

The Survey

of Bath and District

The Magazine of the Survey of Old Bath and Its Associates

No.9, June 1998

Editors: Mike Chapman

Elizabeth Holland



The Rebecca Fountain, taken 1997 by local artist and photographer Edy Scott. The Temperance movement gained momentum from the increased availability of clean drinking water. Previously even children were given wine and ale to drink. The allusion to Rebecca is taken from Genesis 24:15.

Included in this issue;

An historical review of the Hetling Pump Room and Hetling House by Elizabeth Holland.

Extracts from the memoirs of John James Chapman in the early 19th century, concerning his schooldays in Bath and the religious issues of the day.

Further research on the historical development of the Ambury by John Macdonald.

NEWS FROM THE SURVEY

Our article on “Stothert’s Foundry, Southgate Street, Bath” has been published in *BIAS Journal* 30. This issue of the journal is discussed in “Publications”. We have also contributed a section on the Southgate area to the exhibition at Bath Industrial Heritage Centre, open from June to October. Friends are invited to the opening on Saturday 13 June, at 6.30 p.m. Our special subjects for this display are Stothert and Pitt’s, and Transport.

By following up various leads, we have decided on an exact site for the Horse Bath in the Southgate Street area. If commissioned, we shall be glad to write a report on this, but otherwise it is not part of our immediate programme. The same applies to Opie Smith’s brewery, on which a study could be made as has been done with Stothert’s foundry.

We are also taking part in the exhibition on Widcombe and Lyncombe, organised by John Brushfield as part of Widcombe Week, which begins on June 29. The exhibition is expected to be held at the headquarters of the Natural Theatre Company. We plan to make contributions on Widcombe Manor and the Prior Park Road Garden Centre. Elizabeth will also be putting in an entry from the Prior Park Buildings Residents Association.

As we have been so much involved lately in Lyncombe and Widcombe we decided to bring out J.Charlton’s 1799 map of the Manor of Lyncombe and Widcombe, instead of making a study on Twerton as previously announced. Our material was ready but some technical difficulties arose over permission to publish, so this year we regret to say that our publication is not ready in time for the A.G.M. of the Friends.

We have received a further grant from B&NES for the coming year and hope to make a study of the Guildhall area, bringing together some of the specialised work which has already been done. A walk for the Friends has been planned for Wednesday 15 July. We have also been allocated a grant by the Spa Project team to list the whereabouts of plans of the baths and to advise them on historical questions on the spa. We are as always very grateful for this support for our work.

We have been collecting material on the whole of the site once known as Hetling House, 182:1 in the Survey of 1641, and have made visits to the site. A report by Elizabeth on the material brought together so far appears in this issue. The issue also contains theories Elizabeth is considering on the Savile map and on the Leper’s Bath.

We have not continued with the initiative for listing local history societies and their officers. Our enquiries did not meet a widespread response, while Bath Industrial Heritage Centre is making a success of publishing societies’ programmes in their newsletter, with the names of some of the officials.



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Secretary-Treasurer: Elizabeth Holland, 16 Prior Park Buildings, Bath BA2 4NP, B&NE Somerset. 01225 313581

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

The lunchtime lecture of the Friends was held on 7 November 1998 at Abbey Church House and once again we must thank Mrs. June Hodkinson and their team for all their work. Priscilla Olver has written an account of the talk given by David McLaughlin, which is reproduced below. Visitors from B&NES attended the meeting, including Paul Simons and Rhodri Samuel from the Spa Project.

New members include Dr. Steve Carey, Mrs. J. Ritchie, and Rae Harris. Rae Harris is very interested in conservation problems in Bath, for instance the proposed works on the Grand Parade, and above all in Walcot.

Dr. and Mrs. Kellaway have also joined. Dr. Kellaway is Consultant Geologist to B&NES, formerly to Bath. In 1997 he held a very successful conference on hydrogeology at the Guildhall, Bath. Colin Johnston arranged an exhibition to which the Survey contributed their display "A Summer in Bimbery". David McLaughlin's panoramas of the Spa through the ages were also on show, a drawing of the Cross Bath by Messrs. Donald Insall, and work by Dr. Heywood, together with geological maps and diagrams. Dr. Kellaway is currently concerned with preparations for further investigation of the thermal waters.

A new overseas member is Mrs. Phyllis Beard, a cousin of Phyllis Thomas. Phyllis Beard has sent us a great deal of valuable material on the life of the Chapmans overseas.

Judith and Mark Rutherford and Col. Agar have now moved into the Empire. With Dr. John Wroughton, President of the Friends, this makes quite a group at the Empire.

Philip Jackson writes that the third, and last, alphabetical index of the baptisms at Walcot covering the period 1827-1837 has now been completed, thus all baptisms at this church and at St. Mary's Chapel in Queen Square that took place between 1800 and the start of National Registration can be traced more easily. As before copies will be donated to the Guildhall Archives, the Record Office at Taunton and Bath Central Library. Friends will remember that Philip Jackson provided a valuable article on St. Mary's Chapel in Issue 5.

Stuart Burroughs has arranged an exhibition on "Work on Progress", showing research by local history societies, to be on display at the Industrial Heritage Centre from June to October. Friends are invited to the official opening at the Centre, Saturday 13 June at 6 p.m.

Kerry Birch writes that his own research is going well. He is deeply into some of the historical/social aspects at the minute - so more on people and their thinking at the moment, and less on topography. The subject of his post-graduate M.Litt. research is "Bath Baptists and the Propagation of the Gospel, 1714-1837". His Richard Gay dissertation is in the middle of being adapted for publication in the *Baptist Quarterly* - details to follow when available. Kerry continues to be very grateful for any references on members of Opie Smith's family, the Evill family, etc., and other Baptist references.

John Brushfield is still working on the Common Ground Project. With the Widcombe Association, he is arranging an historical and topographical exhibition of Widcombe and Lyncombe, to be held at the Natural Theatre company's rooms in Widcombe Week, which begins on 29 June.

Ludwig Becker has forwarded us some more interesting material, including his own booklet on the Russian occupation of Herrnhut at the end of the last war. Part of Captain John James Chapman's memoirs of his spiritual progress is included in this issue.

Nonnie Tiffany, in Oxford, has been studying William Stone, founder of more than one almshouse. His life provides interesting comparisons with Hugh Sexey, after whom various almshouses and schools have been named.

Peter Addison has brought out *Around Combe Down*, published by Millstream Books, and discussed under "Publications". Peter will later be leading a walk. Peter's time is taken up now with Age Concern, family, and work on another book on local/industrial/social history just out of his usual area, around Winford.

June Hodkinson has forwarded us a very interesting obituary of Tony Symons describing his work at Liverpool City Libraries and then at the Tate Gallery. "Tony was appointed in 1970 as the first professional librarian to be employed by the Tate Gallery, and retired in 1984 ... With characteristic

intrepidness and thoroughness he created order out of chaos and put in place the firm foundations on which the present library service is based ... The collection [of exhibition catalogues] tripled in size over the period 1970-1984." It became "the pre-eminent U.K. collection on twentieth-century art".

A walk around the Guildhall area with several different speakers has been arranged for 15 July. Meet at the Rebecca Fountain at 7p.m.

Ruth Haskins continues to publish articles. On 28 November 1997, the *Chronicle* published a piece by her called "Bowled over by Philip", recollecting how Prince Philip leapt out of a car at Bath Station the day before the announcement of his engagement and nearly knocked Ruth over. The article also recollects the celebrations for the wedding, in November 1947.

In Memoriam

Christopher Holland

We regret to announce the death of Christopher Holland, one of the Friends and brother to Elizabeth. As a descendant of the Chapmans of Bath (another descendant of Captain Thomas Chapman of the Welsh Fusiliers, shown on the cover of Issue 6) Christopher was always interested in the work of the Survey. He contributed a note on heraldry to our discussion of the Beauchamp family and the Warwick Book of Hours. His two sons, James and David, have both taken photographs for the Survey. David took the shot of Widcombe Manor from the tower of Thomas à Becket which was used as a slide in Andrew Ellis' presentation of Widcombe Manor. Christopher also helped to translate Ludwig Becker's travel diaries, used in our last issue. Christopher was a classics scholar of Rugby and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and a solicitor in the City of London, specialising in litigation. He leaves a widow, Sue. Elizabeth wishes to thank the Friends for the beautiful card and flowers.

Robert Bryant

We also regret to announce the death last December of Bob Bryant, the first City Archivist of Bath. In Elizabeth's article on Tim O'Leary she described how Bob Bryant's task was to sort out the city archives which were then standing in piles in the Guildhall. Elizabeth remembers Bob Bryant as a good friend whose interest carried her on while she made her first Stuart map some years ago.

LOCKEY CALOTYPES

At the lunchtime gathering of the Friends at Abbey Church House on 7 November 1997, David McLaughlin gave a fascinating talk, illustrated with slides, on Captain John James Chapman's volume of calotypes of Bath, recently presented to the Record Office by his descendant, Ludwig Becker. David thanked Colin Johnston and Mary Blagdon very much for their invaluable help in providing assistance and information about this collection and he hopes to write an article for a future Newsletter.

The calotypes - sepia images of the City and surrounding area taken from 1849 through to 1850 - were the work of Francis Lockey, who was then living at Swainswick, where he had set up his studio. With his usual enthusiasm, David told us how much detective work had not only rewarded him with a wealth of information about Lockey, but also enabled him to find and take slides of the exterior of the house including the glazed part which possibly was the earliest surviving photographic studio in the world. (David said the house is unrecognised locally as one of particular interest and the new A46 road is sited far too near!)

He then showed many fascinating images of Bath, some familiar scenes, some now changed or even gone and some so faint one had to look very closely to see an outline. In most images could be seen "the gentleman in the hat" thought to be Lockey's coachman, Henry Burroughs. Francis Lockey recorded everything in great detail which makes this collection so valuable and so interesting as it displays a series of changes, especially relevant as the City goes into the millennium change with the new Spa development. The slides aroused much interest and debate about the location of each image and how the scenes have changed today. Questions were asked as to whether they could be enhanced: yes, we were told but this could be costly. David was applauded enthusiastically by his audience and was warmly thanked by Ruth Haskins, the Chairman.

Priscilla Olver, 18 November 1997.

FRIENDS OF THE SURVEY OF OLD BATH

President:	Dr. John Wroughton	Mr. A. H. Green
Chairman:	Mrs. Ruth Haskins	Mrs. A. Hannay
Secretary:	Mrs. June Hodkinson	Mr. R. Harris
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Bath Preservation Trust		Ms. Robin Lambert
Mrs. Phyllis Beard		Mr. W. H. Leigh
Herr L. Becker, Germany		Mr. D. R. Lovell
Mr. K. J. Birch		Mrs. Barbara Lowe
Mr. J. Brushfield		Mr. J. G. Macdonald
Mr. Stuart Burroughs, Bath Industrial Heritage Centre		Mr. D. McLaughlin, Principal Conservation Officer
Dr. S. Carey		Mrs. A. Marks
Mr. R. V. Chapman, Australia		Mrs. E. Pomeroy
Mr. S. Clews, Roman Baths Museum		Mrs. J. Ritchie
Mrs. D. Collyer		District Judge and Mrs. M. Rutherford
Mr. K. Cookes		Mr. L. Scott
Mr. & Mrs. I. Crew		Mrs. C. Smith
Mr. N. J. Cridland		Mrs. Phyllis Thomas, New Zealand
Mr. P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust		Dr. N. Tiffany
Mrs. P. G. R. Graham		Mrs. D. Wedge

Secretary of the Friends of the Survey: Mrs. June Hodkinson, 55 Connaught Mansions, Great Pulteney Street, Bath BA2 4BP. 01225 465526

CITY NEWS

Charles and Beatrice

On 30 April 1998 a family of ducks appeared on HTV News, a drake called Charles, a duck called Beatrice, and their family of ducklings. They had taken up residence in the Cross Bath, where, it was said, they were enjoying the warmth and the free food. And of course the absence of foxes, wild mink, and other enemies of ducklings. Whether they were named for Prince Charles and his niece Beatrice was not revealed.

Spa Grant

In November 1997 the Lottery grant of nearly £7 million for the revival of Spa culture in Bath was of course confirmed. A public meeting was held at the Pump Room, led by Paul Simons, Robert Mimmack and others, at which Nicholas Grimshaw outlined his architectural plans, illustrated by slides. The Survey and Friends made up a party to attend this meeting, which included Mike, Elizabeth, Ruth Haskins, June Hodgkinson, John Brushfield and Marek Lewcun.

A number of questions and comments from the floor followed the presentation, closed by Mrs. Ruth Haskins, who congratulated the Spa Project team on the success of their efforts and recalled the use of the baths over the years by herself and her friends. Rhodri Samuel helped organise the questions and other aspects of the meeting. Peter Carey of Donald Insall's was in the audience, also Margaret Stewart of the Springs Foundation, who has been keeping the Cross Bath open for visitors, especially for purposes of meditation and reflection, accompanied at the meeting by Dr. and Mrs. Basil Greenslade of the Bath Spa Working Party.

Demolition of the Beau Street Swimming Bath is proposed for later this year. The Hetling Pump Room is part of the area to be redeveloped, though in this case without demolition. An article on the whole "Hetling" site is included in this issue.

Southgate Development

Public discussion on the proposals for the Southgate area has elicited concern about the plans put forward, particularly because of the preponderance of retail units rather than housing or places of amusement. The Survey of Old Bath does not take any sides on planning decisions, but simply collects background historical material impartially for whomever asks for it. As a personal matter, Elizabeth has submitted to one or two people a sketch for an open-air thermal swimming pool there, surrounded by grass and paving and a belt of trees, with modern-style shops and restaurants facing the station, and a car park and bus station on the south-west!

Walcot Development

For those concerned about Walcot, B&NES' *Walcot Street Works* is still available, now at £10 per copy, from Stephen George, Planning Policy, DDES, Trimbridge House, Trim Street, Bath BA1 2DP. 01225 477524.

