

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH,
CHEAM, L.B. SUTTON

The Churchyard Monuments

by

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CHURCHYARD MONUMENTS, ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH, CHURCH ROAD, CHEAM, LB SUTTON

Philip Davies has asked that a survey be undertaken of the monuments in Cheam churchyard. The future of the Lumley Chapel (the subject of a separate report) is currently under discussion with the Church Commissioners, and the long-term issue of the care of the external monuments also requires attention.

Cheam churchyard consists of two distinct parts: the historic core, clustered around the site of the original church, and a large 20th century extension to the north and east of the 1860s church by F.E. Pownall, which stands to the north and west of the earlier church. Of the latter, only the former chancel, now known as the Lumley Chapel, still stands. It is an outstanding repository of late 16th century and early 17th century monuments to the Lumley family and also contains numerous tombs from the earlier church which were deposited here at the time of Pownall's rebuilding. This is the subject of a separate report.

The churchyard is in good condition overall and a number of chest tombs have been well restored in recent years. No doubt the on-site presence of a caretaker's room to the east of the church has assisted in controlling vandalism and other decay.

The monuments of particular note are listed in order from west to east, starting at the lychgate. None (save the latter) are at present listed individually. This report is to be sent to Listing Branch with a number of recommendations for listing.

1 Lychgate

Listed Grade II, the lychgate at the south-western corner of the churchyard dates from 1891. The timber and rough-cast canopy stands on footings of flint-faced brick with Bath stone dressings. Over the western arch is the legend HE GIVETH HIS BELOVED SLEEP; over the northern arch is the text UNTIL THE DAY BREAK.

2 The Rev. Charles Mayo d.1846

Portland stone arcaded chest tomb, with three arched openings per side, one per end, enclosing marble inscription panels. On the west end is an inscription to Henry, 4th Earl of Carrick d.1846, a pupil of Mayo's at Cheam School who died of water on the brain aged 12 (*Complete Peerage* III, 1913, 61), and who has a monument inside the Lumley Chapel with the inscription 'his remains by permission of the family are deposited beside those of his preceptor Dr Mayo, to whom he was endeared by his gentle and amiable disposition and by his love for the holy scriptures'. According to a note in Sutton local studies library, this tomb was designed by Sir Charles Barry and had to be rebuilt following rapid decay of the original stone: however, there is no mention of this admittedly small project in Alfred Barry's *Life and Works of the Late Sir Charles Barry* (2nd ed. 1870). Condition: fair.

3 Thomas Borer d.1767

Portland headstone with upper relief set between scrolls, depicting a skull, hour-glass and book emerging from earth, flanked by ears of wheat and below a tail-biting snake: all emblematic of the resurrection of the flesh. Inscription opens 'the lingering sickness has brought Unto my silent grave My soul...'. Condition: fair.

4 Fleetwood Dormer d.1736

Portland stone chest with Pennant stone ledger slab with armorial cartouche and inscription. Base enriched with quatrefoil panels set between pilasters with lancets. Also to John and Eusby Dormer, like Fleetwood, sons of John Dormer of Lee Grange, Bucks. An extremely early use of Gothic for a churchyard monument. Condition: poor, ledger cracked and much long-established ivy growth.

5 Charles Broughton d.1755

Portland headstone with upper relief of seraphim and rays with crown, set between auricular scrolls. Condition: fair.

6 Sarah Holley d.1757

Portland headstone with relief of skull, tail-biting snake and wheat, set between scrolls. Condition: fair.

7 Richard Wright c.1750

Portland headstone with relief of seraph, trumpet and torch, set between scrolls. Condition: fair but sunken.

8 Thomas Killick d.1770?

Portland headstone. Oval relief depicting melancholy seated cherub with skull, set between scrolls enriched with husks. Condition: poor on account of weathering.

9 William Farmer c.1815

Portland stone obelisk on square pedestal with acroteria, with worn marble inscription panels to each face. Tablet on base records repositioning of monument to present position in 1960. Condition: fair, but weathered.

10 Mary Hewett d.1775

Portland headstone. Relief of seraphim with foliate scrolls below double-arched top. Rich lichen growth. Condition: fair.

11 Unidentified c1800

Portland stone. Low chest with fielded pilasters and side panels, supporting heavy slab formerly inscribed. Condition: fair, but weathered and shifted off base.

12 Unidentified c1800

Chest with red brick base and heavy Portland stone ledger. Condition: good, having undergone conservation fairly recently, but inscription weathered away.

13 Unidentified c1800

Cf 11. Portland stone, low chest with heavy ledger, much overgrown with ivy. Condition: fair.

14 Christian and Henry Neale d.1675 and Eliza Dutton d.1687

Portland stone chest with squat fielded pilasters, supporting Pennant stone moulded ledger with inscription. Monument also commemorates her husband Henry Neale (d. 1675) and their daughter Eliza Dutton 'who was murdered ye 13 of July 1687 by her Neighbour indeavouring to make peace between him & his wife aged 53 years'. Epitaph reads:

Here lies best of wives of mothers & of friend
Whose soul to (sic) good for earth in heaven attend
With joy and comfort till the day of doome
When all her virtuous deeds shall thither come
To save her neighbours she has spilt her blood
And like her saviour died for doing good
May that curst hand forget itself to feed
That made its benefactor thus to bleed.

Daniel Lysons' *Environs of London I* (1796)146 described it as a 'tomb of black marble in the church-yard, near the south door'. Not only an early example of the outdoor chest tomb, but a very early instance of a still-legible epitaph of considerable interest. Condition: fair (given its age) but with a large split across the ledger slab.

