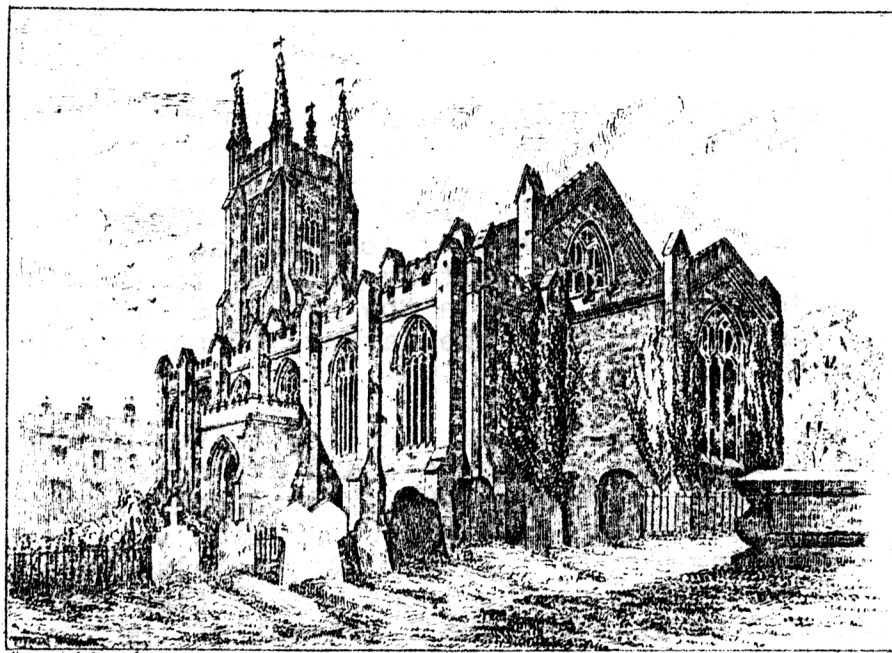


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EAST GRINSTEAD CHURCH.

The
BULLETIN
of the
EAST GRINSTEAD
SOCIETY.

No. 8

JANUARY 1972

T H E E A S T G R I N S T E A D S O C I E T Y

The Society was founded in April 1968 to protect and improve the amenities of East Grinstead and its environs. The town has a long history and a unique architectural heritage, and represents a trust placed for the time being in the hands of our generation. It should be our concern to ensure that such contributions as we in our turn make are worthy of the past and a fitting bequest to the future. The strength of such a society lies in the extent to which it can be seen to represent public opinion: the larger its membership the greater its influence will be.

The Society arranges regular meetings for talks, discussions and films and produces a Bulletin of its news and articles of local interest three times a year. In May 1969 it produced a special report on the High Street conservation area which has been well received as the basis for formulating future policy. It has also been very active in making representations to the local authorities on planning matters, influencing, for example, the treatment of the site in front of Sackville College.

MEMBERSHIP

The subscription is 50 pence a year (additional members in the same family 25 pence) to be renewed on 1 January every year, except by those joining at or after the A.G.M. in the previous year. If subscriptions have not been received by 31 January reminders will be sent. If they have still not been received by 28 February a final reminder will be sent in May instead of the Bulletin. If there is still no response membership will be cancelled. Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer, Barclays Bank, East Grinstead.

A copy of the Society's constitution is available on request.

PRESIDENT I.D.MARGARY, M.A., F.S.A.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	P.D.WOOD, 29 High Street, East Grinstead.
Vice-Chairman	B.C.THOMPSON, Nenthorne East, Ashurst Wood, E.G.
Treasurer	R.G.COOPER, Barclays Bank, High Street, E.Grinstead.
Secretaries	Mr & Mrs S.W.RUDEL, Peredur Home School, E.Grinstead.

R.H.ADDERLEY; Brig.G.W.H.FELLOWS, M.B.E., F.I.Mech.E.; Mrs. K. INGWERSEN; S.F.KNOWLES, B.A.; M.J.LEPPARD, M.A.; S.PAGE, R.I.B.A.; Councillor E.C.RUSHMAN.

PUBLICATIONS

Matter for the Bulletin should be sent to Mr M.J.Leppard, 150A, London Road, East Grinstead, the hon. editor.

