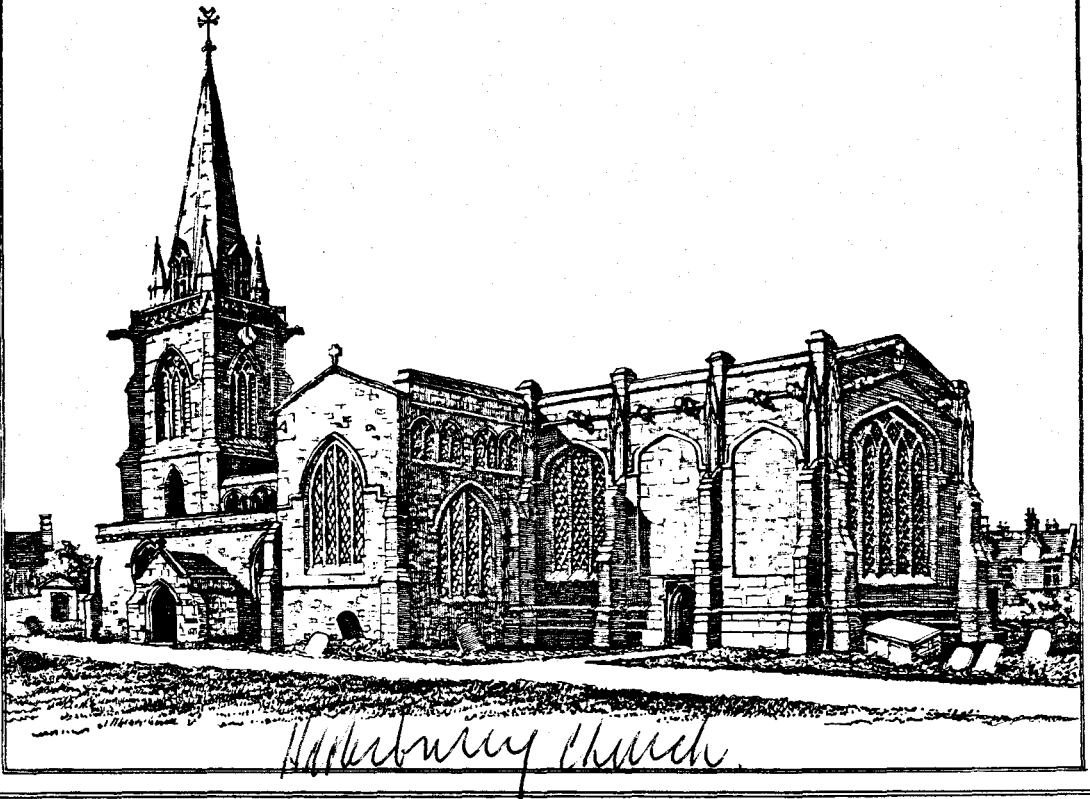


CAKE AND COCKHORSE



Banbury Historical Society
March 1965

2s.6d.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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* * * * *

The Society was founded in 1958 to encourage interest in the history of the town and neighbour- parts of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

The magazine Cake and Cockhorse is issued to members four times a year. This includes illus- trated articles based on original local historical research, as well as recording the Society's activities. A booklet Old Banbury - a short popular history, by E.R.C. Brinkworth, M.A., price 3/6 and a pamphlet A History of Banbury Cross price 6d have been published and a Christmas card is a popular annual production,

The Society also publishes an annual records volume. Banbury Marriage Register has been pub- lished in three parts, a volume on Oxfordshire Clockmakers 1400-1850 and South Newington Churchwardens' Accounts 1553-1684 have been produced and the Register of Baptisms and Burials for Banbury covering the years 1558 - 1653 is planned for 1965.

Meetings are held during the winter, normally at 7.30 p.m. at the Conservative Club. Talks on general and local archaeological, historical and architectural subjects are given by invited lec- turers. In the summer, excursions to local country houses and churches are arranged. Archaeo- logical excavations and special exhibitions are arranged from time to time.

Membership of the Society is open to all, no proposer or seconder being needed. The annual subscription is 25/-, including the annual records volume, or 10/- if this is excluded. Junior membership is 5/-.

Application forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary or the Hon. Treasurer.

CAKE AND COCKHORSE

The magazine of the Banbury Historical Society. Issued to members four times a year.
Volume Two. Number Twelve. March, 1965.

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"About 10 o'clock, at the Parsonage House we kept our Court. . . . wee went to dinner about 2 of the clock, difers strangers there, a Mr. Barber and his wife, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Oldys and another Gentleman who sate above Mr. Steward, the provision was very great, a chine of beef and venison Pasties with other answerable dishes and at last a dish of fruit, Peaches, Grapes, Plumbes, Walnuts, etc., that almost bent the dish. About eight wee had a supper, though few could eat anything". (1)

This account of the visit of Warden Woodward of New College to Adderbury Rectory fourteen years before the alterations provided for in the contract which we print on page 207, during which he met William Barber of Halle Place, whose portrait is reproduced on page 202, typifies much of the recorded history of Adderbury, a history of gracious living, of great families, fine houses and a magnificent medieval church. This issue departs but little from this traditional approach, for Adderbury, of all north Oxfordshire can be well served by the historian whose prime interests are architectural, or genealogical. Most visitors will not remember Adderbury as a centre of agriculture or rural industry. The most enduring memories are likely to be Robert of Winchcombe's glorious chancel, the chaste Georgian elegance of Crosshill House, or the charming architectural good manners of most of the old part of the village.

Yet a village is more than its buildings, and it has other residents than the great families. Mr. Clarke's recollections of Adderbury before 1914 are important because they tell us something about all classes living in the village, the masons as well as the clergy, the maids as well as the gentry. This authentic picture of Adderbury in Edwardian times prompts many questions about its more distant past. Why were there Chartists in the village in the 1840's? Why was the Society of Friends so well supported in the late 17th century? What sort of people brought their crops to the tithe barn when it was first built? Our next Adderbury issue, with a full article on the Grange, will not neglect architecture. We hope also to answer some of these more difficult problems.

(1) R. L. Rickard. Ed. "Progress Notes of Warden Woodward round the Oxfordshire estates of New College, Oxford 1659-1675". O.R.S. XXVII. 1945. Sub. 1668 .

SOCIETY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES
Spring and Summer Programme

Tuesday, 30th March, 7.30 p.m.

Conservative Club (next to Martins Bank), High Street, Banbury. "Sulgrave, an 11th century thegn's residence". A talk (illustrated by slides) by Brian Davison, of the Ministry of Public Building and Works. Mr. Davison has been investigating this early site at Sulgrave for several years, and brief reports have already appeared (C & CH I.140, II, 99) It is considered to be by far the most important excavation carried out in the Banbury area in recent years, yielding as it does results that imply the evolution of the manorial hall a full century earlier than originally thought. The first wooden hall can be dated with certainty to about 1016, and it was succeeded shortly after the Norman conquest by a stone building, itself disused after 1100. We are most fortunate to have Mr. Davison to describe all the stages of this exciting dig and the full implications of his discoveries.

Sunday, 11th April, 3.00 p.m.

Market Place (near Kettering & Leicester Boot Co.), Banbury. The first of what it is hoped may be a series of "perambulations" of different parts of the town will take place on Palm Sunday afternoon. As well as studying the exteriors of several streets in central Banbury, it is hoped to go inside a number of buildings not normally open to the public. Various members of the Society will speak about the buildings inspected and visited.

Saturday, 26th June, 3.00 p.m.

Annual General Meeting. Stowe (School), near Buckingham, by kind invitation of the Headmaster. Further notice will be sent before the meeting.

It is also hoped that excursions will take place to Upton House and Alscott Park. When these have been arranged members will be informed.

Church Architecture Study Group

Visits will be made during June and July to the churches of Oxhill (Warw.), Wroxton, Chipping Warden and Kings Sutton. Anyone wishing to take part in the activities of the Group should write to Dr. G. E. Gardam, 116 Bloxham Road, Banbury, who will supply them with full particulars.

INDEX TO VOLUME TWO

An Index of personal and place names, and of subjects, is being prepared to Cake & Cockhorse, Volume Two, which ends with this issue. This will be sent to all corporate members with the September issue, Vol. 3, No. 1. However many individual members may not require it. To avoid waste, therefore, individual members who do want the index are asked to inform the Secretary or Editor as soon as possible, and not later than the A.G.M. There will be no charge for the index.

