

**ST. HUBERTS
GERRARDS CROSS
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**



A HISTORY

Researched and written by Marian Miller

July 2011

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Hamptons 1987 photograph of first floor Family Sitting Room

Historic Environment Record: Buckinghamshire Monument Full Report

CHAPTER I: BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report was commissioned by Madigan Browne, Chartered Architects, on behalf of the owners of St. Huberts. The owners use St. Huberts as a summer residence and wish to build additional accommodation which would require consent from the local planning authority, South Bucks District Council (“SBDC”). The purpose of this report is to provide more information about the origins and development of the buildings and grounds at St. Huberts to assist in the formulation of building proposals.

Understanding the significance of historic buildings and designed landscapes is recognised as fundamental to their informed conservation. This idea is expressly enshrined in planning policy through Planning Policy Statement 5 (“PPS5”) under which St. Huberts, being a listed building, is a “designated heritage asset”. PPS5 requires the local planning authority to “seek to identify and assess the particular significance of any element of the historic environment that may be affected by the relevant proposal...” (Policy HE7.1). The effect of proposals on the significance of a heritage asset or its setting is a material consideration in determining applications (Policy HE8.1).

This report is intended to provide information about the origins and development of St. Huberts and the people associated with it. This should help to further an understanding of the heritage asset but it is not intended as a “statement of significance” within PPS5. No attempt has been made to give any weighting to the various historical components of the current St. Huberts estate or assign to them any of the “Heritage Values” suggested by English Heritage. Apart from informing the preparation of planning proposals it is hoped that the findings of this report will help further the understanding of the owners and all those involved in the custody and maintenance of St. Huberts and should assist in the preparation of any conservation management plan for the estate.

This report is based on documentary research using the primary and secondary sources listed in the Sources section and an inspection of the grounds and buildings at St. Huberts, as detailed in the Analysis section. This inspection had to be undertaken at a time when the property was unoccupied, before the documentary research had begun, and a re-inspection in light of the documentary findings would normally have been undertaken, but was not possible once the owners were in residence. The apparent lack of documentation about construction of the buildings at St. Huberts means that there are few conclusive findings. Given more time further research may yield more information. Recommendations for further research are given later in this report but it is likely that important documentation has been destroyed, or irretrievably lost, so that aspects of St. Huberts’ history, regrettably including the identity of its principal architect, may for ever remain a mystery.

Documentary research started with examination of existing accounts of the history of St. Huberts and these will be reviewed in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 2: SUMMARY

- St. Huberts is a country house set in grounds of about 50 acres on the edge of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.
- Still used as a single private residence, it is a remarkable survival of the mid-Victorian period when Gerrards Cross became known as the “Brighton of Bucks”. The main house and entrance gates are separately listed Grade II.
- This report was commissioned by the owner’s architects, Madigan Browne, to gain a better understanding of the origins and development of the house and grounds so as to inform proposals to provide additional accommodation at St. Huberts.
- The history of the house and associated estate has not been documented. Various conflicting accounts have been written, most of which have no references to sources used as evidence.
- This report is based on research into documentary sources and an inspection of the premises carried out in May and June, 2011.
- The documentary evidence points to a house called Langley Cottage having been built on the site of St. Huberts between 1809 and 1845, but probably between 1817 and 1845.
- By 1875 the site definitely contained the present house, then called Langley Lodge, with gardens and estate buildings set in ornamental grounds.
- Whether Langley Lodge was the same building as the original, pre-1845, house is not known. There are three possibilities: that the house was the same as the one built before 1845; that the earlier house had been demolished and a new house built; or that the earlier house had been remodelled.
- It has not been possible to resolve this conundrum but the evidence, both physical and documentary, is discussed.
- The building has been attributed “fairly securely” by Pevsner to the architect Edward Buckton Lamb. There is no documentary evidence to test this attribution but the question as to whether Lamb is likely to have been the architect is also discussed, but not resolved.
- After 1975 the house and estate were both expanded with one family, who changed the name of the house to St. Huberts, retaining ownership for 80 years. This continuity no doubt contributed to the survival of St. Huberts as a private residence.
- The estate contracted in the course of the 20th century and by the 1970s the house and grounds were in a parlous condition. A programme of restoration was undertaken by the previous owners, but works were not documented.
- Various estate buildings, including lodge houses, have been associated with St. Huberts over the years and their history is also discussed.
- The present owners bought St. Huberts in 1988 and carried out a scheme of alterations. These were not documented but some architects’ plans survive and have been used, along with the estate agent’s sales brochure, to ascertain the changes made to the buildings at that time.
- Notable people have been associated with the estate and their contribution to the development of St. Huberts is discussed.
- Recommendations are given for further research which might help to resolve some of the outstanding questions as to the origins and development of St. Huberts.

CHAPTER 3: LOCATION AND CONTEXT

St. Huberts is a country house in grounds of about 50 acres on the eastern edge of Gerrards Cross. The present extent of the estate is shown on the Madigan Browne Estate Location Plan number P001 in the Appendix.

St. Huberts is a remarkable survivor from the era, around the middle of the 19th century, when Gerrards Cross became known as the “Brighton of Bucks”.

The gentry and increasingly wealthy middle classes were attracted to Gerrards Cross, converting farmhouses and building their genteel villas around the Common. The railway did not arrive in Gerrards Cross until 1906 but access from London was convenient by train to Slough or 20 miles along the turnpike road. A Gerrards Cross address carried the kudos of royal and aristocratic connections with Windsor nearby and the seat of the Dukes of Somerset at Bulstrode on the western edge of the village. “Hunting boxes” were advertised for sale relying on the prospects of good sport with the Berkeley Hunt, whose kennels were based behind the Packhorse Inn next to Gerrards Cross Common.

By the Edwardian period St. Huberts had undergone considerable expansion and possessed the essential accoutrements of the country estate; landscaped grounds, stables, coach-house, a walled garden, several lodges, a home farm, workers’ cottages and shooting grounds.

During the 20th century the country estates of Gerrards Cross were broken up to provide land for the expansion of the new commuter village. Bulstrode, Chalfont Park and Orchehill have all been converted to non-residential uses. Woodhill was sold off by the owners of St. Huberts for development in the 1920s and the house has since been demolished.

Whilst the size of the estate is much diminished, the house at St. Huberts is the only major Gerrards Cross country house to have survived as a private residence. Green-belt planning policies have also played a part in preserving its character as a country estate by restricting building development on the neighbouring rural landscape.

CHAPTER 4: REVIEW OF EXISTING HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS

No detailed history or survey of St. Huberts has been published, but the accounts which have been found are contradictory, and somewhat puzzling in light of the research carried out for this report. They are, in chronological order (references are given in the **Sources** section):

- A leaflet prepared for an open-day held at St. Huberts on 31st July 1976 in aid of the organisation then called the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). No author is given but the use of the first person narrative indicates it was written by the then owners, Dr Eric Owen Barnett, Mrs Barnett and Mrs Vivienne Reed.
- Listed building descriptions – the main house and entrance gates were listed Grade II on 24th April 1985.
- A brief 1987 article in *Country Life* magazine.
- Hamptons sale catalogue from 1987.
- The description of St. Huberts in the 1994 edition of Pevsner's *Buildings of Buckinghamshire* (pp.343-4).
- Report compiled by Buckinghamshire County Museum's Archaeological Service as part of a Historic Parks and Gardens Register Review in 1998 ("the Gardens Review")
- An *Archaeological and standing building assessment* written in June 2005 by the Museum of London Archaeology Service. This report was commissioned on behalf of the current owners of St. Huberts.
- An account on pages 20-21 of Hunt and Thorpe's *Gerrards Cross - A History* published in 2006 ("Hunt & Thorpe")

The CPRE leaflet

This leaflet is particularly informative since it is a first-hand account of the building as it was in 1974, when the Barnetts bought St. Huberts and of their ongoing, evidently sympathetic, restoration programme. Unfortunately the leaflet contains no plan of the house but does have a sketch plan of the grounds. The Open Day appears to have been a great success with around 160 people attending. Local residents and noted Buckinghamshire historians, Dr Clive Rouse and Dr Audrey Baker, supported the effort. Dr Rouse gave guided tours of the grounds and Dr Audrey Baker provided a sketch of the house for the publicity material. Dr Rouse was responsible for numerous works on the history and art of the county, including a guide to Gerrards Cross church. Dr Baker's published works include a history of Bulstrode, the principal country estate of Gerrards Cross. She is also President of the Chalfont St. Peter and Gerrards Cross History Society.

From this leaflet the Barnetts appear to have been assiduous in their attention to detail and their intention to base the restoration on an understanding of the historical development of both buildings and grounds on the estate. The leaflet is not referenced and so we cannot know which "estate maps" they had found at the County Record Office and British Museum which led them to assert that a house had stood on the site since before 1748, "although probably in a smaller and different form". They claimed there had been major rebuilding between 1790 and 1810 in a "light and rather Europeanised version of the then current early Picturesque idiom" with another campaign of extensive alterations, and probably enlargement, prior to 1847.

They could not identify the architect. At the Open Day certain unidentified maps, together with photographs from the early 1920s were on display. It has, so far at least, proved impossible to find any estate maps showing buildings at St. Huberts; indeed the historic maps researched for this report indicate there was no building on the site in the first decade of the 19th century so it is baffling as to how these conclusions were reached.

Regrettably no maps or photographs are with the title deeds now.

The Listed Building Description

The main house and entrance gates/piers in St. Huberts Lane were separately listed Grade II on 24th April 1985. The full list descriptions are set out in the Appendix. Both structures are described as “circa 1860” with the house said to have been “built as a hunting lodge for the 2nd Earl of Portrench.” It will become apparent later in this report that these descriptions must be, at least partly, inaccurate.

Country Life article

This was written in 1987 when St. Huberts was on the market for sale by the Barnetts. The article is not detailed but rather in the nature of an “advertorial”, with information presumably supplied by St. Huberts’ owners. The building is described as having been designed by the architect Edward Buckton Lamb in about 1847 for two spinster sisters, the Misses Reid, who also built the church of St. James at Gerrards Cross. The questionable involvement of these ladies will be considered in the **People** section.

Hampton’s Sale Catalogue

This is an invaluable source of information on the appearance and condition of St. Huberts in 1987, containing photographs and a plan of the grounds, but again no plan of the house. It repeats the history of the house as expounded in the CPRE leaflet.

Pevsner

The information in Pevsner also appears to be based on the Barnett version. He describes it as a “roguish High Victorian house, attributed fairly securely to E.B. Lamb. It was built c.1847, on the site of the mid-c 18 Langley House for the Misses Reid...”

The Gardens Review

This document is part of the Historic Environment Record (“HER”) kept by Buckinghamshire County Council. Its references are the 1987 Hamptons Sale Catalogue, an archive created by Carol Adams, Ordnance Survey Maps from 1883 to 1972 and aerial photographs in 1955, 1985 and 1989. The register review contains Adams’ handwritten notes and refers to maps and pictures in the Adams file but does not specify what they were. The history is a repeat of that set out in the Hamptons catalogue. As a result the HER contains records that St. Huberts had, amongst other features, an ornamental canal (earlier than 1739) and a woodland garden (first mentioned in 1746). The HER also states that “the earliest records of St. Huberts date back to 1746, when the house was known as Langley House.” There are no specific references, other than the Hampton’s catalogue, which can be checked to provide evidence for these assertions.

The Museum of London Archaeology Service (“MOL”) report

The summary of the report states that it is the result of a desk-based assessment, although it is also based on a visit to St. Huberts in May 2005. The bibliography is incomplete since it does not mention historic maps which have been referred to in the text or reproduced in the Appendix. These include old county maps, historic Ordnance Survey maps and Bulstrode estate maps, none of which show a building on the site before the 1861 map of the new chapelry of Gerrards Cross. Since tithe and enclosure maps are not mentioned at all it is assumed they were not researched. The MOL report relies heavily on the Gardens Review repeating the statement, unsupported by any specific reference to evidence, that “the earliest documentary records of the site date to c1746 with reference to a Langley House or Lodge, which once occupied the same site as St. Hubert’s today.”

Hunt and Thorpe

This book was produced as part of a thorough examination of the history of Gerrards Cross to coincide with celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the railway in the village in 2006. This process engaged local residents and historians in researching hundreds of building plans with the results being published at public exhibitions and on the website www.gx2006.co.uk. Julian Hunt and David Thorpe are well-respected historians, indeed Julian Hunt was formerly Buckinghamshire’s County Archivist and David Thorpe is an Honorary Research Fellow of the University of London. They also compiled an Atlas of Gerrards Cross 1840-1940. It seems reasonable to suppose that their detailed researches would have revealed any maps showing an 18th century house on the site of St. Huberts. Instead they concluded that the building of the house was connected with the enclosure of part of the Common at Gerrards Cross, which then belonged to the parish of Langley Marish, in 1815. By the time of the Tithe Map of 1846 they say a gentleman’s residence had been built on the former Common land. They also concluded that this house was rebuilt in the 1860s by the new owner, John Bramley-Moore but, since they give no express evidence for this last conclusion, then it must be regarded as conjectural.

Summary

Thanks to publication of the Hamptons sales catalogue most of the existing accounts appear to rely on research carried out by the owners of the property between 1974 and 1987 supposedly revealing the existence of an 18th century house and elaborate designed gardens on the site, but without citing any documentary sources. This view contradicts the documentary evidence researched for this report, and previously relied upon by Hunt and Thorpe to support their statement that the site was only developed after the Langley Marish enclosure. The Hunt and Thorpe view must be regarded as more reliable because their sources are cited and so can be tested. The reasons for the Barnetts’ conclusions are not yet known.

It should be borne in mind that research in early records is complicated by the fact that before 1895 the site lay in no fewer than three different parishes. St. Huberts’ former names – Langley Cottage and Langley Lodge – were also attached to other properties associated with the present Langley Park House, which was then probably called Langley House. The theory of the existence of an 18th century house and designed landscape at St. Huberts is likely to persist whilst it remains in the HER, a search of which is regarded as essential under PPS5.

CHAPTER 5: DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE FOR THE ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF ST. HUBERTS

Archaeology

The MOL report has already dealt with archaeological considerations which might affect any new development on the site. The commissioning architect's instructions are now for a report on the period from the 18th century to the present. Accordingly this report does not consider the ancient origins of Gerrards Cross. However, since the MOL report was compiled six years ago and research in the HER is considered a minimum requirement under PPS5, a current report from the HER has been included in the Appendix. It is assumed that the County Archaeologist will be consulted prior to submission of any planning proposals.

Research method

Apart from a standard HER enquiry, research was carried out online, in published secondary sources and on primary sources at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, ("CBS") National Archives ("NA"), National Monuments Record, ("NMR") British Library ("BL"), the Museum of English Rural Life at the University of Reading ("MERL") and the library of the Royal Institute of British Architects ("RIBA"). The sources relied upon are set out in the **Sources** section.

Historic Map evidence

Jefferys Map 1760s

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This shows the turnpike (A40) with the unfenced and intriguing curved section east of the 19 (miles from London) milestone, now Heusden Way. The stream which still runs southwards under the road into St. Huberts is just east of 19. A road, presumably now Fulmer Road, can just be made out between 19 and the stream. A road running south from Tatling End and curving westward must be Fulmer Lane and the building between that road and another stream is likely to be Alderbourne Manor. The meaning of the line running south from the turnpike between Fulmer Road and Fulmer Lane is not clear. Roads are shown with double lines on this map. It could be another stream, but more likely a boundary. There are buildings either side of it roughly where Grove Cottages, the Home Farm and Prestwicks are shown on later maps.

Bryants Map 1824

Reproduced with the kind permission of Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society



This extract from Bryant's map shows the site in relation to the surrounding area. Parks are shown in green and we can see the dominance of Bulstrode to the west. Fulmer Common had not been enclosed and lay south east of what was to become the site of St. Huberts. Indeed part of the present grounds north of St. Huberts Lane were then in Fulmer Parish. In 1824 most of the present St. Huberts was in the extreme north-eastern part of Langley Marish (formerly Langley Marsh) parish and the parish boundary is shown by a dotted line forming a triangle. To complicate matters further the property marked as West Hill Hall (a misspelling for Woodhill), was in a detached part of Iver parish, called Oak End. The remaining parts of Gerrards Cross were in the parishes of either Hedgerley or Chalfont St. Peter.

Enclosure

Historically Gerrards Cross had large expanses of open commons or heathland. The abundant woodland now associated with the area is mainly a 20th century phenomenon. Chalfont Heath lay to the north of the A40 with Fulmer Common to the south. Some land had already been enclosed by agreement and the remainder of Langley Marish common land was enclosed following an Act of Parliament in 1809. The Enclosure Map is dated 1809; there is a separate volume containing the Enclosure Award. Fulmer Common was enclosed in 1865 under provisions of the general enclosure statute.

The Iver Enclosure Map of 1801 does not appear to show the detached part of Iver parish which was later to form the northerly part of St. Huberts estate – The Rancho. The Langley Marish Enclosure Map does, however, state that this was an old enclosure owned by Brasenose College, Oxford.

Langley Marish Enclosure Map 1809

Reproduced with the kind permission of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

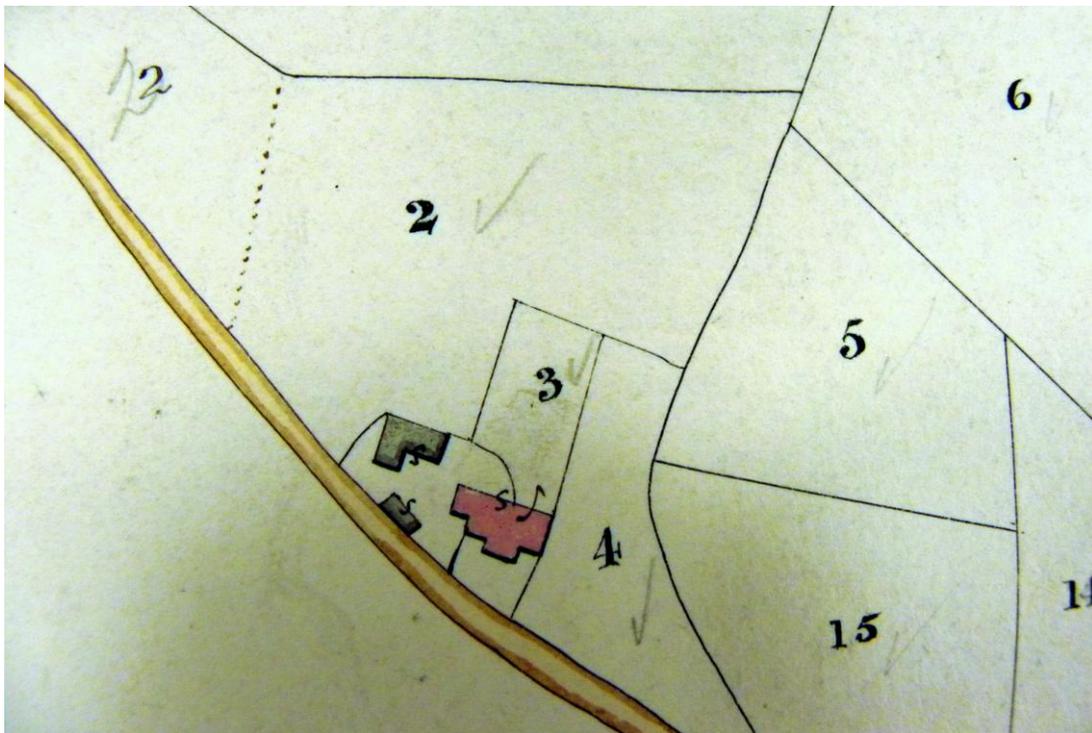


This map is orientated with north to the left, so the turnpike road (A40) is on the left hand side. The road running from left to right along the northern edge of Fulmer Common divides Langley Marish parish from Fulmer Common and was newly created as Public Road number 2 in the Enclosure Award. The future site of St. Huberts House comes within the plots north-east of that road, numbered 2 and 3 with its grounds within plot number 1 and extending onto Fulmer Common west of the road and into Iver parish to the north. The name Warren House is written on the Fulmer side of the road beneath plot 7. As a general rule arable fields are coloured brown and the green land indicates pasture. The curved line noted on the Jefferys map appears as a boundary.

Dudley Adams bought Plot 1 from the Enclosure Commissioners for £99 and Plot 2 from Richard Calvert. These plots measured 8 acres 1 perch and 3 roods 23 perches respectively. Plot 3, measuring 1 acre 2 roods and 19 perches, was allotted to Edmund Grove. The land to the east of Plot 3 comprised old enclosures already belonging to Edmund Grove. This included the house and buildings next to number 16 served by the private road with a right-angled bend. Plots 1, 2 and 3 are all stated to be freehold land on Gerrards Cross Common. The two cottages in Plot 20 belonged to William Hatch whilst the substantial farm, Prestwicks, was part of the Duke of Somerset's Bulstrode estate. Alderbourne Manor, is at number 33.

Langley Marish Tithe Map 1845

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This map of 1845 is the earliest to show buildings on the St. Huberts site. The numbered plots are slightly altered from those shown on the Enclosure Map of 1809. Tithe plot 4 (described as an allotment) appears the same as Enclosure Plot 3 but Enclosure Plot 3 has been extended westward and Enclosure Plot 1 has been divided into Tithe Plots 1 and 2. The general mapping convention was to show buildings of brick or stone in pink and those of timber in black. It appears that a substantial house with outbuildings has been built on the enclosure plots numbered 2 and 3 which had been acquired by Dudley Adams and Edmund Grove respectively in 1809. By 1845 Ralph Rothwell owned and occupied Plots 2, 3 and 4 on the Tithe Map. Plot 2 is described as a grass allotment (area 8 acres 1 perch), Plot 3 as a house and garden (area 3 roods 23 perches – the same area as Enclosure Plot no. 2 bought by Dudley Adams) and Plot 4 as an arable allotment (area 1 acre 2 roods and 18 perches). The farm land and Grove Cottages to the east were now owned by Thomas and John Groves but occupied by Sarah Clark. Plot 1 to the north-west was grassland belonging to the Parish of Langley but occupied by George Bowler.

Joseph Johnson was the Duke of Somerset's tenant at Prestwick Farm and the present Alderbourne Manor was then called Nutting Grove.

Ralph Rothwell's house (which is not named in the Tithe documents) is on the same alignment and appears in much the same position as St. Huberts House. It must be remembered that at this time there was no St. Huberts Lane but the road ran close to the front of the house; this will be considered later as will the vexed question as to whether the 1845 house still exists.

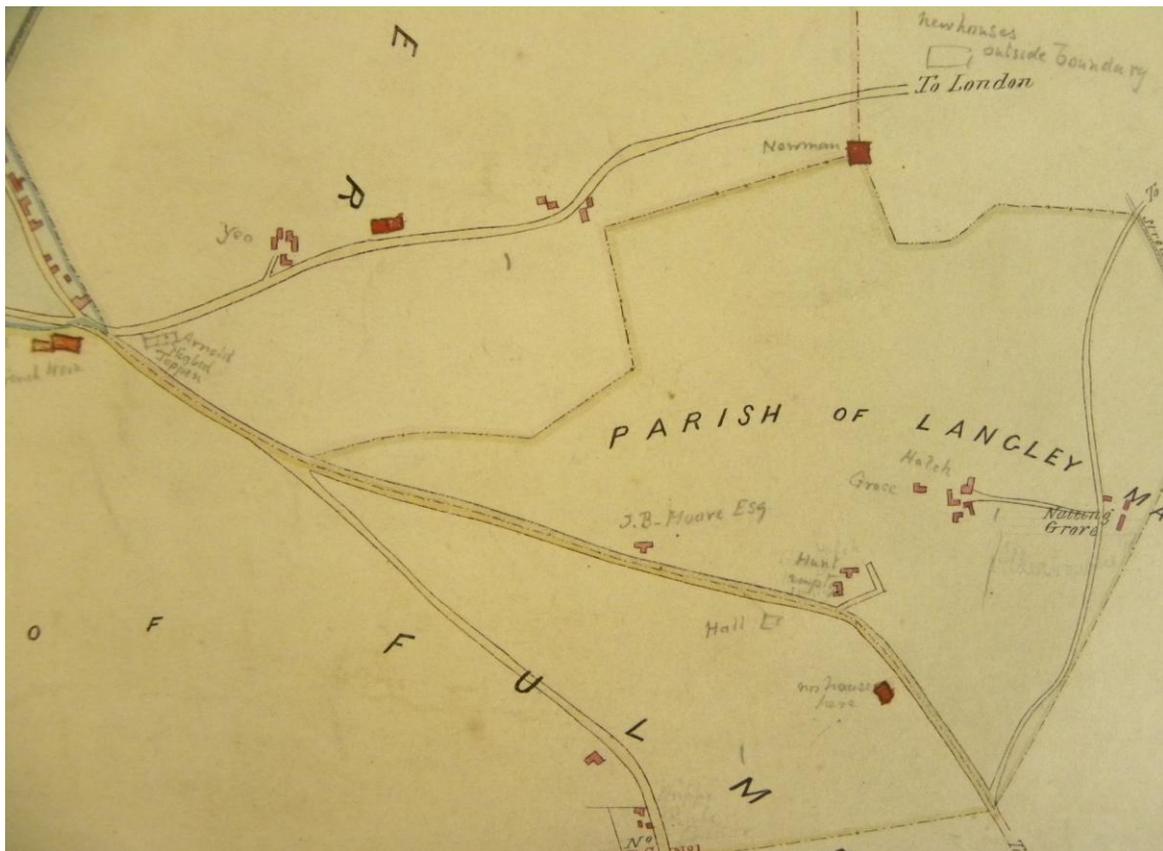
As to the date of Rothwell's house, comparison of the Enclosure and Tithe maps indicates it was built at some time between 1809 and 1845. The documents also show that ownership of the land had changed during that period with both Dudley Adams and Edmund Grove having somehow relinquished their ownership. A search for a Dudley Adams in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB) revealed an entry for an Adams family, makers of scientific instruments and globes. George Adams senior was clearly eminent in his field, being appointed mathematical instrument maker to George III. He had two sons, George and Dudley Adams (1762-1830). Since their business was based in London it seemed unlikely that this was the same Dudley Adams named in the Tithe records of Langley Marish. However the ODNB entry states that George Adams senior, "as well as his London property...owned an estate at Langley Marish, Buckinghamshire." His son Dudley evidently had no head for business and was adjudged bankrupt in 1817. The ODNB goes on to say that his assets were sold by auction in 1817 and they included "a country estate called Nutting Grove in Buckinghamshire." (Nutting Grove became the present Alderbourne Manor). A search in The Times digital archive revealed an advertisement in the Times of 1st July 1817 for an auction sale on 25th July of the freehold estate of Nutting Grove. This sale included "6 enclosures of rich meadow and arable land, conveniently near..." a statement which implies that they were not adjoining the house and grounds at Nutting Grove. Could these enclosures include the St. Huberts site acquired by Dudley Adams in 1809? If so the building period for Rothwell's house could be narrowed down to between 1817 and 1845.

The next map dates from 1860 when the complex parochial arrangements were simplified with the creation of a new chapelry for Gerrards Cross following the construction of St. James' church on the Common.

Map of Gerrards Cross Chapelry dated 1860

attached to London Gazette 16th April 1861

Reproduced with the kind permission of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies



Names of occupiers have been written in pencil on this map, by whom or when is not known. The house at St. Huberts is shown with the name J.B. Moore Esq. beside it. This is clearly not meant to be an accurate drawing of the house but it is interesting to note that the shape is roughly the same as that of the house on the Tithe Map with a projecting central front portion.

The church had been built at the expense of two spinster sisters, Anna Maria and Louisa Reid. They had lived with their brother, Col. George Alexander Reid M.P. at Bulstrode Park as tenants of the Duke of Somerset for part of each year since 1841 (Hunt & Thorpe, p.33). After their brother's death they had the church built as his memorial, engaging the noted architect, Sir William Tite, a close friend of Col. Reid, to design the building. These sisters are the Misses Reid who, purportedly, had the house at St. Huberts built for themselves. This question will be considered in more detail later.

The creation of the St. James' chapelry did not affect the civil parish boundaries. The civil parish of Gerrards Cross was only created in 1895.

Ordnance Survey Maps

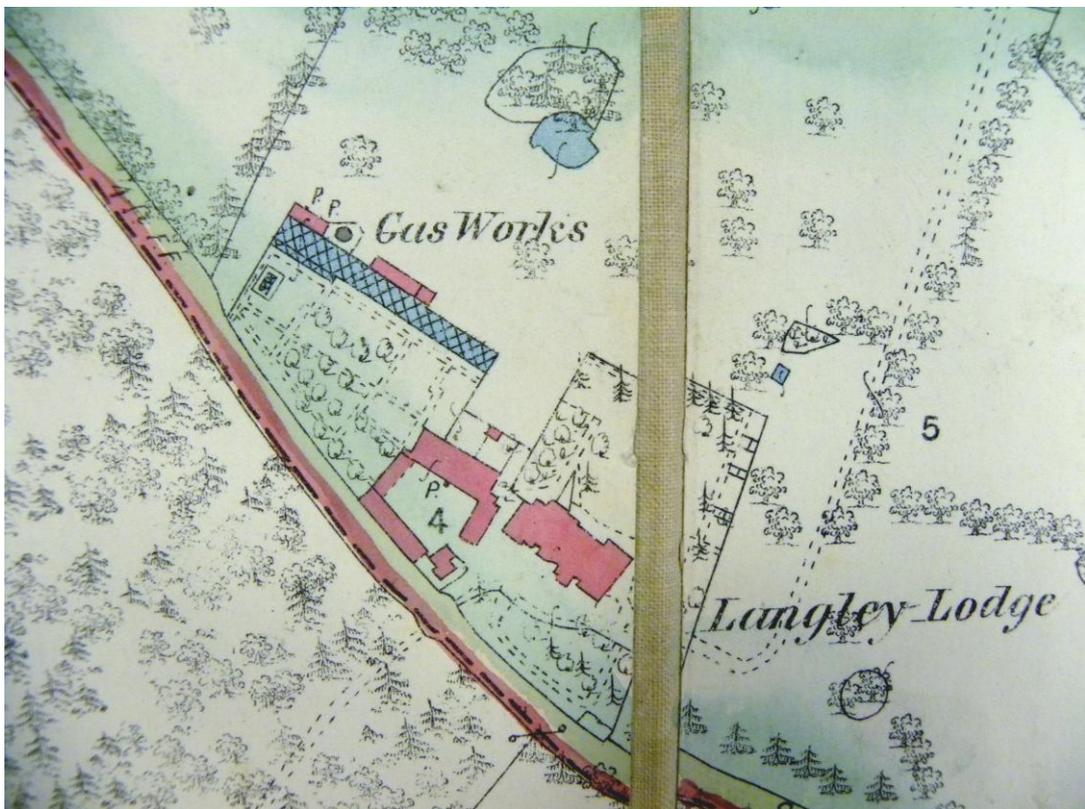
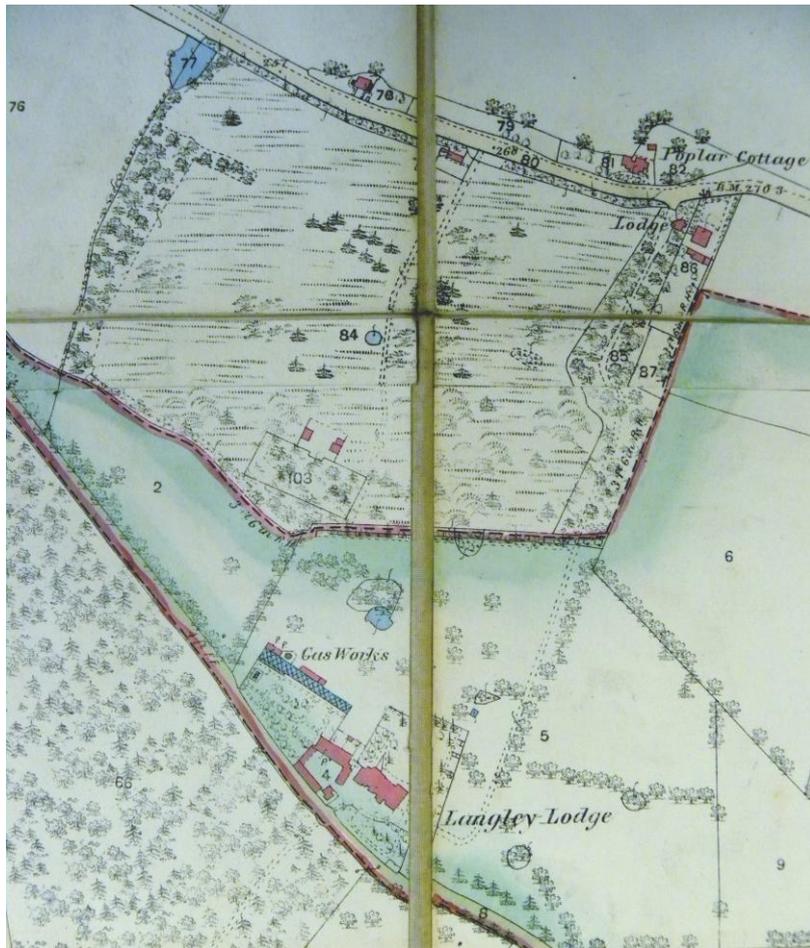
An Ordnance Survey Drawing was prepared for this area in 1811, prior to the one-inch series. It cannot be reproduced here but can be viewed online on the British Library website. It does not show any buildings on the St. Huberts site.