Unsigned contributions are the joint work of the editor and officers. Opinions expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of anyone but their authors.

Back numbers of the Bulletins and Report on the High Street may be obtained from the editor (address above), as available, 5 pence each plus postage. Unwanted copies may be sent to him for re-sale.

CORRESPONDENCE

Applications for membership, subscriptions and notice of change of address should be sent to the Treasurer. Suggestions for the Society's activities and all other correspondence should be sent to the Secretaries (address above), from whom may be obtained details of the Society's current programme and a brochure describing its objects and containing an application form for membership especially suitable for passing on to friends.

EDITORIAL

We may have disappointed some non-members by our attitudes to the Railway Station and Inner Relief Road but we have nothing of which to be ashamed. On the positive side our concern for Zion Chapel (see p. 6), our 'Britain in Bloom' project (below) and our proposed historical exhibition (p.5) give three excellent opportunities to demonstrate our 'credibility'. Every member is urged to give all the support he can. There must be some way in which every single one can be helpfully involved: but if it's all left to the other 199 we might as well pack up.

MEETINGS

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on 28 October included a healthy financial report and lively discussion of the Society's activities. Mr P.Aller of Rentokil spoke on the natural enemies of woodwork, with gruesome specimens, and showed a film of the restoration of Stoke Poges House.

THE WEALDEN IRON RESEARCH GROUP turned out in force on 1 December for an entertaining and instructive evening. Mr J.Pettit its secretary and the local archaeologist Mr C.F.Tebbutt spoke and showed slides; others exhibited materials and artifacts. It was made clear that much work remains to be done, virtually on our doorsteps, both in the field and among documents. Those interested in joining a team being formed locally should contact Mr B.K.Herbert, 1, Mill Close, Hurst-an-Clays Estate. For further information the standard work remains E.F. Straker's pioneering Wealden Iron (1931). It is interesting to note that one of the first studies of the subject was made in this town by the versatile J.M.Neale and published in the Penny Post in 1854.

THE COMMITTEE met on 16 September, 4 November and 9 December. There has been no lack of many-sided debate and subjects of concern. Apart from matters dealt with elsewhere in this issue it was decided to advertise meetings in the press and to hold them on Wednesdays to avoid disturbance by the N.T.C.Band. Next meeting 26 January.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 15 March, 8 p.m., Small Parish Hall: Mr J.A. Newman of the Courtauld Institute of Fine Art, editor of the much-praised Kent volumes in Pevsner's Buildings of England series, will give an illustrated talk on THE BUILDINGS OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS. We hope many will come to hear about a town well-known to us all, whose architecture is in many ways complementary to East Grinstead's. Our appreciation should be quickened so that we see both with new eyes.

A C T I V I T I E S

'BRITAIN IN BLOOM': Advised by Mr Ingwerson, the noted local horticulturalist, a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. P.D.Wood, Knowles, Thompson and Jefferies is all ready to go into action on the site between College Lane and the Playfield for which we have assumed responsibility. Obviously it must not be left to the officers to do everything. Volunteers, skilled or unskilled, please phone 23226.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES will, we hope, include talks on local natural history and the work of the Historic Buildings Department of the Greater London Council, another outing (where?) and an Historical Exhibition.

OUR NEXT BULLETIN should appear in May; contributions, please, to Mr M.J.Leppard, 150A, London Road, East Grinstead by 29 March. Your cooperation in observing this deadline is important as the editor can prepare the Bulletin only in the limited periods he is in the town.

M E M B E R S H I P

SUBSCRIPTIONS were due for renewal on 1 January as explained opposite. At the end of 1971 we had about 200 paid-up members. We welcome some 'new blood' on the Committee (list of names opposite) and thank those not re-elected for the hard work and interest each put in, not least our original treasurer Mr B. Castleton.

C O N T R I B U T E D B Y M E M B E R S

1. Our choice of East Grinstead as a town in which to settle for the remainder of my working life and subsequent retirement is predominantly based on our superficial assessment of it as an attractive, picturesque and historic town that socially seems to bridge the gap between the 'other worldliness' of some similarly historic places dreaming in the past and the materialistic rat-race of the New Towns, a town with which one can identify and, in so doing, find an identity. It naturally follows that we have considerable interest in preserving the best of the past and blending successfully the future developments. [Vicker] J.S.V.

