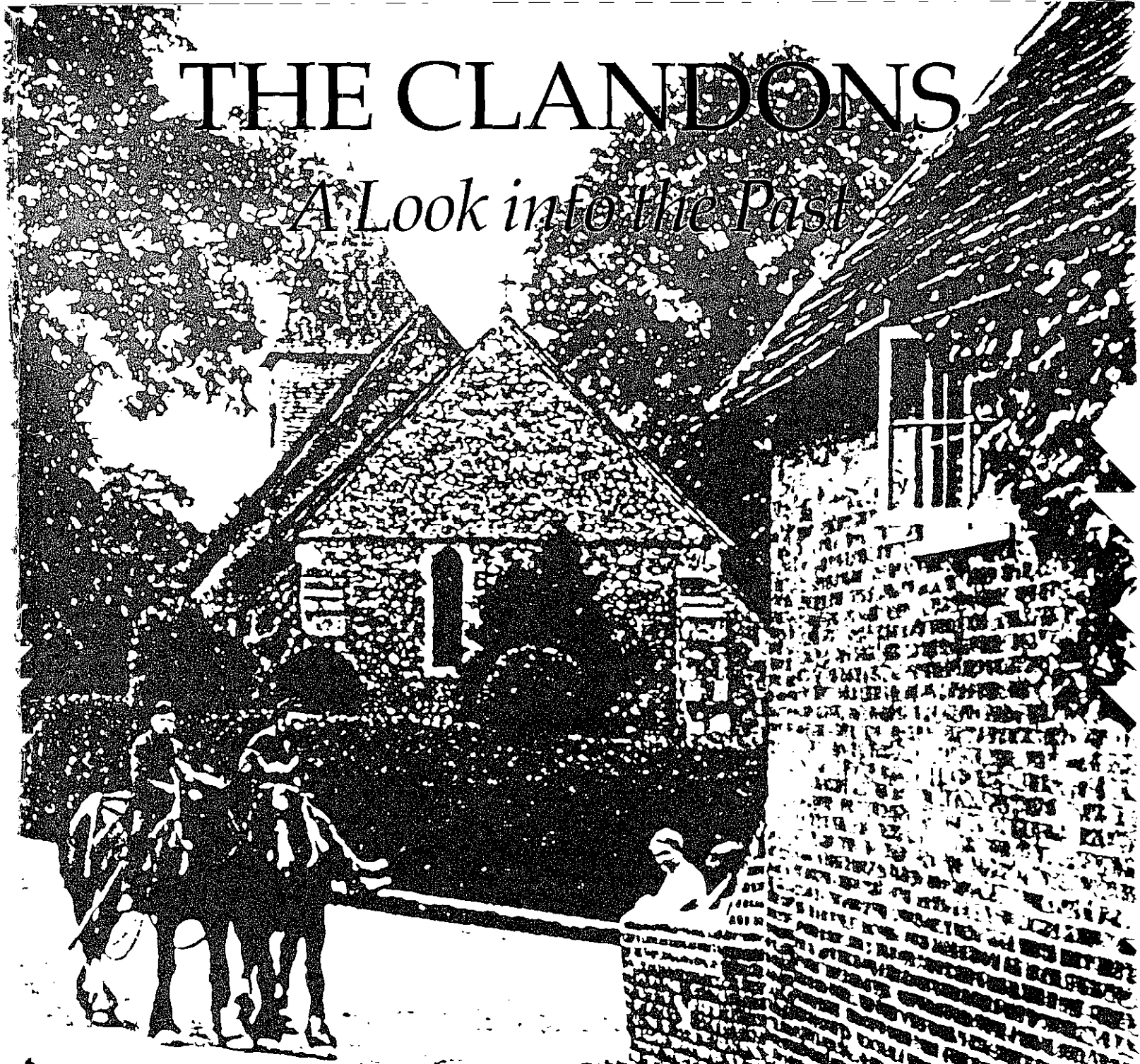
THE CLANDONS

A Look into the Past



THE CLANDONS

A Look into the Past

Cover and frontispiece
East Clandon in 1907, looking west
(Francis Frith Collection)

Lamp Cottage is on the left, Bay Tree Cottage on the right. In 1911 the Parish Council installed an oil lamp on the wall of Lamp Cottage; this was removed in 1929, since which time the village has had no street lighting.

THE CLANDONS

A Look into the Past

PUBLISHED JOINTLY BY THE CLANDON SOCIETY
AND THE PARISH COUNCILS OF EAST AND WEST CLANDON

1991

Contents

PART II

Foreword & Acknowledgements

The Clandons are two of the few remaining villages in Surrey which up to now have not published a village history.

This book is mainly a collection of memories of and by people past and present. As each chapter has been written by a different author no attempt has been made to edit the text into a standard style. No doubt further books will be published on the Clandons to complement this publication.

Acknowledgements

Our grateful thanks to each and everyone who helped with this project. The book could not have been published without encouragement and financial backing from the Clandon Society, East & West Clandon Parish Councils and the Surrey Voluntary Services Council; the latter organisation awarded the project a certificate of merit in the 1988/89 *Village Ventures* competition. Also Ernst & Young who typed the book.

The following organisations have also provided valuable advice and material:

British Architectural Library: Drawing Collection
Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey)
Guildford Muniment Room
Guildford Archaeological Society
Lambeth Archives Department, Minet Library
National Trust for England & Wales
Surrey Local Studies Library, Guildford
Surrey Advertiser
Surrey Voluntary Services Council
Times Newspapers Ltd

Further Reading

A Tale of Two Churches – East & West Clandon, Reverend Jeremy Cresswell MA *(on sale in both churches).*

East & West Clandon – Past & Present, J Purkiss *(available from the author at 4 Lime Close, West Clandon).*

The End of a Tradition – Country Life in Central Surrey, J Connell.

Local Council Administration, Charles Arnold-Baker.

Domesday Book 3, Surrey; Edited by J Morris. Manning & Bray, 1814.

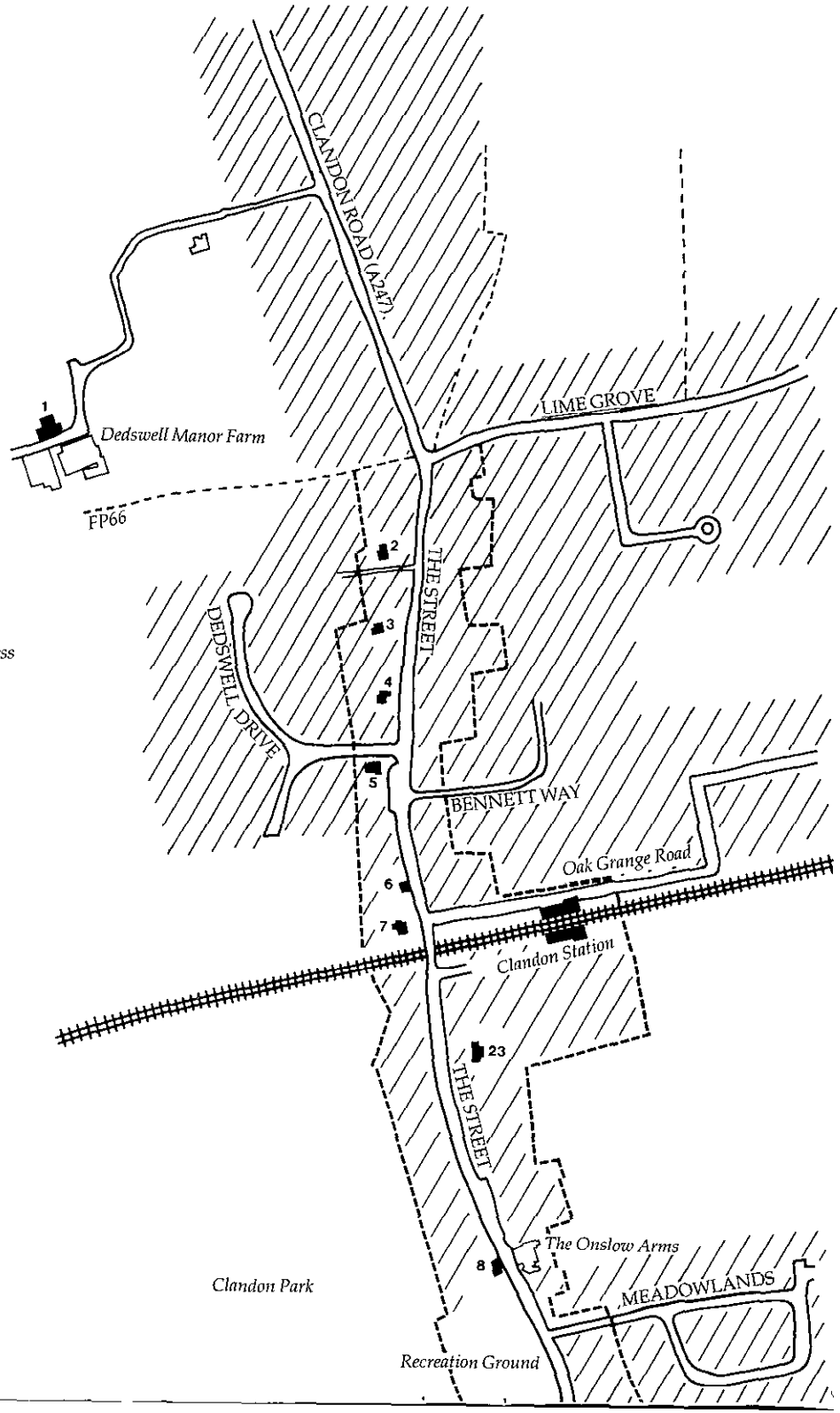
Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel CBE 1887-1959; Squire of Hatchlands – pamphlet held by Muniment Room, Guildford

Mrs N Baster
Commander R G Boddie RN
Miss B Eyles CBE

March 1991

WEST CLANDON

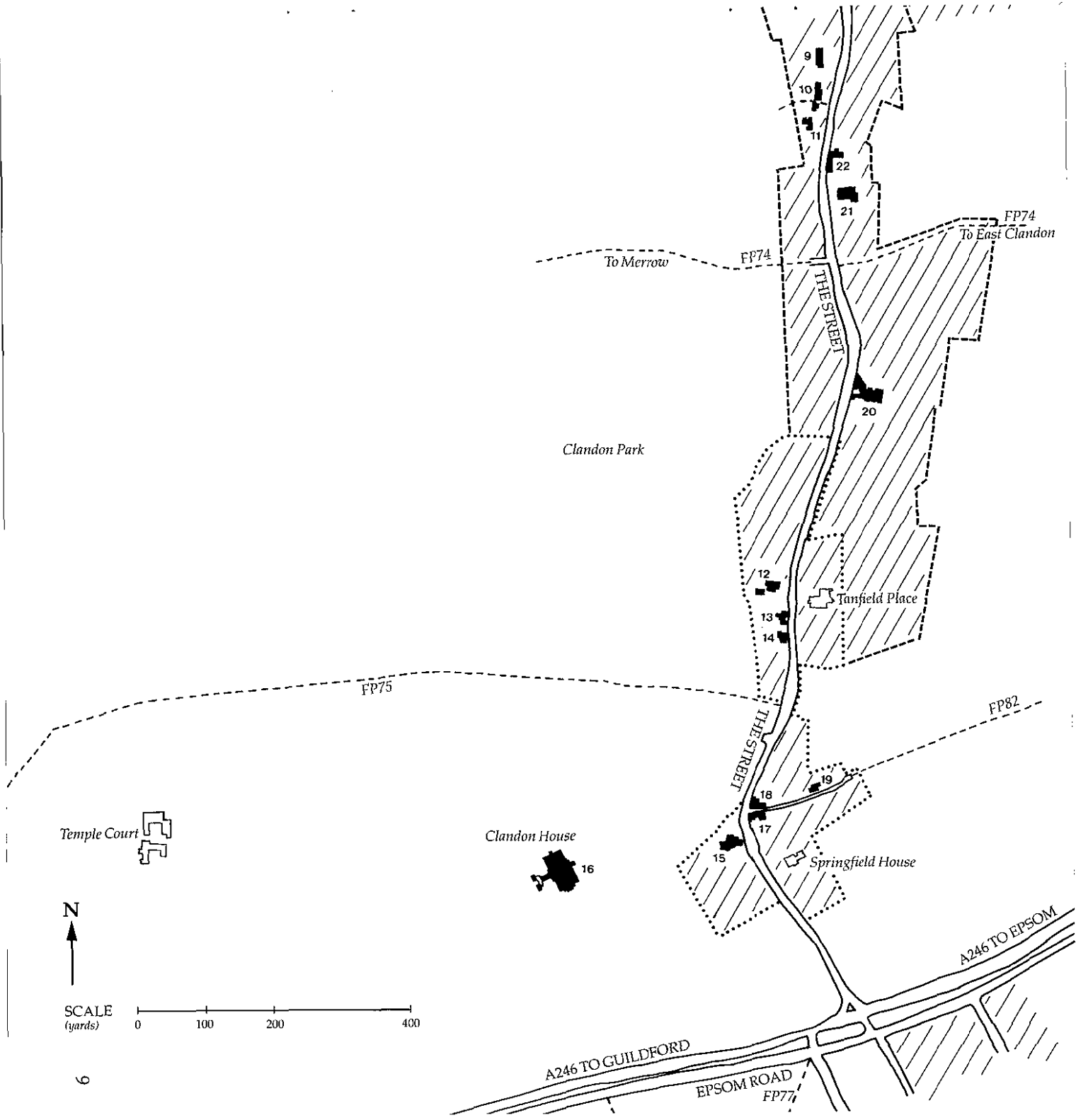
Boundary of Conservation area .....
Proposed extension of Conservation area - - - - - -
Residential area



Listed buildings in West Clandon (all listed Grade II unless otherwise specified)

1 Nos 1 & 2 Dedswell Manor Farm Cottages
2 Hawthorne Cottage
3 Poyners Cottage
4 Old Boodles
5 1 & 2 Ellerker Cottages
6 Village Animal Pound
7 The Old House
8 West Clandon Stores (Brownlow Cottage)
9 Dibbles
10 Cranley Cottages & Lodge
11 Fludyers
12 Church of England School
13 The *Bull's Head* Public House
14 Post House
15 Church of St Peter & St Paul *(listed II*)*
16 Clandon House *(listed I)*; Grotto, Maori Meeting House, Temple, Barn, Dovecote, Lodges & Gates *(all listed II)*
17 Hillier Cottage & October Cottage
18 Church Cottage & Gardner's Cottage
19 Strangeways
20 Clandon Regis
21 Summers
22 Summers Barn
23 Cuckoo Cottage

to North of map area:
Hazelhurst Cottage, Tithe Barns Lane
Barn N. of Hazelhurst Cottage, Tithe Barns Lane

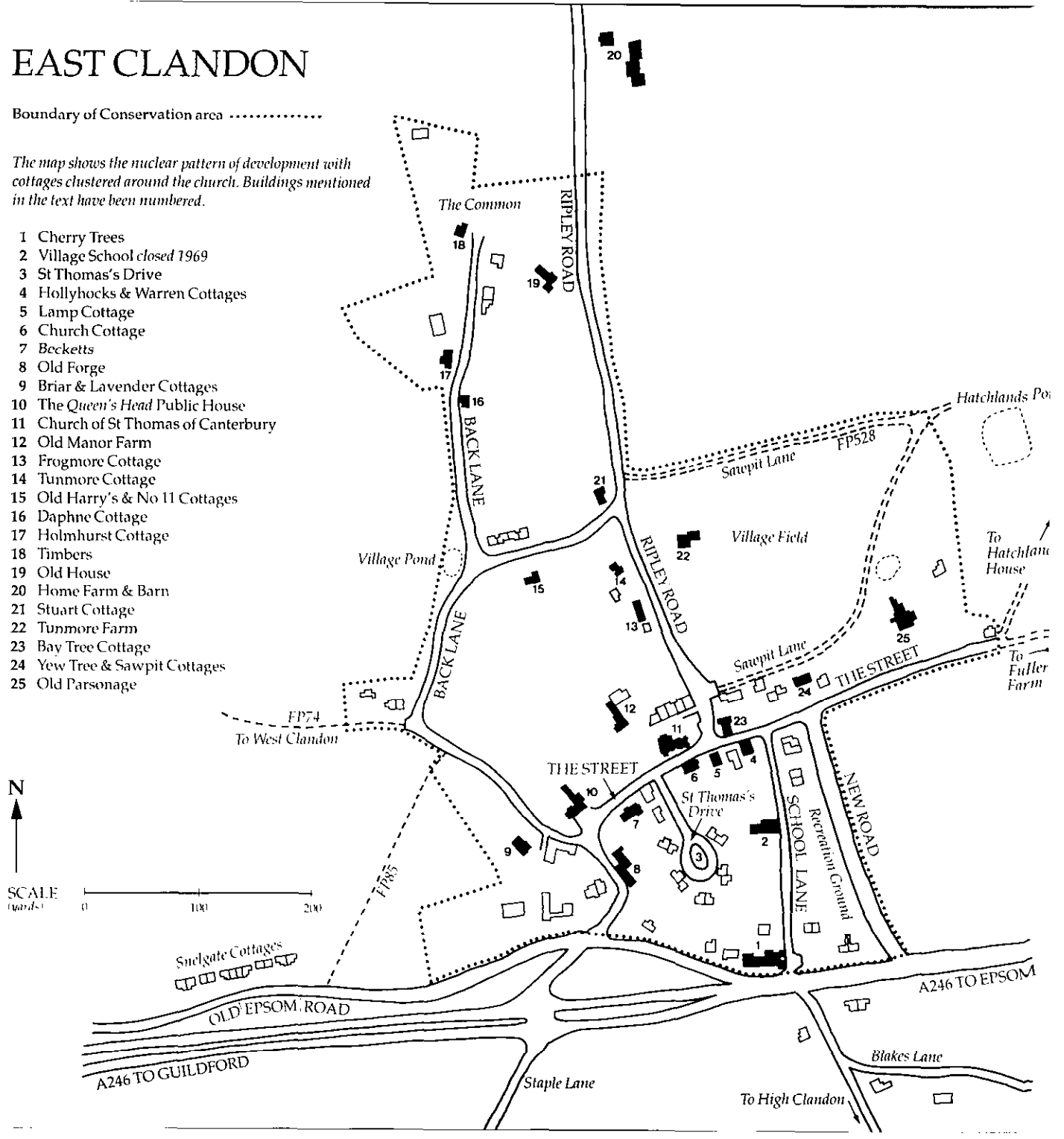

9
10
11
22
21
FP74
To East Clandon
To Merrow
FP74
THE STREET
20
Clandon Park
12
Tanfield Place
13
14
FP75
FP82
THE STREET
19
18
17
Temple Court
Clandon House
16
15
Springfield House
N
SCALE
(yards)
0
100
200
400
A246 TO EPSOM
A246 TO GUILDFORD
EPSOM ROAD
FP77

EAST CLANDON

Boundary of Conservation area .....

The map shows the nuclear pattern of development with cottages clustered around the church. Buildings mentioned in the text have been numbered.

1 Cherry Trees
2 Village School *closed 1969*
3 St Thomas's Drive
4 Hollyhocks & Warren Cottages
5 Lamp Cottage
6 Church Cottage
7 *Becketts*
8 Old Forge
9 Briar & Lavender Cottages
10 The *Queen's Head* Public House
11 Church of St Thomas of Canterbury
12 Old Manor Farm
13 Frogmore Cottage
14 Tunmore Cottage
15 Old Harry's & No 11 Cottages
16 Daphne Cottage
17 Holmhurst Cottage
18 Timbers
19 Old House
20 Home Farm & Barn
21 Stuart Cottage
22 Tunmore Farm
23 Bay Tree Cottage
24 Yew Tree & Sawpit Cottages
25 Old Parsonage



❦ CHAPTER 1 ❦

I remember . . .

The 1860s
by Richard Drewitt, Lord Onslow's agent

Some idea of life in West Clandon in 1867 was given by Mr Richard Drewitt in evidence to an agricultural commission in that year.

"I have lived here 19 years. Women are only occasionally employed on a farm of 4 or 500 acres, perhaps four or five women will be employed in raking and spudding couch grass, weeding corn, haymaking and harvesting. After harvest they are employed in picking tuffets off the sown wheat. They usually work from 8 to 5. I don't think that the wife's paid work is of much assistance to the family except during the harvest. I am well acquainted with the country for 10 miles around this place and what I say now applies to all that district. The farms are usually from 200 to 500 acres in extent. Girls very seldom work in the fields and it is not at all desirable that they should. Boys usually remain at school until they are twelve; their chief employment is to drive the plough. Those employed in bird scaring and sheep or cow tending are usually 12. They earn about 3/s a week and most can read and write. I can name one family that cannot but that is because they will not go to school. It is a great mistake to suppose that all labourers earn the same. In order to be a good agricultural labourer a boy must begin work when young, but I think 12 is young enough to begin except during harvest. Gleaning causes more immorality than any other kind of work. The children go out 50 or 60 together to get so many handfuls and steal the corn in order to complete their handfuls. Lord Onslow lets about 1 or 2 cottages per 100 acres with the farms. He charges his tenants £3 per year per cottage and I endeavour to bind the tenant to let them to the labourers for the same sum as they pay themselves, but I cannot get that carried out. Lord Onslow charges 50/s a year for the cottages he lets to labourers. The farmers frequently let their cottages to others than their own labourers. All the cottages have gardens of from 20 to 60 poles. There are some allotments in West Clandon. Every labourer who has only 20 poles of garden has an allotment of a quarter of an acre for which he pays 5/s a year. The usual rent of land is about 25/s an acre. The allotments are let subject to the condition of the occupiers keeping sober and going to church. They may not grow wheat on more than a quarter. The farmers do not object to the allotments. Almost all the labourers keep pigs. The cottages are conveniently situated with respect to the work to be done but there are not enough of them. I build 2 cottages for 100 guineas each, with two bedrooms and a small sleeping room for the children upstairs, and sitting room, kitchen and scullery downstairs; that sum includes the water supply (a well), which can be easily obtained here, and fences. On Sunday the shepherd is wanted during half the day, sometimes more; the horsekeeper and stockman 3 hours each. I think a good labourer will earn £50 a year: but here he can earn 30/s a week for six weeks by stripping bark. I have three under me now who earn about £40. I think it desirable that boys should go to school during a portion of their time after they begin to work, but they can only devote the evenings and Sundays to it."

West Clandon since 1880
by Alfred Day, a village carpenter

Both my parents came to the Village in about 1880. My father was employed by the Clandon Park Estate as a carter, stationed at Summers Farm, occupied by Mr McIntyre, (now *Summers*). The bungalow in the grounds was the cartshed and the buildings opposite were the stables and hay barn. This section of the estate was responsible for cultivating the land known as Oak Grange, Lime Grove and Lime Close. When this land was no longer profitable to cultivate, trees were planted supplied from the estate nursery (where the Merrow Rectory now stands). Chalk Hill on the left of Ash Tree Walk was also planted with fir trees in 1899 or 1900.

The Caretaker of the Working Mens Hostel (now the *Onslow Arms*) was Mr Pike, a strict disciplinarian. If a young man was not in at the time allotted, doors were locked and he had to stay outside until all was quiet, then one of the inmates would open a window and let him in.

Temple Court was let to Mr Simpson who lived at Sarisbury (now Little Clandon) and ran the dairy farm, supplying milk and butter to Clandon House. The estate employed its own tradesmen, i.e. bricklayers, carpenters, painters, woodmen, nurserymen, blacksmiths and four carters used for carting timber to the sawmill, and many other jobs but not farming. On the death of the bailiff William Hillier the estate workers were disbanded and the tradesmen set up business on their own in the village and at Merrow.

The milk produced at the farm was taken to Clandon Station twice a day and transported to London. This section of railway was opened in 1885, and I understand a Mr Wallis Blake, the Head Gamekeeper, held the first return ticket to Guildford.

The Water Works was opened that same year. It was a slow process getting water into the houses; as was usual in those days residential type houses came first. Class distinction was very prominent. It was 1908 before we had it installed at Strangeways Cottage where we lived. All water had to be carried from a stand pipe from the top of the lane, where the other cottages collected their water. Prior to that there was a well.

As a boy, I remember the rector's wife riding in a four wheeled wicker work carriage pulled by a donkey and led by her gardener, Mr Jarrod. Clandon Regis was occupied by Mrs Hardy and her two daughters who took a great interest in the welfare of the villagers. They held Sunday School at their house and also ran a children's drama group. Parts large and small were found for every child who joined. The plays were usually of an Eastern or African style, took months to get to any perfection, and were held in the school in the winter. These plays were well patronised by the village and outside as all the proceeds went to charity missions abroad.

An interesting occupation held once a fortnight at Tanfield House was chip carving, instructed by the two

The *Bull's Head*, West Clandon. *(John Bradshaw)* An early 'hall house' of the C16 with later additions, and the oldest public house in the village.

The game of 'Toad in the Hole' at the *Bull's Head* in the 1960s. *(Mrs Halsey) L to r:* Len Halsey, Bill Taylor and Bill Savage.

