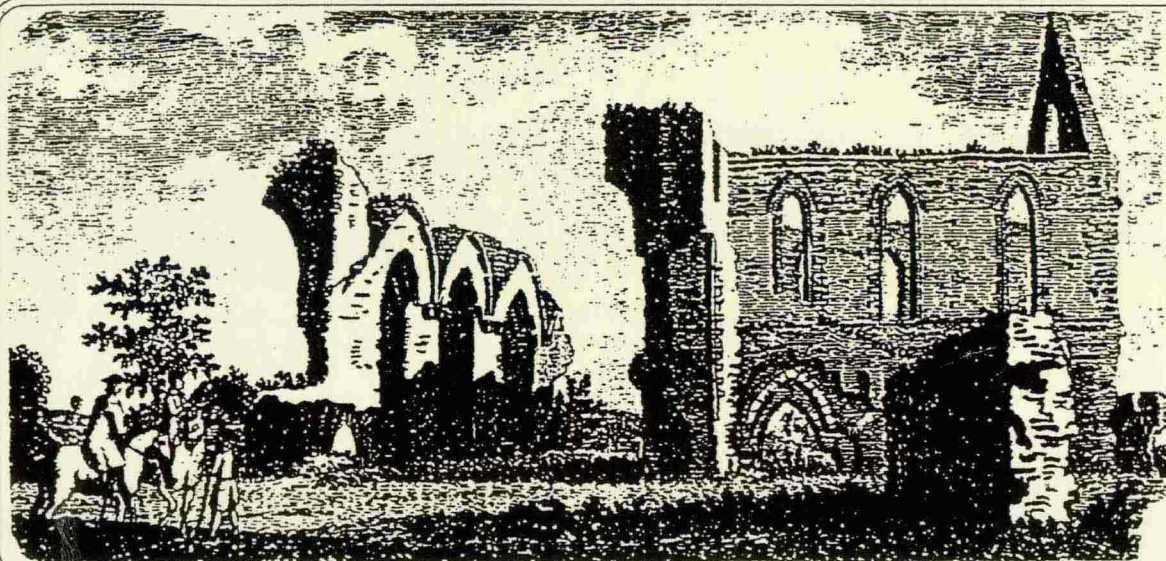


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Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

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NEWARK PRIORY

Journal Volume 6 No. 204

Jan/Feb 2009



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Cover photo: See The Ripley Road article by Les Bowerman page 12.

Editor's Comment

This is the first Journal of 2009 and it contains much of local interest, thanks again to our contributors. There has also been much interest shown in the photograph of Send Forge featured on the front page of Journal 203, so it will be reproduced in the next Journal together with the comments of our readers.

Once again we thank our advertisers for their continued support. Please support them whenever you can.

A reminder: Subscriptions are due. Please use the renewal form, which was included with the previous edition of the Journal.

On behalf of Send and Ripley History Society I wish you all:

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Admiral R D. Fancourt.
J.Bartlett.

The 1805 club are tracing the history of Nelson's Admirals, locating and conserving their graves.

Admiral Fancourt was the captain of *Ambuscade*, a 32 gunship in 1773, and the captain of *Agamemnon*, a battleship of 64 guns at the battle of Copenhagen in 1801. He was listed in Pigot's directory as living in Ripley and his burial was recorded in the churchyard of St Mary Magdalene, but there is no existing plan of the graves. At the request of the churchwarden, Mary Treville, we searched for and found the table tomb in the graveyard on the south side of the chancel.



The lettering is somewhat worn and covered with lichen. Members of the 1805 club managed by pouring water on the surface to get a more legible inscription than we did- which they read as:

SACRED
To the memory of
ADMIRAL
ROBT DEVEREUX
FANCOURT
Who died on the 1st (or 4th?) of June 1826
In the 84th year of his age.

We may not in all honesty admit to having Lord Nelson here, but we can now claim one of his admirals as our own, having retired and died here.

Bishops' Visitations in the 18th Century

Notes by Les Bowerman

In Journal 192 I mentioned that the Surrey Record Society, founded in 1913, exists to publish records relating to the historic county of Surrey. Volume XXXIV, published in 1994, deals with the Surrey parishes' replies to the bishops' 18th century Visitations. There is a 16-page Introduction to the subject, for which there is no space here for even an attempted summary. Suffice to say that, for various reasons, not least the religious turmoil of the previous century, newly appointed bishops felt they needed to have detailed records of their parishes and especially the numbers of dissenters and papists. The Introduction emphasizes that, partly because of imprecision in the questionnaires, which were sent to the parishes, and partly due to differing degrees of conscientiousness in completing the records, the information varied greatly in accuracy. The Visitations do, however, give a general feeling of life and attitudes of the time. The following is an outline of the information provided as regards Send and Ripley, remembering of course that at the time Ripley was included in the parish of Send. In the extracts the original spelling is given. Whether the bishops actually visited all their parishes in person is doubtful.

The Visitation of 1725 compiled by John Robinson, vicar 1702-1736. Bishop Richard Willis

1. **Area.** At a bit of a loss as to how to answer this question and doubtless without a surveyor at hand, Robinson replies: *As to the circumference of this parish, I cannot think it less than 11 miles.* This would seem to be a considerable underestimate as the parish included Ripley, went down as far as the prison, across the northern edge of West Clandon village and out to Burpham.
2. **Population.** *As to the number of souls, according to the best information I suppose them to be nigh 400.* This is probably an informed guess.
3. **Marriages, etc.** *I take the number of marriages to be about 8 or 9; births 18 or 20; burials 16 or upwards in this parish one year with another.* This sounds a little imprecise, given that the details had been entered in the parish registers, but a quick look at one of the registers for Send & Ripley shows that in fact there were 18 burials in 1725, so perhaps Robinson just took averages of the previous few years.
4. **Patron.** *The patron of this vicaridge is the Rt Honble Thomas, Lord Onslow.*
5. **Chapels.** *We have in this our parish a chapel at Ripley, thought to be independent upon the mother church supplyd by the vicar of Send, and maintained and supported by the inhabitants of that tything, who have the right of nomination upon each vacancy.* The 'chapel' is now, of course, Ripley church.
6. **Lecturer.** *Here is besides the vicar a curate also.* Since Ripley has the "right of nomination upon each vacancy", one assumes that there was also a separate priest at Ripley.
7. **Papists.** *As to the Papists in this parish, they are but 2, both in the state of widowhood (sic), and in circumstances to all appearances but mean. (ie. Poor)*
8. **Dissenters.** *We have no meetings of protestant dissenters, nor do I know even of any one profest dissenter in this parish at this time.*
9. **Gentry, etc.** *Persons of quality in this parish we have none except the Rt Honble Lady Mary Irwin; as to gentlemen but few, the main of our people being yeomen and farmers.* Little seems to have changed, then, except that we now have no yeomen and very few farmers.
10. **Schools.** *As to schools endowed in this parish we have none; a writing school and some petty schools we have where the master is found diligent and the dames (for anything I know) mindful of their duty.*

