

"Remenham Farm"
Parish: Remenham, Berks.

Owners of the house and one barn: Mr. and Mrs. J. Cridlan
Owners of the farm buildings and land: Messrs. Copas
Owner of the converted barn: Mr. Parnwell



Barn. North-east side with shelter shed

Remenham Farm in the village of Remenham, which consists of the church, schoolhouse, rectory, some Victorian cottages and a couple of modern houses, is the only farm in this village on the east bank of the Thames. Its meadows and arable fields stretch from Hambleden lock in the north-east to Remenham Park Wood in the south, and it is very much the same size as at the time of the Tithe Returns in 1841.

The V.C.H. Berkshire Volume III mentions the site of the former manor house "to the west of Remenham Farm is the site of the former manor house, part of the moat of which still exists" - Alas, this site has recently been destroyed when during the removal of some dead elms the ground was levelled by the new owners of the farmland.

Judging from the size and position of the farm it appears to be^a successor of the manor farm and has seen many rebuilding phases. Today it consists of a Georgian farmhouse with later additions, a ca. 17th century barn with later additions, and a 19th century farmyard, the latest building of which is the covered yard dated 1889 (See sketch plan for lay-out) The very detailed Tithe Map of 1841 shows very extensive farm buildings around a large square yard, which would be in keeping with the Georgian farm house. The map shows a second smaller yard nearer the river with a circular building which could have been an engine house. None of these buildings survive.

In Edward the Confessor's days the Manor of Remenham was held by Queen Edith and was included among the king's lands at the time of Domesday. Its long and varied history is told in the V.C.H Book. In more recent times it was acquired by the Freemans of Fawley Ct. - in 1760 - from the Whitlocks of Phillis Court. In 1871 the Right Hon. W.H. Smith of Greenlands, Hambleden, bought it, and it is the Smith family who in 1944 gave a covenant for it to the National Trust together with its other property at Hambleden.

Mr. and Mrs. Cridlan first rented it (in the 1930s) and in 1957 bought the 434 acre farm from the Smith family. 7 years ago the farm land and Victorian yard were sold to the Copas Brothers, a modern farming concern from Cookham. Since then the farm buildings have stood empty. The Victorian brick barn was converted to residential accommodation.

Architectural Evidence

We carried out a measured survey of the oldest barn. - This building has not only survived the Victorian rebuilding, but judging from its position it also precedes the regular Georgian lay-out. The original plan of the barn is of 3 bays with an aisle measuring 12.50 m by 6 m with a 2 m long porch and large cart entrance. There is only a small door above plinth height in the central bay opposite the porch, which is a very unusual feature. The barn is weather boarded, the roof has pantiles, and new rafters, which were probably put in when these ^{tiles} replaced the earlier material. The trusses are of queen strut construction with clasped purlins between the collars and principal rafters. Most of the plinth is of chalk rubble, some repairs were carried out in brick. Most of the wall timbers are of narrow scantling and are replacements. Only the west gable wall has still got most of its original timbers, i.e. the middle rail, sill beam and wall posts with yowl.

The interesting feature of this barn is a 3-bay addition built of mud or cob consisting mainly of chalk, flint and clay. The courses are ca 0.20 m high. This gives the barn an overall length of 23 m. The cob wall of ca 0.45 m width rests on a 1 m high brick plinth. The bricks vary in size from 0.06 to 0.07 m. Several pieces of timber have been inserted into this wall and are still visible on the inside (see scale drawing of long section), probably to give extra stability to the wall. - The tie beam rests on the mud wall and supports queen struts and a collar. The lower roof section has slender, slightly curved wind-braces. The gable wall abutts the road and runs at an odd angle to the rest of the building. The pitch hole above tie beam level facilitated the unloading of sheaves directly from the road without making it necessary for the waggons to come into the yard. This yard is still surrounded by a mud wall, although part of it has been replaced by breeze blocks. A shelter shed is attached to the north-east aisle wall.

The Farm House

This is a brick-build house in Flemish bond with some burnt bricks. It was originally of an L-shape plan, the single pile main range running parallel with the road. It has a central door and a stack at each end. The sash windows are recessed with narrow glazing bars and 4 panes of hand made glass. Above all windows are arches of narrow rubbed brick. Victorian bow windows replace the lower ones. A course of dentilled bricks runs around the eaves. The roof has small flat tiles. It probably dates from the mid-18th century. - There are several extensions also in brick, to the back of the house, the former farm yard side.

These extensions have turned the house into an almost square building. A new wing was added behind the front of the house, running parallel with the old wing, which itself was extended. The last addition to the south-west side is dated 1897 by Mrs. Cridlan who found "The Times" hidden there behind some timbers during recent alterations.

