

The Annual General Meeting held on 1st July 1998

The ninety-eighth Annual General Meeting of the London Topographical Society was held at the Banqueting House, Whitehall – the most magnificent and appropriate venue for the launch of this year's publication, *The Whitehall Palace Plan of 1670* by Dr Simon Thurley. The author had been at the Banqueting House earlier in the day, when the books were delivered, but unfortunately he could not attend the meeting.

Members were given a lively talk on the history and architecture of Inigo Jones's Banqueting House from the Hon Editor, who insisted that the best way to view the Rubens ceiling was to lie on the floor!

Two suggestions made from the floor at the AGM have already received attention: David Crawford's proposal for a calendar of significant anniversaries was welcomed and is launched on page 7 of this *Newsletter*. Hopefully this will be a feature of the *Newsletter* each November. Secondly, the possibility of a web site to provide information about the Society and its publications has been pursued energetically by your Council with the skilled assistance of a Council member's son.

Our new web site

Following considerable interest from members, we have been developing our own web site on the Internet. Although by no means finished, it is up and running. This will let us see how frequently it is visited and whether it is successful at generating new members and sales of publications. At present the site describes the Society's activities, lists and illustrates its most popular publications, describes the delights of our AGMs and provides forms that new members can use to join the Society. We also give information about other London topographical resources, including museums, libraries and specialist bookshops, with Internet links where available.

We would very much like to have suggestions for improving the site and making it more useful to visitors. Please also let us know if you have any problems using it. Eventually, we plan to have our own domain name, but this is expensive. For the moment you can find it at the following rather tedious address:

<http://ds.dial.pipex.com/town/road/yhn16/>

All comments and suggestions to Patrick Frazer please (address on the last page of the *Newsletter*).

London Topographical Society Newsletter

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Note from the Hon Treasurer Payment of Subscriptions for 1999

The end of the year marks the time for paying your subscription. Unless you have paid for multiple years in advance or unless you pay by banker's order, please send a cheque for £20 (£25 by cheque drawn on a British bank or the equivalent of £37 in foreign currency for overseas members) now before it gets forgotten. If you are not sure whether you need to pay or not, do pay now and the Treasurer will simply bin redundant cheques.

Institutional members will receive an invoice; librarians who receive them are asked to approve them for payment and pass them to their accounts departments as soon as possible. Librarians are reminded that the publication for 1999 will be Number 155. Volume xxvii of *The London Topographical Record* was published in 1995 and volume xxviii is not expected until 2001.

Publications for 1998

You should have received your publication for 1998, *The Whitehall Palace Plan of 1670* by Dr Simon Thurley. If you live or work in London we hope you attended the AGM to collect the publication or made arrangements for someone else to collect it for you or collected it later from the Bishopsgate Institute. If not and if you live or work in the centre of London, you may have had it delivered already. If none of these applies, please apply in the first instance to the Treasurer who has taken on the job of delivering such publications on his trusty bicycle as he does not believe in increasing the profits of the Post Office more than strictly necessary, provided of course he is convinced you have paid your subscription. If the publication was posted to you and you can in future years collect it from the Bishopsgate Institute if you do not attend the AGM, please inform the Membership Secretary. Officers' addresses are on the last page of the *Newsletter*.

A Victorian Christmas in the Big City

by
Christopher Hilton

Although some Christmas traditions are of comparatively recent date – the queen's speech and the scramble for this year's must-have toy spring to mind – much of the season's traditional framework is nineteenth century in its origin. With this in mind, as we approach Christmas 1998 it is interesting to look at a detailed account of a Christmas spent exactly 140 years ago in Victorian London.

The account occurs in a diary written by James Patterson, a young Cornishman who worked in Manchester at a school for the deaf and dumb run by his uncle; it was recently acquired by the Wellcome Institute Library and catalogued as Mss.7352-7353 in the library's Western Manuscripts collection. Over the Christmas/New Year period of 1858/9 Patterson pays a visit to relatives in Camden Town. He would later show his account of it, in Ms.7353, to a colleague in Manchester and to his father, and perhaps wrote with this in mind: it is not an intimate, confessional document and one does not learn, for example, whether Patterson has a romantic interest in any of the various women with whom he is friendly. What it does provide is a very detailed picture of a young man bent on seeing, in one visit to the metropolis, everything that a visitor should see; an impressive testimony to the stamina of the Victorian tourist.

On Christmas Eve 1858, the weather "exceedingly fine", Patterson travels from London Road (now Piccadilly) station to King's Cross:... "after going through the Woodhead tunnel (supposed to be the longest one in England) we arrived at Sheffield. I should say before that Derbyshire is very hilly some parts of the line being dug out of the solid rock; sometimes we were in valleys, at other times in very deep cuttings, others over very high viaducts &c. I do not know whether I saw the Peak or not, I saw a very high hill with something on the top of it. We remained at Sheffield 10 minutes, after leaving there our next Station was Retford (Miss C.'s home) & then Grantham, we remained at G. 10 minutes. I got out & had a run about the Station, next Peterboro' we saw the Cathedral I noticed that it was larger than Manchester but a gentleman in the same carriage said it was much smaller, it is a queer building, next we came to Hitchin where we gave up our tickets. I gave my 1/2 ticket to a gentleman who had asked me for it. Between Hitchin & London (32 miles) it took us nearly 2 hours. From Manchester to Hitchin 6 hrs & 10 minutes. When I got out I thought I should find Allan [apparently his cousin] but after walking up the station some distance I heard Aunt cry out "Jim". We got a cab & came home. After coming home & had some tea I wrote a letter to Uncle & began another to Father. At 9.30 Allan & I took a stroll down to Park Street towards Mother Red Cap's & then down High

Street some distance going down one side of the Street & coming up the other. We remained up chatting until near 12 o'clock".

(Throughout, Patterson's erratic punctuation has been retained to convey the diary's tone but where his meaning is unclear the text has been normalized silently.)

Christmas Day sees Patterson and one of his uncles walk down to Fitzroy Hall on Little Portland Street, where a Mr Smith gives a sermon in sign-language for a deaf and dumb congregation before he goes into the City to give a dinner for the deaf and dumb poor. It is the first of many walks in the metropolis. On Boxing Day they visit Kensal Green cemetery, where Patterson notes the grave of the Duke of Sussex (the Duke's request to be buried here sealed the cemetery's respectability) as well as, he is pleased to note, several Cornishmen: Patterson is a great Cornish patriot and has West Country newspapers sent to him regularly. They walk home along the canal, around the Great Western Railway station and hotel at Paddington.

This excursion is a prelude to a mammoth walk on December 27th in which Patterson and his uncle touch base at most of the sights of London. To give a picture of what Victorian pedestrians could achieve it is worth quoting extensively: "Arose at 7.30 – had my breakfast directly I came down & started off intending to meet Uncle Stephen at Trinity Church Albany Church [*sic*]; after leaving there we went down Portland Place, Regent Str. to the Duke of York's Steps into St James' Park. Before going into the Park we saw the Haymarket Theatre & the Italian Opera. We came through St James' Park through the Horse guards into Whitehall Parliament Street on to Westminster Bridge, leaving the Houses of Parliament on the right we came back & went into Westminster Abbey & saw Poet's Corner, Monuments & the Chapel before the Service began. The Abbey is a very splendid place. Leaving the Abbey we went into St Margaret's Church & were asked by the woman there whether we belonged to the wedding party. We came back by Parliament Street & went into Whitehall place, saw James II's monument, went into Charing Cross & saw Charles II, Trafalgar Sq: Nelson's, Jenner's, Napier's &c monuments, National Gallery & St Martin's Church. Went thro' Lowther Arcade & came to Hungerford Market & Bridge (Suspension), came into the Strand saw Exeter Hall into Southampton Str: & thro' Covent garden Market saw St Paul's Church & Covent garden & Drury Lane Theatres. We went down Wellington Str: saw Mackie's (Mayor of Manchester) wine & spirit Shop & a little below it the Lyceum Theatre. We also saw Waterloo Bridge where the man was picked up some time ago cut to pieces. Went thro' the Strand to Somerset House, went into it, passed St Clement's & St Dunstan's Churches thro' Temple Bar, turned to the right & went thro' the Temple, into Whitefriars Str: to Blackfriars Bridge, turned back to Farringdon Street up the Break neck Steps (down which Dick Turpin