2. In our May 1971 issue an anonymous correspondent recalled the days when a nightingale could be heard in Sandy Lane. Another reader remembers a time when kingfishers were to be seen at Moat Pond. [Gez]

3. How would it be if we aimed not only at exhibitions of historical interest but sometimes also at displays of local arts and crafts? This would provide a link between the past and the present and serve to encourage creative talent in the East Grinstead of today. What do other members think of such an idea? Surely this would also provide scope for younger members of the community to be active as well as a meeting ground for more people to get to know each other. [Rudal] S.W.R

NOTES FOR MEMBERS

AFFILIATION: Our Society is now a member of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. The Federation publishes a quarterly Sussex Newsletter. Its last annual report records the setting up of joint committees with the Sussex Rural Community Council (to avoid duplication) and active interest in leisure facilities, television masts, overhead cables, pollution, dredging, rights of way, local history, etc.

FRATERNISATION: Our Society and the Lingfield and District Amenity Society have agreed to a regular exchange of notices and bulletins. The temporary secretary at Lingfield writes, 'We shall be very pleased if any of your members could attend any of our meetings'. We hope to include brief details in our Bulletins and circulars or they may be obtained from D.Netherclift, Pond House, Plaistow Street, Lingfield.

OUR IMPORTANCE as a watchdog and spokesman for local interests will increase as local government reform reduces East Grinstead's status to a corner of a new local authority with (presumably) only parish council status.

OUR COVER PICTURE, from East Grinstead and its Environs (1885) again, shows St Swithun's Church, at first glance as we know it today but closer inspection will show the tall pinnacles removed in 1930 (after one had been blown through the roof), iron railings, a mass of gravestones still standing and no windows in the S.E. (Memorial) Chapel, where they were inserted in 1920.

P L A N N I N G R E P R E S E N T A T I O N S

THE POTTERY, Park Road: Whenever old buildings on corner sites are removed highway authorities are anxious to impose 'sight lines' for motorists: thus the few trees on the Pottery site are threatened. To avoid a wasteland of tarmac, concrete and grass we have written to ask that tree preservation orders be put on as many healthy specimens as possible and that planting of new trees be a condition of permission. It is not impossible to have trees between the pavement and the road. We have also urged the importance of trees in the WEST STREET CAR PARK.

INNER RELIEF ROAD: In letters to the local authorities and press we continue to support the scheme. Both a bypass and an internal distributor relief road are needed. The proposed route means almost no demolition or visual damage. Alternatives would be costlier.

ZION CHAPEL: Members are urged to read the full article on p.6, to go to look for themselves and to send the Secretaries any suggestions.

GATWICK: As those in favour of expansion renew their efforts our vigilance must be maintained. Mr Thompson keeps us in touch.

PROPOSED HISTORICAL EXHIBITION

An article in our May 1971 issue on resources for the study of East Grinstead included a wish that we had a town museum and a suggestion that a local history exhibition might be mounted by our Society. The Committee, bearing in mind that such an exhibition was last held in the town 21 years ago, as part of the Festival of Britain, and that it could be a useful gauge of the extent of public interest in a permanent museum, has set up a sub-committee to organise one this summer. Its members are Brig. Fellows, R.H. Adderley (the County Branch librarian) and M.J. Leppard.

The general idea is to hire premises (preferably an empty shop) in the town centre for a week in late July, to be open daily to the public including Sunday afternoon and one evening. It is hoped that at that time there will be visitors in the town but not too many people away on holiday. Pictures and objects illustrating as many aspects as possible of the history of East Grinstead will be on display, with explanatory matter, including a souvenir programme or catalogue.