Misses Dubison. We brought our own tools and the articles were supplied. We took these home and amused ourselves in the winter evenings. Then there were no such things as wireless or television. When the articles were finished the Misses Dubison would sell them and the profits were our perks. They also held smocking classes for the girls on alternative weeks and the same arrangements applied.

A few years before the 1914-1918 war Summers became a private residence. The old harness room was fitted out as a youth club and reading room. It held a quarter size billiard table and several other games. It was well attended in the winter months being closed during the summer. On Sundays no games were allowed, we had no noisy records to endure, and we enjoyed a better life in my opinion.

The wages were very low, 18s a week at the most and we were charged 1s rent if in a tied cottage. Women took in washing and helped in the fields at times. All the upper class had their own servants and did not require home help, with the exception of Clandon House when they entertained and had a house full. My mother went up with another one or two to help in the kitchen, washing up, from 9am-9pm at 2s6d a day. Several men kept pigs and went out in the evening collecting waste scraps from the bins. When pigs were killed, one was kept for home use and others salted down; the surplus went to market. With this profit the men could afford an evening or two at the *Bull's Head* where there was a bagatelle table, dominoes and shove halfpenny. 'Tippit' was the only game allowed on Sunday evenings in those days. Public Houses were open from 6am-10pm and good beer was 2d a pint, spirits 2d and 3d a tot.

The stables, now gone from the *Bull's Head*, were occupied by a contractor and the yard was packed with tip carts. Most of the work was carting granite from the station and flint cast for the roads which were muddy in the winter and dusty in the summer, no tarmac in those days.

The post office store was owned by Mr Goacher, a church warden, who baked bread in an old fashioned oven being much superior to the present day loaves. His gingerbread once tasted was never forgotten. He often used to stay late in the evenings and enjoyed listening to the village news. Anything interesting and worth recording was passed on to the *Surrey Advertiser*. There was always plenty of time to talk to customers as all goods such as sugar and tea had to be weighed and wrapped, rashers cut by hand, and very little tinned stuff. Daily deliveries of bread were made by his son in a pony cart, who supplied East as well as West Clandon. Mr Goacher also sold boots and shoes but discontinued this in the early 1900s. There was another baker at the bottom of the village (behind Hawthorne Cottage which was an off-licence and next to the blacksmith's forge) which also sold a few items of foodstuff and sweets. This was owned by Miss Lewer who carried on until about 1920 when she became ill and unable to cope. The baker packed up before the 1914-1918 war.

The village has changed its face since, the roadside pond opposite the church was filled in, the Post Office moved from Bones Cottage to the Clandon Store, later to the Old Post House (in 1990 West Clandon no longer has a Post Office). The *Bull's Head* stables are gone, and the avenue of elm trees from Little Clandon to Clandon Regis were mostly blown down in a storm one Sunday evening. The village pound next to the cinder path to

Women's Institute stall which until recently was held every Friday morning on the village green opposite the animal pound.

East Clandon has been moved nearer to the railway station. Over 200 houses have been built since the 1914-1918 war, when only 75 houses and cottages made up the village. The barn was pulled down next to Old Barn Cottage. The Recreation Ground was allotments with others beyond the cross roads in the grounds of The Garth. A cabby was stationed behind Clandon Store, but the motor car took over and Mr Bennett started a taxi business in about 1920 with one car and a shed.

Moving on northwards down the village, Lime Grove was only a public footpath through the fields with a cart track by its side. The Hare and Hounds Cottage, a staging post for changing horses, was the last building on that side of the road with the exception of some stables and barns on the left hand entrance to Lime Grove. I understand Loftus Cottages, now the new telephone exchange, were malthouses. Looking back to what were classed as 'The Good Old Days', I wonder.

West Clandon 1880-1972
by Albert Bennett

Albert Bennett was a much loved member of the village who always helped anyone. He ran the West Clandon garage, lived next door in Ellerker Cottage and was renowned for his magnificent garden.

For his 90th birthday Mr R C Patrick organised a lunch party at the Onslow Arms *at which one speaker said 'his garage and his garden have been the focal point of village life for over 40 years. It would be impossible to exaggerate his contribution to the pattern of life in the village'. He was a real gentleman. When he died a year later the following article appeared in the* Surrey Advertiser *of 14 April 1972.*

"Toffs in spats and top hats, gipsies and cap-doffing villagers are among the memories of West Clandon, as it was at the turn of the century, which have been recorded on tape by Mr Albert Bennett who died recently after living in the village since 1880.

"West Clandon was a very friendly place in the old days, Mr Bennett recalled, with just a few big houses, farms and Clandon Park, whose upkeep employed many workers from the village.

"Successive Earls of Onslow employed four generations of Mr Bennett's family and he worked on the estate as a boy.

"When he left the village school at 11 years of age, his mother was delighted that he could earn three-and-sixpence a week working in Clandon Park woods. Later he was apprenticed to a saddler in Woking but he saw no future in saddling with the coming of the motor car, so he travelled to Essex and Yorkshire working in the building trade. He returned to Clandon where he worked on the repair of the Onslow estate cottages. At that time the estates spread past Guildford and Woking and it was a great blow when Mr Lloyd George's tax broke up the estate. Painters, carpenters and bricklayers were all laid off. The Earl was a 'very great gent' who paid all his workers off accordingly to service, said Mr Bennett.

"Work was difficult to get, he recalls, and villagers often walked all day looking for odd jobs.

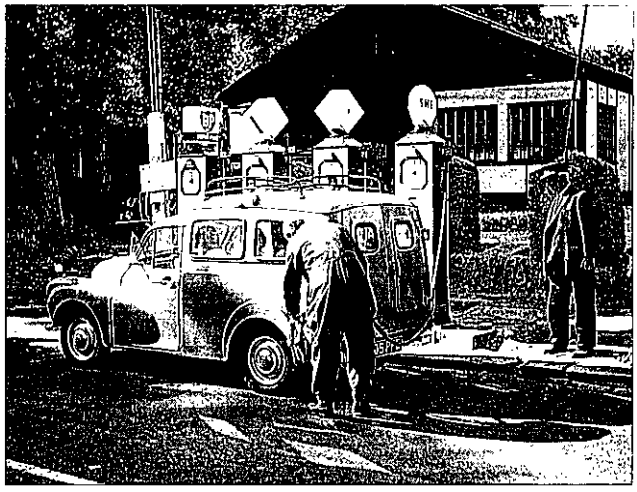
"Traffic was mostly horse-drawn and from Hawthorn Cottage, then a public house near Guildford Road, down to Clandon station used to be lined with carts. Coachmen driving carriages and pairs wore top hats and cockades.

"When he was a boy the inn (*Hare and Hounds*) was frequented by gipsies and fighting was frequent. In cold weather gipsies would go into the bar, pour beer into a tin over the fire and sprinkle it with pepper and nutmeg to make it hot, before drinking it.

"The *Bull's Head* had not changed at all although beer was twopence a pint.

"The shop next door sold boots for three and sixpence. Clandon had three shops, a blacksmith and three public houses then, and only a few men travelled daily from the station up to town – immaculate in spats, striped suits and top hats.

"Stray cattle and horses were regularly collected by the village policeman and put in the pound, a wall of which still stands. It cost a shilling a head to get them out.



West Clandon Garage 1964 *(Patrick Collection)*
Mr Bennett wearing a cap at his petrol pumps, when petrol was under 5p a gallon. The pumps were at the side of the A247 road.

"Where the Pound House was built, a man used to smoke-cure sides of bacon in three sheds.

"The shop opposite the *Onslow Arms* was also the village post office then, and letters were hand-stamped 'WEST CLANDON' before being put on the train personally by the shopkeeper.

"Village life centred around the two central pubs where violinists played and sang. Clandon also had a band and Mr Bennett's father wore a bandsman's uniform.

"Farming was the chief occupation and farmers employed many farm workers and household servants. The surrounding hills were covered with sheep tended by three shepherds. Men using threshing machines lived in barns at Weller's farm, and corn was flailed at Cuckoo farm.

"When Weller's farm sold out it took a three-day sale to dispose of the implements. Most of the land is now Lime Grove.

"Mr Bennett tells with amusement of the young farm servant girl who, sent to Church in place of her indisposed mistress, returned horrified at the parson's forwardness in speaking of the forbidden subject – beds. He made a quite indecent rhyme, she reported 'Shake the bed, make the bed and into bed you go' (a play on the words from Shadrack Meshach and Abed-nego).

"Because work was hard to get Mr Bennett became a gardener...

"His employer had a chain-driven Germain which Mr Bennett learned to drive, chauffeuring the owner to Brighton and sometimes to the races. It was then 1908 and the speed was judged by his employer who watched the milestones.

"After service in the First World War - he speaks in his reminiscences, mainly of the carnage of men and horses in the mud of the Somme - he bought his first car.

"It was a Rover 15 on which he 'worked like a Trojan', but his mother refused to go in the 'beastly thing'. His first paid job in it was a trip down to Wiltshire, and so the taxi service, for which he was so well-known in Clandon, grew.

"He received £5 to take a lady shopping to London, when he expected shillings only, and he remembers that he 'nearly fell to the floor'. The journey then took only two gallons of petrol, and he was sent out of Hyde Park for emitting smoke!

"Anxious to earn a few shillings he helped repair a Daimler, began teaching people to drive and put up a shed to start his garage business.

"He ran this and a taxi service for over 40 years. Mr Bennett was well respected for his service in business and for his contribution to village life."

The Savages of East Clandon 1901-1926
by Eric Savage of White Lane Farm, Albury

My father started his farming career in 1901 at Old Manor Farm where I was born in 1907. He later added Cuckoo Farm in West Clandon until moving to Shillingle Park near Chiddingfold. In 1916 he returned to Home Farm until 1926 when we finally left the village.

I remember a deputation of local farmers calling on my father one Sunday morning to express concern because he had raised his cowman's wages from sixteen shillings to one pound a week. The farmers heard via the *Queen's Head* that their employees wanted the same and farming profits did not justify such an extravagant increase.

Two cowmen milked 42 cows by hand seven days a week which meant a 4 am start. They then had to get the milk churns to West Clandon Railway Station to catch the 7.30am train to London. The milk was sold privately to Mr Cookson of Wandsworth.

Cattle were driven to and from market by road with one person going ahead to open gates. The first stop on market day was Sainsbury's in Guildford (slightly further up the High Street than the present shop) where the assistants in clean white hats carried out groceries to our pony cart which was then left at the *Lion Hotel* at the bottom of the High Street where White Lion Walk is now and before that Woolworths. Mother then went shopping and father to market.

The Lion was the main stage coach hotel in the town and my father used to recall with excitement the sight of the heavily laden coaches pulled by four horses leaving the hotel. The coaches had first to negotiate the steep slope down from the hotel into the High Street where they had to turn sharp left at speed up the High Street. The noise and clatter as the horses slipped on the cobble stones in frosty weather was worth witnessing.

The memoirs of a VAD at Clandon Park Hospital in World War I
by Margaret E Van Straubenzee

Miss Van Straubenzee had an interesting life and this extract from her memoirs show that she was a person of great determination who survived many setbacks and deprivations. Her father, a Colonel, did not believe that his daughter required either a good education or a career, and on leaving school prevented Margaret from becoming a qualified nurse. After her time at Clandon Park she spent four years in India, before training as a nurse in London, ending her days

farming in Kenya.

"I joined up as a VAD [Voluntary Aid Detachment] at the end of October 1916, aged 20, having previously taken my exams in home-nursing, hygiene, and first aid, and went to the Countess of Onslow's hospital at Clandon Park.

This was my first taste of emancipation, being away from a sheltered home and standing on my own feet. I was completely unfitted to face the World, quite ignorant of all sex matters, very shy and unsophisticated. There were about 120 patients, the big Hall and one of the drawing-rooms leading out of it were turned into wards. The present Earl's study and the green ballroom leading out of it, on the right of the big staircase, were also turned into wards, with a ward kitchen made out of part of the main hall and under the stairs, and this was where I started duty the morning after arrival. I had to keep the marble floor washed, a terrible business because my kitchen was such a thoroughfare, and every mark showed on the wet marble. Until I got the knack of it I felt quite helpless, kneeling in the middle of this sea of wet, trying vaguely to mop up the water into my bucket! My other duties were to take round the meals and wash up; get the staff's tea ready at 9.30am; take round 'specials' to the patients at 10am; clean all the forks, spoons, & brasses; and help in the wards to make beds in the afternoon or evening, when some of the other VADs were off duty.

The Countess of Onslow was the Commandant. There was a very nice Matron, most of the Sisters were delightful too, and a great number of the VADs came from old Surrey county families. Most of the staff had to be billeted out. My first quarter was in a cottage over the stables where I shared a room with C.P. As she kept me so strictly under her eye, and had no sense of humour, I felt I could never have any fun while she looked upon herself as my guardian. To my relief she left soon after I arrived.

A huge convoy of 70 Australians soon filled up every available bed, and all the worst surgical cases were put on the ground floor near the operating theatre. Every patient had to be blanket-bathed as most of them had come straight from the front-line stations and had only one dressing applied. I had to take my turn with the others and really terrible sights I had to see.

Several of the wounded had an arm or a leg blown off, and there was one case with both legs and one arm missing. One felt one could not do enough for these poor fellows. Operations were going on day and night. There were frequent haemorrhages; on one occasion I had to hold the stump of a leg for quite a long time, when the first dressing (after the amputation) had to be done, and a horrible sight it was, and I very nearly disgraced myself by going off into a faint!

We spent a very jolly Christmas at Clandon in 1916, and some of the talented members of the staff got up a concert to entertain the patients. The Countess of Onslow and her Secretary sang and acted the duet *'Madam, will you walk, Madam, will you talk, etc'* which was also much appreciated.

Then came the more serious business of night-duty, and this was my first experience of being up all night. I was the most junior VAD, so I had the horrible job of having to cook the breakfast for all the hospital patients. The huge, old fashioned kitchens were in the basement,

and on my first approach to this abode I was scared out of my wits, for there were rats as big as cats running about in all directions. The night orderly helped me to put the huge copper cauldron on to boil, and when the water was boiling I had to tip in about 130 kippers!! It was a terrific rush in the morning to get all the patients washed, their beds made and give them all breakfast after a busy night (often convoys arrived at night). I was just dropping with tiredness, and often fell asleep in the ambulance which brought us to the hospital, morning and evening, from our billets in the village.

I was billeted with Major and Mrs Browle in Merrow village, and very comfortable they made us. I had some delightful expeditions on half-days and our one day off a month, when we bicycled all through the lovely Surrey villages and lanes; in the spring of 1917 the primroses and bluebells in the Clandon woods were a sight to behold. We frequently went to Newlands Corner for picnics. We never got enough to eat at Clandon, and all my pocket-money went on *café-au-lait*, biscuits, sardines, etc. We took it in turns to give a 'bean-feast' in our rooms each night when we came off duty, as our supper on one occasion had been only one boiled onion each!

There was a dear little village church at Clandon, with a gate from the Park leading to it; the congregation consisted chiefly of nurses and patients. I was billeted in the huge old nursery (five of us altogether) at the very top of Clandon Park Hospital. It was a relief not to have a long walk before coming on duty. We could indulge by having a little longer in bed before racing down to the basement to breakfast at 7 am, putting on apron and cuffs as we went; for it was considered a disgrace to be late.

After I had been there a year we wore one white stripe on our sleeve. There were several VADs with 3 and 4 white stripes, who did Staff Nurses' duties when they were 'off duty', and got a tremendous amount of experience with dressings. After a year I got quite a lot of nursing too, fomentations galore, and smaller dressings, and when I was in charge of 45 walking cases on night duty, on the top floor, I had all the treatment to do single-handed. There were some very badly gassed patients, others with nephritis and trench feet; nearly all the arm cases were sent to the top floor. On the whole I liked the Australians best, they were a particularly cheery crowd and it was hard work to keep them in order. I had great difficulty in shaking off one particular patient, called Loney, who was the champion swimmer for Perth, Western Australia. He was tall, blue-eyed and curly-headed, and seemed to make a bee-line for me on arrival. I liked him very much, but not to the extent of being followed round, and waiting for me to come off duty.

We frequently went to Guildford and enjoyed a good tea at Bretts', and we got 'picked up' by some Australian officers who were pretty well 'oiled'! They attached themselves to us and insisted on giving us dinner, and then they wanted to drive us up to town and take us to a show. I was against the plan, thinking it had gone quite far enough already, but two of the nurses went, and myself and the other were content to do a local flick with our two Aussies, and a grand time we had too. I often fell over a cow in the Park on a dark night when returning from Guildford, and we generally managed to return in pairs from any evening expedition so as to have company, as the Park was long and very dark, with all its beautiful avenue of trees.

We often saw the little Viscount Cranley, and the Lady Mary, his sister, aged about 4 and 8. The Countess of Onslow would bring them round the wards at Christmas and on special occasions.

There was a 'flu epidemic in 1918, and staff as well as patients went down with it like flies. I was then on night duty on the top floor with 45 patients to look after, as well as several nurses ill in the old nursery. I kept going as long as I could, then, one night, I collapsed while on duty. To my great embarrassment I had to be nursed in the Matron's bedroom, as every other available space was full. She was really very kind to me, but I felt very in awe of her, and not at all at my ease. One charming Canadian VAD died, and also a few of the patients.

I had to 'special' a case on night duty on one occasion as my patient was dangerously ill with typhoid. He looked ghastly, with emaciated body and large head and big black beard, and was too ill to be shaved. It was my duty to watch his pulse and to report any change to the Sister. I literally dreaded going behind the screens in the dim-lit ward, and sitting and watching over this poor creature all night. Eventually he died, but not when I was on duty, I am thankful to say. I often had to deal with dying men, but the orderlies always 'laid them out', and we had only to disinfect the bed and locker and put them ready for the next case. I remember the Armistice in November 1918. I had just gone to bed (being on night duty again) when we were awakened by people shouting and bells ringing, so we got up and went into Guildford to see all the fun. It was a wonderful feeling of relief and tremendous goodwill to all and sundry.

The hospital didn't close down until the spring of 1919, and a few of us stayed on until the end. A garden fête was held in the grounds in May 1918, and the sum of £250 raised for the Red Cross. The peacocks added an old-world charm to the place and strutted about on the terraces, though I must admit their piercing cry was a bit uncanny when heard last thing at night or very early in the morning.

I must mention the Clandon ghost before closing this page of my life. The green ballroom was supposed to be haunted by a former Countess of Onslow who was very young, but unhappy, and she was supposed to walk through the ballroom, dressed in an old-fashioned green silk dress and high-heeled shoes, and to disappear through the door at the end of the ballroom, which led into a corner-shaped apartment known as the hunting room. This door was kept locked, as furniture and possessions of the Onslow family were stored in the hunting room during the war years. Several patients asked me who was the pretty old-fashioned lady 'who walked through the ward last night and disappeared through the door'? These questions were nearly always asked by patients who had only just arrived by convoy. Several nurses reported having heard the Green Lady's tapping heels echoing during the night, though they didn't see her. I lived in terror of running into the ghost, because I knew I was rather psychic.

There was also supposed to be a horseman, who galloped up to the front entrance during the night, generally during the month of November. I was on night duty on the top floor, with dear Sister Pugh as night sister. She had just come up to see if all my patients were all right, and it was exactly midnight, when she suddenly ran to the window as she distinctly heard the sound of horses' feet galloping up to the

house. She naturally wanted to know who it was, but on opening the front door no one was there and nothing could be seen. She was very surprised that I hadn't heard the horseman too, but I can't honestly say I had. Sister Pugh was the only person I came into contact with who had heard the ghostly rider!

I was sorry to leave the hospital; it had been a wonderful experience in my life, and one I shall never forget. I think a nurse's career is the best a woman can choose.

East Clandon in the 1930s
by Denzil Nield of Old House

Our family lived in West Horsley until in 1928 my father bought a pair of semi-detached cottages on the Ripley Road for £400 which he gutted and converted into the Old House. My father was an architect with a small practice in London and in the same year that I left Sherborne School I started work in his office. Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel told my Father that he would have bought the cottages if at the time of sale he had not been at his house in France, as he wanted to keep all the village cottages within the Hatchlands Estate. One of the features of the village before World War II were the trees. Walnut trees abounded on the chalk and lime soils in the southern part of the village and huge elm trees grew on the wet clay soil to the north.

The cottages were condemned because of damp and their dilapidated condition; and as we did not have much work on in the London office we were able to take odd days off to work on the cottage. The first job was to shore up the first floor and the roof, remove all the brick panels, and excavate around and under the walls so that new concrete foundations could be laid. All the brickwork was done to a high standard by Mr Baker of West Horsley.

We were rather proud of the fact that all the new timber framing and joinery with the exception of the japanese oak staircase was made by ourselves mainly from english oak obtained from Ingram Perkins of Guildford. I made a quarter scale drawing of the new staircase which was finally manufactured in Reading, and what a sigh of relief I gave when it finally clicked in place as the walls were irregular and the floor levels varied. Some of the original oak beams were so hard that our big mortice chisels broke and we found that a large hand auger was the best tool for shaping the oak beams. My father claimed that the beams originally had been ship's timbers. When eventually we moved there in 1930 the staircase had not yet been installed and we went to bed by means of a ladder. The garden pigsty was turned into a workshop and the last big job my father did was to build the garage using flints from the foundations of the house.

I bought a 1926 bull nosed Morris from my brother for £5 and when it wore out I exchanged it for a 1923 model

Old House, Ripley Road, before modernisation in 1929
(Austin Parkinson)

Originally built as a single house, this was two semi-detached cottages when Denzil Nield's father bought it and embarked upon its re-conversion.

from Mr Bennett's garage in West Clandon. The car had been kept in a heated garage by a West Clandon lady who only used it for short trips. It was in good condition but it was not provided with rear wheel brakes and the windscreen wiper was hand operated; you just pulled it back and across, nothing to go wrong. For a garage, I rented from the village shop (now the Old Post House) a wooden shed in Sawpit Lane for a few shillings a week. In cold weather, before the days of anti-freeze, I had to drain the radiator at night. In the morning I pushed the car along the lane & jumped onto the running board (how useful were running boards with their spare can of petrol) as the car freewheeled down to the common where I filled the radiator with hot water from the kitchen for an easy start. Sometimes I kept the plugs in the oven overnight.

Miss Burling kept the village shop which included a post office and a general store. She often appeared a bit fierce but was good hearted and would help anybody but there never seemed to be overmuch on the shelves.

The Rector, Mr Arthur Plumtree Glyn, lived in the Rectory (now the Old Parsonage) and was rather aloof. At one village fête my mother and some village women were sitting at a table which seemed to become the repository for all the empty cake plates. The Rector came by and commented loudly, 'cleared the board, I see, cleared the board'. This became a family saying. When the children and mothers were evacuated from London before the bombing, my mother undertook to find billets for our quota. As the rectory with eleven bedrooms was very large for only the Rector and his

wife she went there first, but Mrs Glyn was horrified at the idea, saying, 'on no account, it would upset the servants'. It was the only time I saw my mother angry. My mother was an understanding person and villagers came to her for advice. She also took part in many village activities and ran a teenage sewing club in our house.

Behind our garden, in Back Lane lived Matt Huggins in Huggins Cottage with his wheelwright's shop. Matt Huggins kept two huge horses tethered on the common, called Victor and Captain. It was said that when a previous horse died Matt asked his wife to get £10 out of their hidy-hole, saying he was 'going to get a good un this time'. He had a son, Jim who now lives at the Glebe, and bicycles through the village each day aged seventy nine. Jim used to be a bricklayer and left East Clandon in 1939 when he was called up for the army. His aunt lived in and sold the Old House to my father.

Across the Common at the end of Back Lane, in Timbers, which has been nicely done up now, lived a couple, the Jarrads. He worked at Home Farm and Mrs Jarrad used to come and 'do' for us. When the telephone was first installed she was terrified when it rang but her daughter, Audrey aged about 8, who usually came with her was not worried and ran to answer it. Mr Jarrad also helped us in the garden and in particular advised us in making home-made wine. It was Mr Jarrad who made the remark which our family still quote. We wanted pipkins (stone jars) for the wine to ferment in, but could only get ones without handles. We asked Mr Jarrad if these would do. He was doubtful and said, "they be 'andier to 'andle if they 'ave 'andles". His best wine was made from mangolds which he cut up with the farm chopper. One summer's evening a huge elm tree in the field next to our house fell and blocked the Ripley Road and the estate staff worked long into the night with hand saws and axes clearing the road.

Shortly after leaving school Pat Bellairs who lived at Tunmore Farm and myself decided to organise a village cricket team and Mr Sykes of New Manor Farm loaned a field on the way to West Clandon. Goodhart-Rendel then offered a pitch in the field opposite the Rectory (now the Old Parsonage) but both pitches were pretty awful even by village standards as well as dangerous. Mr Sykes's lorry was used to transport the team to away matches and I don't think we ever won a match.

At number 17, The Common, at the end of Back Lane, which at one time was a workhouse, lived an old couple. The husband enjoyed his visits to the *Queen's Head*. The story goes that one night he had to be escorted home at closing time by a friend. The friend helped the husband into his house and after quietly closing the front door he heard a crash from inside. He reopened the door to see if he could help and received a sharp blow on the head. When he came to on the floor with the husband he found the enraged wife standing over him with a rolling pin.