[Patterson writes "Turpentine" first and then corrects it] rode on Black Bess) into the Old Bailey, saw Newgate prison & St Sepulchre's Church. Into Newgate Str: thro' Newgate Market & returned by Newgate into St Martin's-Le-Grand. Went thro' the General Post Office. Onto Paternoster Row (the place where there are so many Publishers, book-sellers, &c). From there we went into St Paul's & looked around, we could not get under the Dome as it is completely railed in for the Services delivered to the Working classes, all the seats are chairs. We went round one way & came by the other, it looks a very extraordinary building, it (the dome) being 404 feet to the top of the Cross, we saw a number of monuments. Leaving St Paul's we went down Cheapside into King Street & from there into the Guildhall, went into it & saw Gog & Magog, Wellington, Nelson & Becket monuments. Went into Gresham Str: & Old Jewry into the Poultry to the Mansion House, thro' the Bank of England & the Royal Exchange, thro' Cornhill into Gracechurch Street & Fish Street Hill into Lower Thames Str: Billingsgate Market & Custom House; returned to London Bridge & went on board a steamer which took us down to Greenwich, there were a great number of sailing vessels & steamers of all sizes. We saw a large three decker which is used for the education of young persons, – a little below – the old Dreadnought for old seamen of all countries, & then a little more below the 'Great Eastern'. I do not think so much of her; she was drawing XVI or XVII feet of water at the bow".

The "Great Eastern", Isambard Kingdom Brunel's last work, was undergoing a lengthy fitting-out after its difficult launching early in 1858. The project had attracted heavy press coverage throughout and after the launch and this had become generally negative, perhaps explaining Patterson's failure to be impressed. Brunel is often in the background during this visit: Patterson has already seen his Great Western Railway and Hungerford Bridge, and within twelve months Brunel was to be buried in Kensal Green cemetery.

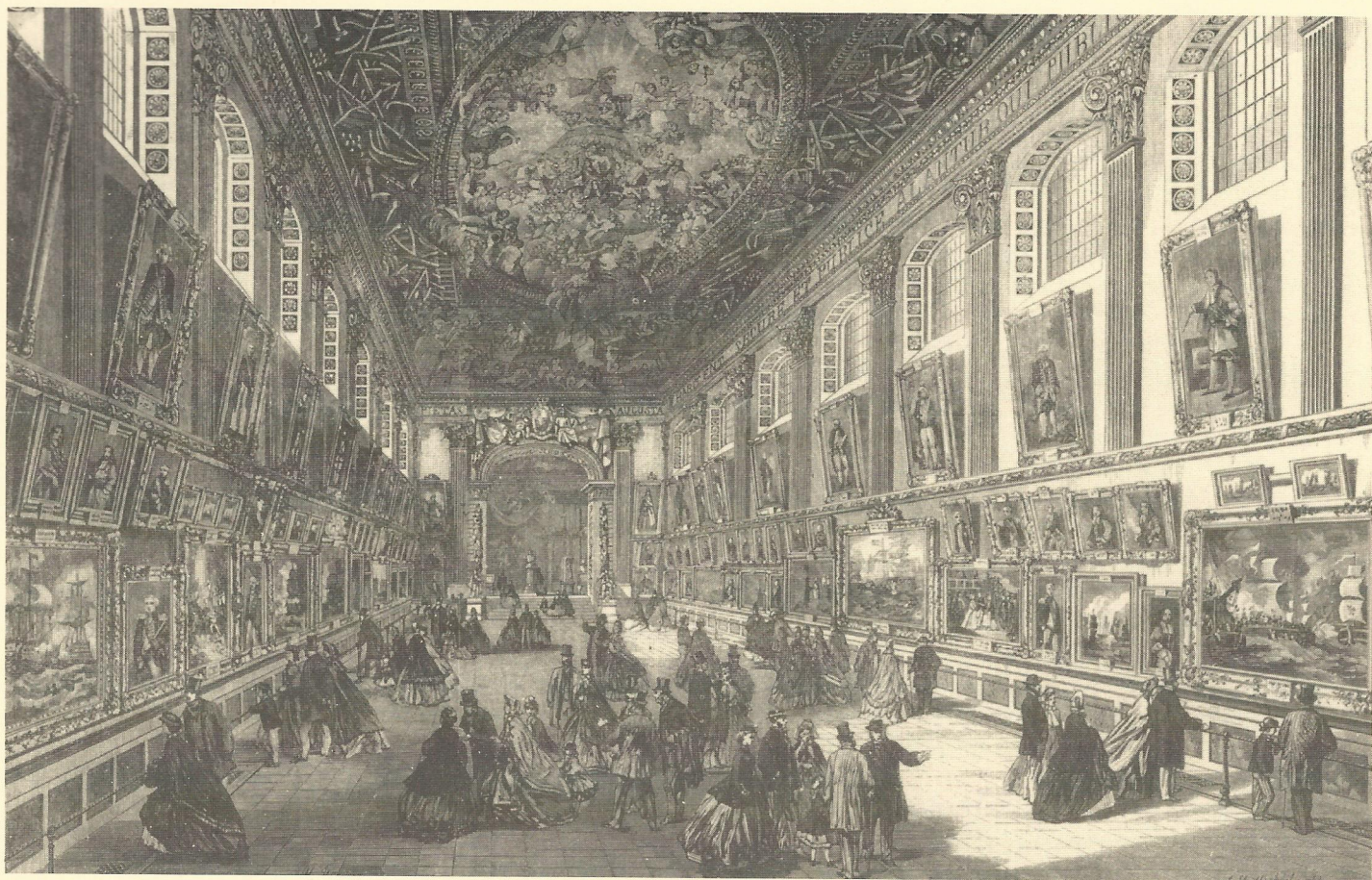
"Arrived at Greenwich we went into the Hospital & saw all the old Pensioners at dinner in two large dining rooms. Going out from there we asked an old pensioner where the Church was & he showed us the picture galleries & opposite it the Church. He told us that there were 178- [sic] pensioners in the Hospital but some years ago they numbered 3000. We went into the Picture Gallery & saw the pictures a great number of them Admirals, & Seamen &c there was the coat that Nelson wore at the battle of the Nile all marked with small shot & in a case opposite the coat & vest that he wore when he received his mortal wound, they are somewhat covered with blood. In another case at the top of the room are a number of spoons, prongs, watches &c which were found by Dr Rae in the Arctic Regions supposed to have belonged to Sir John Franklin".

Franklin's last expedition had vanished into the Arctic in 1845 and these items, acquired from the Inuit by John Rae in 1854, were the first real clues to its fate: icebound, scurvy-ridden and eventually starving. Leopold McClintock, overwintering at the Bellot Strait as Patterson wrote, was to find conclusive evidence the following spring: skeletons in the remains of Royal Navy uniforms, lying on the shingle of King William Island.

Patterson continues his description of the Painted Hall at Greenwich: "The ceiling of the long picture room was painted by Sir John Thornton [sic – the artist was Sir James Thornhill] who lay on his back 40 years to do it, & he prayed that he might finish it, & he died the day he finished it. Leaving the pictures we went across into the Church, all the seats below are for the pensioners & there is a gallery for the gentry, a fine Organ & a number of the Apostles. We went into Greenwich & then to Deptford, we had a good look at the 'Great Eastern' from the beach. We came to Deptford Dockyard & got a ticket from the Inspector to look through it. We went down & saw three ships Building, one an enormous 3 decker to be called the 'Ariadne', & the other a 1 decker to be called the 'Camelion'. We left



The Royal Naval Hospital at Greenwich from across the river, mid-nineteenth century. Patterson travels to Greenwich by water and would have seen something similar to this. Lithograph, undated and anonymous. Wellcome Institute: Iconographic Collections ICV 13572.