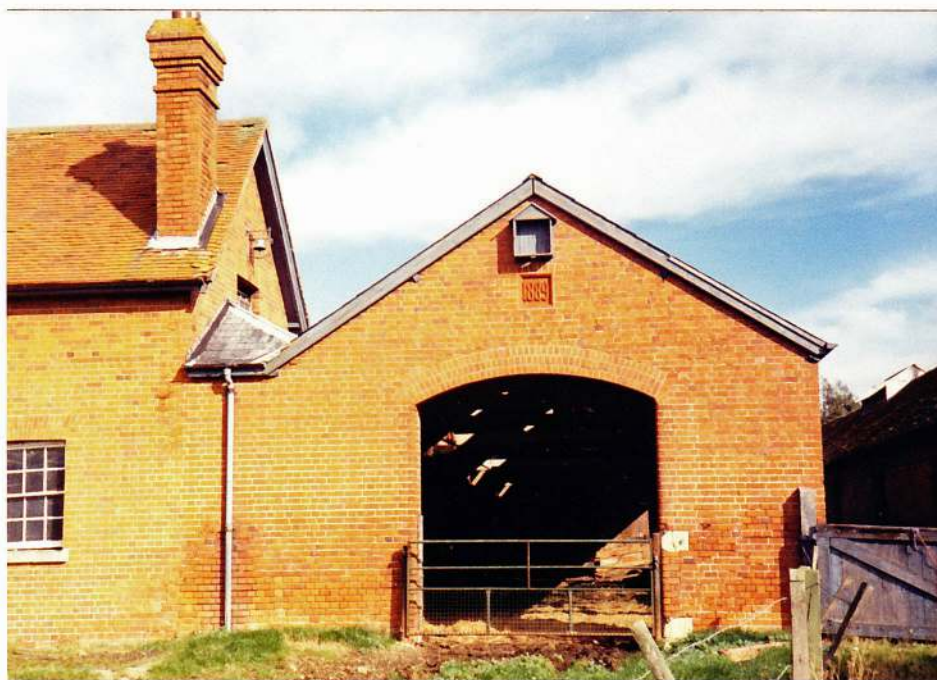
The Victorian farm buildings

The covered farmyard, which has the date 1889 over its entrance in exactly the same terracotta tile as the brick farm buildings at Yewden Home farm, also in the possession of W.H. Smith, is surrounded by stables, a milking parlour, calf pens, horse boxes, tractor sheds, harness rooms, garage and an Avery Weigh Bridge. - Beyond the rick yard is a further brick-built barn of 5 bays with central porch. Its modern king-post trusses are of machine sawn soft wood, bolted together. Most of these buildings pre-date 1889 as they appear already on the 1883 OS Map (see encl. tracing). - A small weather boarded granary which used to be part of the farm yard and is mentioned in the 1957 Sales Catalogue, has recently been moved downriver to a spot near Temple Island, where it now stands in a wet pasture minus its staddle stones.

I am very grateful to Mrs. Cridland for her kind help.

A copy of this report will go to the Royal Monuments Commission, London and to the Berks. Record Office.

Recorded by members of the Henley Archaeological and Hist. Group.
Scale drawings by: B. Clenshaw, J. Howard, R. Gibson
Photographs by: P. Anderson
Report by: R. Gibson



Entrance to
covered yard
with date 1889
over brick arch.

Now barnet down R. Gibson c 2004

The Standard

Diary

by Thomas Octavius

email: thomas@henleystandard.co.uk

Hidden Henley

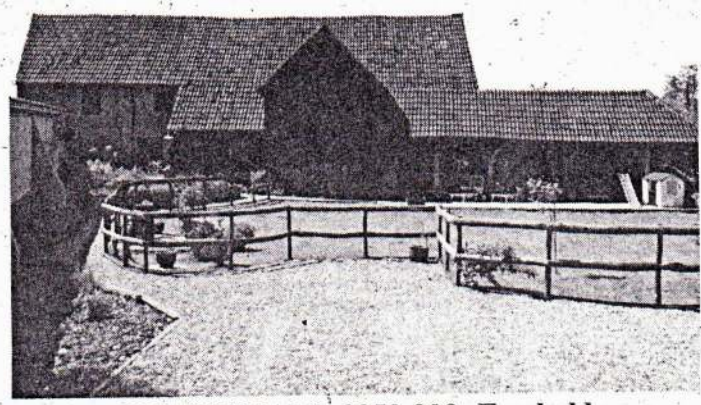


River-based activities are still in full swing, so now's the right time for me to ask you readers about this curious old building.

It is slightly downstream of Temple Island on the Berkshire side of the Thames, and has moved to the next field down, and closer to the water, in recent times (no, I haven't been drinking — it really has moved!).

So can any reader let me know what it is all about?

Henley Standard, June 25th, 1993



REMENHAM. £350,000. Freehold

17th century timber framed building in National Trust Area. Drawing room, dining/sitting room, reception hall/study, kitchen/breakfast room, master bedroom with en-suite bathroom, 3 further bedrooms, family bathroom, gas central heating, enclosed wall garden and gravel drive.