11. **Charities.** John Robinson details the charities of Henry Smith, Sarah Hales and Ann Haines. There is a full list of the parish charities on a benefaction board in the tower of Send Church and in the church guide published by the Society 29 years ago. Although the charities have never been written about in the pages of this Journal, this is not the right occasion to do so. It is probably worth noting that John Robinson mentions *2 or 3 parish houses ... where we place some of our declining poor, but hospitals none.*
12. **Post-town.** To us it is not clear why this question needed to be asked by the bishop, but doubtless it was important in 1725 when there were few, if any, public facilities other than the church itself. Robinson's fawning (to us) reply says much about the 18th century. *Whenever your lordship honours me with a line upon any singular occasion, please have it directed to me and to be left at the posthouse in Ripley (the Talbot Hotel?), that being our next post-town. And as I can but admire your Lordship's unusual condescension in allowing us the freedom of communicating our concerns immediately to yourself so shall I gratefully make use of that wellcome freedom when occasion offers.* Woking was, of course, at the time little more than a village well off the stagecoach routes. What is now modern Woking, as most will know, came into being only with the arrival of the railway in 1838. Ripley did not cede its status as post town to Woking until 1865.

The Visitation of 1764 compiled by Llewellyn Davies, vicar 1763-91. Bishop John Thomas.

This visitation, thrust at Llewellyn Davies a year after his arrival, posed a different set of questions for the parishes to answer. Unlike 1725 when the parish was said to be just "Send", it is now called "Send and Ripley."

1. **Repair of church.** *The church is now repairing; the chapel is in good order.*
2. **Services.** *It is*
3. **Sacrament.** *It is*
4. **Registers.** *We have*
5. **Terrier.** A terrier was a list or a book in which the church's lands are described by site, boundaries, acreage, etc. "We have no terrier of the glebe; but there is a note of the pensions belonging to the parish set up in the church and chapel.
6. **Churchyard.** *The churchyard is sufficiently fenced and decently kept; as to encroachments upon it, there is some doubt.*
7. **Alterations.** *Not in my time.*
8. **Impropriation.** A living, tithes, etc., held by a religious house (Oxford English Dictionary). *I have no curacy.*
9. **Parsonage.** *The vicarage house, barn, etc, are much out of repair through the neglect of the last incumbent.* This doubtless refers to the original building of what is now The Old Vicarage.
10. **Residence.** *I reside in the parish.*
11. **Dissenters.** *There are some dissenters but there is no meeting-house or other place for divine worship.*
12. **Loss of benefactions.** No reply was given.
13. **Misbehaviour.** *No complaint against either of these.*

The Visitation of 1788 compiled by Llewellyn Davies, vicar 1763-91. Bishop Brownlow North.

The third and final visitation again refers to the combined parish of Send and Ripley, but returns to the questions asked in the first visitation in 1725, thus providing a comparison over a period of 63 years. Llewellyn Davies has now been vicar for a quarter of a century and, as some of the answers show, he is clearly a somewhat embittered man.

1. **Area.** *The compass of this parish is supposed to enclose about 4500 acres.*
2. **Population.** *About 800 souls, men, women and children.* It will be noted that, insofar as these round figure estimates are at all reliable, the population has doubled over 63 years.
3. **Marriages, etc.** *About 10 marriages, 20 baptisms and 18 burials, one year with another.*
The last phrase again seems to imply that the vicar has taken an average over the previous few years. The figures are about the same as in 1725, which is surprising if the population had doubled. The actual number of burials in 1788 was 15.
4. **Patron.** *The Right Honble the Lord Onslow*
5. **Chapels.** *There is a chapel in the hamlet of Ripley, commonly called Ripley-Chapel. It lies almost at the extent of the parish eastward.* There follows a long account of how the chapel is held, about which Llewellyn Davies clearly feels strongly. That is not included in these notes, which are intended to give only an impression of local life in the 18th century. The vicar's reply continues *The curacy of the chapel hath sometimes fallen on the vicar of Sende, and sometimes on others; and the vicars of Sende, when curates of Ripley, always distinguished in their receipts between what they received as dues as vicar, what for serving the chapel, and what as a voluntary contribution. Prior to the year 1731 Lord Montague was the impropriator, and the payments made by him were for serving the chapel, annually £6; in lieu of 6 loads of wood £4, and a free gift of £1 18s. Upon the estate and impropriation coming into the Onslow family by purchase, the late Lord Onslow upon the first vacancy, either through inadvertency or design, presented my late predecessor and afterwards myself, to Sende and Ripley unitedly, and the inhabitants in general have ever since discontinued their voluntary contributions, though the service is regularly performed every Sunday, morning or evening, alternately with the mother church. At length Lord Onslow was pleased to order all the arrears to be discharged; and the vicar now regularly receives the above £11. 18s, not for serving the chapel, but as a free gift and a composition for the tithes of some copses in his lordship's own occupation. So that though the payments are made and received, yet I humbly think they are not properly re-established. N.B. The chapel has been lately repaired at a great expence by the voluntary contribution of the inhabitants.*
6. Omitted from the Visitation.
7. **Dissenters.** *One Papist only, an old woman. There is no protestant dissenting meeting-house in the parish; nor indeed any dissenter of any denomination whatever, unless 2 or 3 persons commonly called Methodists may be deemed such.* That firmly puts them in their place, then.
8. **Schools.** *There is no endowed school in the parish. John Crowder instructs about 40 boys in English, writing and arithmetic. 3 or 4 women also may have about 15 children respectively under their care.*

9. **Charities.** *There is no hospital or endowed charitable institution in the parish. The fixed donations for the benefit of the poor are specified (in the return to a parliamentary enquiry). The charities of Dame Anne Haynes and Henry Smith are noted with slight amendments compared with 1725. There are new charities created by Mrs Leggatt and William Boughton. The £20 left in her Will by Sarah Hales for poor widows who receive no alms was in the hands of a churchwarden who failed and it was lost. An unknown donor gave a cottage near the church exchanged with Major-General Evelyn for a cottage in Send called Three Fords now vested in Robert Boughton and others; value and purpose unstated.*
-

Sendhurst Grange **Jane Bartlett.**

When the railway to Woking opened up rural Send to the wider world, a country gentleman's seat became practical. Sendhurst Grange was one such example. The early owners were the Hon Francis Scott, M.P. for Berwick in 1847, followed by F Maling Grant, a tea planter from Bengal, in 1894 and finally until 1938, the banker George F. Wilkins.