The Royal Naval Hospital at Greenwich, shortly after Patterson's visit: the Painted Hall, crowded with visitors as it would have been when he saw it. Engraving by M. Jackson after L.H. Michael, 1865. Wellcome Institute: Iconographic Collections ICV 13629.

there & walked up to Thames Tunnel. Went through it, it is a very fine place, the Staircase we went down is a great number of Stairs. One side of the Tunnel is not open".

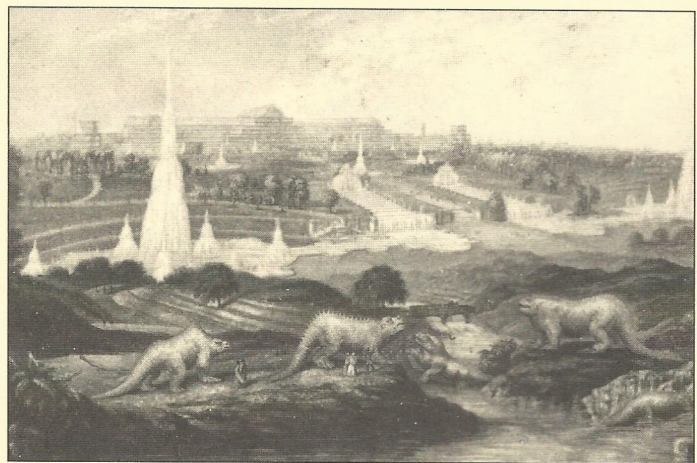
This, of course, is another Brunel enterprise (Isambard assisting his father): it opened at length in 1843 and was converted to railway use in the 1860s, not long after Patterson's visit. "When we came up from the Tunnel we came into Wapping, Lower East Smithfield & St Katherine Docks – we went thro' them. Leaving them we came to the Tower, up Tower Hill, the Mint on the right & the Tower on the left. We came into the Minories thro' American Sq: into Mark Lane, New London Str: to the North London Railway Station & from there to Camden Road & walked to Park Street. Uncle thinks we must have walked 20 miles."

Even Dickens, the king of London pedestrians, might raise his hat admiringly to this exhaustive itinerary – particularly as Patterson and his uncle pack it into a short winter day, with no mention of any pause to eat or drink. Even so, there is time and energy for "some music on the piano" before bed at 11:45.

In the days that follow, like most tourists Patterson visits Madame Tussaud's, where the attractions include "a coat & something else worn by Lord Raglan in the Crimea" (the war there having finished recently), and the British Museum, where among the sights are "the mummies, vases, old monuments, stones &c. ... [and] a piece of lead ore from Wheal Mary Mine in Cornwall". A standard tourist experience until recently was to hear about

the Round Reading Room but be unable to get in, and Patterson shares in this too: "[it is] said to be the largest room in the world; When I attempted to go in they said it was not public." He browses in the Oxford Street shops: "bought a pair of kid gloves (1/6); the shopman showed me a dressing case for the pocket 4/6. I did not want it so I told him I would call tomorrow (when the pigs fly)".

Family outings feature dissolving views, panoramas, lectures on chemistry and on ancient ballads (the latter featuring renditions by the lecturer and sounding more seasonably light-hearted than the former), and demonstrations of a diving-bell and of



The Crystal Palace, around the time of Patterson's visit, from near the railway station. Patterson and his aunt do not explore the park – on a January day they remain inside – and so he does not mention the dinosaur models; these still stand, and are among the few survivors of the park's original lay-out. Collotype print, undated and anonymous. Wellcome Institute: Iconographic Collections ICV 14074.

The Copperplate Map – A Lecture and an Exhibition

by
Stephen Marks

mesmerism (this had enjoyed a great revival in the United Kingdom during the preceding ten years). On January 6th, he and his aunt embark on an excursion to the Crystal Palace, which had opened at its new South London site in 1854: "We took the Railway from here to the City & then we walked over London Bridge to the Station. We got into another train & went to the Palace. We had to climb a number of steps before we were in. The first thing of any consequence was a number of Hottentots &c. We went right up the principal aisle & then on to the large gallery in front of the organ & sat for a short time to hear the band. Leaving there we went into the tropics, & saw a galvanic battery &c. From there we went into a gallery & saw models of ships, steamers, boats &c there was one of the Great Eastern, & a number of other screw & paddle steamers one of the Himalaya (when she was first built she was the largest steamer afloat) a model of one of those steamers that was built at Liverpool for the inland navigation of India. Cunninghams patent self reefing topsail, & another model for lowering ships' boats in any weather with safety. A Chinese war junk. the Lord Mayor's barge & last though not least a model of a Lifeboat".

Shortage of space precludes quoting Patterson's account of the many other things they see there and in the end even this indefatigable diarist runs out of steam: "A number of other things I saw which I cannot write down as I am in no humour for doing it".

Patterson does also record sedentary pursuits. Ladies come to tea and a Spanish girl plays the guitar; he discusses sign-language with other people involved with deaf and dumb education; he reads magazines such as *The Leisure Hour* and *Sunday at Home*, and is gripped by a recently-published novel (*The Brothers Basset*, by Julia Corner). And, although he manages to fall asleep just in time to miss seeing in the New Year – unsurprisingly in view of the amount that he is fitting into his days – he does engage in properly Dickensian festivities on Christmas Day: "After dinner did nothing but sing and make a noise. After tea did the same, the Xmas tree was brought into Aunt's room, & had some oranges &c."

January 8th sees Patterson heading north again. His holiday is over (although, looking on the bright side, back in Manchester he notices that Wombwell's menagerie is in town), but no-one could accuse him of failing to make the most of it.

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The Wellcome Institute Library is located in the Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE. For general enquiries ring 0171 611 8582.

Note: Dr Christopher Hilton is Assistant Curator of Western Manuscripts, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine Library.

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It is not, of course, for me to write a review of my own contribution to the John Stow Study Day at the Museum of London on 9th May 1998 (see page 8 of the *May Newsletter*), but I would like to make a few points from it which might be of interest to members. I would like also to comment briefly on some of the material in the very attractive pamphlet which the Museum prepared to accompany its neat exhibition of the newly found third sheet of the copperplate map of London (also noted in the *May Newsletter*). This third sheet has now, of course, gone home to Germany.

Although the new sheet (found at a gallery in Dessau, re-used for painting, like the two Museum of London sheets) does not add substantially to our comprehension of London in the middle of the sixteenth century, it was very exciting indeed to see the third plate, the actual copperplate, side by side with the two already owned by the Museum. It confirmed as far as it went my own projection of the size of the original copperplate map as shown in my monograph, *The Map of Mid Sixteenth Century London*, published by the Society in 1964.

In preparation for my talk I had made Stow's *A Survey of London* my bedside reading for several months. That was perhaps an obvious thing to do, but I had also read with care and with increasing enlightenment, once I had overcome the apparent repetitiveness of it, *The Diary of Henry Machyn, Citizen and Merchant-Taylor of London, from A.D. 1550 to A.D. 1563*; this was published by The Camden Society in 1848, edited by John Gough Nichols. By good fortune I had bought a copy in 1963 when I was first working on the copperplate map, but I had not realized its significance, especially its significance for a linguistic assessment of the copperplate map. In one important particular, Machyn is even more relevant than Stow, because the former's Diary overlaps exactly the period which is generally accepted for the map, that is the reign of Mary (1553-58), though of course Stow would have been in his late twenties and early thirties when the survey work for the copperplate map was undertaken.

Just to give one example of the invaluable help to be gained from Machyn let me quote from the Museum's pamphlet: "the author of the map is very likely to have been Netherlandish. This seems to be confirmed by some of the spellings..., in particular the word 'freres' for 'friars', as in Blackfriars and Whitefriars". I don't disagree with the assessment of the author's likely origin, but I don't think the language point can be right.