Apart from complications over parish boundaries there is the added inconvenience that the Ordnance Survey map boundary at 25 inch scale falls across the St. Huberts' grounds so it is usually necessary to look at two sheets – L111.3 and XLVIII.15. Fortunately there is a first edition 25-inch scale map of the whole parish of Langley Marish from 1875 accompanied by a reference book showing the use of each field number, which overcomes this problem. However the original map is folded and regrettably the creases break up the image on the map-surface.

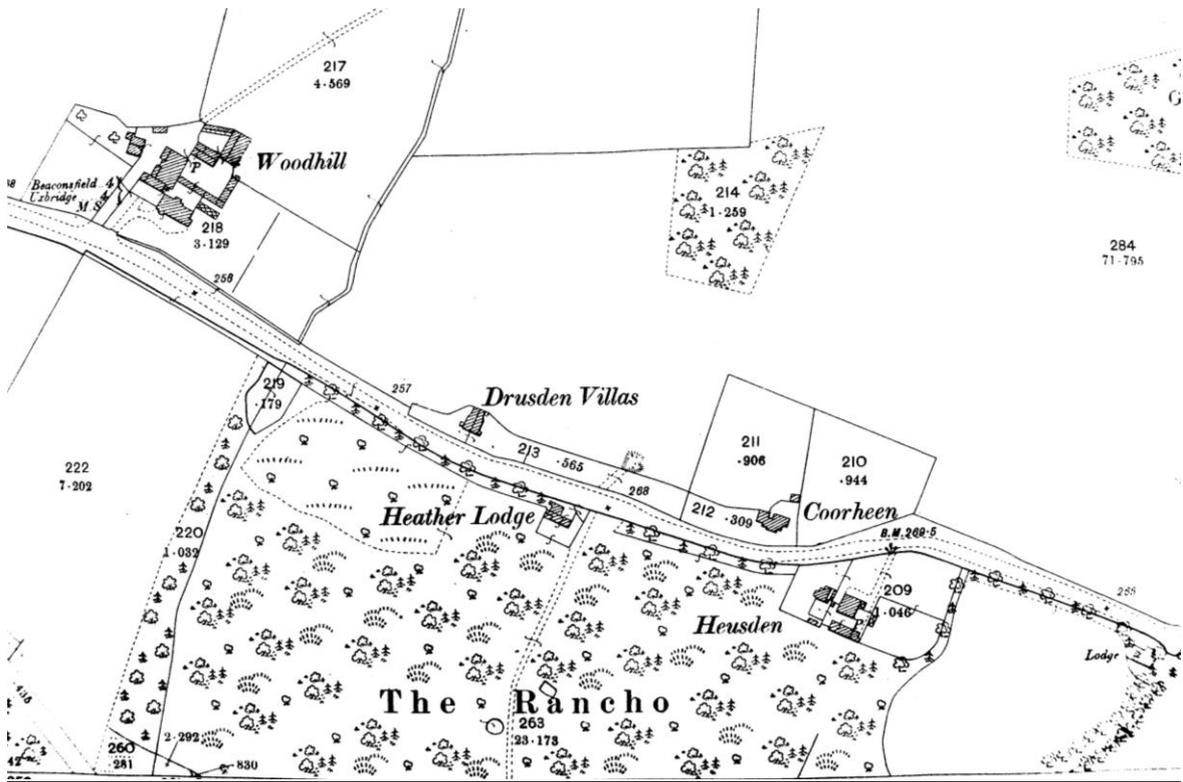
1875 Ordnance Survey first edition of Langley Marish parish 25-inch scale



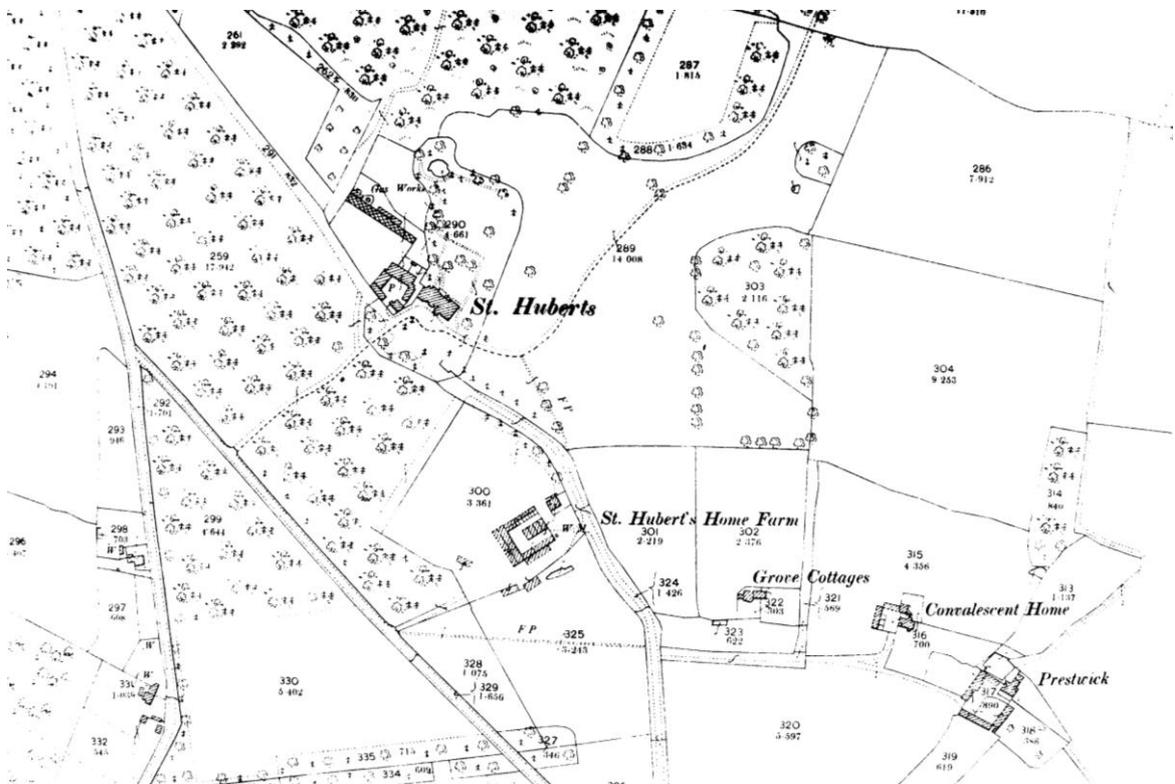
The shape of the house (now called Langley Lodge) is somewhat altered. The outbuildings are different and there is a walled garden with full-length glass house and gas works. The estate has been extended north with the house approached from the east via a driveway with a lodge on the A40 (now Huesden Cottage).



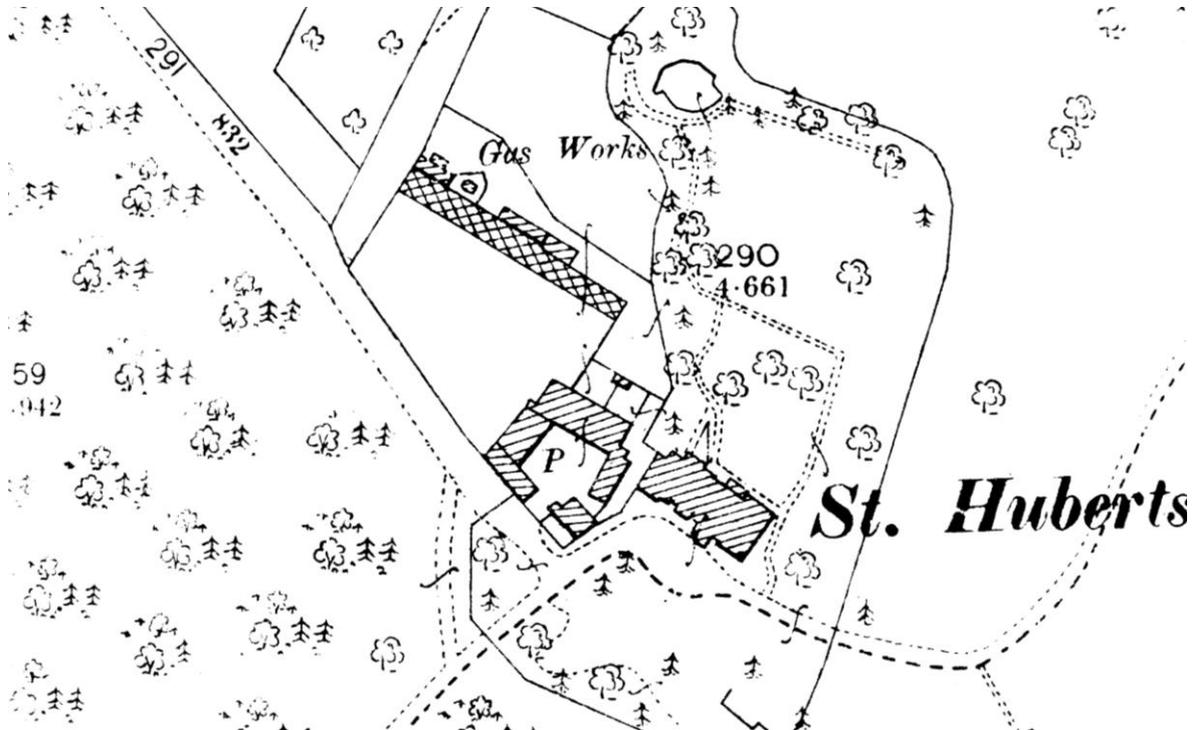
1899 Ordnance Survey Second Edition 25-inch scale
Sheet XLVIII.15



Sheet LIII.3



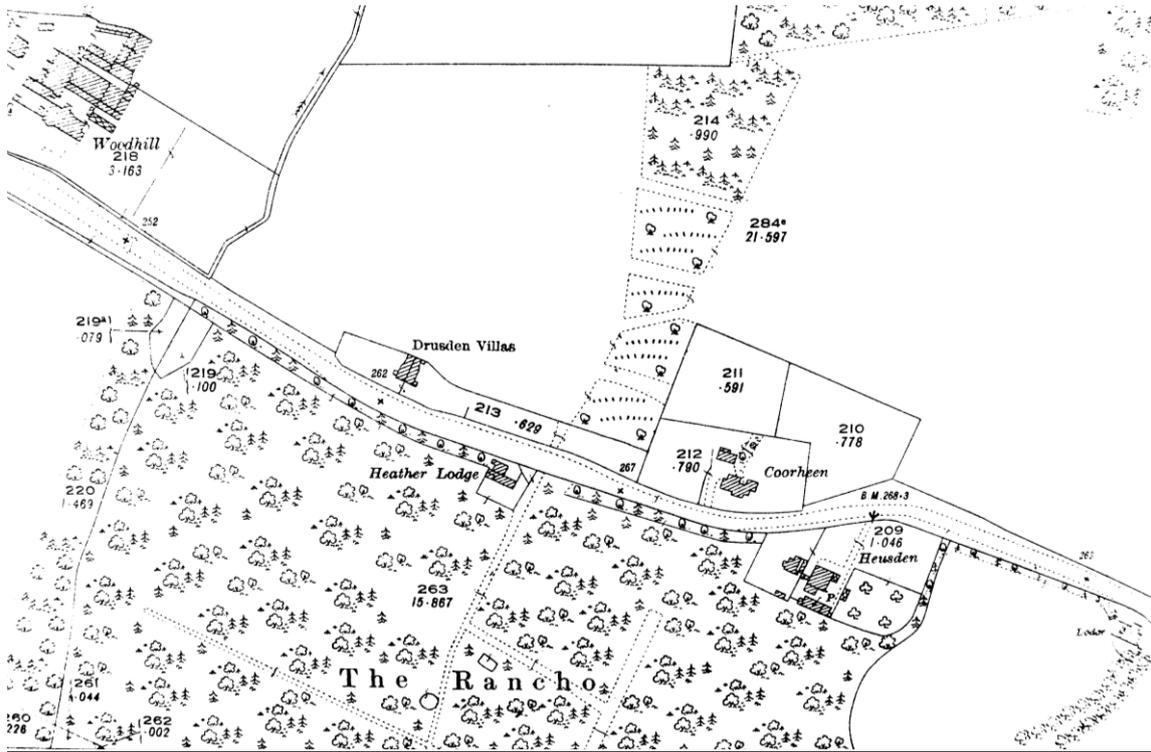
There are several changes by 1899. St. Huberts Lane has been created and a drive runs south-west from the house to that new road. Heusden Cottage is no longer a lodge, and a new lodge has been built farther east along the A40. The house is now called St. Huberts and Warren House has been renamed St. Hubert's Home Farm. The old road continues as an internal estate road linking the main house with the farm. The lodge which had originally belonged to the Rancho is now called Heather Lodge.



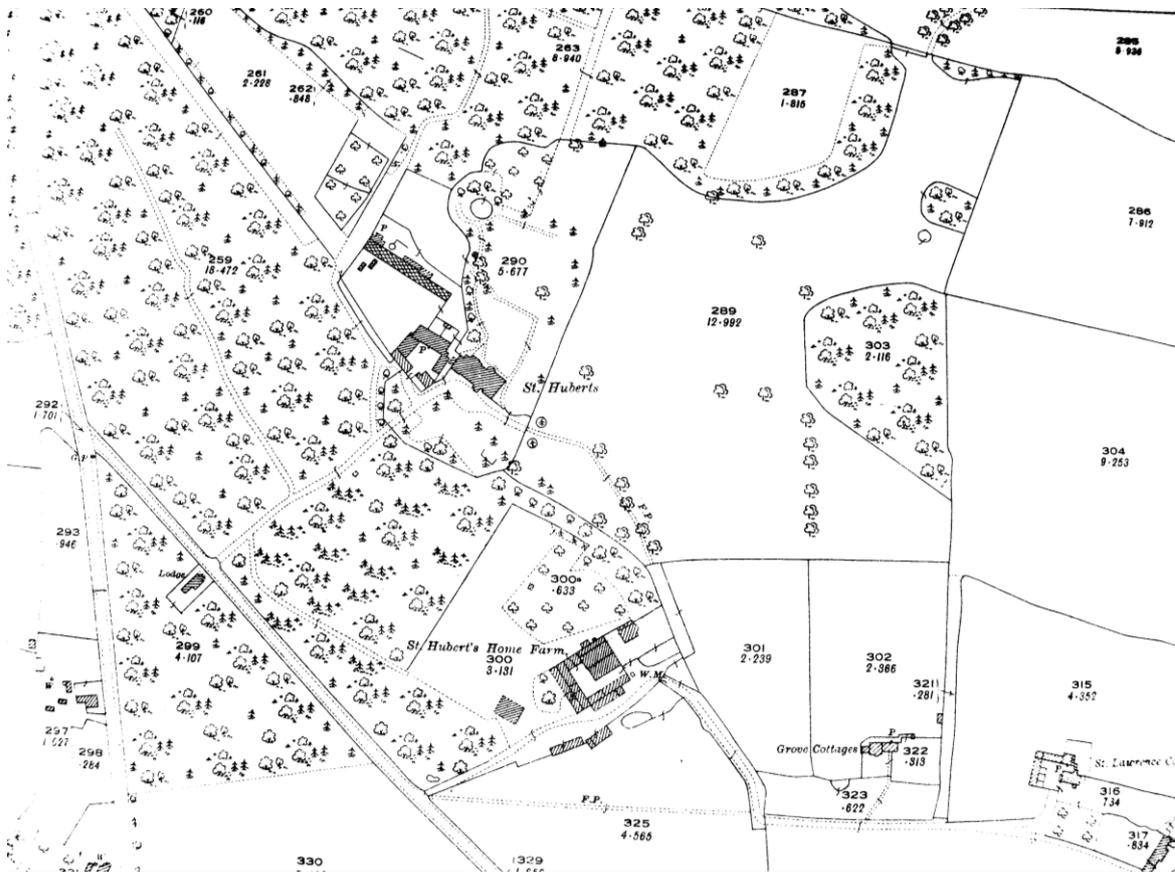
There now appears to be a rectangular extension on the rear of the house.

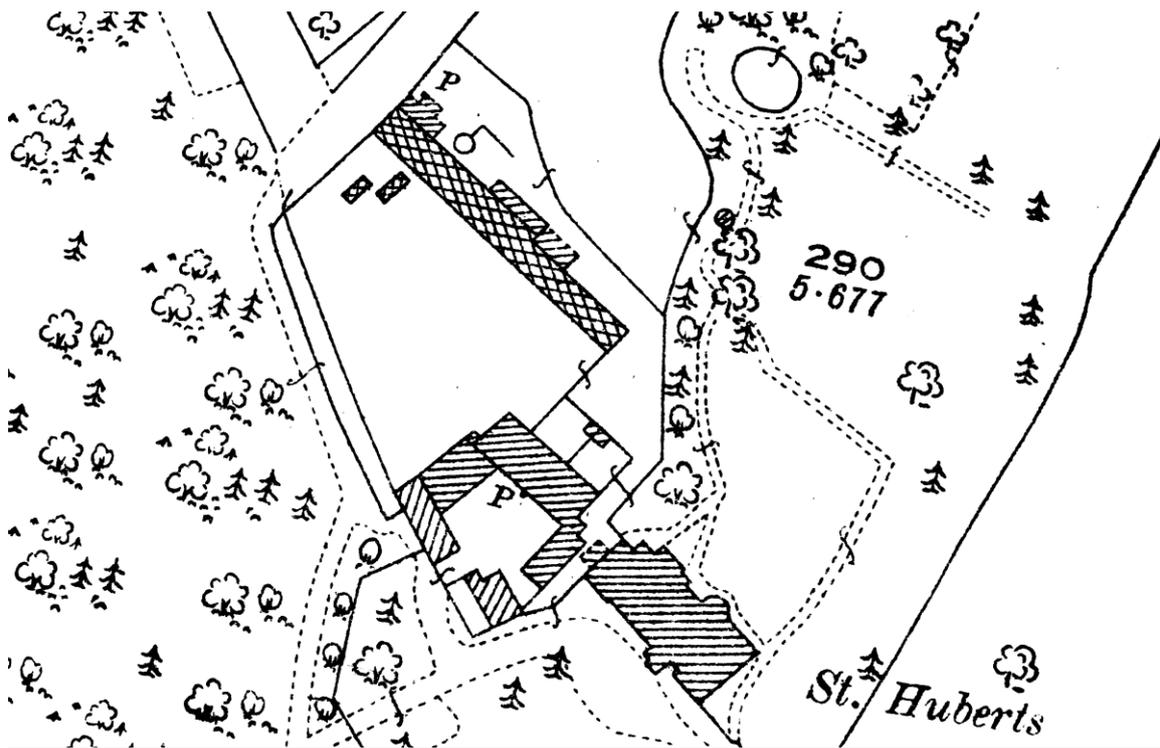
The versions of the Ordnance Survey maps created for the 1910 Valuation Survey will be considered later in this chapter.

1925 Ordnance Survey 25 inch scale
Sheet XLVIII.15



Sheet LIII.3





By 1925 more paths have been laid out in The Rancho. A lodge has been built opposite the entrance in St. Huberts Lane (Eagle Lodge).

There are now two glass houses in the central part of the walled garden as well as the long glasshouse along the north wall shown on the 1875 and 1899 maps.

This map also indicates that some alterations have been made to the main house since the 1899 maps.

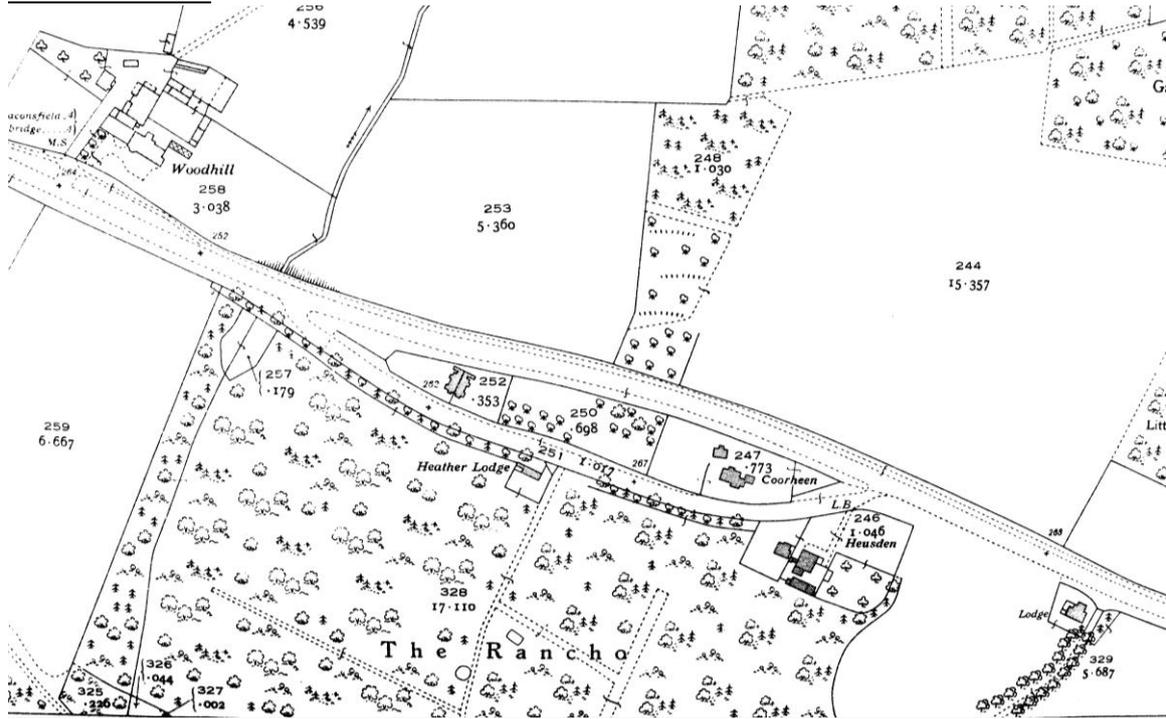
At the rear of the main house the rectangular extension has been replaced by an apsidal structure.

There is a rectangular extension to the west wing of the main house.

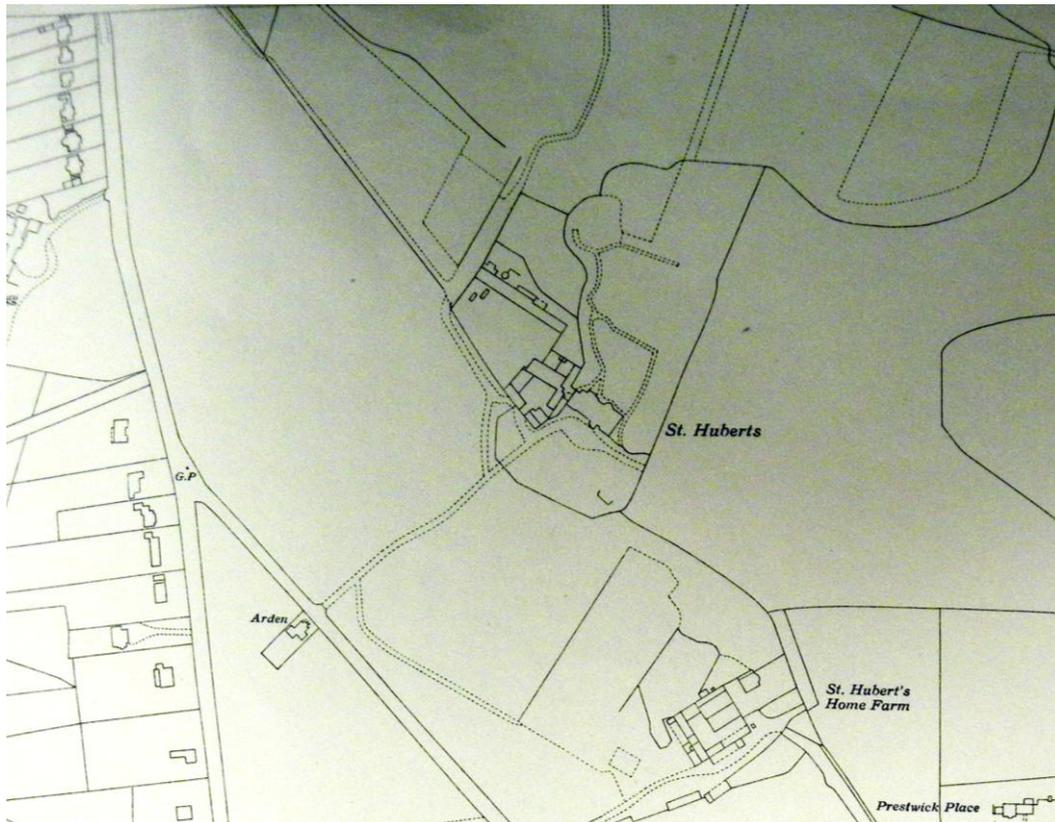
More importantly, the indented outline of the front of the house north-west of the porch has been replaced by an almost straight line.

The driveway from the eastern lodge on the A40 no longer appears so the main approach to the house must now be from St. Huberts Lane.

1938 Ordnance Survey 25-inch scale
Sheet XLVIII.15



Sheet LIII.3 provisional edition



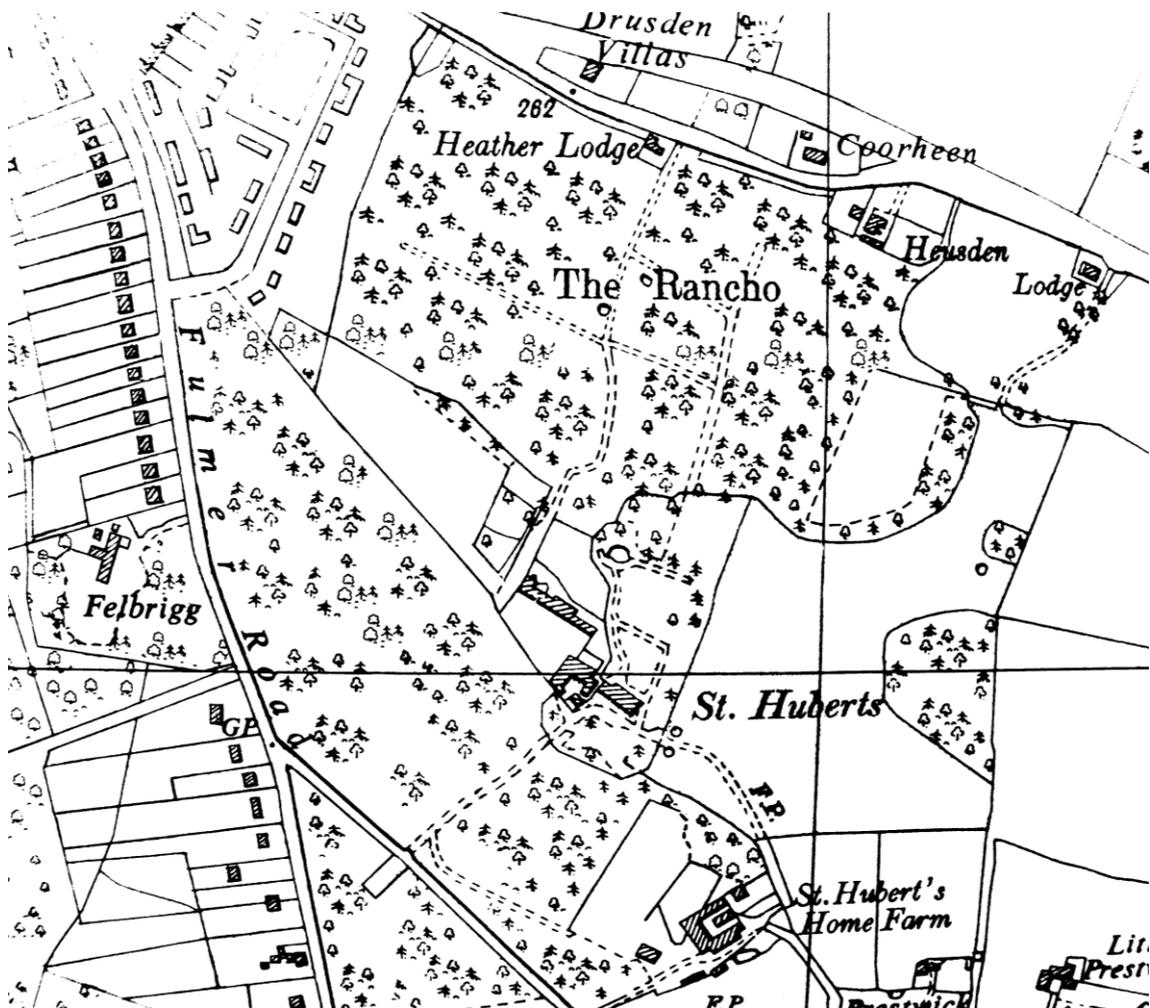
The provisional edition does not show the usual shadings and is more difficult to decipher. However it is possible to see that Eagle Lodge is now called Arden and there has been considerable new development on the western side of Fulmer Road. The clearer close-up of the 1938 map below shows the west wing extension with a

dotted line, indicating that this was an open-side building. In fact the extension was a room at first floor level only supported by pillars.



1960 Ordnance Survey 6 inch scale

[This scale does not show the shapes of buildings with as much accuracy as the 25-inch scale]



The house (formerly Eagle Lodge and then Arden) opposite the entrance in St. Huberts Lane is not shown. Land between The Rancho and Fulmer Road has been developed (Gaviots Green).

Planning Records

SBDC's Conservation and Design Officer has kindly supplied some material from the listed buildings file; copies of old photographs and an original of the 1987 Hamptons Sales brochure. Results of the relevant findings from a search in the planning records at SBDC will be dealt with in the **Analysis** chapter.

Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs have not been used in this report. The HER has no digital versions and RAF air mosaics dated May 1949 seen at the British Library provided little additional information. They showed the grounds overgrown with heavy tree cover. The drive to St. Huberts Lane also looked overgrown, and probably disused but the old track to Fulmer Road was clearly defined indicating that it was probably still being used. Land to the west had been cleared for housing development and perhaps this route was only blocked when the houses were built.

Other documentary evidence

The ten-yearly censuses from 1841 to 1911 have been examined for evidence about the occupiers of the property. They merely record the names of the people who were in residence on a particular day, not the ownership of the property.

Certain other caveats are appropriate. Property names change, and in country districts, such as Gerrards Cross, roads and houses were often not named at all. It is necessary to read the census in combination with maps. The census enumerators followed a particular route going from house to house so it is generally safe to assume that houses next to each other on the census are actually contiguous on the ground, but again in rural areas without regular streets, the enumerator's route can be difficult to ascertain.

For St. Huberts the census was also complicated by the multiplicity of parishes under which the property came within the parish of Langley Marish but was included in the Iver registration district.

Directories must also be regarded with some caution. They were commercial enterprises, with self-selecting entries, and therefore not comprehensive and sometimes they perpetuate errors over successive editions.

The earliest census in 1841 is the least informative since it did not give birth-place, or precise age and occupations were only given for the head of the family. It is difficult to identify the properties but there is a census entry for Langley Cottage occupied by Charles and Phoebe Wood, both aged about 25. They were living next to a farmer, James Clark, his wife, Sarah, and children, and next to them was Samuel Biggs, farmer, then came a family of an agricultural labourer, then Prestwick Farm, then Nutting Grove.

From our map evidence this does seem to indicate that the enumerator was travelling east from the Fulmer Road. Taken with the evidence of the Tithe Map of 1845 where Sarah Clark was occupying the farm east of the St. Huberts site it is reasonable to assume that the Langley Cottage in this census is the same house owned and occupied by Ralph Rothwell at the time of the Tithe Map in 1845. The lack of an occupation given for Charles Wood may indicate that he was not the head of the household. The Tithe Map showed a substantial house which would have had servants so it may be that the Woods were servants staying in the house whilst the owners were away. The Woods do not appear in later censuses for this place.