Memorial to Peter Chapman

Bath Abbey are seeking a "faculty" to enable them to put up the proposed memorial plaque to Peter Chapman. The cost has been met by descendants of the Chapman family and the Friends of Bath Abbey. The Abbey are gratified that members of old Bath families overseas still look back to Bath and Bath Abbey and are ready to contribute to the Abbey. (Four members of the Chapman family belong to the Friends of the Survey, Phyllis Beard, Ludwig Becker, Ross Chapman and Phyllis Thomas. These are all descendants of Captain John James Chapman. The fifth, Christopher Holland, descended from John James' elder brother Charles of the E.I.C., died May 1998.)

Bath Central Library

Bath Central Library has joined a scheme to link a number of libraries, across three Somerset authorities and South Gloucestershire, by computer. The system was installed at the Podium earlier this year. The public will now have easier access to the records of the different libraries and should be able to reserve different items.

Widcombe Manor

On Tuesday 26 May 1998, the *Chronicle* reported on page 3 that the owners of Widcombe Manor are applying for planning permission to build a sports facility in the grounds. It will be sited at the rear of Widcombe Lodge and its gardens, formerly called Yew Cottage, and will replace the existing swimming pool. Before this the area was described by a neighbouring property as the Park or Paddock of Philip Bennet in 1769.

The building will be sited on the left of the lime tree visible as one comes down Church Lane. The *Chronicle* reported that the dimensions given suggest an edifice larger than the nave of St. Thomas' Church.

The Survey of Old Bath is not a pressure group and has not organised any group response to this venture. Individual members are able to make their own response. We have drawn up a memo summarising our latest thinking on the early history of the site, one side of a sheet of A4 paper. To obtain a copy, please ask Elizabeth.

Mike and Elizabeth recently paid a visit to the site. We received a welcome from two affable guard dogs (half-breed Newfoundlands with perhaps a touch of German Shepherd) who enthusiastically tried to join us through the bars of the front gate, under the mistaken impression that we wished to enter and do gymnastics in the grounds. Lovers of peace and tranquillity will find this experience odd.



A warm welcome at Widcombe Manor, May 1998.
Photograph by Kevin Bates, published by permission of *The Bath Chronicle*.

Widcombe Week

Once again Widcombe Week is being organised by the Widcombe Association, from 29 June to 5 July. As already mentioned, an exhibition is being organised by John Brushfield at the headquarters of the natural Theatre Company, at the foot of Widcombe Hill. There will be a reception on 29 June at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £2.50 each, from Charles Whateley, 12 Sunnybank, Lyncombe Vale, Bath BA2 4NA. The exhibition will then be open from 30 June to 4 July, 3-7 p.m. daily.

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday 1 July, Doreen Collyer and Andrew Ellis of the WLHSG will be repeating the talks they gave last year on Historic Visitors to Widcombe and Lyncombe. Tickets for this event are £10. Other events are advertised in the Widcombe Week leaflets, at distribution points such as the café at the Prior Park Garden Centre.

Bathampton Local History Society

The Bathampton Local History Society meets on the 2nd Thursday in the month at the Village Hall in Holcombe Lane with talks relating to the history of the village, surrounding areas and topics of interest relating to other historical aspects. Its main function is, however, to research and record matters relating to the history of the parish.

At the April meeting, Mr. John Ede gave a talk on the newly discovered bosses in Bath Abbey. The May meeting was on the Mills of Bathampton by Stuart Burroughs, the Curator of Bath Industrial Heritage Museum, and in June a talk and slide presentation was given on some of the unusual aspects of Georgian Bath by Mr. Arthur Green.

The members' meeting in March allowed members to talk about various aspects of Bathampton and recent research work they had undertaken. This included details about the original Bathampton Garage obtained from a recent oral recording with the first owner; background detail on The Old Cottage and Elmsleigh by their respective owners; and a detailed look at the Manorial Estate of Bathampton as recorded in a map of 1742 when Ralph Allen was Lord of the Manor, the extent of the village at that time and the developments which had taken place since, the sale of properties in 1921 and, with reference to deeds, the gradual disposal of lands in the early decades of this century for the building of houses.

Visitors are most welcome to the meetings and information/programme may be obtained from the Treasurer on Bath 462380 or by writing to 8 Down Lane, Bathampton.

Arthur Green, Hon. Treasurer, 20 April 1998

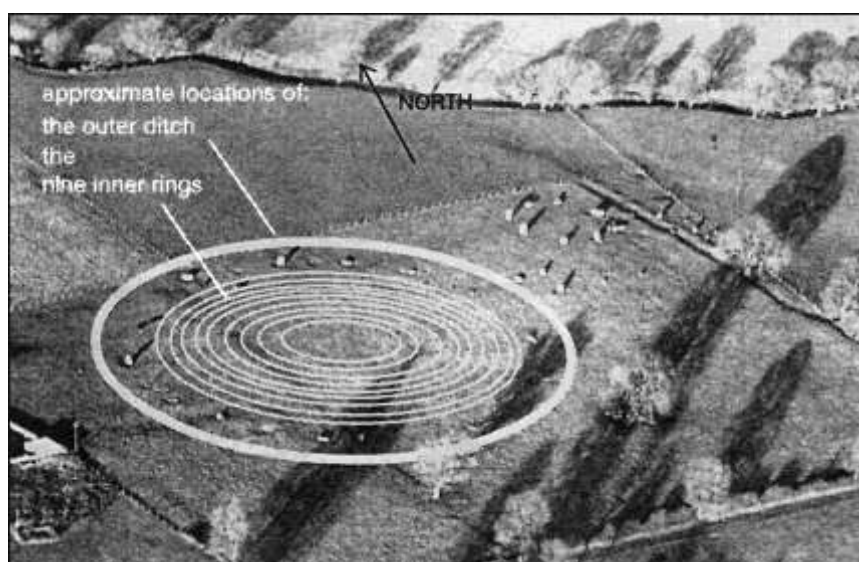
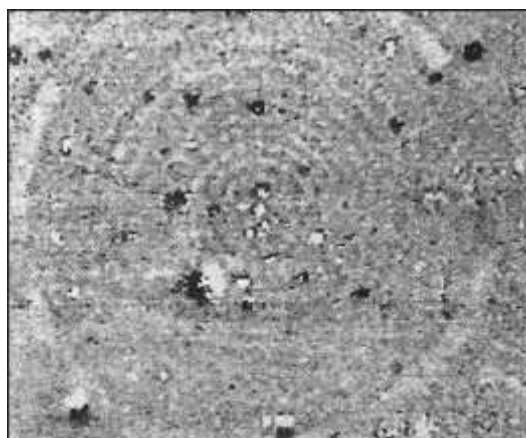
Chairman: Pat Watts, 99 Hanton Hill, Bathampton, Bath. BA2 6XE (01225) 462085

Secretary: Pat Trevethan, 9 Holcombe Lane, Bathampton, Bath. BA2 6UL (01225) 465210

Stanton Drew Stone Circle

below: Aerial view showing the rings of the buried post holes.

Right: The rings as recorded by the magnetometer (north at the top).



B&NES Record Office

After 30 years in the same accommodation, the Record Office moved in April 1998 to adjoining rooms in the Guildhall basement at Bath. Not only has this provided improved comfort and working space for researchers, but also additional storage accommodation, as the former archive offices have been fitted out with mobile shelving giving an extra 1,225m. of much needed storage.

The joint bid for Heritage Lottery funding by this office, the Somerset Archive and Record Service, and North Somerset libraries is now well advanced, with the draft submission completed. This project, a computer database of all Somerset archives, has received the full backing of Bath & N.E. Somerset Council, with a grant to the Record Office of £20,000.

A major acquisition for the archive is a collection of 9 architectural drawings dated 1794 and 1797 for the city architect John Palmer. Seven drawings show his proposals for completing the unfinished Pump Room, and two drawings the rebuilding of the Cross Bath. The purchase was made possible with the assistance of the Museum and Galleries Commission/Victoria and Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund.

Colin Johnston, Archivist, May 1998

Stanton Drew

Since the publication of our last issue, traces of a temple at Stanton Drew have been discovered, during a geophysical survey by English Heritage. The survey suggested the existence of ten concentric circles of wooden posts, probably five hundred years older than the stone circle which had been arranged later on the site. It was suggested that the structure had been roofed, though not everyone agreed with this suggestion. If roofed, it must have been one of the largest structures in Europe at the time.

Keynsham Excavations

Keynsham continues with the task of recording medieval remains, many of which have been lost in past development schemes (Keynsham and Radstock are currently being considered as possible Conservation Areas). In December 1997 the *Chronicle* reported that Cotswold Archaeological Trust had been retained to investigate a site in front of Keynsham's Victoria Methodist church, where an extension to the church was to be built which will provide space for community activities.

Correspondent Brian Woodham wrote: "Work on the site in High Street has uncovered a doorway and a wall from the 14th century. Relics such as roof tiles, medieval pottery and a George II coin were also discovered. Archaeologists also found proof of an intricate drainage system, dating back 300 to 400 years and evidence of the buildings it served. The ancient buildings are thought to have been pulled down 90 years ago and the present church built in their place. Information about the discoveries will be added to a detailed historical account of the church and Keynsham High Street." (*The Bath Chronicle*, 31 December 1997.)

Meanwhile Keynsham Heritage Trust continues with its efforts to found a Keynsham Museum. It hopes to raise enough local funding to back a National Lottery application, and is seeking planning permission for a site at Dapps Hill. Mrs. Barbara Lowe, Vice chairman of the Trust and well-known archaeologist, points out that planning permission has twice been gained but has expired. In an interview with the *Chronicle*, Barbara Lowe described some of the valuable remains discovered in Keynsham which need housing, such as parts of a mosaic pavement from the Roman villa found in the 1920s, and artefacts from Keynsham Abbey found in the 1960s, including three embossed ceiling keystones dating from between 1170 and 1180, which have been exhibited in Venice, Rome and elsewhere. (*The Bath Chronicle*, 20 January 1998).

PUBLICATIONS

BIAS Journal 30, recently published, contains a number of articles of interest to researchers in Bath, either because of their subjects or because of their authors. In “Stothert’s Foundry, Southgate Street, Bath” Mike Chapman and Elizabeth Holland discuss the result of their investigations into the exact site of the Newark Foundry when in the Southgate area, following up the references made by Hugh Torrens in a more general way. Ratebooks and deed packets show that it was associated with Nos. 16 and 17 Southgate Street with a yard eastwards in what came to be called Newark Street.

Mike Chapman also has an article on “A Trial Excavation of the Suspected Site of the Caisson Lock, Combe Hay, 1997”. Again general references by Hugh Torrens led on to more particular investigation. Rob Bell and Marek Lewcun took part in this dig.

On p.45 there is a review of Mike’s *An Historical Guide to the Ham and Southgate Area of Bath*, mentioned in our last issue.

Trevor Fawcett has an article on “Mechanical Enterprise in Eighteenth-Century Bath” in which he discusses some of the references in newspapers and other sources. Owen Ward of Bath has written on the “Frenchay Iron Company, 1776-1780”, with a number of references to account books. Mills are Owen’s particular interest.

Peter Addison has brought out *Around Combe Down*, published by Millstream Books at £6.99. The jacket description tells us: “Peter Addison has been researching the history of his adopted home for many years. Combe Down, although now part of the City of Bath, has always essentially been a rural village, and this book recalls the development of a tightly-knit community. Churches and schools feature prominently in the social life of the village, but so too do its remarkable industries, such as stone quarrying, fuller’s earth extraction and papermaking. Colouring the whole picture are many personal tales and records, along with a wide selection of early photographs.”

Trevor Fawcett’s new book is *Bath Entertain’d: Amusements, Recreations and Gambling at the 18th-Century Spa*, published by Ruton, 25 Northampton Street, at £6.00, ISBN 0-9526326-1-4. The subjects are arranged in alphabetical format and as the press release says, the volume “can be read straight through for its own intrinsic interest, casually dipped into, or used for quick reference and as a springboard for further enquiry”.

Trevor has also brought out in a limited edition a 10,000 word study, *The Bagatelle and King James’s Palace: Two Lyncombe Pleasure Gardens (with notes on Lyncombe Spa and Wicksteed’s Machine)*. While stocks last this is available from him at 25 Northampton Street, Bath BA1 2SW (telephone 312396), price £2.00 plus p.and p. Following this essay there should be no further confusion between Lyncombe Spa, the Bagatelle Gardens or King James’s. Having identified the Ragg as the site of the Bagatelle’s extra gardens, Trevor does not agree with the local belief that they were in the grounds of Widcombe House (Manor). In suggesting they might be, the Survey was influenced by local folk memory, but also by the canal in the Widcombe Manor gardens, seeming too elaborate for a private residence. It is possible however the canal was erected by John Thomas, purchaser of Widcombe House, who was connected with the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Copies of *The Church at Larkhall - the First One Hundred Years* can be obtained from the author, Tony Rhymes, Bath 317515, at £1 per copy. Tony Rhymes, mayor of Bath in 1984, was described in the Chronicle as a member of the United Reformed Church in Larkhall since 1948 and treasurer since 1954. The Chronicle writes (13 April 1998): “The church building, originally known as Victoria Hall, was given to Percy Congregational Church by retired Devises corn merchant Charles Chandler. It opened on May 1, 1898 for mission and preaching work in the Larkhall area.” Tony Rhymes draws on minutes and account books and makes interesting points on changes in price levels. “A student pastor appointed by the church in 1935 received only £1 a month remuneration. Perhaps it’s not surprising he left to become a missionary in Madagascar the following year,” said Mr.Rhymes.”