I found that Machyn had consistently used "freres", "frers" or "frer", in the many "friar" names

in London, for example “Whyt freres”, “Freres Augustynn”, “Blak-frers”; in fact, far more consistently than in almost any of the other names which he uses. Once one has studied Machyn’s spellings, which are often splendidly unsettled, it is clear that the spellings on the copperplate map are not, in the main, the result of the foreign execution of the map, but are just what would result if the surveyors (whether English or foreign), hearing someone like Machyn pointing out the names of streets and buildings, might have written down either phonetically or spelled as a Machyn contemporary would have done. Having gathered a great many examples of Machyn’s names and words onto a slide, I explained this at some length at the Study Day, and believe I have opened up an entirely new direction of study for this most important map.

Another matter in which I take issue with the Museum's pamphlet is the assignment of a date for the woodcut map which was formerly attributed to Ralph Agas; in this, the author follows Howgego in giving it the date "c. 1633". This is, of course, correct for the three extant copies at the Guildhall, at the PRO, and in the Pepysian Library in Cambridge, but I have shown in my monograph that these were from a third edition, and that the woodcut was first cut at the beginning of Elizabeth's reign. This has actually led to the assertion, in my view erroneous, that John Norden, with his *Speculum Britanniae* (1593), was the first mapmaker in England to use a key. I don't agree: the woodcut map has fifty-five letters and numbers on buildings, although there is now no key attached to it; in this, incidentally, it went one step better than the copperplate, although in all other respects it is inferior to the engraved map.

One very interesting statement in the pamphlet, quite unqualified, is that Stow "had a copy [of the copperplate map] when compiling his thorough *Survey of London*". It is indeed very likely that Stow owned a large map of London, but can we be certain? and if so, can we be certain that he owned the copperplate map rather than the woodcut map, which I am quite satisfied would have been equally available to Stow; perhaps, indeed, the woodcut would be a more likely possession as the home-grown product. The only published connection between Stow and the copperplate I have found is an article by Martin Holmes entitled "A Source-Book for Stow?" in *Studies in London History* (1969). He suggests the likelihood of Stow owning a copy of the copperplate on the basis of the close correspondence between details on the map and in Stow's *Survey*; he certainly doesn't conclude that Stow did own a copy, nor did he give any thought to the alternative of the woodcut map. Surely, one is entitled to expect a close correspondence of the topographical objects on a map and in a description; more convincing would be errors occurring in both. Stow's ownership of the copperplate map, nice as it would be, seems to me as yet unattested.

If you did not manage to get to the Study Day, all is not lost: I will see if there is an opportunity to do my illustrated talk again, but failing that, I hope it will not be too long till it is printed. •

LTS Topolog Launched

The Society's 1998 AGM supported a proposal from David Crawford to establish an advance calendar of significant forthcoming anniversaries and similar events in the lives of important London buildings, their owners and designers. This proposal has subsequently been approved by the LTS Council, and its aims are to:

- help ensure that the Society has the broadest possible information base for investigating publishing and associated opportunities and activities (e.g. AGM venues);
- widen awareness of the Society as an authority on the history and topography of London; and
- alert members to opportunities to pursue their own personal and professional research interests.

This announcement in the *Newsletter* therefore serves as the launch of the LTS Topolog (Topical Topographical Log), and David Crawford welcomes members' suggestions which he will collate for publication in future issues. The idea is one which has already been tried and tested by the Newcomen Society for the Study of History of Engineering and Technology, of which LTS Hon Treasurer Roger Cline is a member, and which publishes an annual *List of Anniversaries* in its publication, the *Newcomen Bulletin*.

Recent Newcomen Society entries of potential interest to LTS members have included:

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|-------------|---|
| Spring 1998 | Centenary of the Waterloo & City Railway. |
| 20 Nov 1998 | Centenary of the death of Sir John Fowler, railway engineer for the Metropolitan Railway. |
| 1999 | Bicentenary of the foundation of the Royal Institution. |
| Dec 1999 | Bicentenary of the birth of Lewis Cubitt, architect of King's Cross Station. |

Typical entries for our own Topolog could include:

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|------|---|
| 1999 | <p>Tercentenary of the foundation of Billingsgate Market.</p> <p>Bicentenary of the birth of Charles Parker, architect of Hoares' Bank.</p> <p>Sesquicentenary of the birth of Sir Aston Webb, architect of Admiralty Arch, the remodelling of Buckingham Palace, the Victoria & Albert Museum and much of Imperial College.</p> <p>Centenary of the commencement of the Victoria & Albert Museum</p> <p>Centenary of the establishment of the London County Council.</p> |
| 2000 | Sexcentenary of the death of Henry de Yevele, remodeller of Westminster Hall and designer of the Jewel Tower. |

2001

Bicentenary of the Royal Charter of the Royal Institution.

Bicentenary of the birth of Decimus Burton, architect of the original buildings of London Zoo

Centenary of the opening of the Wallace Collection.

Bicentenary of the birth of Sir Joseph Paxton, designer of the Crystal Palace.

Sesquicentenary of the great Exhibition and the Crystal Palace.

Centenary of the opening of the Wigmore Hall.

Suggested items for LTS Topolog should be sent to:

David Crawford
22 The Avenue
Bickley
Bromley
Kent BR1 2BT

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Centre for Metropolitan History

Atlas of Westminster and Southwark to 1520

LTS members will remember the *British Atlas of Historic Towns* series. The most recent volume to appear was volume 3, *The City of London from pre-historic times to 1520* (OUP and the Historic Towns Trust, 1989). The project is now being revived. Some of the principles which underlay the compilation of the maps published so far have been reconsidered, particularly in the light of differences in early cartographic reproduction of English towns, so that future volumes will be in some ways different from those already available, with more explanatory maps and illustrations. Work is currently in progress on atlases of Winchester and York, and plans for further London volumes are being developed. The immediate objective for London is to complete the coverage of the metropolis up to the Reformation with a volume focusing on Westminster and Southwark. The atlas published in 1989, of course, concentrated rather narrowly on the City. A small working group has been formed to evolve a plan for the new Westminster and Southwark publication and to recruit authors and contributors.

– Derek Keene, Director, CMH

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Checklist of unpublished London diaries

As a long-standing addict of other people's diaries, I was familiar with the fascinating range of social detail that can emerge from them concerning daily life and work, hygiene, food, pastimes, reading habits, expectations and thought processes. Such information is frequently unobtainable from any other source. Anyone who has browsed through Pepys' diary, or Parson Woodforde's, will know exactly what I mean. They, and many more, are well known and easily available in printed editions. Finding out about them is simplified by the existence of bibliographies such as William Matthews' *British diaries* (1950), Patricia Havlice's *And so to bed* (1987) and C.S. Godley's *Annotated bibliography of diaries printed in English* (1997). There are many others, specializing by period, by area, subject, or gender of the author. Most cover the whole country or beyond, but contain numerous London examples which are full of potentially useful and accessible material for the historian. Where they are well edited and indexed, the information is even easier to quarry.

It was the process of collecting examples for my *Sources for the History of London, 1939-45: a Guide and Bibliography* (due autumn 1998) that reminded me of the large number of unpublished diaries by Londoners surviving in record offices and libraries all over the city and elsewhere. I needed to look only at those for the war years then, a boom time for diary-writing when people knew they were confronting exceptional circumstances and wanted to record them for posterity. But I also noted the quantity of earlier and later diaries for future reference. Now I am beginning to collect information about them for a checklist of unpublished diaries with a substantial London history content, whatever their period or present whereabouts, and the Centre for Metropolitan History plans to publish the resulting list when it is finished.

Most of the diaries will probably have been compiled by London residents and will have ended up in Greater London repositories. However, some will have been deposited elsewhere in the country or abroad, especially if the writer moved on from London after a period of work or leisure there. I intend to start with the London libraries, museums and record offices and move outwards from there, using lists at the National Register of Archives and elsewhere (including the Internet) to identify likely candidates, checking the details with the repository concerned. Any extra information and suggestions, especially for items that might otherwise elude me, would be most welcome. The checklist will be in chronological order of the first diary entry date, and will have brief information about the writer, date and subject coverage and location. There will be a subject and place index.

