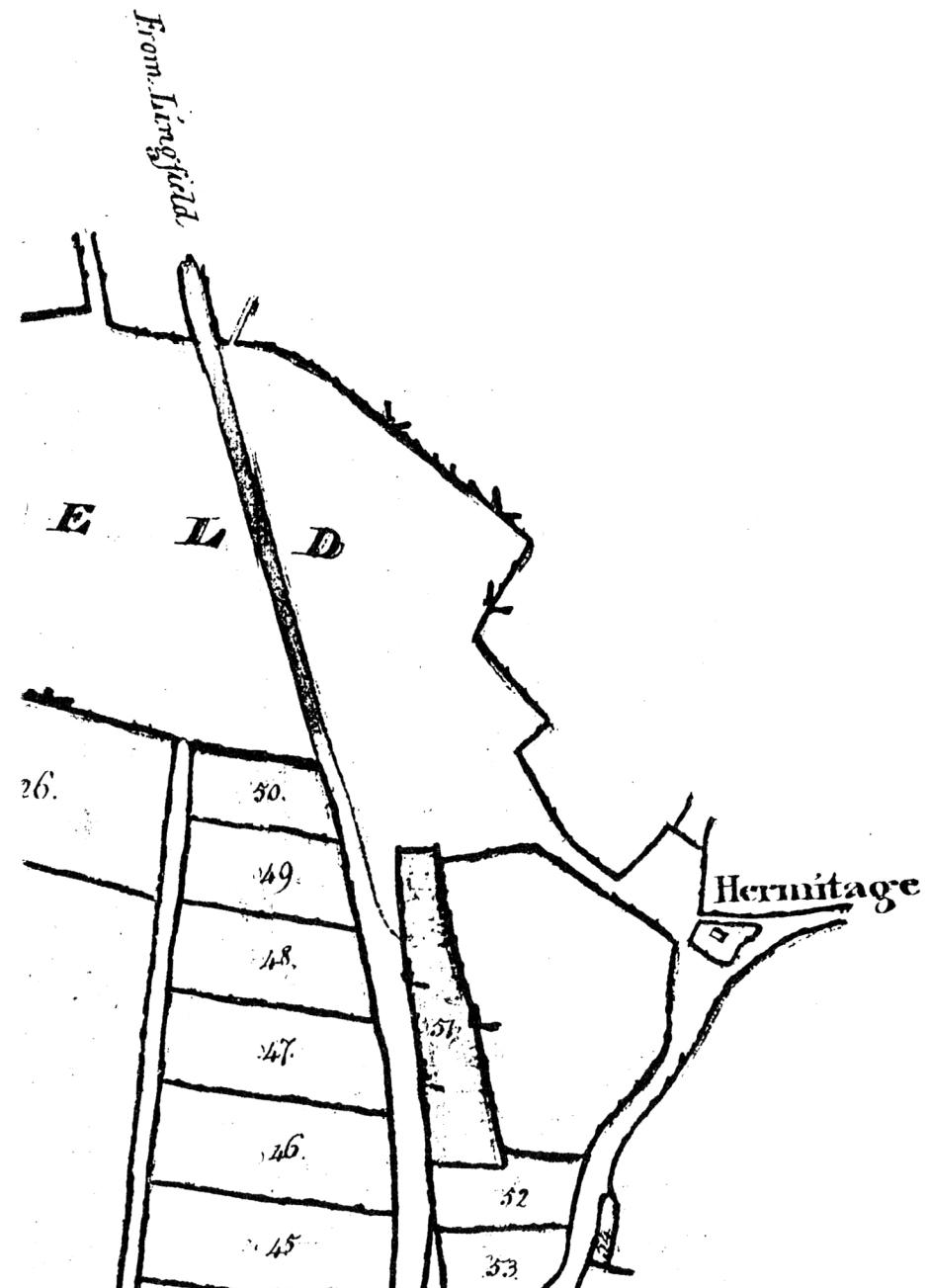
The name of Wellington Town Road is all that remains to remind us that the area at the edge of the Common east of Lingfield Road was once called Willington(s) Town. This name, first noted in 1776 in the will of Henry Carter¹ and on a map of Moat Farm drawn up then², undoubtedly derives from the family of George and John Willington who were among those convicted in 1679 of encroaching on the Common, with a cottage and garden plot each³. ‘Town’, as in Rogers Town at Holtie and Jumpers Town on Ashdown Forest, denotes an ad hoc settlement on the edge of a common.