Obviously this will only be possible with the active support of ALL members and well-wishers, whether private persons, institutions or businesses. At the moment it is too soon to know precise dates, place or financial liabilities but it is not too soon for people to volunteer their support, even if with some proviso as to dates, times, etc. The main needs will be exhibits and manpower and perhaps some financial backing. If you are at all interested will you please write as soon as possible, as indicated below:

1. With offers of exhibits (with insurance valuation), suggestions for sources of material and subjects to cover, and general observations to
Mr M.J. Leppard,
Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar School,
Dyke Road, Hove, BN3 6EG (or, evenings only, phone B'ton 734478).
- f/ 2. With offers of time or services in either preparation of premises and exhibits, transport (if it should be needed) or supervision to
Brig. G.W.H. Fellows,
'Pine Lodge',
Ship Street, East Grinstead (21309).
3. With offers or suggestions concerning dates, premises, display materials (e.g. boards or cases) to
Mr R.H. Adderley, Librarian,
County Branch Library,
Southwick House,
London Road, East Grinstead (21342) (or call at the counter).
4. With offers or suggestions concerning publicity, printing, etc. to
Mr S. Page (Press and Publicity Officer, E.G. Society),
39, Lynton Road,
LONDON, N.8.
5. With offers of donations, loans or guarantees (if they should be needed) to
Mr R.G. Cooper (Hon. Treasurer, E.G. Society),
Barclays Bank,
High Street, East Grinstead.

The sub-committee hopes to meet in early April, having already arranged dates and premises, in order to make definite plans, using as many as possible of your offers and suggestions. A progress report will be given at the meeting on 15 March.

QUERY: The fencing off of the timberyard site in London Road preparatory to office building there prompts one to ask whether there is a legal right of way through it. Certainly there were houses within it, the lower part was dignified with the name Wood Street, there were no notices denying public transit and it has become, since dereliction, a well-used pedestrian thoroughfare.

M.J.L.

ZION CHAPEL

by M.J.Leppard

Our Society has interested itself so much in Zion Chapel, whose future is now a very topical matter of concern, that a full account of the Church and the present situation seems desirable.

In 1810 wealthy members of the Burt family began to build it for a congregation of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, a body of Calvinistic Methodists originally led by George Whitfield and under the Countess's patronage. In a year the Chapel was open, in another galleries had been built to provide 200 extra seats. The adjacent Manse was built at the same time. In 1811 a Sunday School was opened (the first known in the town) and daughter churches were established in surrounding villages in the 1820s. The hall at the side was built in 1862 and the Chapel refurnished in 1879. Burials in vaults in front of the Chapel took place until 1846: the entrance is still to be seen.

Until 1847, when a breakaway group established the Rocks Chapel, Zion was the town's only place of worship for Dissenters (though not its first) and for nearly a century the leading one. Its Sunday School and evening classes provided invaluable elementary education when little was available, especially during the closure of the Free School (c.1839-47). Here such men as Thomas Cramp found the inspiration and opportunity for public service. The whole town may be grateful for its work and witness. (For fuller information see W.H. Hills, History of East Grinstead (1906), pp.87-90; F.H.Bustin, This and That: 1811-1961 (1961).)

Today the good work continues, under the name of West Street Evangelical Church, for its members were being referred to as Zionists (correctly Israeli Nationalists) and the last straw was a letter to the Rabbi! Though still in the Connexion (to which the premises have belonged since 1830) it may perhaps best be described as an Independent Evangelical Church with Baptist tendencies.

The Chapel is a listed building, Grade II, but the Manse was removed from the list in September 1969, thanks to the U.D.C., and permission granted to demolish. 'The only handsome building of the early nineteenth century in the High Street area', according to our 1969 Conservation Area Report, they have good brickwork though the exterior is deteriorating. In plan the Chapel is square with the one surviving gallery at the 'W' end facing the platform and pulpit of 1888. The doors of pre-1879 pews form the wainscoting. There are large high windows and two mural monuments (1815 and 1831-7).

In 1894 a site was acquired in Glen Vue for a more adequate hall, Church, etc., but insufficient money was raised. Now renewed expansion means problems again. The Chapel is too small; it lacks facilities for Baptism by immersion, weekday activities and Sunday School (which uses the Red Cross Hall, due for demolition soon); and repairs are needed. The solutions suggested are complete demolition and rebuilding on the site or demolishing the manse and building a hall extension in its place and over the garden, though listed building procedure would have to be gone through and permission might stipulate the provision of parking space on the site. Selling the site and building elsewhere is also possible, though the site is convenient.

Commercially this town centre site by a shopping precinct and car park is attractive but the burials might create legal problems.