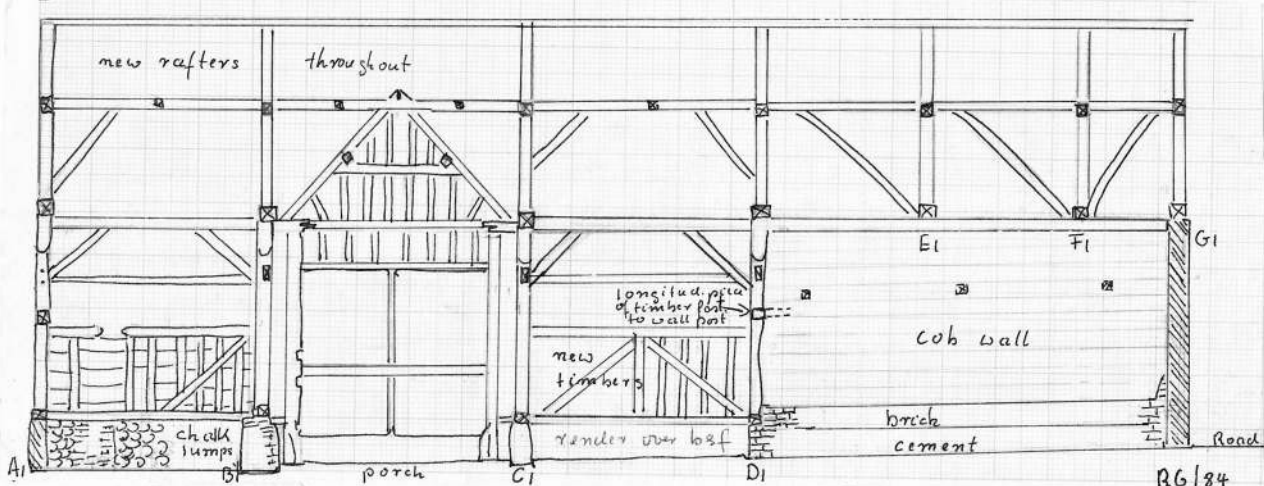
Advertisement of Ballards, 20 Hart Street.

