



## Sandhurst, Berks.

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*(Continued from page 93, Vol. 22.)*

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Many of these fields are identical with those held by Thomas Buckeler in the third year of Edward the Sixth who then held two houses, one in right of his wife (see appendix 3). The next survey of the manor (14 Henry VII.) contains the following entry: "William Atte Grove holds a messuage and seven acres called Northgrove and renders for it 13½*d.*, also he owes rents for 'medesilver' 2*d.*"

This messuage may, or may not be, identical with Grove's farm. The lower farm was so called as early as the year 1786, and the author has been unable to identify any one of the name of Grove with it between these dates. The family were dwelling in Sandhurst in the reigns of Edward I. and Edward III., when Edward Atte Grove and Johne Atte Grove paid lay subsidies.

### THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE ESTATE.

In reply to inquiries made at the War Office, the Secretary was kind enough to give the following information: "The site of the Royal Military College was purchased by the Government in April, 1801. Prior to its sale the land formed a portion of the Tekels Castle estate, detached on the north side by the London-Southampton road, near the village of Blackwater, Hants. The purchase included the Manor House and Farm buildings. Government House premises and the present grounds belonged previously to Lady Griselda Tekel who sold it to her uncle, the Right Honourable W. Pitt, from whom it was purchased by the Government. The scope of the land bought was about 450 acres, and the price paid, including £1,000 for fees, and £1,070 for furniture, garden plant, farming stock and utensils, amounted to £9,966 12*s.* 0*d.* In June,

1802, some £1,357 was paid to the Enclosure Commissioners for additional land, and this with about 11 acres near Blackwater, purchased in July, 1802, at a cost of £805, brought the extent of land and waste up to a total of 500 ac. 2 ro. 29 p., of which 147 were under cultivation, and 353 land, heath, waste, or water, at a price of £14,075 1s. 0d."

The estate was valued in 1810,\* when it was described as "The manor of Sandhurst in co. Berks, and a mill, a tenement, and a portion of land in the parish of Frimley in co. Surrey." The buildings are then described as a large brick house, which with the standing timber was valued at £1,000, the manor farm (value £1,602 15s. 3d.) in Sandhurst; and a mill (£1,107 16s. 0d.) and Lilly's tenement (£299 12s. 6d. in Frimley. The value of the whole property was placed at £10,618 13s. 9d., being situated partly in Sandhurst and partly in Frimley, in the latter of which parishes the Staff College was subsequently built.

It is not obvious how the estate came to be termed "the Manor of Sandhurst." Rocque's survey (1762) indicates buildings on the site of the present farm, but probably the so-called manor house, now Government House, was built subsequent to that date. The Tekel family acquired the Manor of Frimley in 1799,† and possibly purchased the Sandhurst portion of their estate above referred to from the assignees of Thomas Lodge, who were rated for it in Sandhurst in 1796. The farm can be traced back in the parish books as Mr. Thomas Lodge's farm in 1738, and Mr. Richard Lodge's farm in 1672. Mr. Richard Lodge has been already referred to as having obtained a license for holding Nonconformist meetings in his house in the reign of Charles II.

The mill in question is shown in Rocque's map as situated on the Wish brook, with two small ponds on the site of the Lower Lake. The site is marked "Bagshot Mills."

#### COLLEGE FARM.

This house is situated a quarter of a mile from the west gate of the Government property. It is on the site of a farm owned by Mr. W. Blackall Simonds in 1817, and now belongs to the R.M.C. By a process of exclusion this would appear to be the holding of

\* 10th Report of Commissioners of Military Inquiry, 1810.

† Frimley Manor was purchased by Mr. Tekel from Mr. James Laurel, whose father James Laurel purchased it from the Tichbornes. The latter family had held it since 1599. Before the dissolution of the monasteries it had belonged to Chertsey Abbey. [V. C. H. Surrey.]