BACK NUMBERS

Many of the back numbers of Cake & Cockhorse are now out of print. Members who still have these, and no longer want them, may like to give them back to the Society, so that complete sets can be made up. Numbers particularly wanted are:

Vol. 1, Nos. 1 - 5, 7 - 9; Vol. 2, Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7.

The first three records publications are also out of print or in very short supply. These are the "Index to Wills Proved in the Peculiar Court of Banbury" and Parts 1 and 2 of Banbury Marriage Register, 1558-1790. Any unwanted copies will be most gratefully received back. In all cases they should be sent to the Secretary, or handed to Mr. Pain in the Borough Library.

MR. H. T. KIRBY

Just before going to press we were very sorry to hear of the death on 28th February of Mr. H. T. Kirby, of Gaydon. Harry Kirby had been a keenly interested member of the Society since its earliest days. He was a leading authority on stained glass and heraldry. When the Society visited Horley Church he spoke on the portraits in glass there; and some years ago he conducted an extra-mural course in Banbury on heraldry. He was always happy to share his wide knowledge of these subjects, and his friendly help and encouragement will be sorely missed.

HALLE PLACE IN WEST ADDERBURY AND ITS OCCUPANTS

The site of Halle Place (or Le Hall Place as it is at present named) was part of the manor of the Bishop of Winchester in Adderbury. The registers of William of Wykeham and other Bishops of Winchester show that they resided in Adderbury from time to time but probably not in the original Halle Place. Its oldest part appears to be a rectangular hall about 24 ft. x 24 ft. in the walls of which have been discovered remains of lancet windows and an arched doorway with ball flower ornament. This possibly 14th century building is now internal owing to the addition of wings to the north and south and other rooms to the east and a second or attic storey. It may be that the first enlargement took place in the 15th century, as during the next century the place changed ownership frequently in the hands of speculators, and there is no evidence that any of them made improvements. In the early 17th century a fine oak staircase with oak panelled walls was built for access to the upper rooms of the eastern part which may have been enlarged at this period. The house was taxed on 12 hearths in 1665; (the only larger houses in Adderbury were those of Sir Thomas Cobb with 16 and of the Countess of Rochester with 13). A dovehouse is mentioned in 1682 but must have been built much earlier. In the 18th century mahogany panelling was installed in the main rooms, one of which, the parlour, originally had 16th century oak wainscoting. An elevation of the west front drawn in 1801 shows battlements along the eaves and no dormers in the roof. A later drawing on paper watermarked 1803 is a design for adding three dormers with windows in the top storey and the diminution of the battlements or "pallisadoes". All the windows on the west front then had small leaded panes. Lady Charles Paulet, a lessee about 1870, is credited with replacing the old windows with the present large paned ones. When the property was sold in 1953 it had 24 rooms and three cellars.

The name Halle Place first appears in the Inquisitiones Post Mortem of Henry VII (1485); this was after parts of the Bishop of Winchester's Manor had been sold off as freeholdings. It was then owned by a certain John Goylyn who died July 25th 1485. He had interests in a widely scattered estate in Oxford city, Temple Cowley, Ipwell, Great Rollright, Sibford Gower, Sibford Ferrers, Deddington, Hempton, Adderbury and Milton in Oxfordshire, and King's Sutton in Northamptonshire. On his death this estate was divided in two moieties between his son John and his daughter Margaret, held by trustees. The succession of these two moieties can be followed separately.

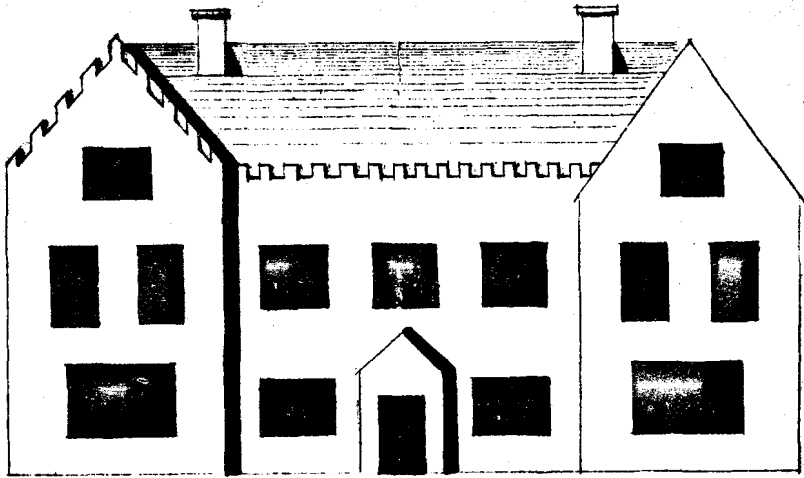
John Goylyn's Share

Both John Goylyn, junior, and his daughter Margaret were dead by 1515. Margaret, his heiress, had married a Docwra, and had named as her heir, a relative, Robert Forman of Abingdon, who was a son of John Forman, son of Margaret, the sister of John Goylyn, senior. The trustees of Margaret Docwra duly conveyed her estate to Robert Forman, but as he was bound to one of them, John Docwra, by statute of the Staple for 500 marks, it was necessary to sell off the whole or part of Robert's inheritance. In one indenture the estate is described as a moiety of 8 messuages, 5½ virgates, 4 lands, 2 cottages, 5 gardens, 1 curtilage, 1 manor called Hall Close in Ipwell, Weston Orchard and lands, etc. in Rollright, land in Sibford Gower and Ferrers, Deddington and 1 message, 120 acres of land in Adderbury and Milton called Halle Place. In 1518 all this was sold to Richard Fermour, a grocer of London, then described as a merchant of the Staple of Calais, for £406. 13. 4d payable in three instalments, the last in 1521.

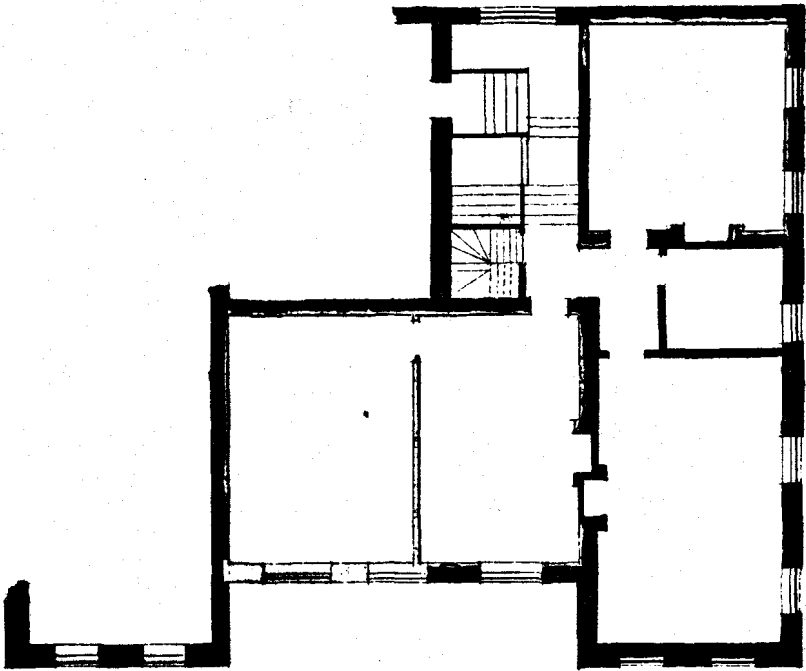
Richard Fermour (d. 1552) was the son of Thomas Richards alias Fermour, a wealthy wool merchant of Witney (d. 1485). In addition to trading in wool, silks, wheat and other commodities, Richard speculated extensively in land. As a minor he had inherited lands from his father and from his mother Emmotte (d. 1501). In 1519 he owned and was living at the manor of Easton Neston, Northants. In 1521 he bought from Thomas Danvers of Banbury for £41. 13. 4d a moiety of 2 messuages and land in Adderbury occupied by William Bynnell and Richard Malle, which were part of the estate of John Boys (see below) escheated to Danvers, Lord of the Manor. In the same year he bought from Richard Smyth of Adderbury a message and 3 yards land, then occupied by his father, Thomas Smyth. They were of the family of Jane Smyth, wife of George Smyth, whose brass in Adderbury church states that she died on the 30th February (sic) 1508.

Margaret Goylyn's Share

Margaret Goylyn married John Boys (d. ante 1515) and they had a son, John, and a daughter



"West Elevation of a House belonging to John Barber Esqr., Adderbury, 1801."



"Part of the Chamber Plan of a House belonging to John Barber Esqr., Adderbury, 1801."