Naturally I hope to look at some of the diaries myself, though it will not be possible to examine

them all, much as I should like to do so. Preliminary investigations show an enormous subject and period coverage, and I particularly look forward to the diary of Andrew Tait (Guildhall Ms 20,383) recording his last days at school in the 1890s and his first job as a clerk; and that of Reinetta Hoone, a Clapton art student and photographer's assistant in 1879 (Hackney Archives M3399). James Patterson's account of a visit to London from Manchester in 1858-9, during which he witnessed some mesmeric experiments (Wellcome Institute Mss 7352-3, excerpts from which appear in this *Newsletter*) sounds promising, and I look forward to revisiting Anthony Heap (London Metropolitan Archives ACC 2243/15) whose wartime diaries proved very productive, but form just a small section of his total output which covered 1928 to 1985. The project will be a very enjoyable one for me, and I hope the resulting list will encourage greater use of this material and prove helpful to other historians and colleagues.

– Heather Creaton
Deputy Director, CMH
Room 351
Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

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News and Notes

Covenants and Banker's Orders

One member with a covenant did not understand why his bank did not automatically pay out the promised amount from his account. Let me explain:-

A covenant is a contract between the member and the Society. The member promises to pay the Society so much every year for at least four years. The mode of payment is unspecified. To fulfil that contract it is up to the member to arrange payment. He or she can send a cheque each year or one cheque to cover at least four years; he or she can complete a banker's order to instruct his or her bank to pay the appropriate amount each year, but the member must do one of these things. A bank is not party to the contract of the Covenant and does not regard it as instructions to it. So – when you complete a covenant and wish to forget about it you should also complete a standing order for the annual amount promised. You will have further chores in completing a tax declaration form after the first payment which we submit to the Inland Revenue to claim repayment of the tax you pay on the amount promised and you should list the covenant among your payments made before deduction of tax on your tax return.

– Roger Cline, Hon Treasurer

News from The National Monuments Record

The NMR is the public archive of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and is now at 55 Blandford Street, London W1H 3AF. Open 10am–5pm Tuesday to Friday (Tel 0171 208 8200). The search room offers access to photographic collections of all types of London buildings, measured drawings and surveys, and a new collection has recently become available – that of York and Son, one of the largest English producers of lantern slides in the second half of the nineteenth century. Although many negatives and slides were destroyed in the 1950s, Peter Jackson rescued negatives depicting London views and these were transferred to the NMR in 1995. The collection has been catalogued and contains some 2,500 images primarily covering the Greater London area between 1870 and 1900. This outstanding collection of street views, buildings and events is now open for public consultation.

There is also a new exhibition (until 29th January 1999), "A Permanent Past", with images of England's architectural and archaeological past on display.

Call for volunteers

The Public Monuments and Sculpture Association aided by a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant is to carry out a survey of London's public sculpture and monuments borough-wide. Art, history, social and local history are interlaced. Please contact Jo Darke, Courtauld Institute of Art. Tel. 0171 873 2614/2406.

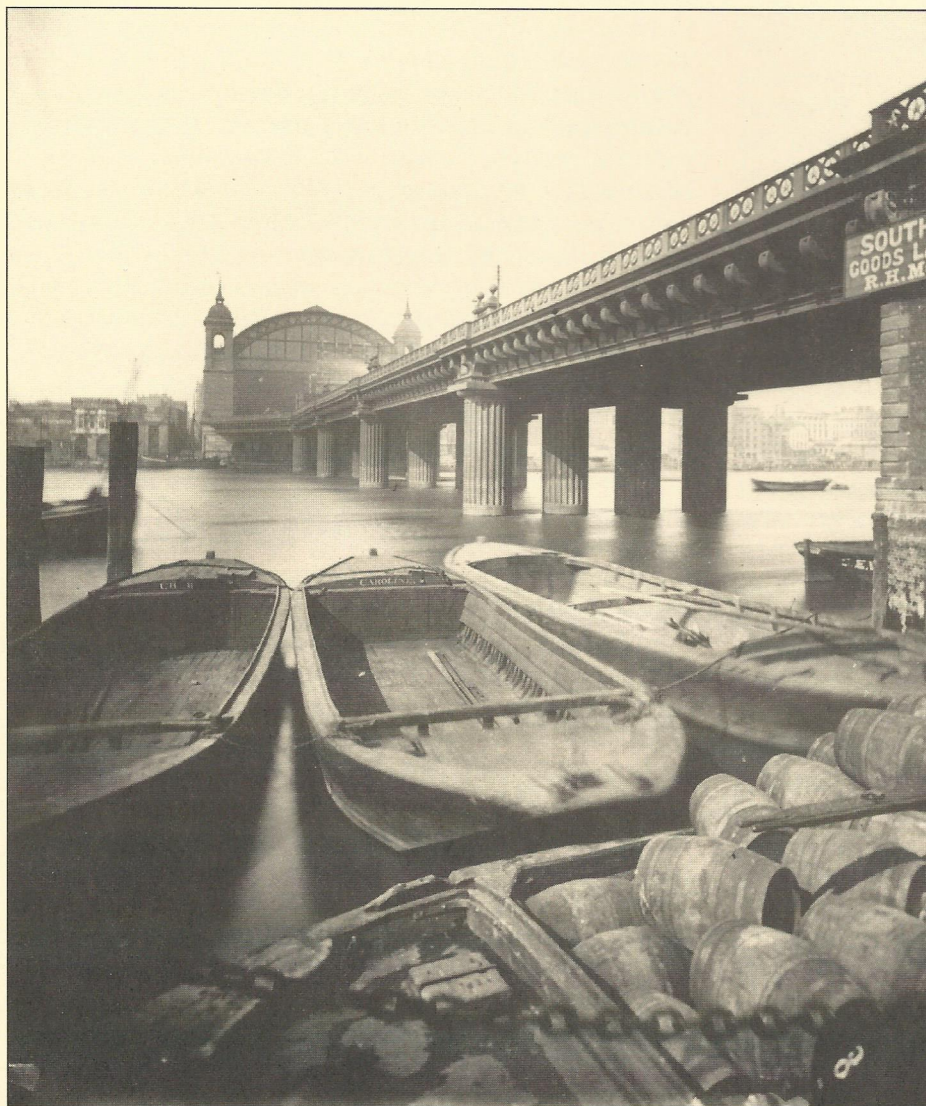
Note: it is hoped to include an article about this work in the May Newsletter.

Maps and Society

The eighth session of these lectures will take place at The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1 at 5pm. Admission is free and the meetings are followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Members of this Society may like to note the following dates: 19th November – Dr Garrett Sullivan of Pennsylvania University will lecture on "Travelling by Road or Armchair? Reading the Inutility of John Ogilby's *Britannia*"; 18th March 1999 Professor Martha Pollak's lecture on "Military Strategy and City Plans in the Seventeenth Century" and on 3rd June Professor Lena Cowen Orlin will talk about Ralph Treswell's maps and property disputes in Tudor and Stuart London. For full details of the programme please contact Tony Campbell (Tel 0171 412 7525).

Helen Wallis Fellowship Award

The first recipient of the fellowship named after the former Map Librarian of the British Library and member of the Council of the LTS from 1982 to 1995, Dr Helen Wallis OBE, is Professor Henry J. Steward of Clark University, Massachusetts. Professor Steward worked with Dr Wallis and his project picks up on many of the themes that had engaged her attention. He will be carrying out research in the British Library during 1999 on the parallel careers of two surveyors, William Mayo (1684-1744) and Francis Louis Barrallier (1773-1853). The Wallis Fellowship will be awarded annually and besides the title, the award offers special facilities at the British Library and a £300 voucher to spend on library services or in the bookshop.



Cannon Street Station circa 1880, from the York and Son collection at the National Monuments Record. Crown copyright, RCHME CC97/00111.