It was impossible during the war to get the staff needed to run these large establishments, as domestic service was not a reserved occupation, so there came to an end Sendhurst's life as a private house.

After a short period as a hotel it became in the 1940s and 1950s a residential nursery for the children of mothers with tuberculosis. There was at this time no cure for TB and it was thought a regime of fresh air and rest in a sanatorium was beneficial. Milford Hospital was one of our nearest TB sanatoria and, when the discovery of antibiotics resulted in an effective control of tuberculosis, continued as Milford Chest Hospital. Meantime, the children of mothers with TB were taken into residential nurseries. It is a horrifying thought that in the Surrey County Council's handbook of 1954 there are listed 14 residential nurseries and 24 children's homes, though of course these were not all for the children of TB mothers.

Mrs Mollie Greenfield (nee Newell) was a nursery nurse at Sendhurst Grange in 1952-1953. She helped look after over thirty children from birth to the age of five. They were allowed three trained nurses for every twenty children. Although they had kitchen staff for cooking and were allowed to send the towelling nappies to the laundry they did everything else for the children including washing and mending the clothes. They played with the older children and taught them songs and nursery rhymes. It was demanding work. At bedtime she often had eleven children to bath. During night duty they mended the clothes, made porridge for breakfast and had to warm up the previous day's food for their own meal.

The house, she said, was cold and bleak with no curtains, but she admired a wide imposing staircase and a minstrels' gallery

With the new control of tuberculosis, Milford hospital became a geriatric hospital, and the need for the residential nursery ceased. Sendhurst Grange then became a hostel for young people with learning difficulties, looked after by house parents.

With a rising demand for more houses, the children were moved to smaller units in the 1990s and Sendhurst Grange was developed with extensions to the south and east. The house with the extensions is now divided into three five-bedroom houses - Oakdene the eastern portion, Cunningham house to the south, and Lansdown Lodge to the North. The minstrels' gallery and the ornate fireplace in the hall have been preserved in Cunningham House.



Cunningham House

Sendhurst Grange is now up for sale (October 2008). To my surprise this name is attached to a new house completed in 1999 in the grounds of the original one.

The Send & Ripley Soup Kitchens Notes by Les Bowerman

Thirty-two years ago at Newsletter 13/2 I reported a talk given by Marjorie Sex entitled "65 Years in Send" which recalled village life as far back as 1912. Among many other things Marjorie had said "The village soup kitchen was at Hillside Farm [at the far end of Sandy Lane]. Mr Lancaster of Sendholme, domineering but kind supported the kitchen. Mr [Joe] Baigent's mother cooked the soup." At 16/2 I reported an even earlier talk, which Marjorie had given to the Send Residents' Association in November 1975. In the talk Marjorie had said, "Mr Lancaster would always come to the rescue with money if necessary. He had the soup kitchen installed at the Baigents. People would go with jugs and jars and buy very good soup at about one old penny. It was very useful for people out of work and with no National Assistance".

At about the same time, 1975 and 1977, Joe Baigent (1889-1978) spoke to me briefly about the kitchen. He said it had started at the old cottage formerly on the site of what is now Vision Engineering before moving in about 1894 to Hillside Farm. He said the Misses Onslow at Send Grove had something to do with it. His mother ran it until 1914, the year she died. She would boil vegetables one day and half a bullock's head the next. Children mostly used to come to buy the soup at 4d a quart, twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It was mainly for their families but the children would drink some on the way home.

A certificate which Joe Baigent lent me showed that 1894 was the year when his father, Charles, was registered under the Dairies, Cow-sheds, & Milk-Shops Order of 1885 to carry on the trade of a "Cowkeeper & Milk Seller at Cartbridge". An Agreement at the Surrey History Centre shows that on 28th September 1898, William Hillier, Earl of Onslow, agreed to let Hillside Farm (then known as Stevens Farm) to Charles Baigent at a yearly rent of £44. It looks as if the kitchen was probably at the cottage in Send Road until the Baigents moved to Hillside Farm in 1898.

The memoirs of John Strudwick, cousin of Marjorie Sex, and born at about the same time as Joe Baigent, have been deposited with the Society and by the time this article appears should be filed in the Society's Reference Library. Born to an impoverished local family, as so many were at that time, he became a teacher, Secretary to the Surrey County Teachers' Association and then in 1944 a member of the Surrey Education Committee. In retirement he recorded his early experiences around Send, and contributed several articles about it to *The Surrey Advertiser* in the 1960s.

He noted that, although around 1900 there was "grinding poverty and heavy distress", there was very little help from the big houses. A glimpse of such assistance came around 1906, he wrote, when some of the local rich subscribed to support the Soup Kitchen run from Baigent's Farm. He continued "Anyone could sink his pride and could buy soup on a Saturday morning at fourpence a pint. No adult would be expected to attend, and the children were sent as late as possible. Whilst to be late meant there was a risk of no soup, to be on the tail end of the distribution meant that the soup really had some body in it."