After two years, Paul de’Ath presents his second book in the Archive Photographs series, *Bath, The Second Selection*, published by Chalford Publishing Company Limited at £9.99, ISBN 0-7524-1094-6. Over 200 photographs of the city and surrounding villages in the early decades of the twentieth century are included. As before, these images are well produced with carefully researched captions, and will be of great interest to the historical topographer.

Judith Samuel has already published an article on "The Jews of Bath", in *Bath History I*, 1986, in collaboration with Malcolm Brown, dealing with the 18th and 19th centuries. Pp.169-172 provide tables, such as the "Headstones at the Jewish Cemetery, Combe Down, Bath", a record of legible names from some 50 gravestones. She has now brought out *Jews in Bristol*, published by Sansom and Co. in hardback at £17.95 (at 81g Pembroke Road, Bristol BS8 3EA). The Press release describes the volume as follows:

"Judith Samuel's *Jews in Bristol* discusses Bristol's role in the history of Anglo-Jewry from the medieval community before the Expulsion of 1290 and the resettlement in the seventeenth century to the role thereafter played by Jews in the local community.

Centuries of demolition and rebuilding have obliterated many buildings, but at Jacob's Well, Bristol can claim the oldest mikveh (ritual bath) in Europe. The author discusses the foundation of competing synagogues in the city, including the Bristol and West Progressive Jewish Congregation in Easton, founded in 1961.

Judith Samuel plots the story of individual Jewish families through the generations - including notable names like the Jessels and the Alexanders - the central roles they have played in Bristol's business, professional and political life.

Some of the most notable ministers of the Victorian age - the great preacher and scholar, David Meyer Isaacs, Abraham Barnett and the almost legendary Aaron Levy Green - have occupied the pulpit. The author also touches on the Jewish contribution to the arts and crafts, including glassmakers Lazarus and Isaac Jacobs, and the writers Isaac Rosenberg and Israel Zangwill, all with strong Bristol links.

Other topics discussed in this wide ranging study of Jewry in Bristol include press attitudes to the Jews, the place of women in synagogue administration, Jewish education at Clifton College, clashes with local fascism and, through interview, the experience of Holocaust survivors who settled in Bristol.

266 pages inc. 40 illustrations, appendices, glossary and bibliography."

CORRESPONDENCE

Regarding the scattered family who have visited Bath. Amongst the first would have been Bill Henderson of Australia. He delved quite diligently and acquired amongst other things the census records of 1861 wherein the family were at 33 Adelaide Square, Bedford, and of 1871 when they were at 24 Kimbolton Road. The next I think would have been my sister Hazel Jenvey and husband Gerald, and then Marjory Henderson, Bill's mother, daughter of Lionel and Gladys. She sent me the book *Bath History*, vol.4, 1992.

Phyllis Beard, New Plymouth, Taranaki, New Zealand, February 1998

I often read the articles you have all written for the 2 issues each year of the *Survey of Bath* ... You will have seen that in his letter to me of 24 September, the Rector of Bath Abbey says 20 Chapmans have been Mayors of Bath and that must be a record for one family name. Also you will see that the Rector appreciates Ludwig's gift of the calotypes to the city. I have sent a copy of the Rector's letter to Ludwig with my Christmas card and letter to him and Traudel, and also a copy of the Rector's letter to John Chapman in France ... In a letter dated 5 November the Rector also thanked me for the donation towards a memorial to Peter Chapman. Best wishes,

Phyllis Thomas, New Zealand, November 1997

NOTES AND QUERIES

Come Back, H.Savile, All is Forgiven

We have already mentioned the Savile map, exhibited in Bath in 1992, but previously unknown here. Elizabeth, after six years' reflection, has at last formed a theory which fits the more serious comments on this drawing, leaving out the fun ideas such as that it was the basis of Speed, or drawn by Reggie Wright. One has to account for its being apparently based on a 17th century drawing, yet declared by some observers to be indisputably an 18th century engraving, of the rococo period. At the same time Elizabeth and the other specialist in Stuart topography feel that it was not based on any kind of survey of the city, but was adapted from Speed's inset map in such a way as to be quite misleading to anyone concerned with studying Stuart Bath. One must also heed Dr. John Wroughton's remark in 1992 that in over 20 years of looking through British catalogues for Bath material, he had never seen a sign of it.

Elizabeth's present theory is that it was drawn by one of the Saviles of "Mrs. Savils Lodgings" towards the end of the 17th century, to hang in the lodgings. Savile adapted Speed as he pleased, making all roads round the Savile lodgings broad and straight, and diminishing rival hostelrys like the Hart and the Beare. When the Hetlings arrived, they found it in the house, and had it engraved (cut down and ornamented) as part of a pack of prints for their visitors. Hetling was a Hanoverian, most of their visitors would be from the Continent, and they took the prints away. The original drawing went on hanging in the house, to be seen by the Davis family when they obtained a lease in 1823, which led to Major Davis making a remark about the Saviles' connection with Hetling House which inspired Elizabeth to form this theory.

Elizabeth has already written to Germany to make enquiries. We have obtained permission to put the map on the Internet and are holding discussions about the best way to achieve this. Apparently there are sites called Bulletin Boards where you can contact people about their specialities. We have been warned that a generalised notice from Bath is likely to result in hundreds of answers saying, "Hi ! I've always wanted to visit the great city of Bath ..."

King James's Palace, Lyncombe Vale

John Brushfield wishes to stress that his drawing of his garden in our last issue only covered the south-east section of the King James's Palace grounds, shown opposite the drawing on O.S.1885/6. We apologise for any misinterpretation this may have caused. As we know the site, we did not realise it might be misleading to those who have not seen it. On a recent visit by Elizabeth, John remarked how the landscaped effect of the grounds still displays the hand of 18th century garden planning. John's garden has the natural look, with a wonderful display of daffodils this spring. His neighbours have an award-winning garden in a more formal style. The blocked-in aperture in their boundary wall is apparently the remains of a coal chute to supply hothouses, and not a relic of some mysterious and ancient building.



The Leper's Bath

As already mentioned, our magazine is used not only for recording the results of research, but also for trying out new ideas and seeking confirmation or rebuttal.

As well as the Savile map, Elizabeth is trying out a scheme on the Leper's Bath, and would be glad of comments. In this scheme, the Leper's Bath existed in the Middle Ages as an appendage to the Hot Bath (Aly's), and was "Alron's Bath". According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, Alaron was Bladud's wife, possibly making a pun on the bath's existing name and that of the winged Alarion, a kind of medieval heraldic eagle - a suitable name for the consort of the airborne Bladud.

Elizabeth suggests that this bath was originally used for treating women's ailments, but that following Dr. Turner's recommendations for reforming the baths, it was set aside for those patients who were regarded at that time as suffering from contagious skin diseases. A hostel for poor patients was built alongside it, 1576, much of the cost being met by the Corporation (see the article on Hetling House). A new bath for women was needed and accordingly was built in 1576 south of the King's Bath and came later to be called the Queen's Bath.

One wonders how far people genuinely suffering from leprosy were allowed in the city in the Tudor Age, even though Speed does use the name "Lazours Bathe", from a name used for lepers and those with related illnesses after the parable on Dives and Lazarus. When one considers that the nobility used the house on the site of Abbey Church House, it is hard to believe lepers were actually allowed near it, especially as there was a hospice for lepers outside the city, to which spa water could have been carried. John Wood, of course, believed the Leper's was built soon after Dr. Turner's remarks published in 1562, for the use of lame and diseased poor people who had been expelled from the Hot and Cross Baths. He gives its dimensions as 10 feet by 8. (Wood, p.200)

SURVEY OF THE MANOURS OF HAMPTON, CLAVERTON WITH WIDCOMBE BELONGING TO RALPH ALLEN ESQR.

Plot Numbers in Widcombe

John Hawkes

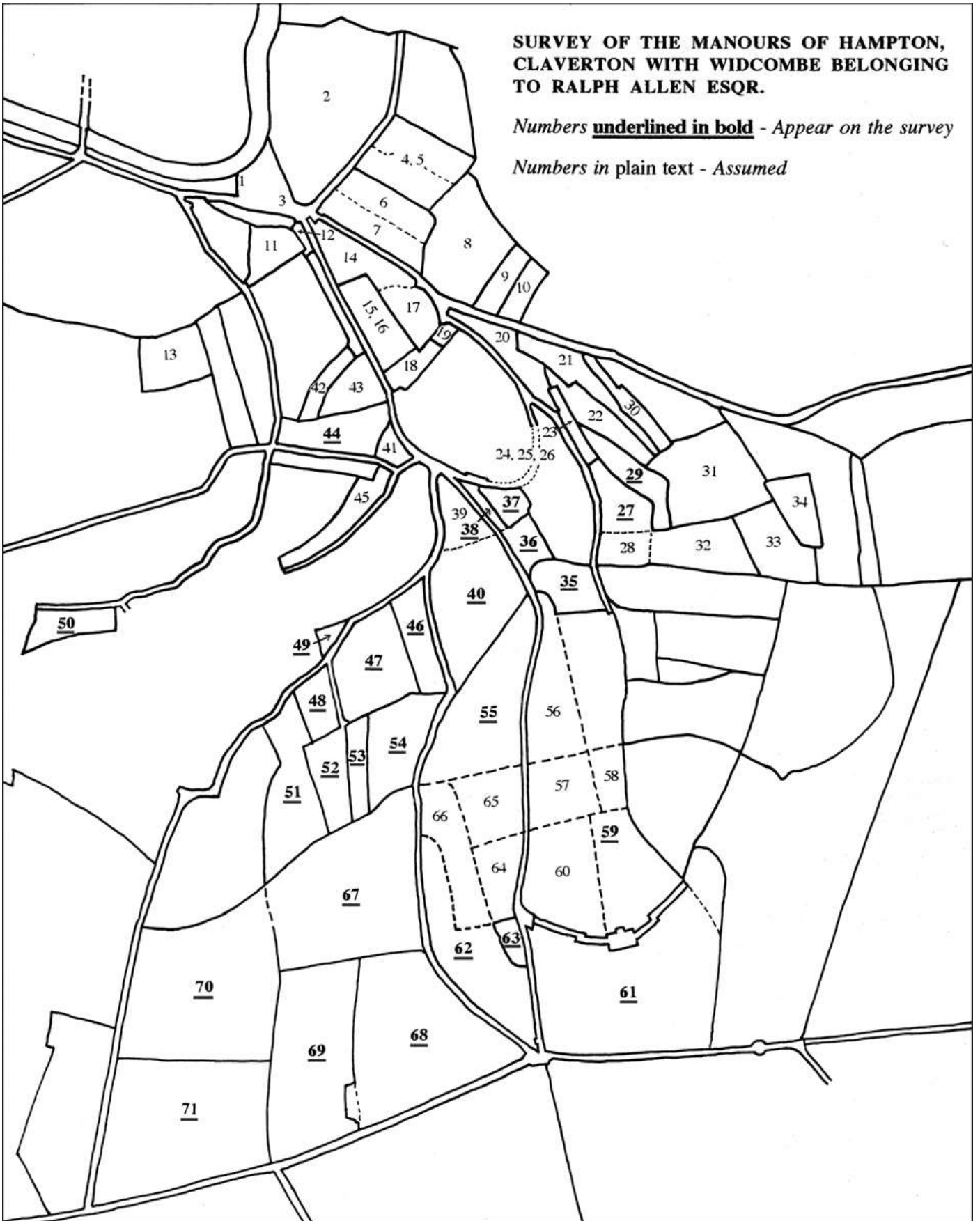
A Guide to the Estates of Ralph Allen around Bath, published by the Survey of Old Bath in 1996, included a copy of the above map which was drawn about 1760. The Widcombe part of the plan appears to be a copy of a survey by Thorpe in 1741 for which the numbered "Reference" still exists, in Bath Record Office. However for the area of Widcombe/Prior Park, only a few of the numbers are recorded on the above map - of the first 71 only 27 are shown. By a process of plot measurement on the map, related to the acreages given in the "Reference", and by consideration of other plans and deeds, it has been possible to make assumptions on all the missing numbers. With the exception of the area of Prior Park, where the original Thorpe field boundaries have been replaced by the features of the newly landscaped park, all areas and boundaries are shown on the 1760 map. For the area of the Park it is possible to give the approximate original boundaries in diagrammatic form. On the plan below the missing 44 numbers are shown as they are now assumed.

Abbreviated extract of field-names from the numbered 'Reference'	36	Park Hays
	37	Widow Smith's Paddock by Lane end Garden
	38	Lane end Garden & house
1	39	Lane end field
2	40	Lane end uper field
3	41	Wicksteed's House & Garden
4 & 5	42	Part of Bean Close
6	43	Widow Fishers Garden call'd Butt Ash
7	44	Bean Close
8	45	The Rag, with a Garden & Orchard in three parts
9	46	Hangingland Tineing, by the way that goes up to Combe
10	47	Hangingland Tineing
11	48	Walter Wises Tineing by Widcomb field way
12	49	Three Corner'd Paddock
13	50	A Field in Lincomb bottom, half wood
14	51	Loops Hill, with a piece call'd the Breach, formerly in 3 pieces
15 & 16	52 & 53	Walter Wises Hills
17	54	Colethurst's hill
18	55	Coulverwell (now Part of the Rookery)
19	56	Coulverwell below ye way (Lower Wood near Ponds)
20	57	The lower part of Thesilly Close (Slope in Front of House)
21	58	The Paddock below the Garden (now Part of the Slope)
22	59	The Garden (now Slope)
23	60	Shepard's Wood, a Wilderness wth. ye Stables (Upper Wood)
24, 25 & 26	61	Part of ye Lawn or Paddock, with ye Great house
27	62	The other part of ye Lawns
28	63	The Kitchen Garden
29	64	The Paddock and wood
30	65	The other part of Thesilly Close (now Part of the Rookery)
31	66	The Rookery (trees)
32	67	Colethurst Down
33	68	Combe Down
34	69	Another part of Combe Down
35	70	Lower part of Collibee's Down (Green Down, or East Down)
	71	Middle part of Collibee's Down (Green Down or East Down)

**SURVEY OF THE MANOURS OF HAMPTON,
CLAVERTON WITH WIDCOMBE BELONGING
TO RALPH ALLEN ESQR.**

*Numbers **underlined in bold** - Appear on the survey*

Numbers in plain text - Assumed



THE AMBURY II

John Macdonald

The Quay

The desirable aim of making the Avon navigable as far as Bath was achieved in 1727 and a quay constructed just below the bridge on the Ambury meadows complete with warehouses.¹ These early warehouses appear to have remained standing, although their use had changed over time, until at least the 1930s, by which time an entire industrial quarter had grown up on the river end of the Ambury. Early 20th century photographs² show that these were buildings which still belonged to the Stuart age, built of coursed rubble stones with mullioned windows and other architectural features of that age.

