

IX.—THREE JACOBEBAN HOUSES

(WASHINGTON OLD HALL, Ovingham VICARAGE AND
AYDON WHITE HOUSE)

BY H. L. HONEYMAN.

(Read on 29th October, 1952.)

The three houses which form the subject of these notes date mainly from the seventeenth century and all happened to be undergoing repair and alteration in 1952, but they differ widely in appearance, condition and history. They have, however, this in common, that all belonged to a time of post-war reconstruction when the North was making a slow recovery from three centuries of border warfare. These houses have lost the spacious dignity of the peaceful thirteenth century, their ceilings are low, their rooms confined, but their rude stonework shews virility in its few ornamental details and the wood panelling which formerly lined their walls was, if we may judge from such remains as may be seen at Elemore in County Durham, refined in its quite delicate mouldings. Ceilings and friezes too were decorated, at any rate in the latter part of the period, with stucco ornament of considerable merit. Altogether these houses represent a distinct advance in comfort and livableness over the grim pele-towers which immediately preceded them.

Ovingham is the most architecturally interesting of the three, but Washington is of most historical interest owing to its association with the Washington family, and we may deal with it first:

WASHINGTON "OLD" HALL

I. *History*

Washington is first heard of as a possession of the bishops of Durham, but, some time before 1183, bishop Hugh Puiset exchanged it with a certain William for lands at Hartburn in South Durham.¹ Boldon Book records that William's rent was £4 in cash and the obligation to attend the bishop of Durham's hunting expeditions with two greyhounds. William and his heir, another William, who died before 1256, were called of *Wessington*, the original form of the place name; this later became a surname and, changing to *Washington*, was carried in that form into Lancashire, Westmorland and elsewhere, ultimately planting a branch in Virginia and producing the first president of the United States.

Walter of Wessington, who fought at Lewes in 1264, was probably the most notable of the medieval family, the one most in a position to rebuild his manor house, and, as the architectural style agrees with the date, we can assume that he was responsible for the oldest part of the present building, namely the pair of pointed arches opening from the central block into the west wing, and the lancet window, part of whose splayed scuntings and segmental rear-arch remains in the west wall. The central block represents Walter's hall, its "screens" passage was at its west end and there are indications that its entrance doorway was at the north end of the passage.

The Wessingtons produced a prior of Durham, John (1416-1436), but otherwise continued as a minor county family. They acquired by marriage possessions in Westmorland and Lancashire, and Washington may have ceased to be their principal seat, though they were of enough local importance to have their armorials carved on the gateway-keep of Hilton Castle towards the end of the fourteenth century. The seals of Robert, son of Eudo Washington

¹ Surtees, *Durham*, ii, p. 40.

(Quessigton), Walter (1318), Roger (1372), and William (1376) are illustrated in Dr. Hunter Blair's *Durham Seals*, and by the time of the reign of Edward III, the Washingtons bore arms then described as *de gules a deux barrz et 3 moletts d'argent*: armorials which were used by the first president, but which had no connection with the American flag.

One of the later Washingtons, no doubt, inserted the wood-mullioned unglazed window in the west wall of the house and some of the fireplaces in the smaller rooms, plain chamfered openings with four-centred arched heads, may be late medieval stonework re-used.

The Washingtons of Washington ended with an heiress, Eleanor daughter of William, who, before 1400, married William Tempest, and their daughter, Dionisia, married Sir James Mallory whose eventual heir, in 1613, sold the manor for £4,000 to Thomas Caldwell and John Booth as trustees for Frances James, the youngest son of bishop James of Durham, who died only four years later. The purchase was made with young James's mother's dowry; she was the bishop's third wife, Isabella Atkinson, the daughter of a wealthy Newcastle citizen.

It is stated in most printed accounts of Washington that bishop James rebuilt the hall, but I have never seen any evidence produced to prove this and it is more probable that the work was done by his son, perhaps when he married in 1623, or his son's son William, who married Dorothy Scorton and died in 1662, leaving four daughters as co-heiresses. Various settlements and divisions were made and need not be detailed here, but in the time of Surtees (to whom, with Mackenzie & Ross and Dr. Hunter Blair, I am indebted for most of this information) in 1820, "the hall rests undivided between the three owners, Sir R. Musgrave, John Spearman and Sarah Lawson". The hall was therefore usually let, the only tenant to interest us being John Brack who, in 1792, reconstructed the interior of the east wing, inserted a new south window, modernized the interior generally and set a

sundial on the south front. He may also have laid out the terraces in the garden.

The seventeenth-century reconstruction was very thorough, all the walls were rebuilt except in the west wing and parts of the northern and perhaps east sides, and even there they were refaced externally and re-windowed. A vast fireplace with boldly projecting chimney was inserted in the west wall, a staircase projection was added and possibly a north entrance porch, and the house became two stories high with attics over. The new work is Tudor in style with no traces of renaissance influence except in the moulded hoods of its windows and the heavily moulded fireplaces in the principal rooms on the ground floor.

Some time in the nineteenth century the roof was re-tiled, the attics abandoned, and a new stair made, but this may have been after the house was divided into several tenements for working-class occupation. At any rate, it seems to have still been undivided in 1896 when the following advertisement² was printed:

“An interesting Relic of the Middle Ages. Washington Old Hall for sale. . . . THE OLD ELIZABETHAN MANSION HOUSE known as Washington Old Hall . . . together with the cottages and other buildings connected therewith, and also so much of the land adjacent as is not required for the making of the proposed new cemetery. The area of the property to be sold is 1 a., 1 r., 38 p., 6½ y.” Graham and Shepherd of Sunderland were the solicitors for the vendors.

The Hall remained in tenements till 1937 when, being built of stone against which there was then a prejudice in official quarters, it was condemned as “unfit for human habitation” and would have been demolished had a committee not been formed (mainly through the energy of Mr. Fred Hill, then a schoolmaster at Biddick) to whom, or to the late Stirling Newall acting on their behalf, it was sold. The committee enthusiastically removed most of the modern

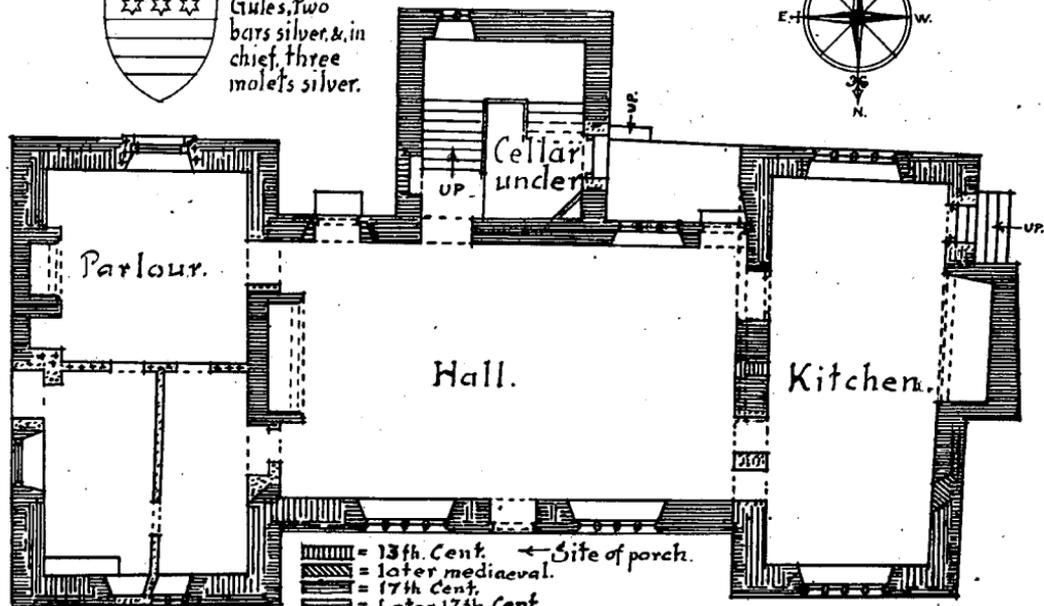
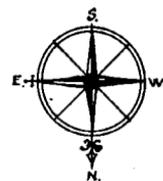
² *Proceedings*, 2nd ser., vii, p. 308.

WASHINGTON OLD HALL:

PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR:



Washington:-
Gules, two
bars silver, & in
chief, three
molets silver.



- = 13th Cent. ← Site of porch.
- = later mediaeval.
- = 17th Cent.
- = Later 17th Cent.
- = 1792.
- = 19th Cent.

Scale of feet.

F.L.CARRS. Mens.
H.L.M. Dal. 1892.

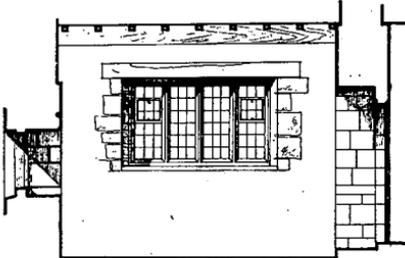
interior partitions and thereby did reveal the part thirteenth-century date of the house, but various causes, and the outbreak of war, prevented them from doing anything to *preserve* the building till 1951, by which time it had become almost beyond repair; however, with the aid of American dollars, the building is now being made wind and watertight and it is proposed to make the ground floor into a museum and tourist reception rooms and the upper floor into a village institute. The cottages beside the gate will become an office and shop on the ground floor with custodian's quarters over. All this, of course, subject to funds becoming available in adequate quantity. Mr. Theodore Nicholson of Sunderland is the Honorary Secretary of the Committee, and our member, Viscount Gort, is chairman; both of them have been very active in engaging American interest and gathering contributions towards the cost of preservation.

II. Description

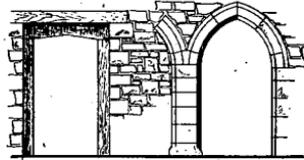
Washington Hall is pleasantly placed on the south-facing slope of the hill which is surmounted by Washington Church. It overlooks a terraced garden and is approached from the west by a modern gate beside a pair of cottages whose doors and mullioned windows are similar to its own.

The hall consists in plan of a central block about 36 ft. by 25 ft. overall, a south projection, 17 ft. by 17 ft., containing the main stair, a western wing 18 ft. by 36 ft. and an east wing 21 ft. by 37 ft.; these wings have their long axes at right angles to that of the central portion. The staircase projection contains a nineteenth-century stair on top of the first steps of an apparently eighteenth-century predecessor, the former made after the attics had been abandoned. No trace remains of the original stair, but the positions of the windows indicate how it ran. On the south face of the projection was a sundial, now perished, with the date 1792 marking the completion of John Brack's alterations. There is a cellar under this part of the building.

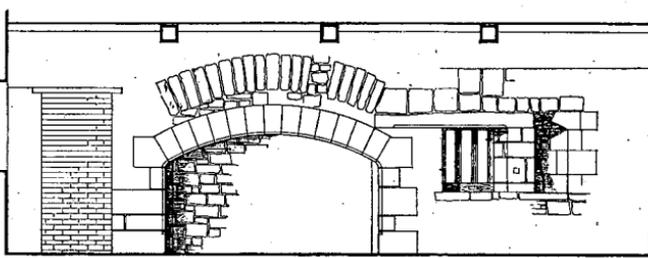
WASHINGTON OLD HALL
GROUND FLOOR OF WEST WING



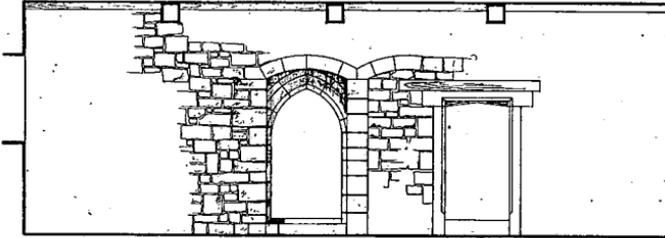
Section showing north wall



West end of Hall



Section showing west wall



Section showing east wall



Scale of feet (Two feet to one inch)

D.R.S. - master of art.

The east wing was so much altered internally by Mr. Brack, and later when the Hall was made into tenements, that its original plan is not clear. There seem to have been one, or perhaps two, rooms on the ground and first floors, and two in the attic. In the eighteenth century the south room on the ground floor was refitted with a rather attractive china cupboard, and its mullioned window replaced by a double-hung sash window surrounded externally by a heavy stone back-fillet.

The central block held one large room on the ground floor and two on the first floor; before the reconstruction of the roof there were probably two or three rooms in the attic, lit by gabled attic windows or "locarnes", now gone. The lower part of the north wall may be medieval work refaced externally in the seventeenth century.

There is an entrance door in the middle of the north side and two on the south side, the easternmost of these being inserted in a pre-existing window and apparently after removal from the east side of the stair wing.

The west wing is the most interesting part of the building. The ground floor was always the kitchen, though its arrangement was altered from time to time. The upper floors resembled those of the east wing. The ground floor is divided from the central block by a thirteenth-century wall containing a pair of pointed-arched doorways and an inserted Jacobean door with a heavy oak frame: part of this wall was cut back in a very curious way (see plan) to suit the south-west door of the central block. The west wall has been refaced externally and an enormous fireplace inserted. This insertion blocked a curious, unglazed, wood-framed window which in its turn blocked a thirteenth-century lancet.

The Hall is built of freestone faced with ashlar, much of it of medieval type and perhaps old stone re-used, with patches of rubble round the north and north-east entrance doors. All windows have chamfered mullions and ogee moulded hood-moulds. The roof is covered with red pan-

tiles, probably a nineteenth-century reconstruction, and the gables have chamfered copes, moulded footstones, and apex stones with small finials.

The south-west corner of the stair projection subsided rather badly some years ago and has been practically rebuilt, as have also the chimneys which were in a dangerous state. Brick has been used for the backing of the reconstructed walls so as to avoid any falsification of date. The great fireplace at the east end of the central hall is a seventeenth-century one, presented by Viscount Gort. The original fireplace had been destroyed. Most of the windows were in such decay that they could not be glazed and much new stone has had to be used to restore them. Fortunately its newness is already being toned down by nature and climate.

OVINGHAM VICARAGE

I. *History*

The present structure probably occupies the site of the "parson's house" destroyed by the Scots in 1293 and again in 1312 and 1316. What is more certain is that it was founded, or rebuilt, to judge from the details of its east window, in or soon after 1378 as a small monastic establishment and vicarage combined. In that year, to quote the *Calendar of Patent Rolls*, licence was granted to Henry Percy to be enfeoffed by Gilbert Umfraville, earl of Angus, of the advowson of the church of Ovingham, held in chief, and, after seisin had thereof by the said Henry, for the alienation in mortmain by him both of the s'd advowson and that of Ilkley, Yorks, to the prior and convent of Hexham, they to find three regular chaplains, the vicars of those churches being excepted, to celebrate divine service daily in the church of Ovingham for the good estate of the King, Henry, and Gilbert during their life and for their soules after death, and the king's, and their ancestors.

The senior of the three Augustinian canons came to be

known as *the Master of Ovingham* and it was the last of these masters who, clad in armour, defied Reynold Carnaby to take possession of Hexham priory in 1536. Each canon seems to have had his "chamber", as also had the vicar of Ovingham, but their servants and the vicar's lived together in their quarters. It is uncertain whether the canons messed together in a common hall or not. We seem to see here a group of buildings rather like the College at St. Andrew's, Auckland, but on a smaller scale. A pleasant place, and the canons should have been happy there and have been little troubled by the march of local events such as the appointment of Robert Rhodes in succession to John Mitford as steward of the "lordship" of Ovingham, then in the king's hands by the death of the duke of Bedford in 1435, in which year Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, petitioned for the "manor". In 1439 there is a reference to the "bailiwick of the barony of Ovingham", and in 1464 Edward IV granted the "barony of Ovingham" to John Neville, earl of Northumberland, and lord Montagu.

The Reformation abolished the "cell" of Ovingham and the duke of Norfolk ejected the canons "with all their household", but could not dispossess the vicar of his accommodation in the building: in 1536-7 allowance was made "for the farm of one chamber within the site of the cell, not assessed by the Commissioners for that the said vicar occupies the said chamber".

In 1549 Edward VI granted "the rectory and late cell of Ovingham, Northumberland, and the advowson of the vicarage of the parish church of Ovingham, late of Hexham Monastery" to Henry Codenham and William Pendred, both of London, and a period of rather complicated changes in possession followed. A survey of 1586 gives some account of the property as then existing, "the Queen holds the site of the rectory of Ovingham with divers houses and buildings, well builded in stone, situate on the south side of the church there . . . the vicar of the church holds a house called the vicarage well builded of stone and four cottages. . . ."

At last, in 1603, the property was vested in Sir William Walter who, living in Warwickshire, leased it to his steward, John Addison, who came to reside at Ovingham four years later and described his holding as "the parsonage house and garth", etc. In 1628, the year in which he was a grand juror, the lease expired and Addison bought the property. It seems probable, from the architectural evidence, that he rebuilt the premises as a mansion house, very much in its present form, but with a west wing which no longer exists. It is probable also that part of the building continued to be reserved for the use of the vicar, who in 1664 paid tax on a single hearth, and that this did not please the Addisons, for the fourth of them, another John, and his mother persuaded the Rev. John Stuart (whom Francis Addison had made vicar in 1690) to give up the vicarage and tithes in return for a small annual salary. Absentee Stuart did not know there was a vicarage and when he did discover this he attempted to have the agreement set aside and to recover "a vicarage house, a piece of ground adjoining thereto, being formerly the orchard of the said house". John Addison became insane, after a fall from his horse, and his estate was sold to John Dawson of Wall, who took possession in 1704.

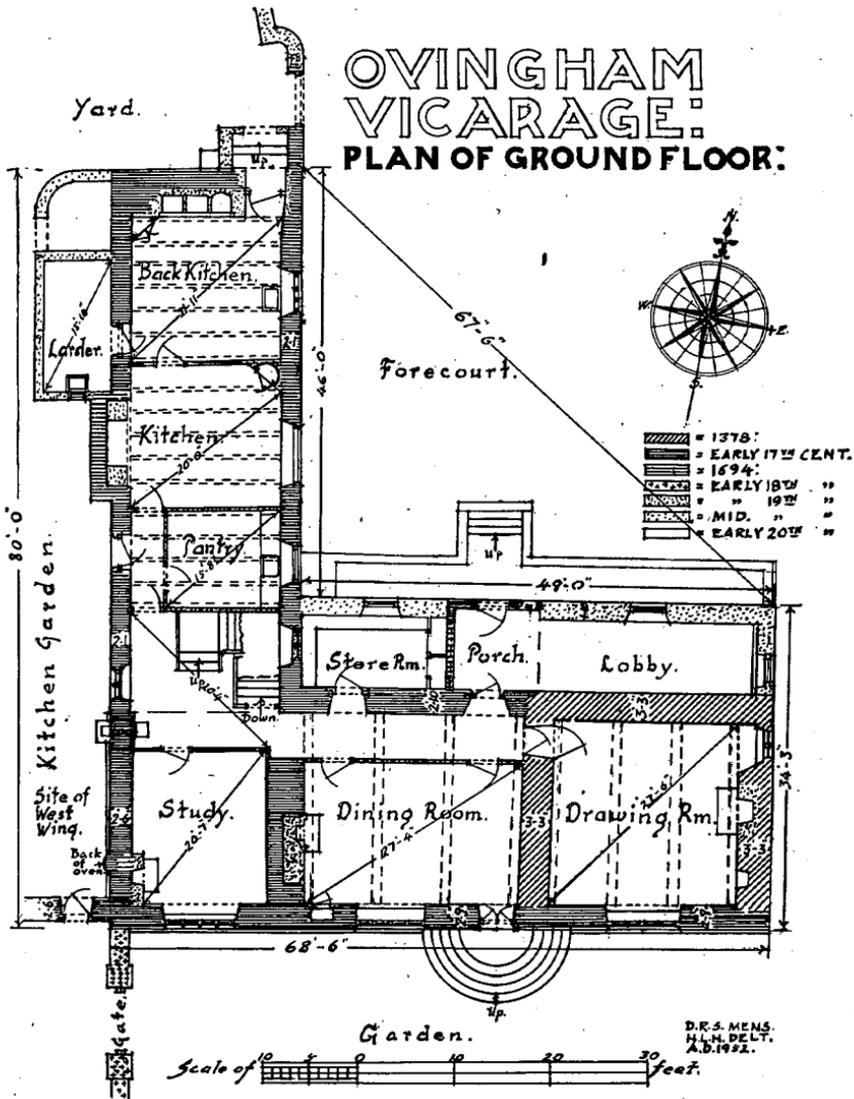
Addison's initials and the date, 1694, are over the west entrance door and he seems to have reconstructed the north wing on its present plan and to have installed the plaster frieze which is such a notable feature of the south-west bedroom. The initials I and M on the frieze suggest an earlier date, but may merely indicate Jacobite sympathy. He may also have been the demolisher of the west wing, though this is less certain. John Dawson probably laid out the terrace garden and set up the two massive "Queen Anne" gate piers which fronted the old approach to the house. (The main road passed west of the vicarage to a ford over the river before the present bridge diverted traffic to the east side of the property and drove a main roadway between vicarage and churchyard.) But the Dawson sale was set

aside, Chancery took over, and the terraces and gate may be the work of William Bigge, one of the six Clerks in Chancery, to whose father-in-law, Charles Clarke, a Newcastle solicitor, the property was sold in 1724. The Bigges continued to hold the vicarage till 1919 when lord Stamfordham bought it from his nephew and restored it to the Church as a memorial to his son who had been killed in France in 1915. During the Bigge occupation the interior of the house had been modernized from time to time, particularly in the late Georgian and early Victorian periods. In the eighteenth century a stableyard was built at the north-east corner of the garden and later in that century, or early in the following one, the attics were abandoned, their "locarne" windows removed, the gables lowered, and low-pitched roofs constructed. In the middle of the nineteenth century a narrow north aisle was built on the north side of the house, the east and west gables were raised, and a new roof covered aisle and older house under a single span. This work seems to have finished with the building of a new north entrance gateway bearing the date 1856 and what seem to be the initials of Lieut.-Colonel William M. Bigge, of Ovingham, formerly commanding the 70th Regiment of Infantry, who was born in 1812 and died in 1889. The Rev. George R. Bigge was vicar in 1850-69; the work may have been done so that he could occupy the house. It seems likely, though I have not been able to get confirmation of this, that it was after his incumbency³ that the vicars again lived in the vicarage, paying a rent to the Bigges, as they certainly did for many years before the Church recovered her long-lost property through the generosity of lord Stamfordham.

The present vicar, the Rev. E. Edwardes, has done much to make the house more convenient and the north wing is being converted into a greatly needed suite of parish rooms.

³ Mackenzie states that William Bigge was in possession in 1825, presumably it was after his time but it may have been in the incumbency of the Rev. F. J. Bigge, 1841-44.

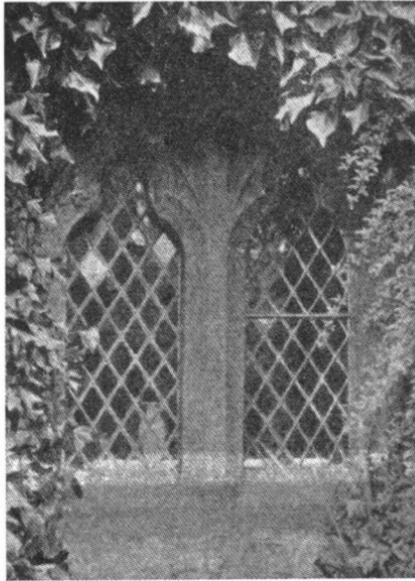
OVINGHAM VICARAGE: PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR:



D.R.S. MENS.
H.L.M. DELT.
A.D. 1922.

II. Description

Ovingham Vicarage resembles Washington Hall in lying snugly on the south slope below an ancient church site, but it has both a more elaborate terrace garden and a more extensive and attractive view, overlooking as it does a comparatively unspoilt reach of the River Tyne.

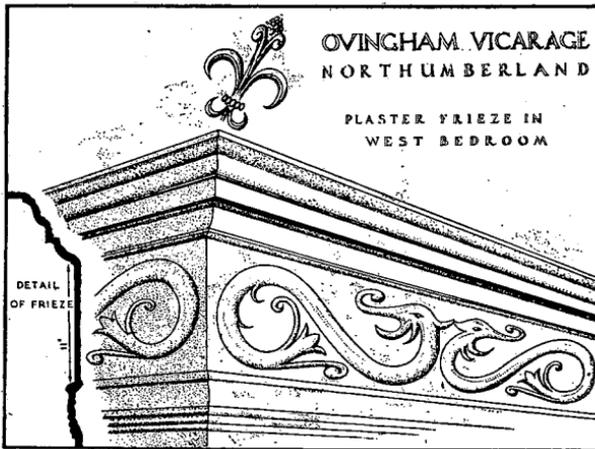


FOURTEENTH-CENTURY WINDOW IN OVINGHAM VICARAGE.

The surviving parts of the house form an L shape in plan, one stroke running east and west, the other northwards from its west end. Traces remain of the west wing which, during one period, made the plan into an inverted T, and there are indeterminate remains of foundations east of the present east gable.

The main building has on the ground floor three rooms of which the westmost was at one time a kitchen, as a brick

oven is embedded in the west gable. The middle room has had a large Tudor-type stone fireplace and the east room probably has a medieval fireplace behind its modern mantel-piece; it has also the fourteenth-century east window shewn on p. 140. The south windows have been mullioned, but two of them were mutilated in the present century; they are linked by a hood-mould string-course running the whole length of the building and apparently formerly extending along the west wing. It is quite different from the ogee hood-



moulds at Washington, having a sloping upper surface and a shallow hollow under. In the centre of the front is a comparatively elaborate doorway, Elizabethan rather than Jacobean in its character. The north side of this block is covered by a narrow aisle of inferior construction in which is embedded an earlier porch, or rather porte-cochère, for it seems to have had wide archways on both sides, with thin walls of parpend ashlar and a Jacobean north door which looks like a later insertion.

The upper floor of this block contains bedrooms with mullioned windows to the south, several small rooms in the modern "aisle", and a room above the north porch. Only

the floor of the attics remains and the present roof and gable are modern. The line to which the old gables had previously been cut down is clearly marked on the east gable. The west bedroom has an ornamental plaster frieze of great interest from its being apparently unique in Northumberland. The design (see p. 141) is of a sixteenth-century type, but its date, as already noted, is probably 1694. The initials I and M occur in it once.

Only one doorway, whose detail is identical with that of the inner entrance door at Aydon White House, and a short piece of wall remains of the west wing. Farther along the later garden wall there is a rough stone arch which may have been part of a cellar below the wing or may have been built to carry the wall over some tree's roots or other fault in the sub-soil.

The north wing seems to be an addition, but its east elevation has similar details to the south front. It contains the main staircase, which clearly existed before the attics were abandoned, a pantry, and two kitchens with attached larder and porch, both of later date. The main kitchen has a huge arched fireplace and a rather attractive corner cupboard. The wing is entered from the west by a Tudor-type door, dated 1694 and initialed I.A., and from the north by a modern doorway made after the approach to the house shifted from west to north with the building of Ovingham bridge and disuse of the old road to the ford. The partition between the two kitchens is of interest; if found in a Roman fort it would be claimed as Roman, for it consists of timber uprights joined by horizontal bars between which vertical rods are interlaced, the whole being then embedded in clay.

The first floor of the back wing contains bedrooms, bathroom, etc., and a passage. In its north gable is a cupboard whose prettily moulded many-panelled door is the only piece of seventeenth-century joinerwork spared by the successive modernizers of the vicarage. The north wing still has its low-pitched eighteenth or early nineteenth-century roof, but,

as above mentioned, the main building was re-roofed when its north aisle was built and it is the least attractive feature of the house.

The garden walls and terraces seem to date from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. The west wall of the south garden is pierced by an imposing gateway, having very massive piers with bull-nosed courses of ashlar and moulded cap-stones all of a pattern which seems to have been very popular in Northumberland in the reign of Anne.

AYDON WHITE HOUSE

I. *History*

The history of this small mansion set on a high hillside where its fine views to west and south are paid for by exposure to all the winds that blow, is much shorter and of less general interest than that of Ovingham.

A farmer's dwelling stood here at least as early as the reign of Henry VIII and is referred to in 1562. It was then in the Manor of Halton. In 1682 it was bought by John Cook of Aydon from one of the Carnabys and then, or subsequently, transferred to Aydon Manor. The body of the house is presumably of Carnaby building, for its inserted central doorway is dated 1684 and inscribed I^C_M for John Cook and his wife Mary Winship. On the other hand, it is conceivable that the centre feature was brought ready wrought from some town workshop and that the rest of the front was a local mason's attempt to imitate its style. Mary Cook died in 1702 which gives a pathetic interest to the black-painted sundial inserted above the entrance door and bearing that date.

John Cook died in 1711/12, leaving four daughters as his co-heiresses. One of these, Catherine, married George Bates, an ancestor of our late vice-president, C. J. Bates. Aydon White House was settled on her and her husband in 1723 and it continued in Bates' possession till it was

bought by the present owner and became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Speke.

Architectural evidence indicates that the house was enlarged on the west side at an early date and its interior modernized early in the eighteenth century and again, much more drastically, about the middle of last century, when the present north wing was added, extensive farm buildings built, and the house became a farm-house. Later it was divided into two houses and so remained till the restoration and extension now in progress.

At some date in the eighteenth century a "ha-ha" fence was made round the front garden and a walled garden was made with an ambitious garden house, with coach-house under. Only one end pavilion of the proposed structure was ever completed, tooth stones projecting from one side of it shew where further building was meant to adjoin it.

The house had got into rather poor condition and the lime harling to which it owed its name was beginning to peel off, as it well might after a couple of centuries, but it has now been put into a fair state of repair, provided with an improved west extension and modern internal conveniences and again given the standing to which its age and character entitled it.

II. *Description*

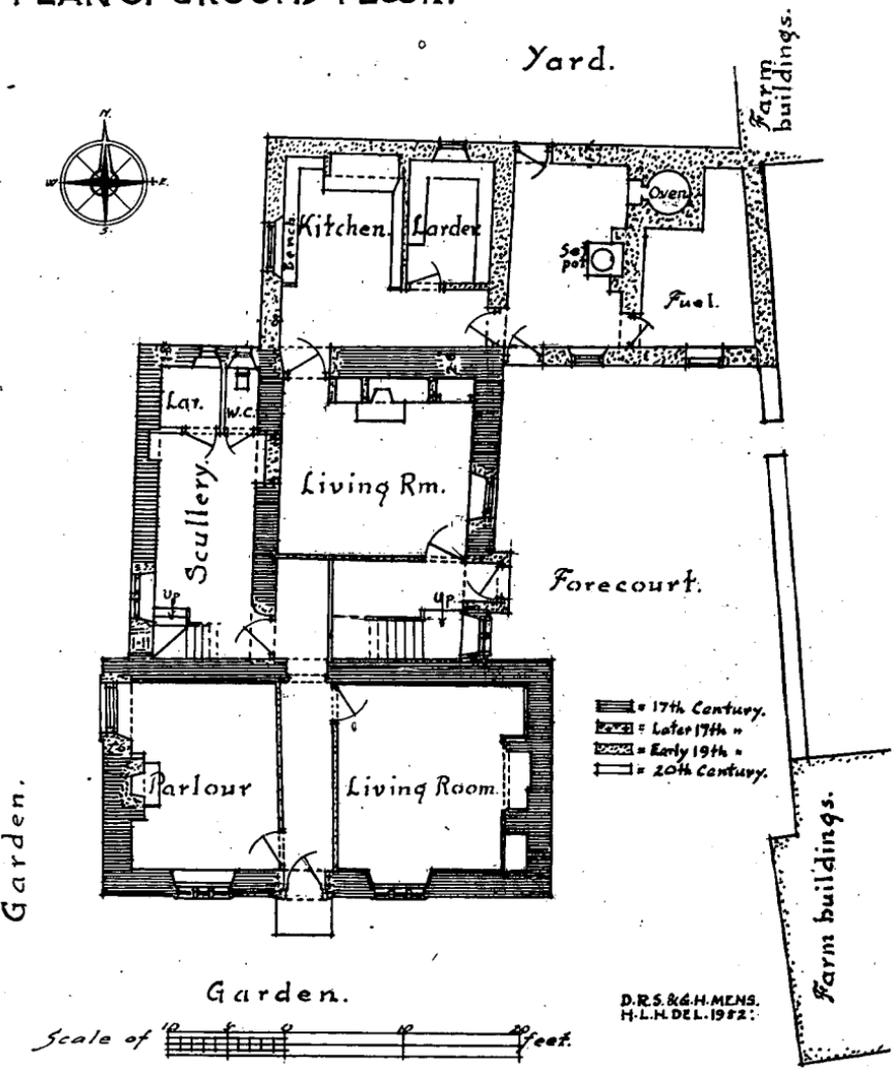
Aydon White House has, as already stated, a bleak wind-swept site, very different from Ovingham or Washington, though, like them, it has a southerly aspect. It also differs from them in plan and in its ornamental details.

The plan, a T with its head to the south, was later altered by an eastward one-storied extension so that it now resembles a reversed Z. The plan (p. 145) shews the lay-out of the ground floor prior to the unification and repair now in progress.

Externally, the house is built of rather rough masonry which is, and apparently was always, covered with lime

AYDON WHITE HOUSE:

PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR:



harling whitewashed—hence the name of “White House”. The roofs are covered with stone flags, graduated from large at the eaves to very small at the ridge, except in the later north portion, where the roofs are covered with a curious zigzag corrugated tile; and the slated lean-to roof of the sort of aisle on the west side of the back wing.



AYDON WHITE-HOUSE.

Sketch by R. J. S. Bertram.

The south front has a boldly moulded doorway inserted in 1684, with a two-light window above it. The window has a projecting moulded sill, a plain square mullion, and a frame or architrave which is a flattened rounded curve in section. These are flanked on each side by a three-light mullioned window on each floor; these are of very unusual detail, the mullions being semi-circular fronted in plan and mitreing with a moulded frame which is also a

projecting semi-circle in plan. The same idea, in slightly different form, is found at Bockenfield and Swarland Old Hall. The central feature is much more carefully finished than the rest of the work; it appears to be an insertion, but it may, on the other hand, have been brought ready-wrought from a town workshop—the rest of the front being by a local builder. A small sundial was fixed above the door at a later date, which is now not decipherable but was 1702.

The west front has no features of much interest, the windows being early nineteenth-century insertions, but the north end of the one-storey aisle, attached to the west side of the back wing, contains, one above the other, two small windows with champfer round them, which are obviously sixteenth or seventeenth century, but may not be *in situ*. The rest of the north front is not of interest, nor is the east front, apart from a couple of small champfer-surrounded windows in the east gable of the south block and two staircase windows similar to the windows of the south front.

Internally, all the older finishings disappeared during the reconditioning which took place at the beginning of last century. One large-panelled door remains, probably from the work done in 1684, and the modern grates in the south block have behind them stone fireplaces of a simple Jacobean type, the largest being in the east room. The fireplace in the living-room of the back wing, with its enormous stone lintel nine feet long, is an early nineteenth-century insertion, the room then being used as a kitchen. The doorway in the wall between south block and north wing has moulded jambs and head of a debased Tudor or rather Jacobean type: the jambs are of the same plan as those of the west wing doorway at Ovingham.

The first floor has, in the south block, two bedrooms separated by a small dressing-room. The upper part of the lean-to "aisle" is a store with a W.C. inserted, fairly recently, in one corner of it. The back wing contains two large bedrooms. Above the coal-house, shewn on the ground floor plan, there is a hay loft.

The roof space is occupied by garrets which probably had gabled dormer windows when the house was new, but these they have lost. There is no garret over the north end of the back wing.

A short distance south-east of the house there is an extensive enclosed garden with, beside it, as already mentioned, a two-storey garden house of attractive design and probably mid or late eighteenth century date. The only other trace of the garden plan is a ha-ha fence forming an enclosure on the west side of the house.

The adjoining extensive farm buildings date from last century and are of no particular interest.

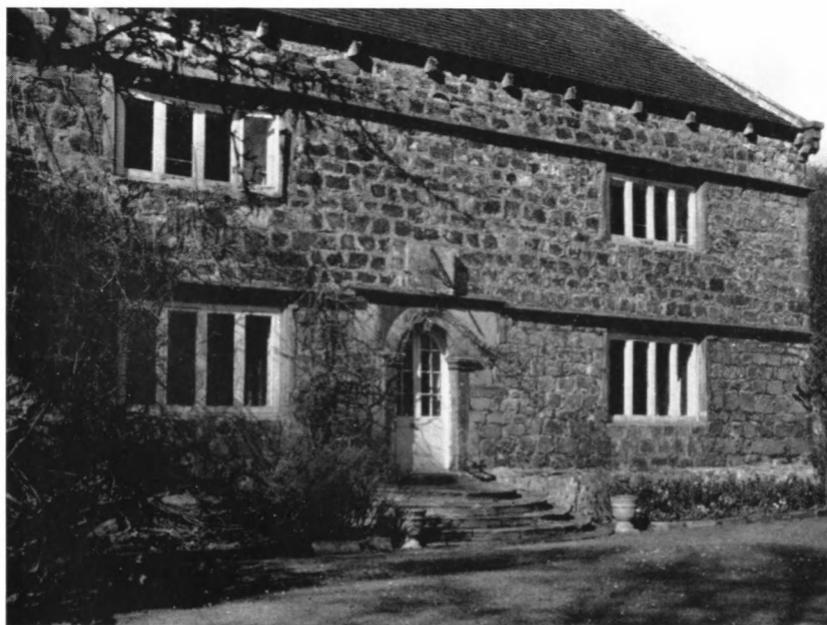


WASHINGTON OLD HALL FROM NORTH-WEST, AFTER REPAIRS.

Sketch by J. Stewart.



WASHINGTON OLD HALL, SOUTH FRONT, BEFORE REPAIRS.



OVINGHAM VICARAGE, SOUTH FRONT.

Photo: W. F. T. Pinkney.