On the right here, from a copy given to me by Mr P.D. Wood, is an extract from William Figg's map of the Common in 1816, on a scale of 3 chains to an inch (30" mile) but here slightly reduced. Wellington Town is the whole area north and east of London Road and Lingfield Road (plots 51-80) as it appeared after the enclosure of the Common north and west of those roads. The Hermitage, the mill that gave name to Windmill Lane and the road from Imberhorne (Park Road to us) help one get one's bearings. The pond in the bottom right hand corner stood in front of our fire station site. It is the earliest map of the Common in existence.

It illustrates perfectly the original, pre-enclosure, line of Lingfield Road along its right hand side, from plot 80 to our Wellington Town Road, then across plots 57, 55 and 56 to the current line at Baldwins Hill. It thus also complements, and should be compared with, the maps in Mr Gould's article on the development of the Lingfield Road area⁴ by showing the position before that development began. It also illustrates the probable western boundary of our ancient Hamlet, discussed and more diagrammatically plotted in one of my articles on that area.⁵

A family named Willington appears in our parish registers in the 1580s, which, together with the reporting of 19 other people for similar encroachments on the Common in 1679, may mean the process was under way well before then, not necessarily all in the same area.

By 1867 there was a Wellington Town Meeting House⁶, probably the same place as the Methodist Schoolroom on the Common, founded c.1830 and recorded in the religious census of 1851 with seating for 50 and an attendance on census Sunday of 20 adults and 8 Sunday School children. It could not sustain a minister by itself and was too far from any Wesleyan circuit for any of its own denomination to supply it but the Congregational Chapel in the town [Rocks



Chapel] occasionally sent a minister to preach. The clerk was Benjamin Andrew of White House Farm, Lingfield.⁷ These facts suggest both a gathered congregation converging from some distance and an immediate local population sufficient to need some sort of focus for the area. Such a population would no doubt also justify at least one shop but as directories of the time usually just give 'Common' as an address we cannot be sure without supporting evidence if Wellington Town is intended or the edge of the town, Baldwins Hill or North End. Wellington Town is not given as an address in the 1851 census but in 1861 22 households are listed under that heading and in 1871 45. By then, however, the term embraced the new developments in Lingfield Road which shifted the focus there. The name of Wellington Town Road is first noted in 1916⁸, perhaps chosen to perpetuate a place-name by then passing out of use.

¹ Deeds of *White Lion* (seen c.40 years ago when at Tamplin's brewery, Brighton) ² Saint Hill estate maps, British Library c.7.e. 18.(1) ³ Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone U269 E180 ⁴ 'The Lingfield Road area, c.1860-1900', *E.G.S.B.* 67 (Spring 1999) pp.7-16 ⁵ 'The Hamlet of East Grinstead: origins, access and area', *E.G.S.B.* 75 (Winter 2001-02), pp.7-13 ⁶ Harrod's directory of Sussex ⁷ Sussex Record Society, vol.75, p.63 ⁸ Dixon's East Grinstead directory