The development of St James's Parade and Peter Street

*The ground granted... the 31st day of July 1765 measures nearly five acres and a quarter:
A to B by ground granted by Mr. Bradley and measures in length 239 feet
B to C by ground granted to Mr. Smith and measures in length 11 feet 10 inches
C to D by ground granted to Mr. Smith and measures in length 113 feet 4 inches
D to the Bumditch at E by ground granted to Messrs. Jones, Fisher, Seldon, Smith, Harris and Ford
E to F by the Bath Bum Ditch
F at the Bumditch to H by the Burrough wall
H to J and from J to a. by Saint James's Burial Ground
a. to b. by ground granted to the within named Thomas Jelly
b. to l. by ground belonging to Mr. Collins
M to N by ground and buildings belonging to Margaret Garrard
N to C by Back buildings of Horse Street
C to O and from O to P by Richard Jones's stables*

Thus a contemporary deed³ describes the area of land granted for the development of Thomas Street and Queen Street and their environs. In present day terms this equates to:

A to B: from Southgate Street at its original junction with Corn Street along the south side of Corn Street
B to C: Corn Street to its junction with Ambury
C to D: from Corn Street down the East side of Ambury to its junction with Somerset Street
D to E: across the middle of the carpark
E to F: The ditch here wrongly called the Bum Ditch ran on the west side of the Norman wall from the river to the city walls opposite Hetling House (Abbey Church House)
F to H: along the south side of Lower Borough Walls to St. James's Burial Ground
H to J and J to c: around St. James's Burial Ground
a. to b: the north side of Amery Lane
b. to L: the corner of Amery Lane
M to O: rear of buildings in Southgate Street
O to P: the Midland Bank in Southgate Street occupies approximately the site of Richard Jones's stables.

As part of the agreement for this development, a section of the City Wall was to be demolished⁴ or *pitched into the street*.

Indenture made the sixth day of February in the sixth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty six Between The Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Bath in the County of Somerset of the first Part, Jeremiah Perry of the said City of Bath Cabbinet (sic) Maker of the second part, and Henry Fisher, Mason, Thomas Jelly, Carpenter, and Walter Taylor, Grocer, all three of the same City of Bath and which said Walter Taylor is Devisee named in and by the last Will and Testament of Richard Jones late of the said City of Bath, Ironmonger, dec'd of all his the said Richard Jones's Estate Right Title and Interest of in and to the Premises hereinafter mentioned and recited of the third Part. Whereas the said Henry Fisher Thomas Jelly and Richard Jones lately purchased to them and their heirs for ever as Tenants in Common and from Margaret Garrard of Hatton Garden Holborne in the County of Middlesex, Widow, since deceased of a certain Piece of Ground called the Ambury situate under the Burrough Walls of the said

City of Bath in the Parish of Saint James on the Southwestside of the said City With all those Plotts Pieces or Parcellls of Gardens and other Grounds lying under the Burrough Walls and containing in the whole by admeasurement about five acres and an half of Ground with a View or Design of erecting Buildings thereon or on some Part or Parts thereof But the same pieces of Ground were so confined and inconvenient in their Situations that such intended Buildings would be very incommodious and less valuable without having the said Burrough Wall before that part of the said Pieces of Ground which adjoins thereto wholly taken down end to end viz. From Ground belonging to Mr. John Cottle and others to the Burying Ground belonging to the said Parish of Saint James containing in the Whole three hundred and five feet of Walling and the Depth of such walling being about three feet and with other Ground of them the said Henry Fisher Thomas Jelly and Richard Jones thrown into and be always deemed and considered part of the Common Street or Way there as hereinafter particularly mentioned Whereupon they the said Henry Fisher Thomas Jelly and Richard Jones applied to the said Mayor Aldermen and Citizens requesting them for their Grant and Leave at the Expense and Costs of them the said Henry Fisher Thomas Jelly and Richard Jones to take down and remove the said Burrough Wall of such extent as aforesaid for a common way and passage over the same to the grounds by them the said Henry Fisher Thomas Jelly and Richard Jones deced. purchased as aforesaid and the said Mayor Aldermen and Citizens agreed thereto subject to the yearly Fee farm Rent or Perpetual Annuity Covenants Clauses and Restrictions...

Notes

John Cottle was a tailor and according to a lease dated 20 August 1785 5 (when he was described as Deceased) had owned a Garden Ground behind 29 Peter Street. This was on the west side of the street near its junction with Westgate Buildings, thus it is clear that the length of Burrough Wall demolished for the Ambury development extended from the angle in the wall opposite Hetling House to the start of St. James's Burial Ground.

Margaret Garrard was the heir to the Rivers' Estates in Bath.

The walls of Richard Jones's stables were set back in both Corn Street and Horse Street as part of a street widening exercise in conjunction with this scheme.

The streets in the Ambury development changed their names. Queen Street or Lower Queen Street became Peter Street and Thomas Street became St. James's Parade while to the south of this new development Garrard Street became Somerset Street.

My thanks to Colin Johnston for his considerable assistance and to Elizabeth Holland for her support.

1. Brenda Buchanan, "The Avon Navigation", *Bath History* VI, 1996, p.76
2. e.g. Bath (B&NES) Record Office, PX90, Flooding 27/2/37 from Bridge
3. BRO Deed packet 528a, 29 Sept.1772, Conveyance of Fee Farm rents in Ambury to Ralph Allen Esq.
4. St. John's Hospital Deed packet St JH/7/225, 6 Feb.1766
5. St. John's Hospital Deed packet St JH/7/218, 20 Aug.1785



THIS FAMOUS CITY: THE STORY OF THE CHAPMANS OF BATH

.....
**MEMENTO OF MY RELIGIOUS IMPRESSIONS FROM MY EARLIEST YEARS UNTIL
1844,
when I examined more carefully what they were in consequence of the Puseyite controversy**

Captain John James Chapman
.....

Introduction

Ludwig Becker has sent us a copy of the above memoir by Captain John James Chapman. It is of historical interest for several reasons. Firstly because it gives an insight into school life in Bristol and Bath at the end of the 18th century. Secondly because it commences in the time of the Napoleonic Wars (which is why the Bristol schoolboys could lay hands on arms). The expedition to Walcheren in Zeeland, 1809, was a disaster as thousands of troops died of fever in the swampy area. It is hoped to say more of these subjects in a proposed essay on the Chapmans at War.

Thirdly, the religious questions he raises were typical of the times. John Wesley had preached at Bath and Ruth Young points out that Ann Chapman, daughter of Alderman John Chapman the saddler, was a friend of Charles Wesley's. Methodism was an issue in Bath, for instance for the Rev. John Skinner. After the so-called Age of Reason and the secularism of the French Revolution, religious speculation also became a sign of the times. Shelley (who is reputed to have stayed in the Abbey Churchyard for a time) was expelled from Oxford for writing a pamphlet called *The Necessity of Atheism*. As well, the expansion of Europe overseas brought people into confrontation with other systems. To some, to reject other people's religion and culture gave an excuse for imperialism. All the same there were many who like Captain John James wished to understand the thinking of the people they were encountering.

Once again the text has been edited slightly, chiefly through re-arranging some of the paragraphs chronologically. As the handwriting is not entirely clear, the spelling of some of the names may not be correct. Some of the text has been omitted.

The Memoir

My Father was a Captain in the 23rd Welsch Fuzileers and died in the 3rd day after the assault on Port au Prince, St. Domingo in 1794.

My Mother was a Friend, born in Philadelphia...

1788. Shortly after coming to England, my Mother on the birth of her eldest child Marianne, who was baptised at the Abbey Church by my Great Uncle the Archdeacon of Bath, became a professed member of the Church of England.

I was born on the 10th of January 1790.

1793-1794. My Mother came to Bath when my Father embarked for St. Domingo. She there heard of the death of her husband, and soon afterwards became the Mother of her seventh child, a girl...

All my earliest impressions are therefore due to my Mother, but I can only remember one striking instance of this influence. It was occasioned by some ladies speaking harshly and unkindly of others of different denominations, when she pointed out, the injustice of thus condemning those with whose tenets they were but imperfectly acquainted, or possibly of which they were wholly ignorant.

This I believe occurred when I was under six years of age, certainly before I had completed my eighth year, and it made a very strong impression upon me.

Janry. 1796. When I had just completed my sixth year I was by desire of my Uncle [Charles Chapman II of the East India Company, who was supporting the family] sent to the Revrnd. J. Sayers' school at St. Michael's Hall,¹ Bristol. I remained there upwards of 2 years and was taken away in consequence of a rebellion which had broken out. This rebellion was a very serious matter, and had its origin apparently in the bell being rung on a wet Sunday evening to order the boys to get their catechism in readiness! As the boys had been to church in the morning, they took offence at this. Out of it a plot

was laid to seize the arms (with which all the boys were provided), to resist the volunteers if required, and, to take refuge over the school room, there to stand on siege.

It was discovered by a servant, who saw the boys enter the armoury at midnight, and who called Mr.Sayers. Fortunately, Mr.S. had nerve, and, armed only with his cane, he ordered the boys to return from the armoury and caned each well, as he passed. The cause of this complaint was really founded on the fact, that Mr.Sayers had made alterations in the church catechism, which were printed and I believe offered to the boys. They were commented on freely by the parents, to many of whom they were obnoxious. I was too young to judge of the merits of the case, but I have a very distinct impression that a marked difference of opinion existed and was violently expressed. And this impression tended to deepen the effect of the remark of my good Mother.

Sayers' school consisted of 62 boarders and about 20 day scholars, and was a good one as regards the progress of the boys, in proof of which I had read: *Selecta e viteris* Caesar's commentaries, Ovid's *Metamorphoics*, Virgil, Tacitus, and I had also commenced the Greek grammar, when I was taken away at little beyond my eighth birthday.

I was then sent as a day scholar to the Free School at Bath [King Edward's, Broad Street], from whence my Mother took me in little above 3 months, because I was sentenced to be flogged for having assisted a schoolfellow in his lessons!

As soon as enquiries could satisfactorily be made, I was sent to the Revd.Dr.Williams at Heytesbury (Wiltshire).

In the interval which occurred, I perfectly recollect being shocked at the doctrine of a clergyman, who insisted upon it that all mankind were lost prior to the coming of our Saviour. This doctrine was so completely at variance with that sense of justice which my Mother had aroused in me, that it made a lasting impression...

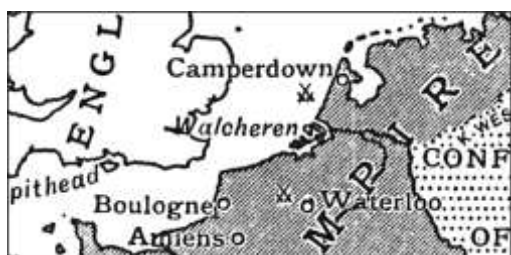
I remained three years at Heytesbury, in 1802 was at home one complete year [described in Issue 6, p.27], was sent to a preparatory mathematical school for Woolwich, and got my commission in the Artillery on the 14th September 1805 [at the age of fifteen].

The Regiment was then much afflicted by the efforts of the Methodists under Dr.Parker. My attention was thus kept alive - and being of a serious turn of mind I behaved as a Christian "ought". I bore with them with every good feeling.

In 1809 my Uncle died, and when I found that he had left me what I considered an independence I exclaimed, "I will now turn clergyman!" I immediately examined the 39 Articles and finding that I could not subscribe to them I remained a soldier. I was then in my 19th year of age.²

My objections to the damnatory clauses of the Athanasian Creed - to its incomprehensibility and its futile attempt to explain the doctrine of the Trinity were so strong, that I never afterwards bore a part in it when read, but resolutely & openly closed my prayerbook and sat down. Much to the annoyance of my Aunt and my eldest sister.

1809. I was on the expedition to Walcheren and suffered from the fever. On my recovery, I returned to Canterbury, where my principal intimates were Pakenham, Anderson and Pringle. They all had imbibed the Calvinistic doctrines of predestination and election, but although I avowed uniformly that these doctrines were at variance with my sense of justice, we were on intimate terms.



In 1802 [presumably 1812 is meant] I was appointed to the Horse Artillery and was ordered to Woolwich. I had not been there a month when Captn.Oliver (under whom I had served in Walcheren) introduced me to Dr.Parker, by whom I was invited to drink tea ... I got into a conversation with

Capt.Maitland on India. It had attracted general attention, when Capt.Maitland advanced the opinion that all Hindoos were lost. Determined not to speak under error, I said, "Do you mean to assert that the small portion of Christians are alone to be saved?" He answered, "So my Bible teaches me". Upon which I said strongly, "If I thought my Bible would teach me so I would cast it into the flames!" No shell ever produced such an effect by explosion as did this speech. Mrs.Parker was in tears - and, with every lady present, drew away from me. They were dumbfounded and aghast. At this moment the Simmonds party arrived. Greetings were lavished on all except poor Pill Garlick [?], so I beat a retreat with "Heads up!" - "Soldiers!"