Johanne, who married John Franklyn of Horspath. By 1524 John Boys, junior, had died and his estate passed to his sister Johanne. Indentures and deeds of 1527 and 1528 described the Boys estate as a moiety of lands in all the places listed above, including "uno mesuago cento et viginto acre in Alderbury predict. et in Milton in predict. com. Oxon. vocat. Halle Place".

Meanwhile the wool-stapler Richard Fermour sold off the properties he had acquired in 1518, 1519 and 1521. One lot consisting of a moiety of a messuage and 4 yards land in the east side of Adderbury, formerly part of Margaret Docwra's estate was sold to Thomas Penystoun in 1522; this is identified as Adderbury House (now the Old People's Home). Thomas Penystoun, Gent., appears as a free tenant in the Court Rolls of the manor of Adderbury Rectoria. Also in 1522 Fermour sold to John Pett of London and Brigitte his wife, the remainder of the Docwra estate, the house and land in Adderbury bought from Richard Smyth, and also the escheated Adderbury property bought from Thomas Danvers.

The Pett Family

John Pett thus became the owner of Halle Place but he seems to have died very shortly afterwards, and in 1523 by direction of his will his estate was devised to his widow Brigitte for her life. She promptly married Richard Warren, armiger, a man of some substance, for he was able in 1524 for 400 marks to buy from the executors of John Boys and from John and Johanne Franklyn the Boys part of the original Goylyn estate. Between 1527 and 1530 all other parties concerned, including Hugh Franklyn (son of John and Johanne) and Desmond Franklyn and Richard Fermour, transferred their interests. By this marriage and these transactions the estate of the 15th century John Goylyn was reconstituted almost to what it had been in his lifetime.

When Richard Warren died the whole estate passed to his widow Brigitte and descended to her son Francis Pett by her first husband. About this time some of these widely scattered properties must have been disposed of although no deeds have been traced. From now on Halle Place can be identified as a separate unit. The Adderbury property passed to Raffe Pett, son of Francis. Raffe lived with his wife Mabell in a house with 64 acres in Adderbury, which almost certainly was Halle Place. When Raffe Pett died, Mabell married John Sadler of Adderbury. A writ of entry was brought against them in 1590 to prove their title to one messuage, one garden, one orchard, one hundredth acre of land, twenty acres of meadow, thirty acres of pasture, four acres of wood and ten acres of heath or furze, so that Mabell Pett should enjoy the freehold for her life with reversion to her brother-in-law George Pett of London. One indenture of 1591 records that John Sadler had "one brewing furnace of Copper fixed in the Brewhouse" which he could take away on quitting but he was to leave "all ye wanscott fixed and sett upp in the p'lor of the said messuage and also all and singular ye dores with locks of dores bolts staples windowes casement and glass and also all the hovells scaffoldes shedes and outhouses.....without spoilinge or breakinge downe of them".

In 1599 George Pett and Johanne his wife sold to Thomas Leeson of Sulgrave, Northants., and others for £550 the messuage, farmhouse and 3 yards land in Adderbury and Milton in tenure of John Sadler subject to Mabell's life interest. Three years later Leeson sold the property to Walter Clarke of Willescot for £500. In 1603 Walter Clarke mortgaged the property for £400 to Humphrey Clarke of Ratcliffe, Bucks. In order to repay Humphrey the mortgage was assigned to Randall Manning, Citizen and Skinner of St. Swithin's Lane, London, for £550.

All this time the Sadlers continued to live in Halle Place. John Sadler by his will in 1605 left 40 shillings as stock to buy coals for the poor of Adderbury. His widow survived him and was buried at Adderbury in September 1626.

The Barber Family

The first of the Barbers now appears on the scene. In 1606 Randall Manning transferred the Adderbury mortgage for £520 to Robert Barber of King's Walden, Herts., with a lease of 2,000 years, and the property itself was conveyed to William Sheppard of North Aston, the father of Robert's first wife Sibell (d. 1614). In 1626 Robert Barber was able to take possession of Halle Place. He had sold the King's Walden property in 1619 and had purchased a house and farm at The Week, Headington, Oxford. William Sheppard had moved to Great Rollright where his family had manorial rights since 1583. In January 1626 Sheppard conveyed the Sadlers' house with four closes and three yards land to Robert Barber in the name of his young second son William.

Robert Barber took as his second wife Susanna, daughter of William Bull of Wells and



Susanna, daughter of William Barber and sister of Robert Barber (ii), about 1690. Born in 1670, she died unmarried after 1742. She inherited the estate at Southill, Beds., part of which she bequeathed to her nephew Edward Barber.



William Barber (1621-1688), of Halle Place, Adderbury, in 1680.

already had twelve children before he came to reside in Halle Place ; six more children were baptised at Adderbury between 1629 and 1639. Susanna died in March 1640. He bought land at Banbury ; Grimsbury Moors for £1,400 in 1615, Easington Grange, House and farm with 1,130 acres for £2,250 in 1639, also pasture ground at Great Milton in 1627.

Unfortunately there is no documentary evidence of alterations or additions that may have been made to Halle Place by Robert, but the staircase and the dove house may certainly be attributed to him.

Robert Barber died in September 1651. His eldest son, Robert, inherited the Week, Headington which he had been farming on his father's behalf since about 1628. His second son, William, received the Adderbury, Easington, Grimsbury and Great Milton estates.

William Barber was born in 1621. He married first, Mary, daughter of Richard Bishop of South Warnborough, Hants., in 1650; she died without issue and was buried at Adderbury on June 11th 1651. His second wife taken in 1652 was Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Hanney or Hannes of South Stoke, Oxon. (d. 1678); she died at South Stoke in August 1657 leaving two daughters. His third wife was Mary, daughter of Ralph Freeman of Aspenden, Herts., in 1660 ; after producing eight children she died November 6th 1681 and was buried at Adderbury. His fourth wife was Elizabeth, sister of Sir Samuel Luke, and she and her daughter survived William. By these four marriages William Barber received over £9,000, while his estate settled in trustees at the first three marriages returned to him on the death of each wife.

He purchased the College lease of the manor and parsonage of South Stoke (1651), an estate at Southill, Beds. (1664), the Banbury and Berrymoor Mills (1675), the Bishop of Oxford's lease of the Banbury, Bodicote and Adderbury tithes (1686), and Rysam and Millmead fields in Adderbury (1677). He was High Sheriff in 1665.

His portrait painted in the Kneller style in 1680 is in the author's possession. He died on September 24th 1688, having settled his Adderbury and Banbury estates on his son Robert, and the lease of South Stoke on his daughter-in-law.

Robert Barber (ii), by William's third wife Mary, was baptised November 5th 1665. In 1686 he married Anna, daughter and coheirress of Sir Edward Waldo, Alderman of London, by whom he received £4,000. Robert purchased more land in Adderbury (1697) and in Wykham, Neithrop, Calthorpe and Easington (1708) and sold the Great Milton pasture. He was High Sheriff in 1697 and Justice of the Peace in 1706, and 1708. In 1711 he mortgaged Grimsbury Moors for £1,500. After his death at the age of 49 in June 1714 he was succeeded by his only surviving child, Edward. His wife Anna was buried April 11th 1716. It is possible that the 16th century oak wainscotting in Halle Place was replaced by mahogany panelling during Robert's occupation.

Edward Barber was baptised in March 1690. He married Elizabeth Drake, daughter of Francis Drake of Woodstock Park, but had no issue. She was buried January 16th 1744. Edward Barber evidently found Halle Place too large for the needs of himself and his childless wife, as he leased part of it in April 1716 to Richard Spencer, yeoman of Adderbury, for eight years keeping for himself only the use of the kitchen, certain rooms, the garden and some outhouses. But he rented a stable elsewhere for ten shillings a year from 1720 to 1744. Two of his wife's sisters, Ann and Mary, lived with them ; to Mary Drake he made over the Bishop of Oxford's tithes for £400. To Richard Spencer he also leased the three yards, the arable, Broad Close and the Moors. Opposite to Halle Place garden was a farmhouse and a quarter yard land (about ten acres) occupied by Richard Rawlings ; Edward bought this in 1718 for £198 but by 1724 he was forced to mortgage the land for £150.

By 1730 Edward was in serious financial trouble ; he sold Grimsbury Moors and the Banbury Mills, and in 1731 made over a house, orchard and close, part of the Moors, to his cousin, John Willes, to raise £400, and he devised his other estates charged with debts and legacies amounting to £3,000 to his kinsman John Barber of London. The farmhouse across the road, with the three yards land, Broad Close, the Moors and three barns, the dovehouse, stables and outhouses belonging to Halle Place previously occupied by Spencer were leased in 1730 to Edward Tanner of Fritwell for eight years ; this lease was extended to 1742. In 1738 he mortgaged for £1,600 to Samuel Trotman of Bucknell, Oxon., the farmhouse and all the land then in the tenure of Tanner, also Rysam and Mill Meads, that is all the Barber Adderbury estate except those parts of Halle Place



Robert Barber (ii) (1665-1714), son of William Barber,
in 1691.