Romenham Farm 1984 Cob Barn

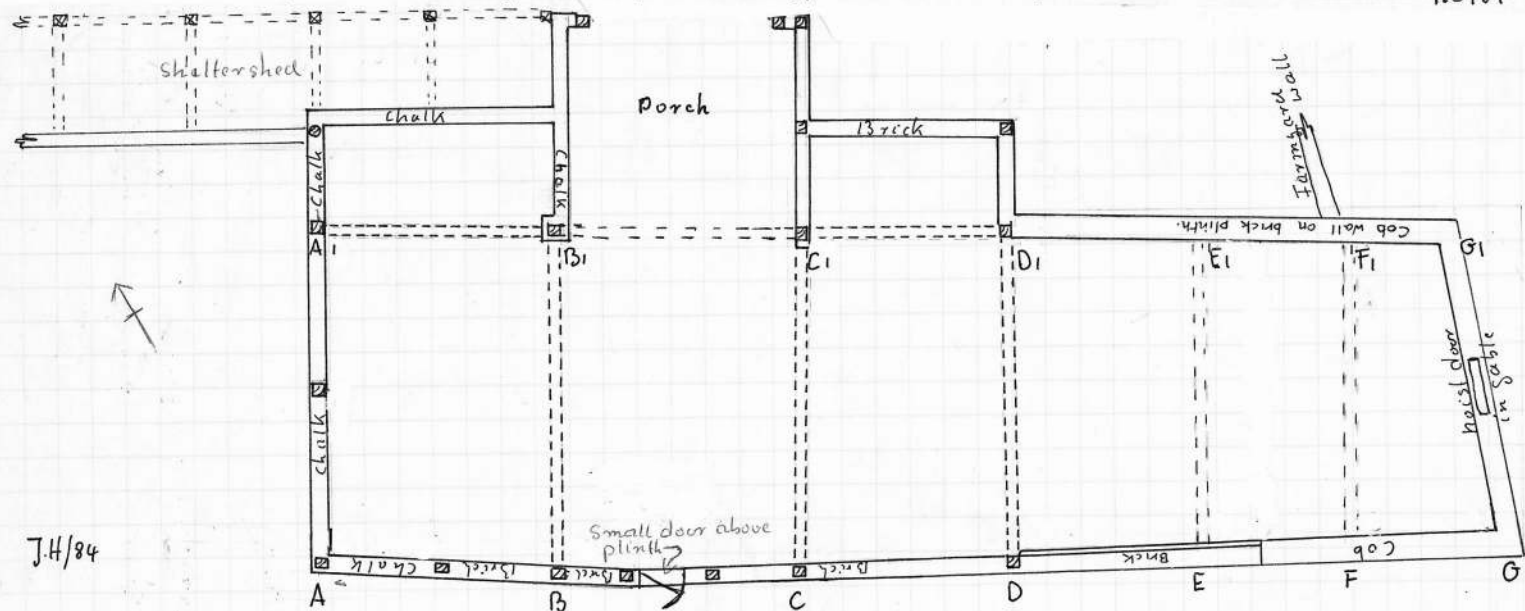


Cob
BARN at
Remenham Farm
long section &
ground plan

Scale 2m

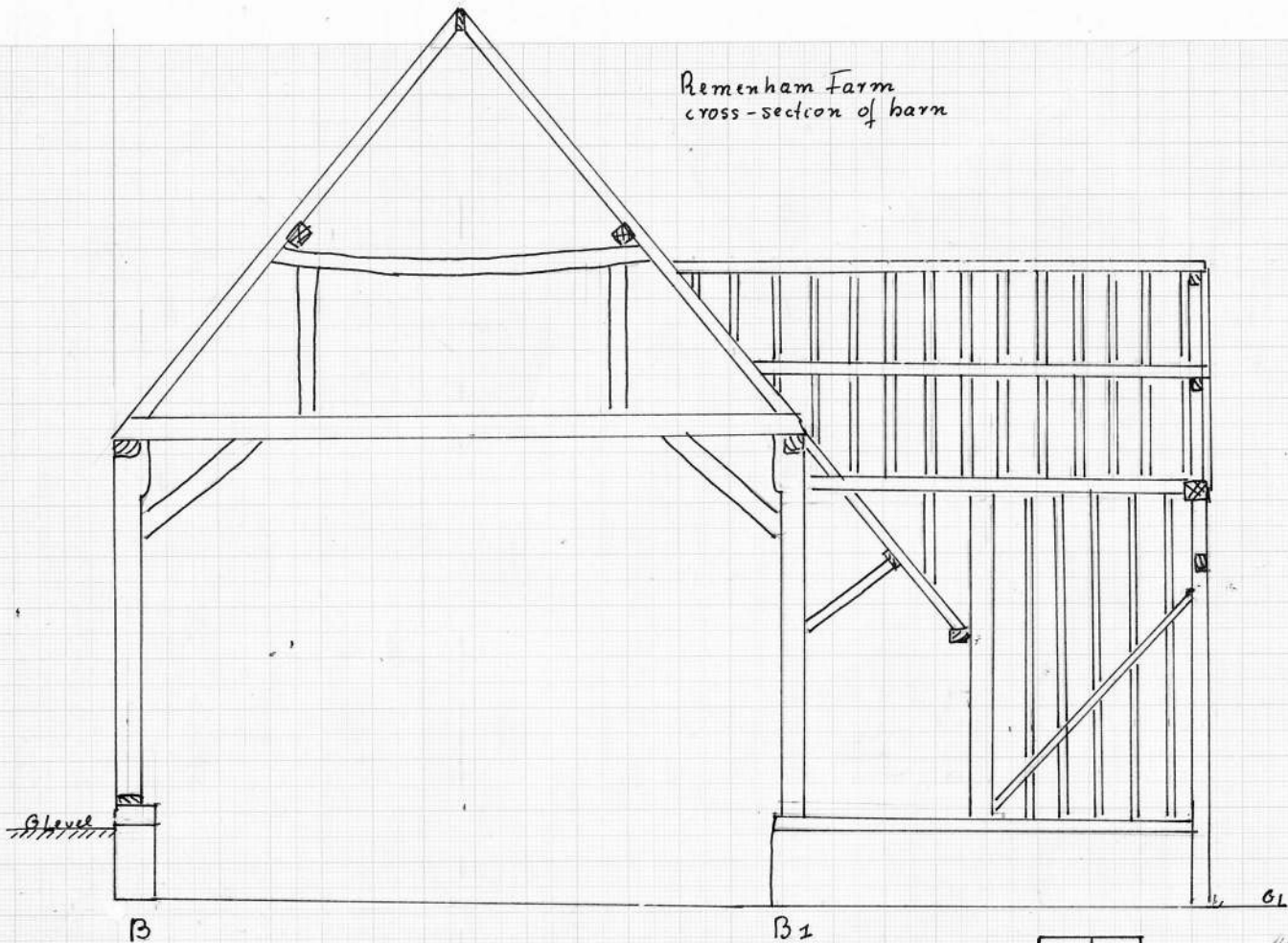


R6/84



J.H/84

Remenham Farm
cross-section of barn



Ground level

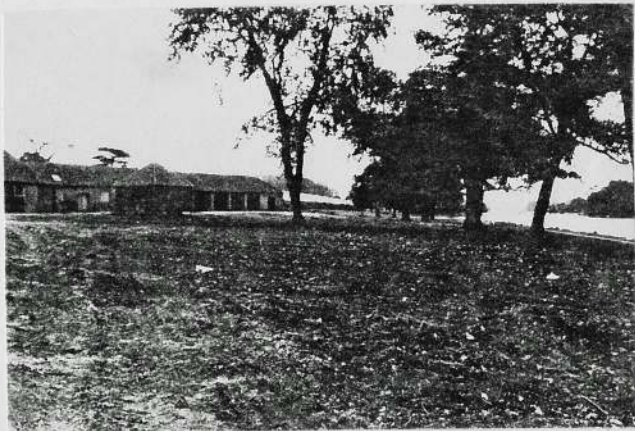
B

B1

B1

Scale 1 m

W&G/84



View of tractor sheds & granary (1975)



(19 barn converted into a dwelling, east side)



Granary in new position ca. 1/2 m down stream



Converted barn & attached b.s.f. building, west side.



Remenham Farm Inside view of covered yard



Barn, looking east, corner of cob wall on the right



Bull holder in Mudyard



Small door opposite porch in Barn

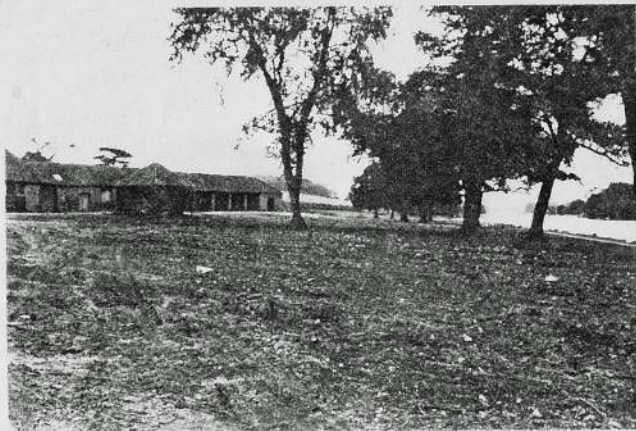


Farmstead seen from Thames path



1889 Stable range

1984
R.G.



Granary still in situ

1984



A HISTORY OF BERKSHIRE

in £819 8s. 3d. Metropolitan 3 per cent. stock with the official trustees, producing £24 11s. 8d. yearly, which is applied, with the income of Whitehead's charity, in the distribution of coals to about 130 recipients.