In the 1930s the rent of Tunmore Farm House owned by Hatchlands estate was £50 per year, about the same as one term's fees at a public school. The rent for most of the cottages was 2/6d (12.5p) per week but payment was not pressed when times were hard.

In 1941 my parents sold Old House and moved to Cornwall by which time I was living in London, and lost contact with East Clandon until I revisited it in 1988.

The Last Squire of East Clandon
by Maurice Wiggin

This extract is taken from 'Faces at the Window' *by Maurice Wiggin, who in the 1950s rented Tunmore Cottage, known locally as Tea Cosy Cottage, from the Squire, Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel* CBE.

"When Kay and I decided that we were not cut out for the high life in Hampstead, we began to search for a country cottage which we might rent. Rent, of course; we had no capital, and no prospect of ever having any. After a year or so we spotted one for an 'Elizabethan Cottage', in East Clandon, Surrey. I instantly took the day off and we found our way to East Clandon. The cottage was temporarily tenanted by Rudd Jones, farm manager at Old Manor Farm who fetched us up short by mentioning casually that scores of couples had reached it before us; in fact 266 people made application for that jolly old heap, which was offered at £150 a year on a seven-year lease.

When we went into Guildford to see the agent, Paul Luxmoore May, he gave us a delightful surprise by asking if we would be prepared to be interviewed by the squire. I didn't think there were any squires left – this was 1950 – but of course I said yes, we'd be glad to be surveyed and even grilled by the old man. It was a very attractive cottage and a very low rent. Luxmoore warned us, very nicely I thought, that the squire was none too keen to open up the village at all, to strangers – this was the very first of the old cottages which had been 'modernised' (somewhat sketchily) and offered to all comers at what was presumably thought to be an economic rent. The squire, it turned out, was far from keen on having gin-swilling cocktail-party types coming into the village, and adamant that it should not be let to week-enders; he wanted it lived in by people who were prepared to become full-time members of the community. So we passed scrutiny – the factor that finally tipped the scales was my occupation as a writer on *The Sunday Times*, which older readers will recall was a very respectable newspaper. So we moved in.

It took time for it to sink in that East Clandon under squire's aegis was still an almost feudal village. Not quite, of course; the hairline cracks in the dam were just visible, modernity was seeping in: there were four cars and one television receiver. But by and large it was a village where time had stood still. Squire lived still in the great house, Hatchlands, and though he didn't own the entire village he owned so much of it that his word was virtually law. I had thought our 'economic rent' very economical indeed at £150 p.a., but when I realised that most of the cottages were let at rents of the order of 1s 6d (7.5 new pence) a week, some actually free, some half-a-crown (12.5p), and so on, I began to see the light.

Harry Stuart Goodhart-Rendel held the Hatchlands estate (which virtually meant the village) in trust. He was a bachelor who lived alone in the great house, served by a butler and various other retainers. Among his distinguished friends he numbered the Princess Royal and John Betjeman, who wandered into Rudd Jones's cottage one Sunday morning (Rudd had moved

to the cowman's cottage) asking plaintively if they had a fixture into which he might plug his electric razor, since he couldn't find one at Hatchlands. He said he fancied their breakfast too.

I imagine there is no doubt whatsoever that Harry Stuart Goodhart-Rendel was the only man who both held the Slade Professorship of Fine Arts and wrote a drill manual for the Brigade of Guards. The dual distinction perhaps indicates something of the quality of this exceptional, distinguished and most unusual man. He was an only child, an architect by profession, and a Grenadier. Some of the villagers still referred to him as Captain, or the Captain. Once a year in midsummer squire had the band of the Grenadier Guards down for the day; they played and marched on the lawn of Hatchlands, watched by the tenantry and by squire's special guests, then tucked into a splendid tea before departing for Caterham or wherever it may have been.

But that was not by any means the only old-time idiosyncrasy. Every Christmas time, before departing at year's end to his house in southern France (he suffered from asthma and needed to escape the rigours of the English winter), squire gave a children's tea party at Hatchlands, complete with conjuror and Christmas tree, oranges and gifts for all comers. We attended his celebration for several years running, scarcely able to believe that it was happening: the butler, the children's tea separate from the adult guests' tea, the entertainment, the present-giving, the perfunctory but official speeches, the wonderfully English mixing of diverse guests on a basis of limited social licence.

Squire was an exceptionally cultivated man who had few illusions about the nature of his relationship with the tenantry. He told me that he was quite aware that the sporting farmers could not understand him because he had no time for country sports. He did not hunt, shoot, or fish. His passions were music, art, a rather eclectic choice of literature, the Grenadiers and the Roman Catholic church. He attended a Catholic chapel in the neighbouring village of West Horsley – which he had designed. Ecclesiastical architecture was his speciality and passion: he had a close association with the monks of Prinknash Abbey in Gloucestershire, where he was eventually buried. His faith led him to a remarkable view of history, or at any rate of English history which, I sometimes suspected, ended for him with the battle of Bosworth Field.

Needless to say, squire was deeply conservative, permeated with an intense antipathy to change. He was personally one of the kindest, as one of the most upright and charitable, of men. But I fear he saw no virtue in the developments towards democracy (such as they were) that had taken place since 1485.

He had living with him, for some years after we became his tenants, his old stepfather and tutor Wilbraham Cooper, a man so steeped in feudalism that when it was proposed that bathrooms and modern sanitation should be installed in some of the cottages, he observed, 'Do the peasants really want bathrooms?' This, after the Second World War. Squire would not have gone so far; he was humane and he was also an architect; he wanted his tenants to have indoor privies and bathrooms, running water and electric light. But I think he also wanted them to live in peace in a socially and aesthetically changeless environment.

We were for a long time, several years, the only strangers to intrude; the village consisted of three independent farmers with their satellites, and an Anglican (bachelor) rector, a hearty chaplain figure who boasted of having served in all three Services, and squire and his household, and an extraordinary assortment of outworkers known as the estate staff, who looked after not only the big house, park, and gardens, but all the dependent cottages. There were two woodmen or foresters, a carpenter and mate, a couple of decorators, and Frank and Tim who did the brickwork and all other work. We enjoyed the services of these stalwarts, on a happy-go-lucky basis, a number of times, though ours was supposed to be a repairing lease, and became close friends with one of them, Tim, who had been squire's batman in the Grenadiers and had followed him to Clandon. Tim and Frank came to clean the chimney, unblock drains, and do odd jobs that wanted doing; it was all very much on a 'we'll be seeing you', 'just slipped over', cup-of-tea-and-wad basis. It was barely credible, but thoroughly enjoyable.

We were quite willing, when we had a bob to spare, to improve the old cottage, but squire was extremely resistant to improvements. He was always walking round the village when in residence, keeping a sharp eye open for unofficial change. All the tenants' cottages were uniformly painted in repellent colours, dark drab browns and greens - because they always had been. Our lease was generous and amiable enough about actual money, but extremely particular about paint: we were not free to vary the textures and finishes by shade. (Our paint, thank goodness, was white.) One day we set to and knocked out a sizeable piece of inner wall in order to build a recessed or flush bookcase alongside the ingle. It was barely complete when squire called to have a cup of tea and listen to some Alfred Deller records that we thought highly of. He stared menacingly at the improvement throughout the music, and was plainly on the brink of uttering.

We were invited to meals at the great house occasionally, but I'm afraid they were not the most relaxed of social occasions. I shall remember our first luncheon. In the vast lofty dining room, Wilbraham was served alone at a small table, while we shared a round table with squire. It was more like eating at a restaurant or club than at a private house. We were a little put out by this antique figure champing away just behind us, not taking part in the general conversation but interjecting a wholly unintelligible remark now and again when the stunning pictures on the walls were being discussed. It called for more social *savoir faire* than I possessed to cope with the gnomic apparition muttering away just behind my left shoulder. The food was delicious, but the drink was peculiar. Kay and I were given champagne, but squire had a small decanter of whisky and soda, ready mixed, with which he supported what was certainly a fairly difficult conversation.

But he was a dear old boy, we became very fond of him, and I think he had a soft spot for us. He used to come and tell us of his troubles - everyone has them - and forecast the havoc that would fall upon the village when he was dead. The estate was to pass from his care into the hands of two relatives, a split that he regarded with misgivings. Sure enough, the village has now been sold to various bidders, at remarkable prices, the old cottages have been tarted up and few if any of the original inhabitants, I mean the 1950 natives, remain. It's interesting to recall that our cottage has just changed hands (last year, 1971) for £18,250. It was offered to me

in 1961 for £7,500 after squire's death. I refused to pay what I thought was a extortionate price, and we left the village. Wrong again.

You always knew when squire was making his rounds. 'Dogs! Dogs!' he would cry, in a real Grenadier's voice. The dogs ran ahead - they wouldn't survive five minutes with today's traffic - and that tall, spare, upright figure hove into view, marching along, twirling his stick, looking in his grey tweed suit and soft brown trilby remarkably like that other Grenadier, Harold Macmillan, except that his moustache took a downward turn. He would pause and pass the time of day, perhaps come in and inspect the garden, in which he thought Kay had done well, as she had, and leave me with a crisp comment on Belloc, or *The Times*, or indeed the times; none of which in his opinion were what they had been.

I suppose the whole squire regime lasted about ten years, so far as we were concerned; but it was like a little lifetime, that decade; an interlude of stability and apparent changelessness, while we were growing into middle-age. The great house is a girls' school now, a finishing school as I understand it, and by a pleasing irony which would have appealed to the squire's mordant sense of the inadvisability of change, there is a sort of Borstal institution down the lane, just past keeper's cottage by the little lake where the carp and the mallard colony throve."

Reminiscences of a past caretaker of the West Clandon Memorial Hall
by Mrs Brenda Golden

The hall was opened on 28 September 1927 by the 4th Earl Onslow who donated the land. Most of the money was raised by two fêtes and a mile of pennies laid along the Street. In 1935 for King George V's Silver Jubilee the stage and the kitchen were added. The hall was built with a high pitched roof and a canadian maple sprung floor for badminton. The floor had no knots so that it would wear evenly and lasted for 60 years.

Mrs Lilian Lang was the hall's first secretary for about 40 years. Her word was law and woe betide the intrepid soul who wanted to change the established order or any occurrence which failed to reach her high standards.

When the hall opened the present toilets in the front of the building were changing rooms. Internal walls were left bare brick to avoid maintenance, and the woodwork was painted dark red which showed up the dust but not the dirt. A large inefficient coke boiler provided the heating and required stoking three times a day in cold weather. Barrow loads of coke had to be wheeled from the coke shed into the small and congested boiler room.

West Clandon British Legion Women's Section Dinner
(Brenda Golden)

By tradition the men cook and serve the dinner. On this occasion in the 1960s the men forgot to cook the peas.
L. to r.: Mrs Shelley, Lady Watkinson, Mrs Ince, Mrs Scott-Gardner (wife of the Rector) and Mrs Golden.

The caretaker's weekly pay in the 1950s was £1 a week which rose to £1.10s by the early 1960s for as many hours as was needed to accomplish all that was required.

Her job was arduous, she had to unlock, lay out, tidy up, and lock up after each activity, hirers of the hall not being required to tidy up. Up to 1955 the caretaker was required to be present at all events to prevent any rowdy behaviour or damage. An important responsibility on cricket days was to ensure that the main hall was kept locked to avoid the badminton floor being damaged by cricket boots, as cricketers were prone to taking a short cut from the changing rooms to the tea room via the main hall.

The range of activities slowly widened over the years. The cricket club closed some time ago although the badminton club still flourishes. A football club has been and gone. The Womens Institute still meets each month as does the Seniors Club. Dog training sessions and keep fit classes along with the play group and ballet classes are all of more recent times. Weddings, dances and parties have always been held. In August when most of the regulars are on holiday Brownie Guides arrive for a pack holiday. Two or three youth clubs have been run at different times and with varying degrees of success and at one time a Sunday School flourished until the organiser moved from the village.

A general maid at Oak Grange

Mrs M Grover was employed at Oak Grange, West Clandon by Mrs F Healey whose husband was a grain importer in London. They owned all the land on the east side of Oak Grange Road from Oak Grange up to the footpath to East Clandon. Since then many houses have been built in the garden. She earned fifteen shillings a week all found and had her own sitting room and bedroom. Her days off were half a day a week, every other Sunday and once a month a whole day off when she had to be back by 9.30pm. The return train fare to Guildford was one shilling and two pence. She was very happy as she was well treated.

❦ CHAPTER 2 ❦

Local Families & People

The Onslow Dynasty (1559-1989)
by Mrs Molly Liddell

Family motto: *Festina Lente* (make haste slowly), the motto being a *jeu de mots* on the family name 'on slow'.

It was through Katherine Harding of Knowle in Cranleigh that the Onslow connection with the County of Surrey began. They had lived in Shropshire for four hundred years until in 1559 Richard Onslow, a very distinguished man, married Katherine Harding and founded their rise to fame, fortune and rank. He was a successful barrister, Member of Parliament for Steyning in Sussex and successively Solicitor General and Speaker of the House of Commons, the first of three members of the family to hold that office. Knowle remained their home until in 1641 Richard's grandson, Sir Richard Onslow, bought the Elizabethan house at West Clandon from Sir Richard Weston of Sutton Place, Guildford. Sir Richard followed his grandfather's example and married an heiress, Elizabeth Strangeways, by whom he had fourteen children. He was a Member of Parliament, a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy Lieutenant. He played a considerable part on the side of Parliament in the Civil War but he did not get on with Cromwell who called him 'the Fox of Surrey', and when Sir Richard arrived late for the Battle of Worcester Cromwell is reputed to have said that he did not know on which side he would have fought. However, he was able to steer an even course between King and Parliament. He was succeeded by his son Arthur, who married as his second wife yet another heiress, the daughter of Sir Thomas Foote, Lord Mayor of London, from whom by reversion he received a baronetcy. He was an accomplished lawyer and a Member of Parliament.

Sir Arthur's son Richard saw six successive reigns from the Commonwealth to George 1. He entered Parliament at the age of twenty five and in 1708 he was the second member of the family to become Speaker of the House of Commons, an office which he held from 1710 to 1713. In 1716 he was the first peer to be created by King George I after his accession, having from one year previously been Chancellor of the Exchequer. He died in 1717. Thomas, son of the first baron, married Elizabeth Knight, one of the richest heiresses of the day who inherited not only her father's wealth but the entire fortune of a childless uncle. This enabled Thomas to build the great house which stands today although Elizabeth sadly died before it was finished. Their son Richard, the third baron, seems to have been more interested in racing than in public affairs. He was the chief supporter and Steward of Guildford Races which were noted throughout the County. He became Lord Lieutenant of Surrey and died childless in 1776. The title was inherited by his cousin George, who in the same year had been created Baron Cranley; thus the two baronies became united.

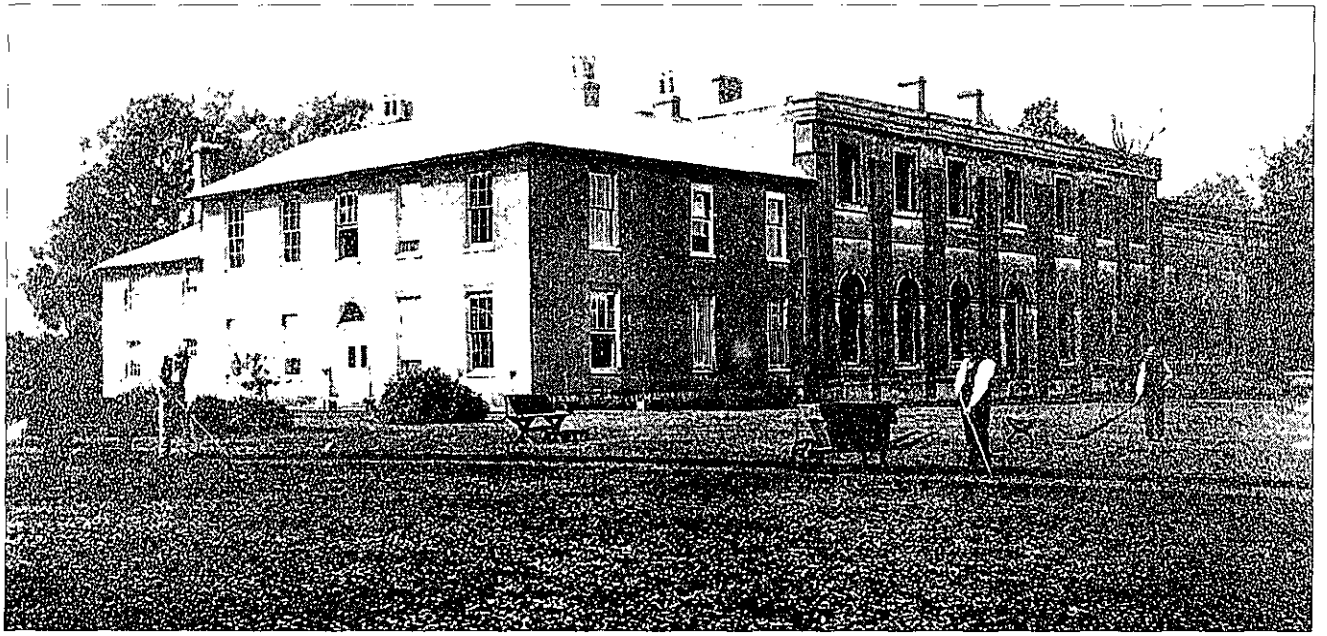
George was the son of the most distinguished member of the Onslow family, Mr Arthur Onslow, the Great Speaker. Arthur was the son of Foote Onslow, brother of the first Baron. He went at the age of seven to Guildford Grammar School before going to Winchester College and Oxford; and entered Parliament as Member

for Guildford in 1720 having in 1715, after his mother's death, settled at Levyl's Dene in Merrow. He entered into the life of the County acting as Justice of the Peace and later Chairman of Quarter Sessions. After his marriage he moved to Imber Court where he lived, when not in London, for the rest of his life. In 1728 he was elected to the Speaker's Chair in the House of Commons which he occupied with great distinction for thirty three years throughout five successive parliaments. He also became Chancellor to Queen Caroline, High Steward of Kingston-upon-Thames and Recorder of Guildford, standing out in a time of bribery and corruption as a man of singular integrity and impartiality. He introduced the keeping and printing of full records of parliamentary business and is responsible for much of the procedure used in the House of Commons today. There is a monument to his memory in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford.

George was an entirely different character from his father. He lacked the disinterested integrity which characterised the Speaker and during his forty years of public life repeatedly ingratiated himself with those in power at the expense of his principles. He was a devoted servant of and Lord in Waiting to George III who conferred an Earldom on him in 1801, personally visiting him to do so as he wished to be the first to inform him of the honour. He was also on intimate terms with the Prince of Wales. He died in 1814 and was succeeded by his son Thomas, the 2nd Earl. He was a great eccentric and referred to himself as *Tom Tit* as he was a very small man. His passion in life was driving and his horses were said to be the finest in the country; they were coal black as was his carriage. A contemporary wrote 'This noted gentlemen was so skilful a whip that he might be seen daily in the high spring of fashion picking his way, four in hand, in and out, amidst the crowded cavalcade of Bond Street, driving to a hair's breadth'. He was a great friend of the Prince of Wales who visited Clandon many times. Although a Member of Parliament for thirty years he never addressed the House, nor, when he succeeded did he address the House of Lords. His second wife, Charlotte Duncombe, was Lady in Waiting to Queen Charlotte of whom she was a great favourite. Thomas sat on the Bench for many years and in the year 1812 there were no less than eight members of the Onslow family serving as Justices of the Peace in the County of Surrey. He followed his father as High Steward both of Kingston-upon-Thames and Guildford.

After the 2nd Earl's death in 1827 he was succeeded by his son Arthur who was born in 1777. Unfortunately Arthur and his wife Mary Fludyer had quarrelled with the 2nd Earl and walked out of Clandon Park saying that they would never return. They rented Tanfield Place in 1814 and bought Clandon Regis shortly before the 2nd Earl died. Arthur made considerable additions to Clandon Regis including a large wing which subsequently was demolished, wanting it to be more magnificent than Clandon Park. On his father's death he remained at Clandon Regis but three years later his wife died. He was broken hearted, and nothing in the house was touched – even the needle remained in the embroidery which she had not completed. Finally he retired to Richmond leaving Clandon House unoccupied, living in seclusion until his death in 1870 at the age of 93. Arthur's daughter Lady Augusta lived in Clandon Regis and was a considerable benefactor to the village, giving land for the school in 1872 and being a prime mover in the restoration of the church.

Arthur was succeeded by his great nephew William



Clandon Regis
(Guildford Archaeological Society)

Above: 1885 – The Georgian house on the east was built by Viscount Cranley in 1823; the large centre block and right hand building with portico being added in 1829 with the object of making the house more magnificent than Clandon Park House. In about 1890 the additions were demolished leaving the Georgian house.

Left: 1962 – The Georgian house with a new roof and the addition of third floor dormer windows after modernisation.

Hillier Onslow who, at the age of seventeen and whilst still at school at Eton, inherited the great derelict house which had been shut up for forty three years. However the young Lord Onslow was exceptionally energetic and dauntless; his first concern being to restore the house and gardens. In 1875 he married Florence daughter of the 3rd Lord Gardner, a marriage which was to be of great happiness. They began to entertain and soon there were amateur theatricals in the house. Having put his house in order Lord Onslow decided that the time had come for him to enter public life. He became High Steward of Guildford in 1875 and in 1880 Lord in Waiting to Queen Victoria. He was Under Secretary for the Colonies (twice), Governor of New Zealand (1888-1892), Under Secretary of State for India, Privy Councillor, President of the Board of Agriculture and finally Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords.

Whilst in New Zealand Lord Onslow's second son was born. He was a godson of Queen Victoria and was named after the Maori *Huia* bird. At his christening a feather was placed in his headdress, thus, according to Maori custom creating him a chief of the land of his birth. He became a man of great charm, good at all sports and with a passionate love of the country and of beauty. But in 1911 a great tragedy befell him. Diving into a lake in the Dolomites he struck his head on a submerged rock and injured his spinal cord which left him paralysed below the waist and without full use of his hands and arms. He faced life with tremendous courage and devoted himself to scientific research at Cambridge University which he carried out from his specially built wheeled bed. Here he was helped in his work by an eminent scientist, Muriel Wheldale. In 1919 they were married but his health deteriorated and he died in 1922 at the age of 31, and was buried in the family vault at Merrow. Much has been gleaned about the way of life at Clandon Park at the end of the last century from Lady Onslow's wages book and her *Dinner Book* in which all the guests and menus were recorded. In the *Wages Book* was entered all the staff engaged and their wages, beer money and laundry allowance. In 1875 when she went to Clandon as a bride she noted only three names, her German lady's maid, the butler Thomas Pick and Sarah Rogers, cook-housekeeper. The staff gradually grew and the fifth Earl in his autobiography *Sixty three Years* says; 'There were always six or seven menservants at Clandon. Two footmen were supposed to be powdered and dressed at breakfast. If anyone came to the door it would be a disgrace to let him ring, the door was opened by the plain clothes man.' Lord and Lady Onslow appear to have been generous employers. They engaged many young men and girls from the village, trained them and found them other employment. Servants were married from the big house, given a wedding breakfast and many were fitted out with clothes.

The 4th Earl's eldest son Richard William was born in 1876 and the copper beech avenue leading to Merrow was planted to commemorate his birth. Unfortunately in 1987 it was devastated by the great storm. There were two daughters, Dorothy who married the Earl of Halifax, and Gwendolen who married the Earl of Iveagh. She subsequently acquired Clandon Park from the 6th Earl and presented it to the National Trust in 1956. The 4th Earl died in 1911 and was succeeded by Richard William who married Violet Bampylde, daughter of the 3rd Baron Poltimore. It was under her direction that Clandon Park was run as a hospital during the First World War 1914-1918. Lord Onslow

gave up a promising diplomatic career and after serving in the First War entered politics. He became Under Secretary for War, an office which he held with distinction for four years, became a Privy Councillor and like his father Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords. He took a great interest in Guildford and was High Steward of the Borough. He had two children, a son Arthur and a daughter Mary. During the Second World War the house was used for a short time as a hospital for officers who had never recovered from wounds received in the First War, then for evacuee children from London and finally and most importantly it was taken over by the Public Record Office for storage. Lord and Lady Onslow continued to live in the house until Lord Onslow's death in 1945.

He was succeeded as 6th Earl by his son William Arthur Bampfylde who was born in 1913. In 1931 he entered the Life Guards but resigned his commission in 1938 in order to follow the family tradition and take up politics. War intervened and, as Lord Cranley, he joined the 4th County of London Yeomanry *(Sharpshooters)* and went with his regiment to the Western Desert. In 1942 he was awarded the Military Cross and in the same year took command of his regiment. After the Italian landings the division was recalled to prepare for the invasion of Normandy. Only two days after D Day he was captured and spent the final months of the war in a German prisoner of war camp. The family military record recalls the service of his great great grandfather, Thomas Cranley Onslow, in the Peninsular War and of other ancestors in the Napoleonic Wars and before. A month after Lord Cranley returned home his father died and he succeeded. He married in 1937 the Hon. Pamela Dillon, daughter of the 19th Viscount Dillon. They had two children, Michael William and Teresa Lorraine.