Anna, wife of Robert Barber (ii), daughter of Sir
Edward Waldo, Alderman of London, in 1691.
She died in 1716.

occupied by himself. In 1742 Robert Gardner, yeoman of Adderbury, took over Tanner's lease of the farmhouse and land until 1750. William Poulton of Barford St. John succeeded Gardner in 1751 and he was followed by John Cole of Milton, yeoman, in 1759 until 1767.

Edward Barber clearly did not inherit the business instincts of his ancestors. His story illustrates how wealth accumulated in previous generations can be dissipated. He was buried at Adderbury April 6th 1759 and with his death the direct line of descent from the first Robert Barber became extinct.

John Barber, the third son of the first Robert, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Loggins of Kingham and about 1669 acquired the Loggins estate there. Their son John took the degree of D.D. at Oxford and became Rector of Buscot, Berks. (d. 1725) and his son John inherited the Kingham estate. John Barber (i) did not farm it but lived in Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London as an important official of the General Post Office. In 1765 having sold the Kingham properties he turned his attention to clearing up the encumbered estate left by Edward Barber. Eventually he extinguished the mortgages created in 1738, repaid £1,600 and put the Adderbury property in trust to attend the inheritance. Later, having restored the family fortunes he came to live in Adderbury with his second wife, Mary nee York. She died in April 1766 and he married Ann, widow of B. Messenger of Milton. He was buried in Adderbury on May 17th 1773 leaving his son John, then aged 13, as heir.

This son, John (ii), born November 20th 1760, started his career at the age of 17 by eloping to Gretna Green, with Ann, daughter of David Prowett of Aynho. She was 37 years old. They were afterwards married at St. Anne's Limehouse on January 21st 1778. In the next seven years the four children born to them were baptised at Adderbury.

A survey made in 1778 of the farmland of Halle Place in West Adderbury and Milton calculated it to occupy eighty-six acres exclusive of the house and grounds, and roads and fences. (The modern Ordnance Survey gives a higher acreage.) The mansion house had an orchard to the east, a large yard of stables and outbuildings to the north, and the dovecot and gardens to the west. To the north was Broad Close with fish ponds and a copse with The Meadow beyond. The farmland ran down to the flats of the meandering Sor Brook on the north (North Leys) and then turned at right angles southward (Ridgeway), crossing the footpaths and the main road to Milton (Horse Slade), and extending for more than a mile as far as Barford fields (Broadway Ground, Middle and Further Grounds).

John Prowett and other trustees released John's inheritance when he became twenty-one in 1781. At first John was content to follow the family tradition of living on the income from the estates in Easington and other areas around Banbury and the Adderbury farm. In 1795 he began to buy up small properties in West Adderbury, first the cottage and close of Edward Hawkins, then in 1796 two cottages and gardens from William Bellow, and in 1799 the cottage of John Wheeler. In 1803 he disposed of odd lands in Easington and bought fifteen more acres there. In 1808 he purchased the lease of his tithes and over twenty-nine acres in Wykham. The three dormer windows on the west front were added by him.

He had one son, John, and two daughters, Ann and Susanna, who went to Buckingham School. Susanna eventually became the heiress. He died October 17th 1817 and his wife Ann died two years later.

John Barber (iii) was born May 30th 1779 and did not marry. In 1822 he sold the Neithrop estate and then bought further properties in West Adderbury, in 1823 for £130 a 17th century cottage formerly occupied by Edmund Doyley, in 1824 from Benjamin Daniell for £760 a stone fronted house and two recently built brick cottages with sashed windows on the south side of Manor Road, and in 1836 from John Dearing for £400 the farmhouse at the east end of Manor Road, occupied by Elizabeth Wilcox who farmed Barber's land. An assessment in 1838 shows that he owned eleven houses or cottages in West Adderbury in addition to Halle Place and a farm of ninety-five acres. In 1847 he bought from Samuel Greayer a cottage which stood in New Road opposite the Independent Chapel (built in 1820). This he demolished, levelled the ground, and dedicated the site for use as a public highway.

He was known as Squire Barber and to the last dressed in old fashioned clothes. After his death on November 27th 1854, his sister Susanna (born 1782) became his heiress. She married Robert Wells of Wormleighton, Warwickshire, in 1802, and their only child, Susannah (born 1804)

married the Rev. William Cotton Risley, vicar of Deddington (his great uncle, Holford Cotton, was vicar of Adderbury from 1795 to 1822).

The Risley Family

Halle Place thus passed into the possession of the Risleys but was not used as a residence by the family for very long. The Rev. W.C. Risley died on June 1st 1869. When an auction sale of the contents of the house was held on December 15th 1869, the catalogue described the house as "The Manor House, Adderbury West". There is no authority for connecting it with any of the Adderbury Manors. H.J. Gepp in his Adderbury (1924, p. 72) states that Lady Charles Paulet, a lessee of Halle Place after 1870, gave it the name Manor House.

The last of the lessees was Miss Janet H. Blunt with her brother. They eventually bought the house with the farm in 1906. After her death on August 4th 1950 the mass of documents from the 16th century onwards, belonging to the Risleys but in Miss Blunt's custody, were transferred the same year by Miss Ethel B. Risley to Durham University Dept. of Palaeography, which eventually sent them to the Bodleian Library.

In 1955 Miss Blunt's executors sold the house and the adjoining two acres to Messrs. J. and M. Humphris of Banbury, who converted the house into five flats and adopted the name "Le Hall Place".

Adderbury.

C.F.C. Beeson.

ADDERBURY CHURCH IN 1840

Some time has elapsed since we last visited Adderbury Church, but on reading the foregoing observations on it by Mr. Skelton we could not refrain from expressing our pleasure, that the restorations which he expresses a hope, yet to see effected, have already been made, at the expense of New College Oxford, in the most perfect of good taste. The Chancel, exhibited in the accompanying drawing [four cover] with two of its windows blacked up, and the other, stripped of its chaste tracery, and disfigured by upright jambs of stone, now presents its original beautiful characteristics, designed by that chieftain among our English architects, William of Wykham.

Inside the restorations are yet more extensive, an ugly Brobdignagian altar-tomb of the Elizabethan period, with a disconsolate kneeling family on its side, has been removed from the south side the Chancel, and a light and elegant Gothic monument brought to light - A rich canopied piscina - Some very beautiful carved panelling in the soffits of the east window.

Several projecting figures (corbels) on which the beams of the oak ceiling rest, and which are probably portraits of the persons whose arms are carved on stone shields which they hold and other interesting detail, will well repay the amateur of an early English Architecture, for a walk from Banbury to Adderbury, even if made expressly for that purpose.

It should be remembered, that the designs of William of Wykham almost form a distinct style in English architecture, somewhere between the decorated and Tudor, and are allowed by all to possess features of rich conception, not to be put with in the architecture of any prior or subsequent period. In Adderbury Church the small diamond-shaped floret, now familiarised to the public by the wrappers of the pictorial Bible, is very frequently repeated. The Design on that wrapper is the South Porch of the Cathedral at Rochester.

For a very good account of the life of William of Wykham, the reader is referred to "Allan Cunninghams Lives of Architects and Painters" published in the family library.

His arms (A chevron between 3 scallop shells) and those of New College, are among the architectural ornaments of the Chancel.

P.P.S.

Note: This article from the Manuscript Magazine of the Banbury Mechanics' Institute for 1840 accompanied the sketch of the church portrayed on our cover (redrawn by W.H. Clark). The principal change referred to was the restoration of the chancel windows. The "ugly Brobdignagian altar tomb" was the Cobb family monument which is now in the parish church at Corsham, Wilts.

THE ADDERBURY RECTORY CONTRACT OF 1682

We are pleased to publish, by kind permission of the Rt. Hon. Lord Methuen and Mr. P.E. Middleton, the text of the contract for the rebuilding of Adderbury Rectory (now the Grange) made in 1682 between John Bloxham and Sir Thomas Cobb. The contract is now in the possession of Lord Methuen at Corsham Court, Wiltshire. It was very kindly drawn to our attention by Mrs. M.D. Lobel, editor of the Oxfordshire Victoria County History.