From our point of view such a 'genuine, original and unique' building in the conservation area should be saved if at all possible. If the Church is to remain there restoration would be cheaper than rebuilding: and we would gladly give and encourage financial support (as with the Gatwick campaign). If not then an alternative use should be found. Inspection has shown the windows make it unsuitable for library purposes. Lack of funds rules out conversion to a museum. We are writing to see if Sainsburys are interested in incorporating it into their precinct. Another possibility is use by the Red Cross instead of a new hall. Other ideas will be very welcome.

9, MIDDLE ROW

by P.D.Wood

This little three storied building, between Kemp's the hairdresser's on the east and Baldock's the outfitters on the west, is to all outward appearances of 19th century construction, with a tiled roof, rendered walls and modern shopfront. It seems remarkable for nothing but its small size (frontage 10'10", depth 29'). The only visible oddity is the roof, which has two ridges at right angles to each other, east-west at the front and north-south at the rear. This hints that the building, small as it is, is structurally in two halves, is confirmed by the internal timber framing.

Recent work has exposed parts of the timbering: the east and west walls of the ground floor, the east wall of the first floor and parts of the floor joists of all three floors. With considerable surprise we found a few original mediaeval timbers: the south-east ground floor corner post, the north-east first floor corner post, several longitudinal framing timbers and four heavy curved braces, and, most important, seven massive first floor joists, 8" x 6" at 20" centres, and laid flat.

Details are obscure and in parts puzzling, since there have been centuries of reconstruction with secondhand timber, but two possibilities emerge :

1. A small ground floor room, 10'10" wide and 12'9" deep, with a first floor room above, jettied front and back, 10'10" by about 15'6".
2. A larger mediaeval building of which the ground and first floor front rooms of no.9 represent one bay. This seems less probable, but examination of the adjoining premises may shed some light on the problem.

The rear face of the south-east ground floor corner post shows signs of exposure to weather and there are signs of jetty brackets: there can be little doubt that the original building, however wide, was only one room deep. The top floor front room is possibly a later addition. The rear part of the present building, on all three floors, has 9" brick walls and softwood timbers and was obviously added much later. Unfortunately the roof timbers are inaccessible.

These structures are impossible to date accurately. The original timbers of the front part suggest a tentative date in the late 15th century; the rear addition is probably late 18th century; and the second floor front perhaps of the 17th century.

Documentary evidence of very small buildings is available in one of the bailiffs' rent accounts for the town now in the Public Record Office (DL 29/442/7117). This records the first permanent buildings in Middle Row in 1394 ('four shambles standing in the lord's High Street'), a rent of 2d for a plot of land 16' by 12' for William Neylond to build a shop in the borough in 1425, and a similar rent from John Colman for a plot 15' by 15' to build a one-room cottage (camera) in 1435. I do not suggest that we have here William Neylond's actual shop, although the measurements tally fairly well, but certainly buildings of this size survive today only in Middle Row. Recently nos 4-5 were examined and dated late 15th or early 16th century. Perhaps we may find more mediaeval remains yet in this very interesting group of buildings.

GONE from the derelict 138 London Road the fanlight with the words 'Jubilee House 1887', a trivial thing but not without interest or value. Does anyone know what has become of it? Many quite modest houses have names and dates on them somewhere. Someone might very profitably make a list - useful evidence of the town's development.

CONSERVATION AREAS: The County Council is publishing a list of such areas within its boundaries, explaining the principles established by the Civic Amenities Act 1967 (obtainable free from County Hall, with the Department of the Environment's Protecting our Historic Buildings.)

COUNTY BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

Some of the most useful local history books formerly out of sight have been transferred to the open shelves of the reference library, including the Sussex Archaeological Collections from vol.76 (1935) and the index volumes to the complete series. Some books of interest added to the library's lending stock in the last year or so are

- 301.303 Cresswell, P. Environment: An Alphabetical Handbook.
 333.7 Carter, V.Bonham The Survival of the English Countryside.
 711 Q Surrey County Council London-Gatwick Airport Environmental Study.
 711 Q Automobile Association Parking: Who Pays?
 726.5 Fisher, E.A. The Saxon Churches of Sussex.
 739.52 Q Sadler, A.G. The Lost Monumental Brasses of East Sussex.
 (The West Sussex companion volume appeared in 1969)
 912.09 Radford, P.J. Antique Maps.
 913 Dowman, E.A. Conservation in Field Archaeology.
 913.003 Bray, W. A Dictionary of Archaeology.
 942.25 Anderson, M.D. Easy Access Sightseeing: Sussex (one of a series of guides for the disabled).