The new Lord Onslow was determined to live in Clandon Park, and as soon as the last load of Public Records had been moved away he and his wife and two children moved into the big house, but after five years he realised that he had taken on an impossible task and his family could no longer inhabit the house which had been their home for over two centuries. He moved first to Little Clandon in the village and subsequently to Temple Court in the middle of the Park. He was much involved in the life of the County being High Steward of Guildford and a Deputy Lieutenant. Like his forbears he was interested in politics and a regular attender at the House of Lords. He became Captain of the Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeoman of the Guard and as such a Government Whip. After a divorce Lord Onslow married Nina, daughter of Thomas Sturdee. He died in 1971 and was succeeded by his son Michael as 7th Earl.

The present Lord Onslow married Robin, daughter of Major R L Bullard, US Army. They have three children, Rupert, Viscount Cranley, Arabella and Charlotte and continue to live at Temple Court. He carries on the family office of being High Steward of Guildford and is a regular attender at the House of Lords. He also follows another family tradition of being much interested in driving like his forbear, Tom Onslow, the 4th Earl.

The Hatchlands Families

The Bixleys (1550-1990) *by John Bixley*

The Bixleys can be traced back to *circa* 1550 and lived in the East Clandon Manor House with its moat constructed in 1307 by the Abbot of Chertsey. The manor house was probably demolished in about 1756 when Admiral Boscawen built the present Hatchlands House.

In the second half of the 17th century, John Bixley, farmer and freeholder, lived there with his wife and their five children. There had been a sixth child, a daughter named Elizabeth who was born on 7 February 1677 and died in infancy. John married Ann, the daughter of John Smallpiece, at East Clandon in 1673. John Smallpiece was a farmer and freeholder, with a tenement and lands in East Clandon whose family also owned a house and smithy with lands in West Clandon called Gibbrums.

John Bixley's father had benefited greatly from the fact that his uncle William and his aunt Naomi, being childless, chose him to be heir apparent to his uncle's estate. A declaration to this effect was laid before a court held by the lord of the manor of West Horsley on 7 August 1639, and entered on the Roll accordingly,

> *'.....William Bixley the Elder of East Clandon for the natural love and affection which he beareth to William Bixley the Younger of East Clandon his nephew, son of John Bixley brother of the said William Bixley the Elder of East Clandon....'* etc

The houses and lands belonging to William the Elder in the first half of the 17th century were acquired over a period of several decades, indeed perhaps longer, for we read of a Nicholas Bixley being fined twelve pence on 27 February 1385 for having a 'ruinous tenement' and a further fine of six pence for having chopped down a tree in Hoke Wood without a licence.

John Bixley's father died in November 1664, and is buried in the churchyard at East Clandon. Being his second son, John inherited only the 'second best' of his father's considerable estate, it being customary at the time to leave the lion's share to the first son and the remainder to be divided in diminishing portions among the other sons according to seniority. In fact, it was not unusual for the youngest son to receive nothing more than his father's blessing! John's inheritance was one estate in West Horsley called Wheelers, 'lying on the hill called Woodcot Hill', and of course the lands belonging to the East Clandon Manor House.

John's brother William who was two years his senior was bequeathed;

> *"Three estates in Albury, one of which was formerly part of Little Chilworth Farm, 'be it more or less by estimation of the land measurement of 35 acres'.*
>
> *Four estates in the parish of West Horsley known as Kembers, Church Hill, Tunmore and Stoneland; the latter being previously held by Edward Byxley until his death in 1570.*

The houses and land in the parish of East Clandon called Wythmere, Pittsbutts and Denley Furlong 'together with the many and several acres of arable and pasture situate in the West Field of East Clandon'.

Several acres of land in West Clandon abutting on to the premises and land known as Chervers and Deadacre belonging to John Goddard.

Two estates in the parish of Merrow."

When John died in 1691, it was found that he had broken the usual tradition of leaving very little to the youngest issue, for in his will, dated 26 August 1689 he bequeathed '£200 of lawful money of England' to his youngest son Joseph, and £150 each of his two surviving daughters, Ann and Katherine, and to his second son William he gave £100. He instructed John, his oldest son, and William to act as executors, and to be joint residuary legatees.

His will was proved on 14 July 1691 £780.10s.10d and *'probate granted on 15 February 1696 (in English style) before the Venerable George Bramston, Doctor of Laws for the whole Archdeaconry of Surrey'.*

My own grandfather Sidney Bixley was directly descended from John Bixley of East Clandon Manor House, William Bixley the Younger and his father John Bixley of East Clandon.

Sidney Bixley was the fifth and last son of William Bixley of Great Bookham. He left Surrey in the 1860s, with only his father's 'blessing', to start his own business in Kensington. He soon established himself, and with his profits bought property.

At the time of his death, my grandfather owned the family house in Kensington and five other houses in Campden Hill Terrace. He had also left a treasure trove of several hundreds of pounds in sovereigns, half sovereigns and Bank of England notes for ten pounds, which was discovered some years later in the secret compartment of a piece of furniture that had been made for him by a cabinet maker in Notting Hill.

Admiral Edward Boscawen (1711-1761)

Nicknamed: 'Old Dreadnought' and 'Wry-Necked Dick'

In the noble words of his epitaph written by his widow:

"The gallant and profitable servant of his country, when he was beginning to reap the harvest of his toils and dangers, after having been providentially preserved through ev'ry peril incident to his profession, died of a fever at Hatchlands Park, Surrey – a seat that he had just finished at the expense of the enemies of his country."

In about 1756 Edward Boscawen demolished the original manor house at Hatchlands and, from the considerable sums of prize money he had earned at sea, built the present building. Never can prize money have been spent for greater profit to our heritage.

He was the third son of Lord Falmouth and his portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds in the National Portrait Gallery shows a pale face, steely grey eyes and compressed lips suggesting determination and endurance rather than robust health. It was said that in his youth he adopted a perverse habit of holding his head awry in mockery of an old family servant. The habit clung to the imitator and won for him a second sobriquet 'Wry-Necked Dick'. It was whilst he was in command of *Dreadnought* that he derived his second nickname of 'Old Dreadnought'. Old Dreadought was never taken off his guard and looked danger straight in the face with an assurance that became proverbial. Whilst in command of *Dreadnought* he was awakened in the dead of night by the officer of the watch. 'There are two large ships, Sir, which look like Frenchmen, bearing down on us, what are we to do?' 'Do?', said Old Dreadnought hurrying on deck as he dressed, 'damn 'em, fight 'em'.

In government circles he was known as a man of action and earned from the great Earl of Chatham the flattering comment 'when I apply to other officers respecting any expedition I may chance to project, they always make difficulties; you find expedients'. He served at sea during the Seven Years War, a period when England was in conflict with both France and Spain, and there were problems with India, Canada and America.

From 1739 until 1760, when he was sent on sick leave with typhoid fever from which he died four months later, he served in the Spanish American Campaign under Admiral Vernon; was one of our heroes in the first Battle of Finisterre, when he was badly wounded in the shoulder; was at sea off Madras at a time when the French were attempting to push the English out of India; was despatched to Canada with his squadron and on the return voyage captured 300 valuable French prize ships in the Bay of Biscay; was required to sign Admiral Byng's death warrant at Portsmouth; captured Louisberg in Nova Scotia from the French which opened the gateway to North America; and annihilated the French fleet at the Battle of Lagos.

In 1759 on his return to England George II made him a Privy Councillor and granted him a substantial salary. In the same year his family took up residence at Hatchlands Park where he died 14 months later. He was buried in Cornwall, the home of his ancestors.

The Sumner Family (1728-1946)

The Sumners, apart from owning Hatchlands, were with one exception undistinguished. For the most part they had been landowners, and rich merchants with the occasional academic. There were no great military or political figures, although G H Sumner (1760-1838) represented Surrey in Parliament for 32 years and was Colonel of the 1st Regiment, Royal Surrey Military, and later his son W H Sumner (1798-1859) was also a colonel in the same regiment.

William B Sumner (b1728) became a writer (lawyer) in Bengal, India in 1744 and received about £25,000 at Mir Kasim's accession in 1760. He returned to England in the same year but returned to India in 1764 as first

member of Lord Clive's select committee of five people whose task was to restore peace and tranquillity to Bengal. He fell out with Clive, returned to England and bought Hatchlands Park in 1768 from Fanny Boscawen. When he died in about 1796 his will suggested that the estate should be sold but the advice was not taken and it remained in the family for another 90 years. The last Sumner to own Hatchlands was Arthur Sumner who had a remarkable daughter Beatrice Holme Fry, born at Hatchlands in 1862. At the age of 15 she attracted the attention of Charles Hoare, senior partner of the bank of the same name, a married man with four children. The affair outraged Victorian society and led to a court case when the two lovers narrowly missed being sent to prison. In the same year Charles founded the Nautical Training Ship *Mercury* on the Hamble for boys as a gesture on his part in expiation for the distress he had caused. His mistress went with him, bore him two children, took over the running of the ship which she did with great efficiency until her death in 1946. On the way she married C B Fry, the famous sportsman, by whom she had three more children.

Lord Rendel JP, Civil Engineer and Barrister (1834-1913)

Stuart Rendel, third son of James Meadows Rendel FRS, was educated at Eton and Oriel College, Oxford, qualifying as a barrister of the Inner Temple in 1861. For a time he was employed by the famous Sir William Armstrong and Co of Newcastle upon Tyne which specialised in the design and manufacture of hydraulic cranes and armaments for the world market. In 1880 he was elected Member of Parliament for Montgomeryshire which he held until 1894 when he became the first Baron Rendel. In 1895 he was elected President of University College, Wales. He was a member of the Atheneum Club. As well as Hatchlands Park he owned various houses in London including one in Carlton Gardens (sold 1897) and Kensington Palace Gardens as well as the *Château de Thorenc* in Cannes where he moored his steam yacht.

He had four daughters but no heir. His eldest daughter was Rose Ellen (mother of Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel): Maud, who married H N Gladstone, a nephew of W E Gladstone, the Prime Minister; Daphne and Clarice (called Clare). Lady Rendel died in 1912 and both Lord and Lady Rendel are buried inside the East Clandon church in an impressive tomb designed by their grandson, Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel.

Mrs Rose Ellen Cooper (1862-1927)

Rose, eldest of Lord Rendel's four daughters, married in 1886 Henry Chester Goodhart, Professor of Humanity at Edinburgh University who died in 1895. Their son was Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel. Her second marriage was to Wilbraham Cooper who had been her son's private tutor at Hatchlands. As a memorial to his mother Goodhart-Rendel purchased a C18 temple, a grade II listed monument, and moved it to Hatchlands. Around the base is inscribed:

"This temple was brought AD 1953 from Bushbridge Hall (near Godalming) to stand here as a memory of Rose Ellen Cooper who long lived and loved Hatchlands."

Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel CBE, Architect (1887-1959)

Harry Goodhart-Rendel (a past President of the Royal Institute of British Architects) was unusual among members of the architectural profession in that he had a private income from inherited estates. He was also a pianist of professional standard and a talented composer of light music. His enthusiasm for architecture had developed at an early age, he prepared his first serious designs at the age of 15 and built his first cottages at 16. He went up to Cambridge to study music, but deserted this for architecture, supposedly as a result of an aversion to Brahms. His childhood was unhappy and he remained a lifelong bachelor, finding his greatest fulfilment as a Guards Officer in the First World War and in his conversion to Catholicism in 1924. His health was not good, and due to a circulatory complaint the colour of his complexion varied from grey to olive green.

He was well known as a speaker on architectural subjects, displaying wit, paradox and considerable learning. The lectures he delivered whilst Slade Professor at Oxford (1933-36) were later published.

"The modern architectural drawing is interesting, the photograph is magnificent, the building is an unfortunate but necessary stage between the two."

In 1913 he inherited in trust the Hatchlands Park Estate on the death of Lord Rendel and changed his name from Goodhart to Goodhart-Rendel. Probably his best known work is Hay's Wharf on the south bank of the Thames in London which he designed in the early 1930s as a prestige office for the Hay's Wharf Company.

Hester Janet Booth MBE (1884-1984)

Jesus said 'Suffer little children come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven'.

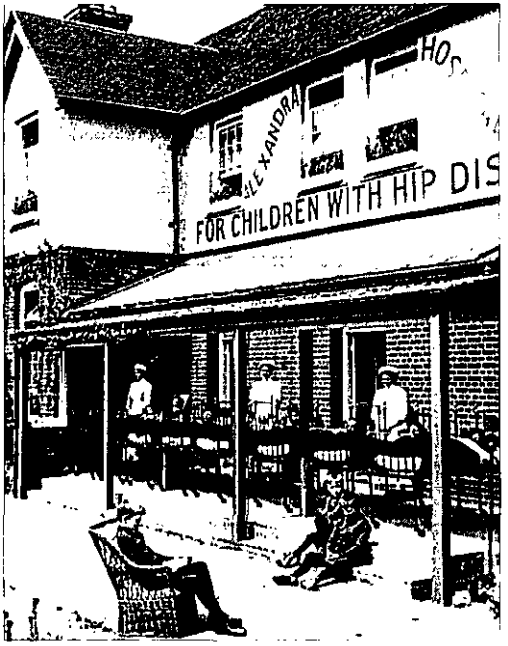
Aunt Hester, as she was known in the village of East Clandon, died in her hundredth year. She devoted her whole life to disadvantaged children, and for fifty years was honorary director of the Langford Cross Children's Homes first in Malden and later in East Clandon.

Hester was brought up in a truly Christian family with her six brothers and four sisters. She went to Italy to be trained by Professor Montessori in the latest teaching methods. She joined Miss Hunt at Langford Cross in Malden around 1929, then began her final venture at East Clandon in 1937. Langford Cross Family Home has survived ever since, although today it is called *Cherry Trees*, a home for short stay respite care for disabled children. In the early days of Langford Cross she had with her a staff of two – Nannie and Cook. Most of the children came from broken Royal Naval homes. There was a small Committee of friends and relatives, to whom she would quietly listen, but then go her own way! She would do the business side always surrounded by children asking questions and had time for all ages ranging from newly born babies upwards.

She did not seem to need any comfort or rest for herself; she never raised her voice, held deep religious convictions, and had a tremendous sense of humour. At the age of ninety she retired into the small Hollyhocks Cottage in the village to live alone and continued to give advice when asked.

Langford Cross Family Home in the 1970s. Aunt Hester Booth reading to a group of unwanted children from the London Boroughs and Royal Naval families, many of whom spent most of their childhood in the Family Home.

Langford Cross, now called *Cherry Trees*, was built in the reign of Edward the VII as the Alexandra Hospital, an offshoot of St Bartholomew's Hospital in the City of London and catered for the needs of children with hip diseases who needed to recuperate in the country. In fine weather the beds were wheeled out onto the verandas.



Alexandra Hospital, School Lane, East Clandon
(Cherry Trees)

Built in Edward VII's reign as a hospital for children with tubercular hips who required long periods of rest and fresh air, an offshoot of St Bartholomew's Hospital in London. In 1937 it became the Langford Cross Family Home, and in 1980 Cherry Trees, which gives short term care to handicapped children.

Below: A ward in the Alexandra Hospital, *c*1910
(Cherry Trees)

Sister is seen at her desk: the caged parrot opposite would not be permitted today for health reasons.

CHAPTER 3

The two village schools

by Mrs Brenda Golden

In the 1880s education was made compulsory for children aged five to ten years but it could not be enforced until 1891 when free education was introduced. Local Authorities did not start subsidizing education until 1921. Both schools were built by public subscription on land given by Mr A H Sumner of East Clandon and Lady Augusta Onslow of Clandon Regis.

Agricultural requirements for child labour dominated school life. In 1870 the Agricultural Childrens Act was passed which forbade the employment of children under eight years of age. School attendance fluctuated depending on harvest, the absence of boots in bad weather and illness. The school term was flexible and in 1881 the school in East Clandon was kept open for an extra week as the harvest was late, no doubt much to the annoyance of the children. Children could earn pocket money before going to school by collecting stones from the fields for road repairs. A large wooden box was put in a field and when full of stones, payment was made.

In the 1870s a headmaster of a village school earned about £45 per annum which compared unfavourably with the wage of a farm worker. A teacher's pay was partly made up by fees from each child and a family paid 3d per week for the first child, 5d if there were two children and 6d for three children. Urban teachers were better paid and this resulted in a migration of teachers to the towns.

Health up to the mid 20th Century was always a problem in schools which were often closed to stem outbreaks of scarlet fever, typhoid, measles, diphtheria and whooping cough.

The following extracts have been taken from the minute books of governors' meetings:

East Clandon Church of England Village School

1862 A Holme Sumner Esq donated the plot in School Lane and the school opened in 1863. The deed of the land transfer stated:
"To be applied as a site for a school for poor of and in the said Parish of East Clandon and for the residence of the Schoolmaster of the said school to be under the management and control of the said Rector and Churchwardens and their successors and to be in connection with the Church of England and to be subject to the inspection of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools".

1883 Alice Grover, aged 13 years 11 months commenced her duties as teacher of the Infants School (4-7) at a salary of about £10 per annum. Her father was the local blacksmith and they lived at the Forge opposite the *Queen's Head* public house.
Dr Smith visited the school to enquire about the scarlet fever epidemic : *"He did not venture inside the school room or examine any children".*

1884 The main subjects taught in school were arithmetic, english, music, reading and drill. Music was taught by the tonic sol-fa method.

Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee – June 1977
(Surrey Advertiser)

Mr & Mrs Lecocq organised the street party in the Old Epsom Road opposite Snelgate Cottages for 70 children and their parents. Children's sports were held at Fullers Farm, and a Barn Dance to the music of *The Berkshire Tragedy* was held at Home Farm.

1885 Mr Smallpiece, a local farmer, threatened children in the playground to stay off his land and had to be forcibly ejected by the headmaster.

1886 School equipment was rudimentary and what little there was had to be paid for by the children: *"Received, 1 box of slate pencils and 2 dozen copy books, the latter to be charged for at 2d each"*.

1891 Lady Rendel, wife of the Squire, presented maps to the school but the Rector ordered them to be taken down *"as the above had been done without communication with the Managers"*.

1946 The Reverend A P Glyn retired having been chairman of the school management committee for 45 years. He suffered from almost illegible handwriting and his minutes and marriage certificates were hard to decipher.

1947 Possibility of school closing first mooted.

1948 The Rector suggested modernisation of the teaching methods by the use of visual aids and the wireless.

1950 The School House let to Mr May, the verger, at 3/6d per week. 28 pupils on the roll.

1951 The Rector asked if he could occupy School House until new rectory was built (it never was). He was only prepared to move in provided electric light, a bathroom and a cloak room were installed.

1955 42 pupils on the roll. Surrey County Council provided outside Elsans lavatories and agreed to service them twice weekly.

1963 School's centenary

26 July 1968 School formally closed after 105 years and pupils were transferred to West Clandon School. Each of the 19 children were presented with a copy of J B Phillips's *The New Testament in Modern English*, price £1/1/0 per copy, which was chosen by the Rector, the Reverend Peter Taylor MA.

Mr L W Whitney of Guildford who was a pupil at the School in 1920 says that around Christmas time all the pupils, accompanied by their teachers the Misses Bixbey and Muriel and the Rector, went to Hatchlands for tea. They all stood in a row and were welcomed by Mr Goodhart-Rendel who gave each child a Christmas stocking. The girls curtsied and the boys bowed.

West Clandon Church of England Village School

The School replaced an existing school which was ran by the Misses Pinion for Lord Onslow's estate workers. The school building was on the grass where the Women's Institute's village sign now stands. Lord Onslow made a contribution of £10 a year to the local school in each village where he owned property; the school fees in West Clandon being 1d per child per week.

1882 The school was built on land donated by Lady Augusta Onslow of Clandon Regis

1884 The first Headmaster was appointed. His salary was based on results, assessed by diocesan inspectors solely on the religious knowledge of pupils. There was no other academic test which caused more rift between church authorities and governors. A number of governors resigned and payment by results was abandoned.

Regular weekly visitors were the Rector who gave scripture lessons and his wife who examined the needlework. Musical drill was also considered of great importance. The curriculum was wide ranging but no special mention was made of the three R's, the teaching of which was taken for granted. However, detailed lists are given of poems and songs to be taught in each class along with 'Object Lessons' divided into four categories, Animal, Vegetable, Mineral and Miscellaneous.

1892 A muster of materials bought and used during the year revealed that 20 yards of calico and flannel were missing, and the unfortunate Miss Smith, assistant teacher, was unable to account for the discrepancy. History does not record the outcome.

1895 The roll fell from around 100 in 1895 to 65 in 1900, dropping slowly to 40 in World War II.

1902 The first Empire Day was held on 21 May to celebrate the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birthday (The Queen died in 1901). The school celebrated the event each year with musical drill, patriotic songs and saluting the flag flown from the flag staff in the playground. For several years Miss Du Buisson rewarded each child with a bun.

1911 H M Inspector's report commented on the poor lighting in the infants' room because of overhanging trees and noted that water laid on to the toilets would be a great improvement which could easily be effected. [In 1989 a new toilet has at last received planning permission and when built will enable children for the first time to use the lavatories and wash their hands in the same room.]

1912 Cookery lessons for girls were given in the house kitchen and six girls were admitted for the first time to the gardening lessons for boys which had been running for a number of years. School soup dinners were provided by the Countess of Onslow for children who were unable to get home for dinner in the bad weather.

1914 School dinners became a regular feature and by 1942 the cost had risen to 4d per pupil. Annual school picnics were held on the downs and school sports at Clandon Park, Countess Onslow providing the tea.

1919 Swimming lessons were started at the Guildford Baths and later moved to Effingham.

1929 Woodwork classes started in East Clandon. Bottled snakes and other exhibits were presented for the school museum.

1932 The School milk scheme started. Only 19 children partook.

1939-1945 During World War II the school and village hall were shared with evacuees from a Fulham school, the local children attending the school during the mornings and moving to the village hall for the afternoons while the evacuees used the school. Eventually the school returned to its normal routine and only the evacuees used the village hall. The first of many air raid warnings sounded on 20 August 1940 and with increasing frequency as the Battle of Britain progressed. First Aid lessons were given by a governor and the air raid warden called regularly to check gas masks.

1944-1968 The School became a Junior Mixed and Infants School in 1944 with 42 children which dropped to 33 and then over the years increased with the building of houses at Meadowlands and the Glebe. When the East Clandon School closed in 1968 the number rose to 100 and a temporary class room was built.

1970 The Parent Teacher Association paid for the installation of the swimming pool.

1976 The School became the Clandon Church of England Village School with children leaving at the age of eight. Many children came from outside the two villages. The numbers stabilised between 50 and 60 until 1989 when due to the closing of schools in East and West Horsley the numbers again increased to the maximum of 80 children.

1990 Today the governors are responsible for the decoration and maintenance of the outside of the buildings with Surrey County Council responsible for interior decoration and maintenance.

CHAPTER 4

Conservation & Buildings

Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings
by Mrs Nancy Baster

A great deal can be learnt about the history of a village or town from buildings and their setting, and the way in which these have changed over time. This is true of East and West Clandon, and it is interesting to look at the Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings in the two villages from this point of view.

CONSERVATION AREAS

Conservation Areas, are described as 'areas defined by the local planning authorities as being of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. Thus Conservation Areas would normally include listed buildings, but many listed buildings lie outside established Conservation Areas.

A glance at the sketch maps of East and West Clandon shows how clearly the Conservation Areas and listed buildings reflect the different patterns of development in the two villages discussed in Chapter 7. The listed buildings in West Clandon are spread along the length of The Street, while in East Clandon the great majority are concentrated in the centre of the village. In East Clandon virtually the whole of the village is included in the Conservation Area, while in West Clandon the Conservation Area is confined to the relatively small but historically important area around the Church. Although the number of listed buildings in the two villages are not too different, development in West Clandon, particularly over the past fifty years, has meant that older buildings, and therefore listed buildings, make up a much smaller proportion of the total number. A closer look at the situation in the two villages will help to bring out these and other differences.

LISTED BUILDINGS

Listed buildings are buildings of special architectural or historic interest which are included in the statutory lists prepared by the Secretary of State for the Environment. The latest revised list of Grade I and II buildings was issued in November 1985. Although the date of the building is not the only criterion, Ministry circulars state that 'all buildings built before 1700 which survive in anything like their original condition are listed. Most buildings of 1700 to 1840 are listed, though selection is necessary. Between 1840 and 1914 buildings must be of a definite quality and character to qualify, except where they form part of a group. The selection is designed to include among other buildings, the principal works of the principal architects.'

EAST CLANDON

The extent of the Conservation Area in East Clandon can be seen from the sketch map *(page 10)*. It can also be seen that the listed buildings *(in black on the map)* are nearly all within the Conservation Area. Only Hatchlands Park to the east, which is now owned by the National Trust and, further to the north on the Ripley Road, Home Farm House and Barn and Pond Cottage, fall outside. The others are clustered around the centre of the village, with a small group along Back Lane towards and backing onto the common.