Enlightened Self-Interest The Foundling Hospital and William Hogarth

An exhibition at Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library until 15th December explores Hogarth's association with the Foundling Hospital, which was created in response to the dead and dying babies found on the streets of London in the mid-eighteenth century by Captain Thomas Coram. The hospital's work captured the public imagination and it became London's most popular charity and a focus for London society, not least because of its artistic connections. At this time Britain had no public places for artists to exhibit their works and the Foundling Hospital became a showcase of British art as Hogarth persuaded fellow artists to decorate its walls. For opening times please telephone 0171 413 6342.

British Archaeological Association

In view of the Society's publication of the Whitehall Palace plan of 1670, members may like to attend a lecture about a strange feature of the Palace, to be given at a joint meeting of the B.A.A. and the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly on 6th January 1999. The subject of the lecture by Dr David Gaimster is "The grand armorial stove and 'Turkish Bath' at the Palace of Whitehall". It would be appreciated if those who are not members of the British Archaeological Association and who would like to attend the meeting would telephone Philip Lankester beforehand (work: 0113 220 1878, home: 01904 613615).

Grinling Gibbons at the V&A

"Grinling Gibbons and the Art of Carving" is a major exhibition at the V&A until 24th January 1999. Best known for his work for Sir Christopher Wren and his royal commissions, Grinling Gibbons is possibly **the** greatest decorative woodcarver. His cascades of flowers, fruits, foliage, birds and fishes cheer churches and embellish private houses and public spaces. Exhibits are drawn from all over the country – from Badminton House near Bath, the Wren Library in Cambridge, Chatsworth, Burghley and elsewhere. The star of the show is the extravagant Cosimo Panel, commissioned by Charles II as a gift for the Duke of Tuscany, Cosimo III de Medici. Gibbons received his highest payment for woodcarving for this panel, which left England in 1682 for Florence, where it has remained. This exhibition promises to be a treat, and there is an accompanying book by David Esterly.

Pevsner's London – old and new approaches

To mark National Architecture Week join Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's collaborator and find out about the new *London 4: North* edition of *The Buildings of*

England series. This volume is due for publication on 5th November and covers London's expansion northwards, including the medieval precincts of Camberwell, Bloomsbury, Camden, Islington, Hackney, Haringey, Barnet and Enfield. Bridget Cherry, editor of the series and a Council member of the LTS, will give a lecture on "Pevsner's London – old and new approaches" at the Museum of London on Wednesday 25th November at 1.10pm. 50 minutes. The lecture is free.

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Book Reviews

Streets of Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia

edited by Peter F. Woodford. Camden History Society 1997. 96 pages.

East of Bloomsbury, streets, buildings and former residents in a part of the London Borough of Camden.

compiled by David A. Hayes, edited by Peter F. Woodford. Camden History Society 1998. 96 pages, 31 illustrations. £5.95 each from the Camden History Society, tel 1071 435 2088.

These two handy booklets of walks published by the Camden History Society continue the tradition established by the society's earlier "streets" publications which began with Christopher Wade's *Streets of Hampstead* in 1972. They are excellent value, packing much authoritative information and some interesting illustrations into a tight format of three columns of text per page. Both start with helpful historical overviews which include diagrammatic maps indicating historic estate and administrative boundaries, key issues in understanding how each area came to be built up from the late seventeenth century onwards. Each book has comprehensive indexes of names. *East of Bloomsbury* uses the back cover for a general street map overprinted with the areas into which the walks are divided, a useful innovation for this series; it is easier to refer to a back cover than to a map hidden within the book. The lack of any general street map in *Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia* is a disadvantage for anyone not familiar with the neighbourhood.

The details provided in the walks make up a rich pot-pourri of topographical development, vignettes of people associated with the area, origins of street names, and amusing miscellaneous trivia. In places the varied fare can produce a feeling of indigestion as one tries to assimilate so much information relating to different periods. Nevertheless certain themes emerge. There is a predictable amount of attention given to the literary figures of the Bloomsbury circle and to famous residents familiar from blue plaques. What may come as more of a surprise is the variety of activities which took place behind demure Georgian domestic frontages during the eighteenth

and nineteenth centuries. Sir Hans Sloane accumulated the collections which were ultimately to end up in the British Museum in his house in Bloomsbury Place; at No. 11 Bedford Square Henry Cavendish carried out the experiments which led to his discovery of hydrogen and the composition of water. In No.4 Red Lion Square the engineer John Harrison gave a demonstration of refrigeration in 1858, and numerous specialist medical institutions had their origins in the private houses of medical men around Queen Square. There is a wonderfully evocative photo of the eighteenth-century hall of Nos.44-45 Great Ormond Street when occupied by the Working Men's College, with notices hung casually across ornate plasterwork. Such examples demonstrate the shift that took place during the nineteenth century as once residential streets and squares increasingly became home to professional men and then to the institutions that they fostered. No less interesting are the glimpses of economic and commercial patterns of past centuries: the small market places provided in the original estate developments, the development of Tottenham Court Road as the centre for furniture shops (and early cinemas). In the nineteenth century industry proliferated in the neighbourhood of Gray's Inn Road and King's Cross, from major concerns such as Joseph Wright's coach building factory, the yard of the great builder Thomas Cubitt, and Whitbreads beer bottling works to Shrigley & Hunt's glass painting studios and Lachand's concertina works. The illustrations include some fascinating lost architectural treasures such as the Inwoods' own elegant bowed villa, Woburn Lodge, and the National Scotch Church in Regent Square, an elaborate Gothic edifice of 1828 by Sir William Tite. Information on architects, particularly of the twentieth century, is however disappointingly thin, and modern architecture of any kind is treated with little interest or enthusiasm.

– Bridget Cherry

Loddiges of Hackney: The Largest Hothouse in the World

by David Solman. Hackney Society paperback 1998. 96 pages, numerous illustrations. £5.50 including postage from 21 Sanford Terrace, London N16 7LH.

Visitors to last year's Chelsea Flower Show were able to enjoy a particular treat: part of Loddiges' celebrated nursery had been recreated by the London Borough of Hackney with displays of the shrubs, perennials and bedding plants so beloved of mid-Victorian villa dwellers.

London used to have two great belts of nursery grounds and market gardens. One extended in a quadrant from Islington through Hackney to Bow; being close to the metropolis it largely succumbed to building by the 1950s. The other stretched from Brentford as far as Chelsea; its remnants in Fulham survived into the early years of this century.

This work charts the origins of Loddiges' nursery in the 1750s, describes how it consolidated and expanded its holdings in central Hackney, until it included, at the time of its closure in 1852, tropical hot-houses, a rain forest display and a palm-house together with an arboretum.

Loddiges' nursery was outstanding. Antedating Kew Gardens by many years, and barely 10 acres in extent. It stocked many notable gardens and played a significant role in the development of the Victorian craze first for orchids and then for ferns.

Best of all, one of its largest works is still extant: Loddiges laid out the trees in Abney Park Cemetery in Stoke Newington, and many of these survive today.

Altogether, this is a fully researched, well written and attractively illustrated book of interest to topographers, garden historians, botanists and – if not already mentioned – residents of Hackney.

–Simon Morris

The Neat House Gardens. Early Market Gardening Around London

by Malcolm Thick. Prospect Books 1998. Paperback 170 pages, 27 figures, index. £10.

In his preface the author, who is a well known agricultural historian, explains that he set out to write a history of London market gardening, but settled for Neat House Gardens in what is now Pimlico because of the well preserved archival information. The result is an erudite, entertaining and informative book, which divides into two parts of roughly equal length. There is an introduction to the practice of market gardening around London between 1600 and 1800, followed by a detailed exposition of market gardening in Neat House Gardens during roughly the same period. The combination is successful, as the first half provides a context against which the activities of London market gardeners can be examined.

First, the introduction. The author explains how the poor were introduced by market gardeners to vegetables during the famine years of the 1590s as a substitute for bread. When agricultural prices fell in the seventeenth century, farmers expanded production of vegetables which became fashionable items on the tables of the rich. Drawing on recipe books and contemporary sources we learn that while roots were held in low esteem, asparagus, artichokes and lettuce were elevated to objects of conspicuous consumption.