By 1851 the census shows Langley Cottage occupied by Mr Harman, a gentleman, with his wife, two young children, a gardener and two house servants. The 1853 Kelly's Directory has an entry for Edward David Harman at Langley Cottage. It has not been possible to find out more about Mr Harman from later censuses, the Times Digital Archive or online searches.

According to Hunt and Thorpe (pp.20-21) the Liverpool merchant John Bramley Moore bought Langley Cottage about 1863. More information about him is given in the **People** chapter. There is nothing with the title deeds to confirm his date of purchase. His son William had been appointed the first vicar at the new church in Gerrards Cross in 1859 and no doubt this is how his father became acquainted with Gerrards Cross.

The 1875 map shows that the house-name was changed to Langley Lodge; how far the property itself was changed will be considered later.

The 1869 Directory has an entry for John Bramley Moore living at Langley Lodge. However he does not appear there in the 1861 census when he was living as head of the household at Bark Hill Road in Aigburth, Liverpool with two house servants. His wife was in London.

The 1861 census for Gerrards Cross shows Langley Cottage occupied by Jane Warwick, a 52 year old agricultural labourer, and her two sons, the elder being a gardener. This is rather perplexing. The fact that Bramley-Moore is not at Langley Cottage does not necessarily mean he did not yet own the property especially since he does not appear there on any subsequent censuses. The many references to him in *The Times* indicate he maintained an active interest in Liverpool affairs and so may have kept a house there. The name "Langley Cottage" rather than "Langley Lodge" may indicate he was not yet the owner, but then again it was still called Langley Cottage in the 1871 census, perhaps a case of the locals still using the old name. But why was the house occupied by an agricultural labourer? Had Langley Cottage been reduced from the home of a gentleman to that of a farm-hand? If Mrs Warwick was a servant at the house she would surely have given her occupation as such, but perhaps it was her son, the gardener George Warwick, who worked at Langley Cottage and, as was probably the case in 1841, the house was being looked after by the resident servants. Mrs Warwick's husband is absent from the census so we do not know his occupation.

By the time of the 1871 census the estate had clearly grown but, as mentioned above, the house is still referred to as Langley Cottage. The Bramley-Moores were again absent with the main house being occupied by a housekeeper, housemaid and kitchenmaid. The butler, James Clark was living at a lodge with his wife and two young children, although we cannot tell from the census where this lodge was. Other households apparently on the estate were of Messrs Hunt and Atkins, both gardeners. Mr Hunt's 14 year old son was a groom. The coachman, Mr Crook, formed another household with his wife and young family. So this census indicates four buildings, apart from Langley Cottage, on the estate.

An 1876 directory again gives John Bramley-Moore's address as Langley Lodge the name for the house which appears in the 1881 census. Again the family were absent on 3rd April 1881 with the house being taken care of by the cook, Mrs Shelley and a housemaid. James Clark was still the butler. The other census entries were under a different district and have not been checked.

John's wife, Seraphina Bramley-Moore, died at Langley Lodge on 12th October 1877 (*The Times*) and in 1881 he was again away on census night, leaving Langley Lodge in the care of Mrs Shelley, the cook, and a different housemaid.

John Bramley-Moore died whilst staying in Brighton on 19th November 1886 (ODNB) leaving "his estates at Langley Marsh (sic), Chalfont St. Peters (sic), Iver, and Fulmer to his son William Joseph for life, and after his death to his son William Esmonde and his issue in tail." (*The Times*, 1st Jan. 1887).

This demonstrates how the landholdings attached to the original Langley Cottage had grown. In 1866 Bramley-Moore had purchased the property called The Rancho which lay between Langley Lodge and the A40. The author Thomas Mayne-Reid had built an unusual house in the style of a Mexican hacienda here in about 1862 and christened it "The Rancho". He was a colourful character (there is more information about him in the **People** section) and it seems that this building venture helped him towards financial ruin and Bramley-Moore bought The Rancho from his creditors. The fate of the buildings at The Rancho is not clear. Hunt and Thorpe say he left the house unfinished (p.19) but Mayne-Reid's biography describes how he wrote several of his books and plays whilst living in Gerrards Cross. Some small buildings are evident on the old maps but there is no trace of them on the ground now. The name "The Rancho" persists however and even appears on mapping today.

We know from his correspondence with the Duke of Somerset that John Bramley-Moore had bought Warren Cottage and two adjoining plots from the Bulstrode Estate in 1868 for £1,000. This is presumably the property labelled Warren House on the early maps, and which became St. Huberts Home Farm. He heads his letters "Langley Lodge, Gerrards Cross" on paper watermarked "Joynson 1866".

The Revd. William Bromley-Moore was vicar at Gerrards Cross until 1869. It is not clear whether he lived at Langley Lodge after his father's death. Col. the Honourable William Le Poer Trench appears as the occupier of Langley Lodge (misspelt Ley Lodge) in the 1887 Directory and from a letter of 30th November 1887 he has clearly acquired the property and wants to rent the shooting rights over the wood and common which "adjoin us" and refers to a time earlier in the year when he was contemplating "taking Bramley Moore's place". (Duke of Somerset correspondence at CBS). However from another letter in 1890 it seems that Bramley-Moore junior had retained some property in Gerrards Cross and the memorial inscription on the church tower (see the **People** section) erected in 1888 refers to Revd. William Bramley as "of Langley Lodge". Perhaps Colonel Trench was only a tenant at this time. At any rate he had changed the name of the house by the time of the 1891 directory, not something a tenant is likely to have done.

From his correspondence we can see that the Colonel had another, probably his principal, residence at his father-in-law's old home, 3 Hyde Park Gardens, London. Being the third son of the Earl of Clancarty he regularly visited his family in Ireland and spent time travelling in the U.K. and abroad in pursuit of his favourite pastimes – hunting, shooting and fishing.

The Trench family were absent on the census nights in both 1891 and 1901. In 1891 there were only the housekeeper, Mrs Lyddiard and housemaid Lizzie Penny in residence. Lizzie was still there in 1901, this time holding the fort with a new housekeeper, Elizabeth Crocker.

The Colonel's love of field sports and his family loyalties are reflected in the name he gave to his new estate – St. Huberts – the patron saint of hunting whose symbol of a stag's head with a cross between its antlers forms part of the Colonel's coat of arms. When the road was moved away from the house to form St. Huberts Lane the present listed gates with their stag-head inserts were erected at the southern end of the new driveway. Hence we see that the listed building description date of c.1860 must be inaccurate.

The Colonel must also have named Heusden Cottage after his father, the Earl of Clancarty, who also bore the title Marquis of Huesden, a place in the Netherlands.

There is a local legend that Colonel Trench spent a great deal of money and effort in making his estate a hunting and shooting resort largely for the enjoyment of the Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII, with its wooded, secluded grounds providing a hideaway for the Prince to conduct his amorous liaisons. Whilst there is more information about the Trench family in the **People** section this aspect has not been researched for this report. This writer is aware that television researchers have been making enquiries about the Prince's connections with Gerrards Cross so one day we may learn more about royal "goings-on" at St. Huberts via a television documentary!

No family archive has been found whilst researching this report but it is evident from the protracted correspondence between the Colonel and the Duke of Somerset over shooting rights at Dukes Wood, west of St. Huberts, that the Colonel was particularly conscientious about maintaining a good shoot. He was a keen breeder of Golden Retrievers and must have maintained kennels somewhere on his estate. There is no evidence of any kennels in the present grounds, nor of any pet graveyard, but in his will he left his "dear yellow retrievers" to his son, Power, with a direction that if he did not want to keep them, to have them chloroformed and buried under his lawn.

How far the estate was extended during the Colonel's time at St. Huberts is not known but his correspondence with the Duke is informative about his attitude to the land. In December 1894 he says he has purchased Wood Hill Farm and is about "to plant a good deal of it". In January 1895 he says he is now farming 500 acres and getting in a batch of 18,000 trees for planting on Wood Hill! These included many Douglas Firs. The purchase of Wood Hill had apparently stretched him financially since he turned down an offer to take Pickeridge Farm (in Hedgerley) and its shooting rights but he would have dearly liked to acquire Gerrards Cross Common to improve its management. He was indeed prescient when he bemoans the state of the Common with the gorse and heather creating a fire-risk. There were several serious fires on the Common in the early 20th century.

In 1893 he declares himself an "improving farmer" when proposing a drainage scheme and he was clearly concerned over the provision of a water-supply to Gerrards Cross and the impact of the railway. His apparent obsession with the growing rabbit population extended to putting a rabbit-proof fence around the whole of his estate.

Part of the estate remaining from the Bramley-Moore period was a row of cottages and a public reading room on East Common. These had been built by Captain Mayne Reid and, after his departure, were christened Bramley Moore Cottages and later St. Huberts' Cottages, a name which persists to this day.

1910 Valuation Survey ("the Lloyd-George domesday")

The extent of Colonel Trench's holdings around 1912 can be ascertained from the records of the 1910 Valuation Survey. This was a survey of all the land in the country to assess a base valuation for calculation of a proposed tax on increases in land-value. That tax never materialised but the records compiled at the time are an invaluable record of land-ownership and occupation at the end of the Edwardian period. Parcels of land were given assessment numbers. These assessment numbers were marked on current Ordnance Survey maps sometime in editions specially prepared for the survey.

The “Domesday Books” kept at county record offices give brief details – names of owners, occupiers and valuations – but the surveyors’ notebooks, the field books at the National Archives, are more informative. They often contain a detailed description of buildings, giving the number of rooms and their uses, building materials etc and generally include a sketch plan for premises with several buildings. Unfortunately the field book for St. Huberts is disappointing. The house comes within assessment number 275. It is described as “mansion, stabling, park, woods & farm lying in ring fence on S. side of Oxford Rd bounded by Fulmer Rd and Alderbourne Lane. Full particulars, & schedule in papers. Area 223a 0r 37p.” There is no sketch plan. According to The National Archives research guide “papers” were not kept with the records. If kept at all they would be with private estate papers, or title deeds.

The Valuation Survey maps have not been reproduced here. They are based on the 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps already shown. The sheet for the southern part of the estate, including the house, LIII.3, is the 1899 map but it has been amended to show the addition of Eagle Lodge in St. Huberts Lane. The northerly sheet, XLVIII.15, covering the Rancho, is a special edition dated 1912, but does not appear to show any significant changes.

The Valuation Survey is at least helpful in showing the extent of the Colonel’s freehold estate and the name of the tenants, or grace-and-favour occupants, of the various lodges and cottages. The rent-free occupants of the four lodges are shown in the Directories table in the Appendix.

The Colonel’s wife, Harriet Maria Georgiana Le Poer Trench, died on 24th February 1909 and was buried, in accordance with Roman Catholic rites, in the family vault at Fulmer church (*The Times*, 1st March 1909). She was clearly a wealthy woman in her own right, since her estate was valued at over £122,000.

At the time of the 1901 census the Colonel and his wife had been in their London residence at 3 Hyde Park Gardens with their butler and six other servants. It is only in the 1911 census that we at last see the owner, now a widower, at home in St. Huberts. The Colonel is described as a 74 year old “retired army officer and gentleman farmer”. Living in the house with him were six female domestic servants and a nurse. His steward and other servants were living in lodges and cottages on the estate and again these will be dealt with in the Estate Buildings section of the **Analysis** chapter.

The Colonel had two sons, Power Mash and William Martins (*thepeerage.com*) and it is assumed that Power inherited the estate after the Colonel’s death on 16th September 1921. The 1917 Directory shows P.M. Le Poer Trench as occupier of St. Huberts. Power did not enjoy the estate for long since he died in 1926 (*thepeerage.com*) and subsequent directories show the house in the occupation of Mrs Gladys Le Poer Trench, Power’s widow. [Hunt & Thorpe’s assertion (p.21) that Gladys was the Colonel’s widow must be incorrect].

Later directories for Gerrards Cross are particularly useful since they give names of every occupier, street by street. Some of these are in searchable form on the www.gx2006.co.uk and others have been researched at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies. A table of Directory entries for St. Huberts and its estate buildings has been included in the Appendix.

This shows that Mrs Le Poer Trench stayed in occupation of the main house until 1940. During World War II the London-based Triangle Secretarial College took over the house. It then seems to have been associated with the military in some way. The 1950 and 1952 Directories show Capt. H.M Burrell R.A.N in occupation.

The website www.british.listedbuildings.co.uk gives listed building descriptions and invites people to add comments. This website has a comment dated 2 January 2011 from a Mrs Val Davey recalling the time when she lived at St. Huberts (“this beautiful house”) in 1957 as nanny to the children of Wing Commander Donald and Mrs Diana Smythe, and that the house was shared with another R.A.F. family, Group Captain Trounsen, his wife and children. Mrs Davey also recalls meeting the stars when the house was used as a location for the Norman Wisdom film “Just My Luck”.

The Gerrards Cross Directory for 1958 showed Mrs Poer Le Trench back at the house, but in 1964 and 1969 the occupant was G.A. Penney.

Hunt and Thorpe state that Gladys moved to Prestwick Place but, by the time her daughter’s death was announced in the Times of 23rd May 1960, Mrs Le Poer Trench’s address was Pinnocks Wood, Burchett Green and she died there on 9th July 1968 at the age of 94 (*The Times*, 12th July 1968).

We know from the Barnetts’ own account that they owned St. Huberts from 1974 to 1987. The title of the present owners, Huberts Limited, was registered at H.M. Land Registry in June 1988.

The extent of their St. Huberts estate is clearly much diminished from that left by Colonel Le Poer Trench in 1920.

Hunt and Thorpe’s *Atlas of Gerrards Cross 1840-1940* describes how the country estates of Gerrards Cross were carved up for new housing development. The Woodhill estate was put up for auction in April 1923 (presumably by Power Le Poer Trench) and part was bought by the builders, Lovells, who erected a leafy estate of Arts and Crafts style houses. A modern house has been built on the site of the demolished mansion but there is still a substantial area of farmland north of the A40, which used to form part of the Woodhill estate.

It is assumed that other parts of the estate were sold off piecemeal. Prestwick Place was sold by auction in 1972; there is a sale catalogue at the CBS. St. Huberts Home Farm has been converted to residential use.

Mrs Poer Le Trench seems to have been renovating the estate in the 1930s when she applied to extend Heather (or Rancho) Lodge and Eagle Lodge. At the same time she must have been considering selling-off most of the estate for housing development. The Hunt and Thorpe Atlas shows a 1936 plan which was deposited with the local authority for the development of over 700 building plots extending north and south of the A40 (page 100). This scheme would have taken in most of the grounds and, interestingly, used the old road in front of the house as an estate road. The plan clearly came to nothing, though why is not known. Had it succeeded it would have extended the village as far as Tatling End and the rural character of the east end of Gerrards Cross would have been devastated.

CHAPTER 6: ANALYSIS

THE MAIN HOUSE

As previously described there are conflicting accounts of St. Huberts and no consensus as to whether the present building was erected at one time, or was a remodelling of an earlier house. Unfortunately no evidence has been found in the course of research for this report which will resolve this essential conundrum. Further research and a more detailed survey, including of the roof-spaces, might reveal more information.

The map and other documentary evidence have already been reviewed. There is no record with the title deeds of alterations made to the building apart from some architects' plans prepared in 1988 containing proposals for various changes to the main house and outbuildings. From inspection it is evident that some of these were carried out, but that some were not.

The Hamptons sales brochure of 1987 has photographs and descriptions of the rooms, which, compared with the building now help reveal the changes made since that date. Unfortunately there is no house plan in that brochure.

From the Barnett's account it is evident that St. Huberts had suffered years of neglect and that a programme of restoration, not merely repair, was carried out between 1974 and 1987. Whilst the Barnetts seem to have been keen to carry out a sympathetic scheme, their works have not been documented. It is also relevant that those works would have been based on their belief that the building had early to mid 18th century origins. It is unfortunate that, so far, it has not been possible to locate some of the documents mentioned in the Barnett history and Hamptons' brochure, especially the 1920s photographs and an inventory of the contents of the house.

All these sources have informed Madigan Browne Drawing P161 "Building Development History" (see **Appendix**) showing phases of St. Huberts' development.

EXTERIOR

The south-elevation (entrance front)

St. Huberts faces south-west (although for ease of reference the front elevation will be called the south elevation, and so on for the other elevations, in this report). It was built parallel to the road which ran in front of it – and remains so, even though the road has been moved. The shape is, basically, rectangular, although the plan is asymmetrical and the outline is far from regular. The first impression is of a house consisting of blocks which have been assembled in a staggered fashion some walls projecting and others receding.

The shallow-pitch hipped slate roofs are behind a parapet and not visible from the ground, giving the impression of a building with flat roofs crowned by a heavy ornamented cornice, a feature of the early 19th century Italian style. However the roofline is also irregular. The "blocks" are of different heights, the two-storey east wing being higher than the two-storey west wing (at the service end), and in between is an off-centre three storey tower which gives verticality to an otherwise long-frontage. The impression of height is also increased by the irregularly placed tall chimneys. The picturesque quality of the composition is heightened by the quality of the building materials and the use of ornamentation.

Comparison of the south front now (May 2011) with a postcard sent in 1910 reveals some differences.



Postcard reproduced with the kind permission of Colin Seabright

- The turret from the top of the tower has disappeared (replaced by a satellite dish!)
- There is no stag on top of the porch.
- There is now an extension on the left (west end).
- There were blind-boxes over the windows on the postcard.
- The ground-floor window at the west end is difficult to see on the postcard but looks round headed. It is certainly different from the wide French window now there.
- The wall is covered with creeper on the postcard. This obscures the detail but may have also damaged the underlying brickwork.

Note: According to Mr Seabright, although dated 1910 the postcard could have been produced earlier, between 1900 and 1910.

Another postcard, sent in 1941, is reproduced below. This is a composite of four pictures, and of rather poor quality. Although the south front is photographed from an angle it is apparent that the turret was still there, as were the blind boxes. The stag does appear on this picture. The creeper almost engulfs the building. This postcard would not predate 1940 when The Triangle College was evacuated from London.



Reproduced with the kind permission of Colin Seabright

The building was also photographed in July 1986 for the listing card held by SBDC and is reproduced on the next page.

By this time the turret had disappeared, as had much of the creeper.

The ground floor window was full length, but not the same as the current window.

An extension at the west end can just be seen at first floor level.

The blind boxes had gone by 1986.



July 1986 photograph on listed building card



◀ This is the current ground floor west wing window, an over-wide French window in modern style, although some attempt has been made to simulate the original window heads. The brickwork shows where the arched window which sat symmetrically underneath the balcony has been bricked up.

The window must be part of the alterations made around 1988.

The 1925 map was the first to show a projection at the west end of the building, and with a dotted line, indicating it was an open structure. This was originally at first floor level, supported on pillars, and open-sided at ground floor level. The stock brick is noticeably paler than that to the right and the parapet is not as deep and lacks the lozenge decoration and dentils on the parapet to the right. This extension was originally a smoking room, communicating with the billiard room to the right.



The open area underneath the smoking room was filled in, mainly with glass, as part of the 1988 alterations and now forms a secondary dining room next to the kitchen on the left.

The smoking room was made into a bathroom as part of the 1988 scheme.

The 1925 map also showed that the south elevation had been altered between the tower and the west wing to make an almost straight frontage. The 1875 and 1899 maps had shown an indentation west of the porch and then a projection, smaller than the porch, with another indentation

east of the west wing.

This four-bayed extension is shown below and again the brick is paler and the parapet less deep and differently ornamented. The rainwater heads are not dated.



It is difficult to see how the previous plan was changed and this will be considered when dealing with the Interior.

The change is also clear at roof level; the roof of this extension is flat and leaded.



Looking from the roof of the tower in a westerly direction. The flat, leaded roof of the extension to the south front can be seen on the left and contrasts with the hipped, slate roofs of the original building.

The above photograph also shows the stone coping of the parapet which is not straight-edge but notched or rusticated.

This shows the attention to detail in the ornamentation of the exterior and the decorative use of brick and stone, one of the reasons why the design has been attributed to the architect E.B. Lamb. This attribution will be discussed in detail later.

Different forms of arches are used for the window heads. Most of the windows have anse de panier or basket arches. These have a flat top. The windows on the second floor of the tower have round-headed arches with fine foliage and ziz-zag carving. Other windows, including those in the four-bay extension have shouldered arches.

All the carving and moulded brick ornamentation is idiosyncratic.

The stone doorcase is also finely carved.

The parapets of different parts of the elevation are differently ornamented, as illustrated below.

The photographs below show the different types of window arches as well as the varied ornamentation on the parapets.



Closer up we can see that the “lozenge” brick pattern on the tower is different from that on the west wing and the section behind the four-bay extension. On the western end there are diamonds between the lozenges. The parapet on the tower is deeper – not surprising perhaps since it is a higher building – and there are two rows of dentils above the lozenges, instead of just one on the western end. As mentioned above there are no lozenges on the four-bay extension parapet, which is even less deep but moulded bricks have been applied to form what look like cinquefoils. There are three different forms of brick decoration just below the parapets. The finest shape is on the tower where the moulded bricks look like pierced ornaments. Those on the west look cruder - like a rectangular brick with a smaller square brick beneath, and those on the four-bay extension are different again with a scalloped appearance.

The extension almost hides the small balcony on the tower to the right and the carved stone corbelled ornament in the return which was surely meant to be seen.



The west wing parapet



The tower parapet



The four-bay extension parapet

There is fine carving on the stone doorcase and the St. Huberts stag, which may have been placed here after 1910, stands on the ledged flat roof of the porch. The central window behind the stag is a full-length sliding sash so it would be possible to climb through it to stand on the porch roof.



The east elevation

The east wing is two-bays wide and deep and presents a solid, square appearance. It is taller than the west wing and this is clearly the higher status part of the building. It looks unaltered from the earlier photographs, apart from the air-conditioning unit on the right balcony.



The stone dressings look remarkably clean and crisp. Note the dog-tooth ornament underneath the balcony.



The door fittings look original. ▼

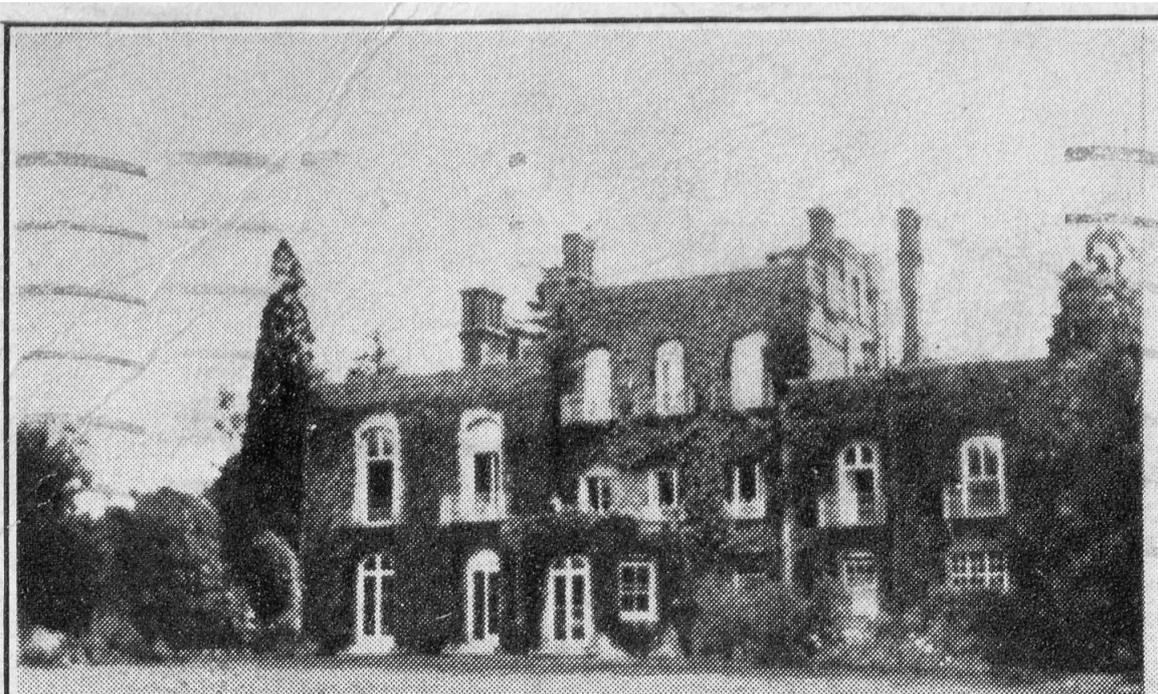


The north elevation (the garden front)

This is the most complex and difficult elevation to interpret because of the inconsistency of window treatments in the tower section where there have evidently been several alterations.



The earliest photograph for comparison is the 1941 postcard.



The picture is not clear and the walls are covered with creeper so it is not easy to make out the detail. The main differences are that the single-storey extension at the foot of the tower is smaller than now and the ground floor windows in the west wing have been altered.

The listing photograph of July 1986 is clearer and also shows more of the western end of the house. The detail is easier to make out because the creeper had been cleared.



This shows that the alterations mentioned above were post-1986 and the 1988 plans confirm that they were part of the 1988 alterations.

The different sections of this elevation will be considered starting at the east end.



The east wing looks unaltered. Again the stone dressings of the ground floor windows, protected by the balconies above, are less weathered than those of the first floor.

The ground floor canted extension to this side of the tower is part of the 1988 scheme and sits centrally to fill this three-bay section which recedes from the walls either side. It replaced a smaller, canted extension which was over to the left and so there is now a symmetry to this part of the building. The extension's roof is flat and leaded.



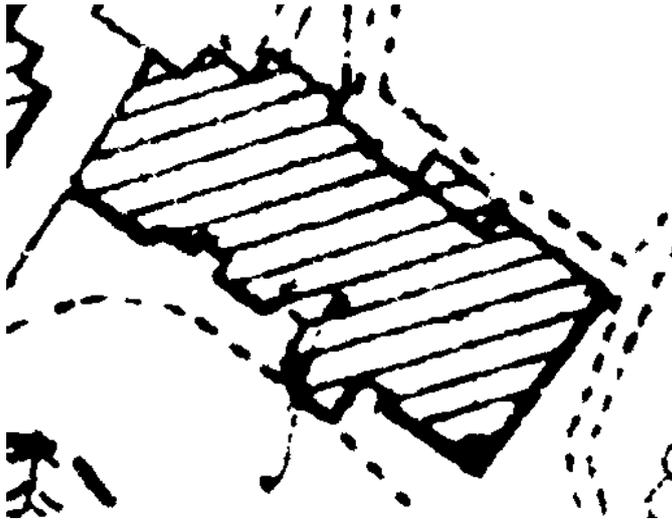
(The terrace was being re-laid at the time this photograph was taken)

The extension is of poor quality compared with the rest of the building. The bricks look re-used and their colour does not match the originals; the French windows are over-wide with concrete lintels and there is one lintel spanning two windows, which increases the sense of width. The parapet is weak and topped by uncharacteristic, Neo-Classical style pineapple finials. However it is evident from a close inspection of the listing photograph that there has been an attempt to copy the earlier extension which had a very shallow dentilated cornice and two ball finials on the roof.

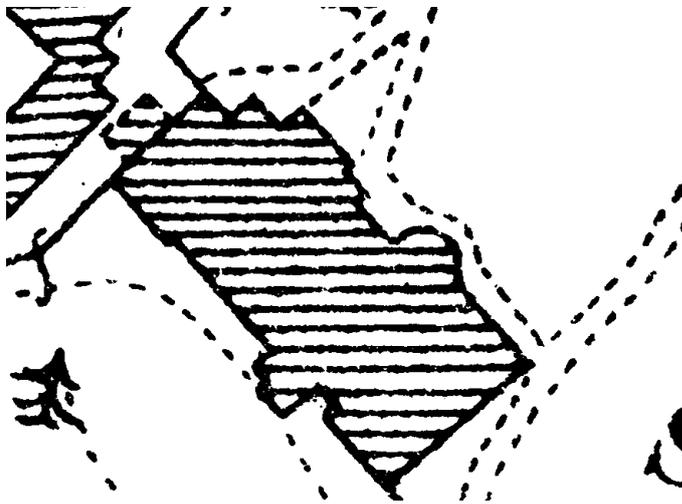
The earlier extension had a higher floor with steps down to the terrace. The floor level of the room was lowered as part of the 1988 alterations.

The earlier canted extension first appears on the map of 1925, apparently replacing a rectangular extension at this point.

The maps below have been reproduced earlier but are shown here again for ease of reference and comparison. An understanding of this part of the elevation is particularly difficult because of the three flat-headed windows at first floor level above this extension. They are puzzling since they are different from all the other windows in the building and completely out of character with the style of the house.



The 1899 Ordnance Survey map shows a rectangular extension on the north elevation to the west of and abutting the east wing.



By the time of the 1925 Ordnance Survey this extension had been altered and was curved. Was this the canted extension seen on the 1941 and 1986 pictures? It probably was since it seems unlikely that the house would have been altered again between 1925 and 1941 at a time when the estate was in decline after the death of Colonel Le Poer Trench.

It should be noted here that the 1925 map also shows the straightened south elevation, in contrast with the projection between the porch and west wing on the 1899 map. The first floor extension to the western end of the west wing can also be seen on the 1925 map.

From the map it is not possible to tell whether the rectangular extension was single-storey or higher.

The wrought iron railings on the balconies beneath the three flat-headed windows are also of a different pattern from those on the other balconies.

Whilst no evidence of brick disturbance could be seen at the sides of these windows, some can be seen above them as shown on the photograph on the next page. Unfortunately it was not possible to get onto the roof of the extension for a close examination of the windows so the photograph only shows part of the windows.

The yellow brick window heads looking remarkably clean, so possibly modern. Above them are two courses of purple bricks not seen elsewhere.



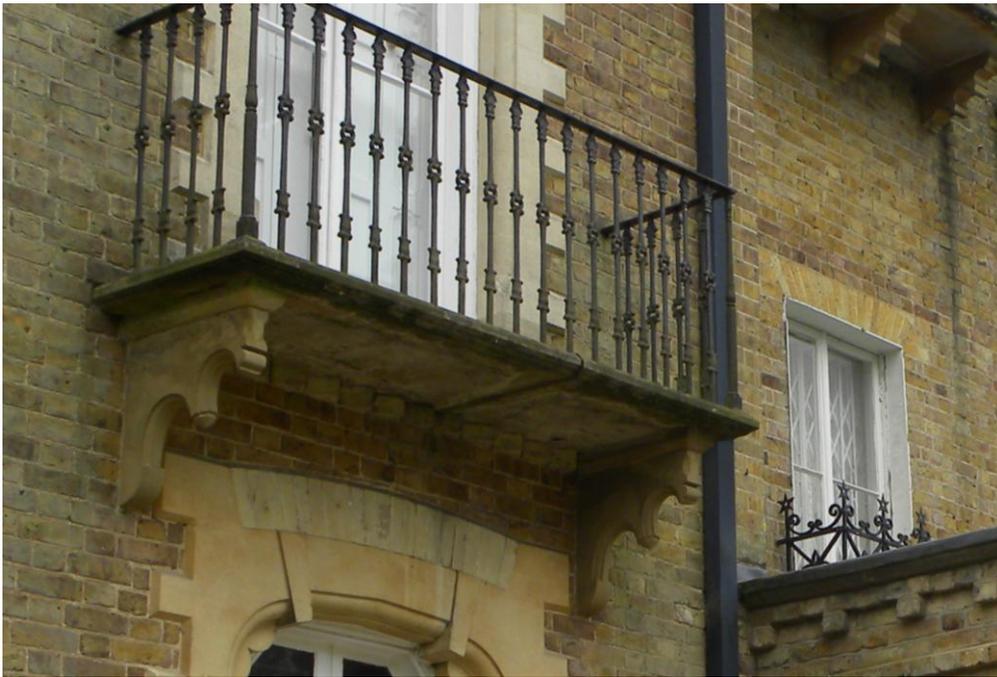
A close-up of the left hand window shows that each window side is bordered by a half-brick and then a closer (part-brick) and the location of these closers indicates that the window width has not been changed.



The Flemish bond above the brick gauged window head is disturbed with the lower course of purple bricks above it all in headers. At the right hand end of the window head there is a pale part-brick sandwiched at an angle between the window head and the purple header.

Various solutions have been suggested to this conundrum. Perhaps these window heads were changed as part of alterations in the earlier 20th century when the extensions to this elevation were changed. One explanation previously offered was that these flat-headed windows were survivals from the early 18th century house on the site but there is no evidence for such an early building. Even if there had been, or

St. Huberts is a remodelling of, say an 1820s house which might have had such windows, why would they have been left unaltered by a remodelling of the house which changed all the other windows?