15 Mary Marchant d.1777

Portland headstone with relief of hour-glass and palm fronds. Rich lichen growths. Condition: fair.

16 Unidentified

Portland stone, low chest with heavy ledger. Condition: fair, but sunken and without legible inscription.

17 Edmund Saxby Esq. d.1787

Portland stone chest tomb with rusticated angle pilasters, much overgrown by ivy. Condition: poor.

18 Daniel Sanxay d.1739

Portland stone chest tomb with gadrooned and fluted angle balusters supporting Portland stone ledger. Inscription on south side records Mr Robert Sanxay d.1780. Condition: fair.

19 Leveson Smith Esq. d.1827

Portland stone chest with fielded pilasters, on large base. Condition: fair, but railings removed and much ivy growth.

20 Unidentified

Red brick base with projecting pilasters, supporting Portland stone ledger. Condition: good (despite slope) having undergone recent conservation.

21 James Roke d.1767

Portland headstone. Relief of skull with crossed inverted torches. Condition: fair but weathered.

22 Osborne Barwell d.1826

Portland tomb chest with fielded panels. Condition: poor, much ivy growth.

23a Anna King d.1768

Portland stone inscribed ledger slab now affixed upright to west end of Lumley Chapel. Latin inscription to wife of Rev. James King, sometime rector. Formerly positioned on north side of Lumley Chapel, where it was less exposed to the elements. Condition: fair, but lettering becoming weathered.

23b Mrs Catherine Crake d.1740

Small Portland stone tablet now affixed to the west end of the Lumley Chapel. Inscription describes her as the widow of Michael Crake Esq. of St Martin in the Fields. Formerly positioned on north side of chapel. Condition: poor, being cracked, weathered and rust-stained from fixtures.

24 Rev. Henry Peach d.1813

York stone inscribed ledger on low base of red brick to the sometime rector of the parish. Condition: fair.

25 Sir William Berry d.1937

White marble panel with curved flanking sides. History: Sheerness-born Berry rose through the ranks of the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors to become Director of Naval Construction for the Admiralty, 1923-30, having been responsible for the construction of warships for the last two years of the First World War, a time when the Royal Navy was at the height of its power (see entry in *Who was Who 1929-40*, 103). Condition: good.