Louisa Caroline Wigney's charity.—A sum of £20 a year is received out of the income of this charity and applied by the vicar by way of bonus to be paid to the members of the parish provident club.

REMENHAM

Rameham (xi cent.); Rammeham, Ramenham (xiii cent.); Ramendham (xiv cent.); Rammiham (xv cent.); Remaham, Remnam (xvi cent.).

The parish of Remenham is situated in a bend of the Thames on the slope of the chalk hills running down to the river and immediately opposite to Henley on the other side. It has an area of 1,573 acres, of which less than half is arable land.¹ The soil is loam with a subsoil of gravel and chalk, but on the higher parts of the parish there is an upper stratum of clay. Near the church, in the north-west of the parish, also near Remenham Place and elsewhere there are chalk and gravel-pits. The principal crops are wheat, oats and barley. In the neighbourhood of Remenham Hill the ground averages 300 ft. above the ordnance datum, rising to 375 ft. near Park Place. From here it slopes sharply down westwards to the river, where the average height is a little over 100 ft.

The road from Henley runs eastward through the centre of the parish. The nearest railway station is Henley-on-Thames, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, on the Great Western railway. The two parishes are connected by a bridge across the river built in 1786. A bridge here is mentioned from the 13th century onwards; it was destroyed in 1642 during the Civil War, and after being partially restored was finally swept away by a flood in 1774.² There is a ferry over the river near the hamlet of Aston.

The parish was inclosed by an Act of Parliament of 1799.³

The village of Remenham, consisting of little more than the church, rectory, school, and Remenham Farm, lies on the right bank of the river in the north-west of the parish, while the scattered hamlet of Remenham Hill is situated along the Henley road on its eastern side. To the west of Remenham Farm is the site of the former manor-house, part of the moat of which still exists. The rectory, which was built about seventy years ago, is very conspicuous from the river, and forms a mark often mentioned in accounts of races on the Henley course. Regatta Island, from which the famous course extends to Henley Bridge, is included in Remenham parish. The Leander Club have their house near the Remenham end of the bridge. Aston is a hamlet opposite Remenham on the other side of the bend of the Thames. Anglo-Saxon remains have been found here.⁴

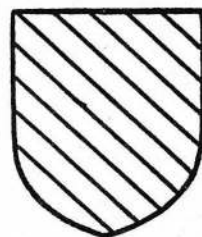
Park Place, the seat of Mr. Wilson Noble, is a

handsome stone mansion, in a free style of French renaissance, built by Mr. John Noble, who bought the estate in 1870. It stands in a well-wooded park on the site of an earlier house, and has a fine situation on the high ground above the river.

Other houses in the neighbourhood are Wilminster Park, the residence of Mr. Ernest Eveleigh; Woodlands, the residence of Colonel H. M. Vibart, R.E.; and Bird Place, the residence of Mr. W. A. Simmons, J.P., all situated near the river. Underwood, at Remenham Hill, is the residence of Mrs. Ames.

The manor of *REMENHAM*, which *MANOR* was held in the reign of Edward the Confessor by Queen Edith, was included among the king's lands at the date of the Domesday Survey.⁵ The assessment had fallen from 12 hides to 4 hides. There was a mill worth 20s. and 1,000 eels. The manor was apparently granted by the Crown at an early date to one of the Earls of Warwick, possibly to Henry de Newburgh, the first earl, who received lands in Warwickshire from William II about 1090.⁶ It is found held under the Earls of Warwick by the family of Montfort.⁷ Thurstan de Montfort was holding fees of the old feoffment under William de Newburgh in 1166,⁸ and about the same date made payment at the exchequer in regard of his lands in Remenham.⁹ The next tenant of whom we have record is Thurstan de Montfort, grandson, according to

Dugdale, of the first Thurstan, whose lands were in the king's hands in 1216, including the advowson of Remenham Church.¹⁰ Peter son of Thurstan held 'one fee in Ramenham' under the Earl of Warwick.¹¹ He was killed at the battle of Evesham in 1265, and left three sons, Peter, William and Robert.¹² A settlement seems to have been made on the second son William, who was holding the manor in 1308.¹³ William was succeeded by Robert, son of Sir Robert de Montfort, who in 1310 conveyed the manor of Remenham (then held for life by Henry de Malyns) to Henry de Ernesfast.¹⁴ This was possibly a quitclaim in favour of Peter de Montfort, brother of John de Montfort, head of the elder branch, the Montforts



MONTFORT. *Bendy of ten pieces or and azure.*

¹ Statistics from Bd. of Agric. (1905).

² *Memorials of Old Oxfordshire.*

³ Lysons, *Mag. Brit.* i (2), 351; see King's Bench Plea R. Trin. 40 Geo. III, m. 1134, for deed poll.

⁴ *V.C.H. Berks.* i, 246.

⁵ *Ibid.* 329.

⁶ G.E.C. *Peerage*, s.v. Warwick.

⁷ *Testa de Nevill* (Rec. Com.), 111. The overlordship descended in the Earls

of Warwick (*Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. III*, 3; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Hen. IV, no. 58; 8 Hen. IV, no. 68; 24 Hen. VI, no. 43).

⁸ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 324. None of the fees returned here are in Berkshire.

⁹ *Pipe R.* 13 Hen. II (Pipe R. Soc.), 10.

¹⁰ *Rot. Lit. Pat.* (Rec. Com.), 183. The heir of Thurstan was then a minor (Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 408).