The difference in the balcony railings can just be seen in the photograph above. Those beneath the flat-headed windows do not have the individual perpendicular railings but are much fancier with ornate finials and scroll-work. A closer examination might make it possible to date them on stylistic grounds.

Another suggestion has been the existence of a winter-garden. Or might there have been an awning over the windows here? Since this elevation faces north-east it would not attract much sunlight but there may have been some structure from which views of the garden could be enjoyed.

The room behind had its ceiling lowered in 1988 but the flat window heads were in place before then.

The possibility of brick repairs should not be overlooked in view of the extensive repairs evidently carried out by the Barnetts. The creeper may have contributed to brick-damage but on the other hand would have sheltered the brick and stone-dressings from the elements.

Evidence of brick repair work can be seen from the second floor balconies which give a closer view of the brick ornament and stone carving on the parapet. ►



The west end of the house, at ground floor level, was the service end (behind the green baize door).

Ground floor windows were altered as part of the 1988 scheme when the former kitchen was made into the present dining room.

This overly wide French window was inserted around 1988 replacing what appeared to be an 8 by 5 multi-paned window. The depressed brick arch of the old window head can still be seen underneath the balcony. ►



◀ The window to the west of this (below the balcony with the air-conditioning unit) has also been altered from a 3 by 4 sliding sash to a four paned sliding sash.

Hamptons 1987 brochure it looks like a timber six-panel door beneath a stone basket arch with a dentilated cornice above. Above that but slightly to the left there seems to be a shallow rectangular window underneath a depressed brick arch. According to the Hamptons brochure and 1988 plans this was a WC accessible only from outdoors. The walls were rebuilt and the door replaced by a window to create the present servery.

The brickwork to the right of the drainpipe (showing signs of damp around it) is a different colour – a buff/brown stock brick with fresh-looking pointing.

These fenestration changes were part of the 1988 scheme. More details will be given in the description of the west elevation and the interior.

The west elevation

This was, and still is the service, less prestigious, end of the house next to the stables and kitchen garden. The 1988 scheme involved alterations, some of which have already been mentioned.

The last photograph showed the 1988 glassed-in area beneath the first-floor extension which dates from between 1899 and 1925.



There are two blind windows in the return. A 1987 electrical plan shows no window on the ground floor but there is one on the 1988 architects' plan. Presumably the proposal to open the window up was not carried out. The 1988 architects' plan shows no first floor window on that wall. Sometimes blind windows were inserted to add interest to an otherwise blank elevation so it does not necessarily mean that these were once windows which have been bricked up; this wall did face the kitchen garden and the drive leading to the service entrance.

THE INTERIOR OF THE MAIN HOUSE

The photographs and descriptions in the Hamptons sales brochure of 1987 “Hamptons” and architects’ plans of 1988 (“1988 plans”) have been used to ascertain how the house has changed since that time by comparing these with Madigan Browne’s current plans and the present appearance and layout of the interior. However it is not clear whether all of the alterations in the 1988 plans were carried out.

The rooms will be described by the names given in the current Madigan Browne plans.

The ground floor

The entrance porch appears to have retained the original doors and windows. The encaustic (possibly Minton) tile floor shown by Hamptons has been replaced by marble. The entrance bell survives, with a piece of wire still dangling from it. The wire would have originally run to the bells on the board in the servants’ passage. ►



The Hall

The hall retains its dramatic impact, dominated by ornately carved woodwork of the staircase, landing and gallery which surround the tall space. The woodwork has been re-varnished a paler, and less characteristic, brown, the floor has been changed from the black and white check pattern and the fireplace has lost the blue Delft tiles shown in Hamptons.

Note the arched recess in the wall next to the staircase, purely for decorative effect.

The landing sweeps round the hall to form a gallery alongside the original stained glass window which opens out onto the roof of the porch.



Detail of the brackets under the stairs



Detail of carved brackets, twisted balusters and carved pendants underneath the landing.

The carved stone fireplace with an unidentified emblem (not the Clancarty coat of arms as suggested by Hamptons).▶

The fireback is dated 1679.



Sitting room 2 (Brown Drawing Room in Hamptons)

This room seems unaltered apart from replacement of the floorboards shown in Hamptons. Finely carved woodwork decorates the ceiling. The wooden shutters on the windows have survived. The carving on those is similar to that on the doors, most of which are six-panelled.▶



◀ Servant's bell, carved skirting board and the edge of the green marble fireplace.

TV Room (the Library in Hamptons)

The delicate cornice and marble fireplace, but not the tiled hearth, shown in Hamptons are still here but the floorboards have been replaced.



Detail of the cornice

Sitting Room I (Dining room in Hamptons)

The alterations to this room have been detailed when describing the exterior. The present sitting room covers a much larger area, projecting farther out into the garden but also taking in the area which used to be an office in 1987. The photographs of the dining room in Hamptons show a room with a low ceiling and this is presumably why the floor level has been lowered; there are now no steps down onto the paved terrace.

Looking out of the lowered sitting room back towards the front entrance. ►

Whilst the steps are new the door remains in the same place as the one which served the dining room, and is in line with the entrance door.

Presumably this room, as unextended, would have been the original dining room, a rectangular shape, not very deep, with a fireplace at either end.



The stone fireplace remains as described by Hamptons and this one does bear Colonel Le Poer Trench's emblem of the St. Huberts stag with a cross between its antlers. ▼



The original service wing begins just west of the staircase where the service passage leads towards the back door, but its function has been much changed.

The room labelled “kitchenette, store and storeroom” was, presumably, the original butler's pantry. It still contains the safe where the silver would have been kept. It bears the name “S. Mordan & Co. London”. Products so marked are dated between the 1860s and 1941 when the company ceased to trade. Sampson Mordan was a silversmith and the man who patented the ever-pointed propelling pencil! (see **Sources**)



The back stair

A Victorian country house had at least two sets of stairs so that the servants could go about their business unseen by the family and guests.

The back stair – looking east along the service passage towards the hall; of good quality but not as ornate as the main stair. ►



The servants' bell-board is in three glass cases on the wall in the passage. There are three sets each of four bells. In the first case they are marked front door, front hall, and inner hall; in the second, dining room, billiard room and bath room; in the third, no.2 bed, no. 3 bed and no. 4 bed.

Since there are only nine labels for 12 bells clearly some room labels are missing so the bells are of no help in working out the plan of the house in Victorian times.

The dining room was formed from the original kitchen at the east end, and the scullery further west, as part of the 1988 scheme. There is a massive beam where the original wall has been taken down. The larder and pantry were also at the western end and, from the 1988 plans, appear to have extended into what is now the service passage. This may explain why the ceiling of the dining room is lower along the southern side. In the south-eastern corner of the room an opening was created into the new washroom, which in 1987, was a bathroom with a door into the office which was subsumed into the modern Sitting Room I. The wall between the washroom and dining room is especially thick where the kitchen fireplace would have been. There was an alcove, perhaps an oven, in the kitchen at the northern end of this wall, filled in around 1988.

The servery is also a 1988 creation with new walls and a window, with an opening made into the dining room. This is where the outdoor W.C. and rear entrance hall stood. The remains of a truncated chimney stack can be seen above the kitchen sink next to the back door and this would have also served the room behind it, now Bedroom 3.

The rooms on the southern side of the service passage had already been altered before 1988 to create a self-contained studio apartment entered either by the French doors on the western end of the entrance front, or through a door in the service passage underneath the back stair. This door was altered as part of the 1988 scheme and now looks awkward, with its top corner cut across by the back stair.

Although the French doors were widened, the current Bedroom 3 does not seem to have been enlarged so this sizeable room was probably the original servants' hall. A window in the western wall was blocked up when the glassed-in dining room was created in 1988. Bathroom 3 was a kitchenette in Hamptons and had a door leading into a dressing room which has now been amalgamated to create a larger bedroom (now numbered 11). This explains the rather awkward shape of this bedroom where the original wall has been partially removed. Bathroom 11 was already a bathroom in 1987 but the doors have been altered.

The 1988 scheme involved the closure of several fireplaces.

The eastern end of this suite is in the four-bay extension at the front of the house already described from the outside. This extension also includes the cloakroom, already in use as such in 1987 but altered and enlarged since then, which is entered from the porch.

The first floor

The east, higher status, wing of the house is physically taller than the west, service, wing. The tower sits between the two. The first floor rooms are at different levels. From the landing there are steps up to the family sitting room and bedroom 4. Bedroom 3 and bathroom 5 are at a lower level and there is another step up to rooms in the western end. It is almost as though the first floor tower rooms are on a mezzanine.



View from the landing showing the steps up to the east wing rooms.

The family sitting room sits directly above sitting room 2. It is a light and airy room with a high vaulted ceiling and contrasts with the sombre sitting room beneath it with its dark carved wood ornament. Comparison with Hamptons shows the room has been altered, since the photograph in their brochure has a different cornice and fireplace. (See the Hamptons photograph in the Appendix). The floorboards have also been replaced by wood strip flooring. The woodwork, including the shutters had already been painted white by 1987 as part of the Barnetts' restoration of the house. They claimed that this was the bedroom used by King Edward VII with a door, now blocked, which connected with his dressing room next door, now bedroom 4.

Bedroom 4 also has a high, but not vaulted, ceiling and retains the marble fireplace with the panel of Ganymede and the Eagle mentioned in Hamptons. The pretty tiles on the hearth are probably Victorian.

Before 1988 there was a doorway into Bathroom 4 from the passage between Bedroom 4 and the landing.

Bedroom 5 and bathroom 5

These are the rooms with the puzzling three flat-headed windows on the garden front. On entering the room the low ceiling immediately creates a more confined atmosphere, markedly different from the rooms in the east wing.

The difference in floor levels has already been noted. In Hamptons this room was bedroom 3 described as having a “vaulted ceiling, and a handsome marble fireplace.” Both have now gone. Insertion of the lower false ceiling might have necessitated the alteration of the windows but the Hamptons brochure shows the flat windows heads in 1987. Unfortunately the 1988 plans and section seen for this report only show the flat ceiling and windows as they now are; no alterations to the ceiling are mentioned and there is no plan “as existing” before 1988.

Bathroom 5 was Bedroom 4 in Hamptons with a marble fireplace (now gone) and it also has a flat-headed window. The bathroom is at the same floor level as Bedroom 5 but Hamptons does not mention whether or not it had a high or vaulted ceiling. Being a small room it is unlikely that it was vaulted.

There have evidently been considerable changes to the first floor as part of the 1988 scheme with several walls having been partially removed or existing doors blocked.

Maid’s bedroom 2 and shower M2

These rooms are also in the tower and so on the same level as Bedroom 5, before the step up into the western end of the house. In Hamptons this bedroom was bedroom 5 and the shower room and entrance lobby appear to have been created out of the Dutch lobby “lined from dado height with hand-painted Eighteenth century Delft tiles, each depicting a different landscape scene.” The bathroom was also similarly lined with Delft tiles on three walls. None of this decorative scheme remains.

Maid bedroom 1

This was bathroom 5 in Hamptons and, from their description, it was probably the original bathroom for the house.

The back stair down to the service passage is opposite this room where there was previously a door to a large storeroom. The back wall of that storeroom has been removed to create the current Bedroom 8. This had a corner fireplace and its eastern wall has been moved inwards, concealing that fireplace which is now hidden behind a wall in Maid Bedroom 2.

Bedroom 8 was originally accessed through a door in its eastern wall which appears to have opened into a passage off which were Hamptons bedroom 7 (now Bedroom 9) and a lumber room (now bathroom 8) which was a substantial room with a fireplace and shelving.

Bedroom 2

This large room is an amalgamation of two earlier bedrooms which had a communicating door. The position of the door has been altered, and the ensuite bathroom 2 has been formed out of part of the Hamptons bedrooms numbered 9 and 10.

This room retains its marble fireplace and cornice.

The cornice is unusual since it has been extended across the ceiling to form a bed tester.



◀ Part of the cornice and bed tester in Bedroom 2. Its date is not known; it may be part of the Barnetts restoration works.

Bedroom 1

This was the billiard room in Hamptons, described as having “an immensely high and elaborately beamed ceiling.” This has now been concealed by a false ceiling but the carved timber corbels can still be seen. ▼



No doubt this was the original billiard room for the house. It is sufficiently far away from the principal rooms to create a male “haven” and the gentlemen could retire to the adjoining smoking room, which, before 1988, oversailed the yard between the house and the service buildings, supported on pillars. This has been converted to a bathroom.

The splendid fireplace remains. It is inscribed “The Gold Medal Eagle Fire Grate”. The tiled doors could be opened or closed to adjust the level of heat. This type of grate was generally used in bedrooms, so the fire could be kept going at night with the grate doors closed. There is one at Sunnycroft, a late Victorian villa at Wellington, Staffordshire, owned by the National Trust.



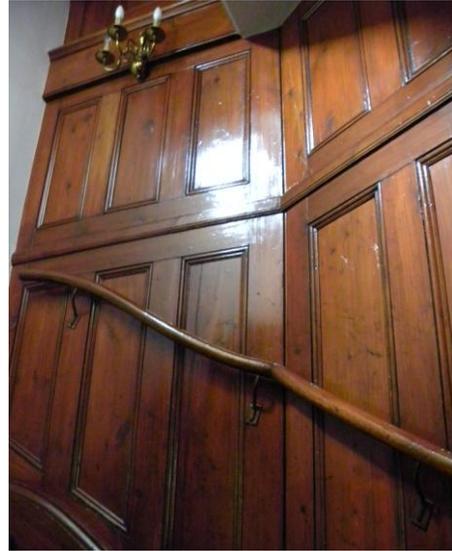
Segregation of the sexes was another essential feature of the Victorian country house. Whilst St. Huberts was not large enough to have a dedicated Bachelor Wing the second floor rooms in the tower were probably, along with the Billiard Room, part of the house's male domain.

They are reached by a panelled, narrow winding staircase. ►

The second floor

The principal room is Bedroom 6, the tower room lit by triple round-headed windows on the entrance front. This room must have once commanded a splendid view over Fulmer Heath and perhaps as far as Windsor to the south.

The fireplace noted by Hamptons has been removed.



However the red marble fireplace in Bedroom 7 remains. ►



So does the heavy wooden wall panelling, surely a sign that this was a man's room. ▼



Bedroom 12 also retains its early fireplace with pretty Victorian tiles on the hearth.



Maid bedroom 3 has original-looking built in cupboards. ▼



From the second floor the winding stairs continue to a door which gives access to the leaded roof for even more spectacular views of the grounds and surrounding countryside, now somewhat impeded by tall trees.

THE ESTATE BUILDINGS

Coachman's Cottage (this building was not inspected internally)



Said to be dated 1863 but no date could be seen on the building. The pale (probably Gault) brick with red brick dressings contrasts with the buff stock brick used for the main house on the right. The paler stock brick used for the first floor main house extension can also just be seen to the right of the cottage. The pink concrete paviors on the drive present a suburban appearance and introduce another shade of brick not in the palette of either the house or cottage. The gabled roofs are covered with Welsh slate, some fishscale.



When built the cottage was close to the road which ran directly in front of the house. A low pale-brick wall with stone capping runs between the old road and the cottage and, before the creation of St. Huberts Lane, would have formed the front boundary of St. Huberts. Evidence that iron railings were once fixed to the top of the wall indicates that the wall is original.

The eagles here might perhaps have been associated with Eagle Lodge, the remnants of which can be seen on the south side of St. Huberts Lane opposite the main gates.

The curved historic boundary wall in front of Coachman's Cottage.▶

From the map evidence the shape of the building changed between the surveys for the 1875 and 1899 Ordnance Survey maps. The complex roof forms confirm that the cottage must have been altered more than once, the single storey extension on the western end being the most recent addition (planning permission is dated 1978 ref. BD/908/78)



There have been some brutal alterations to the fenestration which have not only introduced alien rectangular window forms, but broken up the ornamental red brick bands. This side faces the approach to the house and is particularly noticeable.



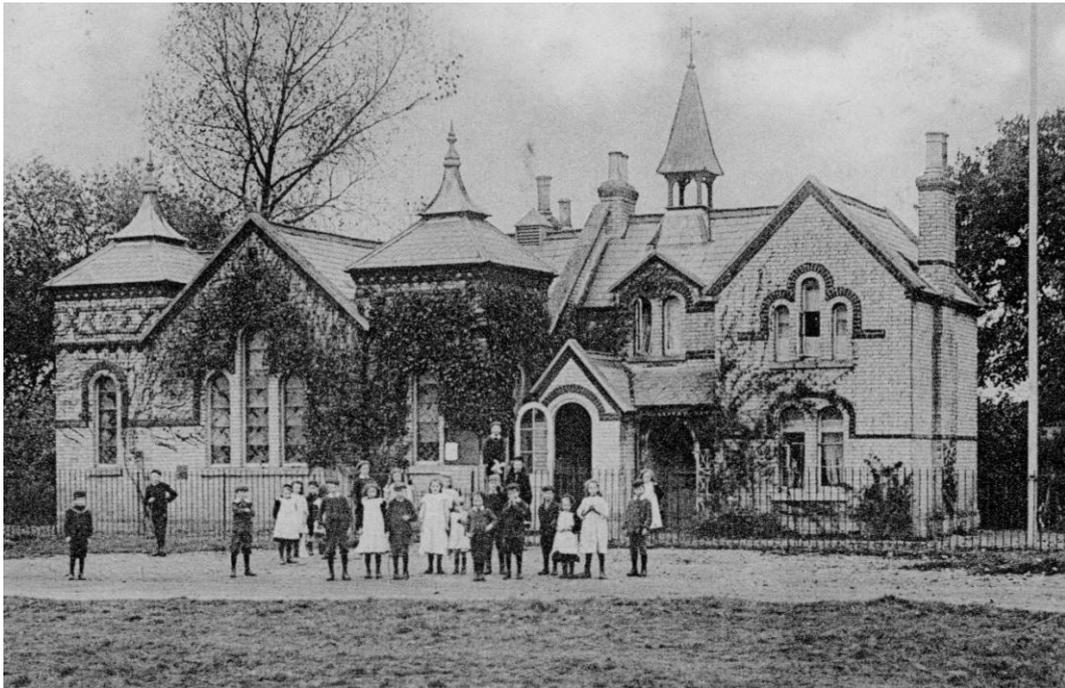
Windows on the eastern elevation, facing the drive, have also been enlarged and changed in shape in non-characteristic fashion. The one remaining chimney stack can be seen here. The first floor window on the rear (northern) elevation is blind – presumably to preserve privacy for the main house which is directly behind it.▶



The modern single-storey extension on the right (western elevation) has well-matched brick and slates. The truncated chimney stacks can be seen on the northern and western elevations. The fenestration on this rear elevation, facing the house, has retained its historic character.



The cottage bears a resemblance to the demolished Church of England school built on East Common in 1861 in similar style and materials.



The School and schoolmaster's house as seen in a postcard of 1911 reproduced by kind permission of Colin Seabright

The Vicar, Revd. William Bramley-Moore was chairman of the school managers and, according to Helen Gladstone's history of the church, the school plans were provided by Mr Hardy, builder, from Cowley, Uxbridge for a fee of 3 guineas and the school was built by James Overshot, a builder from Fulmer (page 34)

Might it be possible that the vicar's father, John Bramley-Moore, got the school builder to build Coachman's Cottage too?

The former stables and coach house (only a cursory internal inspection was made but the caretaker's cottage was not inspected internally)

Although date stones do not necessarily mark the original construction of a building it seems safe to assume in this case that the block-stone "BM 1866" on the tower of the former stable block is reliable. The map evidence confirms that this range of stables was built at some time between 1845 and 1875 and the initials must be those of John Bramley-Moore.

The outline of the buildings around the yard has remained almost the same as shown on the 1875 Ordnance Survey, except that the western range was indicated with a dotted line on the side facing the yard, indicating that it must have been an open shed. By the 1899 map it is shown with a solid line and appears deeper so had evidently been altered.

The southern range would have originally formed the boundary with the road which ran parallel to the buildings. By 1899 the road had been moved south to make St. Huberts Lane and this southern range appears deep but also shorter, with an entrance to the yard having been formed between this range and Coachman's Cottage to the east. This entrance remains today as do the gate piers either side of it. The gates which once would have hung there are absent.



The southern range with the gate pier at the yard entrance on the right. The caretaker's cottage at the eastern end was formerly a double coach house. The front wall was previously the continuation of the kitchen garden wall. There is evidence on the western elevation of the roof having been raised. The buff and purple stock brick matches that of the house and is laid in Flemish bond. Curiously the eastern wall inside the garage, adjoining the cottage, is in English bond perhaps indicating an earlier structure.

There have been substantial alterations to the main stable block on the north side of the yard, to form residential accommodation on two levels.



The stable block on the north side of the yard. The date is above the window in the gable. This elevation is not symmetrical because the western range joins the building.

Again this building is in buff and purple stock brick to match the main house, with decoration in the form of brick dentils at the eaves. Note the contrast with the more yellow brick in the first floor addition to the main house.

This conversion to allow provision of two units of staff accommodation was only allowed on appeal in 1977, with reserved matters finally approved in 1980 (ref. SBD/1244/80). A letter dated 18th March 1977 from the owner, Mr Barnett, with the planning papers indicates the parlous state of this building at that time. He was already repairing the shell of the building but says “the stables roof had been altered at some stage in the past and the appearance of the north-east elevation ruined by an anachronistic flue pipe and what must have been three exceedingly ugly skylights. One of these was on the east side of the tower and lit the loft on that side. The other two were on the west of the tower and provided light for the main stables area. They had presumably been added early in this century when the garage was built on to the south-west part of the building, blocking most of the previous windows.”

Mr Barnet sought permission to replace the former wooden-boxed skylights on either side of the tower with two brick-arched dormer windows on each side of the tower. “The elaborately dentilated brick cornice of the tower gable would be carried on over these dormer windows and built to match using old stock bricks.” Also to replace the iron flue pipe which formerly protruded from the apex of the roof on the west side of the block with a brick chimney placed symmetrically with the existing chimney on the east side to match.

At that time the loft was on the east side of the tower with the main stable area on the west then being used as a temporary workroom. Mr Barnett thought the building

had last been used as servants accommodation and stabling probably in the early 1950s.



The main stable block viewed from the garden, looking south. From this side the building is symmetrical – almost. It appears as drawn on the plan submitted with planning application SBD/1244/80, except that the plan showed two doors and a window to the right where there is now just the one window.

The accommodation inside the former stables has been modernised but the fireplaces may be original. The staircase is probably new but preserves the stable character. Part of a roof truss has been left exposed and hooks set in the roof timbers are no doubt relics from the building's former use.



The doors of the former coach houses, now the rear of the caretaker's cottage, have clearly been blocked up but the stone-dressed arches remain. ▼



Below is the view of the range on the western side of the yard as seen from the kitchen garden. There are three rooflights lighting the loft.



The roof to the garage when seen from the kitchen garden has clearly been raised.

Note too how the red brick of the kitchen garden wall differs from the stock brick of the garage.



The dentilated cornice is visible inside the western range on the northern wall. This must have been the continuation of the cornice along the front of the main stable block which was covered up when the western range was extended over it.



The eastern gate pier at the entrance to the stable yard has evidently been heightened, but in different brick.



THE KITCHEN AND UTILITY BUILDINGS

The kitchen is in a building which was originally detached from the house, on the eastern side of the stable yard. It seems unlikely that this was the original kitchen – that was probably in the current dining room.

At the time of the sale in 1987 the present kitchen was being used as three “spacious interconnected storerooms”; it is a three-bay building. The 1988 plans show a proposal to make it into a children’s playroom but evidently the building was converted into a kitchen. There is a utility room at the northern end.



The present kitchen hidden behind an enormous parapet. The windows on the rear elevation were altered as part of the 1988 scheme.

The former Victorian laundry was, in 1987, used as a fuel store and storeroom. There was also a garden tool room at the rear.



The Victorian laundry, then physically separated from the main house, and reached through the yard from the back door under the pillars supporting the first floor smoking room, now a bathroom.

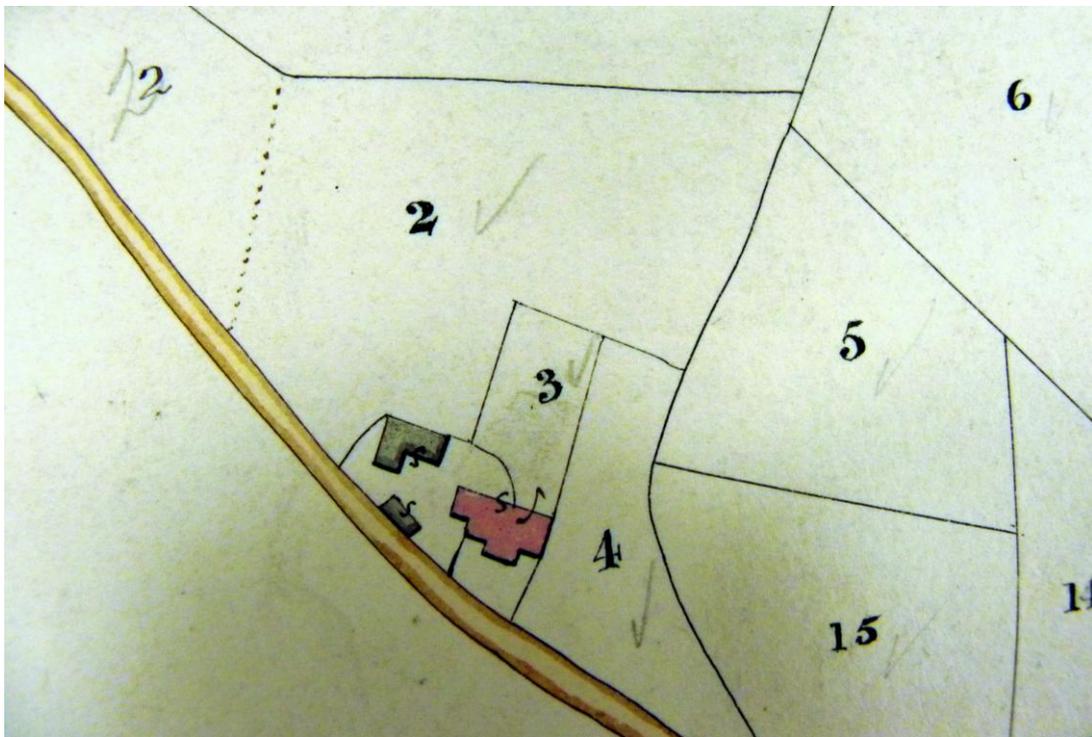
The Hampton’s brochure says that these buildings were all in the same decorated brickwork as the main house.

THE LODGES

St. Huberts currently has no roadside lodges, although it has been served by several in the past. These have provided accommodation for people working on the estate, probably reducing the need for servants' accommodation in the main house. The location of lodges also reflects the ways in which different vehicular approaches to the house have been adopted and both are shown on the Lodge and Access Plan in the Appendix (Madigan Browne drawing P161).

Historic map evidence for the lodges (these maps have been shown earlier but are repeated here for ease of reference)

The original house, shown on the 1845 Tithe Map, appears to have had only one approach – the road which passed north-west to south-east from Fulmer Road, close to the front of the house. This map shows the main house in pink and two other buildings in grey, probably indicating they were built of timber rather than brick or stone. They also appear to be inside an enclosed yard. It therefore seems unlikely that either of these was a lodge house.

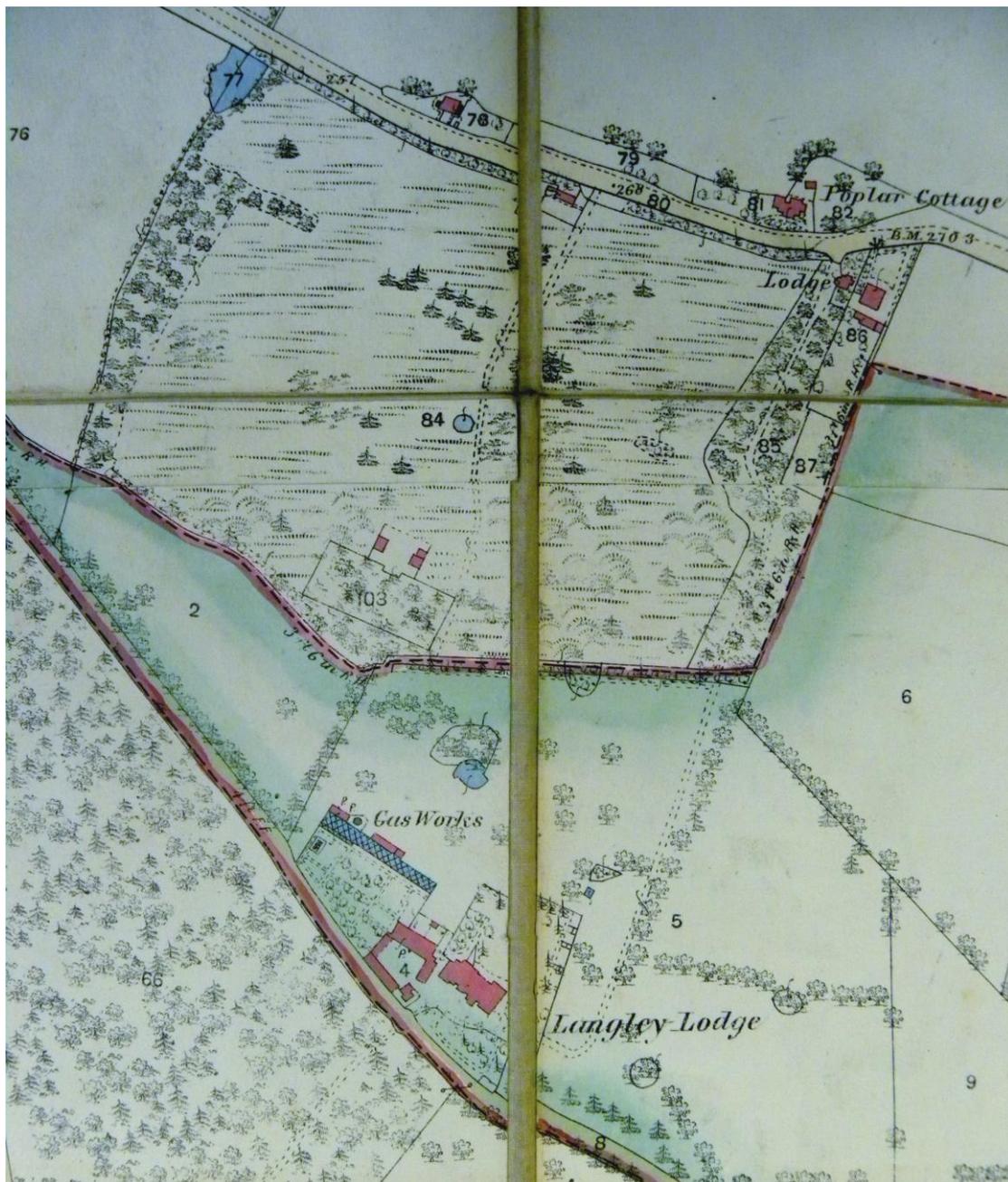


Langley Marish Tithe Map 1845 (reproduced by kind permission of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies)

By the time of the next map, the Ordnance Survey of 1875, the acquisition of The Rancho to the north had brought the estate up to the Oxford Road and so made an additional and, no doubt more convenient, and impressive approach possible taking visitors through the now extensive grounds. This map shows an unnamed lodge house which must have been built to serve the Rancho (perhaps the Mayne Reids lived here whilst the Rancho was being built) with a drive to the east of that lodge, which runs south. This drive peters out and does not cross the boundary to Langley Lodge. This lodge was called Heather or Rancho Lodge in later documents.