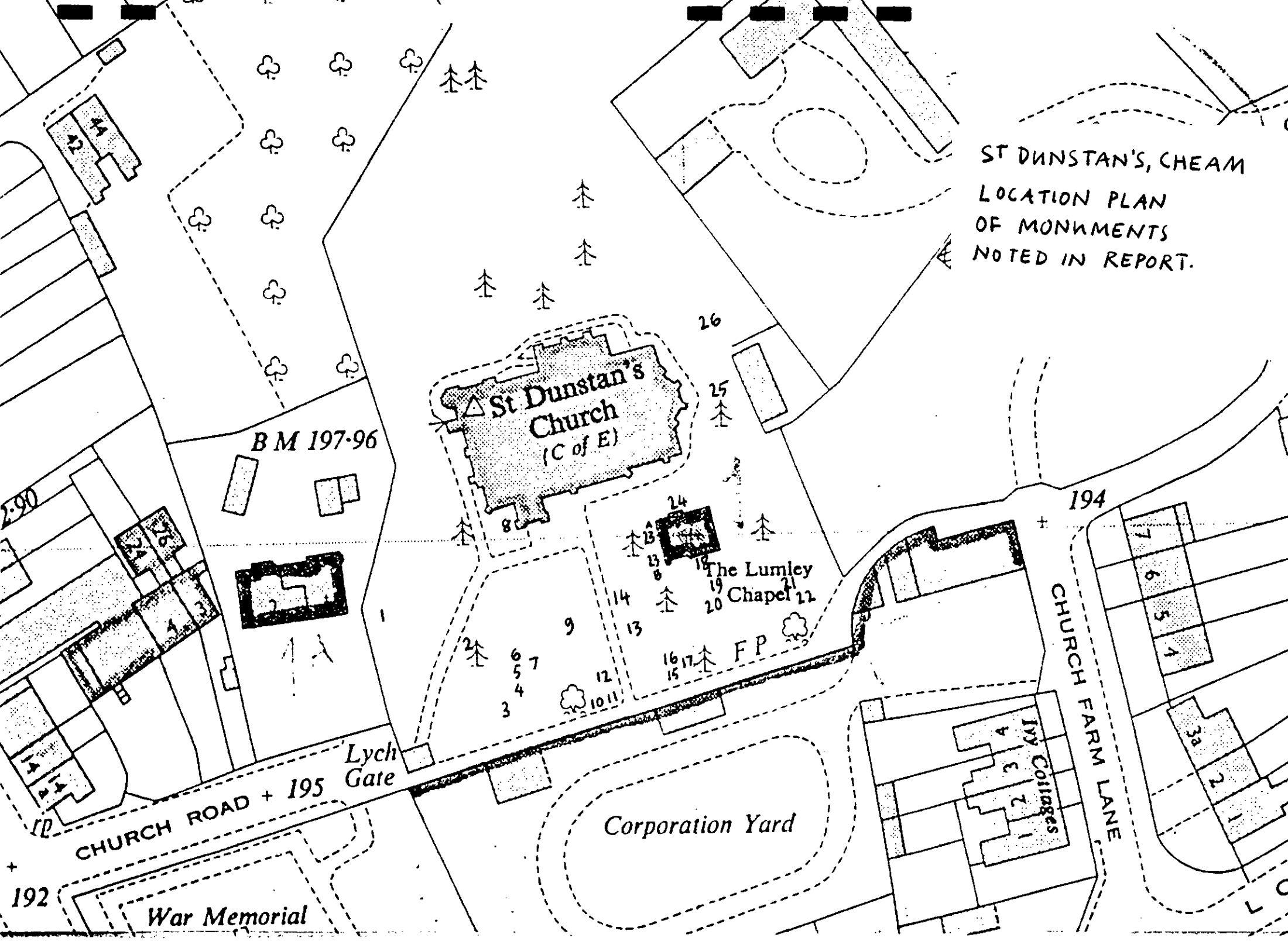
26 Evelyn and Graham Cleland d.1944

Granite headstone with paved kerb grave. History: erected to a mother and child (aged 34 and 5) killed during the opening of the V-1 attacks on London. One of a number of monuments here to victims of enemy action here: South London was badly affected by air raids and by flying bombs in particular. Condition: good.

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8 December 1999

ST DUNSTAN'S, CHEAM
LOCATION PLAN
OF MONUMENTS
NOTED IN REPORT.



St Dunstan's Church
(C of E)