The Rectory was originally part of the manor of the Bishop of Winchester in Adderbury and formed part of the endowment given by William of Wykeham to New College, Oxford, at its foundation in 1381. The building remained the property of the college until 1875. Sir Thomas Cobb (b. 1626) was the eldest son of Sir William Cobb and was created baronet by Charles II in 1662. He lived in a house on Adderbury Green. The Cobbs once lived in the Rectory itself, but in 1662 it was sub-let to a tenant.

Several of the Bloxham family were carpenters and joiners, but this John Bloxham was the only person ever to be referred to in the 17th and 18th century parish registers as "surveyor" (at his burial in 1714/5). He was evidently the leading builder in Banbury at the time. Another John Bloxham who contracted to demolish property on the Green in Banbury and build what is now known as Linden House, in 1733, was probably his grandson. It is hoped to publish this contract too in a future issue.

We are grateful to Mr. L.S. Northcote for his commentary on the contract which follows the text.

Adderbury Rectory : Contract at Corsham Court

Articles of Agreement made, concluded and agreed upon the fifteenth day of March in the Thirty fifth year of his Majesties Raigne King Charles the second that is now over England and so forth and the year of our Lord God one Thousand six hundred eightie and two Betweene John Bloxham of Banbury in the County of Oxon, Carpenter and Surveyour of the one part and Sr. Tho. Cobb of Adderbury in the sayd County of Oxon Barronett on the other part, Witnesseth That in the Consideration of the summe of five shillings in hand payd by the sayd Sr Thomas Cobb to the sayd John Bloxham the Receipt whereof he the sayd John Bloxham doth hereby acknowledge and also in Consideration of the Covenants Articles Agreements and payments on the part and behalf of the sayd Sr Thomas Cobb to be done performed and kept as is hereafter in these Articles specified he the sayd John Bloxham for himself his heires Executors Administrators and Assignes doth Covenant promise and Agree to and with the sayd Sr Tho. Cobb his Executors Administrators and Assignes ; That he the sayd John Bloxham his heires Executors Administrators or Assignes or some or one of them shall and will immediately upon the date hereof at his or their own proper costs and Charges carefully take and pull downe all the Old building of the dwelling house of the Parsonage in Adderbury East (Except the Kitchen end of the sayd Parsonage house that was lately repaired) and likewise Rebuild a new house joyning to the Kitchen end of the sayd parsonage house According to a draught drawn by the sayd John Bloxham and now in the hands of Dr. Beeston Warden of New College in Oxon, which he the sayd John Bloxham doth for himself his heires Executors Administrators and Assignes and for every of them Covenant and promise to performe in manner following

Imp' To dig a sellar under the great parlour and withdrawing Roome and to wall it and make a partition in it the sellars to be seven foot deep from the Bords over it

It' To doe all the stoneworke and to find windowstufie of good stone the walls at the foundation to be two foot three inches thick.

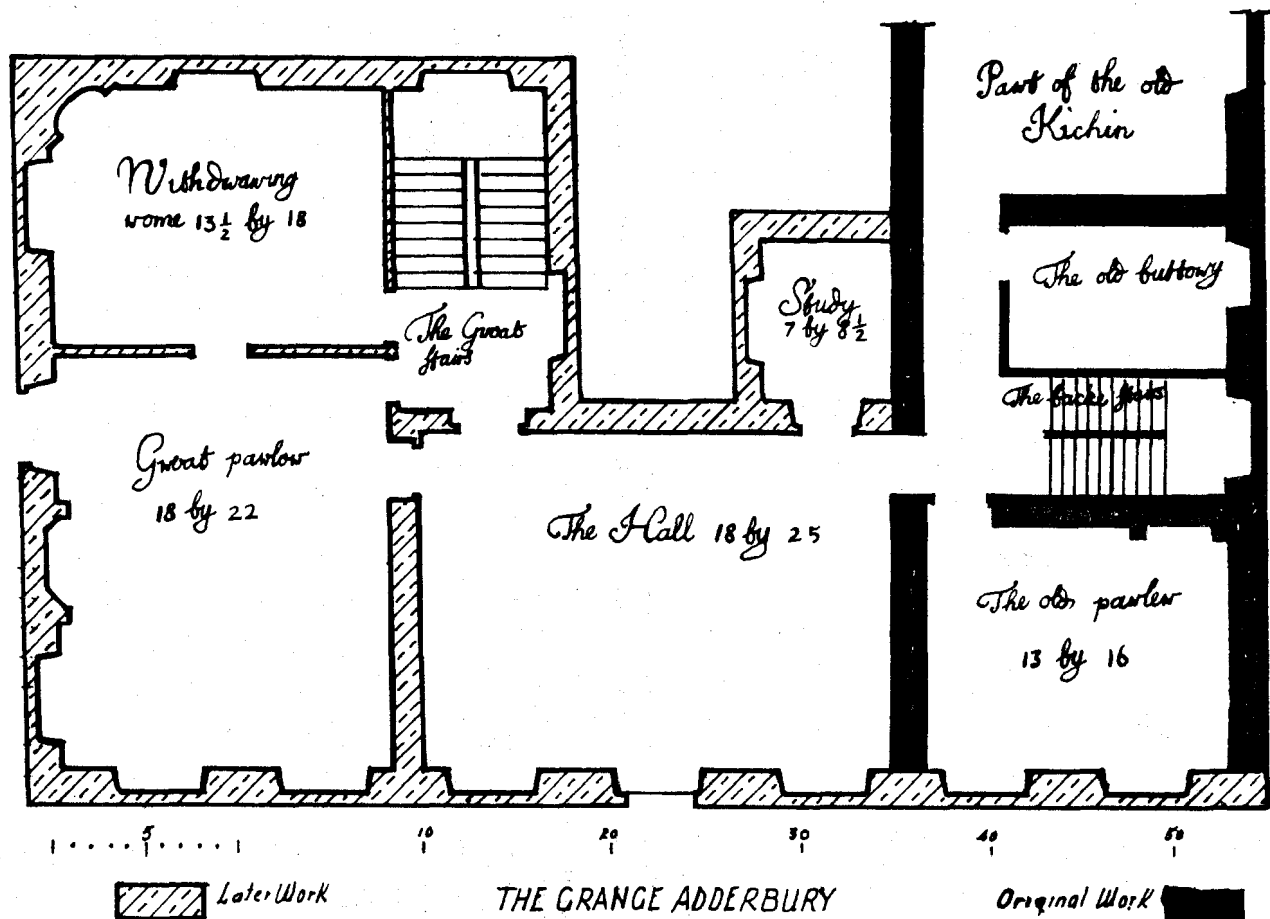
It' To doe all the Carpenter worke about the sayd building and to fitt up the wainscott that is now in the old parlour in that parlour that is to be erected.

It' To find all Timber and bords of Oake that is wanting, The Beams to be a foot square the Couple legs to be five inches by nine the side peeces to be six inches square.

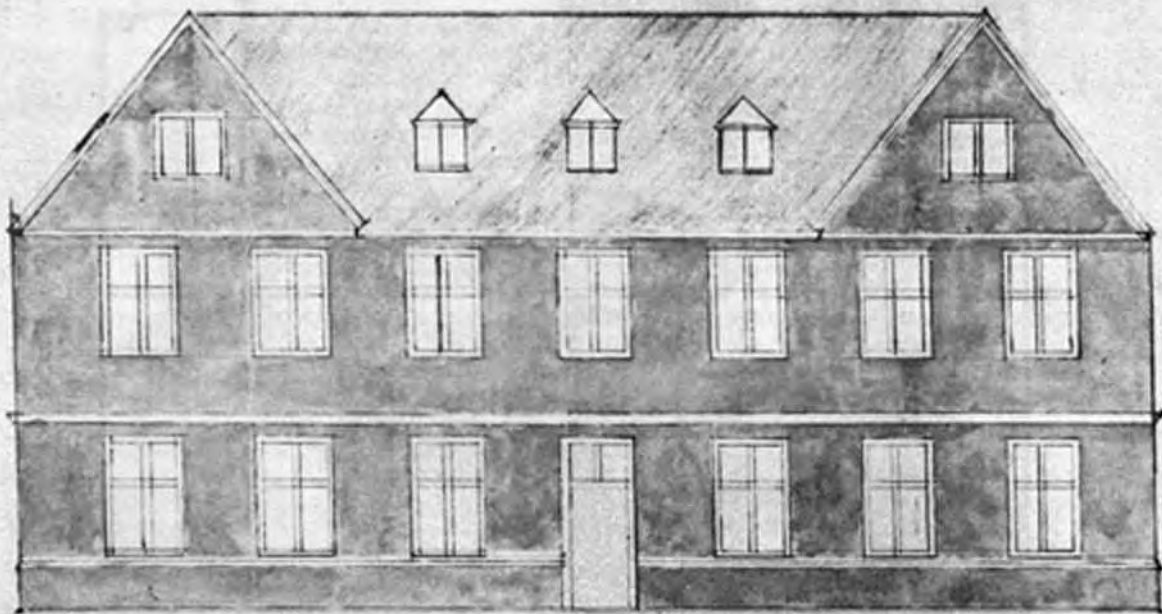
It' To find all the glasse for the windows

It' To slatt the house laying it dry and plaister it i'th inside of the slatts.