¹¹ *Testa de Nevill* (Rec. Com.), 111; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. III*, 3; Dugdale, loc. cit.

¹² Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, 1007.

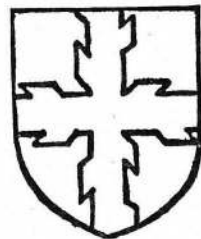
¹³ *Inq. a.q.d.* file 75, no. 20. In a subsidy roll temp. Edward I William de Montfort was assessed for goods in Remenham (Lay Subs. R. bdle. 73, no. 5).

¹⁴ Feet of F. Berks. 4 Edw. II, no. 2; Cott. Chart. xxvii, 136.

of Beaudesert, for Peter de Montfort held the manor in 1313, when he settled an annuity of £50 'issuing from his manor of Ramenham' upon John his illegitimate son and Thomas de Ilmington, on condition that they resided there or elsewhere according to his wishes.¹⁵ In 1349 Peter de Montfort settled the reversion of the manor on John for life, with remainder to his own legitimate son Guy de Montfort and his wife Margaret, daughter of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, and contingent remainder to the Earl of Warwick.¹⁶ Guy died without issue before his father, and apparently the manor was entailed by a later settlement on John de Montfort, for William, son of his son Baldwin, was holding Remenham in 1408,¹⁷ and in 1425 was defendant in a suit concerning the diversion of a water-course in Remenham to the damage of a freehold in Hambleden (Bucks.).¹⁸ In 1450 he conveyed the manor to his second son by his first wife, Richard, rector of Ilmington (Warwick),¹⁹ for settlement on himself for life, with reversion to Edmund, his only son by his second wife Joan de Alderwiche,²⁰ to the disinheritance of Baldwin, his eldest son and heir.²¹ William died in 1452, his eldest son Baldwin being his heir-at-law.²² The feoffees of William, by way of strengthening Edmund's claim, enfeoffed Humphrey Duke of Buckingham of the manor.²³ The reversion of his Warwickshire lands, failing his own issue, Edmund settled on the Duke of Buckingham and his heirs, whereupon the duke seized both Baldwin and his son Simon, imprisoned the one in Coventry and the other in Gloucester,²⁴ and by threats compelled them to release the estates to Edmund.²⁵

After the attainder and death of the Duke of Buckingham Baldwin made a final effort to regain his estate and obtained the insertion of a clause in the Act of Attainder safeguarding the rights of his son Simon to this manor.²⁶ In 1471 he executed a document setting forth the pressure which had been brought to make him repudiate the entail of the estates and declaring the validity of the entail made by William on himself and his heirs.²⁷ Edmund, however, appears to have been holding the manor in 1479.²⁸ It is not clear what then happened to it. Baldwin entered holy orders and died in 1493.²⁹ Simon was attainted in 1496, and Coleshill, his Warwickshire manor, was granted shortly afterwards to Simon Digby, but it does not appear that any

grant was made of Remenham, although the manor seems to have been in the king's hands in 1498-9.^{29a} Possibly Simon de Montfort's widow Anne was the Anne Preston who with her husband John released the manor in 1503 to Richard Bishop of Winchester and other trustees for Sir Reynold Bray.³⁰ A quitclaim was made to the same by William Norreys, but how he acquired any interest is also not clear.³¹ Bray died without issue the same year.³² His niece and heir Margery married Sir William Sandys,³³ and the manor was assigned to them at the partition of his lands between Margery and her cousin Edmund Bray in 1510.³⁴ Sir William Sandys, for his military services, was created Lord Sandys de Vyne in 1523. He was succeeded on his death in 1542³⁵ by his son Thomas, who made a settlement of the manor in 1550,³⁶ and died *circa* 1560,³⁷ leaving his grandson William as his heir. The latter, who suffered a recovery in 1599,³⁸ apparently conveyed the manor to Miles Sandys, father of Edwin Sandys, the husband of his daughter Elizabeth, for Miles Sandys died seised of it in 1601.³⁹ His heir was his son Edwin, who was dealing with the manor together with William Lord Sandys in 1607.⁴⁰ The latter suffered a recovery in 1608,⁴¹ and apparently a settlement was made on his son William Sandys, for in 1612-13 he conveyed the manor to Sir Richard Lovelace,⁴² afterwards Lord Lovelace of Hurley. The manor followed the descent of Hurley (q.v.) until the death of John Lord Lovelace in 1693.⁴³ He died heavily in debt, and in 1695 Sir Henry Johnson, executor of Lord Lovelace, and Martha his wife, daughter of Lord Lovelace and administratrix of Anne and Katherine Lovelace her sisters, were paying off debts due on account of the manor to Sir William Whitlock and others, apparently mortgagees.⁴⁴ The heirs of Lord Lovelace eventually parted with the manor, which in 1723 was held by Bulstrode Whitlock of Phyllis Court, Oxon.⁴⁵ He by indentures of 1723 and 1724 conveyed Remenham Farm and the park or ground called Remenham Park, then held by Anne Whitlock, widow, as part of her jointure, and the manor of Remenham to Gislingham



SANDYS. *Argent a ragged cross sable.*

¹⁵ Add. Chart. 20263. In 1316 Henry de Ernesfast is returned as lord of Remenham (*Feud. Aids*, i, 47); cf. *Cal. Close*, 1323-7, p. 617; *Cott. Chart.* xxiii, 21. It seems most probable that he was a feoffee to uses.