B M 197-96

The Lumley Chapel

CHURCH FARM LANE

Corporation Yard

Ivy Cottages

CHURCH ROAD + 195

War Memorial

Lych Gate

FP

192

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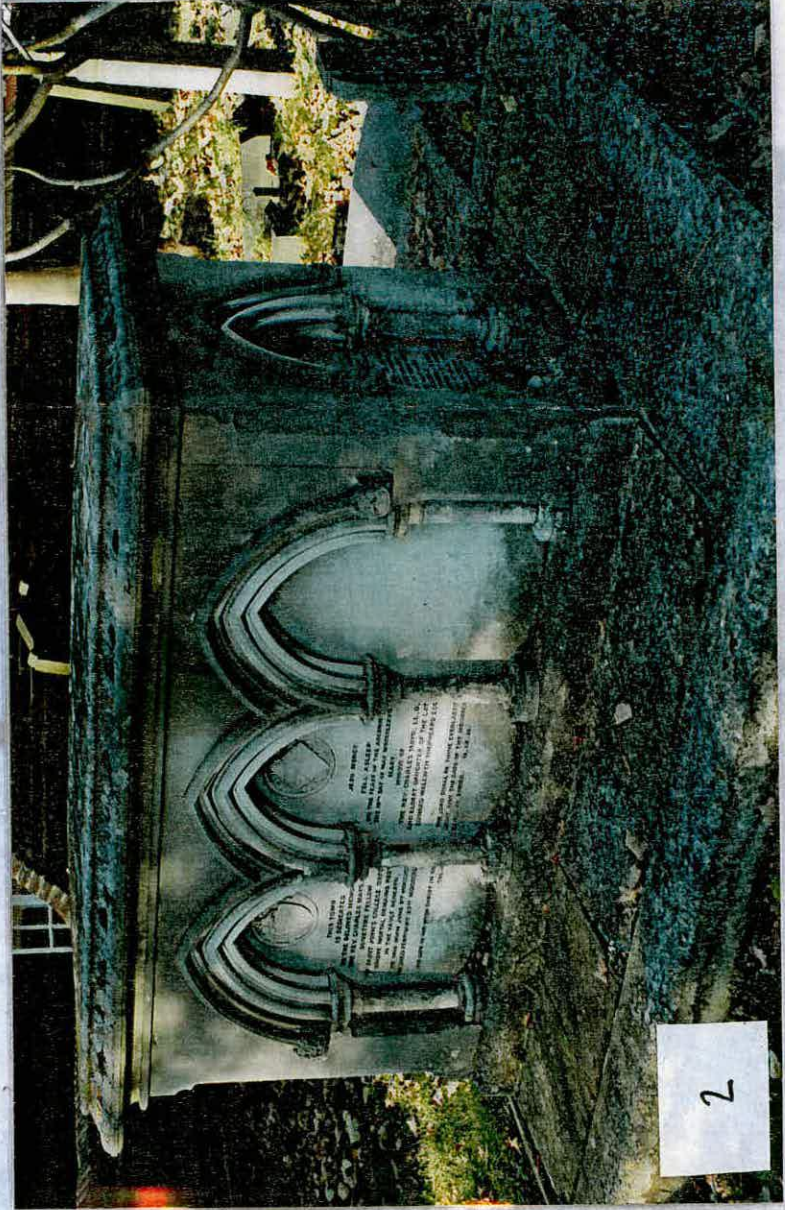
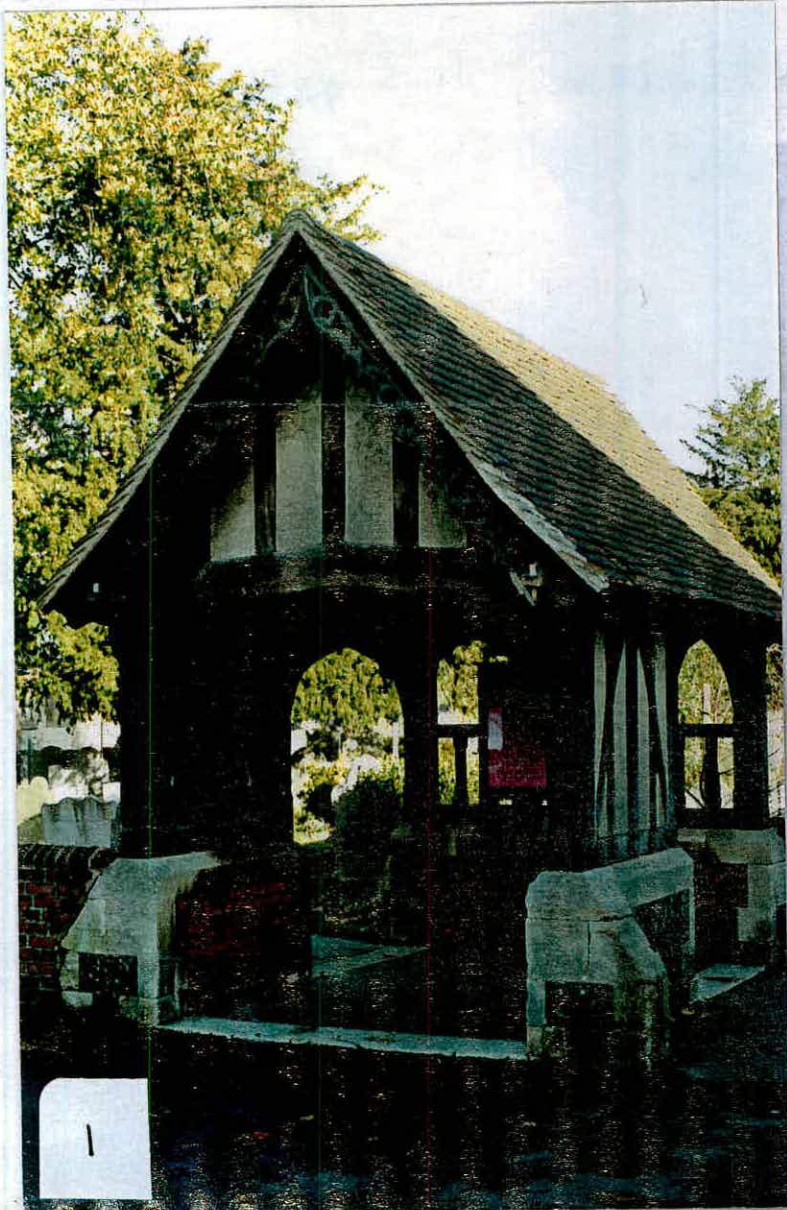