William Chislett in 1613, who then had a farm and 144 acres somewhere in the immediate neighbourhood. The field names were Buckhurst Mead, Butts, Millgrove, Great Field, Gravell Close, Spring Close, Calves Leaze, Jennings, Whitemore Copse, Long Mead, Grublyngs, and a pasture called Coxes.

The last member of this family of Chislett (or Chislake) who had any connection with the parish was buried in the church, his slab being now on the floor of the south aisle. Beneath an engraved coat of arms (party per fesse a castle between three escallopes), is the inscription "Here lyeth interred the body of William Chislett of Sandhurst in the county of Berks esq. whose ancestors were buried in this place. He departed this life the first of Apprill 1671 aged 50 years." He is called in the register Mr. Chislett of London, and was no doubt the same who in 1667 was holding the post of Deputy Auditor of the Court of Exchequer. He is referred to in the Treasury Books of Jan. 1668-9 as Auditor to the Queen Mother, and later as Collector of usury rates in the counties of Leicester, Stafford, and Worcester. In a document of 1672 reference is made to the executor of William Chislett late Deputy Auditor for the county of Cambridge. The baptismal register shows that he was christened at Sandhurst in 1620, and that his father was William Chislett. In 1672, July 1st, a Treasury Warrant was issued to Sir C. Harbord "for a particular of a farm called Levers in Egham with a view to a lease thereof to Elizabeth widow of William Chislett who had a grant thereof from the late Queen Mother and her trustees." <sup>1</sup> Other members of this family were :—

*Alexander Cheslacke*, who paid subsidy in Sandhurst in 1546. Will proved 1551. Bequests to his unmarried daughters Johane, Margaret, and Alice of 40/- each. "To Will. Child my daughter's sonne and to my daughter Jane that is now married to Henry Knollys of Stainys" sundry bequests. "The residue to Thomas Cheslacke my sonne sole executor." <sup>2</sup>

*Thomas Cheslacke*, son of above (?) underkeeper of Sandhurst Walk in 1586. <sup>3</sup>

*Laurence Chislett*, paid subsidy in Sandhurst 1597 buried at Sandhurst in 1605. He married Joan Newberry. <sup>4</sup>

*Agnes Chislett*. Widow, buried 1605.

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<sup>1</sup> Calendars of Treasury Papers, 1667-1672.

<sup>2</sup> Berks Arch. Journal, Vol. VI.

<sup>3</sup> Swainmote Court Rolls, Finchampstead Bailiwick.

<sup>4</sup> Chancery Proceedings, James I., C. 19, No. 36.

*Jane Chislett*, baptised 1603, buried 1608.

*Margaret Chislett*, daughter of Laurence C., buried 1613.

*William Chislett*. Mentioned as holding a farm in survey of 1613. Engaged in litigation with John Geale and Rafe Newberry and his wife Jane about his father Laurence C.'s property of which he was executor.<sup>1</sup>

*James Chislett*, son of above, baptised 1625, buried 1628.

*Florence Chislett*, daughter of above, baptised 1629.

*Mary Chislett*, daughter of above, buried 1634.

*William Chislett*. Tallow Chandler of Mark Lane, London. Will proved 1638. His estate to his wife Cimmitt, and after her death half to Henry son of Francis Mosse, and half to William son of his kinsman Rafe Bowyer. Bequests including one to the poor of Sandhurst.<sup>2</sup>

*William Chislett of Yateley*, buried at Sandhurst 1660.

#### BREECH FARM.

Breech farm is so called in a constable's list in the year 1756, and is referred to as Mr. Bullock's farm in 1703. A pasture of seven acres called "le brech"<sup>3</sup> was in the occupation of Henry Hinde in Edward the Sixth's reign, and associated with it from that time onwards was a field called Hall Grove containing nine acres of wood full of oaks. There is no mention of any house at this time. The Bullocks were living in Sandhurst in 1546, and in Finchampstead much earlier.