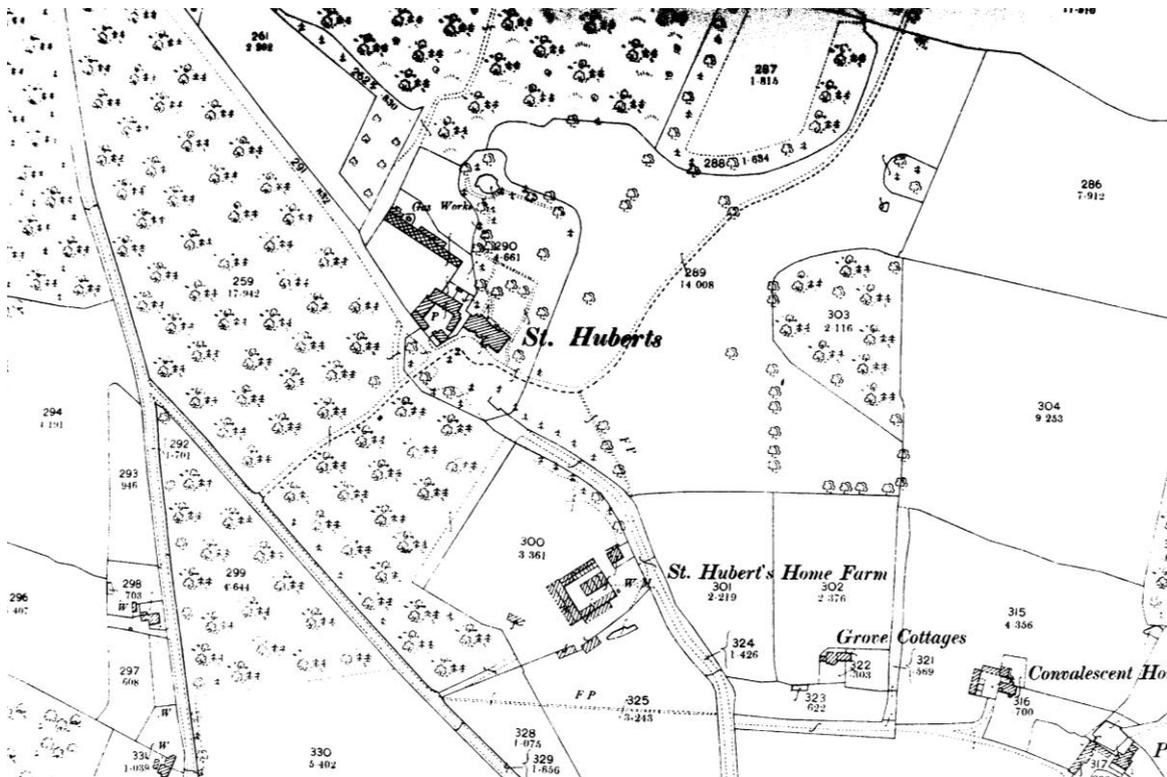
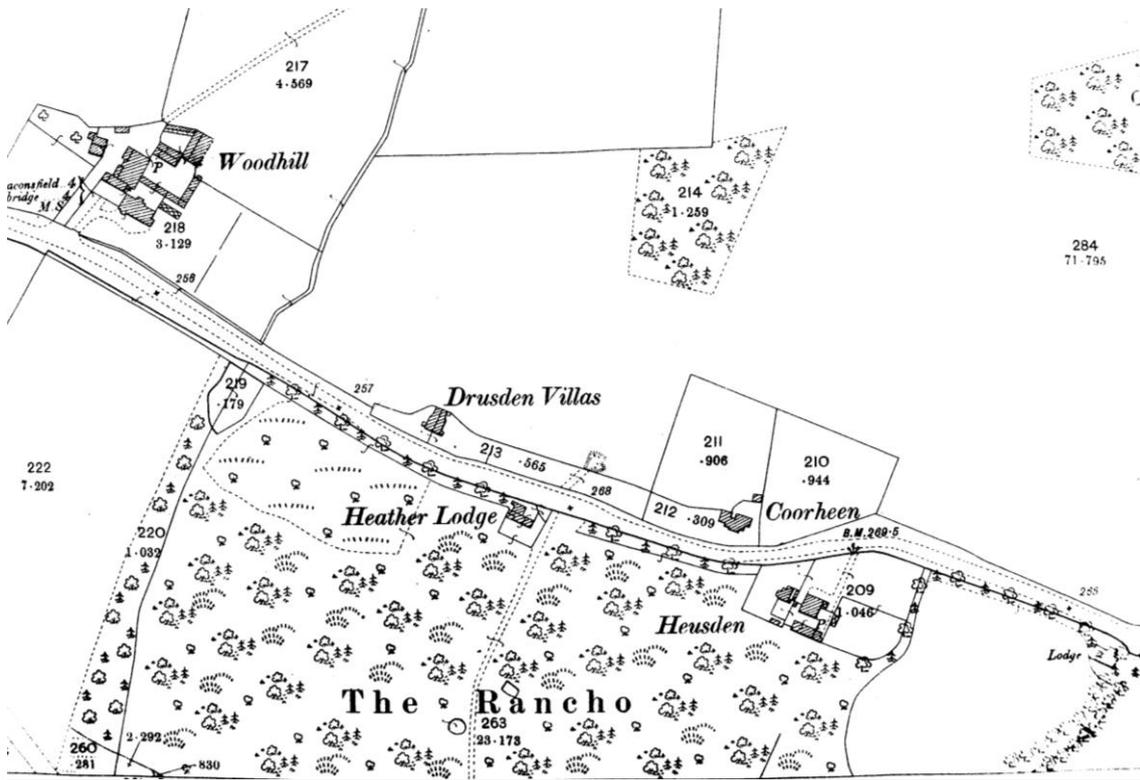
The lodge marked as such on the map is the present Heusden Cottage. The driveway is to the west of the lodge and runs southwards, crossing the parish boundary (shown by a dotted line) with a line of trees on its eastern side. The drive passes to the east of the main house and then sweeps westward. It opens out to the south of the house but also carries on to the north side raising the possibility of a carriage drive to an entrance on the north elevation of the house. However the map shows the drive closed off to the west with no entrance to the stable yard from this side of the house.

As for the southern approach, the road was still close to the house but Coachman's Cottage had been built in a position where it could guard the entrance from that road, as well as the stable-yard entrance, which was then to the north, rather than the west, of Coachman's Cottage. The cottage could at that time have been a lodge to the main house.



1875 Ordnance Survey 25 inch map of Langley Marsh (at the CBS)

This map also shows a track leading south from the entrance next to Coachman's Cottage towards the present St. Huberts Lane.

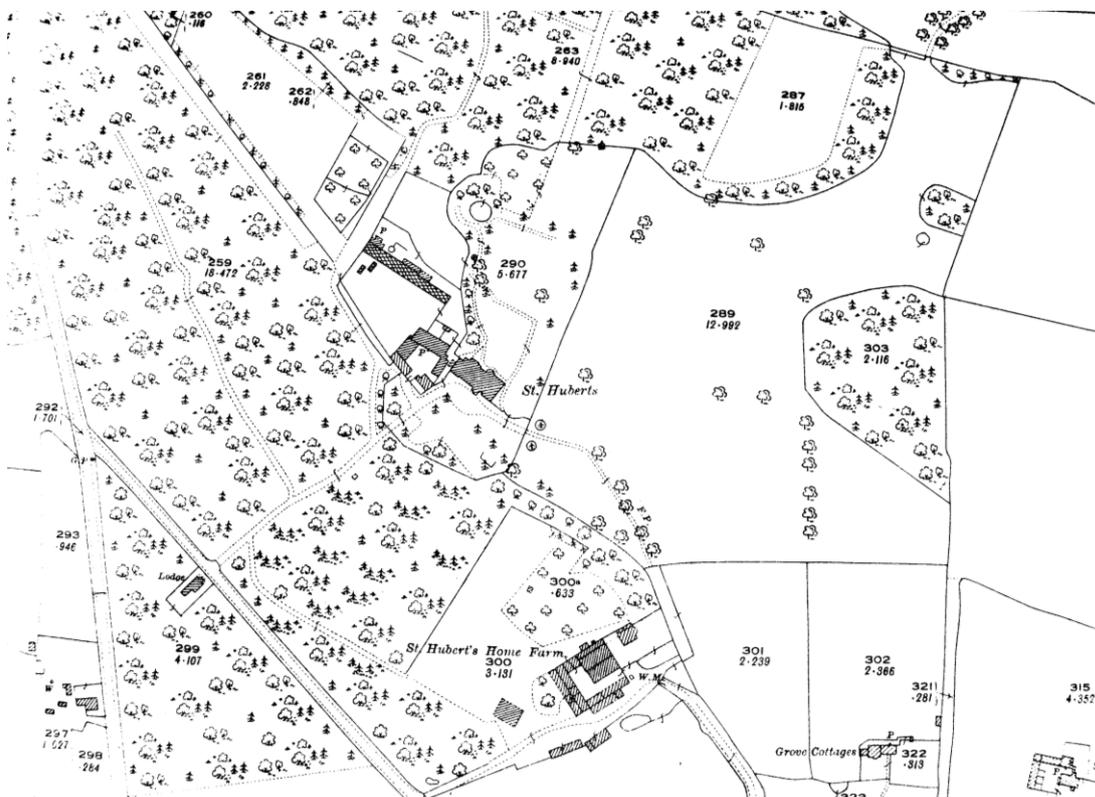


1899 Ordnance Survey 25 inch – extracts from sheets XLVIII.15 (top) and LIII.3 (at CBS)

By 1899 there had been considerable changes, with the creation of St. Huberts Lane and a drive leading to it from the house, but no lodge at that entrance, yet. The use of

Heusden Cottage as a lodge must have ceased since the drive beside it has disappeared. A new drive has been created further east with a lodge on Oxford Road, which was to become St. Huberts Lodge. This long approach was bordered by an avenue of limes (still visible). Since the old road had become an internal estate road Coachman's Cottage could no longer function as a roadside lodge. This map shows the drive next to Heather Lodge now extending south across the old Rancho boundary, running beside the western wall of the kitchen garden and meeting the old road. Presumably the new arrangements meant that the principal approach for visitors was from the eastern side (St. Huberts Lodge), with the tradesman's entrance via Heather Lodge. The map also indicates that Heather Lodge had been extended and is more L-shaped.

There had been further changes by 1925. A lodge had been built on the south side of St. Huberts Lane (Eagle Lodge), unusually, although not uniquely, placed on the opposite side of the road from the main house. This may have been because of the angle of the road which makes it difficult to see people approaching from Fulmer Road; a lodge on the south side would have given a better view of traffic coming from either direction.



1925 Ordnance Survey 25 inch – sheet LIII.3 (at CBS)

The 1925 map shows that the drive coming from St. Huberts Lodge on Oxford Road had disappeared. So there were now two lodges, presumably Eagle Lodge for guests who would approach the front of the house from the principal entrance in St. Huberts Lane, and Heather Lodge at the service entrance.

By 1938 there had been changes on Oxford Road with the main road having been diverted to the north, thereby removing the historic, but mysterious, curve. The previous section of the road had become the present Heusden Way leaving Coorheen and Drusden Villas on an island between Oxford Road and Heusden Way. St. Huberts Lodge is still marked "Lodge" although there is no drive connecting it to St. Huberts. The lodge in St. Huberts Lane is marked "Arden" presumably indicating that it was now a private house, rather than a lodge to St. Huberts. Heather Lodge remains and was probably the only remaining lodge in use as such, but seems to have resumed its rectangular shape

Sheet L111.3, which is only a provisional edition, has not been reproduced here because of its poor quality but can be seen in the **Documentary Evidence** section.

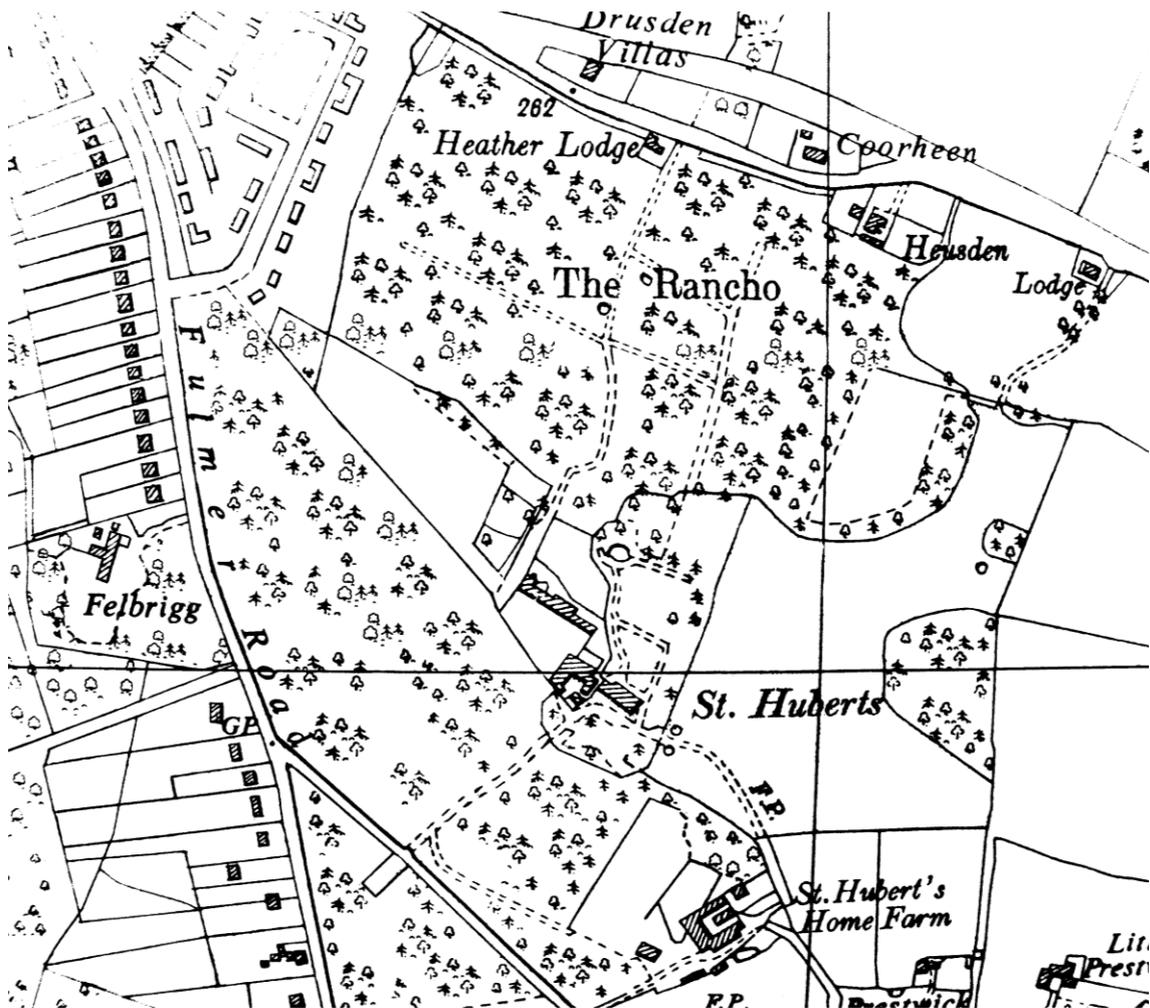


1938 Ordnance survey 25 inch Sheet XLVIII.15 (at CBS)

By 1960 the building which had been the lodge in St. Huberts Lane has disappeared from the Ordnance Survey map although its plot is still delineated. St. Huberts Lodge on Oxford Road is still marked "Lodge" and the lime avenue remains, terminating at the field boundary.

Heather Lodge is marked as such and again has an L-shaped outline.

From the maps it is not clear whether Heather Lodge was in use as a lodge to the main house. Since its drive led to the kitchen gardens it is improbable that this would be the main entrance.



1960 Ordnance survey 6 inch scale (at CBS)

Other evidence for the lodges

Each lodge will now be looked at in turn in the order in which they are thought to have been built. Coachman's Cottage, which may once have been used as a lodge, has been dealt with earlier.

Heusden Cottage

This is now a private residence which has no connection, legally or physically, with St. Huberts. It is listed Grade II and the list description is in the Appendix.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to inspect this building and the owner would not allow photography so the picture below has been taken from the public highway over the gate in Heusden Way.

The list description gives a date of c.1860 and links the building with St. Huberts in date and style. A lead rainwaterhead can be seen on the building bearing the date 1860. It is not known exactly when John Bramley-Moore bought St. Huberts; Hunt and Thorpe thought around 1863, so this building may predate his ownership, which seems unlikely, or indicate that he moved to Gerrards Cross at an earlier date.

Pevsner thought it also came “from the same hand” as St. Huberts (page 344). Although the building has a muscular, rugged appearance, partly owing to the heavy rustic quoining, and looks more Gothic and less refined than the main house, the asymmetric style, with its square turret, fancy brickwork and round-headed windows, together with the materials (stock brick with stone dressings) surely indicate that Heusden Cottage was built to serve St. Huberts. Whether it is by the same hand is, however, debatable. Assuming the dated rainwaterhead is original to the building it also follows that St. Huberts was in its present architectural form in or before 1860. The steeply pitched, slate covered gabled roofs with their ornamental ridge crests make a complex roofscape, typical of a High Victorian building, but in contrast with the low-pitched hipped roofs of the main house.

Heusden Cottage shows a quality in both design and build lacking in Coachman’s Cottage, evidence that the former served the “upmarket” entrance on Oxford Road which would be used by important visitors coming from London.



Heusden Cottage - photograph courtesy of Michael Gray, Madigan Browne

By 1899 Heusden Cottage had ceased to be used as a lodge for St. Huberts. The censuses for 1861 to 1891 might provide more evidence of any connection between the occupants and the main house, but the lack of specific addresses in the census makes identification of particular properties difficult.

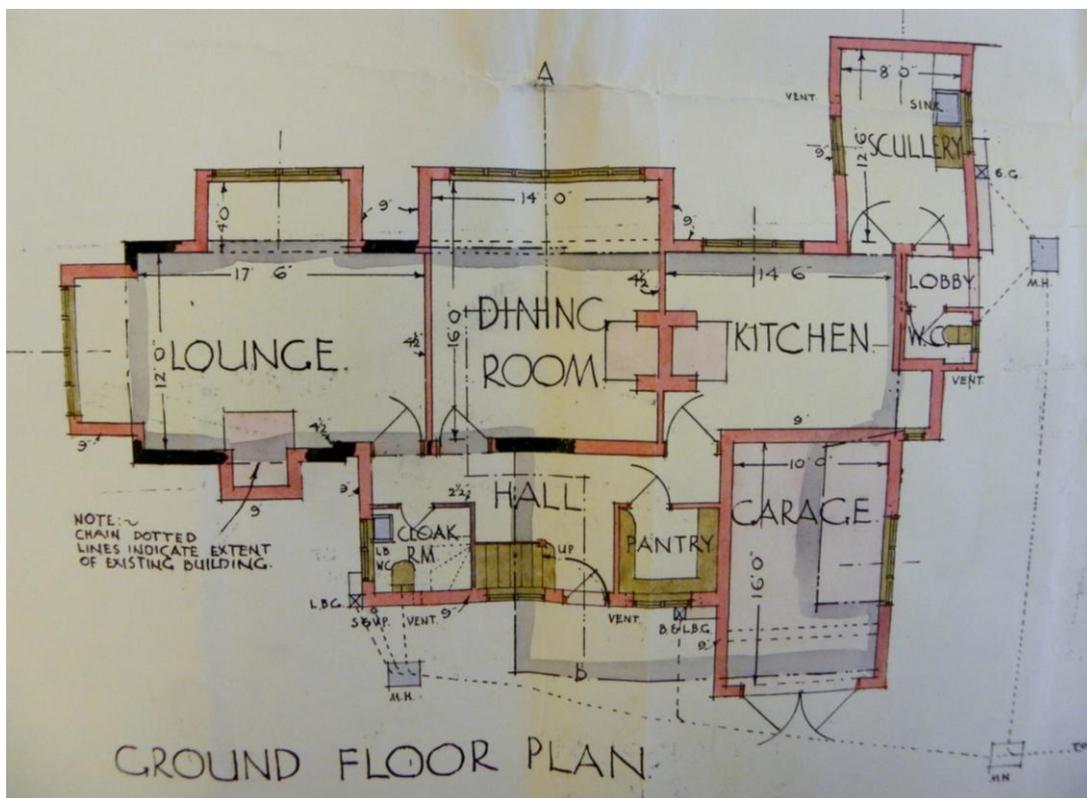
It remained part of Colonel Le Poer Trench’s St. Huberts estate since the 1910 Valuation Survey shows it was occupied rent free by an estate employee, Tom Greenwood. That survey also described the building as Heather Lodge and “Old Lodge”. The directories show that members of the Greenwood family remained in occupation until at least 1977.

Heather Lodge (sometimes called Rancho Lodge)

This lodge is shown on the 1875 map and appears to have been built to serve The Rancho, the house built by Thomas Mayne Reid, according to his wife, between 1862 and 1865. It is not known where the Mayne Reids lived while The Rancho was being built (indeed Hunt and Thorpe say it was never finished – page 19); perhaps they lived in the lodge. Directories list the lodge as Rancho Lodge and occupied until at least 1938. In 1910 it was occupied rent free by Arthur Rouse and described as an old lodge. According to the Barnett's history it was in ruins in 1976 and the remaining walls were demolished by the present owners (verbal comm.)

The Barnett history states that it was a neo-classical building, presumably based on the appearance of the remaining walls. Such a style would probably have been appropriate if built to match The Rancho, a replica of a Mexican hacienda.

In 1935 Mrs Gladys Le Poer Trench applied for consent to alter and enlarge “Rancho Lodge” and plans were approved by Eton Rural District Council (the forerunner of SBDC) on 19th November 1935 (plan no. 7701).



Ground floor plan from Eton R.D.C. plan no. 7701 (at CBS)

The plans were prepared for Mrs G Le Poer Trench by architect Raymond J. Ward, F.S.I., F.I.A.A. of Uxbridge Road, Ealing. There are several entries in the RIBA name index for Raymond J. Ward for houses which were featured in editions of the *Illustrated Carpenter and Builder* between 1959 and 1963.

The plans show that the existing building was L-shaped.

It is not known if the alterations were carried out; the Barnett history would seem to indicate that they were not since the extension was evidently in Arts and Crafts, rather than a Classical style.



Southern (garden) elevation of Heather Lodge as proposed from Eton R.D.C. plan no. 7701 (at CBS)

St Huberts Lodge, Oxford Road

From the map evidence this was built between 1875 and 1899 to guard the prestigious entrance from Oxford Road. It must have been built as a replacement for Heusden Cottage which had ceased to be a lodge to St. Huberts.

In 1910 it was described as Uxbridge Road Lodge and occupied rent free by William Dean.

By 1925 the driveway to St. Huberts had been lost so it was no longer a lodge for the main house.

In 2007 SBDC gave consent for demolition of the lodge and erection of a replacement dwelling (ref. 07/02319/FUL). This approval was amended in 2010 (ref. 10/00420/FUL). The lodge has been demolished and a new house is being built on the site as at June 2011.

The Design and Access statement with the planning records is not informative on the history of the building, except to say that it had been extended in 1964. It describes the building as a “chalet bungalow” and includes a photograph of the rear elevation from which the building does indeed look like a 1960s chalet bungalow. Regrettably a photograph taken by this writer several years ago does not show the front of the lodge, which was hidden by trees.

The surviving front boundary walls, gate piers and gates are consistent with the style and materials of St. Huberts.

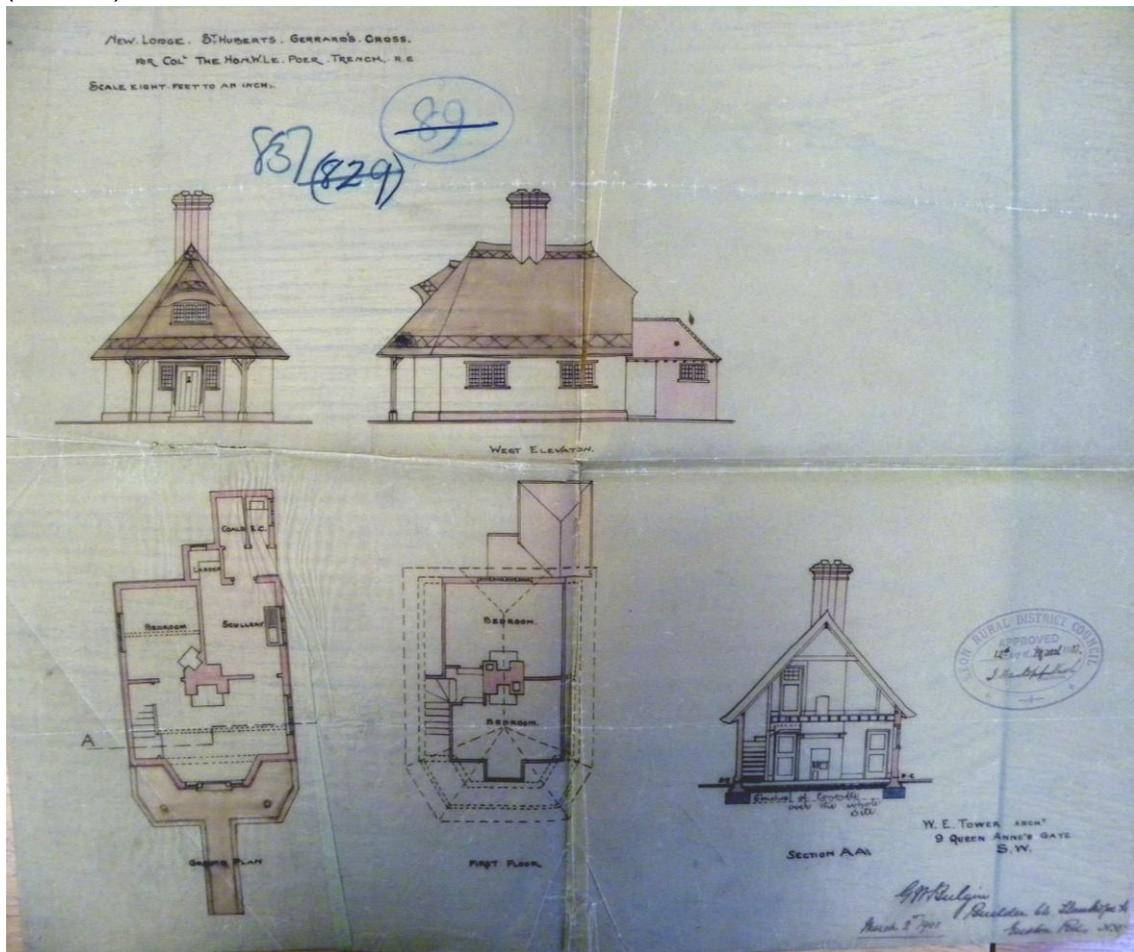


*Historic boundary walls,, gates and gate piers of the former St. Huberts Lodge
(May 2011)*

Eagle Lodge

Map evidence shows this was built between 1899 and 1925.

Plans for the erection of the lodge were approved by Eton R.D.C. on 12th March 1901 (ref. 837)



Eton R.D.C. plan ref.837 (at CBS)

The plans were prepared for Col. William Le Poer Trench by the architect W.E. Tower of 9 Queen Anne's Gate, London; the builder was G Bulgin.

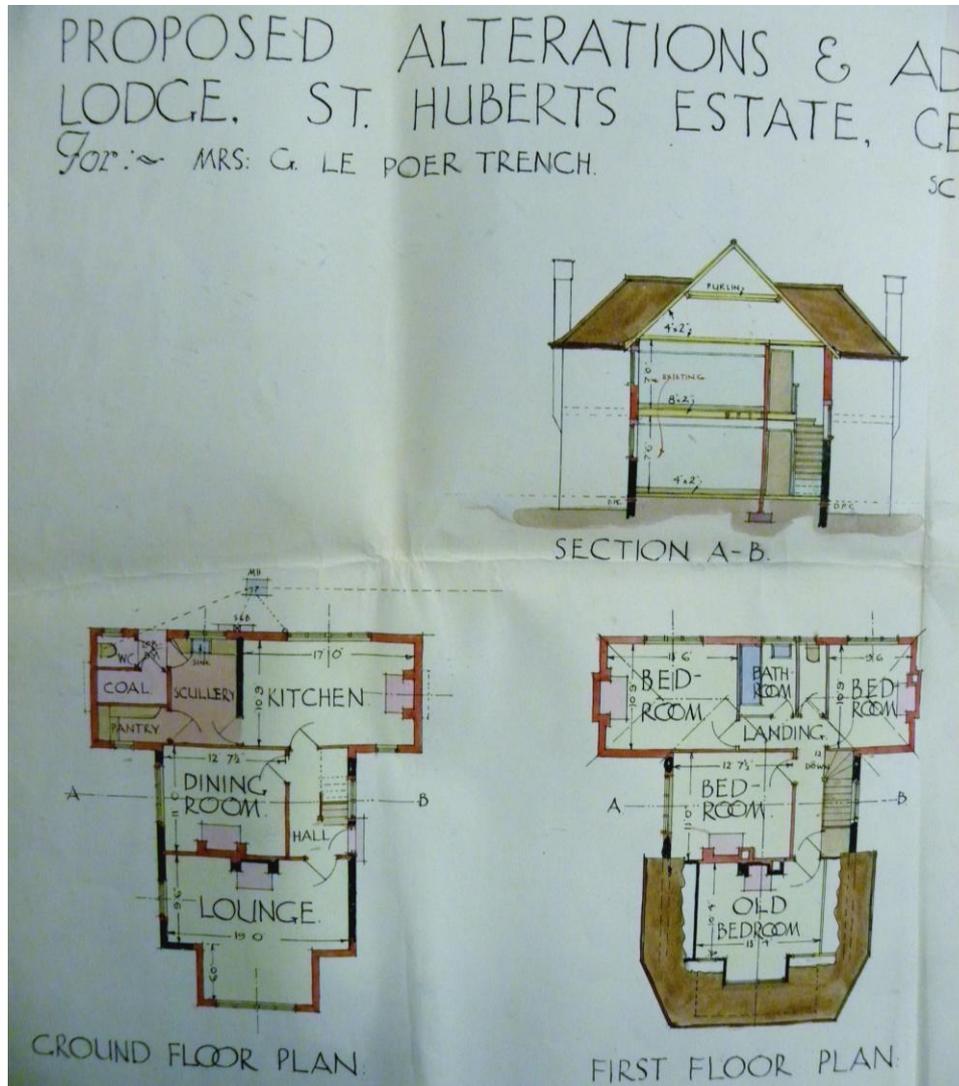
Eagle Lodge had a thatched roof with a huge central chimney stack. In 1910 it was occupied rent free by George Lemm and described as Fulmer Lodge.

Plans for an extension of Eagle Lodge were approved by Eton R.D.C. on 21st October 1935 (ref. 7659). The plans were again prepared for Mrs G Le Poer Trench by architect Raymond J. Ward of Uxbridge Road, Ealing.

Research in the RIBA library revealed nothing on W.E. Tower but it is assumed that he is the Walter Ernest Tower (1873-1955) who was related to the noted stained glass maker, Charles Eamer Kempe. Tower trained, but never qualified as an architect (hence no RIBA record) but nonetheless ran an architectural practice (website reference in **Sources**). When Kempe died, Tower took over management of the firm C.E. Kempe & Co and the tower emblem was added to the wheatsheaf which was the familiar hallmark of Kempe's fine stained glass, which can be seen in so many churches.

The listed Wood House, Epping Upland, Essex was built in 1898 to the designs of W.E Tower and C.E. Kempe and is featured in a Country Life article by Mark Girouard (see **Sources**).

It is a substantial country house and the plans and correspondence were all signed by Tower, although Girouard thinks that Kempe was probably the chief designer.



Eton R.D.C. plan ref.7659 (at CBS)

The different outline of the lodge on the 1938 Ordnance Survey map indicates that the alterations approved in 1935 were actually carried out.

Today only the chimney stack remains, almost hidden by dense vegetation. Perhaps the thatched lodge was destroyed by fire. Remnants of the iron park fence can also be seen along the road frontage.