19th CENTURY MOAT ROAD: ADDENDA

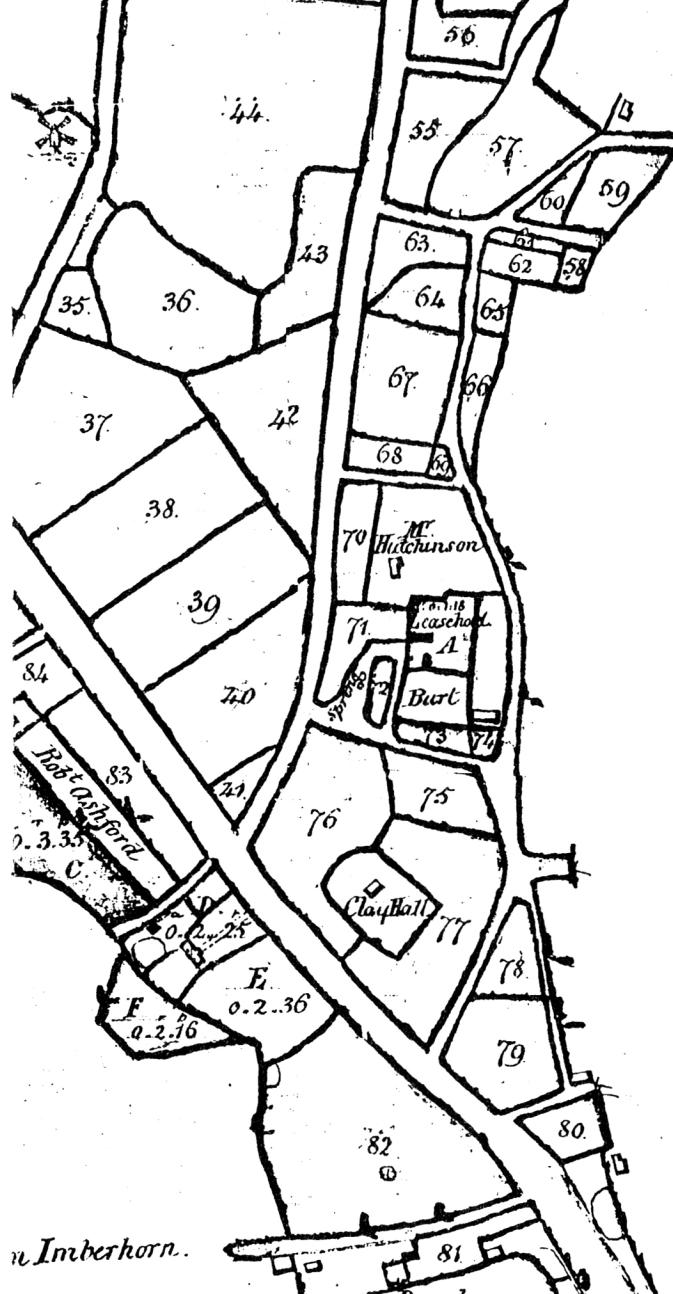
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Whalesbeech (TQ 395345) is now under Weir Wood reservoir. The location of Whalesbergh (TQ 417346), established from the records of the manor of Maresfield, has been plotted by Mr C.J. Hobbs on the map he created in our *Bulletin* 62 (Autumn 1997), p.10, no.4.

The English Place-Name Society cites forms of W(h)alesbergh under its entry for W(h)alesbeech, interpreting the latter as the *bece*, 'stream' ('used apparently also in M[iddle] E[nglish] in the sense of 'valley'), of *Hwæl*, a personal name 'presumably derived from the animal-name *hwæl* 'whale'. 'Close by must have been his **beorg** or hill.'¹ Ernest Straker thought the Wh- forms 'clearly a corruption' of the Wa- forms, the first element the same as that in Walhill, and the second, whether beech or bergh, 'no doubt both derived from the cinderheap [at Whalesbeech], which must at one time have been a considerable mound. "Beech" or "beechy" is very frequent in Sussex field names, in the sense of stony, or sometimes, as here, having iron cinder. Cinderburg (Etchingham) and Cinderbury (in several places) no doubt indicated mounds of cinder.' He then prints a photograph of the still high mound, apparently as tall as the two men posing in front of it, and concludes 'It is highly probable that this is the "ferraria" in East Grinstead mentioned in Domesday Book'.² Professor R.A. Coates has drawn attention to Judith Glover's 1975 suggestion that Whalesbergh might, in view of the *Whalesborow* forms recorded from 1611 onwards, be *Hwæl's barrow*, i.e. prehistoric burial mound.³

Straker was a pioneering and authoritative student of all aspects of the Wealden Iron industry and made much profitable use of place-name evidence but he was not an academic onomastician. Nor did he have access to all the sources available to later researchers, whose work has made some of his suppositions untenable. Thus Whalesbergh is too far from Whalesbeech to be his mound, the un-named Domesday estate in which the *ferraria* was located is now established as Lavertye⁴ and the first element of Walhill is seen to be *wald*⁵. The second element of Whalesbeech is now interpreted by Prof. Coates as far more likely to be *bece*, 'beech [tree]'.⁶

If *Hwæl's bergh* is to be more precisely identified, it must be looked for in the grounds of Kidbrook, near the Priory Road entrance, if it has survived the 18th and 19th century landscaping. An expert eye could discern any indications of a prehistoric barrow there.