In consequence of this difference of opinion I ultimately made a written Examination of the four Gospels, which I carried on until I arrived at the account of the last day of Judgment as given in the 25th chapter of Matthew -there expressed by our Saviour himself. In this I find that his father is verily no respecter of persons, but that all will be judged, all, of every country, of every race, of every degree, will be judged according to the intentions with which each individual has acted in his intercourse with others in his life...

[After recording various other discussions, John James continues:]

1828-9-30. Having been quartered for duty in the Island of Ceylon I procured the "Mahawarse" [?] and other books in which I found full details of the present or existing form of Buddhism in that Island, and of its establishment on the Continent of India 320 years B.C., and the death of Guatemala 543 years before the coming of Jesus Christ.

I also met with, after my return to London, that remarkable man Ram Mohan Roy and procured his "Precepts of Jesus", which contain all the words which were said to have been spoken by our Saviour, and no more. I purchased also "The Theogony of the Hindoos" by Count Bjorn-surna, and the Translation of the Veda by Ram Muhan Roy. As a member of the Athenaeum Club as well as a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic and Geographical Societies, I had the means to consult all oriental or other books.

[Captain John James was contented to let things rest until the Puseyite era. Pusey (whom he spells Pewsey in the actual text) was the founder of the "Oxford Movement", a High Church group within the Church of England. As he had friends both Low and High Church, John James decided it was time to become clearer.]

1844.1846. I immediately moved to investigate the matter - first the works of Channing, the American Unitarian published by Barker. I first wrote to my sincere friend the Archdeacon of Northrland. I purchased "The Life of Blanco White", "The AntiTrinitarian Biography of Wallace", Parker's "Discourses on Religion" and "An improved Version of the New Testament, 5th Edition, 1819".

[John James comments on the many mistakes in the Authorised Version of the Bible. He remarks that he was disposed in favour of Unitarianism. Here his narrative ends. As his children describe him as a member of the Church of England, it appears he did not join the Unitarians after all.]

Unitarianism

The Unitarian movement was present in Bath. Henry House, who bought Lyncombe Farm (Lyncombe Hall) gave part of the grounds for an Unitarian Burial Ground, once it became legal to do so. This ground is now part of the gardens again. It was not, as is sometimes stated, under the houses on the north side of Lyncombe Vale. The houses sometimes pointed out as its site were in fact built on an entrance to the Vineyards, which can be clearly seen on the Bruton map, with the Rag on the east side. Both the Tithe map and Cotterell's map of 1852 show the graveyard within the outlines of the garden of Lyncombe Hall. It is recognised there that it lay under the present grove of trees.

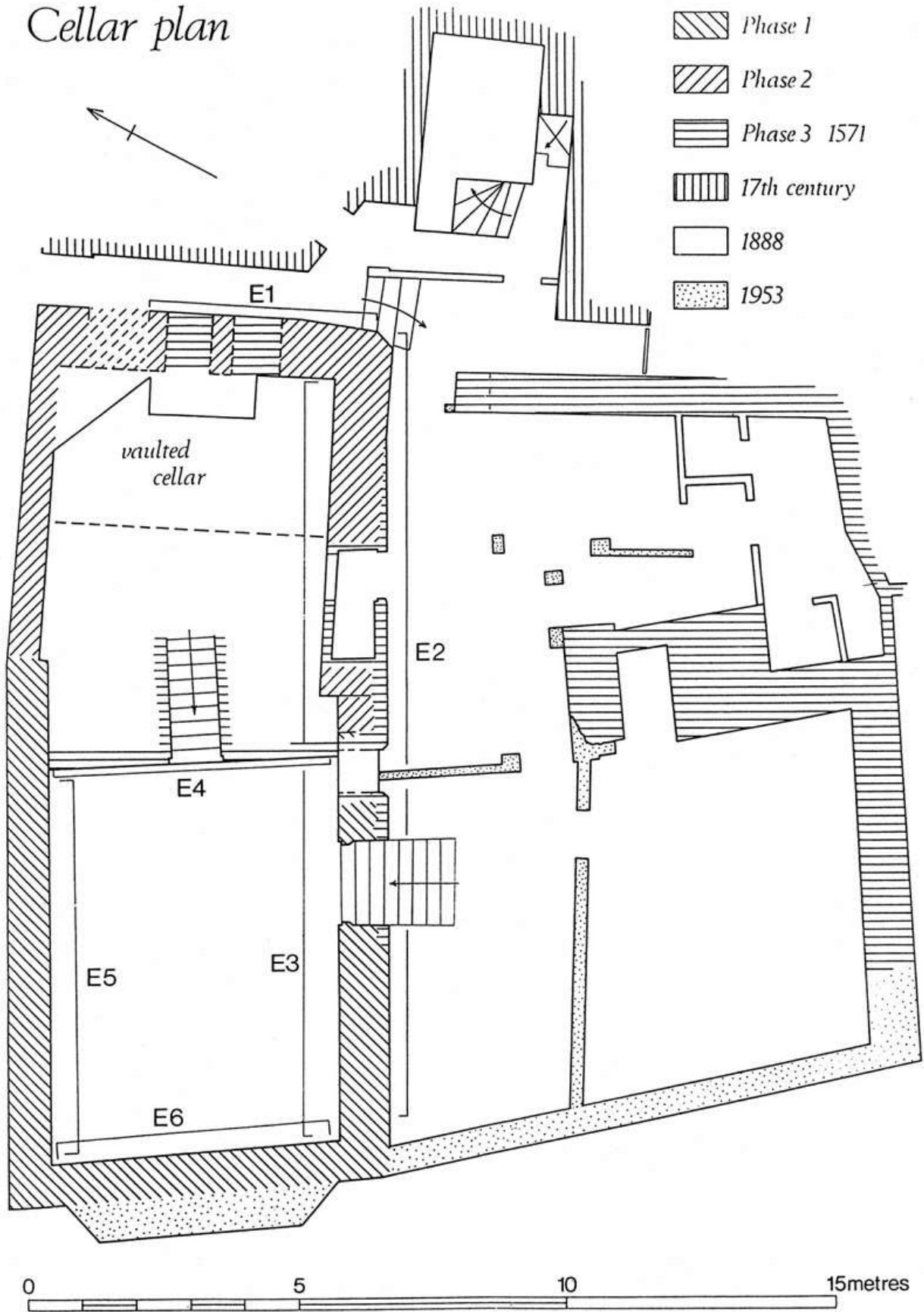
Theodore Parker, 1810-1860. This is obviously not the same Parker who was preaching Methodism to the army in 1805. Theodore Parker, an American preacher and social reformer, was born in Massachusetts. "His mother taught him to listen to the monitions of conscience as the voice of God." He defined religion as the love of man and the love of God. He was actively engaged in promoting emancipation. "He assisted actively in the escape of fugitive slaves, and helped to furnish John Brown with means for carrying out his schemes of liberation." Parker died of consumption in 1860.

1. St.Michael's Hill?

2. As Charles II died in March 1809, by modern reckoning John James was then in his twentieth year.

ABBEY CHURCH HOUSE

Cellar plan



Peter Davenport, *Archaeology in Bath 1976-85*

HETLING PUMP ROOM AND HETLING HOUSE

Elizabeth Holland

With the recent interest in the bathing establishment in Bimbery arising from the proposed revival of the Spa, we have been assembling the history of the house now popularly known as the Hetling Pump Room, within its setting of the total area once known as Hetling House and its grounds. This report covers material gathered up to date. This review is not definitive, but a basis for further investigation.

To recount some of the statements attracted by the early history of this site:- Firstly, that it was once the venue of a leper hospital. Secondly, that it was an integral part of St.John's hospice grounds and the home of the "Prior" or Master of St.John's. Thirdly that the Tudor section of the house was built by the Clarke family around 1572. Fourthly, that the house was, instead, built by Sir Walter Hungerford in the late Tudor age. Fifthly, that part was built by the Hungerfords in the Stuart age. Sixthly, that Sir Edward Hungerford was quartered there with his troops in the Civil War.

We have not followed up these ideas individually. It seems best to assemble what is actually known, and those who have extra information on these other points will perhaps bring it forward.

Early Remains

Abbey Church House is described by Peter Davenport in *Archaeology in Bath 1976-85*, pp.132ff. Davenport makes no final statements about the medieval dating of the remains, but simply indicates the evidence of a building predating the late Tudor building on the right in the illustration of the lodgings in Gilmore's map. He writes:

The earliest phase is represented by a corbelled cellar reached by a flight of steps from the lower ground floor of the present building... The plan...shows this to be part of a separate block which forms the core of the Elizabethan house... This original building was reached via a flight of steps on the south, from a ground level at least 1.9m above the floor of the cellar.

In Period 2, Davenport believes the building was extended to the east, which thus:

produced a long and narrow building, 5.5m x 14.25m, with walls averaging 1m thick. The south entrance to the original cellar was retained, and two doors were inserted in the new east wall.

He notes that the top of another stone vaulted cellar can be seen on the east:

The two earliest periods would then represent the undercroft of a substantial building of pre-Elizabethan, probably mediaeval date. Given the paucity of our understanding of mediaeval Bath, such remains are of the utmost interest.

The Survey of Old Bath has found no document confirming that this was ever a leper hospital. The house for poor folks was built c.1576. The Leper's Bath seems to have preceded it, though it is not mentioned by Leland. The known leper's hospice was outside the town, at St.Mary Magdalen's in Holloway.

Tudor Period

Davenport describes Period 3:

Most of the period 1 building was demolished down to the level of the cellar ceiling, but the period 2 building was left at least enough for the doors in the east end to survive. That wall, in fact, provided the east wall of the 1571 building.

It has been suggested that this late Tudor building, shown on the right in the picture on Gilmore's map, was erected by the Clarke family, whose arms are over the fireplace in the room known as the Great Hall, restored after the bombing. Canon Jackson stated that they were coeval with the house, which led to the belief that the Clarkes built it. Further research is needed on this. The arms have been stated to be quartered with Ridsen. If anyone can discover when the Clarkes first married into the Ridsens, this would provide an useful cut-off point. The likeness of Ridsen to Rishton, the reputed name of William Hetling's wife, has also been raised, though it may not be significant.

The land itself belonged to St.John's. A great family might have taken out a lease on a piece of land and built a town house there, but one would expect the lease to have lasted for some time and for some record of it to survive. So far nothing has emerged.

St.John's was part of the 1572 grant to the Corporation:

Grant to the mayor and citizens of Bath of the advowson of the hospital of St.John the Baptist there with the chapel of St.Michael annexed... *Calendar of Patent Rolls 1571-1575*, Item 383, 21 November 1571.¹

An advowson is a right of presentation, in this case of the Master. St.John's was evidently now under the control of the Corporation. The 1573 licence to gather alms for the rebuilding of the Abbey also included the "enlarging and bettering of St.John's hospital there". In the early surviving St.John's accounts, which follow the Corporation accounts, one finds the fines (premiums) for St.John's properties entered. As time goes by, the fines of known St.John's properties tend more and more to be entered with the Corporation properties, as if a kind of Council Tax, while the rental is still entered separately under St.John's. Corporation officials collected the rents. The suggestion made by Bath antiquarians that Corporation control began with Walter Chapman in 1616 is nonsense.

1. The Survey of the Chantries, etc. in 1548 reversed the order. It was stated there that the Hospital was annexed to the parish church of St.Michael and the parson of the church was the Master of the Hospital. This would be the church of St.Michael's Within, or St.Michael's by the Baths. See *The Survey and Rental, etc.*, Edtd.Emmanuel Green, S.R.S. 1888, p.148.

The St.John's Minute Book 1792-1808, dealing with the exchange of 1805, states (p.134) that the Master of St.John's anciently lived in one of the properties to be exchanged, on the west side of the lane leading from Westgate Street to the Cross Bath, i.e. very near the former site of Little St.Michael's. However in 1805 "anciently" probably meant at some time in the 18th century.

Alderman Turner and Dr.Robert Baker

As said, the house under discussion at this stage is shown on the right-hand side of the illustration of "Mrs.Savils Lodgings" in the top right-hand border of Gilmore's map, an evidently Tudor building. Surviving portions of this, such as the Great Hall, are well-known. A recent suggestion is that instead of having been built by the Clarkes, the Tudor building was erected by Dr.Robert Baker c.1590. Two points cast doubt on this idea. The first, that the house appears to have been held by Alderman Turner by 1584. Secondly, the actual wording of Dr.Baker's holding, which suggests the pre-existence of the messuage which he held.



It is not certain that Turner held it, but there is a point here which has to be borne in mind. Alderman Thomas Turner was sometimes in arrears with his rent. In the middle of the St.John's account for 1585, at the bottom of one skin of parchment, the Chamberlain has crammed in a reminder that in his last account (i.e. for 1584) he omitted to allow for various rents owed by Turner, including 13/6d. for half a year for the "great howse".

Abbey House and the building later called the Garden House, on the eastern city wall, were not on Corporation land and would not have been in their accounts. Nor would the Barton farmhouse. The house at the West Gate was always described as such and was held by "Mr.Kerye". St. John's Hospital House was described as such. Meanwhile, in later ages only one house in Bath was ever, to our knowledge, called "the Great House" and that is Mrs.Savil's Lodgings or Hetling House. The question is whether it was so-called before the Stuart addition was built. But if not, what other house could have been called the Great House?

This raises the possibility that the Turners may have built the house, say after the Corporation were put in charge of St.John's. The relationship if any of Alderman Turner to Dr.Turner, promoter of the baths, is not yet known. Alderman Turner was a considerable property owner in Bath. He did not actually live in the "great howse" himself, as his residence is listed separately and went later to Peter Chapman (it was probably on the south side of Westgate Street).