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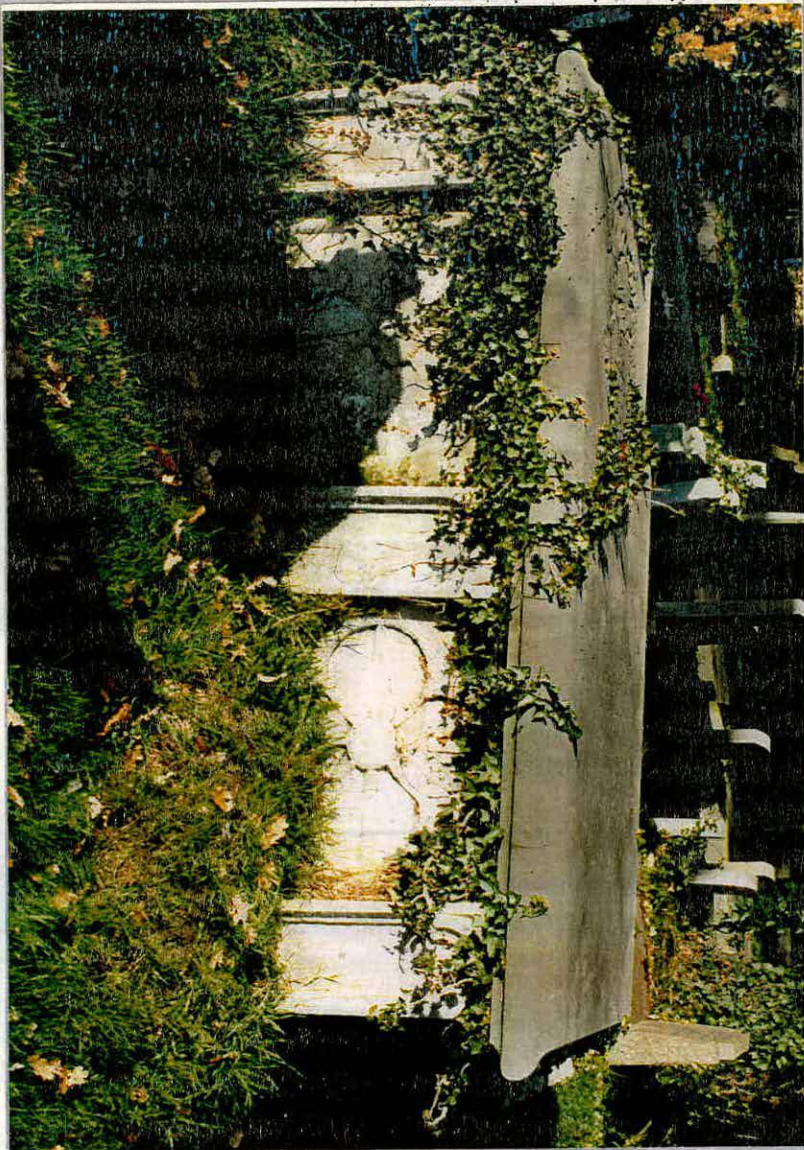
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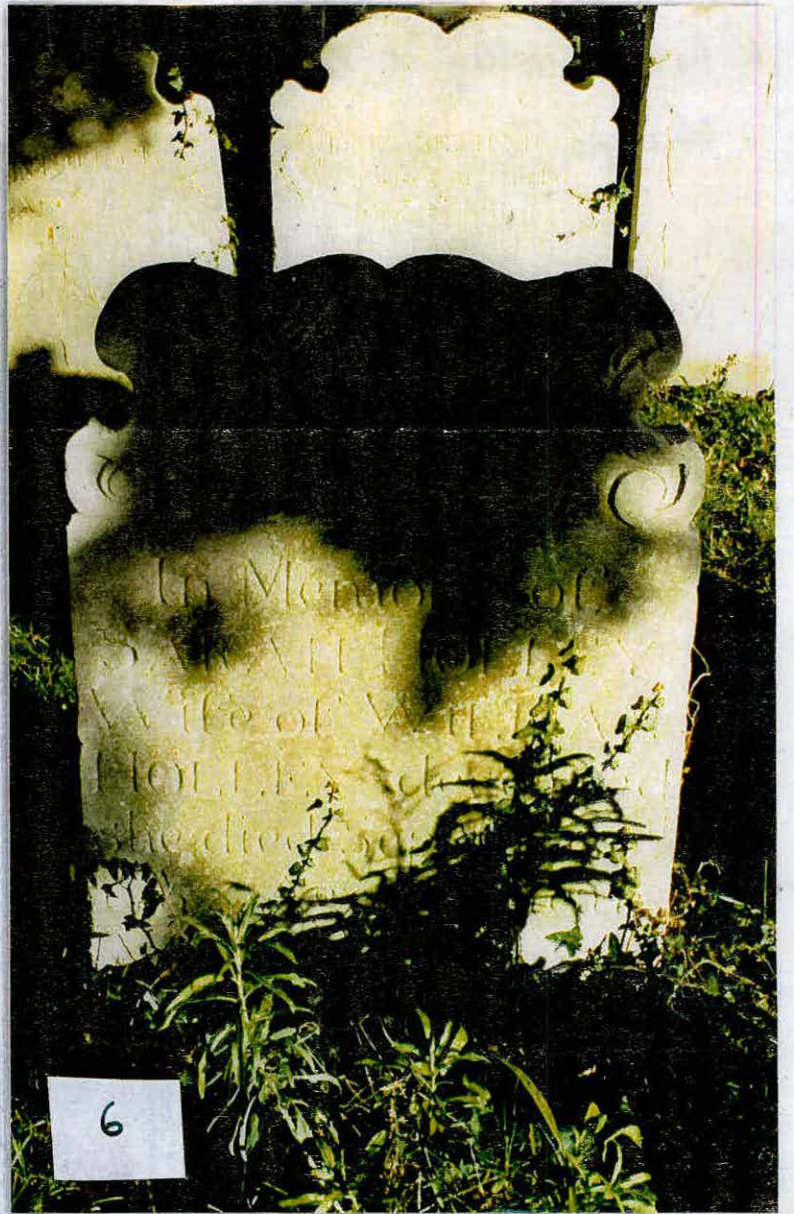
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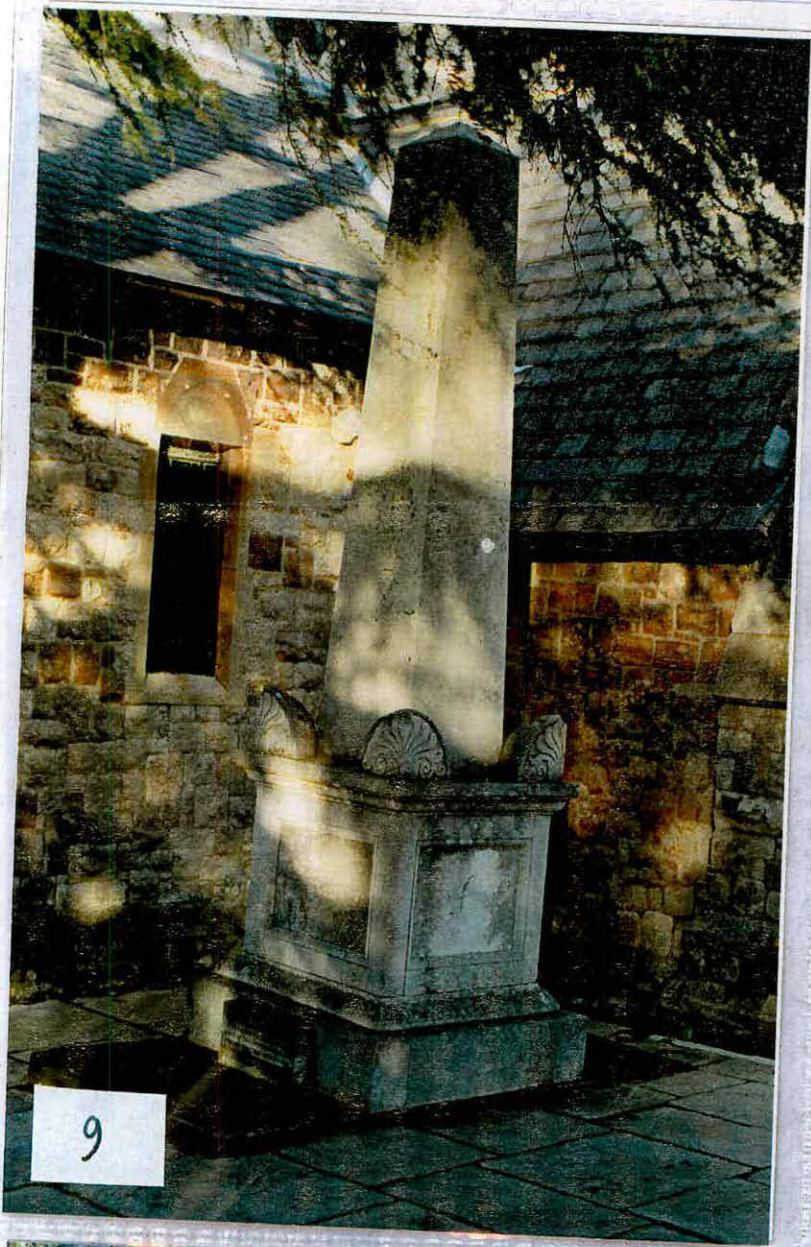
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Rev. Charles Mayo +1846