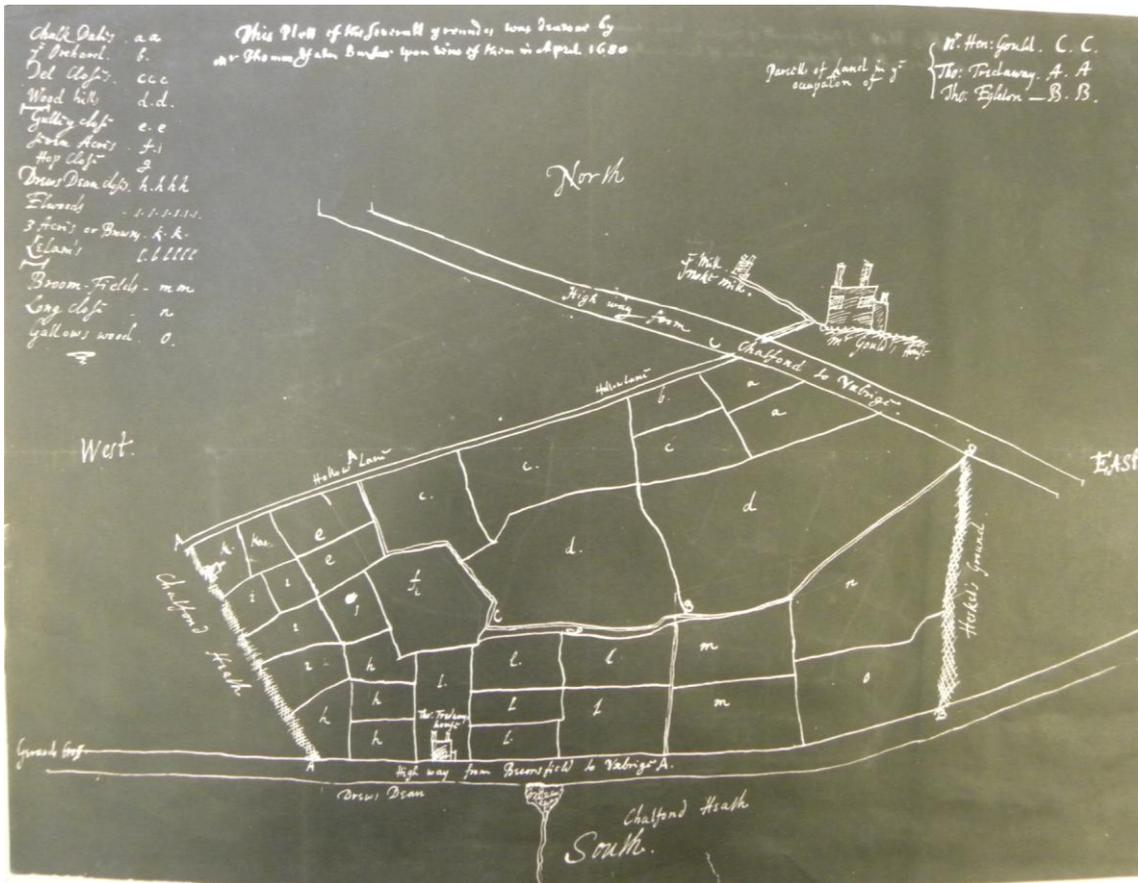
No photographs of any of the lodges could be found for this report. This is perhaps surprising, especially in the case of the picturesque thatched Eagle Lodge.

THE GROUNDS

The extent of the grounds at St. Huberts expanded considerably between 1845 and 1875. The estate was further extended and then shrank as parts were sold off in the 20th century.

The earliest map evidence of any feature in the grounds can be seen on a 1640 plan of the Woodhill estate belonging to Brasenose College, Oxford, on the north side of the A40. As described earlier, Woodhill was bought by Colonel Le Poer Trench and sold after his death in the 1920s.

A photostat copy of this map is at the CBS and shows the pond which still stands in the far north-western corner of the St. Huberts grounds, next to the A40. The pond can be seen at the foot of this plan, just left of the word "South". The plan marks "Chalfond (sic) Heath" east of the stream indicating that this land, later to form The Rancho, had not yet been enclosed. The Brasenose land was in Iver parish and, according to the Langley Marish Enclosure Award, this northern part of the St. Huberts grounds had been enclosed by 1809 and still belonged to Brasenose College.



Woodhill estate 1680 – ref. Brasenose College, Oxon (Iver) MaR/2

The pond is formed by a stream running southwards from Woodhill through a culvert under the A40. There is a red brick retaining wall laid in English bond. The stream peters out but a ditch continues south and then turns to the east. Parts of this ditch probably marked the former parish boundary between Iver and Langley Marish parishes, and later the southern boundary of The Rancho.



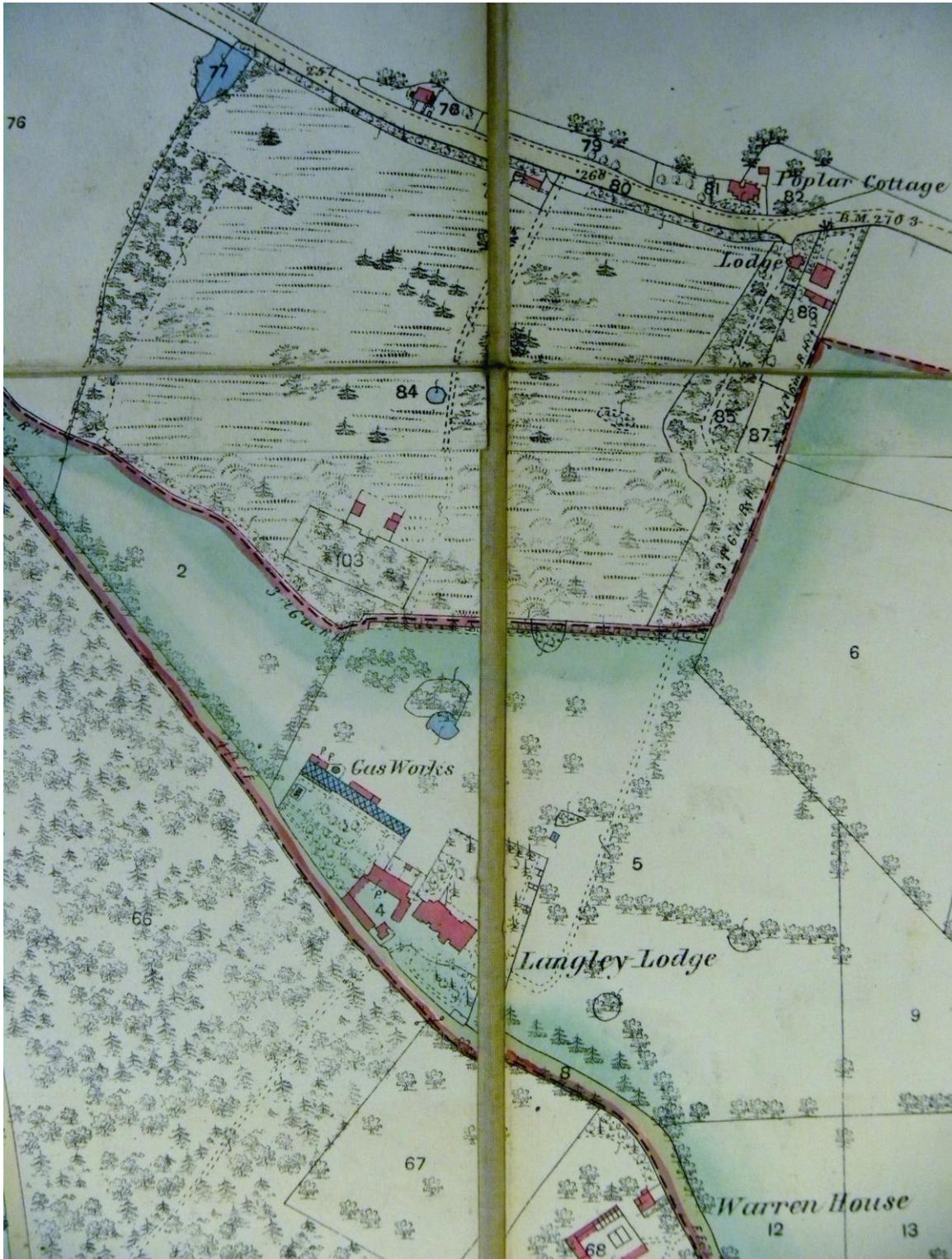
The pond in the north-west corner of the grounds, in the same position as that shown on the 1680 plan. This photo is taken looking west towards the backs of houses in Gaviots Close.



The red brick English bond retaining wall – the stream runs through the grid beneath. Photograph taken looking north towards the A40.

The 1875 Ordnance Survey 25 inch map gives the best evidence of the historic uses of the grounds since it is accompanied by a reference book giving uses and acreage of the areas numbered on the map. The map is reproduced on the next page, followed by the relevant reference book entries.

The parish boundaries are shown with a dashed line highlighted pink. Langley Marish is the wedge in the middle with Fulmer parish to the south and the detached part of Iver parish to the north; this shows how, before the creation of the civil parish of Gerrards Cross in 1895, the present grounds straddled three parishes.



1875 Ordnance survey 25 inch scale map (at CBS - (unfortunately the original is folded and the surface of the map is broken up by the creases.)

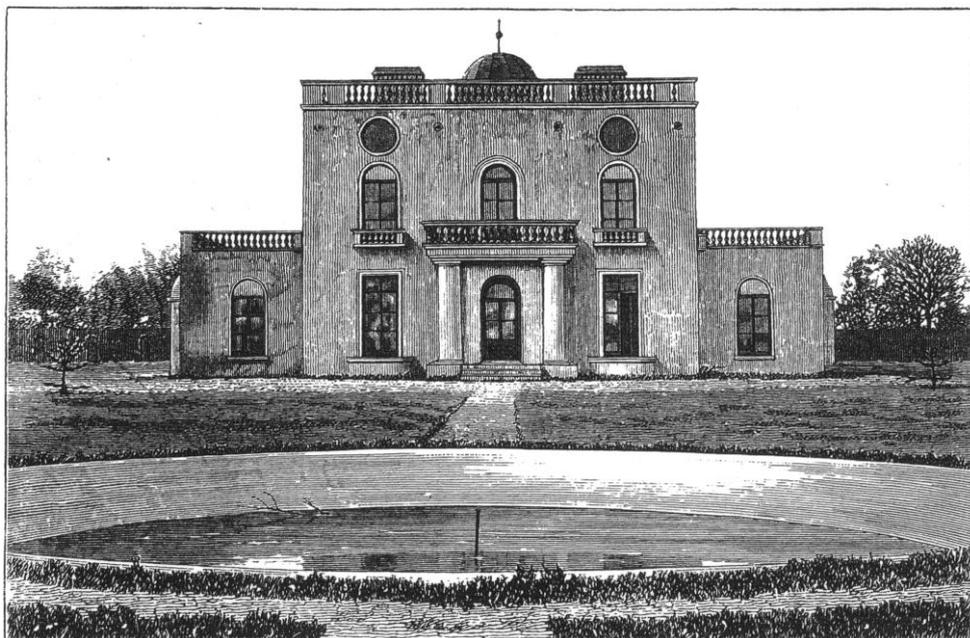
The table on the next page gives the reference numbers by parish.

Entries from 1875 Ordnance Survey reference book			
Parish	No. on plan	Area in acres	Use
Langley Marish	2	3.044	Pasture etc.
	4	1.946	Houses, yards, garden etc.
	5	12.112	Ornamental ground
	6	6.782	Arable
	8	2.773	Road
Iver	76	10.273	Pasture etc.
	77	.179	Pond
	84	18.280	Rough pasture, wood, etc.
	85	1.771	Wood etc.
	86	.584	Houses, garden etc.
Fulmer	87	.205	Pasture
	66	22.060	Wood etc.
	67	2.768	Pasture and trees

The faint number 3 to the right of the crease refers to the index of places which names Langley Lodge and incidentally, shows that there was another Langley Lodge further south in the parish, presumably associated with the present Langley Park.

Once the woodland in Fulmer had been taken into St. Huberts' grounds by moving the road south the 1899 maps shows that the area in front of the house was heavily wooded but the Rancho less so. Over the years the balance has shifted so that today it is the former Rancho area of the grounds which is more wooded.

There is no obvious trace of the lost house at The Rancho but a clearing in the trees just north of the boundary ditch may be the former site of this idiosyncratic building. The picture below also shows the concrete pond north of The Rancho and shown on the 1875 map. (see **People** section)



CAPTAIN MAYNE REID'S "HACIENDA," GERRARD'S CROSS, BUCKS.

Picture taken from Elizabeth Reid's; *Captain Mayne Reid – his life and adventures*



The pasture (no. 2 on the 1875 map) left of the boundary ditch has remained as a large grassy area. Photo taken looking west with The Rancho on the right hand side of the ditch. The 1875 map shows a 3ft 6in hedge here which has clearly grown.



This clearing may have been the site of the Rancho.

There are some magnificent specimen trees, including massive wellingtonias, in the grounds.



The Barnett history of 1976 claimed that some of the planting was 170 to 200 years old. An expert tree survey would help to date the trees, since it is unlikely that such exotic species were planted before the house was built.

This photograph shows some of the remaining old park fencing along the eastern boundary of the grounds. Regrettably some of this historic fencing is on the other side of modern chain-link fencing and so, presumably, now out of the control of the owners of St. Huberts.

Rhododendrons are a feature of the grounds of St. Huberts. They are also abundant in gardens along Fulmer Road and Oxford Road and said to have spread there from St. Huberts where they were planted to provide cover for birds for the shoot.

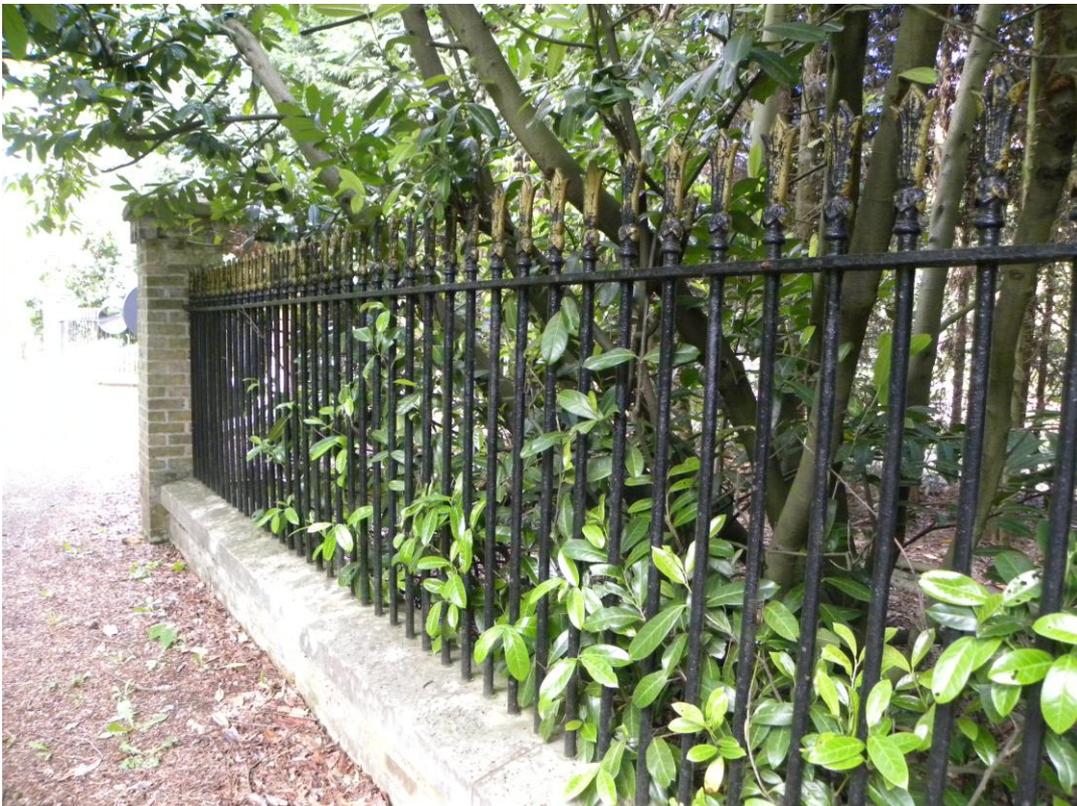
The grounds were densely wooded and overgrown by the 1970s when the Barnetts bought St. Huberts; their historical account describes how they were clearing the paths in accordance with old maps and plans. The historic Ordnance Survey maps are helpful in showing these paths and the layout of the grounds.

Besides stretches of park fencing there are other notable historic wrought iron features.

The entrance gates in St. Huberts Lane are listed Grade II; the list description is given in the Appendix. The list date of 1860 must be wrong since they would not have been erected until the road was moved away from the house and after Colonel Le Poer Trench bought the estate, the gates bearing his family emblem of the St. Huberts' stag-heads. That places them between 1887 and about 1900. From architects' plans produced in 1988 it is evident that the gates were widened in or soon after 1988.



The listed entrance gates in St. Huberts Lane – the outer section of each gate is modern as are the gate piers. The railings and wall facing St. Huberts Lane and pictured below look original.



There is an interesting gate at the entrance to the gardens near the north-west corner of the house. It bears the name “B. Baldwin Maker”.



The “Baldwin” gate with park railings behind.

The 1875 OS map shows several ponds in the grounds. The only surviving ornamental pond found for this report is north of the house. This was restored by the Barnetts who said it was concrete lined with oak barrels for water lilies set into the bottom.



The pond north of the house shown on the 1875 Ordnance Survey.

Another pond shown on the 1875 map in the Rancho part of the grounds (next to the figure 84 on that map) was probably the concrete pond built by Mayne Reid in front of The Rancho, pictured earlier, and described in the **People** section.

The line of the original road which ran in front of the house can still be clearly seen.



The original road looking west with the kitchen garden to the right. The grassed section (below) runs westward to the boundary with Gaviots Close. The 1875 map showed a fence along the southern side of this road and a line of trees on the opposite side. The trees have been replaced by rosa rugosa and other shrubs, somewhat sparse in places.



The kitchen garden

The kitchen garden was in place by 1875 with the map showing a well-laid out garden with paths, trees and a glass house extending the whole length of the northern side. The high brick walls must have been in place at that time, to support the glass houses, and to provide the boundary with the road to the south.



The kitchen garden looking east towards the stable block with the house in the background.



Looking west along the wall which would have formed the back of the long glasshouse, and facing south to take advantage of the sun.

The garden is now mainly grassed with flower beds around the edges, and some fruit trees and a mature tree in the centre, with a vegetable patch and greenhouse in the north-west corner.

The line of the former glasshouse roof can be seen in the north-eastern corner. There are also some remnants of the mechanism for opening the greenhouse windows fixed to the walls. The bricks on this stretch of the wall – which would have been away from public gaze – are darker and seem to be laid in no particular bond!



▲ Flashing on the wall at the north-eastern corner, presumably from the former greenhouse roof

◀ Traces of the greenhouse window mechanism labelled “Messenger Patent”

The brickwork on other sections of the garden wall, where it was on show, is of much higher quality.

This close up of the wall next to the old road demonstrates the attractive variety of colour in the hand-made stock bricks (with the characteristic “smile”) laid in Flemish bond with traditional lime mortar.



The disturbance in the brickwork at the south-western corner shows that something has been removed; perhaps there was a gate here. ▼



At this point an unknown Victorian has left his mark in one of the bricks; “WM 188?” (possibly 1881 or 1882?)



This seems too late a date for the building of the original wall so perhaps it relates to whatever was attached to this end of the wall, or is just a case of historic vandalism!

The former gas-works on the rear of the northern garden wall appear much altered although there is some original brickwork and flooring.



Gardeners' stores where the gas works were shown on the 1875 and 1899 maps.

Girouard cites several early examples of gas works at various country houses in the 1860s and 1870s, the earliest being around 1850. He says that many houses did without gas since it involved building a gasworks and “taking some kind of technician on the payroll” (page 24). Evidently these drawbacks did not deter John Bramley Moore.

There is no evidence in the grounds of any of the pumps shown on early maps.

THE ARCHITECT – E.B. LAMB?

Pevsner describes St. Huberts as “attributed fairly securely to E.B. Lamb”. No evidence is given for this statement so the attribution must be based on stylistic grounds.

Edward Buckton Lamb (1805-1869) is an architect who has aroused strong emotions. Much of his practice was in church architecture, both in restoration and new-build, and his work was fiercely criticised, even derided, by the Ecclesiologist and the purists of the Camden Society because he refused to conform to their ideas about the “correct” style, i.e. Middle Pointed. In a lecture of 1949 the architect and critic H.S. Goodhart-Rendel coined the phrase “rogue architect” for Lamb (along with Thomas Harris, John Shaw and J.W. Wild). Turnor (pp.88-89) quotes from Goodhart-Rendel’s paper: “did people’s stomachs turn at his decorative details?. .my stomach must be rather like Lamb’s, because, although I find his chamfers, corbels and weatherings not altogether palatable, I find that parts of them are excellent and none of them really turns me up.” Turnor however has no doubts and says “It is surely a mercy that Lamb was a rogue and therefore without followers.”

Pevsner himself is withering in his condemnation of Lamb’s work in remodelling Benjamin Disraeli’s house, Hughenden Manor near High Wycombe (p.406): “His details are excruciating, everything sharp, angular and aggressive. As much brickwork as possible is set diagonally, the battlements stepped and with diagonally-placed pinnacles, the window-heads indescribable. The effect is of a Victorian institution, not a country house.” He describes the stables and coach house as having “characteristically perverse details.”

James Stephen Curl takes a more balanced view of Lamb as an Eclectic: “The Rogues employed an originality, a bold eclecticism, and a showmanship (perhaps more suited to commercialism) that did not go down well among the arbiters of taste.” (p.242) However even Curl is somewhat damning with his statement that Lamb’s “work cannot be regarded as issuing from the top drawer of nineteenth-century design.” (p.84) Summerson, however, maintained that “Lamb was totally against eclecticism” (p.72)

Whilst Lamb’s individualism upset advocates of the “true” Gothic Revival, it nonetheless charmed his many clients and achieved good reviews in contemporary journals such as *The Builder*. Patrons were pleased with his originality and non-conformity, perhaps because Lamb aimed for a combination of the picturesque and utility. Disraeli was a satisfied client and expressed his delight with the changes at Hughenden. Lamb was a busy architect; Farrington says that “between 1845 and 1869 his small practice produced over a 100 buildings, including some thirty to forty churches, a London hotel, and a consumption hospital. He entered upwards of 25 architectural competitions and, while all but three of these came to nothing, his designs invariably attracted much critical praise.”

As Farrington suggests the time seems ripe for a fresh appreciation of Lamb’s work. Research at the RIBA library shows no lack of scholarly interest, which has, perhaps, been heightened by that “rogue” tag. Unfortunately the destruction of Lamb’s papers has resulted in a lack of evidence and there is no detailed study of Lamb and his work. Edward Gee’s booklet is useful, giving a list of houses and other buildings known to

have been designed by Lamb and there are also lists of drawings which Lamb exhibited at the Royal Academy. The architect Dr Anthony Edwards has studied Lamb's buildings for many years and has kindly given information by email which has been invaluable in compiling this report.

Lamb is best known for his churches, where his work was publicised, but he built or remodelled many houses. Kaufman has demonstrated how Lamb's career depended on the patronage of the landed classes. He was recommended by one client to another through the sometimes labyrinthine networks of family and political ties. His clients were generally people who did not need, or want, to advertise themselves or their houses so much of his work may have gone unreported in contemporary journals such as *The Builder* or *Building News*.

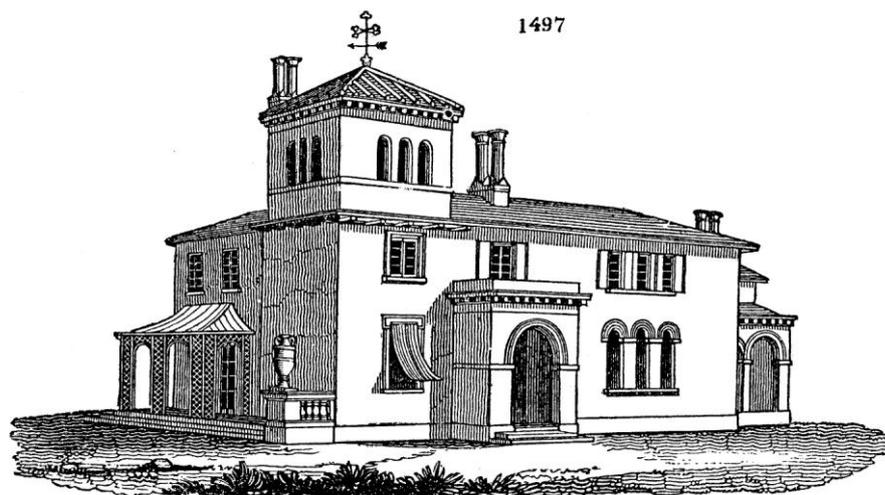
So, in the absence of positive evidence, how likely is it that E.B. Lamb built, or remodelled, St. Huberts?

Lamb's originality did not arise from ignorance of former styles. He was regarded as a rogue since he did not believe in copying them – he was not a revivalist. He lectured and wrote on architectural theory. *The Building News* (1st June 1860, pp.439-442) reported his lecture at the Architectural Exhibition where he said "Architecture is a progressive art and there is no instance on record in former ages of a retrogression in art, or a reproduction of the work of former times."

His early work was as a draughtsman for Loudon, the garden designer and architect. Lamb drew many of the illustrations for Loudon's *Encyclopaedia* published in 1833 (see **Sources**), a pattern-book – in effect a "pick and mix" compendium of buildings in various styles with detailed quantities and costings.

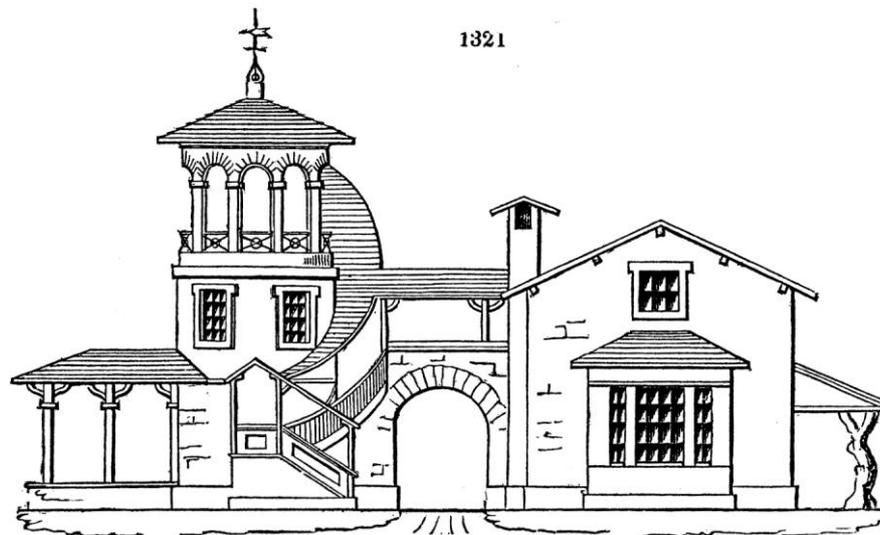
Loudon, and Lamb, demonstrated their eclecticism by showcasing designs for villas in many different styles - Italianate, Gothic, Swiss – or any mixture.

Here is an example of an Italian style villa taken from page 854 of the *Encyclopaedia*.



The round-headed windows and tower are characteristic of the Italian Renaissance style. The porch, albeit with a rounded arch, looks rather reminiscent of the one at St. Huberts.

Lamb designed this “country public house in the Italian style” (taken from page 692 of the *Encyclopaedia*).



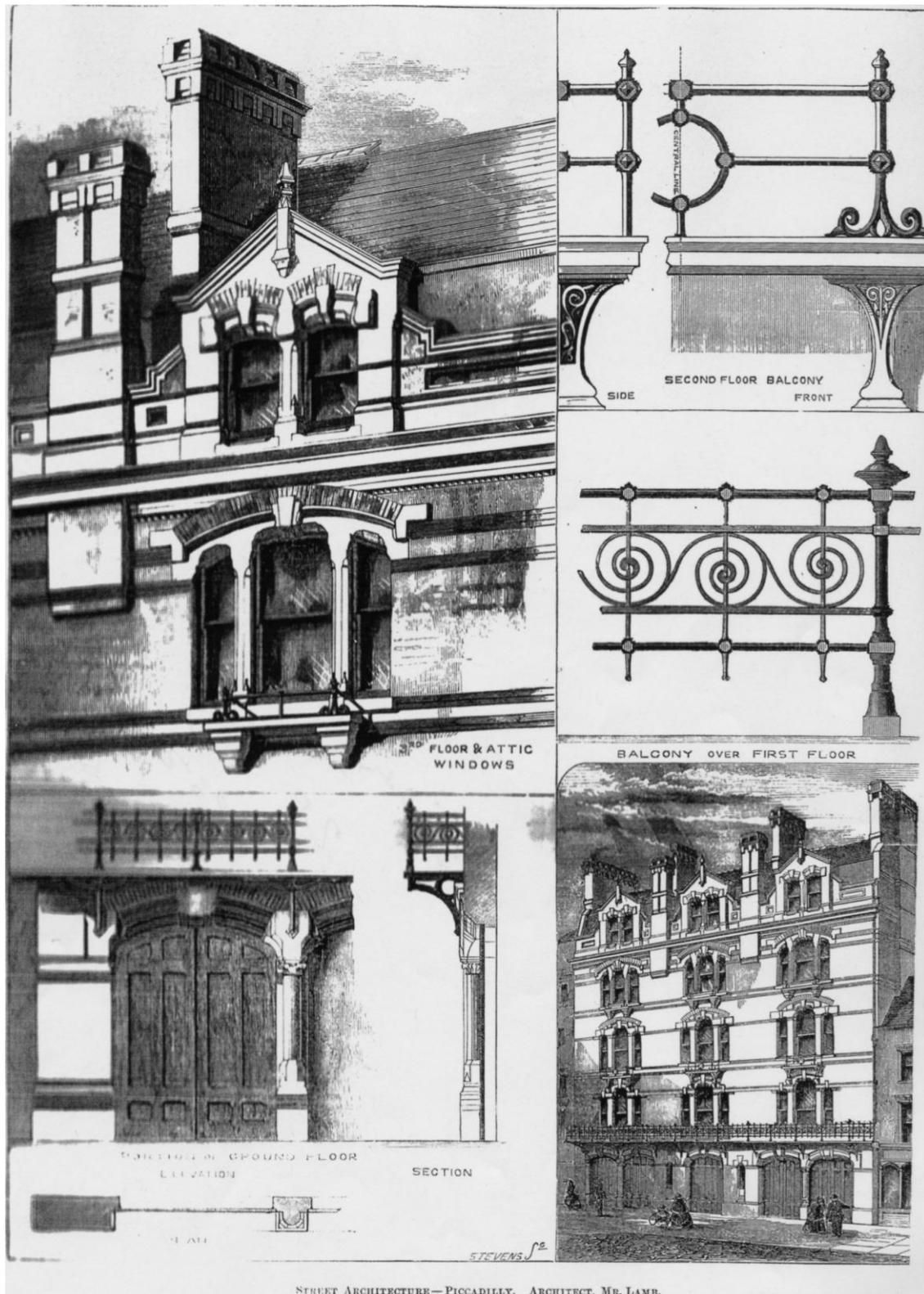
It seems improbable that this design ever left the drawing board but at least it demonstrates the power of Lamb’s imagination.

St. Huberts is in no particular consistent architectural style but its predominant characteristic is Italianate, built in brick, asymmetrical and with its rounded windows, heavy brick ornamented cornice, tower with the triple rounded window, low-pitched hipped roofs and the roof-top belvedere (or was it a campanile?) (now sadly lost).

Lamb is known as a “Rogue Goth” but he seems to have carried on designing buildings in variants of both Italian and Gothic styles after the Italian fell out of favour in the High Victorian period.

His design for a mixed-used building in Piccadilly is eulogised in *The Building News* of 25th July 1862 (p.68). “The sky-line of this building is as admirable as the variety of the details, and the masterly manner in which every one of them is defined. Mr Lamb, the architect, invariably gives freshness and originality to everything he designs. It matters not whether it be an Italian or a Gothic building – he treats it not only in a peculiar, but in a peculiarly able manner. He is never tame or dull – his designs always kindle reflection because they have all been thoughtfully conceived ...Originality with him is something more than novelty; it shows how numerous are the untrodden paths where beauty and grace may be found if architects would but seek them out.”

The engraving of the Piccadilly building has been reproduced from *The Building News* and demonstrates the difficulty in “pigeon-holing” a Lamb building. The window treatment is highly decorative and idiosyncratic, and not too unlike the basket window arches at St. Huberts. The front is also ornamented by decorative iron balconies, continuous above the ground floor and individual under the first-floor windows (balconies are also a feature at St. Huberts). These and the darker brick courses reduce the verticality of the building, but at the same time he uses the chimney stacks, in rather odd positions, to decorate and increase the illusion of height. It is almost like a grid holding the composition together and showing-off the windows in a picturesque manner.



By the early 1850s Lamb had a well-established practice in country houses. His activity peaked shortly after 1860. (Kaufman). Kaufman's research-findings contradicted the traditional view, taken by Summerson, that the aristocratic High Church patrons favoured "acceptable" Victorian architects, whilst the Low church or "nouveau riche" used the "unacceptable", or Rogue, architects. Kaufman found that of 45 known Lamb-patrons, 37 were landed aristocrats.

Lamb's relationship with Buckinghamshire began with the restoration of Chequers for Sir Robert Frankland-Russell Bt. in 1937. Russell helped Lamb set up his practice and Lady Russell continued this support after her husband's death, recommending Lamb to her family and friends. As well as work on the main house at Chequers, Lamb designed estate buildings and the local school at Ellesborough (now a centre for Girl Guides).