Mr. William Bullock died in 1706, and left his farm to his wife. "Mistress Lidy Bullock" died in 1733, since when the property has many times changed hands. The present owner is Mrs. Over.

The old fields here were called Hall Grove, Breeches, Beancroft, Dawney Mead, and Pennymoor. Johnne atte Pirrie was an inhabitant of Sandhurst in Edward the Third's reign.

Belonging to this estate at one time was the house now called Rivermede. The house became an inn about 1850, under circumstances which have already been described. Before this it was one of the best houses in the parish, and the farm buildings opposite, now belonging to the rector, were part of it. It was Mr. Walter who again restored it to something of its former magnificence.

<sup>1</sup> Chancery Proceedings, James I., C. 19, No. 36.

<sup>2</sup> Court of Husting, London Roll 215, 26.

<sup>3</sup> The name seems to imply a place where the soil was broken up by the plough.

## SANDHURST FARM.

This house was standing in the year 1750, and may well be 50 years older. The land on which it stands was acquired by the family of Simonds about the year 1751, and is still the property of Mr. W. Barrow Simonds, who has kindly searched his title deeds for names of previous owners.

Prior to this date the owner was a Mr. Webb, who early in the eighteenth century obtained the property from Mr. Raymond. The latter was preceded by a person of the name of Powle, identical no doubt with Mr. Robert Pole or Powell who is mentioned in a survey of the time of James I. This gentleman held, with other lands, two houses called Buckhurst and Cressold—not apparently under the manor of Sandhurst, but directly under Sonning. The previous owner was Roger Croppe, who purchased from Lord Sandys of the Vyne in the twenty-fifth year of Elizabeth. The estate seems to have come to Sir William Sandys, the first baron, in the second year of Henry VIII. through his wife Margery, cousin and heir to Sir Reginald Bray, being described at that time as the “manor of Bukhurst in Sandhurst.”

Sir William Sandys was in high favour with Henry VIII., who appointed him “Knight of the body.” He was Treasurer of Calais from 1517 to 1526, and took a leading part at the Field of the cloth of gold. He was raised to the peerage in 1523.

During the fifteenth century the export wool trade had been gradually rising to importance in England, so that at the accession of Henry VIII. landowners were everywhere converting tilled land into pasture for sheep. This caused much distress among the holders of small tenements in agricultural districts, who were in many places thrown out of employment and their holdings consolidated to make great sheep farms. Attempts were made to stop this depopulation of the rural districts by Act of Parliament, both in 1489 and 1514, though with little success. A Commission appointed by Henry VIII. to inquire into the inclosures thus made in various counties found that, among others, Sir William Sandys, who was seized in his own lordship and fee (in dominico suo ut de feodo) of two messuages called Cokehurst (Bukehurst?) and Criss-hillys, and 60 acres of arable land in Sandhurst “which from time immemorial had been ploughed and sown and handed down and occupied with the same two messuages, did in the 7th year of the

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(?) Misc. Books, L.R., vol. 199.

(?) Close Rolls, 2 Henry VIII., No. 378.

reign of our present lord and King destroy the aforesaid messuages and convert the land into pasture for beasts, whereby six persons lack house or employment. And the yearly value of these tenements is 26 shillings and eight pence.”\*

The action taken in this case is not recorded. The usual course was to order the landlord to rebuild the houses and bring the land back under cultivation, failing which the chief lord of the fee might claim half the yearly profits.

The nature of Lord Sandy's holding in the parish is not quite clear. In the rental of Sandhurst manor made in 1549 he is described as a freeholder, having a messuage called Crestell, then occupied by Christopher Hanmere, gent. For this messuage he paid six shillings rent. The rest of his estate would appear to have been considered as a small separate mesne manor under Sonning.†

In 1557 William Lord Sandys (3rd baron) sold to Walter Sandys, of Upper Samborne in co. South<sup>m</sup>, Esq., for £300, two messuages etc. “in Buckhurst and Sandhurst co. Berks and co. Wilts.”‡ This may point to a connection between the tenement of Buckhurst in Sandhurst and Buckhurst in Wokingham, the latter town being partly in Wiltshire.