¹⁶ Feet of F. Berks. 23 Edw. III, no. 1.

¹⁷ Add. Chart. 20266.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1422-9, p. 303.

¹⁹ *Cott. Chart.* xxvii, 179.

²⁰ Feet of F. Div. Co. 29 Hen. VI, no. 26.

²¹ See pedigree in Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, 1008.

²² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 31 Hen. VI, no. 33.

²³ *Close*, 32 Hen. VI, m. 3 (release by the feoffees of William de Montfort to the Duke of Buckingham); cf. *ibid.* 14 Edw. IV, m. 12 (surrender of certain evidences, including release by Jane widow of William de Montfort to the Duke of Buckingham, and releases by Richard and John, brothers of Baldwin).

²⁴ Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, 1011.

²⁵ See *Close*, 37 Hen. VI, m. 22.

²⁶ Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, 1010.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 1011.

²⁸ See *inq.* on Thomas Vyne, *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 19 Edw. IV, file 70, no. 26.

²⁹ Dugdale, *loc. cit.*

^{29a} See mention of the 'king's wood of Rampneham Wood' at this date (*V.C.H. Berks.* ii, 347).

³⁰ *Anct. D. (P.R.O.)*, A 13346-7.

³¹ *Ibid.* 3193-4.

³² See pedigree in *Misc. Gen. et Her. (New Ser.)*, i, 62.

³³ G.E.C. *Peerage*, s.v. Sandys.

³⁴ *Close*, 2 Hen. VIII, no. 30; cf. Feet of F. Berks. Mich. 4 Hen. VIII.

³⁵ G.E.C. *Peerage*, vii, 56; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* says 1540.

³⁶ *Recov. R. Mich.* 4 Edw. VI, m. 100.

³⁷ G.E.C. *loc. cit.*

³⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 41 Eliz. m. 77.

³⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2)*, cclxxi, 161.

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Berks. Hil. 5 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Hil.* 5 Jas. I, m. 28.

⁴¹ *Recov. R. Trin.* 6 Jas. I, m. 126.

⁴² Feet of F. Berks. East. 10 Jas. I; *Recov. R. East.* 11 Jas. I, m. 118.

⁴³ Feet of F. Div. Co. East. 1655; *Recov. R. Mich.* 1656, m. 212; Feet of F. Berks. Mich. 15 Chas. II; *Recov. R. Hil.* 15 & 16 Chas. II, m. 133; Feet of F. Berks. Hil. 15 & 16 Chas. II; *Mich.* 27 Chas. II; *Recov. R. Trin.* 30 Chas. II, m. 143.

⁴⁴ Add. Chart. 13740.

⁴⁵ Bulstrode Whitlock is apparently the Mr. Whitlock, son of Sir William Whitlock, whom Ashmole gives as lord of the manor (*Antiq. of Berks.* ii, 480). He is to be distinguished from Bulstrode Whitlocke of Fawley Court, Bucks., who was the son of James Whitlocke of the same.

A HISTORY OF BERKSHIRE

Cooper.⁴⁶ Lysons's statement that the manor was acquired by Lord Archibald Hamilton is unsupported by evidence. It seems more likely that it descended from Gislingham Cooper to Dr. Cooper, who according to Lysons sold it about 1760 to the uncle of Strickland Freeman of Fawley Court (Bucks.), lord of the manor in 1813.⁴⁷ His heir was William Peere Williams, Admiral of the Fleet (grandson of Mary Freeman, sister of John Cooke Freeman of Fawley Court), who took the name of Freeman on inheriting Fawley Court. He died in 1832. His grandson and heir William Peere Williams Freeman dealt with the manor in 1833⁴⁸ and sold it to Dudley Coutts Majoribanks, afterwards created a baronet. Sir Dudley Coutts Majoribanks sold it in 1871 to the Right Hon. William Henry Smith, who in 1891 was succeeded by his son Viscount Hambleden of Greenlands, Hambleden.⁴⁹

STROWDES or *VYNE'S PLACE*, now called *PARK PLACE*, possibly derived its first name from a family of Strode, of whom Richard de la Strode owned land in Remenham in 1257.⁵⁰ John de la Strode, called of Dunsden, bought land in Aston in 1294 and 1305,⁵¹ and Thomas de la Strode, called of Remenham, granted land in Hurley to the priory in the reign of Edward I.⁵² The property probably took its second name from Thomas Vyne, for whom a messuage and 9 virgates of land in Remenham were held in trust at the time of his death in 1479, when they descended to his son and heir Ralph.⁵³ In 1591 Thomas Marriott died seised of the capital messuage or farm called Strowdes and Vyne's Place and all the lands there late in the tenure of Stephen Vyne.⁵⁴ John, his son, who succeeded, made a settlement of the property upon the marriage of his son William with Anne Faldo in 1628,⁵⁵ and three years later William Marriott leased it for ninety-nine years to William Faldo.⁵⁶ The latter and the owners conveyed it in 1632 to Robert Salter of Cookham,⁵⁷ who apparently parted with it shortly afterwards, for in 1642 Robert Draper died seised of the messuage called Pecks Place or Strowdes.⁵⁸ Thomas, his son and heir, was aged sixteen. The use of the former name suggests that the property had formerly been held by William Peck, who was living at Remenham in the reign of Henry VI.⁵⁹ Roger Draper held the estate in 1676, when it was called Perkes Place *alias* Strowdes.^{59a}