Using maps (many published by the Society) and archival evidence, the author then summarizes the growth of market gardening around London from the early seventeenth century. For nearly 200 years this extended west along the banks of the River Thames, favoured for ease of access to the principal market. The Neat House Gardens, which ran along the riverside from what is now Victoria Railway Bridge to Vauxhall Bridge, were viewed as models of good practice and productivity. They are also, in

consequence of forming part of the Westminster Estate, well documented. Drawing on estate documentation, probate records and agricultural treatises, the author examines their origins, crops, business organization and markets to paint a remarkably full portrait of the activities of these market gardeners, a caste not known for leaving ample records for posterity.

Throughout the period market gardens provided an important source of London's fruit and vegetable produce. By studying the operation of Neat House Gardens against the background provided in the first part of this book, we gain a clearer understanding of how horticulture helped to sustain London's phenomenal growth in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; growth which, in the end, bit the very hand that fed it. The end of Neat House Gardens came in 1825 when Thomas Cubitt acquired them for development. Perhaps it was a fitting end that the greatest market gardens were bought up by none other than the most distinguished builder of the age.

Like early asparagus, the Gardens' prize produce, this book whets the appetite without sating it, and left this reviewer hungry for more. Perhaps the author can now be persuaded to turn his attention to the other areas of London market gardening.

-Simon Morris

Book Bag

The Bishop of London's positive and strong-minded attitude towards the City churches seems to have produced a regular harvest of publications about these treasures. I spent a £25.00 book token on the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England volume, *The City of London Churches*: a pictorial rediscovery, with photographs by Derek Kendall, and learnt something from every page. A less sumptuous production but still worth having is *The City of London Churches: a Walkers' Guide* by John Barron and Alexandra Moore, with drawings by Prue Gerrard. These have reproduced well, as have the clear maps; photographs have come off less satisfactorily. The entries are very basic – St Bartholomew the Great gets two and a quarter pages, the tower of St Alban Wood Street a bare six lines. Still, there is a column down the outside margin which tells you at what you should LOOK. Did you know there was a rocking horse in the vestry of St Lawrence Jewry? No? Neither did I, though I shall ask to see it next time I pass and shall enquire whether children are allowed to ride it. Copies are available from 9 Bartholomew Close, Saxon Road, Winchester SO23 7DT and cost £14.90 + £1.50 post and packing. And finally there is the long-awaited pocket-sized volume of the Buildings of England series: Simon Bradley is a worthy posthumous collaborator for Sir Nikolaus Pevsner. When the book appeared, the Press made much of the younger author's iconoclastic tendencies, alleging that he claimed that Wren's architectural responsibility was often in

doubt. But Dr Bradley is too sensible to do such a thing; he gives proper credit to Hooke, to Hawksmoor and to William Dickinson but concludes "there can be no doubt that he [Wren] remained in overall control". And he reproduces such delights as Gerald Cobb's drawings of the towers and steeples so that, with book in hand, we can all play the game of piloting ourselves around the City by these alone. At £9.99 this is a real bargain, thanks, it is rumoured, to the generous support of the City Corporation; every LTS member should have a copy. Members may be glad to know that the Friends of the City Churches is now based at St Margaret Pattens, Rood Lane, Eastcheap EC3M 1HP (telephone 0171 626 1555). A most suitable address!

The Tower of London, Past & Present is a collection of photographs old and new, assembled by Geoffrey Parnell with a brief text (Sutton Publishing Ltd £9.99). The author was responsible for this Society's 1983 publication, a facsimile of a handsome coloured ground-plan of the Tower and its defences in 1682. Dr Parnell subsequently contributed a full account of the plan to *The London Topographical Record* in 1985. The present volume provides a fascinating study of the Tower over the past century and a half, though the quality of the reproductions is generally muddy. Do not, however, fail to track down the author in *Country Life* for 9 July 1998, to which he contributes a really exciting essay on what has been revealed by recent archaeological evidence about the upper levels of the Conqueror's stronghold – seek out this back number in your public library.

Not topography but still of interest to all those who love London and her past is *The Thomas More Family Group Portraits* by Lesley Lewis. The author analyses the various versions and all related drawings, miniatures and documents. The text is lucid and scholarly, the illustrations of high quality. Copies are available at £4.99 including packing and postage from Fowler Wright Books, 2 Southern Avenue, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 OQF. *Current Archaeology* is not a periodical normally reviewed on these pages, interesting though it is, but No 158 is devoted to the archaeology of London, with particularly important articles on the Roman port, on Southwark, on No 1 Poultry, and on the Royal Opera House site. Copies are available at £3 from Current Archaeology, 9 Nassington Road, London NW3 2TX. A medieval London issue is promised for some time in the future.

-Ann Saunders

Walks and Photographs

Tom Ridge has written *Central Stepney History Walk* published by the Stepney Regeneration Board at £1 – remarkable value for an A4 size publication with photographs, brief histories of the places en route, a fool-proof map for walkers and extracts from Gascoyne's map of Mile End Old Town (published by the LTS in 1995), which makes a nice compari-

son to the modern plan. Inquiries to Tower Hamlets Local History Library, tel. 0181 980 4366.

In the same vein is *Discovering Old Wood Green. A Walk* by Albert Pinching from Hornsey Historical Society, tel: 0181 348 8429: not such good value at £3.35 including p&p unless you particularly want a walk in that area.

The publication of photographs from local history collections continues with two paperbacks recommended for those who live in Putney or Lambeth. *William Field's Photographs of Putney* (Wandsworth

Historical Society, £10.50 + £1.50 p&p from 31 Hill Court, Putney Hill, London SW15 6BB) contains 106 illustrations, chiefly photographs of Putney taken by William Field from 1878 until about 1913, including one of his own shop at 9 Putney High Street, now the site of an ugly cinema. *Lambeth 1950-1970* by Beryl Barrow (£9.99 from Sutton Publishing tel: 01453 731114) includes with Lambeth, Streatham, Brixton, Norwood, Clapham and Kennington in the 1950s and 60s – more people than places.



We welcome the following new members:

Baker, Mr J J, MA(Oxon), FRGS
27 Carson Road
Dulwich, London SE21 8HT

Beautyman, Dr A C, PhD, CEng
25 Hillcrest Court
Weybridge
Surrey KT13 8AD

Bishop, Mrs J B
6 Chestnut Avenue
Chorleywood
Hertfordshire WD3 4HB

Black, Dr I S, BA, PhD
Department of Geography
King's College London
Strand, London WC2R 2LS

Bowman, Dr J H
17 Park Road
London W7 1EN

Brinkworth, Mr M
The Malthouse
Donhead St Mary
Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 9DN

Clark, Mrs L, BA(Cantab)
MA(Lond)
11 Rock Avenue
Mortlake, London SW14 8PG

Cook, Mrs D, BA, MA, DipARM
14 River View Gardens
Strawberry Hill
Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 4RT

Cox-Johnson, Mr R M
63 Frognal
London NW3

Crutchlow, Miss S B, BSc, CEng
MICE
29 Ellerby Street
London SW6 6EX

Cufflin, Mrs M
28 Lamorbey Close
Sidcup
Kent DA15 8BA

Dack, Mr E G
70 Palace View
Shirley, Croydon CR0 8QN

Dickins, Mr J E
34 Oaklands Avenue
Thornton Avenue
Surrey CR7 7PH

Dixon, Mr P J, BSc
18 Jebb Street
Bow, London E3 2TL

Eisenhower Milton Library
1AHH6749 Acquisitions/Serials
Milton S Eisenhower Library
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore
Maryland 21218, U S A

Fletcher, Dr D H, MA, PhD
Dept of Politics and Modern
History
London Guildhall University
Old Castle Street
London E1 7NT