Dr.Robert Baker's holding appears on p.182:1 of the Survey of 1641, in the section dealing with St.John's land. Robert Baker held by a lease of 1591, by which time Alderman Turner was dead. The grant reads:

All that Chappell Messuage or Tenemt of the Hospitall land of St Johns lyeinge in the said Cittie Betweene the hott Bath East and the Burrowalls of the said Cittie west together wth all the new buildings thereuppon built and erected by the said Robert Baker belonginge to the said Messuage except one Tenemt then in the tenure of John Pride wth the great pitched or paved Court nowe devided into two Courts and the wall wch sepated the Demised p.misses [from] the Tenemt lately grannted unto Robert Chambers.

"Chappell Messuage" must be a mistake. St.John's Chapel remained in the hands of the Corporation and was never part of the Hetling House site. The entry must mean "Capital Messuage". A message was a house. A capital message signified a house of the first rank. If Robert Baker had built this, the grant would have stated that it was lately built or "newe erected" by Baker. Also he would not have paid any fine, in consideration of having done major building work, whereas he is down in 1590 for £20.

What Robert Baker has erected is all those new buildings belonging to the capital message, upon the Hospital land between the Hot Bath and the Borough Walls. ("Hospital land" does not indicate the actual premises of St.John's Hospital, but land which was on their rental.) He appears therefore to have erected ancillary buildings.

Peter Davenport's plan of the Period 3 cellars, belonging to the 1570s building, stretches as far as the site of Nowhere Lane, i.e. the area now covered by the Great Hall, the entrance, the site of the principal staircase, and the rooms to the south (a range of buildings of that size would justify the name "the great howse" in Tudor Bath.) This still left the site of the Stuart extension, and any outbuildings to the south of it, and the site of the Hetling Pump Room as it was, with a building also south of it, for Robert Baker to build on.

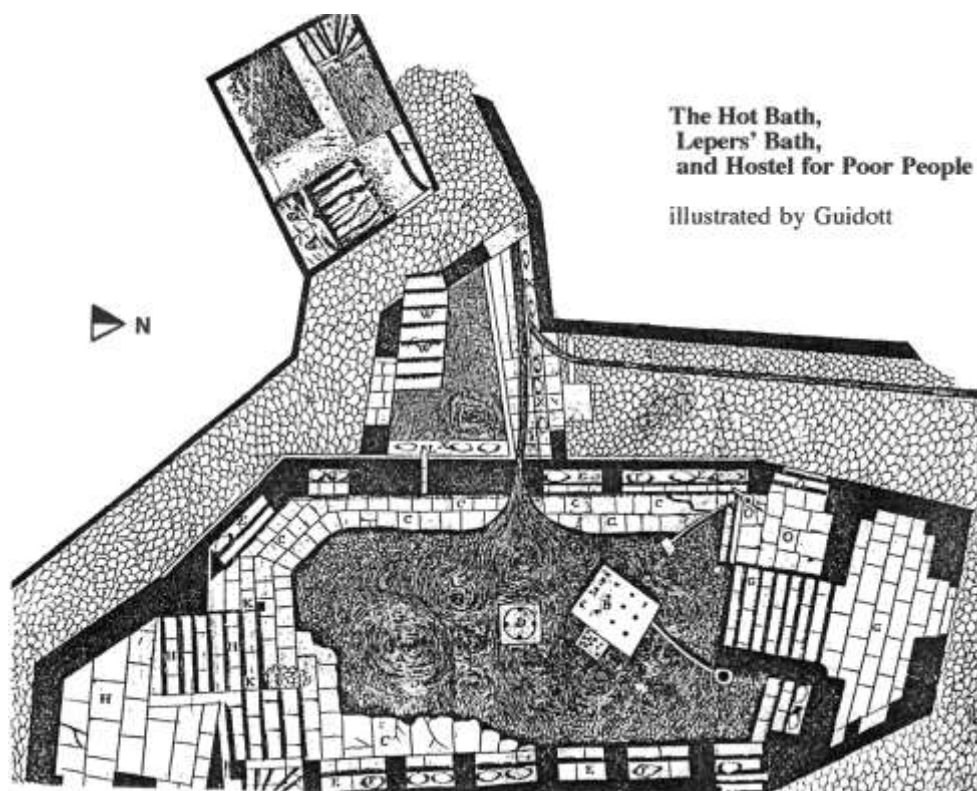
Which of the buildings on the site of 182:1 became the tenement excepted because it was let to John Pride, is not known. (As Skrine and his successors had the whole block, the exception must have lapsed. The fact that there is an item excepted from the lease of 1591 (John Pride was a Tudor figure) goes to explain the difference in rent, if Turner did have 182:1. Turner's rent was 27/- a year, Baker's was 20/- , but Pride is excepted. It is odd the survey of 1641 does not then list Pride's holding separately, but the Survey did have its contradictions.

The Baths: Dr.Reuben Sherwood

The medieval Hot Bath stood in what is now the street on the west side of Wood's Hot Bath. The diagram from Guidott shows its location. On the west side of the Hot Bath itself lay the Leper's Bath tucked into Nowhere Lane. The Leper's Bath was not mentioned by Leland, though he may have regarded it as part of the Hot Bath. It is shown on Speed's map, which in general is correct for 1575. Legend says Abbot Feckenham built it, though the Chamberlain's Accounts make no mention of his doing so, and the idea is unsubstantiated.

North of the Leper's Bath in the diagram is the eastern end of 182:1. South of the bath is the hospice for poor folk. Again legend says Abbot Feckenham built this, while on parole in the city. P.R.James states that he purchased timber and lathes from the Corporation. What the accounts actually state in

1576 is that they, the Corporation, paid for three tons and 10 feet of timber to build “the howse for the poore by the whote bathe”, at a price of 33/4d (thirty-three shillings and fourpence), and also paid for 400 lathes at 3/4d. “Extra-ordinarye chardges” where the items are entered, refers to payments made by the Corporation. If Feckenham had bought these materials from the Corporation, the entry would have gone under “Casuall receptes”. The Abbot may have organised and supervised the labour (probably given free by the citizens) but the Corporation seem to have paid for the major part of the materials, and it is useless to moralise, as some writers have done, on charity having to be left to outsiders because the Corporation would not do its share. Thomas Turner himself was mayor in this year, and Foulke Morley Chamberlain.



P.R.James quotes a court case of 1598 referring to 182:1 as the supposed residence of the “Prior” of St.John’s. The populace were angry that water was being drawn off the Hot Bath, and attacked the pipe which led to a bath used by Dr.Reuben Sherwood, who had married Dr.Baker’s widow.

This case has been used to suggest that the “Prior” or Master of St.John’s lived in Abbey Church House and had a bath there. The question is whether the Privy Council in 1598, or Dr.Reuben Sherwood himself, had any idea what arrangements existed in St.John’s before the Dissolution. The claim reads like something made up by Dr.Sherwood (who was not even settled for good in the city) to strengthen his case. There was no “Priory” of St.John’s. The Hospital is called, even in medieval times, the Hospital of St.John, of St.John Baptist, of St.John of Bath, or St.John of the Baths. Its head is always called the Master, who is mentioned with the brothers and sisters serving God and the poor there. There were apparently only a few in this religious community (the sisters presumably being there to look after the sick women) and there was room for them on the actual site of St.John’s, detailed in three parts in the Survey of 1641, i.e. the south part of the Hospital House, the north part of it, and what was in later times the garden to the west, which may have held buildings in medieval times. One would suggest that the community all lived in St.John’s actual site, that the bath mentioned below was possibly on the site of the Hetling Pump Room, where a bath seems to have been found later, and that the site of the medieval work explored by Peter Davenport was possibly occupied by a guesthouse, where richer visitors could stay and perhaps contribute something to the Hospital.

Whereas wee are informed that there hath bin allwayes tyme out of mind a bathe belonging to a certaine house in your citty, sometyme a religious house called the Pryorie of St.John’s, for the proper and peculier use of the Master or Prior of the same, which bathe ys derived and taken from a common or publicque bathe nere adjoyninge named the Hott Bathe, and that since the desolucion of the said Pryory yt hath bin ever to this tyme held and enjoyed by those that have inhabited the said house, and hath bin often used and frequented by divers noblemen, bothe

Lordes and Ladyes of great callinge, for their private ease and comodety, for which respect yt ys very meete yt should still be mayntained and contynued. Forasmuche as wee ar given to understande that now very lately since the said house and bathe ys com into the occupacion of Ruben Sherwood, Doctor of Phisick, in right of his wife, late wife to Doctor Baker, a man not yet settled there and one that hath given no occasion of offence of (sic) your towne, and aswell worthy of the benefitt thereof as anie that hath gon before him, certaine leude and disordered persons of base sorte and condicion upon Shrove Tuesday last did in tumultuous sort assemble themselves together and shuttinge the dores of the Hott Bathe unto them did digg up the springe and heade of the said private bathe, and have either destroyed yt or at least so drawne yt awaye as that yt may not serve for soche good use and purpose as heretofore yt hath done. Upon complaint hereof made unto us wee could do no lesse then to will and require you to take present order, as in reason you ought to do, that the said bathe be presently repaired and restored at their cost and charges of those disorderly people that have defaced the same or that were abettinge unto yt, if they or anie of them be hable to do yt, which wee wishe to be done forthwith, for that our very good Lady the Lady Marques of Northampton ys minded afore the ende of the next moneth to goe purposly thither to use the said bathe, and if those offendours shall not be of habillity to beare the charge to repair yt, then wee require you to assist and ayde the said Dr.Sherwood that he may quietly and peaceably amend yt himself yn sorte as yt was and hath bin, and to have soche remedy and redresse at their hands that have offered him this wronge as law will give him &c.

Letter to the Mayor and Aldermen from the Privy Council, 24 March 1597/8, P.R.James, *The Baths of Bath in the 16th and 17th Centuries*, pp.66-67.

The Baths: Mr.Fowkes and Mr.Chambers, 1583

Two other private baths in the district are mentioned in the 1583 Corporation account. Percival was paid 2/3d. for mending the pipe leading from the Hot Bath to Mr.Fowkes' bath, and then 7/8d. for mending the pipe from the Hot Bath leading to Mr.Chambers' bath. Further repairs to the Hot Bath are mentioned in 1584.

"Mr.Fowkes", spelt in various ways, is used on several occasions to signify Robert Foulkes, collector of payments for "lamps and lights", presumably ancient religious dues. An allied name was Foulke Morley, sometime Chamberlain, which again could be spelt variously.

"Mr.ffowkes", whoever he was, was in arrears for one year's rent of the "howse of St.John's" in 1583, 40/-. Finch had also obtained a lease in 1581 for what was then described as two chambers over the hospital and one room over the body of the chapel, while Bewshen also held a chamber over the hospital. The conclusion would seem to be that "Mr.ffowkes" held St.John's main letting rooms and that they had a private bath.

There seems to be no direct record of Chambers' lease but references by neighbouring properties, such as 182:1, 1641, give the impression that his land lay in the west part of St.John's premises. It seems possible he held the western land later held by Latham the assignee of Robert Chivers, and also perhaps the kitchen with chambers over it later held by Latham in another lease as assignee of Chivers. This analysis would suggest that St.John's premises had a second private bath.

In 1641 Latham's lease (175:1) speaks of rooms over part of the "hospitall house", with the chapel south and Susan Sherwood north, and also a kitchen with rooms over it, adjoining to a garden. He held the western part of the St.John's Hospital land by a different lease (182:2). Hospital house here presumably means the almshouse or rooms for old folk. Susan Sherwood held a kitchen and rooms on the north (174:2), described in her lease as "parte of the Hospitall house", and in Latham's lease as being over part of the hospital. There is not necessarily an exact connection between the layout of Latham and Susan Sherwood's property and the rental of 1581-1583. Susan married Henry Sherwood in 1620, being then a widow Chambers. Henry died the same year.

The wording of these holdings is different from that used for the Heling House premises. We have not seen evidence yet that the latter were regarded as an integral part of St.John's Hospital House.

The Early Stuart Age

In the 17th century the house was extended eastwards, as far as and including the area now called Hetling House (No.2 Hetling Court), a name which is no longer used for Abbey Church House. This Stuart extension can be seen on the left in Gilmore's picture. Peter Davenport writes:

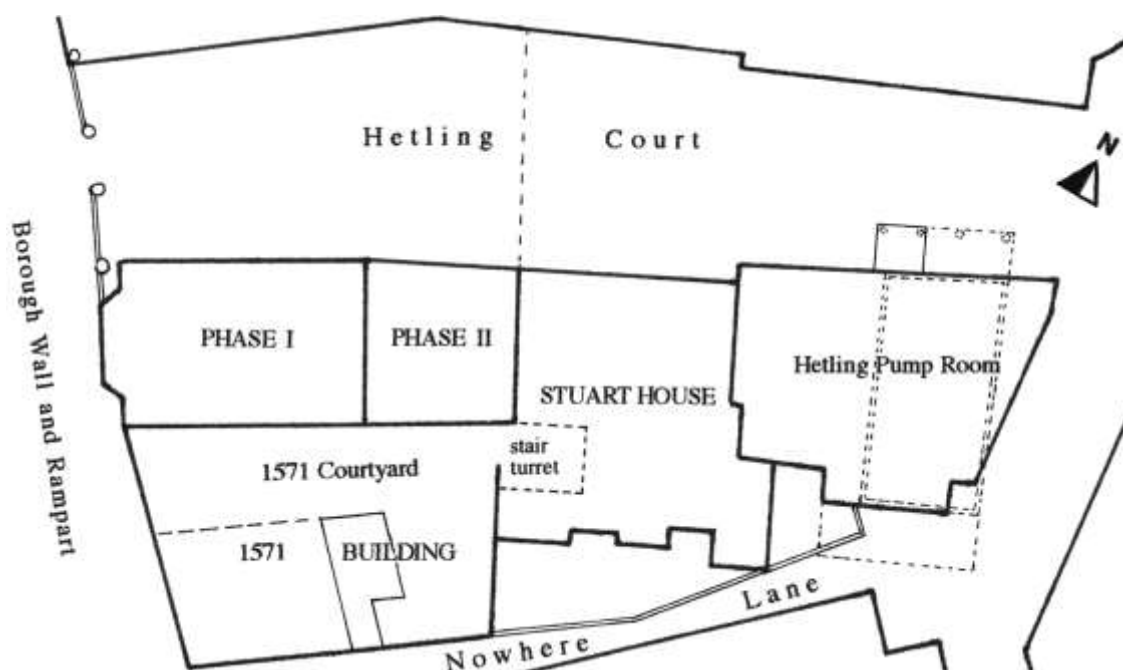
It is evident that the house consists of two buildings which have been converted into one, the eastern part being the apparent addition. This suspicion is confirmed by an inspection of the present building where the eastern house is clearly seen butting against the quoins of the original western block. Equally, it can be seen that the eastern window in the long gallery on the top floor has been blocked in by the extension.