It' To plaister all the walls with two Coats the one Rough Morter and the other lime and to lath and plaister all the seelings and partitions of the lower Rooms and second story with two Coats the one Rough mortar and the other lime the lathing to be one sap lath and the other hart lath.



Ground plan accompanying the contract, redrawn by W.H. Clark, and relettered by R.G. Harris. As can be seen from the modern drawing on page 210 the "great parlor" was in fact built a foot or two further forward, so that its inner wall lined up with that of the hall. The original panelling, preserved from the former house, is still in place. The old wing was replaced in the 19th century, when this was also built a foot or so further forward, to balance the 1682 wing.



Elevation accompanying the contract. Comparison with the modern drawing of the house on page 210 shows that the south wing was in fact built a foot or two forward.

It' To find all the Iron worke nailles Casements and Chimney heads.

It' To make good the mound wall towards the Churchyard that shall be pulled down by Reason of the new building.

It' That ye walls be built the Roofe Raised and Covered with slatt at or before the first day of November ensueing the day of the date hereof

It' That all and every part of the sayd Parsonage house be finished at or before the first day of May which shall be in the year of our Lord 1684.

It' The said John Bloxham doth Covenant promise and agree to and with the sayd Sr Thomas Cobb that he the sayd John Bloxham shall and will give to the sayd Sr Thomas Cobb within ten dayes after the sealing hereof such good security (for the performance of all and singular the Covenants and Agreements which ought to be done and performed on the part and behalfe of the sayd John Bloxham) which he the sayd Sr Tho. Cobb shall approve of

Sir Tho. Cobb undertakes to allow Bloxham to pull down the house without lett or hindrance and to allow him to keep all the materials the stone only excepted.

He undertakes to pay Bloxham £130 in instalments as follows

when the first floor is laid on the cellar and the foundations laid round the house £10

when the second floor is laid £20

when the garrett floor is laid and the roof on £30

when the roof is covered with slatt £10, all which said summes shall by the consent of both parties be raised out of the materialls of stone and lead

when the bords are brought in and fitted to be layd £20 to be payd out of the moneys raised by lead

when the lathing plaistering of the walls seelings and partitions shall be finished £10 out of the money the lead shall be sold for in case it amount to so much

when the floors are laid and the Bords nailed down £10

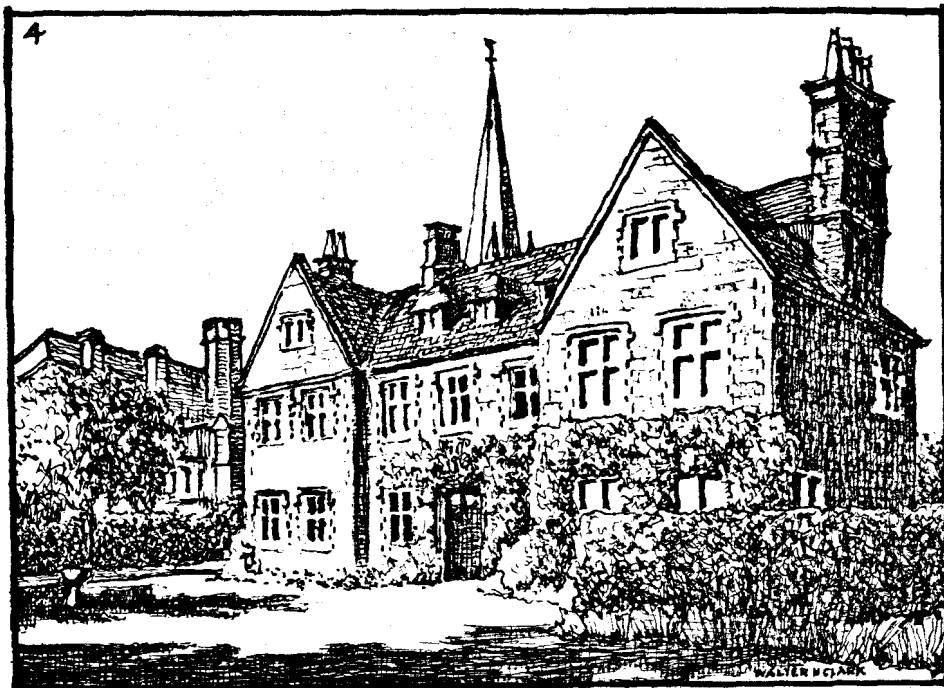
when the casements and glasse shall be put up £10

upon the finishing the said parsonage house £10

Cobb undertakes to give security for the payment of the last £30 'over and above what the materialls doe amount to'

Signed and sealed by both parties, and witnessed by Robert Crosse and John Hunt.

Drawing enclosed.



Adderbury Grange (formerly the Rectory) in 1964, a drawing reproduced by kind permission from "A History of Adderbury", by W.H. Clark, published by the Banbury and District Civic Society.

Commentary on the text

John Bloxham agrees on 15 March 1682, upon receipt of five shillings from Sir Thomas Cobb, that he shall pull down the Parsonage with the exception of the kitchen end, and shall build a new house adjoining the existing kitchen according to a plan drawn by Bloxham and in the keeping of Dr. Beeston, Warden of New College, Oxford. Redrawn versions of the plan and accompanying elevation are reproduced on pages 208 and 209.

By 1st November 1682 the roof shall be completed and the whole house finished by or before 1st May 1684, i.e. 7 months to have the roof covered and just over 2 years to complete the job. This seems a long time and in view of the small cost one wonders how Bloxham and his men lived. No doubt there was some food and beer provided, according to custom and therefore not mentioned in the agreement.

From the description of the work, which, perhaps for the purpose of the agreement, is very brief, this was a substantial house. The walls 2 ft. 3 in. thick at the foundations, the stone window surrounds and massive oak beams, the "slatts" which would have been Stonesfield slates and the careful description of the lath and plaster partitions point to a desire on the part of Sir Thomas Cobb to have a proper gentleman's dwelling. Large and solid though the old house appears to have been from the amount of stone and lead salvaged from it, he was evidently determined to have its replacement of the best and most up-to-date construction.

Some of the descriptions are strange. The "couple legs" were the principal rafters or roof trusses and the "side peeces" were no doubt the wall plates and purlins. One would like to know the reason for "the lathing to be one sap lath and the other hart lath". The lathes, of split oak, were fixed across the upright "studs" of a timber partition, or the joists of a ceiling, leaving spaces between them to form a key for the plaster. One might have expected the builder to have avoided the use of the sap wood, as it was and is prone to insect attack, but this looks as if sap and heart wood were used alternately.

The use of plaster under the slates, i.e. filling the spaces between the battens to keep the house warm, is understandable but misguided. Any damp that did penetrate the roof was held by the plaster in close contact with the battens and rafters. There being no ventilation to dry it out quickly and in summer this being the warmest part of the fabric, the timber was in a perfect state to encourage the many forms of decay: all forms of beetle larvae would have been nicely provided for and with the increasing wet penetration, due to sagging and broken battens, fungal attack was almost certain. Sap wood is particularly prone to attack but perhaps this was not used in such a vulnerable position as the roof.

The "good security" which Bloxham had to give Sir Thomas Cobb within ten days of sealing the agreement is still requested of builders in certain cases, though usually waived when the firm is of good repute.

The method of paying the builder by instalments is still very much a part of a modern contract. An architect will usually certify payment at stated intervals of time but the alternative method of paying at certain stages of the building is just as common. The most surprising thing to the modern eye is not only that the whole two years' work cost only £130, but that the value of the materials from the old house paid for all of it except a possible £30.

L.S. Northcote.



William Cobb, eldest son of Sir Thomas Cobb, a portrait now hanging in the Grange (formerly the Rectory) belonging to its present owner, Mr. P.E. Middleton. He was probably born in the house, though he would have lived later in the Cobb mansion on the Green. He died a few months before his father, in 1690. His younger brothers Edward and George succeeded in turn to the baronetcy, which became extinct on the death of the latter at the age of 90, in 1762. Sir George's younger daughter Christian married Paul Methuen Esq., of Corsham, M.P., from whom the present Lord Methuen is descended.