Now that the bound volumes of the Send Parish Magazine, originally owned by the Lancaster family, are in the Society's Reference Library, we can learn a little more. Although the starting date of the soup kitchen is still not known, an account for it suddenly appears with no explanatory announcement in the magazine for May 1891. The first thing to notice is that there was a balance in hand of £3.1s.1d from 1889-90, showing that it had already been operating for at least a year before; what the same issue says was the very severe and protracted winter of 1890-91. The account discloses that there were 11 subscribers to the Kitchen Fund paying 5 shillings or more, the highest amount being £3 from "Mr Macleay, per Miss Onslow." Miss S Onslow of Send Grove contributed £1 as did Mrs Paulton of Boughton Hall, Mrs Deare of Woodhill and a number of others. A total of 11 shillings was given in individual amounts of under 5 shillings each. Also on the receipt side of the account is a sum of £8.6s.7d representing 1,999 ½ quarts of soup sold at 1d per quart, so there was clearly a huge demand. On the expenditure side the largest item is the £9.15s.6d paid to T Lucas, doubtless of the Surrey Trading Company who were grocers and drapers in Send & Ripley. £3.1s.7d was paid to J Webb & Sons of Cartbridge, bakers and general stores, and £4.18s.4d to Mrs Baigent for vegetables, coke and "for making". £3.18s.6d was carried forward.

No more accounts appear in the magazine but an announcement in the January 1897 issue declares that the soup kitchen will be opened on Wednesday, January 6th, donations having been received from Mrs Paulton (£1), Mrs Grant [Sendhurst Grange] (£1), Miss H S Onslow (10s), Mrs Lancaster (£1), Mrs Quill (£1.1s), and others.

In January 1898 the kitchen was to be opened on 5th of that month, "Miss S Onslow kindly making arrangements as usual". In 1900 January 3rd was the opening date "at Mrs Baigent's". In 1902 it was January 1st. In 1907 it was January 2nd. In 1909 the January issue announced "The soup kitchen is now open 2 days a week at Mrs Baigent's, under the kind patronage, as in previous years, of the Misses Onslow [Wednesdays and Saturdays at 11 a.m.]".

Census returns show that the Misses Onslow of Send Grove were sisters, Georgina, Elizabeth and Susan, who would have been then aged 74, 63 and 59 respectively. In the March 1910 report of the Send Cricket Club Annual Supper it was jokingly claimed that, "the so-called Soup Kitchen at Miss Baigent's was habitually used for cooking the parish accounts".

A copy of the Churchwardens' Accounts, also in the Society's Reference Library, gives further confirmation, with annual accounts of the Soup Kitchen for the period 1899 to 1914, except for 1900, which is missing. The 1899 account begins with a balance of £5.4s.5d in hand but finishes with only £2.11s.7d. Subscriptions amount to £6.1s.6d with Mrs Quill the highest subscriber and Susan Onslow putting in only 10s again. £6.17s.6d worth of soup was sold. On the expenditure side Mrs Baigent was paid £2.8s.0d for making soup. Meat supplied by Mr Cave amounted to £8.15s.6d. Messrs Webb put in a bill for £2.14s.2d for groceries, and vegetables, coal and coke accounted for the remaining £1.14s.2d.

In 1910 £5 was transferred from the Soup Kitchen account to the Sick & Poor Fund. By 1914 only £4.2s.8d worth of soup was sold. The figures remained similar until the accounts, and presumably the kitchen, ceased in 1914 with the death of Mrs Baigent. By 1914 Mr & Mrs Maling Grant of Sendhust Grange were the biggest annual contributors with £2 between them.

When these notes were started it was assumed that Ripley did not have a similar facility because nothing had been mentioned about it by any of those contributing to Jane Bartlett's unpublished book of Local Memories (filed in the Society's Reference Library). However, on checking through the Parish magazines I found that Ripley did indeed have a Soup Kitchen. The first reference is in the issue of as far back as January 1884 when, under the heading "Soup Kitchen," a report read "The Treasurer, Miss Onslow, thinks it may not be generally known, that it is through the kindness of their friends in subscribing, that the soup is sold to the poor at 1d per quart, the actual cost being 2½d. Among those who have supported this useful institution, are two who have lately been taken from us, the late Mrs Marshall and Mrs Winkworth. Mr Garlike has never failed to send his subscription." The Miss Onslow mentioned here is presumably not one of the Send Grove ones but one of the three spinster daughters, Frances, Charlotte and Marion, who are shown in the 1891 census as being with their parents, Major & Mrs Pitcairn Onslow, at Dunsborough House.

In the Parish Magazine of December 1884 it was announced that, "The Soup Kitchen this winter will be at the house of Mrs Handford, in Newark Lane. Soup will be sold at 1d per quart, from 10 to 12 o'clock every Saturday, beginning December 6th". The following month it was announced that at the close of the last of a series of three lectures on astronomy given by Mr Bartlett a collection of 14s.7½d was made for the Soup Kitchen. Finally, in December 1887 it was noted that the Soup Kitchen would reopen for the winter on Saturday, December 3rd, at Mrs Tice's in the High Street. Soup would still be 1d per quart.

To summarise, we now know that Ripley had a soup kitchen from some time before 1884 to at least 1888. Send had one from at the latest 1888, and, it was run by Mrs Baigent until 1914. The kitchens opened on the first week in December in Ripley and the first week in January in Send. The main organiser for each, presumably in the sense of collecting the subscriptions, was a Miss Onslow, doubtless from different but related families. The price of a quart of soup was 1d up to 1891 and possibly later. From what Joe Baigent and John Strudwick have said, the price in Send was 4d before the end in 1914, which seems rather dear for the time. Arthur Lancaster, a generous multi-benefactor to Send, may have put some money into the Send kitchen initially. John Strudwick is very scathing about the social commitment of those at the big houses and in particular the Onslow sisters in Send.

I conclude with information from the Churchwardens Accounts that, in 1877-78, £2 was spent on port wine for the Sick Poor. Maybe it was used as a medication. Or could it have been as a special treat, or provided on the "Let them eat cake" basis?

The British Poultry Development Company

My first involvement with poultry farming was close to my hometown of Deeping St Nicholas, near Spalding.

I left school in 1931 when I was 14, and went in to service as an, 'under-housemaid,' my elder sister Bella was already the housemaid there. It was for a local family, Mr and Mrs Hurrell, they ran a large dairy farm. I soon realised that I wasn't cut out for waiting on people, so I was very pleased when the opportunity came along to work at the poultry farm in Barnwall, Longthorpe, nr Peterborough. It was either owned or commissioned by the International Stores who took an active interest in everything we did. Barnwall itself was a very pretty village, owned I believe by the Duke of Gloucester.



The Poultry team at Barnwall, I am in the front row, third from the left

Around 1935 we heard that Barnwall was closing and our supervisor, Miss Turner had been offered another job with the British Poultry Development Company. A few weeks later she wrote asking me and three of the other girls to join her, Edna Prout, Doreen Smith, Beryl Shut and I travelled down from Lincolnshire together, to start our new life at Send Manor.