Flintham, Mr D N
114 Overton Drive
Chadwell Heath
Romford
Essex RM6 4EE

Forsyth, Mr H R
Museum of London
London Wall
London EC2Y 5HN

Greggains, Mrs R
20 Milton Avenue
Sutton, Surrey SM1 3QB

Hall, Mr D A R
375 Liverpool Road
Islington
London N1 1NL

Hamilton, Mr H R B
2 Wild Hatch
London NW11 7LD

Harrod, Mrs J, BA
54 Lansdowne Road
Wick, Littlehampton
West Sussex BN17 6JG

Hasenfratz, Dr R, PhD
Department of English
University of Connecticut
Storrs
Connecticut 06226
U S A

Historic Royal Palaces Agency
Appt 39a
Hampton Court Palace
East Molesey
Surrey KT8 9AU

Kamlish, Mrs M
5 Nash House
Park Village East
London NW1 7PY

Kapalca, Mr M
Suite 2370
9 Chester Mews
London SW1X 7AJ

Kent, Ms E J
39 Muschamp Road
London SE15 4EG

Laurie, Mr Robert, BA(Hons),
Dip Lib
46 Lothair Road North
Manor House
London N4 1EU

Lennard, Mr P F, *DipArch(Dist)*
RIBA
Southvale
Station Road, Plumpton Green
East Sussex BN7 3BZ

Lillystone, Mr S
24 Fairfield Road
Crouch End, London N8 9HG

Lindsay, Mr J A
13 Stoneyfield Road
Old Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2HP

Lindsey, Ms D, BA, MA
44 Driffield Road
Bow, London E3 5NF

Lipkin, Dr B
28 Church Crescent
Muswell Hill
London N10 3NE

Manning, J
City University
Northampton Square
London EC1V 6HU

Mannix, Mr P A V, MA
The Court House
The Green
Shamley Green
Guildford, Surrey GU5 0UB

Marter, Mr J S
The Moot
46 Hadrian Way
Corfe Mullen
Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3XF

Mathews, Mr G W, *BA(Hons)*
17 The Spinney
Taunton
Somerset TA1 4RY

Matthews, Mr G S, BA
269 Eastcote Road
Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8BN

McGowan, Dr A P, BA, MA, *PhD*
73 Barnfield Wood Road
Beckenham, Kent BR3 6ST

McHugh, Mr C
4 Bentley House
Wellington Way
London E3 4XE

Mesquitta, Mr B
81 Harewood Road
Isleworth
Middlesex
TW7 5HN

Morgan, Mr R H, MD
33 Wingate Way
Cambridge CB2 2HD

Murphy, Professor E, *MBCbB*,
MD FRCPsych
382 Lauderdale Tower
Barbican
London EC2Y 8NA

Oska, Mr T
28 Adolphus Road
London N4 2AY

Parsonson, Mr S L, *MA(Cantab)*
The Cottage
Tithe Barn Lane
Briston
Norfolk NR24 2JB

Perry, Mr J C, BSc
5 Park House
123/125 Harley Street
London W1N 1HE

Powers, Mr G
9a Emu Road
London SW8 3PS

Price, Mr A, MA
15 Myrdle Court
Myrdle Street
London E1 1HP

Regan, Mr M
39a Roseberry Road
Muswell Hill
London N10 2LE

Richardson, Dr G J, *PhD BA(Hons)*
21 Blurton Road
London E5 0NL

Spence, Mr R, BSc
81 The Hall
Foxes Dale
London SE3 9BG

Stannard, Mr J G, *FASl, ARICS*
218 London Road
Langley
Slough
Berkshire SL3 7HT

Stein, Mrs G M
1 Felbridge Close
Streatham
London SW16 2RH

Stern, Mr H, *CEng, MIEE*
18 Aragon Avenue
Ewell, Epsom
Surrey KT17 2QG

Thompson, Mr M J, *BSc(Econ) MA*
41 Eton Road
Ilford
Essex IG1 2UD

Trenerry, Mr M J B
Newhaven
1 Northfield Drive
Truro
Cornwall
TR1 2BS

Underhill, Mr N E, *QC*
3 Smith Square
London SW1P 3HS

Walder, Ms E A, MA
2 Riding Hill
Sanderstead
Surrey CR2 9LN

Waller, Dr D, BSc, MA, *PhD*
917 Forest Acres Court
Nashville
Tennessee 37220
U S A

Wells, G
The London Society
4th Floor
Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

Willsdon, Dr C A P, *MA(Cantab)*
PhD FRSA
6 Cefn Coed Avenue
Cyncoed
Cardiff
CF2 6HE

Wilson, Mr M, *BA(Hons)*
Flat 4
6 Lime Grove
New Malden
Surrey KT3 3TW

Wilyman, Mr J K
Heritage Maps
PO Box 3075
Edgbaston
Birmingham B15 2EW

Wing, Mr D B
PO Box 420
Marion
Massachusetts
MA 02738
U S A

Wold, Mr A L
9 St Mary's Grove
London W4 3LL

LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1997

Income	1997	1996	Expenditure	1997	1996
Subscriptions paid by members	16212	16463	Members subscription publications		
Subscriptions from earlier years	80	98	Cost of Printing	16847	17628
Income Tax from covenants estimated for 1996	2000	2000	Cost of Distribution	3591	4307
Total subscription income	18292	18561	Total cost of members publications	20438	21935
Profit from sales of Publications	4946	4980	Newsletters	2610	3754
Interest received	2501	2748	AGM	804	452
Grants and donations received (1)	1861	1610	Administration	219	655
Total Income for the year	27600	27899	Publications Storage and Service	2784	2137
			Total Administration Costs	6417	6998
			Total expenditure for the year	26855	28933
			Surplus (Deficit) for the year	745	(1034)

BALANCE SHEET 31 December 1997

Assets	1997	1996	Liabilities	1997	1996
Money in bank and National Savings	45433	41005	Subscriptions paid in advance	4282	3456
Tax Rebate not yet claimed	4000	2000	Overseas members' Postage	35	120
Advance Payment for 2000	1500		Total Liabilities	4317	3576
Value of Society's stock of publications			Net Worth of the Society	64677	63532
Stock at end of previous year	24103	19730			
Additions to stock	3600	14860	Change in net worth		
Less Value of publications sold	10042	10111	Previous year's net worth	63532	64566
Value of stock at year end	17661	24103	Deficit for the year	1145	1034
Total assets	68994	67108	End-year net worth	64677	63532

Note

(1) A large number of grants were received towards the cost of this year's publication and they have been deducted from the cost of printing. The major part of the grants and donations received was a generous grant from the Scouloudi Foundation, augmented by the proceeds of the raffle at the AGM.

Auditor's Report

I have examined the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account with the books and vouchers of the Society as submitted by the Honorary Treasurer. In my opinion and to the best of my knowledge these Accounts, together with the note give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs at 31st December 1997 and of the income and expenditure for the year.

H.R. Cleaver, ACA
Honorary Auditor
28th September 1998

The officers of the London Topographical Society

Chairman

Peter Jackson FSA
The Vane
The Avenue
Northwood
Middlesex HA6 2NQ
Tel. 01923 829 079

Membership Secretary

Trevor Ford ARAM
151 Mount View Road
London N4 4JT
Tel. 0181 341 6408

Hon Treasurer

Roger Cline MA LLB
Flat 13
13 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9SH
Tel. 0171 388 9889

Publications Secretary

Simon Morris MA
22 Brooksby Street
London N1 1HA
Tel. 0171 609 0890

Hon Editor

Mrs Ann Saunders PhD FSA
3 Meadway Gate
London NW11 7LA
Tel. 0181 455 2171

Newsletter Editor

Mrs Penelope Hunting PhD FSA
40 Smith Street
London SW3 4EP
Tel. 0171 352 8057

Hon Secretary

Patrick Frazer MA MSc
36 Old Deer Park Gardens
Richmond
Surrey TW9 2TL
Tel. 0181 940 5419

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The *Newsletter* is published by the London Topographical Society and issued by the Hon Secretary, Patrick Frazer, 36 Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2TL.
Editor: Mrs Penelope Hunting.

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Tel. 0181 870 3414. Fax 0181 874 7689.