Pamphlets for reference, available at the counter:

Hadlow Down: An Account of its History and Origins.

Wealden Iron Research Group Bulletin.

West Sussex County Council, Local History in West Sussex.

East Sussex Record Office Handbooks:

1. The History of a Parish or Locality;
2. How to Trace the History of Your House;
3. How to Trace the History of Your Family.

R.H.ADDERLEY (Branch Librarian)

NEWS AND VIEWS

NAMES - AGAIN! 113 out of 1,241 people interviewed by Haywards Heath Young Conservatives (according to the Courier) couldn't care what name was given to the new local government district formed by amalgamating East Grinstead, Burgess Hill and Cuckfield Urban and Rural Districts in April 1973. It would be interesting to know what members of our Society think. The names favoured by our U.D.C. are all unsatisfactory: Grenestede as a pretentious archaism and as the use of part for the whole; Sussex Weald (apparently the official favourite) for precisely the opposite reason; and Mid Downs as untrue in any literal sense and in the sense intended also equally applicable to a much wider area. The same arguments apply to Mid Sussex, which is to be the name of a new parliamentary constituency. My own suggestion remains Cuckfield-Grinstead. It is factually correct and preserves the familiar form of our town's name, the names of three of the component authorities and those of the old market town and ancient borough within their boundaries.

TEMPTATION: In a contribution under this title in our last issue 'Peevish Oldster' criticised the new white railings along two sides of the Playfield. Construction of a lay-by for buses reveals the reason but the ancillary complex of paths reduces to meaningless polygons of grass this historic open space, already half-covered by 'temporary' school buildings erected some 25 years ago. It is to be hoped that when they go (as we urged in 1968) so will all the paths and rails - and no municipal rosebeds to replace them. Meanwhile one may enquire who is responsible for the area and what limits (if any) there are to what may be done with it. One could also bear to know more about its history. Sixty years ago boys played cricket there and tried to hit the ball over the roof of the school into the playground. But in 1811 it was let by the Sackvilles (with the Pigeon House Field) to the Vicar for £2.15s. p.a. and presumably farmed by him with the adjacent glebe.

M.J.LEPPARD

by P.F.C.Hobden (Chairman)

The land at East Court which now belongs to the East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd was a gift to the town from the Manor Charitable Trustees through the generosity of the late Mr Alfred Wagg, a prominent local resident and one of the founders of that charitable trust. At about the same time the present Council Offices at East Court were acquired by the East Grinstead Urban District Council.

The East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd, a company limited by guarantee, was incorporated on 13 May 1949. The Company's Memorandum contains the following statement of the objects for which the Company is established:

'To provide and maintain, as a memorial to the men, women and children of East Grinstead who lost their lives in the 1939-1945 war, a public park with playing fields, recreation grounds, libraries, concert or lecture halls, recreation rooms or other recreational or educational facilities for the general public and in particular for the people of East Grinstead, and all such furniture, utensils, chattels and other equipment as may be necessary or desirable for any of such purposes'.

Any person is eligible to become a member of the Company on application to the Secretary and guaranteeing payment of £1, which is the limit of a member's liability under the Company's Memorandum and Articles. The management of the Company is vested in a Council of Management consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and not fewer than five or more than thirty other members, one third of whom retire each year by rotation but are eligible for re-election.

The land, comprising some 115 acres, was formally conveyed to the War Memorial Company on 23 November 1949, following which the War Memorial and garden of remembrance was constructed and laid out. The football and cricket pitches at East Court were also laid out with monies provided by the War Memorial Company and the assistance of a Ministry of Education grant. Funds for the Company were originally provided by public subscription and augmented by the sale of the cottages adjoining the northern entrance to East Court in 1951. In 1960 the land on which the Police Station and the County and Magistrates' Courts now stand was sold to the County Council and in 1964 the Company sold its remaining land on the west of the driveway leading to the Council Offices to the U.D.C. All the land sold off was considered surplus to the Company's requirements and unsuitable for the purpose for which it was formed. The War Memorial Company has, in addition, granted leases of parts of its land to the East Grinstead Football Club and the Felbridge and District Rifle Club.