When I arrived, I was offered lodgings at the Dolls House Tea Rooms, in Portsmouth road, owned by a Miss Clode, later I lodged with Nora Jelly, who lived on the opposite side of the Portsmouth road, on the outskirts of Ripley. I never thought that within a few years I would be married and living in 'The Elms' literally a few doors down the road.

Send Manor was owned by a Mr Gordon Stuart, he was an entrepreneur and automotive tycoon involved in motoring and aviation, I think he had something to do with Morris cars. In the front of the Manor were the dog kennels, where they bred and trained Great Danes, the poultry farm was at the back of the Manor and extended all the way down to the gravel pits.

The chicks were born and reared in incubators until they were 4 weeks old, they then progressed to the sheds where they would stay until they were big enough to be put out in the fields. I looked after about 4 or 5 sheds, it was my job to change their water, put out the feed, clean out the sheds and generally ensure that they were fit and well. Sinclairs farm at Burnt Common collected the chicken manure about once month by lorry. The chickens were kept for egg laying, then slaughtered for eating when egg production fell. We had an abattoir on site with a plucking machine, as there were too many to do by hand.

A number of local girls worked there as well as us from Barnwell, including Rene Hutson and Hazel Plowman. The manager was a Mr Bobby, and Archie Cumbers from Send was one of the workers.

We started work at 8.00am and finished around 6.00pm, the pay was 30 shillings a week, which covered the 24 shillings a week for my lodgings, and left a little for socialising. I walked to work each day and back to my lodgings for lunch, I had to go in every day (including Sundays) to ensure they had clean water and feed.



Me outside the poultry sheds in the grounds of Send Manor

In 1939, after war was declared, there was a lot of pressure to become directly involved with the war effort, so I left Send Manor to work at Vickers, in the 'Rib Gallery' making aircraft wings. This involved us riveting strips of metal (aluminium) on to a large frame; it was all very new to me, as until then my working life had been outdoors.

By now I was lodging with Charlie Milton and his wife Ada (nee Sewell), they lived next door to Gibbs in Ripley High Street. I was also getting to know one of Charlie's brothers, Fred Milton, who I would see when I went down the British Legion, or to dances at Ockham.

I stayed at Vickers until literally the day of the bombing. I had been saving my money for the train fare for a trip home to Lincoln to see my mother, as I hadn't seen her for some months. I arrived at home on the Friday, the next day my brother came in to tell me that he'd just heard on the radio that Vickers Aircraft factory had been bombed. I went straight back to Ripley and to Vickers to find that my best friend at work had been killed in the air raid, I never went back to Vickers after that.

My love of the outdoors led me to join the Surrey Agricultural Committee. We supported the Land Army teams and would be picked up each morning by truck and taken to whichever farm in Surrey needed us.

On the 22 June 1940 at Deeping St Nicholas in Lincolnshire, I was married to Fred Milton; his brother Charlie was best man. Two weeks later Fred was called up and joined the Royal Artillery as a driver. Once married I moved down to live with Fred's parents, Bill and Bertha Milton at 3 Rippleby cottages, but unfortunately there wasn't enough room for the ever growing 'extended family', so I slept two doors down with Kath Tresidder (nee Kath Townsend) and had my meals with Bertha and the family.

I stayed working for the Surrey Agricultural Committee until Rodney was born in 1945. Later we found that Fred had contracted TB and he spent some time in Redhill and Milford Hospitals before being nursed at home. I had a part time job working at Bob Whapshott's nursery at Horsley and used to see to Fred, then cycle up to Horsley and be back to get him his lunch, I wasn't to work again until Fred and his brother Tonnie (Arthur) bought the butchers shop in West Horsley and then in Ripley, which gave me the opportunity to work with them as the delivery girl.

Mrs Divina Milton (Div) aged 92

The Ripley Road **Notes by Les Bowerman**

These notes concern the old London to Portsmouth Road, formerly known world-wide to cyclists from late Victorian times as The Ripley Road (from The New Inn at Ham Common to the Anchor at Ripley), in more recent times known as the A3, as Ripley Street on the Census Returns, as the High Street to locals, as the London Road on the street name-boards north-east of the village and as the Portsmouth Road south-west of the village.

The road's origins are possibly Roman (*Roman Surrey* David Bird 2004) and conceivably earlier. From Saxon times it would have led to Kingston and thence to London. By the time of the foundation of Newark Priory (founded between 1189 & 1199 and dissolved 1539) it would have provided access to Merton Priory. Richard Gough's map of about 1360 details a main road from London via Kingston, Cobham, Guildford, Farnham, etc., to Winchester and on down to Cornwall. It could have provided a route for traffic between the then twin capital towns of London and Winchester. With the build-up of Portsmouth as a naval base in Tudor times it would have provided a route from that town to London.

Prior to the passing of the Kingston to Petersfield Turnpike Act in 1749 we know from Manning & Bray's *History of the County of Surrey* that a day had to be allowed for travel from Guildford to London. Thereafter stagecoaches could make the journey from London to Portsmouth via Ripley in nine hours. The coming of the railway to Woking in 1838 and its subsequent extension to Portsmouth in the 1850s spelled the end of the stagecoach traffic. The result was a very fine road surface, by the standards of the time, with very little traffic on it as attested by many contemporary cycling reports and indeed by diarist A J Munby.

In the early days of the Society there was some discussion about when the surface of the road was 'made up'. In Newsletter 16 (1977) Jim French, then 88-years-old, recalled how as children they would go to the Send Marsh junction with the London Road especially to watch motor vehicles pass through trailing clouds of dust along what he called the "unmetalled" surface. In the following issue Jim Oliver queried his use of the word "unmetalled", pointing out that metalling is a technical expression used for any hard material used in road construction, eg the Roman Roads where there was a base of large stones, followed by medium ones and then gravel or something similar. The great road engineers Telford and McAdam had used a similar construction for the turnpikes. This was reasonably successful with horse-drawn traffic, but with self-propelled motor traffic a small vacuum behind the wheels lifted the dust when dry and made pot-holes when it was wet. In Newsletter 18 Jim French responded saying he had seen the road opened up in many places and that there was no trace of large stones. He felt that, with as much dirt and grit as stone and no cohesive surface, a road could not be said to be metalled.