The date of the extension is, as yet, unknown, but is probably earlier rather than later in the 17th century.

As Davenport has indicated, there are three basic building phases leaving evidence today. First, pre-Elizabethan. Some commentators have assigned this to the time of the Henries, possibly because of the reported rebuilding of the Hospital by Prior Holloway. Davenport does not commit himself. Then the late Tudor house. Next the early Stuart house. It is possible that the Tudor and Stuart buildings were intended to be one residence even when the Stuart building was first erected, as the "tower" staircase serves both.

The Survey of 1641, item 182:1, records that Baker's lease was assigned to (Robert) Ward (Reuben Sherwood died in 1599). Ward is mentioned as a neighbour by another property in 1628. The Survey of 1641 also reports that Ward's lease was assigned to Thomas Ivy, a member of an influential family. A tenant rather than a sub-tenant would be expected to do the building. The inference is therefore that the Stuart extension was built by Robert Ward or by the Ivies, if it was early 17th century.

The problem from the point of view of the Survey of Old Bath is the lack of any contemporary reference which connects the Hungerfords with this house, either for building it, staying in it, or owning it even as sub-tenants [STOP PRESS: Mrs.Honor Savile was the daughter of Colonel John Hungerford - see our next issue].



The Later 17th Century

For the later 17th century, there are two sources, Gilmore's map with its reference to "Mrs.Savils Lodgings", and John Wood. Gilmore's picture has already been discussed.

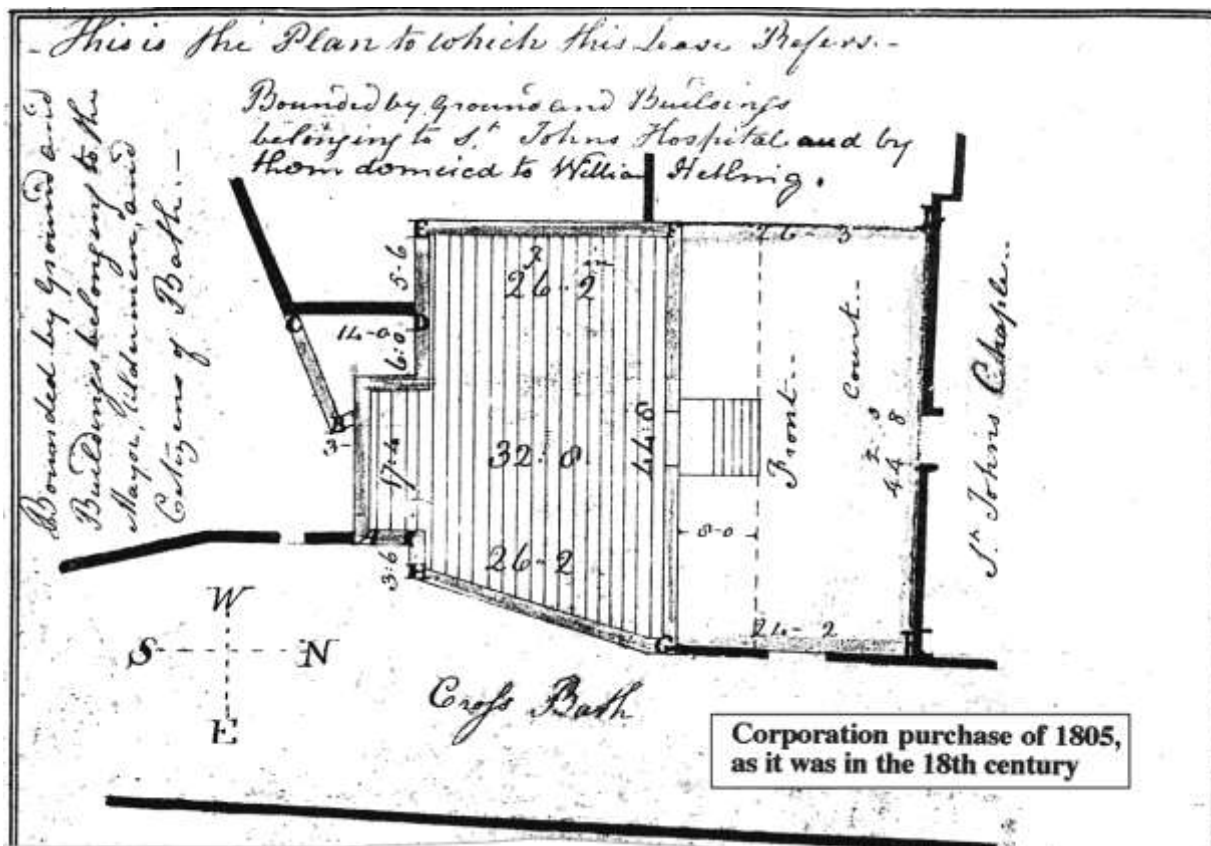
John Wood's reference has been used to support the Hungerford claim, on the grounds that Lord Lexington, whom he mentions, had married a Hungerford. In fact the extract from John Wood we possess does not mention the Hungerfords. If anyone has any information about the Lexington family, perhaps they will bring it forward.

John Wood writes:

..the second best House within the Walls having not long before been the Property of the then Lord Lexington, he assigned it over to one Mrs.Savil, in lieu of a Legacy, of one hundred Pounds, which he was to pay her; and that House, commonly called Skrine's lower House, because it became the Property of Mr.William Skrine, an Apothecary, on his marrying Mrs.Savil, not only made the Habitation of her Royal Highness the Princess Caroline, in the Spring Season of the Year 1746; but of the same Princess, and her Sister, the Princess of Hesse, in the Autumn Season of the same Year.

John Wood, *An Essay towards a Description of Bath*, 1965 edition, p.85.

The Abbey registers record that Mr.William Skrine married Mrs.Honor Savell at the Abbey on 6 December 1697 (transcript by Jewers).



The Early 18th Century

The Skrine influence dominated the early 18th century. The St.John's leases include 25 March 1717 to William Skrine, and another of 1726 to Skrine. In 1736 there is a lease to James Cooke and Ann Cooke (Ann Cooke was formerly Ann Skrine).

William Skrine's lease of 25 March 1717, suggests that he already held the property. It is described as a capital messuage or tenement commonly called or known by the name of the Great House, with its garden adjoining and all houses, edifices etc. It had apparently been demised at £7.10.0 a year but was now to be £10. The fine was £155.11.2. The size of the fine suggests he had not done any rebuilding.

The garden was apparently in front of the western part of the house, divided off from the eastern part of Hetling Court, and on a lower level. Steps continued for a large part of the house's history but Hetling Court now slopes up towards the west.

John Wood's comments suggest that William Skrine now developed the Hetling Pump Room site, and provided spa facilities. When he speaks of a house south of St.John's Chapel, he must mean on Skrine's land. There was a shop against the front of the old chapel, but it would be described as east, and does not appear after the rebuilding of the chapel, in such diagrams as John Wood's own map of 1735.

John Wood reports that reforms made by Sir John Trevor encouraged owners and they now began to

develop their properties. When the house south of the chapel was being built, an old bath was discovered. If between the Hot Bath and Cross Bath as he suggests it must have been near the north-east corner of the Hetling Pump Room site. William Skrine then drew water from the Hot Bath spring and used it. It seems possible this was the bath once used by Dr.Reuben Sherwood:

Sir John Trevor...upon the 13th of February 1716-7...also directed that all future Fines should be certain, and never raised above the Sum by him stipulated, without the Direction of the Court of Chancery; and this was such an Encouragement to the Tenants of that Estate, that they forthwith began to improve, and enlarge their Houses upon it; and St.John's Chapel was rebuilt with Part of the Money arising by the Fines...

About this Time the two chief hot Springs of Bath were threatened with inevitable Destruction; for the Profits of the Water sent abroad, excited the Proprietors, or rather Possessors of the Lands about the Baths, to search the Bowels of the Earth for hot Springs, so that they might dispose of the Water, as their own just Right and Property. Mr.William Skrine having then had the Possession of the Ground on the West Side of the hot Bath, proceeded so far as to draw Water from that Bath, and hold the same for his own Benefit...

John Wood, *An Essay towards a Description of Bath*, 1965 edition, pp.226-227.

The Cisterns that originally received the Water of the hot Springs of Bath seem to have been only two in Number, one at the Head of the Chief Spring, and one between the two smaller Springs; For when the House now standing over-against the S.Side of St.John's Chapel was built, which I think was in the Year 1718, the Workmen, in digging for the Foundation, met with the Vestigia of a Bath; and the very Cistern, most probably, that held the Waters of the adjoining Springs.

John Wood, *An Essay towards a Description of Bath*, p.119.

These extracts suggest that the house on the Hetling Pump Room site which Palmer set back at the beginning of the 19th century was built under the auspices of William Skrine about 1718. Plans show the entrance to have been up a flight of five steps, a very common type of construction, prevalent for instance in London. The western room of Hetling Pump Room is still reached by five steps, suggesting it has been retained.

Observers have commented that the panelling in this room appears late 17th century rather than early 18th. This would seem to conflict with the other evidence and the whole question needs to be discussed further. Possibly the panelling was brought from elsewhere. Items in Bath houses often prove to have been moved. Builders did also sometimes work in out-of-date styles.

1. Leases of St.John's. Bundle St.J.H./7/136 - Hetling House.

The Hetlings

In the mid 18th century there arrived the Hetlings, and the house became known as Hetling House. Ernest Hetling was a Hanoverian who belonged to the court of the Hanoverian King George II, who unlike his father had decided to live in England. Hetling's will 24 October 1751 describes him as Ernest Hetling of the Royal Palace of St.James. He seems to have engaged in the wine trade. He has been described as a surgeon but it was his son William, of Bristol, who was the surgeon.

The St.John's lease of 1 April 1749¹ to Mr.Ernest Hetling, Gentleman, mentions the surrender of a lease of 23 February 1736 to James Cooke of Ashted, Surrey, Esquire, and Ann his wife. For a fine of £90 and a rent of £10 a year, the 1749 lease is once again for the capital messuage or tenement known by the name of the Great House, with all houses, edifices, etc. Once again the premises extend from the Hot Bath to the Borough Walls, so that whatever had now been built on the Hetling Pump Room site, it was still regarded as an appurtenance of the Great House. Rachel Hetling, Ernest's wife, then aged 39, was one of the lives.

Ernest Hetling's will was proved at London 10 December 1753². It confirmed to his wife Rachel and his children the settlement of the Houses purchased at Bath and the Furniture thereof, exonerating them from the mortgage money of £400 and the interest thereof. His son William was named first, but if he died before 21, the property was to go to his daughters Sophia Hetling and Catherine Followfield, after the death of his wife. His wife was an executor and his son-in-law James Followfield.

It would require an architectural history to detail all the alterations which which were made in the

house over the centuries, particularly the frontages. Alterations in the Borough Walls frontage were probably made in the 18th century street development. John Macdonald's article on the Ambury points out that the decision to take down the Borough Wall itself was confirmed in 1766.

1. 1 April 1749, Furman's Repertory, B&NES Record Office, Bundle 21, Item 1.

2. 10 December 1753, Bundle 21, Item 2.

Wood's Hot Bath: the Hot Bath Pump Room

The creation of Wood's Hot Bath was described in our last issue by David McLaughlin. As recorded in the Council Minute Book on 18 May 1772, the Corporation decided to acquire the house on the Hetling Pump Room site and use it in connection with the new Hot Bath. John Wood the Younger writes:

The Corporation of Bath having resolved to pull down the old hot-bath, and to rebuild it on such a plan as would render the use of the water more commodious and extensive; they for that purpose bought a house adjoining to the bath on the west-side, which was converted into a convenient pump-room for drinking the water; and into a dwelling for the pumper.

John Wood, *The Description of the HOT-BATH*, 1777, p.1.

In December 1772 the Council Minute Book mentions the need to appoint a proper person to plan the baths. The cylinder built to contain the waters of the Hot Bath or Hetling spring, now under the street opposite the southern pillar of the Hot Bath entrance, bears an inscription inside saying that the cistern was built by the Corporation in 1773, indicating that the medieval bath had been demolished by then. Meanwhile in 1772 the Corporation did acquire the house on the Hetling Pump Room site. From now on it had a separate existence from the rest of the Great House.

By a deed of 17 November 1772 Mrs. Hetling, Ernest's widow, and her son William assigned to the Mayor and Corporation the New Part of the Great House.¹ The plan accompanying the assignment shows the same main outline as that of the existing house on Palmer's redevelopment plan of c.1805 and it does not appear that the Corporation did any rebuilding at this stage. (A window or entrance on the east which appears in the Kingston Estate map of c.1750 is no longer shown). Presumably the Corporation now refitted the interior to their taste.

Gullidge's was also acquired, at the south-east end of Nowhere Lane, next to the lodgings for poor people, and plans suggest they were both now removed. The widened lane would be the route to the new Hot Bath from the Borough Walls.