From a deed now in the Reading Library, dated 18 and 19 September 1719, it appears that Lord

Archibald Hamilton, son of William third Duke of Hamilton, purchased certain lands called Park's Place *alias* Strowdes from Mrs. Elizabeth Baker.⁶⁰ He built the house on the site of the present house called Park Place.⁶¹ About 1738 Lord Archibald sold the estate to Frederick, Prince of Wales, father of George III,⁶² who occupied it during his estrangement from his father King George II.⁶³ In 1752 it was purchased by General (afterwards Field-Marshal) the Hon. Henry Seymour Conway,⁶⁴ who started the cultivation of lavender in Remenham and established a distillery there.⁶⁵ The house, which he had much improved, became the rendezvous of many distinguished people, among whom were Horace Walpole, David Hume, the poet Gray, and Mrs. Damer the sculptress, who carved the keystones of Henley Bridge.⁶⁶ The grounds were laid out by Conway according to the taste of the period. At the upper end of the Happy Valley in the park was placed a Grecian ruin built of stones brought from Reading Abbey, and stones from the same place were used to build the bridge over the valley which carried the road from Henley to Wargrave. On a hill beyond the pleasure grounds was a Druidic temple presented to Conway by the inhabitants of Jersey (where it was found near St. Helier in 1785), when he was governor of that island.⁶⁷ After Conway's death in 1795 the house was sold by his widow, Lady Aylesbury, to James first Lord Malmesbury, who was visited there by Pitt, Canning, and many others.⁶⁸ In 1816 it was purchased by Mr. H. P. Spurling, who exchanged it in 1824 with his cousin, Mr. E. Fuller-Maitland, of Shinfield Park, for Norbury Park, co. Surrey. Maitland died in 1858. His son Mr. William Fuller-Maitland of Stansted Hall, Essex, sold it in 1867 to Mr. Charles Easton of Whiteknights, who pulled down the library and altered the house. He also built the house called Temple Combe. The estate passed in 1870 to Mr. J. Noble,⁶⁹ who built the present house. His son Mr. Wilson Noble is now the owner.

In 1602 William and Dorothy Becke held a fulling-mill and three corn-mills in Remenham.⁷⁰

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS* consists of an apsidal chancel measuring internally about 17 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 4 in., a nave 33 ft. 11 in. by 19 ft. 2 in., a west tower 11 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. 11 in., a modern choir and priest's vestries on the north side of the chancel, an organ chamber on the south, and a modern south aisle and porch.

⁴⁶ Close, 10 Geo. I, pt. xi, no. 15; *Recov. R. Mich.* 10 Geo. I, m. 232; *Com. Pleas D. Enr.* 11 Geo. I, m. 8; *Recov. R. Mich.* 11 Geo. I, m. 339.

⁴⁷ Lysons, *op. cit.* i (2), 351. The uncle would apparently be Sambroke Freeman of Fawley Court.

⁴⁸ *Recov. R. Hil.* 3 Will. IV, m. 150; *Com. Pleas D. Enr. Hil.* 3 Will. IV, m. 2.

⁴⁹ *Inform. from Viscount Hambleden.*

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Berks. 41 Hen. III, no. 2; cf. *ibid.* 43 Hen. III, no. 3.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 22 Edw. I, no. 9; 33 Edw. I, no. 11.

⁵² Wethered, *St. Mary's, Hurley*, 145.

⁵³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 19 Edw. IV, file 70, no. 26. They were held of Sir Edmund de Montfort by a rent and suit of court at Remenham.

⁵⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), ccxxxii, 84.

Thomas Marriott had property also in Hurley (q.v.).

⁵⁵ *Add. Chart.* 41897.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 41900.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 41901, 41903, 41904.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), dcxxi, 22.

⁵⁹ *Early Chan. Proc. bdle.* 9, no. 231; *Cal. Pat.* 1452-61, p. 452 (here called late of Remenham, 1459).

^{59a} *Deeds penes* Lord Malmesbury, box J, bdle. 1.

⁶⁰ Percy Noble, *Park Place*, 2. He incorporated with it Bottom House Farm or Betts Farm, which he bought in 1732 from the trustees of the Blue School at Henley, founded in 1609 by Lady Perriam, who bought it from William Lenthall, uncle of the Speaker (*ibid.* 7).

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 3

⁶² A large cedar planted by King George III still stands in the grounds.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 6 et seq. Lord Archibald Hamilton continued to live either at Park Place or at another house on the estate (*ibid.* 5-7). In 1738 he bought a messuage 'near Stroud Green' of Cuthbert Mattingley, yeoman, John his son and Anne wife of John (Close, 12 Geo. II, pt. xi, no. 15). ⁶⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁶⁵ Noble, *op. cit.* 62 et seq.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* 36, 39.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*; Lysons, *op. cit.* i (2), 352.

⁶⁸ Lady Aylesbury sold her freehold estates in Berkshire and Oxfordshire to the Earl of Malmesbury in 1797 (*Deeds penes* Lord Malmesbury, box J, bdle. 3); cf. Lysons, *loc. cit.*; Noble, *op. cit.* 142; *MSS. of J. B. Fortescue* (*Hist. MSS. Com.*), vii, 319, 324.

⁶⁹ Noble, *op. cit.* 172-82.

⁷⁰ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), bdle. 259, no. 53.

1841 Tolls Act
W. P. W. Fleming
shell owner
tenant: J. Sharp