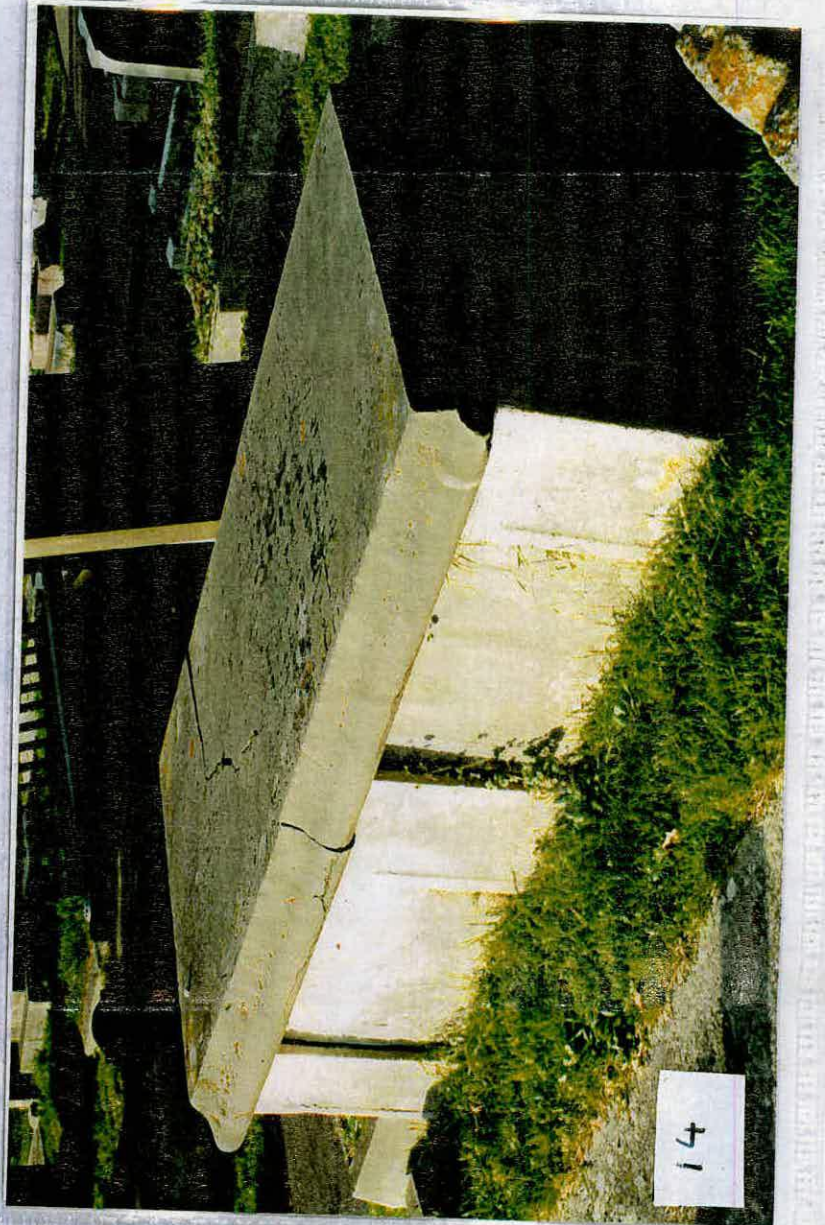


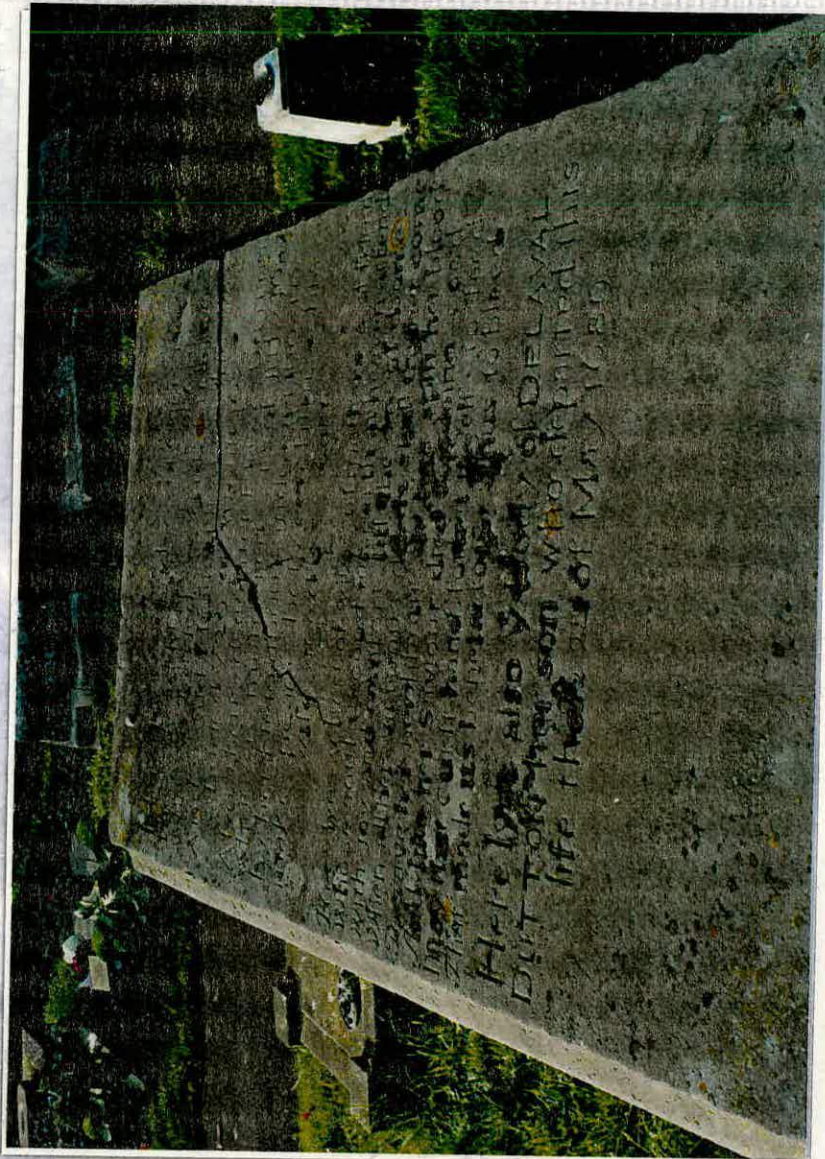
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