ADDERBURY 1895-1905

My early recollections of Adderbury are chiefly associated with Ivy House, now the Vicarage, which my grandfather, George Henry Buck, bought from Mrs. Woolston on his retirement. The Vicarage shows evidence of work done by my grandparents, including the reconstruction of an outbuilding as a stable and coach house. One little device which my grandfather introduced was the placing of shells in the pointing of the masonry and this can be seen in the outbuilding and in the dwarf walls to the front garden. He probably brought the shells with him from Weymouth, his home town.

My grandfather's death put a stop to further improvements to Ivy House, but my grandmother, having a great interest in building, bought Moorey House, which consisted of two semi-detached houses formerly known as the "Three Tuns Inn". She immediately set about rebuilding the part of the property facing the church which seems to have been in bad condition, and converting the two dwellings into one. Kimberleys of Banbury produced a drawing for the front of what is now Millway House, but the work of rebuilding was done by direct labour employed by my grandmother.

The materials and workmanship were of the best, carpentry and joinery being carried out in pitch pine, opening casement frames were in gun metal with glazing in plate glass. It was a source of delight to me to watch the building in progress. This took a very long time as it had to wait for funds to become available. In those days a mortgage was out of the question though finally, I think, a small loan was arranged at a rate of 1 per cent per annum, privately arranged with Gilletts Bank.

The names of the masons which come to my mind were Townsend, Walton and Jones, and the unforgettable Sam Choise was the carpenter and joiner, a never failing source of help in emergency. Records show that his rate of pay about 1900 was 6d., per hour, his name always being entered as 'Sam' without further identification.

My grandmother came of the Smith family of Quakers from Witney. They were distantly connected with the Horniman family of tea, museum and theatre fame. When she was married she lived at Banbury in Neithrop fields where my mother was born. Later she came to Adderbury where her second daughter was born and lived all her life.

My grandmother took a great interest in the Friends' meeting house at Adderbury and attended to its maintenance. On one occasion she purchased a donkey to keep down the grass in the burial ground. The animal unfortunately had a short life through eating too much of the same. Only occasional "monthly meetings" were held at the meeting house, but my grandmother was a regular attender on Sunday mornings. She went alone since my aunt preferred to go to Church. She wore a form of Quaker dress for the whole of her life which made her a well known figure in the locality. There is a painting of her with her two daughters in the lobby of the Banbury Friends' Meeting House.

Adderbury between 1895 and 1905 when I frequently visited it had a well defined social structure. There were those who belonged to the County families, the professional classes, the farmers, the tradespeople, the labourers and craftsmen. There were also in-betweens who fitted themselves in as best they could, according to their inclination. After 1914 many of those engaged in agriculture or domestic service found employment in industry.

Other memories of Adderbury are of fishing in the Sor Brook for minnows and roach under the guidance of the maid-of-all-work Jenny Wain with her hessian apron and heavy boots. There were visits for tea with Miss Caroline Lamb with her lace cap in Tanners Lane, and Mrs. Bolster at Westway Horn Hill Road, who continually complained of the shortcomings of servants, having lived in India. Banbury and Bodicote, where we visited the Hardy's and the Colegraves, were considered to be well within walking distance, but visits to Compton Wynyates, Edge Hill and places further afield were made in a hired vehicle.

The railway from Banbury to Adderbury was rarely used, and it was much more exciting and pleasurable for the young to make this journey in Plackett's carrier's cart.

The chief personalities of the village in my recollection were Colonel Norris, the Misses Bradford, the Rev. and Mrs. Gepp, the Bilboroughs, Dr. Throne, the Hoskins, the Misses Cawley, General Blunt and the Misses Austin. I also well remember Mr. William Warrinder, a farmer from Bodicote who visited us on Sunday evenings after Church.

It was one of my favourite pastimes to watch from a ladder the grooms attending to the horse in the courtyard of the old Vicarage which Mr. Gepp let during the summer to the Dowager Countess of Sefton. Another thrill was to be allowed access to the cellars and attics of Ivy House where mysterious relics of the past were stored.

The mellow rural character of Adderbury created a very strong impression on my mind, and the comforting sensation of sleeping on a feather mattress in a Victorian tester bed with the bedroom lit by candles and oil lamps is not to be forgotten.

Drinking water was obtained from a well and had a very strong tang of iron. Washing water was from a rain water butt and contained little silver fish, but was delightfully soft and refreshing, as was the slight carbollic scent of the laundered sheets.

During my schooldays visits to Adderbury were less frequent. After the 1914-1918 War Adderbury began to expand to east and west and the old cottages were gradually adapted as small residences, which has saved them from falling into disrepair. This process increased after 1945 and still continues.

On return to Adderbury it is gratifying to find that its essential character has not been lost in spite of the disfigurement of the overhead wiring. It is to be hoped that increased population and new methods of building will not destroy what remains of the village scene.

Adderbury.

Walter H. Clark.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT - 1964

The Committee has pleasure in submitting its Seventh Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, for the year 1964.

Membership : There has been a very substantial increase, from 239 to 308. We record with regret the deaths of Dr. L. Bagratuni and Mrs. D.I. Corse-Smith.

Lectures and Meetings : Five general meetings have been held. The following lectures were given :-

January : "The Plush Industry in North Oxfordshire" - Dr. R.P. Beckinsale

March : "Unrest in Oxfordshire in the 16th and early 17th centuries" - Lady de Villiers

June (A.G.M.) : "William Mewburn of Wykham Park" - Mr. B.S. Trinder

September : "Elizabethan and Stuart Life in South Newington" - Dr. E.R.C. Brinkworth

November : "The Village of Adderbury" - Dr. C.F.C. Beeson and Mr. W.H. Clark

(Organised in conjunction with the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council)

As always, we are most grateful to our speakers, all of whom have given their services without charge.

In addition to the A.G.M. at Wykham Park, where we were most hospitably entertained by Miss P. Blunt, excursions were made to Castle House, Deddington, the home of the late Dr. Bagratuni; and to Hanwell Castle, where we were shown round by the Revd. C. Browne, and also visited the church.

The Globe Room : Dominating all other events of the year was the discovery by Mr. Trinder of the Globe Room panelling in the hands of a London dealer. The Society informed the Banbury Borough Council, who were able to buy it for eventual incorporation in the new Civic Centre. The full story of its location, together with a history of its use and architectural setting in the Reindeer Inn, was given in C & CH II, 157-174. The panelling is still undergoing repair in London, but will in due course be temporarily erected in a room over the Reference Library, housing the Museum.

Church Architecture Study Group : Visits were made to the churches at Great Rollright, Croughton, Burton Dassett and Middleton Cheney. Mr. Bigwood and Dr. Gardam together organised a most appreciated series, and Mr. Forsyth Lawson continued his all-important guidance.

Archaeology: Because of the lack of qualified leaders, no major excavations have been undertaken during the year. Activities have been confined to assisting others, encouraging field observation and keeping a watch on scheduled sites in the district. The attention of the Ashmolean Museum was drawn to two instances of threats to sites in time for action to be taken. Although a careful watch was kept on the building operations at the new bus station in Castle Wharf no additional evidence of the position of Banbury Castle was forthcoming.

Cake & Cockhorse: Under Mr. Trinder's lively and scholarly editorship the magazine continues to win widespread praise. In a "Roman Britain" issue Mr. Bromley contributed a most useful gazetteer of sites in Banburyshire, and Mrs. Wickham Steed a stimulating guide to possible ancient roads and tracks; the Globe Room issue, lavishly illustrated with line drawings and photographs, created great interest, with contributions from Messrs. Laithwaite, Trinder, Gibson and Dr. Beeson. Other issues included Mrs. Mason's study of Tadmerton parish government, an 1838 map of Banbury, and numerous reviews and reports.

Once again the assistance of Mr. W.H. Clark, with drawings, and Mr. and Mrs. Pain and Miss Wheeler, with typing and other preparatory work, is most gratefully acknowledged. Our printers, Express Litho Service, of Headington, continue to produce first-class results. The optimistic hope expressed last year that costs were stabilised was not fulfilled. They have in fact doubled. However this is in part due to an exceptionally expensive November issue, of which a much larger edition than usual was produced, and from sales of which a proportion of the cost should in due course be recovered; in part to larger issues - 24 pages in September; and, most important, to the rise in membership, entailing a much greater distribution and consequent regular increase in each edition. The growth of the Society is largely attributable to the interest created by the magazine, and to this extent increasing costs can be expected and welcomed.