An inclosure called High Crissells adjoins Sandhurst farm. The name is derived from a family which was formerly seated in Eversley, Finchampstead and Sandhurst, and presumably held this property. The following members of the family are known to have held land in Sandhurst—the spelling varies constantly, becoming Cress Hills in the award map of 1817.

Stephen de Cristeshulle	} assessed in a subsidy of 1 Ed. III.
Johne de Cuishulle	
William de Cristehulle and his wife Joan	who purchased a house and land in Finchampstead and Sandhurst in 22 Edward III. from Henry de Poghele.
John Cuishulle	mentioned as a tenant of the manor in the reign of Henry VII. He held a mesuage and 2 virgates of land called Overgrove, a pasture called Middilmore, a place called Wyfordeleighton, a virgate of

\* Chancery Misc. Rolls 13/14. Translation of transcript in the “Domesday of Inclosures.”

† In 1807 Mr. Blackall Simonds claimed manorial rights over a portion of the parish before the Windsor Forest Commissioners. He advanced, however, no proofs, and the claim was not gone into.

‡ British Museum Add. Ch. 38634.

land called Cuishulle, places called le hale, le throte, ard le wooplote, a pasture called Redelak, lands called Nepelands and Fordelands, and a croft called Hoggescroft.

The farm was occupied for many years by the late Mr. Robert Giblett, whose family had held land in Sandhurst since the reign of Henry VIII.

#### RACKSTRAW'S FARM.

This is named Antrum's Farm in the latest Ordnance Map. The name is derived from one of the tenants in the early part of the nineteenth century. The house was purchased by Mr. Simonds, the owner of Sandhurst Farm, in 1868.

The Rackstraws were inhabitants of Sandhurst between 1723 and 1838, and gave the name to Rackstraw's Green, the site of the Wellington Arms. At the time of the Inclosure Act John Rackstraw held 36 acres in the parish and received an allotment of 13 more. He appears to have been a kind of "Village Hampden," leading the freeholders in their disputes with the Lord of the Manor. He also represented their interests before the Forest Commissioners.

In a constable's list this farm is apparently referred to in 1712 as "Buckus farm," and elsewhere as "Buckhurst," the tenant being James Denford and the owner Mr. Webb. In 1672 it was Mr. Rayman's, and in the previous century it belonged to Lord Sandys, as mentioned above. Buck-hurst means Beech-wood.

#### CAVE'S FARM.

There is no longer any land attached to this house. A farmer named Mr. Henry Cave was Mr. Simonds' tenant in 1809.

#### SNAPRAILS.

The name occurs in the survey of 1613.\* It then belonged to Mr. Robert Pole (or Powell). Subsequent owners were Stephen Hall, 1672, tenant Robert Parker; Daniel Hall, 1738, William Paice, 1809, and, at the time of the Inclosure award, John Hart. A large modern house has lately been erected here.

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\* "Two pastures adjoining on the waste called Shape Rayles, a house adjoining." Presumably the meaning is "Sheep Rayles," an inclosure where he flock which grazed on the heath were folded.

## SEVIER'S FARM.

Mr. James Sevier seems to have been the last owner before this farm was absorbed into the Sandhurst Lodge demesne. Its history can be traced through the lists of persons liable to repair the churchyard rails :—1819, Moses Watts for Mr. Sevier ; 1809, Wm. Giles for Ford's farm ; 1738, Thos. Clifton for Webb's farm ; 1672, " Mr. Noah Webb, his land."