Cheam

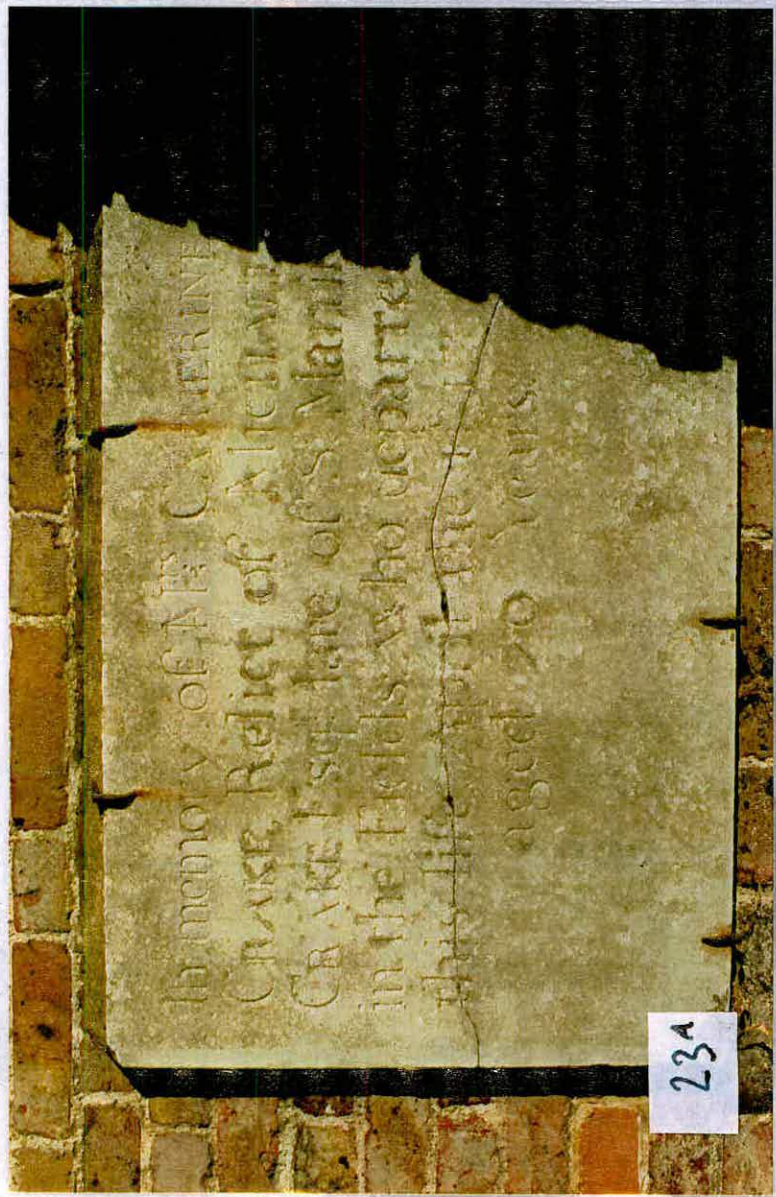
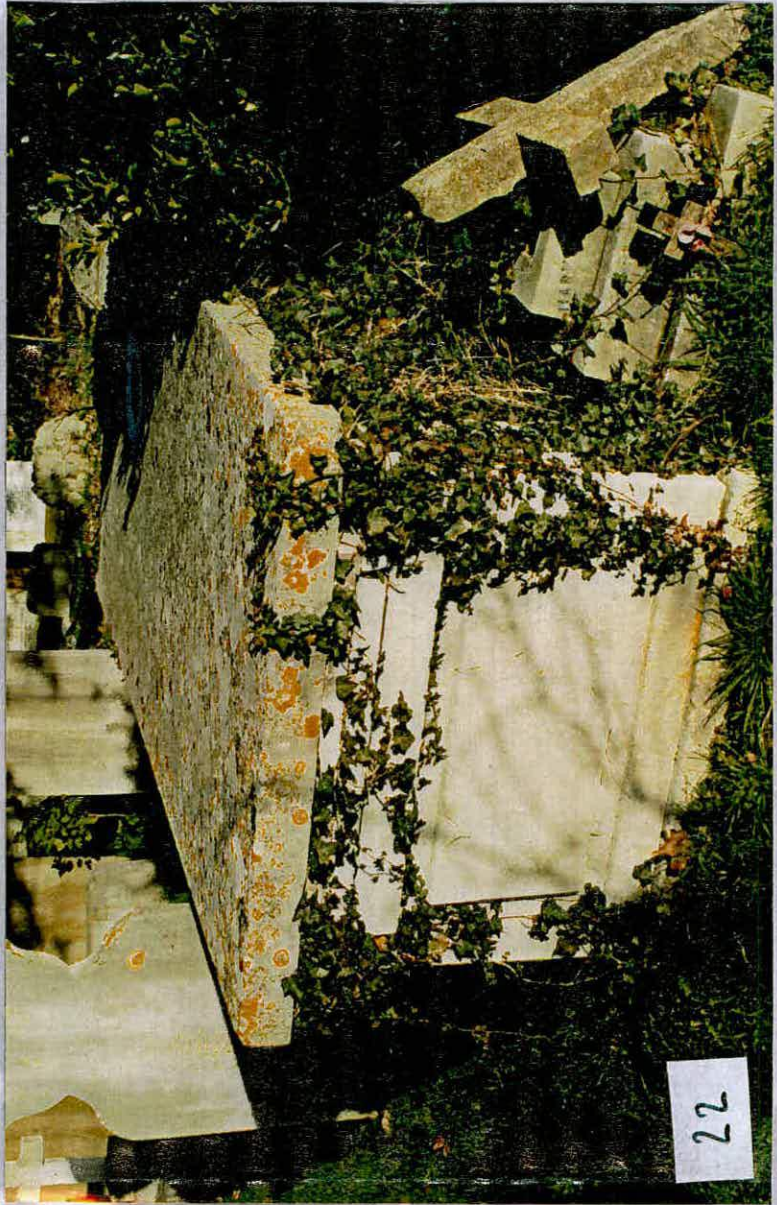