There are altogether 22 listed buildings in the village. This is not the same as 22 houses, since one listed building may be divided into two houses, a barn may be listed separately from the farmhouse, and garden buildings, such as the garden temple and ice house in the grounds of Hatchlands. Two of these are listed Grade I; the *Church of St Thomas of Canterbury* which stands firmly in the middle of the village, with its flint rubble walls with stone and brick dressing, and with nave and chancel going back to the C12 and C13, and *Hatchlands*, the country house built in 1756-7 for Admiral Edward Boscawen and owned nearer our time by Captain H S Goodhart-Rendel, the 'squire' of East Clandon, and now belonging to the National Trust.

The remaining twenty buildings are listed grade II. What is remarkable is that the majority of these were originally built before 1700, and that half of these date back to the C16, so that in spite of later additions and changes there is a rich legacy of late medieval buildings. Establishing dates is a tricky business, and experts rely on clues linking the building to established patterns in Surrey and neighbouring counties. The Department of Environment for example, which relies mainly on external surveys and available evidence usually gives a later date than the Domestic Buildings Research Group which makes detailed internal surveys. The earlier dates have been used here where they are available. The earliest houses consisted of a large hall open to the roof to allow the smoke to escape from the hearth in the centre of the room (the 'hall house'). Later in the C16 came the 'smoke-bay house' where the hearth was put at one end of the main room, with the smoke escaping through a narrow bay or space between the upstairs rooms; of the twelve listed grade II buildings in East Clandon going back before 1600, four were originally hall houses. These are *Frogmore Cottage*, probably the oldest house in the village, *Holmhurst Cottage*, *Bay Tree Cottage*, standing at the central crossroads and *Yewtree-Sawpit Cottage*. The others were smoke-bay houses, dating mostly from the late C16 when there seems to have been a spate of building possibly following the dissolution of the monasteries. These early timber-framed houses are spread over the village, along Back Lane and the Ripley Road, as well as the group close to the Church.

In the C17 the use of bricks became more common (due partly to the shortage of timber) and brick houses as well as timber-framed houses with brick infilling were built. A brick chimney became a status symbol. Houses in East Clandon dating back to this period include the house that was to become the *Queen's Head* public house, *Church Cottage* with its large hearth and bread oven to the rear, the *Old Parsonage*, and possibly *Home Farm House*, built of brown brick. These houses reflect the growing diversity of village life around 1700, with its Church, its yeomen farmers, tenant farmers and artisans, and one can visualise the pilgrims coming down the North Downs Way to spend a night at the *Queen's Head* and having their horses shod at the forge opposite.

Of the listed houses *Hatchlands* was added in the C18, as well as two small flint rubble cottages. Many of the cottages which earlier belonged to yeomen farmers were split into two during the agricultural depression of the C19 when yeomen reverted to being farm labourers. In the present century there have been other changes and additions. New houses have been built to meet new needs. More recently, there have been considerable changes in the demographic and social

structure of the village, and some cottages which were divided have now reverted to single houses. But in spite of these changes the village still manages to retain much of its earlier village appearance, dominated by the Church and the relatively small timber-framed and brick houses. This is partly because within the Conservation Area there are a number of 'related buildings of historic and local interest', that is buildings which are not listed but which contribute to the character of the area (these include for example two old flint walls on the south side of The Street and a shorter wall in front of Frogmore Cottage), and also because there are a number of small cottages which are not listed, particularly those built by Goodhart-Rendel early in this century, which were models of small domestic architecture designed to harmonize with their village surroundings. It is the combination of all this which gives East Clandon its particular flavour.

WEST CLANDON

The very different pattern of development in West Clandon can be seen from the sketch map *(pages 8-9)*. There are listed buildings along the length of The Street, while the Conservation Area covers only a limited area at the south end of the village. There are altogether twenty-four listed grade II buildings (excluding the garden buildings in Clandon House), eight of these are within the present Conservation Area, eight lie in between the Conservation Area and the railway line, and six are in the part of the Street between the railway line and Lime Grove. The remaining three, *Dedswell Manor Farm Cottage* and *Hazelhurst Cottage* and *Barn* are away from the Street in the north section (the latter off the sketch map). Some of the oldest houses and cottages lie north of the railway line, indicating how far back in time the linear development of the village can be traced. This is borne out in early maps.

The Conservation Area in the south of the village, centres around the Church of S. Peter and St Paul and the surrounding cottages and houses, and lies adjacent to Clandon Park and Clandon House, a grade I listed building which now belongs to the National Trust. *Clandon House* symbolizes the close ties between the Onslow family and West Clandon which have existed since Sir Richard Onslow bought the manorial rights in 1710. The house itself was designed and built between 1725-1731 for Thomas Onslow by Giacomo Leoni. Except for the later addition of the *porte cochère*, the red brick house, built in Palladian style, has remained basically unchanged until the present day. The lodges and the surrounding grounds, together with the Grotto and Bath House, were designed by Capability Brown in the 1770s.

The *Church of St Peter and St Paul* lies at the heart of the Conservation Area, together with the group of cottages immediately opposite. The Church, built of rubble flint with a wooden tower and spire, is listed grade II. A nave and chancel date back to the C12/13. The tower was designed and built by J C Boys who restored the Church in the late C19, the spire was rebuilt in 1913 after a fire. The small timber framed houses and row of cottages on the opposite side of the Street, facing onto what was the old bridle path leading to East Clandon date between the late C16 and late C17. Church Cottage and Gardner Cottage, formerly one house, is now divided.

The group of listed grade II houses at the north end of the Conservation Area are more varied. They include the *Post House*, a brick building going back to the C18,

The Street, 1905
(John Bradshaw)

View looking north from the village school car park. Little Clandon is hidden by the trees on the left. In a storm during 1930 all the trees blew down and the village was cut off for several days. There were no power saws or diesel tractors in those days ...

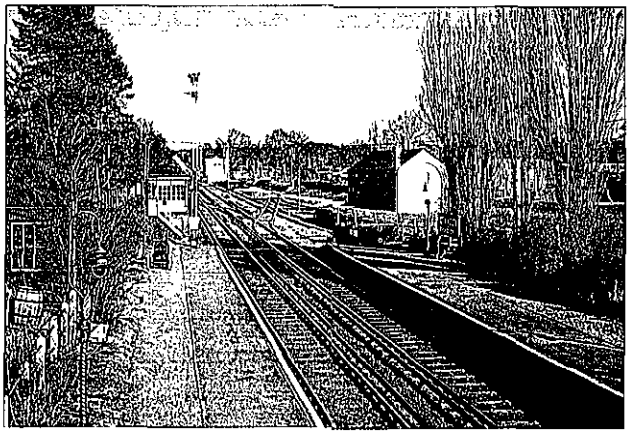
which until recently housed the village post office, the *Bull's Head* public house, providing a further example of an early 'hall house' dating back to the C16 with later alterations and additions, and the *Church of England Primary School*, a good example of Victorian polychrome brick architecture built by John Boys in 1871.

Within the Conservation Area, as in East Clandon, there are a number of older cottages and houses which although not listed, are considered of 'related interest' which contribute to the character of the area.

It is not easy to group the listed grade II buildings which lie along The Street outside the Conservation Area because they are varied in character and do not fall into natural groups, although there is a cluster of small early houses and cottages in the north of the village between the railway and Lime Grove. Five of the buildings go back to the C16 and C17 reflecting the early settlement in this part of the village. *The Old House*, just beyond the railway line is a timber-framed house going back to the C17 with later extensions. It was previously known as *Markdene*, the name going back to *merkendershach*, meaning boundary wall probably of the parish, which appears in the 1241 Assize Roll. At the other end is *Hawthorne Cottage*, dating back to the C16 and later extended. It was at one time a bakery and off-licence, catering for this end of the village and no doubt for the gypsies who used to camp on the common beyond. Besides these list grade II houses there are a number of small houses on both sides of The Street which are of local and historic interest, and which help to preserve the character of this part of the Street.

The 'middle' area between the Conservation Area and the railway line is the most varied part of The Street. The recreation ground and Village Hall, together with the *West Clandon Stores* (a listed II building), and the *Onslow Arms* public house opposite, form a natural centre. The listed grade II buildings include some of the more substantial older houses in the village, amongst

them the old farmhouses as well as *Clandon Regis*. *Cuckoo Cottage*, formerly *Cuckoo Farm* with extensive farmland and farm buildings (now sold off), was originally an 'open hall' house probably dating back to the late C15. *Summers*, with its C18 barn, also listed grade II, was originally a C17 cottage which was extended by Lutyens in 1902, and further added to by Troup in 1920. The garden was landscaped by G Jekyll in the early C20. *Dibbles* and *Fludyers* on the opposite side of the Street are both timber-framed buildings going back to the C16, both with C20 extensions. *Dibbles* was formerly a farmhouse, with farm buildings where *Butt and Ben Cottage* now stands.

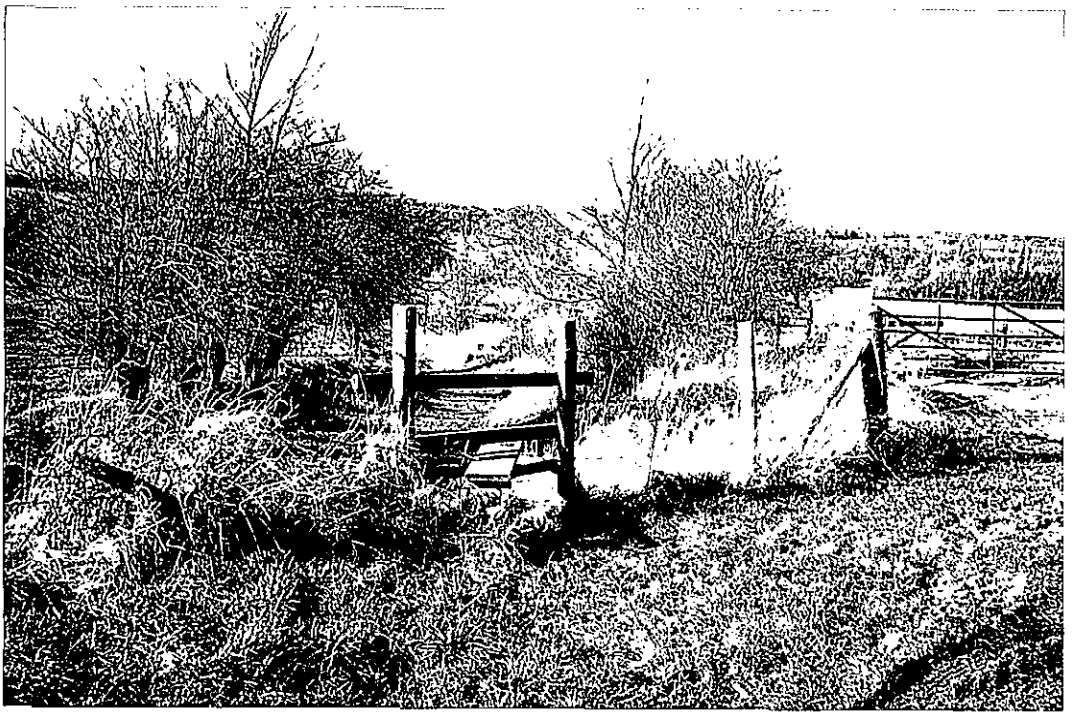


Above right:
West Clandon Station and Goods Yard in 1966
(Patrick Collection)

The goods yard which provided work for carters in the village is now a large commuter car park, and the old points into the goods yard are blamed for some of the noise from the fast non-stop ThamesLink trains.

Right:
Footpath 74
(Nancy Baster)

The view looking west towards Merrow shows some of the unspoilt countryside which surrounds the village of West Clandon.



Two listed buildings from a later date in this part of the village are *Cranley Cottage* and *Lodge*, built in 1884 to mark the new entrance to the drive to Clandon House; and *Clandon Regis*, originally a late Georgian house, extended by Lord Cranley, and rebuilt by Basil Champneys in neo-Renaissance style in 1890 when 50 rooms were demolished to make a smaller house.

In this part of the village as in other parts there are a number of older buildings which, although not listed, are of considerable local and historic interest. (The Victorian railway station and house should surely be listed?) But developments in West Clandon in both the inter-war and post World War II period has meant that where land became available new houses have been built in a variety of styles both along The Street and elsewhere. Along The Street itself which is the backbone of West Clandon 'as it was', a rough count suggests that nearly one-half of the existing houses have been built in the last sixty years, fairly evenly spread over the inter-war and post World War II periods. The older listed houses make up a decreasing proportion of the total.

In the Conservation Area the need to maintain the character of the area as a whole is recognised. Along The Street outside the Conservation Area listed houses both contribute to the character of the village and at the same time are more vulnerable to changes in the character of the environment. Keeping a balance between the old and the new depends mainly on the effectiveness of the Green Belt Policy.

East Clandon in the 1920s

The following extract is taken from the August 1923 issue of the *Architectural Review*.

"East Clandon is a typical English village. It has a public-house, a club, a church, and a number of cottages inhabited by farm labourers of the best Surrey stock. It is almost hidden by large trees and high hedges, and is connected with the outer world only by obscure white roads [chalk dust] which wind mysteriously. It nestles under the wing of a great house, Hatchlands, upon the borders of whose park it lies, being in many respects feudal and old fashioned. As of old the villagers form part of the personnel of the House. They look to the head of the House much as the father of a family. They do not lack independence on this account. On the contrary, they belong to what has been for centuries an aggressively independent class. It is indeed a beautiful exchange, which is founded upon the mutual respect of each class for the other.

"East Clandon, then, is a type of what remains of feudalism in England. The village respects 'those at the House', and those at the House take a personal interest in the village. The late Lord Rendel, the grandfather of Mr H S Goodhart-Rendel who is now the owner of Hatchlands, did much for the estate through his foreman Mr Charles Holt senior, who

restored very beautifully the old cottages mentioned below, and was generally responsible for the building works on the estate until Mr Goodhart-Rendel, who lisped in modules like Pope in numbers, was of an age, fifteen or thereabouts, to assume command of operations. Since that time the village has grown cottage by cottage, until there is a great deal of new work, including the local power house, the village hall, and the East Clandon War Memorial. Nothing could be more refreshing than to find such a village so cleverly developed. Nothing is out of place or harmony. There is much modern work, yet it is noticeable only in that it is as charming as the old.

"The cottages numbers 3 and 4 School Lane were some of the first ever erected by Mr Goodhart-Rendel. They consist of a pair of five roomed cottages built of purple Guildford Park facing stocks and hand made roofing tiles which have a singularly attractive treatment of openings. The planning is economical and ingenious, particular attention being given to the rear elevation which faces the park. One feels the architect has set himself to find a satisfactory alternative to the usual clumsy treatment of cottage backs; the door, the scullery, the coal cellar.

"'Prospect Cottages' have a powerful outline. Interest seems to have been centred upon the question of light. Large windows have been related to a small house and the architect has achieved a successful design. The amusing little Chapel Cottages (Lavender and Briar) were originally a farmhouse which had been turned first into a dissenting chapel, and later into a couple of cottages. Briar was ruinous and was replaced in 1911 by an entirely new cottage. All the old materials that were usable were worked in. The roll-ridge tiles and ornamental hanging tiles were early Victorian, but weathered to a beautiful colour, and were therefore not discarded.

"Another very charming design is the little village War Memorial erected in 1921 by the Parish Council to the designs of Mr Goodhart-Rendel. It was executed by Mr Esmond Burdon, the steps by Mr Charles Holt junior, and the flowerpots by the Compton Potteries. It is truly gothic in spirit; spontaneous, confident, unpretentious, and with a certain intimate appeal which simple people would like.

"Another cottage treatment is found in Sophy Cottages. These six roomed cottages built quite recently of thin Hampshire facing bricks and hand made tiles. Strongly traditional, they show Surrey at its best. The chimney treatments have been most carefully studied, and there is a fine breadth of wall space and a happy grouping of features. The elm boarded sheds, whose planks are laid vertically, appear in several of Mr Goodhart-Rendel's designs. Actually they give rather a fascinating note of contrast. When weathered the wood turns a silver white, the colour of the silver in silver birch, and the vertical planking prevents any association with the wooden hut.

"Very pleasant it is to have, as Mr Goodhart-Rendel has, a village of one's own to develop and to look after. To an architect the temptation must be to experiment, but he is too conscientious to do this. It is curiously hard to say what exactly are his characteristics as an architect. Like Lutyens, he shows originality in all that he does."

List of buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest

issued by the Department of the Environment
in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1971

The listed grade is indicated in brackets.

EAST CLANDON

Hatchlands Park

— House (I) *Country house built 1756/7 for Admiral Boscawen. Interior by Robert Adam. Alterations in 1797 by J Bonomi, in 1889 by H Ricardo and in 1903 by Sir R Blomfield.*
— Stable Block (II) *1889 by H Ricardo.*
— Garden Temple (II) *C18, moved to Hatchlands in 1953 from Busbridge Hall in memory of Rose Ellen Cooper, mother of H S Goodhart-Rendel.*
— Ice House (II) *Early C20.*

The Street

Old Parsonage (II) *C17 origins, extended late C18 and early C19.*
Yew Tree / Sawpit Cottages (II) *Mid C18, C20 extensions. DBRG (Surrey) dated cottage as pre-1550, refronted C18.*
Warren and Hollyhocks Cottages (II) *C17 with C18 cladding and extensions, restored C20. Timber-framed.*
Lamp Cottage (II) *Late C16. Timber-framed.*
Church of St Thomas of Canterbury (I) *C12 aisle, C13 chancel; north aisle, bell tower added during restoration 1900.*
Church Cottage (II) *Late C17, extended late C18. Timber-framed.*
Old Manor Farm (II) *C16. Timber-framed.*
Queen's Head public house (II) *Original C17 house extended to rear right C18/C19, to left in C20. Timber-framed.*
Old Forge (II) *Originally a C16 house with C17 main range to rear. Timber-framed.*

Back Lane

Lavender and Briar Cottages (Chapel Cottage) (II) *Originally a C17 house, later divided and extended C20. Timber-framed. At one time a 'dissenting' chapel.*
Daphne Cottage (II) *Early C17, altered C19. Timber-framed.*
Holmhurst Cottage (II) *Late C16/early C17 house extended C20. Timber-framed.*
Timbers (II) *Early C17 extended C20. Timber-framed.*
No 11 and Old Harry's Cottages (II) *C17 house extended and divided. C20 extensions. Timber-framed.*

Ripley Road

Pond Cottage (II) *dated 1863 and built by Lovelace Estate.*
Home Farm House and Barn (II) *Late C17/early C18. Barn C17.*
Tunmore Cottage (II) *Late C16/early C17. Timber-framed.*
Tunmore Farm House (II) *Late C17/early C18.*
Frogmore Cottage (II) *Early C16 hall house. Timber-framed.*
Bay Tree Cottage (II) *C17 house, refronted late C18 with C20 extension.*

WEST CLANDON

Clandon Park

— House (I) *Country house built 1725-31 for Thomas Onslow. Grounds laid out by Capability Brown, 1776.*
— Grotto and Bath House (II) *c1776 by Capability Brown.*
— Maori Meeting House (II) *Late C19. Brought by Lord Onslow c1892.*
— Temple (II) *Attributed to W & H W Inwood 1838.*
— Lodges and Gate (II) *Gates early C18. Lodges 1776 by Capability Brown.*
— Barn (II) *Early C18.*
— Dovecote (II) *C18.*

Church of St Peter and St Paul (II*) *Nave late C12, chancel C13. Domesday Book (1086) mentions a church.*

The Street (East Side)

Hillier and October Cottages (II) *Late C17 with C19 and C20 extensions. Timber-framed.*
Church and Gardner's Cottages (II) *Late C16/early C17 house now divided. Timber-framed.*
Strangeways (II) *C17. Timber-framed.*
Clandon Regis (II) *1890 by Basil Champneys.*
Summers and C18 Barn (II) *C17 cottage extended in 1902 by Lutyens, in 1920 by Troup. Timber-framed.*
Cuckoo Cottage (II) *Possible mid C16 timber-framed hall house, refaced in C18 and restored C20. DBRG (Surrey) state that it is an open hall house built in late C15.*

The Street (West Side)

Hawthorne Cottage (II) *Late C16 with C19 extension and C20 tiled roof. Timber-framed.*
Poyners Cottage (II) *C17 timber-framed house.*
Old Boodles (Tudor and Staughton Cottages) (II) *Late C16/C17 timber-framed house with C19 alterations.*
Nos 1 & 2 Ellerker Cottages (II) *C17 timber-framed house now divided.*
Old House (II) *Early C17 timber-framed house with C18 and C19 extensions.*
Village Animal Pound (II) *C19.*
West Clandon Stores (Brownlow Cottages) (II) *Mid-late C17 timber-framed house extended C19/C20. House is now part shop.*
Dibbles (II) *Late C16/early C17 timber-framed house extended early C20. DBRG (Surrey) date as 1600 with earlier features.*
Cranley Cottages and Cranley Lodge (II) *1884 by George & Peto.*
Fludyers (II) *C16 timber-framed house with C20 extensions. DBRG (Surrey) state that it is an open hall house dated late C15.*
Clandon Church of England First School (II) *1871 by John C Boys.*
Bull's Head public house (II) *Early C16 hall house with C17 and C19 extensions. Timber-framed.*
Post House (Old Post Office) (II) *Mid C18 with C20 alterations.*

Off Clandon Road

Nos 1 & 2 Dedswell Manor Farm Cottages (II) *Early C16 timber-framed house, later divided, with C18 alterations.*

Tithe Barns Lane

Hazelhurst Cottage (II) *C17 timber-framed, reclad in mid C18.*
Barn to north of Hazelhurst Cottage (II) *Mid-late C18 timber-framed barn with C20 plain tiled half hipped roof.*

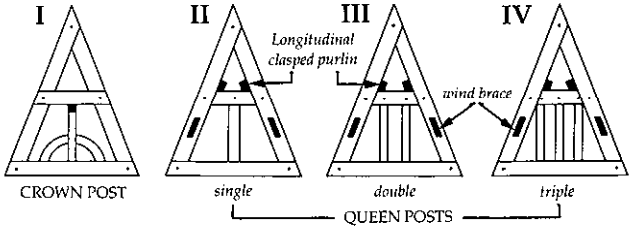
Medieval houses in the Clandons

by Joan Harding FSA

Chairman, Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey)

The Domestic Buildings Research Group has visited by invitation some of the old houses in the Clandons where some of the old timber-framed houses of the C15 and C16 survive and are listed below.

ROOF DESIGNS C15 & C16

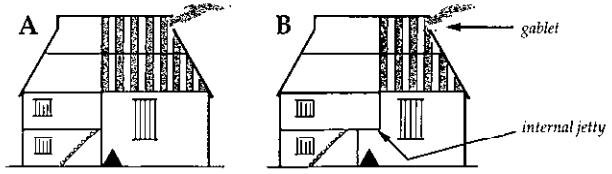


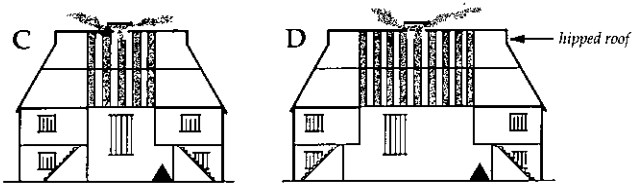
HOUSE TYPES – ORIGINAL BUILDS

Open hall pre-c1550

Open hall houses built before 1550 usually have a hipped roof with a small triangular gablet through which the smoke escaped.

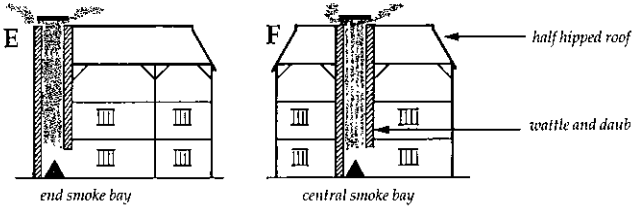
The hearth was on the earth floor and open to the apex of the roof. Walls were timber-framed with wattle and daub infill. The drinking-water well was about nine feet from the back door.