Records Publication: Dr. Brinkworth edited the "South Newington Churchwardens' Accounts, 1553-1684", with a lengthy and erudite introduction. A detailed picture of some aspects of village life at the time is given, especially valuable for a period from which few such records survive. The book forms a noteworthy addition to our records series.

"A History of Banbury Cross": For many years there has been nothing in print on this most famous of Banbury's landmarks. Mr. Trinder's pamphlet, published by the Society in the spring, combines pictorial interest, considerable fresh information on the 19th century erection of the present Cross, and, at 6d., exceptional value.

Christmas Card: One of the two-colour illustrations from the pamphlet, of South Bar in 1850, made another most popular Christmas card.

Accounts: In spite of the considerable rise in membership and subscriptions, there is once again a debit balance on the Revenue Account, even after allowing only 15/-, instead of the former 20/-, proportion of records' members subscriptions as attributable to the Publications Account. The magazine is of course the major item of expenditure. The pamphlet history is expected to cover its costs in 1965, and thereafter bring in a useful and regular income. Stocks of postcards were exhausted, and more are being printed in 1965. Sales of Old Banbury have been maintained, but this also will shortly need to be reprinted or will go out of stock. The small bulk of the records volume has kept down production cost and enabled a further sum to be transferred to the publications reserve. It is anticipated that future volumes will be much larger, and such a surplus is unlikely to occur in 1965. The grant from the Borough Council was once again most gratefully received. It is hoped that recent provisions by local authorities made for the encouragement of cultural societies will enable it to be increased substantially in the future.

THE EBENEZER CHAPEL

A number of readers have pointed out that the building reproduced on page 187 of our January issue is not the Ebenezer Chapel in Dashwood Road, in spite of certain apparent similarities. The drawing in Banbury Public Library from which our print was taken has been catalogued and captioned as the Ebenezer Chapel for many years, and this error has now been pointed out to the Librarian. We would be glad to know if any reader can identify this building.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st December, 1964

1963	Payments	£	s	d	1963	Receipts	£	s	d
13	Lecture Expenses (Room Hire)	3	6	0	199	Subscriptions	250	7	6
4	Printing & Stationery	13	13	3		Less: Proportion attributable to			
10	Postages & Telephone	16	14	5	105	Records	108	0	0
2	Insurance	1	15	0					
59	<u>Cake & Cockhorse</u>	134	9	2	94		142	7	6
5	Subscriptions	5	10	0	9	<u>Cake & Cockhorse sales</u>	14	19	2
2	Church Architecture				114	<u>Christmas cards sales</u>	87	18	5
	Study Group	1	1	6	22	Postcards sales	16	4	0
2	Photographs & Research	11	8	6	-	Banbury Cross pamphlet	83	4	2
98	Christmas Cards	68	6	6	1	Donations	6	13	0
29	Postcards	-	-	-	2	Deposit Account interest (less charges)	3	0	0
-	Banbury Cross pamphlet	110	16	4	-	Balance transferred to Capital Account (being excess of expenditure over income)	12	14	5
7	Exhibition Expenses	-	-	-					
11	Balance transferred to Capital Account	-	-	-					
242		£ 367	0	8	242		£ 367	0	8

Publications Account for the Year ended 31st December, 1964

148	Production costs - S. New- ington Churchwardens' Accounts	158	3	1	105	Proportion of sub- scriptions	108	0	0
4	Postage	2	15	8	23	Sales of Back Volumes	41	0	0
30	Transferred to Publica- tions Reserve	39	7	2	34	Sales of <u>Old Banbury</u>	31	5	11
					20	Grant from Borough Council	20	0	0
182		200	5	11	182		200	5	11

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1964

Liabilities				Assets					
16	Subscription in Advance	15	0	0	2	Cash in hand	-	-	-
10	Sundry Creditors	2	2	3		Cash at Westminster Bank Ltd.			
	Provision for Repayment to Dr. Beeson for <u>Clockmak- ing stock, as at 1.1.64</u>	22	19	0		Deposit a/c	125	5	0
	<u>Less: Repayments</u>	6	15	0		Current a/c	41	14	3
23		16	4	0	122		166	19	3
	Publications Reserve as at 1.1.64	75	5	6	62	Sundry Debtors	28	19	10
	from Pubs. a/c.	39	7	2	10	Subscriptions Overdue	11	5	0
75		114	12	8	196		£ 207	4	1
	Capital Account as at 1.1.64	71	19	7					
	<u>Less: Revenue a/c debit bal.</u>	12	14	5					
72		59	5	2					
196		£ 207	4	1					

Note: Stocks on hand of Christmas cards, post-cards and publications have not been brought into account.

Audited and found correct.

Bloxham, (signed) A.H. Cheney, F.C.A.
Banbury. 13.2.65.

LOCAL HISTORY PROJECTS

Whilst the Society has grown phenomenally in membership in the past few years, and has been able to arouse considerable interest in local antiquities, the number of "active" members remains very small. This is because opportunities to participate in any sort of local historical activity, apart from attending meetings and excursions, have been very limited. In an effort to remedy this, the following projects are being arranged:

Archaeology:

The Society is responsible for reporting on threats to archaeological sites in north Oxfordshire, to the Ashmolean Museum. A much closer watch could be kept if individual members would assume responsibility for regular observation of particular sites. Our archaeological adviser, Mr. J. H. Fearon, has a list of all such sites and will be arranging apportionment. Sites in Northamptonshire and Warwickshire can also be included in this scheme.

Heraldry:

Mr. J. Brooke-Little, Bluemantle Pursuivant, is preparing for publication by the Society a book on the Heraldry of north Oxfordshire. This is mainly based on heraldry in local churches. Whilst the necessary heraldic notes have already been made, exact copies of the inscriptions are still needed.

Documentary Research:

In conjunction with the Oxford University Extra-Mural Delegacy a course is being organised in the autumn to learn 17th century hand-writing and work on documents of that period relating to Banbury. The course will be conducted by Dr. E. R. C. Brinkworth. Work will at first be on inventories attached to wills of the pre-Civil War period, which give an intimate picture of the contents of Banbury households, down to the furnishing of individual rooms. The documents studied will of course be in English.

Will members interested in any or all of these projects please write to the Hon. Secretary, Humber House, Bloxham, Banbury. In the case of archaeology and heraldry specific places of interest should be mentioned. More details of the hand-writing course will be circulated to all members during the summer, but it would be a great help to know now of any members likely to be taking part. Such notification will in no way commit anyone to attending.

NORTH OXFORDSHIRE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The Local History Course organised by Miss Hunter has been well attended, especially by members of the Society. Additional talks were given in March by Miss Cook, of the City and County Museum, and by Mr. Machin on industrial archaeology. Evening visits are planned for the summer, and in the autumn it is hoped to hold a further course on local history, with special emphasis on the physical, social and economic geography of Banbury.

A CHACOMBE ACCOUNT BOOK

One of our members, Mr. R. D'O. Aplin of Bloxham, has drawn our attention to an account book in his possession which appears to relate to the Chacombe estates of Charles Fox for the years 1675 and 1722-28. Mr. Aplin has kindly agreed to make the book available for further study to anyone wishing to do so, and enquiries should be made to Mr. J. H. Fearon, who has made a draft transcription of the entries.

TADMARTON HEATH

During tree-planting operations at Tadmarton Heath Golf Club, Mr. H. W. Barker of Bodicote uncovered a complete rim of a Romano-British painted ware flagon of the type produced in the industrial area east of Oxford. It was provisionally dated by the Ashmolean Museum as 4th century. Oxoniensa XVII/XVIII (1952/3), 224/6, notes such ware from the Churchill Hospital Kilns, but does not list the particular shape found.

OXONIENSA, 1963

We are pleased to announce the long-awaited publication of this most recent volume. Of particular interest to members will be Dr. Beckinsale's account of the North Oxfordshire Plush Industry, on which he spoke to the Society last year, and a short article on the Swalcliffe Village Band. Lengthy reviews of our Society's publications are also included. We shall be reviewing Oxoniensa in November.

OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society is concerned with the archaeology, history and architecture of the Oxford regions. Its activities include lectures, excursions and the publication of an annual journal, Oxoniensia. The Society also endeavours to preserve and safeguard local buildings and monuments. Full membership (to include Oxoniensia) two guineas. Ordinary membership, fifteen shillings.

Apply Hon. Treasurer, O.A. & H.S., Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

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