It should be noted that -borough forms are as old as -berg(h) forms; -burhe and -burgh are also found, all four of them in surnames in the Hundred Rolls of 1274.⁷ Richard of Walesberg, as bailiff and coroner, John of Walesborough, Richard's catchpole Robelard of Walesburhe, and their associates had taken bribes, made unlawful summonses and otherwise oppressed people in ten hundreds in the three eastern rapes. These references are earlier than any forms for Whalesbergh given by the Place-Names Society, though probably earlier still is Richard de Walesberwe's appearance as a witness to a deed relating to West Hoathly in the mid-13th century.⁸ The name is not found in the subsidy rolls for 1296 (perhaps as a result of the offences?) but in 1327 William de Walesbergh is taxed in the tithing of Shiffeld (which included parts of East Grinstead parish) in the hundred of Rushmonden, and Richard de Walesbergh is one of the taxators in that hundred. Five years later Richard is taxed in Horsted Keynes in Rushmonden, listed next after Telghurst (Tilkhurst in East Grinstead), and also in Ashurst tithing in East Grinstead hundred, while William is a taxator in Rushmonden.⁹

¹ A. Mawer & F.M. Stenton, *The Place-Names of Sussex* (1930), part 2, pp.329f. ² *Wealden Iron* (1931), pp.239f. ³ *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, vol. 118, p.325 ⁴ P.D. Wood, *East Grinstead Society Bulletin* 58 (Spring 1996), pp.10, 14 ⁵ *E.G.S.B.* 65 (Autumn 1998), p.6 ⁶ *E.G.S.B.* 59 (Autumn 1996), p.5 ⁷ *S.A.C.* vol. 83, pp.37, 40, 42, 43, 46, 51, 52; vol.84, pp.73, 74, 76 ⁸ *S.A.C.*, vol.66, p.233 ⁹ *Sussex Record Society*, vol.10, pp.195, 196, 306, 307, 313

An article I contributed to *Bulletin* 76 (Spring 2002), 'John Turley and his poems', (pp.16f.) concentrated on the poet and the poetry. This article supplements the first by recounting what else is known about him and also what we know about his father of the same name. References for statements for which none is given here will be found in the former article.

John Turley senior was born in about 1746, apparently not in East Grinstead. By the time his first son was born, 1792, he was at Broadstone Farm. He served as one of the Overseers of the Poor for the east end of the parish for the year 1793-94¹ and is listed as a farmer in 1794². Between 1796 and 1806 he moved into the town, to a house on the Barn Field³ on the western side of Ship Street. He is there in the draft return for the 1811 census, still a farmer, one family in one house, two males and two females.⁴ The church rate books for 1811 and 1824⁵ show that he also had an orchard, a field named Fenners Land or Mead (somewhere near Hermitage Lane) and a brick-kiln. The kiln was at the site later occupied by the waterworks, to the rear of the gasworks⁶, between Moat Road, London Road and the railway. He is probably also the Turley of Turley & Carter, woolstaplers, recorded in 1814 and 16.⁷

In 1802 John Turley was one of the petitioners against the defeat of John Frost in the election of Members of Parliament for the borough of East Grinstead. Frost (1750-1842) was a Radical of national fame, using our seat to expose the injustice of the unreformed system, and Turley, who did not even live within the borough, was claiming the right to vote as an inhabitant of the town. The petition was unsuccessful and in 1808 Turley and his colleagues had to pay costs of £706 3s. 4d.⁸

Whether John Turley II shared his father's political views we do not know, though styling himself 'yeoman' as well as a brickmaker employing one man in the 1851 census was perhaps intended to suggest a sturdy independence. As a freeholder he had a vote in county elections, which we know he did not use in 1832⁹ though he did in 1837¹⁰. He certainly succeeded his father in business, being listed as a woolstapler in 1832¹¹ and running the brickyard until the late 1850s¹². He played a similar part in public life, serving as one of the Overseers for the town division of the parish, 1832-33¹³ and, at an honorarium of a guinea a year, as one of the East Grinstead Railway Company's two auditors, 1853-65¹⁴.