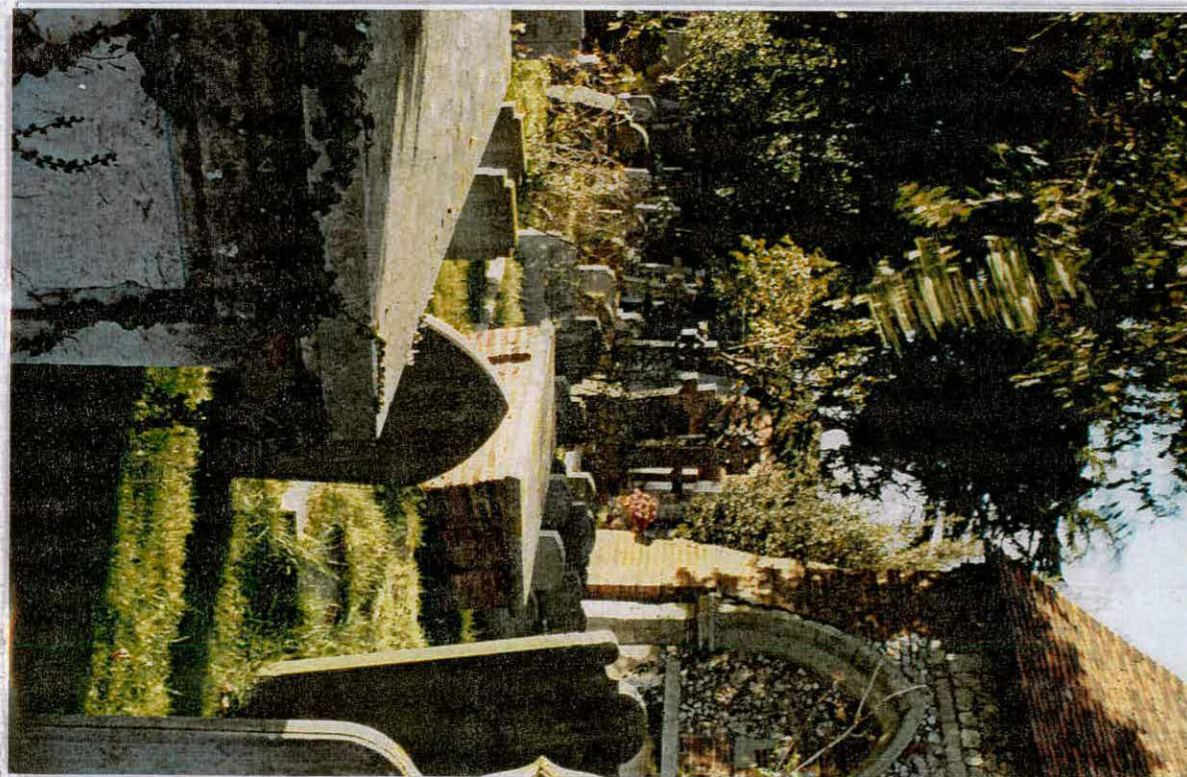


16 Unidentified
Cheam

15 Mon
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Sw William Berry + 1937

Cheam

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Rev. Henry Peach + 1813 24

Cheam

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Nov '9

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Cheam

Werner family + 1944