The question remains – when did the Ripley Road acquire a hard or 'cohesive' surface unaffected by dust, frost or rain? There may be no precise answer because it happened gradually, but there are some clues in the cycling periodicals and in the Parish minutes.

In the *Cyclists Touring Club Monthly Gazette* of January, 1887, it was reported that a steam roller was at work in the Guildford area and had been seen between there and Ripley. The inference is that this was a very rare sight, although *Tricycling Journal* had noted as far back as April 1884 that the Guildford Highway Board had bought a Steam Road Roller. In October 1887 the CTC magazine explained that steam rollers were beginning to be used for road making and rolling in stones put down for repairs. Prior to this it had just been left to wheeled horse traffic and pedestrians to tread the stones in.

There is much that could be said about the Roads Improvement Association first promoted by cyclists in 1887, about the roadmenders and the Dinners organised for them by cycling clubs, but that can await another day.

Fast forward to *Cycling* magazine of 15 February 1905 where "ACS" wrote of riding from Newlands Corner to tea at Ripley and so home by the "old road". "How badly a gravel road stands frost! Practically the whole of the Ripley road was of a puddingy consistency; not muddy enough to sink into very far, but utterly invertebrate. In one of the places where it had been tarred it was worst; elsewhere the tarred or Westrumited patches seemed a trifle better than the rest of the road."

C A Smith, long-time Secretary of the Bath Road Club and proprietor of the White Lion Hotel at Cobham replied the following week. "Street Cobham is the only part of the Portsmouth road which has been tarred, and during all the winter months the sides of this road have afforded better going for the wheelman than the 'common or garden' portions of the highway. It is curious many seem to think that the tarred road is 'oiled' and vice versa.

There were only two stretches treated last season with oil – one was on the Fairmile twixt Cobham and Esher, and the other just outside the gates of Sutton Place – between Ripley and Guildford. Both these, however, have had fresh metal ‘on top’, and this was rolled in and finished off last December. So I don’t think it was possible for ACS to come across any Westrumited bits just recently.” Googling Westrumite produces the information that it was ‘a road dust preventing material composed primarily of petroleum and ammonia. It was developed around 1900 in response to the spread of motoring, which raised dust. It was evil-smelling.’ Petroleum in this context seems to mean bitumen or crude oil before distillation into petrol, naphtha, benzene, kerosene and paraffin. (Oxford English Dictionary).

‘Bath Road’ Smith later claimed in an interview with the *Cobham Record* of December 1936 (for an extract from which I am grateful to Cobham local historian, David Taylor) that it was due to his agitation that the first piece of tarred road in Surrey was laid outside the White Lion. When it was first ‘made up’, he said, he brought a Napier car down from London and gave a demonstration of the excellent qualities of the surface. Some ‘know-alls’ were apparently very surprised when hardly a speck of dust was raised by the car, even at the ‘extraordinary’ speed of 25 miles an hour.

The Send and Ripley Parish Council Minute Book, recording an item discussed at the Annual Meeting at Send Schools on 17th April, 1905, notes that “A letter has been received from Dr Pearse drawing the Council’s attention to a petition which is shortly to be sent to the District Council from the property owners and residents in the main street of Ripley to request that the road may be covered with a solution as in Cobham to prevent the dust nuisance arising from motors.” (Surrey Record Office Ref. P41/4/1, now doubtless at the Surrey Record Office, published in SRHS Newsletter 20)

In *Cycling* for 1907 there are several reports of experiments with road surfaces to counteract the detrimental effect of motor vehicles. Some concern experiments and ways of applying a tar solution, one mentions tarmacadam and another asphalt. See the issues for 8th May and 5th June in particular.

A precise date for the covering of the Ripley road remains to be found, but in *Cycling* of 1st June 1916 we read that “Today the Ripley road is tar-covered and dustless, and resounds with the hum and swish of many motor wheels...Now the old cycling road is damped down, its old-time surface covered with a coating of tarmac.”

The delightfully evocative photograph on the front of this issue (also appearing in the Society’s publication *Then & Now* at Page 63, shows the Portsmouth Road outside what was from 1933 until very recently Barretts Garden Buildings, (as to which read Ted Strange’s article in the Winter 2008 issue of *Ripley & Send Matters*.) The photograph bears a handwritten date of 1922 on the back, which is more likely to be 1912 as it shows the road as ‘unmade up’. It is tempting to think that the steam roller is being used to roll in the first application of tarmac, but is more likely to be in use in connection with road repairs, possibly connected with what appears to be nearby construction work. The most probable date for the tarmac surface is about the beginning of World War 1. Any further information would be welcome.

The steam road roller bearing the trademark 'Invictor' was made in Kent almost certainly by Aveling and Porter at Rochester. The design was created by them in 1899 and became a standard design, later copied by other manufacturers. I cannot identify the car. However, the man standing is probably a member of the RAC formed in 1897, wearing the patrolman's uniform introduced in 1901. Editor