In the 1851 census his household in Ship Lane included, in addition to his 53-year old housekeeper Miss Philadelphia Payne, two unmarried wards in chancery, Benjamin T. Bodfield aged 20 and Emily A. Bodfield aged 16, both born in Dorking. How he came to be their guardian and whether there was any family relationship is not known. Ten years later Emily is still there, as a boarder and described as a fund-holder, he is now a retired brickmaker, and Miss Payne still keeps house. The address is Barn Field House, later replaced by today's Turley Cottage, named in his memory.

Nothing has yet come to light about his missing poems.

REFERENCES Hills = W.H. Hills, *The History of East Grinstead* (1906) W.S.R.O. = West Sussex Record Office

¹ The late G.M. Smart, personal communication, 15 April 1973 ² *Universal British Directory* ³ Pew plan, Hills MSS, W.S.R.O. ⁴ W.S.R.O. PAR 348/26/2/6 ⁵ ibid. PAR 348/8/1 and /4/17 ⁶ Edward Steer, *Reminiscences* serialised in *East Grinstead Observer*, 1899 ⁷ Holden's annual London and county directory ⁸ Hills, pp.55f. ⁹ *Sussex electors 1832* (PBN Publications, 1992), p.29 ¹⁰ County poll 1837 (Worthing library) ¹¹ *Pigot's directory of Sussex* ¹² as note 6 ¹³ General vestry minutes (W.S.R.O. PAR 348/12/2) ¹⁴ Hills, p.163

An account of Edward Gardner and his poems was promised in *Bulletin* 62 (Autumn 1997), following the kind gift of a photocopy of his volume of poems by Mr Andrew Arnold of Maldon, the great great grandson of one of Gardner's cousins. The poet's autograph notes in that copy show he gave it to another cousin, Miss Elizabeth Arnold, on 29 December 1854. Other notes give the date and place of composition of each poem and state that the preface 'was so much altered by the Editor that I can safely say I did not write it'. A photograph of the poet is pasted in, unfortunately not likely to reproduce well here. The title-page reads '*Home Revisited, and other attempts at poetry* by Edward Gardner, a sailor', followed by a quotation from Falconer and the names of the publishers, J.J. Guillaume of Chester Square, London, and John Gardner senior and T.J. Palmer of East Grinstead, 1851. The local publishers, who probably put up a good deal of the money, are his father and the head of the stationers and bookshop founded by T.J. Palmer's grandfather, Thomas.

From these annotations, information supplied by Mr Andrew Arnold and other sources as indicated, it is possible to reconstruct much of Edward Gardner's life-story.

He was born in East Grinstead on 10 October 1818 and lived in a cottage to the south or south east of the town, unfortunately not identified. After four years' schooling (presumably in East Grinstead or Forest Row) he spent most of 1828 and 29 herding cattle on Ashdown Forest (presumably for his father, possibly his uncle). Then in 1831 or 32 he went to live with his married sister Ann Morgan in Wales, a move for which he offers no explanation, though one may guess there was some domestic or familial reason. In 1834 he went to sea in the merchant navy, with regular visits between voyages to Wales and East Grinstead. At various times he was in or at the Bay of Biscay, Bengal, the Cape of Good Hope, Burma, Ceylon, Calcutta, Madras, the South Antarctic, Cochin, Malabar, Hong Kong and Penang. In 1847, aged 29, he gained his mate's ticket, being described in the seaman's register as 5' 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " tall with brown hair, a fresh complexion, blue eyes and a scar on his right arm.