## THE ROSE AND CROWN INN.

Messrs. May and Co., of Basingstoke, the present owners, have kindly supplied the following information :—

The house was purchased from Messrs. Ashby, of Staines, in 1877. The Ashbys appear to have purchased it from Reuben Watts in 1874. Reuben Watts was also the occupier. His purchase occurred in 1855, the vendors being Joseph Parfett and William Parfett, brewers of Eversley. The prior owners were William Belsher Parfett (1792), William Belsher (1783), Hannah Stone (1779), and Mrs. Hannah Geale (1742). The house is all along described as an " ale house." Hannah Geale of Sandhurst married James Geale of Yateley in 1707. Some of the occupiers were Edward Bird (1828), James Giblett (1824), Thomas Thrift (circ. 1808-1819), John Searl (1748).

The name suggests the Tudor period and would be particularly appropriate if given between 1543 and 1562 when the Manor was Crown property.

## APPLE TREE HOUSE.

This house is situated at the corner opposite the lodge of Sunny Rest. The name is over a hundred years old, and a house stood on this site at a still earlier date. The land now belongs to Mrs. Harvey and was purchased from Mr. Walter, at which time Colonel Harvey pulled down the public-house adjoining. Previous owners were Mr. Gibson ; Giles (1819-1836) ; Mr. Wattmore (tenant, Giles) from 1787 to 1818 ; Mr. Shackelford (1738), who gave the name to the lane now leading over the railway bridge ; William Cooper (1672).

The following place names in addition to those already mentioned were in use at the beginning of last century. The dates indicate the first reference the author has been able to find.

AMBARROW HILL. Norden, 1607.

ARBARANA. An old inclosure near the Baptist Chapel. Award Map, 1817.

ASHCROFT. Adjoining the old water lane N.W. of the church. One of the common fields. Survey, 1549.



**BEECH HILL.** Survey, 1549. In Norden, 1607, the Finchampstead Ridges are apparently called Beech Hills.

**BLACKWATER R.** [Hamlet so called in Norden, 1607]. The following is an extract from a survey of Finchampstead Baileywick temp. Charles I.:—  
 "Bounds of the Baileywick. Beginninge neare Blackwater bridge als. Twichin bridge\* and there the auntiant river called Indbrooke is the true and auntiant bound of the Forest. Yet in former time in some places men for their necessary uses have drawne the said river out of its ould course for milles, weares and such necessary uses whereby some smaule pcells of land lye beyond the river, viz., Halle Grove pcell of the inheritance of John Geale, and in Perry Moore and Dawny Mead of the inheritance of the said John Geale likewise. And going on with the note of the said bounds from the aforesaid bridge alonge Indbrooke to Est Mill from thence to Green Mill from thence to Yately Mill by the streame called the sheire streame from thence to Blackwater bridge from thence to Oulde forde . . . . . crossing the heath into the way that leads from Windsor to Frimley coming to Wishmore Crosse and from thence alonge a little streame called Wishmore streame which streame goeth into Indbrooke excluding Blackwater Bridge." †

**BROADMOOR.** Rocque's Map, 1762. The asylum stands on Lodge Hills above.

**BUTTER BOTTOM.** Rocque's Map, 1762. The present site of Broadmoor Farm.

**BUTTER STREP.** Part of Poppy Hills. Possibly the name may be connected with the "bur-tree" or elder.

**CHURCH FIELD.** N.W. of the church. One of the common fields. Survey, 1549. "Field" implies a clearing where trees have been "felled." The application to small inclosures is a modern one.

**CRISSELLS.** An old inclosure N. of Sandhurst Farm. Ground purchased by William de Cristehulle, 22 Ed. III. (?) ‡

**CROUTS.** Survey, 1549. An inclosure at the east end of the Master's Wood, A proper name.

**CIRCLE HILL.** Award Map, 1816. At Crowthorne.

**CROWTHORNE.** Norden, 1607. A solitary tree at the junction of the Bracknell and Wokingham roads.

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\* A man called Thos. Twychen held a tenement here in 1498.

† State Papers Dom. Car. I., Vol. 206, N<sup>o</sup>. 67, 1634.

‡ Feet of Fines. Berks.

*(To be continued.)*