MUSEUM ACCESSIONS 2008

A556	Star hand operated Vacuum Cleaner 1910-1938	05.08	Gerald Chandler	Museum
A557	Framed ph/copy Conveyance of Bank plot 1929	?? ??	? Lord Forte	Meth Church
A558	Invoice dated 2.4.1985 Bentinck Nursery to T&CC	04.08	Andy Jones	LB
A559a)	Framed photo of Ripley CC sponsored by T&CC	05.08	Andy Jones	Andy Jones
A559b)	Framed photo of Ripley CC sponsored by T&CC	05.08	Andy Jones	Andy Jones
A560	Prog & 8 photos St Bedes School "Oliver", c1971	06.08	Sheila Brown	Meth
A561	Transcript (©) BBC4 schools o/side broadcast	By St Bedes School 12.2.71		
		06.08	Sheila Brown	Meth
A562	Sutton Place history (booklet)	06.08	Andy Jones (loan)	LB
A563	Bible Arthur Lancaster to Henry Jackman 4.12.1903	06.08	Isla Hunt	Meth
A564a) – c)	Talbot board plans of Restaurant Extension & New Bedroom block			
		06.08	Talbot management	Meth
A565 (see also A521)	White Hart Ct opening booklet 31.3.79		+ letter of 15.10.07 by Rosemary	
Wallis + Surrey	Ad report of 12.10.07	07.08	Rosemary Wallis	LB
A566	Talbot signboard (1980s?)	07.08	Talbot management	LB
A567	Send church NW view by C T Cracklow 1823	08.08	John Coombes	LB
A568	Ripley old Church room iron gates	08.08	Vernon Wood	LB
A569	Send Church flower festival 2005 programme	09.08	Christine Lavender	Meth
A570	Send Church flower festival 2008 programme	09.08	Christine Lavender	Meth
A571	United Dairies cream bottle	09.08	Irene Wood	Meth
A572	Milk bottle tops, cardboard, x 2	09.08	Irene Wood	Meth
A573	Trade tokens (2), S S Boorman of Send 1/- & 2d	09.08	Andy Jones (loan)	LB
A574	Wisley Gardens guidebook 1978	09.08	Andy Jones (loan)	Meth
A575	Constable, Hart & Co, registered letter envelope	09.08	Andy Jones (loan)	Meth
A576	Surrey Street map 1970s, Old Woking,, Send,		Sutton Green (ph/copy)	
		09.08	Andy Jones (loan)	Meth
A577	Talbot Dog, 2 photos of panel at front of inn	09.08	Andy Jones	photo archive
A578	WW2 leaflet "What to do about Gas"	10.08	Michael Morris	LB
A579	Ryde & Holride Fms, 27.7.62 sales leaflet	10.08	Di Stiff (SHC)	LB
A580	Vincent James Bldg Co Ltd of White Horse Lane,		Registered Office metal nameplate	
		11.08	Andy Jones	LB
A581	P J Construction, White Hart Lane registered office		Brass nameplate	11.08 Andy Jones LB
A582	Talbot Walk Antiques Centre banner			11.08 Andy Jones LB
A583	Portsmouth Rd framed photo AA man, car, & Steamroller	12.08	Barretts via Andy Jones	
	LB, Phto to KHB			
A585	Ripley Vicarage painting 50x60cm	04.08	Exors of Hilary Street ??	

Les Bowerman 17.12.08

SRHS Reference Documents held in the Museum

- 1) 1843 Tithe Apportionments – indexes of plot numbers, places & personal names
- 2) Send & Ripley church & churchyard inscriptions – alphabetical order
- 3) Send & Ripley Baptisms 1653-1960 – alphabetical & date order
- 4) Send & Ripley Burials 1653-1991 – alphabetical & date order
- 5) Send & Ripley Marriages 1654-1960 – alphabetical & date order
- 6) Photo-copies of photographic archives – Nos 1-55
- 7) Photo-copies of photographic archives – Nos 56-96
- 8) 1841 Census – S&R Index & photo-copy entries
- 9) 1851 Census – S&R ditto
- 10) 1861 Census – S&R ditto
- 11) 1871 Census – S&R ditto
- 12) 1881 Census – S&R ditto
- 13) 1891 Census - S&R ditto
- 14) 1901 Census – S&R ditto
- 15) 1851 Census – O&W ditto
- 16) 1861 Census – O&W ditto
- 17) 1871 Census – O&W ditto
- 18) 1881 Census - O&W ditto
- 19) 1891 Census - O&W ditto
- 20) 1901 Census – O&W ditto
- 21) Send & Ripley Court Rolls transcript 1533-1675. Pages 1-399. Indexes 1533-1733 of personal names, and place & property names.
- 22) Send & Ripley Court Rolls transcripts 1675-1733. Pages 400-670
- 23) Send & Ripley Court Rolls transcripts 1733-1924. Index of personal names, and place & property names.
- 24) *Kelly's Directories* Send & Ripley – 1826-7, 1832?, '40, '45, '47, '53, '55, '59, '62, '67, '74, '78, '82, '87, '91, 95, '99, '1900 up to 1938
- 25) Papworth Court Rolls transcripts 1424-1878. Index of personal names, and place & property names.
- 26) Dedswell Court Rolls transcripts 1619-1883. Index of personal names.
- 27) Dedswell & Papworth Court Rolls – spare copy of transcripts.
- 28) *Inclosure Awards 1815 – Transcripts. Index of personal names and plot numbers
- 29) Ockham Park Sale Catalogue with map 1958
- 30) Ockham Park album 1993
- 31) Construction of the By-Pass 1976 – photo album by Bernard Titcombe (A240)
- 32) *Newark Priory, Simple Treasures* – photo album by John Buckingham
- 33) SRHS Millennium photo album by Ken Bourne. Vol 1 – Send buildings
- 34) SRHS Millennium photo album by Ken Bourne. Vol 2 – Send buildings
- 35) Ebenezer Strict Baptist Chapel inscriptions 1818-1985. Alphabetical index.
- 36) Send Parish Church magazines 1878-88, 1889-1909, 1910-23, 24-34, 35-40, 64-67, 68-70, 71-72, **, 75-76, 77-78, 79-80, 81-82, ***, 84-85, 86-87, 88-89, 90-91, 92-93, 94-96, 97-99, 00-02, 03-05.
- 37) *Ripley Matters* 1991-'95, 1996-2000, bound 50th issue, 01-05
- 34a) Newark Priory - University Dissertation by Jeanette Hicks 2003

- 34b) Newark Priory – SAS survey of earthworks by Jeanette Hicks 2008
- 35) Woking Palace – CD & booklet by Arnold & Dyer.
- 36) Horsley Preservation Society magazine – various copies over several years.
- 37) Walton & Weybridge HS *Dial Post* – various copies over several years.
- 38) Womersley HS magazine – a few copies.
- 39) “Handyman’s” Scrapbook. C1960s. Many local items. By W D Cartwright (?)
- 40) Edward Ryde Diaries 1844-1892 (mostly Old Woking but some S&R) - summary
- 41) S&R Local memories – edited by Jane Bartlett
- 42) St Mary the Virgin, Send – stained glass windows album by Ken Bourne
- 43) SRHS bound & indexed Newsletter/Journals - 2 of each 1-36, 37-72, 73-108, 109-144, 145-180.
- 44) Cuttings book "Cathedral News" 1964-1975 ('Down Memory Lane', 'Seeing Eye', Dr Pearse family, etc) – Anne Low.
- 45) Brayley's 4-Volume *History of Surrey* 1848 donated by Herbert Hill (kept elsewhere for security purposes – Ask LB). (A205)
- 46) 2 Scrapbooks re Wisley Airfield Enquiry (A135)
- 47) Ryde House School Magazine bound vol. 1908 (A495)
- 48) Ripley Church Parish mag *Home Words* 1888, '89, '90, '91
- 49) *Local History News* and *The Local Historian* – 2007 to date, see Chairman
- 50) Ph/copy churchwardens a/cs 1869-1927, Pew plan, Vicars 1289-1908
- 51) *Send Newsletter* 1980-2006 bound volume
- 52) *The Send & Ripley Local* 2005-07 bound volume

* An original printed copy of the Inclosure Act 1803 is held by the Chairman.