According to Kaufman, Lamb worked on six country houses between 1844 and 1855 and 22 between 1855 and 1866. His aristocratic patrons generally already owned country houses so Lamb's work was in remodelling, rather than new-build. Kaufman found only three new country houses built by Lamb; Knotley House, Aldwark Manor and Parkfield Place (a house for himself). These patrons apparently employed no other London architects, and so, Kaufman concludes, were not particularly interested in architecture *per se*. He argues that this contributed to Lamb's eclecticism, since he had the artistic freedom to invent, without risking the disapproval of his clients.

Other surviving examples of Lamb's work in Buckinghamshire include the Judges' Lodgings in Aylesbury (built 1850), a competition entry.



Unfortunately the building is hemmed in by others so not easy to photograph but this picture does show the Italianate styling, the (overly) assertive porch and what Pevsner calls "curious brick details" (page 154). The windows have differently shaped heads, some segmental, some round-headed and some, again, with the basket arches.

Another Buckinghamshire house attributed to Lamb by Gee is Uplands, about two miles from High Wycombe in Hughenden parish, described by Pevsner as a small Tudor-style country house of 1859. (page 407)



Picture taken from website <http://www.devere.co.uk/our-locations/uplands-house>

According to Pevsner the red battlements were added as part of alterations by Edward Cullinan Architects in 1978-86. Here again we see unusual window arches and the use of a pale yellow brick, not within the local palette.

Uplands lies on top of the ridge directly opposite Hughenden Manor, which is Lamb's best known work in Buckinghamshire, possibly in the whole country.

Here he remodelled a plain 18th century stuccoed house, encasing it in an ornamental, and local, mix of deep red brick with vitrified headers, and applying plenty of ornament.



The garden (south) front at Hughenden Manor

Lamb retained the symmetrical plan (Disraeli's nephew later extended the house to the left of this picture).

Lamb is said to have been introduced to the Disraelis by the local Conservative party manager, Sir Philip Rose, who thought Lamb to be "not only a remarkable architect,

but a genius and an artist” (Gee, p.23). It was Disraeli’s wife, Mary Anne, who supervised the work and from her reputation as a strict housekeeper and a wife highly solicitous of her husband’s wishes and comfort it is hard to imagine that Lamb was given completely free rein at Hughenden.



The eastern elevation of Hughenden Manor showing window treatments with basket arches, brick corbelling and dentils and a heavy ornamental parapet hiding the roofs.

Lamb worked on Hughenden from 1862-3, around the time when Hunt and Thorpe concluded that he was also remodelling St. Huberts for John Bramley-Moore (“JMB”) about 15 miles away.

If JMB were a client of Lamb he clearly would not have come within the class of landed aristocrats to which Kaufman maintains most of Lamb’s patrons belonged. JMB was one of the nouveau riche but doubtless wanted to make his mark in the south as a country gentleman. As will be detailed in the **People** section later we know he was a loyal Conservative, a supporter of Lord Derby, whose son Henry Stanley was a great friend of Disraeli. In later years he became a Primrose League Knight and so would seem to have been a natural Disraeli supporter. JMB was a Tory Member of Parliament, although not for a local constituency, so may have known the local agent and been introduced to Lamb through this political network.

Apparently JMB was not a highly cultured man and so unlikely to have his own ideas on architecture, and perhaps more susceptible to recommendation. From his self-confident and assertive personality it seems reasonable to assume that he might want to live in an assertively styled house. However, having put his initials on the stables he built at St. Huberts in 1866, why did he not similarly emblazon the main house with his initials or coat of arms if, indeed, he had it remodelled? Was such apparent reticence in character for John Bramley-Moore?

Without documentation it has proved impossible to date St. Huberts. Pevsner gives a date of c1847, presumably on stylistic grounds, but it seems that he was also relying on information from the owners and the Hampton sales catalogue for which there is no evidence. The list description gives a date of c.1860, again presumably based on the building style, but again giving incorrect historical information.

Dr Edwards has expressed the view (by email to the writer, 19th May 2011)) that St. Huberts bears all the hallmarks of a Lamb building:

- Asymmetric composition
- Picturesque composition achieved by the breaking of the building into smaller units in height and staggering them on plan
- Typical window fenestration
- Typical brickwork detailing
- Typical design of window-heads
- A plinth (he says that so far no Lamb building has been found without one)
- The timber details inside and the staircase are also typical of Lamb.

However he believes the Italianate style indicates a date earlier than the 1860s and thinks that the existence of the house on the 1845 Tithe Map suggests that it might have been built to E.B. Lamb's designs around say 1843-4. He has no record of Ralph Rothwell (the recorded owner in 1845) having been a patron of Lamb.

As far as this writer is aware Dr Edwards has not visited the building. He was already interested in Lamb in 1987 when the house was on the market and obtained a copy of the Hampton's brochure at that time so his assessment must be based on photographs from the brochure. Dr Edwards was also contacted by Julian Hunt when he was researching his history of Gerrards Cross co-written with David Thorpe in 2006.

On stylistic grounds it appears that the attribution to E.B. Lamb is, as Pevsner says, "fairly secure" but without more evidence this remains conjectural.

CHAPTER 7: PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH ST. HUBERTS

Owners and occupiers

List of putative owners of the main house site based on documentary evidence mentioned in this report

Dudley Adams (1809 to, possibly, 1817)

Ralph Rothwell (owner and occupier in 1845)

Edward David Harman (occupier 1851 & 1853)

John Bramley-Moore (early 1860s – 1886)

Col. The Honourable William Le Poer Trench (1887 -1920)

Power Mash Le Poer Trench (1920-1926)

Mrs Gladys Le Poer Trench (1926 – 1968)

Guy Manning Stewart-Wallace and Jack Le Poer Wyndham (executors of Mrs Le Poer Trench?) (1968 – 1974)

Eric Oliver Barnett, Mrs Louise Francesca Barnett and Mrs Vivienne Reed (1974 – 1988) (Mrs Barnett died on 12th January 1984)

The ownership of the current owners, Huberts Limited, who bought St. Huberts in 1988, has been confirmed from the title deeds.

Dudley Adams

Adams acquired the site on enclosure in 1809. The section on map evidence (Chapter 5) has already dealt with his involvement, although this is conjectural.

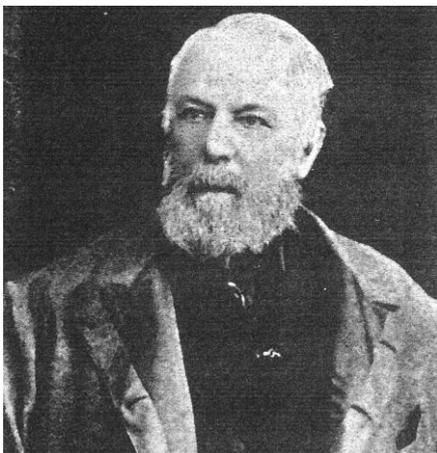
Ralph Rothwell

Unfortunately it has not been possible to find any information about Ralph Rothwell.

Edward David Harman

The only information obtained about Harman is from the 1851 census and 1853 directory. Since these only give information on occupation it is not possible to say whether he was the owner, or only a tenant, of the house. His full name is only given in the directory. The census entries note that E.D. Harman was 57 years old, born in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire and was a gentleman (i.e. did not have to work for a living). His wife, Helena, was aged 30 and born in Kent. His two sons, Alfred and Henry, were both born in London and aged 11 and 3 respectively. His live-in servants were Henry Parker, gardener, aged 44 and born in London; and domestic servants, Hannah Eades, aged 26, born in Denham and Esta Bason, aged 18, born in Surrey.

John Bramley-Moore (1800-1886) (“JBM”)



reproduced from “Liverpool’s Legion of Honour” by B.G Orchard

JBM appears to have been the epitome of the self-made Victorian entrepreneur. Born the son of Thomas Moore in Pontefract, Yorkshire, he went to live in Rio de Janeiro at the age of 14. Here he laid the foundations of his future success as a merchant. He also met, and in 1830, married the memorably named Seraphina Hibernia Pennell, one

of the 22 children of William Pennell, the British Consul-General for Brazil. JBM's father-in-law was instrumental in promoting trading and cultural ties between Brazil and Great Britain and JBM was one of the merchants who took advantage of this favourable trading climate. On returning to England in 1835 he maintained his trading connections with Brazil, setting up the firm of John Bramley-Moore & Co, Brazilian merchants. He settled in Liverpool, changing his surname to Bramley-Moore, and made a rapid rise in local politics, becoming an alderman in 1841 and Chairman of the Liverpool Docks Committee in 1843. In the same year he single-handedly negotiated a deal with the Earl of Derby to secure land for an extension of the docks, one of which was named the Bramley-Moore Dock when it opened in 1848. He resigned from the Docks Committee when he was elected Mayor of Liverpool for 1848-9.

His home was in Aigburth, a part of Liverpool favoured by the local well-to-do, and no doubt his meteoric rise was due in part to his wife's connections, as well as his own forceful personality and business sense.

He seems to have had an uncompromising attitude to industrial relations. During the Chartist troubles of 1848 he discharged about 600 dock labourers who refused to be sworn in as special constables, and actually slept in the docks himself for two nights. (Orchard).

A keen Tory, JBM had several unsuccessful attempts to gain a seat in Parliament, eventually becoming MP for Maldon from 1854 to 1859 when, apparently in acrimonious circumstances, he stood down in favour of another candidate. He gained the seat for Lincoln from 1862 to 1865. Various entries in *The Times* show how he was involved in trade delegations and lobbying of Ministers on behalf of the Brazilian trade. He never rose to the front rank in politics but was a member of at least two Parliamentary select committees.

His business interests were not confined to trade with Brazil. He sat on several company boards, at various times being a director of the Bank of Egypt, the North Staffordshire Railway, the London and North West Railway, the Dublin Cattle-Market Company, the General Credit and Finance Company of London, the East Argentine Railway Co. Ltd., the Montevideo Gas Co. Ltd. and the Rio City Improvements Co. Ltd. A North Staffs steam locomotive was named the Bramley-Moore, as was a "beautiful clipper-ship" (*The Times*, 30th April 1859).

Why JMB bought the property in Gerrards Cross is not known, nor exactly when in the early 1860s. Doubtless his son William's appointment as first incumbent of the new church there in 1859 was an important factor. It is interesting to speculate how well JMB may have known the architect of that church, Sir William Tite, who was Vice-Chairman of the Bank of Egypt, of which JMB (as noted in the *Times* of 29th October 1856) was also a director. Sir William was also a Tory MP and a friend of the Reid family who built the church. Might this connection have helped secure the Reverend William Bramley-Moore's appointment?

The possibility that Tite (1798-1873) also designed St. Huberts was considered, and dismissed, for this report. Tite is best known as the designer of the Royal Exchange and for his railway architecture and such a house would have been an unlikely project for him, and the style probably rather too eclectic! In any event he seems to have

come out of retirement to design the church, no doubt as a favour to the family of his old friend, George Reid, in whose memory the church was built.

Orchard and the ODNB indicate that JBM more-or-less retired from Liverpool life around 1865 but several entries in The Times show that he must have maintained some connections there, taking part in deputations and Dock Board events and in 1869 he addressed a meeting at Liverpool Town Hall on his recent visit to the Suez Canal. His son John Arthur Bramley-Moore carried on the company business whilst living in Aigburth and JMB and Seraphina were staying in their son's house on census night in 1871.

Having moved to Gerrards Cross JMB played an active role in the county's civic life. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Buckinghamshire, sitting on the bench at Slough for the case of the infamous murders at Denham in June 1870. He played the part of the country squire, expanding his estate and providing a village pump next to the crossroads on Gerrards Cross Common in 1864.

*The inscription on the pump reads;
"This pump was erected by John Bramley-Moore Esq. MP in the year 1884 for the use of the wayfarer in Gerrards Cross. Whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely."*



After a stirring speech in the House of Commons in support of protecting the Brazilian trade in 1869 the Emperor of Brazil conferred the Order of the Rose on JBM. His Times' obituary recorded that JMB entertained the Emperor to lunch at Gerrards Cross in 1877.

It is perhaps surprising that JBM's achievements were not recognised by an honour in his own country. The Pen and Ink Sketch of JBM is far from obsequious, even scathing, in its estimation of his qualities and character:

"He has a handsome person, a good-humoured look, a careless swagger and an air which denotes a love of mischief...He has a fine, clear voice, which can be heard at a great distance. His pronunciation is passable, with a tinge now and then of the Yorkshire burr. It is manifest too, that Mr Moore is not only deficient in mental power, but in intellectual cultivation, and that his reading on general subjects has been very slight... statistics are his forte...they are an excellent substitute for argument.. His air and carriage are those of a man who feels that he is somebody."

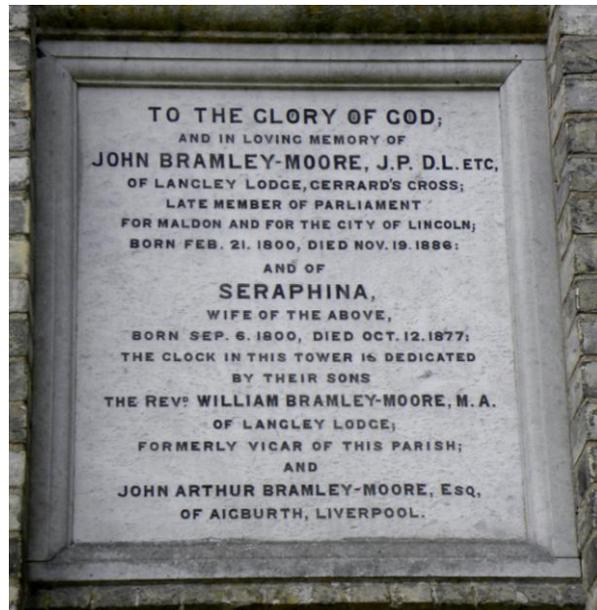
No doubt his rapid rise in Liverpool trading and political circles had ruffled many feathers. The Pen and Ink sketch concludes that "The general opinion of Mr Bramley-Moore is that he is a man of superficial attainments, defective in judgement, showy, but shallow in conception...but that he is entitled to credit for forethought, spirit, zeal and good intentions."

Even the ODNB is less than kind. It quotes Nathaniel Hawthorne's description of JMB as a "moderately bulky and rather round-shouldered man, with a kindly face enough" remarking that Hawthorne considered him an ungentlemanly parvenu. "The story that he declined a knighthood in 1846 certainly seems out of character."

JMB must have been a well-travelled man and he appears to have had some connection with the Royal Geographical Society; The Times records him at a meeting there (11th February 1863) and there is a reference to correspondence with JMB in the Society's archive (A2A online search). An online search found his name listed as a collector of books in 1859.

JMB died in Brighton in 1886 at the age of 86. The fact that he was buried in Liverpool, at St. Michaels in the Hamlet, perhaps indicates that he regarded Liverpool, rather than Gerrards Cross, as his home. The Illustrated London News reported his death briefly, giving his address as Gerrards Cross and Liverpool. He evidently died a wealthy man with an estate valued for probate at over £167,000. As well as leaving property to his family he made charitable bequests to the National Lifeboat Institution for the creation of the Bramley-Moore medals for life-saving at sea, and established the "Mrs Bramley-Moore Coal Fund" to benefit the poor of Gerrards Cross.

JBM does have a memorial at Gerrards Cross in the form of the clock in the tower of the parish church. This was given to the church by his sons, William and John, in memory of their parents and was dedicated at Easter, 1888. There is a commemorative tablet at the base of the church tower.▶



Revd. William Bramley-Moore M.A. (1831-1918)

On JBM's death in 1886 William inherited a life interest in his father's Gerrards Cross properties. Whilst Vicar of the new church of St. James he would have lived at the vicarage next to Latchmoor Pond on West Common. It is curious that he is described as of Langley Lodge on the above memorial but perhaps it indicates that he retained the ownership of Langley Lodge at that time whilst the house was let. No doubt it would have taken the family some time to deal with JBM's considerable property portfolio after his death. Colonel Trench's correspondence does show that William had retained an interest in other properties in the village as late as 1890. William was an author of romantic fiction as well as of religious tracts. There were several advertisements in The Times for his novel "Six Sisters of the Valleys". According to *Who Was Who* he married Ella, daughter of Swinfen Jordan, and had ten children. Ella appears to have been his cousin, her mother being Seraphina Bramley-Moore's sister.

Col. The Honourable William Le Poer Trench (1837-1920)

If John Bramley-Moore was the epitome of the “nouveau riche” Victorian self-made man, then his successor at St. Huberts could hardly be a greater contrast, representing the landed traditions of the Irish aristocracy.

Trench was the third son of William Thomas Le Poer Trench, third Earl of Clancarty, and Lady Sarah Juliana Butler, daughter of the third Earl of Carrick. In 1864 he married Harriet Maria Georgina Martins, only child of Sir William Martins. Evidently a wealthy woman in her own right, according to *The Times* of 22nd April 1909, on her death Harriet left a net personal estate of over £122,000. It has not been possible to find information on Harriet’s parents but it seems likely that her father was the same Sir William Martins who was a royal courtier, being Gentleman Usher to the Sword of State from 1837 to his death in 1874. *Dod’s Peerage of 1872* has an entry for this Sir William Martins who married the daughter of Sir Thomas Baucutt Mash. The Colonel’s younger son’s second given name of “Mash” indicates that this Sir William Martins probably was Harriet’s father.

Trench was educated at Cheltenham and the Royal Military Academy and, before his marriage, had a career in the military, joining the Royal Engineers in 1854. He served in the Second Opium War of 1857-8 in China, where he was mentioned in dispatches and was promoted to Colonel in 1879. From 1860-61 he was in charge of operations to connect the triangulation of England with Germany through France and Belgium. (*Who’s Who*). Any other connection with the Ordnance Survey has not been investigated but the claim in the *Hamptons* brochure that, as head of the Ordnance Survey, he managed to remove St. Huberts from Ordnance Survey maps seems fantastical and is not borne out by the map evidence.

He served as Member of Parliament for Galway from 1872 to 1874 but was unsuccessful in elections for the Whitechapel seat in 1886 and 1893.

The Colonel was also a Justice of the Peace in London and Buckinghamshire and played his part in the civic and social life of Gerrards Cross. In 1895 he was appointed the first chairman of Gerrards Cross Parish Council. In 1888 he was made President, and later a patron, of the Gerrards Cross Cricket Club. A photograph of him with the team in 1915 can be found on the club’s website and apparently there was also a St. Huberts XI made up of employees from the estate. He served on the Buckinghamshire County Council, standing down in 1901 (correspondence at CBS). Helen Gladstone’s history of the parish church records that the Colonel gave £100 towards church alterations in 1911, matching the donation of Sir John Ramsden, the owner of Bulstrode.

It seems that his ambition on buying St. Huberts was to become a “gentleman farmer”. We have seen how assiduous he was in improving St. Huberts as a shooting estate. He clearly had a great affection for his retrievers – in correspondence he mentions “all my beautiful dogs” - and appears to have established a new breed. The origins of the Russian or St. Huberts retriever however seem to be the subject of some debate on websites devoted to Golden Retrievers, with the veracity of the Colonel’s version being questioned! There must have been a thriving kennel somewhere on the estate since the Colonel bred and showed his dogs. The *Crufts* catalogue for 1915 shows

that he was a vice-president of the show and he appears to have swept the board at that year's event with his retrievers.

The Colonel and his wife had two sons. The elder, William Martins Le Poer Trench, was born in 1866 and married Elinor Cox in 1891. They lived at Coorheen, Vancouver, British Columbia. There was a house called Coorheen in Heusden Way, and from correspondence in 1895 we know that the Colonel's mother, the Dowager Countess of Clancarty, lived at Coorheen House in Ireland. William Martins Le Poer Trench died aged only 37 in 1904 without leaving any children.

The younger son, Power Mash Le Poer Trench, was born in 1869 and was a graduate of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and a barrister of the Inner Temple. Power married Gladys Carew-Gibson in 1896 but also died comparatively young in 1926, only six years after his father. He left one daughter, Gladys Marjorie Le Poer Trench, who married first Henry Saxe Wyndham, and, following her divorce in 1937, Eric Charles Edwards. Gladys Marjorie died in 1960, eight years before her mother, and so never inherited St. Huberts. It is not known if she had any children but it is assumed that the Jack Le Poer Wyndham, who was one of the co-vendors of St. Huberts in 1974, was probably her son.

The Hamptons brochure mentions an inventory, unfortunately with no reference, of St. Huberts showing a magnificent art collection at the house. The report of the Colonel's will in *The Times* of 12th April 1921 shows that he left gross estate valued at £92,560 with net personal estate of £51,186. Apart from his direction about his "dear yellow retrievers" mentioned earlier, he left his statue "Greek Slave" by Hiram Powers "to the Royal Academy or other national art collection for public exhibition". The original of this statue was carved by the American sculptor, Hiram Powers (1805-1872) in 1844 and caused a sensation when one of the six replicas created by Powers was displayed at the Great Exhibition of 1851. The statue was later much copied by others. The Hamptons catalogue states that the Colonel's version was the original. However the 1844 original is now at Raby Castle and was, according to the Raby Castle website, acquired for Raby by the Duke of Cleveland in 1861.

The Colonel did not forget his servants in his will, leaving £800 to his "gamekeeper and faithful servant, Frederick Almond", £250 to his bailiff "Jim Teppern" (sic), £250 on trust for the widow and son of his late bailiff, Isaac Teppern and "similar or lesser sums to other house and farm servants." (*The Times*, 12th April 1921).

Maps and directories show a convalescent hospital on the estate (at what is now Little Prestwick) and perhaps this was for tuberculosis patients. The *British Medical Journal* of 30th March 1901 reports that the Colonel had been elected a member of the Council of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, the predecessor of the present Stroke Association.

The Colonel, his wife Harriet and their son William are all buried in Fulmer churchyard. ►



Mrs Gladys Le Poer Trench (c.1874-1968)

It has been assumed for this report that St. Huberts was inherited by the Colonel's daughter-in-law, Gladys, on the death of her husband, Power, in 1926. Although there were periods when she did not live in the main house, she appears to have retained the property until her death at the age of 94 on 9th July 1968 (The Times, 12th July 1968) and does not seem to have remarried.

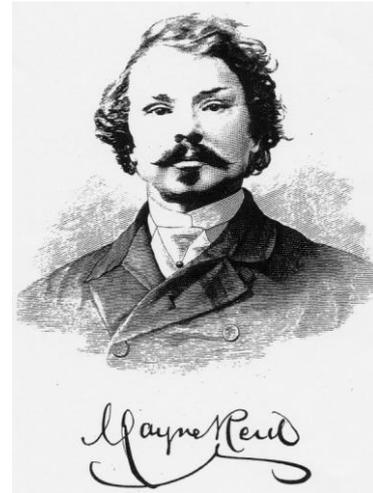
Her own daughter, Gladys Marjorie (born 1899), predeceased her in 1960. No doubt Mrs Gladys Le Poer Trench was faced with growing financial problems in trying to maintain the main house during the 20th century and her efforts have been dealt with earlier.

No further information about her has been discovered for this report.

Captain Thomas Mayne Reid (1818-1883)

Reproduced from Elizabeth Reid's "Captain Mayne Reid: his life and adventures"

Although never an owner of the house at St. Huberts, the Irish-American adventurer and author Thomas Mayne Reid did once own a large part of the grounds absorbed into the estate in the late 1860s. Born in County Down he was groomed by his father for a career as a Presbyterian minister but never completed his studies. In 1839 he took ship to New Orleans and worked in a variety of jobs in the southern states. He later began his writing career in Pennsylvania and met Edgar Allan Poe whilst living in Philadelphia.



In 1846 Reid joined the New York Volunteer Infantry and took part in the invasion of Central Mexico. He wrote dispatches from the battlefield for a New York newspaper and was wounded whilst leading a charge during the Battle of Chapultepec.

He moved to London in 1850 where he started to write the adventure books for which he became well-known, with such stirring titles as *The Scalp Hunters*, *the Boy Hunters*, *The Desert Home*, *The Rifle Rangers* and *The Headless Horseman*. At the age of 35 he married his publisher's daughter, Elizabeth Hyde, a girl of 15 and Joan Steele records in her biography of Reid that the couple moved to Gerrards Cross in 1856; exactly where she does not say.

In 1890 Reid's widow published a flattering memoir of his life. Elizabeth Reid writes that the greater number of Reid's works were written in "this rural retreat". She records how, between 1862 and 1865, Reid built himself a house in the style of a Mexican hacienda with a flat roof. "In front of the house he constructed an artificial pond – a circular basin lined with cement, a jet of water in the centre – probably to remind him of the alligator and the sisters Loupe and Luz to whom we are introduced in *The Rifle Rangers*."

Elizabeth describes how he approached this building project with customary zeal. Apparently he made his own bricks, employing a regular staff of brick-makers and was his own architect. He would get up at 6 a.m. to supervise the workmen and proved a hard taskmaster. He called his house *The Rancho* but it appears as *The Rancho* in directories and maps.

Mayne Reid was notoriously extravagant and the cost of his building project combined with the failure of his bank resulted in his bankruptcy in 1866. He abandoned his property at Gerrards Cross and returned to London where he worked hard to try and pay off his debts. After another spell in America the Mayne Reids came back to England in 1870 and settled in Ross on Wye. Mayne Reid died in London aged 65 and is buried in Kensal Green Cemetery.

Elizabeth Reid recounts how her husband's eccentricities were the subject of local gossip. Indeed he must have cut quite a figure when taking his exercise on the Common at Gerrards Cross dressed like a dandy, sporting a Mexican sombrero and yellow kid gloves with his Norfolk jacket. Shopkeepers sometimes mistook his young wife for his daughter and according to his wife he attended church principally to study the ladies' bonnets. Whilst there are no traces of buildings at the Rancho today his lasting legacy has been the row of model cottages, now called St. Huberts Cottages, on East Common which he commissioned to provide a public reading room and accommodation for local people.

Other Associations

The Misses Reid

(not related to Thomas Mayne Reid)

The supposed involvement of the Misses Reid in the building of St. Huberts raised in the Hamptons brochure and repeated in Pevsner is puzzling. No evidence has been found that they ever owned or occupied St. Huberts. Hunt and Thorpe demonstrate how the sisters played a crucial role in the "gentrification" of Gerrards Cross in the 19th century. Col. George Alexander Reid and his sisters Anna Maria and Louisa, were the children of a wealthy London brewer. Col Reid rented the house at Bulstrode Park and other properties from the Duke of Somerset from 1841 until the Colonel's death in 1852. The Bulstrode papers at the CBS were researched by Hunt and Thorpe and Helen Gladstone for this information. The Reids retained their London home and lived at Gerrards Cross for only part of the year. After 1852 the sisters rented The Pickeridge, another Bulstrode estate property, but located in Hedgerley. They persuaded the Duke to release part of the Common for the building of St. James church, as a memorial to their late brother. As patrons of the living they must have had a hand in the appointment of William Bramley-Moore as the first incumbent in 1859.

The sisters had other property interests in the village. According to Helen Gladstone, who also conducted extensive research in the church records, Louisa Reid bought a house facing Latchmoor Pond on West Common and the sisters supervised the building of the church whilst living there. This property then became the vicar's home (page 21) so William Bramley-Moore would have lived here from 1859 to 1869. In 1876, Louisa, who by then owned Watercroft on East Common (now the Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre) gave that building to the vicar as a more appropriate vicarage. (Hunt and Thorpe *History* page 23). These property machinations may well be the source of the misconception that the Misses Reid built St. Huberts, especially since the Hamptons brochure confused father and son, incorrectly asserting that the Revd. William Bramley-Moore lived there and was an M.P. rather than his father, John. Although the Reid sisters left Gerrards Cross after the church was finished their philanthropic interest in the area appears to have continued. Hunt and Thorpe believe the sisters were also probably active in encouraging the building of the Church of England School on East Common in 1861 and the Aged Pilgrims' Home (now Hartley Court) in 1874.

Film and television locations

Although one of the main characteristics of St. Huberts is its seclusion the house may look familiar to many through its use as a filming location. According to various websites (see **Sources**) films or television programmes filmed at St. Huberts include:

- *The League of Gentlemen (1960)*
- *Just My Luck*
- *The Sweet Scent of Death* (from the series *Hammer House of Mystery & Suspense*)
- *Cat amongst the pigeons (New Avengers)*
- several episodes of *The Professionals*
- *Island of Terror*
- *The Remorseful Day* (the last episode of *Inspector Morse*).

CHAPTER 8: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

There are fundamental outstanding questions which cannot be resolved on the basis of the evidence found so far.

There are three possibilities:

1. St. Huberts, more-or-less in its present form, was built between 1809 (perhaps 1817) and 1845.
2. A house was built on the site of St. Huberts between those dates, then demolished and another house built before 1875.
3. The early 19th century house was remodelled before 1875.

Other unresolved issues are the identity of the architect, and the client(s) who had the house built and/or remodelled.

The Tithe Map is the only evidence that a house existed on the site in 1845. Although not intended as an accurate description of buildings it is clear that some attempt has been made to show the outline of the various buildings. Whilst the size, location and alignment look similar to St. Huberts the shape is not. The map depicts a rectangular building but with a large projection at the front and then stepped down to the west.

Remodelling of country houses was popular and prolific in the mid-Victorian period with the growth of the affluent middle classes. It seems more likely that the house would have been remodelled rather than demolished and replaced by an entirely new building.

Stylistically the house is difficult to date because it has no easily identifiable style. From its predominantly Italianate, picturesque appearance an earlier, rather than later date, is favoured.

The appearance of Heusden Cottage may afford some clues since it looks as though it must have been built as an adjunct to St. Huberts. A lodge house would surely be built to look like the main house, rather than the other way round. Assuming that the date 1860 on Heusden Cottage is correct then St. Huberts would have had its present ornamental brick appearance by 1860 at the latest.

The 1851 census showed the house was a gentleman's residence but only two domestic servants and a gardener were in residence with the family, a small household for a house the size of St. Huberts especially if there were then no estate buildings to accommodate servants. The evidence of the 1861 census also begged questions.

Might the change of name from Langley Cottage to Langley Lodge indicate a change of status for the house or just the whim of a new owner?

Some of the outstanding issues about the origins and development of St. Huberts could probably be resolved by further documentary research and more detailed inspection of the fabric of the building, including the roof spaces and interiors, especially fireplaces. But some questions are likely to remain unanswered because information has been lost or destroyed and records of works done to the house have not been maintained.

The identity of the architect may never be settled but St. Huberts does appear to bear the hallmarks of E.B. Lamb's work.

Time constraints meant that research for this report was not exhaustive. The following are suggestions for further lines of enquiry, archives or repositories:

It had been assumed that the Barnetts would have placed their research findings such as maps and old photographs with the title deeds but if they did they are now missing. Mrs Barnett died in 1984 and it is assumed that Mr Barnett may have also died. An email enquiry of the local history society in Gerrards Cross has received no reply. This could be pursued since Dr Baker of that society was involved with the Barnetts' open day in 1976. The Barnetts' open day was held in aid of the CPRE, Penn branch. Their archive for the event has been seen but further enquiries could be made.

The Way Archive at the CBS may contain papers to elucidate the connection with Dudley Adams and Alderbourne (formerly Nutting Grove). The Way family owned Alderbourne for many years.

The Bulstrode Papers – another large collection. Correspondence between the owners of St. Huberts and the owner of Bulstrode has been useful for this report and there may be more information in these papers since much of Gerrards Cross belonged to the Bulstrode estate.

Census – a more systematic approach to trace changes in occupation of houses associated with St. Huberts.

Any Bramley-Moore papers are likely to be in Liverpool, especially in view of JBM's connections with the council and docks committee. An online search has revealed some correspondence at the University of Liverpool but only up to 1861. Enquiries could be made of local history groups in Liverpool.

Le Poer Trench papers. The present Earl of Clancarty is not aware of any archive and thinks papers have probably been destroyed. He has no personal information about St. Huberts. The connection with Edward VII could be investigated.

Family history research on the names of people known to have been associated with St. Huberts, e.g. births, marriages, deaths, wills and probate records.

Local newspapers at the CBS. The South Bucks Free Press started in 1856 but is not indexed. Research in papers might give information about property sales and building works as well as people.

CBS may have more records on early parish rates charged on St. Huberts and other enclosure and tithe papers.

Since Bramley Moore and Le Poer Trench were both MPs the Parliamentary archive could be investigated.

As to the architect, further research at the RIBA library including a systematic search through contemporary journals *The Builder*, *Building News* etc.