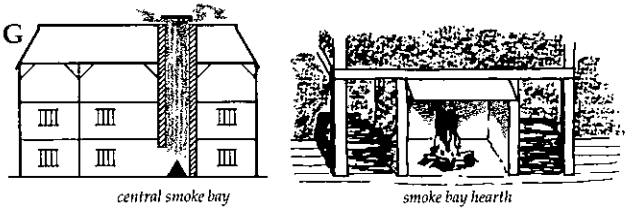




Cottage	*Village*	*Approx. date*	*House type*	*Roof type*
Frogmore	East	c1500	D	III
Stuart	East	c1550	*	III
Bay Tree	East	early 1600	A	III
Old House	East	c1500 additions 1716	A	II
Fludyers	West	c1500	C	II
Cuckoo	West	late C15	C	I

Smoke Bay c1550-c1620

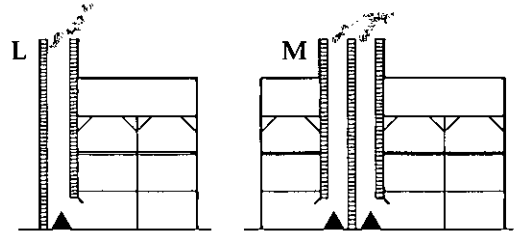




Cottage	*Village*	*Approx. date*	*House type*	*Roof type*
Daphne	East	c1550	E	IV
Lamp	East	c1550	G	IV
Yew Tree/Sawpit	East	c1550	F	IV
Dibbles	West	c1550	G	III

Brick Chimney houses C16-C18

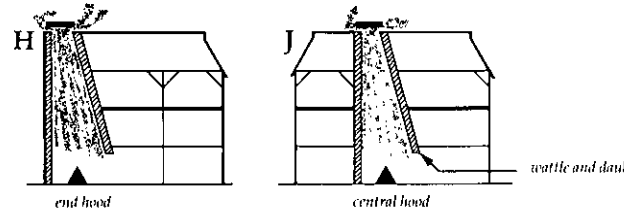
Between c1600 and c1650 some houses were built with similar timber framing and a brick chimney. After c1650 houses were built of brick due to a shortage of timber caused by naval requirements.

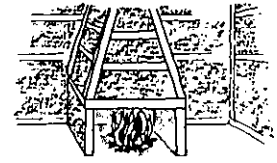


Cottage	*Village*	*Approx. date*	*House type*	*Roof type*
No 11/Old Harrys	East	c1700	M	III
Chapel (Lavender/Briar)	East	mid1700	*	III
Church Cottage	East	C17	L	III
Old Forge	East	C17	M	III
Old Manor Farm	East	early C17	F	III
Home Farm	East	late C18	square brick house	III
Australind	West	late C17	L	III
Strangeways	West	early C17	L	III
Lavender	West	late C18	*	III
October	West	C18	*	III

Smoke hood c1550-c1620

An interim design until brick became widely available which must have caused frequent chimney fires.





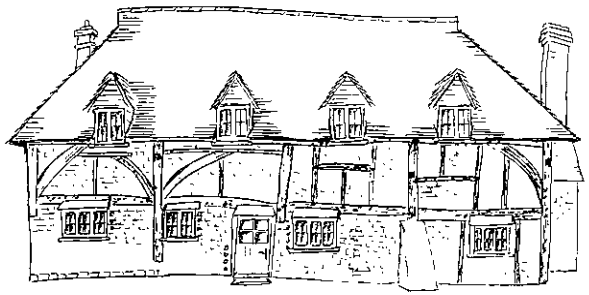
timber framed smoke hood of wattle and daub

Cottage	*Village*	*Approx. date*	*House type*	*Roof type*
Tunmore Cottage	East	c1550	J	IV
Holmhurst	East	c1500	H	IV
Timbers	East	c1550	H	III
Hawthorne	East	c1550	J	III
Poyners	West	c1600	H	III
Hilliers	West	c1700	H	III

* These houses do not fall within any of the standard house types. The one feature they have in common is a chimney outside at the back of the house which is unusual as most houses either have central or side chimneys.

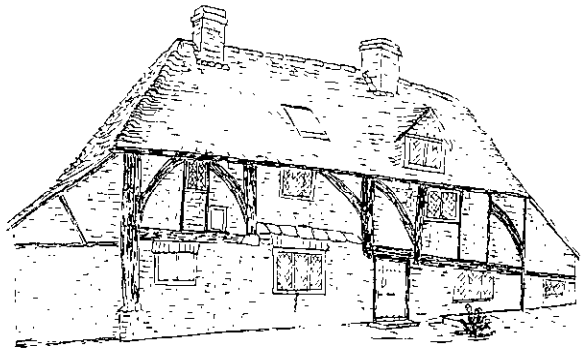
TYPES OF MEDIEVAL LISTED BUILDINGS

Development of medieval cottages in the Clandons.
All illustrations are by Anne Grace, *Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey).*



Fludyers, The Street, West Clandon.

c1500, open hall, timber-framed. Grade II. *East front facing The Street. A hipped roof, three bay medieval house. A fourth bay was added later. Some original features remain such as the frame of the tall hall window. Dormer windows in the roof were added later and the original windows bricked up . House named after Mary Fludyers, wife of the 3rd Earl Onslow (1777-1870).*

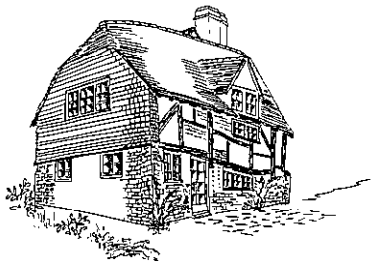


Frogmore Cottage, Ripley Road, East Clandon.

c1500, open hall, timber-framed. Grade II. *East front from Ripley Road. Possibly the oldest cottage remaining in the village. A hipped roof three bay cottage with wattle and daub walls later protected from the weather with brick. Internal beams show where farm animals were tethered inside the cottage. In C19 converted by Hatchlands Estate into two dwellings during agricultural depression: converted back to single dwelling 1965.*

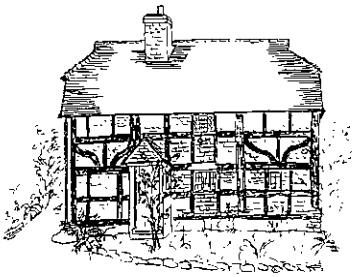
Cuckoo Cottage, The Street, West Clandon.

c1500, open hall, timber-framed. Grade II. *West front from The Street.*
A hipped roof two bay house with two further bays to south added early C16. In mid C16 the halls were floored over and a smoke bay constructed to save space. The brick chimney and stair turret were added C17. The design of a small jetty house is rare in Surrey.



Daphne Cottage, Back Lane, East Clandon.

c1550, end smoke bay, timber-framed. Grade II. *Looking west from the garden.*
A half hipped roof at one end and a gable roof at smoke bay end. Lower walls have been replaced with brick, and nogging (bricking in) above between the timbers. A wing was added behind and to the west. Named after one of Lord Rendel's four daughters.



Tunmore Cottage, Ripley Road, East Clandon.

c1550, central smoke bay with hood, timber-framed. Grade II.
A half hipped roof three bay cottage. An interim design between the open hall and brick chimney design which had a central internal wattle and daub chimney replaced in C17 in brick. Five similar houses have been recognised in East Clandon and three in West Clandon.

❦ CHAPTER 5 ❦

Two Great Houses

by Martin Higgins, Historic Buildings Surveyor, National Trust

Present generations often forget how wealth and power were once the prerogative of a small number of families who occupied great houses and owned vast tracts of land. From these great houses spread new architectural styles, agricultural reforms and social etiquette. The Clandons have two such great houses associated with estates which were created before the Norman Conquest and survived until well into the twentieth century. The two houses are considered separately. Firstly, Hatchlands Park in East Clandon and secondly Clandon Park in West Clandon.

Hatchlands Park

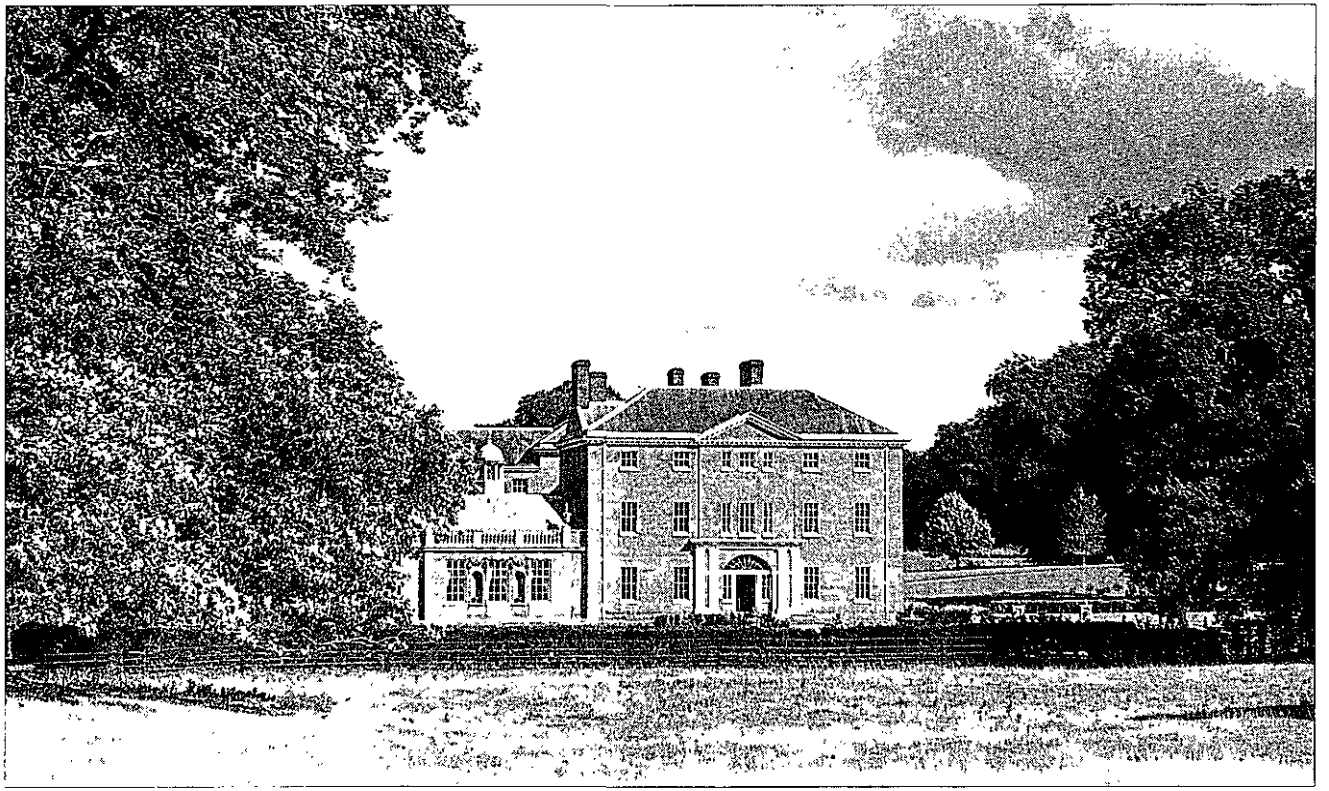
The early history of Hatchlands is closely linked with Chertsey Abbey, to whom the manor had been granted before the Conquest. The name *Hatchlands* derives from the two chalk or marl pits in the grounds which were known as *Hachersham* and belonged to Newark Priory until the reign of Henry III. It is recorded that there was a house on the site during this period but nothing is known of its fabric or inhabitants. At the dissolution of the monasteries Hatchlands was given to Sir Anthony Brown, but soon after he sold the manor and it passed through a number of families until about 1717. In that year the rights of the manor and the advowson were sold by the Heath family to Lord King of Ockham, although they retained the house. Hatchlands Park thus ceased to be a manor house for, although it was the centre of a large estate, no courts were held there and no manorial fines levied.

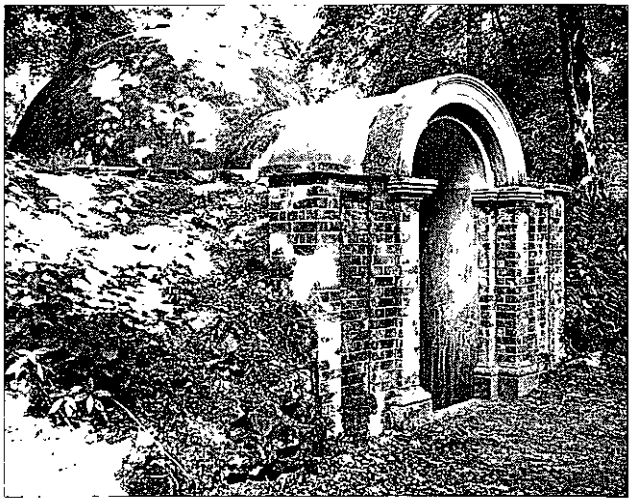
The story of the present house begins in March 1747 with a letter to Admiral Boscawen from his wife, Fanny. Fanny had just heard a friend was to buy the house his lady desired and wrote to her husband:

> *'I envy her, and expect and require of you, dear Sir, to provide me with some such agreeable villa. For this I empower you to draw on the French for such sums as you shall want'.*

Fanny was heir to a huge estate through her mother, but her father was remarried with a second family so could not afford to pay her allowance. In 1747 the sum outstanding was well over £24,000, perhaps prompting Fanny to write 'in case of a peace we are undone, for my honoured father has not yet paid the money'.

Over the next three years Fanny frequently wrote to Admiral Boscawen describing various houses she had looked at with a view to buying. There was, however, none which could compare to Hatchlands. She had fallen in love with the place although she described it as neither sold nor saleable because its owner John Raymond was being taken through the bankruptcy courts. Fanny refused to consider anywhere else and finally in 1750, after much negotiation, managed to buy the Hatchlands estate, including much of East Clandon.





Hatchlands House built in 1757. Grade I.
Best known for its interior designed by Robert Adam, his earliest dated work. The stable block (1889 by Halsey Ricardo), the C18 garden temple and a 20 foot deep early C20 ice house are all listed Grade II.

Above:
View of the house looking east showing the original main entrance. *(National Trust)*

Left: Ice House. *(National Trust)*

The house which stood in Hatchlands Park at this time must have been inconvenient and unfashionable and the Admiral passed much of his time at sea planning a new mansion. His letters outline plans for a grand ground floor dressing room and a white marble chimney piece for the hall. In practice their architect Stiff Leadbetter did much of the design work and his plans dated March 1757 show the house just as it was built. The plan is both imaginative and complex with a single grand staircase linking two and three storey sections. The apparent clumsiness of the original ground floor bedroom has in the past been ascribed to hasty alterations made during the Admiral's illness. This is now known not to be the case as the plans of the house, showing this arrangement, are dated some years before his illness. No good building stone can be quarried in Surrey so Admiral Boscawen chose brick for the new house. Fanny began organising its purchase and transport in 1756. By October 1757 she could report the walls were up and ready for the roof. However, it is not for Leadbetter's clever design that Hatchlands is now remembered, but for plasterwork and interior design by Robert Adam. Hatchlands was the young architect's first work in England heralding a new style of ornament which came to be known after the architect himself.

Robert Adam had just returned from the Grand Tour, his head full of classical designs and contemporary Italian buildings. The plasterwork ceilings at Hatchlands show that Adam was already beginning to develop what we know as the Adam style. Adam's original drawings, now at the Soane Museum, show that he proposed further plaster decoration and landscape paintings in the great dining room (in 1988 the saloon). The name of the plasterer is not known but it has been suggested Rysbrack may have carved some

Hatchlands House. The Drawing Room, showing the Adam fireplace and plasterwork. *(Dawne Hargreaves)*

of the fireplaces.

Sadly, due to typhoid fever, and exhaustion, the Admiral's health failed soon after the family moved in to Hatchlands and after a year's illness he died at the age of forty-nine. Although Hatchlands was complete, Robert Adam and the sculptor Rysbrack carried out one last commission for Fanny Boscawen. On her orders these two men, the best in their fields, designed and built a large memorial over the Admiral's grave at Penkivel in Cornwall. The lengthy text records perhaps ironically that Fanny's earlier request that Hatchlands should be built 'at the expense of the enemies of his country' had been granted. Fanny chose not to stay at Hatchlands and in 1770 moved back to their London House, selling Hatchlands to W B Sumner.

William Brightwell Sumner Esq, was a writer or lawyer in Bengal, India with a substantial new found fortune. His work may have taken him away from home a great deal as he did not take much interest in the estate, contenting himself with the clearance of large areas of woodland to the north of the house, the fields so created being named after his wife and children. There was some scandal over this for the bailiff in charge of the clearance paid the labourers with tokens he made himself. A contemporary writes:

> *'the county was filled with them, the clamour was so great that at last a stop was put to their circulation'.*

His disinterest is reflected in his will where he directs his executors to sell Hatchlands as it is 'an establishment that my eldest son George would not wish to keep up'.

George Sumner seems to have had other ideas for in 1797, less than a year after his father's death, he commissioned Joseph Bonomi to draw up plans to extend and improve the house. The most important work carried out was the remodelling of the entrance hall and the application of a portico to face the carriage sweep west of the house. Rather than adding new domestic offices as originally planned the existing ones were refurbished and the linking colonnade glazed in.

Within a few years Hatchlands House was as its new owner wanted and he turned his attention to the park. In 1800 Sumner employed one of the best known landscape designers, Humphrey Repton, to draw up a scheme to improve the parkland. Repton's proposals were almost all carried out, including two new drives through the park and extensive planting and thinning to hide buildings and create views. One of the few proposals not adopted was to stucco the house and paint it white, something which Joseph Bonomi had also suggested.

The Sumner family continued to live at Hatchlands Park for two more generations, both apparently being content with the alterations carried out by George Sumner. The estate passed out of the hands of the family in about 1888 when it was sold to Lord Rendel.

Hatchlands was in need of a major overhaul to bring it up to modern standards. The house was replumbed, decorated throughout and fitted with a modern lighting system. The farmyard which existed to the north of the house was replaced with a near symmetrical stable block and courtyard, re-using the old clock and weathervane in a new cupula. Major alterations to the house included the creation of a new main entrance on the east side of the house in 1899 and in 1902 a new music room on the west side. Improvements in the

garden and park included Gertrude Jekyll's *parterre* of 1900, an extension of the drive and new lodge to the west and an entirely new drive to a pair of lodges giving quicker access to the railway station. The gates and lodges were designed in 1909 by H S Goodhart-Rendel, Lord Rendel's grandson and heir.

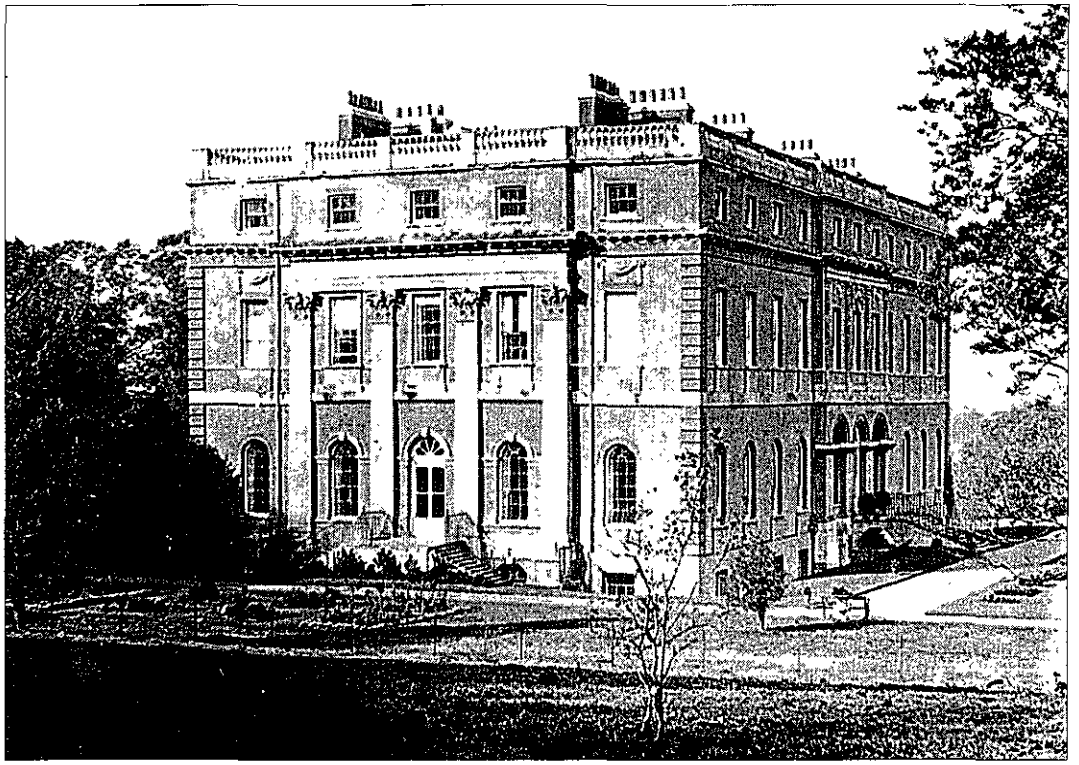
H S Goodhart-Rendel inherited the estate in trust in 1913 and soon set about reversing many of the alterations made by his grandfather. This he did out of respect for those who had designed and built the house one hundred and fifty years before. Out of the same respect in 1945 the house was made over to the National Trust so that its plasterwork and parkland would remain for future generations to see. For a while during the war the house served as a convent and later a boarding school.

In recent years parts of the house and grounds have been open to the public on a regular basis. In 1987 the house was redecorated to receive the Cobbe collection of keyboard instruments which have kindly been lent by its owner. As Goodhart-Rendel studied music in his student years, what pleasure it would have given him to know that Hatchlands would on occasions be alive with music played on instruments as old as the house itself.

Clandon Park

Clandon Park is, like Hatchlands, an eighteenth century house in landscaped parkland. It has not, at first sight, been greatly altered since it was built, despite the colourful political and military careers led by the families who owned it. However, on closer inspection, it turns out that almost every generation improved or neglected the house in some way or another. In late medieval times the estate formed part of a hunting park owned by the Weston family of Sutton Place near Guildford. In 1641 the estate was sold to Sir Richard Onslow, then of Knole near Cranleigh close to the Sussex border. It remained the seat of the Onslow family for over three hundred years.

In or about 1731 Thomas, 2nd Baron Onslow, built a Palladian mansion to replace the now ageing Elizabethan house bought by his great grandfather. A painting by Leendert Knyff shows the Elizabethan house stood in the centre of an extensive formal garden and park. The same site was taken for the new house which was designed by the Venetian Giacomo Leoni using a mixture of styles in a slightly eclectic fashion. Leoni had studied Palladio's work closely, some might say too closely, as his somewhat cold treatment of the main rooms at Clandon has often been criticised as inappropriate to our own climate. His wife's fortune enabled Lord Onslow to engage the best interior decorators of his time. The fireplaces are by the celebrated Rysbrack while the ceilings were worked by the *stuccatori* Atari and Bagutti whom James Gibbs had employed at St Martin in the Fields. Gibbs is reported to have called Atari and Bagutti the 'best fretworkers that



Clandon Park House built 1725-31. Grade I. Photo c1895 *(Patrick Collection)*

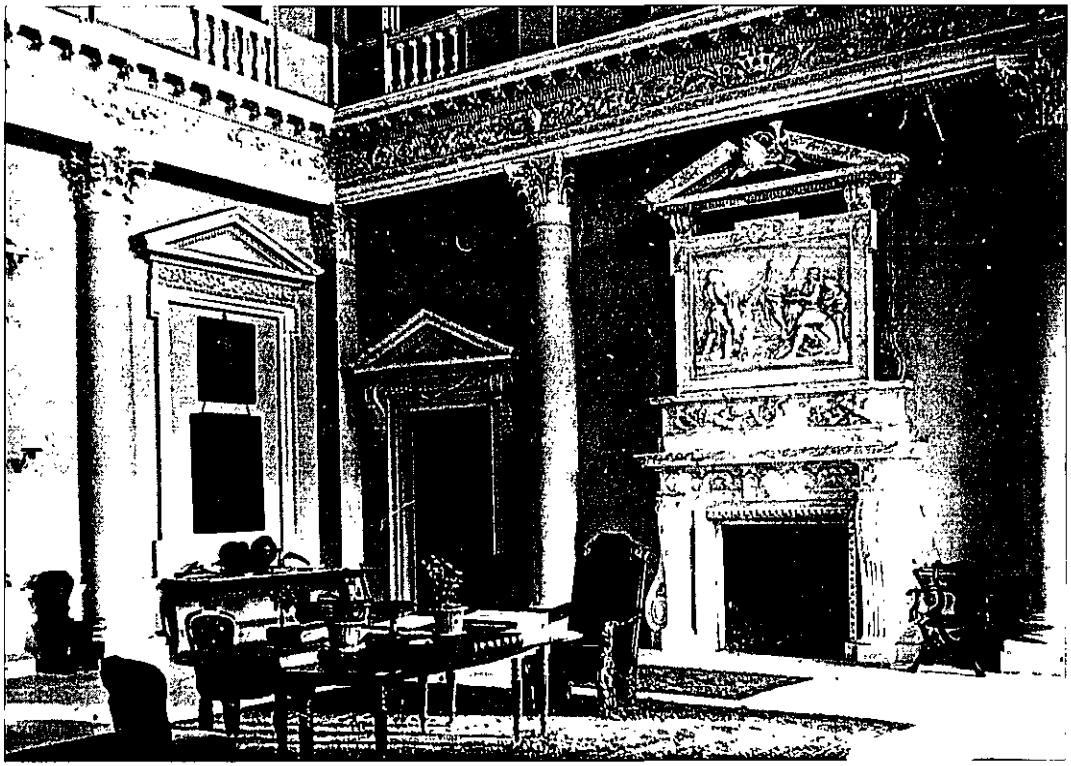
View from the north east of the Palladian style mansion designed by Giocomo Leoni for Thomas Onslow. Lodges and grounds were laid out by Lancelot Brown (1716-83), known as Capability Brown *because he always told* his patrons that their estates had great capabilities.

ever came into England'.