** 73-74 is unbound awaiting January '74

*** 83 is unbound awaiting January

LGB. 15-Jan-09

New Members 2008

The following joined the Society during 2008. We are pleased to welcome them to membership:

Dr N F & Mrs E A Cunningham of Burnt Common Lane
 Isla Hunt of Ashford, Kent
 Roy & Mrs Smithers of Long Reach, West Horsley
 Derek Stone of Hove, East Sussex
 Gary Scrace & Deborah Mountford of Birnam Close, Send Marsh
 Althea & Michael Barratt of Brook Lane, Send
 Helen Harris of Wentworth Close, Ripley
 Margaret & Graham Field of Portsmouth Road, Ripley
 John Gilbert of Papercourt Lane, Ripley (re-joined)
 Mr M McCoy of Cobham (re-joined)
 Maralyn Wong of Farnborough, Hampshire
 Albert Lorimer of Wentworth Close, Ripley

Books added to the library in 2008.

The Eric Clapton biography is particularly full of local interest, as is the Morgan, Guildford Guy Riots, after the interesting talk we had recently.

I know the books on the higher shelves of the library are not easily accessible (I have real trouble myself!), but hopefully there will come a day when we have more room.

Parker. Highways and Byways in Surrey 2nd edition 1950

Saxon Surrey

Weiller. Eric Clapton 1992

Eric Clapton Biography 2007

Duchess of Devonshire. Autobiography

Duchess of Devonshire. Photo album

Illustrated Surrey

Janaway. Pictorial Surrey 1984

Wakeford. Woking's Tudor Palace

Surrey Archeological Collections. Vols. 73 and 74

Memories of Woking 2000

Bowley. West Horsley Place

Brooklands Centenary Yearbook 2007

Connelly. A temple of golf: history of Woking Golf Club

Baring-Gould. The Broom-squire first published 1896

Pilkington. Surrey airfields in the Second World War. 1997

Morgan. The Guildford Guy Riots 1992

Hunt. Hidden depths: an archaeological exploration of Surrey's past 2002

Guildford Corporation. Guildford: a residential center. 11th edition 1946

Mavis Davies

Letters

Due to space limitations correspondence is held over to Journal 205.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The current exhibition at the museum is **Finds from the Mesolithic Age**. This includes a display of flints found locally, a bow with the string made from nettles and flint tipped arrows. You may also wish to use the lending library and the reference library. Opening times are Saturday mornings from 10.00 until 12.30pm and for two hours on the third Sunday of the month to coincide with the Farmers Market.

Programme for 2009

MEETINGS - all evening meetings are at 8.00 pm at Ripley Village Hall or Annexe

Wed. 18th Feb – AGM, Cheese and Wine, and short talks by members on "Finds and Treasures".

Wed. 20th March – "Tales of Old Surrey" - An updated version of the Circle 8 film presented by Terence Patrick. Ices will be served. Meeting in the Ripley Village Hall.

Wed. 15th April – "The Crystal Palace", a talk by Ron Trevelyan of the Woking Philatelic Soc.

Wed. 6th May – 2.00pm. An outing to Reigate Priory and Museum.

Tues. 2nd June – 1.30pm. A conducted tour around The Spike, the old Guildford Union Workhouse.

Thurs. 9th July – All day outing to Tonbridge, Kent.

Fri. 28th Aug - Evening Barbecue at Crickets Hill House, Potters Lane, Send.

Wed. 16th Sept – A Talk by Jeanette Hicks on "Newark Priory".

Wed. 21st Oct - A talk by Brian Thorne on "Secret Surrey".

Wed. 18th Nov - A talk by Patrick Molineux on "Surrey Domesday with reference to life in Send".

Wed. 16th Dec - Christmas Social.

For further details of any of our events, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next edition is **Friday 6th Mar 2009.**



SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

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the Village Hall

Other times for school groups and small
 parties by arrangement

Contact Les Bowerman on 01483-224876 if
 you require further information or wish to
 help in the museum.

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

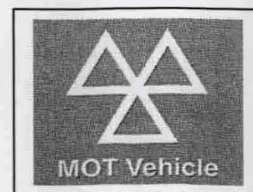
'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life'	(Reprinted 2006)	£10.00
'Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send'		£1.25
'Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley'	(Reprinted 2004&7)	£4.00
'The Straight Furrow', by Fred Dixon		£1.50
'Ripley and Send – Looking Back'	(Reprinted 2007)	£9.00
'A Walk About Ripley Village in Surrey'	(Reprinted 2005)	£2.00
'Newark Mill Ripley, Surrey		£3.00
'The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey'	(Reprinted 2005)	£4.00
'Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures'		£6.00
'Two Surrey Village Schools - The story of Send and Ripley Village Schools'		£10.00
'The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen Ripley, Surrey'		£5.00

All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of 'Ripley & Send Then and Now' and 'Two Surrey Village Schools' can also be obtained from Send Post Office.



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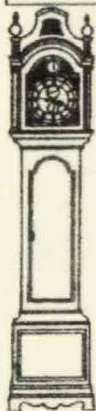


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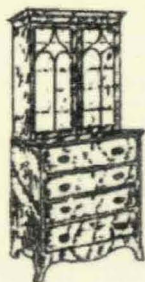
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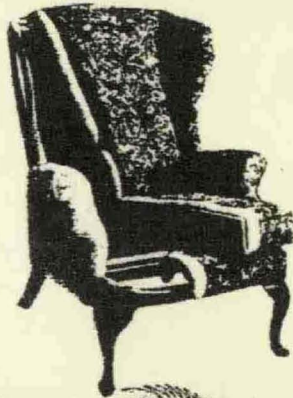
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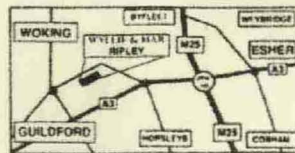
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