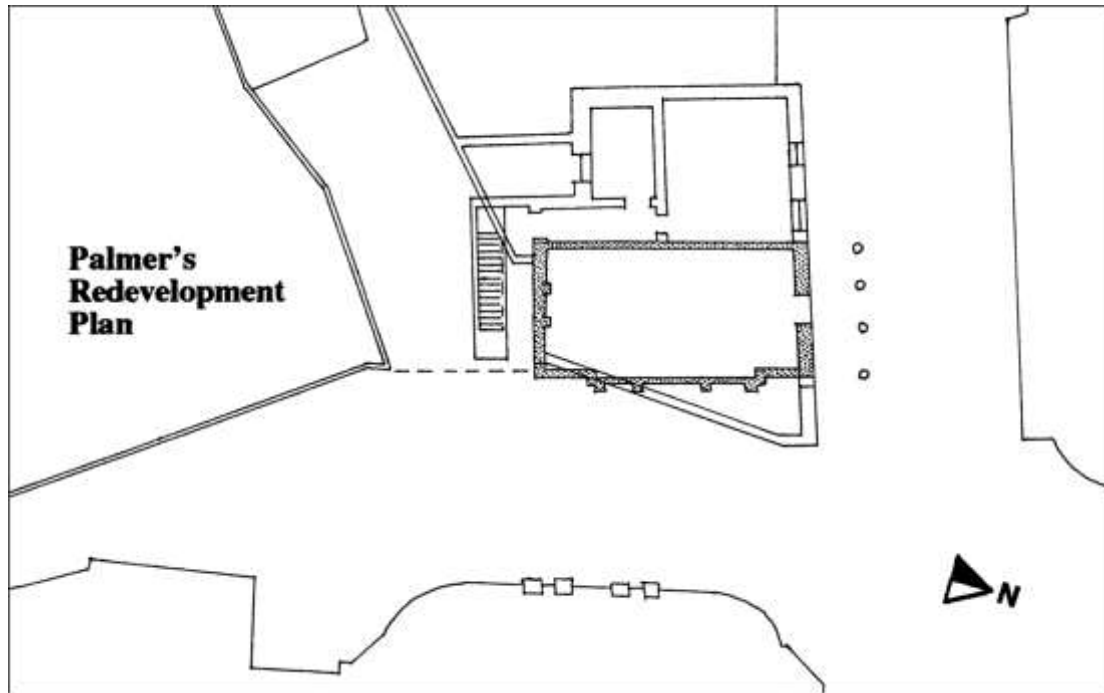
The Corporation did not buy the Hetling Pump House site outright, but simply bought in the lease. On 11 April 1778 St. John's leased the house to James Ferry of Bath, Gentleman.² William Vachell is named as tenant. The site is described as a messuage or tenement, buildings, area and court, parcel of a messuage and garden heretofore demised by the name of a capital messuage commonly called the Great House. Now the western neighbour is given as William Hetling. This marks this house's new life as an independent unit. The Corporation had a share in the venture, as they paid the fine of £50.

1. 17 November 1772, Bundle 21, Item 3.

2. 11 April 1778, St. John's, Bundle 7/137.

Palmer's Redevelopment: the new Pump Room

At the beginning of the 19th century it was decided to improve the routes to John Wood's Hot Bath. John Palmer drew up a development plan, c.1804 or 1805, of which a copy exists in Bath (now B&NES) Record Office. Hot Bath Street was to be created through the site of the former George Inn, which had to be taken down as dangerous (mentioned as such in the Council Minute Book in 1802), and Bell Tree Lane was to be widened into Beau Street. To do this a Magdalen Hospital property was removed, giving rise to the legend that this was the former hospice for poor people.¹ Nowhere Lane was now closed up.



Palmer's plan included setting back the east side of Hetling Pump Room, as shown in the diagram. The new room was at ground floor level instead of up the previous flight of five steps. The rest of the house was reached through a new entrance to the south, behind the black doors, with a staircase which lay over what must have been the site of the Leper's Bath. A passage led through to the old western room, still up five steps and shown as partitioned. This redevelopment created the basis of the house we know today.

The Corporation acquired the freehold of the Hetling Pump House site in 1805, by exchange with St.John's. The title to the property is contained in a deed which deals with several properties and is therefore retained in B&NES Record Office, the Guildhall, Bath, instead of in any deed packet. The document is a Deed of Conveyance and Exchange of Property in Bath between the parties, 25 March 1805, made out from the Master etc. of St.John's to the Mayor etc. of Bath. (John Chapman D.D. was then the Master of St.John's). The Hetling Pump House site is item C on the plans: William Matthews is shown as west. The exchange is cited on skin 7. Being seized in fee of the property, St.John's now enfeoff, release, exchange and convey it to the Mayor, etc. and their successors. The previous lease cited is to William Street, banker, 20 September 1784. Other properties in the deed include the George Inn and the St.John's property east of the St.Mary Magdalen tenement which also had to come down.

On 2 October 1809 the Council Minute Book (Shickle's transcript) records that Anne Hudson is to rent the new house at the Cross Bath (often named when the Hot Bath is meant) exclusive of the new Pump Room, at the rent of 70 guineas. It is decided that the large room over the Pump Room be not let out as a Dancing Room. This entry gives a hint of Georgian revels. Jane Austen's brother Edward is said to have drunk the waters at the Hetling Pump in 1799, before the exchange and refurbishment.

The house was therefore rebuilt between 1805 and 1809. The builder was presumably John Allen, who created the west side of Hot Bath Street at this period. He seems, from the dates on deeds, to have begun at the corner and worked northwards.

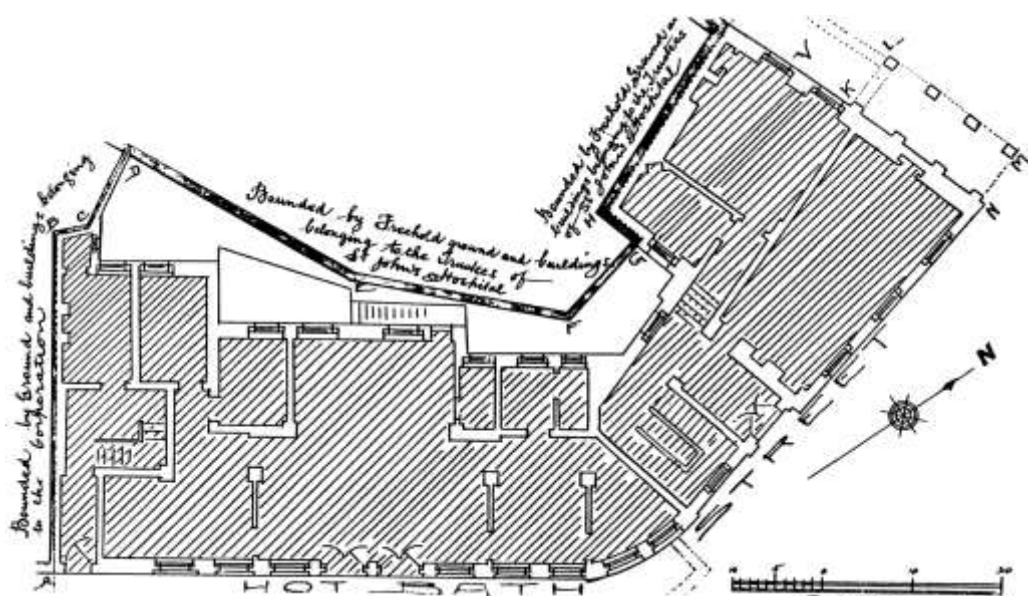
A surviving lease, listed in the Bryant Catalogue like the Deed of Exchange, is to Mr.Charles Charlton, gentleman, 15 October 1810. It is for the Hetling Pump House, reserving a certain Room on the Ground or Parlour Floor called the Hetling Pump Room and used for drinking the Bath Waters, and also excepting all Ways to the same and the Hot and Cold Waters belonging to the Lessors with which the said Messuage and Pump Room may be supplied. The lease was for 7 years at a rent of £50.

Charlton's entry will have been on the south, where the black doors now stand. The Hetling Pump Room itself opened towards the north.

The Deed Packet (3554) contains a lease of 1872 for the Hot Bath House, excepting the Pump Room. By 1875 it was decided that the Pump Room was not paying its way, and it was removed to the east

side of Wood's Hot Bath, where it can be seen on plans. One of the bath attendants was to operate the pump. The former Pump Room was to be let out for £12 a year. By 1889 it was added on to the lease of the Hot Bath House, reserving the right of the Lessors to enter the cellars in connection with the hot springs, making all good when they left. This lease was for 21 years, expiring in 1910. The next lease, 1911, was to the Royal United Hospital for a Nurses' Home, including all the west side of Host Bath Street, shown on the plan. The Hospital itself used the hot mineral waters, but the Pump Room's connection with them was over for the time being. It is now planned to use the site again in connection with the revival of the Spa.

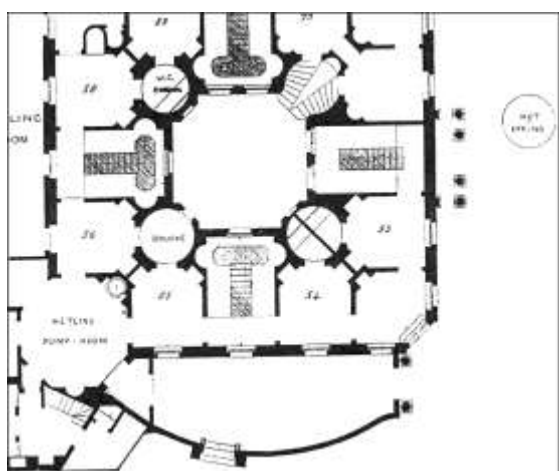
1. Cf. John Clement Fowler O.S.B, *The Benedictines in Bath During a Thousand Years*, 1895, p.72, which erroneously states: "Feckenham put his little hospice under the direction of the hospital of St.Mary Magdalen". What was pulled down in the Palmer redevelopment was an ordinary tenement of St.Mary Magdalen's.



Above; The 1911 lease plan.

Below Left: plan of the Hot Bath, showing the Pump Room on the east side.

Below Right: No.2 Hetling Court, the portico of the Pump Room visible to the left.



The Bath and West

Meanwhile the main part of the Great House continued its own separate existence. The house was altered and subdivided into tenements, and plans and later photographs show shop fronts which had been built along Hetling Court (on both sides). Its history is perhaps best told in the various pictures which appear in collections of postcards and photographs. The Lockey calotype of c.1849 reproduced on p.118 of *Bath History VI*, of the Borough Walls facade, shows a very different appearance from later photographs or from the modern frontage. The doorways in the calotype are definitely not "Tudor" in appearance, and there are three of them opening onto the Borough Walls, by one of which stands the inevitable man in a stove-pipe hat of Lockey's pictures. The sign "Agricultural Society" appears to the eye of faith above the first floor windows, since the Bath and West's headquarters were once here. William Matthews, a founder member of the Society, held leases on Hetling House of 1791 and 1807.

Following the example of Paris, the Society engaged in soil analysis, and ran a chemical laboratory. Following a tour very kindly arranged for him by Mr. George Perret, former curator, Mike Chapman has pointed out that the troughs still existing in the cellar of Abbey Church House are presumably those of this laboratory. It is planned to make a further study of the Society's chemical work and also if possible to arouse interest in conserving this site, which seems to be of greater scientific importance than has perhaps been realised.

The hatted gentleman in the calotype stands on the right of the house, by the doorway of what could well be a shop. On p.6 of the booklet *Abbey Church House, Bath* by George Perrett, a shop appears with "Vic Anstice" on its front, which Perrett describes as used for the sale of cycles. On p.7 the site is shown as destroyed in the bombing of 1942, though Anstice's other premises, on the south side of the former Nowhere Lane, Corporation property, still survived. It is interesting that the central entrance to Abbey Church House, left of Anstice's shop there, had now been remodelled to a curved "Tudor" arch. This type of arch was kept in the reconstruction following the bombing. The rebuilt site of Anstice's shop is described by Perrett as now being called the "Clarke" Room.

Abbey Church House

In 1823 Charles Davis acquired a lease of Hetling House. In 1861 the Abbey, seeking a centre, took out a lease, and in 1888 this was converted into a 200-year lease at a ground rent of £25 a year.¹ The property was described as "Hetling House and 2,3,4 and 5 Hetling Court". The plan shows the shop fronts along the Stuart section of the house. The Lessees were to spend not less than £200 in repairing and improving the premises. The Lessees were not to allow the premises to be used as a disorderly house nor as a place of public amusement or resort, except that they were allowed to hold "such Sunday or other School or such religious parochial charitable or social services Meetings Lectures and entertainments as they may consider desirable or convenient for the benefit of the said Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul or of the City of Bath". Pevsner describes the Great Hall as the Concert Room.

About 20 years ago the Abbey ceded No.2 Hetling Court, at the east end next to the Hetling Pump Room. Only this part of the premises is now correctly to be called "Hetling House". The rest on the west is now known as Abbey Church House. This should not be confused with the former "Abbey House" or "Priory House", which stood at right angles to the Abbey until it was taken down by the Duke of Kingston, and had evidently been constructed by the Colthursts out of the western range of the monastic buildings.

Thus from west to east the order now is: Abbey Church House, comprising the Tudor buildings and part of the Stuart building, linked up with such buildings as once faced Nowhere Lane, on the south: Hetling House, No.2 Hetling Court, now used by charities: Hetling Pump Room, which is to be reconstituted as part of the Spa project. These three, with a small overlap into what was once the site of the Leper's Bath and into Nowhere Lane itself, together, so it would appear, occupy the site of the St. John's property listed in the Survey of 1641 as item 182:1.

1. 3rd July 1889, St. John's Hospital to Bath Abbey: Indenture re. Hetling House and 2,3,4 and 5 Hetling Court. Thring, Sheldon & Rutherford, Solicitors, Bath. (Lent to the Survey privately.)

The Survey would like to thank all those who helped with this project, particularly Colin Johnston and Mary Blagdon of the Record Office at Bath.