Neither Thomas nor his wife lived to see Clandon complete and it was left to their son Richard to continue the decoration of the house. The new owner was not fully satisfied with Leoni's design and made various alterations including the creation of the morning room from two closets, the abandoning of the first floor dining room and the enlargement of many of the fireplaces to a depth more appropriate to the British climate.

In 1776 George Onslow inherited the house and set about improving it still further. Wooden panelling was now out of fashion so when the Palladio room was remodelled the panelling was covered by a contemporary French wallpaper. Outside the house the formal gardens and entrance court were swept away to be replaced by an informal landscape design by Lancelot Brown. Brown also designed a stable block, since demolished, and the lodges which stand by the Merrow roundabout. The stables housed an interesting relic from the old house until they were demolished. This is the turret clock dated 1610 which can now be seen, restored to working order, in one of the upstairs rooms at Clandon.

The execution of all this work is said to have cut deeply into the Onslow fortune. It is not surprising then that in 1781 and 1782 George, created 1st Earl of Onslow, held seven days of sales of carpets and furniture he no longer needed.



Clandon Park House: The Palladian Hall. Photo c1895 by J C Patrick *(Patrick Collection)*

In World War I the house was used as a military hospital: in 1916 the first job Margaret van Straubenzee, a newly joined VAD, was given was to wash this floor *(see pp.17-21)*. The fireplace is by Rysbrack, the plaster work by the *stuccatori* Atari and Bagutti.

Clandon Park House: The Maori House. *(National Trust)*

William Hillier Onslow, 4th Earl, Governor General of New Zealand (1888-92) was presented with this house by the Maoris. His second son was born in New Zealand and named after the Maori *Huia* bird. At his christening, a *Huia* feather was placed in his head-dress, which by custom created the boy a Maori chief. His sister once came down to lunch in Government House with a tame white rat in her hair.

Thomas, 2nd Earl of Onslow, inherited the estate from his father in 1814, and in true Onslow fashion expensively redecorated a number of the rooms. He was reputed to be somewhat difficult in character and quarrelled so badly with his son that they parted company with the future heir refusing to set foot back inside the house. The 3rd Earl was true to his word and from 1827, when he inherited the house, to 1870 when he died, he left the house unoccupied except for an old caretaker who could do little to maintain the large mansion and garden.

When the 3rd Earl died none of the family were invited to attend the funeral. His heir was a great nephew, William, who recalled:

> *'I was the first person for many years who had been allowed to enter the house. It was almost bare of furniture and all blinds, curtains, etc had perished.'*

The only person was a Mrs Dallen, a woman of considerable age, who stated that she had 'lighted fires and opened windows until her strength had failed her'. Undaunted by the state of the house the 4th Earl set eagerly about its restoration, building the *porte cochère* in 1876, planting a long beech avenue in 1877, and somewhat more eccentrically, reconstructing a genuine Maori hut by one of the lakes in 1890. All of the rooms of the houses were redecorated, some with contemporary designs, others in a late eighteenth century style.

The family continued to live in the house up until 1950 with two short breaks during the war years. The first of these was during the Great War when Clandon served as a hospital run by the wife of the then Lord Onslow. In the Second World War it became a crowded storeroom for the muniments of the Public Record Office of Chancery Lane. The family opened the house to the public themselves for a number of years but in 1956 the Countess of Iveagh, daughter of the 4th Earl, bought the house from the family and presented it to the National Trust to ensure its preservation for the enjoyment of future generations.

Although the mansion house and grounds were transferred to the National Trust most of the contents were retained by the Onslow family. It was thus especially timely that Mrs David Gubbay should in 1967 have offered the Trust an extensive collection of furniture and porcelain on condition that it should be displayed as a single collection. The Gubbay bequest acted as a catalyst for the rebirth of Clandon Park which was painstakingly restored to house the collection. What could so easily have been an uncomfortable alliance has proved to be a harmonious marriage of a magnificent collection and a spectacular house, each enhanced by the other.

There is one further item of specific interest at Clandon. This is the Regimental Museum of the Queen's Surrey Regiment housed in the basement. The Regiment is a combination of two former Surrey regiments, the Queen's Regiment and the East Surrey Regiment, and what better place to have its museum than in one of Surrey's great houses. G H Sumner (1760-1838) and his son W H Sumner (1798-1859) both of Hatchlands Park served as colonels in the 1st Regiment, Royal Surrey Militia.

❦ CHAPTER 6 ❦

East and West Clandon Churches

A history of two churches

by the Reverend Jeremy Cresswell MA,

Rector of both Churches 1982-1990

Domesday Book records that *'There is a Church'* in West Clandon. This Anglo-Saxon building existed as part of an English confessional state, a civilisation in which all were obedient to the Christian faith. It was a place where justice was administered as well as divine service.

The Normans wanted such buildings enlarged or replaced, and immediately began an ambitious building programme. They encouraged men and women of modest means to give money and services for the construction of churches that enshrined the Roman Catholic faith.

New clerics were brought into England from France, and an increasing number of Englishmen were recruited and trained in monasteries. The Patron of West Clandon Church, the Bishop of Salisbury, was foremost in the campaign to establish resident priests in every parish. Formerly priests had been itinerant, but now they were encouraged to settle down. The Normans also encouraged the spread of monasteries throughout the land. Chertsey Abbey, a local Benedictine foundation, undoubtedly prospered during this period. They had supported William the Conqueror and were rewarded with great power and property. They had been patrons of East Clandon before the Conquest, but they soon began building the church. The *Church of St Thomas of Canterbury* is a memorial to their prestige, since it is larger than a small village would have required.

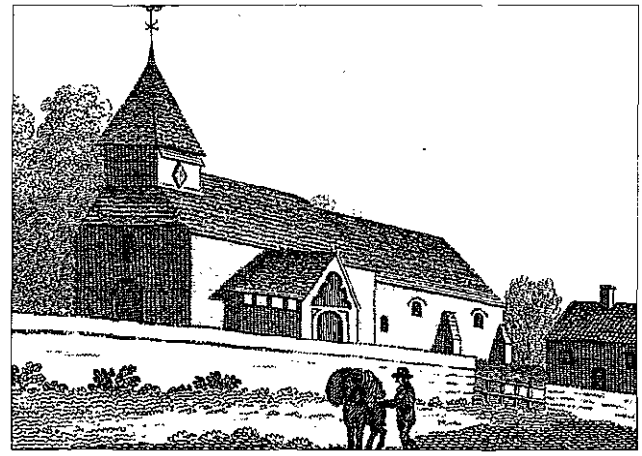
The Benedictines seem to have prospered particularly because of the balance they stressed between prayer, work and study. Their monks were expected to say the divine office seven times a day, but also to be involved with the regular work of the farm. Their impact on the land can be seen in East Clandon, where they began systematic farming. Unlike other parts of the royal forest, which were backward in cultivation, East Clandon seems to have been farmed from the earliest period. In 1307, the land was so valuable, and the days so violent, that the Abbot of Chertsey put a moat around the manor house at Hatchlands.

The Benedictines have left their mark on the church of St Thomas. The heart of a Benedictine monastery has always been the choir, where each monk has his place and the liturgy is performed. In this part of East Clandon Church, the large windows give the chancel a most intimate and uplifting character. In 1110, the monks had built the wide nave to replace an earlier structure. The chancel and north aisle were added in 1220. The massive circular pillars dividing this aisle from the nave were probably three in number and this greater space allowed for monastic processions.

In East Clandon, the visitor can see the way in which the monks worshipped, separated from the laity like two different classes of religious life. The north aisle was provided with an altar for parishioners, while

separate services would have taken place for the monks in the chancel. The north aisle was also the place where baptism was administered and the pedestal of the font still lies behind the western pillar, marking the moment of each man's entry into the Church of Christ. The *devil's door* in the north wall is where the pilgrims came to and sought the prayers and alms of the monks.

From a beam in the nave hung the carving of the crucified Christ - 'the rood'. All that is left of this is the stairway to the loft and the great rood beam, but it indicates where the monastic part of the church began. Beyond was the High Altar, where the monks said the Mass.



St Thomas of Canterbury, East Clandon. C12. Grade I.

The oldest part of the Church is the nave, the chancel and the north aisle being added in the C13. The bell tower was built in 1900 during modernisation.

The treble bell SANCTE TOMA OR was cast by the Wokingham Foundry in 1425 and used to be supported in a C15 bell turret on four great timber legs in the churchyard. This pre-Reformation bell is dedicated to St Thomas of Canterbury; it was pealed, one surmises, to warn the villagers of danger and on occasions of thanksgiving. Until the Reformation the church was monastic.

Upper right: A C19 print shows the old porch which was considered ugly and was replaced in 1900 during modernisation. *(Guildford Library)*

Right: The Church as it stands today. *(Denis Dampier)*

Only tantalising traces remain of monastic use in *St Peter and St Paul*, West Clandon. Though the patronage was entrusted into private hands, considerable architectural features were added in the 13th century. In 1220, a chancel was built to replace an apse or the older wooden nave and an unusual *sedilia* provided as a seat for distinguished monks or clerics. For the Mass, a charming double *piscina* was built, to provide for the washing of the priest's hands, and the cleansing of the sacred vessels. During this period, all but one of the chancel windows were enlarged or replaced. Most mysteriously, a tower of unusual proportions was added on the north side of the nave, providing a manorial chapel, or more likely a place of sanctuary and refuge. Towers like this were originally built as landmarks for travellers or as a defence with battlements. Only much later would bells have been added to a parish church.

In 1241, land in Clandon was given by Roger Craft to the Knights Templar, an order of military monks, whose duty it was to protect pilgrims on their way to the Holy Land. The land became the administrative headquarters for three of their estates, and they called it *Temple Court*, now the home of the Earl of Onslow.

These monks were responsible for the protection of the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem, hence the name Templar, and they respected neither the authority of kings nor of bishops, but only the Pope. Throughout Europe and Palestine they owned estates and castles and became one of the most powerful political groups in Christendom. Such was their discipline and reliance on military strength they were both feared and loved by the common people. These Knights swore allegiance to the cross in an all-night vigil in church, which entitled them to wear the white tunic with the red cross. They

Temple Court, home of the Onslow family, situated on the site of the Knights Templar Farm. *(Lord Onslow and Nancy Baster)*

were a Christian community that fused the practice of prayer with the art of warfare. However, the Templars were sworn to secrecy, and their order is still shrouded in mystery. We can only guess at a connection between them and West Clandon church.

Little remains of the Templar Farm but, as its name suggests, there would have been an inner courtyard among outbuildings, to which the monks could retire from their work. After the Templar dissolution, due to their trial for heresy in 1310, the private patron of West Clandon went to great lengths to develop St Peter and St Paul as a parish church. William de Weston of Albury (no connection with the Westons of Sutton Place) presented his son to the living, and added many features to the building. On the south side of the nave, the parishioners were provided with a holy water stoup, and the lovely south window was embossed with three lions, the Weston coat of arms. He also replaced the

three lancet windows on the east wall of the chancel with the beautiful patterned window of three lights. With medieval glass, the church must have been a place of colour and spectacle.

The same patron, William de Weston appeared in a famous court case in 1319. He was involved in a local dispute about the ownership of cattle, together with Roger, Prior of Newark by Ripley, his fellow monks, Richard, parson of Clandon Regis, and others. It is said that 'they took and drove away 20 horses, 40 oxen, 60 cows, 600 sheep and 200 swine' from the King's officer in West Horsley. This case indicates that there was a link at this time between West Clandon and the Augustinian monks of Ripley. It may also reflect the increasing conflict between the church and the crown. We are certain, however, that the patronage of the Westons of Albury lasted up to the end of the 15th century and that this combination was both efficient and successful.

Lanfranc, a Norman Archbishop of Canterbury, established a series of ecclesiastical courts to try priests of the church. When Henry II, a Plantagenet King, wanted to create a unified system of royal justice, these church courts stood in his way, maintaining privileges for the church officials, which he was keen to reduce. In 1164 he drew up the Constitution of Clarendon, which stated that clergy who were found guilty in the church's courts, must be retried in the King's courts.

St Thomas à Becket, whom Henry chose first as Lord Chancellor and then as Archbishop of Canterbury, was expected to ratify the royal demand. However, he believed that Henry's demands constrained the independence of the church, and this authority. In 1170, he was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral by knights hastily despatched by the King, and he became the church's martyr. He quickly became the centre of a cult, and his tomb in Canterbury became the focus of pilgrimage. In 1220, the designation of East Clandon church was changed, so that it too became dedicated to St Thomas of Canterbury.

At Canterbury, the focus of this popular reaction against Henry II's tyranny was the tomb of St Thomas. The Benedictines accepted the rich offerings that grateful pilgrims made at the Cathedral shrine, and a line of churches began catering for those who made the journey from Winchester to Canterbury. East Clandon lies off this pilgrims' route, but must, by reason of its size and dedication, have been on a 'tourist detour'. Its dedication to St Thomas indicated that here his prayers were coveted for safety or healing, and perhaps special provision was made for the sick or dying. The medieval church acted like a modern charity, and money was often left to the church to provide alms for the poor and needy. The size of the church indicates the considerable investment by the monks in the welfare of the pilgrims.

Outside the church, ordinary life was brutish and short. The feudal overlord exercised great power and authority over the peasantry. Life was a daily struggle against the elements, and farming required the daily conquest of nature. The middle ages understood the story of the Garden of Eden as a picture of man's duty to subdue the soil, and a carving preserved in St Peter and St Paul illustrates this. It pictures a crudely carved lion, the heraldic symbol for the Weston family and the Resurrection, in combat with a dragon, the allegorical symbol for the soil. The sculpture may also have carried the wider implications of the struggle between good and evil and of the presence in West Clandon of the

overriding royal prerogative. It is carved at the upright end of the patron's pew, epitomising the overlord's control of the land.

It seems that the two churches worked closely together. During the absence in 1297 of Richard de Boclynton, who was 'parson of Clandon Regis', the Rector of East Clandon was instituted to West. In the later middle ages, a carving of the two apostles and of the martyred Archbishop was placed behind the high altar in St Peter and St Paul. It bears some resemblance to a carving on a reliquary in St John the Lateran, Rome, which housed the heads of apostles. No doubt the figure of St Thomas was added to express unity with East Clandon, and to add local colour. All three were martyrs of the Church.

The Church of England

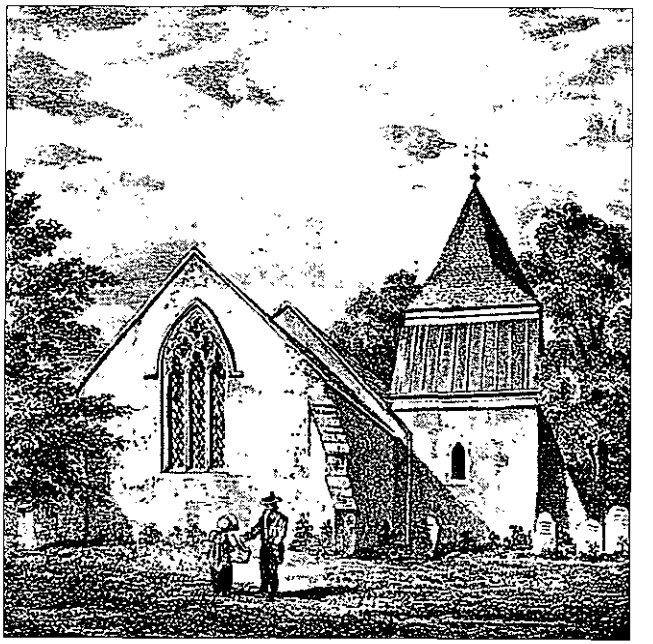
The Reformation in 1529 resolved the conflict between the church and state. Under Henry VIII, the Church of England was born, and the changes were completed by an Elizabethan settlement, which was set out in an Act of Uniformity, and an Act of Supremacy. The English language became the language of prayer for the first time, and the church submitted to the control of the King in Parliament. Enduring changes now took place in each parish church that were to bring clergy and laity together in a sense of corporate worship.

In 1544 the church of St Thomas of Canterbury was entrusted into the hands of Sir Anthony Browne, Master of the King's Horse, who converted the monastic building into a parish church. He was responsible for the destruction or conversion of many other places of worship, among them Newark Priory in Ripley and Battle Abbey in Sussex. The font in East Clandon was moved from its position near the north door to a position nearer the altar. The minister and his stall were placed firmly in the nave-chancel crossing, and the Creeds, Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments replaced the medieval paintings. Structural and architectural changes were accompanied by the reformation in worship. The monastic liturgy was shortened and made readily available to ordinary people through the services of Matins and Evensong. Thus, the Benedictine tradition of prayer and worship and the stability of the office became an indispensable part of Anglican worship, which has spread throughout the world.

Under the roof of the nave, the Royal Arms indicated the supremacy of the King. Long before the C16 there had been a progressive decline in the moral and religious standards set by the monasteries, and the quality of monks had deteriorated. King Henry, therefore, set about the dissolution in 1536, and the dismantling of the possessions. At Canterbury, the tomb of St Thomas à Becket was demolished, and churches like East Clandon lost their chapels and rood screens. These changes all took place under the aegis of the King, and each parish made of them as best they could. We can only guess what changes took place in West Clandon during this period because so little of the evidence remains. In the choir, pews were placed where monks' stalls had formerly been, and communion tables replaced the stone altars. At some time, the archway into the tower from the nave was blocked up, indicating that its use as a manorial chapel was terminated. The family pew of the patron seems also to have been placed at this end of the church, on the north side. In the churches of both East and West Clandon, the Jacobean pulpits were placed on the south side, displaced from their usual position by the patron's pew. In 1577 the rule that Fridays were to be fast or meatless days was

reinforced and Sir William More of Loseley appointed Thomas Butt and John Symond as searchers in West Clandon to ensure that Richard Holt, then landlord of the inn, abstained from dressing meat on fast days.

Further dramatic changes took place in the Church of England at the time of the Civil War. In C17, there was a revival of catholic worship under the Archbishop of Canterbury, William Laud. However, when the church became too closely involved with the King's cause, it was condemned by Puritan and Presbyterian alike. In 1649, King Charles was executed, and this was the sign that the army and presbyterians had won. A majority of anglican clergy stayed on in their livings under presbyterian rule.

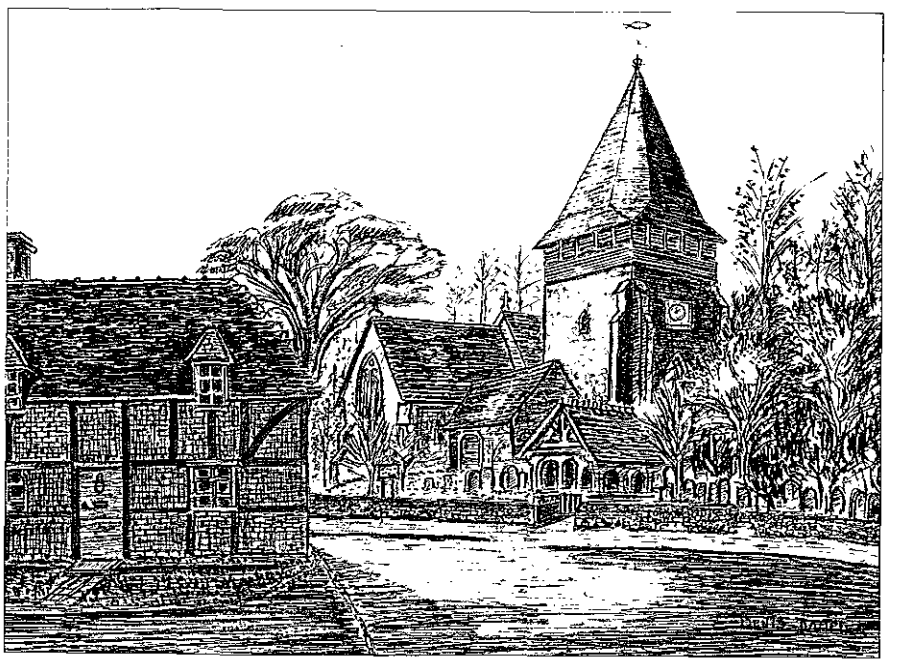


St Peter & St Paul, West Clandon. Grade II.

Built of rubble flint, the nave and chancel are dated C12/C13, but a church is mentioned in Domesday (1086). The wooden tower was added in the C19, burnt down in 1913 and replaced *(see p.72)*.

Upper right: View from the east in 1824. *(Cracklow's View)*

Right: The Church in the 1980s showing Hillier Cottages. *(Denis Dampier)*



Nevertheless, a third of livings were left vacant – among them East Clandon. Some of the church's furnishings still bear the mark of the piety of civil war. The army went in for a campaign of destruction and fonts, like the one in West Clandon, testify their punishment. They wished to remove the last vestiges of 'catholic' worship, and the ornamentation of fonts was a special target. The period of the civil war may also be the occasion when the medieval font disappeared from East Clandon. The replacement of the Laudian communion rail by a later one leads us to suspect that changes were extensive in St Thomas of Canterbury.

In 1710 the Onslow family purchased the patronage of West Clandon Church, making their first presentation to the living in 1725. The first Speaker, Richard Onslow, had served in the Parliaments of Elizabeth I, and his coat of arms, dated 1560, was placed subsequently on the old chancel arch of St Peter and St Paul. His grandson, Sir Richard Onslow, who had steered a middle course between King and Parliament in the civil war, had been rewarded by Charles II with the confirmation of his possession of Clandon Park. The west window of St Peter and St Paul depicts the many Onslow coats of arms, tracing their descendants back to 1282.

In the C19, which was an age of revolution, a picture of West Clandon church is drawn for us in the list of rectors who served here. At St Peter and St Paul, the distinguished ministers included a domestic chaplain to the Duke of Gloucester, and two archdeacons. In West Clandon the church was restored by the Victorians and Lady Onslow contributed half the cost. A later restoration took place in East Clandon, avoiding the worst of the Victorian excesses.

St Peter & St Paul: the Church Tower Fire, 1913. *(John Bradshaw)*
A road sweeper alerted the Post Office who sent a telegram: the Guildford Fire Brigade arrived in 11 minutes.
The reverse of this card, posted on 30 October 1913, states: *'The bells are all broken or melted, but everything was well insured so that we are going to get our peal back as near the same as possible. Enough metal has been saved to cast the 3 big bells.'*

During the C17, the patronage of St Thomas had been held by the Aungier family. Their funeral hatchments for three generations hang in the nave, and the family lies buried in the chapel. Sir Francis Aungier was Master of the Rolls in Ireland, and in 1621 was created Baron Longford. His son inherited the patronage and established a reputation as a great mathematician and linguist; he must have been the most scrupulous patron, as he knew both Greek and Hebrew. His nephew inherited the title and was created Earl of Longford in 1677. Later, the patronage passed to the Heaths, who sold it to Sir Peter King, later Lord Chancellor and Baron King of Ockham. During this period, the church was allowed to languish, and the fabric was neglected.

Only in 1893, when the Earl of Lovelace sold the patronage to Lord Rendel, was its recovery guaranteed. He immediately supported a restoration of the church, when the entire seating was renewed. The list of rectors of East Clandon church include some distinguished scholars, a tradition stemming from its Benedictine foundation. Thomas Goffe, Rector in 1622, was famous as a writer preacher, but was the incumbent sadly for only seven years. 'He was described as a 'quaint preacher and a person of excellent language and experience'. After he moved into the patronage he was inveigled into marrying his predecessor's wife. This was much to everyone's regret as Thomas Goffe died shortly afterwards. The tradition of learning, however, continued in the C18, with the appointment of Joseph Greehill, who wrote a learned treatise entitled *'Essay on the Prophecy of the Millenium.'* He was rector for fifty six years, and was followed by James Weller, a doctor of divinity, in 1788.

The Age of Unity

In East Clandon there is a modern chapel which beautifully expresses the Christian's hope for unity. The side chapel, formerly used by the Benedictines, more often functioned for the local patrons as a family vault. Thus, on the death of Lord Rendel, in 1913, a funeral monument of black marble and white columns was erected in his memory. However, his grandson and successor, Goodhart-Rendel, saw the opportunity of harmonising the north aisle's present use with its catholic past, and rebuilt it as a chapel with its own altar. It makes a charming chapel and is now used for weekday services.

Above the altar, Goodhart-Rendel created a beautiful ceiling which takes as its theme the unifying force of christian faith. He has depicted the patron saints of Great Britain, together with the four gospel writers. Our most famous Archbishop of Canterbury, St Thomas à Becket, is the central figure. I like to think that it illustrates how the unity of the church lies in the common origins of the faith, and in the fellowship of those who are faithful to Christ in their lives.

In the Parish Church of Merrow, psalms were first sung in 1881, *Hymns Ancient and Modern* in 1887; in the same year the semi-compulsory church rate was superceded by the Sunday collection: but we do not know when these changes were introduced in the Clandons.

In this chapter we have seen how much the history of the churches in East and West Clandon has been subject to changes of dogma and practice.