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1809 Langley Marish Enclosure Map ref. IR55

1845 Langley Marish Tithe Map ref.243

1860 map of Gerrards Cross chapelry ref. PR/83/3/1

1875 Langley Marish parish OS25 inch ref.DC10/37/1

1875 Langley Marish parish reference book ref. DC10/37/4

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www.buckinghamshireremembers.org.uk

www.findmypast.co.uk

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South Bucks District Council

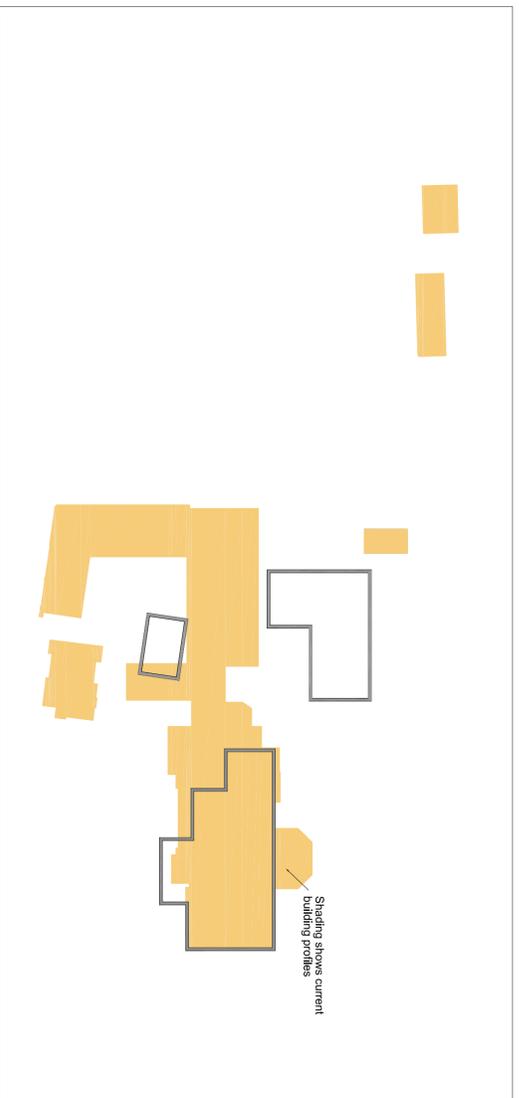
Dr Anthony Edwards

Nicholas Trench, Earl of Clancarty

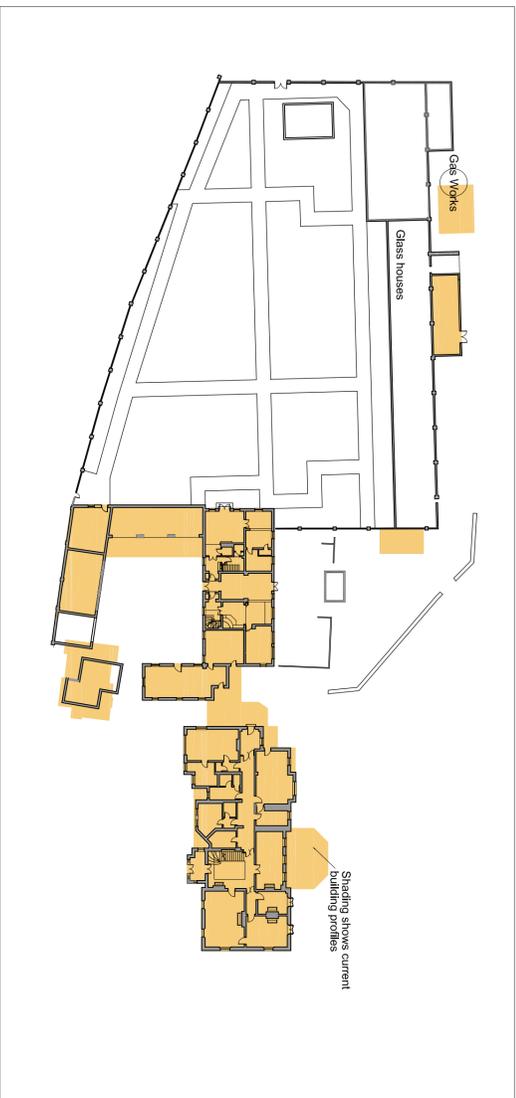
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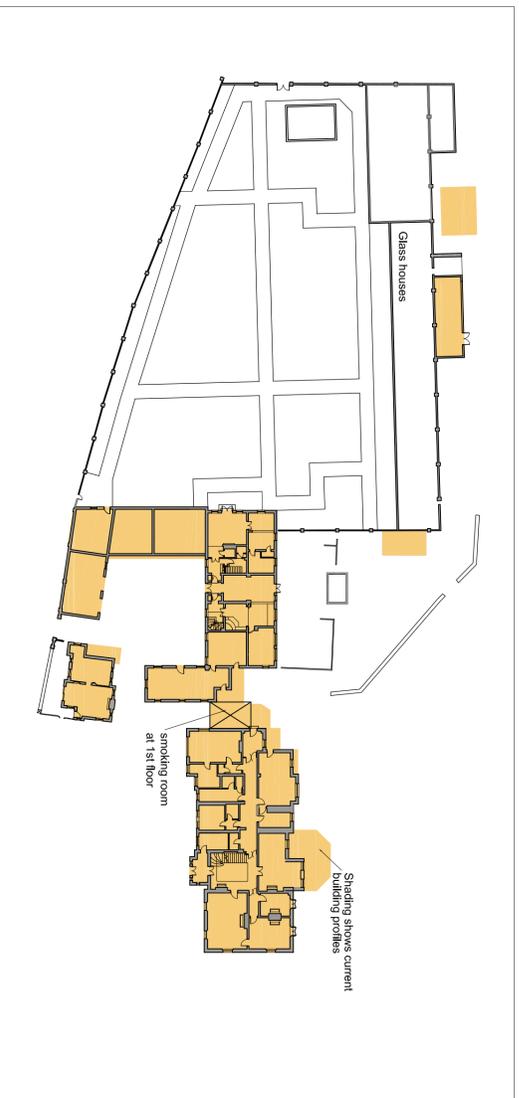
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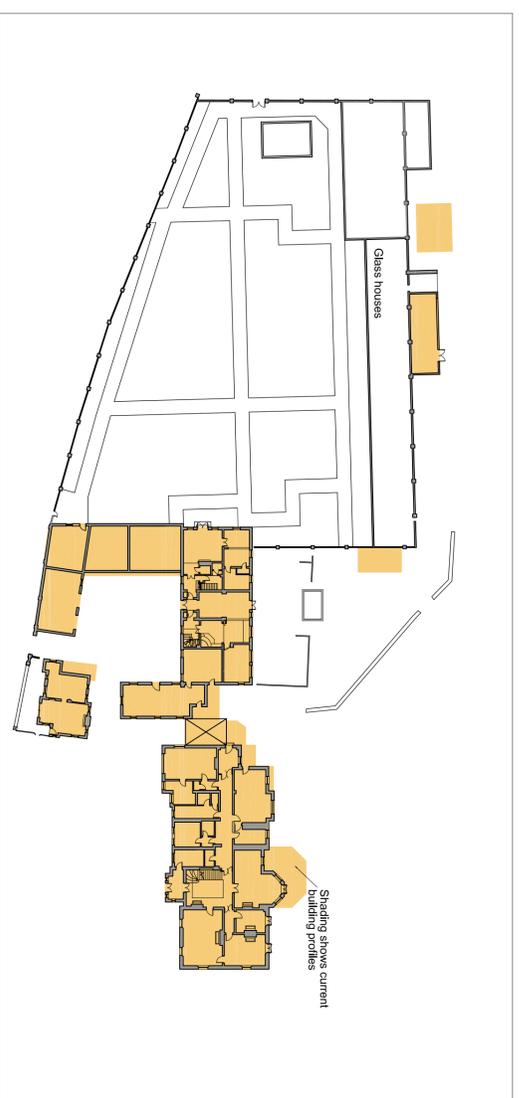
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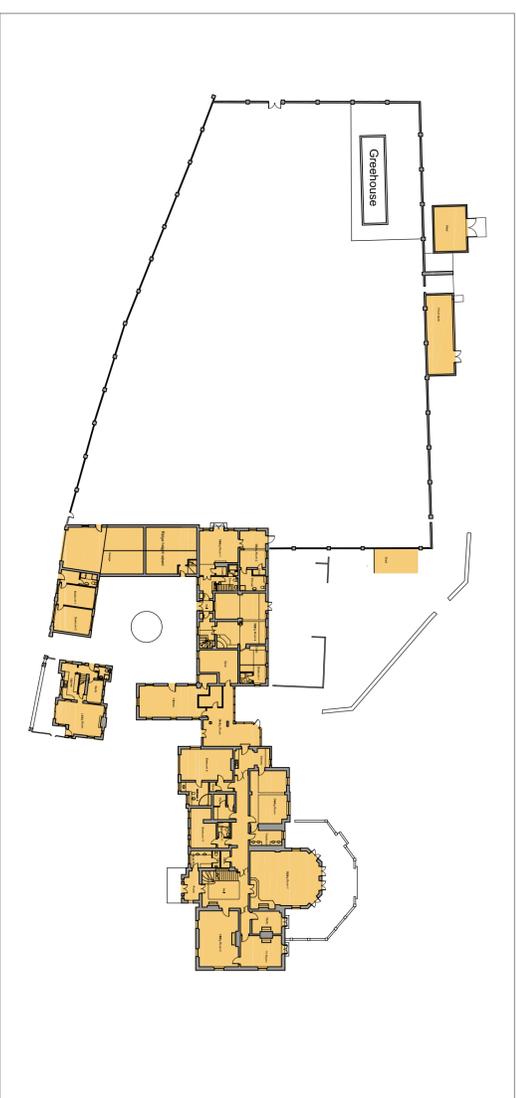
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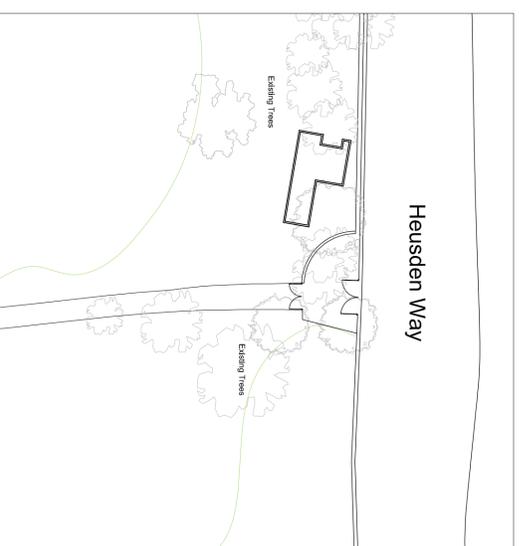
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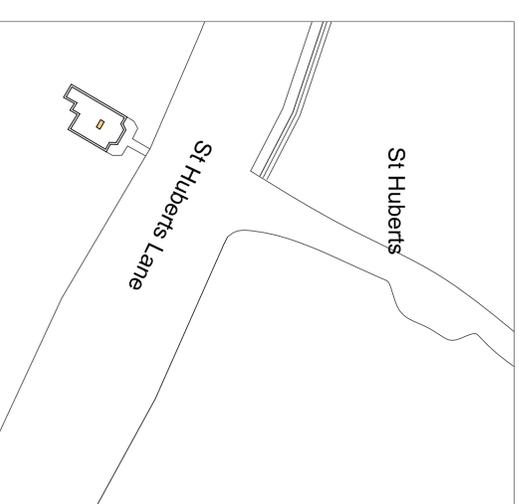
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GROUND FLOOR PLAN 1988-2011
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GROUND PLAN HEATHER LODGE 1925
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GROUND PLAN Eagle Lodge 1901
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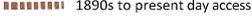
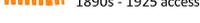
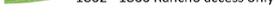
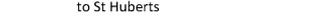


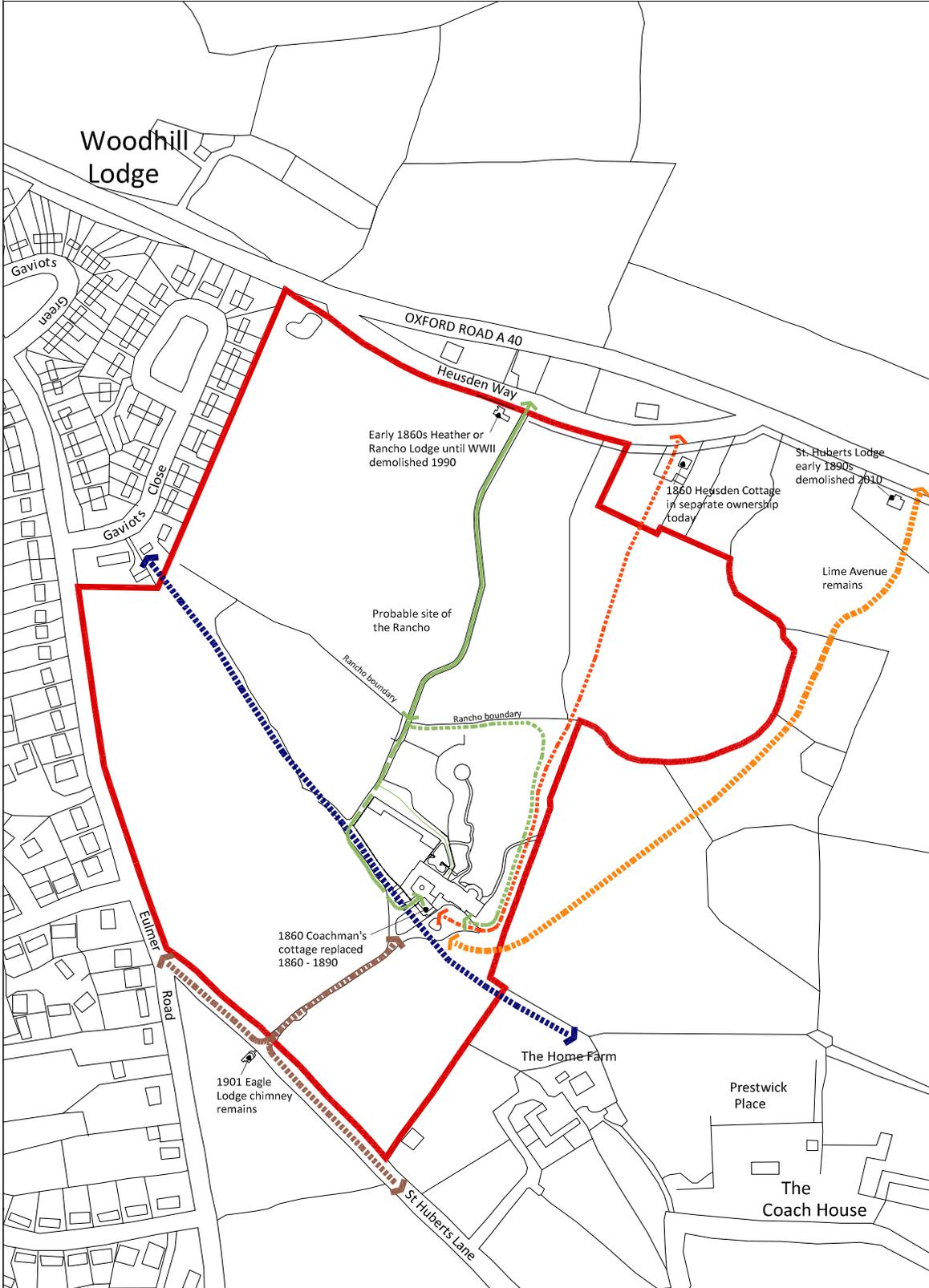
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project title	ST HUBERT'S HOUSE, ST HUBERT'S LANE, GERARDS CROSS, SUD BPP
drawing title	BUILDING DEVELOPMENT HISTORY
status	PLANNING
scale	1:500@A1 / 1:1000@A3
job no	697
drawn	SL
checked	MIG
drawing no	P160
revision	

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KEY:

-  1860 - 1890s access
-  Historic road until 1890
-  1890s to present day access
-  1890s - 1925 access
-  1862 - 1866 Rancho access only
-  1866 - 1890s Rancho access extended to St Huberts
-  1890s to present day access extended to St Huberts



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project title
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drawing title
 LODGE & ACCESS PLANS

status PLANNING

scale 1:5000@A4

job no 697 drawing no revision

drawn SL

checked MJG

P161

SITE LAYOUT 2011
 SCALE 1:500@A1



Listed building descriptions

(taken from <http://list.english-heritage.org.uk> accessed 12th June 2011)

ST. HUBERTS HOUSE

List Entry Number 1332746

Location

ST. HUBERT'S HOUSE, ST. HUBERT'S LANE

County: Buckinghamshire

District: South Bucks

District Type: District Authority

Parish: Gerrards Cross

Grade II

Date first listed: 24th April 1985

Details

TQ 08 NW GERRARDS CROSS ST HUBERT'S LANE

5/503 St. Hubert's House

II

Circa 1860 and said to have been built as a hunting lodge for the 2nd Earl of Portrench and, indeed, with a stag in artificial stone over the porch. Stock brick; stone dressings; slate roof. As asymmetrical in composition as it is idiosyncratic in style. Much use of dogtooth ornament and lozenge patterning in raised brickwork. Mostly of 2 storeys but with a 3-storeyed central tower porch. All windows of ause de panier arch type except those of the 5 left hand bays and those of the third storey of the tower which are round arched but have Early English type foliage in the capitals. Attached to the house on the left, the stable block in similarly idiosyncratic style and a date 1866.

Listing NGR: TQ0084186989

PIERS AND GATES TO ST. HUBERTS LANE

List Entry Number 1124391

Location

PIERS AND GATES TO ST. HUBERT'S HOUSE, ST. HUBERT'S LANE

County: Buckinghamshire

District: South Bucks

District Type: District Authority

Parish: Gerrards Cross

Grade II

Date first listed: 24th April 1985

Details

TQ 08 NW GERRARDS CROSS ST HUBERT'S LANE

5/504 Piers and gates to St. Hubert's House

II

Circa 1860 and in materials and style similar to the house. Three smaller piers with curved flank walls. Railings with lotus tops; wrought iron gates with emblem of St. Hubert.

Listing NGR: TQ0069786876

HEUSDEN COTTAGE

List Entry Number: 1124388

Location

HEUSDEN COTTAGE, HEUSDEN WAY

County: Buckinghamshire

District: South Bucks

District Type: District Authority

Parish: Gerrards Cross

Grade II

Date first listed: 24th April 1985

Details

TQ 08 NW GERRARDS CROSS HEUSDEN WAY

5/497 Heusden Cottage

II

Circa 1860 and similar in style to and associated with St. Hubert's House, St. Hubert's lane (q.v.). Stock brick; stone dressings with recessed jointing; slate roof with fancy ridge tiles. Square in plan with square castellated turret at one corner. Fancy brick stringcourse at springing of first floor windows and at first floor level. Two storeys. First-floor windows with semicircular tops. Ground floor with modern porch, 2 small windows in turret side and, on entrance front, a 3-light bay window.

Listing NGR: TQ0102587342

Amongst other listed buildings once part of the St. Huberts Estate are the following: the list descriptions are not set out here.

Barn at Old Prestwick – Grade II list no. 5/506

Prestwick Place – Grade II list no. 5/507

Old Prestwick – Grade II list no. 5/505

Directory and 1910 Valuation Survey Entries showing occupiers of St. Huberts main house, lodges and Coachman's Cottage

Date	St. Huberts	Coachman's Cottage	Heather or Rancho Lodge	Huesden Cottage	St. Huberts Lodge	Eagle Lodge
1853	Edward David Harman Esq.(Langley Cottage)					
1869	John Bramley-Moore D.L. (Langley Lodge)					
1876	John Bramley-Moore D.L. (Langley Lodge)					
1883	John Bramley-Moore D.L. MP (Langley Lodge)					
1887	Col. The Hon. William Le Poer Trench R.E. (Ley Lodge misprint?)					
1891	Col. The Hon. William Le Poer Trench					
1910 valuation survey	Col. The Hon. William Le Poer Trench	Information not recorded in survey	Arthur Rouse (rent free estate employee)	Tom Greenwood (rent free estate employee)	William Dean (rent free estate employee)	George Lemm (rent free estate employee)
1917	P.M. Le Poer Trench					
1921	*Col. The Hon. William Le Poer Trench CVO, RE,JP	Geo. Puddiphatt (St.	Ernest Taylor (Rancho Lodge)	Tom Greenwood (Huesden Lodge)	Wm. Dean (Uxbridge Rd Lodge)	G. Lemm

Date	St. Huberts	Coachman's Cottage	Heather or Rancho Lodge	Huesden Cottage	St. Huberts Lodge	Eagle Lodge
		Huberts Lodge)				
1929	Mrs Le Poer Trench	Unoccupied (St. Huberts Lodge)	Mr Follis (Rancho Lodge)	T. Greenwood	Mr Osman(Uxbridge Rd Lodge)	S. Lawrence
1931	Mrs Le Poer Trench		J. Eaton (Rancho Lodge)	T. Greenwood	F.V. Booker (Uxbridge Rd Lodge)	S. Lawrence
1933	Mrs Le Poer Trench	M.E. King	J. Eaton (Rancho Lodge)	T. Greenwood		B.Sawyer
1935/6	Mrs Le Poer Trench	M.E. King		T. Greenwood	F.J. Brooks (St. Huberts Lodge)	E. Sawyer
1938	Mrs Le Poer Trench	M.E. King	J. Eaton (Rancho Lodge)	T. Greenwood	F. J. Brooks	E. Sawyer
1940	Mrs Le Poer Trench	M.E. King			A.W. Bolton	E. Oliver
1950	Capt. H M Burrell R.A.N.	J.B. King			Miss D.M. Johnson	
1952	Capt. H M Burrell R.A.N.	J.B. King			Miss D.W. Johnson	
1958	Mrs G Le Poer Trench	H. Miller			Miss D Johnson	
1964	C.A. Penney	H, Miller				
1969	G.A. Penney	J. Gryce				
1977	E.O. Barnett	blank				
1984						

* The directory is clearly wrong since the Colonel died in 1920.

A website of war memorials has information on the men commemorated on the plaque at Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre. There is an entry for Pte. Robert Caton Smith killed in France in December 1917 whose parents John Herbert Smith (“bailiff on the farm”) and Annie Maria Smith are listed as living at The Rancho, Gerrards Cross. www.buckinghamshireremembers.org.uk/php_scripts/bksprint.php?id=4691

Hamptons 1987 photograph of first floor Family Sitting Room (then the Green Drawing Room)



Appendix: Hamptons 1987 photograph

SMR Number 0439900000 - **Site Name** POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD

0439901000	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD	Geographical
0439902000	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD	Geographical
0439903000	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD	Geographical

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities

EBC1716 Watching brief (Event - Intervention. Ref: 30035)

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 0439901000 - **Site Name** POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
0439901000 -	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD	Monument
Suggested route of a possible Roman road		

Monument Types and Dates

ROAD? (Roman - 43 AD? to 409 AD?)
Evidence UNCERTAIN EVIDENCE?

Description and Sources

Description

SEE 00:000.

Sources

- (1) Article in serial: MORRIS C, HARGREAVES G H & PARKER R P F. 1970. 'A ROMAN ROAD THROUGH S BUCKS', IN RECS OF BUCKS 18 PP367-385. Vol 18.
- (2) Verbal communication: PIKE A R (BCM) OCT 1978.
- (3) Unpublished document: GRIMES W (undated), PHILLIPS C W 1972 & GRUNDY G B 1941, ALL LETTERS TO J F HEAD (FILED).

Associated resources

Location

National Grid Reference

Centroid TQ 0097 8665 (MBR: 8650m by 3900m) TQ08NW Dispersed

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	DENHAM, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire
Civil Parish	GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire
Civil Parish	HEDGERLEY, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names

POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations - None recorded

Other Statuses and Cross-References

Cass Number - 0439901000 Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes - None recorded

Related Monuments

0439900000	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD	Geographical
------------	---------------------	--------------

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 1225300000 - **Site Name** HEUSDEN COTTAGE

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
1225300000 -	HEUSDEN COTTAGE	Building

Nineteenth century house called Heusden Cottage, originally an entrance lodge to St Hubert's.

Monument Types and Dates

GATE LODGE (Built about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Covering	SLATE
Building Material	
Evidence	EXTANT BUILDING
Main Building Material	BRICK
Main Building Material	STONE

Description and Sources

Description

Grade II. Circa 1860 and similar in style to and associated with St Hubert's House, St Hubert's Lane [CASS 1225700000]. Stock brick; stone dressings with recessed jointing; slate roof with fancy ridge tiles. Square in plan with square castellated turret at one corner. Fancy brick stringcourse at springing of first floor windows and at first floor level. Two storeys. First-floor windows with semicircular tops. Ground floor with modern porch, 2 small windows in turret side and, on entrance front, a 3-light bay window (B1).

Sources

- (1) Bibliographic reference: DoE. 1985. LIST OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: DISTRICT OF SOUTH BUCKS. p152

Location

National Grid Reference

TQ 01024 87340 (point) TQ08NW Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names

HEUSDEN COTTAGE

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations

Listed Building (II) - 44102	HEUSDEN COTTAGE	Active	DBC1316
------------------------------	-----------------	--------	---------

Other Statuses and Cross-References

Cass Number - 1225300000	Active
--------------------------	--------

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Landuse	In use as building
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Related Monuments

1225700000	ST HUBERT'S HOUSE	Geographical
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Finds - None recorded

SMR Number 1225300000 - **Site Name** HEUSDEN COTTAGE

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 1225700000 - **Site Name** ST HUBERT'S HOUSE

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
1225700000 -	ST HUBERT'S HOUSE	Building

Nineteenth century country house and attached stable block called St Hubert's House, built about 1860 as a hunting

Monument Types and Dates

COUNTRY HOUSE (Built about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Covering	SLATE
Building Material	
Evidence	EXTANT BUILDING
Main Building Material	BRICK
Main Building Material	STONE

(Former Type) HUNTING LODGE? (19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE
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(Former Type) STABLE (Dated 1866, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Covering	SLATE
Building Material	
Evidence	EXTANT BUILDING
Main Building Material	BRICK
Main Building Material	STONE?

Description and Sources

Description

Grade II. Circa 1860 and said to have been built as a hunting lodge for the 2nd Earl of Portrench and, indeed, with a stag in artificial stone over the porch. Stock brick; stone dressings; slate roof. As asymmetrical in composition as it is idiosyncratic in style. Much use of dogtooth ornament and lozenge patterning in raised brickwork. Mostly of 2 storeys but with a 3-storeyed central tower porch. All windows of ause de panier arch type except those of the 5 left hand bays and those of the third storey of the tower which are round arched but have Early English type foliage in the capitals. Attached to the house on the left, the stable block in similarly idiosyncratic style and a date 1866 (B1).

Sources

- (1) Bibliographic reference: DoE. 1985. LIST OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: DISTRICT OF SOUTH BUCKS. p153
- (2) Unpublished document: Nicky Smith (BCM). 1998. Smith N 1998 Historic Parks and Gardens Register Review.
- (3) Map: O.S. 6 INCH (1:10560) MAP 1ST EDITION (1876/83).

Location

National Grid Reference

TQ 00842 86990 (point) TQ08NW Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names

ST HUBERT'S HOUSE

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations

Listed Building (II) - 44105	ST HUBERT'S HOUSE	Active	DBC1984
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Other Statuses and Cross-References

SMR Number 1225700000 - **Site Name** ST HUBERT'S HOUSE

Cass Number - 1225700000

Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Landuse In use as building

Related Monuments

1225300000	HEUSDEN COTTAGE	Geographical
1225701000	PIERS & GATES TO ST HUBERTS HOUSE	Geographical
1225705000	St Huberts (formerly Langley House)	Geographical

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 1225701000 - **Site Name** PIERS & GATES TO ST HUBERTS HOUSE

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
1225701000 -	PIERS & GATES TO ST HUBERTS HOUSE	Building
Nineteenth century entrance gates to St Hubert's House, built about 1860		

Monument Types and Dates

GATE (Constructed about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence	STRUCTURE
Main Building	WROUGHT IRON
Material	

GATE PIER (Built about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence	STRUCTURE
Main Building	BRICK
Material	
Main Building	STONE?
Material	

RAILINGS (Constructed about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence	STRUCTURE
Main Building	WROUGHT IRON?
Material	

WALL (Constructed about 1860, 19th Century - 1800 AD to 1899 AD)

Evidence	STRUCTURE
Main Building	BRICK
Material	
Main Building	STONE
Material	

Description and Sources

Description

Grade II. Circa 1860 and in materials and style similar to the house. Three smaller piers with curved flank walls. Railings with lotus tops; wrought iron gates with emblem of St Hubert (B1).

Sources

- (1) Bibliographic reference: DoE. 1985. LIST OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: DISTRICT OF SOUTH BUCKS. p153

Location

National Grid Reference

TQ 00697 86876 (point) TQ08NW Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names

PIERS & GATES TO ST HUBERTS

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations

Listed Building (II) - 44106	PIERS AND GATES TO ST HUBERT'S HOUSE	Active	DBC1319
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Other Statuses and Cross-References

Cass Number - 1225701000	Active
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Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

SMR Number 1225701000 -

Site Name PIERS & GATES TO ST HUBERTS HOUSE

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Landuse	Land boundary
Surrounding Landuse	Garden

Related Monuments

1225700000	ST HUBERT'S HOUSE	Geographical
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Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 1225705000 - **Site Name** St Huberts (formerly Langley House)

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
1225705000 -	St Huberts (formerly Langley House)	Landscape

Mid eighteenth century formal and wooded gardens at St Hubert's House, within an estate designed for hunting.

Monument Types and Dates

ORNAMENTAL CANAL (Earlier than 1739, 18th Century to 21st Century - 1700 AD to 2050 AD)
Evidence STRUCTURE
WOODLAND GARDEN (First mentioned 1746, 18th Century to 21st Century - 1746 AD to 2099 AD)
Evidence STRUCTURE
FORMAL GARDEN (House Reconstructed 1847, 19th Century to 21st Century - 1847 AD to 2050 AD)
Evidence STRUCTURE
KITCHEN GARDEN (Early 20th century, 20th Century to 21st Century - 1900 AD to 2099 AD)
Evidence STRUCTURE

Description and Sources

Description

Langley House, which was in existence by 1746, was substantially reconstructed c.1847 by Edward Buckton Lamb for the owners (the Misses Reid). Early estate plans are said to show formal gardens with geometric arrangement of allees and an ornamental canal, which was redesigned in Repton style as setting for Lamb's house. A subsequent owner, Col. Trench, entertained the future Edward VII here, and succeeded in deleting the estate from the OS map in an effort to maintain privacy. Herbaceous borders were introduced in the early 20th century. Walled and enclosed kitchen gardens, mixed woodlands underplanted with Himalayan rhododendrons and four ponds. The main interest is probably the extensive woodland, deliberately planted for sporting puposes, and an unusual survival in this region (B2).

Sources

- (2) Unpublished document: Nicky Smith (BCM). 1998. Smith N 1998 Historic Parks and Gardens Register Review.
- (3) Map: O.S. 6 INCH (1:10560) MAP 1ST EDITION (1876/83).

Location

National Grid Reference

TQ 0079 8702 (point) TQ08NW Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names - None recorded

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations - None recorded

Other Statuses and Cross-References

Planning Notification Area Active
Cass Number - 1225705000 Active

Ratings and Scorings

'A' List Register Review

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Landuse Garden

Related Monuments

1225700000 ST HUBERT'S HOUSE Geographical

SMR Number 1225705000 - **Site Name** St Huberts (formerly Langley House)

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

SMR Number 1361200000 - **Site Name** Milestone on A40

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
1361200000 -	Milestone on A40	Building

Eighteenth or nineteenth century milestone on A40 at eastern edge of Gerrards Cross.

Monument Types and Dates

MILESTONE (18th Century to 19th Century - 1700 AD? to 1899 AD?)

Evidence	STRUCTURE
Main Building	STONE
Material	

Description and Sources

Description

18th or 19th century milestone on northern side of A40 road outside Woodhill on the eastern edge of Gerrards Cross. Milestone 19 on the Milestones Society survey website London to Worcester route (BU/119). 106 cm high. Inscription: left: 'London 19 - Oxford 35 - Beaconsfield 4': front: 'Uxbridge 4'. [Photograph, description and location] (B1).

Sources

- (1) Digital archive: Milestones Society Web V:1.2. Milestones in pre-1974 county Buckinghamshire. Milestone 19 London-Worcester

Location

National Grid Reference

TQ 00604 87554 (point) TQ08NW Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish GERRARDS CROSS, South Bucks, Buckinghamshire

Address/Historic Names - None recorded

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Designations - None recorded

Other Statuses and Cross-References

Cass Number - 1361200000 Active

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Landuse	Verge	17/11/1995
Surrounding Landuse	Throughfare	17/11/1995

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded