

# LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL NEWS

The newsletter of the London Topographical Society

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MAY 1980

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday July 9th 1980

The eightieth Annual General Meeting of the London Topographical Society will be held on Wednesday July 9th 1980 at the Head Office of Coutts & Co, 440 Strand (opposite Charing Cross Station) at 6 pm. The annual meeting will follow refreshments which will be available from 5.30. Please inform the Hon Secretary if you wish to nominate under item 4 or to raise any matter under item 5 of the agenda.

As the meeting will be held on bank premises, strict security is required: ALL NAMES of those who wish to attend, whether of members or of husbands, wives or other guests, must be given to the Hon. Secretary by June 28th. NAMED TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT WHICH ADMISSION WILL BE REFUSED. Members and guests should check in at the main entrance on the ground floor and then assemble in the Garden Court on first floor where they will be met and escorted to the fourth floor.

After the business meeting members will hear a talk by Miss M V Stokes, Archivist of Coutts & Co and a member of the Society, on the history of the bank and its premises and will have an opportunity to see, among other things, the eighteenth-century Chinese wallpaper and some of the archives. Founded in 1692 by James Campbell of Lundie, goldsmith, this was the first London bank west of Temple Bar, and not until 1914 did it have a City branch. Its name changed as new partnerships formed, but its premises remained at the west end of the Strand, as it crossed from south to north, and back again, in 1739, when George Middleton and George Campbell leased 59 Strand. George Campbell was joined by James Coutts, who had married his niece. James later brought in his youngest brother Thomas. After fourteen years Thomas took control, and the bank was known as Thomas Coutts & Co from 1775 until his death in 1822, when it became Coutts & Co. In 1904 it moved to 440 Strand, a new building on the site of the Lowther Arcade. Seventy years later McVicar Anderson's '440' was demolished, and the present Head Office was built inside the facade of Nash's West Strand Improvements, to a design of Sir Frederick Gibberd & Partners, and was opened by Her Majesty The Queen in December 1978.

## A G E N D A

- 1 To approve the minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting in 1979
- 2 To receive the 80th Annual Report of the Council for 1979 (herewith)
- 3 To receive the accounts for 1979 (herewith)
- 4 To elect officers and members of Council
- 5 To consider any proposals made by members
- 6 Any other business

*Stephen Marks* Hon Secretary, Hamilton's, Kilmersdon, near Bath, Somerset (tel: 0761 35134)

## SUBSCRIPTIONS; NEWSLETTERS BY AIR

The Hon Treasurer wishes to thank all those who have sent their cheques or paid their subscriptions by standing order. There has been a very good response to the request for covenants; this will be a great help to the Society.

It is evident that some overseas members would like to receive their newsletters by airmail. We can arrange this for an extra £1.25 or 3 dollars for each year's issue of 2 newsletters with publishers' leaflets. Any overseas members who want their newsletters by air should let the Hon Treasurer, Anthony Cooper, know with their next subscription and include the appropriate sum, making a total of £6.25 or 15 dollars US or Canadian. His address is 6 Waterside Place, Princess Road, London NW1 8JT.

## EXHIBITION AT PAPERPOINT September 22nd to October 10th 1980

Our Centenary exhibition at Paperpoint, at 63 Poland Street in Soho, is now well in hand. The exhibition will be open from Monday September 22nd to Friday October 10th. We are holding an opening party on Tuesday September 23rd for which tickets are being sold; the press will also be invited. The enclosed announcement gives more details: please fill up the attached slip for your ticket. A handbill will be available at the AGM for members to take away and display. Several recent publications will be on sale, including the Swertner view of London from the north (see below: 'Publications').

## PUBLICATIONS NEW AND OLD

The last newsletter gave details of this year's publications. We had hoped to have Volume 24 of *London Topographical Record* at the AGM and the printing schedule prepared by Cambridge University Press would just have made it, but we have now been warned by the printers that industrial action by the National Graphical Association will delay its production. We hope, however, to have the *Record* in time for the Paperpoint Exhibition where we will take copies for members to collect.

The Swertner view of London from the north has already been printed and will be on sale both at the AGM and at the exhibition. Its full price is £2, but each member will be entitled during 1980 to purchase one copy at the special price of £1.

The Society has the remaining small stock of several publications of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, listed below. Orders will be welcome and should be sent to the Publications Secretary, Patrick Frazer (36 Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, Surrey) in the usual way; payment to be made on receipt of invoice. Any publications ordered could be brought to the AGM on July 9th if requested, and indeed any other orders for publications could be so handled, to save postage. There is no members' discount on the prices and they do not include postage.

LM1 Ogilby and Morgan's large scale Plan of the City, 1677, on 21 sheets (1895), all more or less torn and tatty, £2.50.

LM1a Facsimile of the 'Explanation' or index to the previous item, 50 pence.

LM2 Sheldon Tapestry Map at the Bodleian Library, late 16th c, portion showing London, in colour (1925) £1.

LM3 3 sketch maps of 17th-c London in 1603, 1660, 1708, by N G Brett-James, folded in envelope (drawn in 1927), £1.

LM4 Pair of prints intended to form part of an 'Archaeological Album' (1899): Procession attending the great national petition of 3,317,702 to the House of Commons in 1842, and, View of the Lord Mayor's Procession about the Year 1824, together £1.

LM5 A Topographical Map of the County of Middlesex by John Rocque, 1754, on 2 large sheets (1971), £1.

Finally, we have acquired an almost complete run of out-of-print publications from a northern library which has resigned recently from membership. Most of them are in very nice condition, having been kept flat and properly protected. A full list would take up too much of the newsletter, so a separate list with prices is available from the Hon Secretary who is handling these items (Hamilton's, Kilmersdon, near Bath, Somerset). As with the L&MAS publications it will be possible to bring orders to the AGM to save postage; some items have large portfolios which would be especially difficult and expensive to send.

### MAP OF HAMPSTEAD MANOR, 1762

*The following notice is reprinted from the Heath and Old Hampstead Society Newsletter, December 1976.*

DAVID SULLIVAN describes an exciting discovery of a piece of Hampstead's lost history.

A detailed map of the whole of the Manor, drawn in 1762, and an accompanying FIELD BOOK have emerged from the shadows. The Local History Library at Swiss Cottage is

now obtaining copies of them.

As documents, they are very exciting to see. The map is huge in extent, about 7'6" square. It shows not only the main village and its outlying hamlets, set in the middle of the Heath and surrounding farms, but also the precise boundaries of every single house and cottage, garden and grounds. Eastwards, the map extends past the Spaniards & 'Park Gate' to Lord Mansfield's lands (Kenwood); westwards to the 'Parish of Wilsdon' and Shootup Hill; northwards to the Hendon boundary past North End; and southwards to the Parish of Marylebone. The Field Book in turn picks up each house and plot (by reference to a number shown on the map); describes the property; names the owner or occupier in 1762; and gives the exact size of the grounds. Each field is named and sized.

The Lady of the Manor, whose name appears on the title page of the Field Book, was Mrs Margaretta Maria Jones. The name took me aback, until I checked and found that MM, niece and heiress of the Rev John Maryon, had married (as her second husband) 'John Jones Esq, of the Kingdom of Ireland' in 1761, the year before this map was drawn.

There HAMPSTEAD stands, a mid-eighteenth century village, in the middle of its Waste and the farms, with 3 planetary hamlets: Pond Street and the 'Pond Street Quarter' (no South End at this time), separated by fields from the main village; North End, a growing and obviously prosperous hamlet on the road to Hendon; and West End, a remote but flourishing village with its own fair.

We can now see exactly how all the lanes, alleys, ponds, windmills and houses of the village lay – Hacock's Folly at the summit of the Heath, the Wells, Bradley's Row, Boad's Corner, Windmill Hill House, the Four-mile Stone, the Watch House, the Long Room, the Golden Spikes, the Bowling Green . . . The alehouses and public houses are all there too – the Horseshoe, the Flask, the Cock, the Kings Head, the Yorkshire Grey . . .

This map and Field Book of 1762 amply fill in the detail of the notorious gap between the 1704 Hampstead Manor Survey and the first census of 1801. It is happy that they come in the middle of the 100-year period for which the Local History Library already possesses copies of the Manorial Court Rolls, 1742–1842. Together, they all form a mosaic of history, which can now be carefully constructed. The detail of the eighteenth century, the seed-bed of Hampstead's history, will slowly be revealed.

### BOOK NOTES

*An East End Directory: a guide to the East End of London with special reference to the published literature of the last two decades*, compiled and edited by Peter Marcan, with contributions by John Dixon and Agnes Valentine, photographs by Nancy Holzman. Published by Peter Marcan, 1979. A4 147 pp plus 41 photos and 11 maps. Available from the publisher, 31 Rowloff Road, High Wycombe, Bucks £3.50, p&p 50 pence extra

This remarkable work combines within one cover all manner of information relating to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets (former Metropolitan Boroughs of Poplar, Stepney and Bethnal Green): a directory of services and institutions (excluding information generally available in the Borough's Official Guide), select bibliographies on numerous subjects, a review, happily not confined to the last twenty years, of East End literature and cultural

activity, and a descriptive gazetteer of twelve locations within the borough with specially drawn maps. This is the kind of reference work one would like to see for each borough in London: it deserves a place in every library, public, private and personal which is concerned with the area in any way.

If one may offer a criticism of such a welcome publication it is to suggest that the maps should have been less clumsy in execution, which would also mean that they would have taken less space, should always have a north point, and, if possible, should be orientated consistently on the page. A general small-scale map of the borough would also have been helpful to those who are not so familiar with the area.

*A Bibliographical Account of the Principal Works relating to English Topography*, by William Upcott, 1818. Reprinted in one volume by E P Publishing Ltd, 1978 £16

By printing four original pages, at reduced size, on each page of the reprint the publishers have contrived to put the 1700 or so pages of the original three volumes into a single handy book of reference. The result is clear and legible, and suggests that there is considerable scope for such condensed reprints either of long works or of several related works together, where the reproduction of the original format is of secondary importance.

Bibliographical information in the greatest possible detail is given of every work up to the time of publication: title pages, contents and lists of engravings, complete with names of engravers, are set out in full; format, pagination, signatures and errors are noted. A fifth of the book, containing a large part of volume 2, is devoted to Middlesex, London, Westminster and Environs, and will be of great interest and value to all who have to deal with topographical works relating to London.

*About Vincent Square*, by Alicia Percival, 1979. 100 pp including 14 illus and 6 maps. Available from Vincent Square Residents Association, 12 Vincent Square, London SW1 £4, p&p 50 pence extra

This expensive booklet is noticed here, in spite of its chatty style, not infrequent discursiveness, over-lengthy quotations and poorly-drawn map (illustrating one of the more useful parts of the book) because it contains the fruits of a substantial amount of delving in original records, especially those of the Church Commissioners, as well as gathering together much dispersed information from other publications. This work deals with the history and present state of Vincent Square, the sole remaining undeveloped space of the wide and marshy Tothill Fields, preserved as playing fields for Westminster School, with the surrounding buildings and nearby Maunsell Street, and with famous personalities connected with the area.

*Lambeth's Open Spaces. An historical account*, by Marie P G Draper. London Borough of Lambeth, 1979. A4 96 pp including 62 illus and map £3, p&p 50p

This stylish volume, published by Lambeth Borough Council, presents the harvest of Marie Draper's meticulous researches into the history and present condition of Lambeth's forty-eight open spaces. The introductory chapter, describing the struggles which began as early as 1833, to provide 'Public Walks and Places of Exercise, calculated to promote the Health and Comfort of the Inhabitants', is of general rather than local interest and will be of value to students of London's history.

The author classifies her green Elysiums by their source of origin, depending on whether they began as commons, as disused burial grounds, as private enclosures, or as municipal open spaces; she gives each its history followed by an account of its present-day appearance. Mrs. Draper casts her researches widely and emphasises shrewdly those details most likely to touch the modern imagination, so inspiring the reader to lace up his boots and to set off for Streatham Common, the property of Falkes de Breauté in the thirteenth century and now an intriguing and seemingly boundless hillside, or for St. Mary's Garden beside Lambeth Palace and Bridge, where a church was established before the Conquest by Edward the Confessor's sister and where today the Tradescant Trust, founded in 1977, is laying out the churchyard as an historical garden in tribute to the two great horticulturalists who lived nearby, whilst the church is becoming a museum of gardening.

The large selection of illustrations is interesting; the sketch map at the end of the volume needs to be used in conjunction with an A-Z or more conventional map of London; the decorations to the title pages of the chapters are of an exceptional elegance.

Ann Saunders

#### *Wenceslas Hollar's Four Seasons*

In 1641 and again in 1643-4 Wenceslas Hollar issued two sets of engravings, each representing the Four Seasons. In the earlier series, the Seasons are personified by three-quarter length figures of elegantly dressed ladies while the later group shows full-length figures, each of them set against a distinctive background. Summer strolls in St. James's Park with the Banqueting House and Old St. Paul's in the distance; with the aid of a magnifying glass, it is possible to discern the classical west facade which Inigo Jones had just added to the pre-Fire cathedral. Winter, masked and wrapped in furs, saunters along Poultry, the east end of Cheapside, the tower of the Royal Exchange in Cornhill shown clearly behind her and the bustle of London's streets all around her. The three-quarter length figure of Summer stands in front of an open window, which may belong to an apartment in Arundel House, the London residence of Hollar's patron; through it we can see St. Stephen's Chapel, in which Parliament met, and the curve of the river as it bends round to Lambeth. Full-length Autumn walks in the grounds of Lord Arundel's country house at Albury in Surrey, but the mansion behind both the figures of Spring remains, so far, unidentified.