(with acknowledgements to Mr E Shelley)

Restoration of East Clandon Church

Extract from The Times *dated Saturday 22 December 1900*

CLANDON
Restoration of East Clandon Church
Re-opening by the Bishop of Winchester on Monday
17 December 1900

The interesting old village church of East Clandon, which was built in the C12 was reopened on Monday, after careful and thorough restoration. The building had for many years been in a very dilapidated condition, but the work of restoration was a serious undertaking for so small a village which has an agricultural population of about 250 persons. However the diocesan architect Mr T G Jackson RA was consulted last year, and the scheme which he then devised has been so successfully carried out that the result has more than justified the most sanguine expectations.

The principal new features

Dealing first with the principal features of the work now completed, the old transept on the north side of the nave, which was converted into a family pew at the end of the last century with an apsidal back and ceiling of lath and plaster thus reducing it to half its dimensions, has been restored to its original size. The restoration of this transept, which had been used of late years as a vestry, necessitated the construction of a new vestry, which has been placed on the north side of the tower, leading out of the transept referred to, thus continuing the line of the exterior wall of the transept to the end of the tower. By this means the fine old sloping roof on the north side of the church has been preserved and increased. A chamber has been constructed under the vestry to effectually heat the church with hot air. The tower, which had become dangerous, had been strengthened with oak beams and supports, and the upper portion of the exterior shingled with oak. The roofs, walls and windows have also received attention. The antiquated seats have been removed, and oak seating substituted throughout, whilst an oak pulpit has been erected. The unsightly old porch, built about a century ago, has been replaced by a new structure, and the south door, the principal entrance to the Church, has been restored to its former condition. The ancient clock, which has been for many years in a ruinous state, is succeeded by a new clock, supplied by Messrs. Gillet and Johnston, of Croydon this having been provided almost entirely by the villagers. A new organ consisting of two manuals and nine stops, has also been installed by Messrs. Bishop and Sons of London and Norwich. The appearance of the chancel has been much improved by the four stained glass windows which have been placed in it to the memory of the late Lieut. D J Keswick, the Lancers, who was killed in South Africa, two of which have been erected by Mr and Mrs C S Gordon Clark. Several interesting old features, which were covered up with plaster during the last century, have also been revealed by the restoration. Among these are the steps, and opening to the rood loft on the north side of the nave; an old piscina in the transept; and an old door presumably a priest's door in the exterior of the north wall of the

chancel. The small window commonly called a 'low side' window, was found to be partially blocked up, and has been opened to its original size.

Fresco paintings have been found inside the tower wall and chancel arch. The lath and plaster ceilings in both nave and chancel have been removed, and have exposed to view open beams of the C15 roof, which has given additional height to the church. Some old foundations were found at the entrance to the chancel, from which it might be surmised that the original church consisted of the chancel only. The outside walls, which were covered with cement, have now been stripped, and the original flint walls exposed.

The funds

The cost of the work, excluding the organ, amounts to just under £2,000 the whole of which has been collected from residents in the surrounding districts. This gratifying result is undoubtedly chiefly due to Mr Frank B Eastwood of High Clandon who has acted as honorary treasurer to the fund.

The re-opening service

The re-opening service on Monday morning commenced at a quarter past eleven. The interest which the restoration has evoked was evidenced by the large congregation and those who were acquainted with the previous dilapidated state of the sacred edifice must have been much impressed with the great improvement effected both externally and internally.

The clergy and choir having entered the church by the south door, the Bishop recited the opening sentences and the hymn, *'The Church's one foundation'* was sung as the clergy and choir proceeded to the chancel.

The special prayers were said by the Bishop, and the ordinary morning services conducted by the Rector. The other hymns sung were *'Come Holy Ghost our soul inspire'*, *'Now thank we all our God'*, *'We love the place, Oh God'*, and after the sermon, *'All people that on earth do dwell'*.

The Sermon

The Bishop of Winchester preached from the text:

'It was the feast of the dedication, and it was winter, and Jesus walked in the temple'.

[*The Times* then quoted the sermon in full.]

The New Rector

The Reverend A P Glyn formerly curate of Ockham, was inducted Rector of the parish by the Ven. Archdeacon of Surrey at a service held in the evening. Mr Edgar Pettman, organist and musical director of St James's Church, Piccadilly, presided at the organ at both services.

❦ CHAPTER 7 ❦

Some Glimpses of Village History

edited by Mrs Nancy Baster from contributions from Mr J Purkiss, the Reverend J Cresswell and others

Some historical background helps to put the reminiscences and memories in the previous chapters into perspective. This chapter focuses on three periods - the period from 1066-1500 when both villages were typical feudal manors; 1500-1800 ending in the C18 when both villages were part of the large landed estates of the Onslow family in West Clandon, and Hatchlands in East Clandon; and lastly the C19 up to the eve of the First World War, before the much more rapid changes of recent times.

The feudal manor, 1066-1500

Early references to the two Clandons go back to Anglo-Saxon times. Some traces have been found of Iron Age occupation and signs of Roman habitation, but the early settlements owed their existence to their situation at the foot of the North Downs, where water was available on the spring line where chalk meets clay.

The name Clandon is derived from *clenedune* or 'Clean Down', meaning open downland free from scrub. Early documents refer to *Clenedune* (East Clandon) and *Altera Clenedune* (West Clandon). By the C13 references are found to East Clandon or *Clandon Abbatis*, and West Clandon or *Clandon Regis*, referring to a significant difference between the two villages which affected the history of their later development and at one time nearly brought the two villages to blows.

The early period comes to an end with the Norman invasion in 1066, and is marked 20 years later by the great Domesday Book of 1086. This took into account the redistribution of the lands of the Anglo-Saxon lords to William's followers after the Conquest. The Survey for almost all of England recorded what and how much each landholder held in land and livestock and what it was worth. The Domesday Book gives a fascinating glimpse of the two villages at the time.

West Clandon is described as a manor belonging to Edward Bishop of Salisbury, owned by one Hugh. It was assessed at 2½ hides (about 250 acres) and included arable and woodland, most of the land belonging to the lord's *demesne*, that is, manor house land not let out to tenants. The church is also mentioned, and a mill believed to have been at the north end of the north lake in Clandon Park. There were 4 *villeins* and 5 *bordars* making a total of 9 families apart from the lord's family, his entourage and serfs. The total population was possibly between 60 and 80 persons. A *villein* was a serf free in relation to all but his lord, and a *bordar* was a villein who held the hut in which he lived at his lord's pleasure.

East Clandon was held by Chertsey Abbey. It was then larger than West Clandon covering 400 acres including

arable and woodland, but there was no church or mill. Since most of the land was owned by the Abbey, there is no mention of land belonging to the lord's demesne. 5 villeins and 12 bordars are listed, that is, 19 families or a population of possible 90-100 people. Over the whole period the two villages remained small closely-knit agricultural communities, organised around the manor. The villagers were dependent on the lord of the manor for protection, and by his will to security of tenure on the land, and the lord of the manor in his turn was dependent on his serfs and semi-free tenants for their services and dues. The lords of the manor were the nobility owning their land and title to Royal Charter or gift, to marriage or inheritance, and to acquisition.

At the time of Domesday West Clandon was owned by the Bishop of Salisbury, and later by a series of neighbouring families which included the Westons of Albury (1294-1441), followed by the Slyfields of Great Bookham (1441-1638). East Clandon differed from West Clandon in that from earliest times until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539 it belonged to the *demesne* of the Abbot of Chertsey, and unlike West Clandon did not owe allegiance to secular lords. This is reflected in the distinction found in C13 documents between *Clandon Abbatis* and *Clandon Regis*, although there is no evidence that the King ever held land in West Clandon.

Agriculture was organised on the common-field system, with strict rules about the use of the common fields for cultivation and pasturing cattle, with fines for their infringement. Outside the lord's demesne most land was held copyhold, with the tenant obliged to provide services and dues in kind to the lord, including the provision of so many days work on the lord's demesne, and the obligation to meet the lord's claim to the best beast on the holding on the death of the tenant. Both villages were basically self-sufficient communities, with lords and villeins bound together by mutual obligations.

The affairs of each manor were discussed and determined in the manor courts, which were either *Court Baron* in West Clandon, or *Court Leet* with a view of *Frankpledge* in East Clandon. The *Court Baron* dealt with changes of tenure of copyholders and with matters relating to the good running of the manor. The Court could resolve minor infringement of property rights, lay down regulations for the common fields and meadows, call for the cleaning of ditches and unstopping of footpaths, as well as imposing fines on the tenantry who failed to provide obligatory services. The *Court Leet* on the other hand was concerned with keeping the peace and appointing the manorial officers which included the constable, the tithing man, the ale-taster and the pounder. *Frankpledge* was a mutual suretyship which made each member of a tithing responsible for one another. This court was responsible to the civil authority, the sheriff in the *Woking Hundred*.

In feudal times the role of the church in village life was bound up with the life of the manor. Although in theory the clergy were nominated by the bishop, in practice the parish priest was dependent on the lord of the manor for protection and for land for church and house; and from time immemorial the priest depended for his livelihood on the payment of tithes, the tenth part of the produce of the villagers. The right of the lord to nominate the local priest was generally recognised, and the *advowson* as it was called went with the lordship of the manor. At the same time the church was the focus of religious life in the village and the parish priest reigned within the walls of his church. He said the mass

in Latin attended by all in the parish. He kept the parish records. The Church was both sanctuary and village hall, providing instruction and succour in need.

Papal and monastic influence was strong in the period between the Norman Conquest and the Reformation. East Clandon was particularly affected, since it belonged to the Abbot of Chertsey. The monastic influence was reflected in the design of the new church of St Thomas of Canterbury, and in the tradition of prayer and work of the Benedictine monks. In the continuing struggle for supremacy between the Church and the King, East Clandon from early days was on the side of the Church. In West Clandon the situation was different, although for a short period in the C13 the Knights Templar, an order of military monks, established an administrative headquarters on the site of the present Temple Court, now the home of the Onslow family. Rebuilding the old Anglo-Saxon Church started in 1180, and when in 1310 the Westons of Albury held the lordship of the manor, they went to great lengths to develop St Peter and St Paul as a parish church. William de Weston presented his son Richard to the living, and added many features to the Church which can still be seen. Rectors at this time seem to have been persons of spirit, if one can judge from one Rector of West Clandon, who was embroiled in a number of lawsuits, and in 1319 was involved in a scandalous raid on East Horsley.

By 1500 the population of the two villages appears to have been much the same as it was at the time of Domesday, in spite of fluctuations in times of war and plague. Dwellings were for the most part very primitive with mud floors and holes in the roof for smoke to escape, although the use of more substantial materials was beginning towards the end of the period. Already by 1500 the linear pattern of village development was visible in West Clandon, while East Clandon was distinguished by the traditional nuclear pattern with buildings clustered round the Church.

The Reformation and Civil War; the large landed estates of the 18th century, 1500-1800

The Reformation and the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539, the establishment of the Church of England, and the continuing political and religious strife in the C17, which pitted Royalists against Parliamentarians, and Catholics against Puritans, ended with the establishment of parliamentary government and ushered in the growing tolerance of the C18. In rural areas this was the heyday of the large landed estates, illustrated in different ways in both East and West Clandon.

It was in 1642 that Sir Richard Onslow purchased Clandon Lodge and its surrounding parkland from the Westons of Sutton Place, and shortly leased the manor house of West Clandon from George Dunscombe. His descendants went on to acquire more land in the village,

and a busy period of acquisition culminated in 1710 with the transfer to his grandson Sir Richard Onslow of the manor of West Clandon, together with the advowson of the church. Sir Richard Onslow was succeeded by his son Thomas, and it was this second Lord Onslow who as described earlier built the mansion which stands today. During the rest of the C18 West Clandon attracted eminent patronage, the house being regularly used by royalty as a base from which to attend the horse race meetings held at the then prestigious course situated on the Merrow and Clandon Downs. In 1720 George I when staying at Clandon Park gave a £100 plate for the Guildford Race Meeting.

The history of East Clandon followed a different course over this period. Following the dissolution of the monasteries and the suppression of the religious houses the manor was ceded after 700 years by Chertsey Abbey to Henry VIII. In 1544 the King granted the manor and church to Sir Anthony Browne, who had already acquired the lands of Newark Priory in Ripley. It was he who converted the monastic building into a parish church. From him the manor passed through various hands. The Augier family who owned the manor at the time of the Civil War supported the King and it was at this time that skirmishes were reported between the men of East Clandon, and the army led by Sir Richard Onslow, a staunch Parliamentarian.

After the Restoration the manor was held by the Earl of Pembroke, and was sold by his son in 1692 to Sir Richard Heath of Hatchlands. However shortly afterwards the lordship of the manor passed to Sir Peter King, later Baron King of Ockham, and to his descendants the Lovelaces until it was sold to Lord Rendel in 1893. The Hatchlands estate itself remained separate from the lordship of the manor, and was bought by Admiral Boscawen in 1750 who built the present house. It was sold to the Sumner family in 1770 and remained with the family until the estate was sold to Lord Rendel in 1888.

It can be seen that in West Clandon the Onslows consolidated their position as lords of the manor and principal landowners, but in East Clandon the Hatchlands estate, which included most of the village of East Clandon, was separate from the lordship of the manor. Lord King owned extensive land outside East Clandon, including property in Ockham and West Clandon. Around 1800 the Onslows owned the land west of The Street, as well as the rectangle containing the Garth, Watts Copse, and the field behind Garth Cottage. What is now called Malacca Farm, Lime Grove, Oak Grange Road, Cuckoo Farm and Summers belonged to Lord King.

Agriculture continued to be organised on the common-field system - enclosures not reaching the Clandons until the C19 - but the practice of substituting money payments for goods and services due to the lord of the manor increased. By the end of the C18 there were a small number of freeholders in both villages, as well as artisans carrying on the various trades needed in an enclosed agricultural community.

We know there was a mill and presumably a miller in West Clandon from the time of Domesday. Both villages had their blacksmiths, an occupation which had no doubt existed in each village back to the Middle Ages. The earliest reference to a blacksmith in east Clandon is in 1664, when one Richard Street pursued this trade. The smithy in East Clandon was sited in the most

natural place for the benefit of travellers, opposite the *Queen's Head*. In West Clandon the first mention of a blacksmith is William Stoffold, who was following this calling in 1687 in a smithy believed to have been situated behind Hawthorne Cottage in the north of the village. There were bakers' ovens in both villages, and there are references to a carpenter, shoemaker, tailor, wheelwright, weaver, cordwainer and thatcher. It is not always clear to what extent these trades were carried on independently, or as servants of the lord of the manor. Presumably by the end of the C18 it was a mixture of both.

The villages had their public houses. Both the *Bull's Head* in West Clandon and the *Queen's Head* in East Clandon date back to the C16, and became licensed public houses from an early date. In West Clandon there were also two beer houses at the North end of the village, the *Hare and Hounds* in what is now Hare and Hounds Cottage, and another in what is now Hawthorne Cottage.

Both the *Court Baron* and the *Court Leet* continued to meet during the C18, but less frequently than before. In West Clandon the Court Baron met only every six years between the beginning of the C18 and its last meeting in 1837. In East Clandon there were nine meetings between 1783 and the last meeting in 1841. The local *Justice of the Peace*, nominally responsible to the Crown, but in practice appointed by the Lord Lieutenant of the county influenced by the local gentry, administered justice at the Quarter Sessions; it was he who was responsible for enforcing the statutory parish obligations to maintain roads and bridges, and to administer the Poor Law.

It was the custom of the lord of the manor of West Clandon to provide a dinner for senior members of the *Court Baron* after their meetings. These members were either the freeholders of the land in the parish or their representatives, and in 1810 a dinner was arranged at the *Bull's Head*, where provision was made for 23 persons. The attendance list gives a good idea of who ran the village at the time. Amongst those present, in addition to the lord of the manor himself, were John Bone senior (founder of the Bone charity) and his son; the representative of the Lord King in the village, William Saunders, owner of the land where Clandon Regis now stands; Thomas Pinion, whose daughters later ran the village school situated on the plot of land on the east side of The Street outside Briarfields; the Rector, the Rev. Thos. Russell, who farmed land to the east of The Street; and a representative of St Thomas's Hospital in Guildford.

The relationship between manor and church remained relatively unchanged throughout the C18 and for much of the next century the Anglican Church benefitted from the patronage of the landed aristocracy, the living being regarded as a piece of patronage, often given to younger sons. The then Lord Onslow made his first presentation to the West Clandon living in 1725. The Church was refurbished. Pews were inserted, each with a door to keep out the cold, with a larger pew for the exclusive use of the lord and his family. The west window was reglazed with the coat of arms of the Onslow family. About the same time Sir Peter King bought the patronage of East Clandon Church, together with the lordship of the manor. But the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury was never the Lovelace parish church in the way that St Peter and St Paul was the Onslow parish church, and suffered some neglect in consequence.

In both parishes the rectors were men of consequence, and took their place amongst the local gentry. Substantial new rectories were built in both villages. The parson received his tithes and often farmed his own land. Around 1800 an inventory (or *terrier*) of everything belonging to East Clandon Church showed that the rector owned both a saddle horse and carthorse stables, as well as 6 acres of meadow. In 1810 as we have seen the Rev Thos. Russell farmed land to the East of the Street in West Clandon. But it has to be remembered that both the Clandon parishes were relatively rich agricultural parishes in a prosperous county. Differences were growing, not only between rich and poor within parishes, but also between rich and poor parishes in different parts of the country, and storm clouds were gathering which were to break in the next century.

Winds of change, 1800-1914

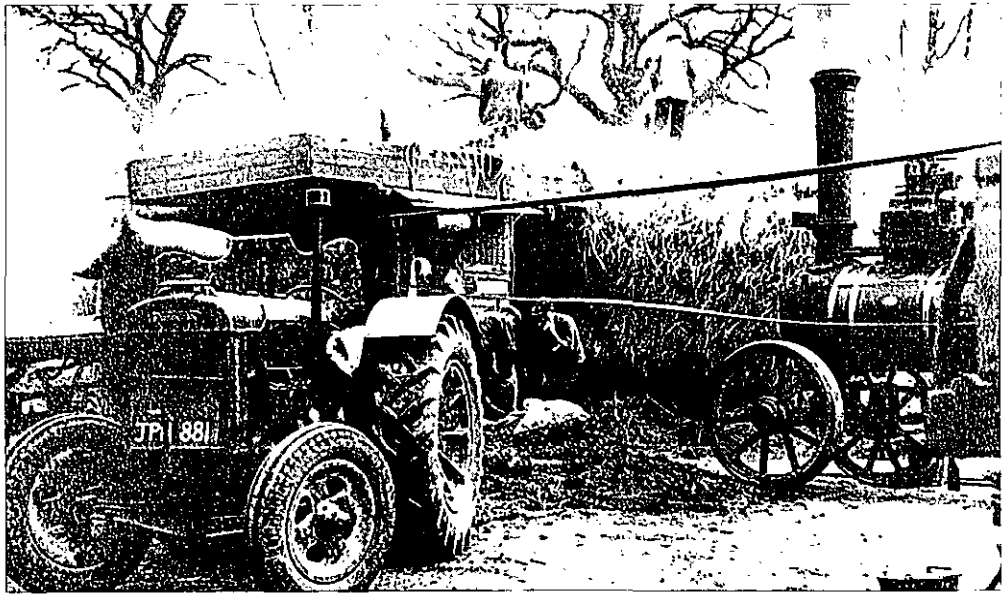
It is sometimes said that this traditional pattern of rural village life continued in the Clandons until the eve of the First World War. But looking back there were many changes in the C19 reflecting changes in the world outside which led eventually to the disruption of the old pattern, and paved the way to greater changes nearer to our own time. Some of these are relevant here and can be briefly mentioned.

In the first place there were changes in the pattern of agriculture. The Napoleonic War increased the pressure on farmers to produce more food. This gave further impetus to the enclosure of common land which was designed to bring more land under cultivation, and to improve efficiency by making farms larger to facilitate mechanisation. This led to the breakdown of the commonfield system, and to growing poverty amongst agricultural workers which caused riots in many parts of the country in the 1830s. In 1816 the Earl of Onslow together with other large landowners in Surrey got an enclosure act passed which dealt with various parcels of land in the county, including Tithebarns in West Clandon. There is no record of violence in the Clandons, but it was a further step towards the end of the traditional manorial system which had lasted in modified form since the Middle Ages. The mid-century was a time of agricultural depression and rural poverty, made worse by the abolition of the Corn Laws, competition from American farmers and mechanisation.

Away from the South of England the industrial revolution was bringing about a large-scale migration of poverty-stricken rural workers from the rural areas to the expanding towns in the north and midlands. The decennial censuses showed that after 1841 the population of West Clandon fell, and only picked up at the end of the century, while East Clandon remained fairly stable. In 1901 the population of West Clandon was still only 378, and that of East Clandon 271.

The industrial revolution also brought about a revolution in transport and communications which eventually transformed village life. Until the early part of the C19 the Wey Navigational Canal (which Sir

Richard Onslow had played a large part in promoting in the C17) and the old coach road running between London and Portsmouth were the main links with the outside world. A mud road led off to West Clandon, and the drive to Clandon Park ran from the Portsmouth Road parallel to the public road. *The Times* stage coach took four hours from London to Guildford, following the Epsom and Leatherhead route. Passengers were required to dismount and walk up the hills. By the middle of the century there was a daily stage coach to London from the *Duke of Wellington* in East Horsley. The railway network which was spreading over the country in the 1840s and 1850s, finally reached West Clandon in 1885, when the New Guildford Line was extended from Stoke d'Abernon through to Guildford, with stations at Effingham, East Horsley (then called *Horsley, Ockham and Ripley*) and West Clandon.



Harvesting in the 1930s at Tunmore Farm, Ripley Road, East Clandon. *(Pat Bellairs)*

In the 1830s farm labourers had rioted and set fire to hay ricks in protest against mechanisation. Up to this date the harvest had been threshed by hand flails, and the labourers feared unemployment during the C19 agricultural depression. Farm labourers were often laid off during the winter months.

Surprisingly, it was not until after the First World War that this began to have any effect on the expansion of housing in West Clandon.

Towards the end of C19 the state gradually assumed responsibility for basic primary education, whether by state aid for voluntary, mainly church, schools, or after 1870 by starting board schools in areas where there were no church schools. Before 1870 schools in rural areas depended mainly on voluntary charitable effort depending on the support of the church or the lord of the manor. In West Clandon, on the grass verge where the Women's Institute sign now stands, there was a village school run by the Misses Pinion who charged 1d a head per week. The East Clandon Church of England Primary School was opened in 1863, and the Church of England Primary School in West Clandon was opened in 1872 on land given by Lady Augusta Onslow, daughter of the 3rd Earl. A major step towards the secularisation of schools was taken in 1902, when control of both state-aided schools and board schools was transferred to county councils and larger borough councils.

The traditional functions of the lord of the manor and the church were being challenged in other ways. The two Reform Bills in the C19 extended the voting franchise first to the propertied middle class, and later to all adult males, challenging the political power of the large landowners.

In 1834 responsibility for much of the relief of the poor was transferred from church to local government and in 1894 the Local Government Act created elected parish councils. The church was now finally excluded from local government and in future parish functions would be administered by elected laymen. This was a further intrusion into village life which up to then had been dominated by squire, parson and sometimes the schoolmaster.

These changes were reflected in the changing role of the lord of the manor. When the lordship of East Clandon was sold by the Lovelaces to Lord Rendel in 1893 the squire took over from the lord of the manor, this was followed by a number of improvements in the village including the restoration of the church, which had been allowed to decay.

In West Clandon the 3rd Earl quarrelled with his father and said he would never live at Clandon Park. In 1874 Clandon Park was reopened after a break of 40 years by the young 4th Earl who took an active interest in village life and introduced a number of measures aimed at improving the lot of the villagers. The church was restored and he played a leading part in getting the new railway opened and a station built at Clandon. In 1880 what was then the *Blue Bell Inn* was converted by Lord Onslow into a working mens club with accommodation for single men, a club room and a shop. Later this was to become the *Onslow Arms*.

On the eve of the First World War the Clandons were still small villages, with populations only two or three times larger than at the time of Domesday. Daily life was still dominated by the manorial estate, agriculture was the main employment, and the villages were still relatively self-contained rural communities. All this was to change after the First World War and more rapidly after World War II, the changes being much greater in West Clandon than in East Clandon. The first census in 1801 showed a population of 260 in East

Clandon and 234 in West Clandon. In 1990 the estimated population in East Clandon was 280, and in West Clandon 1293, each village having just under 1450 acres of land.

The transformation from self-contained rural villages into communities, dependent for all important aspects of their daily lives on a wider network of relationships and facilities, has probably been greater in the last fifty years than in the previous 500 years. Until the bicycle became readily available in the early part of the century there was little inter-marriage between villages but since then modern transport, communications and packaged holidays have transformed the life of rural villagers.

One of the 2000 year old Yew Trees on Merrow Downs. *(Denis Dampier)*

The *Conservation Foundation* Certificate signed in 1989 by the Archbishop of Canterbury states:

'Please do all you can to prolong the life of this venerable member of your local community.'

This specimen has a circumference of 34 feet measured six feet above the ground. All the trees are male.