By 1855 he was a captain, as stated on the monument in East Grinstead churchyard that he erected in that year to his younger brother, Captain John Gardner, who had drowned at sea with his nephew in 1851. His sister, Ann, who died in 1858, and father, John Gardner, a carpenter who died in 1861, are also commemorated on it. For the brother and sister he composed the verses printed below, commended as 'much above the average of mortuary poetry' in the 1877 edition of *Murray's Handbook for Travellers in Sussex* and likened in the same year to the work of Crabbe by Louis Jennings in his *Field Paths and Green Lanes in Surrey and Sussex*.

Twice twelve long years he rang'd the mighty deep
Where ruthless storms and fearful surges sweep;
Explored the vast Pacific's myriad isles
And India's coasts where endless summer smiles.
Intrepid, bold, the idol of his crew
His skill they praised, his generous heart they
 knew
For Ne'er in Hero's Breast throb'd heart more
 brave
Than his who perish'd in the Whelming wave.
His wife and lovely babe he did deplore
In far asunder graves on Asia's shore
They left him with one orphan boy to weep
Till his bold ship went down amid the deep.

Kind gentle Anne thy soul was free from guile
Thy dear face ever beaming with a smile
For from the stainless fountain of thy heart,
Love welling forth, its blessings did impart.
Thro' all the trying changes of thy life,
A loving daughter, and a faithful wife
A sister – honour'd, cherish'd, and Carest
A mother by her grateful offspring blest,
Humble they earthly lot, nor light thy woes
Which made Death welcome as a last repose:
Thy blameless life of gentleness and love
Is recompensed by endless bliss above.

(As printed in East Grinstead parish magazine,
November 1926)

By 1862 Edward Gardner was a private resident in East Grinstead, listed in Kelly's directory, probably already at Uplands in Ship Street, which Edward Steer, in his reminiscences in the *East Grinstead Observer* in 1899, says was built for him, perhaps (one may guess) made possible by his father's death the previous year. 'But alas for human aspirations', Steer adds, 'he died from poison when abroad and before he could retire from the sea and enjoy the home he had prepared'. The date of his death is not known but the photograph already mentioned was taken in 1867 or 68.

There are 49 poems of various kinds in the book, which is dedicated to William Streeter, Esq., concerning whom I have as yet been able to learn nothing. Some of the poems have to do with the Arnolds and their home at Penshurst, which means that some references to 'Sainthill' may be to Saints Hill south of that village rather than Saint Hill, East Grinstead. It seems most appropriate to augment the memorial verses and the few lines quoted on p.3 above with 'On revisiting my home, October, 1840, after an absence of four years' (pp.82-85), written in East Grinstead 18 October 1840.

Sweet Grinstead! On thy breezy hill
Where peace and blooming health abide,
Thy far-seen spires are tow'ring still,
Commanding prospects far and wide;
The Surrey hills, the Kentish woods,
The boundless sweep of fertile land,
With infant Medway's gleaming floods,
Combine to stamp thy features grand.

Fair scenes expanding to the view
Defy the poet's graphic powers;
Clear lakes reflecting heavn's own hue,
Green lawns shut in by greener bowers,
The lowly cot whose smoke in wreaths
Curls through the tendrils of the vine,
And lordly halls where sculpture breathes,
And architectural graces shine.

The grey-worn towers of Brambletye
In ruin'd grandeur strike the view;
Fair Ashdown, stretching to the sky,
Seems in the distance wrapped in blue;
Romantic Sainthill's western wood
With beauty crowns the neighbouring hill,
While Ashurst on the east is view'd,
Arrayed in deeper glories still.

Along the green delightful vale
Fresh loveliness salutes the eye
Woods waving to th'autumnal gale,
In wide unbounded majesty:
There Medway's fairy-haunted stream,
His silver current pours along,
Glittering in the mid-day beam,
And echoing to the woodman's song.

Dear native town! long years I've past
In other lands exiled from thee,
But fetterless and free at last,
Hail the sweet home so dear to me;

But though these well-remembered paths,
My weary heart with solace cheer,
One sadd'ning thought my bosom scathes –
My sailor brother is not here!