The Company retains about 105 acres of the land originally conveyed, including the playing fields and 47¹/₂ acres of Ashplats Wood to which the public has access. The pitches at East Court, although on the War Memorial's land, are maintained by the U.D.C. who are responsible for their allocation to local clubs.

The principal functions of the War Memorial Company are to maintain and preserve the War Memorial and garden of remembrance and, in conjunction with the U.D.C., to maintain the remaining land as a public open space and recreation ground and, subject to the availability of funds, to improve the amenities at East Court.

The Company has recently agreed to contribute £25,000 towards the erection of a new pavilion at East Court at a total cost of some £34,500, work on which is expected to begin early in 1972.

(NOTE: This article was contributed at our request in view of much public ignorance about East Court and East Grinstead War Memorial and concern at some suggestions for the development of the U.D.C.'s land there. ED.)

BOUQUETS - AND BRICKBATS

BOUQUETS For a meritorious piece of work by an officer of the U.D.C. Mr N.West, the Assistant Planning Officer, has begun a splendid eighth scale drawing of the High Street elevations and so far completed the section from no 2 to no 38. Although this is his own idea and his own personal property we hope it may one day be completed and put on public exhibition. Such a set of drawings would be of the greatest value in the future when considering schemes affecting the general appearance of the High Street. Congratulations to Mr West.

And for a public spirited contribution to the street scene to Mr Phillips who with his own hands repainted the street nameplate on his property in Ship Street in its original blue and white.

BRICKBATS To whoever was responsible for a gaunt sign indicating the Citizens' Advice Bureau just above head height on a bare steel pole in the middle of the pavement in London Road. Not only is it an obstacle it is an eyesore in a road which may have no great beauty yet with its curve and slope is more attractive than many shopping streets.

LOCAL HISTORY NOTES AND NEWS

JUBILEES: Two anniversaries occur this year, recent in our town's long story but nonetheless worth recording, the one as a reminder of the deep local roots of many of the businesses we take for granted, the other as an expression of local self-consciousness and concern. In February Messrs. C. & H. Gasson celebrate 50 years as a builders' merchants (though the family had been active as builders and estate agents since at least 1885) and in the autumn the Chamber of Trade celebrates its jubilee.

LOCAL TEACHERS' LOCAL STUDIES: At the Teachers' Centre at Halsford Park School a group is producing 'kits' consisting of slides, models, posters, photographs, tape-recordings, books, etc. for classroom use on Local Farming, History of Local Architecture, Weir Wood Reservoir, Sackville College and Wealden Iron. Anyone interested in helping by, e.g., lending materials or suggesting sources of information is invited to contact the General Schools Adviser, Mr G.M.Bravery, Education Dept, P.O.Box 4, County Hall, Lewes.

QUERY: Brief mention was made in our last issue of the short-lived attempt to obtain sand for glass at Mills's Rocks between the wars, but the editor has been unable to find any definite information about it. If it is to be more for posterity than a fragment of oral tradition perhaps some reader can supply personal memories or documentary evidence of the enterprise.

APPEAL: Mr K.Webber, 1, Park Place, Crawley Down is studying the History of Education in East Grinstead, 1708-1903, as part of his B.Ed. course and would be glad to hear from anyone who can lend material or suggest sources of study.

LOCAL REFERENCES IN SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS (continued)

Vol.6 (1853), p.55 Sir Anthony Browne's corpse taken from London to Battle, 1548, via E.G.
 p.182 Borough English in Imberhorne & Maresfield Manors.
 p.218 Effects of Barons' War, 1265 (N.B. wrongly given as West Grinstead but names prove that E.G. is meant).

Vol.7 (1854), p.231 Surries; p.281 appeal for information on Paynes.

Vol.8 (1855) -----

Vol.9 (1857), pp.98-101 Inhabitants of E.G. commission survey of Newhaven harbour, 17th century.
 pp.129ff. Article on Kidder family, inc. (pp.130ff.) extracts from autobiography of Richard K. of E.G. (later Bishop).
 pp.139ff. Suspected sedition at Brambletye, 1579.
 p.140 Wm Hellindale, Chantry in E.G. Church, 1326-7.
 371ff. Brambletye Chapel, Manor, etc.