These engravings provide glimpses of an extraordinary immediacy of a society that was to vanish, almost at once, in the turmoil of Civil War, and of a London that was to be swept away, two decades later, in the Great Fire; it is as if stills had been frozen from a seventeenth-century film. They have been reproduced in *The Four Seasons by Wenceslas Hollar* (The Costume Society Extra Series No 6, 1979), with an introduction by J L Nevinson and topographical notes by Ann Saunders, available from Mrs Wood, Birtle Edge House, Birtle, Bury, Lancashire, price £2, p&p 25 pence extra.

#### NOTES AND QUERIES

The newsletter is issued twice a year. Space is available for you to ask any questions relating to London topography or to communicate items of interest to members or information about research in progress. Please write to the Hon Secretary.

## 80TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1979

Before the end of the year the Society published for distribution to its members *The A to Z of Elizabethan London*, compiled by Adrian Prockter and Robert Taylor with introductory notes by John Fisher and based on the woodcut map of the period which is, wrongly, attributed to Ralph Agas. The *A to Z* is published concurrently under the Society's imprint and under that of Harry Margary in association with the Guildhall Library. The Society is extremely grateful to Mr Margary for his large part in preparing and seeing the book through the press. Two newsletters were issued to members in June and November.

The 79th Annual General Meeting was held on July 18th at Mercers' Hall by kind permission of the Master and

Wardens of the Mercers' Company. Ralph Merrifield, BA FSA FMA, was elected to the office of President which had been vacant since the death of the Earl Spencer in 1975. There were no changes in the election of officers and members of Council. After the business meeting Miss Jean Imray spoke to the Society about Mercers' Hall and members were able to inspect the Company's principal rooms.

For the first time in the Society's history the membership exceeded 500, with 507 paid-up members. Sales of past publications in 1979 contributed £1860 to the funds of the Society.

### ACCOUNTS FOR 1979

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1979

<i>Expenditure</i>			<i>Income</i>		
1978			1978		
20	storage and service	20.00	1202	Subscriptions for 1979	1268.61
17	insurance	25.95	35	Subscriptions for earlier years	16.58
223	printing and stationery	226.02	1237		1285.19
175	postage and petty cash	188.29		profit from sale of publications:	
109	AGM	103.44	1338	sales	1849.75
22	bank charges	36.12		less cost or valuation of	
		599.82	446	publications sold	616.58
2021	publication no 122 (1979)	3850.89	892		1233.17
149	distribution of no 122	175.60	8	interest on bank deposit a/c	16.37
105	leaflet for no 121		393	on National Savings a/c	677.15
	publication no 123 (part)	13.18	401		693.52
	publication no 124 (1980)	551.11		grant: Twenty-Seven Foundation	45.00
			14	donations	44.83
			4	legacy: P F Gilroy	—
			9	charge for leaflet distribution	50.00
			998	publication no 122 undistributed	
				copies to stock	990.25
714	excess of income over expenditure	—			4341.96
				excess of expenditure over income	848.64
3555		5190.60	3555		5190.60

#### BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 1979

<i>Accumulated fund</i>			<i>Current assets</i>		
17951	balance brought forward	18665.24		stock of publications as valued by	
	excess of expenditure			Council	
714(CR)	over income	848.64	13079	balance brought forward	13646.85
18665		17816.60	16	add	
			998	purchases	250.00
	<i>Current liabilities</i>		14093	publication no 122	990.25
25	creditors	3683.55			14887.10
58	subscriptions in advance	198.52		less estimated cost of	
36	MB Honeybourne Memorial	35.50	446	publications sold	616.58
119		3917.57	13647		14270.52
				bank and cash balances	
	<i>Anthony Cooper</i>		145	bank deposit a/c	161.75
	<i>Hon Treasurer</i>		4770	National Savings a/c	6746.74
			222	bank current a/c	555.16
			5137		7463.65
18784		21734.17	18784		21734.17

I report that the above Balance Sheet and attached Income and Expenditure Account have been correctly prepared from the books and records of the London Topographical Society.

Allan Tribe, Chartered Accountant, 13 Christopher Street, London EC2

25th March 1980

Issued by Stephen Marks, Hon Secretary of the London Topographical Society, Hamilton's, Kilmersdon, near Bath, Somerset