Borne on the pinions of the gale,
O'er ocean's wide extended flood
Boldly I spread my flowing sail,
And for my native country stood;
Consenting Heaven propitious pour'd
O'er the white foam a fav'ring breeze,
The stately masts sublimely tower'd,
And swift I cleft the yielding seas.

With sanguine heart and eager feet
I flew to hail my long-lost home;
Parents and relatives to greet,
Rejoiced to see the wanderer come,
Unclouded happiness is mine,
No by-gone ill, no future fear –
Yet still I cannot cease to pine,
The friend that loves me is not here!

When through yon elms for beauty,
Lit by the moon's pale silver beam,
Of yon proud tower, sublimely raised,
My raptured vision caught a gleam, -
What sweet emotions thrill'd my heart,
Thoughts which no language can define!
But oh! 'twould greater joys impart,
Were but my brother's converse mine.

Pleased through my early childhood's haunts,
Where'er my sportive fancy leads,
I wander where the blackbird chants,
And loiter in the dewy meads;
Each well-known scene recalls the past,
In vivid brightness to the mind,
But round me still a spell is cast,
A weary aching void I find.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

The June 2002 issue of East Grinstead parish magazine celebrated the golden jubilee with a feature on how its pages recorded the parish church's observances for the death of King George VI and the coronation of the Queen. Two corrections and some additional information may be permitted here from one who as a boy was present at most of them. The magazine was not yet called the *Clarion* then (even if that is the title on the bound volume consulted) and the service conducted from the roof of the south aisle on Monday 1 June 1953 was not Evensong, as supposed, but a special twenty-minute one for coronation-eve. The new municipal pew, where the 'civic heads of the town' sat during the united service commemorating the King on 17 February 1952, has hitherto not had its story told in print. When temporary staging was being put up in the previous December for a nativity play performed by the St Swithun's Youth Guild, the front pew on the northern side was accidentally damaged. Mr Cecil Watkins, head of a building firm, who with his wife ran the Guild at their home, Great House Court, turned the mishap to positive account by having a replacement made at his expense, surmounted by the feathers and label from the town's seal of arms.

M.J.L.

OTHER RECENT PUBLICATIONS ...

EAST GRINSTEAD MUSEUM COMPASS No.9 (Autumn 2002) contains a further instalment of dialect vocabulary, an obituary of the late Tony Hounsome, notes on local superstitions and Miss Yglesias's painting of the town from the Fair Field, brief reviews of recent publications of local interest, and articles on Felbridge bridge, the place-name 'Felbridge Water' and the ministers of Felbridge Chapel. [£1 at Museum, by post £1.20] The articles are partly inspired by the latest 'handouts' from the **FELBRIDGE & DISTRICT HISTORY GROUP** on subjects impinging on East Grinstead: 'The Fel Bridge' and 'St John's Church' (July 2002). The Group has also produced an attractive *Felbridge Fifties Review*, including an item reprinted from our *Bulletin* 73.

LOCUS FOCUS (the journal of the Sussex Place-Names Net), vol.6, no.1 (Spring 2002) reprinted, in a slightly revised version, an article on twitten based mainly on East Grinstead evidence, originally published in *East Grinstead Museum Compass* 4.

BLUEBELL NEWS (Summer 2002) contains a brief article by Ruth Gofton, 'Standen, Mr Beale and the Railways'.

... AND FORTHCOMING

A new edition of the late Tony Hounsome's *Threepennyworth of Dark* (the story of East Grinstead's cinemas) is being prepared for publication by the Town Museum, if possible in time for Christmas or early in the new year. Watch the press for details.

LOCAL REFERENCES IN SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS (continued from 6416)

- Vol. 91 (1953) p. lxii Ashdown Forest decree, 1691
 - 23 architecture of 34 High Street
 - 93f. 18th century ironworks
 - 102, 122 18th century election influences
 - 106 18th century M.P.s
 - 170, 177, 180f., 183 bridges

- Vol. 92 (1954), p.162 Sho[ve]llstrode rent to Chichester cathedral, 1535, c.1660-71